

Demonstrators Voice Opposition to Trump Policies in Peekskill

Continued from page 1

“This presidency represents nothing less than a war on our climate and communities,” remarked Nancy Vann, president of Safe Energy Rights project.

The peaceful protest included spirited chants of “Trump cabinet is a joke, climate change is not a hoax,” “Trump, you blew it, you nominated Pruitt,” and “We want resistance now!”

Andrew Falk, who has unsuccessfully run for several elected offices in Putnam

County in recent years, maintained Schumer needed to take a more prominent role as a leader.

“I am here for my kids and everyone who comes after them. We can’t go back,” Falk said. “This is what democracy looks like.”

Also on hand observing the demonstration was Peekskill Councilman Andre “Noodle” Rainey, who marveled at the organized action in the city.

“It’s saddening what Trump has created, but it’s brought so much unity like this,” he said.



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTOS

About 200 people displayed various messages outside Senator Schumer’s office.





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Q: Can I benefit from non-surgical skin rejuvenation?

A: Major advances in non-surgical facial rejuvenation procedures include the medical-grade HydraFacial, as well as non-surgical laser and radiofrequency skin-tightening and skin-resurfacing technologies. These newer procedures offer remarkable time-freezing results with less visible surface damage and less discomfort.

Q: What occurs when I have a non-surgical facial procedure?

A: The dermis, the skin’s third-deepest layer, is composed mostly of elastin and collagen, which give our face its look of youthful vibrancy. As we age, our skin gets thinner, has fewer blood vessels, and produces less elastin and collagen. As a result, it loses elasticity, and can develop wrinkles. All non-surgical skin-rejuvenating procedures aim to preserve and increase our skin’s supply of elastin and collagen. They achieve this by injuring the dermis, causing an inflammatory response and triggering the production of more collagen and elastin.

Q: What is a HydraFacial?

A: Formerly, a facial involved receiving a number of procedures separately. What makes the HydraFacial superior is that it combines many treatments into one 40-minute procedure: exfoliation (removal of dead skin cells), super-hydration of the skin, pore extraction (suction of dirt), and the administration of the antioxidant, glycolic acid and other peptides that stimulate production of collagen and elastin. Results last for about a month for most people.

Q: What are non-surgical approaches with lasers and radiofrequency?

A: Our most popular procedure at Northern Westchester Hospital (NWH) uses the 1540 fractionated laser to tighten the skin, eliminate fine wrinkles, reduce brown facial staining, and minimize the appearance of scars. The Smartskin laser “resurfaces” the facial skin, minimizing the look of deep lines on either side of the mouth. The Intense Pulse Light treatment eliminates the appearance of small blood vessels and age spots. The Protégé Elite technology uses radio (sound) waves to boost the production of collagen and elastin to tighten the skin. Benefits from all these procedures last from one to two years. At NWH’s Laser Center and Medi-Spa, treatment with Botox and fillers completes the picture of a non-surgical facelift.



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Supervisor Grace Reaches Deal to Pay Delinquent Taxes

By Rick Pezzullo

Yorktown Supervisor Michael Grace has entered into an agreement to pay back the town he runs nearly \$12,000 in delinquent property taxes.

Receiver of Taxes Barbara Korsak last week confirmed a published report that Grace had made a down payment of \$2,960 and agreed to make monthly payments of \$370 for 24 months to cover his

tax bill of \$11,840, which started piling up in 2013 for his property at 959 Hanover Street.

Korsak noted the agreement worked out on February 1 does not include town and county taxes that will be due at the end of April.

According to documents, Grace purchased the six-acre property, which includes two separate lots, in February 2001

for \$375,000 but has been trying to sell it for more than two years for \$650,000. He dropped the asking price to \$629,000.

In December, Grace had the assessment of his property reduced by \$500 to \$14,500 after seeking to reduce it to \$13,500. That agreement was reached with Peekskill Assessor Michelle Jordan after Grace's case was moved from Yorktown to prevent a conflict of interest.

Two years ago, Grace paid more than \$29,000 in tax arrears after it was reported he had fallen behind on his home and law office, which is located across from Town Hall.

Grace, who was elected supervisor in 2011 and is up for reelection in November, did not respond to an email that posed several questions about his recent pact with the town.

Yorktown Democrats Interviewing for 2017 Elections

The Yorktown Democratic Committee is interviewing prospective candidates for town offices and County Legislature which will be on the 2017 November ballot. Any persons interested in running for these offices on the Democratic ticket please forward resumes to Co-Chairs Elliot Krowe or Ron Stokes at elliottkrowe1@gmail.com and ron@stokeslaw.us.

Yorktown Republicans Seeks Candidates to Run for Office

"Over the past several years the Yorktown Republican Party has been incredibly successful in recruiting candidates and talking about the issues that matter most to the residents of our town," said Chairman Matt Slater. "We are eager to put a strong ticket back on the campaign trail that will talk about the great things our elected officials have accomplished and their vision moving forward."

The Yorktown Republican Party has continued to grow over the past several years. It currently stands as one of the

strongest parties within the Westchester Republican County Committee with all 86 district leader positions currently filled. In addition, seven of Yorktown's nine elected offices are currently held by Republicans.

"Our goal this November is to protect and grow our pro-business, pro-infrastructure, town board majority," Slater said. "We will also be laser focused on ensuring County Executive Rob Astorino secures another four years in office. It will be another exciting year for the

Yorktown Republican Party."

Up for reelection in November in Yorktown is supervisor, two Town Board seats, highway superintendent and town justice.

Anyone interested in running for office as a Republican is asked to send a cover letter and resume to chair@yorktowngop.com. Screening interviews will be set up for the first week of February with the Party's executive committee with endorsement interviews to follow with the entire committee.

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Parents Advocacy Group to Have Voice with Indian Pt Closure

By Rick Pezzullo

A coalition of parents has formed an advocacy group to have a collective voice with elected officials and other local organizations in the planning for the community's future once the Indian Point nuclear power plants close.

"Power Through Cortlandt" held its first public meeting last week at Hendrick Hudson High School to encourage other residents to help get the word out about the long-term impact of the plants going off line in four years and seek a replacement use on the 240-acre site on the

Hudson River in Buchanan.

"We want to be heard now, not in six months," said Don Dwyer, a realtor with Rand Realty and a member of "Power Through Cortlandt." "We need big ideas. Every idea is welcomed."

About 50 area residents were in attendance, along with Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker, Cortlandt Town Board members Frank Farrell and Seth Freach and George Oros, chief of staff to Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino.

Knickerbocker said the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission will be "very

much in control of this land" after Indian Point stops operating in early 2021, and noted the decommissioning process could take up to 60 years.

"The land where the plants are won't be developed," she said. "The property would go back to park-like."

Hendrick Hudson Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter said the district will likely need additional state aid to make up the difference of losing more than \$23 million annually from Entergy, owners of Indian Point, which are pulling out of the nuclear power industry,

particularly in the northeast.

"I don't think they know the breadth of what happened," Hochreiter said of state officials who worked out the deal to close the plants. "It's not just a superintendent saying, 'Whoa is me and the kids won't have textbooks.' They've got to hear from a wide variety of folks."

"Power Through Cortlandt" has started circulating a petition to get the attention of state lawmakers and is planning a road trip to Albany in the near future. More information on the group can be found at www.powerthroughcortlandt.org.

Indian Pt Closure Forces Hen Hud to Postpone Capital Project

By Rick Pezzullo

The ripple effect of the impending closure of the Indian Point nuclear power plants in Buchanan is already being felt in the Hendrick Hudson School District.

During a recent Board of Education meeting, trustees and administrators decided to put a proposed capital project on hold with the financial uncertainties of the plants shutting down in four years looming.

The project was slated to include improvements at all five of the district's

school buildings and was being contemplated to be put up to voters this spring with the annual school budget vote. School officials will reevaluate the project in six months.

"We don't have enough information regarding the closure of Indian Point to ask our community to make a decision on this by May 2017," said Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter.

Knowing they literally can't afford to take the shocking news of the Indian Point nuclear power plants closing in

four years lightly, Hendrick Hudson School District officials are trying to come to grips with the funding gap the shutdown will create in the annual operating budget.

Hendrick Hudson will be saddled with a 30% financial shortfall to its operating budget after Entergy stops generating nuclear power at Unit 3 in April 2021. There is an emergency provision in a deal with New York State and Riverkeeper that could give Entergy an additional four years of service in the event of war, a

sudden increase in electrical demand or a sudden shortage of electric energy.

Hochreiter said he and other school officials are scheduled to meet with "a team of six high-ranking officials" from Governor Andrew Cuomo's office on Thursday to outline the ramifications of Indian Point no longer being a financial partner to many community entities.

"They're going to get a heavy dose of information," Hochreiter said. "These people will really hear from us and how poorly this was done."



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Former Mohegan Pet Shop Owner Barred from Dealing with Animals

Continued from page 1

consumers who purchased sick animals from his stores, and \$5,000 in penalties and other costs to the state.

"By shutting down stores that mistreat animals, and sell sick animals, we can help ensure that consumers are purchasing healthy pets, while protecting the animals themselves from those who break the law to turn a profit," said Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. "Disturbing cases like these reaffirm my commitment to encouraging those in search of a new pet to adopt from a local shelter, rather

than purchasing an animal. This gives an animal in need a home, and gives the consumer the peace of mind that they are receiving a healthy pet."

The Attorney General's Office launched an investigation into Doyle's businesses in 2015 after receiving numerous complaints from consumers who purchased pets from him that shortly after were discovered to be ill.

Doyle certified that his pets were healthy and free of disease, but consumers who took the animals to a veterinarian found the animals were suffering from se-

rious health conditions, such as pneumonia, intestinal parasites and kennel cough.

In addition, Schneiderman said Doyle falsified the names and license numbers of his suppliers in order to make it appear as though he purchased the animals from reputable sources, and participated in disturbing practices to make sick animals appear healthy and maximize sales.

For example, Schneiderman maintained Doyle, who is not a veterinarian, regularly performed surgery on animals in the back rooms of his stores, and ordered high school-aged employees to

routinely administer injectable medications and intravenous fluids to mask rather than cure diseases and infections in sick animals. In some cases, Doyle let a sick animal suffer and die, rather than paying for routine veterinary care.

Cracking down on Doyle was part of Schneiderman's Animal Protection Initiative, started in May 2013, which seeks to help consumers and animals alike by identifying animal cruelty, shutting down criminal animal fighting rings and prosecuting those who unscrupulously sell animals to unsuspecting consumers.

Police Blotter

State Police

Troopers in Cortlandt are investigating an attempted armed robbery of the Mobil gas station at 2225 Crompond Road (Route 202) in Cortlandt on February 4 shortly before 1 a.m. where a suspect entered the store and displayed a weapon to the clerk. The clerk resisted, and following a struggle, the suspect fled on foot westbound on 202. The suspect was described as a Hispanic male of light olive complexion, overweight with a Spanish accent. He was wearing a blue winter coat with a hood, dark green

pants, a light brown shirt, light colored footwear, a dark covering on the lower portion of his face, dark gloves and a black hat. Anyone with information is asked to call Investigator T.J. Gleason at (914) 788-8044.

Yorktown Police

January 31 - 9:04 p.m. - Daniel Ventrudo, 28, of Yorktown, was charged with menacing in the second degree and criminal possession of a weapon following a report of an active domestic dispute at a residence involving a knife. An in-

vestigation revealed Ventrudo allegedly threatened to stab the victims while waving a hunting knife at them. Yorktown Town Justice Sal Lagonia issued a temporary order of protection on behalf of the victims and set bail at \$5,000 cash or \$7,500 bond. Ventrudo was remanded to Westchester County Jail.

February 3 - 12:01 p.m. - Paul Rivera, 28, of Garrison, was charged with two counts of burglary and one count of grand larceny, both felonies, after police received a call on February 2 at approxi-

mately 8:45 a.m. from a Shrub Oak resident reporting a male subject had just tried to get into their home through a sliding glass door and then fled on foot. Police later investigated two other complaints from Shrub Oak residents: one reporting an attempted burglary and the other reporting the theft of property from a motor vehicle. The investigation led to Rivera, who was temporarily living on Spillway Road in Shrub Oak, being investigated as a potential suspect and eventually was arrested for committing the crimes.

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Two Rental Projects in Ossining to Receive IDA Support

By Rick Pezzullo

Two rental apartment projects in Ossining have received preliminary approved incentives totaling more than \$118 million from Westchester's Industrial Development Agency (IDA).

The two projects, Hudson Steppe on State Street and Maple House Apartments on Maple Avenue, will provide nearly 300 units of senior rental housing, affordable multi-family and market rate

apartments and create approximately 240 construction jobs.

"These developments will further enhance the exciting revitalization under way in the Village of Ossining," said Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino.

The IDA is a public benefit corporation that was created in 1976 for promoting and encouraging economic development in the county primarily through assisting in the creation or retention of jobs. The

IDA is also empowered to issue taxable and tax exempt bonds for organizations that meet federal and state guidelines.

Hudson Steppe is being proposed to include 189 multi-family rental units on a former vacant textile plant. Nineteen of the units will be designated as affordable. The \$80.5 million project also is slated to have the county's first fully automated parking garage for 231 parking spaces.

Maple House Renewal LLC is seek-

ing to acquire and rehabilitate the Maple House Apartments into a 105-unit affordable senior rental apartment complex. The building, which consists primarily of one-bedroom units, will include upgrades for current residents, while the first floor will be reconfigured to include a fitness center, business center and library/game room.

The total investment to acquire and rehabilitate the 100,000-square-foot building is approximately \$37.75 million.

Municipal Solar Power Use Considered

By Neal Rentz

The Somers Town Board is considering steps for additional solar power on municipal property.

The board discussed the issue February 2 with Energy Environment Committee Chair Michael Blum.

Somers is part of the Municipal Solar Buyers Group, which consists of 34 Westchester municipalities, who have collaborated in an effort to reduce the cost of installing solar, Blum said. His committee is working with the town Parks and Recreation Board to consider town-owned properties where solar panels could be placed. Some potential municipal sites of town office buildings in Reis and Van Tassel Parks, the Community Center, and the highway department

garage roof,

Supervisor Rick Morrissey said the Highway Department would be a good potential location, but the panels should not be placed at the site until a new roof is placed on the building. Solar panels are already on the town library.

Once the town agreed on a suitable location the town would enter into an agreement with Power Gen X, which would install and maintain the solar panels, Blum said. The contract would be for 22 years at a fixed annual cost.

The board agreed that the committee should continue working on bringing solar to municipal property. Several homes and businesses have installed solar power in recent years through the Solarize Somers-New Castle program.



MICKEY DENEHER PHOTO

The Peekskill High School and Middle School attended I Have A Dream a play chronicling the life and times of Martin Luther King as part of a Black History Month celebration. The students had a chance to engage with the actors post performance to ask questions about King, acting and peaceful protest. Paramount Hudson Valley Arts presented the play with the help of a grant from Entergy and other support.

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Peekskill's Powerhouse Violinist Daisy Jopling Releases "Awakening" CD on Fleur de Son Classics

To categorize Daisy Jopling as a classical rock violinist is like saying the rainbow has only two colors. A sublimely gifted musician, Jopling relies on impeccable technique and passionate virtuosity to span the globe of musical influences, spirituals, pop, reggae, funk, Irish folk, gypsy tunes, Argentine tango and anything else that crosses her auditory path—and once again she is sharing her talent with the world.

"Awakening," Daisy Jopling's first CD of original compositions—she's had seven others—is the culmination of decades of musical, creative and spiritual growth. The CD on Fleur de Son Classics will be released February 3rd, 2017 on all of the major music platforms, including iTunes, Amazon, Spotify, CD Direct, Spafax, Pandora and Archive Music. An "Awakening" live show that premiered in September, 2016 at the Paramount Hudson Valley in Peekskill, New York, was filmed and produced for TV by Cinemusica for broadcast in the US, Europe and Asia.

"There is a conceptual journey threading through each track of the album, which is based on the idea that in our greatest darkness is the possibility for our greatest light. "Awakenings" is a musical odyssey, consisting of 10 tracks—each with different musical influences, ranging from pop to reggae, funk to Latin, Irish folk to gospel, country Music to jazz," said Jopling.

A kinetic whirlwind on stage, the British-born Jopling has been drawing rapt attention since she made her debut at London's Royal Albert Hall at the age of 14. Tom Morris, Artistic Director of Britain's oldest theatre the Bristol Old Vic, noted "Daisy Jopling plays classical music with the energy and spontaneity of a rock musician. She has a lyrical intensity that seems to reach inside you with each stroke of the bow".

Whether playing on an Antonio Gragnani violin made in Livorno in 1778 or on her Yamaha electric model, Jopling takes audiences on bold musical excursions. The result, as the Los Angeles Times put it, is a "genre-splicing, witty, creative fervor." For the CD, she incorporates a wild assortment of instrumentation, yes there's a beat box and a string orchestra, as well as styles... world music, classical and rock, roots, pop, funk.

"Awakening" represents Jopling's growing strength and confidence in her own music. "It took me years of working on myself to gain a new perspective. I realized I have something to say. I had to learn to stop criticizing or judging those musical ideas. The CD begins in darkness and ends with moments of the



Daisy Jopling

greatest hope and joyfulness. Each individual piece is a passage in my own life but I also see it as something we all experience, a universal journey, said Jopling.

A graduate of the Royal College of Music, she gradually broke loose from the confines of a classical career, first by touring the world with the freewheeling string trio Triology and then with her own ensemble. She has contributed to film scores, including arranging and recording with Triology the movie music of Academy Award winner Hans Zimmer. Touring in 2016/17, the Daisy Jopling Band, featuring Brian Delma Taylor on flute, Brian Marsella on piano/keyboard, Lavondo Thomas on bass and Matthew Zebroski on drums, has stops in the US, Norway, Austria, England, China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea and Mexico.

Over the course of her career, she's performed and toured with some of the world's leading musicians in a multitude of genres, a reflection of her musical wanderlust. Among them: Bobby McFerrin; Julian Rachlin; Janine Jansen; Rob Evan lead vocalist with Trans-Siberian Orchestra; legendary Cuban singer Omara Portuondo from the Buena Vista Social Club; Boris Grebenshikov, considered one of the founders of Russian rock; Indian classical/pop singer Shubha Mudgal; and Austrian jazz guitarist Wolfgang Muthspiel.

Since then, Jopling has performed at major festivals and concert halls including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center and the United Nations Assembly Hall alongside such artists as the legendary, award-winning gospel group The Blind Boys of Alabama, rapper/singer Akon, Brazilian singer/guitarist Gilberto Gil, reggae and

hip hop artist Ky-Mani Marley and Afro pop-singer Salif Keita, as well as Whoopi Goldberg and Carl Lewis.

Several of the pieces, instrumentation

and voices for the new CD come from work she composed for the String Pulse Experience, a concert she first put together for some 250 students ranging in age and skill levels in the Peekskill New York area where she now resides. The initial performance at the Paramount Hudson Valley received a standing ovation from a full house. Its success led to a similar concert in Lake Placid, the subject of a documentary that will air on PBS stations.

The concerts are one measure of Jopling's strong advocacy for music education. She established the Daisy Jopling Foundation to provide opportunities for children to experience the benefits of music as a life-changing tool. The foundation works to offer low-cost and tuition-free high quality music programs for children, as well as opportunities for them to perform on professional stages with world-class musicians.

Although she may defy easy categorization, Jopling—as the Evening Standard said—is simply "brilliantly entertaining." To see and hear the scintillating Daisy Jopling, go to: <http://www.daisyjopling-band.com>

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Letters to the Editor

Another Reason to Protect Our Wetlands

To the Editor:

In last week's Examiner, "Wetlands are under attack by Yorktown Town Board" a homeowner highlighted one of the main reasons why we should all care about what happens to our community's wetlands: Preserving wetlands helps alleviate flooding.

Here's a second reason.

If your house is near a stream, wetland or wetland buffer (the area that's 100 feet from the stream or wetland), under the proposed new law, you won't know that changes are being made to the buffer — changes that may affect your house and property — until after the change has taken place and when it may be too late to prevent damage to your property.

Like the current wetlands law, the proposed new law divides potential activities in the buffer area into two categories: those that don't need a wetlands permit and those that do. But, under the guise of "streamlining" the permit

process, the proposed new law includes many changes in both categories that could negatively affect your property.

First, the number of activities that won't require a permit is being increased to 15 from only 8. Included in the new exemptions is removing trees in town owned wetland buffers. No permit means no review, from anyone, of the potential adverse impacts that could result when the critical buffer area is disturbed.

The second change is that a growing number of permit applications will not be subject to public hearings or any form of notification to neighboring property owners. No notice and no public hearing means no opportunity for you to 1) know that a nearby wetland buffer is about to be disturbed, and 2) ask questions about the planned activity and make your concerns known. You won't know what your neighbor is doing until you see the bulldozer next door or water streaming onto your property.

Streamlining the wetlands permit process is a good thing — when it's done properly and with adequate protections and safeguards for existing homeowners. But that's not the case with the proposed new wetlands law. Before the proposed new law gets to the public hearing stage, it needs to be amended to add a public notification process when

permit applications will not require a public hearing.

Don't wait until the public hearing to let your elected officials know you want a more transparent wetlands permit process. By then it could be too late. Let them know now while the law is still in the draft stage.

SUSAN SIEGEL

Bailout of Indian Point by Cuomo will Cost Residents

To the Editor,

Resist the tyrant (again)

Let's see — in 1773, Boston patriots showed their displeasure with King George the Third by throwing tea crates into Boston Harbor to resist the tyrant's taxation without representation.

In 2017, King Cuomo the Second is taxing each local resident here \$2.22

on their Con Ed bill to pay for his multi-billion-dollar bailout of nuclear plants upstate while he devastates our local economy by closing Indian Point.

Hmmm ... isn't it time for all patriots to refuse to pay that \$2.22 charge?

JIM ROBERTS
Peekskill

Obituaries

Ralph Visconti

Ralph A. Visconti, a resident of Yorktown Heights, died February 3, 2017. He was 90.

He was born February 19, 1926 in New York City to Anthony and Carmel Visconti. He served honorably in the United States Navy during WWII. He married Adeline Macri on July 2, 1949. Together they lived in Yonkers and moved to Yorktown Heights in 1979.

Mr. Visconti was predeceased by his wife, Adeline. He is survived by his son, Joseph Visconti; daughter, Linda Spirelli; daughter-in-law Roxanne Visconti and son-in-law Patsy Spirelli; four grandchildren, Joseph Spirelli, Pasquale Spirelli, Irene Jackston, and Linda

Brady; and seven great-grandchildren, Jevan, Rocco, Reef, Jordanna, Skyla, Emma and Sophie. He was predeceased by three sisters, Marie Locasio, Eleanor Gombatz and Carmel Costello.

A memorial mass will be held on Saturday, February 11 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church at 10:15 a.m. Internment to follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Virginia "Ginny" Marie Montesione

Virginia "Ginny" Marie Montesione (Zilempe), a resident of Yorktown, died January 29 after a battle with lung cancer. She was 63.

She was born December 12, 1953

in Yonkers to Eugene and Patricia Zilempe. She went to high school at Commerce High School and graduated in 1972. She dedicated her life to enriching and improving the lives of children. She was honored to be a part of the Highview Elementary School family for over 20 years. She enjoyed reading, puzzles, going to the movies and spending time with her family and friends. She was predeceased by her parents, Eugene and Patricia. She is survived by her husband, Patrick, son Christopher and wife Kalen of Wake Forest, NC and daughter Tiffany of Hamden, CT.; sisters Judy, Kathy, Jennifer and Patty; and brothers Eugene, Eddy and Richie.

Doreen Hutchinson

Doreen (Boyton) Hutchinson, a resident of Ossining, died January 21 after

her long fight with cancer at The Emerald Peek Rehab & Nursing Center in Peekskill. She was 44.

She graduated from Ossining High School in 1990, SUNY Oneonta 1994 with a BA in History/Secondary Education. She was self-employed with Waggin'Bottoms Pet Care Services & Serenity Acres of Poughkeepsie. She married her husband Liam J. Hutchinson of Briarcliff Manor on May 29, 2005.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Dottie Boyton, both of whom were respected and active members of the Ossining community. She leaves behind her husband, Liam Hutchinson and his family. In addition, she leaves behind her brothers Ed Stowell, Bill McCabe and Chris Peace, along with a long list of other family and friends who loved her for the passionate and loving person she was.

The Northern Westchester
Examiner

Adam Stone

astone@theexaminernews.com

Publisher

Rick Pezzullo

rpezzullo@theexaminernews.com

Editor-in-Chief

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Westchester County Legislator and Majority Leader Catherine Borgia (D/Ossining) participated in a unity rally Friday night in Ossining.

The Front Door Reflects the Soul of the Home

It's the wisest advice any home seller could receive: check out that front door! It can be the key to a home's personality, either reflecting the condition of the space within – or contradicting it.

Just as a person is judged within a few seconds of a first meeting, a house is judged in great part by the condition, functionality and look of its front door.

The Home Guru



By Bill Primavera

If the door needs painting or is warped and if the hardware is tarnished and in poor working order, a pall can be cast over the entire house as being outdated. Perhaps some homeowners are unaware of a deteriorating front door because most people drive into their attached garage and walk directly into

the mud room or kitchen. However, visitors and prospective home buyers would come only to the front door.

While the functional purposes of a front door are to withstand the elements, help toward energy efficiency and provide protection for the home, visitors view it as an aesthetic statement, even a psychological one. If the door is attractive and in good shape, that perception extends to the entire household – and to its owners as well.

Some door problems can be repaired and others cannot. If the door is improperly hung, has trouble closing or latching, is only slightly warped or is just sticking, these problems may be worth fixing. But if it has rot or is outdated in style, consider the options for replacement.

Whether you use a contractor or a handyman for door replacement, you'll get different opinions about which kind of new door to choose. Some would suggest that the best material to use is wood. Steel or aluminum may be recommended as the most sturdy and secure, but according to most remodeling contractors, the most popular choice today is the high-quality fiberglass door. The insulation quality of the latter is better than that of a wooden door, and it will not warp or crack.

The feature I like best about a fiberglass door is that the manufacturers have managed to develop an incredibly realistic grain that matches real wood. Also, there is a great number of door styles and beveled glass options available. Fiberglass can be stained or painted, and fancy hardware can be applied to them, just as you would a wood door.

That brings us to the subject of the door hardware which, in aesthetic terms, can make a door “pop,” but if it's worn, that pop can be a dull thud. The polished look is one factor, but a lock and handle's functionality is the primary thing to consider. Basically, locksets fall into two different categories,

mortise or cylindrical. While I don't fully understand the mechanical workings of these two types of locks, my trusted locksmith tells me that mortise locksets, which are installed into a rectangular dugout in the door, offer the ultimate in security, design and ruggedness.

The choice of locksets and handles can be a daunting experience. When I went hunting for new hardware, I was overwhelmed by the selection available. I took a picture of the set I thought the most attractive and showed it to my locksmith and asked him to supply the best choice for my door, which was a genuine antique, and the lock required

all sorts of considerations for its installation. Better to leave such things to the experts, unless you're a great do-it-yourselfer, which I am not.

Highly polished solid brass knobs, backplates and thumb latches are desirable but, fair warning, they can be quite expensive.

When it comes to selecting a color for the front door, it is a situation of relating to, or contrasting with, one of the other tones found in the house or the landscape that surrounds it. Most people today are choosing a deep green or red to have their front doors stand out.

One cardinal rule about color: a front

door should never be stark white. The theory here is that the door should relate to the landscape in some way and pure white is rarely found in nature. The large casing around the door should be a different color than the door itself. The casing should be treated like a trim, which matches the windows and other trim.

For those of you with a bent toward feng shui, you know that the front door is the main source of a house's energy. But practically and simply put for both curb appeal and resale value, spruce up the front door, and in a sense, you have a new home.



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Teatown to Host EagleFest Feb. 11 at Croton Point Park

Teatown Lake Reservation will hold its 13th Annual EagleFest on Saturday, February 11, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Croton Point Park. This year's event will include new and exciting additions to the signature family event that attracts thousands of people each year to celebrate the bald eagle's return to the Hudson River.

The event's organizers were recently joined by Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino and State Senator Terrence Murphy (R/Yorktown), who outlined a new environmental project to enhance Croton Point Park to attract migratory birds.

The initiative began two years ago with a \$13,000 grant from the Westchester Parks Foundation which funded a study to restore the great meadows at Croton Point Park. Based on the study, Murphy secured \$500,000 in state funding to restore a 100-acre grassland within the 508-acre park. An additional \$135,000 in federal funds was secured by the County Soil & Water Conservation District. The project is designed to improve the ecological health of the park including the eradicating of invasive plant species. Croton Point Park offers the largest migratory bird habitat in the Lower Hudson Valley.

"Restoration of the old Croton landfill as grassland will provide a nesting place for migrating birds and wildlife and will ensure that EagleFest will continue to grow and be an exciting event for families and



Assemblywoman Sandy Galef; Kevin Carter, Executive Director, Teatown Lake Reservation; Westchester County Executive Robert P. Astorino; State Senator Terrence Murphy; and Lisa Kelly, Animal Care Supervisor, Teatown Lake Reservation, holding a red tailed hawk.

bird enthusiasts in and around the Hudson Valley," said Murphy. "The bald eagle is an iconic bird that has come to represent our country's liberty and strength. Seeing these majestic birds in their natural habitat is both enlightening and inspiring."

Created by Teatown Lake Reservation, a leading regional environmental education center and nature preserve, EagleFest gives visitors of all ages a unique opportunity to view these magnificent birds both up close and in their natural environment. This year's event features spectacular eagle viewing along the Hudson River and educational and informative bird shows, showcasing eagles and other raptors, plus new programs and features such as live musical performances and an inspiring, award-winning documentary film.

The iconic EagleFest will underscore the awareness of conservation, while giving thousands of people the opportunity to see eagles and other spectacular birds of prey. Perennial favorites, Bill Streeter of Delaware Valley Raptor Center and Brian Bradley of Skyhunters in Flight,

return with their magnificent birds. Joining this year's event is Andrew Simmons, a celebrated lecturer and entertainer, who has appeared with his golden eagle and other wildlife on Good Morning America, Today, and is a regular visitor at the American Museum of Natural History. Visitors can also attend a variety of workshops and presentations geared to all ages.

There are also opportunities to view eagles in their nearby natural habitats. Teatown educators will lead bus tours along the Hudson River to various viewing sites where eagle experts will be stationed with spotting scopes. The two-hour tours leave from Croton Point Park at 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Seats are on a first come, first-served basis, for an additional fee.

The newest feature of the festival will be

the screening of the critically-acclaimed Sony Pictures documentary *The Eagle Huntress*. Available to all EagleFest general admission ticket holders, the film is being shown in cooperation with Pace University's Environmental program. It tells the story of a young Mongolian girl who is the first female eagle hunter in the 1,000-year history of her tribe. The film is suitable for all ages and will be shown at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 pm at Wilcox Hall on Pace University's Pleasantville campus.

Throughout the day, in addition to bird of prey shows, there will be live music, including a performance by Grammy Award winning singer/songwriter Tom Chapin. These shows and children's activities are all held in heated tents – a festive atmosphere on a winter's day. A variety of food trucks to suit everyone's tastes will also be on-site throughout the festival.

"EagleFest embraces the revival of the bald eagle, an endangered species with a one-of-a-kind celebration of wildlife, education and fun," said Teatown Executive Director Kevin Carter. "We thank all of our sponsors and partners for making this event possible. They include Con Edison, Club Fit, Entergy, Phelps Hospital Northwell Health, Pace University, WHUD, Westchester County Tourism, Westchester County Parks and Westchester Parks Foundation."

Pre-sale tickets are discounted and on sale at www.teatown.org/events/eaglefest.

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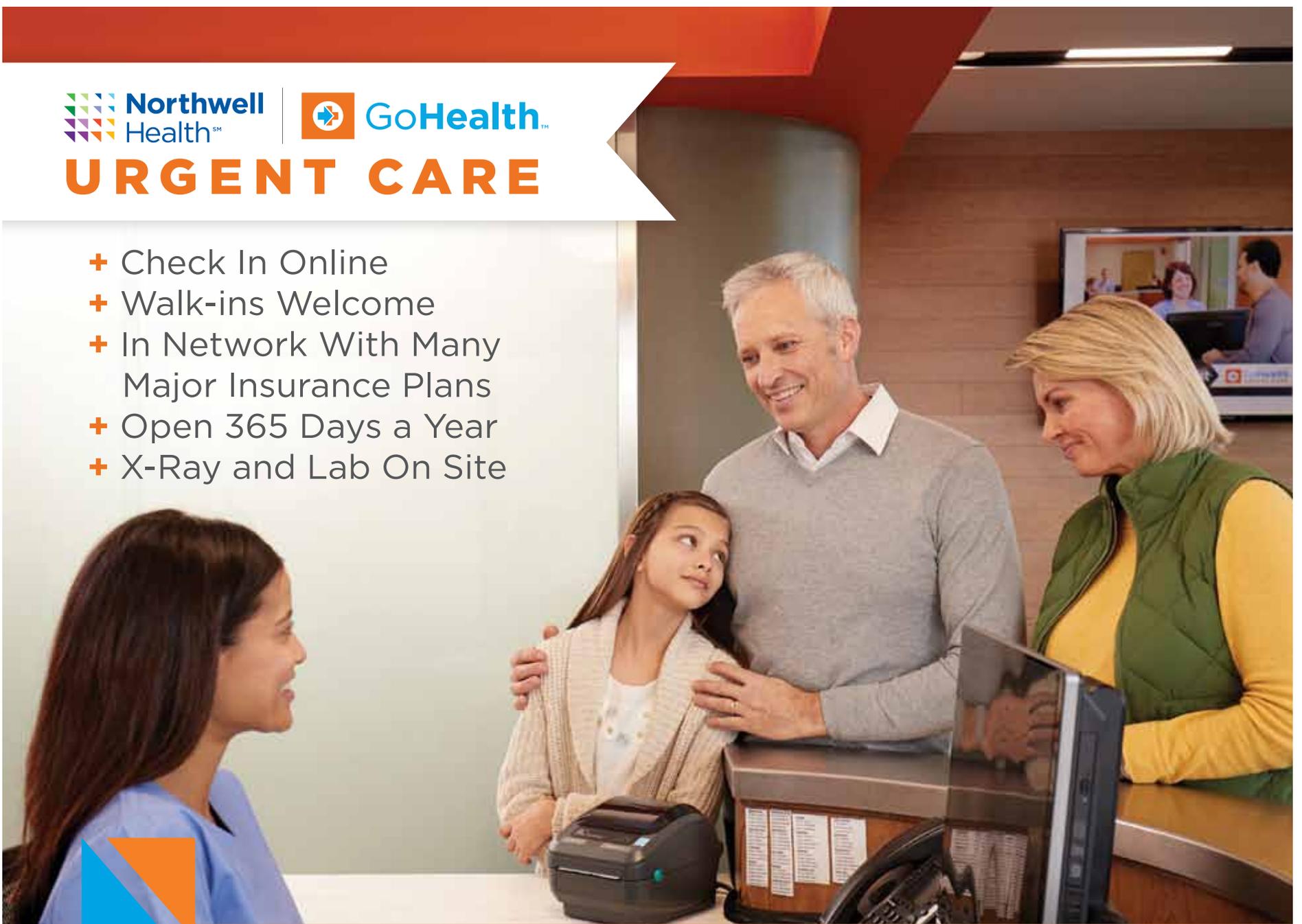
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Centrale Italian Kitchen & Bar Yorktown

By Neal Rentz

Manhattan resident Roberto Bellissimo opened Centrale Italian Kitchen & Bar in the Triangle Shopping Center in Yorktown in December and said last week that he used the eatery's first weeks to listen to his customers.

Bellissimo said the opening days were a time for him to tweak the menu and "really understanding how to put our best foot forward."

"For me it was a restaurant Westchester 101 learning experience," Bellissimo said.

Bellissimo said he learned that to be successful in Yorktown he needed to provide value. "The town itself is really divided into groups of people who want a lot for very little and people who go everywhere else to eat," he said. "We really want to bring forth value. When I say value it's in every way. It's not just about value about the dish, but value from the service."

Value also comes from the restaurant's water filtration system, which provides sparkling water at no additional cost to his customers, Bellissimo noted.

"Restaurants to me are like children in a way," Bellissimo said. "You have this idea of what they're going to be and



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

A portion of the interior of Centrale Italian Kitchen & Bar in Yorktown.

what you want them to be. But then the restaurant kind of has its own way of organically becoming its own."

Bellissimo said his restaurant, which hosted its grand opening on January 25, has become its own through the menu, especially in its appetizers, which are available in half portions to give patrons a chance to try a variety of starters. One antipasto can be purchased for \$7; three for \$19 and five for \$29, he noted, adding there

are about a dozen choices available daily.

"The idea is really just to come in and enjoy as try as many things as possible," Bellissimo said.

Nearly all of the food served in his restaurant is made on site, Bellissimo said.

The restaurant has a wood burning oven to bake pizzas, with a variety of toppings. For example, there is potato topped pie featuring leaks and a white sauce of pecorino cheese and black pepper.

Bellissimo said some of his customers' favorite dishes include the Brussels sprouts, crispy cauliflower, zucchini parmesan, stuffed baby Portello mushrooms as antipasto choices; an entrée featuring mussels and other seafood prepared in a lobster sauce; and short rib pappardelle pasta.

He said his concept of family style dining is sharing of dishes that do not have to be served in huge portions. But instead it could be the sharing of several smaller portions, he explained. "I want people to share and get a plethora of items for the table," he said.

Bellissimo said his restaurant is open to make changes to dishes at customer's requests. He said the choice of location was not up to him. "The location chose me," he said. A friend told him there was a restaurant space available in the shopping center. "It had good stones," meaning the location had good flooring, walls, and woodwork, for example. The building has housed restaurants for decades. Renovations for his new restaurant took six weeks, he noted.

Bellissimo said he enjoys the restaurant industry because he is learning and growing on a daily basis. "What I love about this business is you're never stagnant," he said.

Centrale Italian Kitchen & Bar is located at 90 Triangle Center in the Triangle Shopping Center in Yorktown. For more information, call 914-352-6107, visit <https://www.centrale.us> or send an e-mail to info@centrale.us.

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Man's Adaptability in the Face of Climate Change

The end of weather as we know it is on the horizon and we're all slowly going to drown or starve or move to Mars. Or maybe not.

As scientifically based as this topic should be, there are varying, diametrically opposed viewpoints on our purported demise. Most appear to be science-based, others ideologically-based.

Regardless of one's viewpoint, documented changes are underfoot in the wine industry.

In the vineyard, climate is one of the most influential factors affecting grape production, characteristics and quality.

The early Romans understood this and planting patterns did not materially change in the ensuing millennia. Cabernet Sauvignon fares best in warmer climates; this is where you will generally find them planted. Pinot Noir thrives in cooler climates; look to the Burgundy region of France for the best expressions.

If there are major changes in these conditions, the characteristics of the end product – the glass of wine you and I consume – will likely change, upsetting centuries of local traditions and economics.

Much is riding on the potential long-term effects of climate change. But how does one determine the veracity of climate change claims?

There are two primary means: scientific study and anecdotal experiences.

Scientific studies have shown that the planet is warming. Not analogous to a slow, constantly rising curve on a chart or graph, but more so in protracted periods of high and low swings, a saw-tooth graph whose extreme points reach new highs with each changing pattern.

One study predicts that by 2050 nearly one-quarter of areas in major wine-producing regions will no longer be suitable for grape-growing, according to Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Anecdotal experience provides first-hand evidence. Vineyard owners around the globe have been reporting the need to harvest their crops earlier than ever in their lifetimes. Not every year, but a trend is clear. And not in significant numbers of days or weeks, but rather a few days or a week each year.

Another study analyzed centuries-old vineyard records kept by winemaking monks in France. The very detailed records showed stable harvest dates from the 14th century onward. Over the most recent quarter century, however, harvest dates have been trending earlier, in-

creasing frequency.

Enterprising British winemakers analyzed warming patterns several years ago, decided to take advantage of this new phenomenon and successfully planted Chardonnay and Pinot Noir vines. Today, British sparkling wines produced from these grapes are receiving worldwide accolades.

What does the future hold for the wine industry and the agriculture industry in general?

Overall, we must not lose sight of what has enabled man to overcome past ca-

lamities and natural disasters throughout history: resistance and ingenuity.

Battling climate change in the vineyards will test man's ingenuity and adaptability. Short of succumbing, man's determination will seek survival options. Here are several:

Different grape varieties may be planted that thrive in a locale's changed climate. But what of the supplanted grapes? Will wines formerly produced in cooler climates head toward extinction? Man's ingenuity and innate entrepreneurship

will likely capitalize on unintended consequences.

As man invents and develops advanced technology, the threat of climate change will become a top priority in this field. This is already evident in the science of genomics. Scientists working at the University of California-Davis are embarking on a major new endeavor – to define the genetic makeup of individual grape varieties to unlock the attributes of genes associated with climate resistance, flavor, aroma and hardiness. First up: Cabernet

Continued on page 22



By Nick Antonaccio



The early Romans understood this and planting patterns did not materially change in the ensuing millennia. Cabernet Sauvignon fares best in warmer climates; this is where you will generally find them planted. Pinot Noir thrives in cooler climates; look to the Burgundy region of France for the best expressions.



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Restaurants with Special Incentives for Dining on Valentine's Day

By Jerry Eimbinder

Many Westchester and Putnam restaurants will offer special incentives for celebrating Valentine's Day (Tuesday, Feb. 14), including the eateries listed below. With some exceptions, the regular menus or limited versions of it will also be available. Prices shown for prix-fixe menus do not include tax, tip or beverages except if otherwise noted. This guide shows selected dishes only and does not cover all prix-fixe choices or all specials offered at the listed restaurants.

5 Spice Teahouse & Restaurant (Mount Kisco). Five-course, prix-fixe menu (\$79.00 per couple). Red rose for the ladies and a glass of red or white wine included. Reservations limited to 20 couples.

12 Grapes (Peekskill). An à la carte dinner and two shows with seating at 5:30-6 p.m. and 8-8:30 p.m. Special menu. Vocalist Maria Crispin, bass/percussionist Joe Spinelli, and Claudia Crispin on keys perform Broadway, jazz and R&B favorites.

251 Lex (Mount Kisco). Prix-fixe menu: four courses, \$79. Fresh shucked oysters and Mediterranean maze. Entrées: Falafel, brazen, Spanish octopus, cavatella and lamb ambbol ocnese, pork shank, and prime steak.

273 Kitchen (Harrison). Prix-fixe, four-course menu, \$79. Mediterranean maze and fresh shucked oysters. Entrées choices: Falafel, brazen, Spanish octopus, cavatella and lamb ambbol ocnese, pork shank, and prime steak.

Alvin's & Friends (New Rochelle). Prix-fixe, three-course menu, \$60. Includes glass of champagne. Specials: rack of lamb, snapper, Creole chicken. Dessert sampler: chocolate covered strawberries, white chocolate covered brownies and red velvet bread pudding. Pianist Dinah Vero.

Augie's Prime Cut (Mohegan Lake). Heart-shaped lobster ravioli with a pink champagne sauce (\$16).

Benjamin Steak House (White Plains). Prix-fixe menu: three courses, \$89 including coffee or tea. Entrées: Porterhouse steak, Chilean sea bass, surf (lobster tail) and turf (filet mignon).

Ben's of Scarsdale (Scarsdale). Free dessert with any sandwich or entrée. Desserts include, but are not limited to, chocolate babka, rich seven-layer cake, rugalach in chocolate or raspberry flavors and more.

Bistro 146, Pleasantville. Three-course, prix-fixe menu (\$55). Entrées: pan roasted Alaskan halibut filet, 14-ounce lobster tail with hollandaise sauce and Nantucket Bay scallops, prime Chateaubriand steak, sushi-grade bluefin tuna. Desserts: fruit tart, mousse duo,



molten lava layer cake, red velvet cookie.

Cafe of Love (Mount Kisco). A la carte choices: lobster bisque, seared scallops with cocoa sauce, caviar and kale, ribeye for two with two sauces, bordelaise and chimichurri, lobster fettuccine with champagne sauce, raspberry panna cotta, and cookie platter.

California Pizza Kitchen (Scarsdale). "Sweet deal for two." One appetizer, two entrees and one dessert (\$35).

Captain Lawrence (Elmsford). Prix-fixe menu: five-course, prix-fixe dinner plus passed appetizers (\$75). Wine from Whitecliff Vineyards in Gardener, NY paired next to Captain Lawrence ales. One seating at 6:30 p.m. (plan to stay 3 or more hours).

The Chophouse Grille (Mahopac). Specials: Osso bucco (American milk-fed veal shank slowly braised in its natural juices with touch of reduced red wine and fresh herbs); vegetable strudel topped with crumbled stilton cheese; wrapped in phyllo dough; baked in four-cheese beschamel sauce and English Dover Sole, roasted whole, filleted and deboned at table side.

Chutney Masala (Irvington). Prix-fixe menu: three courses (\$49.95). Entrées: Spinach and cheese dumplings, eggplant, Chicken Tikea Masala, ginger lamb chops, Alaskan salmon, mango shrimp and curried lobster.

The Cookery, (Dobbs Ferry). Two three-course, prix-fixe menus are available at \$75 each. Both come with continuous passed bites and a glass of champagne. One has as entrees: ravioli, radiatore with lamb bolognese, pork osso bunco, chicken, spaghetti with pork and clam sausage, granzino, market steak and market fish. The other menu offers oxtail raviore, grilled beef heart and fried chocolate with spicy cream.

Division Street Grill, (Peekskill) Seafood, duck breast, chicken, steak and more.

Empire City Casino (Yonkers). Dan

Rooney's three-course, prix-fixe menu with scallops or salmon as entree and triple chocolate tower at \$40 or Nonno's Trattoria three-course, prix-fixe menu with surf (two lobster tails) and turf (two filet mignon steaks) at \$75 per couple. Add \$10 for two glasses of champagne.

Half Moon (Dobbs Ferry). Prix-fixe menu: three courses, \$65. Entrées include yellow-fin tuna, surf and turf, Long Island duck, chicken, ribeye steak and lobster ravioli. Trio-dessert sampler.

Harvest on Hudson (Hastings-on-Hudson). Prix-fixe menu: three courses, \$69. Entrées include shrimp risotto, striped bass, salmon, chicken cacciatore, pork mignon, short rib and lamb chops.

Himalaya (Scarsdale). Prix-fixe menu for two: three courses at \$80. Himalayan cocktail. Entrées: Veg Korma, Murgh Makhini, chicken tandoori, beef curry. Roses for the ladies.

Hudson House River Inn (Cold Spring). Three-course, prix-fixe meal (\$47). Appetizers include lobster bisque and Maryland crab cakes. Entrées: sea scallops and salmon combination, butternut squash ravioli, chicken with lump crabmeat and short ribs.

Il Sorriso (Irvington). Three-course, prix-fixe meal (\$45). Appetizers include fried eggplant with cheese and asparagus. Entrées include salmon filet and jumbo shrimp with clams, peas, pancetta, oil and vinegar sauce. Three-layer red velvet cake dessert has layers of strawberry syrup and cream.

La Panetiere (Rye). Prix-fixe menu: six courses at \$90 or \$140 if wine-paired. Limited a la carte menu also available. Heart-shaped hot chocolate-molten cake and frozen lingonberry sorbet. Ladies take home a bag of chocolates and a rose.

Little Drunken Chef (Mount Kisco). Prix-fixe menu: three courses at 5 p.m., \$55 or 7 p.m., \$60. Entrées include ravioli, chicken and lamb chops. Glasses of wine and champagne included. Desserts: creme brûlée, vanilla and strawberry tart,

chocolate-dipped strawberries. Ladies receive a rose.

Mediterraneo (Pleasantville). Three-course, prix-fixe mou (\$55).

Moderne Barn (Armonk). A three-course, prix-fixe menu is priced at \$78 per person (\$118 with select wine pairing). The regular a la carte menu will not be available.

MP Taverna (Irvington). Prix-fixe menu (\$49.95). Specials include lobster bisque, crispy shrink and mushroom and roasted parsnip risotto. Chilled rose scented Zabaglione with raspberries, crystalized ginger and candied rose petals.

Patsy's (New Rochelle). Entrées include surf (filet mignon) and turf (lobster tail) at \$36. Desserts include chocolate-covered strawberries.

Plates (Larchmont). Prix-fixe, three-course dinner (\$80-\$85). Entrées: bronzino, filet mignon, veal fettuccini, chicken and braised short ribs. Early-bird seating (\$65).

RaaSa (Elmsford). Special dishes: paneer and vegetable spring roll (\$11), eggplant chat (\$10), basil shrimp (\$13), lamb bhuna, stewed with onions (\$21), Hariyali murgh, a chicken tenders dish (\$20) and Masaladhar subzi, a melange of vegetables (\$17).

Red Hat on the River (Irvington). Hors d'Oeuvres. Three-course, prix-fixe menu (\$72). Entrées include fish stew, Atlantic fluke, Scottish salmon, duck and cherry, and short rib bourguignon.. Dessert tasting for two.

Rinis (Elmsford). Three-course, prix-fixe menu (\$29.95). Entrées include Long Island duck. Vocalist Freddie Lando. No cover charge.

River City Grille (Irvington). A la carte menu. Entrées include mushroom ravioli (\$23), chicken breast (\$24), veal cutlet (\$24), felt mignon (\$32) and twin lobster tails (\$44).

Ritz-Carlton Lobby Lounge (White Plains). Three-course, prix-fixe menu (\$75) includes chocolate polenta cake or yuzu mousse cake, glass of prosecco and chocolate-covered strawberries. Specials: filet of beef and horseradish-crusting salmon.

River Grill, The (Sleepy Hollow). Surf and turf (crabmeat jumbo stuffed shrimp and 8-ounce steak) at \$26, lobster and crab ravioli (\$24), stuffed chicken breast (\$21). Complimentary glass of wine or champagne toast.

Ruth's Chris (Tarrytown). Nearly sold out. Check availability with restaurant.

Sambal (Irvington). Prix-fixe menu: three courses, \$49.95. Includes glass of sparkling wine. Entrées: Chicken green

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Happenings

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Tuesday, Feb. 7

Ladies Only: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. at 7:30 p.m., Marsha Sternstein will conduct her next monthly class discussing the intricacies of Hasidism. You do not need any prior knowledge; just bring your curiosity. The class is for women only; all are welcome and bring a friend. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

Senior Exercise: We offer the Workout M-W from 10-11 a.m. and Zumba Gold on Friday 11 a.m. to noon. Free to all seniors in Peekskill. Call Terri Dean to register at 914-734-4250 Ext. 5.

Anime Club: An Anime Club meets every Wednesday from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. at the Somers Library. Join us for a chance to watch anime from Crunchyroll with your friends. Info: 914 232 5717 or www.somerslibrary.org.

Free Aromatherapy Class: A free aromatherapy class will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill with master herbalist Barbara Smith. She will cover topics including: essential oils; methods of extraction buying and storing your oils; and medicinal and spiritual uses All supplies are free, class size is limited and registration is required. Call 914-737-0010 or stop by the circulation desk to register.

Breast Cancer Support: A Young Women's Breast Cancer Support Group for women who have or had breast cancer at a young age meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Yorktown offices of Support Connection, 40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, 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.

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.

Thursday, Feb. 9

Religion Classes: A class on Talmud and the Ethics of our Sages ae being held at the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Feel free to come - and to bring a friend - even if you cannot commit to coming to class weekly. We always welcome new participants. We meet (almost) every Thursday in the social hall

on Thursday mornings from 10:30 a.m. to noon. No knowledge of Hebrew is expected, and no particular depth of Jewish knowledge is assumed. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Long-term Care Forum: Can you or your loved ones afford long-term care? You might be surprised by the answers. Learn what your options are in a relaxed, friendly parlor setting by the fireside, hosted by elder law attorneys Salvatore M. Di Costanzo, Esq. and Jennifer L. Bienenstock, Esq., of leading Westchester elder law and special needs planning firm Plan Today for Tomorrow. Attendees qualify for a free, one-on-one consultation at your convenience. Refreshments will be served, including cheese, cider and wine. The program will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Registration is required; attendance is limited to 15 on first-come, first-served basis. Register for free at FreeFiresideChat.eventbrite.com. For further information, contact bapar@pinpointmarketingdesign.com or call 914)-275-6887.

Wine With Weiner: Wine with Weiner will be held at 7:45 p.m. at Temple Beth Am, 203 Church Pl., Yorktown. Come to Beth Am for an informal conversation with the Jewish community on the issues that affect our lives. With welcoming wine (or other beverages people bring), Rabbi Weiner facilitates a fascinating "laid-back" discussion while bringing us closer as a Jewish community. Congregants and non-congregants alike are invited to take this journey with our Rabbi. No previous knowledge is required, and all backgrounds are welcome. For information, please call our Rabbi at 962-7500 or e-mail him atrabbiw@optonline.net

Hospital Programs: Three programs have been scheduled for the coming days by New York-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital, 1992 Crompond Rd., Cortlandt. Healthy Heart Fair will be held on Feb.9 from 9 a.m. to noon in the lobby. Commit to get heart healthy this year. Cardiologists, primary care physicians and stroke specialists will be on hand to share information and answer questions. Free screenings are available and experts will teach about the importance of nutrition, physical therapy and exercise to maintain a healthy lifestyle and avoid risks associated with heart disease. Enjoy light refreshments; giveaways and raffles will be held. Registration is not required. A Chocolate Making Workshop will be held on Feb. 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Shower your loved ones (and yourself) with the gift of homemade chocolate. Just in time for Valentine's Day, learn how to make chocolate truffles dusted with cocoa powder, flourless

chocolate cake, healthy chocolate fudge, and chocolate bark. The program will be held in the Chef Peter X. Kelly Teaching Kitchen. The cost is \$15. To register call 914-734-3780 or send an e-mail to teachingkitchen@hvhc.org. Valentine's Day Cooking will be held on Feb. 14 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. This Valentine's Day join chef Adam Strauss in cooking a special Valentine's meal that features the color red. In this home-style cooking class students will prepare a salad using an unlikely ingredient: strawberries. Students will also prepare pizza, an entrée and a dessert to make an incredible meal. The program will be held in the Chef Peter X. Kelly Teaching Kitchen, The cost is \$15. To register call 914-734-3780 or send an e-mail to teachingkitchen@hvhc.org.

Swim Lessons: Swimming lessons are being offered by Society Hill II, 2 Campus Rd., Peekskill. Weekly classes are held on Thursdays and Saturdays. The session dates are Jan. 15 through March 12; March 17 through May 14 and May 19 through July 9. Info: 914-737-4909.

Understanding College Rankings: Teen Parent Talk - Understanding College Rankings will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Somers Library. Math professor and SAT tutor, Mike Goodman will present the plusses and minuses of the popular college ranking formulas and explains how just three numbers tell you almost everything you need to know. This presentation is geared towards teens and parents of teens beginning their college search. Register online at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717.

Friday, Feb. 10

Temple Beth Am Shabbat: Temple Beth Am will "opens its doors to all who enter" for Shabbat on Fridays at 8 p.m. Our modern Sabbath service has a spiritually engaging and warm feeling while following traditional modes. All are welcome to our friendly sacred space. Temple Beth Am is located at 203 Church Pl. Yorktown. For more information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbiw@optonline.net

Jewish Center Services: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Friday night Sabbath services at 6:15 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. During the month of February, Rabbi Sternstein will introduce a siddur called Siddur Eit Ratzon, which is filled with modern translation, transliteration, meditation and commentaries. It is designed to work for the traditional "davener" who is familiar

with Hebrew text and for those who want to join in communally sung parts. Siddur Sim Shalom will also be available for those who prefer to use the regular siddur. 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 yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Saturday, Feb. 11

Putnam Valley Shabbat Service: Looking for a modern Shabbat service steeped in Jewish tradition? Come to Temple Israel of Putnam Valley, a Conservative Egalitarian Synagogue situated on beautiful Lake Peekskill. Our inclusive, community-lead services start at 9:30 a.m. on Saturdays and are held in Hebrew and English. Enjoy a comfortable atmosphere where participation is appreciated, and afterwards stay for our delicious Kiddush lunch. Services are free; Family Memberships are \$250 per year and include High Holiday Services. 140 Lake Drive in Lake Peekskill. For more information, visit or call (845) 528-2305.

Yorktown 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.

Ossining Farmers Market: The Ossining Down to Earth Farmers Market is being held indoors through April 15 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 34 S. Highland Ave. 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.

Muscot Farm Programs: A series of programs will be held over this weekend at Muscot Farm, located on Route 100 in Somers. Morning Farm Chores will be held on Feb. 11 from 8 to 10 a.m. Do you have what it takes to be a farmer? Join us for this hands-on farming experience. The program is for those eight and older; Kids must be accompanied by an adult. Fee \$6 per person or \$20 for a family. P re-registration required' call 914-864-7282. Sugaring will be held on Feb. 12 from noon to 3 p.m. Visit the sugar house and watch the sugaring process up close. The program will also be held on Feb. 19 and 26. Hog Wild Over Ewe will be held on Feb. 12 from 1 to 3 p.m. Join

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Happenings

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the 4-H members and make Valentines as you learn about the different animals on the farm. Info: parks.westchestergov.com.

Children's Show: Temple Beth Am welcomes Jennie Sunshine in Concert for Tu B'shvat at 11 a.m. Come and enjoy Jennie Sunshine's interactive children's show on voice and guitar that will entertain, educate and excite your two-to seven-year-olds about nature and the big outdoors as well as have them dancing about regular kid stuff like adventure, counting and dreams. The cost is \$18 per family and all proceeds go to support Temple Beth Am. Tickets can be purchased on Temple Beth Am's Web site: <https://www.templebetham-ny.org>. 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 rabiw@optonline.net.

Teen Cupcake Challenge: The Teen Cupcake Challenge will be held at 2 p.m. at the Somers Library. The snow date is Feb. 25. Show off your cupcake-

making skills. As teams, teens will compete against others to create a great tasting, perfectly presented cupcake. Of course, the cupcake decorators will have challenges like themes and secret ingredients to make everything just a little more interesting! This program is for teens/tweens in grades six and up. Space is limited; please register online at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717.

Yoga Program: Support Connection announces a free program Yoga: A Path toward Wellness will be held on Saturdays Feb. 11, 18 and 25 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.

Sunday, Feb. 12

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:

Ellisha Simpson at 914-319-4010.

Monday, Feb. 13

Musical Munchkins: The Yorktown Musical Munchkins meet on Mondays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. at the Yorktown Stage Theater in room 12. The program is for older babies up to the 1's. Free trial classes are offered. Info: 914-771-7000 or www.musicalmunchkins.com.

Fitness Classes: Mainstream, The Institute for Mature Adults at Westchester Community College is hold Stay Strong and Fir (fall prevention) will hold Chair Yoga classes on Mondays through Aug. 29 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Peekskill Senior Center, 4 Nelson Ave.

Free Jazz Sessions: Free Jazz Jam Sessions are being held every Monday at The Winery at St. George, 1715 E. Main St. Mohegan Lake. Info: 914-455-4272.

Free Square Dancing: Friendly Squares Dance Club announces a free square dancing fun night from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Katonah Methodist Church Parish Hall, 44 Edgemont Rd. Square dancing is a lot of fun and great exercise for both the body and mind. It is an enjoyable activity for all ages and also

an opportunity to meet new people and make new friends. This event is open to singles, couples and families. The attire is casual and no experience is necessary. For more information, contact Tee at 914-433-2919.

Tuesday, Feb. 14

Hope's Door Fundraiser: Broadway performer Joni Blondell, along with Ray Blue, Tony Garnier, Tony Jefferson, and Art Labriola, will be performing two intimate evening dinner and jazz shows for Valentine's Day at The Hudson Room, 23 South Division Street, Peekskill. There will be two dinner seatings and performances that night at and 8:30 p.m. The performance will include jazz standards and recognizable tunes by Ella Fitzgerald, Peggy Lee, and other jazz greats with vocal stylist Sonny Shores on the mic. Tables must be reserved in advance for dinner guests only at \$70 per person. Those that want to come by to have drinks and listen only can do so with a separate \$25 donation to Hope's Door. To make reservations for dinner, visit Hudsonroom.com or Opentable.com.

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"Windy"



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"(Don't Fear)
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PIFF THE MAGIC DRAGON (3/2) AUSTRALIAN BEE GEE'S (3/3) DIONNE WARWICK (3/5) (w/full band) RHYTHM IN THE NIGHT (3/11) CELTIC CROSSINGS (3/12) MARC COHN (w/full band) (3/17)
RALPHIE MAY (3/24) HERMAN'S HERMITS STARRING PETER NOONE (3/25) HYPNOHYPE (3/28) ANN WILSON OF HEART (w/full band) (4/1) PETER FRAMPTON RAW, AN ACOUSTIC TOUR (4/6)
LAURIE BERKNER (4/8) GOLDEN DRAGONS ACOBATs (4/15) LOU GRAMM (w/full band) (4/21) THE CHARLIE DANIELS BAND (4/22) THE MANHATTAN TRANSER (5/12) THE KINGSTON TRIO (5/14)
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Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Lessen gradually
- 4. Hill insect
- 7. Attributive menu phrase
- 10. Roth or Traditional?
- 11. Old-school word meaning "For shame!"
- 12. Color of Santa's suit
- 13. Fishing tackle
- 14. Tums, e.g.
- 16. Caesar, Hirohito and Nero would eat at this
Cortlandt Chinese restaurant, goes with 23 down
- 18. A little of this, a little of that
- 19. Twangy, as a voice
- 22. Vast
- 24. Madonna or Cher, e.g.
- 25. Indian city (old name)
- 27. Bar supply, perhaps
- 28. It can cause medical combinations, chemically
- 31. Imagined
- 34. Really small amount
- 35. "Give it ___!"
- 36. Islet
- 37. What every number is divisible by
- 38. Catcher of a sort

- 39. Letter afer kay
- 40. Hightailed it

DOWN

- 1. Irish Republic
- 2. Filled to the top
- 3. Scottish wind instrument
- 4. Distant
- 5. Sheer fabric
- 6. Four-note chord
- 7. Rainbow
- 8. Pacific ring
- 9. Put on
- 15. Give out
- 17. Relating to a forced departure
- 20. Ace
- 21. Ornamental flower
- 23. See 16 across
- 26. Exemplary
- 29. Short, descriptive poem (Var.)
- 30. Garden with a snake
- 31. Backer
- 32. Every now and then it's golden
- 33. Have or what follower

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
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35				36				37		
38				39				40		

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF TAX-SOLUTION4EXPATS.COM, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/14/2016. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Seung Yup Kang, 27 Overlook street, Mount Vernon, New York 10552. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

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wood NY 10594. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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continued from previous page

B. Petshaft, P.C. 222 Bloomingdale Rd, Ste 116, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful activity.

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Restaurants with Special Incentives for Dining on Valentine's Day

Continued from page 16

curry, red snapper, lamb Massaman curry, Thai beef and broccoli, Penang duck, Pad Thai shrimp and Drunken noodles.

Sam's Of Gedney Way (White Plains). Three-course prix-fixe menu (\$48) or items from same menu with a la carte pricing. Entrées: lobster pappardelle or prime rib with Yorkshire pudding. Desserts include berries in a chocolate box.

The Seafood Grill (Armonk). Newly opened. Will serve prix-fixe menu to be determined.

Tarry Tavern (Tarrytown). Prix-fixe menu: \$55. Candle-lit room. Veal sweetbreads with wild mushroom ragout, braised short rib, and beef tenderloin. Chocolate truffles and chocolate-covered strawberries..

Thyme (Yorktown Heights). Prix-fixe menu: \$90. Entrées: Murray's French cut chicken breast, Berkshire double-cut pork chop and Meyer Ranch aged ribeye. Dessert: Moscato poached pears or raspberry rice pudding. Complimentary champagne and chocolate roses for the ladies.

Toasted Barrel (Tarrytown). Prix-fixe menu: \$85. Includes complimentary bottle of house champagne (can be upgraded for \$15). All appetizers accompanied by salad. Appetizers include lobster tail. Entrées: lamb chops, red snapper and filet mignon.

Trattoria Vivolo (Harrison). Specials plus Cacciucco di Mare (lobster tail, shrimp, vongole, mussels and more.)

Valley Restaurant (Garrison). Closed on Feb. 14. Prix-fixe \$89 menu on Feb. 10-11 will offer poached shrimp cocktail, East Coast Oysters with American cavi-

ar, Nantucket Bay Scallops, Long Island duck with foie gras and dessert taster.

Vue (Peekskill). Four-course, prix-fixe menu: \$69 per couple. Entrées: Diver scallops, seafood paella risotto, duck confit and 14-ounce ribeye pan seared with crumbled gorgonzola. Dessert choice; Bourbon creme brûlée or chocolate pot de creme.

Westchester Broadway Theatre (Elmsford). Dinner and performance of The Piano Men.

Zuppa (Yonkers). Three-course, prix-fixe menus (\$70). Complimentary glass

Man's Adaptability in the Face of Climate Change

Continued from page 13

Sauvignon's 19 chromosomes. The ultimate goal is to enhance DNA traits to better adapt to changes in future growing conditions.

A pioneering winemaker in California, Randall Grahm, has made a personal

commitment to preserve, and improve, future grapevines that are true expressions of place and terroir – and will contribute to offsetting the climate change effects of drought and higher temperatures.

Some might say if we can't rely on the accuracy of a meteorologist's short-term

prognostications, why should we rely on the long-term accuracy of a climatologist? In the face of long-term evidence and the potential consequences, do we have a choice?

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures.

Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@the-examinernews.com or on Twitter @shar-ingwine.

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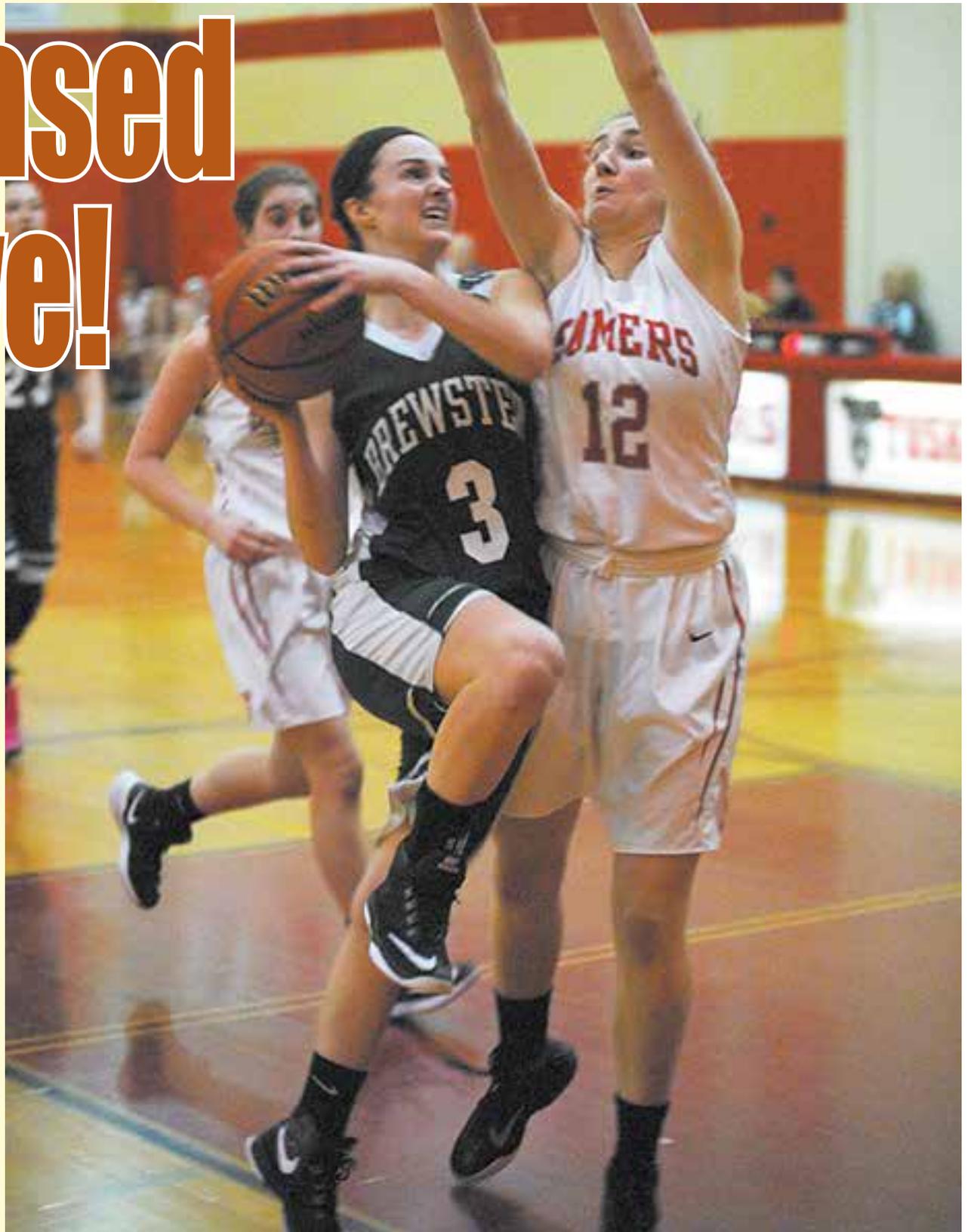
SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

SPORTS SECTION

Faith-Based Initiative!

Somers Records 1st Undefeated League Title

As she has done all season, Somers senior captain Faith Anne Ferguson (12) continued to do all the little things that help teams make history, which the state-ranked (No.14) Tuskers did in Friday's 61-27 League II-C victory over visiting Brewster and hard-charging G Maggie DePaoli (3). First-year Coach Marc Hattem's Tuskers, who repeated as league champions and then went undefeated in the league for the first time ever, will now deal with the pressure of being the favorites in the upcoming Section 1 Class A tournament where the Tuskers will seek the first sectional title in school history... see Girls' hoops Notebook



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Surging Yorktown Snags Share of I-C League Title

Speculations Abounds as Playoff Seeds Start to Focus

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

In my best Dave Johnson impersonation (the sportscaster best known for his work in horse racing): "And down the stretch they come!" As we head out of the three-quarter turn and in to the final stretch, the Section 1 hoops circuit is as frenzied as ever, with four of the five classifications up for grabs, and marginal optimism for sectional championships in and about the Northern Westchester/Putnam region. It'll be a major undertaking for any of the locals this season.

Class AA Mount Vernon, even in a year when the mighty, state-ranked (No.19) Knights are not looked upon as unbeatable and premier by their standards, are still the clear favorites; with likely No.2 Spring Valley and No.3 New Rochelle right behind. Yorktown (13-5), currently seeded seventh, might get a look at New Ro' in the second round, but there isn't another Class AA team from our neck of the woods that can remotely hang with the top dogs in AA, including potential No.16 seed Carmel (7-11), as well as Mahopac (3-15) or Ossining (4-14), who will be hard-pressed to crack the field of 16, much less win a playoff game.

Class A is not as clear-cut, despite the fact that state-ranked (No.1) Byram Hills (17-1) and No.3 Tappan Zee (17-0) are clearly two of the best Class A teams in the state. Both have proven to be the distinct favorites and their ridiculously driven fan bases will only make them tougher to beat in the post season. However, Rye and Saunders pushed Byram to the limit, and TZ has gone to the brink with Albertus Magnus, Hen Hud and Nanuet. It's not bloody likely, but both can be had, particularly if Saunders, a Class AA semifinalist last year, is as good as Bulldog Coach Anthony Nicodemo believes.

Class B is flat-out up for grabs, with potential No.6 seed Croton-Harmon (11-5) staring down the barrel of a potential opening-round game against likely No.10 Putnam Valley (7-9). Defending champion Briarcliff (14-4), enters as the favorites to repeat; despite not being as strong as the Bears were last season.

Below is a class-by-class look at prospective local matchups and what not based on current seeds, which are subject to change over the course of the next week.

CLASS AA

YORKTOWN Coach Kevin Downes: All he does is win. When he was at Mahopac, all he did was produce an unprecedented four-straight Class AA Final 4 appearances and one infamous



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG/BOB CASTNER PHOTOS

Yorktown senior captain Matt Severino gets to the iron in Huskers' win over Greeley on Senior Night last Thursday.

title tilt with Mount Vernon, which led to his bolting Mahopac for Yorktown.

Now, at Yorktown, all he does is continue to win, amassing a 13-5 overall record (5-2 league) while having the Huskers in position to share the League I-C title after Yorktown knocked off host Fox Lane, 59-53, last Friday night.

"I'm really proud of this group," Downes said of the Huskers, who might host current No.10 Mamaroneck (8-9) in the opening round should the seeds hold true. "We lost three in a row and they could have packed it in but they didn't. Even the games we lost we could have won but made some crucial mistakes. They stayed the course kept working hard and turned it around. We have great leadership and a group that just works hard and roots

for each other. They are a lot of fun to be around.

"You know I take nothing for granted," the coach added, "but if we beat Portchester we will be co-league champs. That hasn't happened at Yorktown for a long time. I would say maybe 07-08 or longer. It would be a great accomplishment, considering the injury to Tanner and our overall inexperience. If we can accomplish that, great! We just hope for a good seed come playoffs. I know we'll play hard."

Point guard Sol Barer had one of his finest outings against the Foxes. The senior dropped 19 points, collared five rebounds and dished five assists. Senior F Kyle Casey was a force in the paint with 13 points, six boards and four blocks. G James Lundberg had 12 points for the Huskers, who settled

for a split of the league title they believe they should own outright (ain't a dude on the squad who thinks otherwise).

Yorktown also had a 49-34 win over Greeley last Wednesday, in which Sol Barer had 10 points and seven boards. Husker F Kyle Casey and G Marc Spinelli both chipped in 10 apiece. Yorktown sparked some concern for about a week, senior F Tanner Dyslin went down with an ankle injury, but with a healthy Dyslin back in the fold Yorktown looks good again, and with everyone back to their respective roles the Huskers are peaking at the right time, despite Saturday's 54-45 loss to RCK.

"It does seem like we've been hitting our stride lately for many reasons," Spinelli said. "People like Cam (Cuparo), Michael (Broder) and Kyle stepping up lately has made it a lot easier for us to execute and play the way we want. The veteran leadership from our captains, Sol, Matt (Severino) and Tanner has also been a big reason for our success this season."

Currently at No.16 **CARMEL**, would have to beat No.17 John Jay EF in the outbracket before tipping off against No.1 Mount Vernon in the opening round. Nice draw! No.20 **MAHOPAC** would need to upset No.13 Horace Greeley before facing No.4 Fox Lane in the opening round, which seems a better draw than Carmel got. No.18 **OSSINING** would need an outbracket win over No.15 Suffern before seeing No.2 Spring Valley.

CLASS A

Perhaps no team in Section 1 is as improved as Class A **PEEKSKILL** this season. After slogging through a two-win 2016 campaign, Coach Tim Turner's Red Devils have gone 12-5 this year after sweeping **HEN HUD** in a 71-62 triumph last Wednesday. Peekskill was sporting the No.7 seed as of press time, possibly pitting them against potential No.10 Roosevelt in the opening round of sectionals.

"The boys are finally focused and committed, on and off the court, to putting this program back on the map," Coach Turner said.

Peekskill junior swingman C.J. Redd had 20 points and eight assists in one of his best outings of the season against the vexing Sailors, losers in seven of the last eight. Point guard Shion Darby added 19 and Amadou Traore scored 13 for the Red Devils, who look the part of a potential Final 4 contender for the first time since 2013.

No matter what happens in the post season, ya gotta feel good for Redd, who came aboard as a freshman and stuck it out through thick and thin. Winning feels good, he admitted, as the Red Devils were



Lakeland G John Mule' attacks rack in Hornets' 84-75 loss to visiting Beacon last Saturday.

"It brings us together," Redd said. "When we're winning, it gives us the drive to work harder, as opposed to the last few years when we were getting frustrated because we were working hard and seeing little results. Now, it's more of going into every game mentally prepared and focusing on executing; because we're seeing that if everybody executes, we're a tough team to beat."

SOMERS (10-8) could still be a tough out for some unsuspecting souls, provided the Tuskers, currently a 11-seed, get healthy. Somers is looking at potential suitors such as No.4 Lourdes, No.5 Saunders or No.6 Magnus, none of which would be an easy out on the road.

Somers made a move to improve its seed in Saturday's 65-60 win over Class AA host Mahopac where junior sniper Lorenzo Bicknese dropped a game-high 22 points.

No.15 **PANAS** (9-10), No.16 **HEN HUD** (7-10), No.23 **LAKELAND** (6-11) and No.24 **BREWSTER** (5-12) will likely have to go the out-bracket route to crack the field of 16, provided they qualify.

Streaky Panas should do so, having won its third in a row, a 49-45 win over Brewster Saturday night. Panther F Brandon Ramos had 17 to lead all scorers.

CLASS B/C

CROTON - HARMON led Valhalla, 26-21, at halftime, but came unglued defensively in the second half of a 64-50 loss last Thursday, eliminating Croton (11-4, 4-3) from



Five Huskers defend the rim, including shot-swatting Kyle Casey, in Yorktown's win Senior Night win over visiting Horace Greeley last Thursday.

league title contention. The Tigers needed Briarcliff to fall apart down the stretch, which isn't likely, considering the Bears did the Tigers in on Saturday, 60-47. Now, the Tigers are looking at a more difficult opening-round foe, which could turn out to be Put Valley.

Senior point guard Charlie Goldenberg did his thing (24 points, 6 boards) against the Bears, but it wasn't enough. Goldy also dropped a team-high 18 points in the loss to Valhalla. Freshman Sean Macarchuk went for a dozen against the Vikings while senior G Rory Parker added 12. Parker also had 13 against Briarcliff, which clinched their third straight league title.

"They are so deep, experienced, and talented," Croton Coach Ben Martucci said. "What continues to separate them from the rest of the league, and the rest of Class B as a whole, is their depth. Beating a team that has that much talent continuously coming off the bench is a tall order. Hats off to them, and to Coach Moffett."

PUTNAM VALLEY is clearly ahead of schedule. The goals for the 2017 campaign have changed after the Tigers (7-9), currently seeded No.11, have reeled off victories against state-ranked Class C power North Salem and Class A Brewster. Coach Mike McDonnell's original goal for the youthful Tigers, who start four sophomores and won't lose a central figure to graduation, was to make the playoffs. But budding 6'1" sophomore Darnel Shillingford, who pairs with 6'3" classmate TJ Brescia to form what will be a dirty front-court duo, admitted that's no longer the case.

"We think we're better than that, so we're not settling for just making the playoffs anymore," he said, while agreeing that a fifth-straight Final 4 County Center appearance is the big-picture goal.

Croton manhandled the Tigers in a

41-23 rout just before Christmas; in what was clearly PV's low-water moment. Both teams have improved since then, and we'd suspect a knock-down, drag-out battle in Croton's Tigertown; one can only hope.

HALDANE (7-9, 1-3), the two-time defending Class C champs, are staring at a potential No.5 seed, despite consecutive recent wins over Pawling and Irvington, which was a nice win for the Blue Devils. Haldane will really need to turn it around if it is going to knock off No.1 North Salem, whom they've lost to twice, No.3 Schechter and scrappy No.2 Tuckahoe, winners in 12 of the last 13, in order three-peat.

PUTNAM/NWE FAB FIVE HOOPS POLL

(if the playoffs started today version)

No.1 YORKTOWN - Looks like Class AA Huskers would need to need to beat either New Ro or Spring Valley to reach Final 4, unless they can get to No.5 seed, which would lighten the load to County Center.

No.2 PEEKSKILL - Class A Red Devils need to find a way to No.6 seed to avoid quarterfinal tilt with defending champion Byram Hills, who they should see if they get No.7.

No.3 SOMERS - Class A Tuskers would have to go through Magnus and Rye to get to County Center, which is doable if they are healthy and care at all about a legacy that might include NYS football and soccer titles, plus a Final 4 hoops appearance at County Center.

No.4 CROTON - Class B Tigers, should they see Put Valley in opening round, better understand that they will be facing a much-improved team in the playoffs. I know where I'll be if this matchup pans out.

No.5 HEN HUD - Class A Sailors best find their swag switch and flip it on if they plan on upsetting top seeds Tappan Zee or Byram in first round.



Rory Parker (L) and the Croton Tigers just might get a playoff visit from Darnel Shillingford and the Put Valley Tigers.

Sports

Girls Hoops Notebook

Local Class A Teams Continue to Set Pace; Somers Wins League

By Tony Pinciario

LAKELAND junior Jess Ascencao is at her best when under pressure, as evidenced by her buzzer-beating shot against Peekskill earlier this season.

"When I hit the buzzer-beater against Peekskill, it was an amazing

feeling because it was a really tough game," Ascencao said. "We were down and had to come back at the end."

Showing that it was not a one-time thing, Ascencao was at it again this week; this time, against Class AA power Mount Vernon.

Ascencao took a pass, drove the ball to the basket and converted a layup with five seconds remaining in the game, propelling Lakeland (12-6) to a 51-49 victory over Mount Vernon.

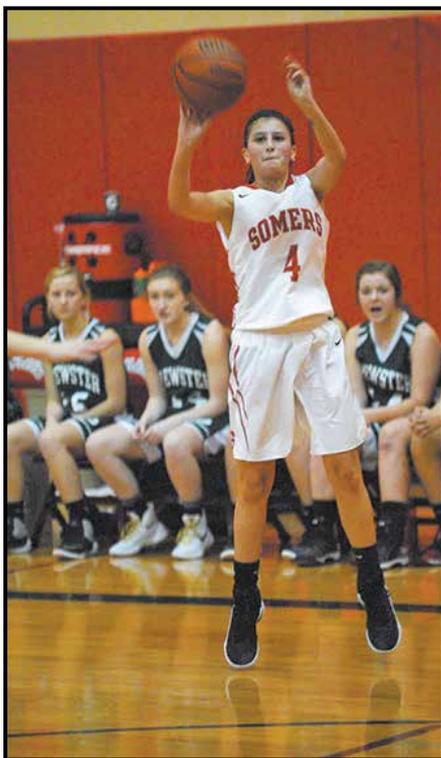
This followed up a 57-50 win over intra-district rival WALTER PANAS a day earlier. Panas (13-5) would even the set with a 54-41 victory later in the week, moving up to No.2 in Class A. Lakeland is currently the No.5 seed.

Mount Vernon double-teamed Colleen Walsh, but Ascencao got open, received the pass and went to work.

"Mount Vernon had two girls on Colleen and when she got the ball, she saw I was open with time running out," said Ascencao, who had eight points. "I knew I had to drive in. I was able to stay calm, telling myself it was just a normal layup. If I made it we could say we beat a really good team."

"I couldn't believe I did it again, but we had to stay focused and play good defense so they didn't come back in the last four seconds."

This is the second time, in the past two



Somers G Dani DiCintio fires J in Tuskers' win over Brewster Friday night.



In Somers' 61-27 win over Brewster Liv Lipski splashed 6 3's and scored 23 as Tuskers win 1st undefeated league title in history.

weeks, that Lakeland has executed in the final seconds to earn a win.

"In the final seconds we know we can do it, and we just have to make it happen," Ascencao said.

Lakeland improved to 12-5 on the season and is on path to earn a sectional berth, one year after missing the postseason. Ascencao said the team learned from its difficult 2015-16 season.

"I think we have been more successful this year from last year because we've gotten closer as a team, on and off the court," Ascencao said. "And with no seniors graduating last year we basically have the same team so we're all used to playing with each other. Everyone works hard in practice and we are all capable of having big games without relying on one or two players."

Even though Lakeland is having a successful season, Ascencao and her teammates know there is more to come.

"Going into playoffs we are all optimistic about what we can accomplish," Ascencao said. "We know we will have to work really hard and have good games if we want to advance."

Lakeland opened its week with the win over Panas as Ascencao led the way with 15 points. Colleen Walsh added 11 points and four steals. Alex Cole went 6 for 6 in the fourth quarter to seal the win. Lakeland coach Miranda Lustig

credited seniors Val Potenza, Krista Verrino and Rieley Walsh with playing exceptionally well.

Potenza paced Lakeland with 13 points against Mount Vernon, Walsh added 11 points and Cole finished with nine points.

Walsh had 10 points in the loss to Panas.

OSSINING (13-5) had an uncharacteristic week, going 1-2. The six-time reigning Section 1 Class AA champion Pride had consecutive losses - Riverdale Baptist (Md.), 61-53, and Albertus Magnus, 80-75. The setback to Albertus was significant in that it ended Ossining's streak of 93

consecutive wins against Section 1 opponents. Ossining rebounded to beat Bergtraum, 64-58 Saturday.

"We didn't shoot the ball well and they did," said Ossining coach Dan Ricci of the Albertus game. "We also need to do a better job defensively. Eighty points is too much to give up. I explained to the girls that the streak is now over and it had to end some time. Now, we can focus on winning the section."

Riverdale Baptist outscored Ossining, 22-7, in the second quarter to take control of the game. Andra Espinoza-Hunter finished with 28 points and Kailah Harris added 13.

Harris followed up with a season-high 27 points and 16 rebounds against Albertus, and Espinoza-Hunter had 21 points.

Ricci was pleased with the win over Bergtraum as Ossining played without Harris (minor injury) and Espinoza-Hunter went out in the third quarter with a sprained ankle, according to Ricci.

Kelsey Quain had a season-high 29 points and Espinoza-Hunter added 23. Freshman Adriana McFadden added 13 points and 12 rebounds and Helen Ishmael had a team-best 13 rebounds.

BREWSTER (7-11) had a tough week, dropping games to Peekskill, 66-50, and SOMERS (14-5), the undefeated league champions and current top seed in Class A.

"Peekskill did a great job of creating



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Brewster's Julia Borsari is met by Somers' Dani Cucchiarella in host Tuskers' 61-27 whipping of Bears Friday night.

turnovers and converting for easy buckets in the second and third quarters," Brewster coach Mike Castaldo said. "As we always do, we battled back and cut the lead to eight with 4:26 to go. However, Peekskill responded to our run and bumped the lead back to 15."

"We are getting in a very bad habit of digging ourselves in a whole and not having enough time to get out of it. We do not play for 32 minutes and with the season coming to an end we have to fix this problem very quickly."

Maggie DePaoli led Brewster with a game-high 23 points.

"Somers did an outstanding job of making us work for every single shot," Castaldo said. "The first quarter was a defensive battle for both teams and neither could get in an offensive rhythm. With the score 7-6 in favor of Somers, Liv Lipski hit a buzzer-beater 3 to push the lead to 10-6. They then went on to connect on their next 5 shots to build a 15-point lead and never looked back."

"It was a very frustrating game in the fact that we did not stick to our game plan, we did not shoot well from the field, and we did not convert from the free throw line."

Julia Borsari and DePaoli each had 12 points.

The win over Brewster enabled Somers to win the league with an unblemished record (8-0). Somers sniper Liv Lipski swished six 3-pointers and led all scorers with 23 points on dead-eye shooting.

continued on next page

Sports

Girls Hoops Notebook

Local Class A Teams Continue to Set Pace; Somers Wins League

continued from previous page



Somers G Hannah Angelini gets a step along the baseline on Brewster's Kristen Stefanick in Tuskers' 61-27 win over Bears Friday.

"The league championship was one of our major goals for the season," Somers' coach Marc Hattem said. "To win it in such a strong league with great players and teams is a major accomplishment. The girls were really pumped."

MAHOPAC split two games, opening the week with a 54-46 win over Arlington, before a 58-45 loss to Clarkstown South. Mahopac is now 9-8 this season.

Mahopac trailed Arlington by six at halftime, but outscored the Admirals, 33-19 in the second half.

Claire Felix finished with a game-high 21 points and Amanda Geyer contributed 15 points.

Mahopac led Clarkstown South, 16-10, after one, however, the Vikings went into halftime with a 31-25 lead. Clarkstown South closed it out, outscoring the Indians by nine points in the final quarter.



Somers' Jackie Penzo pulls up for two in Tuskers' 61-27 win over Brewster Friday.

"We played well defensively in the second half and that was the key to our win against Arlington," Mahopac coach Chuck Scozzafava said of the Class AA Indians, a current No.12 seed. "Against Clarkstown South, we were inconsistent after the first quarter on offense and defense. We weren't able to sustain any momentum."

YORKTOWN won twice, dominating Rye Neck, 60-22, and Horace Greeley, 56-36.

The Cornhuskers (10-7), currently seeded No.10 in Class AA, received contributions from everyone against Rye Neck. The well-balanced scoring effort was led by Anna Nuccio with eight

points, Carli Mager and Miranda Walsh finished with seven points apiece and Caroline Keenaghan and Erin Gray each had six points.

Kat Severino almost singlehandedly outscored Greeley, finishing with a game-high 24 points. Mackenzie Merson added 12 points, Alyssa Francese had nine points and Emily Metz chipped in seven points.

HEN HUD (11-5) began with a 50-46 victory over PEEKSKILL (8-8) to sweep the season set. Beacon would upset Hen Hud, 48-44, later in the week.

The Sailors outscored Peekskill, 11-4 in the third quarter, to take a 38-32 lead. Caitlin Weimar led Hen Hud with 13 points and 12 rebounds, Maria Scalf had 10 points and Katy Kenny had finished with nine points and 10 rebounds. Jaelynn Smith collected 11 assists.

Beacon rode a strong first half to the victory as the Bulldogs led 25-14 at the half. Weimar led with nine points, Kenny had eight points and Kamryn Sherman added seven points and six rebounds.

After beginning with the loss to Lakeland, Panas bounced back to take the second game in the home-and-home, on Senior Night, then rally to a 54-45 triumph over John Jay-Cross River.

In the loss to Lakeland, eighth-grader Kristen Cinquina had a team-leading 12 points for Panas and Danielle Merante and Melissa Keefe each had 10 points.

Panas raced to a 30-13 at the half in the second meeting as Kellie Brown finished with a game-high 15 points and Cinquina added 12 points.

Panas coach Matt Evangelista said the Panthers rallied from a third-quarter



Yorktown senior Alyssa Francese splits pair of defenders in Huskers' loss to Fox Lane last Friday.

deficit to earn the win. Keefe scored all 13 of her points in the second half and Carlyn Mucci contributed 10 points.

CARMEL (4-15) went 0 for 3, falling to John Jay-East Fishkill, John Jay-Cross River and Arlington.

"The team has been playing with a greater degree of consistency, especially in the last couple of games," Carmel coach Dan O'Hare said. "Turnovers continue to be our main problem, but the team has been having balanced scoring led by Khadijah Johnson, Emily Schidrick and Maria Mazzamuto."

Sports

Hockey Notebook

Brewster/Yorktown One Win Away from League Title

By Ray Gallagher

The experiment has produced regular season results beyond anyone's expectation as the combined Brewster/Yorktown hockey team improved to 12-2-2 last week behind a 5-3 win over North Rockland Friday and a 3-2 win over Somers/North Salem Saturday.

Brew/Town was just a Monday win over Horace Greeley from producing a league title, which would be quite a conquest for two teams that weren't sure about their future as late as October. Yorktown sophomore center Connor Sullivan scored the game-winning goal against the Sabers, redirecting a Sepp Boeschl shot with a minute left in the second period at the Brewster Ice Arena. Yorktown/Brewster is currently looking at a potential No.2/3



Brewster-Yorktown F Michael Isola (L) and teammates knocked off North Rockland and Somers last weekend.

seed in the forthcoming Class A playoffs.

Mahopac (10-5-2), which is currently in the 8-9-seed range, salvaged a 4-4 tie with Hen Hud/Haldane, the banged-up Indians getting goals from Pulice, Bricker, O'Shea and McKee. G Peter Siolas is said to have stood on his head to keep the Indians afloat against a game Hen Hud team, who took a 4-3 lead on a goal by Mike Harmancin.



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