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January 23 - January 29, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 422



Supporting the Women's March

A group from Ossining, including Mayor Victoria Gearity, were among the estimated 200,000 individuals who took part in the Women's March Saturday in New York City.

Town Attorney Change Triggers Board Infighting in Yorktown

By Rick Pezzullo

The impending resignation of Town Attorney Michael McDermott led to Yorktown Supervisor Ilan Gilbert's first public verbal spat with one of the two Republican councilmen on the board last week.

Gilbert said McDermott handed him a letter of resignation, effective February 2, earlier in the day on January 16, prompting him to add an item to that night's televised agenda, calling for the interim appointment of the Oxman Law Group to provide legal counsel to Yorktown until a search for a permanent replacement could be conducted.

However, Councilman Ed Lachterman vehemently objected to choosing the Oxman Law Group, characterizing it as a conflict of interest since its principal trial attorney, Marc Oxman, who served as a town justice in Yorktown from 1976 to 1984, is active in the town's Democratic Committee and recently sued the town board, on behalf of United Taxpayers of Yorktown President Ed Ciffone, before handing off the case to Democratic Committee Co-Chairman Ron Stokes.

"I think it's disgusting, I think that's underhanded, it's backdoor. It's everything you ran against, and I will not

Continued on page 2

Leaders Mark Community Voices Heard Opening in Ossining

By Rick Pezzullo

Affordable housing and rent stabilization are pressing issues in the Village of Ossining that local officials plan to tackle in 2018.

Joining them in that effort is an organization called Community Voices Heard, which held a ribbon-cutting event on January 18 to mark the opening of its new headquarters at 31 Croton Avenue. Since 2015, the group has maintained rising housing costs and luxury development have threatened the diversity and stability in Ossining.

"We were tired of deciding whether to feed our families or pay the rent," said Sheila Vereen-Massengale, Ossining

Member-Leader for Community Voices Heard. "In 2018, we plan to work together to make history in Ossining."

The organization, which received a \$25,000 grant from The Elias Foundation, is inspired by the commitment of village trustees John Codman, Quantel Bazemore and Omar Herrera, all of whom were in attendance at last week's ceremony, to enact the Emergency Tenant Protection Act (ETPA) that would help keep stem the tide of escalating rents.

The issue will be discussed at the Village Board's work session on Wednesday, January 24 at Village Hall.

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PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Community leaders at grand opening of office on Croton Avenue Thursday.

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Town Attorney Change Triggers Board Infighting in Yorktown

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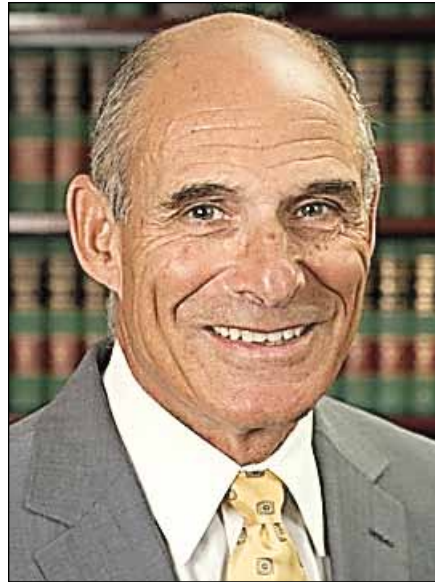
stand for it," Lachterman fumed. "What kind of shell game is this?"

Lachterman, whose sentiments were echoed by fellow GOP Councilman Tom Diana, further maintained Gilbert and councilmembers Vishnu Patel and Alice Roker should recuse themselves from voting on the resolution appointing the Oxman Law Group for \$9,750 per month since he contended Oxman actively campaigned for the trio.

But Gilbert insisted there was no conflict selecting Oxman. He said the firm specialized in municipal law and possessed a variety of attorneys that would eliminate the need for Yorktown to "farm out" certain litigation as it did under McDermott over the last two years.

"We (Yorktown) do have a history of using law firms in the past," Gilbert said. "I'm the supervisor. I have to be proactive in protecting the town. I needed to address it and I did. Unfortunately, it was viewed by the other two as a political move. I know in my heart it was done for the right reasons."

Roker noted she had told McDermott a week ago the board was "looking to go



Marc Oxman

elsewhere" with the town attorney position.

"A new board, just like any new administration, they come on and hire people that they're comfortable with to set their goals and reach their goals," she said. "Politics is always in the mix. There's no

way to escape politics."

Earlier in the meeting, Lachterman and Diana opposed a \$10,000 increase in the salary for the supervisor's confidential secretary. Gilbert proposed paying Stuart Glass \$85,000 to fill the spot that was previously occupied by Mary Capocchia under Supervisor Michael Grace.

Lachterman and Diana suggested the salary be set at \$80,000 for six months and then review Glass' performance before possibly hiking it another \$5,000.

Gilbert, Roker and Patel argued Glass, who is also an attorney, deserved the higher salary based on his experience and knowledge.

"In a way I'm getting two for one," said Gilbert, who noted the town was saving money by him not taking health insurance. "I think it's an appropriate salary for the work that he's doing. I'm incredibly impressed with his skillset and ability to deal with the public. I believe he's worth every penny."

Leaders Mark Community Voices Heard Opening in Ossining

Continued from page 1

"At the heart of diversity is the housing issue," Bazemore said. "Ossining is really at a crossroads."

Community Voices Heard will be using its Croton Avenue location as temporary space for tenant organizing and leadership development.

Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church Pastor Shaun Ellison Jones was one of sev-

eral religious leaders who lent their support to the group and its mission.

"Human dignity is the big thing. A lot of times we are ashamed of where we live because we can't do better," Jones said. "The power is in the people. The power is in the money. If we believe we have power in our voices, we have to let our voices be heard."

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John Abrahams, MD, FAANS
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Co-Director, Spine Surgery,
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Pain Shooting Down One Leg? What you need to know about symptoms and treatment of sciatica...

Q: Do I have sciatica?

A: You probably do if you feel a sudden and severe pain, along with numbness and weakness, radiating from the buttocks down the back of one leg to the foot. The pain can be crippling. It is usually intense when you walk, diminishing when you lie down.

Q: What causes sciatica?

A: The *sciatic nerve* branches from the spine in the lower back through the hips and buttocks and runs down the back of each leg to the foot. Sciatica occurs when this nerve is pinched in the lower back by spinal disc herniation – protruding disc material – or by a larger fragment of disc material. Disc herniation usually occurs during normal activities, such as rising from bed.

Q: Am I at risk for sciatica?

A: Sciatica is common. More than three million Americans are diagnosed with the condition annually.* Apart from the fact that 10 to 15 percent of patients have a family history of back problems, there are no risk factors. No behavior predisposes you to it.

Q: What are my treatment options?

A: If you have sciatica and it is not severe, you will typically receive oral steroids (anti-inflammatories) for seven days. Once you're more mobile, you will engage in physical therapy for a period of time and then be re-evaluated. If your symptoms persist, you may receive an injection of steroids at the nerve root to reduce pain. If this regimen fails, physicians will offer surgery. However, if a patient comes in unable to stand – basically bed-bound – we advise surgery sooner. It is important to know that 80 to 90 percent of patients get better without surgery.

Q: What can I expect from surgery for sciatica?

A: This minimally invasive procedure takes under an hour, and consists of removing the disc material pressing on the nerve. Most patients are pain-free following surgery. We have seen patients who arrived unable to stand or walk for more than a few minutes, walk out the same day after surgery, completely asymptomatic. Sciatica recurs in ten percent of people, who may suffer recurrent bouts of the condition throughout their life.

* <http://umm.edu/health/medical/reports/articles/back-pain-and-sciatica>

Peekskill Rotary Club Launches Literacy Initiative with Bookshelves

By Rick Pezzullo

Reading is fundamental, and that's the message the Peekskill Rotary Club hopes to send with a new literacy initiative dubbed the "Golden Bookshelves."

Last Thursday in the atrium at Hudson River Health Care Community Health in Peekskill, Rotary Club members and community leaders celebrated the effort, which was spearheaded by club Literacy

Lovers co-chairs Diane Newman Kahn and Lisa Montalto.

"We decided really needed to get books in the hands of children," said Kahn, who noted 80 percent of brain growth occurs between the ages of birth and three years old. "If we change one life here it means everything."

"The project appealed to me because my father was an immigrant who only received a third-grade education, but he always encouraged his kids to read," said Montalto, who is owner/director of Once Upon A Time preschool/day-care in Putnam Valley. "I understand the importance of early exposure to literacy."

Working in partnership with Barnes & Noble bookstore in the Cortlandt Town Center during the holiday season, the Rotary Club received donations of 2,400 children's books. Other books, in English and Spanish, were donated by Scholastic, Random House, Penguin and The Field Library in Peekskill.

"We were thrilled to see our community respond so generously," said Stacy Rivera, community business coordinator for Barnes & Noble.

Some of the lumber for the six bookshelves that were constructed was contributed by Dain's Lumber in Peekskill



PHOTOS BY RICK PEZZULLO

Peekskill Rotary Club members and supporters pose next to one of the Golden Bookshelves at HRHCare Community Health Center.



Literacy Lovers' co-chairs Lisa Montalto and Diane Newman Kahn.

and Ultimate Collision in Peekskill assisted with the painting. Three of the bookshelves, where children are encouraged to visit and take a book home, are located at Hudson River Health Care. Another bookshelf is stationed at Fred's Pantry.

"To have something positive like this is beautiful," said Peekskill Councilwoman Kathy Talbot, who was in attendance with Mayor Andre Rainey and Council-

man Ramon Fernandez.

Acting Peekskill Superintendent of Schools Mary Keenan Foster and Bridget Holloman, coordinator for Peekskill Basics and kindergarten/first grade teacher in the district, said getting children hooked on reading could help the district close its achievement gap.

"The goal is to put a book in every child's hand and a story in every child's imagination and heart," Foster said.



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New Castle Councilman Weighs State Senate Candidacy

By Martin Wilbur

First-term New Castle Councilman Jeremy Saland is pondering a run for the 40th state Senate District, a move that would see him attempt to follow in his father's footsteps to the state legislature.

Saland, 43, will decide in the next few weeks whether he will join the race that could ultimately pit him against incumbent Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown). Saland will first have to win the Democratic nomination over South Salem resident Robert Kesten, so far, the only other announced party candidate.

Saland said he has a deep commitment to public service and is eyeing a continuation and broadening of that role.

"One of the things that has really compelled me is the magnitude and overwhelming amount of support I've received in the district, in the town and beyond to run," said Saland, who won his seat on the New Castle Town Board in 2015 after spending five years as town prosecutor. "People have pledged not only their personal support but their financial support and whatever they can to make this happen. I'm grateful and honored by it. It's humbling to say the least."

Saland, a criminal defense attorney who began his career as a Manhattan assistant district attorney under Robert Morgethau, said ultimately his decision

will be based on what is best for his family. He has three young children and his wife is a physician.

For legislators, the burden of public service on a family, particularly with children, can be imposing. He watched his father, Stephen Saland, spend 32 years in the state legislature, winning his first election to the Assembly in 1980. Saland's father was then elected to the Senate from the 41st District, which includes Dutchess and Columbia counties, in 1990. He served through 2012.

"The other issue to me is I have a small law practice and I live in a community and in a county that has very high property taxes," he said. "So all the consideration is, as one of two breadwinners in my family, is how is this going to impact my small law practice."

When he first started out, Saland, like his father, was a registered Republican. However, as the party moved to the right on what would be considered social issues, he left the GOP, and in 2006 became an independent. He was endorsed by the New Castle Democrats in 2015, and after winning his Town Board seat, he registered as a Democrat last year.

While Saland said he has a healthy respect for Murphy as a public servant, there have been an increasing number of

issues where he has strongly disagreed with the senator.

For example, he opposes Murphy's support for a voter ID law, which perpetuates the myth of widespread voter fraud. Also, Saland supports the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act, which would add gender identity and expression to the list of bias crimes in the state, something the incumbent does not back.

Furthermore, he said Murphy is out of step with most New Yorkers regarding sensible gun control. While the SAFE Act has some drawbacks, it contains important protections for the public.

"I give Senator Murphy much respect for serving the public, but I disagree with many of his principles and policy beliefs," Saland said. "We can keep taxes low, provide job opportunities, and make sure (the) commute into New York City is safe, but we can also protect those who need our help, give assistance to people in financial need, allow women to make decisions about their own bodies and make sure everyone has access to health-care."

A statement released on Murphy's behalf said that he looks forward to the campaign regardless of his opponent and appeared to take a veiled shot at Saland's

evolving party affiliation.

"Senator Murphy is laser focused on the important issues facing Westchester and the Hudson Valley, regardless of who his opponent is, or what party they've currently switched to," said campaign spokesperson Martha Ruiz Jimenez. "He looks forward to running on his record of fighting the heroin epidemic, protecting our environment and holding Albany accountable to local taxpayers. His broad-based support has led to historic electoral and legislative victories in the past and we anticipate the same for 2018."

The 40th Senate District includes much of northern Westchester, including Yorktown, Cortlandt, Peekskill, Mount Kisco, New Castle, Mount Pleasant and Pleasantville, much of Putnam County and a piece of southern Dutchess County.



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Westchester Land Trust Announces Yorktown Land Purchase Plans to Expand Turkey Mountain Trail System

In a unique public-private partnership, Westchester Land Trust (WLT), Yorktown Land Trust (YLT) and the Town of Yorktown announced Monday that they have permanently protected a critical 24-acre landholding adjacent to Turkey Mountain Preserve --- a region of statewide ecological significance -- located on Saw Mill River Road, in Yorktown.

Westchester Land Trust will own the land as a preserve open to the community and the Town of Yorktown will hold a conservation easement on the property, further ensuring that the land will always remain a nature preserve. The protection of this parcel will create a 550-acre contiguous corridor of permanently protected forest and wetland that also adjoins other protected lands owned and managed by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as a critical watershed area. The property lies within the Croton-to-Highlands Biodiversity Area, explicitly prioritized in the 2016 New York State Open Space Conservation Plan. For these reasons, Yorktown's Advisory Committee on Open Space and the Yorktown Land Trust ranked this parcel their top preservation priority.

In addition to funding from the John T. and Jane A. Wiederhold Foundation, Town of Yorktown, and private donors, WLT and YLT utilized internal funds earmarked for land acquisition. "We are grateful and honored to have collaborated with an impressive group of public and private conservation partners to permanently protect this land. Strong partnerships allow us to respond quickly when conservation opportunities arise," said Lori J. Ensinger, WLT President.

The new preserve is wholly within the Croton Watershed, a public drinking water supply. Its 11-acre wetland area, along with the woodlands, naturally buffers public drinking water quality and quantity. It also provides healthy habitat to a great diversity of species. The perennial stream is inhabited by a variety of ray-finned fishes and is likely important spawning habitat for many fishes in the area. The woodlands and wetlands are important habitats for hundreds of species of invertebrates (insects, arachnids, worms, etc.), which are the foundation complex food webs that support larger organisms such as the birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Dozens of species of migrating birds - including warbler, cuckoo, vireo, sparrow, flycatcher, hummingbird, and hawk have been viewed on these acres and the adjacent Turkey Mountain Preserve and use the woodlands as a stopover site during their migration.

"Westchester Land Trust will manage our new preserve as an extension of the Turkey Mountain Preserve. We

have plans to construct a new trail that links directly to the existing trail network at Turkey Mountain," said Kara Whelan, WLT Vice President. "We need help from the community to build and fund the work. Anyone interested in this project can reach out to me directly to learn more and get involved."

Whelan can be contacted by email: Kara@westchesterlandtrust.org or phone: 914.234.6992 ext 12.



KAT DEELY, OUTREACH COORDINATOR, WESTCHESTER LAND TRUST

Westchester Land Trust purchases land in Yorktown and announces plan to expand public trail system.



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Business of the Week

Women Bond Over Sewing and Launch Online Business

By Lisa Mockel

They like to say they're bringing a bit of the West to Westchester.

Mount Kisco resident Megan Goett and Cheryl Sabanosh of Somers recently launched Sew Sisters (also known as Sew Sisters Workshop), selling handmade items including Disney-inspired hooded towels, custom yoga mats, soft toys, frilly tutu bags, Tooth Fairy pillows and more.

The pair, both 38, were introduced by a mutual friend at their Mount Kisco church about five years ago and quickly bonded over a shared love of sewing (something they call a "lost art"), canning, gardening and other DIY activities.

"It was love at first sight," Goett joked of meeting her pal, adding that she rarely meets anyone who sews nowadays. "And luckily the husbands get along too!"

Within six months of meeting, Sabanosh had recruited Goett to accompany her on one of her trips to Pennsylvania's Amish country, where she likes to explore the area's many fabric shops in search of high quality material for her crafts. Eventually the trips became full-fledged annual family vacations, with Sabanosh, Goett and their husbands and children renting a house together for a week.

Sewing was one of the things Goett and Sabanosh enjoyed most growing up in their respective home states of Wisconsin and Idaho. It was something they

continued into adulthood—simply a beloved pastime that has produced handmade special occasion outfits and toys for their children, personalized gifts for family and one-of-a-kind party favors, including personalized superhero capes, for their kids' friends.

Others took notice of the quality of the items Goett and Sabanosh were making and encouraged the pair to start their own small business. They chose the name "Sew Sisters" because the two are often mistaken for actual sisters and "we have this sisterhood because of our common interests," Goett said. Their slogan is "Handmade with heart."

Using sewing and embroidery machines and employing techniques like double stitching and surging to ensure durability, they can have most items shipped out within about a week.

After opening their Etsy shop in November, they were excited to receive their first online order, placed by a woman in Arkansas.

"I was screaming in the middle of the gym," Sabanosh laughed.

"It was truly validation having people you don't know see something you made and want to buy it," Goett added.

The "Sisters" say sewing also helps keep them connected to their roots.

"My mom was always crafting—scrapbooking, she crochets a lot, sewing, a lot of hand embroidery—she was always do-



LISA MOCKEL PHOTO

Megan Goett, left, and Cheryl Sabanosh, the founders of Sew Sisters Workshop, which sells handmade gifts and other items.

ing something," said Sabanosh, who was raised in Coeur d'Alene, in northwest Idaho. "I just grew up around it."

Sabanosh, who moved to the East Coast in 2000 to take a nanny position with a Connecticut family, clearly recalled the joy she felt stitching together her own volleyball-emblazoned sweatshirt in a sixth grade home economics class back home.

"It was my first project. We had four pieces we attached together and we got to choose the middle piece...I wore it forever. It was so ugly but I wore it forever," she said with a laugh. "I loved that class."

Goett, who has lived in Mount Kisco for about 10 years, remembers sewing with her grandmother in California and watching her mom mending clothes on an old Singer sewing machine in Shorewood, Wisconsin, about 15 minutes north of Milwaukee. Describing herself as a "practical 16-year-old," she volunteered in her high school's theater department costume shop instead of getting into acting. There she helped make, modify and mend costumes for the school's stage productions.

That experience would help pave the way to the University of Wisconsin where she majored in apparel design. The school offered an option to complete the last year of the program at New York's Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT). In 2001, Goett jumped at the opportunity to move to Manhattan to complete her education, citing the limited opportunities in the fashion field back in Wisconsin. After graduating, she worked in the industry for several years, focusing on clothing and textile design. She is currently a stay-at-home mom to daughter Norah, 8, and son Riley, 6.

Sabanosh, a Somers resident since 2004, manages a pediatric dental practice in Connecticut while raising her daughter Morgan, 7, and son Ryan, 4. She said she and Goett aren't looking to get rich off their new venture. They just want to continue doing what they love—and maybe one more thing.

"Our original joke was if we could just make enough to pay for our Amish country trips each year," she laughed.

For more information, visit www.etsy.com/shop/SewSistersWorkshop.



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Op-Ed

YSBA Focusing on What Really Matters Economically: Local Small Businesses

By Bob Giordano

The goal we set in 2014 when the Yorktown Small Business Association was established was to bring the plight of local small businesses to the attention of our citizens and elected officials. The importance of our local small businesses had been grossly under estimated. What drove us to establish the YSBA was the development of the concepts of smart growth and the communication of those concepts to our residents and elected officials by the Yorktown Smart Growth organization. We believed then and now, that the considerable focus/attention given to big box, national and regional chains was a serious error in judgement by many in our community and nationally. The explosive growth of internet-based sales from Amazon, eBay and other online businesses resulted

in the faltering and failure of many establishment retailers which continues to this day. Additionally, chains such as Macy's, Sears, Kmart and JC Penney continue to downsize and close stores. Recent reports indicate that 300 of our 1,100 national malls are at risk of going out of business soon. All this should raise flags to our citizens and elected officials. Brick and mortar isn't what it used to be.

Over the past four years, the YSBA has held numerous meetings, seminars, events, networking events and have written many letters, position papers and Op/Eds calling attention to the importance of local small businesses to our local economy. We have advised, advocated for and mentored many small businesses. We brought outside speakers in from various organizations including Westchester SCORE, state and county officials and local elected officials.

Our mutually beneficial relationships with our not for profit and community service organizations have been an integral part of our activities. We have been complemented and praised for our nonpartisan and nonpolitical positions. Our 2017 election questionnaire was very well received by the community and the candidates from both political parties in town. As a community, we have turned the corner and are on the road to a better place. We need to continue to improve and build our economy, to enable local small businesses to prosper and new ones to be created.

Seeking new opportunities, we will work with our businesses and elected officials to improve the economy and maintain our commitment to make Yorktown a better place to work, play and live. Making our five business hamlets walkable, improving and marketing

what we have; historic landmarks, trails (NCT), restaurants and parks. Attracting new businesses such as a hotel conference center, art and antique stores, supporting and improving our theatre and restaurants.

The YSBA is celebrating our 4th anniversary this month with many guest speakers at Eda's Garden in the Underhill Plaza. January 31 between the hours of 4 to 7 p.m. Town Supervisor Ilan Gilbert, Town Councilman Ed Lachterman, Katherine Quinn of Support Connection and Geri Schwalb of Yorktown Rotary will be our guest speakers. Eda's is offering a tasting of items from their menu.

Information and RSVP to Bob Giordano 914-874-4347. yorktownsba@optonline.net; www.yorktownsba.com.

Letters to the Editor

Humbled and Honored to Continue Serving Cortlandt as Supervisor

To the Editor:

First of all I am truly humbled to once again have the trust and support from our Cortlandt community to continue serving as our Town Supervisor. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as Supervisor.

Cortlandt is such a wonderful community with 42,000 terrific and caring people. I always say the best part of being Supervisor is to meet and talk to our residents of all ages – be it at our Senior Citizen functions, to our many civic organizations and volunteers, to

our youth at their events, activities, at schools or when they come in for tours of our lovely town hall. Also, I thoroughly enjoy working with our Veterans and with our very active Veteran's Committee, chaired by Willy Nazario. I like to say "our veterans fought for us and now we must fight for them." I am proud Cortlandt always fulfills that pledge. My late Father was a WWII Marine and told my sisters and I to do our best to honor our Veterans. I have always tried my best to live up to that request. My Father has been my inspiration in working with and

helping our Veterans.

Cortlandt is a family oriented community and I am so very proud of my family who joined me at this ceremony: my daughter Allison (Ali) Tam and her husband Thomas Tam. They are both attorneys and Ali is a partner in her New York City firm; my grandsons Oliver and Jeremy – sons of Ali and Tom – I adore them very much, my son Jeffrey and his wife Oonagh. Jeff is a doctor in Connecticut and Oonagh has an important position in a large corporation and works in the philanthropy field. My sister Cindy is here today and works in the area at Boces. She is also my good friend. My children always tell me growing up in Cortlandt was a wonderful experience that offered them many opportunities which have helped them throughout their lives.

I also want to thank all of our emergency service providers. They take care of us and protect our families. I thank all of our volunteers in our community at every level and in every group. My gratitude to our town employees - each one of them has an important role in our government

– I call it a large family and I told them recently at a holiday event that it wasn't just me and the others that were elected in November, but all of them, as well!

We are one town, united with one goal, to always improve the quality of life for our wonderful community. Together we will meet every challenge.

Cortlandt is not just a place, it is Home! Thank you all!

LINDA PUGLISI
Supervisor Town of Cortlandt

Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to Northern Westchester Examiner Editor-in-Chief Rick Pezzullo at rpezzullo@theexaminernews.com.

The Northern Westchester Examiner requires that all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.

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Obituaries



Robert Funicello

Robert Funicello

Robert J Funicello, a longtime resident of Yorktown, died January 15, 2018 at Northern Westchester Hospital in Mount Kisco. He was 73.

He was born November 25, 1944 to Edith Schillaci and Anthony Funicello. He married Barbara Persico on November 21, 1965. He graduated from Mt. Saint Michael Academy in the Bronx and received an associate's degree from Westchester Community College. He worked as a machinist for Magnetic Analysis in Mount Vernon.

Mr. Funicello was an avid motorcycle enthusiast and enjoyed working out.

He is survived by his wife; son Robert and Robert's wife Stacey; six grandchildren, Heather and her husband Matthew, Tabatha and her husband Daniel, Elizabeth, Samantha, Robert and Joseph; three great-grandchildren, Emily, Parker and Riley; two sisters, Marina Rosenhagen and Lois Iula; and many nieces and nephews.

Dorothy Morgan

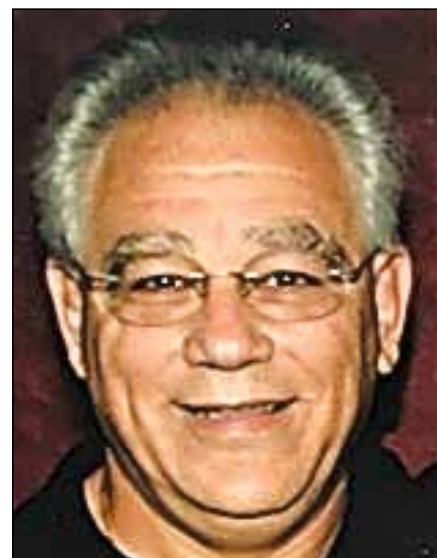
Dorothy Morgan, a former longtime resident of Verplanck, died January 14 at the Halcyon House in Methuen, MA. She was 95.

She was born on May 12, 1922. She was the only child of Rufus Tuttle and Sara (Harkins) Tuttle. She was a lifelong resident of Verplanck until 2006 when she relocated to her daughter's home in Massachusetts. She graduated from St. Patrick's School in 1935 and Hendrick Hudson High School in 1939. She attended Syracuse University and graduated from the Drake Business School (secretarial track) in 1942.

She married Charles D. Morgan on September 11, 1949. Prior to having children, she worked for the New York Central Railroad in New York City. For years she served as a poll worker on Election

Day. She was a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and a parishioner of St. Patrick's Parish. She was an avid knitter whose passion was making afghans for her children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She is survived by her children June (Joel) Kasper of Pelham, NH and Robert Morgan of Sheffield Lake, Ohio; five grandchildren - Meghan Kasper, Jonathan (Sheri) Kasper, Jeni Lee Morgan (Joshua Cortes), Kristina Morgan, Robert Morgan; and eight great-grandchildren.



Edward Ceglia

Edward Ceglia

Edward J. Ceglia, a resident of Yorktown, died January 14. He was 67.

He was born in New York on March 22, 1950 to Edward and Eleanor Ceglia. He graduated from Mt. St. Michael Academy in the Bronx then went to Iona College. He served honorably for the United States Army National Guard. He worked as a Credit Manager for over 40 years. He loved his family and friends. An avid golfer and passionate NY Rangers, Mets and Giants fan, he loved his weekly poker game and his '67 Chevelle SS 396.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years Ann-Marie, children: Danielle Cappelli (Robert), Nicole Kovacs (Lawrence), and Joseph Edward Ceglia (Stephanie). He is also survived by his brother Paul (Marie) and five grandchildren: Vincent, Courtney, Jenna, Anthony, and Lacey.

Pascal Benvenga

Pascal Benvenga, a resident of Yorktown, died January 1. He was born and raised in the Bronx, where he attended Mount St. Michael High School. He received his BA from Fordham University

and his MS from New York University. Mr. Benvenga taught at Lakeland Middle School for 30 years. He also cooked at various restaurants for 30 years.

He loved to cook and loved to spend time with family and friends. He was a great provider for his family and a very generous man.

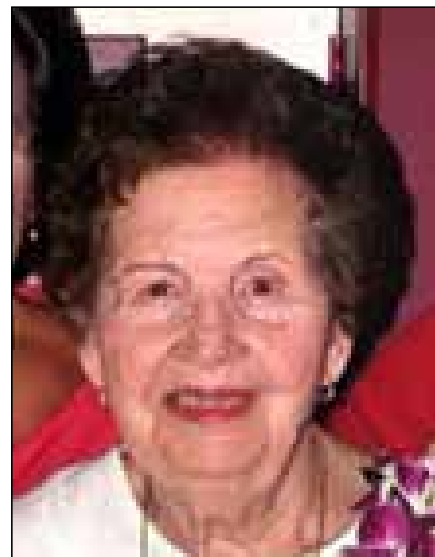
He was predeceased by his wife, Rosemary, his sister Marie and his great-grandchild Bosco. He is survived by his son James (Laurie), his daughter Theresa Picconi (Dave), his son Ed, (Barbara), and his daughter Geraldine. He also leaves behind eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Manuel Pereira

Manuel B. Pereira, a resident of Ossining since 1966, died January 18. He was 84.

He was born in Porto de Mos, Portugal on May 11, 1933 and was the son of Inocencio and Maria da Piedade (Beato) Pereira. He worked as a mason with the Village of Ossining until he retired in 2000. He was a parishioner of St. Ann's Church.

Mr. Pereira is survived by his wife, Maria; two children, Lucilia DaCosta and George (Maureen); his sister Armenia; five grandchildren, Stefanie, Daniel, Matthew, Christian and Olivia; and one great-granddaughter, Lena Rose.



Grace Barbera

Grace Barbera

Grace Barbera, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson, and formerly of the Bronx, died January 15. She was 103.

She was born May 1, 1914 to Rosaria and Antonio Nasca in Grammichele, Sicily, Italy. She was devoted to her family. Her dedication to family began at an early age when her mother passed when she was only nine years old. She learned to

sew and cook and take care of her brother and father in the home.

She married Giovanni Barbera on December 26, 1931 at the age of 17. She left Grammichele, Sicily in March 1937, traveled up to Naples, and boarded the ocean liner "The Rex" with her two daughters Grace and Rosaria in tow to meet her husband Giovanni in New York. The journey took seven days. Their family soon grew to include another daughter, Rose Josephine, after her arrival to the U.S. Mrs. Barbera taught herself English and became a U.S. citizen soon after arriving in the United States. She developed into an accomplished seamstress, perfecting her talents in knitting, crocheting, lacework and sewing.

She was preceded in death in 1985 by her beloved husband of 54 years Giovanni Barbera. She is survived by; daughter Grace Valentine, Rosaria "Sadie" Longobardi, and Rose Hubner (Gregory); granddaughters Susan Pulio (Thomas), Cynthia Pulio (Leonard), and Jeanette Doyle (Thomas), grandson John Longobardi (Shally), granddaughter Karen Cornelius, and Janet Lowe and grandson Gregg Hubner (Nancy). She also leaves behind eight great-grandchildren and a nephew Tonino Nasco.

Eleanor Conn

Eleanor E. Conn, a resident of Yorktown, died January 16. She was 85.

She was born on February 17, 1932, in Yonkers. She lived in Yorktown Heights for the past 32 years. She was predeceased by her parents Carlo and Marianina Natale, her brother Andrew and his wife Edith Natale, Anna Spirelli, Christine & Reggie Matthews, and brother-in-law Tom Muller. She is survived by her children George Conn and Sandra Murr, John and Ellen Conn, Maryanne and Anthony DiDonato. She is also survived by her dear sister Jennie Muller, brother-in-law Anthony Spirelli, sister-in-law Maryanne Moynihan, and seven grandchildren Kerri and Chris Haresign, Kristen and Bill Mallon, Kara Conn, Erin and Travis Schwamb, Lindsey Conn, Andrew DiDonato, and Lauren DiDonato.

It was with great joy for her to have her first great-grandchild, Ellianna Schwamb. She is survived by many nieces and nephews and extended family. She is predeceased by her former spouse George Conn Jr. She had a long and distinguished career with Verizon Co.



Why Realtors Do and SHOULD Talk a Lot

You'd never know it to meet me to-day, but I was born with some kind of neurological condition that resulted in my reaching the age of five without speaking a word. That was in the days before autism spectrum disorder had been diagnosed and certainly there was no treatment available for kids like me

who were non-social, withdrawn and didn't verbalize.

But from what my mother tells me, I recovered from whatever that condition was completely and miraculously on the final day of a nine-week novena she made at St. Donato's Roman Catholic Church in West Philadelphia. Far be it from me to question miracles, but

I haven't shut up since.

While I was able to speak, I still had to challenge myself to become more socially interactive. I debated, I wrote for the school newspaper, then once out of college, I was a newspaper reporter and after that became a public relations practitioner, all jobs that require verbal communication. But only when I ventured into real estate did I find myself talking all the time. And from what industry studies show, that's a good thing.

At a convention I attended early in my real estate career, I was impressed with the message of one of the keynoters who identified the chief "irk" that sellers and buyers have with realtors – lack of communications. Specifically, the speaker said that the most common real estate situation that negatively impacts realtors' clients is inadequate disclosure. Then she went on to paint scenarios which might convince potential home buyers and sellers to have frequent heart-to-hearts with their realtors to know as much as they can about the whole process, particularly what is likely to happen next.

In defense of myself and my fellow real estate practitioners, I would say that out of self-preservation, we're way ahead of the game. I've never heard any group of people who talk as much as realtors do in their mission to inform their clients.

But, the real estate purchase or sale process is so complex and so all-encompassing a discipline that the totally unexpected or unknown can happen at any time. And it's the realtor who can get blamed for lack of disclosure on the matter.

There are the standard disclosures which sellers and realtors sign when taking a listing: the disclosure of agency that identifies the relationship of the realtor to the seller; a lead disclosure if the house was built before 1978, and the affiliated

business disclosure, so that sellers can be aware of the other businesses which the realtor's company owns.

The big disclosure that most buyers and sellers relate to is the property condition disclosure in which the seller identifies all the known defects of a house to its buyer. While it is required in many states, such as California where the code is particularly stringent, in New York, the seller may choose not to issue such a disclosure, but rather pay \$500 at closing to the buyer. The overwhelming majority of sellers choose this option,

rather than risk being liable for serious house defects.

But above and beyond these expected disclosures are those that require a simple explanation before the fact, rather than after. Nobody likes surprises or hearing, "oh by the way," when it may be too late to be informed. Watson suggests that this is best accomplished by the realtor preparing a list of frequently asked questions, such as: Do I need a lawyer, and who pays the commission? Besides asking such questions, we realtors might also present a list of what sellers or buy-

ers can expect along the way, such as: Realtors who make appointments to show your home will sometimes be late or not show up; know that the HGTV shows are scripted; expect that the closing date will be delayed; and, expect that you won't know until the last moment how much money you must bring to the closing.

The more realtors paint a futuristic picture, especially accompanied by stories of personal experience, the better sellers and buyers will feel empowered to make informed decisions. That kind of

Continued on page 15



By Bill Primavera



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Top Ten Things You Never Knew About Camp

Camp has become a staple of the summer season. Each year, millions of children, youth, and adults head to the hills, lakes, valleys, and parks to participate in the time-honored tradition of camp. And, while most people easily conjure up images of campfires and canoes, there is a lot more to the camp experience. Here are ten of the things you may not have known about the camp experience.

10. Camp is older than dirt, almost literally. Started in 1861, the camp experience turned an impressive 150 years young in 2011. The secret behind the longevity? "One hundred and fifty-five years later, there is a camp for every child," said Tom Rosenberg, president and chief executive officer for the American Camp Association® (ACA). "from specialized camps to general, traditional camps, the essence of the camp experience is stronger than ever."

9. Camp is worth its weight in gold, and then some! The camp experience is life-changing – developing friendships and memories that last well beyond the final campfire. And, there is a camp for literally every budget. Often camps offer special pricing or financial assistance, and some camp experiences qualify for

tax credits or for payment with pre-tax dollars. Visit ACAamps.org for more information.

8. Green is "zen." Research shows that first-hand experience with nature, like those at camp, reduce stress in children and help them better handle stress in the future. In addition to teaching children how to be good stewards of the environment, camps are teaching children how to enjoy the world around them and take a minute to breathe deep and feel the nature, which ultimately teaches them how to de-stress the natural way.

7. Mommies and Daddies do it too. Camp is not just for children and youth. There are family camp experiences, and camps for single adults, senior adults, and any adult that wants to relax and enjoy all camp has to offer. Adults benefit from the same sense of community, authentic relationships, and self-discovery that children do. Camp is an excellent vacation option, allowing adults to try a variety of new activities in a safe and fun environment.

6. Try this on for size! Camp is a great place to try new activities and hobbies. Afraid of rock walls? According to ACA

research, 74 percent of campers reported that they tried new activities at camp that they were afraid to do at first. And, those activities often leave lasting impressions. In the same survey, 63 percent of parents reported that their child continued new activities from camp after returning home.

5. Manners matter, and often linger. The camp experience teaches more than just archery or lanyard making. The entire experience is made of teachable moments, perhaps one of the biggest is how to live with a group of people. Campers learn to pick up after themselves, respect each other's property, and to say "Please" and "Thank You."

4. Veggies taste better with friends. Hollywood and fictional novels may have given camp food a bad reputation, but in truth, camps are constantly exploring healthy food options, and often are at the forefront of things like allergy specific diets, healthy snack options, and vegetarian meals. According to ACA's 2011 Emerging Issues survey, 90.7 percent of responding camps indicated that healthy eating and physical activity was an important or very important issue.

3. If everyone else went to camp, maybe there's something to it! Camp has played an important role in the lives of some of the most talented people in history. ACA's family resource site offers a list of notable campers – including business professionals, celebrities, artists, and great thinkers.

2. Camp gets those neurons pumping! Education reform debate and concern over summer learning loss have pushed academic achievement into the spotlight. Research shows that participation in intentional programs, like camp, during summer months helps stem summer learning loss. In addition, camp provides ample opportunity for developmental growth, which is a precursor to aca-

ademic achievement. And, because of the "hands-on" nature of camp, often children who struggle in traditional education settings do well at camp.

1. Camp builds leaders for the 21st century and beyond! Independence, resiliency, teamwork, problem-solving skills, and the ability to relate to other people — these are the skills that tomorrow's leaders will need, and the skills camp has been adept at building for 150 years. "Camp gives children and youth the critical tools they will need to become successful adults," said Rosenberg.

For more information on preparing your child for an independent, fun-filled summer, visit ACA's family resource page at ACAamps.org. Or, follow ACA on Facebook and Twitter for helpful hints and camp information.

Contact Public Relations at 765.346.3391 or pr@ACAamps.org to interview an ACA spokesperson or for more information about preparing for camp. For customizable public service announcements or article reprints, visit our Media Center at www.ACAamps.org/media.

About ACA

The American Camp Association® (ACA) is a national organization with more than 10,000 individual members and nearly 3,000 member camps. ACA is committed to collaborating with those who believe in quality camp and outdoor experiences for children, youth, and adults. ACA provides advocacy and evidence-based education and professional development, and is the only national accrediting body for the organized camp experience. ACA accredits approximately 2,400 diverse camps nationally. ACA-Accredited® Camps meet up to 300 health and safety standards. Accreditation provides public evidence of a camp's commitment to the health, safety, and overall well-being of both campers and staff. For more information, visit www.ACAamps.org.



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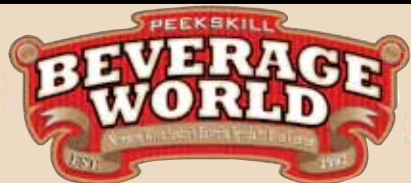


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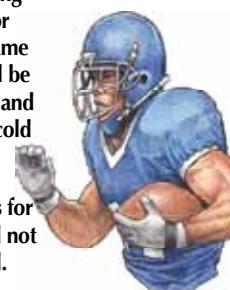
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Prep for the Big Day

The secret to a great gathering is preparation. To reduce the stress, plan early and stock up. Make a list of everything you will need and slowly purchase items each time you run to the store.

For easy clean-up on game day, use themed paper goods -- from plates to cups and plastic cutlery -- and decorate with matching disposable table cloths. Use game day décor to add an extra fun atmosphere to the gathering.

Game Day Fare

Make your party food memorable without a lot of effort by offering delicious dishes that will keep your guests coming back for more. Try your hand at crockpot taco chili with ground beef, red beans and taco seasoning. Add in your favorite chili ingredients like sour cream, hot sauce, cheese and avocado for guests to customize.

Create a drink station where guests can access their favorite beverages throughout the game. Stock up on the essentials like ice, soft drinks and a variety of beverages for all tastes. There are many great ways to feed those hungry fans. Use your imagination and have fun with it.

Save Like a Pro

Save on the cost of all party items with private brand items at a discount retailer like Dollar General that offers a 100 percent satisfaction guarantee. Take advantage of extra savings with digital coupon offers on your favorite game day items. They are a great way to save on everyday essentials with a quick download from your mobile device or home computer. Check out dg.com/coupons to start downloading savings. Enjoy the Big Game this year with confidence. Throw a fun celebration with savings in your pocket.



Happenings

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

Special Event: Sunday, Jan. 28:

Grand Opening of Pet Crematory: Ribbon-cutting ceremony, Rainbow Bridge Pet Crematory, a state-of-the-art facility. Owners Liz and Eric DiBartolo. 4 p.m., 1789 Front St., Yorktown. Refreshments. RSVP: mprimavera@yorktown-chamber.org, 914-245-4599.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Free Medicare Counseling: Get help understanding your Medicare benefits and coverage on Tuesdays year-round (except holidays) at the John C. Hart Memorial Library in Shrub Oak from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Field Library in Peekskill. No appointments are necessary for the free service. Meet with a trained counselor for information about Medicare Parts A, B and D, Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Savings Plans, Extra Help and EPIC. You can also call the Senior Benefits Information Center Helpline with your questions at 914-231-3260 and a counselor will return your call within two business days. For a listing of all eight SBIC centers in Westchester libraries, go to <http://www.westchesterlibraries.org/senior-benefits-information-centers/>.

Senior Benefits Information: Trained volunteer counselors help older adults and their caregivers find information about government benefits to help them stretch their budgets every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the John C. Hart Memorial Library, 1130 E. Main St., Shrub Oak. Get information on Medicare health and prescription plans, nutrition assistance, the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), tax relief programs, and much more. Info: 914-245-5262 Ext.227 or <http://www.westchesterlibraries.org/sbic>.

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

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

and resolve issues around relationships with food. Info/register: hyinhealth@gmail.com or www.hyinhealth.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

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

Senior Exercise: We offer the Workout M-W from 10-11 a.m. And Zumba Gold on Friday 11 a.m. to noon. The programs are 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 through May 30 at the Somers Library, from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. This program is for teens entering 7th grade & up. Info: 914 232 5717.

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

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

Going Green: Going Green at Home: Good for You and the Planet, a presentation by Sustainable Westchester, will be held at 6 p.m. at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Info: 914-737-1212 or peekskill.org.

Thursday, Jan. 25

Talmud Class: Talmud and the Ethics of our Sages meets on Thursdays, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, at the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Feel free to come and bring a friend, even if you cannot commit to coming to class weekly. We always welcome new participants. No knowledge of Hebrew is expected, and no particular depth of Jewish knowledge is assumed. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

IBM Retirees Club: The Tri-State IBM Retirees Club will meet in the meeting hall of the United Methodist Church, 1176 E Main St, Shrub Oak. Lindsay Inwood will speak on Historic Hudson Valley with a display of authentic clothing worn in years' past. The 2018 dues of \$20 will be collected. Coffee will be served at 1 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. Info: Peg Ryan at 914-528-5916.

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

Friday, Jan. 26

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

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

Anime Nights: Join us for a chance to watch anime from Crunchyroll with your friend at the Somers Library. This program is for teens entering seventh grade and up. It meets one Friday a month from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on the following dates 1/19, 2/16, 3/16, 4/13, 5/11, and 6/1.

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 A Tot Shabbat will be held at 5:30 p.m. 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 rabbiiw@optonline.net

Jewish Center Services: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd., Friday night Sabbath services are held 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. 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, Jan. 27

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. The synagogue is located at 140 Lake Drive in Lake Peekskill. For more information 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 now being held outdoors on Spring and Market Streets. Customers old and new will find delicious produce, pasture-raised meat, poultry, and eggs, breads, baked goods, and much more. For a full list of our markets and vendors, visit DowntoEarthMarkets.com.

ACT Practice Exam: An ACT practice exam will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Somers Library. After the test, participants will receive an extensive score-report showing you exactly where your strengths and weaknesses are. Please bring graphing calculator, pens, pencils, and water and snack bar (optional). Registration is required. Please go to our online calendar at www.somerslibrary.org or call us at 914-232-5717. Our programs are funded by the Friends of the Somers Library through your donations.

Support Connection Yoga: Support Connection, Inc. announces a free program: "Yoga: A Path Toward Wellness"

Happenings

will be offered from noon to 1:30 p.m., at Club Fit in Jefferson Valley. It is open to women 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.

Soup And Salad: The Friends of Hilltop Hanover Farm will be sponsoring a "Soup and Salad Dinner with a Movie" from 6 to 9 p.m. From 6 to 7:15 p.m. three varieties of hot soups - one using the farm's squash - will be served. From 7:30 to 9 p.m. the documentary "The Bullish Farmer" will be presented. "The Bullish Farmer" traces the life of a man who gave up his Wall Street position to become a farmer. The cost is \$25 per person and this event marks the initial Friends' fundraiser for 2018. Those who wish to attend are urged to register on line at www.hilltophanoverfarm.org. If you have any questions, call the farm's office at 914-962-2368. Hilltop Hanover Farm is located at 1271 Hanover St., Yorktown.

Sunday, Jan. 28

Healing Yoga: Yoga classes for women with breast cancer are held at 5 p.m. on Sundays at Hudson Yoga, 5 Old Post

Rd. South, Croton-on-Hudson. Weekly classes are being conducted by rotating instructors. The suggestion is \$15. Info: Elisha Simpson at 914-319-4010

Monday, Jan. 29

Somers Library Monday Programs: Two programs are being held on Mondays at the Somers Library. Drop-in Art is held today and February 5, 18, and 26 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Do you want to create during the cold winter? Drop in; no registration is required. Bring supplies of your choice. There is a \$6 charge per class. Bridge at the Somers Library is being held on Mondays throughout 2018 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. These classes are for beginners and players with some experience as well. Learn how to navigate your way around the game from bridge maven Walter Heitner. You will learn bidding and work on the play of the hand. By working with a group, you will all get better together. Space is limited; register online at www.somerslibrary.org or call the library at 914-232-5717.

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.



Yorktown author Larry Berliner was the guest speaker at the Yorktown Rotary Club's luncheon meeting on Wednesday, January 17, at Kirby's Grill & Bar. He talked about his laugh-out-loud funny new book, "You Can't Be Serious: An inner-city teacher a-muses about school and life."

Why Realtors Talk a Lot

Continued from page 10

clear and open communications is what helps avoid problems in the form of misunderstanding, missteps and/or unlawful acts.

Recently I was in Philadelphia and happened to pass the very church where my mother told me I was miraculously granted my ability to speak. I looked at the granite steps leading to the impressive church doors and could recall walking up and down them, holding my mother's hand, all those years ago. It

brought a lump to my throat, nudging alongside my voice box that has had a lot of practice in recent years as a realtor who blabs on and on to clients about what's going on.

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Margaret Gspurning, Human Resources
Director for the Town of Yorktown
Lillian Chapman, Agency Principal, at Albert
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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BLOOM HAIR SALON LP. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/29/2017. Office loc. Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **Maria Katsoros, 305 Florence Street, Mamaroneck, NY 10543. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

Notice of formation of SIXTH BOROUGHS CLOTHING LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/10/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **LEGALINC CORPORATE SERVICES INC. 1967 WEHRLE DRIVE, SUITE 1 #086, BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14221. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WI-ESEN, LLC. ARTS. Of Org. files with SSNY on 10/6/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it

may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **LegalZoom, 7014 13th Ave, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CZOU & CO., LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/18/2017. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail copy to 9 Highview Dr, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ADVANCED PROFITS, LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of state of NY on 5/11/17. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to PO BOX 112, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF @CE-SARCAPJR, LLC. ARTS. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/15/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAN ON FIRE PRODUCTIONS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 20th, 2017. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Joel Fendelman, 8 Fox Hill Road Pound Ridge, NY 10576. Purpose: Film Production.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FRANK MARKETING GROUP LLC. ARTS. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/10/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to **109 Robins Road, New Rochelle, NY 10801: Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE TUMMI GROUP, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/11/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **The Tummi Group, LLC, 7 Triumph Court, Flanders, NJ 07836. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KRK-NY, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/05/2016. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against may be

served. SSNY shall mail process to **88 Pietro DR, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAYA-B, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/05/2016. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **88 Pietro DR, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

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(Solution to puzzle on page 16)

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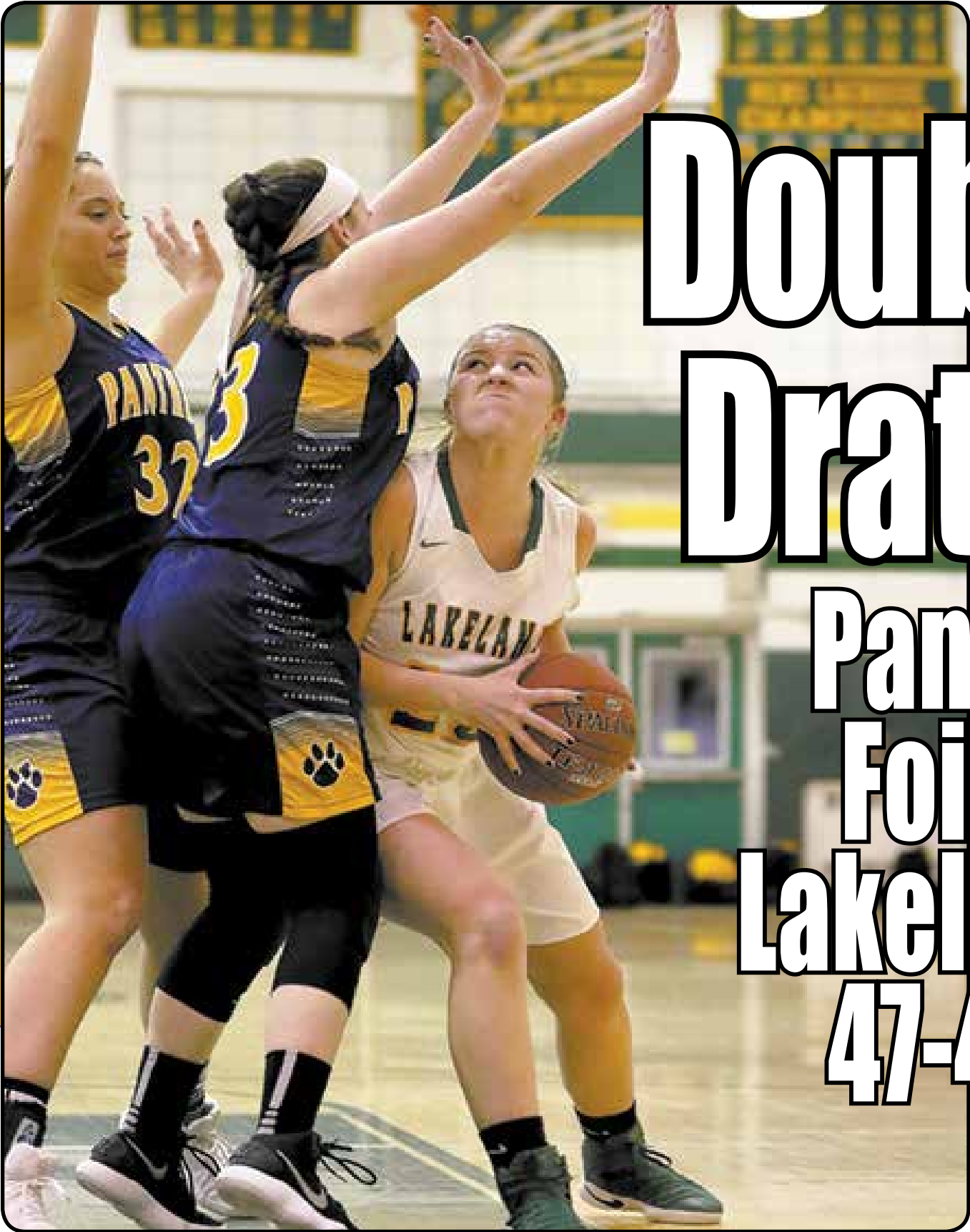
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The expression on Lakeland's Kelsey Walsh (R) says it all when she is met by a pair of Panas Panthers as Danielle Merante (L) and Kristen Scrobola (23) form a blue wall in the Panthers' 47-44 win over the host Hornets last Thursday... see Girls' Hoops Notebook

RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS (PLEASE VISIT HVSPHOTOS FOR MORE)

Sports

Boys' Hoops Notebook

Local Class A Teams Will Have Saunders to Contend With

Carmel Resident, Iona Prep's Alexander Scores 1,000th Career Point

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

If we learned anything at the halfway point of the Class A hoops season, we learned that there is great separation between the haves and the have-some-

work-to-dos. State-ranked (No.17) Saunders outworked a Somers club that appeared to be one of the more hopeful units in the Northern Westchester/Putnam County region, leaving the Tuskers in the dust of a 77-46 loss in the "Pride on the Court" game at Sarah Lawrence College, where they featured a "Be True" theme.

"Saunders is a very good team, but we also played flat and came out of the gates extremely slow, so it was a combination of both, honestly," Somers wing Lorenzo Bicknese said. "I think if we see them again were definitely going to rise to the occasion and it should be a good game. I don't think they are 30 points better than us."

Yet, 31 points will be tough to make up should Somers be fortunate enough to see Saunders (11-3, 9-1 in Section 1) again in the playoffs. Saunders Coach Anthony Nicodemo has done what few have been able to do in Yonkers by recently resurrecting a program that had been dead and buried for a decade, along with many of the Yonkers-based hoops



Mahopac F Ryan Dugan is thwarted by Carmel F Jeremy Mendoza in Indians' 64-51 win over host Rams last Thursday.



Mahopac G Justin Parker is hounded by Carmel G Gladimir Jean-Jacques in Indians' 64-51 win over Rams.



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Somers G Lorenzo Bicknese and his Tuskers found a significant gap between themselves and the high-end Class A contenders like Saunders last Saturday.



Iona Prep star and Carmel resident Josh Alexander scored his 1,000th career point for Gaels last Saturday.

programs. Nicodemo deserves a ton of credit and don't be surprised if the former Brewster grad (1996) hoists his first gold ball in March. Imagine what that would

mean to a Brewster kid, who "came out" as a gay man back in 2013, and then resuscitated a basketball program that was substandard at that time.

"I think from a personal standpoint there is always validation," said the 40-year-old Nicodemo, who has also been in the forefront of the ongoing fight against the Section 1 Executive Committee and its decision to remove Section 1's championship week out of the County Center. "I know that there are many out there who are unable to 'be themselves' and the same fear kept me closeted for years. So, I hope that our success can inspire others. The other side, is this group of kids. They are unbelievable people, and I want them to have an experience that they will remember forever."

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Saunders, which is where the road will seemingly go through for teams like Somers, Hen Hud, Panas and the rest of the Class A hopefuls...

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Sports

Boy's Hoops Notebook

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Mahopac G Noelle Hall takes a run at rim as Carmel's Shane McNerney defends in Indians' 64-51 win over Rams.

Spotted the dad of **CARMEL** resident and Iona Prep hoops stud Josh Alexander the other night at the Rams' loss to Mahopac. Mr. Alexander, among the nicest people I've met on the circuit in



Putnam Valley G Bobby Kroboth gets after a Pawling player in Tigers' rout last Thursday.

30 years, flagged me down to "thank me" for all I'd done for his son when he first got started. It reminded me of how much I wished Josh Alexander had stayed at Carmel and just how much American University-bound Alexander would have



Hen Hud's Austin Fraser and Sailors are still very much alive in the talk among Class A Final 4 hopefuls.

helped the Rams, but upon seeing his 1,000th career point in Iona's 52-23 win over Albany, I'm pretty sure he made the right call when he transferred to the state-ranked (No.11) CHSAA Class AA power. Still, would have loved to have had a birds-eye view of his sterling career and had a chance for a few more chats with his faith-driven, warmhearted ol' man...

Hurts to say it, but 2018 may not be the kind of year boys' hoops fans from this neck of the woods were once accustomed to when the County Center had plenty of local flavor. Haldane should still find a way to the Class C Final 4 on account of the sheer dearth of Class C teams, and Putnam Valley, the current No.2 seed, has a legit shot in Class B despite as many as 10 valid contenders among them, state-ranked (No.18) Irvington and (No.26) Briarcliff included.

Class AA Yorktown was the lone team from the Putnam/NWE coverage



Mahopac swingman Shane Loos delivers two of his game-high 24 points in Indians' 64-51 win over Rams.

region to reach the Final 4 last year, and the Huskers (seeded No.18 in Class) are looking like long shots, along with No.14 Mahopac, No.12 Ossining and No.20 Carmel, to get within reach of a Final 4 berth. That's not to say there's no hope, but winning on the road throughout the playoffs is no easy task.

Class A Hen Hud, which currently sits at No.6 in the bracket, along with No.7 Panas, No.10 Somers, No.18 Brewster, No.19 Peekskill and No.21 Lakeland have all got their work cut out if they are going to hit the Final 4 trail as likely road warriors...

Midterms on the horizon, gang: Good luck to all! Remember, academics before athletics... I kid you not!

NWE/Putnam Examiner Super 7 Poll

No.1 PUTNAM VALLEY - League III-E title will be decided between now and Feb.1 with Haldane and North Salem upcoming. We like the Tigers' (10-3) chances for at least a share.

No.2 SOMERS - Tuskers (7-4) will do what it takes in days ahead to secure first league title since 1989, but John Jay appears to be the main obstacle this Thursday and then again on Jan.31... still no excuse for not showing up against Saunders, and what happened to that defense we've been so high on?

No.3 HEN HUD - Sailors (8-3) knocked off Beacon behind super defense and strong efforts from Kyle James (15 points, 6 blocks), Mehki Gray (16 points, 10 boards) and Austin Fraser (6 points, 9 steals). Still think their athleticism and hunger to reach first Final 4 since 1991 will pose major issues for some unsuspecting foe in the post season.

No.4 PANAS - Panthers (6-4) were no match for Class AA power Pine Bush, but stud G Brandon Hodge went for 27, including 10 in the 4th, in Panthers' 56-40 blowout of Lourdes.

No.5 OSSINING - The Pride (7-5) hung tough with Class A Magnus in 85-81 loss but that kind of defense won't cut the mustard in Class AA playoffs.

No.6 MAHOPAC - Indians (6-7) are so dang flighty. Don't mind the loss to a solid Greeley club as much as we mind the manner in which it went down. 68-52 is a bit much, no? Kudos to 1st-year Greeley Coach Felix Nicodemo.

No.7 BREWSTER - Bears (5-6) hammered out 52-38 win over Lakeland behind Cameron Hart's 22 points.

HM PEEKSKILL - Red Devils (5-7) have stud G Shion Darby in their corner but remain light years away from the Peekskill teams we all cut our teeth on.

HM HALDANE - Wanna believe in the Blue Devils (9-2) as Class C favorites, but the fact they needed OT to beat Pawling is troubling. Still, they'd be the No.1 seed if playoffs started today, though Hamilton might be the team to beat. But betting against a Virgadamo-coached team is unwise.

HM YORKTOWN - Huskers (5-7) are still competing and can play the spoiler role and have a major say in the run for the roses between league foes Greeley and Fox Lane.

HM CROTON - Tigers (4-5) had a day from Miles Ackerman (17 points, 9 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals, 1 block) in blowout of Cedar Knolls, but got lashed by Briarcliff for 2nd time.

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Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

Hen Hud Surges; Venezia Sets School Record for 3's

By Tony Pinciario

HEN HUD coach Ken Sherman could not have asked for anything better in his team's victories over Beacon, 47-27, and Poughkeepsie, 44-22, last week.

"The past two games have been complete team efforts," Sherman said. "And that's what we need down the stretch."

Hen Hud turned in two excellent defensive games, holding Beacon and Poughkeepsie to single digits in the first half. Sherman also received two fine all-around games from sophomore Caitlin Weimar and senior Taylor Prokopiak, as well as contributions from everyone.

Sherman cited Kira Virada, Aniyah Thomas and Jackie Kenny with impact play in the victories.

"Kira has come off the bench and given us a defensive boost each game," Sherman said. "Aniyah has hit some big shots and Jackie has come in, for our starting point guard, who broke her foot on New Year's Eve, and has had to learn the position on the fly."

Virada collected six points, five rebounds and five steals against Beacon and Kenny added five rebounds and six assists. This buoyed the performances of Weimar (14 points, 13 rebounds and four assists) and Prokopiak (11 points).

Thomas scored six points against Poughkeepsie, Kenny added four steals



Panas' Kristen Scrobola gets inside of Lakeland's Kayla Bugeya in Panthers' 47-44 win over host Hornets.

and Virada grabbed four rebounds. Weimar registered a double-double – 16 points and 14 rebounds – and Prokopiak finished with eight points and seven rebounds as Hen Hud evened its record at 5-5.

Along with the play of Virada, Thomas and Kenny, Weimar has raised her game a level this season. She is averaging 15 points, 11 rebounds and 5.7 blocks per game.

"Caitlin has gone from a freshman on a team with nine seniors, to the main focal point to our team this year without a hitch," Sherman said. "She has been able to do this with teams double- and triple-teaming her without her forcing up shots. She is shooting close to 50 percent with all of these challenges. What I like most about Caitlin is her demeanor. She gets physically beat up each game and she does not complain. She keeps doing what she is doing."

YORKTOWN turned in one of its finest games of the season, according to coach Kevin Clark in a 51-40 victory over Mahopac.



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS (PLEASE VISIT HVSPHOTOS FOR Lakeland's Alexa Cole (R) is met by Panas' Danielle Merante in Hornets' 47-44 loss to visiting Panthers Thursday.

"It was an unbelievable team effort," Clark said. "The girls played great defense

and did a remarkable job on the boards, at both ends. We had clutch free-throw shooting to put the game out of reach down the stretch."

Kat Severino continued her excellent offensive showing this season with a game-high 23 points. Mackenzie Merson contributed 15 points, Emily Metz added seven points and Jesse Barer chipped in with six points. Yorktown is now 5-8 this season.

MAHOPAC split two games, handling league-rival Arlington, 58-44, but dropping a 51-40 verdict to Yorktown. Mahopac is 6-5 this season.

"It was a tight, back-and-forth game in the first half," said Mahopac Coach Chuck Scozzafava of the Arlington game. "We were able to stretch the lead in the third quarter and in the fourth, we got some steals and turned them into points. I felt we did a good job on the boards, both offensively and defensively and we made a couple stops when the game got tight."

continued on next page



Panas' Danielle Merante (L) is hammered by Lakeland's Kelsey Walsh in Panthers' 47-44 win over host Hornets.



Panas' Kristen Kelly pushes ball against Lakeland's phenom 8th-grader Tyler Hormazabal in Panthers' 47-44 win over Hornets.

Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

Put Valley's Dini Seeks 100th Career Win Today vs. Croton



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports
Editor

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All she does is win, or so it seems. Wherever Putnam Valley girls' hoops Coach Kristi Dini has hung her hat as a player/coach in Section 1 – and college ball for that matter – the record-setting sharpshooter, in her own right, has produced miles of triumph.

And by the time you've read this story, Dini, barring an epic upset by Croton-Harmon last night, will have secured the 100th victory of her varsity coaching career. After a brief stop at Briarcliff (12-7), and a record-setting four-year run at Somers (62-22), the stars aligned in the fall of 2016, and Dini returned to her heyday roots at Put Valley (26-7), where she became the school's first one thousand-point scorer in 2005. In those three coaching venues, Dini has maneuvered the route to 100 wins quicker than most.

In Jeopardy, they would file the phrase "Kristi Dini is easy to play for" under the category: "I'll take, 'Things Nobody Ever Said,' Alex."

Dini, an NCAA dead-eye-shooter at Boston University, demands a lot from her players, but those that do withstand her old-school methods are better for having done so. Most days, you won't find Dini coddling players or cozying up to parents and administrators. That's not her deal, and more than likely part of the reason she's not coaching at Somers after a record-setting tenure that saw her dismissed, very

unceremoniously, after a 19-3 season.

Her days at Somers, while memorable, are blocked out by her success at Put Valley. The fact that Dini will get to 100 wins on the floor she ran back in 2005 as an All-NYS player, isn't lost on her.

"I enjoyed my time at every stop along the way, but my entire focus is on Putnam Valley now," said Dini, who led the nation in three-pointers at BU back in 2009. "I still maintain unreal relationships with people from Briarcliff and Somers, but it's all about PV now. We think we can do something really cool this year."

Teaching the X's and O's of basketball, drawing blood from a stone and getting the most out of the youthful Tigers (who have zero senior starters at this point in time) are the things she does at a very rewarding clip. Her contemporaries will attest.

"Kristi is a driven, hard-working competitor," said Ossining Coach Dan Ricci, winner of eight Section 1 Class AA titles, seven regional championship and four state jewels. "She loves the game and it shows when she coaches. Her teams are always well prepared and that's a credit to her. She gets the most out of her kids, and that is all you, as a coach, can do. I had the pleasure to see her team play this year and I was very impressed with them defensively. It was obvious they were well coached and knew what they were supposed to do."

In preparing her players to be in a position to succeed, Dini's tough-love

approach is something that takes getting used to from today's players and parents, who are a different breed from yesteryear. Some kids are cut out for it, some simply aren't ready to accept the old-school approach that prior generations were not only raised on, but thrived upon. In a new generation of emotionally fragile folk, everything has to be watered down because it's "offensive", including the truth, but that's the Dini mindset: truth, justice and her way. In this day and age of appeasement, it could, ultimately, lead to a short shelf life like it did in Somers.

"Not everyone likes the tough-love approach, but that's how Kristi learned the game and she must be true to herself," said Ricci, who coached Dini to consecutive gold medals at the Empire State Games and wrote many of the freshest chapters in the book of tough-love. "Coaches like Kristi and I learned a long time ago that we have to be true to ourselves, or the kids would see right through us."

The message is quite clear for those who come under her wing. From the youngest levels of Dini's highly successful NY Extreme AAU programs, to the camps she coaches in the off-season, to her varsity club, which currently sports a 9-1 record and a No.3 seed in Class B: Work beyond your means and don't take shortcuts when it comes to personal success and else anything in life...

The MAHOPAC BOE's hiring's last week of Anthony DiCarlo as Superintendent and Myk Lugauber as its baseball coach are two of its great recent moves, including



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTO

PV girls' hoops Coach Kristi Dini will have 100 wins by week's end, most likely today in win over visiting Croton.

the hiring of Dom DeMatteo as football coach, Tim Donaghy as ice hockey boss and Joe Bucello as boys' lax coach. There are still significant primary moves to be made to "Make Mahopac Great Again" but these were necessary steps in the progression of Indian pride and restoring the Mahopac many of us were raised on...

Mahopac will host the annual Peter Caruso Wrestling tourney this Saturday morning and this year's tournament is the largest sporting event in Mahopac, outside of its hosting the Section 1 football championships.

"We picked up a few new teams for a total of 18 teams and have now formed a waiting list for those looking to compete," said John Caruso, who holds the tournament in honor of his deceased son, Peter, a former Mahopac grappler. "Most of last year's champions were underclassman, so we have many returning champions and expect a great day of wrestling."

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Siobhan Hynes scored a season-high 21 points and Katrina Klammer added 11 points.

Yorktown seized control of the game in the first quarter, outscoring Mahopac, 17-4.

"We started out slow, but the rest of the game was fairly even," Scozzafava said. "We just weren't able to overcome the first quarter. We didn't box out well and defensively we didn't defend as well as we have all year."

Claire Felix led Mahopac with 13 points and Hynes added eight points.

OSINNING outlasted defending New York State Federation champion, South Shore (Brooklyn), 57-55, in overtime behind 28 points and 14 rebounds from Aubrey Griffin.

The Pride, now on a four-game winning streak and 11-3 this season, won despite having three players, including Griffin, foul out. Ossining returns to action, Thursday, Jan. 25, against Yorktown.



Putnam Valley hotshot Kelli Venezia dropped a school-record nine three-pointers in Tigers' win over Pawling last week.

South Shore forced overtime with a fourth-quarter surge, but the Pride did not let it affect them in the extra session.

"Having three players foul out, one being Aubrey, we knew we had to step up and dig down deep," Quain said. "Being in close games prior to this one helped us in the fact that nobody was nervous and we knew what we had to get done in order to get this win."

Kailah Harris finished with 11 points, nine rebounds and four assists and Quain added 11 points and three boards. Jaida Strippoli registered seven assists.

BREWSTER lost to John Jay-Cross River, 60-51, in its lone game of the week.

"They did a great job of creating turnovers and getting easy baskets in the first three quarters," Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo said. "We were not taking good shots, not communicating on defense, and we did not do a great job of breaking the press. We tried to make a few adjustments in the second half, but it did not slow John

Jay down as they built a 21-point lead going into the 4 quarter.

"However, we did pick up our intensity and urgency as we cut the 21 point lead to six with 1:42 remaining, but it was too little, too late."

Kristen Stefanick finished with a team-leading 16 points and she added six rebounds. Meagan Beal added 12 points and eight rebounds and Taylor Riccardi chipped in 10 points for the Bears, now 9-5 this season.

PUTNAM VALLEY (9-1) made short work of Pawling in a league win last week, but the big news to come out of the win was the school record set by sophomore sniper Kelli Venezia, who drained nine shots from downtown.

"Kelli is super important to me," PV Coach Kristi Dini said, "and the fact that I'll be the one coaching her when she eventually scores her 1,000th point thrills me. She is such a terrific player and an even better kid."

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