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FREE

December 11 - December 17, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 468



High Achiever

Erik Irbe, a senior at Walter Panas High School and a resident of Cortlandt, recently became a Chief Petty Officer, the highest rank in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps. In 2016, he reached the pinnacle of Boy Scouts when he became an Eagle Scout.

Water Tests Taken in Area of Proposed Substance Abuse Hospital

By Rick Pezzullo

The results of water tests taken in the surrounding area of a proposed luxury substance abuse hospital on Quaker Ridge Road in Cortlandt were unveiled to the town's Planning Board last week.

Water concerns have been one of several issues raised by neighbors regarding Hudson Ridge Wellness Center's 92-bed residential treatment center project on 20 acres.

Robert Davis, an attorney for Hudson Ridge, told planners 16 wells were studied during a 72-hour pumping test between August 20-23 that was approved by the town and Westchester County Health Department. He noted 67 own-

ers of wells in the vicinity were invited to participate.

"We feel the results were very favorable," said Davis, whose assertion of a viable water supply was later supported by a town consultant.

However, David Steinmetz, an attorney representing Citizens for Responsible Hudson Institute Site Development (CRHISD), cautioned planners not to take the results at face value since many homeowners, some of whom have experienced water woes in the area for years, still had doubts about the impact of the project.

Continued on page 2

Support in County for Undocumented Immigrant Driver's Licenses

By Anna Young

State and county officials stood in solidarity last week in support of a proposed law that would grant undocumented immigrants the right to access a driver's license.

Advocates for the campaign Green Light NY: Driving Together hosted a standing-room-only forum last Monday evening at the White Plains Public Library where officials and advocates gathered to urge state lawmakers to support the Green Light bill. The legislation would establish that the newly created standard license be accessible to all state residents regardless of immigration status.

Officials said allowing undocumented immigrants to obtain a driver's license would enhance traffic safety, ensure

drivers understand traffic laws, unify the community and prevent small traffic infractions from resulting in arrest or deportation. State Sen. Shelley Mayer (D-Yonkers) said that allowing everyone the right to a license will reduce racial profiling, and the state would protect the residents' immigration status.

"Now because the Democrats have become the majority in the New York State Senate, we finally have the possibility of passing this bill," said Mayer, a co-sponsor of the measure.

The proposed bill would require any undocumented state resident to pass a road test and provide proof of state resi-

Continued on page 2



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Supporters of the Green Light bill, which would make the standard state driver's license accessible to all residents regardless of immigration status packed the White Plains Public Library last week for an informational meeting on the legislation.

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Water Tests Taken in Area of Proposed Hospital

Continued from page 1

"There's still a tremendous amount of concerns about the impact this project will have on well water," he said, noting residents were not given advanced notice of Hudson Ridge's appearance last week. "Neighbors have been monitoring this every step of the way and we look forward to participating in the process moving forward."

Hudson Ridge purchased the property

in 2010 and began restoring the seven buildings. The site was once used as a hospital for people suffering from substance abuse. In July 2015, Hudson Ridge submitted an application for a special use permit with a site plan to establish a high-end specialty hospital. Those plans were then stalled by a nine-month moratorium imposed two months later by the Cortlandt Town Board. Hudson Ridge sought to obtain a variance from the

Town Board from the moratorium on the basis of a hardship, but were denied.

According to Davis, representatives of Hudson Ridge will be appearing at the Planning Board's January 8 meeting to discuss the results of a traffic analysis conducted. In the past, CRHISD members have questioned a traffic analysis previously submitted by Hudson Ridge, which estimated vehicles will make 110 trips daily to and from the facility. That

estimate is lower than previous counts from the applicant, and lower than estimates made by the town's consultant.

Hudson Ridge is seeking a variance from the Town Code not requiring the hospital to be constructed on a state roadway. The town's Zoning Board of Appeals is unable to make a ruling on that request until the Planning Board completes the State Environmental Quality Review Act process.

Support in County for Undocumented Immigrant Driver's Licenses

Continued from page 1

dency prior to obtaining the license. Officials stressed the license cannot be used for federal purposes, will not allow the license holder to vote or change the legal status of an immigrant.

Currently, 12 states and Washington D.C. permit all residents to apply for a driver's license without checking their immigration status.

"Everyone driving should be properly trained and properly insured," Assemblyman Steven Otis (D-Rye) said. "Life is complicated enough, but it shouldn't have the added complication of having to drive around in fear."

Otis added that expanding licenses would

be an economic boom. State and county governments would receive about \$57 million in combined annual revenue and \$26 million in one-time revenue through taxes and fees, he said. The bill has strong support in the Assembly and is hopeful the bill will pass next year when the Democrats take over the Senate, Otis added.

"This bill gives people equal access to opportunity, it allows people to get to work," Senator-elect Peter Harckham (D-Lewisboro) said. "I'm very proud to support this bill."

Along with state lawmakers, county officials showed their support. Ten members of the Board of Legislators' Democratic caucus sent a letter of support to Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

"I stand for the passage of this bill," County Executive George Latimer said. "We have excellent senators and Assembly members in this county, they're going to work very hard to make this happen and those of us in the county government will help them in any way they need it, and we will win."

Ossining Police Chief Kevin Sylvester and Port Chester Police Chief Richard Conway are also advocating for state lawmakers to support the bill. While both cited public safety in letters to Cuomo, Sylvester stressed the importance of involving police enforcement when crafting the bill to reduce misinformation and ensure the law's passage.

Deferred Action for Childhood Ar-

rivals (DACA) recipient Kevin Duarte noted that immigrants shouldn't live in fear of law enforcement or deportation because they are driving to work, school or dinner. Duarte said there's nothing preventing an undocumented immigrant from wanting to be an insured and authorized driver should the legislation pass.

"We realize that denying an important form of identification not only makes it really difficult for people to go about their day-to-day lives, it also makes it more difficult for the police to do their jobs," Duarte said. "This is the right thing to do because people deserve to drive in peace, and when everybody can drive in peace, everyone will be safer for it."



Is Your SI Joint Causing Your Back Pain?

A common problem that's too often overlooked...

Ask the Doctor

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Spine Surgery Section
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Q: What is the SI Joint?

A: The full name is the sacroiliac (sa-krō-'i-lē-,ak) joint, and there are two of them, one on either side of your tailbone. They connect the triangular bone at the base of your spine, called the sacrum, with the iliac bone of your pelvis. The SI joints are the keystone of the body, or the center of gravity. Their job is to support and transmit the weight of your upper body to your legs and pelvis.

Q: How Does the SI Joint Cause Pain?

A: SI joint dysfunction occurs when the ligaments of either joint are injured or worn away. This can cause pain in your butt as well as in your lower back, groin, thigh and side. Most people with SI joint dysfunction experience severe pain when they get up from a seated position, then feel better when they walk.

Q: What Causes SI Joint Dysfunction?

A: Osteoarthritis, rheumatologic and auto-immune diseases, traumatic injuries and pregnancy can cause SI joint dysfunction. And some people get it after they've had surgeries such as hip replacement or spinal fusion.

Q: How Does the Doctor Diagnose SI Joint Dysfunction?

A: Since most back pain is caused by a spinal problem, the doctor first rules out the spine by doing imaging like X-rays and MRIs. There are also physical exam maneuvers that can pinpoint trouble in the SI joint.

Q: How Is SI Joint Dysfunction Treated?

A: Physical therapy, weight loss, trunk-strengthening exercises like yoga or Pilates, and anti-inflammatory medicines are the first lines of treatment. If these don't help, doctors inject a steroid and local anesthetic into the joint, a procedure called SI joint injection. If there is still no improvement, doctors perform a minimally invasive surgery called SI joint fusion. Titanium implants are inserted across the sacroiliac joint through a 3-cm incision to lock the joint in place so it can't move anymore. The surgery takes about an hour and is done under general anesthesia at Northern Westchester Hospital. For the first three weeks after surgery, patients walk with crutches or a walker. After six weeks, they resume normal activities.

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Police Blotter

State Police

December 4 - State Police from the Cortlandt barracks arrested Marcelo



Marcelo Abila

A. Abila, 41, of Croton-On-Hudson, for Criminal Impersonation of a Police Officer in the 1st degree, and attempted Grand Larceny in the 4th degree, both class E felonies. Police were called to the Woodybrook

area of Cortlandt for a report of a man claiming to be a police officer demanding money. Investigation revealed Abila, wearing a "NYPD" baseball style cap, knocked on the victim's door, and claimed to be a Croton Police Officer. Abila then demanded money from the victim, who refused and notified the State Police. Abila was arraigned before in Town of Cortlandt Court, and was remanded to the Westchester County Jail in lieu of \$2,500 cash bail or \$5,000 bond.

December 3 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Cesar Barreto Guaman, 41, of Ossining, for DWI.

He was traveling on Route 9 in the Town of Ossining when he was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

December 2 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Christopher M. Giannetta, 24, of Cortlandt, for DWI. He was traveling on Sunset Road in the Town of Cortlandt when he crashed into a utility pole. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

State Police from Cortlandt arrested Gloria Mooney, 48, of Cortlandt, for DWI. She was traveling on 3rd Street in Cortlandt, when she was involved in a domestic dispute over parking spots. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

December 1 - State Police from Hawthorne arrested John D. Fuller, 59, of Cortlandt, for DWI, and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 3rd degree, both misdemeanors. He was traveling on the Sprain Brook Parkway in the Town of Greenburgh when he was found sleeping in his car on the parkway. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

November 29 - State Police from the Cortlandt barracks arrested Kyle R. Heady, 29, of Putnam Valley, for Robbery in the 2nd degree, a class C felony, and Robbery in the 3rd degree, a class D felony. Troopers responded to Paulding Lane in the Town of Cortlandt for a report of a stolen vehicle and money. Investigation revealed Heady arrived at the home of a prior domestic partner and forcibly stole the victim's car as well as forced the victim to write out a check in the amount of \$300. Heady was arraigned in Town of Cortlandt Court, and remanded to the Westchester County Jail without bail.

November 25 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Kristina Edwards, 28, of Peekskill, for DWI. She was traveling on Route 9 in the Town of Cortlandt when she was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

November 24 - State Police from Somers arrested Dennis G. Enriquez, 36, of Somers, for Aggravated DWI Leandra's Law. He was traveling on Route 35 in the Town of Somers when he was stopped during a fixed sobriety

Continued on page 20

Peekskill Postal Worker Arraigned for Stealing Stamps

By Rick Pezzullo

A Peekskill U.S. Post Office employee was arrested December 4 for allegedly stealing thousands of dollars worth of stamps over a four-month period.

Antonio Pinheiro, 44, a resident of Westtown in Orange County, was charged with grand larceny in the third degree, a Class D felony, after allegedly stealing approximately 14,000 stamps, valued at more than \$6,000, between July and October 2017.

According to Westchester County District Attorney Anthony Scarpino, Jr., Pinheiro was selling the stamps via an online marketplace.

Pinheiro was released on bail. His next court appearance is scheduled for January 10, 2019, in Peekskill City Court. His arrest on December 4 followed a joint investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the District Attorney's Investigation Division.



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Somers Town Board Agrees to Lower 2019 Tax Increase

By Neal Rentz

The Somers Town Board has come to a consensus to reduce its proposed property tax increase by nearly one percent next year.

Supervisor Rick Morrissey said at the December 6 Town Board meeting that he was seeking to reduce the proposed tax levy increase from the 2.9 percent, which was included in his original \$9.2 million 2019 general fund budget, to two percent by using more of the fund balance than he originally sought.

If approved, the 2019 budget would increase town property taxes on the average assessed home in Somers by only \$16 next year, Morrissey said.

Prior to Morrissey making his proposal to reduce the tax hike to two percent, Heritage Hills resident Marc Bergman told the Town Board the originally proposed tax increase was too high. Bergman said he knows town residents who are paying \$30,000 annually in property taxes and they need relief.

Bergman, the only resident who participated in last week's public hearing, said the tax increase should be reduced to two percent. Town residents who pay high taxes will lose the federal deductibility on local taxes over \$10,000 beginning next year, he noted.

One way to hold down spending would be to not add one additional full-time job to the Highway Department, Bergman told the Town Board. The costs of hiring that worker could add \$80,000 in salary and benefits next year.

Councilman Anthony Ciriaco told Bergman said they agreed that holding down taxes should be a priority of the board. "We all share the same sentiment," Ciriaco said.

Councilman Richard Clinchy said the Town Board has never exceeded the state-mandated cap.

Councilman Thomas Garrity said the Highway Department needed another employee next year to help it assist with such work as dealing with storms. Morrissey said he agreed with Garrity, saying though

the Highway Department workers do "a great job" another employee is needed.

Over the last five years the town property tax increases have been well below the tax cap, Garrity said.

The Town Board adjourned the public hearing until its December 13 meeting. Following the closing of the public hearing next week the board is expected to approve the 2019 budget.

Heritage Hills resident Marc Bergman discussed the proposed 2019 budget at the Dec. 6 Somers Town Board meeting.



PHOTO BY NEAL RENTZ

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Chiropractic Health Performance Mahopac

By Neal Rentz

Brewster resident Dr. Kyle Innes had his first encounter with chiropractic at the age of 10.

It changed his life forever.

Innes recalled last week how he hurt his lower back playing football when he was a student at Brewster Middle School and sought the services of a chiropractor at the recommendation of his medical doctor. His late father, Doug, agreed because he had a positive experience with the chiropractor, who was a family friend.

"I really liked the idea of chiropractic, no drugs, no surgery," Innes said. "I saw my dad walk in hunched over, he got adjusted and he was walking like nothing ever happened."

The first time he was adjusted by a chiropractor Innes said to himself, "This is amazing."

"It felt so good I couldn't believe how good I felt after it," Innes said. "I almost felt better after the adjustment than before. So, I was pretty hooked right away."

Today, Innes is a veteran doctor of chiropractic who operates out of Chiropractic Health Performance in



PHOTO BY NEAL RENTZ

Brewster resident Dr. Kyle Innes opened Chiropractic Health Performance in Mahopac in July.

Mahopac, which he opened in July. He moved his office from Yorktown to be closer to his home.

Many of his patients are local high school athletes, including members of the Yorktown High School lacrosse team, Innes said. "We see anyone from birth to seniors," he said.

Innes said he offers free educational visits to potential patients. "We talk about how structure determines function," he

said, adding doctors of chiropractic look for "bones that aren't moving as well as the other ones. We find those. Adjust those, free them up."

Chiropractors not only make bones move better, Innes said. "It's actually helping your brain remap how your body is supposed to move," he said. "When you get adjusted it's just like hitting a reset button on a computer. It basically tells your areas that are in pain there's an

issue here, let's fix it."

Studies have indicated that following chiropractic adjustments the body's immune system improves, Innes said. For example, when he was in chiropractic school, Innes said he and his fellow students were never very ill even during cold and flu seasons. "And if you do get a cough, a cold or the flu you're not as sick, you don't feel as bad and then you're over it quicker" than others who have not gotten chiropractic adjustments, he said.

"The most important thing with chiropractic is educating the population about what it is that we do," Innes said.

He said chiropractors are trained in physical therapy and chiropractors have nearly the same curriculums as medical doctors in training, he said. "We're very well versed in drugs and surgery and when to refer," he said. "We chose not to use drugs and surgery. That's part of our philosophy."

"Everybody thinks we just crack bones," but being a chiropractor is much more, Innes said.

Chiropractic Health Performance is located at 54 Miller Rd. in Mahopac. For more information, call 845- 621-1739 or visit <http://www.nychirohp.com/index.htm>.

Milone Promoted to HV Gateway Chamber President

Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Deborah Milone has been promoted to President by the chamber's Board of Directors at its most recent board meeting.

"The Board wanted to recognize Deb's efforts and bring her title in line with the leadership she has shown and the accomplishments she has made over the last eight years," said Kish Melwani, Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of ServiceByte.

Milone was selected to serve as Executive Director of the chamber in 2010, after a stellar career in marketing, sales and community service. Milone served as writer/producer at CBS, as Vice President of Marketing for Guide Communications, and District Sales Manager at Yellowbook USA, until she joined the chamber.

Under Milone's direction, the chamber has seen explosive and historic growth in membership from 320 to more than 500 members. In addition, Milone, along with Board Member Ben Green, has spearheaded the launch of AIM along with the board of directors, bringing together the region's creative businesses in art, industry and media.

"I am delighted that the Board has recognized my efforts as we continue



Deb Milone

to build our chamber into a formidable powerhouse representing the needs of the business community. To balance an economy that benefits businesses and residents alike, we must work together on prudent legislation, streamline government processes, and remove barriers to entry for aspiring entrepreneurs," said Milone.

The Chamber was selected by the Business Council of New York State as the "Chamber of Year" in 2015.

"Ms. Milone has transformed a small area chamber of commerce into a forceful voice representing the interests of the Northern Westchester business community. She makes sure the interests of our chamber members are represented in local, county, state and federal decision-making," said Marianne Oros, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors.

Milone is closely monitoring the closure of the Entergy nuclear power plants, making sure that the business community's interests are being heard at the state level and that the economic impact on the community is mitigated as much as possible. She has testified at public hearings, conducted and attended public information meetings and has met with elected officials at all levels of government. Milone even traveled to other communities where nuclear plants have closed to see firsthand the impact of the closures.

Additionally, the chamber was one of the first to decry the Coast Guard's plan to allow barge anchorages along the Hudson River—something, that if allowed, could wreak havoc on the river's delicate ecosystem, tourism and recrea-

tional opportunities.

The chamber has also partnered with the Business Council of Westchester on legislative initiatives and concerns and including the Coalition for Westchester Airport and recently hired former Westchester County Economic Development Director George Oros as a consultant to improve economic development in the region and work with businesses in their dealings with government. Milone currently serves on the Government Action Committee of the Business Council of Westchester and the Advisory Board of New York Area Energy Alliance.

In addition, Milone has served on the Board of Directors of the Peekskill Business Improvement District, as Vice Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Peekskill, and as Past President of the Peekskill Rotary Club, Paul Harris Fellow.

Milone is a Magna Cum Laude graduate from New York Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree and has lived in Peekskill for 28 years with her husband, John, and two dogs.

Obituaries

Steve Cangelosi

Steve Cangelosi, a resident of Yorktown, died December 2 after a long battle with lung cancer. He was 67.

He was born in White Plains to Salvatore and Christina Cangelosi. On September 26, 1976, he married his loving wife, Josephine, at St. Teresa's Church in Sleepy Hollow. Upon graduation from White Plains High School, he enlisted in the Air Force National Guard and served as an Airman First Class from 1969 – 1971. In August 2013, he retired from the Yorktown Water Department as Maintenance Grade II, with 28 years of service.

Mr. Cangelosi was an avid classic car enthusiast and enjoyed the outdoors, hunting and fishing in the Catskills and Adirondacks.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his beloved children, his daughter Christina (Thomas) Constantino of Deerfield Beach, FL, and his son Anthony of Yorktown. He is also survived by his Aunt Dorothy Kashlak of Kittanning, PA, his sister-in-law Mary (Michael) Della Posta and brother-in-law Armando (Margaret) Favilla of Wappinger Falls, as well as many nieces, nephews and friends.

Nancy Heady

Nancy Dorothy Heady (Lombardo) died December 4 at home after a long battle with cancer. She was 54.



Nancy Heady

She was born and raised in Peekskill, and is the daughter of Elaine Lombardo and John Lombardo, Sr. She attended Walter Panas High School and graduated in 1982.

She was a lifelong cosmetologist, licensed in the State of New York.

She is survived by her mother Elaine

Lombardo, her father and his wife, John and Susan Lombardo, her two sons Joseph and Eric Heady, a sister and her husband, Dawn and Tom Chase, and a brother and his wife, John and Kathleen Lombardo.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Fred and Helen Donnhauser and Leonard and Lillian Lombardo.

Frank Petch

Frank F. Petch, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson, died December 2. He was 73.

He was born December 23, 1944 to Frank and Mildred Petch. He lived most of his life in Rockland County. He served honorably as a Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force and as an Air Policeman stationed at Rhein-Main, Germany Air Base from 1964-68.

Mr. Petch worked in business management, banking, business methods analysis, sales, and contracting.

He was a kind and loving man who helped others before helping himself. He treasured his friendships with his veteran friends. He will be forever missed and forever loved.

He is survived by his sister Patricia Petch, his sister Joyce Gilner, nephews Steven Slamka, Christopher Gilner, and Peter Gilner, his niece Jennifer Gilner, and by many cousins and extended family.

Edward Conners, Jr.

Edward F. Conners, Jr. of Wappingers Falls, formerly of Montrose, died December 4. He was 71.

He was born to Edward and Grace (Kingsley) Conners on September 3, 1947. He was a proud United States Army Vietnam War Veteran and a 50-year member of the Cortlandt Engine Company in Montrose. He worked for the New York Telephone Company for 25 years. After retiring, he spent every sunny day caddying at Sleepy Hollow Country Club. He was a faithful member of Community Bible Church in Ossining, until his recent move to Dutchess County.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Eunice (Clarry) Conners, his cherished children Edward Michael, and Jennifer Lynn and her husband David Diehl, Jr., his adored grandchildren David, Michael, Reese, and Derek, and his sisters-in-law Marsha Valente and Nona Clarry. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Elvira Melinsky

Elvira Melinsky, formerly of Yorktown, died December 3 at Benton House in South Carolina. She was 109.

She was the daughter of Rosina and Giuseppe Basile and was born in the Bronx on March 26, 1909. One of 13 children, she survived eight brothers (Jack, Paul, George, Mickey, Freddie, Robert, Wilbert and Tillio) and two sisters (Millie and Rita).

She married Ferdinand Melinsky on October 5, 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Melinsky lived in Yorktown for more than 34 years and raised two daughters, Julia and Arleen Melinsky. She was an active mom and worked locally at Kear's Farm Stand in Yorktown and at A&P Food store in Shrub Oak until her husband's retirement. After her husband's passing in June 1986, she moved to Long Island to be near her daughters.

Mrs. Melinsky is survived by her two daughters and husbands, Julia and Edward Johnson and Arleen and Harvey Krauthamer, grandson Timothy Johnson and great-grandchildren Noah (four years old) and Charlotte (two years old).

Patricia Ann Haviland

Patricia Ann Haviland, a resident of Cortlandt, died November 30. She was 82.

She is survived by her eight adoring children, Charlie, Jimmy, Billy, Sharon, Carol, Noel, Dina, and Michelle, as well as many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She will be greatly missed.

She was predeceased by her spouse Charlie A., and her son Edward C.

Rosalie Gisolfi

Rosalie Linda Gisolfi, a resident of Somers, died December 5. She was 77.

She was the loving daughter of Dominick and Grace (Treppeda) Martines and was predeceased by her brother, Vincent in 2017.

Born in Manhattan, and raised in White Plains, she graduated St. John's High School and attended SUNY Potsdam. She married her friend, soulmate and caregiving husband of 55 years, Ernest Edward Gisolfi. Together they raised their family in Silver Lake, NY for 28 years where they lived a joyous life among lifelong friends.

Mrs. Gisolfi was the poster child for the modern professional women balancing family and career responsibilities. She was employed by IBM, Manhattanville College, Hitachi America and Aegon Asset Management while maintaining traditional Italian-American family values in the upbringing of her sons. At Manhattanville College she was the anchor of consistency through four Dean of Student Administrations and during this tenure she also earned her Master's Degree in Art History.

She is survived by her husband, three children and nine grandchildren: Daniel with wife Brigid and grandchildren Kaitlin, Erin, Daniel and Anthony; Robert with wife Patricia and grandchildren Matthew, Lauren and Rachel; and Eric with wife Jennifer and grandchildren Joseph and Justin.

She was the modern family matriarch who managed four strong minded men using her grace, gentleness, humor and persistence. She taught them how to love and the importance of grounding their lives in the appreciation of art, food and traditional family values. She honed her skills in creating watercolor and oil-pastel paintings, leaving lasting memories of the world and family she loved as seen through her eyes.

Mrs. Gisolfi understood how to live and treasure the gift of life. Throughout her life, her presence lit up a room, she influenced and comforted her husband, children, grandchildren and lifelong friends, and she lived an exemplar life emphasizing the importance of God, country, family and culture. She will be sorely missed but always remembered.

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Commentary

Legislative Agenda is “Death by a Thousand Cuts” to County Small Businesses

By Legislator John Testa

The Democrat Legislators proposal to prohibit businesses in Westchester County from asking if a job applicant has been convicted of a serious crime is an outrageous overreach into private business and a continuation of their assault on the small business community. I disagreed with County Executive Latimer when he ordered that the county will not ask about job applicants' criminal history but I accept that it is his prerogative as the executive branch of our government to set those policies for county employment. But to legislate that private businesses can no longer establish their own standards for what type of character and integrity they require in an employee- using past criminal activity as a guide- is a disturbing level of government interference in private business.

The legislation (which passed 11-5) has most often been called “ban the box” (referring to a box that must be checked on a job application related to criminal convictions). The current legislation has had a few name changes as the law's sponsors sought to make it sound like some moral imperative. Another name that the sponsors tried was “Fair Chance to Work Act”. They finally arrived at the

current title, “Local Law to Prohibit Discrimination based on one's criminal conviction”. Thankfully we have a number of federal employment protections for job applicants like race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, birthplace, ancestry, culture, or linguistic characteristics common to a specific ethnic group. These are protected classes because they are characteristics not indicators of character. An individual who has committed a criminal act is not a member of a protected class and therefore a small business owner is not practicing discrimination if they choose to disqualify those applicants, this legislation also requires employers- who may have any number of applicants for a position to offer a ‘written analysis’ to job applicants if they are not hired. This is an affront to the notion of private enterprise.

I am all for giving individuals a second chance, it has been a mantra of mine my entire adult life as an educator and elected official and many business owners do the same as a matter of choice. To legislate and force business to ignore criminal records of a prospective employee is overreaching at its worst.

New York State has long held the dubious distinction as the most

inhospitable environment for small businesses in the United States. Unfortunately, since taking control of the Board of Legislators last year, after four years of bipartisan cooperation, my Democrat colleagues have embraced this anti-business posture in a series of legislative actions that hurt small businesses and put them at a competitive disadvantage in our region. Dictating what should be the purview of private business decisions like forcing small businesses with as few as 5 part-time employees to pay for sick leave will have a profound impact on a small business. (our request to negotiate a compromise that would exclude businesses with less than 10 employees was ignored) The sponsors of the paid sick leave must have understood the laws negative impact since they excluded Westchester County from following the paid sick leave law for hourly county employees.

Other legislative overreach into private business practices include legislation that prohibits small business owners from asking about a prospective employees prior salary, dictating application processes to private residential cooperative building associations, proposed red light cameras that will put

further strain on commerce- especially Westchester County retail businesses, passing legislation that raises licensing fees for independent home improvement contractors both now and again in a year by almost 50%.

Small businesses are the real engine of employment in our county and I believe a continuation of this near-sighted agenda will result in a “Death by a Thousand Cuts” for some those businesses. It will also make it far more difficult for economic development organizations in our business community to attract and retain the critical small and mid-size businesses that are the lifeblood of our economy. It will cost jobs and further inhibit the success of local small businesses.

While social activism is an important function in society and the Democrats on the BOL have absolute control of the legislative agenda, handing over the reins of the legislative branch to social activists must be balanced against the needs of those who keep our economy going, the risk takers, the employers and entrepreneurs of Westchester County.

Legislator John Testa (R/Peekskill) is Minority Leader on the Westchester County Board of Legislators

Letters to the Editor

Ossining Officials Should Not Be Making Decisions for Families

To the Editor:

Here we go again!!!! 2 ½ yrs. ago Ossining's mayor and the board of Trustees took it upon themselves to enroll all residents in the Village into a program to get electricity through a company not

Con Ed. We would still have to pay for the power coming through Con Ed wires. We received a letter from the company themselves telling us we were all enrolled in this program. It was supposed to save us money on our electric bills. We had

30 days to respond if we did not want to partake. I was out of state when this letter arrived so naturally I did not know I had to respond, opt out as they say. When my next Con Ed bill arrived it was over \$130 more than my previous bill. I called Con Ed and was informed that since I was on a budget plan that this program would not work for me. I called the mayor's office and explained this to her. She said she knew nothing about this and would like to see my bill. I copied my bill and also brought a letter explaining all what happened and personally handed it to her on the steps inside the Ossining Municipal Building. I never heard any response from her.

The week of Thanksgiving, when people are preparing for the holidays, guests and travel, a letter arrived from Westchester Power which I believed to be “junk mail,” I tossed it out. Several days later a friend told me she had read this letter and again the mayor and the board of trustees have enrolled all the

residents in this program. If we are not interested in this we have to opt out just as before.

I resent the elected officials deciding for me what is best. How many residents threw that letter away because we were not informed of this? If the mayor and the board felt strongly about this program it should have been them sending the letter out inviting us to partake, not assume we all want this. When the mayor was trying to push the round-about she was not interested in how the residents felt. She had been told that once it was here we would all love it. Someone had accused her of oligarchy, governing by one, so I guess she continues doing what she feels is best for everyone without first informing us.

I will make my own decisions regarding what is best for my family!

Sincerely,

ANN M. PERRON

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Special Needs Trusts are Complicated But Necessary for Estate Planning

By Salvatore M. Di Costanzo

Special needs trusts are an integral part of almost every estate plan, yet most people don't realize this and fail to take the initiative to include it in their plans.

Typically, those who seek consultation on the applicability of special needs trusts are either disabled or closely involved with a disabled child or other adult. In these instances, the need for a special needs trust is obvious.

Less apparent, is the need for special needs trusts for nearly everyone. Consider that a beneficiary of your estate may become disabled at any time. As discussed below, I use them in most of my estate planning documents to deal with unforeseen disabilities.

The purpose of a special needs trust is to provide a pool of assets that can be used to supplement, not replace, government benefits or assistance for which the disabled person may be entitled to

receive. The assets of the trust are commonly used for expenses such as medical equipment, transportation, vacations and other recreational items, personal care and expenditures that are not covered by government programs.

There are two types of special needs trusts: First Party and Third Party. A First Party Special Needs Trust is one that is created with the assets of a disabled person who is under 65 years old. Often, this type of trust is used where a disabled person is already receiving government benefits such as Social Security or Medicaid and receives assets, for instance, by inheritance. If this trust is properly utilized, the disabled beneficiary's government benefits will not be discontinued.

Until recently, only a parent, grandparent or court could establish a First Party trust for the benefit of a disabled beneficiary. Earlier this year, the law changed, now allowing a disabled person, who

has the capacity, to establish a First Party trust on their own.

Upon the death of the disabled person, a First Party Special Needs Trust must name the state as a remainder beneficiary for any benefits paid to the disabled individual during his lifetime. This is called a payback provision. If the trust does not include this provision, the assets of the trust will be considered available assets for the disabled individual, thereby discontinuing any government benefits.

A Third Party Special Needs Trust is a trust that can be created by any person, with that person's assets, for the benefit of a disabled individual. Consider a parent who has a disabled child. If assets are to be set aside for the disabled child, a properly drafted estate plan would include a Third Party Special Needs Trust for the benefit of the disabled child.

Unlike a First Party Special Needs Trust, a Third Party trust does not have a "payback provision." Therefore, you can name any individual or entity as beneficiary of the trust after the death of the disabled person.

I use Third Party trusts in most of the estate planning documents I create for clients. As I mentioned above, anyone can become disabled at any time. For this reason, we provide in our documents that where assets are being left to a beneficiary who is disabled at the time of distribution, a Third Party Special Needs Trust shall trigger and be used to hold the disabled child's inheritance, thereby preserving their inheritance where there is an unforeseen disability. This is called a "trigger trust."

Special needs trusts are complicated areas of elder law and special needs planning. Please contact us to discuss their applicability and your options.

Salvatore M. Di Costanzo is a partner with Maker, Fragale & Di Costanzo, LLP in Rye and Yorktown Heights. He is an attorney and accountant whose main area of practice is elder law and special needs planning. Di Costanzo can be reached at 914-925-1010 or at smd@mfd-law.com. For more information, visit www.plantodayfortomorrow.com.



Household Scents, Good and Bad

As I write this, my home is redolent of holiday scents, from the wreath on the door close to my office, to the special aromas coming from the kitchen. It would not be a bad time to invite guests to visit us. When it comes time to sell a house and I am advising a client as an attentive realtor of all the things to do in preparation, probably the most sensitive issue to address is unpleasant odor in the house when it exists.

Every home has a particular smell. Sometimes it's good and sometimes not. When it's good, we might want to savor it and remember it, but when it's bad, both we and a prospective buyer want to escape it.

I can still recall that particular, sweet smell of the home I grew up in. Maybe it was a combination of my mother's cooking, largely tomato- and olive oil-based, with her perfume, which was "My Sin." Many times people would complement her on that perfume which today I remember as smelling like a mixture of all my favorite blossoms in the garden – rose, jasmine, lilac and lily-of-the valley. I remember that our house smelled particularly sweet when she would can tomatoes in the basement.

When I rented my first apartment, the air quality was very different. I lived in the basement of a private home which

was only slightly above grade and faced the north side of the house. It had a musty smell caused by the moisture in the air that was so thick that the walls would sometimes weep from it. Being a proactive tenant, even as an 18-year-old college student, I petitioned the landlady to buy a de-humidifier for me, and I kept it running day and night to make the air quality acceptable.

The next time I was keenly aware of objectionable house smells was in the apartment of a very senior woman who had invited me, as an antiques dealer at the time, to buy some of her things. When I entered her apartment, located in an old former hotel in Brooklyn, I was hit with a smell that was very unpleasant and very hard to describe.

The windows were all shrouded in heavy curtains and shades, and the furniture was all deeply tufted. When she showed me her things, some quite beautiful – I remember old tortoise combs and an ivory handled mirror -- I would ask her how much she wanted for them, and she would give me a particularly low price which she must have pulled from her value of things in the 1920s. It would have been unconscionable of me to not give her more. Whenever I would offer her two and three times the amount she

requested, which was still a bargain for me, she would say, "oh," with delight. She was lovely and I was getting tremendous deals, but I couldn't wait to leave the terrible smell of her living environment.

I'm embarrassed to admit that I thought the smell was coming from what I had heard was called "old people smell," but that was a wrong assumption. I learned from an air quality control company that it's really the circumstances of the old person's environment. There may be closed windows and no air flow; it could be their personal habits, how often they bathe and clean their clothes, and the odors just don't have an opportunity to dissipate with circulation.

I also learned that the three most common causes of house odor are smoking, pets and mold. Usually no one does anything about the first two – smoking and pets—because people are not aware of those odors when they live with them. They are very aware of mold, however, either because of the smell or allergic reaction, and that is something they want to do something about. Toxic mold produces a chemical called mycotoxins which can cause serious illnesses that can be fatal.

Pet smell and the odor from smoking may not raise a danger signal as much as toxic mold, but when you think about it, the source of the smoking smell can be very harmful to the one who smokes and the one who breathes in second

hand smoke, according to the Surgeon General, and pets can be anathema to those with severe allergies to them. Both smells can be addressed with home remedies when the source moves on, but toxic mold, which is reputed to have hastened the death of television personality Ed McMahon should best be handled by a professional remediation service. There is just too much at stake, especially in the remediation process, to approach on one's own.

If a house is being readied for sale and the owner is advised to eliminate the smell of smoking or pets, the best cure is good ventilation. The process can be expedited with baking soda, that old standby that we know from our mothers' placing a box in the refrigerator. Baking soda can be sprinkled on furniture and carpeting that has absorbed smoking or pet odors, and after it sits for several hours, is vacuumed.

The worst thing to do about household odors, in my opinion, is to try to mask them with candles, incense, or other odor combating products. The layered smells can be worse than the original offending odor.

Bill Primavera, while a publicist and journalist, is also a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call (914)522-2076.



By Bill Primavera

77th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Attack Remembered

By Anna Young

Local officials were joined by area veterans Friday at Buchanan Village Hall to remember the savage attack on Pearl Harbor.

During the hour-long ceremony, the roughly 40 veterans and community members in attendance commemorated the 77th anniversary of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor that claimed the lives of more than 2,400 Americans and launched the country into World War II.

Peekskill American Legion post commander John Donohue said he was just nine years old when the attack occurred.

"The first word came out about Pearl Harbor in the late afternoon on December 7, and I can tell you there was shock by everybody," Donohue said.

Buchanan village historical consultant George Boyle recounted the infamous attack that occurred on December 7, 1941. He said it was a warm and sunny Hawaiian morning when Japanese warplanes destroyed and damaged more than a dozen ships and hundreds of aircraft. He noted that for the first time in more than seven decades, no survivor from the USS Arizona was present at Pearl Harbor's annual memorial service.

Of the more than 1,500 on board the USS Arizona, roughly 300 survived, with the ship remaining at the bottom of the



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

A Pearl Harbor ceremony was held at Buchanan Village Hall Friday.

harbor with the remains of its victims.

"We are here today to honor those men and women, military and civilian, on one of the darkest days in American history," Boyle said. "The strike climaxed a long feud that continued to worsen relations between the United States and Japan."

Boyle added that more than 250 servicemen and four women from Buchanan served during World War II, with the

war claiming nine lives.

"It's because of the sacrifices that were made by members of our military and their families that we have our freedoms that we enjoy today," Peekskill Councilman Colin Smith said. "We can't celebrate that enough and we can never forget that sacrifice as we move forward."

Buchanan Trustee Duane Jackson shared his gratitude for every service-

member, stating that freedom has never been free, and it has been the job of the military to ensure its protection. Croton Mayor Brian Pugh also shared his admiration for those who continue to join the military and serve.

"Freedom has never been free, from the time of George Washington fighting the greatest empire in the world, it was our testament and our will to be free," Jackson said. "Whether it was George Washington then or our brave troops on the line now, those men and women in uniform have always been the forefront of who we are, and I am so proud to have been part of that in my service."

Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi shared that her late father served at Pearl Harbor two months after the attack. While he didn't talk about his experience, she said he would share stories of being afraid the island would be attacked again.

"It's so very important to have these ceremonies and never to forget the heroes that perished 77 years ago," Puglisi said. "We have to educate our children and our grandchildren, so they carry on these traditions of having these ceremonies and reminding them of what people have done before us to make sure and ensure that we have the freedoms to live in the greatest country on earth."

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2019 County Budget Approved with 2% Tax Increase

By Anna Young

The Westchester County Board of Legislators Monday approved the county's \$1.94 billion operating budget for 2019 that will maintain essential services but result in a two percent tax levy increase.

Following a month-long deliberation between county officials, lawmakers voted 13-4 along party lines. Democrats, who unanimously supported the budget, believe the budget is a productive step to restoring financial stability within the county, resolving structural imbalances, rebuilding the county's fund balance, and continuing to provide vital services.

"The people of Westchester won today," board Chairman Ben Boykin (D-White Plains) said. "This is a budget that will move us forward to begin the process of rebuilding our finances, adding to our fund balance and continuing to provide the essential services that the people of Westchester County need and want and must have."

The budget contains a spending increase of \$98 million over the current year, with the two percent tax increase accounting for \$11 million of the \$71 million budget gap. With the gap resulting from a \$32 million deficit from last year and a \$39 million shortfall this year, County Executive George Latimer said his budget aims at restoring fiscal order.

"We inherited a budgetary situation which for many years did not raise revenue sufficient to run the county government," Latimer said. "For the next year, we have a game plan for how this is going to be executed."

Latimer, who signed the budget Monday afternoon, said other potential revenues could be realized in 2019 if the state legalizes sales tax on internet purchase, a move that could raise about \$6 million for Westchester. He noted the county could fill the deficit if the state legalizes sports better and the use of recreational marijuana. Other proposed actions include new fees for Airbnb and surcharges for Uber and Lyft.

More than \$8 million will be bonded to pay for anticipated tax certioraris. A temporary hiring freeze will leave an increasing number of vacancies as some workers retire in 2019, which the county expects will net \$7 million.

The budget also includes the proposed transfer of the County Center parking

lot to Westchester's Local Development Corporation (LDC) for \$22 million, a deal that has stirred controversy amongst lawmakers. While the deal would yield the county a projected \$22 million, it would result in the loss of about \$2.5 million in annual parking revenues.

Republican lawmakers have compared the proposed move as a one-shot revenue source, similar to former County Executive Rob Astorino's aborted Westchester County Airport privatization plan, an arrangement that Latimer harshly criticized.

Minority Leader John Testa (R-Peekskill), who voted against the budget, has continually advocated for the county to pursue private partnerships to generate ongoing revenues in lieu of raising taxes and fees on homeowners and small businesses. He said he was "baffled" that his Democratic colleagues want to sell off parkland and raise taxes instead of moving forward with "thoroughly vetted partnerships."

Democratic lawmakers acknowledged that the approved budget isn't perfect, but it's a step in the right direction to pri-

oritizing public safety, health and mental health, consumer protection parks, seniors, youth, and restructuring the county's financial difficulties.

"We have much to do in this county to put things right after years of irresponsible decisions left us with extensive maintenance needs for which money had never been budgeted, and with a backlog of capital projects the county desperately needs," Majority Whip MaryJane Shimsky (D-Hastings-on-Hudson) said. "While there's more to be done, this is a start."

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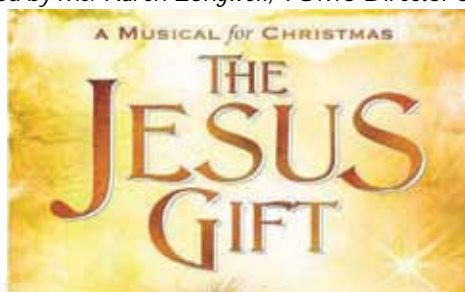


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Happenings

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

Tuesday, Dec. 11

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, Dec. 12

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.

POUND Program: POUND™ Fitness Program, a 45-minute full-body cardio and stress relief jam session, fusing Pilates, cardio, plyometrics isometric movements and poses, is offered at Theatre and Dance Arts 131 Bedford Rd. Katonah. Drop in or weekly discount rates are available. The program is being pro-

Continued on page 18

Jessica Lynn Returns to the Paramount for Christmas

By Anna Young

Rising country singer Jessica Lynn is bringing the holiday cheer to the Paramount Hudson Valley in Peekskill this weekend for her annual Christmas spectacular.

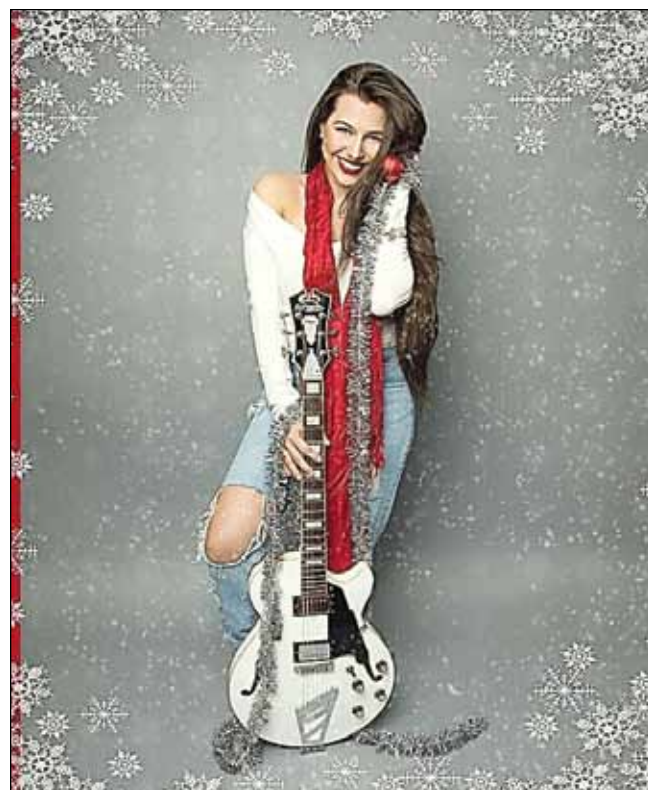
On Saturday evening, Lynn will return to her home county with her family band and several local musical and dance talents to put concert-goers in the holiday spirit with her third annual "Very Merry Country Christmas."

"This is one of my favorite shows that we do because we get to involve so many different groups in the community," Lynn said. "The feeling the show brings is so special, happy and magical and I'm looking forward to it so much."

With a love for Christmas music and giving back to the community, Lynn was inspired three years ago to launch the holiday show. She said it was a great opportunity to put audiences in a festive mood while also benefiting Toys for Tots. "This time of the year is all about giving and being a good person," Lynn said. "I grew up very fortunate, always having a toy for Christmas and it breaks my heart for those who don't and I want to help."

While attendees are encouraged to bring a new unwrapped toy, Lynn is partnering with Trufflicious Treats, which will donate \$5 from each jar purchased to the military charity. She has also enlisted D'Angelico Guitars to provide a grand raffle prize of a new guitar at the concert. Guests will qualify for the drawing by donating to Toys for Toys during the show.

Raised in Yorktown and surrounded



Country music artist and Yorktown native Jessica Lynn returns home this Saturday night with her third annual "A Very Merry Country Christmas" show at the Paramount in Peekskill.

by a musical family, it seemed inevitable that Lynn found her way into the music business. While she began singing at four years old and started writing her own music as a teenager, it wasn't until Lynn was 21 that she decided to pursue a solo career as a country music artist.

Trying to jumpstart her career, Lynn and her family, who are also members

of her band, paid to tape a live performance at The Winery at St. George in Mohegan Lake. The live show was picked up by PBS stations across the nation and aired to millions of viewers in 2014.

That led the Lakeland High School graduate to be signed to a song writing and artist's contract in Nashville where she landed her first national tour sharing the stage with country heavyweights Brad Paisley, Jake Owen and Chase Rice.

She followed that with a second PBS special in 2015 that was taped at the Paramount, which attracted more attention. From there, Lynn rocked her way onto another national tour sharing the bill with

some of the biggest names in the genre, including Keith Urban, Tim McGraw and Jo Dee Messina.

Last summer, Lynn released her EP "Look at Me That Way" followed by the single "Crazy Idea," which was her first song to break into the Top 50 on the country charts. During her recently

completed international tour that kicked off in May, Lynn released another single, "Let's Don't."

During this Saturday's anticipated two-hour performance, the 28-year-old singer said the audience can expect to hear holiday classics, her new Christmas song "Santa You Can Skip Our House" and a few of the hits that catapulted her career. Along with a decorative production, a Christmas play, special effects and seasonal tunes, Lynn will be joined onstage by local choirs, dance troupes and musicians. Among those that will be part of the show are Peekskill's Dance Expression; Mohegan Lake's Star Struck Dance Studio; Cortlandt's Dance Conservatory; the Port Chester Middle School Choir; the Port Chester High School Marching Band; Cherko Country Line Dancing; Nick Bukovalas; John Winton; and Bob Maniscalco, Diane Fitzgerald and Premier Entertainment.

Lynn will also be performing with her seven band members, including her father, bassist Peter Calamera; her mother, backup vocalist Victoria Calamera; and her husband, guitarist Steven Sterlacci.

"It's so great to bring all these elements into one night and to have so many come together for a good cause," Lynn said. "It's not just a concert but a Broadway theatrical experience meets a country concert. I can't wait to see it all come to life."

"A Very Merry Country Christmas" is scheduled for 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and \$35. For tickets and more information, visit www.paramounthudsonvalley.com. The Paramount Hudson Valley is located at 1008 Brown St. in Peekskill.

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.

Continued from page 17

vided 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.

Hudson River Estuary: Join Riverkeeper staff members George Jackman and Jen Benson to learn about the Hudson River, its history and the species inhabiting its waters and shorelines. In partnership with the Greenburgh Nature Center and the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group, the program will be held at the Dobbs Ferry Public Library, 55 Main St., at 7 p.m. Admission is free. Info: www.dobbsferrylibrary.org.

Men's Night Out: Support Connection announces the free program Men's Night Out: For Men Living with Loss will be offered from 7 to 9 p.m. at Travelers Rest in Ossining. It is open to men who have lost a spouse or a partner to breast, ovarian or gynecological cancer. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Thursday, Dec. 13

Art Exhibits: A series of exhibits are being held at the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, 1701 Main St., Peekskill. "Between I & Thou," is on display through Dec. 17. Peter Bynum's "Illumination of the Sacred Forms: Divine Light Mission and Sanctuary" is running through Dec. 17. Info: 914-788-0100, www.hvcca.org or Facebook.

Acting Classes: The Four All Theater Company will be conducting acting classes every Thursday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Class size is limited. Info: 914-737-1212.

Lincoln Depot Program: Civil War author and historian Patrick Schroeder will discuss Elmer Ellsworth and the 11th New York Fire Zouaves at 7:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Depot Museum, 10 S. Water St., Peekskill. Admission is free for museum members and \$10 for non-members. For more information visit: http://lincolndepotmuseum.org/calendar/11th-ny-ellsworth_zouaves.

Friday, Dec. 14

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.

Somers Library Programs: A series of programs have been scheduled for the Somers Library. Winter Holiday Art for Teens will be held on Dec. 14 from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. Spread a little holiday cheer decorating a glass votive candle holder and take it home with you in time for the holidays. Space is limited to 15; registration is required. Race Amity Day Discussion Group, Part Three will meet on Dec. 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. Join us to view and discuss the third part of the PBS series "Race: The Power of an Illusion: The House We Live In." All are welcome to attend; registration is not required. To register for the Holiday Art program or to receive more information call 914 232 5717.

Temple Beth Am Shabbat: Temple Beth Am will "opens its doors to all who enter" for Shabbat on Fridays at 7 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. At this special service our third and fourth graders will lead us in Chanukah songs and the lighting of our Chanukah Menorah. 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. Filled with movement, music, and ruach (spirit), Rabbi Robbie and Rebbetzin Ellen help bring in the Shabbat with that special "Shabbat Spirit" followed by a Shabbat dinner tonight, prior to the Sabbath service. To RSVP or for more information, please email Rebbetzin Ellen at RebbetzinEllen@gmail.com.

Jewish Center Services: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd., Friday night Sabbath services begin at 6:15 p.m. And Sabbath services on most 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.

Christmas Concert: The Maryknoll Society's Christmas Concert will be held at 8 p.m. at 85 Ryder Rd, Ossining. Join us early at 6:30 p.m. to enjoy sweet treats, meet the Maryknoll Missioners and visit the gift shop to meet Santa.

Saturday, Dec. 15

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.

Lasdon Holiday Train Display: The Lasdon Holidays on the Hill is being held every Saturday and Sunday in December from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial on Route 35 in Somers. The event includes a model train show featuring the Polar Express, the Metro-North Harlem line and, new this year, a New York City Subway line. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, 12 and under. The fee includes the trains, the main house and the Conservatory. Tickets will be sold until 3:30 p.m. each day. Santa will make appearances throughout the event to hear the wishes from children, young and old. Bring a camera and take a photo with Santa. Go to lasdonpark.org for Santa's hours. Go to parks.westchestergov.com or call 914-864-7268 for more informa-

tion.

Support Connection Yoga Program: Support Connection announces a free program, Yoga: A Path toward Wellness will be offered from noon to 1:30 p.m. every Saturday through the rest of December at Club Fit in Jefferson Valley. 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.

Poetic Is Political: An afternoon of powerful prose with six metro wordsmiths speaking their truths will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Open mic will follow. Info: 914-737-1212 or Peekskill.org.

Sunday, Dec. 16

Chanukah Concert: Kol Rinah's Chanukah Concert at the Shames JCC on the Hudson, 371 S. Broadway, Tarrytown, will be held at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are available online by visiting www.kol-rinahchorale.org.

Winter Holiday Concert: The Westchester Chordsmen Chorus announces its Winter Holiday Concert at the First Presbyterian Church in Ossining, 34 S. Highland Ave., at 3 p.m. This program is co-sponsored by The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts. Tickets are \$20 in advance at chordsmen.org or \$25 at the door. Info: 914-298-7464.

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

Bingo Cancelled: All bingo games at the Yorktown Jewish Center have been canceled for the immediate future. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Monday, Dec. 17

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.

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.

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Class Rescheduled: Marsha Sternstein's Midrash class for women has been changed from Dec. 11 to today at 7:30 p.m. at the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Crossword

ACROSS

1. Trite sentimentality
6. Road goo
9. Ripped off
12. Another President
13. Hazard for a letter carrier
14. Cyclades island
15. Alarm clock
16. Long or life preceders
17. "You're on!"
19. What Santa may ring or new Mahopac spa, Golden ____
22. If you don't want your meals tame you may enjoy this Mohegan Lake Asian restaurant, ____
- Fusion -
23. Gulf emirate
27. TV giant
28. African river
31. Kinship
32. Routine
34. Massachusetts' cape
35. Great

36. Corp. leadership
37. Places in a car

DOWN

1. Basic version, abbr.
2. Drop anchor
3. Bearer of the Golden Fleece
4. Dismantle and reassemble
5. Muggy
6. Eastern capital
7. Away from the mouth
8. Sell again
10. Salt Lake City players
11. Prefix with byte
18. Die out
19. Little chicken
20. Receding
21. Clear
24. Operates smoothly
25. Touch
26. The bringers of ruin
29. Hearty party
30. ____ the finish
33. Stumbling expressions

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



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(Solution to puzzle on page 19)

1	S	2	M	3	A	4	R	5	M		6	T	7	A	8	R
9	T	O	R	E	O	10	U	11	T		12	A	B	E		
13	D	O	G	B	I	T	E				14	I	O	S		
	15	R	O	U	S	E	R				16	P	R	O		
				17	I	T	S	A	18	D	E	A	L			
19	B	20	E	21	L	L			22	W	I	L	D			
23	A	B	U	D	24	H	25	A	26	B	I					
27	N	B	C		28	U	B	A	N	29	G	30	I			
31	T	I	E		32	M	U	N	D	A	N	33	E			
34	A	N	N		35	S	T	E	L	L	A	R				
36	M	G	T					37	S	E	A	T	S			

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Letters to the Editor

Ex-Politicians Should Leave Gracefully

To the Editor:

Has the time come for certain former Yorktown politicians to leave the public limelight and return to private life? I can't pick up the newspaper without seeing photos of recently defeated politicians taking center stage at ribbon cutting ceremonies, town events and even Town Board meetings acting as if they're still in charge. They should finally take the not so subtle hint they were given on

Election Day and realize that they were voted out of office. They should accept their election results, stop living in denial and re-enter private life gracefully. As citizens they should definitely still be involved in civic matters but stop trying to upstage the officials who got elected in their place. They had their chance. Don't become a sore loser.

STEPHEN BROWN
Yorktown

Police Blotter

Continued from page 4

traffic safety checkpoint. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol with a child under 13 years old in the vehicle, and was subsequently arrested.


November 23 - State Police from Stormville arrested Markis A. Rey, 26, of Peekskill, for DWI, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 1st

degree, a class E felony, Obstruction of Governmental Administration, and Resisting Arrest, both class A misdemeanors. He was traveling on Fishkill Avenue in the City of Beacon when he was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 306 PRESCOTT STREET, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/26/2018. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 7 Arbor St, Yonkers, NY 10701. **Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WEBER ROSSELLI & CANNON LLP filed with SSNY on 8/8/2018. Office in Westchester, SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 7 Skyline Drive - Suite 350, Hawthorne, NY 10532. **Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY OF SURETY TITLE AGENCY COASTAL REGION, L.L.C. filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/6/18. Formed in NJ on 10/12/99. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to 853 Mill Creek Rd., Manahawkin, NJ 08050. The office address required to be maintained in NJ is 11 Eves Dr., Ste. 150, Marlton, NJ 08053. **Cert. of formation filed with State Treas., 33 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SU-JEAN STUDIO LLC filed with Secretary of State NY on 11/14/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 33 Windmill Rd., Armonk NY 10504. **Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SECOND MOUSE CHEESE, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 10/18/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **SECOND MOUSE CHEESE, LLC, 351 Manville Road, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that a license number PENDING for beer, liquor and wine has been applied for by the undersigned* to sell beer, liquor and wine at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 222 East Main Street, Store #1, Mount Kisco, in the County of Westchester for on-premises consumption. **TPM Partners, Inc. d/b/a Fiesta Cancun on Main**

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continued on next page

Westchester Consumer Protection Dept. Warns of 'Porch Pirates'

The Westchester County Department of Consumer Protection is warning residents to protect themselves from Grinch-like criminals who are stealing packages from front porches this holiday season.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "As more and more holiday shopping is done online, this is a problem that is continuing to grow. This holiday season, take steps to protect yourself by keeping up with the best shipping options offered online and – if you can – take pre-

cautionary measures to ensure that your packages reach their intended destination."

Consumer Protection advocates strongly recommend that you take actions to protect yourself. Some homeowners are installing cameras to catch possible thieves in the act, but while that may be helpful to law enforcement, your package may already be stolen and it is sometimes difficult to catch the culprit. Tracking package deliveries through USPS, FedEx, UPS or whichever ship-

ping provider is being used is also a smart idea to let you know when packages will arrive.

Consumer Protection Director Jim Maisano said, "Many alternative shipping options exist to combat this problem, including delivering packages to a friendly neighbor who is home all the time, or directly to a nearby FedEx or UPS store, and stopping by to pick up packages there."

Other options include "Amazon Lock-

er" – all that is needed is to visit a local Amazon Locker location, enter the code provided, and there is your package. Amazon is also offering services like "Amazon Key" where, if you have electronic car locks, your package will be delivered to your car in your driveway and locked up for its safe delivery.

No matter what way you choose to receive any expected packages this year, be sure to be aware of the growing "porch pirate" trend.

Panas Students Help Make Thanksgiving More Enjoyable

Giving of their time and presence, members of the Inter-Ethnic/United Nations Club at Walter Panas High School continued a longstanding tradition of helping make a wonderful Thanksgiving for those in need in the Peekskill area.

For the 20th year, students from the club joined with other volunteers to set up and then serve Thanksgiving Dinner at the United Methodist Church in Peekskill along with the P.A.P.A. organization and the Salvation Army. A group of students were on hand Wednesday to set up the room to feed 300 people

and others then participated in the Thanksgiving Day tradition of serving the meal.

"We fed more than 280 in house and delivered 60+ home bounds," said Janet O'Toole, advisor for the club. "Many lives have been changed because of the involvement with this cause. Students have gone on to participate in humanitarian causes all over the world. They most always attribute it this simple act of kindness in their early youth," added O'Toole.

Several students helped in both the set up and serving including Janna Frattellone, Sophia Solloway,

Sana Parija, and alumni Jailene Ortiz. Additional students involved included: Sienna Campbell, Ashley Buonanno, Brigid Muller, Cassandra Tan, and Jocelyn Peryea. Additional club alumni participated including Shelby Trejos and Erin McDonald. Joining Mrs. O'Toole was Roy Volpe, the head of food coordination between Salvation Army and the (Peekskill Area Pastors Association) and helps run the staff of more than 13 people in the kitchen.

The club president is Sophia Solloway and vice president is Janna Frattellone.



Members of the Inter-Ethnic Club at Walter Panas High School.

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Walter Panas F Steven Stafura (24) gets all up on on Lakeland F Joe Vetrano in the Panthers' 65-56 loss to the rival Hornets last Saturday when Lakeland avenged its loss to Panas on the football field last fall by snagging the 17th annual Walter Panas Holiday Tournament title. Stafura was selected to the All-Tournament team, along with Lakeland's Rob Nardelli and MVP Augie Karaqi... see Boys' Hoops Notebook

Sports

Boys' Hoops Notebook

DiCintio, Nicodemo Serve Noteworthy Suspensions for Somers, Saunders

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
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Tusker Nick Maestri scored 10 of his team-high 18 points in the first quarter of **SOMERS'** 78-42 season-opening win over visiting Saunders last Wednesday,



Lakeland senior F JP Walsh takes a run at Panas' Steven Stafura in Hornets' 65-56 tourney title win over Panthers Saturday.

and 10 other Tuskers found the hoop in all, including three other double-digit scorers – Lucas Fecci (10), Drew Lasher (10) and Max Germaine (14).

But the game was the side story in actuality, as both Somers Coach Chris DiCintio and Saunders Coach Anthony Nicodemo were suspended from the game for their participation in an LGBTQ event – tied to a Section 1 basketball game -- last year. The two boys' basketball coaches — one straight (DiCintio) and one gay (Nicodemo) — agreed to play one another after having been suspended for the opening game of the season due to a technicality during their support of LGBTQ athletes last January. Funds were raised through the event for the local chapter of GLSEN. When it came to light that Nicodemo and Saunders A.D. Jim Rose hadn't filled out the proper paperwork for the event, Section 1, according to Nicodemo, pounced on an opportunity to punish him for his vocal opposition to other issues, including the

County Center debacle that transpired last year.

DiCintio, to his credit, fell on the sword with his colleague to show that both programs stand firmly behind the fact that they wanted to raise awareness for students who might still be searching for answers within. He feels that Section 1 discredited their attempt to do so.

"When someone like me (who is straight) gets suspended for this event, kids who see me supporting it may think 'oh you know, see, this is what happens,' and if they do have an issue with their sexual orientation they are more apt to keep it inside because 'good guys finish last,'" DiCintio recently told Outsports.

Hopefully, this is the last we'll be hearing of this, but Nicodemo has planned a bigger, inclusionary event next month at Sarah Lawrence College, including eight teams — four high school and four college programs — playing one another on Jan. 19, with other inclusion actions scheduled around the "Pride on the Court" event. This time, Nicodemo will make sure the necessary paperwork is completed, but his bitterness toward Section 1 remains affirmed.

"We're speaking out against wrongdoings by Section 1 leaders," Nicodemo said on Twitter. "This was a thoughtless decision that showed the true

colors of so many ADs and administrators. Educators are not supposed to hurt

kids, yet many within Section 1 choose to do so to move along their own agenda. Challenge us and we'll find a way to punish you is the mantra. It's rewarding knowing these frauds were exposed to the public over the last year."

Nicodemo, who was raised in Brewster and came out gay in 2013, has been a gadfly in Section 1's craw, for sure; breaking chops and stirring the pot over the County Center issue last winter like it was nobody's business; all on behalf of the student athletes in Section 1. But the governing body didn't necessarily need to go after him on a delicate topic such as LGBTQ inclusion because of some missing paper work when all he's trying to do is help student athletes who might be in the same boat he was as a youngster in the Brewster school system. In this case, Nicodemo took a bullet for the team and DiCintio got caught up in the shrapnel, it's a shame, honestly...

SOMERS got up and down the court in fancy fashion in an 89-38 win over



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Mahopac senior G Mike Argila pulls up against Lakeland's Rob Nardelli in Indians' opening-round tourney loss to Hornets.

visiting Gorton Friday night when Fecci led five Somers players in double figures with 15 points. Germaine and Maestri each added 14 while Charlie Weisman (12) and Lasher (10) were also big for the Tuskers (2-0)...

The big takeaway on the court last week was the play of Class A **LAKELAND**, which stood tallest among the four locals in the 17th annual Walter Panas Holiday Tournament, including second place **PANAS**, third place **MAHOPAC** and **BREWSTER**. The Hornets (3-2), who have just one key senior on the roster in J.P. Walsh, looked pretty decent, despite the loss of All-Section-hopeful Jack Kruse, who hopes to return in mid-to-late January from a broken wrist. Coach Steve Fallo's Hornets, buoyed by the two-way grunt-like play of Walsh, managed to hold off Mahopac in the opening round, 60-57, behind 21 points from All-Tourney sophomore swingman Rob Nardelli and 12 from junior tourney MVP, Augie Karaqi. The Hornets then followed that

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Lakeland Coach Steve Fallo (R) and his Hornets celebrated winning the 17th annual Walter Panas Holiday Tournament title over the weekend.

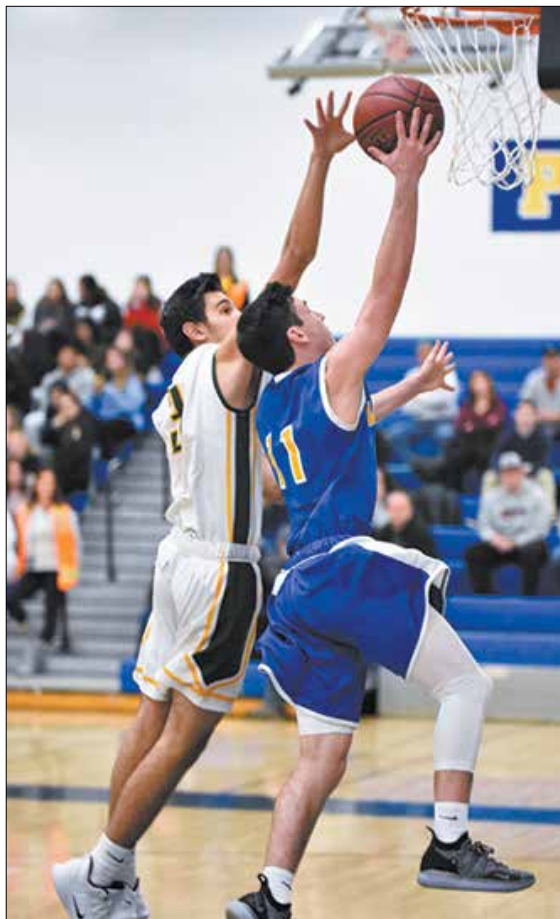
Sports

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Lakeland's Marco Lala goes up to block shot by Mahopac's Simon Shkoza in Hornets' 60-57 win over Indians.

up with a 65-57 triumph of the Panthers behind 18 from sophomore G Mark Cummins, 17 from junior F Joe Vetrano and 16 from Karaqi. That's four players in double digits over two games, so Fallo



Lakeland sophomore F Marco Lala goes up to block shot by Mahopac senior G Drew Riolo in Hornets' opening-round Panas tournament win over Indians.

loved the balance.

"The injury to Jack was devastating to the whole team when it happened, I mean this kid had built himself into an All-Section player and he goes down in the first game, so we were deflated," Fallo admitted. "But the boys have responded and really picked up the slack until we get Jack back sometime in January, we hope. The silver lining in all of it is that some guys are going to be getting key minutes they might not have gotten, so when we get him back these guys will have played significant minutes and will be ready for the stretch run."

Panas (1-1) got career-high 26 points from All-Tournament G Lorenzo Santucci in its 54-52 win over Brewster, and he added eight more points in the loss to Lakeland. The kid was stroking it throughout the tournament, knocking down seven 3's over two games. All-Tourney choice Steven Safura led the Panthers with 15 points against Lakeland. Panther G Lucas Feliciano had 10 against the Hornets.

Mahopac's Matt McMahon, who was selected to his first All-Tournament team, had 14 points and Tim Cegielski added 13 in the loss to Lakeland. McMahon added 15 in the consy win over Brewster, who also had a rough time with Indians C Rheel Allen (game-high 17 points). The Bears were getting blown out but stayed in the game, made a late run and had the last shot for the win. Cameron Hart (15 points) and All-Tourney choice Harrison Dignan (13) led the Bears...

Class AA **CARMEL** has faced a pair of tough opponents to open the season, including a 68-49 loss to Class A heavyweight Horace Greeley and a 63-40 setback to a quality Class AA Suffern club, and it's been a case of slow starts that have doomed Coach Paul Brennan's Rams (0-2).

"It's just slow starts are killing us," Brennan said. "We have had

times where we looked real good; we actually outscored Greeley most of that game after that first quarter. The difference ended up being three points if you take away that first quarter. Suffern, who is always tough, was another slow start; 11-0 in first quarter. Couple things haven't fell our way, but it's still early. Lots of positive energy still and lot of games left to play..."

MAHOPAC (1-2) hung tough with Class AA superpower Mount Vernon for three quarters before the Indians got gassed in the fourth quarter of an 82-57 setback. Fox Lane also hung tough last week with the two-time defending champion Knights, who are said to be somewhat vulnerable by their normal standards (15 of the last 18 Section 1 titles). The early buzz, which we've heard before but rarely pans out, is that Mt. Vernon can be picked off this year...

BREWSTER (2-3) had three double-digit scorers in the Bears' 70-38 rout of Gorton 38, including Harrison Dignan (14 points), Cameron Hart and Joe Girard (10 apiece)...

Irvington brought home the **Jack McGuire/HEH HUD** tournament with a 47-42 win over the host Sailors (1-3) Friday night. Connor Gallagher dropped 13 points and grabbed six boards to lead the Sailors, who saw Mike Fasolino and Max Popolizio garner an All-Tourney nod. Fasolino went off for 16 points and 12 boards in the Sailors' 54-50 opening-round win over Roosevelt. Nick Hitsley (15 points, 12 boards, 4 assists) also had a double-double for the Sailors.



Lakeland's Rob Nardelli checks Panas' Lucas Feliciano in Hornets' tourney title win over Panthers Saturday.



Mahopac G Tim Cegielski goes up for shot on Lakeland's JP Walsh in Indians' 60-57 loss to Hornets.

Sports

Girl's Hoops Notebook

Yorktown Comes Out Swinging; Panas Cops Tourney Title

By Tony Pinciario

Two games into the 2018-19 season and **YORKTOWN** first-year girls' varsity basketball Coach Brian Mundy could not have envisioned anything better.

Yorktown presented Mundy with the first two wins of his varsity career last week – 41-30 over **MAHOPAC** and 46-40 over **BREWSTER**.

"We wanted to get off to a positive start," Mundy said. "We have done some good things and with every week comes improvements that need to be made in order to compete in our very tough league. We have a team that loves to go out and play hard. Their athleticism and grittiness are what drives us."

Mundy inherited a team that features three tall returning players in six-foot senior Kat Severino (forward), five-foot-10 junior Jesse Barer (guard/forward) and six-foot sophomore Ashley Zeolla (center).

Severino led the Cornhuskers in scoring last year, averaging 18 points per game and was an All-Conference selection. Zeolla was All-League honorable mention last year.

"Kat is a versatile scorer, who can score from all areas on the floor," Mundy said. "She is one of our tri-captains and is a leader. Jesse can play anywhere from one to four spots and Ashley has good rebounding and shot-blocking ability."

Mundy cited a pair of newcomers to varsity – senior Amber Bodden (guard) and freshman Melissa Severino (guard), Kat's younger sister.



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Panas G Julia Araujo goes up for two in tourney win over Haldane.

"Our strengths are our athleticism, defense and grittiness," Mundy said.

The defense and grittiness were evident in Yorktown's first two games, limiting Mahopac to 30 points and holding a potent offensive Brewster team to just 40 points. Mundy was especially pleased with the defense against Brewster.

"Brewster has a potent perimeter game that we needed to defend and the girls came out and worked hard and worked smart defensively," he said.



Haldane's Isabela Monteleone is checked by Panas' Cailean Nolan in Blue Devils' loss to Panthers in opening round of Panas tourney.

While Yorktown's defense stifled Brewster, Bodden had a big game, connecting on six 3-pointers and finishing with a game-high 23 points. Kat had a double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds, and she also added four steals. Zeolla collected seven rebounds and three blocked shots.

Melissa Severino had a memorable varsity debut, scoring 14 points, including a trio of threes. Zeolla also scored 14 points and Kat Severino added 10 points.

PANAS began the season with a convincing win over Nanuet, 52-27, then defeated **HALDANE** and Mahopac to win the Panas Holiday Tournament to go 3-0

for the week.

Panas overwhelmed Haldane by 28 points then outscored Mahopac, 15-6 in the fourth quarter to earn the win.

Tournament MVP Kristen Cinquina scored eight of her team-leading 13 points in the decisive quarter. Cailean Nolan chipped in 12 points and All-Tourney choice Julia Araujo scored nine of her 11 points in the first half, keeping Panas close.

"The team is off to a great start," Panas Coach Matt Evangelista said. "We are a young team, with only one senior, and we struggled in our difficult scrimmages. I think the team learned a lot about themselves and began to understand what it takes to compete.

They are playing together and making the correct basketball play. The starters have played well and our bench has been extremely productive with little-to-no drop-off. The girls are bonding and gelling nicely. Hopefully, we can maintain our level of play and even improve."

Cinquina and Nolan each had 13 points against Haldane. Alex Sudol finished with 10 rebounds, seven assists and five steals and Araujo added nine points.

Cinquina led the way against Nanuet with 14 points, Kristen Scrobola contributed 12 points and Alex Sudol added nine points.

HEN HUD opened the season splitting two games – a 42-34 loss to 2018 Section 1 Class A champion Rye and a 63-24 thumping of Saunders. Despite a nine-point deficit at halftime, the Sailors rebounded to outscore Rye by a point in the second half.

"We struggled against Rye's man-to-man defense and dig a whole we struggled to get out of," Hen Hud Coach Ken Sherman said. "We also didn't shoot the ball particularly well, but that was attributed to Rye's defense, as well. A big positive was I thought we played hard the entire game, despite the early deficit. I loved our energy."

Caitlin Weimar led Hen Hud with 13 points and 16 rebounds. Aniyah Davis chipped in six points, three rebounds and two steals, and freshman Alex Figueroa netted six points.

Hen Hud raced out to a 20-point lead going into halftime, 37-17, against



Panas F Kristen Scrobola powers her way to rack in Panthers' tourney win over Haldane.



Panas' Alex Sudol juggles ball as Haldane's Isabela Monteleone hits deck in Panthers' opening-round tourney win over Blue Devils.

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Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

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Saunders. Weimer finished with a game-high 22 points, on 10 of 14 shooting, and also added seven rebounds. Figueroa scored 12 points and Kira Varada had eight points, five steals, three assists and three rebounds.

MAHOPAC went 1-2 for the week, dropping a 51-48 verdict to New Rochelle before bouncing back to beat Beacon, 66-34. Mahopac finished with a tough 44-38 loss to Panas in the Panas Holiday Tournament final as the Panthers outscored the Indians by nine in the fourth quarter.

"We lost a tough one in the Panas tournament," Mahopac Coach Chuck Scozzafava said. "A bad fourth quarter determined the game. We had opportunities, especially with put-backs, but couldn't get them to drop. Bad luck."

Sophomore Mia Klammer led Mahopac with 13 points and, along with Caitlyn O'Boyle, were named to the All-Tournament team. Klammer poured in a game-high 19 points and Dior Gillins added 18 points in the victory over Beacon.

"We had a balanced scoring, with three girls in double figures and girls scoring," Scozzafava said. "It was a nice win after the last three losses."

Down 12 at halftime to New Rochelle, Mahopac closed the gap to one point entering the fourth quarter.

"We came up a little short," Scozzafava said. "We generated more offense, but turned the ball over too much in the 1st half. Defensively, we had a few lapses on our rotation. The good news is everything is fixable."



Mahopac senior G Zina McInerney fires jumper in Indians' win over Beacon in Panas tourney last Thursday.



Mahopac sophomore G Mia Klammer goes up for two of her game-high 19 points in Indians' win over Beacon in Panas tourney.



Mahopac freshman Melanie DeMeo and sophomore Shannon Becker tie up a Beacon player in Indians' Panas tourney win over Bulldogs last Thursday.

Klammer paced Mahopac with a career-high 26 points, and her sister, Katrina, should be returning from a pre-season injury, along with Katie McDonough, to bolster the Indians.

Following two wins – Beacon and Nanuet – in week one of the season, **BREWSTER** only had one game, a 46-40 loss to Yorktown.

Kristen Stefanick led Brewster with 16 points and Maggie DePaoli added 13 points.

"We were in foul trouble all night and couldn't get into a good rhythm," Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo said. "Our girls off the bench kept us in the game. Nicole Olzsewski and Alexis Mark did a tremendous job in the second quarter

with our starting four and five out. It was a close game from start to finish, but Yorktown made more plays late in the game and were near perfect from the free-throw line, going 16 of 19."

SOMERS evened its record to 1-1 with an overwhelming win over Yonkers Montessori Academy as Dani DiCintio rang up a game-leading 22 points and freshman Lily Carino scored nine points in her first varsity game.

LAKELAND opened the season with a 58-42 loss to Clarkstown North, then bounced back to beat Suffern, 40-28 in the consolation game of the Clarkstown North tournament. The Hornets had one game last week – a 52-40 loss to Byram Hills. Sarah Pinkowski led the Hornets with 12 points and Tyler Hormazabal added nine points.

Eight-time defending Section 1 Class AA champion **OSSINING** went to Fairfax, Virginia, to play in the Art Turner Memorial Tournament and came away with a split. The Pride lost to Roland Park Country of Baltimore, Md., 88-78. Ossining returned to the court the following day and bounced Our Lady Good Counsel of Olney, Md., 67-49.

Kailah Harris, the recipient of the Con Ed Scholar-Athlete Award, led the Pride with 26 points in the win. Aubrey Griffin



Mahopac's Shannon Becker introduces herself to Panas Kristen Scrobola in Indians' 44-38 championship loss to Panthers in Panas tourney

chipped in 13 points and Jaida Strippoli had 12 points. Griffin rang up a game-high 42 points in the loss. She also had six rebounds, four assists and six steals. Harris contributed 22 points, 10 rebounds and four assists.

Putnam Hoops Challenge

12th Annual





WHO:
Walter Panas vs. Mahopac (2:00 p.m.)
North Salem vs. Haldane (4:00 p.m.)
Somers vs. Carmel (6:00 p.m.)

WHAT:
3 Varsity Boys' Basketball Games, pitting Putnam vs. Northern Westchester

WHY:
Because IAABO Board 161 gives back; a scholarship is awarded to a Putnam County varsity boys' basketball player after each game, whose team participated in the Putnam Challenge, and exhibited hard work, fair play, cohesiveness, team spirit and sportsmanship. Scholarships are given to worthy student athletes from all participating teams.

WHERE:
Carmel High School

WHEN:
Saturday, January 5

Examiner MEDIA
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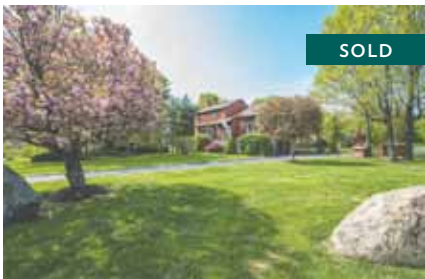
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Campbell Hall | Web# NE1493403 | \$349,000



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