



See Sports

# The NORTHERN WESTCHESTER Examiner

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

FREE

February 13 - February 19, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 425



## Global School Play Day

Students at the Carrie E. Tompkins Elementary School in Croton-Harmon participated in the 3rd Annual Global School Play Day on February 8, a day full of fun and a nice break from testing, studying, and using electronic devices.

## Peekskill Police Chief Johansen Leaving the Force

By Rick Pezzullo

Peekskill Police Chief Eric Johansen is leaving the only police force he has worked with in his 24-year career.

Johansen, 47, who has served as chief for the last five years, submitted his resignation, effective March 2, to City Manager Richard Leins last Friday and informed the Common Council last Monday night.

"This is one of the most difficult decisions I have ever made," Johansen said Thursday morning. "It wasn't an easy decision. It wasn't an overnighter. I have been honored and privileged to be a police officer in my hometown."

A Cortlandt resident right over the Peekskill line and a product of Peekskill city schools, Johansen said he was offered a career opportunity, which will still be in law enforcement, that he couldn't refuse.

"It came quick. It will be a new chal-



Police Chief Eric Johansen is departing after 24 years serving Peekskill.

lenge," he said, declining to reveal his new job. "That's what swayed me and the opportunity to grow professionally. I had no plans to retire. Full retirement was not an option. In this profession, with 20-year retirement available, it's lucrative

Continued on page 2

## Minor Earthquake Shakes Up Parts of NW Westchester, Putnam

By David Propper

Most residents were expecting to wake up to a winter wonderland last Wednesday, but instead were awoken by a loud bang.

That startling noise happened to be a 2.2 magnitude earthquake that affected northern Westchester and parts of Putnam County, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The minor quake was officially recorded at 6:14 a.m. in Mohegan Lake, although the epicenter was reportedly in Crofts Corner in Putnam Valley.

In a Facebook post, Putnam's Bureau

of Emergency Services stated that its 911 center, along with Carmel police and the sheriff's office, received several calls about a bang and/or shaking ground around 6 a.m. The short-lived rumble resulted in no reported injuries.

An earthquake registered at a 2.2 magnitude usually doesn't cause damage to buildings and there are more than 1 million of them per year worldwide.

Many residents throughout the region were unsure or confused what they heard or felt at first.

Brewster resident Cathy Croft, who is

the Southeast Democratic Committee chairwoman, said she originally thought it was a problem with her furnace and then thought maybe it was thunder or even a problem at Indian Point.

Brewster resident Robert Cullen, a former Southeast councilman, said he was sleeping and thought it was a snowplow going by because of the impending snowstorm. When he got up and saw no snow outside, he was puzzled.

"I did not realize it was a quake until later in the day when I read it," Cullen said.

Bill Powers, executive director of the Peekskill Business Improvement District, stated on Facebook that Peekskill wasn't spared from the tremor, saying, "Felt the whole house shake for about 20 to 25 seconds."

Putnam Valley Supervisor Sam Oliverio was already at town hall around 6 a.m. when he heard a "boom!" He thought a snowplow accidentally slammed into the building, only to learn minutes later from Putnam Valley highway chief Larry Cobb that the plows

Continued on page 2

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# Earthquake Shakes Up our area

*Continued from page 1*

weren't out yet. Oliverio also thought it might have been the furnace at town hall, but didn't smell any oil or burning.

After that, Oliverio went on Facebook and saw other people in the area talking about the loud bang they all heard.

Oliverio's theory is that a glacial rebound was the reason for the earthquake. Putnam Valley doesn't sit on a fault, Oliverio noted. He said a couple other glacial rebounds have occurred the last several decades.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, there was another very minor earthquake in the afternoon around 3 p.m. on Wednesday that had a magnitude of 1.3.

But the earlier quake delivered the biggest impact.

"Very frightening," Oliverio said. "A lot of people a lot younger than I am never experienced that type of thing so they were panicking, 'What is that? Is it a bomb, is it an explosion?'"

*Rick Pezzullo contributed to this article*

# Police Chief Johansen Leaving the Force

*Continued from page 1*

to take pension when it becomes available. That's part of the draw of becoming a police officer."

Johansen stressed his decision to move on had nothing to do with the recent election of Andre Rainey as mayor and the fully Democratic-controlled council.

"It has absolutely nothing to do with politics or who's in office," he said. "I don't think politics has any place in policing. I think the new council is as passionate about Peekskill as I am and as the old council was. I'm confident I would have had as good a relationship with Mayor Rainey and the council as I did with Mayor Foster and her council and Mayor Catalina and his council."

Rainey and Councilwoman Kathy Talbot said they were surprised when Johansen broke the news to them.

"I was very shocked, but more happy for him than anything," Rainey said. "It reminded me of when I first won my position as a councilman and I had to quit the job at the youth center. Sometimes we have to move up when opportunity comes, but it doesn't mean we'll ever leave or stop loving what we do."

"Quite surprised but wish him well," Talbot said. "He will be missed as he's done a good job."

During his years as chief, Johansen

said he was proud of how the Police Department better reflects the city's diverse population, noting more than half of the 14 hires were minorities. "That changed the face of the department," he said.

He also attributed the department's emphasis on community policing in helping to reduce crime to historic lows in Peekskill.

"We needed to transform the department so that every officer was approachable and I think we did that," Johansen said. "Our officers are out in the community establishing relationships with the people

they serve. My job was made easier by the people I worked with every day."

If asked, Johansen said he would offer Leins and the council his thoughts on his successor, but he is confident the department won't miss a beat.

"I'm confident we have a solid structure and foundation in place," he said. "It will be a seamless transition for the next chief."

Leins did not respond to an email seeking comment on Johansen's exit and the search for a new chief.

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## Do you Know Your Cancer Risk?

Learn how genetic counseling can give you more options...

### Q: How do I benefit from knowing my risk of developing cancer?

**A:** Having a hereditary (genetic) predisposition to cancer raises your risk of developing cancer. That's why it's important to learn about your possible risk of a hereditary cancer syndrome through genetic counseling. Genetic counseling and possible genetic testing also benefit those without a genetic predisposition to cancer. If an analysis of your family history reveals an increased risk for cancer, I provide a risk-assessment that can benefit you and your family members.

### Q: What can I expect from genetic counseling and testing?

**A:** Genetic counseling – which may lead to optional genetic testing – helps you understand your cancer risk so you can take steps to catch cancer early enough to make a difference, consider prophylactic medications or surgery to reduce your risk of developing cancer, and use the information to help you and your providers make the very best decisions about cancer treatment. While genetic testing consists simply of a sample of your blood or saliva, the consequences of various results should be considered with the guidance and support of a genetic counselor.

### Q: What if I test positive for a hereditary risk of cancer?

**A:** Though unwelcome, the information can be lifesaving. If you have hereditary cancer syndrome, I review at what age you should start cancer surveillance, what your screening options are, and any steps that may reduce cancer risk. Following a cancer diagnosis, when patient and providers are faced with various treatment options, information about your hereditary risk can be a major factor in helping physicians recommend treatment for the best results.

### Q: Who can benefit most from genetic counseling?

**A:** Consider counseling if you have a personal or family history of the following: onset of cancer before age 50; multiple new cancers in the same person; a personal history of ovarian cancer; the same or related cancer in close relatives or family generations; Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry, and a personal or family history of breast, ovarian or pancreatic cancer.

### Did you know?

Knowing you have a hereditary risk of cancer can greatly help providers recommend the **treatment option** for best results.

# Peekskill Council Interviewing Hopefuls to Fill Vacancy

By Rick Pezzullo

The Peekskill Common Council is interviewing candidates interested in filling a vacancy created when Andre Rainey was elected mayor in November.

Rainey said the city received close to 20 inquiries from residents expressing interest in sitting in the seventh seat on the currently all-Democratic controlled council.

"Knowing all of these people are interested in sitting on the council, I think the next election will be amazing!" Rainey said. "A selection will be made as soon as we find the right candidate. We're pushing for soon, of course. It's been a month, but wonderful things take time. That's why my photo isn't hung up on the mayoral wall in City Hall yet. The photographer knows wonderful things take time."

The empty council seat has two years remaining on its four-year term, but the individual who is appointed will only serve until Election Day, November 6, when a special election will take place for the final year of the unexpired term. The seat carries a salary of \$8,686.

Rainey has said he believes experience "is essential to government" and "someone with a great financial background would be a great addition, but not limited too." In addition, Rainey said he was looking for someone who is honest, pos-

sesses management, leadership and good communication skills, and will make tough decisions.

Meanwhile, Rainey confirmed that his former campaign manager, Allyson Curtis, has been hired by the city as a deputy clerk.

"I'm extremely happy for her. She's done great work for Peekskill, (State Senator) Terrence Murphy, and after looking at her resume, I'm excited she's on our staff! This is why I like my city manager," Rainey stated in an email.

Rainey also refuted criticism that the

hiring of Curtis could be construed as a political favor. In a January 26 post on Facebook, former Mayor Frank Catalina, who Rainey unseated, posed the question, "Hey, what does everyone think about a politician who, immediately (after winning an election) hands out \$70,000 'make-work' job to their campaign worker(s)? I know it happens on a County level and in large cities like NYC or Yonkers, but how would you feel if this happened here in Peekskill? Would it matter if a Democrat did it... or a Republican did it? Just wondering."

"As far as nepotism goes, I can say there are some really miserable humans walking the Earth with nothing better to do, other than promote lies to the weak minds that follow," Rainey stated. "The only time there was any nepotism, that I'm aware of, was actually a resolution on an agenda in 2017. Other than that, it's just something negative to spread for negative conversation about our city manager, I assume. We love Peekskill, and we will get to the place this great city deserves to be in. Since January 1, everything's been feeling much better."

## Polar Plunge to Benefit Gullotta House in Ossining

The "Escape from Sing Sing" Polar Plunge, presented by Gullotta House, will be held Saturday, February 17 at noon at the Louis Engel Park Beach Area in Ossining.

Funds raised will benefit Gullotta House, a non-profit corporation formed for the charitable purpose of aiding residents of Westchester County who face financial or other hardships by providing food vouchers, scholarships to aid with the payment for education, outings and community entertainment events, holiday assistance and by aiding community organizations and programs by providing additional assistance to their clients and participants.

Teams or individuals interested in participating in the Polar Plunge should send an email to gullottahouse@gmail.com.



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# Steiner Sports CEO Gives Local Business Leaders Tips

By Rick Pezzullo

When Brandon Steiner, president and CEO of New Rochelle-based Steiner Sports, was 12 years old he landed a paper route in Brooklyn and there was a contest where the delivery person to open the most accounts would win a box of candy bars.

Besides just pitching the newspaper, Steiner also offered to deliver customers milk, bread and bagels, a strategy that resulted in 234 new daily accounts and 199 Sunday editions. Needless to say, he won the contest.

"I learned you have to differentiate yourself from others," Steiner told members of the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce last week at the Hudson Room in Peekskill as part of the 2018 CEO Chat Series.

"There's nothing normal about the way I was raised or the way I built Steiner," he said. "I probably changed an industry. To create an industry is not easy. It all started when I was younger."

In 1987, Steiner started Steiner Sports with \$4,000, a Mac computer and an intern. Steiner Sports is now the largest company of its kind in America, valued at more than \$50 million. The company specializes in helping companies use the power of sports to grow their business and has spent over 25 years build-



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Brandon Steiner speaks to HV Chamber of Commerce at the Hudson Room in Peekskill.

ing relationships with more than 2,000 athletes, national relationships with the major sports leagues and partnerships with notable teams in sports, such as the New York Yankees, Dallas Cowboys and New York Knicks. Steiner Sports is also the leading producer of authentic hand-signed collectibles.

"I don't think Derek Jeter needed Steiner. I don't think the Yankees needed Steiner. They were doing fine without

me," he said. "I went to the Yankees with a solution to a problem. My biggest thing is how can I help these guys. I just started to think of the most important people I can help. You gotta go play in that sandbox, even if it's uncomfortable. Sometimes you have to get up in the morning and go get it."

Steiner, 68, whose clients include Jeter, Mark Messier and Mariano Rivera (who he is currently raising money with to

build a YMCA in New Rochelle), recently penned a book called "You Gotta Have Balls," which stems from one of his mother's favorite lines. He graduated from Syracuse University after many thought he was not college-material and later started a sports management school there.

"I have always been an underdog. I love being an underdog. Nobody saw me coming," he said proudly. "I have always found a way to play the underdog role in my mind. It's a good way to avoid disappointment. Once you get an understanding of what winning is, winning is what you do."

Steiner said about 10 years ago his company was struggling so he came up with the idea of selling dirt, bricks and grass from sporting venues, such as the old Yankee Stadium. It was a concept that proved to be very lucrative.

"It seemed right to me. My back was really against the wall. You got to be creative. You'll be surprised how creative you can be," he said. "When I meet a player, I don't care how many home runs they've hit or how many goals they scored. I want to know what's winning to them. Money is only part of our success. In order to get what you want you have to know what you want."

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# Businesses Educated on Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

By Rick Pezzullo

In 2017, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) received 6,696 sexual harassment charges and obtained \$46.3 million in benefits for victims of the abuse.

It's a topic that has seemed to have dominated daily headlines with high-profile and celebrity men being accused of crossing the line in their dealings with women. But it's certainly not a problem that only occurs behind closed doors in Hollywood.

"I've been doing this for 25 years. It's an every day problem," said employment law attorney Patricia Mulligan during a recent seminar sponsored by the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce at Yorktown Town Hall. "The high-profile cases have raised awareness."

"It's something that's prevalent and it's not okay," said Margaret Gspurning, human resources director for the Town of Yorktown.

Sexual harassment is considered a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as well as applicable state and local laws. There are two types of sexual harassment: Quid Pro Quo harassment, which occurs when a person in authority tries to trade job benefits, such as hiring, promotion and continued employment, for sexual



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Employment law attorney Patricia Mulligan spoke to Yorktown Chamber of Commerce members two weeks ago.

favors; and Hostile Work Environment harassment, which can consist of words, signs, jokes, pranks, intimidation or physical violence that are of a sexual nature, or are directed at an individual because of that person's sex.

Sexual harassment also consists of any

unwanted verbal or physical advances, sexually explicit derogatory statements, or sexually discriminatory remarks made by someone in the workplace which are offensive or objectionable to the recipient.

To guard against this type of behavior,

Mulligan and Gspurning encouraged employers to have a zero tolerance policy on the books.

"If you don't have this you're begging for trouble," Mulligan stressed. "It's a very big umbrella. You want a zero tolerance policy in the workplace. Otherwise you're playing Russian roulette."

"Prevention is the best medicine no matter what you do in life," Mulligan said. "When you see employees acting badly it's up to you to correct it."

According to a survey by the American Management Association, more than one-quarter of all workers have had a romantic relationship with an office colleague, yet less than 10 percent of private employers have written policies on employee dating.

To avoid employer liability and potential costly litigation, Mulligan recommended business owners have a strong anti-harassment policy and effective complaint procedure in place, take all complaints, whether written or verbal, seriously, investigate immediately, and take prompt and effective corrective action when necessary.

"The quicker you act the more kindly the courts look at you," Mulligan said. "Once you have notice you can't fail to act."

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## Obituaries

### Dr. Philip Pileggi

Dr. Philip G. Pileggi, a resident of Yorktown and longtime dentist in Ossining, died February 5. He was 94.

Dr. Pileggi was born in Ossining, on April 15, 1923 to Philomena and John Pileggi. He graduated from Ossining High School in 1941 and went on to attend college at Fordham University and Georgetown University and eventually graduated from Case Western Reserve School of Dental Medicine. Before completing his education, he served in the Army and fought in WWII during which he was in the Battle of the Bulge. Upon completion of his education, he started his residence training at Westchester Medical Center, formerly Grasslands hospital, where he met his wife Emma Smith. Together they had had four children: Patricia, Philip, Peter and James. He practiced dentistry in Ossining for almost 40 years, starting in 1953.

Dr. Pileggi is survived by his three children, Patricia (husband Warren), James (wife Regina), Philip and six grandchildren, Peter, Christopher, Philip, Emma, Olivia and Sophia. He was a devoted husband and loving father and grandfather. He was a devout Catholic and had a passion for automobiles. His quick wit and bright smile will be missed by all who knew him.

### Silvia Costantini

Silvia Costantini, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson, died February 6 with her children by her side. She was 89.

She was born on February 3, 1929 in Supino, Italy to Nazzareno and Rosa Costantini. When she was 11 years old, she moved to Aliquippa, Pennsylvania for 12 years then moved to Italy for one year where she married her husband, Luigi. In 1953, they both moved to Croton-on-Hudson where she was a homemaker and raised her children.

Mrs. Costantini was a Eucharistic Minister at Holy Name of Mary Church, a member of the Holy Name of Mary Rosary, and a member of the Croton Seniors. She was predeceased by her husband of 45 years, her brother, John Costantini and her sister Benedetta Costantini. She is survived by her sister, Ida Wahl of Schharie, NY, son, Luigi and wife, Marta of Croton-on-Hudson, daughter, Rosemarie Costantini of Croton-on-Hudson, and many nieces and nephews.

### Crescenzo "Chris" Maisano

Crescenzo D. 'Chris' Maisano, a 15-year resident of Peekskill, formerly of the Bronx, died February 3. He was 81.

He was an U.S. Army veteran. He was a Burrough Supervisor for NYC Housing Authority, retiring in 2000. After retiring, he became the Deputy Director for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 237 in NYC, retiring in 2010. He was an avid golfer, loved gardening and good food. He cherished his family and was a devoted and generous father to his children.

Mr. Maisano is survived by his son, Michael (Debbie) Maisano, daughter, Karen Maisano, step-grandson, Michael, sister Antoinette McAuliffe, and beloved companion, Phyllis Liggio. He was predeceased by his wife, Joan, in 2012.

### Jeremy de Vries

Jeremy S. de Vries, a longtime resident of Ossining and Briarcliff Manor, died January 17 after a long illness. He was 62.

He was born in Mount Vernon, to the late Jack and Sally (Klein) de Vries. He had moved to Croton-on-Hudson in June 2016.

He is survived by his brother Lloyd of Paramus, NJ, Lloyd's wife Jane, also of Paramus, and nephews Karl de Vries of Washington, DC, and Marc de Vries of Hackensack, NJ.

Mr. de Vries was a salesman for the Sleepy's mattress retail chain until his illness. He was known for his incisive sense

of humor and his daily epigram postings on Facebook. He loved square dancing and cooking.

A graveside funeral was held at Sharon Gardens.

### George Arpin

George C. Arpin, a resident of Peekskill, formerly of Cortlandt, died February 6. He was 96.

He was a WWII U.S. Navy veteran. Mr. Arpin was an electrician for the NY Central RR in Croton-Harmon for 33 years, retiring in 1981. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Eva 'Sue' May Travis Arpin, sister-in-law, Barbara A. Smith and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his son, George C. Arpin, Jr., on April 4, 2017.

### Frank Sibilila

Frank James Sibilila, a resident of Somers, died February 7, at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City. He was 50.

He was a retired Detective Second-Grade with the New York City Police Department. He was among the extraordinarily brave men and women who served this country as a first responder following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

He is survived by his wife Mary Rose (née Almasi), and his children Grace and Jack.



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**Thursday, Feb. 22**

**Tuesday & Friday**

collection will be on:

**Wednesday, Feb. 21**

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**\* THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 7:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. \***

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# How Much of the Home of the Future Do We Want?

When I was in college, I appeared in the musical production of "Where's Charley?" a farce by Frank Loesser and George Abbott set at the turn of the last century. One of the cute numbers sung by Amy, the ingénue, predicted such inventions as wireless telegraphy, horseless carriages that fly and stereopticons that move.

What a simple time and what simple dreams for a better future, I thought. At that time, in the 1960s, all I dreamt about was to someday have a color television so that I could sit comfortably at home, watching movies in living color. I never dreamed of the kind of technology that would allow me to see what the rest of the world was doing, nor could I imagine that surveillance technology might allow the rest of the world to see what I was doing at home.

There have always been inventions for better living, but now in the 21st century, is it time to say, enough already?

I had a traumatic experience recently when my relatively new laptop, which I use in the assumed privacy of my home, went down. Only when I contacted Apple support did I learn that this device that greatly

facilitates my working from home had been badly "compromised," not by just one evil force but two from different parts of the country that had taken over the function of my computer to conduct unknown activities. Whatever they were, I'm sure it was not for the common good or for me.

After two days of phone discussion with a few smart guys in India, my functionality was restored and hopefully secured with an expensive protection system. But what's next in this age of technology, especially with the surveillance systems designed to monitor and protect our homes? Will it all come back to haunt us time and again?

That's the thing about trying to predict which technologies and innovations will become part of our home life and which should be avoided for its downside. For every scientist who claimed that we would have quick and convenient frozen dinners available (six years before Swanson first sold them in 1953), there was another who claimed that by 1978 our milk would come from kerosene instead of cows. Yikes!

The 1933 Chicago World's Fair featured a Home of Tomorrow with a floor-to-ceil-

ing curtain wall system which would regulate the internal temperature at any time of the year. Because all families in the future were assumed to own their own planes, the home also featured an air hangar to go with the garage.

The 1964 World's Fair in New York made more modest, and more accurate, predictions. A couple in an "all-electric home" marveled at their electric cooking range, their self-cleaning oven, the many colors available for all their appliances, VHS tapes and mood lighting for their stereo system. And where are the grandparents, you may ask? They are at their own senior citizen retirement community, which really didn't exist at that time.

But then, I remember well the introduction of Jefferson Village, the first massive retirement community that had just been introduced to upper Westchester when I first moved to Yorktown in the early 1970s.

While scientists, engineers and futurists have tried in many ways to imagine more convenient and more efficient innovations for our homes, more often than not they are off-target. In 1950, Popular Mechanics imagined that housewives in 2000 would have homes made entirely of plastic and waterproof fiber. To clean everything, the homemaker would blast the rooms with

a hose. While we all want to simplify our housework, we haven't yet gone that far in the name of convenience.

But at times the soothsayers were correct. They predicted microwave ovens in 1937, the remote-controlled home in 1939 and flat screen TVs in 1954.

We all quickly adopted the microwave and, in the past few years, the flat screen and the remote-controlled home, connected via the Internet to our cell phones. But now there is the question of whether this digital information can be used to invade our privacy. The discussion will continue regarding how far government can go in surveilling its citizens in the fight against crime and terrorism.

The most anticipated development for the home that would seem relatively harmless is the video telephone. It took a while, but it is finally here, albeit through the medium of a computer, tablet or smartphone.

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



By Bill Primavera

## A Crossroads in the Composition and Shape of the Wine Bottle

The winds of change are blowing - again. This time it's the impact of wine on the environment. Not the wine that is in the bottle, but the bottle that the wine is in. Concerns are surfacing over the impact of producing, shipping and recycling glass bottles.

This has the potential to change our buying and drinking habits in a profound manner. Slowly, but inexorably, the wine industry is moving to alternative containers for wines. More and more we are seeing Tetra Paks and wine-in-a-box on wine shop shelves.

Now comes another innovation in wine vessels. Garçon Wines of Great Britain has introduced a high quality slimmed-down

version of a plastic wine bottle. Two innovations in one package: shape and composition.

I must admit I've been having difficulty deciding if I can support this new product. I'm conflicted by my uneasiness with a plastic, not glass, vessel for storing wine, and my exuberance for the new shape.

The plastic is high-grade PET (polyethylene terephthalate, a thermoplastic polymer resin) while the shape is that of a slim flask. Allow me to elaborate.

Plastic bottles proliferate the food aisles - and the landscape. The PET bottles are stronger, clearer and more readily recyclable than many plastic bottles.

The shape of the PET bottle is a market-

ing marvel. The bottle is as wide as a traditional Bordeaux or Burgundy glass bottle, yet it is not cylindrically shaped. Rather, it is more like a rectangle, no deeper than the screwcap atop its neck. And it is taller than a traditional wine bottle, maintaining the same 750ml capacity of the traditional glass bottle. Think of a glass bottle being figuratively run over by a multi-ton asphalt roller and flattened to a mere two inches. Does that evoke a mental image? That is the Garçon bottle.

Allow me to air my conflicting opinions of the Garçon bottle.

### PROS:

1. Glass bottles weigh 19 ounces, while PET bottles average 2 ounces. Factor that difference on the tens of billions of wine bottles sold and potentially recycled each year. The cost savings on production, shipping and home delivery charges is significant. The carbon footprint is smaller than glass bottles.

2. The flask-like shape of the Garçon bottle has a smaller footprint than a traditional glass wine bottle. This makes for more efficient costs in shipping and storing; significantly more bottles in less space.

3. The Garçon bottle is designed to fit in your mailbox, making it much easier to transport and deliver directly to homes (except in our area; an adult, 21 or older, must sign for wine deliveries).

4. The Garçon bottle is more conducive for outdoor usage. It is made for today's outdoor lifestyle. Now you can have plastic wine bottles matched to your plastic wine glasses and plastic dinnerware. And you can carry it alongside your plastic bottle of water or sports drink.

### CONS:

1. It's made from plastic. Over the long run plastic is not environmentally friendly.

2. It's made from plastic. Lurking BPAs are still a potential health threat.

3. Plastic may affect the aromas and flavors of the wine contents.

Studies have shown that this is not a factor, so long as the wine is consumed within twelve months of being bottled. That's a short window for many wines.

4. Plastic is more porous than glass. Oxygen is more likely to penetrate the walls and oxidize the wine contents. There is minimal risk if the wine is consumed within the twelve-month window mentioned above.

5. It's made from plastic. The Garçon bottle is not a natural product. It is coming into a market that is highly sensitive to sustainable practices.

So, where do I come down on this self-created debate? I like the novel shape of the Garçon bottle. I'm able to adjust my traditional perspective for this aspect. But in the end, it's made from plastic.



By Nick Antonaccio



### The Northern Westchester Examiner

Adam Stone

astone@theexaminernews.com

Publisher

Rick Pezzullo

rpezzullo@theexaminernews.com

Editor-in-Chief

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# Nine Students Advance at Science and Humanities Symposium

Nine Ossining High School students who took part in the regional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium February 3 will progress to the upstate New York competition.

This is the 14th consecutive year that OHS will have more student finalists in the upstate symposium than any other school that participates – five out of 32 students overall.

The Ossining students, who are part of the Fundamentals of Science Research Program, participated in the 16th annual Westchester Rockland Subregional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium at John Jay High School in Cross River. The upstate competition is March 7-8 in Albany.

Angelo Piccirillo, who co-teaches the Science Research Program with Valerie Holmes, said he attributes students' success to their work ethic in combination with the spirit of collegiality. "It is remarkable what the students in our program have been able to accomplish for well over a decade. This sort of consistency is a real tribute to the quality of work these students put forth," he said.

Five of the nine students who will compete in Albany will be vying for a chance to attend the national symposium in April. They are Skyler Jones (chemis-



Left to right: Skyler Jones, Catherine Kamp, Sarah Hoffman are among the Ossining High School students who will compete in the Upstate New York Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

try/physical science); Catherine Kamp (environmental science); Sarah Hoffman (neuroscience); Jared Fel (medicine and health); and Caroline Mugambwa (cell and molecular biology).

Four other students who received top awards for their speaker presentations Feb. 3 will make poster presentations in Albany. They are third-place winners Olivia Lenaghan (medicine and health), Eric Schmid (computer science); fourth-place winners Emma San Martin (medicine and health) and Chinmai Deo (neuroscience).

The students who make poster presentations aren't competing for spots in the national symposium.

Ten other OHS students who made

poster presentations at the Rockland and Westchester symposium received awards. They are:

## First place:

- Mackenzie Boatman (behavioral science)
- Keven Victoria (biology)
- Jacqueline Mundadan (biology)

## Second place:

- Veronica Levin (behavioral science)
- Ruth Boehling (biology)
- Team of Julia Piccirillo-Stosser, Sabrina Piccirillo-Stosser, and Kiara Tavares (animal science)

## Third place:

- Paula Espinoza (animal science)

## Yorktown Students Visit IBM

The Yorktown High School AP Physics class, led by Mr. Dan Moore, took their annual trip to visit the local IBM campus recently. Joined by Superintendent Dr. Ron Hatter, the students toured the facility and met with over 15 scientists and researchers. They were excited to see things like Watson and learn the story of how the supercomputer beat top Jeopardy! champions winning over \$1 million. On top of this, the class was excited to learn about IBM's network of scientists all around the world. No matter where in the world the research was conducted, the class was astounded at how the research at IBM was helping people everywhere. Specifically at this location, the students learned about IBM's great advancements in Quantum Computer and got a chance to see the company's particle accelerator. This trip would not have been possible without the help of Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel and the support of the YHS administration, such as principal Mr. Degennaro. Mr. Patel was responsible for planning everything from arranging the tour to providing the students with snacks, he was pivotal in inspiring a class of future scientists. We would like to thank Mr. Moore, Mr. Patel, and at IBM Research everyone involved for providing us with a memorable trip and a great opportunity. -Matthew Barbuti



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# Police Blotter

## Westchester County DA

A former Sleepy Hollow Middle School secretary has pled guilty to stealing more than \$10,000 from the Tarrytown Union Free School District.

Carol Ressa, 53, of Lake Peekskill, pled guilty to grand larceny in the third degree as a public corruption crime, a Class C felony, but under a plea agreement will avoid jail time. Instead, when she is sentenced on May 9, she will receive five years' probation, along with being obligated to pay restitution to the school district.

According to Westchester County District Attorney Anthony Scarpino, Jr., Ressa, a long-time district employee, used her position between October 2011 and March 2017 to steal thousands of dollars. In addition to stealing unauthorized checks drawn from a school district bank account and made payable to herself, Ressa also stole multiple checks and money orders which had been provided to the school district by Middle School students and their families in order to pay for various student activities. Those included class trips, yearbooks, and even school lunches. After stealing these various checks and money orders payments, Ressa deposited the funds into her own bank accounts for her own personal use.

## State Police

### February 7

Andrew Kothe, 28, of Yorktown, was charged with driving while ability impaired by alcohol after troopers received a complaint at approximately 12:30 a.m. about a driver traveling the wrong way on the Taconic State Parkway in Yorktown in the area of the walkway bridge. Assisted by Yorktown Police, Kothe was located and stopped. He was charged with a Class E felony due to a prior conviction within the last 10 years.

### February 9

Christopher Johnson, 42, of Cortlandt, was charged with felony driving while intoxicated and driving with a suspended license after being pulled over about 3:40 a.m. on Route 9 in the Village of Croton. Johnson, who had a previous DWI conviction within the last 10 years, was remanded to Westchester County Jail without bail.

## Yorktown Police

### January 24

Edwin Rodriguez, 25, of Sleepy Hollow, was charged with several counts of criminal possession and criminal sale of a controlled substance after allegedly selling heroin to undercover operatives working with police during a five-month investigation. When Rodriguez was taken into custody by the Westchester

County Northern Narcotics Initiative task force, he possessed 80 bags of heroin. Each bag sold for \$10 to \$20 on the street. He was released after posting \$5,000 bail and is due in Yorktown Town Justice Court February 22.

### February 1

Carmine Caruso, 38, of Granite Springs, was charged with criminal possession and criminal sale of a controlled substance, unlawful fleeing of a police officer in a motor vehicle and resisting arrest after being accused of selling pre-

scription drugs to undercover officers on two different occasions in January. He was apprehended after being stopped on Moseman Avenue. He was released after posting \$5,000 bail.

### February 2

Shaun Noone, 33, of Yorktown, was charged with grand larceny and criminal possession of a controlled substance following a report of a stolen motor vehicle at 75 Cornwall Circle. He was located with the vehicle on Route 6N in Mahopac. He was released on \$1,000 cash bail.

### February 5

Emma Lienau, 16, and Alexandra Pujol, 17, both of Mohegan Lake, were charged with falsely reporting an incident, a Class D felony, after allegedly writing a bomb threat on the wall in a girl's bathroom at Lakeland High School on February 1. As a result of the threat the school was evacuated and searched by Yorktown and Westchester County police officers accompanied by bomb dogs. The search did not reveal any explosive devices.



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# Energy is Hot Topic at Somers Town Board Meeting

By Neal Rentz

Energy was a major topic of discussion at the February 8 Somers Town Board meeting.

Supervisor Rick Morrissey discussed the meeting he and other local government leaders had with the new head of NYSEG recently, while the co-chairs of the town's Energy Environment Committee presented the board with ideas for LED street lights and solar power panels on the roofs of town-owned buildings.

Fed up with too frequent power outages, Morrissey and other government officials from Putnam and Dutchess counties met with NYSEG President and Chief Executive Officer Carl Taylor on January 24.

Morrissey said state Public Service Commission officials are scheduled to come to town in March to investigate the town's concerns about the power outages and meet with Somers officials on the matter.

Morrissey said last month he had been troubled by the outages, which he maintained could be prevented by the utility. The Christmas Day power outage in Somers knocked out power for more than 1,000 homes, including many Heritage Hill residences, for as much as 10 hours, he said. The Christmas power outage came from difficulties at the Croton



The co-chairmen of the Somers Energy Environment Committee, Jerry Stern and Don Bleasdale, addressed the Town Board on Feb. 8.

Falls substation, Morrissey noted.

North Salem Supervisor Warren Lucas and Morrissey wrote a January 3 letter to the state Public Service Commission outlining their concerns as a "formal complaint."

"The alarming number and length of power outages has become a significant public safety issue," Morrissey and Lucas stated in their letter. "We are on a dangerous course that, if not remediated, may have serious implications for our

citizens."

"The abnormal frequency and length of power outages are occurring at a rate never witnessed by our communities," Morrissey and Lucas stated. "There has been a clear degradation of services on the part of NYSEG, and with winter at our doorstep, the situation has become untenable."

Morrissey said Taylor was receptive to the government officials' concerns and told them that residents with power outages should contact NYSEG for information. In addition, they emphasized that municipal officials should not have to act as public relations agents for the utility by having to provide the information on their own.

Energy Environment Committee proposals

Also at last week's Town Board meeting, the co-chairs of the Somers Energy Environment, Jerry Stern and Don Bleasdale, unveiled their proposals to change to town's street lights to LEDs and place solar energy panels on the roofs of town owned buildings.

Stern said a \$50,000 grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority was available that could be used to replace all of the town's

230 street lights with LEDs. The cost is \$100 per LED fixture, he said. Bleasdale said the LEDs have 20-year life spans.

Stern suggested that the town could save \$20,000 annually by taking ownership of the light poles from NYSEG.

Morrissey said the town should consider seeking the \$50,000 state grant to replace HVAC systems in town buildings. Stern said it would be difficult to prove to the state that new HVAC systems would save enough money to qualify for the grant.

Stern and Bleasdale said they would continue the process of seeking the NH-SERDA grant.

The Town Board agreed to the request from Stern and Bleasdale to allow the Pennsylvania-based Energy in the Bank to come to a meeting to present their proposal to provide free solar energy panels on town property. While the town is open to the idea, Morrissey and Town Attorney Roland Baroni said solar panels could not be placed on dedicated recreation areas, but could be placed on roofs of town facilities.

Morrissey told Stern and Bleasdale that some potential sites for the solar panel include the roofs of Highway Department buildings, the Van Tassell House barn and the public library.

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## Business of the Week

# Policastro and Gunther Rush Auto Putnam Valley

By David Propper

Brian Gunther and Robert Policastro have been friends for more than 40 years, meeting when the two men worked as auto mechanics for a service station.

Fast forward decades later, it seems only fitting the two men are now co-owners of Policastro and Gunther Rush Auto in Putnam Valley where drivers can bring domestic, foreign and classic cars to a couple of old time "automobile doctors."

Gunther and Policastro first met back in the late 1970s when the two men ended up working at the same auto repair shop. Then a few years later the two men owned a business together until a fire destroyed that location. From there, Gunther and Policastro went separate ways with Gunther working at GM for 25 years and Policastro doing car work and traveling the country to play in a music band. (The two men also used to pay in a local band together.)

"It came out of a friendship and enjoying doing what we do," said Policastro, who lives in Cortlandt.

Rush Auto has been owned by Gunther and Policastro since 2015. The auto repair shop used to be run by local resident Tony



PHOTO BY DAVID PROPPER

Brian Gunther and Robert Policastro own Policastro and Gunther Rush Auto in Putnam Valley together

Rush, and after he died his wife sold the business to them. Out of respect to Rush and his wife, Gunther and Policastro felt it was important to keep his name on the building. Rush had owned the auto shop since the 1960s and the location on

Morrissey Drive has been around since at least the 1940s.

Originally, Policastro and Gunther just wanted to rent a space in the garage, but ended up purchasing the entire property. Gunther said they've tried to replicate

the interior and exterior of the building to give it an old school look from the 1950s.

Policastro said when it comes to fixing a person's vehicle, "honesty is the best policy."

Gunther, a Yorktown resident, stressed they want to be a good, local repair shop that serves the community. Behind their shop are 800 homes, which Rush Auto relies on, along with friends and acquaintances that know the good work Policastro and Gunther do. Located off the beaten path, word of mouth and presenting great standards every day is crucial.

Gunther said it's important for the customers to know that the person they talk to about their car is the one actually working on it, instead of where a customer is stuck talking to a representative at a dealership. Gunther said even though he's an owner, he still mops the floors and cleans the bathrooms, as does Policastro.

"Be fair, do a great job at a fair price, do not rip people off, treat them as if they're your own family," Policastro said. "You can stay in business for 35 years if you do that."



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DOWN**

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FOR 39 MONTHS

**\$0  
DOWN**

**\$348**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$1995  
DOWN**

**\$288**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$2995  
DOWN**

**\$258**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$0  
DOWN**

**\$328**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$1995  
DOWN**

**\$268**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$2995  
DOWN**

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DOWN**

**\$318**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$1995  
DOWN**

**\$258**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$2995  
DOWN**

**\$228**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$0  
DOWN**

**\$238**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$1995  
DOWN**

**\$178**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$2995  
DOWN**

**\$148**  
FOR 36 MONTHS

**\$0  
DOWN**

**\$338**  
FOR 39 MONTHS

**\$1995  
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**PRESIDENTS' DAY  
EVENT**

# 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](mailto:nrentz@theexaminernews.com).

## Wednesday, Feb. 14

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

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

**Anime Club:** An Anime Club meets every Wednesday through May 30 at the Somers Library. from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. This program is for teens entering 7th grade & up. Info: 914 232 5717.

**Jewish Learning Institute:** Every Wednesday through Feb. 28 a Jewish Learning Institute course on communications will be held at Chabad of Yorktown, 2629 Old Yorktown Rd., from 7:30 to 9 p.m. We'll explore powerful insights from the Talmud and mystical teachings that shed light on just how deeply meaningful and connecting our everyday interactions with family and friends can be. For more information and to register visit: [www.ChabadYorktown.com/JLI](http://www.ChabadYorktown.com/JLI) or call 914-962-1111

**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](http://www.firsthebrew.org).

## Thursday, Feb. 15

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

## Friday, Feb. 16

**Coloring For Adults:** It's not just for kids, and it's the latest craze. Join our adult coloring book club at the Somers Library Meetings will be held in the conference room every Friday from 10:30 am to noon. Relax, color, and socialize for

free. Materials are provided or you may bring your own color pencils and coloring books. Registration is not required. Info: 914 232 5717.

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

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

**Temple Beth Am Shabbat:** Temple Beth Am will "opens its doors to all who enter" for Shabbat on Fridays at 8 p.m. Our modern Sabbath service has a spiritually engaging and warm feeling while following traditional modes. All are welcome to our friendly sacred space. 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](mailto:rabbiiw@optonline.net)

**Jewish Center Services:** At the Yorktown Jewish center, 2966 Crompond Rd., Friday night Sabbath services are held at 6:15 p.m. And Sabbath services on Saturdays will be held at 9:15 a.m. on most Saturdays. After the services Rabbi Sternstein conducts a learning session based on the Torah portion of the week. Light refreshments are served and everyone is invited to join us as we share in the warmth, knowledge and friendship within our congregation. Info: 914-245-2324 or [yorktownjewishcenter.org](http://yorktownjewishcenter.org).

## Saturday, Feb. 17

**WWII POW Hero's Book:** Norman Bussel of Mohegan Lake, a longtime advocate for war veteran's care who was a prisoner of war in Nazi Germany during World War II, will tell his heroic story in a dramatic talk based on his acclaimed book: My Private War---Liberated Body, Captive Mind---A WWII POW's Story. The 94-year-old Army Air Force decorated veteran will relate his horrific experience of surviving when four of his close buddies did not when their B-17 bomber was shot down over Berlin in April 1944, and then being captured and imprisoned by the Germans and how it impacted the rest of his life. His book will be available for sale and his signing at the program at 2 p.m. at the Little Red Schoolhouse, 297 Locust Avenue, Cortlandt Manor. Open

free to the public, the event is sponsored by the Van Cortlandtville Historical Society. For more information and in case of inclement weather, visit: [www.vancort.net](http://www.vancort.net); or call (914) 736-7868.

**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 infor-

mation visit [www.ChabadYorktown.com](http://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](http://DowntoEarthMarkets.com).

**Yoga Program:** Support Connection announces a free weekly program Yoga: A Path toward Wellness will be held on Feb. 17 and 24 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Club Fit in Jefferson Valley. The program is open to people living with breast, ovarian and gynecological cancers. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

## Sunday, Feb. 18

**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



**2018 HOME LIFESTYLE & FAMILY SHOW**  
 Saturday, February 17, 2018  
 11:00am – 4:00pm • Jefferson Valley Mall

**FREE ADMISSION**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Home Improvement</li> <li>• Solar Energy</li> <li>• HVAC</li> <li>• Health &amp; Wellness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fireplaces &amp; Wood Burning Stoves</li> <li>• Homebuilders</li> <li>• Gardening / Tree Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Banks / Mortgage Lenders</li> <li>• Windows / Doors / Siding</li> <li>• Roofing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Realtors / Home Stagers</li> <li>• Insurance</li> <li>• Pools &amp; Hot Tubs</li> <li>• Games and more!</li> </ul>
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# Crossword

## ACROSS

1. Grate on
4. Right-angle shape
7. Smidgeon
10. Memo starter
11. False statement
12. 16th US President
13. Gradually diffusing
15. Rouen refusal
16. Formerly Osceola Manor, in Jefferson Valley, it is now "zee" place to have a reception
18. Chase scene maneuver, slangily
19. Ballad's end?
20. Mamas and the Papas member
22. Fuse

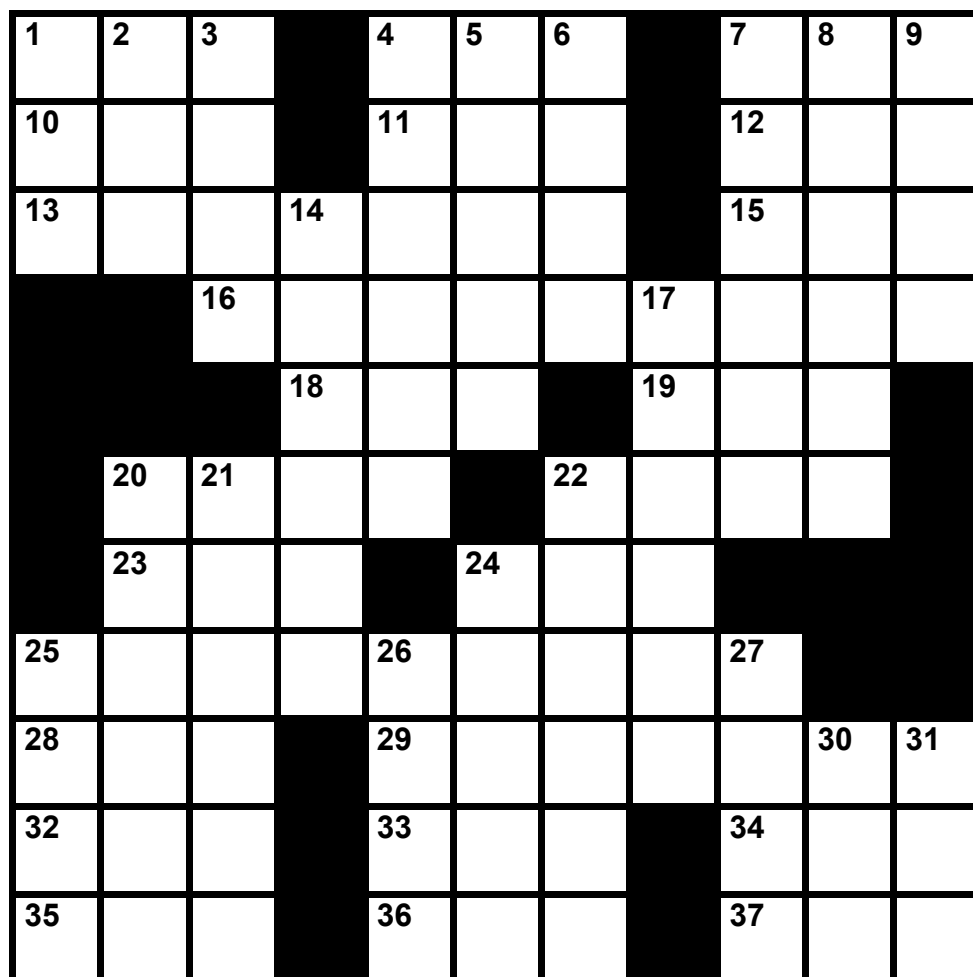
23. "The greatest"

24. Sun, poetically
25. Mahopac kitchen and bath remodeling center, \_\_\_\_\_s
28. Land of the brave and free
29. Top cards in poker
32. Mary \_\_\_ cosmetics
33. Station purchase
34. Republicans, for short
35. Hosp. units
36. Scrap
37. Abbr. after Brooklyn

## DOWN

1. Qualifiers
2. Potent potable
3. Capital on the Dnieper

4. Aristocracies
5. Like a dryer screen
6. Tile construction piece
7. Pioneer surveyor, Boone
8. On a ship
9. Daimler contemporary
14. 16th century Pope
17. Nike rival
20. Popular side salad choice
21. Enduringly
22. Most ironic
24. Actor award
25. Microwave
26. Othello's ensign
27. Pretty soon
30. "Hardly!"
31. Satellite based positioning



(Solution on page 22)

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(Solution to puzzle on page 20)

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

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**



WAITING LIST  
OF THE  
PROJECT-BASED VOUCHER PROGRAM AT LEVISTER TOWERS  
(ADMINISTERED BY CVR NEW YORK)

OPENS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2018 AT 9:00 A.M. EST  
AND CLOSES FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018 AT 5:00 P.M. EST

CVR New York, Local Administrator for New York State Homes and Community Renewal, hereby announces the opening of the Project-Based Voucher (PBV) Program Waiting List for Levister Towers located in Mt. Vernon, NY. Applications will be accepted online only from Monday, February 26, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. through Friday, March 2, 2018 at 5:00 P.M.

At the end of the application period, 30 days will be provided for applicants with disabilities who missed the deadline to request a reasonable accommodation. CVR will then use a randomized computer lottery process for all applications received to select 1,600 applicants for placement on the Project-Based Voucher Waiting List for Levister Towers.

For assistance, call 914-995-3011 or email [info@cvrnewyork.com](mailto:info@cvrnewyork.com), 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., during the application period.

**APPLICATIONS NOT PROVIDED OR ACCEPTED AT ANY CVR NEW YORK OFFICES. APPLICANTS MUST APPLY ONLINE AT [APPLICANTPORTAL.CVRNEWYORK.COM](http://APPLICANTPORTAL.CVRNEWYORK.COM)**

Preliminary eligibility of applicants will be based on HUD's Federal Income and other eligibility guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Applicants must have annual household incomes that do not exceed the following limits established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

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## LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

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

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

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAYA-B, LLC.** Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on

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**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF APPLE HILL CONSULTING LLC ART. OF ORG.** Filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/15/17. Office of Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Dwight McLeod, 60 La-belle Road, Mount Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CHET-TLE LABS, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 17th, 2017. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **91 Grove St, Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

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**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SIMPLY SPEAKING LEP, LLC.** Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 1/10/18. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **611D Larchmont Acres East, Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

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**NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF CRYPTO CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LLC.** Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 2/2/18. Office location: Westchester County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 1/5/18. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Kensington Rd, Ardsley, NY 10502. DE address of LLC: 919 North Market Street, Suite 950, Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Formation filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity.

**NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF CRYPTO CAPITAL PARTNERS LP.** Authority filed with NY Secy of State

(SSNY) on 2/2/18. Office location: Westchester County. LP formed in Delaware (DE) on 1/5/18. SSNY is designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Kensington Rd, Ardsley, NY 10502. DE address of LP: 919 North Market Street, Suite 950, Wilmington, DE 19801. List of names and addresses of all general partners available from SSNY. Cert. of Limited Partnership filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF AUTHORITY OF DIVERSITY MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS LLC,** a foreign limited liability company (LLC), Application of Authority led with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY)

on 7/1/2008. LLC organized in NJ on 10/12/2006. NY office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 256 Columbia Turnpike, North Tower, Suite 108A, Florham Park, NJ 07932. Office address in jurisdiction of organization: 256 Columbia Turnpike, North Tower, Suite 108A, Florham Park, NJ 07932. Copy of Articles of Organization on file with Secretary of State of NJ, 225 West State Street - 2nd Floor Trenton, NJ 08625-0307 Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

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One of the more popular acts each year is the Hanneford performing Elephants and they will be featured for the final time in White Plains. The New York State Legislature has banned performing elephants effective 2019. So, this year will be a nostalgic one for the fans of elephants in the Circus.

Circus Staff will be taking and selling photos with elephants prior to each performance and at each intermission.

When young, energetic Ringmaster Saturn Garcia opens the Show, it's the prelude to two hours of fun and excitement.

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Tickets can be purchased at the Westchester County Center Box Office, Ticketmaster and ticketmaster.com. Information at Countycenter.biz.

The Northern Westchester  
**Examiner**  
**Sports**  
*Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports*

# Drought Over!

## Sailors Ride Tide to 1st League Title Since 1988

Hen Hud's Kyle James blocks shot by Peekskill's Shion Darby, who runs into a wall formed by Sailor Dylan Fraser (3) in Hen Hud's 63-50 win over the host Red Devils, who failed to deny the Sailors outright possession of the League II-E title, the first at Hen Hud since the Seth Heaton-led Sailors won one back in 1988. Hen Hud's 54-51 win over Poughkeepsie earlier in the week sewed up a share of the title, and Section 1 teams will now prep in earnest for their respective Section 1 tournaments where the Sailors hope to reach their first Final 4 since 1991... see Boys' Hoops Notebook



# Sports

## Boys' Hoops Notebook

# Hen Hud, Panas Snag League Titles in Dramatic Fashion

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

Hen Hud's Fraser twins, Austin and Dylan, are such fierce competitors they likely battled over who would see the light of day first. The feisty duo have been battlers since Day 1, and the proof was in the pudding with a 30-year title drought on the line last Tuesday.

Hen Hud (16-4, 7-1) fell behind visiting Poughkeepsie by nine points in the fourth quarter and needed the Frasers, the teams' senior starting guards, to fight for that light at the end of the tunnel like they did that first day on earth. With Hen Hud seeking at least a share of its first league title since 1988, the Fraser boys went to work at the Donovan Gym, their home away from home, where the go-getting duo combined to score 16 of the Sailors' 20 points and jump-start a 54-51 come-from-behind win over the Pioneers



Hen Hud's Kyle James was a driving force in Sailors' first league title since 1989 despite defense of Peekskill's TJ Lawrence last Thursday.

to complete a season sweep of Poughkeepsie.

Austin Fraser, who had nine of his 15 points in the fourth and dished four assists, and Dylan who dropped seven of his 13 points in the fourth and set up a monster lob for star swingman Mekhi Gray's jam, triggered the winning rally. Neither would say die.

"Austin and Dylan definitely love to battle each other in practice, and probably in their own driveway, they just love to compete," said fifth-year Sailor Coach Jordan Hirsch. "Austin and Dylan made big shots in the fourth, Mekhi (Gray) sparked a run in the third, and even with all of the defensive attention Kyle (James) has been getting, he still locked in to essentially have the game winning points on a hard-fought tip-in. Sometimes, it's a few guys getting the hard-data stats, but all of our guys have made the difference in these tight games... box-outs, bench energy and 50/50 plays don't get tallied in the book, but all of our guys give us those things, and for our team I think that has made the difference. We really feel every guy in the locker room makes our team successful. I'm thrilled for the kids to accomplish something that hasn't been done in a long, long time... it's all them, but we won't take anything for granted."

The Sailors followed up in form with a 63-50 win over Peekskill on Thursday to secure the League II-E title outright and, in doing so, locked down the No.4 seed in the upcoming Class A playoffs where Hen Hud hopes to end yet another drought. The Sailors,

*continued on next page*



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Hen Hud' Austin Fraser drives past Peekskill's Mekhi Hodges in Sailors' league-title clinching win over Red Devils.

title outright and, in doing so, locked down the No.4 seed in the upcoming Class A playoffs where Hen Hud hopes to end yet another drought. The Sailors,

## Pac to Pac to Pac! Mahopac Three-Peats as Section 1 Gymnastics Champs



Members of the Mahopac High gymnastics team pose with the Section 1 championship hardware for a third-straight year after the Indians (175.676) held off a charge from Lakeland/Panas/Putnam Valley (172.1) and Clarkstown (171.75) last Thursday at Carmel High where the Indians had five gymnast qualify for the NYS Championship, including Callie Johanson (All-Around), Sydney Hughes (Floor), Chloe Lee (Uneven Bars), Jamison Castrataro (Vault) and Lia Graap (Uneven Bars). Members of the three-peat championship team include Row 1 (kneeling): Julie Santoemma, Alex Porcelli, Sarah Citarella, Callie Johanson, Annalee Hammel & Sydney Hughes; Row 2 (standing): Chloe Lee, Fabiola Laska, Rachel Romero, Jamison Castrataro, Nicole Giannetta, Juliette LeBlanc, Lia Graap and Kelsey Collins. "I am extremely proud of this team, again a total team effort," Mahopac Coach Vin Collins said. "We have had our best routines and vaults as well as team scores the last three competitions of the season with our highest team total in the sectional championship; you could say we saved our best for last. Our seniors led the way. Callie and Sydney are always solid and continued again and we had nice vaults from Alex Porcelli and a terrific bar set from Julie Santoemma. Our younger gymnasts really stepped-up today; Jamison Castrataro, Chloe Lee, Lia Graap and Nicole Giannetta had some of their best routines and vaults of the season." Ossining's Justine Valentino and Cruz Vernon, and Caitlin Pellegrino, Amanda Grigas and Jana Frattellone of L-P/PV, plus Somers/Croton/Yorktown/Hendrick Hudson's Lucy DeMichele will all compete at the state tournament.



Panas G Brandon Hodge sinks two of his 10 fourth quarter points en route to 19 in win over Put Valley.

# Sports

## Boy's Hoops Notebook

continued from previous page



Put Valley F TJ Brescia sinks jumper in Tigers' loss to Panas Saturday.



Panas G Brandon Ramos drops two points of his 21 points in Panthers win over Put Valley Saturday.



Mahopac junior F Rheal Allen goes up for shot in Indians' gut-wrenching loss to Arlington last Thursday.

who also defeated an undermanned Croton club, 45-26, on Saturday, haven't reached the Final 4 since 1991 when the jovial Mauro Bros., Chris Kelly, Keith Friedman, Ted Leshinsky, Chris Talma and the loquacious Tim McNulty ruled the roost before losing to Peekskill at the County Center.

That '91 Hen Hud team defeated host John Jay in the sectional quarterfinals; the Stephen Silas-led Indians who had similar hopes of reaching a Final 4 before Silas went on to coach in the NBA (Charlotte Hornets), following the lead of his legendary dad, former Celtic great, Paul Silas.

There was greatness in the room that night and the 2018 Sailors can only hope to reach their limits, fulfill their promise and end a 27-year Final 4 drought...

## NWE/Putnam Examiner Super 7 Poll

**No.1 PANAS** – The League II-C champion Panthers (16-4, 7-1), the No.2 seed in Class A, actually have a very tough draw with No.15 Harrison, who recently knocked off No.5 Byram Hills and No.7 Poughkeepsie waiting in the quarterfinal wings #Ouch!. No.3 Saunders, the prohibitive favorites, could be a semifinal foe, making this championship run all the more difficult. Still, winners of 13-straight vs. Section 1 foes, Coach Auerbach's Panthers, who last won it all in 20014, are playing as well as anyone in Class A right now and cannot be taken lightly. "We're on a pretty good run and we're a pretty good team," said senior G Brandon Ramos, who scored 14 of his game-high 21 points in the second half of 52-43 win over Put Valley. "I think we can make a run for the championship. This is a very big win for us, they kicked out butt at home in triple overtime and we had to get it back. We're ready to make a run in the playoffs."

**No.2 HEN HUD** – League II-E champion Sailors (16-4, 7-1), the No.4 seed in Class A, should eventually see No.5 Byram Hills in the quarters, which gives Coach Hirsch's Sailors one of the tougher draws to reach the Final 4, where No.1 Rye would likely lie in wait. Hen Hud hasn't been to a Final 4 since 1991 and the basketball Gods don't seem to like them very much.

**No.2A PUTNAM VALLEY** – League III-E champion Tigers (16-4, 6-0), the No.1 seed in Class B, could see No.4 Blind Brook in the semis (God willing), which makes No.3 Briarcliff have to go through No.2 Irvington in the semis, which should/could set up a PV vs. Briarcliff finale at Pace U. in the finals. There is no doubt the Tigers have enough inside to get it done, but the PV backcourt will have to find its high-water mark in a hurry if the Tigers are gonna knock to advance to Final 4 or finals, what would be their 3rd championship appearance in 5 years.

**No.4 OSSINING** – The Pride (10-10), the No.14 seed in Class AA, blew a big chance to gain ground on a last-second foul-line box out against Put Valley (of all things) and a league loss to Fox Lane, but there is a clear path to the Great 8 should they upend No.19 Yorktown in the outbracket and then survive No.3 Mamaroneck in the opening round #ThisIsDoable.

**No.5 MAHOPAC** – Indians (10-10), the No.11 seed in Class AA, truly disappointed in their 61-57 fall-from-ahead loss to Arlington with League I-A title on the line, but they responded in kind with a big 74-63 win over neighboring Somers on senior day, thus setting up an opening round playoff game with No.6 Spring Valley. Certainly, been

an improvement over last 3 seasons, but a playoff win would be a mad feather in the cap for the 7 seniors on the roster, who got Somers head to head after Saturday's triumph.

**No.6 SOMERS** – Tuskers (11-7, 5-2), the No.9 seed in Class A, will have to wait another year to end their league title drought that dates back to 1989, but I'd sign up for their road to the Final 4 in a heartbeat, given the fact that No.24 Sleepy Hollow (outbracket), and the winner of No.8 Ardsley vs. No.25 Nanuet, are the only thing preventing them from a quarterfinal matchup with No.1 Rye, who has had a solid season but offers little by way of legitimate playoff history. It's time to get over the loss of injured senior point man Gio Tradito and #BustBrackets.

**No.7 BREWSTER** – Bears (9-11), the No.19 seed in Class A, knocked off Arlington in season finale on a last-second fade-away from hotshot Harrison Dignan and would do well to win its outbracket against No.14 Magnus on the road, but the Bears would need to pull a lucky horseshoe from their collective butts at No.3 Saunders in the opening round, which is one heck of an unenviable task despite the solid season they've have posted.

**HM HALDANE** – Class C's No.2 Blue Devils (14-6) will draw a surging No.3 Tuckahoe club in the semis, and that's not

what the doctored ordered. Getting to the finals just got a lot tougher.

**HM LAKELAND** – Hornets (6-14), the No.21 seed in Class A, came up big against Brewster last week and have a puncher's chance against No.14 Nyack in the outbracket, but the road gets really bumpy with in an opening-round trip to Byram Hills. Good news is; lax and baseball is right around the corner.

**HM PEEKSKILL** – Red Devils (6-14), the No.22 seed in Class A, have to go through outbracket route with No.11 Pelham before a potential opening-round bout at No.6 Tappan Zee. The river city has changed demographically so much over the last five years that it could be years before we see the Peekskill hoops program we were once accustomed to.

**HM YORKTOWN** – Huskers (7-13), the No.19 seed in Class AA, have to go through the outbracket door at Ossining and would then draw No.3 Mamaroneck in the opening round, followed by the No.11 Mahopac vs. No.6 Spring Valley winner in quarters, should they survive. I can't think of a better draw for a 19-seed, to be honest.

**HM CROTON** – Tigers (8-12), the No.13 seed in Class B, have been rocked and shocked by injuries and other misfortune, so we suspect a one-and-done scenario against No.4 Blind Brook, unless the Tigers can bust up a bracket.

## Sports

## Grappling Notebook

# Brewster's Cuomo, PV's Sams 3-Peat as Section 1 Champs

By Tony Pinciario

It was a difficult time for standout **BREWSTER** wrestler Grant Cuomo.

Cuomo was sidelined, for a month, with an injury and unsure if he's return for the 2018 Section 1 Division I (large school) Wrestling Championships.

"I honestly didn't think I would make it back in time for the postseason, but my doctor cleared me right before divisionals, so I decided to give it a shot," said the Princeton-bound Cuomo.

That was great news for him, but bad news for Section 1 Division I wrestlers in the 170-pound weight class.

Cuomo showed no ill-effects of the injury to win his third consecutive Section 1 Division I wrestling title. He is the first Brewster wrestler with three sectional titles.



Brewster's Grant Cuomo (R) and teammate Cody Hamblin (L) placed 1st and sixth, respectively, at Section 1 D-I tourney Sunday.

Cuomo, along with his fellow Section 1 champions advanced to the New York State Division I and Division II Wrestling Championships, Friday-Saturday, Feb. 23-24, at the Times-Union Center in Albany.

Wrestlers who are eligible for a wild card will find out their fate, Wednesday.

Cuomo registered three pins in the first period, punctuated with a fall of Eastchester's Steven Bilali at 1:22.

"I was very excited to make it back on the mat, but nervous," said Cuomo, a 2017 state runner-up. "Nonetheless, I was willing to put myself at risk for re-injury if it meant another shot at a state title.

"Given that risk, I was and continue to be cautious in my matches to make sure it doesn't happen again."

Along with being a three-time sectional titlist, Cuomo has an opportunity to become Brewster's first three-time state placefinisher.

"Winning my third sectional title is a nice accomplishment and I was happy I made it through with no injury problems," Cuomo said. "I am so pumped for states. After what I went through, with my injury, I am hungrier than ever for it."

## PUTNAM VALLEY

senior Kyle Sams added the exclamation point to his outstanding Section 1 career, winning the Section 1 Division II (small school) 132-pound title. It is Sams' third sectional title and he will be making his fourth trip to the state Division II championships.

Sams and his teammates finished fourth to champion Pearl River. The Tigers placed 11 wrestlers in the top six, including seven finalists.

"Kyle is a stand-alone captain and teammate and he has been the most consistent member of our team in every aspect of the sport," Putnam Valley Coach Will Carano said. "He got what he earned and I couldn't be more proud of who he has become as a young man and senior. There is no ceiling on what this kid can do, and what makes it all the more special for me, as one of his coaches, is that he does it with class and integrity."

Sams, who was a 2017 sectional runner-up but earned a wild card, wanted to go out on top.

"This third one was almost as good as the first one," Sams said. "This one wrapped up my last high school wrestling season. This was a major point in my life I will never forget."

Putnam Valley had six runners-up – David Ordonez (99 pounds), Hunter Lundberg (113), Will Carano (126), Mikey Bruno (138), Mike Nolan (145) and Dean Appell (160).

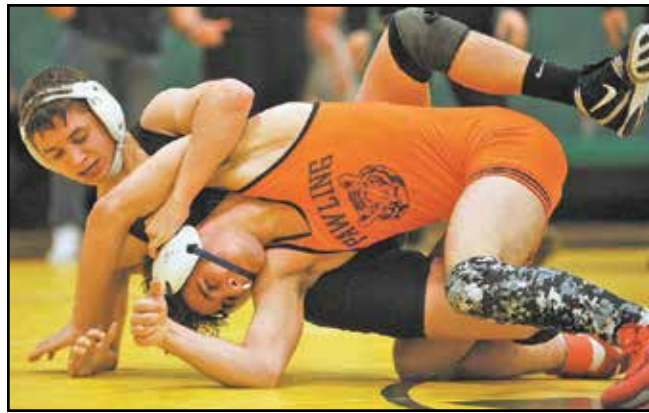
Despite their respective finals' results, Bruno and Carano are in good position to receive wild cards.

The trio of Owen McDonald (113), Shane Appell (120) and Mike Gaitan (220) finished fifth and Harry Leiter (152) placed sixth.

"This team was the best team I could've wrestled with my senior year," Sams said. "The young guys have a winning attitude and they all have bright futures after this year."

**OSSINING** junior Zachary Bonner brought Pride to the program, winning the Section 1 Division I 138-pound title with a 10-5 victory over Scarsdale's Seth Schulman.

"This is great, really amazing because five months ago I didn't think it was possible that I could win a section title," said Bonner, now 34-3 this season. "I didn't think I was at that level yet, but I kept pushing hard and working hard every single day."



Put Valley senior Mikey Bruno (L) settled for second place in the D-II wrestling tournament last Saturday at Hasting High.

Bonner credits teammates and workout partners – Farouk Capalbo, Tyrese Marbury and Josh Manning – with pushing him and sharpening his skills to that he raised his wrestling to a champion's level.

Bonner fell behind 2-0, early, but answered with a reversal and three back points in the final 10 seconds of the first period for a 5-2 lead.

"I was pushing the pace and I wrestled non-stop," Bonner said. "In the past, I would sometimes get complacent when I had the lead, but this weekend I didn't allow that to happen. I felt I controlled my matches."

Ossining had a strong showing, finishing fourth with 109 points, as Fox Lane claimed the crown with 145 pounds.

The Pride had Manning (152) take third, Capalbo (145) and Diego Orellano (285) placed fourth and Izaiah Steen (195) and Marbuty (160) were fifth.

**YORKTOWN** continued its strong wrestling under the guidance of Coach Eric Fama and assistants Andrew and Frank Cabibbo with a pair of finalists – Patrick Patierno (145 pounds) and Connor Thomas (152). Senior Mauricio Arango (138) took fifth and sophomore Andrew Finateri (113) placed fourth.

The two finalists are a first for Yorktown since Steven Sabella and Thomas Murray won titles in 2013.

"Patrick and Connor had great tournaments and have nothing to be ashamed of," said Coach Fama, a sectional champion for New Rochelle. "As a three-year wrestler who's main sport is soccer, we are extremely proud of Mauricio. In the last month, Andrew has made a huge jump and started peaking at the right time. We are excited for Andrew to return next season as an all-section wrestler."



SEAN VICTOR PHOTOS

PV wrestling Coach Will Carano led Tigers to 4th place finish and placed 7 grapplers in D-II finals.

Arango closed out his career by pinning the second seed in the fifth-place match.

Fama feels that Thomas, who placed third in the section last year, has a shot at a wild card. Thomas is currently 42-5 this season.

**SOMERS** finished ninth and had five placefinishers, led by Frank Celli (138) and Matt Kelly (195), who were both third. Sean Freebern (220) was fourth, Matt Russo (99) placed fifth and Antonio Vieira (170) was sixth.

**HEN HUD** returned to Division II



Put Valley's David Ordonez had an impressive second-place finish at the Section 1 D-II finals.

this season and the Sailors had seven placefinishers.

Hector (106), Beckett Hermann (120) and Colin Park (285) finished third. Michael Tosi (160) placed fourth, Kerann Belvu (145) garnered fifth and Brendan Cruz (113) and Cameron Curley (182) were sixth.

"Overall, we had a great season," said Hen Hud Coach Shane Turrone, a sectional placefinisher for the Sailors during his scholastic career. "We have a

*continued on next page*

## Sports

## Girls' Hoops Notebook

## League Titles Abound at Ossining, Somers, Put Valley

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

It's been a regular bonanza when it comes to league titles on the local girls' hoops circuit. State-ranked (No.5) Ossining (17-3, 11-0 Sect.1) snagged its 19th straight, winning the League I-D title without struggle. State-ranked (No.19) Putnam Valley (18-1, 6-0) cruised to the League



Somers G Hannah Angelini soars for rebound in Tuskers' 48-38 loss at John Jay CR last Friday.

III-E title after a clean sweep of Haldane, North Salem and Pawling. State-ranked (No.22) Somers (14-6, 7-1) settled for a share of its 2nd-straight title and third in four years after falling at John Jay CR, 48-38, last Friday.

Hen Hud (13-7, 6-2) placed second in League II-E, losing only to undefeated, state-ranked (No.6) Class AA power Our Lady of Lourdes (20-0), so the Sailors have plenty to be proud of, too.

**Collision Courses AA, A & B:** No.1 seeded Ossining's road to the Class AA title will likely go through two Catholic powers, including No.2 Lourdes and/or No.3 Magnus and No.4 Ursuline. Pride Coach Danny Ricci is chomping at the prospects but admits this is one of the toughest paths his team will tread en route to its 8th-straight sectional title. Odds are, Magnus

*continued from previous page*

young team in which we are only losing two seniors, both of which placed third. I am very excited for what the future holds. This year's sectional tournament ranks among one of the best for the program, in years, with the seven placefinishers."

**MAHOPAC** had a pair of top-six finishers in Mike Rivera, who was third at 220 pounds, and Tom Mahoney, the

will be the team the Pride square off with for all the marbles, and odds are just as strong the Pride survive and advance.

"We had to go through them last year and suspect we will have to do so this year," Coach Ricci said of Mangus...

In Class A, second-seeded, reigning Section 1 champ **SOMERS**, ranked No.22 in the state, and No.1 seed John Jay CR could see one another a third time if the chalk prevails. To quote my son, "Somers shot like trash" in Friday's loss to Jay, but it would seem more of an aberration than the norm, knowing this team as we do.

"I would love to see John Jay again and we fully expect to see them again some time down the road," Somers Coach Marc Hattem said. "We can only hope to shoot better than we did tonight. I'm dying to see our shooting percentage, I don't think we shot 20%. We shoot better than this and we figure to do so in the playoffs. We've been shooting in the low 20s for the last two weeks now and it's killing us. As the returning section champs teams are shooting to take us down, and I trust my kids at the end of the day to figure this out."

No time like the present...

And could there be a tougher road than Class B **PUTNAM VALLEY's** road? PV, the current No.3 seed, will have to go through state-ranked (No.8) and second-seeded Briarcliff at the County Center and then defeat top-seeded, state-ranked (No.1) Irvington - the 3-time defending champs - in the finals. To be honest, the youthful, record-setting Tigers (most regular season wins in a year) - led by underclassmen Dora Rippon, Kelli Venezia and Ariana Stockinger -- might be a year away from winning it all, but they are banging on the door well before anyone expected...

We just don't see anybody in Class C that is as prepared as four-time reigning champion **HALDANE** is to make a run for the roses. The Blue Devils (10-10), though not ranked in the state, are feistier and better coached than the whole lot of Section 1 Class C clubs. They will hoist again...

If anyone in Class A had just two players of **HEN HUD's** Caitlin Weimar's ilk, they might be unbeatable. The 6'2" sophomore is beyond good, a walking double and just 3.5 blocks per game shy of a triple-double. Weimar is putting up digits no girl or boy in Hen Hud history has ever posted: 18 PPG,

170-pound fourth-place finisher.

**CARMEL's** Abby Duke became the first female wrestler to place in Section 1 history. Duke finished sixth at 99 pounds. After losing her quarterfinal match, Duke won consecutive matches, by a combined 11-0 score, to reach the placing round.

Lakeland/Panas' Ryan Ocasio finished sixth in the 120-pound weight class.



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Somers G Jackie Penzo goes baseline in Tuskers' 48-38 loss at John Jay CR last Friday.

13.3 RPG, 6.4 blocks and 2 steals. The kid was one block shy of a triple-double in the Sailors' 50-36 win over Croton-Harmon, putting up 26 points, 15 caroms and nine blocks.

"I feel like she has improved every game this season and she is doing it with teams double-teaming her night in and night out," Hen Hud Coach Ken Sherman exclaimed! "She definitely could be the best to come thru the doors at the Donovan (gym). She's the first true center I have had in nine years at Hen Hud."

**NWE/Putnam Feb 5 Poll**

**No.1 OSSINING** - Catholic powerhouse Magnus is the only considerable bump in the road to Section 1 Class AA title, and the fact that the Pride dispose of every Catholic power in their way year after year only adds to the insurmountable lore of the Harris/Griffin/Quain-led Pride.

**No.2 PUT VALLEY** - Briarcliff might be too much for record-setting Tigers to handle this season, but this program is legit on every level and should see the finals in 2019 unless they can shock the section right here and now. B-Cliff is the team to beat.

**No.3 SOMERS** - At the risk of sounding too critical: The time is now to put one's best foot forward, lest you be left out of the state tourney. The 78 points scored in Saturdays blowout over Nanuet is encouraging, but anyone paying attention saw mental and physical lapses in loss to John Jay Friday #TimeToUptheAnteUpLadies.

**No.4 BREWSTER** - Should the No.8 Bears (12-8) survive No.9 Pearl River in the opening round, they would get a third crack at John Jay CR in the quarters and would need to amp up their intensity to match a scrappy Indian outfit; without doing so, Swaggy Maggie D's Bears would

be two-and-through. All it took was one bad quarter last Thursday to see. "You have to give John Jay credit," Bears Coach Mike Castaldo said after Maggie DePaoli led Brewster with 16 points and six steals and Krsiten Stefanick had nine points and four assists in a 53-47 loss to the Indians. "They caused the turnover and scored off of them. We played careless for eight minutes and against the top seed in Class A you can't do that."

**No.5 HALDANE** - Can't see a scenario where Abbey Stowell and Alison Chiera's top-seeded Blue Devils (10-10) are knocked off by any Class C contender

**HM MAHOPAC** - No.12 Indians (9-11) will have to go through No.21 Suffern and No.5 RCK, whom they are very familiar with, to reach quarters in a somewhat likeable draw.

**HM YORKTOWN** - The No.14 Huskers (10-10) will draw No.3 Magnus in opening round if the survive No.19 Greeley in the out-bracket game. The only tougher draw in the field is Ossining #ToughBreak



Put Valley F Dora Rippon and the Tigers broke school mark for regular season wins (18) last week.

**HM PANAS** - Who's to say the 10th-seeded Panthers (10-10) can't edge their way past No.7 Ardsley and suit up for a quarterfinal matchup with Somers and a Final 4 berth on the line.

**HM LAKELAND** - 15th-seeded Hornets (8-12) have played everyone as tough as possible and might give Somers fits in opening round should they survive outbracket vs. No.18 Nyack. If ya don't believe me, believe the ridiculous numbers put up by Hornet F Alexa Cole: 20 points in win over Suffern; 27 in 59-54 OT loss to Somers and 26 in 56-40 loss to Brewster.



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