

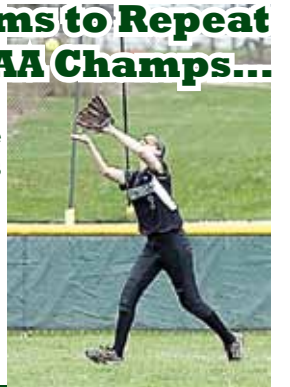
Yorktown Residents Celebrate Spring... page 10



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March 27 - April 2, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 431

Rally Held Locally for Strong Gun Control Laws

By Anna Young

Approximately 1,000 demonstrators filled Louis Engel Park in Ossining Saturday afternoon as part of the nationwide rally demanding that stronger gun control legislation be enacted to stop gun violence in the wake of last month's high school massacre in Parkland, Fla.

March for Our Lives, the latest student-led political movement since the deadly shooting at Majory Stoneman Douglas High School that left 17 dead, called on elected officials to enact stricter gun control laws in response to the nation's unrelenting stretch of campus shootings.

"The problem that we face is worth changing and we are out here changing it

today," Briarcliff Manor High School student John Hansley said at the March 24 rally. "We will change our world and for the better so that this is generation won't be remembered for being shot up, but for conquering obstacles when they arise and for making school shootings something that kids will have to ask me about because they aren't familiar with such a foreign concept."

Ossining High School student Ally Rousseau said she was only minutes away from the Sandy Hook Elementary massacre in 2012. As a fifth-grader at the time of the shooting, she thought school shootings were rare occasions and some-

Continued on page 2



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

A sea of people filled Louis Engel Park in Ossining Saturday.

HV Chamber's New Initiative a Mediapolis in the Making

By Rick Pezzullo

The Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce kicked off its new initiative over the weekend in Peekskill with an array of events and programming aimed at celebrating the region's multimedia presence.

The chamber recently formed a new division called Art Industry Media (AIM) with a mission of promoting Peekskill and the surrounding area as a media hub. During a panel discussion Saturday morning at Dramatic Hall in the downtown, it was revealed that Peekskill has 75 businesses that fall in the multimedia category.

"Peekskill has the resources, Peekskill has the talent, Peekskill has the creativity for multimedia," said Peekskill Mayor



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Panel discussion was held Saturday in Dramatic Hall in Peekskill.

Andre Rainey, one of the four panelists at the 90-minute forum. "Peekskill has so much potential. Let's show that potential. With the arts community, you can't go

Continued on page 2



POTO BY JELENA GERGA

Striking it Rich

Theresa P. of Ossining hit a record-breaking \$2,919,162.81 Wheel of Fortune® slots jackpot on Sunday, March 11 at Empire City Casino in Yonkers. Placing a \$20 wager on the \$10 denomination IGT Wheel of Fortune Triple Stars® slot machine, Theresa claimed the life-changing jackpot and eclipsed Howard G.'s record win by a whopping \$1.4-million, nearly double the previous record held by the Long Island resident. Theresa now holds the record for winning the highest-ever jackpot at any of New York State's regulated casinos.



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Rally Held Locally for Strong Gun Control Laws

Continued from page 1

thing she would never witness again in her lifetime.

"I should not have to worry on whether an active shooter will be in my classroom. I should worry about who's taking me to prom, when the next SAT day is," Rousseau said. "I should be worrying about my next English essay, not an active shooter. I don't want to walk into school and not be able to walk myself out the next day."

Throughout the protest, students ignited passion throughout the crowd chanting numerous slogans such as, "No

guns, no NRA, tell Congress we need our rights today" and "Vote them out."

"This rally doesn't symbolize the polarization of our nations politics, it symbolizes the end of having our futures erased," Ossining High School student Diana Kennedy said. "It symbolizes the beginning of the end to living in fear."

Aya Abdallah, an Ossining freshman, said so many lives have been diminished to kind thoughts and comforting prayers instead of effective action. She stressed that people need to advocate for change and continue to fight for gun reform, adding how society is in a cycle where

they only care about mass shootings only after they occur.

"Let the pain of the mothers and fathers who lost their children, of those who had to bury their best friends, of those who had their favorite teachers killed, resonate with you, not just today, but for the rest of your life," she said. "Let the heartache these kids felt when they showed up to school and their classmates were missing empower you to advocate for change."

The student speakers who addressed the crowd during the two-hour protest also provided a voter registration table urging attendees to vote. Event coordina-

tors said roughly 466 people registered.

"There is nothing more important than coming together and convincing our government to stand against and end gun violence," Croton High School student Corrina Biemer said. "I don't want to become a history teacher and have to teach a lesson to my future students about how kids just like them were being shot in schools and our government did nothing."

"Students of the future deserve to learn a better history than this," she continued. "A history we can write for them by creating change because this is not the history I want to teach."

HV Chamber's New Initiative a Mediapolis in the Making

Continued from page 1

wrong."

Also on the panel were State Senator Terrence Murphy (R/Yorktown), State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef (D/Ossining) and Joan McDonald, director of operations for Westchester County.

"Peekskill has been on the cutting edge with arts studios and artists living there," said Murphy. "You have to have people willing to take the risk and you have people here in Peekskill willing to take that risk."

"This community has so many talent-

ed young people. I don't think we're tooting our horns loud enough," Galef said. "It's been growing and growing. I think all good things are coming to Peekskill."

With the Central Fire Station slated to open later this year, three existing fire stations will be vacant, so Rainey and prominent businessman Louie Lanza said discussions are underway on how possibly those buildings can be reused for youth arts programs.

Rainey mentioned one idea about using the station near the Peekskill Youth Bureau

for music, while Lanza said another station would be ideal for culinary training.

Helping out the chamber by hosting other weekend events included Westch-

ester Community College, Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Peekskill Arts Alliance, Peekskill Film Festival and Peekskill Clay Studio.



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Latimer Pledges to Help Local Task Force Offset Indian Point Loss

By Rick Pezzullo

Westchester County Executive George Latimer pledged to assist local leaders and municipalities in their effort to offset the loss of annual revenue after the Indian Point nuclear power plants shut down in a few years.

During a 90-minute appearance before the Community Local Unity Task Force at Cortlandt Town Hall Thursday night, Latimer said the county, which will lose \$4 million annually from Entergy, own-

ers of the plants, had a stake in Indian Point's exit.

"This issue is important to everyone in Westchester County, on every level," Latimer told the task force members. "We intend to be a partner in this. We're defending our economic interest in common."

Once the plants stop operating in 2021, \$32 million in revenue will also come to a halt. The Hendrick Hudson School District will lose about \$24 million, which represents one-third of its budget, while

the Village of Buchanan will lose \$3 million, which is half its budget. The Town of Cortlandt (\$800,000), Hendrick Hudson Library (\$400,000) and Verplanck Fire District (\$400,000) will also suffer financial hits.

"We don't want this community to become distressed," said Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi. "We know there isn't going to be \$32 million at the end of the rainbow. We're all realistic. We're being proactive. This is a very big challenge."

Puglisi mentioned the Cortlandt Town Board voted in January to retain an economic consultant to look at potential new revenue streams and possible new businesses.

Latimer said county officials would like to take a tour of the area in the near future to identify any open spaces to attract businesses or corporations.

He also offered the assistance of the county's Legal Department to the task force at no cost to help in any way it can.

Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant Begins Final Refueling

By Rick Pezzullo

One of the two operating Indian Point nuclear power plants in the Village of Buchanan received its last fill-up of fuel last week.

Control room operators shut down Unit 2 to begin the 23rd and final scheduled refueling and maintenance outage for the generating unit, which has powered New York City and the lower Hudson Valley since 1974 and is scheduled to shut down by April 30, 2020.

Unit 3, which remains in service at full

power, will conduct its final refueling outage next spring before shutting down permanently by April 30, 2021.

"We remain dedicated to operational excellence at Indian Point and are investing millions of dollars to ensure the facility's continued safe, secure and reliable operation until permanently closing," said Tony Vitale, site vice president and Entergy's top official at Indian Point. "During the next several weeks, approximately 2,000 workers will perform equipment maintenance, comprehensive

safety inspections and refuel the reactor so we can continue to meet our rigorous operational safety standards and provide clean, reliable power to millions of New Yorkers."

About 1,000 additional skilled contract workers are supplementing the nearly 1,000 full-time Entergy facility employees during the outage to complete the refueling and other important maintenance projects.

In January 2017, Entergy, which purchased the plants more than 15 years ago,

announced its plan for the early and orderly shutdown of Indian Point Energy Center as part of a settlement with New York State. In exchange, New York State agreed to drop its legal challenges and support renewal of the operating licenses for the facility.

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Knickerbocker Reelected Mayor in Village of Buchanan

By Rick Pezzullo

It was an eventful week for Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker.

On Tuesday, Knickerbocker was reelected to a third two-year term leading the village where she has lived most of her life on Henry Street. Knickerbocker, running on the Democratic and Resident's Party lines, outlasted Republican challenger Robert Lupica, 174 votes to 47, according to unofficial results.

On Saturday night, Knickerbocker was sworn-in as the new president of the Lincoln Society in Peekskill at the organization's 114th Annual Dinner Dance at The Mansion at Colonial Terrace.

"I've always been interested in history, especially the Civil War," Knickerbocker said. "To me, Abraham Lincoln was the best president we have ever seen."

As for her continuing duties as mayor, Knickerbocker plans on spending the bulk of her time dealing with the impending closure of the Indian Point nuclear power plants, and the loss of \$3 million annually, which is half of Buchanan's operating budget.

"There are different things that are happening. There are many balls in the air. Every option is on the table," she said. "I don't want anyone to panic. I'm confident because we're working on so many things. Most people count sheep in their sleep. I'm counting spent fuel rods."

Knickerbocker, who served several years as a trustee before being elected mayor, said one option not currently being explored is merging the village with the Town of Cortlandt.

"Residents have told us we want to keep the village. We don't want to merge. We don't want to do that," she said. "These people love our services. It's a lot of pressure to get this right."

Knickerbocker stressed she is committed to ensuring Buchanan is still standing once Indian Point stops producing energy.

"I'm all in this," she said. "It's not a political thing to me. I'm a public servant. This is my home. My family and friends live here. It's a great community. It's small-town America."

Meanwhile, also on Tuesday in the low key election, where about 800 residents were eligible to vote, incumbent Village Trustees Richard Funchon and Nicholas Zachary were re-elected running unopposed, as was Village Justice Jennifer Daly.

Theresa Knickerbocker



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Officials, Activists Implore Cuomo to Release Risk Assessment

By Rick Pezzullo

Local elected officials and activists gathered outside Cortlandt Town Hall Thursday evening to urge Governor Andrew Cuomo to release the results of a risk assessment of a high-pressure gas pipeline near the Indian Point nuclear plants that is more than two years overdue.

“How much longer will the governor make us wait?” said Courtney Williams, a Peekskill resident, cancer researcher and member of Resist Spectra. “I’m calling on the governor to do the right thing.”

The state hired a consultant, Henningson, Durham and Richardson, Architects and Engineers, PC, to conduct a risk assessment at a cost of \$250,000, paid by taxpayers, that was planned to be completed by December 31, 2006. Several delays have taken place since and the report still hasn’t surfaced even though the new pipeline has already been constructed.

Paul Blanch, a nuclear power expert who has worked for the state regarding safety at Indian Point, alleged there is a “conspiracy” between the state and Enbridge/Spectra to conceal the risk assessment.

“All we’re getting is promises. None of the commitments from the state to provide information have been met,” Blanch remarked at the rally.

State Assemblywoman Sandra Galef



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Activists were fired up at rally Thursday at Cortlandt Town Hall.

and Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi said letters they have sent to Cuomo in January and March seeking a status report on the risk assessment have not been answered. Galef said she spoke with a Cuomo staff member recently and was told the report should be forthcoming.

“We thought we were going to get it a year ago. It doesn’t may any sense that this report doesn’t appear,” Galef said.

“We need answers. What are they hiding?” said Puglisi, who noted she remains perplexed how the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission allowed Spectra to build the new pipeline closer to Indian Point than where the previous pipeline was located.

Paul Gallay, president of Riverkeeper, the environmental group that was involved with the state and Entergy in the

deal last year that stunned local leaders with the announcement that Indian Point would stop operating in 2021, maintained the pipeline’s proximity to the nuclear plants threatens the region.

“Everyone is speculating does it (risk assessment) have things in it that people don’t want us to know about?” Gallay said. “Silence is not acceptable. The longer this goes on, the worse it looks.”

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Obituaries



Kim Marie Salveggi

Kim Salveggi

Kim Marie Salveggi, a resident of Yorktown, died suddenly March 17. She was 44.

She was born February 2, 1974 in the Bronx to Joseph and Judith Pomaro. She graduated from Spellman High School and then went on to SUNY Farmingdale receiving an Associate's Degree in Science, majoring in Dental Hygiene. She married Louis Salveggi on October 18, 1997. She worked as a Dental Hygienist for Dr. Frank Petronella DDS in Tuckahoe. She was an active volunteer with the American Heart Association and Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

She is survived by her husband Louis, daughters Erica and Olivia, mother and father, Joseph and Judith Pomaro, sister Christine Budington and brother Joseph Pomaro. She was also the loving aunt of Alyssa Budington, Thomas Budington, John Pirrone, Matthew Budington, James Pirrone, Christopher Budington, Frank Pirrone, Milana Pomaro and Matteo Pomaro.

George Tryon

George Robert 'Pop-Pop'/'Pal' Tryon, Sr., a lifelong Peekskill/Cortlandt resident, died March 16. He was 82.

He was born in Peekskill. He was a U.S. Marine veteran, and worked at General Motors in N. Tarrytown for 34 years. He loved camping and gardening, especially growing tomatoes. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mary Tryon, son, George Jr. (Aimee), and daughter, Kathy Tryon (Anthony), three grandchildren,

10 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

Rosa Espinoza

Rosa Evangelina Espinoza, a resident of Ossining, died March 18. She was 89.

She was born in Solano, Ecuador on July 9, 1928 to Juan and Florinda (Ortega) Vanegas. She was a former CCD teacher, a Eucharistic Minister at St. Ann's Church and a volunteer at the St. Ann's Festival.

She is survived by 10 children: Luis R., Eliecer, Joel, Luis G., Victor, Carmen, Maria, Teresa, Julio, and Jenny; 21 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson; and her siblings, Alberto, Jesus, Rosario, and Rosa. She was predeceased by her husband Victor Miguel, her son Raul and her brother Juan.

Josef Sedlmair

Josef Sedlmair, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson, died March 19. He was 91.

He was born on May 23, 1926 in Oberroth, Germany to the late Josef and Magdalena (Haas). He married his late wife Rita M. Hoepfl (d. 2007) in 1963. He is survived by his children Peter and Heidi Sedlmair, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Joseph Hynds

Joseph B. Hynds, a resident of Peekskill, died March 20. He was 78.

He was born in the Bronx to John and Catherine Hynds. He married Madeline Eiseman on Feb. 19, 1983. He worked as a real estate manager for Garthchester Realty Co. retiring in 2000. He is survived by his devoted wife Madeline, his brother Francis Hynds, sister Mary Valdes and her husband Francis and brother-in-law Paul Eiseman. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and grand nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother John.

Mary Lou Keon

Mary Lou Keon, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson, died March 21. She was 86.

She was born October 31, 1931 to Alec and Mary (Fisher) Rizzuto in Peekskill. She married her "High School Sweet-



Mary Lou Keon

heart" Lawrence H. Keon and was happily married for the past 64 years. She was the cornerstone of her family.

In addition to her beloved husband, she is survived by her caring sister, Joanne Hayes (Pat); loving children, Mary Keon, Larry Keon (Jennifer), Eileen Keon, Alexis Watterson (David), Martha Keon (Hal Cole), Brian Keon (Renee) and Katy Latimer; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

William Bulger

William "Billy" J. Bulger, a resident of Ossining, died March 21 after a brief illness. He was 78.

He was born January 4, 1940 to Edward and Catherine Bulger in Brooklyn. He was a graduate of Ossining High School Class of 1958 and proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1961-1965. He was a firefighter for the Village of Larchmont, retiring in 1990, and a retired member of the Bricklayers & Craftworkers Union Local #5 in Tarrytown. He was a 54-year member of the Ossining Fire Department, Washington Hook & Ladder Truck 42.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 54 years, Carol and his loving daughter, Denise Ryan and son-in-law, Robert Ryan. "Pa's" cherished grandchildren, Heather, Shane, and Preston and brother, Michael. Also survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Kathy and Eugene Buonanno and nieces, Marlaina and Corie and nephew, Devin.

The family would especially like to thank Mr. Bulger's wonderful caregivers, Delenah, Novelette, Liz and Bryan for their excellent care and would also like to thank the Phelps Memorial Hospital Center Doc-

tors and Nursing staff for his care.

Marie Birdas

Marie "Peppy" Clune Birdas, a lifelong resident of Peekskill, died March 23. She was 89.

She was born in Peekskill on April 4, 1928 to John Jr. and Grace Hadfield Clune. She was employed for more than 16 years as a supervisor in the Westchester County Dept. of SS, retiring in 1991.

She is survived by her son, James J. Birdas, daughters, Barbara Risco (Richard) and Georgene "Gigi" Lisella (Peter), three grandchildren; Lynn Marie Lisella (Cesar Hernandez), Rachel Risco Avon (Jason), and LeeAnn Lisella (Christopher Orenstein); and two great-grandsons. She was predeceased by her husband, George J. Birdas on July 10, 1982, and h

Dorothy Teets

Dorothy R. (Conklin) Teets, a resident of Peekskill, died March 20. She was 88.

Daughter to Clarence and Lillian (Harbolic) Conklin, she lived in Peekskill most of her life, raising four children as a single mother. While working at the St. Mary's Episcopal School as a housekeeper during the day she put herself through college at night, eventually earning her LPN and RN degrees. She went to work at the VA Hospital in Montrose for close to 30 years with veterans in the psychiatric ward who had suffered from what we know today to be Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. She was an energetic and outgoing woman, who was never one to sit still. She was always on the move. Lovingly nicknamed "booges" by her family, she loved to dance and could walk from one end of Peekskill to the next without missing a beat. She was an active member of the Peekskill Democratic City Committee where she developed amazing friends and an extended family, and worked tirelessly to elect local candidates she believed in.

She was predeceased by her brother, Robert Conklin, her father Clarence Conklin, her mother Lillian (Harbolic) Conklin, and her granddaughter Rebecca Ellen Teets. She leaves behind four children, Clifford, Joann (Fidgeon), Alvin, and Kevin, as well as eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and an indomitable spirit that will not be forgotten.

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Letters to the Editor

The Public Deserves Unfiltered News

To the Editor:

It seems that the CPRAC either does not have a copy of the bill of rights or they have never read and understood it. There is an amendment, the First in fact, that gives us the right of free speech. It seems that the CPRAC does not agree with that right. They specifically point to photographs of African-Americans in particular having a powerful effect in reinforcing negative stereotypes. In our society that seems to

be fixated on ethnic heritage, African-American, Hispanic-American, Irish-American, or anything -American the rules on reporting something has to be changed? Just what does a picture have to do with reinforcing a stereotype?

I remember a while back when police departments were being told not to be too descriptive on their descriptions of perpetrators in their radio dispatches. Male, wearing red jacket. The officers

were lucky they even knew it was a male. Those dispatchers could not describe the suspect by color or ethnicity.

The simple matter is that if you don't commit a crime, your picture won't be in the paper unless you want it to be. The public has a right to get the news, unfiltered. To show you what would happen if the press followed what the CPRAC wanted, would be like the censorship happening all over Europe

with the crimes being committed by the so called "immigrants." The press in these countries are being gagged on reporting the crimes being perpetrated.

Censored pictures today, tomorrow the story shelved. Is that what the CPRAC really wants? Kind of makes you wonder, doesn't it?

Respectfully,

FRANCIS T MCVETTY,
Yorktown

First Annual Yorktown Springfest was a Success

To the Editor:

As a shining example of what makes Yorktown the very special place that it is, the First Annual "Springfest" held last Saturday by the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce was a fantastic event, offering visitors a great variety of activities for the whole family.

I want to thank all those responsible for its success -our sponsors, all the restaurants who offered great food, our vendors, the bands who provided different kinds of music, our silent auction donors, and of course the many Yorktowners who came out to support us.

While the weather was just a bit chilly, visitors were warmed by the enthusiasm, talents and offerings of all those involved. We look forward to making this an annual event to add to all the other opportunities we find through the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce which is proud to serve the businesses of our community.

ERIC DIBARTOLO,
President, Yorktown
Chamber of Commerce

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For Better Home Security, Take Certain Precautions

Now that I live in a condo building with great security, I don't worry about the possibility of a burglary. But for many years, after having had a most unsettling experience when I lived in a single-family home in Brooklyn Heights, I thought about the possibility every day.

The distant memory of that morning still makes my blood run cold. When we awoke, my wife told me she had dreamed someone was in our bedroom while we were asleep. Until we were wide awake, we had no idea that this had actually happened.

When we went downstairs, we found that our back door had been taken totally off its hinges and that an intruder had spent con-

siderable time with us. He (I am just assuming that it was a man, but who knows?) had scoured every one of our rooms, looking for cash. We knew this because every book in our library had been leafed through. He stayed long enough to help himself to the snack foods in our kitchen.

The stranger had even been in my child's room, and stole the piggy bank next to her bed. It makes me shudder when I think about what might have happened had I awakened.

At the time, living in a single-family house in New York City with no alarm system, we were totally vul-

Continued on page 20

The Northern Westchester
Examiner

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Editor-in-Chief

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By Bill Primavera

Students, Parents Demand Increased Funding for Ossining

By Anna Young

Nearly 100 students and parents from the Ossining School District gathered in Market Square in Ossining last week demanding Governor Andrew Cuomo provide the district with its fair share of foundation aid funding.

For over a decade, the Ossining School District has become one of the lowest funded foundation aid districts throughout the state struggling to provide the necessary resources to ensure students

receive the best possible education.

Parent group, Ossining for Fair Funding, organized the rally calling on Cuomo to provide Ossining with the same sufficient and reasonable funding as the average district in the state.

Ben Zebelman, co-founder of the parent group, stressed the importance of holding elected officials accountable for providing what's fair.

"I'm not trying to get money to build a sports dome down by the riverfront, I'm



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Parents and students are looking for their fair share of state funding.

fighting for education and there's nothing purer than that," Zebelman said at the March 22 protest. "We need Albany to stop chipping away at public education and stifling money off to charter schools. We need the support of the state who has our money."

With the release of the Executive Budget, the district is slated to be one

of the lowest funded districts within the state despite a significant increase in enrollment over the last 10 years.

Since the foundation aid formula was established in 2008, the district has failed to receive the adequate funding to support the schools' 24 percent (963 stu-

Continued on page 17



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Somers Fourth Graders Celebrate Annual Colonial Day

By Anna Young

Somers Intermediate School fourth graders learned firsthand what life was like in the 1600s as the school celebrated its annual Colonial Day last Friday.

History came alive during the school's annual event as students dressed in colonial garb and participated in activities where they experienced life during colonial times. Activities included butter churning, tin punching, colonial cooking, candle making, colonial games, and an in-depth lesson on history and colonial artifacts.

Fourth-grade teacher John Badini, who started the program 12 years ago with learning coach and ELA coordinator Linda Belger, said the event gives students an opportunity to gain empathy

and learn more about the historical time period through hands-on activities.

"It's all of a continuum to promote living history and to get the children to go beyond the four walls of a classroom and the two sides of a book," Badini said. "And remembering the importance of the connection of this day with colonial times to our overtime times of our country."

Students will apply what they learned during the March 23 event as they gather next month for American Revolution Living History Day. The event, scheduled

for April 9, is dedicated to reenacting life as soldier during the Revolutionary War.

Joe Ryan, president and founder of the Living History Education Foundation, has collaborated with the district since the program's inception continually providing authenticity to the interactive event. Ryan spent the day educating students on the continental soldier and exhibiting colonial artifacts including British grenadier helmet and a Brown Bess Musket.

Ryan said his workshop provides students with the knowledge they need

when they are officially enlisted in the continental army next month.

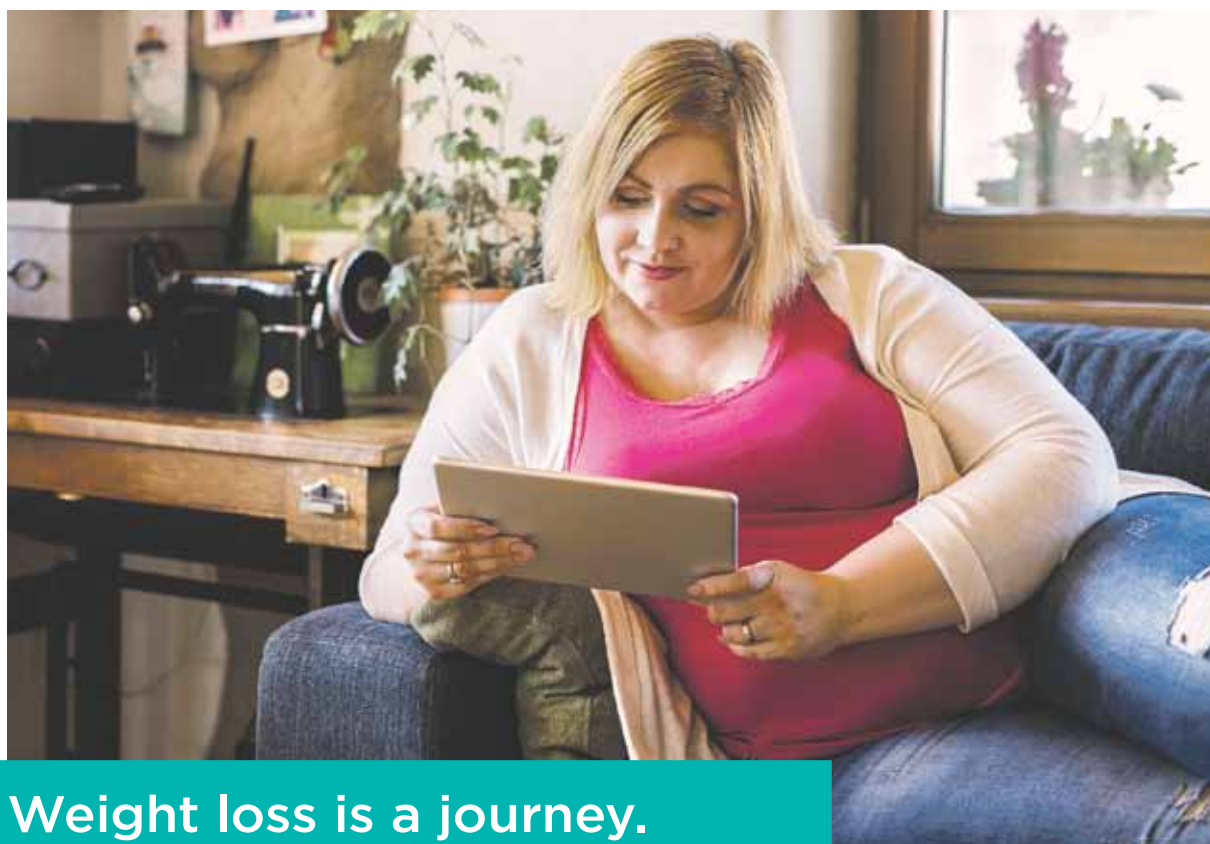
"This is very tactile and experiential based," Ryan said. "If you can actively engage students and they feel a sense of involvement they end up remembering it and understanding it better."

Students were excited as they rotated workshops expressing how interesting and fun the day was. Fourth-grader Sophia Elezaj said she was excited to tell her parents about what she learned throughout the day.



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Fourth grader Jack Alessandro dressed in historical uniform.



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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

CAMPS

First Time at Camp? Talking with Your Child

By Bob Ditter, L.C.S.W.

Sending your child away to camp for the first time is a major milestone for most families, one that is often marked by excitement, anticipation, and perhaps even some anxiety. Though camp is certainly about making friends and having fun, it is also about being on your own and being a part of a community. One of the most important things you as a parent can do to help prepare your child for both these aspects of camp is to talk with your child about it before he/she goes. In fact, it may be better to have several occasional, shorter talks rather than one long conversation as children often absorb more when there is less to think about at one time. I also find that children do better with this sort of conversation if it is part of a more general conversation and if it is part of a pattern of talking, either at the dinner table or while riding in the car doing errands.

The following are some sample topics for discussion that will help prepare your child emotionally for their big adventure:

Friends

Camp is not anything if it is not about



making new friends. If you are shy about meeting new kids, then learn to get to know others by being a good listener. Remember also that not everyone in your cabin, bunk, or group has to be your friend, and you don't have to be everyone else's friend. As long as you treat others with respect and they do the same with you, then having one or two friends at camp is fine. If you have more, then that's

great!

Activities

There are many exciting things to do at camp, many of which you may never have tried before. If your child tends to be a bit homesick or worried about being homesick, remind him/her about the excitement of going to camp: Remember, when you first decided to go to camp,

what made you so excited? You may not like all the activities, or you may be better at some than others. That's normal. I, however, hope you are willing to try. The more you put into camp, the more you will get out of it!

Cooperating

You, like every other camper there, will be part of a cabin, bunk, or group. As your parent, I hope you will cooperate with others and help out. That's part of what makes camp so special — kids helping each other out. Most kids will help you if you are friendly and help them.

Give yourself time. One thing about camp is that almost everything is new — the kids, the activities, the routines, the bed you sleep in, the bathroom. It takes a few days to get adjusted, so be patient with yourself. Most of the time you will be having so much fun you won't mind all the changes, but if you do, remember that you will get so used to things that by the time you come home you will miss all those things!

Helping out

Camp is about fun, but it also requires

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First Time at Camp?

that you help out. Clean-up is part of camp. You do it every day! As your parent, I hope you will cooperate!

Getting help

Everyone has good days and bad days. If you are having a problem, your counselor is there to help you! You don't have to wait to tell us if you are upset about something. After all, if your counselor doesn't know what might be troubling you, he/she can't help you. Be honest and ask for what you need. If your counselor doesn't seem to be concerned or doesn't help you, then you can go to the unit director, head counselor, etc. Parents should know who these "back-up persons" are and how their child will recognize them if they need to.

Being Positive

It's a great thing to remind your first-time camper about his or her strong points. I would focus not just on what they do well, but their positive qualities as well, such as what makes them a good friend or the type of person other kids would want to know. Helping children identify their strengths can help them when they are having a setback — one of those inevitable growing pains all children have from time to time.

Talking with your child about these kinds of issues is a great way to show support as your child gets ready to take this important step on the road to being more resilient and self-reliant. For you as a parent, it can give you more peace of mind as you allow your child to participate safely in a broader world.

To learn more about camp and child development, please visit the American Camp Association's Web site: www.ACACamps.org, or call the toll-free number, 1-800-428-CAMP (2267).

Bob Ditter is a child and family therapist living in Boston who consults extensively with people who work with children. He was special consultant to the Disney Channel for their series "Bug Juice." Ditter has visited over 500 children's camps in the United States, has been quoted in Sports Illustrated, The New York Times, Parent Magazine, and the Ladies Home Journal. He has appeared on "The Today Show" and the "Evening News with Peter Jennings" and is considered one of the nation's leading experts on camp.

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10,000
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20,000,000
games and rides
987,000
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June 25 – August 24

By the Week or Season

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Maundy Thursday - March 29th (THE LAST SUPPER with HIM)
7:00 pm Holy Communion and Worship Service

Good Friday - March 30th (AT THE CROSS with HIM)
Noon - 3:00 pm Sanctuary open for prayers & devotion
7:00 pm Worship Service

EASTER CHANGES EVERYTHING - LET'S CELEBRATE

HE IS RISEN! SUNDAY, APRIL 1st



- 6:15 am Sunrise Service
- 10:00 am Easter Celebration & Service of Holy Communion
Rev. Gene Ott, Pastor - musical offerings by The Methodists Praise Band and YUMC Senior Choir conducted by Ms. Karen Longwell, Director of Music
- 11:45 am - Easter Egg Hunt

To the people of Yorktown and surrounding communities,
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- Councilman Vishnu Patel



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Happenings

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

Tuesday, March 27

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

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

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

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

Hebrew Classes: Hebrew Classes are being held at the First Hebrew Congregation every Tuesday through March 27. First Hebrew offers two classes for adults who want to either converse or read He-

brew faster. The conversational classes run from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The classes are free for members of First Hebrew or \$5 per class for others. The class to read Hebrew faster follows at 7:30 p.m. RSVP fhc@firsthebrew.org or 914-739-0500. First Hebrew is located just west of Beach Center at 1821 Main St., Route 6, Peekskill. Visit www.firsthebrew.org.

Wednesday, March 28

Senior's Fitness Classes: Free fitness classes are being offered to seniors who reside in the City of Peekskill on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. The Class name is "The Workout." For more information, please contact Ray Glashoff at 914-734-4254. Classes are held at the Neighborhood Center (Field Library), 4 Nelson Ave., downstairs from the Library.

Sport Of A Lifetime: From 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Somers Library, join author and tennis enthusiast Judy Aydelott as she shares anecdotes from her book, "Sport of a Lifetime: Enduring Personal Stories From Tennis." Her book consists of interviews of tennis stars all over 50 years old, including well-known players such as Gardnar Mulloy, Mayor David Dinkins and Betty Eisenstein, who won tournaments well into her 90s. Registration is required; register online at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717.

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.

Admissions and Financial Aid: Admissions & Financial Aid: What it Takes to Get into College Today will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Somers Library. Seating is limited and registration is required. Please go to our online calendar at www.somerslibrary.org or call us at 914-232-5717. Our programs are funded by the Friends of the Somers Library through your donations.

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

Bingo Wednesdays: Come to First Hebrew for \$2,000 in total guaranteed bingo prizes, plus an average of \$1,000 awarded in specialty games. Doors open 5 p.m. and games begin 7:15 p.m. every Wednesday (except holidays - check

First Hebrew's website calendar). First Hebrew is just west of the Beach Shopping Center at 1821 Main St., Peekskill. Info: 914-739-0500 or www.firsthebrew.org.

Ladies Night Out: Support Connection announces a free event for women living with breast, ovarian and gynecological cancers: "Ladies Night Out - Paint Your Own Wineglass." It will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Yorktown Community and Cultural Center, 1974 Commerce St. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Thursday, March 29

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

IBM Retirees Club: The Tri-State IBM Retirees Club will meet in the meeting hall of the United Methodist Church, 1176 E Main St, Shrub Oak. The guest speaker, Jim Rothschild, will present "United For the Troops." Club 2018 dues of \$20 will be collected. Coffee will be served at 1 p.m. and the meeting begins at 1:30 p.m. Info: Peg Ryan at 914-528-5916.

Holy Week Services: The following Holy Week services will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, 2880 Crompond Rd. Maundy Thursday (3/29): 7:30 pm. Good Friday (3/30): the Sanctuary will be open all day and a worship service will be held at 7:30 p.m. Easter (4/1): sunrise service in Downing Park at 6:30 a.m., followed by breakfast in Fellowship Hall. Worship services will also be held on Easter in the Sanctuary at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. Info: www.fpcyorktown.org.

Friday, March 30

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

Job Hunting Help: Free drop-in, hands-on assistance with online applica-

tions, 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

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

Saturday, March 31

Zen Meditation: Authentic Zen meditation under the guidance of Rev. Paul Tesshin Silverman is held every Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Fourth Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Westchester, 1 1698 Strawberry Rd. Mohegan Lake. Visit us at <http://www.yorktownzen.org> or e-mail us at yorktownzen@gmail.com.

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 infor-

Happenings

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mation, call 845-528-2305.

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

Ossining Farmers Market: The Ossining Down to Earth Farmers Market is now being held outdoors on Spring and Market Streets. Customers old and new will find delicious produce, pasture-raised meat, poultry, and eggs, breads, baked goods, and much more. For a full list of our markets and vendors, visit

DowntoEarthMarkets.com.

Community Seder: Temple Israel of Putnam Valley will be holding its 11th Annual Community Seder at 7 p.m. Please join us for a delicious, fully-catered Seder, plus reading from the Hagadah, singing, and more. Reservations are required and tickets are \$30 per person. RSVP no later than March 28th at rsvp@tipv.org or 845-528-2305. The Temple is located at 137 Lake Drive, Lake Peekskill Info: www.tipv.org.

Support Connection Yoga Program: Support Connection announces a free weekly program Yoga: A Path toward Wellness will be held every Saturday for the rest of March, beginning today, 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, April 1

Palm Sunday Service: Palm Sunday services will be held at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, 2880 Crompond Rd. Info: www.fpcyorktown.org.

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

Monday, April 2

Somers Library Monday Program: Bridge at the Somers Library is being held on Mondays throughout 2018 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. These classes are for beginners and players with some experience as well. Learn how to navigate your way around the game from bridge maven Walter Heitner. You will learn bidding and work on the play of the hand. By working with a group, you will all get better together. Space is limited; register online at www.somerslibrary.org or call the library at 914-232-5717.

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

Demand for Increased Funding

Continued from page 9

dents) enrollment increase. While most of the more than 700 school districts in the state have decreased in enrollment, Ossining is one of 18 districts statewide to experience an enrollment of more than 500 students.

The district has also experienced a 53 percent increase in free and reduced lunch applicants; 59 percent increase in students with extraordinary needs; 70 percent increase in students living in poverty; and a 31 percent decrease in combined wealth ration, which measures the community's ability to share the burden of educating students.

"We are thrilled people want to be in Ossining," Ossining Superintendent of Schools Ray Sanchez said. "It is a wonderful community but now we need the state to come in and adjust this formula to give these kids the money their school

district needs."

Under Cuomo's proposed budget, Ossining will receive only 40.7 percent of the allocated foundation aid versus the state average of 80 percent. With a projected increase of \$156,638, it would bring the districts 2018-19 total to \$11 million resulting in a \$16 million gap.

"It is time for our children to receive their fair share of funding," said Jessica Vecchiarelli, the organization's communications director. "Ossining student needs are here and now and can no longer wait. We're going to keep making noise until our children are fully funded."

Members of the Ossining school administration along with the fair funding organization will be meeting with the Cuomo administration next week and other elected officials to discuss the future of Ossining schools.

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CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER

Friday, April 6, 8 P.M. Gardiner Theater at Trinity-Pawling School

Six members of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, one of 11 constituent companies of the celebrated performing arts complex, will come to Pawling to perform an evening of the works of Johannes Brahms and Antonin Dvorak - contemporaries and friends who drew mutual inspiration from each other.



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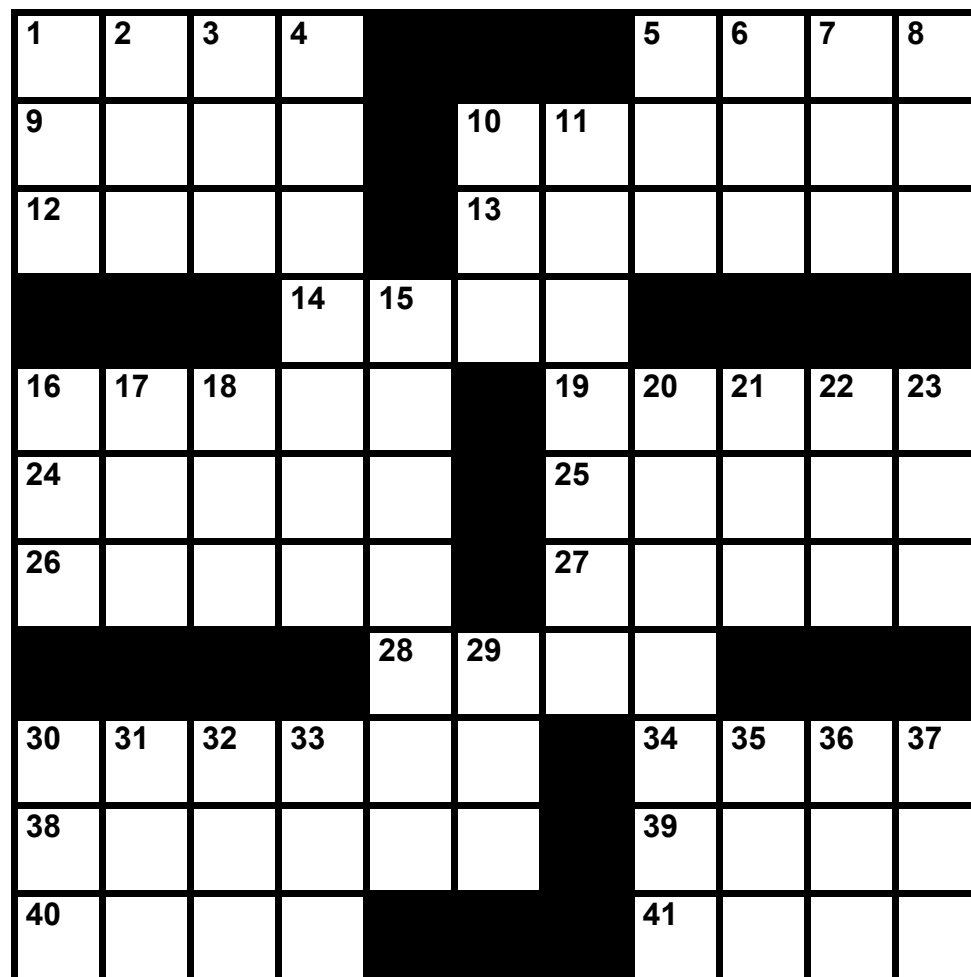
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Crossword

ACROSS

1. Peter, for one
5. Makes it
9. Celestial headwear
10. Bible songs
12. Slangy assents
13. Regard as the same
14. Beige shade
16. Actress Gibbs
19. You don't need to be the "creme de la creme" to be a patient at this Yorktown dental office
24. Grown-up
25. Mooed in a meadow
26. Mexican pyramid builder
27. Murmured
28. Snarky laughs
30. Majority sentiment, abbr.
34. Cornerstone abbr.
38. Singer Easton
39. Neighbor of Vietnam
40. Put up
41. Long, dismal cry

4. NJ borough or Mohegan Lake lighting center
5. Nineteenth Greek letter
6. Cookbook phrase
7. World time standard
8. Compass point
10. ___ capita
11. Suppress
15. Get the picture
16. Kid's cry
17. Cutting tool
18. Pothole
20. Without encumbrance
21. W.W. II battle site, for short
22. Letter
23. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Roush
29. Environmental watchdogs
30. Vision benefits provider
31. "So there you are!"
32. Marks
33. Dearie
35. ___ Paulo, Brazil
36. Auto-club service
37. Cable alternative



DOWN

1. Lord's Prayer pronoun
2. Automotive engineers' org.
3. Piz Bernina, e.g.

Ferreting Out Wine Gems Has Never Been Easier – and More Difficult

Today's wine market is unlike any in the history of the retail wine trade. Never has there been more wine available at such high-quality levels and at such reasonable quality and price thresholds.

Think about it. When was the last time you opened a bottle of wine, poured it, tasted the first sip and complained about the quality? When was the last time you experimented with an inexpensive bottle and were so disappointed you poured the remaining wine down the drain? Or, when was the last time you splurged on a bottle and were disappointed in the quality of the wine?

This abundance of quality wines represents the epitome of the worldwide wine market in today's economy. The improving global financial markets are aiding in increased sales as well.

As with all markets, much of success is perception. A perception of the source of wine, a perception of the price of wine and a perception of the expansiveness of wine supply chains. While the reality of the wine market is as I've described, there are multiple factors that cloud the state of the in-

dustry today.

First, while the proliferation of wines is at an all-time high, the wines being produced are in the tight control of a small number of mega producers. Consider a statistic I've quoted on numerous occasions: 84 percent of the wine produced in the United States is from 2 percent of the wineries. Now that's economy of scale – and significant savings to consumers. But it makes for a rather homogeneous selection. There's not much diversity in a wine that is produced in annual quantities measured in millions of cases. Yet this is the 21st century business model.

Second, the other 98 percent of the wineries are smaller scale, the majority producing less than 5,000 cases per year. There are more than 9,000 wineries in the United States, nearly half in California. Yet these wines are not well-represented on retail shelves. Why? The top 10 distributors in the United States control over 50 percent of the retail market – and by extension, shelf space. As big businesses their priority is repeat sales. Wineries producing less than 5,000 cases cannot sustain long-term retail popularity. Brand loyalty is the

ever-elusive goal of distributors and winemakers. If they are unable to consistently offer the consumer what he or she wants, the fickle consumer moves on to the next brand. Today, there are excellent wines that are can't gain traction through the current retail model.

Third, wines offerings in the mass media continue to grow. While representing a small portion of annual wine sales in the United States, private label clubs have attracted a loyal following. Have you ever been seduced by an introductory offer of 12 bottles for \$69.95? Have you ever attempted to repurchase the same wine? These private clubs, many of which are promoted under the banners of national newspapers, are enticing but rarely satiate long-term appetites.

Fourth, direct winery sales are beginning to gain popularity. Whether via a club structure, such as the mass media type above, or mailing list subscriptions, this is an excellent means to find small production wines made by passionate winemakers. I am a subscriber to the mailing lists of several California wineries. Periodically I receive email offerings of new releases. Several wineries require an annual commitment; others are of the pick-and-

choose, no obligation nature.

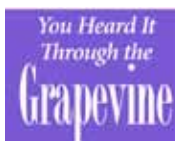
Yet, for all these choices and perception-quashing opportunities, there remain a significant number of wines that fly under the radar. These winemakers are faced with multiple challenges in selling their excellent wines. These include small production, smaller marketing budgets and even smaller capital resources. At times the only means to become aware of their existence is through local word-of-mouth. This requires a trek down dusty, winding country roads. I have undertaken multiple expeditions to several wine regions, notably California, in search of little-known jewels. I have rarely been disappointed. But the challenge is formidable.

I recently embarked on one of these expeditions. I'll regale you with my recent exploits, beginning next week.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.



By Nick Antonaccio



(Solution to puzzle on page 19)

1	T	2	S	3	A	4	R				5	T	6	A	7	G	8	S	
9	H	A	L	O				10	P	11	S	A	L	M	S				
12	Y	E	P	S				13	E	Q	U	A	T	E					
				14	E	15	C	R	U										
16	M	17	A	18	R	L	A			19	E	20	L	21	I	22	T	23	E
24	A	D	U	L	T					25	L	O	W	E	D				
26	A	Z	T	E	C					27	C	O	O	E	D				
						28	H	29	E	H	S								
30	V	31	O	32	X	33	P	O	P			34	E	35	S	36	T	37	D
38	S	H	E	E	N	A						39	L	A	O	S			
40	P	O	S	T								41	Y	O	W	L			

For Better Home Security, Take Certain Precautions

Continued from page 8

nerable to burglary or worse. Never again, I thought. From then on, and following our move to the suburbs, I took all the traditional precautions, as well as some unconventional ones, to guard against robbery and home intrusion.

A while back, I received a forwarded email from a buyer client, a police officer in the Bronx, about preventing burglaries. While I already knew many of its points, I found some of its content new and useful. Credit for the advisory is given to several investigators and criminology professors who interviewed a large number of burglars in prison systems. Here are the tips that resulted.

The burglar may have been at your home recently cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or power-washing your siding and deck. A dishonest individual would use that time to check your home for valuables or weak points.

Few of us would refuse to let a worker into our home to use the bathroom. Just make sure your guest doesn't unlock any door or window to facilitate an easy return.

Keep your doors locked. It's obvious, but burglars only need you to forget once. Ditto for engaging your alarm system and closing your windows.

When you are away, be sure someone takes in your mail and newspapers. Ask a neighbor to leave footprints after it snows.

Burglars very cruelly check obituaries to see when a home will be left unoccupied.

Get a house sitter for when you will be away. Use similar precautions when you are having a tag sale or packing for a move.

Keep your car keys next to your bed. If you sense that someone is trying to enter the house, press the panic button for your car. With the alarm going off, the intruder won't want to hang around.

A somewhat unorthodox suggestion I once received when asking what I should do if I had the misfortune to encounter a burglar in my house involved the use of wasp spray, rather than pepper spray, for self defense. Wasp spray can allegedly shoot up to 20 or 30 feet and is more accurate in hitting its target. I researched this and found that federal law prohibits the use of a pesticide that is inconsistent with its intended use. However, some might argue that this method of self defense might be compared to a homeowner's hitting an intruder over the head with a shovel, which is certainly not the intended use for a garden tool either.

When I once blogged about the use of wasp spray, I received a stern repudiation from one reader who asked if I really wanted to be responsible for blinding someone, despite the crime involved. It gave me pause and I thought, well, only if my life seemed threatened.

It may be unpleasant to think about the possibilities of burglaries, or worse, the terror of a home invasion, but we know that they do happen. Being informed and taking every precaution possible is the smartest thing to do.



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FORMATION OF BROOKMONT MANAGEMENT, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/9/18. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to **Penny Jackson, 45 Winchester Oval, New Rochelle, NY 10805. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NEW LOOK DEVELOPERS, LLC filed with SSNY on 1/17/18. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **20 Van Buren Pl., White Plains, NY 10603. Purpose: Buying and renovation of homes.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DENNIS J. CAMPAGNA, ARBITRATOR, LLC Art. of Org. filed with Sec. of State 01/16/18. Off. loc.in Westchester CO. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **Dennis J Campagna, 50 Main Street, Suite 1000, White Plains, NY 10606-1900 PURPOSE: Any lawful business.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE LAW & MEDIATION OFFICES OF LORI GREENE, PLLC. Arts of Org filed with SSNY 1/5/18. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Law & Mediation Offices of Lori Greene, PLLC, 75 S. Broadway, Suite 400, White Plains, NY 10601. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CA-DEAU FRAGRANCE, LLC filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/13/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the principal business address: **11 Patriots Farm Place, Armonk NY 10504. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MIDLAND AVE DELICATESSEN LLC filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/12/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the principal business address: **24 Cedar Place, Rye, NY 10580. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

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continued on next page

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continued from previous page

be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **128 Court Street White Plains, NY 10601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HAUS OF FUREY LLC. ARTS. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/22/18. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at **36 Lee Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ALM SPEECH THERAPY, PLLC ART. OF ORG. filed with SSNY on February 13, 2018. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **2810 Springhurst St, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE WEST HOLLOW GROUP LLC. Art of organization filed with the SSNY on 1/29/18. Office location is PUTNAM County NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **7 West Hollow Rd Brewster NY 10509. PURPOSE: any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SET IT IN STONES, LLC Art of organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/08/2017. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **71 Wheeler Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CG MEDICAL BILLING SERVICES, LLC

Art of organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/22/2018. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **168 Douglas Ave., Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A LICENSE, NUMBER "PENDING" FOR BEER, WINE AND CIDER has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Wine and Cider at retail at a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 39 WHEELER AVENUE PLEASANTVILLE, NY 10570 for On Premises Consumption. **SMPL ENTERPRISES, INC. DBA TZATZIKI GREEK GRILL 39 WHEELER AVENUE PLEASANTVILLE, NY 10570 BRIDEM, INC. AMICI'S RESTAURANT 1099 NORTH DIVISION STREET BUILDING B STORES #2 AND #3 PEEKSKILL NY 10566**

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ART BOYKOFF, LLC led with SSNY on 1/25/2018 located in Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. designated as agent of LLC. Process may be served against LLC to above agent located at **7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, New York 11228. Purpose: Recreational art instructor**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF RNB NEW YORK REALTY, LLC. Arts of Org

filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/8/2017. 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: **Kristen Renzulli, 31 Overlook Drive, Chappaqua NY 10514. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.**

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FERGUSON SERVICES LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 12/20/17. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **FERGUSON SERVICES LLC 90 Shinglehouse Road Millwood NY 10546. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

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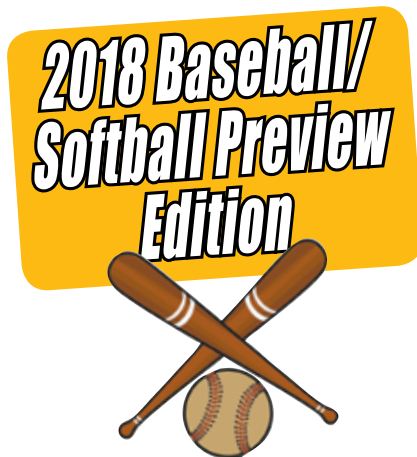
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Inquiring Minds Want to Know if Yorktown Can Contend for League, Section Crown

Yorktown senior RHP Alby Ciufetelli was a workhorse on the mound for the Huskers last season, firing 37 innings to the tune of a 1.60 ERA, and he returns this spring as one of three legit arms for Yorktown Coach Sean Kennedy (inset photo), who has good reason for optimism after the Huskers reached the Class AA quarterfinals last year and have won 50 games of the last four seasons. The road to any Class AA title will ultimately run through Dutchess County where reigning Section 1 champion Arlington will have to deal with the likes of new-look Mahopac (the only team to beat the Admirals twice last year) and first-year Coach Myk Lugbauer. Saddle up, gang, the 2018 Baseball and Softball campaigns should be quite compelling... see Baseball/Softball Notebooks

The Road to Boulder Stadium

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

With the recent stretch of four Nor'easters in less than three weeks, it hardly seems like it's time to take anyone out to the ol' ball game, but once the Section 1 baseball season begins it could be over in the blink of an eye.

"With this weather we might need everyone to pitch since we'll have to squeeze in 20 games in something like 22 (eligible) dates," Lakeland Coach Bill Casey said.

That's an absurd amount of games to squeeze in to so little time, but that's the hand Mother Nature has dealt, and if managers don't have pitchers who can deal, they could be in heap of trouble, especially with local teams adapting to

Year 2 of NYSPHSAA rules surrounding pitch counts, rest between starts and innings pitched per week.

Aimed at preventing injuries and overuse of adolescent arms, the pitch count regulations limit varsity pitchers to 105 in one day (while capping JV pitchers at 85 and modified at 75). It also details periods of rest, depending on how many pitches are thrown. For varsity pitchers who throw between 96 and 105 pitches, four nights of rest are required. Three nights' rest are required if 66 and 95 pitches are thrown, two for 31 to 65 pitches and one night's rest for one to 30 pitches.

There could, as a result, be a lot of pitchers toeing the rubber who might not normally be asked to do so. Additionally, the newly-enacted NYSPHSAA mercy

rule could also affect who pitches: Beginning this spring, there will be a mercy rule for baseball teams throughout NYS. If the run differential is 10 runs or more after five innings (four-and-a-half innings if the home team is winning), the game will be declared over.

Lots of wheeling and dealing for managers to contend with as they seek their place at Boulder Stadium, home of the Section 1 championships: So have a look-see, won't you...

CLASS AA (Arlington, reigning champ)

It is time to start looking at **YORKTOWN (9-13-1)** as more than just a lacrosse school after the 16th-seeded Huskers upset the apple cart last season by knocking off No.1 North Rockland in the opening round of the Class AA tournament. Mahopac finished off

Yorktown in the quarters, but the bread is in the basket and the Huskers are poised to feed this spring.

Coach Sean Kennedy has three legitimate hurlers toeing the Yorktown rubber this season, and this trio will do significant damage to opposing lineups when healthy, beginning with junior lefty Anthony Fusco. The All-League hurler has already committed to play next-level ball at Albany. Powerful and crafty, Fusco sits at a sturdy 6'3" and 245 pounds, torching gas at 85-87 MPH with some dirty off-speed stuff.

"As a sophomore he only gave up seven hits in 17 innings," Coach Kennedy said. "He might wind up being the most dominant pitcher we have had, and that is saying something with Chris Henry (St.

continued on page 24

Sports

Baseball Notebook

John's), Jack Kelly (Manhattan) and Jim Sharkey (Fairleigh Dickinson) over the last three years."

Senior RHP Alby Cuifetelli returns with All-League honors as well. A quick worker who pounds the zone, Cuifetelli fired 37 innings last year to the tune of a 1.60 ERA.

"He threw first-pitch strikes to 75% of his batters and averaged just 16 pitches an inning," Kennedy said. "And he's added 2-3 MPH this off-season to top out



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Mahopac OF Steve Daly will need to be a leader on and off the field for 1st-year Coach Myk Lugbauer's Indians.

around 85."

Opponents will also want to pay close attention to junior lefty Joe Sgobbo, a 6'5" 240-pounder with near-90 MPH gas. "Not many teams know about Joe, but they will soon," Kennedy said. "He will soon gain a lot of attention. We will look to use him more out of the bullpen, so he might not put up some of the gaudy pitching stats, but with our depth on the mound he has the ability to shorten games."

Yorktown has several other core guys that Kennedy admires, including Nick Farda, Tyler McDonell and Chris Sica.

"The kids really think this is a year to make a deep run and I would be disappointed if we don't win a league title," Kennedy admitted. "Section titles are so hard to win, and there is so much quality pitching in the section now. The tournament is a lot about the matchups, but we feel we have the best pitching top to bottom in the section and are set to make a good run."

Yorktown hasn't had the kind of run to produce a Section 1 title since 1995, but 2018 could shake out as a banner campaign if the unit remains healthy and focused on the task at hand.

MAHOPAC (15-8) reached the Section 1 Class AA semifinals as a No.9 seed in Coach Chris Miller's final year as Indian boss, thus ending a successful nine-year run when Miller accepted an admin job at Yorktown High where he became an assistant principal. His departure opened

the door for Indian assistant coach and former Mahopac star Myk Lugbauer, who enters Year 1 of a new era at Mahopac; where baseball has long been a staple of the community.

Having graduated in 2006 before moving on to the University of Maine, Lugbauer, a catcher with a hose for an arm, was also the last "big bat" to come out of Mahopac, which has relied more on pitching, defense and small ball to remain a consistent part of the baseball fabric in Section 1.

"It's been my dream to take this program over and having worked under Coach Miller for as long as I did, I know I'm ready," Lugbauer said. "The tradition here is second to none, starting with Mr. (Frank) Miele, Coach (Frank) Moloney and then Coach Miller."

The Indians were the only team to beat eventual Class AA champ Arlington twice during the 2017 regular season and Lugbauer believes his players have the drive to continue to improve, maybe even challenge for Mahopac's first Section 1 title since 1997 when ace Chris Tantalos guided the Indians to the NYS Final before his tragic passing a few years later.

"We return a good portion of our lineup and we have some new guys coming in that will fill the holes we had nicely," said Lugbauer, a Louisville Slugger freshman all-American, an America East first-team player as a sophomore and a Louisville Slugger preseason third-team All-American as a junior. "We aren't as experienced on the mound as I would like us to be, but I think we have the talent to make up for our inexperience. I think our biggest strength is going to be our defense. We have a bunch of guys who are willing to sacrifice their bodies to make a big play. I think it will be a good year for Pac baseball."

Ace RHP Anthony Simeone will anchor the staff. The senior will also play infield



Yorktown IF Nick Farda brings the Huskers valuable experience for what could be a banner 2018 season.

for the Indians, seeking their first sectional title since 1997.

"Anthony did a good job on the mound for us last year and will be looked at as our ace this year," Lugbauer said. "He is competitive on the mound and isn't afraid to go after hitters. At the plate he will hit in the middle of the order for us. He hits the ball hard to all fields and has good at bats for us."

Senior OF Steve Daly sets the tone at the top of the order.

"Steve is a gritty ball player," Lugbauer said. "He never comes home from a game clean and always leaves it out on the field. He is going to provide a spark for us at the top of the order."

Senior OF Anthony Caminiti has made the biggest jump from last year and will be a middle-of-the-order hitter. Senior P Billy Moeller should also make a significant jump this season. With an increase in velocity, he is going to get a lot of innings as a starter on the mound.

Senior Dylan Brehm's season was ended a bit short for us last year due to injury but will be an everyday outfielder. Junior 1B Kyle Brandstetter has the potential to be a prototypical stud 1B with a sweet lefty swing.

"Dylan can really drive the ball to all fields," the coach said. "He has the potential to do a lot of damage in the middle of the lineup."

"I am really excited about the makeup of our team this year," he added. "We have a good mix of speed and power in our lineup and I don't think there is going to be an easy out 1-9. We have put a huge emphasis on defense this year and we have an extremely athletic group of guys that aren't afraid to lay out and make a play for us."

CARMEL (9-12) hopes to turn around a sub-par 2017 (by Ram standards) and expects a big year out of senior SS Sean McCarthy, an HM All-Section choice. "Sean is steady and consistent in the field and at the plate," Rams Coach Joe Hackert said. "He has the ability to drive the ball to all fields."

He can drive the ball all day, but it won't matter if the Rams, seeded No.14 last year, don't improve their pitching and senior ace Matt Vitro will be counted on heavily to do so.

"Matt is a team player who is soft spoken, who's actions and hustle on the field speak loud enough," Hackert said. "We want to play hard-nosed baseball together as a team."

Senior AJ Gonzalez, a versatile 3B/1B/P, is a team player who hits for power.

"I think he can definitely help us on the mound this year, too," Coach Hackert said. "He is a vocal leader and works his tail off throughout the year."

Other Rams to watch include senior OF Jon Minotti and senior IF/OF Dan Castrovinci, who hope to contend for the Rams' first sectional title since repeating in 1990.



Carmel SS Sean McCarthy is the backbone of the 2018 Rams.

OSSINING (4-16-1) has been making gains under the tutelage of Coach Scott Delso in recent seasons. The program has had some emotional dealings in the past with the passing of former Coach Bill Casey, a beloved figure in and out of Ossining.

Pride senior P/OF Michael Laitman, the team's No.1 pitcher, has been through all of it.

"He is always looking for the ball against any team and is a battle-tested varsity player," the coach said of the three-year player. He has a bulldog mentality to go after any hitter in any situation. He will anchor our pitching staff as well as hit in the middle of the lineup for us."

Junior SS Matt Minihan will batten down the hatches in the infield. "Matt is a true leader for our team, the first one in the gym and last one out. We only graduated four seniors last year, so we are leaning on our upper classman and their experience to help improve on our four-win season from a year ago."

For that to happen, newcomers AJ Manicchio, a sophomore LF/P, will need to come of age, as will Pride freshman Joey Bossinas, the starting 3B and next big thing at Ossining.

"Joey has some of the rawest power you will see," the coach said. "The kid can hit the ball well out of the park with ease."

Nothing's been easy for the Pride of late, but that can turn around quickly.

CLASS A (Pearl River, reigning champ)

LAKELAND (16-7) P/1B Joe Vetrano could become one of the top players the Hornets have had in a decade or so, and he'll be the ace Coach Bill Casey relies on to get the Hornets back to the finals after being eliminated in last year's semifinal round. The RHP is a sophomore who is equally proficient at the plate with a next-level exit velo. HM All Section as a freshman, Vetrano hit .377 with 16 extra-base hits, including four dingers.

"Joe works hard every day at practice," said Casey, who watched Vetrano suffer

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a knee injury during basketball season, from which he has healed. "He has power and speed and will be on the mound a lot more this year. He is bigger and stronger than last season so we expect big numbers from him again."

Likewise, sophomore P/CF Evan Berta is a year wiser and stronger after playing nearly every game as a freshman. Defensively, Berta is a solid CF and appeared on the mound in seven games last year, a number that will likely go up this season and in the years to come.



If opponents don't know Lakeland P Joe Vetrano, they best familiarize.



Panas OF Tim Feliz will need a big season if the Panthers are to be a factor in Class A this season.

"We expect him to be in the starting rotation this year and to improve at the plate," Casey said. "Evan also has good speed. Just like Joe, Evan has come into this season looking bigger and stronger than last year. He looks ready to go and, I expect him to contribute a great deal both offensively and defensively."

Senior P/RF Eric Portella will be one of the players expected to pick up for the loss of 12 seniors to graduation. The Mount Saint Vincent's-bound Portella primarily pitched in relief last year with a few spot starts.

"We are expecting him to contribute even more this year," the coach said. "He has a rubber arm and if he had his way he

would pitch every day. We also expect him to contribute offensively this year."

Two players to look out for include versatile senior Matt Schenk and junior SS Leo Cummings.

"Matt played off and on last year and had some big moments," Casey said. However, this year we expect Matt to be a major part of this team. He has speed and power. As a sophomore last year, Leo only had 14 plate appearances on varsity, but he has some big shoes to fill."

Cummings will be replacing two-time All-Section SS James Houlihan.

"We are a young team and with the exception of Vetrano, Berta, Schenk and Portella everyone else on this team either saw little or no time on varsity last year," Casey said, "yet this group is fun to be around and get along well with each other. They practice hard and want to get better."

After being a No.5 seed last year, Lakeland's goal is to compete and challenge for its Section 1 Class A crown since 2010.

HEN HUD (17-5) has been on quite the regular-season tear the last two years, under former Manager Dutch Pritts, but the post season has been cruel to Hen Hud, the No.2 seed last year, which was ousted in the quarters last year and hasn't won it all since 2000.

New skipper Van Vourliotis, Pritts' former assistant, inherits a team that lost a slew of seniors but keeps the veteran Pritts as his assistant.

He'll rely heavily on All-League senior OF Jack Kelly, a four-year starter and Sailor captain.

"This year he's been asked to expand his positions to first and second base as well," Vourliotis said. "Jack has an amazing team-first attitude. He led team last year in hitting and was selected captain by his teammates this year."

Other players to watch include senior IF Matt Imimbo, who saw very little playing time as a junior but has a solid glove and high baseball IQ. "Matt will have the opportunity to have a significant defensive role in the infield this season," the coach said.

A youngster we'll be keeping close tabs on is freshman Nick Hiltley, a middle IF who plays multiple positions, including SS, 2B, 1B, OF and P.

"He has all the potential in the world, looking forward to seeing him grow and get better in the years ahead," the coach said of the future shortstop, who succeeds a long lineage of top-notch Olesczuk and, most recently, Michael Crowley, all four-year players.

"The student-athletes of the Hedrick Hudson baseball program have worked extremely hard over the course of the off-season and continue to do so in order to get prepared for the regular season," Vourliotis said.

PANAS (14-9) Coach Anthony Fata enters his 18th season having been around the Section 1 block once or twice. Among

the most veteran coaches in the region, Fata returns a unit that won two playoff games last season but lost two of the horses that brought them there; pitchers Mike Cox and Brian Dineen.

Their replacements are a work in progress but senior Jake Jemty figures to be a primary fixture in the rotation. What is actually known is that senior OF Tim Feliz is one of the top OFs around, senior C Pat Kelly is a worker behind the dish and senior OF John Young sets a grinding tempo the Panthers feed off. The trio provide the lineup with ample pop.

Newcomers Diego Urreta (3B) and Lucas Feliciano are solid on the right side for the Panthers, who earned a No.13 seed last year and will work out of League II-C with Brewster, Somers, Lakeland and John Jay CR.

"I suspect we'll be a very tough, competitive, hungry team," Fata said.

SOMERS (6-15) had a down year by its standards, and it'll be tough for Coach Joe Wooten to turn it completely around in 2018. As the No.21 seed, the Tuskers failed to crack the field of 16 and will rely on junior RHP/3B Logan Carriero (Jr.) and senior OF Chris Boncardo to do so.

"Logan projects to be our No.1 starter on the hill," said Wooten, who guided the Tuskers to three-straight sectional titles from 2007-09. "His commitment to the position along with a budding right arm makes Logan a valuable member of our team. He also projects to be a run producer in our lineup this year. While Chris is a returning starter. We project Chris to create and drive in runs this year. Chris is a heady base-runner who we trust to take what the defense gives him on the base paths. Our team goals remain the same each year. We want to get better each day. We want to enjoy each other's company, care for each other, and send our seniors out with special memories."

BREWSTER (3-16) OF Tim Holler hopes to lead the 2016 sectional runner-up Bears to a more 2016-like campaign than the hard-luck year the Bears had in 2017 when they failed to qualify for the tournament.

CLASS B (Magnus, reigning champ)

CROTON-HARMON (11-12) wore the glass slipper all the way to its second-straight Class B Final 4 last year, but Coach Eric Rosen's upstart Tigers eventually ran out of gas in the semis after grueling two-day affair with rival Briarcliff. The Tigers, who haven't won it all since 1981 (the last of 5 in 6 years), aren't in that position, though, without a pair of game-saving catches by OF Grady Stevenson, now entering what should be a breakout junior year in CF. "Grady struggled at the plate and hit about .250 for us last year but has a lot of potential that I think will be on display this year," Rosen said. "He saved our bacon during the first and second round of the playoffs last year with two game-saving catches. Nobody knows who he is yet in Section 1, but by this time next

Baseball Notebook

month I believe people are not going to want to pitch to him. We anticipate a big breakout year from Grady this season."

The same can be said for sophomore Max "Bubba" Luke, an All-League P and corner IF with pop. "Max was our best hitter last year," Rosen said. "He will most likely anchor our pitching staff. We expect a big year from "Bubs". We expect to put a lot of runs on the board this year with Grady and Bubs in the middle of our lineup. It's the attitude and work ethic that excites me most about these two. They bust their tail every day to improve. We are very excited to see what they will do this season and beyond."

PUTNAM VALLEY (15-7) will rely on two junior hurlers to manage the bulk of the innings on the hill, including TJ Brescia and John Millicker, each of whom play the infield as well. If either or both aren't consistent as the No.1 and No.2 of the pitching staff, Tigers Coach Joe Natalie would be in for a long year. If they can dominate, as each has shown at times, the Tigers have something to build upon.

Seeded third in last year's Class B tourney, the Tigers reached the Final 4 only to lose to No.3 Edgemont, who lost to champion Albertus Magnus in the finals.

Senior IF/P Ben D'Adonna, plus juniors Bobby Kroboth, Alex O'Brien, Matt Carlsen and Frank Curran will round out the staff and provide an ample veteran presence, as will C Mike Gaitan. Without a JV team behind them, the Tigers will carry 20 players this season, some of them not quite ready for prime time so patience will have to be a virtue.

CLASS C (North Salem, reigning champ, now in B)

HALDANE (11-10) is built for now, ready to return to championship form (a three-peat in 2014) with Aidan Siegel Sr. (Catcher), Anthony Sinchi Sr. (P), Dan Rotando Sr. (CF), Devin Siegel Jr. (P/OF), Matt Mikalsen Jr. (2B), Adam Hotaling JR. (3B/P) and Kyle Kisslinger Jr. (OF/P). Deep on the hill, Coach Tom Virgadamo's team hopes to contend with Tuckahoe in a revamped Class C, that will also feature a double elimination playoff.



Put Valley senior C Mike Gaitan will need to lead the youthful Tigers this season.

Sports

Softball Notebook

Yorktown, Lakeland Seeking Championship Encores

By Tony Pinciario

The 2017 softball seasons were one of the best in history for teams in and about the Northern Westchester/Putnam County regions. Replicating these championship feats won't be easy.

CLASS A

After a disheartening loss in the 2016 Section 1 Class A championship game, **LAKELAND** had its turn to celebrate.

The Hornets achieved the ultimate sectional goal -- winning the Class A title with a dominant 15-5 victory over Eastchester. Lakeland, powered by pitching and offense, went on to capture its first-round state game, 18-0 over Section 9's Goshen, before a difficult 2-0 loss to eventual state champion, Maine-Endwell (Section 4).

Lakeland finished with a program-record 24 wins and just two losses.

The only drawback to the 2017 season came in June, when Lakeland graduated Amber Badillo, Cameron Lischinsky, Krista Verrino, Olivia Knopf and all-state pitcher Colleen Walsh, who is playing at Sacred Heart University.

Even with the graduation of this group, Lakeland Coach Joe Chiara, and fellow Coach Steve Fallo, welcome back an experienced nucleus looking to make it consecutive sectional titles.

Senior captains Jessica Ascencio (IF), Kayla Bugeya and Lauren Reichelt headline the returnees. Ascencio knows all about winning sectional titles, having been a member of four for Lakeland field hockey coach Sharon Sarsen.

Now with Walsh throwing fire at Sacred Heart, junior P Claire Fon steps into the circle as Lakeland's No. 1 windmill. Fon went 5-0 last year. She rang up four shutouts, had an earned run average of 0.23 and struck out 36 in 30 innings.

Fellow junior Amber Lopez can play either shortstop or catch. Last year, she hit .333 and drove in 21 runs. Sophomores Krystal Badillo (OF/P) and Amanda DeClerico complete the experienced returnees.

Chiara has a talented newcomer group looking for playing time. The new varsity players are juniors Allison Dubbioso, Emily McGrath and Nicole Barker (OF), all outfielders, sophomore Sabrina Reichelt (OF), freshman Ava Knopf (IF) and eighth-graders Shannon Scott (IF) and Stella Bale (IF/P).

Chiara, in his 21st season, pointed out Lakeland's strength will once again be pitching and defense.

"We have a group of returning veterans who understand what it takes to win," Chiara said. "We would like to be competitive with our non-league and league games, while preparing for sectionals."

Lakeland opens at Tappan Zee, Wednesday.

When it comes to **BREWSTER** softball the program is synonymous with winning. The Bears are annually one of Section 1's elite and during sectionals you will always see them in the final four. This can be traced to Brewster's strong little league program which has produced outstanding players, highlighted by junior varsity coach Sam Goff, who pitched the Bears to a sectional title in 2003, and Jessica Gogatz, who pitched Brewster to the 2004 Section 1 Class B title.

Last year, Brewster finished 20-2, were co-league champs and were sectional semifinalists, falling to rival and eventual champion, Lakeland.

Coach Lisa Delzio, in her 10th season as varsity coach, graduated four players, including both pitchers. The Brewster pipeline is never dry as nine players making the step up from Junior Varsity will infuse enthusiasm and the Brewster way into varsity.

Delzio does return a talented

nucleus, led by seniors Taylor Riccardi (3B), Francesca Cioffi (C) and Karen Lennox (1B). Riccardi is a fifth-year varsity starter, All-Section selection and was the 2017 league position player of the year. Cioffi and Lennox were both selected All-League last year.

Senior Camryn Gannon (2B), junior Caroline Cherubini (center field) and sophomore Madison Chiudina (infield) complete the super returning six.

"We have nine new players, including two new starting pitchers and two very talented eighth graders," said Delzio, who is 156-42 in nine years. "We have six very strong returning starters. We will be very strong offensively and solid on defense. Our new players will add much depth in various positions and a lot of speed on the bases. I love the leadership from the returning players. I'm really excited about how the ladies have come together and worked very well together in the pre-season. All six returning players have been fantastic working with the newer players and everyone is working hard on improving. Getting our two new pitchers ready will be key."

Brewster opened its season at Yorktown, yesterday.

In his first year at **SOMERS**, veteran Coach Dave Scagnelli produced an offensively-charged team. The Tuskers slugged their way into sectionals where they crushed Beacon before a loss to perennial power, Brewster.

Somers only graduated one player so the Tuskers will once again be wielding the aluminum.

Seniors Jill Carlisto (1B) and Kelsey Lavin (CF) are back for their third year.

They are joined by a deep junior class, highlighted by C Gabby Mazzotta. An honorable mention All-Section pick last year, Scagnelli said she recently committed to Manhattan.

Classmates Nikki Florino (3B), Karly Moscarello (SS), Jazmyn Colon (P/OF), Tori Pagliaro (P/OF), Amanda Polito (utility) and Sabrina Balfe (OF) round out the junior class.

Sophomore Sarah Murphy and freshman Hannah Recine, both windmillers, make the step up to varsity along with sophomore Vicky McEvoy (2B/C). Murphy and Recine join Pagliaro and Colon, giving Somers pitching depth.



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Lakeland OF Krystal Badillo is one of only a handful of returnees for defending Section 1 champion Hornets.

"This year we return eight starters from last year's team, and add two new pitchers to the rotation," said Scagnelli, who was the Scarsdale varsity softball coach before coming to Somers. "With eight starters returning, our defense will certainly be the strength of our team. Gabby Mazzotta will anchor the infield, behind the plate, and will work hard with the pitching staff."

Scagnelli is taking Somers to Florida for spring training during Spring Break. He has lined up eight scrimmages. Somers will open the season, Monday, April 9, against Byram Hills.

PANAS finished the 2017 regular season at .500 (10-10) before a loss to Eastchester in sectionals. That was the somewhat disheartening news.

However, Coach Dale Chappelle and his Panthers have an optimistic attitude going into the 2018 season as 11 players return to the diamond. Of the 11, Sam Recine (OF), Taylor Pisani (OF) and Krystal Maier (1B) are the seniors.

The junior contingent includes Bella Feraca (2B), Gianna Servedio (OF), Madison Maddocks (P) and Jenna Guevarez (OF).

The sophomores are Julia Petrovich (SS), Kat Reynoso (C) and Rae Valt (IF). Olivia Bordenaro (P) is the lone freshman.

Chappelle welcomes four new juniors to varsity this season -- outfielders Brianna

continued on next page



Lakeland is hoping junior Claire Fon's arm and big bat will carry the Hornets this season.

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Viola and Lexi Lorino and infielders Sam Mills and Tahari Williams.

"We lost two very productive players in Danielle Petrovich and Remi Uretta, but we still have a ton of talent and experience on this young team," Chappelle said. "Our pitching and defense should be strong this year and we have more team speed overall. We played an extremely competitive schedule last year and we expect even more success this season."

CLASS AA

Any opponents looking to win the Section 1 Class AA title this year will have to go through **YORKTOWN**, first and foremost.

The Cornhuskers are the defending champions after defeating perennial power North Rockland in the 2017 title game. Yorktown went on to a state regional win, 5-3, over Kingston (Section 9) before a loss to state finalist Binghamton (Section 4). Yorktown finished with a 19-6 record and were also league champs.

Brittany Giordano (playing at Post University) and Madelana Wrubel (playing at Oswego) graduated, but Yorktown returns five All-Section players. This phenomenal five are: Erica Salveggi (P), Angie Serrano (2B), Brianna Buck (SS), Courtney Cardea (C) and Samantha Riccardulli (CF). The Cornhuskers also return Kaitlyn Bennet (RF) and utility players Reilly Koch, P Julianne Strauss and Erin Gray.

Third-year Coach Ryan Iamurri will have sophomores Allie Cortino (P) and Bella Vano (2B) and freshman Lainie Ornstein making their varsity debuts.



After losing her mom unexpectedly, Yorktown senior Erica Salveggi will dedicate her season to the loved one she lost and it'll be impossible to root against her.

"My favorite thing about this team is that we have no 'superstar,'" Iamurri said. "Someone different will come up big each game we play this year, and your guess is as good as mine for who it's going to be."

"The girls are fun, yet they are serious. They are competitive and they have grit. We got a little taste of how far we can potentially go, and this year we are hungry for more."

Yorktown has pulled together as a player's mother recently passed away, suddenly.

"Honestly, we have had a tough start to this softball season with losing someone very special to the Yorktown family," Iamurri said. "It's been amazing to see this community come together with love and support. My goal right now is that each player feels like they have love and support from the teammate to their left and the teammate to their right because that is more important than the number of wins and losses at the end of a season."

"We have a ton of experience with this team, and the older girls have really done a great job taking in our new players. We've been spending a lot of time on the mental game and goal setting, and learning about each other's strengths and weaknesses as a player and teammate."

Yorktown opened the season yesterday against league-rival, Brewster.

MAHOPAC is primed to continue its progression under second-year Coach and former Harrison softball standout, Amanda Gambacorta.

The Indians finished 8-10 last year and qualified for sectionals and this year, return their starting infield and windmill.

Seniors and captains Kim Astrologo (who will attend St. Thomas Aquinas and play softball in September) is at SS, Madison Della Medaglia is the 1B and Beth Schum is behind the plate. Juniors Abby Mastropietro plays 2B and Kailey Zecca has the hot corner. Freshman P Shannon Becker is back in the circle after a break-out first varsity season in 2017.

With pin-point control, Becker struck out 117 in 102 innings and only issued 16 free passes. She finished with a 1.16 ERA. She also hit .380 and earned All-Section honors as an eighth-grader.

"We return seven starters this year and will look to Astrologo, Della Medaglia and Becker to anchor the team both offensively and defensively," said Gambacorta. "This team is experienced and expects an extremely productive

and successful season this year."

Mahopac has to wait until April 5 before it opens the season at New Rochelle.

CLASS B

In her first five years as **PUTNAM VALLEY** Coach, Rena Finsmith has progressively transformed the Tigers into a budding Section 1 power.

Last year, Putnam Valley went 13-8 and reached the Section 1 Class B semifinals. The Tigers were a veteran team who graduated 11 players,

including six of the starting nine positions. Even with the graduation departures, Putnam Valley returns junior Sophia Lord (3B) and three All-League players – sophomores Alex Waters (C) and Keiko Waters (CF) and freshman P Emily McKenna. Lord and the Waters are captains.

There is a huge influx of newcomers to varsity, which has led to competition for the vacated starting positions.

Senior Lauren Turner (utility), juniors Gianna D'Addona (OF) and Sonya Garcia (OF), sophomore Sabrina Cross (1B) and talented freshmen Frankie Reyes (SS) and Kathleen Gallelo (2B) comprise the new varsity players.

"This group of kids is very coachable," said Finsmith, who was a standout at Pleasantville for Coach Gina Perino. "The girls work very hard in practice and listen to suggestions made by the coaches. Our captains Sophia Lord, Alex Waters, and Keiko Waters bring a wealth of experience at the Varsity level that they are able to share with their teammates. Emily McKenna returns for her second year on the mound and worked all offseason on improving her different pitches."

While Finsmith has established the varsity program, she has done so without a Junior Varsity team so many of the players come right from modified into varsity.

"The 11 graduates played varsity since their freshman year as we had no JV for several years," Finsmith said. "It's a huge hit to lose six starters for the past four years. Our newcomers are going to have a very short time to gain varsity level experience. We have to learn on the fly and use every single experience as a teaching one so that our newcomers start to feel comfortable at the varsity level."

"The leadership of Alex, Keiko, Sophia, Emily, and Lauren will be invaluable to the newcomers. Assistant Coach Nemecek and I need our veteran returnees to continue to elevate their game even further than what they did last year. We

Softball Notebook



Yorktown Coach Ryan Iamurri had plenty to celebrate last season and expects more of the same in 2018.

will be looking to them to pick up the offensive stats that were lost to graduation and be very vocal leaders on the field.

"Our goals are simple: Show up every day, hustle every day, learn each day, and be competitive in all our games whether we win or lose. We have a short learning curve as the season is jam packed but if we can learn on the fly and hold our own than there is no doubt we can be successful and competitive."

Putnam Valley opens the season Thursday, hosting perennial Class B power and new grandmother, Joan Spedafino. Finsmith returns to her alma mater, 11 a.m., Saturday, April 28, to face her former coach.



Brewster senior 3B Taylor Riccardi will provide the pop in the Bears' lineup.

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