

**Money Raised
for Service
Dogs....
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Rebels Roll into Quarters...



**See
Sports
Pull-
Out**

The NORTHERN WESTCHESTER & Examiner

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

May 22 - May 28, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 439

Cortlandt Woman Wins \$7M Jackpot in NY Lottery

By Rick Pezzullo

When Misty Morano of Cortlandt decided to stop at a deli in Ardsley to pick up a few items after visiting her father she never imagined it was a moment that would change her life.

Among the items she purchased on March 19 at Madaba Deli & Grocery on Saw Mill River Road was a \$2 Quick Pick ticket for that evening's CASH-4LIFE drawing. Her numbers 3, 26, 30, 51, 53 Cash Ball 4 wound up earning the call center customer service representative the guaranteed \$7 million jackpot.

Morano, 43, opted to receive the one-time lump sum payment of \$4,702,600.

"I got what I needed (at the deli) and

said, 'give me one of those' after he was ringing me out. That was all there was to it," Morano said of her deli visit. "My father is the lottery player of the family. He always told me to stop playing because I was wasting my money. I'm glad I didn't listen to him this time!"

Morano said she discovered her good fortune by checking the newspaper the following morning.

"I just sat there in awe," she said. "I immediately put it in a safety deposit box and started planning for what I was going to do with all this money. It's a lot of money, but I'll get used to it."

Some of her immediate plans include

Continued on page 2



Misty Morano received her ceremonial check May 10 at Empire City Casino in Yonkers from New York Lottery representatives Kylie McDonald and Yolanda Vega.

Peekskill Councilwoman Gets Support for Refusing to Say the Pledge

By Rick Pezzullo

Peekskill Councilwoman Vanessa Agudelo received some public support last week for her decision not to say the Pledge of Allegiance during Common Council meetings and other events.

Several residents, some carrying signs, lauded Agudelo at the first meeting where residents could address the Council since she made headlines, stretching as far as the United Kingdom, earlier this month.

Agudelo, a Democrat who has been on the council for five months, was first openly criticized about her stance at an April 23 meeting by outspoken resident Leesther



Continued on page 2

Vanessa Agudelo



Police Appreciation Week

As part of National Police Appreciation Week, which started May 15, students at Our Montessori School in Yorktown recognized the Yorktown Police Department, which is located directly across the street from one of the school sites. Each year the school displays a sign of thanks and encourages others to thank the local police and let them know how grateful the community is. Yorktown Police Chief Robert Noble visited the senior class (fourth, fifth and sixth grades combined) and spoke with the students about the duties of a police officer and answered their many questions.

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Peekskill Councilwoman Gets Support

Continued from page 1

Brown and also was lambasted by former Mayor Frank Catalina in a Facebook post.

A representative of the Peekskill NAACP stated the organization stood by Agudelo, who earlier in the meeting silently faced the United States flag with her hand behind her back, while another speaker called her “a progressive councilwoman...a person we want on the Council.”

“I think it’s pretty amazing that we have someone on the Common Council who has the strength of conviction and the integrity and the courage to express themselves as they seem appropriate, just standing up for themselves,” said Robin Alpern, a Peekskill resident who described herself as a Quaker who doesn’t say the Pledge of Allegiance partly for religious reasons.

Arnie Paglia, owner of the Division Street Grill in downtown Peekskill, also praised Agudelo.

“In the 20 years I have been coming to Common Council meetings, she has displayed the most courageous and distinctive ability to stand up as an individual and stand up for our rights as Americans,” Paglia said. “I have not seen anyone stand up for the rights of Americans as much as Councilwoman Agudelo and I thank her for that.”

George Coniglio said he was “appalled”

at Catalina’s remarks on Facebook, in which he stated, in part, “Let me get this straight: An elected official cowardly stands while the Pledge is said but refuses to actually say the Pledge or even respectfully hold her hand over her heart; too young and immature to realize the significance of that pledge and showing respect for the millions who fought and died for her ‘right’ to be a moron and a poor example of a public official.”

“You are a brave woman who deserves tremendous respect and you have a lot of support,” Coniglio said to Agudelo.

Brown, who at the April 23 meeting called on the city’s Ethics Board to investigate the consequences of Agudelo’s actions and maintained she should resign from the Council, said at last week’s meeting Agudelo had a responsibility to respect the 35,000 residents she represents.

“What is so wrong with giving the impression to the people who believe in that flag? At least pretend,” Brown said. “What about us that honor the flag?”

Agudelo did not respond to any of the comments made at the meeting and has yet to offer any other remarks beyond what she submitted to Examiner Media a few weeks ago when she noted she was “a proud member of the Hudson Valley Democratic Socialists of America and a proud environ-

mentalist.”

“My reason for respectfully refraining from saying the Pledge of Allegiance is not because I don’t respect the values this country stands for, it is because of our country’s failure to truly uphold them I,” Agudelo stated. “I have the utmost respect for our service women and men, both overseas and in the states, and I have a deep appreciation for all the sacrifices they have had to make. I do not think our country does enough to address the many challenges our veterans face after coming home from war nor is our country transparent enough about the hundreds, even thousands of lives lost fighting wars that most Ameri-

cans do not or have not agreed with.”

“There is also this level of unquestionable loyalty and mindless conformity in reciting the pledge on such a consistent basis that makes me personally feel uncomfortable,” she continued. “Many people do not know that our pledge was originally written by a socialist in 1892, that there have been several versions of our pledge since its creation, or that the “under God” was not added until almost a century after, used as a political ploy during the Cold War. Most countries in Europe don’t even have a pledge of allegiance or have discontinued its use. This speaks volumes.”

Cortlandt Woman Wins \$7M Jackpot in NY Lottery

Continued from page 1

buying a house and taking care of her teen-aged sons and extended family.

“We won’t have to struggle anymore,” Morano said. “We’ll be able to get ahead in life.”

During the May 10 ceremonial check event at Empire City Casino in Yonkers,

two other Westchester County millionaires were introduced. Gabriel Rosado, 24, of Yonkers, who works as a doorman, won \$5 million on a \$10 Set for Life scratch-off ticket, while Elizabeth Aprile, 48, of Elmsford, won \$1 million as a second prize in the April 10 Mega Millions drawing.



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Q: What are the benefits of using radiation therapy to treat skin cancer?

A: Radiation therapy can cure skin cancer without leaving a scar – making it an excellent option for patients with skin cancer near the lips, nose, eyes, or other areas where a patient wouldn’t want a scar for aesthetic reasons. It can also be a good choice for elderly patients who might not be able to tolerate surgery due to health reasons. I treated a 90-year-old patient with a large basal cell carcinoma on her cheek and ear. Because of her age, anesthesia and post-surgical healing may have been difficult. I was able to cure the tumor with a few weeks of radiation treatment, and she had a very smooth recovery.

Q: How does radiation therapy work?

A: Used primarily on basal or squamous cell skin cancers, the therapy relies on electron beam radiation to kill cancer cells. Radiation oncology has a long history of use and tends to work exceptionally well for skin cancer – the success rate is over 90%. Cancer cells respond to treatment by dying and falling off – which is why side effects may include redness, dry skin, itchiness, or peeling skin. Within a few weeks, healthy skin cells grow and usually leave no trace of treatment.

Q: I’m a little worried about exposing myself to radiation – is the therapy safe?

A: It’s very safe: Radiation therapy precisely targets the cancer, resulting in minimal side effects and little or no damage to the surrounding tissue. Surrounding tissue, such as the eyes or sinuses can be protected by lead shields during the brief radiation treatments.

Q: What’s the best way to find a good radiation oncologist?

A: Ask your dermatologist for a recommendation. Ideally, you’ll get an oncologist who works closely with your dermatologist and, if necessary, a plastic surgeon. At Northern Westchester Hospital all medical professionals involved in your care consult together to develop an individualized treatment plan for your diagnosis. Be sure to check that the oncologist has experience using radiation therapy for skin cancer and remember that, if at any time you don’t feel comfortable with your choice, you may seek another opinion.

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Voters Approve \$166M Budget in Lakeland School District

By Rick Pezzullo

Voters in the Lakeland School District approved a \$166.6 million budget last Tuesday by a margin of 774-215.

The 2018-19 spending plan includes a tentative 2.4% tax increase for Yorktown residents and a 0.3% tax decrease for Cortlandt residents. Five new school resource officers for elementary schools are funded in the budget.

In the Board of Election race for four seats, incumbents Michael Daly and Karen Pressman were reelected for their second two-year terms with 726 and 708 votes respectively.

Two trustees, Carol Ann Dobson, who served five terms, and Keri Fiore, opted not to seek new terms, setting the stage for two new residents to join the board.

Running as a block with Daly and

Pressman, Angela Conti was the second leading vote-getter with 718 votes, while Robert Mayes finished fourth with 696 votes and earned the one-year unexpired term left vacant by Fiore. Stephen Reid, who received 413 votes, finished fifth and out of the running.

YORKTOWN

Voters in the Yorktown Central School District approved a \$97.9 million budget that includes a tax decrease of 0.22% by a margin of 470-69.

In the uncontested Board of Education race for three seats, Jackie Carbone and Peter Bisaccia were the top two vote-getters for the full three-year term positions, while Lisa Rolle finished third and won the unexpired term of Thomas Donatelli, which ends

on June 30, 2019.

SOMERS

The annual budget in the Somers Central School District passed 708-191. In the four-way race for two seats on the Board of Education, Trustee Michael D'Anna was reelected and Heidi Cambareri won her first term. Current board President Sarena Meyer and Jill Schantz finished out of the running.

PEEKSKILL

The annual budget in the Peekskill School District was approved 409-108. In the five candidate Board of Education race for two seats, Pamela Hallman-Johnson finished first with 351 votes and Allen Jenkins, Jr. was second with 205 votes.

Falling short were Marie DiNardi with 185 votes, Myriam Pauta with 176 and current board President Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon with 172.

OSSINING

In the Ossining School District, the budget was approved 1,331-449. In the Board of Education race for two seats, Trustee Diana Lemon was reelected, while Katherine Crossling joined the board for the first time. Melissa Banta and Aaron Spring were unsuccessful.

CROTON

The annual budget in Croton was approved 434-63. In the uncontested Board of Education race, Trustee Andrea Furey was reelected and Brian Loges was elected for the first time.

New All-Outdoor Preschool to Launch in Croton-on-Hudson

This fall, a new preschool is set to launch in Croton with the forest as its classroom.

The Rewilding School announces the opening of its outdoor-based Forest Preschool program for the 2018-19 school year for children ages 3 1/2 to 5. Based in Croton's Brinton Brook Sanc-


tuary, the Rewilding Forest Preschool will offer half-day morning and afternoon sessions starting this fall in an all-outdoor setting that includes meadows, streams, deep woods and a pond.

"Kids need to splash in puddles, crawl through bushes, pick up sticks, listen to birds, catch bugs, play in the snow, and

dig for worms," said the school's founder, Eric Stone. An experienced naturalist and primitive skills educator, Stone is also a certified Wilderness Skills Instructor, Wilderness First Responder, and licensed New York State Guide, with over a decade of professional guiding experience.

Through immersion in the natural world, Forest Preschool students will discover their own connections to the land and each other. Students hear stories about wild plants and animals before acting out various aspects of forest life through games and imaginative

Continued on page 11



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\$18.5M Capital Projects Bond Approved in Hen Hud

By Rick Pezzullo

Voters in the Hendrick Hudson School District overwhelmingly supported an \$18.5 million bond last week by a margin

Dance Marathon Fundraiser Slated at Hen Hud June 15

On Friday June 15, from 5 p.m. – midnight the Hendrick Hudson Leos will be hosting their first ever Hendrick Hudson Dance Marathon to benefit Suz Crew, a local organization which provides financial assistance to families battling cancer.

The Dance Marathon is replacing the previously held Relay for Life, but will contain all the same elements and community involvement.

"We are very excited to move in a new direction and make an event that is entirely our own. All proceeds will go to a local organization to keep the focus on the community and giving back to it," said Senior Samantha Aaronson. The event will be a night of dancing, food, booths, entertainment, and ceremonies to honor those who have lost their battle to cancer, those who are still fighting, and those who have won their battles.

For more information, contact Hendrick Hudson Dance Marathon Leadership at hhhs.dancemarathon@gmail.com or visit their website at www.google.com/view/hendrickhudsondancemarathon/home.

"We are not funding the cure, but rather the war," Suz Crew Slogan.

of 913-207.

"This result is validation that the district listened to the community and was committed to providing the information necessary for voters to make an informed decision," said Superintendent Joseph Hochreiter. "Over the next four years, this project will help transform our facilities, so our students and staff are safer and our children can learn, play and perform using the type of facilities they deserve."

Hochreiter has said most of the projects in the bond stemmed from Safe-

ty Committee recommendations and a building condition survey conducted by an engineering firm in 2015. District officials said the 20-year bond would not raise taxes.

Some of the improvements planned include replacing doors that are not fire resistance, updating locker rooms to be handicapped accessible, replacing outdated heating and ventilation units, renovating classrooms, main entrances and auditoriums, and replacing aged roofs.

In addition, the district is looking to vastly improve its 30-year-old high

school track by installing a turf field. The state will pay 40% of the cost of the field replacement.

Meanwhile, voters also supported the annual district budget 962-158 and reelected trustees Mary-Pat Braggi and Laurie Ryan to new three-year terms. Ryan was the top vote-getter with 756 votes, follow by Braggi with 700 votes. Challenger Richard Sklar finished a distant third with 477 votes.

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**Business
of the Week**

Deiana's R.A.W. Training Somers

By Neal Rentz

Somers resident Matt Deiana knows firsthand the importance of sports training.

Deiana was a star athlete. He excelled in football and lacrosse at Somers High School, playing five years for the varsity teams of both sports because he started on the teams as an eighth-grade student. He was a linebacker and running back in football and midfielder in lacrosse. In football, he played in the All American Game, received All State and All Section honors and was named Player of the Year by several local newspapers. He received All Section and All League honors for lacrosse.

Deiana continued his athletic career first at the University of Connecticut before transferring to William Patterson University in Wayne and Patterson, New Jersey, where he was a running back on the varsity football team. Following graduation, he tried out for the New York Giants. He played pro football in Germany last year. His pro career came to an end because he tore a triceps muscle. "I played hurt, which was frustrating, but it was a good experience," he said.

While he is no longer a professional



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Somers resident Matt Deiana opened Deiana's R.A.W. Training in town on April 1

athlete, sport training is still an important part of his life. Deiana opened Deiana's R. A. W. Training on Lovell Street in Somers on April 1 after operating the business

out of his basement for about six years.

Deiana explained last week how he came up with the name of his business. "A long time ago I was hanging around with a bunch of friends, I had been training people for a while, and we wanted to make a social media account and Web sites," he recalled.

Rather than use his last name, Deiana and his friends came up with R.A.W., which stands for "relentless, athletic warriors. "And it just stuck. Everybody liked it, so I've just kept it," he said.

Deiana began receiving training from his father, Steve, when he was 11. His father has also trained the Somers High School football and lacrosse teams, even though he is not a professional trainer, Deiana

said "I just enjoyed it and I decided it was what I wanted to do," he said.

Much of the training equipment he uses in his new business came from his basement, Deiana said.

Most of his work is training middle school, high schools and college athletes for all sports. both male and female all year round, Deiana said. He also does some adult training.

Deiana also assists people with illness with "an advance rehab" pulsing machine in which "you just sit on it and you feel vibrations." He began using it in college, where he had many sports injuries, Deiana said. "I like to focus on people's injuries."

Deiana said athletes can prevent some injuries. He will watch the way a person walks and see if the body is functioning properly. Deiana said he strives to have his clients bodies function "at the best level they can."

Deiana's R.A.W. Training is located at 1 Lovell St. in Somers. For more information, call 914-804-1675 or send an e-mail to matt@deianasrawtraining.com. The business is also on Facebook and Instagram.

Bill Volz Westchester

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Guest Commentary

What Is Yorktown Doing to Collect \$4.5M in Unpaid Taxes?

By Susan Siegel

To the long list of problems and unfinished business the current administration inherited from the previous administration, add the issue of \$3.2M in unpaid taxes — or \$4.5M when interest and penalties are added in. (The numbers are as of May 8, 2018 and do not include unpaid taxes for 2017.)

Here are just a few examples of taxes that haven't been paid.

- A homeowner who owes \$346,440 in back taxes and interest dating back to 2006. In one month, his outstanding balance increased by \$2,045.

- A developer who purchased three adjoining vacant lots from the town at an auction in 2015 for \$11,000 but the town never required the purchaser to pay the back taxes dating back to 2009. The parcels now owe \$39,740 — and the developer has applied for a stormwater permit to build a single-family house on the combined lots.

- The owner of the parking lot used by the now closed Eddy's Grill and about to be reopened for a new restaurant. The owner owes \$45,290 for 2013-2016. (The building and the parking lot have different owners.) Since the building can't be used without access to the parking lot, one has to assume that the owner of the parking

lot is getting some rental income for the use of his property, money that could be used to pay his back taxes.

- The owners of four properties that have been before the Planning Board over the past year owe a combined total of \$312,780. While the property owners, or the developers who have contracts to purchase the properties, are paying their engineers and architects to prepare their site plans, they're clearly not paying the taxes they owe Yorktown taxpayers while town employees are spending dozens of hours reviewing their applications.

To his credit, Supervisor Gilbert attempted to address this issue soon after taking office. At an untelevised work session in January, he proposed a resolution that would have addressed one part of the problem. But when Councilman Lachterman raised an objection that was based on hypotheticals without any supporting documentation, the board dropped the idea without any further discussion. Worse, it showed no interest in exploring alternative options for collecting millions of dollars in unpaid taxes.

Ironically, in what some might call a perverse argument, a former town councilman in the audience pointed out that the board might actually be better off doing nothing, yes, nothing, to collect

unpaid taxes because the town "makes money" when property owners are late in paying their taxes. That's because state law requires the town to charge 12% interest, compounded, when the taxes are eventually paid and the interest money becomes a revenue on the town's balance sheet. And it's a sizeable revenue that in recent years has totaled more than \$900,000 a year.

Of course, when the taxes are not paid — and some never will be paid — there's no interest payment and Yorktown taxpayers end up the losers because the town will never get reimbursed for the money it laid out to pay the county and school district taxes. And eventually, the fund balance will have to take a hit when the never-to-be-collected unpaid taxes have to be written off.

What can be done to address the problem?

For starters, our elected officials need to make the issue of collecting unpaid taxes a priority. Once that's done, they need to work with the appropriate department heads to set up a procedure for handling unpaid taxes on a systematic and regular basis. It's a simple, computerized procedure that could include initially sending out reminder letters (not required by law, but a

reasonable courtesy gesture) to initiating foreclosure proceedings as a last resort when all else fails. The possibility of foreclosure often leads to payment.

Next is dealing with permit and development applications. Here the board should at least take a look at the straightforward two-page North Salem law that says that processing and approving specific types of applications cannot be considered if the property owes the town money.

The North Salem law also includes language that very specifically addresses Councilman Lachterman's objection to doing anything. His concern is that denying building permits to those with unpaid taxes could be self-defeating as a homeowner may need whatever money he has to improve his property in order to sell it and then pay his unpaid taxes out of the sale proceeds — but the North Salem law includes a very clear waiver provision that permits the Town Board to waive the provisions the provision of the law to prevent undue hardship or an inequitable result. A Yorktown law could include the same provision.

Surely, it's time the Town Board started a serious discussion on this issue.

Susan Siegel is a former supervisor and councilwoman in Yorktown.

Letters to the Editor

Is Senator Murphy Just Ignorant?

To the Editor:

In the May 8 – 14 issue of the Northern Westchester Examiner I had a Letter to the Editor published. In that letter, I said that Senator Terrence Murphy was too much like Donald Trump. To my

surprise, the top article in that issue of the Examiner reported that the Senator called for a delay of the closure of Indian Point until at least 2030. The article said "Murphy revealed at the next New York State Indian Point Closure Task

Force meeting he would be making that suggestion since no concrete plan has been established on how to replace the lost energy or how to how entities affected by the loss of revenue from the plants will survive." He also said "I don't believe they have a plan." That is very peculiar because he is a member of the state task force and in my attendance at the task force meetings, I have heard numerous times that NYSEDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) has been planning for Indian Point's closure since 2012. Senator Murphy is also either ignorant or lying that the energy from Indian Point has to be replaced because Indian Point energy has already been replaced. In 2013, when the IP2 license expired, NYPA, the only distributor of electricity to municipal users (i.e., Metro North, NY Subways, Westchester and La Guardia airports, public schools, street lights, public hospitals, public libraries and NY City Hall, etc.)

abrogated its contract with Indian Point and hasn't used a megawatt from the plant. It was reported by Reuters (www.reuters.com/article/2012/09/12/us-utilities-nypa-energy-indianpoint-idUSBRE88B1C020120912). Further, in 2013 Con Edison, the distributor to private residential and business users, only had a 500MW contract with Indian Point. (www.coned.com/documents/Con_Edison_2013_Annual_Report.pdf). At this time, Con Ed has no contract with Indian Point. Beyond those ridiculous statements, the revised licenses for IP 2 and IP3 expire on 2024 and 2025, so not closing until 2030 would require action by the NRC.

To me, either Senator Murphy is very ignorant or he is again acting like Donald Trump and just saying anything he wants to pander to his unaware base. We need a better and more believable State Senator in the 40th district.

Gary Shaw
Croton-on-Hudson

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Obituaries

George Pavan

George Angelo Pavan, a resident of Yorktown, died May 14. He was 89.

He was a devoted husband and liked by everyone who met him. He enjoyed dancing, red wine, fresh tomatoes from the garden and having good times with family and friends. His favorite spots were camping trips with his family, the Casa Milanese Italian Club, and Long Beach Island. He was someone you could always count on for wise advice. He was a dedicated volunteer to numerous organizations in the community. He will be truly missed by all who were fortunate enough to have met him.

He was born October 14, 1928 in Bedford-Stuyvesant Brooklyn, NY. After graduating Brooklyn Technical High School, he attended Pratt University to pursue his interest in architecture. He served in the U.S. Army 1951-1953. Along with his father Sebastian Pavan, he founded Metro Tile and Marble Company, which remained in operation for over three decades. His sons Ed and Joe, also ceramic tile contractors, operated Metro Tile after his retirement in 1986.

Mr. Pavan married Norma on April 7, 1956 at St John's Church in Mahopac.

They were happily married for 62 years having five children, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was an active member of the Yorktown Heights Volunteer Fire Department and was awarded a Life Member for 50 years of service. He grew up in the depression and made sure his children learned the value of a dollar.

He is survived by his spouse Norma; sons Ed Pavan (Murrells Inlet, SC), John Pavan (Brunswick, ME), Bill Pavan (Derwood, MA), Joe Pavan (Hopewell Junction, NY) and daughter Christine Baron (Mahopac, NY); daughter-in-laws Nicole, Carol and Becky (respectfully), son-in-law Curtis; grandchildren Kendall St Laurent, Tracey Pavan, Matthew Pavan, Averi Pavan, Marc Pavan, Andrew Baron, Jacqueline Baron, and Thomas Baron; and great-grandchildren Gwenivere St Laurent and Natalie Pavan.

Elsie Belin

Elsie Belin, a resident of Peekskill, died May 9. She was 94.

She was the daughter of the late Rasmus Stuckey and Catherine Stuckey. She was the widow of Prince S. Belin. She was a member of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church



Elsie Belin

in Peekskill. She retired from FDR V.A. Medical Center in Montrose. Left to cherish fond and loving memories are: her daughter, Gloria B. Belin; her son-in-law, Barry Bolden; her grandchildren, Valencia J. Bolden and Tyler D. Bolden; her great-grandchildren, Isia Belin-Ashmore, Brittany Cutler, Jadon Folmar and Makayla Martin; her great-great-grandchildren, Zion Carson, Caydee Gray, Noah Boyd and Sadie Analise Ashmore; her siblings, Myrtle L. Davis, Emerdine Tart, Samuel Stuckey, Sr., Laura McNeil and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Mrs. Belin was preceded in death by a sister, Bertha M. Eaddy; and three brothers, Willie, David and Emmanuel Stuckey.

Catherine Peterson

Catherine W. Peterson died May 13. She was 86.

She was born in Peekskill on February

21, 1932 to Catherine (Keon) and John Woods. She is Survived by her six children: Cathleen Godman and her husband, Martin of Bethel CT, Janerie Wheeler and her husband Thomas of Hopewell Junction, Carol Peterson of Yorktown, Meg Avery and her husband Bill of Cortlandt Manor, Tim Peterson and his wife Lisa of Mohegan Lake and Elizabeth Meier and husband Gary of Shrub Oak NY and 15 grandchildren. Catherine is predeceased by her husband, Emil (Bill) W. Peterson, Jr., her parents and sister, Jane Woods Gesson.

Raymond Woods

Raymond L. Woods, a resident of Ossining, died May 17. He was 92.

He was born June 15, 1925 to the late Raymond and Irene (nee Barry) Woods in Ossining. He was pre-deceased by his devoted wife Bernice in 2013. Mr. Woods proudly served his country in the United States Navy during WWII. He also joined the ranks of the Ossining Fire Dept. and became a member of the Holla Hose Company.

He is survived by his loving daughters Patricia (Raymond) Lips of Ossining, Maureen (Donald) Daddazio of Ossining.

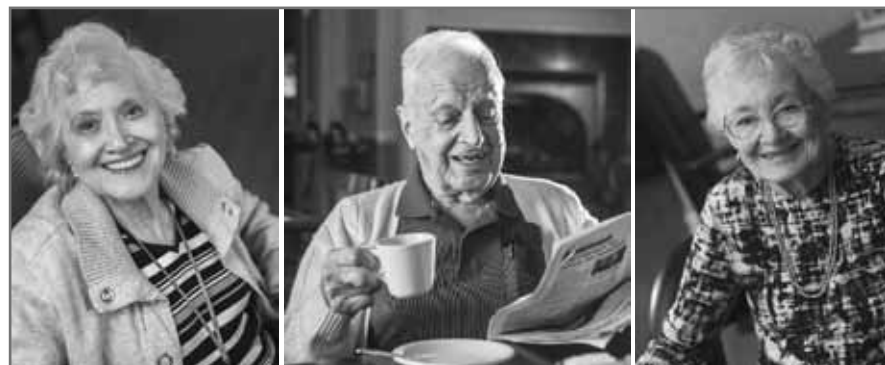
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Officials Call for Independent Review of NYSEG after Storm

By Anna Young

Elected officials are calling for an independent assessment of the electric delivery operations of New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG) following an unexpected thunderstorm and raging tornados last Tuesday that caused thousands to lose power for several days in northern Westchester.

Westchester County Legislators Michael Kaplowitz (D-Somers) and Kit-ley Covill (D-Katonah) sent a letter to Governor Andrew Cuomo on Thursday urging him to endorse a "bottom-up" evaluation of NYSEG's operations. They are requesting the assessment be conducted by a consultant hired by Westchester but paid for by NYSEG.

The pair also criticized the New York State Public Service Commission, which regulates the utility, for not ordering NYSEG to fully incorporate the findings of a 2013 Moreland Commission report, and for failing to mandate improvements in storm response and preparation.

Kaplowitz said via phone during a press conference on Thursday that the frustration and anger was palpable among the constituents he serves that were without power. He said NYSEG is incapable of preparing for storms and going into action once the storm hits. An independent assessment will garner what technology and resiliency solutions can be enhanced in the region, he said.

"We just don't trust NYSEG. We don't trust the Public Service Commission and it's time to take an independent review," Kaplowitz said. "This is just not acceptable. It continues to be the same problem."

The extended power outages are just the latest in a series of problems following back-to-back Nor'easters that impacted the region in March leaving several hundred thousand residents without power for up to two weeks. Officials criticized the utilities for their poor communication and sought efforts to prevent a similar situation from recurring.

County Executive George Latimer



One of many large trees that toppled in Putnam Valley, knocking out power for some residents for several days. Below, A large tree fell in Depew Park in Peekskill.

'This is just not acceptable. It continues to be the same problem.'

—LEGISLATOR MICHAEL KAPLOWITZ

agreed that after failed responses from the utilities an independent study of the resiliency of the electric system is prudent.

"We have no confidence in the way mutual aid has been allocated, and the amount of staff, man power and equipment is transparent to those of us in local government that have to meet our services hand and glove with the utility services," Latimer said. "I think there are people that work very hard for the utilities but clearly the bottom line is when you go four, five, six days without restoration we have some significant problems."

NYSEG informed county officials on


Thursday that 7,798 customers were still without power. Latimer said utility representatives asserted 90 percent of customers would have power back Friday night, with the remaining restored Saturday night.

As of Sunday afternoon, NYSEG reported 71 customers were still without power

Consolidated Edison reported Thursday that 239 customers were still without power and would be restored that day. A majority of their customer base had power back Tuesday evening, Latimer said.

Kaplowitz added that Department of Public Works crews were prepared to handle the storm damage but are restricted due to live wires and the delay of mutual aid often traveling from Canada. He suggested aid from Canada and other states should be flown in to Westchester County Airport to expedite restoration.

"The mutual aid is a joke," he said. "A representative from NYSEG told me (on Thursday) they just crossed the border of Canada and they're on their way down. Everyday they're still driving is a day that people are not restored. The utilities are not doing enough."



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Yorktown Chamber Makes Donation to St. Jude's Hospital

By Anna Young

Members of the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce presented a generous donation to St. Jude's Children's Hospital last week.

With the success of the inaugural Springfest celebration in March, Chamber President Eric DiBartolo said members were determined to bestow a portion of the proceeds back into the community. With money raised through donations, sponsorship, vendors, activities and a silent auction, St. Jude's received a check for \$1,000.

"Your generous community, only because of you are we able to continue our research and save children's lives," said Pam Geiger, associate director at St. Jude's New York/New Jersey regional office. "It really is a hospital where every

dollar makes a difference."

Chamber members Perry Gusikoff and Lillian Chapman co-chaired the March event. They said St. Jude's was a substantial reason they hosted the festival and are happy the event was profitable enough to benefit the children's research hospital.

DiBartolo hopes Springfest will become an annual tradition that can continue to benefit the entire community.

"This is what the Yorktown Chamber is all about. It's not only about helping business it's about helping everybody that we possibly can," DiBartolo said. "It's just showing the chamber on a different light. It's not just business, business, business, but when you feed the businesses everything else seems to come into play."



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

St. Jude's Associate Director Pam Geiger (center) holds check given by Yorktown Chamber of Commerce members.

Carolyn's Crew Keeps Teacher's Memory Alive with Relay Fundraiser

By Anna Young

Relay for Life was in full swing on Sunday as students and teachers from the Lakeland School District gathered on the high school athletic field to raise money for cancer research and celebrate the life of a beloved teacher who lost her battle to cancer 10 years ago.

When high school math teacher Carolyn Conroy died of uterine cancer in 2008, a group of students created Carolyn's Crew and kicked off their first Relay for Life event the following May. The event, which is now in its 10th year, lives on as students continue to forge a path to find a cure for cancer by donating the proceeds to the American Cancer Society.

"We love coming out here and raising money. It's such a nice thing," said Lakeland senior Hannah Ferguson. "Obviously, I didn't have her as a teacher, but every year, even though her death gets further away, it's such an important tra-



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Carolyn's Crew poses at Lakeland High School.

dition for all of us to come out here and remember her and who she was and everything she did for the school."

While the event is primarily made up of Lakeland students and teachers, many residents from the larger community

participate by donating money or taking a few laps around the high school track. With a \$1,500 fundraising goal, the devoted crew had already raised \$1,479 going into to Sunday's event.

Students hope to exceed their goal before they attend Yorktown's Relay for Life at the Jack DeVito Memorial Field on Friday, June 8.

Retired guidance counselor and former Relay advisor Tom Conroy expressed his appreciation and gratitude that students continue to honor his late wife year-after-year.

"It's a very special day," Conroy said. "It doesn't feel quite as sad as it used to, but it feels special that so many people continue to show up."

Guidance counselor and Relay advisor Julie Rundle said students worked for months to plan the event and raise money in Carolyn's memory. She added how important it is to see the Relay club thrive and keep the tradition moving forward.

New All-Outdoor Preschool to Launch

Continued from page 4

play. Branches become "beaks" that the children use to find bird food, and forest debris becomes "nests" for forest creatures.

Participants can expect to help build fires, watch birds, forage for berries, play in snow, and shoot bows and arrows. They can also expect to come home with the occasional scrape or insect bite. "The outdoors can be a scary and unpredictable place," Stone said, adding that "it is these qualities that make it a perfect environment for young kids to learn about risk and reward."

Rewilding School
Founder Eric Stone



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The History of Chairs and How to Sit in Them

One of my first apartments was in a four-floor walk-up in Brooklyn Heights owned by a cranky harridan of a landlady named Diana who owned an antiques shop on the first floor. In her heyday, she had been a Ziegfeld Follies showgirl, or so she claimed, and every Saturday when I would visit her shop to seek out furniture and accessories for my apartment, I would sit with her, sometimes for hours, as she regaled me with tales of the Great White Way.

But I had to be sure to sit in the chair properly, especially if it were straight-backed side chair. "Sit all the way back," Diana would order, "not on the front edge!" It seems that placing my weight on the front of the chair was damaging to it. She always gave me incredible deals on whatever I bought, and I was always sure to sit properly in her chairs.

And, I bought many of my antique chairs from her, most of which I still have. And, speaking of chairs, fixated as I am on the history of things, I wondered how long people have been sitting on them. When sharing that apple, Adam and Eve must have sat on a rock or fallen log, but that would assume that trees fell to the ground in Paradise.

Or if you're more evolution minded, you might consider that our ancestor, the ape, had no rump at all for comfort and probably just squatted.

But once man stood upright and developed a more ample derriere, there surely was a need once in a while to "take a load off" his feet by sitting.

My earliest memory of a reference to sitting in a chair was when, as a five-year-old, I giggled uncontrollably over a comedic line from either Milton Berle or an old Marx brothers movie where a Margaret Dumont type character was told to sit in order to take a load off the floor.

I also remember that my mother once told my older siblings and me that we must always sit in a chair when eating so that the food would not travel down and give us fat ankles! My brother, always a bigger wiseacre than I, responded, "But if we sit in a chair

when we eat, won't we get fat rear-ends?"

While it is not certain when the first person crafted a seat with a back and sat in it, archeological evidence at Neolithic sites indicates bench-like seating areas. The earliest physical evidence we have of chairs is from the Egyptian tombs from about 2800 BC, but such comforts were normally reserved to denote higher el-

evation in society.

It wasn't until the Renaissance in Europe that the chair came into more general use. And, since that time, the style of chairs has reflected the times in which they were crafted as much as fashion for clothing. But, it was the industrial revolution in which chairs could be machine-made that placed chairs into every household.

Almost from the beginning, chairs of plain utilitarian design sat alongside those of great style and beauty. Chair design came into its own in our culture when nurtured by our original settlers who brought style along with function from their mother land.

Today we have works of art realized in chair design, created with both ergonomic and functional considerations. But then, chairs were always functional. The original intention for wing-backed chairs, for instance, was to shield its occupants from drafts in the room, but long after drafts were a thing of the past, the design survived to this day.

Until recently I have been a traditionalist, living in antique homes and collecting antique furnishings, focused on chairs, ranging from early Queen Ann and later Hepplewhite to a prized barrel bank chair from the 1930s that I am told was the favorite of Mayor LaGuardia in

his office at City Hall. If I ever want to run for political office, my plan will be to have myself photographed in that chair for good luck.

But since I have moved to an ultra-modern apartment in a Trump building, I have purchased a dining room set with very modern, commodious chairs and a sofa that I can get lost in. These modern additions for sitting make my antique chairs stand out in a more special way. But whether old or new, I can never sit in a chair on the front edge, but push myself all the way back, just as Diana demanded.

Funny, but when my marital status changed from bachelor to married man, she stopped giving me good deals.

Bill Primavera, while a writer and publicist, is also a realtor known as The Home Guru, associated with William Raveis Real Estate. To have him market your home for sale or to help you find the home of your dreams, contact him at williamjprimavera@gmail.com or call him directly at 914-522-2076.



By Bill Primavera

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PHOTOS BY DANIEL LEFKOWITZ

Rising Country Star to Kick Off Tour Saturday at Chap PAC

By Martin Wilbur

Jessica Lynn has performed professionally for more than half her life. But it wasn't until her father suggested a novel approach to publicize her fledgling country music career that the budding star's stock rocketed to new heights.

In 2014, Jessica, who goes only by her first and middle names as an artist, and her family paid to tape a performance at the Winery at St. George, a Mohegan Lake restaurant and bar that hosts live musical performances.

The video would eventually be picked up by PBS stations across the United States, most notably in markets that are country music hotbeds. That led Jessica, a Yorktown resident and Lakeland High School graduate, to a publishing contract in Nashville, the center of the country music universe.

"It's been a dream come true," Jessica said. "As a singer-songwriter, this is all I ever wanted to do my whole life. It feels really, really good to see a lot of hard work pay off."

This Saturday night she returns to Westchester to perform at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center, an engagement that represents a sendoff for her summer European tour that opens the following Saturday in Lindow, Germany.



Country music artist Jessica Lynn will be playing for the first time this weekend at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center before embarking on a European tour.

While Jessica, 28, may have broken into country music circles using an unconventional strategy and comes from a place (she was actually born in Brooklyn) that doesn't produce many country artists, she has the down-home earthiness and honest storytelling in her songwriting that endears her to legions of country

music fans.

"We're a family band," she said. "My dad plays bass, my mom is my background singer and my husband is my lead guitarist. My dad, he's a retired New York City police officer, he was always a musician and my mom always sang, so we grew up with music constantly in the house and my dad always loved country music. My earliest memory with him was listening to Glen Campbell's 'Rhinstone Cowboy.'"

Since the airing of her Mohegan Lake performance on PBS titled "Jessica Lynn: This Much Fun – Live from the Winery at St. George," she began getting invites to country music festivals throughout the United States. That enabled her to sign a contract later in 2014 to write and record in Nashville.

She followed that up with a second PBS special in 2015 that was taped at the Paramount in Peekskill, which attracted more attention.

Following that she has shared the bill at concerts and venues with some of the biggest names in the genre, including Keith Urban, Tim McGraw and Jo Dee Messina.

Last summer, Jessica released her EP "Look At Me That Way" followed by the single "Crazy Idea," which was her first

single to break into the Top 50 on the country charts.

Jessica, who writes all of her band's music, said she loves being able to tell stories through her songs, something that is prevalent in country music.

"The stories I tell in my music are my own, and I think that's why I've been successful," said Jessica, who grew up playing rock 'n' roll. "It's real life, it's real things that when I sing and I play they seem to mean something to other people because it's real and it's honest, the way it should really be."

Jessica is also thrilled that when she's not on the road, she continues to call Yorktown home and loves performing close to her roots. When the opportunity presents itself, she continues to play at venues throughout Westchester, whether it's returning to the Paramount for a special each Christmas season, having performed at the 2014 Pleasantville Music Festival and now at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center.

"It's very special to play for the hometown crowd," Jessica said. "It's a chance to tell your personal stories and songs."

Tickets for this Saturday's concert are \$35 and \$50 for the VIP access. For tickets and more information, visit www.chappaquapac.org.

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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, May 22

Somers Library Programs: Several programs have been scheduled for the Somers Library. A writers' workshop is held on Mondays from 10:30 a.m. to noon through June 25. Space is limited, so register early! Please register on our online calendar at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717. Writers' Workshop Session I am held on Thursdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. through June 14. People of all skill levels are welcome. Space is limited, so register early! Register for one session only please. Register online at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717. Writers' workshop Session II is held on Thursdays, through June 14, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. People of all skill levels are welcome. Space is limited, so register early. Register for one session only please. A spring poetry workshop is held on Thursdays, 5/ 24 6/7, 14, and 21 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participating members will be encouraged to expand their repertoire of poems. Register online at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717.

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

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

Healthy Happy Hour: Healthy Happy Hours are held on Tuesday nights in Mahopac and another location may be added. Take a 10-day vacation from

processed foods. Are sugary, fatty, easy-to-prepare, addictive junk foods making you feel sick and tired? Then reset your metabolism and break your addictions to unhealthy foods. For more information, contact Diane at 914-843-8745.

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

Wednesday, May 23

Photo Exhibit: The Ground Glass, a Westchester-based association of fine art photographers, is exhibiting a selection of work by 11 members at the Pound Ridge Public Library's Schaffner Gallery. The photography exhibit is taking place through June 23. A reception with the photographers will be held on June 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. The Pound Ridge Library is located at 271 Westchester Ave. For regular library gallery hours visit <http://www.poundridgelibrary.org/hours--directions---contact.html>.

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.

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

POUND Program: POUND TM 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.

Thursday, May 24

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.

Home Alone Workshop: A Tween/Teen Home Alone Workshop for youths in grades five through eight with an adult will be held from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the Somers Public Library. What would you do if you were home alone and there was an emergency? In this workshop, for preteens who spend time alone at home and the adults who love them, you'll learn how to stay safe from EMT Joan Lloyd. Seating is limited. Registration is required; please register each person separately. 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.

Trip to The Tropics: A quick trip to the tropics will be held at the new "Color of Summer" exhibit at the conservatory at Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial, located on Route 35 in Somers. The conservatory will be replete with tropical flowering plants from all over the world in a balmy, rain-forest climate, accented with the music and sounds of the tropics. There will also be a visit from "Dillon," the veiled chameleon that has made friends with visitors to the conservatory. He will be in his special enclosure. The exhibit will run through June 30. Admission fees are \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under on weekdays and \$7 for adults and \$3 for children on weekends and holidays. The conservatory is open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The last tickets of the day are sold at 3:30 p.m. The conservatory is closed Mondays except holidays. Entrance fees are collected at the Garden

Shop. Information about this exhibit and Lasdon is available at lasdonpark.org.

Meet the Makers: Meet the makers: Bill T. Jones and Janet Wong will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Bethany Arts Community, 40 Somerstown Rd., Ossining. It will be an evening of conversation with choreographer, dancer, writer Bill T. Jones, the founder and artistic director of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company and their Associate Artistic Director Janet Wong. Hear from the two of the biggest creative forces in contemporary dance and culture. Info: www.bethanyarts.org/calendar/btjartisttalk.

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

Friday, May 25

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

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

Temple Beth Am Shabbat: Temple Beth Am will "opens its doors to all who enter" for Shabbat on Fridays at 8 p.m. Tonight's service will celebrate the women of the congregation. Rabbi Sharon Sobel will speak about the role of sisterhood in our modern synagogue context. All are welcome to our friendly, sacred space. Our modern Sabbath service has a spiritually engaging and warm feeling while following traditional modes.

Happenings

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. May 24th at 7:45 p.m.

Jewish Center Services: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd., Friday night Sabbath services are held at 8 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, May 26

Korean War Display: "Korea, a War without End" captures, in displays of images, words, vintage equipment and weapons, the "police action" that began in June 1950 when North Korea invaded Western South Korea at Lasdon Park. The exhibit will be open until September. The museum is closed Mondays, except holidays, Memorial Day through Labor Day; open only on weekends the

rest of the year. It is also open on July 4 and Veterans Day. Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial, a Westchester County Park, is located on Route 35 in Somers. For more information on Lasdon and all Westchester County parks go to parks.westchestergov.com.

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 information call 845-528-2305.

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

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

Sunday, May 27

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. Weekly classes are being conducted by rotating instructors. The suggestion fee is \$15. Info: Elisha Simpson at 914-319-4010

Monday, May 28

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.

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Crossword

ACROSS

1. Schmooze
4. Collection agcy.
7. Winter coat
10. System starter
11. Short for a lot of money
12. Mr.'s mate
13. Uninspired reactions
14. Org for kid welfare
15. Fox, young
16. Meeting at an agreed time or Yorktown spa ____
Nails
19. One or some
20. ____ Dinh Diem of S. Vietnam
21. Rear
23. Top-drawer
24. Abolish
25. Amiss
26. Aggressive
31. It borders Wash.
32. Hwy., for one
33. Way out of reach
34. Hale
35. UFO crew
36. Record company
37. Compass point
38. "Wonderful!"

DOWN

1. Will of "The Waltons"
2. Burn with desire
3. Cap'n's mate
4. Threaten
5. Posh
6. Croat, e.g.
7. Cast doubt
8. Defoe character
9. Psychic ability, for short
17. Hunky-dory
18. Like a toggle switch
21. Belonging to German fashion model or Brewster Inn
22. Natural, as talent
23. Newly
25. "____ lunch"
27. Fig Newton alternative
28. Not many
29. Fabric dyed for hunting purposes
30. "Phantom of the Opera" lead
31. No ____, ands or buts

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Living the Dream in the Wilds of California Wine Country

"The daily fog floated imperceptibly through the individual grapevines, seemingly caressing the grapes with delicate moisture. The Pacific Ocean, less than a mile away, acted as a backdrop to the fog and mountain terrain, its waves majestically crashing into the rocky beaches below."

This is how I concluded last week's column. My wife and I had just completed a whirlwind tour of the Fort Ross Vineyard and Winery in the cab of an old, rusted-out utility truck. The vista before us had been miles of unspoiled forests and coastlines. Yet in several acres immediately surrounding us were thriving vineyards planted with Pinot Noir grapes, evidence of man's (minuscule) intrusion on nature's realm.

We had come to taste the wines produced by Lester and Linda Schwartz, the pioneering couple who were the first to understand the potential of this Fort Ross-Seaview viticultural region in Northern California. And they were living their dream.

While we were waiting in the tasting room for Lester to come in from a day of toiling in the vineyard, I contemplated

the serendipity that brought us to this remote outpost of California wine country and the vision and sweat that brought the couple to the very plot of land upon which we were standing.



By Nick Antonaccio



Emigrating from South Africa in 1976, Lester and Linda were smitten by the natural beauty of the San Francisco Bay area. They ventured north seeking a parcel of land to live their dream of a rural lifestyle. They purchased 970 acres of land in 1989, and a new dream emerged. They decided to plant a vineyard and produce their own wine. Clearing the land by hand, they experimented with plantings of dozens of grape varieties and grapevine clones for over two years, seeking the varietal that

would best express their land

They decided that the Pinot Noir grape was best suited to their terroir. The annual rainfall was substantial, the growing season was long and the sunshine was abundant, all factors under which Pinot Noir flourishes. They cleared additional parcels by hand, ultimately planting 50 acres. Each day they felt a growing sense of accomplishment. In 2001, Lester and Linda released their first wine, followed

by additional plantings and bottlings. Each day they were living their dream.

Fast forward to our conversation and wine tasting session in the tasting room. Before us were the bounty of their land: eight different Pinot Noirs, three Chardonnays, a Pinotage (a grape native to South Africa), a sparkling wine and a late harvest Chardonnay dessert wine.

As we tasted through a representative selection of these wines, it was clear that Lester is passionate about winemaking. He spoke with a sense of wonder and excitement as he regaled us with his tales of successes and failures in the vineyard, the national accolades his wines have received and the growing membership in his wine club. (Yes, we are now members and have received – and enjoyed – our first shipment.)

Living one's dream is the ultimate achievement and self-gratification in life. But what of the fruits of one's labor? Under the best of circumstances, producing fine wines can be elusive and frustrating.

Sipping the 2013 Stagecoach Road single vineyard Pinot Noir with Lester was enthralling. My wife and I had walked through this vineyard minutes before, and now we were reliving that terroir in a glass of wine. The bouquet of forest aromas was quite evident, wafting through our olfactory senses; the rich black fruit

flavors exploded in our mouths. The wine was well balanced between fruit and acidity, the finish silky with a soft tannic mouthfeel.

The 2013 Mother of Pearl Chardonnay was redolent of green apples and stone fruit. The bright minerality and acidity instantly infused our nostrils with the smell and feel of the Pacific Ocean below us.

To live in a natural paradise and to craft wines that express the beauty and power of nature is a dream many have. To live that dream every day, as Lester and Linda Schwartz have for more than two decades, is nirvana.

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.

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AUCTIONS

SULLIVAN COUNTY REAL PROPERTY TAX FORECLOSURE AUCTION. 314 Properties; June 13 @ 9:30AM. Held at iRamada Rock Hill Route 17, Exit 109. 800-243-0061. AAR, Inc. & HAR, Inc. Free brochure: www.NYSAuctions.com

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LONG-STOCKING LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/20/2018. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **39 Chesterfield Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583.** Purpose: any lawful acts.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: CANINE BODY DEFENSE, LLC. filed with SSNY on 4/03/18. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 241 East Main Street, Mount Kisco NY, 10549 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FOUR-SIX WP LLC filed with SSNY on 3/30/2018. Office in Westchester, SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 333 Mamaroneck Ave. #417, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BREWSTER SHIPPING LLC filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/27/2018. Office location: Putnam. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to principal business address: 12 Main St, Brewster, NY10509. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF JIGSAW PIECES LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/20/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: 19 Glen Terr. Chappaqua, NY 10514. Purpose: any lawful acts.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PRACTICAL SPECIAL FX, LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY)
continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

on 02/13/2018. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: 69 Brook Manor Rd. Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: any lawful acts.

FORMATION OF NRMHA MANAGEMENT, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/30/18. 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 c/o New Rochelle Municipal Housing Authority, 50 Sickles Ave., New

Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

BUILDER BOYS, LLC Arts. of org. filed with the SSNY on 04/25/2018. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC 39 Mitchell pl. #11b White Plains NY 10601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A2E COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 4/03/2018. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC

upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Maqsood Khan, 25 Rockledge Road, Apt. 1B, Hartsdale, NY 10530. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

PUBLIC NOTICE: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Village Treasurer of the Village of Pleasantville has received the Tax Roll and Warrant for the collection of taxes for the fiscal year 2018-2019. Payments will be accepted in the Finance Department on the Third Floor of Village Hall, 80 Wheeler Avenue, in said Village from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays as follows: Taxes and other assessments, if any, become due and payable June 1, 2018, but may be paid in two installments without penalty. The first installment may be paid without penalty from June 1, 2018 to and including July 1, 2018. The second installment may be paid without penalty from June 1, 2018 to and including December 31, 2018. To all first installment taxes remaining unpaid after July 1, 2018, five percent (5%) will be added for the month of July, and an additional one percent (1%) for each month or fraction thereof until paid. To all second installment taxes remaining unpaid after December 31, 2018, five percent (5%) will be added for the month of January, and an additional one percent (1%) for each month or fraction thereof until paid. On or before February 1, 2019 a delinquent list will be published. **Mary Schwartz, Village Treasurer, Dated: May 29, 2018**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the NYS Alcoholic Beverage Control Law, that PAPPOUS GREEK KITCHEN, LLC, has applied for a license, Serial Number 1310403, and a Temporary 90-Day Permit, Serial Number 1310404, to sell wine, beer, and spirits for retail on-premises consumption at the restaurant PAPPOUS GREEK KITCHEN, located at **1983 Commerce Street, Yorktown Heights, Westchester County, New York 10598.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SMG HOMES, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on March 23, 2018. Office location Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful acts.**

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(Solution to puzzle on page 23)

1	D	2	A	3	D		4	F	5	A	6	B		7	L	8	I	9	L
10	E	R	A				11	O	R	R				12	O	N	E		
13	L	M	N				14	G	R	I	15	E	V	E	S				
16	H	A	I	17	R	G	O	D	D	E	S	S							
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Obituaries

Continued from page 9

Also survived by his four cherished grandchildren Pamela Lips, Brian Lips, Kerri Lynn Daddazio, Allison Daddazio, his three great grandchildren Johnathan Pierre, Jack Woods, Aislin Woods, as well as his five nephews Raymond, Glenn (Laura), Scott (Cherryl), Dale (Shawn) and Steven (Charlene) Woods. Also survived by his loving caregiver and friend Joyce Harris. He was pre-deceased by his brother Gerald Woods.

Anthony Ferraro

Anthony J. Ferraro, JSC, a lifetime Peekskill resident, died May 13. He was 101.

He was born on the outskirts of Peekskill on January 27, 1917, son of Virginio and Rose Ferraro. He graduated from Peekskill H.S, Fordham University, and Fordham University School of Law by the age of 21. He was admitted to practice law in NYS in 1941. He served his clerkship in the Law Offices of James Dempsey. Mr. Ferraro was employed by the Royal Globe and Eagle Insurance Companies. He opened his own law office in Peekskill in Peekskill in 1941. By 1974 it had expanded to Ferraro, Lombardi and De Caro. As a trial attorney, he recovered million-dollar verdicts for his injured

clients. When he opened his law office he also worked as a Professor of Law and Calculus at Iona College. Later, while still running his own office, he was the Law Clerk to Supreme Court Judge James Bailey. He served as the President of the Peekskill Bar Association. He was the Vice Chairman of the Fordham Alumni Association, a member of the Board of Directors of Peekskill Community Hospital and the Board of Directors of the Cerebral Palsy Association. Anthony was elected to the NYS Supreme Court in the 9th Judicial District in November 1974. He sat on that Court from 1975 - 1988. As a Supreme Court Justice, over 50 of his decisions were published in the NY Law books.

On July 13, 1946, he married the love of his life, Elvera Kantner. Together they raised four daughters. He is survived by three daughters, Dianne (Ken) Auser, Bev (Mark) Banta, and Gail Ferraro, six grandchildren and five great grandchildren, his sister Louise Uberbacher and brother John Ferraro. Anthony is predeceased by his wife Elvera, daughter Carole, grandson David and sister Carmela Cote. A Mass of Christian burial will be held Thursday, May 24 at 11:30 a.m., at Assumption Church in Peekskill, followed by interment at Assumption Cemetery.



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Yorktown Heights | \$575,999

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Yorktown Heights | \$498,500

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