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Murphy Cup...

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

raminer

See Sports

May 8 - May 14, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 437



Latte with Latimer

Westchester County Executive George Latimer was joined by Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity and Supervisor Dana Levenberg during a visit last week to First Village Coffee on Main Street in Ossining to mark National Small Business Week.

Murphy to Propose Delaying Closing of Indian Point

By Rick Pezzullo

State Senator Terrence Murphy (R/Yorktown) is planning to propose delaying the closing of the Indian Point nuclear power plants in Buchanan until at least 2030.

During an interview in his district office in Jefferson Valley Thursday, 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 entities affected by the loss of revenue from the plants will survive.

"I don't believe they have a plan," said

Murphy, who kicked off his reelection campaign Thursday evening (see story page 4). "There should have been a plan, so the area isn't going to be mothballed. If this involves getting the federal government involved, so be it."

It was announced in January 2017 that the Indian Point nuclear power plants, which have been a fixture in Buchanan for more than 50 years and help provide electricity to several million homes and businesses in Westchester and the five boroughs of New York City, will close in 2021.

The announcement stunned local of-

Continued on page 2

Lowey Roundtable Searches for Answers in Opioid Crisis

By Anna Young

After helping to pass a \$3.2 billion federal spending bill in response to the evergrowing opioid crisis, Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Harrison) is taking steps to make sure adequate efforts are made to increase prevention and treatment.

Last week, Lowey conducted a roundtable discussion at the Student Assistance Services Corp. with families affected by the problem along with substance abuse prevention and treatment providers and advocates to discuss the impact of opioids in Westchester and Rockland counties.

"The opioid epidemic is a national emergency that demands a robust national response," Lowey said. "Every level

of government must work with stakeholders, including health officials, law enforcement, families, survivors of addiction to truly combat this threat so that fewer people face the pain of addiction or the horror of burying a loved one gone too soon."

The \$3.2 billion will bolster medical treatment and prevention efforts to provide assistance to families and communities struggling with addiction, Lowey said.

"While this funding increase is a major victory, Congress must make robust, continued investments in life-saving programs to bring the opioid crisis to an end," she said.

Throughout the hour-long discussion, speakers recounted their ongoing ef-

forts to fight substance abuse and many stressed the need for more preventative programs.

Domingo Maceira, coordinator for Mount Kisco Partners in Prevention, said resources are often expended on treatment rather than prevention and exploring different methods of treating chronic pain.

"It's better to prevent than have to lament," he said. "If you take that into consideration it makes a lot of sense, but we're not prepared to do that because we emphasize treatment."

"Prevention is a key ingredient in turning the tide on the opioid crisis," said Ellen Morehouse, executive director of Student

Assistance Services Corp. "Along with reducing access to opioids, increasing public awareness of their addictive potential and increasing awareness of treatment options, there has to be increased focus on preventing youth marijuana and alcohol use."

Morehouse explained that many people face addiction after they begin self-medicating. She said doctors rarely prescribe non-addictive pain medication and often don't explain how to taper down a pain-killer prescription, leading patients to try alcohol, marijuana or opioids to feel better.

Ross Fishman, president of Innovative

Continued on page 2



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Lowey Roundtable Searches for Answers in Opioid Crisis

Continued from page 1

Health Systems Inc. in White Plains, said pharmaceutical companies produce excessive amounts of opioids and physicians continue to prescribe them despite evidence that proves that they are harmful.

Patients and doctors are often held hostage to a profit-driven model with easy access to addictive substances, which renders treatment inadequate.

"A further complication is that insurance companies are charging more for the medications used to treat opioid dependence than for the medications that perpetuate it," Fishman said. "We are fighting an uphill battle."

Yorktown Supervisor Ilan Gilbert said that while much has been done, an approach that encompasses prevention, law enforcement, treatment, recovery and mental health is needed. He added that mental health and substance abuse are often interrelated, noting that the 2009 Yorktown High School graduating class has lost nine of its members to overdose or suicide.

Pleasantville resident Richard McSpedon attributed suicides in his home community to the constant pressure teens

face in high school. While he said there's no quick answer to the problem, he suggested increasing preventive educational resources to parents and students.

"It's a tough time to be a kid and it's a tough time to raise a kid," said Gilbert, who lost a son several years ago..

The DARE program has had a lot of positive impact swaying kids from smoking and alcohol abuse, said pediatric nurse Jillian Grant. She suggested modifying the program to address current issues.

Nicole Malgarinos, of Pleasantville Strong, stressed the importance of infusing money into coalitions that rely on grants so the organizations can continue their education and prevention programs in school districts and the larger communities.

Liz Talbert, executive director for Alliance for Safe Kids in Yorktown, said she is nearing the end of the coalition's Drug-Free Communities Support Program grant and wants to obtain funding to continue providing educational resources to students and parents.

"I know that we serve a real purpose," Talbert said. "We are a wonderful resource for the parents and youth."

Murphy to Propose Delaying Closing of Indian Point

Continued from page 1

ficials since Entergy, which purchased the controversial plants 15 years ago, invested \$1.3 billion in safety improvements and has been seeking a 20-year license renewal from the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission since 2007 to continue operating the facility.

An agreement to shut down the plants was worked out between Entergy, several New York State offices and agencies and Riverkeeper. Under the pact, Indian Point Unit 2 will cease operations as early as April 2020 and Unit 3 in April 2021. However, an emergency provision is in-

cluded that could give Entergy an additional four years of service in the event of war, a sudden increase in electrical demand or a sudden shortage of electric energy.

"You just don't go in and decimate an entire school district and an entire village," Murphy said of Hendrick Hudson and Buchanan, both of which have relied heavily on income from the plants. "That's not right. This shouldn't be about politics. Governor Cuomo wanted to close it for years. It was very disappointing that there was no collaboration in the community."

Since the announcement, a local task force has been meeting regularly, brainstorming for ways to replace the lost revenue and reuse the more than 200-acre property.

A few weeks ago, Murphy disclosed \$24 million had been added in the recently approved state budget in a specially designated fund that could be tapped into as early as 2022 if Indian Point shuts down as planned. However, collectively, \$32 million will disappear annually once the plants stop operating.

The Village of Buchanan stands to lose 46% (\$4 million) of its operating budget,

while the Hendrick Hudson School District will lose \$24 million annually (33% of its budget). Others affected are: Cortlandt (\$800,000), Westchester County (\$1 million), Hendrick Hudson Free Library (\$394,110, 28% of its budget) and the Verplanck Fire District (\$372,703, 64% of its budget).

Murphy said he would have voted against the budget if money wasn't set aside in the cessation fund as Cuomo has proposed in his spending plan.



How does Obesity put Women's Health at Risk?

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Dr. Mitchell S. RoslinDirector, Bariatric Surgery Program
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Q: Why do people become obese?

A: Obesity is now recognized as an energy storage disease that's hormonally based. It can develop when we eat large quantities of simple carbohydrates that break down fast to sugar, such as bread, pasta and white rice. In response, your body produces excess insulin to keep the right level of glucose in the blood — a condition called insulin resistance.

Excess insulin production is a serious problem because insulin prevents fat breakdown, so more food converts to fat, promoting fat storage. High insulin also reduces the efficiency of the brain hormone, leptin that tells your brain you should eat less. In women, there's an extensive, complex interaction between the hormonally based reproductive cycles and insulin system, so subtle hormonal changes have a greater effect on women.

Q: Are obese women at risk for certain health problems?

A: Absolutely. Most problems revolve around excessive production of insulin. Obese women have more difficulty conceiving due to problems ovulating, and are more likely to have abnormalities during pregnancy,

such as high blood pressure. Obesity is the number one cause of female infertility in the U.S.

Obesity also increases the risk of irregular or painful periods, high-birth-weight babies, gestational diabetes, and miscarriages. There's a greater risk of breast cancer, especially post-menopause. Sixty percent of cancers of the uterine lining are caused by obesity, as are a significant number of uterine fibroids. Obese women with cancer have a higher rate of mortality and recurrence because treatments, typically tested on non-obese people, may not be as effective.

Q: What are the best remedies for obesity?

A: Weight-loss (bariatric) surgery can work because it helps establish a new weight set point, which is the weight range your body is genetically programmed for and that it tries to maintain. However, you must also eat more protein and vegetables — foods that break down more slowly. FDA-approved medications help some people lose weight. We now know that the best treatment for obesity is multi-pronged. Beside surgery, I use medications, behavioral therapy, and special exercise machines that make it possible for anyone to run. Exercise greatly improves insulin resistance.



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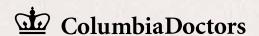
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NewYork-Presbyterian Medical Group Hudson Valley provides comprehensive digestive health services for a wide variety of conditions such as GERD, obesity, motility disorder, colon and liver disorders, and inflammatory bowel disease. Endoscopic treatments and colonoscopies are performed at the NewYork-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital Digestive Health Center.

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Murphy, Byrne Endorsed for Reelection in Peekskill

By Rick Pezzullo

State Senator Terrence Murphy (R/Yorktown) kicked off his reelection campaign for a third term last Thursday at Dramatic Hall in Peekskill among approximately 200 family, friends and supporters.

Murphy, a chiropractor who represents the 40th Senate District, was unanimously endorsed by Republican leaders from Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties. GOP leaders also endorsed Assemblyman Kevin Byrne (Mahopac) in his bid for a second two-year term in Albany.

"This is awesome," Murphy said to the cheering crowd. "It's just an honor and a privilege to represent so many people and do so many things that are available. You get involved in this to do the right thing. I will continue to do the right thing for the people of the 40th District. I'm blessed to be able to do what I do."

Murphy spoke about his efforts in tackling the heroin and opioid epidemic, mentioning comprehensive legislation he spearheaded is being duplicated nationwide by other lawmakers.

"When I went to Albany I knew we had to do something," said Murphy, who chaired a Senate Task Force on Heroin and Opioid Abuse. "It's a life and death situation."

He also spoke about championing causes for veterans and fighting to secure funding

for communities and entities that will be affected when the Indian Point nuclear power plants stop operating.

"This is exactly the kind of guy we need representing us in Albany," said Putnam County Legislator Joseph Castellano. "He's a regular guy, a father, a husband and I'm truly honored to call him a friend. Terrence gets results"

"From day one he embraced the job not just with his mind but with his heart," said Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi. "He's been a constant presence in our town hosting an array of events for our seniors and veterans. I am so proud to stand with the very best man for the job."



Senator Terrence Murphy

Vedat Gashi Announces Candidacy for the 94th State Assembly District

On Sunday, Democrat Vedat Gashi kicked off of his campaign for the New York State Assembly's 94th District surrounded by more than 100 family members, friends, and community advocates within the 94th Assembly District. The event took place at the Gashi campaign office located at 345 Kear Street in Yorktown Heights.

"I am running because our schools matter, our roads matter, hospitals matter. It matters that we are paying the highest taxes in the nation, but not getting back our fair share. I am running for Assembly because Federal policies are hurting our community," said Gashi, who is looking to unseat incumbent Republican Kevin Byrne (Mahopac).

"I, want to be the Assemblyman that will be able to bring resources to our community, to actually be involved during the budget process, and to fight for funding that we desperately need here in our district. I want to go to Albany and make sure I deliver for you. Those of you that know me professionally and personally

know that I never run away from a fight, and that I will not quit. That is the fight and determination I plan to bring as your Assemblyman. I am ready to get to work for our district," he added.

"Vedat Gashi is extraordinary. Whether working for Judge Sonia Sotomayor, or helping draft the Kosovar Declaration of Independence, Vedat's life has been dedicated to the law, and serving the public. Vedat is a good and decent family man, and he will make an outstanding Assemblyman," said Jim Borkowski, Chair of the

Putnam County Democratic Committee.

"As Supervisor, I seek the best for the Town of Yorktown and I look to achieve that through non-partisan efforts. With that said, while I strive to work well with all of Yorktown's representatives regardless of party affiliation, I am thrilled to see a new face looking to serve our community, Vedat Gashi," said Yorktown Supervisor Lanny Gilbert. "As I have gotten to know Vedat, I have found him to be an individual of integrity, experience, and desire to give back to the town he calls home."





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George Ondek and his co-host
Adelina Mulosmanaj interviewing Peekskill
Mayor Andre Rainey and City Councilman,
Colin Smith. Rainey was enthusiastic about the
Cherry Blossom event. It was essential to him
that the kids were having a good time.
Both Rainey and Smith are
looking forward to planting more trees.

George Ondek interviewing Peekskill Rotary Club President Chappy Manzer. Chappy discussed the Rotary and their generous donation of Cherry Blossom trees. He stated that the proceeds that were raised at the Cherry Blossom event would be given

back to the community. They also auctioned off Giants tickets so that they could acquire the funds to do more for the City of Peekskill.

Watch on Cablevision Fridays noon and 10:00 pm on the local Cablevision

access channel and local government channels throughout Westchester, or on Youtube anytime by typing in George Ondek

and the name of the guest or name of the show.

This week's sponsor: Nona's Pizzeria in the Beach Shopping center, Peekskill.

Cortlandt Man Charged with Stealing \$14,000 from Curry

A Cortlandt man was charged Tuesday by Yorktown Police with stealing more than \$14,000 from Curry Honda on Route 202.

Thomas Rubino, 66, of Nordic Drive East, was charged with grand larceny in the third degree, a Class D felony, following an investigation that began on April 10. He turned himself into police on May 1.

According to police, between April 12, 2017 and April 10, 2018, Rubino stole approximately \$14,623 from the car dealership by completing fraudulent merchandise returns and allegedly removing cash from the register within the store.

He was arraigned in Yorktown Town Justice Court and released on his own recognizance. He is scheduled to reappear in court on May 22.

State Police

April 21 - State Police from the Cortlandt barracks arrested Catherine A. Donohue, 27, of Somers, for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 5th degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 5th degree with the intent to sell, both class D felonies, and Criminal Possession of Marihuana in the 4th degree, a class A misdemeanor, Nicole A. Bravo, 22, of Brewster, and Michelle A. Carbone, 20, of Buchanan, for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7th degree, a class A misdemeanor, and Unlawful Possession of Marihuana, a violation.

At approximately 10 p.m., troopers conducted a traffic stop on a 2004 Acura TL on Route 9A in Peekskill for several violations of the vehicle and traffic law. Investigation found Donohue in possession of approximately 196 grams of marijuana, 1,975 grams of consumable marijuana, 2,255 grams of marijuana wax jars, 644 grams of concentrated marijuana oil, 130 grams of marijuana cigarettes and cigars, 300 mg juice containing THC, \$621 in cash, and a flier containing a price list for all items. Bravo and Carbone each possessed a marijuana oil pen device and an amount of marijuana under 25 grams.

Donohue was arraigned in Town of

& LANDSCAPE SUPPLY Gravel • Mulches Topsoil • Unilock Pavers Sand
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Cortlandt Court and remanded to Westchester County Jail in lieu of \$1,000 cash bail or bond. Both Bravo and Carbone were released with appearance tickets returnable to City of Peekskill Court.

April 25- State Police from the Cortlandt barracks arrested Lauren N. DeHayes, 30, of Cortlandt, for three counts of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th degree, and two counts of Identity Theft in the 2nd degree, all class E felonies.

The arrest of DeHayes stems from an investigation of credit cards stolen from ve-

hicles, reported on September 14, 2017 in the Town of Cortlandt. Continued investigation led to the whereabouts, and subsequent arrest of DeHayes for her part in stealing, and then fraudulently using those credit cards for her own benefit.

DeHaves was arraigned in Town of Cortlandt Court and remanded to Westchester County Jail in lieu of \$6,000 cash bail or bond.

Yorktown Police

May 2 - 7:38 a.m. - Anthonie Oglive, 21, of the Bronx, was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation after being stopped on Crompond Road for failing to yield right-of-way. A routine driver's license check revealed Oglive's license had been suspended 11 times.

May 3 - 4:35 p.m. - Christopher Rivera, 28, of Putnam Valley, was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance after police were dispatched to Jefferson Valley Lanes to check on a subject who appeared disoriented. Rivera was located on Route 6 at Hill Blvd. and was in possession of Suboxone, a controlled sub-



In honor of Mother's Day, this Saturday we'll be featuring only wines made by female winemakers. Shop for Mom or bring her to taste wine...either way, it will be a good time!

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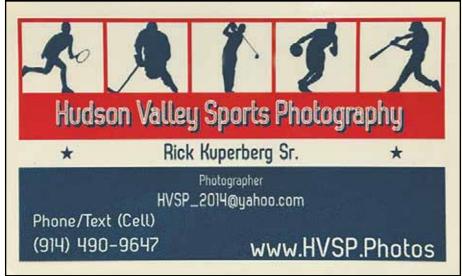






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A very special thank you to the owners and staff of Villa Barone Hilltop Manor, our host for this special evening











Obituaries

Michael Quaid

Michael C. Quaid, a resident of Cortlandt, died May 3. He was 45.

He was born on January 30, 1973 to Timothy J. and Kathleen M. (Corkery) Quaid in New York City. He grew up in



Michael C. Quaid

Cortlandt graduated from Manhattan College in 1995. He was the owner of The UPS Store on Mclean Avenue, and was very active in the community. His

special love was being on the board of the Yonkers St. Patrick's Day Parade on Mclean Avenue. He was an avid runner, having completed the NYC Marathon in 2009. He was a big sports fan, cheering on both the Mets and the Giants.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Kristin Coffey Quaid; cherished daughter Riley Quaid and loving mother, Kathleen M. Quaid. He was predeceased by his father Timothy J. Quaid in 2001.

Robert Heinrichs

Robert (Bob) John Heinrichs, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson, died May 1. He was 80.

He was born on September 5, 1937 in Yonkers, to Jean (Berardo) and Theo-



Robert Heinrichs

dore. He was a beloved husband and father, He is survived by his devoted wife Ann (Kimball); his children, Angela (Steve) Vitoulis and Wayne

richs; grandchildren, Aliana (James) and Adam (Gencina); great-grandchild, Aislynn; sister-in-law Lucille Pantelis; nieces and nephews, Peter (Brenda), Irene and Thomas (Erin); dear friends, and a caring church family.

Mr. Heinrichs had a brilliant mind, many talents and a passion for music and art. He was a gifted pianist, piano tuner/rebuilder, with a rich baritone voice. He painted and taught art classes. He was a man of strong Christian faith and an advocate for mental healthcare and 12-step programs.

Margaret Gerkhardt

Margaret "Peggy" A. Gerkhardt, a resident of Somers, formerly of Yonkers, died April 30 at Putnam Hospital Center. She was 93.

She was born June 17, 1924 in the Bronx to the late Peter J. and Clara (Mueller) Gaffga. She was married to the late Albert F. Gerkhardt for 63 years. She lived a long, busy, and full life; she loved spending time with her family, traveling, camping, reading and shopping especially for grand and great-grandchildren.

She was the loving mother to Elise and the late Anthony Carbillano, Peter and Christine Gerkhardt, Roger and Marie Gerkhardt, Alice and Raymond Godziemski. The devoted grandmother to Heather and Eddy Chapdelaine, PJ and Julia Gerkhardt, Adam and Noelle Gerkhardt, Lindsey and Dan Gallagher, and Zach Gerkhardt, and great-grandmother to Hope, Ethan, Gabriel, Havden, Jackson and Wyatt.

Josephine Rappe

Josephine A. Rappe, a resident of Ossining, died April 30. She was 85.

She was born March 14, 1933 to the late Michael and Catherine (nee Ginty) Davey in County Sligo, Ireland. She was a retired guidance counselor with the NYC

She was predeceased by her devoted husband, Thomas D. Rappe in 2004 and also predeceased by three sisters, Mary, Kathleen and Betty. Josephine is survived by her loving children, Thomas (Janet) Rappe of Boynton Beach, FL., Michael (Margaret) Rappe of Edgemont, N.Y., Joseph Rappe of Greenwich, CT. and Mary Leddy of Stony Point, N.Y. one brother, Dennis Davey and four sisters, Margaret, Sarahann, Helen and Maura. Also survived by her seven cherished grandchildren, Michael, Matthew, Mark, Morgan, Jennifer, Kevin and Alexander.

Colin Rice

Colin John Rice, a resident of Mohegan Lake, died peacefully May 4. He is now in the loving arms of God, at rest after years of struggle.

He was predeceased by his mother Janet. He is survived by his father John, his brother Owen and grandmother Margie. He is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Mr. Rice was a beautiful soul, a gifted musician and writer. Sadly, his life was cut short before his full potential was realized. He was truly loved and will be dearly missed.

Family and friends will honor his life on Tuesday, May 8 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Yorktown Funeral Home. A funeral mass will take place on Wednesday at 11a.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.

Ruth Deglon

Ruth E. Deglon, a resident of Cort-

landt, died peacefully April 29 in her home. She was 92.

She was enveloped in the love, laughter and tears of her family. Memories of her will live on in all that knew her. She was born April 10, 1926 in Oak Park Il. She was the third of four children born to Hattie (Krase) and Harold Lesh. Together with her husband Andre they enjoyed a life of adventure, travel and exploration. Ruth welcomed people from all walks of life with graciousness, good humor and kindness.

She was a model, actress, artist, gardener and a wonderful cook. A rare beauty both inside and out. she was an active passionate woman, whether off to an art show in NYC, a cooking class or antiquing she immersed herself in beauty in all its forms. Most of all she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends enjoying a delicious meal along with several glasses of wine never forgetting dessert. She joined the love of her life where together they are dancing again. She is survived by her three daughters Nina, Debra and Cherie their spouses Fred and Aurea: granddaughter Candice her spouse Jerome, two greatgrandchildren Dashiell and Wilder and Ruth's siblings their families and Swiss relatives.

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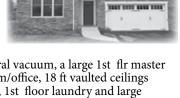




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The Annual Meeting of the

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Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.



Quaker Church Road, Yorktown Heights, NY

All interested parties are invited to attend

Letters to the Editor

Attack on Peekskill Councilwoman was Appalling

To the Editor:

I was in attendance at last week's Common Council meeting in Peekskill, and was appalled at the verbal attack launched by Ms. Brown against Councilwoman Agudelo regarding her unwillingness to say the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of the

meeting. When the Councilwoman attempted to respond, she was interrupted by Ms. Brown, but not before making the comment that was quoted in Mr. Pezzullo's article. It was Ms. Brown's disrespectful tone toward Ms. Agudelo and Mayor Railney that was most disconcerting, as were the comments

by former Mayor Catalina quoted in the article.

Ms. Brown held court at the podium for a full twelve minutes, then made a return appearance later in the meeting, clearly exceeding the recommended time for comments and abusing the time of those present. It is clear that for some, perceived "disrespect" toward our flag is a high priority. I would argue that what is needed here is a bit of respect toward our fellow humans, whether you are a citizen registering your opinion or a former elected official.

MARIE INSERRA Peekskill

Councilwoman Should Not be Vilified for Exercising Her Rights

To the Editor:

America was founded on the principles of freedom--to worship, speak, vote and live peacefully, each according to his conscience.

Which is why we do not have loyalty oaths or require pledges of allegiance from our citizens. We have the RIGHT--indeed, sometimes the obligation--to dissent.

If Ms. Agudelo doesn't want to say the pledge of allegiance, who am I--or anyone--to villify her? Disagree if you (or Mayor Catalina) wish, but please acknowledge she is exercising the rights granted to her as an American. Let's absolutely revel in our differences of opinion--in this country we're allowed to disagree!!! And isn't that just great??

These are EXACTLY the freedom, the rights, that "the millions ...fought and died for"!!!

Sincerely,

JEB STUART-BULLOCK Millwood

Peekskill Councilwoman Doesn't Know Historical Significance of Flag

To the Editor:

I read the article about Peekskill Councilwoman Vanessa Aqudelo and her refusal to recite the "Pledge of Allegiance" during the Peekskill Common Council meeting. It is clear that she has no knowledge of the historical significance of our Flag and what it represents. Our flag, the "Stars & Stripes" represents the "republic for which it stands" while other

national flags, when they were designed, represented a religion or a monarchy. More modern flags may still represent a monarchy or a religion but also may represent a national identity. Based on her statement, as reported, it appears that she would prefer the Hammer & Sickle

JAY KOPSTEIN Yorktown

Senator Murphy is Too Much Like Trump

To the Editor:

Incumbent Senator Terence Murphy is far too much like Donald Trump in his bullying approach, his pandering to his base rather than trying to broaden consensus across all the citizenry in the 40th district and especially in turning his back on issues related to our Hudson River Valley environment. To my knowledge, Mr. Murphy has never questioned installing a 42-inch, high pressure fracked gas pipeline within 150 feet of critical structures at Indian Point. To my knowledge, he has never questioned why the state has not released the results of the AIM pipeline risk assessment study on which the state spent \$250,000 to conduct. Assemblywoman Sandy Galef has issued letters asking when the risk report would be released. Mr. Murphy was a promoter of the fracked gas transfer station in Yorktown Heights and transfer stations emit methane which is far more damaging than carbon dioxide.

Senator Murphy's true colors were very much in evidence at the April 12 New York State Indian Point Closure Taskforce meeting at the Cortlandt Town Hall. Mr. Murphy arrived late and went on a rant about Riverkeeper which is a signatory of the closure agreement because Riverkeeper was party to both the state proceeding on the SPDES permit for the Indian Point cooling water (IP uses 2.5 BILLION

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gallons of Hudson River water daily) and to the NRC relicensing proceeding. Mr. Murphy railed that Riverkeeper should be completely banned from being involved even though that is part the agreement signed by the state and by Entergy. Mr. Murphy also used a phrase that I have heard from him previously that "If Indian Point closes, and I have doubts that it will close." Maybe he is unaware that Entergy publicly admitted that they are closing all

their Northeastern nuclear plants because financials are bad. Mr. Murphy was also a supporter of the phony lawsuit to prevent the IP closure filed by former Westchester Executive, Rob Astorino, when he was planning to run for Governor. Astorino rescinded the lawsuit when he lost the election last November. The 40th District can do much better than Terence Murphy.

GARY SHAW

Croton-on-Hudson

Yorktown Rexall Pharmacy Saved the Day

To the Editor:

I would like to send a shout-out to Raj and his staff at the Yorktown Rexall Pharmacy. After a recent difficult medical procedure, I picked up my medicine there and went home to recover. I needed to call the pharmacy after hours with questions, and Raj helped me amend the dosage. Without his advice, I would have

been in agony all night. I'm so grateful for the comfort and relief.

There's nothing like having a familiar, knowledgeable pharmacist. CVS and the other big chains don't know me from Adam. Support your local independent pharmacy!

JULIA HANTMAN Katonah

The Northern Westchester Examiner

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Letters to the Editor

Councilman Lachterman's Postcards from the Edge

To the Editor:

At Yorktown's last Town Board meeting Councilman Lachterman was apparently disturbed that an unknown constituent was unhappy with his and Councilman Diana's job performance and sent both a very critical but non-threatening unsigned postcard. I have to agree with Councilman Lachterman that no one wants to receive fair/unfair criticism let alone anonymously handwritten in multi-colored ink.

Like CSI Yorktown, Lachterman

looking for clues theatrically held up a postcard enlargement. Maybe Councilmen Lachterman and Diana would have been better served if they collectively held up a mirror and privately reflected on whether these criticisms had any merit?

The First Amendment protects even misguided criticism. Why all this drama? Politicians should have smaller egos, thicker skins and better memories.

Let's look past the "postcarder's" impoliteness, poor penmanship and

grammatical errors and look into the substance of their criticism.

Many people have in-fact publicly complained that Councilmen Lachterman and Diana "wasted taxpayer money" by paying legal fees of the former Supervisor in a professional misconduct complaint. One taxpayer even sued to prevent it.

The News Media in-fact reported on racially charged Yorktown's 2017 Republican campaign mailings as "dirty tricks".

Supervisor Gilbert's inaugural address in-fact hoped to end partisanship

and have everyone "work with not against their fellow board members". Councilmen Lachterman's and Diana's have predictably voted NO along party lines.

Given Lachterman's backlash, is anyone surprised that someone was afraid of identifying themselves for fear of retaliation?

Another case of attacking the messenger not the message.

DAVID WITKOWICH Yorktown

Crossling Would Be a Fearless Fighter on Ossining Board of Ed

To the Editor:

I am writing to enthusiastically endorse Katherin Crossling for Trustee on the Ossining School District Board of Education.

Katherin is a tireless and fearless leader in our community. I am enormously impressed with her ability to organize, mobilize, and inspire community members to work together to tackle issues in Ossining. Her innate leadership skills and her track record on advocacy show that she can represent the diverse interests of Ossining students, families, and community members.

Katherin is an accomplished attorney

whose professional skills will be an asset to the school district and the whole Ossining community. During the past year, I have worked with her on community issues where her professional knowledge on all of the complexities surrounding trafficking has been important in effectuating change directly in our Village and Town. Her ability to work collaboratively with diverse community stakeholders, including the Ossining Police Department, the Village Board, community members, and state and county agencies illustrates her positive, focused, and effective approach to results-oriented solutions.

Katherin has been a tireless fighter in the Fair Funding campaign, to compel NYS to provide adequate and fair funding for the Ossining school district, which is currently on track to be one of the lowest funded districts in New York. As a practicing litigation attorney, Katherin's legal expertise is crucial as we contemplate the next steps needed to rectify this gross inequity in our community.

Katherin's dedication to the students of Ossining was also evidenced in her design and coordination of Ossining's Destination Imagination, an afterschool enrichment program that teaches collaborative problem solving to students. The program was originally deemed too expensive; Katherin found a way to structure the program so it had no financial impact on the district. Ossining will be well served by this type of visionary and creative problem-solving.

Please join me on May 15 in voting for Kathrin Crossling for Ossining School Board. We need a fearless fighter to represent our children, our families, and our community.

Very truly yours,

CATHERINE BORGIA
Ossining

Ossining School Advocates Still Feel Shortchanged by Cuomo

By Anna Young

A large group of Ossining parents are imploring Governor Andrew Cuomo to deliver the Ossining School District its fair share of foundation aid funding as the district continues to remain one of the lowest funded districts in the state.

For several months, parent advocacy group, Ossining for Fair Funding, has held demonstrations, conducted letter writing campaigns and advocated in Albany challenging Cuomo and state officials to fully fund the school district with their intended \$27 million.

While their efforts resulted in the district receiving an 8%, or \$884,167 increase, Ossining only received 44% of its allocation of aid, while nearly 275 districts throughout the state received more than 100% to 2,000% of their allocation.

"To have Governor Cuomo come out and publicly say he delivered equity and it doesn't matter what zip code you live in is insulting, especially when we're nowhere near receiving our fair share of funding," said Jessica Vecchiarelli, the organization's communications director. "It's frustrating because all the money is there, it's just not being allocated properly." The increase brought the districts 2018-19 total to \$11.9 million resulting in a \$15 million gap of what is owed by the state.

"We have excellent educators and I can't imagine the experience my children would have if they were in a fully funded district," Vecchiarelli said.

The parent group feel the disparity in the distribution of funds has made it difficult to manage the district's substantial increase in enrollment over the last decade

Since the foundation aid formula was established in 2008, the district has failed to receive funding to support the school's 24% (963 students) enrollment increase. While most of the more than 700 districts in the state have decreased in enrollment, Ossining is one of 18 districts statewide to experience an increase of more than 500 students.

With more than 4,800 students, Superintendent of Schools Ray Sanchez said the district's schools are nearing capacity. He added that the lack of funding has resulted in the district struggling to provide the necessary resources to ensure students receive the best possible education.

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

While roughly \$3.7 million of appropriated fund balance was used to cut \$3 million within next year's budget, Sanchez said the gap is even larger for the 2019-20 budget. He said programs will have to be eliminated if the district doesn't receive a reasonable amount of state funding.

"Sometimes you take actions proactively to maintain your fiduciary responsibility to your taxpayers and your community, but the other part is maintaining a great program and the question is, how long can you do it for when you've gone to every possible length," Sanchez said. "Are they waiting for us to reach a point of failure where things start to crumble? Because people react to disaster and then it's too late."

If the school were fully funded, he said he would have liked to increase guidance counselors and social workers across the district to address the social and emotional wellness of students, extend after school learning opportunities that have been dramatically reduced, fund infrastructure needs and reduce the tax levy.

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef (D-Ossining) said the Assembly fought to increase the districts aid to 50% but couldn't citing a \$4 billion deficit in the state budget and the state Senate refusing to increase any revenue producers.

"(The increase) was good, not what we wanted, so we have to keep working on it year-after-year," Galef said.

Recently the parent group slammed state Senator David Carlucci (D-Clarkstown) for using photos of Ossining students in his marketing materials claiming that he didn't fight on behalf of the district

"If David isn't going to fight for us, he can't use our kids," parent Kerri DiMiceli said. "He comes here for photo ops and to take advantage of our beautiful diverse kids. David doesn't support our diverse school district, he supports where his big donors are."

Carlucci did not respond to communi-Continued on page 16

2018 School Elections

Five Candidates Running for Two Seats in Peekskill

By Rick Pezzullo

Two seats with three-year terms on the Board of Education are up for grabs on the Peekskill Board of Education on Tuesday, May 15 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Peekskill High School.

President Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon is the lone candidate in the race. Also running are Marie DiNardi, Pamela Hallman Johnson, Allen Jenkins, Jr. and Myriam Pauta.

LISA ASPINALL-KELLAWON

Aspinall-Kellawon is seeking a third term. Her goal is to be an advocate for children by helping them receive a sound education. She believes education opens the doors to most opportunities and provides a foundation from which one can grow and self-actualize, while being a primary building block in a prosperous and financially responsible life.

She brings with her more than 25 years of teaching experience, most of which she gathered during her time teaching at the Central Harlem School District in New York City. There, she began her career at an early childhood education school servicing students from Pre-K to Grade 2 as a Title I math teacher, second grade common branch teacher, math coach and teacher trainer.

She holds a bachelor's degree in business from the College of New Rochelle and a Master's degree in Multicultural Education from the College of Mount St. Vincent. She is also a member of the group SPARC (Social Progress Advocates for Real Change) and a member of the Mount Olivet Baptist Church in

MARIE DINARDI

DiNardi has lived in Peekskill for 15 years. She participated as a community member on the search committee for the district's new superintendent and believes great things are happening in the Peekskill schools and success is ahead with a spirited and competent leader such as Dr. Mauricio on board.

She is retired from a lifelong career in education. She began as a preschool special education teacher and then Program Coordinator at the Children's School for Early Development, of the Arc of Westchester. She then taught grades K-5 as a resource room teacher and inclusion specialist in the Bedford Central School District for 10 years. After becoming the district wide Coordinator for Elementary Special Education she later became the districts' Chairperson for the Committee on Special Education for grades K-5 where she developed and honed her skills in leadership and teamwork. Rounding out her experience with learners of all ages, she has also been an Instructor at Manhattanville College, preparing graduate students in Master's of Education programs.

As an advocate for all children she has created programs to meet an observed need. In 1995 she wrote a grant for the New York State Education Department creating the first preschool class in an integrated setting in Westchester to provide education for children with special needs alongside their typical peers. This model continues today and she is proud to say that Peekskill's Uriah Hill is home to two of these classes, co-taught with the Children's School.

PAMELA HALLMAN-JOHNSON

Hallman-Johnson and her husband, Reginald J. Johnson, have lived in Peekskill for 15 years and have three daughters, one a graduate of Peekskill High School now a senior in college and two attending Peekskill High School. She has long been an advocate of quality public school education. She is currently a Special Education Teacher (English grades 9-12) at New Rochelle High School and has more than 20 years of experience.

She has been employed as an accountant for Pepsi and a Trust and Estate paralegal for Clifford Chance Law Firm in NYC. She has worked for Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES, Lakeland Central School District and the New York City Department of Education. She has been employed as a teacher's aide, substitute teacher, and special education teacher all at the secondary level. As an emergent leader, Hallman-Johnson has been employed as a Special Education Coordinator and a Transition Coordinator.

She is a vested member of the Peekskill City School District. She regularly attends and participates in SEPTO meetings and she has been employed by the district as a substitute teacher and a LEAP teacher. She has worked as a teacher leader for the Peekskill Middle School LEAP Program and she has served on the school district's FOCUS team under former Superintendent Dr. David Fine. Hallman-Johnson has also served as a school building and district leader administrative intern for the district. Pamela holds a B.B.A. in Accounting, Paralegal Certification, M.S. in Adolescent Education, M.S. in Education, an Advanced Certificate in School Building Leadership, an Advanced Certificate in School District Leadership and a NYS School Building Leadership Certification. Hallman-Johnson stated that her educational philosophy can be summed up as this: "Paving the way for every student every day."

ALLEN JENKINS, JR.

Jenkins is Director of the Evening Division and Special Academic Programs at Monroe College, dedicated to assisting students on achieving a higher level of learning so that they become more competitive in today's market place.

He has worked in higher education for more than 15 years in many capacities; finance, academics, academic advising, coaching, and as a college administrator. "This requires me to work closely with academics, administrative offices, school deans, directors, and the Vice President of Academics. The focus is providing students with best college experience and giving them the opportunity to better their lives and careers," he stated.

During his career, he has organized and established several youth developmental programs through athletics with an emphasis on building strong ties between the participants, the community, going to college and getting a job. He has spoken publicly at several high schools and community centers to encourage youths to continue to reach for the stars through their academic and athletic abilities. "All of these experiences have given me a perspective on what is needed in our community to prepare our students for higher education and beyond. I am a firm believer in the saying "it takes a village to raise a child," he stated.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Alderson Broaddus University and Master of Business Administration in Business Management from Monroe College, allows me to serve on the Curriculum, Standards, Policies, and Compliance (CSPC) Committee and the Academic Affairs Committee that help create policies, introduce new majors and set best practices for the college community.

Jenkins was born, raised, and resides in Peekskill. He and his wife are both Peekskill High School graduates and have three young children who will attend and currently attend the Peekskill City School District.

MYRIAM PAUTA

Born in White Plains, Pauta came to Peekskill with her family in 2000 when her parents bought their first home. She began her academic career in 2nd grade at Oakside Elementary School. As the eldest child of four in her Ecuadorian-American family, she was the first in her family to attend college and has played a huge role in her younger siblings' academic lives.

As a student, she received English as Second Language (ESL) classes for one year and received additional reading and math support until 6th grade. Her mother would take her to the library and placed her in the LEAP program so that she would be able to perform at her grade level.

She earned placement in several AP courses, the SUNY Albany research program, college classes from Monroe College and SUNY Westchester Community College (SUNY WCC). While in Peekskill High School (PHS), she was an active member of the Interact club and participated as a volunteer at Drum Hill Senior Living, Earth Cleanup Day, and the Salvation Army. She volunteered at the Assumption Church as 2nd grade CCD teacher assistant. Additionally, she was a member of the National Honor Society, National Science Honor Society, and Latino Culture Club. She graduated in the top 10 with an advanced regents diploma from PHS

She went on to obtain her associates degree in social sciences from SUNY WCC. She then became a Colin Powell Fellow in Leadership & Public Service and a Skadden, Arps Honors student in Legal Studies at the City College of New York (CCNY). She graduated as magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in political science and minor in public policy & public affairs.

Upon graduation, Pauta has returned to Peekskill High School to give current students advice on personal statements, scholarship essays, and college opportunities and campus life. She is currently gathering a group of Peekskill alums from classes of 2010 to 2017 to help edit personal statements, mentor, and share college/professional experiences with current PHS students.

She has worked as a paralegal/legal assistant at a Manhattan law firm. She is fluent in Spanish, and in the last year, she has participated in several events sponsored by the Peekskill Hispanic Community and Comite Ecuadoriano Por La Partia. She has also volunteered in Cuenca, Ecuador as an English teacher and renovation project leader to install new bathrooms, tile floors, gardens, and to sand and paint walls for Hogar Miguel Leon Orphanage.

Pauta is currently obtaining her master's degree in urban planning from New York University Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service (NYU Wagner). She wants to become an advocate for all school children. She believes that her personal experience in the Peekskill City School District (PCSD), her educational/work/volunteer experience, her Spanish fluency, and her involvement with the Peekskill community will help unite and strongly represent all students of PCSD.

2018 School Elections

Five Jockey for Four Seats on Lakeland Board of Education

By Rick Pezzullo

In the Lakeland School District, at least two new residents will be joining the Board of Election as two current trustees have opted not to seek new terms with four seats up for grabs in the May 15 vote being held from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Van Cortlandtville Elementary School.

Carol Ann Dobson, a former board president and vice president who has served five three-year terms, is bowing out, as is Trustee Keri Fiore, who was appointed last year following the resignation of Elizabeth Kogler.

Running for second terms are Michael Daly, former treasurer of the Lakeland Education Foundation, and Karen Pressman, former president of the Lincoln-Titus Elementary School PTA.

Looking to join the board for the first time are Angela Conti, Robert Mayes and Stephen Reid. The top three vote-getters will earn three-year terms, while the fourthplace finisher will have to settle for the oneyear unexpired term, which ends June 30, 2019, being left vacant by Fiore.

MICHAEL DALY

1) Who are you and what is your background?

I've lived in Yorktown Heights for 21 years with my wife Christine and three daughters, two of whom have graduated from Lakeland High School and one is currently in Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School.

Professionally, I am a Senior Vice Presi-



Michael Daly

dent/ Financial Advisor with an internationally recognized investment firm with an office in White Plains, NY. My MBA in Finance (Iona College '84) has served me well during my 34-year career managing investments for

clients as well as advising them on complex financial matters including budgeting, planning and the financing of large construction/real estate projects.

When not working, I am actively involved in youth sports. I've coached over 200 girls including my three daughters over 16 years as a volunteer coach for the Shrub Oak Athletic Club (SOAC). The 2017/2018 season marked my 6th year as the Director of the SOAC Girls' Basketball program that annually welcomes 300 girls of all talent levels in grades three through high School.

Prior to my election to the School Board, I served on the Lakeland Education Foundation (LEF) for eight years in various positions including being the Foundation's Treasurer for five years. During my tenure the LEF raised over \$300,000 to fund grant requests from the district's most innovative

teachers as they enhanced our students' educational experience.

2) Why are you running?

Being a school Board member is challenging and at times difficult. It requires a serious time commitment, attention to detail, and importantly a willingness to objectively listen and be an advocate for all stakeholders including, students, parents, teachers and union members. That being said it is very rewarding when you see our students graduate knowing they are well prepared for their future endeavors.

Since election in 2015 I have actively participated on the district's Audit committee and Capital Projects committees, regularly using my educational and professional experience. The district currently has a capital improvement plan that calls for over \$50 million in improvement projects. Assisting the district managers to bring these projects to completion efficiently, on time and on budget is uniquely suited to my background.

I also believe the contacts I have developed over 34 years can continue to benefit the district.

One of my introductions brought senior representatives from the skilled trade unions together with the Guidance Department and district administrators. The goal being to provide those students not bound for college with internships and training programs to ready them for careers in well-paying fields. The first internship was started this semester with more to come.

A second introduction has the district reviewing a partnership with a local college. Graduate students with teaching majors would serve as substitute teachers in district four days/week partially solving the district's need for substitute teachers. In return, the students would shadow experienced teachers one day a week to gain valuable classroom experience.

3) What is the top priority for the Lakeland School District Going Forward?

In a large district like Lakeland there are always multiple priorities occurring simultaneously that require attention. Providing a high quality education and maintaining our facilities within a budget are all priorities.

School safety has been the highest priority for this board and the district. Horrific events of the last few years simply cannot be ignored. The district, with full Board support, has taken pro-active steps over the last three years including:

- Spending over \$14 million on security upgrades to our facilities
- Hiring retired police officers to serve as security officers in each elementary school.
- Retaining an outside consulting firm to provide recommendations and review procedures

After further assessing needs and discussing with our valued partners in local law enforcement the following line items were

added to the proposed budget for implementation:

- Adding a uniformed police officer in every elementary school and
- Adding security officers in each school to oversee school safety during afterschool activities

Security is only one part of the solution. Being able to reach a troubled individual before they lose control is equally as important. Lakeland has been at the forefront of mental health care with numerous initiatives. Lakeland has teamed up with outside professionals to identify students in need and to provide assistance. Student clubs, like the Warriors' club empowers students to help their peers.

There is still much to do to ensure a culture where all students feel safe, welcome and valued. This must be an ongoing priority.

KAREN PRESSMAN

1) I have a Bachelor of Arts in English from the State University of New York College at Cortland and have worked for nearly 30 years in the corporate communications



Karen Pressman

and public relations profession. After many years of employment in NYC public relations agencies, I became independent an consultant when my children were young so I could flexible have a schedule.

I've lived in Cortlandt Manor since 2003 with my husband and two children. Both kids attended Lincoln-Titus Elementary School, Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School and are now students at Walter Panas High School.

2) As a strong believer in public education and community service, I am honored to be a Lakeland Board of Education Trustee and want to continue advocating for and supporting all of our students, teachers, staff and administrators.

I believe in order to be effective you need to be fully engaged as a board member. Since joining the board in 2015, I've been a very active member. I have an excellent attendance record at meetings, regularly attend school events and take advantage of school board seminars and retreats. Another aspect of being on the board that I've taken seriously is my committee work. I currently serve on the District Youth Council, District Parent Council, Lakeland Advocacy Outreach and Communications Committee.

If re-elected, I will be just as dedicated to the district in my second term as I was in my first. My goals would be to continue helping the administration deliver an excellent pre-K - 12 education to all of our students; provide a supportive and rewarding environment for our teachers, administrators and staff; and perform ongoing assessments of safety and security protocols throughout our district. I will also uphold the board's ongoing commitment to represent the entire community by being fiscally responsible in its stewardship of the Lakeland Central School District budget.

3) Providing all of our students with a quality education that will prepare them for a rapidly changing workforce is extremely important. We need to find each child's individual path to success throughout their K - 12 experience so they're ready to conquer the next phase of their life whether it's a two- or four-year college, apprenticeship program, vocational school, the military or employment.

School safety is also extremely important and something the district has been very focused on. We've been working closely with a consultant to review our security measures. We continue to enhance the security of our schools and provide staff training. The 2018-2019 budget includes monitors for after school activities and security resource officers (SROs) for all five elementary schools – these are in addition to the SROs in the middle school and both high schools. And our dedicated Building Emergency Response Teams (BERT) and Safety Committee are constantly discussing best practices.

Mental health continues to be a priority and the district has excellent services for our students. We're thrilled that the Bridge program in the middle school will be expanded into both high schools. And, our student-led Warr;ors (the semicolon represents mental health and suicide prevention) club continues to be an inspiration in our schools, Westchester County and beyond.

STEPHEN REID

1) I am the parent of two boys that attend Lakeland Schools. My eldest, attends Lakeland High School, and my youngest attends Copper Beech Middle School. I am a



Stephen Reid

retired NYPD Detective and hold an AAS in Criminal Justice, an AAS in EMS (Paramedic) and a Certificate in EMS Management from WCC. Currently, I volunteer with Mohegan Vac and Team Rubicon, a veteran and first responder disaster

relief organization. During the summers I work as the Nature Specialist at Summer Trails day camp. I have lived in the Lakeland School District for over 16 years.

Continued on page 13

2018 School Elections

Four Vie for Two Seats on Somers Board of Education

By Rick Pezzullo

In the Somers School District, four candidates are running for two seats on the Board of Education when voters go to the polls on Tuesday, May 15 from 7 a.m. 9 p.m. at Somers Middle School, where the annual budget will also be presented.

Incumbents Sarena Meyer, current board president, and Trustee Michael D'Anna are being challenged by newcomers Heidi Cambareri and Jill Schantz. Each candidate offered a glimpse of themselves and their goals.

SARENA MEYER

1) What is your occupation and how long have you lived in the district?
Professionally, I am a technology



Sarena Meyer

transformation executive at IBM. I have held a variety of business and technology transformation roles with Accenture, Pepsi Cola, Hyperion Solution, Trade-Out and Mellon Investor Services. Additionally, I am a

passionate volunteer in the area of education, with special interest in STEM related programs, serving as an Education Outreach leader for more than a decade, co-chairing the IBM summer day camp for underprivileged middle school girls for 13 years and visiting over 150 classrooms through the National Engineer's Week.

I have lived in Somers since 1996, raising a son and two daughters, all three of whom graduated from Somers schools and went on to college.

2) Why did you decide to run for the Board of Ed this year?

The decision to run again was something I actively and seriously contemplated every day. When I decided to run the first time in 2006, it was with the goal of bringing my energy, enthusiasm and experiences with public education to benefit the Somers Central School District. In the 12 years I have been on this board, I have continually assessed my contributions to ensure that I am doing what the district truly needs and serving our entire community. I know that my knowledge, experience and trusted relationships within the Somers community have been the reasons I was re-elected in the past and why I decided to run for the Board of Ed again this year. I truly hope the community of Somers will reelect me to another term on the Board of Education.

3) What do you feel are the most pressing issues facing the district?

I truly believe the most pressing issues facing the district continue to be providing educational excellence within the financial limitations of our community. Educating each and every child to reach his/her fullest potential has to be the number one goal of everyone in our district. Somers does this exceptionally well already, but the needs of our children are continually changing and keeping pace requires experienced leadership. At the same time, the district must maintain a balance viewpoint for the increasing economic challenges and the community's financial interests, both of which requires vigilant fiscal stewardship and careful long-range planning that is best addressed by experienced leadership.

HEIDI CAMBARERI

1) I am currently employed as an Early Childhood Educator at Katonah Village Kids. I also hold certifications and have worked as a Special Educa-



Heidi Cambareri

tion teacher and Reading teacher. I have lived in Somers for nearly 17 years.

2) I am a career educator and with that comes a passion about the education of our children. In the past decade, school districts have faced sig-

nificant challenges related to finances, school safety concerns, and federal and state mandates on learning standards and assessment. Watching the impact on my daughters' education inspired me to do much research and to advocate for the educational needs of our students, teachers, and schools. I've reached a point where I have the time to commit, and so now would love to serve our community as a trustee on the Board of Education. We need trustees who will ask the hard questions and become well-informed about issues to encourage decisions that reflect the very best practices and outcomes in the most fiscally responsible manner. I come with a fresh perspective as well as the knowledge and experience necessary to work collaboratively to move forward, growing our district into a place where all children thrive.

3) The most pressing issue facing our district right now is probably maintaining exemplary programs while keeping the budget within the tax cap, which is essential. Also highly important are school safety concerns and achieving appropriate class-size for optimal student performance.

MICHAEL D'ANNA

1) I work in the financial sector and have lived in the Somers Schools district with my wife and two children for 13 years. Both of my children attend school in Somers, one in the High



Michael D'anna

other in the Middle School.

2) I'm running for reelection for

School and the

for reelection for many of the same reasons that drew me to run in the first place six years ago. Primarily, to serve the community of Somers by bringing my expe-

rience as an existing Board Trustee, plus over 20 years of finance and accounting experience, to ensure that our teachers and children have the resources they need to succeed in a 21st century learning environment within a fiscally responsible budget. In addition, I've always asked "Can we do more?". Over the past few years I've been involved in several new initiatives such as the addition of School Resource Officers, implementing the International Baccalaureate Program and rolling our personal learning devices. I'm excited to be an active part of the ongoing changes and challenges our district faces. If elected, I will continue to push for programs and services that allow for our students to succeed in every aspect of their academic experience.

3) One of the most pressing issues facing any school district is creating a safe and positive academic environment that will allow students to thrive. While on the board I have voted for the addition of SROs (which was recently increased from 2 to 4), as well as investing in new technology, training and programs that help to provide the most appropriate learning environment for each student. I've also listened to the community and teachers share their thoughts on subjects such as safety, state mandated tests, etc. and have supported changes that better evaluate our children's progress and our teacher's evaluations. Listening is one quality that I think is very important as a Trustee. Many of the good ideas and positive changes I've been a part of came from community members sharing their thoughts and unique experiences to help push for change. I'm grateful for the opportunity to have served on the Board

and hope to continue to listen and learn from each community member as your Trustee in the future.

JILL SCHANTZ

1) I am currently the Assistant Director of the Early Childhood Center at Temple Shaaray Tefila. I also work as a learning coach and writing consultant. I

have lived in Somers since 2011.



Jill Schantz

2) I decided to run for the Board of Education this year because I am passionate and optimistic about the powerful transformation taking place in Education today. Children, teens, and adoles-

cents are growing up in a different world today and deserve an updated, authentic, inspiring and empowering education. I have over 30 years of diversified education experience. It has always been my mission to empower children and adults to have a strong voice. This remarkable 21st Century Generation must be empowered. As an active community member and Somers parent of two boys in the Somers Middle School, I am driven to do whatever I can to continue the growth of our School District as a trustee of the Somers School Board. I am running to help the children and parents in our district feel supported, heard and understood. I have enjoyed being a driving force of our TEAM Tuskers Mentoring Program and know first-hand how children thrive when given a voice.

3) The most pressing issues facing the district are ones that are common to many of the schools in this area. We continue to struggle to find the most effective way to build tolerance and acceptance among students living in a global community. We must continue to find programs that motivate and inspire students while building resilience and perseverance in a challenging world. We must create innovative and authentic learning outcomes and assessments in all courses. We need assessments that measure growth in communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking skills. I strongly believe we must make it a top priority to know all of our students and make sure that not one person falls through the cracks and goes unnoticed or unrecognized. It is our obligation as a school district and community to give every student the opportunity to be the best person he/she can be.

www.TheExaminerNews.com May 8 - May 14, 2018

2018 School Elections

Two Seats Up for Grabs in Ossining Board of Ed Race

By Rick Pezzullo

In Ossining, four candidates are running for two available seats on the Board of Education when voters go May 15 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Ossining High School.

Trustee Diana Lemon is the only incumbent in the race with Felix Flores not seeking a second term. Also on the ballot are Melissa Banta, Katherin Crossling and Aaron Spring. (Lemon did not respond to several emails seeking responses to a few questions.)

KATHERIN CROSSLING

1) What is your occupation and how long have you lived in the district?

I have lived in Ossining for 10 years with my husband and we have 3 boys, ages 7, 5 and 7 months. I am an attorney with a strong public service background (Vera Institute of Justice, Tulane Legal Defense Clinic and the Bronx District Attorney's Office). A graduate of Duke University and Tulane Law, I am now in private practice in the field of Healthcare Law with the firm Heidell, Pittoni, Murphy & Bach, LLP.

2) Why are you running for a seat on the Board of Education this year?

There are a few reason why I am running. I am a problem solver and that is what the BOE needs. Over the past few years, I have brought about direct and positive change for students of all backgrounds and socioeconomic levels. A few years ago, I saw a need for educational enrichment that focused on skills not easily taught in the classroom setting. I researched and pitched bringing Destination Imagination (DI) to Ossining. DI is a national not for profit that teaches students how to collaboratively problem solve unique challenges based in science, technology, engineering and the arts while focusing on the development of soft skills such as self-confidence, positivity, emotional intelligence, flexibility, friendliness and communication. DI was thriving in all surrounding districts and I wanted Ossining's students to have the opportunity to participate. I modeled the program to cost nothing to the district. The program gives parents access to their child's education and brings them directly into the learning process to facilitate educational growth.

I have been fearless when it comes to fighting for Ossining's children and community. This year, I formed a community advocacy group to expose businesses alleged to be operating as erotic massage parlors in Ossining Village in close proximity to the schools. My advocacy group not only raised awareness, but we proposed an action plan to the Village Board of Trustees. Within two

weeks of the presentation, two of the businesses were shut down and arrests were made at one of the locations. My commitment to the cause did not end. I continued to work with Village officials to propose Code changes to ensure that similar businesses were prevented from opening in the future. My commitment to tackling difficult community issues in a way that achieves real and tangible results combined with my determined will for excellence for all of Ossining's children has led me to seek a seat with the Board of Education.

3) What do you feel are the most pressing issues facing the district?

Increasing enrollment and underfunding from the state are two of the most significant issues facing our district and will continue to be significant over the next few years. I have proposed a two part approach to increasing Ossining's foundation aid that includes sustained lobbying efforts in support of a legislative carve out for the 16-18 other statewide "harmed" districts. We can work with advocacy groups to engage in joint lobbying efforts for the legislative carve out. The carve out would be targeted to make Ossining whole from a budget perspective. In addition to continued community driven joint lobbying efforts, I have researched targeted litigation options on behalf of Ossining. The litigation would be designed to remove something called the Hold Harmless provision of the Foundation Aid formula. The provision essentially states that no district can ever receive less money from the foundation aid formula than they first received in 2007 regardless of whether or not their district enrollment went down. As a result, wealthy districts become wealthier and districts like Ossining have their money shunted to other districts. My proposed litigation would seek to remove the Hold Harmless as arbitrary and discriminatory. I am hopeful with this targeted approach we can recoup some of the monetary losses that have burdened Ossining's schools.

In addition to budgeting and housing I would also prioritize addressing the social emotional needs of all students. Addressing these needs will help bridge the achievement gap and further the district's dedication to providing equity to all students. Research has also shown that small class sizes in early elementary and placing parents in leadership roles are two of the most effective ways to bridge the achievement gap. I am committed to balancing a budget while keeping class size low and finding creative ways to place parents in active leadership roles. I also see ways the district can capitalize on low cost community collaborations to better utilize resources.

MELISSA BANTA

- 1) My occupations include a career of 15 years in Profit and Non-Profit Health-care business administration. I also volunteer as Co-president of OPACC (a parent organization in the district), I have a dedicated passion for advocating in support of equity in education, and mental health awareness. I have lived in Ossining my entire life.
- 2) As my advocacy efforts have allowed me to work closely with the district for the past several years, I am fully aware of the many intricacies involved when working toward an equilibrium.

Currently serving on the school equity and budget advisory committees, I am highly adept to the overarching qualities of group dynamics when working to achieve these goals. It would be an honor to serve on the Board of Education, continuing to support the abundant efforts that have contributed to transforming the Ossining School District into a responsible, prosperous, inclusive academic environment.

3) Securing the necessary and deserved foundation aid the district is owed. Having adequate funding would allow the district the financial equity necessary, to increase successful academic outcomes for all students.

AARON SPRING

- 1) I currently work as a legal intern for a local law firm in Ossining, I am an accounting and pre-law student at Fordham University. I have lived in the district my entire life, went through the Ossining public school system, and graduated Ossining high school in 2015.
- 2) I am running for multiple reasons. Firstly, I have been fighting Albany since May 2015 on the foundation aid issue as a community member, and want to

work with our state representatives as a board member to relinquish our status as the most underfunded school district in the state. I believe Albany should not be playing politics when it comes to education, and would like to see them equitably and fairly fund our schools so that we can address mental health issues, expand and extend day activities for the younger grades, provide additional funding to the guidance department to help seniors apply to college and underclassmen learn about college and better prepare for standardized testing. I am also running because the taxes are too high in this community and we need common sense relief, we need to pursue a budget that keeps taxes flat, as an increase every year is driving people out of this community. I am running because I understand the experiences and obstacles that the children of Ossining are going through, and I believe I can offer them a voice and work with the board to address their concerns, as I can relate to them.

3) Two pressing issues facing the district are foundation aid and taxes. We currently receive 42% of the foundation aid that Albany owes us, making us the most underfunded district in the state. We need to work with Albany and hold our legislators accountable to ensure that Ossining receives fair funding so that we can give every child the chance they deserve. If we receive this money, we can expand day activities, better address the mental health of children, expand art, music, and athletic programs etc. The second issue is taxes, as they are simply too high for people to be able to afford to live here. People are moving out of this community in droves, and it is unfair that our seniors continue to get pushed out because of a lack of fiscal management by the board. We need to pursue a flat tax budget for once, and I will fight

Five Jockey for Four Seats

Continued from page 11

- 2) I would like to be a part Lakeland Central School District Board of Education in order to help ensure a safe learning environment for all students, transparency, and a fair and balanced budget.
- 3) Security and safety of our students is paramount. It should be a top priority for the Lakeland School District.

ANGELA CONTI

1) I am a 22-year district resident living in the town of Cortlandt. I have a bachelor's degree in Accounting and Finance from Pace University and completed all coursework towards a master's degree in Elementary and Special Education from Manhattanville College.

For most of my career, I worked as a Business Operations Manager at a major communications company dealing with accounting, budgets, communications, human resources, emergency preparedness and business continuity planning. My husband, John, and I have two children. The youngest recently graduated from Walter Panas High School.

I have volunteered in Lakeland for the last 12 years. My contributions include: being a class parent and PTA member at Lincoln-Titus Elementary School each year my son attended; being President of the Walter Panas High School Parent Club

Continued on page 30

\$18.5M Capital Projects Bond Proposed in Hen Hud

By Rick Pezzullo

Voters in the Hendrick Hudson School District are being asked to support an \$18.5 million bond in addition to the annual budget on Tuesday, May 15 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Frank G. Lindsey Elementary School.

Despite facing an uncertain financial future with the closing of the Indian Point nuclear power plants in a few years, school administrators are emphasizing the current health and safety needs in district school buildings that would be addressed if the 20-year bond, which would not raise taxes, is approved.

Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter has said most of the projects proposed in the bond stemmed from Safety Committee recommendations and a building condition survey conducted by an engineering firm in 2015.

Enrique Catalan, assistant superintendent for business, has explained almost \$12 million of the bond will be spent on safety improvements. He said currently the district only has about \$200,000 available to do small projects.

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. Catalan said by installing turf instead of natural grass the district would save \$214,000 over 26 years. He also noted the state would pay 40% of the cost of the field replacement.

"There is a strong need to upgrade safety features in our facilities and provide the best classroom settings to give our students the best opportunities to succeed," said Board of Education President Barbara Pettersen. "These buildings need upgrades."

Hochreiter, Pettersen and other school officials have held numerous meetings, large and small, in an effort to get the word out about the importance of the bond passing.

In addition to the bond, residents will be voting on the annual school district budget and two seats on the Board of Ed-



ucation. Three candidates will be on the ballot: Mary-Pat Briggi, a former board president, and Laurie Ryan are running for reelection, while Richard Sklar is also in it to win it. Sklar was the lone candidate to respond to an email seeking comments.

Sklar, a director with a national provider of cost containment services to the healthcare industry and a resident of Cortlandt since 2005, said a number of factors contributed to his decision to run this year.

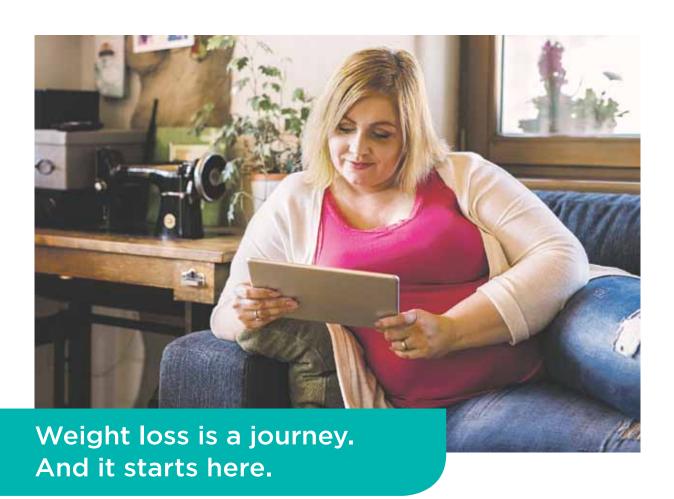
"Not least of which has been the en-

couragement of friends in the district. Like me, I imagine many residents are wondering if our school district is spending money efficiently and appropriately," he said. "I'd be honored to leverage my experience and skills in Finance and Information Technology for the benefit of the district. I intend to advocate for financially sound decision-making, provide effective spending oversight, and encourage the free flow of information between the Board of Education and district residents," he added.

He said the planned closing of Indian

Point presents challenges that require sound decision-making and oversight.

"Financial concerns top most everyone's list. Annual budget and spending discipline is critically important, particularly in light of potential large-scale capital projects," he said. "The quality of education and opportunities for our students is also a top priority. I intend to focus on fulfilling the district's mission to provide outstanding educational and inspirational opportunities to prepare our students for productive adulthood."



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www.TheExaminerNews.com May 8 - May 14, 2018



By Neal Rentz

Peekskill resident Justin Wingenroth named his new business The Dance Conservatory to distinguish it from a typical dance studio.

"We are hoping to provide a higher level of dance education, gearing kids toward the college level training or preprofessional to professional," Wingenroth said last week. "Our company program requires kids to take ballet multiple times a week plus their modern jazz and conditioning classes."

Students who are part of the company program take eight or nine classes a week with each class typically running between 60 and 90 minutes, he said. The Conservatory offers other programs with such elective courses as hip hop and tap for participants who do not want to take all the courses included in the company program, he said.

The regular season for students will end with an in-studio showcase performance on June 9, Wingenroth said.

The Conservatory, which opened on Route 6 in Cortlandt in January, will offer a full-year program starting in September, though prospective students will be able to enroll in classes

The Dance Conservatory

Cortlandt



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Peekskill resident Justin Wingenroth is the owner and director of The Dance Conservatory, which opened in Cortlandt in January.

throughout the year, Wingenroth said. The Conservatory provides various classes for children as young as three to adults.

Aside from his administrative duties at his new business, Wingenroth teaches ballet and jazz and lyrical dance.

Wingenroth said it was important for his dance students to be in good shape to help prevent injuries and can lengthen their careers through such programs as cross-training, as well as conditioning and yoga classes. "It's not just ballet for them. It will transcend any genre of dance," he said.

"One of the things that I think sets us aside from a lot of studios is that we are taking the cross training into consideration," Wingenroth said. "There's huge strides in the world of dance medicine that have been taken in the last

10 years to prolong dancers' careers. If you look back in the '80s and '90s even, professional dancers were pretty much done in their mid to late 20's. Now, the top companies are retiring dancers at 40, 45. There are dancers coming back at 60

to play leading roles. That was unheard of 20 years ago."

The Dance Conservatory is the first business Wingenroth, a Pennsylvania native, has owned. He has extensive experience both as a dancer and a dance teacher. He did theme park work at Tokyo Disney and Hershey Park. He did national tours of "Cats" and "42nd Street," as well as dancing for regional theater companies and small companies in New York City. "About eight or nine years ago I started falling into teaching," he said.

Wingenroth has much involvement with young performers from northern Westchester. He choreographs the musicals at Peekskill High School. This year he began working with the performers at Croton High School and he has been working with the students and choreographers in the Yorktown High School Dance Company.

The Dance Conservatory is located at 2050 E. Main St. (Route 6), Cortlandt. For more information, call 914-734-5326, send an e-mail to info@thedanceconservatory.info or visit https://www.thedanceconservatory.info.





NYSEG Task Force Moving Forward in Town of Somers

Bv Neal Rentz

Somers resident Josephine Bastone reminded the Town Board last week of all the power outages she has experienced at her Manor Lane home over recent years.

Bastone has addressed the board on several occasions in the past about the loss of NYSEG service. In 2017, she experienced 14 power outages and so far this year she lost power eight times.

Somers town officials have been sharing Bastone's frustrations and have taken several actions in recent months, including the formation of the Power Grid Task Force., headed by Councilmen Thomas Garrity Jr. and Richard Clinchy.

At last week's Town Board meeting, Supervisor Rick Morrissey explained what the town has been doing to limit power outages.

During the special Town Board meeting on April 27, there was a discussion of concerns from the Power Grid Task Force and other town officials about frequent power outages. Officials from NYSEG said a \$2 million infrastructure project was underway for the Heritage Hills Housing complex.

Ossining School Advocates Still Feel Shortchanged by Cuomo

Continued from page 9 cation regarding the organizations claim, but a representative from his office said Carlucci agrees the formula hasn't considered the district's enrollment increase and funding has not been equitable.

"The foundation aid formula has never been run properly and we have clearly demonstrated that this school district is capable of cutting staff to keep our buildings and grounds maintained properly," said Ossining for Fair Funding cofounder Ben Zebelman. "We are never going to get to where our kids are getting the money that is legally obligated to them. We're being staved and our current normal is not okay."



Clinchy said at the April 27 meeting NYSEG representatives told the Town Board, "We have to do better."

NYSEG is the process or restoring or upgrading the seven reclosers in town, Morrissey said. A recloser is circuit breaker with a mechanism that can close if opened because of fault.

Garrity said NYSEG representatives told the Town Board in April that in recent years the utility reinstated its vegetation management program, which includes the trimming and cutting of trees in the NYSEG right of ways after the pro-

gram had been previously discontinued. Morrissey said five years was too long for each area of town to be part of the vegetation management program and a shorter cycle was needed for the town.

Morrissey said last week the town has filed a complaint with the state Public Service Commission against NYSEG. Officials from the state agency have come to Somers to investigate the complaint, he said.

Morrissey said he has joined many of his fellow town leaders from the area to meet in January and April with the new NYSEG President and Chief Executive Officer Carl Taylor to speak about their concerns about the power outages.

At last week's meeting, the Task Force accepted a request from the town's Energy Environment Committee to allow three of its members to join the Task Force.

The NYSEG representatives will come back to the Town Board with additional information and answers to questions posed at the April meeting and another special meeting will be held on a date to be determined.





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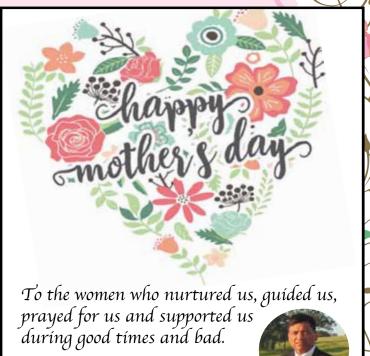












- Councilman Vishnu Patel





The Story About the Raised Ranch That Never Dies

Many years ago, I wrote a column with the long title, "The Raised Ranch, Love It, Leave It or Change It."

I described how since its explosive development in tract housing, starting in the early 1960s, home seekers have either loved or hated the design. For those who

hated it, the article suggested how the design might be changed, eliciting many responses from readers asking for architects who might do the job – to this day.

Since the inception of its design, never has the style of a house spawned more opposing opinions than that of the raised ranch. Some prospective home buyers are drawn to it – perhaps they grew up in one – while others say, "show me anything but."

"I don't know who exactly invented the design of the raised ranch, but whoever it was should be shot!" said Michael Piccirillo, a Yorktown architect told me years ago. Actually, some architectural historians say that the design was created by none other than Frank Lloyd Wright.

The history of the raised ranch and its place in the American housing scene, rising from a clever idea to ubiquitous popularity then to disfavor as a style, is a strictly American phenomenon. While you see many ranch-style homes in the New York area, they originated on the West Coast in the 1920s. Once their influence reached the East Coast, the foundation had risen half a story and the one-level ranch was "raised" to create two levels.

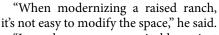
The main complaints that Piccirillo has about the elevated ranch are the same that we hear most frequently from other detractors, that the entrance platform between the main and lower levels is typically shortened so that it's difficult to close the door behind you without stepping up or down a step. Furthermore, there is no room for an entry hall closet. As Piccirillo pointed out, the lower level is cut off from the main flow of

h, the house.

By Bill Primavera

The

lome



"It can become a more sizable project that's more complicated than re-doing a ranch, cape or colonial."

Yet it's this very cut-off feeling that some people find desirable for converting a raised ranch into a mother-daughter layout or an accessory apartment.

Basically, the raised ranch is a one-story ranch propped atop a high foundation,

creating a lower living space without raising the construction cost appreciably. Normally that lower space is divided into one or two rooms, along with a half or full bath and a laundry room. The rest of the level is for the utility room and a two-car garage.

But detractors say that while the inside may offer more space at less money, the exteriors are devoid of any distinguishing features, so that large tracts of the design tend to look alike.

Another issue in the raised ranch debate is that its design has fallen into disfavor more quickly than any other style of house. Homeowners today are more sophisticated at all price levels and they want to distinguish themselves from their neighbors. On the longest block in my town with the most raised ranches, the transformation from alikeness started to take place in the late 1980s, first with the selection of new siding and windows. Then there were additions, which many times included revamping the two-car garage into living space and extending a wing with a new garage and a "bonus" room overhead.

A while back, I met a husband-andwife team of architects who first made me aware of clever ways to disguise the top-heavy look of the raised ranch with a front bump-out. They designed what I call an "entrance tower" for the center that remedies at least two of the design problems associated with the house. The tower is basically a one-and-a-half to two-story extension in the middle of the house, which solves the problem of the small entry platform. The entrance then becomes expansive depending on the dimensions of the tower and provides more room for a coat closet.

Also, the addition of the tower tends to make the raised ranch look more like a colonial. The tower can soar two stories to impress visitors or to create a second floor for a large elevated walk-in closet or another bathroom.

For anyone who's living in a raised ranch and wants to update or upgrade the design to a contemporary colonial look, I've researched and worked with a couple of architects who can help. For contact information, just call my number below.

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





CAMPS

Being Away from Home Builds Self-Esteem, Independence

ne of the many joys of parenthood is helping children navigate new waters. And, while often these situations are met with hesitation, slight anxiety — or in the case of some first-time campers, homesickness — it is these moments that develop the twenty-first century skills needed in adulthood. New situations, such as going away to camp, serve as teachers in life's classroom — developing leadership, self-esteem, teamwork, independence, and problem-solving.

It's important, even critical, for parents to help children overcome any feelings of hesitation in order to help them grow. Take camp, for example. From a child's perspective, camp is fun, fun, fun! Parents know that camp provides immeasurable growth opportunities, and is a vital part of childhood. As the day approaches, even the most excited campers sometimes get nervous about being away from home. "Homesickness is completely normal," said Michael Thompson, consultant, author, and psychologist in a recent PBS Parents article*. "If a child loves his or her parents and has a good home, why wouldn't he or she feel some longing for mom, for dad, for the dog, or for home cooking?"

It is up to parents, then, to help ease the transition to camp, and help their children grow from the experience. The American Camp Association* (ACA) suggests the following advice to help alleviate anxiety and get a jump start on life's lessons.

- Encourage independence throughout the year. Practice separations, such as sleepovers at a friend's house, can simulate the camp environment.
- Involve children in the process of preparing for camp. The more they own the decision, the more comfortable they will feel being at camp.
- Make sure to understand the camp's philosophy on how issues, such as homesickness, are addressed. Talk candidly with the camp director to understand his/her perspective on the adjustment to camp life.
- Discuss what to expect at camp before leaving for camp. Consider roleplaying anticipated situations, such as using a flashlight to find the bathroom.
- Reach an agreement ahead of time on calling each other, but make sure to honor the camp's policy on phone calls.
- Send a note or care package ahead of time to arrive the first day of camp. Acknowledge missing the child, in a positive way. For example, saying "I am going to miss you, but I know that you will have a good time at camp," lets the camper know that families are thinking about them, but confident in their ability to adapt to camp.
- Pack a personal item or two from home, such as a stuffed animal.
 - Avoid bribing behaviors. Families send

the wrong message when they link a successful stay at camp to a material object. Families should focus on the real rewards — like new found confidence and independence.

• Don't plan an exit strategy. If a "rescue call" comes from the child, offer calm reassurance and put the time frame into perspective.

While most incidents of homesickness pass quickly, parents know their child best.

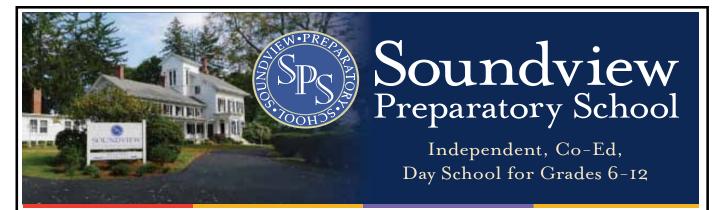
If parents have concerns (for example, the child is not eating or sleeping, or appears overly anxious), they should immediately talk to their camp director. Camp staff are trained to identify and ease homesickness, and are a valuable resource for parents as well as campers.

For more information on preparing your child for an independent, fun-filled summer, visit www.ACAcamps.org. Or, follow ACA on Facebook and Twitter for helpful

hints and camp information.

Contact Public Relations at 765.349.3317 or pr@ACAcamps.org to interview an ACA spokesperson, or for more information about preparing for camp. For customizable public service announcements or article reprints, visit our Press Room at www.ACAcamps.org/press-room.

*Michael Thompson, Ph.D., "Helping Kids Beat Homesickness at Sleep-Away Camp," PBS Parents, May 2011.



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- Flexible Support Center to assist in executive functioning skills with renowned licensed learning specialist, MARCELLA MORAN, and trained counselors on staff for one-on-one support
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May 20th at 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

RSVP: camp@sproutwestchester.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.cyjsproutlake.org/sproutwestchester or call 914-271-7563 Sproutwestchester@youngjudaea.org

Premier Camp

June 25 - August 10
By the Week or Season

Ages 5–12 9am–3pm
Soccer, basketball, baseball,
racquetball, arts & crafts,
Free Swim and Swim Lesson!





Tennis Camp

June 25 - August 24

By the Week or Season

Ages 6-14 9am-3pm Focus is on tennis strokes, footwork, competitive games, and a swim break.



914-739-7755

Extended Child Care Available



2127 Albany Post Rd., Montrose, NY Rt. 9A between Croton & Cortlandt Manor

Call for details or go to www.Premierathletic.com



CAMPS

Club Fit's Summer Camps Offer Full Time Fun

The weather is warming up, school is winding down and parents are already looking for ways to keep the kids busy for the next three months. Luckily, Club Fit has them covered. The club's Summer Camp offers a variety of camps and activities for all ages, including soccer, basketball, football, volleyball, dance, as well as daily swimming for everyone! There are also swim lessons available for a fee.

The club's camps provide kids with an environment that is safe, fun and encouraging that fosters creativity, energy and positivity. Additionally, Club Fit has camp programs for all levels and age ranges, from full-day to half-day and Kinder Camp, as well as specialty camps and counselor-in-training programs. Kinder Camp and Half-Day campers have swimming lessons included! Also, weather isn't a concern, as the facility includes both an indoor and outdoor areas, so that, even when the sun disappears, the fun doesn't have to stop.

The camp's staff is comprised of skilled

Putnam Grapples with Outbreak of Measles

By David Propper

An outbreak of measles has struck Putnam County, county health department officials announced last Friday.

Three positive cases of the measles were confirmed by the health department last week, with two Putnam residents infected and one Connecticut resident stricken with the disease. While the three infected people have been isolated to avoid the spread of the serious, highly contagious disease, there is still a fear that others could be infected.

Before these individuals were isolated, they may have exposed other people," interim Health Commissioner Michael J. Nesheiwat said in a press release, "and we are working with local partners to identify all possible contacts."

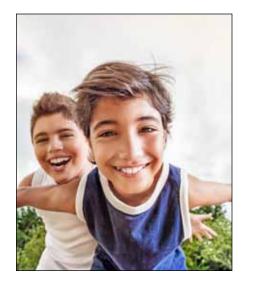
Measles can be spread through the air by coughing or sneezing. In rare cases, it can result in death. There were 63 nonfatal cases in the United States this year

Anyone that was in the Subway eatery located at 3101 Route 22 in Patterson on Sunday April 29 between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. or in the DeCicco and Sons located at 50 Independent Way in Brewster right off Route 312 on May 1 between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. may have been exposed, the health department stated. The health department encouraged those people to call the 845-808-1390.

and knowledgeable counselors, including college students with backgrounds in sports, fitness and child care. Drawing on their wide range of experience, these counselors will give Club Fit campers a day filled with activities that encourage creativity, teach sportsmanship and inspire positive thinking and body aware-

In addition to the wide range of programs offered at Club Fit camps, there are a number of fun activities that are guaranteed to keep campers motivated and engaged throughout the day. These include inflatables, a gaga pit, and special theme days, ensuring that every day is different and exciting!

If you have additional questions regarding the Club Fit Jefferson Valley Day Camp, please call Mary Ann Helf at 914-250-7725 or email campsjeffersonvalley@clubfit.com.



Town of **Cortlandt** Camps



Day Play Camp

A rain or shine program that includes sports, arts and

crafts, games and special events. Swimming will be provided at Charles J. Cook Park. Days will vary from week to week; No Swimming Lessons. Campers are to bring lunch and a drink. Limited Busing is provided within the Town of Cortlandt.



George Washington Location: Elementary School Grade: K-4 as of Sept '18 Day: Monday-Friday 9:45 AM-2:45 PM Time:

When: June 25-July 6 (No camp 7/4) Section I Section II July 9-July 20

Section III July 23- Aug 3

Fee: \$310 per section

\$845 for all three sections

\$978 for all 3 sections

2nd Child Fee: \$300 per section \$815 for all three sections

Non Resident: \$372 per section \$1,014 for all 3 sections 2nd Child: \$360 per section

Day Camp

A rain or shine program that offers swimming instruction, sports, music, arts and crafts, drama, supervised swimming, special events and some special day trips. Campers are to bring lunch and a drink. Limited Busing is provided within the Town of Cortlandt.

Charles Cook Park Location: 1- 4 as of Sept '18 Grade: Day: Monday-Friday Time: 8:45 AM- 3:45 PM

When: Section I June 25-July 6 (No camp 7/4) Section II

July 9-July 20 Section III July 23- Aug 3

\$395 per section

\$1,105 for all three sections \$474 per section

Non Resident: \$1,326 for all 3 sections To register online:

www.townofcortlandt.com/reconline

Summer 2018 Recreation **Brochure available at:**

www.townofcortlandt.com/rec

Grades 5-8: A rain or shine program specifically designed for these grade levels. The program will offer such activities as arts and crafts, sports, waterslide, bowling, swimming and special trips such as Rye Playland and Splashdown each session. Campers are to bring lunch and a drink. Limited Busing is provided within the Town of Cortlandt.

5th and 6th Grade Camp

Hendrick Hudson High School Location:

Grade: 5-6 as of Sept'18 Day: Monday-Friday 8:45 AM- 3:45 PM Time:

When: June 25-July 6 (No camp 7/4) Section I

Section II July 9-July 20 July 23- Aug 3 Section III

Fee: \$450 per section

\$1,235 for all three sections \$540 per section

Non Resident:

\$1,482 for all 3 sections

7th and 8th Grade Camp

Blue Mountain Middle School Location:

Grade: 7-8 as of Sept'18 Day: Monday-Friday 8:45 AM- 3:45 PM Time:

June 25-July 6 (No camp 7/4) When: Section I

Section II July 9-July 20 Section III July 23- Aug 3

\$450 per section

\$1,235 for all three sections

Non Resident: \$540 per section

\$1,482 for all 3 sections







If space is available in a camp one week prior to the start of the program, non residents will be allowed to participate by paying a 20% surcharge **REGISTER EARLY!** Fee increase as of June 8th- Call for more details 914-734-1050 or email at tocrec@townofcortlandt.com

*FEE MU\$T BE PAID IN FULL AT TIME OF REGISTRATION

Happenin8s

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 8

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 9141-232-5717. 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, 5/10, 17, 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-benefitsinformation-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 9

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: POUNDTM 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 10

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.

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, rainforest 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.

Wine With Weiner: Wine with Weiner

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

Friday, May11

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



HV Chamber Director Honored

Deb Milone, Executive Director of the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce in Peekskill, was honored May 1 by State Senator Terrence Murphy with the New York State Senate 2018 Woman of Distinction Award for her efforts to improve the Hudson Valley's economic growth. The award is given to outstanding women living and working in New York State whose contributions have greatly enriched the quality of life in their communities.

Happenin8s

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.

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.

Healthy Living: Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Somers Library. Registration is required; register online on our online calendar at www.somerslibray.org or call 914-232-5717.

Teatown PlantFest: PlantFest will be held with two programs have been scheduled in the coming days at Teatown Lake Reservation, Teatown PlantFest: First Pick will be held on May 11 from 4 to 7 p.m. Come to the opening night festivities. Whether you are a serious gardener or an eager first-timer, this is a plant sale with farmers market appeal. Admission is \$20 Small plates, wine, and local craft beer will be served.. Teatown PlantFest: Main Event will be held on May 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free. Looking for unusual perennials, stunning mixed containers or baskets, native plants for a woodland path or ornamental and culinary herbs? Come to the event. Advice about bee and butterfly attractors, strategies for coexisting with our native deer population, or planting a successful raised bed vegetable garden will be provided. Info: 914-762-2912 Ext. 110. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 5

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. Prior to the service a Tot Shabbat will be held prior to the night service. Filled with movement, music, and ruach (spirit), Rabbi Robbie and Rebbetzin Ellen help bring in the Shabbat with that special "Shabbat Spirit" followed by a Shabbat dinner. The only cost of the dinner is a Shabbat Shalom smile. To RSVP or for more information, please email Rebbetzin Ellen at RebbetzinEllen@gmail.com.

Jewish Center Services: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd., Friday night Sabbath services 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 12



Arbor Day Contest Winners

Local students who received awards for their Arbor Day posters were honored recently by Yorktown Councilwoman Alice Roker, Councilman Tom Diana, Supervisor Lanny Gilbert and Councilman Vishnu Patel.

Yorktown Plant Sale: The Garden Club of Yorktown {Plant Sale will be held, rain or shine, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside Suburban Liquors in Yorktown. Info: Facebook.com/GardenClubOfYorktown.

Peekskill Plant Sale: The annual fundraising Plant Sale of the Garden Club of Peekskill will be held at Peekskill's Riverfront Green from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine. Profits will benefit scholarships and local gardening projects. Shop for Mother's Day. Info: 914-208-0293.

Mountain Biking: Mountain Biking the Yorktown Trails will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Enjoy a lively mountain bike ride on the Yorktown Trails. After a short safety talk, the group will set off on intermediate-level trails that include rocks, roots, and logs. Riders must have some level of comfort with trail obstacles and know the limits of their abilities (walking sections beyond your ability is okay). Bikers will regroup as needed and at trail junctions. Meet at the trailhead at the end of Buckhorn Street. You will need a mountain bike (hardtails OK; no Hybrids), helmet, water, snack(s), spare tube and tools, and a positive attitude. The ride is jointly run by the Yorktown Trail Town Committee, the Westchester Cycle Club (WCC) and the Westchester Mountain Bike Association (WMBA). For more information email yorktowntrailtown@gmail.com.

Family Entertainment: Bestselling children's recording artist and preschool television favorite Laurie Berkner will return to Westchester County, bringing her Greatest Hits Solo Tour to the Paramount Hudson Valley Theater, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill, NY with a family show at 11 a.m. Tickets are \$25 and \$35, plus applicable fees. VIP t tickets are \$100*, plus applicable fees. A limited number of \$100 VIP tickets are available. To purchase tickets call 914-739-0039 Ext. 2 or visit www.paramounthudsonvalley.com. NOTE: Infants under one year are admitted free but must be seated in an accompanying paid adult's lap.

Zen Meditation: Authentic Zen mediation under the guidance of Rev. Paul Tesshin Silverman is held every Saturday at 9 am. 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 at140 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, pastureraised meat, poultry, and eggs, breads, baked goods, and much more. For a full list of our markets and vendors, visit DowntoEarthMarkets.com.

Greyhound Rescue: A Greyhound Rescue and Rehab Meet and Greet Adoption Day will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Petland Discount store in the Yorktown Green Shopping Center at 337 Downing Drive. Info: 631-273-6363,aeisenberg@petlanddiscounts.com or www.petlanddiscounts.com.

Sunday, May 13

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: Ellisha Simpson at 914-319-4010

Monday, May 14

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.

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Get hitched
- 4. One piece of information
- 9. Sale clause, abbr.
- 10. Garment
- 12. Grand Canyon viewing area
- 13. ___ out; exhausted
- 14. Autobody shop where the experience "runs deep"
- 16. Aerospace educator, DeVore
- 17. Biomed. research agency
- 18. Goals
- 20. Harp's cousin
- 23. Brain wave test (abbr.)
- 25. Crystal ball gazer
- 27. Handrails
- 30. Somers south of the border soul food
- 31. Early second-century date
- 32. Ridicule
- 33. Cool
- 34. ___ cotta
- 35. Surgery sites, for short

DOWN

- 1. Not as good
- 2. Profit, abbreviation
- 3. Anno
- 4. Particular
- 5. Purple gem
- 6. Grow weary
- 7. Exploitative type
- 8. Pre-___ student
- 10. Sgt.'s underling
- 11. Chopped
- 15. Mourner
- 19. Lady of León
- 21. Bounce back again, like a sound
- 22. More spine-tingling
- 24. Prefix with byte
- 26. Answers an invitation
- 27. The "B" in N.B.
- 28. Lumberjack, often
- 29. Barney on "The
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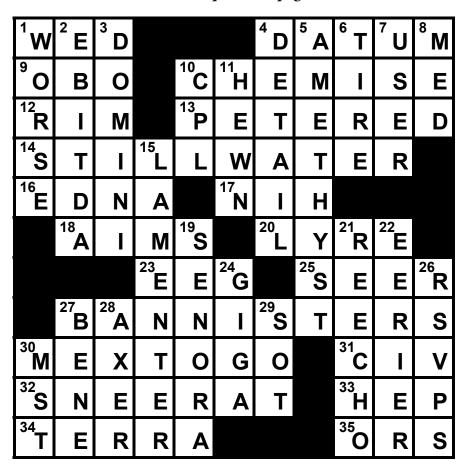






PHOTOS BY DANIEL LEFKOWITZ

(Solution to puzzle on page 27)



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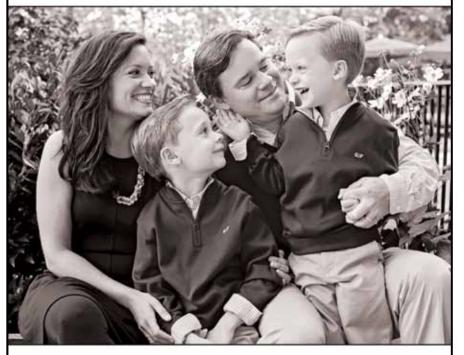
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Five Jockey for Four Seats on Lakeland Board of Education

Continued from page 13

(PPC) for three years; being a member of Walter Panas High School's Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) during my



Angela Conti

tenure as President of the PPC; and being an active PTA President/Community member of the Lakeland District Parents' Council for the past five years. I am presently on the Lakeland Board of Education's Audit Committee and I

have completed the mandatory New York State School Board Association's Fiscal Oversight training.

I have spent the past 12 years studying how a school district works. I would like to have a seat at the table and contribute to its vision and mission. I feel it is important to hear from all stake holders in the community when making decisions. My love for children, my experience in finance and my passion for education will be a positive addition to our present board of education. I am fair, honest, and dependable - all important attributes of a good trustee, and I am willing to put in the time to make informed decisions. I am a firm believer in public education. I am confident that I will govern on facts, not feelings and will always be goal driven. I believe the role of a suc-

cessful board member is to represent the entire community, exercise leadership and most of all be an advocate for students while being fiscally responsible.

3) The top priority for the district going forward is to make available the best education and safe facilities for our students to provide them the greatest opportunity to reach their full potential while remaining fiscally responsible to our community. School safety has been, and will continue to be, a very high priority for the district. I believe we should continue to focus on mental and emotional health programs. Lakeland has many programs and clubs that have helped to identify and alleviate some of the stress and anxiety felt by students and this is key to ensuring the success of all students. Another key priority is to have more open communication and dialogs between the Board of Education and our community members. Working collaboratively to find solutions is in the best interest of one and all.

ROBERT MAYES

1) I am a fifth generation Town of Cortlandt resident, and have lived in the district practically my entire life. I attended Lincoln-Titus Elementary School, Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School, and Walter Panas High School. I am the son of a retired Lakeland teacher, and the father of a second grader and a soon-to-be kindergartner at Lincoln-Titus Elementary School. As an attorney, I have dedicated my career to public service, working for both state and local government, and served for more than a decade



Robert Mayes

as a Westchester County Assistant District Attorney. I have been a member of the board of directors of several non-profits, volunteer with Cortlandt American League, and am a past vice-president of the Lincoln-Titus PTA. This commu-

nity has always been my home and I have worked hard to make it a better place to live.

2) The Lakeland Central School District has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember, and my education in Lakeland schools formed the bedrock of my educational and professional achievements. Watching my daughter flourish in this district, and being a PTA dad, has renewed my appreciation for Lakeland schools. With my son entering kindergarten in the fall, Lakeland will continue to be part of my life for many years to come.

Now, I want to join the Lakeland Board of Education to help ensure that our district never ceases exploring new avenues for student achievement, and continues to adapt to an ever-changing educational landscape. If elected, I look forward to collaborating with all who contribute to Lakeland's

continued success. I value the viewpoints of parents, teachers, students, administrators, support staff, and taxpayers, and will strive to balance competing interests and work toward common goals. I believe that a high-quality education leads to a brighter future, and I want to see Lakeland continue to maximize the potential of each and every student, much as it did for me.

3) Above all, our district must prioritize an educational philosophy that seeks to achieve academic growth for all students. We need to provide a curriculum that uplifts students who need help, challenges those in the middle, and enriches our more advanced performers. I support arts-rich schools, with competitive athletics, that offer varied extracurricular activities. Second, in today's world, the safety and security of our schools is also a concern. I plan to draw upon my more than a decade of experience in working with Westchester County law enforcement agencies to make sure our schools take every measure necessary to protect our children, but at the same time remain a welcoming, nurturing environment for students to learn. Last, but certainly not least, finances are always a top priority for our district. That is why I will work to provide Lakeland's teachers and students with the tools they need to achieve excellence, but remain mindful of our obligation to be careful stewards of taxpayers' dollars.

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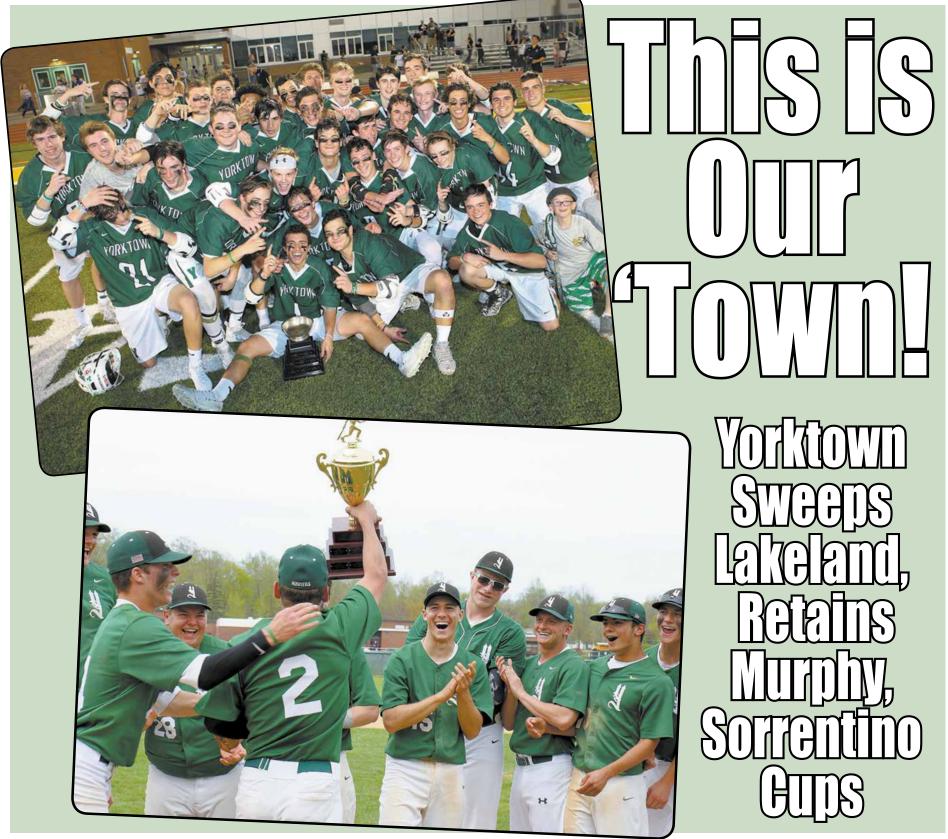
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BOB CASTNER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTO

Members of the Yorktown baseball team (above) and boys' lacrosse team (below) each hoisted the hardware after beating neighboring rival Lakeland last weekend: Coach Sean Carney's Husker lax team celebrated its 26th Murphy Cup win in 29 years over Lakeland/Panas on Friday in a convincing 17-3 win; and Coach Sean Kennedy's Huskers came from behind for a 4-3 Sorrentino Cup win over Lakeland for the 13th time in the last 16 years... see Baseball & Boys' Lax Notebooks

Put Valley Rebounds from Loss to P'Ville, Beats North Salem

By Tony Pinciaro

PUTNAM VALLEY has positioned itself nicely with one week remaining in the regular season.

The Tigers, who won two of three last week, are currently 10-3 going into the final three games of the regular season against – Briarcliff, Valhalla and Blind Brook.

Putnam Valley is primed for another run at a sectional title, however, the Tigers are focused on the task at hand, one game at a time.

Emma Rippon and her teammates defeated arch-rival North Salem, 14-12, and Croton, 16-5, but were surprised by Pleasantville, 14-11.

The victory over North Salem, to open the week, was a result of Putnam Valley executing both offensively and defensively.



Mahopac's Caroline Raymond has been on a scoring tear of late and the Indians will need more of the same down the stretch.



Hen Hud will need G Mackenzie Porter's experience as the youthful Sailors head in to the post season.

"The key was stopping their best player," Rippon said. "We wanted to make sure we kept an eye on her, but also not lose track of the other players. She was aggressive so we wanted to play her as tough as she was with us. We did a good job of forcing her to look for her teammates.

"Offensively, we played very well together. We were always looking for the next pass for the best opportunity at a scoring chance."

Maddie Deegan and Meredith Conlin led the way with four goals apiece against North Salem. Jackie Phillips, Kaitlin Cohen and Rippon each contributed two goals and Phillips also added two assists.

Rippon said her team was prepared for North Salem, based on last year's sectional result.

"We definitely knew we had a target on our back so we didn't want to let our guard down," said Rippon, who will attend Iona in September and play lacrosse.

Rippon said the team learned a valuable lesson in the loss to Pleasantville, not to underestimate their opponent. The Tigers also focused on conditioning.

"We had some trouble getting back, so the next day in practice we did a lot of running to get in better shape for our next game," Rippon said. "We've been incorporating more running into our drills for conditioning. Also, you want to address things as soon as the game ends so we don't make the same mistake in the next game."

Deegan finished with a team-leading four goals against Pleasantville, Rippon added a hat trick and Conlin collected two goals. Goalie Kim Hyndman made 13 saves.

Putnam Valley rebounded to handle Croton as Rippon scored four goals, Conlin finished with three goals and Antonia DiBullo and Katie McLean each had two goals. Jessica Denike and Lindsey Cohen had one goal and two assists apiece. Hyndman made five saves.

Rippon and her teammates are hoping to wrap up the regular season with three more victories to finish 13-3 and then see what seed they receive.

"We're making sure we put in 110 percent in every practice because we know it will benefit us," Rippon said. "We're not worried about the seed because we feel we can play with anyone in our class."

MAHOPAC improved to 9-4 on the season with victories over Wappingers, 13-9, and SOMERS, 8-2.

Mahopac raced to a 12-2 lead at halftime over Wappingers before putting it into cruise control in the second half.

Caroline Raymond netted a game-high four goals while Sophia DeFrancesco, Christina Lopreato, Natalie Scanlon and Colleen MacNeil each had two goals. Ava Starace added her first varsity goal. "We are always excited to win at home, get a league win, and defeat another Class A school," Mahopac coach Jim Lieto said.

Lieto said his team played its best game of the season in the triumph of Somers. Raymond had a hand in five goals – three of her own and two assists. MacNeil scored twice and Lopreato added a goal and an assist.

Jordan Barbagallo finished with 11 saves.

"The girls were executing everything we talked about in practice out on the field," Lieto said. "We were able to control the pace of the game and our defense was out of this world. Jordan Barbagallo, in goal, was amazing turning away so many of Somers best opportunities. Siobhan Hynes,

Natalie Scanlon, and Hannah Lieto were phenomenal in front of Jordan. Christina Lopreato, Alexa Rispoli, and Zina McInerney were amazing on defense and their speed in clearing the ball was beautiful to watch.

"Caroline Raymond kept the offense flowing and helped control the pace of play to make sure that our defense stayed fresh and we kept the pressure on Somers' defense."

Mahopac will host arch-rival Carmel on Senior Night, Wednesday, May 9.

BREWSTER swept a pair of league games – 9-6 over Somers and 15-10 over

Lakeland/Panas. The Bears are 9-4 entering the last week of the regular season with games against John Jay-Cross River, Nanuet and Somers.

Meagan Beal netted a gamebest four goals and Lauren Craft added three against Somers. Dani Regan chipped in a goal and two assists and Danielle Heintz handled 12 shots.

Jen Campbell and Ella Kittredge each had two goals for

Maggie DePaoli and Craft each had four goals against Lakeland/ Panas. Haile Ratajack had a hat trick and Regan collected six assists and a goal. Heintz had another strong game with 14 saves

"Both games were physical, but my girls pushed through and finished strong," Brewster coach Sara DiDio said. "Our Senior Night was against Lakeland/ Panas and we celebrated our six seniors -- Lauren Craft, Michelle



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

this world. Jordan Barbagallo, It's coming down to crunch time for Brewster's Lauren Craft and in goal, was amazing turning Megan Beal.

Feighan, Leah Frey, Grace Pastore, Tara Regan, and Juliana Rienzi. I have coached all six of these girls for a long time and have been honored to be their coach for all these years."

LAKELAND/PANAS suffered two losses last week – 15-10 to Brewster and 11-9 to John Jay-Cross River.

Kelsey McCrudden had three goals and Emily Kness rang up two goals and three assists against Brewster. Kristen Kelly and Raquel Nieves each had two goals.

McCrudden had a hat trick against John Jay. Keirra Ettere contributed two goals and Emily Kness had one and two assists. Goalie Miranda Lopes made 15 saves.



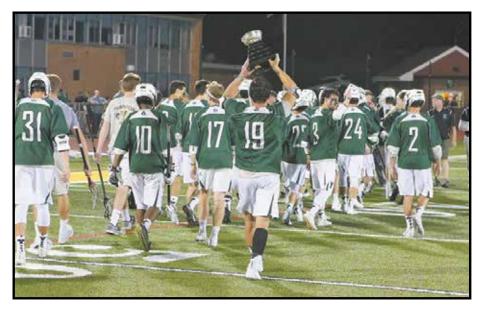
Putnam Valley M Emma Rippon (15) and the Tigers will all need to step it up until junior sniper Kaitlyn Phillips returns

Murphy Cup Takes Short Trip, Returns Home to Yorktown

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

Host Lakeland/Panas kept it close for a half, trailing Yorktown 6-3 at halftime in the 29th annual Murphy Cup game, the one held in honor of the man – Charlie Murphy -- who essentially introduced

Section 1 to the fringe sport of lacrosse back in the 1960s. With the game now booming nationwide, Coach Sean Carney's Huskers remembered what they were playing for last Friday night and pummeled the Rebels in the second half en route to a 17-3 triumph for Yorktown's 26th Murphy Cup win.



We came, we saw, we conquered: Yorktown players leave Lakeland with coveted Murphy Cup trophy for 8th-straight year.

NWE/Putnam Fab Five Lax Poll

No.1 YORKTOWN – State-ranked (No.3) Class B Huskers (9-3) saw the Embury boys increase their combined scoring total to 74 points in the Murphy Cup romp of L/P.

No.2 HEN HUD – State-ranked (No.8) Class C Sailors (12-1) saw Max Popilizio (6G, 5A), Connor Gallagher (3G), Austin Fraser (2G, 1A), Bryce Caffrey (2G) and AJ Pannella (1G, 2A) lead them to 15-3 win over Lourdes. Sailors are now the likely top seed heading in to playoffs, which only increases the pressure on a program seeking its first Section 1 title, but we've been saying since Day 1 #DontSnooze on the Sailors, who appear to be on collision course with No.13 Rye for all the marbles. The combination of balance, speed, veteran defenders and athleticism is as solid as the Sailors have ever had.

No.3 LAKELAND/PANAS – Class A Rebels (4-8) have lost 4 of the last 6 but still found it within them to beat Mahopac, 10-9, when Janavey tickled twine with 3 ticks left for his 200th career point. This should prove once and for all that the Rebels, the current No.7 seed, can still get healthy and pull off an unlikely three-peat should they put their minds to it. State-ranked (No.16) Mamaroneck,

the consensus Class A favorites, and Somers will provide a pair of mighty tests this week heading in to the post.

No.4 MAHOPAC – The Class A Indians (8-5) get Wappingers, Arlington and Carmel to conclude regular season, and anything less than 3-0 would indicate the Indians, the current No.4 seed, are not at their best heading in to the post season whereby they will need those three W's to move from No.4 to a No.3 seed to avoid Mamaroneck in the semis (should they be so lucky).

No.5 SOMERS - Class B Tuskers (7-6) took an obvious step in the wrong direction in a 13-8 loss to Arlington, but if they can win 2 of last 3 against Jay CR, L/P and Fox Lane, maybe the Tuskers, currently seeded No.6, figure out a way to the Final 4. In past years it would be crazy to think otherwise, and if they can't survive the likes of TZ, Nyack and stateranked (No.9) Harrison to get there, we're not sure what to make of that: Either the down-county teams have closed the gap or Somers is just going through some serious growing pains. Would love to see a quality W before playoffs, just for confidence sake. Tuskers Lorenzo Sessa (3G) and Vincent Cartelli (2G) led Somers against the Admirals.



BOB CASTNER PHOTOS

Yorktown's Jamison Embury beats lonesome Rebel goalie J.P. Walsh for goal in Huskers' 17-3 Murphy Cup win over L-P.

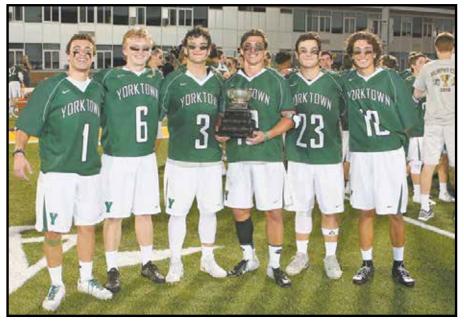
Yorktown senior All-American Brett Makar made like Magic Johnson in transition for the first goal of the game five minutes in. Richie Giannasca, Alex DeBenedictis and Hunter Embury (4G, 2A) followed suit and the Huskers (9-3) were up 4-0 headed into the second quarter. Rebel sniper JoJo Janavey scored twice for the Rebels (4-9), and the deficit was 6-3 at the half.

But Makar, Brandon Meyreles, Connor Koelsch, Chris Torres, Keith Boyer, Thomas Cane – the heart of the Husker defense -- and Yorktown G Louis Ragusa resisted every Rebel chance from that point forward, and the Yorktown offense went off in the second half. Hunter and Jamison Embry (4G, 1A) had seen enough, and Justin Comerford (1G, 2A),

Shane Dahlke (2G, 1A), Alex Debenedictis (1G, 1A), Keegan Doller (1G, 1A) all had multiple points.

As is often the case, Yorktown took its game to another level, and only one team in Section 1 – John Jay – has been able to match that plane...

Not sure about the need to develop a fourth classification in NYS lacrosse because we barely have enough teams with winning records to fill out the brackets in each Section 1 classes right now: Class A (5 of 14); Class B (8 of 11); Class C (6 of 11); Class D (8 of 15). Can't imagine its much different throughout the rest of the state, maybe Long Island and Syracuse excluded. Seems like NYSPHSAA's decision to do so has watered down the pool of contenders in each of the classes.



Yorktown captains Brandon Meyreles, Connor Koelsch, Jamison Embury, Brett Makar, Hunter Embury and Louis Ragusa pose with fabled Murphy Cup after 17-3 win over L-P.

Surging Carmel Takes Down Dutchess Powers RCK, Arlington

Yorktown Wins 13th Sorrentino Cup in 16 Years in 4-3 Win over Lakeland

By Ray Gallagher Examiner Sports Editor @Directrays

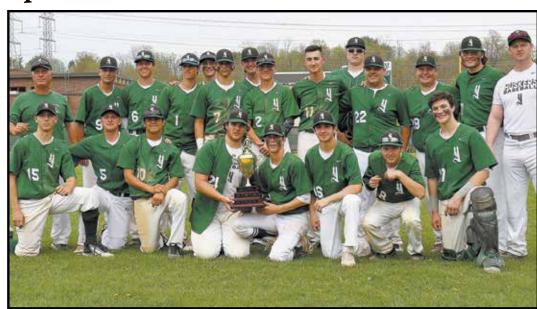
This is no knock on Carmel, trust me, but nobody saw this coming... nobody saw Coach Joe Hackert's Rams (11-4, 3-2) knocking off Dutchess County powers Arlington, the reigning Section 1 Class AA champions, and previously undefeated RCK in the same week. But here we are headed down the home stretch with Carmel sitting in second in the League I-A standings, a game behind RCK (13-1).

With a telling week ahead, including rival Mahopac, Fox Lane, Yorktown, John Jay EF and RCK, the Rams have plenty of work to do, but there's no denying they have put themselves on the Section 1 map, coming out of nowhere to impress.

"We aren't the most talented team, but these boys never give up," Coach Hackert said. "We have great senior leadership and two freshman (Jack Sullivan, Anthony Febo) who have ice in their veins. No moment is too big for them. All players are coachable and are learning to make adjustments and buy in to our approach. And of course, it always feels good to win a league game in our league. The win against Arlington was the most motivating wins for our boys. They have brought that confidence to every game since."

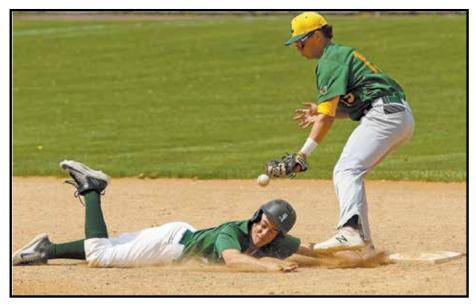
Carmel topped off a great week with a 9-5 win over Greeley on Saturday and a mercy-run win over Pawling on Friday.

Against Greeley, Carmel P Andy Parisi chalked up the win with 5 2/3rds innings



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

The Yorktown baseball team poses with the Sorrentino Cup for the 13th time in the last 16 years after beating Lakeland 4-3 Saturday.



Yorktown's Luan Biberaj avoids tag of Lakeland's Leo Cummings in Huskers' 4-3 Sorrentino Cup trophy win over Hornets



Carmel freshman C Anthony Febo (center) is one of many young players getting it done for the surging Rams this season.

pitched, allowing one hit and one earned run. Ciatto, Sean McCarthy, Castrovinci, Benitez, Loughran had two hits apiece while freshman C Anthony Febo had three hits, including two doubles and three RBI to lead the way. In 49 at-bats, the young backstop, who needs to only gain some bulk over the course of time before truly emerging, has struck out just twice. Keep tabs on Febo, trust me.

In Carmel's 14-6 win over RCK, freshman Sullivan, who has next-level ability, notched the win with senior P Matt Vitro securing his third save. McCarthy (2 hits, HR, 3 RBI) had a huge game as did Gerry Loughran (2 hits, HR, 3 RBI). The thought going in to the week was to not get too high on Carmel, seeing how the

Rams had feasted on subpar outfits. The thought coming out of the week is that this unit, despite little expectations going in, has some serious grit and potential that could lay the groundwork for a bright future when Febo and Sullivan's classmates bloom.

Carmel 3B AJ Gonzalez has raked and been solid on the hot corner all year for the Rams, winners of four-straight.

CLASS AA

Don't count out **YORKTOWN** just yet. After a horrible start, Coach Sean Kennedy's Huskers (6-8-1) are back at it after a 4-3 win over Lakeland in Saturday's Joseph Sorrentino Cup win, what was Yorktown's 13th such triumph in the last 16 years.

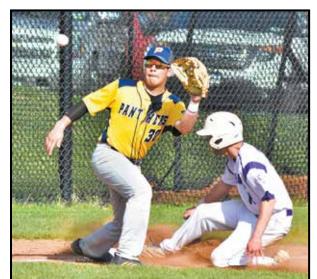
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Another game, another win for Carmel as the Rams crushed Pawling Friday and improved to 11-4 last

Sports

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Panas 3B Diego Urreta can't get tag down on Jay's Chris Orifice Jay's 7-5 win over visiting Panas Tuesday.

"The Lakeland win was a good game for us," Kennedy admitted. "Our kids really get up for this game. This year, Joe's niece, Kristina Statler, is a senior at Yorktown. She spoke in my senior class about her uncle and his sudden passing. I thought this really brought home the importance of this game to our players. I've been really proud at how we have battled the last six games. At 1-8 it would have been easy to stop buying in, but our kids have stepped up to go 5-0-1 over the last six."

You'll recall 16th-seeded Yorktown was the team to bust up the Class AA bracket last season, upending No.1 North Rockland. Might the Huskers, currently looking at the No.11 seed, be lining up for something similar this May.

Lakeland P Evan Berta (9 K's) was very good early on, holding the Huskers down for four innings. Alby Cuifetelli was clutch in relief of Anthony Fusco, and he delivered a big double late in the rally. Luan Biberaj had a big two out, two RBI double for the lead in a run for the Hornets.

MAHOPAC will be roadbound for the playoffs, currently staring down the barrel of a No.14 seed at 6-10 (2-5 in I-A) after snapping a six-game losing streak with a key 2-1 win over Arlington. Indian P Billy Moeller went the route for the three-hit win, whiffing seven along the way. Tom Krasniqi had two hits and both RBI in the sixth for the Indians.

OSSINING has lost six of the last seven, including a bad loss to Port Chester, falling to a current No.13 seed. **CLASS A**

BREWSTER snapped a three-game skid with a 3-2 win over SOMERS. Bear Bobby McBride continued his current tear. McBride went 1 for 3 with a homer, two RBI and a run to support his own cause on the hill where McBride went the distance for the win (1 ER, 2 hits, 6 K's). Brewster (9-8) needs to get on a late run to improve upon its current No.15 seed, but that won't be easy with two games against John Jay, who is looking to sew up the II-C crown this week.

LAKELAND (8-6, 3-2) sits in second place behind John Jay in League II-C, holding the No.12 seeded potentially in the playoffs. Still dangerous, the Hornets must avoid the pitfalls of youth as they close the regular season with a brutal stretch that includes Panas, Beacon, two with Somers, RCK and Rye (all with winning records and a combined 55-21).

in the fifth frame. Tyler McDonnell was throwing darts in the seventh to notch the win. Berta and Joe Vetrano each knocked

7-4 loss to John Jay with a 4-2 win at Panas the next day. Panther hurler Jake Jempty looked the part of an ace, pitching all six innings. He allowed seven hits and allowed two runs while whiffing five in a rain-shortened win. Smooth-stroking Tim Feliz went 2 for 3 with two RBI for the Panthers (9-8, 3-3), who, along with Lakeland, are chasing Jay (4-2) for the league title. The Panthers are currently in line for the No.13 seed with Mahopac,

than acceptable.

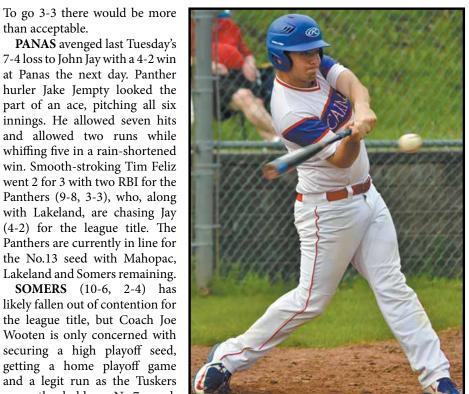
SOMERS (10-6, 2-4) has likely fallen out of contention for the league title, but Coach Joe Wooten is only concerned with securing a high playoff seed, getting a home playoff game and a legit run as the Tuskers currently hold a No.7 seed. Improving upon that seed will be tough with Mahopac, two on the docket.



PUTNAM VALLEY's playoff hopes took an unexpected turn when MVP SS/P TJ Brescia suffered a head injury in the Tigers' 8-5 win at Keio. Brescia and John Millicker each had two hits and two RBI for the Tigers, who saw reliver Matt Carlsen fire two innings to earn the win. The Tigers (10-5, 4-0), who are holding firm to a No.5 seed in the upcoming playoffs, are hoping for the quick return their ace pitcher, top hitter and best infielder, which is what Brescia has



Carmel SS Sean McCarthy has torn the cover off the ball all season.



Baseball Notebook

Carmel's Dan Castrovinci slams pitch in Rams' mercy-rule win against Lakeland and Panas left over Pawling Friday at Peckham Field in Patterson.

become this season. The Tigers will look to lock down the League III-D title this week and should be able to do so despite the loss of Brescia.

CROTON-HARMON (6-11, 1-5) currently hold the No.11 seed and will take part in the inaugural Casey Cup game against Ossining (7:30 p.m.), as part of a triple-header at Peekskill Stadium this Saturday when Fox Lane faces White Plains in a Class AA doozy at 1:00 p.m. and Westlake takes on Byram Hills at 4:30 p.m. Beloved former Ossining Coach Bill Casey passed away last year after a prolonged battle with cancer, and these programs felt it was right to honor his memory.

"Ossining Coach Scott Deleso and I got together and with the Casey family's blessing we decided to turn this game into a trophy game in honor of Coach Casey," Croton Coach Eric Rosen said. "Croton and Ossining will now be playing this game for the William Casey Memorial Cup or "Casey Cup" from here on out. Attitude and effort was Coach Casey's signature slogan that he preached to all his student athletes. We are also anticipating Coach Casey's family to be attendance with his kids throwing out the first pitch. Ossining will be wearing special uniforms for this game to honor Coach Casey, and all of the Croton players and coaches will be wearing Coach Casey's No.9 for the

Sounds like a banner day in revitalized Peekskill where folks won't have to go far to find a great new pub and some choice chow.



Lakeland 1B Joe Vetrano looks to slap tag on Yorktown's Nick Campanaro in Hornets' 4-3 loss to Huskers Saturday.



Somers senior star Greg Fusco ran a meet-record 9:19.27 in the 3,200-meter race Saturday and snapped the tape at the 42nd annual Joe Wynne Somers Lions Club Track and Field Invitational where his brother, Matt, finished in second at 9:28.32 to further cement their legacy as two of the top three all-time Tusker greats, right there in the same breath as former Somers All-American Alex Bean. In all, six meet records were snapped on this brilliant, sun-splashed afternoon, which included Somers senior Johnny Esposito, who is legally blind, being escorted down the track by Greg Fusco in an emotional 100-meter trial. The 10:28.76 run by Brewster's Patrick Ford in the 3,200 was the third fastest time run in the U.S. this spring by a seventh-grader. Brewster's Erik Jacobsen (4:37.34) took the boys Class B mile. The Class C shot put title went to Putnam Valley's Andrew Quinones (39-8.5), who also took Class C discus honors at (110-7). Somers' Numan Maloney (20-8) won Class B long jump whilfe Tusker Michael Altieri cleared 12 feet for the pole vault title. On the ladies side, Carmel senior star Jade Sessions clocked in at 2:17.32 and snagged the Class A 800-meter title and Hendrick Hudson freshman Isolde McManus (2:26.42) won the B crown and anchored the Sailors' record-setting 4x1600-meter relay of freshmen Zoe Rose and Sarah Mandelkow and 8th-grader Ava Louise Kennedy, who snapped the school mark by two minutes at 23:00.80. Putnam Valley 8th-grader Nia Givan won the Class C 100-meter crown (13.21), leading one to believe the future of local track and field is brighter than ever. Visit live.fultonaccuratetiming.com for all meet results.



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