



# The NORTHERN WESTCHESTER Examiner

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

August 28 - September 3, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 453

## Jan Peek Homeless Shelter Relocating to Washington St.

By Rick Pezzullo

The only year-round, 24-hour shelter for homeless adults in northern Westchester is relocating to a new building in Peekskill.

The Jan Peek House Shelter, which has operated on North Water Street near the Hudson River in Peekskill since 1988, will be moving to 851 Washington Street sometime in late 2019 or early 2020, according to the board of directors of Caring for the Hungry and Homeless of Peekskill (CHHOP).

"The new space is immeasurably better than our current facility," said Ruth Wells, vice chair of the CHHOP board. "There has been no investment in our

present structure for over 30 years and the configuration of the space is suboptimal. It limits us to using only 80% of the square footage. We have started the process of obtaining permits and intend to engage the Peekskill community as plans evolve. As with any project of this type, we expect that some adjustments will need to be made along the way."

While the shelter will not be expanding in size, the new location will allow CHHOP to provide enhanced services to its clients, including many veterans. A major attraction of the new facility will be a dedicated space where those in need of emergency services can stay

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RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Building at 851 Washington Street that will be the new home for the Jan Peek House Shelter.

## Home Goods Store to Join New ShopRite in Cortlandt

By Rick Pezzullo

An internationally-owned home goods store will join the new ShopRite supermarket in the Cortlandt Crossing Shopping Center in Mohegan Lake this fall.

Homesense, which recently expanded to the United States, will open its first store in Westchester County when it occupies nearly 25,000 square feet in the 130,000-square-foot shopping center, located on 36 acres across Route 6 from the Cortlandt Town Center.

Cortlandt Crossing and the Cortlandt Town Center are both owned by Acadia Realty Trust. A groundbreaking ceremony

for Cortlandt Crossing took place in October 2016.

Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi said she is pleased Homesense has chosen Cortlandt.

"Homesense will be a tremendous addition for our economic growth in Cortlandt. I understand that this will be the only Homesense store in the region," Puglisi said. "It will provide new jobs, revenue and shopping for our community. I'm looking forward to the grand opening of Cortlandt Crossing this fall."

ShopRite's existing store on Route 6 will close once the new superstore opens

*Continued on page 2*



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

## Happy Birthday Yorktown!

Yorktown Supervisor Lanny Gilbert enjoys applause from residents at parade in Shrub Oak Sunday that was part of a day of activities celebrating the town's 230th birthday. For more photos, see page 15.

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# Jan Peek Homeless Shelter Relocating to Washington St.

*Continued from page 1*

during the day. Currently, those individuals must leave the shelter at 6 a.m. on most days because CHHOP does not have space to accommodate them. They often end up with no place to go and are out on the street.

"The current accommodations are dormitory style, with little privacy," said Executive Director Cynthia Knox. "This constrains our residents' ability to develop the daily living skills that they need to obtain and retain permanent housing. The new site provides for shared rooms by a couple of residents, as well as a kitchen rated for cooking, rather than just warming. In addition to providing a place in which our many community volunteers can prepare dinners for residents, a cooking kitchen will allow CHHOP to prepare and serve more nutritious meals to residents."

Other plans for the new facility include moving the entrance to the back of the building as well as creating a covered outdoor space. Another highlight is an exhibit area designed to bring different parts of the community together by staging events, such as showcasing residents' artwork.

The architectural plans for the Washington Street facility call for environmentally sustainable features such as

solar panels to provide a portion of the center's electricity needs. Also envisioned is an advanced stormwater management system called a rain garden.

Since 2011, Jan Peek House has also provided additional "Emergency Drop-In Services," beds for homeless men and women who are referred by Peekskill health providers, police officers and area houses of worship.

In addition to the Jan Peek House, CHHOP runs four other programs,

including: Fred's Pantry, a choice food pantry that provides nutritious groceries to more than 400 people each week; Health Care for Homeless Veterans, the first and only program in Westchester County that provides residential, clinical, and treatment services for veterans; Turning Point, a supportive housing program for chronically homeless individuals that includes assessment, life skills training, crisis intervention, and other support services to address the

underlying causes of homelessness; and New Start, a rapid rehousing program to help survivors of domestic violence and homeless veterans attain self-sufficiency. This program includes referrals and linkages to vocational services.

CHHOP is planning to hold a community meeting in the near future for the public to learn more about its new facility.

## Home Goods Store to Join New ShopRite

*Continued from page 1*

its doors, which, according to store employees, will be in early November. The current building is on the market. Puglisi has said in the past it would be an ideal location for an indoor ice skating rink, a business she has coveted for years.

Besides Homesense, Verizon will also be setting up shop at Cortlandt Crossing in a free-standing 6,000-square-foot building. Another 12,266 square feet of retail space is available next to ShopRite.

Two other free-standing buildings, 8,000 and 5,000 square feet, are being constructed, with at least one expected to house a restaurant.



Cortlandt Crossing under construction in Mohegan Lake.

RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO



### Have You Been Diagnosed With Skin Cancer?

Find out if radiation therapy is right for you...

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

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

#### Q: How does radiation therapy work?

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

#### Q: I'm a little worried about exposing myself to radiation — is the therapy safe?

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

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

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

#### Did you know?

Radiation oncology tends to work exceptionally well for skin cancer — the success rate is over 90%.

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# Cuomo Signs Bill to Create Prosecutorial Misconduct Panel

By David Propper

A new piece of legislation signed into law last week by Gov. Andrew Cuomo concerning prosecutorial misconduct has district attorney offices and the exonerated community split over the effectiveness of the first-in-the-nation proposal.

Cuomo signed the law, which would establish a panel to probe accusations of wrongdoing by district attorney offices, after legislative sponsors of it agreed to pass an amendment next year to address legal issues with the measure.

The State Commission of Prosecutorial Conduct will review and investigate conduct by DA's offices to address allegations of misdeeds that could lead to malicious prosecutions and wrongful convictions.

Cuomo said the panel would root out any potential abuses of power by prosecutors.

"Our criminal justice system must fairly convict the guilty and exonerate the innocent," Cuomo said. "When any prosecutor consciously disregards that fundamental duty, communities suffer and lose faith in the system, and they must have a forum to be heard and seek justice. This first-in-the-nation Commission will serve to give New Yorkers comfort that there is a system of checks

and balances in the criminal justice system."

Jeffrey Deskovic, who was exonerated after spending 16 years in jail for a rape and murder he did not commit in Peekskill, advocated tirelessly for the bill to pass through the senate and assembly. Also fighting for bill's passage was Anthony DiPippo, who was convicted twice of rape and murder in Putnam, but was freed after he was found not guilty at his third trial.

Deskovic, who is in his third year of law school, said it took six years to finally get the bill approved and signed by Cuomo. He met with multiple lawmakers, held rallies and press conferences, and did countless media interviews.

"It's gratifying to see it got passed," Deskovic said.

He's hopeful the legislation will do a lot to prevent prosecutorial misconduct and can act as a deterrent. Those people that believe they have faced wrongdoing from prosecutors now have more power to submit a complaint, he added.

The current grievance committee set up is "totally ineffective," Deskovic said, adding because of the number of misconduct examples from DA's offices in the state, it's clear the grievance committee wasn't working.

"This is a watershed moment," Deskovic said of the new panel. "I hope other states follow suit."

But district attorney offices don't agree and vow to fight the law in court.

"Sadly, today the Governor, who previously served as the Attorney General of the State, after requesting and receiving an opinion from the current Attorney General that stated that the legislation is flagrantly unconstitutional, chose to ignore all of these concerns and signed the bill into law," wrote DAASNY President Albany County District Attorney David Soares.

Putnam County District Attorney Robert Tendy said the panel is unnecessary, a waste of money, and most likely unconstitutional. Tendy stated the state already has grievance committees empowered to do exactly what the new legislation has put forward. The cost for the panel in the first year would be more than \$5 million.

"Only in New York—where corruption seemingly annually oozes out of the governor's office, the senate, the assembly, and most recently the Attorney General's office—would our elected representatives create a committee to do the exact same work as another existing committee," Tendy stated in an email.

Two local state assembly members differed on the legislation.

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, a Republican voted against the proposal, called the new commission "more costly government bureaucracy into our criminal justice system."

After speaking with the Putnam and Westchester DA's offices, law enforcement officials, civil rights activists, and local defense attorneys, Byrne said the approach would increase number of false complaints from convicted criminal against their prosecutors. He argued it would also hinder law enforcement's ability to do its job effectively.

"This seems to be part of a broader initiative that seeks to blame law enforcement and not criminals for their actions," Byrne said in statement.

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, a Democrat who supported the bill, said there would need to be amendments to legislation. While there are levels of oversight already established like the bar association, Galef said she wants to ensure district attorneys are conducting themselves properly.

"I want to be sure there is fair justice," Galef said. "Making sure innocent people don't go to jail."

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# First Positive West Nile Virus Case Discovered in Westchester

Westchester County has learned of its first human case of West Nile Virus this year, which was confirmed in a 72-year-old Irvington resident who had been hospitalized and is now recovering at home.

The Westchester County Department of Health found no signs of mosquito breeding activity around the resident's home but treated surrounding catch basins with larvicide.

"This first case of West Nile Virus serves to remind all of us to take precautions against mosquito bites by removing standing water from our property after it rains and using repellents when we spend time outdoors, especially from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active," said Commissioner of Health Dr. Sherlita Amler.

The Health Department prepared for the mosquito season by educating the public through news releases, flyers, social media and its website, where a new report on mosquito control and surveillance can be found on the West Nile Virus page. The department also distributed 400 pounds of free fathead minnows to residents with ponds to reduce the mosquito population. The minnows reduce the mosquito population by feeding on larvae and pupae before they emerge into adult mosquitoes.

Throughout the season, the department also traps and tests mosquitoes to track the presence of mosquito-borne viruses in the county. So far this year, West Nile Virus was identified in three batches of local mosquitoes out of 199 batches tested. Last year, West Nile Virus was identified in five local mosquito batches out of 380 submitted for testing and three people were diagnosed with the disease.

West Nile Virus infection most often causes a mild or moderate flu-like illness but can be more serious, particularly for people 60 and older, and those with other health complications.

To learn how to reduce the chances for mosquitoes to breed and bite around your home, follow these tips:

- Avoid the outdoors in the late afternoon and early evening when mosquitoes are active and feeding and use insect repellents when outdoors during these times. Be sure to follow the instructions on the label.

- Adults can apply insect repellents with up to 30 percent DEET on infants over two months of age by applying the product to their own hands and then rubbing their hands on their children. Products containing DEET are not recommended for use on children under two months.

- Wear protective clothing, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts and socks, when outdoors, especially in areas where mosquitoes are active and feeding.

- Turn over or discard cans, buckets, ceramic pots or water-holding containers.

- Check and remove standing water from children's toys and play houses left outside.

- Remove discarded tires.

- Drill holes in the bottom of all recycling containers that are left outdoors.

- Turn over plastic wading pools, buckets and wheelbarrows when not in use.

- Change the water in birdbaths at least twice a week.

- Keep storm drains and gutters clear of leaves and debris.

- Chlorinate pools, outdoor spas and hot tubs until properly winterized or drained for the season. Also, if not chlorinated, drain any water that collects on their covers.

Report large areas of standing water on public property to the Westchester County Department of Health at 914-813-5000.

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# Summer Trails Day Camp in Somers Celebrates 45 years

Located on a private 20-acre facility in Somers, New York, Summer Trails Day Camp is proudly celebrating 45 summers of igniting fun, laughter and play for children ages three to 14 years old. Since 1974, Summer Trails has continued to create new opportunities for campers to engage in sport, have fun with friends, expand their limits, learn about sportsmanship and experience camp to its fullest.

Summer Trails Day Camp is co-owned by Andrea and Scott Ralls and Jamie and Dave Sirkin. Over the years, the camp has been recognized for its outstanding commitment to campers and their families, unique camp offerings, beautiful camp ground and friendly staff. The camp has won Westchester Magazine's Best of Westchester Award for five in years in a row for the "Best Camp" category.

The camp facility boasts a wildlife-filled lake, two heated swimming pools, archery range, challenging vertical and horizontal climbing activities, nature trails, spacious ball fields, as well as athletic and creative arts facilities. The camp offers multiple clinics such as STEM robotics, horseback riding, hip hop, lacrosse and rock and roll band.

Summer Trails also offers a highly-specialized baseball camp. The program is taught by mature, experienced coaches who assist each camper in reaching his/her full baseball potential. Throughout the summer, retired and current baseball players, as well as coaches and managers, visit Summer Trails to lead discussions, demonstrations and interactive exhibi-



Jamie, Courtney, Hailey, and Dave Sirkin (Co-Owners).

tions.

Summer Trails also works with campers across the education spectrum to provide academic skills and advancement through the camp's EDGE Program. The tutorials are taught by educators, hand-picked from the Summer Trails team, who develop and create an individualized learning program to help children excel. This is the ideal learning opportunity for children that have sum-

mer homework to complete and for children who could benefit from continued educational reinforcements.

"Our mission is simple at Summer Trails Day Camp: To empower children and build confidence and self-esteem," said Jamie Sirkin, Director of Summer Trails Day Camp. "With the help of an amazing staff and knowledgeable leadership team, we are thrilled to be celebrating 45 years of inspiring campers to have

fun and be themselves in Westchester County through unique and intentional programmed activities."

Summer Trails also has a sister camp called Southwoods, a co-ed, sleepaway camp located in the Adirondack Mountains of Upstate New York. Situated on pristine, spring fed Paradox Lake, children feel safe to explore and grow in an interactive and exciting residential summer camp experience.

## Students Can Earn Community Service Hours at Grange Fair

The Yorktown Grange Fair is offering high school students ages 14 and up the opportunity to earn community service hours in the next two weeks.

There are two ways students can perform community service for the Yorktown Grange Fair...

1) Participate in set-up activities on

Saturday, Sept. 1

2) Help keep the Fair litter-free during its operating dates of Sept. 7, 8 and 9

For more information on how to sign up for Yorktown Grange Fair community service hours, students or parents can contact the Yorktown Grange Fair office at (914) 962-3900.

Youngsters also are invited to submit their Lego designs or photographs to the Yorktown Grange Fair competitions for those categories. More entries also are encouraged in the baking contest. Entry information is in the contest booklet online at [yorktowngrangefair.org](http://yorktowngrangefair.org).

The Yorktown Grange Fair is inde-

pendently owned and operated by Yorktown Grange #862, a member of the National Grange. The Yorktown Grange was formed in December 1898. The first Yorktown Grange Fair was held in October 1920. The Yorktown Grange and Grange Fair do not operate under the Town of Yorktown, its departments or its agencies.

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## Obituaries

### Edward T. Carter

Edward T. Carter of Fredricksburg, VA, son of a former Cortlandt councilman, died unexpectedly on August 24. He was 53.



Edward T. Carter

Mr. Carter dedicated his life to helping others, working and volunteering as a first responder since he was 15 years old. He was a firefighter in the United States Air Force and was stationed in Manilla, Philippines. He served seven years as a paramedic in the New York City Fire Department, as well as Horry County Emergency Services and Georgetown County Fire/EMS, where he was promoted to Lieutenant. He also served two years as a firefighter/paramedic in Baghdad, Iraq. He has been a member of the Peekskill Ambulance Corps and the Verplanck and Montrose Fire Departments since his teens. He was also a certified Rescue Diver and served on several scuba rescue teams. He was passionate about his calling and served as a certified

instructor and mentor to hundreds of firefighters and paramedics throughout his career. He earned countless awards and citations throughout his career for saving lives and teaching others.

He was a graduate of Hendrick Hudson High School in 1983, Iona College in 1998, and earned a Master's in Emergency and Disaster Management from American Military University in 2013. He was a 2018 graduate of the nursing program at Eastern Virginia Career College and proudly became a Registered Nurse just weeks before his passing.

Mr. Carter was immensely proud of his Irish heritage. He was a former member of the Iona College Pipe Band, and current member of the Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band. He will lovingly be remembered for his tattoos, sense of humor, passion for motorcycles and dedication to service.

He is survived by his wife Darcie Curtis Carter, his mother Patricia Carter, and sisters Debra Costello (Cortlandt councilwoman), Sandra (Steven) Clausen and Michelle (Anthony) Verna. He also leaves his nieces and nephew Rachael (James) Patalano, Heather Clausen, Steven Clausen and Jamie Costello, whom he adored. He was predeceased by his father, Edward F. Carter, in 2010. He also

leaves a great many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at the Edward F. Carter Funeral Home, 170 Kings Ferry Rd., Montrose. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 30 at St. Patrick's Church in Verplanck. Burial will follow at St. Patrick's Cemetery, also in Verplanck.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Donate Life Virginia, 9200 Arboretum Parkway #104 North Chesterfield, VA 23236 or the American Heart Association.

### John Heagle

John T. Heagle, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson, and formerly of Briarcliff Manor, died suddenly on August 19. He was 56.

He was born January 30, 1962 in Yonkers, to Peter and Ellen (nee Lively) Heagle. He was former owner-operator of Paragon Fitness in Ossining, Gold's Gym in Croton, Adrenalin Gym in Peekskill, and CKO Kick Boxing in Peekskill.

He is survived by his loving partner, Jennifer Zelop of Croton, and her children, Will and Sean Minihan of Croton,

whom he loved very much. He is also survived by his siblings, Nancy Heagle of Phoenicia, N.Y., Brenda (John) Baker of Louisville, KY and Thomas (Jennifer) Shortell of Holly Springs, GA. also survived by his biological father, Dave Shortell of Munnsville, N.Y. and wife, Anne. Also survived by his eight nieces and nephews and three great-nieces and nephews.

### Brendan Maguire

Brendan James Maguire, a student-athlete who was entering his senior year at John F. Kennedy Catholic High School in Somers, died August 20 after being diagnosed with osteosarcoma 14 months ago. He was 17.



Brendan Maguire

He played both basketball and baseball at Kennedy Catholic, where his courage and faith, displayed throughout his illness, inspired all those around him.

He is survived by his parents, Ellen

*Continued on page 21*

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## Letters to the Editor

### Gearity is a Proven and Tested Leader

#### To the Editor:

Omar Herrera wants to be the youngest Mayor in the history of the Village of Ossining. But, in reality, he wants to add to his resume by sowing division within our community.

What has Herrera accomplished in his two very brief stints on the Board of Trustees? I'm all for climbing the ladder of success, but you have to build a foundation, not just show up when it's "politically convenient" and push all others aside, regardless of their proven track record.

I, still, feel very uncomfortable about his "job hopping." Herrera was 24 when he was sworn in to his first term as a

Trustee in January of 2015, and already he had his eye on his legacy. That day he was quoted as saying "Who would have thought that in 2015 you'd have me as a trustee--the youngest elected official in Westchester County--and our first female mayor, Victoria Gearity?" Yes, even Herrera conceded that Ossining had already "made history" by electing her.

Only ten months later, Herrera resigned as Trustee to accept an Empire State Fellowship in Albany for 2015-17, which comes with a handsome salary. I remember feeling a little betrayed, but it was a great opportunity for him. Yet halfway through, he left Albany. Did

he quit? Was he terminated? No one knows the whole story. When asked, he speaks vaguely about getting a "new opportunity."

Herrera proclaims that a village administration, under his leadership, would bring transparency, but where is the transparency about what happened when he left Albany only two years ago? Don't voters have a right to know?

Upon returning to Ossining, Herrera moved quickly to reclaim his seat on the Board of Trustees, displacing another Hispanic Democrat in the process. Only months after being sworn in for his term in January of 2018, he declared his candidacy for Mayor.

Shouldn't he finish something before he starts something else?

Critics point out that Mayor Gearity had little experience when she ran for Mayor, but she had served an entire term as a Trustee and signed off on a village budget, something Herrera has yet to do. Sorry, but being a Millennial and smearing the Mayor's character aren't enough.

I urge all registered Democrats in the Village, to come out on Primary Day, September 13, and cast their ballots for a proven and tested leader: Victoria Gearity.

**WILLIAM JOSEPH REYNOLDS**  
Ossining

### Vacancy Study in Ossining is Flawed

#### To the Editor:

I am writing to express my concern about many problematic issues related to the Vacancy Study, which was recently conducted by Collective For Community Culture and Environment (CCCE) in the Village of Ossining. These issues reflect the haste in which this study was thrown together so that the results would be slanted towards an immediate vote on the Emergency Tenant Protection Act (ETPA). This study, therefore, was completely unethical, unprofessional and at fault. It would have made more sense and been much more cost-effective if a local Ossining-based group, such as the Landlord-Tenant Relations Council could have conducted the study throughout the summer months. Many of us in the Council agreed that this would have resulted in an unbiased and much more accurate conclusion.

We received the vacancy study letter via certified mail on Friday June 22nd at the end of the day. It was dated for the 19th but by the time the USPS reached us, it was three days later. Upon opening, we read that the deadline to report was by

July 1st (a Sunday) or if we failed to report by then, our buildings would be listed as having no vacancies. This gave us less than five business days before a holiday weekend to try to mail back our response to offices in Brooklyn. The time frame for mailing during a holiday weekend seemed outrageous. The form given to us to report our vacancies had a typo - asking for our vacancies in June 2017. This further confused many landlords who were not made aware of this study. We received a corrected form after July 1st, past the deadline. For a \$10,000 study at the expense of the taxpayers who already spent \$50,000 for a housing study (which was ignored based on results) this unprofessionalism is shocking.

Due to the limited amount of time we had to respond combined with our concern about the reliability of the USPS, we scanned our vacancy study, emailed it over and called. We asked for a confirmation email from the email address provided and they never responded. We called the number provided, which was actually someone's cell phone number - and not the official number for Collective For

Community Culture and Environment. After someone answered "hello?", she repeatedly asked us if we were from another management company. We told her three times that we were not. Did they ask this of every landlord? Why were they so confused as to who we were?

Whether it's gathering petition signatures or collecting information for a study, following rules and ethics are of utmost importance. Many landlords never received the study or simply threw it out. For those that didn't make the deadline, they are now listed as having 0 vacancies. There was no follow-up, as promised. For a campaigning trustee whose motto is "Ossining for ALL," advocating for a vacancy study that only covers 20 percent of apartments seems reckless and political. If any of the trustees who are advocating for ETPA for a six-family unit would like to tour our

place and see how well it is maintained and meet our tenants - we would welcome the opportunity. However, none of the trustees advocating for ETPA have ever reached out to speak with us. As a member of the Landlord-Tenant Relations Council, I welcome the opportunity for all to meet with us before making one of the most devastating decisions in Ossining history.

I urge your readers to read the study for themselves [https://www.villageofossining.org/sites/ossiningny/files/agendas/2018\\_housing\\_vacancy\\_rate\\_analysis.pdf](https://www.villageofossining.org/sites/ossiningny/files/agendas/2018_housing_vacancy_rate_analysis.pdf) and send their opinions to the Village Board of Trustees <https://www.villageofossining.org/board-trustees>.

Sincerely,

**JUIE JOHNSON,**  
Board Member  
Landlord-Tenants Association

### Why Can't the Yorktown Town Board Just Get Along?

#### To the Editor:

It seems that the minority party of the town board of Yorktown feels that town business is conducted via social media, or the local newspapers these days.

The minority town board members seem to express their concerns about town business in your newspaper, rather than discussing it at a town board meeting. As they say nowadays, "I guess he's running." I would hope that any member of the town council would put the best interests of the citizens of Yorktown before their own political party, or the interest of their close circle of friends. That applies to Democrats, Republicans, independents, or any other political affiliation.

Why is it that compromise is no longer a possibility? Why is it that if someone loses a vote on an issue, it can't be accepted with civility but is a call for an attack letter in the newspaper?

Yorktown has been a great place to raise our two daughters. They have both been accepted to very good colleges, we have very nice friendly helpful neighbors, and we all seem to get along. Too bad the minority members of the town council cannot act accordingly. Why not work TOGETHER and see what solutions can better Yorktown? There are dozens of empty retail spaces. What can the council do, as a whole to help fill those empty stores?

*Continued on page 21*

**The Northern Westchester  
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## Letters to the Editor

### Bill Would Help Sexual Abuse Survivors

#### To the Editor,

The revelation of the long enduring, systemic sexual abuse of children that took place within the Catholic Church in Pennsylvania is abhorrent. Far too often we say that someone else will deal with an issue, or that it doesn't affect us so we let it slip from our memories. This behavior is horrifying, and yet we fail to take action. Stories like these, big and small, institutional

and individual have gained much more attention in the current climate.

We must do more. We, after all, are our brother's keeper. That is why I am so proud to be a cosponsor of A.5885-A/S.6575, a bill that makes some much needed changes to the statute of limitations with regards to the sexual abuse of children. The bill raises the age at which the 5 year statute for criminal charges from 18 to 23 years old.

Additionally the bill makes it so that civil charges can be filed until the plaintiff is 50 years old. This allows people the time they need to come to terms with their situation.

Survivors often wait years to feel comfortable enough to speak out. This bill gives them recourse for when they do. The New York State Assembly has passed this bill many times.

Abuse is horrifyingly too common.

This bill helps bring closure, justice, and peace to those who need it most. I would encourage you all to research this topic and reach out to your New York State Senators to pass this bill. Survivors deserve their day in court.

Sincerely,

**SANDY GALEF**  
Assemblywoman  
95th Assembly District

### Here's Why Robert Kesten is the Best Choice for NY State Senator

#### To the Editor:

Robert Kesten listens to the People. Robert Kesten will represent the People. All the People!

Robert is a lifelong Westchester resident, living in Lewisboro, with his husband and two sons. He's experienced working with presidents, prime ministers and state and local elected officials. Robert is also an educator, union member and human rights activist.

As your State Senator, Robert will vote for a NY Health Act that guarantees comprehensive, quality healthcare for all, saving New Yorkers billions of dollars in

healthcare costs.

Robert will vote for the Reproductive Health Act codifying the protections of Roe V Wade in NYS, because healthcare decisions belong between a woman and her doctor and can no longer be entrusted to Washington.

Robert will vote for common sense gun laws to prevent dangerous felons and abusers from buying guns and he will vote for practical gun safety laws to keep guns and ammunition locked away to reduce accidental child shooting accidents.

And Robert will vote for the Child

Victims Act to protect our most vulnerable.

Robert's experience includes creating jobs, children's safety, education, balancing budgets, and environmental improvement. And he refuses to stand still and watch our infrastructure deteriorate.

In the past two years, Robert worked tirelessly to help other Democrats such as George Latimer and Shelley Mayer get elected. In recognition of his commitment to the Democratic Party he was endorsed by nearly every Party Committee and Grassroots organization

in Senate District 40. Robert, and his supporters, knew last September that he could beat the Republican incumbent and keep the "Blue Wave" flowing.

I have no doubt, that Robert Kesten is the most qualified person to be our next State Senator for District 40. He has given 8 Town Halls on our most important issues. That's 8 more than anyone else.

He is knowledgeable, confident, ethical and committed to victory.

**MARK A. LIEBERMAN**

*Editor's Note: Mark Lieberman is press director for Robert Kesten's Senate campaign.*

## Bill Volz Westchester

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# New Pastor Anxious to Get Involved in the Community

By Kelly Haberstroh

Matthew Querns' role as pastor of Yorktown United Methodist Church goes beyond a Sunday mass service, with many of his responsibilities including being in charge of word, sacrament, order and witness.

Although he only joined on July 1, he has already reached out to the town supervisor, police department, fire department and religious leaders to get involved in the community.

"We believe that I'm not just assigned to the church, but to the community that the church is in," Querns said. "My pastoral care, love, desire to serve is not just to be within this wall, but to be within the Yorktown community."

For the last six years, Querns served as a pastor of Walden United Methodist Church and Bullville United Methodist Church, which are two small churches in Orange County. A pastor's second placement is often eight to 10 years, according to Querns, which he hopes will be how long he's in Yorktown.

Since coming from a smaller parish, Querns used to be able to engage almost everyone within a Sunday morning service when there were only 30 people in attendance.

"The first Sunday I was here, there were 120 people and I had never had that many people at a church I was pastoring," he said. "I was like, 'Where do I look? Where do I start? Who do I bounce this off?'"

While he's still learning names and getting used to the larger crowd of people, he also is listening and learning what the current needs of the town are and how the Yorktown United Methodist Church can connect with that.

"I learned a while ago that it's nice to go to a person and say, 'Hey, this is what I want to do to help, not tell me what I can do to help,'" he said.

He also looks to see what the mission of the local community is. At his previous church, Walden, many of the students qualified for free or reduced lunch. During spring break, the church would



PHOTO BY KELLY HABERSTROH

Yorktown United Methodist Church Pastor Matthew Querns.

adopt a family and feed them, since some kids would have little to no food the whole week.

With mission work as his focus, Querns also incorporated a Blessing of the Backpacks into the Yorktown United Methodist Church that will take place on Sept. 6.

"Sometimes teachers have to buy things out of their own pockets or students can't get supplies they need," he said. "When we bless the backpacks of the kids, I want to have backpacks we can give to all of the schools, whether a teacher or student needs it."

Querns also considers himself to be interfaith minded and reached out to all religious leaders of every faith in the community.

"Even though Christianity is the faith I have chosen, I believe there is truth and beauty in God and all the faiths," he said. "I dream of a world where instead of religions fighting each other, we work together. Why would anyone want to join any of us when we can't get along?"

As a Christian pastor, he believes in

being present, supporting and serving, as opposed to preaching. He also has an openminded approach to include all those who may

"Who in the community is forgotten, shunned, rejected and how can we give them dignity back?" Querns said.

During his time as pastor, part of his mission includes justice, which involves working to make the church a sanctuary church to keep immigrants and their children safe. He also put together a service that will take place on Oct. 11 at 6:30 p.m. in honor of Coming Out Day to celebrate those in the LGBTQ+ community in Yorktown Heights.

"I want to let those in marginalized communities to know they have a place and are welcome here," he said.

Querns will also dedicate time during the service where he will apologize on behalf of the faith, acknowledging how members of the community have been abused and killed because of faith.

"May this be a day where faith reconciles," he said. "I love restoring hope in people's lives. I also love building bridg-

es, not walls."

His role also includes pastoral care, such as visiting those who are sick in the hospital. He keeps list of who's sick and monitors who needs a visit.

"I sleep with my phone in my bed," Querns said about how people think pastors just preach on Sundays. "Someone could call me at two in the morning and say, 'My husband had a heart attack, meet us at Westchester, please' and I'll be right there."

Religion has always played a role in Querns life, as he and his family were active in church when he was growing up. His first sign he would become a pastor was at age 13 when he was asked to read at a teen liturgy service. He did so well, people were coming up to him and saying he was going to become a pastor one day, although he never wanted to.

For 10 years, he avoided what eventually became the inevitable.

"Even though religion has done evil things in its history, there's so much good it can do, and I love being a part of that," he said.

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## Business of the Week

# Pappous Greek Kitchen Yorktown

By Neal Rentz

Yorktown resident Rui Cunha explained last week Pappous is the Greek word for grandfather and said family has been an important part not just of his personal life but of his professional life.

"My wife's father (Konstantino Giannopoulos) has been a big influence and I look up to him a lot," Cunha said. "He's just a good all-around gentleman."

Cunha's wife, Vasiliki, who is of Greek descent, does most of the cooking in the new eatery and their oldest son, Andrew, is working as a cook and he will be the restaurant's maître d' in about a month. Cunha and his oldest son and his father, Mario, did the renovations on the former Friendly's restaurant, which he described as "one of the most rewarding experiences" or his life.

Cunha said his wife's father owned a coffee shop with a Greek influence in Manhattan for many years. "She was there when she was a little girl. And she honed all her skills. And she'd be right next to him watching him," Cunha said.

Cunha has worked in the restaurant business since he was 14.

Owning a restaurant is nothing new for Cunha; he previously owned eateries



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Pappous Greek Kitchen opened in Yorktown about five weeks ago. Shown above are restaurant owner Rui Cunha and his oldest son, Andrew of Yorktown.

in Bronxville and Hartsdale. "Yorktown was the normal progression," he said. "I live in Yorktown and I felt there was a need for Greek restaurant in Yorktown."

Cunha, who is of Portuguese descent, said the first restaurant he owned in Hartsdale served the food of Portugal. But while the Portuguese food he served

was very popular, it did not have the balance of Greek food, he said. "There's a romance to Greek cuisine," he said. "Everything originates from Greek."

Pappous is an establishment that has both dine-in service and "we do a phenomenal take-out here," Cunha said.

The new restaurant offers traditional Greek specialties. "Because Yorktown was a new market for us we went with a limited menu to see what would work out," Cunha said. "People are very happy with the menu. We're going to be adding on to it. We're going to be adding some of the classics."

Additional classics like spinach pie and lamb and chicken kabobs will be added to the menu and the restaurant will also serve specials like lamb stew, he said.

Cunha explained why he enjoys owning restaurants. "I'm a hard worker and I like to set my own hours. Nine to five just wasn't for me," he said. "I love the restaurant business."

*Pappous Greek Kitchen is located at 1983 Commerce St. in Yorktown. For more information, call 914-455-2111 or visit <https://pappougreekkitchen.com>. The restaurant is open daily, except Monday, from 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.*

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## Back 2 School

# All Ossining Students Can Eat a Free Breakfast at School This Year

Starting this fall, all Ossining students are eligible for a free breakfast at school.

The district's "Grab and Go Breakfast" is paid for through the district's Cafeteria Fund; there is no cost to taxpayers. Children will pick up the meal when they arrive at school and eat it in their classroom or the cafeteria.

"We are pleased to provide this opportunity for students and hope that many families take advantage of it," Assistant Superintendent for Business Alita McCoy Zuber said.

Eating a healthy breakfast has academic and nutritional benefits for children, according to the New York State Education Department. Eating the meal helps students pay attention in class, perform problem-solving tasks and improve their memory. Children who eat breakfast are more likely to behave better in school and have fewer absences. They tend to have more adequate nutrient intake than those who skip breakfast and are less likely to be overweight.

Ossining students who are eligible for reduced-price meals will also receive a free lunch. The full prices will remain the same: \$2.15 in the elementary schools

and \$2.25 in the middle school and high school.

For more information, visit [www.oufsdbolt.com](http://www.oufsdbolt.com) or contact Lisa at 914-941-7700, ext. 1338, or [lholmes@ossiningufsd.org](mailto:lholmes@ossiningufsd.org).



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# How Lucky We Are to Live Here

As you read this column, my wife and I are away on vacation, but we come home each night to sleep in our own bed. The reason is that we are taking a week to enjoy some of the great destination locations in our own region.

In real estate, when we talk about location, normally we are referring to the town, neighborhood, and street address of a property. We should also consider how the natural and cultural resources of our region influence and enhance our lifestyles, not to mention the value of our homes.

It is my opinion that Westchester and Putnam counties, the reach of this newspaper, offer the most beautiful landscapes and some of the most wonderful services and cultural opportunities to be found anywhere in the country.

This is a somewhat arbitrary, even personally biased, list of attractions and activities which I feel make our regional location exceptional. It is far from complete – space would not allow it – but it can serve as a starter kit for bragging points about the benefits of living here when we consider selling our homes, or just as a gratitude list for the simple pleasures we have available to us on a day-to-day basis.

With the exceptions of Alaska and North and South Dakota, my second career as a

public relations practitioner has taken me to all the states, and nowhere have I found natural beauty that surpasses the majesty of our region, from the Hudson River, our mountainous topography, the lakes, streams and reservoirs, to the many historic vestiges and preservations of lifetimes before us.

Whenever I'm introducing new real estate clients to the region from the city or another part of the country, I like to have them in my car, rather than following me in their cars, so that I can extol the wonders of these two counties, particularly the areas in which I specialize. In upper Westchester, one of my favorite areas to point out is the Croton Reservoir Bridge on the Taconic. While crossing the bridge, with the great views of water and imposing, wooded mountains, I always say, "Couldn't you mistake this for Vermont? And here you are, less than an hour from New York City!"

We nearly have it all, and anything lacking can be secured readily through our close proximity to New York City on one end of the living spectrum and more remote countryside on the other. For business commuting we are situated favorably to the major airports and reliable train lines, as well as beautiful parkways.

We are also beneficiaries of the engineer-

ing feats of building reservoirs, the Croton Dam and the Aqueduct, all responsible for great water views and additional, undisturbed space.

We have facilities for swimming in the summer and cross-country skiing and skating in the winter. There are many trails for hikers and bikers, crowned by the North County Trailway, constructed on the former route of the old Putnam railroad line and stretching from Eastview up to the Putnam border. Another long stretch of walking and biking is offered by the Old Croton Aqueduct Trailway, with some sections suitable for horseback riding.

Golf enthusiasts tell me that our courses, both public and private, both cheap and very expensive (courtesy of Mr. Trump) are among the best. Speaking of Mr. Trump, I do appreciate his donation of 436 acres straddling the two counties, formerly planned for development, as passive parkland.

There is history at every turn, as demonstrated on a recent hike along the Appalachian Trail in upper Putnam Valley, where I found the remains of old churches and homes from a lost community built for our former iron ore industry, which supported the North's effort in the Civil War.

The stone walls rambling all over both counties, built for the practical measures of clearing the land for farming and containing livestock, fascinate me.

For entertainment, we have the Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford, with productions as good as anything on the Great White Way, the Emelin in Mamaroneck, and truly unique resources like the Jacob Burns Center in Pleasantville, the Paramount in Peekskill, the Performing Arts Center at SUNY Purchase, and the summer Shakespeare program at Boscobel in Garrison.

There seem to be more museums and art galleries, both private and those offered by the counties, than any other suburban region. Venues to enjoy music range from jazz in restaurants and cafes to the magnificent Caramoor Center for Music and Arts.

What I like best about our region is the diversity of people and housing opportunities in our cities, towns and villages. Distinctive small cottages and sprawling mansions can be found in the same communities as capes, raised ranches and split levels, nicely tucked in together, each vying for its own unique value proposition. And, if things get a little too tight, we are surrounded by a great wealth of facilities to stretch out, both physically, aesthetically and intellectually.

If you know anyone in the city looking for a lifestyle change without giving up the excitement of the Big Apple, tell them about our nearby regional paradise on earth. And give them my telephone number – 914-522-2076 – and I will be happy to provide an annotated tour.

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By Bill Primavera

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SECTION 6 will be on Wednesday, Sept. 5

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### KITCHEN TRASH COLLECTIONS:



**Monday & Thursday**  
Collections will be on:  
**Tuesday, Sept. 4**  
and **Thursday, Sept. 6**

**Tuesday & Friday**  
Collections will be on:  
**Wednesday, Sept. 5**  
and **Friday, Sept. 7**

\* FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7\* 7:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

### E-WASTE DISPOSAL DAY

Bring your obsolete computer, TV, laptop, monitor, VCR, keyboard, cell phone, etc.



### TEXTILE RECOVERY DAY

Bring bags filled with unwanted clothing, shoes, rags, towels, bed sheets, blankets, etc.

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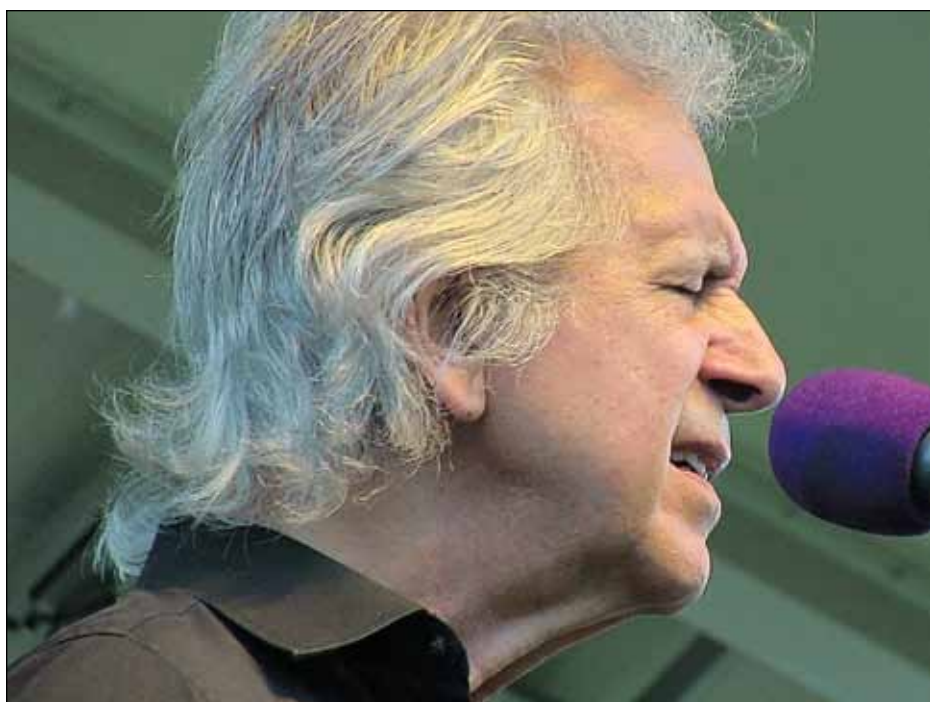
Questions? (914) 245-4438

# Town of Yorktown Celebrates 230th Birthday



PHOTOS BY RICK PEZZULLO

## HVGC End of Summer Bash in Peekskill



PHOTOS BY BILL POWERS

# 8th Annual Putnam County Wine & Food Fest



PHOTOS BY BILL POWERS

# Happenings

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

## Tuesday, Aug. 28

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

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

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

**Hygeia Programs:** Two ongoing programs are being held on Tuesdays at Hygeia Integrated Health LLC, 3505 Hill Blvd., Suite K, Yorktown. Community Acupuncture is being held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$30. Come experience the beneficial effects of acupuncture in a group setting. Register: [hyinhealth@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:hyinhealth@gmail.com) or [www.hyinhealth.com](http://www.hyinhealth.com).

## Wednesday, Aug. 29

**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.

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

## Thursday, Aug. 30

**Korean War Display:** "Korea, a War without End" captures, in displays of images, words, vintage equipment and weapons, the "police action" that began in June 1950 when North Korea invaded Western South Korea at Lasdon Park. The exhibit will be open until September. The museum is closed Mondays, except holidays, through Labor Day; open only on weekends the rest of the year and Veterans Day. Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial, a Westchester County Park, is located on Route 35 in Somers. For more information on Lasdon and all Westchester County parks go to [parks.westchestergov.com](http://parks.westchestergov.com).

**Tour The World:** Travel the world without leaving the city by coming to the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill at 6:30 p.m. Same food, games, crafts and music from around the world with the purchase of a "passport" for \$1. Info: 914-737-1212 or [peekskill.org](http://peekskill.org).

**Coping With Loss:** Whether you have lost a loved one recently or in the distant past, First Hebrew's Rabbi Dana is offering a one-night workshop to help you cope. The program will be held at 7:30 p.m. at First Hebrew, 1821 Main St., Peekskill. RSVP to [rabbid@firsthebrew.org](mailto:rabbid@firsthebrew.org) or call 914-739-0500.

## Friday, Aug. 31

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

am to noon. Relax, color, and socialize for free. Materials are provided or you may bring your own color pencils and coloring books. Registration is not required. Info: 914 232 5717.

**Job Hunting Help:** Free drop-in, hands-on assistance with online applications, resume writing, e-mail accounts and more is held on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the second-floor conference room at the Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave. Assistance is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. This is not a computer class. Info: Cheryl at 914-2416 Ext. 315.

**Free Concert Series:** Enjoy this year-long free concert series featuring different genres of music including blues, soul, rock, reggae, jazz and more. Host John Ford, of Ford Piano, will bring together various local musicians every Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. and every Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. Come upstairs to the food court at the Jefferson Valley Mall, 650 Lee Blvd., Yorktown Heights, NY. Feel free to stop by Ford Piano on the lower level of the mall. For more information call 914-739-1224 or e-mail [john@fordpiano.com](mailto:john@fordpiano.com) or Visit [www.fordpiano.com](http://www.fordpiano.com) for the musical line-up.

**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.

**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 9:30 a.m. on most Saturdays. After the services Rabbi Sternstein conducts a learning session based on the Torah portion of the week. Light refreshments are served and everyone is invited to join us as we share in the warmth, knowledge and friendship within our congregation. Info: 914-245-2324 or [yorktownjewishcenter.org](http://yorktownjewishcenter.org).

## Saturday, Sept. 1

**Muscot Hike:** A hike will be held from 7 to 8 a.m. at Muscot Farm on "Route 100 in Somers. Info: 914-864-7282.

**Zen Meditation:** Authentic Zen meditation 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](mailto:yorktownzen@gmail.com).

## Putnam Valley Shabbat Service:

Looking for a modern Shabbat service steeped in Jewish tradition? Come to Temple Israel of Putnam Valley, a Conservative Egalitarian Synagogue situated on beautiful Lake Peekskill. Our inclusive, community-lead services start at 9:30 a.m. on Saturdays and are held in Hebrew and English. Enjoy a comfortable atmosphere where participation is appreciated and afterwards stay for our delicious Kiddush lunch. Services are free; Family Memberships are \$250 per year and include High Holiday Services. The synagogue is located at 140 Lake Drive in Lake Peekskill. For more information call 845-528-2305.

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

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

## Sunday, Sept. 2

**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, Sept. 3

**Bird Walk:** A bird walk will be held from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Muscot Farm, Route 100, Somers. Info: 914-864-7282.

**Bridge 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](http://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. Thriller prop
- 4. Home of "Boardwalk Empire"
- 7. 1 or 66, e.g.
- 10. Waist sash
- 11. Bond creator, Fleming
- 12. Codgers' replies
- 13. Spy novelist, Deighton
- 14. French vineyard
- 15. Came across
- 16. Shrub Oak pizzeria, \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. Hung. neighbor
- 20. DiFranco of folk
- 21. Government take over
- 23. Rescues
- 24. Following Mar.
- 25. Photocopier abbr.
- 26. Play rowdily
- 31. Community bldg.
- 32. "Another rainy day" singer from the UK
- 33. Expanse
- 34. Snoopy, to Charlie
- 35. Admiral's org.
- 36. A.Nobel invention
- 37. Treasure of the Sierra Madre
- 38. What Eng. majors get

39. Billboard features

DOWN

- 1. Game with traps and bunkers
- 2. Global car company
- 3. Mexican child
- 4. Setback
- 5. Discloses
- 6. Blame or responsibility
- 7. Hold without bail
- 8. Doctoral paper, perhaps
- 9. Guinness book suffix
- 17. Pacific island republic under Australia
- 18. "The City of a Thousand Minarets"
- 21. 39th President or Montrose funeral home
- 22. Wine capital of Portugal
- 23. 2004 Olympics site
- 25. Asian capital
- 27. Meal, informally
- 28. Court grp.
- 29. Fire off
- 30. Chow
- 31. U.S.N. rank

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10				11				12		
13				14				15		
16			17				18			
			19				20			
	21	22				23				
	24				25					
	26			27				28	29	30
31				32				33		
34				35				36		
37				38				39		

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# Suggestions for Pairing Movies With Food and/or Wine Themes

Friday Night at the Movies.

Two columns ago, I regaled you with this favorite activity of my family. My wife and I enjoy sitting in front of the television watching a movie with a pizza and bottle of wine in front of us. I offered my thoughts on the styles of pizza and Italian wines that we have grown accustomed to over the years – and continue to enjoy.

As for the choice of a movie, I left that to the readers' discretion. Then I began mulling over appropriate themes for Friday Night at the Movies. Would certain themes pair better with food and wine than others? Could there be a theme that enhanced the meal before us, rather than merely accompanied it?

This week I culled food-themed movies for your consideration from the hundreds of genres in the moviesphere. The list I came up with is in no particular order or ranking. I likely missed one (or more) of your favorites. Let me know.

## The list

Babette's Feast, Big Night, Woman on Top, Bread and Tulips, Eat Drink Man Woman, Moonstruck, Like Water for Chocolate, No Reservations, Chocolat, I Love You to Death, Who's Killing the Great Chefs of Europe, Waitress, Ratatouille, Julie and Julia, Mystic Pizza, Chef, The Hundred Foot Journey, Burnt.

Reviewing the list, I selected three movies to elaborate on with plot syn-

opses. Note that these summaries have been blatantly lifted from those I found on the IMDb website.

## 1. Big Night (1996)



By Nick Antonaccio

*You Heard It Through the Grapevine*

Starring Stanley Tucci, Tony Shalhoub, Minnie Driver and Isabella Rossellini.

Primo and Secondo are two brothers who have emigrated from Italy to open an Italian restaurant in America. Primo is the irascible and gifted chef, brilliant in his culinary genius but determined not to squander his talent on making the routine dishes that customers expect. Secondo is the smooth front man, trying to keep the restaurant afloat financially. The owner of the nearby Pascal's restaurant, enormously

successful (despite its mediocre fare), offers a solution – he will call his friend, a big-time jazz musician, to play a special benefit at their restaurant. Primo begins to prepare his masterpiece, a feast of a lifetime, for the brothers' big night.

## Two of my favorite lines:

1. Pascal: "Give people what they want, then later you can give them what you want."

2. Secondo: "Sometimes the spaghetti likes to be alone."

## 2. I Love You to Death (1990)

Starring Kevin Kline, Tracy Ullman, Joan Plowright, William Hurt, River Phoenix and Keanu Reeves.

Joey Boca works with wife Rosalie in

their pizza parlor. She is convinced that he works all of the time for them and her world dissolves when she finds that he has been fooling around for years. Being Catholic, divorce is out of the question, so she and her mother and her best friend decide to kill him. Hopelessly incompetent as killers, they hire incompetent professionals as they beat, poison and shoot Joey who remains oblivious to their attempts.

## One of my favorite lines:

Joey: "When somebody shoot you in the head it make you think."

## 3. Mystic Pizza (1988)

Starring Julia Roberts, Annabeth Gish and Lili Taylor.

Sisters Kat and Daisy work along with Jojo at the pizza parlor in Mystic, Conn. Kat, shortly off to Yale, finds herself drawn to a local architect she is babysitting for while her more tearaway sister starts dating a guy from the money side

of the tracks. Jojo leaves her man at the altar; she loves him but shies away from commitment. Meanwhile, the fame of the pizza continues to spread; it seems to contain something almost mystic.

## One of my favorite lines:

Jojo: "You know what I wonder?"

Katherine: "What?"

Jojo: "What the hell do you think Leona really puts in that pizza?"

Each Friday night my wife and I search for the latest and greatest food/wine themed movie. I hope there will be one coming to your (home) theater soon.

*Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years, he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.*

# Putnam Valley Cell Tower Lease Approved by Voters

By Kristen McNerney

After months of debate, a vote overwhelmingly confirmed a lease deal that could lead to a cell tower at Putnam Valley Town Hall last Tuesday

The vote toward approval of the lease deal between the town and Homeland Towers was a margin of 612-234. The deal could bring in \$24,000 for the town annually if the more than 100-foot tower is built.

Supervisor Sam Oliverio expressed that he was thrilled with the outcome, calling it the "best option" as opposed to a site decided by Homeland Towers which would likely be much closer to the local elementary school or senior center.

Critics have made many claims against Oliverio and the town board by arguing that they are not acting in the town's

best interests and haven't actively done enough research to prove the credibility of their position. Oliverio called the critics' arguments "untenable" but understood they were coming from a "not in my backyard" mentality.

Oliverio has promised to fix cell service for Putnam Valley during storms, which became an increasingly important issue after this year's blizzard and tornado, in March and May respectively.

To those who are worried about the negative impact of the cell tower being placed at town hall, Oliverio reminded them that there already is another cell tower out front that people pass every day without paying close attention to.

Approvals from the planning board and zoning board of appeals are the next steps for the construction of the tower.

# Former Putnam County Legislator Charged with Crack Cocaine

By David Propper

A former Putnam County legislator, who once served as chairman of the board, was arrested earlier this month after he was allegedly found with crack cocaine in the Jefferson Valley Mall parking lot.

Robert McGuigan, who served on the lawmaking body for 12 years, was charged with fifth degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, a class D felony, according to Yorktown Police.

McGuigan, 60, was sitting in a "suspi-

cious vehicle" on August 1 in the parking lot of the JV Mall, according to authorities, and was spotted by a plainclothes officer at about 2:20 p.m. When the officer approached the vehicle, he found the person in the car smoking crack cocaine, police said.

McGuigan was arraigned by Judge Gary Raniolo of Yorktown and was released on his recognizance. When he returned to court last week, the case was adjourned until September.



## Eagle Scouts Honored

Yorktown Supervisor Lanny Gilbert and Councilman Vishnu Patel recently were on hand to honor Stephen W. Kupercinski (top) and Alexander P. Borbas (right) of BSA Troop 165 Yorktown at their Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremonies.



(Solution to puzzle on page 13)

1	G	U	N		4	H	B	O		7	R	T	9	E	
10	O	B	I		11	I	A	N		12	E	H		S	
13	L	E	N		14	C	R	U		15	M	E		T	
16	F	R	A	17	N	C	E	S	18	C	A	S			
				19	A	U	S		20	A	N	I			
		21	C	22	O	U	P		23	A	I	D	S		
		24	A	P	R			25	L	T	R				
		26	R	O	U	27	G	H	H	O	28	U	29	30	E
31	C	T	R		32	R	A	E		33	S	E		A	
34	P	E	T		35	U	S	N		36	T	N		T	
37	O	R	O		38	B	A	S		39	A	D		S	

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Obituary

Continued from page 7  
and Rory Maguire; sisters, Meghan and Ciara; maternal grandparents, Joe and Pat McGann; and many loving aunts, uncles and cousins. He was predeceased by his paternal grandparents, Catherine and Bernard James Maguire.

Memorial contributions may be made to: The Frances Pope Memorial Foundation, helping families of children with pediatric cancer, 401 East 81 Street (Smounuite 28), New York, NY 10028.

Donald Brandes

Donald Harry Brandes, a 66-year resident of Peekskill, died August 22. He was 93.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII. He was a licensed electrical contractor, worked at IBM and Arlo Industries, then retired as an electrician from the FDR

VA Hospital in Montrose. He was an avid ham radio operator, call sign WA2EWP, a member of ARRL, and a member of the Peekskill Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife, Polly Leeds Brandes; three sons, Donald E. (Beth), Russell L., and William W. (Lynne); and four grandchildren.

LeRoy Smith

LeRoy Smith, a resident of Ossining, died May 8. He was 96.

He was born August 5, 1922. He lived most of his life in Ossining. He proudly served as a Buffalo Solider during World War II.

He is survived by his stepson Orлие White; two daughters, Gwendolyn Smith and Wendolyn Boydkin; his son LeRoy A. Smith; as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Why Can't Town Board Just Get Along?

Continued from page 8

I can only hope that as time goes by, the council will work together instead of the "take my ball and go home" attitude that seems to pervade when one side of the aisle loses a vote.

With all that being said, I do appreciate all the members of the town council who spend time and energy away from their families conducting the people's business on behalf of the citizens of Yorktown.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).** NAME: SUPERIOR TECHNOLOGY GROUP LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 6/19/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: **c/o Ziad Mansouri, 1 Azalea Ct, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).** NAME: EBONI FANDANGLES LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/01/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: **2 Fisher Drive, Suite 421, Mount Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CAMBI SILDANA LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 07/18/2018. Office location:

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continued from previous page

Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **11101 39th Avenue Apt 2, Corona, NY 11368. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME KS4INSPIRATION LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/18/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to **1841 Central Park Ave., Apt. 8D, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Madeline M. Johnson, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on June 5, 2018. Office location: WESTCHESTER County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. The principal business address of the LLC is: **336 Old Colony Road, Hartsdale, NY 10530. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF I AM MY SISTER (WOMEN HELPING WOMEN) LLC,** Filed with SSNY on June 29, 2018. Office: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of any process against the LLC: **I Am My Sister (Women helping Women) POB 2593, Peekskill, NY 10566. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DS EQUITY CONSULTING, LLC. ARTS. OF ORG.** filed with SSNY on 06/29/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY

shall mail process to **DS Equity Consulting, LLC 1064 Saw Mill River Rd, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE DESIGNER REALTY GROUP, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/1/16. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **760 White Plains Rd, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BRONX BASKETBALL, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on April 13, 2018. Office Loc.: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy to is: **The LLC, 43 Seacord Rd, New Rochelle, NY 10804. Purpose: Any lawful act.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION of MAR Sweet Homes LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 8/6/18. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **United States Corporation Agents, INC, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE: "SPRINT TOGETHER WITH NEXTEL (SPRINT)"** is proposing to install wireless telecommunications antennas on an existing lattice tower that reaches an overall height of 470 feet above ground level at the Westchester County Correctional Facility on Grasslands Road, Valhalla, Westchester County, NY 10595. Public comments regarding potential effects from the site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: **Marianne Walsh, E2PM, 87 Hibernia Avenue, Rockaway, NJ 07866, by email to: Marianne.walsh@e2pm.com, or phone: (973) 625-5600. Please refer to**

**E2PM Tracking Number P-18-12-063."**

**PUBLIC NOTICE: "Sprint together with Nextel (Sprint)"** is proposing to install wireless telecommunications antennas on a water tower that reaches an overall height of 85 feet above ground level at 56 Browning Drive, Ossining, Westchester County, NY 10562. Public comments regarding potential effects from the site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: **Marianne Walsh, E2PM, 87 Hibernia Avenue, Rockaway, NJ 07866, by email to: Marianne.walsh@e2pm.com, or phone: (973) 625-5600. Please refer to E2PM Tracking Number P-18-12-062."**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF YONKERS MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 8/13/18. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **185 Briggs Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HF SERVICES LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/07/2018. Office Location: Westchester. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to principal business address: **54 Lawrence Drive, Apt A, White Plains, NY 10603. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

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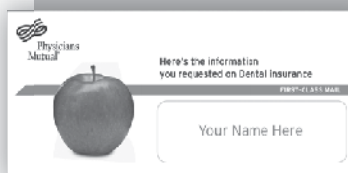
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Source: HGMLS, 1/1/18 - 8/17/2018, total dollar volume of all property types sold by office, Town of Yorktown