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The NORTHERN WESTCHESTER Examiner

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

September 4 - September 10, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 454

Study Suggests Ossining Should Declare Housing Emergency

By Rick Pezzullo

Following years of controversy over affordable housing and rent stabilization in the Village of Ossining, a housing vacancy study revealed that Ossining officials should consider declaring a housing emergency.

The study, conducted by Collective for Community, Culture and Environment, was presented to village officials during a work session last Wednesday. The report found that Ossining has a 3.06 percent vacancy rate in the village, putting it within the bounds of eligibility to adopt Emergency Tenant Protection Act (ETPA).

"It seems to us that there are many

properties that are eligible to be looked at in terms of whether there is or is not a housing emergency in the village," said Yvette Shiffman, planning consultant for Collective for Community, Culture and Environment. "That is, of course, not something that we will do but it remains for the village to determine what to do with this analysis."

A municipality can formally adopt the Emergency Tenant Protection Act under the condition that there is less than a five percent housing vacancy in the jurisdiction.

Shiffman said buildings with less than 10 units had a 3.26 percent vacancy rate;

Continued on page 2



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Community Voices Heard members rallied before meeting last week.

Cable Public Access Studio in Peekskill in Jeopardy

By Rick Pezzullo

A cable access studio in Peekskill that has been available for community produced programming for more than four decades is in jeopardy of being off limits.

Under a proposed 10-year renewal of an existing contract between the City of Peekskill and Altice, which bought out Cablevision in June 2016 for \$17.7 billion, use of the studio by such longtime cable show hosts as State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef and community activist George Ondek is not included as a stipulation.

An \$85,000 grant to support three community access channels and an increase in the franchise fee are part of the contract, which will be subject to a vote of the Peekskill Common Council.

"We're very much looking forward to continuing to serve the residents of Peekskill," Dan Ahouse, government affairs area director for Altice, told the Council during a hearing last month. "The agreement does not include an obligation to keep a studio here in the City of Peekskill."

Ondek, a Peekskill resident who has produced a show on public access for 20 years, said residents would be shortchanged if the doors on the studio were closed.

"They want to nickel and dime people by taking away our public access studio in Peekskill," Ondek said. "This studio is important to us in Peekskill."

There is no other studio in the area.

Continued on page 2



PHOTO BY JESSICA MALONE ATKINSON

Festival of Fun

Pick apples, enjoy family-friendly activities, live music, craft beer and cider, food trucks and more at the Family Farm Festival at Stuart's Fruit Farm in Somers on Saturday, September 8. This fun-filled festival is co-sponsored by Westchester Land Trust and Somers Land Trust. Stuart's Fruit Farm is the oldest working farm in Westchester County, dating back to 1828.

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Study Suggests Ossining Should Declare Housing Emergency

Continued from page 1

3.8 percent in buildings with 11 to 17 units; and 2.90 percent in buildings with 18 or more units.

Under the act, the village could choose to enforce a rent stabilization policy for all buildings constructed before 1974 with six or more units.

ETPA would ensure that tenants are offered one or two-year leases and that apartments receive proper maintenance. It would also protect tenants from being evicted except on grounds allowed by law, illegal rent increases, landlord harassment, and allow a rent freeze for certain senior citizens and people with

disabilities.

Since the act's conception in 1974, 19 neighboring municipalities, including Croton-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Sleep Hollow, Pleasantville, Port Chester and Tarrytown, have enacted ETPA.

Prior to the work session, advocacy group Community Voices Heard rallied in support of the act and pressed lawmakers to urgently amend what they believe is a village-wide crisis.

"Tenants are living with a day-to-day threat that their rents may be raised drastically, while their incomes remain stagnant," said Marcela Levin. "ETPA is one part of a bigger solution to the crisis.

It is urgent that the village board act on ETPA, so we can move on to other critical priorities to make Ossining a stronger community for everyone."

Sheila Vereen-Massengale said she was targeted by a landlord who wielded his power and refused to renew her lease after she was discovered advocating for ETPA. Without ETPA protection, she said her family and many others are susceptible to losing their home.

If adopted, more than 1,200 apartments in Ossining would be eligible for rent stabilization, making it the largest expansion of rent stabilized housing in the state in two decades.

Vereen-Massengale said residents shouldn't have to worry if they have a place to call home. The longer this situation goes on the more tenants will be put out of their homes, she said.

"Ossining needs a preservation tool to curtail unscrupulous landlords who focus only on profit and not on community," Vereen-Massengale said. "We are clear that the landlords will survive but our families will not. That's why there's no more time to delay."

The Village Board will have a public hearing on the ETPA proposal on September 5 at Village Hall.

Cable Public Access Studio in Peekskill in Jeopardy

Continued from page 1

If the Peekskill location were too close, individuals who currently have shows covering such topics as government affairs, religion, health and cooking would have to travel 90 minutes to two hours to a studio in Connecticut.

"Peekskill is growing in population and people are interested in what's going on," said resident Donald Sabo. "We don't seem to have as many opportunities as we used to."

"Public access is really a community

voice set up by the community," said resident James Brooks. "Without that studio those voices would truly be silenced."

Joe Pisano, who volunteers on about 10 current shows with sound, and Cecilia Rohrs, who worked for 30 years in public access with Cablevision before being laid off but currently produces Galef's program, also expressed support for the Peekskill studio remaining open.

"I think it's a really important venue for people," Rohrs said. "I've met thou-

sands of people who have thanked me for getting the word out."

The Common Council is expected to discuss the issue at its September 12 work session at City Hall.

"All your comments are being well received," said Mayor Andre Rainey. "As an artist myself, it helps to get the word out."

George Ondek has hosted a show for 20 years.



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Police Blotter

State Police

August 25 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Eva J. Saavedra, 30, of Cortlandt, for DWI. She was traveling on Route 9 in the Town of Cortlandt, when she was stopped during a DWI checkpoint. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

State Police from Cortlandt arrested Edward A. Disapio, 38, of Cortlandt, for DWI. He was traveling on East Main Street in the Town of Cortlandt, when he was involved in a personal injury motor vehicle crash. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

August 26 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Hugo L. Lazaro Nova, 22, of Cortlandt, for DWI. He was traveling on Route 202 in the Town of Cortlandt, when he was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

State Police from Stormville arrested Kathy Martins, 20, of Yorktown, for DWI. She was traveling on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Yorktown, when she was involved in a motor vehicle crash. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

August 29 - State Police from the Somers barracks arrested George Gojcay, 45, of Carmel, for Driving While Intoxicated with two prior convictions, a D felony, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 1st degree, a class E felony, and Use of a Vehicle without an Interlock Device, a class A misdemeanor. At approximately 11:35 p.m., troopers conducted a vehicle and traffic stop on a Honda Civic for an infraction of the vehicle and traffic law on Route 202. Investigation revealed Gojcay was operating under the influence of alcohol with a suspended license for an alcohol related offense. Gojcay was also operating without a required interlock

device. He was arraigned before Town of Somers Court and remanded to Westchester Jail without bail. Gojcay is next scheduled to appear in Town of Somers Court on September 10.

Yorktown Police

August 25 - 2:40 p.m. - Kawanie Williams-Bevis, 22, of Country Club Hills, Illinois, was charged with confinement of an animal in a motor vehicle, a Town Code violation. A police officer and an animal control officer responded to 3800 Crompond Road for a report of an unat-

tended dog left in a vehicle. Upon arrival, a small male, brown and white dog was found in a parked car in direct sunlight. The ambient air temperature was 80 degrees and the vehicle's interior was measured at 105 degrees. The dog was found without water, panting heavily and in distress. The officers were able to enter the vehicle, remove the dog and place it in an air-conditioned police vehicle. It was subsequently transported to the Yorktown Animal Hospital, where it was evaluated and treated. Officers later identified the dog's owner and alleged he endangered

the health and well-being of the dog.

August 23 - 9:33 p.m. - Cesarina Zapata, 22, of Mohegan Lake, was charged with Criminal Contempt in the 2nd Degree, a Class A misdemeanor, following a call from a resident of Mohegan Lake, reporting a domestic incident. Det. Shanahan and P.O. Caprio were assigned to investigate the complaint. Following an investigation, it was alleged Zapata violated a Westchester Family Court Temporary Order of Protection by scratching the victim's face resulting in a minor injury.

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Support Connection Seeks Community Ambassadors

Support Connection, Inc., a not-for-profit organization offering free support services to people affected by breast and ovarian cancer, is seeking Community Ambassadors for their Annual Support-A-Walk for Breast and Ovarian Cancer. The Support-A-Walk is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 7 (rain or shine) at FDR Park, Route 202, Yorktown.

Community Ambassadors are volunteers who help by bringing information about the Support-A-Walk to their local communities. Support Connection provides flyers and brochures for the volunteers to distribute to stores, businesses, houses of worship etc. The time commitment for each person is minimal, but by having ambassadors in many different

communities, word of the Support-A-Walk can be shared across the Hudson Valley.

Support-A-Walk Coordinator Melissa Higgins said "We love our Community Ambassadors! We rely on them to help us spread the word about the Support-A-Walk. Our volunteers love it too; they tell us it's a really fulfilling experience to do something that makes a difference."

Anyone interested in learning more about being a Community Ambassador can call 914-962-6402, or send an email to walk@supportconnection.org.

The Support-A-Walk was founded more than 20 years ago by local residents. It is held to bring attention to the needs of people living with breast and ovarian

cancer, and to raise funds for Support Connection's free support services for those living with these diseases.

Participants complete a three-mile walk, often in honor of loved ones – a celebration of life and a tribute to those affected by breast and ovarian cancer. Families, friends, co-workers and teams of walkers are invited to walk together as a Team. Individuals are also welcome. Donations are accepted from participants as well as those who are unable to attend.

To learn more about the Support-A-Walk, or to donate, contact Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or walk@supportconnection.org, or visit www.supportconnection.org.



(L-R) Support Connection volunteers Phyllis and Arlene are busy putting together materials for Community Ambassadors to distribute in the community.

Yorktown Man Pleads Guilty to Possessing Child Porn

By Rick Pezzullo

A Yorktown man pleaded guilty last week in district court in Springfield, Massachusetts to possession of child pornography.

Emil Kaufman, 27, of Yorktown, who reportedly worked as a youth sports photographer, pled guilty to one count of possession of child pornography. United States District Court Judge Mark G. Mastroianni scheduled sentencing for

November 28.

On June 26, 2013, Kaufman was arrested in Great Barrington, Mass., after an investigation into a peer-to-peer file-sharing network, which Kaufman used to download and share child pornography. A subsequent examination of Kaufman's computer and storage devices revealed that he possessed more than 300 images of child pornography.

If the plea agreement reached by the

parties is accepted by the court, Kaufman will be sentenced to time served and 10 years of supervised release.

The case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse, launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by U.S. Attorneys' offices and CEOS, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to bet-

ter locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims.




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International Overdose Awareness Day Brings Heartbreak, Hope

By Anna Young

In a solemn ceremony last Friday on International Overdose Awareness Day, more than 100 people gathered at Chamber Park in Mahopac to memorialize loved ones who lost their battle to addiction.

Community organizations hosted the third annual Hope and Healing Candlelight Memorial to celebrate life, bring more awareness to the mounting drug epidemic, reduce the stigma of addiction, and provide addicts and their families with a gateway to support. The ceremony included a tribute reading, a banner signing, candlelit prayer, a memorial slideshow, and education and resources for healing.

Attendees shared stories and wrote their loved one's name on rocks that were scattered along the park's newest serenity space. The serenity space, which includes a bench and a boulder with a prayer, was revealed during the event and dedicated to Nicholas Privitera. Privitera died in 2015 to a heroin overdose.

Doreen Lockwood, of the Prevention Council of Putnam, said Privitera's family and recovery organizations wanted to create a space the community could use in time of need.

"We hope that people in our community will use this space to come and remember their loved ones, talk to their



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

A serenity space was dedicated to Nicholas Privitera last Friday.

sponsor, reflect with their friends and just have a place of hope and healing," Lockwood said.

Lauren Privitera, Nicholas' mother, said she hopes by creating a safe space one life can be saved from the struggle, stigma and disgrace addiction carries. While she didn't talk about her son's addiction while he was suffering, she wants others to speak up, find the resources they need, and hopes that one day addiction will be treated like a regular disease.

"For me, I don't have my son anymore so whatever I can do to help to prevent some other family from suffering such a

loss, I want to do it," Privitera said. "I want Nick to be remembered by everyone. I don't want people to forget him; he was part of me. Hopefully we can save a life and that's the whole point."

Lockwood added that those who take medication for diabetes aren't judged, but those who battle addiction are often discriminated against making them feel isolated. The disease of addiction is chronic and progressive, she said, adding that 110 Putnam County residents have died from a drug overdose since 2012.

Resident Caitee Donovan, who lost her mother to a heroin overdose when she was just eight-years-old, said that she's never been ashamed to talk about her mother's addiction, but wished there were more resources for children whose parents have died.

"Normally all we ever hear about is par-

ents losing children, and as a mom now I couldn't ever imagine losing my child, but there are also those children that have lost parents to this disease and it's something that really needs to be talked about," Donovan said. "You think your parents are the ones who are supposed to tell you not to do these things and then you have to find out it's not that way."

Donovan said she was ready to hear more people share their stories and offered her phone number to those who needed support.

Jon Cassidy, group facilitator with Friends of Recovery Putnam, said it was an honor to be in attendance and see so many people supporting each other. He said his organization advocates for recovery and provides relief to those who have lost a loved one. The support from the community is huge, he said.

Carmel Supervisor Kenny Schmitt shared his support for the local organizations that provide necessary resources. He said the fight to eradicate the opioid epidemic could only be accomplished if the community works together.

"It is a war on drugs and we're going to win that war," Schmitt said. "We don't want to lose anymore members of this community, but it's going to take all of us to get that done."

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A Year on the Campaign Trail, Kesten Confident Heading into Primary

By Martin Wilbur

Robert Kesten doesn't talk much about the legislation he promises to pass should he be elected to the 40th state Senate District this fall.

Rather, Kesten said his focus is building coalitions of legislators and some of the thousands of citizens he has interacted with in his travels in his campaign that started last summer. Fundamental changes are needed in how Albany approaches governing the state and serving its constituents, including major campaign finance and ethics reforms, he said.

First, Kesten, 62, a Lewisboro resident making his first run for public office, must defeat former county legislator Peter Harckham in the Sept. 13 Democratic primary before he can take on incumbent state Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown) in November.

"No freshman (legislator) will be passing legislation without an army of people behind them and for a year we've been building that army of people on issue after issue after issue," Kesten said.

"But we're better prepared to not only take on Pete Harckham in the primary and Terrence Murphy in the general (election) but also to get these things that people need and can't get on the floor when we walk in, because on Jan. 1 we don't just show up as a freshman senator,



Robert Kesten

I show up with all the people I've been working with in this district and around the state for the last year, specifically on the issues that they said are important."

One key issue for Kesten is to work toward single-payer health coverage in New York. While many skeptics, including fiscal conservatives, have expressed concern over the tax impact, Kesten said the costs to the people who need the coverage most will go down, especially as corporations and the federal government look to cut back on plans or force the public to pay more.

"It will save millions of dollars," Kesten

declared. "Some people's taxes will go up, some will go down, but the overall costs for individuals in the lower class and middle class will undoubtedly diminish and people will have access to healthcare versus hoping they can get access to insurance, and that's a big difference."

With the future of Roe v. Wade potentially in danger as the U.S. Senate begins hearings on Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, New York must protect women's reproductive rights by approving the Reproductive Health Act, he said.

Kesten said he is a supporter of the package of gun control bills passed in the Assembly earlier this year that bans bump stocks, extends the waiting period from three to 10 days, calls for universal background checks and stopping the illicit interstate transactions that help bring guns to New York.

He is also been an ardent proponent of the so-called red flag bill or Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), which allows a court to confiscate firearms from someone who is considered a threat to themselves or others.

"We have to make sure that guns don't end up in the hands of domestic abusers, people who are suicidal," Kesten said. "There are a whole slew of people that

should not have weapons of any kind."

To present relief for taxpayers, Kesten supports a more progressive tax structure to pay for education by reducing the overwhelming reliance the property tax. He would also back a statewide reassessment to make sure properties are more equitably taxed.

Kesten dismissed concerns that the region would lack sufficient power should the scheduled 2021 closure of Indian Point materialize. Con Edison and other utilities have slashed their purchase of power from the Buchanan plant because they have found alternative sources, he said.

He suggested the state explore the legality and feasibility of using some of the revenues from the state's three remaining nuclear plants and generating stations upstate to help the host communities who face the loss of large chunks of revenue.

Kesten said many of the problems in Albany stem from the influence of money, including the difficulty in holding Con Edison and NYSEG accountable for their severe shortcomings following weather disasters. Appointments and the lack of proper oversight often stems from excessive campaign contributions and

Continued on page 18

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The Gipsy Kings ft. Nicolas Reyes and Tonino Baliaro (Sept. 22)
An Evening with Nils Lofgren Acoustic Duo (Sept. 23)
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Paul Reiser (Oct. 5), Kathleen Madigan (Oct. 11)
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Harckham Points to Experience as Democratic Primary Nears

By David Propper

For the first time in his political career, 40th state Senate District candidate Peter Harckham believes he's the outsider in next week's primary against Robert Kesten.

Before entering the race, many town Democratic committees in the 40th District endorsed Kesten, but when Harckham entered, those committees either stayed with Kesten or declined to endorse anyone.

"I feel very much like the outsider in this race," Harckham, 57, said.

But Harckham, a South Salem resident, noted that the difference between him and Kesten is he has experience governing and would do so more effectively. With an aggressive legislative agenda on the docket in New York, Harckham believes he can get the necessary work done for his constituents.

Serving Westchester County Board of Legislators for more than seven years, including a four-year period as majority leader, he said many positive things were accomplished with his help.

He also said he has a progressive track record he's proud of and will hold up to anyone. When asked if Kesten was running too far to the left, Harckham demurred and said voters would decide that. But he noted the race against in-

cumbent Republican Terrence Murphy would be won by getting the support of non-affiliated voters, which he said would be receptive to him.

"The record of having gone through the tough fights," Harckham said, adding "You have to be able to communicate to people that just aren't Democrats."

Harckham worked for Gov. Andrew Cuomo's administration and was set to take a job within Westchester County Executive George Latimer's administration before he decided to run for Senate. He worked for the Community of Office Renewal and then for the state Thruway Authority in governmental affairs for the new New York bridge project.

Harckham said he's been endorsed by a wide array of elected officials, including Cuomo and Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti, who are not on friendly terms. He was also endorsed by the Working Families Party, which is at odds with Cuomo.

Harckham, who he said has considered running for the Senate seat a couple times before, said attacks from the federal government under President Donald Trump against New York's property taxes and the environment compelled him to enter the race. He said the state Senate, controlled by the GOP's thin majority, has "abdicated its responsibility" and got



Peter Harckham

nothing done.

"There are some big issues they just haven't tackled or actively blocked," Harckham said.

Some of those issues include codifying abortion rights in the state constitution, the Child Victims Act, gun control legislation, election reform and healthcare.

"This was not the time to sit on the sidelines, this is a fight I had to get into," he said.

Harckham expressed support for early voting, voting by mail and making it easier to register to vote. He slammed Murphy for proposing a voter ID law earlier

this year because it disenfranchises the poor, minorities and the elderly.

With rampant corruption in Albany, Harckham stressed it was important to close the LLC loophole that allows businesses to skirt campaign finance rules. He said individual minimum contributions should be lowered for people and corporations. State government must be more transparent when it comes to budget season, Harckham said, with every line item being justified so lawmakers can't fill their own pockets.

Harckham said he would vote to limit outside income for lawmakers, but would go along with a pay raise for the legislators to reach that deal. Being a state lawmaker should be a full-time job, he said.

"You should be working year-round," he said. "You should be compensated for that."

If there is outside income, Harckham said it should have nothing to do with state government.

Harckham said the comptroller's office and attorney general's office need to have the latitude to investigate corruption, and if a larger pattern of wrongdoing is discovered, a panel similar to the Moreland Commission should be created.

When discussing the closing of In-

Continued on page 18

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Letters to the Editor

Letter of Endorsement for Mayor Victoria Gearity

To the Editor:

As a representative of the Hispanic community, I endorse Victoria Gearity's re-election as Mayor of the Village of Ossining. During five of my six years on the Board of Trustees, I served the community alongside Victoria. During that time I was impressed with her support of the Hispanic community.

In 2016, when the earthquake hit Ecuador, Victoria stepped up and helped to coordinate and work with members of

the community to obtain donations and store them for transport. Additionally, in December of 2016, she supported a resolution for a bill that would allow New York State to issue a driver's license to any state resident, regardless of immigration status.

When addressing Spanish-speaking residents, Victoria speaks in Spanish to the best of her ability. During a recent interview with Ossining Padres Hispanos, she spoke candidly and passionately about the need for safer and

more affordable housing for Ossining. Following the arrest of Diego Puma, she spoke with both English and Spanish media, sharing a message about our community values. Seeking to help Ossining's immigrant community feel safe reaching out to local officials whose mission is to protect all Ossining residents, regardless of documentation status.

She has also positively contributed to the community with her ability to create public engagement. Victoria has

accomplished this in several ways. When she took office she began walking the streets, all of them. Each week she walked several blocks and invited all to join her. She began holding a regularly scheduled day for open office hours with the Mayor, inviting anyone to come in and talk with her, no appointment needed.

Overall, she is doing a great job and continues to brighten our community and contribute many positive changes.

MANUEL QUEZADA
Ossining, New York

Kesten is Best Choice to Challenge Murphy

To the Editor:

The Democratic primary is almost here. On Thurs. Sept. 13th you will have the opportunity to decide who best represents your progressive values and has the best chance to defeat incumbent Republican State Senator Terrence Murphy and the Trump agenda he advocates for his constituents in the SD40 Senate District.

I urge you to take some time out to attend one or more of the debates planned between them and decide for yourself who best deserves your vote and has the best chance of replacing Mr. Murphy in Albany.

For me, having listened to both candidates and weighed their

commitment, ideas and programs, I believe Robt. Kesten to be the best possible choice to challenge the failed policies of Murphy in his bid for re-election in Nov.

Why Kesten? Well for starters, he has been a declared candidate for over a year, working hard to dialog with town and village residents at Town Halls, train stations and events thruout the District and raising funds, most of it in small donations from individual contributors. That takes effort, persistence and lots of moxie. And, he's independent - a grass roots candidate not beholden to either party establishment. As such, if elected he would not be restrained from taking action in attacking corruption in Albany

and proposing fresh, new solutions to problems we face in our communities.

Unlike his opponent, Peter Harckham, he is not a career politician and did not enter the race just a few months ago at the urging of the Governor and other party officials in Albany.

Robt. is an indefatigable campaigner with broad local, national and international experience in non-profit organizations and with a record of promoting effective solutions to difficult problems.

This is his first run for office and he comes to the challenge with nearly a dozen town and city Democratic committee endorsements and the fervent backing of numerous activist groups

looking to improve our infrastructure, stimulate new business and jobs, fund proactive retraining programs and introduce transforming technology to New York.

To conclude, if you believe in sensible gun reform, educational excellence, affordable health care, fair treatment of our immigrant neighbors, clean air and water, women's reproductive rights and voting made easy, please take the time to VOTE Robt. Kesten as your choice in the Democrat primary election on Sept. 13th.

You can make a difference!

JAY FORBES
Croton-on-Hudson

Kesten Will Only Be Indebted to His Constituents

To the Editor:

I recently attended a Primary Election Forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Putnam County. The two Democratic candidates for State Senate (ED 40), Robert Kesten and Pete Harckham, each responded to questions from the League and from audience members. In general, I thought both candidates were well informed and didn't

differ too much in their opinions about the issues discussed. But one thing stuck out for me. I want someone who has passion about wrongs that need to be righted, someone with "fire in the belly" to get to the bottom of today's problems and come up with solutions to fix them, someone with a broad enough background in local, state and national government who can bring a unique perspective to shaping our

future for the better. I, for one, have grown weary of our nation's Democratic leaders who continue to be polite and play by the rules while the other side runs roughshod over the ideals that make our country great. And they're getting away with it. It's time for our side to grow a backbone and make some noise! Mr. Harckham reminded us many times that he used to be a Legislator before Gov. Cuomo asked him to join his staff. He seems to me like the old guard, ready to try again to do the same old things

that didn't work so great in the past.

Mr. Kesten spent years working with local, state, national and global governments, often creating systems that gave voice to the disenfranchised. A true grass-roots candidate, he will be indebted to nobody but us, his constituents. He's got the fire, smarts and freedom that I'm looking for to speak for the people.

DALE SILENOK
Lewistown

Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport

To the Editor:

New York State suffers from perennially low voter turnout numbers. The League of Women Voters of North East Westchester (LWVNEW) would like to remind voters that the New York State Primary is September 13. While the League is concerned about voter turnout in every election, we are particularly concerned this time around because the primary is being held on a Thursday instead of a Tuesday.

The polls will be open from 6 a.m. to

9 p.m. on Thursday the 13th. If you are not sure of your polling place location, you can find it by entering your address at the League's election website, www.Vote411.org. This will also provide you with information about the races and candidates in your area.

For voters in State Senate District 40, we are partnering with the Leagues of New Castle and Rivotowns to sponsor a Candidates' Night featuring the candidates running in the

Continued on page 15

**The Northern Westchester
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Letters to the Editor

Kesten Would Be an Independent Voice in Senate

To the Editor:

I'm voting for Robert Kesten for NYS Senate in the Democratic Primary Thursday, September 13.

What impresses me about Robert Kesten is his extensive experience in non-profit organizations fighting for human rights and improving people's lives. Teaching, training, raising awareness about the needs of individuals and communities have been his life's work.

Human rights to Robert mean guaranteed health care, women's rights, safe gun laws, job creation, fair pay and paid sick days.

Listening to Robert speak, I learned that protecting health care was one of the driving forces behind his decision to step up and fight for all of us. His story was a personal one and though the cause may have begun as something that touched home, he realized that his story was not

his alone. The lack of guaranteed health care concerns so many of us.

Robert is independent. He is a fresh face untarnished by special interests. The only people Robert will represent are those citizens in our Senate District 40 when we put him into office to work for us. In a time of polarization, I believe that Robert's passionate convictions, history of action, and forward thinking will bring many together. He knows the

importance of reaching out to others to strengthen communities and create environments that will benefit everyone. Robert has done that for decades.

I have witnessed that Robert not only listens to our concerns, he clearly hears our voice. He will carry your voice all the way to Albany.

Sincerely,

THERESE GODOY
Croton-on-Hudson

Keep Our Peekskill Public Access Studio

To the Editor:

Readers of this newspaper who have Altice Optimum Cablevision cable, email, and phone, the city manager, mayor, council people of Peekskill, or even you the people may not have shows produced in Peekskill at the local cable TV studio because Altice who bought Cablevision for \$17 billion now wants to save a few dollars by closing the Peekskill public access studio. They are up for a contract and have recently stated that the studio is not included in the new contract. Their spokesperson offered incentives to the city such as a payment

of \$85,000 to the city as well as 25 people getting free cable.

A little history of Cablevision TV: it got its original license to charge for TV by offering a public access studio to the community in order to charge \$12.95 a month that was about 40 years ago and about four different companies ago. All have abided by the original deal with the city and grandfathered the studio into their contracts. If the contract stays as they propose shows that are produced at the Peekskill studio will no longer be on the air because most of those shows are produced at no cost to the producers of the show.

You may not see shows such as Catholic Peekskill, The Sandy Galef Show, or the "Get on Deck with George Ondek" show, which has been on the air for over 20 years.

A second presentation will be made to the mayor and city Council on Monday, September 12 at 7 PM at the committee of the whole meeting. I urge you to attend this meeting which you will not be allowed to speak up but bring sign stating we want our public access studio in Peekskill. After this meeting the contract may be submitted for a resolution and probably a vote the following Monday at 7:30 PM on September 19.

A demonstration is being formed for 6:30 p.m. on the night of the 12th outside City Hall to show the community wants its public access studio which will show Altice representatives and the mayor this new policy should change and they should negotiate and provide what the original contract called for. Please go to www.CityofPeekskill.com and email your support for community access to all of your elected officials. The mayor and common council can be found at <https://www.cityofpeekskill.com/mayor-and-common-council>.

GEORGE ONDEK
Peekskill

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Musical Lineup Set for Yorktown Grange Fair Sept. 7-9

It will be a red-white-and-blue weekend of "American Values and Hometown Roots" Sept. 7-9, as popular morning personality Kacey of 100.7 WHUD and a rockin' lineup of live bands energize and entertain the 94th annual Yorktown Grange Fair, where farm meets fun for the whole family.

On opening night, Friday, Sept. 7, Kacey will greet fairgoers, who have a chance to win prizes from WHUD. Kacey can be heard on the 100.7 FM music station 5 a.m.-10 a.m. weekdays with her morning show. Sundays at 6:30 a.m., she hosts "Shine On: The Health and Happiness Show." Kacey is a certified life coach, reiki practitioner and inspirational speaker who hosts retreats for women. An avid animal lover, she lives in the Hudson Valley with her pack of rescue cats and dogs.

The following six featured bands all will appear on the Yorktown Grange Fair mainstage next to the entrance...

Opening act Sept. 7 at 5 p.m., is SCHOOL OF ROCK, playing until 7:15 p.m. The band is comprised of 15 talented male and female teenagers from Somers, Ossining, Katonah, Bedford, Armonk and Brewster who are enrolled in the Bedford School of Rock (a music education franchise operation). The house band's versatile repertoire covers classic rock, funk, soul, modern rock, and more. They can be followed at facebook.com/schoolofrockbedford.

Following them from 8-10:30 p.m. is THE HAPPY CRABS, which plays all genres of party music, from oldies, dance and country, to rap and Latin. They can be followed at facebook.com/thehappy-crabs.

On Saturday, Sept. 8, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., it's time for veteran children's entertainers BETH & SCOTT. Their set is full of humorous story-songs, and invites kids to jump, clap, sing and dance. They can be followed at facebook.com/bethandscottandfriends.

From 4-6 p.m. Saturday, 19-year-old singer-songwriter LILLIMURE performs



SUGAR AND SPICE GIRLBAND FACEBOOK PAGE

Sugar and Spice Girlband rock on out at the Yorktown Grange Fair Sept. 8 from 7:30-10:30 p.m.

her unique blend of hip-hop lyricism, folk storytelling, and soulful vocals. The rising artist, who recently appeared at the Viper Room in Los Angeles and The Bitter End in Manhattan, is recording her second album. She can be followed @lillimure on social media.

Saturday night, from 7:30-10:30 p.m., the joint will be jumpin' when SUGAR AND SPICE GIRLBAND takes the stage. The local, all-female trio of fast-moving singers-dancers cover all-time great hits from Beyonce, Christina Aguilera, Spice Girls, and more. They can be followed at facebook.com/sugarandspicegirlband.

Rounding out the musical festivities and bringing the fair to a rousing close on Sunday, Sept. 9, from 4:30-7 p.m., is a band very familiar to Yorktowners, SANDS OF TIME. Fronted by Skip Marini, who is coach of Yorktown High's varsity golf squad and assistant pro at Mohansic Golf Course in Yorktown, the five-man group specializes in danceable tunes of the '60s, '70s and '80s. It includes Michael Hoanzl, Steve Hoanzl, Jim Bellmund, and Steve Ferrante. They can be followed at facebook.com/sandsofetime.

softimeband.

In addition, on Saturday, from 12 noon-3 p.m., fairgoers can stretch their vocal chords and strut their stuff on stage singing KARAOKE, emceed by Yorktown Grange Fair entertainment coordinator Betsy Ackerman.

The Grange Fair stage area will be busy even when bands aren't filling the fairgrounds with the infectious joy of music.

Friday, Sept. 7, at 7:15 p.m. there are CANINE AGILITY demonstrations.

Saturday, Sept. 8, begins with a perennial spectacle of classic farm vehicles:

- The 12 noon TRACTOR PARADE stretches a full mile from Veterans Road to the Fair entrance.

- A STILT WALKER will tower above the crowd from 1-5 p.m.

- There is a RABBIT COSTUME class at 1:30 p.m.

- BUBBLE BLOWING CONTEST fills the air at 1:45 p.m.

- From 2-3 p.m. the SCIENCE ORCHESTRA will demonstrate how exotic sounds, like a dinosaur roar or rocket ship engine, can be created with everyday materials.

- Kids and grownups alike can join in on SIMON SAYS from 6:15-7 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 9 is packed with variety acts the whole family will enjoy.

- There is a PUPPET SHOW from 11-11:45 a.m.

- A WALKING MAGICIAN will stroll the grounds performing sleight-of-hand tricks from 12 noon-4 p.m.

- There is a BALLOON BLOWING contest at 1 p.m. and a chance to be crowned WATERMELONE EATING champion at 2 p.m.

- Starting at 3 p.m. a 45-minute SCIENCE SHOW, "Twist, Bang and Zoom," will feature a not-so-mad scientist amazing kids with fascinating experiments.

- At 4 p.m., it's time to face dive into the PIE EATING competition.

Plus, all day long on Saturday and Sunday there will be plenty of livestock to admire, a tractor display, and, in the 4-H building, children's games, activities, and a rabbit exhibit. A full schedule of events is on the Yorktown Grange Fair Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/yorktowngrangefair/>).

FAIR FACTS & FIGURES

Ticket prices for Yorktown Grange Fair are as follows: General admission -- \$6 in advance, \$8 at gate; adults 62 and over, children 11 and under, and all students with valid school ID -- \$4 in advance, \$5 at gate; children under 2 -- free.

Sold separately inside the Fair are tickets for the midway rides, which can be bought per ride, or as all-day wristbands for unlimited rides, at \$30.

The 2018 Yorktown Grange Fair is open 4-11 p.m., Friday, Sept. 7; 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8; and 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 9.

Grange Fairgrounds are at 99 Moseman Road, Yorktown.

More information is online at YorktownGrangeFair.org or by contacting the Fair office at FairOffice@optonline.net or (914) 962-3900.

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The Charles J. Newman Co., LLC Peekskill

By Neal Rentz

The family of Charles “Chuck” Newman has owned several businesses for decades in Peekskill and the Yorktown resident is keeping the tradition alive.

In 2017, Newman opened The Charles J. Newman Co. LLC on South Street in Peekskill.

Newman said last week his business is an insurance brokerage firm which primarily deals with employee benefits such as health insurance for companies. “We insure around 170 businesses,” he noted. The company’s clients include businesses with a few employees to businesses with 400 employees, Newman noted.

Newman’s company also insures such associations as the Westchester County Bar Association and the Westchester County Corrections Officers union.

Newman, who was born in Cold Spring and grew up in Peekskill, said, “My dad and his dad before him had their businesses in Peekskill. So, I’m a third-generation business owner but I only moved my business to Peekskill about 14-15 months ago.”

Newman explained why he moved his business to Peekskill last year. “I was at



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Yorktown resident Charles Newman, the owner of The Charles J. Newman Co., LLC in Peekskill.

a point in my career that I just decided I wanted to be in my hometown,” he said.

The Newman family has owned several businesses in Peekskill. For example, his father, the late Benjamin Newman, owned Paraco, which is one of the largest propane distributors in America, Newman said. The company was opened

in Peekskill in 1947 by Newman’s grandfather, also named Charles.

Newman’s original career after college was international trade and he worked for an import-export company. “In the late ‘80’s I decided it wasn’t the right business for me,” Newman recalled. “I was traveling a lot and had babies at

home.”

Newman said his best friend, Sam Pine, started an auto detailing business in the late 1980s where Newman worked until the business folded as a result of the 1991 recession. With a need for a new career a family member suggested Newman enter the insurance industry, which he has been a part of ever since.

Newman originally opened his business in 1995. “When I was working for a large company as a career agent I was many times trying to fit a square peg into round hole and I felt I couldn’t do the best job for my customers because I wasn’t able to provide them with all the products in the marketplace. And I was incentivized to just sell one company’s product,” Newman said.

Newman explained why his business has been successful. “I just care more, I think, than some other people about being immediately responsive and providing great service,” he said. “We need to be there all the time.”

The Charles J. Newman Co., LLC is located at 906 South St. in Peekskill. For more information, call 914-345-100, send e-mails to chuck@charlesnewman.com or visit charlesnewman.com.

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How to Use the Color Red in the Home

As a teenager just beginning to form preferences in style and substance, I told anyone who asked to know my favorite color that it was green because it was the color of nature. But that was a lie. Actually, I was drawn like a magnet to the color red but didn't want to admit it for some reason. Did it seem too radical or daring for a young man of 16? I can't say, but given the first opportunity to choose a color for my immediate surroundings, my bedroom, I chose a flaming red.

My mother, who waited until I was in my 30s to finally tell me that she always knew I was "different," let me have my way. Her liberal permission backfired when she listed that house for sale, and every prospect who came by exclaimed "Wow!" when opening my bedroom door. As a realtor now, I know that neutral colors are best when it comes to preparing a home for sale, and that flaming red bedroom just may have impeded the sale of our home.

It never occurred to me as a teenager

that something deeply psychological might have been going on with me at the time. Perhaps it was a quest for excitement

which the color red is said to induce. But that excitement might tend to be on the side of aggravation for some people. Consider that a matador's cape which taunts bulls is always red. On the other hand, consider again that bulls, along with all other cattle, are color blind, and the color red has nothing to do with their charge. It is therefore probably most exciting for the bullfight spectators.

There are other famous instances where red has been used for effect. Remember the dress Scarlett O'Hara decked herself out in after the scandal of being caught in Ashley Wilkes' amorous embrace? And

what about the flocked walls of every bordello ever depicted in film? The power tie, the power suit for women (think Nancy Reagan), they're always red, right?

Whether it's lipstick or brick, the allure of red is undeniable. But as learned by

my teenage bedroom, the color -- as bold and captivating as it might be -- needs to be used carefully. Red isn't always the best choice for an entire room.

According to practicing environmental psychologist Sally Augustin, Ph.D., "Red can be a useful color to include in a home. People are drawn to red so painting the wall at the end of a long hallway red is a good idea. But it's not such a desirable color to use in places where thoughtful work will be done."

Benjamin Moore advisories tell us that "Nothing perks up a room like decorating with red, but many are afraid to introduce this powerful color into their home. However, there are many creative ways in which you can spice up your décor with red's ebullient energy without feeling overwhelmed. One way could be to create a focal point or define a space with a one red accent wall. Playful touches of red can be applied in unexpected places such as stair risers, the interior of a bookcase or china cabinet, or the legs of a table.

When, I owned an 18th Century home, I painted the floor of one room red and the effect was transforming. And, of course, I have always recommended the use of red, preferably Benjamin Moore's Burgundy, for the front door.

Based on research studies by Andrew Elliot, a Professor of Psychology, Ph.D. at University of Rochester, the use of red has distracting effects that reach into the subconscious levels of our minds. "Their studies showed that when people see something red, even briefly, before they begin some sort of competency evaluation, such as an IQ test, they do not perform as well on the test and actually avoid challenging tasks."

"On the bright side -- and opposite spectrum -- Elliot and his team have found that red backgrounds increase the attractiveness and desirability of a person standing in front of it," said Augustin, which explains the common association of sexual attraction with the color. "So even though your bedroom walls are a pastel blue or green," says Augustin, "red sheets may be in order." Red sheets? My response to that is, while red sheets might induce sexual attraction, for me personally, they would hardly accommodate a good night's sleep.

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.

The Home Guru



By Bill Primavera

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Join us for a casual conversation about ways to manage your financial and health care needs and those of your loved ones.

Salvatore M. Di Costanzo, Esq., a leading elder law attorney, and his colleague Joanna C. Feldman, Esq., will answer questions about estate planning, wills, trusts, Medicaid and long-term care planning, special needs planning, guardianships and related areas of interest.

Students Receive NAACP Awards for Excellence

Two Ossining High School students recently were honored for their accomplishments in photography and science at the NAACP ACT-SO competition in Texas.

Junior Brigitte Alberghini-Davis came in second place in photography for a photo of her grandfather. Senior Kellen Cooks earned gold in the Earth and Space Sciences category for his research on urban perceptions of graffiti and street art. The Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics took place July 12-15 in San Antonio.

Brigitte and Kellen were among eight Westchester County students who received gold medals in the Westchester ACT-SO regional competition in April and advanced to national ACT-SO. OHS sophomore Federico Grullon, who won a gold medal in entrepreneurship at the regional level, was the third Ossining student who competed in San Antonio.

More than 700 students from around the country attended the 40th annual ACT-SO competition, which took place during the NAACP's 109th National Convention.



(L-R:) Craig Murray of Mount Vernon (Horace Mann High School) and Ossining High School students Brigitte Alberghini-Davis and Kellen Cooks.

Ten Ossining students participated in the regional ACT-SO competition in April, said Ingraham Taylor, chairwoman of the Westchester Region NAACP ACT-SO Coalition. "We always have students from Ossining at our regional competition. I commend the district for encouraging its students to compete," she said.

ACT-SO is a yearlong achievement program designed to recruit, stimulate and encourage high academic and

Continued on page 15

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10am SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th



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Rena Bernardini began training at Westchester Ballet Center at age 5. Now she is a Demi Soloist with Fort Wayne Ballet.

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Happenings

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Tuesday, Sept. 4

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

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

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

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

Wednesday, Sept. 5

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.

Somers Library Programs: Several programs have been scheduled for the Somers Library. Estate Planning for All will be held on Sept. 5 from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 5, 6 – 7 p.m. Is the idea of estate planning daunting for you? Register on our online calendar at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717. Thursday Afternoon Writer's Workshop will be held on Thursdays, from Sept. 6 through December 13 (except for Nov. 22). Space is limited. Please register on our online calendar at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717. Register for only one session. The Beatles: 50 Years Later will be held on Sept. 8 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Join Barry Wiesenfeld in exploring the phenomenon that was The Beatles - their growth, originality, musical innovations and lyric depth. Space is limited; please register on our online calendar at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717.

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

Bingo Wednesdays: Come to First Hebrew for \$2,000 in total guaranteed bingo prizes, plus an average of \$1,000 awarded in specialty games. Doors open 5 p.m. and games begin 7:15 p.m. every Wednesday (except holidays – check First Hebrew's website calendar). First Hebrew is just west of the Beach Shopping Center at 1821 Main St., Peekskill. Info: 914 -739-0500 or www.firsthebrew.org.

Thursday, Sept. 6

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 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.westches-

tergov.com.

Friday, Sept. 7

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

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

Yorktown Grange Fair: The 94th annual Yorktown Grange Fair will be held on Sept. 7 from 4 to 11 p.m.; on Sept. 8 from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. and on Sept. 9 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Ticket prices as follows, payable at the gate: general admission -- \$8; adults 62 and over, children 11 and under, and all students with valid school ID -- \$5; and children under 2 -- free. Sold separately inside the fair are tickets for the midway rides, which can be bought per ride, or as all-day wristbands for unlimited rides, which start at \$25. The Grange Fairgrounds are at 99 Moseman Rd. More information is online at YorktownGrangeFair.org or by contacting the fair office at FairOffice@optonline.net or 914-962-3900.

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 or Visit www.fordpiano.com for the musical line-up.

Shabbat By The River: Meet your local Jewish community as First Hebrew's Rabbi Dana leads an outdoor Shabbat service by the Hudson River in Riverfront Green Park in Peekskill. Meet at 6:45 p.m., weather permitting, or come early with your picnic. Check the Web site for directions to the trellis at www.firsthebrew.org. For more information send an e-mail to fhc@firsthebrew.org or call 914-739-0500.

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 in the summer 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 yorktownjewish-center.org.

Saturday, Sept. 8

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

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

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

Ossining Farmers Market: The Ossining Down to Earth Farmers Market is now being held outdoors on Spring and Market Streets. Customers old and new will find delicious produce, pasture-raised meat, poultry, and eggs, breads,

Happenings

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baked goods, and much more. For a full list of our markets and vendors, visit DowntoEarthMarkets.com.

Sunday, Sept. 9

Chabad Rosh Hashana Services: Join Chabad of Yorktown, Cortlandt, and Somers for Rosh Hashana services on Sept. 9 through 11. There will be Hebrew - English prayer books and an exciting children's program. Though there is no charge, donations are welcome. For more information and to RSVP visit www.ChabadYorktown.com, or call 914-962-1111.

Students Receive NAACP Awards for Excellence

Continued from page 13

cultural achievement among African-American high school students. There are 32 categories in humanities; business; STEM (science, technology, engineering and math); and performing, visual and culinary arts.

"For 40 years, ACT-SO has allowed high school students to show the world they are talented, gifted and breaking barriers with no hesitation," ACT-SO National Director Larry Brown Jr. said in a statement. "These students are discovering their gifts, believing in themselves to walk in their talents, and watching their dreams manifest right before their eyes."

Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport

Continued from page 8

Democratic primary, Peter Harckham and Robert Kesten. The forum is being held Wednesday, September 5 at the Chappaqua Library, 195 South Greeley Ave; it begins at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public. District 40 spans parts of Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess Counties including Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, North Salem, Pound Ridge, and New Castle.

We encourage everyone to get informed and get to the polls. As the League says, Democracy is not a Spectator Sport!

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First Hebrew Rosh Hashanah Services: Rosh Hashanah services at First Hebrew begin at sundown and First Hebrew will have services beginning at 6:50 p.m. Holiday services continue on Monday and Tuesday starting at 9 a.m. For ticket information contact First Hebrew at 914-739-0500 or fhc@firsthebrew.org. For the entire Jewish High Holiday schedule visit www.firsthebrew.org. First Hebrew is located on the border of Cortlandt and

Peekskill at 1821 Main St., Route 6.

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

Monday, Sept. 10

Free Jazz Sessions: Free Jazz Jam Ses-

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

Movie Mondays: Movie Mondays is continuing today at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill, at 6:30 p.m. with a screening of "I Can Only Imagine." The free screening will be presented on a 100-foot screen at the Field Gallery. Info: 914-737-1212 or peekskill.org.

13th Annual Town of Cortlandt



FAMILY FUN DAY



Saturday, September 8th

2:00 PM - 8:00 PM

3 Memorial Drive, Croton, NY 10520
(Near the Cortlandt Train Station)

Fireworks at 8:00 PM

Rain Date: Saturday, September 15th
2:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Fireworks at 8:00 PM



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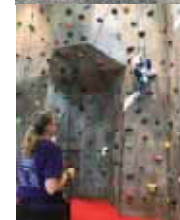
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914-734-1050 or TOCREC@townofcortlandt.com.



Crossword

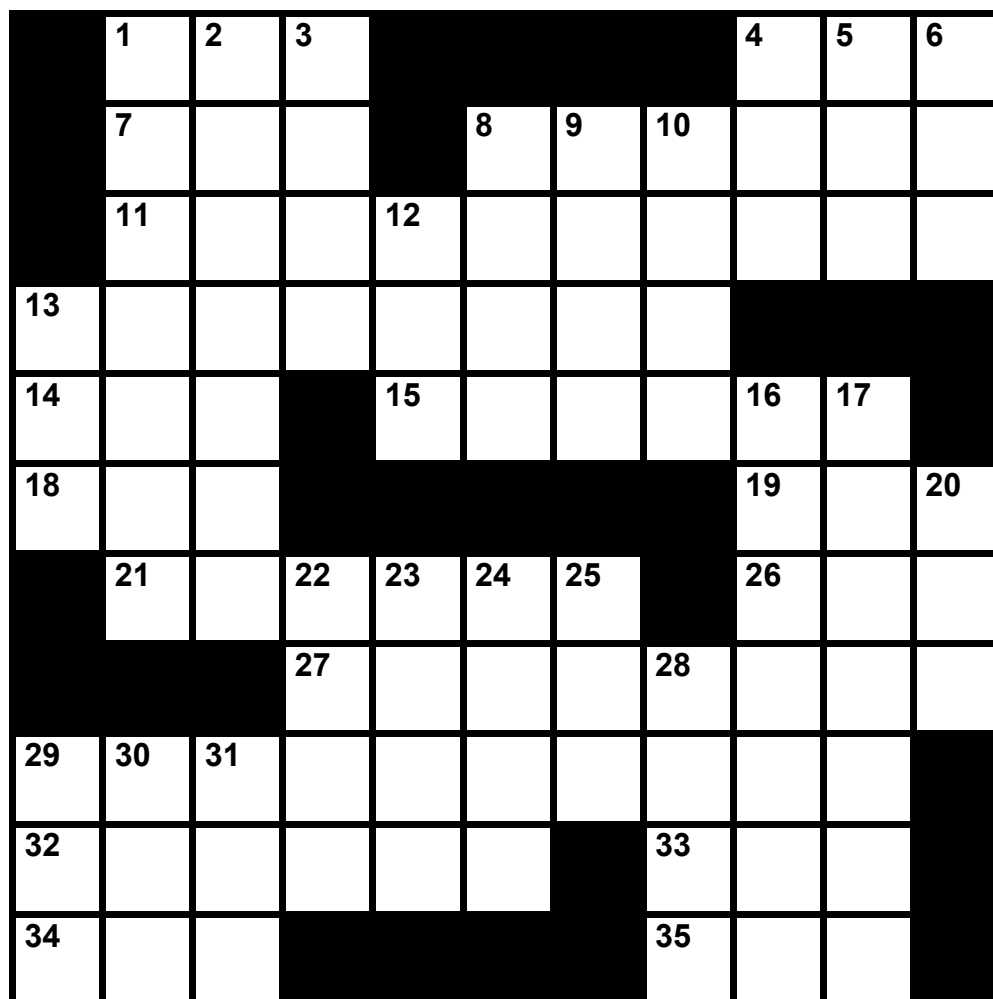
ACROSS

1. Golfer Michelle
4. Single spot card
7. Sign, the contract
8. New Mahopac back docs, Chiropractic _____
- Performance
11. Band that made the album, Don't Waste Your Wishes
13. Kinda
14. Guitarist Paul
15. Chimneys
18. Ultimate ending
19. Electrical resistance
21. It's believing!
26. Darjeeling or oolong
27. Sacerdotal
29. Lots and lots
32. Primps
33. Ryder Cup org.
34. Meddle
35. Crime investigator (abbr.)

Down

1. Prosecution's need

2. Hurriedly
3. Just manages, with "out"
4. Ginger _____
5. Geom. point
6. Canadian expressions
8. Help for the stumped
9. Lohengrin's bride
10. He played Obi-Wan
12. Falcon film
13. France's Belle-_____
16. Shrub Oak preschool, Kiddie _____
17. Varnish
20. Can
22. Olympic fencing weapon
23. OPEC member
24. Louse babies
25. School exam
28. Month abbr.
29. GPS is one
30. Growling sound
31. King, in Cádiz



The Multiple Influences of Oak on the Profile of Wine

What makes an individual wine unique from another? Why does a Chardonnay from one country differ so greatly from another? Why does one winemaker's Chardonnay differ so greatly from his neighbor's a few miles away?

There are three principal (and many minor) factors that influence a wine in its final state: vintage, terroir and oak. In prior columns I've explored the first two factors; let's now focus on the third.

Winemakers have many choices for the vessels used in producing wine. Traditionally oak has been the vessel of choice, especially for red wines. However, there is a growing preference for stainless steel tanks and concrete eggs. This week I'll focus on oak.

Oak adds complexity to a wine; it also adds unique aromas and flavors. Oak wood naturally has a vanilla-like aroma and a tannic taste. Both of these are considered by many to be critical in the overall style of white and red wines. The vanilla hints add complexity to the wine flavors, while the natural tannins in the wood aid in softening the harshness of wines as they age.

Winemakers have many choices in oakings that enable them to stylize their

wines to their unique preferences. Light oaking adds subtlety while heavier oaking adds additional structure and complexity. Your preference for a style of wine is significantly influenced by the winemaker's use of oak. If you taste a barrel-fermented and aged Chardonnay next to one produced using stainless steel, the difference will be obvious and may influence your buying decisions.

Winemakers have many choices to impart an oaky character to their wines during barrel aging. Let's briefly explore five:

1. The origin of the oak trees. French oak trees are the dominant wood used, followed closely by American oak trees. French oak has a tighter grain. The tighter the grain the less absorption by the wood and therefore less flavor is imparted. This is one reason why French wines (and other wines using French barrels) are considered more subtle than American wines.

2. The "toast" level of the barrel. The art of barrel making (coopering) is dependent on curving the barrel slats (staves) over an open fire to form the familiar shape of the barrel. Depending on how long they are toasted, the flavors

imparted will range from vanilla and mild smokiness to caramelized and more dominant smokiness and tannins. The winemaker decides the style he desires and purchases barrels accordingly.

3. The size of the barrel. This one is counterintuitive. The larger the barrel the less oak is absorbed due to the volume of wine in the barrel. The smaller the barrel the more surface area there is to be absorbed by less volume of wine. Bottom line: aging in smaller barrels imparts more oak flavor.

4. The age of the barrel. New, virgin, barrels leech higher levels of oak than older, previously used barrels that have already given their best effort. Winemakers seeking heavier oakiness will only use new barrels (translation: Cabernet Sauvignon). Others will mix new and old barrels or use old barrels exclusively (translation: many Chardonnays). In some cases, economics dictate. New barrels can cost from \$900 to \$2,000 each versus. \$200 for older ones.

5. The length of time wine ages in the barrel. The most influence by the individual winemaker on the final product comes at this stage. The longer wine matures in the barrel the more obvious the oak. This is when the subtlety, or lack thereof, is determined. However, in France, Italy and Spain the time in barrel

is governed by law.

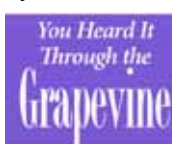
Each of the steps in producing a fine wine is critical to the final product offered in your local wine shop. The impact of oak is not always understood or appreciated. But if you look for the influence of oak, you'll begin to appreciate the subtleties of individual winemakers' efforts and whether they meet your preferences in wine.

NB: This week's column is a reprise of an earlier composition.

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



By Nick Antonaccio



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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.**

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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.**

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.**

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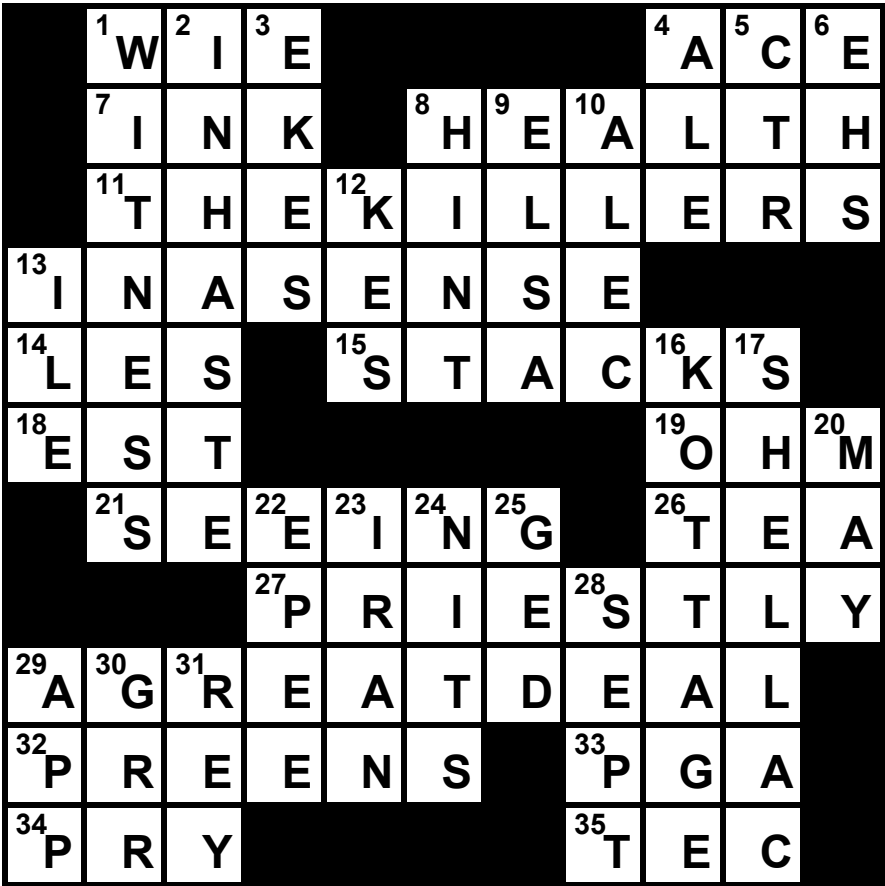
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(Solution to puzzle on page 13)



Kesten Confident into Primary

Continued from page 6

promises of appointments.

The 40th state Senate District race currently allows individual contributions of up to \$7,000 per candidate in a primary and \$11,000 for the general election. The governor's race allows, \$23,000 and \$50,000, respectively, he said.

"There's no way that can't influence you, I don't care what anybody says, and there are elected officials who are talking that money and say "That doesn't affect me," Kesten said. "It affects you because when that person calls, you are going to take that phone call or when that person wants coffee you are going to sit down with that person whereas other people

you won't even know who they are."

He also supports term limits and limiting outside income for state legislators.

Kesten touted his independence that wouldn't require him to kowtow to the establishment of either major political party or the status quo. He said he can win this race by doing what he's done for the past year – listening to the residents of the district and focusing on their priorities.

"We have to knock on doors and make people aware that I represent over a year of being out there listening to people and understanding their needs and (Harckham) was asked by the governor of the state of New York to carry out the governor's will," Kesten said.

Harckham Points to Experience

Continued from page 7

dian Point in a few years, Harckham said the state should focus on renewable and wind energy. He noted that power doesn't have to come from a local source. As for making up the lost revenue, Harckham said the state must ensure those communities hit with the

shortfall be helped until new revenue is found.

Although Harckham officially entered the race in May, nearly nine months later than Kesten, Harckham noted, "When you're hiring for a job, you don't necessarily hire the very first resume that lands on your desk."

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Boyers Will Be Boyers!



Yorktown Sophomore RB Takes Flight in Husker Win over Panas

Just like his brother Jose did back in 2014, high-flying Yorktown sophomore RB/DB Keith Boyer had an impressive debut in the Huskers' 27-25 League B win over visiting Walter Panas last Tuesday, gashing the Panthers for 131 yards on just 10 totes, including a TD trot... see Grid Notebook

Carmel Excels in All Facets of 51-0 Win; Yorktown Survives Panas

By Ray Gallagher
 Examiner Sports Editor
 @Directrays

There were some succinct giveaways and takeaways in Week 1 of the Section 1 grid season, and we're here to feature some of them. Hopes that were high along the local campaign trail to open the year, and some may have taken a hit in what was a weekend of washouts and blowouts with the depths of disparity already revealed among the haves and the have nots. Here's the give and take

after one week of action.

CLASS AA

There was a perfect storm in CARMEL last Friday night and the end result saw Coach Todd Cayea's Rams perform in every phase of the game in a 51-0 League North-West raid of visiting Suffern on opening day. Offense, defense, special teams... you name it, the Rams (1-0) executed.

Shifty junior RB James Cox had 10 carries for 155 yards and a TD, shoring up the ground game. Carmel QB Peyton

Cayea went 6 for 8 for 57 yards and 2 TD passes while rushing for 33 yards and another score. Sleek junior RB/DB Alex Beauchesne took a short pass for a 30-yard score, rushed for one TD and snared a 70-yard pick-six to the house. RB Sam Duke added another TD and a crunching block on Beauchesne's INT.

"Overall, it was a great team effort," Carmel Coach Todd Cayea said. "James Cox really stepped up at running back. He gives us another shifty back with great speed. We have been trying to

find someone to complement Duke, and he made a great first impression. Defensively, led by McCabe and Parisi, we were able to hold the run game in check and force them to throw. We got a couple of turnovers, which is something we have been stressing since day one of camp. We've got lots of work to be done but a good start."

The Giveaway: Cox and Beauchesne, who flew somewhat under the radar

continued on next page

Sports

Grid Notebook

continued from front page

going in, will now be a major focus of opposing defensive coordinators, who will certainly lose some sleep in the weeks ahead as they try to choke the throttle of this potent, multi-pronged attack.

The Takeaway: The Rams looked every bit the part of a legit contender in dismantling Suffern, serving serious notice to the rest of Section 1, but they will get a legit test in Week 2 against visiting Arlington, a 60-6 winner over Ramapo.

MAHOPAC took a 21-0 League North-West setback on the chin from visiting John Jay EF, breaking down throughout the second half of a 7-0 halftime game. The Indians (0-1) struggled to get the ball downfield with consistency.

"It was not such a good night for us," second-year Mahopac Coach Dominick DeMatteo admitted. "We played solid defense in the first half and moved the ball at times. However, we were just too inconsistent on offense. In the second half we really struggled to get anything going. Then, we wore down."

The Giveaway: Senior QB Anthony Corrado (5 of 16 for 28 yards passing, 29 rush yards) and senior WR Reahl Allen (3 receptions, 18 yards) connected for a few quick hitters, but the timing was off down field, mostly due to breakdowns up front that allowed for mega-pressure by the Patriots.

The Takeaway: Mahopac senior RB Tim Cegielski (11 rushes, 79 yards) was the most consistent player for the Indians, who have a ton of work to do if they are going compete and challenge for one of eight playoff spots.

OSSINING (1-0) provided outgoing Coach Dan Ricci with some opening-night hope in 21-14 win over the visiting Yonkers Force.

The Giveaway: The Force is in its first season as a combined program, and its going to take more than this win to believe the Pride are legit league title contenders,



RAY GALLAGHER/BOB CASTNER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Mahopac QB Anthony Corrado sheds tackle in 21-0 loss to John Jay EF last Friday.



but any win is a great win in Ricci's swansong season.

The Takeaway: Ossining RB John Turnquist, who shook off rust and rushed for two touchdowns after missing last season with a broken hip, provides a sweet 1-2 punch with bruising RB Izaiah Steen.

CLASS A

HEN HUD (0-1) may have lost the battle, 27-25, to Spring Valley, but Coach Mike Lynch's Sailors may be in the war for one of the eight Class A playoff spots after the qualifying round of 16 is complete.

The Giveaway: Spring Valley is just one of three extremely difficult foes right out of the gate, and it only gets tougher when Lourdes and reigning sectional champ Yorktown come calling in Week's 2-3, respectively. Hen Hud better strap on its

collective big boy pads early and embrace smash-mouth football in both trenches in order to make some stops on defense and get stud senior RB Jordan Grullon (5 carries, 3 yards) going in the run game.

The Takeaway: The Sailors can, apparently, line up and play some smash-mouth football on the offensive side of the ball, given that senior QB Manny Carbone hit on 20 off 33 passes for 255 yards and three TD passes to senior TE Mike Fasolino (5 grabs, 102 yards, TD), junior WR Marcus Lenz (7 catches, 72 yards, TD) and Grullon (4 receptions, 41 yards, TD). Carbone added 14 carries, 82 yards and a TD on the ground.

YORKTOWN (1-0), the reigning Section 1 champ and NYS runner-up, had to run for cover in the fourth against a furious comeback bid from visiting

WALTER PANAS (0-1) in a 27-25 Cornhusker League B win.

The Giveaway: The Huskers will need their new leadership corps to keep the unit focused for four quarters. "It was a weird ending," Husker boss Mike 'House' Rescigno said. "It made the win feel junky. It was not an acceptable ending to a good start. You cannot play to merely survive. We gotta play the whole game all-in. I can tell you that our kids understand that now. Hats off to Panas and Coach Patronik for their perseverance."

The Panthers, if nothing else, proved they can't afford slow starts but have the firepower and some gadgetry to score points in bunches.

The Takeaway: Yorktown may have found the two dudes who can try to fill the

continued on next page



Yorktown QB Tommy Weaver finds a seam in Panas defense in Huskers' 27-25 win over Panthers last Friday.



Panas RB David Louis tries to gain corner on Yorktown defenders Matteo Cermele (62) and Eddie Capone (55) in Panthers' 27-25 loss to Huskers.

Sports

Grid Notebook

continued from previous page



Fiery Mahopac DL Anthony Perricone wraps up a sack in 21-0 loss to John Jay EF last Friday night.

shoes of departed Brett Makar when RB Nick Campanaro chugged for 166 yards on the ground, including a pair of TD scoots, and sophomore RB Keith Boyer gashed the Panthers for another 131 yards on just 10 totes, including a TD trot. The Huskers rushed for 380 yards, including 70 by QB Tommy Weaver. The coach cited Naim Sinanaj and Ben Robinson for blocking very well, and the defensive efforts of Reese Andrews and Alex Debenedictus.

The Panthers have to feel pretty good about hanging more than tough with the defending champs and should get better with time. "We did start slow but the kids played through injuries and early mental mistakes to make it a game," Patronik said. "David Louis, Sean Laukaitis and Lucas Feliciano played terrific and really us in it."

SOMERS (0-1) could do nothing to contain John Jay QB Bryce Ford, who

rushed 26 times for a staggering 269 yards and three touchdowns and threw for another 120 yards and two TDs in an impressive 34-20 win over the host Tuskers.

The Giveaway: The Tuskers clearly have work to do if they are going to remain among the elite in Class A, which they have pretty much been since the turn of the century. All things being cyclical, maybe, just maybe, the Tuskers come back to the pack this season, if only for a year.

The Takeaway: Somers FB Jack Kaiser had 17 carries for 69 yards and two touchdowns, so it appears as though veteran Coach Tony DeMatteo has a workhorse back he can trust. Tusker DL Logan D'Anna (three tackles for loss and forced a fumble, which was returned 55 yards for a score by teammate Kevin Graber) got great push up front.

BREWSTER (1-0) came out rocking in a 46-20 win over visiting Sleepy Hollow last Friday.

The Giveaway: Sleepy is far and away one of the weakest foes on the Bears' schedule, so the sledging will get tougher from here on out.

The Takeaway: When Bears QB Brendan Fox rushed for three touchdowns and threw for another, it became clear that the Bears have a leader who can spread the ball around (five different Bears scored) and showed great poise in front of a raucous crowd.



Mahopac WR Rheel Allen takes off upfield in Indians' 21-0 loss to visiting John Jay EF last Friday.

LAKELAND (0-1) had to know that visiting Lourdes would be among the toughest home openers in the section and its 48-6 loss to a Warriors team that many are touting as legit sectional title contenders, was ample proof of that.

The Giveaway: Lourdes will seriously challenge Clarkstown South for the No.1 seed in Class A this season, and youthful Lakeland, which is already banged up, will be in a battle to reach the field of 16.

The Takeaway: Lakeland brought it to Lourdes on its first two drives, doing so as sophomore QB Tyler Santucci hit on 6 of 10 passing for 88 yards and a 26-yard score to Robert Hart for a 6-0 lead.

CLASS B

Host **PUTNAM VALLEY** (0-1) suffered a 14-8 league setback to reigning Section 1 Class C champion Albertus Magnus (now a lead dog in Class B) last Friday night.

The Giveaway: If the Tigers were seriously going to contend for the Class B crown, they were going to need a home victory on opening night against one of the top contenders, but Class B is more open than ever given two-time defending champion Pleasantville's 34-6 loss to Ardsley, which may have just assumed the role of favorites.

The Takeaway: PV senior RB/LB John Listwan will give opposing defenders nightmares. On film, they will fret his load, on gameday they will hope to gang tackle better than the Falcons did Friday when Listwan went for 132 yards and



Lakeland WR Robert Hart is stoked after scoring Hornets' lone TD in loss to Class A power Our Lady of Lourdes last Friday.

a score on 19 carries. The captain also added 14 tackles, two sacks and a forced fumble on the other side of the ball. Throw in Pleasantville's loss to Ardsley and all is NOT lost. The show must go on!

"John was a bruiser," PV Coach Ryan Elsasser said. "He was a high-impact player. He was not only running by players, but he was also running through them. Unfortunately, our youth showed this week. We had some younger players making some mistakes offensively that cost us a few possessions. All in all, the game came down to special teams and Albertus Magnus outplayed us in that area of the game. We saw both good and bad things Friday night, and we will need to push the good and polish up the bad. I think we have the possibility of being much better."



Yorktown TE Ben Robinson snaps off a four-yard TD run in Huskers' 27-25 win over visiting Panas last Friday.

Sports

Soccer Notebook

Local Soccer Coaches Upping Ante for High School Preps

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

If you can't spot the collective efforts by local soccer coaches to grow the game and benefit the high school preps in their programs, then you're living under a rock or just don't care to know. It's almost as if they have commenced an unspoken war against the academies by upping the ante with superb summer showcases, a totalitarian approach to coaching and top-notch tournaments featuring programs from the many counties of Section 1 and Section 9 going head to head.

"That is 100% accurate," said Lakeland Coach Tim Hourahan, who, along with Somers Coach Brian Lanzetta and



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS (PLEASE VISIT WWW.HVSRPHOTOS)

Lakeland's Alexa Coe rips goal as Hen Hud's Maddy Gough and G Iliana Done defend in Hornets' 4-1 season-opening win over Sailors.



Lakeland's Noah Kemp began a monster week by heading home the game-winner past Peekskill G Bryan Merchan in 3-2 Hornet win.



Peekskill's Jerry Leon line up bicycle kick in Red Devils' 3-2 loss to Lakeland.

Brewster Coach Scott Potusek, have taken on some of the leadership role in this region of the section. "The summer college showcase was the best thing I have been involved with in high school soccer. And to be honest, nothing makes me prouder than to see what Coach P has done in Brewster now in Year 2 of the Dutchess vs. Putnam Challenge. High school soccer is an amazing opportunity for kids in our area. We continually produce some of the best players and teams year in and year out, creating exposure for these kids, and creating opportunities for them that they can remember for a lifetime is what it's all about. It is amazing how great it has ended up being for our players and I can't wait to announce all of the college commitments we get."

This Columbus Day, the Section 1 vs. Section 9 Challenge will head into its second year at Lakeland High in an effort to grow the game and give local players a high-profile platform.

Let's understand that the academies produce a different level of play with no holes throughout the lineup, deep benches and stacked competition, which is also great for the game, but you simply cannot replace playing with YOUR best buddies for YOUR community, under the lights against a local rival in front of hundreds



Panas G Kyle Rizzo make nifty save in Panthers' 1-0 season-opening loss to Poughkeepsie.

of people. There is nothing like it, so thank these local high school coaches for providing an improved opportunity to do so...

They spread the wealth on opening day at Somers High, getting six different goal scorers in a 7-0 non-league triumph of visiting Sleepy Hollow last Thursday.

The 2016 Class A NYS champion Tuskers had an all-world, four-point effort from senior F Lucas Fecci (2G, 2A). Alex Maher (1G, 1A), Ethan Cukaj (1G), Jose Giron (1G), Drew Lasher (1G, 1A) and Zane Bramson (1G) all tickled twine while Max Grell (1A) and Jon Riina (1A) each set up a goal for the top-ranked Tuskers, who will now focus their attention upon the prestigious Yorktown Tournament, which will essentially establish early-season bragging rights for three of the top programs in the region, including a Somers vs. Mahopac matchup in the opening round.

Yorktown will face Arlington B in

the other opening-round game, and most folks in the know are anticipating a Somers vs. Yorktown finale later this week. However, the Niko DeCola-led Indians were anything but an easy out for the Tuskers last year, so expect a feisty challenge from Mahopac, which suffered a 4-0 loss to Arlington's A club in the Dutchess vs. Putnam Challenge.

That challenge didn't go so well on the scoreboard for the kickers of Putnam County, who went 1-4 against their Dutchess counterparts, but facing some of the top competition from Dutchess is an eye-opening experience that makes the locals stronger. Host Brewster was the lone Putnam-based program to pull out a win, a 4-1 triumph of Dover. Haldane fell 1-0 to Pawling, Putnam Valley lost 3-0 to RCK and Carmel came up short in a 4-1 loss to Beacon.

And to boot, Coach Potusek found a noble way to invite and honor local troops and servicemen/women, including terrifically-designed T-shirts for players, fans and troops who attended (XX-L, please!): Well done, sir!...

Lakeland senior M Noah Kemp, who broke his leg (both the Fibia and Tibia) seven minutes into his junior campaign, has looked like a stud early on, scoring both game-winning goals during Lakeland's 2-0 start (win over Peekskill and Panas). I'll be rooting for that kid...

The 2017 Class AA Final 4 Mahopac girls' squad begins what might be a special campaign this week, and the second game of the season features quite a doozy at Somers this Friday (4:30 p.m.).



Lakeland's Gerardo Hernandez and Peekskill's Wilbert Guerrero get some hang time in Hornets' 3-2 season-opening win over Red Devils last Tuesday.

Sports

Field Hockey Notebook

Lakeland Eyeing a 10th Straight Section, NYS Title

By Tony Pinciario

Julia Cummings had an exciting and memorable finish to her 2017 season.

When the buzzer sounded to end the New York State Class B Field Hockey Championship game, Cummings turned from her sweeper position and raced to goalie Cassie Halpin to start the celebration of Lakeland's ninth consecutive state title.

"Last year was the most exciting because I was playing in the championship game," said Cummings, in her fourth varsity season and second as the starting sweeper. "Being on the field, running back toward Cassie (Halpin) and having all of your teammates jump on each other. It was crazy."

Cummings and her teammates are hoping for a repeat as the Hornets strive for their unprecedented 10th straight Class B state championship.

Lakeland returns a core group of 10 seniors, led by Julianna Cappello (forward), an all-section and all-state pick last year, Emily Kness (midfield), also all-state, Kiera Wax (defense) and Cummings



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Lakeland's Julianna Cappello cranks shot as Yorktown's Alexa Borges defends in Hornets' 9-0 win over Huskers.

dedication and commitment of its players during the offseason. Cummings pointed out that many of the Lakeland players play for the Hudson Valley Field Hockey Club, which is coached by veteran Lakeland mentor Sharon Sarsen.

Lakeland, which went 22-0 last year, will play a challenging schedule, once again. The Hornets non-league schedule includes Scarsdale, Thursday, 9/20, perennial Class A champion, Mamaroneck, Saturday, 9/22, and Suffern, Monday, 9/24. The Hornets played annual championship-game foe, Rye, Tuesday, Sept. 4.

Former Lakeland and University of Michigan standout Shannon Scavelli, a four-time state champion, returns as Sarsen's assistant coach. Former Lakeland standout and co-captain of the 2003 state-title team, Danielle Fiore, is back for her fourth year as the Junior Varsity coach.

Lakeland opened its 2018 season with a victory over Yorktown behind two goals by Bussell.

Emma Halderman and Kness each had one goal and one assists and McCrudden collected three assists.

PUTNAM VALLEY welcomes a new, but familiar coach in Courtney Hyndman. Hyndman is the Putnam Valley varsity girls' lacrosse coach and was the field hockey varsity assistant the last three years.

The Tigers went 5-11 last year and lost a first-round sectional game. Hyndman has a veteran core returning, many of whom also play lacrosse for her.

Seniors Danielle Cunningham and Ciara McGinty return on midfield and at forward, respectively. Cunningham was selected all-league in 2017.

Juniors Colleen Cassidy and Cyera

game, Thursday, 4:30 p.m.

YORKTOWN Coach Bernadette Gannon has her two leading scorers returning this season as the Cornhuskers plan on increasing their win total from 2017.

Yorktown did qualify for the Section 1 Class A Championships, but lost in the first round to eventual titlist, Mamaroneck.

Senior forward Izzy Ciccinielli and junior midfielder Kelsey McDonnell highlight a sizeable group of returnees including goalie Adeline Araneo.

Among the returnees is a core group of juniors, cited Gannon. Gannon pointed out that junior Alyssa Albano (midfield/forward) and sophomore Maiya Munoz (defense) are making the step up to varsity.

"When the girls play together, they do amazing things," said Gannon, who has also coached Suffern and Clarkstown North during her 25-year career. "The strong group of core returning players will need to mesh with the newcomers in order to succeed this season. They will have to share their knowledge and game sense and that's when we will be an improving and stronger team."

Yorktown had the misfortune of opening the season against nine-time defending state champion Lakeland and was shut out.

The Cornhuskers will host their annual tournament, beginning Thursday. Albertus Magnus will play Putnam Valley, 4:30 p.m., followed by Sleepy Hollow-Yorktown, 6 p.m. The winners will meet in the championship game, Saturday, 1:15 p.m., preceded by the consolation game at 11:30 a.m.

Somers enters the 2018 season following a strong conclusion to the 2-17 season.

The Tuskers played a difficult schedule in 2017, resulting in the fourth seed for the Section 1 Class B Championships. As a result, Somers won its first two games, including a 3-2 double-overtime victory over fifth-seeded Nanuet in a quarterfinal game. However, Somers lost to eventual champion, Lakeland, in a semifinal.

SOMERS has a new coach in Michelle Armstrong. The first-year varsity coach has three impact seniors back to lead the team. Grace Farina, an all-section pick in 2017, Rosalie Murphy and Emma Kittridge. Juniors Erin Clark and Haley Dineen are also returning for Armstrong.

Two newcomers to varsity will be senior Linsey Hershfield and junior Jen Campbell. Somers opens the season with its tournament, Wednesday. Somers will host Scarsdale, Pawling and Mahopac. The consolation and championship games will be played Thursday at 4 p.m. and 5:45 p.m., respectively.



Lakeland sniper Jenna McCrudden scores goal despite run from Yorktown's Madelyn Marr in Hornets' 9-0 season-opening win over Huskers.

(sweeper), both all-league.

The senior nucleus also includes Sarah Bussell (midfield), Cara O'Shea (forward), Gianna Scialdone (forward), Brianna Madison (defense), Sophia Gloade (defense) and goalie Kellie Smith.

Lakeland also returns junior and starter Jenna McCrudden (midfield), an all-league selection last year.

"We all get along really well," Cummings said. "We're all so close. We like to push each other as hard as we can and help each other so we can make each other the best players we can be."

Lakeland is always prepared for the season because of the hard work,



With almost 100% certainty, Lakeland Coach Sharon Sarsen will get the 1,000th win of her varsity coaching career (hockey-lax combined) today against Arlington.

Daughtry will join Cunningham in the midfield and classmate Sydney Goldberg and Lauren Seiler will anchor the defense.

A pair of freshmen – Julia Cunningham and Alexandra Jacobs will play forward and/or midfield.

"We have a strong trio in the midfield, all returning, and I will be looking to them to lead our young team on the field," Hyndman said. "We have about 12 freshman joining our team this year, so we have a lot of young girls coming from modified and going straight to varsity. The main focus for them this year would be to build their skill level up and their field hockey IQ. I will look to our four captains, Danielle Cunningham, McGinty, Goldberg, and Cassidy, along with the rest of the returners, to help teach these girls and lead them both on and off the field."

"I look forward to this year being my first season as head coach. I am impressed with the improvements and progress made these past two weeks, and can't wait to see how this season pans out."

Putnam Valley faces Albertus Magnus in a Yorktown Tournament first-round

Results Speak for Themselves

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