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January 1 - January 7, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 471

Cable Public Access Studio in Peekskill Off Limits

By Rick Pezzullo

The Peekskill Common Council renewed a cable contract last month that pulls the plug on a cable access studio in the city that has been available for community produced programming for more than four decades.

Under a 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 activists George Ondek and Ed Ciffone was not included as a stipulation, despite strong lobbying by those hosts and others.

Instead, cable show hosts will be given the opportunity for a year to use Altice's equipment but they must find an alternate location to film and edit their shows.

"You're denying freedom of speech by closing that studio," said Ondek, who has produced a show on public access for 20 years. "Why are they nickeling and diming the people of Peekskill by looking to close the studio? It's not right."

The December 10 vote by the council was not unanimous. Mayor Andre Rainey, Deputy Mayor Kathleen Talbot and councilpersons Vivian McKenzie and Colin Smith all supported the resolution, which they maintained was una-

Continued on page 2



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Cable access studio on Park St. in Peekskill where programming has been produced for more than 40 years.

Plans for Indoor Sports Facility in Cortlandt to be Discussed

By Rick Pezzullo

The public will get its first chance next week to hear detailed plans for a proposed indoor sports facility in Cortlandt.

Representatives for NY Indoor Sports, Inc. are scheduled to appear before the town's Planning Board on Tuesday, January 8 at 7 p.m. in Cortlandt Town Hall to give an in-depth presentation on its proposal to construct a 67,700-square-foot building on Route 202 near Cortlandt Lanes.

Plans for "Cortlandt Pitch" include a turf field and accessory uses such as a weight room, a small concession area and a parking lot.

The applicant is seeking wetland and tree removal permits from the Planning Board. About two years ago, Cortlandt Planning Director Chris Kehoe said planners issued an opinion letter on the application, stating it was "generally accepted."

However, the Cortlandt Town Board is the lead agency for the proposal and will be making the final determination on the project and all its related environmental requirements, along with modifications to the Zoning Ordinance.

The Town Board will be holding a public hearing on Cortlandt Pitch on Tuesday, January 15 at 7 p.m. at Cortlandt Town Hall.



"A Day at the Beech with Seniors"

Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School students and 55 local senior citizens came together recently to share stories and enjoy lunch at the school. Seniors citizens attended from Seabury Assisted Living, Yorktown Nutrition Center, and Trump Park. Students from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades enjoyed lunch while the school's band and orchestra provided musical entertainment. Among those in attendance was Yorktown Supervisor Ilan Gilbert.

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Cable Public Access Studio in Peekskill Off Limits

Continued from page 1
avoidable.

"We're pretty much put up against the wall with this decision," Rainey remarked. "It's not necessarily that much of a loss."

"If we don't sign a contract they can go to arbitration and do it any way," McKenzie said. "When a business comes into town, we can't tell them when they can open or close their doors."

Talbot said the council had been ne-

gotiating terms of the contract for about two years, adding, "I think this is the closest we have to a win-win. They're closing down because they can."

However, not all their colleagues on the seven-member Democratic council agreed, as councilpersons Patricia Riley and Ramon Fernandez voted against the contract.

"I feel our city benefits strongly for having a public access studio in the community," Riley said. "It's still a slice of Peekskill I would like to keep."

Councilwoman Vanessa Agudelo was not in attendance but in a letter read by

City Manager Richard Leins she also opposed the loss of the studio.

There is no other studio in the area. Without the Peekskill location, individuals who currently have shows covering such topics as government affairs, religion, health and cooking will have to travel 90 minutes to two hours to a studio in Connecticut.

Leins and Rainey both said city officials were exploring some Peekskill facilities that might be able to be used for taping shows.



PHOTO BY GARRETT MCGUINNESS

Making A Donation

Owners of the Cortlandt Colonial Manor Restaurant, who just concluded their 40th Anniversary in Cortlandt, presented a \$6,200 donation to My Brother Vinny, a non-profit organization dedicated to distributing food, clothing and furniture to U.S. veterans, outreach groups, shelters and families in need. (Pictured left to right:) Irene Flor, Evan Liaskos and George Liaskos.

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Q: What is a mobile-bearing partial knee?

A: Key to the durable nature and natural feel of the mobile-bearing knee is a plastic bearing that glides freely throughout the knee's range of motion, hence the name "mobile-bearing." Similar to the ball bearings that "bear the weight" and allow a wheel to turn freely, a mobile bearing allows your knee to move more naturally. In other partial knees, known as "fixed-bearing," the bearing does not move.

Q: What advantages does it have over a total knee replacement or fixed-bearing partial knee?

A: The main advantages are faster recovery time and less pain. Total knee replacement is major surgery involving the removal of a substantial portion of bone in the knee and half the supporting ligaments. The less invasive partial knee replacement preserves all the ligaments and two-thirds of the healthy knee. Patients can often go home the same day and recovery time is cut in half.

Q: Why do some doctors recommend a total knee replacement even if the problem can be fixed with a partial knee?

A: Historically, physicians have favored total knee replacements over partial for almost all patients with severe osteoarthritis because they last longer than fixed-bearing partial knees.

But statistics show that the mobile-bearing knee is comparable to a total knee replacement in terms of durability. Twenty years post-implant, the mobile-bearing knee is still viable in 91 percent of patients. The comparable figure for total knee replacements is 93 percent.

Q: How do I know if a mobile-bearing is right for me?

A: Knee replacements are done only for people whose osteoarthritis is severe or "end-stage." Your doctor will determine which type of replacement you need based on a physical exam and x-rays. In about 30 to 40 percent of patients, the osteoarthritis is contained only on the medial or inner part of the joint. If the rest of the knee is healthy, you might be a candidate for a partial knee replacement with the mobile-bearing device, whereas someone with arthritis throughout the knee or a torn ligament is not.

Soundview Prep Searches for Host Family for Student

By Martin Wilbur

Soundview Preparatory School in Yorktown is looking for a host family in the area for one of its new international students that will be starting their studies later this month.

At the start of this school year, Soundview launched its international student program where they received its first two students from China.

For the second half of the school year, which starts January 22, there are two more Chinese students arriving but one of them, a ninth-grade girl from Shanghai, does not yet have a host family, said Director of Admissions Allyson Montana. Montana hopes the school can receive interest from at least a few families and interview them over the next couple of weeks, so the student is settled when her studies begin.

The school, located at 370 Underhill Avenue, does not have housing on campus.

"We were surprised that we got these two students for January. We were very pleased and when we were starting this off, we were hoping for a couple of (more) students for next year," Montana said. "But the fact that our presentations went well and we had two people to sign right away, so we hadn't done our homework quite yet. So that's why are in a rush to find a family."

Families will be required to transport the student to and from the school each day, have an available bedroom for them with preferably their own bathroom, provide meals for them and include the student in many of their activities as possible, Montana said. It is also preferred that the family has a child fairly close in age to the student.

She said the students speak and understand English. They go home to their native land between the school years.

Soundview will offer compensation of about \$1,200 a month.

Families don't have to live in Yorktown but should be within reasonable commuting distance, Montana said. The two international students who arrived in time for the start the school year have been hosted by Soundview's Head of School Dr. Ken Cotrone and also its head of guidance. The other student who will begin later this month, an eighth-grade boy, will be housed by a family in Greenwich.

Soundview, which was established in 1989, introduced its international program this year, Montana said. She mentioned that Cotrone thought that having students from abroad was in keeping with the school's mission.

Recruitment started last year for the first students, two 17-year-olds. This fall, Montana, who is fluent in Chinese, visited the country when there were additional students who were also interested.

Montana said the experience will not only assist the visiting student but the host

family and their children as well.

"There are plenty of studies out there showing that if students have a relationship with a student from another country, they are more likely to learn another language, more likely to travel, and most important, they are more likely to be open-minded and accepting of other cultures," she said. "That's why we chose to embark on getting an international program. It's well-aligned with our mission but for families it really brings a lot."

Soundview is planning to add more international students to its student body

next year from a different region of the world. Montana said by next year free transportation will be provided for host families that live within 15 miles of the school.

For families that are interested in hosting an international student, contact Allyson Montana at 914-962-2780.

Soundview Preparatory School in Yorktown hopes to find a suitable host family for one of its students from China in the next couple of weeks. The student, a ninth-grader, will begin her studies on Jan. 22.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

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New Year's Resolutions from Local Leaders

Compiled by Rick Pezzullo



George Latimer
(Westchester County Executive)

County: "My New Year's Resolution for Westchester County Government is to continue the hard work our Administration is putting in to get our finances back on the path toward fiscal solvency. It was our biggest goal heading in to office and I am motivated and committed to continue our progress."

Personal: "So far, I haven't done a good job on these annual resolutions – but with a New Year comes a new hope – my personal New Year's resolutions are to lose weight and learn more Spanish. Both take determination and dedication, two traits that are important to cultivate."



Victoria Gearity
(Village of Ossining Mayor)

In 2019 the Village of Ossining is resolved to focus on economic development and an update to our Comprehensive Plan, which is the roadmap for the future of our village. The people of Ossining showed up to vote in record numbers for an off-year election. They spoke loudly and clearly in every election district that they want a village government guided by an engaged community and informed by experts.

My personal resolution is to keep screens turned off during family time.



Ilan Gilbert
(Yorktown Supervisor)

My New Year's resolution for the town is to continue to try to change the tone of government. The Federal Government is viewed as dysfunctional and out of touch with its citizen's needs.

For the past few years our local government has followed suit and I will continue to strive to follow the words of John F. Kennedy, when he said, "Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer but the right answer..."

My personal resolution mirrors the town's resolution is to treat everyone with the respect they deserve.



Eric DiBartolo
(Yorktown Chamber of Commerce President)

Having had a great experience as President of the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce for the past four years, I feel qualified to announce its resolution for 2019. That is: to be stronger than ever in nurturing and promoting Yorktown's business community. Toward that objective, we will be continuing our strong agenda of activities and services to our members and stand ready to support their objectives at any time. Whenever we can be of service, we're just a phone call away. Take advantage of our programs to make 2019 the best year yet for all of our members!



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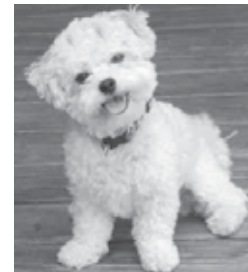
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Dana Levenberg
(Town of Ossining Supervisor)

I have a long to do list! But it all focuses on making sure we continue to develop as healthy a community as we can, which includes focusing on our public spaces and making sure they are safe and inviting, looking at ways to be more efficient so we can work to reduce expenses and make dealing with government easier, and finding ways to make the Town of Ossining keep up with the changing demands on suburbs, which includes walkability, bikeability, and sustainability.

Personally, I am going to be focusing on communicating all of that to our public in hopes they will support me for reelection in November. And, I am hoping to remain off of sugar for another year since it keeps me fitting into my clothes, and to keep up with my die-hard work-

out routine in the early mornings. Of course, I will also do whatever is needed to support my family and make sure they achieve their personal goals, which includes growing my husband's still somewhat newly established franchise, Green Home Solutions.



Deb Milone
(Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce President)

The Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber's resolution for 2019 is to continue to grow and strengthen our membership while doing the same for our local economy through economic development initiatives like Art, Industry Media aka AIM.

My resolution is to continue to balance life and career and taking more time to "smell the roses"!



Linda Puglisi
(Cortlandt Supervisor)

- Priority: To continue our excellent financial record; low town taxes and low town debt.
- Continue planning for the closure of Indian Point's two nuclear plants and meeting the challenges.
 - Otocast: Veterans Memorials will be next on this town app (historical and recreational areas are on now.)
 - Public Art project---seeking grants.
 - Earth Day Project: Youth cleanup with schools and our annual hike are being planned.
 - Next phase of sidewalks in the hamlets of Montrose and in other areas.
 - A new bathhouse/snack bar at Town Pool to be completed in 2020, plans in 2019.
 - All billboards to be removed.
 - A restaurant at former trailer park

site on Hudson River is an economic plan for that area.

- Plans for the Quarry on town property in the Verplanck area of town.
- "Cortlandt Pitch" plans---indoor soccer (by private developer).
- Abee Rose---town purchased property off Maple Avenue, passive recreation (i.e. hiking).
- A Town Parade---establish a committee.
- Hire a full-time Economic Coordinator.
- A new event---a "Winter Wonderland" with ice skating near our Youth Center in December.
- Bikes/Walking/Jogging Trail plans (by the Supervisor and Councilwoman Deb Costello).
- "Cortlandt Crossing" complete and a new business in old ShopRite.
- Historical Council---lectures, including a tour of historical houses.
- Always work with our veterans and our Veteran's Committee chaired by Willy Nazario.
- Continue Summer Concerts/Movies and Cortlandt Family Fun Day and all other special events (no charge to residents).
- Complete mini-golf by town pool.
- Continue our excellent youth and senior programs.
- Sewer plans for various areas of the

Continued on page 14

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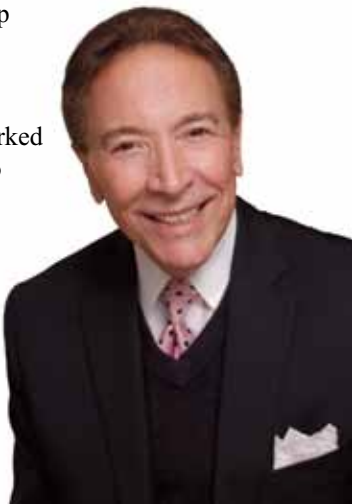
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New Center Helps Patients to Perform Dialysis from Home

By Martin Wilbur

For anyone who has had dialysis or has seen a friend or loved one endure the process, it is a challenge to overcome.

Dialysis Center, Inc. (DCI) is making that experience more manageable and improving the quality of life for those who suffer from kidney failure.

DCI has opened a new 3,800-square-foot home training center in Yorktown Heights to accompany the location it has operated for years in Hawthorne to provide patients with the ability to undergo dialysis at home.

Dr. Allen Coffino, a nephrologist and medical director of DCI's Yorktown facility, said the advantages of dialyzing at home strongly outweigh going to a hospital or clinic three times a week for up to four hours.

"(Dialysis) is a tough experience, it's a life-changing experience because it takes up three days out of your seven days," Coffino said. "You have to be here at a particular time because this is your time slot and you don't have flexibility. When people do this dialysis at home, one, (patients) have the freedom of being able to go to work or go out, which is huge, and they can do it when they want to do it."

In addition, because patients are dialyzing more frequently, they use less medication and feel stronger, he said.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Dr. Allen Coffino, medical director of Dialysis Center, Inc., with the home hemodialysis unit.

Many patients who have in-patient dialysis are more easily fatigued because three to four kilograms – between 6.6 and nine pounds – of fluid are removed from the body in one sitting, rather than having it done on a daily basis, Coffino said.

It takes DCI's staff about two weeks before a patient can be trained to use the devices either for peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis at home. For peritoneal dialysis, the patient is hooked up to a catheter which sits near the bowels removing the excess fluid and waste as it would in an in-patient setting, but they dialyze while they sleep every night.

The home hemodialysis also works similarly to the way it's done at a clinic by being hooked up to machine that cleans

the blood. However, the patient can have it done in the evening after coming home from work about four or five times a week.

Most people can do either type of dialysis unless there's a medical issue that would prevent one kind from being performed.

"For these people, this is freedom," said Coffino, who practices at Northern Westchester Hospital. "Until you're on dialysis, you don't know what that's like."

Once they're set up at home, the patient comes into the office twice a month, once to get blood drawn and a second visit to consult with the staff and Coffino.

Ellen Jones, DCI's home therapies coordinator, said as long as a patient has the willingness to learn how to use the equipment, a stable home situation with room for one of the relatively modest-sized devices and the mental capacity to consistently and responsibly dialyze themselves, they are a candidate. For the home hemodialysis, a partner is required but home peritoneal dialysis can be performed independently, she said.

"You can learn to do this and not have to read," Coffino said. "You can do this without even a high school education."

Jones said while in most other countries at-home dialysis has become in-

creasingly common, in the United States it is the exception. Currently, DCI has 92 patients coming to its Yorktown site while seven are doing it at home. Of the approximately 7,600 new dialysis starts in 2016 in New York State, only 415 patients were trained for home use, according to the center's statistics.

"You're doing it in the comfort of your own home," Jones said.

Coffino said there is an increasing trend for more at-home dialysis because of the convenience. Currently DCI is the only outfit in Westchester that trains patients, eh said. The Yorktown office is designed to serve patients in the northern part of the county and Putnam who had to travel for their training and follow-ups down to the Hawthorne site.

Although there are definite advantages, including a cheaper option, Coffino acknowledged that some patients may not have the confidence to dialyze on their own.

"It's a better long-term way to go in terms of finances and a better long-timer way to go in terms of patient care but it's not for everyone," Coffino said.

The new location for Dialysis Center, Inc. is 2649 Strang Boulevard, Suite 100, in Yorktown Heights. It can be reached at 914-962-4005.

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Obituaries

Kadoza "Woody" Worthy

Kadoza "Woody" Worthy died December 21 at his home in Ossining. He was 95.

He was born December 4, 1923 to Henry and Fannie Worthy in Winston-Salem, NC. He was an Army veteran, serving during WWII and the Korean War. Mr. Worthy met and married Blanche Morrison on September 12, 1948 and they recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. After his military service, he attended NYU and obtained his B.S. in accounting. He worked as an accountant and controller for Tele-Guide, Inc. before securing a position with the IRS.

Woody and Blanche moved to Ossining in 1962 and he was an active member of the Ossining community, serving as School Board President and Vice President in the 1970's. He retired from the IRS in 1985 and was self-employed as a tax advisor and accountant for many local businesses. In 1988, he was elected treasurer and tax collector for the Village of Ossining and served for two years.

Woody and Blanche were members of First Baptist Church of Ossining for more than 50 years, and were also active members of the Cooperative Scholarship Fund of Ossining for 40 years and the Ossining Branch of the NAACP.

Mr. Worthy leaves to cherish fond memories, his loving wife, Blanche, sons, Mark and Steven, and adoring daughters, Patricia and Lori, as well as two grandsons, Matthew and Micah, several nephews, nieces and cousins.

Charles Weiss

Charles J. Weiss, a resident of Peekskill, died December 23. He was 58.

Mr. Weiss was born July 13, 1960, in Yonkers. He was a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Yonkers and attended Mercy College.

He was an avid sports fan, especially for his New York teams, the Jets and Yankees, he loved classic rock and Elvis. He enjoyed a life full of love, laughter, family, and friends. He was a devoted son, brother, partner, uncle, and friend to many.

He is survived by his mother, Patricia Farrell Weiss; his sisters Deborah Kaplan and her husband, Bob, and Diane Gruber and her husband, Tony of Thornwood; his partner, Carol Scharmett of Yorktown Heights, and her daughters Sarah and Jessica. He also leaves behind five beloved nieces and nephew: Stephanie, and her husband Bradley Closson, Stephen, Sarah, Jillian, and Jessica. He was predeceased by his father, Murray H. Weiss.

Sam Cherchia

Sam John Cherchia, a resident of Buchanan, died December 17 with his family by his side after a long illness. He was 84.

was born to Antoinette and Sabatini Cherchia on January 7, 1934 in Seneca Falls. He graduated from Mynderse Academy in Seneca Falls and Syracuse University with nursing and law degrees. He enjoyed following Orange athletics, cooking up feasts for family gatherings, and making his opinions known to local government officials. He was a homebody who loved his dogs, watching the wildlife around his home, and walks along the Hudson River with his wife. Mostly though he reveled in hearing about the lives of his sons, grandchildren, and his many nieces and nephews. Their stories, from the ordinary to the extraordinary, were a never-ending source of pride and joy for him.

We will all miss him, even the groundhog who dodged his pitchfork while plundering Sam's garden. He is survived by his loving wife Joyce (Smith) of 63 years, sons Jeffrey (Della) and Michael (Lauren), adored grandchildren Jason, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Meryl, and Lynne, and his many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and his siblings and their spouses, Julia (Rudy), Eleanor (John), and Angelo (Barbara) all of whom he loved dearly.

Diana Mabey

Diana Mabey, a former longtime Yorktown resident, died December 20 after a three-year battle with a rare cancer. She was 76.

A Santa Barbara, California, native, she was born in June of 1942 to Eleanor Lucile and Albert Jerome Cottam. She leaves behind her adoring husband of 47 years, David, as well as two beloved daughters, Amberley (Adrian Kropp) of Colorado and Jendalyn (Curtis Nye) of Utah and eight grandchildren: Judson, Emerson, Trevor, Evamarie, Schuyler, Clayton, Adalyn, and Linnea. She is also survived by her siblings, Albert Cottam (Jenny), Ken Cottam (Susie), Rosemary Beaver and John Cottam (Pam).

After earning degrees at Santa Barbara City College and Brigham Young University, Mrs. Mabey moved to Yorktown, where she and David have lived for 40 years. She continued her education by completing a Master's degree in Special Education, with President's Honors, at Manhattanville College.

She spent the majority of her working life teaching teenagers with special needs. She served as a teaching assistant at Lake-land Alternative High School and as a Special Education English teacher at Daytop Village Secondary School in Hartsdale.

She was a devoted member of the Yorktown Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, where she served in many roles over the years. She also gave several years of community service as a Girl Scout Troop Leader.

She will be remembered for her love of

nature and learning, appreciation of the fine arts, hospitality, and adventurous spirit. One of her favorite things was to travel to visit her many relatives and to spend time in her hometown of Santa Barbara with her husband. She was dearly loved by her family, friends, and former students, whose lives she touched and enhanced.

Richard Davis

Richard "Jim" Davis, a resident of Ossining, died December 25. He was 73.

Lifelong companion of James "Jim" Sinnott. Brother of Susan (John), Barbara, Mary Ellen (Dave), Ken (Kevin) and Alan. Also survived by several nieces and nephews. He was born in PA on October 16, 1945 to Richard Davis and Lois Calvert Davis. He worked for many years for IBM in White Plains. He was also an antique dealer.

Myra Zirella

Myra Zirella, a lifelong Ossining resident, died December 22, in Stuart, FL. She was 82.

She is survived by her children, Bonnie L. Scarduzio (Jack) of Stuart, FL, Debra A. Miller (Peter) of Mohegan Lake, Alan B. Zirella, Carmel, NY. Grandchildren, Jon D.

Scarduzio (Melissa) of Tequesta, FL, Vincent J. Scarduzio (Christie) of Stuart, FL, Matthew D. Fortunato of Mohegan Lake. Great Grandchild, Ryland D. Scarduzio of Tequesta, FL.

She was born on June 21, 1936 in Ossining. She was predeceased by her husband Frederick D. Zirella, known as "Sonnyman." They were married on April 27, 1957. She was also is predeceased by her parents Edison Brockhausen and Laura (Eve) Brockhausen (Valentine). She is survived by her brother Edison Brockhausen (Rita) of Florence, MT and she is predeceased by her sister Anne Totels (Richard) of Cottonwood, AZ.

She lived in Ossining, until moving to Stuart, FL in 2016. She was known as Granbee and Nanny to her grandchildren and her great-grandson. She adored her Border Collie named Oreo. She loved shopping and spending time with her lifelong friend Ida. She also spent many hours cheering at her grandchildren's baseball games from T-Ball to the minor leagues. She loved music and loved to dance at the senior centers in Ossining and Stuart, FL. She enjoyed watching her son Alan, compete in bicycle races. She was a parishioner of Trinity Church and volunteered in their church store.

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2018 Salutes and Salvos

Salute to Peekskill Mayor Andre Rainey on the birth of his first daughter.

Salute to Panera Bread for rewarding their loyal customers with frequent discounts and sometimes free items.

Salvo to the majority of the Peekskill Common Council for caving in to the demands of Altice and not insisting that a studio for community access programming that has been in existence for about 40 years remain open.

Salvo to the leadership of CCHOP for fostering an adversarial relationship with the community and the media instead of extending an olive branch in an effort to find a suitable location for the much-needed homeless shelter in Peekskill that without a doubt would benefit from a new home.

Salute to the SPCA of Westchester for its tireless work in finding homes for loveable dogs and cats.

Salute to Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel for ensuring Eagle Scouts in the area are properly recognized for their achievements.

Salute to Lauren and Caitlin Brady for their seventh year in holding the Polar Plunge at Riverfront Green in Peekskill to support the This is Me Foundation, which they created to raise awareness about alopecia (autoimmune disease that causes hair loss). A shout-out also to The Quiet Man Public House which has been

with the Brady sisters every step of the way.

Salute to Westchester County Executive George Latimer for leading his first year in office with a steady hand and without motives to score political points as is predecessor often tended to do.

Salvo to President Donald Trump for making a mockery of the most powerful position in the United States and continuing to prove how unfit he is in every way to run this country.

Salvo to President Trump for making the media an enemy when the only reason he was a quasi-celebrity prior to being elected was the attention he received from the media.

Salute to Yorktown High School graduate Amanda Saccomanno (Mandy Rose) for quickly moving up the ranks of the women's division in World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) and positioning herself as a potential headline performer.

Salvo to Governor Andrew Cuomo and state lawmakers for dropping the ball in not making sports betting legal yet, thus losing millions of dollars to neighboring New Jersey.

Salvo to Governor Cuomo for recently vetoing the Toll Payer Protection Act which would have protected motorists from outrageous penalties and fees imposed by the New York Transit Authority.

Salute to Cortlandt Human Resource Director Claudia Vahey for her always pleasant demeanor and being the ideal confidante to town officials.

Salute to Gullotta House for its charitable endeavors.

Salute to Support Connection for its consistency in carrying out its unparalleled mission of helping women and their families cope with having to take on a sometimes overwhelming diagnosis of breast or ovarian cancer.

Salute to Peekskill Police Chief Donald Halmy for a smooth transition and ensuring his officers become more visible in the community.

Salvo to increased traffic congestion in the region that on certain days and times can really become frustrating.

Salvo to miserable people who make others miserable by their miserable attitudes.

Salute to Putnam Valley football team for never quitting on what was an abysmal start before reaching the Section 1 Class B finals.

Salute to Haldane football team for winning the Section 1 Class D title and reaching NYS Final 4.

Salute to Sharon Sarsen and Lakeland field hockey program for showing such class in falling one win short of a 10th straight NYS Class B field hockey championship.

Salute to Ossining Coach Dan Ricci for winning 8th straight Section 1 Class AA girls' basketball championship and falling one win short of yet another state title.

Salute to Yorktown for staying classy in a rare Section 1 Class B boys' lax title loss to John Jay CR; likewise to Lakeland/Panas in its loss to Mamaroneck.

Salvo to Mahopac Central School District for allowing its baseball complex to degenerate to its current state #KidsDeserveBetter #IrrigateNow.

Salute to Mahopac Central School District for replacing so many of the burnt-out bulbs at its football complex #NowGetSomeLegitDownMarkers.

Salvo to Brewster Central School District for allowing the state of disrepair to its softball and baseball facilities.

Salute to the new Stop & Shop for coming in to Mahopac while adding jobs and delivering to charitable organizations.

Salute to first responders for being there at a moment's notice when a call for help comes in.

Salute to our loyal advertisers and faithful readers for supporting this local newspaper where "small news is big news," and helping to debunk the myth that print media is a thing of the past.

Letters to the Editor

Against War

Dear Senators Schumer, Gillibrand and Congresswoman Lowey,

As my representatives it is your duty to decide whether our country goes to war or not. You and your Congressional colleagues have abdicated this responsibility and allowed our Presidents to make disastrous decisions.

Our wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya, to name just three, have increased

instability and terror. They boost profits for corporate campaign donors, but imperil our planet with pollution. The U.S. Military is the world's biggest polluter and cause of climate change.

Gillibrand stands against sexism. Schumer gives unconditional support to Israel. Nita Lowey is concerned with vaping and the addiction of our children. We can consider nuances and still live

with these issues, but war and climate change have pushed our planet too far. Our world might become uninhabitable in our lifetimes. What about our children? Do we have the political will to save them?

Will we cease and desist from destroying our environment with war

or will the incumbency of war and self-destruction become our legacy?

This is our watch.

Thank you for reading.

STEVE SLOANE
Ossining

Reality Check for Councilman Diana

To the Editor:

Councilman Tom Diana's recent letter lavished heaps of praise on former Supervisor Michael Grace's Administration and by extension himself. Was Michael Grace and his previous Republican majority council members really 'right all along' because they were 'not wrong all the time'? Tom Diana has set a very low bar to gauge himself and his political allies. Supervisor Lanny Gilbert and his fellow Democratic board members may occasionally follow in some of the same footsteps as Mr. Grace, but more importantly Supervisor Gilbert has consistently chosen not to go down the well worn path of nepotism, cronyism,

favoritism, and self-aggrandizement that continues to be Michael Grace real political legacy. Councilman Diana may be right when he says that imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery, but he must be reminded that repeating the same actions but expecting a different result is the definition of insanity. With another election fast approaching, remember that politicians rarely change, people try to avoid repeating mistakes and more importantly Yorktown voters purposely moved away from former Supervisor Grace and his political associates for a good reason.

ROBERT JEFFREYS
Yorktown Heights

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Guest Commentary

Murphy was Out of Touch with Common Sense Gun Legislation

By Jeff Raderstrong

When I moved to Sleepy Hollow over two years ago, I was shocked to learn my State Senator did not support common sense gun legislation. Gun violence is a critical issue for me as a member of the Columbine generation, so I reached out to his office to start a relationship and talk about our differences. I was sure that if we could connect, constituent to representative, we'd be able to find some middle ground.

That State Senator was Terrence Murphy. Two years later, he is no longer my representative, voted out of office by a massive "blue wave" that installed a Democrat in my state senate district for the first time in over a century. I am happy to see Senator Murphy go, and my family and I actively volunteered for his opponent, Pete Harckham.

But, I started my relationship with Senator Murphy wanting to vote for him. Despite being from different parties, I

respected what seemed like his common-sense approach to legislating. I decided that if he would listen to me and his other constituents about gun violence and temper his positions, I would support him. But, not only did Senator Murphy not change his position, he wouldn't even hear me out. I arranged three different meetings with him through a local chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, which I volunteer for, and he did not show up for a single one. We spoke with his staff instead—who were all very nice—but there was no compromise or exchange of ideas. So, when the election came, I had no choice but to work to elect a representative for my community that understands my family's values.

A common theme from this year's midterm elections is the increase of "partisanship": More people are voting based on party identification than anything else. The Democratic successes were filtered through a media

narrative that said those gains were due to a partisan reaction to President Trump. But this narrative belies a greater truth that communities feel their representatives are out of touch with what constituent's value. This shows up in teachers demanding better pay in states like Oklahoma and West Virginia, the election of a Democratic governor in deep-red Kansas after the Republican party decimated the state's budget, and of course, the overwhelming defeat of the Republican-aligned Independent Democratic Caucus (IDC) in the New York State Senate.

One of the strongest indications of elected representatives being out of touch with their constituents is the issue of gun violence. Around 90% of Americans support background checks on all gun sales, yet Congress has refused to make this popular policy law. And voters are beginning to reject politicians who won't do anything to stop the carnage of gun

deaths in this county. In races where NRA-backed candidates ran against candidates endorsed by Everytown for Gun Safety, nearly 80% of the gun safety candidates won.

This dynamic is particularly apparent in Westchester: Senator Murphy was one of only two in the County with favorable NRA ratings. Now there is only one. And this came after NRA-backed County Executive Rob Astorino's defeat last year, in an election where a debate on gun shows was particularly prominent.

I hope this moment in history is not remembered as an era of hyper-partisanship, but of increased engagement in democracy. I hope politicians can learn from Senator Murphy's failings and remember why they are elected to office—to listen to those they serve. We don't always have to agree, but we have to hear each other out, and work to compromise, no matter our differences.

Letters to the Editor

Councilman Diana Wrong on the Budget

To the Editor,

Alas, Councilman Diana's letter to the editor praising the 2019 budget as a continuation of former Supervisor Grace's policies shows his lack of understanding of the town's budget and finances. His letter also shows that he only hears what he wants to hear.

If anything, the 2019 budget illustrates how six years of a Republican majority on the Town Board have tied the hands of the current board, leaving it with little flexibility and a long list of needed infrastructure projects but no funds to implement them.

Councilman Diana clearly wasn't listening when Supervisor Gilbert explained that the Water District doesn't have the money to proceed

with two major health related projects because under Mr. Grace's fiscal (mis) management, the district's once strong fund balance was decimated. Decimated in order to close the gap in the district's annual operating budget, a gap Mr. Grace created.

As for Councilman Diana's delusion that Mr. Grace's pet project, a new highway garage, is still alive, the councilman clearly doesn't understand the difference between a fantasy-filled five-year Capital Plan and a one-year real Capital Budget. And he wasn't listening when the difference was explained at the budget hearing; the five-year "Plan" included in the back of the budget book that lists the highway garage project is nothing more than a wish list compiled by the Planning Department.

It's not a real plan. The more meaningful document would be a one-year Capital Budget that would set out the specific projects the town plans to implement in 2019 and how they will be funded. But there is no 2019 capital budget, at least not yet.

Councilman Diana wasn't listening — again — when two residents asked the board to reinstate the voter supported \$30/year open space fee. Instead, he wrote there wasn't a "peep of disapproval." And, once Mr. Grace's politically motivated fiscal gamesmanship redirected the \$400,000/year that the fee generates from the Open Space Fund to the General Fund in order to lower the tax rate increase, he effectively left future town boards with two equally bad options; if

they wanted to reinstate the open space fee, they'd either have to add more than 2% to the projected tax rate increase or cut \$400,000 worth of services.

Councilman Diana may also want to check his arithmetic. Or does he not understand the difference between two pages in the budget? He wrote that the 2019 budget continues to fund a vacant position in the supervisor's office, a game Mr. Grace played for several years in order to show a surplus at the end of the year. But the councilman is wrong; the 2019 budget does not fund that position.

There are documented facts. There's erroneous and misleading political spin. Some politicians may not know the difference, but Yorktown voters do.

SUSAN SIEGEL

Ex-Supervisor's Comments on Granite Knolls were Misleading

To the Editor,

Earlier this month former Yorktown Supervisor and Councilmember Susan Siegel provided a commentary on special projects that our town has been engaged in. Stephen Brown are you listening? (Re: "Ex-politicians should leave gracefully 12/13/18 Yorktown News). As an officer for the Yorktown Athletic Club, I found Ms. Siegel's characterization of the Granite Knolls Sports Complex as misleading at best. Yes, our community will be spending more than \$6 million

on a state-of-the-art sports complex that town hall expects to be open this spring. However, Ms. Siegel misleads residents by failing to clarify that the \$6 million is not traditional tax dollars but the result of a settlement with Enbridge. The Granite Knolls Sports Complex has the potential to be one of the premier sports complexes in Westchester County that will attract teams from across the region. If managed properly, it could generate revenue for our community in a multitude of ways. For many residents of

our town, the services provided by YAC, SOAC and YYSC are a driving reason as to why they choose to raise their families here. The Yorktown Athletic Club is run completely by volunteers providing great opportunities to boys and girls to learn and enjoy sports such as basketball, football, lacrosse, baseball, softball, golf and tennis to name a few of our programs. I take great pride in the programs we offer and thank all of our volunteers. Ms. Siegel may not agree with the project but she should use caution when attempting

to disparage it. Our parents, and parents looking to move into our community, are watching.

Sincerely,

JIM PUGLIESE
YAC VP of Operations

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Happenings

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

Wednesday, Jan. 2

Somers Library Programs: Several programs have been scheduled for the coming days at the Somers Library. A Senior Benefits Information Center is available every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you can't visit the library in person, you can leave a message on the SBIC helpline at 914-231-3260 or e-mail us at SBIC@wlsmail.org with your name, number, a time to call between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and whether your interest is in Medicare services or other benefits. A counselor will return your call within two business days. SBIC will not meet on days the Somers schools are closed due to snow. Collages and photographs by Jane Hogan are on display through Feb. 1 during library hours. TAG will meet on Tuesdays, 1/8, 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, & 6/11 from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. Are you a teen or tween and a Somers resident? Would you like to make an impact on your library and your community? Join our Somers Library TAG. Group members will have an opportunity to work with the library to gain volunteer hours while developing leadership skills. Food will be provided. This program is for teens / tweens in grades six and up. Space is limited. Register on our online calendar at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717.

Field Library Sale: A sale is being held through Jan. 12 at the Field Library Bookstore, 934 South St., Peekskill. Call 914-736-7030 for hours.

Seniors' Fitness Classes: Free fitness classes are being offered to seniors who reside in Peekskill. The schedule is: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – The Workout – 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday – Fall Prevention Class – 10 to 11 a.m. Friday – Zumba Gold – 11 a.m. to noon. Call Terri Dean at 914-734-4250 Ext. 1 for more information. Classes are conducted at 4 Nelson Ave., downstairs from the library.

Senior Exercise: We offer the Workout M-W from 10-11 a.m. and Zumba Gold on Friday 11 a.m. to noon. The programs are free to all seniors in Peekskill. Call Terri Dean to register at 914-734-4250 Ext. 5.

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, Jan. 3

Yorktown Jewish Center Courses: A wide variety of courses are being offered at the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Family Tensions in the Bible, led by Rabbi Stanley Urbas, is held on the first and third Mondays of the month at 11 a.m. Rosh Chodesh Studies for Women--led by Marsha Sternstein, is held at 7:30 p.m. on one Tuesday evening per month. Talmud and Contemporary Issues-- led by Wendy Segal --is held on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Beginners Hebrew--led by Cantor Isabel Kopstein--is held every Monday at 1:30 p.m.; contact the office for details. Advanced Hebrew--led by Cantor Isabel Kopstein-- is held on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Ten Minutes of Torah--led by Rabbi Sternstein--- is held on Shabbat mornings at approximately at 10:30 a.m. Mishneh Torah (Maimonidean thought)--led by Rabbi Sternstein- is held on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Acting Classes: The Four All Theater Company will be conducting acting classes every Thursday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Class size is limited. Info: 914-737-1212.

Jewish Chorale Performance: Kol Rinah, the Jewish Chorale of Westchester, invites all interested singer to their open house at 7:15 p.m. at the Shames JCC on the Hudson, 371 S. Broadway, Tarrytown. Info: 914-243-9059, kolrinahchoral@gmail.com or kolrinahchorale.org.

Friday, Jan. 4

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

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

Pjs & Prayers: Bring the kids in pajamas, if you wish, when First Hebrew

presents an interactive family friendly Shabbat service with songs and activities for pre-school and elementary school children. Everyone is welcome. This half hour service will be followed by the serving of challah bread and juice. The program will be held at 6 p.m. at First Hebrew, located on the border of Cortlandt and Peekskill on Route 6 at 1821 Main St. Info: www.firsthebrew.org, fhc@firsthebrew.org or 914-739-0500.

Temple Beth Am Shabbat: Temple Beth Am will "opens its doors to all who enter" for Shabbat on Fridays at 7 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. For more information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbiiw@optonline.net.

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

Saturday, Jan. 5

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.

Bagels And Bible: Bagels and Bible will be held at 9 a.m. at Temple Beth Am. All are invited to study Torah with our engaging Rabbi Robbie Weiner. Bagels and coffee are provided for all wishing to explore how this week's Torah portion is a mirror into our lives. No previous knowledge is required and all backgrounds are welcome. Temple Beth Am is located at 203 Church Pl. Yorktown. For more information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or email him at RabbiW@optonline.net.

Yorktown Shabbat Morning Services: Chabad of Yorktown, 2926 Old Yorktown Rd., holds services on Saturday mornings.

They are easy-to-follow services with Hebrew/English prayer books, a friendly environment and no affiliation is necessary. Kiddush luncheon follows the services. Services begin at 10 a.m. For more information visit www.ChabadYorktown.com.

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

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

Bingo Cancelled: All bingo games at the Yorktown Jewish Center have been canceled for the immediate future. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Monday, Jan. 7

Musical Munchkins: The Yorktown Musical Munchkins meet on Mondays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. at the Yorktown Stage Theater in room 12. The program is for older babies up to the 1's. Free trial classes are offered. Info: 914-771-7000 or www.musicalmunchkins.com.

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

Movie Monday: Operation Finale will be screened at 6:30 p.m. at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Info: 914-737-1212 or Peekskill.org.

Tuesday, Jan. 8

Request for Singers: The Taghkanic Chorale invites local singers to join them and learn from acclaimed music director Jason Tramm as the group rehearses Orff's "Carmina Burana" plus Ives' "Psalm 90," Barber's "Reincarnations" and Dello Joio's "Jubilant Song." Spring season rehearsals begin today for performances scheduled for May 4 and 5. The Chorale rehearses Tuesday nights from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the Korean SDA Church, 1243 White Hill Rd., Yorktown, conveniently located near the Route 202 exit off the Taconic Parkway. Prospective members may attend rehearsals during the month of January before making a decision to join. Find information for singers and concertgoers at www.taghkanicchorale.org or by calling 914-440-3596.



Club Fit Briarcliff and Jefferson Valley

By Neal Rentz

How do you like to stay fit?

For more than four decades, Club Fit has been providing a wide variety of activities to help local residents stay fit.

"As far as offerings, it's so vast," Club Fit Marketing Director Jacquie Giannico noted last week.

The club, which also has a facility in Briarcliff, will celebrate the 46th anniversary of the opening of its Jefferson Valley facility in 2019.

Club Fit offers a virtual exercise buffet at its two locations, which include two indoor heated pools and indoor and outdoor tennis courts.

Another feature of Club Fit is its racquetball courts, Giannico pointed out.

"A lot of the other health clubs don't have that," she remarked, noting Club Fit initially began as a racquetball club.

The full gymnasiums are available for not only members but also for basketball leagues.

More than 155 group fitness classes are offered weekly at both locations, with most of them included in membership fees, Giannico commented. Some of the classes are yoga, Body Pump, dance, Zumba and kickboxing. Personal training is offered by



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLUB FIT

Club Fit opened in Jefferson Valley in 1973.

certified personal trainers.

Another feature at both Club Fit locations is women-only fitness areas, "which really is very appealing for women," Giannico said.

Club Fit also offers massage, personal trainers and a cafe at both locations. Large fitness floors with machines and free weights are located at both sites.

Children's programs are also offered at Club Fit.

"We offer an Energy Center, which is

for children," Giannico said. "So, when the parents are working out they can drop their kids off."

A nursery is provided for children three months to age five.

At the Jefferson Valley location there is Parisi Speed School, which is a franchise owned by Club Fit. The school for youths helps with the development of speed and agility in all sports, Giannico said.

"If you want to get faster, if you want to train for the next level, we have Parisi Speed

coaches who are certified coaches that can take the kids to the next level," she stated.

Both locations have a swim team, summer camps and Schools Out Camps for students who are off for school holiday breaks.

A new feature was recently added to the Briarcliff Club Fit.

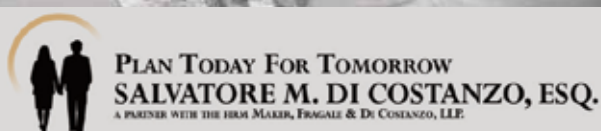
"We recently added a Functional Fitness Turf Center in our Briarcliff location where multiple levels of fitness classes are offered," Giannico said. "Most of these classes are included in your monthly membership fees." The Briarcliff facility also has an indoor track.

Giannico said tours and fitness orientation is offered at both locations "to make our new members feel comfortable."

New members who pay the \$25 joining fee will receive \$25 back in Club Electronic Cash, which can be used anywhere at Club Fit, with restrictions applied, Giannico said.

Events are provided by Club Fit for both members and non-members. Some of the events include casino nights, summer concerts, comedy nights and summer barbecues. Club Fit also makes donations

Continued on page 14



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Handmade Holiday Memories to Last a Lifetime or Two

By Bill Primavera

Before I married, I had a roommate, Tom, who was an excellent artist and craftsman, a fellow who added more taste and style to our place than one normally would expect to find in an apartment occupied by two bachelors.

We shared living space for little more than a year but when Christmas approached, he suggested that we have a fully decorated tree. I was somewhat surprised, even resistant, to such an idea but he insisted. Because he was really into crafts, he suggested that we make our own ornaments. I was definitely not interested in that prospect, so I suggested that he make the ornaments and I offered to buy the tree.

Because he worked in the garment district, he had access to shops where he bought spools of ribbons, many kinds of different glass beads, sequins, buttons and feather plumes. With a supply of different sized Styrofoam balls and lots of straight pins, he had assembled all the makings of a home industry for ornaments. And artistic as he was, he crafted ornaments that were indeed sensational.

Impressed by his artistry, I thought I'd try my hand at it and must confess, while I'm not at all crafts oriented, I enjoyed it.

When I moved out, I didn't get custody of the handmade Christmas balls, but soon after I was able to bring the concept to my wife and, as newlyweds, we had our first project to share.

In the days before A.C. Moore and Michael's, not to mention Martha Stewart, the place to get the wildest stuff for ornamental projects was in Manhattan's hat district, west of Fifth Avenue on 38th Street. On my way home from work each day, I'd pass through and buy interesting

hat decorations at a time when women still wore hats.

Then, immediately following dinner, my wife and I would sit in the living room, spread out my finds on our large coffee table and get to work.

We came up with the idea of each making one elaborate tree ornament every year throughout our marriage, but we got so much into our new hobby that it became an obsession the first year. The balls became more and more elaborate as we practiced our skills, and many were themed with their own names.

One, completely covered in pink ribbon ruching, was named our Baby Girl ball, even though we didn't have a baby yet. There was the Grace Kelly ball with pale blue and yellow ribbons and pearls; the Swan Lake

ball with white ribbons, white feathers and crystals; the Can-Can Girl ball with black and red ribbons, beads and a black feather plume on top; and a large Faberge ball with semiprecious gems taken from old pieces of jewelry.

The tips of our thumbs had developed calluses from pushing in the pins until we got smart and used thimbles to aid our obsession.

We decided it would be safer to buy a large artificial tree so that there would be no threat of sap staining the balls, and we kept producing our little gems until we ran out of space on the tree. We had become Christmas ball addicts.

During that first holiday season, we magnanimously allowed any visitor to select one of our creations for their trees, and still our tree seemed overlaid. We must have OD'd on our first year's attempt because we haven't made a single ball since then. We did, however, add an-

The
Home
Guru



By Bill Primavera



The Home Guru and wife decorated home-made ornaments fashioned out of Styrofoam balls, straight pins, ribbons, beads and feathers.

tique and specialty ornaments over the years as presents to each other.


To this day, couples with whom we are still in contact from our first year together remind us annually that they think of us when they take their gifted ball out of its box.

As we have grown older, our tree has become smaller, and our daughter, who was predated by that pink ribbon ball in her honor, is now the recipient, one by one, of our early Christmas ornament

binge.

I guess that's the kind of stuff newlyweds do together, projects that can be appreciated later in life when there's time to do so. That's exactly what has happened.

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.



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Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. The name of this Peekskill Indian restaurant means "Tasty"
- 6. 2nd letter addendum
- 9. Agitations
- 12. HDTV brand
- 13. Sum
- 14. "___ is never finished, only abandoned," da Vinci
- 15. Political prisoner, e.g.
- 17. Mid.
- 19. Harmonized
- 20. Two-dimensional extent
- 22. Go downhill, in a way
- 23. Humbled
- 25. Hems and haws
- 26. Movie: "Victor ___" or Mahopac deli
- 28. Lord of the Rings tree shepherd
- 29. Beans
- 33. Classic car of 1915
- 34. Married couples

- 35. Atlas abbr.
- 36. Do a greenhouse job
- Down
- 1. Groove
- 2. A, in Acapulco
- 3. Type of computer monitor
- 4. Car safety feature
- 5. Saint Thomas or Saint Martin
- 6. A sleigh puller
- 7. Lengthy discourses
- 8. Full, at last
- 10. Tsk tsk
- 11. Neuters
- 16. Allied (with)
- 17. Furniture piece
- 18. Farm vehicle
- 21. Seemingly forever
- 23. Maintains
- 24. Egg ___ soup
- 27. Operatic prince
- 30. Internet provider, for short
- 31. Prefix meaning "modern"
- 32. Mach 1 breaker, abbr.

1	2	3	4	5				6	7	8
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33				34						
35						36				

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(Solution to puzzle on page 15)

1	R	2	U	3	C	4	H	5	I			6	P	7	S	8	S
9	U	N	R	E	S	10	T	11	S			12	R	C	A		
13	T	O	T	A	L	U	P					14	A	R	T		
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26	V	I	C	T	O	R	I	A									
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33	R	E	O			34	S	P	O	U	S	E	S				
35	S	T	R						36	R	E	P	O	T			

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Club Fit Briarcliff and Jefferson Valley

Continued from page 11
and provides sponsorships for fund raising events.
“We are so big in giving back,” Giannico said.
Club Fit, which is a privately-owned health club, employs more than 500 full-time and part-time workers at its Jefferson Valley facility alone.
Giannico said there are many reasons for the success of Club Fit.
“I think first and foremost is the staff and just the absolute desire to keep our community healthy and keep them moving,” she said. “That is just so important to live a long and healthy lifestyle.”

Club Fit’s Jefferson Valley facility is located at 600 Bank Rd. For more information call 914-359-4127. Club Fit’s Briarcliff facility is located at 584 N. State Rd. For more information call 914-303-6056. For more information about both Club Fit locations, visit clubfit.com. Club Fit is also on Facebook and Twitter.

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New Year’s Resolutions

Continued from page 5
Town of Cortlandt. Do town-wide paving, drainage work, etc.
• MOD plans by hospital---came from Master Plan for assisted living and economic opportunities.
• Continue our efforts on solar and sustainability with Councilman Jim Creighton.
• Support the Cortlandt Community Rowing Association (CCRA) with Councilman Frank Farrell.
• C.H.O.P. heating plan with Councilman Richard Becker.
• And many others.

Joseph Hochreiter
(Hendrick Hudson Superintendent of Schools)

Resolution for District: Continued advocacy with elected officials as we navigate Indian Point’s closure.



Personal Resolution: Eat healthy. Exercise. And, finish all the projects around the house I’ve begun

and haven’t completed!

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SU-JEAN STUDIO LLC filed with Secretary of State NY on 11/14/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **33 Windmill Rd., Armonk NY 10504. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SECOND MOUSE CHEESE, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 10/18/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **SECOND MOUSE CHEESE, LLC, 351 Manville Road, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KABATCHNICK ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS LLC Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/7/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **18 Belmont St., White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ROMANOFF ELEMENTS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/25/2018. Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **Carol Romanoff 55 Byram Ridge Road, Armonk NY 10504 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

Articles of Organization (DOM-PROF. LLC). Erica O'Connor PT PLLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 11/6/18. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of DOM-PROF.LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to **c/o Schecter, 153 W. Main St., Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: The practice of Physical Therapy.**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Board of Trustees of the Village of Pleasantville will hold a Public Hearing on Monday January 14, 2019 at 80 Wheeler Avenue, Pleasantville, NY, at 8:00pm to accept comments on the Manville Road Corridor Improvement Project and Memorial Plaza Civic Space Project. Information about the projects is available on the Village's website www.pleasantville-ny.gov. **Noreen Regan, Deputy Village Clerk, Village of Pleasantville**



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continued on next page

Sampling the Sweet Spot for Tempranillo Wines - Rioja

In last week's column our virtual travel transported us to the Ebro River Valley, a hotbed of exciting developments in Spanish wines. Here the Tempranillo grape reigns supreme. This grape is rarely grown outside of Spain and Portugal (I'm starting to see a bit coming out of Argentina, California, and even Texas!), but within Spain it thrives as the unabashed answer to France's Cabernet Sauvignon and Pinot Noir. Different for sure – but with favorable components of each of those two illustrious and legendary grapes.

In the Tempranillo grape, the Spaniards have the thick skin, complex characteristics and deep color of the Cabernet Sauvignon with the subtleties and unique fruit and herb aromas of the Pinot Noir. The result is a bold wine redolent with berry aromas, a hint of vanilla and spices and a whiff of leather.

To confuse matters, this grape is known by different names across Spain: Cencibel, Tinto, Tinto de Toro and Tinto Fino, to name a few. The two most respected locales of this grape are Rioja and Ribera del Duero (we'll focus on this region in a future column). But

don't be confused; it's the same grape, just grown in unique locales. Having just described the unique characteristics of the Tempranillo, be aware that, just as with French winemakers, most Spanish winemakers are not content to allow the grape to rest on its laurels. The French art of blending is pursued vigorously by the Spaniards. Through winemakers' masterful crafting with other grapes, principally Graciano and Garnacha, a very American-style wine has surfaced: medium bodied, medium alcohol, fruit-forward, mild acidity and very aromatic.

There is a plethora of Tempranillo-based Rioja wines coming into the United States market, in multiple price ranges and different styles. They are excellent accompaniments to most tapas style foods as well as traditional Mexican dishes. Experiment with Italian tomato-based pastas and meats. And don't forget grilled meats; the char and smoke of steak or ribs pair well with the rich aromas of an inexpensive Tempranillo.

Here is a sampling of the current releases of the most prevalent offerings and a few to be sought out. The wines are available at many of the wine retail-

ers in The Examiner distribution area. These dedicated proprietors all strive to meet customers' preferences and requests. Stop in and try one; you may discover your newest favorite wine.

- 1) Sierra Cantabria Crianza 2015 (\$15) - plum flavors, good ripeness and concentration.
- 2) Sierra Cantabria Cosecha (\$15) - dark color, black cherries, medium bodied, very rich.
- 3) Sierra Cantabria (\$12) – the third Cantabria offering recommended. Lovely red fruits, perfectly balanced.
- 4) Marques de Caceres (\$10) - black fruit, discreet touch of oak.
- 5) Osoti Crianza (\$13) - organically grown, vibrant fruit and oaky notes.
- 6) Allende Estate (\$39) - layers of fruit, ripe tannin, and excellent balance.
- 7) Campo Viejo Crianza (\$13) – soft and fruit-forward, not oak driven.
- 8) Campo Viejo Reserva (\$16) – aged for 3 years, well balanced.
- 9) Marques de Vitorio Gran Reserva (\$32) – aged five years, huge wine at a great price.
- 10) Conde de Jauregui Crianza (\$13) – long finish, vanilla notes.
- 11) Marques Vitoria Crianza (\$11) – compare and contrast to the top bot-

tling above, rich bouquet of berries and spice, creamy oak.

12) Abel Mendoza Selecccion Personal (\$49) – single vineyard, 100% Tempranillo, opaque purple, berries galore.

13) El Coto Crianza (\$10) – superb concentration of fruity flavors.

14) Marques Murrieta Reserva (\$20) – plenty of fruit, 25 months in oak, will evolve even more with age.

15) Bodegas Muga Reserva (\$15) – mid-priced offering from this top producer, layers of flavor, lengthy finish.

16) El Pundito (\$55) – notes of dark raspberry and oak, creamy body, great complexity.

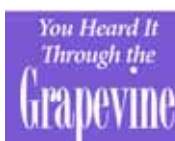
17) Marques de Riscal Reserva (\$14) – oaky vanilla and spices, soft tannins.

From the Ebro River region to the Duero River region; our adventures in Spain continue next week.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years he has conducted numerous 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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continued from previous page

ESTOPPEL NOTICE On November 26, 2018, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pleasantville, Westchester County, New York (the "Village") adopted a Bond Resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village is not authorized to expend money or the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the New York State Constitution. Summary of Bond Resolution 1. **Class of Objects or Purposes** – the purchase of machinery and apparatus to be used for constructing, reconstructing, repairing or maintaining Village improvements, including a dump truck to be used by the Department of Public Works, the cost of each item of which is \$30,000 or more. 2. **Period of Probable Usefulness** – fifteen (15) years. 3. **Maximum Amount of Obligations to be Issued** – the maximum amount of obligations to be issued for the objects or purposes described above is \$225,000. The Bond Resolution

herein summarized shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours for twenty (20) days following the date of publication of this notice at the office of the Village Clerk of the Village of Pleasantville, Westchester County, New York. **Noreen Regan, Deputy Village Clerk, Village of Pleasantville, Westchester County, New York**

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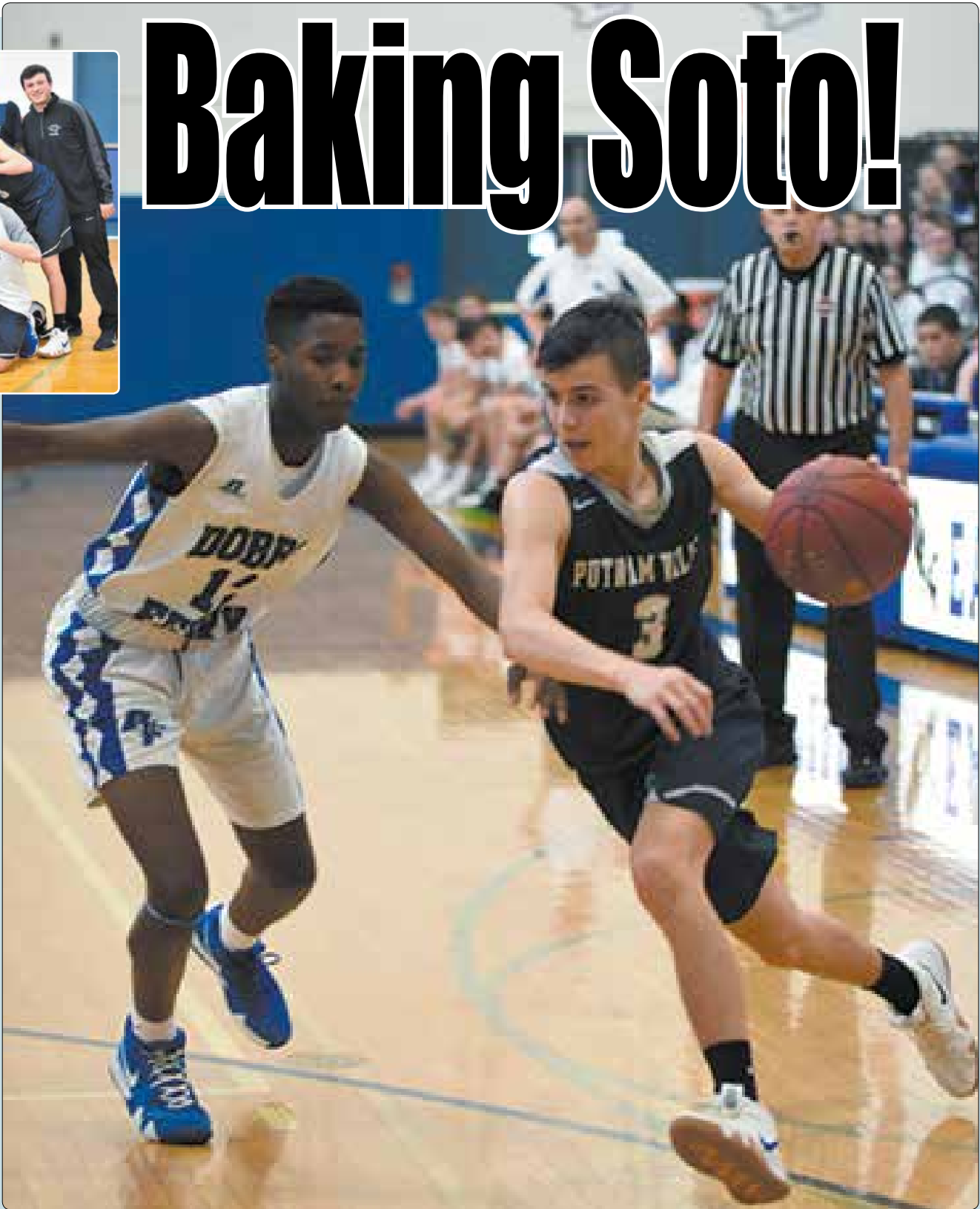
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The Northern Westchester
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Baking Soto!

**Put Valley
Guard
Rises,
Earns MVP,
Leads
Tigers
to Dobbs
Tourney
Title**



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Putnam Valley senior G Ryan Soto (3) popped off for a season-high 14 points, including a pair of game-sealing, fourth-quarter treys, plus this nifty baseline runner against Dobbs Ferry's Lester McCarthy in the Tigers' 60-53 win over the state-ranked (No.12) Eagles last Saturday in the championship round of the Dobbs Ferry Holiday Classic where the celebratory Tigers (inset) regrouped just after the half from losing All-Section F TJ Brescia to an ankle injury that could sideline him for a few games... see Boys' Hoops Notebook

Sports

Boys' Hoops Notebook

Put Valley Wins Epic Tourney Battle vs. Dobbs Ferry

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

Class B hoops fans and coaches flocked to state-ranked (No.12) Dobbs Ferry last Saturday in what many suspect was a potential prelude to the Section 1 championship as the host Eagles, a perennial powerhouse, eagerly tested their wears against a Putnam Valley program that has been to five of the last six Class B Final 4's, including two championship appearances, under Coach Mike McDonnell, who lives but two blocks from Dobbs Ferry High and knows a thing or two about the Eagles.

McDonnell knew full well going into the tourney title tilt that his Tigers (8-2) would need to be at their best against the Eagles (7-3) – despite a wrenched ankle to F/C TJ Brescia -- after PV stumbled in a Week 1 loss to (No.25) Briarcliff, the reigning Class B champs.

The balky ankle reared its ugly head early in the second half when Brescia was forced to the bench, but the Tigers barely skipped a beat and finished the game on

a 17-6 run to beat the Eagles, 60-53, for the Dobbs Ferry Holiday Classic championship.

Put Valley senior F Darnel Shillingford led the way with 20 points and an All-Tourney nod, but it was Tiger MVP Ryan Soto who made a significant difference, going for a season-high 14 points, including a pair of back-breaking, fourth-quarter 3s (three 3s in all). Brescia dominated before going down, putting up 11 points, while PV senior G Brandon Guerra added seven clutch points and reserve wing Ivan Caposito hit a big 3 ball in the closing run.

"Ryan was big for us today and Charlie (Gatewood) was huge yesterday," Shillingford said. "If we all play liked we did today, we're a hard team to stop."

Soto was almost banished to the bench after a poor start to the season, but Coach McDonnell stuck with him and it's paid dividends of late.

"We knew as soon as TJ went down it was going to be a tough one," Soto said. "But we all did what we had to do and we all stepped up. Today really proved to me what I'm capable of, and I'm looking forward to keeping it up."

PV cruised into the finals with a 64-37 win over Valhalla in the first round of the tourney, doing so behind Shillingford's double-double (17 points, 10 rebounds), plus a career-best effort from Charlie Gatewood, who went for 15 points and six steals.

"Charlie was outstanding," McDonnell said of the 5'6" Gatewood. "He made challenged layups that had the Dobbs players smiling in awe. He put on a show in the first quarter."

Ryan Soto (11 points) and swingman Brandon Guerra (8 points) also contributed during one of the Tigers' finest backcourt efforts of the year...

If you're looking for something to do after the New Year, look no further than Carmel High School for the 12th annual Putnam Hoops Challenge, which pits three Northern Westchester teams against three Putnam County clubs on Saturday, Jan. 5th, including Walter Panas vs. Mahopac (2:00 p.m.); North Salem



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Put Valley G Brandon Guerra sinks two of his six big points in Tigers' title-clinching tourney win over host Dobbs Ferry Saturday.

vs. Haldane (4:00 p.m.) and Somers vs. Carmel (6 p.m.). IAABO Board 161, which runs the challenge and referees the games for free, will award scholarships to one player from each team after each game for having exhibited hard work, fair play, cohesiveness, team spirit and sportsmanship. The IAABO membership hopes like heck to get Brewster and Putnam Valley back on board next year with the prospect of getting Lakeland, Fox Lane, John Jay, Yorktown or others in the Northern Westchester area to take on the challenge: Northern Westchester vs. Putnam! Contact Bob Nugent at powervike@aol.com for info.

Happy New Year, y'all! That's still okay/ P.C. to say, right (as if I care)?

NWE/Putnam County Super 7 Hoops Poll

No.1 SOMERS – Coach DiCintio's Class A Tuskers (5-0) would be No.2 seed if playoffs start today and should/could go to 8-0 with Brewster, Lakeland and Carmel on deck.

No.2 PUTNAM VALLEY – Coach McDonnell's Class B Tigers (8-2) are on a five-game win streak since losing to

Mahopac and visit a tough Hastings club this week. Brescia could need 10 or more days to mend the ankle IMO, so I'd rest him against Hasting and Pawling and do without until the 15th against North Salem.

No.3 MAHOPAC – Coach Simone's Class AA Indians (3-4) would be the No.10 seed and draw Ramapo and Panas next before a League I-A rumble with Arlington this week.

No.4 CROTON – Coach Martucci's Class B Tigers (5-1) are looking at the No.1 seed if playoffs opened today but rivals Pleasantville and Briarcliff hope to alter things this week.

No.5 LAKELAND – Coach Fallo's Class A Hornets (4-3) would be the 12th seed if tourney started today and draw league rivals Yorktown, Somers and Brewster next. Hornets should settle for nothing less than 2-1 in these three but that's not a given at all.

No.6 CARMEL – Coach Brennan's Class AA Rams (3-4) need an impressive performance against Somers in Putnam Challenge to build some confidence for League I-A slate.

No.7 PANAS – Coach Auerbach's Class A Panthers (3-2) would be the No.11 seed as of now and will be physically tested this week by a menacing Greeley club and an athletic Mahopac outfit.



AMY KUBIK PHOTO

Haldane swingman Matt Champlin soars for block in recent win over Children's Village.



Put Valley All-Tourney choice Darnel Shillingford drives to rack in Tigers' tourney win over Dobbs.

Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

Ossining's Harris Thriving as Pride Shine; Brewster 2nd in Tourney

By Tony Pinciario

Throughout Kailah Harris' varsity basketball career, the Ossining senior has always been an outstanding player for coach Dan Ricci.

The veteran coach has long considered her one of Section 1's top players and this year is no different for the future Seton Hall Lady Pirate.

However, Harris has always been overshadowed by several big-name DI-bound teammates. This year, Harris has elevated her game, even more so in the past two weeks, since fellow senior and UConn-commit Aubrey Griffin has been sidelined with an injury.

The Pride are 5-1 during this stretch with Harris averaging 34 points and 16 rebounds. Harris scored a career-high 53 points against Mount Vernon in one of these wins. She followed it up with a 44-point, 17-rebound performance in a win over Albertus Magnus. Harris also had 20 points and 16 rebounds, despite fouling out with four-plus minutes remaining in the victory over Baldwin in the Slam-Dunk final.

Harris is averaging a team-leading 29.1 points and 16.3 rebounds on the season while maintaining a 90 average in the classroom, which secured a recent Con Ed Scholar Athlete award.

Overall, Ossining is grabbing an average of 41 rebounds per game.

"Every year, Kailah has played with a major Division 1 girl," said Ricci, referring to Shadeen Samuels, Andra Espinoza-Hunter and Griffin. "This year, with the injury to Aubrey, Kailah has been our go-to girl and she has thrived so far in that role. In my opinion, we have the two best players in Section One and that is proving to be true with our success without Aubrey in the lineup."

Harris was promoted to varsity, for



JEN SCARDUZZIO PHOTO

Ossining C Kailah Harris has reached new heights in recent days, leading the Pride to 8-1 start.

sectionals, as an eighth-grader. She became an immediate contributor her freshman year.

"Kailah's game has evolved more each year," Ricci said. "She has developed a much stronger post-up game and expanded her perimeter game as well. Kailah has always been a major part of our success. There are games when she has been our best player, even with Aubrey healthy. We are a team and all support each other. No one player can do it alone."

Ossining won two of three games at the Diamond State Classic in Delaware, improving to 8-2 this season.

The Pride defeated Mount Lebanon of Pittsburgh (Pa.), 64-56, and Conrad Science of Wilmington (De.), 65-53. Seton (9-3 record), of Bladensburg (Md.), defeated Ossining, 60-47.

Harris finished with 28 points and 21 rebounds against Mount Lebanon. Pride point guard Jaida Strippoli had 22 points,

eight rebounds and eight assists, a massive output, and Julia Iorio added 12 points and five rebounds.

In the Seton game, Harris scored 24 points and snared 10 rebounds and Ashley McFadden had nine points.

Harris had a huge performance against Conrad Science with 37 points and 23 rebounds. Iorio and McFadden each had nine points and Strippoli registered seven assists.

Ossining returns to action at the Westchester County Center, Friday, playing Catholic High School power, Christ the King, at 5:45 p.m.

BREWSTER traveled to Hastings for the annual John Costello Tournament and came away with a second-place finish. The 2017 champion opened with a 64-59 victory over Pleasantville, but dropped a 57-41 verdict to the host school.

Brewster enters the new year with a 6-3 record. Bear G Maggie DePaoli scored a game-high 22 points against Pleasantville. Meghan Beal added 14 points, Grace Galgano contributed 13 points and Alexis Mark came off the bench to score nine points.

"We built an early lead by causing turnovers, but Pleasantville called time out, made great adjustments and started

hitting shots," Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo said. "We trailed, 31-30, at the half, and made an effort to get to the rim and line and we were able to do that. The second half was very tight, but we made the plays when we needed to, especially in the final two minutes."

Hastings jumped out to a double-digit lead in the first quarter. Castaldo said his team drew to within four in the third quarter and six with four minutes remaining in the game.

"We came out and had our worst quarter of the season," said Castaldo of the first quarter. "And to a team like Hastings that is very difficult to come back and win. However, we did respond and cut the lead to 30-26 in the third and again in the fourth, 39-33, however, Hastings hit back-to-back threes and iced the game. We lost the game at the free-throw line, going 8 for 23, and because of our first-quarter effort. Hastings deserved to win. They came out stronger than we did and when the game was close they hit shots when they needed to."

DePaoli and Galgano were all-tournament selections. Brewster returns to action, Saturday, hosting league favorite Somers as the competitive League II-C slate heats up in earnest this month.



JEN SCARDUZZIO PHOTO

Esposito Named to USA Today All-NYS Grid Team



Kennedy Catholic LB Cole Esposito (Cortlandt Manor) was named to the second team USA Today All-NYS football team. The 6'1" 205-pound senior led the Gaels in tackles (114) and sacks (7) and averaged over 11 tackles per game the last two seasons.

Putnam Hoops Challenge

12th Annual

WHO:
Walter Panas
vs. Mahopac
(2:00 p.m.)
North Salem
vs. Haldane
(4:00 p.m.)
Somers
vs. Carmel
(6:00 p.m.)

WHAT:
3 Varsity Boys'
Basketball
Games,
pitting Putnam
vs. Northern
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WHERE:
Carmel
High School

WHEN:
Saturday,
January 5

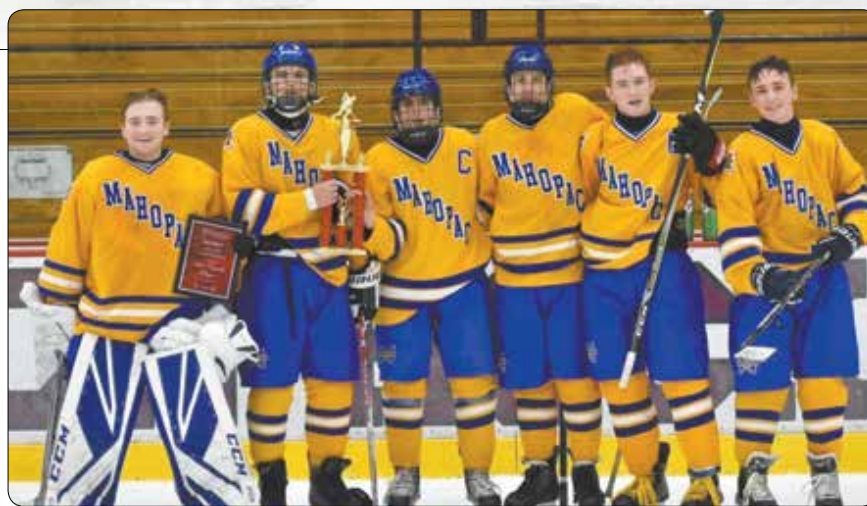
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Mahopac Senior Danglers Lead Indians to Tourney Title, McKee Sets School Record for Career Points



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTO (PLEASE VISIT WWW.HVSPHOTOS.COM FOR MORE)



Behind the record-setting efforts of Mahopac senior center TJ McKee, who broke the school record for total career points (with 155 and counting), the state-ranked (No.14) Indians (10-1) won first place in the 2018 Mohawks Holiday Tournament (senior Niko DeCola -- inset photo --has the hardware to prove it) after defeating Section 2's LaSalle, 4-2, last Thursday at Union College behind two

goals from McKee and two more from Brian O'Shea (inset photo). O'Shea is just 20 points behind the previous school record of 151 career points set by three-sport stud Tyler Perrelle in 2009, putting both McKee and O'Shea in the top three all-time scorers at Mahopac. McKee's hat trick with just minutes gone by in the first period last Wednesday, gave the Indians to a 3-0 lead in the tourney opener en route to a 5-2 win over host Niskayuna/Schenectady/Albany. Tourney MVP honors went to Mahopac G Logan MacDougall (4 GA & 52 saves in two tournament games) while the five seniors (inset photo, MacDougall, DeCola, O'Shea, Nick Bricker, McKee and Mike Sottile) set the pace throughout. Behind McKee (30 G, 31 A this season) and O'Shea (41 points), the Indians' attack was something to behold. "These are two young men that any coach would want to have on their team," Mahopac boss Tim Donaghy said of McKee and O'Shea, who also carry a GPA in the mid-90s. "They are our two leading scorers and in practice they are the two of the hardest workers on the ice. They set the standard for behavior in the locker room and around the rink. They will greatly be missed in the future, but I feel they have been such great leaders that many of the younger players have learned from them and will continue the standard set by TJ and Brian." -- By Ray Gallagher @Directrays