



**Taking the  
Plunge  
for  
Charity...  
page 13**



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January 8 - January 14, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 472

## Peekskill Tenants Up in Arms Over Lack of Heat, Hot Water

By Anna Young

The residents of Dunbar Heights in Peekskill feel shortchanged by the Peekskill Housing Authority after being forced to suffer an erratic loss of heat, hot water and gas for over a month.

Following a stretch of piping issues throughout the almost eight-acre development that resulted in Con Edison turning off the gas to each of the 96 dwellings for necessary repairs in early December, the tenants at Dunbar Heights are fighting to be treated fairly as they continue to spend their days and nights in the cold unable to bathe and cook.

"I've had to wear five layers of clothing because my body was so cold," said 13-year

resident Sandy Allen. "I live here, I live alone, and I don't want to suffer. It's just not fair."

Allen noted that she has experienced intermittent issues since Con Edison turned the gas off on December 4, citing roughly 13 times her unit was without heat and hot water, including on Christmas and New Year's Day.

According to the Peekskill Housing Authority, the federal agency that manages the property, tenants have experienced heating and water issues because the boiler system is no longer getting natural gas from the city. Instead it's coming from propane tanks, Peekskill Housing Author-

*Continued on page 4*



PHOTO BY ANNA YOUNG

Residents living at Dunbar Heights have been pleading for help for more than a month.

## Buchanan Man Charged in Fatal Hit-and-Run in Village

By Rick Pezzullo

A Village of Buchanan man was charged with leaving the scene of an accident that led to the death of a 63-year-old village resident on December 29.

Eric Werner, 44, of Seward Street, was arrested December 30 by Westchester County Police for fleeing in a 2004 Jeep Cherokee after striking and killing Joseph Orichello, 63, of Buchanan, who was walking on Albany Post Road (Route 9A).

Buchanan Police were notified at 12:48 a.m. that Orichello was lying in the roadway just north of Bleakley Avenue. When police arrived at the scene, Orichello was deceased.

Westchester County Police were asked

*Continued on page 16*



Eric Werner



### Special Senior Honored

NewYork-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital Volunteer and Auxiliary Board Member Patricia Fraleigh (left) was recently named to the 36th Annual Westchester County Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. The Peekskill resident was recognized by Westchester County Executive George Latimer (standing with Tonja Inlaw, Director of the hospital's Volunteer Services) for her significant contributions to enhance Westchester's quality of life through her volunteer achievements. The Senior Hall of Fame began in 1983, the 300th Anniversary of Westchester County's founding. Its purpose was to showcase how seniors have contributed to building the County. More than 1,100 seniors have been inducted since.

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# Police Blotter

## State Police

**December 29** - State Police from Stormville arrested Joanna D. Patafio, 36, of Mohegan Lake, for DWI. She was traveling on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Yorktown when she was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

State Police from Hawthorne arrested Dominique A. DaCosta, 23, of Yorktown, for DWI. She was traveling on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Mount Pleasant when she was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

State Police from Somers arrested Leighann Carlson, 37, of Somers, for DWI. She was traveling on Route 6 in the Town of Carmel when she was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

**December 30** - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Heather R. Gallagher, 47, of Cortlandt, for DWI. She was traveling on Hardie Street in the Town of Cortlandt when she was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

State Police from Somers arrested Gerald B. Ward, 31, of Mahopac, for DWI. He was traveling on Route 6 in the Town of Carmel when he was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

**December 31** - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Diego F. Aucapina Jarama, 34, of Ossining, for Aggravated DWI. He was traveling on Oregon Road 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 Cortlandt arrested Ikiyana Z. Parker, 22, of Ossining, for DWI. She was traveling on Crompond Road in the Town of Cortlandt when she was involved in a one-car motor vehicle crash. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

**January 1** - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Joanne Kilmartin, 63, of Somers, for DWI. He was traveling on

East Main Street 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.

## Yorktown Police

**January 2 - 8 a.m.** - Jonathan Tozzo, 28, of Shrub Oak, was charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, a Class A misdemeanor, following a domestic incident that occurred at a Yorktown residence. Following an investigation, it was

alleged Tozzo took a car from a family residence without permission. Tozzo was remanded to Westchester County Jail after being unable to post bail of \$3,000 cash or \$5,000 bond.

**11:35 a.m.** - Brandon Gonzalez, 20, of Mahopac, was charged with arson, criminal mischief and criminal trespass in connection with a September 6 incident at the pool in Shrub Oak Park. On January 2, following a traffic stop, Carmel Police recognized Gonzalez as a person of interest in an arson investigation

being conducted by Yorktown Police. An investigation revealed Gonzalez allegedly entered the fenced-in pool and started a fire which caused damage to the pool and equipment in the area, valued at almost \$40,000.

**8:49 p.m.** - John Sotomayer, 49, of Fairview, NJ, was charged with driving while intoxicated after a traffic stop on Route 6 for allegedly not exercising due care when approaching a marked police vehicle with activated emergency lights. He was released on \$100 cash bail.

# SUBURBAN

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# Peekskill Tenants Up in Arms Over Lack of Heat, Hot Water

*Continued from page 1*

ity Board of Commissioners Chairperson Nancy Vann said.

"We had not anticipated the heat and hot water would go out at all," Vann said. "That has been a real problem for us. That was a surprise."

While Vann believes the heating and water issue had been resolved as of January 2, tenants at a raucous community meeting last Saturday said they were still experiencing problems. Resident Emily Zambrano said she has sent her three kids to stay with her mother several times over the last month due to the dangerous living conditions.

"I'm upset," said resident Diane Hines, who emphasized making nearly 29 phone calls to maintenance in one day after problems persisted and there was limited communication from the housing authority. "They are treating people so badly and being cruel."

Vann said maintenance is on-call 24/7, but residents said it has taken up to five hours for maintenance to acknowledge concerns and requests.

"There is no immediate help," said resident Sheena Bauer.

With the complex also without gas since December 4, Vann, who hosted Saturday's meeting on behalf of the Housing Authority, said tenants were notified twice in



PHOTO BY ANNA YOUNG

A community meeting was held Saturday in the housing complex.

November that the gas would need to be turned off to repair the leaky pipes. With the work only impacting the ovens, Vann said housing officials spent nearly \$2,000 on electric burners so every resident could still cook.

But tenants continue to remain displeased with the Housing Authority's lack of accountability to their personal care and safety, asserting that housing officials have failed to repair the faulty pipes that have been in dire need of replacement for decades.

"I'm beyond angry," Allen said. "I'm disgusted with the City of Peekskill. All the money that went toward the fireworks on New Year's Eve could have been used to help us."

With the community meeting attracting

four members of the Common Council, including Mayor Andre Rainey, residents were also outraged that Vann was the only member of the Housing Authority in attendance. Vann claimed that they were advised by their lawyer not to assemble as a quorum, also adding that some of her colleagues had prior engagements.

Lawyer and former Mayor Frank Catalina challenged that there is no legal reason for members of the housing community to not be in attendance if official business is not taking place. Catalina is currently providing free legal representation to eight tenants at the complex, advising them to deposit their rent into an escrow account where it will stay until all services are restored or ordered otherwise by a judge.

Catalina also encouraged city officials to enlist the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to abolish the Peekskill Housing Authority. Rainey agreed the city should investigate the policies, practices and members of the Housing Authority.

"We don't have anybody we can hold accountable during these emergencies because we don't really know who's on call," Rainey said.

Councilwoman Vanessa Agudelo, who is the liaison to the Housing Authority, suggested housing officials conduct an of-

ficial town hall meeting to wedge the gap in communication and ease residential concerns, stressing the hazardous living conditions residents have had to endure with maintenance and housing officials failing to inspect and update dwellings, process maintenance requests and fix repairs.

"I've been waiting a couple of years now for maintenance to fix my bannister," Zambrano said.

While Vann failed to address the concerns of the roughly 25 residents in attendance, she informed residents that gas would be turned on in roughly six weeks. She said housing officials will be voting on a proposal this week to install propane tanks to each of the 13 buildings on the complex, so they "no longer need to rely on Con Edison."

If approved, installation will take two weeks per building with two buildings being done simultaneously, Vann said.

Residents debunked Vann's claim that installation would only take six weeks. They cited safety concerns with the propane tanks being susceptible to children, animals and bullets, and questioned who would bear the brunt of the anticipated elevated cost of propane.

"It needs to be noted that this has affected us physically, mentally and spiritually," Allen said. "Something needs to be done."



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# Mayor Gearity Heads Swearing-In Ceremony in Ossining

By Anna Young

New Year's Day was a day of pride and ambition as friends, family and elected officials gathered at the Ossining Community Center to celebrate the inauguration of their local and state officials.

Following an exhaustive election season, Ossining village and town officials took the stage at the community center last week to officially be sworn in to serve their next term. While all have previously served in their respective positions, the five elected officials looked to the future with confidence and determination.

"Ossining has much to be optimistic about," Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity said. "One thing this most recent election accomplished was declaring a vision for the village. In 2019, the village of Ossining will build on its strengths as a diverse and historic Hudson River village with an emerging entrepreneurial community."

Gearity, who will serve her third term, discussed her desire to move Ossining forward by reevaluating the housing needs assessment and creating comprehensive plan. Gearity also intends to establish a diversity, equity, and inclusion committee to help better serve the entire community.

"We are at a moment when people are investing in our community," Gearity



Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity was sworn-in for a third term, photo at left. Assemblywoman Sandy Galef was sworn-in by her grandchildren, photo at right.



PHOTOS BY ANNA YOUNG

said. "We have a clear set of recommendations to set us on a path to a thriving community for all."

Incumbent board member Rika Levin and former board member Manuel Quezada also took their oath of office to join Gearity on the Village Board. Both officials discussed their goals for the future, stressing the need to make Ossining a more accessible community for every resident.

Levin said she hopes to build on the positive initiatives the board resolved last year, adding that her focus will be on highlighting the community center and parks as gathering spaces for youth, seniors and the entire community. She also discussed ideas to benefit the environ-

"Ossining speaks volumes for how things can be done when we listen to the people in the community," Levin said.

Following her appointment to the Ossining Town Board last year after former Councilwoman Kim Jeffrey vacated her position, Councilwoman Jackie Shaw was surrounded by her family as she was sworn in to serve her first official term. Shaw noted that her first year on the board was all about growth, asserting that she plans to spend the next year listening and helping her constituents.

"It's been an incredible year for me," Shaw said. "Last year I was appointed, this year I was elected. Elected is way better."

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef (D-Ossining), who has served 12 consecutive

terms in her position, cited several state initiatives she hopes to tackle with the election resulting in a Democratic majority in the Assembly and State Senate. Galef said she hopes to increase foundation aid funding for the Ossining School District, see passage of the Child Victims Act, advance healthcare, voting and women's protection rights and terminate pay-to-play.

Galef, who was sworn in by her children and grandchildren, added that the state would be faced with several high-profile issues, including the controversy surrounding state and local tax (SALT) deductions and recreational marijuana.

"We have to keep working and try to make things come into effect," Galef said. "I look forward to 2019 and I hope we do great things for all of you and all of the constituents in the state of New York."



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# Harckham Sworn Into Office Promoting New Agenda

By Martin Wilbur

State Sen. Peter Harckham vowed Sunday the state new legislature would make significant gains on a progressive agenda while also tending to the needs of local municipalities at his swearing in ceremony at Peekskill High School.

The event, which saw Harckham given the oath of office by Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a resident of the district who had appealed to the former Westchester County legislator to run for the seat, also had a recurring theme of promoting diversity and inclusion while rejecting the politics of fear and division.

During his address, Harckham reached out to the array of elected officials in the audience from throughout the district, which extends northward into parts of Putnam and Dutchess counties. Most in the crowd thunderously applauded his comments.

"We have a lot of local issues that we need to deal with," said Harckham, the first Democrat to represent northern Westchester and Putnam in the state Senate since 1914. "First and foremost, to my colleagues in local government, it doesn't matter whether you're a Republican or a Democrat, what the make-up of your towns are. I work for you and I can't be successful unless all of you are successful. But it's not about me about



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Sen. Peter Harckham, surrounded by family and friends, is sworn into office on Sunday in Peekskill by Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

imposing some vision on your municipality. We're a support system to you for what you are trying to accomplish."

In the upcoming session, which is scheduled to open this Wednesday, Harckham said there will be immediate attempts at proposing and voting on longtime measures such as the red flag bill which can temporarily remove firearms from gun owners who are deemed a threat to themselves and others, reproductive health care protections for women, the Child Victims Act and election reform. He said more must be done to help state residents who have fallen vic-

tim to opioid addiction.

There must also be a focus on local issues such as economic redevelopment, transitioning the state away from a reliance on fossil fuels to green energy and to protect the taxpayers of the Village of Buchanan, the Town of Cortlandt and the Hendrick School District with the pending 2021 closure of Indian Point nuclear power plant, Harckham added.

"We have 1,200 families who are living with uncertainty about what that's going to do to their school district and municipality," Harckham said. "We're going to focus like a laser on economic

redevelopment and see what we can do to save those jobs by requiring Entergy to hire them during decommissioning of the plants."

Cuomo, who asked Harckham to run for the office last spring, said he's excited for the 40th Senate District because it is getting an outstanding public servant. Harckham has worked in the public sector, private sector and the nonprofit world and is particularly qualified to help move the state forward, he said.

"He knows the job, he knows it from every aspect but he has a heart as big as the state of New York," Cuomo said. "He's doing this for all the right reasons."

Cuomo then turned his attention how with the current federal government is stoking fear and "spreading a cancer" that is dividing the nation that it is left to the state to lead the way.

"The state is going to stand up and fill that void that this federal government is creating," he said. "Let them try to divide us. Let them try to divide us by religion and race. We're going to say the exact opposite in this legislative session. We are united, we respect each other's rights. We stand up for women's rights, which have been disrespected. We stand up for the LGBTQ community. We're going to set a tone of unity rather than division."

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# What a Clown! Local Actor Finds Spotlight in Circus Rings

By Anna Young

Mark Gindick grew up with a deep admiration for legendary physical comedic visionaries Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin. He never thought that would lead to him performing center stage at the circus.

When the Croton-on-Hudson resident attended Purchase College to study filmmaking, he wanted to make films reflective of those of his idols. While Gindick, 42, was producing one of his student films, he thought taking lessons on how to act like a clown would elevate his movie if he could perfect some of the physical techniques.

What Gindick didn't expect when he attended the Ringling Bros. Clown College was to finally discover what he was meant to do.

"I never wanted to be a performer but once I went to clown college it just felt right," Gindick said. "I fell in love. There was this nagging feeling in my head telling me this is what I was supposed to be doing."

Now the accomplished and gifted physical comedian has made history as the first and only clown to have worked the three big circuses – Big Apple Circus, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey and Cirque du Soleil. Gindick is once again starring as the featured clown in his seventh season with the Big Apple Circus now playing at Lin-



Croton-on-Hudson's Mark Gindick has performed in the biggest circuses throughout his career after he enrolled in Ringling Bros. Clown College to help him with acting in a college film he had produced.

coln Center through Jan. 27.

Growing up in Scarsdale, Gindick said his love for physical comedy stemmed from his father's affinity for the pivotal movies and stars of the early days of Hollywood. With his father's influence inspiring Gindick to appreciate the art and magic of comedy, he eventually asked his dad to take him to the circus.

"I always had my dad take me to the Big Apple Circus," Gindick said. "I grew up watching the show and now I'm in it."

Graduating clown college after three months led him to take time off from school to go on tour with Ringling Bros. Gindick traveled the country performing

two to three shows a day during his first year, fashioning his style as a clown and playing off of the audience.

"As a young person, Ringling Bros. made me work hard and gave me a strong work ethic and made me realize what I wanted to do," Gindick said. "Ringling (was) a special venue, but I wanted to do more."

When the tour ended, Gindick returned to Purchase and graduated with a degree in drama and film studies. With a penchant for the circus still coursing through his veins, Gindick partnered with circus pals Matthew Morgan and Ambrose Martos to create the critically acclaimed hit, "The Comedy Trio Happy Hour." The threesome traveled the world entertaining crowds.

"This was where I found my true voice as an artist and as a clown," Gindick said.

His talent led him to the Big Apple Circus, where he served as the understudy to the featured clown. Gindick soon found himself center stage when he was asked to create his own character. Gindick said his character was an extension of himself – a short, neurotic clown named Mark who is shy around women.

In this year's performances, his character is a normal guy who stumbles into the circus in amazement and wonder.

Along with his circus routines, Gindick has been featured on "The Late Show with

David Letterman," "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" and the PBS miniseries "Circus" and has appeared in movies, including "Julie & Julia." Gindick also wrote in and starred in theater productions "How to Be a Man" and "Wing-Man," a silent one-man show that paid homage to Chaplin's classic film "Modern Times."

"Wing-Man I built as a necessity," Gindick said. "The great thing about clowns is we get to make our own material."

With Gindick recently concluding an international tour with Cirque Du Soleil, where he reworked the clown storylines and routines, he said he's happy to be back at home juggling his day-to-day life with his family during the Big Apple Circus engagement in the city. He loves entertaining the raucous crowd he used to be part of.

"It's so great, it's the best gig," Gindick said. "I feel like I'm back at home."



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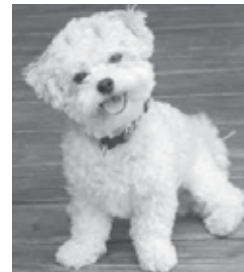
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## Letters to the Editor

### Current Yorktown Administration Governs with More Grace

#### To The Editor:

I have always thought that the proper etiquette in life, politics and sports was to show humility in victory and introspection in defeat. Well I guess in this narcissistic era of Trump, alternative truths, double talk, and distraction, everything we have learned has been turned on its head.

So it seems with Tom Diana's letter of December 25th extolling the legacy of the Grace administration. Get over it Tom. Michael Grace lost because the majority of Yorktown residents saw him for what he was: self-serving, arrogant, and unwilling to compromise or even listen to those who do not agree with him. He stated publicly: "I was Trump before Trump;" and promised to build

beautiful recreational fields, highway garages, and downtown business districts without taxpayers paying for these projects (at least he didn't say Mexico would pay for it). I believe he made self enrichment deals behind the scenes that did not benefit the Town, including the transformation of his and former Senator Murphy's properties into another commercial office complex, that will include another bank. Let's also not forget that Mr. Grace was a property tax deadbeat. In the policy arena Mr. Grace was adamantly opposed to: inclusive zoning to assure that new housing developments include a percentage of affordable rental units; and protecting our environment including wetlands, trees and open space. In my eyes he was a free

market extremist believing that property owners should have free reign to develop, regardless of impact on the community. He may have grown the Town's surplus by ignoring the Town's infrastructure including our deteriorating roads and government owned buildings. It's easy to save money by simply not spending on essential Town repairs and services. His clients since leaving public office include business interests like Lowes which is trying to welsh on an agreement, made on Grace's watch as supervisor, to provide sewers to neighbors of its new complex. Does this serve the public interest?

So Mr. Diana, if you are trying to rehabilitate Mr. Grace's image and reputation in preparation for a 2019 election, give it up. It may have worked

in 1968 when the nation was introduced to the "New" Richard Nixon, and unfortunately it took five years to expose him for what he was. Be aware that many Yorktown residents have long memories that are not clouded by partisan loyalty or cronyism. Information and facts are more accessible to the electorate these days. We will take the gloves off now and continue to remind Yorktown residents about the negative atmosphere created by Mr. Grace during his tenure. One may not always agree with the Town's new leadership, but it must be said that they govern with more grace than under the previous leadership.

Sincerely,

MELVYN R. TANZMAN  
Mohegan Lake

### Grace/Diana Town Board Disregarded Environment, Quality of Life

#### To The Editor:

When a product has obvious defects, those who wish to sell it can fix the problems or they can tout those defects as positive features. Apparently Mr. Tom Diana, Yorktown Councilman, has chosen the latter course. In a recent letter, Mr. Diana, has bragged about the policies of the Grace administration, which he supported with his town council votes. In particular, the Grace town council with Mr. Diana's vote ended the set-aside for the acquisition

of open space.

Fifteen years ago, the voters of Yorktown decided by referendum to create a fixed \$30 per lot fee separate from our general taxes, to be placed in a fund for the purchase of open space. In an unannounced vote, Mr. Diana's town board overturned the results of our referendum by ending future collections. Rather than taking the \$30 off our tax bill, they raised our taxes by \$400,000 to make their budget look better.

Open space properties provide us with land for active recreation, for example, for new ball fields. Undeveloped land gives us opportunities for trails for passive recreation at little or no added cost in taxes. Trails have been created and maintained by volunteers. Our trail system attracts visitors to Yorktown who support our businesses.

The Grace-Diana town board has shown its disregard for our environment and quality of life. They replaced the previous tree law with a weakened

version. Anyone driving into the Heights on Route 118 can see the results of this at the on-going development on the Grace-Murphy property. The site has been stripped of trees out to its edges. At least, our new town board is working on a better tree law. I hope that they can still manage to add to our open space.

Sincerely,

PAUL MOSKOWITZ

*Paul Moskowitz is a member of the Yorktown Advisory Committee on Open Space*

### Yorktown Attracts New Businesses – Be Positive

#### To The Editor:

I was writing this letter praising Supervisor Gilbert's efforts to bring business to Yorktown when I was dismayed to read the negative comments

by his predecessor in the Yorktown News.

Well on a positive note, Yorktown welcomed many new businesses in 2018. One of the first decisions any entrepreneur must make is where to

locate the business. Owners do a careful assessment of costs, available labor, market trends and potential revenues. Owners also evaluate how easy it is to work with local government.

Government support includes a welcoming attitude.

When Lanny Gilbert took office, he redirected the thinking to a more transparent environment where business can flourish and his only obligations are to the people.

He established the Economic Revitalization Committee to analyze ways Yorktown can be even more welcoming and desirable. This Committee includes the Small Business Association and the Chamber.

Here are some of the new businesses that selected Yorktown for their business location in 2018.

Pappous Greek Kitchen, MMC Productions, Verizon, The Bagel Emporium, Lalas Exotic Cuts, Bear

Mountain Coffee Roasters, Shrub Oak International School, Xclusive Cuts 2.0, Hill Blvd Diner, Catania's Pizza, Level Up Fitness, Fresh Coat Painters...

The growth is there as Eric DiBartolo pointed out at the 12/18/18 Town Board meeting stating the "Chamber added 17 new members in the past two months."

And early 2019 will see additional businesses such Level Fitness Clubs, Cohen Family Smiles, Goldfish Swim School and 24 Hour Fitness.

So, kudos to Supervisor Gilbert and let's maintain this positive attitude and growth.

RICHARD M. FISHER  
Yorktown

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## Letters to the Editor

### There are No “Traditional” Tax Dollars

#### To The Editor:

The writer of last week's letter to the editor would have you believe that the \$6 million spent on the Granite Knolls Sports Complex was not “traditional tax dollars.” Excuse me, but there's no such thing as “traditional” tax dollars. The money to pay for Granite Knolls came from the town's fund balance, aka its savings account. Like your personal savings account, the fund balance grows when revenue (income) exceeds expenditures. In any given year, the town's revenue comes from up to 88 different sources, including

one-time special payments like the Enbridge money. Property taxes actually account for less than half of the total revenue.

The fund balance is the town's rainy day fund. It's there as a cushion in the event of an unexpected emergency or to tide the town over when major outside sources of revenue like the sales tax and mortgage tax fall during economic recessions like 2008. In good times, when the fund balance grows, the town can use some of the funds to pay for special projects and avoid the need to borrow.

For example, over the same time period that the town withdrew \$6 million from the fund balance to pay for Granite Knolls, it borrowed \$3.1 million to pay for road paving, improvements to town facilities, purchasing trucks and assorted other projects. So far, \$1.7 million of taxpayer tax dollars have been spent to pay back the loan, including \$158,000 in interest. Remember: debt service is an expense in the town budget that affects our town tax rate. As of

2019, the town still owes \$1.5 million, plus interest.

So the issue — the real issue — is not where the money in the fund balance came from, but rather, how it should be spent and whether town residents should be given an opportunity to comment on proposed major capital projects before they are approved, like a \$6 million sports complex that was voted for without any public hearings.

SUSAN SIEGEL

### The Santa Claus of Dunbar Heights

#### To The Editor:

I read a column in your newspaper recently called “Yes Virginia there is a Santa Claus.” Well Peekskill also has a Santa Claus because when Michael Kabashi heard the people of the Dunbar Heights development in Peekskill had no gas or heat to cook Christmas dinner he went over to the Dunbar development on Christmas Eve with trays of hot

food from his restaurant in the Beach Shopping Center, Nonna's Pizza and Italian restaurant. He also came back and provided hot food for the people on Christmas day. Once again, “Yes Virginia there is a Santa Claus.”

Sincerely Yours,

GEORGE ONDEK  
Peekskill

#### Donation Received

Steve and Susan Salomone with Carol Christiansen, Founders of Drug Crisis in Our Backyard, recently received a \$3,000 check from Rose Asprea and Donald Arace, HG Realtor Foundation Committee members. Drug Crisis in Our Backyard was founded in 2012 by the Salomones, and Carol and Lou Christiansen after the loss of their sons to a battle against heroin. The organization promotes awareness about drug use, assists addicted and at-risk individuals and their families, and implements measures, including legislation that holds accountable organizations and medical institutions that perpetuate drug use through over-prescription of opiates and other drugs. It serves the Hudson Valley region with support groups and various events.



### Under New Ownership and Direction by Joseph A. Giordano Jr.



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—Joe Giordano  
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## Obituaries

### Marie DiDio

Marie Weise DiDio, a resident of Verplanck, and Hilton Head SC, died peacefully December 27, surrounded by her loving family. She was 88.

Mrs. DiDio was born in Verplanck on September 25, 1930 to Frank and Myretta (Elkins) Weise. She was the loving wife of Joseph DiDio, who predeceased her. She was the beloved mother of Rosemary Brehm (Bill) of Safety Harbor, FL; Michele Brophy (John) of Bluffton, SC; Celeste DiDio of Tampa, FL; and Lisamarie Hickey (Joseph) of Hilton Head, SC. She was the cherished grandmother of Stephanie (James Jeffries) and Dani Brehm; Megan Brophy; Joseph, Kevin (Jordan Haughton-James), Patrick and Sean Hickey. She is survived by her beloved brother, George Weise and sisters-in-law Louena Weise and Betty DiDio. She is predeceased by her sister, Gloria DiDio and her brothers Frank and John Weise and is survived by many loving nieces and nephews, and cousins.

She attended Hendrick Hudson High School, and had a long and proud career in Educational Office Personnel in the district - starting as "Ditto-Machine Lady" - and culminating as Principal's Secretary at Blue Mountain Middle School. She negotiated salaries for the Hen Hud Office Personnel Association and inspired others to honor the profession and value their contributions to the District. She organized a most successful Regional Conference for the State Educational Office Personnel Association at Blue Mountain MS in 1986.

A long-time Parishioner of St. Patrick's Parish in Verplanck, she was instrumental in establishing the first library at this Catholic School attended by herself, generations of her Weise family, and her own four daughters. She empowered many girls of the parish as our encouraging and fun-loving Girl Scout Leader.

Her love - after family - was all things Verplanck's Point. Proud to be a life-long "Pointer," she was part of every committee that sought to honor her home town: Preserving the Verplanck Schoolhouse; working with the Town of Cortlandt to enhance sidewalks and crosswalks; and opposing anything that was unfair to the "Point." Fascinated with her hometown's legacy, she co-authored a "History of Verplanck" for our Bicentennial; and was instrumental in Rochambeau's Bicentennial Celebration in Verplanck in 1981.

Her activism began in 1965, when she challenged the powers that be over the 25 cent per person daily admission charge to Lounsburys Swimming Pond. She led a petition drive by parents and children of all ages against "this travesty." She wrote - "It could cost a family with 4 kids \$10 per week!" A pioneer in community organizing, her goal was to constantly improve

the lives of all the children and families of Verplanck and surrounding areas.

A gardener extraordinaire; seamstress par excellence, mischief-loving, Halloween dressing-up super star, and Queen of the 7th Street High Tea get-togethers, Marie inspired and motivated all with her amazing smile, her sparkling blue eyes, her "can-do" attitude, and her Verplanck spirit in her heart. Mom was with us one last Christmas, but wasn't going to miss dancing with dad at Heaven's New Year's Eve Party.

### Mary Rocha

Mary Rocha, a resident of Ossining, died December 28, 2018. She was 83.

She was born in Ossining on September 2, 1935, to Manuel and Elvira (DeSilva) Rocha. She was a former secretary at the Sing Sing Correctional Facility in Ossining.

She is survived by two children, Richard (Helen) Miller, Jr., and Kim (David) Nolan; her son-in-law Doug Ryan; her siblings Dorothy, John, Augie (Snooky) and Tony; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her daughter, Roberta Miller-Ryan, and three sisters, Rose, Alice and Linda.

### Roger Loughlin

Roger G. Loughlin a resident of Lake Peekskill in Putnam Valley, died peacefully in his sleep on December 31, 2018, with his loving son Roger Patrick by his side. He was 78.

Mr. Loughlin served in the U.S. Navy for five years, and worked as a Federal Food Inspector with the U.S. Department of Agriculture for close to 25 years before retiring. He was married in 1966 to the love of his life, Nancy E. Grimes and they had their only child, Roger P. Loughlin nine months later. They moved to Lake Peekskill in Putnam Valley in 1973. He lost Nancy in December 2001 and never quite fully recovered.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was predeceased by his brothers, Jack and Matthew. He is survived by his devoted son Roger, his sisters Mary Paulson and Theresa Loughlin, and his brothers- and sisters-in-law and by many loving nieces and nephews.

### Kendra Eager

Kendra Elizabeth Eager, a resident of Ossining, lost her long battle with her illness on December 24. She was 35.

She was born March 16, 1983 to John and Barbara Eager. She was a beloved big sister to Sean and Kyle Eager and a precious granddaughter to Margarete Stanchick the late Andrew Stanchick and Ethel and John Eager. She received her

BA from State University of NY.

Ms. Eager was a talented artist and accomplished photographer always looking for and finding beauty in the world. She understood the challenges of mental illness and worked hard to raise awareness and worked to help others.

### Rev. Lee Thompson

Rev. Lee Albert Thompson, longtime pastor at Park Street A.M.E. Zion Church in Peekskill, died last week. He was 68.

He was born February 24, 1950 in Robeson County North Carolina to Albert Thompson and Sinia Oates Thompson. He was raised Baptist.

He was educated in the Robeson County School system and graduated from Rosewald High School in Fairmont, North Carolina. Upon graduating high school he moved to Tarrytown. He worked for Goldberg Hardware. He later joined the teamsters Local 456 as a truck driver and mover of heavy equipment. He had a love for fast cars and motorcycles. He was proud of his Harley Davidson Full Dress motorcycle which he owned and rode for several years. During this time in 1978, he met his wife Shirley who on their first date took her on a motorcycle ride down Main Street in Tarrytown driving fast he came around the winding curvy street and leaned the motorcycles and Shirley states all she could see was the road coming to meet her and she prayed "Lord if you let me live to get off this motorcycle, I'll never get on one again." That was in 1978 and she hasn't been on a motorcycle since that time (smile).

Lee and Shirley married on May 20, 1979. At that time Lee was not in ministry. In 1980 he acknowledged his call to ministry and preached his trial sermon at Foster Memorial A.M.E. Zion church under the Rev. Leroy O. Perry. He was ordained Elder by Bishop William Smith.

His first pastoral appointment to Woodside A.M.E. Zion in Stamford, Connecticut under Bishop William Smith. His second Church was the A.M.E. Zion Church of Kingston (at that time the church was referred to as Fran-

klin Street A.M.E. Zion). His third and last church was Park Street A.M.E. Zion Church in Peekskill, New York where he pastored over 23 years. While at Park Street the parsonage was paid off on Lincoln Terrace and all debt eliminated. The building fund was increased and over four years ago the present parsonage along with land was purchased from the Bridgewater family at 1813 Crompond Road in Peekskill. Plans were being worked on for financing and building a new church on the land.

Rev. Lee Thompson became a small business owner opening a radiator repair business on Hudson Street in Tarrytown. Next he became a licensed contractor and purchased two trucks, a 10 wheeler and an 18 wheeler, which he drove himself (Aiesha Sand and Gravel,) and then LAT Trucking and contracting. He was called on to assist or oversee several building and repair projects. He could do a "little bit" of everything which earned him affectionately being called "A Jack Of All Trades."

Of all the things he did in his lifetime he loved Pastoring, visiting the sick and shut in, helping members with small home repairs or seeking out someone to do whatever project to be done. He would meet his members and sometimes non-members who would be undergoing surgery at the hospital to pray for them, most of the time arriving before they did.

He loved his family and friends. He and his wife became adopted members of the Henderson family, and attended their family reunions for the past 12 years. He was a loving but strict father and his greatest joy came in being grandpa and pop-pop.

He leaves to mourn his wife Shirley of 39 years; sons, Lee III (Gwen) of Sleepy Hollow/Peekskill, NY, Louis (Misty) of Williamston, NC, and daughter, La Tonja of Snellville, GA; siblings, Peggy of Sleepy Hollow, NY, Peter (Kim) of Johns Creek, GA, Reggie (Denise) Charlotte, NC and Bessie of Clayton, NC; granddaughters, Clara, Melissa, Leah, Paycent, Jaily, Ariana, and Gabriella; several nieces, nephews, cousins, adopted families and friends.

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# Cushner to be Honored by The Justin Veatch Fund Saturday

The Justin Veatch fund plans to honor Yorktown's Tricy Cushner with a community service award on Saturday, January 12 at the Putnam Golf Course in Mahopac. The occasion, Music for a Winter's night, will be a dinner/dance which is being put on by The Fund as a fundraiser for its music scholarships.

Cushner is well known in Yorktown for her advocacy for youth safety. She joined the executive board of Alliance for Safe Kids in Yorktown in 2006 and volunteered as President & CEO of that organization for 12 years where she now serves as Board President. Cushner also

serves as President of YOUnited, Inc. which serves non-profits in Yorktown and she is also the scholarship chair for Yorktown Lions Club.

The Justin Veatch Fund began awarding \$1,000 music scholarships in 2009 and to date has awarded 35 of them. This June it will present at least six more to graduating high school seniors from area high schools including one honoring the late Al Capellini of Yorktown.

Entertainment for the January 12 event will be provided by the Class Action band and there will also be performances by former scholarship winners.

Tickets are available via Eventbrite.

In addition to awarding annual music scholarships, The Justin Veatch Fund provides mentoring for teen musicians and creates programs on teen drug abuse prevention. The Fund was created following the accidental drug overdose death of Justin Veatch, a musically talented Yorktown High School Senior, in 2008. Jeffrey Veatch, Justin's father, has presented his multimedia talk "A Message from Justin" to thousands of students in the greater New York region and the Veatch story is told in the documentary film Whispering Spirits.



Tricy Cushner

# Somers Lion Club Member Honored for Years of Service



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Somers Lions Club member Peter Nalhonc Jr., standing above in the center of the front row, was honored by the Town Board for his volunteer efforts on Jan. 3.

By Neal Rentz

Somers Supervisor Rick Morrissey said last week the town "could not get by" without the efforts of its volunteers and he and his Town Board colleagues honored a longtime resident who has helped out the community in many ways.

Somers Lions Club member Peter Nalhonc Jr. was honored by the Town Board on January 3 with a proclamation and the board dedicated January 4 as "Peter Nalhonc Jr. Day" in the town.

Nalhonc and his wife, Maryann, have

lived in Somers for the past 51 years.

Morrissey said the local Lions Club "sustain people in need" and make "our holidays brighter."

Morrissey, reading from the Town Board's proclamation, said Nalhonc's decades of volunteer service have include decorating and beautifying the town's Christmas tree, displaying American flags along the town's roadways, installing lights to illuminate the façade of the Town House and assisting St. Joseph's Catholic Church by decorating

its Christmas tree and hanging religious flags along the roadway near the church.

Nalhonc has offered "exceptional service to the town," Morrissey said.

Nalhonc thanked the Town Board for the honor and said living in Somers "has been a pleasure." He described the Lions as "the greatest club in the world."

"There's no better town in the world to live in," Nalhonc said.

The Lions Club "has given a lot back to this community and it is very, very much appreciated," Morrissey said.



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# Happenings

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

## Tuesday, Jan. 8

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

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

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

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

**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](http://www.taghkanicchorale.org) or by calling 914-440-3596.

## Wednesday, Jan. 9

**Senior Benefits Information:** A Senior Benefits Information Center is available every Wednesday, except for Nov. 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Somers Library. 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](mailto: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.

**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. Friday – Zumba Gold – 11 a.m. to noon. Call 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.

**Hospital Programs:** Several events have been scheduled for the coming days at New York-Presbyterian Hudson

Valley Hospital, 1980 Crompond Rd., Cortlandt. A Bariatric Support Group will meet on Jan. 9 from 6 to 7 p.m. To register, call 914-734-3966. A Breastfeed with Certainty Prenatal Class will be held on Jan. 9 from 6 to 9 p.m. To register call 914-734-3257. Physician in the Kitchen: Nourishing Your Thyroid will be held on Jan. 11 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. To register call 914-734-3780 or e-mail [hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org](mailto:hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org). A breastfeed support group will meet on Jan. 11 and 25 from 11 a.m. to 1p.m. To register call 914-734-3257. Soups and Stews for Winter will be held on Jan. 15 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The cost is \$15. To register call 914-734-3780 or e-mail [hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org](mailto:hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org).

**Anime/Manga Club:** The Winter/Spring Anime/Manga Club will meet on Wednesdays, from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. at the Somers Library on the following dates: 1/9, 1/16, 1/23 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/20, 2/27, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, /8, 5/15, 5/22 and 5/29. Join us to watch anime from Crunchyroll on our big screen TV and to hang out with friends. This program is for teens entering seventh grade and up. Register on our online calendar at [www.somerslibrary.org](http://www.somerslibrary.org) or call 914-232-5717.

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

## Thursday, Jan. 10

**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 [yorktown-jewishcenter.org](http://yorktown-jewishcenter.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.

**Author Talk:** Author Talk with Channele A. Watson will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Info: 914-737-1212 or visit [peekskill.org](http://peekskill.org).

## Friday, Jan. 11

**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 914-2416 Ext. 315.

**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](mailto:rabbiiw@optonline.net).

**Jewish Center Services:** At the Yorktown Jewish enter, 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](http://yorktownjewishcenter.org).

## Saturday, Jan. 12

**Putnam Valley Shabbat Service:** Looking for a modern Shabbat service steeped in Jewish tradition? Come to

*Continued on page 18*



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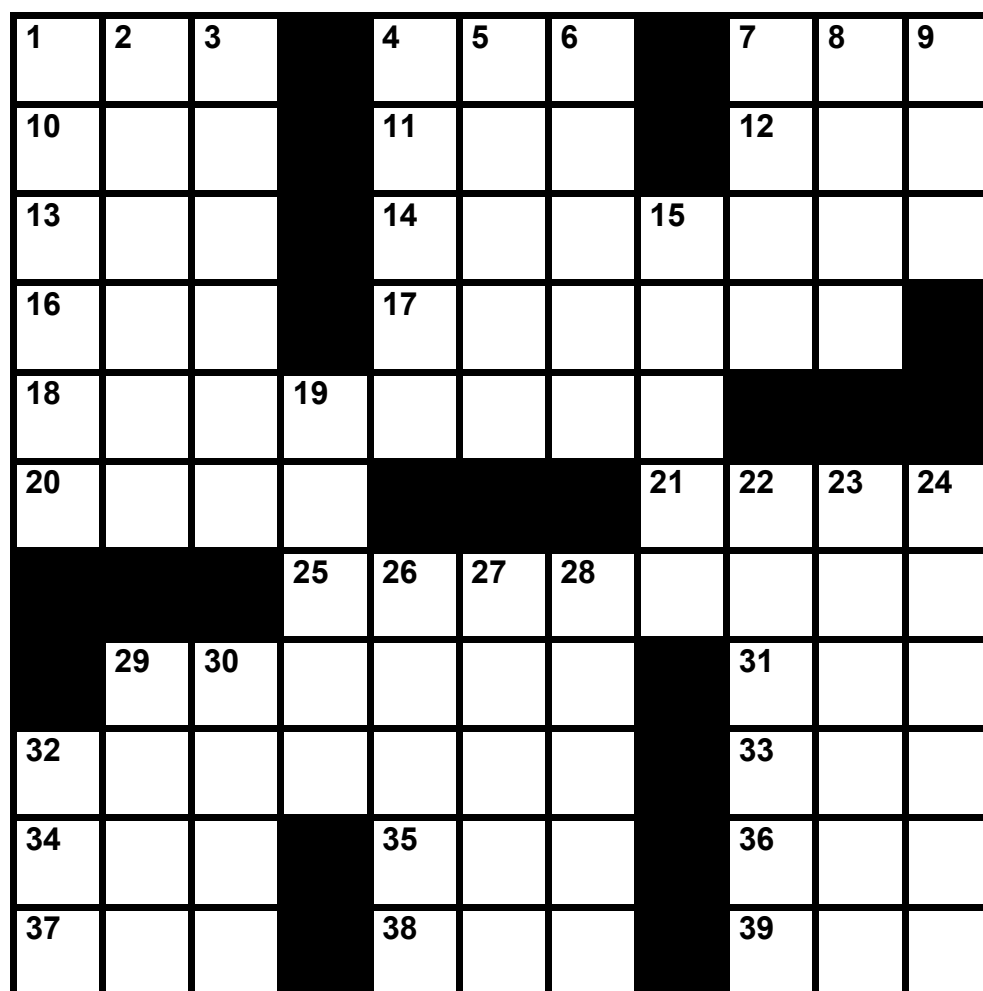
# Crossword

## ACROSS

1. \_\_\_ glance (quickly)
4. IV amounts
7. Cadillac luxury model
10. French flower
11. Cereal piece
12. Presidential monogram
13. Music collectibles, briefly
14. Light atmospherically
16. Absorbed, as a cost
17. Moves slowly
18. This new adult beverage store has a "revolutionary" name, \_\_\_ Discount Liquors
20. \_\_\_ record
21. Hiker's map, briefly
25. Politician's weapon
29. See 22 down
31. Busy bug
32. Summary
33. Actress, Long
34. Singer Shannon
35. Official US publisher
36. "Com" alternative
37. Put it to
38. UFO crew
39. Compass reading

## DOWN

1. Quiets
2. Move with stealth
3. Hold
4. Collaborate
5. Egypt's capital
6. Scatter
7. China problem
8. Sounds of disapproval
9. Jeanne d'Arc, e.g.: Abbr.
15. Slow tempo
19. Singer Carpenter
22. New JV Mall fitness center, this links with 29 across
23. Gear
24. Musical jump
26. One of Samuel Johnson's cats
27. Break out
28. Steno goofs
29. Stay on your \_\_\_
30. Green superhero
32. Nutritional abbr.



## A Realtor Assesses the "Colors of the Year"

"How would you feel about living with a room painted black?" my wife asked me after reading about the possibility in a Sunday lifestyles section this past weekend. "Well, if I should decide I want a torture chamber environment, that might be nice," I responded.

Actually, I don't know why I wasn't more open to consider alternative choices for the walls of my living environment, considering that the first time I made my own choice for my bedroom color, when I was a tender 17-year-old, I chose a bright blood red. When my parents sought to sell the house and buyer prospects would come to visit, we frequently heard the response "wow!" when that room was viewed.

In checking the annual announcements of the paint colors of the year chosen by the paint companies, I found that Behr announced Living Coral, a bright coral shade, as its 2019 Color of the Year. The company describes Living Coral as "an animated, life-affirming

shade of orange, with golden undertones." Life affirming? My god, who could ever suspect that wall color could

have such an impact, literally affirming our very existence. It's interesting to note that Behr's color for last year was Ultra Violet, a deep purple hue that I can't imagine in any room I'd want to live in. Maybe a blue – reputedly the favorite color of most Americans – would make the cut, but Ultra Violet? In a living room painted that color, I think I would be constantly distracted. But that's just me, I'm sure.

As a realtor who normally recommends either neutral or low-key colors for interiors and exteriors when preparing to sell a home, I once questioned the choice of a senior couple in my hometown who had their home painted

bright violet. When I met them, however, I found them to be the most sprightly and youthful seniors I had ever met. Let them have their fun, I thought. There's always time to consider a more conserv-

ative choice when the house is listed for sale.

Sherwin-Williams chose its 2019 Color of the Year as Cavern Clay, basically in the same color grouping as Behr's choice, but describes it in a more down-to-earth manner as "a warm terracotta color with ancient, elemental roots, a nod to midcentury modern style, but with the soul of the American Southwest, which together creates the desert modern aesthetic."

Checking out both colors, I'm convinced that either would be a little intense for me to live with on a daily basis in any room of my house, with the possible exception of the bathroom which at least would limit its influence to a smaller space. I've always been more neutral in my wall choices, specifically various shades of off-white. This was probably influenced by the choices I was given when I rented my first apartments, both of which were in new construction. The choice given by the builder was simply "white" or "off-white," a creamy version.

Landlords are no dummies about wall color. I remember that both leases specified that I could repaint my rooms any color I wanted, but prior to ending the lease, I would have to restore the walls to the original colors of white or off-white. I pretty much have lived with

those colors, certainly in my hallways and living rooms, for the rest of my life.

While I don't intend to sell my home anytime soon, I have chosen a grayish-white color for my entire living environment, living room/dining room and both bedrooms, simply because it expands my living space. And, that was my objective when I downsized from a 4,000 sq. ft. colonial home to a 1,800 sq. ft. condo.

Some years ago, I wrote a kind of spooky article about how a spiritual advisor suggested that I paint my bedroom – apparently the room that dictates my success in life – the color of teal to achieve even greater success. I followed her advice, although I never would have chosen that blue-green color on my own. Whether or not it achieved its promise of offering me greater power and success, I can't say. Who can know whether or not my choice of bright red when I was 17 could have done me better? After all, look what it did for Nancy Reagan.

*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*



By Bill Primavera

(Solution to puzzle on page 15)

1	A	2	T	3	A		4	C	5	C	6	S		7	C	8	T	9	S
10	L		I	S			11	O	A	T				12	H	S	T		
13	L	P	S				14	A	I	R	15	L			I	K	E		
16	A	T	E				17	C	R	E	E	P	S						
18	Y	O	R	19	K	T	O	W	N										
20	S	E	T	A						21	T	22	O	23	P	24	O		
					25	R	26	H	27	E	28	T	O	R	I	C			
		29	T	30	H	E	O	R	Y			31	A	N	T				
32	R	O	U	N	D	U	P					33	N	I	A				
34	D	E	L			35	G	P	O			36	G	O	V				
37	A	S	K			38	E	T	S			39	E	N	E				

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# Buchanan Man Charged in Fatal Hit-and-Run in Village

*Continued from page 1*  
to join the investigation and detectives from the General Investigations Unit responded as well as crime scene detectives from the Forensic Investigation Unit. Patrol officers from the Accident Investigation team also assisted at the scene. Detectives developed information about a possible suspect and suspect vehicle. Werner was taken into custody the next day at his home. The vehicle in-

volved was recovered elsewhere. "I would like to commend our detectives and the Buchanan Police Department for their effective work on this case that led to an arrest quickly," Public Safety Commissioner Thomas A. Gleason said. Werner was charged with leaving the scene of an accident resulting in death, a felony, was arraigned in Buchanan Village Court.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**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.**

**Town of Putnam Valley Work Session Agenda January 9, 2019** Pledge of allegiance. Resolution establishing base salary plus stipend only for all elected officials effective 1/1/2020. Resolution authorizing Supervisor to sign contract with Lewis Wrobel for legal work on Alexander Kaspar's bankruptcy proceedings. Adoption of 2019 Building Fees. Adoption of Zoning Board and Planning Board Fees for 2019. Appoint ad hoc for Planning Board 1/1/2019 to 12/31/2019. Appoint Deputy Supervisor 1/1/2019 to 12/31/2019.

**Town of Putnam Valley Planning Board 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York 10579, (845) 526-3740 Fax (845) 704-4714 www.putnamvalley.com**  
**NOTICE 1/2019:** Please be advised that the next meeting of the Planning Board will be held at Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road on Monday January 14, 2019 for the purpose of considering the following applications: Regular Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm **AGENDA PUBLIC**

*continued on next page*



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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.

Continued from page 12

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

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

**Ossining Farmers Market:** The Ossining Down to Earth Farmers Market is now being held outdoors on Spring and Market Streets. Customers old

and new will find delicious produce, pasture-raised meat, poultry, and eggs, breads, baked goods, and much more. For a full list of our markets and vendors, visit [DowntoEarthMarkets.com](http://DowntoEarthMarkets.com).

## Sunday, Jan. 13

**Kids Challah Bake:** Make your own batch of delicious challah from scratch, plus lots of fun toppings to choose from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Chabad of Yorktown, 629 Old Yorktown Rd. The program is for children four and older with an adult. RSVP is required for the free program. For more info and to RSVP visit: [www.ChabadYorktown.com](http://www.ChabadYorktown.com) or call 914-962-1111.

**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: Ellisha 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](http://yorktownjewishcenter.org).

## Monday, Jan. 14

**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](http://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:** The House with the Clock in its Walls will be screened at 6:30 p.m. at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Info: 914-737-1212 or [Peekskill.org](http://Peekskill.org).

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## EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

Classified Ad Deadline  
is Thursdays at 5pm for the  
next week's publication

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**HEARING:** The following public hearings have been scheduled for January 14, 2019 at 6:00PM (or as soon thereafter as agenda conditions permit) at the Putnam Valley Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York, 10579. All interested parties are invited to attend and will be heard. A copy of the application materials and plans may be inspected during normal business hours at the office of the Planning Board Clerk, Town of Putnam Valley Town Hall. 1.Rudowich, Carolyn, 243 Lake Shore Rd. (TM#41.6-1-6/File 2018-0188) The subject property is comprised of +/- 1.4 acres and is located

on 243 Lake Shore Road within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is seeking a Special Use Permit, Site Development Plan and Wetland Permit to construct a basement apartment. **SKETCH: 2.Home-land Towers, LLC- 265-273 Oscawana Lake Road (TM# 72.16-1-23/File: 2018-0186)** The subjects property consists of + 12.1acres of land and is located on 265-273 Oscawana Lake Road and within the CN Zoning District. The applicant is proposing installation of a 160 foot monopole with antennas, together with related equipment within a fenced compound. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** 3.Approve Minutes of December 10, 2018

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EATON TAX SERVICE LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY on 01/02/2019. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Eaton Tax Service LLC, 142 Mt Joy Pl, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**The name of the LLC is Goodbear Holdings LLC.** The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on December 20, 2018. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Westchester County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is **c/o 25 Bank St. Apt 214K, White Plains, New York 10606.**

**The name of the LLC is Goodbear Property LLC.** The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on December 20, 2018. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Westchester County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is **c/o 25 Bank St. Apt 214K, White Plains, New York 10606.**

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The Northern Westchester  
**Examiner**  
**Sports**  
*Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports*

# Word to the Weissman!

**Somers  
Stumbles  
in Putnam  
Challenge,  
But Don't  
Sleep on  
Tuskers**



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Somers senior F Charlie Weissman roars then powers up for two points in Tuskers' 59-58 non-league loss to host Carmel in Saturday's 12th annual Putnam Challenge where the Tuskers (7-1) suffered their first loss of the season during a tough stretch of three games in four days out of the holiday break. Somers was one of three Northern Westchester teams -- along with Panas and North Salem -- to lose to Putnam teams in the challenge but did come out of the siesta with wins over Lakeland and Brewster to remain in first place in League II-C, tied with Horace Greeley who the Tuskers face on Wednesday, Jan. 16, in what will be a critical, telling matchup... see Boys' Hoops Notebook



## Sports

## Girls' Hoops Notebook

# Panas, Put Valley Win Close Ones, Remain Undefeated

By Tony Pinciario

It was a wild post-holiday week of action; that's all you need to know.

The **WALTER PANAS** girls' basketball team concluded the 2018 calendar year rolling and continued the New Year in fancy fashion.

The Panthers won their first six games. Following a week off for the holiday break, Panas opened 2019 riding the momentum wave with two more victories. Panas opened 2019 with a 46-37 victory over Horace Greeley, then turned up the defensive pressure in the second half in a 41-30 victory over previously undefeated **YORKTOWN**, improving to 8-0. This is among the best starts to a season in program history.

"The team played great defense on a much bigger Horace Greeley team and battled for rebounds all game," Panas coach Matt Evangelista said.

Cailean Nolan had a game-high 17 points, including four 3-pointers.

Kristen Cinquina chipped in 15 points and added nine steals.

Panas trailed Yorktown, 15-11, at the half and 24-20 following the third quarter staved off defeat with a strong fourth for the win.

"We changed the press to create more turnovers and, most importantly, we began to make our shots," said Evangelista of the second-half surge against Yorktown. "Our man defense was even better in the second half. Julia Araujo played an excellent game guarding much bigger players and scoring all six of her points

in the fourth quarter and her free throws iced the game. Kat Reynoso's defense sparked the team with many steals and timely baskets. Kristen Scrobola battled sickness, foul trouble, and much taller girls to contribute greatly to the win. Alex Sudol, Emma Anderson, Megan Mucci and Erijona Rraci all made solid contributions to the win."

Nolan led the team with 13 points and Kristen Cinquina added 12 points against the Huskers (5-1). Even with the week off, Panas still approached practice with a determined attitude.

"We knew going into winter break that we were going to have to work hard during our time off because we had a league game on our first day back," senior Araujo said. "We remained focused and put in work on days that most teams took off."

Araujo noted that she and her teammates were frazzled and frustrated going into the locker room at halftime against Yorktown. However, the coaches eased the girls' collective psyche and Panas recalled the resiliency it showed against Mahopac in the fourth quarter of its tournament final.

"Our shots weren't dropping and we were struggling to get things going on offense," said Araujo of the first half against Yorktown. "Our coaches calmed us down and told us to play our game and that's exactly what we came out and did. We made a few adjustments and with a more intensive defense we started to generate more offense and secure the win. Our early-season win against Mahopac definitely helped us mentally. It made us realize that we are a team that is more than capable of coming together, even at



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS  
Somers G Hannah Angelini soars for easy two in win over Lakeland.



Putnam Valley junior G Kelli Veniezia eyes up shot against defense from Mahopac sophomore Mia Klammer in Tigers' 35-33 win over Indians Saturday.



Lakeland's Sarah Carroll takes run at Somers' Taylor Penzo in Hornets' loss to Tuskers last week.

the last second, to work hard to come back from behind and win games."

In the loss to Panas, Yorktown's Ashley Zeolla had a monster game with 20 points and 21 rebounds. Jesse Barer added eight points.

"The girls came out and executed the game plan exactly the way we talked about it," Yorktown Coach Brian Mundy said. "We played aggressive defensively, and controlled the boards. But we had too many untimely turnovers. We were effective in the paint, offensively, but didn't shoot well, like we have been. Panas did a good job of taking care of the ball. Even though we protected the perimeter, the threes they did hit late in the game were deep and came during a key run they made."

Despite the loss, Mundy was impressed with the atmosphere at Yorktown for the game between two undefeated teams.

"We had an awesome crowd," Mundy said. "They packed the gym to see two very good basketball teams battle it out. It's great to see the support from the community, especially all the YAC kids that showed up to support the girls. It means a lot to them."

**SOMERS** defeated **LAKELAND**, 52-

35, and won overcame **BREWSTER**, in overtime, 52-50, on a Dani DiCintio 3-ponter in the waning seconds.

Meagan Beal converted a layup with 15 seconds remaining in overtime, giving Brewster a 50-49 lead. DiCintio took the in-bounds' pass, raced down court and swished a straight-on 25-footer from beyond the top of the arc.

"It was honestly as wild of a game as I've ever coached," Somers Coach Marc Hattem said. "Coach (Mike) Castaldo had his girls ready to play and they played great. I wouldn't be surprised to see them make a deep run this year. It's a shame someone had to lose. Maggie DePaoli and Meagan Beal were awesome, but Dani did her thing in the end."

In the loss Grace Galgano finished with 21 points, nine rebounds and four rejections and Maggie DePaoli added 13 points, seven rebounds and six assists.

"This was a back-and-forth game from the second quarter on," Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo said. "We did a great job of contesting three and forcing tough twos. Somers was in foul trouble all night. We led by as many as eight in the fourth quarter, but Somers (7-1) had an and-1

*continued on next page*



# Sports

## Girls' Hoops Notebook

continued from previous page



Put Valley G Arianna Stockinger goes for two in Tigers' 35-33 win over Shannon Becker's Mahopac Indians Saturday.



Mahopac sophomore Mia Klammer draws tough foul call on Put Valley sophomore Arianna Stockinger in Indians' 35-33 loss to Tigers Saturday.



Putnam Valley G Kat Mazza goes up for two clutch points against defense of Mahopac's Shannon Becker in host Tigers' 35-33 win over Indians Saturday.

and a three in two straight possessions, which gave them a ton of momentum."

Castaldo said Galgano gave Brewster (6-4) a 46-45 lead with seven seconds

remaining in regulation, but DiCintio did a great job of pushing the ball, getting a shot off and a foul was called. DiCintio converted one of two free throws to force overtime.

**HEN HUD** snapped a two-game skid and evened its record at 4-4 with a 58-42 win over Peekskill as Caitlin Weimar had 23 points, 21 rebounds and eight blocked shots.

Hen Hud trailed by four after the first quarter, but outscored Peekskill, 17-2, in the second quarter.

"Peekskill got off to a great start shooting the ball extremely well from the three, but I was proud of the way we took the punch and fought back hard in the second quarter, holding them to only two points in that quarter," Hen Hud Coach Ken Sherman said. "We didn't change anything up defensively, but the main difference was our defensive rebounding. We did a much better job on the boards in the second quarter."

Grace Moretti added 16

points, five assists, four rebounds and four steals. Alex Figueroa finished with nine points and four rebounds.

"When Grace plays well the whole team plays better," Sherman said. "We move the ball better and we shoot the ball better because we get more open looks. She also went to the basket really well. Grace grew as a player against Peekskill."

**PUTNAM VALLEY** remained undefeated, 8-0 and ranked No.14 in NYS Class B, with a thrilling 35-33 victory over Class AA **MAHOPAC** as junior G Cyera Daughtry (6 points) slipped a double-team, drove the ball along the baseline and hit the decisive basket in the final second. A back-and-forth affair, the game featured a ton of defense and physicality.

"After a long break we snuck away with the win on a big Cyera Daughtry bucket against super-tough Mahopac squad," PV Coach Kristi Dini said. "We have a lot to work on and clean up, but I'm proud of this group for bringing energy and focus to every practice and game."

Kelli Venezia led the Tigers with 13 points. Mahopac (2-9) is chock-full-of-youth and better than its record would indicate. Indian sophomore F Caitlyn O'Boyle scored 11 points, including

game-tying 3-pointer with 3.3 seconds remaining to even the score at 33-33.

"Putnam Valley advances the ball, runs their play and scores on a baseline drive," Mahopac Coach Chuck Soczafava said. "We played a solid game and our defense stepped up. Hopefully, we can build off of this game and make a push to get to the sectionals."

**HALDANE** (2-8) handled Bronxville, 54-36, behind 18 points from Olivia Monteleone and 17 points from Olivia McDermott. The Blue Devils are among the best two-win teams in the section; don't be fooled.

**OSSINING** dropped a 91-50 verdict to Christ the King in the Crusader Classic at the Westchester County Center.

The short-handed Pride (8-3) trailed 27-19 after the first quarter, but Christ the King outscored Ossining by 14 in the second quarter to seize command of the game.

Kailah Harris led eight-time defending Section 1 Class AA champion Ossining with 27 points and 10 rebounds, Julia Iorio finished with 16 points and Brooke Weeks had six assists.

**Coaches please send results and comments to [tfinch23@optonline.net](mailto:tfinch23@optonline.net) for inclusion in our weekly notebook.**



Put Valley's Kelli Venezia (L) shows teammate Cyera Daughtry some love after Daughtry's buzzer-beater defeated Mahopac Saturday.



## Sports

## Boys' Hoops Notebook

# Putnam Hoopers Sweep 12th Annual Putnam Challenge

## *Haldane, Mahopac, Carmel Prevail vs. N. Salem, Panas, Somers*

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

The 12th annual Putnam Challenge pitted three of Putnam County's finest against three of Northern Westchester's top dogs over the last decade, and the IAABO 161 referee's board were at the top of their game last Saturday at Carmel High School while sponsoring the event with the Examiner Media Group.

The day opened with former Class AA powerhouse Mahopac handling 2018 Class A semifinalists Walter Panas, 64-54, behind a career effort from senior



Mahopac G Drew Riolo capped a big week with another strong performance in 63-53 win over Panther G Robert Ennis and Panas at Putnam Challenge Saturday.

C/F Reahl Allen, who went off for 33 points and 13 rebounds while junior G Matt McMahon added nine points. Allen was the 'Rheal Deal', hitting a pair from beyond the arc and putting on quite a show.

The second game of the day featured Class C powerhouse Haldane posting a 53-43 win over Class B heavyweight North Salem, who rallied to make it a game of it after the Blue Devils led comfortably throughout. In Haldane's win, swingman Matt Champlin led the way with 23 points while F Mame Diba dropped 20 points and swatted several shots on the other end for the Blue



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG/BOB CASTNER/BILL KENNEDY PHOTOS

Carmel F Michael Calcagano spots up for one of several big 3's he would drain in Rams' 59-58 win over Somers in 12th annual Putnam Challenge.

Devils (7-3). In Haldane's 55-34 win over Yonkers Montessori earlier in the week, Champlain went for 16 points while Daniel Santos added 12 and Diba had nine.

The evening concluded with Class AA host Carmel pulling off a 59-58 upset against Class A title-hopeful Somers behind 13 fourth-quarter points from Ram senior F Shane McNerney, who dropped a game-high 23 points, including 7 of 9 from the stripe in the fourth and two huge 3's (4 for the game).

"We had a tough first few games," McNerney admitted, "But winning a game like this against an undefeated program is big for us. I missed my first free throw in the fourth but was able to come through at the end. Those long shots are my bread and butter and I was glad I was able to hit a couple down the stretch when we needed them."

The Rams (4-4) have overcome a dreadful start and hope this win builds the necessary momentum they will need to get it going for the upcoming League I-A slate, which includes this Saturday

evening's tip-off against visiting rival Mahopac.

"We weren't healthy early in the year," Carmel Coach Paul Brennan said. "And tonight we were missing Peyton Cayea, one of our best ball handlers and top athletes. He's a big part of our team but our guys really stepped up. Our identity is on the defensive end and pushing the ball in transition and they've embraced that and done a great job with it. Somers is a great team with a great coach. They got in to that 2-2-1 press of theirs and got on a little run, but we handled the pressure fairly well for the first time this year and that's a big win for us without a primary ball handler on the floor. Shane's out most consistent scorer and what I like most is he wants the ball at the end of the game. He's the first kid I've ever coached that I've given the green light to shoot as soon as he steps over mid-court. He makes those shots every day in practice and we're very confident he can do so in the game."

Despite the raw, rainy weather, the event was a success and some scholarship money was handed out, so the next time



Somers G Lucas Fecci sinks two against Carmel defenders Jordan Franklin (24) and Jarid Garcia (5) in Tuskers' 59-58 loss to Rams.

you want to hoot and holler at a basketball referee, remember that it's the IAABO Board 161 that dedicates it's time to local student athletes 12 years running...

### NWE/Putnam County Super 7 Hoops Poll

**No.1 PUTNAM VALLEY** – Coach McDonnell's Class B state-ranked (No.12) Tigers (9-2) have done major damage against Dobbs (over holiday break) and Hastings, in Friday's 48-38 win, without star F/C TJ Brescia (ankle) in the lineup, which means guys like Brandon Guerra (9 points, 7 rebounds in win over Hastings), Ryan Soto (10 points, 4 boards, 4 assists), Ivan Caposito (15 points), freshman Cole Durocher (11 points) and Charlie Gatewood are joining Darnel Shillingford (12 points, 12, boards, 3 steals) in a unit that is beginning to recognize its capabilities. The window of opportunity will be shut for at least a year or two upon their departure, but these seniors STILL have THE chance to be a history-making group as they seek the first gold ball in program history #HaveAtIt

**No.2 SOMERS** – Coach DiCintio's Class A Tuskers (7-1) are a pack of football/soccer players, who truly get after it but may lack the necessary scoring punch to win a title, though they play enough



# Sports

## Boys' Hoops Notebook

continued from previous page



Carmel junior G Jarid Garcia goes up for two against Somers' Charlie Weissman in Rams' 59-58 win over Tuskers in 12th annual Putnam Challenge.



Yorktown senior F Anthony Ortiz goes up for two of his 19 points in 67-63 loss to Lakeland last Thursday.

entertaining game. Joe Vetrano added 11 points and J.P. Walsh had eight.

Rob Nardelli came up with 12 4th-quarter points to seal a 67-63 win over Yorktown earlier in the week for the Hornets, who have stayed afloat without injured sniper Jack Kruse (due back soon).

**No.7 BREWSTER** – Coach Nelligan's Bears (3-4) are not to be toyed with, having brought Somers to the cusp of defeat in a 42-41 setback behind the efforts of sharpshooter Harry Dignan (17 points). Bears could play a real spoiler role in League II-C down the road.

**HM HALDANE** – Coach Virgadamo's Class C Blue Devils (7-3) have significant pieces in Alex Kubik, Champlin and Diba to make a run at the Class C crown, but Tuckahoe remains the team to beat with Hamilton on the cusp.



Mahopac's Rheel Allen twists for two of his career-high 33 points against Panas' Steven Stafura and Jason Keefe in Indians' 64-54 win over Panthers in Putnam Challenge.

defense to make a legit Final 4 run. Lucas Fecci (16 points), Nick Maestri (16), Drew Lasher (12) and Max Germaine (10) all went for double figures in somewhat surprising loss to Carmel, though we did warn y'all not to sleep on them Rams. Germaine led the way with 14 in 42-41 win over stingy Brewster.

**No.3 MAHOPAC** – Coach Simone's Class AA Indians (5-4) also bested non-league foe Ramapo, 71-48, last Friday behind Indian G Drew Riolo's career-high 17 points. Allen dropped a dozen. Here's a tip for Mahopac: Get a hand in the face of Carmel's McNerney and long-range sniper Mike Calcagno, who was 4-of-4 from deep against Somers, this Saturday when the Mahopac Maniacs and Carmel Crazies go toe-to-toe in what should be a wild quadruple

header between J.V. and varsity boys and girls.

**No.4 CROTON** – Coach Martucci's Class B Tigers (6-1), despite the terrific start and a 48-38 win over Pleasantville -- behind 21 points from hotshot Sean Macarchuk -- are getting little credit, but they were set to open some eyes last night against Briarcliff. Take notice, y'all!

**No.5 CARMEL** – Coach Brennan's Class AA Rams (4-4) did what they did against Somers without the services of Peyton Cayea (illness), who may or may not play against Mahopac Saturday. There will be a slew of solid athletes on the floor when they rekindle this storied rivalry, but McNerney may be the best "basketball player" and that could be the difference if the Rams can match Mahopac's athleticism.

**No.6 LAKELAND** – Coach Fallo's Class A Hornets (5-4) saw Augie Karaqi go off for 27 points in 71-62 loss to visiting Somers on Friday, but a poor fourth quarter spelled doom in an otherwise



Haldane F Mame Diba dropped 20 points in Blue Devils' 53-43 win over North Salem in 12th annual Putnam Challenge Saturday.



# Somers Gains Upper Hannah!

## Tusker Guard Rules with Iron Fist in Wins over Lakeland, Brewster

All-Section Somers senior G Hanna Angelini (R) is challenged by Lakeland F Brianna Monte in the Tuskers' 52-35 win over the visiting Hornets last Friday, the day before Angelini went down hard on her head in a 52-50 overtime triumph of host Brewster to take the lead in the League II-C title chase. Angelini would be checked out by doctors Saturday night and will await clearance to play this week... see Girls' Hoops Notebook



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTO (PLEASE VISIT WWW.HVSRPHOTOS FOR MORE)



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