

**New Book  
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April 2 - April 8, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 484

## New Indian Pt. Community Advisory Panel Receives Backlash

By Rick Pezzullo

The establishment of a Community Advisory Panel (CAP) to serve as a communication vehicle for issues surrounding the decommissioning of the Indian Point nuclear power plants was announced last Thursday at Buchanan Village Hall.

The 25-member group will be chaired by Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker, with Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi serving as vice chairwoman, and include county executives from Westchester, Putnam, Rockland and Orange, along with state representatives.

"We will be the eyes, ears and voices of all the community," Knickerbocker

said. "This is a regional issue. This is not a political thing. This is our home. This community was not (informed) about the closures. We were left out. We're just tired of being told what to do."

"It's home rule. We live here. We work here," Puglisi said. "We don't want someone else to dictate what we should do. It's been a journey. It will continue to be a journey. There are many challenges."

On January 9, 2017, a secret agreement between Entergy, owners of the plants, Governor Andrew Cuomo and Riverkeeper was revealed. Under the pact, Indian Point Unit 2 will cease operations as early as April 2020 and Unit 3 in April

*Continued on page 2*



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker and other members of new panel at Buchanan Village Hall.

## Mayor Rainey Mum on New Location for Homeless Shelter

By Rick Pezzullo

An application for a zoning law amendment that would allow a homeless shelter to be located in any commercial zone in the City of Peekskill still has not been withdrawn by a non-profit organization that was seeking to relocate the Jan Peek homeless shelter from North Water Street to 851 Washington Street.

City officials confirmed the request from Caring for the Hungry and Homeless of Peekskill (CCHOP) that was made January 18 has not been officially rescinded when pressed by residents during last week's Common Council meeting, despite CCHOP announcing three weeks ago it was abandoning plans to move the only homeless facility in northern Westchester to 851 Washington Street and was seeking an alternative location.

In a message posted on Facebook March 12, the Board of Directors of CHHOP stated it had not received the funding needed "to move the Washington Street project forward," and thus would be turning its attention to another property in an industrial area.

"We will be reapplying for the grant but feel that we need to show good faith to the shelter as the closing date approaches," the Board of Directors stated. "It is our belief that a location in a more isolated, industrial area, although not ideal, will be more acceptable to the community. A shift to a new site would also allow us to proceed more quickly and let us move on from our current location, which is inadequate, difficult/cost prohibitive to renovate, and lack-

*Continued on page 12*



### Yorktown Girls Claim Two Titles

The Yorktown 8th Grade Girls Travel basketball team finished in first place at both the County Center Tournament and TCBL league this year. On March 28, Yorktown beat a tough New Rochelle team 38-34 in overtime to win the Westchester County Center Tournament held in White Plains. This follows their first-place championship victory in the TCBL league on March 10, also against New Rochelle, held in Chappaqua.

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# New Indian Pt. Community Advisory Panel Receives Backlash

*Continued from page 1*

2021. However, an emergency provision is included that could give Entergy an additional four years of service in the event of war, a sudden increase in electrical demand or a sudden shortage of electric energy. Entergy officials have said that scenario is unlikely.

Units 2 and 3 at Indian Point generate approximately 2,000 megawatts of electricity for homes, business and public facilities in New York City and Westchester County. This represents approximately 25 percent of the electric power used in the region.

Buchanan is set to lose \$4 million, or 46% of its operating funds, while the Hendrick Hudson School District will be suffering a \$24 million hit, or 33% of its budget. Cortlandt will lose \$800,000 annually, which represents two percent of its budget. In addition, the Verplanck Fire Department will lose 64% of its budget and the Hendrick Hudson Free Library will be shortchanged 28%.

"We have to make sure we insert ourselves in the communication effort," said Hendrick Hudson Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter, a member of CAP. "We have worked tirelessly and collaboratively together to make sure we kept our spirits up as we go through this important phase. Many people are af-

fectured by what the next chapter of Indian Point holds."

Entergy officials have said \$1.8 billion has been set aside for the decommissioning of Indian Point, a process the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has given a maximum of 60 years to complete, although it has been estimated it will only take about 15 years to finish. Two representatives of Indian Point selected by Entergy will be on the CAP.

The creation of the panel was met with some harsh criticism at last week's press conference by some grassroots community organization members who contended the panel was comprised of too many area elected officials with no clout.

"What you're doing is a very simple solution to a complex issue," said Marilyn Elie, a member of the Indian Point Safe Coalition, who said she lives three miles from Indian Point. "What you're doing does not stand up to scrutiny. It's overloaded with politicians. This is no place for small time politics. There's very unrealistic expectations still floating around."

Power Through Cortlandt, a group of citizens from Buchanan and Cortlandt, mostly in the Hendrick Hudson School District, that formed after Entergy announced its exit plans for Indian Point, issued a press release stating it did not

support the CAP. Instead, the group said it favored a Citizens Oversight Board at the state level that it had been lobbying for with a coalition of community groups for more than a year.

"A true community organization is formed from the bottom up, not the top down," the group stated. "In order to successfully represent the best interests of the community in question, members need to be independent, not beholden to financial interests or future reelection campaigns. Members should have a vested personal interest in all aspects of a community's continued success and not be focused only on the specific position they represent."

"Power Through Cortlandt is concerned that this Advisory Panel has an expiration date, while the matters affecting our community do not," the group continued. "The Advisory Panel seems to be redundant, mimicking the local task force formed following the initial announcement of the plant's closure. The only community representatives included are to be appointed by the same elected officials who make up its primary membership."

Knickerbocker and Puglisi took exception to some of the criticism, insisting they would not be passive in their efforts.

"We can't expect anything else to protect us," Knickerbocker said. "We are the stakeholders."

"I consider myself a public servant," Puglisi added. "I've tried to give back. We have total transparency. There will be representatives of citizenry sitting on this panel."

The Indian Point CAP will meet on an as-needed basis and is tentatively scheduled to hold its first public session this summer.

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# Croton Man Sentenced on Child Porn, Weapons Charges

Westchester County District Attorney Anthony A. Scarpino, Jr. announced March 26 that Christopher Alessandro, 26, of Croton-on-Hudson was sentenced for child pornography and possessing a firearm in 2018.

Appearing before Westchester County Court Judge Susan Cacace, Alessandro was sentenced on the Attempted Disseminating Indecent Material to Minors in the First Degree, a class E felony, and Attempted Criminal Possession of a Firearm, a class A misdemeanor. On the indecent material charge, Alessandro received time served of 324 days and five years' probation. His probation will be transferred to Putnam County where he plans to live upon release. He must forfeit his computer. The case was adjourned to May 7 for a SORA\* hearing. The defendant was released on his own recognizance. However, he is being held at the County Jail awaiting extradition to Virginia on another charge. On the firearms charge, Alessandro received three years' probation to run concurrently.

On May 7, 2018, the New York State Police, in conjunction with the Virginia State Police and the Westchester County District Attorney's Office High Technology Crime Bureau, arrested Alessandro in the Town of Cortlandt. In April 2018, the Virginia State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Unit contacted the New York State Police Cortlandt barracks regarding an unknown male in New York sending indecent material to a Special Agent posing as a 14-year-old girl. After an approximately monthlong investigation, Investigators in Cortlandt and the Troop K Computer Crimes Unit identified Alessandro. He pleaded guilty Feb. 7, 2019.

## State Police

**March 23** - State Police from Hawthorne arrested Vincent P. Siconolfi, 30, of Mahopac, for DWI after was traveling on the Sprain Brook Parkway in the Town of Greenburgh and was stopped for a vehicle and traffic law violation. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently arrested.

**March 24** - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Christine B. Cothren, 51, of Cortlandt, for Aggravated DWI after she was traveling on Albany Post Road in the Town of Cortlandt and 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 Jose R. Soto, 60, of Wallkill, NY, for DWI after he was traveling on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Yorktown and was involved in a two-car motor vehicle crash. Investigation revealed that he was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently arrested.

State Police from Somers arrested Stephanie I. Correa, 30, of Somers, for Aggravated DWI with a previous conviction,

Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 1st degree, both class E felonies, and Circumventing an Interlock Device, a class A misdemeanor. Correa was traveling on Saw Mill River Parkway in the Town of Mount Pleasant when she was stopped by Westchester County Police as a suspect in a domestic incident investigation handled by the State Police. Investigation revealed that she was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently arrested.

## Yorktown Police

**March 23** - An unidentified 17-year-old

male from Yorktown was charged with petit larceny for allegedly stealing \$80 from his cash register at K-Mart during a two-hour period.

**March 24** - Robyn Mabus, 56, of Yorktown, was charged with petit larceny after allegedly shoplifting \$265 worth of merchandise from Macy's on March 17.

**March 25** - Juan Guzman Moreno, 34, of Flushing, NY, was charged with grand larceny and criminal mischief in connection with a March 12 incident in the parking lot of 3535 Hill Boulevard in Jefferson Valley during which he allegedly followed

a victim from a nearby bank and when the victim exited his car and entered a building Moreno broke the car window and stole \$1,700 in cash. Moreno was held on \$10,000 cash bail.

**March 28** - Eric Burgos, 47, of the Bronx, was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation and several traffic infractions after being stopped on Route 202 for failing to obey a traffic control device. Investigation revealed he was operating a vehicle while his driving privilege was suspended 13 times for failing to answer summonses, as well as not paying child support



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# Cuomo, State Lawmakers Agree to \$175.5B Budget

By David Propper

Calling it the "broadest, most sweeping" plan during his tenure, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced a budget agreement between the three branches of state government over the weekend as lawmakers hit the April 1 deadline for a new fiscal year.

Cuomo, in a press briefing Sunday, said the budget addressed many of New York's most pressing issues with an overall spending plan of \$175.5 billion. The deal is the ninth straight year a budget has been agreed to by the deadline.

"I think this budget is the strongest, most progressive statement that we've made," Cuomo said.

The final agreement resulted in a permanent two percent property tax cap, a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags and publicly financed political campaigns. Additionally, parts of the Affordable Care Act were codified into state law and bail reform was approved, which will eliminate cash bail in 90 percent of cases, according to a press release from Cuomo's office.

As for education aid, \$27.9 billion was secured for districts across the state, a 3.7 percent increase from last year.

The budget also signed off on lowering the middle-class tax rate by \$300,000 as Cuomo said he is fighting to combat



Governor Andrew Cuomo praised budget that was passed on time for ninth year in a row.

the loss of the state and local tax (SALT) deduction imposed by the federal government that has hurt high tax states like New York.

On Election Day, every worker will get three hours off, paid leave to vote and \$10 million will go to counties for early voting.

Affecting New York City, congestion pricing was agreed to where vehicles

traveling south of 60th Street in Manhattan would be charged a toll, as revenue would go toward fixing the crumbling subway system. Each vehicle will only be charged once each day and there is no charge for drivers who remain on the West Side Highway or FDR Drive.

This is the first time since 2010 that Democrats controlled the governor's mansion, Assembly and state Senate dur-

ing the budget season.

Cuomo said there were several issues that made this budget more strenuous, including the ongoing assault from the federal government, the Amazon deal that fell through resulting in lost revenue and a \$2.3 billion shortfall that was not anticipated.

One reform that didn't pass was the legalization of recreational marijuana for adults 21 and up. Supporters of legalization said it would bring in revenue to the state and prevent the disproportionate arrests of minorities. Critics have feared it would lead to more drug use by teenagers and claimed marijuana is a gateway to more dangerous drugs.

Cuomo said legislation for that issue would still be discussed going forward this year.

"The political desire is there," Cuomo said. "I believe we will get it done. It is complicated to come up with a program that does it and protects public safety and does economic empowerment for communities that have paid the price and the best way to do it was not the rush of the budget."

Municipalities throughout the state have discussed, drafted or approved regulations for the sale of recreational marijuana, and in some cases have passed laws prohibiting its retail sale.

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# Somers Author Chronicles Story of Little-Known Legend

By Rick Pezzullo

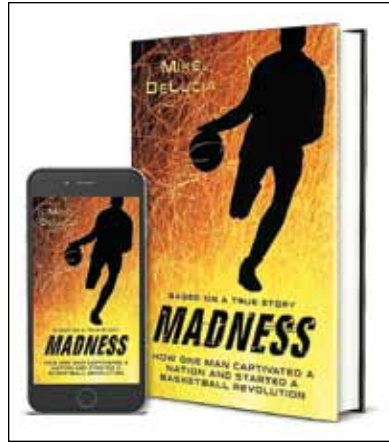
He never played in the NBA, but Angelo-Guiseppi "Hank" Luisetti was a master of his craft—a basketball legend in the 1930s who achieved such celebrity status that he starred in a movie as himself opposite Betty Grable.

In a new book entitled "Madness: How One Man Captivated A Nation and Started a Basketball Revolution," Somers resident Mike DeLucia chronicles the life of Luisetti, who he declares was basketball's first superstar and reinvented the game by perfecting the one-handed shot.

"He laid the foundation for March Madness and the NBA and even Michael Jordan can't make that claim," DeLucia said in a recent interview. "He was 50 years ahead of his time. He was the best player in the whole country. He broke all kinds of scoring records. Hank Luisetti was the first person to score 50 points in one game. He's the one that put juice into the game that it is."

The book has been in the works by DeLucia, a teacher at Clarkstown South High School in Rockland County, for 35 years. In the foreword, DeLucia credits Sylvester Stallone and the release of the Oscar winning movie *Rocky* in 1976 with inspiring him, an aspiring actor at the time, seven years later to write a screenplay based on the life of Luisetti.

"Hank found its familiar spot at the bottom of my 'To Do' list and it remained



Somers author Mike DeLucia; cover of new book Madness.

there for decades," DeLucia wrote. "It took 35 years to arrive, but Madness, the story's newest title, is here to reintroduce Hank Luisetti to the world. Looking back on it now, I'm astonished that the desire to tell his story stayed alive in me for over three decades. Perhaps my stubborn personality was responsible for it, but I'd like to think it was Mr. Luisetti nudging me along every time I became sidetracked."

"Ever since that day, Sylvester Stallone inspired me to write a screenplay, hold on to a dream, and see it through till the end...even if it was a million-to-one shot," he added.

DeLucia said Luisetti's unorthodox play-

ing style, such as the behind-the-back dribble, helped quicken the pace of how basketball was played back then and "injected fluidity." He said basketball's fan base started to grow and that led to the creation of college basketball's March Madness and the formation of the NBA.

A serious illness that Luisetti contracted during World War II prevented Luisetti from leaving his mark on the NBA but he was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1959. He died in 2002 at the age of 86.

"People are really loving the book. I'm very satisfied," DeLucia said. "To me when I hear stuff like that I feel I did a pretty good job."

A few years ago, DeLucia, a lifelong New York Yankees fan, fed up with how corporate greed has ruined America's favorite pastime and taken the joy out of rooting for his beloved pinstripes, penned a book called,

"Boycott The Yankees."

DeLucia grew up in the Throgs Neck/Pelham Bay section of the Bronx and played baseball on streets, parks and empty lots in the borough. When he stepped up to the plate in Little League, he imagined he was Mickey Mantle.

"I didn't play baseball because of the Yankees. I loved baseball, but I loved baseball better because of my allegiance to the Bombers," DeLucia stated in that book. "So, my inspiration for this book grew from the fervent core of both my distant and not-so-distant past. Twenty years ago, I could never have imagined that I would one day write a book calling for a boycott of the New York Yankees. Writing those words is uncomfortable to me because they sound blasphemous."

DeLucia said he started pondering writing a book taking the Yankees to task after he walked into the new Yankee Stadium in 2009 and noticed the right field bleachers had been relocated.

As for his book Madness, DeLucia said he welcomes any groups or organizations to invite him to speak about it and his experiences. Anyone interested can send him an email at [greentbooks@hotmail.com](mailto:greentbooks@hotmail.com). His books can be purchased at [www.booksby-mikedelucia.com](http://www.booksby-mikedelucia.com).

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# MLB Professionals Teach Kids How to Play Baseball

By Tim Bradbury

What kid has not had dreams of having a catch with a professional baseball player? Family & Children's Aid partnered with the Major League Baseball Players Alumni Association (MLBPAA) at the Somers Sports Arena on Saturday, March 23 to make this dream come true for many young people.

Kids ages 6-16 were able to register to participate in one of the many free Family & Children's Aid baseball clinics, featuring many former Major League Baseball players teaching them how to play the sport more efficiently.

Among the players present at the event were John Doherty, Frankie Rodriguez, Fred Cambria, Frank Eufemia, Luis Lopez, Mike Porzio, Donovan Mitchell and Damien Myers. The event gathered about 180 children to participate from the New York and Connecticut region in order to earn money for charity, help children learn, and promote the game of baseball.

The participating attendees were placed into groups based on their age and spent time with each of the players at the event learning about key aspects of how to play baseball and how to practice important skills both on the field and off. The kids spent time working on skills with the professional players such as the



PHOTO BY TIM BRADBURY

Frank Eufemia gives fielding tips to youngsters.

technique of base running from Cambria, fielding and catching with Mitchell, Porzio and Eufemia, as well as learning how to bat correctly with Lopez.

The children were also given the opportunity to sit down and connect with the professionals and ask any questions they may have about the game or about life in general. The event concluded with

an autograph session for the attending children to have their gear signed by the players.

Family & Children's Aid is a not-for-profit organization that focuses on working with children of all ages and their families in order to strengthen their emotional and physical health. While they are based in Connecticut, the clinic

in Somers marked the first of their events in New York.

Allison Carballo, Director of Development for Family & Children's Aid, said, "Our organization is looking to begin raising awareness for our cause and helping children and families in need outside of Connecticut as well." She stressed the group's focus on helping children and families in need anywhere they can, no matter how much money they may or may not have. "We're a not-for-profit group," Carballo said. "We accept insurance from people, but if someone does not have insurance we will always help them out."

The organization is able to put on these wonderful events for free due to the generosity of the MLBPAA and the owners of the facilities where they occur. Carballo praised the cooperation the MLBPAA has provided Family & Children's Aid, stating how great the two organizations' relationship is and how generous the MLBPAA has been in being willing to help organize these free clinics which help make young kids' dreams come true.

Family & Children's Aid and the MLBPAA will be hosting several more free clinics throughout the summer in Connecticut from May through July. To register, visit [www.fcaweb.org/forms/mlb](http://www.fcaweb.org/forms/mlb) online.

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## Obituaries

### Anna M. Bochan

Anna M. Bochan, a lifelong resident of Yorktown, died March 28. She was 101.



Anna M. Bochan

She was born on August 23, 1917 in Peekskill to Chester and Loretta McCord. She is survived by her four nieces and nephews and her friend Grace Reynolds. She was predeceased by her husband Henry and her brothers

Henry and Chester A. McCord.

### Charles Williams

Charles D. Williams, a resident of Somers, died March 13 after a lung transplant due to IPF (Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis). He was 63.

Mr. Williams worked as a newspaper press operator for the last 45 years. He started at the Peekskill Evening star, then went to The Patent Trader, then Gannett USA Today, and North Jersey Media Group owned by Gannett. Mr. Williams was born October 26, 1955 at Lenox Hill

Hospital in Manhattan to Charles and Florence E. (Becker) Williams. He graduated from Yorktown High School in 1973. He lived in Somers for the past 29 years.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years Kerry (Guest) Williams, two sons Kyle Williams and Tyler Williams, one granddaughter CoraLynn Williams, his sister Diane (Williams) and husband Dan Glynn of Georgia, a brother Dennis and wife Mildred Williams of Virginia, sister-in-law Minnette Williams of New York and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and brother Phillip L. Williams, who also had IPF.

### Maria Castillo

Maria Esther Castillo, a resident of Ossining, died March 28. She was 101.

She was born in Montevideo, Uruguay on February 9, 1918 to Segundo Martin Castillo and Leticia Bagnoli.

Mrs. Castillo is survived by her three children Francisco and Hector (Jorge) Giraldez and Zulma Medina; 11 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Juan Augusto Giraldez; daughter Mirtha Lisboa, her grandson Miguel Angel Lisboa and her great-grandson Kevin Lisboa.

### Jean Duff

Jean Duff (née Robinson) died peacefully. She was 93.

Born in Peekskill, she was the daughter of Fred C. And Carrie Pierce Robinson. She graduated from Peekskill High School in 1942, and went on to earn her bachelor's degree in Education from NYU in 1946. On February 16, 1947, she married her high school sweetheart, Douglas W. Duff, who pre-deceased her. He worked for her father in the family business at Robinsons Paint Store, which he eventually took over in the 1960's. The business remains in the family nearly 100 years later under the ownership of her daughter and son-in-law Judith and Fred Dunstan of Garrison. In addition to the aforementioned daughter, she is also survived by daughter Lois and her husband Ed Craumer of Oradell, NJ, and son John and his wife Joy of New Bern, NC. She was the proud grandmother of five grandchildren with whom she shared her love of music, reading, skiing and LBI. In the past 10 years she also welcomed six great-grandchildren who brought her much delight. She was predeceased by her brother Albert, and two sisters, Helen and Dorothy.

In addition to raising her family in

Mohegan Lake, she was active in several local groups including the Junior Women's Club, The Peekskill Hospital Auxiliary, The Saint Francis Hospital Auxiliary and The Taghkanic Chorale.

As a professional she was a substitute teacher, and once her children were grown she became a beloved teacher at George Washington School in Mohegan Lake, where she impacted many students lives.

She will be remembered by many for her energy, willingness to "pitch in," her musical talent- both on the piano and vocal, her welcoming home and wonderful cooking - and mostly for the past 42 years as "Meemo."

### William Kneuer

William P. Kneuer, a resident of Putnam Valley, died March after a long battle with cancer at home on with his loving wife Kim at his side. He was 65.

He spent his last days surrounded by family while listening to his beloved Beatles. He was born in Manhattan and raised in Putnam Valley, the town where he spent the remainder of his life with Kim and their children. After retiring from Local 91 Heat & Frost Insulators

*Continued on page 11*

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## Letters to the Editor

# Plenty of Work Has Been Done to Improve Mohegan Lake

### To the Editor:

Residents around Mohegan Lake have been working - mostly quietly - for many years to improve the lake environment. Suddenly, after a lake-side press conference by a candidate for supervisor and his running mates, and multiple press releases, the lake has been in the news and getting attention. I welcome the attention, but I'm disappointed with some of the misinformation. For starters, the press conference was held at a housing complex that has never operated a Lake Mohegan swimming beach, but has always had a lakeside pool as their amenity. And that's where the one resident is interviewed by News 12 about swimming in the lake?

Some of the misinformation: 1) There's been lots of talk but no action (News 12 press conference) 2) Over \$14 million in local waterfront revitalization program funding is being left on the table (Mid-HudsonNews.Com) 3) "Pollution at the Holland Sports Club" and issues in the hamlet "will cost millions to remediate" and Mohegan is "New York's most endangered lake." (Northern Westchester Examiner quoting Matt Slater) 4) For the past 7 years "This lake has basically not been open for swimming. The algae is so thick; it's almost like you could walk

across it." (MidHudsonNews.Com quoting Tom Diana)

Isn't campaign season fun? It's the only time party faithful can walk on water, while giving out fake news, and pointing out the demons who are always the folks on the other side of the aisle.

The actual facts: while walking on the water (ok, on my standup paddleboard surveying the lake), I observed that 2018 was one of the best swimming seasons we've had in Mohegan in some time, with more people swimming from their lake-front homes and from five active swimming beaches than I've seen in a decade, and there were hardly any beach closures despite weekly monitoring by the Health Department. While there's a backlog of infrastructure issues throughout Yorktown, I know of no "pollution" at Rock Hill Park (formerly Holland Sporting Club). Under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund, the NYS Regional Economic Development Council awarded \$14.9 million to 56 projects for sustainable waterfront development. The projects that were awarded competitively include commercial downtown waterfront and harbor areas in Kingston, Long Island, NYC, Lake Ontario, the Finger Lakes, etc. and the funds were generally

oriented toward economic development and tourism. The funding round opened up May 1, 2018, and closed in July 2018. The bills sponsored by Assemblyman Byrne and Senator Murphy were signed into law in September 2018, adding Mohegan and Osceola as designated Inland Waterways, a pre-requisite to applying for the EPF local waterfront revitalization program (LWRP).

"The accusation of 'No action' is what really burns me up. So much has been worked on in the last two years, including the most successful lake treatments thus far in 2018; a Lake Management Plan completed in 2018; a phosphorus mitigation plan currently under final review by DEC; the award of State funds in 2018 to address the algae blooms, which consists of a three year project which began last summer, should result in a major lake treatment this Spring, and will have two years of follow-up; the decision to proceed with the Mohegan Avenue road work, and looking to incorporate phosphorus removal in the stormwater catch basins in Mohegan for the first time ever (thanks Dave Paganelli); volunteer completion of a hiking trail around Rock Hill Park as a first step toward making it a real park (thanks Walt and Jane Daniels); the

receipt of a new weed harvester through an \$80K state grant (thanks Senator Murphy, Matt Slater, and Mike Grace); two sewer petitions from areas around the lake, with a potential third petition on its way, and multiple conversations about how to move this along (thanks Mike Quinn, Stewart Glass and Supervisor Gilbert); and discussions about other NYS funds that might be available for Mohegan sewers and stormwater projects (thanks Senator Harckham and Supervisor Gilbert). And that's just some of the highlights.

We welcome all of the candidates and incumbent Town Board members' and the Supervisor's interest in and commitment to improving Lake Mohegan, and genuinely hope this extends far beyond election season. Judging from the responses I received in the past week, I am not the only one upset by exaggeration of our very real problems, which stirs up fear among lake residents. I'm unsure whether LWRP is the right source of funds for Lake Mohegan, but we should leave no stone unturned as we work together to improve the lake environment.

**KEN BELFER**

**Ken Belfer is President of the Mohegan Lake Improvement District**

# Diana, Lachterman Should Apologize for Weakening Tree Law

### To the Editor:

As a resident of Mohegan Lake for 28 years, I was fascinated by the article about the interest of the Republican candidates for Town Board in the lake I have enjoyed all these years. At first I thought "Great, Republicans caring about our waterways!" I figured they had to be denouncing the leader of their party, Mr. Trump, for his horrible deregulation of industry, which allows many more polluting chemicals to be dumped into our waterways. I searched the article in vain

for such a rebuke.

Disappointed, I next hoped that Messrs. Diana and Lachterman would be publicly apologizing for voting for the new tree law in November 2016. As we all know, trees are important to the health of waterways like Mohegan Lake, because they hold back the soil and prevent erosion of nutrients from the soil into the lake. The oversupply of these nutrients cause the terrible, toxic algal blooms we have been having for years. Overcutting trees in new development

contributes to erosion, and the old tree law helped stop that by strongly regulating what trees could be cut, and requiring strong mitigation when they were cut. One week after Messrs. Diana and Lachterman helped weaken our tree law by voting for the new law in November 2016, I took a walk in town owned woodlands near Mohegan Lake. I was horrified to find that a huge swath of trees had been freshly cut, creating a denuded path all the way up the hill! With no notice to any neighbors or the lake associations.... because the newly weakened law no longer applied to town land. Those trees had helped stop soil erosion into Mohegan Lake. This is only one of the ways this law weakened tree protection in Yorktown. Surely Messrs. Diana and Lachterman were issuing an apology for their vote for this! I searched the article in vain again.

There was a time in this country when protecting the environment was a non-partisan issue that Republicans and Democrats both supported. The Environmental Protection Agency was created during Richard Nixon's tenure, and that agency and the Clean Water Act, Migratory Bird Treaty, and other important environmental laws were important to members of both parties. There was

a time, prior to 2012, when Yorktown's Republican public officials found protecting the environment to be important. I'm hoping that the announcement by the Republican candidates that the health of Mohegan Lake is important to them signals a return to that time when we all agreed the environment must be protected. However, admitting and apologizing for your own role in worsening the situation, and calling out others in your party who worsen the situation, is also important. The Town Board, under the new Democratic majority, will soon be considering a proposal to once again strengthen the tree law. I'm waiting to hear from the three Republicans at that press conference about my lake as to whether they will support that law, and whether Messrs. Diana and Lachterman support other initiatives to protect the environment in Mohegan Lake, Yorktown, and our country.

**MAURA GREGORY**  
**Mohegan Lake**

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# The Homeless Shelter Controversy: Both Sides Now

## To the Editor:

As a new resident of Peekskill with an interest in community affairs, I attended the Peekskill Common Council meeting a few weeks ago to hear attendees express their support or opposition to the relocation of the Jan Peek Homeless Shelter.

Having experienced a similar range of emotions evoked by Croton home owners in the late 70s concerned about a proposed public housing complex on what is now the Hudson National golf course, it came as no surprise to witness a very similar NIMBY outcry based on home owners' genuine fears for the safety of their families, the anticipated loss of value on their homes and the possible disruption of their neighborhood, regardless of the probability of these consequences actually occurring.

It is easy to disparage their fears if one is not impacted directly by such a proposal and to feel a sense of revulsion at some of the comments made by a few of the representative of Safe & Strong, particularly those echoing the dog whistles of racism, and disdain for the less fortunate. Comments offered loudly and with fury and purposeful meanness by some of the group characterizing residents as drug dealers, undesirables and the like was not helpful. Even when several of the supporters of the proposed relocation spoke to the fact that there were, in fact, abused individuals, veterans suffering from PTSD and mentally challenged among the Shelter residents, you could hear snickering and disparagement from more than a few of the resistance group.

This type of controversy, unfortunate

in every respect, from the early on failure to engage the home owners and commercial businesses in the area with a more thoughtful and long range consideration of alternative venues, perhaps not as convenient to needed services but still serving the interest of the genuinely needy homeless, might have made this a much more resolvable and less acrimonious situation for all concerned. Most regretfully, the purposeful attempt to politicize this situation by some Republican hopefuls to lay blame at the doorstep of the Democrats supporting a change in venue but open to discussion of location, I found particularly reprehensible.

So in closing, I would like to complement those "resistors" who spoke calmly and with genuine empathy and compassion about the fate of the homeless and

disenfranchised while suggesting further research and discussion might be done to explore alternatives to the Shelter moving to their neighborhood. Since that meeting, it seems your aims have been achieved with CHHOP dropping their plan to relocate the Jan Peek Shelter to Washington St.

But what about those less fortunate still in need due to circumstances so often beyond their control?

Perhaps now would be the right time to translate your compassion and caring sentiments into action by contributing to the cause of the homeless with both your financial donations and helpful ideas regarding site possibilities, making this a victory for all of us.

JAY FORBES  
Peekskill

## Slater is Playing Politics with Mohegan Lake

## To the Editor:

It is interesting to note that Mr. Slater, who worked for former State Senator Murphy, failed to point out that Mohegan Lake was not designated an inland waterway until September 7, 2018 and that the applications for the program funding that he refers to was due on July 27, 2018, about a month and a half be-

fore Mohegan Lake could qualify for the program. The next round of grant program descriptions are not expected, according to NYS Department of State, to be issued until sometime in May 2019.

In addition, if Mr. Slater was truly concerned about the Town being able to eventually participate in this grant program, he would have notified the town

earlier instead of waiting to make a political issue out of this matter. In addition, if he had notified Mr. Diana or Mr. Lachterman of this fact, they certainly did not bring it to my attention.

The Town has been supporting the Mohegan Lake Improvement District and its President, Ken Belfer, on a Pilot Project through the New York State

Department of Environmental Conservation. DEC had a consultant doing research on Lake Mohegan since last summer, which in fact demonstrated to DEC that Lake Mohegan was a good subject for a Pilot project to reduce harmful algal blooms through inactiva-

*Continued on page 16*

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## Ty's Bread Basket BakeShop Peekskill

By Neal Rentz

The name of their new bakery, Ty's Bread Basket BakeShop, located in Peekskill, has a special and poignant meaning to its co-owners, Brooklyn resident Sonia Hudson and her daughter, Keisha Hudson of Cortlandt.

Tyrone is her son, "who unfortunately had a tragic accident on January 3rd of 2018 and expired. So, this was done in his honor," Sonia Hudson said last week. The bakery opened on December 22, 2018 which was her late son's birthday, she said.

The bakery features an extensive menu, including bagels, muffins, cookies, and cupcakes. "Just about every one of our items in here is a specialty item," Keisha Hudson said. "People come in for everything. They love the variety that we carry and we also have sugar free, gluten free and vegan options."

Many more customers have come in recently for gluten free and vegan items, she noted. "We expanded that menu," she said, adding that gluten free items that are most popular are brownies, cookies and cupcakes.

Among the regular items that are particularly popular with customers are



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Cortlandt resident Keisha Hudson, shown above, and her mother, Brooklyn resident Sonia Hudson, opened Ty's Bread Basket BakeShop on Main Street in Peekskill in December.

cupcakes, cookies, muffins, croissants and cheesecake brownies, Keisha Hudson said.

"We make a variety of breads baked fresh daily," Keisha Hudson said. The types of bread include rye, whole wheat loafs, French and Italian baguettes, sour dough, tomato basil and garlic and herb.

A variety of spread can accompany bagels sold at Ty's. Organic teas, hot chocolate, coffee and lattes are among the beverage options.

A feature of the new business is a Children's Corner, which is a place for children to sit and eat, Sonia Hudson said. The bakery also offers birthday party packages at the business for youths up to the age of 11.

Items sold at the new bakery are created every day and Keisha Hudson does some of the baking. Sonia Hudson helps out at the store on weekends.

Unsold products from the bakery are donated to not-for-profit organizations,

Keisha Hudson said.

The new bakery has been publicizing itself mainly through social media, a web site and word of mouth, Keisha Hudson said.

The mother and daughter duo previously owned a bakery in Newburgh.

Keisha Hudson said she has many friends in Peekskill and the city was a natural choice for the new business. "We just love the community," she said. "Everyone here has just been so supportive and friendly and welcoming and it's an up and coming community and we wanted to be a part of that."

Keisha Hudson explained why the family business has been successful. "I think it's the quality of our products," she said. "People come in. They love the taste. It's freshly baked and the service and the atmosphere. We serve with a smile."

"We treat our customers as a part of our family," Sonia Hudson said.

Ty's Bread Basket BakeShop is located at 992A Main St. in Peekskill. For more information, call

914- 402-5135, visit [www.breadbasketbakeshop.com](http://www.breadbasketbakeshop.com) or send an e-mail to [tysbreadbasket@gmail.com](mailto:tysbreadbasket@gmail.com). The bakery also has pages on Facebook and Instagram.

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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](mailto:nrentz@theexaminernews.com).

## Tuesday, April 2

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

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

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

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

## Wednesday, April 3

**Senior Benefits Information:** A Senior Benefits Information Center is available every Wednesday 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 9a.m. and 5p.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.

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

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

**Meal and Worship:** St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2405 Crompond Rd., Yorktown, would like to invite you to a simple meal and worship every Wednesday in lent (through April 10). Dinner begins at 6 p.m. and worship follows at 7 p.m. Pastor Dave Dockweiler will lead a series giving us a new look into the Lord's Prayer.

## Thursday, April 4

**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).

**Somers Library Programs:** Several programs have been scheduled for the coming days at the Somers Library. The Thursday

Writers Workshop is being held every Thursday through June 13. The purpose of the workshop is to help writers create fresh material that may in time develop into fully polished work. Space is limited. A TED Talk program is being held from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursdays, 4/4, 5/2 and 6/6. How Music Works will be held on April 6 and 13 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 6 & Saturday April 13, 1 - 2:30 p.m. Discussion topics will be: basics of chords and chord progressions, melody and harmony and the evolution of music. Decorating Your Home to Sell will be held on April 8 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Come to this stress-free guide to preparing your home to sell quickly and for top dollar. Registration is required. The library can be contacted at 914-232-5717 or [somerslibrary.org](http://somerslibrary.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.

**"The Legend:"** This April, Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT) is presenting The Legend, written by Rick Apicella and directed by Joe Albert Lima, the world-premiere of an original play ranked a 2018 'commended new play' by the BBC in a multi-lingual international playwriting competition that spanned the continents. The Legend will open tonight at 8 p.m. and run weekends through Saturday, April 27 (no performance on Sunday, April 21), at WCT's Black Box Theater, 23 Water St., Ossining. Tickets are

\$25; \$20 discount tickets are available for WCT members, students, seniors and groups of 5+. Advance online purchase is strongly recommended: visit <https://thelegendwct.brownpapertickets.com/>.

## Friday, April 5

**Community Seder RSVP:** First Hebrew will host a community Seder on the second night of Passover. Non-members who pay by today will be charged \$50; pay by April 15: \$55; no late registrations or walk-ins. The Seder will be held April 20 at 7 p.m. at First Hebrew, just west of the Beach Shopping Center, 1821 Main St., Peekskill. Make checks payable to First Hebrew. Info: 914-739-0500 or [rfhc@firsthebrew.org](mailto:rfhc@firsthebrew.org).

**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.

**Shabbat & Supper:** Hebrew Congrega-

## Mayor Rainey Mum on New Location for Homeless Shelter

*Continued from page 1*  
ing in long-term security."

Meanwhile, Mayor Andre Rainey indicated last week he was aware of the new property CHHOP was considering but refused to reveal the location, instead urging residents to monitor CHHOP's website, which makes no mention of the site being pursued.

"They're looking elsewhere. I can only hope they will approach the community in the right way," Rainey said. "We went through a challenge as a community. It's never too late for unity."

Activist and public access cable television host George Ondek said Rainey and city officials should be more transparent with residents.

"Things should not be done in secrecy. It should be as a community," he said. "I support the homeless. A city is only as good as the poorest person it takes care of."

Councilwoman Vivian McKenzie agreed, saying "We need a shelter, no matter where it's going, and do it in a manner

that's open and transparent."

Rainey has been criticized by members of the community group Peekskill Safe & Strong, which strongly opposed the 851 location for the shelter, for signing a petition backing CCHOP's original plans and not taking his name off it as Councilwoman Vanessa Agudelo did as it became a controversial issue for more than six months.

Lindsey Fitzgerald, one of the outspoken leaders of Peekskill Safe & Strong, said the group's leaders are still extending an olive branch to CCHOP's officials to work together on finding a new place for the shelter.

"This became more of an issue about transparency, open government and truth. Now is the time to start fresh and build something really great," she said. "It would be nice to get to the root of this, which is to help people in need."

The Jan Peek House homeless shelter has been located on North Water Street since 1988.

# Happenings

tion of Somers will hold a Shabbat service at 6:30 p.m., followed by a dairy potluck dinner. First-year membership is free and includes High Holiday tickets. E-mail [info@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org](mailto:info@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org) or call 914-248-9532 for more information.

**Temple Beth Am Shabbat:** Temple Beth Am will "opens its doors to all who enter" for Shabbat on Fridays at 8 p.m. Our modern Sabbath service has a spiritually engaging and warm feeling while following traditional modes. All are welcome to our friendly sacred space. For more information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at [rabbiw@optonline.net](mailto:rabbiw@optonline.net).

**Jewish Center Services:** At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Friday night Sabbath services begin at 8 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, April 6

**Putnam Valley Shabbat Service:** Look-

ing 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:** All are invited to study the Bible with our engaging Rabbi Robbie Weiner at 9 a.m. Bagels and coffee are provided for all wishing to explore how the Bible 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 e-mail him at [RabbiW@optonline.net](mailto: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 en-

vironment 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).

**Demystifying Medicare:** The program will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Rd. Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is requested at 914-231-3236. Please leave your name and phone number. The free program is part of the library system's Westchester Seniors Out Speaking.

**Rising Stars Concert:** The OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates Westchester and Hudson Valley Chapter invites everyone to attend its 12th Rising Stars Concert on from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave. Info: 914-941-2416. The concert showcases the musical talents of young Asian Pacific Americans, age seven to 18, selected through an audition process by a panel of distinguished and accomplished musicians and music teachers at the Music Conservatory of Westchester.

## Sunday, April 7

**Animal Homes:** All About Animal Homes: High, Low, and in-between will be discussed from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at Georges Island Park, at the end of Dutch Street in Montrose. Look for the sign on the side of the gatehouse. Children under five should be accompanied by an adult. Cost: \$5 with a Cortlandt Town ID, \$10 without ID, \$12 for non-residents. To register for the program, call 914-734-1050.

**Race Amity Day:** Race Amity of Northern Westchester & Putnam presents Sven Thiessen & John Watson leading a discussion on White Fragility at 3 p.m. at the Somers Library. For more information, contact [jstavans@gmail.com](mailto:jstavans@gmail.com).

**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.

## Monday, April 8

**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.



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# Stairs a Necessary Part of Many Homes – But Watch Your Step

Sometimes people do a disservice when they provide helpful information. I rue the day when a friend pointed out to me that I could be informed of my daily physical activity by hitting the heart on my iPhone.

As far as flights of stairs go, I'm hopeless. When I lived in a two-story house, I bounded up the stairs and descended countless times during the day and night. Now that I live in a one-floor condo, I have taken no flights of stairs, even though I live on the fifth floor.

As a realtor in northern Westchester and Putnam County, I am always sure to point out the issue of stairs to senior buyers who should be thinking about the years ahead when they buy a home or condo. There comes a point in all our lives where one-level living becomes an advantage.

While stairs provide a very practical function as a means of ascending or descending from one level to another, they can be dramatic architectural statements in a home, from soaring, floating staircases in a central hall to modern circular stairs, winding around a column to a higher floor. Did you ever

wonder why circular stairs wind counterclockwise when all of us tend to do things in a clock-wise pattern? Read on to find out.

From castles to humble cottages, stairways have allowed more living space under the same roof by providing a means to get to another floor. Unless you live in a ranch-style home or a one-level apartment or condo, you climb stairs.

Some of us love the transition from one living space to another ("I can't sleep on the same floor where I eat," one buyer client told me), while others, especially our more mature citizens, seek senior community living that boasts "no steps."

Besides their architectural and practical contributions to a home, stairs also add to incidents of accidents, and even death, in the home.

All too often, many of us take a dive down a stairway. Maybe it's because we're in a different mode of balance when we are shifting our weight up or down. Actually, if you've noticed, it's easier to climb steps than to go down them, even if the physical effort is great-

er when we climb. My theory is that we achieve better balance on the balls of our feet when climbing. We seem to be uncertain about which part of our foot to place on the step going down, especially for people with feet that are larger.

I'm personally very conscious of the possibility of accidents on the stairs, perhaps because of an imprinted memory. When I was less than two, my mother tells me that I opened a door to the basement and plunged down the steep staircase, hitting my head on the concrete floor at the bottom. When I behaved oddly as a teenager, my mother had an excellent excuse to say, "That fall on your head when you were a baby must have caused some damage!"

When my daughter was at a play date with other girls at a neighbor's home, I remember the panic and fear when I received that call saying that she too had fallen down a flight of basement steps. She too is all right. Maybe it's a generational thing.

Tragically enough, more than 15,000 people die each year as a result of falls, and as many as 1,300 of those take place by falling down steps. Additionally, many people suffer injuries on stairs that frequently go unreported, making injury statistics harder to pin down.

Interestingly, many accidents happen

when there is an uneven step. Actually, this had been done intentionally in the distant past as a security measure to trip up thieves when entering or leaving a home.

Now here's the reason that circular or curved staircases are designed in a counterclockwise pattern. As we know from old Errol Flynn movies, in the Middle Ages it was critically important to safeguard the castle. With stairs intentionally designed counterclockwise, the defender of the castle, on a higher level of the stairs, could swing his sword freely in the open space to his right, but his enemy below would keep hitting the wall to his right with the same action.

The subject of stairs is very broad. I'd like to narrow down a bit with a resolution that, starting tomorrow, I'll climb the steps to my condo, rather than taking the elevator. Note that I've put it off until tomorrow.

*Bill Primavera is a publicist, journalist and realtor\* associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). You can engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale by calling 914-522-2076.*

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By Bill Primavera

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Crossword

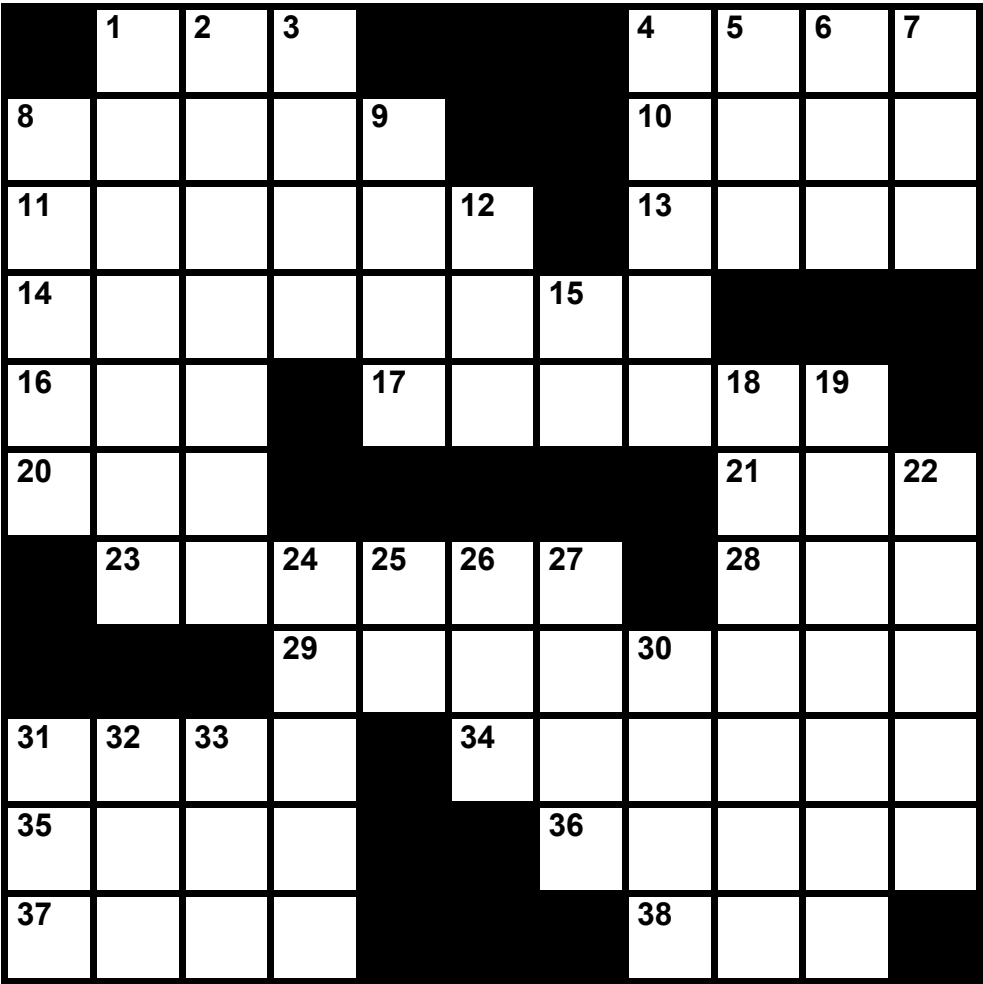
ACROSS

1. Brouhaha
4. Managed care grps.
8. Mennonite
10. Expressions of relief
11. NYT best selling author Christine, or Brewster insurance agency
13. Aware of
14. Like a perfect shot
16. Vitamin bottle info
17. Aspect of a crime investigation
20. One engaged in, suffix
21. "From Russia with Love" writer, Fleming
23. Real go-getter
28. The Tigers, for short
29. Aggressive one
31. Fighting
34. Precious strings
35. Strip
36. Transition
37. Fund-raising grps.
38. Third qtr. ender

DOWN

1. Fixed up

2. Kind of supplement
3. Workplace safety org.
4. Port-au-Prince is its capital
5. Chess piece, in a way
6. "Look here!"
7. Tax form ID
8. Earlier
9. Moral injury
12. International Committee of the Red Cross, e.g.
15. Gentle alien invader
18. Clinton tome "It takes a \_\_\_\_" or Pleasantville book store
19. Relaxed
22. Nightingale, for one
24. Symbols of hardness
25. Oakland team
26. Submissions to eds.
27. Edible grains
30. Burns up
31. Software program, briefly
32. "The \_\_\_\_" starring Sandra Bullock (computer thriller)
33. A drink with jam and bread....



Legal Notice

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

In the Matter of a Proceeding Under Article 10 of the Family Court Act 1022 **REMOVAL JAION PERRY** Docket No. NN- 9825-19 F/U No. 156471 A Child Under Eighteen Years of Age Alleged To be Neglected by **SUMMONS TIARA THOMPSON**, (Child Neglect Case) Respondent.

**NOTICE:** PLACEMENT OF YOUR CHILD(REN) IN FOSTER CARE MAY RESULT IN YOUR LOSS OF YOUR RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD(REN). IF YOUR CHILD(REN) STAYS IN FOSTER CARE FOR 15 OF THE MOST RECENT 22 MONTHS, THE AGENCY MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO FILE A PETITION(S) TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO COMMIT GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY OF YOUR CHILD(REN) TO THE AGENCY FOR THE PURPOSES OF ADOPTION. IN SOME CASES, THE

AGENCY MAY FILE BEFORE THE END OF THE 15-MONTH PERIOD. IF SEVERE OR REPEATED CHILD ABUSE IS PROVEN BY CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE, THIS FINDING MAY CONSTITUTE THE BASIS TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO COMMIT GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY OF YOUR CHILD(REN) TO THE AGENCY FOR THE PURPOSES OF ADOPTION.

UPON GOOD CAUSE, THE COURT MAY ORDER AN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE NON-RESPONDENT PARENT(S) SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A RESPONDENT; IF THE COURT DETERMINES THE CHILD(REN) SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM HIS/HER HOME, THE COURT MAY ORDER AN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE NON-RESPONDENT PARENT(S) SHOULD BE SUITABLE CUSTODIANS FOR THE CHILD(REN); IF THE CHILD(REN) IS PLACED AND REMAINS IN FOSTER CARE FOR FIFTEEN OF THE MOST RE-

CENT TWENTY-TWO MONTHS, THE AGENCY MAY BE REQUIRED TO FILE A PETITION(S) FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PARENT(S) AND COMMITMENT OF GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY OF THE CHILD(REN) FOR THE PURPOSES OF ADOPTION, EVEN IF THE PARENT(S) WERE NOT NAMED AS RESPONDENTS IN THE CHILD NEGLECT OR ABUSE PROCEEDING.

A NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT HAS THE RIGHT TO REQUEST TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT CUSTODY OF THE CHILD(REN) AND TO SEEK ENFORCEMENT OF VISITATION RIGHTS WITH THE CHILD(REN).

BY ORDER OF THE FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT(S) WHO RESIDE(S) OR IS FOUND AT [specify address(es)]: **TIARA THOMPSON** (Mother) (Current Whereabouts Unknown)

A Petition under Article 10 of the Family Court Act having been filed with this Court, and

**YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** to appear before this Court at 111 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., 3rd Floor Annex, White Plains, New York 10601, on May 7, 2019 at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon of that day to answer the petition and to be dealt with in accordance with Article 10 of the Family Court Act.

Upon your failure to appear as herein directed, a warrant may be issued for your arrest and/or the Court may proceed to Inquest and hear and determine the petition as provided by law.

Dated: March 11, 2019  
\_\_\_\_\_/S/\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Court

(Solution to puzzle on page 19)

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# Slater is Playing Politics

Continued from page 9  
tion of the excessive levels of phosphorus in the lake using Alum (aluminum sulfate). DEC's Albany office filed permits with Region 3 in New Paltz in early March for a treatment in April. The public comment period ends April 5th, after which we hope Region 3 will issue the permit.

ILAN D. GILBERT  
Supervisor Town of Yorktown

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF REID & LEIVA MULTISERVICES LLC** Filed with SSNY on 01/14/2019, Office Westchester, SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 506 Van Cortlandt Park Ave, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE: NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the Limited Liability Company is Palmyra Holdings LLC. The Articles of Organization were filed with the New York Secretary of State on February 19, 2019. The office of the Company is located in the County of Westchester, State of New York. The New York Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the Company upon whom process in any action or proceeding against it may be served, and the address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of process in any action or proceeding against the Company served upon him or her is **110 Marquand Avenue, Bronxville, New York 10708. The purpose of the business is any lawful business.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIFE GIVERS TRANSPORTATION, LLC** Filed with SSNY on 1/22/19. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **75 Bruce Ave., Apt. 4F, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF E&L BY DESIGN, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with NYS Dept. of State on 1/9/2019. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, **2020 Maple Hill Street, Suite # 902, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF UP-STATE STUMP GRINDING, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/10/2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC: **19 Terrace Ave., Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PRO-TO DOG SERVICES, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/13/2010. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **1707 EAGLE BAY DR OSSINING, NY 10562. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DSG HOME RENOVATIONS LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/08/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **6 East Sidney Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KC MAKEUP, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/16/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Kasey Camacho, 2 Stanley St., Pleasantville, NY, 10570 Purpose: any lawful act.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OLA SERVICES, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 3, 2019. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **OLA Services, LLC, 50 Broadway, Haw-**

*continued on next page*

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continued from previous page

thorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OLA ASSOCIATES, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 13, 2019. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **OLA Associates, LLC, 50 Broadway, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DORENBAUM & BECK, LLC.** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 2/28/19. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **20 Manville Ln., Apt 4, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Healthcare Communications Consulting.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF RHAK LLC.** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 3/13/2019. 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 purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF RMSF LLC.** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 3/18/2019. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **37 Saw Mill River Rd., Suite 200, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BEATS BY DANNY LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/01/2019. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, **7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EMPIRE AV LLC.** Art. Of Org. filed with Sec. of State on 12/10/2018. Off. Loc. In Westchester Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **3 FOREST CT, MONTROSE, NY 10548. PURPOSE: Any lawful business.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FAERIE CUTE LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/19/2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC: **233 N Macquesten Pkwy, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. The business of the LLC is 233 N Macquesten Pkwy, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.**

**PUBLIC HEARING 2019-20 TENTATIVE VILLAGE BUDGET PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pleasantville, New York will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 8, 2019 at 8:00pm, prevailing time, Village Hall, 80 Wheeler Avenue, 2nd Floor, Pleasantville, N.Y. for the purpose of hearing comments as it pertains to the 2019-2020 Tentative Village Budget. The proposed compensation for the Mayor is \$6,000 and each Trustee \$3,500. All persons interested in speaking on this subject will be heard. A copy of the Tentative Budget is available online at [www.pleasantville-ny.gov](http://www.pleasantville-ny.gov) or for inspection at the Office of the Village Clerk Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00am to 4:00pm. **Noreen Regan, Deputy Village Clerk**

**PUBLIC HEARING LOCAL LAW OVERRIDING THE PROPERTY TAX CAP PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pleasantville, Westchester County, New York will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 8, 2019, 8:00pm, prevailing time, Village Hall, 80 Wheeler Avenue, Pleasantville, New York to hear comments as it pertains to a Local Law pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law Section 3-c which expressly authorizes a local

government's governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent of said governing body. All persons interested in speaking on this subject will be heard. **Noreen Regan, Deputy Village Clerk**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OH-SO EQUAL, LLC.** Skateboard Magazine filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/02/2019. Office location: Westchester. OH-SO EQUAL designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and mailed by OH-SO EQUAL to: **11 High Meadows Rd., Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: Any lawful acts.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF REVIVA BEAUTY, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/12/19. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of any process to: **6 Tanglewood Rd., Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.**

**NOTICE 4/2019** Please be advised that the next meeting of the **Planning Board will be held at Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road on Monday April 8, 2019** for the purpose of considering the following applications: **Regular Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm AGENDA PUBLIC HEARING** The following public hearings have been scheduled for April 8, 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.Homeland Towers, LLC- 265-273 Oscawana Lake Road (TM# 72.16-1-23/File: 2018-0186)** The subject property consists of + 12.1 acres of land and is located on 265-273 Oscawana Lake Road and within the CN Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to lease an area of the parcel in order to construct a 160 foot monopole with antennas, together with related equipment within a fenced compound. **REVIEW 2. Pearlroth & Posner- 125 Bell Hollow Road (TM# 51.-1-3/File: 2019-0191)** The subject property consists of + 26 acres of land and is located on 125 Bell Hollow Road and within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a new septic system. **EXTENSION 3. Fiorentino, Annette- Wicoppee Road (TM#41.-2-14/File2017-0169)** **APPROVAL OF MINUTES 4.Approve Minutes of March 25, 2019**

**Town of Putnam Valley Pre-Meeting Agenda April 3, 2019 1. Pledge of Alle-**

giance 2. **Accept** turf care bid from McKinney Landscaping Corporation 3. **Continued** discussion on Airbnb 4. **Set** public hearing for marijuana moratorium.

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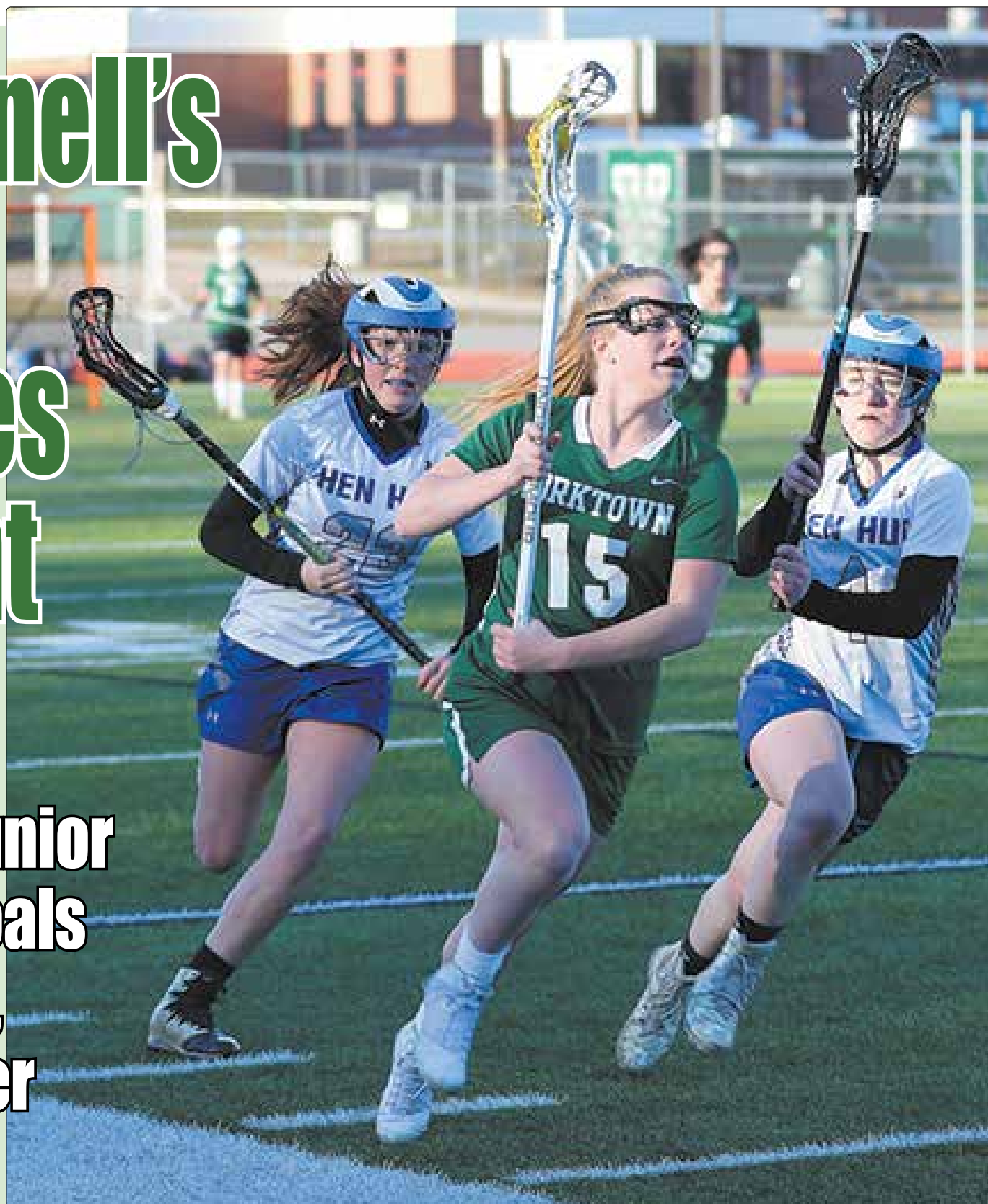
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The Northern Westchester  
**Examiner**  
**Sports**  
*Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports*

# McDonnell's Menu Provides Straight Value

**Yorktown Junior  
Scores 9 Goals  
in 2 Games,  
6 in Win over  
Hen Hud**



BOB CASTNER PHOTO (PLEASE VISIT [WWW.CASTNERPHOTO.NET](http://WWW.CASTNERPHOTO.NET) FOR MORE)

Yorktown junior Kelsey McDonnell feasted with six goals, including the game-winning with 6:10 remaining, in the Huskers' 10-9 win over visiting Hen Hud and Sailors Kira Virada (L) and Fiona McGovern (4). McDonnell followed that up with three more McNuggets in the Huskers' 10-9 loss to Rye last Thursday. Hen Hud's Virada won 10 face-offs, snagged 10 GBs and scored four goals in a losing effort vs. Yorktown... see Girls' Lax Notebook

# Sports

## Softball Notebook

# New-Look Yorktown Hopes to Sustain Past Greatness

## Host of Teams from Class AA to Class B Hoping to Contend for Section 1 Titles

By Tony Pinciario

The past two varsity softball seasons, **YORKTOWN** has been the elite in Section 1 Class AA. The Cornhuskers have won consecutive Section 1 Class AA championships under former Coach Ryan Iamurri, who stepped down is now an assistant coach at Florida Southwestern.

Yorktown also won back-to-back sectional titles in 2007-08, led by Cassie Reilly-Boccia, who started four years at Alabama, so it's been a sustained period of greatness for the program.

Coach Samantha Fernandez inherits a quality team even with the graduation of five seniors, four of whom are playing in college: pitcher Erica Salveggi, Reilly Koch (College of St Rose), Brianna Buck (Iona), Courtney Cardea (Hamilton) and Angie Serrano (Molloy)

Fernandez will rely on her three captains – Sam Riccardulli (OF), an all-section pick last year, Kaitlyn Bennett (OF) and Juliana Piehler (IF).

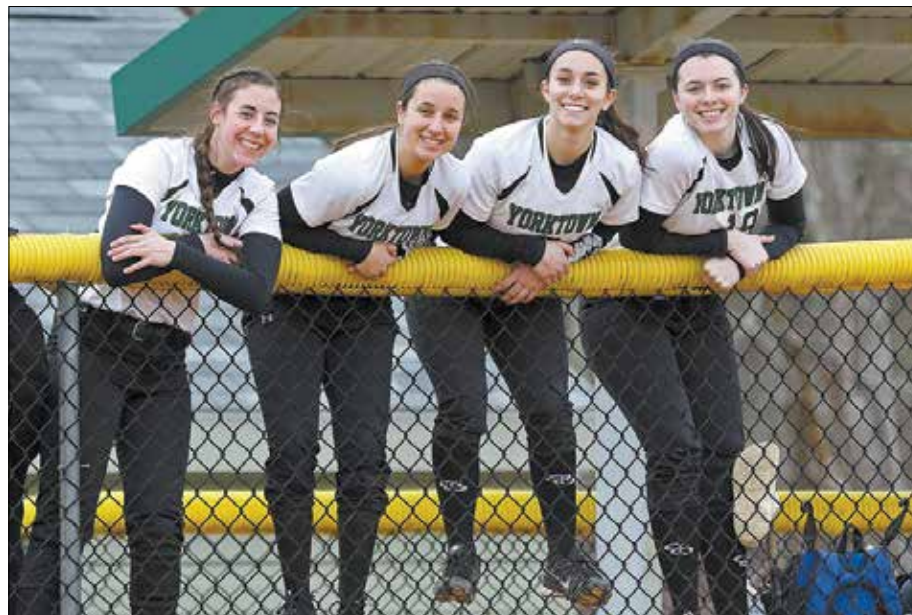
"Sam led the team last year in hitting with 27 hits, batting .475 and only is only a couple hits away from getting her 100th hit," Fernandez said. "Sam is also an incredible defensive player and has committed zero errors in the outfield. Kaitlyn and her outstanding speed is another great outfielder and hitter. Juliana closes out the captain titles supporting this team with her encouragement and her power at the plate."

Bella Vano (IF) and Lainie Ornstein (C) complete the returning nucleus.

"Bella, being one of our middle infielders, has great hands and speed. Ornstein is a wall behind the plate as well as a phenomenal hitter with speed."



Versatile Lakeland P-1B Claire Fon will be a major factor on the Section 1 softball circuit this season.



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Yorktown players hope to reestablish the form that has made the defending Class A champion Huskers one of the most dominant programs of the last decade.

Yorktown welcomes five promising newcomers that Fernandez is excited about in junior Bria Moran (C), sophomore Alyssa Buck (P), Olivia Fasce (IF) and Marlaina Cirone (utility), plus freshman Olivia Salveggi (1B).

While Fernandez is optimistic, she also realizes the Cornhuskers will miss the impactful 2018 senior class. Yorktown will also receive every opponent's best game.

"We graduated some really great talent and leaders and have some big shoes to fill," Fernandez said. "We will also be dealing with some pressure from being back-to-back section champions. The group of girls we have this year is a special group. Not only is the talent exceptional, the team chemistry is astounding, as well. Our upperclassmen are really great leaders on this team and I am very excited to get games going as we expect another very successful season."

**LAKELAND** opened the 2019 preseason without long-time veteran co-coach Joe Chiara, who retired in December. Chiara and fellow co-coach Steve Fallo had guided Lakeland varsity softball for the past 25-plus years.

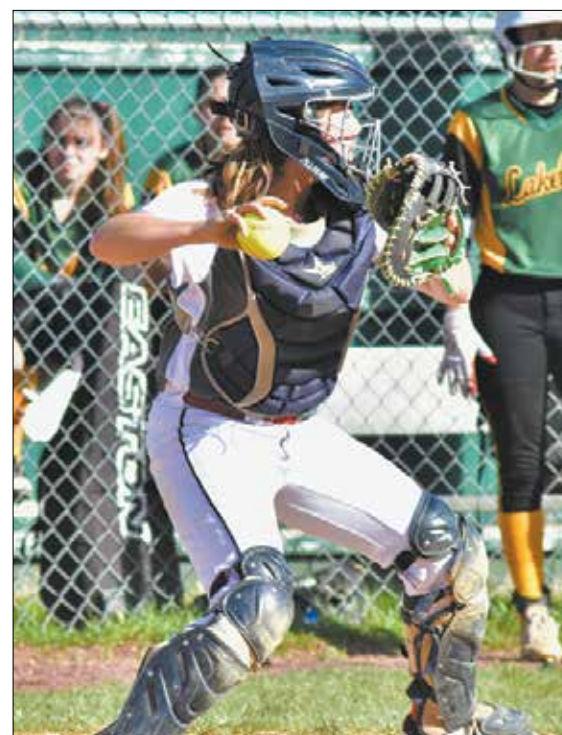
In 2017, Lakeland reached the top of the mountain, winning the Section 1 Class A title. Last year, the Hornets rebounded from an 0-4 start and reached the sectional semifinals, where they lost to eventual champion, Ardsley, which is now in Class B this season.

Lakeland will be strong in the circle with senior Claire Fon and junior Krystal Badillo, both all-section choices last year, back. Fon will attend Adelphi in the fall and continue playing softball.

"Both bring a great deal of experience

and leadership to our team," Fallo said. "Both played for us as eighth-graders."

Fallo said Lakeland returns nine of the 10 players who contributed to the success of last year's team. Senior C Amber Lopez



Somers C Gabby Mazzotta is among the region's top backstops and one of seven returning starters in 2019.

will form the other half of the battery and classmate Emily McGrath will roam the outfield. Junior Amanda DiClerico, who missed last year with an injury, will return to first base. Classmates Hannah Matusiak (OF), Sophia Portante (3B), Emma Walsh (OF), Sabrina Reichelt (OF) and Selina

Bernat (OF) also return.

"Our expectations are high," Fallo said. "We feel we have a team that can compete for the Section 1 title. Our experience and remembering the poor start we had last year will help us be ready."

Lakeland mercied Peekskill, in five innings, to open the season.

Badillo had five hits, including a home run, and drove in seven runs. Bernat also crushed a home run and finished with four RBI. Ava Knopf and Fon each drove in three runs.

**SOMERS** is quietly becoming a rising power in Section 1. The last two years, the Tuskers, who went 13-7 in 2018, have qualified for sectionals boasting a high-powered offense. Third-year Coach Dave Scagnelli will miss graduated seniors Jill Carlisto and Kelsey Lavin, but Somers does return one of Section 1's elite players in senior and C Gabby Mazzotta. She is twice an all-section selection and will attend Manhattan College this fall and play softball.

Mazzotta is not the only senior returning. She is joined by talented classmates Karly Moscarello (SS), Jazmyn Colon (OF), Nikki Fiorino (3B), Tori Pagliaro (1B/OF), Amanda Polito (OF) and Sabrina Balfe (OF). Juniors Sarah Murphy (P) and Vicky MeEvoy (2B) and sophomore Hannah Recine (OF) also comprise the returnees.

With a deep, talented nucleus back, there were not many spots remaining but two juniors and two freshmen join varsity.

Lauren Canavan (2B) and Jessica McSweeney (C/1B) are the juniors and Juliana Bockhaus (1B/OF) and Emily Stavola (P) are the freshmen.

"We have seven returning starters, all with at least three years playing on the varsity," Scagnelli said. "We want to improve upon last year's success, and be competitive against the top teams in our league."

Since Rena Finsmith became the **PUTNAM VALLEY** coach, the Tigers progressively have become a sectional contender.

What makes this incredible is Putnam Valley has accomplished this without a Junior Varsity team. Even though the Tigers are without a JV team, once again, they will be among the top teams in Class B, once again.

Putnam Valley, which went 15-6 and  
*continued on next page*

# Sports

## Softball Notebook

continued from previous page



Mahopac is expecting big things from sophomore C Michelle DellaMura.



Fordham-committed Panas SS Julia Petrovich has a big bat and flashes nasty leather up the middle of the IF.

won a first-round sectional game, has nine returning players, led by the senior trio of Sophia Lord (3B), Gianna D'Addona (OF) and Sonya Garcia (OF).

The Waters' sisters, Keiko (OF) and Alex (C), are back as is classmate Sabrina Cross (1B). Sophomore windmill Emily McKenna, an All-Section choice and the league pitcher of the year, is back in the circle. She is joined by fellow sophomores Frankie Reyes (SS) and Kathleen Gallelo.

Lord, Keiko Waters, McKenna and Reyes were All-League selections. Sophomore Abby Lowder (IF) joins varsity this season.

"Returning all of our starters and their experience playing together will be our strength," said Finsmith. "I am excited to see what we can accomplish this year. Our schedule is going to challenge us, but I am looking forward to seeing the girls step up their game and compete at the highest level they can."

Finsmith pointed out Putnam Valley will be playing in the annual James "Ace" Morabito Tournament in Herkimer (NY), May 3-5. The Morabito draws many of New York's elite teams. Putnam Valley will be joined by annual Class A power Pearl River, 2018 Section 1 Class A champion Ardsley (which is competing in Class B this season) and Hastings. Putnam Valley will play Ardsley and 2018 Section 1 Class B champion Westlake this season.

Playing in a league with Brewster, Yorktown and Lakeland, it's easy to understand how WALTER PANAS is often overlooked. That might change in 2019 as the Panthers return 11 players,

including eight starters for Coach Dale Chappelle. Panas finished 12-9 last year and lost in the sectional section round to eventual Class A champion Ardsley.

Seven of the 11 returnees are seniors, led by Bella Feraca (2B). Chosen All-Section HM last year, Feraca will attend the University of Rochester in the fall and play softball.

The super-seven senior group also includes Gianna Servedio (1B), Jenna Guevarez (OF), Brianna Viola (OF), Tahari Williams (OF), Lexi Lorino (OF) and Sam Mills (utility). Servedio will attend Hunter College in the fall and play softball.

Junior and 2018 All-Section pick Julia Petrovich (SS) has verbally committed to attend Fordham and play softball. Classmate Kat Reynoso (C) is fresh off a successful girls' basketball season as the Panthers advanced to the sectional final four. Rae Valt (3B) is back as is sophomore Olivia Bordenaro (P).

"The 2019 Panthers are battle-tested and experienced," Chappelle said. "After winning 12 games last year against a very tough schedule, they are poised to take the next step as a formidable opponent in Section 1. Loaded with seniors and excellent talent all over the field, this team has high aspirations for this season."

Along with what Chappelle termed a 'brutally-tough' league schedule, Panas will also play perennial powers Mahopac, led by pitcher Shannon Becker, Harrison and Our Lady of Lourdes.

The 2018 season was an aberration for BREWSTER.

A perennial Section 1 Class A power, sectional semifinalist and/or finalist, the Bears finished below .500 and had only eight wins, both firsts in Coach Lisa Delzio's 10 years. Delzio, who is 165-56 in her career, has six returnees highlighted by senior Caroline Cherubini (CF) and junior Madison Chiodina (3B/LF).

"Caroline has incredible range and one of the best arms in the section," Delzio said. "She is a competitor and extremely talented softball player who leads by example every day at practice. Madison is a three-year varsity player who I expect a breakout year from. Madison has worked extremely hard since last year, improving both her offense and defense. She has incredible power at the plate and is one of the hardest-working athletes I've had the pleasure of coaching. Madison is our vocal leader and understands what it takes to win."

Senior Elly Keefe and juniors Gabbi Dovi, Angie Gasparre and Michelle Marotta also return to the

starting lineup.

"The varsity experience of Caroline and Madison is one of our strengths," Delzio said. "They understand what needs to be done in order to win in our league. Our overall team speed is very good -- one of the best we've had since 2012 -- and our defense will be solid. The team has a great attitude and a never give up mentality."

Pitching has long been a Brewster tradition. However, this year, Delzio said the Bears will be going with a pitching committee until their No. 1 windmill returns from a minor injury. Even though the Bears did not have a typical Brewster season, Delzio witnessed a rebirth the last few weeks.

"The team got stronger and stronger as the season went on and we finished with three wins against three excellent teams -- Mahopac, Somers and John Jay Cross River," Delzio said. "This year that 'never quit' mentality has gotten even stronger and I'm looking forward to the start of the season. I am confident that their efforts will result in a winning season. We have five freshman that are eager and hungry to play and win, which along with our seasoned upperclassmen will make for an exciting year."

Brandon Johanson did not get much of a break between seasons.

continued on page 23

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# Sports

## Boys' LAX Notebook

# Mahopac Practices Brinksmanship, Survives 6-4 Win over Put Valley

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

If moral victories were worth anything, they'd come with a coveted participation trophy and everybody would get one. But that's not what Class D **PUTNAM VALLEY** was playing for in last Saturday's 6-4 loss to Class A host **MAHOPAC**. Putnam Valley not only led for the three-plus quarters, opening up a 4-2 lead early in the fourth, but, truth be told, Coach

"In the beginning it was really tough, but at halftime we made some adjustments," said Mahopac senior A Anthony Corrado (1G, 1A), who essentially milked the final two minutes off the clock with a splendid blend of power and speed. "We just needed to relax. We moved the ball, forced slides to come and made the shots in the fourth. We didn't know what to expect from them, but as soon as the whistle blew we knew they were serious. As we face more teams, I'm ready to step up and go to the goal more often."

For three quarters, Mahopac didn't get more than a couple of sniffs at PV junior G Dan Clements' crease, but Indian sophomores Zach Esteves (2G) and Tommy Elliott (2G), plus senior Drew Riolo (1G, 3A) got hot when it counted against a worn-down PV defense to beat Clements (9 saves) for four fourth-quarter tallies.

"We knew going in that offense was going to be a struggle this season," Bucello said. "We were hoping that once it popped we could score in bunches and that's what happened in the fourth. Being a bigger school, we have some depth on them, and

we have some lines, and we can just run people and run people and that's what we did. I think we found the goal a little today and that's going to give us some confidence going forward. Once we find our rhythm, watch out for us."

Putnam Valley was dictating tempo behind the play of senior M Joey van de Veerdonk, who scored twice and had the look of a player who might dominate the Class D post season.

"We made a lot of key mistakes there in the fourth," Weir admitted. "That really cost us the game. For three-and-a-half quarters, we were playing well and good things were happening. Over the last seven minutes it just broke down. The game is 48 minutes and we played 41. We've grown up a lot since last year, but we sort of gave this one away."

Charlie Broas and long pole Sam Montaldo each scored for the Tigers.

### NEW/Putnam Feb 5 LAX Poll

**No.1 YORKTOWN** – Class B Huskers (2-1) saw Blake Borges score two goals and dish one



Putnam Valley A Jack Longden is checked by Mahopac's Drew Riolo in Tigers' 6-4 loss to Indians.

Tim Weir's Tigers (2-2) were having their way with Coach Joe Bucello's Indians (1-2).

However, Mahopac's depth wore Put Valley down. Mistake-prone for the first 41 minutes, Mahopac's athleticism was evident down the stretch, and the Tigers made key mistake after key mistake over the final seven minutes.



Mahopac M Zach Esteves gets some love from Anthony Corrado & teammates after nailing GWG in 6-4 win over Put Valley.



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Put Valley M Joey van de Veerdonk cranks goal as Mahopac's Andrew Dazi arrives in Tigers' 6-4 loss to Indians Saturday.



Carmel junior A Aidan Babnick cranks 1 of 10 goals he would score last week in a win over Croton and loss to N. Rockland.



Mahopac's Tommy O'Brien dishes pass while taking a shot from Put Valley's Alex Alex Sirico in Indians' 6-4 win over Tigers Saturday.

assist in 11-7 loss to CT powerhouse Darien.

**No.2 LAKELAND/PANAS** – Class A Rebels (1-0) had four dudes with two or more goals in a 12-4 season-opening win at Suffern, including Mikey Walsh (3G, 2A), Matt Makar (2G, 3A), Sean Laukaitis (2G, 1A) and Alex Davoli (2G). April 25th vs. Mahopac can't come quick enough.

**No.3 SOMERS** – Class B Tuskers (1-0) welcomed back Iona Prep transfer Nick Rossi with open arms and he responded with 5G and 4A in a 15-7 win over reigning Section 1 Class C champion Pelham. Brandon LaSpina finished with three goals and one assist. Conor Jaykus had three goals. T.J. Deagan got one goal and three assists. April 27th at home vs. Yorktown... anybody up for that?

**No.4 MAHOPAC** – Class A Indians (1-2) were on the brink of going 0-3 with losses to Mam'nek and Byram Hills (#ItHappened), but survived this round of brinksmanship when ripening sophomore M Zach Esteves took over.

*continued on next page*

# No-Hitters Abound at Panas, Somers, Ossining, Yorktown

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

At least the weather is not as bad as last year, or the year before. That's what local baseball coaches, players and fans alike have to say after Week 1 of the 2019 Section 1 baseball season is in the books. It's been chilly, it's been slightly uncomfortable, but the fields have held up for the most part as the teeming rains have held off and snow appears to be behind us.

April can be tricky but March, though chilly, was better than we've had in recent years, so let's have a look around the local diamonds, which saw four no-hitters last week...

## CLASS A

Rookie Matty Calise had a sweet varsity debut for **PANAS** (2-0) in last Thursday's 13-0 victory over visiting Roosevelt and followed that up with a no-hitter in a 10-0 win over Peekskill Saturday (see back page sports). Against Roosevelt, Calise had two hits, including a well-ripped double, three RBI, two steals and a run in the season opener at Union Field in Putnam Valley. Panas P Steven Gerrish fired a shutout and Don Hooper went 2 for 3 with three RBI for Panas, which has much bigger tests forthcoming, including a pair of League II-C encounters with host **YORKTOWN** (1-0) this Wednesday and Friday at home. Panas Coach Anthony Fata will likely hand the ball to Calise and Gerrish, and the Panthers will need to salvage a split against a Yorktown team that has some solid hurlers of its own.

The Huskers worked a 7-1 win over Eastchester behind ace Anthony Fusco, who went six sterling, no-hit innings with eight K's and combined with reliever Vinny Cimateli for a no-hitter. Luan



Panas hurler Matt Calise delivers pitch during his no-hitter in 10-0 win over Peekskill Saturday.

Biberaj and Kyle Zaslaw each drove home a pair for the Huskers.

Host Nanuet showed that on any given day in baseball any team can win, when the Golden Knights defeated reigning Section 1 Class A champion **LAKELAND**, 8-6, doing most of the damage in a four-run sixth. Lakeland's Joe Vetrano (2 for 3) cracked a triple, walked, scored twice and knocked in a pair, and Hornet OF Andrew Croce was 2 for 4 with a double and two RBI, but the Hornets (1-1) failed to hold the lead.

In the season-opening 7-5 win over

host John Jay, Vetrano, fresh off a bout with strep throat, threw five innings and struck out six to earn the win. Reliever Jason Green tossed two innings of relief and struck out two. The big guy also doubled home a run.

**SOMERS** (1-0) P Liam Kaseta, a senior lefty, fired a no-hitter in a 7-0 victory over visiting Lincoln, whiffing a career-high 11 and walking two. Logan Carriero (2 for 3, run), Thomas Parisi (1 for 3, 2 RBI, run) and Nate Schwartz (2 for 2, run, RBI double, 2 BB) provided the punch at the plate. Thomas Parisi had a hit and two RBI for the Tuskers, who had a nice bounce-back win after a 3-1 opening-day loss to Byram Hills, in which Jackson Kossow had the lone Somers RBI.

Bobby McBride led a 15-hit **BREWSTER** (1-0) attack in as 12-10 win over host Pearl River last Saturday. McBride crushed it, going 3 for 4 with a career-best seven RBI. Paul Catalano (2 for 3, 4 runs) and Ryan Gergley (3 for 3) all came through for P Dean Johnson, who earned the win in relief.

**HEN HUD** (2-1) is off to a solid start, including a 12-0 win over Tappan Zee. RHP Mike Greiner fired five scoreless frames to earn his second win of the season. Nick Hiltzley, John Glashoff and Jordan Grullon each had multiple hits for the Sailors.

## CLASS AA

**MAHOPAC** (1-1) came out swinging in a 12-4 win over host Clarkstown North. Indian 1B Kyle Brandstetter doubled, walked twice and drove home three in support of winning hurler Casey Tewey (two runs on four hits in five innings). Chris Walpole was the sparkplug, going 3 for 5 with an RBI and three runs. That was a lot of pop for a Mahopac offense

and Coach Myk Lugbauer can only hope it continues.

**CARMEL** (1-0) took it to visiting Port Chester in a 12-0 thumping last Friday. Carmel sophomore Jack Sullivan fired five frames of one-hit ball, sending eight down K-way. He didn't walk a batter and added two hits and scored twice and fed off the support of Kevin Dall (2 hits, 2B, SB, RBI, 2 runs), Sador Kozma (2 hits, 2B, 2 RBI, 2 runs) and Jon McIntyre (2 hits, 2B, 2 RBI, 2 runs).

**OSSINING** (1-0) smoked Mount Vernon, 18-0, last Friday when senior RHP Peter Bossinas fired the first no-hitter the Pride have seen in quite some time. He whiffed 12 in a dominant opening-day performance. Nick Constantino (2 for 4, 4 RBI) and Peter's brother, Joey Bossinas (2 for 4, 2 RBI), did the bulk of the offensive damage.

## CLASS B

**PUTNAM VALLEY** (1-1) posted a 4-2 opening-day win over visiting Albertus Magnus behind RHP John Millicker, who lasted five innings, allowing just a solo homer while fanning six. Senior reliever Alex O'Brien went 2 for 3 with a run and an RBI before closing out the game with two frames of relief for the save.

**CROTON** (1-0) turned PV's victory face into frowns the next day, serving the visiting Tigers a 3-2 setback after a walk-off hit by Evan Hunter (2 for 4 RBI), David Jackson (2 for 3, 2B RBI), John Casieri (2 for 4 2 runs). Max Luke fired three scoreless innings with six K's while winning pitcher Toby Murphy pitched the final four inning, allowing two earned runs with three K's.

Put Valley senior TJ Brescia went four frames, whiffing eight and allowing one earned run.

## New-Look Yorktown Hopes to Sustain Past Greatness

*continued from page 21*

Following his first year as the **CARMEL** varsity girls' basketball coach, Johanson has moved up to the varsity softball top job.

Johanson inherits a team that went 8-14 in 2018 and graduated five starters. Despite the graduation departures, the cupboard is not bare and Johanson is familiar with the players being the former Junior Varsity coach.

Ten players are back led by seven seniors – Juliana Nacinovich (first base),

Kayla Maguire (outfield), Libby Corry (outfield), Alyssa Fregosi (second base), Amanda Long (second base/third base), Annalena Fusco (catcher) and Erin Rangel (shortstop/first base).

Juniors Kaitlyn Belmont (second base) and Kaitlyn Dean (pitcher) and sophomore Meaghan Connors (catcher/outfield) complete the core 10.

"I am very pleased, so far, with the progress of this team," Johanson said. "They come to work everyday, and have

a strong desire to succeed. I think our program is headed in the right direction, and we are working to improve everyday."

Carmel is in a league with archrival Mahopac as well as perennial Dutchess County powers, Arlington, John Jay-East Fishkill and R.C. Ketcham.

**MAHOPAC** boasts one of the region's top batteries in All-NYS ace Shannon Becker and C Michelle DellaMura. Becker, a sophomore who has amassed 419 strikeouts in a shade over two seasons,

can be unhittable at times. Former Coach Amanda Gambacorta has turned the reins over to Christina Giansante, but the transition should be smooth as she was with the program the past several years as an assistant. The Indians are 2-0 currently with shutouts wins over Somers and Fox Lane.

*Softball coaches are encouraged to contact beat writer Tony Pinciaro at [tfinch23@optonline.net](mailto:tfinch23@optonline.net) for inclusion in our Softball Notebook.*

## Mahopac Practices Brinksmanship, Survives 6-4 Win over Put Valley

*continued from previous page*

Six winnable games going in to P'Ville, L/P stretch; nothing less than 4-2 will do, preferably 5-1.

**No.5 PUTNAM VALLEY** – Class D Tigers (2-2) took the tough losses to Class A Greeley and Class A Mahopac in stride

and are better off than we figured for a Class D Final 4 run and maybe even a sniff of their first title appearance since 2010. PV can also end this Bronxville bugaboo on April 9th and reel off 6-straight wins heading in to Briarcliff scrum on April

25th should they play their cards right.

**HM HEN HUD** – Class C Sailors (1-1) saw Max Popolizio rip a hat trick and dish four assists while Bryce Caffrey and Jack Kapfer collected hats as well with Ryan Pritchard and Brian Gallagher scoring

two each in a 14-6 win over Tappan Zee. Pelham, John Jay & Briarcliff on deck #WhatYouMadeOf

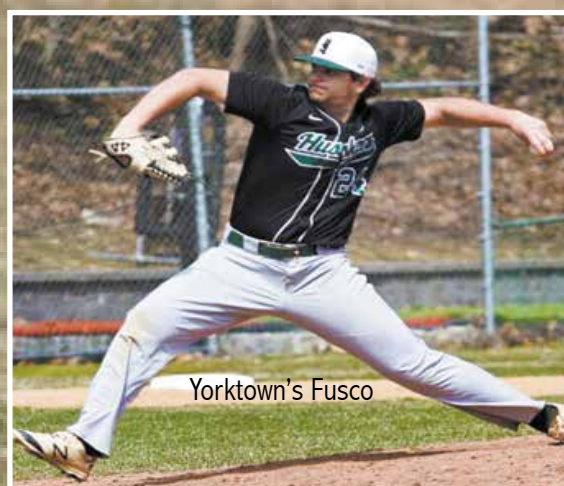
**HM BREWSTER** – Class B Bears (2-1) saw Bob Conklin go for five goals and an assist in a 7-2 win over Pine Bush.

# Just Say No... as in Hits Allowed!

**Panas' Calise,  
Somers' Kaseta,  
Ossining's  
Bossinas,  
Yorktown's  
Fusco All Notch  
No-Hitters in  
Season Debuts**



Somers' Kaseta



Yorktown's Fusco

Panas' Calise



Ossining's Bossinas

The pitchers were, oftentimes, ahead of the hitters last week as four local hurlers fired no-hit victories for their respective teams last week, including Panas junior RHP Matt Calise, Somers senior lefty Liam Kaseta, Ossining senior RHP Peter Bossinas and Yorktown senior lefty Anthony Fusco (combined with reliever Vinny Ciateli). Calise tossed six scoreless innings with 10 whiffs in the host Panthers' 10-0 mercy win over Peekskill Saturday; Kaseta went the distance in the Tuskers' 7-0 win over host Lincoln last Thursday, fanning 11; Bossinas bested Mount Vernon, 18-0, last Friday while sending 12 down K-way; Fusco worked six innings with eight strikeouts in a 7-1 win over Eastchester Saturday... see Baseball Notebook