

**Man Dies
in Crash on
Birthday...
page 6**



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**More
Thrills from
Yorktown
Author
...page 11**

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

July 16 - July 22, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 499

Mixed-Use Project Proposed on Lower South St. in Peekskill

BY RICK PEZZULLO

The developer of a recently completed \$28 million affordable housing project on Main Street in Peekskill is looking to build something similar on a city-owned property on Lower South Street.

Ken Kearney, principle of Kearney Realty and Development, appeared before the Peekskill Common Council last week to outline plans for an 11.8-acre site that the city has been actively seeking proposals for.

Dubbing the project "Solo," Kearney envisions a multi-phase approach, with the first phase to include 150 mixed-income apartments in the center of the property. The second phase would feature 75 additional rental units, along the same line as the 75 loft-style apartments at the much-

heralded Lofts on Main.

The southern part of the property would be utilized for commercial purposes, either office, warehouse or light manufacturing, with 50,000 square feet available. The corner of the property at Louisa Street, which is owned by Peekskill businessman Louie Lanza, is slated to house service or small retail to support the 225 residential units.

"We're aiming high," Kearney said. "There will be tremendous demand for this flex space. We're ready to move forward here."

Kearney emphasized the property is classified as a Brownfield site since it is contaminated, thus it will require substantial funding to deal with environmental is-

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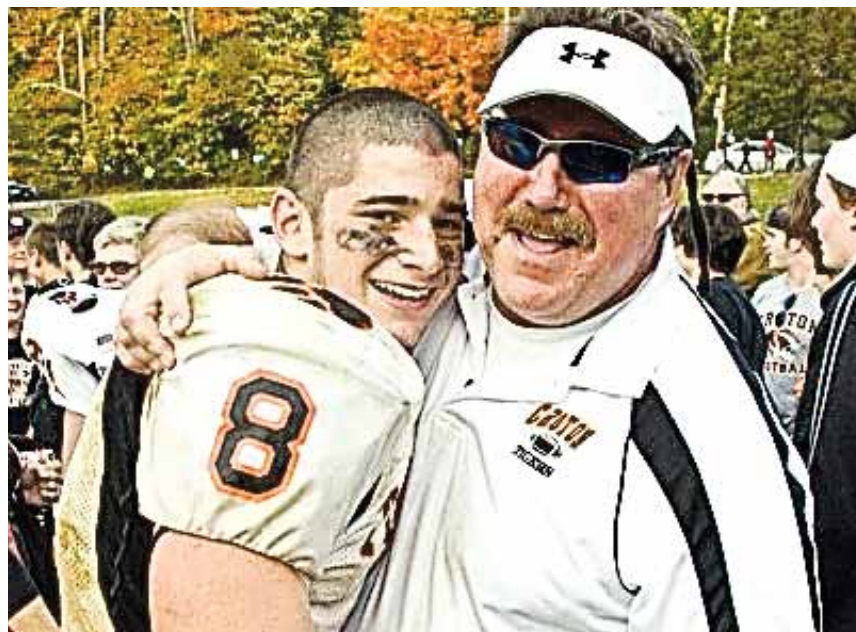


PHOTO BY RAY GALLAGHER

'Big Cat' Catano is the New Coach

Former Croton-Harmon grid Coach John 'Big Cat' Catano will now assume the reins at his old alma mater Hendrick Hudson. **See Sports**

Funding Secured for Lakeland Special Needs Playground

BY RICK PEZZULLO

State Senator Peter Harckham (D/40th District) announced Friday he had secured \$25,000 for the Lakeland School District to purchase and install an indoor playground for special needs students in the Van Cortlandtville Elementary School gymnasium.

"It's deeply rewarding to see our funding being put to such good use for a population of special needs schoolchildren who require specially-designed, daily physical activity in order to

thrive," Harckham said at a press conference attended by faculty, administrators, parents, students and Westchester County Executive George Latimer.

"The Lakeland School District, clearly believes, as I do, that we must use every means possible to educate children with attention, focus and sensory needs, so they can ultimately lead independent, fulfilling lives," Harckham added.

Margaret Rogers, physical therapist for the school district, reached out to Harckham about the need for the playground in

January. She said the new equipment would be utilized by more than 50 students in kindergarten through fifth grade who are classified in the autism spectrum.

"They benefit from movement. Pulling and pushing can be very calming," Rogers explained. "What we see here is children are very welcomed."

Van Cortlandtville houses the majority of the district's elementary school-aged students who are in the Aspire Program and require a very small student to teacher ratio in response to their

special needs. The school has at least one self-contained class in each grade for children who present with attention, focus and sensory needs that are best met with movement that involves deep pressure and heavy work to calm and regulate their sensory systems. The indoor playground will allow these students to access this type of movement on a daily basis, regardless of the weather, helping them build strength, modulate their emotional state and maintain focus, as well as have fun with their peers.

The four or more pieces of indoor equipment the school will purchase will include a cargo net climber, monkey bars and circle steppers. All of the equipment can be folded or raised out of the way so that the gym remains available for night and weekend use by community groups and for the remainder of the student body, which may want to use the gym for basketball and other activities.

"It is such an honor for Van Cortlandtville to be selected for

Continued on page 2



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Funding Secured for Lakeland Special Needs Playground

Continued from page 1

the Bullet Aid grant by Senator Harcham. We are humbled and honored to accept this on behalf of the Lakeland Central School District as well as the students and staff at Van Cort," said Jacqueline Woodruff, Van Cortlandville Elementary School principal. "Words can't express our gratitude for supporting not only our special needs population but also the general student health and wellness for many years to come. Senator Harcham will have touched the lives of many children by giving us this opportunity."

Anna Mandara, a Lakeland School District Parent Advocate and mother of a special needs student, talked about the importance the playground would have on students who need it most.

"I was so happy to hear that the Senator gave Van Cortlandville this grant for the in-

door playground for special needs kids. It is so important for our children to be able to get as much physical activity as possible to build strength and to help them focus," she said. "As the mom of a special needs child, I am so grateful for the generous donation. Thank you for not giving up on our kids."

(L to R:) Gianna Mandara, Lindsey McGann, Special Education Supervisor; Dr. Frank Yanoti, Assistant Principal; County Executive George Latimer; Assistant Superintendent Dr. Steve Rappleyea; Margaret Rogers, Lakeland School District Physical Therapist; Anna Mandara, Lakeland School District parent advocate; Senator Pete Harcham; Denise Kness, Vice President, Lakeland Board of Education; Angela Conti, Trustee, Lakeland Board of Education; Becky Burfeind, Trustee, Lakeland Board of Education; Jacqueline Wood, Principal, Van Cortlandville Elementary - with Laser, the Van Cortlandville Elementary School dog.



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Mixed-Use Project Proposed on Lower South St.

Continued from page 1

sues and clean it up.

Deputy Mayor Kathy Talbot said she was "delighted" the property would be cleaned up.

"This parcel of land has been difficult," Talbot said. "To have a mixture of residential and commercial I think is the best of both

worlds."

Mayor Andre Rainey called Kearney and his group "visionaries" and expressed confidence in the project as proposed.

"Everyone knows this is an area of Peekskill we have been trying to develop the right way," Rainey said. "The city is definitely

looking forward to working with you on this project."

Lofts on Main features 75 loft-style apartments and more than 7,200 square feet of ground floor commercial space, and was one of the first developments to utilize New York State Homes and Community Renewal's innovative

Middle Income Housing Program.

Fifty of the apartments were made available to households with incomes at or below 50 percent of the area median income with a preference for artists. Six apartments were made available to households with incomes at

or below 90% of the area median income and 18 apartments were available to households at or below 100% of the area median income.

The same type of approach and breakdown is being considered for Solo.



Is Your Biological Clock Ticking? The Trend toward Later Motherhood...

Ask the Doctor

Dr. Navid Mootabar
Chief, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Northern Westchester Hospital

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Dr. Mootabar, visit
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Q: What's behind the trend toward later parenthood?

A: Women in the U.S. are waiting longer than ever to have children, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In fact, the average age of first-time mothers is now 26, up almost two years since 2014. In the last 10 to 15 years, we've seen the average age of first-time mothers increase greatly, mainly because women are pursuing careers and education first.

Q: I'm turning thirty. Should I be worried about my "biological clock" ticking?

A: The best time for a woman to get pregnant is between the ages of 20 and 35. In this age range, you are most fertile and least likely to experience complications. Though there is a slight risk of declining fertility by the age of 35, it's only about 5 percent. Egg quality and quantity decline after age 35, and good ovulation cycles become less frequent. Eggs of poorer quality are released, making it more difficult to get pregnant.

Q: Will older moms-to-be face risks?

A: A mere twenty to thirty years ago, the maternal age of 35 was considered advanced for childbearing; it was also considered the age at which a woman became — virtually overnight and automatically — a high-risk pregnancy. Today we know that if you're a healthy 35-year-old woman

who is pregnant, you may often have the same degree of risk in pregnancy as that of a younger mom-to-be.

If you're over 35 and considering pregnancy, you may have to visit your physician more frequently to ensure that the pregnancy is proceeding smoothly. I recommend scheduling an appointment for both preconception counseling and genetic counseling. This will help your physician identify and minimize any risk factors so you can improve your chances of a healthy pregnancy. Women over 35 can deliver healthy children and have a safe pregnancy. It's all about taking care of yourself, knowing your risks and coming up with a plan that is right for you and your family.

Q: I'm worried that when I do decide to have children, I won't be able to. What are my options if I can't get pregnant?

A: Advances in technology help many women over 35 get pregnant and give birth to healthy babies. In vitro fertilization is a process by which a woman's eggs are extracted and combined with a sperm sample, creating an embryo that is transferred to the woman's uterus. In vitro fertilization now includes a procedure called pre-implantation genetic diagnosis that helps identify chromosomal and genetic abnormalities, ensuring physicians are implanting healthy embryos.

Somers Man Arrested on Child Pornography Charges

BY RICK PEZZULLO

A Somers man was arrested and arraigned on child pornography charges last week after Westchester County District Attorney's criminal investigators executed a search warrant and seized computers and other devices in his home.



Michael Gagliardi

Michael Gagliardi, 51, was charged with promoting and possessing an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child, both felonies, after the District Attorney's Office received notification from another law enforcement agency that a resident at the Somers address downloaded pornographic images of children.

According to Westchester County District Attorney Anthony A. Scarpino, Jr., criminal investigators surveilled the property July 8. Two days later, they executed a search warrant. They found Gagliardi downloaded on a home computer explicit images of a female child victim, approximately four to six years old. The download was done on February 27.

The DA's Criminal Investigators squad, with assistance from New York State Police from Troop K Somers barracks, arrested Gagliardi July 10. He was arraigned in Bedford Town Court, where he posted \$2,500 bail. He is scheduled to appear in court again July 29.

Police Blotter

YORKTOWN POLICE

July 8 - 2:15 p.m. Brooke Lee Tschudy, 26, of Yorktown, was charged with burglary in the second degree, a Class C felony, for allegedly entering the residence of a relative and stealing property.

10:20 p.m. Krista Camacho, 21, of Mohagan Lake, was charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and aggravated

unlicensed operation, both misdemeanors, following a domestic incident investigation. Investigation revealed Camacho allegedly took a motor vehicle from a family member without permission while her driving privilege was suspended for failing to answer a summons.

STATE POLICE

July 5 - New York State Police from the Cortlandt barracks arrested David L. Herbin, 29, of Cortlandt, for Assault in the 2nd degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd degree, and Aggravated Criminal Contempt, all class D felonies. On July

5, at approximately 12 p.m., the State Police responded to the Oregon Road Shell gas station in the Town of Cortlandt for a physical domestic. Investigation determined Herbin poured beer over the head of the victim, and then punched the victim with a beer bottle in his closed fist causing injury. Further investigation determined there was a valid order of protection in place in favor of the victim. Herbin was arraigned in Town of Cortlandt Court, and remanded by Judge Ragazzo to the Westchester County Jail in lieu of \$25,000 cash bail or secured bond.

July 6 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Elvis A. Alvarado Siguenza, 24, of Os-

sining, for DWI. He was traveling on Route 9 in the Village of Croton-on-Hudson when he was stopped for a violation of the vehicle and traffic law. Investigation revealed he was under the influence of alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

July 7 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Richard M. Panio, 67, of Croton-on-Hudson, for DWI. He was traveling on Route 9 in the village of Croton-on-Hudson when he was stopped for a violation of the vehicle and traffic law. Investigation revealed he was under the influence of alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

Continued on page 7

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Give us a call or check out our website for details.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> 19 Crimes Red \$7.97 </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> Freefall Sangria \$13.97 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> Donini Pinot Grigio \$9.97 1.5L </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> Talisker Scotch 10 Yr. \$49.97 750ml </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> Smirnoff Vodka \$19.97 1.75L </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> Matua Sauvignon Blanc \$11.97 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> Hanging Vine Cabernet \$9.97 </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> A by Acacia Chardonnay \$8.97 </td> </tr> </table>	19 Crimes Red \$7.97	Freefall Sangria \$13.97	Donini Pinot Grigio \$9.97 1.5L	Talisker Scotch 10 Yr. \$49.97 750ml	Smirnoff Vodka \$19.97 1.75L	Matua Sauvignon Blanc \$11.97	Hanging Vine Cabernet \$9.97	A by Acacia Chardonnay \$8.97	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Indaba Merlot</td><td>\$6.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Ve - Ve Vinho Verde</td><td>\$6.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Altosur Chardonnay</td><td>\$7.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Salinas Mo White Blend</td><td>\$7.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Sand Point Pinot Noir</td><td>\$8.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Parallel 45 Blanc</td><td>\$9.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Cune Rioja Crianza</td><td>\$9.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Lulu Touraine Sauvignon Blanc</td><td>\$9.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Relax Riesling</td><td>\$9.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Heron Chardonnay</td><td>\$9.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Playtime Red</td><td>\$9.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Le Chevaliere Pinot Noir</td><td>\$10.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Bodega La Flor Malbec</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Adegamae Lisboa Red</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Ch La Grange Claret</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Trois Toits Muscadet</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Hugel Pinot Blanc</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Tarrica Merlot</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Wits End Moscato</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Terredora Falanghina</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Farnetella Chianti</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Abbona San Luigi Dogliani</td><td>\$11.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Pastou Sancerre</td><td>\$16.97</td></tr> <tr><td>Black Slate Priorat</td><td>\$16.97</td></tr> </table>	Indaba Merlot	\$6.97	Ve - Ve Vinho Verde	\$6.97	Altosur Chardonnay	\$7.97	Salinas Mo White Blend	\$7.97	Sand Point Pinot Noir	\$8.97	Parallel 45 Blanc	\$9.97	Cune Rioja Crianza	\$9.97	Lulu Touraine Sauvignon Blanc	\$9.97	Relax Riesling	\$9.97	Heron Chardonnay	\$9.97	Playtime Red	\$9.97	Le Chevaliere Pinot Noir	\$10.97	Bodega La Flor Malbec	\$11.97	Adegamae Lisboa Red	\$11.97	Ch La Grange Claret	\$11.97	Trois Toits Muscadet	\$11.97	Hugel Pinot Blanc	\$11.97	Tarrica Merlot	\$11.97	Wits End Moscato	\$11.97	Terredora Falanghina	\$11.97	Farnetella Chianti	\$11.97	Abbona San Luigi Dogliani	\$11.97	Pastou Sancerre	\$16.97	Black Slate Priorat	\$16.97
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Lights for Liberty Protest Focuses on Plight of Detained Migrants

BY MARTIN WILBUR

More than 200 people crowded the gazebo area on Pleasantville's Memorial Plaza Friday evening, protesting the United States' treatment of migrants and conditions of the detention camps near the southern border and across the nation.

The event was one of more than 700 Lights for Liberty demonstrations around the world and four in Westchester that called for the end of the camps and reunification of migrant children with their parents or guardians. Similar local gatherings were held in Chappaqua, Katonah and White Plains. The gatherings came about 36 hours before scheduled Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids were to begin on Sunday.

Holding a variety of homemade signs and candles or lights, several of those in attendance talked about why it was important for them to participate in the vigil. One sign during the event contained the names and ages of the six children who have died while in U.S. custody, all between seven and 16 years old. At one point a chant of "Close the Camps" went up.

"The things they are saying about the people who want to come into this country are the same things they were saying about our grandparents and our great-grandparents, exactly the same things they are saying about every group of immigrants who want to come into the country, and people have to be reminded of that, that they are



PHOTO BY MARTIN WILBUR

: Some of the estimated 200 people who turned out Friday evening to demand the end of detention camps for migrants during Pleasantville's Lights for Liberty rally.

no different than we are," said Les Von Losberg of Sleepy Hollow.

The rally, which was hosted by the progressive Indivisible Pleasantville and Up2Us groups, also featured a list of demands to the U.S. government read by Francesca Hagadus-McHale, a Mount Pleasant councilwoman, who helped organize the event in conjunction with Up2Us. In addition to putting an end to the camps, several of the other demands included recognition that the migrants, most from Central America, are seeking personal safety and a brighter

future for their families, that seeking asylum is a universal human right and that every migrant be treated humanely.

Hagadus-McHale said while much of the focus has been on the condition of the camps near the southern border, there are detention facilities in every state, and in Westchester, that are holding children. She urged those in attendance to reach out to members of Congress, vote in elections and lodge their objections through protests to what is happening.

"What would you do if your son was

asked to join a gang and he said no and they said, 'Well, we're going to kill you and the rest of your family,'" Hagadus-McHale said. "You would leave. You would pick up your kids and leave, and that is why there are caravans and caravans of people making their way to the United States, which is a country that accepts asylum and has always accepted asylum, except for some very brief, shameful periods and we're in one of those periods."

Members of the Dominican Sisters of Hope were also in attendance. Sister Anne Marie said the more she had learned about the conditions that migrants face, the more motivated she was to join others in protest.

"This country was built on the backs of immigrants and I think we have to be open to all people," she said.

Ossining resident Chuck Bell said his community is filled with long-term undocumented residents and called on Congress to pass immigration reform.

"There's no way for these long-term undocumented residents to get to citizenship under the laws that we have right now," Bell said. "We need Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform and approve a path to citizenship and full legalization for the Dreamers."

Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Harrison) sent a statement that was read during the roughly half-hour rally. She was scheduled to be in Homestead, Fla. (where 2,500 children are

Continued on page 6

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Slater and GOP Slate Propose Establishing Veterans Council

BY RICK PEZZULLO

Flanked by local veterans at Patriot Park, Yorktown supervisor candidate Matt Slater last week announced plans to establish a Veterans Council and explore the need for a Veterans Service Agency in Yorktown if he's elected in November.

Joined by incumbent councilmen running mates Tom Diana and Ed Lachterman and Town Clerk hopeful Mary Capoccia, Slater said his Operation Thank You proposal would be implemented within his first 30 days in office.

"We have developed a plan that raises the bar for Yorktown's veterans and will better serve our local vets and their families," Slater said. "Our plan is to give them a stronger voice in our community while streamlining access to benefits and services."

Noting several municipalities in Westchester, such as Cortlandt and Bedford, support veterans with councils or service offices, Slater maintained Yorktown can be a better resource for those who have made sacrifices for their country.

"Yorktown's Veterans Council

will provide assistance and connect their fellow vets to an array of services from VA assistance, to property tax exemptions to mental health services," he said.

Diana, whose father served in World War II in the Battle of the Bulge, was involved a few years ago in helping Yorktown be designated a Purple Heart Town.

"We owe veterans in this town an extreme amount of thank you's and help when we can do so," Diana said. "The Veterans Council is just a mere token of the sacrifices that these men and women have made for us."

Lachterman, who has spearheaded Yorktown's Annual Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony, wants the council to be charged with developing a living history program to preserve the primary accounts of Yorktown's local veterans. Calling it Operation Remember, Lachterman explained it would be geared toward the continued education of neighbors and students about the experiences of our local veterans.

"Through my work supporting places like the Country House, I have heard first-hand accounts of D-Day invasions and merchant marine opera-

tions, simply amazing stories," Lachterman said. "In addition to forming this council we will task them with completing Operation Remember, a living history program in partnership with local veterans, civic organizations and our public schools to capture and digitize the firsthand accounts of our local veterans to preserve the memories of their service to our nation."

More than 2,600 local veterans in Yorktown currently receive a property tax exemp



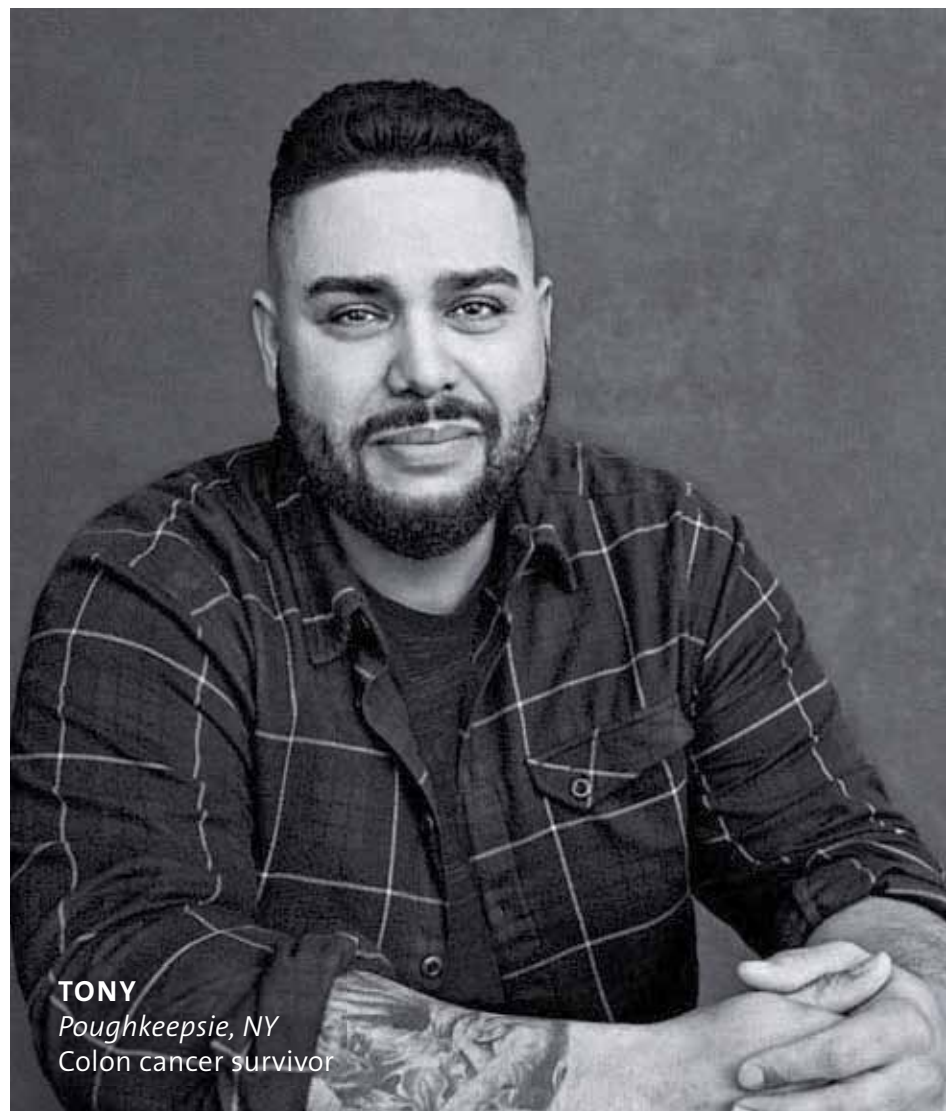
Matt Slater (fourth from right), at Patriot Park with local veterans, councilmen Ed Lachterman and Tom Diana (at his left) and Town Clerk candidate Mary Capoccia.



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Groundbreaking Event

A groundbreaking ceremony was held July 10 for the planned expansion of the Mohegan Lake Audi dealership on Route 6 in Mohegan Lake. Owner Barry Rost said, "This is a family. The family starts with the people who make this dealership go. One of the greatest accomplishments of my life is being an Audi business. It's not a business. It's a passion."



TONY
Poughkeepsie, NY
Colon cancer survivor

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\$31,000 Donated for Family of Man Killed in Crash with Deer

BY RICK PEZZULLO

Friends and strangers have donated more than \$31,000 to the family of a Yorktown man who was killed in a motorcycle crash with a deer on his 26th birthday.

A GoFundMe campaign was set up July 7, two days after James Nardella died after he took a ride on his motorcycle after work prior to a planned evening with his fiancé, Felicia Cook, and his son, PJ.

The campaign attracted the attention and generosity of 267 people, who exceeded the goal of \$30,000 in six days.

"If you knew James then you could only love him. His heart was larger than life,"

organizers of the GoFundMe effort wrote. "James was the life of any party with his antics and childish behavior. He LOVED to ride and pretty much was down for anything. He would always put everyone else's needs before his own. No matter what the situation James would always be there when you needed him. He will be missed by anyone and everyone that knew him."

Organizers said Nardella, who was planning on building a landscaping business, and Cook were together for more than 10 years and his son was very close to him.

"His son literally worshipped his daddy. James was like a giant play toy for PJ. They would spend time playing, riding, camp-

ing and PJ completely looked up to his father," the organizers stated. "Felicia has been with James for over 10 years. James was her other half, her rock and her soul-mate. Felicia and PJ have a long journey ahead, but James will never be forgotten, and her true friends will be there for them and make sure that PJ will always remember his daddy. This unexpected tragedy has changed their lives forever."

Funeral services for Mr. Nardella were held July 11 at Curry and Giordano Funeral Home.

James Nardella



Lights for Liberty Protest Focuses on Migrants

Continued from page 4

being held) on Monday with several other members of Congress.

Lowey vowed that she and her congressional colleagues will ensure strong oversight over the Department of Homeland Security and hold it and the Trump Administration accountable for its actions. She also opposed last month's supplemental funding bill because it lacked the proper oversight.

"We will speak truth to power," Lowey said in her statement. "Thank you for standing up for those who need our voices."

Merle Molofsky of Sleepy Hollow said her grandparents fled the pogroms of Eastern Europe in the early 20th century and she sympathizes with today's migrants. In fact, her ancestors falsified documents to get into the United States because they feared death, she said.

"With that background, how can I not feel for someone going through something like what they're going through?" Molofsky said.



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Obituaries

Patrick J. Garvey, Jr.

Patrick "Pat" Garvey, a former city manager in Peekskill, died July 11. He was 84.

He was born March 4, 1935 in Ridgewood Queens to Patrick Sr. and Margaret Garvey, previously of County Clare Ireland.



Patrick "Pat" Garvey

He was the oldest of four sons born to humble circumstance, survived by his brothers Martin and Michael and preceded in faith by his brother John.

He attended Bishop Loughlin High School in Brooklyn, followed by Manhattan College, graduating from the business school in 1957, but not before meeting a certain Elizabeth Tierney of the Bronx at a Manhattan Tea Dance Social. Of all his many future noteworthy accomplishments, marrying the future Liz Garvey was by all accounts, his wisest decision. Married October 1, 1960, they went on to have three children, Brian (deceased 1968), Dennis and Sharon. First and foremost, Mr. Garvey would always be a loving husband, father and family man.

He went on to live a life of significant professional accomplishments across a spectrum of roles, beginning with service as an officer in the United States Marine Corps following college. After several years on active duty, he rose to the rank of Colonel in the Marines Corps Reserves before being promoted to Brigadier General in the New York State Naval Militia. He embodied in his heart the phrase, "Once a Marine, Always a Marine!" In civilian life he served in senior development roles at the Foreign Policy Association and The Rockefeller University in New York City. He then served in the New York State Department of Military Affairs as the Post Commander of Camp Smith in Peekskill for several years while also working legislative issues for the State of NY in Washington D.C. It was during this time at Camp Smith that Pat and Liz fell in love with the community of Peekskill, leading to his selection as City Manager for the years 1997 to 2000. After leaving the city manager job, he stayed active and engaged in Peekskill affairs where ever he could, including being involved in the board of the Paramount Theater, St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, serving as the 2nd Grand Marshall of the parade, and as a board member of the Lincoln Depot Museum.

All these things being true, to capture the real Patrick Garvey was to know the

"Smiling Irishman," the great husband of Liz, loving father to Dennis and Sharon, father-in-law to Kelly, and uncle Pat to many a nephew and niece. It was to know a generous and loving friend and a man who believed sincerely in public service that knew no party. It was to know the man of strong Catholic faith who strived to live his life in the best light of that faith, to be "a man for others." He struggled with Parkinson's disease the last several years, and though it slowly wore down his body and mind, he departed this world with his soul as strong and bright as ever.

Harry Hudis

Harry Hudis, a resident of Somers, and formerly of Mamaroneck, died July 4 at Northern Westchester Hospital Center in Mt. Kisco. He was 85.



Harry Hudis,

He was born October 28, 1933 to the late Herman and Bertha (nee Rosenblum) Hudis in New Rochelle. He proudly served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. He was President of Westchester Surgical Supply in New Rochelle, as well as a purchasing agent for several medical groups. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge in White Plains. He will be remembered for his kindness, compassion, sincerity and his positive outlook on life. He was a friend to all, will be sorely missed and will forever be in our hearts.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Carolyn (nee Zimberg) Hudis in 2003 and by his sister, Etta Pasqua. He is survived by his devoted wife, Sandra (nee Genovese) Murphy-Hudis of Somers, and his loving children, Mark (Natalya) Hudis of Los Angeles, CA and Brooke (Stephen) Geller of NYC. one brother, Jerry (Marge) Hudis of Arlington, VA. Also survived by his three grandchildren, Joshua, Zoey and Alexander.

Joan Hamshire

Joan Mary Hamshire, a resident of Ossining, died July 5. She was 82.

She was born June 17, 1937 in Tarrytown, to Mary and Andrew Hamshire. She moved to Ossining where she resided until her death. She is predeceased by both parents and was an only child.

She worked for General Foods Corp. for 42 years and then for Gordon McKean Esq and Abbott House for the remainder of her career.

Robert Peterson

Robert E. Peterson, a lifetime area resident, died July 11 at his home. He was 94.

Mr. Peterson was born in Peekskill. He served in the U.S. Army in Italy during World War II and was the recipient of the Purple Heart Medal. He was predeceased by his wife, Anne, and two daughters. Mr. Peterson is survived by his son Robert E., Jr. (Linda), two grandchildren, Matthew May, Melissa Holland and one great granddaughter, Ashland Rose.

Donald Sudol

Donald Charles Sudol, a resident of Mohegan Lake, died July 12. He was 82.

He was born June 9, 1937 in Portchester to Joseph and Thelma Sudol. He married Margaret Rae on October 18, 1959. In his younger years he worked as a boat builder in Mamaroneck. Once he became a resident of Mohegan Lake he worked in Yorktown as an auto mechanic.

He is survived by his wife Margaret; sons Donald and his wife Suzanne, and Joseph and his wife Terri; daughter Tina Meek and her husband Jef.; and five grandchildren: Kaitlyn, Samantha, Tara, Alexandra and Leah. He was predeceased by his grandson Kyle.

Dr. Marilena Fotino

Dr. Marilena Fotino, a longtime resident of Ossining and transplant pioneer, died June 23 near Boulder, CO. She was 94.

Marilena Epure was born July 30, 1924 in Bucharest, Romania to Cesar Epure and Elena Ghimus. She developed a passion for animals and research early on, which she funneled into both a medical degree and a doctoral degree in immunohematology from the University of Bucharest School of Medicine and Pharmacy. Due to the severe constraints imposed by the communist regime in Romania, she emigrated in 1965 to the United States with her husband, Dr. Serban Fotino. Her initial work at the New York Blood Center paved the way for her co-founding in 1985 with Dr. Manikkam Suthanthiran of the Rogosin Institute's Immunogenetics and Transplantation Laboratory, which she co-directed until her retirement in 2008. The Immunogenetics and Transplantation Laboratory was among the first laboratories to conduct testing for organ transplants and it provides testing for thousands of transplants to this day. Colleagues describe her as a pioneer, the "Queen of Tissue Typing", who urged them to treat the samples they were handling as if they belonged to a family member; as

someone with kindness, patience, and a deep dedication to passing her knowledge on to others.

She also had a strong artistic bent, visible in her numerous and varied drawings, sweaters and vests knitted on her train commutes to the city, regular trips to the Metropolitan Opera, and boundless appreciation for food. Her modesty belied her talents and achievements, and she often emitted a youthful sweetness and enthusiasm.

She is survived by brother-in-law Mircea Fotino, sister-in-law Ingrid Fotino, nieces Domnica and Adriana Fotino and great-niece and great-nephew Alina and Adrian Fotino-Montoya.

Lillian Kelly

Lillian Kelly, a resident of Peekskill, died July 7 at NYP/Hudson Valley Hospital. She was 95.

She is survived by her daughters Mary (Joseph) Hintz and Kathleen Kelly (Jeff Van Siclen); grandchildren Kristin Sullivan, Eileen (Brett) Rumfelt, Derek (Alysha) Hintz, Honora Spillane, and Brendan Spillane; great-grandsons Eamonn Sullivan, and Owen and Leo Rumfelt; brothers Brian and Seamus Burns; many nieces, nephews, and true friends. She was predeceased by her sisters Kathleen and Angela, and her husband John.

Paul Weissman

Beloved husband, cherished father, adored grandfather and devoted friend, Paul Weissman, a resident of Somers, died July 9 after a long illness. He was 89.

Born November 13, 1929 in Brooklyn, he lived in the Bronx, Yonkers and Somers. He graduated from City College in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, the first in his family to attend college. He was a Second Lieutenant in the Army during the Korean War. He retired as the Executive Vice President of James G. Hardy & Co., Inc., where he managed a national sales force that sold linens to hotels and restaurants. He was a competitive bridge player, a daily crossword puzzler and an avid fan of the Yankees and the UConn Huskies Women's Basketball team. In addition to his fierce intellect, he was exceptionally kind and loving.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Leila and his children Diane and Mark Weingarten, Larry and Liz Weissman and Janet and Marc Pfeffer, and his grandchildren, Alex Weissman, Jill and Zach Stein, Adam Weissman, Lisa Weingarten, Elliana Pfeffer and Cole Pfeffer, all of whom gave him his greatest joy in life.

Police Blotter

Continued from page 3

State Police from Cortlandt arrested Luis Lopez, 39, of Cortlandt, for DWI. He was traveling on Route 9 in the Village of

Croton-on-Hudson when he was stopped for a violation of the vehicle and traffic law. Investigation revealed he was under the influence of alcohol, and was subsequently arrested.

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Letters to the Editor

Gilbert has Shirked His Responsibility in Dealing with Parks

To the Editor:

Be even more careful what you write.

In her letter to the editor, Ms. Patricia Sullivan-Rothberg looks to blame the prior administration for the lack of planning for the town of Yorktown parks. She insinuates that the issues have been ignored during the time that Mr. Grace was in office with Councilman Diana and myself.

Perhaps Ms. Sullivan-Rothberg should properly research her narrative before sending it in instead of just trying to defend Mr. Gilbert. If she did, she would realize that this was one of the many issues that were taken up after the election in 2015. In a time where the town board was holding extra work sessions every week to catch up on items that needed to be addressed,

we had a special meeting on March 9, 2016 with the Planning Board and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

In that meeting, there was discussion on having a master list of priority needs for our parks so that there could be a concentrated effort when asking builders for public benefit contributions when required from their projects. In that meeting, the commissioners grudgingly admitted that this was a necessary thing and promised to give a detailed report at the May 17, 2016. This did not happen, even after multiple requests, and I feel that it was because the Parks Commission does not think that it is the responsibility of the Town Board to do anything for the parks, as referenced by Commissioner Al Avitable in his letter to

the editor.

Fast forward to 2018. Supervisor Gilbert, immediately upon taking office, relinquished all control of Parks and Recreation to the commission – including Granite Knolls. He has repeatedly stated the same feeling that the Parks and Recreation Commission are responsible for the decisions for the parks. It is an argument that Councilman Diana and myself have had with him since he took office and one that he refuses to address in a public meeting. This shirking of responsibility and lack of transparency in addressing it is the true cause of why there is no plan or support for our Parks and our Park employees.

ED LACHTERMAN
Councilman

Has Yorktown Reached Its Limit?

To the Editor:

You can't drive by Yorktown's Town Hall without literally running head long into an ever-growing Disneyland sized construction site which may be a couple of former politicians ultimate legacy. These former public servants private ambition with their personal property is on display and may demonstrate more about themselves than anything they might have said during a political campaign. This near completed skel-

eton of this gigantic building appears to be built on a foundation of concrete, variances and tax abatements. It appears that the building plans have mutated and for now at least one additional multi-storied structure not previously approved will be built on other portions of this quickly shrinking lot. That's problematic since the original building by itself is too big and the lot too small to accommodate the needed parking spots necessitating the granting of a variance au-

thorizing a shortage of nearly 30 parking spots. What kind of bureaucratic 'hocus-pocus' will be performed to conjure up a couple dozen additional required parking spots for this new building as well as other expected future construction in a lot already totally maxed out of parking spaces?

STEPHEN BROWN
Yorktown

Slater Will Be a Voice for the Seniors in Yorktown

To the Editor,

My family has known Yorktown Supervisor Candidate Matt Slater since he was a young boy and we have seen him grow into a fine man.

I've had great conversations with Matt about his time working in the NYS Senate, his vision for Yorktown and how he plans to improve the overall customer service for my town...YOUR town...Yorktown!

I was struck by Matt's compassion and

recognition for our seniors. We all know it is so challenging to afford to stay in Yorktown, especially on a fixed income. Our taxes continue to go up, utility rates

continue to rise and our seniors are left to figure out how to pay for it all. Matt Slater understands that,

and at a public hearing regarding the water rate increase of 14%, he pointed out how this would impact

the seniors of Yorktown. The increase

may only be nickels and dimes but it all adds up.

I look forward to Matt Slater's leadership because I am confident he will be a voice for our seniors.

Having someone with his experience, vision and kindness will be a nice change for Yorktown.

EDWINA FREYER RANCE

Slater Has Positive Messages to Improve Yorktown

To the Editor:

I have lived in this town for decades and have watched elected officials come and go. Yorktown has been blessed to have some great leaders, from both parties, emerge from our community. This year Matt Slater is running for Yorktown Supervisor. He will bring an incredible combination of education (Masters of Public Administration), more than a decade of governmental ex-

perience, charisma and vision to our local government that will propel our community to new heights. He has put forth several policy proposals focused on our local environment and improving our quality of life. Matt's middle of the road, common sense approach, is a refreshing breeze in a time when partisan smog prevents government on all levels from functioning for the people. Yorktown has a chance to elect

a real leader, who has a vested interest in the future of our town, and has the integrity we can count on. Matt Slater continues to impress those who meet him and I urge my neighbors, both old and new, to pay attention to his positive message of how he intends to improve our community.

(Yorktown resident for 30 years; Registered Democrat)

ILENE S. MCGANNON

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Guest Commentary

Two Controversial Laws: What Does the Town Board Do Next?

BY SUSAN SIEGEL

Two hearings: A Tree & Woodland Preservation Law and a Solar Law. Five hours of comments. Lots of opinions. Lots for the Town Board to absorb. So, what do our elected Board members do next?

The Town Board has its work cut out for it: balancing conflicting town goals, e.g., preserving trees and woodlands or cutting them down for solar energy, and sifting through competing suggestions on what changes should be made to each law. No one ever said that writing a law was easy.

More than 30 diverse comments were made on two very technical laws, including some from speakers with vested interests in supporting or opposing sections of the laws. As a contrast, this op ed column represents the opinion of Advocates for a Better Yorktown (ABY), a group of residents who have been fighting for a stronger tree law since 2017 and who have also researched the solar law and its implications for Yorktown.

These are the major issues the Town Board will have to decide in the coming weeks.

TREE LAW

The majority of the people who spoke at the hearing want to see a stronger Tree and Woodlands Preservation Law.

Even Supervisor Gilbert agreed that the current Tree Law didn't protect woodlands and that changes needed to be made. So, let's look at what those opposed to the proposed law said.

It's not clear what constitutes a woodland. Not true. There are very clear definitions in the law of a woodland, what constitutes a "protected" woodland that is regulated, and what is considered a disturbance to a woodland. The ad hoc tree committee composed of town staff and members of town advisory groups that drafted the proposed law spent considerable time on these definitions to make sure they were clear and easy to understand.

One speaker questioned if the town could identify a woodland. A proverbial red herring. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to delineate a woodland. If a developer can delineate a wetland and a wetland buffer, he can delineate a woodland.

Mitigation. The current law makes mitigation optional; the proposed law would require it for all major developments. Here's why the difference matters. When, in my comments at the hearing, I cited several examples of Planning Board approvals that resulted in trees being cut down (from 10 to 435) without any discussion of mitigation, the response was that the Planning Board is already doing a good job saving trees, so no additional regulations are needed. But saving trees and mitigating for the loss of trees that can't be saved are two very different things. And landscaping a new development is not the same as mitigating for the environmental loss of trees and woodlands.

When wetlands and wetland buffers are lost or disturbed, mitigation plans are required. The same should apply to trees and woodlands.

Some speakers left the impression that the law's mitigation requirements would be unreasonably excessive and expensive for developers. Not true. The proposed law gives the Planning Board total flexibility to work with the developer to craft a mitigation plan that is reasonable, and which includes a variety of mitigation measures that are appropriate for the site.

Homeowners on one acre or less should be exempted from the law because it's too onerous. Not true. If the members of the Town Board take the time to compare the current law and the proposed law, they'll see that the proposed law will actually be simpler and easier to comply with than the current law.

The proposed law is a "taking" and infringes on a homeowner's property rights. Not true. Most of the provisions that affect homeowners are the same or very close to those in the current law. The one provision the Town Board may want to reconsider is the requirement that a tree permit is needed to remove one protected tree on a slope 15% or greater. But if the Board does decide to increase the number of trees, hopefully it will keep in mind the comments of the homeowners who spoke about how their houses were flooded when their abutting neighbors cut down trees on their property.

The regulations will be too expensive for property owners. ABY's answer to that is: Whose interests is the Town Board supposed to be looking after: its residents or the profit margins of developers?

SOLAR LAW

Every speaker at the hearing supported solar energy — but the majority opposed giving the Planning Board the ability to approve special permits for commercial solar farms on any undeveloped residentially zoned property.

Here's the solution. Instead of a law that indiscriminately applies to any residentially zoned site of a specific size, the Board should create a new solar generation floating zone that can be applied on a case by case basis. For example, residents may be opposed to clear cutting 12 acres of woodland on Underhill Avenue, the gateway to Yorktown, to make way for a commercial solar farm but may support the same use on already cleared and unused agricultural land that will not be visible from the road.

This new zone would "float" and exist only on paper until a solar farm proposal was made for a specific parcel and the Town Board decided that the proposal met all the required design standards, e.g., lot size, coverage, visual and environmental impacts, neighborhood character, etc.

The Town Board will be discussing "next steps" for both laws at its July 23 work session. The public typically cannot address the Board at work sessions — but you can share your thoughts with your elected officials via email or phone. (Check the town web site for their email addresses.)

What changes, if any, would you like to see in one or both laws? What's YOUR vision for Yorktown's future?

Letters to the Editor

Croton is a Proud Member of Sustainable Westchester

To the Editor:

Personally, I've never been a fan of the combustible engine. Too dirty, too loud, too many breakable parts, too much gas money handed over to oil companies. That's why I'm thrilled that Sustainable Westchester and Nissan of New Rochelle have extended the discount program for the 2019 all-electric Nissan Leaf until September 30, 2019.

The standard 2019 Leaf costs \$32,865. But ... with the \$5,000 Sustainable Westchester discount, New York State rebate, and federal tax incentives, the total reduction off MSRP can be up to \$14,500 making the cost of the car \$18,365. That doesn't include savings over gas guzzlers on oil changes (no need for oil in an EV), lower maintenance costs (a gas car has around 2,000 moving parts, an

EV has 20!) and, of course, no need for the weekly pitstop at the gas pump. Plus, Con Ed will pay you—yes, pay you—to charge your car at night. Since most road trips are less than 30 miles, the Nissan Leaf's 150 miles per charge should be plenty of charge time for the average journey. Croton-on-Hudson is a proud member of Sustainable Westchester, the nonprofit that negotiated the dis-

count. The village has added recharging stations for electric vehicles and is in the midst of adding more. We've also begun the task of swapping out old gas guzzlers from our fleet for EV cars. If you're interested in making Mother Earth greener, go to sustainablewestchester.org/ for more information.

ANDY SIMMONS

Croton-on-Hudson Village Trustee

Yorktown Parks and Recreation Board Has A Lot on Its Plate

To the Editor:

I recently attended a meeting of the Yorktown Parks & Recreation Board, looking to discuss specific issues at Sparkle Lake. I came away impressed by all they do and the level of detail required by Todd's team

on the new Granite Knolls facility, and was hopeful they would have the same diligence towards Sparkle Lake. The following Saturday, I met Todd Orlowski and board members Diana Quast and Matt Talbert at the lake. I left feeling that my concerns reached

the right people. Since then, a huge pile of freshly delivered sand has been spread across the beach—it looks great. Worth noting that Town Supervisor Gilbert attended the meeting and commented only when asked to.

Before attending, I had no idea how much the Parks and Rec department and volunteer board did to keep our parks going. Had Mr. Slater attended, he might have found the same appreciation I did.

JOHN KEANE

Real-World Tour of Physics at IBM Research Center was Eye-Opening

BY PRANAV BURUGULA

After learning about Physics Mechanics for the past eight months and taking the AP Physics exam, my AP Physics classmates and I wanted to learn about the real-world applications of physics, and fortunately, living in Yorktown Heights, we had access to one of the leading research facilities in the nation, the IBM TJ Watson Research Center. Thanks to the immense support given to us by Mr. Vishnubhai Patel, Retired IBM Researcher and current Councilman, and Mr. Ramanjaneya Burugula, a Scalable Systems Software researcher at IBM, our class was able to visit the Watson Research Center in May.

We began our tour by learning about IBM's research in quantum computing, organized by Dr. Jay Gambetta, an IBM fellow in quantum computing. Using a decommissioned quantum computing module, we learned that a quantum computer works by using the interactions and characteristics of subatomic quantum particles to perform many calculations simultaneously, making it useful for large calculations like the Traveling Salesman problem. One of the best moments of our visit, however, was when we got to visit a fully functional IBM quantum computer. According to the researcher who explained IBM's quantum computers to us, the core unit of a quantum computer operates at a temperature of 20 millikelvin, which is 0.02 degrees from absolute zero. I was amazed that I was stand-



Yorktown High students who visited IBM TJ Watson Research Center in Yorktown.

ing five feet away from one of the coldest places in the universe.

Afterward, we learned about the famous Watson AI supercomputer that played Jeopardy in 2011. Michael Frissora, a Research Experimental Strategic Technologies Engineering manager, led us through a presentation about the history of the Watson computer, including why Jeopardy was chosen as a means to test the AI algorithm. After showing us video documentaries, with a

press of a button, he showed us the original Watson computers in a room behind a glass screen. We were in awe of the glass screen, which was originally frosted but, using electrical charges and gas, could become transparent in a fraction of a second.

We then went downstairs to the IBM particle accelerator, reading about the history of IBM technology in exhibits placed in the hallways on our journey there. Matthew Copel, a Research Scientist in Nanoscale

Analysis of Electronic Materials, taught us about how their particle accelerator works and described some of the projects that IBM carries out using it. When I first imagined a particle accelerator, I thought of a large circular tube that would run underneath the entire IBM campus. To my surprise, most particle accelerators, including the IBM one, were much smaller and consisted of two or more smaller tubes that used electromagnetic fields to accelerate particles to a collision chamber. Since we have always heard of particle accelerators in our physics and chemistry classes at YHS, it was interesting to see a functional one up close and appreciate the complexity, as well as the applications, of particle accelerators.

Finally, while leaving the building, we ran into Dr. Jim Wynne, who is a Biotechnology Researcher and one of the inventors of the technology behind LASIK. We had an enlightening conversation with him about his passions and work from when he was in school to his time at IBM, along with some anecdotes about his meetings with world-renowned people such as President Obama. He told us that the technology he was developing was actually meant for micro-engraving, but accidentally became the crucial feature of laser eye surgery. This made me realize that many of the greatest breakthroughs we take for granted in our AP physics class, as well as in daily life, came from discoveries found while solving entirely unrelated problems.

VolzAuto.com Bill Volz Westchester

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Longtime Yorktown Resident Author Pens Another Thriller

BY ABBY LUBY

Can a former seasoned news reporter who wrote about board meetings, education and middle school science take a leap and write supernatural thrillers?

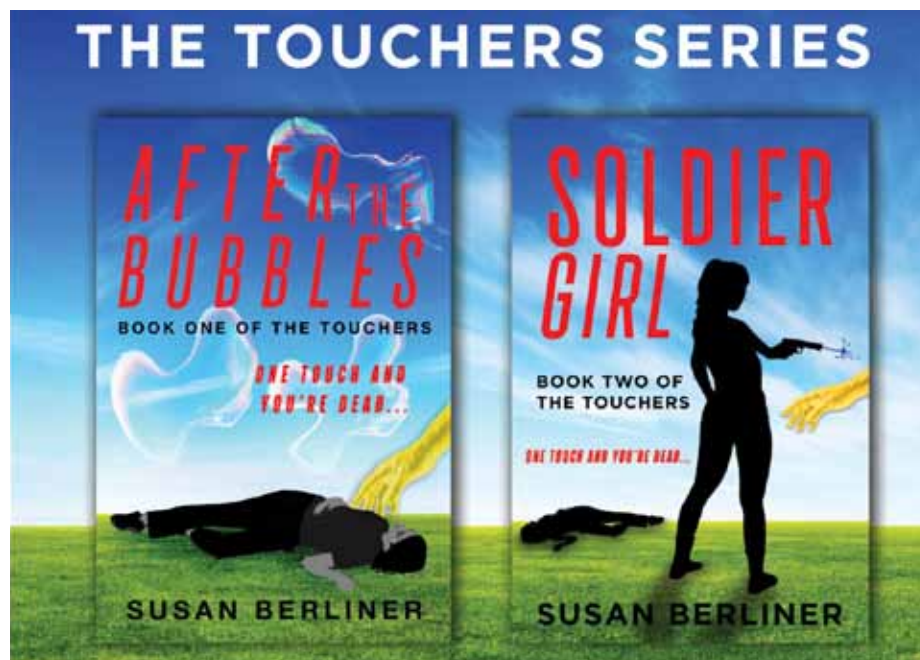
If you are writer Susan Berliner, you can. A talented writer and longtime Yorktown resident, Berliner has penned multiple novels and short stories that, over the years, has attracted a bevy of dedicated readers from children to grandparents. Berliner has just published her latest novel, "Soldier Girl," the second book in her supernatural thriller series, "The Touchers."

Berliner's 20-year stint as promotion manager for the Yorktown PennySaver and years of reporting local news for the award winning (now defunct) Westchester weekly, North County News, were experiences that ultimately planted seeds that sparked her creativity.

"One day when I was working at the PennySaver I checked out an interesting news story online," Berliner recalled. "There was a tiny blurb about a mini tornado called a dust devil, which are rotating columns of wind. The story was how a dangerous dust devil killed a man in his auto shop. I expected Stephen King would surely write about it, but he didn't."

A door opened for Berliner and she wrote "DUST" about deadly swirls of multicolored dust.

For Berliner, news stories became a springboard for her other paranormal



thrillers including "Peachwood Lake," "The Disappearance," "Corsonia," and "After the Bubbles."

"When I finished 'After the Bubbles,' it was 80,000 words and I thought the story was over," Berliner said. "But sometimes it's the characters that write the story and I feel as if I'm transcribing what a particular character is saying. In this case, the book suddenly ended with the words 'it was just the beginning.' I was shocked but knew

then I'd have to write a second book."

That second book is the newly released "Soldier Girl." From the time Berliner started "After the Bubbles" to when she completed "Soldier Girl," eight years had gone by. During that time she wrote a collection of short stories, "The Sea Crystal and Other Weird Tales."

Berliner, a longtime fan of fiction writers Stephen King and Dean Koontz, came to love 'end-of-the-world' stories. But when

she wrote "The Touchers" series, she wanted it to be different.

"Most end-of the-world stories have very violent endings, whether its nuclear war, meteorites, zombie aliens," she said. "I wanted the end-of-the-world to happen differently, so I came up with bubbles."

Berliner said she created 'wacky bubbles' that fall from the sky that wouldn't be there for long. "Because if anyone came into contact with them, they would instantly turn into monsters," she explained. "These were now creatures who were invincible, and I had to figure out how to destroy them. It took two books to do that."

Berliner is now working on a second volume of short stories. She and her husband, writer Larry Berliner, often team up with writer Linda Griffin when they table at public events. The three came up with the moniker YIKES! & TYKES & YUKS, which represent books by each; YIKES is for Berliner's supernatural thrillers, TYKES is for Linda Griffin's books for children and for her parenting books and YUKS refers to Larry Berliner's award-winning humorous book, "You Can't Be Serious: An inner-city teacher a-muses about school and life."

Coming up, the three will be at the Sunset Markets, Jefferson Valley Mall on Thursday, July 25 and Thursday, August 29 from 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., where they will meet readers, sell and sign their books.

For further information, visit <http://susanberliner.com/>.



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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.

TUESDAY, JULY 16

Book Bingo: Book Bingo for adults is being this summer at the Somers Library: Have fun, try something different, and join with children and teens in summer reading. Who knows...you might be a lucky winner. All game cards must be returned no later than Aug. 28. Info: 914 232 5717 or www.somerslibrary.org.

Taconic Opera Summer Program: The Taconic Opera's summer program will have emerging opera singers from the New York Opera Conservatory performing Barber of Seville on July 16, 18, 19 and 20 at 7 p.m. at the Croton Free Library, 171 Cleveland Drive. Admission is free. For information about becoming a student in the NY Opera Conservatory visit <http://www.newyorkoperaconservatory.com>. For general information about Taconic Opera and NY Opera Conservatory events visit www.TaconicOpera.org.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

A Roof For A Veteran: Attention all veterans. Miracle Home Improvements and Gas Roofing are partnering to replace the roof of one lucky winner. Send us a letter with a brief summary as why you need a new roof. You must live in Westchester or Putnam. The winner will be chosen on Sept. 3. Submit a photo and summary by e-mail (miraclehome1@verizon.net) or through the regular mail at Miracle Home Improvements, 2010 Albany Post R., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

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 with your name, number, a time to call between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and whether your interest is in Medicare services or other benefits. A counselor will return your call within two business days. SBIC will not meet on days the Somers schools are closed due to snow.

Support Connection Men's Program: Support Connection announces a free program: "Wing Nite-For Men Only" will be offered from 7 to 9 p.m. at Travelers Rest, Route 100, Ossining. It is open to men whose lives have been affected by a spouse or partner going through breast, ovarian or gynecological cancers. Relax and have a night out with the guys. Enjoy good food as well as the company of others who understand how you feel. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

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.

Peekskill Concert Series: The City of Peekskill Riverfront Summer Concert Series will continue from 7 to 9 p.m. at Riverfront Green Park, 50 Hudson Ave., with a performance by What It Is, which combines funk, soul, rock, jazz, pop, country and R&B. For more information contact

the City of Peekskill Parks and Recreation Department at 914-734-7275 or visit www.cityofpeekskill.com.

THURSDAY, JULY 18

SAT Programs: Two SAT programs are scheduled for this week at the Somers Library. Eighteen SAT Questions You Can Answer will be held on July 18 from 5 to 6 p.m. Registration is required. Last Chance SAT Practice Exam will be held on July 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration is required. Info: 914-232-5717 or www.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.

Death Cafe: Everything you wanted to know about death and dying is up for discussion over coffee and other refreshments at this informal small group meeting at the Reform Temple of Putnam Valley, 962 Church Rd. There is no religious slant or expected outcome. Space is limited and RSVP is required. There is no charge, but donations are encouraged to cover refreshment costs. RSVP to rtpvrbabbis@gmail.com. For more information, contact Rabbi Laurie Levy at 973-615 1943, or visit www.firsthebrew.org and www.deathcafe.com.

Pop Singer-Songwriter: Francesca Beghe, who has toured with Michael Bolton and has opened for Jerry Garcia, will perform at 7:30 p.m. at The Hudson Room, 23 S. Division St., Peekskill. The cover charge is \$20. Info: hudsonroom.com or 914-788-3663.

FRIDAY, JULY 19

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.

Space Film Series: Moon Landing Movie Mania: Space Movies to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing is being held this summer at the Somers Library. Today's film, which will be screened at noon, is "2001: A Space Odyssey." Info: 914-232-5717 or www.somerslibrary.org.

Music In The Park: The Music in the Park series continues today with a performance by Back to the Garden. The gates open at 5 p.m. and the performance starts at 7 p.m. at Lasdon Park, 29 Amawalk Rd (Route 35), Somers. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$25. Info: 914-864-7264 or lasdonpark.org.

Temple Beth Am Summer: The Summer is a time for us to relax and kick back. Every Friday evening over the summer, Temple Beth Am will create a relaxed atmosphere that is engaging and enjoyable with services at 7 p.m. 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 rabbiiw@optonline.net.

Shabbat by the Hudson: Meet your local Jewish community as First Hebrew's Rabbi Dana leads an outdoor Shabbat service in Riverfront Green Park in Peekskill on the first and third Friday evenings through-

Longest Running Italian Feast Returns to Verplanck

BY RICK PEZZULLO

It's that time of year again to bring your appetite, bring your dancing shoes and bring your prayers to the hamlet of Verplanck for the annual Our Lady of Mount Carmel Italian Feast.

Now in its 97th year, the longest running feast in the Hudson Valley kicks off on Wednesday, July 17 and runs through Sunday, July 21 on Eighth Street from 6 to 11 p.m. each night.

The free admission event, which ends with a bang Sunday night at 11 p.m. with a spectacular fireworks show on the Hudson River from world champion Garden State Fireworks, has something for everyone.

There's rides and games for youngsters, casino-type games, a 50/50 raffle and beer and wine for adults, nightly musical entertainment and, of course, scrumptious food. Visitors can choose from second-to-none sausage and

peppers, Zeppole's, pizza, pasta, broccoli rabe, gyros, cannoli, ice cream and much more. No one leaves the feast hungry.

On Wednesday, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., a Scholarships and Awards Party in Mt. Carmel Hall will be held for college-bound, \$500 scholarship winners Wayne Smith of Verplanck and Joseph DiBitetto of Buchanan. DJ Bobby James will get the music pumping at 7 p.m.

On Thursday night, DJ Tony Corda will be blasting tunes, while on Friday night the Street Beatz Kids will give a dance performance at 7 p.m., followed by The Happy Crabs Band at 7:45 p.m.

On Saturday, the 90th Anniversary Verplanck Fireman's Parade will take place at 6 p.m. DJ Tony Corda will return to the stage at 7 p.m., including a 9 p.m. Singalong—50th Anniversary of Man on Moon. At 10 p.m., the World's Largest Tarantella will be sure to entertain.

On Sunday, a 3:30 p.m. mass will be held at St. Patrick's Church, followed by a procession through the streets of Verplanck where the statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be carried for anyone to get close and ask for a special blessing.

On Sunday night at 8 p.m., The Uptown Band with Joann Robertozzi and Louis Vanaria from A Bronx Tale and Boardwalk Empire will perform high energy pop, Italian and dance music.

Discount ride bracelets for each night are available with a coupon that can be found at local merchants. Free parking on nearby streets. All proceeds from the Italian Feast are donated by the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Society to charitable organizations and causes.

Statue of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is central figure of feast.



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Happenings

out the summer months. Tonight's service will be held at 7:45 p.m. Feel free to come early, bring dinner and wine. Benches may be available or bring your own chair. Meet at the trellis in the north end of the park, which can be found by walking beyond the parking lot, across a walking bridge and towards the river. Gathering times will get progressively earlier in accordance with sunset, always weather permitting; check the website for updates at www.firstthebrew.org; Info: rabbi@firstthebrew.org or 914-739-0500. No rsvp necessary.

Peekskill Family Movie Night: "Spider Man: Into the Spider-Verse" will be screened at 8 p.m. at Riverfront Green Park, 50 Hudson Ave. Admission is free. For more information, contact the City of Peekskill Parks and Recreation Department at 914-734-7275 or visit www.cityof-peekskill.com.

SATURDAY, JULY 20

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

Bagels and Bible: All are invited to study the Bible with our engaging Rabbi Robbie Weiner at 9 a.m. today and on Aug. 3 and 17 at Temple Beth Am. Bagels and coffee are provided for all wishing to explore how the Bible is a mirror into our lives. 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.

Flea Market: A flea market will be held on Aug 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ossining Historical Society Museum, 196 Croton Ave. (Route 133). The rain date is July 21. Info: Peter at 914-941-8180.

Lunch & Learn: The Hebrew Congregation of Somers holds Shabbat services at 9:30 a.m. on July 20 and 27, followed by Lunch & Learn, a discussion of the week's Torah portion. Kiddush luncheon will be served. E-mail info@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org or call 914-248-9532 for more information.

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

Ossining Farmers Market: The Ossining Down to Earth Farmers Market is

now being held outdoors on Spring and Market Streets. Customers old and new will find delicious produce, pasture-raised meat, poultry, and eggs, breads, baked goods, and much more. For a full list of our markets and vendors, visit DowntoEarthMarkets.com.

SUNDAY, JULY 21

Auto Show: Yorktown Chamber of Commerce Auto and First Responder Show from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the K Mart park-

ing lot, Yorktown Heights (Commerce and Kear Street and Downing Drive) featuring new cars, classics, hot rods, drag cars, and motorcycles. Car contest, Food & Beer Garden, raffles & live music by classic rock Euphoria.

Food Trucks and Talk: TED Talks and Food Trucks will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, 2808 Crompond Rd. Events will begin with food truck at 6 p.m. followed by the video and conservation. The topic is "Thinking about Local Food Justice Action? Are you thinking about how you might become part of the solution? Info: www.fpcyorktown.org.

MONDAY, JULY 22

Summer Writers' Group. The pro-

gram is continuing on Mondays, July 22, 29 and Aug. 5, 12, 19 & 26, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Somers Library. Each week writers will have their creativity challenged in different ways. Space is limited. Info: 914 232 5717 or www.somerslibrary.org.

Literature And Art: The Story of You: A Literature and Art Workshop About Growing Up will be held every Monday from July 8 through Aug. 12 for children age four through the second grade from 11 a.m. to noon and for children in grades three through five every Wednesday from July 10 through Aug. 14 from 4 to 5 p.m. at The Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. For more details contact the library at 914-737-0847 or visit the Frog Blog at www.fieldkids.wordpress.com.

JULY 17 • 18 • 19 • 20 • 21

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Saturday: **DJ - DANCING UNDER THE STARS**
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Sunday Finale: **The UPTOWN BAND**
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GRAND FINALE SPECTACULAR by World Champion - Garden State Fireworks

SUNDAY

11:00 PM

Top 5 Health Hazards to Avoid This Summer

BY DR. JAMES DWYER

Chair of Emergency Medicine at Northern Westchester Hospital

White sandy beaches. Sunrise hikes. The sizzle of the BBQ grill. For many of us, summer means family, fun, and adventure. Yet the season can also bring unexpected dangers, from insect bites to heat stroke, with potentially serious consequences. Here I'll explain five summer health hazards medical professionals encounter — and how you can avoid them and improve your summer safety.

1. Accidents

Sure, the feeling of soft grass or sand between your toes is appealing. However, I see a tremendous increase in cuts and lacerations to feet during the summer months. To protect your feet, always wear shoes when walking outside.

More people hit the road in the summer. Unfortunately, more people on the road means more car accidents. Always wear your seat belt, even in the backseat. Make sure children are properly secured in car



Dr. James Dwyer

seats.

2. Always Check Your Backseat for Children

Did you know that three dozen children are killed each year from being left alone

in hot cars? Sometimes busy or exhausted parents either forget they didn't drop off their child as planned, or get distracted. Get in the habit of always checking the backseat before leaving your car.

3. Heat-related Illnesses

Hot humid weather leads to an increased risk of heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Symptoms of heat exhaustion include excessive sweating, fatigue, fogginess, and even fainting. Heat stroke can cause a high body temperature, headache, nausea, red skin that feels hot to the touch, and an altered mental state. To avoid heat-related illnesses, I advise you to stay hydrated, avoid direct sunlight during hot weather, wear loose clothing, and always apply sunscreen.

4. Insects

Bugs can lead to bigger problems than a ruined picnic. When it comes to bugs, the biggest danger in the Hudson Valley is tick-borne illnesses. The best-known of these is Lyme disease, symptoms of which include fatigue, joint pain, muscle ache, fever, and a distinctive "bull's-eye" rash. Another tick-

borne illness, babesiosis, presents like malaria, with symptoms including high fever, anemia, and body aches and chills. To avoid ticks, wear long pants when hiking, tuck the bottoms into your shoes, and use insect repellent with DEET. Always check yourself and kids for ticks after outdoor activities. Should you find an engorged tick on your body, a doctor will likely prescribe antibiotics and monitor for symptoms.

5. Food-borne Illnesses

Everyone loves an old-fashioned summertime barbecue or picnic. Unfortunately, so do bacteria and other parasites. Increased heat and humidity allow bacteria to grow on food. The U.S. Department of Agriculture cautions that food left out of refrigeration for more than two hours may not be safe to eat. When the temperature is above 90°F, don't leave food out for more than one hour. Always have a cooler with ice available so you can store leftover perishables, so they don't spoil and become unsafe to eat.

To learn more about Northern Westchester Hospital, visit nwchc.net.



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Crossword

- ACROSS
1. ___ standstill

4. Neb. neighbor

7. Hen oval

10. Personal ad abbr.

11. Lady lobster

12. "Isn't ___ Lovely?" (Stevie Wonder hit)

13. Start without the car key

15. Connect

16. Drink

18. University of Utah team

21. Claim

24. Chappaqua upscale re-sale shop, Fantastic ___

26. "The sea" in French or Armonk seafood restaurant

27. Marine mollusks

29. Salinger heroine

30. Made an MRI picture

32. Tolkien cannibal

34. Camera shot that gets all the details

38. Dangerous weather condition for the roads

39. Very long time

40. Small eating instrument, abbr.

41. Vegas opener
42. Titanic transmission

43. Owns things
- DOWN
1. Barbecue leftover

2. Mixed doubles team

3. Toward the tiller

4. Fancy

5. ___ mate

6. Nobel prize winning playwright, Eugene

7. Prizes

8. Phone trio

9. "Gosh!"

14. Knowledge

17. Extorts from

18. Questionable craft

19. The first O of O-O-O

20. Attracts

22. Beauty

23. Bard's "before"

25. Gaps

28. Large ice box

31. Long terms

32. Wildcatter's find

33. TV manufacturer

35. Numeral suffix

36. Often-chanted letters

37. Second addendum to a letter

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10				11				12		
13			14					15		
			16				17			
18	19	20			21				22	23
24				25		26				
27					28		29			
		30				31				
32	33			34				35	36	37
38				39				40		
41				42				43		

(Solution to this puzzle on page 16)


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(Solution for puzzle on page 15)

1	A	2	T	3	A		4	W	5	Y	6	O		7	E	8	G	9	G
10	S	W	F				11	H	E	N				12	S	H	E		
13	H	O	T	14	W	I	R	E						15	T	I	E		
				16	I	M	B	I	17	B	E								
18	U	19	T	20	E	S			21	A	L	L	E	22	G	23	E		
24	F	I	N	D	25	S			26	L	E	M	E	R					
27	O	C	T	O	P	28	I		29	E	S	M	E						
			30	I	M	A	G	31	E	D									
32	O	33	R	C			34	C	L	O	S	35	E	36	U	37	P		
38	I	C	E				39	E	O	N		40	T	S	P				
41	L	A	S				42	S	O	S		43	H	A	S				

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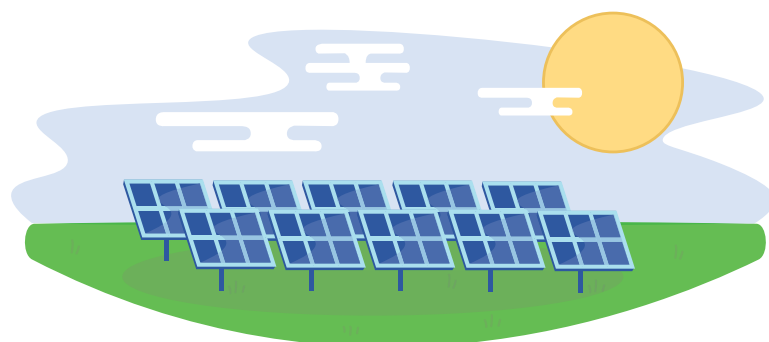
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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION AUTHENTIKA LLC: Application for Authority filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/29/2019. Office location: WESTCHESTER County. LLC formed in Delaware on 03252019. SSNY has been designated as an agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is 399 West Street, Harrison NY 10528. The principal business address of the LLC is 1214 West Boston Post Road #125, Mamaroneck, NY 10528. Delaware address of LLC is 16192 Coastal Highway, Lewes, Delaware 19958-2677. Certificate of LLC filed with Secretary of State of Delaware located at 401 Federal Street,

Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GOLAB LAW, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on May 31, 2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC served upon him/her is: 100 Fisher Avenue, Suite 118, White Plains, New York 10602. The principal business address of the PLLC is 248 West Street, White Plains, New York 10605. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CAMEO HOME INSPECTIONS, LLC.

Arts of Org filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/6/2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Came o Home Inspections LLC, 2 Ann Place, Valhalla, NY, 10595. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DAYTON LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/30/2019. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, SSNY shall mail process to: David B. Petshaft, P.C., 222 Bloomingdale Rd. Suite 116, White Plains, New York 10605. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 6:00 pm. to hear comments on a proposed local law to remove the moratorium on establishing Improvement Districts. **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will be conducting the regular work session Town Board Meeting. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD** Sherry Howard Town Clerk Dated: 07-11-2019

NOTICE 7/2019 Please be advised that the next meeting of the **Putnam Valley Planning Board** will be held at **Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road on Monday July 22, 2019** for the purpose of considering the following applications:



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Regular Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm
AGENDA PUBLIC HEARING The following public hearings have been scheduled for July 22, 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. Bellamy, Jody- Watson Way (TM#51.19-1-1 & 2/File2019-0196)** The subject property consist of + 1.68 acres of land and is located on Watson Way and within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is Proposing to construct a single family residence, with well and septic system. A Site Development Plan and Major Grading Permit is required. **SKETCH 2. Orentreich, David, 855 Route 301 (TM#39.1-9/File 2019-0189)** The subject property consists of + 73.94 acres of land and is located on 855 Route 301 and within the PC Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a 2,200 sq.ft. improvement to be utilized for equipment storage. Amended Site Plan approval and Major Grading Permit are required. **3. Lamanna Residence- 39 Roberts Drive (TM#85.5-1-37/File2019-0194)** The subject property consist of + 1.0

acres of land and is located on 39 Roberts Drive and within the R-1 Zoning District. The applicant is seeking an Amended Site Plan for deviating from previously approved Site Plan and increasing the paved driveway area. **DISCUSSION 4. Filho Residence, - 135 Bell Hollow Road (TM# 51.1-4/File: 2019-0190)** The subject property consists of + 19.2acres of land and is located on 135 Bell Hollow Road and within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a swimming pool, terrace and outdoor kitchen. A Site Development Plan, Major Grading and Wetland Permit is required. **MINORSITE CHANGE 5. Cerar, John- 38 Butterfly Lane (TM#74.14-1-22/File2017-0163)** **6. Soloviev, Stacey- 52 Chapman Road (TM# 61.1-8/File 2015-0137)** **EXTENSION 7. Orentreich, David- 855 Route 301 (TM# 39.1-9/File 2018-0181)** **APPROVAL OF MINUTES 8. Approve Minutes of June 17, 2019**

Town of Putnam Valley Town Board Meeting July 17, 2019 6 PM **1.** Pledge of Allegiance **2.** Departmental Reports and presentation by Town Historian, Dan Ricci. **3.** Supervisor's Comments **4.** Legislative Reports **5.** School Report **6.** Set public hearing for De-Icer law **7.** Authorize Supervisor to sign a contract with Fireworks Extravaganza for Town Day fireworks display. **8.** Authorize Supervisor to sign municipal advisor service

agreement with Sage Municipal Advisors, LLC. **Highway 9.** Driveway Opening Permit for Bellamy. **Parks & Recreation 10.** Personnel changes. **11.** Refunds **Building Department 12.** Daily Fee Report **13.** Budget Amendments and Transfers **14.** Public Comment **15.** Audit of bills

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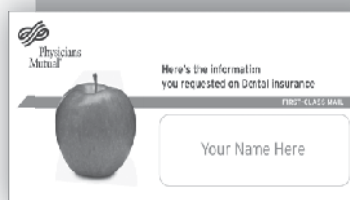
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When Home Decorating Should Be “A Matter of Time”

Normally I don't watch television in our living room, although there is a set there just in case we want to watch something when our extended family visits. My wife and I prefer to watch the tube in our master bedroom where we are usually tuned into MSNBC or TCM movies, our most frequent channels of choice.

We are lucky to live in the fabulous Trump Park in Yorktown where we decided to downsize from our six-bedroom historic colonial to a two-bedroom condo with all the expected features and services that make life easier. And sometimes that's especially of benefit.

Not so long ago, having had an operation to remove a painful bunion, I was marooned at home, unable to drive or even walk with ease for a full two months (Here's advice off subject: If anyone ever suggests that this is not such a serious operation, don't believe them!)

I remember the first time I was able to limp with crutches to the front desk in the lobby and there the wonderful concierge Gina asked how my recovery was going and, trying to be optimistic, I replied, "I'm getting there." Her response was almost epiphanic to me: "Well everything is just a matter of time, isn't it?"

That message also applies to home decorating that comes together successfully when

we do it ourselves. Whenever I see a model home, I marvel at how a professional designer can throw together a beautiful living space with so many creative ideas so quickly. Some peoples' minds are just wired that way, but obviously mine is not.

While I've frequently heard other people boast about how quickly they've "settled in" when they've purchased a new home or moved from one place to another, either working with a decorator or doing it themselves, as for me, I need to add the element of time to be fully happy with any home decorating project I tackle.

I remember years ago when I invited one of the editors of Good Housekeeping to my home and she surveyed my garden, she asked how long I had lived at my property and when I responded "20 years," she said, "It shows." And truly, it wasn't until another 10 years that I was really happy with what I had done there.

And, I know I'm not alone. When the question, "How long did it take for you to decorate your home" is asked online, most people say things like "I've been in my house three years and I'm STILL not done." Some will elaborate and share that they more enjoy the "process." For instance, one response was: "I just kind of bought things here and there, changed them out, changed my mind, and now I am starting to fix it exactly how I want it."



By Bill Primavera



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My wife's theory is that when a decorator does a model home, it's easier because the assignment is impersonal. "There are no personal memories attached to the things selected, so it's easier to bring the plan together," she said. "But, there's the danger there that the end result is going to lack any 'soul,' and that can happen if a decorator selects everything for you."

With our last move to Trump Park, our biggest dilemma was dealing with too much "soul" in that our decades of collections had to be edited down from nearly 4,000 sq. ft. of space to less than half that. This time around, my wife wanted more open space than we ever had in our antique home, but after six months in our spanking new condo, slowly adding this and that from many things we had previously vowed to sell or give away, we've definitely missed that opportunity.

There was a second problem, a big one that the time element helped solve. I had always resisted the idea of having a television set in our living room, no matter where we lived. In our old historic home, we had a television set only in the master bedroom and a small one in our library. When our whole family visited, we all would pile into the bedroom if we wanted to watch a show together, and my wife always hated that.

She insisted that in our new home there must be a large television installed above the fireplace/mantel that we were having designed and installed by master cabinetmaker Jan Efraimssen of Woodtronics in Yorktown. I had been "angsting" about that for months. It

was probably the biggest decorating conflict my wife and I had ever had in our long marriage. I have always hated visiting beautifully designed homes costing over a million dollars to find a big "black hole" of a television set over the fireplace in a living room. In a family room, fine.

When Jan's skilled workers arrived to install the magnificent mantel with its gorgeous Carrera marble inset and its rich baronial style design, I was inwardly balking at the idea of having the television plopped on top of it. I stayed awake thinking about it. I knew that once the new TV and sound system was installed, I would be stuck looking at that big black screen, center stage, for the rest of my life.

With a lot of pleading, my wife gave me one last stay of execution. We decided to place the tube on the far side of the room above a bookcase in the corner. Thank goodness it took some months to plan, design and build the cabinetry for my living room because it helped me avoid the bullet of a lifetime eyesore. Once again, it was the element of time that came to my rescue.

Moral of story: it's not such a bad idea to take baby steps with decorating that you may be living with for a lifetime.

While a writer and journalist, Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call (914) 522-2076.

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

C.A.L.L. off the Dogs!



Cortlandt American Wins 3rd-Straight 12U District 33 Title

The magnificent Cortlandt American Little League program 12U captured their 3rd straight 12U District 33 title on July 8 with a 12-2 victory over Cortlandt National Little League last Monday. C.A.L.L. advanced to play in Sectional Tournament beginning July 13. Team Members include (L to R): Devin Diaz, AJ Imperati, Vince Cannizzaro, Nicholas DiMaso, Andrew Weinbaum, Sean Coen, Dean Sewall, Gianni Generoso, Anthony Sabatello, Ryan Scozzafava, Dylan Merola and Ryan D'Ambrosio.

Sports

Baseball Notebook



Put Valley Miner 1B TJ Ferraguzzi awaits call in Miners’ 16-8 win over Mt. Kisco Chiefs in recent 9U GHVBLA action.



Put Valley Miners shake hands with Mt. Kisco players after 16-8 Miners win over Chiefs in recent GHVBL action.



Put Valley P Chris Constantino fires pitch in Miners’ 16-8 win over Mt. Kisco in recent GHVBL action.



Put Valley’s determined IF Matt Quinn takes in some instruction after Miners’ 16-8 9U win over Mt. Kisco in recent GHVBL action.



The Yorktown Spartans have had an incredible season in the 9U GHVBL



Put Valley’s Nicholas Benedetto turns 2B with a run in two in Miners’ 16-8 GHVBL 9U win over Mount Kisco.



Put Valley’s Nick Cerrato drives shot in recent Miners win as they improved to 13-1-1 in GHVBL action.

Put Valley Miners Take Down Yorktown, Mt. Kisco, Hold 1st Place in 9U GHVBL

Sports

Hendrick Hudson Unleashes John 'Big Cat' Catano Football Era



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner
Sports Editor

There have only been a handful of football coaches I've encountered in my 30+ years along the Section 1 grid circuit who were more entertaining than recently-minted Hendrick Hudson Coach John 'Big Cat' Catano. Maybe it has something to do with being the sports editor that dubbed him 'Big Cat' while he was guiding the Croton-Harmon Tigers to three Section 1 Class B titles in four years, including back-to-back titles (2010-11) and NYS runnerup status back in 2008 (Class C) and 2011 (Class B). Maybe it has something to do with his off-beat nature. Maybe it has something to do with a sense of humor that's off the cliff. Maybe it's his old-school disposition, which might take the young Sailors some getting used to as summer workouts kick off in the days ahead. The Big Cat doesn't sugarcoat things, so the Sailors are going to have to get used to some harsh realities over the next few seasons as the program is rebuilt in his image.

Catano takes over for former Hen Hud boss Mike Lynch, who ran into a snag with some personnel issues that few people are talking about publicly, as is the case with most personnel issues at schools. It stinks because Lynch, who was scooped up to coach at West Point as an assistant for Army's sprint football team, is a heck of a football coach and an offensive genius. Meanwhile, Catano returns home, poised to return as a gridiron hero where he once donned the Sailor blue and white under former Hen Hud Hall of Fame Coach Vinny Annichiarico.

"Am I excited," Catano repeated when asked if he was? "Well, sure, I am, and I can guarantee you a return to Sailor pride. We can't wait to get going."

That's something Hen Hud Athletic Director Tommy Baker is counting on. The Sailors became relevant under Lynch, the former coach who implemented a spread offense and opened things up for Hen

Hud to win some big games, including a wild 50-49 win over perennial powerhouse Rye in 2016.

It was evident through several conversations last week that Baker was beyond excited to bring Catano on board.

"Coach Catano comes to Hendrick Hudson with a wealth of experience, knowledge and success," Baker said. "He is coming back home to Montrose where he has never lost his Sailor Pride. We had some quality candidates apply, but in the end Coach Catano was a logical choice for us."

Football pride runs rampant within the Catano family. John's kid brother, Mark, also starred at Hen Hud prior to an NFL career that included stints with the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Buffalo Bills. Mark is the lone pro football player to ever come out of Hendrick Hudson High School, according to Baker.

After a two-year stint at O'Neill High School, Catano will open the 2019 season at rival Walter Panas against first-year Coach Paul Ronga on September 6th as both the Sailors and Panthers welcome new coaches into the fold. And neither inherits a veteran-based situation, so there could be some growing pains for both out of the gate.

"I feel bad about leaving O'Neill," Catano said. "It's always tough to leave a situation like that where people have been good to you, but I think they understand what the Hen Hud job means to me. I'm coming home to coach football in the community I grew up in and still live in."

Catano gets thrown to the Class A wolves against defending Section 1 champion John Jay on the 13th of September, and the Hen Hud faithful will have to wait for Week 4 for the home opener against Beacon as Hen Hud undergoes the final stages of its facility transformation.

Hen Hud should be pretty lit that night as Baker unveils the new turf facility and a brand new track and field complex. I suspect we'll see a full house, especially if the Sailors, who are rumored to be headed for Class B next season, can get off to a 2-1 start or something in that vicinity.

"These are exciting times at Hen Hud, for sure," Baker said...



Newly-minted Hen Hud Coach John Catano (L) shares a minute with former Hen Hud legend Vinnie Annichiarico and his brother Mark, a former NFL pro.

So I saw the recent piece on the Shrub Oak Athletic Club cancelling its flag football program for grades 3-6, and I'm not exactly sure how I feel about the SOAC board voting 7-5 against its continuation. On one hand, I get it; football was meant to be played in a combative, physical forum with a level of commitment second to none. Lakeland High grid Coach Mike Meadows said that flag football is detrimental to the development of tackle football players. Flag football, Meadows said in the piece I saw in the Yorktown News, was "not preparing our kids to play tackle football." He also said if a student starts playing tackle football in

seventh grade, "He's behind the eight ball."

Yes, that is true, in terms of learning the proper techniques of tackling, but there might be a need for adaptation these days. Football, despite being the greatest game ever invented, has got some black eyes in recent years. Concussions are a legit concern, and that's not going away no matter what the data says about other sports – like soccer – being equally dangerous to the brain. Whether you believe the data or not, the stigma is real.

Flag football, with just under 1 million participants in 2017, is now the sixth-most popular sport in the United States for children ages 6-12, according to

the Sports and Fitness Industry Association. So I asked myself: Why would a group of adults stick a fork in the spokes of a well-oiled wheel by discontinuing something so many kids were obviously enjoying, especially since nearly 200 kids signed up at SOAC? There has to be a happy medium because the pros to flag football must outweigh the cons. I would think there are many benefits to flag football, so long as it's run professionally; like learning route trees, blocking techniques, the non-contact drilling, methodology, concepts, et al.

The other thing is that "smallish" boys, like my own son, are in love with football, and rightfully so, but their moms won't let them strap on a helmet. What do we do with that kid, who probably won't ever suit up for their high school team but find great joy in football nonetheless? It's a tough call, I get it.

But I created a sanctioned Little League charter in Putnam Valley a few years back, I run a basketball program for grades pre-K through 12, I practically live on ball fields and gyms, and in good conscience, I couldn't turn 200 kids away from any program without a viable solution.

Somebody smarter than me has to come up with a better response because playing flag football is far better than twiddling your thumbs over video games.

#OneFlock Ducks Fly High at Cooperstown



The 12U Westchester Ducks, coached by Head Coach John Swayne (former Mahopac Player) and Assistant Coach Pat McGee (Former Mahopac Player), along with five Mahopac student athletes Tyler DeBrocky, DJ DeMatteo, Kurt Ebinger, Robert Keller and Jayson Mayer participated in one a highly competitive setting in Cooperstown All-Star Village last week. Against teams were from California, Texas, Illinois, Canada and more, the Ducks went 5-5 over three days with DeMatteo and DeBrocky each hitting five home runs and stroking a pair of doubles to lead the way. The familial bonds and relationships formed were equally as important as the competition. Check out (<http://www.ducksbaseball.org/jr-ducks-of-westchester>).

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