



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Celebrating Independence Day

The City of Peekskill held its annual Independence Day Parade on July 4. **For more photos, see pages 12-13.**

Board to Rule on Former Cortlandt Planner's Special Permit Request

BY RICK PEZZULLO

A former Cortlandt Planning Board member is finding it's not so easy being an applicant.

Susan Todd, who served on the Planning Board for about 10 years, and her husband, Andrew Young, have been seeking a special permit for an accessory apartment in an existing accessory building on their property on 48 Pond Meadow Road since February.

However, the couple have faced some opposition, particularly from their next-door neighbor, Wai Man Chin, who has served on the Cortlandt Zoning Board of Appeals for 30 years.

Chin has taken issue with a determination from Cortlandt Code Enforcement Director Martin Rogers, who in a May 16 memorandum researched the history of permits issued on the property and concluded what Todd and Young are requesting is allowed under Town Code.

"Given the facts presented, it is my determination that no area variance is required here. Furthermore here, an accessory apartment in this preexisting accessory structure would be permitted, provided a special permit is obtained from the Planning Board," Rogers wrote.

According to Rogers, a one-family dwelling with four bedrooms was constructed in 1999 and a previous dwelling on the site was classified as an accessory structure for use as a studio with a guest bedroom. The accessory structure was constructed in 1974 and was issued a Certificate of Occupancy in 1976.

The building existed prior to April 21, 1979, when a change was made in the Town Code prohibiting any special permits for an accessory apartment in an accessory building, except for accessory structures that existed prior to that date in R-80 and R-40 districts.

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Opposition Voiced over Proposed Rezoning for Rental Project

BY RICK PEZZULLO

Opposition to a proposed rezoning request to pave the way for a 150-unit rental project in Jefferson Valley continued last week.

Several residents urged the Yorktown Town Board not to consider rezoning a 19.3-acre site off East Main Street from R1-20 to R-3. Diversified Proper-

ties LLC filed a formal petition to the board last September for the rezoning as it seeks to build 11 two-story buildings with one and two-bedroom rental units in a development called Summit Hill at Yorktown.

Louise DeMarco repeatedly referred to the Comprehensive Plan the town adopted in 2010 in lobbying against the rezoning.

Others cited the increased traffic the project would bring to Route 6N and the surrounding roadways.

"We have traffic problems up there," Highway Superintendent Dave Paganelli said. "It's a major issue. It's a very dangerous road."

The developer has mentioned possibly contributing to the six-figure cost of installing a traffic

signal in the area.

Summit Hill is proposed to include 66 one-bedroom units and 84 two-bedroom units, plus a community center. The plan also calls for 300 parking spaces (100 in garages, 100 on the driveway in front of the garage and 100 additional spaces).

In a letter to the editor this week, Katherine Quinn, execu-

tive director of Support Connection and a resident of Shrub Oak, cautioned town officials not to get caught up in public opinion, but to analyze the facts.

"The needs of the community must be assessed. Yorktown is not the place it was 30, 20 or even 10 years ago. Society and demographics have changed.

Continued on page 2



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Board to Rule on Former Cortlandt Planner's Special Request

Continued from page 1

Rogers further noted that in 1999, when the permit and Certificate of Occupancy for the primary structure were issued, geodesic domes, which exists on the Todd/Young property, were allowed to be used as both studios with guest bedrooms and as accessory apartments.

"You have reports from your own staff telling you there is no need for a variance for this. This is totally legal," Todd remarked

to the Planning Board at a June meeting. "People are looking for affordable housing in this town. I will be shocked if this is not approved. There is absolutely no reason for you to say no to this."

Young also urged the board to approve their application, saying "From the beginning of this process Susan and I have tried to adhere to the instructions of the town. We feel we held up our end of the bargain with what we have done with the property. It is

our intention to only have someone living in there that we would want to have as a neighbor. We are looking for ways to continue to live there."

Chin maintained there were "many issues" with the way a Certificate of Occupancy was issued by town officials for the accessory house in the 1990s and cautioned the Planning Board about approving the special permit.

"It would set a precedent for zoning not only in this town, but

in the country," Chin contended.

Planner Bob Foley, who served with Todd on the board when she was a member, appeared to side with his former colleague.

"It seems they are in the code," he said. "It seems like this has been examined and reexamined."

However, planners Steven Kessler and Jeffrey Rothfeder still were grappling with some issues.

"It was approved as a studio and guest bedroom. How do I make the leap it was issued for an ac-

cessory apartment?" said Kessler, also a former colleague of Todd.

"I'm troubled with taking a lot that was a main house and turning it into an accessory structure," Rothfeder said. "If it happened today it probably wouldn't be approved. I think it's a pretty messy situation."

At the June meeting, the Planning Board instructed staff to prepare a resolution for the application that it will vote on at its July 23 meeting at Town Hall.

Opposition Voiced over Proposed Rezoning for Rental Project

Continued from page 1

There is a great need for options in housing that include rentals as very few currently exist," she wrote. "Whether it is seniors selling their homes and looking to rent, millennials who can't afford or do not want to own a home, families that are looking to rent, at the current time, Yorktown cannot offer much. This forces people to leave, taking their spending dollars with them. Within the last few weeks, six people ranging from mid-twenties to late seventies, told me that they were moving. The reason? They want to rent and hardly any rentals exist in

Yorktown."

Supervisor Ilan Gilbert and Councilwoman Alice Roker said at last week's meeting the board was far from making a decision on the rezoning application and would like an independent traffic study be conducted.

"This is not a done deal. This is far from a done deal," Gilbert said. "We need a lot of concrete answers before we make a decision."

"There are more questions than answers," Roker said. "We want to know what their history is in building this type of development."

Police Blotter

STATE POLICE

June 28 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Walter Lara, 25, of Peekskill, for DWI. He was traveling on Route 6 in the Town of Cortlandt 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.

State Police from Cortlandt arrested Paul E. Quizhpi Sacasari, 34, of Peekskill, for DWI. He was traveling on Hudson Avenue in the City of Peekskill 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.

June 29 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Edwin P. Parra, 31, of Yorktown, 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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Q: What are the symptoms of a kidney stone?

A: You might feel waves of severe pain in your back or side below the ribs. Pain might spread to your groin and lower abdomen. Nausea, vomiting and blood in the urine are possible. If you experience extreme pain, vomiting, or fever, go to an urgent care facility, or your hospital ER. Otherwise, have your symptoms evaluated by your primary care physician.

Q: What actually is a kidney stone?

A: A stone is rock-like material formed within the kidney. Most stones have a calcium component, and are caused by inadequate fluid intake, an overabundance of calories, and excessive salt intake. Stones with a uric acid component are caused by an excessive meat intake. When a stone passes out of the kidney and enters the ureter, the tube becomes blocked, urine backs up, the kidney swells and pain results.

Q: What are my treatment options?

A: A small stone may "pass" from your body naturally. If necessary, your physician can provide medication for pain and nausea and allow natural passage of the stone. Uric acid stones can sometimes be dissolved

with medication. A large stone blocking a kidney, or a stone associated with an infection, can be life-threatening and must be treated urgently. For stones that cannot pass on their own, a urologist may advise one of three outpatient procedures, depending on the size and location of the stone.

- (a) External shock waves to shatter the stone, turning it to smaller stones that can then pass on their own.
- (b) Inserting a small telescope to laser the stone into tiny fragments.
- (c) If the stone is very large, a telescope is passed directly into the kidney through ones back to fragment and remove the stone.

Q: Can I help prevent kidney stones from forming?

A: Yes, however, once a kidney stone is removed, if a person does not change his or her diet or fluid intake, there's a 70 percent chance another will form. Help prevent calcium stones by remaining well-hydrated. Avoid consuming large amounts of dark leafy vegetables, peanuts, Vitamin C tablets and chocolate. To avoid forming a uric acid-type stone, limit meat, including red meat, chicken or fish.

Tree Falls on Police Car During Chase

BY RICK PEZZULLO

Westchester County Police arrested two Brooklyn men July 3 after they fled from officers in a van with stolen license plates before crashing it into some trees as they exited the Taconic State Parkway in Yorktown.

One of the trees struck by the van then toppled on to a County Police patrol car as the officer pulled up to the scene, shattering the windshield with the officer still behind the wheel. The tree did not enter the police vehicle and the officer was not injured.

The two suspects climbed from the van in a further attempt to flee but were taken into custody at the scene. The driver is facing multiple felony and misdemeanor charges.

According to County Police, the incident began about 11 p.m. when the Real Time Crime Center at police headquarters alerted patrol officers that a Honda Odyssey with stolen license plates was traveling on the Taconic State Parkway in Mount Pleasant. An officer observed the vehicle traveling northbound at Pines Bridge Road in New Castle and attempted to stop it, but the van fled at speeds up to 100 mph. The van's driver also turned off the headlights in an effort to avoid being captured.

The van exited at Underhill Avenue at a high rate of speed, lost control near the bottom of the exit ramp and collided with several trees. The vehicle came to a stop in some dense underbrush. As a police officer pulled up, one of the trees toppled over on to his patrol car. That officer and others took both suspects into custody.

The driver of the vehicle, Francisco Torres, 47, of Brooklyn, was charged with Fleeing an Officer in a Motor Vehicle and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle 1st Degree, felonies; and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property 5th Degree, Reckless Endangerment 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree, misdemeanors. The drug charge stems from a small amount of heroin found in the vehicle.

The passenger, Luis Ramos, 47, also of Brooklyn, was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree and False Personation, misdemeanors. He initially gave officers a false name



County police car in Yorktown with tree on it.

following his arrest.

Ramos complained of chest pain from injuries suffered in the crash. He was tak-

en by the Yorktown Volunteer Ambulance Corps to Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, where he was admitted. He was released the next day, booked at County Police headquarters and then turned over to the NYPD on an active New York City arrest warrant.

Torres was held overnight at headquarters and was arraigned July 4 in Yorktown Town Court. He was remanded to the Westchester County jail in Valhalla without bail. The Yorktown Heights Volunteer Fire Department also responded to the scene and assisted county officers in removing the fallen tree from atop the patrol car.

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Sisters Help Next Generation of Immigrants to Open Door

BY LINDSAY EMERY

When Andrea Ruggiero and Grace Battaglia first came to the United States from Ecuador as children in the early 1990s, like so many area immigrants their medical needs were taken care of at Open Door Family Medical Center in Ossining.

Today, the two sisters work at Open Door, helping the next generation of new arrivals with their health care services.

Open Door operates six offices in Westchester, Putnam and Ulster counties, including locations in Mount Kisco, Sleepy Hollow and Ossining. There are also seven school-based health centers in the Port Chester and Ossining school districts, a mobile dental van in Mount Kisco and a new dental practice in Saugerties.

There are board-certified physicians that have chosen to provide services at Open Door because of its mission.

"We have a lot of pride when we say we work at Open Door because we understand that we're part of something that is, that it's really about a national initiative to make sure that we're impacting people's lives so that they can be healthier, so that they can stay productive, so they can keep working, so they can stay in the communities and give back," said Battaglia, who is director of marketing for Open Door.

Ruggiero, who serves as vice president of community health and has worked at Open Door for the past 15 years, said helping the next generation of immigrants is



Andrea Ruggiero and Grace Battaglia

something they have always felt passionate about.

"That American dream ends up having an exponential effect so that it's not just about the individual and him or herself, it's about everybody that comes after that and everybody else that's going to benefit after that," Battaglia said.

They arrived in the United States when Andrea was eight years old and Grace was five, living with their parents and other relatives in a small apartment above a bicycle store in Chappaqua.

"They really made it a priority that we lived in a town with one of the best school districts, even though there were challenges because the rent may have been higher and the family had to share a bedroom," Battaglia said.

Ruggiero said Open Door is rebuilding and strengthening the communities it serves since everyone is affected by health care. When evaluating whether to launch a new health center, a community-needs assessment is conducted to make sure that the service is needed, she said.

Years ago, the Mount Kisco location was opened because there were pockets of poverty and the recent immigrants needed help.

Mount Kisco's diversity also brings opportunities, Ruggiero said.

"I really have incredible memories of the way we were treated with such dignity and respect," Ruggiero said. "I have really wonderful, incredible memories of life in Westchester County."

There have been a number of support services added since when Ruggiero and Battaglia were children. There is greater emphasis on servicing the entire family and giving greater overall wellness education to patients, Battaglia said.

Their personal stories have made it easier to explain Open Door's services to today's patients. The kinship they feel with their patients is why their jobs have been so rewarding.

Ruggiero and Battaglia said strength and education are crucial to the newer immigrants' success.

"It's about what you do with those opportunities and that you don't give up and that you continue to always see what your goals are and continue reaching for them," Battaglia said.

Ruggiero said Open Door will continue to help with health equity through programs that focus on teaching patients how to manage their care.

"We're here to serve everyone and I think that's important," she said.

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Yorktown Grange Fair Announces 2019 Contests

Preparations for the 95th Annual Yorktown Grange Fair are underway! This year's theme, "Back to the Garden" pays tribute to the contributions that local farmers, back-yard gardeners, home crafters, and artisans make to our community.

There's nothing like winning a blue ribbon, and now is a great

time to start planning your entry into the Grange Fair's many contests for adults and kids of all ages. From September 6-8, the Yorktown Grange Fair Grounds will be abuzz with community togetherness and friendly competition. From Grange Fair staples like produce, poultry, livestock and flower contests to

contemporary options like Lego and photography shows, there is something for everyone to participate in. New for 2019, the Grange Fair will be adding a Rabbit Show. Kids ages 8-19 will be able to show off how they care for and raise their adorable furry friends. There are also opportunities for kids and adults to show

off their needlework or baking skills. With multiple divisions and a variety of contests, anyone - from beginner to expert - can come "Back to the Garden" with the Yorktown Grange Fair.

For a full list of contests as well as details and rules, check out the Grange Fair website at www.yorktowngrangefair.org/contests.

html. The 95th Annual Yorktown Grange Fair is going to be an event to remember. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be a part of Westchester County's only true county fair.

For more information, please visit the Yorktown Grange Fair website: www.yorktowngrangefair.org.

Faulty Firing Mechanism Blamed for Fireworks Fizzle

BY RICK PEZZULLO

The fireworks finale that fizzled during Peekskill's annual July 4 show is being blamed on a faulty firing mechanism.

Hundreds of spectators gathered at Riverfront Green, around Annsville Circle and near Charles Point Thursday night to witness the fireworks, only to be left somewhat bewildered when the fireworks appeared to end without the traditional bang.

Some people expressed different opinions on social media about the fireworks, with comments ranging from disappointment to satisfaction.

In a Facebook post, the Peekskill Volunteer Fire Department explained why the display concluded abruptly.

"The company that would be doing the

shoot was the same one that had been doing it in the past. We have never had any complaints about the shows in the past so we did not have any reason to believe this year would be any different. Unfortunately, there was a problem with the firing mechanism which caused the show to malfunction," the Fire Department stated.

The Peekskill Common Council agreed to budget \$20,000 for the fireworks this year, while the Fire Department covered \$5,000 for the barge from where the fireworks are shot. Firefighters also pay approximately \$15,000 for the annual July 4 parade that draws hundreds of residents to downtown in the morning.

"If you want a better show then there has to be more money," the Fire Department stated in its post.

Pines Bridge School Holds Prom for Students

As the students in Pines Bridge's Transitions program made their grand entrances into the gym through a golden, picture-frame arch, each paused for a moment marked by smiles, giggles and camera clicks. It was Prom Day – and they were ready to celebrate! Young women in fancy dresses and young men in jackets and ties enjoyed that most typical of high school milestones, Prom. They danced and clapped to "Shout" and other party standards spun by a DJ. They donned top hats and held up silly props for Polaroids snapped at a photo booth. Pines Bridge Principal Csilla Mate said many young people with special needs share a love of music, adding that an opportunity to sing, dance or simply move to upbeat songs helps bring students out of their shells.





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Ruchi Indian Cuisine Peekskill

BY NEAL RENTZ

Mohegan Lake resident Nagaraj Rao explained last week why he named his Peekskill resident Ruchi Indian Cuisine.

In India “ruchi” means taste, Rao noted.

The eatery has been in operation in the Beach Shopping Center for the past 10 years.

The food business is not Rao’s primary occupation. He is a professor of mathematics and computer science at Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry. Ruchi is not the first business Rao has owned; he is also the owner of Parkside 202 Wine and Liquors in Mohegan Lake.

Rao said he was convinced by his nephew, Mahesh (who does not have a last name), to open Ruchi. “He has some experience with restaurants. So, he wanted to open one,” Rao said.

The format of the restaurant is buffet lunches and served, a la carte dinners. Rao said one of the most popular dishes on his menu is Chicken Tikka Masala. Mahesh said the dish is boneless chicken cooked in tandoor oven and later is simmered in creamy tomato gravy. Other customer favorite are Chicken Korma, which is chicken cooked in creamy mild sauce with nuts and raisins, and Lamb Saag, which is lamb cooked in spinach gravy with ground and



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Ruchi Indian Cuisine has been operating in the Beach Shopping Center in Peekskill for the past decade under owner Nagaraj Rao of Mohegan Lake (third from the left.) Also shown above is Rao’s wife, Rukma, his son, Sreenivas, of New Jersey, standing on the left, and the restaurant’s manager, Mahesh.

whole spices, Mahesh said.

Cooking in a tandoor oven has the ad-

vantage of preparing food without fat, which could make a dish greasy, Mahesh

said.

“The lunch buffet changes every day,” Rao said. On weekdays there is typically one dessert, three non-vegetarian entrees and three vegetarian dishes and a salad, he said. On the weekends, the buffets will include two appetizers, three desserts, four meat dishes and four vegetarian dishes, he noted. “It’s a big selection,” he said.

The bar features Indian beers, Rao said. Aside from the main dining area, the restaurant features a downstairs hall that can accommodate 80 customers for parties. The restaurant also provides catering services.

Rao said his customers come from northern Westchester and such other areas as Tarrytown, Ossining and locations around Bear Mountain.

Ruchi is the only restaurant in the area that serves strictly Indian food, Rao said. “We would like to expand and like to attract more customers,” he said.

Rao explained why his restaurant has been so successful. “Our food is really good. The service is excellent,” he said. “And our food is very fresh.”

Ruchi Indian Cuisine is located in the Beach Shopping Center at 1853 N. Main St. in Peekskill. For more information, call 914-788-1888 or visit <https://ruchiofindia.com/>. The restaurant also has a Facebook page.



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Letters to the Editor

Facts Should Outweigh Opinions in Reviewing Rental Proposal in JV

To the Editor:

I have read articles, letters to the editor and heard comments at the July 2nd Yorktown Town Board meeting re: the proposed 150 unit rental apartment complex between Lee and Hill Blvd. Those in opposition express concern about increased taxes, an influx of school age children, car accidents, parking congestion, detrimental effects to the environment, violation of the 2010 Comprehensive Plan, etc. They are encouraging residents to sign petitions against the project. They are reminding our elected officials that they can be voted out of office if their voices are not heard.

As a long-term resident of Yorktown and an active community member, I have faith that incumbents or prospective candidates, whether Republican, Democrat or Independent will do what is best for the entire community and the future of Yorktown, without fear of their political fate. Before a decision is made based on the court of public opinion, I trust that the following be given careful consideration:

The needs of the community must be assessed. Yorktown is not the place it was 30, 20 or even 10 years ago. Society and demographics have changed. There is a great need for options in housing that include rentals as very few currently exist. Whether it is seniors selling their homes and looking to rent, millennials who can't afford or do not want to own a home, families that are looking to rent, at the current

time, Yorktown cannot offer much. This forces people to leave, taking their spending dollars with them. Within the last few weeks, six people ranging from mid-twenties to late seventies, told me that they were moving. The reason? They want to rent and hardly any rentals exist in Yorktown.

People in the decision-making capacity must review all the facts. Rather than have pre-conceived notions that the developers are working for their own goals only, why not have an open mind to work together? Along with potential negatives, what are the positives of such a development in supporting residents and boosting the local economy? After an informational session is conducted by the developer with the town officials and residents, concerns must be addressed. For example, with 150 one and two bedroom units, what is the number of people allowed to live in a one bedroom versus two bedroom apartment? How many will be school age children? How many cars will there be? What are going to be the taxes paid by the developer and the complex? Will the development be pedestrian friendly so that residents can walk to the JV Mall and DeCicco's? Is it realistic to have 150 units or could there be fewer? What will the developer do to work with the town to ensure the safety of its residents on the roads and to ease traffic congestion?

Very importantly, decisions must be made thinking about the future of Yorktown and the generations to come. It is people that cre-

ate a vibrant community. When Tony Grasso spoke at the July 2nd town board meeting, he mentioned how Jefferson Village, with hundreds of units of housing, would not be here if compromises were not made and housing needs were not addressed. As many other people feel, he mentioned that his grandchildren would like to live here but have no options to do so. His message was a wise one that cannot afford to be ignored.

I was very active in advocating for the community good when both Wynwood Oaks and Trump Park (a development built by Louis Cappelli) was up for approval. At the time, many of the same arguments against those projects were made, with valuable time wasted on discussing fears that did not become an issue. With the Cappelli project, I was among a group of residents that made it clear to the town and the developers that we wanted to be heard and, therefore, work together. With that approach, the developer worked with us, listened to our concerns and made modifications that addressed these concerns and benefited the community. Today, both these developments offer critical housing options.

When it comes to this and any other proposals, it is important that the town officials make decisions based on review and analysis of the facts, the impact on all residents and the future of Yorktown.

Sincerely,

KATHERINE QUINN
Shrub Oak

Solar Law will Enable Yorktown to Increase Renewable Energy

To the Editor,

I support the solar law as written. The rumors are false that the Planning Board can waive environmental regulations for an applicant for a solar energy system and that the Town collaborated with applicants in writing the law.

There was no collaboration between the Town and any applicant in writing this law. The Planning Department and the Town Attorney wrote the solar law. This is the fourth draft. It was based on several laws in townships in New York that have solar energy projects.

The law does NOT give the ability to the Planning Board to waive any existing environmental regulations. The Planning Board has the authority to give special permits, but applicants must comply with all requirements of the Town's existing environmental regulations. Additionally, in this

law, landscaping, screening, and fencing are required. There is a bond required for decommissioning the solar energy system in the event that it stops producing thus restoring and re-vegetating the parcel.

This law is not about solar versus trees. Owners of residential parcels have the right to develop their land. Do we want housing or solar arrays? This law is to regulate solar development so that Yorktown can have both small-scale and large-scale solar energy. Small-scale projects are under the authority of the Building Inspector. Any large-scale projects must go before the Planning Board and through the SEQRA process.

Solar farms produce a significant amount of power and reduction of our carbon footprint. In NYS, a 1MegaWatt system powers an average of 164 homes. According to the EPA, one acre of trees will sequester .85 metric tons of CO2. A 10 acre

parcel that is completely forested will sequester 8.5 metric tons of CO2 per year. If that parcel hosts a 1 MW solar farm, which will require only 3 acres of solar, the savings in emissions from solar is 935 metric tons of CO2.

We should not spend more weeks or months in rewriting what is a good law. There are several solar companies actively pursuing solar farms in Yorktown. After 2019, the federal tax rebates on renewable energy projects will drop significantly which will impact the ability for these companies to go forward.

We have a chance to make Yorktown a climate leader in New York. This law enables our town to increase renewable energy in a meaningful way while following all existing town laws that protect our rights as property owner.

PATTY PECKHAM

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS - 914-864-0878

City of Peekskill's Riverfront Summer Concert Series

Peekskill is celebrating summer this year with a series of free weekly outdoor concerts for all ages. Hosted by the City of Peekskill's Parks and Recreation Department, the Riverfront Summer Concert Series takes place at the Riverfront Green Park, and is free and open to the public.

The six-week concert series, featuring a variety of local performers, runs weekly through July 31 and concludes with a special Jazz in the Park performance on Sunday, August 25 from 3–9 p.m. The concerts cover a wide range of genres from pop, R&B and rock to jazz and country.

Concertgoers are encouraged to bring blankets or foldable chairs for seating. Picnics are welcome and food is also available for purchase at nearby restaurants. In the event of rain, the Wednesday night concerts will be held at Peekskill Middle School (212 Ringgold Street) and Jazz in the Park will take place at the Peekskill Elks Club (1038 Brown Street).

Wednesday, July 10

Performer to be announced. Check the City of Peekskill (@PeekskillGov) and Peekskill Parks and Recreation Department (@PeekskillRecreation) Facebook pages for updates.

Wednesday, July 17

WHAT IT IS – Combining funk, soul, rock, jazz, pop, country and R&B, WHAT IT IS plays the best of Prince, Pharrell Williams, Steely Dan, Pit Bull, Bruno Mars, Springsteen, Chicago, Tower of Power, James Brown, Paul Simon, George Strait, David Bowie, Ray Charles and more. The band is known for their tight, complex vocal and horn arrangements of a wide variety of tunes.

Wednesday, July 24

Country Fresh – Country Fresh plays the “freshest” songs in today's modern country music scene along with their own originals. The band delivers a high-energy show packed with country twang and southern charm. Grab your cowboy boots and get ready for a hoedown like none other.

Wednesday, July 31

Mike Risko Band – Playing an eclectic mix of pop and rock covers, the Mike Risko Band is known for it's ability to cover any tune while keeping the energy up and the party going. Their sets span the decades from current pop and jam bands, power ballads and classic rock favorites, country and alternative. From Taylor Swift and U2 to The Who and everything in between, the Mike Risko Band is a guaranteed night of great music for the whole family.

Sunday, August 25

Jazz in the Park – Enjoy the many styles and sounds of jazz – from the deep, rich fusion of straight ahead jazz and African groove to the great swing bands from the 30s and 40s – in the final concert of the season. Jazz in the Park includes special performances the Houston Person Quartet, Dr. Barry Harris, Ray Blue Sextet, Cross

Cultural Connection Pro-Am Ensemble, Kirk Lightsey, the Norm Hathaway Big Band and more. The event is sponsored by the Peekskill Parks and Recreation Department, Arts Westchester, Cross Cultural Connection, and the BPOE Elks Club #744.

In addition to the concert series, the City of Peekskill's Parks and Recreation Department will host Family Movie Nights, sponsored by Walmart and the Peekskill Police / Fire 5K Foundation, on select Fridays at 8:30 p.m. and Children's Specials on select Mondays at 7 p.m. All events take place at the Riverfront Green Park. The rain site for the Children's Specials is the Ford Administration Building

located at 1031 Elm Street in Peekskill. There is no alternate site for the Family Movie Nights, which will be rescheduled in the event of rain.

Family Movie Nights:

Friday, July 19 – Spider Man: Into the Spider-Verse

Friday, August 9 – House with a Clock in the Wall

Friday, September 6 – Akeelah and the Bee

Children's Specials:

Monday, July 15 – Magician Zach Alexander

Monday, July 22 – Storyteller April Armstrong

Monday, July 29 – Animal Embassy Show
Monday, August 5 – The Ned Gelfars Show

For information on the Riverfront Summer Concert Series, Family Movie Nights, Children's Specials or other upcoming events in the City of Peekskill, contact the Peekskill Parks and Recreation Department at 914-734-7275, on Facebook (@PeekskillRecreation) or by visiting www.cityofpeekskill.com. Follow the City of Peekskill on Facebook (@PeekskillGov) for the latest news and updates.



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Obituaries

Ward Reynolds

Frank J. Ferraro, a lifelong resident of Ossining, died peacefully July 2. He was 88.

He was born in Ossining May 6, 1931 to Francesco and Christina (Ippolito) Ferraro. He was a graduate of Ossining High School. He was a U.S. Army Korean War veteran receiving an Honorable Discharge as Sergeant in October 1954. He worked for Metro North Railroad for most of his career and retired after 45 years of employment.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Doris and is survived by their four children: Frank A. (Debbie) Ferraro, Dianne (Jeff) Faramo, Joseph (Midge[predeceased]) Ferraro and Dorinne (Joe) Kopfensteiner. Also surviving are his loving 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. He enjoyed gardening, painting and spending time with his family, who will keep fond memories of him forever.

Visitation will be held on Friday, July 12 from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Dorsey Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, July 13 at 10 a.m. at St. Ann's Church.

Michael Timcoe

Michael W Timcoe, a lifelong Peekskill resident, died peacefully June 29 at Calvary Hospital. He was 87.

He was born March 17, 1932 to William

and Mary Timcoe in Peekskill. He was a graduate of Peekskill High School Class of 1951. A lifetime member of the Peekskill Elks #744, he retired in 1997 from the Town of Cortlandt Highway Department and worked in construction most of his life.

The most meaningful things in his life were his wife of 64 years, daughters, and grandchildren. He loved them dearly and enjoyed spending time with them in Florida and New York. He loved to play his mandolin, and travel with his wife and friends. He will be truly missed by all.

Survived by his beloved wife Barbara Timcoe, daughters Michelle Morris (Keith) of Jupiter, FL and Sharlene Morris (Mike) of Croton on Hudson. His granddaughter Kelly Morris of Davie, FL, his grandsons Keith and Michael Morris of Jupiter, FL, Ryan Morris of San Diego, CA, and Jeremy Morris of Croton on Hudson.

William Carano

William A. Carano died suddenly June 24. He was 72. He was enjoying a day with his two dogs at Lake Meade in Nevada where he lived.

He grew up in Peekskill, where he attended high school. Upon graduation, he worked his way up in the nuclear power industry, eventually becoming a highly successful and widely respected professional with more than 40 years in the electrical and nuclear project management industry.

He was quickly recognized for his natural brilliance and talent as he was regularly promoted until he reached the level of a plant



William A. Carano

manager for the New York Power Authority at Indian Point. He was regarded as highly accomplished in his expertise in managing both construction outage projects, and within many technical roles ranging from work control manager to general maintenance supervisor. Even after his retirement from Indian Point, he was frequently hired around the country to advise, supervise, and manage outages at many major nuclear power plants.

Mr. Carano will always be remembered for his passions, which included music, specifically his guitar talents, cooking, love for animals, and his fondness for boats and the water. He was often happiest and most at peace when he would be found relaxing and playing his guitar, which often involved his ability to play almost any notes or chords simply by ear. He was an amazing chef who enjoyed cooking elaborate meals for his family.

He will be remembered by his children; Kim Brazee and son-in-law James Brazee, Will Carano and daughter-in-law Holly Carano, Kristen Bulkley and son-in-law Scott

Bulkley, His 10 grandchildren; Kristi Leigh, Buck, Cali, Chloe, Jay, Will, Jake, Mylie, Brooke and Madeline (madsy); By his sister Clare Capossela and brother-in-law John Capossela; His brother Tom Carano and sister in law Patty Carano; Nephew Jesse Carano and Niece Jamie Carano; His friend Charlene Smith of Idaho; His two dogs Honey and Chimba; And several cousins.

Mary Sepp

Mary Theresa Sepp, loving mother of four children, died June 24 at her home in Somers. She was 92.

She was born May 19, 1927, in Manhattan to Charles and Maria McLaughlin. She grew up in Manhattan and on completion of high school took a secretarial course. She worked as a secretary at PanAmerican Airlines and later Pace University. On June 9, 1948, she married Frederick Sepp. They spent most of their married years in Queens, Rochester and Pleasantville. She loved the ocean and in their retirement years, she and Fred ran a bed and breakfast in Narragansett, RI. They spent many happy years there.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred, her sister, Hannah, and her son, Charles. She is survived by her three children, Barbara, Irene and Michael, seven grandchildren, Dakin, Alexander, Maggie, Zachary, Adam, Hannah, and Charles, four great-grandchildren, two nephews and a niece.



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Support Connection Celebrates 25th Walk with Video, Logo

Support Connection is thrilled to announce that their 25th Annual Support-A-Walk will take place this year on Sunday, October 6 at FDR State Park in Yorktown Heights. It is the organization's most important annual fundraiser. To mark this momentous silver anniversary, Support Connection has created a special Walk logo and a commemorative video.

The video starts with the story of the first Walk, held on October 1, 1995. The two co-founders were Nancy Heller, a breast cancer survivor, and the late Rich Adamski, who was motivated by his love for his wife Myra who died of breast cancer. Their vision was to create an event that would bring attention to the needs of people affected by breast and ovarian cancer. With help from a small group of dedicated, passionate supporters, that first Walk was a big success.

Nancy and Rich's dream grew. They decided to create a place where those living with breast and ovarian cancer could turn for support, understanding, and guidance. So, using the proceeds from that first Walk, Support Connection opened its doors in September 1996. Ever since, proceeds from the Annual Support-A-Walk have continued to help fund Support Connection's year-round breast and ovarian cancer support services, which have helped thousands of people.

The commemorative video is an inspiring, moving portrayal of how the Support-A-Walk has grown over the years, and the difference it has made in the lives of so many people. There are personal interviews with people who have been involved with the Walk and with people who have benefited from Support Connection's services. To view the video, visit supportconnection.org/side-by-side-for-25.

The video was produced by Bill Powers, an Emmy Award-Nominated TV producer, two-time national Telly TV Award winner, and national Beacon Award winner for media relations. Bill is also a dedicated and well-respected community leader, and is Executive Director of the Peekskill Business Improvement District. He has created several powerful videos for Support Connection.

The special 25th Walk logo, created by Kelly Duke McKinley, features the tagline "Side by Side for 25" along with Support Connection's iconic heart-and-hands symbol. Kelly is Co-Principal and Creative Director of pak creative, an award-winning brand, marketing, and communication team with 30 years of com-

bined experience. Pak Creative specializes in everything graphic design, with clients from the corporate level to the not-for-profit level, and everyone in between.

Each year the Support-A-Walk draws thousands of participants from across the Hudson Valley and beyond. People of all ages complete a three-mile walk, often in honor of loved ones – a celebration of life and a tribute to those affected by breast and ovarian cancer. There is a Survivor's Welcome Area. Along the Walk path, walkers are encouraged by local bands, cheerleaders and other community groups. Families, friends, co-workers and teams of walkers are invited to walk together. Individuals are also welcome to par-

ticipate.


It's easy to participate even if you can't attend. Donations are accepted by check, cash, and online at the Support Connection website. Supporters can raise funds by creating personal online fundraising pages to ask friends and family for donations. Messages of support, celebration or commemoration can be displayed on along the Walk path by purchasing Tribute Signs for \$50 each.

Support Connection does not receive funds from any national cancer organizations including Relay for Life, Susan G. Komen or Making Strides. By participating in or donating to the Support-A-Walk, community members can make a positive difference in the lives of

women and families facing the challenges of a breast or ovarian cancer diagnosis.

To learn more, donate, or raise funds for the Support-A-Walk, visit supportconnection.org/support-a-walk. Or contact Support Connection: 914-962-6402 or walk@supportconnection.org.

ABOUT SUPPORT CONNECTION: Support Connection's mission is to provide emotional, social and educational support services to women, their families and friends affected by breast and ovarian cancer. Services include peer counseling, support groups, wellness and educational programs, referral and information services, and a toll-free cancer information and support hotline (800-532-4290.)



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Happenings

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

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.

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

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

THURSDAY, JULY 11

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

Clothing Sale: A Preschool Closing Sale will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at First

Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, 2808 Crompond Rd. Some of items available for sale include pre-school items, children's toys, classroom furniture, games, educational tools and arts and crafts supplies. Info: 914-245-2186.

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.

FRIDAY, JULY 12

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

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

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. The film that will be screened at noon is "Destination Moon." Info: 914-232-5717 or www.somerslibrary.org.

Teen Program: Summer Mermaid Mirrors will be held from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at the Somers Library. Participants will easily custom decorate a hand-held mirror with a summer mermaid theme. All supplies will be provided. Space is limited to 10 participants. Info: 914-232-5717 or www.somerslibrary.org.

Music In The Park: The Music in the Park series continues today with a performance by the Zlotnick Band. 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.

Peekskill Youth Carnival: The Peekskill Anti-Drug & Anti-Bullying Carnival will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Peekskill Youth Bureau, 840 Main St. Admission is free. For more information, call 914-734-4149 or visit www.cityofpeekskill.com.

Family Shabbat: A Family Shabbat followed by a potluck dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Hebrew Congregation of Somers. E-mail info@hebrewcongregationof-somers.org or call 914-248-9532 for more information.

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 rabbiw@op-tonline.net.

Jewish Center Services: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Friday night Sabbath services begin at 8 p.m. And Sabbath services on most Saturdays will be held at 9:15 a.m. on most Saturdays. After the services Rabbi Sternstein conducts a learning session based on the Torah portion of the week. Light refreshments are served and everyone is invited to join us as we share in the warmth, knowledge and friendship within our congregation. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewish-center.org.

SATURDAY, JULY 13

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

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

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

Tag Sale: A tag sale fundraiser will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Mount St. Francis, 250 South St., Peekskill. All proceeds will benefit the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

SUNDAY, JULY 14

Peekskill Museum Program: "Peekskill's Jewish community in the 1900's" is the subject of a free museum talk at 2 p.m. at the Peekskill Museum, 124 Union Ave. A book by the same name will be available for sale at the museum or by contacting First Hebrew Congregation in Peekskill, at 1821 Main St., 914-739-0500, fhc@firsthebrew.org or www.firsthebrew.org To contact the museum call 914-736-0473 or visit www.peekskillmuseum.org.

Sustainable Sunday: The Holy Name of Mary Church ministry in Croton is

having a Sustainable Sunday program, "The Ethical Investor," at 3 p.m. Christina Alfandary from Gabelli will discuss ESG (environmental, social, and governance) Investing. Sonia Ingram, Permanent Sol, will discuss Responsible Disinvestment of fossil fuel entities. Enter from rear of Parish Center at the municipal free parking lot, 114 Grand St, Croton. Info: 914-703-1860.

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

Food Trucks and Talk: TED Talks and Food Trucks is an event that will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, 2880 Crompond Rd. The event will begin with food truck at 6 p.m., followed by the video and conversation. The topic is "Engaging with Environmental Folklore." Info: www.fpcyorktown.org.

MONDAY, JULY 15

Summer Writers' Group: The program is continuing on Mondays, July 15, 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.

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

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

TUESDAY, JULY 16

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.

Crossword

- Across**

 - 1. Asian hostess
 - 7. Crestfallen
 - 10. Occurring every 365 days
 - 11. Dwarf in "The Hobbit"
 - 12. This Yorktown professional painter is biblical, _____ Pro Painters
 - 14. Hosp. V.I.P.'s
 - 15. Patriot's org.
 - 16. Quarterback Roethlisberger
 - 17. Sub
 - 20. Neophyte
 - 22. ____-bitty
 - 23. Fundamental reasons
 - 27. Yellowfin tuna
 - 28. Charged particle
 - 29. Hawaiian birds
 - 30. Winter coat features
 - 35. Parking ____
 - 36. Pass something on
 - 37. Compass point
 - 38. Break out
- Down**

 - 1. Kind of order
 - 2. Compass dir.
 - 3. Days or Holiday
 - 4. A boy called ____
 - 5. Lacks, briefly
 - 6. "Get ____!"
 - 7. Material capable of being taken up by another substance
 - 8. Newsman Peter
 - 9. Mickey's creator
 - 13. Camera type, briefly
 - 17. Entertainer
 - 18. French for law
 - 19. Not a thing
 - 20. Somers day camp, Summer ____
 - 21. Louts
 - 24. Beach grease
 - 25. Hubbub
 - 26. Archer and Frank
 - 31. Company type
 - 32. Confidentiality agreement, for short
 - 33. Deprive by deceit
 - 34. ____-Foy, Que.

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					

(Solution to this puzzle on page 16)

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FOOD COURT • VENDOR VILLAGE • THE CAPTAIN LAWRENCE BEER GARDEN



(Solution for puzzle on page 15)

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

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Dusting Off the Subject of Household Dust

Have you ever heard of a dust fetish? I reluctantly admit to at least a keen interest in the subject, having alluded to it a couple of times in my column musings. For instance, once I learned that the major component of household dust is our own flaking skin, it gave me license to project that if we're feeling queasy about not having dusted in a while, we could legitimately claim to be uncomfortable in our own skin.

Just recently I learned about a new study conducted by a group of scientists who had collected dust samples from 1,200 homes across the United States. It revealed that we all cohabitate with a few thousand species of bacteria and about 2,000 species of fungi, most of which originate outdoors and probably come inside via soil particles or as airborne spores. Add to our skin cells other flaky stuff like fabric fibers, dust mite excrement, hair, pet dander, regular dirt, debris and micro particles, and you have a pretty nasty brew that can give people with allergies and breathing problems a real hassle.

For anyone interested in forensic investigation, the study of bacteria and fungi in dust can determine whether a home has dogs or cats as well as the ratio of women

to men on the premises.

For those with allergy issues, finding a solution can be a quagmire. While some argue that it's simply a matter of pulling up carpeting and living with bare hardwood floors to control airborne bacteria and fungi, the authors of this new study, state somewhat extremely that "If you want to change your bacterial exposures, you just may have to change who you live with!" Or better yet, "If you want to change the types of fungi you are exposed to in your home, it may be best to move to a difference home (preferably far away)." Well, no wonder we encounter so many people who are sniffing and apologetically tell us, sorry, it's my allergies acting up!

While dust is inevitable, it horrifies some of us, as though its presence on our furniture and floors tells the world something unflattering about us, not only as housekeepers, but as human beings. And some of us just don't give a damn.

You are probably familiar with the documentary, HBO movie or Broadway version of "Grey Gardens," in which Jackie Kennedy Onassis' aunt and cousin, Edie Beale and her daughter, also Edie, are depicted as living in absolute squalor in

a neglected ramshackle house, with garbage strewn throughout and a hoard of cats and raccoons relieving themselves on the floor. When Jackie arrives to help remedy the situation and registers her shock at the condition of the property, Edie dismisses the condition of her living environment by saying simply that her daughter "hasn't been keeping up with the dusting."

Is inattention to dust the first degenerative step to chaos in the home? Maybe for some, depending on their mental attitude about it, and in turn, how unkempt homes can affect its occupants.

One survey reveals that 83 percent of us are happier in a clean house and the act of cleaning itself gives 57 percent of the population a feeling of satisfaction. Further it shows that 38 percent of women and 24 percent of men experience real stress living in a messy environment.

It would seem that dusting and cleaning can be therapeutic. Psychologists have found that there is a marked difference in mood before and after doing cleaning, just as with a therapy session.

But beyond the psychological and unhealthy effects of dust, it can do real physical damage to most everything it lands on, from furniture surfaces to those things it clogs up like computer keyboards and vents.

There are both fancy and simple ways to get rid of dust. The fancy way is with an

air purifier of which there are two types: those with fans that pull air through filters that trap the dust and those called electrostatic precipitators in which an electrical charge is applied to the dust drawn into the device and captured on oppositely charged plates. Both are available as either portable units or as whole-house systems. Prices range from \$100 for a portable model to over \$1,000 for a whole-house system.

But, among the houses I've listed or sold, I was aware of only one couple who had a whole-house air purifier system. So, unless people are plagued by allergies, I suspect that most of us dust with old-fashioned elbow grease, using either regular rags or one of those new magic dusters to which particles cling. Because the latter option can be expensive, a regular rag can be made just as effective if dampened before use and shaken out frequently.

It's funny how the exploratory process can affect you. As I sit at my computer, I'm very aware that between the keys of the keyboard is a lot of trapped dust. Are the raccoons soon to follow?

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.



By Bill Primavera

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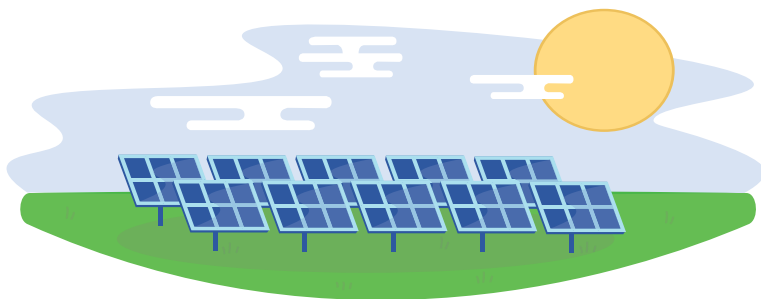
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LEGAL NOTICES

Town of Putnam Valley Work Session July 10, 2019 5 PM 1. Pledge of allegiance. 2. Set Public Hearing for Removal of Moratorium on Districting 3. Discuss September meeting on Airbnb 4. Update on de-icer regulations 5. Personnel changes, Parks & Recreation 6. Parks and Recreation refunds. 7. Audit of monthly bills

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 03/25/2019. 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.**

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When a Least Likely Component Has a Significant Impact

Nature has always intrigued me. As a youngster, the ferocity of weather dazzled me, from experiencing the magnificence of a thunderstorm to the unbound energy of hurricanes and tornados. But I never became a meteorologist.

In adult life, I have become captivated by the processes involved in winemaking and am continually amazed at the natural process of the transformation of pressed grape juice (must) into an alcoholic beverage. But I'm not an oenologist.

The transubstantiation of fruit into a complex elixir is a marvel of nature. The combination of events and interactions of varied elements that must interact in perfect harmony – every time they interact – is a feat that boggles my mind. Last week I reported on a newly-developed synthetic form of yeast that may alleviate certain allergic reactions to wine. A reader queried me on the role yeast plays in wine production.

As with all things scientific, a logical structure and chemical interaction can explain this marvel. But the process of taking an agricultural product like grapes and converting it to wine, that has numerous variations, to me is more alchemy than laboratory. Wine is a living, breathing organism, changing as it progresses through its life cycle, influenced by its changing chemical

composition both in the winery and in the bottle.

Early in the life cycle of wine, an amazing transformation occurs. In its most elementary formation, wine is a byproduct of grape juice, yeast, bacteria and oxygen. Crushed grapes carry on their skins various forms of yeast. These yeasts transform the natural sugars in the juice into alcohol and carbon dioxide.



By Nick Antonaccio

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

After fermentation, the small amounts of bacteria remaining from the dead yeast cells create a secondary (malolactic) fermentation, that results in a softer, less acidic wine. All through the fermentation, aging and bottle life processes, oxygen is ever-present and interacts with the components in wine to assist in refining and aging (or spoiling) wine over a period of time.

Let's take a closer look at the role of yeast in winemaking. Given my lack of scientific skills, I researched several sources for an understanding of this phenomenon. Here is my best effort at distilling and presenting an analysis, from the perspective of a right-brain dominant mind.

Numerous strains of yeast develop in vineyards. Each one affects fermentation in a slightly different way, hence influencing varying characteristics of wines. These yeast strains are a critical component in the concept of terroir.

While many winemakers trigger the fermentation process with the "wild" yeasts carried by the harvested grapes, a number seek out natural strains that have been cultivated elsewhere and packaged to meet specific characteristics sought by a winemaker. Grape must be inoculated with the purchased yeast and these organisms carry out their transformative role.

Each yeast cell secretes more than 20 enzymes, which in turn create over 30 chemical reactions that initiate and perpetuate fermentation. The winemaker's influence is in selecting the proper strain of yeast and then nurturing it throughout its reproductive and dying cycles.

Yeast cells are quite productive. One drop of fermenting juice can contain five million yeast cells that are capable of doubling their number every two hours under perfect conditions.

Complete fermentation can take up to 14 days, creating a frenzy of activity. It is not unusual to witness a froth of carbon dioxide bubbles on the surface of the fermenting barrel or tank as the density of yeast cells climbs into the hundreds of millions per ounce of juice. Once the yeast cells deplete all of the oxygen and nutrients in the juice, most die off and fermentation is complete (unless the winemaker chooses to retain the remaining bacteria, triggering the secondary – malolactic – fermentation process).

The marvels of science are diligently at work in the seemingly simple process of

fermentation. The art of winemaking will always be dependent on a microscopic organism with a penchant for reproduction. I'll drink to that. At this, I've become expert.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.

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The Northern Westchester
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Sports
Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports



Cortlandt American Serves Notice, Wins District 33 10U Little League Title

Members of the Cortlandt American 10U team proudly display their District 33 championship flag after defeating Putnam Valley, 4-2, last Monday night to advance to the 5 team double-elimination Sectional tournament where they will square off with four other district winners from Rockland, Orange, Middle Westchester and Southern Westchester with the winner advancing to the state tournament. Team members include, Front Row L-R: Thomas Imperati, Louie Vernagallo, Jake Bruno, Christopher Silvestri, Max Selinger, Matthew Clyman; Back Row (L-R): Maxx Minichino, Tristan Pagliettini, John Valentino, Kevin Brown, Matthew Mekuto, Michael Zumatto, Vincent Lugo; Coaches (L-R): Lou Vernagallo, Manager Jeremy Carlucci; Anthony Mekuto

Sports

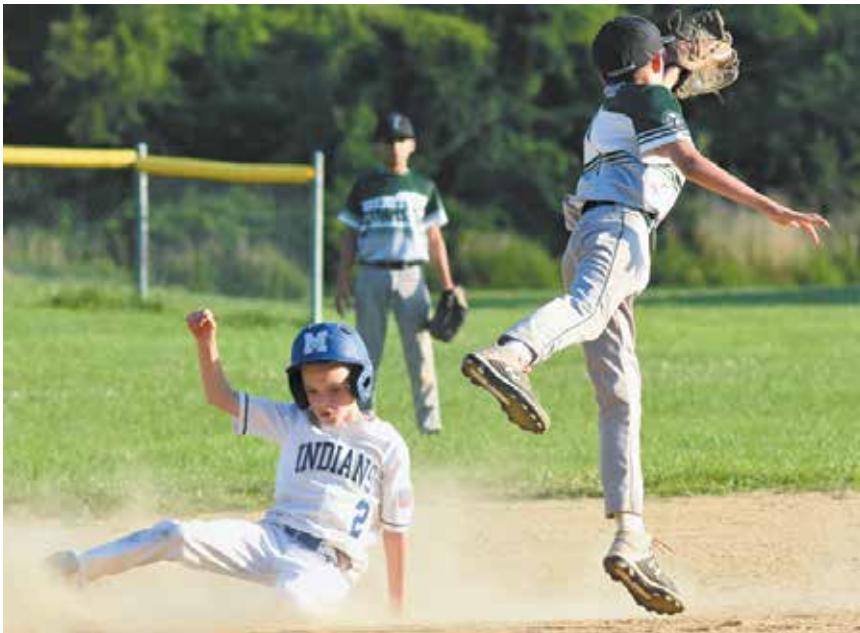
Baseball Notebook



Mahopac 1B Jacob Mendez mashes walk-off double in Indians' 4-3 GHVBL win over Yorktown last Wednesday.



Mahopac's Ryan Cotter strokes single in Indians' 4-3 11U win over visiting Yorktown last Wednesday.



Yorktown's Liam Lauth slides in safely at 2B as Mahopac SS Aidan Kugler takes throw in Titans' 4-3 GHVBL loss to Indians.



Mahopac's Mike Stern tracks a shot in Indians' 4-3 win over visiting Yorktown last Wednesday in 11U Greater Hudson Valley Baseball action.



Yorktown's Liam Lauth slides in safely at 3B as Mahopac 3B Max Sorrentino takes thrown in Titans' 4-3 GHVBL loss to Indians.

Mahopac 10U Walks Off on Yorktown in GHVBL Action



Mahopac P Aiden Kugler rounds 2B with winning run in 11U Indians' 4-3 GHVBL walk-off win over Yorktown.



Mahopac SS Aiden Kugler can't get tag down in time on Yorktown's Nick Hasim in Indians' 11U 4-3 GHVBL win over Titans last Wednesday.



Yorktown Titan P Connor Ropue fires pitch in 4-3 loss to host Mahopac 11U team last Wednesday.



Mahopac 2B Rocco Spirelli awaits throw for put-out in Indians' 4-3 GHVBL 11U win over Yorktown.

Sports

Coaching Carousel in Full Swing, A.D.'s Dropping Like Flies



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner
Sports Editor

Mother of Pearl, it's been quite a busy couple of weeks on the coaching carousel and A.D. roundabout, hasn't it? Perhaps the most stunning thing to go down is the whole Henry Sassone debacle over at North Salem.

Now, since we don't cover North Salem in these pages I'm not quite as dialed in over there as I am at say Mahopac or Putnam Valley, but I know when something's rotten in Denmark.

North Salem Superintendent Kenneth Freeston announced on June 19 that the school board had decided not to retain Sassone as athletic director next year and that he may no longer be the boys basketball head coach; both positions Sassone held for more than 30 years.

The school has posted the job opening via OLAS for an Interim Director of K-12 Physical Education and Athletics, and thus far the school board has refused to reappoint Sassone as the boys' basketball head coach.

These are fairly stunning developments given Sassone's status in Section 1 as a revered personality, a strong advocate for student athletes and a pretty damn good coach. But then again, nothing stuns me when it comes to school administrators and school boards. I'm not saying they don't have their reasons for these changes. Sassone must have rubbed someone the wrong way, or they wouldn't do this to a man of such status.

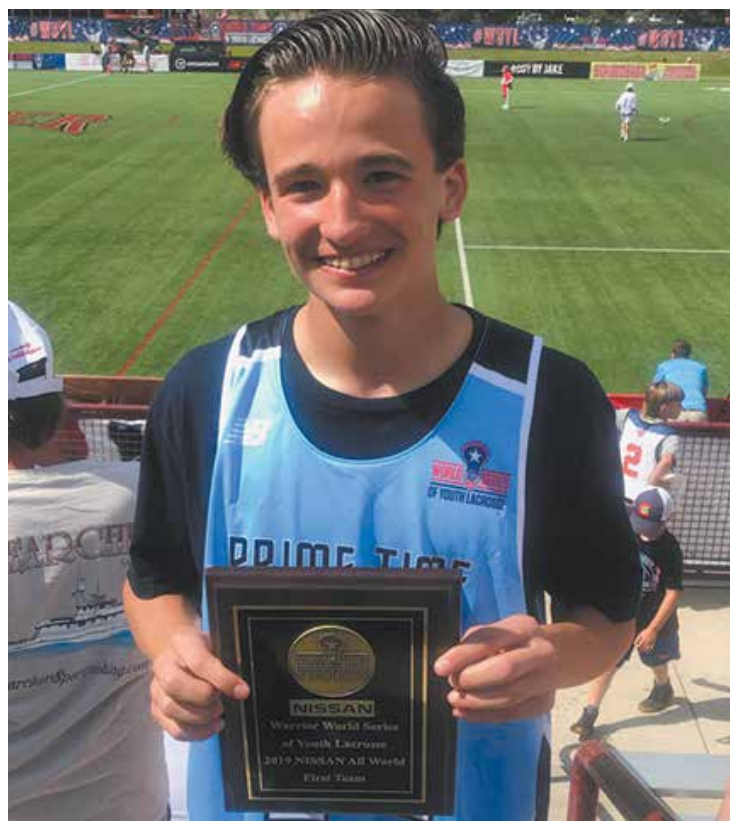
Lawyers for the district stated North Salem is ratifying the position of the director of physical

education and its regulations will now dictate that whoever holds that position must have both a Physical Education Certification and an Administrative Certification, which Sassone apparently does not have. So, he'll simply be retained as a physical education teacher. Can you imagine the tension in those hallways at North Salem when school convenes next September. I can't, and I can't imagine coaching high school sports nowadays. As coaches, teachers are literally putting their professional teaching careers in peril just by accepting a coaching position, which opens the door to heavy scrutiny and criticism, not to mention being run out of town. It's a damn shame and that risk is simply not worth the stipend...

Moving on, it's been a busy week elsewhere, too, particularly in Mahopac and Putnam Valley.

Putnam Valley boys' varsity basketball Coach Mike McDonnell tendered his resignation after six solid seasons, and then rolled on up at Kennedy Catholic as its new basketball coach. McDonnell's resignation wasn't completely out of the blue. It's been bandied about for a couple of years as relationships were beginning to deteriorate between McDonnell and the PV brass, despite his success on the court. So, McDonnell saw the writing on the wall and rewrote the ending. He'll now return to the Catholic High School Athletic Association after a prior stint with Sacred Heart.

"I want to be up front with everyone about this," McDonnell said, "so I met with the team this morning (Saturday) and informed them of my decision. I have nothing but the utmost respect for those kids and every kid I've coached in this program. I will never forget the relationships I've formed with them



Robert Plath of Mahopac and Prime Time Lacrosse was recently named to the All-World first team at the World Series of Lacrosse in Denver.

and the memories we have will last forever, but it's time to move on. I can't thank them enough.

"It has been a most memorable and rewarding six years, and truly an honor to represent the Putnam Valley community," he added. "I would like to thank the current and former athletic directors, the basketball-loving principal and superintendent, the athletic office secretaries, the parents, and most especially the young men I have been so blessed to coach. I must also acknowledge the most talented and supportive modified, junior varsity and varsity assistant coaches throughout my time here." McDonnell reached four Final 4's

and two finals in his time at the Valley and won 75% of his games, and now he'll enter back into the highly competitive Catholic circuit and the recruiting world. Best of luck, Coach! Your efforts to develop and promote hoops in the Valley were greatly appreciated...

Mahopac officially tabbed Frank Miele as its interim Athletic Director, and the veteran A.D. will become the busiest beaver on Lake Mahopac in the days ahead. He's got his feet to the fire when it comes to boys' basketball, which is Priority No.1 if you ask me. I'm pretty sure Mr. Miele knows who Mahopac teacher/MTA President Tom McMahon is, so let's hope he

reacquaints himself ASAP and gets him approved by the board in time for summer league, which is right around the corner. There are also some parental grumbings in some of the other major programs as well that may need some addressing...

Others on the move include Mahopac girls' soccer Coach Ross Fumusa, who was not rehired for 2019 by outgoing A.D. John Augusta, who did make a really solid hire before leaving when he brought in wrestling Coach Steve Tornambe, who takes over for NYS Hall of Fame Coach Dennis DiSanto. Tornambe will be named at the BOE meeting in mid-July and this is a blessing for the tight-knit Mahopac wrestling community, who gets a young, energetic infusion into a program that returns a bunch of veteran wrestlers. If that's the last thing Augusta did, it was indeed a very good thing...

Lastly, congrats to Mahopac eighth-grader Robert Plath for making the All-World first team at the World Series of Lacrosse in Denver. Word on the street is that Plath, a long stick defender who currently runs with Prime Time Lacrosse, is on the path to big doings, and one can only selfishly hope he hangs around Mahopac rather than opting for private school; only because I'd love to see a lock-down defender in blue and gold instead of typical Cornhusker green, ala Keith Boyer, Jose Boyer, Brett Makar, Rob Doerr, Brian Kuczma, Chris Watson et al.

"He works his tail off," Prime Time Director and Founder Nick Daniello said of Plath. "He was the best defensive player on the field all weekend at the World Series. He's a great kid, too, a very humble, blue collar guy."

Kid's got it going on. Hope Mahopac can keep him around.

Cortland American Conquers Put Valley for 10U District 33 Title

The Cortlandt American Little League (C.A.L.L.) 10-U Williamsport All-Star team captured the District 33 Championship by edging Putnam Valley by a score of 4-2 early last week. It was a rematch as the team's also met in the opening game of the double-elimination tournament, which C.A.L.L. won by a score of 8-3. Putnam Valley battled through the loser's bracket to earn their spot in the finals. Each team scored two runs in the first inning but it was a pitcher's duel the rest of the way as PV's Logan Moriarty and C.A.L.L.'s Vinny Lugo were both dealing.

After falling behind in the first game against C.A.L.L., PV came out aggressive in the rematch and jumped out early scoring two runs in the top of the first with hits by

Mikey Frye, Moriarty and Parker Fisco.

However, C.A.L.L. was able to answer right back in the bottom half to knot it at two. It looked like C.A.L.L. was going to take the lead in the 3rd and 4th but the Putnam Valley defense made two fantastic plays in the field to cut down two runners at the plate to end each inning. It remained a 2-2 game until the bottom of the 5th when C.A.L.L.'s Maxx Minichino came to the plate with runners on second and third and two outs, and he delivered a clutch single to center that scored two runs to make the score 4-2. From there, Vinny Lugo and the C.A.L.L. defense closed it out in the 6th for the victory.

C.A.L.L. went 3-0 en route to the title and

have been anchored by the strong pitching of Lugo (winning pitcher in 2 of the 3 games) and Thomas Imperati (3 scoreless innings in a 15-0 victory over Brewster) as well as stellar defensive play all around as the team has not made an error in the three games.

The infield has been anchored by the strong play of SS Imperati but also flashing some serious leather has been 2B Max Selinger, 3B Matthew Clyman and 1B Michael Zumatto with all of them having plenty of fielding chances without an error. Catcher Louie Vernagallo has kept his pitcher's in the groove with his smooth work behind the dish and has also kept opposing base runners at bay.

The outfield rotation of Matthew Mekuto,

Tristan Pagliettini, Jake Bruno, Chris Silvestri, Kevin Brown and John Valentino has been very solid, tracking down numerous fly balls and doing an excellent job of keeping singles to singles. Offensively the C.A.L.L. attack has been led by Michael Zumatto, Maxx Minichino, Vinny Lugo and Max Selinger; with Selinger providing some pop from the lead-off spot with a dinger against Brewster to lead off the game.

C.A.L.L. now advances to the 5 team double-elimination Sectional tournament where they will square off with 4 other district winners from Rockland, Orange, Middle Westchester and Southern Westchester with the winner advancing to the state tournament.

At Ease, Ortiz!



Mahopac 10U Walks-Off on Yorktown in 4-3 GHVBL Win



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Mahopac SS O’Ryan Ortiz slaps an easy tag on Yorktown OF Anthony Iovenilla as 2B Rocco Spirelli backs up in Indians’ 4-3 walk-off win over the visiting Titans in 10U Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League action last Wednesday at Austin Road School where Jacob Mendez (inset) cracked the game-winning double... see Baseball Notebook