

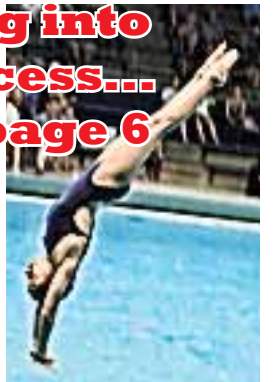
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FREE

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

August 6 - August 12, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 502



Fun at HV Expo

Ms. New York and Ms. NY Outstanding Teen enjoyed the bubble bus with youngsters at the Hudson Valley Exposition 2019 at Riverfront Green in Peekskill Saturday. **For more photos, see pages 12-13.**

Gilbert Refutes Charges of Misusing Town Vehicle

BY RICK PEZZULLO

Yorktown Supervisor Ilan Gilbert is vehemently refuting charges from a Republican district leader that he wrongly utilized a taxpayer-funded town car to collect signatures for his reelection campaign and attend political-related functions.

Gilbert, a Democrat who is seeking a second two-year term in November, maintained the accusations levied against him by Rob Puff, a spokesperson for the Yorktown Republican Committee, and questioned by his GOP opponent, Matt Slater, were "unfounded and mischaracterized."

As an example, he said photographs distributed to the media, reportedly taken March 17, of nominating petitions visibly located in the 2018 Honda CR-V he is assigned for town use were not what they seem.

"I did not utilize the town car to get petitions," Gilbert said, explaining sometimes he keeps "personal stuff" in the town vehicle.



YORKTOWN SUPERVISOR ILAN GILBERT

cle. "There was nothing unethical about it. I specifically made it a point to meet up with people and not utilize the town car."

Puff, who unsuccessfully ran for town board two years ago, maintained Gilbert

Continued on page 2

First Adaptive Use Playground in NW to be Built

BY RICK PEZZULLO

The first outdoor adaptive use playground for children with differing abilities in northern Westchester will be built in Yorktown, thanks to a \$250,000 grant secured by State Senator Peter Harkham (D/40th District).

The project, announced Friday at Granite Knolls Park in Shrub Oak, was initiated from a phone call in May by Yorktown resident Lisa Canniff, whose three-year-old son, Lucas, became paralyzed

from a blood clot in his spine when he was one year old.

"Everyone in town has been very supportive," said Canniff, who noted she has had to travel to Fishkill for Lucas to use a similar playground. "We're just so excited that this will give everyone a place to play together."

An adaptive use playground is built with a focus on wheelchair, ADA accessible and multisensory, developmentally friendly equipment, where children of all abilities can play together. The play-

ground at Granite Knolls Park, which likely won't be ready for use until the spring, will feature age and developmentally inclusive equipment that is sensory stimulating and universally designed.

It is the third project funded by Harkham to make children's venues more accessible and inclusive. Earlier this summer, he announced a \$15,000 grant to the Yorktown Community Nursery School to make walkways and entrances ADA compliant and a

Continued on page 2



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

State Senator Peter Harkham stands with NYS Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Yorktown Supervisor Ilan Gilbert and other dignitaries from Yorktown in Granite Knolls Park to announce that he had secured \$250,000 to build an adaptive use playground for children with differing abilities.

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Gilbert Refutes Charges of Misusing Town Vehicle

Continued from page 1

should immediately turn over daily mileage logs, fuel usage logs and costs of parts, labor and overhead that taxpayers are funding and reimburse the town for any unauthorized use of his vehicle.

"He must be held accountable," Puff stated. "Supervisor Gilbert has repeatedly misused his official town vehicle for nongovernmental purposes associated with advancing his political

campaign. Yorktowners do not support taxpayer funding of political campaigns and they certainly cannot abide using a town-owned vehicle and fuel to conduct a reelection campaign."

Slater concurred, saying, "The disturbing reports of Supervisor Gilbert using his taxpayer funded car for political purposes need to be answered. He has a responsibility to reimburse the town for any nongovernmental use of his official vehicle and I urge Super-

visor Gilbert to release records indicating this reimbursement so that taxpayers can be reassured there was no maleficence."

Besides gathering petitions, Puff alleged Gilbert drove the town vehicle to an April 15 AFL-CIO endorsement interview in Elmsford and a June 20 Yorktown Democratic Committee fundraiser at The Gramercy restaurant on Kear Street, a short distance from Town Hall.

"Although he easily could have

walked across the street from Town Hall to his own campaign fundraiser, Supervisor Gilbert evidently felt entitled to have the hardworking taxpayers of Yorktown foot the gas bill for his campaign activities," Puff said. "Has he no decency at all?"

Gilbert said when he went for the endorsement interview in Elmsford he was already in that area for town business. As for the fundraiser, he said the restaurant was on his route home, where he

takes his vehicle each night.

"I worked close to 7 p.m. that evening," Gilbert said. "I'm driving all over in my capacity as town supervisor. In instances like that (interview in Elmsford) I didn't have time to come back and swap cars. I'm supervisor every moment of the day. I feel I am on call 24/7. There are more stops during the day that I do as supervisor than for myself. I truly feel I'm using the car for proper purposes."

First Adaptive Use Playground to be Built in Yorktown

Continued from page 1

\$25,000 grant to the Lakeland School District for an indoor playground at Van Cortlandtville Elementary School for special needs students.

"I am tremendously grateful to Senator Harckham and Senate Majority Leader (Andrea) Stewart-Cousins for procuring this grant to enable the construction of an Adaptive Use Playground at the Granite Knolls Park," said Yorktown Supervisor Ilan Gilbert. "This will enable all children to enjoy the facilities with accessible play options and an appropriate rubberized tile

surface in the play area. It is anticipated this will inspire children of all abilities and allow them to play together. This addition will further enhance our outstanding Granite Knolls facility."

"Supervisor Gilbert and the Yorktown Recreation Commission and Parks Department believe, as I do, that we are stronger when everyone has an equal opportunity to participate," said Harckham. "When this project is completed, all children from northern Westchester will finally have a playground they can call home."



A Good Deed Done at SMS

Somers Middle School students Justin Fiore, Joseph Cilento, Emma Bianchimano and Phillip Ziegler noticed a huge amount of clothes in the lost and found this summer and asked the school principal if they could use the washing machine in the school to wash all the clothes and then donate them. The students gathered up six large bags of laundry, including sneakers, and decided to donate everything to Big Brothers and Big Sisters on July 29.

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Ossining Police Investigate Rope Hanging from a Tree in Park

BY RICK PEZZULLO

The Ossining Police Department is continuing to investigate a rope found hanging from a tree in Louis Engel Waterfront Park last week that appeared to be tied to a noose.

Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity and Town Supervisor Dana Levenberg issued a joint release stating police were made aware of the situation from a report on News 12, which had been contacted by a resident.

The two elected officials stated given the nature of the occurrence, Police Chief Kevin Sylvester has met with members of local clergy and the NAACP, in addition to questioning individuals who may have witnessed anything in the park last Wednesday.

"The investigation continues to determine if this was a deliberate act, or a piece of rope inadvertently left behind in a tree. Either way, the impact is the same. Lynchings are among the most horrifying parts of our nation's legacy of racism," Gearity stated in a Facebook update Friday.

Detectives encourage anyone with information that may be helpful to the investigation to call (914) 941-4099. All tips will be kept confidential.

Police Blotter

STATE POLICE

July 26 - State Police from the Cortlandt barracks arrested Charles Coles, 54, of Cortlandt, for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd degree, a class D felony, and Menacing in the 2nd degree, a class A misdemeanor.

At approximately 1:30 p.m., troopers were dispatched to the Mohegan Lake Post Office on East Main Street in Cortlandt for a report of a man with a knife. Investigation found Coles used a pocketknife to threaten a postal worker in the parking lot.

July 27 - State Police from Cortlandt arrested Carlos A. Mairena Martinez, a34, of Peekskill, for DWI. He was traveling on North Broad Street in Peekskill when he was stopped for a violation of the vehicle and traffic law. Investigation revealed he was un-

der the influence of alcohol and was subsequently arrested.

State Police from Cortlandt arrested Christopher Considine, 26, of Putnam Valley, for DWI. He was traveling on Oregon Road in 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 Malcolm A. McPhee, 48, of Peekskill, for Aggravated DWI. He was traveling on Route 9 in 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.

YORKTOWN POLICE

August 1 - 3:40 p.m. - Daniel Vines-Mevac, 24, of Buchanan, was charged with five counts of making graffiti, a Class A misdemeanor, in connection with five separate graffiti complaints police received between January 1 and July 25. The graffiti was located on the sound barrier of Overlook Avenue, sound barrier at Route 6 and Sunnyside, a fence at Barger Street, a light pole on Old Yorktown Road and an electrical box on Barger Street.

5:49 p.m. - Darwin Stuart, 53, of Hopewell Junction, was charged with crimi-

nal possession of a controlled substance and aggravated unlicensed operation after being stopped on Gomer Street for allegedly having no front license plate. An investigation revealed Stuart was in possession of a quantity of Hydrocodone pills and was driving with a suspended license.

August 3 -6:12 a.m. - Kyle Padovani, 19, of Yorktown, was charged with burglary and criminal mischief following the report of an altercation on Fox Croft Lane. An investigation revealed Padovani allegedly entered a dwelling without permission and intentionally damaged a glass door valued at \$500.



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Lowey Supports Impeachment Inquiry of President Trump

BY RICK PEZZULLO

Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-NY17/Rockland-Westchester) announced last week she supported an impeachment inquiry into the alleged illegal campaign activities of President Donald Trump.

Lowey, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said she notified Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the House of Representatives, of her position.

"Since he took office, House Democrats have been aggres-

sively and thoughtfully investigating potentially illegal activity by the President and others on his campaign and in his administration. The administration has done all it can to withhold information, leading to various legal efforts to secure testimony and evidence," Lowey stated.

"Former Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation produced a report that shed light on the depths of systemic deception that appears to be second nature for the President and his advisors.

While the Special Counsel's office did not indict the President, Mueller's testimony before the House Judiciary and Intelligence Committees made clear that there was no exoneration of the Trump administration, evidence of obstruction of justice leaves the President vulnerable to indictment after he leaves office, and Russia continues its efforts to steal our elections from the American people," Lowey continued.

"The House Judiciary Committee should move forward with

an impeachment inquiry. I will continue to strongly support the important efforts of Democrats on the House Judiciary, Intelligence, Oversight, and other committees who are working to hold President Trump accountable to the American people and believe an impeachment inquiry will strengthen our hand in uncovering the truth," she added. "As Chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, I will also continue to work to ensure effective oversight of this admin-

istration."

Lowey, whose district includes the City of Peekskill, towns of Cortlandt, Yorktown, and Ossining, and villages of Buchanan, Croton and Ossining, is currently serving her 16th two-year term.

Meanwhile, Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney (D), whose 18th district covers the Town of Somers, said he did not support an impeachment inquiry since he didn't believe it would be successful and would detract from other issues.

Trump Challenges Act to Block Release of His State Tax Records

BY JOAN GAYLORD

Lawyers for President Donald Trump filed a lawsuit this past week in an effort to block New York State's recently enacted TRUST Act.

Sponsored by Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) and signed into law last month by Governor Andrew Cuomo, the TRUST Act allows New York to release state tax records of any New York government official, including the President, when requested by any of three federal Congressional committees that have an oversight role on tax policy.

The lawsuit, filed in Federal District Court in Washington, D.C., claims releasing

the state tax records would violate the President's First Amendment rights. It seeks to block the House Ways and Means Committees from requesting the records and the state from complying with any request.

Buchwald said the President's attorneys appear to be making a privacy-related claim. He said the courts might issue an emergency order to prevent the immediate release of the records and to allow time to consider the points included in the lawsuit.

"I expect New York will defend the state's rights and I have every confidence that New York will prevail," said Buchwald.

The New York law followed a decision made by the U.S. Treasury Department to refuse Congressional requests for the

President's federal tax returns. The law allows the state to furnish records to the federal House Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Finance Committee or the Joint Committee of Taxation. Assemblyman Buchwald noted that New York already provides the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

with access to New York tax records when requested. Earlier in his career, Assemblyman Buchwald practiced tax law.

"This new legislation is wholly consistent with a long tradition of states responding when there are disputes between branches of government," he explained.

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Ossining's Mike Risko Music Acclaimed Worldwide

BY ABBY LUBY

Innovation comes in all shapes and sizes, and for Mike and Miriam Risko, owners of Mike Risko Music in Ossining, their new and exciting idea was to offer online video lessons linking teachers with students around the world. The real-time video lessons were quickly noticed by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) in Nashville, Tennessee, and they named the Riskos not only one of the three most innovative music stores in the world but one of the top three finalists for NAMM Dealer of the Year.

NAMM has 14,400 members and is a known global association of music retailers. The Dealer of the Year Award honors retail music dealers who are strongly committed to their customers and their local communities by making music accessible to everyone.

The award put Mike Risko Music in the same class with two large musical instrument stores: Thomann Music in Bavaria Germany and Cosmo Music in Canada, considered the largest musical instrument store in North America. The Riskos have attended the July NAMM annual convention for a number of years and were award-



PHOTO BY ABBY LUBY

Mike and Miriam Risko, owners of Mike Risko Music in Ossining

ed among the top 100 Dealers for the last five years.

"That's what we expected this time at the convention," said Miriam Risko. "We were there in Nashville and when they announced these top tier awards we were totally surprised."

The Riskos are like an institution in the Westchester music world. For 25 years they've established themselves as a music school where students of all ages can learn to play instruments from guitar to drums, piano, voice, violin, viola, cello, brass or woodwinds and can perform with

professional musicians. They average about 500 – 1000 young and adult students yearly depending on the many different programs offered. As a store, it's the go-to place for musical instruments and gear. Their 3000-square foot music building combines the store, the school, four teaching rooms and a spacious performance space replete with a stage, snack bar and small round tables.

Mike Risko teaches adult bands, which he said is a rich and rewarding experience. "I have adults come and say they always dreamt of being in a band but were

unsure if they could do it. I try to convince them to play and usually they give it a try. When they work together for six or eight weeks and then perform, they tell me 'I'm so happy you asked me to do this.'"

Covering the walls in the performance space are a plethora of plaques and certificates honoring the business and school over the years. Among them are Westchester Magazine's Best of Westchester Best Music Store, Westchester's 2018 Ultimate Shopping Guide for store and music school, the Hula-Frog Most Loved Music Lessons 2018 Westchester Putnam, Small Business Awards General Excellence, Village of Ossining Proclamation for Commitment and Dedication to Community 2014.

The online video lessons started when one of Risko's drum teachers moved to California and his students wanted to continue to study with him. "We installed software so he could connect with his students," said Risko. "In a special room there's a flat screen monitor, speakers and two cameras which is the same set up in the teacher's room in California. They are virtually in the same room."

The system was also used when students couldn't get to the school. It wasn't long after they set up the

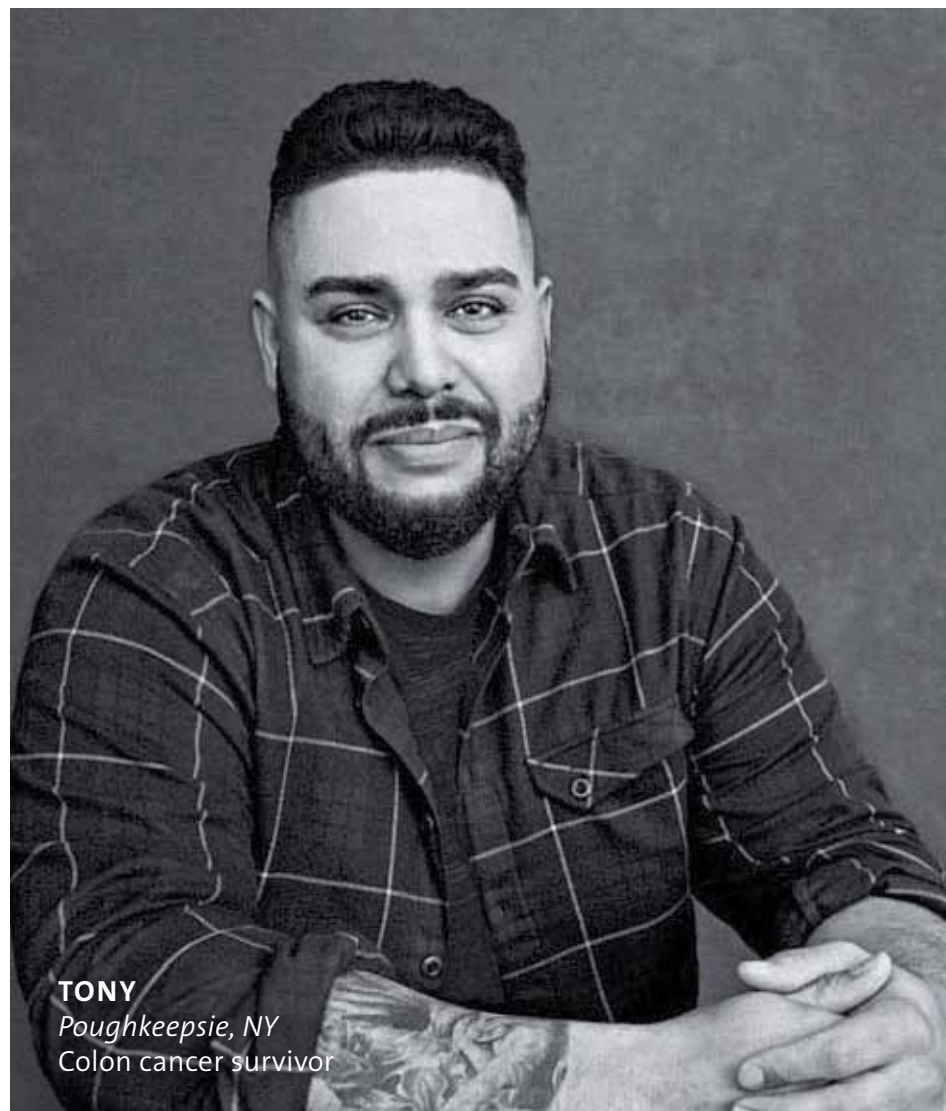
on-line lessons the Riskos found a growing number of requests from all over the world to study with teachers online. "By using the Zoom video platform, teachers and students can connect and give and receive instruction," Mike Risko explained. "The lessons are recorded and the file is sent to the student."

"The success of the on-line video lessons helped both the retail business and the school. "We have become part of the digital age," said Miriam Risko. "It opens us up to the next level and gives us a vision."

Miriam Risko has headed up the school's popular musical theatre program, which has attracted hundreds of students and staged about 20 shows since it was first launched in 2015. "But my real passion is for musical theatre," she said. "We put on four shows a year, three performances for each show and they are free. It gives kids an opportunity to be in a live show." Their upcoming show is Rock of Ages.

Both Miriam and Mike were born and grew up in Ossining and Yorktown respectively and are formally trained musicians. Miriam is a pianist and also the vocalist in the Mike Risko Band and Mike

Continued on page 17



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Yorktown Dive Team Excels in Undefeated Season

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17 & Under Boys - Jay Wilkenson 1st Place 161.90

Undefeated Season 5 -0 -

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2nd Place: Briarcliff 14
TIE
3rd Place: Pound Ridge 11
3rd Place: Willowbrook 11
5th Place: Chappaqua 9

Yorktown Divers:

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13 & U boys Dylan Young 2nd Place 84.05
18 & U girls Enza Nikolic 3rd Place 110.00
18 & U boys Jay Wilkinson 1st Place 148.00 -
Qualified for All Star Meet

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Mohegan Lake Veterinary Hospital

Mohegan Lake

BY NEAL RENTZ

For 27 years, the veterinary practice on East Main Street (Route 6) in Mohegan Lake was been a fixture in the community.

The site was home to the veterinary practice of Dr. Jack Stuppler until his retirement. Mohegan Lake Veterinary Hospital, which opened six months ago, is seeking to continue Stuppler's legacy. The new owner is New York City resident Dr. Kathleen Bishop and Dr. Monica Belvedere of Poughkeepsie is the medical manager.

"It was a great location with great clients," Belvedere said last week.

Belvedere said she is responsible for "basically all the medical parts" of the facility including making decisions on the types of medications and appropriate medical procedures needed for a pet, as well as overseeing the staff.

The majority of animals the hospital works with are cats and dogs with occasional work with such other mammals as rabbits and Guiney pigs, Belvedere noted.

The main focus of Mohegan Lake Veterinary Hospital is "a general, primary doctor practice," Belvedere said, adding emergency services and sick visits are also available.

"I'm to the owners' pets what your GP (general practitioner) is to you," she said.



PHOTO BY NEAL RENTZ

Dr. Monica Belvedere is the medical manager of Mohegan Lake Veterinary Hospital.

Surgery, annual exams, vaccinations, routine blood work, dentistry and X-rays are among the services offered at the vet-

erinary hospital, Belvedere said. "Dogs and cats need to be under anesthesia to have their teeth cleaned," she pointed out.

Most of the veterinary hospital's clients come from such communities as Cortlandt, Yorktown, Mohegan Lake and Peekskill. Working with animals was the career choice of Belvedere since childhood, she said. "I wanted to be a veterinarian since I was four years old," she said.

Being a vet has been fulfilling, Belvedere said. "Obviously, helping out animals is super important," she said. But it is also important to work with pet owners, she said. "Our pets are our family members," adding that having satisfied owners feeling better about their pets "brings me joy and fulfillment."

"We want everything to go smoothly," Belvedere said. "My top priorities are the good medical management of the patient and then being conscientious of owners' time. And so I want to be able to provide everything that their pets needs but not have people waiting around. I want the whole experience for them to be pleasant."

"Just being able to practice high quality medicine is my goal," Belvedere said. "My goal has always been to be the best vet that I can be."

Mohegan Lake Veterinary Hospital is located at 1960 E Main St. (Route 6) in Mohegan Lake. For more information, call 914-528-5000 or visit <https://www.moheganlakevet.com/>.



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Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to rpezzullo@theexaminernews.com. The Northern Westchester Examiner requires that all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.



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Letters to the Editor

Yorktown Taxes Will Go Up if Rental Project is Approved

To the Editor:

This letter addresses the proposed plan by Diversified Properties, aka DP Yorktown, LLC that was presented to the Yorktown Town Board on September 17, 2018 for their approval to rezone a 19.3-acre property at 571 E. Main St, Jefferson Valley, Yorktown, from single family residence to multi-family residence. The proposed plan consists of 11 two story buildings, housing 150 rental units (that can be increased at any time as it was originally from 120 rental units) and approximately 108 outdoor parking spaces (that can also be increased since most families have 2 cars).

TAXES AND TAX ABATEMENT: Mr. Nicholas Minoia, co-founder and managing partner of Diversified Properties, aka DP Yorktown, LLC, said the proposed rental development would help to sustain town businesses because online shopping has affected them. Unfortunately this development does not help the already overburdened Yorktown taxpayers but burdens them with more and even

higher taxes. Taxes will increase dramatically because of the additional services needed to accommodate this development; police, firefighters, sanitation, EMS, snowplowing, teachers, school buses, drivers, monitors, insurance, maintenance, pensions, etc. Online shopping has affected all of Westchester County's retail shops in shopping malls and strip malls causing the closing of retail shops in the Jefferson Valley Mall (Sears), Yorktown Heights, Peekskill, Mt. Kisco, Larchmont, Yonkers, New Rochelle, and many more. This rental development will not help to sustain the town businesses but would be costly to the taxpayer and would not offset any additional revenue generated. Tax abatement (tax reduction) usually given to developers could last for 5, 10, 15 years or possibly longer, whatever is agreed upon with the Town Board and will result in Yorktown taxpayers subsidizing the developers.

CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON OUR COMMUNITY are issues that were not discussed in the news-

paper article but are stated in the required Full Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) submitted to the Yorktown Town Board by the developers that addresses the following problems: 1) reduction of existing natural barriers, 2) poor drainage, 3) 15% or greater slope on 17.98% of site, 4) storm water runoff to adjacent properties, 5) encroachment into wetland buffer area, 6) increased impervious surface, 7) substantial increase in traffic morning and evening, 8) NO public transportation. These are issues we feel should be looked into further by the appropriate environmental agencies along with the Westchester County Endangered Species List, Biodiversity of Westchester County, NY (List of over 1,000 Endangered Plants) and destruction of tree specimens should be of concern to us all.

Many residents throughout Yorktown, not limited to Jefferson Valley, have signed the petition in opposition to this development.

LOUISE DEMARCO, BRIAN SILLIK, JEANNE TROIANO

Thanks to Gilbert and Paganelli for Getting Money from Enbridge for Paving

To the Editor:

Subject: \$195,000 Paving Funds Negotiated for Stony Street

In addition to the money Enbridge provided for the Granite Knolls Sports Complex, Supervisor Ilan Gilbert was able to negotiate additional monies for construction taking longer than promised. Supervisor Gilbert convinced Enbridge to pay the town \$1 million for the first three months they extended—November, December, and January 2018/19—and

\$350K every month thereafter.

Enbridge now expects to complete work in October 2019 which gives the Town a little more than \$4MM. This money has mostly been allocated to Yorktown's long neglected infrastructure. Of course, there will be a need to assist Parks and Recreation for the ongoing support of the Granite Knolls Sports complex which the previous administration didn't budget for.

But in addition to all this Supervisor

Gilbert and Highway Superintendent Dave Paganelli have negotiated \$195,000 from Enbridge to repave the pipeline portion of Stony Street after their pipeline work is done. A smooth road awaits once work on the pipeline is complete!

Once again let's thank Supervisor Gilbert and Superintendent Paganelli for their planning and dedication to all Yorktown residents.

LESLIE HOCHBERG
Yorktown

Candidate Michael Grace: "Lien on Me"

To the Editor:

It was reported (in The Journal News) County Legislature Candidate Michael Grace had two federal tax liens issued against him by the U.S. Government for unpaid taxes, one levied in 2012 and another one as recently as 2019. That comes to no great surprise since Michael Grace was a tax delinquent on pay-

ing his Yorktown property taxes for most if not his entire six years he was Town Supervisor. Michael Grace was quoted as saying that his history of being a local and federal tax delinquent is "old news." He's right. The real story for voters is that Grace has been living a lifestyle that sadly doesn't allow him the ability to pay the taxes he personally owes

like everyone else. It's ironic since Grace had no problem getting paid as an elected official each week from other people's taxes but drags his feet to pay his own fair share of taxes. Michael Grace as a candidate gives a whole new meaning to "Lien on Me."

ROBERT JEFFREYS
Yorktown

Law of the Land Must Be Enforced

To the Editor:

It seems that Police Chief Kevin Sylvester takes the oath he swore to, very seriously. Maybe both Quantel Bazemore and Omar Herrera should re-read the oath they took when they were sworn into office. It does not include not obeying the law. The law is the law and these illegals are breaking those laws.

I found this strange, "Mayor Victoria Gearity witnessed ICE agents detain someone in her neighborhood in June of 2017 near a bus stop." Were the ICE agents doing

something wrong? Just what did this incident have anything to do with, "I don't want us to perpetrate the divisiveness rhetoric. Our goal should be to have a plan going forward to improve trust in our community?" What is she trying to say? What do you tell illegals that will insure their trust? Maybe saying we will look the other way? The law-abiding community will only be served, when the law of the land is enforced.

Lastly, the illegals certainly do know that they are breaking the law. What is even worse there are politicians helping them skirt the law

on all levels. From the Federal to the state and local levels. Our country, by last count, has over 20 million illegals living here. Again, the problem is that we are encouraging them to break the law by offering rewards in the form of education, housing, welfare, tax refunds and now driver's licenses. We as a nation, are only encouraging more to come here illegally. You do know that the word is out, right? Come to the USA and get everything free.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS T. MCVETTY,
Yorktown

Guest Commentary

Yorktown Democrats Have an Awesome Slate for 2019 Election

BY JENNIE SUNSHINE

I am SO excited! We have some awesome choices for Democratic candidates in our area for our Town and County election on November 5, 2019. The names to remember are: Ilan Gilbert, Diana Quast, Sheralyn Goodman, Patricia Sullivan-Rothberg, Colin Smith and Vedat Gashi.

• Ilan Gilbert for Yorktown Town Board Supervisor is up for re-election: In the year and ½ that he has been in office, he has restored openness, fairness and a much needed bi-partisanship to the Town Board, putting back the "Courtesy of the Floor" that allows the public to speak at the start of Town Board meetings and televising all Town Board meetings. Leading with a consistent tone of unity, integrity, patience and tolerance – he has allowed people of all stripes to come before the board to each give his or her input - whether about a controversial topic or contentious environmental or zoning issue. Working tirelessly, he has made fixing and maintaining our aging infrastructure a priority, moving forward with the long talked about sewer plan, handling the many water-main breaks from our extremely old water pipes, fixing retaining walls, creating a better plan to handle winter roads and supporting the Highway Garage and Town Hall with newly installed back-up generators. With another term or more of Supervisor Gilbert, I am confident, Yorktown will be on a fantastic path towards a more livable, walkable, safe and enjoyable town in which to live.

• Sheralyn Goodman and Patricia Sullivan-Rothberg for Yorktown Town Council: Aside from their professional qualifications, they are both experienced and vibrant moms. For me, there is no better qualification. As a mother of two myself, I know what it takes to multitask, work 24/7 while finding creative and positive solutions to problems at every turn. And then, they get EXTRA points for stretching themselves to make the lives of other kids better as well by volunteering their time for the community,

Ms. Sullivan-Rothberg, as the President of the Crompond Elementary PTA and Secretary and Executive Committee Member for Boy Scout Troop 164 and Mrs. Goodman as a volunteer with the Thomas Jefferson Elementary PTA, the Copper Beech Drama Club and Lakeland's Wig 'n Whiskers Theater club. Both have lived and raised their families here in Yorktown over the last 15 to 20 years. Both are uniquely qualified to lead in complimentary ways as well. With a degree in Fine Arts from SUNY Purchase, Ms. Sullivan-Rothberg has worked in the documentary film industry for 25 years, a field requiring a unique skillset that includes great attention to detail, an adherence to deadlines, excellent organization skills, presentation skills and skills as a promoter, producer and marketer. Patricia Sullivan-Rothberg hopes to be able to use her vast experience to be of service to the Yorktown people with a special emphasis on our creative arts community and history. Sheralyn Goodman holds a Bachelor's Degree in History from the University of Toronto and a Law Degree from Syracuse University College of Law. Ms. Goodman is a long-time attorney, litigator and union organizer. She has been a part of the Legal Aid Society, Westchester County, representing individuals in all stages of the court process and helping those afflicted with opioid and/or chemical dependency since 2009. Since 2013, Ms. Goodman has been part of the solution helping put troubled teens back on track as a volunteer with the Youth Shelter of Westchester, or ysow.org. Putting it all together, Sheralyn Goodman wants to be your public servant, so she can utilize her skills as a lawyer, advocate and leader to bring all the incredible assets of Yorktown together: the beauty, the history, the people, the nature, the conveniences, the services, the resources and the businesses to showcase Yorktown as the beautiful town that it is - and to make it an even better place for all of us to live, work, play and stay - here.

• Diana Quast is up for re-election for

Town Clerk: Super dedicated to the people of Yorktown in the Town Clerk's office, Ms. Quast was Deputy Town Clerk from 2003 through 2015, winning the position of Town Clerk in 2016. With years of experience and expertise under her belt, Ms. Quast has worked hard to make the Town Clerk's office the best it can be. In less than two years on the job, she has been able to make the Town of Yorktown even more accessible, technologically savvy, efficient and paperless with the creation of the mobile Town Clerk's office, implementing an online program to make it easier to renew dog licenses and digitizing more than a million documents and preserving key records. With Diana Quast at the helm of the Town Clerk's office, Yorktown could not be in better hands.

• Colin Smith – District 1, County Board of Legislators: Born and raised in Peekskill, a business owner in Peekskill and present Peekskill City Councilman, it is clear that Mr. Smith cares about meaningful leadership. Colin Smith holds a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from Cedarville University and a Law degree from Pace University. A prior Bronx County Assistant District Attorney and at present an attorney handling both criminal and civil matters, Mr. Smith knows how to work to get things done, and more specifically, he is dedicated to representing our area to secure all available County resources to fix our crumbling infrastructure and roadways and advocating for affordable housing, working families and seniors. In all, he wants to work alongside the other County Legislators who are

committed to both economically and environmentally sound initiatives for all of the people in our culturally diverse County, leading us into a solid, fair-minded and prosperous future.

• Vedat Gashi – District 4, County Board of Legislators: Born in Kosovo, Albania and arriving in the USA as child with his family. Mr. Gashi is the American Dream. His family worked tirelessly to succeed in the United States and they have - first in the Bronx and then later, making Yorktown home. Mr. Gashi is a graduate of Lakeland High School. He then went on to receive his undergraduate degree from Connecticut College and his law degree from Seton Hall University. Mr. Gashi lives in Yorktown with his wife and two children and is an active member of the Yorktown Rotary Club. He wants to work hard to secure our water, sewer and road infrastructure, protect our environment, parks and lakes and contribute to our positive business atmosphere while not raising taxes. I have met and worked briefly with Mr. Gashi, and I can tell you, not only will he work endlessly to bring every County asset possible to Yorktown, he will always be available to you, to listen to you, to help. He and his family could not be more dedicated and kind. Vote for Vedat Gashi – District 4 for County Board of Legislators and he will make you proud!

Don't forget, please VOTE, November 5, 2019. Your vote is important and your vote counts.

Jennie Sunshine is a resident of Yorktown



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Last Call for Exhibitors and Sponsors for Yorktown Grange Fair

Time is running out to secure exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities at the 2019 Yorktown Grange Fair. September 6 to 8, the Grange Fairgrounds will see upwards of 10,000 people enjoying solid family fun. It's the perfect opportunity to introduce your product or business to a varied audience. This year's fair theme is Back to the Garden, harkening back to the Woodstock Music Festival's feel-good vibes of community and togetherness. As we take the time to celebrate the symbiotic relationship that the larger community shares with local businesses and artisans, as well as smaller family gardens and contributions, let the

Grange Fair help you grow your business, either as an exhibitor or a sponsor.

Exhibitor spaces are still available: rent a 10-foot outdoor spaces for this three-day event for the low price of \$200. Limited electrical use is included in the price. Certified nonprofits, community service organizations and 501(c)(3) corporations can rent space for a special lower price of \$100. For local artisans, indoor space at our inaugural artisan section is available for Saturday and Sunday only - with a \$75 rental fee for one day or \$125 for both days. These low prices allow businesses to showcase and sell their products and services with a large audi-

ence without sacrificing the opportunity to make a profit.

Becoming a sponsor allows you to get your business name out to a huge audience! Sponsorship packages include a sign or banner, social media recognition, business name printed on Fair materials and a free car pass for the Grange Fair. Prices range from \$50-\$350, so there are options even for the smallest businesses. Your contribution to the fair shows the dedication you have to providing family-friendly entertainment options for the local community.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to share your business with thousands of visi-

tors from all over Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties. With so many different activities at the fair, you're sure to reach a diverse audience. Check out all exhibitor and sponsorship information on the Grange Fair website, www.yorktowngrangefair.org, call (914) 962-3900 or e-mail nfervan@gmail.com. To be printed in fair advertising materials, your sponsorship agreement must be received by August 12.

Whether you set up shop to sell at the fair, or just put your name out there for everyone to see, the Yorktown Grange Fair is the perfect chance to reach a whole new audience!

Local Police Respond to Tragic Shootings

In light of the tragic shootings in El Paso and Dayton, County Executive George Latimer has directed the Department of Public Safety to increase communication with local police departments in Westchester and provide any needed support they request.

Although there is no indication of any threats in this region, Westchester County Police are also assessing the need for increased patrols in Mount Kisco and Cortlandt, the two communities where the County Police provide municipal police service.

In continuation of the Department's efforts to keep Westchester residents safe, the County Police in recent months have provided active shooter training for civilians and law enforcement. The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) training has been provided to hundreds of county employees and citizens.

The County Police will continue to work closely with Counter-Terrorism Zone 3, the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association and all its law enforcement partners on training and exercises regarding active shooter events. It also continues to provide training and guidance to the Westchester Security Directors Association, among other groups.

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Obituaries

John Lively

John Lively, a longtime resident of Cortlandt, died July 30 at Bethel Nursing Home in Croton-on-Hudson. He was 81.

He was born August 14, 1937 in Bronx, NY to Effie and John Lively. He married Marilyn Stover on April 22, 1961 and moved to Cortlandt in 1963. He worked at AT&T for more than 30 years and then worked at Malcolm Pirnie for 15 years. He served in the Army National Guard from 1960-1963.

He was a member of the Peekskill Lion's Club for more than 25 years and was involved in Boy Scouts and Little League. Additionally, he was a member of the Yorktown Methodist Church for more than 50 years.

Mr. Lively is survived by his wife Marilyn; two sons, Craig S Lively and his wife Carol of Peekskill; Glen H. Lively and his wife Debbie of Croton-on-Hudson; a daughter, Sharon L. Massey and her husband Tighe of Peekskill; and three grandchildren, Catherine L. Lively, John P. Lively and Jennifer B. Lively.

Wenda Williams

Wenda P. Williams, a resident of Mohegan Lake, died July 30. She was 86.

She was born in Soham, England on February 13, 1933 to Reginald and Olive Rogerson. She was the oldest of six children. On May 2, 1953, she married John E. Williams, an American who was in the United States Air Force serving in England. They came to the United States in 1954. John built a house for Wenda in Mohegan Lake where they raised their three children. Mrs. Williams will always be remembered for the love shared with her husband, children and grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband John E. Williams; two daughters, Claire Williams and Deborah Krauskopf; son John L. Williams; nine grandchildren: Corinna, Benjamin, Aileen, Erin, Chelsea, Emma, Kristen, Kylie, and Katy; and eight great-grandchildren: Ranae, Veronica, Harlie, William, Oliver, Luke, James and Kieran.

Joseph Capasso

Joseph Stephen Capasso, a resident of the Village of Buchanan, died July 29. He was 25.

He was born August 31, 1993 to Robert Capasso and Susan Ann Hoyt. He is survived by his beloved parents, Susan Ann Hoyt and Robert Capasso, and his loving brother, Anthony Capasso. He is also survived by many caring aunts, uncles, cousins and friends and will be missed deeply by those who knew him.

Jennifer Lee Rice

Jennifer Lee Rice, a resident of Cortlandt, died peacefully in her sleep July 28. She was 34.

She was born October 7, 1985. She gradu-

ated from Walter Panas High School in 2003. She was recently attending cosmetology school and would shortly graduate. She was a loving mother, daughter and sister who will be sorely missed by her entire family.

She was preceded by her grandmother, Patricia Rice and her uncle Charles Rice. She is survived by her parents, Edward Rice and Graceann Dematteis Rice; her brother, Edward Rice Jr.; her sister, Julie Catalano; her son, Frankie J. Rice; her grandparents Julia and William Dematteis, Charles and Vera Rice and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Thomas Rice

Thomas P. Rice, a resident of Somers, died August 1. He was 88.

He was born December 14, 1930 in New York City. He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Laura T. Rice, in 2011. He is survived by five children and their spouses: Ellen Rice and Charles Samoylo, Thomas C. Rice and Cheryl Christman, Carol and Robert D'Eustachio, Mary and Ron Israeli-ski, and Joseph and Joanne Rice, and by his 10 grandchildren: Thomas Christman (Fannie), Michelle (Alec), Kimberly, Matthew

(Meghan), Joseph (Justine); Sean, Katelyn (Michael), Daniel, Kelly and Thomas.

Clarence "Ed" Hazelton

Clarence "Ed" Hazelton, a resident of Somers, died peacefully July 31 at Westchester Medical Center. He was 74.

He was born in White Plains on September 12, 1944 to Clarence and Katherine Hazelton. A longtime biology teacher at White Plains High School, he retired in 2003 and continued to pursue his interests in and love

Continued on page 16



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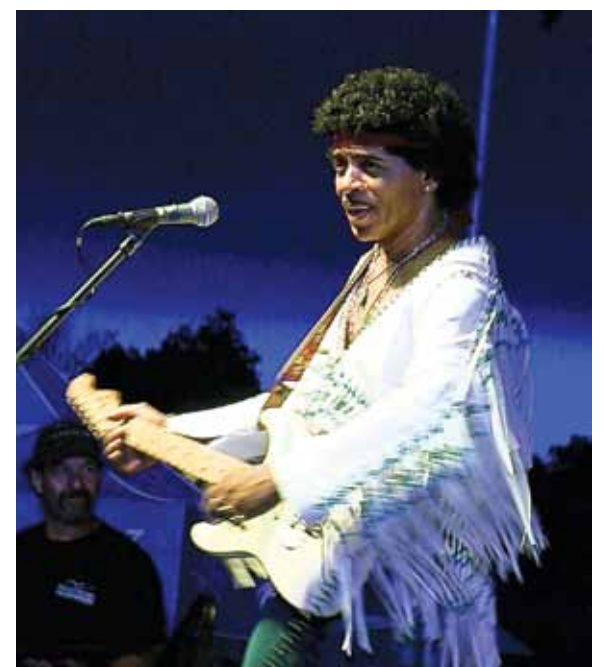
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Happenings

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, AUG. 6

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.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 7

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.

New York Presbyterian Programs: Several programs have been scheduled for the coming days at New York-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital, 1980 Crompond Rd., Cortlandt. Living With Loss Support Group will be held on Aug. 7 from noon to 1 p.m. Registration: 914-734-3330. The "Support-A-Walk" Kickoff Celebration will be held on Aug. 7 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. RSVP: Call Support Connection at 914-962-6402. Breastfeed with Certainty Prenatal Class will be held on Aug. 7 from 6 to 9 p.m. Registration: 914-734-3257. Homemade Dumplings will be held on Aug. 8 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Cost: \$15. Registration: call 914-734-3780 or e-mail hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org. A Breastfeeding Support Group will meet on Aug. 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration: 914-734-3257. Physician in the Kitchen: Balanced Nutrition for Children's Health will be held on Aug. 9 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Registration: call 914-734-3780 or e-mail hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org.

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, AUG. 8

Art Exhibit: Fiber Arts North East will have an exhibit during regular library hours at the Somers Library throughout the month of August. Info: somerslibrary.org.

Yorktown Jewish Center Courses: The Yorktown Jewish Center offers a wide selection of courses during the year. However, all classes have ceased for the summer. Most will continue in the fall, so keep posted. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

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

Wondering or Wandering Jew: What are you looking for in your Jewish journey? Whether you're a Wandering Jew, Wondering Jew, LGBT Jew, Agnostic Jew, or an I haven't been to synagogue since my Bar/Bat Mitzvah Jew... First Hebrew Congregation wants to hear your thoughts and feelings about the kind of Jewish community connections you're looking for. First Hebrew is hosting an

open forum from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Bean Runner Café, 201 S. Division St., Peekskill. Coffee and dessert will be served. For more information, please e-mail fhc@firsthebrew.org or call 914-907-4680.

FRIDAY, AUG. 9

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.

Storytime: Bilingual Storytime with Mrs. Budds will be held on Aug. 9 and 23 at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Info: peekskill.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 rabbiv@optonline.net.

Jewish Center Services: At the York-

Continued on page 20

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8/25 - British Invasion Years

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Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. The South, in the Civil War, abbr.
- 4. Where Jamal Malik grew up
- 8. Mantelpiece
- 10. Pardon me!
- 11. Relax
- 13. Sgts. and cpls.
- 14. Beatles song or Pleasantville handmade goods shop
- 16. Original manufactured item
- 17. Become irate
- 18. Canonized mlle.
- 19. Mistaken
- 22. Get ready for something bad
- 27. Fraternity "T"
- 28. Appreciation of art and beauty
- 30. Urgent request
- 31. Singer Nicks
- 32. U.S.N. rank
- 33. Links legend
- 34. Back talk

35. Cable alternative Down

- 1. Swiss Alp's abode
- 2. Bun toppers
- 3. Pub orders
- 4. Justice Sotomayor
- 5. Trains
- 6. Stratford-___-Avon
- 7. Ed.'s pile
- 8. Edible flower bulbs
- 9. Trouble
- 12. Tea brewer
- 15. Compass pt
- 20. Beauty parlor treatment
- 21. Your workout will "come together" at this Jefferson Valley gym, ___ Fitness
- 23. Pre-Revolution leaders
- 24. ___ tu, Brute!
- 25. Quizzical sounds
- 26. Response to "Shall we?"
- 28. Diva, Gluck
- 29. Care for
- 30. Mac rivals

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	28						29			
30					31					
32						33				
34							35			

(Solution to this puzzle on page 16)

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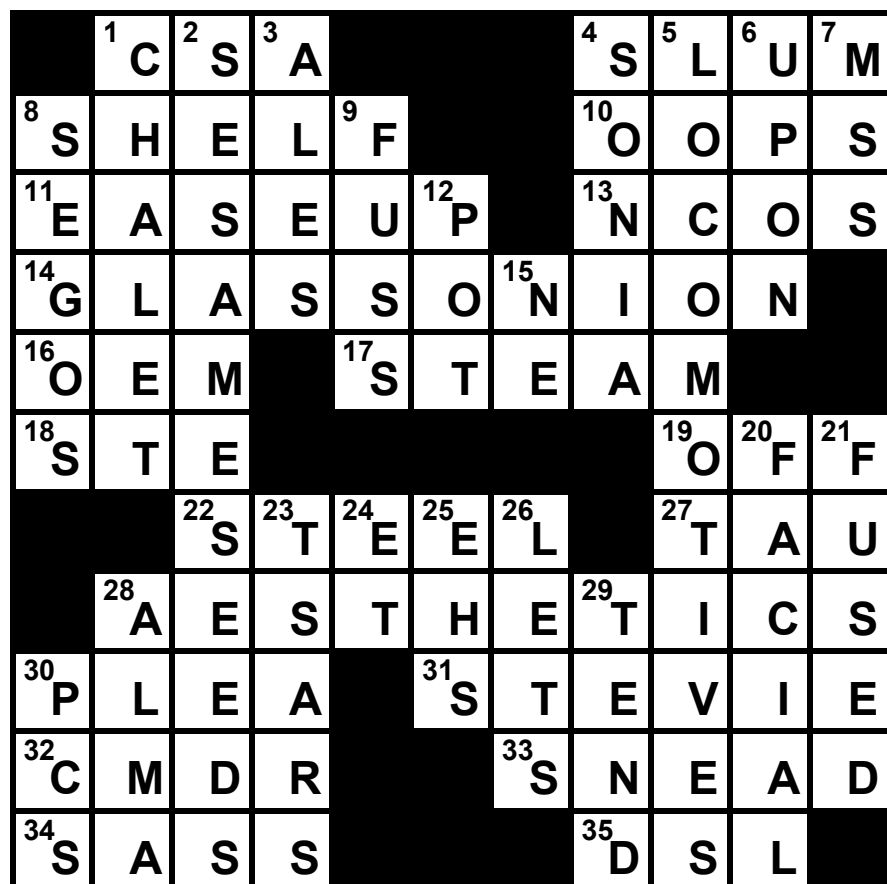


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Memories of Real Plaster Walls, Long Gone

My father died when I was a teenager, before I understood that he was more than a skilled tradesman but, rather, a true artist.

A cement finisher by trade, he could do any maintenance or improvement project around the house from tiling our bathroom floor and stenciling our living room walls to plastering an entire room from scratch.

I was only eight years old when I watched with fascination as he plastered that new room in our house, created from a former screened in porch. First, he attached mesh lath to the studs and lobbed on the "scratch" base coat which he scored when it was half dry for adherence, then added a second layer, known as the "brown" coat and, finally, a perfect, hard and smooth finishing coat. I remember it as a laborious project in which each coat had to dry for a day or more before the next was applied.

When he was finished, he took my hand with his own, calloused by years of hard work, and guided my touch along the finishing coat, saying proudly "Billy, feel this. Smooth as silk, isn't it?"

Today few people have solid plaster walls which have been replaced almost universally with the use of sheetrock or drywall. While drywall was invented in 1916 by the U.S. Gyp-

sum Company, it wasn't until the 1940s that it came into prominent use, the result of the labor shortage during World War II, and the housing boom that followed, requiring cheap construction materials that took less time to install.

With all the new-fangled home building materials created in the past century, none has had so revolutionary an effect as drywall, basically compressed gypsum sandwiched between two sheets of heavy paper, expediting the homebuilding process more than any other material. But drywall has its deficiencies, from a lack of smoothness to the possibility of being victim to bad taping and spackling between panels that can produce weird and irregular surfaces.

I find it amazing that the art of plastering, while used for internal walls from ancient times, could all but disappear in just 50

years.

The skill of plastering has also all but vanished, except for a very few modern-day practitioners. When I did some investigation some time ago, I found that it's still possible to build a home with plaster walls, but time consuming as it is, certainly compared with plasterboard, it is very time consuming and expensive. Most plasterers today do mainly repair work. I was glad to hear that quality plaster walls could still be an option, at least for those who can afford

it.

There is an epilogue to the story of the room my dad plastered more than 50 years ago. Not so long ago, I was traveling to the South on business and took a detour to Newport News, Virginia, where that modest home is located. Intending to do a quick drive-by, I couldn't stop myself from pulling into the driveway. The clapboard ranch that I remembered had grown by half a story with dormers and had been veneered in yellow brick. I rang the doorbell.

Almost like a time-travel experience, I recognized the woman who opened the door as a grandmother version of the young bride who had bought the house from my parents a half a century ago. And, she recognized me as well! Imagine being told that you look the same as you did when you were eight years old?

She invited me in to tour the interior of the house which looked pretty much the same, except for more contemporary colors and furnishings. When I entered the room that my dad had plastered, I was astounded to see that the plaster job was still in perfect shape with not so much as a hairline crack in it. I asked if the walls been re-plastered during the time the new owner had lived there, but she assured me that, except for maybe two or three additional coats of paint, it was absolutely the same as it was when she and her husband bought the house.

I went to the far side of the room to the exact spot where my dad had guided my hand across the wall a half century earlier, and I repeated the motion. Yes, the surface was still

smooth as silk.

In witnessing the lasting quality of my dad's fine work, my eyes welled up with tears.

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



By Bill Primavera

Mike Risko Music Acclaimed

Continued from page 5

excels on guitar. They live in Ossining and have two children ages 13 and 15. Their ties to the community are strong and reaching out to area schools, libraries, senior centers among others is an ongoing effort to engage youngsters and adults in a musical activity.

"Last year we put out a call for people to donate their unused and unwanted instruments," said Miriam Risko. "The idea was we would repair the instruments, give them to the Ossining Children's Center and give free lessons to the kids every other week."

Once the youngsters learned a few songs, people who donated the instruments were invited to hear them play. "It was so nice to get instruments into the hands of lots of kids," she said.



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LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY PRE-MEETING AUGUST 7, 2019 5 PM

1. Discussion of de-icer law. Update and possible choice of a date for the public hearing.
2. Set agenda for Work Session
3. Waive the building permit fee for Anthony De Ruggiero's Eagle Scout project.
4. Appoint Anthony Cotone to Groundskeeper Recreation Assistant position.
5. Appoint Gregory Kroohs to

Groundskeeper/Recreation Assistant position.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY has received a wetlands application from the following applicant: **WT 16/19** Westchester-Putnam Council, Inc. Boy Scouts of America 1 Clear Lake Road TM# 40.-1-14 **WT17/19** AustinHearst 73 Chapman Road TM# 61.-1-1

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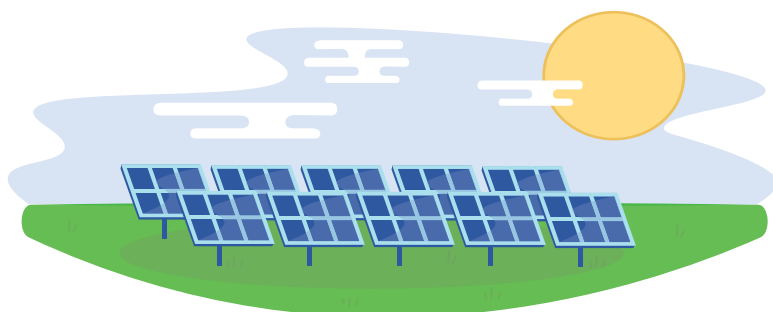
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Happenings

Continued from page 14

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

Peekskill Family Movie Night: "The House with a Clock in Its Walls" will be screened at 8 p.m. at Riverfront Green Park, 50 Hudson Avenue, Peekskill. Admission is free. For more information, contact the City of Peekskill Parks and Recreation Department at 914-734-7275 or visit www.cityofpeekskill.com.

SATURDAY, AUG. 10

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 Mem-

berships 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.

Shabbat Services in Somers: Hebrew Congregation of Somers Shabbat Services will be held every Saturday for the rest of August. Please join us for a Shabbat service at 9:30 a.m., followed by Lunch & Learn, a discussion of the week's Torah portion. Kiddush luncheon will be served. The service will be led by new Rabbi Shoshana Leis and Cantor Ruth Ossher. Hebrew Congregation of Somers is a small, informal and friendly synagogue affiliated with the Reconstructionist movement. First-year membership is free and includes High Holiday tickets. Info: info@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org, or 914-248-9531.

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.

Library Art Exhibit: Paintings by Michele Squibb are on display in August at the John C. Hart Memorial Library, 1130 E. Main St, Shrub Oak. An artist reception is being held today from 2 to 4 p.m. Also the library's display cases are featuring quilts by Grace Zipprich.

SUNDAY, AUG. 11

Environmental Protection Program: The Holy Name of Mary Church ministry in Croton is having a Sustainable Sunday program "How to Shrink Your Carbon Footprint" at 3 p.m. Linday Audin, longtime chair of Croton's Sustainability Committee, will address what we as private individuals can do to make a difference. Bring a friend! Enter the Parish Center at the municipal free parking lot behind the building, 114 Grand St, Croton.

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

MONDAY, AUG. 12

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

Summer Color: Hot Summer Color Drop-

In Art will be held on every Monday in August from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Somers Library. Bring your watercolors, your acrylic paints and liquid pouring paints. Info: www.somerslibrary.org. Space is limited.

Literature And Art: The Story of You: A Literature and Art Workshop About Growing Up for children age four though the second grade concludes today 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.musical-munchkins.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, AUG. 13

Somers Library Book Club: The club will meet on Tuesdays, 8/13, 9/3, 10/22, 11/12 and 12/10 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. This Somers Library sponsored book club will be led by Diana Cunningham, who will select the books to be discussed at each meeting. Space is limited to 20 people and registration is required; please register online at www.somerslibrary.org or call 914-232-5717. Please include your e-mail address in your registration.

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9U Putnam Valley Team Crowned Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League Champions

While posting a terrific 17-3-1 season overall, the 9U Putnam Valley Miners put the finishing touches on their summer season by storming through the Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League playoffs en route to an 8-2 championship win over Greenwich Red last Sunday in Danbury, CT where the PV team of Chris Constantino, Evan Peterson, Nicky Benedetto, Matt Quinn, Nick Delfico, Jack Marinelli, Braedon McCarty, Nick Martinelli, John DiMichael, Tj Ferraguzzi, Nick Cerrato and coaches Billy Benedetto, Mike Quinn, Nick Martinelli, Nick Delfico and Eric Peterson posed with their championship banner at Rogers Park.

**Focus on
NEW YORK-PENN
LEAGUE
Renegades vs.
West Virginia
Dutchess Stadium
Saturday,
August 3, 2019**



Renegades starter Evan McKendry fires a pitch to the plate against the visiting West Virginia Black Bears.



Hudson Valley outfielder Beau Brundage swings the bat in the fifth inning of Saturday's game.



Ben Troike runs to third base during the Renegades' three-run second inning vs. West Virginia.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



The Renegades' Jordyn Muffley grounds out to third base in the bottom of the fourth inning.



Hill Alexander runs the bases in the Hudson Valley Renegades' 5-4 home loss to West Virginia on Saturday evening.



Hudson Valley shortstop Ben Troike tracks a pop fly in the 5-4 loss to the Black Bears.



Designated hitter Pedro Diaz of the Renegades takes a mighty swing vs. West Virginia. He finished with two hits.



West Virginia's Matthew Fraizer beats out a bunt single in the fourth inning as Renegades first baseman Mason Mallard fields the late throw.



Left: Hudson Valley second baseman Christian Pedroza sends a pitch toward left field vs. visiting West Virginia.



The Renegades' Nick Sogard is safe at second with a stolen base in the bottom of the third inning during Saturday's game at Dutchess Stadium.



Renegades manager Blake Butera saw his team win two of three games from West Virginia this weekend, improving to 28-19 this season.

Liberty's Struggles Continue With a Loss to Connecticut

With just over a month left in the WNBA's regular season, the New York Liberty currently find themselves on the outside looking in among teams battling for a playoff berth.

On Sunday afternoon at the Westchester County Center, the Liberty took another step in the wrong direction with a 94-79 loss to the Connecticut Sun. Despite 20 points and 10 rebounds from Tina Charles, New York, now 8-13 this year, suffered its sixth defeat in the last seven games.

A 3-pointer by Shekinna Stricklen 35 seconds into the game opened the day's scoring and gave the Sun a lead it never lost. Connecticut, 16-6 and in possession of the best record in the league, opened up a 16-point cushion late in the first quarter and cruised to its seventh consecutive victory. Guard Courtney Williams made 12 of 18 shots from the field and finished with a game-high 28 points.

"We just have to make her life harder," said disappointed Liberty head coach Katie Smith after watching the offensive exploits of Williams. "She kind of had her way with whoever we had guarding her."

The Liberty, just 1 of 12 from beyond the 3-point arc in the opening half, went on an 8-0 run capped by the lone trey, by Bria Hartley, to close within 37-28 midway through the second quarter. A basket by Charles with 4:30 left in the half narrowed the deficit to just 39-32. But that was as close as the Liberty would get the rest of the way as Williams scored nine points in a 14-6 burst by Connecticut to finish the half.

Nearly three minutes into the third quarter, a 3-point shot from Amanda Zahui B, who scored 16 points in her 23 foul-plagued minutes, brought the Liberty to within 57-48. But by the end of the quarter, despite a buzzer-beating layup by New York's Nayo Raincock-Ekunwe, the Sun lead was back up to 14 points.

Connecticut built its largest lead of the game, 77-57, after two free throws by Bria Holmes. Baskets by Zahui B and Charles enabled the Liberty to twice trim the deficit to 11 points, but Connecticut's Holmes connected on a pair of 3-pointers later in the final period to all but seal the outcome.

"You can't give up 37 points off 17 turnovers," said Smith afterwards about what most doomed her team. "Cannot turn the ball over. We probably lead the league in opponents' points off turnovers. You have to handle the ball, and if we don't handle the basketball we're basically spotting people almost 25 points a game. In this league, you're not gonna win."

-Andy Jacobs



New York Liberty star Tina Charles scores inside during the first quarter of Sunday's game against Connecticut.



New York Liberty guard Brittany Boyd shoots the ball from just left of the lane.



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS
Amanda Zahui B shoots the ball in the second half vs. the visiting Connecticut Sun.



Rebecca Allen of the Liberty scores an inside basket in the second half vs. the visiting Sun.



Liberty forward Reshanda Gray fires a jump shot in the second quarter of Sunday's WNBA game.



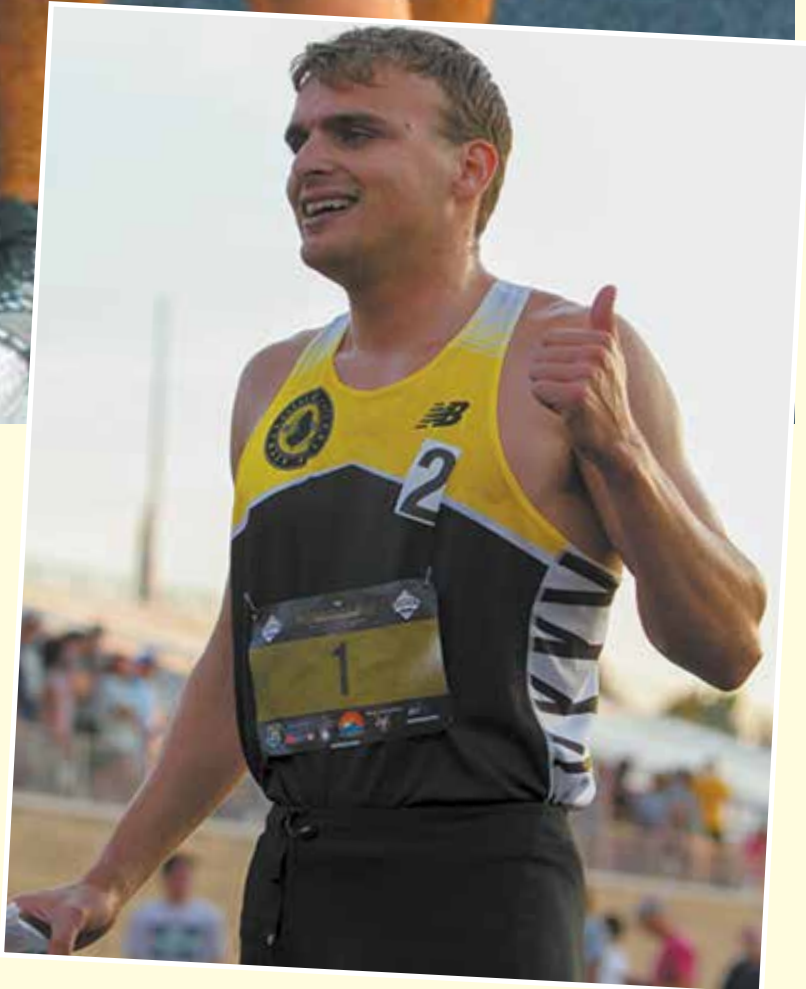
Liberty guard Bria Hartley leads a fast break in the second quarter of Sunday afternoon's game at the County Center.



Marine Johannés of the New York Liberty dribbles across the top of the key during Sunday's loss to the first-place Connecticut Sun.



Right: New York's Nayo Raincock-Ekunwe drives into the lane for a bucket in the 94-79 loss on Sunday.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JAY BENDLIN

Lightning Bolt Holt

Carmel High School graduate Eric Holt accomplished what only a small portion of Americans have been able to do: run a sub-four minute mile. Holt reached the incredible athletic feat last week at the Monmouth Mile in New Jersey when he clocked in at three minutes and 58 seconds. Holt, who lives in Carmel and was the captain of the Carmel track team before he graduated in 2013, won his race with that impressive time.