Indian Point
Successor
Under Fire...
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January 21 - January 27, 2020 SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 526



Hen Hud Students Learn to Code

Students in every grade at Frank G. Lindsey Elementary School in the Hendrick Hudson School District were busy learning how to code during their library time, and even the youngest students discovered how exciting it is to program a graphic or robot so that it moves, right before their eyes. "The kids love being able to create using these platforms and are learning the basics of coding," said Library Media Specialist Megan Boyle. "They love working together and seeing what their classmates have come up with. It's a fun unit for them and an important one for 21st century learners."

Puglisi, Residents Lambaste Cortlandt MOD Projects

By Rick Pezzullo

More than 150 people jammed into Cortlandt Town Hall last week to voice their opposition to two mixed-use projects planned in the vicinity of New York Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital on Route 202 in Cortlandt

Setting the tone for the public hearing was Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi, who maintained the Evergreen Manor and Gyrodyne developments that would separately occupy almost 42 acres across from the hospital were too much for the area to handle.

"The proposal in the full build out is too big in my opinion," Puglisi said to rousing applause. "It would be in everyone's best interest to reduce it significantly. We cannot sustain it. We should scale it back to one use per property."

The Evergreen Manor project involves the redevelopment of three vacant contiguous parcels totaling 28 acres with a 120-unit assisted living facility, a five-story, 100-room hotel with 13,000 square feet of retail space, 30,000-square-foot mixed-used retail/office building, 166 residential units (152 studios and one-bedroom units and 12 two-bedroom) and a 7,000-square-foot restaurant.

The Gyrodyne site includes the redevelopment of eight contiguous parcels totaling 13.8 acres with 100,000 square feet of medical offices, 4,000 square feet of complementary retail, 200 market rate apartments, 180 structured parking spaces and 383 at-grade parking spaces.

If approved, both projects are projected Continued on page 2

Handful of Chain Eateries on the Horizon in Local Area

By Rick Pezzullo

Local residents who enjoy the fare offered at chain eateries will soon have more choices in Cortlandt and Yorktown.

The first Chipotle Mexican Grill in northern Westchester is slated to open in Mohegan Lake across from the Cortlandt Town Center where ShopRite is located.

The building, which will also house a dental office, has already been constructed and the owners recently received the go-ahead to start working inside.

Also under construction is a 2,350 square-foot, free-standing Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, east of Dunkin Donuts in the Staples Plaza on Route 202.

Known for its chicken sandwich, which is sweeping the nation, Popeye's received a one-year extension from the Yorktown Planning Board on November 4.

Representatives for Taco Bell appeared before the Planning Board last week to discuss its plans to set up shop in the former Snap Fitness and Thyme restaurant location on Route 202.

A concept plan shows a drivethru window and opening up a second curb cut from 202 that hasn't been in existence for about 20 years. A second curb cut would need approval from the state Department of Transportation.

The owners are proposing 39 parking spaces, which is below the town required 49 spaces. An exemption from the Planning Board would have to be granted.

Continued on page 2



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Chipotle Mexican Grill will be opening in Mohegan Lake in the next few months.

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2

MOD Projects Lambasted By Puglisi and Cortlandt Residents

Continued from page 1

to generate more than \$4.5 million annually in tax revenue, along with 780 construction jobs and 195 permanent on-site jobs.

The go-ahead for the projects was the zoning creation by town officials of the Medical Oriented District (MOD), the intent of which is to encourage economic revitalization in the area surrounding the hospital and implement the goals and recommendations outlined in the town's 2016 Sustainable Comprehensive Plan.

However, the Town Board, which is the lead agency, must approve rezoning the properties to MOD for the projects to proceed.

The developers have insisted their plans are consistent with the town's vision as outlined in the most recent Master Plan.

"Density alone is not something to create fear," said David Steinmetz, attorney for VS Construction, developers of Evergreen Manor. "Both projects are designed to follow the mandates of the Master Plan. We think economically it's a great thing for the town."

A petition with 825 signatures was presented to the Town Board opposing the MOD. Another petition contained the signatures of



PHOTO BY RICK PEZZULLO

Residents lined up to voice their opinions about MOD on 202 in Cortlandt.

75% of residents on Buttonwood Avenue who asked to be removed from the MOD. One resident suggested a public referendum be held on the matter.

"I don't think these proposals will improve the quality of life," said Stacy Rivera, a resident of Buttonwood Avenue. "The magnitude of these developments will impact much more than the surrounding neighborhoods."

"You have a situation that no one wants. We should say we won't allow this unless it is scaled back," said Sal Farina of Northridge Road. "This is a town. This is not a city. We have to look at the integrity of the town."

Acknowledging the existing traffic problems in the area, the development teams are committing \$3 million for studies and traffic improvements along Route 202. Currently five new traffic signals in the area are planned and turning lanes, along with sidewalks and other enhancements.

"You have two major developers at the table willing to fix the problems," Steinmetz stressed.

After the hearing, the developers refuted a statement from Puglisi about the density of the project, saying both the Evergreen Manor and Gyrodyne proposals have already been scaled

"The owners look forward to working with the Supervisor, the Town Board and their consultants to address and mitigate issues that have been raised by the town or the residents," the developers stated.

The public hearing before the Cortlandt Town Board was adjourned to April 14 at Cortlandt Town Hall.

"We can't stop change, but maybe we can manage it," said Cortlandt Councilman Dr. Richard Becker. "Rather than a revolution in this community, a slow evolution would probably be better. We'll make sure we come up with the proper decision."

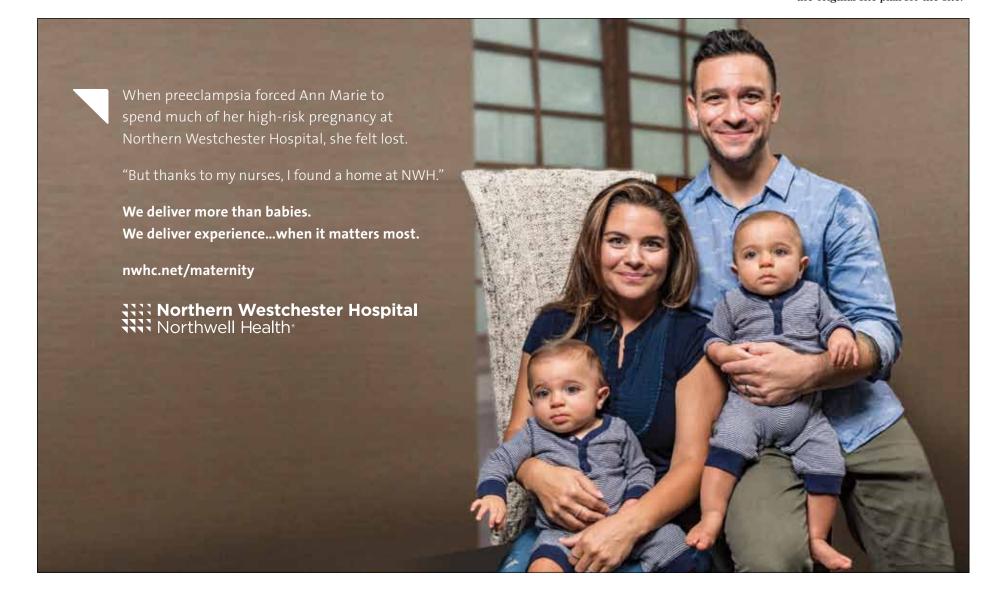
Handful of Chain Eateries on the Horizon in Area

Continued from page 1

back by 30 to 40 percent.

Meanwhile, further up 202 on the Lowe's site, a proposal was made on July 15 for a 5,800-squarefoot building at the center of the property that would have three tenants, one of which would be Starbucks. In December, another proposal was made in the same location for a 12,700-square-foot building for what was only revealed as a "specialty grocer."

That building would replace what was originally envisioned as a 7,500-square-foot restaurant in the original site plan for the site.



lessica Lynn to Judge Feb. 7 'Yorktown's Got Talent' Contest

An all-star lineup of prominent Yorktowners, led by recording artist Jessica Lynn, will judge an all-star lineup of performing Yorktowners at a highly anticipated fundraiser dubbed "Yorktown's Got Talent."

The February 7 variety show and contest, which will benefit local Cub Scouts, starts at 7 p.m. at Yorktown Stage. Admission is \$20 a person (go to YorktownStage. org and click "Buy Tickets" at top of home page).

Besides Lynn, scheduled to judge the evening of entertainment are Yorktown Councilwoman Alice Yorktown Police Chief Robert Noble, and a real-life judge, Yorktown Town Justice Gary J. Raniolo.

The talent contest is awarding a \$300 first prize in each of two age groups: 1) 16 and under; 2) 17 and older.

"No doubt Yorktown is dripping with talent," said Noble, who added he is "looking forward to some bold, innovative, fun and LEGAL displays of pure greatness on February 7!"

"I am extremely excited to

work with my local community and inspire people to follow their dreams," said hometown star Lynn, who travels the world sharing stages with the biggest names in country and rock music. "Anything is possible if you set your mind to it."

Yorktown's Got Talent is in no way affiliated with NBC-TV series America's Got Talent.

Jessica Lynn



Putnam Deputy Sheriff Stabbed **During Disturbance** in Putnam Valley

By Rick Pezzullo

A Putnam County deputy sheriff underwent surgery for a severed artery Monday after being stabbed by an emotionally disturbed man on Peekskill Hollow Road in Putnam Valley.

Sheriff Robert L. Langley, Jr. stated at approximately 10 a.m. Monday deputy sheriffs responded to a reported altercation at a home across from Once Upon A Time Preschool/Daycare.

Upon investigation at the residence, a male subject confronted deputies with a knife and during the confrontation one of the deputies was stabbed. The unidentified man was taken into custody.

The injured deputy, who also was not named, was taken to New York Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital Center. Langley stated the deputy may need to undergo additional surgeries.

Langley said an investigation was continuing and emphasized there is no threat to the public. The Sheriff's Department was assisted by State Police, Westchester County Police, Peekskill Police and Town of Carmel Police

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Veterans, Climate Smart Committees Created in Yorktown

By Rick Pezzullo

Following his election victory in November, Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater was steadfast about two initiatives he wanted to take when he took office, and during his first Town Board meeting January 7, the board unanimously obliged.

Among the first resolutions passed in the new year were the creation of a Veterans' Advisory Committee and a Climate Smart Communities Task Force.

"Our community took great strides forward in our first meeting," Slater said. "We as a community are committed to improving services and communication to our local veterans and the creation of a Veterans' Advisory Committee is a great first step. Ad-



Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater during his first Town Board meeting.

ditionally, establishing a Climate Smart Communities Task Force is significant progress in making Yorktown a leader in combating local climate change."

Yorktown Councilman Ed

Lachterman, who will serve as the liaison to the Veterans' Advisory Committee, said, "Our veterans deserve so much for defending our freedoms and way of life. This committee will help streamline services to our veterans and gives them the official recognition which they have earned."

Slater noted that Yorktown originally passed a resolution in 2009 pledging to become a Climate Smart Community but no additional actions were taken until two weeks ago. Becoming a Climate Smart Community means participating in a state recognized and supported program that helps local governments take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate. Currently there are 35 participating communities in Westchester County but only three have been certified.

"From our veterans to local environment our first meeting set a strong tone that I believe will continue for the rest of the year," said Councilman Tom Diana. "We have a lot of work to do for our community and Tuesday's meeting gave residents a glimpse of the direction Yorktown will now be heading in."

Yorktown Councilwoman Alice Roker added, "2020 marks the beginning of a new decade and a new Town Board for the Town of Yorktown. A new spotlight will be focused on improving the lives of veterans and finding new ways to combat the climate crisis with the creation of two new volunteer boards."

Anyone interested in joining either the Veterans' Advisory Committee or Climate Smart Communities Task Force is encouraged to contact Slater's office at 914-962-5722 ext. 201 or email supervisor@yorktownny.org.

Police Blotter

State Police

January 14 - State Police arrested Kenyatta Ingram Jr., 30, of Watervliet, NY, for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2nd degree, a class A felony, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd degree, a class B felony, Obstruction of Governmen-

tal Administration, Resisting Arrest, both class A misdemeanors, and Disorderly Conduct, a violation.

At approximately 10:50 a.m., troopers conducted a traffic stop on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Yorktown of a 2019 Jeep Compass for a violation of the vehicle and traffic law. During the interview and investigation Ingram refused to comply

with lawful orders and a struggle ensued. A State Police K9 was utilized, and taser deployed before Ingram was taken into custody. Both the investigating trooper and Ingram suffered injuries. Both were treated at the New York Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital.

Further investigation found Ingram was in possession of approximately 697 grams

of MDMA(ecstasy), approximately 75 grams of marijuana, and approximately 34 grams of cocaine.

Ingram was arraigned in Town of Yorktown Court, and released on his own recognizance. He is due in court February 11.

Continued on page 7





Officials, Residents Grill Company Chosen to Decommission Indian Pt.

By Rick Pezzullo

Local elected officials and residents last week grilled a representative from the company selected to decommission the Indian Point nuclear power plants in Buchanan after the facility shuts down next year.

Joe Delmar, senior director of Government Affairs and Communications at Holtec International, appeared at a meeting of the Indian Point Nuclear Decommissioning Citizen Advisory Panel at Buchanan Village Hall last Wednesday and received an earful of complaints and criticism.

"I just don't have a trust factor with you yet," State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef (D/Ossining) asserted. "You have a lot of convincing of this community that you are a good company and should be welcomed here. There has been a lot of negatives about Holtec."

In November, Entergy Corporation, current owners of the plants, and Holtec International, through their affiliates, announced they had jointly filed a License Transfer Application with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, requesting approval for the transfer of the NRC licenses for Indian Point to Holtec after the last unit permanently shuts down by April 30, 2021.



Dry cask storage containers that hold spent fuel rods similar to what is located at Indian Point.

Holtec plans to initiate decommissioning at Indian Point, following regulatory approvals and transaction close, as much as 40 years sooner than if Entergy continued to own the units.

"You have Holtec's commitment that we will be a good neighbor during the decommissioning process," Delmar said, noting there is currently \$2.1 billion in a trust fund dedicated to completing decommissioning activities, which are estimated to cost \$2.3 billion.

However, Riverkeeper, the environmental advocacy group that was involved in the negotiations that led to the decision to close the

Indian Point nuclear power plants, is publicly opposing Holtec and has launched a petition urging Entergy and Governor Andrew Cuomo to put the brakes on the proposed transfer.

"Holtec has never decommissioned a nuclear facility before, and its entire nuclear "fleet" was acquired less than a year ago. Decommissioning is far more complex than just spent fuel management, especially at Indian Point, a site with known radioactive groundwater contamination," Riverkeeper stated. "Even in its area of 'expertise' Holtec's spent fuel management system at San Onofre nuclear power

plant is proven to have serious design flaws, and Holtec has a history of risk-taking with spent nuclear fuel canisters, brought to light by whistleblower actions. We're only asking that Entergy select a qualified company to take on this arduous tasks of decommissioning, site cleanup and management of spent radioactive fuel, while keeping 20 million New Yorkers safe."

In January 2017, Entergy, which purchased the Indian Point plants more than 16 years ago, announced, to the complete surprise of local leaders, its plan for the early and orderly shutdown of Indian Point by April 30, 2021 as part of a settlement with New York State and Riverkeeper.

Holtec officials have stated its plan for decommissioning will result in the release for re-use of portions of the site in the 2030s, with the exception of the Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation – the area where spent nuclear fuel is safely stored in dry casks until the U.S. Department of Energy transfers the spent fuel offsite. As part of its plan, Holtec expects to move all of the Indian Point spent nuclear fuel into dry casks within about three years following facility shutdown in 2021.

Holtec has a pending application with the NRC for a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility in New Mexico, which could eventually store spent nuclear fuel from Indian Point and other U.S. nuclear power plants.

Delmar said Holtec's dry cask storage technology is used at 118 nuclear plants worldwide, adding Holtec is regulated in 13 countries.

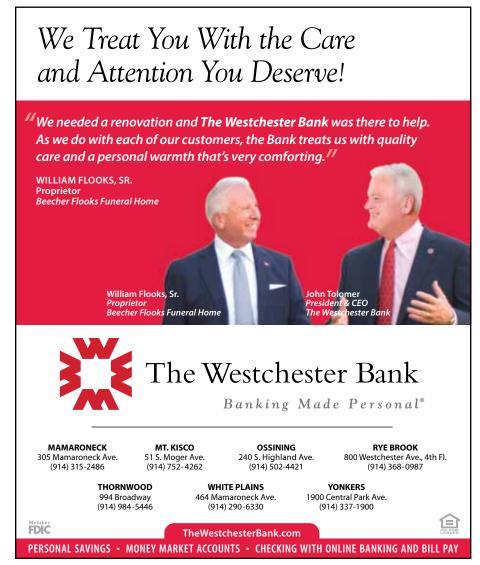
Since Unit 1 at Indian Point closed in the 1970s, all 160 spent fuel rods have remained in dry cask storage on a portion of the 200-acre site in Buchanan.

Commenting on a Post Shutdown Decommissioning Activity Report that was submitted by Holtec on December 19, Ossining resident Henry Kelly contended Holtec fails to address the dangers associated with decommissioning.

"Safety and contingency plans are just glossed over," Kelly said. "The emphasis is on Holtec, not on the safety of the community."

Delmar said Holtec will honor the tax pilot agreement Entergy has with Cortlandt that expires in 2024 and will utilize more than 300 current Indian Point employees, including existing security officers, as well as local labor, during the decommissioning.

A New York State Task Force meeting on Indian Point is scheduled for Thursday, January 30 at 7 p.m. at Cortlandt Town Hall.





Area School Trustee Ready to Join Congressional Race

By Martin Wilbur

Democrats may need to make room on the June primary ballot for one more candidate looking to succeed Congresswoman Nita Lowey.

The already crowded field vying for the Democratic nomination in the 17th Congressional District expanded to at least 11 candidates last week with the surprise announcement by longtime Pleasantville Board of Education Trustee Shane Mc-Gaffev that he would join the race.

Disappointed that the current crop of candidates has failed to address regional issues, including education funding and key tax matters that he argues have shortchanged the district's and state's taxpayers, McGaffey said he decided to jump in to help widen the debate.

"I know it's a long shot, but I am there to advocate for our district and local issues that aren't being discussed by the other candidates," he said, "I'm putting together a team right now. It may be late in the game. I understand that it's going to be a tough road to hoe, but there are some important issues and no one's talking about them, and if we don't talk about them, we can't accomplish them."

McGaffey, 49, said he would advocate for a regional cost index to help calculate federal income taxes. The current federal brackets impose a 22 percent tax rate on households earning \$77,400 to \$165,000 a year. In Westchester County, those earning



Shane McGaffey is prepared to make a late entry into the 17th Congressional District race.

at the bottom of that bracket are at the poverty level for a family of four when adjusted for regional costs.

Meanwhile, families earning less than that in many other areas of the country not only have the benefit of having their money go farther, but they're being taxed at 12

"That's serious money that we're leaving on the table that we're not getting back, plus on top of that, the state and local tax deduction, they're now capped at \$10,000," McGaffey argued.

He said there has also been little conversation so far in the campaign about finding ways of repealing the \$10,000 limit on state and local income tax deductions or at least getting that threshold raised.

The fact that New York is one of the top donor states in the country also needs to be tackled, McGaffey said. Last week, State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli issued a report that New York receives just 90 cents on every dollar it sends to Washington, the third worst in the nation.

Westchester also severely lags in reimbursement by the federal government for special education costs, he said.

McGaffey, a former Republican, works as the station manager at Pleasantville Community Television. He has served on the Pleasantville Board of Education for the past 10 years and is a former board president.

He said that national issues such as advocating for women's rights, equal pay, the impeachment debate and many of the social issues of the day are of critical importance.

"A lot of those issues are already being highlighted and I would work on them as well," McGaffey said. "They're important

issues, but issues that are specific to our district, regional cost, the value of the dollar is so much less, and so when people talk about taxing the rich, they're talking about

He said each candidate needs to collect about 1,250 signatures on their nominating petition by the Apr. 2 filing deadline. He plans to shortly launch his candidate's website once he receives his federal identification number that would enable him to start fundraising.

McGaffey said that with such a large field it also may not take more than 20 percent of the vote to win the primary, and he may be able to capitalize on the tax issue. However, he acknowledges that he has a lot to do in a short period of time.

"Build momentum, getting that message out there and making people understand how we're not getting our fair share,' McGaffey said of the task he faces.

Other declared Democratic candidates for the 17th Congressional District are Assemblyman David Buchwald; state Sen. David Carlucci; Sleepy Hollow resident Allison Fine; Evelyn Farkas, a former assistant deputy assistant secretary of defense in the Obama administration; Mondaire Jones, who worked in the Department of Justice under Obama; veteran Asha Castleberry-Hernandez; former prosecutor Adam Schliefer; County Legislators Catherine Borgia and Catherine Parker; and Rockland County resident David Katz.

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By Neal Rentz

Though All Guard Lock Inc. no longer has a storefront in Croton, the company is still serving the local area, its owner, Michael Della of Somers, said last week.

We had a shop in Croton for 29 years," Della said.

Della now operates All Guard as a mobile unit, which he has been doing for about one year. "We lost our lease and we figured that was the best way possible" to provide his services, Della said.

"I just want to let people know that we're still around even though we don't have a storefront," Della said. "We can be reached by phone and nothing on that side has changed.'

"We are available seven days a week with emergency service," Della noted.

All Guard installs locks, garage doors and safes. Locks are provided for both commercial and residential customers. Della said.

All Guard provide safes and his business in that area "is probably more residential than business.' Della said.

All Guard Lock Inc.

Somers

Della said he purchases safes from a distribution "and then we bring it to your home and install

He explained how he chose his profession. "I had a friend who was doing it many years ago and he seemed to be doing okay," Della said. "I went to school for it. It's been about 35 years now."

Della said his customers live in upper Westchester County. Through his more than three decades in the business, Della said he has generated a good reputation through word of mouth.

One of his satisfied customers is Croton resident George Dreyer, who recently had his second garage door installed by Della. "He put the original door in," Dreyer said. "He did a phenomenal job the first time and the second time."

The original door was installed about five years ago, Dreyer said. Dreyer said he would recommend Della's services.

'You can call me too for a referral," Dreyer remarked.

For more information about All Guard Lock Inc., call 914-261-



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Somers resident Michael Della, the owner of All Guard Lock Inc., shown above on the right, recently installed a garage door at the Croton home of George Dreyer, who is also in the photo.

Police



Drugs that were seized during traffic stop in Yorktown.

Continued from page 4 **Yorktown Police**

January 16 - Police reported the arrest of Dennis Santiago, 50, of Cortlandt, for grand larceny in the third degree, a Class D felony. On December 10, police received a report from Lowe's alleging an employee had been stealing property. Following an investigation, the suspect was identified as Santiago. It is alleged from October 3 to October 29, Santiago stole property with an estimated value of \$4,146. Santiago voluntarily appeared at police headquarters on January16 and was placed under arrest. He is due to appear in Yorktown Town Court February 4.



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Letters to the Editor

President Has Made Americans Less Safe

To the Editor:

After reading Ken Hoch's letter in the January 14, 2020 – January 20, 2020 edition, I had to respond to a few things:

Every congress member and American citizen should take issue with abuses of power and lies from our elected leaders. Trump and his defenders have offered numerous stories about why Soleimani was killed. When pressed for proof, Trump claims that it doesn't matter what the reasons were because Soleiman was a bad guy. However, we did learn that the decision to kill Soleimani was made in March of 2018; based on that discovery, there was no imminent threat, which is the standard to bypass congress. In contrast, Bin Laden was on America's most-wanted list and wasn't captured until Obama because

Bush saw pursuing Bin Laden as a "waste of time".

The Constitution expressly gives war powers to Congress, so if Mr. Hoch has issues with that designation, his argument is with the founding fathers, not Nancy Pelosi or the Democrats, who are simply honoring their oaths, which is something Donald Trump has yet to do.

Finally, we have had another Benghazi; the difference between the actual Benghazi and the attack on the US Embassy in Iraq is that the GOP won't spend 3 years conducting hearings or blaming this administration for the attack because, as anyone with eyes can see, Trump can do no wrong according to his base.

In reality, Trump has blown past every norm in our society and has broken governmental protocols and several laws during his reign. The same supporters that cheer him on were calling for Obama to be hung for simply doing his job. If there were evidence of any act done by Obama that put our national security in jeopardy, he would have also been impeached, especially in the Congress that was in session during his terms. Trump has made us less safe, i.e. the killing of Soleimani and the escalation with Iran, the pulling of troops in Syria, and the shaking-down of the Ukraine president, just to name a few.

Facts matter. I have no issue with differences in political opinions, but I do take issue if those differences are based on propaganda, misinformation, or outright lies.

LISA HALL Peekskill

Yorktown: Fast Forward Three Years

To the Editor:

In 2017, Yorktown's Town Board approved lucrative 10-year tax-break legislation which greatly increased the value of a large Kear Street commercial property jointly owned by former NY State Senator Terrence Murphy and then Town Supervisor Michael Grace right before its sale. At the time, taxpayers were chastised for raising concerns over what some saw as potential self-serving legislation. Republican board members made assurances that Grace and Murphy wouldn't realize any personal benefits from this tax-break legislation once their property was sold to an independent third party developer. Fast

forward 3 years. Is Senator Murphy really in the process of building a 3 story building on a portion of that very same Kear Street property through one of the companies that he runs? Will Murphy's new building be granted a 10-year tax-break after all? Has Michael Grace, after leaving office, really become a Principal Officer in the engineering firm that has overseen every aspect of the multi-million dollar construction on that very same Kear Street property Grace sold? In 02/2014, Yorktown's Ethics Board found Supervisor Grace's vote violated ethics rules (had the appearance of impropriety) when Grace awarded that very same engineering firm a \$10,000 town contract.

Swampy.

STEPHEN BROWN Yorktown

Background info:

https://www.theexaminernews.com/ethics-board-rules-grace-erred-in-not-disclosingtenant-ties/;

New York State Department of State, Division of Corporations. NANTUCKET SOUND SONS, LLC (Alternate Name: Terrence P Murphy) Domestic Limited ...

Ciarcia Engeneering P C: Name: Michael J Grace; Job Title: Principal; Ciarcia Engineering 360 Underhill Ave, Yorktown.

Thanks to Local Officials for Securing Funds for MBA

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Montrose Business Association and its members I would like to thank Senator Harkham, Assemblywoman Galef, and Supervisor Puglisi along with her staff for their support and perseverance in securing funds which will be used to offset the cost of sewer installation for the Montrose business district.

The Montrose Business Association was established in 2013 with the mission

to improve the lifestyles of residents and businesses in our area through community involvement and giving back to local causes. The Association has flourished with 26 members who have committed to focusing on this mission. With the announcement that Entergy will be closing, and the loss of business this will create, this upgrade to our

infrastructure will support us as we attempt to attract new businesses to our area and is a vital first step in the economic development of Montrose.

Without your tireless efforts this could not have been accomplished. The MBA appreciates all you have done. We look forward to working with you as we move forward with making our community a vital part of the Town of Cortlandt.

Sincerely,

DENNIS MALLES, MBA President

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS - 914-364-0878



WHAT THE SHUTDOWN AND DECOMMISSIONING OF INDIAN POINT ENERGY CENTER WILL MEAN FOR OUR AREA.

The nuclear power plants at Indian Point have powered New York City and Westchester County for nearly 60 years. Now, due to challenging economic conditions and an agreement with the state of New York, Indian Point will stop generating electricity and permanently shut down by April 2021.

After shutdown Indian Point will transition to decommissioning, a federally-regulated process that will ultimately return the land to a new productive use. Entergy has taken the first step by selecting a leading decommissioning company as our partner, Holtec International.

Here are a few things New Yorkers should know about the Holtec plan:

Decades Sooner — With Holtec, decommissioning will begin immediately, allowing the site to be repurposed as much as 40 years sooner than if Entergy were to remain the owner of Indian Point. Holtec's plan calls for completion of major decommissioning activities by the 2030s, decades sooner than it would take Entergy to complete decommissioning.

Decommissioning Expertise — Holtec and its expert team have decades of experience managing large decommissioning projects around the world.

Employee Retention — Holtec will begin the decommissioning process promptly upon taking ownership and will provide job opportunities for more than 300 of our current employees who want to remain in the region and continue to work at the site.

Spent Fuel Management — Holtec is the global leader in spent nuclear fuel storage technology and transport. Holtec will transfer all of Indian Point's spent nuclear fuel to secure canisters designed to withstand natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, and other events within about three years of shutdown.

As we work toward an orderly shutdown, safety remains our top priority. Indian Point is ranked in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's top column for safety and we fully intend to continue our strong safety record over our final months of operation.

The NRC will regulate decommissioning at Indian Point and a citizen's advisory board is already in place. As of today, more than 34 U.S. nuclear plants have safely completed decommissioning or are in the process of doing so. To learn more about Holtec's plan for prompt decommissioning, visit:

www.indianpointdecommissioning.com www.holtecinternational.com www.hdi-decom.com

Indian Point Energy Center





Obituaries

Ashley Manning

Ashley Lynne Manning, a former soccer standout at Somers High School, died Janu-

ary 8. She was 29.



ASHLEY LYNNE MANNING

She was born in 1990 Saratoga Springs, NY. The family later moved to St. Charles, IL, and then settled in Katonah. She attended Somers public schools and graduated from Somers High School in 2008. She attended Roanoke College and University of California Irvine, where she re-

ceived a full academic scholarship.

Through soccer, sports and activities, she had the opportunity to travel to quite a few places, including National Parks in Colorado, Utah and California, the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, and, with her soccer team, to play in Milan, Italy. She loved the beach, especially the Jersey Shore and Cape Cod.

She was bright, had a fun sense of humor, was full of life and adventure, and always taking on challenges in pursuit of what she wanted to accomplish.

She is survived by her sister, Taylor, her brothers Steven (Kristen) and James (Deborah) and her nephew Seamus, and her parents Denise and Steve Manning. She is also survived by her grandmother, Virginia, and many loving aunts, uncles and

Howard Johnson

Howard Johnson, a resident of Cortlandt, died January 13. He was 75.

He was a 1961 graduate of Peekskill High School. He is survived by his wife, Diane Johnson, his children Melissa (Owen) Barthelmes, Jeffrey (Erika) Johnson, Melanie (Michael) St. Pierre, Laura (Kevin) Pulcini, 10 grandchildren, and sisters Mary Iane Williams and Susan Martin.

Alice McGovern

Alice Mary McGovern, a resident of Yorktown, died January 12. She was 89.

She was born September 17, 1930 in the Bronx to Michael and Anne Cribbin and was predeceased by her loving sister, Anne Miano. She married James McGovern on Sept. 29, 1951.

She is survived by her eight children and their spouses James McGovern (Eileen), Maryalice Doherty (John), Catherine Hemsley (John), Anne Connelli (Bill), Joseph McGovern (Margaret), Rosemary DeLoughry (Steve), Michael McGovern (Christina) and Christopher McGovern (Liz). She is also survived by 30 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Nancy Stellato

Nancy Mary Stellato (Lent), a resident of Putnam Valley, died January 13. She was

She was born in Peekskill on May 31,

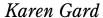
1947 and lived most of her life in Putnam Valley. She was married to Austin Stellato Sr. for more than 25 years. He predeceased her in August 1994. She was a long-time employee of Rose Hills Memorial Park in Putnam Valley.

She is survived by her partner James Jackson, two children Austin Stellato and Tara Zipparo, daughter-in-law Ashley Pease, son-in-law Vincent Zipparo, seven grandchildren A.J., Victoria, Matthew,

Jenna, Grace, Michael, and Maci, and her sister and brother-in-law Susan and Joel Gersten.

She was a devoted partner, mother, sister, friend, and most importantly grandmother. Her grandchildren were the light of her life. Her positive, optimistic, bright spirit brought joy to everyone she came in con-

tact with. She was full of life and her laugh and wit could light up a room. She will be missed by all who loved her.



NANCY MARY

STELLATO

Karen Lee Gard, a resident of Lake Peekskill, died January 14. She was 67.

She was born February 2, 1952 in Peekskill, to George and Hilda Heady. She grew up in Putnam Valley and graduated from Highland Falls High School. She went on to Westchester Community College where she received an associate's degree. She truly lived life to the fullest through simple pleasures-chatting with friends, cooking and spending time with her family. She worked as the Secretary of Transportation for the Peekskill School District.

She is survived by her childhood sweetheart and husband, Peter Gard, whom she was married to for 48 years, her daughter Stacy Stergio (Michael Stergio), and sons Marc Gard (Elizabeth Gard) and Christopher Gazzele (Noreen Gazzele). She was a loving, devoted and extremely proud grandmother of 11. She is also survived by her brother George Heady (Monika Heady), and nieces and nephews - Rebecca Wallace (Jerry Wallace), Heidi Heady, and Tyler Lupoli. Her sister, Holly Lupoli, predeceased her.

Mrs. Gard was more than a wife, mother, grandmother sister, and aunt. She was an anchor of strength and love for her family, and will be dearly missed by all.

Maureen Kuney

Maureen Ann Kuney, a resident of Buchanan, died January 15. She was 74.

She was born March 21, 1945 to Edward and Ethel (Clapper) Lonergan in Peekskill. She was a member of the Red Hat Society, the Buchanan Fire Department Ladies Aux, and the Buchanan Seniors. She enjoyed cooking Sunday dinners, time spent with family, and traveling to Vermont to visit loved ones.

She is survived by her beloved children Diane Kuney (James Mazzocchi) and Michael Kuney. She is also survived by her

siblings Charles Lee (Fran), her twin sister Marlene Russo (Donato Russo), George Lonergan (Colleen), Edward Lonergan, and Kathy Lonergan, as well as by several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her daughter Renee Kuney in 1975, by her husband Michael Kuney in 2005, and by her brother John Lonergan in 1995.

Louis Salomone

Louis M. Salomone, a resident of Somers, died January 15. He was 94.

Beloved husband of the late Annette Salomone, devoted father of Richard Salomone, Jeanne Ruh, Sal and Louis Salomone, dear brother of the late Jack, Mike and Deacon Ernest Salomone. Also surviving are 13 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter. Along with his father and brothers, he was a founding member of Salomone and Company located in the Bronx, a construction and real estate company. He also served in the U.S. Army during WWII.

Angela Carroll

Angela "Jean" Carroll of Stuart, Florida, formally of Peekskill, died January 15. She was 83.

She was born December 12, 1936 in Glen Cove, NY to Peter Ohlkers and Helen Lockwood. After graduating from Peekskill High School, class of 1953, she went on to have a successful 25-year career at IBM. She started as a secretary in Yorktown, then went on to hold multiple management positions over the years retiring as a Senior Manager of Records Management. She received numerous accolades and awards through the years in developing and implementing innovative worldwide records management solutions and processes.

After retiring from IBM she worked on several cruise lines teaching classes in computer science and numerology. She authored and published a book entitled Skill, Logic and Lucky Numbers.

In addition to her impressive career she raised three children as a single mother. She is survived by her sons Thomas (Geraldine) of Poughkeepsie and Donald (Suzanne) of Hopewell Junction. In addition, she is survived by nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, as well as two nephews and several cousins. She was predeceased by her daughter Donna -Jean Carroll in 1995. She was also predeceased by her long-term companion Jerome Her-

She will be remembered as an extraordinary woman and loving mother that will be de

Patricia Kiernan

Patricia Grace Kiernan, a resident of Peekskill, died January 3. She was 97.

She was born February 13, 1922 in New York City to Ann and Patrick Kiernan. She was preceded in death by her parents and three siblings, Edmund and John "Gil" Kiernan and Rosemary Clay, along with her nephew, John William "Bill" Clay II, and his son, John William Clay III.

She attended the College of Mount Saint Vincent. She spent the majority of her career as a computer programmer for AT&T. She had a very strong faith that inspired and encouraged those fortunate enough to know her. She was very active in the Catholic Community at both Church of the Holy Spirit and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. She was an incredibly charitable person, frequently volunteering in homeless shelters and soup kitchens as well as driving cancer patients to and from their treatments. In addition to her volunteer work. She loved traveling and seeing the world. She also enjoyed being a part of and leading Bible Studies, and she was a very avid reader.

She is survived by her two grandnieces, Jennifer Clay Cather and husband John Christian "Chris" and their children, Juliet Wonder and Marilyn Magic, and Susan "Suzy" Clay Maier and husband Steve and their children, Zack, Hannah, Jacob and Luke. She is also survived by her dear friend and caregiver, Trudy Korocz, and Helen Andreyewsky, her dear friend who travelled all over the world with her, as well as many other close friends and the remaining four members of the "Fab Five" from Seton Church; Tere McCue-Fleming, Flo Krupa, Penny Gonzales, and Jean Gallagher. The "Fab Five" started The Parish Book Club, which is still going strong to-



Ways How Communities Can Become 'Climate Smart' Outlined

By Holly Crocco

Becoming "climate smart" is catching on in communities across the globe. Here in New York State, municipalities of all sizes are taking the Climate Smart Communities pledge, and committing to taking steps - no matter how big or small - to reduce their footprint on the earth.

During the Jan. 15 Putnam Valley Town Board meeting, Europa McGovern, coordinator of the Climate Smart Communities Program of the Hudson Valley Regional Council, described ways the town can join the movement.

The CSC program, which is sponsored by the state Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority, began three years ago. It identifies 10 actions municipalities can commit to, to save money and energy.

"For bigger cities, maybe LED street light conversion can be beneficial; for smaller communities, maybe getting a fleet electric vehicle for your code enforcement officers," explained McGovern.

She said there are 290 communities statewide that are participating in the program. "Basically it just starts with you passing the Climate Smart Community pledge,' she said. This symbolic gesture allows the municipality to get preferential scoring for

grant awards.

"And you can stop there, you don't have to do anything else," explained McGovern. "But of course, what's the benefit of that? That's just a tiny step, just a drop in the bucket for hopefully what's an infinite proc-

A community may take the commitment a step further and choose to submit actions and become certified "Climate Smart," which will open up the door to even more grant opportunities. However, this is not such an easy task, as only 34 communities in New York State have achieved certifica-

"That's really hard word," said McGov-

Almost 90 communities in the mid-Hudson region have taken the pledge, including Putnam County and the Town of Philipstown, as well as the villages of Cold Spring and Nelsonville. In Dutchess County, the City of Beacon has applied for certification, as has the Town of Dover, which has gotten "a few pretty big grants" to complete greenhouse gas omissions inventory and other action plans over the past couple of years, said McGovern.

"There's a lot of funding opportunities, a lot of resources," she said.

Putnam Valley is already making "climate smart" steps, as the town recently Continued on page 16



Scouts Honors

(Top) State Senator Pete Harckham presented proclamations to three new Eagle Scouts, Matthew Magidson, Demetrius Nekos and Julian Bruno of Troop 228 in Somers on January 4. The special Eagle Court of Honor was held at the Amawalk Firehouse. (Bottom:) Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel was on hand for the Eagle Scout ceremony of Philip John Dever of Troop 238. In searching for his Eagle project, Dever wanted to do something for the church and school at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Shrub Oak. The opportunity came about

when Father Quarato, Setons' Pastor, offered him the Stations of the Cross from the convent to create an outdoor Way of the Cross. It was a huge project that included clearing a site between the church and Lakeland High School, using a chipper to chop up all the dead branches and downed trees that were in the area. Then he created a path using pavers that hold the wood chips in place along the path. Once the path was created, he built houses to hold the stations, painted them with three coats of paint, attached the crosses, installed them and numbered them. As a final added touch, he installed a seven-foot Celtic cross in the center of the stations. The entire project took almost 500-man hours and almost a year to complete. On August 11,2019, the site was dedicated and blessed.

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Review of Proposed Private High School Continues in Somers

By Neal Rentz

Somers residents and members of several town boards, including the Town Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Architectural Review Board, Energy and Environment and Open Space Committee, met at the Town House on January 14 to continue the discussion on a proposed private boarding high school being sought for the 723-acre site that formerly housed IBM.

The plan for the Somers Academy is being proposed by Evergreen Ridge LLC for property owned by 294 Route 100 LLC.

Town Director of Planning Syrette Dym said last week the applicant is seeking Town Board approvals for zoning and Comprehensive Plan changes and working on its project assessment document, volumes one and two. The document is being revised in response to comments from town officials, residents, consultants and staff, she noted.

"We believe at the moment this is a vast improvement of the earlier documents," Dym said.

The meeting was being held for the Town Board to determine if the town's

questions have been answered in completeness in the project assessment or if additional changes should be made, she said.

The academy would be in IBM's five interconnected buildings, totaling 1.2 million square feet. The interiors of the existing buildings would be renovated and the proposal calls for the creation of several other facilities, including an arts center, an athletic center, dormitories, a home for the head administrator of the school, several athletic fields, jogging and hiking trails and gardens.

Though the school would be for high school students in grades nine through 12, the school would open in the fall of 2020 with students in grades nine and 10 only.

The school would prepare students for such fields as biomedical engineering and physics, artificial intelligence, computer science and information technology, robotics, aerospace and manufacturing technology. The maximum student enrolment would be 1,800.

About 85 percent of the students would live on campus, with the rest being day students.

The school would provide instruction in

the STEAM subjects of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and the arts. There would be an estimated 750 students on campus in 2020 and the number of students would rise every year until hitting the maximum of 1,800 students in about 2022. There would ultimately be 125 teachers and administrators and a 110-person support staff.

The annual cost for each boarding student would be \$49,000 per school year and \$37,000 for day students.

Mark Weingarten, an attorney representing the developers, said the zoning change for the property would only be where the school would be located, which is zoned OB (Office Business) 100.

Some minor changes have been made by the applicant in response to comments from the town, including changing the setbacks for the school, so they would be further away from the perimeter property lines than originally proposed and the assessment document more strongly states that the applicant would not seek multi-family housing on its land, Weingarten said.

"This is as an environmentally friendly a project you could have on a vacant site," Weingarten said.

Supervisor Rick Morrissey noted that the developer has contracted with a private security firm, a concept sought by the Town Board. "We have a part-time police department augmented by the State Police, but we rely very heavily on our town police," Morrissey said.

The security company officials met with the police and fire departments and other public safety officials recently, Weingarten said.

Councilman Thomas Garrity Jr. said he is familiar with the security company hired by the developer and they do "a phenomenal job."

The security firm would be on the property all times because the facility would be a boarding school, Weingarten said.

Morrissey said the salt used on the roads in the area of the former IBM location for years has gotten into the groundwater, which has contributed to the high sodium in town water, making it undrinkable for some people. His client has a stormwater plan for the development, Weingarten said. "Our experts are aware of that," he said.

Councilman Richard Clinchy said he

was looking for "cutting-edge" ideas for providing energy to the school complex and he wanted to know what those ideas were for the project. Weingarten said the rooftops of the buildings on the site could be used for solar power. Richard Williams from Insite Engineering said solar energy is being considered as the primary alternative energy source for the school.

Planning Board member Bruce Prince said he has no opposition to changing zoning to allow for the operation of a high school. However, he said he was concerned about the provision that would ban multifamily housing in the OB 100 district at the request of the town. Prince said he did not understand what connection multi-family housing had to the proposed school.

"Keeping the rural character" was needed for the area and he did not want multifamily housing in that section of town, said Morrissey, a sentiment shared by Garrity. The property is being subdivided and it was an appropriate time for no longer allowing multi-family housing in that area, Garrity said.

Multi-family housing "is becoming more and more poplar," Prince replied. "Today in Westchester it's almost to get a starter home for under a half a million dollars."

"I want to step away from the more congested houses," Garrity said.

Councilman Anthony Cirieco said he also did not want multi-family housing in the area of the proposed school. "I want to preserve the appearance there," he said. The school would be the lowest impact business that could be added to the area, he said. Other multi-housing developments are being constructed in town. Morrissev said.

Michael Barnhart, chairman of the Open Space Committee, said the committee "was quite pleased" that several issues have been answered by the developer in the revised project assessment. The project is "quite innovative," he said.

But the Open Space Committee still has some questions about the project, such as how many of the invasive plants would be removed and disposed of from the site and what would be done to protect the amphibians and reptiles that are on the site, he said.

The Town Board voted unanimously to accept the assessment document as complete, subject to some modifications that will be made by town consultants.



Special Olympics Athletes Bowl for Fun

More than 150 athletes recently competed at the Hudson Valley Regional UNIFIED Bowling Tournament at Jefferson Valley Bowl. The athletes joined with partners from different counties, coordinated by the New York Special Olympics.

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Plan a Great Guest Room but Watch Out for the Smell of Fish

As a realtor, I take care to point out to buyer clients the various possibilities for that "extra" room that might be utilized as a den, office or guest room. If the luxury of a guest room is chosen, there are certain amenities that can make it a more enjoyable experience for overnight guests.

Sleeping overnight in another person's home or having a guest spend a night with you can be delightful or a real drag, depending on the level of planning that goes into the guest accommodations. I've experienced both situations.

The first time I was an overnight guest was as a senior in college when I was invited to join my roommate for a weekend in New York City where we were scheduled to stay with one of his best buddies.

I had never been in a Manhattan apartment, but my expectations ran high because I had just seen a movie that showed the city digs of Doris Day as the very height of sophistication.

What I found instead was a five-story walkup in the East Village, long before it was chic, arriving breathlessly to a coldwater flat, which have since been outlawed. My sleeping arrangements were on the floor where the coffee table stood but had

been pushed away. I had only a blanket under me to prevent my bones from getting bruised on the hard floor.

My buddy was luckier the first night because he got to sleep on the sofa, which our host proudly announced had been re-

trieved from the sidewalk. The second night, I got the sofa, but it was

actually more uncomfortable than the floor.

To bathe, there was no shower, but rather a claw-footed bathtub, elevated on a platform across from a galley kitchen. When it was not in use, the tub was covered with a wooden top that served as the kitchen table. There's nothing to compare with my memory of bathing in the tub while our host prepared scrambled eggs 18 inches away from me, and then to eat breakfast on top of the tub where I had just bathed.

I vowed that someday I would have my own place in the city and invite all my out-of-town friends to visit me with a stayover they would remem-

ber. After I married, my wife and I couldn't afford to have an extra bedroom in our first apartment, but at least we were able to offer a comfortable Castro Convertible in the living room.

It wasn't until we moved to the country

that we were able to realize our dream of having a nice guest room. In fact, we had two. While they are beautifully appointed with comfortable beds and attractive furnishings, they lacked one feature that I think is the most important for a top-notch guest room: a private bathroom. Nobody likes the idea of being caught in his skivvies on the way to a shared bathroom.

One reason that I love visiting my brother- and sister-in-law is that in both their homes, one in Florida and the other in Asheville, N.C., there is a separate guest suite. To stay with them is truly like a fabulous vacation.

Not all of us can have a separate suite for guests, but we can compensate for it by providing other amenities that speak of comfort, convenience and luxury. For that, I consult with my wife Margaret who's the ultimate homemaker and hostess. Her advice:

- Fluffy new guest towels neatly folded on a corner of the bed or on a chair can make guests forget that they don't have a private bathroom.
- It's nice to have some totally empty drawers in the room, if not an entire chest of drawers. Also, there should be at least half a closet for hanging clothes. My wife likes to put attractive hangers in that space.
- A comfortable easy chair with a light positioned for reading is always welcomed, along with an interesting selection

of magazines and books. Guests are unlikely to read an entire novel while staying over, but they might enjoy the coffee table book variety that can be glanced at.

- A lighted bedside clock is especially appreciated by guests. Sometimes, you feel that time is altered when you're not surrounded by the familiar trappings of home.
- Like a hotel, you might add a couple of bottles of water and some packaged snacks, healthy and otherwise.
- A couple of liqueur bottles with some dessert wine glasses on a side table would be really nifty.
- Of course, a television set or even a laptop on a desk is a great way to have your guests entertain themselves at least part of the time they're with you.

Also keep in mind that too special a guest room may encourage guests to stay longer than you want. Remember Benjamin Franklin's advice: "Guests, like fish, begin to smell after three days."

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate. com and his blog is www.TheHomeGuru. com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.



By Bill Primavera



Happenin8s

Wednesday, Jan. 22

Hart Library Exhibits: Trans.form. art.ive - Art by Bowman Keath will be exhibited in January at the John C Hart Memorial Library, 1130 E Main St, Shrub Oak. Also, see artwork from Lakeland/Panas High Schools in the showcases inside the library this month.

Support Connection Tai Chi: Support Connection, announces Tai Chi for Women with Cancer will be held every Wednesday through the rest of January from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Albert A. Capellini Community & Cultural Center in Yorktown. It is open to people who have or have had breast, ovarian or gynecological cancer. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

New York -Presbyterian Programs: Several programs have been scheduled for the coming days at New York-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital, 1980 Crompond Rd. Greek Food Made Simple will be held on Jan. 23 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Cost: \$15. Registration: call 914-734-3780 or e-mail hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org. Meals with Microgreens will be held on Jan. 24 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Cost: \$15. Registration: call 914-734-3780 or e-mail hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org. Plant-Based Soups and Stews will be held on Jan. 28 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Cost: \$15. Registration: call 914-734-3780 or e-mail hvh-teachingkitchen@nyp.org.

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, and 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.

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.

Live Performances: Live ticketed performances are being held at The Winery at St. George, 1715 E. Main St., Mohegan Lake. Tribute, theatrical, cabaret, independent and famous acts perform. Info: 914-455-4272.

Support Connection Men's Program: Support Connection announces a free program: "Wing Nite-For Men Only" will be offered from 7 to 9 p.m. at Furci's in Yorktown. It is open to men whose lives have been affected by a spouse or partner going through breast, ovarian or gyneco-

logical cancers. To learn more or to preregister, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Thursday, Jan. 23

Yorktown Jewish Center Courses: Several courses have been scheduled for the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. The Talmud class meets on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Rabbi Sternstein's class meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 11 a.m. Rabbi Urbas's class meets on the first and third Monday of each month, at 11 a.m. The Rosh Chodesh Class (for ladies only) meets on one Tuesday a month at 2 p.m. This class is for discussion and learning, and no knowledge of Hebrew is required. Beginning in February, Rabbi Urbas's class will meet on the first and third Monday of each month, at 11 a.m. Info: 914-245-2324 or www.yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Knitting Circle: Support Connection will hold the next session of its monthly program Marge's Knitting Circle from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at their office in Yorktown Heights. The program is open to people who have or have had breast, ovarian and gynecological cancers. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Acting Classes: 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.

Peekskill Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration: Join the City of Peekskill's Youth Bureau, 840 Main St., as they celebrate the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at 6:30 p.m. The event, honoring the My Brother's Keeper "Black Diamonds" for their outstanding service, also features keynote speaker Andre G. Early, commissioner for the Town of Greenburgh's Department of Community Resources. Admission is free. For more information, call 914-734-4149 or visit www. cityofpeekskill.com.

Friday, Jan. 24

Jewish Center Services: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Friday night Sabbath services begin at 6:15 p.m. And Sabbath services on most Saturdays will be held at 9:15 a.m. on most Saturdays. After the services Rabbi Sternstein conducts a learning session based on the Torah portion of the week. Light refreshments are served and everyone is invited to join us as we share in the warmth, knowledge and friendship within our congregation. Info: 914-245-2324.

Temple Beth Am Services: A Friday night Shabbat service will be held at 8 p.m. at Temple Beth Am. Temple Beth Am is located at 203 Church Pl. Yorktown. For information, please call 962-7500 or e-mail at rabbiw@optonline.net/.

Saturday, Jan. 25

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, communitylead 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.

Hebrew Congregation of Somers Shabbat Services: Shabbat service will be held at 9:30 a.m., followed by Lunch & Learn, a discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Rabbi Shoshana Leis. Kiddush luncheon will be served. The service will be led by Rabbi Leis and Cantor Ruth Ossher. E-mail questions@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org or call 914-248-9532 for more information.

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

Yoga Program: Support Connection, Inc. announces a free program: "Yoga: A Path Toward Wellness" will be offered at Club Fit in Jefferson Valley from 12-1:30 p.m. It is open to people who have or have had breast, ovarian and gynecological cancers. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Somers Library Programs: Two programs have been scheduled for the coming days at the Somers Library. The Super Bowl Presentation will be held on Jan. 25 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Somers Library. The Super Bowl is much more than a football game and as you might know, it is the only sports event that impacts every community in the United States. Cold Weather Art with Judika will be held on Mondays 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, & 2/24 (snow date - 3/2) from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Suggested supplies List: multi-media paper - 98 pounds or higher, water cup, soft brush, pencil, eraser, water-soluble oil pastels, portfolio and/or water-soluble pencils Registration is required. Info: 914-232-5717 or www.som-

Hudson Chorale Goes Classic: Hudson Chorale returns to the Chapel at Maryknoll with full orchestra and soloists for two performances of great classical music on Jan. 25, and 26 at 3 p.m. Maryknoll is at 55 Ryder Road in Ossining. Following the concerts, the audience is invited to an in-

formal reception to meet and chat with the conductor, soloists, orchestra and chorus members while enjoying some delicious refreshments, a long-standing Hudson Chorale tradition. Ticket prices: advance Sale-\$25; door-\$30; students-\$10. Advance sale tickets can be purchased at www.Hudson-Chorale.org or by calling 1-800-838-3006. Handicap parking is available at the venue. For additional chorus or event information, visit the chorus's Web site.

The Northern Westchester Examiner We're happy to

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

Music at Croton Unitarian Church: The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Hudson Valley is hosting a cabaret-style concert at 7 p.m. It will feature two well-known local musicians, Brian Conigliaro on guitar and Michael Goetz on bass. The program, "Songs of Thought, Style and Substance," includes original music, jazz standards, blues, folk with some Latin influences, and more. The Unitarian church is located at 2021 Albany Post Rd. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Drinks and snacks will be available. The Suggested donation is \$20. Info: uuchudsonvalley.org.

Sunday, Jan. 26

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

Monday, Jan. 27

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.

New Hudson Chorale Sought: Come sing with Westchester's highly acclaimed community chorus, Hudson Chorale. The group is welcoming new members in all voice parts to join them for an exciting concert program that will appeal to choral singers of a wide range of musical preferences. Auditions will begin today, by appointment, from 6 to 7 p.m., prior to the first rehearsal. Rehearsals take place on Monday evenings from 7:15 to 9:45 p.m. at the Pleasantville Presbyterian Church, 400 Bedford Rd, For additional information or to schedule an audition, contact Jeanne Wygant at JeanneWygant@optonline.net or call 914-478-0074

Holocaust Remembrance: In recognition of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Somers Holocaust Memorial Commission will re-dedicate the Fred Bachner Holocaust Collection to the Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd. North Salem, at 7 p.m. North Salem. Keynote speaker: state Supreme Court Justice Lewis J. Lubell. Snow date – Jan. 28.For more information, please contact: swaldinger@kiscolaw.com or steveuke12@

My Dry January and a Historic Commemoration

At the beginning of the month I vowed to join the Dry January movement, abstaining from alcohol for 31 days. I hope you have considered this challenge as well.

How have I been persevering? I haven't fallen victim to abstaining from abstaining. I've developed strategies for specific situa-

tions. Allow me to share several with those of you who are participating, and those who may consider abstaining in future

1. Out at a restaurant, I pour the first glass as a standard amount. I sniff and swirl, not sip. The waiter won't ask if I'd like a refill. My friends don't goad me about abstaining. When someone at the table is ready for a final pour, I offer them my unfinished glass.

2. If my fellow diners order a cocktail before a restaurant meal or a social gathering at a bar, I'll order a mocktail. These

non-alcoholic drinks mirror many of the sophisticated new cocktails on beverage lists. I can raise my mocktail glass for a toast, sip it in a bon vivant style while engaged in convivial conversation and even order a

3. Abstaining at home is challenging. Wine enhances so many dishes and influences my palate to appreciate food on a unique plane. I must admit, our longstanding family tradition of Friday night pizza, wine and a movie without a bottle of red is quite unfulfilling. Alas, I have no clever alternative. Reluctantly, tap water it is.

4. For other occasions, mineral water with a squeeze of lemon, or one of the flavored natural seltzers, is a reasonably acceptable substitute.

Past the halfway point in my Dry Janu-

ary (or Dryanuary), I'm also finding positive effects. My ability to abstain from alcohol is not as difficult as I had imagined (whew). I wake up feeling refreshed, am getting more out of my early morning gym workout and saving on wine purchases. But I do miss the ethereal experience of savoring the full cycle of wine appreciation and enjoying the full benefit of pairing wine and food.

But it's only 31 days, less than 10 percent of the year. I can do this. I'd like to think a number of you have taken this challenge. E-mail me with your

experiences.

By Nick Antonaccio

You Heard It

Through the

But now I'm beginning to think of the potential momentum created by Dryanu-

What if the movement started to grow, across all drinking-age generations, but especially among the self-declared alcohol abstainers of the Millennial generation?

What if the movement began to spread to organized groups averse to alcohol consumption and who espouse temperance? (Mothers Against Drunk Driving; the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, a government agency; and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which has spent \$265 million since 2015.) Their influence is significant and broad-based.

What if popular support began to grow across local cities and towns and a national march on Washington was held, further creating an awareness of the negative effects of alcohol consumption?

What if legislators in Congress realized the popularity of this national temperance movement and began to consider legislation to address their constituents' concerns?

What if this groundswell gained momentum, resulting in a proposed amendment to the Constitution and brought to the public for a vote?

What if it passed?

Preposterous, you exclaim. Not in an enlightened society of diverse opinions, practices, preferences and beliefs.

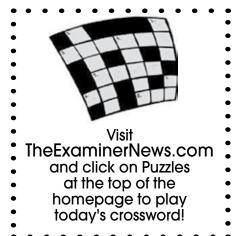
This week we recognized the 100th anniversary of the effective date of the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which made it a federal crime to manufacture, sell, transport, import or export "intoxicating liquors." Wine was included in

Prohibition was arguably one of the most controversial, and perhaps least enforced, Constitutional laws in our history. It was repealed by the Twenty-first Amendment, the only amendment to suffer such a fate.

The nation was under the alcohol ban, not for the equivalent of a Dryanuary, not for an entire year, but for 13 long, dark years, straining the very fabric of our soci-

Consider all the facts, weighing them carefully as you consume wine and consider its effects on your health and sociopolitical lifestyle.

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.



Crossword

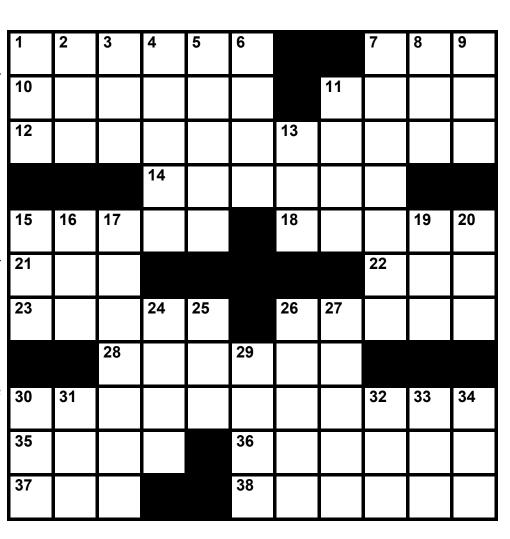
ACROSS

- 1. Chaperone
- 7. Chest part
- 10. Thirsty cat or dog
- 11. Microscopic amount
- 12. Frankie Valli would get 6. Forest unit his clothes cleaned here
- in Cortlandt, ____ Or- 8. BBC rival
- ganic Cleaners
- 14. Elite groups
- 15. Bad, with crystal
- 18. Houston player
- 21. Prefix with center
- 22. Big part of an elephant
- 23. African art gallery in 17. Jewelry guru White Plains
- 26. Courtyards
- 28. Breakfast cereal
- 30. Minty cocktail
- 35. Arkansas state tree
- 36. "The _____ File" spy thriller
- 37. "Tinker, tailor, soldier,
- " movie the thought!"

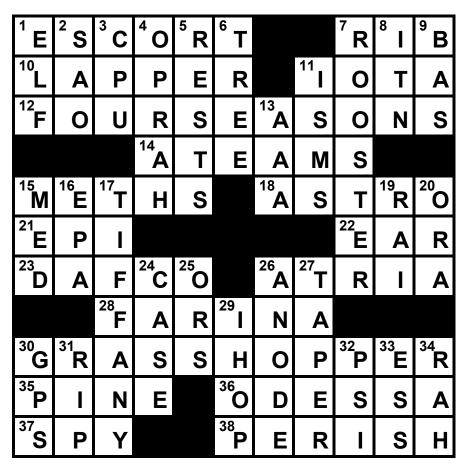
DOWN

1. Christmas worker

- 2. Paulo 3. PC "brain"
- 4. Longtime talk-show legend
- 5. Lies
- 7. Natural alarm clock
- 9. Some degs.
- 11. Philosophical subjects
- 13. Car club
- 15. Kind of student, abbr.
- 16. Environmental controllers, abbr.
- 19. Aishwarya of Bollywood
- 20. Time, in Torino
- 24. Beer buy
- 25. Surgery ctrs.
- 26. Part of an X-ray machine
- 27. Become narrower
- 29. Pancake maker
- 30. Location device
- 31. Tear (away)
- 32. Tire gauge meas.
- 33. Curving shape
- 34. Stadium sound



(Solution for puzzle on page 15)



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Yorktown Chamber of Commerce to Host Annual Home, Lifestyle & Family Show

The Yorktown Chamber of Commerce, Jilco Window Corporation, and the JV Mall bring the residents of Westchester the Annual Home, Lifestyle & Family Show on Saturday, February 8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Jefferson Valley Mall, located at 650 Lee Boulevard in Yorktown. The continued transformation and improvements of the Jefferson Valley Mall makes the Home, Lifestyle & Family Show a perfect fit. This year's Home, Lifestyle & Family Show expects more than 1,000 people throughout the day and provides Westchester businesses an opportunity to participate while offering huge opportunities to build relationships, generate leads, and create awareness for your brand.

The 2020 Annual Home, Lifestyle & Family Show will feature top companies of the area in the home industry field such as renovations, remodeling, painting, roofing, plumbing, heating, electrical, flooring, and more.

The Yorktown Chamber of Commerce hosts six to 10 events annually, such as the popular Yorktown Festival & Street Fair, Auto Show, the Yorktown New Year's Eve Ball Drop, and SpringFest!

For pricing information on the Annual Home, Lifestyle & Family Show, visit the Chamber's website: www.Yorktown-Chamber.org, or contact Nancy Stingone at 914-245-4599 or info@yorktownchamber.org.

Ways How Communities Can Become 'Climate Smart' Outlined

Continued from page 11

completed a natural resources inventory, and converted all its street lights to LED. "There you go – you already have a major action done," said McGovern.

"When you start looking through the actions, for communities that haven't even adopted the pledge, you'll actually find that you've probably completed five or 10 ac-

tions right off the bat because you found the cost benefits and the energy saving benefits that had nothing to do with this, but now they fit in under it," she said.

Town Supervisor Sam Oliverio said the board will review the information McGovern presented and likely act quickly to adopt a resolution and pledge to officially become "climate smart."





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continued on next page

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Girls Hoops Notebook

Boys' Hoops Notebook

Ossining is Served Wake-Up Call in Loss to Fox Lane

Lakeland Rolls on; Haldane Starts New Tradition; Somers Stuns Panas

By Ray Gallagher Examiner Sports Editor @Directrays

Things are starting to get interesting on the League II-A basketball front, not to mention the League III-E battles on tap.

Let's start there for a change, as Coach Joe Virgadamo's **HALDANE** Blue Devils (8-3) are ramping things up on the Class C circuit and League III-E set.

You know what, no; let's get back to Haldane after we get something off our chest first, so we'll start over at OSSINING (4-8) where Coach Mike Casey's Pride laid an inexplicable egg in a 58-40 League I-D loss to Fox Lane last Friday night; this after a 51-46 win at Peekskill last Monday. It's not like losing to Fox Lane is a poor loss, because the Foxes are a solid, well-respected program, but when you represent the school that spawned the likes of Dayton University stud and soon-to-be NBA draft pick Obi Toppin, you don't get to take nights off. Like Peekskill did when repping Elton Brand, Hilton Armstrong and Mookie Jones, Ossining -- night in and night out -needs to represent the legacy of Obi Toppin, who has gone from diamond-in-the-rough to polished NBA-bound gemstone.

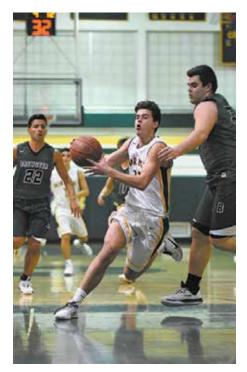
"That's a real bad loss, we did not show up, obviously," Coach Casey said. "They wanted it more than we did. We were down two starters but that's no excuse! Coming off a good win at Peekskill, which is always tough to win there, and to have a letdown like we did, it's tough, to say the least."

It's even tougher to swallow when you're a coach trying to foster a culture that day in and day out is compared to Coach Dan Ricci's Ossining girls' program, the ninetime reigning Section 1 champs and defend-



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Haldane swingman Matt Champlin readies to blow past his man in Blue Devils' win over Pawling last



Lakeland G Rob Nardelli gets a step on Brewster F Joe Girard in Hornets' 75-34 win over Bears last Wednesday.



Haldane senior G Alex Kubik (3) leads a menacing Blue Devil defense in recent win over Pawling.

ing NYS titlist. Casey is getting it done at Ossining, and one can only imagine how good his Pride program could have been if the Griffin boys -- Univ. of Illinois Alan and Stepinac transfer and Duke-bound Adrian -- and the Toppin bros. had been there from start to finish.

The point is this; there's been an insane amount of talent to roam the halls of Ossining the last four/five years, so you don't get to take a playdate with Fox Lane like it's a stroll in the park. #ShowUpBros! Each and every night or the culture never grows beyond mediocre...

That said, Ossining did show up strong in the win over Peekskill earlier in the week, doing so behind Khy'leil Hawkins (22 points, 7 rebs, 3 assists), Zaysean Goodson (15 points, 12 boards, 3 blocks) and Jordan Smith (7 points, 5 boards)...

Back to **HALDANE**, the Blue Devils and neighboring Beacon began a new tradition last Friday night when the two programs --separated by just eight Rt. 9D miles -- lit the torch of history on the inaugural 'Battle of the Tunnel'. The Class A Bulldogs and Class C Blue Devils had, purportedly, played for just the second time in history with the Bulldogs pulling out the 60-57 win in an electric atmosphere. More importantly, a new tradition was born; and Blue Devil F Mame Diba was most impactful with 27 points while senior G Alex Kubik (8 points), senior wingman Matt Champlin (8 points) and Soren Holmbo (6 points) paced Haldane.

"We were down as many as 14 in the third took the lead by two near the end of fourth and then had a shot at the buzzer to tie," Coach Virgadamo said. "It was an amazing game. It was the first time ever playing Beacon in our gym and we called it the "Battle of the Tunnel". We hope this will be a fun, friendly rivalry game and we hope to compete with them for years to come."

NWE/PUTNAM HIGH FIVE HOOPS POLL

(To be clear, ranking the top 5 among this group of competitors is anything but easy, beyond Lakeland)

No.1 LAKELAND -- Coach Fallo's Class A Hornets (9-3) would/could be a legit Class A title threat if they had a post presence. That said, they still have the ability to outrun and outscore most Class A teams and should eventually roll up on a League II-C title and could find their way to the Westchester County Center Final 4 if all goes well. Augie Karaqi (50 points in wins over Hen Hud and Brewster), Jack Kruse, Rob Nardelli, Jeffrey Owusu and others can all score the ball in transition and half-court sets.

No.2 MAHOPAC -- Coach McMahon's Class AA Indians (5-5) had the wins over Somers and Carmel, previously, and then tacked on Friday night's 67-51 win over John Jay EF behind junior swingman Vincent Bastone's career-high 20 points and another 19 from senior G Matthew McMa-

continued from previous page



Brewster senior G Paul Catalano tries to cut off Lakeland G/F Jack Kruse in Bears' 75-34 loss to Hornets last Wednesday.

hon. I'm not running for office but I approve of this message the youthful, culture-building Indians are sending.

No.3 SOMERS -- We assured you previously that Coach DiCintio's Class A Tuskers (3-7) were far better than their record would indicate, and when Somers forces 26 turnovers like they did in a 59-51 win over



Haldane freshman Matteo Cervone gets up for hoop in Blue Devils' win over Pawling last week.



Hen Hud F Tommy Fucheck is doubled by Lakeland's Jack Kruse and Michael Arcure in Sailors' 70-58 loss to Hornets Saturday.

Panas last Friday, they can still wreak some havoc. The 59-point outburst is a good

sign, too, for a team that has struggled to put up points. Somers has played a tough schedule (opponents are a 61-46), so don't sleep on these cats, including double-digit scorers Drew Lasher (12 points), Bennet Leitner (11), Joe Grippo (11) and Dylan Berliner (10).

> Man, Coach Auerbach's Class A Panthers (6-6) a tough act to figure. Certainly, they have missed senior sniper Lorenzo Santucci, who hasn't played for two weeks now, but the loss to Somers at home is an indication that there's plenty of work to be done. Rob Ennis (16), Tom Palmaffy (12) and Alex Taverez (11) each went for double figures. "We ran out of steam in the fourth," Auerbach admitted. "Without Santucci in the lineup, we have a lot of trouble scoring, so if we're not 100% locked in we're in trouble."

No.4 PANAS --

No.5 HALDANE
-- We're excited to see
the old League III-E
rivalry renewed when
Coach Virgadamo's
Blue Devils (8-3) host
Put Valley on Jan. 30th
in a game that could
be closer than some
would think. That said,

Haldane should build upon its league record and begin to sew up the title. Previously, Haldane crushed Pawling, 73-40 when Soren Holmbo (22 points), Mame Diba (14) and Matteo Cervone (11) paced the Blue Devils.

HM PEEKSKILL -- Swingman Brennan Heaven (22 points) kept Coach Turner's Class A Red Devs (6-5) in the game against RCK in the finals of the Coach Lou Panzanaro Tournament Sunday. RCK, which pulled out the 58-55, benefitted from some key unforced errors. Red Devil Laquan Jenkins tied it with a runner at 1:36 of the fourth at 54-all but Peekskill gave up an unforgivable easy layup to RCK for a 56-54 lead. That is not "Peekskill Basketball", which was built on frenetic defense.

HM OSSINING -- As previously mentioned, Coach Casey's Pride (4-8) are on the verge of becoming a team to be reckoned with, but with Hen Hud, White Plains and Greeley on the horizon this could go south in a hurry.

HM HEN HUD -- Man, this Nick Hitsley kid can score buckets in bushells, as evidenced by the 26 he put up in Coach Hirsch's Sailors' 70-58 loss to Lakeland. His kid brother, Dean, went for eight, but the Sailors (3-7), who have recent Dutchess County setbacks to Lourdes, Beacon and Pougkeepise, just can't get over the hump, though a win over Ossining Wednesday would help.

"We gave a great effort and we're just trying to keep getting better as a team," Hen Hud Coach Hirsch said. "Lakeland is very tough. Five guys can score on the floor for them at all times. Coach Fallo has them playing really well."



Boys' Hoops Notebook

Hen Hud's Nick Hiltsley, who dropped 26, is tripled by Lakeland's Jack Kruse, Michael Arcure and 'Jazzy' Jeff Owusu in Sailors' 70-58 loss to Hornets Saturday.

Defending NYS champ Poughkeepsie was far too much in a 69-41 beatdown, though Nick Hiltsley (17 points) and Dean Hiltsley (10) did what they could.

HM YORKTOWN -- Coach Pavella's Class A Huskers (4-8) were on verge of major upset in 62-51 loss to Lakeland when the Brucaj Bros. played their tails off: Eddie Brucaj (22 points, 8 boards) and Roni Brucaj (10 points, 7 rebs, 4 assists and 5 charges taken)

HM CARMEL -- Arlington's 77-65 win over Coach Ross' Rams (7-6) was a moral victory for Carmel last Wednesday when Drew Fiore paced them with 15 points against the League I-A front-running Admirals. Tough sledding from here on out, including RCK, Mahopac, Jay EF and Ossining next week.

HM PUTNAM VALLEY -- Coach Morale's Tigers (1-9) may not look good on the surface of their record, but the fact that the Tigers drew serious blood on a solid Westalke club in Saturday's 63-60 loss is a major step in the right direction. PV soph Arthur Holzman gave us a glimpse of what's to come when he drained seven 3's and dropped a career-high 24. "Great team effort and we continue to grow," Morales said. PV also gave a good Palisades Prep club fits in a 53-51 loss. Cole Durocher (13 points), Ethan Mounier (12) and Holzman (11) were big contributors for the Tigers, who have faced teams with a combined 75-35 record.

Girls' Hoops Notebook

Surging Somers Gets Back in Stride, Beats Panas, 56-44 Hen Hud

By Tony Pinciaro & Ray Gallagher

SOMERS literally limped through December.

Coach Marc Hattem was dealt a series of injuries, which left the Tuskers shorthanded. As a result, Somers, the 2019 Class A runner-up, suffered four losses in its first five games.

However, once Somers registered its first win, over Pelham, and its injured players returned to the lineup, the Tuskers have returned to some form of prior normalcy.

Somers has won four consecutive games, including Friday's 56-44 League II-C triumph of a Panas team that had been on a winning streak, to reach .500 (5-5).

Even with the injuries, Hattem said his team stayed positive and worked hard. Also, the experience factor enabled Somers to persevere.

"We had four of our top seven in our rotation recovering from soccer season, concussions and an ACL injury last year," Hattem said. "A lot of core group has been on the team since freshman year. They know the game and know what it takes to win."

The Tuskers closed 2019 with a trip to Albany to play in a tournament. Even though they lost to Class AA power Shenendehowa, Hattem was pleased with his team.

"I was proud of the great effort against Shenendehowa, which I was told had eighth Division 1 players on their roster," Hattem said. "Then we came back and beat Curtis of the PSAL the next day. Since then, we've been kind of rolling."

Hattem credited his team with playing



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Putnam Valley freshman Eva DeChent and the Class B Tigers have got it going on now with five-straight wins and a 10-2 record.

excellent role basketball.

"When you have a kid like Danielle (Di-Cintio), you know you have a player the team can hang its hat on," Hattem said. "Everybody knows their role off of Danielle and they're good at it."

Panas entered the Somers' game riding

a three-game winning streak. Somers grabbed a big lead (17-5), then fended off Panas runs for the win. DiCintio finished with 23 points and Jordan May added 12 points and 12 rebounds.

"We played really well," Hattem said.
"Matt is a great coach and they have great players, especially two who can score the ball. Panas made a couple of runs, as I expected, but we made a couple of stops and made some free throws. This was a big win against the best team in our league."

HEN HUD continued its strong season with a perfect week -3-0 – as it improved to 10-1 this season and maintained the potential top seed in the Class A playoffs as the Sailors seek their first Final 4 appearance this winter for the first time since 2006.

"This is the first time our team has ever been 10-1 for all of Coach Sherman's years at Hen Hud," senior Caitlin Weimar said. "It's a huge accomplishment, especially winning the league games. We worked very strong preparing for the games, so it is such a satisfying feeling. Now our goal is to keep the winning going, especially against tougher teams."

The Sailors, winners of six in a row, defeated Yorktown (41-30), then opened league play with victories over Poughkeepsie (55-27) and Beacon (43-22).

Hen Hud led Yorktown by two after the first quarter but went into halftime with a ninepoint lead.

Weimar had a teamleading 16 points, 10 rebounds and five steals. Grace Moretti added 11 points, five rebounds and four assists and Mylene Smith chipped in eight points.

Weimar finished with a game-high 23 points and 22 rebounds against Poughkeepsie. Moretti contributed 16 points and five rebounds Colleen Ryan led Hen

five rebounds. Colleen Ryan led Hen Hud with five assists and Kira Varada collected eight steals.

Weimar had another double-double, against Beacon, with 17 points and 15 re-



Panas G Kristen Cinquina is doubled by Somers guards Dani DiCintio and Taylor Penzo in Panthers' 56-44 League II-C loss to Tuskers Saturday.

bounds. Moretti added 10 points and Varada had eight points, six rebounds and eight

After losing three of its last five games, **BREWSTER** rebounded with a 3-0 week and is now 10-3 this season.

The Bears defeated Roosevelt (53-19), overcame LAKELAND (42-41) and bested John Jay-Cross River (50-43).

Alexis Mark led Brewster with 11 points against Roosevelt and Sam Ferrara and Grace Galgano each had 10 points.

Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo his team had difficulty taking care of the ball against Lakeland, but Sophia Alzugaray's big fourth quarter bailed out the Bears.

"Whenever we play Lakeland it's always a tight game, start to fin-Castaldo said. "It was frustrating that we kept throwing the ball away and giving them extra possessions. Carly was tremendous, offensively, hitting big shots from everywhere and Sophia had all nine of her points in the fourth quarter which was huge because nobody else scored. Luckily, we were able to hold on and escape with a win."



Somers F Emily Arena make her move on post in Somers' 56-44 League II-C win over visiting Panas Saturday.



Somers freshman Ava Giudice drives lane on Panas' Kelsey Cregan in host Tuskers' 56-44 League II-C win over Panthers Friday.

continued from previous page







BILL KENNEDY PHOTO

Mahopac sophomore Melanie DeMeo and Indians are improving day by day and could be tough Class AA out in playoffs.

Mark finished with 13 points and 10 rebounds against John Jay. Galgano had 11 well

Hen Hud senior F Caitlin Weimar has led the Sailors to a historic 10-1 start.

points and 15 rebounds and DeLanoy and Alzugaray had eight points apiece.

"This was another tight game and we definitely played with more urgency," Castaldo said. "Any road win is a great win. I'm very proud of the girls in how they responded after losing three in a row. They work hard and play well together. They deserve this."

MAHOPAC is quietly having an excellent season as the Indians won twice in three games last week, improving to 8-4 this season and 3-2 in league play.

The Class AA Indians beat John Jay-East Fishkill (63-46) and Port Chester (75-34) but lost a close game to perennial Class AA power Our Lady of Lourdes (67-65).

Sophomore Melanie DeMeo led Mahopac with 15 points against John Jay and Mia Klammer and Caitlyn O'Boyle each had 14 points.

"Lauren Beberman had a good game both offensively, scoring 10 points, and defensively," Mahopac Coach Chuck Scozzafava said

Freshman Kristina Rush poured in a team-high 22 points against Port Chester. O'Boyle had 14 points and sophomore Julie DeBrocky added 12 points.

O'Boyle, Klammer and DeMeo had 15 points apiece against Lourdes, ranked No.11 in NYS.

"The Lourdes game I was really proud of our play," Scozzafava said. "We played hard for a full 32 minutes. I'm hoping we can build off that game and continue to play well. Overall, I'm very happy with how the team is playing together and looking for each other. Also, I'm pleased with how our defense is improving and how my younger players have improved on that side of the ball. Offensively, I feel the girls are starting to gel."

PANAS went 2-1 last week, improving to 8-4 this season as the Panthers beat Haldane (60-56) and John Jay-Cross River (62-44)

Kristen Cinquina rang up a game-high 24 points against Haldane. Cailean Nolan added 15 points and Kristen Scrobola contributed 11 points.

"We got out to an early lead and then responded to John Jay's comeback with a great last quarter and a half to finish the game," Panas Coach Matt Evangelista said.

Cinquina and Nolan had 21 points apiece and Kristen Scrobola added 11 points.

"After Somers got out to a big lead, we made a great comeback, but it fell short as Somers made timely plays down the stretch," Evangelista said.

Cinquina led Panas with 16 points, Scrobola had 10 points and Kelsey Cregan finished with eight points.

PUTNAM VALLEY cruised to a 72-29 over North Salem when junior F Arianna Stockinger recorded 23 points and freshman F Eva DeChent had 21 points and 19 rebounds.

Putnam Valley, the current No.2 seed in Class B, improved to 10-2 overall and 7-0

in league action. Tiger Coach Kristi Dini will put her team to the test this week with game's against Class AA favorite Ursuline – ranked No.4 in NYS -- and Class AA Arlington, the current No.1 and No.4 seeds, respectively.

Girls' Hoops Notebook

OSSINING had its three-game winning halted by Ursuline (79-54), but the Pride bounced back with an 81-35 win over Fox Lane.

The nine-time defending Section 1 Class AA champion Pride are now 5-7 this season and play Somers, today (Wednesday).

Ashley McFadden scored a team-leading 27 points against Ursuline and also collected five steals.

Brooke Weeks added 11 points and seven steals and Julia Iorio had 11 points and six rebounds.

Iorio registered 28 points and McFadden added 20 against Fox Lane.

LAKELAND played well in two losses last week – 40-37 to John Jay-Cross River and 42-41 to Brewster.

Amanda Cole finished with 15 points against John Jay. Hannah Devane scored 13 points and Cole added 12 points and nine rebounds against Brewster.

PEEKSKILL had a hard-fought win in Friday's opening round of the Lou Panzanaro Tournament against Ramapo, 47-41, behind a balanced scoring attack by Takyla Cowan-Hongach (11 points), Afua Yeboa (9 points), Bethani Overby (8) and Kiki Mercado (8). The Red Devils lost to White Plains in the finals.

Matty Nets a Hatty! Mahopac Ices L/P, 5-1



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Mahopac chalked up a much-needed 5-1 win over Lakeland/Panas Sunday at the Brewster Ice Arena where sophomore Matt Luczkowski bagged his first career hat trick. Teammates Jonny Martirano and Nick Biagini also scored for the Indians. G Mike Horan had eight saves for the victory.

Trigger-Happy Karaqil Lakeland **Senior Goes** for 25 in Wins over Brewster,



RAY GALLAGHER/ RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Lakeland senior sniper Augie Karaqi (game-high 25 points) drops three of his 22 first-half points (on 5-of-7 shooting) against Kobey Hart's Brewster Bears last Wednesday in the Hornets' 75-34 League II-C win over the visiting Bears. Lakeland (10-3), winners in 9 of the last 10, went on to post an additional win Saturday, taking a 70-58 decision over Dean Hiltsley (inset) and visiting Hen Hud behind another 25-point effort from the snipe-happy Karaqi... see Boys' Hoops Notebook



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