

**What a Drag:
Protest in
PV...
page 3**



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February 4 - February 10, 2020

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 528

Community Distressed over Photographer Deported by ICE

By Rick Pezzullo

A well-liked photographer with ties to Peekskill was deported back to his native Yemen on January 28, sending shockwaves through his circle of friends and admirers.

According to a published report, Hazaea Alomaisi, 42, better known as Anwar, who had resided in the United States for the last 22 years, had a regularly scheduled meeting with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials on January 24, and instead

of just being sent home, he was transported to the Hudson County Correctional Facility in Kearny, New Jersey, where he stayed for a few days before being deported without being given a chance to appeal or say goodbye to his family.

Alomaisi last lived in New York City, according to his Facebook account, but he spent a lot of time in Peekskill, especially near the Hudson River waterfront capturing the beauty of nature and the environment.

"Anwar is a tremendous asset

to the photography community and a friend to all. It would not be an overstatement to call him the pied piper of wildlife photography," Paul Vincent stated on Facebook, who noted Alomaisi was an administrator of the Peekskill NY Facebook account.

"He always knew where all the birds were and would let anyone with a camera tag along and shoot alongside him as some of us occasionally did," Vincent continued. "This is a tragic loss and

Continued on page 2



Hazaea "Anwar" Alomaisi enjoyed photographing nature and the environment.



Three Cheers for Hen Hud Senior

During the Westchester County Cheerleading Competition at the Westchester County Center in White Plains on January 22, Hendrick Hudson High School senior Amanda Siegel was presented with the Annette Hronich Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded based on academics, community service and cheerleading ability. Each year, varsity coaches in Westchester can nominate one their seniors for the scholarship. Once nominated, student athletes then submit an essay, transcript and video demonstrating cheering ability. Applicants also undergo a group interview. "When deciding who to pick for this year's nomination, Amanda came right to my mind," said head coach Nicole Selvaggi-Landry. "Amanda is one of our co-captains, and she and leads the team with pride, confidence and true determination. We, as a coaching staff and program, are so proud of her being one of the 2020 scholarship recipients."

Hendrick Hudson Already Feeling Financial Effect of Indian Point Closure

By Rick Pezzullo

One of the two remaining nuclear units at Indian Point isn't closing until April, but the Hendrick Hudson School District is already experiencing a financial after-shock.

"Reality is setting in," Hendrick Hudson Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter remarked last week at a joint meeting of the New York State Indian Point Closure Task Force and Community Unity Task Force in Cortlandt. "We know a good deal couldn't last forever."

In the proposed 2020-21 budget, Hendrick Hudson will receive \$3.9 million less from Entergy, owners of the plants in Buchanan. Despite utilizing \$3 million for a state cessation fund and \$1.4 million from fund balance,

residents in the district are looking at an 8.7% tax increase when they vote on the \$82.6 million budget in May.

The following year, Hendrick Hudson will be receiving about \$10 million less from Entergy as the pilot program winds down.

Overall, when the pilot ends in 2025, the district is facing a \$24 million hit, or 33% of its budget. The Village of Buchanan is set to lose \$4 million, or 46% of its operating funds. The Town of Cortlandt will lose \$800,000 annually, or two percent of its budget, while the Verplanck Fire Department will lose 64% of its budget and the Hendrick Hudson Free Library will be shortchanged 28%.

"The cessation fund is a very important

Continued on page 2



Joseph Hochreiter

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Community Distressed over Photographer Deported by ICE

Continued from page 1

a horrible act of violence against our humanity and our community. Our support for him is unwavering and our prayers for his return will be unending. We look forward to hearing from him."

"I met him a few times along the river. He was a good guy and a talented photographer," Dan Theodore stated. "He came from war torn Yemen and spent his days photographing the bald eagles on the Hudson. We couldn't ask for a more patriotic American who found beauty everywhere he looked. Shame on us."

Alomaisi came to the U.S. on a

tourist visa in 1998 and reportedly tried to obtain legal status several times without success. He studied photography at Westchester Community College and often photographed events and celebrations for Yemeni and other Arab individuals. He had no criminal record.

"I'm sorry for the loss to the community. After reading through this thread I am left wondering what type of place America is becoming," Peekskill resident Bobby Heckler stated on Facebook. "We deport a man who celebrated life, the natural world, and our community; he enhanced so many lives.

But left in our midst are men who celebrate sending someone like Anwar to a place filled with danger and uncertainty. Men with nothing to offer but smug platitudes about the law. Laws that are nothing more than a transparent veneer they wear in an attempt to hide their true agenda and motivation, hate and fear. They add nothing of value to our lives."

Several elected officials also weighed in on Alomaisi's deportation.

"This is absolutely heartbreaking news. Anwar has been a well-loved member of the Peekskill community for years," stated

Westchester County Legislator Colin Smith (D/Peekskill). "I remember seeing him all the time down at the old Joe's Minimart on Highland where he worked. He was always quick with a smile or a kind word. His family must be devastated. I will be reaching out to our federal representatives today to ask if there is something they can do to intervene. Unfortunately, the fact that he has been already deported makes the prospect of his return much more complicated."

"We have a deeply broken immigration system. I get that we are in a hyper-political year and anti-immigration posturing is a dog

whistle for some people. However, let's not lose sight of the historically proven fact that immigration has always enriched America," stated Westchester County Legislator Catherine Borgia (D/Ossining).

"People say 'he never bothered to become a citizen,' as if that's something you can do by registering at your local supermarket. We have a broken system. It's very difficult to become a citizen and it often takes years," Borgia added. "We have to reform so that there is a path to citizenship especially for law-abiding people who contribute positively to our communities."

Hendrick Hudson Already Feeling Financial Effect of Indian Point

Continued from page 1

piece of our long-term plan," Hochreiter said. "As Entergy goes away, we know we have some financial decisions to make."

"These communities definitely need this as a transition," Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker said.

On January 8, the Board of Education supported a recommendation by Hochreiter not to pursue the idea of closing an elementary school in the district. Instead, the district will be studying the feasibility of organizing its elementary students by grade level, more com-

monly known as the Princeton Plan.

The state has set up a cessation fund for entities in areas where power plants have closed to receive grants for up to seven years to help compensate for the loss of revenue. The state has authorized \$69 million in the fund to date, but about \$27 million has been withdrawn from municipalities throughout the state.

Congresswoman Nita Lowey was also successful in establishing a \$15 million federal program for economic development where communities directly affected by the loss of

nuclear power plants can apply for grants.

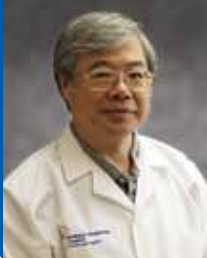
In January 2017, Entergy, which purchased the Indian Point plants more than 16 years ago, announced, to the complete surprise of local leaders, its plan for the early and orderly shutdown of Indian Point by April 30, 2021 as part of a settlement with New York State and Riverkeeper.

In November, Entergy and Holtec International 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.

Holtec has come under some scrutiny from some local leaders and residents for not having enough experience to adequately oversee the decommissioning of a nuclear facility.

"I was less than impressed," Cortlandt Councilman Dr. Richard Becker said, referring to a January 15 meeting where a Holtec representative met with the Community Unity Task Force. "I came out more worried than when I came in. I left there unsettled."



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Ask the Doctor

Pong Wong, MS

Supervisor

Cardiac Rehabilitation

Northern Westchester Hospital

Learn more about cardiac rehabilitation, visit
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Q: What is cardiac rehab?

A: Cardiac rehabilitation is a medically-supervised, individualized program of exercise and education that helps you recover faster from heart disease and acquire the strength to resume a full life. Northern Westchester Hospital's Outpatient Cardiac Rehabilitation Program requires a physician's prescription, and besides the core training component, includes counseling in nutrition, stress management and meditation, as well as education in heart disease prevention.

Q: Am I a candidate?

A: You're a candidate if you've suffered a cardiovascular event such as heart attack, bypass surgery, angina, heart valve repair or replacement, myocardial infarction, heart transplantation, coronary stenting or heart failure.

Q: What are the benefits?

A: Perhaps surprisingly, a key benefit of cardiac rehabilitation is restored confidence. That emotion has as much impact as do medical issues on a person's ability to resume an active, rewarding life. Some patients are initially afraid to do anything. A pain in the chest area makes them terrified that another cardiac event is happening. They're afraid to work, to drive, to leave the area where their doctors practice. These fears typically

go away after cardiac rehabilitation – indeed, even during rehabilitation, as patients see undeniable evidence of their gains in strength and stamina. Activities like walking uphill on the treadmill, riding the bike, or using the rowing machine gives them great confidence.

Q: What happens when you enter NWH's cardiac rehabilitation program?

A: A personalized exercise regimen is designed based on your health history and your physical condition. You'll have up to 36 training sessions, depending upon your insurance, during which you receive continuous EKG monitoring and close supervision by physician and exercise physiologists. We're watching your heart rate and cardiac rhythm the whole time. Your blood pressure is taken before, during and after exercise. Starting off at 30 minutes, you'll work up to between 42 minutes and an hour of training, with weight training added when appropriate.

Q: How do I choose a cardiac rehabilitation program?

A: Look for accreditation, convenient scheduling, insurance coverage, and the expertise and experience of staff. Whether you've had a heart attack, coronary bypass or other cardiac event, you are basically getting a second chance after your cardiac event. It's wise to take advantage of all the benefits of cardiac rehabilitation.



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Drag Queen Story Hour Draws Protestors to Put Valley Library

By Holly Crocco

It was quite a scene at the Putnam Valley Library on February 1, with dozens of protestors outside rallying against a Drag Queen Story Hour that was taking place inside, where Angel Elektra was reading to about 40 children.

"We started off singing 'The Heels of the Drag Queen,' which is a remix of the song 'The Wheels on the Bus,' and then after that we went on and read my first book, 'Pete the Cat - I Love my White Shoes,'" Elektra told News12 Westchester after the event.

Elektra - dressed in full drag with wig, makeup and dress for the event - said the purpose of Drag Queen Story Hour is to spread a message of acceptance and tolerance.

"We're just here to spread love," she said. "We're not here to change nobody's lifestyle... I'm just here to be that role model that I didn't have when I was growing up."

However, protestors did not see the program as an innocent one.

Some held signs that read "Dear God let not the little children be perverted by Drag Queen Story Hours" and "No infanticide, no destruction of the families, no sexualization of children."

Others had homemade posters that read "Respect and protect innocent children," and "Honk for No to drag queen story hour."

Putnam Valley Town Supervisor Sam Oliverio was at the event in support of the library.

"I was very proud of our library for not shutting the program down under all this negative publicity they received," he said. "Likewise, I was proud of those who were not in favor of the program for peacefully making their feelings known."

Oliverio said the protections of the First Amendment are of utmost importance, and this event showcased both the library's right to free speech and freedom of religion, and the protestors' rights, as well.

"I live by the Bill of Rights and the Constitution," he said. "Both the pro-event people and con-event people were doing their protests, which is their right under the Constitution."

Oliverio joined the county sheriff in prohibiting anyone who didn't register for the program in advance from entering the library. "I barred them, literally, with the sheriff," he said. "I was very happy nobody went after anybody."

The supervisor said the program was "a huge success. Both the parents and children

enjoyed it," he said. "My own personal opinion of the program doesn't matter. It was a program that the library put on, it was requested by many people, and it was sold out."

Oliverio also pointed out that a similar program was hosted by the library in June, when a "Rainbow Story Hour" took place - and drew no protestors.

"The drag queen title, that's like waving a red flag in front of a bull," he said. "That's what caught the attention of many residents."

"Diversity is important," he added. "Again, I was proud of the library for not canceling the program. That would have been a big defeat of the First Amendment."



Angel Elektra speaks to News12 Westchester outside the Putnam Valley Library on Feb. 1.

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Peekskill Common Council Appoints New City Court Judge

By Rick Pezzullo

The Peekskill Common Council appointed a new assistant city court judge last week.

Lisette Fernandez, a resident of Peekskill, was unanimously selected after a short search to fill the vacancy created by the departure of Melissa Loehr, who moved on to the county level after winning one of two available Westchester County Court Judge positions on November 5.

The appointment is for a six-year term, ending on December 31, 2025, and carries an annual salary of approximately \$80,000.

The council remains with a vacancy of its own. The all Demo-



Lisette Fernandez will fill seat vacated by Melissa Loehr.

cratic council has been operating with only six members for the last month after Colin Smith ex-

ited following his election to the Westchester County Board of Legislators.

The individual selected will have to run in November to serve the final year of Smith's unexpired two-year term.

Meanwhile, city officials announced last week Peekskill had been awarded more than \$3 million in New York State grants, including \$2.28 million from the state's Consolidated Funding Application program. The grants will fund a variety of projects: the reconstruction of Fleischmann Pier, designs for a waterfront trail and shoreline stabilization along the Hudson River and McGregory Brook.

"I sincerely thank Governor Cuomo and the state for selecting Peekskill for \$3 million in

additional CFA funding and for recognizing the great potential Peekskill is successfully tapping into," said Mayor Andre Rainey. "With local stakeholders working together as well as a forward-thinking administration, committed staff and city manager, the City of Peekskill is continuously thriving. The reconstruction of Fleischmann Pier will increase opportunities for tourism."

Peekskill also received a \$750,000 grant through the state's Environmental Facilities Corporation toward the reconstruction of a sewer line on Lower South Street, which is expected to preserve capacity and allow for future development.

New Email Set Up in Yorktown for Residents's Concerns

By Rick Pezzullo

Following his election in November, Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater organized a bipartisan community transition team to help him prepare for his new role.

At a recent Town Board meeting, the transition team presented their report which focused on five pillars of interest: communication, technology, economic

development, environment and infrastructure.

"The work done by the community transition team has proven to be pivotal in my first days in office," Slater said. "This report reflects the conversations we had which were focused on making Yorktown the absolute best it can be. I will be forever grateful to those who participated, and we enjoyed the experience so much

that we are planning on continuing to meet throughout the year."

One of the suggestions the transition team made was establishing a new town email address for residents to utilize to relay any ideas or express any thoughts on what they would like to see in Yorktown. That email address has been set up: ideasforyorktown@yorktownny.org.

The transition team was co-chaired by

Tricy Cushner, President of the Yorktown Alliance for Safe Kids, and Peter Lanza, who serves as Vice President of the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce. The report, entitled, Vision 2020, identifies challenges and opportunities facing the Town of Yorktown. A SWOT Analysis was performed in addition to extensive discussions among team members.

Continued on page 8

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Keon Center in Peekskill Merges with Abbott House

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a staggering 15% of children aged 3 to 17 have at least one or more developmental disabilities. In addition, on any given day, there are 428,000 children in foster care in the United States. After a three-year process, application to and review by the NYS Attorney General's Office, Abbott House and the Keon Center announced last week that their joint application to merge was approved and finalized on November 8, 2019.

"This merger will allow us to increase the services that both organizations already provide," said James Kaufman, President and CEO of Abbott House. "We are thankful to Howard Millman, former President of the Keon Center, whose stewardship brought Keon and Abbott House together. We look forward to creating new programs that will create more promising futures for children, families, and adults in the Hudson Valley Region and New York City."

Marianne Oros, former Vice President of the Keon Board, Chair of the Keon Programs of Abbott House Advisory Committee, and a new member of the Abbott House Board, stated, "Keon Center has served the developmentally disabled since its incorporation in 1954. The merger is the best of both worlds, combining the strength of the Keon Center's services with Abbott House's depth and expertise."

Abbott House established the Keon Advisory Committee ensuring the continued participation by former Keon Board

members. The Committee will ensure the stability and growth of Keon program and oversee a Visioning Plan adopted by both organizations.

"We recognize the prestige and storied history of the Keon Center and all Keon programs will continue to operate as 'Keon Programs of Abbott House,' stated Walter Montgomery, Chairman of the Abbott House Board of Directors.

Abbott House supports nearly 2,800 children in foster care, unaccompanied immigrant children, struggling families and adults with developmental disabilities in the New York Metropolitan Area and the Hudson Valley. Originally a convalescent hospital, Abbott House was officially incorporated as a child welfare agency in 1963. One of its early advocates was Dr. Martin Luther King, who gave the invocation at Abbott House's inaugural dinner on October 29, 1965.

Abbott House has residential programs located throughout seven counties in the Hudson Valley and New York City. Programs include; the H.E.A.R.T. Permanency Resource Center, (Helping Each Adaptive and guardianship family Remain Together), Foster Care and adoption, Juvenile Justice, PYA (Preparing Youth for Adulthood), Health Home and Community Based Services, Clinical Counseling and Medical Services, Community Schools Resource Center, and TRC (Transitional Resource Center) for unaccompanied immigrant children.

Responding to the need for special-

ized community-based residences; Abbott House developed and operates 18 residential programs for adults with developmental disabilities, two community-based day habilitation programs that help individuals become meaningful members of the community where they volunteer at local fire departments, animal shelters, and deliver Meals on Wheels and prevocational training programs.

The Keon Center, Inc. was established by a group of concerned parents and citizens to address the needs of children with disabilities who were not provided for by the State education system. They began by providing training classes for people with disabilities on a free tuition basis. It is believed that this was the first parent operated class in the State of New York.

The organization dedicated its own facility, the Edward J. Keon Sr. Memorial School on June 10, 1962. Keon has consistently expanded its services to the disabled adult, and operates multiple community based programs including WOW (Without Walls), volunteering, and pre-vocational training with Meals on Wheels, Boscobel, Stonewall Stables, Teatown Reservation, Peekskill Field Library, Spins of the Hudson and many more. Job placement services include: Supported Employment, ETP (Employee Training Program) and Pathways to Employment. Pre-vocational training in community sites include: Walgreens Pharmacy, CVS, Jo-Ann Fabrics, and Homestyle Bakery. An active program

for respite services for families offers recreational activities and life skill training with dinner served every night prepared with the assistance of individuals.

Brett Baker, Plant Manager at Wheelabrator Westchester said, "We are gratified to support Keon and the individuals that they serve. For over 10 years we have contributed to Keon's Golf outing, partnered with the Peekskill BID to provide grants to hire the Keon individuals to clean up the streets of Peekskill and helped individuals learn life skills by providing them with experience in a work environment."

Many local businesses and organizations in the Cortlandt-Peekskill area have partnered with the Keon Center, Inc., including the Cortlandt Colonial Restaurant, Table 9, White Plains Linen, the Peekskill Hat Factory, B.A.S.F., Wheelabrator Westchester, the Peekskill B.I.D., Entergy, and the Peekskill Rotary.

"People Helping People" is the mantra of Keon, which will grow and flourish as this new union with Abbott House continues to enhance the Keon Programs of Abbott House. Working together we make a difference in strengthening our community for everyone.



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Obituaries

Elizabeth Spinola

Elizabeth Spinola, a resident of Yorktown, died January 25. She was 80.

She was born March 16, 1939 to Frank and Elizabeth Sabito, the youngest of seven. She married Anthony Spinola on September 25, 1965 at Assumption Church in Peekskill. She is survived by her daughter Cynthia and son-in-law Steven Demchuk, and her three, beautiful pride and joy granddaughters; Auriella, Alairas, and Araina of Yorktown. She is also survived by a son, Tony Spinola Jr. Predeceased by her husband Anthony.

Anne Cicero

Anne Dolores Cicero, a resident of Croton-on-Hudson, formerly of the Bronx, died January 26. She was 89.

She was born in the Bronx on February 9, 1930 to Michael and Assunta (Volpe) Narducci. There is nothing she enjoyed or loved more than her grandchildren Kelley Marie and Philip Daniel ("The Rock"). She was an ardent animal rights lover and a long-time member and contributor to the ASPCA. Her inspiration for animals came from the love she had for her poodle, Gigi and her cats, Chickie, Precious, Mona and Tiger! She was also a long-time employee of the New York Police Department. She was a Police Administrative Aide at both the 47th and 52nd Precincts in The Bronx.

She is survived by her beloved son and daughter, Daniel Anthony Cicero and Terri Cicero Garrity and her husband Kevin; cherished grandchildren, Kelley Marie and Philip Daniel Garrity. She is also survived by her nieces and nephews, as well as, her sister-in-law Stella Narducci. She was predeceased by her husband, Philip Daniel Cicero; brother, Anthony Narducci and sister, Katherine Maglionico.

Marilyn Hansen

Marilyn Hansen, a native of Croton-on-Hudson, died January 22 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She was 74.

Born to Esther McMeen and William Colbert on April 8, 1945, she graduated from Peekskill High School in 1963, and later received accounting degrees from Westchester Community College and Pace University. She met her future husband Peter at Asbury United Methodist Church in Croton and married him in 1970.

Mrs. Hansen was the treasurer for Asbury UMC and Bethel Cemetery for nearly 40 years.

She is survived by her husband Peter, two daughters Denise (Joseph) Castricone, Janice (Peter Kulibaba) Hansen, a brother William Colbert, one granddaughter, Landry Castricone, seven nieces and nephews, her best friend of over 50 years, Marilyn Reid, and many loving friends and neighbors. She was predeceased by her parents

and her sister, Iris Dixon.

Joan Cothren

Joan T. Cothren died January 27 at New York Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital. She was 83.

She was born in Peekskill Hospital, on February 27, 1936 to Edward and Beatrice Flaherty. She received her high school diploma from Hendrick Hudson High School. She married Patrick J. Cothren Sr. on May 24, 1958 and together they raised their four children, Catherine, Patrick Jr., Christine and Amy. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, cousin and dear friend to many. She was predeceased by her parents, Edward and Beatrice Flaherty and her daughter, Catherine Cothren. She leaves behind her loving husband, Patrick Cothren Sr., her three children, Patrick (Dina) Cothren Jr., Christine B. Cothren and Amy (Marty) Pascale, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Giuseppe Ragusa

Giuseppe Ragusa, a resident of Yorktown, died January 27. She was 92.

She was born January 11, 1928 in Sciacca, Italy to Gaetano and Calogera Ragusa. He married

Iolanda Castello on September 4, 1956 in Italy and came to the United States with their daughter Lilla in 1958. They first lived in Staten Island then Brooklyn before moving to Yorktown in 2005.

She is survived by his beloved wife Iolanda, daughter Lilla Scaglione and her husband Anthony, son Gaetano Ragusa and his wife Vincenza. Also survived by six grandchildren, Anthony, Angelica, Stephanie, Jessica, Christina, Giuseppe and three great-grandchildren, Lilla, Alessia and Adriana.

Herman Slotoroff

Herman Slotoroff, a resident of Somers and a WWII veteran, died January 30. He was 98.

He was born in Atlantic City, NJ on December 19, 1921 to Samuel and Rebecca Slotoroff. He was married to Elaine Lev-

ene for 67 years until her passing in 2015. He is survived by his loving children Judy (Steven), Robert (Sally) and Debby (Scott), cherished grandchildren Mark (Katie), David, Susan, Jeff, Sam (Nicole), Steven, Daniel and Julie, and cherished great-grandchildren, Evan and Leah.

Don Parrish

Don Parrish, a long-time Croton-on-Hudson community member, died January 18, at New York Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center in New York City. He was 84.

He was the son of Ross and Lena Parrish of Daytona Beach, Florida. Born on January 10, 1936, he grew up in the family's Goodall Avenue home. He attended Lenox Avenue Elementary School, and graduated from Seabreeze High School in 1953. He earned his bachelor's degree at Ohio Wesleyan University in 1957 where he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, and a second bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1959. He earned his MBA at New York University in 1973.

He met, and later married, fellow Ohio Wesleyan University student, Mary Elisabeth (Molly) Spring, who survives him. They were wed on August 16, 1958, in The Little Church Around the Corner in New York City. Don and Molly began their married life in Boston, Massachusetts, while he completed his studies at MIT. They moved to White Plains, NY, in 1959, where he began work as a Civil Engineer with the New York Central Railroad. The family moved to Croton-on-Hudson in 1967. After a number of years with the NYCRR, his interests broadened to include real estate and banking. He worked for many years in commercial banking administration and consulting at a number of financial institutions, including Bankers Trust, The Seamen's Bank for Savings, East River Bank for Savings, Deutsche Bank and Citibank.

Don and Molly were blessed with three children, Sarah Parrish Christensen (Miles Deutsch), Ross William Parrish, and Caitlin Parrish McDonough (Anthony). They have two grandchildren, Cody Dylan Christensen (Alison), and Noelle Chelsea Christensen.

Continued on page 8



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Letters to the Editor

Harckham's Support of Pot is Dumbfounding

To the Editor:

I am a constituent, a mom, and I vote. I am dumbfounded that Senator Harckham will now support the legalization of commercial marijuana because he wants more money to fight drug abuse (Northern Westchester Examiner, January 29, 2020).

Chairman of the Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Senator Harckham said he needs a small fraction of the tax revenue generated by marijuana sales to fund substance abuse prevention and treatment. Senator, it doesn't make any sense to

put more drugs into our community to help prevent people from taking drugs.

New York's politicians are looking for a new revenue stream from dealing drugs. The fact is, there will be no money left over after paying Medicaid expenses to treat the illnesses caused by marijuana including child poisonings, cannabis hyperemesis, and mental health issues.

Our senator stated his stance changed after a trip to the Berkshires and meeting a pot shop owner. Actually, it appears he already made up his mind before his pleas-

ure trip. Our Senator claimed the industry is "highly, highly regulated." Nothing could be further from the truth. If the Senator had even done a quick internet search he would have found that vapes from legal stores in Massachusetts caused deadly lung disease and are contaminated with pesticides, lead, and mold. Moreover, the approval process for licenses was riddled with corruption.

Senator Harckham, please take the time to meet with actual experts, not just the pot industry. You owe it to our children.

URSULA CLANCY, RN

Important Dates to Remember for Voting, Party Registration

To the Editor:

While Election Day seems far off, there are primary elections coming up much sooner. Voting in a primary election is your opportunity to help select your party's candidate for the general election on Nov 3.

In New York State there are two primary dates: Apr. 28 is the Presidential primary. June 23 is the primary for Congress and the

New York State Assembly and Senate.

If you need to register to vote, you can download and print a voter registration form at elections.ny.gov. You must also use the same form in order to change your party affiliation or your address.

Here are the deadlines: New voters must register by Apr. 3 to vote in the Presidential primary and by May 29 in order to

vote in the congressional and state primary.

To change your party affiliation, the deadline is Feb. 14 for both primaries.

To change your address, the deadline is Apr. 8 for the Presidential primary and June 3 for the congressional and state primary.

Your vote is your voice. Make it count!

CELESTE THEIS
Croton-on-Hudson

New Email Set Up in Yorktown for Residents's Concerns

Continued from page 4

"Supervisor Slater's Transition Team is unprecedented for our community," Cushner said. "This report provides an outline for suggested goals, objectives and action steps incorporating opportunities and concerns that the Transition Team identified to assist Town government in its mission to build a better community with long term fiscal, social, and environmental sustain-

ability."

"This was my first involvement in local government and it was incredibly positive," Lanza added. "Supervisor Slater brought together an incredible team of professionals and set the stage early for a solutions-based conversation that benefits all of the residents of Yorktown. This report reflects those conversations and ideas that emerged from our meetings."

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Obituaries

Continued from page 7

tensen (Ryan Lee), great-grandchildren, Caden, Greyson, Caleb, and another great-grandson expected in late March. He was pre-deceased by his daughter, Caitlin, in 2008, and his sister, Anita Faye Parrish Emery of Daytona Beach, in 2018.

Mr. Parrish retired in 2003 and was able to enjoy his many varied interests including travel, history, art, cooking and the out of doors. He was active in many circles, was a long-time member of Croton Friends of History and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Hudson Valley. Don treasured relationships with people, and made friends wherever he went; he cherished his long-term friendships, and was particularly fond of the men of his "breakfast group."

Calling hours will be on Saturday, February 8 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at Edward F. Carter Funeral Home in Croton-on-Hudson. A celebration of his life is being planned for later this spring.



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Nurse Practitioner Inducted into Tech Center Hall of Fame

Laura Spallina, a clinical coordinator/surgical hospitalist-nurse practitioner at Northern Westchester Hospital, was named the first inductee into the Hall of Fame for the Career and Technical Education Center at Putnam | Northern Westchester BOCES. Spallina, a former New Visions Health student and Carmel High School alum, credits her studies at Tech for her career success.

"My time as a New Vision Student helped me learn that my true passion was to be a nurse at Northern Westchester Hospital," said Spallina, who lives in Mahopac.

New Visions Health students intern at area hospitals and do rotations with different specialists, learning about the various areas of medicine before they even begin college.

Spallina, who graduated from Hunter-Bellevue's School of Nursing in 2010, went on to receive her master's as a family nurse practitioner from Pace University. She worked in labor and delivery at NWH, advanced to patient care manager and became a surgical nurse practitioner in 2014.

In addition to her work at the hospital, Spallina also teaches New Visions Health students,



Laura Spallina credits her studies at BOCES for her career success.

who she welcomes into the hospital.

"Laura is so deserving of this honor," said Caroline Murphy, a teacher in the New Visions Health program and a registered

nurse. "She has been an amazing resource and inspiration, caring about and teaching our students."

"Teaching the New Visions students is really rewarding," said Spallina, who is happy to spread

the word about the joys of her career. "I hope to help others realize how great this profession is."

Spallina said she also enjoys helping students in the program realize their potential. "It is great

being part of their journey to find out who they really want to be," she said. "And it is always a success when New Visions students go to nursing school because this profession is a great stepping stone to so many different opportunities. Nurses can change their specialty multiple times and get to help people every day."

Lois Demaio, director of Advanced Clinical Practitioners-Surgery at Northern Westchester, said that Spallina is most deserving of this recognition. "I'm so glad she's on our team," she said. "She's such an important piece of the hospital and how we function here."

The best part of her job, Spallina said, is meeting new people and "learning something new every day. I enjoy being with patients and advocating for them and comforting them. In health care, there is always room for further education and growth."



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Business of the Week

By Neal Rentz

Yorktown resident Laura Sosa opened Lala's Exotic Cut in Yorktown on January 15, influenced by her daughter, Karelys.

"My daughter is always in a hair salon," Sosa said last week, so she decided to open her own salon.

Sosa said her daughter and her friends "are all into hair and cosmetics."

Convenience was a reason for Sosa to choose Commerce Street in Yorktown as the location for her new business. "It's very nearby to my house," she said.

Lala is a nickname her brother gave her, Sosa said.

A variety of services are offered at Lala's Exotic Cuts, including hair coloring, hair wash and set, hair treatments, waxing, permanents, updos and touching up of hair roots, Sosa said.

Sosa said her salon provides services for men, women and children. Her business is located in part of a building that had previously housed a wholesale beer business. Renovations of the

space began in 2017, she noted. Sosa said she is very gratified that the renovations are complete.

Sosa said most of the customers of her new business live in Yorktown and many have previously been clients of hair stylist Sandra Guanoluisa, who resides in Ossining and came to work at Sosa's new business.

Though Sosa does not cut hair, she said she is planning to train to do so.

Sosa laid out the goal she has for Lala's Exotic Cut. She said she would like to build up her business including having her children's friends, who attend Yorktown district schools, patronize her businesses.

"The way they filled up my house I'm hoping they fill up the hair salon," she said. "I've had a hundred kids in my house. I hope I get more than 100 clients."

Lala's Exotic Cuts is located at 1895 Commerce St. in Yorktown. For more information, call 914-302-2651, visit <https://www.lala-sexoticcuts.com/> or send an e-mail lalasexoticcuts04@gmail.com.

Lala's Exotic Cuts Yorktown



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Yorktown resident Laura Sosa, left, opened Lala's Exotic Cuts in town on Jan. 15. Also shown above is hair stylist Sandra Guanoluisa, who resides in Ossining.

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Previewing the 2020 Academy Awards

By Rick M. Pezzullo

The 92nd Academy Awards will be held Sunday, February 9 in Hollywood, so let's take a closer look at the Best Picture nominees and other categories.

Parasite: This Korean dark comedy/thriller has turned many heads this awards season, including six Oscar nominations, winning the Golden Globe for Best Foreign Language Film, as well as the top prize at the Screen Actors Guild Awards. Bong Joon-ho masterfully portrays the socio-economic disparities present in South Korea as he tells the story of the Kim family who are stricken by poverty and fighting tooth and nail to survive. They luck out as a job gets handed to their eldest son to tutor the daughter of a wealthy family. However, new circumstances arise and change the dynamic of the family forever. This film makes you laugh and keeps you on the edge of your seat simultaneously, which is quite the achievement. If you're a fan of Jordan Peele's *Get Out* and *Us*, you will love *Parasite* and all the social metaphors that come with it. Bong Joon-ho should make a serious run at Best Director, in which he would be the first South Korean director to win the award. This is the best movie of the year and will certainly be contending for Best Picture on Oscar Sunday. **Rating: 10/10**



Parasite is a Best Picture nominee that is worthy of the honor.

Jojo Rabbit: This comedy/drama film directed and written by Taika Waititi provides a unique take on Nazi Germany by following a young boy, nicknamed Jojo. Jojo is a Hitler youth fanatic who discovers a Jewish girl being hidden in his home by mother. Unable to understand the errors of his views, Jojo struggles with internal conflict as he rationalizes his growing feelings for the girl with his subconscious portrayed by a playful Hitler. The movie has a unique flow, which keeps you thoroughly engaged as you find yourselves sympathizing with the young men who are so obviously brainwashed by Nazi propaganda. Waititi is able to balance satire and tragedy perfectly in this film which provides more depth than is apparent at the surface. *Jojo Rabbit* is perhaps the most entertaining of the Best Picture nominees, but don't expect it to receive many awards on Oscar night besides a potential win for Adapted Screenplay. **Rating: 9.5/10**

Once Upon a Time in Hollywood: Quentin Tarantino's comedy/drama, set in the late 1960s, follows the lives of a fading actor, his stuntman, and a rising actress. The film has a star-studded cast, including Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt, and Margot Robbie, who portray a combo of fictional and historical characters (most notably, Sharon Tate). Tarantino's 10th film may enthrall his cult following, but gives little reward for the three-hour journey you embark on. The film is devoid of a true plot and has long stretches of "What is the point of this?" Despite my displeasure with the film as a whole, the movie has received numerous accolades this season, including 10 Oscar nominations and a Golden Globe win

for Best Comedy or Musical. Expect Brad Pitt to win his first Oscar for Best Supporting Actor, but it may be for the sole reason that he hasn't won one yet. **Rating: 5.5/10**

The Irishman: Another gangster drama directed by Martin Scorsese follows hitman Frank Sheeran as he gets involved with mobsters working for famous Teamster Jimmy Hoffa. This classic gangster film was expertly acted by the usual suspects, Robert DeNiro, Joe Pesci, and Al Pacino. Depending on your attention span, this could be a movie you may want to watch in multiple sittings as the run-time is well over three hours. The film drags a bit at the end, but keeps you intrigued for the most part. There's no doubt the aging technology was a big talking point, especially with the high budget, but there's no denying how good the cast is at filling their roles. It received 10 Oscar nominations, including two for supporting actor for both Pesci and Pacino, however, don't expect many wins on Oscar night. All in all, a great film, especially for your Italian grandpa. **Rating: 7.5/10**

Little Women: Based on the famous novel by Louisa May Alcott, Greta Gerwig's interpretation makes for an emotional and fulfilling piece of cinema. *Little Women* follows the lives of a poor Massachusetts-based family that consists of four daughters who are raised primarily by their mother as their father is off fighting for the Union army in the Civil War. Each "little woman" follows a unique path to their dreams and aspirations, while all commonly being entrenched with the core humanitarian values learned during their upbringing. Saoirse

Ronan delivers another world class performance as Jo March, further cementing her place among Hollywood's elite actresses and rightfully deserving of her Oscar nomination. A breakout performance from Florence Pugh earned her an Oscar nomination as well for Best Supporting Actress. *Little Women* is not anticipated to do well on Oscar night, but does have a shot at Best Adapted Screenplay. Overall, *Little Women* is another excellent addition to Gerwig's filmography that does well to illustrate themes of women empowerment that may seem antiquated on the surface, but are as prominent as ever in today's social climate. **Rating: 8/10**

Joker: The much-anticipated origin story, directed by Todd Phillips, details the life of DC Comics' most famous villain. Arthur Fleck is an aspiring comedian living in the 1980s whose life has been riddled with struggle and rejection. While his life spirals into insanity, he finds an opportunity to lead a revolution against the wealthy in Gotham, which has been stricken by crime and economic inequality. Although this role has been reprised numerous times, Joaquin Phoenix rises to the occasion and delivers a classic, but original spin on the comedian-turned anarchist. The performance falls a tad short of the benchmark set by the late Heath Ledger, but nonetheless is Oscar-worthy based on every known metric. Audiences may find the film a bit disturbing at times, but those who like to indulge on darker-themed movies will thoroughly enjoy *Joker*. The film received a staggering 11 Oscar nominations, including Best Actor and Best Original Score, which they are ex-

pected to win. **Rating: 8/10**

Ford v Ferrari: Based on true events, this racing drama presents the story of Ford motor company attempting to compete with the staple brand of sports cars, Ferrari, at the famed 24-hour race of Le Mans. Set in the 1960s, Ford's team is led by former driver, Carroll Shelby, and is anchored by polarizing, but talented driver, Ken Miles. If you're a racing enthusiast, this is the movie for you. If you're not, you may find this movie to be a bit of a snoozefest. I found myself wanting the movie to end because the plot takes a while to get interesting and cars going in a circle can only be so exciting after two hours. In all honesty, I was shocked that this source material got picked up for a feature film. Despite my boredom, Christian Bale puts in another outstanding performance, which is expected from the former Oscar winner. Matt Damon, filled his role nicely, but could only do so much with his character's rather bland personality. James Mangold's film received four Oscar nominations, but realistically only has a shot at Best Sound Editing or Sound Mixing. **Rating: 4/10**

Marriage Story: Part of Netflix's strong contingent of films this year, *Marriage Story* depicts the story of a modern day couple struggling through the divorce process. Director, Noah Baumbach, does a nice job of creating organic tension, frustration, and resentment that flows seamlessly through Scarlett Johansson and Adam Driver. Both actors are well deserving of

Continued on page 20



TOMORROW ALONG THE HUDSON

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



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Happenings

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

Tuesday, Feb. 4

Tuesday Creative Writing Class: The program is being held every Tuesday through May 5 at the Somers Library from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call the library at 9014232-5717 to sign up.

Historic Preservation Program: The Peekskill campus of Westchester Community College is starting a new Historic Preservation Certificate program, the only such program offered at a community college in New York State. It is being offered at the Center for the Digital Arts/extension center location for the spring semester - classes begin in February. Info: <https://www.sunywcc.edu/locations/peekskill/>.

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

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

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

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

Wednesday, Feb. 5

Tai Chi: Support Connection announces a free program, Tai Chi for Women with Cancer, will be offered every Wednesday in February from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Yorktown Community and Cultural Center. It is open to people living with 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.

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.

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

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

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.

Thursday, Feb. 6

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.

Poetry Workshop for Adults: The program is being held on Thursdays through June 25 at the Somers Library from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: 914-232-5717 or www.somerslibrary.org.

Friday, Feb. 7

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

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

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.

Hebrew Congregation of Somers Service: The synagogue will hold a family Shabbat service and dinner at 6:30 p.m. The service will be led by Rabbi Shoshana Leis and Hebrew School Director Jill Liflander. E-mail questions@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org or call 914-248-9532 for more information.

Temple Beth Am Services: A Friday night Shabbat service will be held at 8 p.m. at Temple Beth Am. Tonight, a family Shabbat led by fifth graders will be held at 7 p.m. Temple Beth Am is located at 203 Church Pl. Yorktown. For information, please call our Rabbi at 962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbiiw@optonline.net/.

Saturday, Feb. 8

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

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

town.com.

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

Somers Library Exhibit: Photographs by Christy Hicks are being exhibit throughout the month of February at the Somers Library. Info: 914-232-5717 or www.somerslibrary.org.

Yoga Program: Support Connection announces a free program: "Yoga: A Path Toward Wellness" will be offered every Saturday in February at Club Fit in Jefferson Valley from 1noon to 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 to participate, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Enrique Haneine Performances: The Grammy-nominated jazz musician will perform at 7:30 and 9 p.m. at the Westchester Collaborative Theater, 23 Water St., Ossining. The \$20 event tickets can be purchased at: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4512711>.

Sunday, Feb. 9

Hart Library February Exhibits: Lakeland and Walter Panas High Schools art departments - Mixed Media Show is being presented this month at the John C. Hart Memorial Library. The opening reception is slated for Feb. 6 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Also see artwork from Yorktown art students in the showcases inside the library this month. The library is located at 1130 E. Main St., Shrub Oak.

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, Feb. 10

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.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Hatha Yoga Class With Marta Gil: The free classes are held on Tuesdays from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. in the Jefferson Valley Mall near Bear Mountain Coffee Roasters Cafe. The mall is located at 650 Lee Blvd. A certain amount of yoga mats will be provided, but it's always better to have your own. No registration is necessary.

Tuesday Creative Writing Class: The course is being held on consecutive Tuesdays until May 5 at the Somers Library. Class size is limited to 12, so please call the library at 914-232-5717 to sign up now.

Teatown to Celebrate EagleFest Saturday at Croton Point Park

Teatown Hudson River EagleFest, the annual festival celebrating the bald eagle's winter migration to the Hudson River, will soar once again on Saturday, February 8 at Croton Point Park.

This year's celebration features expanded programming including presentations by the youngest falconer in Connecticut, Christine Peyreigne, and award-winning filmmaker Jon Bowermaster. Additionally, longtime favorites of the event, including bird experts Bill Streeter, Brian Robinson and Brian Bradley, will make special presentations of their own.

"EagleFest stands out as a community event because it is fun, inspiring and brings people of all ages together to share a very uplifting story – the comeback of the bald eagle from the brink of extinction," said Teatown's Executive Director Kevin Carter. "The event's collaborative spirit comes from an outpouring of positive energy and the participation of nonprofit organizations, families, businesses, schools and government."

Each year, thousands flock to Croton Point Park to see live bird-of-prey shows and demonstrations, and especially to see wild bald eagles and other birds of prey thriving in their natural habitat along the Hudson River. Bald eagles have rebounded as a result of federal and state protections and can now be seen nesting and hunting along the river.

The region's foremost raptor and environmental experts will lead demonstrations and other nature-related workshops and presentations to guests of all ages.

This year's featured presenters include:

Christine Peyreigne: Peyreigne became a falconer and started hunting with her red-



Christine Peyreigne, the youngest falconer in the state of Connecticut, will be joining the EagleFest lineup this year.

tailed hawk, Theron, when she was just 16 years old. She will be joined by her bald eagle, Aurora, among other raptors.

Bobby Horvath: A licensed wildlife rehabilitator and active-duty FDNY firefighter, Horvath will present at EagleFest for the first time with his bald eagle, Montana, as well as other raptors.

Bill Streeter: Director of the Delaware Raptor Center who has over 30 years of experience as a raptor rehabilitator, falconer and educator. Streeter will be joined by his bald eagle, Benson, and other birds of prey.

Brian Robinson: A master falconer who has been providing wildlife education programs for over 25 years. His programs focus on the resiliency of birds of prey and other wildlife across New York State, with

an emphasis on the Hudson Valley.

Brian Bradley: A falconer since 1984, Bradley now does educational programming all over the Northeast with his hawks, falcons and owls. His program, "Skyhunters in Flight," features live flight demonstrations with his birds of prey.

Jon Bowermaster: Bowermaster is a writer, filmmaker, adventurer and a six-time grantee of the National Geographic Expeditions Council and will join the EagleFest lineup this year to show exclusive clips from his new film series "Hope on the Hudson."

Guests will be able to enjoy selections from a variety of food trucks outside the main tent and are encouraged to dress for the weather. Food trucks and some educa-

tional activities, including wild eagle spotting and bird walks, are outdoors.

Teatown has also set an impressive goal for the 2020 EagleFest: to only produce one bag of trash. Teatown's Community Environmentalist, Nadya Hall, is leading this effort by working with vendors and the Parks Department.

"Festivals are notorious for producing obscene amounts of trash," Hall said. "As we reflect on our own responsibility as environmental stewards, we are excited to rise to the challenge and tackle this ambitious goal with the help of our extended family of community volunteers."

Teatown is also bringing back EagleFest bus tours. Travel by charter bus with a Teatown educator for an in-depth view of eagles in their habitat. Tours stop at the New Croton Dam, Verplanck Steamboat Riverfront Park and George's Island Park in Montrose. Stops may change due to weather. Tour times are 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Bus tours are intended for guests 12 years old and up. Tickets are \$35 per person and do not include admission to Eagle Headquarters. To sign up for the bus tours, call 914-762-2912 ext. 110.

EagleFest 2020 will be held at Croton Point Park, located at 1 Croton Point Ave. in Croton-on-Hudson from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are \$22 for adults, \$13 for children (6 to 11 years old) and free for children five and under. Tickets sold at the venue on the day of the event are \$25 for adults, \$15 for children (6 to 11 years old) and free for children five and under. The snow date is Sunday, February 9.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit teatown.org/eaglefest.

Walter Panas Grad to Perform in Manhattan on February 15

Westchester County's very own Hip Hop recording artist Jon Harris will be performing live for the first time in three years on Saturday, February 15. Harris will be performing at Pianos, 158 Ludlow St, New York, NY 10002.

Harris, 30, born Jonathan Harris in Manhattan, moved to, and attended grade school in Westchester. After graduating from Walter Panas High School, he pursued higher education in the field of business at Pace University's Pleasantville Campus. From a young age, Harris had a vision of being a music recording artist and has not given up his musical ambitions through his educational career.

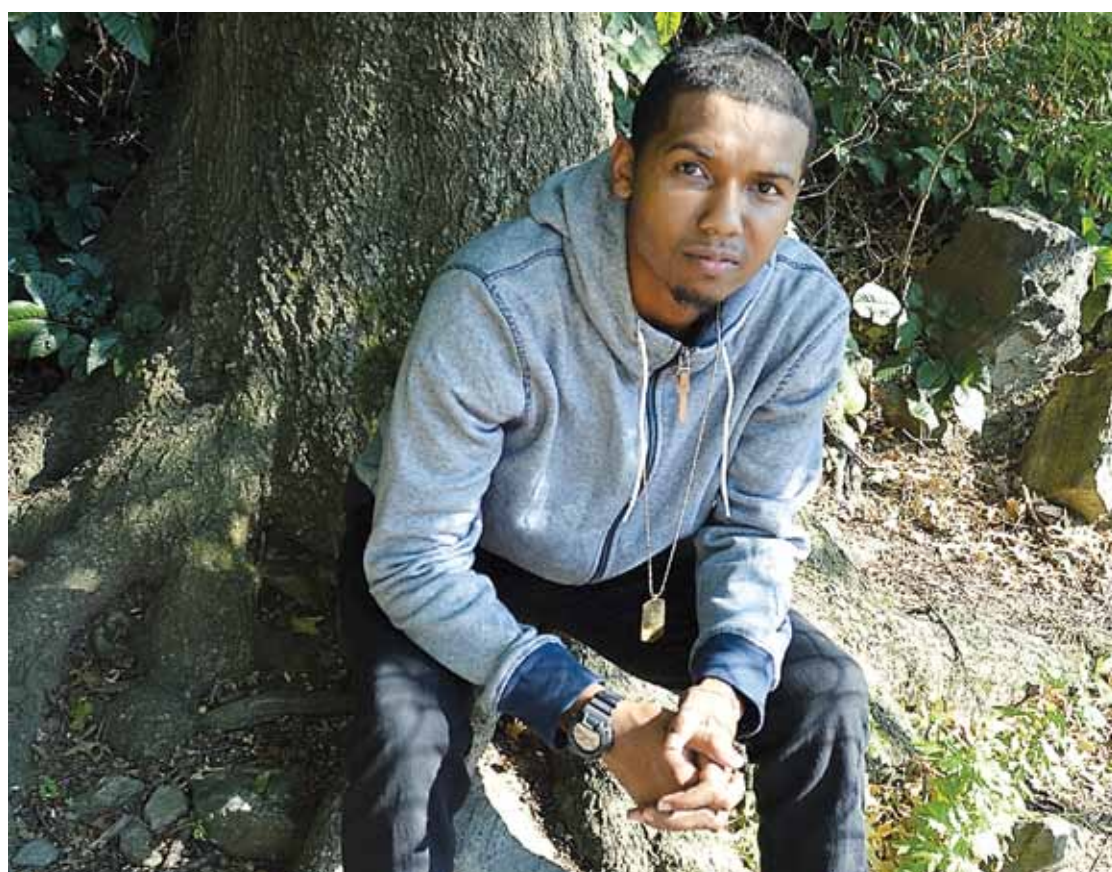
After college he founded Living Life Our Way Entertainment as a company which specializes in music production and distribution along with many other artistic mediums. He would use the company to help put out music and perform more frequently. He states he has done performances as far north as Poughkeepsie and as far south as Ardmore, PA. Harris has done

several shows in Manhattan and Brooklyn most notably his most recent performance to date, the Black Widow 2017 Showcase at Arlene's Grocery in Manhattan.

For years Harris has watched other performers and studied different tactics to improve his stage presence. He said he most admires JAY-Z and how he handles himself on stage. The way JAY-Z sets up his act and gets the crowd involved is one aspects of his performance Harris replicates. You can expect to get loud, to move, and Harris to interact with the audience during his set.

The show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets for the show are \$15 and are available at officialjonharrismusic.com or llowentertainment.com. The show is for ages 21 and older.

Jon Harris is a Hip Hop recording artist.



When the Right Color Can Mean More Money When Selling

Benjamin Moore has just announced its color of the year: First Light, a delicate pink.

I don't think my wife and I have ever painted any of our rooms a delicate pink, although I had always thought about it since that time we discovered a beautiful pale pink room in Historic Deerfield that we were told, as I recall, was fashioned with paint created with brick dust. Better brick dust than the red paint we discovered on the back of a closet door in our 18th century home that we were told was created with ox blood mixed with milk.

Just last week, my wife looked up from the lifestyles section of the newspaper and said, "Did you know that green is the most soothing color to paint a room? It's been a long time since we've had a green room."

As it happens, we live in a beautiful two-bedroom (and den) condo where every wall is painted off-white. I was fine with that, convinced that uniformity of color in all rooms tends to extend the feeling of space. Then suddenly I was thrown into doubt when my longtime painter, Joe Pascarelli, visited us and declared, "This place needs some color!"

I disagreed at first. Just as all the apart-

ments I ever rented in New York City that were invariably painted an off-white, my current living environment was offered only in that color, and I had intended to keep it that way. This one-color approach works for us in that, besides expanding the space, it serves as a suitable backdrop for all the paintings and prints assembled from a lifetime of collecting.

But earlier in the month, a study about color from Zillow blew me away. It demonstrated how a fresh coat of paint in the right color – inside or out – may help sell a home for more money.

I'm not planning to sell soon, but I took immediate notice for information that I could relay to seller clients. According to the analysis, homes with walls painted in shades of blue or light gray may sell for as much as a \$5,400 premium.

While as a realtor, I've always been instructed to advise seller clients to neutralize colors as much as possible.

Now I'm not so sure. For instance, homes with bathrooms painted in hues of powder blue or light periwinkle sold for \$5,440 more than expected, the highest sales premium of all colors analyzed.

Zillow's analysis looked at more than 32,000 photos from sold homes around

the country to see how certain paint colors impacted their sale price on average, when compared to similar homes with white walls. Walls painted in other cool, natural tones like pale gray or oatmeal also appeared in top-performing listings.

A home's exterior color may also have an impact on its sale price. Homes painted in "greige," a mix of light gray and beige, sold for \$3,496 more than similar homes painted in a medium brown or with tan stucco. For a pop of color, homes with front doors painted in shades of dark navy blue to slate gray sold for \$1,514 more.

Some colors may actually deter buyers. Homes with darker, more style-specific walls like terracotta dining rooms sold for \$2,031 less than expected. However, a lack of color may have the biggest negative impact as homes with white bathrooms sold for an average of \$4,035 below similar homes.

In the Zillow article, the service's chief economist, said, "Color can be a powerful tool for attracting buyers to a home, especially in listing photos and videos. Painting walls in fresh, natural-looking colors, particularly in shades of blue and pale gray, not only make a home feel larger, but also are neutral enough to help future buyers envision themselves living in the space. Incorporating light blue in kitchens and bathrooms may pay off especially well as the color complements white countertops and cabinets, a growing trend in both rooms."

For some years, I have been aware that

blue is America's favorite color. When I placed my home on the market, I painted all the walls off-white, but all the woodwork and cabinetry a soft tone of grey-blue. It made a statement, yet was not so specific to shortstop the attraction of a buyer.

I feel particularly proud of the advice I gave in the sale of an historic home where each room was painted a distinct and intensive color. After lingering on the market for almost six months, I convinced the sellers to withdraw the listing for three weeks while the interior was repainted in pale appealing colors. When relisted, the home received two solid offers in less than a month.

Selecting the right paint color is one of many factors that may affect why a home sells faster or for more money. Walls painted in cool neutrals have broad appeal and also project the message that the home is well cared for and has other desirable features.

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), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

The Home Guru



By Bill Primavera

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Crossword

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1. Recurring themes
7. Vacation location
10. Bugged down
11. Soft protection
12. Under debate
14. Japanese statesman
15. C.P.R. expert
16. Capitol V.I.P. (abbr.)
17. Baptismal sponsor
20. Sometimes patented
22. Cereal with a captain
23. Study furnishings
27. "___ be my pleasure"
28. Undivided
29. Grasp the concept
30. Mt. Kisco restaurant with a "Churchillian" name,___
35. 1997 U.S. Open winner
36. Whopper toppers
37. Like a fox
38. Taper

DOWN

1. "Mamma ___", by Abba
2. Toronto's prov.

3. Mai ___ cocktail
4. Collection agcy.
5. "Joined together" or Jefferson Valley health club, ___ Fitness
6. Dumbfound
7. Rose family shrubs
8. Protect an idea
9. Takes up
13. O'Hare stat
17. Science of earth measurement
18. Wine cask material
19. Unnamed litigant
20. Stork-like birds
21. "Really?!"
24. Holy ___!
25. Negatively charged atom
26. Medicinal yellow-flowered plant
31. Elton John, e.g.
32. Pile of rocks
33. John Lennon's wife
34. Australian state, abbr.

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Briarcliff Manor

(Solution for puzzle on page 15)

1	M	2	O	3	T	4	I	5	F	6	S			7	S	8	P	9	A
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27	I	T	D		28	O	N	E											
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37	S	L	Y			38	N	A	R	R	O	W							

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2020 Academy Awards

Continued from page 12
their Oscar nominations, but will likely fall short of a win. This film is certainly filled with raw emotion, but not in the way that will make you cry tears of joy. After the film, I was left feeling dejected and demoralized, but I guess that was the point. Laura Dern is expected to take home her first Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role as Johansson's divorce lawyer. Dern is an outstanding actress, but I don't think her performance here merits an Oscar due to the character's lack of depth. Overall, Marriage Story was an excellent film, but will likely not be contending for many awards despite its six Oscar nominations. **Rating: 8/10**

1917: The war epic, directed by Sam Mendes, is based off a story told to the director by his grandfather, Alfred Mendes. The film is set in World War I and revolves around two British soldiers who are tasked with delivering a message to another battalion who are set to walk into a German trap. The stakes are high as the one of the soldier's brothers is part of the battalion. 1917 is filmed through what appears to be a single, continuous shot, which all but guarantees an Oscar win for Best Cinematography. Mendes does a phenomenal job of making you feel immersed in this perilous journey and at times, it almost feels too real. George MacKay is unlucky to not have gotten any significant Oscar buzz as he does a great job of exhibiting genuine,

unfiltered emotion is the midst of unparalleled stress and tragedy. 1917 has had the most momentum of any film, taking home Best Picture at the Golden Globes, BAFTA Awards, Director's Guild Awards, and Producer's Guild Awards. I was not expecting to love this film as much as I did and in my opinion, it is the best war movie I've ever seen. It will most likely win Best Picture come Oscar Sunday and I will certainly not be upset about it. **Rating: 10/10**

- Best Picture:** Who Will Win: 1917
Who Should Win: **Parasite**
- Best Director:** Who Will Win: Sam Mendes - 1917
Who Should Win: **Sam Mendes - 1917**
- Best Actor:** Who Will Win: Joaquin Phoenix - Joker
Who Should Win: **Joaquin Phoenix - Joker**
- Best Actress:** Who Will Win: Renée Zellweger - Judy
Who Should Win: **Renée Zellweger - Judy**
- Best Supporting Actor:** Who Will Win: Brad Pitt - Once Upon a Time in Hollywood
Who Should Win: **Tom Hanks - A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood**
- Best Supporting Actress:** Who Will Win: Laura Dern - Marriage Story
Who Should Win: **Florence Pugh - Little Women**

Soundview Preparatory School in Yorktown Closes

Soundview Preparatory School has suspended normal operations, with a view to closing June 2020.

In an announcement released late Monday, school officials stated, "Despite the efforts we have made over the last several years, and particularly the past nine months, economic factors beyond our control make it impossible to remain open for the rest of the 2019-20 academic year or thereafter."

"Despite much strategizing and hard work, fundraising efforts have not resulted in sufficient participation among alumni, current families, and local supporters, and continued efforts to boost enrollment have not brought a sufficient number of new students. Until last week, we continued to hope that a path could be found to keep the School open and to pursue possible solutions to its many challenges. Among other

initiatives, we vigorously pursued philanthropic contributions, reduced expenses wherever possible, reached out to feeder schools and admissions consultants in an effort to boost admissions, and explored possible alliances with other educational institutions. Sadly, none of these initiatives has resulted in a realistic plan for the School's survival."

"This announcement is no small decision, knowing that students must now find new schools and faculty and staff need to find new employment. However, in the present circumstances, we simply cannot keep the doors open. We have sought the advice of an experienced consultant to help guide us through the wind-down of the School, as efficiently and smoothly as possible. The school is committed to assisting families, teachers, and staff with the transition."

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continued from previous page

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Sports

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Lakeland Turns
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BOB CASTNER PHOTOS

Walter Panas senior swingman Robert Ennis swerves through and fires off shot against Lakeland defenders Brian Cummins (4) and Rob Nardelli (12) last Saturday when members of the visiting Lakeland varsity basketball team (inset) posed with the coveted Giglio Ball after the Hornets knocked off the rival Panthers, 67-57, in the 30th annual Vincent and Terry Giglio Memorial Scholarship Games. The Hornets returned the favor after Panas won the 29th version at 'The Hive' last year... see Boys' Hoops Notebook

Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

DiCintio Knocks Down 1,000th Point; Hen Hud Stays Strong

By Tony Pinciario

When **SOMERS** senior Dani DiCintio realized she was closing in on a major milestone – 1,000 career varsity points – she was hoping it would occur at home.

The four-year varsity standout would receive her wish as the Tuskers hosted Lakeland. DiCintio treated her parents and Somers' fans to a trademark basket.

DiCintio received a pass from Pooja Rao behind the arc and swished an NBA-range-3-pointer to eclipse the 1,000-point plateau.

"In the moment, it felt amazing," said DiCintio, who will attend Roberts Wesleyan College (Rochester, N.Y.) in September and major in Early Childhood Education. "All my teammates came running up to me. I didn't know what to do. It meant so much."

Somers Coach Marc Hattem could not have been happier for DiCintio.

"It's an amazing accomplishment for Dani," Hattem said. "Dani was born to score the basketball, and has really added the ability to score from mid-range and in the paint. While scoring is what Dani is known for, I'm most proud of her continued development on the defensive end and becoming more of a complete point guard."

Somers beat **LAKELAND** and John Jay-Cross River, making it eight wins in its last nine games. The Tuskers are now 9-6.

After injuries limited Somers the first month of the season, resulting in a 1-5 record, the Tuskers are healthy and clicking.

"We were competing with teams, even without our big players," DiCintio said. "We knew our time was going to come because we had been working so hard in practice."

Along with Somers' return to health, the Tuskers' cohesiveness has been a strength as has the emergence of some players.

"Our chemistry has been the biggest difference," DiCintio said. "We all get along, love playing basketball with each other and hanging out with each other."



RAY GALLAGHER/BOB CASTNER/BILL KENNEDY PHOTOS

Somers Captain Emily Arena soars for two against trio of Lakeland defenders in Tuskers' 60-29 win over visiting Hornets last Wednesday.

Coming into the season, Hattem knew he had three impact players in DiCintio, Penzo and Rao. DiCintio was quick to cite classmate Jordan May, sophomore Amy Lasher and freshman Ava Guidice emerging as key players.

"Jordan is a great player and teammate," DiCintio said. "I'm so happy for her. She has come a long way. Amy always guards the



Somers G Julia Vitale goes up strong for shot against defense from Lakeland's Amanda Cole in Tuskers' 60-29 win over visiting Hornets last Wednesday.

opponent's best player and mentally takes them out of the game. Ava has been killing it on the offensive and defensive end."

May had a team-high 17 points against Lakeland.

DiCintio finished with 15 points against John Jay-Cross River and Emily Arena and Guidice each had a career-high 12 points.



Yorktown junior F Ashley Zeolla shreds John Jay defense for 20 points in Huskers' 57-35 win over Indians last week.



Yorktown super soph Melissa Severino has inside track to rack in Huskers' 65-37 win over visiting John Jay last Wednesday.



Somers senior C Jordan May goes strong to hoop in Tuskers' 60-29 win over visiting Lakeland last Wednesday.

DiCintio and her teammates are gaining confidence with each game and are focused on one thing.

"Our confidence has gone up so much," DiCintio said. "We are excited and we all want to win."

"We've made it to the final four every year and we know we can make it again if we keep working as hard as we have."

HEN HUD ran its winning streak to 10 consecutive games following victories over R.C. Ketcham (55-47), Beacon (58-30) and Peekskill (61-23).

The Sailors are now a program-best 14-1 and will look to increase its current roll as they played at Clarkstown South, today, host Poughkeepsie and travel to Croton.

Marist-bound Caitlin Weimar continued her excellent play and double-double domination with 23 points and 10 rebounds against Ketcham. Kira Varada added nine points, five rebounds and five steals. Mylene Smith also had nine points and Grace Moretti collected 10 rebounds and a team-leading four steals.

Weimar duplicated points and rebound –23 apiece – against Beacon. Moretti contributed 18 points and five rebounds.

Weimar scored 23 points against Peekskill and also collared 11 rebounds and registered five thefts. Moretti had eight points and a season-high 11 assists. Faith Pugh also scored eight points and had seven rebounds.

PANAS improved to 11-5 after beating Brewster (49-35) and Lakeland (64-28). The Lakeland game was in the 30th annual Giglio Games.

Panas seized command of the Brewster game with a 22-0 run.

"When Brewster went on a little run to start the second quarter, we changed defenses," Panas Coach Matt Evangelista said. "At that point, our defense led to a few steals and some stops, which allowed us to get out in transition. Kristen (Cinquina) had nine points during the run, as did Caileen (Nolan), who hit a shot from nearly half court, at the buzzer, to cap the run."

Cinquina and Nolan had 15 points apiece. Kristen Scrobola added eight points and 14 rebounds and freshman Kelsey Cregan finished with six points and seven rebounds.

Scrobola, the feisty senior, led the way against Lakeland with 18 points, Erijona Rraci added 13 points and Cinquina scored seven points.

"The whole team played a great game, defensively, and moved the ball beautifully," Evangelista said.

YORKTOWN rallied from a six-point deficit in the fourth quarter to overcome **BREWSTER**, 47-44 on a cooley-sank Melissa Severino 3-pointer at the buzzer.

"Melissa is one of the purest shooters on the team," Yorktown Coach Brian Mundy said. "She moved well without the ball and went to space real well. She shoots best

continued on next page

Sports

continued from previous page

Girls' Hoops Notebook



Mahopac G Kristina Rush drops a shot on Carmel F Madelyn McMath in Indians' 74-43 win over visiting Rams last Thursday.



Mahopac's Lauren Beberman had big game (10 points, 10 boards) against Carmel's Danielle Bello (13) and Madelyn McMath (21) in Indians' 74-43 win over Rams last week.

when she doesn't think about it and just lets it fly. The game-winning shot looked good from the second it left her hand. I'm so proud of her. That's a moment she will never forget."

Mundy said his team, which will only get better next year, was down six points entering the fourth quarter so it knew what it had to do.

"We needed to get some stops since it was only a two-possession game," Mundy said. "Our games with Brewster are always nail-biters so we knew we had to play a pretty clean quarter. We've been preaching more ball control and discipline on offense to cut down on turnovers. The girls didn't panic, hung

in there and made some smart decisions, offensively. We got two big stops in the last couple of minutes to give us a chance."

Jesse Barer had five 3-pointers for 15 points and a career-high 14 rebounds. Severino finished with 14 points and eight rebounds. Ashley Zeolla added nine points and Emily Ward collected a career-best 11 rebounds and four assists.

Yorktown is now 8-7 overall and 3-2 in league play after a win over John Jay-Cross River and overtime loss to Harrison.

Zeolla rang up 20 points and added seven

rebounds in the 57-35 win over John Jay. Ward added 13 points and four steals and Severino had 12 points.

Zeolla had 21 points and 18 rebounds against Harrison.

MAHOPAC handled archrival **CARMEL** (74-43) and New Rochelle (64-51), before Arlington swept the season set (52-36) in a pivotal League I-A game.

Mahopac had a balanced scoring effort against Carmel, led by Caitlyn O'Boyle's 14 points. Kristina Rush added 12 points and Lauren Beberman contributed 10 points.

Danielle Bello had 15 points for Camel and Madelyn McMath added 10 points.

Mahopac had a six-point lead at halftime against New Rochelle before taking control in the second half. Beberman led Mahopac

with 15 points, O'Boyle had 14 points and Melanie DeMeo added 13 points.

"We played good team defense and offensively, we did a nice job of running the offense with good ball movement and the girls being shot ready," Mahopac Coach Chuck Scozzafava said. "And, we had balanced scoring."

Arlington turned up the defensive intensity in the second half, limiting Mahopac to 15 points. DeMeo finished with 10 points as Mahopac is now 11-6 overall and 4-3 in the league..

OSSINING is on a four-game winning streak after victories over White Plains (63-48) and Horace Greeley (85-33), raising its record to 8-7.

Ashley McFadden had 17 points, 10 rebounds and six assists and Brooke Weeks also had 17 points and nine rebounds as the nine-time Section 1 defending champion Pride outscored the Tigers, 12-6, in the second quarter. Ossining turned a three-point deficit after one quarter into a three-point halftime lead.

Lily Barossi added 12 points, Ede Walker grabbed nine rebounds and Tamia Dimmie collected seven assists.

Julia Iorio scored a career-high 41 points, including 11 3-pointers, against Greeley. Kacie Scarduzio and Walker each had 11 points.

BREWSTER had a difficult week, dropping two league games – Panas (49-35) and Yorktown (47-44). Yorktown won the game on a buzzer-beater by Melissa Severino.

"The Panas game was very close for 27 minutes, however, in the final five minutes of the second quarter they went on a 22-0 run," Brewster coach Mike Castaldo said. "We had a chance to extend our lead, before that, but we didn't respond. Our league is too good to play for just 27 minutes. If you don't play for 32 minutes you will lose every time."

Grace Galgano finished with 11 points, 15 rebounds and nine blocks.

"We had two chances with the game tied in the final minute against Yorktown," Castaldo said. "On the first possession we turned it over and on the second, Yorktown made a great defensive play to block us down low. Yorktown worked the ball and hit the contested three. We did a better job of playing tougher, unfortunately we didn't make the plays in the final minute."

Galgano had a triple-double – 16 points, 15 rebounds and 11 rejections.

LAKELAND went 1-1 on the week with a 61-48 victory over Horace Greeley and a loss to Somers. Hannah Devine had a game-high 21 points and nine rebounds against Greeley. Tyler Hormazabal added 14 points and Nichole Ljuljic had 11 points.

PUTNAM VALLEY, ranked No.13 in NYS Class B, is now 13-3 this season following triumphs of Haldane, on Senior Night, and Croton (54-42).

On Senior Night, Putnam Valley honored Kelli Venezia, Cyera Daughtry and Alex Waters. Freshman Eva DeChent scored a game-high 23 points and continued her ascent upon the Section 1 circuit while steady junior Arianna Stockinger added 12 points. DeChent had her second 20-plus-point game of the week with 26 against Croton. Venezia added 10 points for the League III-E front-running Tigers, the current No.2 seed in Class B.



Putnam Valley's Eva DeChent and Amanda Orlando try to pin down Haldane's Shianne Twoguns in host Tigers' 65-18 win over Blue Devils last Thursday.



Putnam Valley senior G Kelli Venezia fires J on Haldane's Essie Florke in host Tigers' 65-18 win over Blue Devils Thursday.



Haldane G Bela Monteleone tries to nix an assist by Put Valley F Eva DeChent in Blue Devils' 65-18 loss to host Tigers last Thursday.

Sports

Boys' Notebook

Lakeland Takes Giglio Bragging Rights from Panas, 67-57

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sport Editor@Directrays

No matter where we start this week, we had some big games in and around the NWE/Putnam region, including the Hornets' season sweep of the Panthers in Lakeland/Panas' Giglio Games, Class C Haldane's spanking of Class B Putnam Valley and Class AA Mahopac's second win of the season over Class A Somers, not to mention Class B Croton's handling Class AA Ossining. Yeah, man, things are getting mighty interesting, and the NWE/Putnam poll is reshaped accordingly.

Class A **LAKELAND** is taking form as a legit Final 4 contender should Coach Steve Fallo's Hornets clean up the little things (eh-hem, turnovers) that will certainly plague a team with built-in shortcomings like a lack of size.

"We are playing good basketball, not great basketball," Fallo admitted. "We're still turning the ball over too many times, but our offense has been consistent, and our defense has been improving game by game. We just think about the next game and don't look past any opponent. There is so much parity in Class A that you better be ready to play every night, or you can get beat."

There was no beating them Saturday night when the Lakeland School District packed Walter Panas High with both sides of the tracks, the Hornets working a hard-fought 67-57 triumph of the rival Panthers in the 30th annual rendition of the Giglio Games.

"The Giglio games are very special because it brings us together as a district for a day to remember Vincent and Terry Giglio," Fallo said. "Anytime we play Panas, it's always a battle and the records mean nothing. It's the Giglio game, a league game and for the players it's for bragging rights. What could be better?"

NWE/PUTNAM HIGH FIVE HOOPS POLL

No.1 LAKELAND -- Coach Fallo's Class A Hornets (13-3, 6-0 II-C) hold the No.4 seed for now and remain the team to beat in

League II-C, all but a shoe-in to win league boasting rights. But the Hornets are in it to win it all after posting wins over Panas and Somers to run their streak to seven in a row. Against Panas, Lakeland had four players in double digits, including Augie Karaqi (20), Jack Kruse (11), Rob Nardelli (13) and Jeff Owusu (11, 9 in the 4th) while Brian Cummins added 9. Against Somers, Lakeland cruised to an 18-point win (60-42). Kruse led the team with 16 points and Karaqi had 14, but of equal importance was the balance with Mike Arcure and Nardelli going for 11 each. Owusu had six points and was a royal pain.

No.2 MAHOPAC -- Coach McMahon's Class AA Indians (7-7, 3-3 I-A) won 2 of 3 last week over Carmel and Somers with smothering defense, but Arlington came along and presented a 62-31 rout of the Indians, who hold the No.12 playoff seed for now. Soph Michael Callahan dropped a career-high 11 points in the loss to Admirals, who hold half game lead on RCK for league title. Vincent Bastone led the way with 19 points against Somers while Ryan Reilly (9) and Luke Syku (8) led the way against the Rams in a 44-41 win. Congrats to former grid Coach /AD Gerry Keevens, who will have the old gym in Mahopac named after him, and to Joe Corace and Vinny Collins on their inductions into the Mahopac Hall of Fame this week #QuiteTheTrio #LEGENDS.

No.3 HALDANE -- Coach Virgadamo's Class C Blue Devils (13-3, 3-0 III-E) held a dunk-fest on Put Valley in a 62-42 runaway win as they maneuver their way toward the League III-E crown. Matt Champlin (17 points), Mame Diba (14), Daniel Santos (14), Soren Holmbo (13) and Matteo Cervone (9) presented match-up problems across the board. The road to the Class C crown won't be easy for the No.2 Blue Devils with No.3 Tuckahoe and No.1 Hamilton likely on tap at the County Center.

No.4 PANAS -- Coach Auerbach's Class A Panthers (9-7, 3-3 II-C) hung tough with Lakeland throughout the loss and should they ever get their full squad on the court,



AMY KUBICK/BILL KENNEDY/BOB CASTNER PHOTOS

Haldane senior swingman Matt Champlin goes for two of his game-high 17 points in host Blue Devils' 82-62 win over Anthony Williams' Put Valley Tigers Thursday.

including Lorenzo Santucci -- who we (we being me) really want to see suit up down the stretch -- the Panthers will be a tough out as a potential No.13 seed. The 13 plays the 4 if the 13 wins its outbracket, which

would set up a No.13 Panas vs. No.4 Lakeland opening round tip if the playoffs began today. How much fun would that be? Santucci dropped 19 points, Alex Tavarez added 16 and Arturo Macchia 12 for Panas in a 73-38 win over Brewster.

No.5 PEEKSKILL -- Coach Turner's Class A Red Devs (9-7, 3-2 II-E) saw Antonio Taylor go off for 26 points in loss to Lourdes but Peekskill dropped two games to the powers that be in League II-E, including defending NYS champ Poughkeepsie. Taylor had 18 points and Brennan Heaven added 15 for Peekskill in loss to Pioneers. Hearing really good things about the JV team so maybe we get the old Peekskill back for another Class A run soon enough.

No.5A SOMERS -- Coach DiCintio's Class A Tuskers (6-10, 3-3 II-C) are pretty much setting the foundation for next year when the coach, who shall return in 2020-21, can certainly contend for the first league title in 30 years with what he returns and this solid JV unit we continue to hear about. Yeah, Somers still got Panas head-to-head but that could change this week in the rematch if Panas is ever back to full strength. Matt Fitzsimons (16 points) and Ben Germaine (11 points) had big games against Mahopac.

continued on next page



Haldane F Daniel Santos goes up strong against Put Valley F Joe Lewis in Blue Devils' 82-26 win over visiting Tigers Thursday.



Haldane's Soren Holmbo makes his move on Put Valley sophomore Tommy Calicchio in Blue Devils' 82-62 win over visiting Tigers Thursday.

Sports

continued from previous page

Boys' Hoops Notebook



Mahopac sophomore F Ryan Reilly drops two of his nine points on Carmel's Nick DiLeo in Indians' 44-41 win over visiting Rams Wednesday.

HM YORKTOWN -- Coach Pavella's Class A Huskers (8-8, 3-3 II-C) have really shown some improvement this season, climbing all the way to No.14 in class, after



Haldane Coach Joe Virgadamo is stoked by performance of senior G Alex Kubik in Blue Devils romp of visiting Put Valley Thursday.

winning four in a row, including an impressive 75-63 win over John Jay CR. Huskers saw senior G Roni Brucaj go for 22 points with Eddie Brucaj and Rob Miller each pouring in 15.

In Yorktown's 72-39 win over Brewster, Sam Pincus (24 points, 7 rebounds) had the finest game of his career and Roni Brucaj

(19 points, 8 rebounds) and Tony Granitto (11 points, 9 rebounds) were big time keys. Would be something if these guys could go 3-1 with Panas, Somers, Lakeland and Jay to close it out, anything less than 2-2 would burst this bubble of hope.

HM OSSINING -- Coach Casey's Class AA Pride (5-11, 1-4 I-D) lost to Class B Croton at home, which does not bode well for Class AA playoff hopes. The Pride have played a tough schedule and should have no problem getting in, but they will likely face a top 3 seed -- provided they win an outbracket -- should the play-offs begin today.

HM CROTON -- Coach Boykin's Class B Tigers (9-8, 5-3 III-A) opened some eyes in a 58-48 win over Class AA Ossining when Jack Connolly pulled a double-double (18 points, 10 rebounds) and steady Braden Burke finished with 16 points and seven assists for surging Croton, winners of three in a row.

HM HEN HUD -- Coach Hirsch's Class A Sailors (4-11, 0-5 II-E) dropped a 59-48 decision to Beacon 59 despite Nick Hiltzley's 20 points to lead the Sailors, who snapped six-game slide in 87-60 rout of Riverside. Nick Hiltzley had 27 while kid bro Dean Hilt-



Panas G Alex Tavarez splits triple team of Lakeland's Jack Kruse, Jeff Owusu and Augie Karaqi in Panthers' 67-57 loss to visiting Hornets Saturday.

sley had 15 and David Goldman had 13.

HM CARMEL -- Coach Ross' Class AA Rams (7-9, 1-5 I-D) have dropped 5 of last 6 and have some work to do over the final four games to qualify for postseason play. May have to beat either Ossining (last night) or Yonkers to get in because Arlington and RCK have had their number.

HM PUTNAM VALLEY -- Coach Morales' Class B Tigers (2-12, 1-2 III-E) better take down Pawling and Lefell of they could be out of the playoff picture for the first time since 2011. The Class of 2020 doesn't want that on its resumé.

HM BREWSTER -- Coach Nelligan's Bears (3-11, 0-6 II-C) were shredded in losses to Yorktown and Panas, allowing 72 and 78 points, respectively. That has to drive coach crazy. Paul Catalano led Brewster with 13 points in loss to Panas.



Yorktown swingman Roni Brucaj goes up for two of 19 points he would score in 72-39 win over Brewster and Kobey Hart (R) Friday.



Whirling Yorktown G Dan Trashani has returned from injury to provide spark in 72-39 win over visiting Brewster Friday.



Mahopac junior F Luke Syku gets after two points against Somers defender Nate Townsend in Indians' 44-41 win





RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Somers senior captain Dani DiCintio wasted little time in scoring the 1,000th point of her storied career last Wednesday when she drained a first-minute, NBA-range 3-point splash and celebrated with teammates during the Tuskers’ 60-29 win over visiting Lakeland last Wednesday. DiCintio, a fearless four-year varsity point guard, has been an integral part of the Tuskers’ rise in Section 1 over the last six years... see Girls’ Hoops Notebook



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