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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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Tartaro Placed in Legislator 3 Seat to Replace Othmer

By David Propper

Despite pushback from some residents in the Town of Kent, the Putnam County Legislature appointed Lou Tartaro to the legislator 3 seat left open, just a few months after he was voted out of local office.

In a 5-3 vote, the legislature decided to follow the Kent Republican Committee's recommendation of selecting Tartaro and he was sworn in immediately during the Jan. 7 organizational meeting at the old courthouse. Tartaro is replacing former legislator Richard Othmer, who resigned from his county position to serve as Kent's highway supervisor.

A couple days after the meeting, Tartaro said in an interview he assumed he'd be appointed after the Kent GOP Committee recommended him. While

he said the suggestion isn't binding, he said that's usually the procedure followed.

"My focus is the same it's always been," Tartaro said. "My focus is committed to public service, whether I'm in office or out of office."

And some critics believe Tartaro should've stayed out of office rather than get the one-year appointment before November's election.

Tartaro was voted out of the Kent town

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DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Lou Tartaro is sworn in as Putnam County District 3 Legislator during the legislature's Jan.7 meeting.

Albano Appointed to Leg Chair, But Doesn't Come Without Division

By David Propper

Three legislators were nominated to be the new chairperson for the Putnam County Legislature, but once the dust settled, it was District 5 Legislator Carl Albano who was named the new chairman to start a new year.

In what proved to be a divisive decision for the legislature, Albano was elected the new chairman after it took four roll call votes and the appointment of a new legislator, Lou Tartaro to District 3 in order to get Albano through.

Originally, Albano and Dini LoBue of District 8 were the two legislators proposed for the top position. But with just eight legislators on the board at the time, neither could garner enough votes to get the title. Albano received only four votes, with Legislator 9 Kevin Wright abstaining, and LoBue also received only four votes.

After both nominations failed, District 2 Legislator Sam Oliverio implored the rest of the legislature to compromise and nominated District 6 Legislator Roger Gross, but that also didn't get the necessary votes.

It was only after the agenda item was skipped and Tartaro was appointed that Albano got enough votes to become the chairman. Following the meeting, Albano said he looks forward to keeping things moving smoothly.

"We want to be very productive this year with all our decisions," Albano said.

Albano, a 37-year business owner, said his levelheaded approach and calm demeanor would help bring more civility to the legislature. He was first mentioned

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Austin Road Students Display Japanese Brush Paintings



First and second grade students from Austin Road Elementary School created Japanese style "ink wash" paintings using tempera paint blocks and bamboo brushes.

For more, see full story page 10.

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Tartaro Placed in Leg. 3 Seat to Replace Othmer

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board, losing to both newly elected Paul Denbaum and Bill Huestis last November. Three legislators voted against allowing Tartaro to serve, noting it would be breaking the will of the voters.

District 2 Legislator Sam Oliverio said not only was Tartaro not reelected, but also was rejected by an overwhelming margin of defeat. Oliverio said the legislature could have kept the seat open for now and done interviews and screened more candidates for the seat.

"Lou is a great guy. He's an excellent councilperson," Oliverio said. "But his people in the district he represents made it clear 'OK we want to give Lou a rest here.'"

Another legislator that voted against Tartaro was Dini LoBue, who said she would not "circumvent the will of the people." She added she received many calls and emails from people that didn't want Tartaro appointed.

Legislator 5 Legislator Carl Albano defended choosing Tartaro because of his experience and credentials that date

back many years. Being a past legislator, Albano said Tartaro was already familiar with how county government works.

He called Tartaro the "logical choice," though admitted there was a sense of urgency to appoint Tartaro when the board with just eight legislators couldn't pick a new chairperson. Tartaro was the tiebreaker that got Albano appointed.

"I do think he was qualified for the position," Albano said. "When you take all the factors in, it made the most sense at the time. That just added to it."

Barbara Scuccimarra, who voted to select Tartaro, said it's imperative to have nine legislators in order to get work done for the county efficiently.

Tartaro said he didn't even expect have to cast a vote to select Albano as the new chairman because he thought Albano was already going to be appointed without his vote. But once he got on the board, he got right to work.

"I did not anticipate that the vote for chairman of the legislature was going to be controversial prior to Tuesday night," Tartaro said.



Our Trendsetters (from left to right): Bernadette Erickson, Sean Thomas, Stephanie Gosney, Putnam Hospital Center Medical Staff President Joel Buchalter, MD, Paul Pappas, Arne Nordstrom, Darlene Maldonado, Elizabeth Martin, Putnam Hospital Center President Maureen Zipparo, Anna Casola, Geraldine Kelleher and Linda Kranz.

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Denig Withdraws Name from County Exec Race; Ball Criticizes Odell

By David Propper

The chances of a Democratic primary election in Putnam County for the county executive office became less likely last week when a possible candidate dropped out.

Democrat Lisa Denig confirmed in an email she won't be running for county executive this year after she had previously stated a couple months earlier she was considering entering the race. Denig said in November she was going to make a decision sometime after the New Year and that decision not to run now leaves one known Democrat, District 2 Legislator Sam Oliverio, vying for the seat currently held by Republican MaryEllen Odell.

In a statement, Denig said, "I have decided not to pursue a run for Putnam County Executive in 2014. Unfortunately, the timing is just not right for me this year but I look forward to other opportunities that may come my way in the future."

Though Denig, who works for the Westchester County District Attorney, didn't give a specific reason for pulling out, Oliverio said he heard it's because her employer didn't want her to get involved in Putnam politics, especially with the ongoing saga surrounding Putnam DA Adam Levy.

The Westchester DA is prosecuting the controversial rape case of Alex Hossu, in which Levy has been alleged to be too involved in helping Hossu's defense.

In an interview in mid-November, Denig touted how she had a "grand vision for Putnam County."

"And I don't believe any people that are interested in the current position have a bigger vision for the county other than the same old issues constantly discussed," Denig said back then.

Before working down in Westchester, she was involved in county government. She was the former chief of staff for former county executive and Republican Robert Bondi. She also worked for former state senator Vincent Leibell as his communication director.

If she reached the general election, Denig said she would have been able to get support from both Democrats and Republicans.

Oliverio, now the sole Democrat probably running, said he was happy to hear he may be able to avoid a Democratic primary election.

"I could not understand why another Democrat would want to challenge me," Oliverio said. "I have name recognition, I've been a legislator for 18 years, I've been very progressive."

"I don't think anyone would challenge me at this point," Oliverio added.

With it only being January, there aren't other candidates right now besides Oliverio, acting county Democratic Committee Chairperson Lillian Jones said.

Jones said the decision to endorse a Democratic candidate would come in May when the committee holds its convention. She said Oliverio is a "very viable candidate."

"We would certainly be honored to have him run under his banner," she said.

Jones said she couldn't recall the last time there was a primary election for Democrats running for county executive. She said

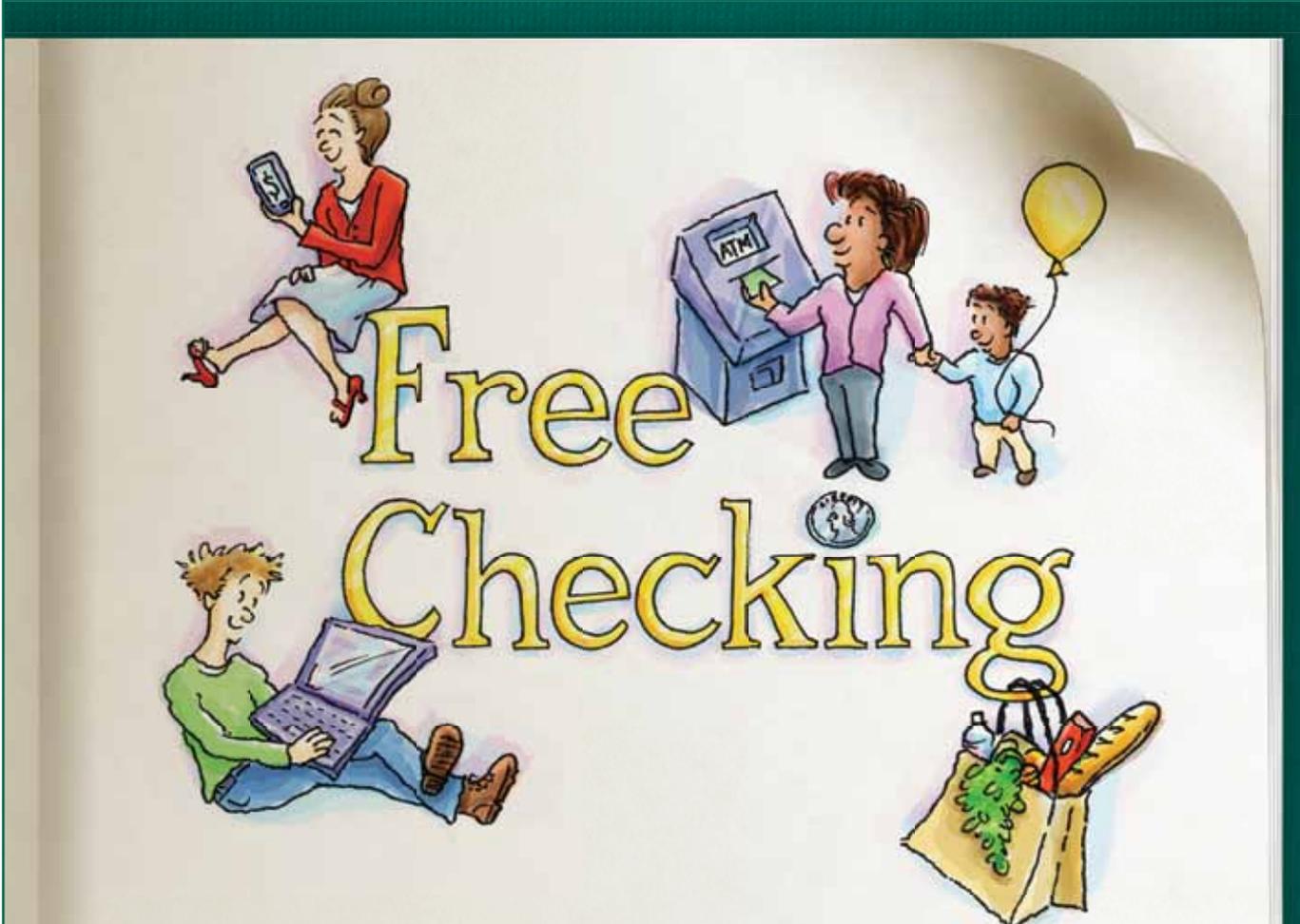
not having a primary election would help county Democrats fully concentrate on just one candidate.

"Certainly having more time to be supportive of the candidate running is a plus," Jones said. "And I would be very happy to not have a primary."

Meanwhile, Republicans might be inching closer to a primary election. In a statement, state senator Greg Ball criticized

Odell, stating "the County Executive would be well advised to focus on Putnam County, where recent division, scandals and a lack of accountability in County Government have left a large vacuum for real leadership."

In addressing his political future and possible county executive run, Ball said he would "make any political announcements after the New York State budget is complete."



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Albano Appointed to Leg Chair, But Doesn't Come Without Division

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to be a possible replacement to past chairman Richard Othmer when other legislators noticed his ability to bring a meeting spiraling out of control back to focus with a few common sense words, Albano said.

"I want to be effective. I want to be sitting there as the chair," Albano said. "Not doing this as a TV show."

The two legislators that were nominated, but didn't get the nod expressed disappointment in the final decision.

LoBue said her leadership capability speaks for itself, but wasn't surprised she wasn't elected. She added, "I understand the importance of having two equal branches of government. That the legislature be autonomous, free of any fear of political retribution from the county executive."

Gross said despite the disappointment, he's ready to move on. Prior to the meeting when the eight Republican legislators were in caucus, Gross said there was "quite a disagreement" as to who would be appointed chairman and also deputy chairman.

"There is a difference of opinion on the legislature, but it's over now," Gross said. "People have been set into their position so I think we can move forward."

Oliverio said he proposed Gross after LoBue didn't get enough votes, and was disappointed that "party politics overrode what's good for the people of our county."

While Oliverio thinks Albano is a good legislator, he said he doesn't believe Albano is independent enough of MaryEllen Odell and the county executive office. He added he believes Odell will have as much influence over the legislature that it did when Othmer was the chairman.

"It reduces the independence and the ability of the legislature to do what's right for it's constituents," Oliverio said. "... Roger would have been a healer."

Looking back on the meeting, Oliverio admits nominating Gross right away instead of LoBue might have been the better alternative.

"I think now that would have been a better move," Oliverio said.

Getting the spot of deputy chairperson was second year legislator Ginny Nacerino, who represents District 4. Nacerino said she "honored" and "humbled" to be appointed, beating out Gross who was also nominated.

Odell said she's ready to work with the leadership set in place. She said Albano is a legislator about good government. His laidback attitude is refreshing, especially on a board when discussions can get heated.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

Carl Albano, with gavel in hand, sits as the chairman after he was finally elected by enough of the other legislators. County clerk Dennis Sant was running the meeting beforehand.

"You'll never see Carl raise his voice or get excited," Odell said. "I think there's enough of that on the board already."

The organizational meeting, which took place on Jan. 7 was tense even before it officially began. The eight Republican legislators were in the back behind closed doors more than ten minutes after the meeting was scheduled to start.

Acting as the current chairman was

county clerk Dennis Sant, who asked the Republican section of legislature if going back into caucus after the first two votes failed would result in a different outcome, but he got a frosty response.

The only light moment came when Othmer, who was in the audience and is now the highway superintendent of the Town of Kent blurted out "You want me to come back?"

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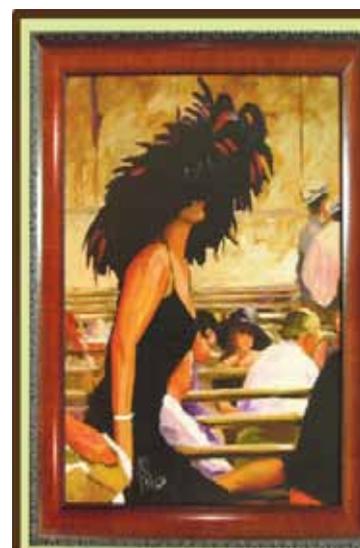
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Brewster Residents Take Part in Superintendent Search

By Neal Rentz

Two consultants have wrapped up two days of meetings in the Brewster School District after seeking comments about the search for a new permanent superintendent of schools.

Officials from School Leadership LLC ended their two days in the district on Jan. 8 at the district's administration building with a meeting with residents. School Leadership President Charles Fowler and Dr. Frank Chiachiere had met with parents, students, residents and staff in the district to obtain comments about how to begin the search for a new permanent superintendent of schools.

Dr. Timothy Conway is serving as interim superintendent of schools. Conway is replacing Dr. Jane Sandbank, who retired in December after serving as superintendent for about seven years.

Fowler told the roughly one dozen residents who attended the meeting that his company wanted to know what traits members of the district community wanted in a permanent superintendent and what issues that person should address in the next three to five years. Over the past two days he and Chiachiere have held a series of meetings in the district, Fowler said.

Resident Robert Cullen, who has two children in the district, said the district is paying Conway \$26,000 for him to work

for a degree that could qualify him to become the Brewster schools permanent superintendent. Cullen wanted to know if the payment was an indication that the board of education was considering hiring Conway as permanent superintendent and the district would not do a full search. Fowler told Cullen the school board was conducting a search and had not decided on whom to hire. If the board had decided to hire Conway as the permanent superintendent his company would not take part in the process, Fowler said. "This is an open search," Chiachiere said.

Resident John Valentine said he wanted a permanent superintendent who had previously held the position. Valentine said he did not want the new superintendent to require "on the job training" in Brewster.

Another resident said she wanted the new permanent superintendent to be someone from outside the Brewster district so that person would have "fresh eyes" to lead the district.

Resident Susan Henderson, who has three children in the district, said she wanted the new permanent superintendent to restore programs that had been cut in the district over the past few years. There has been a "chipping away of programs for the students," she said.

Henderson also said the permanent superintendent should be "very visible" at student events. There have been recent

student functions with no district officials in attendance, she said.

Following the meeting, Chiachiere said he and Fowler would compile a report based on the comments they received over the previous two days and provide it to the board of education. He and Fowler are planning to eventually provide between

six and eight potential candidates for the permanent superintendent post that the board of education could choose to interview, Chiachiere said.

The board of education is seeking to have a new permanent superintendent in place for the start of the 2014-15 school year on July 1.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Charles Fowler, left, and Dr. Frank Chiachiere from School Leadership LLC addressed Brewster School District residents on Jan. 8. The consulting firm has been hired by the school district to help it look for a permanent superintendent.



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Students Make a Difference at Putnam Valley High School

By Janine Bowen

The Putnam Valley High School Make a Difference club was awarded the district's Pride in Putnam Valley award at Thursday's board of education meeting for dedication and

commitment to community service.

The club, which consists of around 60 students, has raised thousands of dollars for various charities over the years by holding a number of fundraisers. Their most recent effort, a "Stay Awake A-Thon" was able to raise \$4,000 for the Make a Wish Foundation.

"What you have done will truly make a difference in the lives of a Wish family. They will never be the same," said Thomas Conklin, Chief Operating Officer of the Make a Wish Foundation's Hudson Valley chapter as several students presented him with a check.

Interim Superintendent Frances Wills also expressed her pride in the club and noted that it has a lasting effect on the students who participate.

"Those students...that we see before us have learned something that they will take with them forever. This will be part of their legacy...this is a remarkable program and the way it's done here is unique," she said.



JANINE BOWEN PHOTOS

Thomas Conklin, Chief Operating Officer of the Make a Wish Foundation's Hudson Valley chapter speaks during last Thursday's board meeting.



Students present a check to Conklin during the meeting.



Putnam Valley High School Make a Difference club students stand as they're praised for their efforts.



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**Business
of the Week**

Mid-County Lighting Showroom & Electrical Supplies (Mahopac)

By David Propper

When it comes to a family business, nothing epitomizes that more than what can be seen at Mid-County Lighting Showroom and Electrical Supplies.

Not one or two, but three generations of the same family work for the Mahopac based business in one role or another. Dating back more than 40 years in business, Mid-County has stayed successful through good and bad times all because of the family roots it comes from and continues to this day.

For Steve Deirmendjian, the history of the business started well before he began working there. The business first opened when Deirmendjian's father-in-law and his brother opened the store four decades ago when it was just an electrical supply store. Then Deirmendjian came into the business to run the place with his brother-in-law 18 years ago. Both of their wives also work there and his two teenage children occasionally help out, too.

"It's all family," Deirmendjian said. "And we treat our employees like family, too."

"We see each other everyday," he added. "We all get along great and we enjoy working together."

Before he started working for Mid-County, Deirmendjian was a technician that repaired computerized machinery in



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Steve Deirmendjian stands in the lighting showroom of the store, with bright lights all around the store.

factories. It brought him all around the world to several different countries.

He's been to nine countries and 37 different states. Some of those countries include Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Austria, China and Russia. When Deirmendjian went to China, he remembers just six months after the Tiananmen Square incident in 1989.

But the travel began to tire Deirmendjian and he wanted to have a life outside of work. When his son was taking his first steps and speaking his first words, he was

hearing about it, not actually witnessing it.

"I wanted to have a family, children," he said. "Be home for them."

While he enjoyed being a technician, Deirmendjian noted how there is always something different going on in the light and electrical business, especially when it comes to the customers you meet.

"There's no monotony," he said. "I have everybody come through the door. I have newly weds, I have kids going to college needing table lamps; I have elderly people that have different needs. Every customer

is unique. That's what makes it fun."

And even at the Mid-County, Deirmendjian will meet customers that come from different states or countries. And because he's been to some of them, Deirmendjian can relate to them. If he hears an accent he recognizes, he'll say a few words in that language that he remembers.

And more customers have been coming in with a recent boom in business. Deirmendjian notes more construction is going on in the area after the recession from recent years.

Even when the economic downturn occurred, Mid-County was able to stay afloat though it wasn't easy.

"We made it through the recession and a lot of stores didn't," he said.

Overall, the store supplies all types of lighting fixtures, light bulbs, fans, vacuum systems, generators and other accessories. And anyone who walks in for any of those items are treated like family, as well.

"We talk with them. We talk about their families and our families," Deirmendjian said. "We feel like we're close to them. They're not just a customers that comes in."

Mid-County Lighting Showroom and Electrical Supplies is located on 240 Route 6, Mahopac and their number is 845-621-7128. Their website is www.midcountylighting.com.

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Letter to the Editor

Town of Kent Encouraged to Put a Stop to Fracking

On March 6, 2013, the Putnam County Legislature unanimously passed a ban on the use of fracking waste products, which include toxic and carcinogenic chemicals, on our roads. This ban was later signed into law by County Executive Mary Ellen Odell. In so doing, the County acted to protect the health and safety of its residents, their pets, and unsuspecting wildlife that may have been harmed by this toxic and radioactive brine. The County Legislature Chairman at that time, Richard Othmer Jr., stated, "It's a

common sense thing, and we had to do it. It's not a Democratic or Republican issue." I couldn't agree more.

Unfortunately, the Kent Town Board at that time unanimously passed a resolution opting out of the County's ban, with then-Councilman Lou Tartaro absent from that meeting. They cited the concept of home-rule in justifying this action, and they urged Legislator Othmer to oppose the County's ban. Thankfully, Mr. Othmer did not heed their call.

Now that there has been a significant

change in the makeup of the Kent Town Board, we hope the new Supervisor, Maureen Fleming, will soon revisit the Town's position on this issue. The streams and rivers that flow through Kent do not stop at the town's borders, so everyone else "downstream" could be negatively impacted by Kent's exclusion. We owe it to our neighbors to be responsible and mindful of how our actions, and inactions, can harm others.

Tom Maxson
Highlands Preservation

Kent Public Library 50th Anniversary Celebration Begins

January 4th heralded the beginning of a six-month celebration honoring the 50th anniversary of the library.

There will be a different and exciting event on the first Saturday of each month.

February's event will be a Family Trivia contest followed by an after-hours scavenger hunt throughout the library.

Check the website for coming events and to sign up for February's event.

PHOTO BY F. RATTI

Bobby Robles has his mom, Christine, help him write down his favorite book character for the bulletin board.



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Letters Policy

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Ball to Host Common Core Forum for Concerned Residents

Senator Greg Ball (R, C, I - Patterson) is inviting parents, teachers and concerned residents to attend a Common Core Forum at the Carmel Town Hall of January 16 at 6 p.m.

Common Core was designed to provide a uniformed standard for students, preparing them for college and careers. However, many residents have raised concerns with the program and its implementation.

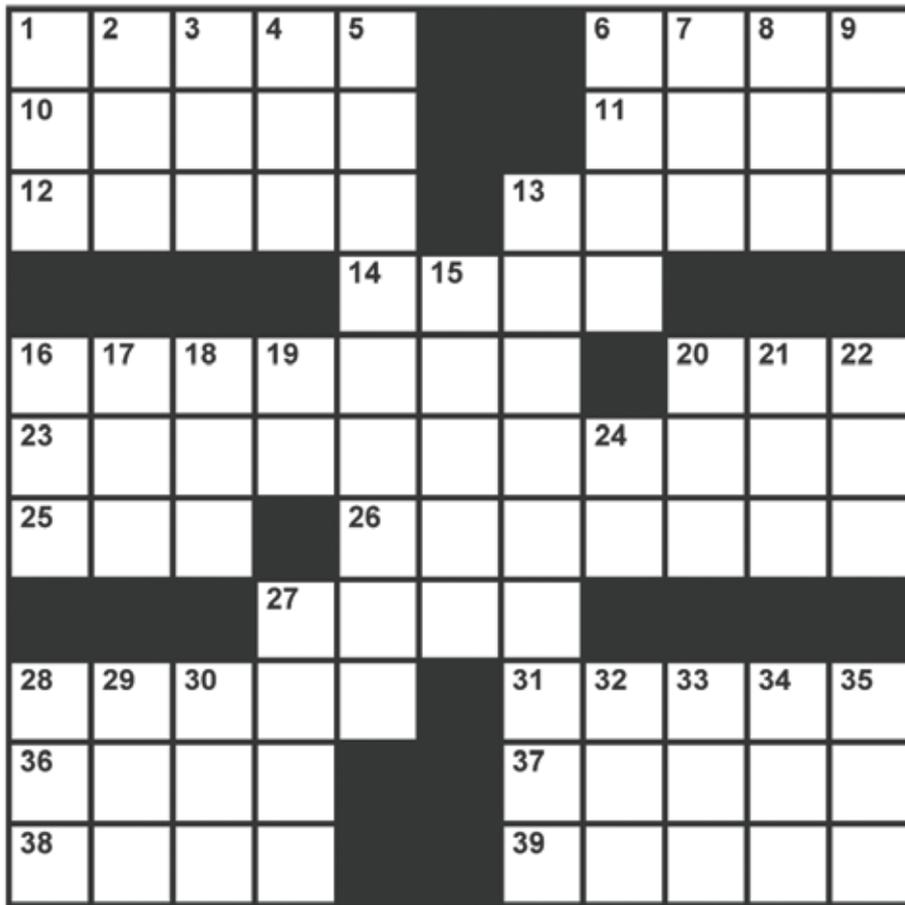
Senator Greg Ball will be hosting the community forum to review the impact of Common Core in New York State and to seek input on draft legislation addressing issues with the new standards. Senator Ball is currently working with the community to introduce a bill calling for an immediate 3-year moratorium on the controversial new standards until the issues can be resolved.

"According to the federal government, Common Core was designed to provide a uniformed standard for students,

preparing them for college and careers. Regardless of the good intentions, Common Core has become an Uncommon Disaster. I am hosting this Common Core Community Forum to hear first hand from my constituents and those affected by these new standards. My office has been inundated with phone calls, emails, letters and faxes from parents, teachers, students and community members that are very concerned with this new program. We must be committed to providing our students with the best possible education available. However, education is not about teaching to the test and it should never become a one size fits all endeavor, sinking to the lowest common denominator," said Ball.

The public and those in the education community are invited to attend. Attendees will be given a chance to speak, but will be asked to limit their remarks to three minutes.

Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 14

Across

- 1 Leno's wife or Westchester, Putnam tire distributor
- 6 School zone sign
- 10 Greek philosopher
- 11 Man of the road
- 12 Karma believer
- 13 Sprite
- 14 Wafer ____
- 16 Isaac's father
- 20 Impudent talkback
- 23 Fireplace shelf
- 25 Burmese coin
- 26 One who gets even
- 27 Nicholas I or Alexander II
- 28 Fool around with
- 31 Like some forces
- 36 ____ Strauss and Co.
- 37 Shorten, in a way
- 38 Cellist, to friends
- 39 Rental agreement

Down

- 1 Race abbr.
- 2 Actress MacGraw
- 3 Ludwig's middle name
- 4 Contraction
- 5 In Putnam, the opposite of northeast
- 6 Knee neighbor
- 7 Cured salmon
- 8 Oriental tie
- 9 Trouble
- 13 The scarlet one in France
- 15 Sesame honey confection

- 16 PA system component
- 17 Reddish brown
- 18 It's stranded
- 19 Word before large
- 20 Pants part
- 21 Bump off
- 22 The "p" in wpm
- 24 Playing
- 27 The Magi, e.g.
- 28 Wing it?
- 29 "Seinfeld" uncle
- 30 Type of league?
- 32 Heady pub serving
- 33 By the agency of
- 34 Spots
- 35 Confederate general

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Obituaries

Myrtle E. Steinbeck

Myrtle E Steinbeck, age 98, a resident of Danbury, CT, died Friday,

January 3 at home with her family by her side. Mrs. Steinbeck was born on December 15, 1915 in Patterson to the late Norman and Eva (Lynn) Booth. She attended schools in Carmel. Myrtle married Raymond H. Steinbeck on May 18, 1940 in Ludingtonville. Mr. Steinbeck died December 3, 1996. Mrs. Steinbeck was a department manager for Genungs in Danbury, CT, for 32 years before retiring. Myrtle was a member of 2nd Kent Baptist Church and she enjoyed tending to her garden. Mrs. Steinbeck is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Margaret Ann Palmer

Margaret Ann Palmer of Brewster died unexpectedly at home on Sunday, January 5, at the age of 52. She was born December 13, 1961 in Mt. Kisco, Daughter of the late Joseph and Maryann (Chiocsky) Palmer. Margaret graduated from Immaculate High School in Danbury, CT in 1979 then graduated from the Berkley Institute in New York City. She had been working as an Administrative Assistant for Corporate Compensation Plan in Danbury for the past twelve years. Margaret is Survived by her son Jonathan Urvina Palmer of Danbury, CT, and her brothers Kevin Palmer and his wife Patricia of Brewster and Brian Palmer and his wife Susan of Poughkeepsie, and several nieces and nephews.

Shirley C. Pigat

Shirley C. Pigat died on January 5 in her home surrounded by her family. She was born in Patterson to Mattie and James Casey on July 14, 1938. Shirley graduated from Brewster High School in 1955 and married Robert Pigat on September 26, 1959. She was a devoted wife, loving mother, grandmother, sister and aunt, and a caring friend to many. Shirl was an exceptional cook, avid sports fan, and active member in the community. Her family will forever remember her delicious meals, wonderful sense of humor, and her zest for life. Together Bob and Shirl had

four children Robert (Sue), Lisa Delzio (Marc), Dennis (Christine), and Daryl (Amir). She was also a loving and generous grandmother to Marc and Marisa Delzio and Robert Pigat, III. She is also survived by a sister Mary Viniello (John), brother Jerome Casey, and sister Margaret Casey along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Genevieve R. Bauer

Genevieve R. Bauer, of Narragansett, RI, Formerly of Brewster, died Monday January 6, in Wakefield, RI. She was 97 years old. Mrs. Bauer was born July 14, 1916 in Harrison, daughter of the late Harry and Rose (McAdams) Reilly. She graduated the College of New Rochelle with a bachelor degree in education and received her Masters degree in English from Fordham University. Genevieve married William A. Bauer on December 26, 1938 in Harrison. Mr. Bauer predeceased his wife on November 14, 2004.

Mrs. Bauer worked as elementary school teacher at the Harrison Central School District for 32 years before retiring in 1973. She was a member of St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Brewster. Genevieve is survived by her two children, Janet Brownlee of Southampton and Jack Bauer of Narragansett, RI, 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Elia Carpino

Elia Carpino, 92, of Mahopac died on January 7. Mrs. Carpino was born on February 20, 1921 to Rinaldo and Anna (Ricci) Susi, in Italy. Mrs. Carpino was a homemaker and dedicated her entire life to her family. She is survived by her two loving children; Jeanette Calicchia and Anthony Carpino, her two sisters; Connie Ruel and Rose Santantasio, six adoring grandchildren and ten wonderful great-grandchildren. She is predeceased by her beloved husband, Vito who died in 1986.

Ruth Anne Rothman

Ruth Anne Rothman, age 75, a resident of Brewster, died Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at her home. Ruth was born June 19, 1938 in Tarrytown to Isadore and Marcia Hoffenberg. While she spent her

early years in Tarrytown, she eventually moved to Elmsford and Mount Kisco where she raised her family. Ruth was an incredibly loving and giving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. Her creative touch was on display whether in her work or in her home. She brought beauty to the world. Ruth found great joy in expressing herself through gift giving and letter writing. The letters she wrote to friends and family were legendary; detailed, loving and humorous. Ruth loved her boys more than anything. Bobby, Jay and Richie. She loved Dana, Ruthanne and Jenny, the boy's wives. She loved her husband's children like they were her own; Annie and Lisa and their husbands Brian and Michael. And she loved all 15 of her grandchildren and step grandchildren: Nikki, Alissa, Hayley, Jack, Rosie, Reid, Jason, Zach, Sami, Mia and Ross, Jack, Kyra, Emma and Tess. She

is reunited with her husband and best friend Michael Hennelly in Heaven.

Willy Hoecker

Willy Hoecker, 76, of Holmes died on January 8. Mr. Hoecker was born on July 7, 1937 to Willy and Emilie (Schwartzkopf) Hoecker, in New York City. He proudly served his Country with the US Army from 1958-1960. Willy owned and operated his own mason company, called Hoecker Construction. He is survived by his five loving children; Debbie Guerin, Karen Pourakis, Charlie Guerin, Karl Hoecker, Heidi Brogan, thirteen adoring grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his beloved wife, Ruth Ann (nee Larsen) Hoecker and his twin brother George. A special thank you to Paulette Romano and Ritchie for loving and caring for Willy.

Putnam County Man Charged in Residential Burglaries

Putnam County Sheriff Donald B. Smith reports the arrest of a Kent resident on criminal charges stemming from two residential burglaries occurring in the Town of Patterson.

In early November of 2013, the Sheriff's Office received complaints from homeowners residing in the Fair St. area of Patterson reporting that their houses were unlawfully entered and a quantity of United States currency and precious metals stolen from within.

The cases were referred to Investigator Thomas Corless of the Sheriff's Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Detectives from the Town of Kent Police Department joined sheriff's investigators in conducting

the probe.

Their investigation resulted in the arrest of 34 year-old Kyle Patrick Sullivan of 42 Whangtown Road. He was charged with two counts of Burglary in the Second Degree, a class "C" felony. Sullivan was arraigned before Patterson Town Justice Anthony Mole and remanded to the Putnam County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$100,000 cash bail or \$200,000 bond.

Some of the stolen property has been recovered.

If convicted of a single burglary charge, Sullivan may be sentenced to a term of up to fifteen years in New York State correctional facility as determined by a court.##

Austin Road Students Display Japanese Brush Paintings

continued from page 1

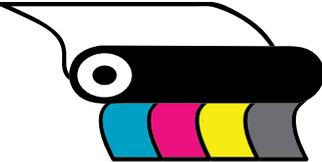
First and second grade students from Austin Road Elementary School created Japanese style "ink wash" paintings using tempera paint blocks and bamboo brushes. Under the director of their art teacher, Ms. Tess Zinzi, these students created magical and moving images featuring bamboo stalks, tiny red caterpillars and yellow moons. Twenty of their paintings are currently installed in the Young Arts Gallery at Mahopac Public Library. This artwork will remain in the gallery through January 31, and can be viewed during regular Library hours.

The bamboo stalks depicted by the students are expressively painted and each work has its own personality. The movement and energy of the bamboo stalks and leaves are captured successfully with each brush stroke. Red caterpillars were added to give a punch of color; the cut out of the yellow

moon found in the paintings also adds color and mystery to these painted images.

Participating 1st and 2nd graders are: Valza Berisha, Tommy Bonacci, Noah Bonder, Casey Brandstetter, Kate Conklin, Caitlin Decker, Daniel Dedvukaj, Sophia Doty, Hanna Fragoso, Isabella Fava, Marianna Filicko, Cameron Hart, Jake Jansen, Madison Kreymer, Joshua Lopez-Hernandez, Angelina Lulgjuraj, Regan Lux, Taylor Martin, Kailee Mastropietro, Kiera McGrinder, Gia Mobiglia, Kaylee Pecora, Leonardo Priego-Limias, Valentina Vuksanaj, Paul Wechsler, Ryan Woodside, and Eliana Zito.

Ink and wash painting originally developed in China. The Sumi-e brush painting of Japan has its origins in traditional Chinese painting. In China and Japan, calligraphy and painting were traditionally considered one and the same. The same brush strokes that were used in writing were also used in traditional Chinese and Japanese painting.



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You Can Fall in Love With Doorknobs But Never Kiss One

Except for those dastardly swinging doors, which I never liked and think are one of the world's most dangerous inventions, every door needs something to grab on to in order to be opened and closed. It's that round or oval device that you rarely think about, even though you wrap your hand around it at least 100 times a day.

After I read recently that there are about two million germs per square inch attached to the average doorknob and the experience of showing a buyer client too many houses during flu season, I became very aware of

every doorknob I touched and really started to scrub my hands down many times during the day.

Readers of this column know that I'm a movie buff and much of what I learned about home life started from make-believe home life in old movies. One of these was a Judy Garland film called "Presenting Lilli Mars," an adaptation of a Booth Tarkington novel of the same name. It was a silly enough story line with a subplot that really galled me involving Judy's younger brother who had a strange hobby of collecting doorknobs that he would steal from people's homes. **Where was the moral compass of that Midwestern family, I thought, in dismissing the**



By Bill Primavera

criminal behavior of that rascal as something cute, especially since it involved stealing an essential item in providing access and egress around the house?

The doorknob is an ingenious little device actually. The traditional knob itself has a bolt or spindle running through it that sits just above a cylinder, to which the spindle is connected. Turning the knob pulls the cylinder in the direction of the turn. The end of the cylinder is a latch that protrudes into a space that is carved out of the doorframe and prevents the door from being opened if the knob isn't turned. The mechanism

is a little more complex than I'm describing here, but I'll leave further understanding to the technicians among us.

Interestingly, America didn't produce doorknobs or any hardware at all until well after the American Revolution because of England's stranglehold on manufacturing and restrictive trade practices. **The colonies were permitted only to supply the motherland with the raw materials needed to produce the finished manufactured products that would be sold back to us, including door latches, doorknobs and all other hardware used in this country.**

The first major invention influencing the production of doorknobs in America was

the glass pressing machine, patented in 1826. It permitted the first truly decorative and mass produced pressed glass doorknob made in America.

I love how history influences our use of materials. For instance, by Victorian times, the popularity of glass doorknobs was overtaken by the use of metals—iron, brass and bronze—but in 1917, with the outbreak of World War I, glass became wildly popular once more since all metals were allocated for the manufacture of planes and other wartime materials. Glass knobs remained popular throughout World War II, but by the 1950s, preference reverted back to metals.

Today, the choices are all but limitless in the styles and shapes of knobs and levers, as well as finishes to suit every décor, such as satin nickel, aged bronze, bright brass, antique brass, bright chrome, brushed chrome, antique pewter, distressed nickel, matte black, oil-rubbed bronze and satin stainless steel.

And how's this for a look into the future? The doorknob may disappear altogether. In Vancouver, Canada, soon only lever-style door handles will be permitted to be installed in new buildings. While all existing homes, offices and businesses will be grandfathered, new construction will require levers to accommodate individuals with physical disabilities who find doorknobs difficult to manipulate.



This solid brass doorknob, circa 1899, is a collector's item taken from a demolished New York City School. One sold in The Home Guru's antiques shop many years ago for \$8; it is now offered online for \$50 to \$250.

As I write this column, I am reminded of a personal story that relates to the fact that my wife Margaret's native tongue is Lithuanian, though few people would detect any trace of an accent today. Within that ancient language are some quaint expressions that don't translate very well into English, but Margaret still unconsciously uses some of them on occasion. For instance, if one were expecting to visit a friend but found no one home, the Lithuanian expression would be that you were able only to "kiss the doorknob." Considering that there are two million germs per square inch attached to the average doorknob, that might be considered germ warfare!

Bill Primavera is a Residential and Commercial Realtor® associated with Coldwell Banker, as well as a publicist and journalist who writes regularly as The Home Guru. For questions about home maintenance or to engage him to help you buy or sell a home, he can be emailed at Bill@TheHomeGuru.com or called directly at 914-522-2076.

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Responding to Teasing and Bullying: Are Adults Giving Kids the Right Advice?

It is very common for adolescents to get teased. Even the most popular among them experience teasing. It's the way a person responds to being teased that determines the frequency and severity of it. Adults often tell adolescents to ignore teasing, to walk away, or to tell a teacher or adult. But is this the best way to help adolescents survive and thrive in their social environment, or are adults doing them a disservice by offering such advice? The research I refer to here defines teasing as verbal assaults and bullying as including acts of physical aggression.

Research shows us what socially-accepted adolescents are doing in response to being teased. It turns out that they are not ignoring, walking away, or telling on classmates. Teasing that is especially mean spirited is meant to push buttons. Teasers want to get a reaction. They want to ignite sadness, anger, and acting out. Walking away is as much a reaction as is ignoring a comment all together. Telling a teacher can be social suicide and might lead to more teasing. Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, Director of the UCLA PEERS Program (Program for Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills), offers proven strategies for handling teasing. In response to a teasing remark, individuals should give a response that

shows that the comment did not bother them or, even better, to make the teaser sound lame. Short comments such as, "Is that supposed to be funny?" or "Whatever man," or "Yeah anyway," can often put a stop to further teasing remarks.

Teasing among friends is often referred to as banter. Banter is playful and not mal-intended, though it can escalate into ugliness if kids aren't careful. Friends know how to push buttons because they know each other's secrets. If the end goal is to keep friends, adolescents should keep banter light and look for signs that a conversation might be headed in a negative direction.

Bullying is more serious than teasing or banter and requires distinct strategies, says Dr. Laugeson. Many adults tell kids to run away and tell someone; some suggest fighting back. If a person has a tendency to get physical, a sarcastic remark is likely to escalate the situation. Telling a teacher could be similarly damaging too if it provokes a bully to retaliate. Dealing with bullying is very tricky. Students are often damned if they do and damned if they don't. Here are some strategies



By Dr. Jaime
Fleckner Black

taught at the PEERS program to help individuals take control of bullying.

1. Avoid the bully if you can help it. If you know that he visits his locker at a certain time of day, for example, avoid that hallway at that time.

2. Don't provoke the bully unnecessarily. Do not report minor offenses. Do not, for instance, tell on a bully who roams the hall without a hall

pass.

3. Don't try to befriend the bully. Many adolescents think they can charm the bully but doing so only draws more attention. The bully is likely to escalate bullying acts or to pretend to be your friend and then manipulate you.

4. Avoid being alone. Bullies look for kids who are by themselves. Try to be with friends but when you can't, try to stay in the vicinity of an adult.

Many of these strategies seem unfair. Why should my child have to avoid his locker during fourth period or not act like himself when he pleases? Unfortunately schools have not yet found a way to combat bullying all together, but hopefully these strategies can help keep your children out of some sticky situations in the meantime. Despite the four above-mentioned

strategies, of course, if your child feels he is in danger, encourage him to seek help from an adult.

Dr. Jaime Black is a licensed psychologist practicing in Westchester and New York City. Jaime specializes in working with individuals on the autism spectrum doing individual psychotherapy and conducting various social skills groups. Visit www.spectrumservicesnyc.com, e-mail JaimeBlackPsyD@gmail.com or call (914)712-8208.

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The Dark Side of Dealing in Food and Wine Products



By Nick Antonaccio

The 2008 recession has financially impacted a number of individuals and families. Some are still feeling the effects of unemployment while others are grappling with devastated budgets for the basic necessities of life. For those still struggling, saving a few dollars on purchases of food can have a significant impact on their lifestyles.

Conversely, the recession created financial opportunities for other Americans. From depressed values for real estate to a proliferation of black market goods, those with available funds scored bargains not otherwise readily available.

In the midst of these polarized worlds, there are entrepreneurs seeking to profit financially from the effects of the recession. During and after the recession, a number of crimes have been perpetrated as a means for personal gain. One in particular caught my attention--a wine heist in Seattle last month. My research revealed a number of other crimes aimed at consumer products, but this wine crime was carried out with much forethought and targeted a very specific audience.

Here are a few of the oversized food commodity thefts that were aimed at a broad market during the recession: \$120,000 of Hershey's chocolates; 11,000 pounds of Nutella; \$100,000 of hamburger patties; 21 tons of cheese (unrelated to the hamburger heist); and \$65,000 of chicken wings. It isn't clear which of these crimes were solved, but it is fairly certain the evidence has disappeared into the black market of bargain-hunters perhaps seeking to maximize their food dollars.

The tale of the wine heist is a bit more intricate and the victims are high-end wine collectors. It proves, however, that financial status is not immune to loss of property.

On Thanksgiving Day, intruders broke into a secure wine storage facility in Seattle that caters to dozens of high-end wine collectors. Their methods were quite exacting, from their detailed preparations, to their marketing plan for the stolen wines, to their cover-up plan. In all, they stole over 200 cases of wine valued at

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\$648,000, a lofty average of \$259 per bottle.

The thieves worked for 13 hours and made nine trips to remove the wine. What about security during that time? The security cameras were spray-painted and the motion sensors covered by

the thieves to disable them (all except one camera); security personnel had the day off.

The one operating security camera was the thieves' downfall. Captured on film, two local plumbers were arrested within 72 hours and the wine was fully recovered. The ensuing investigation revealed a well-laid out plan: 1) one of the thieves had opened an account at the storage facility several months earlier in order to get the lay of the land. To do so he provided personal information, which led police straight to his home. 2) A detailed 88-page journal was found, outlining the plan for the heist. 3) police believe that the thieves may have perpetrated a trial-run theft. Last March, \$100,000 of high-end wines were stolen from a San Francisco storage facility and successfully sold to a local dealer. Similar M.O., different outcome.

The cover-up was simple. The thieves cut two gas lines in the storage facility, believing the ensuing fire would destroy all potential evidence. To their dismay, the gas

*'targeting a very
specific audience'*

leak was detected and corrected before any sparks set off the cover-up fire.

The thieves' motivation was clear. They were selective in which wines were stolen. Specific wines were sought out in individually identified lockers; other wines in the same lockers were left behind. The thieves stored the stolen wines in a rented temperature-controlled storage facility in the neighborhood. These factors have led investigators to believe the thieves may have had discerning clients, who were also concerned with potential spoilage if the wines were not stored under ideal conditions.

A willing marketplace produces willing risk-takers, be it for basic subsistence or egotistical pleasure. And the allure for criminals never wanes.

Nick Antonaccio is a 35-year Pleasantville resident. For over 15 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.



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Save the Date: Friday, January 31, 2014

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728 Route 6, Mahopac. \$20.00pp, 5:30 p.m. Please make a reservation 628-5553

Wednesday, January 15

Merry Margaritas with Senator Greg Ball: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Las Mananitas: 1250 Rt. 22, Brewster. Open bar and appetizers. Regular Admission: \$50. Purchase tickets: <http://ball4ny.com/event/merry-margaritas-with-senator-greg-ball>

Learn to Use Your Digital SLR Camera: 6:30 p.m Did you receive a new digital camera during the holidays? Do you want to learn how to use it so that you can take professional-looking photographs? Artist and educator James Sparks will simplify and explain the many basic digital camera functions; various lighting conditions and camera editing options will be discussed. Free program; limited enrollment. Registration is required. For further information, or to register for programs at Mahopac Public Library, visit www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

Friday, January 17

The Pied Piper Youth Theater is proud to present Annie Jr: A spunky orphan girl named Annie finds a home with a New York millionaire during the Depression, but must dodge the clutches of her evil orphanage mistress, in Charles Strouse, Martin Charnin and Thomas Meehan's musical based on the popular Harold Gray comic strip. There are three casts performing in the Annie Jr. production series. January 17th - 19th. Wednesday Cast will perform January 24th - 26th Purchase tickets online at www.pipertheater.tix.com or visit our website at www.pipertheater.org. Any questions on ticketing or production

information, please contact Kevin Johnson at kevin.pipertheater@gmail.com.

Sunday, January 19

Mahopac Library Foreign film screening: "Three Worlds," an award winning film from France.

2:00 p.m. This is the tale of a hit and run accident that results in the death of an illegal foreigner. Screened in French with English subtitles. Free program, popcorn provided. Registration required. For further information, or to register for programs at Mahopac Public Library, visit www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

The Connecticut Security Officer "Guard Card" course is held twice a month and on-demand. This is an eight hour, one day, certified criminal justice and first aid program. Participants must be at least 18 years old and have a clean record. Students will then receive their security guard license through the CT State Police for employment. Dates and additional information are listed on the website, www.hflearnsafety.com

Tuesday, January 21

Mahopac Library Stress Reduction Techniques as a Tool for Weight Loss. Stress management expert Carol Pironi will discuss the connection between stress and weight gain. She offers methods to combat stress-related weight gain including visualization and progressive relaxation. 6:30 p.m. Free program; registration required. For further information, or to register for programs at Mahopac Public Library, visit www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

Diabetes Support Group at Putnam Hospital Center: 6 pm, in the Michael T. Weber Community Auditorium at the hospital. Family and friends are welcome to attend meetings of the free Diabetes Support & Education Group, which is designed to teach individuals how to keep their diabetes under control and to live a healthier life. The group, which is led by a diabetes educator and a dietitian, offers the opportunity for patients to share concerns and help manage some of the psychosocial issues associated with diabetes. The meetings provide participants with an opportunity to hear from knowledgeable professionals who attend and speak on a wide range of topics related to diabetes and to network with others who have diabetes.

Registration is recommended by calling 845-279-5711, Ext. 2779.

Wednesday, January 22

Professional Women of Putnam Networking Event: Topic: Leveraging the Power of Facebook

Guest Speaker: Cristin Grogan, Chief Responsibility Officer (CRO) at Silverback Social

Learn how to brand yourself as an authority in your field and grow your business. You'll learn unique, laser-focused (and tested!) strategies that will bring you beyond the basics of Facebook. Whether you've been in business for years, or your a solopreneur just getting your feet wet, you'll discover the value in utilizing Facebook posts, advertising and other tactics, benefitting you and your business. Location: The Terrace Club 825 S Lake Blvd, Mahopac. \$15pp Includes appetizers. Cash Bar. Register online to attend: www.professionalwomenofputnam.com

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The Putnam,
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Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

January 14 - January 20, 2014

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

SPORTS SECTION

SprayGround!



Mahopac Icy Fresh in 5-1 Win over Yorktown

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Mahopac's Chris Bednar and the suddenly-surging Indians used the frozen pond as their playground last Friday night when Bednar's Indians sprayed a 5-1 defeat all over Chris Cunningham (14), Austin Haddock (13), G Madison Drezek and the Yorktown Huskers at the Brewster Ice Arena. The Indians also worked a 3-2 overtime decision against rival Carmel the night before.

Sports

Boys Hoops Notebook

Panzanaro to Retire after 2014 Season: Erect Statue Now

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor

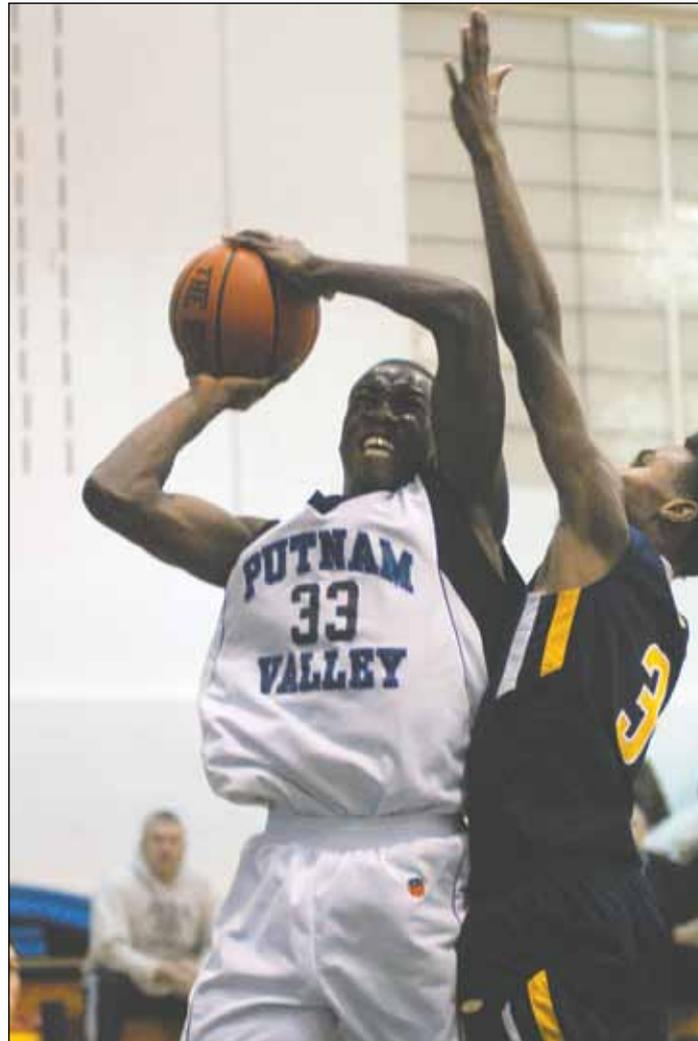
Peekskill forward Neorck Brown scored a career-high 32 points, 23 of which came in the first half of the Red Devils' very impressive 78-68 win at home against state-ranked Class B contender Woodlands, which led 17-16 after the first quarter.

Enter Brown; the versatile senior who can slash and dash or step back and rain 3's. Brown scored 17 points in the second quarter, getting Peekskill back into the Class A title-contending discussion. Incidentally, there is not one team from Section 1 represented in the NYS Class A top 25.

After a sub-par conclusion to 2013 when the Red Devils dropped three straight, fell from the state rankings and was laughed off as a Class A title contender, Peekskill (5-3) has adopted a new mantra under its NYS Hall of Fame Coach that seems to be working: "Individuals win awards and teams win championships".

Coach Lou Panzanaro's five NYS championships and three Federation titles were born of similar mind set, as were most of his 572 career wins (15th most in state history). Panzanaro, who recently announced that 2014 will be his last season after 31 seasons with the varsity, deserves to go out on top. Brown and the Red Devils can send Coach P out in John Elway-type fashion should they choose (with his 11th gold ball), or they can go down like Tony Romo's Cowboys; without so much as a whimper. It's totally on them.

Whether he does or he doesn't go out in championship style, Peekskill



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS
PV's Jelani Bell-Isaac gets a good look at rack despite the defense of Panther Mike Evans in Tigers win over Panas last Wednesday.

administrators, alumni and boosters of the program would be wise to look into the erection of a bronze statue because no man has done more over the last 40 years to bring and hold that community together than Lou Panzanaro has...

BIG GAME RECAPS:

PUTNAM VALLEY and PANAS had at it last Thursday, and it was the Jelani Bell-Isaac show for much of the game. Bell-Isaac didn't get to "posterize" anyone with an alley-oop jam as the defense of Panthers Tyler Mason and Mike Evans was quite physical, but the senior forward did enough to will the state-ranked (No.4) host Tigers (9-1) to a 51-45 victory, scoring 16 points and inhaling 14 rebounds. The Panthers (7-3) had their shots down the stretch but could not capitalize while Put Valley guards Ryan Basso and Kevin Gallagher hit key late buckets, clinching the win for the Tigers.

MAHOPAC Coach Kevin Downes was down but not out after his Indians (8-1) suffered their first loss of the season in a 51-41 setback to White Plains at Monroe College in New Rock City as part of the JDRF Hoops for a Cure benefit. The

Indians suffered from a lack of rhythm due to foul troubles to RJ Martinez (17 points, 4 boards, 4 assists) and Ryan Simone (10 points, 7 rebounds, 3 blocks), the tribe's terrific duo. Both sat for large portions of the first half, allowing the state-ranked (No.24) Tigers to build a hefty 11-point lead early in the third. While their sitting provided ample time for others to step up, this was hardly the venue or opponent to so against.

"I thought we played very well defensively," Coach Downes said. "(Mike) DeMello had 16 points but only three field goals and no 3's, and we held (Jordan) Tucker had eight points and only

two field goals. I was very happy with our defensive effort. If we continue to defend like that we will give ourselves a chance to win. Offensively, we struggled in the first half when with RJ and Ryan in foul trouble most of the first half. We had another solid third quarter and were within 3 points with 4 minutes to go. We just could not finish on the offensive end. I think our young guys really learned from this and I think it will help us down the road. WP with a veteran team seemed to come up with a timely basket or FT and we did not. I was happy with the effort but we need to execute a little better. I think we showed we can compete with one of the elite teams in the section. Hopefully, we can build off of this as we begin league play."

The League I-B action heats up in the days ahead with the Indians expected to run the table all the way to a potential top four playoff seed.

PEEKSKILL's Julian Cultherson (11 points), Estevan Retamar (11), Chavis Pigott (17) and Brown (18) all did significant damage in Peekskill's 85-58 win over host YORKTOWN last Thursday. Anthony Coutsouros (12) and

Luis Cartagena (10) were double-digit scorers for the Huskers.

The #Tag Poll

No.1 Mahopac – Not crazy about the fact that the Indians haven't many quality wins with which to boast but they should run the table from this point forward if they are as legit as we have claimed in this space #Homer

No.2 Putnam Valley – Better figure out a way to score 60-plus points if the Tigers want to knock off Peekskill twice and win the League I-C crown #PeekskillAverages71PPG.

No.2A Peekskill – Hopefully, this unit understands the significance of sending Coach P off into the sunset with an 11th gold ball #YourLegacyOnTheLine

No.4 Panas – Had several chances to tie Putnam Valley down the stretch, but the Panthers could not defend the homerun inbound and blew every chance they had #LostOpps

No.5 Somers – With consecutive blowout wins of John Jay and Brewster, the Tuskers (4-6) are said to be coming hard for Mahopac this week. Conor Cousin (16.4) and Matt Moros (19 PPG) best get some help from their friends #MaxParksNeedsToGoOffOnBothEnds

HM Carmel – We cannot overlook the losses to Croton and Yorktown but we get the sense the Rams (4-4) are coming, and could change things if and when they #BeatSomersFriday

HM Hen Hud -- Carson Jacobs' layup with two seconds remaining lifted the Sailors to a 44-43 win against visiting Haldane to give the Sailors a leg up on the League I-D title. Rematch set for Jan.31 #4AlltheMarbles



Tiger Ryan Basso swoops in for late hoop against Tim McCauley and the Panthers last Wednesday.



PV's Zack Nolan drives lane against defense of Panas' Trey Hodge in Tiger win over Panthers.

Sports

Girls Hoops Notebook

Ossining Outlasts Kennedy in Pauline Ricci Game

Yorktown Beats Put Valley after Falling to Peekskill; Tigers Earn First W

By A.J. Martelli

OSSINING and **KENNEDY** were two of the premier teams last season, the Pride capturing their first New York State Championship and the Gaels being Class B semifinals. The two powerhouses met last year in a scrimmage, but Ossining Coach Dan Ricci and Kennedy boss Lance DeMarzo – two coaches who are as friendly as Snoopy and Woodstock – were pleased to see their teams were set to meet in a regular season match when this year's schedule broke.

The highly-anticipated Section 1-CHSAA crossover game took place this past Friday on the Pride's home court and thanks to a surge early in the fourth quarter, the defending state champs were able to pull away. Ossining beat Kennedy 65-52 in the second annual Pauline Ricci Scholarship game, marking the second time a game has been played in honor of the Ossining coach's mom.

The game was important enough to Coach Ricci, yet the off-the-court matters made it a little more meaningful.

"This is huge," he said. "He (DeMarzo) and I are friends, so that makes it good. Kennedy donated \$450 to the scholarship fund, so that was phenomenal. It's just a great event. We started the scholarship two years ago; we started the game last year. Some of the kids remember my mom, she was at every game. I wanted to keep her name involved."

The sentimental element may have touched Ricci, but the game action was just as sweet. Ossining led 34-28 at halftime, but Kennedy hung tough in the third quarter, and only trailed 49-41 heading into the final frame. Jalay Knowles pushed the Pride ahead right away however, netting five unanswered points to start the fourth, keeping Ossining one step ahead of the Gaels until the final buzzer.

Knowles dropped 30 points to lead all scorers, and added nine boards. Stef Svoboda (11 points, eight assists), Abby Squirrell (11 points, 10 rebounds), and Shadeen Samuels (six points, three rebounds) provided solid Pride backup.

"I thought Jalay struggled early, she had trouble catching up to the ball, but she really took us on her back the second half," Ricci said. "You only get a few quality teams in a year, so it's good to beat a quality team. Kennedy is a good program; they beat Bishop Loughlin, who's a good team. And I think they played their best game of the year, if you ask Lance. I give them a lot of credit."

That credit was certainly well-earned, as Kennedy trailed 17-8 after the first quarter but went on to outscore the Pride 20-17 in the second. Kiera Hennessy was at the front of the Gaels' run, as she led her team



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Peekskill's Lisana Burnett and the Red Devils will take on Lakeland this Friday in the hopes of gaining ground in League I-C.

with 22 points and 15 rebounds. Behind her was Leah Greene, who also secured a double-double with 16 and 10 boards, while Grace Cunningham netted six unanswered points late in the fourth – the Gaels going down swinging.

DeMarzo thought his girls did their best against the Goliath-like Pride.

"They worked hard all week and came in with the attitude of nothing to lose," he said of his team's mentality. "We gave them a game. Hennessy played great, Leah played great, Cunningham played great. They (Ossining) are the number one team in the Hudson Valley and we gave them everything we had. Everyone that plays Ossining is in awe of Ossining at the beginning. They're tough to defend. I think this game, even though we lost, will really elevate us in our game."

The Gaels (8-6), now battle-tested against the best, will look to get back on the plus side tomorrow when they visit Maria Regina (Hartsdale). The Pride (10-2) meanwhile have a road game vs. league rival Rye tonight.

Ossining and Kennedy may be dominating in their respective leagues, but the **YORKTOWN** Huskers at 3-4 are sort of flying under the radar. The Huskers' latest win came at home Saturday afternoon vs. **PUTNAM VALLEY**, Yorktown winning 49-22. Head Coach Kevin Clark liked that he was able to get his girls a lot of equal playing time, using balance to beat the Tigers.

"It was an opportunity to get everyone a chance to play," he said. "We haven't had a whole lot of opportunity to do that, we've had a tough schedule to this point.

The kids all played well, everyone got to contribute, so it was nice to get a win like that at this point in the year."

The Huskers suffocated the Tigers right from the get-go, jumping out to a 14-4 lead after the first quarter. They carried the momentum throughout the second to go up 32-14 at the half. Kelly Donnellan and Taryn Horgan were Yorktown's top scorers, each netting 12 points. Katie Torres threw in eight to keep the Huskers in front.

"Kelly gets to the basket very well and plays with great energy – I think it gets a lot of the other kids going, when she plays that hard," Coach Clark said. "Taryn was terrific on the boards. She rebounds the ball very well, she's quick; athletic. She's getting more and more aggressive offensively, and the combination of her and Kelly has been really good these last couple of games."

Putnam Valley was led by tall order Reena Olsen, who put up 15 points. She may have been good for more, but a right knee injury at the start of the fourth quarter sidelined her for the rest of the game. The Tigers captured their first win of the season last Tuesday, a 38-29 overtime victory over Poughkeepsie which was also first-year Head Coach Nick Lenhard's first W as varsity boss.

"We are a young team and the one thing we stress is, next play," Lenhard said. "We're going to go through some growing pains, but we just try to grow every day and focus on the next play, the next game, and the next task. The girls are really starting to buy in and we're a lot better than we were at the beginning of the season. I'm happy with their progress."

"The win over Poughkeepsie was a great example of the girls buying into everything that we've been stressing as a program. It was a combination of hard work, their talent, and our motto of next play. I'm really proud of them and I'm looking forward to going to Poughkeepsie and playing them again."

Before the Huskers beat the Tigers, they were faced with the daunting task of playing defending Class A champion **PEEKSKILL** last Thursday, the Lady Red Devils coming out on top, 51-40. Head Coach Rodney Headley, Jr. admitted Yorktown did an awesome job keeping pace with his team.

"It was a lot tougher than we expected," he said. "Yorktown came out, executed their plays, and they pretty much stayed close all the way up to the fourth quarter. In the fourth we kind of turned up the defense a little bit and we got a couple of big steals, and pretty much sealed the game up at the end, won by 11."

For the Huskers, Donnellan was key, netting 16 points. Sarah Bonner helped out

with 10, but the returning Latisha Clark put up a double-double with 11 points and 11 boards for the Red Devils.

"She doesn't look like she's taken any time off at all, it's like she's been there the whole time," Headley said of Clark, who had been sidelined with a broken hand. "She's doing a really good job inside for us."

Clark proved to be quite dynamic teaming up with the likes of Lanay Rodney (13 points), Morgan Beechum (nine points, two rebounds) and Lisana Burnett (eight points, seven steals), who take on Lakeland Friday in a pivotal league game.



Putnam Valley's Alyssa Stockinger and the Tigers got their first win of the season over Poughkeepsie.

Prior to beating Yorktown last Thursday, Peekskill (7-2) beat **HENDRICK HUDSON** 72-36 last Tuesday at home. Clark paced the lady Red Devils in that game with 16 points.

"That game was a little different – but they also played us pretty tight the first half," Headley said of the win over Hen Hud. "Then we kind of just turned up the defense; I think they only put up 13 points in the second half. It wasn't as difficult as the Yorktown game."

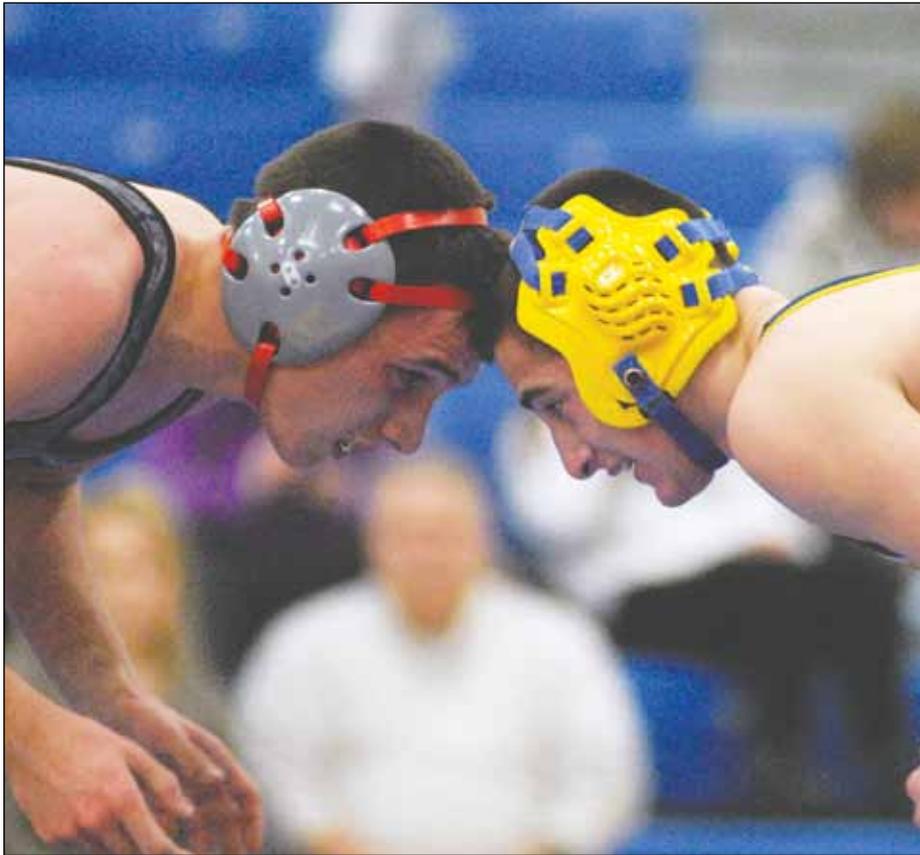
Cassidy Boyle led all Sailors with 12 points, and Hen Hud went on to beat Pleasantville Saturday night, 52-37. Tonight they'll get back at it at Briarcliff.

Peekskill in the meantime will host **PANAS** tomorrow before making a trip to **LAKELAND** on Friday.

Capping off this past weekend's action was **CARMELE**'s huge 53-40 Saturday win over Blind Brook, Class B finalists last year. Caitlyn Murphy was spectacular for Coach Dan O'Hare's crew with a double-double: 21 points and 12 steals. The win was the Rams' third of the year, eclipsing their win total of last year when they went 2-16.

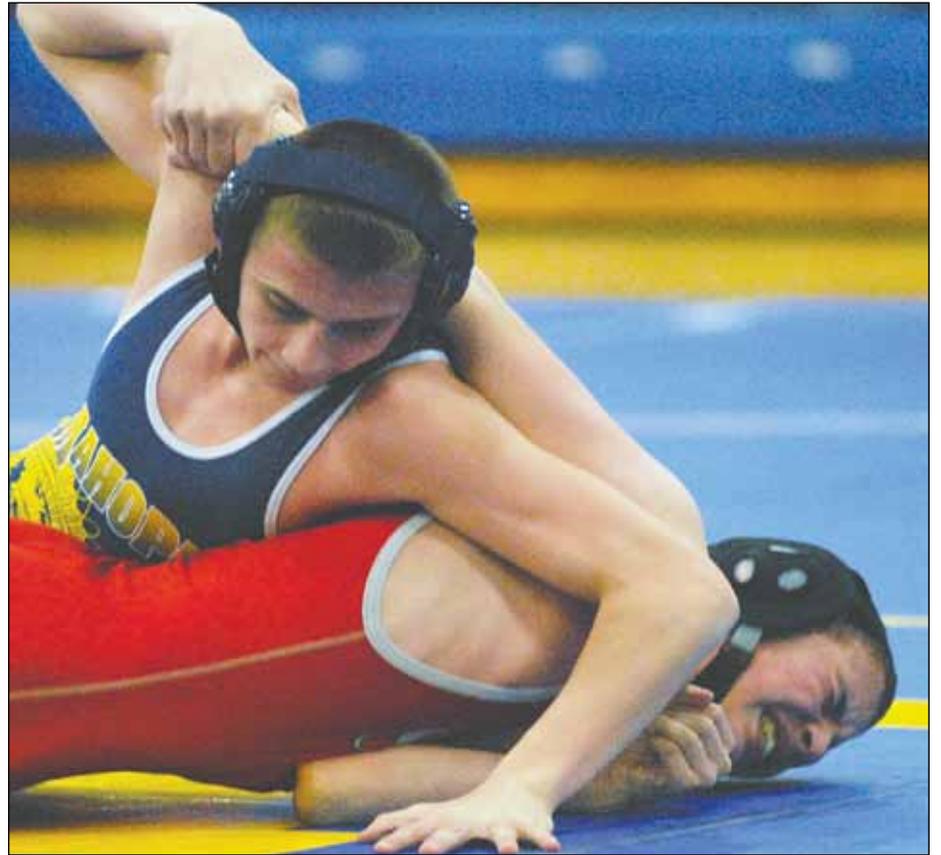
Sports

Forfeits Hurts Somers in Grappling Loss to Mahopac

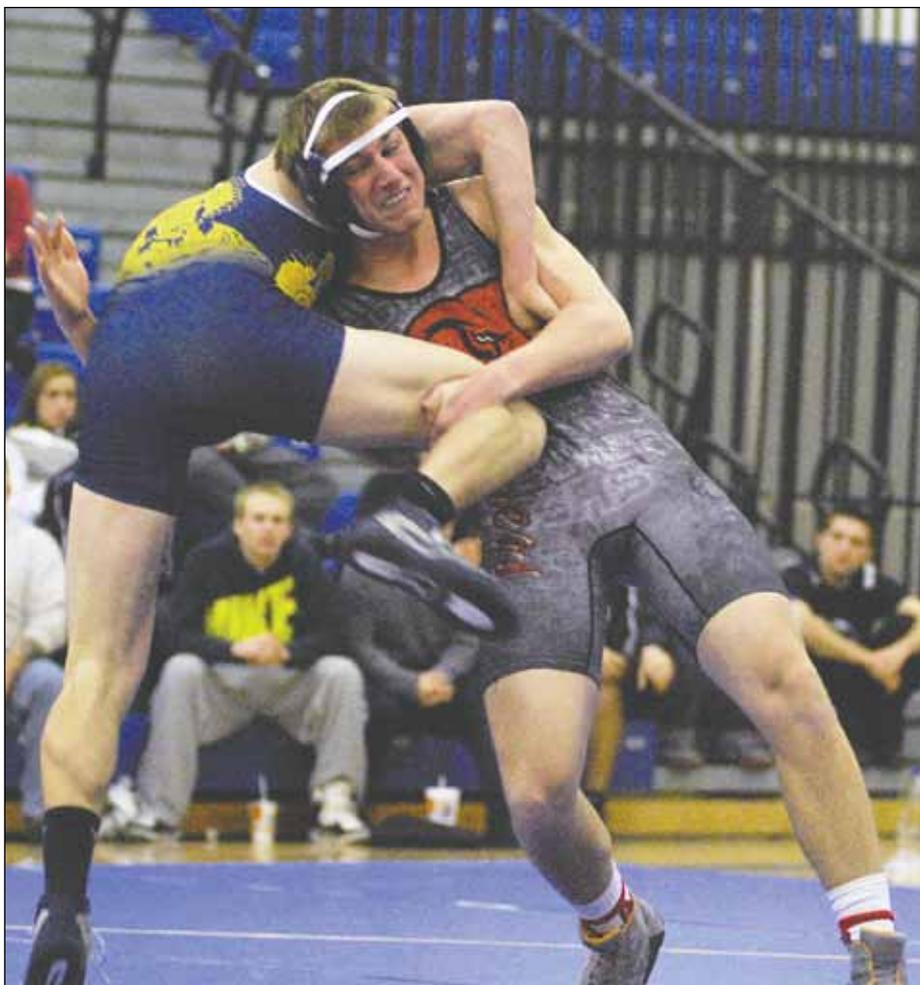


RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Somers' Anthony DiMauro goes head-to-head with Mahopac's Joe Frezza before earning major decision for Tuskers.



Mahopac 120-pounder Mike Scauzillo works top on Robbie Evans of Somers before winning by pin.



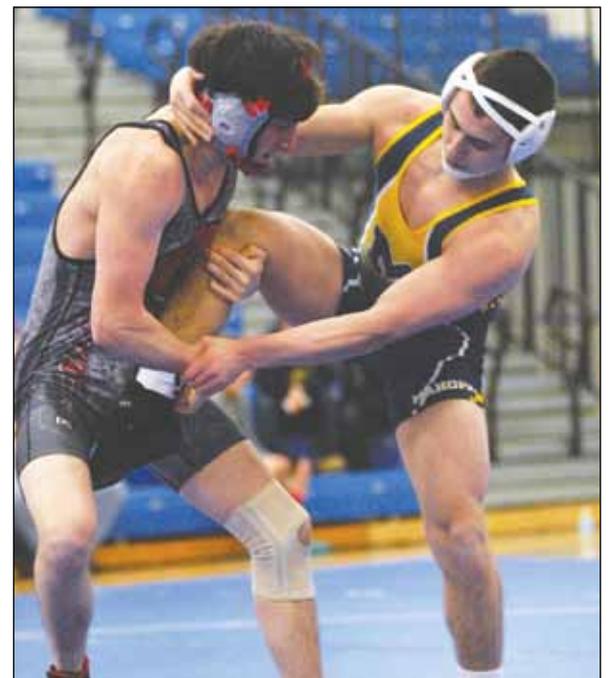
Somers' Andrew Gross works Mahopac's Alex Padovani en route to pin.

Mahopac 51, Somers 29

RESULTS: 99- Garrett Sementz, Mah dec Graham Roediger 9-4, 106- Abby Bunyea, Mah FF, 113- Mike Muldoon, Mah- FF, 120- Mike Scauzillo, Mah pinned Robbie Evans, So 3:49, 126- Anthony DiMauro, So maj dec Joe Frezza, Mah, 12-4, 132- Chris Cornell, Mah pinned Andy Venditto, Mah 2:56, 138- Joe Porcelli, Mah pinned Joe Palumbo 2:39, 145- Larry Courtein, So pinned Mke Tartaglia 2:55, 152- Liem Heine, So dec Mike DiNardo 8-2, 160- Andrew Gross, So pinned Alex Padovani, 1:59, 170- Luke Roediger, So pinned Jon Bondi :57, 182- Dom Celli, So maj dec Liridon Hasanramaj 14-5, 195- Jack Hofman, Mah- FF, 220- Ryan Delahanty, Mah- FF, 285- Valon Brahim, Mah- FF

Mahopac Coach Dennis DiSanto offered the following: "There were plenty of All-County- potential wrestlers out there today," he said. "For Somers, DiMaura 126, Courtein 145, Heine 152 and Celli 182 should all do well in the section, and for me Cornell 132, DiNardo

152, Hasanramaj 182 and Delahanty 220 should do well. I have others that are coming along as well like Frezza, Brahim, Bunyea, Sementz, Muldoon, Tartaglia, Porcelli and Scauzillo. I am only starting two seniors and we are 13-2 so I am pleased at our progress. For the most part we are a very young team."



Mahopac's 132-pounder Chris Cornell (R) finagled his way out of Andy Venditto's ankle pick to earn a pin for the Indians.

Sports



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Yorktown's Sepp Boeschl puts a hook into Mahopac's Robert Buckley (2G), who was all over the ice in 5-1 Indian win at BIA Friday.

Yorktown No Match for Mahopac in 5-1 Indians' Win



Yorktown's Chris Cunningham salutes the Husker Crop upon scoring Yorktown's lone goal in a 5-1 loss to Mahopac last Friday.



Yorktown's Peter Miley fends off Indian Matt DeRosa.



Mahopac's Matt DeRosa (2A) fends off a check from Yorktown captain Tyler Proscia in 5-1 Indians' win.

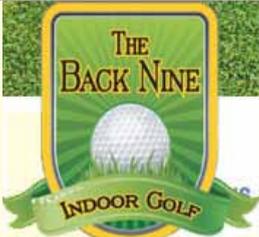
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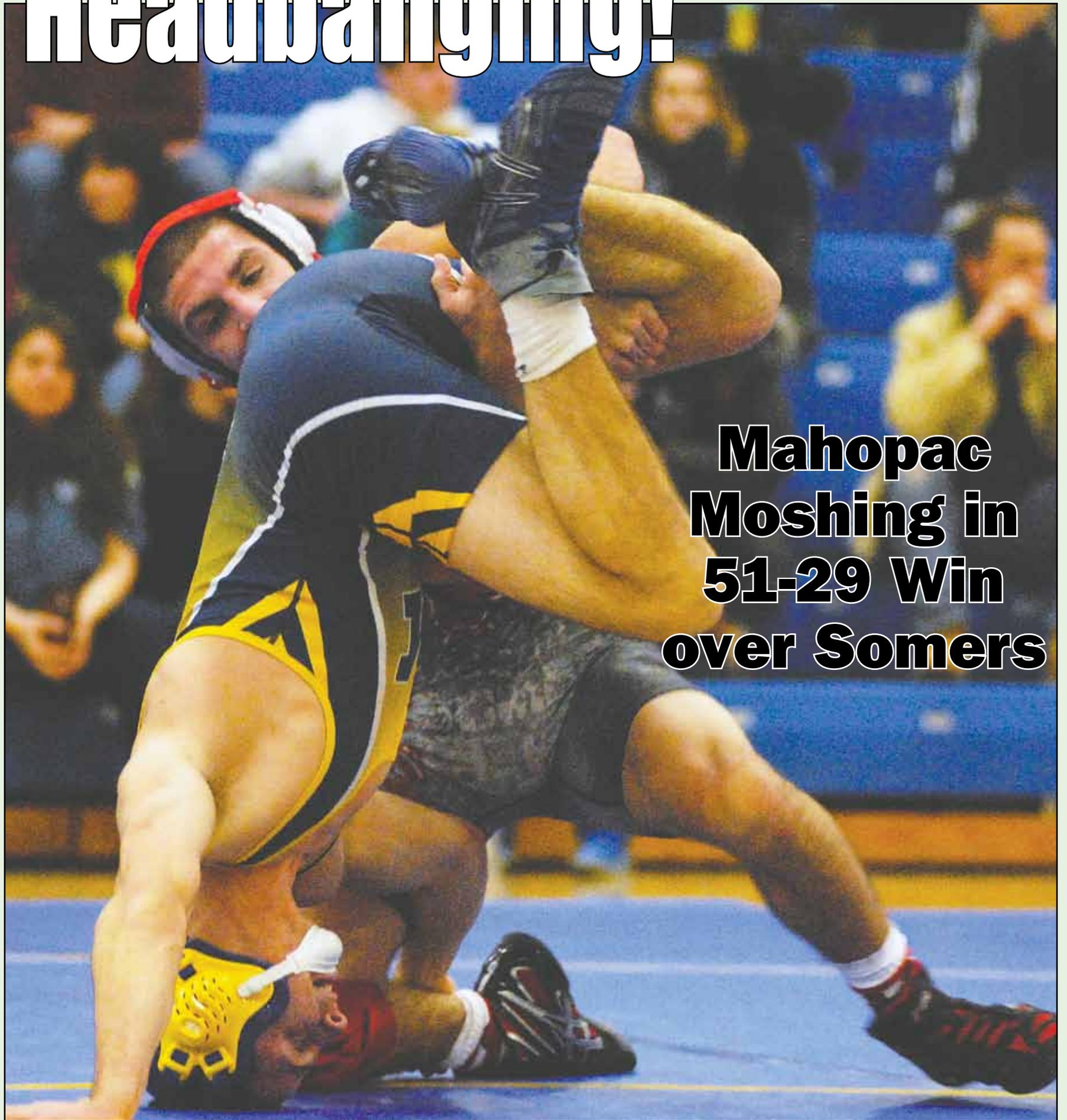
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Headbanging!



**Mahopac
Moshing in
51-29 Win
over Somers**

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Somers' 145-pounder Larry Courtein gently drops Mahopac's Mike Tartaglia on his head before working a second-period pin for the Tuskers, who came up short in a 51-29 dual-meet loss to the host Indians last Thursday as the Indians improved to 12-2 on the season.