



FREE



twitter.com/ExaminerMedia

January 21 - January 27, 2014

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 6, Issue 252

Credit for Bridge Grant in Dispute

By David Propper

In what's become Putnam County's own version of "Bridgegate," two elected officials who could be facing off in a Republican primary next September both took credit for a \$2 million grant for the Town of Southeast last week.

In two separate press releases, County Executive MaryEllen Odell and State Senator Greg Ball both announced the \$2 million grant for the Morningthorpe Avenue Pedestrian Bridge, which would convert the bridge into a pedestrian walkway.

Neither Odell nor Ball mentioned the other in their press releases.

In Odell's release, it stated Putnam County's Highway and Facilities Department worked with the Planning

Department to apply for the grant last November. It was written by highway commissioner Fred Pena and submitted by Odell as a member of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC), according to the release.

As for Ball's release, it stated the funds were made available through the Federal Highway Administration and administered by the New York State Department of Transportation. The grant was given to the county

after a competitive solicitation process and determined by certain criteria like environmental or transportation enhancement, according to the release.

While there was debate over the weekend regarding which lawmaker did what, Southeast Supervisor Tony Hay railed against both politicians looking to take credit.

"This is all about getting your name in the paper," Hay said. "We're all elected to do a job and to do things to get your name in the



PROVIDED BY BALL STAFF

Greg Ball scheduled to have a photo opportunity in front of the bridge with other county and local officials last Saturday, but snow ultimately cancelled it.

paper, I don't buy."

Hay went on to say, "Now we get two people fighting over the same thing. It's all about one-upmanship. Who did what and whatever."

But depending on the lawmaker, credit either went to Odell or went to Ball.

District 6 Legislator Roger Gross said Ball had been involved in getting the grant for "quite some time" and "deserves a lot of credit for acquiring funds that will be a shot in the arm for the town and the village."

When asked, Gross said he didn't know what role Odell played and added "it was news to me when I read the release about her getting it."

Meanwhile, District 7 Legislator Joe Castellano in Odell's release pointed out he

continued on page 6



PROVIDED BY COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

MaryEllen Odell stands in front the currently closed Morningthorpe Bridge, which will finally be open after improvements are made with the help of a \$2 million grant.

Tilly Foster Activities Fold as Preserve Putnam Stops Operating Farm

By David Propper

By the end of the month, Tilly Foster Farm will officially come to an end of an era.

By January 31, the Tilly Foster Farm Museum and all activities will cease as the Whipple family and Preserve Putnam, which were managing the farm, are leaving after all financial support ended late last year. The farm held a closing sale for all household, office and farm equipment last weekend and will do the same this upcoming weekend.

All rare farm animals have already been sold off to appropriate and responsible owners Executive Director-- at least for a couple more weeks—Meredith Whipple said last Thursday.

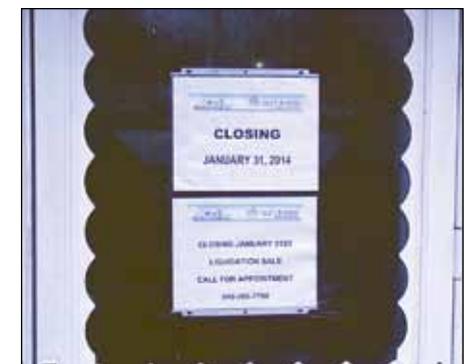
The Putnam County Antique Machinery Association's collection will remain on the farm and the Rock and Roll Museum will also stay open to the public on weekends.

In an interview, Whipple expressed disappointment that a lease that was suppose to last 40 years, ended after just five.

"We thought we were going to be here for 40 years," Whipple said.

After countless issues that included lack of county government support and attacks from private residents, Whipple said her brother George Whipple, who put in much of the monetary support for Tilly Foster, felt underappreciated and decided it was no longer worth contributing to Putnam

continued on page 4



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

A sign on the door of one of the farm buildings at Tilly Foster states a closing sale is going on the next couple weeks as Preserve Putnam departs from operating the farm.

First Baby Born in Putnam County

Alivia Grace Amato of Cold Spring made her appearance at Putnam Hospital Center at 5:07 am on January 5, 2014, as the first baby born in Putnam County for the New Year. Weighing 6 lbs. 15 oz., and delivered by Linda Stocker, CNM, of Mid Hudson Medical Group, she is held by her proud mother, Kristen. To celebrate the birth of the first baby of 2014, Putnam Hospital Center Auxiliary co-president Ginger Wintle presented a gift basket of baby items from the hospital's gift shop, which is run under the auspices of the auxiliary.



Comprehensive Plan in Brewster Moving Forward



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Members of the Village of Brewster Board discuss the comprehensive plan during its most recent meeting. More discussion is coming up in ensuing meetings.

By Janine Bowen

The comprehensive plan for the Village of Brewster is beginning to move forward, as the Brewster Board of Trustees adopted its intent to declare a lead agency on the project at Wednesday's board meeting.

The board agreed at the meeting to begin advertising to solicit Requests for Proposals from firms who are interested in taking on the development plan for the village. The Board said that the requests will be paid for with grant money and a pre-

bid conference will be held on January 23 for interested businesses to discuss the comprehensive plan.

According to engineer Jeff Folchetti, the project will take a year to a year and a half once it has begun.

In addition, the board also agreed to authorize Mayor James Schoenig to sign an agreement with Pace University. The one-year agreement will allow the Village to utilize the services of the Land Use Law Center for discussions and training regarding the comprehensive plan.

The public will have the opportunity to weigh in on the comprehensive plan with several public meetings set for the coming months. The first meeting will be on February 26 from 7-9 p.m., with other meetings scheduled for March 8 and March 20 from 10 a.m. to noon. The site for these meeting is yet to be determined, although the board is looking into The Southeast Museum and local churches.

The board also set work session dates to discuss the comprehensive plan. Those are set for January 21, February 12, and March 6, if needed.



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.

trend-set-ter noun \ tren(d)- se-t r \

someone who helps provide an outstanding patient experience.

Putnam Hospital Center is proud to thank the winners of this year's Employee Trendsetters initiative, sponsored by the PHC Medical Staff. Each one of them has also helped PHC receive the **Healthgrades® 2013 Outstanding Patient Experience Award™**. They have shown exemplary customer service, true dedication to patients and pride in their work. From everyone at PHC, a sincere congratulations to this year's winners!

www.health-quest.org/PHC

PHC

Putnam Hospital Center

Health Quest affiliate

670 Stoneleigh Avenue, Carmel, NY 10512
(845) 279-5711

healthgrades

**SMALL NEWS IS
BIG NEWS**

get
NOTICED!



**Advertise in
The Putnam
Examiner**
Call 914-864-0878 today!

advertising@
theexaminernews.com

Patterson Town Board Looks Into Sign for Fire Dept.

By David Propper

Discussions renewed between the Patterson Town Board and the Patterson Fire Department about the potential to put a message board up along Route 311 in front of department headquarters.

With town officials pledging to keep an open mind as they weighed the pros and cons of a message board, the department could be inching a little closer to securing permission to erect one for its use.

Newly minted councilman Peter Dandreaano brought the issue up and said from his understanding the town had certain issues about putting the board up, but that it could work with strict guidelines in place.

One guideline Dandreaano mentioned was restricting how many messages the board could show at one time in order to limit the chances of distracted driving by people on the road. But he did say if the department was able to build the board, it could be valuable to the entire town, especially during emergencies.

"I think we could write it into our emergency preparedness plan that that is our message board in the event of an emergency," he said. "And give residents a place to go for information."

Other town board members also chimed in with how a message board

could work if the board decided to go that way.

Supervisor Michael Griffin said he'd like to see the town be able to utilize the message board for about 20 minutes per hour for town and other non-profit events occurring in Patterson.

Councilman Kevin Burns said there are two courses of action that could be taken in order to see the board finally go up. One would be for the town to exempt the fire department from a zoning change, which the department is requesting or combine the two lots, which would allow the department to do whatever they want.

"I'm concerned about exempting from zoning for the other implications it may have town wide," Burns said.

He also brought up the possibility of having the message board in front of town hall that the fire department would run, but Griffin noted that it was a bad location because a four way intersection and railroad crossing are right in front of town hall.

Councilman Charles Cook said no matter where the sign is placed, it should be aesthetically pleasing and guidelines should be set before the message board is operational so "it's all handled properly and people aren't at each other's throats."

Griffin said as long as the rest of



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

The barren wooden board in front of the Patterson Fire Department headquarters is where the department would like to see a new message board be put up.

the town board is willing to have an open mind, he's willing to work with representatives from the fire department on the matter.

Eleanor Smith, president of the Patterson Fire Department, said during the meeting that she's ready to work with town officials to finally find a way for the message board to become a

reality, and that the main use would be to give information to the rest of the town during emergency and disaster situations.

"The other stuff and the other activities are underlying," she said. "The major reason is we want to protect the town and give information to the citizens if there is a disaster."

We have the party. Do you have the kids?

Eliminate The Dullness.

HAVE A BIRTHDAY PARTY WHERE ALL THE KIDS MOVE!

Dates Still Available.
Reserve Your Party Now.

Contact Donna Arena at:
darena@sawmillclub.com

Or Call 241-0797

No One Does FUN FOR KIDS Like Saw Mill Club!

KIDS RULE @ SAW MILL CLUB

77 KENSICO DRIVE • MOUNT KISCO • N.Y. 10549

NOW OPEN!
MIKE AND JOE'S WOOD FIRE PIZZA AND PASTA

HAPPY HOUR SPECIAL from 2 to 4 pm
BUY ANY LARGE PIE GET PERSONAL PIE FREE!

Place your Big Game orders!

845-628-5100 • 961 Rt 6 Mahopac NY
www.mikeandjoespizza.com

PARTY STOP **ALL SALES FINAL**

STORE CLOSING SALE
ALL MERCHANDISE REDUCED*

20% OFF to 75% OFF

Route 6 & Westbrook Drive (Next to Kohl's)
Cortlandt Manor, New York

*No Additional discounts, coupons or credits. Balloons & Merckens not included.

Camp Fair

PARENTS! FIND THE RIGHT CAMP IN ONE AFTERNOON

Day • Specialty • Summer Programs
Meet the Directors & Learn About the Programs

32nd Annual Westchester Camp Fair
Hosted by WestchesterParent

Sunday, January 26th 12:00-3:00pm **FREE** to attend
Crowne Plaza 66 Hale Ave, White Plains
(914) 397-0200 • WWW.WESTCHESTERCAMPFAIR.COM

Sponsored by **WebsterBank**
We Find a Way

Don't miss your chance to be on-air with WFAS-FM.
DJ's will be broadcasting live from the event. There will be plenty of fun WFAS giveaways too!





Tilly Foster Activities Fold

continued from page 1
County.

Preserve Putnam, which also has members like Sheriff Don Smith and former county executive Robert Bondi on board, has done three projects for the county. They include Tilly Foster, the chapel at the Veterans Memorial Park and Cornerstone Park in the middle of Carmel.

"There's no thanks, there's no appreciation," Whipple said. "So we said forget it."

"It's not worth our while at all," she added.

Whipple also said the harassment of a couple private citizens that brought suit against Preserve Putnam and wanted to run the Whipples out of Tilly Foster was another factor in the departure.

County Executive MaryEllen Odell said in an interview she's "heartbroken" and expressed gratitude to the Whipple family "for all their generosity."

"That farm is better today than the day the Whipples came on by extraordinary measures," she added.

Odell said the county would ensure the entire inventory owned by Preserve Putnam was liquidated appropriately and would also take an inventory of all the county property still on the farm.

Going forward, Odell noted she would like to see Tilly Foster's repositioning mirror what the county did for the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac that's been under

new management. The general manager of the golf course, Mike McCall could be included in reworking the farm, Odell said.

Still, Legislator Dini LoBue, who has been critical of the Whipples and the handling of the farm since the lease was broken, said she's disgusted that Odell is allowing Whipple to have a sale without getting the financials records the legislature requires.

She didn't like the fact that Whipple was holding a "tag sale" on county property and is wary about what exactly is being sold.

Elaborating on the financial records, LoBue said Preserve Putnam kept submitting the same documentations, which are tax returns comingled with the Cornerstone Park and chapel financials.

She said it states in the lease that a separate bank account was supposed to be set up for all deposits and transactions for the farm. While LoBue said a representative for Whipple said he had a separate account, the legislature hasn't seen it.

"All of this is a circus," she said.

Meredith Whipple countered the claim about lack of providing financials, strongly asserting that her family has followed everything within the lease and other county, state and federal laws.

"We followed every single thing in the lease and gave them every piece of paper that we were required," Whipple said. "Yet they still harassed us and we just couldn't afford to continue."



See what everybody's taking about!

A DESTINATION

The sounds of local chatter, increase as you walk through the door. You're greeted by our host within seconds...the sense of being is established. The decor feels warm and inviting, yet rustic...the perfect balance to a welcoming environment.

Enjoy Lunch, Dinner or a late snack...always fresh!

CRAFT BEERS, ATMOSPHERE AND IMPECCABLE SERVICE

Visit us at www.socialon6.com
Open Sunday-Thursday 11:30am-Whenever!
Friday-Saturday 11:00am-Whenever
944 Route 6 • Mahopac, NY • 845.803.8193

Like Us!



Common Core Blasted at Forum in Carmel

By Neal Rentz

A few hundred Putnam and Westchester parents, teachers, and school officials came to a packed Carmel Town Hall on Jan. 16 to blast the Common Core educational standards.

The Common Core forum was hosted by state Sen. Greg Ball (R-C-I/Patterson).

Ball sought the meeting to obtain comments about the Common Core, which are tied to the Race to the Top federal education funds.

Ball is seeking state legislation to end the standards in the state, which were implemented to prepare students for college and careers.

The Common Core was severely criticized during the roughly 105 minute meeting.

Lakeland High School student Laura Nardelli said with the implementation of the Common Core the stress is now on preparing students to take standardized tests. The Common Core structure has been upsetting to her, Nardelli said. Nardelli said she has become "feeling anxious in school."

Croton-Harmon Board of Education Vice President Giuseppina Miller said since the implementation of the Common Core "there's little room for creativity" for students.

Olivia Vataj, a fifth grade student in

the Mahopac School District, said she wrote a letter to state Commissioner of Education Dr. John King Jr. last year to express her opposition to the Common Core. "Common Core is taking over my life," Vataj said she told the commissioner. "You have taken my joy away."

Ann Laval, a parent of seven students, said the Common Core was implemented "for corporate and political gain."

"Our children are not fore sale," Laval said.

Even though Ball has called for the eventual end of the Common Core in the state, he was questioned by many in the audience for supporting Assembly legislation that call for a three-year moratorium on the Common Core to address concerns with the standards. Ball said he wants "full repeal" of the Common Core. But he added that he supported a moratorium as a way to eventually end the Common Core.

Ball said he wanted "to make sure the good guys have full control" over the process of ending the Common Core.

Ball called on those attending the meeting to lobby Gov. Andrew Cuomo to end the Common Core. Currently, the governor is ignoring those seeking to end Common Core, Ball said.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTOS

Among the public officials taking part in the Common Core forum on Jan. 16 at Carmel Town Hall were, from the left, state Senator Greg Ball, who conducted the meeting, Putnam County Legislator Sam Oliverio Jr., and Carmel Supervisor Kenneth Schmitt



Some of the few hundred residents and school officials who attended a forum on the Common Core on Jan. 16 at Carmel Town Hall.

JEFFERSON VALLEY MALL

Join the club! Join the fun!

The Simon Kidgits Club® is a kids' club with interactive games, giveaways, prizes, and events for the whole family!
\$5 annual membership fee. See Simon Guest Services for membership information and details.

SIMON more choices® simon.com/kidgits

OLE CAROUSEL ANTIQUES CENTER

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Ole Carousel thanks all of our loyal customers for a record setting 2013! We look forward to working with each of you in 2014... and welcome all to join us!!

Our Annual **WHITE SALE!**

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
JANUARY 25TH & 26TH

20% OFF (OVER \$10, LIMITED EXCLUSIONS)

All items that are **WHITE**... or has white on them!

WINTER HOURS: DAILY 10AM to 6PM; ALWAYS CALL FIRST IN CLOSURE WEATHER!

6208 Rt. 82 North, Stanfordville, NY • 845-868-1586 or olecarousel@optonline.net

Somers Custom Framing & Gift

Framing ~ Printing ~ Gifts.

2-Time Best of Westchester **WINNER!**

BEST WESTCHESTER WINNER 2013

914.276.3173

253 Route 202 Somers

www.somersframing.com

Credit for Bridge Grant in Dispute

continued from page 1

wanted to thank Odell and her office for the support they showed and the paperwork they processed in order to be a recipient of the grant funding. When reached for an interview, he noted the legislature and Commissioner Pena were active in getting the grant, but did say he also talked with Ball about the grant.

"I'm thrilled that we're getting it. That's the bottom line," he said. "I was told by MaryEllen that we received it and I'm ecstatic."

Even District 2 Legislator Sam Oliverio, who doesn't represent any part of the area getting the grant, chimed in to criticize Odell. Oliverio, who announced previously he's heavily considering running for the county executive office, said in a release Ball initiated the grant and it was Ball who

worked through the Albany Legislature to secure the grant.

"The County Executive had absolutely nothing to do with this grant," part of Oliverio's statement read. "Matter of fact, it was our Legislators and Southeast Supervisor Tony Hay that first thought of using Morningthorpe as a pedestrian walkway."

When the two lawmakers directly involved in the controversy were reached, there was a slight difference of opinion.

When asked if Odell should get any credit, Ball said in an interview, "All the way around. Absolutely."

He added his office worked with senate finance to prioritize the project and worked in coordination with Congressman Sean Maloney to get the federal funds.

When Odell was asked in an interview

what role Ball played in the getting the grant, she said, "I don't really know what, if any his role was other than being the senator for the 40th district."

One aspect most lawmakers had in common was the value the grant had for Southeast and Brewster and possibly increased tourism, even if \$2 million seemed like a steep price to convert Morningthorpe into a pedestrian bridge.

Southeast councilman Robert Cullen said Morningthorpe Bridge was a real "eyesore" after it was closed from any foot traffic last spring. Now with the grant, Cullen said it will hopefully "spruce" up that area.

"As a Legislator and resident of the Community," Castellano said in Odell's release, "I see this bridge conversion as bringing a functional tourist attraction to the community and its residents."

Councilwoman Liz Hudak said constituents approached her asking her why grant money couldn't have been used for more important infrastructure like roads. Her response was the grant money was specifically earmarked for the bridge revitalization.

Hay said with \$2 million going toward the bridge, he wonders if there is a bigger plan for the project that he is unaware of. Depending on degree of project, Hay noted it should've gone in front of the town's planning board, architectural review board, and the town board.

"I don't know what the plan is," Hay said.

"I see two politicians falling all over themselves to take credit," Hay added. "It's really sad no one made a presentation to the town board to share with the residents of the Southeast and I think that's wrong."

MHS 'BYOD' Policy Introduces Personal Tech to Classrooms

By Kerry Barger

Upgrades to school security systems, online assessments, and live-streaming board meetings are only a handful of ways the Mahopac Central School District is introducing students, staff and parents to 21st century education. Mahopac High School, in particular, has implemented "BYOD," or a "Bring Your Own Device" policy in an effort to integrate technology into the classroom.

According to the policy, "students are allowed to bring laptops, netbooks,

e-readers, tablets, and smart/cell phones to school." Students must complete a signed permission slip in order to access to the high school's wireless network, with teachers implementing their own individual policy for use in the classroom.

"We're still looking at funding all of the technology upgrades we're going to need to make from the hardware, what computers we'll need for WiFi," board member Patricia Caputo said of state standards of online assessment. "So we're really happy to hear the

high school is going 'BYOD'.

In a letter addressed to parents, Mahopac High School Principal Dr. Adam S. Pease announced "We have made significant progress in building the infrastructure to support the wireless connections recommended by [the technology committee]. With the assistance of the Site Based Team, we have also made modifications to our school rules with regard to students bringing technology into the building, as well as where and how they may

use these devices."

The policy also states the students may bring these devices in "at their own risk" and that the school is not liable for lost, stolen or damaged equipment.

Caputo invited parents to attend to the board's technology committee meetings to find out more information about the district's digital initiatives. A comprehensive overview of the policy can be found on the high school's website at <http://mhs.mahopac.k12.ny.us>.

Sclafani Oil & Propane



Ultra low sulfur heating oil, biofuel, propane, diesel and gasoline. Call us today for the lowest prices with the highest quality!

"We make warm friends"
(845) 628-1330

Order on the web: www.sclafanioil.com
Ask us anything at www.sclafanioil.com/blog

BEE & JAY
Plumbing & Heating



Thank you for
50 years of
Continued
Patronage

FISHLIN & FISHLIN, PLLC - ATTORNEYS AT LAW
WESTCHESTER, ROCKLAND AND NEW YORK CITY

Probate | Administration | Wills | Trusts
Estate Litigation | Guardianship
Commercial Litigation | Real Estate



TODD FISHLIN | LEWIS FISHLIN

NEW WESTCHESTER OFFICE	NEW YORK CITY OFFICE
100 SOUTH BEDFORD RD.	7 PENN PLAZA
SUITE 340	SUITE 810
MT. KISCO, NY 10549	NEW YORK, NY 10001

FOR ALL APPOINTMENTS CALL OR EMAIL
(212) 736-8000 | WWW.FISHLINLAW.COM

ATTORNEY ADVERTISING

**Business
of the Week**

Sol Shine Scentral Putnam Lake

By David Propper

One day inside Home Depot, Kirsten Perez ran into a friend who owned a business along Haviland Drive, but was looking to give up the shop in the near future.

The owners of the property were looking to lease the building out to someone and Perez's friend remembered how Perez had previously mentioned her desire to open a store one day. She suggested Perez she should take over the location once she leaves and after some contemplating, Perez came to the conclusion that now was the best time to start a new endeavor.

"I actually took over the business on a pinky promise," Perez said.

She bought some of the friend's merchandise and sold off some of it to another shop in town. As a result Sol Shine Scentral, a boutique, was born last April. And then this past December, Perez decided to expand the business into a coffee shop hoping to make it a fixture in Putnam Lake for years to come.

For 20 years, it's been a dream of Perez's to own her own business, something she can call her own. Over the past 20 years, Perez always had the desire to own a shop, but the logistics of life got in the way.

When she was just 19-years-old, Perez had a vision she would own this type of



Kirsten Perez stands in her own shop, Sol Shine Scentral in Putnam Lake. She opened it last spring.

shop and even knew she wanted the name to be Sol Shine Scentral, tracing it back to the time she worked at an aromatherapy store.

Prior to opening the shop, she did reception and administrative work and was also a pre-school teacher for a few years. After she got married, her husband encouraged her to stay at home for a bit, but for someone as active as Perez, that didn't last long.

"I'm a very enthusiastic person so I like to be around people," she said.

Perez said her shop is one that caters to all five senses of the human body.

The way the shop is set up can be pleasing to the eyes, and there's a delectable smell when a person walks in. The music is soothing to the ears and lotions and oils are enjoyable to put on the skin. And, of course, the coffee and food are for a person's taste buds.

Perez also notes the experience at her coffee shop is more personal because she's a "one man show" and when a customer comes in, she gets to know them well.

"I'm about positivity, optimism and shedding good feelings among people," Perez said.

Perez admits the location of the shop is a tough one and hard for customers to find on occasion. It's on the corner of a street and her sign for the café is partially blocked off by a pole.

But Perez is beginning to come up with ways to draw more people, like offering coffee, tea and hot chocolate for only 50 cents from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. everyday. Future activities and functions are also planned.

The location might be a tough draw, but someone as optimistic as Perez is ready to overcome any challenge.

"This location found me and I believe this is the location I meant to be in," Perez said. "So I'm not going to give up on this location. I'd like to become a staple in the community."

Sol Shine Scentral is located on 83 Haviland Drive in Patterson. They're open seven days a week. Mon-Thurs 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri-Sat 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sun 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. Their phone number is 845-363-1363

**IF YOU SAW SOMETHING,
WOULD YOU SAY
SOMETHING?**

Likes. Tweets. Shares. Every video on pctv76.org has many ways to keep the conversation going. If you like a band on "296," share it with your friends. If something on "Catching Up" sparks your interest, tweet it to your followers. We believe that, by giving the public access to each other's thoughts and opinions, we can help build a better community. Now isn't that something?



It's all about you.

Pet
Of
The
Week



**F
L
I
N
T**

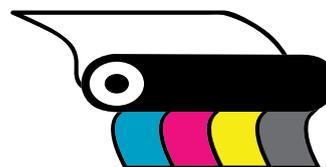
Flint is calm, friendly
and loves people!
Adopt him at:
**The Putnam
Humane Society**
845-225-7777

b.bakery!

66 Gleneida Avenue
(Across from the Carmel Diner)
Carmel, NY 10512

(845) 225-1757

Open Monday - Saturday
9am - 6pm/Closed Sunday



Trumbull
PRINTING

Newspapers • Publications • Shoppers • Catalogs • Magazines
Directories • Coupon Books • College Course Catalogs
Business and Financial Periodicals
Free Standing Inserts • Advertising Supplements

205 Spring Hill Road, Trumbull, CT 06611 • 203.261.2548
www.trumbullprinting.com

To advertise in The Examiner,
call 914-864-0878
or e-mail
advertising@theexaminernews.com

The PUTNAM Examiner

Adam Stone
astone@theexaminernews.com
Publisher

Laura Markowski
lmarkowski@theexaminernews.com
Associate Publisher

Peter Stone
pstone@theexaminernews.com
Chief Financial Officer

David Propper
dpropper@theexaminernews.com
Editor-in-Chief

Neal Rentz
nrentz@theexaminernews.com
Reporter

Ray Gallagher
rgallagher@theexaminernews.com
Sports Editor

Nikki Gallagher
nikki@theexaminernews.com
Community Calendar Editor

Bill Primavera
bprimavera@theexaminernews.com
Real Estate Editor

Dean Pacchiana
dpacchiana@theexaminernews.com
Page Designer

Dina Spalvieri
dspalvieri@theexaminernews.com
Ad Designer

Jeff Ohlbaum
johlbaum@theexaminernews.com
Senior Account Executive

Corinne Stanton
cstanton@theexaminernews.com
Media Consultant

Examiner
MEDIA
also publishes
The Examiner
The NORTHERN WESTCHESTER
Examiner
The WHITE PLAINS
Examiner

PO Box 611,
Mount Kisco, NY 10549
914-864-0878
www.TheExaminerNews.com

Member of

NEW YORK PRESS ASSOCIATION
NYPA

CIRCULATION
VERIFICATION
COUNCIL

Letter to the Editor

Putnam Resident Expresses Gratitude to Odell

MaryEllen:

I am writing this letter to thank you for your help in resolving long-term problems I had with the Bike Trail drainage system. I was unsuccessfully seeking to have a portion of the Bike Trail refurbished to prevent flooding onto my property and that of my neighbors.

I thank you for contacting Mr. Fred Pena, (Commissioner of Highways & Facilities), Mr. Christopher C. Ruthven III, (Deputy Commissioner of Parks) and Mr. David Keith, on my behalf. I hope that the public will take notice of the beautification of the Bike Trail, will respect the work it took to accomplish this project and stop disposing their trash, tree prunings and other items

into this system.

Chris Ruthven and his work crew accomplished all the work required for the protection of the wetlands while refurbishing the existing drainage system along the northerly line of the former Railroad Right of Way, now the Putnam County Bike Trail. They completely restored the drainage swale, removed grown trees and their roots as well as bushes, built up sludge and various debris. They also cleaned up the area bordering neighboring properties, retrenched the drainage swale, reconstructed the drainage system, installed new drainage stone, etc. once again allowing the flow of storm waters from the wetlands to the drainage tunnel under the railroad

tracks/bike trail. In doing so, the wetlands could once again accumulate surface storm waters from roadways and surrounding lands and distribute it via the drainage swale systems which direct the flow of storm waters into local ponds, streams and reservoirs thereby preventing flooding on adjacent properties.

Chris and his work crew worked diligently to refurbish the drainage swale system in a workmanlike manner. I took pictures to show the 'before' and 'after' accomplishments of this team effort. I will show them to you when I get them developed.

Your loyal friend,
Bill Binns

Kent Fiscal Watch Thanks Kent Town Board for Good Start

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Kent Town Board:

Kent Fiscal Watch would like to give our thanks to each of you for taking on the duties and responsibilities of administering the government of our town. To those most recently elected, we say welcome.

Kent Fiscal Watch applauds the decisions made at the organizational meeting to hold the salaries of the Supervisor and Town Board Members at 2013 levels and to allow residents to speak on subjects not restricted to the formal agenda. Fiscal restraint and open communication are positions Kent Fiscal Watch has long advocated.

Kent's residents depend on their local government for many services and look to you for their effective, efficient, and transparent management. We recognize that your jobs are not easy, that the five of you will not always agree on the best course of action, and that, despite your best efforts, not everything will be perfect. We trust, though, that by keeping the lines of communication between the local government and those it serves open you will be able to maintain and build the public's trust in our local government.

In observing the initial Town Board meeting of 2014, we were heartened to see

the collegial interaction among all of you. We urge you to continue to confer with one another at workshops and meetings, especially on subjects on which you disagree.

Again, thank you for agreeing to serve our town. The members of Kent Fiscal Watch look forward to a stellar 2014 under your leadership. If there is anything any of us can do to help you, please feel free to call on us.

David Ehnebuske President,
Kent Fiscal Watch, Inc.

News from the Putnam Valley High School Music Department

On Friday, January 10, in celebration of the newly created high school a cappella group, directed by the Putnam Valley High School choral director, Ms. Johna Rae Kesten, Putnam Valley High School hosted an a cappella performance and master class workshop for all PVHS chorus, band and a cappella club students. The performance and workshop featured "Otto Tunes," an all male a cappella group from Syracuse University consisting of 13 SU students.

Throughout Otto Tunes' fun and musically enriching performance, students listened to a wide range of a cappella repertoire, learned how to beat-box, and engaged in dialogue with Otto Tunes members about their general college experiences as well as what it means to be a cappella members.

After the performance, Otto Tunes led a fantastic interactive master class with the PVHS a cappella club. The twenty-one club members learned about blending, dynamics, expression and performance. They had a chance to sing with, dance with, and learn from these wonderful and dynamic college students.

Ms. Kesten attended Syracuse University and was a member of an all female a cappella group. Ms. Kesten shared, "I believed that starting an a cappella group at PVHS would help feed our students' passion for music and that their interest in pursuing music in college would increase. Being in a high



school a cappella group would also give them an advantage when auditioning for a collegiate group. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to bring in a group from my alma mater, and I'm delighted that the students found the performance educational and enjoyable!"

This event was made possible by the generous support of the Putnam Valley Music Association.

Correction

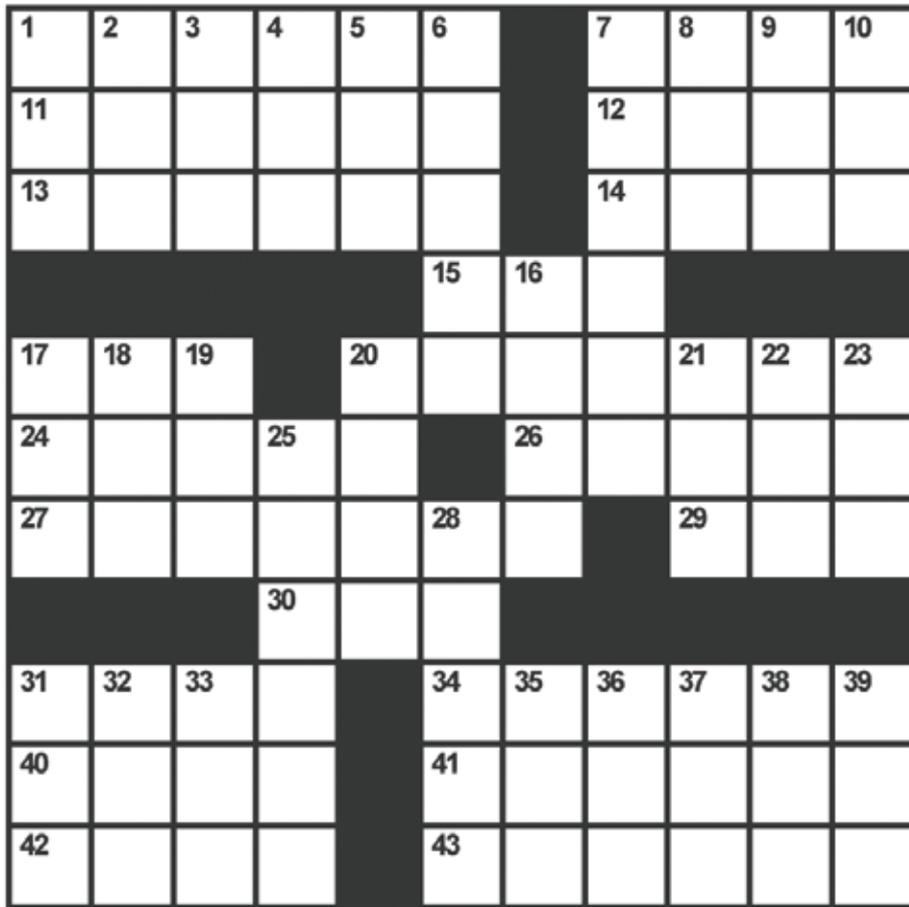
In the article "Tartaro Placed on Legislator 3 Seat to Replace Othmer" the vote count was misstated. In the original article, it stated Tartaro was appointed by a 5-3 margin. The actual margin was 6-2. The Putnam Examiner regrets the error.

Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the

editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to Editor David Propper at dpropper@theexaminernews.com. The Putnam Examiner requires that all letter writers provide their name, address, and contact information.

Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 14

Across

- 1 Joined by a common cause
- 7 "That was close!"
- 11 Rough shelter
- 12 Indisputable
- 13 Revolutionary war general or NY County
- 14 Snoozing
- 15 Conger ____
- 17 Ooh partner
- 20 Snippet
- 24 Beseech
- 26 Point
- 27 Camaraderie
- 29 Link between home and school, briefly
- 30 Continue
- 31 Cheese producer
- 34 This Pulitzer prize winner grew up in Yorktown
- 40 Maker of holes
- 41 Hottie
- 42 Unnamed ones
- 43 Update

Down

- 1 Yodeling mountain
- 2 Capital of Romania
- 3 It crosses long.
- 4 Lodge
- 5 Time of arrival, for short
- 6 Like the Capitol building
- 7 Prayers
- 8 Airline's home base
- 9 "____ Time transfigured me." - Yeats
- 10 Unite inseparably

- 16 Prepare for publication
- 17 Spring month, for short
- 18 ____ carte
- 19 ____ cat
- 20 ____ Eaters
- 21 Special sense
- 22 Almond Joy additive
- 23 Herbal beverage
- 25 Don't-care attitude
- 28 Allude
- 31 Time zone basis
- 32 "That feels good!"
- 33 Sat down at Wendy's
- 35 Eye rhyme
- 36 Rent
- 37 Roswell sighting, supposedly
- 38 Twosome on stage
- 39 Under the weather

Advertise in The Putnam Examiner • 914-864-0878

Follow us on

twitter

twitter.com/ExaminerMedia

Find us on **Facebook**

Search for **EXAMINER MEDIA**

914-864-0878

advertising@theexaminernews.com

www.theexaminernews.com

Your Daily Examiner Fix

Exami Blast

Visit TheExaminerNews.com to subscribe to Examiner Media's **FREE, daily e-mail newsletter**

To get the latest headlines from

The Examiner

The **WHITE PLAINS** Examiner

The **PUTNAM** Examiner

The **NORTHERN WESTCHESTER** Examiner

as well as columns, features and sports

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Housing Report: Party Like it's 2006 and in Your Own Backyard

Never one who was big on remembering or quoting verse from the Bible, I do sometimes think of Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3, Verses 1-4. You know, the passage about the appropriate times to do this or that, when to mourn or rejoice, and all that? It's gotten me through the low spots when I've thought, okay, I guess this is one of those down times when I should just lie low or kick up my heels.

During 2013, we realtors were able to say this is the time to rejoice and this is the time for homeowners to sell and buyers to buy. At least that's what the report of the Multiple Listing Service, released last week, confirmed that we should do.

The good news was that the real estate business was better in 2013 than it had been since we laid a big fat egg after 2007. Westchester posted a 21 percent sales increase from 2012 to 2013 and Putnam a 17 percent increase. To paraphrase a certain Dickens novel in a skewed kind of way, it was the best of times to buy and it was the best of times to sell a house.

Those of my colleagues who were able to survive in the real estate business (and a significant percentage of us didn't) are glad we stayed the course. In 2013, many of us had our best year yet despite certain limitations,



By Bill Primavera

such as decreased inventory which tended to crimp our style when a buyer client would desperately want a property only to find that there were multiple bids.

In Westchester, the housing inventory dropped from 2,570 units in 2012 to 2,327 units in 2013, a 9.5 percent decline. In Putnam, the number decreased from 708 in 2012 to 681 in 2013, a 3.8 percent decline.

This all augured well for home values. In Westchester, the median sales price of a single-family rose 3.9 percent, from \$587,000 in 2012 to \$610,000 in 2013. In Putnam, the median sales price rose 2.8 percent to \$308,500. Quizzically, however, average prices in the year-end report in most towns decreased while the number of sales went up simply because many more homes in the lower end that were sitting on the shelf during the recession came on the market.

Because all real estate is local, I thought it would be fun to see how the good news translates into sales in a sampling of communities served by The Examiner newspapers. Although I'm normally not a numbers guy, when it comes to anything related to the value of my life's biggest investment, I just love to see numbers stacked side by side.

Here are 2013 sales numbers for the Byram Hills School District (serving Armonk, Bedford, Mount Pleasant, Chappaqua and Pleasantville).

In 2012, 106 homes sold compared with 129 in 2013. Those with the town average of four bedrooms sold for an average price of \$1,183,212 in 2012, compared with a \$1,192,733 average in 2013. The median selling price for a four-bedroom home in 2012 was \$1,150,000; in 2013, it was \$895,000. The most expensive home sold in 2012 was \$2,950,000; in 2013, it was \$9,300,000. Total volume of all homes sold in 2012 was \$125,420,498; in 2013, \$153,862,494.

Scouting over to Mount Kisco...

In 2012, 34 homes sold compared with 40 in 2013. Those with the town average of three bedrooms, sold in 2012 for an average price of \$564,432 compared to \$562,549 in 2013. The median selling price for a three-bedroom home in 2012 was \$470,500; in 2013, it was \$460,000. The most expensive home sold in 2012 was \$1,250,000; in 2013, it was \$1,160,000. Total volume of all homes sold in 2012 was \$19,190,700 in 2013, \$22,501,950.

What about a larger town like Yorktown?

Perhaps because of its more moderately priced homes combined with good schools and services, Yorktown saw the most dramatic increase in sales in the past year.

In 2012, 185 homes sold compared with 512 in 2013. Those with the town average of three bedrooms sold for an average price of \$409,230 in 2012 compared to \$393,928 in 2013. The median selling price for a three-bedroom home in 2012 was \$380,000; in 2013, it was \$342,250. The most expensive home sold in 2012 was \$1,600,000; in 2013, it was \$5,500,000. Total volume of all homes sold in 2012 was \$75,707,578; in 2013, \$201,691,342.

What's doing in Putnam?

In Mahopac, 127 homes sold in 2012 compared with 160 in 2013. Those with the town average of three bedrooms sold for an average price of \$363,423 in 2012 compared to \$388,119 in 2013. The median selling price for a three-bedroom home in 2012 was \$349,000; in 2013, it was \$335,000. The most expensive home sold in 2012 was \$1,070,000; in 2013, it was \$1,550,000. Total volume of all homes sold in 2012 was \$46,154,762; in 2013, \$62,098,961.

For those thinking about buying or selling in the near future, do I hear any heels clicking?

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.

The Newest Wine Packaging Addresses Convenience



By Nick Antonaccio

Convenience. What a concept. In 2014, we've evolved as a society that places significant weight on being able to reduce our precious time to focus on the most important matters and that seeks other means to satisfy seemingly less important matters.

And there are always enterprising companies seeking to market to this need. In fact, whole segments of our markets have been created to cater to enhancing our convenience, to assist us in focusing on matters we deem important. The word has entered the vernacular to connote instant gratification: convenience foods, convenience stores and household conveniences.

Henry Ford offered a convenient alternative to the horse and buggy: the Model T. AT&T and others offered a convenient alternative to land lines: cell phones. Amazon offered a more convenient way to shop: with your fingers, not your shoe leather.

And then there is perhaps the greatest convenience entrepreneur of all times, Steve Jobs. Who but he envisioned that

we needed one convenient device to replace the multiple and oftentimes bulky instruments we grew up with. In one fell swoop he changed our lives forever, making convenience a primary, not a secondary, aspect of our lives: a telephone, search engine, camera, photo and video storage album, mail box, music library/player, game console and a myriad of other applications, all in a newly designed, convenient, hand-held device that fits in one's pocket.

Over my six-plus years of penning this column, I've reported on a number of conveniences evolving around wine, all attempting to be innovative and capitalizing on new technology. Since many evolve around alternative wine packaging, it was with a piqued curiosity that I read on the Internet another offering in this better mousetrap category. I've previously reported on the pluses and minuses of screw tops, wine-in-a-box, wine-in-a-can, Tetrapacks and mini-bottles.

A new product is on the market. Stack Wine purports to make wine drinking

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

convenient and fun.

How many times have you had issues with the inconvenience of a bottle of wine? I offer a few examples: backyard parties, picnics, tailgating, beaches and camping. Wouldn't you be grateful if some entrepreneur came up with a convenient way to eliminate the glass bottle, the need for a cumbersome corkscrew and the issues in transporting and cleaning wine glasses? Not to mention the possible risks involved with open-container laws.

Along come prepackaged individual portions of red and white wines. The concept is brilliant marketing. Stack Wine is basically four plastic stemless glasses, shrink-wrapped for your convenience. Simply "Zip, Snap and Sip" as the logo suggests. Pull the plastic Zip-per on the side of the stack and the four glasses are released; Snap them apart, pull the lid on each glass and Sip to your heart's content. The four glasses contain the equivalent volume of a standard bottle of wine, so portion control further enhances the convenience of Stack Wine. The added convenience is that although an unfinished bottle will quickly spoil, each unopened Stack Wine glass remains fresh for the next occasion.

Handy, convenient and disposable—they are adult juice boxes.

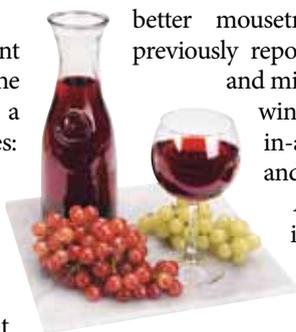
'another better mouse trap?'

Clearly these wines are geared toward casual drinking. But is this latest product more about the packaging than the wine?

At about \$13 a stack, I guess you can't expect much. But should I? In the end it's all about the quality of the wine. But what level of quality? The producer (packager) states the wines were selected specifically for the above occasions where/when the wines are expected to be consumed.

They may have a point. The French have a phrase for these styles of wines--vin de soif--thirst-quenching wines that go down easy and are not intended to be serious. Simply pleasurable. The makers of Stackable Wines may have hit on a successful marketing pitch. I invite you to experiment and communicate to me your opinions.

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.



Putnam County Chambers of Commerce Announces 2013 Trailblazer Awards Gala

The Putnam County Chambers of Commerce (PCCC), the county's largest business organization and primary advocate, voice, and resource for the business community, announced today it will host the 4th annual Trailblazer Awards at Mahopac's Villa Barone Hilltop Manor on January 31st. Tickets may be purchased online for \$75 each at putnamchambersny.org. Emceed by Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell and Sheriff Donald B. Smith, 35 business professionals will be recognized for their outstanding success. A Live Auction will be featured at the event to raise funds for cross-county Community Development Projects throughout 2014

and 2015.

"After the success of last year's '40 Under 40' Trailblazer Awards, we are anxiously looking forward to a full-house event this year, brimming with high energy and celebration," says Jennifer Maher, Chairwoman, Putnam County Chambers of Commerce. "The PCCC's mission and value continues to be about advocating for the needs of our business community, as a whole, and ensuring our voices are heard at all levels of government. In addition to recognizing the success of our county's best and brightest business professionals, this gala brings all of us together on common ground to celebrate the vital

contributions that our businesses provide to 'Main Street' and our residents."

"I am delighted to be part of this important event and my hearty thanks and congratulations goes out to all of the Trailblazer Award honorees," said MaryEllen Odell, Putnam County Executive & co-Master of Ceremonies.

"Virtually, since the day I took office, the Putnam County Chambers of Commerce has been working together with me and my staff on key issues affecting our business community. In a relatively short time, with the help of Jennifer Maher and Bill Nulk, in particular, we have been able to tune into the needs of our businesses on a

more strategic, actionable level. This has resulted in the county's improved focus on programs such as the Putnam County Transportation Task Force, which will increase traffic flow to businesses and attractions in the county by making it easier for our residents to get there," said Odell.

Now in its fifth year, the Trailblazer Awards program honors Putnam County business owners and business employees who have gone above and beyond in one of the following categories: Emerging Trailblazer, Established Trailblazer, Mature Trailblazer, Environmentally Engaged Trailblazer or Socially Conscious Trailblazer.

Haldane Student Honored

Haldane High School student Giana Grandetti had not one, but two reasons, to be proud at the last Haldane Board of Education Meeting. Grandetti was honored as a Student of Distinction at the Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES Tech Center, and also as a member of Haldane's Varsity Girls Soccer Team, which came in second in New York State.

An Advanced Baking student, Grandetti came to The Tech Center to study something she had grown up with — working in the

kitchen. "I'm 100 percent Italian, and we are always in the kitchen," she said. "I love to cook, and my brother is also a chef. I really enjoy being with my family in the kitchen."

Grandetti, who would like to study business management in college as well as pursue her passion for Pastry Arts, sees her dream job someday as being in the food business with her family. "I would love to run a restaurant with my family," she said.

"The amazing thing about Giana is that I never have to ask her to do anything —

even the dishes!" said Chef Jenn Guiffre, who nominated Grandetti as The Tech Center Student of Distinction. "She's always working with a smile before I have to ask."

In addition to her work in Advanced Baking, Giana volunteers in the fire department in Cold Spring, is active in her church and plays soccer for Haldane High School. "I love being part of a team," she said.

Grandetti, who received her Student of Distinction Award at the the Haldane Board

of Education meeting on January 7, said she thought it was great that there was an award that recognized "different paths to success. It is nice to be recognized for my actions; I try to be the best person I can be."

Her father, Paul Grandetti, said "She's every bit what they gave her the award for — hardworking, talented and kind."

Chef Jenn has no doubt that Giana will make her dreams a reality. "Giana will succeed," Chef Jenn said, "not just because she has a great skill set, which she does, but because she is a good soul who knows what to do and who isn't afraid of hard work"

Obituaries

Carmela "Millie" T. Tomblin

Carmela "Millie" T. Tomblin, 68, of Baldwin Place died on January 14 at Putnam Hospital Center. Mrs. Tomblin was born on April 20, 1945 to Walter and Dominica (Starantino) Lazarus in the Bronx, NY. On May 21, 1977 she married Thomas "TJ" Tomblin at the Grace Lutheran Church in Yorktown. In her spare time, Millie loved animals, country music and was an avid NY Yankee fan, yet her favorite time was spent with her family and her grandchildren who were her greatest joy. She was self-employed and was a phenomenal and great beautician. She is survived by her devoted husband; TJ, her two loving children; Cynthia (Vitor) Sa, and Tommy (Cherylann) Tomblin; her sister Trudy and three adoring grandchildren; Marcos, Cordelia and Jonathan.

Theresa A. Beach

Theresa A. Beach, 75, of Boyton Beach, Florida, (formerly of Carmel) died on January 14, at Putnam Hospital Center, surrounded by her loving family. Mrs. Beach was born on June 27, 1938 to Bernard and

Anna (Keefe) McCann in Brooklyn. Mrs. Beach was a homemaker and dedicated her entire life to her family. She is survived by her four loving children; Theresa (Angelo) Sarna, William (Ann Marie) Beach, Laurie (Todd) Mainey and Raymond (Dawn) Beach, her brother Robert, twelve wonderful grandchildren; Angelo (Rachel) Sarna Jr., Billy Sarna, Daniel (Bethany) Sarna, Jeremy Sarna, Matthew (Michelle) Mainey, James Mainey, Olivia Mainey, Catherine Mainey, Tina Marie Beach, Rosemary (Marshall) Okin, Brittany Beach and Bryanna Beach and three adoring great-grandchildren; Angelina Mainey, Matthew Mainey and Lilly Okin. Mrs. Beach is predeceased by her devoted husband, William and two her loving children; Kathleen and Michael.

Agnes B. Faithorn

Agnes B. Faithorn of Mahopac died on Tuesday, January 14 at the age of 97. She was born on November 8, 1916, the daughter of Julius and Emma (Wiggly) Dertinger. She is survived by her daughters Mary Scott and her husband Richard, of Mt. Kisco and Christine Coffin of Mahopac, and her grandchildren Jesse and Benjamin

Scott. She was predeceased by her husband George J. Faithorn in 1982.

Charles David Hyatt

Charles David Hyatt, age 54, of Holmes, died Tuesday, January 14 at his home. Mr. Hyatt was born January 29, 1959 in Mahopac to Ella (Daley) Hyatt of Patterson and the late Albert M. Hyatt. Mr. Hyatt married Madeline Petersen on September 8, 1984 at Sacred Heart Church in Putnam Lake. Mr. Hyatt was owner and operator of Hyatt's Pump Service Inc., of Holmes since 1981 but has been involved with water well service all his life, having first worked as a young boy for his fathers well drilling business. Mr. Hyatt had lived in Holmes since 1984 having lived in Patterson as a young boy. He enjoyed singing and listening to country music, hunting and fishing, old cars, and drag racing. He was a member of the Brewster BPO ELKS Lodge #2101. It was his family that brought him his greatest joy. Besides his mother Ella, and his wife Madeline of 29 years, he is survived by three sons, David C. Hyatt of Bayside Queens, NY, Richard A. Hyatt and Joseph T. Hyatt, both of Holmes; his three brothers, Milton and Jeff Hyatt, both of Patterson and Rex Hyatt of Holmes.



Haldane High School student Giana Grandetti (far right) was honored at the Board of Education Meeting as a Student of Distinction at the Tech Center at Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES.


CARGAIN
FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
A Professional Commitment to Service

Michael H. Muenz
Funeral Director
Owner

418 Route 6
Mahopac, NY 10541
(845) 628-5655

10 Fowler Avenue
Carmel, NY 10512
(845) 225-3672

Are You Putting Your Toddler To Bed Too Early?

Having a consistent bedtime is good for children's health but putting your child to bed too early could lead to a variety of health disturbances. New research conducted at the University of Colorado (CU-Boulder) linked premature bedtime to kids' immediate and long-term sleep problems. Such sleep problems are associated with emotional and behavioral issues as well as poor cognitive performance which can persist into adolescence.

The CU-Boulder study showed that nearly 25% of children between the ages of 30 and 36 months struggle to fall asleep when put to bed, and those who were put to bed too early tended to stay awake for up to an hour. "For these toddlers, laying in bed awake for such a long time can lead to the association of bed with arousal, not sleep," said Monique LeBourgeois, CU-Boulder Assistant Professor and researcher. Similar to adults, when babies associate their beds (or cribs) with stress and frustration, conditions like insomnia are more likely to develop. When adults experience sleep disorders they are told to use bed for sleep and sex only. Babies should associate their cribs with sleep and rest, not stimulation.

The university's study measured toddlers' melatonin levels for 6

hours prior to bedtime. Melatonin is a hormone that rises before children become sleepy. On average the toddlers melatonin onset was at 7:40pm and parents tended to put their toddlers to bed at around 8pm. While the parents might have been ready for their little ones to go to sleep, it was just too early for the toddlers and resulted in sleep resistance. The aim, according to the study, is to give toddlers more time between when their melatonin rises and when they are put to sleep. While it isn't realistic for parents to monitor their children's melatonin levels at home, LeBourgeois suggests that if parents notice their child "resisting bedtime or having problems falling asleep, it is likely he or she is not physiologically ready for sleep at that time."

Melatonin production has a lot to do with light exposure so parents can use light to manipulate melatonin in their child to some degree. Too much light in the evening delays production so LeBourgeois suggests dimming lights about an hour prior to bedtime. It's important to pay attention to morning



By Dr. Jaime
Fleckner Black

light exposure too morning light exposure is good for the sleep-wake cycle. Avoiding electronics before bed is also recommended. Television and iPods are too stimulating and are likely to delay sleep.

The research is pretty clear about consistent bedtimes and routines being good for most toddlers. Having a consistent sleep-wake cycle can reduce social and emotional problems and decrease behavior problems. That being said, every child has an individual biological clock that may or may not coincide with what parents or parenting websites suggest a bedtime "should" be. Trust your instincts, take cues from your child, and revise as necessary.

Dr. Jaime Black is a licensed psychologist practicing in Westchester and New York City. Jaime works with high-functioning individuals on the autism spectrum, doing psychotherapy, conducting evaluations, and facilitating socialization groups including an improv social skills group. Visit www.spectrumservicesnyc.com, e-mail JaimeBlackPsyD@gmail.com or call (914)712-8208.

Find us on
Facebook

Search for
EXAMINER MEDIA

914-864-0878
advertising@theexaminernews.com
www.theexaminernews.com

**SMALL
NEWS
IS BIG
NEWS**

advertising@theexaminernews.com

914.864.0878

Advertise in The Putnam Examiner 914-864-0878 advertising@theexaminernews.com

Four Putnam Residents Part of Ode of Praise for Hudson River

Four Putnam County residents are among ten collaborators of an ode of praise to the Hudson River. "The River's Journey" is a product of Windfield Arts Productions in Garrison and has been copyrighted, registered with ASCAP, recorded and is being distributed worldwide through the Internet's Amazon and CD Baby.

The project was conceived by Garrison's Catherine Portman-Laux, whose home overlooks the river. "I was disturbed by all the negativism and politics surrounding the river and thought it was time to draw attention to the river's glories," declares Portman-Laux, who wrote the verse. "After all, we have 'The Banks of the Wabash,' 'Beautiful Ohio,' 'Old Man River' and 'Suwannee River.'" Portman-Laux' husband, Burton Laux, wrote words for the chorus.

For Portman-Laux this was a novel project, as "The only poetry I have written in the past has been humorous," she notes, referring to cat greeting cards she produces.

"The poem traces the river from its origins at Lake Tear of the Cloud down to Lady Liberty, with the verse a haunting folk-like melody and the

chorus a joyful celebration of the good fortune New York State has to claim such a magnificent river," the originator states.

The words were set to music by Jimmy Conlin of New York City, the tenth partner in the project.

The musicians, dubbed The River Rovers, include Edward Packer of Suffern, lead vocalist and guitar; Patrick Cummings of Putnam Valley, secondary vocalist and mandolin; Ann Dillon of Cold Spring, concertina, and Dario Saraceno of Wappingers Falls, guitar. Cummings operates iGuitar Workshop in Nelsonville; Dillon is organizer of the Hudson Valley Irish Traditional Players, who entertain in the area, with Packer also a member of her group, and Saraceno operates the Woodbury Guitar Studio in Central Valley.

Lynn Segarra of Ulster Park, whose primary career is in video/editing and graphic design, served as art director for the project and designed the CD jacket.

The recording is dedicated to the memory of Scott Webster of Cold Spring, who was a member of the Cold Spring Boat Club cited for volunteer work on behalf of the river.

The recording was made at

Applehead Recording in Saugerties under the direction of Michael Birnbaum of Saugerties and Christopher Bittner of Kingston, who have recorded such luminaries as John Mayer, Blondie, Coheed & Cambria, Bad Brains, Medeski Martin & Wood and John Scofield.

The song is available worldwide on Amazon.com and CD Baby at <http://cdbaby.com/cd/theriverrovers>. The group has yet to select an exclusive distributor for the hard copy.



Preview recording of "The River's Journey" was presented to Assemblywoman Sandra Galef, back center. Also shown are, clockwise from upper right, Burton Laux, Patrick Cummings, Ann Dillon and Catherine Portman-Laux.

**SMALL NEWS IS
BIG NEWS**

get
NOTICED!

**Advertise in
The Putnam
Examiner**

Call 914-864-0878 today!

advertising@theexaminernews.com

EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

012114

ADOPTION

ADOPT: The stork didn't call; we hope you will! Loving, happy family seeking to adopt baby to complete our family. Contact Robin/Neil: 866-303-0668, www.rn-ladoption.info

AUCTIONS

Buy or sell at AARuctions.com. Contents of homes, businesses, vehicles and real estate. Bid NOW! AARuctions.com Lights, Camera, Auction. No longer the best kept secret.

DIVORCE

DIVORCE \$349 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Includes poor person application/waives government fees, if approved. One signature required. Separation agreements available. Make Divorce Easy - 518-274-0380.

HELP WANTED

ARMONK, NY RESTAURANT TEAM: Work for the best guy ever! Excellent opportunity/full time jobs in a new restaurant located in Armonk, NY. If you know how to CHOP A SALAD, make wraps, serve great soups and be AMAZING WITH CUSTOMERS, I want to meet

YOU. Bring your prep, line, cooking & customer service experience! We will be a great team. Let's learn from each other! **EMAIL YOUR RESUME or list of restaurant experience: bowlssalad@aol.com Don't wait!!! BE ON MY TEAM!**

HAIR DRESSER with some following to join our team. Yorktown Hts. **914 220 2308.**

AIRLINE CAREERS begin here! Get FAA approved Aviation Maintenance Technician training. Financial aid for qualified students Housing available. Job placement assistance. Call AIM 866-296-7093

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HAS YOUR BUILDING SHIFTED OR SETTLED? Contact Woodford Brothers Inc, for straightening, leveling, foundation and wood frame repairs at 1-800-OLD-BARN. www.woodfordbros.com. "Not applicable in Queens county"

LAND

NYS LAND FOR SALE 8.6 Acres/\$19,995 With Financing! Beautiful Ridge Top Maple Forests With Evergreens, Wild Apple Trees, Babbling Brook & Major Deer

Trails. Easy Access Off Rt 13. Minutes To Salmon River Fishing & State Game Lands. Call Now: 1-800-229-7843 or email info@landandcamps.com

LAND WANTED

ABANDONED NY FARM! ABSOLUTE SALE! JAN 25TH & 26TH! 23 Tracts! 8ac- \$19,900 15ac- \$29,900 25ac- \$39,900 Next to State Land, stream, pond, incredible views! House, barn! Stunning country setting! Call :(888) 905-8847 to register! NewYorkLandandLakes.com

MUSIC INSTRUCTION

PIANO LESSONS IN YOUR HOME. Experienced, patient piano teacher. I teach all levels and ages, beginners welcome. \$35. **Please call Scott Pollack at 914-235-5416 or email spollack@westnet.com**

MISCELLANEOUS

SAWMILLS from only \$4897.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N

OUT OF STATE REAL ESTATE

SEBASTIAN, FLORIDA Affordable custom factory constructed homes \$45,900+, Friendly community, No Real Estate or State Income Taxes ,minutes to Atlantic Ocean. 772-581-0080, www.beach-cove.com. Limited seasonal rentals

WANTED

MOST CASH PAID FOR paintings, antiques, furniture, silver, sculpture, jewelry, books, cameras, records, instruments, coins, watches, gold, comics, sports cards, etc. **PLEASE CALL AARON AT 914-654-1683**

CASH for Coins! Buying ALL Gold & Silver. Also Stamps & Paper Money, Entire Collections, Estates. Travel to your home. Call Marc in NY 1-800-959-3419

To Place a Classified Ad Call 914-864-0878 or e-mail classifieds@theexaminernews.com

Classified Ad Deadline is Thursdays at 5pm for the next week's publication

Don't trade one suit for another



New York is open for business, not for fraud!



Report Workers' Comp. Fraud to NYSIF: 1-877-WCNYSIF



welcome to beer's natural state

Hops Museum Seeking Donations

Nedloh Brewing Company is opening New York's first Hops Museum in East Bloomfield, NY. Donate your artifacts (photos, equipment, etc.) and help us share the story of beer and hops in our state. Be a part of history and contact us now.

nedlohbrewing.com No. 585.360.7272

Looking for 50 Homeowners to Qualify for a FREE Home Solar System

- Own Your Own Home
- Have a Southernly-Facing Roof
- Little to No Shading
- Credit Score of 680
- Pay an Electric Bill

The U.S. Government and State of New York have financial incentives that provide homeowners the opportunity to replace your electric provider with solar power.

Roof Diagnostics Solar is now qualifying 50 homes for a FREE home solar system. Call 845-694-3536 to see if your home qualifies!

ROOF DIAGNOSTICS SOLAR

845-694-3536

DONATE YOUR CAR

Wheels For Wishes benefiting



MAKE-A-WISH

Hudson Valley

100% Tax Deductible

*Free Vehicle/Boat Pickup ANYWHERE
*We Accept All Vehicles Running or Not
*100% Tax Deductible

Share the Power of a Wish

WheelsForWishes.org Call: (914) 468-4999

EARTHCARE SEPTIC SERVICE



\$20 OFF YOUR NEXT SEPTIC PUMPING HVR32

*not to be combined with any other offer

Call TODAY for all your septic pumping, inspection, and installation needs!

800.428.6166 • www.earthcare.us

EarthCare Available 24/7 year round



Happenings

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 Nikki Gallagher at nikki@theexaminernews.

Tuesday, January 28th

Medicare 101: 10:30 a.m. at the Reed Library. This workshop will explain all of the ins and outs of Medicare. Valuable information to those entering Medicare as well as those who are already on Medicare. Please call the Library to register, 845-225-2439.

Wednesday, January 29

The next meeting of The American Legion Argonne Post 71. 8 p.m. The post is located on Ice Pond Road Brewster NY 10509. New members are always welcome. Web site <http://putnamcountynylegion.tripod.com>

Thursday, January 30

The Tri-State IBM Retirees Club Meeting: 1:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 1176 East Main Street, Shrub Oak. The speaker will be A Representative from Field Home Who will be introducing us to the new facility at their location. Retire Smart at Stoneridge and the info telephone number is 914-528-916. Refreshments are available at 1 p.m. All IBM retirees and guests are welcome. Info: 914-930-1281

Friday, January 31

Putnam County Chambers of Commerce - Trailblazer Awards 201: Live Music • Great Food • Live Auction to Benefit Community Development Projects Masters of Ceremony:

Putnam County Executive, MaryEllen Odell & Putnam County Sheriff, Donald Smith

6:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. • Cocktail Hour: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Villa Barone Hill Top Manor, 466 Route 6, Mahopac. Purchase Tickets: \$75 each or 10 for \$700. Payments may be made online via PutnamChamberNY.org. To pay by check, make check payable to Putnam County Chambers of Commerce and mail to: Putnam County Chambers of Commerce, 953 South Lake Blvd., Mahopac, NY 10541

February Ongoing:

Save the Date: March 9: Westchester/Putnam 2014 St. Patrick's Day Parade. I have attached a participation form for you to fill out or you can go on-line to www.saintpatricksdaysparade.net and sign up there. This year's parade is on Sunday March 9th and is dedicated to the American Flag. Our Grand Marshal is John Callaghan, a man who has been involved in our community and the Irish community for many years.

Computer Help: At Reed Library Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to noon. Help learning basic PC skills, creating an e-mail account, learning how to use the internet. Please call the

Library to confirm availability, 845-225-2439.

Saturday, February 1

Take Your Child to the Library Day: Mahopac Public Library will join the excitement with a day of activities including a building-wide Scavenger Hunt, a family Storytime, and a crafts center in the Library's Garden View Room. Bring your child or grandchild to this special event and find all of the hidden treasures in your local library. Dewey, a favorite summer visitor, will make a special appearance at Mahopac Library on "Take Your Child to the Library Day." Everyone will have a chance to take part in the Great Library Scavenger Hunt, and all participants will receive a coupon for a free book from the Book Barn courtesy of the Friends of Mahopac Public Library. The Scavenger Hunt will run from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; family Storytime takes place at 10 a.m., and the crafts center is open from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. The Book Barn offer extended hours on February 1, and will be open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. "Take Your Child to the Library Day" is an event the whole family will enjoy; no registration needed - all are welcome For additional information about "Take Your Child to the Library Day" at Mahopac Public Library, contact Joan Rose, Head of Youth Services, at 845-628-2009, ext 135.

Tail Wagging Tutors: Kids read to trained dogs Saturday February 1, 15 March 8 and 22 from 1 to 3 p.m. Call the Reed Library to register, 845-225-2439.

Sunday, February 2

The German American Club Presents: Superbowl XLVII. 4 p.m., Kickoff at 6:20 p.m. Wonderful Buffet, lots of fun and prizes. \$10. At door (\$8. If paid in advance at bar), but Free admission if you bring food to share for at least 6 people. See www.gac1936.com for details or call (845)528-5800

Tuesday, February 4

Reads at Reed Book Club meets Tuesday February 4 p.m. at 7 p.m. at the Reed Library. This month's selection is "Takedown Twenty" by Janet Evanovich.

Wednesday, February 6

Managing Multiple Priorities in a Stressful Environment: Putnam Community Service Network, an educational program of Cornell Cooperative Extension, and United Way of Northern Westchester/Putnam will sponsor a half-day workshop designed to help develop skills in setting

goals and prioritizing and managing simultaneous responsibilities in today's fast-paced work environment. Participants will learn how to take control of their workday to help enhance productivity and achieve success with minimum stress. The program is structured for Executive Directors, administrators, new program managers and supervisors. The presenter, Dr. Grant Loavanbruck, DSW, has 30 years of administrative experience in Not-for-Profit organizations at the local, state and national levels. He is the author of numerous articles, books and monographs and a frequent consultant to many national and local organizations. The workshop will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Mahopac Library, 668, Route 6, Mahopac. If needed, a snow date has been set for February 6th. There is a \$30 per person registration fee. Registration can be done online at www.uwwp.org/management-center.shtml, or by mailing a check to United Way, 336 Central Park Avenue, White Plains 10606. For additional information please contact Mary Ann Luna (914) 997-6700 ext. 740 or email: mluna@uwwp.org

Open Computer Help: Patterson Library, 1167 Rte. 311 Patterson: "Open Computer Help". Starting Thursday February 6, the Patterson Library will be

hosting weekly computer help sessions every other Tuesday from noon-1:30 p.m. and every other Thursday from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Margaret Carey will be available in the Main Library to answer any computer question you may have! No appointment is necessary. Dates are subject to change. For more information, visit us online at www.pattersonlibrary.org and click on calendar or call 845-878-6121 x10. Free program.

Wednesday, February 19

The Patterson Library will host a series of "History Workshops" with the Patterson Historical Society. Residents and people with knowledge and memories of Patterson's past are being asked to help the Patterson Historical Society identify dozens of fascinating old maps, photos and documents from the Patterson area. Anyone having documents, photos or items of relevance to the project is encouraged to bring them to the workshop to have them recorded in this exciting historical project. The workshops will be held at the Patterson Library on Wednesday, February 19th at 7 p.m., March 26th at 1 p.m. and April 16th at 7 p.m. Registration is preferred, walk-ins are welcome. Visit www.pattersonlibrary.org & click on calendar to register or call 845-878-6121 x10.

Crossword Answers

1	A	2	L	3	L	4	I	5	E	6	D		7	P	8	H	9	E	10	W			
11	L	E	A	N	T	O							12	S	U	R	E						
13	P	U	T	N	A	M							14	A	B	E	D						
									15	E	16	E	L										
17	A	18	A	19	H			20	O	D	D	M	21	E	22	N	23	T					
24	P	L	E	25	A	D						26	I	S	S	U	E						
27	R	A	P	P	O	R	T										29	P	T	A			
									30	A	R	E											
31	G	32	O	33	A	T						34	F	35	A	36	L	37	U	38	D	39	I
40	M	O	T	H								41	E	Y	E	F	U	L					
42	T	H	E	Y								43	R	E	T	O	O	L					

The Putnam,
Examiner
Sports
Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

January 21 - January 27, 2014

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

SPORTS SECTION

Hope You Like Jammmin', Too

Put Valley Flushes Suffern



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Putnam Valley senior F Jelani Bell-Isaac throws down one of a career-high four dunks he would put on visiting Suffern last Saturday in a 54-36 win over the Class AA Mounties, who could do little to contain the state-ranked (No.3) Tigers around the rim where they flushed home six jams (including two from Zach Coleman, inset) in all while improving to 11-1 on the year... See Boys' Hoops Notebook

Sports

Boys Hoops Notebook

Class A Panas, Class B Put Valley on Rise Down Stretch

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor

Anybody can beat anybody in this neck of the woods. Just north of the White Plains line all the way to Dutchess County, we are experiencing a run of parity that few can ever remember. Sure, southern-most Mount Vernon is rarely going to cede its stranglehold on Section 1 basketball; it's just a fact of life. Most local hoops aficionados fully expect the Knights to reclaim the Class AA title belt currently worn by the Huguenots of New Rochelle, who ended Mount Vernon's seven-year reign last March.

But Class A, Class B and Class C are there for the taking, especially Class A. It's tough to register an educated guess at which Class A teams will reach the Westchester County Center Final 4 this season: Eastchester, Poughkeepsie, Beacon, Harrison, Peekskill, Byram Hills, Pearl River, TZ, Panas and Our Lady of Lourdes... take your pick.

Class B is pretty fuzzy, too, but state-ranked No.3 Putnam Valley is looking like a sure bet to make its second straight trip to the County Center Final 4. Speedy Woodlands, Rye Neck, Irvington, Blind Brook, Valhalla and Palisades Prep are right there with the Tigers. After a decade of basketball poverty, Putnam Valley (11-1) is stalking the League I-C title and traipsing the Section 1 landscape as a potential No.1 seed in a sectional tournament that promises to be as riveting as Class A. Bombshells could be busting up brackets from round one to the finals.

There's almost always "a Peekskill" or "a Poughkeepsie" in Class A that you can count on as a clear-cut favorite, and we see none of that this year because there are a lot of good teams, but no great teams.



Putnam Valley's Tyler Kroll soars for a bucket in win over Suffern last Saturday.

Interestingly enough; not one of the Section 1 Class A clubs is ranked among the top 25 in the NYS Sportswriters Poll.



Putnam Valley sophomore G Kevin Gallagher makes his move in Tigers' win over Suffern Saturday.

Six different champions have emerged in Class B since Kennedy's three-peat in 2006. Coach Mike McDonnell's PV Tigers hope to make it seven, and, from the looks of it; they are more than capable. Nothing less than a championship should or would suffice at PV High.

McDonnell, the first-year PV boss who took the reins from former Coach Ed Wallach in a whirlwind episode last March, is loving life in the Valley. He sees what we all see in this neck of the woods; a team that seems to play well enough -- in spurts -- to compete with just about any team in the section (outside of Mount Vernon). And one that inched closer to a full 32 minutes of consistency in a 54-36 victory over Class AA Suffern last Saturday when PV senior F Jelani Bell-Isaac scored a team-high 17 points, eight of which came off four crowd-pleasing slams.

"Tonight was as close as we've gotten to 32 minutes of two-way basketball," Coach McDonnell admitted. "Jelani is a special player, gifted, with all that athletic ability. I always tell our kids, 'You have to find him back there, let's not complicate things,' and today they found him. He can jump out the building. It's lots of fun to be with these kids, it's fun to come to, well, I wouldn't call it work, but to be at practice with this group every day is really a lot of fun for all of us."

PV senior G Zach Coleman had 16 points and a pair of two-fisted throw-downs. Junior G Ryan Basso added 15, seven in the fourth quarter.

"It feels like it's all starting to come together for us," said Bell-Isaac, who flushed a lob from Kevin Fitzsimmons for the dirtiest dunk of the day. "We played offense and defense today for all four quarters, but we haven't played a complete game yet. Coach is telling these guys to hit me when I'm open and I love to throw it down."

On the Class A scene, **PEEKSKILL**

was last seen struggling with Greeley and **LAKELAND** in a couple of wins and losing to **PANAS** for the second time in two years after going 16 years without a loss to the Panthers. In last Wednesday's 51-49 loss to Panas, Peekskill looked discombobulated at times, including two shot-clock violations, which you never see from Coach Lou Panzanaro's Red Devils. Credit Coach Sully's Panthers for playing some tough defense, just as they did in a loss to Put Valley the week before. Panas is flying under the radar, but we've been noticing senior G Tim McCauley's standout play and the interior beasting of F Tyler Mason, who backs down from nothing in the paint. Mason did the dirty work up until McCauley dropped a controversial buzzer-beater on the Red Devils, part of a vintage 24-point effort.

McCauley may not get Super 7 recognition and all, but the kid is a stud player in these parts. Neorck Brown, a sculpted swingman, led the Red Devils with 17 points, but Anthony Guerrero (10 points) was the only other Red Devil in double figures. For a team that came into the game averaging 71 PPG.

PUTNAM/NWE LEAGUE I-B/I-C/I-D POLL

No.1 MAHOPAC - Coach Downes' Class AA Indians (10-1) were probably just as upset as I was that administrators cancelled Saturday's 2:00 p.m. rival game with Carmel, rather than push back the start time by an hour or two. We were all pretty jacked for RJ's return to Carmel but a couple of inches of snow and officials went into panic mode; which Coach Downes nearly went into the night before during a



Putnam Valley junior G Ryan Basso strokes shot in win over Suffern Saturday.

Sports

Boys Hoops Notebook



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS
PV's Kevin Fitzsimmons shoots a floater in the lane.

48-46 win over a sub-par John Jay outfit. Excuse me, say what? Yeah, Jay rimmed a three at the buzzer, so the Indians got some company at the top of this poll. The thing is; none of us are willing to accept the fact that Mahopac lost a ton to graduation on account of the fact they are 10-1, according to Downes.

"I think our youth and inexperience shows at times," the coach said. "I think because of the early success this year and the great play of Ryan (Simone) and RJ (Martinez) people forget how much we lost from last year's team. We have a lot of guys getting their first varsity experience. As a result, sometimes they are inconsistent. Ryan and RJ can't carry 100% of the load 100% of the time and when guys struggle we struggle as a team."

The rookies won't be able to use that as an excuse if they want to get back to the County Center for an unprecedented fourth-straight year in Class AA, where seeds 2 through 6 should be in a dogfight to get there.

No.1A PUTNAM VALLEY – Coach McDonnell's Class B, state-ranked (No.3) Tigers (11-1) have played so well lately in wins over Class A Panas and Class AA Suffern that we can no longer ignore the fact that they would provide a legit challenge to Mahopac if the two were scheduled for that pre-playoff scrimmage we mentioned a few weeks back (can we get that done, guys?). In a perfect world, PV will see Woodlands (its lone loss) again in the post season should the bracketology work out fittingly.

No.3 PANAS – Coach Sully's Class A Panthers (10-3) are getting it done with a work ethic befitting a high Class A

playoff seed. If the playoffs started today, McCauley and Co. would enter the tourney as five-seed, and nobody would be all that surprised to see them end up at the County Center for the first time since Tarkington, Marschner and Montesarchio led them there in 1997 during Panas' only sectional title season. I caught a little flack for a Tweet I made regarding McCauley, when I said he "may be one of the best multi-sport athletes in a decade at Panas". But I'm not alone in my thoughts about McCauley, the senior guard who sparked a 15-6 fourth quarter in the win over Peekskill and added five assists and four steals on the night.

"I would have to say in the last 15 years, since I have been at Panas, Timmy ranks up there with the best multi-sports athletes we have had," Coach Sullivan said. "He is a competitor and winner. We showed a great competitive spirit in the win against Peekskill. Since the Eastchester game (when Panas gave up 82 points), our defense has been the cornerstone of our success. We have held most teams in the 40s or low 50s. The guys are starting to understand that defense and rebounding wins most high school games. I was really proud at how we



Suffocating defense by Panthers Tyler Mason, Tom Parrish (11) and Tom Frost (34) on Red Devil Neorck Brown triggered Panthers' win.

didn't give up and kept fighting Peekskill. This team is a pleasure to coach because they only care about winning. Hopefully, we can carry our strong play into the last three weeks of the regular season and playoffs."

The win over Peekskill should validate



Panas G Tom Frost is checked by Peekskill's Neorck Brown in Panthers' 51-49 win over Red Devils last Wednesday.

the Panthers' belief in themselves.

No.4 PEEKSKILL – We have some concerns about Coach P's Class A Red Devils (7-4) and the level of consistency they have played with the last few weeks. This unit isn't good enough to turn it on when it has to in order to win. It has to play 32 minutes of sound offense and savage defense in order to be the last one standing in March, which they have the potential to be.

No.5 SOMERS – Coach DiCintio's Class A Tuskers (6-7) are making the necessary strides to gain the momentum they will need for the playoffs, including a 57-52 win over Carmel last Friday when the Tuskers shot 13 of 14 from the line in the 4th quarter and got 21 points from Matt Moros to offset a 24-point effort Carmel's Ray Dorritie.

HM Croton – Coach Billy T's Class B Tigers (6-3) saw Patrick Gallagher (18 points) and Peter Dinger (13) light up Pleasantville in a 57-48 reassertion-type win over the Panthers. Tigers are one of 8 or 9 teams in Class B who can do post-season damage.

HM Carmel – Coach Venditto's Class AA Rams (5-5) were awfully close to climbing

into the Top 5 but the five-point loss to Somers was their undoing. With Saturday's "snow storm" (as if!) precluding the return of RJ Martinez to the Carmel crazies, we lost some of the luster to the Rams vs. Indians, but they'll give it a go with RJ at his new home turf on Saturday the 25th (2:00 p.m.). Can't imagine Carmel fans would be as boisterous at Mahopac this Sat. as they would have been at home last Sat. when they would have vilified RJ, their ol' dog. So the return of RJ will have to wait, as administrators determine a makeup (TBA).

HM Haldane – Coach V's Class C Blue Devils (8-4) lost 53-50 to Pawling, which raises some serious concerns about their prowess. Sorry, but if you plan on winning Class C, you best take out Class B Pawling (4-8).



Panas G Tom Parrish is stalked by Peekskill's Julian Cultherson in Panthers' win over Red Devils last Wednesday.

Sports

Girls Hoops Notebook

Yorktown, Somers Shine in Budries Tourney Peekskill Beats Panas, Lakeland But Falls to Greeley

By A.J. Martelli

The YORKTOWN Huskers have shown great improvement from last year, beating Putnam Valley on Jan. 11 and before that putting up 40 points on Peekskill, the defending Class A champions, in a recent loss. The Huskers showed more grit this weekend, participating in their 17th annual George Budries tournament at The Crop House. Up against a Nanuet team they had well-scouted in round one Saturday night, the Huskers notched another win, beating the lady Knights 44-35.

The improvement is something Head Coach Kevin Clark has picked up on.

"Last year (in this tournament) we played Lakeland and lost a very close basketball game, then we lost in the consolation game to Pelham – another good, close basketball game that didn't go our way, so it's great to get one," he said. "The next year it's nice to get one in advance."

Nanuet stayed close to the Huskers

throughout the first half, Yorktown holding a slim 19-17 lead at the intermission. But coming out for the third the Huskers exploded, outscoring Nanuet 13-3. Yorktown senior center/forward Lauren Sackett crunched down, netting five of Yorktown's 13 points in the third. She finished with 16 to lead all scorers, being backed up by junior guard Kelly Donnellan, who bucketed 11.

"We took much better care of the basketball (in the third quarter), we ran our offense a little bit better, and the best thing for us was that we finished," Clark said. "We were able to get to the basket and put it in there, and we were the better rebounding team in the third quarter."

"Lauren did the same thing she's always done for us, she's always in the right place, knows exactly what we need done, and she's done a much better job this year rebounding and finishing. A lot of what we do offensively winds up going through Kelly; she attacks and facilitates for other kids. She creates openings and does a

nice job delivering."

The defense also knew how to contain Nanuet's big scorer, Alexa Amalbert. Coach Clark did his homework on Nanuet and brought a strategy to the game to keep her from erupting on offense.

"We had a chance to see them play," Clark said. "We got everything we needed to be able to stop them defensively. Their guard (Alexa Amalbert) was clearly their best player. In the game we went out and saw her, she was in the mid-20s. We held her to seven tonight, so by taking her away it forced other kids to step up and do things that they probably don't do regularly, get things a lot more open."

Clark added that the Bonner sisters, Talia and Sarah, did a nice job double-teaming Amalbert, making a tremendous difference on defense.

The Huskers (4-5) were preceded in the Budries tourney by SOMERS, who beat Mt. Vernon 61-44 Saturday afternoon in the tournament's first round. Like Yorktown, the third quarter proved to be the story, as Somers outdid their opponents 21-7 in the third frame, after only leading 29-21 at halftime.

Mount Vernon managed to cut it to a 12-point deficit late in the fourth, but the Tuskers cracked down with some offense to finish it off. Though if you ask Somers Head Coach Kristi Dini, she will tell you defense was the key.

"It was our defense," she said. "It's what everybody talks about with Somers; it's been our positive the entire season, win or lose, we've been so strong defensively. Our defense, we've been happy about for weeks. We're playing consistent – defensively consistent. We're tougher, we're smarter, and more consistent this year."

Sophomore guard Gabby Rosenzweig led the Tuskers with 18 points, helped with a solid supporting cast of scorers. Nicole DeMase (16 points), Kayleah McGuire (11 points), and Caite Opfer (eight points) all chipped into the effort.

"Gabby and Nicole are phenomenal



Mahopac F Mairiad Hynes is just 15 points shy of 1,000 for her career.



Somers G Gabby Rosenzweig was on fire in win over Mt. Vernon, scoring 18 points.

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

guards and we're going to struggle when they're not putting the ball in the basket," Dini said. "They're getting looks and shooting the ball, so on days like today when they're creating problems for the other team, it opens up stuff for our bigs. It was nice to see them play their game."

On Friday the Tuskers (7-3, 4-0 in league play) beat CARMEL 33-31, getting a go-ahead basket from Opfer, giving Somers a one-point lead with about a minute left. Rosenzweig padded the lead with a good shot at the foul line, and two defensive stops allowed the Tuskers to escape with the win and first place in League I-B.

Opfer and McGuire led the Tuskers with 10 points in the win over the Rams.

"The first half I really wasn't playing well," Opfer admitted. "Coming into the second half I said 'let's go' and turned it on."

The Tuskers may have beaten Carmel Friday, leaving MAHOPAC (7-2) with a shot at the Rams Saturday – and senior Mairiad Hynes with a shot at reaching 1,000 career points. The weather, however, was unforgiving, thus the game was postponed; Hynes's quest for the 1,000 point milestone put on temporary hold. At 15 points away, she'll

Sports

Girls Hoops Notebook



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Somers G Tara Schurr and The Tuskers are in first place in League I-B.

get a chance tomorrow night at home vs. **BREWSTER**.

This past week was big for **PEEKSKILL**, who posted wins over **PANAS** Tuesday and **LAKELAND** Friday, but fell short to Horace Greeley on Saturday.

The lady Red Devils did the Panthers in by a count of 73-26 first, and then turned their attention to the Hornets, beating Lakeland 51-33.

"The Panas game, they didn't really match up well with us," Head Coach Rodney Headley said. "We kind of cruised through that one. The Lakeland game was intense, especially in the first half. The second half we kind of adjusted to their tempo, because they played slow, not really any fast break."

Holding the Hornets' tall order Kate Weldon down also proved to be difference maker.

"Kate Weldon had a pretty good game, I think she had 12 or 13 points," Headley said. "She had a good first half but once we got adjusted to that, we pretty much shut them down."

Sophomore standout Lanay Rodney was dominant as usual for the lady Red Devils, netting 21 points vs. Lakeland. Latisha Clark and Morgan Beechum did

a nice job as well, each bucketing eight points. Clark also showed perfect skills on the boards, grabbing 14 rebounds.

Peekskill's eight-game win streak was halted Saturday night though, falling 61-55 at the hands of Horace Greeley. Rodney and Clark led the way once again, both putting up 13 points in the loss.

"We were up five at halftime, 35-30," Headley said. "But Greeley came back in the third quarter, and we were up two going into the fourth."

Quaker sharpshooter Sam Srinivasan turned out to be Peekskill's kryptonite, as she netted 27 points -22 of which were made from the charity stripe, a feat that left Headley in disbelief.

"She took 24 free-throws," he said of Srinivasan. "I've never heard of anybody in a game, one person on a team, taking 24 free-throws. And she made 22 out of those 24 free-throws. It was rough. But it was a good game all the way till the end. Overall the girls fought hard, but we had some mistakes in the fourth quarter; kind of put us in a hole."

The lady Red Devils (9-3, 4-0 in league play) will look to shake off the loss Friday when travel to **HENDRICK HUDSON** for their next game.

OSSINING continued its reign of terror this past week as well, beating Rye 58-54 last Tuesday, then handing Carmel an 86-42 loss in the Autism Classic at Irvington Sunday. Jalay Knowles paced the Pride with 28 points and 11 rebounds. Abby Squirrell was behind her with 18 points. Like Hynes of Mahopac, Knowles is coming up on the elusive 1,000 point milestone; Knowles 11 points shy of 1,000, is poised to join the club.

"We got back to playing Ossining basketball," Coach Dan Ricci said, following the four-point win over league rival Rye. "We also played to our strength of getting the ball inside to our bigs."

Caitlyn Murphy was the Rams' leader

with 16 points in the loss to the Pride.

Topping off this week's action was **KENNEDY** (10-8) who like Ossining took part in the Autism Classic at Irvington this weekend. The Gaels were victimized Sunday by a buzzer-beater at the hands of Ursuline, losing 61-60.

Before that though, Kennedy split two games in the Bastian tourney at Lourdes: the Gaels losing 64-55 to Coleman Catholic in the opening round Friday, but coming back with a 46-38 consolation game win over Central Catholic Saturday.

Leah Greene was named all-tournament player for Kennedy with 27 points in the tourney, coupled with 14 rebounds and six steals.



Lakeland's Danielle Stabile and the Hornets did not match up well against Peekskill in critical league game, last week.

Indoor Golf

Play Your Favorite
Golf Courses
from Around the World
Without having to Leave
Westchester County!

Pike Plaza Shopping Center
(Behind King Buffet - Up Around Back)
2050 East Main St. (Route 6)
Cortlandt Manor; NY 10567
914.739.GOLF (4653)
www.thebacknineindoorgolf.com

Lessons & Clinics • Menu & Full Bar • Private Parties

Hours of Operation:
Sunday: 8am - 9pm • Monday - Thursday:
8am - 10pm • Friday & Saturday: 8am - 11pm

Choose from over
40 Historic & Famous Golf Courses
in one of our four
Indoor Golf Simulators

Brew Masters!



Boys' League winners included: Junior Kyle Catalano - 55 Meters in 6.8; Senior Jake Barbara - 600 Meters in 1:27.4, and 300 Meters in 38.0; Sophomore Mike Delfay - 1000 Meters in 2:44, 1600 meters in 4:50; Junior Brent DiVittorio - Long Jump in 19'1"; Senior Brian Gomez - Triple Jump in 39'9"; Senior Brett Treco - Shot Put in 35'7"; 4 x 200 Relay - Stanley Davis, Nick Coco, Brendan Pryce, Aaron Mace - 1:41.9; 4 x 400 Relay - Jake Barbara, Mike Delfay, Reggie Titre-Barnor, Kyle Catalano - 3:39.3

Brewster Trackies Mix Up Pair of League Titles



Girls' League winners included: Senior Tomi Alade - 55 Meters in 7.5; Sophomore Kristen Golz - 300 Meters in 45.1; Junior Dylan Scerri - 600 Meters in 1:45.0; Junior Jaynie Criscione - 3 Peat - High Jump in 4'10", Long Jump in 14'10.5", Triple Jump in 32'8.25"; Senior Caitlin Lander - Shot Put in 34'8"; 4 x 200 Relay - Tomi Alade, Kora-Ann Johnson, Brandasia Williams, Kristen Golz - 1:54.9; 4 x 800 Relay - Jamie Maguire, Ariana Portante, Dylan Scerri, Jenny Pauta - 10:23.8

Members of the Brewster High boys and girls are all smiles after the Bears copped a pair of League I-B track and field titles after making short work of Mahopac, Yorktown and Carmel on Jan. 13th. "It was an another great League Meet for our varsity boys and girls teams," Brewster Coach Joe Scelia said. "The passion, heart and devotion these kids showed for themselves and the team was fully on display once again this year. Having both the boys and girls teams win league titles was a testament to the dedication and teamwork that has been built throughout the season."