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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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## Pataki Steps Down as Tourism Director with AG Probe Continuing

By David Propper

Libby Pataki stepped down as Putnam County's Tourism Bureau director Friday as the New York State Attorney General's Office continues its investigation into two non-profits Pataki was head of.

In a stunning move, Pataki, the former First Lady of New York married to former three-term governor George Pataki, submitted her letter of resignation to the county Friday, ending a career that was tangled in scandal the last couple of months. According to an article in The Journal News in January, Pataki created a second non-profit, Putnam Tourism, which is a mirror of the taxpayer-funded Visitor's Bureau she's run since 2012,

without informing county officials.

The article detailed how neither nonprofit had an active board of directors, which violates state law and that she paid herself an annual salary of \$50,000 from that second foundation.

She previously made \$70,000 as director of the Visitor's Bureau that's funded by county and state money. The Visitor's Bureau has made clear no taxpayer money was used to supplement the second nonprofit, but in many cases, the other way around.

Attending the State of the County address Thursday night, Pataki submitted her resignation letter the next day, a move that caught County Executive MaryEllen

Odell off guard.

"It came as a surprise in one sense," Odell said, adding she thought most of the attacks against Pataki were "unfair" and "politically motivated." Right now, Frank Smith will be acting director, similar to when Pataki was on the presidential campaign trail with her husband for several months.

"We'll be moving ahead with all of our tourism events and promotions," Odell said as the search for a new permanent director gets underway. Rebuilding the board of directors is a top priority, Odell added.

Pataki, who has almost exclusively

*continued on page 6*



Former First Lady of New York Libby Pataki resigned from her Visitor's Bureau post last week.

## Dedicated Litter Patrol Honored in Carmel



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

The Carmel Town Board honored hardworking Howard Beyersky, who has been keeping downtown Mahopac beautiful since 2001, at its meeting last week. Beyersky received a framed certificate and a new bright orange employee sweatshirt from the entire town board. "We're very fortunate to have you taking care of the town for us," Carmel Supervisor Ken Schmitt said, adding Beyersky is a loyal friend to all the merchants in the area. "He really makes a difference," Schmitt went on to state. Along with Beyersky was a proud mother, who stood next to her son for several photos. Although not in attendance, the board also recognized Sean Allison who has been picking up litter in the hamlet of Carmel since 2007.

## Once Again, Brewster Property Owners Sound off on Urban Renewal Plan

By David Propper

In another opportunity for residents and property owners to speak up about Brewster's proposed Urban Renewal Plan, village trustees heard a mouthful and once again, not much of it was supportive.

For the better part of the new year, the village board has heard a long list of complaints, concerns, and questions and that trend continued during the board's public hearing about the Urban Renewal Plan Wednesday night. A sizable crowd showed up to the two-hour meeting at St. Lawrence O' Toole Church to discuss the plan that village officials hope gives Brewster a much needed reboot.

Well-known resident Jack Gress slammed the plan and the possibility of eminent domain connected to urban renewal. Three of Gress' properties and a portion of his affordable retirement community are in the Urban Renewal



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Brewster Mayor Jim Schoenig and Trustee Mary Bryde listen to resident comments last week.

Plan zone and he said that if eminent domain is initiated, it could take away his property rights.

Rather than urban renewal, Gress would rather see the village put in place conditions to induce private investment,

*continued on page 4*

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# Area Residents Voice Concern over Southeast Spectra Gas Release

By Arthur Cusano

Representatives from Spectra Energy made a case for safety in the expansion of its planned Algonquin gas pipeline at Thursday's Southeast town board meeting, but some area residents say they still have lingering concerns.

Representatives from Spectra Energy discussed the project at the March 10 town board meeting, with project manager Jim Luskay reiterating the company's commitment to safety. The existing pipeline, operational since 1953, runs 1,127 miles from the New Jersey-Pennsylvania border to Massachusetts, and carries approximately 2.63 billion cubic feet of gas per day. The town of Southeast and its school districts received a total of \$1.97 million in annual tax revenue for the existing infrastructure in the town.

The line being discussed, Access Northeast, provides 20 percent of natural gas to New York State to companies including Central Hudson, NYSEG and National Grid. It is aimed at increasing natural gas access to electric generating facilities in New England, where residents see price spikes in winter months due electricity providers having to buy gas on the spot market, Luskay said.

"There is a lack of capacity for electric generators to have a firm supply to supply electricity during the busiest time of the

year for the pipeline, which is the winter months," Luskay said.

In Southeast, the project will include replacing 16 miles of 26-inch pipeline with a 42-inch pipeline and modifying an existing compressor station. The Access Northeast line will run parallel to the planned Algonquin Incremental Pipeline, or AIM, has been the target of protests by Hudson Valley residents over safety concerns, particularly the length of pipeline that crosses the Hudson River close to the Indian Point nuclear power plant. Gov. Andre Cuomo has called for a halt to the project so it can be reviewed by state agencies.

When asked about emission from the facility, Luskay said the plant emissions are tested annually by the DEC, while other machinery like gas detection units are tested on a more frequent basis. The system is monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and malfunctioning machinery is also reported to the DEC.

North Salem resident Suzanna Glidden, who lives near the existing gas pipeline slated for expansion, said occasional unannounced gas emissions from the existing pipeline's Southeast compressor, built in 1986 and located off Tulip Road near the Connecticut border, had serious consequences for her health. The blowdowns, as they are called, are held roughly once a month to discharge excess

fumes. Currently, Spectra only notifies town of the larger annual full station blowdown, Glidden said.

Glidden asked if the town was being notified of them and if so, if the town could notify residents who may want to leave the area or stay indoors. The fumes can travel 2-6 miles if weather conditions are right, she said.

"I have COPD, I have to evacuate," she said. "But I have to know when they are coming. Following the 2014 and 2015 winter single unit blowdowns, I very nearly died I had such a major exacerbation. The second time I was hospitalized for a week, very close call, and I was in rehab for two weeks."

Supervisor Tony Hay said he would work to pass on notifications received from Spectra to residents who want to receive them for the larger blowdown. He asked Luskay if it was possible to receive notice for the smaller ones, as requested by Glidden and former North Salem Councilwoman Amy Rosemarin. But Luskay said the company would only give warnings for the larger blowdowns.

Luskay said the annual gas blowdown of around 1,000 mcf, or thousand cubic feet, was necessary to check the emergency shutdown system, but said that improvements would eliminate the need for that blowdown in the future. The other blowdowns were very small in

nature he said, around 8 to 10 mcf, and are reported to the DEC at the end of the year. More frequent notifications may cause unnecessary worry among area residents and business owners who may confuse it for a gas leak, he said.

Councilwoman Lynne Eckardt said a maintenance-related blowout released around 600 mcf while the larger annual one was listed as 4,106 mcf by the DEC. Glidden said she was disappointed by the numbers Spectra was giving, which did not match Eckardt's. She also voiced concern about radon that resulted from the fracking sites the gas comes from.

"The unit blowdowns are not to be taken lightly, please, or dismissed by Spectra," she said. "We need monthly notification of each one of them."

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## KILLER CRAMPS AREN'T NORMAL

What you need to know about Endometriosis...



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Director, Division of Gynecology  
Institute for Robotic & Minimally Invasive Surgery  
Northern Westchester Hospital  
[nwroboticsurgery.org/DrShaw](http://nwroboticsurgery.org/DrShaw)

#### Q: What can cause excessive pain before, during, and after my period?

**A:** A potential cause is endometriosis. Endometrial cells released by the endometrium – the tissue that lines a woman's uterus – latch onto the ovaries, bowel, or elsewhere in the pelvis. The new tissue behaves the same as it does in the uterus: It thickens, breaks down, and bleeds with each menstrual cycle. This can irritate the surrounding tissue, leading to pain and excessive bleeding.

#### Q: How can I tell if I have endometriosis?

**A:** Symptoms can include painful periods; pain during intercourse; pain during bowel movements or urination, especially during your period; excessive bleeding and infertility. In fact, endometriosis is often first diagnosed when a woman is seeking infertility treatment. It can also be mistaken for other conditions that cause pelvic pain which is why it is important to tell your OB/GYN if you experience any of these symptoms.

You may get a pelvic exam to check for possible cysts or scarring. Ultrasound can also reveal the presence of cysts or scarring, but the only way to accurately diagnose endometriosis is with a procedure called laparoscopy. A surgeon makes a tiny incision near the naval and inserts a small camera called a laparoscope to look for endometrial growths.

### Did You Know?

Women who have a mother or sister with endometriosis are six times more likely to develop the condition.\*

#### Q: Can endometriosis be treated?

**A:** Yes. Treatment starts with over-the-counter pain medications such as ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) or naproxen (Aleve). If that doesn't ease the pain, many women benefit from hormone treatment, such as birth control pills or other hormone-blocking drugs that help shrink the endometrial growths. If symptoms persist, surgery may offer a solution. A hysterectomy can give relief for women who are not planning to have children; for women hoping to preserve fertility, a more conservative surgical procedure called resection can target and remove endometrial growths. Don't assume that agonizing, lengthy periods are normal. Get yearly exams and be sure to discuss any symptoms you find bothersome.

\*National Institutes of Health

Watch Dr. Shaw discuss da Vinci robot-assisted surgery and gynecologic surgery at  
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# Odell's State of the County Envisions Stronger Business Development

By David Propper

Marking 2016 as the year to boost business development in Putnam County with "ambitious" initiatives, County Executive MaryEllen Odell unveiled several proposals during her annual State of the County address in front of a couple hundred people at the Putnam County Golf Course last Thursday.

"The economy impacts our ability to provide quality government services," Odell said. "We need to show companies why they should call Putnam County home."

Odell keyed in on supporting infrastructure in Putnam that includes water and sewer, transportation, and medical services. One way to do that would be working with the New York and New Jersey Union Carpenters and Contractors and as co-chair of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, Odell said she would use that clout to ensure Putnam receives the dollars the county is entitled to.

"We are going to build and build and repair," she said.

Odell also introduced a newly formed relationship with the City of Danbury in Connecticut. The county and Danbury are going to explore expanding their public transportation system, sharing recreational services and look into expanding the sewer system from Mill



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO  
County Executive MaryEllen Odell at last week's State of the County address.

Plain Road in Connecticut to Danbury Road in Southeast, Odell said.

This could help bring the Stateline Retail Center in Putnam from concept to reality, she noted.

In an interview after her remarks, Odell said Danbury currently has excess sewer capacity that results in exceeding costs to run its sewer plants so by Putnam tapping into it, it'll help offset their costs.

"It's a perfect fit," Odell said.

An update on Tilly Foster Farm revealed the new branding for the property would be the Tilly Foster Farm Educational Institute.

Odell said in order to finally complete the newly named institute, the county must invest an additional \$1.1 million so the property reaches its full potential that would be "a destination for all to benefit, not the few."

The county plans on working with the Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES where subjects like culinary arts and bioscience education will be taught. Additionally, the county will partner with local restaurants that would showcase their various culinary expertise and possibly host weddings and other family events.

Linking with Cornell Cooperative Extension, Odell would like to see

Cornell University bring more high value education programs and resources for economic vitality and ecological sustainability.

By creating the Tilly Foster institute, Odell said she hopes it can become a location for workforce development that would keep young people in the county. There could be "green collar" workforce training and land-care professional training. The county's 4-H program could explore different careers related to the farm like veterinarian science and junior farmer.

Odell's vision also included turning Tilly Foster into an organic farm that could change eating habits, which she noted has been identified as one of the major causes of autism. She wants to see the county use skills of the millennial generation that want educational degrees that help special needs children.

Odell said it makes "perfect sense" to offer food and beverage services, culinary arts, and farming practice, because those are all traits the county is identified by.

Odell also highlighted the Village of Brewster's Urban Renewal Plan that is meant to revitalize the village. It is supposed to create up to 500 new parking spaces, up to 300 apartment units, 25,000 square feet of retail space for restaurants and services, and a village square for green space.

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# Once Again, Brewster Property Owners Sound off on Urban Renewal Plan

continued from page 1

have owners rebuild what they can and encourage incentives to replace badly blighted properties. He also encouraged the board to stop meddling with free enterprise through regulation.

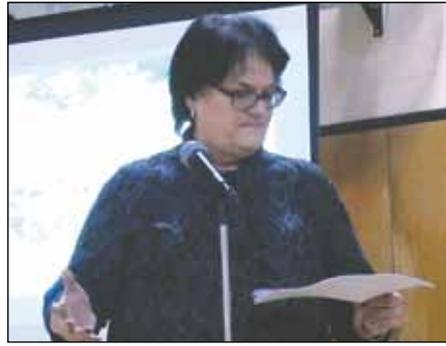
"I would like to see revitalization without urban renewal and remove the threat of eminent domain," Gress said.

Resident and planning board member Rick Stockburger also railed against the plan, questioning costs to the village. He argued taxes would increase as the project went further to cover different improvements the village board wants to make like realigning streets and putting in more sidewalks.

With the lost tax base of pushed out business, tax abatements for new businesses, and various improvements, Stockburger argued this would raise taxes. Stockburger said additional housing would result in more school-age children attending Brewster schools, raising school taxes.

"We need to remember that there will be tax increases involved with all of this and the cost should be stated up front," he said. "Nothing is free."

Stockburger's wife, Terry, a former trustee, said she would like the village board to make changes to Urban Renewal Plan draft. She'd like the lines redrawn to the immediate areas that would be



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Former Trustee Terry Stockburger speaks during the public hearing last week.

changed and have a phased-in approach.

"Nothing prevents you to make changes," she said.

Vince Ferrandino of Ferrandino & Associates, a planning and consulting firm representing 11 village property owners, listed off several criticisms and suggestions to the board. He said the village wasn't following proper procedure, the blight study is flawed, and there's no reasoning for the five sub-areas. He stressed the only reason to adopt a Urban Renewal Plan was to have the option of eminent domain and questioned why a developer for the project signed a Memorandum of Understanding two years before the Comprehensive Plan was adopted.

"This Urban Renewal Plan appears to

be entirely developer-driven, and ignores the voice of the village," he said.

The attorney representing those 11 owners, Daniel Leary, asserted the village skirted planning and zoning laws and didn't comply with General Municipal Law leading up to this point. He called the village board's approach "heavy handed and draconian."

"We strongly believe that moving ahead with the plan on the current path is fraught with risk and is legally untenable," Leary said. "We believe that the Village of Brewster would have no choice but to start over with the process."

Resident George Sohn said if the plan goes into action, it would really be gentrification that increases property values and pushes out lower income people.

"When I hear the words urban renewal, there are three words that come to my mind," he said. "Disruption, dispossession and displacement."

Resident Andrea Dunham, whose home is part of the blight study, said she had mixed emotions toward the plan. While she didn't want to see anyone displaced, she also didn't want to see progress in the village stalled.

The village has to do a better job at uniting all residents including the Spanish-speaking community that she felt was marginalized. She urged property owners to find ways to improve the village outside of any Urban Renewal Plan.

"I desperately don't want this (village) with beautiful water color drawings and pie in the sky ideas to forget the people who build and create a community," Dunham said. "Let's get creative and let's get out there and do something."

One resident that spoke in support of the plan was Joe Lambert of Prospect Street, who said he "fully supports" the revitalization plan and a "vibrant downtown" is lacking Brewster.

He admitted any change, especially a big transformation, is difficult, but the village needs to progress even if certain individuals are affected by the outcome.

"If we had a food truck, a mime, and



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Attorney representing 11 property owners Daniel Leary speaks about the Urban Renewal Plan.

one-man band, that would be better than what we currently have in our downtown area," Lambert said.

While some residents in attendance had previously spoken up for the plan, they didn't formally speak this time.

Although most comments were subdued, near the end of the meeting resident Frank Marshall, whose home is part of the blight zone, butted heads with the board. He said trustees never answer specific questions with substantive answers.

"Everyone's going to sue you to no end," he said. "You know that's going to happen."

Trustee Christine Piccini said the village doesn't want litigation because taxpayers would bear the costs. It was also debated whether Mayor Jim Schoenig ever said eminent domain would not be part of the process, as alleged by Marshall. Schoenig said he "never, ever" said that and instead said it would only be a last resort. (A past article in The Putnam Examiner backs up Schoenig's statement.)

The village has work sessions set up (March 14,15,16) to review comments and questions from the hearing. More work sessions could be scheduled, Piccini said.

Piccini said, "We know there is a lot of work that needs to be done."

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# Carmel School Chief Advocates Students to Take State Exams

By David Propper

With the much controversial New York State standardized tests around the corner, one Putnam County superintendent of schools is taking the public position that students should take the exams.

In an email to the school community and posted on its website, Carmel Central School District Superintendent of Schools Andy Irvin said, "Simply put, I encourage participation in the required state testing," as oppose to parents opting their child or children out of the exams connected to the much maligned Common Core standards.

In the post, Irvin explained after high opt-out rates across the state last year, the state Department of Education took steps to decrease the time and accountability related to the tests. The magnitude of the reform agenda and number of mandates and requirements had been modified, Irvin noted, adding the district believes the state education department responded appropriately to the concerns voiced.

Irvin also said the state exams are one way the district decides if a student needs any additional support systems to retain more information. The exams give the district an idea if students are on track to perform well during high school regent exams and are college and career ready, he said.

"As a district, we keep the tests in



PHOTO PROVIDED Carmel Central School District Superintendent of Schools Andy Irvin.

perspective and use them as one metric of student performance. Local and state assessments provide important information for parents and the school district to determine how well our students are progressing through the rigorous curriculum," Irvin wrote. "We use both formative and summative assessments to keep a watchful eye on student progress and realize that no single assessment tells the full story."

Last year, 692 Carmel students did not take the state exams, equating to 35 percent of the overall students eligible in grades 3-8. Parents have until March 18 to opt their child or children out in Carmel.

Irvin was in attendance for Putnam's State of the County Thursday night a day

after the district put the post online. In an interview, Irvin said he sent out his stance on the opt-out issue because "there's too much misinformation that's out there via social media, word of mouth, and I simply wanted to put out a factual statement about the changes that have been made to the tests."

Just like last year, school administrators like Irvin are wary about how a high opt-out rate could affect funding from the state. Districts like Carmel are already apprehensive about the amount of state funding they receive and not meeting guidelines set by the state could lead to ramifications down the road.

"Do I think it's going to happen," Irvin said. "I doubt that the state would right now because they've kind of helped create this monster, so I doubt that they will do anything with funding, but a couple years down the road, it wouldn't surprise me at all."

Since the post has been emailed and online, Irvin has seen some feedback. Parents have called or emailed him to ask clarifying questions, but there haven't been direct complaints, he said. He did make a western New York blog that panned him for sending the email, calling his message "misleading."

"Unfortunately, my message had only facts in it," Irvin said.

*'I simply wanted to put out a factual statement about the changes that have been made to the tests.' - Carmel school chief Andy Irvin*

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## Pataki Steps Down as AG Probe Continues

*continued from page 1*

spoken with the Putnam County Courier since the controversial news hit, had called The Journal News reports against her unfair and false, but has provided no evidence to back those assertions up.

"I regret that my last month on the job were marred by false accusations by a single reporter out to promote himself and harm the county," Pataki said in the Courier last week. "Public life, as I well know, is rife with slings and barbs, but this has been disappointing."

Legislator Toni Addonizio said she

wanted Pataki to come to the Economic Development Committee meeting later this month, which Addonizio chairs. Due to the ongoing AG probe, Pataki couldn't attend the meeting, but said she would come at a later date once the investigation concluded, Addonizio said.

"I was surprised to find that (she resigned) because I was expecting her to come to one of the Economic Development meetings," Addonizio said.

Legislator Dini LoBue said by Pataki stepping down, "it spared herself and the people of Putnam County further turmoil

and humiliation." She also criticized Odell for not accepting responsibility for the actions of personnel under her supervision.

Legislator Carl Albano said he only heard about the resignation Monday after being away for the weekend. He didn't have much comment until he reviewed more information regarding the Visitor's Bureau and Pataki's time as the head of it.

"There was a lot of potential there," Albano said of the tourism office. "We're going to go forward and make sure that department is solid."

## Free Educational Program: Hormonal Therapy for Breast Cancer

Support Connection, Inc. announces a free educational program: "Hormonal Therapy For Breast Cancer" will be offered on Wed., March 30, from 6:30-8 pm at Somers Public Library in Katonah. Open to the public. To learn more or to pre-register (Pre-registration is required) call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Hormonal therapy (e.g. Tamoxifen, Arimidex, Aromasin, Femara, etc.) is commonly used to treat breast cancer that is estrogen-receptor positive. It may be used at different points in a treatment plan and to treat various stages of breast cancer. This program will address questions many women have when considering these medications: What are the different hormonal therapy options? What is the latest research? What are the side effects and how can they be managed? Should treatment continue for 5 years, 10 years, or forever?

Speaker: Mary Kay Barton, MD, Board Certified Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology. Dr. Barton has practiced in Westchester for 20 years, currently in Purchase, and is on staff at Northern Westchester Hospital and Phelps Memorial Hospital. Her practice includes a variety of cancers with a special interest and focus on breast cancer. Dr. Barton has written and edited a wide range of educational materials for patients and professionals and is currently a contributing editor for the American Cancer Society.

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# Free County Office Space for GOP Senators Under Microscope

By David Propper

After getting office space in Putnam County buildings when they first took office, Republican New York State senators Terrence Murphy and Sue Serino are still in those offices without the county collecting a cent toward rent.

According to an article in The Journal News, records indicate that neither Murphy nor Serino--who get stipends for office expenses--have been asked by the county to pay for the offices they're using. Murphy's office has a spot on the third floor of the county office building in Carmel and Serino's office is a converted storage closet at the Putnam Valley Senior Center.

Further, the article stated County Executive MaryEllen Odell violated the agreement with the state senate because her administration never sought nor received approval from the county Legislature for the lease to become permanent.

While Murphy and Serino have been granted free office space, The Journal News reported Democrats haven't had the same fortune in the past. Former United States Congressman John Hall, a Democrat, paid \$1,630 per month to rent an office at the county office building (that was during the Robert Bondi administration) and current US Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney used



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO  
The hallway on the third floor of the county office building where NYS Sen. Terrence Murphy has free office space.

to have aide, Democratic Philipstown Councilwoman Nancy Montgomery, hold office hours at a desk twice a month, but was told there was no longer room for the constituent meetings, said Maloney spokeswoman Caitlin Girourd, according to the article.

In an interview, Odell questioned why she would charge state lawmakers for space only to have taxpayers pay for that space. With both Serino and Murphy residing outside of Putnam, Odell said it's critical to have spaces for both of them to communicate with constituents easily.

She called the accusation of space being provided along political party lines "absurd" and noted Maloney had

available space at Cornerstone Park, the Emergency Operations Building, and the county office building anytime his office requested. Democratic Governor Andrew Cuomo's was given access to the Emergency Operations Building recently, as well.

"It doesn't matter if they're a Republican, doesn't matter if they're a Democrat," Odell said. "As long as the will is there to help the people, I make the space available."

Leases are given to several outside agencies as well like Putnam CAP, healthcare providers, and veteran agencies, Odell said.

The legislature was aware of the temporary lease, but it was not converted to a permanent status, Odell said and that she didn't believe it to be an issue. She suggested the legislature could've taken a more active role in learning about the lease situation.

Legislator Dini LoBue called it

"troubling" that the county executive's office didn't notify legislators and Odell should now get the lease renewal approved going forward.

Both Serino and Murphy, in statements, lauded the free space as effective government.

"By transforming a storage room into a place where residents can have direct access to their State Senator and the resources that come along with that, our Putnam Valley District office has proven to be a win for everyone--the County, the taxpayers, and the Putnam residents who have not had this kind of access in the past," said Serino. "Since taking office in January, I have worked diligently to consolidate costs and by sharing a formally under-utilized space, we have saved the taxpayers of the 41st Senate District a significant amount of money. Given the success of the office, I certainly hope that we can continue to have a presence in Putnam County without adding an additional cost to the taxpayers."

And Murphy said, "This is a great example of government working together to save taxpayer dollars. We thank County Executive Odell for providing this important space that allows us to provide superior constituent services to the residents of Putnam and Dutchess counties."

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## Obituaries

### Gerald Knapp

Gerald "Jerry" Knapp of Brewster, died on March 5, at the age of 70, but his quiet exterior and trademark stubbornness will never be forgotten. Jerry was born on October 5, 1945 in White Plains. He was the 4th child of the late John and Evelyn McClure Knapp. The circumstances surrounding his birth set the stage for a life of courageously facing and defeating adversity with a quiet strength and resolved determination. Jerry never stopped fighting; He never gave up. Jerry was a siding installer by trade, but worked many hours alongside his father in the family-owned business, John Knapp Sporting Goods. He loved being outdoors and would rarely miss a day for a walk through the woods. He was a sportsman and his many kills are proudly displayed on the walls throughout the family home; Including a Jackalope that he swears he shot while on a hunting trip in Wyoming. His fondness of all things John Wayne and westerns was only surpassed by his love of food: cakes, cookies, ice cream, oatmeal, hot chocolate and ravioli were among his favorites. When not outside enjoying nature or tending to the yard, you could find him sound asleep in his recliner while the sound of western television played in the background. Change the channel and you wake the man! Jerry was a quiet man who never turned down an opportunity to help someone in need. He was a caregiver to his brother Jackie who predeceased him in 2003. He then went on to care for his mother and father until their deaths. Jerry had completed the most important work of his life. Sadly, over the past 2 years, Jerry's memory began to fail him. Yet, he kept going. Strong as an ox with a willpower unmatched by any other. November 2015, he was diagnosed with terminal cancer. That was the turning point and inevitable decline of his health. His devout determination to care for his family, friends, and anyone in need had served him well throughout his life. And even in his waning months, he was a model of strong will and sheer

determination right up until the end of his journey here on earth. Jerry's quiet demeanor, goodwill, and love of nature and all of God's creatures that dwelled on this Earth makes him the sort of man that is admired. Jerry has etched a very special place in the heart of every person he has met. He will be fondly remembered. We were very fortunate to have had him in our lives. He is greatly missed. Also preceding Jerry in death were his older siblings: Jackie and Dolores Knapp. Tremendous heartfelt thanks go to Barbara, a truly compassionate and exceptional hospice nurse and the doctors and nurses at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx who all provided much more than just comfort for Jerry, but also provided peace, tranquility and dignity during his transition from this life into the next. Jerry is survived by his wife, Virginia DeLena; Daughter and son-in-law, Alice and John Alexander; Son, Brian Knapp; Sister and brother-in-law, Margaret and Robert Lauro; Brother and sister-in-law, Ronald and Drina Knapp; 4 nieces, 5 grandsons, and 2 great-grandchildren. To all who have asked: You may send flowers to Beecher Funeral Home, 1 Putnam Avenue, Brewster, NY 10509; Or if you prefer, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society. Cards for the family can be sent to Jerry's wife and daughter, Virginia and Alice Knapp, 2250 Route 22, Brewster, NY 10509. There will be a burial and a service at the Milltown Cemetery for anyone who wishes to attend. Thank you all for your warm wishes and support that you have shown our family during this difficult time.

### Lucy Becker

Lucy A. Becker (Troy) died at home on March 5. She was 86 years old.

Lucy was born in the Bronx, NY, daughter of the late John and Bridget (Fitzgerald) Troy. She graduated from Aquinas High School in the Bronx. On October 25, 1947 she married Arthur F. Becker at St. Luke's Church, Bronx, NY. In 1973 she moved to Patterson, NY. Lucy was an administrative assistant with

Pawling Corporation for over 20 years before retiring in 1996. She was also an active parishioner at Sacred Heart Church and a member of the Patterson Senior Citizens. She is survived by her children; Barbara, Arthur Jr. (Marion Swarm-Becker), Eileen, Gerald and daughter-in-law Valerie, her grandchildren; Maureen (Paul) Pianka, John (Anna), Robert, Kathleen 'Katie', Kevin, Joseph (Heather Karalis-Becker) and Erin, her great grandchildren; John Jr., George, Tatiana and Kayla. She was loved by all and will be missed by many, nieces, nephews and friends. She was predeceased by her husband Arthur and sons, John and Robert; her siblings, Thomas, John, Ellen 'Eileen', William, Gerald, Mary (Nan) T. LeBel and Francis.

### Thomas J. Kelleher

Thomas J. Kelleher, 85, of Lake Lincolndale, died peacefully on March 10. Tom was born in the Bronx to Michael and Sarah (nee Kelly) Kelleher on August 25, 1930. He graduated from Cardinal Hayes High School and proudly served in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He retired from The New York Times after 46 years as Executive Production Manager. He loved fishing, especially on the Salomon River, hunting, music, dancing, his flowers and bird calling. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Patricia (nee Beal); six children - Maureen Chambry, Michael Kelleher, Susan Mandredi (Francis), Nancy Phillips (Thomas), Jane Rice (David), and Kathleen Hanson (John); 10 grandchildren - Christine D'Annibel (Joseph), Melissa Phillips (Jason Rodriquez), Noelle Chambry, Sarah and Becky Manfredi, Jessica Enman (Kyle), Brittany Rice, Michael Jr., Jeffrey and Chloe Kelleher and two great grandchildren- Eliana and Jason Jr. He is also survived by his two sisters; Sarah Maloney and Rita Golden, and several nieces. He is predeceased by his parents and two sisters, Mary Ellen Kelleher, and Catherine Johanson. Memorial visitation will be held Tuesday March 15, from 3 p.m.-7 p.m. at Cargain Funeral Home,

Mahopac. A Memorial mass will be 10 a.m. Wednesday March 16, at St Joseph's Church, Somers. Interment to follow at St Joseph's Cemetery, Somers.

### Angelo S. Rossano

Angelo S. Rossano of Carmel died on March 12, at the age of 87. He was born in New York City on March 12, 1929 to Angelo and Domenica (Rizzuto) Rossano. After high school he proudly served in the Merchant Marines for 18 years. On September 12th, 1959 in New York City he married the love of his life Patricia Hawkins. He also worked for many years as a Post Man in Carmel. He is survived by his loving wife Patricia; three adoring children Kathleen Rossano, Angelo Peter Rossano, and Patricia Burke. He is also survived by three cherishing grandchildren Kaitlin Rossano, Alyssa Rossano, and Richard Burke. Visitation was held on Monday, March 14th at Cargain Funeral Homes Inc. A Funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday March 15th at 11 a.m. at St. James the Apostle Church. A private cremation to follow.

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# Epic Dance Center Mahopac

By David Propper

Raising three children that enjoy dancing—one son and two daughters—Sue Solazzo used to shuttle the trio to dance studios going back to pre-school.

But last September, when she drove them to dance she was actually driving to her new business, Epic Dance Center in Mahopac along Route 6. Knowing how much her children have benefitted from dance, Solazzo wants to spread how much an advantage it is to others in the community.

“I opened to work in a really fun environment and to enhance my children’s lives as well as their friends and other kids their age,” she said. “To bring something different to dance education.”

Epic Dance Center is built on being more than just your run of the mill dance studio. While students of all ages get top-notch dance lessons from professional instructors, Solazzo, a Somers resident, really believes that dance goes farther than just a classroom. Community service is a critical part of Epic Dance, she stressed.

The studio is part of More Than Just Great Dancing, which is meant to give back to the community. Only 200 other studios are part of the organization. Epic Dance fundraises for worthy causes, performs in public venues and



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

The interior of Epic Dance is true blue, a motto for the dance studio.

nursing homes, and participates in other volunteerism.

“With dance, we really encourage there to be more than just coming in, taking dance classes and leaving,” Solazzo said. “We want the kids to feel a lot of pride in that they work hard and perform as much as possible, but that they’re doing something for others.”

As Solazzo ensures dancers at the studio give back to the community, she is

also mindful to make sure they are like a family within Epic Dance. Every kid has some friends from whatever they school they go to, but Solazzo points out they also form bonds with different boys and girls from all over Putnam and Northern Westchester. Students can also dance with different age groups that allow younger students to look up to older ones.

Epic Dance hosts birthday parties and other events. Because of how spacious the

interior is, multiple classes can occur at once. Sometimes mothers that drop their kids off can even take a fitness class as they wait for their child’s session to end.

For those parents that can’t help watching their kids perform, the windows are big enough to see everything.

Solazzo has the unique aspect of being a “dance mom” and a business owner. She thinks it’s important to solely focus on the business side of the studio, and let instructors take control of the dance classes.

Focused only on the business, Solazzo said it allows the dance teachers to only think about instructing and their students. She handles booking events, ordering costumes, advertising, paying bills, and other important details.

Solazzo, a hard worker, always knew she’d be interested in opening her own business. As long as it involved kids and education, she’d be happy, and to have her children share that with her is even better.

“They are super proud of their mom,” she said. “But they’re also really proud to part of a dance studio that really is doing a lot of good things and providing a lot of opportunities for the girls that are here.”

*Epic Dance Center is located at 926 Route 6 in Mahopac and its phone number is 845-628-5678.*

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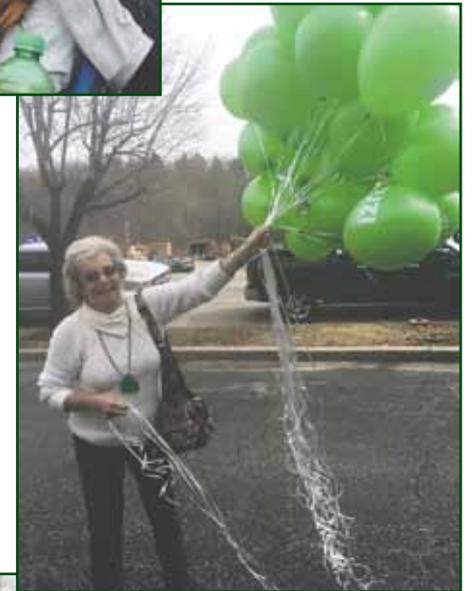
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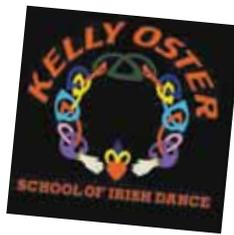
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# Gas Pipeline Expansion Foes Rally Behind Cuomo Safety Study

By Rick Pezzullo

Governor Andrew Cuomo's announcement two weeks ago that the state will be conducting an independent safety assessment of the AIM pipeline has given local officials and residents renewed hope that the controversial project can be halted.

State Assemblywoman Sandra Galef (D/Ossining) led a rally in Verplanck March 7 near the Indian Point nuclear power plants to thank Cuomo for calling on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to suspend any further approvals of the project pending the results of the state's analysis.

"I know how important independent analyses and second opinions can be, especially in circumstances in which two large energy production systems are intersecting," said Galef, flanked by sign waving pipeline opponents. "We need this independent assessment of this project. We're so happy this will be conducted."

Last month, nine months after several municipalities, grassroots groups and individuals from four states affected by Spectra Energy's expansion of the Algonquin natural gas pipeline filed a Request for Rehearing, FERC officially rejected the motion.

The action by FERC came as no surprise since work on the pipeline has taken place in the region, namely on Route



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Ossining Supervisor Dana Levenberg, with Assemblywoman Sandy Galef to her right, speaks during a rally to stop the AIM pipeline.

202 near the Cortlandt Farm Market, on Stoney Street, Lexington Avenue and in Montrose, in recent months and was permitted as part of FERC's March 3, 2015 approval of the controversial project.

Spectra Energy's project runs from Stony Point, under the Hudson River, through Peekskill, Cortlandt, portions of Yorktown and into Southeast, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. The project involves the removal of an existing 26-inch gas pipeline and replaces it with a 42-inch one. The gas pressure will also increase by 25 percent.

Opponents of the pipeline presented

FERC with a petition containing more than 26,000 signatures at a public hearing in 2014 in Cortlandt. Many raised concerns about the pipeline, which has been located in the area for more than 50 years without incident, sitting 1,500 feet away from the Indian Point nuclear power plants in Buchanan.

In its initial decision, FERC appeared satisfied with the measures Spectra proposed for the pipeline near Indian Point in its FEIS, stating, "The NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) concluded that a breach and explosion of the proposed 42-inch diameter natural

gas pipeline would not adversely impact the safe operation of the Indian Point facility."

"These two things should not be in the same place," Ossining Town Supervisor Dana Levenberg said at Monday's rally about the pipeline and the nuclear facility. "This is not a case of NIMBYISM. This is about not being in Indian Point's backyard."

Other elected officials who joined Galef were Assemblyman David Buchwald (D/White Plains), Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker and Peekskill Councilwoman Kathy Talbot.

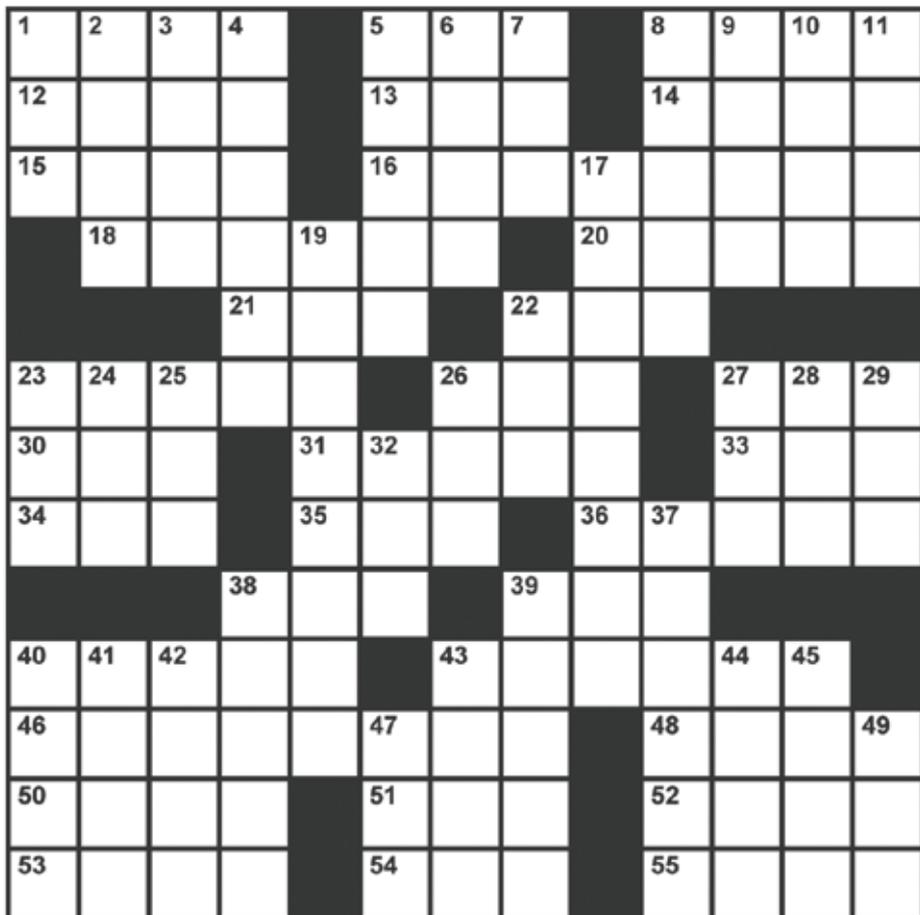
"This day has been many years in the making," Buchwald said. "We know there are many months to come in this battle. What has changed is we now have the support of Governor Cuomo."

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, there were 119 incidents in gas transmission pipelines in 2014.

Talbot noted the irony of the March 7 rally being held in front of a cemetery across the street from the construction of the pipeline.

"People are now starting to take this issue seriously," she said. "We're starting to get the push to get officials to do the right thing."

## Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 14

### Across

1. Draft
5. Friend of Sheldon and Leonard, on "The Big Bang Theory"
8. Defeat decisively
12. Bear in the sky
13. Evolutionary time period
14. Roll-call answer
15. Enhanced milkshake
16. Choice of words
18. Ticks off
20. Dancer Gene plus appliance brand or Baldwin Place "School of Irish Dance", Kelly \_\_\_\_
21. Be bedridden
22. It comes out of a pen
23. Be reluctant
26. What often follows you
27. In the fashion of
30. Start of many movements' names
31. Native American pole
33. Knit
34. Nickname preceder
35. Western U.S. native
36. Red dye used in cosmetics
38. "... walk and \_\_\_ not that they are": Shak.
39. Talk loudly
40. Another name for a person
43. Irish American gift shop in Mohegan Lake, \_\_\_ Aer
46. Troubadour's instrument
48. Desktop graphic
50. Silent
51. Bit in a horse's mouth
52. Where Pearl City is
53. Scent

### Down

4. Wrap
5. Gunfight time, in several films
1. Bottom line
2. Conclude-- \_\_\_ up
3. Shipwreck refuge
4. Light, custard-filled cake
5. Party
6. Aphrodite's consort
7. Peanut butter holder
8. Kitchen mixer?
9. Kind of index
10. Importune
11. Social equal
17. Type of fertilizer
19. Whiz
22. Enrage
23. Crime lab evidence, briefly
24. Hair-raising shriek
25. New Zealand bird
26. Candid conclusion?
27. Pack animal
28. Hawaiian neckpiece
29. Wheat part
32. Giants manager before Durocher
37. Alternative
38. Certain bird
39. Matchmaker in "Fiddler"
40. Arsenal contents
41. Praise or extol
42. Hooked on
43. Farewell, in Florence
44. Aviation agency
45. Salmon variety
47. High hit, in tennis
49. Wimple wearer

# Top Producing Agent Returns to Houlihan Lawrence Brewster

Houlihan Lawrence, the leading real estate firm serving New York City's northern suburbs, is pleased to announce that Wayne LaFranco has been appointed associate broker at its Brewster office.

"I'm so grateful to be back and I wanted to complete my career by working with the company and manager that gave me my big break into the business," LaFranco says.

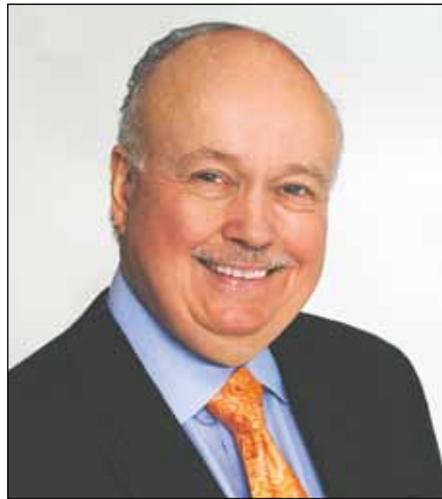
LaFranco began his real estate career with Houlihan Lawrence in 1997, working in the Brewster office with Robert Morini. Wayne won the top prize for obtaining 12 listings in 10 weeks and was named "Rookie of the Year" for the company's northern region.

"We are thrilled to welcome Wayne back to Houlihan Lawrence. His professionalism and experience will add a lot of value to our office," says Robert Morini, Branch Manager of Houlihan's Brewster office.

In 1998, LaFranco became the Manager of Relocation Properties working for Liz Nunan in the company's Relocation Division. He worked there until 2002. During this time, Wayne worked primarily with corporate transferees who were moving away from Westchester/Putnam, foreclosed properties and bank owned properties.

In 2011, Wayne became the Regional Vice President for CB/Westchester. He oversaw the operations of 13 offices, 12 managers and over 500 agents. He retired from that position in 2015. During this period, Wayne was the Broker of Record for Westchester/NY with the Dept. of State.

LaFranco has a Master's Degree from Pace University in Public Administration and a Master's Degree in



Wayne LaFranco

Criminal Justice from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Wayne is also on a member of the National Association of Realtors, New York State Association of Realtors, Hudson Gateway Association of Realtors and Hudson Gateway Multiple Listing Service.

### About Houlihan Lawrence

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# Putnam Hospital Center Auxiliary Awards Scholarships

North Salem High School seniors Sean Leuschner and Anna Mattamana are the recipients of the Putnam Hospital Center Auxiliary's inaugural college scholarships.

Leuschner and Mattamana each received \$500 to go toward their educational pursuits. Both have volunteered at Putnam Hospital Center, each completing more than 100 hours of service.

"I'm so happy, so enthused to get the award," Leuschner, 18, said. "I'm just grateful that they recognized how much I love Putnam Hospital Center."

Mattamana was equally grateful.

"It's amazing" Mattamana, 18, said. "A perk to the experience of working here."

Both Leuschner and Mattamana are interested in working in healthcare. Leuschner said he is deciding between the State University of New York at Buffalo and the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where he plans to study nursing and possibly medicine.

Leuschner has volunteered at Putnam Hospital Center for two years in transport and now as a student intern in the Emergency Department.

Mattamana plans to enroll as a premed student at either Tulane or the State University of New York at Binghamton. She has volunteered at Putnam Hospital Center for three years both in transport and the gift shop.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Putnam Hospital Center Auxiliary Co-President Rose McQuade, from left, and hospital Director of Volunteer and Pastoral Services Michelle Piazza, present scholarship awards to North Salem High School seniors Anna Mattamana and Sean Leuschner.

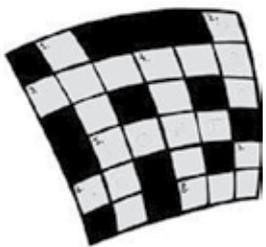
The auxiliary plans to award scholarships each year to two college bound students.

"We have always wanted to offer a scholarship to Junior Volunteers as a sign of our appreciation for the many hours of community service students provide to Putnam Hospital Center," said Michelle Piazza, director of volunteer and pastoral services. "We have a very talented and dedicated group of junior volunteers. Anna and Sean are exceptional and we are very pleased to award our first scholarships to them."

"I think it's wonderful we started doing this," auxiliary Co-President Rose McQuade added. "It's for two lovely, young people."

The volunteer department is accepting applications for its summer volunteer program. For more information, contact Michelle Piazza at 845-279-5711 ext. 2453 or 4453 (TTY 1-800-421-1220).

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# There's Still a Place for the Home Library in the Digital Age

In an age when the wealth of human knowledge and culture can be accessed through a tile-sized tablet, many people would assume that we no longer have a need for a home library.

This does not necessarily indicate a decline in literacy. In fact, the members of Generation Y are the most avid purchasers of books. Not only should we not judge a book by its cover, we also shouldn't assume it will be printed on paper.

Yet the printed book still holds its appeal as an artifact, a memento or an artistic creation, and those who own these objects will want them displayed safely and attractively. (If their physical presence inspires children to read more, so much the better.)

If you have seen collections of books in other people's homes, you may have noticed how they seem to reveal something about the personality of the collector. In fact, you may want to take a look at your own collection and see if it is conveying a message that meets your approval.



By Bill Primavera

Consider the following distinctive home library types, and see if you recognize yourself in any of them.

A space lined with shelves, which are in turn crammed with books, maybe two deep, horizontally stacked and tucked in every which way, suggests an academic type who reads widely and deeply. If these books are old editions, or in different languages, we may imagine the reader is a tenured professor in an arcane subject. If the books are stacked, popular paperbacks covering every surface, we expect their owner to be a zealous fiction fan.

A large collection of books on a single subject naturally reveals the occupant's interest, be it mysteries, gardening or history. It's a great first step to getting to know a person better. Be conscious of revealing too much of your own interests; my collection of motivational and self-help books from my earlier stages of personal and professional development would give visitors quite the

cross-section of my preoccupations.

The books themselves may be the items of interest. My wife Margaret's Aunt Pearl subscribed to a book club that reissued a classic work every month with exquisite artistic production values. These books were left to us and hold a place of honor in the custom-built shelves of our living room. Serious bibliophiles may also seek out important first editions, signed copies of books or vintage books of other historical interest.

Sometimes books are collected simply as visual design elements. Many second-hand bookshops will advertise their books-by-the-yard rate to interior decorators, who will make their selection based on the size and color of the spines.

The next level of books as decoration is when the titles are chosen based on how much they may impress guests, rather than as a reflection of the homeowner's interests. You may recall a famous scene in "The Great Gatsby" where a visitor to Gatsby's library comments knowingly on the scope and quality of the volumes it contains, but also points out that the pages of all the books are uncut; a sign in that age that a book had not yet been read.

To show off your books, first glean them to make sure that the titles you have left are pleasing and useful to you. You may want to group them by category and then select a different part of your home for each one (cookbooks in the kitchen being a popular example). Store the books either upright or flat, not at an angle or spine-up, and keep them away from bright sunlight and moisture.



Detail of The Home Guru's shelving, which combine collectibles with books.

If you are keeping more than a few books on each shelf, be certain that the shelf is built for the weight. A too-heavy load can bend the shelf, or even make it collapse completely.

A glance online will show you endless varieties of arranging your books, from a ceiling-to-floor wall of shelves with a rolling ladder to access the highest level, to bookshelves built into the structure of a staircase and others used as sliding wall dividers.

While I am all for saving the trees, I am also very fond of the layer of interest and inspiration that a shelf full of books gives to a home.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. ([www.PrimaveraPR.com](http://www.PrimaveraPR.com)). His real estate site is [www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com](http://www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com), and his blog is [www.TheHomeGuru.com](http://www.TheHomeGuru.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

## ShopRite Donates \$150K to Maria Fareri Children's Hospital



PROVIDED PHOTO

From left, Tom Urtz, vice president of operations, ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc.; Megan Castiglione, shopper advocate, ShopRite of Vails Gate; Vinnie Calabrese, shopper advocate, ShopRite of Middletown; Cathy Grisanti, shopper advocate, ShopRite of New Rochelle; Ryan Powers, shopper advocate, ShopRite of Croton; Meredith Buono, manager of marketing & community relations, Maria Fareri Children's Hospital; and Sharbari Bose Kamat, assistant manager of marketing & community relations, Maria Fareri Children's Hospital.

Team members from ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc. (SRS) present a check for \$150,000 to representatives from Maria Fareri Children's Hospital, a member of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network, and the children's hospital for the Hudson Valley and Fairfield County. ShopRite stores throughout Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester Counties collected donations at checkout and hosted in-store activities and events during the month of November to raise funds. Shopper advocates from four of ShopRite's five top-performing stores that participated in the fundraiser – ShopRite of Vails Gate, Middletown, New Rochelle, Croton and Montague – were on-hand to present the donation, which will help support the hospital's efforts to provide lifesaving and life-changing care to thousands of local children each year, including those in need of open heart surgery, brain surgery, cancer treatment, trauma and burn care, organ transplants and more.

## Crossword Answers

1	S	2	W	3	I	4	G		5	R	6	A	7	J		8	W	9	H	10	U	11	P
12	U	R	S	A					13	E	R	A				14	H	E	R	E			
15	M	A	L	T					16	V	E	R			17	B	I	A	G	E			
		18	P	E	E	19	V	E	S					20	O	S	T	E	R				
					21	A	I	L						22	I	N	K						
23	D	24	E	25	M	U	R			26	A	R	E			27	A	L	A		28		29
30	N	E	O					31	T	O	T	E	M			33	S	E	W				
34	A	K	A					35	U	T	E			36	E	O	S	I	N				
					38	W	O	T						39	Y	A	P						
40	A	41	L	42	I	A	S			43	C	E	L	T	44	I	C		45				
46	M	A	N	D	O	47	L	I	N					48	I	C	O	N		49			
50	M	U	T	E				51	O	A	T			52	O	A	H	U					
53	O	D	O	R				54	B	O	A			55	N	O	O	N					

# 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.com](mailto:nikki@theexaminernews.com)

## Help Wanted:

**Park District Maintenance.** Seeking individual to perform year-round maintenance duties. Part-time, up to 28 hours per week, \$25 per hour, own transportation & tools. Duties include: maintenance and repair of beach and park areas to include carpentry, masonry and painting projects. Experience necessary. Putnam Lake Park District: [info@putnamlakeparkdistrict.com](mailto:info@putnamlakeparkdistrict.com). 845-878-6500, ext. 41

**Lifeguard Manager.** Part-time, up to 10 hours per week, \$20 per hour, April to September. Duties: oversight of lifeguards, beach scheduling, safety drills, submit certifications to Patterson Town Hall. Ensure emergency equipment/supplies are in good/working condition. Check lifeguards daily. Lifeguard experience necessary. Putnam Lake Park District: [info@putnamlakeparkdistrict.com](mailto:info@putnamlakeparkdistrict.com). 845-878-6500, ext. 41

**Lifeguards Wanted.** Lifeguards needed for Warren Beach and Jackson Beach from Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend. Lifeguard/CPR certification. Salary based on experience. Putnam Lake Park District: [info@putnamlakeparkdistrict.com](mailto:info@putnamlakeparkdistrict.com). 845-878-6500, ext. 41

**Mahopac Public Library Seeks Board Candidates:** On Tuesday, June 7, Mahopac Public Library will hold elections for three (3) open seats on its Board of Trustees. Individuals interested in running for election to the Library Board must be residents of the Mahopac Central School District. Petitions for the nomination of candidates are available at the Library beginning Wednesday, March 12. The petitions must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District, shall state the name and residence of each signer, state the name and residence of the candidate, and must be filed with the Election Clerk of the Library no later than 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 21. The election will be held at Mahopac Public Library on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m. Three candidates will each serve a three-year term on the Board, beginning July 1.

**Town of Carmel Board Vacancies:** The Town Board of the Town of Carmel is looking for interested and qualified persons to fill vacancies for the following Boards: Planning Board (1 Vacancy) Board of Assessment Review (2 Vacancies) Recreation Advisory Committee (1 Vacancy) Please submit a Letter of Interest and Resume to: Supervisor Kenneth Schmitt Carmel Town Hall 60 McAlpin Avenue. Mahopac, Fax: (845) 628-6836. E-Mail: [amp2@ci.carmel.ny.us](mailto:amp2@ci.carmel.ny.us) To be submitted to the Supervisor's office by March 18, 2016. For additional information, please check our Website. @ [www.ci.carmelny.org](http://www.ci.carmelny.org)

## Carmel Central School District Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Kindergarten for students who will be entering Carmel schools in September 2016 will be held at the school the child will attend. All registrations take place from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Kent Primary School, 1065 Route 52, Carmel, NY (845 225-5025). Wednesday, March 16 for families with last names beginning with A-L. Thursday, March 17 for families with last names beginning with M-Z. Matthew Paterson Elementary School, 100 South St., Patterson, NY (845 878-3211). Wednesday, March 16 for families with last names beginning with A-L. Thursday, March 17 for families with last names beginning with M-Z. Kent Elementary School, 1091 Route 52, Carmel, NY (845 225-5029). Wednesday, March 16 for families with last names beginning with A-L. Thursday, March 17 for families with last names beginning with M-Z. Children who will be five years old on or before December 1, 2016 are eligible to register for the September classes. Parents are asked to bring the child's original birth certificate, immunization records and two proofs of residency. For additional information please call the school your child will attend. If unsure of the school your child will attend, please call our Transportation Office at 845-225-3200.

## Scholarships

**The Brewster-Carmel Garden Club** offers two scholarships. One to a resident of Brewster/Southeast and one to a Carmel resident planning to study horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, botany, environmental studies or a related field. Letter of recommendation from a person outside the school of attendance is required and award applicants will be interviewed by a representative of the garden club. Please contact Emily at 845-279-6061 for more information and an application. The deadline for applying is April 8, 2016.

## Films Wanted:

**The Village of Brewster Film Festival (VOBFF)** is now accepting independent film submissions for its 2016 season. The Village of Brewster Film Festival is Labor Day Weekend, from September 1st-4th. You can submit your film via the website at [VOBFilmFestival.com](http://VOBFilmFestival.com) or contact Bob at 845 729 5107 for more details.

## Book Clubs:

**Mahopac Public Library Adult Book Groups:** Monday Evening Book group: Meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Light Bite Book Group: meets on the third Monday or third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. Flo Brandon Book Review Group: meets on the first Friday of each month at 11 a.m. Wednesday Evening Crossover Book Group: meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required for

the young reader book groups. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100

## Art on Display:

**Carmel resident Elisabeth Frischauf** is currently exhibiting her ceramic bas-reliefs and three-dimensional sculptures in the Third Floor Gallery at Mahopac Library.

**Visitors to the Kent Public Library** during the month of March will enjoy delightful photographs of storybook characters by Stephen Cihanek. Mr. Cihanek is a photographer based in Pawling. You can see more of his work at [www.cihanek.com](http://www.cihanek.com)

**Mahopac Public Library** is accepting artists' proposals for the Third Floor Gallery exhibit space. Artwork is also being solicited for a show entitled "LACE" that will be on display in the Third Floor Gallery during the month of April.

**Plastic Harvest:** until March 27, 2016. Location: Gallery 66 NY, 66 Main Street, Cold Spring. Opening Reception: March 4, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Phone: 845-809-5838. Website: [www.gallery66ny.com](http://www.gallery66ny.com). Cost: Free to the Public. Contact: Barbara Galazzo, 845-809-5838.

## Tuesday, March 15

**Putnam County Office for Senior Resources:** St. Patrick's Day Luncheons. 15 & 16. Info at: <http://www.putnamcountyny.com/seniors>

**Savvy Social Security Planning:** 6:30 p.m. Reed Memorial Library. This seminar will cover eligibility, the enrollment process, benefits, Medicare premiums with a focus on those preparing to receive Social Security benefits. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

## Saturday, March 19

**Silent Film Series with Live Musical Accompaniment by Cary Brown** screening, "Way Down East" (1920) Dir. D.W. Griffith starring Lillian Gish. 7 p.m. Phone - (845) 265-3040. [www.butterfieldlibrary.org](http://www.butterfieldlibrary.org). This event is wheelchair accessible

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Memorial Field at 1 p.m. (Rain date 3/20). Egg hunt starts at 1:15 p.m. Join us for an egg hunt, cookie decorating, activities, and a special appearance by the Easter Bunny. Find the golden egg & win a cash prize. This is a free event. Contact Person: Alicia (845) 279-9142 or [www.putnamlakeparkdistrict.com](http://www.putnamlakeparkdistrict.com)

**Carmel Fire Dept. auxiliary Annual pasta dinner:** 5 p.m. -7 p.m. Carmel fire house. Cost \$10. Children 4-12 \$5. 3 and under free

**Great Swamp Wildlife Management Area** Patterson on Cornwall Hill Road. 6 p.m. Nothing beats the thrill, for a natural history enthusiast, to witness the bizarre, the intricate, impressive mating flight of the American Woodcock. Join naturalists for a gentle walk to the singing grounds of this small game bird. Come learn

about this extraordinary behavior and the woodcock habits and haunts. Spend twilight on a spring evening overlooking Pine Island and the Great Swamp. RSVP at 845-228-5635. Co-sponsored by the Kent Conservation Advisory Committee and The Friends of the Great Swamp

**Teen Movie Night:** 7 p.m. Ages 11 and up. Teen Advisory hosts a teen movie night for kids ages 11 and up. The movie will be Grown-Ups. Come with your friends to watch on the big screen this hilarious movie starring Adam Sandler. Popcorn and snacks will be served. Kids under 13 will need parental permission to attend. Registration required. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

**Woodcock Walk:** 6 p.m. Observe the startling and acrobatic early evening Woodcock mating flights at the Great Swamp Wildlife Management Area on Cornwall Hill Road in Patterson. Call Beth (845) 228-5635 to register.

**Vendor Fair:** St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 26 Prospect Street, Brewster. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Vendors will be selling gift items, handicrafts, jewelry, hats and scarves, cosmetics, food items, give us a call. Among the vendors that are expected are Thirty-One and Origami Owl. The church will also be raffling off many fine prizes and gifts. Call the church at 845-279-4325 for more information. The Fair will be a fun-filled event for everyone. Admission is free and St. Andrew's is handicapped accessible. For more information, call the church at 845-279-4325.

## Monday, March 21

**Creative Boot Camp at Kent Library.** Creative Boot Camp (in two parts) at the Kent Library. The first session is Monday, March 21st from 6:30 p.m.-7:15 p.m. The second session is Monday, March 28th from 6:30 p.m.-7:15 p.m. The Boot Camp will be presented by Nannette Stone, author, artist, broadcaster, and therapist. Register once for both sessions. You may register for the program by going to [www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org) or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY 10512.

**Middle School Battle of the Books:** 4:30 p.m. Middle school battle of the books is a fast-paced book competition team. Battle other libraries on book knowledge and compete for the grand team plummeting toward the ground, and even make matter transform and disappear right before your eyes. Registration required. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

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## LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SO MULCH MORE, LLC.** Art. Of Org., filed with SSNY on 1/07/16. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **28 Fox Lane, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

**Notice of Formation of CGC Solutions LLC** filed with the Department of State on 09/30/2015. Putnam County, SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **The LLC, 74 Hillside Park, Brewster, NY 10509. General Purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: Connected Healthcare Technologies, LLC**, office in Westchester County; Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 2/17/2016. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: the company, c/o **Sarah Ball, 80 Central Avenue, Rye, NY 10580. Purpose: any lawful acts or activities.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FAULKNER FABRICATORS, LLC** Art. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/16/15.

Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Faulkner Fabricators, LLC, 74 Lyons Place, Mt. Vernon, NY 10553. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**Notice of formation of Laurent & Altieri, LLC.** Art. Of Org. filed with Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/05/2016. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Genevieve Laurent, 67 Sedgwick Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: 7 JONES LLC** Art of Org. filed with SSNY on February 20, 2015. Office Location: Westchester County, SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **53 Post Street, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ELEMENTAL EVENTS, LLC** also recognized as e2 markets, and e squared markets, as filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/7/2016. Location: Westchester County. Company's agent for service of process is Rocket Lawyer Corporate Services, LLC, **90 State Street, Suite 700, Albany, New York 12207. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

**LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Formation of Bygone Candle Company LLC** filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/22/2016. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY is the designated agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **15 Winslow Rd, White Plains, NY 10606. Purpose: any lawful act.**

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## TAG SALES

**HUGE TAG SALE AT FOXLANE HIGH SCHOOL AT 632 SOUTH BEDFORD RD., BEDFORD, NY 10506.** Friday, April 1 from 3:00 to 7:00 and Saturday, 10:00 to 3:00. Toys, electronics, clothing, household items and much more.

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March 15 - March 22, 2016

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

SPORTS SECTION

# Four More Years!



## Ossining Ends 1st Term as Four-Time NYS Champs

Members of the Ossining High basketball program pose with its fourth-straight NYS PHSAA Class AA championship plaque after the state-ranked (No.1) Pride survived a 69-66 scare from Section 2 state runner-up Shenendehowa last Saturday at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, NY, where Ossining, which starts three freshmen, became the first girls' hoops program in state history to four-peat. Team members include Pride seniors Gabriella Ferrao, Shadeen Samuels and Alexis Bernardo, plus underclassmen Jaida Strippoli, Aubrey Griffin, Kailah Harris, Kelsey Quain, Zaira Turner, Adriana McFadden, Angela Torricella, Alyssa Aurora, Sam Cozzolino, Cassidy Martinez and Helen Ishmael... see Girls Hoops Notebook

# Haldane Makes History, Falls One Win Short of NYS Title

## Blue Devils Reach 1st Title Tilt, Fall to Section 6 Champion at Glens Falls

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

When fiery Blue Devil G David Rotando opened the NYSPHSAA Class C championship game with a well-stroked triple, it looked as though state-ranked (No.4) Haldane had put Section 6's Middle Early College on very early notice as the Blue Devils opened up a 5-0 lead in their first state title game ever.

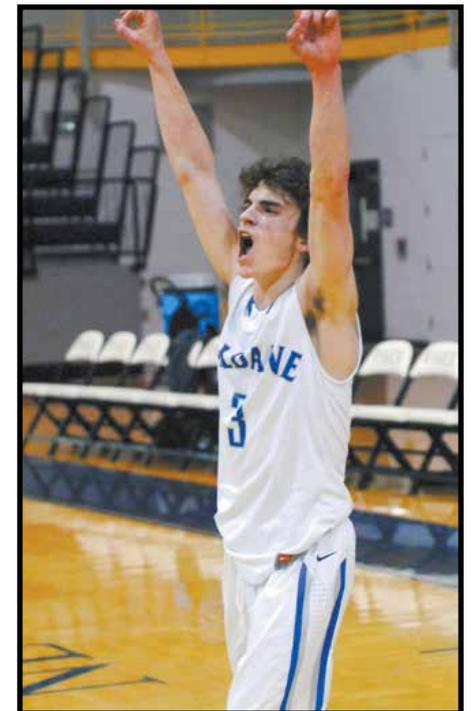
But state-ranked (No.2) Middle Early College was completely unfazed and went on a 19-0 run with blink-quick effectiveness en route to an 82-40 state-title clinching win last Saturday at the Glens Falls Civic Center.

Led by Blaine Fitzgerald (7 first-half points), the Blue Devils bounced back from MEC's run to make it 23-17, but MEC, buoyed by yet another 12-0 run, blazed out to a 35-17 advantage as Haldane senior captain Will Zuvic



(PHOTOS SUBMITTED)

Members of the Haldane basketball team pose before boarding their bus for Glens Falls last Friday before their historical run to NYS Class C finals, including David Rotando, Eric Rizzi, Nick Chiera, Andrew Gannon, Tucker Beachak, Stephen Junjulas, John Parr, Cole Sussmeier, Marco Scanga, Aidan Siegel, Kyle Sussmeier, Will Zuvic and Blaine Fitzgerald



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Haldane's David Rotando was the pesky fly in the ointment of opponents during Blue Devil run to state finals.



The Haldane Blue Devils were the last Section 1 team standing during their historic run to the NYS Class C Finals for the 1st time in school history last Saturday.

battled significant foul trouble throughout the first half. MEC rolled to a 41-19 halftime edge as it drained 6 of 11 from beyond the arc for a 55-percent clip.

MEC (20-7) did not allow Haldane (17-10) so much as a sniff in the second half, storming out to a 49-23 lead at the mid-point of the third quarter, and by the end of the third there was little hope for Haldane and little doubt about

the outcome as MEC padded its lead, 58-27.

Zuvic was the last starter to check



Blue Devil Will Zuvic gets a pat on the back from dad for cementing the Zuvic families place in Haldane history with a first-ever run to NYS Class C finals.

and four assists en route to earning tournament MVP honors.

"They're good," Haldane coach Joe Virgadamo told the Buffalo News. "There really isn't a thing they didn't do well. They shot lights out from 3. They rebounded well. They ran. They had size. They had athletic guards."

They also had a significant size advantage, going 6-foot or better across the starting five. As a result, Middle Early College held a commanding 63-38 rebounding edge. Fitzgerald led Haldane with nine points and nine rebounds while senior Tucker Beachak and Rotando each had seven points. Zuvic finished with five points and five rebounds

Haldane defeated state-ranked (No.1) Moravia, 36-34, in Friday's state semifinals. Zuvic, who fouled out with 1:36 remaining left, paced a gritty Blue Devil effort with 12 points and 10 rebounds. Moravia (19-5) had a last-ditch effort from Jared Lyon, who's desperation 3-pointer at the buzzer fell short with Rotando on him like drapes.

Haldane led 32-28 after three quarters when likeable sophomore reserve Aidan Siegel drilled a 3-ball that nearly brought the house down. Rotando gave Haldane a 36-33 with two free throws with 21.5 seconds left to put the game on lock-down and send the Blue Devils, who lost in last year's state semis, to their first-ever NYS championship game.

### Croton's Thom Inducted into NYS Hall of Fame



Croton hoops Coach Bill Thom (L) poses with White Plains Coach Spencer Mayfield (R) & LHVBA Pres. Anthony Nicodemo at NYS Hall of Fame induction ceremony for the two Section 1 coaches. Over the course of his four-decade career at Croton, very few people in the history of Section 1 basketball have done more to promote the local game than Bill Thom, and maybe none have done so with as much class, style and grace. His presence will be sorely missed.

out for Haldane, and somewhere in the loving hug he received from Coach Joe Virgadamo, every ounce of sweat they shared was justified by the three Section 1 championships, two regional titles and a run to the state finals the two had divvied out to teammates and fans from 2014 to 2016.

Tucker Beachak, Rotando and Zuvic were all named to the All-Tournament team. MEC seniors Gary Foster and Joseph Staton were a dynamic duo the Blue Devils had no answer for. Foster finished with 23 points, 17 rebounds

# Pride Runs Rampant, Ossining 4-Peats as NYS Champs

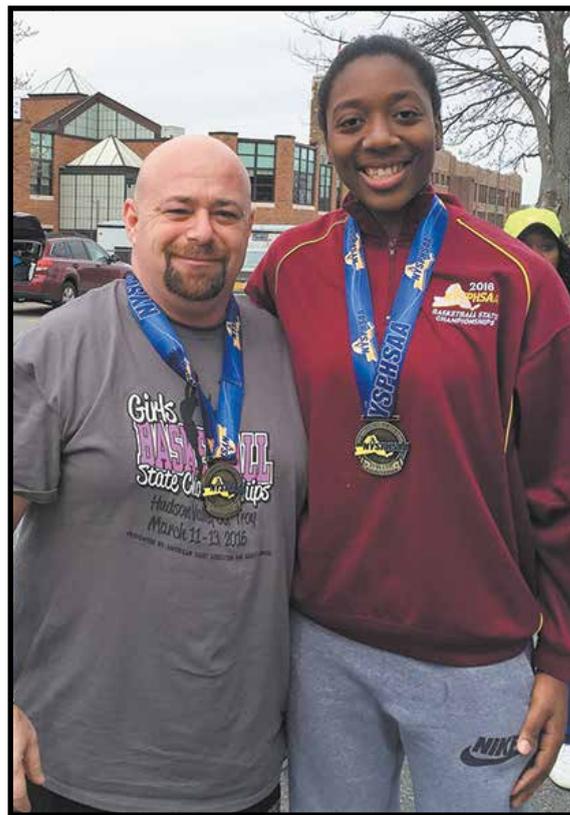
## Ossining's Samuels Named 2-Time MVP in State Tourney

By Ray Gallagher  
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It's never about one girl, or one guy in team sports, but if there was ever a team that was led by one girl, it's the recently-minted four-time reigning NYS champion Ossining Pride (26-2), which, make no mistake, is Shadeen Samuels' team.

The Seton Hall-bound senior was the main survivor from the three-time defending champions when the Pride entered the 2015-16 season with three freshmen starters alongside Samuels and a handful of complimentary seniors, including Alexis Bernardo, Gabriella Ferrao and Sam Cozzolino sprinkled in.

Samuels, though, would be the guiding force of these upstart youngins... a veritable Saniya Chong and Jalay Knowles - past Pride champions -- all wrapped into one. The UConn-bound Chong and Hartford-bound Knowles had a proven supporting cast as they built the foundation of an unapproachable legacy between 2013-15. Samuels entered the 2016 season with a litany of questions wrapped in a shroud of doubt... three undeniably good, but totally untested, freshmen in F Aubrey Griffin, G Jaida Strippoli and C Kailah Harris, with which she would go to war.



Ossining Coach Dan Ricci and All-NYS senior Shadeen Samuels are the only four-time NYS Class AA champions in state history.

Even boisterous Pride Coach Dan Ricci wasn't sure how 2016 would play out, but the fallback plan all along was Samuels, and the plan played out to perfection last Saturday night at NYSPHSAA Class AA Girls' Basketball Championship where the Pride not only survived but thrived during a 69-66 win over Section 2 champion Shenendehowa at the Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, NY.

The Pride rolled through state-ranked (No.10) Commack, 72-55, in the state semifinals the night before and marched into their fourth consecutive state final behind Samuels, who scored a team-high 32 points to lead the Pride, the only Class AA team in state history to four-peat, doing so under Ricci, and assistants Kelsey Vallach, Jose Ferrao and Pat Wheeler. So we asked

legendary Coach Ricci: What can be said about Shadeen Samuels that hasn't already been said. Obviously, she's a top-3 all-time Ossining talent, and the first and only player in NYSPHSAA history to win four-straight Class AA titles and two MVPs (2014-16), but what Samuels did this weekend with the three kittens around her is the stuff of legend, no?

"Shadeen is an incredible kid and I couldn't be happier for her," the seven-time Section 1 champion coach said of the only player in state history to win four-straight NYS titles. "She wanted to be the leader for one state title herself and she did it. This is the first season in four years that she was able to play in every game (knee injuries). I love her like a daughter. I'm so glad we got this done for her. As the kids say, it's bananas!"

Against state-ranked (No.4) Shenendehowa (25-3), the Pride had one of its standard slow starts and trailed 42-35 at the half, despite 22 points and seven boards from Samuels, who, midway through the third, put the unit on her back and in the span of a minute. At 5:04 of the third quarter, Samuels sank a 3-pointer before an Aubrey Griffin hoop to make it 46-45, Shen. Samuels followed with another hoop for Ossining's first lead (47-46) since it was 3-0 in the first. But the third quarter ended with Shen' holding a 55-54 lead.

Samuels got the lead back at 62-60 with a steal, a hoop and and-1 with 3:15 left. Shen' continued to fight throughout the fourth when Ossining usually puts teams away and cut the deficit to two before the gutsy freshman point guard, Strippoli, who struggled in spots, cashed in with the biggest shot of her young life. Strippoli splashed what would amount to the game-winning points, including a three-pointer (at the 2:14 mark) and a banked free throw in the waning seconds.

Samuels followed with another steal and free throw before Griffin hit two from the charity stripe and provided Ossining a 68-62 lead with 1:42 left.

Samuels finished with 26 points, eight boards, four assists and two steals while Griffin (19 points, 11 rebounds, 4 blocks, 3 steals) and Harris (12 points, 21 boards) each sprinkled in a pair of ridiculous double-doubles for affect.

Griffin dropped 17 points on Commack the night before and found herself on the All-Tournament team, and somewhere in between a steal and a two-on-one, Samuels passed the symbolic torch to Griffin, which she will share with Strippoli and Harris and Kelsey Quain - a sophomore who scored five consecutive points late in the first quarter against Shen' to keep Ossining's deficit at a suitable margin -- and the rest of the Ossining underclassmen, who will forge on without Samuels.

"There's no way you could tell these girls were freshmen if you didn't know it," Pride tri-Captain Gabby Ferrao said. "They're amazing. I'm so proud of them. Coach Ricci is an amazing guy, an amazing coach. He believes in us and he's there for us, no matter what we need. I don't even know how to explain what it means to be a part of this program."

They say nothing can ever match your first time doing something; until it's your fourth time and you do so with three freshmen on the floor and the only four-time state champion in New York history.

"Agreed, this is the most special," Ricci admitted of his fourth state jewel. "Because of those circumstances and the fact that it was such a close, exciting game."

The Pride (26-2), who have never won a Federation title, will play PSAL champion South Shore in the NYS Federation semifinals Friday at 3 p.m. in the Times Union Center in Albany in the hopes of facing the St. Anthony's (CHSAA) vs. Long Island Lutheran (NYSAIS) winner in Saturday's Class AA final at 7:00 p.m.



Ossining freshmen Aubrey Griffin will take the torch from Shadeen Samuels after an All-Tournament performance at states.



The Ossining Pride revel in the moment of a fourth-straight NYSPHSAA title last Saturday at Hudson Valley Community College.

# The Rise & Falls!

## Haldane's Historic Runs End in NYS Finals



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Talk about making something from nothing: The Haldane High boys basketball team -- including (L-R) Eric Rizzi (4), David Rotando (3) and Will Zivic (33) -- were unranked in the NYS Class C basketball rankings and were seeded third in their own Section 1 ranks when the post season began in mid-February. But nothing deterred the rise of Coach Joe Virgadamo's Blue Devils (17-10), who got hot when it counted and turned the town upside down with a second-straight run to Glens Falls and the NYSPHSAA Final 4 where the three-time defending Section 1 champion Blue Devils made history by becoming the first Haldane boys' hoops team to reach the state finals after a 36-34 semifinal win over state-ranked No.1 Moravia last Friday. The rise to the top included an eventual No.4 rank in the NYS polls for Haldane, the last Section 1 team standing, but was cut short in Saturday's state championship game where Section 6 champion Middle Early College blew the doors off in an 82-40 defeat of the Blue Devils on Saturday night at the fabled Glens Falls Civic Center... see Boys' Hoops Notebook