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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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## Butterfield Lawsuit Filed Against Cold Spring Mayor, Village

By David Propper

With the Village of Cold Spring election less than a week away, Butterfield project developer Paul Guillaro threw a bomb into the mix when he filed a federal lawsuit against the village and current Mayor Dave Merandy claiming village officials sabotaged the redevelopment at the direction of Merandy.

Guillaro filed the complaint in federal court, accusing Merandy of putting together a "malicious and intentional campaign of harassment, usurpation of authority, and other unlawful actions" to "maliciously stop, delay, frustrate, and ultimately 'kill'" Guillaro's mixed-use development in Cold Spring that includes a new senior center rented by Putnam County.

The damages are for \$2.5 million.

The lawsuit alleges Merandy on multiple occasions after taking office in April 2015 said he wanted to kill the project and bankrupt Guillaro, including one

time stating "we can't stop the municipal buildings from being built but the other buildings on the site plan you can count that I am going to block them."

Merandy, in an interview, emphatically denied all wrongdoing and said the timing of the lawsuit appears to be "more than just a coincidence." The lawsuit was filed on March 15 and the next day, Alison Anthoine, who is challenging the mayor in this year's March 21 election, brought up the lawsuit at a village board meeting.

"I think you'd have to be a fool to believe that was a coincidence," Merandy said. "I don't think it's a very far stretch to say (the lawsuit) was used to influence the election and cast a shadow on anything my administration has done."

Merandy said neither he nor the village has actually been served the lawsuit as of Monday afternoon. He maintained he and the village have done everything legally advised by attorneys and the

*continued on page 4*

## Girl Scouts Collecting Toiletries to Help the Homeless



Brewster Girl Scouts, Sarah Bak (left) and Bridgette Sanok are collecting travel size toiletries for a midnight run for homeless citizens in New York City. Both young ladies are dancers at Seven Star School of Performing Arts. A collection box will be available at the dance studio located at 509 Route 312 in Brewster, until April 8. Small (travel) size items are important, as full-size items are cumbersome to carry for people on the street. Toiletry items in need are: Soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, washcloth, razor, shaving cream, deodorant, lip balm or moisturizer, and feminine hygiene products. Sarah and Bridgette are working towards their Girl Scout Gold Award. The Gold Award is the highest achievement within the Girl Scouts of the USA, earned by Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts. Only 5.4 percent of eligible Girl Scouts successfully earn the Gold Award. Email [info@SevenStarSchool.com](mailto:info@SevenStarSchool.com), call 845-278-0728 or [www.SevenStarSchool.com](http://www.SevenStarSchool.com) for more information.

## New Putnam Tourism Director Comes Home

By David Propper

Bruce Conklin always knew he wanted to move into a bigger market when he was the director of a tourism department in the Midwest. But moving to a bigger market while also coming back to home to Putnam County is a feeling Conklin is still savoring.

Conklin takes over for Frank Smith, who was the acting director of the Visitors' Bureau after former first lady of New York Libby Pataki resigned from her job following unending controversy over a second non-profit that mirrored the Visitors' Bureau resulting in an investigation from the New York

Attorney General's Office.

Now after more than a year since Pataki left, the county has their new permanent replacement.

Conklin was born in Peekskill and grew up in Putnam Valley all through high school and part of college before he went off to school in Rhode Island. Most of his relatives are still in Putnam and the Lower Hudson Valley.

"I don't really know how to explain it," he said of coming home. "I've been trying to put it into words for people because they're like 'what's it's like coming home.'"

Conklin comes from the Midwest

where he held the same title for a city in Missouri.

For three years, Conklin ran the City of Lebanon tourism department as a one-man show. The city has a population of roughly 15,000 residents.

In the first six months of that job, Conklin realized this was a role he took a liking to and wanted to make a career out of.

"I really enjoy helping promote an area," he said. "And tourism is a great avenue of really showing off what your area has to offer. It's fun and positive."

Those that worked with him in the past

*continued on page 7*



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

New Visitors' Bureau director Bruce Conklin at a legislative meeting last week. He started on March 1.



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# Patterson FD Close to Reaching New Contract with Town Board

By David Propper

With the Town of Patterson and the Patterson Volunteer Fire Department running out of time to sign a new contract by deadline, both sides are hoping an agreement is reached this week.

During this Wednesday's town board meeting, the town board will have a vote on whether to approve a new contract resulting in just under \$800,000 for the fire department's fiscal year that starts in April. A vote on the contract has been delayed a couple times by town board members with a lack of communication apparent between the two sides.

Supervisor Rich Williams said the department asked for changes to the contract, which the town board would further discuss this week at its town board meeting and "hopefully come to some resolution." Williams said the town couldn't give the department funding without a contract signed by both sides.

The current contract ends April 1.

Williams said he believes the major issue with contract is the financial information the department must give the town board in hopes of greater transparency. Williams said part of the reason the board wants that is because of recent fire department scandals in Putnam County, including with the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department and the Patterson department. (The ex-

*'We all need to be more diligent in ensuring public funds provided to these private fire companies is spent properly.'* - Supervisor Rich Williams

treasurer of the Patterson department pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 33 months recently for stealing more than \$1 million from the department. All the money stolen has been recovered.)

"We all need to be more diligent in ensuring public funds provided to these private fire companies is spent properly," Williams said.

Williams said the department wanted funding for certain programs that the town hasn't proposed in the contract, like money for EMS and a paid maintenance worker. The town board controversially voted last year to move toward with a town controlled EMS program and has been hiring employees and purchasing vehicles to make it a reality.

Patterson fire department president Eleanor Smith said the town attorney

*'I don't really know what they want from us. They haven't been very transparent.'*  
Patterson FD president Eleanor Smith

and the department attorney have been tasked with putting the final pieces of the contract together. She said the department did get some of the requests it made like how payments are scheduled.

The department though, still doesn't know what role it'll play in the town wide EMS and if it'll have a supplemental part. Currently, all the funding for the department's EMS has been taken from the proposed funding, Smith noted. She added there has been no dialogue between the town and the fire department over the department's EMS function.

"We have no idea," Smith said. "I don't really know what they want from us. They haven't been very transparent."

Smith said if the town board eventually communicates the department would be a secondary EMS option than a second contract would need to be drawn up with

additional funding.

Despite the gaps between the two sides, Smith said she believes a contract will be agreed on before the April 1 deadline.

While a contract might be reached, the relationship between the town and fire department might need more time to improve.

Williams said he couldn't recall the last time the relationship between the town board and fire department officials had reached such a sour point. He traced it back to demanding more accountability from the department when he was elected after past town boards didn't give the fire department a harder look.

"I'm trying to be more diligent with the taxpayer funding and that has definitely caused some friction," Williams said. "Not just me, but the town board as a whole."

Smith said the department has been open ever since the former treasurer stole money from the department coffers and not a result of Williams becoming supervisor. Department officials gave the town board anything they requested in light of that massive embezzlement, she stressed.

"We're always there to provide services and we're there with our hearts and souls, and the only reason we volunteer is enthusiasm and dedication toward the public," Smith said. "That's why we joined the fire department."



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### Q: Am I a candidate for an advanced type of cervical spine disc surgery?

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### Q: What causes these symptoms?

**A:** Ultimately, all symptoms result from compression or narrowing (stenosis) of the space for the spinal cord or the nerves exiting the spinal cord. As you age, your spinal discs lose height (that's why we all get shorter), causing them to bulge. Picture gently squeezing down on a cream donut: It gets shorter but also wider. A bulging disc can press on a nerve exiting the spinal cord. At a later stage, the bulge can harden (calcify) into a bone spur, which can also compress a nerve. In the case of a herniated disk, now you are squeezing the cream donut so hard that cream leaks out. This disc material can put direct pressure on a nerve.

### Q: When is cervical spine disc replacement the best course?

**A:** The traditional approach is the fusion procedure, which locks cervical vertebrae together permanently after removing the damaged discs. Now, cervical spine disc replacement goes a step better: By replacing the damaged disc with an implant closely resembling a human disc, it maintains the mobility of the cervical spine; in some cases, even improving motion. The best candidates are active people under 60 years, who want to maintain a full range of motion.

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# NYC Mayor Cleared in Probe Connected to Putnam Dem. Committee

By David Propper

An investigation into New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and his political fundraising that implicated the Putnam County Democratic Committee was dropped last week, state prosecutors announced.

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. confirmed Thursday even though de Blasio violated the spirit of election law when he steered large sums of money to the Putnam Democratic Committee, the embattled mayor and his staff weren't going to face criminal charges after the more than two-year probe came to an end.

During the 2014 campaign season, de Blasio and associates were accused of skirting campaign contribution limits by having unions, limited liability companies and individuals donate large sums of money to county committees, including the Putnam County Democratic Committee, which then filtered most of that money to Democratic candidates. The campaign limit contribution an individual or entity can currently make is \$10,500.

Vance, in a letter to the New York State Board of Elections, wrote that the Putnam Democratic Committee received contributions totaling \$671,329 in 2014 and then transferred \$640,750 to the campaigns of Justin Wagner and Terry Gipson, two former Democratic state senate candidates to avoid the



NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio.

contribution limit. The last time the Putnam Democratic Committee came close to that fundraising mark was 2012 when it ushered in \$38,651, according to Vance.

Vance wrote because de Blasio and his staff relied on legal counsel, it'd be hard to charge them with an actual crime. But he still had stinging words for the Democrat up for reelection this year.

"This conclusion is not an endorsement of the conduct at issue; indeed, the transactions appear contrary to the intent and spirit of the laws that impose candidate contribution limits, laws which are meant to prevent 'corruption and the appearance of corruption' in the campaign financing process," Vance wrote.

(Acting US Attorney Joon Kim also confirmed de Blasio would not face



NYS Senator Terrence Murphy.

charges as the federal investigation into him was dropped into other fundraising matters.)

Defiantly, de Blasio, according to the New York Daily News, said he and his staff "did things legally, appropriately, ethically and for causes that really matter to people within New York City."

New York State Senator Terrence Murphy originally raised questions in 2014 about the money flowing to the Putnam Democratic Committee and to then Democratic senate candidates in the Lower Hudson Valley. He called the news of the non-indictment "incredibly disappointing." (Murphy easily beat Wagner for the 40th state senate seat that year.)

He described the maneuver by de Blasio and the Putnam Democratic Committee

"a blatant attempt to evade campaign finance limits imposed by New York State and used people with business in front of New York City to do so."

"Now more than ever we must pass legislation to update our campaign finance laws starting with the closure of the Bill de Blasio Loophole," Murphy said. His office stated Murphy has sponsored a bill that would charge any person acting on behalf of a public officer or candidate who solicits a contribution to a county or town committee for a candidate to whom such direct contribution is unlawful with a felony instead of a misdemeanor charge.

Current chairman of the Putnam Democratic Committee Jim Borkowski defended the money it received and then gave to Wagner and Gipson as within the law. (Ken Harper was the former chairman when the probe first hit the fan and also said back then the committee did nothing wrong.)

"We have maintained since the beginning of this investigation that all we did during the 2014 election was the same thing we always do: Support and campaign for Democratic candidates and ideas," Borkowski said in an email. "We are pleased that state and federal prosecutors agree that our efforts complied with the law. We will continue to fight for the Democratic party in Putnam County and throughout New York State."

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# Butterfield Lawsuit Filed Against Cold Spring Mayor, Village

continued from page 1

lawsuit claims are meritless and baseless. He questioned if the legal action would ever actually go forward and was certain it wouldn't if Anthoine, a Butterfield supporter, wins.

Anthoine, in an interview, said she expected the legal action once the 90 days connected to the Dec. 5 notice of claim expired. She started looking for the lawsuit each day online until she discovered it last week and scoffed at the notion she's in cahoots with Guillaro.

Anthoine also stressed she and Guillaro have never spoken about the lawsuit.

"He's not going to call me for any help," she said. "I'm not in his camp."

If elected, Anthoine said she would want to negotiate an end to the lawsuit, but wouldn't commit to either settling the lawsuit or going forward without further information. She believes just telling Guillaro the building department would follow the law would satisfy him.

The complaint alleges several instances that signaled Merandy wanted to either slow down or stop the project, all while hitting Guillaro with exceeding costs.

In the summer of 2015, former planning board member Barney Molloy told Guillaro that Merandy, current planning board chairman Matt Francisco and others currently or formerly involved

with village government would do "whatever it took" to create issues for the project.

The lawsuit also claims Merandy told the village's director of public works and building inspector that neither could not take action concerning the project without Merandy's permission.

"A fact personally confirmed to (Guillaro) by the director of public works and building inspector," the lawsuit states.

But Merandy said that is "totally untrue" and he's never told anyone to slow or stop the project by not issuing permits. Merandy even went so far as to say if this case ever goes to trial, the people named in the claim would perjure themselves if they repeated that claim.

Merandy said a lot of the complaint was filled with heresy and seemed "put together rather quickly." Merandy emphatically stressed he never said he wanted to slow down or stop the project or run up costs to hurt Guillaro financially.

The lawsuit never attributes who overheard Merandy talk about slowing the project down.

The lawsuit also alleges when Guillaro swapped the use of Building Two and the Lahey Pavilion, it was a minor modification and Merandy instead delayed the building permit by nine months because he demanded an

amendment to the site plan.

In a past interview, Francisco, the planning chair, argued Guillaro was the cause of the delay by not providing the village with all the information it needed promptly during that stretch. The senior center lease for the Lahey Pavilion the village required from Guillaro was part of the approved modification agreement, yet wasn't given to the planning board until this month, Francisco said recently.

"If (Guillaro is) changing stuff and it hasn't been approved than it is our right and my responsibility to review that," Merandy said of the Building Two and Lahey change. "He doesn't seem to agree with that or like that."

The lawsuit also details other complaints against Merandy, including that he fired all consultants and brought new ones on that forced Guillaro to shell out more money so they caught up to speed, and Connecticut firms were hired to drive up travel costs that Guillaro had to foot the bill for. Village attorney at the time, William Florence, was told by Merandy to alter his bills to force Guillaro to pay

more, the lawsuit claims, which Merandy denied.

The lawsuit accuses Merandy of making false claims about the lease Guillaro had with the county. Merandy said the county was overpaying Guillaro to rent space on the Butterfield campus during county Legislature meetings, but Guillaro said in the lawsuit he's charging the county half the market rate and if the county reneged on the agreement, it would have caused further problems for the Butterfield site.

"The motives and actions of (Merandy) are not rationally related to a legitimate governmental interest," the lawsuit states.

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# Visitors' Bureau Gets Rest of Funding from Legislature

By David Propper

After money was withheld from the Visitors' Bureau by the Putnam County Legislature at the start of the year, the tourism arm of the county got the rest of its funding signed off as Putnam sees sunnier weather and more visitors.

The Economic Development Committee voted unanimously to give the Visitors' Bureau \$100,000 currently in sub-contingency. The measure will be voted on during the full legislature's meeting early next month.

During the committee meeting last Thursday, new tourism director Bruce Conklin was introduced while Visitors' Bureau officials discussed with lawmakers how the department has moved forward since former director Libby Pataki stepped down more than a year ago.

Former interim director Frank Smith, who is working in a reduced role, told legislators the bureau would run out of money by April if the rest of the funds were not released. Once Conklin puts his marketing plan together, the bureau would be ready to expend funds for it, Smith said.

The money was placed in sub-contingency last year during budget season, with some lawmakers voicing concern over how money was being spent. During an October budget meeting, Smith said the agency owed



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO  
Bureau board of directors chairman Barney Molloy speaks at last week's meeting.

the former accountants roughly \$24,000. Bureau board of directors chairman Barney Molloy said back then the tourism board only got billing from Alan Wolfson recently dating back to 2013 and was looking for records to back that up.

While most legislators were receptive to giving the tourism department the rest of their funding, which is matched by New York State, lawmaker Dini LoBue questioned practices done at the bureau.

LoBue complained that she never heard back from Smith after sending a letter to him in November and when she's called the tourism office, no one picked up before Conklin was put in place this month. Smith explained, in addition to his tourism duties before the new director came on, he's also in law school part-time.

"I've been doing the absolute best job possible," he said. "Running an entire organization all by myself."

The agency also hired a new accountant and the bureau is in compliance with New York State regulations, Smith said.

When LoBue asked if the former accountant was ever paid by the agency, Smith declined to answer on advice of legal counsel, which led to sparks flying.

"It's a yes or no answer," LoBue said,

though Smith again rebuffed the request, citing legal advice.

There was also a point of contention whether the agency was subject to the Freedom of Information Law requests. LoBue said after talking to someone from the state, she said the agency had to respond to FOIL requests, but board chairman Molloy said that wasn't the case, according to Robert Freeman of the Committee on Open Government.

County Attorney Jennifer Bumgarner said after discussing the issue with her office, she agreed the agency was not subject to FOIL laws. LoBue asked her to follow up with Freeman.

Molloy also said he didn't answer to legislature and only attended the committee meeting as a "courtesy to the county executive."

"I know you feel very uppity tonight," LoBue shot back. "I don't work for you, you don't question me. I question you."

LoBue then called for Molloy's removal from the board because of the legal trouble he faces in Cold Spring for allegedly stealing four newspapers from a Main Street business that amounted to a value of \$10. She called his presence on the board a "disgrace."

Other lawmakers jumped in, with Legislature Chairwoman Ginny Nacerino telling LoBue she's out of order and "it's inappropriate."

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# New Putnam Tourism Director Comes Home

continued from page 1

have high regards for Conklin's work.

In online post from Missouri Network, Lebanon Mayor Josh Ray commended Conklin's tenure with the city after it was revealed he was leaving to take the tourism job in Putnam. Ray called Conklin a "fantastic asset" who would be "missed tremendously."

"He is a prime example of what we can do as an organization when we promote from within." Ray said in part. "He helped me navigate roadblocks and offered key guidance for how to improve our town and highlight the positive."

While Conklin grew up in Putnam, he is still acclimating himself to a county that has more development than when he was a teen in the rural county. It's been about a decade since he's lived in Putnam, besides the occasional visit to see family.

Although a different landscape, Conklin called the change exciting, considering how much has been done in a short time.

"And all the different things that are being offered to people and now as tourism director I can offer it to our visitors," he said. "They have all these new options they can pick from."

Conklin said he's in the midst of creating a comprehensive marketing plan with the matching funds the county gets from New York State. The in-depth travel guide will give visitors an idea of what they can do in the county, Conklin said, and then translate that guide with even more information on the county tourism's website.

Additionally, Conklin wants to beef up the Visitors' Bureau social media presence.

With spring coming up quickly, he knows the county is against the clock. He'll also seek guidance from tourism colleagues in the Lower Hudson Valley about what has worked for them.

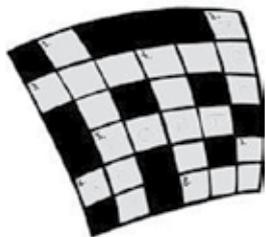
"My feet are still very, very wet," Conklin admitted, but. "It won't take me long to get caught up."

Conklin said the biggest challenge the county faces in becoming a prime tourism attraction is the lack of hotels.

While there are some bed and breakfast inns in the area, particularly in Cold Spring, that can't attract "bus loads of people," Conklin said.

As County Executive MaryEllen Odell said in her State of the County address, Putnam wants to go from a "day-cation to a stay-cation destination," Conklin noted. And he hopes he's part of making that come true.

"Your assets are your biggest commodities," Conklin said. "And I plan on promoting every asset that I possibly can."



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## Letters to the Editor

# Putnam Dems Respond to State of County Address

County Executive Odell's State of the County speech last week perfectly captured why Putnam County suffers increased taxation and declining population. Ms. Odell's out-of-touch perception of our County, her lack of hard work, and her lack of innovation do not bode well for our future.

We can do better.

Using the gimmick of designating 2017 as "The Year of the Millennial", Ms. Odell's embarrassing litany of older technologies (Uber, Lyft, Tinder and Airbnb) showed that Ms. Odell is behind the times. Ms. Odell claimed these years-old applications will somehow keep Millennials in Putnam

County. With very little infrastructure, and almost no transit system, we cannot keep Millennials here with Airbnb.

If we are declaring that 2017 is "The Year of the Millennial", we should recognize that the heroin crisis is the greatest risk to Millennials. The situation in Putnam County is so severe that Putnam County has been designated as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area. In the past two months alone, eight Putnam County residents have died from drug overdoses. While Ms. Odell minimized federal assistance received from Democratic lawmakers for combatting the heroin crisis, she offered no new ideas. There

are virtually no beds in Putnam County for adolescent addicts to detox and rehabilitate. We must do more.

The address was sprinkled with many pieces of false information, for example that the County received a grant of \$250,000 from the New York State Assembly for the Senior Center at the Butterfield site in Cold Spring. This funding has only been proposed.

As long as our Republican County Executive continues to hire unqualified political friends, we will continue to have little meaningful innovation, and instead endure scandals like those in our Tourism and Consumer Affairs Departments.

Putnam County continues wasting our money on boondoggles like Tilly Foster and Putnam Golf Course.

Ask yourself: is Putnam County better off than it was six years ago, when Ms. Odell took office? Unfortunately, the answer is no.

With innovative Democratic leadership and by forging strong alliances we can again make Putnam a place we're proud to live in. Get involved!

Jim Borkowski  
Chairman, Putnam County  
Democratic Committee

## Assemblyman Opposes Bill that Would Penalize Gun Owners

I have received dozens of calls and messages to my office regarding bill # A2260.

Let me be clear. I am 100% opposed to A2260. This proposed legislation further penalizes all law-abiding gun owners in New York State. As if the so called "SAFE"

Act wasn't bad enough, now members of the NYC controlled Assembly Majority are pushing for new ways to target law abiding gun owners.

A2260 would require all gun owners to purchase and maintain \$250,000 worth of liability insurance. This equates to a new

tax on New Yorkers who practice their constitutionally protected right to bear arms. Make no mistake, this is part of a broader scheme to make gun ownership so expensive that it prices ordinary citizens out of the market or out of our state.

I am adamantly opposed to this legislation and will continue to fight for the rights of ALL New Yorkers, including the rights of law abiding gun owners!

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne

## Snow Plow Drivers Appreciated During Hard-hitting Storm

Another "much is owed by the many to the few." Thanks to the Town of Carmel and Putnam County plow drivers, the guys at the garage getting things ready

and whoever decided it had to be done, not to mention the electric power guys on the ready and the phone/cable crews! I think it looked like most people stayed

off the roads too--just as important! Of course the storm timing had a lot to do with that. (I'm just wondering how they missed the area around Carmel Police

Station/Town Hall though?)

Andrew Campbell  
Mahopac

## Obituaries

### Michael J. Hession

Michael J. Hession of Lake Carmel, died March 16, at the age of 86. Mr. Hession was born June 30, 1930 in the Bronx to Elizabeth (Flynn) and Michael Hession. He worked as an engineer in Manhattan, he was a member of the Carmel Tennis Club, he loved good music, hiking, being outdoors and animals. He is survived by his beloved wife Lydia (Balala) his loving daughters Madelyn Novak and Olivia Papio, his sisters Kathleen Leahy and Mary Hession, his adoring granddaughter Jennifer

Parish three great grandchildren and a great-great grandson.

### Barbara M. Vara

Barbara M. Vara of Mahopac, died on Monday, March 13, she was 81. Born in Yonkers, to the late Harold and Mary (Quinn) Price. On May 7th, 1960, she married the love of her life, Anthony Vara at the Church of The Immaculate Conception in Yonkers; they were married for 56 years. Barbara is survived by her loving husband Anthony, her daughter Patricia Hickey and her husband Neil, her sons Thomas and Robert Vara, her sisters Lorraine Morrison, Marjorie Holder, Arlene Tiso, and Nancy Mulligan, her brother Harold Price; and her beloved granddaughters Allison and Ashley Hickey. She was predeceased by her sister Joan Price. Barbara was a homemaker until her children were grown, she then worked in Lakeland School District and in retail at Alexander's and Sears. She enjoyed dancing and collecting tea pots and ceramic poodles. A favorite pastime was going to Atlantic City with her husband and her sisters, she especially enjoyed playing the slot machines. She was a volunteer with her husband at the St. John's Food Pantry.

Patterson, died Thursday, March, 16. She was 92 years old. Ronnie was born July 23, 1924 in Chicago, IL to John and Veronica (DeFreitas) Perreira. She graduated from schools in the Bronx. On April 21, 1946 she married the love of her life John L. Koller at St. Mary's Church in the Bronx. Mr. Koller died on August 30, 1991. Ronnie was a cook and meal provider for the Brewster Central School District working at the Henry H. Wells Middle School in Brewster, for 20 years before retiring in 1995. She was a member of the Putnam Lake VFW post # 9257 where Ronnie started the annual Penny Social.

In 2016, the VFW celebrated its 50th penny social. Ronnie was also a member of the Patterson and Putnam Lake seniors, as well as, the New Fairfield seniors. She also enjoyed playing cards and trips to the casinos. Her greatest joy in life was her family, they meant the world to her. Ronnie is survived by her 2 daughters, Laura Ragaglia (Tony) of Beacon, and Edna Panigrosso (Vinny) of Patterson; a sister, Helen Fetonti of Bronxville; 5 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son John Joseph Koller on April 29, 2007.



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### Veronica Koller

Veronica D. 'Ronnie' Koller, of

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## School & Camp Guide

# First Time at Camp? Talking with Your Child

By Bob Ditter, L.C.S.W.

Sending your child away to camp for the first time is a major milestone for most families, one that is often marked by excitement, anticipation, and perhaps even some anxiety. Though camp is certainly about making friends and having fun, it is also about being on your own and being a part of a community. One of the most important things you as a parent can do to help prepare your child for both these aspects of camp is to

talk with your child about it before he/she goes. In fact, it may be better to have several occasional, shorter talks rather than one long conversation as children often absorb more when there is less to think about at one time. I also find that children do better with this sort of conversation if it is part of a more general conversation and if it is part of a pattern of talking, either at the dinner table or while riding in the car doing errands.

*The following are some sample topics for*

*discussion that will help prepare your child emotionally for their big adventure:*

### Friends

Camp is not anything if it is not about making new friends. If you are shy about meeting new kids, then learn to get to know others by being a good listener. Remember also that not everyone in your cabin, bunk, or group has to be your friend, and you don't have to be everyone else's friend. As long as you treat others with respect and they do the same with you, then having one or two friends at camp is fine. If you have more, then that's great!

### Activities

There are many exciting things to do at camp, many of which you may never have tried before. If your child tends to be a bit homesick or worried about being homesick, remind him/her about the excitement of going to camp: Remember, when you first decided to go to camp, what made you so excited? You may not like all the activities, or you may be better at some than others. That's normal. I, however, hope you are willing to try. The more you put into camp, the more you will get out of it!

### Cooperating

You, like every other camper there, will be part of a cabin, bunk, or group. As your parent, I hope you will cooperate with others and help out. That's part of what makes camp so special — kids helping each other out. Most kids will help you if you are friendly and help them.

Give yourself time. One thing about camp is that almost everything is new — the kids, the activities, the routines, the bed you sleep in, the bathroom. It takes a few days to get adjusted, so be patient with yourself. Most of the time you will be having so much fun you won't mind all the changes, but if you do, remember that you will get so used to things that by the time you come home you will miss all those things!

### Helping out

Camp is about fun, but it also requires that you help out. Clean-up is part of camp. You do it every day! As your parent, I hope you will cooperate!

### Getting help

Everyone has good days and bad days. If

*continued on next page*

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## School & Camp Guide

# Crossroads Equestrian Center Wraps IEA Regional Championship

The Crossroads Equestrian Center's Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) show team rode to the top of the standings as the IEA Zone 2, Region 5/12 Middle School Champions. The Crossroads was one of 11 teams to qualify for post-season competition, where they faced the top riders from two combined regions and secured a position at IEA Zone 2 Finals which will take place March 24-26 in Buffalo. In the three-day competition at Zone 2 Finals they will come up against 17 teams representing three states - New York, New Jersey and

Pennsylvania, all vying for a spot at IEA National Finals in April at the Virginia Horse Park, Lexington, VA.

Team member, Baylee McKeever, from Brewster, had a spectacular ride in the individual competition and earned her place in IEA Zone 2 Individual Finals with a first place win over fences and a second place win under saddle. The Crossroads Equestrian Center has sent riders to individual competition in Zone 2 Finals every year since the team's inception, and last year, team member Seraphina Morreale from Poughquag,

went all the way to IEA National Finals.

The Crossroads Equestrian Center IEA Team is based out of Brewster and is coached by barn owner, Jan Golash, and assistant trainer, Jessica Schwab. For more information on The Crossroads Equestrian Center and their IEA team, visit [www.crossroadsfarm.com](http://www.crossroadsfarm.com).



## First Time at Camp? Talking with Your Child

*continued from previous page*

you are having a problem, your counselor is there to help you! You don't have to wait to tell us if you are upset about something. After all, if your counselor doesn't know what might be troubling you, he/she can't help you. Be honest and ask for what you need. If your counselor doesn't seem to be concerned or doesn't help you, then you can go to the unit director, head counselor, etc. Parents should know who these "back-up persons" are and how their child will recognize them if they need to.

### Being Positive

It's a great thing to remind your first-time camper about his or her strong points. I would focus not just on what they do well, but their positive qualities as well, such as what makes them a good friend or the type of person other kids would want to know. Helping children identify their strengths can help them when they are having a setback — one of those inevitable growing pains all children have from time to time.

Talking with your child about these kinds of issues is a great way to show support as your child gets ready to take

this important step on the road to being more resilient and self-reliant. For you as a parent, it can give you more peace of mind as you allow your child to participate safely in a broader world.

To learn more about camp and child development, please visit the American Camp Association's Web site: [www.ACACamps.org](http://www.ACACamps.org), or call the toll-free number, 1-800-428-CAMP (2267).

Bob Ditter is a child and family therapist living in Boston who consults extensively with people who work with children. He was special consultant to the Disney Channel for their series "Bug Juice." Ditter

has visited over 500 children's camps in the United States, has been quoted in *Sports Illustrated*, *The New York Times*, *Parent Magazine*, and *the Ladies Home Journal*. He has appeared on "The Today Show" and the "Evening News with Peter Jennings" and is considered one of the nation's leading experts on camp.

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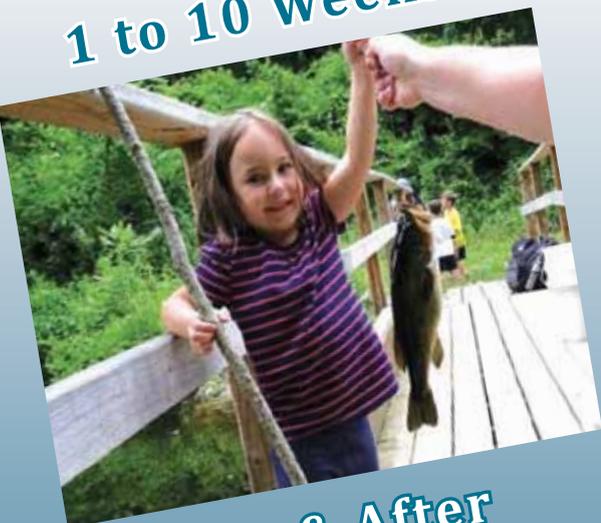


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## School & Camp Guide

# Tips for Students, Parents to Help Land a College Scholarship

If you are college-bound or already enrolled, experts say it's worth investing the time to investigate scholarship opportunities – even if you think you may not be eligible for most opportunities.

According to a recent study, more than a third of college costs in the U.S. were covered by scholarships and grants in the 2015-16 academic year.

“Scholarship money doesn't have to be paid back, and it can significantly reduce out-of-pocket college costs for families,” said Martha Holler, senior vice president at Sallie Mae.

Holler also points out that scholarships are not just for star football players and valedictorians. From scholarships for dart players and vegetarians to filmmakers and those fluent in Klingon, available awards run the gamut and extend well beyond academics or athletics to a wide range of activities, interests and affiliations.

“Have a passion for designing greeting cards? There's a scholarship for that! Interested in helping people understand the perils of texting when driving? There's a scholarship for that too,” Holler said.

With this in mind, Holler and the experts at Sallie Mae are offering the following scholarship tips.

- Be thorough. Don't overlook smaller scholarships. Even a few hundred dollars



can help offset the cost of textbooks and supplies.

- Be proactive. Apply for scholarships every year. About half of available scholarships are for students already enrolled in college.

- Be diligent. Pay attention to details. Follow instructions and proofread carefully.

- Be careful. Never pay for scholarships or for scholarship searches. School

counselors and school financial aid offices can recommend reputable options. One such site is Scholarship Search by Sallie Mae, a free scholarship search tool that is home to five million scholarships valued at \$24 billion dollars. The tool responds with matches that identify relevant scholarships and their award amounts, application requirements and deadlines, and it automatically sends updates when it identifies new matches. Those who

register are automatically eligible to win the Plan for College Sweepstakes, which awards \$1,000 each month to a winner selected at random.

- Be on time. Meet deadlines. If an application can't be submitted electronically, use certified mail. Stay organized and ahead of deadlines by using automated calendar alerts.

For more scholarship tips, visit [SallieMae.com/ScholarshipSearch](http://SallieMae.com/ScholarshipSearch).

College scholarships come in all shapes and sizes and billions of dollars are awarded each year. By applying to all the scholarships for which you are eligible, you can be sure you are not passing up any opportunity to reduce your potential debt down the line.

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## School & Camp Guide

# Academic Spring Cleaning For High School Juniors

It's spring cleaning time! Here at EA Test Prep, we want to help you clear out your academic closet of any obstacles to the college application process, which begins now and ends when your last application is sent in the fall.

### EA Test Prep's 5 Spring Tips

1. Develop a positive relationship with your college counselor. Share your academic goals, triumphs, and concerns, so that he or she knows you well. (If you are applying to college as an athlete, also share your thoughts on your sport.) Remember your counselor will be writing a letter of recommendation.

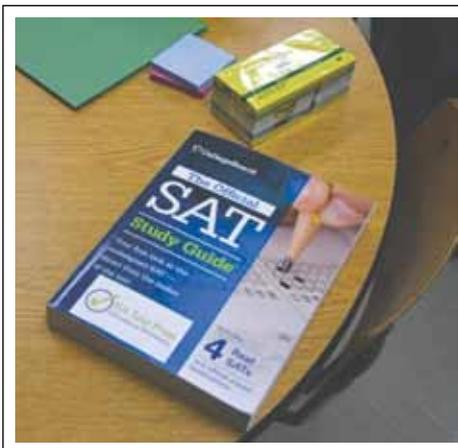
2. Ask one history or English teacher and one math or science teacher to write a letter of recommendation for you. You will need two teacher recommendations for your Common Application. These teachers should be currently teaching you unless you have a unique relationship with another teacher due to a special community service project or an extracurricular activity. The teacher writing the recommendation should not only know your academic abilities, but also be able to speak about your character.

Please remember that the most popular teachers are always asked to write letters of recommendation for many students. You want to ask that person early because eventually so many students will request a recommendation that the teacher will start declining to write them due to an overload of requests.

3. Use Naviance to help you find your reach, target, and safety schools. Once you have identified your schools, visit those colleges' websites to learn about student life and academic programs. Once you have narrowed your choices, try to visit those schools. When touring a campus, take pictures so that you will remember specific aspects of that college that you like and don't like.

4. Register for the SAT or ACT. The next SAT is on May 6 and the ACT will be given on April 8. Visit the test sites to

learn registration dates or go to the EA Test Prep site at [www.eatestprep.com](http://www.eatestprep.com) and follow our links to those web pages.



5. Prepare for the SAT or ACT. You can purchase a book that contains practice tests, you can take a test preparation course, or you can have a private tutor to prepare. If you chose to study on your own, purchase a test preparation

book that has the words "Official Guide" in its title because those books are reprints of actual past exams. If you opt to prepare with a group or receive individual instruction, the EA Test Prep Team will be happy to help you. Our next six-week sessions begin on March 22 for both the SAT and ACT at Brewster High School.

As always, EA Test Prep offers students the option of registering for instruction

for English/Reading, Math, or both. No other test preparation program in the area offers that option, which helps save money on this part of the college application process. Additionally, once students register for one EA Test Prep six-week session, they are entitled to free review sessions, which are held once a month. Ask your guidance counselor, friends, and family to learn about their experiences with EA Test Prep or contact EA Test Prep at 845-582-0017 or [eatestprep@gmail.com](mailto:eatestprep@gmail.com). Once you explain your test-taking needs, a member of the EA Test Prep team will guide you to the best method to achieve your goal. If you want to investigate the programs on your own, visit the website at [www.eatestprep.com](http://www.eatestprep.com) to learn more.

Look for more tips from the EA Test Prep Team in the coming weeks. Remember, "The early bird catches the worm," so start preparing for the college application process now! Enjoy the first flowers of spring!

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# Students Invited to Participate in Congressional Art Competition

Representative Sean Patrick Maloney is once again inviting Hudson Valley high school artists to compete for an opportunity to showcase their art in the United States Capitol by participating in the 2017 Congressional Art Competition. The submission period ends on April 3rd and the winner will be selected later this spring.

“The Hudson Valley has long been home to artists of all ages, and every year I look forward to showing off our talent to my colleagues in Congress,” said Rep. Maloney. “I invite all students in the Hudson Valley to participate and I can’t wait to see what they come up with.”

All submissions of student artwork must be framed, and a Student Information and Release Form should be dropped off to Rep. Maloney’s Newburgh Office located at 123 Grand Street in Newburgh. The competition is open to high school students, but exceptions may be made for schools that have 7th through 12th grades on one campus. Contestants will compete

with other students from the district and the winning student will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, DC in June. The winning piece will be chosen by a panel of local judges in the Hudson Valley. Additionally, all pieces submitted will be posted on the Representative’s Facebook page for a period of two weeks starting on April 10th, and the work with the most “likes” will receive a separate award as the social media champion. All participants will be recognized at a reception hosted by Rep. Maloney this spring.

The grand prize winning artwork will be displayed in the Capitol for one year and the winning student, plus one guest, will receive complimentary airfare to Washington, DC for a reception in June. You can view last year’s art competition entries on Rep. Maloney’s Facebook page.

All entries must be submitted by April 3. For further information, contact Lizette Hernandez by phone at 845-561-1259 or email Lizette.hernandez@mail.house.gov.

# Annual Putnam County Youth Forum

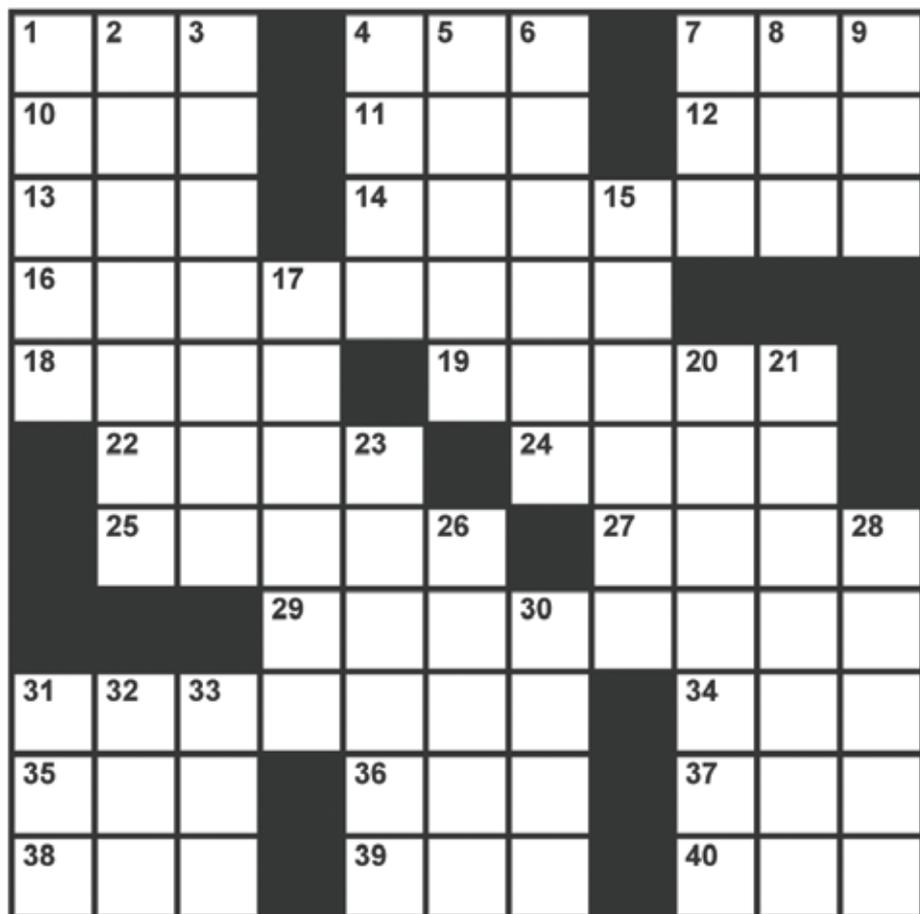
On Monday April 3rd, Cornell University’s Cooperative Extension will host approximately 150 students collectively representing Brewster, Carmel, Haldane, Mahopac, and Putnam Valley High Schools at Clearpool Education Center in Carmel. This is an unmatched opportunity for High School students to participate in open discussions on many of the issues that often concern youth. Some of the topics offered this year include: ‘A Story of Addiction,’ ‘Let’s talk about Sex,’ ‘Is College Just around the Corner?’, ‘The Law & You,’ ‘If You Really Knew Me,’ ‘Be Your Best – ‘You’: Healthy Living,’ ‘Teamwork Makes the Dream Work,’ ‘What Makes, & How to Become a Leader,’ and other choices. All of the topics offered at the Youth Forum were previously selected by the ‘Youth Forum Planning Committee’. This group of High School students, representing the 5 county-wide school districts, have been meeting since January. To ensure that this is a youth-driven event, they have been actively involved in all aspects of the Forum. Facilitators, who bring an array of experience, knowledge and an ability to engage youth, will lead the discussions. For instance the program – ‘A Story of Addiction’ will be facilitated by ‘Drug Crisis in Our Backyard’ with real-life stories regarding the impact on families, an instructor from United



Martial Arts Center(UMAC) will discuss ‘ Don’t be Scared – Be Prepared,’ and Michael Roe, Director of Admissions from Dutchess Community College will speak on ‘Is College Just Around the Corner?’ Confidentiality and respect for the opinion of others is expected during each 50 minute program. To ensure a free exchange of dialogue the workshops are open to only the facilitator and students. Interested high school students should contact their school administrator to apply for permission to attend the Forum. Transportation is provided by the individual school district. For additional information please contact Cornell Cooperative Extension: 845-278-6738 or Putnam.cce.cornell.edu.

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## Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 16

**Across**

1. Stick (out)
4. Small amount
7. Fraternity letter
10. John Lennon’s wife
11. Lawyer’s org.
12. Relig. title
13. Hither’s partner
14. Leather factory
16. Aficionado of film making
18. Dash
19. Attire for an abess
22. Roe
24. Introspect
25. Gave out
27. Deprivation
29. New Yorktown urgent care facility
31. Soaked in hot water
34. \_\_\_ system (way of classifying blood)
35. Furthermore
36. Classroom feedback org.
37. Choose
38. Tokyo token
39. Thanksgiving spud
40. Naval rank, for short

**Down**

1. Irish poet or Yorktown tax accountant
- RF \_\_\_
2. Squeaky
3. Merchant ship capacity
4. Material to be input

5. Destroy one’s self-confidence
6. A little chicken
7. Before (prefix)
8. Lyndon Johnson dog
9. Clinging vine
15. Astronomer’s sighting
17. Hire
20. Confine
21. Treaty topic
23. Careless
26. Letter before iota
28. Boutiques
30. Red-skinned cheese
31. Pigpen
32. Pinky
33. One billion years, in astronomy

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# 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)*

## Register Now:

**Brewster Central School District Transportation:** In order for your student to be eligible for transportation to private and parochial schools during the 2017-2018 academic school year, you must request transportation services by April 3. You may visit our office personally or call us for the forms to be mailed. Each year you must register new and existing students for these services. If you have any questions, please call us John T Coxen Supervisor of Transportation Brewster Central School District 40 Farm to Market Rd Brewster 845-279-4700.

## Ongoing:

### Mondays:

**Paws to Read at the Kent Library:** Join volunteers from Therapy Dogs International, and their dogs at Kent Public Library, for the Paws for Reading Program. This is a free event. One-on-one fifteen minute sessions are available by appointment only. Registration is required. To register call the library at 845-225-8585 or stop in the Library. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

**Artists' Drop-In at Reed Library** Mondays from 12:30 p.m., to 2:30 p.m., Artists are invited to drop-in to the library with their pencils, pads and paints for a creative afternoon. This session will provide camaraderie but not instruction. Please call the library if interested, 845-225-2439.

### Tuesdays:

**Watercolor for Beginners at Reed Library.** Until April 18. 10 a.m., till noon. Learn basic watercolor techniques in a fun and supportive class perfect for beginners. Registration is required and preference will be given to residents of the Reed Memorial Library District. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

### Wednesdays:

**Coloring for Adults:** 8:00 p.m. Join us on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month, Mahopac Library 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m., for an evening of relaxation, stress relief, focus, and fun. For ages 18 and up. Materials are provided. Drop-in program, no registration needed. To register for most programs at Mahopac Public Library, call 845-628-2009, ext. 100, or visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org). You must register at the Library for programs that require a fee.

### Thursdays:

**Basic Drawing at Reed Library.** 10 a.m., to Noon. Registration is required, please call the library to register 845-225-2439.

### Fridays:

**Multi-Age Story Time:** March 24, and 31. 9:15 a.m., Check out this brand new story time! Pop in on your way to work for this great, interactive story time for families including children ages birth to 5 years old! We will read stories, sing songs, play with shaker eggs, and more! Registration is 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.

**Dance of joy:** Dance/movement therapy for people with Parkinson's disease. This ongoing group meets on Fridays at 10 a.m.-11 a.m. at the Seven Star School of Performing Arts. If you would like more information about this group, please contact Marie Carstens at 347-742-6591 or email at [Mccarstens21@yahoo.com](mailto:Mccarstens21@yahoo.com). Pre-registration is required. Registration is \$15 per session, a caregiver or loved one is encouraged to join for an additional \$5.

**Reading Puppies Every other Friday.** Kids in grades K-5 can read their favorite book to an energetic guide-dog-in-training! Sign up for your 15-minute session with Miss Jenn or Miss Kathleen. Registration required. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x13.

### Thursday, March 23

**Foreign Film Series:** Mahopac Library will present a series of films from foreign countries including France, China, and Italy. The first film, "If You Don't I Will", is a romantic comedy from acclaimed French director Sophie Fillieres. 6:30 pm; the film is appropriate for ages 17 and up and registration is requested. Visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org) to register online, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

**Middle School Book Group:** 3:30 p.m., Join us for pizza and discussion. "The School for Good and Evil" are available at the Circulation Desk. Registration is requested. To register for most programs at Mahopac Public Library, call 845-628-2009, ext 100, or visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org). You must register at the Library for programs that require a fee.

### Saturday, March 25

**Strong Mind, Strong Body Women's Self-Defense Seminar:** enerSheFitness will host, Women's Self-Defense Seminar: 12:15 p.m. -2:15p.m., 989 ROUTE 6, Mahopac. Females ONLY, ages 8 and up. Suggested donation of \$10 \*all monies will be donated to the Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center [www.pnwwrc.org](http://www.pnwwrc.org). For more information on this and other events visit: [enerShefitness.com](http://enerShefitness.com) or call 845- 628-7165.

**Emerald Association of Putnam County 43rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance:** 6 p.m. - 11 p.m., Vails Pavilion, 5 Vails Blvd, Brewster. Honoring Nuala Donnelly as "Emerald of the Year". Music provided by Sharon and Band, Dancers from Siobhan Moore School of Irish Dance will perform. \$50.00 per person includes Appetizers, Dinner, Dessert, Tea, Coffee, Beer, Wine and Soda. For reservations please contact Dymrna Zazzero at 845-278-8271 or e-mail [dympnaz@aol.com](mailto:dympnaz@aol.com).

**Vincent van Gogh: Creative or Crazy?** Patterson Library will host a fascinating discussion on whether artist Vincent van Gogh was simply creative, or indeed mad. Renowned psychologist Dr. Judith Schlesinger, author of "The Insanity Hoax", will discuss her instrumental role at the On the Verge of Insanity: van Gogh and His Illness, symposium in Amsterdam, where 30 invited experts came to an interesting conclusion about the artist. Dr. Schlesinger's recent credits include an interview with the NY Times about actress Carrie Fischer and Bipolar Disorder, and an interview with Psychology Today. 2 p.m. To register for this program, visit [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click on calendar, or call 845-878-6121 x10.

**WHO AM I and WHO ARE YOU? Genealogy Workshop:** Learn how to find out more about you and your family. 10 a.m. - Noon Advance Registration Strongly Recommended. Register by Visiting the Putnam Valley Library or Register Online at: [www.FriendsPutnamValleyLibrary.org](http://www.FriendsPutnamValleyLibrary.org) Registration Fee - \$10. (\$5 for Friends of the Library & Putnam Valley Historical Society Members) Putnam Valley Library, Community Room. 30 Oscawana Lake

Road Putnam Valley. Our guest lecturer is a local professional genealogist, Suzanne Garbarini. Suzanne will present a complete course, from soup-to-nuts, on the tools to research your family history including a handout for each participant.

**College Planning 101 Seminar:** Parents on paying for college Stephanie Mauro will lead a seminar on the new FAFSA rules. Topics to be covered: What is the new timeline? When to file. What documents are needed to file? Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring, 10:30 a.m. - noon Important - Registration Required- This seminar requires a minimum of 15 participants to run if you plan on attending please contact the library. 845-265-3040 [jblhappenings@gmail.com](mailto:jblhappenings@gmail.com)

## Save the Date:

Friday, April 7: Northern Westchester Hospital and Lexington Avenue Gym present: **Keep Parkinson's on the Ropes:** for those with Parkinson's AND their caregivers. 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Lexington Avenue Gym 350 Lexington Avenue Mt. Kisco. The event is free. Free parking. Space is limited. Reserve your seat today. Visit... [nwhconnect.org/2017parkinson](http://nwhconnect.org/2017parkinson)

Saturday, April 8: **The Annual Putnam county legislative Forum for People with Disabilities.** 8:00 a.m. -11 a.m., at Putnam Hospital Center, Michael T. Weber Auditorium, 670 Stoneleigh Avenue, Carmel. All are welcome at the roundtable of federal, state and local officials to discuss issues of concern for Putnam County residents with disabilities. For more information, please call the Putnam County Office for People with Disabilities at 845-808-1641, ext. 46019.

## Learn to How to Fish with 4-H Clinic

With 7,500 lakes, 50,000 miles of rivers and stream and hundreds of miles of coastline ([www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)), fishing in New York can be a life-long avocation. Registration is currently underway for the annual 4-H Fishing Clinic. This event is free to 150 Putnam County youth, ages 7 - 14 only (participants from previous 4-H Fishing Clinics are not eligible to participate). This year's free clinic will be held on Saturday, June 10th from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (rain or shine) at the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park, Gypsy Trail Road, Carmel. (Registration for non-Putnam County youth will begin on May 1st.)

All participants will receive a free rod, reel, tackle kit, fishing directory and hat. Cornell Cooperative Extension's 4-H Youth Development program and The Oasis Sportsmen's Club are sponsoring the Fishing Clinic with support from The Jack Stewart Jr. Memorial Fund. (Membership in the 4-H program is not required.) Please note: this is not a drop off event - a parent/guardian must remain with the youth for the entire event.

Check-in will be held from 10 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. only. Availability of Rod & Fishing Gear will not be guaranteed after 11am.

Space is limited and accepted only through online registration on a first come, first serve basis at [https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Putnam\\_4-H\\_Fishing\\_Clinic\\_2017\\_237](https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Putnam_4-H_Fishing_Clinic_2017_237) Walk-in's are not permitted. For additional information go to [Putnam.cce.cornell.edu](http://Putnam.cce.cornell.edu) or call 845-278-6738.

All registered youth will receive a confirmation/reminder postcard 3 weeks before the event.

# The Mudroom: Unglamorous Name, Spectacular Function

Now that I live in a maintenance-free condo, I am sometimes asked if I miss anything about living in a single-family house, with those many chores involved.

The one thing I miss most is that funny little room that transitioned my guests and I from the outside to our country kitchen – the mudroom. It measured only 8 feet by 9 feet, but inch for inch, that space was the most practical and most used location in my house.

It's that in-between area that allows one to move with impunity from one environment that may be dusty, dirty, muddy or wet into a cleaner space.

At least that is the purpose it served when we were an agrarian society and kicked off boots muddied from a day in the fields before entering the main house.

Mudrooms were popular from the 18th century to the 1920s. But as our society shifted from farming to less physical endeavors, mudrooms were banished in back to give way to the foyer in front.

But in the 1950s, perhaps because Americans started to collect more "stuff" in a prosperous time following World War II, the mudroom regained



By Bill Primavera

popularity, adding storage space to the function of housing coats and shoes. And in the 1970s, it morphed into a combo storage/laundry room when homeowners demanded that washers and dryers make their way up from the basement.

Eventually designers questioned the wisdom of combining a place for shedding dirt with laundering, and washers and dryers made their way to the more convenient second-story bedroom level.

Today the mudroom serves many individualized needs of the homeowner and most times is now incorporated into the footprint of the house, taking space from the kitchen and most often situated as an entry from an attached garage. I've listed homes where the mudroom has featured a pantry as an extension to the kitchen, an office, a hobby center, a sports equipment storage facility, a potting room for the garden and a changing room for the pool, the latter of which is the case with my mudroom.

When I found my home, it featured a motley mudroom that had been tacked on to the back of the house sometime after 1860. All but abandoned in terms

of maintenance, it was a loosely framed lean-to with a cracked cement floor, and the ceiling was just the raw rafters of the roof, overlaid with wood shingles. There was no insulation and only wood shelves on one wall suggesting that the structure may have doubled as a potting shed.

Because it was the direct access from our driveway to the kitchen, it was hardly an attractive entrance to the house.

In my boldest construction project before or since, I chipped away the broken cement and hand-poured a new concrete foundation from a number of mixings in my wheelbarrow. I insulated the walls and created a nice closet and space for a half-bath. Other than the installation of the bathroom fixtures and a new windowed door that replaced one with decaying solid wood, I did all the work myself. And, now, as a semi-retired fixer-upper, I recall that work from long ago with great satisfaction.

When designing a mudroom and selecting its finishes, it's well to remember that there's a reason that the word "mud" lingers in its name. Materials for flooring should, therefore, be durable, easy to clean and water resistant. This is not the space for wall-to-wall carpeting, but tile, vinyl, natural slate or porcelain tile are excellent flooring choices.

Wall treatments also should not be delicate, but might be a solid vinyl which can be scrubbed without damage, or

paneling that will be more forgiving when visitors lean against the wall to remove soiled shoes or boots.

One design trick is to use the same cabinetry in the mudroom that is used in the kitchen, giving the impression that both rooms are bigger than they actually are.

Mudrooms often don't have windows, although it's ideal if they do. If not, overhead lighting is preferred rather than wall fixtures that protrude into cramped space or standing lamps that could interfere with cleaning the floor.

A modern mudroom might best include closed storage areas and a large closet organized in a way to separate clothing and equipment for the outside. Lacking a closet, the mudroom can accommodate an armoire for storage purposes.

Considering how many uses the mudroom has today, perhaps it deserves an upgrade in title to the all-purpose room.

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

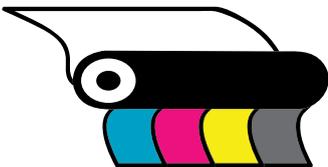


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10	O	N	O				11	A	B	A				12	R	E	V		
13	Y	O	N				14	T	A	N	15	N	E	R	Y				
16	C	I	N	17	E	A	S	T	E										
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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FRUIT & PEPPER, LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/30/2017. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may

be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **109 Robins Rd., New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING SERVICE WESTCHESTER, PLLC.** Arts of org filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/26/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **110 Washington Ave., Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: To provide Mental Health Counseling.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).** NAME: **DGOLDCONSULTING, LLC** Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/04/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **The LLC, 24 Larissa Lane; Thornwood, New York 10594, principal business location of the LLC. Purpose: any lawful business activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NO-ZELGOV, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on Jan. 06, 2017. 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: **Yves Jerome 60 Morrow Ave. 5KS Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF YOU-CREATE, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 2/13/17. 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: **25 Caruso Pl., Armonk, NY 10504. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF McAllister & Quinn, LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/24/2017. Office: N/A. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **1030 15th St NW, Ste 590W, Washington, DC 20005. Purpose: any lawful acts.**

**FORGEMASTER GAMES, LLC,** Filed w/ NY Dept. of State on January 5, 2017, Located at 622 Midland Ave, Yonkers, NY, 10704, Westchester County. The NY Secretary of STATE has been designated as the agent upon whom may be served may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at: **United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose Any Lawful Act.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KDB PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 2/15/17. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **KDB Property Maintenance LLC, P.O. Box 1669, Carmel, NY 10512. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 197 FOWLER ROAD, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 13, 2017. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **Timothy J. Maher, 12 Oak Valley Lane, Purchase, New York 10577. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAGDOM, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on March 3, 2017. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **Lori S. Gage, 12 Elskip Lane, Greenwich, CT 06831. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION of KP & LM, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on December 29, 2016, Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **1 South Broadway Unit 4F, White Plains NY 10601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A NY LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).** NAME: **SWAT LIMO, LLC.** Articles of Organization filling date with Secretary of State (SSNY) was 27 February 2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and SSNY shall mail copy of process to **208 West Street, Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MEDINA CONSULTING USA LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with SSNY on 03/02/2017. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **77 Tackora Trail, Ridgefield, CT 06877. Purpose: Any lawful acts.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ENTERPRISE WEB SPECIALISTS, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 03, 2017. Office in Westchester County.

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3H Agent Services has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. 3H Agent Services shall mail process to: **Enterprise Web Specialists, LLC 1767 Central Park Avenue #374 Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 926 SJA Realty, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on January 27, 2017. Office location: WESTCHESTER County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 926 Wynnewood Road, Pelham, NY 10803. The principal business address of the LLC is: **926 Wynnewood Road, Pelham, NY 10803 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HUTCH95 REALTY MANAGEMENT, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on February 3, 2017. Office location: WESTCHESTER County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon

him/her is: **926 Wynnewood Road, Pelham, NY 10803. The principal business address of the LLC is: 926 Wynnewood Road, Pelham, NY 10803 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

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## Listening to Your Inner Palate and Blocking Out the Static



By Nick Antonaccio

Have you shared a bottle of wine in a group dynamic – restaurant meal, dinner party or wine bar – and fell in love with the wine on the spot? It instantly hits all the right hot buttons of your palate: the aromas are sensual, your mouth and tongue are coated with a cornucopia of pleasing flavors, and as you swallow, your whole wine psyche is enlivened, every nerve ending is tingling. Wow, what a wine.

Just as you're about to shout out that you've discovered your new "favorite wine" you look around at your drinking partners. Expecting that they have just experienced the same ethereal moment, you are taken back. Rather than expressions of pleasure on their faces and in their eyes, you see disapproving looks, wrinkled noses and puckered mouths. How is it that your body language may emote ecstasy while others' emote disdain?

This experience

has befallen me – on numerous occasions. My palate's interpretation of a particular red wine's earthy aromas, evoking visceral olfactory sensations of forest floors or pungent mushrooms, is in contraposition to the palate of my drinking mate's interpretation of the wine as maliferous, pungent barnyard odors on a hot, damp day.

Likewise, when friends regale me with their fascination with red wines I've dubbed "California Juicy Fruits," I cringe at the prominent flavor of sweet grape juice in my mouth, without a defined structure of complexity or sophistication. For me the labels may as well read "Welch's." But a certain demographic in America seems to have a genetic predisposition to all things fruity – from desserts to breakfast cereal and recently to red wine.

Each of us has a wine palate that is unique and individual. Our gustatory physiology is a basic component of human DNA; however, the variations of our four taste receptors and ten thousand senses of smell is what labels some of us as being "wine snobs" and others as having an "unsophisticated palate."

You Heard It  
Through the  
Grapevine

Compounding this conflict are wine critics. How many times have you read wine opinions on a particular wine that vary significantly one from the other? It's as if the bottle of wine being critiqued was switched between critics' samplings, fomenting opinions that are radically different. One critic's "blueberries and leather" descriptors for a wine may be another critic's "chocolate and velvet" descriptors for the same bottle.

The method I've used to hone my wine preferences is simple: trial and error. Years ago, I blind tasted wines on as many occasions as possible. Each time I would memorize my palate's reaction to a wine: Bitter? Sweet? Acidic? Fruity? Simple? Complex? Over time, I built a personalized profile of aroma and flavor components that were pleasing to my unique palate. I found that I preferred wines produced from specific grapes, from specific regions and from specific winemakers. As I often advise readers: "Continuous experimentation results in instinctive behavior."

All of this is not to say that there aren't generalizations that provide macro value in narrowing my experimentation. My palate responds favorably to wines with a balance between acid and fruit. The macro

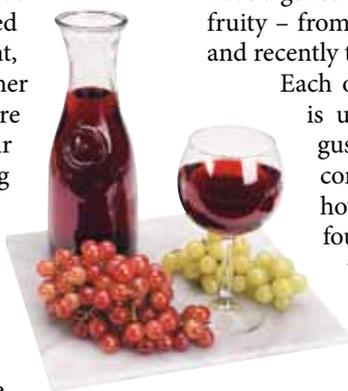
style of French Pinot Noir is pleasing to me. My wife's palate prefers wines that are fruit-forward; heavy tannins compromise her taste buds. The macro style of California Pinot Noir is pleasing to her.

Back to those California Juicy Fruit wines. More prolific than ever before, they represent one of the fastest growing categories of wine sales (many from California).

More winemakers are tapping their creative juices, attempting to be all things to more people. The entrepreneurial ones have found the sweet spot of American wine consumers: fruit-forward, simple red wines that are equally enjoyed with light food fare or as a quaffing wine in social settings.

If your palate is simpatico with the style of these wines, experiment with macro level offerings and develop a personalized style profile in your memory banks. Happy hunting.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted numerous wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at [nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine



The Putnam  
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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

SPORTS SECTION

# An Elephant Never Forgets!



## Tuskers Fall to Mendon in NYS Finals, Somers Vows to Return

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Dejected Somers players, including underclass starters Dani DiCintio, Liv Lipski and Hannah Angelini, found it tough to walk off the floor for the final time this season following the state-ranked (No.5) Tuskers' 53-41 loss to eventual state runner-up Pittsford Mendon in the semifinals of the NYSPHSAA Class A girls' basketball tournament at Hudson Valley Community College last Friday... see Girls' Hoops Notebook

# Ossining's 4-Year Run as NYS Champions Concludes

## Well Runs Dry in Pride's 73-45 NYS Title Loss to Section 8's Baldwin

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

TROY – It was anything but the way a reigning four-time NYS champion should go out; until the bitter end when the seven-time defending Section 1 champion Ossining Pride displayed the class and dignity befitting the champions they are.

It was 32 minutes of living hell: A shelling unlike anything Ossining has seen in at least a decade: Their coach being ejected midway through the third quarter, and tears of misery spilling off their cheeks and onto the Hudson Valley Community College hardwood.

Indeed, it was tough to watch. With all that and more going against the grain of excellence they have become accustomed to at Ossining, the Pride fought off dejection and stood tall after their 73-45 NYSPHSAA Class AA championship loss to Section 8 champion Baldwin last Saturday night.

With Coach Dan Ricci returning to the floor from his ejection for a second technical foul, he rallied his team together, told them he loved each and every one of them, including UConn-bound senior Andra Espinoza-Hunter, the co-NYS Player of the Year. He then led the cheers for Baldwin – a worthy foe he expects to see again next year – and later saluted the

sea of maroon within the crowd.

The state-ranked (No.5) Bruins (22-3) dethroned the four-time defending state champions and became the first NYSPHSAA team to beat the state-ranked (No.5) Pride (21-6) twice in one season since 2010.

“They’re excellent and we fully expect to see them again next year,” Coach Ricci said. “I just felt like my kids weren’t getting a fair shot (regarding the officiating). I just wanted to stand up for my kids. It is what it is, but I just wanted to support my kids.

“We overachieved this year,” Ricci added. “People laugh when I say that, but when you lose an All-State kid like Aubrey Griffin (torn ACL in Dec.) and still get back to the state finals, starting a young team like we did, that says a lot, but we return four of our five kids and we get Aubrey back next year, so we’ll be fine. When Aubrey went down, this group proved a lot of people wrong. Aubrey can’t wait to get back and we can’t wait to get her back. Baldwin is a very, very good team. They did a great job and they were hungry. We’ve been there and we’ve been hungry like



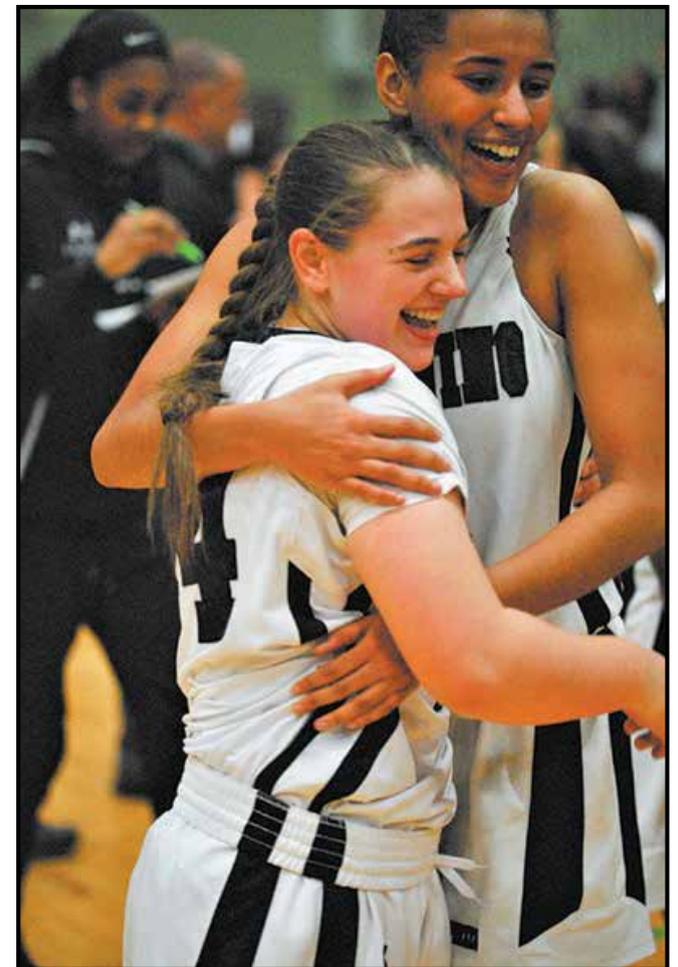
RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

An emotional Andra Espinoza-Hunter apologizes to teammates for not delivering Ossining's 5th-straight NYS title, as if it were really necessary.

that, and we'll be hungry next year. We'll probably



Ossining reserves flip switch as Pride rolled into NYS finals in win over Mercy.



Ossining senior Andra Espinoza-Hunter (R) makes sure she shows the love to junior Kelsey Quain after the sniping Quain delivered goods in NYS semifinal win.



The controversial charging call that got Coach Dan Ricci ejected shows unsettled feet by Montia Moon (32) as Andra Espinoza-Hunter approaches.

see them again.”

Long Island-based Baldwin, which shot nearly 50% and retained possession time and time again on tap-backs, stifled the Pride with its marquee up-tempo offense and tenacious full-court defense for the vast majority of the game.

That style led to an aggressive nature, which seemed to favor the speedy Bruins while drawing the ire of Ricci.

Ricci earned the first technical foul for criticizing the officials during a timeout, then picked up his second after a debatable charging call against Espinoza-Hunter. While Ricci seethed inside, he let out the following statement within earshot of a rabbit-eared official: “That’s the exact reason why I was worried about you doing this game,” Ricci told the ref, who is a Long Island-based referee.

Espinoza-Hunter, who played three years at the Blair Academy after starring as a 7-8th grader at Ossining, returned to the Pride for her senior year with one mission in mind; a state title. She finished with a state-record 995 points this season and wept while apologizing to teammates for not delivering a title. The last thing the UConn-bound senior had to do was apologize for anything after smashing a state record that stood since 1987.

“I’d give it all back for the state title,” Espinoza-Hunter said after finishing with 19 points against the Bruins, 13 in the first half.



Ossining C Kailah Harris makes a move on Baldwin C Sarah Pulis in Pride’s NYS Class AA final loss to Bruins.

“Baldwin was an incredible team.”

Pride sophomore C Kailah Harris finished with 11 points and 10 rebounds and G Jaida Strippoli added seven points, but the Pride would need much more

had the final spurt, buoyed by Quain and Espinoza-Hunter, who finished with a game-high 32 points. Harris added 17.

“It really felt great, a real confidence booster once I got going,” said Quain, who drilled 16 in the second half. “In the first half, I wasn’t really hitting my shot but coach just kept telling me to shoot it. Hitting that first shot in the third quarter got me going, so I really needed to do it to help my team. It feels really great, and I’m just thrilled to do this for my team.”

And as a senior going in to next year, the Pride, with every intention of returning to Troy next year, will need more of the same from Kelsey Quain and the returning underclassmen, who were last seen chomping at the bit to get back in the gym.



Ossining G Adriana McFadden finds a sliver of space in paint in Pride’s NYS Class AA finals loss to Baldwin.



Ossining G Jaida Strippoli tries to make way around Baldwin G Kaia Harrison in Pride’s NYS Class A final loss to Bruins.



# Sports

## Class A Girls Notebook

# No.5 Somers Meets its Match in NYS Semis, Falls to No.1 Mendon

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

TROY – Don't hold Somers' 53-41 loss to No.1-ranked Pittsford Mendon against the state-ranked (No.5) Tuskers. When you live by the three, you die by the three, and Somers High lived out the old adage first-hand last Friday afternoon in the NYSPHSAA Class A semifinals at Hudson Valley Community College. The youthful Tuskers accepted that fact with the poise of wily veterans after they battled the state's top-ranked team tooth and nail for 28 of the game's 32 minutes.

"Live by the three, die by three," Somers first-year Coach Marc Hattem said after the



Somers guards Dani DiCintio (L) and Hannah Angelini found it tough to swallow Tuskers' NYS Class A semifinal loss to Mendon



Somers seniors Faith Anne Furguson (12) and Livy Rosenzweig (21) share a somber moment with junior Jackie Penzo as coaches look on.



Somers junior Liv Lipski drives on Mendon defender in Tuskers' NYS Class A semifinal loss to Vikings.



Somers G Jackie Penzo drives for two of her 10 points in Tuskers' NYS Class A semifinal loss to Mendon last Friday in Troy.



Somers soph Hannah Angelini (20) and Tusker teammates take one last look at scoreboard and make mental note to change outcome of NYS Class A playoffs next season.

Tuskers shot just 3 of 19 from downtown. "We struggled tonight and the pace kind of crawled, yet we were still right there with them. They dominated those last four minutes when the shots just wouldn't go down for us. Some of our shooters struggled, and tonight it hurts us. I was always scared in the back of my head because we had seen so much man-to-man the last 10 games, and when they came out in a 3-2 zone that hurt us, too.

"Book us for next year," the coach added, "because the best thing we have going for us is our youth. I think we'll grow from

this and be better next year."

Despite dying a slow death behind the arc, the Tuskers were in this game every step of the way until the middle of the fourth when Mendon (25-1) pulled away. Somers (19-6), making its NYSPHSAA semifinal debut, led after one quarter, and were tied with the veteran-laden Vikings at the half. By the end of three, the Tuskers trailed by only one, but the Vikings were too strong on the perimeter and equally tough on the boards down the stretch, enabling Mendon to advance into Saturday's state final against two-time defending NYS champion Jamesville-DeWitt, which went on to three-peat by defeating the Vikings, who missed on a last-ditch attempt to win, in the finals.

Somers junior G Jackie Penzo was lit early, scoring eight of her 10 points in the

first quarter and was named to the All-Tournament team. Somers junior wing Liv Lipski finished with a team-high 12 points but found the going tough on the perimeter. Somers sophomore G Hannah Angelini added 10 points, but none of the Tuskers could match Sara Lyons, the Pittsford Mendon forward who went for 11 of her game-high 17 points in the fourth quarter.

"They're an amazing team," Somers co-captain Livy Rosenzweig said of the Vikings. "We felt like we hung in there for a while and we did, but toward the end we just lost it a little, but I'm still so proud of us and what we accomplished this season. It's amazing how much we did and I'm so

happy for Coach Hattem in his first year here. I mean, who expected us to be here? This was an experience that you'll never have again, not just the basketball but being here with friends and teammates. We fell short but hung tough against an amazing team. They are 25-0 for good reason. We just had some holes in our defense today and they just killed us on the boards, but I'm still so proud of us."

The towns of Lincolndale and Somers, plus an entire student body, an athletic department and a throng of red-clad parents and grandparents concur: Pride is running rampant at Somers this year with four Section 1 team titles and two state crowns already in the bag.

# Somers' Realbuto, a Real Winner, On and Off Mats

By Tony Pinciario

Brian Realbuto had a phenomenal wrestling career at Somers High that would be unrivaled, and he would continue his tremendous success at Cornell University.

A five-time Section 1 champion, three-time New York State titlist and overall five-time placefinisher, Realbuto added to his impressive wrestling resume in his four-year Big Red career.

Realbuto completed his Cornell career with a fifth-place finish at 174 pounds in the 2017 NCAA Division Wrestling Championships in St. Louis, Missouri, last weekend.

Realbuto earned All-American status for a third consecutive year, the first such achievement for a Section 1 wrestler. He was a national runner-up (157 pounds) his sophomore year and finished sixth his freshman year. In three of his four NCAA Championships, Realbuto wrestled in the championship semifinals.

Along with his three top-eight finishes at Nationals, Realbuto was a four-time first-team All-Ivy League selection and a three-time Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association champion. Realbuto finished with a 119-19 record.

"I was feeling pretty good coming into the year," Realbuto said. "I was getting back from knee and shoulder surgery and feeling pretty strong. I definitely knew I was shooting to win a national title."

Ranked nationally all year, Realbuto was a major factor in Cornell's 13-2 regular season, Ivy League title and EIWA championship. Among the 13 wins was an 18-16 triumph over Ohio State. In that victory, Realbuto decisioned Bo Horvath, who was ranked No. 1 in the nation, at the time. Even though it was a huge individual win, Realbuto chose to focus on his team.

"I really enjoyed our dual against Lehigh," Realbuto said. "Getting a pin in a match that crucial was really fun. I was also really proud of our team at EIWAs and how we turned it on when it counted."

Realbuto was the second seed at Nationals. He registered technical falls over Indiana's Devin Skatzka and Northern Illinois' Trace Engelkes before pinning Illinois' Zac Brunson. Realbuto faced third-seeded Jordan in the semis with Jordan prevailing, 11-7.

"I really came out firing on all cylinders, scored three takedowns and was completely dominant," Realbuto said. "Unfortunately, I think going after those scores left me pretty dead in the third. I gave up a stall point that let him back into the match and then when I was getting takedown at the end of the third I went for a big move hoping to secure a win. Unfortunately, I didn't execute it as I thought I would and got caught on my back. Overall, I think I was in control the first two periods and had I managed my



TONY ROTUNDO PHOTO

Cornell All-American Brian Realbuto in recent action.

energy a bit better I wouldn't have needed to force a big move at the end."

Despite a loss in the consolation semifinals, Realbuto was going to punctuate his career with a win. He faced Brunson for fifth place and pinned him, again, in the first period.

"There was no way I was going out on a loss," Realbuto said. "I had already pinned Brunson early in the tournament so I think that gave me a mental edge going into the match."

Even though Realbuto's collegiate wrestling career has concluded, he has a plan in place following graduation in May. Realbuto said he does foresee coaching in his future, however, first he is planning his business.

"I'm in the midst of launching a beverage startup and our brand is called Sancha," said Realbuto, an Applied Economics and Management major with a concentration in Entrepreneurship and Food Industry Management. "It's a premium, ready-to-drink tea, formulated with Matcha green tea, a super tea from Japan. After I graduate, I intend to pursue this full time."

Realbuto will do so knowing that his time with wrestling, along with his education, has helped prepare him for the next step in his life.

"The sport of wrestling has taught me a lot of life lessons that I will carry with me forever," Realbuto said. "The sport has a ton of ups and downs emotionally, and physically, that I really think taught me how to deal with adversity."

"In all, I'm glad that I was able to compete at such a high level and achieve some success. It's been a real privilege

to compete with the Cornell 'C' on my chest and represent an organization that has grown to be a dominant force in the NCAA."

No matter how you slice it, Realbuto became Section 1's most dominant collegiate force in a sport built on just that, force.

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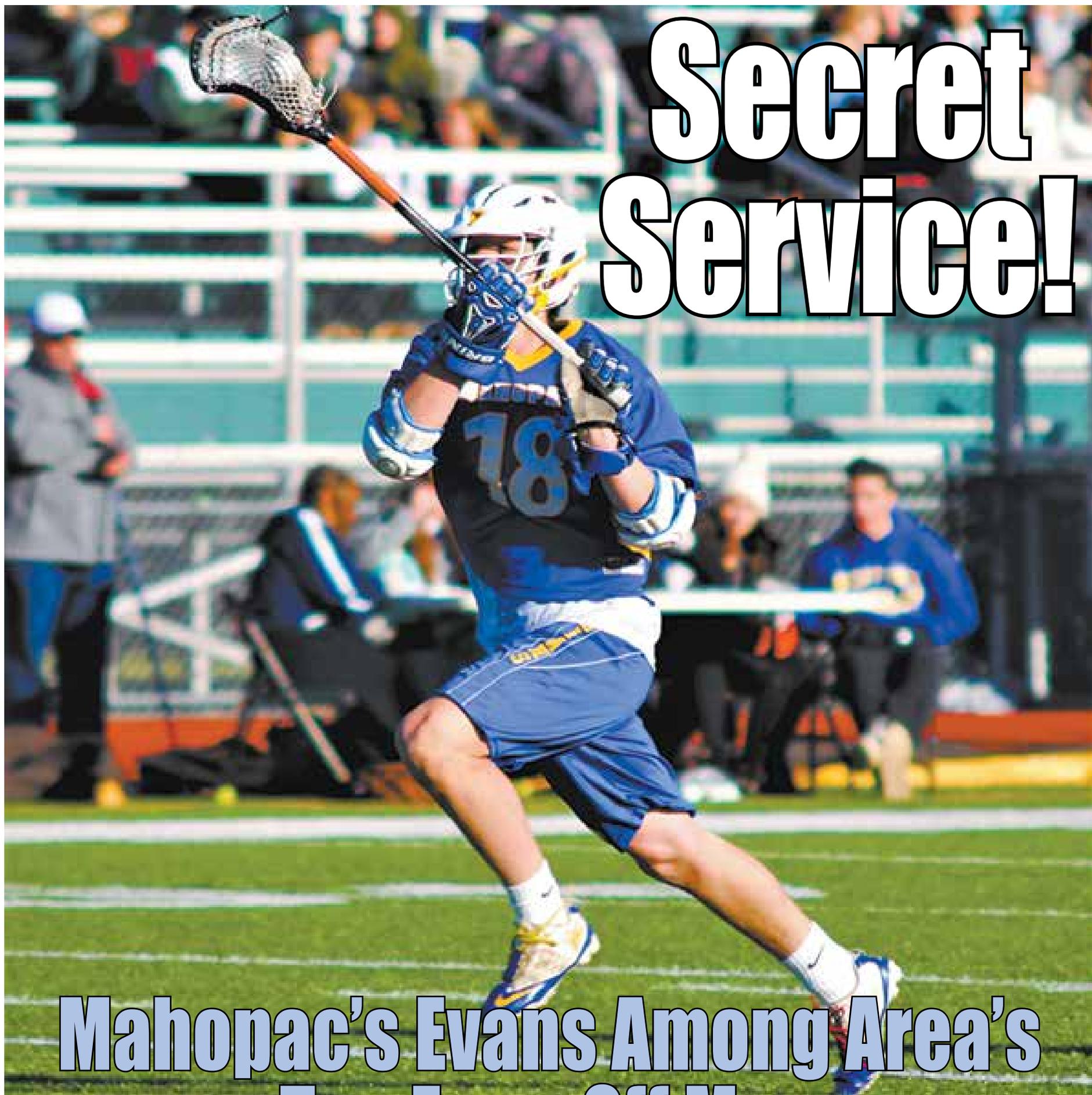


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# Secret Service!

## Mahopac's Evans Among Area's Top Face-Off Men

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

*2017 Lax Previews on Tap Next Week*

Despite the snow-covered surfaces, spring has sprung -- whether it seems like it or not -- and that means the Section 1 lacrosse season is just days away from facing off, which bring us to the age-old adage: Possession is 9/10ths of the Law. And nothing is more important than possession in lacrosse, which makes face-off middies like Mahopac's Andrew Evans (above) and Brewster's Jack Guida all the more important to their respective Putnam County teams. Evans, perhaps one of the strongest face-off men in Section 1, was last seen using a "secret move" to secure possession on 22 of 29 face-offs in the Indians' stunning 13-12 win over Fox Lane in last year's Section 1 Class A quarterfinal... see Lax Previews next week