



Residents Blast Carmel School Board for 'Bullying' Curzio

By Anna Young

Community members rushed to Carmel Board of Education member John Curzio's defense during last Tuesday's school board meeting following a decision last month to hold a disciplinary hearing that could lead to his removal.

During the tense meeting where the board discussed the future of the recently failed bond propositions, trustees were transparent in their frustration toward Curzio either challenging him on his thoughts, scoffing into the microphone, or ignoring him while he spoke. In a 5-2 vote, school board members voted on Dec. 19 to hold a hearing that could lead to Curzio's ouster because of alleged misconduct.

During public comment, residents accused the board of bullying and acting vindictively toward the trustee for his opposing views on the capital project.

"He's trying, and I feel that man has been bullied. And everything today in society and school systems with kids being bullied... He starts talking and people are rolling their eyes at the poor guy or shaking their heads," one Kent resident said. "We understand a lot of you people are more experienced, but why don't we mentor him. Let's work together."

Curzio, 20, is being accused of two official misconduct charges. Board president Greg Riley wrote in a Dec. 19 letter to the district clerk that alleged Curzio used district resources and acted in neglect of his official duties because he encouraged voters to turn down the Dec. 11 bond proposals during a Nov. 21 meeting. The other charge comes from a Dec. 5 meeting where Curzio read a letter to the editor written by a Kent resident against the project and said he agreed

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ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Carmel school board members John Curzio (second from right) and Tara DeTurris (far right) at last week's meeting.

Decision Over Nelsonville Cell Tower to Come Next Month

By David Propper

The final hearing over a highly scrutinized cell tower proposed in the Village of Nelsonville came to a close last week as a decision regarding the tower could be reached by mid-February.

For more than three hours, the village's zoning board of appeals and planning board held another public hearing at the Haldane School auditorium in which residents urged board members to turn down the proposed cell tower that would be 110 feet tall and be built off Rockledge Road in a wooded site east of the Cold Spring Cemetery. The tower, proposed by Homeland Towers, would serve Verizon and AT&T with possibly more carriers and emergency services to follow.

Residents have come out in droves the last few months to oppose the tower, fearing it would change the character of

the village and surrounding area.

Stacks of information for and against the tower have been submitted during that span. ZBA chairman William Rice went over a plethora of additional information and letters submitted since mid-December, a task that alone took about 20 minutes. All the information can be viewed on the Village of Nelsonville's website.

A special use permit issued by the ZBA is required to OK the tower and the planning board would determine site plan approval. Residents can submit more information to the boards for 30 days following the meeting, which took place Jan. 10.

Attorney Robert Gaudioso, on behalf of Homeland, said the tower was being proposed because of gaps in service, rather than capacity issues, which has



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Many residents came out against a cell tower proposed in Nelsonville that would be near Cold Spring's Historic Cemetery.

been alleged by opponents of the tower. He said a report by a firm hired by Homeland has indicated there would be no significant adverse visual impact to the landscape.

Gaudioso said though it's been claimed there are other less intrusive sites for the tower, those other sites aren't viable. He added Homeland is willing to make improvements to the access road to the tower for emergency services.

"We've looked at every single property in the village," he said, adding later. "I think we've presented what we believe, given the context, given the height limitation, is the best option."

Michelle Smith, executive director of the Hudson Highland Land Trust, said when an application is reviewed, scenic quality must be considered. She

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Carmel School Board Moves Closer to Smaller Bond

By Anna Young

The Carmel Board of Education prioritized projects within its previously failed large-scale bond propositions they could offer to voters during last Tuesday's board meeting.

In December, voters in the Carmel Central School District rejected two bond propositions that would have cost \$85.6 million, but would have paved the way for massive upgrades throughout the district. The cost of proposition A was \$37.2 millions and the price tag for proposition B was \$48.4 million.

The bonds would've paid for building and property improvements in the district including buying a piece of property for a new transportation facility, creating two innovation wings at the high school, roof replacements, field upgrades at the middle school, library renovations in several schools, paving the baseball field at the high school to convert it into a parking lot, as well as other renovations.

Now, a smaller bond package could be offered to voters later this year.

During the Jan. 9 meeting, trustees discussed several topics but agreed that roof repairs, a transportation garage and making every school within the district ADA compliant was vital.

Suggestions made by trustee John Curzio, the sole dissenter of the past

'If you're going to build something do it right the first time and don't cut corners.' Carmel School Trustee Tara DeTurris

capital project, to revisit the land purchased for the transportation garage was hastily shot down by each trustee. Curzio said he supported the garage but feels there's more land options for the board to consider.

Board president Greg Riley said he has looked at several pieces of property during his 14 years on the board and the property the board agreed on would provide safer working conditions and be appropriate for all the busses and mechanics.

"We have the ability right now to provide our employees with a facility where they have better working conditions than they

have now," trustee Tara DeTurris said. "If you're going to build something do it right the first time and don't cut corners. This is a necessity and something they've done without for years and I just think it would be a disgrace not to do it right the first time."

One resident suggested the \$11.7 million transportation project be formed as its own proposition to ensure it passes. He also recommended another parcel of land for the board to consider on Route 52 in Carmel.

"If you would consider not putting it together with other things, I'm sure it would pass," the resident said. "We all agree that we need it."

Curzio also proposed the board collaborate with town officials to maintain an open relationship if they purchase a parcel in Kent, but the board disagreed stating how town officials don't show the school the same courtesy.

The board also thinks upgrading all the libraries to 21st century learning would be essential, but agreed if the price became an issue they would not go forward with it.

At the Jan. 23 meeting, assistant superintendent for business Eric Stark will present a financial breakdown of each project and the impact it will have on taxpayers before the board makes any

final decisions.

"The one thing that lacked in our conversation is that all the decisions that we're making should be based on our mission and vision for the school district and we neglected to say that when we're making a decision," trustee Michelle Yorio said. "I do think entering into this we did go into this with a belief that we believe in our core values, we believe in our mission statement to serve our children and to give them the best education possible and that includes a safe way to get to school, a safe environment to be in a really progressive library where they can learn."



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Q: Do I have acid reflux disease?

A: First, let's understand what this condition is. Your stomach produces acid in order to digest food. Normally, acid remains in your stomach, finally passing into your intestines. However, with acid reflux disease, also known as gastroesophageal reflux disease or GERD, stomach acid leaks backward and upward, "refluxing" into the esophagus.

The large spectrum of symptoms connected with acid reflux includes "heartburn," a sharp pain in the chest from acid irritating the esophagus; or mild pain in the chest or upper belly. Both typically subside in minutes. Less common symptoms are nausea, vomiting, GI tract upset, and bloating. Severe acid reflux disease can involve regurgitating acid and stomach contents into the throat, and sometimes into the lungs. That can cause chronic coughing, pneumonias or asthma.

Q: What causes it?

A: Backward movement occurs when the valve between the stomach and esophagus – the lower esophageal sphincter, or LES – weakens. Genetics can weaken it, as can smoking, and certain foods, such as coffee, chocolate and citrus fruits. A hiatal hernia can cause acid reflux by moving the LES from your

abdomen into the chest area. Long-term acid reflux can lead to Barrett's disease, a precancerous, chronic irritation of the esophagus, which must be monitored through regular endoscopies.

Q: What are my non-surgical treatment options?

A: Many people can manage symptoms with over-the-counter medications that reduce stomach acid. It's important to understand, however, that medications do not stop the refluxing action. All they do is reduce the amount of acid in your stomach. Because these can interact with other medicines or reduce bone density, you may not want to take them long-term. You may also find relief through lifestyle changes – avoiding coffee and chocolate, and losing weight – which can help strengthen the LES.

Q: Do I need surgery?

A: Severe acid reflux disease typically requires surgery. If you have a hiatal hernia, we fix it, and then wrap a portion of the relocated stomach to create a new strong valve. If there's no hernia, we only create a new valve. The procedure, called a *nissen fundoplication*, is performed at Northern Westchester Hospital using robotic surgery. Post-surgery, there's little chance your LES will weaken again.

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Decision Over Nelsonville Cell Tower to Come Next Month

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questioned why Homeland Towers didn't believe the proposed site for the tower was protected by the scenic significance. The tower could be visible from mountains Storm King, Crow's Nest, and Bull Hill, Smith said.

"We think it's really important to protect the scenic value of that landscape," she said, stressing the landscape should dictate if a tower belongs.

Attorney Mark Blanchard argued his client, who lives on Rockledge Road and is against the project, must also be a co-applicant with Homeland Towers. Blanchard said neighbors near the proposed site don't want improvements to the road that would lead to the tower.

He accused Homeland Towers of moving forward with an "incomplete application."

Following that, Gaudioso urged the ZBA to make a determination that night over the application because it was past the deadline for a decision, though a winter storm delayed the hearing by a week. He said the issue with homeowners near the site isn't connected to the ZBA's decision.

Attorney Andrew Campanelli, who represents another homeowner near the site, said if the tower is approved at 110 feet, it could actually be raised to 135 feet with no recourse by the village because of a federal policy. He claimed studies by Homeland are defective and listed other possible problems with the proposed cell tower. He questioned if there was actually a significant gap in cell service.

He said Homeland Towers has failed to meet the requirements necessary to put a tower up in the village and failed to establish that the ZBA is constrained to approve the application.

Regarding cell service, planning board chairman Steve Marino stressed he couldn't make a cell phone call within his house on Main Street and had to call from the street. A ZBA board member, Peggy Clements, also said she could not make cell calls within her home.

Several residents in the village and surrounding area spoke out against the tower in front of a packed crowd. One Beacon resident, who has a daughter that



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

ZBA chairman William Rice (left) and planning board chairman Steve Marino at last week's very long public hearing.

goes to the local Manitou School, said he would consider pulling her out if the tower is built because of health risks.

Members of Philipstown Cell Solutions, which is a group against the proposed tower, made their case one more time. One member noted the tower would affect the historic character of the area and especially the historic Cold Spring cemetery. PCS member and attorney Jason Biafore questioned if the balloon test that occurred late last year was noticed properly. Resident Eliza Nagel argued the applicant hasn't met its burden that would prove the cell tower should be erected in the village.

The hearing became tense at certain points, with residents shouting at Gaudioso to sit down when he tried to defend the proposal (the two sides even quibbled over whether the tower is "ugly" or not) and Rice, the ZBA chairman, even faced some heat when he encouraged residents to hurry their comments.

Resident Doris Chandler, who moved to Philipstown recently from Alabama, called the area "extraordinary" and a "treasure."

"I hope you'll give due consideration to preserving the beauty of this place," she said. "I hope that you will come to a good and wise decision."



Michelle Smith, executive director of the Hudson Highland Land Trust.



"Save Our Cemetery" signs were widespread at the public hearing.



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Hamlet of Carmel Water Issues Come to Head

By David Propper

The Carmel town board debated last week during a public hearing whether to initiate repairs to parts of water district 2 where discolored tap water is coming out of faucets and showerheads or pursue an overhaul of the entire troubled district in the near future.

Under the current and smaller scale plan that the public hearing was held for, the town would purchase and install about 13,000 linear feet of water main, including original furnishing, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances and other improvements within part of the district. The estimated cost would be no more than \$2.3 million, town officials said and the funding would come from taxpayers of water district 2, which is located in the Hamlet of Carmel.

The yearly cost could be \$50-\$80 for each taxpayer depending how long the bond is pegged for.

Carmel Supervisor Kenny Schmitt said the town has received numerous calls from residents in the district stating their tap water is either discolored or dirty. In order to address the problem, Schmitt said it's necessary to repair the facilities.

"Your situation, your condition needs to be corrected quickly," Schmitt said.

Even if the water is discolored, it isn't considered a health emergency according to New York State health law, town officials said.

Councilman Jonathan Schneider warned infrastructure fix-ups in the hamlet might be widespread going forward with other parts of the district dealing with equipment that is more than five decades old.

Councilman Michael Barile said water district 2 residents have spent \$697,000 in emergency repairs in five years. He said the water wouldn't be perfect even after the patchwork.

"Something has to be done, it has to be fixed," Barile said, noting about 5-10 percent of the district is being repaired. He said the town is "patching it with a Band-Aid."

Near the end of the hearing, Barile said he wants to see the entire district fixed sooner than later.

Several residents spoke up during the lengthy public hearing.

Resident Cindy Reilly said the water is "disgusting" and she's needed to buy bottled water for at least the last nine years. Her washer machine and dishwasher are "black inside," she said.

"It's really gross and you have to do something about it," Reilly said.

Resident Peter Gebhardt said the district doesn't just have a quality issue, but a quantity issue with the water it provides. He said a lake committee he chairs has gone to the town board for many years about problems with the water in the district.

"We have to look at the big picture," he

said. "We need to plan for the next 100 years."

Legislator Carl Albano said a study should be done for future planning with potential development coming to the hamlet. An alternative water source might be needed going forward, Albano said.

Lake Gleneida, which is owned by New York City, was one source residents and town officials discussed getting more water from.

Resident Greg Ellner said the water plant needs to be fully replaced as the other smaller planned repairs are conducted.

Resident Tom Fitzpatrick said the shorter term proposed improvements are worthwhile because they are investments that would last the next 100 years. The pipes right now are in bad shape, he said.

Councilwoman Suzi McDonough said she wants to see immediate fixes to the district so residents affected get clean water as soon as possible.

"I'm sorry, I feel so bad," McDonough said.

Resident and business owner Jen Dougherty questioned why only taxpayers in district 2 would bear the

costs of the repairs instead of it being spread out across the entire town. Town attorney Greg Folchetti explained by law a town isn't allowed to make taxpayers that would not benefit from the water improvements pay for it.

Town engineer John Folchetti said there have been complaints about the water district for years and after another round of complaints in August, the town conducted a flushing that cleared the water up for a few days only. After further

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Philipstown Councilmembers Talk Gun Storage Legislation

By Neal Rentz

While acknowledging the issue is wildly controversial in the community, the Philipstown town board is moving forward with legislation to require safe storage of guns.

At its Jan. 10 meeting the board came to a consensus on potential legislation and it will schedule a date for a public hearing when it meets on Jan. 17.

The potential local law would require gun owners in Philipstown to store their weapon or weapons securely to prevent theft and/or access by children and other people who should not possess firearms. No owner or custodian of a firearm would be able to leave their firearm out of his or her immediate possession in their home without physically giving it to a lawful custodian, having it placed in a locked container or disabling the gun with a safety locking device. If a resident is accused of violating the safe storage law, they could face a misdemeanor charge and if convicted, could be fined up to \$1,000 or imprisoned in county jail for up to a year, or both. But in order to encourage residents to report to law enforcement agencies lost or stolen firearms, a person who files a report with police would not be subject to a violation of the safe storage ordinance, according to the current proposal.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Rebecca Fischer, acting executive director of New Yorkers Against Gun Violence, at last week's work session in Philipstown.

Town Attorney Stephen Gaba said several local governments in New York State have gun storage laws including New York City, Westchester County, and Saratoga Springs.

"There's a number of laws on the books," he said.

Supervisor Richard Shea told the large town hall audience that attended last week's meeting that it was a work session and no public comment was going to be accepted.

Town board members of the all Democrat council expressed support for the concept of safe gun storage. "It's common sense," Councilwoman Nancy

Montgomery said.

Councilman

John Van Tassel, a gun owner, said there have been comments raised by some residents who said safe storage legislation would be costly because it would be challenged in court. But Van Tassel said Westchester

County "had it for a number of years" without

being challenged in the courts. While Westchester County's law has not been legally challenged, other governments, including the State of Massachusetts (which won in court) have been challenged, Gaba said.

Councilman Michael Leonard, who was ill with the flu, did not attend last week's meeting. Shea told his colleagues he did not want to set a public hearing date until Leonard had an opportunity to review the draft of the legislation.

Van Tassel said the local law should be tailored to protect children when they are in a home of a gun owner. If in the future

a child was killed by an unsecured gun he would feel responsible because the town board did not take action on safe storage legislation, Shea said.

"If a gun is not in your possession it should be locked up," Montgomery added.

Shea said the proposed legislation would not be unfairly burdensome to gun owners.

"I own guns. They are secured," Shea said. "We're not taking your guns away. If you are a gun owner you should be a responsible gun owner."

Shea suggested that rather than mandating gun owners have containers for their guns, a gun owner could choose to have a safety locking device, which could be obtained at no cost from the Putnam County Sheriff's Department.

At last week's meeting, Rebecca Fischer, acting executive director of New Yorkers Against Gun Violence, advocated passage of the safe storage legislation. Guns that are not safely stored could be dangerous if handled by children and could be used in suicide attempts, Fischer said.

The town board came to a consensus to have Gaba write language into the legislation that would mandate gun owners to control or lock their guns when a child is present in their homes. Van Tassel said a major goal of the legislation is to protect children.



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QUALIFICATIONS: KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES: Ability to quickly and accurately perform basic mental mathematical calculations; reading comprehension; interpersonal skills; customer-service oriented; mechanical aptitude; skilled in exercising independent judgment; ability to anticipate and analyze problems and take corrective actions; must be able to evaluate a situation to make decisions and work under pressure; written and verbal communication skills; ability to multi-task; must be able to function effectively under changing priorities; ability to lead others; knowledge of operating and safety rules; knowledge of physical characteristics; must be safety conscious; time management skills.

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Sheriff's K-9 Unit Tracks Down Man Accused of DWI

By David Propper

A K-9 unit in the Putnam County Sheriff's Office helped track down a man that was on the run to evade an eventual DWI charge, the sheriff's office revealed last week.

On Jan. 9 around 2:40 p.m., deputy Vincent Dalo and Sgt. Timothy Keith, along with their four legged companion, Lex, were called to assist New York State Police in the pursuit of a male that abandoned a 2002 black Lexus that was involved in an accident northbound on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Fishkill in Dutchess County. The car was found in a ditch and the man was seen running across both lanes of the parkway and into the woods, according to the sheriff's office.

Deputy Dalo summoned his K-9 partner, Lex, which tracked the man for about a mile before arriving at a private residence. In the driveway with fresh footprints in the snow, Lex led deputies to two cars. The man, Mark Anthony Cahill, of Fishkill, was found trying to hide in one of them, police said.

Cahill was forced to exit the vehicle and arrested. He was charged with driving while intoxicated and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, according to authorities.

PV Man Caught Up in Drug Bust

The work of a deputy in the Putnam County Sheriff's Office led to the arrest of a Putnam Valley man on drug charges, the sheriff's office said in a press release.

In July 2017, a deputy assigned to the sheriff's department narcotics enforcement unit developed information that a male was involved in the sale of cocaine in the county, sheriff officials said. The deputy was recently able to make contact with Giovanni Rogonia, 25, and arrange a purchase of cocaine, police stated.

Rogonia was arrested on Jan. 3 and charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance in the 3rd degree and criminal sale of a controlled substance in the 3rd degree, both felonies, according to authorities.

Rogonia was arraigned before Carmel Judge Thomas Jacobellis and remanded to county jail in lieu of \$15,000 cash or \$25,000 bond pending a future court date.

Structure Fire Claims Philipstown Woman's Life

A woman residing in Philipstown tragically perished in a fire last week as an investigation has been launched to determine the cause of the blaze.

At about 11:50 p.m. on Jan. 11, the Putnam County 911 Center received a call about a reported structure fire at the Stepping Stone Garden Residence in Philipstown. Multiple emergency responders rushed to the scene including the North Highlands, Cold Spring, Garrison and the Village of Fishkill Fire Departments, as well as the Philipstown Ambulance Corp. and EMStar paramedics.

Responding units discovered an active fire in a bedroom on the second floor of the residence and a search of the bedroom found a 52-year-old female resident, who was unconscious. Despite best efforts by firefighters to rush the woman to paramedics, she was pronounced dead at the scene. No other injuries were reported. Her name was not disclosed in the press release issued by the sheriff's office.

Members of the county sheriff's office bureau of criminal investigation, Putnam's fire investigation team and New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control are investigating the cause and origin of the fire, the press release stated.

Residents Blast Carmel School Board for "Bullying" Curzio

continued from page 1

with the letter writer's statement.

During the Jan. 9 meeting, vice president Richard Kreps apologized if Curzio felt bullied, but said Curzio violated state education law when he publicly criticized the \$85 million school bond leading up to the vote. He said trustees are not allowed to sway the public's opinion once they've made their official vote and the hearing will provide due process.

"I like John Curzio, I think John Curzio is a very intelligent, well-spoken man. I think he's going to have a very successful life ahead of him," Kreps said. "But I do follow the school law and at the end of the day everything we do to encourage this board is to do right by the kids and the taxpayers of the Carmel Central School District and that's the best we can do."

Curzio previously defended himself stating when he made those statements at board meetings against the vote, he was clearly speaking for himself. His attorney, Michael Sussman, said this is a first amendment issue and Curzio is under attack for his opinion.

Curzio fought back last week, stating how the board didn't follow education law when starting executive session for several years. When he questioned Kreps on why the board didn't adhere to the rules, Kreps declined to comment. Curzio also said the school didn't mandate a federally funded program until 2017, alleging it was supposed to begin in 2004. When the board denied his claim, the Carmel High School alum said the program wasn't available when he attended the district.

One resident said he was appalled by the board's behavior and applauded Curzio for making the community more aware of the vote, especially to those who aren't involved in the district. He added that Curzio putting public knowledge on the record didn't influence the community

to vote against the bond, asserting that residents are fed up with the district's, "out of control spending."

Kent Councilman Paul Denbaum said Curzio was acting in the spirit of democracy and insisted the board reconsider their decision. He said the board's action against Curzio seemed based on differing opinions and "would make third world countries kind of blush."

"I've talked to a lot of my constituents and we get to vote, and we vote for people to get in and barring some sort of crimes committed they should be left on the board to do their service," Denbaum said. "This is how democracy works, this is how it should work and to have a recent popular vote-getter be treated in a way where he's going to be removed like a common criminal for disagreeing with you is very unfortunate and it's not how we do things in an elected democracy."

Donna Stenger, a committee member who worked on the bond, disagreed stating that while she appreciates Curzio's ideas and energy, feels he handled himself in a manner that was not democratic.

Curzio, who is a college student and lives in Stormville, was the top vote-getter when he ran two years ago, ousting an incumbent board member in the process. Throughout his term, he has been at odds with most of the board on several issues.

Former school board member Joe DiVestea advised the board to take the situation very seriously and encouraged the hearing to be made public to allow for community input. Riley said the board is waiting for counsel to confirm if the hearing will remain private or be open to the public and assured they are taking everything seriously.

As of Monday, it was not known if the hearing was public. The hearing is Wednesday, Jan. 17 and planned for 7:30 p.m. at the district office, Curzio said in an email.

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**Business
of the Week**

Sizo Salon Patterson

By David Propper

Walk inside Sizo Salon and what you'll find is the vision of a hair and beauty salon that's been created and fostered by owner Maria Mangan.

Sizo Salon has been open for two and a half years and recently there have been some renovations in the salon. In order to make Sizo's a full service salon, additional rooms were put in the back to offer facials and body waxing. In the front is where clients can get their hair cut, styled, washed, and colored. Manicures and pedicures are also offered.

With a desire to always keep up with the latest looks and newest techniques Sizo Salon has become a place clients can turn to in the Putnam Lake section of Patterson.

Several years ago, Mangan wanted to open a salon that fit her vision, which is a relaxing atmosphere with a touch of class to it. She also wanted her salon to have a natural feel to it so she painted an earthy tone on the walls and almost all the products the salon offers are all-natural and/or organic.

"I wanted to make it feel like a trendy salon that offers what I think people are



Owner Maria Mangan inside Sizo Salon in Putnam Lake.

DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

looking for which is a natural, healthier route to hair," Mangan said.

Mangan said she believes there is a noticeable difference between using organic products and the usual line of hair products. Clients have come in with dry, brittle hair, but after Mangan uses organic products on them, it hydrates and

rejuvenates their hair.

Mangan, a Montreal, Canada native, used to be a job hunter in the corporate world. But that job didn't make her happy. Instead she had an interest in the field she's in now.

"I've always loved the whole beauty industry and I decided that I was going to do a whole change and do what I love to

do," she said.

She went to cosmetology school in New York City and learned the ins and outs of the hair and beauty business. She became inspired by the industry and still goes to conferences and training sessions to learn more about hair care and styles. Ongoing education is critical, Mangan said.

Right now, curls are the hot trend, Mangan said.

"Not so straight, so more fun, kind of flirty hair is in now," Mangan said.

Mangan has lived in the United States for 15 years and is married with two children. Her husband, who is contractor, actually renovated the interior of her store before she first opened and then took care of the additional rooms recently over a weekend. "He believed in my vision, together we figured it out," Mangan said.

Mangan worked at other salons in the past, but always had the desire to open her own business.

"With all the ideas that I had, I decided I could do this," she said. "I've always liked the idea of having my own business and taking the initiative."

Sizo Salon is located at 83 Haviland Drive in Patterson. Its phone number is 845-302-2088 and its open Tuesday-Saturday.



The sleek interior of Sizo Salon. It's been open two and half years.



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Letters to the Editor

Carmel School Board Wrong to Hold Hearing Against Curzio

This week the Carmel Central School District will consider removing one of its own democratically elected members, John Curzio, because he opposed a massive \$85 million bond proposal, which was overwhelmingly rejected by the voters. The School Board advocated for the passage of the proposal and John Curzio advocated against it. After the bond proposal failed, instead of looking for a more budget friendly proposal, the School Board decided to turn its attention to Mr. Curzio, and are attempting to oust him from the School Board for the crime of disagreeing with them.

As an elected official and resident of the Carmel Central School District I was outraged that such a thing was even being considered. In democratic republics like

ours we expect our leaders to debate the important issues and advocate and vote for what they believe is right. What I saw at the School Board meetings in the run up to the bond vote was our democracy in action. Members debated one another, advocated for their positions and at time disagreed. This is the nature of our political system, it can be messy at times but it is worth it. In America we don't seek to remove elected officials from office who we disagree with outside of an election. This action by the School Board is out of line with our values and would even make corrupt third world leaders blush.

What is also egregious is the School Board's continued dismissal of the residents' legitimate concerns about the

extraordinarily amount of taxes we pay. The taxpayers of the Carmel Central School district and Putnam County as a whole simply can't afford the ever increasing taxes. However, even when the voters themselves send a clear message to the School Board about their reckless spending the School Board just looks the other way and focuses its efforts on how to remove the only taxpayer friendly Board Member from "their club".

If being against ever increasing taxes is, in and of itself, a disqualifying position for holding elected office in Putnam County then we are in more trouble than I thought.

This attempt by the School Board to undo the election of a School Board member and therefore the will of the

voters is frightening and unheard of. We The People, get the final say on who represents us, not a government body who doesn't happen to like the outcome of a particular election.

I respectfully request that the School Board reconsider their hasty decision to remove Mr. Curzio from the School Board and instead get back to work on the important issues at hand.

Paul Denbaum
Kent

Denbaum is an attorney and serves on the Town Board as Councilman in the Town of Kent

Early Voting Should be Enacted for New York State Elections

Our state has a voting problem. In the 2016 election, 56.2% of eligible New York voters voted, ranking 42nd in the country. Our democracy thrives when all are able to engage in the election process. This means ensuring people's ability to vote through a number of potential new measures.

New York State is one of only 13 states without early voting. Early voting allows flexibility for voters to vote when they are able to, while juggling work and familial obligations, rather than struggling to find time to vote only on Election Day, or

being prevented from voting altogether. Early voting removes this obstacle. Similarly, automatic voter registration, done through the Department of Motor Vehicles, streamlines the voter registration process. The resulting system would be more convenient, with shared

information reducing errors and redundancies, all while cutting costs. Same day voter registration allows eligible voters to register to vote, and ultimately vote, even if they have not yet had the opportunity to register before Election Day.

In order to apply for an absentee ballot in New York State the voter must provide a reason for the absence or inability to make it to the polls. New York should join the majority of states across the country and not require an excuse. Such policies do not protect our elections, or enhance the voting experience, but serve only as a deterrent and invasion of privacy.

When I recently polled my constituents on their thoughts on these proposals, early voting and automatic voter registration had the support of 69% and 68.1% of respondents respectively. Same day voter

registration received 55.7% support from my constituents. This session I will continue my support of, and advocacy for, legislation that ensures that New York lives up to its promise and makes voting a right and not a privilege. The laws of the state should never be the reason an eligible person does not vote in our elections.

Sandy Galef
95th State Assemblywoman

NYS Needs to Provide Better Funding for Libraries

As a regular library user of Reed Memorial Library in Carmel, and as president of its Board of Directors, I wish residents to know that NYS has been underfunding libraries for more than a decade.

People use libraries for many things: free and equal access to educational opportunities, social connections, free Internet service, job searches, programs for adults and children, to borrow DVDs, books, audiobooks, eBooks, etc., etc., etc.

Reed Library, like so many others

in NYS, is the cornerstone of our community. Our elected representatives are coming together in Albany to craft this year's NYS Budget. We need a budget that speaks to our hopes rather than only to our fears, one that will benefit all New Yorkers: a budget that adequately funds the cornerstones of our communities, our libraries.

Cindy Katz
Carmel

Hamlet of Carmel Water Issues Come to Head

continued from page 5

work, it was discovered the sentiment in the pipes is so bad that the town can't guarantee the flushing program will work, Folchetti said. While iron in the water

might not pose a health risk, it still is not tenable, he said.

"I wouldn't drink that and I wouldn't feed it to my children," Folchetti said of the brownish water.

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Adam Stone
astone@theexaminernews.com
Publisher

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

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Crossword Puzzle

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| 41 | | | | 42 | | | | 43 | | |

Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 15

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- Across
1. Wonder

4. New form

7. Electrocardiograph

10. Your in the Bible

11. Dada co-founder Jean

12. Cambridge univ.

13. Affirmative vote

14. New Mahopac bank

16. Splashing sound

18. Morning chat personality

20. Bridled

24. Mahopac Kennels, goes with 30 down

26. Make zzzs

27. Comes to

29. Nicholas II, for one

30. See 24 across

32. Fiasco

35. And so on (abbr.)

38. Sch. in Stillwater

39. Leaves from China, often

40. Cleo's undoing

41. Automated cash provider

42. Govt. issued ID

43. Fight-ending letters
8. Air Force One passenger, abbr.

9. Muscle-car letters

15. Japanese religion

17. Central American country

18. Q followers

19. "Quincy" regular

21. "Piece of cake"

22. Important time

23. Word origin abbreviation

25. Chooses

28. Telemarketers' goals

31. University head

32. Foo Fighters "It's a shame we have to die, my dear" song

33. New York time (abbr.)

34. Mooch, as a smoke

36. "Naughty!"

37. U.S.N. noncom

- Down
1. Words before profit or premium

2. Query

3. Peacock feather marking

4. One of the major leagues, abbr.

5. Kind of message

6. Works

7. CPR specialist

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Sayegh New Representative for Leg. District 8



PROVIDED PHOTOS

New Legislator Amy Sayegh missed the annual swearing in of Putnam County elected officials late last month at the historic county courthouse in Carmel, but still took her oath of office with proud family and friends by her side a few days earlier. Sayegh, who topped incumbent lawmaker Dini LoBue last year, was sworn in by county Judge James Reitz. The Republican will represent parts of Mahopac and Mahopac Falls. "I'm so excited to represent district 8 on the legislature. I thank everyone in Mahopac and Mahopac Falls for their support," Sayegh said in a statement to The Putnam Examiner. "We have a great group of legislators and I'm looking forward to working with them and getting things done in Putnam County. There is much work to be done and I am humbled and proud to represent Mahopac and Mahopac Falls."

Team Moljo Relocates from PV to Shrub Oak



MIKE RUTA PHOTO

After many successful years in Putnam Valley as a building block of strength and fitness in the community, Team Moljo and its resident trainer John Moljo have expanded their enterprise and relocated across the street from Lakeland High School. Team Moljo is now located at its new, upgraded facility -- Team Moljo Strength & Conditioning -- on 1396 East Main Street, Shrub Oak, NY 10588. Call 914-743-1887 for info or visit them at jmoljo@teammoljo.com or www.teammoljo.com

Obituaries

Paul E. Dingee

Paul E. Dingee, a lifelong resident of Brewster, died at home on January 6. He was 76 years old. Born on November 12, 1941 in Danbury, Connecticut, son to the late Howard and Grace (Hoteling) Dingee. He was a Brewster High School graduate. Mr. Dingee married the love of his life Bernadette Heckler on October 14, 1961. Paul was a senior buyer with IBM in White Plains for 30 years before retiring in 1996. Mr. Dingee is not only survived by his wife Bernadette but also his two children; Mark Dingee of Patterson, NY and Christine DuBois of Poughquag. His five grandchildren; Paul, Nick, Julianne, Kevin and Kyle.

Anthony V. Battista

Anthony V. Battista a lifelong resident of Mahopac, died on Saturday, January 6, at the age of 66 with his loving family by his side. He was born in the Bronx on November 2, 1951, the son of Frank and Yolanda Lombardi Battista. Anthony graduated from Kennedy Catholic High School in 1969 and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from St. Bonaventure University. On October 11, 1981 he married Sandra Salese at St. John's Church in Beacon. In addition to Sandra, he is survived by his son Vincent and wife, Amanda and their daughter, Milana of Manhattan, his daughter Stephanie Pluchino and husband Adam and their daughter, Claire of Manalapan, NJ, his brothers, James and wife Joanne, John and his sister, Linda Verde and her husband Ralph, all of Mahopac, as well as many nieces and nephews. Anthony was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle who will be sorely missed by his family and his many friends. Anthony was a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Mahopac Library for many years. He was a charter member of the Mahopac Chapter of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, which has now merged with the Brewster Chapter. He is also a member

of the Sons of the American Legion Post 1080 in Mahopac. Before retiring in 2016, Anthony was the Director of Facilities for the Anderson Center for Autism in Staatsburg. Since his teen years he had worked with his parents, the owners of Lombardi's Dugout and Restaurant in Mahopac until it was sold in August of 2000. Anthony was happiest when he was in the kitchen, cooking and entertaining for his family and friends, fishing and cheering on the NY Yankees.

Barbara L. Thibodeau

Barbara L. Thibodeau, 82, of Carmel, died on January 9. Mrs. Thibodeau was born on May 7, 1935 to Hartley C. and Evelyn (Scharfenberg) Tetro in Brewster. She attended Garden Street School where she graduated with a secretarial degree. Barbara worked for WIC in Peekskill, Guidepost in Pawling & Carmel in the Billing Department and later as the Food Service Manager, for E.K Williams Accounting Firm in Elmsford. She also was the bookkeeper for her husband's business - Tib's Texaco, Carmel. In her spare-time, she enjoyed volunteering at the Drew Thrift Shop, loved to garden, enjoyed Bluegrass music and going to festivals and jams, but most all, spending time with her family and friends. Barbara was a devoted wife, loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and a friend to many. She will be dearly missed by all who had known and loved her, yet her legacy of love and devotion to family and friends will continue to grow in our hearts. Barbara is survived by her devoted husband of 50 years; John and their beloved daughter Carrie and her husband David, who was more like a son, than a son-in-law, her two cherished grandchildren; Christopher and Johnathan whom she adored and who were her light, her loves and her joy. She is also survived by her brother Hartley and her two sisters; Roberta Gordon and Marjorie Evarts and many loving nieces and nephews. A brother Gerald predeceased her in 1949.

Frances Alessandro

Frances Alessandro, of Mahopac died on Jan. 10, at Westchester Medical Center with her loving family by her side. She was 95-years-old. Frances was born on Sept. 6, 1922 to the late Angelo and Caroline Vanadio in New York City. Frances was a truly special woman whose feisty and affectionate personality made everyone



adore her. She enjoyed playing cards, doing her word search puzzles, watching Jersey Boys and the Game Show Network, and stealing the occasional treat. Most of all she will be remembered for her love, devotion and deep admiration to her friends, family and her late husband Anthony Alessandro. She is survived by her two beloved children, Andrea and Anthony. She also leaves behind her four grandchildren and two great

grandchildren, all of whom she cherished. Frances will be dearly missed by all who had the immense pleasure to know and love her. She will always and forever be in our hearts.

Modest M. Oprysko

Modest M. Oprysko, a 32-year resident of Mahopac, died peacefully on Wednesday, January 10, at the age of 60. He was born in the Bronx on March 31, 1957 to Jaroslaw and Maria Slabicky Oprysko, who immigrated from the Ukraine. Modest attended Stuyvesant High School in New York City. He graduated from Queens College and earned his Ph.D in Physical Chemistry from Columbia University. In 1986, he began working in research at IBM Corp. at their Kitchawan Campus in Yorktown Heights, where he earned several patents. He was currently a Senior Technical Advisor and Strategist at IBM. Modest authored a book, "Silicon Germanium Technology Modeling and Design." Modest was an avid stamp collector and reader. He loved Maine and enjoyed hiking and fishing. Among his other hobbies were woodworking and antique clock repair. On October 28, 1978 he married Linda M. Soltesz. In addition to Linda, he is survived by his daughters, Emily Brosnahan and Ashley Oprysko; his brother Orest and his granddaughters, Cecilia and Vivienne.



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Town of Carmel Police Blotter

On November 9, Carmel Police arrested Michael Gouveia, 35, of Mahopac after officers responded to a call of a subject passed out in a vehicle. A search of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of a quantity of cocaine. He was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7th Degree, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 3rd Degree, Operation of a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended Registration, all misdemeanors, and Unlicensed Operator and Unregistered Motor Vehicle, both violations. He was released on \$100 police bail pending a future court date.

On November 12, Carmel Police arrested Manuel Perez Salguero, 30, of Mahopac after he was picked up by the Putnam County Sheriff's Department and it was determined that he had an active Bench Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court for Failure to Appear, on a 2016 arrest for Assault. He was arraigned by a judge and remanded to the Putnam County Correctional Facility on \$500 cash/bond.

On November 13, Carmel Police arrested a 53-year-old Lake Peekskill man after he was stopped after a License Plate Reader hit. He was charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended registration, a misdemeanor. He was arraigned by a judge and released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 13, Carmel Police arrested Dawn Rogonia, 29, of Lake Carmel after she turned herself in on an active Bench Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court for Failure to Appear in court for a previous Aggravated Unlicensed Operation charge. She was arraigned by a judge and released on her own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 13, Carmel Police arrested Alex Kane, 25, of Mahopac after he turned himself in on an active Arrest Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court. The warrant was based on a charge of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation. He was arraigned by a judge and released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 13, Carmel Police arrested a 27-year-old Carmel man after he was stopped for using a cell phone while operating a motor vehicle. A quantity of marijuana was located in his vehicle and he was charged with Unlawful Possession of Marijuana and Unlawful Use of Mobile Phone in Motor Vehicle, both violations. He was released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 13, Carmel Police arrested Damontray Ayala, 23, of Mahopac after he turned himself in on an active Bench Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court. The warrant

was based on a charge of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation. He was arraigned by a judge and released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 14, Carmel Police arrested David Taber, 21, of Wappingers Falls after he turned himself in on an active Arrest Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court. The warrant was based on a charge of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation. He was arraigned by a judge and released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 14, Carmel Police arrested a 24-year-old Mahopac man after he was involved in a property damage automobile accident and fled the scene. He was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 3rd Degree, a misdemeanor, and Leaving the Scene of a Property Damage Automobile Accident, Unlicensed Operator, Speed Not Reasonable and Prudent, and Following Too Closely, all violations. He was released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 16, Carmel Police arrested a 24-year-old Lake Peekskill woman after she was involved in a property damage automobile accident. She was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 3rd Degree, a misdemeanor and Unlicensed Operator, a violation. She was released on her own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 18, Carmel Police arrested Jessica Goodwin, 24, of Mahopac after signed complaints were made against her regarding a previous incident. She was charged with Assault in the 3rd Degree, a misdemeanor. She was released on her own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 20, Carmel Police arrested a 26-year-old Yorktown Heights man after he was stopped for speeding. He was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 3rd Degree, a misdemeanor and Speed in Zone and Unlicensed Operator, both violations. He was released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 22, Carmel Police arrested a 45-year-old Somers resident, after she had fallen inside a local business and became evasive with officers. A quantity of Xanax pills were found on her person in a prescription bottle with someone else's name on them. She was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7th Degree, a misdemeanor. She was released on her own recognizance pending a future court date.

On November 24, Carmel Police arrested a 48-year-old Mahopac man after he was stopped for failing to signal a turn. He was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 2nd

Degree, a misdemeanor, and Unlicensed Operator and Failed to Signal a Turn, both violations. He was released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On December 2, Carmel Police arrested Todd Carmody, 36, of Mahopac after he was involved in a property damage automobile accident and officers recovered a quantity of suboxone and marijuana in his vehicle. He was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7th Degree, Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 3rd Degree, and Operating a Motor vehicle with a Suspended Registration, all misdemeanors, and Unlawful Possession of Marijuana, Unlicensed Operator, and Right of Way Violation, all violations. He was released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On December 3, Carmel Police arrested a 25-year-old Greenwich, CT woman after she was stopped for speeding. She was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 3rd Degree, a misdemeanor, and Speed in Zone and Unlicensed Operator, both violations. She was released on her own recognizance pending a future court date.

On December 7, Carmel Police arrested a 74-year-old Carmel resident, after he had numerous disputes with his neighbors where he has blocked their cars and cursed at them. He was charged with Harassment in the 1st Degree, a misdemeanor. He was released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On December 10, Carmel Police arrested a 71-year-old Mahopac woman after she was involved in a personal injury automobile accident. She was charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended Registration, a misdemeanor, and Unregistered Motor Vehicle, a violation. She was released on her own recognizance pending a future court date.

On December 18, Carmel Police arrested a 31-year-old Mahopac man after he was stopped for speeding. He was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 3rd Degree, a misdemeanor, and Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Unregistered Motor Vehicle, Speed in Zone, and Unlicensed Operator, all violations. He was released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On December 23, Carmel Police arrested Cody Richards, 33, of Carmel after he was stopped by the New York State Police. It was determined that he had an active Bench Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court for Failure to Appear. The warrant was based on a charge of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation. He was arraigned by a judge and released on his own recognizance

pending a future court date.

On December 24, Carmel Police arrested a 36-year-old Danbury, CT man after he made an illegal left hand turn out of a town business. He was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the 2nd Degree, a misdemeanor, and Unlicensed Operator and Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device, both violations. He was released after posting \$100 police bail pending a future court date.

On December 26, Carmel Police arrested Janel Dapra, 33, of Fort Montgomery, NY after she was picked up by the Dutchess County Sheriff's Department and it was determined that she had an active Bench Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court for Failure to Appear. The warrant was based on a charge of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation. She was arraigned by a judge and remanded to the Putnam County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$500 cash/bond.

On December 26, Carmel Police arrested Jessica Goodwin, 24, of Mahopac after she was picked up by the Putnam County Sheriff's Department and it was determined that she had an active Arrest Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court for Assault in the 3rd Degree, a misdemeanor. She was released on her own recognizance pending a future court date.

On December 27, Carmel Police arrested John Casterella, 19, of Bedford Hills after he was released from the Westchester County Jail and it was determined that he had an active Bench Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court for Failure to Appear. The warrant was based on a charge of False Personation. He was arraigned by a judge and remanded to the Putnam County Correctional Facility.

On December 27, Carmel Police arrested Michael Ciano, 36, of Carmel after it was determined that he had an active Arrest Warrant out of the Town of Carmel Justice Court for Petit Larceny, a misdemeanor. He was arraigned by a judge and released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

On December 28, Carmel Police arrested Zachary Kozar, 27, of Norwalk, CT after he was involved in a personal injury automobile accident. He was charged with Driving While Intoxicated, a misdemeanor, and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance, misdemeanors, after a quantity of Amphetamine and Alprazolam were found inside his vehicle. He was also charged with Unlawful Possession of Marijuana and Drove Left of Pavement Markings, both violations. He was released after posting \$200 police bail pending a future court date.

St. Andrew's Coffeehouse Announces Spring 2018 Lineup

Spring is around the corner, and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, the congregation in the landmark grey stone edifice on Prospect Street in Brewster, will warm your hearts with the spring season of the popular coffeehouse series "Good Coffee in the Great Hall," starting with Don Lowe and Bob Stanhope appearing Saturday, January 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Don Lowe is a singer/songwriter and first selectman of Sherman, Connecticut who plays "both kinds of music: songs I wrote and songs other people wrote". In addition to a busy performance schedule in the area, Lowe hosts a weekly open-mic night at the Town Crier in Beacon, and is a director of the Sherman Chamber Ensemble.

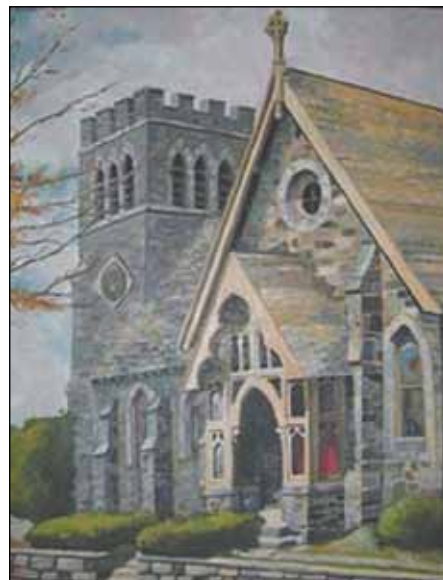
Bob Stanhope is a singer, songwriter,

and sometimes humorist who has performed for over four decades in clubs and coffeehouses locally and in nearby Connecticut venues. Some may know him as the morning personality on a variety of suburban radio stations during the '80s and '90s.

Jammers & Co. are Bob Cinque, Bob Pinnola and Donatella Hecht, who bring sweet guitar and vocal stylings to original songs and pop/rock favorites from many genres. They will appear with special guests on Saturday, February 17.

Robin Sills leads the Temple Beth Elohim Ensemble on Saturday, March 17 – yes, it's St. Patrick's Day, and they'll have a special program to mark the holiday.

A western entertainer and an experienced cowboy, Ernie Sites hails from southern Idaho. Among his many



talents, he is a western performer, songwriter, cowboy poet, trick roper, bull rider, rodeo clown, bareback rider, team roper and a calf roper. He has traveled the world over, using his gifts to teach people about cowboys and the west. Western author Corinne J. Brown has dubbed Ernie "the urban cowboy troubadour." He'll be at St. Andrew's on Saturday, April 20.

Admission is \$5, which gets you great live music and coffee or other beverages and snacks. All shows start at 7:30 p.m.

St. Andrew's is at 26 Prospect Street, but entrance to the Coffeehouse is around the back of the church. For more information, go to www.facebook.com/Good-Coffee-in-the-Great-Room-and-Music

Putnam Service Dogs Seeking Volunteer Puppy Raisers

Putnam Service Dogs is currently recruiting Volunteer Puppy Raisers to raise a pup, and help change it into a Service Dog. They will be hosting free, informational lunches at three diners/restaurants in January around the area: Saturday, Jan. 20th, noon-1 p.m., Mill Plain Diner, 14 Mill Plain Rd., Danbury, Ct; Saturday, Jan. 27, noon-1 p.m. Putnam Diner, 2600 NY-22, Patterson; Sunday, Jan. 28th, noon-1 p.m., Yorktown Heights Panera Bread, 6 Triangle Center, Yorktown Heights.

Putnam Service Dogs plans to start 2 new classes of Puppy Raisers in 2018 - February and October.

Why be a Putnam Service Dogs Volunteer Puppy Raiser? One of their current raisers describes it as: "I started as a volunteer puppy raiser at PSD because it seemed like a win/win/win. I can get my doggy fix without owning another dog, a rescue dog is saved, and a person will be helped. Nancy (PSD's CEO) and their trainer are always there to help and answer questions and the training provided is great. The dogs are treated with love, respect, and kindness. While it is definitely work to train a puppy, it is

truly a gift to be part of PSD." Volunteers have also noted it's a way to give back to the community, to make a difference, and to learn a lot about dogs. Service Dogs are well-behaved dogs that can perform specific tasks for their recipients, and the Volunteer Puppy Raisers are critical to PSD producing effective Service Dogs.

Service Dogs have to trust and love their handler, and Putnam Service Dogs' trainer will teach you how to build a relationship with your puppy. What does a trusting relationship look like - the dog is engaged with you (eye contact), there's willingness, contentment, connection, partnership, comfort, and compliance from their dog. You'll learn how to communicate clearly with your puppy, and you and the puppy will learn awareness of each other's needs.

Volunteer Puppy Raisers are expected to attend weekly classes from the time you're given a puppy of 10 weeks until the puppy is 8 months. When the pup turns 8 months, you'll attend classes twice a month. Putnam Service Dogs' highly certified and experienced trainer, Donna Gleason, will teach you how to raise and train your pup. You'll teach the puppy basic obedience skills to achieve a level

of performance to pass the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen test. You'll also teach the puppy some Service Dog commands. You'll be guided on how to take the puppy on outings to socialize the puppy to new experiences. Starting at age 16 months, PSD's trainer will take over the training, and will train the puppy to perform the tasks needed by their matched recipient. You'll be sharing your home and living with a great dog for about 20 months if they make it to graduation. Being a Service Dog asks a lot of dogs, and most Service Dog Schools have a graduation rate of only about one third.

Putnam Service Dogs maintains ownership of the dog, unless it's released and adopted out. This gives PSD the right to remove a puppy/service dog if neglect or abuse are discovered. Putnam Service Dogs will cover the majority of expenses - all adoption fees, all vet fees and medications, crates, and most of the other required supplies. You will be asked to provide the food, toys, and some supplies. If your puppy is released from the program, and you want to adopt it, it's free to you if you've raised the puppy 6 months or more, \$550 if less time.

Putnam Service Dogs will adopt the puppies from Partner Rescue Groups just before a Puppy Raising class begins. Puppies learn the most between the ages of 3-16 weeks, so no time will be wasted waiting for puppy raisers to be ready! The puppies will be between 8-12 weeks, and will probably be lab or golden retriever mixes. The recipients need dogs they can easily touch sitting in their wheelchairs, and good retrievers to fetch their dropped items. These breeds train easily. Hearing Alert dogs may be smaller dogs.

The Application for being a volunteer puppy raiser is on Putnam Service Dogs' website, www.putnamservicedogs.org, under Applications on the Home Page, on the Volunteer Page, and on the blog article, "Being a Volunteer Puppy Raiser

for Putnam Service Dogs."

Putnam Service Dogs can't produce Service Dogs without their Volunteer Puppy Raisers. They currently have 11 applicants on their waiting list, and only two pups in training. Service Dogs change the lives of their recipients. Volunteer Puppy Raisers are a critical part of the process.

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Doc's Note: Enough with the E-Puff

By Dr. Richard Stumacher, Chief of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Northern Westchester Hospital

The use of electronic cigarettes by young people is skyrocketing and, according to experts, addicting a whole new generation to nicotine. While the number of youthful cigarette smokers has gone down, a report from the U.S. Surgeon General states that the number of high school students using electronic cigarettes increased 900 percent between 2011 and 2015. Children as young as middle-schoolers can be seen on the Internet competing to produce the most interesting vapor clouds using e-cigs, vapes and Juuling devices. Some kids estimate that more than half their peers are vaping and say they think it's safe..

These Devices Aren't for Children, Ever. Promoted as a safer nicotine delivery device than cigarettes, vaping has an ironic dual role in helping smokers quit and nonsmokers start. If you're an adult who hasn't found success with smoking cessation programs, I would rather you vape than smoke a pack of cigarettes. But these devices are not for children – ever.

E-cigs and vape devices and their liquid, which contain at least 42 harmful chemicals that we know of, including formaldehyde, lead, and nicotine, use batteries to heat an aerosol cartridge that converts a chemical-laden liquid into a flavored vapor inhaled by the user.

A Dangerous Lure. How Big Tobacco is Targeting our Children.

Through the use of modified vaping devices shaped like Pokeballs or Game Boys, tobacco companies are aggressively targeting children. This is a nasty, nasty thing that's happening. And it's catching on really fast. Research shows that enticing flavors like Fruity Pebbles and Vanilla lure adolescents into vaping for the first time. Many devices don't produce an odor or vapor, so vaping often goes undetected by parents and teachers.

It's devastating, but not surprising. Big Tobacco owns these vaping companies and is pushing to addict the next generation. In fact, one juice-flavored pod in the JUUL brand of electronic cigarette delivers the same amount of nicotine as in a whole pack of cigarettes. Children as young as ten are using these products. By the time they get to high school, they'll be completely addicted.

Developing Brains vs. Nicotine and THC.

According to the National Institutes of Health, developing brains are uniquely vulnerable to long-term modification from nicotine. The limbic system, which controls cognition, emotion, and drug reward, is actively maturing during adolescence. Nicotine may disrupt this process, leaving children with emotional and learning difficulties and a greater chance to become addicted to other substances.

What's more, because of its odorless and



Dr. Richard Stumacher

discreet nature, marijuana wax or oil is frequently used by teens in vaping devices. Marijuana wax and oil contain a much a higher concentration of THC extract – the psychoactive, dependent chemical in the marijuana plant, with some wax or oil containing up to 80 percent THC. We've had adolescents brought to our Emergency Department due to 'greening out' or becoming extremely nauseous or distressed from vaping marijuana oil. The user may also be exposed to other toxic substances. Marijuana wax is commonly made with the lighter fluid, butane, which can cause irreversible brain damage when inhaled.

Explosions, Lung Disease and the Unknown... The Scary Truth.

Aside from the damaging and addictive effects of nicotine and the potential harm from vaping marijuana, vaping devices themselves may pose serious dangers to smokers. Powered by lithium-ion batteries, devices have been known to overheat, catch fire and explode, causing severe burns and even missing teeth.

And there are more potential hazards: The vapor-producing liquid or "vape juice" is known to contain a chemical called benzene – an active ingredient in car exhaust. One vape flavoring in particular, known as diacetyl, is linked to a potentially fatal lung disease called "popcorn lung." When inhaled, diacetyl is known to cause inflammation and scarring of the lung's smallest airways, leading to a progressively worse dry cough, shortness of breath, wheezing, fatigue and even death. Experts are calling for "urgent action" to evaluate exposure to diacetyl and other flavoring compounds in e-cigarettes.

While there has been no case of a patient with a disease directly linked to vaping, Dr. Stumacher believes it's still too early to find one. Now factor in recent evidence that clearly proves adolescent vaping leads to cigarette use. Make no mistake, this is a looming health crisis.



Ten to 20 years from now, this is going to get really ugly.

Until last year when a law was enacted to stop retailers from selling e-cigarettes to youth under age 18, vaping devices were completely unregulated. Today, the US Food and Drug Administration categorizes e-cigs as a tobacco product, while noting that regulation of these products does not mean they are safe to use.

There's no reason any of our youth should be vaping, but they are. It's rampant in our schools and a whole generation of addicts is being created. It's important for parents to discourage the trend. Don't buy these products for your kids. Make sure your children aren't purchasing them online; it's easy to click 'over 18' and have the products sent directly to your home. Learn about the dangers and start the conversation about vaping. Finally, set a

positive example by being tobacco and e-cig-free yourself.

Editor's note: Northern Westchester Hospital has made it a hospital wide effort to educate our community about Vaping (aka. E-cigarettes, Juuling). Between 2011 and 2015, the U.S. Surgeon General found vaping, or e-cigarette use, among high school students increased by 900% percent, with more teens now using e-cigarettes than cigarettes. Our Community Health, Education, and Outreach department, in collaboration with Respiratory Therapy, Dr. Richard Stumacher, Dr. Jim Dwyer, and our Director of the Emergency Department, Kristen Lawton, is coordinating programs throughout the northern Westchester community. Our educators are providing in-class and assembly presentations in our area school districts. Our physicians are presenting to PTA groups and community organizations.

Crossword Answers

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|----|---|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|---|
| 1 | A | 2 | W | 3 | E | | 4 | N | 5 | E | 6 | O | | 7 | E | 8 | C | 9 | G |
| 10 | T | H | Y | | | | 11 | A | R | P | | | | 12 | M | I | O | | |
| 13 | A | Y | E | | | | 14 | T | R | U | 15 | S | T | C | O | | | | |
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| 18 | R | 19 | I | P | A | | | 20 | R | E | I | 21 | N | 22 | E | 23 | D | | |
| 24 | S | T | O | N | 25 | E | | 26 | S | N | O | R | E | | | | | | |
| 27 | T | O | T | A | L | 28 | S | | 29 | T | S | A | R | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 30 | M | E | A | 31 | D | O | W | | | | | | | |
| 32 | D | 33 | E | 34 | B | A | C | L | E | | | 35 | E | 36 | T | 37 | C | | |
| 38 | O | S | U | | | 39 | T | E | A | | | 40 | A | S | P | | | | |
| 41 | A | T | M | | | 42 | S | S | N | | | 43 | T | K | O | | | | |

Fixtures: What Stays and What Goes?

Buyers and sellers who seem perfectly nice and normal throughout the sales transaction can suddenly lose their cool when the seller asks at the last minute that a modest chandelier over a kitchen table be excluded among the fixtures included in the sale.

"Oh no, you don't," the buyer might say, "it wasn't excluded in the listing!" And, the fight begins. This very scenario happened to me a short while ago. The seller had forgotten to discuss the chandelier's exclusion with his listing agent on the listing.

It was a very ordinary fixture, surely one not worth fighting about.

"But we bought it early on in our marriage," the seller protested to his agent. "Our family gathered under it every morning at breakfast, every night at dinner," he was reported to have said, and so it went. But my buyer didn't relent. I appealed to his better judgment. "That chandelier is an inexpensive Tiffany reproduction," I argued, "and couldn't have cost more than \$100. I'll buy one that's more than twice its quality as a closing gift for you," I said. "No, I want that one," he said.



By Bill Primavera

It looked as though it was going to come to a showdown. Just prior to this incident I had heard a story about how the sale of a home was lost because the seller had changed her mind about leaving her washer and dryer with a house because those particular models, with which she had fallen in love, literally, had been discontinued and she didn't want to risk her emotional health with trying another brand.

Oh, my goodness, I declared, you're going to risk losing a house over a matter

like a cheap kitchen chandelier? See reason here, I admonished the buyer. Sanity finally prevailed and the seller was allowed to keep the fixture to which he was so strongly attached.

Shortly after that experience, I was involved with another dispute, and you guessed it, it also involved lighting fixtures, this time in a gorgeous historic home when the seller had affixed the highest-grade wall sconces and chandeliers you could imagine in every room, all quite appropriate to their 18th Century surroundings. My buyers oohed and aahed over every one of them

in every room. Only after they decided to make an offer after the first showing did I make the inquiry of the seller (it was one of those hybrid kind of FISBOs where the seller does most of the work, but the listing is on the MLS system) about exclusions and, sure enough, the lighting fixtures were "available for sale." My buyers were not happy, and neither was I.

Give yourself a test. Which of the following items would normally not be included as fixtures in the sale of a home: built-in stereo system, electric garage door opener, wall-to-wall carpet, built-in microwave oven, water heater, dishwasher, built-in stove, drapes, refrigerator, washer and dryer?

You are correct if you answered that the last four items are not included. All the other items are automatically included since they are attached and have become fixtures.

The literature on the subject is somewhat simplistic. For instance, lumber sitting by the side of a house is personal property because it is not permanently attached to the structure or the land, and is therefore not included in a home's sale price; however, when that lumber is nailed or bolted together to become a fence, the wood fence is a fixture attached to the land and is included in the sale.

Oddly, while the examples I gave about chandeliers would identify them as fixtures, their light bulbs are not permanently attached to the structure so they remain personal property. Very few sellers remove their light bulbs from the light fixtures (as they are entitled to do) unless it's a particularly contentious sale. (Although, when I sold my first home, I ended up hating my buyer so much that I removed every light bulb from the house and every roll of toilet paper from the bathrooms. Hopefully, I've matured since those early years.) If a home seller wants to exclude a fixture from the sale, it must be specifically itemized and excluded in the sales contract.

When a dispute arises whether or not an item is included in a home sale, it is accepted practice that courts favor (a) buyer over seller, (b) tenant over landlord and (c) lender over borrower.

Well, I guess we all know where we stand in such battles.

While Bill Primavera has enjoyed careers as a journalist and publicist, he is now a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate, specializing in upper Westchester and Putnam Counties. To engage the services of The Home Guru Team to market your home for sale, call (914) 522-2076.

The Rarefied Air of High-end Wine Prices, Part II



By Nick Antonaccio

The market for rare wines continues to be exclusionary – and highly expensive. It is restricted to those with sufficient disposable income to invest in objects that invariably are the focal point of

feeding their egos.

Just as with other trophies, wine has become an alternative asset investment for those seeking returns on their cash outlays. In 2017, The Knight Frank Luxury Investment Index determined that the traditional collectibles – art, jewelry, coins and watches – reaped respectable annual rates of return between 4 and 7 percent. However, wine values as a group escalated a whopping 25 percent.

In last week's column, my focus was on the top 10 wine sales of all time. I presented details on wines number 10 to 6. The prices per bottle ranged from \$38,047 to an astounding \$117,000. This week, the top 5.

5. The 1945 Domaine de la Romanée-Conti. Only 600 bottles were

produced this year by this famous winery in Burgundy, which perennially commands the highest price of any wine in the world. The next year, disease hit the vineyards; wine was not produced again until 1952. In 2007 an American collector decided he wanted this bottle for his cellar, outbidding all comers for bragging rights. Price: \$123,919 or \$24,784 per glass.

4. The 1787 Chateau Lafite. A classic example of collectors' egotistical tendencies was the sale in 1985 of a single bottle of this Bordeaux wine, purported to be from the personal cellar of Thomas Jefferson. The bidding was frenzied; the winning bidder was Malcolm Forbes, who immediately displayed it in his home under bright (hot) lights for all his friends to envy.

Shortly thereafter, the cork shrank from the heat of the lights and fell into the wine. Forbes now has the envious title of the owner of the most expensive bottle of (worthless) vinegar in the world. To make matters worse, a few years ago, the original seller of the wine was arrested for fraud –

*You Heard It
Through the
Grapevine*

the Jeffersonian bottle was a shameless sham perpetrated on a gullible buyer. Price: \$156,450 or \$31,290 per glass.

3. The 1787 Château Margaux. Another wine purported to have been purchased by bon vivant Jefferson. William Sokolin, an esteemed New York wine merchant, was the envy of wine cognoscenti all over the world. He owned this one-of-a-kind Jefferson bottle, valuing it at \$500,000.

In 1989, amidst wide fanfare and press coverage, he invited a group to share his Bordeaux treasure at the prestigious Four Seasons restaurant in New York City. Lo and behold, a clumsy waiter knocked the bottle to the ground, destroying it in full view of Sokolin and his guests. While technically not sold at auction, Sokolin nevertheless negotiated hard with his insurance company to recover his claimed value. Price he received: \$225,000, but \$0.00 per glass.

2. The 1869 Château Lafite. Another ancient Lafite, but this came directly from the winery's cellar. If you have the money, and ego, there is no price too great for a desired object – or three. A cult name in Asia, this Lafite was expected to garner \$60,000 at a 2010 Hong Kong auction. But a zealous Asian bidder decided this

was a must-have for his cellar, pushing the price higher and higher. He successfully purchased all three bottles offered. Price: \$232,692 per bottle, \$46,538 per glass or a truly astounding \$9,090 per ounce.

1. The 1907 Heidsieck Monopole Champagne. You can't make this stuff up. In 1916, a cache of this French bubbly, aboard a Swedish ship bound for Tsar Nicholas II of Russia, was sunk by Germans (note the date). Fast forward to 1998, when about 2,000 bottles were recovered and subsequently sold at auction. A perfect trophy wine for a high-end investor to dangle in front of his friends, regardless of its cost. Or not? Price for a number of the bottles: \$275,000 each, or \$55,000 per flute.

So there you have it. And what's wrong if I live vicariously through the lives of others? I can cope with my deprived palate, even while a privileged palate is satiating his or hers.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted 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 or on Twitter @sharingwine.



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

Winter Art Classes:

Brighten up your winter with art classes at the Putnam Arts Council in Mahopac. Come create, learn, and enjoy the company of fellow students as you express yourself through the arts here at the Putnam Arts Council. Classes begin week of February 5. Visit www.putnamartscouncil.org to register and for pricing & information.

The Patterson Recreation Center is excited to be offering the following program: Winter Break Fun Days: Monday/Tuesday Feb. 19 and 20th. 9 a.m. -4 p.m. \$50 / day. \$45/ sibling rate. Before and after care will be available to 6:00pm. Activities will include dodgeball, crafts, Xbox, open gym, air hockey and much more. Register by Feb. 12. Located at 65 Front Street Patterson. For more information call 845-878-7200.

Ongoing:

Tuesdays:

LCFD Ladies Auxiliary Meeting: Second Tuesday of each month. 8 p.m. at firehouse. Bring a friend.

Spotlight Family Support Group: Mahopac Library, 3rd floor, 6:45 p.m.-8 p.m. January 16, 30. This is a guided recurring support group for family and friends suffering with the effects of a friend or loved one that has a problem with drugs or alcohol. For more information contact Drug Crisis in our Backyard. 845-842-1212 No registration required.

Wednesdays:

Freedom from Smoking: An evidence-based smoking cessation program, to individuals who live or work in Putnam County. Classes will be held at the Putnam County Department of Health at 1 Geneva Road, Brewster, on Wednesdays starting at 6 p.m., beginning January 31 to March 14. During the fourth week, an additional session will take place on Friday, February 23. The program will be at no cost to the participants and will supply free Nicotine Replacement (NRT) as long as the supply lasts. Pre-registration is required. Class size will be limited. For questions or to pre-register call the Putnam County Department of Health at (845) 808-1390 ext. 43155.

Short & Sweet, A Short Story Book Club: Reed Library. Meeting Alternating Wednesdays at 1 p.m. Join for a lively discussion of short stories, a different story each meeting. Registration required, please call the library to register 845-225-2439.

The Putnam County Marine Corps League: Monthly meeting at the Carmel VFW Hall, 36 Gleneida Ave. (Rte.52) Carmel at 1930 on the second Wednesday of the month. (10/11/17) If you are a U.S. Marine or FMF Corpsmen Veteran, Reservist or on Active Duty we welcome you as a Brother. View us at www.putnammcl.com

putnammcl.com

Thursdays

The Putnam County Computer Learning Center for seniors holds registration the first Thursday of every month at the William Koehler Senior Center, 180 Route 6 in Mahopac and at the Putnam Valley Senior Center, 117 Town Park Lane, Putnam Valley. Registration hours in Mahopac are from 9:30 a.m.- 11 a.m. Putnam Valley registration is from 10 a.m.- Noon. In addition to a variety of computer classes, we also teach classes in iPad, iPhone and Android Basics. Anyone 55 or older can register for a variety of computer classes. Registration is required in person. For more information you can call Judy Kolt at (845) 277-5422 or email her at jak4dogs@verizon.net. We are in need of volunteers. If interested in volunteering for this program, please call Judy Kolt as above.

Brewster American Legion Meetings: The American Legion Argonne Post 71 holds its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Brewster Elks Club. If you are interested in joining or would like more info, call Bill Miller at 845-406-2533.

Tuesday, January 16

The Kent Public Library will hold its Annual Organizational Meeting: 7 p.m. at the Kent Public Library, 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

Calling all Lego® lovers: Come to the Kent Library: 4:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m. for our new program, Literary Legos®! Listen to a fun story and build a Lego® creation based on the story. Your Lego® creation will be put on display for the whole library to see! Program is for those ages 7-9 or grades 2nd -4th! Registration is required. You may register for the program by going to www.kentlibrary.org or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

Soul Painting: Reed Library from 10:30 a.m. - Noon. Registration is required, please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

Thursday, January 18

Foreign Film Screening: After the Wedding. 6:30 p.m. - Far from home, Jacob runs a struggling orphanage in one of India's poorest regions. Desperate to save the orphanage from closure, he returns to Denmark to meet a wealthy businessman and potential benefactor. What appears to be nothing more than a friendly gesture to attend a wedding sets in motion an increasingly devastating series of surprises. Screened in Danish with English subtitles. Registration is requested; register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Saturday, January 20

Defensive Driving Class with Jack Coxen at Mahopac Library: 9:45 a.m., The Defensive Driving Insurance Reduction Program is a 6-hour course consisting of a series of films and discussions about driving attitudes and behaviors. It is designed for licensed drivers, but those with permits may attend. Completion of the course may result in a ten percent liability insurance discount to the principal operator (check with your insurance company) as well as a maximum of four points off the driver's violation record. This program is approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles. \$45 per person; \$35 for senior citizens. Register online, by phone, or in-person. Payment will be taken only on the day of the class. Cash or checks payable to Jack Coxen only; charge cards not accepted. For information or to register by phone, call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Monday, January 22

Minecraft: Kent Public Library: 5 p.m., -5:45 p.m. Program is for those ages 7-12. Registration is required for each session. First registration opens at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 2nd. You may register for the program by going to www.kentlibrary.org or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is

located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes

Wednesday, January 24

Kent Public Library Basic Drawing and Composition for Creative Adults: The class will meet until Wednesday, February 28th from 10 a.m. -noon Using pencil, charcoal, and pen and ink, students will explore shading and chiaroscuro, proportion and perspective, line and shape, and form and composition. The class will provide students an opportunity to create in a relaxed and non-threatening environment. Program is designed for adult. Attendance at all sessions is requested. Space is limited. Registration is required. Registration begins Tuesday, January 2nd. You may register for the program by going to www.kentlibrary.org or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

Thursday, January 25

The Tri-State IBM Retirees Club: Meeting hall of the United Methodist Church, 1176 E Main St, Shrub Oak. Lindsay Inwood will speak on Historic Hudson Valley with a display of authentic clothing worn in years' past. The 2018 dues of \$20 will be collected. Coffee at 1pm, meeting at 1:30 p.m. Info: Peg Ryan 914-528-5916.

Save Lives - Learn CPR

Learn adult, child and infant CPR and AED use, as well as how to relieve choking in an adult, child and infant. This hands-on course teaches CPR and AED skills and is appropriate for anyone with limited or no medical training who needs a course completion card in CPR to meet job or personal knowledge. For: Parents, teachers, babysitters, counselors, office workers, and athletic trainers. Age 12 and older. \$50. Taught by CPR Ed <http://cprede.com/>. This is a two-year certification, two-hour course.

When: Sunday, January 21, at 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Where: Studio Around The Corner, 67 Main St, Suite 101, Brewster

Cost: \$50

For more information on this and other Cultural Arts Coalition events, visit: www.CulturalArtsCo.com, call (845) 363 - 8330, email info@culturalartsco.com or find us on Facebook at "Cultural Arts Coalition".

About The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition

The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating and sustaining cultural arts within the Town of Southeast and its surrounding region. TOSAC was established as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation in August 2010 with the purpose, as detailed in the incorporation papers, "... to promote and raise funds for the development and effective management of affordable, accessible performance space that will provide citizens of the Town of Southeast opportunities to participate in and appreciate cultural arts, including lectures, theater, dance, film, music, visual arts, and inclusive community events." Our current focus is the renovation of the Southeast Old Town Hall, a historic landmark within the Village of Brewster and a perfect venue to serve as a cultural hub. The Old Town Hall has been described as a "Jewel in the Center of Brewster" and its renovation will help foster the revitalization of downtown Brewster.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF M. ELIA WELLNESS, NP IN ADULT HEALTH, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/27/17. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **M. Elia Wellness, NP in Adult Health, PLLC, P.O. Box 609, 1350 East Main Street, Shrub Oak, NY 10588** Purpose: Practice the profession of Nurse Practitioner in Adult Health.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BLOOM HAIR SALON LP. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/29/2017. Office loc. Westchester. SSNY designated

as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **Maria Katsoros, 305 Florence Street, Mamaroneck, NY 10543. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

Notice of formation of SIXTH BROUGH CLOTHING LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/10/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **LEGALINC CORPORATE SERVICES INC. 1967 WEHRLE DRIVE, SUITE 1 #086, BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14221. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WI-ESEN, LLC. ARTS. Of Org. files with SSNY on 10/6/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **LegalZoom, 7014 13th Ave, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CZOU & CO., LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/18/2017. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail copy to 9 Highview Dr, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ADVANCED PROFITS, LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of state of NY on 5/11/17. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to PO BOX 112, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF @CE-SARCAPJR, LLC. ARTS. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/15/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAN ON FIRE PRODUCTIONS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 20th, 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: **Joel Fendelman, 8 Fox Hill Road Pound Ridge, NY 10576. Purpose: Film Production.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FRANK MARKETING GROUP LLC. ARTS. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/10/2017. Of-

fice location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to **109 Robins Road, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE TUMMI GROUP, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/11/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **The Tummi Group, LLC, 7 Triumph Court, Flanders, NJ 07836. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

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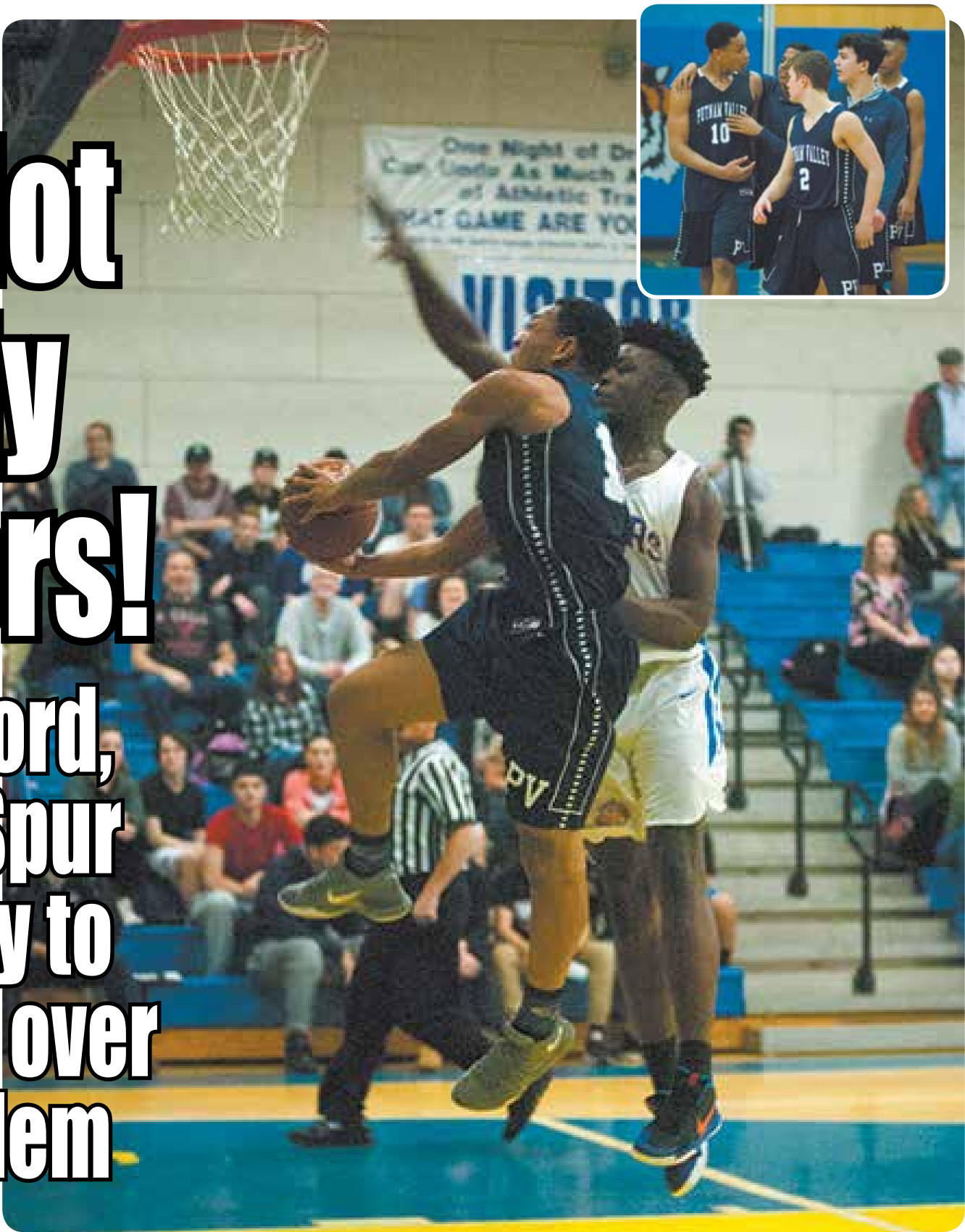
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**Red Hot
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Peppers!**
**Shillingford,
Brescia Spur
Put Valley to
54-48 Win over
North Salem**



Putnam Valley junior F Darnel Shillingford gets clobbered on this shot attempt by North Salem's 6'6" Kendrick Tchoua, but time and time again Shillingford would respond by nailing 7 of 9 clutch, fourth-quarter free throws en route to a game-high 25-point effort in the visiting Tigers' 54-48 come-from-behind win... see Boys' Hoops Notebook

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Sports

Boys' Hoops Notebook

Class B Put Valley, Class A Somers Perform Under Pressure

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

I mean, where do we start? The Section 1 boys' hoops season has been anything but uneventful. A seemingly wide-open Class A scenario currently led by Saunders (8-

3) and upstart Rye (12-0), anybody's guess in Class B, a Class C title that appears up for grabs, the off-court County Center debacle and subsequent lawsuit levied at Section 1's Executive Committee, oh, and, another ho-hum run for the Class AA roses by state-ranked (No.1) Mount Vernon.

Section 1 hoops is a great beat to cover every year, but we've got us some significant juice this year: A never-a-dull-moment season that just might end up having a less-than-stellar Final 4 venue on account of the aforementioned County Center catastrophe and the many scattered neutral semifinal sites becoming a real possibility. With no solution at hand, the situation has turned into a dire pissing match with the helpless student athletes of Section 1 shamefully feeling the pinch. There, I said it!

Moving on: A couple of Class B giants got after it last Friday night in North Salem where the host Tigers squandered a seven-point halftime lead in a 54-48 loss to **PUTNAM VALLEY**, which is seeking its fourth Final 4 appearance in five years and had the look of a team hell-bent on doing so.

PV doesn't start a single senior, so expectations are what they are, but the Tigers played their best quarter of the season in the fourth last Friday, having junior forwards Darnel Shillingford (25 points, 9 of

11 from the line in the fourth) and TJ Brescia (17 points) at their best. The duo teamed up to limit 6'6" North Salem, power forward Kendrick Tchoua to 16 points, all in the second half.

Additionally, Put Valley got six big points from junior G Austin Fabiano, who gave the Tigers (9-3) their first lead of the night (50-48) after a corner three-ball late in the fourth.

"We got what we expect to get from Darnel and TJ, but role players like Austin Fabiano really stepped up tonight," fourth-year Put Valley Coach Mike McDonnell said. "It was truly a team effort: Tough perimeter defense by Fabiano, (Ryan) Soto and (Brandon) Guerra. Charlie Gatewood's gutsy play off the bench, taking a late charge, was key. It was Shillingford's best two-way performance of the season: 25 points, clutch late free throws and holding



Putnam Valley F John Millicker battles for rebound in Tigers' win over North Salem last Friday.



Put Valley G Brandon Guerra dropped a huge fourth-quarter hoop in win over North Salem.



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Put Valley G Austin Fabiano drains go-ahead 3 in Tigers' 54-48 win over North Salem, Friday.

their center down. TJ Brescia, aka the sheriff, as always delivered."

The Tigers, in general, delivered late. In a tale of two halves, PV had just 26 points after three quarters, contributing to a nine-point deficit after three quarters. Then, out of nowhere, the Tigers scored 28 in the fourth quarter, storming to the finish line, including an array of low-post moves from Brescia that truly impressed and some savvy play from Shillingford, who outplayed Tchoua down the stretch.

"We came in here having never played against him, but we studied him," Shillingford said of the North Salem transfer. "We just wanted to outwork him. Going into it, me and TJ just said let's outwork him. We knew our defense had been fine in the first half, having held them to 22, so we knew if we just kept the defense up the offense would come off of that."

And should they take that mentality into the stretch run, the Tigers will be a major player in Class B. **CROTON-HARMON** (4-5) hopes to get it going as well after defeating Hawthorne Cedar Knolls and getting worked by Briarcliff last week...

CLASS A

SOMERS Coach Chris DiCintio is an honest cat. He's not one of those coaches who falsely tells writers, "I don't read what you guys say."

"Get those power rankings turned around, brother" DiCintio said after his Tuskers pounded host **WALTER PANAS** last Tuesday to the tune 59-42, and previously-ranked No.1 **HEN HUD** suffered a 53-47 loss to John Jay CR.

And while John Jay CR (6-5) is better than they are given credit for this season, and the Sailors (7-2) remain a strong Class A club, DiCintio hit the nail on the head, so there's a new sheriff atop the NWE/Putnam Super 7 Poll this week, and it's got the look of an elephant and could for quite some time should Somers finish out strong.

The Tuskers (7-3) followed up the Panas win with a decisive 63-45 win over **BREWSTER** (4-5) on Thursday. Somers hotshot Lorenzo Bicknese dropped a game-high 24, including five field goals from downtown, while flashy G Gio Tradito went for 12. Kevin Halper (11 points) put the game away with three 3's

continued on next page

Sports

Boy's Hoops Notebook

continued from previous page



Displaying an array of low-post moves, Put Valley F TJ Brescia drops two of his 17 in win over North Salem.



Panas G Brandon Hodge did all one could do to keep his Panthers in the game, but Somers was too much for Panas to handle in Tusker blowout.



Somers F Max Germaine and Panas F Peter Andersen get after it in Tuskers win over Panthers last week.

NWE/Putnam Examiner Super 7 Poll

No.1 SOMERS – Thursday's matchup with host John Jay is not one the Tuskers should be looking past, considering the early edge to the league title hangs somewhat in the balance.

No.2 PUTNAM VALLEY – Tigers (9-3) are currently looking like a potential No.2 seed in Class B but state-ranked (No.16) Briarcliff, (No.24) Irvington, Blind Brook, Pal Prep and North Salem remain ridiculously tough obstacles in wide open field of contenders.

No.3 HEN HUD – Sailors (7-2) have a legit starting five, but the concern is depth.

No.4 PANAS – When and if the Panthers (4-3) put it all together, they remain a team who can contend with most, but the 17-point loss at home to Somers is a tad concerning.

No.5 MAHOPAC – There's really no reason to believe the Indians (5-5) can't win the league crown, despite the 2-point loss to John Jay EF, especially if 6'5" F Rheal Allen can emerge as a second-half

surprise #FaRheal.

No.6 OSSINING – The Pride (7-3) need to start posting quality wins and they get three chances between Tuesday and Saturday with Put Valley, Greeley and TZ on deck.

No.7 YORKTOWN – Huskers (5-5) hung very tough in two-point loss to Greeley, which sort of got our attention, and they were bucking for a big bump in this poll if they could take out Panas last night in the Husker tourney final.

HM LAKELAND – Hornets (4-6) are losing some luster after losses to Magnus and John Jay CR but ever-improving they are.

HM HALDANE – Having a great season, the Blue Devils (7-2) are, and Class C is there for the take (sorry about the misspelling of Alex Kubic's name in the headline last week).

HM BREWSTER – Bears (4-5) handed it to Sleepy Hollow, 50-28, behind Dignan and Cameron Hart (13 each), but lost to Somers by 18.

in the fourth, and my man Jack Gilroy (10) provided four double-digits scorers for the Tuskers. The Bears were led by Kevin Stefanick's 17. Most impressively, Somers, which identifies with defense, limited Brewster sniper Harrison Dignan to just two points.

Somers also defeated South Bronx, 84-59, in the Scarsdale tourney consolation

behind Bicknese (21 points) and Gilroy (16).

When the Tuskers lost to state-ranked (No.13) Class AA Pine Bush a few weeks back, they could have shown a glass jaw, but they rallied to win six of the last seven and remain firmly affixed within the Class A Final 4 contenders. Somers will put that notion to the test this coming



Put Valley's Ryan Soto flies out to defend North Salem G Ryan Donovan in PV win last Friday.

Saturday when they take on state-ranked (No.19) Class A Saunders in the "Pride on the Court" Challenge at Sarah Lawrence College.

Hen Hud bounced back strong from the Jay setback with a 66-59 win over Class B Valhalla behind 19 points from F Kyle James and 14 from G Dylan Fraser. Mekhi Gray and Austin Fraser each chipped in with nine for the Sailors, who defeated **OSSINING**, 50-45, on Saturday. Fraser (12), Gray (14) and James (11) led the Sailors while Zahir Hernandez (15) and Jacob Toppin (10) led the Pride.

CLASS AA

In a 49-47 loss to John Jay EF, **MAHOPAC's** Justin Parker went for 14 points, but the real story was the play of F Reahl Allen, who jumped off the bench with a promising 13-point/15-rebound effort. It wasn't all bad for Mahopac, which posted a 55-46 win over Ramapo earlier in the week when F Ryan Dugan had 14 points to lead Mahopac, which improved to 5-4 after a 58-40 win over Arlington Saturday. Parker hit the Admirals up for 20 while Indian F Ryan Dugan added 15 and Allen went for 10 for the Indians, who held Arlington to one fourth-quarter point.

YORKTOWN lost 56-54 to Greeley despite solid outings from Mike Broder (15 points), James Lundberg (10 points, 7 boards) and G Marc Spinelli (11 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 5 steals).

The league loss didn't deter the Huskers (5-5) from coming out hard in a 57-47 win over Hastings in the opening round of the Budries Tournament. Lundberg had a special night with 19 points, 10 boards and three steals. Spinelli (7 points, 5 boards, 4 steals) and Tommy Weaver (7 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists) each had a well-rounded effort.

Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

Ossining's Griffin Never Blinkered Despite Hardship

By Tony Pinciario

Aubrey Griffin took a mature approach to a serious knee injury, which sidelined her for her sophomore year on the basketball court.

"In the beginning, it was hard, but it taught me how to be mentally stronger," said the sensational Ossining junior. "I couldn't dwell on it and focus on being hurt. Instead, I had to focus on getting better and helping the team."

Griffin is showing no ill-effects of the torn anterior cruciate ligament as she is averaging a team-leading 27.1 points per game. She is also averaging 7.9 rebounds and 4.1 steals a game for the 10-3 Pride, the seven-time defending Section 1 Class AA champs.

Griffin recently joined an elite girls' basketball club, registering her 1,000 varsity point in a recent victory over Kennedy Catholic.

Even though Griffin was unable to play her sophomore year, she remained an integral member of the team. Griffin felt she became more focused while watching games and practices, and she was an unofficial assistant coach.

"It showed me a different way the game was played, and I was able to understand the game even more," Griffin said. "I tried to help as much as I could. If a teammate needed motivation or was down, at times, during a game, I would talk to them and cheer them on."

Once Griffin received medical clearance to return, she was counting down the days until practice began last November.

"I was really excited that I was able to play again, and get back on the court and play with my teammates again because I missed playing with them," Griffin said.



RICK KUPERBERG/RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Putnam Valley G Kelli Venezia splits Yorktown's Ashley Zeolla (L) and Mackenzie Merson in Tigers' tourney win over Huskers Saturday.

Ossining Coach Dan Ricci was equally happy to see Griffin back.

"Aubrey is a tremendous athlete who



Put Valley G Arianna Stockinger shadowed Yorktown hotshot Kat Severino in Tigers' tourney win over Huskers Saturday.

helps us get easy baskets," Ricci said. "Aubrey looks like she was never injured."

It is only natural for an athlete, returning from a serious injury, to be a somewhat tentative, at first. Griffin was cautious, but didn't allow herself to think about it. Instead, Griffin approached her return with the same tenacity she demonstrates on the court.

"I just said to myself that I was back and I did the therapy I needed to do and my knee is stronger now," Griffin said. "I felt comfortable a couple of games into the season because I'm not scared to hurt my knee. I'm going out and playing my hardest."

Griffin was on the verge of collecting her 1,000th varsity point, but was not aware of it. She thought she was nowhere near the milestone because she

missed last year. However, when she made a driving layup in the 92-58 win over Kennedy Catholic, the game was stopped and Ricci presented her with the ball.

"It means a lot but I wouldn't have been able to accomplish this without my teammates," Griffin said. "My teammates always find a way of passing the ball me when I'm open."

Griffin filled out the stat sheet with 30 points, five rebounds, five assists and four steals. Kailah Harris added 18 points and seven rebounds, Julia Iorio netted 16 points and Kelsey Quain finished with 15 points. Jaida Strippoli handed out 10 assists.

Griffin scored a game-high 32 points in an 84-47 win over 2017 Section 1 Class A champion **SOMERS**. She also had 13 rebounds and five steals. Harris had 22 points and 15 rebounds and Strippoli added 11 points and six assists.

Ossining owns a three-game winning streak and played South Shore of Brooklyn, Monday. Griffin said Ossining has hiked the intensity level on defense during this current stretch.

"Coach Ricci said that we needed to step up and play Ossining basketball," Griffin said. "We've been working on defense, defense, and defense in practice because that's what wins games."

A young **PUTNAM VALLEY** team continued its excellent play, sweeping North Salem, 59-20, Dobbs Ferry, 39-30, and Yorktown 43-32, improving to 7-1.

Against **YORKTOWN** (3-7), in the Huskers' tournament, Kelli Venezia drained a game-high 20 points to lead the Tigers, who advanced to yesterday's tournament championship.

Putnam Valley's defense has been stifling through seven games, yielding less than 35 points per game.

"We struggled offensively against Dobbs Ferry," PV boss Kristi Dini said, "and it showed, as our last game was December 21, but we played great defense. They're a good team and it was a great battle."

"We really moved the ball well against North Salem, but our defense was really tough. North Salem only had eight points at halftime."

Dini is pleased with her team's defensive



Putnam Valley F Dora Rippon, who is having an exceptional junior season, drives on Yorktown's MacKenzie Merson in Tigers' tourney win over Huskers Saturday.



Hen Hud's Caitlin Weimar did what she could, but it wasn't enough in the Sailors loss to Section 1 heavyweight Our Lady of Lourdes.

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Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

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Brewster G Maggie DePaoli scored 25 points but it wasn't enough to offset Somers last Thursday.

approach, whether in practice or games.

"The girls buy in and work extremely hard in practice breaking down every component of man defense and putting it all together," Dini said.

Dora Rippon led the way with 17 points and 12 rebounds against Dobbs Ferry. She

then poured in 26 points against North Salem. Venezia chipped in 14 points and 12 assists and Ariana Stockinger had 12 points.

PANAS went 2-1 for the week with victories over Peekskill, 59-41, and Gorton, 67-30. The Panthers, now 5-5 this season, lost by a point, 51-50, to Pelham.

Kellie Brown paced the offense with 20 points against Peekskill (1-6). Danielle Merante added 14 points and Kristen Cinquina had 12 points.

In the Pelham game, Brown netted 19 points and Kristen Scrobola and Merante had nine points apiece. Brown tallied 15 points, Merante added 12 and Caileen Nolan collected 11 points against Gorton.

"We played well as a team against Peekskill," Panas coach Matt Evangelista said. "We defended very well. Kellie made timely shots to keep us in the lead for most of the game. We did a good job of protecting and extending the lead in the fourth quarter."

Cinquina evened the score against Pelham in the last 30 seconds, but Pelham converted one of two free throws with 1.4 seconds remaining to steal the game.



John Jay's Erin Walsh, Kendall Degenhardt and Elizabeth Jahn swarm Lakeland's Jessica Ascencao in Indians' 42-40 buzzer-beating win over Hornets last Thursday.



Brewster G Megan Beal drives lane against defense of Somers' Dani Cucchiarella in Bears' loss to Tuskers last Thursday.

"We got off to an early lead in the Gorton game and maintained the lead until we blew it open in the fourth quarter," Evangelista said.

SOMERS also went 2-1 for the week. The Class A Tuskers defeated Tappan Zee, 59-53, and Brewster, 61-47, before an 84-47 loss to Ossining in a matchup of 2017 sectional champions.

"The best thing about the two wins were the continued growth of the two girls off of our bench," Somers' coach Marc Hattem said. "Senior Dani Cucchiarella and sophomore Pooja Rao continue to get better, making us a deeper team. Pooja averaged 10 points and six rebounds in the two wins."

"In the loss to Ossining, it was a two-

point game, 31-29, late in the first half, but then they went on a big run to put us away. They are as good as any team we have seen or will see. Dani had a career-high six 3-pointers."

Hannah Angelini had 21 points and seven rebounds against Tappan Zee and Liv Lipski added 13 points. Angelini finished with 17 points against Brewster, Dani DiCintio contributed 14 points and Lipski rang up five steals.

Despite the loss to Somers, **BREWSTER** Coach Mike Castaldo came away pleased with this team's performance.

"I could not be prouder of the way my team played," Castaldo said. "The girls executed the game plan, played extremely physical, got on the floor and took charges. We just lost to a really good team."

Castaldo said one factor that led to Somers' victory was the 18 points it received from its bench players.

Maggie Depaoli finished with a game-high 25 points, including five 3-pointers, and Kristen Stefanick chipped in 16 points.

"Maggie did a great job of breaking the press, getting to the rim and was lethal from long range. Kristen had her best all-around game as a varsity player," Castaldo said. "This was a great game to be a part of."

YORKTOWN opened its week with a 48-37 win over Horace Greeley, then dropped a 43-32 verdict to Putnam Valley.

Kat Severino posted a game-high 26 points against Greeley. Mackenzie Merson added 10 points and Jesse Barer finished with seven points. Severino scored 17 points against Putnam Valley.

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Visiting Putnam Valley sophomore G Cyera Daughtry catches and pulls upon the drawstring of Yorktown's Mackenzie Merson's shorts yet still goes up for two in the youthful Class B Tigers' 43-32 win over the Class AA Huskers in Saturday's opening round of the George Budries Tournament, which was set to conclude last night with the Tigers (7-1) set to square off against Class AA Clarkstown North in the finals... see Girls Hoops Notebook