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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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## Local Resident Tapped to be Mahopac School Chief

By David Propper

Calling it a dream come true, longtime Mahopac resident Anthony DiCarlo was named Mahopac superintendent of schools last week as the district begins to prepare for a mid-year leadership change.

DiCarlo, who is currently the principal of a New Rochelle elementary school, was approved unanimously by the Mahopac Board of Education with one member absent during last Thursday's brief meeting. He will begin his new position next month on Feb. 26, replacing current school chief Dr. Dennis Creedon, who announced over the summer he would not remain once his contract expired at the end of the school year.

"I'm so honored and humbled to be part of this community," DiCarlo said in an interview. "As you know I've given service to this community for many, many years and this is my ultimate

dream. Working with a great community of educators, parents and creating that strategic road map; what are things that are going well, what are things we can be working on."

DiCarlo's contract is for five years and he'll be paid \$235,000 annually.

DiCarlo, who originally received a master's degree in international business before he got his master's in education, started his administrative career in New Jersey, and bounced around to different school systems in Westchester as a principal or assistant principal. He was also director of special education, personnel and athletics in Tuckahoe for five years. In every job, DiCarlo said he achieved tenure and developed great relationships.

"I was building my resume to be able to come to this point in my career," DiCarlo

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DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

School board president Leslie Mancuso and incoming school chief Anthony DiCarlo.

## High Stakes Removal Hearing Held in Carmel

By David Propper

A hearing to determine the fate of Carmel Board of Education member John Curzio was held last Wednesday, with the issue of free speech seemingly at odds with appropriate school board conduct.

The removal hearing, which was public, lasted for more than two hours with attorney Mark Rushfield representing most of the school board that accused fellow trustee of two misconduct charges, and attorney Michael Sussman representing Curzio, a 20-year-old college student who graduated from Carmel schools.

In a 5-2 vote last month, the board approved a hearing to determine if Curzio committed misconduct when he vocally opposed two bond votes that ultimately failed on Dec. 11. The two bonds, meant to make massive improvements across



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Carmel Board of Education member John Curzio during last week's removal hearing.

the district, would have cost \$85 million, though state aid would have offset some of the costs to local taxpayers.

Attorney Jeffrey Selchick presided over the hearing and will reach a decision regarding Curzio's conduct likely in March.

During opening statements, Rushfield argued Curzio violated his oath of office and claimed that he used public resources for a private purpose when he spoke out against the bonds during videotaped board meetings.

"The law establishes although an individual board member is entitled to express his views about issues concerning the district, may not use public funds such as videotaping of a board meeting made available to the community to persuade members of the community to

*continued on page 2*

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# High Stakes Removal Hearing Held in Carmel

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vote a certain way," Rushfield said.

But Sussman called the hearing against Curzio an "outrageous attempt to suppress opinion."

Sussman said board members never expressed their concern about Curzio's statements following the Nov. 21 or Dec. 5 meetings and didn't accuse him of misconduct until after the bonds failed. Curzio, when stating his opinion about the bond vote, clarified he was speaking for himself and not for the school board, Sussman said.

"My client did nothing contrary to what others did," said Sussman, noting the district created a video about the capital projects and board members spread it throughout the community.

Sussman said Curzio has a responsibility to assert his position to the community and the rest of the board is using him as a "scapegoat" for the defeat of the bond propositions. During meetings that are videotaped, Sussman said every member had the opportunity to state their opinion and it wasn't Curzio's decision to spread the video of the meetings to the community.

"I believe this sort of oppressive behavior should be stopped," Sussman said. "Right here, right now."

About a dozen residents attended

*'I believe this sort of  
oppressive behavior  
should be stopped.  
Right here, right now'  
- attorney Michael  
Sussman*

the hearing, including Curzio's parents, Kent Supervisor Maureen Fleming, Kent Councilman Paul Denbaum, Southeast Supervisor Tony Hay, and former Carmel school board members Eric Mittelstadt and Joe DiVestea.

Superintendent of Schools Andy Irvin testified on behalf of the school board and said Michael Lambert, an attorney for the district, met with the school board during a special meeting in August explaining that board members can't attempt to sway voters when a budget or bond vote is on the ballot and can only disseminate factual information. Irvin also relayed that Lambert told board members they could make statements about budget and bond votes if they prefixed that it was as a private citizen.

"Although you never give up your right to free speech, you need to identify something as your own personal opinion

not that of the school board or your service as a school board member," Irvin recalled Lambert counseling the board.

After prodding by Sussman, Irvin acknowledged no board member or district official spoke to Curzio about possible violations once he spoke out at those two meetings about the bonds. Irvin said the DVDs that videotaped Curzio's comments were still circulated to the community and his comments weren't edited out.

Curzio testified on his behalf and said when he spoke out against the approved budget last year, no board member or district official told him his actions were inappropriate. At the August special meeting, Curzio said Lambert advised school board members had to specify they were speaking in a personal capacity if they voiced an opinion.

Curzio said he shared his opposition on the bond using social media, yard signs, handouts, talking to voters, and attending two town board meetings in Kent. During that campaign, he said he tried to deliver factual information and emphasized what his opinion was. Curzio added he was not approached by his colleagues about his methods or conduct during meetings.

A video that the district created about the bonds was played at meetings and was on the district website, Curzio said,

noting it was paid for by taxpayer funds. He later testified the video didn't explicitly tell voters to vote yes, but started with the line, "It's time," which Curzio believes encouraged voters to support the bonds.

"As an elected official I believe you have a responsibility to express your opinion on various items that come before the board that are up for a vote and discussion," Curzio said. "I was very careful to demonstrate that they were my personal opinions."

In a more combative back and forth between Curzio and Rushfield, Curzio confirmed he encouraged voters to turn down the referendum as a board member sitting on the dais during those two meetings. He said he never read he wasn't allowed to in a school education law book and didn't make an inquiry to the rest of the board or district to see if he could make those comments.

"I believe the comments were proper," Curzio said.

When asked why he thought he could make comments about the school bonds at meetings, Curzio's retort was: "the 1st amendment to the Constitution."

Both Rushfield and Sussman have until the end of February to submit more information and Selchick will then determine if the alleged misconduct holds any weight.



## Pain Shooting Down One Leg? What you need to know about symptoms and treatment of sciatica...

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#### Q: Do I have sciatica?

**A:** You probably do if you feel a sudden and severe pain, along with numbness and weakness, radiating from the buttocks down the back of one leg to the foot. The pain can be crippling. It is usually intense when you walk, diminishing when you lie down.

#### Q: What causes sciatica?

**A:** The *sciatic nerve* branches from the spine in the lower back through the hips and buttocks and runs down the back of each leg to the foot. Sciatica occurs when this nerve is pinched in the lower back by spinal disc herniation – protruding disc material – or by a larger fragment of disc material. Disc herniation usually occurs during normal activities, such as rising from bed.

#### Q: Am I at risk for sciatica?

**A:** Sciatica is common. More than three million Americans are diagnosed with the condition annually.\* Apart from the fact that 10 to 15 percent of patients have a family history of back problems, there are no risk factors. No behavior predisposes you to it.

#### Q: What are my treatment options?

**A:** If you have sciatica and it is not severe, you will typically receive oral steroids (anti-inflammatories) for seven days. Once you're more mobile, you will engage in physical therapy for a period of time and then be re-evaluated. If your symptoms persist, you may receive an injection of steroids at the nerve root to reduce pain. If this regimen fails, physicians will offer surgery. However, if a patient comes in unable to stand – basically bed-bound – we advise surgery sooner. It is important to know that 80 to 90 percent of patients get better without surgery.

#### Q: What can I expect from surgery for sciatica?

**A:** This minimally invasive procedure takes under an hour, and consists of removing the disc material pressing on the nerve. Most patients are pain-free following surgery. We have seen patients who arrived unable to stand or walk for more than a few minutes, walk out the same day after surgery, completely asymptomatic. Sciatica recurs in ten percent of people, who may suffer recurrent bouts of the condition throughout their life.

\* <http://umm.edu/health/medical/reports/articles/back-pain-and-sciatica>

# Odell Outlines Potential Ways to Streamline Services

By Anna Young

Following New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo's State of the State earlier this month, County Executive MaryEllen Odell is continuing to propose ways the county can streamline services and potentially save taxpayers money.

In the coming months, Odell, a Republican, said she plans to meet with elected officials from every town and village, school district officials, county department heads and union representatives to discuss the county's approach to streamline services and reduce property taxes. Cuomo's County-Wide Shared Services Initiative requires county officials to develop a plan to eliminate duplicative services and coordinate services to enhance purchasing power.

Odell noted how the county has already worked in partnership with the towns and school districts in past years to provide fiscal relief. She said the county assumed the county Board of Elections' \$1.9 million budget and the community college \$3.15 million budget. The county also paid over \$25 million to the school districts for both their unpaid wholly school tax payments and for unpaid partial school tax payments.

With the school budgets carrying a high percentage of the property tax bill, Odell

said she will be visiting each school district to stress to every superintendent that they need to be involved in consolidating funds. She also questioned the need for six superintendents and suggested having one school superintendent oversee every school system within Putnam.

"Why are we not talking to the schools when it's been evident that the schools have as many mandates as we do, and they offer as many services that the state requires as we do," Odell said. "I think it would be in their best interest to sit with us because they face the same struggles we do with budgets and mandates."

Odell criticized Cuomo, a Democrat, for not including the school districts in the discussion for shared services and continuing to blame the county government for high taxes when the school district's portion of the property tax bill exceeds the county's.

"In Putnam County we're very proud of the fact that our county tax bill is nine percent, which is the lowest of all 62 counties," Odell said.

Odell proposed the county invest in a wash bay intended to be shared amongst the schools, highway department and police department. She said the capital expenditure would create significant benefits to the local municipalities, towns and school districts, while also extending

*'Why are we not talking to the schools when it's been evident that the schools have as many mandates as we do, and they offer as many services that the state requires as we do.' - County Exec. MaryEllen Odell*

the useful life of the vehicle.

"A wash bay will be a tremendous opportunity for schools and municipalities and the county included to do something good for the environment and do something good for our equipment, which in translation is good for the taxpayers because we preserve our equipment," she said.

Another aspect Odell elaborated on was the installation of video conferencing instead of the accused appearing in court. By having jailed defendants appear

electronically, Odell said it could save the county money on overtime and vehicle usage and enhance public safety to a higher level. She added that the initiative has received support from Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley, along with the Putnam County Bar Association and the Putnam Legal Aid Society.

Odell said she asked the county Legislature to bring it back to the floor for discussion adding how it's a great program from a public safety perspective. She is also suggesting consolidating the county tax assessors into one unit stating that the shared service would result in potential savings in personnel cost to the local municipalities.

The Commission for Fiscal Vision and Accountability will be working together to examine the suggested ideas and brainstorm more service sharing ideas.

The initial shared service plan needs to be developed and submitted by the county Legislature by Aug 1. It will then be finalized before Sept. 15 and subject to at least three public hearings. A shared services panel will vote on the plan and if approved it, it would go up to New York State. If the plan fails or is not voted on, Odell will need to provide residents the proposals that were put forth and the vote of each panel member and the reason for their vote.

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# NY Gov. Proposes New Taxes and Fees to Close State's Deficit

By David Propper

In hopes of generating enough revenue to fill a massive budget gap, New York State Gov. Andrew Cuomo proposed new taxes and fees that could result in millions of dollars for the state.

During his budget outline last Tuesday, Cuomo proposed \$586 million in new taxes and fees and vowed not to make cuts to education and health care spending. The state is facing close to a \$4 billion hole in this year's budget and a federal government run by President Donald Trump that is making it tougher for New

York residents, Cuomo said.

Cuomo wants to implement a 2-cent-per-milligram tax on opioids produced that would be paid for by the drug manufacturers; a broader internet sales tax that would require a tax on marketplace companies like Amazon regardless of where the seller is based; a 10-cents-per-milliliter tax on vapor products that would affect e-cigarette users; and a 14 percent surcharge on profits achieved by health insurance companies, which is expecting a windfall after the approved GOP tax law on the federal level.

Cuomo described the taxes and fees as "revenue raisers."

"Four-billion-dollar deficit, you can't possibly get anywhere near where you want to be on education and health care unless you raise revenues," Cuomo said during his address. "It's just too big a deficit and the choice of cutting education or cutting health care, I don't think is a place anyone wants to go this year. So we have to raise revenue. You have to raise revenue that doesn't hurt the state's economy."

Local Republican state lawmakers were

*'It's just too big a deficit and the choice of cutting education or cutting health care, I don't think is a place anyone wants to go this year.'* - NY Gov. Andrew Cuomo

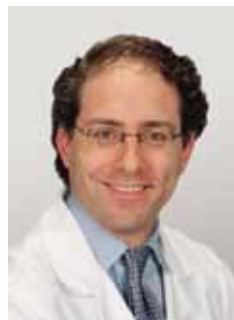
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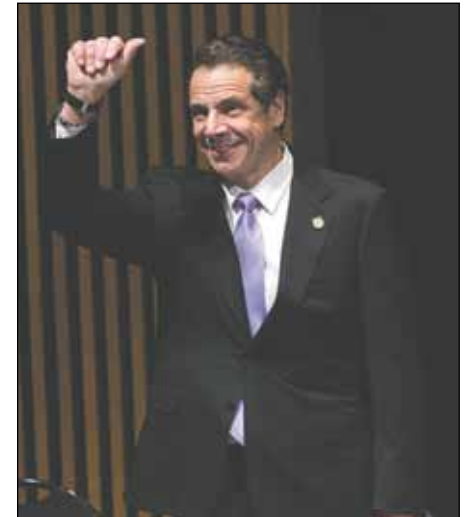
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PROVIDED PHOTO

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo at last week's budget outline.

skeptical about Cuomo's spending plan.

In a statement, NYS Sen. Terrence Murphy said a budget that totals \$153 billion should be enough to effectively run state government and lawmakers need to take a hard look at the state's spending habits rather than find new ways to generate revenue that affects homeowners and businesses. He noted that if the state stays below a 2 percent cap, that budget deficit would be about \$1.7 billion.

Murphy was also disappointed Cuomo didn't mention how local municipalities would make up the \$450 million revenue loss when Indian Point in northern Westchester closes in a few years.

"From tackling the heroin epidemic, to properly funding our public schools, to fixing our crumbling roads and infrastructure, we have our work set out for us" Murphy stated.

In a statement, state Assemblyman Kevin Byrne once again admonished Cuomo for blaming the federal government for the state's budget woes. He stated Cuomo has done very little to address skyrocketing debt and irresponsible spending, which has led to nearly 1 million people leaving the state over the last ten years.

"Now more than ever we must push for fiscal responsibility, while addressing our government's excessive spending, backdoor borrowing and various tax-code deficiencies that have plagued our state for the better part of the last decade," Byrne said.

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# Local Resident Tapped to be Mahopac School Chief

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said.

During the meeting, DiCarlo said he would be “listening, listening and doing more listening” to students and staff as he goes to the different schools in the district.

Outside of his education career, DiCarlo has been active in the community and politically. He was a Carmel town councilman for six years and a Putnam County legislator for three years. He considered running for legislator two years ago and councilman again last year, but ultimately veered against runs both times. Now, he’s one of the six school chiefs in the county.

Creedon will be in charge for the next month and then will take a role as a consultant until June 30. He will still be paid his current salary in his reduced role with the district.

During the meeting, Creedon said he was ready to offer DiCarlo any necessary support to ensure the transition in leadership “is not only seamless, but you are fully prepared for the first day.”

“Because our children and our students deserve nothing less,” he said.

Board president Leslie Mancuso, during the meeting, thanked Creedon and called him a “true gentleman and true professional” throughout his tenure. She

said Creedon would be available the rest of the school year to field any questions DiCarlo might have after he assumes the school chief job.

Creedon, who spent nearly three years with Mahopac after coming from the Philadelphia school system, received a warm standing ovation from the audience after Mancuso’s remarks.

Moving forward, Mancuso said the board is very pleased DiCarlo is coming aboard and was proud of the search process conducted. Following the interview process, which came down to two finalists, the selection committee liked what DiCarlo conveyed, Mancuso said.

“He came through with flying colors,” Mancuso said.

During the meeting, Mancuso, DiCarlo and Creedon mentioned how important it was that DiCarlo was from Mahopac. Mancuso said his district residency helps him better understand the community and she noted he had four children that went through the school system.

“He understands it’s a big community, there’s a lot of factions in the community and when you live it, breathe it, you know the people and it just makes it a lot easier,” Mancuso said. “He understands our greatness and our weaknesses to help us bring us to the next level.”



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Mahopac school board members and local elected officials welcomed Anthony DiCarlo to his new post last week.

## New Putnam County Sheriff Langley Swears in Captains

By Neal Rentz

The transition from longtime Putnam County Sheriff Don Smith to recently-elected Robert Langley continued last Friday with a swearing in ceremony for the new sheriff’s captains at the Putnam County Emergency Services Training and Operations Center in Carmel.

Taking their oath of office were: Kevin Cheverko, Captain of the Jail, Jon Jennings, Captain of BCI, Edward Swarm, Captain of Patrol, Lisa Ortolano, Captain of Civil, and: James Babcock, Captain of Communications.

Ortolano made history last week by becoming the first female captain in the department’s history.

During the ceremony Langley praised the new captains.

“Today we’re here to swear in the five captains for the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department,” he said. “I’m very honored to have them serve with the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office. They are exemplary people.”

In what was considered a major upset in the GOP dominated Putnam County, Langley, a Democrat, unseated the Republican Smith.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

The swearing in ceremony for the new captains appointed by Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley was held on Friday at the Putnam County Emergency Services Training and Operations Center in Carmel. Shown above taking their oaths of office are, from the left, Kevin Cheverko, Captain of the Jail, James Babcock, Captain of Communications, Lisa Ortolano, Captain of Civil, Edward Swarm, Captain of Patrol, and Jon Jennings, Captain of BCI.



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# Sheriff Gets Chief of Staff; Butterfield Center Update

By David Propper

New Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley proposed at a personnel committee meeting last week that the sheriff's office should add a chief of staff instead of hiring a confidential secretary.

Langley said he wanted to change the position title from confidential secretary to chief of staff because it'd be a more valid description for the person that assists the sheriff. That chief of staff's duties would go beyond clerical work, Langley said, calling his undersheriff Michael Corrigan his right hand man and his future chief of staff would be his "left hand man."

The annual salary would be \$63,990, Langley proposed, which is roughly a \$7,000 reduction from the previous year that the confidential secretary was paid under former sheriff Don Smith. Other sheriff departments in the state have a similar set up, personnel director Paul Eldridge confirmed to lawmakers.

"There's a tremendous amount of responsibility that goes along with this job," Langley said. "Tremendous amount of confidentiality that has to be preserved."

Langley also proposed an annual salary of \$52,673 for the undersheriff's confidential secretary, resulting in a savings of more than \$5,000 from the previous year.

At the end of the year, legislators knocked the salaries of sheriff and undersheriff secretaries down to \$50,000, but signaled their willingness to set the two salaries that Langley suggested. Langley said in order to keep Putnam one of the safest counties in New York State, compensation for important positions must be considered.

"(Langley's) making this his own," Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra said. "If he wants to structure it like this, if it works well for his office and for himself I also would agree."

Both positions were vacant in January, which saved the county some of the money they'd have to pay toward the positions.

County Executive MaryEllen Odell, at the committee meeting, supported



The physical services committee got an update on the Butterfield senior center project.

Langley's requests. She mentioned when she came into office, she reshuffled her office without spending any more money than the previous administration for her support team.

"I have a chief of staff, her position is invaluable," Odell said. "She is my third hand."

During the physical services committee meeting, the highway department gave lawmakers an update on the senior center in Cold Spring. The county is leasing space on the Butterfield campus for fifteen years, but hit a snag toward renovating the interior after bids for the project came back higher than planned late last year.

Deputy highway commissioner John Tully said there have been changes to the engineering plans in order to get the project under budget, including changes to the HVAC system, and the hope is to put the project back out to bid by the end of the month.

The county pegged to spend about \$1.2 million to renovate the inside of the space, but the lowest bid came back much higher at \$1.8 million last year.

Despite rumor that state grants would

not come through, Tully said that wasn't the case and the county can expect monies from Assemblywoman Sandy Galef and Senator Sue Serino. Scuccimarra, who represents the district where the senior center would be, said she's spoken with both state lawmakers and they assured her the grants are solid.

Tully noted there has been work done on the space that could also decrease the



Sheriff Robert Langley at last week's committee meeting.

cost contractors would charge. All of the demolition has been completed and the plumbing is almost done, Tully said. So far, \$7,500 has been spent by the county on the property.

"It'll be a real clean slate, a lot different than what the contractors saw when they did the walk through the first time," Tully said. "We feel like we're on track."



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# Offsetting Loss of Indian Pt. Revenue Still a Challenge

By Rick Pezzullo

It has been one year since local officials were blindsided by the announcement that the Indian Point nuclear power plants in the Village of Buchanan would be shutting down in 2021.

While the shock of the secret agreement between Entergy, Governor Andrew Cuomo and Riverkeeper that was publicly revealed on January 9, 2017 has long worn off, government and school leaders are facing the challenge of how to replace \$32 million in collective revenue that will be lost, along with 1,100 permanent jobs.

"The real problem is that there is no source of funding at the state or federal levels to offset our loss of revenue that begins in 2020/2021---\$32 million in total and the loss of many good jobs," said Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi, whose municipality currently receives \$800,000 annually from Entergy, which represents two percent of its budget.

Buchanan is set to lose \$4 million, or 46% of its operating funds, while the Hendrick Hudson School District will be suffering a \$24 million hit, or 33% of its budget.

"It has been a year of many meetings, asking many questions and trying to get our head around the challenges we face and how best to mitigate the loss of revenue and jobs for our community," Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker said.

Besides the annual funding Hendrick Hudson receives, Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter pointed out Entergy has donated more than \$400,000 for supplies and equipment over the last 10 years so the district could provide innovative STEM programs for its students, along with sponsoring field trips, guest speakers and other educational enhancements.

Immediately following the news of the plant's closures, Hendrick Hudson shelved a more than \$14 million capital improvement project that had been in the works.

"While the news of Indian Point's closure shocked and surprised our community, I remain optimistic and hopeful that our collective advocacy efforts, by working with local state and federal officials, will ensure that our world class educational opportunities for the children of Hendrick Hudson remain intact for generations to come," Hochreiter said.

"Our community has rallied together and has shown a resilience to work collaboratively, a willingness to be informed and educated, and commitment to work together as we confront the revenue gap Indian Point's closure will create," he added. "One year later, our focus will be to ensure governmental financial assistance, and that property taxes will not be the sole source to close the projected financial gap."

Under the pact reached by Entergy, Cuomo and Riverkeeper, Indian Point Unit 2 will cease operations as early as April 2020 and Unit 3 in April 2021. However, an emergency provision is included that could give Entergy an additional four years of service in the event of war, a sudden increase in electrical demand or a sudden shortage of electric energy.

A 23-member local task force was created to identify ways to respond to the near future plug being pulled at Indian Point and the committee has been meeting

regularly. Last spring, the governor also set up a special task force, which Puglisi, Knickerbocker and Hochreiter sit on, and the state has retained a consultant to specifically address the reuse of the 240-acre site. That report is expected to be completed in April.

"We don't have to look far to see what happens in communities throughout New York State when businesses close, jobs are lost, and school funding goes away," Hochreiter said. "It goes without saying that my chief responsibility here is to work tirelessly to mitigate these

potentially negative impacts on our local communities, residents, and ultimately our children. Five-year-olds, 11-year-olds or high school seniors should not pay the consequence of a set of decisions and negotiations that have long-lasting negative implications."

In the meantime, the Cortlandt Town Board is committing \$75,000 to hire an economic development consultant, and the board has agreed to set aside \$100,000 annually in a special fund to prepare for the end of Entergy's financial contributions.



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# Sew Sisters Workshop

By Lisa Mockel

They like to say they're bringing a bit of the West to Westchester.

Mount Kisco resident Megan Goett and Cheryl Sabanosh of Somers recently launched Sew Sisters Workshop selling handmade items including Disney-inspired hooded towels, custom yoga mats, soft toys, frilly tutu bags, Tooth Fairy pillows and more.

The pair was introduced by a mutual friend at their Mount Kisco church about five years ago and quickly bonded over a shared love of sewing – something they call a “lost art” – canning, gardening and other do-it-yourself activities.

“It was love at first sight,” Goett said of meeting Sabanosh, adding that she rarely meets anyone who sews nowadays. “And luckily the husbands get along too!”

Within six months of meeting, Sabanosh had recruited Goett to accompany her on one of her trips to Pennsylvania's Amish country where she likes to explore the area's many fabric shops in search of high quality material for her crafts. Eventually the trips became annual family vacations, with Sabanosh, Goett and their husbands and children renting a house together for a week.

Sewing was something Goett and



LISA MOCKEL PHOTO

Megan Goett, left, and Cheryl Sabanosh, the founders of Sew Sisters Workshop, which sells handmade gifts and other items.

Sabanosh enjoyed most growing up in their native states of Wisconsin and Idaho, respectively. That continued into adulthood, a beloved pastime that has produced handmade special occasion outfits and toys for their children, personalized gifts for family and one-of-a-

kind party favors, including personalized superhero capes, for their kids' friends.

Others took notice of the quality of the items Goett and Sabanosh were making and encouraged them to start their own business.

Using sewing and embroidery machines and employing techniques such as double stitching and serging to ensure durability, they can have most items shipped within a week.

After opening their Etsy shop in November, they were excited to receive their first online order from a woman in Arkansas.

“It was truly validation having people you don't know see something you made and want to buy it,” Goett said.

The “sisters” say sewing also helps keep them connected to their roots.

“My mom was always crafting, scrapbooking – she crochets a lot – sewing, a lot of hand embroidery, she was always doing something,” Sabanosh said “I just grew up around it.”

Sabanosh, who moved to the East Coast in 2000 to become a Connecticut family's nanny, recalled the joy she felt stitching together her own volleyball-emblazoned sweatshirt in a sixth-grade home economics class.

“It was my first project. We had four pieces we attached together and we got to choose the middle piece...I wore it forever. It was so ugly but I wore it forever,” she said. “I loved that class.”

Goett, who has lived in Mount Kisco for about 10 years, remembers sewing with her grandmother in California and watching her mom mend clothes on an old Singer sewing machine.

Describing herself as having been a “practical 16-year-old,” she volunteered in her high school's theater department costume shop. There she helped make, modify and mend costumes for the school's stage productions.

That experience would help her gain admission to the University of Wisconsin where she majored in apparel design. The school offered an option to complete the last year of the program at New York's Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT).

Goett jumped at the opportunity to move to Manhattan to complete her education, citing the limited fashion opportunities in Wisconsin. After graduating, she worked in the industry for several years, focusing on clothing and textile design. She is currently a stay-at-home mom to her daughter Norah, 8, and son Riley, 6.

Sabanosh, a Somers resident since 2004, manages a pediatric dental practice in Connecticut while raising her daughter Morgan, 7, and son Ryan, 4. She said she and Goett aren't looking to become wealthy off their new venture. They just want to continue doing what they love – and maybe one more thing.

“Our original joke was if we could just make enough to pay for our Amish country trips each year,” she laughed.

For more information, visit [www.etsy.com/shop/SewSistersWorkshop](http://www.etsy.com/shop/SewSistersWorkshop)

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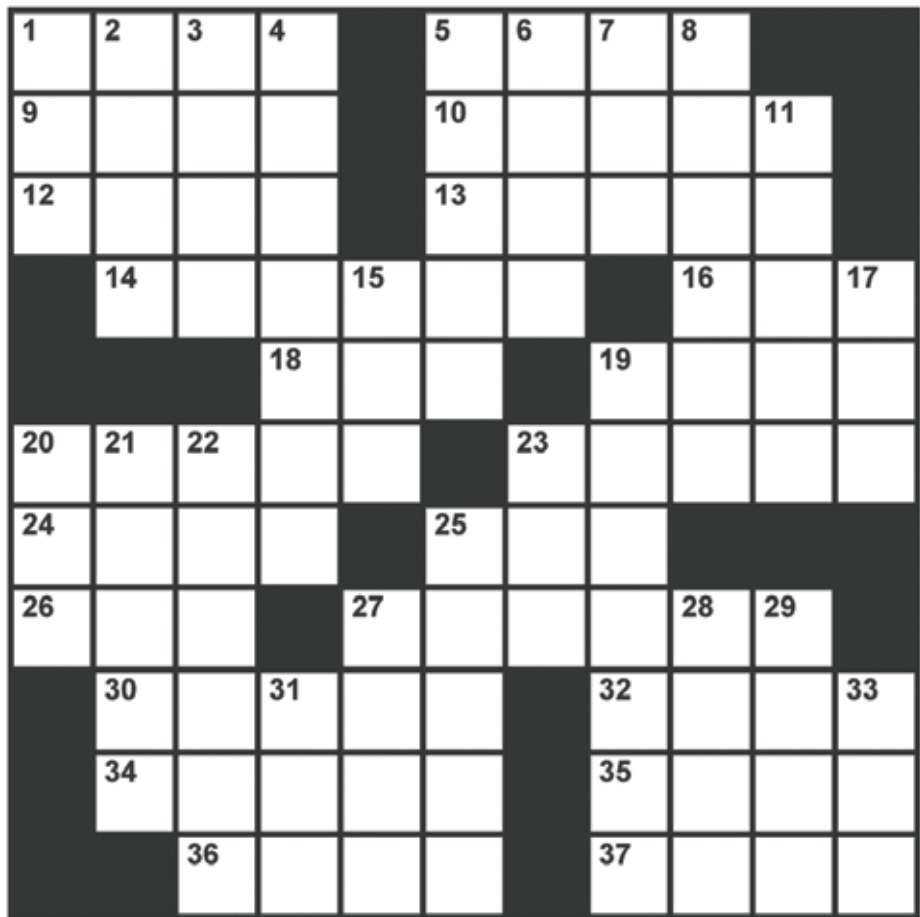
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# Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 15

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- Across
1. Sweet treat for your feet in Yorktown, goes with 13 across

5. Indian site of marble tomb built for an emperor's wife

9. Deserve

10. Turned sideways

12. Tract

13. See 1 across

14. Native American drum

16. "I Like \_\_\_\_"

18. Gnaw at

19. \_\_\_\_ Haven, NY.

20. Sacred song

23. Pigtail

24. Numbered composition

25. Schmaltz

26. Court cry

27. Carmel assisted living facility, goes with 35 across

30. Kind of dog

32. Estimated time of arrivals

34. Unwavering

35. See 27 across

36. Lasso

37. Did in, Samson style
7. Unbroken series

8. Roman official who supervised buildings and grain

11. Dick and Jerry, the Van \_\_\_\_

15. Scottish cap

17. Coast Guard officer, abbr.

19. Cringes

20. Campaign pro

21. Guidelines

22. James Patterson, e.g.

23. Me \_\_\_\_!

25. Coast

27. Pace

28. Catchall abbr.

29. Pile maker

31. UN agency to improve working conditions

33. Use a Singer



# ShopRite Kicks Off Food Pantry Collection Drive

ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc., owner and operator of 35 stores throughout New York and New Jersey, announced last week it has partnered with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York for its annual Feeding Our Neighbors campaign and Cornell Cooperative Extension and Eat Smart New York Hudson Valley's Nourish Your Neighbor healthy food drive initiative. The partnerships are part of a joint effort to replenish food pantries throughout the Hudson Valley region.

Specifically, from Sunday, January 21 through Sunday, February 3, 27 ShopRite stores throughout Westchester County and the mid-Hudson region will collect donations at checkout for Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of New York. Shoppers can make monetary donations, or donate non-perishable food to support the archdiocesan-wide effort to raise food and funds to replenish food pantries and soup kitchens that feed hungry neighbors during the most critical time of the year. In addition, Cornell Cooperative Extension's Eat Smart New York will lend support via Nourish Your Neighbor, an educational food drive initiative designed to encourage healthier food donations to food pantries throughout the year, by providing shoppers with food donation bags and healthy shopping lists designed

to provide donors with assistance in selecting nutritious options while they shop. Eat Smart New York will also put together pre-packaged shopping bags filled with healthy foods that customers can purchase to support the food drive, taking the guess work out of giving.

"We are honored to partner with Catholic Charities, Eat Smart New York Hudson Valley and Cornell Cooperative Extension on several healthy food drive events," said Tom Urtz, vice president of operations, ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc. "Food insecurity continues to be a major issue within the communities we serve, and our ShopRite family is proud to do our part to help our neighbors in need. Thanks to the support of our generous employees, customers and partners, we hope we can continue to make a difference in the fight against hunger."

The 2018 campaign officially kicked off at ShopRite of Greenway Plaza, located in Yonkers, on Friday, January 19 at 11 a.m., where representatives of ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc., Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York and Cornell Cooperative Extension will be joined by local dignitaries to launch the initiative.

"We are grateful to ShopRite and their customers for their continued generosity in support of the Feeding Our Neighbors food drive," said Monsignor

Kevin Sullivan, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. "The donations come at a time when food pantries are struggling to keep their shelves stocked and clients fed. Both the food collected and the funds raised will go a long way in helping local food pantries and soup kitchens replenish their inventory and feed our hungry neighbors. Working together, we're able to make a much-needed difference in our communities."

In 2017, Feeding Our Neighbors raised the equivalent of more than 1.5 million meals, supported in large part by \$92,000 in cash donations and nearly 23,000 pounds of food collected at ShopRite locations throughout the Hudson Valley. Catholic Charities, in partnership with ShopRite, aims to surpass those results in 2018 to feed the hungry across New York.

"There is a definite gap in food pantry inventory, creating a system-wide change for food donations is a tall order," stated Stefanie Hubert, Project Director of Eat Smart New York Hudson Valley. "However, with the support and collaboration of ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc., our neighbors will have the ability to obtain healthier foods that otherwise may not be available to them. This is just one spoke in the wheel of Eat Smart New

York's multifaceted approach to obesity prevention."

The Nourish Your Neighbor campaign is part of a wider effort by Cornell Cooperative Extension and Eat Smart New York to effect positive change – such as more nutritious offerings – at local food pantries.

The full list of ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc. stores participating in the campaign includes: in Columbia County: ShopRite of Hudson; in Dutchess County: ShopRite of Fishkill, ShopRite of Lagrangeville and ShopRite of Poughkeepsie; in Orange County: ShopRite of Chester, ShopRite of Dolson Ave. and ShopRite of Wallkill in Middletown, ShopRite of Monroe, ShopRite of Montgomery, ShopRite of Newburgh, ShopRite of Vails Gate and ShopRite of Warwick; in Putnam County: ShopRite of Carmel; in Sullivan County: ShopRite of Liberty and ShopRite of Monticello; in Ulster County: ShopRite of Ellenville, ShopRite of Kingston, and ShopRite of New Paltz; in Westchester County: ShopRite of Bedford, ShopRite of Cortlandt, ShopRite of Croton, ShopRite of New Rochelle, ShopRite of Scarsdale, ShopRite of Thornwood, ShopRite of Greenway Plaza and ShopRite of Tuckahoe Rd. in Yonkers, and ShopRite of White Plains.

## Letter to the Editor

# Democrat Kesten Would Bring Change to Senate District

For the past decade or so, we, the citizens of the 40th senate district, have been ill served by our Republican senators. Vince Liebell went to prison for corruption; Greg Ball fled the area under an ethical cloud; and incumbent Terrence Murphy flits about the district posing for photo op after photo op while important legislation, already passed by the Assembly, languishes ignored in Senate committees. We deserve better!

Robert Kesten wants to change all of that.

Kesten, a South Salem Democrat, has challenged Murphy for the Senate seat in

the 40th district. His unique life history and experience have given him a deep understanding of your concerns and how state government can and must respond to them. He knows that we must look to the future, not the past, if New York is to regain its status as a national leader, to the benefit of your community, your family, and yourself.

In Albany, Robert will work diligently with like-minded colleagues to pry critical legislation on health care, taxes, election reform, ethics, education, environment, energy, etc., etc., from committee and bring it to the floor for

debate and ultimate passage. He will focus on improving your life, rather than just sending you slick brochures (at taxpayer expense) that attempt to convince you that he is actually doing his job.

Now that the Trump administration has effectively declared war on New York, it is even more important that we have a state government that is honest, effective, and responsive to its citizens. Robert Kesten will deliver this to you; Murphy offers just more of the same stagnation.

Learn more about Robert, his

background and experience, and his plans for New York at his web site: [www.rkesten.com](http://www.rkesten.com), and on his Facebook page, RobertKesten4NYSSenate. Once you get to know him, I'm sure you'll agree that he merits your full support and that, together, we can launch a new era for New York.

Joel E. Gingold  
Croton on Hudson

## Putnam Health Dept. Wins Award from NYSDOH

The Putnam County Department of Health (PCDOH) has been awarded a total of \$55,000 through a competitive, state-wide program focused on the prevention of chronic diseases, such as obesity or diabetes. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) chose to focus funds on preventing these types of diseases because they have surpassed communicable diseases, like influenza, as the leading cause of death and disability. Nationally-accredited health departments, such as Putnam County's, were at an advantage with an automatic \$7,500 base payment. An additional \$5,000 automatic payment went to all agencies who competed due to

the sheer work involved. The remaining funds were distributed to just 20 health departments based on performance and county population, and Putnam received an additional \$42,500.

"Putnam residents can be reassured that our health department is among the best in the state with this award," said County Executive MaryEllen Odell, "and our health department should be proud."

Interim Health Commissioner Michael Nesheiwat, MD, thanked staff for their perseverance, saying, "I am delighted that our staff decided to put in the extra work to compete for these funds. It was not an easy task, but having achieved national accreditation in 2016 helped to

ease the submission process. No doubt it also helped us think more strategically and strengthen our partnerships with community members."

Only 50 percent of health departments vying for the funds were awarded competitive monies. The PCDOH received four perfect scores in the highest category and three near-perfect scores in the second highest one. Extensive documentation was required, explaining health department activities in seven key areas, such as engaging community partners. The evaluation process the State Health Department used was similar to the process for national accreditation formulated by PHAB, the Public Health Accreditation Board. This was done because national accreditation may become mandatory in the future.

As with all performance-based awards, the funds must be used to support specified public health services. NYS-recommended activities include conducting campaigns to reduce chronic diseases, and to promote enhanced screening activities and follow-up care by individual providers. Funds may also be used for accreditation or reaccreditation fees. The PCDOH will work with community partners involved in Putnam's Community Health Improvement Plan to

prioritize and develop ideas for the use of the funds.

Residents with ideas are invited to visit the PCDOH website at [www.putnamcountyny.com/health/chronicdisease/](http://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/chronicdisease/) to learn more about chronic diseases. They are encouraged to submit their own suggestions for prevention programs by mail to: Chronic Disease Prevention Programs, Health Education Unit, Putnam County Department of Health, 1 Geneva Road, Brewster, NY 10509, or by email to [health@putnamcountyny.gov](mailto:health@putnamcountyny.gov)

The mission of the Putnam County Department of Health, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), is to improve and protect the health of the Putnam County community, composed of nearly 100,000 residents. Core services include community health assessment, disease surveillance and control, emergency preparedness, environmental health protection, family health promotion and health education. For more information, please visit our County website at [www.putnamcountyny.com](http://www.putnamcountyny.com); or visit our social media sites on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/putnamhealth](http://www.facebook.com/putnamhealth) and Twitter @PutnamHealthNY.

## Last, Last Chance Flu Clinic to be Held in Putnam

The flu is now considered widespread in Putnam County and 49 states around the country, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Many are seeking vaccination and in some cases supplies are low. The Putnam County Department of Health has scheduled an extra flu clinic to vaccinate those who live or work in New York State, including those aged six months and older.

"The flu is now prevalent not just in Putnam but around the U.S. Anyone who has not been vaccinated should consider getting a shot to protect themselves," said County Executive MaryEllen Odell. "When you are a senior or very young, the flu can be especially dangerous. It is my hope, Putnam County residents not yet vaccinated will take advantage of this opportunity."

"Seven pediatric deaths have occurred in the U.S. within the last week, so we have opened up our flu clinic to include vaccination for the youngest residents," said Interim Health Commissioner Michael J. Nesheiwat, MD., "Contracting the flu when very young or old brings

the most serious consequences. If you have a child between six months and three years, please call us to ensure availability of the pediatric vaccine. It is also important to point out that there is some evidence that consistent, annual flu vaccination provides an added protection beyond what is provided in a single shot, especially in the elderly."

The clinic is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the health department's main office at 1 Geneva Road in Brewster. The fee is \$25 (cash or check only) or free for those with a Medicare card. In case of inclement weather, call the flu hot line at 845-808-1390 or visit the PCDOH's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/putnamhealth](http://www.facebook.com/putnamhealth) for notification of postponement. Snow date is Thursday, February 1, from 2 to 6:30 p.m. at the health department.

Parents with children from six months to three years of age should call the health department at 845-808-1332 to double check on current availability of the pediatric vaccine.

### The PUTNAM Examiner

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# Carmel Rotary Announces B-ball Shootout Fundraising Goal

The Carmel Rotary Club announced a \$60,000 fundraising goal for the 11th Annual Community Basketball Shootout. This popular annual event organized by the Carmel Rotary Club and Carmel High School Interact Club offers non-profit organizations in Putnam County the opportunity to raise funds to support their organizations. This year's Community Basketball Shootout will be held on Saturday, March 3, 9 a.m. – noon at the Carmel High School Gym, 14 Fair Street in Carmel.

The Carmel Rotary Club also announced Bob and Wendy Gentile as the 2018 Rotary Community Basketball Shootout Honorees. The Gentiles have supported and taken part in the success of this event since it began, in 2008. They've continually been among the top fundraisers at the Basketball Shootout. Bob and Wendy Gentile have a history of developing programs and working with the children and families of our community, county, state and even internationally. Bob has been the driving force at Camp Herrlich for the past 27 years, leading the organization as its Executive Director. Wendy also has an extensive history with Camp Herrlich and the Carmel School District. The Gentiles have moved the Camp Herrlich from a part-time summer camp to a year-round educational center



Bob and Wendy Gentile are this year's honorees.

now caring for 400 campers and 100 staff each day in the summer. Camp Herrlich's programs have grown into year round, successful partnerships with neighboring

school districts, local organizations and NYC schools and organizations. Bob and Wendy exemplify the Rotary motto, Service Above Self, their hands and heart

are never far from their work.

The Rotary Basketball Shootout has become a popular event as it offers all non-profit organizations the opportunity to raise funds to support their mission. Last year's Community Basketball Shootout raised over \$52,000 benefitting 45 local, regional and national organizations.

Basketball Shootout Chairman, Sal Gambino invites organizations, adults and youth to take advantage of this fun and easy fundraiser. "This year we've set our goal even higher - \$60,000," according to Sal Gambino. "We are confident that this goal is attainable with our nonprofit organizations and community's participation and will help provide a wide variety of vital programs and services in Putnam County and beyond."

For example, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County participated in the Basketball Shootout last year and raised over \$3,500. Executive Director, Marjorie Keith says, "It's a very easy way to raise money for your organization and you don't have to be a basketball player to participate."

*For information on how to participate in the Community Basketball Shootout call Sal Gambino at 845-228-9115 or visit the Carmel Rotary Club Website [www.carmelrotary.org](http://www.carmelrotary.org).*

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## Kent Public Library Adds Film Streaming Service

The popular on-demand film streaming service Kanopy will be available for free to Kent residents with library cards beginning January 24. Kent residents can access Kanopy and sign up to start streaming films instantly by visiting <http://kentlibrary.kanopystreaming.com> and logging in with their library card. Films can be streamed from any computer, television, mobile device or platform with good access to the Internet by downloading the Kanopy app for iOS, Android, AppleTV, Chromecast or Roku. (People who stream a film to a smartphone when they do not have a wireless connection to the Internet could be charged a data fee by their phone company.) Offering what the New York Times calls a garden of cinematic delights, Kanopy showcases more than 30,000 of the world's best films, including award-winning documentaries, rare and hard-to-find titles, film festival favorites, indie and classic films, and world cinema with collections from Kino Lorber, Music Box Films, Samuel Goldwyn, The Orchard, The Great Courses, PBS and thousands of

independent filmmakers.

Kanopy is also compatible for hearing (with captions and transcripts) and visually impaired patrons (compatible with technologies such as JAWS). Kanopy is free for Kent residents with a library card; all users need to do to get started is to visit <http://kentlibrary.kanopystreaming.com> or go to the library's web page, [Kentlibrary.org](http://Kentlibrary.org) and click on "Books and More".

With the motto of "thoughtful entertainment," Kanopy provides Kent Library patrons with access to films of unique social and cultural value; films that are often difficult or impossible to access elsewhere. Kanopy was founded in 2008 as an educational tool for colleges and universities. Today, more than 5 million Kanopy users stream the most acclaimed movies and documentaries from award-winning filmmakers, and experience the best in independent, classic film, and world cinema. Teachers and community organizations have the right to show the Kanopy films to a classroom or group, as long as they do not charge a fee to attend.

## Carmel Resident to Judge Westminster Dog Show



Carmel resident Clifford W. Steele, is among the judges at the 142nd annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York City on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 12 and 13. Steele will officiate over the Junior Showmanship Finals on Tuesday evening at Madison Square Garden.

For the 85th year, a Best Junior Handler will be awarded at Westminster. Steele will select Best Junior Handler from among eight Junior Showmanship finalists. Finalists are determined in preliminary rounds and are selected from 95 juniors who have qualified in dog shows around the country to compete at Westminster.

Steele was born into a dog show family. His parents were Boxer breeders and his father,

Charles Steele, was a professional handler. Steele showed his first dog in 1972 at a Boxer specialty in Chicago. In 1980, he began working for the legendary professional handling duo of Robert and Jane Forsythe. He worked for them for approximately one year until they retired and then went to work for Ted Young, Jr. for three and a half years.

In 1985, Steele established his own all-breed handling business and later added a boarding kennel in 1989. He was first licensed by the American Kennel Club to judge Junior Showmanship in 2000. This is his first judging assignment at Westminster.

All daytime preliminary breed and junior showmanship judging, agility and obedience competitions will be held at Piers 92 and 94 on the West Side of Manhattan. The group, Best in Show and junior showmanship finals judging will be held at Madison Square Garden in the evening. The dog show is preceded on Saturday, Feb. 10, by the 5th Annual Masters Agility Championship at Westminster on Pier 94 as part of the "Meet & Compete" event which also includes AKC Meet The Breeds® on Piers 92 and 94.

All Westminster Week events are presented by Purina Pro Plan®. For the full Westminster Week schedule, visit [www.westminsterkennelclub.org](http://www.westminsterkennelclub.org)

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## Obituaries

### Michael T. Fisher

Michael T. Fisher, 85, of Port Orange, FL, formerly of Mahopac, died on January 11, at Halifax Medical Center in Daytona, Florida. Mr. Fisher was born on July 26, 1932 to Alexander and Cecelia (Tracy) in New York City. On December 13, 1932 he married the love of his life, Margaret O'Donnell in Yonkers and together they were blessed with five children; Michael, Kevin, Thomas, Timothy and Marianne. He received a Bachelors of Science Degree in Engineering from New York University. He used his skills and education to go on to become a Director of Equipment Planning at American Broadcasting Company (ABC). In addition, he received a most prestigious honor, an Emmy Award for designing the first ever luge-mounted camera for the 1980 Winter Olympics. Michael enjoyed travel, cars, cigars, building clocks, and his favorite line was "I can fix anything but a broken heart", and most of all spending time with his family and friends. He was a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin and a friend to many. He will be dearly missed by all who had known and loved him, yet his legacy of love and devotion to family and friends will continue to grow in our hearts. Michael is survived by his four loving children; Kevin, Thomas, Timothy and Marianne Bizzoco, his nine cherished grandchildren; David, Angela, Katherine, Michael, Thomas, John, Kevin, Melanie and Steven, and his two great-grandchildren; David and Isabella, all of whom held a special place in his heart. He is predeceased by his beloved wife Margaret and his son Michael. Memorial visitations will be held on Friday, January 26, from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. and on Saturday, January 27 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. at Cargain Funeral Homes, Inc., 418 Route Six (for GPS 418 US6), Mahopac, NY 10541. A Mass of Christian burial will be follow at 11:30 a.m. at St. John's the Evangelist R.C. Church 224 East Lake Blvd., Mahopac, NY, 10541.

### Harold Richard Daros

Harold Richard Daros, a lifelong resident of Croton Falls, died peacefully at Northern Westchester Hospital on Saturday January 13. He was 78-years-old. Born on January 28, 1939 at his home in the Town of Southeast, son of the late Etti and Enis (Pietropaoli) Daros. He was a 1957 Mahopac High School graduate. Harold honorably served in the United States Air Force from 1959-1963. On November 27, 1966 he married the love of his life, his wife of 51 years, Lorraine DeVall. Together they raised five children. Mr. Daros was a member of the Teamsters Union Local #456 in Elmsford for 38 years before retiring in 2002. Harold was a member of the Croton Falls Fire Department for 61 years and served as an Ex-Chief and Past President. He was an Ex-Commissioner of the Croton Falls Fire District, as well as a member of the New York State Fire Police, and a charter member of the North Salem Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Harold was a 40-year member of the Model A Ford Club of America. He was a 40-year member and Past-President of the Westchester Chapter of the Model A Ford Club. He was also a member of the Antique Automobile Club of America. He and his wife attended 12 annual Glidden Tours across the USA with their 1930 Model A Ford Town Sedan. No matter how many clubs and organizations he was a member of, his family was his number one priority in life. Harold is not only survived by his wife, Lorraine, but also his five children; Robert I. Daros (Ellen), of North Salem, Thomas "Ted" E. Daros (Marisa) of Croton Falls, Ann Marie Daros (Russell Mulkins) of Dover Plains, Donna J. Daros (Robert Weber) of Patterson, and Gregory A. Daros (Jean) of North Salem. His grandchildren, Robert J. Daros, James Warthmann, Christopher Warthmann, Thomas "Teddy" Daros, Victoria Daros, Lila Perez, Mariah Hosack, and Johnny Law, and his two great grandchildren, Patrick and Keira Hosack. He was predeceased by his siblings; Edward Daros and Edith Swarm.

### Bernard R. Campbell

Bernard Robert 'Bob' Campbell, age 80, a resident of Jensen Beach, FL, formerly of Brewster, died Monday, January 15 in Valhalla. Bob was born on June 23, 1937 in the Bronx to James and Rose (Farrell) Campbell. He attended Blessed Sacrament in New Rochelle and served as a military policeman in the Air Force from 1954 until 1958. During his service, he traveled overseas to England in 1955. Bob married the love of his life, Joan Fallon, on May 29, 1960 in Long Beach Long Island. Through the years, Bob was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. His love for his family, especially his grandchildren, was immeasurable. Bob worked for Con Edison in Rye, servicing the Westchester area for 42 years. He began his career as a lineman, and worked his way up to a managerial position before his retirement in the year 2000. Through the years Bob was a fan of both football and baseball. After his retirement, he and his wife moved to Florida, where they enjoyed the sun and surf. He spent many hours surf fishing with his friends on Hutchinson Island. In addition to his wife, Joan, of 57 years, Bob is survived by his four children, Robert Campbell of West Haven, CT, William (Lucia) Campbell of Brewster, Lori (Kyle) Macomber of New Fairfield, CT and Leslie (Patrick) Tyndall of Brewster, NY; his sisters, Bernadette (Tom) Jackson of New City and Patricia Joyce of South Pasadena, FL; and his seven loving grandchildren. He was predeceased by a brother James Campbell Jr.

### Barbara F. Scriptor

Barbara F. Scriptor of Putnam Valley, died peacefully at home on January 15 after a long illness. She is predeceased by her husband Gilbert N. Scriptor and her granddaughter Bernadette Sullivan. She is survived by her brother, Richard Fagan of Pavilion, NY. Barbara leaves behind her six children, Gilbert R. Scriptor of Putnam Valley, Joan Kearins of Clinton Corners, Rebecca Sullivan of Tamiment, Pa, Donald Scriptor of W. Springfield, MA, David Scriptor of Bridgewater, MA and Deborah Borrell of Putnam Valley. She is also survived by fifteen loving grandchildren and several great grandchildren.

### Joseph Ciavolella

Joseph Ciavolella, 60, of Mahopac, died on January 16, at Calvary Hospital surrounded by his loving family and devoted wife Margaret. Joe was born on November 5, 1957 to Anthony and Jean Ciavolella (Salcito), in the Bronx. On February 14, 1992 he married the love of his life; Margaret at St. Eugene's in Yonkers and they were blessed with 26 loving years together. Before he retired in 2009 he was NYC Corrections Officer in the Firearms and Tactics Unit, NY. In his spare time, Joseph enjoyed riding his Harley, golfing

and camping but most of all spending his time with his family and friends. Joseph is survived by his devoted wife Margaret, his two adoring sisters Dianne (Pete) D'Errico and Angela (Joey) Schiemer his sister-in-laws; Rene (Joe) Bazzo and Rosemary (Kevin) Feldman and his brother in law Bobby (Judy) Usher and ten nieces and nephews and one great-niece and one great-nephew, all of whom he adored and each child held a special place in his heart.

### Lucy Mancuso

Lucy Mancuso, a 25-year resident of Brewster, died peacefully with her family by her side on Tuesday January 16. She was 75-years-old. Born on October 10, 1942 in New York City, NY, daughter of the late Frank and Mary (Alibrandi) Licciardone. She received her bachelor's degree from the College of New Rochelle and her Masters of Arts from Fordham University. On August 10, 1968 she married the love of her life Thomas Mancuso in NYC. Lucy was an active parishioner of St. Lawrence O' Toole Church, Brewster. Her family was her everything. Her children and grandchildren made her smile every day. Lucy is survived by her loving husband Thomas, her two sons; Richard Mancuso and his wife Lisa of Montville, NJ and John Mancuso and his wife Collen Hastie of Chappaqua. Her three grandchildren and brother, Salvatore Licciardone.

### Debora Lynn Green Lucia

Debora Lynn Green Lucia, age 58, died after a courageous battle with appendix cancer on January 17 surrounded by her family and loved ones. She was the wife of Anthony (Tony) Lucia for 36 loving years. Debbie is survived by her loving husband Anthony (Tony) her children Christopher, Gregory and Kelly all of Somers; her parents John and Marie Green of Cos Cob, CT; siblings, Karen Winslow (Ted), of Cos Cob, CT; Brian Green (Laura) of Mahopac and Darrin Green (Stacey) of Cos Cob, CT and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Debbie was born in Greenwich Connecticut and graduated from Greenwich High School and Katherine Gibbs School. She truly lived life to the fullest through simple pleasures; chatting with friends and family, holiday gatherings, hiking, spending time on her favorite beaches and helping others. Debbie was involved with Guiding Eyes for the Blind and was a Somers Travel Soccer Team mom. She was a very caring and loving wife and mother who always emphasized the importance of family values, and greeted everyone with a huge smile and open arms. The family would like to express their sincere thanks to her family and friends for their wonderful support and help throughout this difficult time. She was a true fighter. Donations can be made to a charity of your choice.

# Examí Blast

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# Toby Walker and Pesky J. Nixon to Perform in New Fairfield

Groovin' in New Fairfield is thrilled to welcome back Toby Walker and Pesky J. Nixon on Saturday, January 27, at 7:30 p.m. at the New Fairfield Senior Center, 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT. Tickets are \$10 and doors open at 6:45 p.m.

Advance Tickets can be purchased at the New Fairfield Senior Center (203-312-5665) or by mail. Payments made by mail should be payable to Groovin' in New Fairfield, and sent to GINF c/o New Fairfield Sr. Center 33 Rt.37 New Fairfield, CT 06812 Please allow sufficient time when mailing. All Sales Are Final. For additional information contact us at: grcoffeehouse@gmail.com

Enjoy a moderately priced dinner catered by Bruno's Restaurant before the show. Choices include: Eggplant Rollatini, Chicken Francese, Pizza, Coffee, Tea, Hot Mulled Cider, Water, and Homemade Desserts

Internationally and nationally acclaimed Toby Walker has been hailed as a roots music finger-style guitar virtuoso who has toured the US, England, Wales, France, Germany, Belgium and Holland. Walker blends the styles of blues, ragtime, country, bluegrass, rock and old time jazz into his own unique style. Jorma Kaukonen of Hot Tuna and the Jefferson Airplane said, "Flat out... you have to hear this great musician... I'm blown away" and has employed Walker



Toby Walker

PROVIDED PHOTOS

to teach at his famous Fur Peace Ranch Guitar Camp for 6 years. In 2010 Walker won the New York Music Award for 'Best Instrumental CD,' sharing the honors with Mariah Carey, Rufus Wainwright and Judy Collins among many others. Walker has recently released three instructional guitar DVD's for the world famous musicians. Carnegie Hall acknowledged his rare talents and hired him to augment and teach in their "American Roots" program aimed at honor level middle school students. For more information: [www.littletobywalker.com](http://www.littletobywalker.com)

Pesky J. Nixon is bombastic yet brilliant. These boys from New England exude a genuine musical authenticity



Pesky J. Nixon

and mirth on stages up and down the East Coast. Drawing influences from contemporary urban balladeers, rowdy southern bluegrass, and the sardonic yet wry wit of New England's localized folk scenes, Pesky J. Nixon (PJN) creates an atmosphere both inviting and challenging for audiences. Compelling harmonies and narratives rein in disparate instrumentation including- zydeco style accordion, virtuosic mandolin, and a myriad of string instrumentation. Jay Moberg of Boston's WUMB said of the group, "These guys represent what I love about music...great playing, thoughtful

lyrics, and musicians who actually enjoy playing together!" For more information: <http://www.peskyjixon.com>

About Groovin' in New Fairfield: Groovin' in New Fairfield seeks to develop and promote ongoing, regularly scheduled live music programs in New Fairfield and surrounding areas. It is a non-profit organization supported by sponsors, local businesses, grants from charitable organizations and patron donations and is staffed by volunteers. It operates under the New Fairfield Parks and Recreation Commission. [www.groovininnewfairfield.com](http://www.groovininnewfairfield.com)

# Putnam DA Partners with NYS Troopers

Putnam County District Attorney Robert Tendy announced last Friday that his office has used asset forfeiture money to purchase state of the art computer equipment for the New York State Troopers Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Troop K. The equipment will allow processing and analyzing of massive electronic data records in



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From left to right: Lieutenant Scott Hurley, District Attorney Robert Tendy, Captain John Ryan.

connection with police investigations and will provide remote access to law enforcement databases.

"I've encouraged law enforcement agencies to give us a list of items that will fill a serious need for some of the investigative initiatives they are involved in, and we've been happy to purchase a lot of equipment for a number of agencies," Tendy said. "This Microsoft Pro and the accompanying equipment will be a great assistance to the New York State Troopers. It will exponentially speed up and organize many aspects of their investigations. It's a great tool, and I'm really happy to help out."

Captain John Ryan and Lieutenant Scott Hurley of the Troop K BCI were on hand to accept the computer. "This model is more advanced and much faster than what we have been using for some complex databases. It is going to be extremely helpful to us," Ryan said.

Tendy added, "This is why asset forfeiture is so important. We forfeit the proceeds of crimes and use them to fight other crimes. Any time we get a chance to help out, we will."

The equipment will be put to use immediately.

# Crossword Answers

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# Why it's Necessary for Realtors to Talk a Lot

You'd never know it to meet me today, but I was born with some kind of neurological condition that resulted in my reaching the age of five without speaking a word.

That was in the days before autism spectrum disorder had been diagnosed and certainly there was no treatment available for kids like me who were non-social, withdrawn and didn't verbalize.

But from what my mother told me, I completely and miraculously recovered from whatever that condition was on the final day of a nine-week novena she made at St.

Donato's Roman Catholic Church in West Philadelphia. Far be it from me to question miracles, but I haven't shut up since.

While I was able to speak, I still had to challenge myself to become more socially interactive. I debated and wrote for the school newspaper. Once out of college, I was a newspaper reporter and later became a public relations practitioner, all jobs that require verbal communication.

But only when I ventured into real estate did I find myself talking all the time. And from what industry studies show, that's a good thing.



By Bill Primavera

At a convention I attended early in my real estate career, I was impressed with the message of one of the keynote speakers who identified the chief "irk" that sellers and buyers have with realtors – lack of communication. Specifically, the speaker said that the most common real estate situation that negatively impacts realtors' clients is inadequate disclosure.

She went on to paint scenarios that might convince potential homebuyers and sellers to have frequent heart-to-hearts with their realtors to know as much as they can

about the entire process, particularly what is likely to happen next.

In defense of myself and my fellow real estate professionals, I would say that out of self-preservation, we're way ahead of the game. I've never heard any group of people who talk as much as realtors do in their mission to inform clients.

But the real estate purchase or sale process is so complex and so all-encompassing a discipline that the totally unexpected or unknown can happen at any time. And it's the realtor who can get blamed for lack of disclosure.

There are the standard disclosures,

which sellers and realtors sign when taking a listing: the disclosure of agency that identifies the relationship of the realtor to the seller; a lead disclosure if the house was built before 1978; and the affiliated business disclosure so that sellers can be aware of the other businesses which the realtor's company owns.

The big disclosure that most buyers and sellers relate to is the property condition disclosure in which the seller identifies all the known defects of a house to its buyer. While it is required in many states, such as California where the code is particularly stringent, in New York the seller may choose not to issue such a disclosure, but rather pay \$500 at closing to the buyer. The overwhelming majority of sellers choose this option rather than risk being liable for serious house defects.

Above and beyond these expected disclosures are those that require a simple explanation before the fact rather than after. Nobody likes surprises or hearing, "Oh by the way," when it may be too late to be informed. This is best accomplished by the realtor preparing a list of frequently asked questions such as "Do I need a lawyer?" or "Who pays the commission?"

Besides asking such questions, realtors might also present a list of what sellers or buyers can expect along the way, including realtors who make appointments to show your home will sometimes be late or not

show up; know that the HGTV shows are scripted; expect that the closing date will be delayed; and expect that you won't know until the last moment how much money you must bring to the closing.

The more realtors paint a futuristic picture, especially accompanied by stories of personal experience, the better sellers and buyers will feel empowered to make informed decisions. That kind of clear and open communication is what helps avoid a misunderstanding, missteps and/or unlawful acts.

Recently I was in Philadelphia and happened to pass the church where my mother told me I was miraculously granted my ability to speak. I looked at the impressive church doors and recalled walking up and down the granite steps, holding my mother's hand all those years ago.

It brought a lump to my throat, nudging alongside my voice box that has had a lot of practice in recent years as a realtor who blabs on and on to clients about what's going on.

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.

## Genome Sequencing and Analysis in the Vineyard and on Your Palate



By Nick Antonaccio

Now that science has broken the code to examine and explore our DNA, and the DNA of multiple, diverse organisms, there has been a surge of commercial products coming to market that

enable exploration of the DNA of the components of grapes.

Recently, several groups have unlocked the genetic makeup of grapevines and grape varieties that will have far-reaching impacts on the quality, resistance and taste components. This research is providing winemakers previously unfathomable tools to engineer, in their vineyards and in their wineries, wines that optimize their local environmental conditions.

For example, science is developing new grapevine clones utilizing DNA advances and sophisticated modeling programs. These grapevines are more drought tolerant, disease resistant, and better suited to specific soils and microclimates.

Another effort is underway at the University of California-Davis. Scientists are attempting to unlock the genome of specific grape varieties affecting flavor, aroma and hardiness. First up: Cabernet Sauvignon's 19 chromosomes. The

ultimate goal? Higher yields of quality grapes, which translate to greater winery profits. The benefit to consumers? Many more quality wines, at reasonable prices, available on retail shelves.

With science advancing at a rapid pace into analyzing the DNA from the perspective of vines and grapes, it would seem logical that a new focus would address DNA from the opposite perspective: consumer DNA. Just as analyses now permeate methods and techniques by which wine can be advanced (altered?) to suit a consumer's palate, why not a scientific approach to determine how a consumer's DNA may be suited to a particular style or varietal of wine?

DNA breakthroughs have recently crossed over from the vineyard to the tasting room.

You've all heard of – and perhaps indulged in – ancestry DNA kits. Perhaps you've sent your saliva sample to Ancestry.com or 23andme.com. Several new businesses have begun to lever off the results of these ancestry analyses. Is there a bit of Asian ancestry in your European lineage? Then why not a latent genetic preference for Pinot Noir rather than Cabernet Sauvignon?

*You Heard It  
Through the  
Grapevine*

These trait tests are now commercially available.

A company, Helix, has gained a following in the new subset of genomes dubbed lifestyle DNA. Levering off the saliva-based DNA tests submitted

to the ancestry web companies, it offers a marketplace of products that supposedly drill deeper into an individual's DNA fingerprint. For an additional \$25 to \$100 at their genome app store, you may wish to venture into other DNA strand tests for your subliminal preferences or even your innate predilections.

One of the products in the genome app store is from the vendor Vinome, titled "Wine Explorer."

It purports to identify those genes in our DNA that influence our senses of smell and taste. Your genes enable you to detect certain characteristics in wine. If you are genetically predisposed to favor the taste of black cherries, you likely prefer a Cabernet Sauvignon to a Pinot Noir. If your genes align with citrus fruits, you will be more inclined to enjoy an Albarino than a Chardonnay. This sounds as valid as the genetic and health tests.

But what happens if your DNA says Albarino and your subliminal learned life experiences say Pinot Grigio? Is

there a disconnect? Wine Explorer can align these potentially disparate results. A subset of the app is a list of questions aimed at discerning your psychological preferences. It then recommends wines you may enjoy – and purchase on their website. This sounds quite self-serving; I don't recommend going beyond the saliva test.

According to Vinome, "there are over 400 genes that code for the cells on your tongue and in your nose that allow you to distinguish between different tastes and smells. Even small variations in the DNA code for these genes can result in big changes in the way you perceive tastes and smells. Take the guesswork out of buying wine by harnessing the science of taste."

Is Vinome (such a clever name), when coupled with your genetic test results, worth the \$29.99 investment? How much is genetic sequencing versus old-school trial and error worth to you?

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](mailto: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](mailto: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 5th. Visit [www.putnamartscouncil.org](http://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. \$50.00 / day. \$45.00/ sibling rate. Before and after care will be available to 6 p.m. 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 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.

**Come to the Kent Library** on Select Tuesdays in January through March from 1 p.m. -3 p.m. Starting Tuesday, January 30th, if you're looking for a place to chat and craft? Working on a project? Want to start a project, or just need help with the finishing touches. Bring your own materials! Some knitting patterns will be available, and an instruction will be in attendance. Registration is required. You may register for the program by going to [www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org) or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

## 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 pm. 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, NY 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](http://www.putnammcl.com)

**In-Stitches Needlework Club at Reed Memorial Library** meets Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m., & Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m., Beginners and experienced knitters and crocheters are welcomed to drop-in to this fun and friendly group. Reed Library, 845-225-2439.

## Thursdays:

**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.

**Students in grades 5-8 are invited to join the Brewster Library Middle School Book Group;** meetings will be held on the last Thursday of each month from 4:30-5:30 pm, beginning January 25. Join other teens to discuss great books, socialize and enjoy fun activities. Snacks will be served. Registration is required. For additional information visit <https://tinyurl.com/ycbav6t4> or call 845-279-6421.

**Fridays: AARP Tax Help:** The AARP Foundation is providing free tax help for low to middle income taxpayers at the library every Friday by appointment only from February 9 until April 13. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 211 or the library at 845-878-6121 ext. 15. You do not have to be a member of AARP to take advantage of this service.

## Tuesday, January 23

**Magic Tree House Book Club at the Kent Public Library:** 4:30 p.m. -5:15p.m. "Afternoon on the Amazon" by Mary Pope Osborne. Travel through time and explore history with Jack and Annie on their many adventures. We will discuss the book, learn more about the time they travel to and enjoy making a craft. Club is open to those in 1st, 2nd & 3rd grades. Registration is required. You may register for the program by going to [www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org) or calling the Kent Public

Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

## Wednesday, January 24

**Kent Public Library Basic Drawing and Composition for Creative Adults:** The class will meet weekly for six weeks, until Wednesday, February 28th. 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](http://www.kentlibrary.org) or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes,

## 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 1:30pm. Info: Peg Ryan 914-528-5916.

## Relay for Life of Brewster Kicks Off This Week

Join us as we celebrate the annual kickoff of the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Brewster. Relay for Life of Brewster had an amazing first year! Help us Kickoff our second year at our Olympics themed Kickoff party. At Kickoff you'll have the chance to learn more about Relay for Life, how to join or create a team, listen to local community members experiences with cancer, and have some fun!

The Relay for Life movement is the world's largest peer-to-peer fundraising event to save lives from cancer. At Relay For Life events, participants celebrate people who have been touched by cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for lifesaving change. Together, we can beat our biggest rival. Join a Relay for Life event and help us attack cancer from every angle.

Check out the Relay for Life of Brewster Facebook page or on Instagram (@rflbrewsterny)

**When:** Thursday January 25 7 p.m.

**Where:** Temple Beth Elohim, 31 Mt Ebo Road North, Brewster

**Contact:** Katie DiVenuto – [Katie.divenuto@cancer.org](mailto:Katie.divenuto@cancer.org)

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**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 BOROUGHS 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. Office 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.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KRK-NY, LLC.** Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/05/2016. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against may be

served. SSNY shall mail process to **88 Pietro DR, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAYA-B, LLC.** Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/05/2016. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **88 Pietro DR, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

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RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Mahopac senior swingman Shane Loos goes for two of his career-high 24 points in the visiting Indians' 64-51 win over rival Carmel and Christian Hutra (4) last Thursday night when the red-hot Loos hit on 6-of-8 from downtown. However, the Indians failed to sustain their momentum in consecutive losses to RCK and Greeley during a tough three-game grind in three days... see Boys' Hoops Notebook

# Local Class A Teams Will Have Saunders to Contend With

## Carmel Resident, Iona Prep's Alexander Scores 1,000th Career Point

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

If we learned anything at the halfway point of the Class A hoops season, we learned that there is great separation between the haves and the have-some-

work-to-dos. State-ranked (No.17) Saunders outworked a Somers club that appeared to be one of the more hopeful units in the Northern Westchester/Putnam County region, leaving the Tuskers in the dust of a 77-46 loss in the "Pride on the Court" game at Sarah Lawrence College, where they featured a "Be True" theme.

"Saunders is a very good team, but we also played flat and came out of the gates extremely slow, so it was a combination of both, honestly," Somers wing Lorenzo Bicknese said. "I think if we see them again were definitely going to rise to the occasion and it should be a good game. I don't think they are 30 points better than us."

Yet, 31 points will be tough to make up should Somers be fortunate enough to see Saunders (11-3, 9-1 in Section 1) again in the playoffs. Saunders Coach Anthony Nicodemo has done what few have been able to do in Yonkers by recently resurrecting a program that had been dead and buried for a decade, along with many of the Yonkers-based hoops



Mahopac F Ryan Dugan is thwarted by Carmel F Jeremy Mendoza in Indians' 64-51 win over host Rams last Thursday.



Mahopac G Justin Parker is hounded by Carmel G Gladimir Jean-Jacques in Indians' 64-51 win over Rams.



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Somers G Lorenzo Bicknese and his Tuskers found a significant gap between themselves and the high-end Class A contenders like Saunders last Saturday.



Iona Prep star and Carmel resident Josh Alexander scored his 1,000th career point for Gaels last Saturday.

programs. Nicodemo deserves a ton of credit and don't be surprised if the former Brewster grad (1996) hoists his first gold ball in March. Imagine what that would

mean to a Brewster kid, who "came out" as a gay man back in 2013, and then resuscitated a basketball program that was substandard at that time.

"I think from a personal standpoint there is always validation," said the 40-year-old Nicodemo, who has also been in the forefront of the ongoing fight against the Section 1 Executive Committee and its decision to remove Section 1's championship week out of the County Center. "I know that there are many out there who are unable to 'be themselves' and the same fear kept me closeted for years. So, I hope that our success can inspire others. The other side, is this group of kids. They are unbelievable people, and I want them to have an experience that they will remember forever."

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Saunders, which is where the road will seemingly go through for teams like Somers, Hen Hud, Panas and the rest of the Class A hopefuls...

*continued on next page*

# Sports

## Boy's Hoops Notebook

continued from previous page



Mahopac G Noelle Hall takes a run at rim as Carmel's Shane McNerney defends in Indians' 64-51 win over Rams.

Spotted the dad of CARMEL resident and Iona Prep hoops stud Josh Alexander the other night at the Rams' loss to Mahopac. Mr. Alexander, among the nicest people I've met on the circuit in



Putnam Valley G Bobby Kroboth gets after a Pawling player in Tigers' rout last Thursday.

30 years, flagged me down to "thank me" for all I'd done for his son when he first got started. It reminded me of how much I wished Josh Alexander had stayed at Carmel and just how much American University-bound Alexander would have



Hen Hud's Austin Fraser and Sailors are still very much alive in the talk among Class A Final 4 hopefuls.

helped the Rams, but upon seeing his 1,000th career point in Iona's 52-23 win over Albany, I'm pretty sure he made the right call when he transferred to the state-ranked (No.11) CHSAA Class AA power. Still, would have loved to have had a birds-eye view of his sterling career and had a chance for a few more chats with his faith-driven, warmhearted ol' man...

Hurts to say it, but 2018 may not be the kind of year boys' hoops fans from this neck of the woods were once accustomed to when the County Center had plenty of local flavor. Haldane should still find a way to the Class C Final 4 on account of the sheer dearth of Class C teams, and Putnam Valley, the current No.2 seed, has a legit shot in Class B despite as many as 10 valid contenders among them, state-ranked (No.18) Irvington and (No.26) Briarcliff included.

Class AA Yorktown was the lone team from the Putnam/NWE coverage



Mahopac swingman Shane Loos delivers two of his game-high 24 points in Indians' 64-51 win over Rams.

region to reach the Final 4 last year, and the Huskers (seeded No.18 in Class) are looking like long shots, along with No.14 Mahopac, No.12 Ossining and No.20 Carmel, to get within reach of a Final 4 berth. That's not to say there's no hope, but winning on the road throughout the playoffs is no easy task.

Class A Hen Hud, which currently sits at No.6 in the bracket, along with No.7 Panas, No.10 Somers, No.18 Brewster, No.19 Peekskill and No.21 Lakeland have all got their work cut out if they are going to hit the Final 4 trail as likely road warriors...

Midterms on the horizon, gang: Good luck to all! Remember, academics before athletics... I kid you not!

### NWE/Putnam Examiner Super 7 Poll

**No.1 PUTNAM VALLEY** - League III-E title will be decided between now and Feb.1 with Haldane and North Salem upcoming. We like the Tigers' (10-3) chances for at least a share.

**No.2 SOMERS** - Tuskers (7-4) will do what it takes in days ahead to secure first league title since 1989, but John Jay appears to be the main obstacle this Thursday and then again on Jan.31... still no excuse for not showing up against Saunders, and what happened to that defense we've been so high on?

**No.3 HEN HUD** - Sailors (8-3) knocked off Beacon behind super defense and strong efforts from Kyle James (15 points, 6 blocks), Mehki Gray (16 points, 10 boards) and Austin Fraser (6 points, 9 steals). Still think their athleticism and hunger to reach first Final 4 since 1991 will pose major issues for some unsuspecting foe in the post season.

**No.4 PANAS** - Panthers (6-4) were no match for Class AA power Pine Bush, but stud G Brandon Hodge went for 27, including 10 in the 4th, in Panthers' 56-40 blowout of Lourdes.

**No.5 OSSINING** - The Pride (7-5) hung tough with Class A Magnus in 85-81 loss but that kind of defense won't cut the mustard in Class AA playoffs.

**No.6 MAHOPAC** - Indians (6-7) are so dang flighty. Don't mind the loss to a solid Greeley club as much as we mind the manner in which it went down. 68-52 is a bit much, no? Kudos to 1st-year Greeley Coach Felix Nicodemo.

**No.7 BREWSTER** - Bears (5-6) hammered out 52-38 win over Lakeland behind Cameron Hart's 22 points.

**HM PEEKSKILL** - Red Devils (5-7) have stud G Shion Darby in their corner but remain light years away from the Peekskill teams we all cut our teeth on.

**HM HALDANE** - Wanna believe in the Blue Devils (9-2) as Class C favorites, but the fact they needed OT to beat Pawling is troubling. Still, they'd be the No.1 seed if playoffs started today, though Hamilton might be the team to beat. But betting against a Virgadamo-coached team is unwise.

**HM YORKTOWN** - Huskers (5-7) are still competing and can play the spoiler role and have a major say in the run for the roses between league foes Greeley and Fox Lane.

**HM CROTON** - Tigers (4-5) had a day from Miles Ackerman (17 points, 9 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals, 1 block) in blowout of Cedar Knolls, but got lashed by Briarcliff for 2nd time.

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# Sports

## Girls' Hoops Notebook

# Hen Hud Surges; Venezia Sets School Record for 3's

By Tony Pinciario

HEN HUD coach Ken Sherman could not have asked for anything better in his team's victories over Beacon, 47-27, and Poughkeepsie, 44-22, last week.

"The past two games have been complete team efforts," Sherman said. "And that's what we need down the stretch."

Hen Hud turned in two excellent defensive games, holding Beacon and Poughkeepsie to single digits in the first half. Sherman also received two fine all-around games from sophomore Caitlin Weimar and senior Taylor Prokopiak, as well as contributions from everyone.

Sherman cited Kira Virada, Aniyah Thomas and Jackie Kenny with impact play in the victories.

"Kira has come off the bench and given us a defensive boost each game," Sherman said. "Aniyah has hit some big shots and Jackie has come in, for our starting point guard, who broke her foot on New Year's Eve, and has had to learn the position on the fly."

Virada collected six points, five rebounds and five steals against Beacon and Kenny added five rebounds and six assists. This buoyed the performances of Weimar (14 points, 13 rebounds and four assists) and Prokopiak (11 points).

Thomas scored six points against Poughkeepsie, Kenny added four steals



Panas' Kristen Scrobola gets inside of Lakeland's Kayla Bugeya in Panthers' 47-44 win over host Hornets.

and Virada grabbed four rebounds. Weimar registered a double-double – 16 points and 14 rebounds – and Prokopiak finished with eight points and seven rebounds as Hen Hud evened its record at 5-5.

Along with the play of Virada, Thomas and Kenny, Weimar has raised her game a level this season. She is averaging 15 points, 11 rebounds and 5.7 blocks per game.

"Caitlin has gone from a freshman on a team with nine seniors, to the main focal point to our team this year without a hitch," Sherman said. "She has been able to do this with teams double- and triple-teaming her without her forcing up shots. She is shooting close to 50 percent with all of these challenges. What I like most about Caitlin is her demeanor. She gets physically beat up each game and she does not complain. She keeps doing what she is doing."

YORKTOWN turned in one of its finest games of the season, according to coach Kevin Clark in a 51-40 victory over Mahopac.



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS (PLEASE VISIT HVSPHOTOS FOR Lakeland's Alexa Cole (R) is met by Panas' Danielle Merante in Hornets' 47-44 loss to visiting Panthers Thursday.

"It was an unbelievable team effort," Clark said. "The girls played great defense

and did a remarkable job on the boards, at both ends. We had clutch free-throw shooting to put the game out of reach down the stretch."

Kat Severino continued her excellent offensive showing this season with a game-high 23 points. Mackenzie Merson contributed 15 points, Emily Metz added seven points and Jesse Barer chipped in with six points. Yorktown is now 5-8 this season.

MAHOPAC split two games, handling league-rival Arlington, 58-44, but dropping a 51-40 verdict to Yorktown. Mahopac is 6-5 this season.

"It was a tight, back-and-forth game in the first half," said Mahopac Coach Chuck Scozzafava of the Arlington game. "We were able to stretch the lead in the third quarter and in the fourth, we got some steals and turned them into points. I felt we did a good job on the boards, both offensively and defensively and we made a couple stops when the game got tight."

*continued on next page*



Panas' Danielle Merante (L) is hammered by Lakeland's Kelsey Walsh in Panthers' 47-44 win over host Hornets.



Panas' Kristen Kelly pushes ball against Lakeland's phenom 8th-grader Tyler Hormazabal in Panthers' 47-44 win over Hornets.

## Sports

## Girls' Hoops Notebook

## Put Valley's Dini Seeks 100th Career Win Today vs. Croton



By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

All she does is win, or so it seems. Wherever Putnam Valley girls' hoops Coach Kristi Dini has hung her hat as a player/coach in Section 1 – and college ball for that matter – the record-setting sharpshooter, in her own right, has produced miles of triumph.

And by the time you've read this story, Dini, barring an epic upset by Croton-Harmon last night, will have secured the 100th victory of her varsity coaching career. After a brief stop at Briarcliff (12-7), and a record-setting four-year run at Somers (62-22), the stars aligned in the fall of 2016, and Dini returned to her heyday roots at Put Valley (26-7), where she became the school's first one thousand-point scorer in 2005. In those three coaching venues, Dini has maneuvered the route to 100 wins quicker than most.

In Jeopardy, they would file the phrase "Kristi Dini is easy to play for" under the category: "I'll take, 'Things Nobody Ever Said,' Alex."

Dini, an NCAA deadeye-shooter at Boston University, demands a lot from her players, but those that do withstand her old-school methods are better for having done so. Most days, you won't find Dini coddling players or cozying up to parents and administrators. That's not her deal, and more than likely part of the reason she's not coaching at Somers after a record-setting tenure that saw her dismissed, very

unceremoniously, after a 19-3 season.

Her days at Somers, while memorable, are blocked out by her success at Put Valley. The fact that Dini will get to 100 wins on the floor she ran back in 2005 as an All-NYS player, isn't lost on her.

"I enjoyed my time at every stop along the way, but my entire focus is on Putnam Valley now," said Dini, who led the nation in three-pointers at BU back in 2009. "I still maintain unreal relationships with people from Briarcliff and Somers, but it's all about PV now. We think we can do something really cool this year."

Teaching the X's and O's of basketball, drawing blood from a stone and getting the most out of the youthful Tigers (who have zero senior starters at this point in time) are the things she does at a very rewarding clip. Her contemporaries will attest.

"Kristi is a driven, hard-working competitor," said Ossining Coach Dan Ricci, winner of eight Section 1 Class AA titles, seven regional championship and four state jewels. "She loves the game and it shows when she coaches. Her teams are always well prepared and that's a credit to her. She gets the most out of her kids, and that is all you, as a coach, can do. I had the pleasure to see her team play this year and I was very impressed with them defensively. It was obvious they were well coached and knew what they were supposed to do."

In preparing her players to be in a position to succeed, Dini's tough-love

approach is something that takes getting used to from today's players and parents, who are a different breed from yesteryear. Some kids are cut out for it, some simply aren't ready to accept the old-school approach that prior generations were not only raised on, but thrived upon. In a new generation of emotionally fragile folk, everything has to be watered down because it's "offensive", including the truth, but that's the Dini mindset: truth, justice and her way. In this day and age of appeasement, it could, ultimately, lead to a short shelf life like it did in Somers.

"Not everyone likes the tough-love approach, but that's how Kristi learned the game and she must be true to herself," said Ricci, who coached Dini to consecutive gold medals at the Empire State Games and wrote many of the freshest chapters in the book of tough-love. "Coaches like Kristi and I learned a long time ago that we have to be true to ourselves, or the kids would see right through us."

The message is quite clear for those who come under her wing. From the youngest levels of Dini's highly successful NY Extreme AAU programs, to the camps she coaches in the off-season, to her varsity club, which currently sports a 9-1 record and a No.3 seed in Class B: Work beyond your means and don't take shortcuts when it comes to personal success and else anything in life...

The MAHOPAC BOE's hiring's last week of Anthony DiCarlo as Superintendent and Myk Lugauber as its baseball coach are two of its great recent moves, including



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTO

PV girls' hoops Coach Kristi Dini will have 100 wins by week's end, most likely today in win over visiting Croton.

the hiring of Dom DeMatteo as football coach, Tim Donaghy as ice hockey boss and Joe Bucello as boys' lax coach. There are still significant primary moves to be made to "Make Mahopac Great Again" but these were necessary steps in the progression of Indian pride and restoring the Mahopac many of us were raised on...

Mahopac will host the annual Peter Caruso Wrestling tourney this Saturday morning and this year's tournament is the largest sporting event in Mahopac, outside of its hosting the Section 1 football championships.

"We picked up a few new teams for a total of 18 teams and have now formed a waiting list for those looking to compete," said John Caruso, who holds the tournament in honor of his deceased son, Peter, a former Mahopac grappler. "Most of last year's champions were underclassman, so we have many returning champions and expect a great day of wrestling."

*continued from previous page*

Siobhan Hynes scored a season-high 21 points and Katrina Klammer added 11 points.

Yorktown seized control of the game in the first quarter, outscoring Mahopac, 17-4.

"We started out slow, but the rest of the game was fairly even," Scozzafava said. "We just weren't able to overcome the first quarter. We didn't box out well and defensively we didn't defend as well as we have all year."

Claire Felix led Mahopac with 13 points and Hynes added eight points.

OSINNING outlasted defending New York State Federation champion, South Shore (Brooklyn), 57-55, in overtime behind 28 points and 14 rebounds from Aubrey Griffin.

The Pride, now on a four-game winning streak and 11-3 this season, won despite having three players, including Griffin, foul out. Ossining returns to action, Thursday, Jan. 25, against Yorktown.



Putnam Valley hotshot Kelli Venezia dropped a school-record nine three-pointers in Tigers' win over Pawling last week.

South Shore forced overtime with a fourth-quarter surge, but the Pride did not let it affect them in the extra session.

"Having three players foul out, one being Aubrey, we knew we had to step up and dig down deep," Quain said. "Being in close games prior to this one helped us in the fact that nobody was nervous and we knew what we had to get done in order to get this win."

Kailah Harris finished with 11 points, nine rebounds and four assists and Quain added 11 points and three boards. Jaida Strippoli registered seven assists.

BREWSTER lost to John Jay-Cross River, 60-51, in its lone game of the week.

"They did a great job of creating turnovers and getting easy baskets in the first three quarters," Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo said. "We were not taking good shots, not communicating on defense, and we did not do a great job of breaking the press. We tried to make a few adjustments in the second half, but it did not slow John

Jay down as they built a 21-point lead going into the 4 quarter.

"However, we did pick up our intensity and urgency as we cut the 21 point lead to six with 1:42 remaining, but it was too little, too late."

Kristen Stefanick finished with a team-leading 16 points and she added six rebounds. Meagan Beal added 12 points and eight rebounds and Taylor Riccardi chipped in 10 points for the Bears, now 9-5 this season.

PUTNAM VALLEY (9-1) made short work of Pawling in a league win last week, but the big news to come out of the win was the school record set by sophomore sniper Kelli Venezia, who drained nine shots from downtown.

"Kelli is super important to me," PV Coach Kristi Dini said, "and the fact that I'll be the one coaching her when she eventually scores her 1,000th point thrills me. She is such a terrific player and an even better kid."

# Cloud 9!

## Venezia Sinks School-Record 9 Treys in Put Valley Rout of Pawling

Putnam Valley sophomore Kelli Venezia went downtown early and often in the Tigers' 64-10 rout of host Pawling last Thursday when "Kelli V" sank a school record nine three-pointers, including seven in the first half, as the Tigers improved to 9-1 and hope today's 10th win against visiting Croton-Harmon will become the 100th of Coach Kristi Dini's career... see Girls' Hoops Notebook/Direct Rays

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