**Ossining Girls** Lead Charge

see 2018-19 Hoops Preview



November 27 - December 3, 2018

**SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS** 

Volume 10, Issue 505

# PV Schools and Student **Accused of Threat Reach Deal**

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By David Propper

The Putnam Valley school system and the family of the student accused of sending threatening messages over social media reached an agreement last week on a punishment, an attorney for the student's family confirmed.

But while a consensus was reached on appropriate discipline, the family of the 14-year-old Putnam Valley High School student at the center of the controversy is objecting to how the school system handled the case. The student arrived at school on Nov. 15 after posting obscenities the night before that district officials deemed threatening. He was quickly escorted to the principal's office, which caused a stir and even panic throughout the school community because the district stated he was not supposed to be in class that day.

Lawyer Peter Tilem, who is representing the 14-year-old teen and his parents, said the issues between his client and the school system were resolved without a hearing. While Tilem could not go into the specific terms, the agreement recognized "the hyper sensitive" environment occurring in schools nationwide and that his client "is not a danger to anyone." He did confirm the student was not expelled from school.

"And didn't have any ill intent when he made the postings," Tilem said, adding, "Never in the history of the world has a 14-year-old been able to communicate to so many people so quickly and that's a bad combination and that's a lot of responsibility for a child to have."

The student, who The Putnam Examiner is not naming because he's a minor, posted a social media message that stated, "F- Putnam valley and fthe police, 5 days after some sh- I said, two f- faces exaggerated it and a teacher overheard it and the school flipped sh-. Let's keep a long story short, I had my house raided and my gun taken. Whoever f-ed up is going to have one hell of a problem tomorrow u made a big mistake buddy."

Tilem said neither the school, nor his client's family got what they wanted completely, but both sides were satisfied that a lengthy hearing was avoided and even potential litigation.

"I did not view it as threatening," Tilem said, while adding, "It was ambiguous enough, that it caused concern."

But the family is pushing back. They contend the district did not convey properly that their son should not come to school. And while the student's mother conceded her son said stupid things, she stressed he isn't a threat to anyone.

"I absolutely agree he should not have said anything like that and we had a talk with him," the mother told The Putnam Examiner. "We love him and support him."

Tilem said from what he understood, the district communicated with the family of the student by sending an email and never sought confirmation from the parents that it was received.

"It seems like an odd way to communicate such an important piece of information," Tilem said.

The student, in an online post last week, said his troubles began when he told classmates jokingly that he wanted to shoot up CNN and ended up receiving a one-day suspension for it. The day after he served his suspension

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# Brewster Middle Schoolers Attend Leadership Conference



Eight 7th graders represented Henry H. Wells Middle School and the Brewster Central School district at the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center's Fourth Annual Human Rights Institute for Middle School Student Leaders at New York Medical School in Valhalla. The daylong conference included approximately 100 students from twelve invited middle schools in Westchester and Fairfield counties. It incorporated various presentations and workshops with the themes "How to Be an Upstander" and "Respecting the Individual" to focus on confronting prejudice and discrimination as well as bullying prevention and was part of a larger three-day institute. According to the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center, the goal of the event was to "lay the foundation for encouraging students to be upstanders rather than bystanders." "It's a nice opportunity for them to collaborate with other students from other schools," said chaperone and co-advisor of the Leadership Club, Marisa Gargano. "And in January, they'll have a chance to teach sixth graders what they learned during workshops in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr." Students in attendance included Evelyn Dodge, Riya Gupta, Keira Golash, Ryan Williams, Kevin Perez Molina, Jarrid Brygmann, Sam Whitney, and Manaco Pillai. They were selected by teachers and their guidance counselor.

# **Carmel School Board Continues Infighting Over Bond**

By Kristen McNerney

Debate over how to proceed after the Carmel school system was dealt with two failed bond votes in as many years dragged on once again last week during another heated school board meeting.

The district's most recent failed bond proposal from October brought dissatisfied residents to the Board of Education meeting with many pushing

for another vote to be put forward. The recent bond failure included propositions to repair the roofs, a new middle school library, ADA renovations and a new bus depot for the district comprising a total of \$25.4 million. Some of that total would've been covered by New York State aid.

Those who spoke out voiced their continued on page 6



# PV Schools and Student Accused of Threat Reach Deal

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though, the sheriff's department was at his door and took his father's old shot gun, the student wrote, which caused him to make the expletive laden post.

School officials, earlier in the day, before they decided they didn't want the student to attend school, sent a voicemail to the student's mother telling her that her son would undergo a threat assessment with a guidance counselor on Nov. 15. The voicemail was left at 5:46 p.m. and played to The Putnam Examiner.

Superintendent Dr. Frances Wills, from the beginning of the situation, claimed the sheriff's office informed the student not to attend school at the direction of district leadership. But the sheriff's office in a statement last week stated the school system conveyed that message to the family. Sheriff Robert Langley, speaking in general terms, doubled down on that statement last week.

While Langley could not comment on the Putnam Valley case specifically, he confirmed generally that it isn't the job of the sheriff's office to inform students that they cannot go to school. Officials from the sheriff's office could warn a student if he or she attempted to attend school when suspended; they could be charged with criminal trespassing.

Wills told The Putnam Examiner there wasn't much to say about the situation because the privacy of the student needs to be protected.

But Wills did acknowledge the communication coming from the school could've been better. With much of this unfolding at night after school, Wills said what the district thought would occur did not end up happening. The district assumed the student would not be in school the next day until he had spoken with the administration, Wills said.

"We are certainly concerned that the communication isn't what it should've been on our part," Wills said.

When addressing Langley's comments, Wills said she appreciated what the sheriff stated and what the sheriff's office has done to keep students safe.

"I agree that there are certain lines of communication and I think we have to coordinate better and we take responsibility for that as well," Wills said.

Wills is holding a forum about social media threats and school safety today,

Tues. Nov. 27 at 7 p.m. at the high school library. At a board meeting on Oct. 19, Wills said the district could not let social media be used in a way that could be interpreted as threatening, noting social media is often used in an improper way throughout the country.

"It is a sobering fact of life in our time that something like this great invention of Facebook, artificial intelligence and all these wonderful, wonderful inventions they have their negative side," she said. "Right now, we are grappling with this, truly we are grappling with it. And in schools to a great extent. We have not found a solution. As we know, fear does terrible things to people, to ourselves and to others."

School board president Jeanine Rufo at the same meeting said the safety of students is paramount.

"There is nothing more important to us than the safety and well-being of our students. What we teach them is secondary to them being safe," Rufo said. "When we look active threats, imminent threats, code of conduct violations, the whole gambit of things that cause concern and our response is going to be different depending on the level of concern."

Anna Young contributed to this report.



## Do You Have Acid Reflux Disease?

Get smart about causes, symptoms and treatment options...



#### **Ask the Doctor**

Darren I. Rohan, MD, FACS Westchester Regional Director Thoracic Surgery Program Northern Westchester Hospital

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Dr. Rohan, visit

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DrRohan



400 East Main Street | Mount Kisco, NY 10549 914.666.1200 | www.nwhc.net

#### Q: Do I have acid reflux disease?

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

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

#### Q: What causes it?

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

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

#### Q: What are my non-surgical treatment options?

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

#### Q: Do I need surgery?

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

# Forum Details PV Schools Bond Proposition

By Anna Young

Putnam Valley School District officials tried to provide clarity to concerned community members last week as the district's bond vote rapidly approaches.

With the district putting forth a \$14.8 million bond for a Dec. 4 vote, the district hosted a community forum on Nov. 19 to answer questions and ease community concerns. With roughly 25 people in attendance, officials fielded questions regarding funds, upgrades and alternate plans if the bond is voted

Deputy Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Luft, who led the forum, said the facilities planning committee, a group comprised of roughly 40 community members and district staff, would reconvene if the bond failed. He noted the bond could be put up for another vote in the spring if it doesn't pass.

"This is a unique financial opportunity because it is the opportunity to address infrastructure needs without impacting our general operating budget," Luft said. "In terms of infrastructure, there are things that need to be done."

The bond would largely renovate and upgrade the middle school, which opened in 1972 and hasn't changed much since. It would also include an addition to the high school and some upgrades



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Deputy Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Luft spoke at length about the propose bond voters will get to vote on next month at a forum on Nov. 19.

to the elementary school. The Board of Education unanimously approved to put the bond to a vote earlier this year.

If the bond is approved, the middle school would see a new kitchen space that would create more offerings for students. Luft said the middle school students aren't offered the same variety of options that students in the high school receive.

"It's a really small kitchen," Luft said. 'There's not a lot of space in there so they're really limited in what they can cook over there."

District treasurer Jill Figarella added how the kitchen needs exhaust fans and electrical outlets to support additional equipment. The cafeteria would also

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be expanded. With the current space cramped, Luft said that students from each grade can't all eat together. The space would be more accommodating, he said.

Music and performance arts would also receive a boost in the middle school with the creation of two new soundproof lesson rooms, a new choral room, and upgrades to the stage area including a better lighting and sound system. Space for music lessons is currently limited, with instructors holding lessons with students right near the line for the lunch.

Other areas that would be focused on are the bathrooms, which haven't been addressed since the school opened. With faculty bathrooms so limited in space, a female teacher who is pregnant can't comfortably move around. The gymnasiums would also see an upgrade and other learning spaces would be created. Windows and the heating and cooling system would be replaced, as

At the high school, district officials want to see the addition of a health and wellness center, which would be an indoor turf field that could be used yearround. Sports teams, physical education classes and community organizations would all benefit from the space.





# **Carmel Requests Armed Security During Town Hall Hours**

#### By David Propper

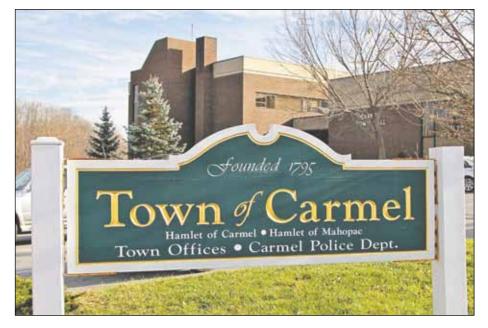
Armed security guards have become commonplace in schools within Putnam County. Now, it appears guards could be stationed at one town hall in Putnam.

Carmel Supervisor Kenny Schmitt requested that the sheriff's office provide two special patrol officers that would require the purchase of new uniforms and equipment to provide security for town hall after incidents have arisen over the past year. The SPO would cover town hall from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., which is when town hall is typically open Monday through Friday.

SPOs are usually a retired law enforcement official that works for the sheriff's office, providing security for school buildings and the county office building. Each SPO is paid at a cap of \$30,000, patrol captain Harry Tompkins said. Overall, there are 16 SPOs within the county.

Legislator and protective services chairman Paul Jonke said the Town of Carmel would bear the costs of the SPO services and a contract must be drawn up between the county and town. There is training provided by the sheriff's office, which is also covered by the town.

Jonke was in favor of Carmel using SPOs because three times in the last year, town employees needed to "hit the



PROVIDED PHOTO

The Town of Carmel might soon have armed security at its town hall.

panic button." While the Carmel police department is directly downstairs from town hall, there isn't always an officer at headquarters during the day, Jonke said.

"This is something that we should move forward with," Jonke said.

Legislator Neal Sullivan said while there are SPOs at the county office building and DMV office, by providing law enforcement officers from the sheriff's department to the town, the county Legislature would be "opening a new type of business." It could result in more requests from other towns, he said.

"Where does it end if it ever ends," Sullivan said.

Currently, no town in the county has a security officer inside its town hall,

including Southeast, Kent, Philipstown, Putnam Valley, and Patterson. Sullivan noted the town could pursue SPO officers on its own, but the county already has its own administrative infrastructure in place. Before anything is agreed to, Sullivan wants to review the contract with the proper personnel since the county is entering new territory with new liability issues.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino asked if the town wants SPOs through the county because it would be more cost efficient for them, which Jonke replied in the affirmative.

If more SPOs are necessary, the sheriff's office has a file of resumes that it could turn to.

"We have the mechanism in place," Tompkins said.

Still, Sullivan stated there are "incremental costs" the county will need to pay for that won't be covered going forward by the town, especially if more municipalities request SPOs. It would be a shared service, Sullivan said.

Carmel police chief Michael Cazzari is in support of the measure, Sullivan said.

"This is the sign of the times," Nacerino said, referencing the uptick in mass shootings in the country. "We all get it, we all acknowledge it."



# "LAST CHANCE" PUBLIC SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINE CLINIC

#### Celebrating National Influenza Vaccination Week

The Putnam County Department of Health is offering seasonal flu vaccine to anyone who lives or works in New York State 18 years of age and older:

Date: Tuesday, December 4

Location: Putnam County Department of Health

1 Geneva Road, Brewster

Time: 2 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$25.00

cash or check only

(Anyone with Medicare Card—FREE)

No appointments necessary.

Please bring proof of residency (driver's license) and Medicare card.

#### SAVE TIME!

Vaccine consent forms are available on the Putnam County website at <a href="https://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/immunization">www.putnamcountyny.com/health/immunization</a> . Download the forms, complete them and bring them with you to the clinic. Forms will be available at the clinic if you are unable to download them.

Questions? Call (845) 808-1390



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# Connecticut Man Arrested for Drug, Gun Possession

#### By David Propper

What started as a traffic stop turned into an arrest on multiple charges in the Town of Southeast last month.

A Connecticut man was arrested with charges related to gun and drug possession in October, according to the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

Benjamin Hartley, 33, of Mansfield, Ct. was arrested for possession of concentrated cannabis, marijuana, and a handgun that he did not have pistol permit for, according to authorities. On Oct. 30 around 2:40 a.m., a sheriff's deputy saw a vehicle commit a traffic violation on Interstate 84 in the westbound lane in the Town of Southeast and pulled Hartley over where a further investigation ensued, the sheriff's office said.

Hartley was charged with criminal possession of a firearm, a class E felony, criminal possession of a controlled substance in the 7th degree, a class A misdemeanor and unlawful possession of marijuana, a violation.

Hartley was arraigned in the Town of Kent, on behalf of the Southeast Justice Court where he was remanded to Putnam County Correctional Facility on \$20,000 cash and \$40,000 bail bond, which he

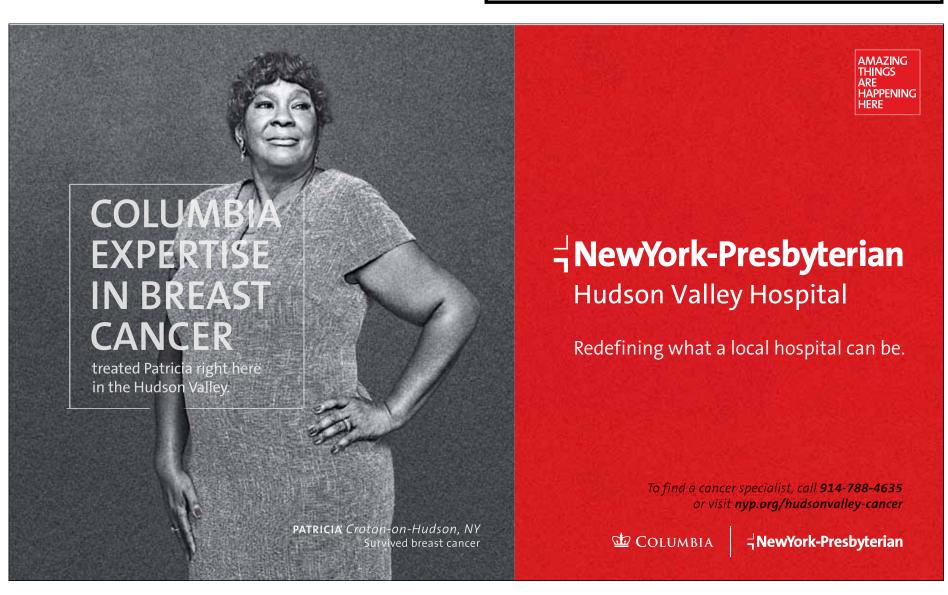


Benjamin Hartley

later posted.

Hartley is due back in court at a later date.





# Carmel School Board Continues Infighting Over Bond

continued from page 1

support for a third proposal and feared the bond measures could carry over into the budget, which if not passed will potentially displace necessary school programs and activities.

Impassioned supporters of a third vote even included students, like Carmel sophomore Elana Walters who spoke on behalf of her fellow students when she said their futures lie in the hands of district voters and the board. Walters said she and her classmates deserve more respect from voters and board members, adding she wishes they had more influence on school decisions.

She also drew on the average cost of the bond for voters, which is only a few dollars extra per capita.

"You're telling me my education is worth less than a Starbucks frappuccino," she told the board.

A former student that spoke was Carmel alum and recent Yale University graduate, Jacob Sweet, who took an indirect jab at board member John Curzio for what Sweet believed to be the spreading of false information regarding the bond. Sweet said "last minute guerilla advertising" by a member of the board to turn voters against the bond did not reflect well on the district. Sweet said Carmel is competing with other high schools and



KRISTEN MCNERNEY PHOTO

The saga of whether or not to offer up a third bond proposal to voters in the Carmel school system continued last week with board members continuing to debate next steps.

maintaining a good academic reputation is necessary to the college admissions process. He said Carmel should have as many opportunities as possible for the students who want to achieve, which he said would not be possible without the passing of the bond.

Parents also had much to say. Eileen

Farrell asked, "when New York State offers you money, why would you say no?"

The board remained divided on the issue and proposed splitting up the bond into two separate propositions, with the bus depot being a separate item that appears less popular than the other

items

Curzio, who often holds a solo opinion on many issues, voiced his support for ADA renovations and roof repairs, but said he would not be willing to put another bond up for a third vote. Curzio said it would be an insult to voters to do so, and that they have made themselves clear. (Going into the second bond vote, Curzio opposed it because it took a piece of land off the tax rolls in Kent.)

He called the continued discussion of the decision a "dog and pony show." However, he doesn't doubt the vote will be put up again. If the board doesn't propose the bond for a third time, Curzio said, "I'll eat my hat, feathers and all."

Board member Tara DeTurris continued her dispute with Curzio and claimed he is putting "bad information into people's heads." She also suggested the public is gullible enough to believe false information. She said she would like to see the vote put up again before May.

President Greg Riley expressed his full support for all measures including the bus garage and the proposed location for it in Kent.

"I don't want 20 years from now someone to say, 'what were they thinking," about giving up a perfectly good piece of land, Riley said.

# Putnam County Department of Health HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF DAY

# December 1, 2018 9am–12pm



## December 1, 2018 Fahnestock Park, Canopus Beach Parking Lot, Route 301, Kent, NY

Items Accepted: Consumer commodity packaged household products only, inclusive of: Photo chemicals, non-latex driveway sealer, pool chemicals, creosote, kerosene, flammable liquids, metal polish, drain/oven cleaners, rug/upholstery cleaners, wood preservatives, turpentine, stains, varnishes, strippers, thinners, mothballs, rodent poisons, flea powders & collars, bug spray, nail polish remover, hair dyes, hair sprays, gasoline/oil mixtures, brake fluid, antifreeze, auto fluids, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, chemical fertilizers, adhesives, resins, solvents, oil-based paints, mercury containing products, button cell batteries (from watches and hearing aids), lithium & sealed lead acid batteries, rechargeable batteries, fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, smoke detectors, propane tanks up to 20-pound size.

Items Not Accepted: Industrial or commercial type and/or quantity hazardous waste or reagents, inclusive of: Electronic waste (e-waste), used oil, latex paint, plastic bags, tires, unlabeled/unidentified containers, household batteries (AAA, AA, C, D, 9V), ammunition, explosives, fireworks, asbestos products, construction debris, furniture, toys or clothing, medical waste, old medications.

ITEMS IN GARBAGE AND/OR LAWN BAGS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

All waste is subject to inspection and will only be accepted in the County's discretion. Please be advised that if any not accepted items as specified above are brought and are determined to present a hazard to residents, workers or the environment, Putnam County reserves the right to take any necessary safety measures, the cost of which shall be the resident's responsibility.

For additional information about waste disposal options, recycling and more, please visit: <a href="https://www.putnamcountyny.com/green-putnam/">www.putnamcountyny.com/green-putnam/</a> or call (845) 808-1390 ext. 43125

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**Pre-Registration Required.** Call (845) 808-1390 x 43150. If you would like to register by email, please send your 3 preferred times (every 15 minutes beginning at 9 a.m.) along with your town of residence to <a href="mailto:PutnamCountyny.gov">PutnamHealth@putnamcountyny.gov</a>. You will be sent a confirmation with a time. If you do not receive a confirmation email within 2 business days, please call the above number.

**PUTNAM COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY** 



NO COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS



The Household Hazardous Waste program is partially financed with a grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.





# **Putnam Music Center**

## Mahopac

#### By David Propper

After traveling across the country and world for many years playing music, Gus Wieland finally settled down in Mahopac more than two decades ago. With his love for music still strong, he knew he wanted to spread that joy to other people in the community.

That's when he decided to open Putnam Music Center, which will be celebrating its 20th year in business next April. Opening the shop back in 1999, he felt he was filling a void in the community.

"The town needs it, the community needs it," Wieland said, explaining his thinking for opening two decades ago. "So that's what we did."

Putnam Music is a full retail shop, offering instruments and accessories, repairs and lessons for any instrument that exists. The store will also rent instruments out to local schools.

Wieland fell in love with music when he was a teen and first listened to The Beatles in 1965 at the age of 13. Wieland can still recall everyone sitting around and watching The Beatles on The Ed Sullivan Show. He started playing guitar and hasn't stopped since.

"Everybody in the world said get me a guitar, I want to play," Wieland said.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

Gus Wieland has owned Putnam Music Center for almost 20 years.



Putnam Music Center is a full retail shop, offering a wide variety of instruments and other accessories.

(When asked who his favorite Beatle was, Wieland said, "They're all great in their own way...how could you have a favorite?" As for his favorite Beatles song, Wieland said it's "She's Leaving Home.") For dozens of years, Wieland performed

all over the world. He is most known for playing with Chubby Checker, who was the King of the Twist, and the American rock band The Turtles. Wieland played at several different arenas, including Madison Square Garden.

But Wieland reached the point where he was tired of "living out of a suitcase" and was ready to settle down. He still plays occasionally, going away on weekends for certain gigs and is finishing up a CD, but for the most part focuses on his music store.

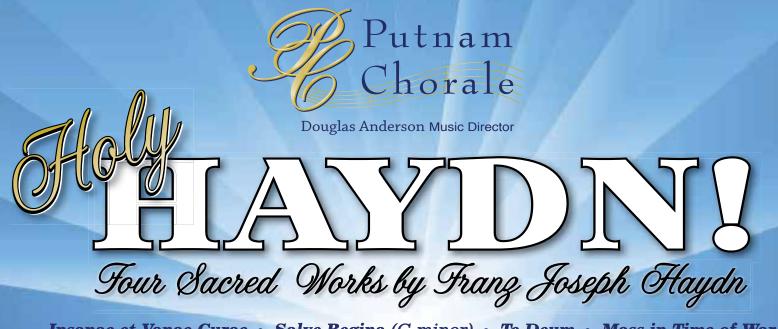
"The business really takes all of my attention now," Wieland said.

Wieland never imagined he would one day open a music store until he moved to Mahopac and saw that a music store was

needed. And when he opened, he never thought he would be around 20 years

"Living and working in the community is really the most important thing," he said. "I didn't want to work outside the community, I much rather put my effort into where I live."

Putnam Music Store is located at 609 Route 6 in Mahopac and its phone number is 845-621-2626.



Insanae et Vanae Curae • Salve Regina (G minor) • Te Deum • Mass in Time of War

Friday, November 30, 2018 • 7 PM St. Joachim-St. John the Evangelist, 51 Leonard Street, Beacon, NY

Sunday, December 2, 2018 • 3 PM First United Methodist Church, 33 Main Street, Brewster, NY

Adults \$20\* • Seniors/Students \$15 • Under 12 Free \* Beacon Half-price Tickets available. See website.

Call 845.520.7574 • Visit www.PutnamChorale.org



# **Putnam Hospital Center Hosts Diabetes Lunch and Learn**

In observance of National Diabetes Awareness Month, clinicians at Putnam Hospital Center will lead a community discussion on diabetes focusing on how to manage the disease, reduce your risk factors and lead a healthy lifestyle during a Lunch and Learn event.

The luncheon is from noon to 2 p.m.,

Thursday, Nov. 29, in the hospital's Michael T. Weber Conference Rooms, 670 Stoneleigh Ave. Seating is limited to 40 people.

Enjoy a complimentary, diabeticfriendly lunch while hearing from Dr. Aswini Choudhury, a Health Quest Medical Practice primary care physician,

Clinical Nutrition Supervisor/Diabetes Educator Indrani Dhar and Diabetes Educator Joanne Green on what to do after being diagnosed with prediabetes or type 2 diabetes, what and when to eat and other strategies to incorporate healthy habits for busy lives.

"Diabetes does not have to define you,"

Dhar said. "There are many ways to enjoy a long and happy life with thoughtful management of the disease."

Registration is required. To reserve a seat, please email Marcela Rojas at mrojas1@health-quest.org and/or call 845-230-4773 (TTY 800-421-1220) by

# **CoveCare Center's CMO Named to Westchester's Top Doctors List**

Jonathan Bauman, MD, Chief Medical Officer of CoveCare Center, was recently named as one of Westchester Magazine's 2018 Top Doctors in the field of psychiatry. The magazine relies on Castle Connolly Medical Ltd.'s thorough screening and selection process that begins with physicians nominating other doctors who they consider outstanding in their medical specialties and among the best in their region. The nominations are then reviewed by Castle Connolly's physician-directed research team.

Dr. Bauman joined CoveCare Center in February 2014. He is responsible for the hiring and supervision of CoveCare Center's medical staff and for the coordination of medical services across

all agency departments. Dr. Bauman is a member of the Critical Incident Review and Quality Improvement teams at CoveCare Center. His key interests are adult and adolescent psychiatry with specialties in mood disorders, anxiety disorders and personality disorders.

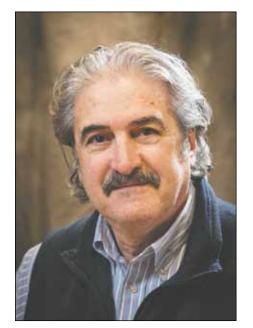
"I have had the honor of working with Dr. Bauman for almost five years. His professionalism and expertise are unparalleled. I am so pleased to see him recognized for the care and commitment he shows to each client who walks through our doors seeking help," stated Diane E. Russo, CEO of CoveCare Center.

Dr. Bauman earned his degree at Georgetown University School of Medicine and is certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and the American Board of Adolescent Psychiatry. After spending seven years practicing in Maryland, Dr. Bauman joined Four Winds Hospital in Cross River in 1984. He was named Chief Medical Officer in 1992, a position he held for 22 years. Dr. Bauman was an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at The Albert Einstein College of Medicine from

For more information about CoveCare Center, please visit www.CoveCareCenter. org or call 845-225-2700.

#### **About CoveCare Center**

CoveCare Center is the only private non-profit agency providing recoverybased mental health and substance use treatment and prevention services in Putnam County. CoveCare Center offers hope and healing to people of all



Dr. Jonathan Bauman, MD

ages through a comprehensive range of services including individual and group counseling, care coordination, family advocacy, parenting education, community outreach, and medication management. CoveCare Center is a member of Coordinated Behavioral Health Services (CBHS), a non-profit 501(3) membership organization of forward-thinking, community behavioral health and disability service providers in the Hudson Valley Region whose shared goal is to promote recovery-oriented and outcome- based services designed to ensure high quality and low costs. Visit www.CoveCareCenter.org for more information.

# **Additional Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day Scheduled**

Putnam County will hold a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Drop-Off Day for Putnam County residents on Saturday, December 1. The Putnam County Department of Health and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) are co-sponsoring the FREE event, scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon (rain or shine) at Fahnestock State Park, Canopus Beach Parking Lot on Route 301 in Kent, NY. Pre-registration is required.

Improper storage or disposal of hazardous waste poses a health risk to residents and their families. For this reason, the HHW Drop-Off Day event continues to be maintained in the budget by County Executive MaryEllen Odell as an opportunity for Putnam residents to safely dispose of certain toxic materials.

The health of the community is paramount and all waste brought to the event is subject to inspection. Residents bringing in items that are deemed to present a threat to residents, workers or the environment may be held responsible for the costs of any additional safety measures taken.

Items accepted include household products that can typically be purchased in a hardware, grocery or big box store, including cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, oil-based paint (not latex), solvents, thinners, mothballs, rodent poisons, gasoline, kerosene and small propane tanks (up to 20 pound size). For a more complete list of acceptable items, see "Special Wastes" under "Recycling" on the Green Putnam webpage at http://www.putnamcountyny.com/green-putnam/.

Disposal items must be labeled and identifiable to be accepted. Items not accepted include: water-based paints (latex/acrylic), used motor oil, lead-acid batteries, plastic bags, household alkaline batteries, tires, or electronic waste. Materials that are of commercial or industrial type or quantity will not be accepted. Items packed into garbage or lawn bags will also not be accepted. Latex paints can be discarded by routine means, after they have been dried out.

Call early to reserve a spot. For questions or to pre-register, contact the Putnam County Department of Health at (845) 808-1390 or register by emailing your three preferred times (every 15 minutes beginning at 9 a.m.) along with your town of residence to PutnamHealth@putnamcountyny.gov. You will be sent an email with directions in order to confirm your registration. If you do not receive a confirmation email within 2 business days, please call the above number.

For information regarding electronic waste disposal, call your local town. Please note that household hazardous waste items are not accepted at the town electronic waste drop-off locations.

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; or visit our social media sites on Facebook atwww.facebook.com/putnamhealth and Twitter @PutnamHealthNY.



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# **Eagle Scout Project Benefits Putnam Hospital Center**

Michael DiVestea, a junior at The Harvey School in Katonah, is no stranger to Putnam Hospital Center and volunteering.

Not only was DiVestea, 15, born at the Carmel hospital, he has spent much of his young life helping out there, including for Kids' Day events, making Emergency Room kits and assisting his mother, Corrinne DiVestea, with The Mother's Club, a group she founded to give sleep sacks to expectant mothers.

When it came time to prepare for Eagle Scout for Troop #4 of Purdys, DiVestea knew he



PROVIDED PHOTO

Michael DiVestea with Putnam Hospital Center's Director of Support Services Michael Conroy.

wanted to dedicate his project to Putnam Hospital Center.

After taking part in a memorial service for longtime volunteer Greta Upham last spring, DiVestea realized there needed to be more tranquil outdoor space on the hospital grounds for the community to enjoy. So over the summer and early fall, DiVestea recruited friends and family, logging more than 260 volunteer hours, to renovate a hospital courtyard, laying down a brick pathway, installing benches and planting flowers and shrubs throughout the area. He has called it the Putnam Hospital Center Volunteer Garden.

"I'm glad that it can be a nice, quiet place that is open to the public," said DiVestea, of North Salem.

# **Airport Field Project Takes Flight in Mahopac**



NIKKI GALLAGHER PHOTO

Members of the Carmel Town Board and the Carmel Recreation Department gathered for the ceremonial groundbreaking at the site of the proposed Airport Field Master Plan Enlargement off Hill St. in the center of Putnam County where the implementation and renovation is expected to be completed sometime in 2020 and will include four fully refurbished multi-purpose fields with all the trimmings, a children's playground and picnic area, walking/Audubon trails and much more. (L-R) at the groundbreaking ceremony were MSA Board Member Ed Binns, MSA Board President Roger Garcia, Mahopac Superintendent of Schools Anthony DiCarlo, Carmel Town Board & Recreation Advisory Liaison John Lupinacci, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Gilchrist, Town of Carmel Supervisor Ken Schmitt, Mahopac School Board & Carmel Recreation Advisory Board Member Nike Mongon, Putnam County Legislator & Carmel Recreation Advisory Board Member Neal Sullivan, Carmel Recreation Advisory Board Member Ray Gallagher, Carmel Town Board & Recreation Advisory Liaison Suzie McDonough; Carmel Recreation Advisory Board Chairman Dave Fufaro (and his granddaughter) and Carmel Senior Recreation Leader Nina Kallmeyer.



# **Obituaries**

### Virginia Rita Russell

Virginia Rita Russell, born 8/10/38 in Brooklyn, to parents John and Virginia Pendergast, died early Saturday morning, Nov. 17, at the age of 80 in Mooresville, NC where she resided with her daughter and son-in-law, Laura and Joe Amiano. Virginia was a devoted wife, to Joseph J. Russell, Jr. who died September 30, 2009, and mother of three, John, Joseph, and Laura. She is survived by her children, and their spouses, Kristina, Lesley, and Joe, and her grandchildren Mitchel, Marc, Jaclyn, Carlianne, Jenna, Angeline, and Joey, along with her sister, Janet Brennnan. Her sister, Joyce Lewis, died February 26, 2016. Virginia was incredibly loved by her family and will be very missed. She will be remembered as a strong, courageous woman who was devoted to God, passionate about her family, and a prayer warrior for Jesus-always interceding and praying for her family. Despite her breathing challenges caused by COPD, Virginia would let nothing get in the way of traveling across the country to California or up north to New York from North Carolina to visit and spend time with her grandchildren. Her favorite thing to do was to fly out and visit them on all their birthdays and take them shopping for their favorite birthday gifts. Her sweet, easy-going personality blessed so many. Her children and grandchildren would enjoy hours of fun card games, conversations, and just hanging out watching TV shows with her. In Virginia's earlier career days, she was a dedicated teacher aid for 25 years at the Northern Westchester/Putnam BOCES at the Pines Bridge School where she impacted the lives of many students with her loving care and support. Mahopac, is where she spent most of her years with her husband raising their children in the friendly Lake MacGregor community where many special lifetime friendships and memories were made.

#### Rocco Malandruccolo

Rocco Malandruccolo, age 87, of Mahopac, died peacefully on November 17, with his loving family by his side. Rocco was born September 2, 1931 to the late Francesca (Recine) and Augusto Malandruccolo in Ripi, Italy. He would go on to marry his beautiful wife Marie and together they were blessed with both a son Rocco and a daughter Julia. Rocco, like so many people who came to call America home, fought hard to earn everything in life. He had an unprecedented work ethic. He instilled traditional values into his family and felt it was important for them to have a love of their Italian heritage but a respect and love for being American and the opportunities this country provided. Mr. Malandruccolo worked as foreman for the Local 731 until his retirement. People who loved Rocco the most will remember

him for his love of making wine and his perfectly manicured garden and lawn. Rocco was a pillar of strength for his family and was dependable, loving and strong. His heart was made full when he became a grandfather and of all the people who Rocco loved there was no question for his love of his grandchildren Anthony and Lauren. Rocco leaves his family with a lifetime of happy memories and Italian traditions that will be carried on in his honor. Mr. Malandruccolo is survived by his loving children his daughter Julia Saluto and her fiancé Philip Nigro of Hopewell Junction, and his son Rocco Malandruccolo of Mahopac. He is also survived by his cherished grandchildren Anthony and Lauren. As well as being survived by his respected brother Lino and his wife Anna Maria of Mahopac. Rocco is also survived by many nieces and nephews whom each had a special place in his heart. He is predeceased by his brother Santino (Antonia). He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

#### Germaine Reda

Germaine Reda, age 64, of Mahopac, died November 18, with her loving family by her side at the Putnam Hospital Center. Germaine was born August 18, 1954 to the late Victoria (Mancusi) and Gennaro Scanapieco in Yonkers. She would go on to marry Anthony Reda on April 24, 1977 at Mt. Carmel Church in Bronx, and together they were blessed with an adoring daughter Lauren and beloved son Anthony. In the words of all that ever had the honor of meeting Germaine, she truly was an angel. She was the most warm and loving person you would ever meet. She could captivate the room with her smile, big personality, and sense of humor. She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, cousin, aunt, and friend who had such a profound impact on anyone she met. She led by example showing the true meaning of love, life, and laughter. She was the former owner and teacher of the Kiddie Kottage Nursery School where she was tremendously loved by all her coworkers, students, and families. She loved her pets and treated them as members of her family. Her heart was made complete when she became a grandmother to her beloved granddaughter. Together they shared a special bond that will be forever treasured. Germaine leaves her family with a lifetime of love and devotion. She has forever touched the lives of so many and her spirit will undoubtedly live on in each and every person who had the pleasure of knowing her. Germaine is survived by her loving husband Anthony, her beloved children Lauren and Anthony, her daughter in law Lisa, and future son in law Jonathan. She is also survived by her precious granddaughter Gianna, as well as being survived by her brother Gerald. She will be dearly missed by all who knew

and loved her.

#### Allan Hestad

It is with heavy hearts the family of Allan Hestad, age 85, of Carmel, announces his passing on November 18. Allan was born October 21, 1933 to the late Ellen (Barry) and Sivert Hestad in the Bronx. He would go on to marry the love of his life, Dorothy Hermann. Together they would be blessed with two loving daughters Diane and Carol. Allan was a proud United States Navy Veteran; he was an advocate for all service men and women. He worked for the FDNY putting his life, on the line, for others. Allan worked along side men he respected, loved and would have life long friendships with. He started his career at Engine 92. He later was transferred to Engine 62 (The Gun Hill Gang) Being a fire fighter was more then just a job to Allan. He loved telling stories of his time at the firehouse with his colleagues. They joked, played practical jokes on each other, ate meals together and took turns cooking dinners. They referred to themselves as "brothers" and that bond was never broken. Mr. Hestad was a devoted NY Giants baseball fan. As a kid, he and his friends would go to games (sometimes sneaking in to the Polo Grounds.) His favorite team of all was his grandsons'. He volunteered as co-coach for their teams He'd cheer them on and support their progress. Above all Allan was a loving and devoted family man. He generously gave his time to his family and friends. He would give friends rides to Church, or to the store and was always there to lend a hand. People knew him as a caring and generous man. Allan is predeceased by his devoted wife Dorothy (2013). He is survived by his beloved daughter Diane and her husband Tom of Albany, NY and daughter Carol and her husband Bill of Patterson, New York. He is also survived by his two cherished twin grandchildren, Steven and Tom Brundage. Allan will be missed greatly by all who loved him.

#### Joan M. Campbell

Joan M. Campbell, of Jensen Beach, Florida formerly of Brewster, died Monday, November 19, at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, with her children at her bedside. She was 78 years old. Joan was born May 11, 1940 in New York; the daughter of Mary (Hennessey) and Robert Fallon. She attended Aquinas High School and graduated from Thorpe Secretarial School. Joan was predeceased by her husband Bernard (Bob) Campbell. They were married on May 29, 1960 in Long Beach, New York. Together, they had celebrated 57 years of marriage. Through the years Joan was a devoted wife, attentive mother, and affectionate grandmother. She thoroughly enjoyed being surrounded by her family, and

celebrating the achievements of her children and grandchildren. Joan had many jobs through her life, but her career was that of a Salesperson for Spectra Realty for over 20 years. She and Bob had retired to Jensen Beach, Florida where she enjoyed her view of the ocean, sunsets, and spending time with her many friends. Joan is survived by her four children, Robert, of West Haven, CT, William and Lucia, Leslie and Pat Tyndall of Brewster, Lori and Kyle Macomber of New Fairfield, CT and five grandchildren, Kathryn, Kyle, Jack, Owen and Andrew. She is also survived by her brother William Fallon and his wife Eileen, as well as many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Robert Fallon.

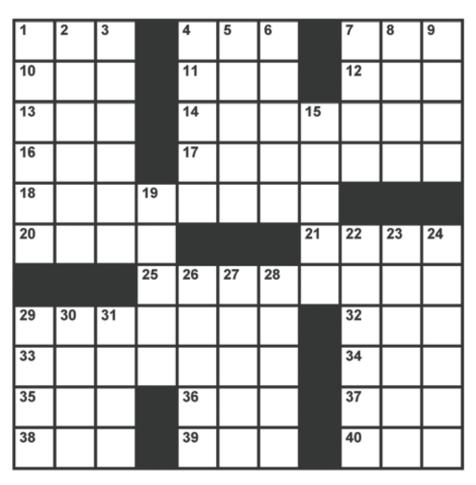
#### Francis C. Palmer

Francis C. Palmer, 92, of Brewster, died Nov. 21 at Regional Hospice of Western CT. He was born 12/3/1925, son of the late Henry and Catherine (Cunningham) Palmer. He was predeceased by Helen (Brandon) Palmer, his wife of 60 years. He was a graduate of Brewster High School. Fran proudly served his country during of World War II in the U.S. Navy, serving on the U.S.S. Augusta (CA-31) a Northampton-class heavy cruiser and the USS Lang (DD-399) a Benhamclass destroyer. Francis founded Palmer Palmer-Macomber Plumbing, Oil, and Southeast Builders. He was a member of St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Brewster, a member of the Knights of Columbus, the VFW Post 672 and he was active in Brewster Little league for many years. He is survived by his sons Christopher (Donna), Michael (Nancy), Stan, Stephen(Babs), Richard(Cindy) and Dennis(Denise). He treasured his 14 grandchildren, Mark, Kristin, Garett, Shauna, Brad, Ryan, Daniel, Brett, Kerry, Richard, Jeffrey, Kyle, Darren and Francis, and his 16 great grandchildren Casey, Annie, Andrew, Hayley, Jake, Kate, Brandon, Tessa, Taylor, Hank, June, Mack, Ryann, Dylan, Skyler and Emily. He is survived by his brother Richard. He was predeceased by his sister Margaret, his brother Joseph, and his lifelong friend and business partner, Bill Macomber.

#### Ernest J. Piermarini

Ernest Joseph Piermarini of Cold Spring died peacefully on November 21. He was 74. Born on April 18, 1944 in Newark, NJ to the late Pietro and Mary Rossi Piermarini. Ernest graduated from Summit High School, earned his Bachelor's of Science from Monmouth University and his Master of Arts and Doctorate in Education degrees from Seton Hall University. Ernest was a retired Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources for the Lakeland Central School District and an Adjunct

# **Crossword Puzzle**



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 15



#### Across

- 1. Greyhound
- 4. Eur. speedometer reading
- 7. French flower
- 10. Literary collection
- 11. Nest-egg plan
- 12. Big heart, say?
- 13. Iconic defenseman Bobby
- 14. Knock
- 16. Put money on it
- 17. Single-issue publication
- 18. Burrowing mammal native to

Africa or Mahopac insurance agency

- 20. Cordon
- 21. Appraiser
- 25. Tijuana topper
- 29. Vexes
- 32. Siglo de \_\_\_ (epoch of Cervantes)
- 33. Catholic prelature
- 34. Guy
- 35. Police announcement
- 36. "\_\_\_ be a pleasure!"
- 37. Parisian summer
- 38. Submissions to eds.
- 39. Vane direction
- 40. Opposing vote

#### Down

- 1. Tree with gourd-like fruit
- 2. Beyond belief
- 3. French existentialist
- 4. Big name in Russian ballet
- 5. Yoga principle
- 6. Fan's opposite
- 7. Plaster base
- 8. UN aircraft group
- 9. Paving stone
- 15. One who questions
- 19. Sunsets
- 22. Petty officers
- 23. Slips
- 24. Andy \_\_\_\_ or Mahopac smile
- fixer, \_\_\_\_ Orthodontists
- 26. "Duke of Earl," for one
- 27. Track events
- 28. The Righteous Brothers' "Un-

chained Melody," originally

- 29. Wander
- 30. Android Market purchases
- 31. Kernels

## **Obituaries**

continued from previous page

Professor in the School of Education at St. Thomas Aquinas College. He also served as Director of Occupational Studies and Assistant to the Superintendent at for Lakeland, Director of the Teacher's Center at SUNY Purchase, and a business education teacher and administrator at Walter Panas High School. He was instrumental to initiating the Lakeland Education Foundation, which supports education programs and initiatives when budgetary resources are not available. He was a passionate teacher and advocate of education. His performance as a teacher and professionalism and dedication as an administrator were recognized by several awards, including the Clinton A. Reed Award and Westchester Country Business Education Association Teacher of the Year. In leisure, he enjoyed

following baseball, watching movies and theatrical performances, reading books and newspapers, and spending time with family and friends. He is survived by his devoted wife of 47 years Linda Piermarini, loving sons Peter Piermarini (married to Laura Sirot) of Wooster Ohio and Craig Piermarini (married to Michelle Piermarini) of Wakefield, RI, and cherished grandchildren Carson and Blake Piermarini.Friends may call on Tuesday November 27, from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. at Clinton Funeral Home 21 Parrott Street, Cold Spring. Funeral Services will be private. In lieu of flowers the family please asks for donations in Ernest's memory to the National Kidney Foundation (www.kidney.org) or the Lakeland Education Foundation (www. LakelandEducationFoundation.org).



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# **How to Guard Against Burst Water Pipes in Winter**

Every year just before the holidays, I receive that trusty call from Dave Goldberg, my retired plumber who served my plumbing needs for close to 50 years. He reminds me to advise readers to disconnect their garden hoses from the outdoor spigot. If not, mayhem may follow.

Other than a fire or tornado, the most damaging event a house can suffer is flooding from a burst water pipe. Yet most people have just a sketchy knowledge of how to avoid this potential disaster.

One of my most memorable mishaps with burst pipes

involved a young couple who had found the home of their dreams and wanted to close as quickly as possible because the lease on their rental was about to expire. But their dream was dashed, at least temporarily, by a discovery we made when we arrived at the house for the engineering inspection.

We were greeted by an ominous sound of water leaking and discovered in the family room that water was spraying through the seams of the plasterboard walls and half of the ceiling had collapsed. The engineer quickly shut off the water main, but it was too late to prevent the extensive damage to





By Bill Primavera

was empty but the selling agent had been very careful to monitor the heating system so that the pipes wouldn't freeze. She couldn't understand what went wrong. The engineer looked around and found

the walls, ceiling, built-in

As an estate sale, the house

cabinetry and flooring.

She couldn't understand what went wrong. The engineer looked around and found that the garden house had not been disconnected from the outside spigot. He explained that water in the hose had frozen and backed up into the pipe that traveled through the garage, which was unheated, to the family room on the

other side of the garage wall, causing the pipes to burst. When the ice melted, the room was flooded.

When water freezes, it has the force of 2,200 pounds of pressure per square inch, Goldberg said.

"One of the most common causes of burst pipes is when people forget to detach their hoses for the winter," he said. "It should always be done by mid-October."

There are many reasons why pipes can burst, Goldberg said. There could be a draft through a tiny crack in a wall. If it is cold enough outside, the wind chill factor can cause a pipe to freeze and it can be anywhere in the house.

For snowbirds who leave their houses for warmer climes, Goldberg said even if a house is winterized, it can be done incorrectly.

"When people had summer houses up here and would close them for the winter, it was easier to drain the pipes because the plumbing was designed for that," he said. "Now, with modern construction, pipes wind around beams and go up and down, and there are many elbows that can trap water. If just a drop of water is left in the elbow and it freezes, the pipe can burst."

Goldberg said the best way to avoid this problem is to have the pipes blown out with an air compressor.

"Things can go wrong even if a house isn't abandoned," he said. "If a family takes a winter vacation, for instance, it's not enough precaution just to leave the heat on. Suppose there is a power failure or the supply of fuel runs out?"

Goldberg cited the popular use of wood and gas-burning stoves as another cause of burst pipes because it gives a false sense of warmth. It may be 70 degrees inside, but if the heat doesn't reach the outside walls where the pipes are located, problems may ensue.

As a safeguard, he recommended that nontoxic antifreeze be added to the heating system so that if the power goes off, the water won't freeze.

"It's like putting antifreeze in a car,"

Goldberg said, "and it should be checked annually to see that it's still at an effective level."

For insulating pipes in the basement or crawl space, he suggested using a heating strip that turns on automatically like a thermostat, and then to wrap both the pipe and heating strip with insulation.

Another safeguard in frigid weather is to keep water running, both the hot and cold taps where the pipes are against an outside wall. I'm familiar with this technique because when my wife and I lived in an old house, which was somewhat drafty, we would keep the water dripping in the mudroom halfbath that was exposed on two sides by outside walls.

"Remember to keep the water dripping," she always said. I'd usually respond, "I know, I know, you already told me." I would get myself into trouble by turning the faucet off anyway, just by force of habit.

But seeing the damage that a burst pipe can do, I didn't mind the occasional admonishment.

Bill Primavera, while a publicist and journalist, is also a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

# Our Virtual Tour of Modern Spain and its Wines Continues



By Nick Antonaccio

For the past formal few columns I've and by a been focusing technology on my renewed this is in fatuation, the formal the wines coming funding into the United communication.

States from Spain.
I recently

attended a celebration of the wine, food and design of all things Spanish, sponsored by the Wines From Spain trade organization. I enjoyed new (for me) wines in the walk-around session and expanded my knowledge of regions, terroirs and producers in several seminar settings. Repeatedly, I was impressed with the quality – and value – of so many of the wines now arriving on our shores.

From conversations with winemakers I deduced that a number of old-line traditional producers are reaching out to producers in other wine-producing countries in order to learn new techniques for the vineyard and the winery.

But I was most impressed with the younger generation, who have stepped into the mud- and wine-stained shoes of their parents to manage family-run wineries in existence for three, four, sometimes five generations. They are expanding their knowledge through

formal wine education and by utilizing modern technology. Much of this is attributable to the formation of the European Union. Through generous financial funding and cooperative

communication, Spain has emerged from a poor, economically challenged country (notwithstanding the continuing impact of the Great Recession) into an influential economic force. In turn, wine production and, by extension, wine consumers, have benefited greatly.

With this as a backdrop, I decided to reprise a series I penned more than 10 years ago on these pages.

There are many Spanish wines available, but many are represented by small wineries, or small importers or small distributors. Therefore, a number of my favorites may not be available in your local wine shop. Fear not. With this virtual tour series as a reference, you will be able to find fine representations from each featured region. And when you do, let me know; I'm always seeking new experiences and my next favorite wine.

On to our virtual tour.

Long stretches of white sand beach, historic towns emblematic of local seafarers, unique cultural architecture, modern cities with sophisticated nightlife

You Heard It Through the Grapevine and fabulous local wines not readily available elsewhere.

Does this sound like the French Riviera? The Italian Riviera? Provence? California's Central Coast? Yes, it does – and the

Spanish Mediterranean Coast.

This week's virtual tour takes us along Spain's eastern coast, beginning in the south along the Playa del Sol beaches, northward through the port city of Alicante, the sophisticated culture and architecture of Valencia, the rich history and architecture of Barcelona and the popular beaches along the Costa Brava in the northern extreme of the region, at the foothills of the Pyrenees. This vast stretch has something for everyone, including seekers of unique wines previously unavailable to American consumers.

The Mediterranean Coast wine region encompasses the largest number of Spain's official wine regions – 13 of the 69 classifications. We will be exploring the wines of four major areas: Alicante, Jumilla, Valencia, Priorat/Monstant and Penedès.

Our tour this week takes us to the southeastern port cities of Alicante and Valencia. Although separated by hundreds of miles of idyllic coastline, they share the same commercialized

wine-production history. Since the 19th century these sister cities were known for mass production wines exported to the rest of Europe for bottlings of cheap, nondescript wines – similar to the California bulk wine business. (Think Carlo Rossi in the 1960s, still vibrant into the 21st century.)

In the 1990s the local producers decided to experiment with grapes that might be suitable to the local terroir – sandy to clay-like soil, temperate climate and cooling sea breezes. The result: newly introduced artisanal wines from Monastrell, Garnacha and Moscatel grapes, with a smattering of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Although not yet as popular as wines from other regions, there are quite a few worth seeking out.

As we continue our virtual tour through the Mediterranean Coast, our next stops will explore the Spanish wine regions garnering high praise in the United States.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.

Troops.

Wednesday, November 28

The Origins of the Victorian Christmas: Leon DiMartino will discuss how Victorian traditions made Christmas the holiday we celebrate today and their impact on movies, literature, and American culture. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and Calendar.

Chabad of Putnam would like to invite you to a Hanukkah Story and Craft Hour at the Mahopac Public **Library.** 10:30 a.m., -11:30 a.m. Program will include an interactive reading of the new "Big Book of Chanukah" Come listen to the story of Hanukkah - The Festival of Lights. Make a craft, learn how to play the dreidel game and enjoy some tasty Hanukkah treats. Open to children and parents of all ages. Please visit www. PutnamChabad.org or call 845 225 4770 to register.

#### **Thursday, November 29**

Snow Family Holiday Welcome Plaque: Ceramic workshop Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Event: 7 p.m. - 10pm \$35 per person Create a 7" x 12" ceramic piece using acrylic paint and glitter. Take home the same night. Location: Westchester/ Putnam Pottery 3685 Hill Blvd, Jefferson Valley Includes all materials, snacks, thank you gift and additional raffles for sale. Register online at: www. spcaputnam.org 100% of proceeds will go to the Putnam County SPCA.

#### Friday, November 30

The Putnam Chorale, Douglas Music Anderson Director, enthusiastically announces it fall Concert Program Holy Haydn! 7 p.m. at St Joachim-St. John the Evangelist Church, 51 Leonard Street in Beacon and again on Sunday, December 2, at 3 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 83 Main Street, Brewster. Tickets for this special concert \$20. per person, \$15 for seniors and students (under 12 is free). Discounted tickets are available for the Beacon Concert. Visit www.Putnam Chorale.org for details on other events.

#### Saturday, December 1

Make a Christmas Wreath: Adults 18 and up are invited to come to the Kent Library to decorate a Christmas wreath on Saturday, December 1 at 11:45 a.m. Wreaths will be provided. Some decorations will be provided as well, but feel free to bring your own! Program is for adults. Registration is required, and space is limited. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or www. kentlibrary.org.

Not sure how to send a letter to Santa Claus? We've got you covered! Until December 21, a North Pole mailbox will be available for kids from 1 to 92 to drop off their letters and lists! Letters with return addresses will receive replies! No registration is required. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or www.kentlibrary.org

Defensive Driving will be offered once again at the Kent Library. 9 a.m. -3 p.m., Receive up to a 10% discount on your motor vehicle collision and liability insurance premium for up to three years, and up to a four-point reduction on your driving record. Class is offered by DigitalDefensiveDriving.com. \$40 per participant. A portion of proceeds will benefit the library. Registration is required and is not complete without payment. Registration is required. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or www.kentlibrary.org.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Drop-Off Day for Putnam County residents. The Putnam County Department of Health and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) are co-sponsoring the free event, scheduled from 9 a.m. to 12 noon (rain or shine) at Fahnestock State Park, Canopus Beach Parking Lot on Route 301 in Kent, NY. Pre-registration is required. Webpage at http://www. putnamcountyny.com/green-putnam/.

Defensive Driving Class: 9:45 a.m. -2:45 p.m. The Defensive Driving Insurance Reduction Program is a course consisting of a series of films and discussions about driving attitudes and behaviors. It is designed for licensed drivers, but those with permits may attend. \$45 per person, \$35 for seniors 65+. Register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext 100. Payment will be taken only on the day of the class. Cash or checks payable to Jack Coxen only; charge cards not accepted.

Charity Poker Tournament: Italian American Club of Mahopac, 141 Bucksholllow Rd. Mahopac at 7:30 p.m. Great Homemade Italian Dinner at 7 p.m. included. Game begins at 7:30 p.m. Pre-register and Prepay on our website italianamericanclubofmahopac.org (click on Webstore/ Poker) to receive 1000 extra chips. Bring a friend/ new player receive 500 extra chips. Come to consecutive tournaments to receive 500 or 1000 extra chips. For an extra \$20 receive 2000 chips. Our new tables are ready for your enjoyment. Admission \$100. For

Nikki Gallagher at nikki@theexaminernews.com additional information or to play, please call Frank at (914) 400-6751 or Tom at (845) 628-5909. Re-Buys during the first 5 rounds. MUST BE at least 21 years old to play. Fundraising for United for the

Putnam Lake Volunteer Department's 12th Annual Holiday Parade & Tree Lighting Saturday, (Snow Date, Sunday, December 2, 2018) Take the entire family and join us in bringing in the Holiday Season. There will be a parade of lights with fire trucks, floats and much more... Tree Lighting Caroling Refreshments And of course.... Santa Also, please bring a non-perishable item for the New Life Christian Church Food Bank which serves our community. Contact persons: Lucinda Johnson at 1-845-270-1029; Barbara Ras at 1-845-309-2853

Christmas Bazaar: 9 a.m. -3 p.m., (Snow date 12/8.) Crafts, Baked Goods, Gift Items, Decorations, Breakfast & Lunch served. First Presbyterian Church, 411 Rt 6N (at Secor Rd) Mahopac. For more information: presby411@verizon. net or 845-628-2365.

Talk about Addiction. Drugs, Alcohol. or addiction to the American dream... is it a disease or a natural brain habit? 1 p.m. Addictions in this country continue to increase due to high stress levels, lack of empowerment, consumerism, and ongoing stigma and judgement that creates barriers to "real" community. Alison Lewis, LMHC, Licensed Counselor of 25 years, will talk about understanding addiction, and why addiction becomes destructive over time. Registration is requested; register online at www. mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

#### Sunday, December 2

Chabad of Putnam is pleased to announce a Build You Own Menorah Workshop at the Brewster Home Depot

on December 2nd from 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Participants will have the opportunity to create their very own menorahs. There is no charge. Open to the public. Please visit www.PutnamChabad.org or call 845 225 4770 to register. This workshop is a project of Chabad of Putnam sponsored by The Home Depot.

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

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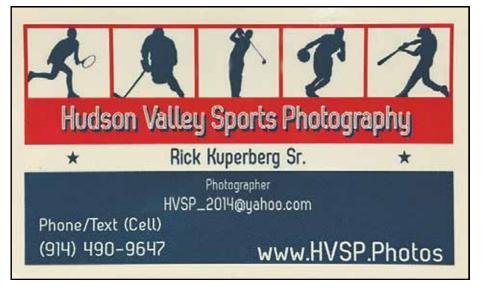
Annual Ladies Auxiliary Penny Social: Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of Columbus #6318, will be hosting their annual Penny Social. Doors opening at 1 p.m. and calling beginning at 2 p.m. We will also be selling raffles for gift baskets, Fitbit, Lottery Prize, Visa Gift Card & 50/50. Located at 10 Fair Street, Carmel. Proceeds going to Local Charities. Questions: ladieskofc@gmail.com.

Menorah Workshop At Brewster Home Depot: Chabad of Putnam is pleased to announce a Build You Own Menorah Workshop at the Brewster Home Depot. 2 p.m. -3 p.m. Participants will have the opportunity to create their very own menorahs. There is no charge. Open to the public. Please visit www. PutnamChabad.org or call 845 225 4770 to register.

#### Monday, December 3

The Putnam County Department of Health is offering free HIV testing for World AIDS Day. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Health Department at 1 Geneva Road in Brewster. All results are within 20 minutes! No appointments necessary. For more information, please call 845-808-1390.

Chabad of Putnam is pleased to announce a community Menorah Lighting in Cold Spring. 5 p.m. The menorah will be located at the end of Main Street (near Cold Spring Depot.) The festivities will include a menorah lighting, hot latkes and cider. For more local Chanukah activities visit www. PutnamChabad.org.



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sugar consumption and global government policies and F/X changes; maintain and develop global sugar and market supply and demand and international trade database for all countries, including Brazil as the largest sugar producer in the world; analyze major market interdependent supply and demand situations for sugar and ethanol; investigate and apply forecasting techniques to evaluate market patterns of supply and demand; apply statistical, econometric, and sensitivity information to problems of sugar consumption and production patterns such as determining the elasticity's of supply and demand as determined by evolution related factors; communicate with product line managers the risk management and market implications of supply and demand parameter changes; provide market research support analysis and data to the Global Sugar Trade Team / Product Line in order to orient decision-making; and summarize findings for presentation purposes for internal and external audiences. The position requires a Bachelor's degree in Agribusiness, Agronomy, or a closely

The position requires a Bachelor's degree in Agribusiness, Agronomy, or a closely related field and 5 years of experience as a Sugar Analyst or in a comparable position in the sugar commodities sector to include 5 years of experience performing sugar market research analysis on global sugar markets, including Brazil; experience researching factors impacting the global sugar and ethanol markets, including weather, price, yield; conducting mathematical models and preparing reports regarding sugar and ethanol market trends. Apply online at bmsi.careers@bunge.com.

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#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF STAR-DUST ADVISORS, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with SSNY on 08/02/2018. Office location is New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 70 Pine Street, Apt. 3204, New York, NY 10005. Pur-

pose: Distribution of educational products and services to all NYS schools.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE ART CLOSET LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with SSNY on 09/26/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 50 Old Roaring Brook Rd., Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CURATED FOR YOU BY KATRI. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/25/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 6 Barron Cir., Chappaqua, NY 10514. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 306 PRESCOTT STREET, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/26/2018. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 7 Arbor St, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WEBER ROSSELLI & CANNON LLP filed with SSNY on 8/8/2018. Office in Westchester, SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 7 Skyline Drive – Suite 350, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY OF SURETY TITLE AGENCY COASTAL REGION, L.L.C. filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/6/18. Formed in NJ on 10/12/99. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to 853 Mill Creek Rd., Manahawkin, NJ 08050. The office address required to be maintained in NJ is 11 Eves Dr., Ste. 150, Marlton, NJ 08053. Cert. of formation filed with State Treas., 33 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SU-JEAN STUDIO LLC filed with Secretary of State NY on 11/14/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 33 Windmill Rd., Armonk NY 10504. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 2019 PROPOSED WESTCHESTER COUN-TY BUDGET NOTICE IS HEREBY



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# EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

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

continued from previous page

**GIVEN** that a Public Hearing will be held by the Westchester County Board of Legislators on the matter of the Westchester County Budget for the year 2019 and the Memorandum of Proposals of the Committee on Budget & Appropriations, if applicable, at the Westchester County Board of Legislators which is located at 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor in White Plains, New York, on December 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The County Budget and the Committee on Budget and Appropriations Memorandum of Proposals, if applicable, will be open to inspection by any persons at the office of the Clerk of the County Board of Legislators during business hours. Information concerning the entire Budget, as well as copies of the Budget itself, may be viewed on-line at www.westchestergov. com or obtained from the office of the Budget Director, 3rd floor, Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York 10601. (Please note that the charges for the various budget documents are as follows: \$30.00 for the Proposed 2019 Operating Budget; \$30.00 for the Proposed 2019 Capital Budget, \$25.00 for the Special Districts Budget or \$75.00 for the complete package. The Budget {operating, capital and special districts} is also available on CD for \$15.00) Those attending the Public Hearing have the right to provide written and/or oral comments concerning the entire budget. Dated: November 23, 2018, SUNDAY VANDER-BERG, Clerk of the County & Chief Administrative Officer, Board of Legislators Westchester County, New York

#### **LAND FOR SALE**

BANK ORDERED LAND SALE! Oct 13th & 14th! 21 acres was 69,900, SALE \$49,900 42 acres was 89,900, SALE \$64,900 35 acres 5 acre POND was 199,900, SALE \$129,900 Gorgeous No. Catskills location less than 3  $\Omega$  hrs NY City! Views, State Land, Low Taxes, 100% Builable! Special Bank terms Avail! Call 888-905-8847 NewYorkLandandLakes.com

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# Crossword Answers





# **Bear Mountain Bridge Renamed for Purple Heart Veterans**

The New York State Bridge Authority earlier this month unveiled a sign designating the Bear Mountain Bridge as the Purple Heart Veterans Memorial Bear Mountain Bridge to honor Purple Heart recipients. The ceremonial designation comes after Governor Andrew Cuomo signed a bill sponsored by Senator Bill Larkin and Assemblywoman Sandy Galef on October 2.

The ceremonial designation of the Bear Mountain Bridge celebrates America's heroes who have given so much, for many being the ultimate sacrifice. The designation also recognizes the rich history the Hudson Valley holds for America's oldest military decoration, which traces its lineage to the Badge of Military Merit established by Commander-in-Chief George Washington while he was at his headquarters in Newburgh in 1782.

"We are honored to designate the Bear Mountain Bridge as the Purple Heart Veterans Memorial Bear Mountain Bridge," New York State Bridge Authority Executive Director Joseph Ruggiero said. "Members of the traveling public will be now able to reflect on the sacrifices given by these brave men and women who served in our nation's armed forces. With this dedication, we show eternal gratitude to these selfless individuals who embody our best values and traditions."

As the oldest bridge within the jurisdiction of the New York State Bridge Authority, it is fitting to give the Bear Mountain Bridge this honored designation as it is rich with history of its own. The Bear Mountain Bridge was the first vehicular river crossing built between



PROVIDED PHOTO

New York City and Albany. At the time the bridge was built, it was also the longest suspension bridge in the world and the first suspended bridge to have a concrete deck. The project of building the Bear Mountain Bridge marked the beginning of a golden age of long span bridge building along the Hudson River and throughout the New York metropolitan area. The success of the inventive methods used broke new ground and paved the way for the building of other suspension bridges such as the George Washington Bridge and the Golden Gate Bridge.

"We thank Governor Cuomo for today's ceremony to dedicate the Bear Mountain Bridge to service members who have been awarded the Purple Heart," said Major General Ray Shields, Adjutant General of the State of New York and Commander of the New York National Guard. "Today is a great opportunity to remember their sacrifice and dedication to our nation. It is equally fitting that the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is located nearby in New Windsor, NY. It's my honor to represent all the service members of the NY Army and Air National Guard who

have been awarded the Purple Heart over the years."

New York State Division of Veterans Affairs Executive Deputy Director Joel Evans said, "As a Veteran and the relative of a Purple Heart recipient, and an advocate for New York's Veterans and their families, I am honored to take part in the designation of the Purple Heart Veteran's Memorial Bear Mountain Bridge. In the spirit of Veterans Day, this designation honors those who have served and sacrificed for us so that we may all have the opportunity to access and enjoy the natural beauty of New York." "It is so special that on this Veterans' Day weekend we are honoring our veterans by designating the Bear Mountain Bridge as the Purple Heart Veterans Memorial Bridge. This is an east/ west bridge that connects Camp Smith to West Point and the National Purple Heart Hall of Honors. As motorists and pedestrians cross the bridge they will be forever reminded of the sacrifices that have been made by our military over the years and into the future. Thank you to all our veterans and their outstanding service to our state and nation," said Galef.

"Let the Purple Heart Veterans Memorial Bear Mountain Bridge stand as a reminder to all who cross it that freedom is not free," said Military of the Purple Heart Department of New York Commander William Nazario. "To all, be it young or old who cross the bridge, let it serve as an instrument of learning of the sacrifices and blood shed by many in protecting our freedoms.

# **Garrison Art Center to Present Cedric van Eenoo Paintings**

Garrison Art Center is pleased to present a solo exhibition of paintings by Cedric van Eenoo. The exhibition will be on view in the Riverside Galleries from December 8 through January 6. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, December 8, 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Cedric van Eenoo's modestly sized monochromatic canvases reduce painting to its most crucial essence. Within the constraints of minimal color and form, van Eenoo has obtained a profound freedom of creativity and process. The abstract expressionist-influenced brushwork is an exploration intexture and nuance, emotion and meaning. His application of imperfect layers of white on white paint transcends the square canvas to a philosophical level, and through this fundamental formula of expression there is an emergence of the unexpected.

"Through vivid impasto, and subtle manipulation of monochrome texture, an earnest search for truth and purity pervades the art... Standing as windows to a divergent dimension, Cedric van Eenoo's emotive white paintings



PROVIDED PHOTO

communicate absolute and passionate sensations with striking grace," said Lucy M. Nallan

Cedric van Eenoo is a painter, musician,

filmmaker, lecturer, and author. He is affiliated with SciArt Center of New York City, Brooklyn Arts Council, Artists Rights Society (ARS). His art has been exhibited at the Hammond Museum, Brooklyn Art Library, Katonah Museum of Art, Marin Museum of Contemporary Art, Pelham Art Center, Yorktown Museum, Queens College Art Library, Pratt Fine Arts Institute, Brickton Art Center, NAU Art Rochester Museum, Contemporary Center, Artotheque of Montreal, Artcomplex Center of Tokyo, and

Hong Kong Visual Arts Center. Cedric van Eenoo is represented by Tokyo Art Gallery and World Fine Art Gallery in New York City.

This exhibition will be on view in the Riverside Galleries concurrently with smallWORKS 2½, a juried exhibition of over 70 artists exploring the boundaries between two and three dimensions. Both exhibitions will be on view from December 8 through January 6.



today's crossword!

# Examiner Sports Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

2018-19 Hoops Preview Edition

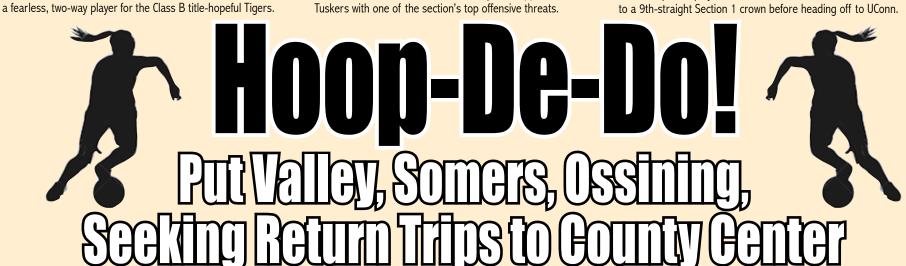


Putnam Valley junior G Arianna Stockinger has morphed into a fearless, two-way player for the Class B title-hopeful Tigers.

Somers All-NYS senior G Hannah Angelini supplies the Class A Tuskers with one of the section's top offensive threats.



Ossining All-NYS senior F Aubrey Griffin -- without question the most versatile, prolific player in the section -- looks to lead Class AA Pride to a 9th-straight Section 1 crown before heading off to UConn.



# High Hopes at Class B Put Valley, AA Carmel, A Somers

#### **Examiner Sports Editor** @Directrays

The goal is simple: Survive and advance long enough to be playing between February 27th – March 1st for the Section Final 4 and the subsequent title tilts. There's been a lot of talk about the coveted gold ball this off-season: Section 1 won't be supplying them any longer; sponsors will be procured to purchase them; will they or won't they be handed out at the County Center or Pace University; and Putnam Valley still hasn't won one despite reaching two Section 1 Class B finals and five Final 4's in the past six years.

#### CLASS B/C **LEAGUE III-E**

Putnam Valley, Haldane, North Salem and Pawling make up the four-team league with some of the smallest schools in the section.

#### **PUTNAM VALLEY**

Sixth-year Coach Mike McDonnell enters the 2018-19 campaign with the kind of built-for-now team he had in December of 2015, a unit that posted a school record 21 wins before losing to Briarcliff in the finals.

The 2018 Tigers fell short of the that number last winter but did secure the top seed and a 17-5 record while falling to No.4 Blind Brook in the sectional semis;



Putnam Valley senior F TJ Brescia should flatout crush it this year, dominating the paint and wreaking havoc.



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Putnam Valley senior F Darnel Shillingford and his Tigers yearn to hoist program's first gold ball ever.

a burn that has lingered ever since. With 13 pivotal, experienced seniors returning, along with a key junior and a fresh-faced frosh within the mix, the Tigers are a winnow unit; a program that will find it tough to reach a Final 4 in the winter of 2020 when these seniors are long gone.

What prevented the Tigers from challenging for the gold ball last season was its lack of a true penetrating guard, which has been a point of development since last March. The unit has spent countless hours this off-season working to improve its shortcomings in the hopes of hoisting the first gold ball in program history. Prior to 2012, the Tigers were a veritable doormat for Section 1 outfits looking to pad their numbers and stockpile wins. Ever since, the program has been among the most respected in Class B, despite never winning it all.

Senior F Darnel Shillingford and senior C TJ Brescia are the kind of 1-2 frontcourt punch that stokes the flames of fear in opposing coaches. Go ahead, lock off Shillingford, the 6'3" Brescia will burn you with an assortment of up-and-unders or a series of power moves. When you double-down on Brescia, the dynamic 6'2" Shillingford, who can double as a point guard in a pinch, is sure to take over in an attack mode that few in Class B can

The guard play has been steady, but steady won't butter the bread. The combination of senior guards Austin Fabiano, Charlie Gatewood, Ryan Soto, Brandon Guerra, Reilly Nolan, wing Matt Aviles, and several others, each has a significant role.

But it's no secret that this team will go

as Shillingford and Brescia go. Swingman John Millicker plays a key role as well.

"Darnel and TJ are two of the best players in Class B, legit scoring threats inside and outside," said PV Coach Mike McDonnell, who enters his sixth season with a record of 83-28, 17-5 last season. "Perimeter starters will rotate between Charlie Gatewood, Ryan Soto and Brandon Guerra.

We have a strong rebounding forward in John Millicker and sharpshooting Ivan Caposito, both are key reserves who will also get some starting time."

Rookies Cole Durocher, a fearless freshman guard, may be a major factor if he can improve defensively. Junior Anthony Williams is a wing player who brings athleticism.

The schedule loaded with challenges, as the Tigers hope to be

better prepared for the rigors of the Class B playoffs after getting manhandled by Blind Brook in last year's semis.

"We must come out the gate ready to face the toughest schedule in Class B," McDonnell said. "We are playing primarily Class A and double-A schools as well as Woodlands, Briarcliff, (defending champion) Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry and

Blind Brook in Class B."

championship drought burdensome enough; add in the fact that the Tigers are being bandied about as the co-favorites (with Dobbs Ferry), which only adds additional pressure and the proverbial bulls-eye.

"The players are determined to bring Putnam Valley its first sectional championship, and we have the senior leadership to reach that goal," McDonnell admitted. "All winning programs face high expectations and we embrace them, yet we need to approach each day with humility and a burning desire to improve because favorites sometimes get beat."

The Tigers should win the league title and settling for anything less than a championship appearance would be a major disappointment, and the obstacles in Class B are always real, including top challengers Woodlands, Dobbs Ferry and Irvington, plus Class B mainstays Croton-Harmon, Ardsley, Briarcliff, and Blind Brook. After five Final 4's and nothing to show, Putnam Valley should know one thing: A Section 1 title is never a forgone conclusion.

CROTON-HARMON could be a fun team to watch with legit shooters returning and a strong off-season behind them. The starting five includes junior (G) Braden Burke, sophomore (G) Ryan Windrum, junior (F/G) Sean Macarchuk, senior (F) Sean Reynolds and senior (F) Theo Curran. The sixth man off the bench



Haldane F Matt Champlin should have a big year in store for the Blue Devils.

is expected to be senior (F/G) Jack Savell.

Macarchuk returns from a seasonending injury last year to provide marksman-like shooting from beyond the arc for the Tigers, who come off an 8-12 season (first round loss to Blind Brook). As is often the case, Briarcliff will be the

continued from previous page



Carmel senior C Peyton Cayea and the upstart Rams should surprise some folks this season.

team to beat in the league this season.

"We just want consistent health this year, I know it sounds corny, but that's a main goal," third-year Coach Ben Martucci said. "If we stay healthy we'll be able to compete.

#### **HALDANE**

After going 15-7 and falling in the Class C sectional title to Hamilton last season, Coach Joe Virgadamo enters his 13th season with the usual gritty, hard-nosed team that Blue Devil fans have grown to love.

The backcourt is solid with junior G Matt Champlin (6'4'), who brings great athleticism and length, and junior Alex Kubik (5'10"), who has great court vision and knowledge of the game, according to the coach.

Sophomores Darrin Santos (G), Daniel Santos (G), Doug Donaghy (F), plus junior Mame Diba (G) and seniors Peter Rodriguez (F) and Kyle Sussmeier (G) are all in the mix.

"We had an extremely short preseason due to the length of our football season, but our chemistry has been outstanding," Virgadamo said. "The team is buying in and communicating well. Our work ethic has been one of a kind, and I'm excited to see this group improve every day. I'm going to attempt to play as many players as possible just as long as they are bringing energy and excitement. I think this can be a fun team to watch if everyone knows their role."

Tuckahoe is said to be the team to beat in Class C, but reigning champion Hamilton is also a unwavering post-season opponent. Solomon Schechter's program has improved tremendously, making Class C is a very competitive field. **CLASS AA** 



Mahopac senior G Tim Cegielski hopes to assume control of the Indian backcourt this season.

#### **LEAGUE I-A**

Five teams comprise the Northern Putnam/Southern Dutchess-based league, including Mahopac, Carmel, John Jay EF, RCK and two-time defending champion Arlington.

#### CARMEL

Do not sleep on second-year Coach Paul Brennan's Rams; they are not a herd of jive turkeys, no more. This program was on the come last season, despite its dismal record (3-17), and given its athleticism, experience and work ethic, don't be surprised if they challenge for the league title this February. In fact, this might be the best team Carmel has had in recent years, provided they apply at both ends of the floor and get back to full health, so it's entirely possible we get a playoff win from the Rams this season.

If that were to come to fruition, Carmel could, at the very least, be competing for a Final 4 spot, which one would suspect to be the goal.

With rangy Peyton Cayea swinging between the center and forward spot, with sharpshooting swingman Shane McNerney (G/F), an All-Leaguer last year, with a speedy backcourt in Christian Hutra (G) and Tommy Ross (G), and athletic Alex Beuschesne (F) getting up and down the floor, the Rams have a solid starting five.

Major contributors off the bench include, Nick Telesco (F), John Franklin (F), Mike Calcagno (F), Jarid Garcia (G) and Joe Mascetta (F) to start the season.

McNerney is the crunch-time scorer the program has lacked in recent years. After a solid junior season, he has the ability to post 20+ PPG and Cayea, a legit hybrid, can score in transition with his athleticism and defend with his length. Garcia has a great handle off the bench and should provide a legit spark in transition.

"We are very athletic and will have the ability to make teams uncomfortable offensively," Brennan said. "We also have three or four guys who can really shoot the ball."

## Boys' Hoops Notebook

Carmel may not be on anybody's radar to open the season, and our projections may look silly at first glance, given the Rams didn't even qualify for the playoffs last year. Call it a gut feeling, but the worm could turn this season.

"We will be a team that can beat anyone in Section 1 on any given night, but also lose to any team on any given night if we do not come to play," Brennan admitted. "This team has the potential to have a great season if our communication and leadership continue to improve as the season progresses."

Class AA poses one of the biggest threats in the country in Mount Vernon.

"When we get Mascetta and Garcia back from injury in late December, I would not be surprised if we shock people with a deep postseason run," the in bushels. coach said.



Carmel senior sharpshooter Shane McNerney can score buckets in bushels.

#### **MAHOPAC**

Bring your lunch pail and get ready for some low-scoring wars when facing fourth-year Coach Matt Simone's Indians this season. Mahopac has plenty of size, some legit grit and enough athleticism to challenge for the league crown. Four of its five projected starters are 6'1" or better, including 6'5" senior C Reahl Allen; 6'1"; senior G Mike Argial, 6'1"; senior G Tim Cegielski and 6'3" senior swingman Zach Puckhaber. Senior G Drew Riolo (5'11") rounds out the unit.

Key Contributors off the bench include Simon Shkoza (F, 6'3", Sr), Nick Burtt (F, 6'3", Sr),

Matt McMahon (G, 6'1", Jr), Vin Bastone (G, 6'2", soph), Luke Syku (G, 6', soph), John Cosentino (G, 5'10" Soph), Adam Mitchell (F, 6'2", Jr), Will Sniffen (G/F, 6'1", Sr) and Santino Christiano (F, 6'2", Sr).

Allen, Argila and Cegielski will be counted on to do the bulk of the scoring, and Allen is the team's best rebounder.

"Our strengths this year will be our toughness, mainly on the defensive end of the floor," Simone said. "We have an athletic group, filled with multi-sport athletes that have a good understanding of movement and teamwork. The group will come to compete each and every game."

The bulk of the returnees have some things to work on; most importantly, protecting the paint and denying the second-chance points that killed Mahopac last year when the tribe finished 10-10 and lost to Spring Valley first round of playoffs.

"This year's team is filled with multisport athletes who are not afraid to be physical and will compete each and every day," Simone said. "It's a very gritty defensive team who will find success by pressuring opposing teams and forcing turnovers. A key to this season will be seeing who steps up on the offensive end of the floor, but the unselfishness the players have shown will make us a balanced scoring team. We will look to run a fast paced game, and will take pride in the effort we bring each and every game."

Allen can be the X-factor on both ends of the floor. He is an imposing figure, who simply needs to impose a will to win. He is a diamond in the rough who should post double-doubles at will. Given his size and athleticism, Allen should feast on putbacks

The league is extremely competitive, but Arlington has risen to the top in recent seasons.

"The best thing about playing in our league is it is always competitive games top to bottom," Simone said. "Playing the tough teams in our league twice each year will help us in the long run. Arlington is the league favorite until proven otherwise."

#### **LEAGUE I-D**

Just four teams make up the modified league, including Ossining, Fox Lane, Port Chester and newcomer White Plains.

#### DSSINING

Pride Coach Mike Casey, now in his fourth season, is going with a youth movement to open the season after graduating seven seniors off an 11-11 campaign, in which the Pride defeated Yorktown in an out-bracket playoff game before falling to Mamaroneck in the opening round.

continued from previous page

With one freshman, Jaedan Carr (5'7", G), one sophomore, Khy' leil Hawkins (5'7", G) and one junior, Mark DeAngelis (5'8", G), joining seniors Nas Shyllon (6'0", F) and Maurice Walker (6'3", F) in the projected starting lineup, the Pride are relatively inexperienced.

Casey expects key contributions from Jordan Smith (Jr.) Caden Hallinan (So.), Nico Levin (So.), Mouhammaed Cisse (Sr.), Zaysean Goodson (Jr.), Jalen Blalock (Jr.), Mateo Marra (Sr.), Thomas Kress (Jr.) and MJ Aurora (Jr.)

Carr is said to be a special talent and his backcourt presence should help the frontcourt games of both Shyllon and Walker, providing Casey a skillful trio of scorers.

Rookies Hawkins, Smith, Levin and



Somers junior G Andrew Lasher will need to take on a much bigger role for the new-look Tuskers.



Hen Hud senior Mike Fasolino will need to take on a larger role this season for the rebuilding Sailors.

Hallinan are additional key prospects that Casey expects to build the program around.

"Our defense will be what makes us succeed," Casey said. "If we can use our speed and athleticism to get out and run, we will be competitive. The Pride will look to rebuild while staying competitive. The team will look to compete and grow from each practice and game. We will continue to look to their quickness and athleticism on defense to help propel the offense. The coaching staff has been sending a strong message about as to how this season is a marathon not a sprint."

Fox Lane remains one of the league favorites but newcomer White Plains is the wild card. Mount Vernon remains the prohibitive favorites in Class AA.

#### CLASS A LEAGUE II-C

Seven teams comprise a very balanced bunch of contenders, including Yorktown, Lakeland, Panas, Brewster, Somers, Horace Greeley and John Jay CR

#### LAKELAND

Don't sleep on fourthyear Coach Steve Fallo's Hornets, who may not bursting with talent but do possess depth and a solid front court with All-League juniors forwards Joe Vetrano and Jack Kruse working the paint and wings.

"We believe that we will have a very deep bench and all 12 players will contribute throughout the year, either offensively or defensively," Fallo said.

JP Walsh is also a returning player from last year and the only senior with the rebuild. After going 6-15 last season, securing a No.21 seed and losing to Nyack in the out-bracket round, Lakeland will look to rekindle what was once a formidable reputation as a Class A contender.

Augie Karaqi, Rob Nardelli, Marc Cummins, Mike Arcure, James Barefoot and Marco Lala round out the anticipated primary rotation.

"Joe Vetrano and Jack Kruse have the ability to be All-Section players," Fallo said. "Joe is tough inside and Jack can shoot from 3 and drive to the basket. Also, I think we have some very good outside shooters in Augie, Marc, Rob and Brian."

With the exception of Vetrano, Walsh and Kruse, the roster is full of part-time returnees and rookies, who may take some time to adjust to the rigors of varsity ball.

"Augie, Marc and Rob all played on the varsity last year at some point, and they will be a big part of how successful we can be," Fallo said. "I think we have some very good outside shooters and a big presence inside.

"We will go as far as our outside shooting will take us," Fallo added. "I think Joe Vetrano will cause some problems down low for teams, which hopefully will open up the outside for us."

Fallo suspects the Hornets can be in the thick of the of the league title chase with front-runner Horace Greely but anticipates many of the stronger teams in Class A to come from other leagues, including Tappan Zee, Bryam Hills, Poughkeepsie and Rye.

"I think our league is very strong and hopefully we will be right there at the end," the coach said.

#### **BREWSTER**

In his 20th season on the Section 1 circuit, Brewster Coach Tom Nelligan's Bears should be in the hunt for a league title after a 9-11 season whereby the 19th Bears were knocked out of the sectional tournament in an outbracket loss to Albertus Magnus. The good news is that Brewster will have a veteran team with nine players, who logged plenty of minutes, returning to the fold, including snipe-shooting Harrison Dignan, a 5'9" senior G.

Nelligan has other options to work with, including Cameron Hart (6'1", Sr. F), Pat Nevin (5'9", Sr. G), Joe Girard (6'1", Sr. F), Charles Russell (6'1", Sr. F), John Olszewski (6'2", Sr. F), Will Peterman (6', Sr. F), Paul Catalano (5'11", Jr. G) and Ryan Cabiati (5'10", Sr. G).

Key newcomers include, Nick Girard (6'3" Jr. C), Zach Salvo (5'9", Jr. G), Jason Whitehead (6', Jr. F) and Kobey Hart (5'9", Soph. G).

"We'll be led by two-time All-League senior Harrison Dignan and seniors Cameron Hart and Joe Girard who logged major minutes as juniors," Coach Nelligan said. "This trio will be complemented by a group of six other returning players and four newcomers all looking to contribute to our success. Depth will be a team strength and team spirit has been high during the preseason. Our success will hinge on how well we shoot the ball as a team and how quickly we develop a consistent defensive approach."

Like the rest of the teams in the league,

## Boys' Hoops Notebook



Panas G Blake Breben will need to take on much bigger role this season for rebuilding Panthers.

Brewster will likely be chasing Horace Greeley, which is said to be stout this season. Lakeland is better than it was a year ago, but Panas is believed to be in a rebuilding mode. John Jay will be without one of its top players, injured Dean Ford. Yorktown is coming off a subpar season with a new coach at the head of the bench.

#### **SOMERS**

In his 18th season on the varsity circuit, seventh at Somers, Coach Chris DiCintio is among the most seasoned in this neck of the woods, and the key ingredient to this year's blend of talent is speed and experience, despite losing four starters to graduation. The Tuskers, who were eliminated in the post season by eventual champion Ardsley in the first round, are coming off a solid 13-9 season that went off the rails when senior G Gio Tradito was lost to injury.

"While most people think Somers is in a rebuilding year due to the loss of four starters that played varsity basketball for three seasons together, nothing could be further from the truth," DiCintio said. "The starting five this year is made up of veteran players that were key contributors last season. Three of the starting five played on the sectional and regional championship soccer team while the other two started on the varsity football team that made it to the semifinal game."

In other words, the unit is fiercely fit and athletic.

"In addition, this crew, much like the kids before them, played AAU basketball together for many years," the coach added. "Their speed, strength and chemistry will make a splash early in the season."

Senior point guard Lucas Fecci (5'9", captain) enters his third year on the varsity as the best ball handler on the team. "Lucas has extremely quick hands, unbelievable court vision and is very fast," DiCintio said.

Shooting G Drew Lasher (5'10", junior) is a two-year varsity player and

continued from previous page

team's best on-ball defender. "Drew is very athletic with a motor that doesn't stop," the coach said.

F Nick Maestri (6', senior, captain) is a two-year varsity player with a smooth stroke from the perimeter. DiCintio loves his high basketball IQ and rebounding ability.

Power F Charlie Weissman (6'4", senior, captain) is tough two-year varsity player with the ability to do a little of everything. "Charlie can shoot from the perimeter, is good around the basket and one of the team's best rebounders," DiCintio said.

C Max Germaine (6'5" senior, captain) rounds out a large frontcourt unit and should make a major impact this year as the best rim protector with an uncanny ability to block shots. He's a solid jump shooter with the ability to knock down 3's and runs the floor really well, according to the coach, who calls him this year's X-factor.

"At 6'5 this big man has the tools to play like a guard," DiCintio said. "He runs the floor exceptionally well, can shoot the rock, finishes around the basket and passes well out of double teams. His football experience as a two-way starter on the varsity football team gives him the toughness and confidence to be an exceptional rim protector and rebounder."

Those five have the experience a coach needs for success, but the bench is relatively untested against the rigors of varsity ball. Main contributors off the bench include, G Declan Talleur (5'11" senior) and F Henry Gilroy (6'3", sophomore), the kid brother of athletic Jack Gilroy, plays hard around the rim like his bro' did. Keep an eye out for rookie G Bennett Leitner (5'8" freshman), who is said to be wise beyond his years.

"He's strong, quick and has a high basketball IQ," the coach said of the first freshman to be brought up to the varsity in at least seven seasons.

Joe Grippo (5'11" junior, G), Jalen Wilson (6' senior, G), Dylan Berliner (6'1" junior, G) and Nate Townsend (6'1" junior, G) round out the unit.

"The team has all the ingredients of a championship-caliber team," DiCintio said. "They have size, speed, toughness and skill. Their ultimate strength is their chemistry. The team has played together year round for many years now. The bench is loaded with inexperience. While the starting five all played heavy minutes last season, the bench is brand new. Whether or not the players called to enter the game can continue the play of the starting five is yet to be seen."

The road to the league title figures to run through Chappaqua where Horace Greeley is said to be stocked with potential Final 4 talent. John Jay returns a bunch of veterans coming off a solid year. Lakeland and Brewster will be better than last year while Panas and Yorktown are said to be rebuilding. Greeley, Tappan Zee, Bryan Hills and Poughkeepsie could be the cream of the crop in Class A.

#### **YORKTOWN**

It's a new era at the Y. First-year Coach Mark Pavella is set to take over for former Coach Kevin Downes, who had the Huskers at the County Center just two years ago in Class AA. Pavella was Downes' right-hand man for more than a decade, going back to their time together at Mahopac, so the system should be similar. But getting back to a Final 4 in 2019 will be a tall order given the circumstances and the opponents in play.

Someone familiar with that system is three-year varsity G Tommy Weaver (5'9") and three-year F Joe Sgobbo (6'7"), a pair of tested seniors, who return from a 19th-seeded team that went 7-14 and was bounced in the outbracket of the AA tournament by Ossining.

Joining them as starters is Ben Schumer (6'2" senior, G), Roni Brucaj (6'1" junior G), and Anthony Ortiz (6'3" senior F).

The main contributors off the bench include, Brandon Carter, Chris Martz, Nick Buono, Ryan Ferrara, plus key rookies Robert Miller, Sean Vogel and Matthew Mahoney.

"Any player on the team has the ability to contribute to the team's success this year," Pavella said. "I look forward to seeing who will step up. Our short-term goal is to get the team prepared and ready to play for their first game of the season on Friday, November 30th. Our long-term goal is to be competitive, and give ourselves a chance to compete in our league."

#### **WALTER PANAS**

The post-Brandon era will be tough for Coach Mike Auerbach's Panthers to survive, with both Brandon Hodge and Brandon Ramos having graduated and left the cupboard a tad bare after reaching the Class A Final 4 last year with a superb 18-5 mark.

#### **LEAGUE II-E**

Hen Hud, Peekskill, Poughkeepsie, Lourdes and Beacon will vie to knock the Sailors from the perch of league champions.

#### PEEKSKILL

Coach Tony Turner's Red Devils have put in the work this off-season, working at the canteen and getting in serious sessions with players from Putnam Valley, with whom they have developed a bond and open up against later this week. The Red Devils are coming off yet another sub-par season by the standards they once set, having won 10 sectional championships from 1993 to 2009 and five state titles between 1995-2007. Those days are long gone.



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTO

Peekskill senior G Shion Darby is among the most explosive players in Section 1 this season.

After going 6-15 and falling to Pelham in last year's outbracket, Peekskill would do well to secure a top eight seed in this year's playoffs while attempting to keep pace with league favorite Poughkeepsie during the regular season. That can be obtained if Shion 'Splash Master' Darby averages between 25 and 30 PPG, which is entirely possible. Darby, the 6' All-Section senior guard, can score from almost anywhere over half court. The offense flows through Darby, who has the potential to drop 40 on any given night.

Junior F Antonio Taylor (6'3") can do a little bit of everything well, and sophomore G Jayson Tinsley should step up to support Darby to create a formidable 1-2 backcourt punch.

#### **HEN HUD**

It will take some time for sixth-year Coach Jordan Hirsch's Sailors (18-5) to get used to life without Mekhi Gray, the star swingman who transferred to ProScholars Athletics prep school after an All-Section junior campaign at Hen Hud.

The loss of star power will force the Sailors to play a team game and get contributions across the board if they are going to resemble anything close to the unit that won a league title and reach the County Center for the program's first Final Four since 1991, only to lose to eventual champion Ardsley.

Key returnees include Michael Fasolino (Sr., F); Max Popolizio (Sr., G); Connor Gallagher (Sr., F) and Dennis Emanuel (Sr., G).

Key newcomers include Nick Caruso (Sr., C); Tommy Fucheck (Jr., F) and Nick Hiltsley (So., G). The Sailors will get depth from Marcus Lenz (Jr., F); David Goldman (Jr., G); Kyle Gonda (Jr., G); Sincere Golden (Jr., G) and James Cavalieri (Jr., G).



Boys' Hoops Notebook

**BOB CASTNER PHOTO** 

Yorktown senior G Tommy Weaver will assume primary point responsibilities for the new-look Huskers.

"Our league is very competitive," Hirsch said. "With the talent they return and the excellent coaching hire they made, in Coach Cody, Poughkeepsie is not only the favorite in our league, but, in my opinion, a favorite in Class A. Peekskill will have the best player on the court in most of the games they play, in Darby; who is a very tough cover. Beacon returns a good crop of their team and Lourdes is always a challenge.

"So our team has a unique challenge in making their own mark within our program the year after some uncommon success," the coach added. "I don't think it's a secret that the majority of our team this year lacks some in-game experience, but they don't lack any of the same intangible characteristics that some of our more successful teams have had. We expect that they will focus on getting better every day, show toughness in everything they do, and they will take care of each other on and off the court."

The Sailors will, in all likelihood, come back to the middle of the pack and challenge the bottom third of the 29 teams in Class A vying for the field of 16 tournament teams (after the completion of out-brackets).

"We will find ways to compete and hopefully find ways to win in our league and in our tough out-of-conference games," Hirsch said.

The loss of talent, athleticism and experience the Sailors had had last year will hit them hard, no doubt about it, but they have made solid runs to the playoffs with similar teams through a work ethic second to none.

"We'll see how it plays out, either we're either a Cinderella or we're not," Hirsch said.

# Ossining Highlights Legit Bunch of Section 1 Title Contenders

OSSINING has monopolized Section 1 Class AA basketball for the past decade. The Pride have won eight consecutive sectional titles, seven straight regional championships and four state crowns in a row (2013-16) during this run. Last year, Ossining finished 23-4 and was denied a fifth state crown by Baldwin for the second year in a row.

Ossining enters the 2018-19 season as the team to beat, once again. Even though the Pride graduated three players, it returns three of Section 1's top players, all Division I-committed - Aubrey Griffin (UConn), Kailah Harris (Seton Hall) and Jaida Strippoli (U.S. Military Academy).

Now that the terrific trio has signed



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Ossining C Kailah Harris is a walking doubledouble, poised for monster senior year.

their national letters of intent, Griffin said they are relieved.

"We feel good going into the season," said Griffin, who had a brilliant junior year after missing her sophomore year with a knee injury. "It definitely took a lot of pressure off of our shoulders. Now, we can focus on winning and our senior years."

Griffin, Harris and Strippoli are a dynamic trio that will create match-up nightmares for the opposition. They will be joined by classmates Ally Forman, Camara Morgan and Camilla Miralles.

The Pride have a strong junior contingent back, highlighted by Brooke

Weeks, Julia Iorio and Adriana McFadden.

Ossining coach Dan Ricci pointed out that sophomore Kacie Scarduzio will be making her varsity debut this season.

"Our new teammates bring toughness to our team and they push us in practice every day," Griffin said. "We are starting to play more as a team and we have developed good chemistry."

Ricci has put together what he called his team's "mostchallenging schedule ever." The Pride open the season against Somers, Friday. Somers was the 2017 Section 1 Class A champion and reached the semifinals last

Ossining travels to Virginia for the Art Turner Tournament Dec. 8-9, will play in the annual Slam Dunk Tournament, Dec. 20 and 22, and concludes 2018 at the Diamond State Classic in Delaware, Dec. 27-29. Ossining opens 2019 against perennial CHSAA power Christ the King, Jan. 4, at the County Center and will play in the Hall of Fame Classic in Springfield, MA, Jan. 18.

'This is going to be more exciting because we are playing a lot of good teams and it's going to be fun, all-around," Griffin said. "We know we're going to play hard teams but it's only going to make us better. I always look forward playing top competition because it gives our team an opportunity to push ourselves to get better and it gives me an opportunity to improve."

Coach Ricci's Pride are chomping at the bit, hoping the "Eight Was Great, But Nine Would Be Fine", and another shot at Baldwin would be just what the doctor ordered.

#### **CLASS B**

In two years, former PUTNAM VALLEY basketball great and now-Coach Kristi Dini has transformed the Tigers into a Section 1 power.

The Tigers posted a program-best 20-2 record last year and were league champions for a second straight year. Putnam Valley advanced to the County Center for the second time in three years, but were defeated by Briarcliff in the Final 4

Starter Morgan Winogradoff and sixth man Nyasia Reeves graduated, two prominent players who contributed greatly to the team's success. Perhaps the most upsetting news is the loss of All-Section senior Dora Rippon, who decided to concentrate more on her academia. However, the returning core is led by talented underclassmen.

Juniors Kelli Venezia (PG) and Cyera



Somers junior G Dani DiCintio returns as one of the premier backcourt players in the section.

Daughtry (G) highlight this group along with sophomore Ariana Stockinger (F/G). Dini welcomes freshman Amanda Orlando and eighth-grader Eva DeChent, both guards, to varsity. Dini likes what she has seen in preseason and is excited to see her young team start.

"Our defense is definitely our strength," Dini said. "Our guards have taken their game up a level in the offseason and we now have five kids on the court that can score, so I think we will be a match-up problem."

Dini, like Ricci, has stacked her schedule.

"We have a tough schedule with Irvington, Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, and Mahopac as well as playing in the Harrison and Yorktown tournaments," Dini said. "We're small so our size may hurt us, but we are so prepared for every game and every opponent and our defense is really

Putnam Valley opens against Class AA power Arlington.

#### **CLASS A**

**SOMERS** has asserted itself the last few years. The Tuskers won the 2017 Section 1 Class A title and reached the state semis, but last year, Somers was on its way to a second consecutive championship only to be derailed by eventual titlist, Rye, in a stunning semifinal setback.

Third-year Coach Marc Hattem has two outstanding players returning in All-Section G Hannah Angelini and honorable-mention All-Section G Dani

Hattem also has Isabella Rukaj, Emily



Putnam Valley junior G Kelli Venezia will need to light it up this season with senior F Dora Rippon opting not to play.

Arena, Taylor Penzo and Pooja Rao back. The varsity will have six new players making the step up from junior varsity.

"We are expecting to compete, again, for a league title and hope to make a deep run in the section tournament," Hattem said. "I think we can, but we need to get better every day. I'm excited to see this group make this 'their' team, and put their own mark on Somers."

Somers opens the season against eight-time reigning Section 1 Class AA champion, Ossining, Friday. The Tuskers will host their annual holiday tournament, which includes Briarcliff and Ursuline.

Following a .500 regular season last year, PANAS came alive in the Section 1 Class A Championship with an out-bracket win over Beacon and upset of Ardsley. The run ended in the quarterfinals at Somers, but it was a strong finish for the Panthers, who were 12-11.

Eighth-year Coach Matt Evangelista and his team graduated Danielle Merante, Kristen Kelly and Kellie Brown, three prime-time players, but he does return a deep nucleus.

Senior G Julia Araujo is the leader of this group. She is joined by juniors Katherine Reynoso (G) and Kristen Scrobola (F). The guards continue with sophomores Kristen Cinquina, Cailean Nolan and Alex

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Hen Hud F/C Caitlin Weimer will be among the most dominant players in Section 1 this year.

Sudol completing the core group.

Four juniors join varsity this year – Emma Anderson (F), Faith Cesarini (G), Megan Mucci (G) and Alexis Turner (F) along with sophomore Erijona Rraci (C) and freshman Lyndsay Kagan (G).

"We will be a quick team with good skill and the ability the shoot from outside," Evangelist said. "The team plays very hard and will put pressure on other teams defensively. The team is much smaller than former teams and rebounding will need to be a point of emphasis. With only one senior the team will have to mature quickly."



Brewster's Furman-bound senior Megan Beal will provide Bears with gritty two-way play.

Panas will host Mahopac, Haldane and Beacon in its tournament, Dec. 6 and 8 after opening the season Tuesday, Dec. 4, against Nanuet. Panas will also participate in the Giglio Games, Feb. 2, at Lakeland.

"I believe that this young skilled group will be very competitive," Evangelista said. "Our league is extremely deep and strong. I expect many tough games with more experienced teams. We will rely more heavily on outside shooting in the past so being consistent will be a challenge."

Graduating three-fifths of your starting lineup is not an ideal situation, but LAKELAND Coach Miranda Mangan is not worrying. Mangan returns six players, including senior G Alexa Cole, an All-Section selection last year. Joining Cole is classmate Sarah Carroll (G), juniors Sophia Portante (G) and Brin Monte (F), sophomore Amanda Cole (PG) and freshman Tyler Hormazabal (G). This nucleus and the 2018 graduates went 9-13 and posted an out-bracket-game victory over Nyack.

Six players, including three juniors, are joining varsity. The juniors are Hayley Flanagan (F), Megan Jennings (G) and Emma Walsh (G). Sophomores Ava Pagliaro (G) and Sarah Pinkowski (G) and freshman Hannah Devane (G) round out group.

"We return a core group of players that saw a lot of action last season, mixed with talented youth," said Mangan, in her fifth season. "We hope to have a balanced scoring attack and use our versatility on defense to make up for our lack of size."

Lakeland opens the season by hosting the Relay for Life Tournament, Thursday. Lakeland will play Clarkstown North and Suffern faces Carmel. The consolation (1 p.m.) and championship (4:30 p.m.) games will be played Saturday.

**BREWSTER** enters the 2018-19 season returning four starters from a team that went 13-9 last year, including a sectional win.

Coach Mike Castaldo has one of Section 1's top players in senior G Maggie DePaoli. DePaoli is joined in the starting lineup by classmates Meagan Beal (F) and Kristen Stefanic (F) and freshman Grace Galgano (F/C). Sophomores Alexis Mark (F/C) and Carly Delanoy (G) also return.

The four starters and Mark all range in height from five-feet eight inches to five-feet 10 inches.

There is also height in the varsity newcomers. Juniors Nicole Olzewski (G/F), Lauren Becker (G) and Grace Nichols (F) are all five-feet seven inches. Classmates Hanna Furu (G) is and Sade Fischer Diotte (G) complete the new varsity players.

"We return four starters, who are all capable of scoring," Castaldo said. "We have a great mix of seasoned leaders and



Brewster senior G Maggie DePaoli should have no problem averaging double figures for the Bears.

younger girls that are working extremely hard. We are in a very, very tough league. Our goal is always to try and win the league. We would like to win more games than last year and advance even further come tournament time."

Brewster will open the season, Thursday, hosting Beacon. The Bears will have their annual tournament, Dec. 14-15, and travel to Hastings for its tournament, Dec. 27-28.

HEN HUD had a successful 2017-18 season, finishing 14-8, registering a sectional win and displaying a promising future for Coach Ken Sherman.

Sherman did have three players graduate, including sparkplug Taylor Prokopiak. Even though, the cupboard is not bare for Hen Hud.

Hen Hud returns one of top post players in Section 1 in C/F Caitlin Weimar. Weimar, instrumental in Hen Hud winning the Section 1 Class A volleyball title earlier this month, averaged 18 points, 13 rebounds and five blocks per game last year.

The senior trio of Thalia Oliveira (F), Aniyah Thomas (G) and Jalissa Pugh (G) also return as do guards, Jacklyn Kenny and Heather Riefenhauser, both juniors, classmate Faith Pugh (F) and sophomores Kira Virada and Grace Moretti, both guards.

Juniors Gia Gabari and Mylene Smith, both forwards, and freshmen Alex Figueroa and Colleen Ryan, guards, graduate to varsity.

"Our strength this year will be our experience," Sherman said. "We have four returning players and three coming off the bench that have a lot of varsity experience. Our major strength, of course, is Caitlin Weimar, who garnished All Section honors last season. Our major question is



Girls' Hoops Notebook

Ossining's 2018 Player of the Year Aubrey Griffin returns for senior year before heading off to UConn next fall.

where we will get the scoring from other than Caitlin. I am interested to see who will be stepping up on that end of the floor for the Sailors."

Hen Hud will host 2018 Section 1 Class A champion Rye in its season-opener, Tuesday, Dec. 4.

#### CLASS ÁA

MAHOPAC has been improving annually under sixth-year coach Chuck Scozzafava and this year he expects the progression will continue. The Indians went 10-12 last year, including a win and loss in the Section 1 Class AA playoffs. Mahopac plays in a tough league, which includes Arlington, John Jay-East Fishkill and R.C. Ketcham, so every game is tightly-contested.

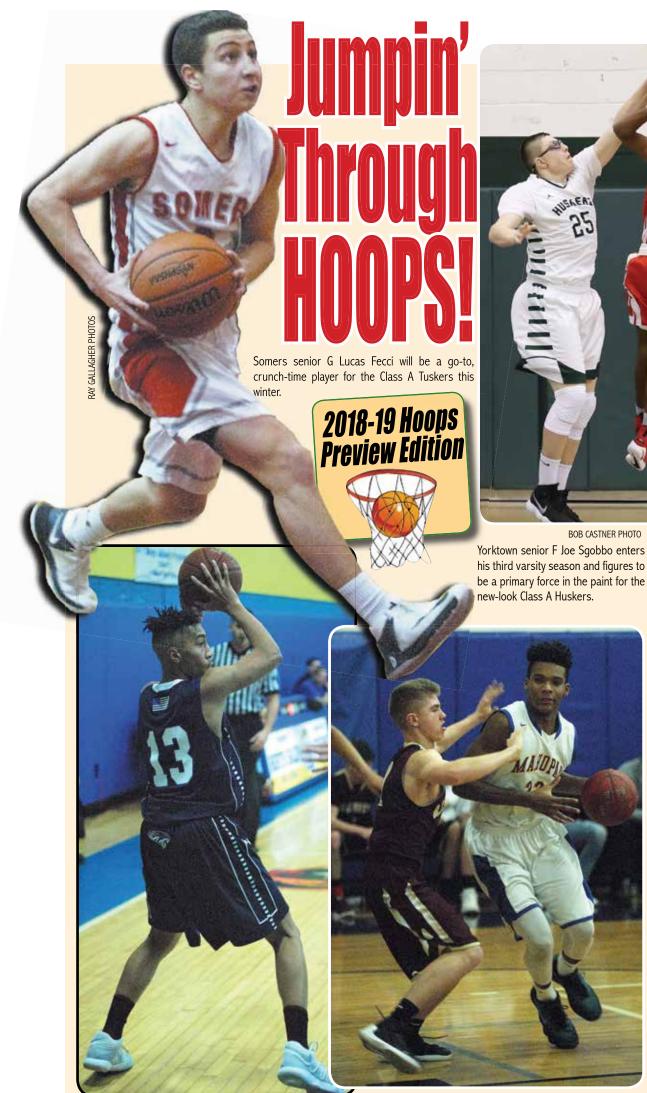
Indian Senior Zina McInerney (guard) returns to highlight a six-player core. McInerney is joined by classmates Natalie Scanlon (F), Katrina Klammer (G/F) and Katie McDonough (G). Sophomores Shannon Becker (F) and Caitlyn O'Boyle (F) complete Mahopac's starters and sixthlady positions

"We are hoping to be a better outside shooting team," Scozzafava said. "Our defense should be a strength, along with the ability to push the ball more this season."

Youth will be served as Scozzafava has one junior, one sophomore and three freshmen coming up to varsity. Junior Olivia Conlin (G) and sophomore Mia Klammer (G) are the elders of the new group, which includes freshmen Melanie DeMeo (G), Julie DeBrocky (G/F) and Julia Paolicelli (G).

"For us to be successful the new players are going to have to learn quickly and make positive contributions on offense and defense," Scozzafava said.

Mahopac opens the season, today, hosting Yorktown.



Putnam Valley senior G Brandon Guerra hopes his lock-

down defensive skills can add to the mix of an expectant

Class B title contender.

Mahopac senior F Rheal Allen and the Class AA Indians expect to be in the hunt for a League I-A title this year.

Carmel senior sniper Christian Hutra and the wastly improved Rams hope to leave their

Carmel senior sniper Christian Hutra and the vastly improved Rams hope to leave their mark on Class AA hoops circuit this winter.



Haldane's junior F Matt Champlin and the Blue Devils think they have enough to contend for a Class C Final spot in late February.

# Ballers from Put Valley to Carmel, All Points In Between, Will Do What it Takes