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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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## Mahopac Residents Ready to Fight Cell Tower Proposal

By David Propper

Knowing they're going up against a behemoth company, a resilient group of Mahopac residents met last week to discuss how they could stop cell towers from cropping up in their neighborhood.

As cell towers become a white-hot button issue across the region, residents in Mahopac are now facing a contentious fight against Homeland Towers to stop two cell towers from being built in mainly residential neighborhoods. Roughly 20 people attended a meeting at Robert Buckley's home last week to discuss how they could stop a cell tower from being erected along Croton Falls Road, which would be near dozens of houses. The meeting lasted about an hour with one

town official on hand observing, Carmel Supervisor Kenny Schmitt.

At the start of the meeting, Buckley stressed he and his group weren't against cell towers, but were adamantly opposed to the towers being constructed in residential neighborhoods.

The aesthetics of the neighborhood would be adversely affected, Buckley said, resulting in a decrease in property values. The value of people's home is a critical point, Buckley stressed.

Another resident knee deep in the fight against Homeland, Ron Levine, said residents near the Croton Falls proposal should write letters to the planning board

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## PV Voters Narrowly Approve Bond for School Upgrades

By David Propper

By a narrow margin, the Putnam Valley school system passed a bond last Tuesday that will lead to sweeping improvements at the middle school and a state of the art health and wellness center, ending a polarizing two months within the school community.

Putnam Valley school voters signed off on the \$14.8 million bond with 774 supporting the measure and 643 in opposition. The 131-margin might not have been overwhelming, but district leaders were still pleased with the final result. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Fran Wills wrote to the community that students would now be able to learn in "facilities designed to enhance

their educational experience through updated next-generation opportunities for academic growth and emotional well being."

In the couple months leading up to the vote, the district sent out an information blitz highlighting how the money would be spent and why the improvements are needed. At the middle school, wide ranging upgrades are planned to renovate the interior of the building, which has remained largely unchanged since it first opened in 1972. The kitchen space and cafeteria would be expanded and the music and performance arts would also be improved with new soundproof rooms, a new choral room and upgrades to the lighting and sound system.

## Mahopac Students Host Senior Prom for 'Golden Age'



PROVIDED PHOTO

Although December's first Sunday brought on the winter chill, things were hot in Mahopac High School at the annual senior citizen "prom." More than 100 members of Mahopac's "golden age" danced to lively music by the Mahopac High School Jazz Band and enjoyed nosh generously donated and served by the Student Athletic Council. "Coach Dominik DeMatteo and the students of the athletic council put in a lot of work to put on this special event for our local seniors. Honoring them this way is another excellent reflection of the 'Mahopac Way,'" said Superintendent of Schools Anthony DiCarlo.

In an interview, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Luft said enough residents believed the proposals would have a "profound impact on students.

"We would have never brought this proposal to the community if we didn't believe strongly in its value," Luft said.

Going into the vote, Luft anticipated the margin would be thin, considering there were passionate people on both sides of the proposal. Luft stressed the district put in a lot of effort to ensure voters made an informed decision about the bond. In the age of social media, there is a never-ending battle to combat misinformation, he noted.

Now that the bond is approved, Luft said the district would work with architects

and a construction manager to start the paperwork for final approval before the project goes out to bid. The hope is to start construction in springtime 2020, Luft said.

School board president Jeanine Rufo said the victory demonstrated enough voters wanted to see students receive a quality education. She noted the board and district focused on being as transparent as possible and fiscally prudent with the bond offered.

While Rufo ignored the onslaught of social media chatter about the bond, she admitted the topic was polarizing and didn't know where certain people stood

*continued on page 2*

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# PV Voters Narrowly Approve Bond for School Upgrades

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on the vote.

"I was pretty confident it would pass," Rufo said. "People are very concerned about can they continue to support their families and I understand anybody's fear that could jeopardize that and if you had misinformation or didn't fully understand the information, I could understand questioning anything that would affect your ability to live where you live."

One staunch opponent of the bond was longtime resident Patty Villanova, who argued the bond would simply be another tax leading to unsustainable spending in the town. She was heartened by the number of no votes cast.

"I see it as a victory for the concerned taxpayer which we are trying to revitalize," Villanova said. "What the district put out there was a lot of misinformation to get a yes vote."

Villanova argued the bond would raise taxes, which the district contended would not because of an expiring bond that the district is about to pay off.

"How can you afford this... that's my message," Villanova said.

Putnam Valley Supervisor Sam Oliverio, who was an assistant principal at the high school for many years, said the vote total showed there is a sharp

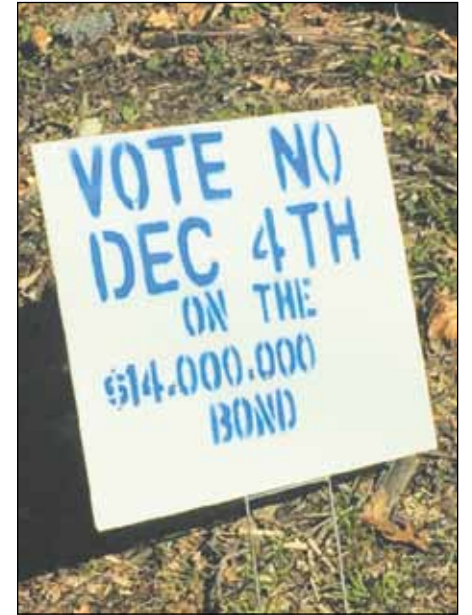


PROVIDED PHOTO  
The Putnam Valley school system saw a bond pass last week that will drastically change facilities within the district.

division between people that don't want to spend any money and those people willing to invest in the community.

"I was a bit surprised that it did pass," he said. "Where I wasn't surprised is that the vote was as close as it was."

Talking to residents, Oliverio said he heard a lot of negative comments about combining the health and wellness center with the rest of the upgrades instead of putting the wellness center in a separate proposition.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

There were plenty of signs up, some encouraging voters to turn down the bond, leading up to the vote.

The school system's bond was passed on the heels of the town getting a bond passed in November to purchase the CYO campground for \$1.9 million.

"A total of \$16 million in the span of a couple months of each other," Oliverio said. "Really an amazing thing."



## Is Your SI Joint Causing Your Back Pain?

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#### Q: What is the SI Joint?

**A:** The full name is the sacroiliac (sa-krō-'i-lē-,ak) joint, and there are two of them, one on either side of your tailbone. They connect the triangular bone at the base of your spine, called the sacrum, with the iliac bone of your pelvis. The SI joints are the keystone of the body, or the center of gravity. Their job is to support and transmit the weight of your upper body to your legs and pelvis.

#### Q: How Does the SI Joint Cause Pain?

**A:** SI joint dysfunction occurs when the ligaments of either joint are injured or worn away. This can cause pain in your butt as well as in your lower back, groin, thigh and side. Most people with SI joint dysfunction experience severe pain when they get up from a seated position, then feel better when they walk.

#### Q: What Causes SI Joint Dysfunction?

**A:** Osteoarthritis, rheumatologic and auto-immune diseases, traumatic injuries and pregnancy can cause SI joint dysfunction. And some people get it after they've had surgeries such as hip replacement or spinal fusion.

#### Q: How Does the Doctor Diagnose SI Joint Dysfunction?

**A:** Since most back pain is caused by a spinal problem, the doctor first rules out the spine by doing imaging like X-rays and MRIs. There are also physical exam maneuvers that can pinpoint trouble in the SI joint.

#### Q: How Is SI Joint Dysfunction Treated?

**A:** Physical therapy, weight loss, trunk-strengthening exercises like yoga or Pilates, and anti-inflammatory medicines are the first lines of treatment. If these don't help, doctors inject a steroid and local anesthetic into the joint, a procedure called SI joint injection. If there is still no improvement, doctors perform a minimally invasive surgery called SI joint fusion. Titanium implants are inserted across the sacroiliac joint through a 3-cm incision to lock the joint in place so it can't move anymore. The surgery takes about an hour and is done under general anesthesia at Northern Westchester Hospital. For the first three weeks after surgery, patients walk with crutches or a walker. After six weeks, they resume normal activities.



# Polystyrene Ban Tabled by County Legislature

By Anna Young

The Putnam County Legislature postponed a vote last week that would have banned polystyrene throughout most of the county.

Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, who sponsored the proposed legislation, said at last Tuesday's meeting that board members had issued some concerns with the law and wanted to send it back to committee for discussion. The legislation would outlaw many food service businesses in the county from using polystyrene products, also known as Styrofoam, including trays and cups.

The proposed ban would impact several food chain restaurants, including McDonalds, Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, Burger King, Applebee's, Dominoes and KFC. Scuccimarra previously warned the health risks outweighed any inconvenience for those establishments, adding that polystyrene doesn't break down, but breaks up with the remains lasting for decades.

"Unfortunately we have some unanswered questions that some of the legislators are concerned with," Scuccimarra, who attended her last full legislative meeting last week, said.

The proposed law would result in a written warning for a first offense, and if there were another violation, it would result in a fine not to exceed



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

The county Legislature at its last full meeting of the year.

\$250. If there continued to be repeated offenses, it would translate into a fine that cannot exceed \$1,000. The health department would enforce any new regulation. Businesses that have a gross income of less than \$500,000 would be allowed to file for a waiver to avoid the new law for at least one year.

In a separate measure, the boards

nine members issued a letter to the New York State Department of Public Service (DPS) last week reiterating their complaint about the poor performance by New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG) in responding and preparing for severe winter storms and other outages earlier this year.

"There has been no change in NYSEG's operation," the letter stated. "NYSEG publicly admitted that it could have done a better job in its handling of the disruption of services, as well as its customer communications during and after the storms."

Last May, the legislature approved a resolution, which supported an investigation of NYSEG's response to the following back-to-back nor'easters in March that left thousands of residents without power for days. As of the Dec. 5, the legislature has not received a response regarding the investigation.

"We believe that at this point we would not be properly serving our constituents if we did not bring this disturbing subpar service and lack

of accountability by NYSEG to your attention again," the correspondence read.

Legislators added that they met with NYSEG representatives in September to discuss the issues the county experienced during both storms. While hopeful they would see positive change, the legislature said they have yet to receive communication from the utility, the letter stated.

The board is requesting they be provided with the status, and any results, of the investigations DPS has conducted into NYSEG. They are also pressing for information on service improvements and customer relations by NYSEG.

"There was a genuine belief on our part, as well as many of our residents, that NYSEG would implement critical changes in its operations, placing a focus on revamping its communications and the services it provides to its diverse customer base," the letter added. "Regretfully, there has been no improvement to date."



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# Mahopac Residents Ready to Fight Cell Tower Proposal

*continued from page 1*

from their point of view about how the tower in the area could hurt them. The plan is to send a large influx of letters to different governing bodies in the town about the problems of the cell tower.

"They need to know how we feel," Buckley added.

The group of residents has retained an attorney that specializes in fighting against cell towers. Levine said the attorney, Andrew Campanelli, is "evening the odds" because he is an expert in the field. Another idea was to reach out to local real estate agents to note that houses near cell towers result in lower property values.

Buckley stressed the residents need to offer arguments that would hold up in a court of law. If the zoning board of appeals or planning board deny the application for Homeland, but do so based on emotion or faulty evidence from

the residents, the town's ruling could be reversed in the judicial system.

Buckley argued Homeland could be violating different items in the town code.

"It's our job to make sure our planning board understands certain things," Buckley said.

"The fight is on," he added. "Because they're not backing out."

Robert Gaudio, an attorney representing Homeland, could not be reached for comment.

Buckley, in an interview prior to the meeting, unleashed on Homeland for trying to bully town officials, including the planning board, and concerned residents of the proposal.

"They really don't have respect for the town," Buckley said. "They're doing everything they can to cut corners."

Residents that attended the meeting voiced numerous concerns with the cell proposal. Resident Jennifer Simon, who



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Mahopac resident Robert Buckley had neighbors over his house last week to discuss how they could stop an 180-foot cell tower from being constructed in their neighborhood.

lives right near the proposed tower, said she and her husband moved from the city to get away from cell towers and urban fixtures.

She noted that not only would the tower need to be put up, but trees would need to be cut down to make room for the massive structure. There is an erosion problem that could also be exasperated as a result of the tower, Simon said.

When discussing why Homeland would want to be in a residential area, neighbors agreed money was the motivating factor. A private homeowner would lease the space to Homeland if the project were approved.

"There's something wrong about one certain person in the neighborhood

being put against everyone else to benefit from this thing where the community, if we're going to have a cell tower, our town should benefit from the income from this cell tower," one neighbor said. "Not one person."

While the meeting at Buckley's home was focused on the Croton Falls tower spot, the town has had ongoing discussion with Homeland about relocating the Dixon Road proposed tower at McDonough Park, Schmitt said in an interview. The tower would be in the back of the park, Schmitt said.

"It's in the very preliminary stages of discussing it," Schmitt said. "So we're just waiting for them to get back to us with a more formal proposal."

## Examí Blast

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## Recent Intoxicated Driver Arrests Recorded

The Putnam County Sheriff Office reports recent intoxicated driver arrests recorded by members of the department:

**On November 14**, at approximately 5:47 p.m., Sergeant Timothy Keith, while patrolling State Route 6, in the Town of Southeast, observed a vehicle commit a traffic violation. Sergeant Keith initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. Upon further investigation Sergeant Keith determined that the driver, 48-year-old Fredy Munoz-Mendez was allegedly, intoxicated. Mr. Munoz-Mendez was placed under arrest and transported to the Putnam County Correctional Facility for arrest processing. Mr. Munoz-Mendez was charged with Driving While Intoxicated (Misdemeanor). Mr. Munoz-Mendez was processed and released on his own recognizance. Mr. Munoz-Mendez was issued an appearance ticket returnable to the Town of Southeast Justice Court.

**On November 21**, at about 9 p.m., Deputy Matthew Shelters, while on a STOP DWI Crackdown Enforcement Patrol Detail, observed a vehicle commit



Fredy Munoz-Mendez

traffic violations, in the area of Pudding Street and the Taconic State Parkway. Deputy Shelters also observed the vehicle travel at a high rate of speed and then bounce off of a curb, located on the right-side of the roadway, and slam into the center guard-rail. Deputy Shelters made



Luis Alonzo-Santos

contact with the driver, who was the only occupant of the vehicle. Upon further investigation Sergeant Keith determined that the driver, 21-year-old Luis R. Alonzo Santos, who was not injured in the crash, was allegedly, intoxicated. Deputy Shelters attempted to place Mr.

Alonzo-Santos under arrest to which Mr. Alonzo-Santos resisted arrest. Mr. Alonzo-Santos was eventually placed into custody and transported to the Putnam County Correctional Facility for arrest processing. While at the Putnam County Correctional Facility, Mr. Alonzo-Santos provided Deputy Shelters with a false name. Mr. Alonzo-Santos was processed and charged with Reckless Driving (Misdemeanor), Driving While Intoxicated (Misdemeanor), Driving while having a BAC in excess of .08 (Misdemeanor), Resisting Arrest (Class A Misdemeanor), False Personation (Class B Misdemeanor), along with other Vehicle and Traffic Law Violations. Mr. Alonzo-Santos was arraigned by the Honorable Justice Louis Dicarlo, of the Town of Putnam Valley Justice Court. Justice Dicarlo remanded Mr. Alonzo-Santos to the Putnam County Correctional Facility on \$3,500 cash-bail/ \$7,000 bail-bond. Mr. Alonzo-Santos posted bail and is due back in the Town of Putnam Valley Justice Court.



# Carmel School Board Ready to Offer Two Bond Props

By David Propper

By the time it's all over, the Carmel Board of Education might never want to say or hear the word "bond" again, but for now, members continued to discuss putting up a new bond package for a third time in as many calendar years.

For the most part, it appeared the board is ready to offer two separate bond propositions to voters sometime next year. One of the bonds would fix failing roofs, make each school building ADA compliant and enhance the middle school library and another bond would move the transportation garage from George Fischer Middle School to a parcel of a property in the Town of Kent. The transportation garage option has been controversial with Kent town officials strongly opposing the proposal because the land would no longer be taxable if controlled by the school.

Almost every board member voiced support to break up the package offered to voters into two different bonds.

Vice president Richard Kreps said he wants to see the bus garage in one proposition and the other less contentious facility improvements grouped into another proposition when voters go to the polls next year, possibly in March. Kreps said the board should vote to offer the bonds to voters at the next meeting.

*'The board unfortunately chose to place politics above the right thing to do for our community.'* - board member John Curzio

"They live or die on their own," Kreps said.

Board member James Reese said while he's in favor most of the upgrades, he isn't convinced the bus garage should be moved to a different parcel. If the garage is put up to a vote, it should be a stand-alone proposal, Reese said. Board member John Cody said while he's always wanted the bond to be one proposition, he's willing to be a "team player" and see the bond broken into two options.

"It's a totally different looking bond than the first two," Cody said.

Board member John Curzio was again the only board member against the latest proposal. Curzio said the board has ignored the will of the people in the school community and the bus garage should not be offered again. He was in agreement with the other items though,

*'I've had it. I'm ready to put it up for a vote and be done with it. I'm just absolutely disgusted.'* - board member Tara DeTurris

calling them "critical."

"The board unfortunately chose to place politics above the right thing to do for our community," Curzio said, adding the board is acting like spoiled brats because they haven't gotten their way. He added later in the meeting the board is in a "bubble."

"Just take a deep breath," board member Tara DeTurris said to herself following Curzio's statement. She said she also supported the two separate propositions, but didn't want to offer a baseball field that could be used by the Kent community if the new bus garage is approved.

"I'm not looking to give anything back to the Kent community right now," DeTurris said. "I'm disgusted this is hurting our kids."

Assistant Superintendent Eric Stark said the owner of the parcel in the Kent

where the new bus garage could go would be willing to enter into another option agreement and is "very interested" in partnering with the school system. The price for the property could also drop by \$500,000, Stark said.

To the surprise of no one, board president Greg Riley and Curzio butted heads once again, with Curzio arguing the district sent out incomplete information before last bond vote while Riley slammed Curzio for peddling false information. When Curzio said the rest of the board believes only opponents of the bond must be uninformed, Riley said the people that voted no weren't uninformed, but simply had "false information."

The meeting was filled with mostly supporters that want to see the bond package signed off. The school system has offered two bonds, but both have been voted down. One was shot down in Dec. 2017 and the other was rejected narrowly in Oct. 2018.

DeTurris, perhaps voicing how some of the community feels about the polarizing issue, wanted the discussion to come a close.

"There's not a lot I care about, about this bond anymore, I'm disgusted," DeTurris said. "I've had it. I'm ready to put it up for a vote and be done with it. I'm just absolutely disgusted."



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# Downtown Mahopac Biz Deals with Counterfeit Bill

By David Propper

With the holiday season in full swing, a business in downtown Mahopac dealt with a real life Grinch last month when a man went into Cardsmart & Gifts of Mahopac along Clark Place and paid with a fake \$100 bill.

Just as dusk had settled, around 5 p.m. on Nov. 29, co-owner Terry Fokine was in her store alone when a man walked in. From the moment she saw him she could sense trouble. Dressed in a black coat with a fur collar and black pants and corduroy slippers, the man, who was in his 30s, mentioned he wanted to buy slippers for his grandmother and ended up purchasing a \$10 item. She gave him

\$90 in change.

When he handed her a \$100 bill, she knew without a doubt it was fake. But there was little she could do because it appeared legit.

"It passes the pen test, but it feels thicker and it looks a little different," Fokine said. "You're in a vulnerable position when someone comes in off the street and you're by yourself."

Fokine said police told her perpetrators are chopping up \$1 bills and taking the pieces and using that to put together new \$100 bills. During the holiday season, Fokine said it's not uncommon for customers to purchase items with Benjamin Franklin bills.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Cardsmart in Mahopac dealt with a counterfeit bill last month, putting the business out of \$90 in cash and \$10 in product.



PROVIDED PHOTO

The fake \$100 bill given to co-owner Terry Fokine of Cardsmart.

Fokine noted other business in the area have dealt with the problem she faced.

A call to Carmel police was not returned prior to press time.

Businesses along Clark Place in Mahopac have seen a couple of thefts, though in different forms over the last couple of weeks. In early December, Video Game Plus, which buys and sells different videogames, was robbed in a daytime heist by an armed man who hit

the owner of the store over the head with his gun.

Going forward, Fokine doesn't plan to stop accepting \$100 bills, but noted if she or an employee believes the bill to be fake they won't accept it.

She encouraged other storeowners to be vigilant and not have employees working alone during business hours.

"And when in question, just get him out of your store," Fokine said.

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## PV's Brookside Grille Hosts Business Networking

Putnam Valley's newest restaurant, the Brookside Grille, was host to the Putnam County Economic Development Corporation's (Putnam EDC) business networking event on November 20. Guests from Putnam and Orange Counties and Greenwich, Connecticut enjoyed the laidback atmosphere and delicious appetizers. "Brookside Grille is a delightful restaurant that will enhance downtown Putnam Valley. We are excited to see how it will develop in the coming months, and we hope it will thrive in this location and bring about renewed interest in Putnam Valley's business sector," remarked Linda Purcell, a Marketing volunteer with the Putnam EDC, and longtime Putnam Valley resident.

Attending guests included Putnam Valley Town Supervisor Sam Oliverio, and Town Board Member Louie Luongo; Jim Wagner, Founder, IntroStar; Anthony Williams, Putnam County Community Advocate; Michael Spencer, Vice President of Commercial Lending, TD Bank; Walter Recher, founder of Small Ball Marketing; Russell Kenny, founder of Rk2 Enterprises; Eileen Reilly, President, League of Women Voters of Putnam County; J. Carlos Salcedo, owner, Jireh Resources; Marshall Mermell and Catherine Gonick of Marketing Works Now; and Eric Warren, Senior Project Manager of the Mid-Hudson Region, Empire State Development Corporation.

"I've been to plenty of networking events, but last night was a first," noted Jim Wager of IntroStar, "I've never met so many influential, but friendly, people in such a short amount of time, so comfortably and easily. It's about the results - there can be 100 people in the room, but if nothing gets done other than mingling it's a waste of time."

Jill Varricchio, Putnam EDC President, agreed stating, "Our networking-style events have been a work in progress, but what we have learned is that it is important to create a quality business network with



PROVIDED PHOTO

Michael Spencer, TD Bank, Walter Recher, SmallBall Marketing, Jill Varricchio, PEDC, Jim Wagner, IntroStar, Anthony Williams, Putnam County community advocate.

meaningful connections."

The mission of Putnam County Economic Development Corporation is to be the primary facilitator connecting local resources with opportunities to deliver economic growth. We work to cultivate and expand existing business as well as promote commercial real estate to attract new business. We market county assets such as proximity to New York City, its Metro North transit links, its infrastructure, and highly skilled work force. We advocate for development projects among municipalities and planning boards to ensure the growth of our county's tax base. We educate and assist local nonprofits, small businesses and municipalities with incentive and grant programs from New York State, utility companies and other funding sources. We strive for balanced growth throughout the county to meet the needs of our broad audience.

## Taking Control of NY Senate, Dems Pick Majority Leader

By Pat Casey

Andrea Stewart-Cousins (D-Yonkers) is set to make New York history as the first woman to lead the state senate after a vote by the Democratic Conference earlier this month secured her position as Senate Majority Leader, beginning in January 2019.

Representing District 35, Stewart-Cousins was first elected to the State Senate in 2006 and currently represents Greenburgh, part of White Plains, part of New Rochelle, part of Yonkers and Scarsdale.

She has served as state Senate Minority Leader since 2012.

Democrats took over the New York Senate for the first time in decades after several seats turned during the November election.

Speaking at a press conference after the vote Stewart-Cousins said: "The tasks ahead of us may be great, but I know that we are all here to serve New Yorkers and to build a stronger, fairer, more prosperous state."

"There are many issues that have been ignored and blocked for too long in the State Senate, and thanks to the overwhelming support of New York voters, a new day has dawned."

"This January, we will make history



PROVIDED PHOTO

NYS Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins

together and finally give New York voters the progressive, responsive government they have demanded."

Congratulating Stewart-Cousins with a message on Twitter, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said:

"Congratulations to Andrea Stewart-Cousins on her election to be leader of the Senate majority and the first African-American woman to lead a majority conference in NY history. Today more than ever, we need leaders like her to forge the path ahead. I look forward to working with her."

The full Senate will vote on their majority leader in January 2019.

# Patterson

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## Letters to the Editor

# Carmel School Board Ignoring Will of Voters

As a resident of the Town of Kent and of the Carmel Central School District, I must say that I am very saddened and disappointed at the Carmel School Board's reaction to the voters' defeat of their latest bond referendum. Instead of being gracious and ungrudging, some members of this school board have chosen to simply refuse to accept the decision of the voters who have twice in less than one year's time rejected their bond propositions. Instead of accepting the fact that the people just don't want their spending plan, the Carmel School Board has resorted to casting blame and scapegoating. The fact that a dozen or so of residents can come to the last school board meeting and all of them voice support for the defeated bond is not an accurate indicator of how the community as a whole feels. It is very obvious that this was an arranged and coordinated effort to make it appear that there is more support for the defeated bond than there really is. One school board member actually said that if they sense that there is support in the community for the bond, then they would consider putting the same defeated bond back up again. The Carmel School

Board has already been given a sense of how the community feels and there is no more accurate indicator of that sense than the election results of the two defeated bond referendums. One resident who spoke said that the people did not speak on the recent defeated referendum, but only a subsection of the people spoke. I would remind this school board that everyone has an equal opportunity to vote and we don't nullify or disregard an election because of a low voter turnout. We accept the results based upon those who voted and not upon those who did not vote. Also, we don't have a revote because of rain or any other type of inclement weather condition. The Carmel School Board did not schedule another vote on the school budget this past May after a tornado tore through our area and very few people were able to get to their polling locations from approximately 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.. At the 9 p.m. closing time, the votes were counted, the budget approved, and the decision was accepted. No additional date to vote again was scheduled or permitted. For members of the Carmel School Board to say that they now want to put the same defeated bond

back up again is to be telling the voters that the school board does not care how many times their bond is defeated; they will keep putting it back up again and again until the people tire, and it passes. To do this would be a display of complete disrespect and disregard for the voters of our community who have twice made their decision clear. This type of thinking on the part of the Carmel School Board is nothing short of dictatorial and maybe these same school board members should move to a country like North Korea where they would feel more comfortable and be able to stamp out any dissent and impose their rule. We need to have finality and be willing to accept the results. We have now reached that point. Also, according to School Board Vice President Kreps, this is the third time that the bus garage component of the bond has been voted down. How many more times does the Carmel School Board need to be told no before they finally accept the voters' decision? The Town of Kent is the largest portion of the Carmel School District and is the town most affected by the bond proposition. It is also the location of the property for the defeated referendum. In

the first defeated referendum in December of 2017, the voters of the Town of Kent voted against the land purchase and new transportation center by a whopping 67% to 33% margin. In the second recently defeated referendum, the voters of the Town of Kent rejected the proposition by a commanding 58% to 42% margin. What more does the Carmel School Board need to know that the people of the Town of Kent, along with their elected leaders, do not want this tax increasing and tax base decreasing burden in our town? I would like to know, just what is it about this property that has some members of the Carmel School Board so determined to purchase that they are so adamantly refusing to accept the decision of the voters and to shove this down our throats, no matter how we vote? It causes one to ponder, just what is it that is in it for them? Rest assured that if the Carmel School Board has the brazenness to put this referendum back up for a third time, we will work three times as hard to have it defeated a third time.

Paul Collazo  
Lake Carmel

## Exciting Time for Single-payer Healthcare Advocates

By Madeline Zevon

In New York State, a Blue Wave. Democrats won 40 of the 63 NY Senate seats. The win is momentous: Since WW II, due to gerrymandering and side deals with renegade Democrats, Republicans have controlled the NY Senate for 65 of 68 years. The new senate leader will be Andrea Stewart-Cousins, the first woman to head a chamber in NY history.

This is good news for the New York Health Act, legislation that will bring universal, comprehensive, affordable healthcare to every New Yorker. The bill has repeatedly and overwhelmingly passed the state assembly, with 31 senate co-signers last spring. Many newly elected senators campaigned on NY Health, which, like traditional Medicare, is single-payer, and will save us billions — and stimulate our economy, creating 180,000 new jobs.

This good news has triggered rabid opposition from health insurance and pharmaceutical companies, and the propagandists they pay. Beware widely

disseminated "alternative facts." Taxes, for example. Yes, sliding-scale taxes will fund NY Health, but 95% of us will pay less than we do now. Medical bankruptcy will be history. NY Health eliminates co-pays, deductibles, premiums and restrictive networks. It's more comprehensive than any private insurance: covering all essential care, including dental, vision, hearing, prescriptions, and long-term home care.

The conservative solution to the high cost of healthcare in this country, NY Health will control skyrocketing costs, just as traditional Medicare does (as even conservative think tanks acknowledge). It will dramatically reduce waste, which consumes 30% of every healthcare dollar we spend — not just because single-payer systems like Medicare have overhead of 2% while for-profit insurance charges up to 20%, but because multi-payer systems force exorbitant costs onto providers, costs that are uncontrollably opaque.

The United States pays twice as much for healthcare as other developed nations,

but has poorer outcomes, despite our world-class providers. If every other peer nation can provide universal care — with better quality and cheaper — why can't we?

New York can lead the rest of the country, just as it first provided clean tap water with the Croton Reservoir, and second in providing a city watch. Canada's single-payer system began in one province, despite spine-chilling fear mongering. Saskatchewan's success melted fears: the rest of Canada adopted single-payer within a decade.

NY Health is poised for passage, but the opposition is powerful, spending big to maintain prodigious profits. They

have deep pockets, but not votes. The League of Women Voters of Westchester Healthcare Committee, with members from many local Leagues, is intensifying our grassroots efforts — visiting our legislators, including our new senate leader, writing articles, holding forums, and doing everything we can to educate the public.

Will you join us? Learn more at [www.nyhcampaign.org](http://www.nyhcampaign.org).

*Madeline Zevon is Health Care Chair of the League of Women Voters of Westchester and Co-Chair of the New York State League of Women Voters.*

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# Chiropractic Health Performance Mahopac

By Neal Rentz

Brewster resident Dr. Kyle Innes had his first encounter with chiropractic at the age of 10.

It changed his life forever.

Innes recalled last week how he hurt his lower back playing football when he was a student at Brewster Middle School and sought the services of a chiropractor at the recommendation of his medical doctor. His late father, Doug, agreed because he had a positive experience with the chiropractor, who was a family friend.

"I really liked the idea of chiropractic, no drugs, no surgery," Innes said. "I saw my dad walk in hunched over, he got adjusted and he was walking like nothing ever happened."

The first time he was adjusted by a chiropractor Innes said to himself, "This is amazing."

"It felt so good I couldn't believe how good I felt after it," Innes said. "I almost felt better after the adjustment than before. So, I was pretty hooked right away."

Today, Innes is a veteran doctor of chiropractic who operates out of Chiropractic Health Performance in Mahopac, which he opened in July. He moved his office from Yorktown to be closer to his home.

Many of his patients are local high



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Brewster resident Dr. Kyle Innes opened Chiropractic Health Performance in Mahopac in July.

school athletes, including members of the Yorktown High School lacrosse team, Innes said. "We see anyone from birth to seniors," he said.

Innes said he offers free educational visits to potential patients. "We talk about how structure determines function," he said, adding doctors of chiropractic look for "bones that aren't moving as well as

the other ones. We find those. Adjust those, free them up."

Chiropractors not only make bones move better, Innes said. "It's actually helping your brain remap how your body is supposed to move," he said. "When you get adjusted it's just like hitting a reset button on a computer. It basically tells your areas that are in pain there's an issue

here, let's fix it."

Studies have indicated that following chiropractic adjustments the body's immune system improves, Innes said. For example, when he was in chiropractic school, Innes said he and his fellow students were never very ill even during cold and flu seasons. "And if you do get a cough, a cold or the flu you're not as sick, you don't feel as bad and then you're over it quicker" than others who have not gotten chiropractic adjustments, he said.

"The most important thing with chiropractic is educating the population about what it is that we do," Innes said.

He said chiropractors are trained in physical therapy and chiropractors have nearly the same curriculums as medical doctors in training, he said. "We're very well versed in drugs and surgery and when to refer," he said. "We chose not to use drugs and surgery. That's part of our philosophy."

"Everybody thinks we just crack bones," but being a chiropractor is much more, Innes said.

*Chiropractic Health Performance is located at 54 Miller Rd. in Mahopac. For more information, call 845- 621-1739 or visit <http://www.nychirohp.com/index.htm>.*

## Wells MS Dedicates Its Renovated Courtyard

Henry H. Wells Middle School had a dedication ceremony last month for its new Brewster Education Foundation Wells Courtyard.

The courtyard, which has been in the works for the last four years, has been a labor of love. The idea for it started when the Wells community read Counting by 7s as their school-wide read.

The book tells the story of 12-year-old Willow Chance, whose adoptive parents die in a tragic car accident leaving her lost and disconnected. Willow ends up moving into an apartment complex and, noticing its sadness, decides to transform its courtyard into a garden. The garden opens Willow back up and brings the community together around her.

"After reading this book," said principal John Clark during the dedication ceremony, "several members of our Wells community started looking into the idea of a collaborative way to improve our own courtyard, which was badly neglected after our construction project."

Overrun with weeds and with sidewalks made of small pebbles that were difficult to walk on and not at all accessible to those with disabilities, community members still saw potential.

"Michelle Gosh, Peggy Zambraski, Irene Othmer, Mike Bellucci, Katie Allen, and Robin Caverly met with



PROVIDED PHOTO

Laurie Taylor of the Putnam County Department of Planning," said Clark. "They also visited Mahopac to look at its courtyard to generate ideas, and the idea for beautifying the space became a reality. Four years later, we are here to officially dedicate the space."

A lot of hard work was put in between the idea phase and what the space has become. Clark recognized many people within the Brewster community for their contributions to the project including:

- The BEF for grants that helped pay for four trees and the walkways

- The HH Wells Student Government for their donation (also used for the walkways)
- The PTA for their grant donation and money raised through plant sales, which was used to beautify the courtyard with shrubs and plants
- Mike Bellucci and the Builder's Club who help with the mulching and weeding
- Victor Karlsson, Andy Bates, Kenny Winch, and the Grounds and Maintenance team for their maintenance of the courtyard

- M&M Landscaping for their donations of shrubs
- Dennis Gendron who planted the trees and gave donations

"For us, the courtyard is symbolic of how a community can come together around a common goal," said Clark. "All of us are driven by our desire to support children and this courtyard will help us to do it by allowing students to use the courtyard as a space for learning, discovery, and relaxation."

While it has come a long way, there are still so many ideas for what it can become.

"The idea is to keep working forward with it," said Zambraski. "It's a work in progress."

Visions for the future include birdhouses and planters built by the tech department. It includes weather stations and ant farm kits and GoPro cameras to research and watch the activity. Art teacher Irene Othmer and Makerspace students even have ideas for art: a large center sculpture designed by students, a recycled sculpture made from chicken wire and plastic bags, mosaic paths, murals, and art hanging from trees.

"I envision an outdoor class doing poetry or art at smaller sitting spaces," Zambraski said. "It's a different space than the normal class environment to get creative juices flowing."



# Law Book: Special Needs Trusts are Necessary for Estate Planning

By Salvatore M. Di Constanzo

Special needs trusts are an integral part of almost every estate plan, yet most people don't realize this and fail to take the initiative to include it in their plans.

Typically, those who seek consultation on the applicability of special needs trusts are either disabled or closely involved with a disabled child or other adult. In these instances, the need for a special needs trust is obvious.

Less apparent, is the need for special needs trusts for nearly everyone. Consider that a beneficiary of your estate may become disabled at any time. As discussed below, I use them in most of my estate planning documents to deal with unforeseen disabilities.

The purpose of a special needs trust is to provide a pool of assets that can be used to supplement, not replace, government benefits or assistance for which the disabled person may be entitled to receive. The assets of the trust are commonly used for expenses such as medical equipment, transportation, vacations and other recreational items, personal care and expenditures that are not covered by government programs.

There are two types of special needs trusts: First Party and Third Party. A First Party Special Needs Trust is one that is created with the assets of a disabled person who is under 65 years



Salvatore M. Di Constanzo

old. Often, this type of trust is used where a disabled person is already receiving government benefits such as Social Security or Medicaid and receives assets, for instance, by inheritance. If this trust is properly utilized, the disabled beneficiary's government benefits will not be discontinued.

Until recently, only a parent, grandparent or court could establish a First Party trust for the benefit of a disabled beneficiary. Earlier this year, the law changed, now allowing a disabled

*'The purpose of a special needs trust is to provide a pool of assets that can be used to supplement, not replace, government benefits or assistance for which the disabled person may be entitled to receive.'*

person, who has the capacity, to establish a First Party trust on their own.

Upon the death of the disabled person, a First Party Special Needs Trust must name the state as a remainder beneficiary for any benefits paid to the disabled individual during his lifetime. This is called a payback provision. If the trust does not include this provision, the assets of the trust will be considered available assets for the disabled individual, thereby discontinuing any government benefits.

A Third Party Special Needs Trust is a trust that can be created by any person, with that person's assets, for the benefit of a disabled individual. Consider a parent who has a disabled child. If assets are to be set aside for the disabled child, a properly drafted estate plan would include a Third Party Special Needs Trust for the benefit

of the disabled child. Unlike a First Party Special Needs Trust, a Third Party trust does not have a "payback provision." Therefore, you can name any individual or entity as beneficiary of the trust after the death of the disabled person. I use Third Party trusts in most of the estate planning documents I create for clients. As I mentioned above, anyone can become disabled at any time. For this reason, we provide in our documents that where assets are being left to a beneficiary who is disabled at the time of distribution, a Third Party Special Needs Trust shall trigger and be used to hold the disabled child's inheritance, thereby preserving their inheritance where there is an unforeseen disability. This is called a "trigger trust."

Special needs trusts are complicated areas of elder law and special needs planning. Please contact us to discuss their applicability and your options. Salvatore M. Di Costanzo is a partner with Maker, Fragale & Di Costanzo, LLP in Rye and Yorktown Heights. He is an attorney and accountant whose main area of practice is elder law and special needs planning. Di Costanzo can be reached at 914-925-1010 or at [smd@mfd-law.com](mailto:smd@mfd-law.com). For more information, visit [www.plantodayfortomorrow.com](http://www.plantodayfortomorrow.com).

Across

- 1. Trite sentimentality
- 6. Road goo
- 9. Ripped off
- 12. Another President
- 13. Hazard for a letter carrier
- 14. Cyclades island
- 15. Alarm clock
- 16. Long or life preceders
- 17. "You're on!"
- 19. What Santa may ring or new Mahopac spa, Golden \_\_\_\_
- 22. If you don't want your meals tame you may enjoy this Mohegan Lake Asian restaurant, \_\_\_\_ Fusion -

- 23. Gulf emirate
- 27. TV giant
- 28. African river
- 31. Kinship
- 32. Routine
- 34. Massachusetts' cape
- 35. Great
- 36. Corp. leadership
- 37. Places in a car

Down

- 1. Basic version, abbr.
- 2. Drop anchor
- 3. Bearer of the Golden Fleece
- 4. Dismantle and reassemble
- 5. Muggy
- 6. Eastern capital
- 7. Away from the mouth
- 8. Sell again
- 10. Salt Lake City players
- 11. Prefix with byte
- 18. Die out
- 19. Little chicken
- 20. Receding
- 21. Clear
- 24. Operates smoothly
- 25. Touch
- 26. The bringers of ruin
- 29. Hearty party
- 30. \_\_\_\_ the finish
- 33. Stumbling expressions

## Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8
9					10	11		12	
13								14	
	15							16	
			17				18		
19	20	21					22		
23				24	25	26			
27				28				29	30
31				32					33
34				35					
36						37			

Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 17

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## Obituaries

### Richard 'Dick' J. Troha

Richard 'Dick' J. Troha, of Gainesville, FL, died peacefully on November 26, at the haven hospice with his family by his side. He was 90 years old. Dick was born on March 29, 1928 in Brooklyn, son of the late John Troha and Anna Fugina. He was a graduate of Brewster High School and honorably served in the US Army as an occupational force in Japan between wars. Mr. Troha married the love of his life Marie G. Giliberti on June 5, 1954 at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Brewster. Dick was a manufacturing plant manager with Amphenol in Danbury, CT for 34 years before retiring in 1988. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was also a member of the Candlewood Camera club and enjoyed taking photographs. Dick is not only survived by his loving wife Marie, but also his two sons John J. Troha and his wife Janice of Walsenburg, CO and Richard J. Troha and his wife Michele of Gainesville, FL, his 3 grandchildren; Anna, Madeline and Maxwell and his great grandson Jaxyn. A graveside service will be held on December 14, at 1 p.m. at St. Lawrence O' Toole Cemetery, Turk Hill Road, Brewster. Interment will immediately follow. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster assisted the family with arrangements.

### George T. Rosalino

It is with broken hearts the family of George Thayer Rosalino, age 53, of Carmel, announces his unexpected and tragic passing on November 28. George was born on May 14, 1965 to Claire (Thayer) and the late William Rosalino Jr. on Long Island. Mr. Rosalino proudly served with the United States Navy; he was a veteran and advocate for all service men and women. George was a gentle, kind soul and an artist. He was quiet and reflective and more of a listener than a talker. His gentle heart and kind spirit was shared most with his family. He spent much of his free time reading and researching his hobbies, Greek Mythology and The Roman Empire. George was a dependable loving son and a respected and caring brother. The imprint George left on family and friends will live on. George is survived by his beloved mother Claire. He is also survived by his brother William and sister in law Elizabeth, his sister Patricia, and his niece and 7 nephews. Mr. Rosalino is predeceased by his father William (2014). He leaves his family and friends with a lifetime of love and memories to cherish.

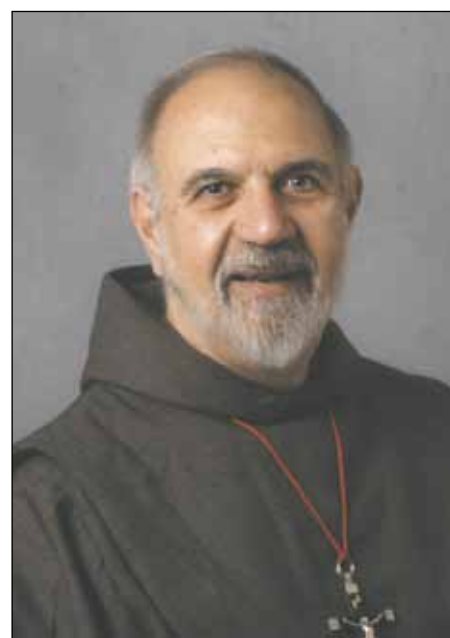
### Harriette A. Moore

Harriette A. Moore, 95, of Brewster, peacefully at Waterview Hills Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center in Purdys on November 28. She was born in Ticonderoga, on April 12, 1923 to the late Chester and Augusta (White) Bishop.

Harriette graduated from Hudson Falls High School in 1940. She married Donald R. Moore on February 6, 1965 at the 1st United Methodist Church in Brewster. Harriette worked with Bardens Precision in Danbury, CT for 25 years retiring in 1993. Prior to Bardens, she worked for General Electric Co in Ft. Edward. An avid word search puzzle, card player, and bowler, Harriette also enjoyed travel. Especially when visiting her grandchildren. Family was by far most important to Harriette. She will live on in their hearts and memories forever. Besides her husband Donald, of 53 years, Harriette is survived by her two daughters; Joyce Saunders of Brewster, Dolores Rice and her husband Allan of South Glens Falls, NY and a daughter-in-law Dorothy Stoddard. Also 5 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren and 1 great great granddaughter. Harriette was predeceased by her two sons, Richard and Raymond Stoddard and a daughter Sylvia O'Dell. Also a son-in-law Frederick Saunders and a grandson Freddy Saunders.

### Rev. Joseph DiMauro

Rev. Joseph (nee Francis T.) DiMauro, SA, a Franciscan Friar of the Atonement, passed from this life on Thursday, November 29, at the Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla. A wake service was held on Wednesday, December 5, at Our Lady of the Atonement Chapel at Graymoor in Garrison. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Thursday, December 6, in the Chapel. Interment in the Friars' Cemetery will take place immediately following the



Mass. Fr. DiMauro was born in Boston, MA. He attended elementary school in Roxbury, MA and graduated from Mission Church High School in Roxbury in 1957. He attended Fordham University, Bronx, and received a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and Religious Studies in 1972. Fr. DiMauro earned a Master of Theology degree from Catholic University,

Washington, DC in 1977. In 1986, he earned a second Master's degree from the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas, also known as the Angelicum, located in Rome. Fr. DiMauro entered the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement in July 1957. He made his first profession of vows in 1960 and professed final vows in 1965. Fr. DiMauro was ordained to the priesthood at Graymoor by Bishop J. J. Mahoney in 1978. Fr. DiMauro worked in administrative services for the Friars at Graymoor (1960-1966), Montour Falls (1966), Rome (1966-1968), and Saranac Lake (1968-1970). From 1970-1977, he studied for the priesthood at Fordham University in the Bronx and in Washington, DC. In 1978, he returned to Graymoor and worked in Retreat Ministry for the Christian Unity Center until 1981. Fr. DiMauro was assigned to administrative services at the Catholic Central Library in London, England from 1981-1986. Following two sabbatical years at Sant'Onofrio al Gianicolo church in Rome from 1986-1988, Fr. DiMauro briefly served as Pastor at the Church of the Reconciliation in Bridgeport, Jamaica (1988) and Retreat Minister for the Christian Unity Center at Graymoor (1989). From 1990-1995, Fr. DiMauro was Pastor of St. Francis de Sales Church in Lumberton, NC. In 1995, he moved to Brockton, MA and served on the pastoral staff at the Chapel of Our Savior in Brockton, MA until 2003. From 2003-2015, Fr. DiMauro returned to Graymoor to work for the Christian Unity Center. Fr. DiMauro retired from full-time ministry in 2015. He continued to minister part-time at Graymoor, hearing confession, providing spiritual direction, celebrating the Sacraments in various convents in the area, and conducting Days of Renewal and retreats and giving various talks and seminars. In 2015, he was appointed to serve as Director of the Father Paul of Graymoor Guild, whose mission is the cause for canonization of the founder of the Friars of the Atonement, Servant of God Father Paul Wattson, SA. Fr. DiMauro was the son of the late Salvatore DiMauro and Carmella Pantano DiMauro of Sicily, Italy. He is survived by his brothers, Paul DiMauro of Fernando Beach, FL and Thomas DiMauro of Dennis, MA. Fr. DiMauro resided at the St. Paul Friary at Graymoor at the time of his death.

### Pearl Freeman

It is with heavy hearts the family of Pearl Freeman, age 81, of Mahopac announces her passing on November 29, surrounded by her loving family. Pearl was born on June 30, 1937 in the Bronx, New York to the late Hattie (Goodman) and Harry Hanerfeld. She went on to marry her best friend and the love of her life Theron "Ken" Freeman on August 17, 1956 in a magical ceremony in Yonkers, and together they were blessed with three

beautiful daughters Terilynn, Rhonda and Cheryl. Mrs. Freeman was a beacon of light, on good days and bad. She was never seen without a smile on her face or a hand extended to help. Pearl was a pillar of strength for her family and friends, her strength came from a place of love and light. Any room was brighter when she was there and any joke was made better by hearing her laugh. Pearl had a love of both people and animals, as most kind spirits do. She loved spending time on her iPad and for a woman in her 80's was quite technologically savvy navigating Facebook and playing Words with Friends and House of Fun. She also enjoyed competitive games of Scrabble, Boggle and Spades. Pearl loved going to the casino with her beloved husband and spending peaceful evenings watching T.V. together with their dogs Trouble, Brandy and Sandy. After Ken's passing Pearl honored his memory by remaining her positive and active self and continued going to the senior center in Mahopac where she made many cherished friends. Above all things in life Pearl treasured her time with her husband, children and grandchildren. Family and friends take comfort in knowing Ken and Pearl are reunited living their happily ever after once again. Pearl is survived by her daughters Terilynn Hughes, Rhonda (Bob) Becker, and Cheryl McGlinchey. As well as being survived by her precious grandchildren Braden, Bryan, Chris, Kelly, Stevie and Shannon who each held their own special place in her heart. She is also survived by her brother Marvin Hanerfeld. She is now joined in heaven with her best friend and love of her life her husband Ken who had passed in 2016, as well as her adored grandson Frankie who had passed in 2008 and son-in-law Steve McGlinchey who had passed in 2004. Pearl will be dearly missed by her family and friends, yet her legacy of love and devotion shall continue to grow in our hearts.

### Peter Paul Duke

Peter Paul Duke, 64, of Brewster, died peacefully at Danbury Hospital Center on December 2. He was born in the Bronx on March 7, 1954 to the late John and Laura (Davis) Duke. Peter attended schools in the Bronx and served in the Marines. 41 years ago, Peter married his former wife, Margaret in the Bronx. Peter worked as a steamfitter in Manhattan for Metropolitan Life for 30 years, retiring in 1991. He enjoyed classic cars, trains, tattoos, and hunting, as well as his many car club memberships. Peter is survived by his son, Peter P. Duke II (Andrea), and his daughter, Danielle Polverari (Dan) of Dover Plains; his 5 grandchildren, Abbygale, Peter John, Timothy, Daniel Jr. and Dominique. Also his former wife

*continued on page 17*



# How to Rid Your Home of Problematic Household Scents

My home is new redolent of holiday scents, from the wreath on the door close to my office, to the special aromas coming from the kitchen. It would not be a bad time to invite guests to visit us.

When it comes time to sell a house and I advise a client of all the things to do in preparation, probably the most sensitive issue to address is unpleasant odor in the house when it exists.

Every home has a particular smell. Sometimes it's good, sometimes not. When it's good, we might want to savor it and remember it, but when it's bad, both we and a prospective buyer want to escape it.

I can still recall that particular, sweet smell of the home I grew up in. Maybe it was a combination of my mother's cooking, largely tomato- and olive oil-based, with her perfume, which was "My Sin." Many times, people would compliment her on that perfume, which today I remember as smelling like a mixture of all my favorite blossoms in the garden – rose, jasmine, lilac and lily of the valley. I remember that our house smelled



By Bill Primavera

particularly sweet when she would can tomatoes in the basement.

When I rented my first apartment, the air quality was very different. I lived in the basement of a private house, which was only slightly above grade and faced the north side of the house. It had a musty smell caused by the moisture in the air that was so thick that the walls would sometimes weep from it. Being a proactive tenant, even as an 18-year-old college student, I petitioned the landlady to buy a dehumidifier for me, and I kept it running day and night

to make the air quality acceptable.

The next time I was keenly aware of objectionable house smells was in the apartment of a very old woman who had invited me – I was an antiques dealer at the time – to buy some of her things. When I entered her apartment, located in an old former hotel in Brooklyn, I was hit with a very unpleasant smell that was very hard to describe.

The windows were all shrouded in heavy curtains and shades and the furniture was all deeply tufted. I'm

embarrassed to admit that I thought the smell was coming from what I had heard was "old people smell." That, however, was a wrong assumption. I learned from an air quality control company that it's really the circumstances of the old person's environment. There may be closed windows and no air flow. It could also be their personal habits, including how often they bathe and clean their clothes, and the odors just don't have an opportunity to dissipate with circulation.

I also learned that the three most common causes of house odor are smoking, pets and mold. Usually no one does anything about the first two – smoking and pets – because people are unaware of those odors when they live with them. They are very aware of mold, however, either because of the smell or allergic reaction, and that is something they should do something about. Toxic mold produces a chemical called mycotoxins, which can cause serious illnesses that can be fatal.

Pet smell and the odor from smoking may not raise a danger signal as much as toxic mold. But the source of the smoking smell can be very harmful to both the smoker and the one who breathes in second hand smoke, according to the Surgeon General. Pets can be anathema

to those with severe allergies to them.

Both smells can be addressed with home remedies when the source moves on, but toxic mold, which is reputed to have hastened the death of television personality Ed McMahon, should best be handled by a professional remediation service. There is just too much at stake, especially in the remediation process, to approach on one's own.

If a house is being readied for sale and the owner is advised to eliminate the smell of smoking or pets, the best cure is good ventilation. The process can be expedited with baking soda, that old standby that we know from our mothers placing a box in the refrigerator. Baking soda can be sprinkled on furniture and carpeting that has absorbed smoking or pet odors, and after it sits for several hours, is vacuumed.

The worst thing to do about household odors is to try to mask them with candles, incense or other odor-combating products. The layered smells can be worse than the original offending odor.

*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 Takes Us Deep Into Spain's Sparkling Wine Country



By Nick Antonaccio

This week our virtual tour of Spain's wine regions takes us further up the Mediterranean coast to the bucolic region of Penedès. Geographically, it is only a 45-minute drive, due west of cosmopolitan Barcelona in Catalonia. Yet historically and culturally, it is centuries away from the modern pace of its neighboring bustling cities.

Think rolling hills, 16th century hilltop towns, stucco and terracotta haciendas, grapevines planted wherever their roots can grab a foothold. It is reminiscent of the Tuscan landscape and vistas, but without the hordes of American and British tourists. Here Spanish winemakers have found paradise. How best to share their paradise than to enjoy the wine most associated with happy occasions and good times: sparkling wine.

The microclimate: warm, mild temperatures. The altitude: "hillsides" that are among the tallest in Europe. The sun: a beautiful

interplay of light and landscape. All come together for a perfect environment suitable to growing three indigenous grapes that, when blended by artisanal winemakers, create a unique sparkling wine: Cava.

In the Champagne region of France, it's Champagne; in the remainder of France it's Cremant; in Italy it's Prosecco; in the U.S. it's simply sparkling wine; and in Spain it's Cava. (The term Cava is derived from the natural "caves" used as cellar storerooms where aging takes place, but I bet you figured that out on your own.)

The Spanish have adopted the same process as the French for producing their bubbly, which contributes to the sophisticated style of the Spanish version. However, what makes Cava unique among sparkling wines is the

grape varieties grown in Penedès. These indigenous grapes, grown here since the 19th century, are the Macabeo, Parellada and Xarel-lo varieties. Try pronouncing these names after a glass or two of Cava. (Okay,

*You Heard It Through the Grapevine*

let's try it: mah-kah-BEH-oh, Par-el-YAH-dah and Sha-REHL-loh.)

Here is where the Spanish winemakers shine. It is the masterful crafting and blending of these grapes that emphasize the individual characteristics of each variety and creates an end result that is greater than the sum of its parts. The Macabeo offers fragrant floral aromas. The Parellada offers a creamy mouth-feel and fruity flavors of citrus and apples. The Xarel-lo offers ripeness, full body, acid and alcohol. What comes through the bubbles are intoxicating aromas and flavors with toasty, creamy notes, sure to please discriminating palates.

Several artisans produce Cavas aged in their cellars for extended periods. Look for Riserva and Gran Riserva. They are worth the additional cost.

Cava production is second only to the Champagne region. Annual production is about 18 million cases (216 million bottles). Of this, exports top 10 million cases.

That equates to nearly 4 percent of all wine production in Spain. I'm sure that sometime in your life a number of you have been exposed to Cava without perhaps realizing it. The most consumed sparkling wine in the U.S. in the 1970s was Freixenet, in the distinctive black bottle at a cost of under \$10. (Ah yes, I remember

it well at weddings and graduations.)

Now it's time to experiment. Visit your favorite wine shop and inquire about the availability of Cava. Most carefully curated shops will stock one of two brands. If your shop doesn't offer any, ("I have limited shelf space." "Prosecco is my top seller in that price category, so I stock up on those wines." "Most customers haven't experienced Cava. It's an unknown to them.") you can regale them with your new-found knowledge and press them to stock a few. Excellent Cavas sell for less than \$20, a similar price point to Prosecco, but in my opinion, a far superior wine.

Reward yourself simply for being able to pronounce the names of the grape varieties. I trust you will appreciate the uniqueness and complexity of such an affordable sparkler.

As with many success stories in life, Cava's overnight popularity has been 50 years in the making. Here's to its long life and continued success.

*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.*





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## LEGAL NOTICES

**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 FORMATION OF SECOND MOUSE CHEESE, LLC.** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 10/18/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **SECOND MOUSE CHEESE, LLC, 351 Manville Road, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN** that a license number PENDING for beer, liquor and wine has been applied for by the undersigned\* to sell beer, liquor and wine at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 222 East Main Street, Store #1, Mount Kisco, in the County of Westchester for on-premises consumption. **TPM Partners, Inc. d/b/a Fiesta Cancun on Main**

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9	T	O	R	E	O	10	U	11	T		12	A	B	E		
13	D	O	G	B	I	T	E				14	I	O	S		
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27	N	B	C		28	U	B	A	N	29	G	30	I			
31	T	I	E		32	M	U	N	D	A	N	33	E			
34	A	N	N		35	S	T	E	L	L	A	R				
36	M	G	T					37	S	E	A	T	S			

## Obituaries

continued from page 14

Margaret.

### Robert Santospirito

Robert Santospirito of Putnam Valley, died on December 4 at the age of 86 from complications of pneumonia. Robert is survived by his children, his son and daughter-in-law, Christian and Dorothy Santospirito, and his daughter and son-in-law, Regina and Robert Correra and 2 granddaughters, Julianne and Melissa Santospirito. He is preceded in death by his wife Florence. Robert was a carpenter by trade for 45 years and was former Commodore of the Hudson Valley Yacht Club, a former member of the Peekskill Yacht Club, a former member of the Putnam Valley Rotary and member of the Peekskill Fish and Game Association.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman, in addition to his love of boating. He was a dedicated husband, father and grandfather. A man with a very good heart and will be missed dearly.

### Giuseppe Sottile

Giuseppe Sottile of Mahopac, died on December 5, at the age of 75. He was born on May 13, 1943 in Falcone, Sicily, the son of Mario and Tindara (nee Crinó) Sottile. Giuseppe worked as a bricklayer in New York City throughout his life. On April 13, 1969 he married Providenza "Enza" Ruvolo; they were blessed with 2 children Daniel and Tina. Giuseppe is survived by his loving wife Enza, his daughter Tina Mercurio and her husband Chris, his son Daniel and his wife Kristin; and his grandchildren Jessica, Nicole and Christian. Giuseppe loved and cherished the time he spent with his family. He was especially fond of having everyone all together at Christmas for family dinner. Giuseppe was a fan of the New York Rangers, through good years and bad. He also enjoyed watching Italian soccer on Sunday mornings. He was proud of his daughter and son's accomplishments and the loving life he built with his wife Enza.





# Happenings

We're happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Nikki Gallagher at [nikki@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nikki@theexaminernews.com)

## Tuesday, December 11

**Financial Fitness:** 6:30 p.m. Learn to maximize your credit score, minimize your debt, protect your identity, ensure the security of your family's future and much more! 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](http://www.kentlibrary.org).

**Touch Screen Friendly Gloves:** Grades 6 and up. 3:30 p.m. Keep your hands toasty and stay connected! Bring your favorite pair to modify or use a new library-provided pair. Registration is required; register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

**Art Class:** 10:15 a.m., - 10:45 a.m. or 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Caregivers and their children will create delightful creations in this toddler art class designed to engage the creative area of the brain while allowing your child to develop hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills, and color awareness. For ages 14 - 23 months. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org)

## Wednesday, December 12

**Riverkeeper and the Hudson River Estuary:** Join Riverkeeper staff members George Jackman and Jen Benson to learn about the Hudson River, its history and the species inhabiting its waters and shorelines. It is home to a variety of protected and endangered species now affected by numerous threats. Mechanisms of harm the river faces include industrial pollution, PCB contamination, Indian Point and dangerously under researched projects being advanced by the Army Corps of Engineers. In partnership with the Greenburgh Nature Center and the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group. Dobbs Ferry Public Library, 55 Main St., Dobbs Ferry. 7 p.m. Free. Info: Visit [www.dobbsferrylibrary.org](http://www.dobbsferrylibrary.org).

**Holiday spirit with Jeffrey Urbin of the FDR Presidential Library:** 6 p.m.

Christmas was one of the Roosevelt family's favorite holidays during the dark times of the Great Depression. Through this tough period, the spirit of Christmas was nurtured, shared, and enjoyed. 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](http://www.kentlibrary.org).

**Happiness & Spirituality Workshop:** Brewster Public Library. Teens and adults. 4:30 p.m. to join an exploration of different paths to happiness, including practicing forgiveness, gratitude, and meditation. They will also discuss some of the scientific, sociological and spiritual underpinnings of joy. This is an inclusive, non-denominational workshop led by Rabbi Laurie Gold of Temple Beth Elohim in Brewster, New York. Patrons of all beliefs are welcome. All library programs are free. To register, or for more information, please call 845-279-6421 or visit [www.brewsterlibrary.org](http://www.brewsterlibrary.org).

## Thursday, December 13

**Teens Who Care at Mahopac Library:** 3:30 p.m. Join us once a month to plan future activities that will make a difference in your community. Community hours will be given for all meetings and special events. For further information visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), and click the 'Get Involved' link to download a Teen Volunteer Application. For questions and additional information call 845-628-2009, ext. 136.

**Just 4 Fun Book Club:** Grades 3-5. 4:30 p.m. Read the book selection in advance, then meet at Mahopac Library to take part in activities and a group chat. This month's selection: "The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street" by Karina Yan Glaser; ask for the book at the Circulation Desk. To register visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

**Coloring for Adults at Mahopac Library:** Also, December 27 @ 7:00 pm: Re-connect with your inner child. Join us for an evening of relaxation, stress relief, focus, and fun. For ages 18 and

up. Materials will be provided. Drop-in group; no registration needed. For more information visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

**Winter Wonderland Story Time:** 11:15 a.m. - noon Celebrate the winter with a fun, interactive story time! We'll be singing songs, playing games, and creating a beautiful craft to take home. For ages 3 - 5. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

## Saturday, December 15

**Putnam County Civil Air Patrol Wreaths Across America Ceremony:** Noon. Raymond Hill Cemetery, 165 Gleneida Ave., Carmel, 165 Gleneida Ave., Carmel. Join Civil Air Patrol's Putnam County Composite Squadron on National Wreaths Across America Day to honor veterans laid to rest at the Raymond Hill Cemetery in Carmel, NY on Saturday, December 15 at noon. Invite your family and friends to an experience you will never forget as we honor our service men and women and their families. The wreath-laying ceremony takes place nationwide, with over 2 million volunteers placing wreaths on veterans' headstones. The annual event honors veterans and advances the Wreaths Across America mission to "Remember, Honor and Teach," ensuring the memory of those who served our nation endures. To purchase wreaths visit [www.facebook.com/PutnamCountyCompositeSquadron](http://www.facebook.com/PutnamCountyCompositeSquadron), click on the Wreaths Across America post on the top of the page and follow the sponsorship instructions. Wreaths may be purchased through December 5. Contact Major Elena MacDermant at (845) 216-5433 or email [elenamac@aol.com](mailto:elenamac@aol.com) for additional information.

**Harry Potter Yule Ball:** Noon-1:30 p.m. Celebrate the holiday season with wizarding snacks, a magical ornament craft, and extreme Harry Potter holiday trivia. Robes and Weasley sweaters are

encouraged. Ages 8 and up. Kent Public Library: For more information visit [kentlibrary.org](http://kentlibrary.org) or call 845 225-8585. Registration is required for most events.

## Sunday, December 16

**Arts On The Lake Presents Serious Jazz:** Marty Elkins & Janice Friedman. For tickets visit [www.artsonthelake.org](http://www.artsonthelake.org) Adults:\$15/pp; \$12/AotL members; \$5/students. 640 Route 52, Carmel. 1:30 p.m. -3:30 p.m.

## Monday, December 17

**Energy Healing & Stress Relief:** Rose Christmas returns to the Kent Library: 6 p.m., This is an adult program. 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](http://www.kentlibrary.org).


## Tuesday, December 18

**Reed Library's Holiday Cookies to Bake Your Day:** 4:30 p.m. Join us for a crafternoon creating a variety of cookies to pick and 'chews' from. All supplies will be provided, just bring your jolly good ideas! For 1st graders & up! [www.carmellibrary.org](http://www.carmellibrary.org)

**Celestial Objects:** Michael Zeilnhofers returns to the Kent Library to give another stellar presentation about: 6:30 p.m. There are many different types of stars which have been classified in our universe. Some of these stars out in the universe are much hotter and brighter than our Sun, while some are much cooler. Different types of stars also evolve differently, from white dwarfs to black holes. Join me as we explore the cosmos to learn about how stars evolve and what our Sun will evolve into in the next 4.5 billion years! This is a family program for ages 10 and up. 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](http://www.kentlibrary.org).

**Gingerbread House Decorating:** 4:30 p.m. or 5:30 p.m., Get creative and decorate your own gingerbread house with delicious, colorful candy and enjoy listening to some festive music! Please bring a bag of decorating candy to share if possible. \*Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

**Chat 'n' Chill:** Noon. Come gather with your friends or meet new ones at this monthly get together at the Patterson Library. We will provide the space for you to bring your lunch, play cards or games, work on your crafts or just sit and chat. Adults only. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.



**Hudson Valley Sports Photography**

★ Rick Kuperberg Sr. ★

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*Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports*

**Mahopac  
Blows Lead,  
Falls to  
Lakeland  
in Panas  
Tourney,  
Settles  
for 3rd**

Mahopac senior F Rheel Allen is surrounded by a throng of Lakeland players, including Joe Vetrano (23) and JP Walsh (5), in the Indians' 60-57 loss to the eventual champion Hornets in Friday's opening round of the 17th annual Walter Panas Holiday Tournament where Mahopac squandered a 15-3 lead and failed to execute down the stretch before settling for third place in the tournament behind a sterling 17-point effort from Allen in a 62-60 win over Brewster on Saturday... see Boys' Hoops Notebook



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO



## Sports

## Boys' Hoops Notebook

## DiCintio, Nicodemo Serve Noteworthy Suspensions for Somers, Saunders

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

Tusker Nick Maestri scored 10 of his team-high 18 points in the first quarter of **SOMERS'** 78-42 season-opening win over visiting Saunders last Wednesday,



Lakeland senior F JP Walsh takes a run at Panas' Steven Stafura in Hornets' 65-56 tourney title win over Panthers Saturday.

and 10 other Tuskers found the hoop in all, including three other double-digit scorers – Lucas Fecci (10), Drew Lasher (10) and Max Germaine (14).

But the game was the side story in actuality, as both Somers Coach Chris DiCintio and Saunders Coach Anthony Nicodemo were suspended from the game for their participation in an LGBTQ event – tied to a Section 1 basketball game -- last year. The two boys' basketball coaches — one straight (DiCintio) and one gay (Nicodemo) — agreed to play one another after having been suspended for the opening game of the season due to a technicality during their support of LGBTQ athletes last January. Funds were raised through the event for the local chapter of GLSEN. When it came to light that Nicodemo and Saunders A.D. Jim Rose hadn't filled out the proper paperwork for the event, Section 1, according to Nicodemo, pounced on an opportunity to punish him for his vocal opposition to other issues, including the

County Center debacle that transpired last year.

DiCintio, to his credit, fell on the sword with his colleague to show that both programs stand firmly behind the fact that they wanted to raise awareness for students who might still be searching for answers within. He feels that Section 1 discredited their attempt to do so.

"When someone like me (who is straight) gets suspended for this event, kids who see me supporting it may think 'oh you know, see, this is what happens,' and if they do have an issue with their sexual orientation they are more apt to keep it inside because 'good guys finish last,'" DiCintio recently told Outsports.

Hopefully, this is the last we'll be hearing of this, but Nicodemo has planned a bigger, inclusionary event next month at Sarah Lawrence College, including eight teams — four high school and four college programs — playing one another on Jan. 19, with other inclusion actions scheduled around the "Pride on the Court" event. This time, Nicodemo will make sure the necessary paperwork is completed, but his bitterness toward Section 1 remains affirmed.

"We're speaking out against wrongdoings by Section 1 leaders," Nicodemo said on Twitter. "This was a thoughtless decision that showed the true

colors of so many ADs and administrators. Educators are not supposed to hurt

kids, yet many within Section 1 choose to do so to move along their own agenda. Challenge us and we'll find a way to punish you is the mantra. It's rewarding knowing these frauds were exposed to the public over the last year."

Nicodemo, who was raised in Brewster and came out gay in 2013, has been a gadfly in Section 1's craw, for sure; breaking chops and stirring the pot over the County Center issue last winter like it was nobody's business; all on behalf of the student athletes in Section 1. But the governing body didn't necessarily need to go after him on a delicate topic such as LGBTQ inclusion because of some missing paper work when all he's trying to do is help student athletes who might be in the same boat he was as a youngster in the Brewster school system. In this case, Nicodemo took a bullet for the team and DiCintio got caught up in the shrapnel, it's a shame, honestly...

**SOMERS** got up and down the court in fancy fashion in an 89-38 win over



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS  
Mahopac senior G Mike Argila pulls up against Lakeland's Rob Nardelli in Indians' opening-round tourney loss to Hornets.

visiting Gorton Friday night when Fecci led five Somers players in double figures with 15 points. Germaine and Maestri each added 14 while Charlie Weisman (12) and Lasher (10) were also big for the Tuskers (2-0)...

The big takeaway on the court last week was the play of Class A **LAKELAND**, which stood tallest among the four locals in the 17th annual Walter Panas Holiday Tournament, including second place **PANAS**, third place **MAHOPAC** and **BREWSTER**. The Hornets (3-2), who have just one key senior on the roster in J.P. Walsh, looked pretty decent, despite the loss of All-Section-hopeful Jack Kruse, who hopes to return in mid-to-late January from a broken wrist. Coach Steve Fallo's Hornets, buoyed by the two-way grunt-like play of Walsh, managed to hold off Mahopac in the opening round, 60-57, behind 21 points from All-Tourney sophomore swingman Rob Nardelli and 12 from junior tourney MVP, Augie Karaqi. The Hornets then followed that

*continued on next page*



Lakeland Coach Steve Fallo (R) and his Hornets celebrated winning the 17th annual Walter Panas Holiday Tournament title over the weekend.



# Sports

## Boys' Hoops Notebook

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Lakeland's Marco Lala goes up to block shot by Mahopac's Simon Shkoza in Hornets' 60-57 win over Indians.

up with a 65-57 triumph of the Panthers behind 18 from sophomore G Mark Cummins, 17 from junior F Joe Vetrano and 16 from Karaqi. That's four players in double digits over two games, so Fallo



Lakeland sophomore F Marco Lala goes up to block shot by Mahopac senior G Drew Riolo in Hornets' opening-round win over Indians.

loved the balance.

"The injury to Jack was devastating to the whole team when it happened, I mean this kid had built himself into an All-Section player and he goes down in the first game, so we were deflated," Fallo admitted. "But the boys have responded and really picked up the slack until we get Jack back sometime in January, we hope. The silver lining in all of it is that some guys are going to be getting key minutes they might not have gotten, so when we get him back these guys will have played significant minutes and will be ready for the stretch run."

Panas (1-1) got career-high 26 points from All-

Tournament G Lorenzo Santucci in its 54-52 win over Brewster, and he added eight more points in the loss to Lakeland. The kid was stroking it throughout the tournament, knocking down seven 3's over two games. All-Tourney choice Steven Safura led the Panthers with 15 points against Lakeland. Panther G Lucas Feliciano had 10 against the Hornets.

Mahopac's Matt McMahon, who was selected to his first All-Tournament team, had 14 points and Tim Cegielski added 13 in the loss to Lakeland. McMahon added 15 in the consy win over Brewster, who also had a rough time with Indians C Rheel Allen (game-high 17 points). The Bears were getting blown out but stayed in the game, made a late run and had the last shot for the win. Cameron Hart (15 points) and All-Tourney choice Harrison Dignan (13) led the Bears...

Class AA **CARMEL** has faced a pair of tough opponents to open the season, including a 68-49 loss to Class A heavyweight Horace Greeley and a 63-40 setback to a quality Class AA Suffern club, and it's been a case of slow starts that have doomed Coach Paul Brennan's Rams (0-2).

"It's just slow starts are killing us," Brennan said. "We have had

times where we looked real good; we actually outscored Greeley most of that game after that first quarter. The difference ended up being three points if you take away that first quarter. Suffern, who is always tough, was another slow start; 11-0 in first quarter. Couple things haven't fell our way, but it's still early. Lots of positive energy still and lot of games left to play..."

**MAHOPAC** (1-2) hung tough with Class AA superpower Mount Vernon for three quarters before the Indians got gassed in the fourth quarter of an 82-57 setback. Fox Lane also hung tough last week with the two-time defending champion Knights, who are said to be somewhat vulnerable by their normal standards (15 of the last 18 Section 1 titles). The early buzz, which we've heard before but rarely pans out, is that Mt. Vernon can be picked off this year...

**BREWSTER** (2-3) had three double-digit scorers in the Bears' 70-38 rout of Gorton 38, including Harrison Dignan (14 points), Cameron Hart and Joe Girard (10 apiece)...

Irvington brought home the **Jack McGuire/HEH HUD** tournament with a 47-42 win over the host Sailors (1-3) Friday night. Connor Gallagher dropped 13 points and grabbed six boards to lead the Sailors, who saw Mike Fasolino and Max Popolizio garner an All-Tourney nod. Fasolino went off for 16 points and 12 boards in the Sailors' 54-50 opening-round win over Roosevelt. Nick Hitsley (15 points, 12 boards, 4 assists) also had a double-double for the Sailors.



Lakeland's Rob Nardelli checks Panas' Lucas Feliciano in Hornets' tourney title win over Panthers Saturday.



Mahopac G Tim Cegielski goes up for shot on Lakeland's JP Walsh in Indians' 60-57 loss to Hornets.



# Sports

## Girl's Hoops Notebook

# Yorktown Comes Out Swinging; Panas Cops Tourney Title

By Tony Pinciario

Two games into the 2018-19 season and **YORKTOWN** first-year girls' varsity basketball Coach Brian Mundy could not have envisioned anything better.

Yorktown presented Mundy with the first two wins of his varsity career last week – 41-30 over **MAHOPAC** and 46-40 over **BREWSTER**.

"We wanted to get off to a positive start," Mundy said. "We have done some good things and with every week comes improvements that need to be made in order to compete in our very tough league. We have a team that loves to go out and play hard. Their athleticism and grittiness are what drives us."

Mundy inherited a team that features three tall returning players in six-foot senior Kat Severino (forward), five-foot-10 junior Jesse Barer (guard/forward) and six-foot sophomore Ashley Zeolla (center).

Severino led the Cornhuskers in scoring last year, averaging 18 points per game and was an All-Conference selection. Zeolla was All-League honorable mention last year.

"Kat is a versatile scorer, who can score from all areas on the floor," Mundy said. "She is one of our tri-captains and is a leader. Jesse can play anywhere from one to four spots and Ashley has good rebounding and shot-blocking ability."

Mundy cited a pair of newcomers to varsity – senior Amber Bodden (guard) and freshman Melissa Severino (guard), Kat's younger sister.



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Panas G Julia Araujo goes up for two in tourney win over Haldane.

"Our strengths are our athleticism, defense and grittiness," Mundy said.

The defense and grittiness were evident in Yorktown's first two games, limiting Mahopac to 30 points and holding a potent offensive Brewster team to just 40 points. Mundy was especially pleased with the defense against Brewster.

"Brewster has a potent perimeter game that we needed to defend and the girls came out and worked hard and worked smart defensively," he said.



Haldane's Isabela Monteleone is checked by Panas' Cailean Nolan in Blue Devils' loss to Panthers in opening round of Panas tourney.

While Yorktown's defense stifled Brewster, Bodden had a big game, connecting on six 3-pointers and finishing with a game-high 23 points. Kat Severino had a double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds, and she also added four steals. Zeolla collected seven rebounds and three blocked shots.

Melissa Severino had a memorable varsity debut, scoring 14 points, including a trio of threes. Zeolla also scored 14 points and Kat Severino added 10 points.

**PANAS** began the season with a convincing win over Nanuet, 52-27, then defeated **HALDANE** and Mahopac to win the Panas Holiday Tournament to go 3-0

for the week.

Panas overwhelmed Haldane by 28 points then outscored Mahopac, 15-6 in the fourth quarter to earn the win.

Tournament MVP Kristen Cinquina scored eight of her team-leading 13 points in the decisive quarter. Cailean Nolan chipped in 12 points and All-Tourney choice Julia Araujo scored nine of her 11 points in the first half, keeping Panas close.

"The team is off to a great start," Panas Coach Matt Evangelista said. "We are a young team, with only one senior, and we struggled in our difficult scrimmages. I think the team learned a lot about themselves and began to understand what it takes to compete.

They are playing together and making the correct basketball play. The starters have played well and our bench has been extremely productive with little-to-no drop-off. The girls are bonding and gelling nicely. Hopefully, we can maintain our level of play and even improve."

Cinquina and Nolan each had 13 points against Haldane. Alex Sudol finished with 10 rebounds, seven assists and five steals and Araujo added nine points.

Cinquina led the way against Nanuet with 14 points, Kristen Scrobola contributed 12 points and Alex Sudol added nine points.

**HEN HUD** opened the season splitting two games – a 42-34 loss to 2018 Section 1 Class A champion Rye and a 63-24 thumping of Saunders. Despite a nine-point deficit at halftime, the Sailors rebounded to outscore Rye by a point in the second half.

"We struggled against Rye's man-to-man defense and dig a whole we struggled to get out of," Hen Hud Coach Ken Sherman said. "We also didn't shoot the ball particularly well, but that was attributed to Rye's defense, as well. A big positive was I thought we played hard the entire game, despite the early deficit. I loved our energy."

Caitlin Weimar led Hen Hud with 13 points and 16 rebounds. Aniyah Davis chipped in six points, three rebounds and two steals, and freshman Alex Figueroa netted six points.

Hen Hud raced out to a 20-point lead going into halftime, 37-17, against



Panas F Kristen Scrobola powers her way to rack in Panthers' tourney win over Haldane.



Panas' Alex Sudol juggles ball as Haldane's Isabela Monteleone hits deck in Panthers' opening-round tourney win over Blue Devils.

*continued on next page*



# Sports

## Girls' Hoops Notebook

continued from previous page

Saunders. Weimer finished with a game-high 22 points, on 10 of 14 shooting, and also added seven rebounds. Figueroa scored 12 points and Kira Varada had eight points, five steals, three assists and three rebounds.

**MAHOPAC** went 1-2 for the week, dropping a 51-48 verdict to New Rochelle before bouncing back to beat Beacon, 66-34. Mahopac finished with a tough 44-38 loss to Panas in the Panas Holiday Tournament final as the Panthers outscored the Indians by nine in the fourth quarter.

"We lost a tough one in the Panas tournament," Mahopac Coach Chuck Scozzafava said. "A bad fourth quarter determined the game. We had opportunities, especially with put-backs, but couldn't get them to drop. Bad luck."

Sophomore Mia Klammer led Mahopac with 13 points and, along with Caitlyn O'Boyle, were named to the All-Tournament team. Klammer poured in a game-high 19 points and Dior Gillins added 18 points in the victory over Beacon.

"We had a balanced scoring, with three girls in double figures and girls scoring," Scozzafava said. "It was a nice win after the last three losses."

Down 12 at halftime to New Rochelle, Mahopac closed the gap to one point entering the fourth quarter.

"We came up a little short," Scozzafava said. "We generated more offense, but turned the ball over too much in the 1st half. Defensively, we had a few lapses on our rotation. The good news is everything is fixable."



Mahopac senior G Zina McInerney fires jumper in Indians' win over Beacon in Panas tourney last Thursday.



Mahopac sophomore G Mia Klammer goes up for two of her game-high 19 points in Indians' win over Beacon in Panas tourney.



Mahopac freshman Melanie DeMeo and sophomore Shannon Becker tie up a Beacon players in Indians' Panas tourney win over Bulldogs last Thursday.

Klammer paced Mahopac with a career-high 26 points, and her sister, Katrina, should be returning from a pre-season injury, along with Katie McDonough, to bolster the Indians.

Following two wins - Beacon and Nanuet - in week one of the season, **BREWSTER** only had one game, a 46-40 loss to Yorktown.

Kristen Stefanick led Brewster with 16 points and Maggie DePaoli added 13 points.

"We were in foul trouble all night and couldn't get into a good rhythm," Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo said. "Our girls off the bench kept us in the game. Nicole Olzsewski and Alexis Mark did a tremendous job in the second quarter

with our starting four and five out. It was a close game from start to finish, but Yorktown made more plays late in the game and were near perfect from the free-throw line, going 16 of 19."

**SOMERS** evened its record to 1-1 with an overwhelming win over Yonkers Montessori Academy as Dani DiCintio rang up a game-leading 22 points and freshman Lily Carino scored nine points in her first varsity game.

**LAKE LAND** opened the season with a 58-42 loss to Clarkstown North, then bounced back to beat Suffern, 40-28 in the consolation game of the Clarkstown North tournament. The Hornets had one game last week - a 52-40 loss to Byram Hills. Sarah Pinkowski led the Hornets with 12 points and Tyler Hormazabal added nine points.

Eight-time defending Section 1 Class AA champion **OSSINING** went to Fairfax, Virginia, to play in the Art Turner Memorial Tournament and came away with a split. The Pride lost to Roland Park Country of Baltimore, Md., 88-78. Ossining returned to the court the following day and bounced Our Lady Good Counsel of Olney, Md., 67-49.

Kailah Harris, the recipient of the Con Ed Scholar-Athlete Award, led the Pride with 26 points in the win. Aubrey Griffin



Mahopac's Shannon Becker introduces herself to Panas Kristen Scrobola in Indians' 44-38 championship loss to Panthers in Panas tourney

chipped in 13 points and Jaida Strippoli had 12 points. Griffin rang up a game-high 42 points in the loss. She also had six rebounds, four assists and six steals. Harris contributed 22 points, 10 rebounds and four assists.

### Putnam Hoops Challenge

#### 12th Annual





**WHO:**  
Walter Panas vs. Mahopac (2:00 p.m.)  
North Salem vs. Haldane (4:00 p.m.)  
Somers vs. Carmel (6:00 p.m.)

**WHAT:**  
3 Varsity Boys' Basketball Games, pitting Putnam vs. Northern Westchester

**WHY:**  
Because IAABO Board 161 gives back; a scholarship is awarded to a Putnam County varsity boys' basketball player after each game, whose team participated in the Putnam Challenge, and exhibited hard work, fair play, cohesiveness, team spirit and sportsmanship. Scholarships are given to worthy student athletes from all participating teams.

**WHERE:**  
Carmel High School

**WHEN:**  
Saturday, January 5

**Examiner** MEDIA  
is the proud sponsor of the Putnam Hoops Challenge!



# If You Like Zina Colada!



## Mahopac Mixes Up Win Over Beacon, Settles for 2nd In Panas Tourney

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Mahopac senior G Zina McInerney (10) makes a strong move to hoop in Indians' 66-34 romp over Beacon in the opening round of the 17th annual Walter Panas Holiday Tournament last Thursday, but the Indians were denied a tourney title in a 44-38 loss to the host Panthers in Saturday's title tilt... see Girls' Hoops Notebook