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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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County Looks to Change Planning Commish Requirements

By David Propper

For the second time in as many years, the Putnam County Legislature is exploring changing the requirements and qualifications for the commissioner of planning, development and public transportation.

The legislature's rules committee discussed allowing the appointment of an individual with a law degree instead of someone that has at least eight years of experience in regional, state or local planning. The candidate would also be required to have four years of governmental experience in federal, state and local laws related to the department.

The charter revision would allow current deputy planning commissioner, Sandra Fusco, to become the commissioner of the department. She's been in her current deputy position for the past two years as the commissioner position remains

vacant. She used to work for the law department. While the proposal passed through the rules committee with ease, it would need six votes—a supermajority instead of simply five votes to become law at a full meeting.

Legislator Neal Sullivan, who is rules committee chairman, said the charter has changed a lot since 1977 when it was enacted. He said the county isn't growing the way it did 40 and 50 years ago and there aren't many areas that require planning at the county level. Instead the county is faced with improving existing infrastructure and completing a couple of larger projects that are underway. He noted Fusco's experience would help attain funding while working with different towns and state and federal

But not everyone was in agreement.

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Legislator Neal Sullivan, left, and Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra faced off over a proposed revision to

Gun Control Advocates and 2A Supporters Clash in Carmel

By Anna Young

More than 100 concerned residents from Westchester and Putnam counties assembled early Monday evening outside Carmel's Historic Courthouse demanding stronger gun control legislation and honoring victims of gun violence.

Members of Putnam Progressives, Indivisible Yorktown, Action Together Northern Westchester, Moms Demand Action, CD17 Indivisible and other groups gathered with signs and candles questioning why more isn't being done to protect children and prevent gun violence after 17 students and staff members were killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla. last week.

"It makes me sad that people aren't safe when they go to school," 11-yearold Yorktown resident Abe Marron said. "Assault rifles are used to kill and people



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

At times, a vigil held Monday evening was tense with gun control advocates and 2nd amendment supporters arguing.

die when they go to school."

Elementary school teacher Marcia Stone reflected on the security change in the aftermath of the 1999 Columbine High School massacre, adding that schools are a place for learning, not death.

"This is not what's supposed to be happening in our schools," Stone said. "Teachers are supposed to be teaching not worrying about the lives of their students let alone their own lives. This situation cannot be tolerated. It's up to us to take action."

The crowd joined together in a solemn rendition of "Imagine" and "We Will Overcome" during the hour-long vigil.

While several in attendance carried signs and chanted slogans such as "Enough is Enough," contentious debate broke out between residents with differing views on gun regulations. One resident

yelled at Marron for holding a sign that read "How much has the NRA paid for each dead child?"

Carmel resident Denis Giriat, who screamed over speakers and erupted in debate with several attendees, said allowing "people of good character" to obtain a concealed carry license will reduce crime. He said protesters want to disarm the public by banning guns, which will increase crime. He added residents who carry firearms with the proper training would provide a "balance of power."

Barry Graubart, a member of Mom's Demand Action, read aloud the names of those who were gunned down in Florida, stressing that every loss matters and touches hundreds of lives. He said every

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Cold Spring Senior Center Still Needs Name

By David Propper

With guidance from Philipstown senior citizens, the Putnam County Legislature will determine a name for the senior center set to hopefully open in Cold Spring later this year.

During a rules committee meeting last Thursday, Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra said the developer for the Butterfield redevelopment where the center will be located, Paul Guillaro, would like a name chosen for the center. Guillaro wants to start putting signs out on the street that indicate what's within the Butterfield campus, including the senior center.

Scuccimarra said one idea she had was naming the location leased by the county the Julia Butterfield Senior and Community Center, but at the suggestion of County Executive MaryEllen Odell, seniors will also have a say before a final decision is reached.

Scuccimarra said any possible name would be discussed with the Philipstown town board and the Cold Spring village board.

Controversy embroiled the naming of the senior center more than a year ago when the county tried to name it after former Garrison resident Roger Ailes, who is now deceased. Ailes was set to donate \$500,000 for the new and



Butterfield developer Paul Guillaro wants the county to come up with a name for the new senior center on his redevelopment.

improved center and would get his name on the front of the center, but when news broke that he allegedly sexually harassed and mistreated women as Fox News chairman, the legislature delayed its agreement with media mogul. Amid outrage, Ailes pulled out his donation for the center.

Progress in renovating the senior center space hasn't gone as swiftly as county officials would like, with bids for the work coming back higher than anticipated last year. A new request for proposal was supposed to be put out the early part of this year.

Mahopac Scouts Hold Court of Honor



PROVIDED PHOTO

Elected officials throughout Putnam County, including County Executive MaryEllen Odell and community leaders attended Mahopac Boy Scout Troop 1's annual Court of Honor breakfast held at the hall of the Italian American Club of Mahopac on Saturday, Feb. 3. The event recognized the achievements of the 11 troop members. Recognized during the Court of Honor was: Jozef Bachleda, who advanced in rank to "Scout" and earned his Family Life Merit Badge; Max Head, who earned his Family Life Merit Badge; Kyle Link, who earned his Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge; Simeon Matute, who earned his Fishing Merit Badge; Michal Mazur, who earned his Family Life Merit Badge; Ryan Murphy who advanced in rank to "First Class" and earned his Family Life and Personal Fitness Merit Badges; Jake Roberts, who advanced in rank to "Second Class;" Tommy Rumore, who earned his Communication Merit Badge; Christopher Suscal, who advanced in rank to "Tenderfoot" and earned his Family Life Merit Badge; Joseph Trombetta, who earned his Camping and Citizenship in the Community Merit Badges; and Michael Vaccaro, who earned his Family Life Merit Badge.



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Q: Could I benefit from lung cancer screening?

A: The Low-Dose CT screen for lung cancer is a new form of traditional CT (computed tomography) scan. It uses a very low dose of radiation to provide unique 3-D information about the lungs, detecting ever-smaller lung cancers called nodules. Catching lung cancer early, when it's smallest, has the most impact on prognosis and survival. Proof is that the LDCT Scan is reducing lung cancer deaths by 20 percent.*

If you meet each of these criteria, the screening, which is conducted at Northern Westchester Hospital (NWH), could potentially save your life:

- You are between 55 and 74 years old;
- You have a smoking history of 30 pack years meaning, you smoke (or smoked) one pack daily for 30 years, two packs daily for 15 years, or three packs daily for 10 years;
- You currently smoke or quit within the past 15 years;
- You have no symptoms of lung cancer.

Q: Should I be screened if I feel fine?

A: If you meet the criteria, absolutely. Early-stage lung cancer usually presents no symptoms. Here's why: The lung is a relatively large organ. Now picture a marble (the nodule) floating within a big balloon. For the marble

to have a noticeable impact, it must get bigger. Only when that marble becomes the size of an acorn or an orange, do symptoms develop. That's why screening is vitally important. Remember that most screening results are negative. Only a fractional number of people will need a biopsy, and a tiny percentage of those will have lung cancer. Also keep in mind that a biopsy performed at NWH is done using the most up-to-date, minimally invasive method possible. If lung cancer is diagnosed, NWH offers comprehensive treatment second to none.

Q: Can I afford the advanced LDCT screening?

A: The screening is covered by Medicare and most commercial insurers. If you meet the criteria, and don't have commercial insurance or Medicare, NWH can help—with many payment options and below-average pricing. If you can benefit from the screening, we make sure you get it.

Q: What steps should I take?

A: If you think you meet the criteria, ask your primary care physician about ordering an LDCT. If you don't have a referring doctor, NWH's nurse practitioner will determine your eligibility and possibly order an LDCT. NWH is going the extra mile to make this potentially life-saving screening 100 percent accessible to everyone who needs it.

Carmel Town Board Addresses Downtown Mahopac Plan

By David Propper

Amid questions about the Town of Carmel's plan to improve downtown Mahopac, town board members made the case for the purchase of the Swan Cove property during a workshop meeting last week.

Town board members signaled their desire to move forward with an initiative that would require the town to purchase the Swan Cove property for about \$1 million and purchase another adjacent property that would allow for more parking and the possible creation of a waterfront park in downtown Mahopac.

Councilman Jonathan Schneider said there were three sites the town board explored to add more parking and the Swan Cove property was considered the best option of the three. The town could put around 100 parking spaces on the property and then potentially set up a waterfront park with aesthetic pleasing features included, he said.

The traffic lights at the intersection of Route 6 and Route 6N near the Swan Cove property are slated to be replaced this year, Schneider said, and the town hopes the traffic flow is changed to improve vehicular and pedestrian safety.

To address the flooding that occurs at the Swan Cove site when heavy rain comes down, Schneider said the town would raise the elevation of the land while



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Councilman Jonathan Schneider, Councilwoman Suzi McDonogh and Councilman John Lupinacci all spoke about the Swan Cove property at last week's meeting.

not dumping the rainwater on adjacent parcels. The rainwater would go back into the lake, Schneider said.

Schneider also said he'd like to see a welcome center set up, with the help of the Greater Mahopac-Carmel Chamber of Commerce.

Lake Mahopac is the "greatest thing that we have," Schneider said, and it should be enhanced to draw more people to the town. Whatever issues the nearby property has currently, Schneider believes the end result will improve the downtown area.

"We have great potential as a community," Schneider said. "We just have to work, work, work and it's going to take spending money."

Councilwoman Suzi McDonough, who ran the meeting because Supervisor Kenny Schmitt was absent, said she doesn't think as many parking spaces are necessary and wants to see as much green space as possible where the abandoned homes are currently.

Councilman John Lupinacci said he's heard varying opinions whether the town should invest in the property, but pointed out lake front property is rarely available. He also stressed he wants the waterfront space to be for recreation and other activities.

"It should be as green as green can be," Lupinacci said.

Councilman Michae Barile, who has enthusiastically backed the plan, simply

said, "Everyone knows my feelings about it"

Residents also spoke out about the plan. Putnam County Chambers of Commerce chairwoman Jennifer Maher said what the town board discussed was "music to my ears." Representing a large handful of businesses, Maher said less parking leads to struggles among businesses. The current parking situation, which is untenable, Maher said, stunts growth in the downtown area.

Mahopac Chamber of Commerce CEO Michael Celestino said he wants to make sure the extra parking would be for consumers rather than area workers or residents. He noted the lack of parking is a "severe problem right now" and some potential customers don't come to the downtown area at all because it is so limited.

"I just caution you more (parking) might be better than less (parking)," he said

Dave Furfaro, who is vice-chairman of the recreation committee, stressed it's very rare to find a prime piece of property on the water right in the middle of town.

"But be careful, take your time," Furfaro said, advising the board to get as much input as possible.

Charlie Melchner, a business owner and resident, suggested seeking grant money and questioned if there would be fees in order to park. Another resident said there are a lot of aspects of the proposal that haven't been figured in and wondered if enough money is available.

Resident and recreation committee chairman Robert Buckley, who went toe to toe with Supervisor Schmitt last month over Swan Cove, said he hopes before the town board moves ahead with the entire project, it would provide the community with a concrete plan and costs, instead of "piece-mealing it."

Schneider said even if not every solution has been figured out yet the town board will find a way to work it out.

"Before we have a shovel in the ground, I believe we are going to have those solutions," Schneider said.



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Murphy, Panel Tackle Sober Home Reform at Pace Forum

By Anna Young

State Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown) hosted a public forum last Thursday with members of a Senate task force, health care experts and residents to gather information that can be used to regulate sober living homes.

With the homes currently not licensed or funded by state or local government and no requirement to offer formal treatment services, Murphy has charged that the residences are more focused on profit than recovery.

Sober home residents typically pay their own rent and are self-reliant but are monitored around the clock. It is designed to help recovering addicts who have completed inpatient or outpatient programs transition back into society.

"The function of a sober home is to act as a safe setting for someone with the need to avoid drugs and alcohol," Murphy said at the Feb. 15 forum at Pace University in Pleasantville. "There are currently no rules on how to run a sober home. We want to bring light and share information that can ultimately lead to a set of standards for these facilities."

James and Catherine McWilliam, whose 18-year-old son Hank overdosed and died in 2015 at Constellations Recovery in Yorktown Heights, stressed that sober living homes aren't properly caring for



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Residents from throughout the region concerned about sober homes attended a forum organized by state Sen. Terrence Murphy last Thursday at Pace University.

residents and must be regulated.

Catherine McWilliam said sober living is an unnecessary business and the system is "garbage."

"The fact that we have to sit here and actually ask – no beg – for somebody to regulate these places is insane. Why would this not be regulated?" McWilliam said. "Hank is not the first person to have died in sober living in the State of New York and he probably won't be the last one, but this is about saving the next life and doing the right thing. It's not about politics, it's about common sense and there needs to be regulation and rules and real ones – real certifications, real education, all that

needs to be real, not just talked about."

Yorktown resident Pia Riverso there's an urgent for uniform need legislation covering the classification, operation, oversight and review of sober living residences. She added the concerns Yorktown residents had when Constellations opened after they fought for stronger regulations and certifications were dismissed.

Stephanie Marquesano, who heads The Harris Project, said the model failed her 19-year-old son Harris. He died of an accidental overdose 36 hours after being discharged from a sober home in 2013.

Sen. Frank Akshar (R-Binghamton), a member of the Senate Task Force on Heroin and Opioid Addiction, shared his regrets that the state hadn't exercised adequate due diligence to put forth legislation to prevent both deaths. He told Marquesano and McWilliam that their sons didn't die in vain.

"This is why we have asked the community, drug and alcohol treatment

providers and the people on the front lines running these houses, to come here this evening," said Sen. George Amedore, Jr. (R-Rotterdam). "We want grassroots information that is pertinent so we can fix the system before another family has to suffer."

Maureen McKenna, assistant director for Rockaway Houses, said that sober houses are necessary for recovery. She said her facility is funded on the belief that every individual needs to be willing to change.

"We are not in this for the money, and many of our house managers and staff are former clients," she said. "We have the experience and we know how to run safe sober homes, and more than willing to work with legislators to establish standards that would improve clients' chances for recovery."

Judge James Reitz, who has overseen the Putnam County Judicial Diversion/ Treatment Court since 2007, emphasized the importance of allocating funds to help people receive treatment and successfully transition back into society.

"If we all work together and pool our resources and have a common interest in working together and solving this problem, there is no issue, whether it's drugs, alcohol, heroin, whatever it is, we can and will solve this," Reitz said.



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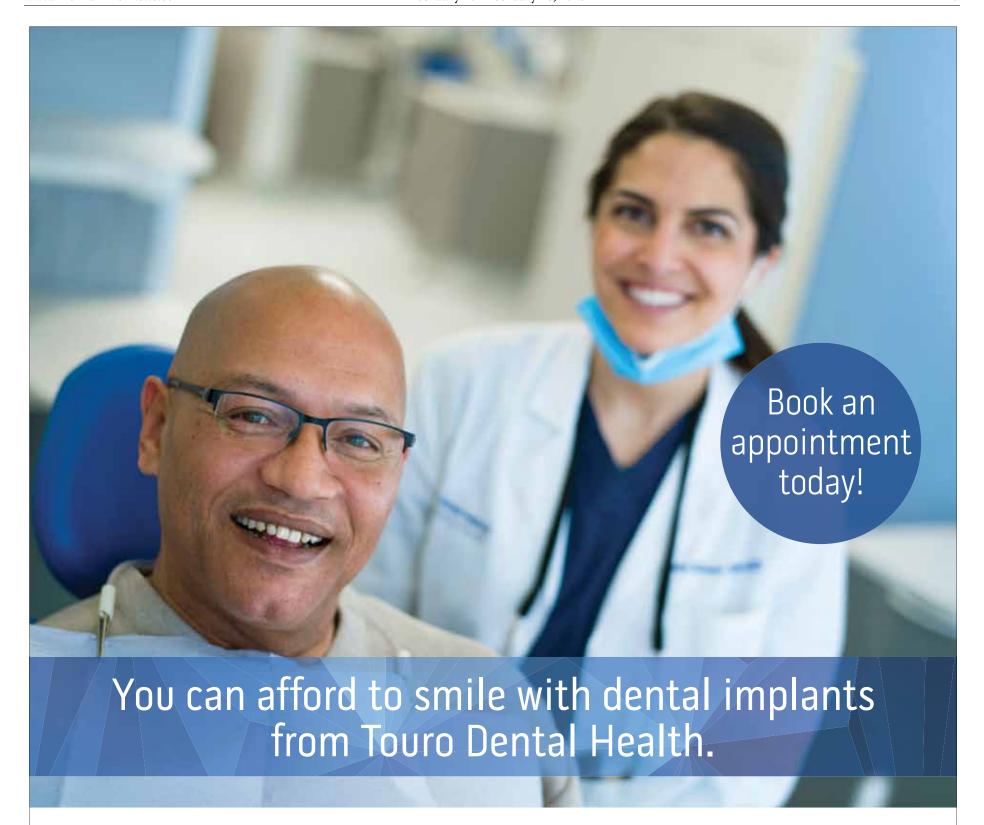
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County Looks to Change Planning Commish Requirements

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Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra said she had "a lot issues with (the charter amendment)." She said in the next year the county would undergo a charter review and people in the county should decide if the planning commissioner requirements should change. The charter should not be changed just to accommodate one individual, Scuccimarra said.

"Our charter is like our constitution," Scuccimarra said. "It's what we refer to, it's our laws, it's what we govern by."

Scuccimarra said she felt the process to amend the charter was being rushed and there was no reason to change the requirements since Fusco has been in the office for the last couple years. Legislator Paul Jonke agreed and said while Fusco is doing a great job, he's uncomfortable amending the charter for one person.

Legislator Carl Albano said he was on the fence about changing the requirements. He said Fusco has proven herself capable, but he understands looking at the charter carefully.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino said she supported the change and just because

the charter review is coming up doesn't mean the legislature should delay action. She noted Fusco has done a "stellar job" during her tenure in the department. The position is also an appointed position, Nacerino said.

"It's very important to understand the county executive has that ability to appoint her person at anytime and that it is subjective and could be changed at anytime," Nacerino said.

Legislature Chairman Joe Castellano called the charter a "living document" similar to the United States constitution and it can be amended when necessary.

But former legislator Vincent Tamagna said the charter review gives the county document a fresh look by citizens from every town. He called it a healthy and transparent process while removing the political nuances that can occur.

He said the current debate about the charter change would only intertwine Fusco into a "political mess" and her credentials would be called into question even though she is doing a good job.

At one point, Sullivan and Scuccimarra, both Republicans who usually vote in lockstep, clashed after Sullivan said he was confused by Scuccimarra's current opposition because she favored changing the charter pertaining to the planning department in 2016.

Raising her voice, Scuccimarra said, "This is how I feel about this charter change. I don't agree with it and I have every right to say what I want to say."

"I'm just wondering why it's different the last time with the same issue," Sullivan responded.

Scuccimarra argued it was a different issue, though Sullivan said it was the same topic.

"I resent this," Scuccimarra said, with Sullivan replying, "Sorry, I don't like changing stories either."

"I didn't change my story," Scuccimarra said

When the legislature voted to change the qualifications in 2016 that could give Fusco the job, Scuccimarra, Nacerino, Albano, Castellano, and Legislator Bill Gouldman supported it. The four lawmakers that were opposed were Legislator Toni Addonizio and former legislators Roger Gross, Kevin Wright and Dini LoBue.

Mahopac resident Robert Buckley said

he'd be disappointed in the legislature if the lawmaking body didn't make tweaks to the charter on occasion. He added it is important to hire good managers to lead departments.

Though not at the meeting, Cold Spring resident Kathleen Foley, who opposes the change, wrote in a letter to lawmakers she believes the candidate that would lead the department is unqualified for the position and lawmakers need to better explain why she is the best candidate for the job.

"What attempts have you made to identify candidates who actually meet the existing job requirements and can properly serve your constituent taxpayers? Where has the job opening been advertised? Have you posted the listing with the American Planning Association? Were qualified candidates interviewed and rejected? Why? Without demonstrating due diligence in this critical appointment—one that will impact the wallets of all County taxpayers—your proposal, in my mind, raises serious questions about your motivations and intentions in appointing Ms. Fusco," Foley wrote.

Gun Control Advocates and 2A Supporters Clash in Carmel

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mass shooter displays red flags but law enforcement officials can't stop someone who could be a danger to themselves or others due to strict laws.

"We are not wanting to take away everybody's guns, what we want to do is make sure the wrong people don't have guns," Graubart said. "There are many deaths we can prevent with common sense gun laws."

Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley stressed the importance of speaking up and listening to children when they say something. It can be a vital piece of information that can save lives, he said.

Speakers also criticized the Trump Administration and local officials who oppose common sense measures that limit the proliferation of firearms, vowing to kick them out of office if they don't strengthen gun laws.

Robert Kesten, a South Salem resident and a Democratic candidate for the 40th Senate District seat, said that a human life is more sacred than the Second Amendment. He said change could happen if people get out and vote.

"People in this country that are afraid of democracy and believe that guns will protect them, they will not," Kesten said. "The only thing that protects us and makes us free is our ability to protect our democracy in every way we possibly can."

Earlier in the day, County Executive MaryEllen Odell, in a press release, stressed school safety is a top priority in Putnam. Her office and the county Legislature have been working with area



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

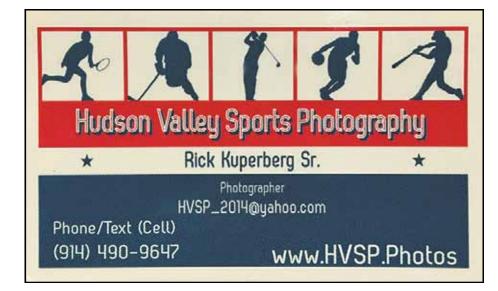
There were many signs at Monday's vigil encouraging lawmakers at every level to act on gun control.

school superintendents to ensure School Resource Officers (SRO) remain on school campuses. An SRO is a uniformed, certified, officer from the sheriff's department meant to protect the school's safe environment.

"We continue to work with the schools, law enforcement and the extremely qualified mental health professionals in Putnam County to protect our students and our residents," Odell said.

Langley echoed Odell's statement and said the sheriff's office is dedicated to the SRO program.

"I would like to remind everyone- if they hear something or see something say something," Langley said. "Never dismiss what our children and others are saying to us no matter how insignificant one may think it to be."





Lawmakers Demand Answers for Unexplained Energy Hikes

By Rick Pezzullo

Recent spikes in the cost of energy for residents in parts of Somers and Putnam County have prompted state Senator Terrence Murphy (R/Yorktown) and state Assemblyman Kevin Byrne (R/Mahopac) seeking answers from New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG).

In a letter to NYSEG, Murphy and Byrne asked for an explanation about the increased rates between the months of December and January, if a payment plan is available to residents and what communication plan does NYSEG have temperatures in December and January that may have increased usage, and increases in the market supply price of electricity," Ortiz stated. "That being said, customer bills are comprised of two components: supply and delivery. The supply portion of a customer's bill is provided by NYSEG or another energy services company chosen by the customer. If a customer's supply is provided by NYSEG, the company procures supply from the market and the market determines the supply price which will vary."

"This winter, supply and demand have caused the wholesale price of electricity to increase significantly," he continued. "These prices are passed on to customers without markup and NYSEG does not profit from supply charges. Delivery charges cover the costs to distribute electricity from its original source to a customer's home or business. There have been no changes in NYSEG delivery charges. NYSEG also offers assistance to customers with managing energy bills. That information is right on our homepage at NYSEG.com."



State Assemblyman Kevin Byrne

'For some people,
it could mean the
difference between
affording food and
expensive medications
or heating their
homes.'- Assemblyman
Kevin Byrne

to warn consumers of rising costs.

"Hudson Valley ratepayers are strapped with some of the highest energy costs in the nation. They deserve an explanation and some transparency about why their bills doubled, tripled or quadrupled in just one month," Murphy said. "If this is an issue requiring state action we will surely take action."

"It's crazy that some of our neighbors recently learned that their utility bills have skyrocketed by as much as 400%," Byrne said. "For some people, it could mean the difference between affording food and expensive medications or heating their homes. I will continue to work with our partners in government for greater accountability and transparency."

Rosalie Meli Cicogna, a resident of Heritage Hills in Somers, said she was shocked when she received her enormous bill, especially because she has made her home energy-efficient.

"This is an egregious breach of confidence between NYSEG and its customers," Cicogna said. "We're led to believe that being energy-conscious will be rewarded. I've gone to great lengths to make my home efficient, only to be punished with a sky-high bill. Thank goodness Senator Murphy and Assemblyman Byrne are once again stand up for us."

Kevin Ortiz, a spokesman for NYSEG, explained the reasons for increases this winter and noted Murphy's office was supplied information from the utility prior to the letter that was written by Murphy and Byrne.

"NYSEG customers saw an increase in their electric bills due to ongoing low



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Putnam Law Enforcement Prevents Young Man's Suicide

By David Propper

The Carmel Police Department, the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, and other law enforcement teamed up to prevent a young man from committing suicide in Mahopac last week.

On Feb. 11 at about 6:20 p.m., a Carmel police officer responded to a Bullet Hole Road residence in Mahopac to check on the welfare of a 20-year-old male who was possibly suicidal, according to a

sheriff's press release.

When the officer first arrived, and tried to speak with the male subject, the young man become highly agitated and told the officer that he would not go to the hospital and would stab anyone that tried to take him there, police said. The male subject then fled to his bedroom where he barricaded himself and threatened to burn down the house and stab any officer that tried to get into the

room, authorities stated.

At that point, more Carmel police officers and deputies from the sheriff's office rushed to the scene and set up a safety perimeter around the house. Members of the Putnam County Emergency Response Team (ERT) also responded, as well as the county's hostage negotiation team.

The hostage negotiation team eventually made contact with the

young man by phone as ERT members maintained their position outside the home. The lead negotiator spoke with the young man for about an hour and was able to persuade him to come out peacefully, the sheriff's office said.

Once the male came out to the ERT team, he was transported to an area hospital for a psychiatric evaluation. Ultimately, no civilian or law enforcement officer was harmed.

New Castle's Saland Rules Out State Senate Run Against Murphy

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle Councilman Jeremy Saland who last month flirted with the idea of running this fall against state Sen. Terrence Murphy announced earlier this month that he has decided against going through with the bid.

In a social media post on Sunday, Saland, a Democrat, said obligations to his family and law practice prevent him from taking up the challenge for the 40th state Senate District.

"Knowing first hand the toll public service has on one's life and family, especially where one must remain away from a spouse and young children for extended time, I have decided not to run for the NY State Senate," Saland posted. "As overwhelming grateful I am for the support I received from friends as well as people I have never met before across all political affiliations, my family, along with managing my busy law practice, comes first."

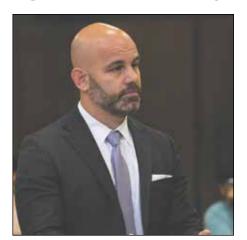
Last month Saland said that while he was deeply committed to serving the public and listed several issues where he differed from Murphy, a Yorktown Republican, he said as that when he learned as a six-year-old that his father, Stephen Saland, was first elected to the state legislature in 1980. The elder Saland would go on to serve 32 years in the Assembly and Senate.

For now, Saland, 43, who was

elected to his first term on the New Castle Town Board in 2015, said he looks forward continuing to serve his home community. He did not mention whether he would consider pursuing the seat again.

"As difficult as this decision may be, I look forward to continuing my work as a councilman in New Castle and my ongoing commitment to public service," said Saland, a criminal defense attorney who manages his own small law firm.

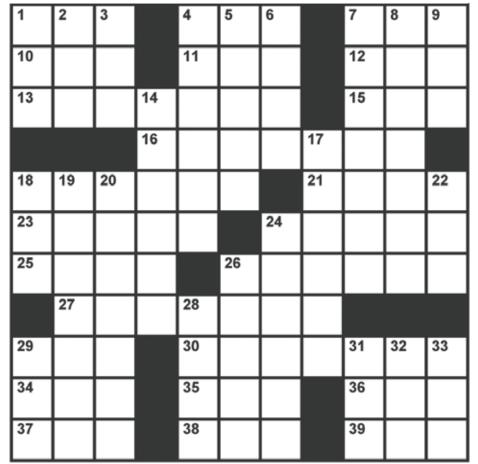
With Saland out of the race, South Salem resident Robert Kesten remains the lone announced Democrat who so far plans to challenge Murphy in November.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Jeremy Saland

Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 18

Across

- 1. Actor Carrey
- 4. Seattle hrs.
- 7. Monk title
- 10. Officer, abbr. 11. "So that's it!"
- 12. Electrocardiograph, abbr.
- 13. Let back in
- 15. Felix
- 16. Hirohito's vegetable patch or
- Cortlandt Chinese restaurant, _____
- Garden
- 18. Pan-fries
- 21. "Phantom of the Opera" title character
- 23. 1950s Ford flop
- 24. "You're beautiful" singer James
- 25. Contented sighs
- 26. Intangible qualities
- 27. Fluted flower
- 29. Mid.
- 30. The name says the past, but it's Cortlandt's newest gym, Retro ____
- 34. Muumuu go-with
- 35. Spanish bear
- 36. Golfer Michelle
- 37. West or east end
- 38. One in a hundred, abbr.
- 39. Hot time in Toulon

Down

- 1. Younger, abbr.
- 2. "Rocks"
- 3. Flightless bird
- 4. Beat up

- 5. Sends
- 6. Beach bag
- $7.\ Good\ form$
- 8. Egg-shaped instrument
- 9. Corp. leadership
- 14. Not fancy at all
- 17. Advance again
- 18. Swell
- 19. Electrical gizmo
- 20. Mark the beginning of
- 22. Valuable rock nos.
- 24. Native of London26. Liquor flavoring
- 28. Area 51 conveyances
- 29. Cavaliers and Indians, on scoreboards
- 31. Mrs. sheep
- 32. Rest
- 33. "Comprende?"





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Letters to the Editor

Carmel School Board's Attempted Removal of Curzio Sickening

I am disgusted and sickened by the Carmel School Board attempting to remove John Curzio from his position as Trustee on the Board for simply opposing their reckless attempt to impose upon the taxpayers of this district an \$85 million dollar spending increase. This removal effort by the Board is nothing short of dictatorial as it is an attempt to undo the will of the people who elected Mr. Curzio, coming in first in a four-man race, and in the process ousting an incumbent. The people have sent a message that we have

had it with this Board's out of control big spending ideas that the taxpayers get stuck footing the bill for. It is reprehensible that the Carmel School Board has questioned the judgment of the voters for rejecting their outlandish proposals.

The Board members that voted to hold a hearing for removal of Trustee Curzio are hypocrites and bullies of the first order, in that what they have done is in direct contradiction of what is taught in our schools about respecting the opinions of others and a zero tolerance for bullying. It is a sad day that these Board members are supposed role models for our young people. I would encourage the residents of this district to watch the video of the hearing, which can be found on YouTube under the title, "The Hearing to Remove John Curzio from the Carmel Central School District BOE." In the opening segment, you can see the district's lawyer attempting to bully the videographer into not recording the hearing. Thankfully, the videographer was not intimidated, and the hearing was recorded. I ask the

Board, how much did the hearing officer, stenographer, and all other expenses incurred for this hearing cost the taxpayers of this district? Can we have an answer please? I would just remind the members of the Carmel School Board that here, in America, the people rule, and we will not forget this affront to democracy in the upcoming May school board election.

Gregory Purdy Sr. Carmel

Carmel Town Board Spends Too Much Money

If Putnam County is supposedly the safest county in New York State then please explain to me why we need to fork out at least \$2 Million of hard earned taxpayer money to purchase and have installed a traffic security system in The Town of Carmel (to be purchased from a neighboring county local business that specializes only in residential and commercial security systems and not major traffic systems that have not done much, if any, of this type of work before.)

The Town of Carmel and Putnam County keep finding new ways to spend our tax dollars like kids in a candy store. Was there a feasibility study done? Is this in our Master Plan? Do we even have a Master Plan. Our elected officials just keep spending more and raising our property taxes.

Recently the Town of Carmel announced their plan to purchase a small piece of property on the shore of Lake Mahopac that has been flooding out for years whenever there is a major rainstorm, with several buildings that should have been condemned a long time ago, from an unnamed property owner who rumor has it purchased the property from recently elected Town Board member Michael Barile. The cost of the property is \$1 million plus the cost of removing the old structures and then there are DEP and DEC regulations, all for a very small passive shoreline park. The rest of the plan surrounds a negotiated purchase of property from Mahopac Bank, whereby a building used as a visitor's center will be levelled and the area made into a parking lot at an estimated cost of \$6 million. No studies, no public referendum, just another back room deal to spend our money behind our backs.

Where is this money coming from? The Board said they have the \$100,000 down payment (but don't know where the rest will come from) Tendy says he will allot \$20,000 toward the project, Senator Terrence Murphy is trying to get a \$75,000 grant.

First there will be cameras at the intersection of Route 6 and 6N, which just happens to be where the new park and parking lot is intended to be located (has anyone done a traffic impact study?). The next will be located at the intersection of another development project that has been planned for years, at the intersection of Route 6 and Route 118, and the next at Secor Road and Route 6N (I wonder who is planning a development project there?).

I for one am just sick and tired of fiscal irresponsibility when it comes to our hard earned tax dollars. I for one intend to get my backside out of my office and into the Town and County meetings so I can hear what is going on before I read about it in the news and speak out as should do every taxpayer, and if need be I am seriously thinking of running for public office, as your representative.

Andy Powers Mahopac

Philipstown's Proposed Safe Storage Ordinance Hurts Gun Owners

The Philipstown Town Board is attempting to pass a mandatory storage law that stipulates when gun owners are required to lock up their guns by law. This exact law was struck down in the U.S. Supreme Court decision of D.C. v. Heller back in 2008. The precedent and case law is there. It was decided by the highest court in the land

Self-defense requires quick access to

your firearms, and the court unequivocally ruled these mandatory storage laws only serve to impede access to a firearm in a self-defense situation. Cities which implement these storage laws consistently see a rise in crime rates and successful home invasions.

Time and time again, we hear of citizens who were not able to access their firearms due to storage laws preventing access during a home invasion. When a burglar enters your home, you are not going to have advance notice, perhaps ten seconds at most. He will be as quiet as he can, and will rush in to subdue the occupants.

How much time will it take to grab your keys, run to the safe, open it, get the rifle, load it, and then fire? You won't make it. There is not enough time.

We urge readers to familiarize

themselves with how these mandatory storage laws impede access to firearms in an emergency, and we urge the town board to vote no on adopting this measure.

Chris Turan Mahopac



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School & Camp Guide

Brewster Breakers Win at Breakdancing Battle

Brewster Breakers of Seven Star School of Performing Arts competed and won their battle at the Kids Breaking League on Sunday, February 11 at 5 Star Sports and Entertainment Academy in East Rockaway.

Brewster Breakers of Seven Star School of Performing Arts is a boys and girls breakdancing squad coached by Kid Glyde. Kid Glyde is the president of the acclaimed NYC b-boy crew, The Dynamic

Rockers

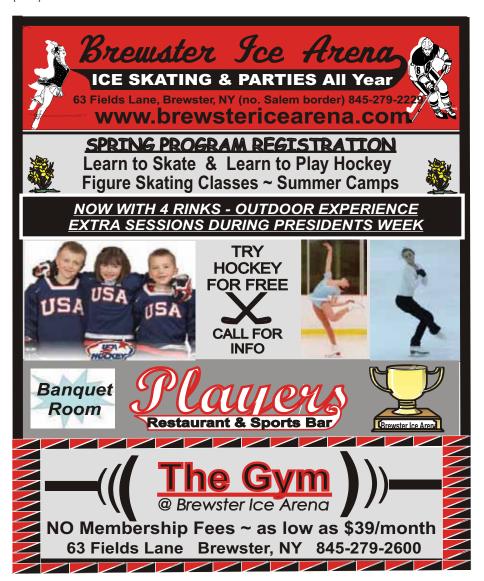
Congratulations to Jordan Coates, AJ Hilario, Aracely Mendez, and Aeden Zoller

For more information, visit www. kidsbreakingleague.com and www. SevenStarSchool.com. Registrations are being accepted for breakdancing and other dance, voice and acting classes at Seven Star School.



PROVIDED PHOT

Brewster Breakers (Front I-r) Aracely Mendez, AJ Hilario, Jordan Coates and Aeden Zoller with Kid Glyde (Back).



Artwork by 'Pac High Students Displayed at the Library

Mahopac High School students have created exemplary artworks that explore spatial perspectives in two-dimensional drawings. Twenty images produced by these students are featured in the current show on display in the Young Arts Gallery at Mahopac Public Library. The high school show will remain on view through February 28; visitors to the Library can see the work in the Gallery (1st floor) during regular Library hours.

Mrs. Kim Breidenbach's high school studio art class created animal drawings using oil pastel. The students learned to add highlights and shadows to produce the illusion of depth in a two-dimensional drawing. The animal drawings were created by: Jessica Merlino, Nicole Silvaghi, Angjela Lika, Leia Garrette, Alexa Sadler, Juliet Viksanaj, Meghan Cichon, Kerrianne King, Kiarra Condon, Shannon Becker, Abrianna Grieve, and Racquel Chiarolanza.

Breidenbach's drawing and painting class selected a building or house located in the Mahopac/Carmel area as the subject of their two-point perspective artwork. Each drawing was completed with watercolor paint. The architecture depicted in these works include the students' homes, the Mahopac Public Library, and the Mahopac Fire House. The students participating in the architecture portion of the exhibit at the Library are: Edwin Rotger, Nicole Brookhouse, Justin Soza Soto, Julia Bertolozzi, Amanda Gaglio, Cathleen Doyle, Melanie Manza, and Ava Mastro.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Breidenbach, all of these talented students have created outstanding artworks that the Library is proud to exhibit. For further information about the Young Arts Gallery, please contact Debra Feiman at dfeiman@mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 108.



Examiner Publisher Fulfills Base

By Adam Stone

ets fantasy camp," my childhood friend Jeff Ahn texted me out of the blue on a Saturday evening in early September. "What do you think?"

The moment I received the text I knew I had a big decision to make. Since starting The Examiner almost exactly 10 years earlier, I had barely spent seven waking minutes away from work, let alone seven days. As for my family, I'm there for nearly everything, and I quickly realized the camp would conflict with my older daughter's cherished annual talent show, a school event co-chaired by my wife no less.

For those not familiar with fantasy camp, it's a vacation experience where attendees get to live out their sports dreams, in professional uniforms, coached by former professionals, playing on professional fields, officiated by real umpires. I had been familiar enough with the opportunity to know exactly what Jeff was asking about.

As much as I would miss my family, it dawned on me that I was already pondering ways to celebrate my company's 10th anniversary, and what better way than living out the ultimate Mets fan fantasy?

Several days after the original text, having weighed all the factors, I updated Jeff on my decision:

"I'm all in!" I exclaimed.

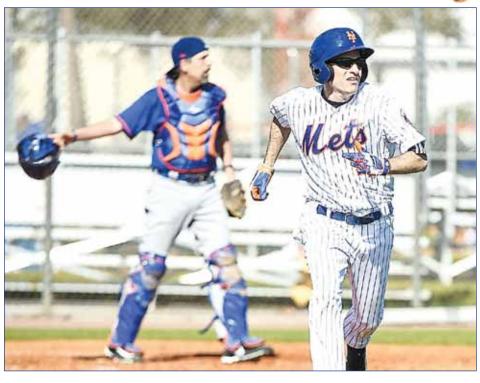
What eventually followed in late January at the Mets immaculate spring training complex in Port St. Lucie, Florida was a week like no other, a dream come true, a virtual return to childhood.

Beer, Stretch, Laundry

One of the first mind-blowing experiences was walking into the clubhouse, and seeing our personalized uniforms (which staff would launder for us daily) neatly hanging in our personalized lockers. Seeing "Stone" emblazoned on the back of my Mets home and away jerseys was certainly a thrill, and as I walked through the clubhouse I was excited to see all the amenities available to us, from the seemingly endless supply of free beer chilled in the deli-sized fridge to the training room area where the staff would eventually help us stretch out our sore muscles and apply all sorts of magical potions to aid our aching middle-aged bodies. (30 is the minimum camper age.) In fact, as we hit the field for the first time, a camp-wide stretch was led by a staff member from the Mets Fantasy Camp sponsor, Hospital for Special Surgery.

Early Rust

Feeling relatively limber, it was time for the nearly 100 campers (including two brave and awesome women) to be evaluated by the 16 or so former Mets in attendance. We split into groups of about 20, rotating between the facility's various baseball fields to test our skills in all facets of the game. At one station we flagged fly balls in right field, shot from a



Examiner Publisher Adam Stone, who batted .412 for the week with a .583 on base percentage including a league-leading three hit by pitches, jogging to first base.

cannon-like machine at home plate, manned by Mets World Series legend Mookie Wilson, a fabulously nice guy. In left we were fed liners in the outfield by speedster Rodney McCray — famous for running through a wall when in the minor leagues — and had to rifle the ball back to him. (The night prior, at a welcome dinner, when asked if he was still in good shape, McCray lifted his shirt to show us his six-pack abs. Question answered.)

On another field, Brooklyn native Kevin Baez, a former Mets shortstop, took notes as we tried to turn double plays in the middle infield, and scoop balls at first base. (We'd later learn that Baez previously coached at a baseball camp Jeff and I had attended along with other friends back in our teen years.) Nelson Figueroa, a former Met and now a smooth-talking broadcaster with the team's SNY TV station, helped oversee the pitching evaluation. Despite some insightful tips from the effusive Figueroa about arm position, once I sailed a pitch well above the catcher's head and past a fence behind him, I decided to reject Jeff's suggestion that I pitch during the week like I did growing up. I could still throw relatively hard but command was proving elusive, especially as I was still shaking off the rust.

Take That, Turk!

The highlight of the evaluations for me was the hitting station, where I batted against John "Bad Dude" Stearns, a legendary tough guy of his era, still a commanding presence at 66. Good natured chop-busting is central to the culture of the camp, and during fielding drills I struggled with a couple throws, still trying to regain form after decades away from competitive baseball. The evening before my friends and I were hanging out at the hotel bar, and

bantered for much of the time with former Mets pitcher Turk Wendell, a colorful character best known for his many superstitions, including brushing his teeth between innings. So once I stepped into the batter's box, already friendly with Turk, he was eager to talk a little trash from behind the backstop where he was scouting the "talent." Feeling comfortable at the plate, I crushed a few balls to left-center field, earning praise from Stearns. "Good," he said after one hit. Then I whacked another. "Good job," he said again. This time a bomb. "Good job, two more," Stearns barked. And another ball smacked to the outfield. "Somebody mark this guy down," Stearns instructed his fellow former pros scouting the campers.

"He can't throw," Wendell replied tauntingly. Soon after the comment, another pitch from Stearns followed, and I again deposited it to deep left. "Put him at first base," Stearns roared after the final hit, responding to Wendell's jab. "Rotate. Next!"

Band of Brothers

Once the evaluations were complete, the former players went behind closed doors to draft fair teams. Camp organizers do allow requests for friends to be together, and Jeff and I were placed on the same squad, along with two other friends of Jeff, his college buddy Jonathan Meisel, a slick fielding, line-drive hitting shortstop, and Jeff's fellow youth baseball coach for their sons' team, Joel Sunshine, an all-around good player with a pitching leg kick uncannily similar to that of former Met and fantasy camp roving coach Dwight "Doc" Gooden.

One of the greatest parts of the week was bonding with teammates. It was striking to me how baseball served as the common denominator for this group of guys — stran-

gers mostly - coming from such diverse backgrounds. I quickly became close with Joel, a Long Island attorney, and Jon, an Atlanta-based pediatric surgeon. That was more expected, since Jeff connected us all. But within a matter of a day or two our entire team really gelled, like we were high school teammates who had grown up playing ball together. I talked movies and politics with Mike Vrabel, a commercial pilot with U.P.S. and former Air Force captain from Sparta, New Jersey. I discovered that my teammate Sal Alfieri, a soulful restauranteur living in Dallas, was undergoing dialysis but was nevertheless intent on living life to the fullest at fantasy camp. From learning about Colonel Wally Rustmann's military career and Tom Kopin's forthcoming first child, Jonathan Webb's southern roots and Pat Ponath's visit to the Iowa "Field of Dreams," Tod Wooley's golf and ski trips to Dave Merbaum's law practice, we shared our back stories with one another. As unofficial team poet and Springsteen devotee Mike Vrabel put it, we became a "band of brothers," despite coming from vastly different backgrounds and perspectives. Congress could learn a thing or two from the culture of team sports.

Three Ducks on the Pond

Some of the serious conversations aside, the week was dominated by laughter, with new inside jokes being developed seemingly minute-by-minute. It was also a thrill to be back around the sounds of the game. Not just the distinctive and magnificent sound of a wood bat squarely hitting a round ball but also the inane yet delicious chatter that permeates all baseball dugouts. It had been more than 20 years since I had reminded a teammate up at bat that there



Batting against former Cy Young Award runner-up Pete Schourek.

www.TheExaminerNews.com February 20 - February 26, 2018

ball Dream at Mets Fantasy Camp

were "three ducks on the pond," and turned out I missed that kind of ridiculous verbal mishmash more than I realized.

Dugout life also helped reintroduce me to the art of cleanly cracking sunflower seed shells with my teeth. But when I wondered aloud to my wife before departing for the trip whether the week might also include a new tobacco chewing habit, she informed me I should remain in Florida if I started dipping. (I made sure to pack Big League Chew bubble gum instead.)

Each of the eight teams were assigned two coaches from the roster of former pros, and we were managed by Doug Flynn and Bobby Wine, both former Gold Glove winning infielders. At 79, Wine possessed incredible baseball knowledge and intuition from a lifetime around the game. It was best on display when before one pitch he called out to Jeff in centerfield to move in and shift closer towards left field to a spot Wine had in mind for a righty pull hitter, and a moment later the ball was struck to Jeff's new spot in shallower left-center. Flynn, a gifted storyteller, mesmerized us over lunches and dinners with stories, from what triggered various bench-clearing brawls in his day to insights into the personalties and work habits of some of the era's all-time greats, from Big Red Machine teammate Pete Rose on down.

Front Row Stone

Despite ultimately beating a catcher's tag at home-plate during a mid-week game, I probably didn't endear myself to Flynn when I ran through his stop sign at third base to score a run, but he got me back a day later by helping to propagate my new nickname, "Front Row." One morning, late for the camp-wide morning stretch, with all the campers already separated in about seven rows of 14, I decided the best thing to do was to position myself in front of the front row, by myself, so I wasn't cramping anyone's space by stretching too close to them, with the lines already formed. That was a mistake. One of the leaders of the stretch quickly noticed where I was standing, and dubbed me Front Row. With Flynn leading the way in subsequent days, my teammates rooted me on using my unfortunate new monicker. ("C'Mon, Front Row, you got this!")

Speaking of bad names, our squad was assigned what I consider the worst team name in baseball history, "Fair & Honest." Think about it. "Let's Go Mets!" has a wonderful ring to it. Try cheering on a team named Fair & Honest. Painful. I guess no week can be 100 percent perfect.

Losing But Laughing

The Fair & Honest crew got off to a more than fairly slow start on the field, losing our first three games despite having what we considered a pretty talented team. Speaking of talent, there was a wide range of ability levels at the camp. A couple of the guys had played



From left, childhood friend Jeff Ahn and Stone with camp teammates Joel Sunshine and Jonathan Meisel outside the clubhouse following a game.

"...I was already pondering ways to celebrate my company's 10th anniversary, and what better way than living out the ultimate Mets fan fantasy?"

— EXAMINER PUBLISHER ADAM STONE

Division 1 college baseball and even some pro ball, while others just loved the game and had barely competed since Little League. Most guys, like me, fell somewhere in the middle. But we all shared a love of the game, and although everyone wanted to win, a spirit of encouragement and support blended seamlessly with everyone's competitive fire. Even though the Fair & Honest crew didn't advance to the championship game under the lights at First Data Field (that was won by a team led by a former Rice University pitcher mixing nearly 80 mile per hour heaters with nasty breaking balls), we did win three of our last four games and, as far as I'm concerned, led the league in team chemistry, with barely a minute passing all week without a laugh.

Golden Memories

On the final evening, we gathered for an awards dinner and cocktail party, and I erupted with excitement when Jeff was deservedly named camp-wide Rookie of the Year and, separately, our team's Most Valuable Player. Having played high school baseball with Jeff down on Long Island, his excellent play came as no surprise but it was still wildly impressive to watch him dominate the competition all week, both at the plate and on the mound. As for me, I did end up batting a healthy .412 with a .583 on base percentage for the week (not that I checked the camp stat book) and despite one comically brutal inning at third base, played solid enough defense in the outfield and at first base.

In the clubhouse one afternoon, as a group of guys were in the hot-tub unwinding, one of the camp veterans from another team mentioned how the week comes down to a series of little moments that marinade over time and become great, lifelong memories. So true. Here are some of mine:

I remember catching a fly ball in left field with one out and the bases loaded and firing a perfect one-hopper to the catcher to prevent the runner on third from advancing on a tag up.

I *remember* unloading a perfect relay to the third baseman from left and nearly nailing a runner at home.

I *remember* the first time making good contact at the plate in a game, and getting robbed by the shortstop.

I remember a joyous sigh of relief after my first hit in a game, after struggling in the first day's games.

I remember reaching second on a double, then noticing two brothers from the other team speaking to each other in their native Italian tongue, unsuccessfully trying to lure me off the bag and fool me with the hidden ball trick.

I remember batting against former Cy Young Award runner-up Pete Schourek in our game against the pros, hitting a ball "out of the stadium," but unfortunately out of the stadium behind the backstop, foul, before striking out on a deadly off-speed pitch.

I remember getting all the outfielders (four outfielders, in fact) to shift to right field against former Met lefty hitter Mackey Sasser, with Sasser, on the next pitch, expertly serving a liner to left, making fools of us amateurs.

I remember meeting former Mets manager Terry Collins at a local restaurant/bar, and then bumping into him again a couple nights later, even though he was not affiliated with the fantasy camp.

I *remember* shooting the breeze with Doc Gooden, a childhood hero, and eventually exchanging text messages with him about possibly attending a friend's son's Bar Mitzvah.

I remember posing for a photo with Eric Hillman, a 6'10" former Met pitcher who wasn't even the tallest guy at camp; that distinction belonged to fellow camper Alan Herbert, a happy-go-lucky resident of Taunton, England who stretched an incredible 7'2" and attended not just our week but also the first week, a rare two-week camper.

I remember former Met Lenny Harris telling me the story of how he was gipped of the single-season pinch hit record.

I remember receiving compliments on my swing from former Mets outfielder Ron Swoboda during an impromptu one-on-one batting practice session between games.

I remember former Met Todd "Tank" Pratt telling us how once you step to the plate, even if it's your brother pitching, the hitter must embrace the mentality of wanting to destroy and humiliate the man on the mound, because that's what he's trying to do to you.

I remember almost being nominated for a "Golden Rope," the award handed out to the previous day's best player at the morning meeting, but having one of my "achievements" — getting hit by several pitches — announced as that of one of my gracious teammates.

I remember receiving the first highlight reel of the previous day's games one morning in my hotel room, and seeing myself multiple times in the two-minute video, hitting and fielding, and in that moment marveling again at the camp's unbelievable attention to first-class quality and detail.

Was it Heaven?

As the week continues to unfold in my mind like a great dream you don't want to end, I think back to that text from Jeff five months ago: "Mets fantasy camp. What do you think?"

I think it was the most fun I've ever had, beyond description, beyond words.

"Is this Heaven?" Shoeless Joe Jackson famously asks in "Field of Dreams."

"No," Ray replies, "it's Iowa."

That scene resonates for anyone lucky enough to feel emotionally attached to baseball. But, for me, it rings truer than ever following my weeklong visit to Mets Fantasy Camp, a seven-day dream come true that only enhanced my love for our National Pastime.

Was it Heaven? No, it's Port St. Lucie.

STATS FOR THE WEEK

.412 Batting Average .583 On-Base Percentage

7 Hits

17 At Bats

9 Runs

5 RBI

1 Double

4 Walks

3 Hit By Pitches

Letter to the Editor

Philipstown Board Squanders Opportunity to Help Youth

Last year at the open discussion on the Safe Storage ordinance at a Philipstown Board meeting, many persons who attended, made statements in opposition to the unnecessary, [illegal and unenforceable] shackling of law abiding citizens right to defend themselves and their families.

We also have the youth opioid substance abuse problem in our community and it pains me deeply about the ones we have lost here.

There is no better antidote to this, than having our youth involved in activities that teach discipline, order, sportsmanship, respect, concentration, and fun in a friendly competitive manner. Get them involved in something they would enjoy and would want to come back to. This would benefit all boys and girls. In particular any not inclined to participate

in traditional athletics including special needs kids who may depending on their disability be excluded from participating in traditional sports. Here is an excerpt from a 2017 study in BMC Psychiatry "The unique characteristics of target shooting, combined with theoretical knowledge on the subject of children with ADHD and preliminary project experience in the field, indicate beneficial effects of practicing target-shooting sport in local Danish shooting associations in children with symptoms of inattentiveness, hyperactivity and impulsivity."

Education is the answer to both of these problems, rendering us defenseless is not. That's why, at last year's meeting, there were several well qualified people, Certified Firearms Instructors, Hunter Safety Instructors, and Range Safety Officers including myself, outwardly spoke directly to the Town Board, to offer their time, by qualified instructors for youth programs in firearm safety. What a great and unprecedented opportunity! [The Town Board did not seize the opportunity to offer free training. Knowledge would help the entire community, children and adults alike. All would not benefit from such an experience? They would learn and understand how to treat a firearm by first teaching respect for the firearm not fear.

It is incumbent upon the Town Board to take advantage of all of that free and heartfelt resources, and act upon initiating such a program. I have to tell you, that since that meeting, we have not received one letter, one email, one phone call, or any form of communication, from any Board Member, to move forward with the offer.

Education is key. It should have the support of the entire Town Board and be made available at the Town level. One safety class could be taught at the Recreaction Department with blue plastic guns to simulate a real situation.

A second component would be phase two for those who demonstrated an interest in pursuing more knowledge. If the goal is to truly save a life then we would undoubtedly save countless. With the proper training, youth who befall accidental shootings would have known how to properly address a firearm and not pick it up with curiosity. This would save not just one life, but it would save countless lives.

Kenn Sapeta Philipstown

Obituaries

RoseMary A. Impieri

RoseMary A. Impieri of Mahopac, died on February 8, at the age of 71. She was born in Mahopac, the daughter of Pasquale and Mary (Ambrosecchia) Vicario. RoseMary worked for BOCES in Yorktown for 20 years before retiring in 2010. RoseMary is survived by her husband Daniel, her daughters Debbie DeCesare(Ralph) and Anniel Balaker(Christopher), her son Daniel, Jr.(Adrienne), her siblings Anthony Vicario(Lorraine), Michael Vicario(Annmarie), her sister Nancy Gagne(Dan); and her grandchildren Valerie, Angela, and Danny. She was predeceased by her brother Patrick Vicario(Carol) and grandson Anthony DeCesare.

Carole Anne Beger

Carole Anne Beger of Mahopac, died peacefully on Thursday, February 8, at the age of 76. She was born in Queens on February 14, 1941, the daughter of Kenneth and Anne O'Donnell Seeman.



Carole grew up in Putnam Lake, and attended St. Lawrence O'Toole Elementary School. She graduated from St. Mary's in Katonah and attended college at SUNY Oswego. Carole was a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. She was skilled in needlepoint and had won awards for her needlepoint creations. On August 27, 1960 she married Kurt M. Beger at Sacred Heart Church in Putnam Lake. In addition to Kurt, she is survived by her daughters, Cindy Beger Keefe of Mahopac, Diane Oldfield and her husband Michael of Benton, AR and Janet Livingstone of Avon, CT; her sisters, Rosemary Kane of Amherst, Joanne Haurykiewicz of Plymouth, MN and Virginia Seeman of San Francisco, CA; her grandchildren, Brian Keefe, Kyle and Andrew Livingstone and Chris and Lindsay Oldfield and her great grandson, Bodhi James Keefe. She was predeceased by her sister, Maureen Reid.

Vincenza Iovino

Vincenza Iovino, formerly of Mahopac, died on February 10, at the age of 84. She was born in Brooklyn on December 24, 1933, the daughter of Italian immigrants Peter and Francesca (Galiota) Ilardi. She worked as a seamstress before she met John J. Iovino. They were soon married and had three children; Peter, Ann, and John Jr. Vincenza enjoyed cooking and baking for her family, relaxing at home knitting and sewing. Vincenza is survived by her son Peter and daughter-in-law Madeline, her daughter Ann Radzicki, her son John, Jr. and his wife Graceann, her brothers Vito, Joseph, and Peter, and her grandchildren John Cono, Alexis, Roseann, Joseph, Vincent, Matthew, John III, and Michelle. She was predeceased by her husband John and son-in-law Vincent.

Cindee Brunale

Cindee Brunale, age 57, of Brewster, died after a long fought medical battle on February 9, In Valhalla. Mrs. Brunale was born September, 19, 1960 in Bronxville. She is the daughter of Isabel (Brown) and the late Bill Furness. She was a graduate of Somers High School and received a Bachelor 's Degree from Mount St. Mary College. On November 7, 1993, she married the late Stephen Brunale in St. Patrick Church in Yorktown. Together they moved to Brewster where they became parishioners of St. Lawrence O'Toole Church. Mrs. Brunale worked for TWA and then Westfair Pools in Bedford for approximately twenty years before retiring in 2013. Cindee is survived by her two children, Nicolle and Matthew Brunale of Brewster; her mother Isabel Furness of Brewster, and her brother, John Furness of Carmel.

Audrey J. Luning

Audrey J. Luning of Mahopac, died on Monday, February 12, at the age of 94. She was born in Woodhaven, Long Island on June 11, 1923, the daughter of Samuel and Isabelle Kochesberger Harmon. Audrey graduated from Somers Central High School in 1942. She moved from Mahopac to Yalaha, FL in 1973. While living in Florida, she was employed as a bookkeeper with Flagship Bank in Sanford until her retirement in 1984. She was a parishioner of St. Paul's Church in Leesburg, FL prior to moving back to Mahopac in 2007, where she is a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church. On December 16, 1942 she married Edward H. Luning Sr. at St. Clair's Church in Rosedale, NY. Edward died on February 24, 2007. She is survived

by her son, Edward Jr. and his wife Pam of Yalaha, her daughters, Phyllis Mantovi and her husband Joseph and Sandra Smith and her husband Ronald, all of Mahopac, her brothers, Donald Harmon of Shippensburg, PA and Roy Harmon of Hanford, CA, 7 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and 2 step-great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her sister, Janet Krupens in 1988.

Ronald L. Kauffman

Ronald L. Kauffman of Mahopac, died on Thursday, February 15, at the age of 79. He was born in Brooklyn on August 11, 1938, the son of Bernard and Elsie Frankel Kauffman. Ronald earned his Master's Degree at NYU. He was a retired teacher in the Yonkers school system. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, his sons, Robert, Richard, Ross and Rodd, his brother, Charles and his grandchildren, Mason, Morgan, Harry and Mary.



How to Be Health-Smart About Snow Removal

It's been a remarkably easy winter for all those homeowners responsible for snow removal from their walks and driveways. As I write this, we've just experienced our first significant snowfall since early last month.

When I first moved to upper Westchester from New York City, certain aspects of "deep country" living were daunting to me, from never having operated a gas-powered lawnmower to the suggestion that I should purchase a chain saw to manage my wooded property.

I also had a fear of snow removal because of a macabre story my wife and I heard just before we moved.

A friend told us about her father, a widower who lived alone in Dutchess County, who was not heard from for several days during a snowy winter. Alarmed, she called the police to investigate, and they found her father frozen to death in his driveway, the victim of a heart attack while trying to shovel snow. That did it for my wife, who's always been more cautious about my well-being than I. In winter, heart attacks are frequently reported, caused





By Bill Primavera

The ferocity of the first snowstorm in our suburban location was a shock to us

by snow shoveling.

snowstorm in our suburban location was a shock to us, with snowdrifts so high that we literally could literally could not open our doors. At the same time, I had wrenched my back and could barely walk, much less shovel snow. My brave wife climbed out of a first-floor window, shovel in hand, and in drifts above her waist, removed the snow blocking egress from the house. She's some gal.

There are guys who get very excited about the prospect of owning a snow blower

or thrower, but I've always known my limitations with operating heavier equipment. Early on, I started trying out snow removal services, qualifying them mostly on reliability in showing up when we needed them.

My only physical chore was to keep any residual snow from turning to ice where we walk. We did this as the snow fell, keeping it away from our groundlevel doors with my old straw broom technique and, if it was a really heavy snowfall, with a snow shovel.

Our biggest problem was that the three main entrances to our house all

faced north, and ice was more likely to form there. Now I know why some of my homebuyers have insisted that I help them find a property where the driveway faces south, rather than north, especially if it is on a slope.

If ice does form, which is frequently the case when snow melts from the roof onto walkways then re-freezes, we used salt liberally to melt it. There are different types of salt, some causing less damage to concrete and to the environment. The most common is regular rock salt or sodium chloride, but this becomes ineffective if the temperature drops below 16 degrees Fahrenheit. It also releases the highest amount of chloride which pollutes streams, rivers and lakes.

The newest salt is magnesium chloride which continues to melt snow well below 0 degrees and releases about 40 percent less chloride into the environment. Furthermore, it is less damaging to surfaces and less toxic to plants. Its only drawback is that it can leave a powder residue when tracked into the home, but that is easily addressed by removing shoes once inside.

Every time it snowed, I would look up at the north side of my roof line where a radiant heating system had performed well for some years and I thought, why didn't I think of that when I installed my walkways and driveway?

All the medical advisories about properly removing snow seem to offer the same information: try to push rather than lift, especially if you use a snow shovel with a broader blade. It's better to use a smaller shovel or to push smaller amounts of snow in a regular snow shovel. If it's absolutely necessary to lift snow, you should bend from the knees to protect your back.

Training experts say that snow removal by hand should be approached as a rigorous physical exercise, one for which you warm up first by stretching. But who always listens to experts? I don't think I've ever stretched for any exercise, but I did take the precaution of starting out slowly to warm up.

Note that my personal experiences are all in the past tense, since I am no longer in a situation where I attend to snow removal. But I'm happy to pass on safety tips for those who still do.

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

It's a Brave New World When it Comes to Wine Choices



By Nick Antonaccio

There is so much excellent wine available to consumers today. Modern technology and time-shaped techniques

have resulted in the highest quality wines, at

reasonable prices, then ever before in modern times.

Another recent phenomenon is the democratization of grape plantings. Never before have the traditional boundaries of grape composition in wines been stretched and tested.

For centuries, western European wine regions were highly regulated. Grape plantings in each region were restricted to a limited number of specified varietals. Until the late 20th century, the term Tuscany connoted the Sangiovese grape. Today, a number of winemakers are experimenting with grapes never before grown in the region. Consumerfriendly wines of high repute are now produced from French-oriented grapes.

Nowhere has this trend been more evident than in the United States. At the turn of this century, several key varietals dominated the market. Chardonnay and Pinot Grigio dominated the white wine market, Cabernet Sauvignon and Pinot Noir the red wine market.

Today, more highquality wines are available under \$15. And more previously unavailable wines are being offered in

the United States than ever before.

This is no minor feat.

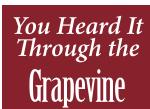
Consider that in the United States, we consume 3.5 billion bottles of wine every year, according to The Beverage Information Group. That's a lot of wine for a few dominant varietals. But the trend is improving – significantly.

However, more than 80 percent of wines produced and sold in the United States come from about 20 percent of the number of producers. By logical inference, there is very little production reaching our tables from the preponderance of wineries.

Which previously obscure grapes are becoming more popular, albeit previously hard to find?

Right behind the dominant white grape varietals – Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio and Sauvignon Blanc – are lesser knowns such as Grüner Veltliner, Albarino, Viognier and Pinot Gris.

Red varietals coming up on the radar screen of wine bars are Tempranillo, Tannat, Grenache and Barbera.



While predominantly grown in western Europe, California is quickly offering alternatives of these traditional European indigenous grapes.

How to avail yourself of the plethora of these

wines trickling into the market?

Start with experimentation. On the next occasion you visit your local wine bar or restaurant that offers wines by the glass, peruse the list of offerings before you fall into your "safe" choice. Too often, I overhear patrons ordering a "house red or white," a "dry white" or a "medium-bodied red." Invariably, these wines are of mysterious origin and mediocre, at best.

Be inquisitive. "Which red wines are you offering this evening?" Consider the offerings as you would at your local wine shop when seeking a wine to bring home. Ask the server to describe each one – the country of origin, region and the style of wine.

"The Spanish Tempranillo sounds appealing. May I sample it?"

Feel free to request your server to pour a small taste of a wine you're considering. He or she will be happy to accommodate an opportunity for a potential sale. Your server has been trained to lower the barriers of selection; multiple choices usually lead to multiple glasses. By spending a few minutes being more selective, you will most likely experience a new wine and expand your knowledge and palate.

Having sought out new wines for several decades now, my mantra has become "continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior." By following my own individual palate and not the mainstream media bombardment of "the newest and greatest" wines to hit the market, I've found that I have a preference for a particular style of wine and that I have a fondness for wines from particular wine regions. It has also helped me avoid spending cash at a wine shop on wines that might otherwise disappoint me.

My advice: Never order the house wine. Instead, make the house red the one you'd drink in your house.

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

Happenin8s

9ers Winter & Spring Baseball Break Camp: Winter (February 19 to 23) Full week & daily rates & Spring (April 2 to 6) Ages 8-15. Full Day/ Half Day available. 245 Route 100, Somers. 914-276-5035 9erBaseballNY.com email: info@9erBaseballNY.com

Park Advisory Board Meetings: The Park Advisory Board holds public meetings on the First Thursday of every month at the Putnam Lake Firehouse in Putnam Lake (72 Fairfield Drive) at 7 p.m. We encourage all Putnam Lake residents to attend for the latest information, and have any questions or concerns addressed.

Family History Through Genealogy: If you are interested in discovering the roots of your family, you can learn all about this through a course in Genealogy. Using a free data base and search engine you will be able to trace your family history back before they came to America. You will also be able to create a family tree that will be cherished by you now and for those family members in the future. This course on Genealogy is for individuals aged 55 and over and will be held at the Koehler Center in Mahopac. Registration for this, and other computer classes held at the Koehler Center, is held the first Thursday of each month. For more information, please contact Judy Kolt at 845-277-5422

Putnam CAP is looking for Volunteers: Looking for people to commit one day a month to work at the Soup Kitchen. The soup kitchen operates from the First Baptist Church in the Village of Brewster every Tuesday through Thursday. A 'soup kitchen team' handles the cooking, serving and cleaning-up. Putnam CAP provides all the food and supplies needed, but relies upon volunteer

manpower to actually run the program. Lunch is served from noon to 1:00 p.m.. For more information, call Dehisy at the CAP office on 845-278-8021.

Pre-School & Registration for Kindergarten:

Kindergarten registration for the Brewster High School Class of 2031 takes place the week of February 26, 2018 – March 2. Children who will be five years of age on or before December 1, 2018, are eligible to register for September classes. Families residing within the Brewster School District are asked to call John F. Kennedy Elementary at 845-279-2087 x 4111 to make an appointment.

The New Mahopac Falls Nursery School: located at 411 Route 6N in Mahopac on the grounds of First Presbyterian Church, has current openings as well as openings for the 2018-2019 school year. Offers a wonderful learning experience for 3 and 4 year olds. Classes are held from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m., and children can attend between 2 -5 days per week. The 3-year-old class focuses on social skills, colors, numbers, and an intro to letters. The 4 year old class follows the Common Core Curriculum, which provides the solid foundation needed for kindergarten. In addition to Academics, we provide indoor and outdoor play areas, music, crafts, story time, snack time, and holiday celebrations. Please call Michelle Armstrong, Director, at 845-803-0701 or e-mail MahopacFallsNurserySchool@ gmail.com for more information and to set up a tour! Check out all the fun on our Facebook and Instagram pages- The Mahopac Falls Nursery School.

Ongoing:

Tuesdays:

Spotlight Family Support Group:

Putnam's Got Talent

The Italian American Club of Mahopac will present the 3rd Annual "PUTNAM's GOT TALENT" show and competition on Sunday, February 25, starting at 2 p.m. IAC clubhouse - 141 Buckshollow Road, Mahopac.

Acts include singers, musicians, dancers, and other artistic performances. There will be three prizes awarded with first place winner receiving \$500, second place \$300 and third place \$100. Anyone wishing to sign up as a contestant may visit our website www.ItalianAmericanClubOfMahopac.org and follow the instruction listed on the TALENT SHOW page.

There will be a social hour between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. for everyone to enjoy some delicious Italian food. Items available will include Pasta, Sausage and Peppers, Espresso and Cappuccinos, and various desserts.

Tickets are \$30 for contestants and \$10 for general admission which can be purchased online on our website.

Proceeds of this event will benefit our 2018 adopted charity "UNITED FOR THE TROOPS" - a non profit organization that sends packages to our men and women serving overseas with food and other items that normally the military doesn't provide.

Please visit our website www.ItalianAmericanClubOfMahopac.org or contact Nick Scafidi (914)843-2153, nick.scafidi@yahoo.com, for additional details."

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

Mahopac Library, 3rd floor, 6:45 p.m.-8 p.m. Feb. 27 and March 13, 27. This is a guided recurring support group for family and friends suffering with the effects of a loved one that has a problem with drugs or alcohol. This is open to the public. For more information contact Drug Crisis in our Backyard 814-842-1212. No registration required.

Thursdays:

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

Fridays:

AARP Tax Help: The AARP Foundation is providing free tax help for low to middle income taxpayers at the library every Friday by appointment only from February 9 until April 13. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 211 or the library at 845-878-6121 ext. 15. You do not have to be a member of AARP to take advantage of this service. **Tuesday, February 20**

Winter Frosty Fun at Mahopac Library: 11 a.m. Create an edible snowman using marshmallows, candy, and other delicious ingredients. Then participate in an indoor snowball battle. For grades K-5; registration is requested. Register online at www.mahopaclibrary. org, or call 845-628-2009, ext 139.

Wednesday, February 21

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

Thursday, February 22

Heart Disease: The number 1 cause of death in the US. Learn the facts and what you can do to protect yourself. 7 p.m., - 9 p.m., Sarah's House of Health - 900 South Lake Blvd. Mahopac. Free. Snacks served. Register - 845-216-7984

Friday, February 23

Murder Mystery Night: 6 p.m., There has been a murder in the library! Through clues and cue cards, teens (ages 13-17) will act their way through this night of murder and mayhem to reveal the identity of the killer! (Snow date: March 2) For more information or to register

contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary. org and click Calendar.

Saturday, February 24

International Rosary: 3 p.m. (before 4 p.m. Mass) All are welcomed to attend and participate. Decades will be said in different languages. Instructions will be available to follow or just listen. Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church 414 Haviland Drive, Patterson 845-279-4832

Introduction to Babysitting at Mahopac Library: 10 a.m. – 2: p.m. For teens entering Grades 6-12. Babysitters have the responsibility of caring for children and making important decisions while they are in charge. Learn interviewing tips, communication skills, safety and first aid, as well as the feeding and caring for children, including diaper changing. Take a simple test & receive a certificate of completion. Bring a notebook, pencils, a bagged lunch and drink! Registration required. A \$5 materials fee must be paid before day of program. Register with fee at Mahopac Library's Information Desk.

Defensive Driving Course: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Kent Public Library at 17 Sybil's Crossing in Kent Lakes. Receive up to a 10 percent discount on you motor vehicle collision and liability insurance premium for up to three years, and up to a four-point reduction on your driving record. This class is offered by DigitalDefensiveDriving.com. The cost is \$40, with a portion benefiting the library. Registration is required at www. kentlibrary.org or call 845-225-8585. Registration is not complete without payment. Please have payment in before the class. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes,

Sunday, February 25

The Brewster Theater Company's Armchair Actors will perform ODDS & ENDS: A potpourri of short one-act scripts read by this lively group. Join us for an enjoyable afternoon at Mahopac Library. 2 p.m. To register call 845-628-2009, ext. 100, or visit www. mahopaclibrary.org.

Tuesday, February 27

Magic Tree House Book Club at the Kent Public Library: 4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m., We'll be discussing "A Big Day for Baseball" by Mary Pope Osborne. Travel through time and explore history with Jack and Annie on their many adventures. We will discuss the book, learn more about the time they travel to and enjoy making a craft. Club is open to those in 1st, 2nd & 3rd grades. Registration is required. You may register for the program by going to www.kentlibrary. org or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

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HELP WANTED

PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIAN TRAINEE - Salary: \$51,889. The Putnam County Department of Health seeks a full time entry level person to work in the Environmental Health Division. Env. Public Health exp. desirable. Minimum qualifications: Bachelor's degree with at least thirty (30) credit hours in natural sciences, of which no more than twelve (12) credit hours may be in applied sciences, NYS driver's license. Use of personal car may be required for field work. Applications must be received by March 2, 2018. Application can be found on bottom left of page www.putnamcountyny.com/personnel and job specification on right. Send app/resume to: THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT Attn: Jan Miller, 110 OLD ROUTE 6, BLDG. 3, CARMEL, NY 10512.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FRANK MARKETING GROUP LLC. ARTS. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/10/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to 109 Robins Road, New Rochelle, NY 10801: Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

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

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

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

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GOFF U, LLC Art. of Org. filed with Sec. of State 01/04/2018. Off. loc.in Westchester CO. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 90 Mile Square Road, Yonkers, NY 10701 PURPOSE: Any lawful business.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF APPLE HILL CONSULTING LLC ART. OF ORG. Filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/15/17. Office of Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Dwight McLeod, 60 Labelle Road, Mount Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CHETTLE LABS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 17th, 2017. Office in Westchester Country. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 91 Grove St,

Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OHR NEW YORK LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/21/17. Ofc. loc.: Westchester Cnty. SSNY design. agt. upon whom process may be served & shall mail copy of process against LLC to: United Corporate Services, Inc 10 Bank St #560, White Plains, NY 10606. Purpose: any lawful act

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A&J PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES LLC Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 12/19/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 2 Gedney Esplanade, White Plains NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SIM-PLY SPEAKING LEP, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 1/10/18. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 611D Larchmont Acres East, Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF CRYPTO CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LLC. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 2/2/18. Office location: Westchester County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 1/5/18. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Kensington Rd, Ardsley, NY 10502. DE address of LLC: 919 North Market Street, Suite 950, Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Formation filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PETE'S MEATS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on (1/5/2018). Location: (Westchester). SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: (United States Corporation Agents INC 7014 13th Avenue suite 202 Brooklyn NY 11228). Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF CRYPTO CAPITAL PARTNERS LP. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 2/2/18. Office location: Westchester County. LP formed in Delaware (DE) on 1/5/18. SSNY is designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Kensington Rd, Ardsley, NY 10502. DE

continued on next page

EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

continued from previous page

address of LP: 919 North Market Street, Suite 950, Wilmington, DE 19801. List of names and addresses of all general partners available from SSNY. Cert. of Limited Partnership filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF AU-THORITY OF DIVERSITY MAR-KETING AND COMMUNICATIONS LLC, a foreign limited liability company (LLC), Application of Authority led with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 7/1/2008. LLC organized in NJ on 10/12/2006. NY office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 256 Columbia Turnpike, North Tower, Suite 108A, Florham Park, NJ 07932. Office address in jurisdiction of organization: 256 Columbia Turnpike, North Tower, Suite 108A, Florham Park, NJ 07932. Copy of Articles of Organiza-tion on file with Secretary of State of NJ, 225 West State Street - 2nd Floor Tren- ton, NJ 08625-0307 Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ART BOYKOFF, LLC filed with SSNY on 1/25/2018 located in Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc.

designated as agent of LLC. Process may be served against LLC to above agent located at 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, New York 11228. Purpose: Recreational art instructor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Pleasantville will hold a Public Hearing on March 5, 2018, 80 Wheeler Avenue, Pleasantville, NY, at 7:00pm to accept comments on the Manville Road Corridor Improvement Project. Information about the project is available on the Village's Website, www.pleasantville-ny.gov.

_Judith Weintraub, Village Clerk, Village of Pleasantville

FORMATION OF BROOKMONT MANAGEMENT, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/9/18. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Penny Jackson, 45 Winchester Oval, New Rochelle, NY 10805. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NEW LOOK DEVELOPERS, LLC filed with SSNY on 1/17/18. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 20 Van Buren Pl., White Plains, NY

10603. Purpose: Buying and renovation of homes.

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Heart Health Month this Winter

February is Heart Health Month, an ideal time for Putnam residents to focus on their heart's health. Most everyone knows someone who has been affected by heart disease or stroke. It is the leading cause of death in Putnam County and the U.S as well. About 2,300 Americans die of heart disease each day, that's an average of 1 death every 38 seconds!

"The good news is, if you make simple changes, you can improve your heart's health," says County Executive MaryEllen Odell. "That's why the American Heart Association started Heart Health Month—to get the word out that prevention does work. And it is not too early to start thinking about joining us for the Putnam County Heart Walk in April."

"Your heart beats over 100,000 times a day, and you want to keep it healthy for a long time,' says County Health Commissioner Dr. Michael J. Nesheiwat, MD. "Walking is one of the best ways to get exercise you can find."

When it's cold and icy outside, indoor exercise can help you stay active. This includes stair climbing, mall walking

and an aerobic routine on YouTube or an exercise video. Other options for staying fit indoors are running in place or climbing stairs. Laps can be done inside your local shopping mall and a speedy one-hour walk will burn approximately 300 to 400 calories. Malls with multiple levels allow the addition of stairs to a workout. For in-home exercise, a workout DVD or a YouTube video is a good idea when there is limited space. Using a jump rope or resistance bands can also be a great addition to a home workout.

Staying physically active during the winter months is important for heart health, and so is good nutrition. Eating more vegetables, decreasing sodium intake, and focusing on lean protein sources are among the top dietary tips. Avoiding tobacco smoke can also greatly reduce a person's risk of heart disease.

For more information on heart healthy living, visit: www.healthyforgood.heart. org.

For more information on the Putnam County Heart Walk on April 22 at Brewster High School, visit: www. heartwalk.org and enter "10509."

Crossword Answers

¹ J	²	³ M		⁴ P	⁵ S	⁶ T		⁷ D	⁸ O	⁹ M
10 N	С	0		¹¹ 0	Н	0		¹² E	С	G
¹³ R	Е	Α	¹⁴ D	М	Ι	Т		¹⁵ C	Α	Т
			¹⁶ E	M	Р	Е	¹⁷ R	0	R	
¹⁸ S	¹⁹ A	²⁰ U	Т	Ε	S		²¹ E	R	ı	²² K
²³ E	D	S	Ε	L		²⁴ B	L	U	N	Т
²⁵ A	Α	Н	S		²⁶ A	R	0	М	Α	S
	²⁷ P	Е	Т	²⁸ U	N	Ι	Α			
²⁹ C	Т	R		³⁰ F	_	Т	N	³¹ E	³² S	³³ S
34 L	Ε	I		³⁵ O	s	0		³⁶ W	ı	Е
³⁷ E	R	N		³⁸ S	Е	N		³⁹ E	Т	Е

www.TheExaminerNews.com February 20 - February 26, 2018



Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

No.5 Brewster/Yorktown Still Chill on D-1 Hockey Circuit



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Despite a solid defensive effort from Mahopac's Cooper Betancourt and Indian G Logan MacDougall, the fifth-seeded Indians suffered a 3-1 season-ending loss to Clarktown Central last Friday at the Brewster Ice Arena where Brian O'Shea got the Indians' lone goal with 4:36 remaining. No.5 Brewster/Yorktown followed with a 9-0 win over No.12 Nyack/TZ behind two goals and one assist Justin Groux and Connor Sullivan. Kevin Moroney added two goals for BrewTown. Connor Henderson (1G, 2A) and Colin Dineen (3A) were also key contributors for BrewTown (15-5-1), which moved on to face Clarkstown in last night's quarterfinals.

No.2 Panas, No.4 Hen Hud Advance to Class A Quarters

Class B No.1 Putnam Valley, Class C No.2 Haldane Also Seeking Final 4 Berths

By Ray Gallagher Examiner Sports Editor @Directrays

And then there were four. Only the strong survived, including Class A's Walter Panas and Hen Hud, plus Class B's Putnam Valley and Class C's Haldane. All have a Final 4 Westchester County Center berth on the line this week.

Otherwise, the opening round of the Section 1 boys' basketball tournament was cruel to a slew of the locals, who failed to advance to this week's quarterfinals, including Class A's Somers, Lakeland, Peekskill and Brewster, plus Class B's Croton-Harmon and Class AA's Ossining, Yorktown and Mahopac.

CLASS A

No.2 seed **PANAS** is flat-out ballin' as well as anyone in Class A as it steamrolls into a quarterfinal matchup with No. 7 Poughkeepsie (14-7) at Panas (17-4) after the host Panthers posted a 66-52 triumph of No.15 Harrison last Friday. It was the surging Panthers' 14th win in a row.

Panas G Joe Staino doesn't necessarily get the glory provided to the Killer B's,



Hen Hud F Kyle James led Sailors to Section 1 Class A quarters with another sterling effort in win over Beacon last Friday.



RICK KUPERBERG/BILL KENNEDY PHOTOS

Panas F Kyle Denault snags rebound in Panthers' opening-round Class A playoff win over Harrison last Friday.

Panther seniors Brandon Hodge and Brandon Ramos, but Staino was the difference early on. Staino knocked down three 3's in the first, four by halftime and five for the game while Hodge (24 points) and Ramos (20 points) were doing their usual thing. Hodge was styling and dialing while Ramos was owned the paint and went 6-of-8 from the stripe, but Staino opened things up for all.

"Staino was excellent early on," said Panther Coach Mike Auerbach, the League II-C Coach of the Year. "He made three 3's in the first quarter and opened the second quarter with his fourth 3 to give us a 22-12 lead. From that point on, we lead by 10-15 points most of the way.

"Ramos was really good early also," the coach added. "He hit a few mid-range shots and was able to get inside and finish at the basket as well. Hodge sparked us to start the second half. He hit a couple threes early in the half and got out on the break to get our transition game going."

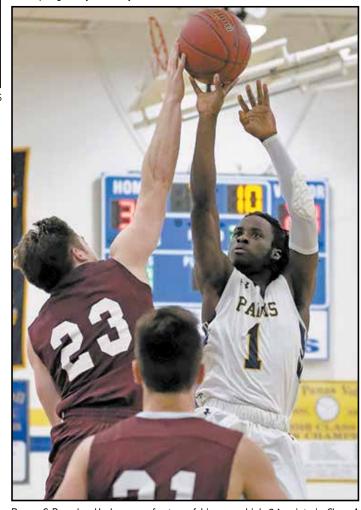
Transition will likely be the key against

the Pioneers, getting it going offensively and preventing it on defense...

No.4 seed HEN HUD (17-4) will now face fifthseeded nemesis Byram Hills (15-6) for the third four time in years after King James - senior C Kyle James was crowned in the Sailors' 64-44 thrashing of No.13 Beacon last Friday at 'The Donovan'. James, a 6-foot-4 senior, owned the paint, dropping a career-high 29 points. Senior G



Mahopac F Rheal Allen goes for two in Indians' season-ending playoff loss to host Spring Valley Saturday.



Panas G Brandon Hodge goes for two of his game-high 24 points in Class A playoff win over Harrison.

continued on next page

Sports

continued from previous page



Mahopac G Justin Parker goes for two of his game-high 20 points in Indians' season-ending Class AA playoff loss at Spring Valley.



Put Valley F Darnel Shillingford hopes to lead Tigers to a 5th Section 1 Class B Final 4 in six years.

Dylan Fraser added 13 points, including three 3-pointers, as Hen Hud advanced to the quarterfinals back at home.

"I'm so proud of Kyle," Sailor skipper Jordan Hirsch said. "He's humbly worked hard every single day for four-plus years to put himself in a position to showcase his skill on a playoff stage. He's been a great leader, he's been consistent, and he cares about the team outcome more than his individual output. Just a fantastic kid on and off the court.

"I thought our kids fought as a group," Hirsch added. "They all did a job. Kyle and Dylan had a big stat night, but they all did their jobs and played with great energy. It takes all of that to win playoff games. What I've enjoyed about this team is that it could be anybody on any night on the finishing end and all of them are genuinely happy for each other's success. It's a fun environment to be around."

It could reach new levels with a win over Byram Hills, which would put the Sailors, wo recently ended a 30-year league-title drought, into the Final 4 for the first time since 1991.

"There's definitely some playoff history with Byram; a lopsided loss in 2014 and a really exciting one in 2015," Hirsch said. "They got the best of us. They're a really good program, and I think our kids are excited for the challenge, and obviously we love playing in Donovan any day of the

Byram Coach Ted Repa has developed a program that is among the best in Class A year in and year out, and he's finally got the Bobcats at full strength for the first time all year: That is something Hen Hud will have to contend with...

Boy's Hoops Notebook



NWE/Putnam Examiner Super 7 Poll

No.1 PANAS - The League II-C champion Panthers have a date with a Poughkeepsie program they once defeated in 1997 for the first Section 1 title in Panas history, and these Panthers are going to need the support of every able-bodied Panther fan available.

No.2 HEN HUD - League II-E champion Sailors get No.5 Byram Hills in the quarters with their first Final 4 berth since 1991 on the line and nobody is more tired of reminding them than this particular pollster.

No.2A PUTNAM VALLEY - After an opening-round bye, League III-E champion Tigers (16-4), the top-seed in Class B, will face No.8 Westlake Wednesday at 7 p.m.; just 20 minutes after the third-seeded Lady Tigers host No.6 Edgemont #BeRowdy #PackthePlace. Tigers are undefeated on their home court in playoffs, so we suspect they advance to reach a 5th Final 4 in 6 years, which is pretty freaking amazing when you boil it down. Tigers have lost at County Center to Lourdes in semis (2013), Woodlands in finals and semis (2014-15) and Briarcliff (2016) in finals #NotaSlouchAmongThem.

No.4 OSSINING - The Pride (11-11), the No.14 seed in Class AA, had another program-building season under Coach Casey, but Ossining came out on the shy end of a 74-55 season-ending loss to No.3 Mamaroneck, who is better than most figured. Jacob Toppin (13 points) led the way and Latrell Goss, Zahir Hernandez, Maurice Walker and Jahmad Thomas all went for eight points. Toppin also went for 19 points, 10 boards and 6 assists in outbracket win over Yorktown.

No.5 MAHOPAC - Indians (10-11), the No.11 seed in Class AA, had No.6 Spring Valley on the ropes (leading 44-41 through 3Qs) but suffered a 64-54 loss despite All-Section G Justin Parker's game-high 21 points and another 19 from Shane Loos (5 three pointers). "We had 'em," said Mahopac Coach Matt Simone, who got the program back on track this year. "The game plan was to let them shoot, and it worked for 90% of the game. We let them shoot the deep 3s, but they hit them late in the game when it mattered. We held their best players in check, but a few reserves and bench kids hit some big open 3s down the stretch. Justin Parker was phenomenal, by far the best player on the court."

No.6 SOMERS - Tuskers (13-9), the No.9 seed in Class A, took an early lead, went into a game-changing funk, and battled back for a chance to tie but failed to hit the big hoops down the stretch in a season-ending 56-50 loss at No.8 Ardsley. Tusker wing Lorenzo Bicknese (18 points) and F Jack Gilroy (12 points, six rebounds) led the Tuskers back into contention, but two costly turnovers in the waning moments denied Somers a chance to advance. Tuskers closed the season having lost 5 of 8 games since the loss of star G Gio Tradito.

No.7 BREWSTER - Bears (9-12), the No.19 seed in Class A, suffered a seasonending 64-53 out-bracket loss to Magnus.

HM HALDANE - Class C's No.2 Blue Devils (14-6) draw No.3 Tuckahoe in today's semifinal. Wouldn't want it any

HM LAKELAND - Hornets (6-15), the No.21 seed in Class A, suffered a 68-57 season-ending out-bracket loss to No.12 Nyack. Lax, baseball and track and field await.

HM PEEKSKILL - Red Devils (6-15), the No.22 seed in Class A, couldn't hang in a 61-45 season-ending out-bracket loss to No.11 Pelham.

HM YORKTOWN - Huskers (7-14), the No.19 seed in Class AA, failed to reach the field of 16 after falling at Ossining,

HM CROTON – Undermanned Tigers (8-13), the No.13 seed in Class B, had their hard-luck season conclude in a 52-33 loss to No.4 Blind Brook. If the Tigers all come back healthy next year, expect a complete turnabout.

Sports

Hen Hud, Somers, Panas, Brewster Advance to Class A Quarters

Class AA Ossining, Class B Put Valley a Win Away from Final 4

By Tony Pinciaro

When Hen Hud needs an energy boost or a lift, Coach Ken Sherman turns to Kira Varada. The freshman has made an impact in her first year on varsity, especially on defense.

In Hen Hud's Section 1 Class A Girls' Basketball Championship first-round game, Varada came off the bench to score 12 points, register an incredible 14 steals and hand out six assists in a 66-33 victory over Yonkers.

The sixth-seeded Sailors, now 14-7, have won eight consecutive games heading into their quarterfinal game with third-seeded Rve, Thursday.

"Kira is our spark plug off the bench," Sherman said. "She gives us a ton of energy and plays excellent defense. She is always somehow around the ball, even on the boards and she is a guard."

Sherman watched Varada, then an eighth-grader, play varsity lacrosse with his daughter, last spring.

"I saw her play there and knew she had the ability to play varsity this year," Sherman said.

showed Even though Varada tremendous promise, she had not played basketball last year.

"Our head of security and myself had to persuade Kira to play," Sherman said.

Sailor sophomore C Caitlin Weimar went for a game-high 18, and only adds to the speculation that the Sailors are a program on the come.

SOMERS, the 2017 Section 1 Class A champions, began its quest to repeat with a 51-25 victory over Lakeland.

The second-seeded Tuskers host 10thseeded Panas, Thursday, in a quarterfinal. Hannah Angelini led the Tuskers with a game-high 18 points, Dani DiCintio chipped in 11 points and Isabella Rukaj added six.

"Our win over Lakeland was a real eveopener," senior Jackie Penzo said. "We executed the game plan perfectly and played as a team. This game showed us that if we all work together and play our best basketball we will be very successful."

State-ranked (No.22) omers was successful against Panas with two regularseason victories, 44-39 and 52-49, but the Tuskers realize it means nothing.

"Winning three times against a team is very difficult," Penzo said. "In order to beat them again, we need to stay humble and play to our fullest potential. If we do all of the things that we can control, we will be able to beat Panas a third time this season."

Penzo and her teammates are aware of what happened to fifth-seeded Tappan Zee. The Dutchies swept Nanuet during the regular season, but were upset in the first round by the Golden Knights.

"The Tappan Zee-Nanuet game was a reminder for all of us that we can't underestimate an opponent because anyone can win on any given day."

PANAS earned a rematch with Somers with 55-39 triumph over No.7 Ardsley. This came on the heels of a 56-33 victory over Beacon in an out-bracket game.

Danielle Merante led the Panthers with 16 points and she added seven rebounds against Ardsley. Kellie Brown and Kristen Cinquina each had 14 points. Brown added eight rebounds and five blocked shots and Cinquina scored 12 of her 14 in the second half. Kristen Scrobola grabbed nine rebounds.

"We went into sectionals knowing we had to play our brand of basketball in order to succeed," Merante said. "We keyed in on their best player and tried limiting her shots. Since we were able to play solid defensively, the offense just flowed having multiple people contribute



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Panas F Danielle Merante and the No.10 Panthers are moving on to Class A quarters after knocking off No.7 Ardsley.

the entire game."

Merante said the victory over Beacon gave the team confidence going into Ardsley. The victory over Ardsley added to Panas' confidence, however, the Panthers understand Somers is at another level.

"We know how great of a team Somers is, so we are keying in on our past mistakes, watching film and discussing our strengths and weaknesses so we know what to focus on," Merante said. "Who knows, maybe the third time will be the charm for us."

Scrobola finished with a team-high 11 points against Beacon. Merante added 10 points and Cinquina contributed nine

BREWSTER drew perennial Class A power and multiple-time sectional champion Pearl River and came away with a 43-41 victory.

The eighth-seeded Bears travel to topseeded John Jay-Cross River, Thursday, in a quarterfinal game.

This was a great game from start to finish," Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo said. "I'm so proud of my girls on how they played against Pearl River. They showed great composure and never folded when things got out of hand. They have



Put Valley C Ny'Asia Reeves goes for two of her nine points in Tigers' 57-12 Section 1 Class B opening-round win over Rye Neck last Put Valley G Kelli Venezia drives for two in Tigers' Section 1 Class B playoff win over Thursday.



Sports

Section 1 Class B playoff win over Rye Neck.

tremendous heart."

Castaldo said Maggie DePaoli went five of six from the free-throw line in the final two minutes, as the Bears rallied from a late six-point deficit.

"Meagan Beal played tremendous defense on Pearl River's best player, Erin Clinton, holding her to just five points," Castaldo said. "Eighth-grader Grace Galgano forced a very difficult, lastsecond shot, under the rim as Pearl River went for the tying basket with five seconds to go and Beal secured the defensive

DePaoli led the Bears with 18 points and Galgano finished with seven points

John Jay swept the season set with Brewster, but Castaldo will have his team ready.

"We lost two very close



FEE \$150 Put Valley F Morgan Winogradoff gains lane in Tigers' Section 1 Class B opening round win over Rye

Neck last Thursday.

games," Castaldo said. "One was a great game, from start to finish, and the other

we had to come back from 20. They are the one seed for a reason. They are extremely well-coached, a great defensive team and are very athletic."

OSSINING opened its defense of its Class AA title with a 98-31 thumping of Clarkstown North. The top-seeded, stateranked (No.5) Pride host eighth-seeded White Plains, Friday, in a quarterfinal.

The seven-time reigning Section 1 champion Pride, winners of 11 consecutive games, was led by Aubrey Griffin's 22 points. She also had six rebounds and five steals. Kelsey Quain chipped in with 21 points and five assists. Ashley McFadden scored a season-high 15 points, Kailah Harris added 14 points and 10 rebounds

and Julia Iorio finished with 13 points and six rebounds. Brooke Weeks had a teamhigh seven assists.

Class B PUTNAM VALLEY, the No.3 seed, advanced to the quarters after a 57-12 win over No.14 Rye Neck last Thursday, which also set the program's single season mark for wins (19).

Junior F Dora Rippon led PV with 14 points, six rebounds, three steals and an assist while C Ny'Asia Reeves and G Arianna Stockinger chipped in nine each, helping the youthful, state-ranked (No.18) Tigers (19-1), winners of 16-straight, advanced to Wednesday's quarterfinal against No.7 Edgemont.

LAKELAND opened sectional play with a 40-24 victory over Nyack in an outbracket game as Alexa Cole finished with 11 points. Jess Ascencao added eight points and a game-high 13 rebounds and Sofia Portante contributed seven points.

Claire Felix poured in a game-high 23 points as

MAHOPAC won its out-bracket game, 55-42, over Suffern. Siobhan Hynes added 14 points and Zina McInerney added 10

Girls' Hoops Notebook

Mahopac coach Chuck Scozzafava said Suffern evened the score at 34-34 late in the third quarter, but the Indians outscored the Mounties, 21-8, the remainder of the

League-rival R.C. Ketcham eliminated Mahopac, 56-49, in a first-round game. Felix finished with 18 points, Hynes added 12 points and McInerney chipped in with 10 points.

Mahopac trailed at halftime, 26-23. Ketcham extended its lead to 10 points entering the fourth quarter, outscoring Mahopac, 18-11 in the third quarter.

Ray Gallagher contributed to this story



Reality begins to set in on Yorktown's Ashley Zeolla after the Huskers' season-ending Class AA playoff loss to Horace Greeley last week.

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RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Third-seeded Putnam Valley junior forward Dora Rippon (R) glides through traffic for two of her game-high 14 points in the state-ranked (No.18) Tigers' 57-12 triumph of visiting Rye Neck in the opening round of the Section 1 Class B Girls' Basketball Tournament last Thursday when PV notched its 16th win in a row and advanced to host No. 6 Edgemont in the sectional quarterfinals Wednesday (5:00 p.m.) with the top-seeded Tiger boys to follow vs. Westlake (7:00 p.m.)... see Girls' Hoops Notebook