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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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Parents Pack Another Heated Brewster School Meeting

By Anna Young

A teaching position was restored back into the Brewster school budget during last week's Board of Education meeting.

Due to budgetary constraints, the board of education was forced to eliminate more than a dozen full-time positions last month to close a hefty gap in the schools \$99 million budget. But Superintendent Valerie Henning-Piedmonte and her executive team voluntarily agreed to tweak their contracts to reinstate a third-grade teacher at CV Starr Intermediate.

Henning-Piedmonte, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and

Operations Victor Karlsson, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Michelle Gosh, and Director of Human Resources Kathleen Culligan agreed to freeze their salary for the 2018-19 school year, and reduce the vacation buy back to 10 days. Henning-Piedmonte will contribute an additional 6 percent to her health insurance while the others will pay 3 percent.

"This entirely came from them. This did not come from the board," Board President Dr. Stephen Jambor said at the April 24 meeting. "I appreciate that on behalf of the board. It's terrific

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Successful Event Brings Donations to Food Pantries



PROVIDED PHOTO

With experience that 10 years of dedication can bring to an event, the Carmel Rotary Club has brought the Putnam community together for their annual 'Fill the Truck' food drive at Shoprite in Carmel. On April 14 and 15, Rotarian George Knochel once again provided the leadership and commitment to ensure success that ultimately brought 166 bags of non-perishable food, in addition to \$835 in monetary donations which will be used to purchase grocery store gift cards. These contributions, valued at approximately \$4,000, will be shared with four local food pantries: the Brewster Food Pantry, Gilead Church, Putnam Community Action Program and St. John the Evangelist Church. In the spirit of volunteering the CHS Mentors, under the direction of Joanne Morgan, brought youth support to the 2-day event. Along with George Knochel and Carmel Rotarians: Kevin Carroll, Jay Judell, Bill Huestis, Connie Fagan, Lou Margolis, Sal Gambino, Scott Fisher and Al Lotrecchiano, they helped sort, bag and answer any questions from shoppers.

Mahopac Biz Celebrates One Year By Giving Back



PROVIDED PHOTO

To celebrate its one-year anniversary, Cardsmart and Gifts of Mahopac donated to the Putnam Community Action Partnership last week at its store at 2 Clark Place off of Route 6. On April 14, which marked a year since Cardsmart opened at its new location, 20 percent of the money earned that day went toward Putnam CAP. Accepting the \$400 check was Jerry Grant, who is the food pantry operator. Co-owner Terry Fokine, who owns the store with John Castellano, handed him the check. She thanked the community for their support over the last year. "With internet today if you can survive it's a miracle," Fokine said. "It's an amazingly difficult job to stay in business when you're a brick and mortar today and we made it through one year."

Mahopac Students Suffer Slight Injuries at BOCES Property

By David Propper

Six elementary school students from the Mahopac school district suffered minor injuries last Friday when part of the ceiling collapsed inside a Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES property.

A portion of the ceiling in a teaching station at the Madden Outdoor Education Center in Kent caved in around 11:30 a.m., resulting in six students from Fulmar Elementary School being injured, according to a statement released by

BOCES. The students were taken to Putnam Hospital Center by ambulance where they were examined and released by about 3:30 p.m., BOCES said.

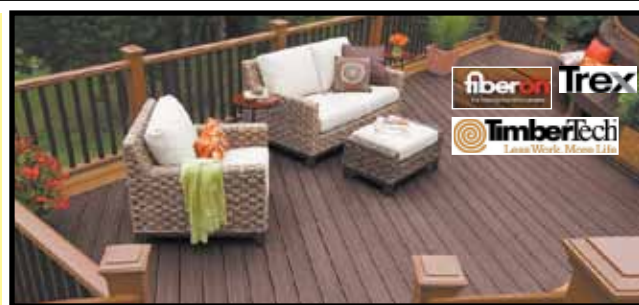
The rest of the 18 students on the trip were taken by bus to the hospital where they met their parents. Some of the students were also examined and released, while others were taken home by their parents without issue, BOCES

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Carmel Opt-out Form for Military Talk Causes Stir

By David Propper

The lead-up into career day at George Fischer Middle School in Carmel got ugly last week when an opt-out letter was sent out that some community members felt was insulting to active military personnel and veterans.

The opt-out letter explained to Carmel school district parents that they could opt their child out of the military presentation, which resulted in swift backlash and a quick reversal from the district. The first letter was sent on PTA letterhead because the parents organization put the middle school career day for eighth graders together and the second letter pulling back the first one was sent on school district letterhead.

The first letter stated during career day students would meet with a wide variety of professionals, including a room dedicated to first responders. In the first responders' room, the letter stated, a military recruiter would speak about the career the military could offer.

"They will not be recruiting students in any way," the letter stated. "The school has shared strict guidelines for their presentations with these individuals. They will simply be sharing their career paths like all of our other presenters."

A form was attached to the letter that would allow students to opt out of the military presentation and be escorted

from the room before the military recruiter began, the letter stated.

In the second letter, Superintendent of Schools Andy Irvin stated the district originally wanted to follow the same guidelines as when a recruiter speaks to high school students. After further consulting, it was determined similar guidelines didn't need to be followed for the career day.

Irvin, along with GFMS principal John Piscitella, apologized if the first letter caused anyone to take offense to the perceived slight toward the military.

"As a veteran myself, I have nothing but the highest level of respect for those who have or are serving in our Armed Forces," Irvin wrote.

Irvin addressed the controversy at the beginning of the April 24 school board meeting in a brief statement. He said district officials were approached about including active military in the career day and they were in full support of it. When it was understood that a recruiter would be speaking, the district followed its procedure by giving parents the option to have their child not be part of that presentation, which is similar to when a recruiter comes to the high school, Irvin said. But a second letter reversed the district's original course to ensure every career would be treated equally, Irvin said.

"We were not treating any participant

in career day differently from any other," Irvin said. "Everyone was treated the exact same way."

Irvin also noted that both letters should have been sent on district letterhead since the district, not the PTA, made the decision to send out the opt-out form.

GFMS PTA vice president Pat Ravert said at the meeting PTA members have been vilified by some members in the community, including harassment and threats, which has caused great upsetment. The first letter sent out was at the behest of the district, she said.

"To be clear, no one on the PTA is anti-military," Ravert, who noted many PTA members have relatives and friends that are in the military, said.

During the meeting, Putnam Veterans Affairs Director and Kent resident Karl Rohde apologized to any PTA members that received nasty messages. Many veterans were hurt and upset by the opt-out letter, Rohde said, with some even crying over the phone when they called him about the issue.

He said the school district needs more military personnel and veterans coming to Carmel schools to interact with students.

"The veterans of this county and veterans outside of this county are very, very hurt by this issue," Rohde said.

Kent Highway Superintendent and veteran Richard Othmer said the first opt

out letter was poorly written and should not have been sent out. It seemed like only the military was targeted in the letter, Othmer said.

"It sounded like Hannibal Lecter was coming in with the mask on his face," Othmer said. "This letter was just wrong and very offensive."

Othmer did thank district officials for attempting to rectify the situation once the first letter caused such outrage.

Parent Alison Hooten noted this is a teachable moment for the district.

"Let's grow from this mistake and move on," Hooten said.



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Southeast Town Board OKs Tax Breaks for Proposed Hotel

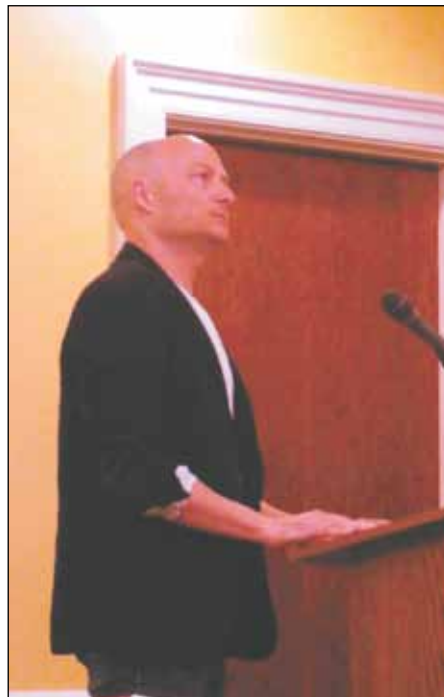
By David Propper

A major hurdle was cleared last week that could bring the first brand name hotel to Putnam County after the Southeast town board signed off on possible tax breaks for the property owner pursuing the project.

In a 3-2 vote, along political party lines, the town board gave the Industrial Development Agency the green light to offer tax abatements to the hotel project along Peach Lake Road where a Best Western would be built. The 57-room hotel project stalled under the current owner, but the new owner, Shelly Nichani, is set to take over and complete the project. In order for him to purchase the property and assume the project though, he demanded IDA tax benefits be included, which now seem likely.

In the first year, the property would get 50 percent of its property tax bill off and for the next nine years would get five percent less each successive year off its taxes with it eventually getting down to five percent. The number of jobs created would be about 15.

Councilwoman Lynne Eckardt, who opposed the tax breaks, said the mission statement of the IDA and the businesses it hopes to attract was different from what the hotel was offering. Part of the mission statement stated the point of the IDA is to attract "clean, environmentally



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO
Heidi's Inn owner Sean Diggin spoke at last week's meeting.

sensitive manufacturing and industrial interest to the county."

"I know it will generate some jobs, but I don't think this really fits the bill at all in terms of the mission of the IDA," Eckardt, a Democrat, said, adding

she doesn't think the subsidies are warranted.

Over a ten-year period, the county will lose about \$33,770 in taxes, the town will lose \$34,560, and the Brewster school system will lose \$327,195 and the sales tax revenue lost will be about \$65,000, Eckardt said. She said government officials always talk about approving projects to bring in tax revenue, but then sign off on tax breaks for those same projects. Another hotel, part of the Crossroads 312 project, could also seek these tax breaks, Eckardt said, making it harder to turn down since this tax relief has been given to Best Western.

Councilman John Lord, a Democrat, also voted against the tax breaks.

Attorney Michael Liguori, representing the current owner looking to sell the property, said the hotel would attract visitors to the area that would either eat locally or purchase goods at stores in the county.

It took two years to find a buyer-- Nichani--for the hotel property, Liguori said.

"He won't do the deal if he doesn't get the benefits," he said. "It's not a threat, it's just a reality."

Liguori said he expects the IDA to approve the benefits since it usually takes the direction of the various municipalities that vote on it. The

Brewster school board approved the tax benefits and the county Legislature is expected to at a later date.

The three GOP board members supported the tax benefits. Councilwoman Liz Hudak said the town is in between a rock and a hard place because if the abatements aren't granted, the hotel might never be constructed and open.

"It looks like a white elephant," Hudak said of the partially built hotel.

Supervisor Tony Hay said while he had some concerns, he OK'd the tax breaks because the past owner received the same benefits, but never realized them since the project was not completed.

Councilman Edwin Alvarez agreed with Hay's sentiment.

"There's not too many options," Alvarez said. "To me, it's not an option to just leave it alone."

Heidi's Inn owner Sean Diggin, who will face competition from the Best Western, said he was against the tax breaks for the new hotel because the purpose of the IDA is not to ensure a buyer stays in a deal. He said someone would eventually buy the property without requiring the tax benefits.

"The property will open, even if that buyer walks," Diggin said. "Someone will buy it, the price will go down. It'll be profitable at the right price."

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Parents Pack Another Heated Brewster School Meeting

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actually. We just picked up some money here folks.”

But the administrative decision was made just days after the district came under intense scrutiny for approving a resolution to increase the number of vacation day compensation for administrators from 15 to 20 days the same night 13 teaching positions were cut from the budget.

The resolution was originally approved last summer, but when the

board realized the relevant materials related to the policy were not made public they voted on it again during the April 10 meeting. Following the board’s original July vote, Henning-Peidmonte cashed in her five days, which amounted to nearly \$5,000.

Since then, parents have come out in full force, listing other complaints with the district. This latest meeting went about three hours.

Officials chose to reinstate the third-grade position explaining that the original removal would have increased classroom size to nearly 28 students with fewer sections offered.

“That would be unacceptable,” Henning-Peidmonte said.

She added that the district would be revisiting the board’s decision to remove the social worker position



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO
Many residents were on hand for the meeting, including one student who spoke about the mental health services the school district offers.

from CV Starr, adding that the district is mandated to provide counseling services to children.

Senior Sasha Rubio received a standing ovation from the well-attended crowd after she criticized officials for electing to modify which psychologist is at each school, including the high school.

“I can’t even put into words how important a resource they are for the many students at Brewster High School that deal with mental health issues,” Rubio said. “And let me emphasize the fact that there are so many students who have struggled with depression, anxiety, trauma, eating disorders, self-harm, suicidal thoughts or worse.”

Jambor, in an interview, said a couple of the psychologists in the high school are being exchanged with people working in other school buildings. Jambor said personnel reasons prevented him from divulging more because of confidentiality.

“The students will have access to the same kind of services, but they’ll be meeting new personnel in September,” Jambor said.

Rubio urged officials to keep all district psychologists in the buildings they’ve been working in to allow them to maintain the relationships they’ve already developed with the students. She said a change could be detrimental to the students’ emotional wellbeing.

She added how the district should have met with the student body before making a substantial change.

“I believe you have your titles because you care about the well-being of the students. I believe you are trying to do what’s best for us and I believe there are no ulterior motives,” Rubio said. “But with all due respect, you don’t spend a majority of your time with the students so how can you make a decision like this without consulting the ones who are directly affected? It seems like you may not fully understand our needs, especially those with mental illness.”



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Putnam Hospital Center Unveils Expansion Plan

By Neal Rentz

Putnam Hospital Center President Peter Kelly announced a major expansion plan for the medical facility on April 26 during the second annual State of the Hospital Community Breakfast at the Putnam County Golf Course.

"As a major provider of healthcare and employment in Putnam County,

it's important to keep all of the various agencies we work with and constituents we serve well informed about our continuing progress," Kelly said.

Kelly discussed the hospital's \$9 million Emergency Department expansion project that will add 8,400 square feet to the existing facility and the addition of 11 private treatment rooms and separate

ambulance and pedestrian entrances. According to the hospital, more than 27,000 patients are seen in the Emergency Department every year.

Kelly also spoke about the hospital's growing service lines, including the addition of three cardiologists from The Heart Center, a division of Hudson Valley Cardiovascular Practice, PC, an affiliate of Health Quest, the Center's parent organization, and the hospital's recent accreditation as a comprehensive bariatrics center. New procedures, including total knee replacements using the Mako robot and craniotomies, are now being performed at the facility, he

said.

Kelly provided updates from the Health Quest system, including the addition of a graduate education program for medical residents that will begin in 2019. Psychiatry residents are expected to intern at Putnam Hospital Center starting in 2020.

Kelly discussed the recent announcement of plans to combine Health Quest and the Western Connecticut Health Network to form a new health system that will provide residents across New York's Hudson Valley and western Connecticut with more convenient, accessible, affordable care closer to home.



PROVIDED PHOTO

From left top: The second annual Putnam County Hospital Center State of the Hospital Community Breakfast was held on April 26 at the Putnam County Golf Course. Some of the attendees included, from the left, Joseph DeMarzo, Putnam County Deputy Commissioner of Social Services, Mental Health and Youth Bureau, county Department of Health's Director of Health Education and Communications Barbara Ilardi, Putnam Hospital Center President Peter Kelly and Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell.

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Brewster Schools to Conduct Safety Audit

By Anna Young

The Brewster Central School District will be reviewing and refining safety measures to ensure the protection of students following the Florida high school massacre that killed 17 people in February.

During last Tuesday's Board of Education meeting, the board voted 6-1 to retain Connors Security Consulting Services, Inc. of Spencerport to assess the district schools and provide recommendations to ultimately improve the overall security and safety programs. Trustee Diane O'Brien voted against the measure.

"After the tragedy in Parkland we

questioned all of the things that we're doing, and we wanted an outside perspective to see if what we're doing is sufficient," Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Victor Karlsson said at the April 24 meeting.

Connors Security will conduct two-days of onsite observations at the four schools and meet with the administration and members of the buildings safety teams to discuss safety improvements. They will also speak with various faculty members to get their perspective on the vulnerabilities within the district. The total fee for the audit will be \$2,800.

While parents agreed they want their

children to be safe, several proposed other ways the district could save money and still have the buildings properly evaluated. Parents suggested the district work with the Putnam County Sheriff's Department or utilize qualified members of the community who would do an assessment for free.

Another parent questioned why the district is not working in conjunction with Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES to have an audit completed. Karlsson explained that while they work closely with BOCES and trust their judgment, they want an outside perspective that specializes in school safety to analyze the districts

procedures.

One parent stressed that conducting safety audits is vital to protecting students. She agreed that BOCES is a viable resource, but supported the districts decision to seek an outside agency who will objectively analyze each building and safety protocols.

"We're talking about safety here and security for \$2,800. It is money, in my opinion, well spent," Trustee Kristin Cacal said. "Because without safety everything else is moot. I think if we can do these things in conjunction with those who have offered their services we may get a more complete picture."

Mahopac Students Suffer Slight Injuries at BOCES Property

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stated.

The students were at the Madden Center taking part in a lesson on the food web. Once the ceiling collapsed, a teacher notified the district and called 911. Kent Police were the first on the scene, followed by the Kent Fire Department. Mahopac Superintendent of Schools Anthony DiCarlo and assistant superintendent Greg Stowell also arrived on scene.

The Madden building has been secured and is not accessible as an investigation into the collapsed ceiling is under investigation, BOCES stated last Friday.

"Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES, which operates the Madden Outdoor Education Center," a statement from BOCES read. "and the Mahopac Central School District remain committed to student safety first and foremost."

The Madden Center has been with BOCES since 1971 when it was donated by John and Jesse Madden, who owned it as a summer and weekend home. After John Madden retired in the 1960s, he and his wife got into maple sugaring business on the property, which at its height produced up to 500 gallons of syrup per season.

To ensure the land would forever be wild and serve as an educational facility,

the Madden couple donated the land to BOCES and would even welcome busloads of children who arrived for the day at it.

"Madden is truly part of the psyche of our region. There is something about being there and feeling the rich history of the land that connects people to our natural world," BOCES states on its website when discussing the property.



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Mayer Wins Special Election for 37th Senate District Seat

By Martin Wilbur and David Propper

In an election that received national attention, Democratic Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer defeated Republican Julie Killian last week to capture the 37th state Senate District.

Mayer topped Killian, a former Rye councilwoman, in a special election called by Gov. Andrew Cuomo in February, 26,918-19,963 (57 to 43 percent), according to the Westchester County Board of Elections. Mayer is expected to fill the seat vacated by Westchester County Executive George Latimer at the end of last year as soon as the result is certified.

"We weren't just a blue wave, we were a big tent blue wave that created a partnership between our progressives, our Democrats, our union leadership and a whole lot of other people who are against the politics of hate and division that are sewn to the other side in the campaign," said Mayer, a Yonkers resident.

With Mayer's election, Senate Democrats hold a 32-31 majority, but still don't have control of the body for at least the rest of the legislative year. State Sen. Simcha Felder, a Brooklyn Democrat that conferences with the GOP, confirmed last week he will continue to caucus with Senate Republicans.

That didn't dampen the spirits of Democrats at Mayer's raucous



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer, left, celebrates her victory in the 37th state Senate District special election last Tuesday with Senate Minority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

headquarters last Tuesday night in Mamaroneck. Joined by Cuomo, Latimer, Senate Minority Leader Andrew Stewart-Cousins and Democratic leaders from around the state, they vowed that Democrats will take over the Senate in November.

Cuomo said Mayer was by far the best candidate for the seat. He also said the results show, similar to special elections elsewhere in the United States, that voters



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Republican Julie Killian conceded after a crushing defeat on Tuesday.

reject the politics of divisiveness.

"I worked with Shelley Mayer for years," Cuomo said. "There is no one who has the experience, the qualifications, the values that Shelley Mayer represents and we need them in Albany."

"Voters said something else tonight and take notice of this, because voters said they reject the extreme conservative philosophy from Washington," Cuomo added. That does not work for New York. When you attack New York, New York is going to fight back."

While the Democrats will be one vote shy of complete control in Albany for the remainder of the year, Stewart-Cousins said she is "absolutely confident" that the party will pick

Meanwhile, Killian thanked her supporters at her Election Night headquarters in Eastchester.

"I really wanted to help all you guys out there," Killian said. "I heard a lot of stories, there's a lot of great things about living in New York, there's a lot of great things about living in Westchester, but we do have some things going on and I was really hoping I'd get that platform."

Supporters chanted "November" a couple of times during her concession comments, encouraging her to run again

for the seat this fall when the seat again is up for grabs.

When asked by The Examiner if she would consider running again for the seat in a few months, Killian said it's something she'd think about.

"I'll think about that tomorrow. Right now, I'm going to hang out here with my friends and family, get a good night's sleep maybe" Killian said. "I'm not at the train station tomorrow morning."

The race between Mayer and Killian got ugly at times. Mayer was accused of failing to do more to assist two female Senate staffers after they came to her to complain about harassment from male bosses when she was legal counsel for the Democrats in 2010. Killian also went after Mayer for having campaign operatives on her staff that were critical of law enforcement, including vulgar statements on social media.

Killian faced heat when it was discovered a person that threw a fundraiser for her directed insults toward survivors of the Parkland, Fla. school shooting on social media. Killian also was consistently called a "Trump Republican" with opponents hoping to tie her to President Donald Trump. Mayer's supporters continually sought to associate her with "dark money," that was derived from National Rifle Association donations.

When asked if the GOP committee would get behind another potential Killian run for the seat in November, Westchester GOP committee chairman Doug Colety said the committee would be open to it, but they weren't ready for that conversation Tuesday night.

He said he didn't think this race indicated a larger blue wave coming in November, stressing the political pendulum continues to swing back and forth.

"Eventually voters will realize their taxes keep going up, their quality of life keeps going down," Colety said.

The 37th Senate District stretches from Yonkers to Bedford and also includes the Sound Shore communities, North Castle and portions of White Plains.



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Countryside Kitchen Mahopac

By David Propper

On any given Saturday, Countryside Kitchen can provide that small town vibe that makes everyone feel at home.

Inside the quaint eatery, patrons almost certainly run into someone they know while enjoying a scrumptious breakfast or lunch at an affordable price. Countryside Kitchen, owned by Christina and Lee Vataj, has become a staple of the Mahopac community since opening almost a decade ago.

Both Christina and Lee lost their jobs in the corporate world when their companies downsized, but eventually it led to a more fruitful endeavor. With zero cooking and restaurant experience, the two decided to open an eatery on a whim and now it's been almost ten years. They opened Nov. 4, 2008.

The first few years included a lot of trial and error, Christina said, but as time went on, they found their niche in the community. At first, they offered lunch and dinner, serving up a variation of soul food. Then, after learning about the history of the location, they decided to focus on breakfast and closed down for two weeks to prepare for the switch. Lee, who is a self-taught cook, taught Christina how to cook and they showed



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Lee and Christina Vataj inside Countryside Kitchen in Mahopac.

a couple workers how to man the stove and oven.

They reopened on a Saturday and it's been a steady growth ever since. Christina said the two losing their jobs ended up being a "blessing in disguise."

"We love the community, we love what we're doing now," she said. "I wouldn't change anything. It's awesome."

Christina said when she sees other people who might be dealing with a job loss, she encourages them to look at the

bigger picture and realize that when one door closes, another door opens.

They found the location along Route 6 when they were visiting relatives and it caught their eye. When Christina and Lee walked into the place to inspect it, the location felt like home.

"We could see the rest of our lives here," she said. "The building's got character."

When the couple first opened, they were commuting from Yonkers. Then they rented a home in Mahopac and now

are proud homeowners in town, with twins. During their time in Mahopac, the couple has made such good friends she considers them family.

Every couple of years improvements are made to Countryside Kitchen as the business grows. Christina enjoys the rustic feel to the building and likes that it feels like a tree house. Many customers tell Christina and Lee they feel like they're on vacation when they walk in, whether it be somewhere in Maine or Vermont.

The restaurant has been featured on ABC 7 News for its world famous Holy Cannoli Pancake and even former New York Giants Super Bowl champion Michael Strahan stopped in when looking for a breakfast place in the area.

"It feels like family, even with the customers," Christina said. "It's kind of become the go-to spot for the community. It's kind of like 'Cheers.'"

"Everybody here is like the same person, like everybody's like family, people meet up all the time," Lee added. "It's a very familiar place."

Countryside Kitchen is located at 493 Route 6 in Mahopac and its phone number is 845-803-8420. Its website is www.thecountrysidekitchen.com



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Putnam Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Putnam County will hold a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Day for Putnam County residents on Saturday, May 5. The Putnam County Department of Health and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) are co-sponsoring the FREE event, scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon (rain or shine) in the Canopus Beach parking lot at Fahnestock Park, Route 301 in Kent. Pre-registration is required.

"We like to say that Putnam County is where the country begins," said County Executive MaryEllen Odell. "We are fortunate to live in a vibrant community with beautiful, natural surroundings.

That is why our household hazardous waste collection days are so important. I encourage everyone who has hazardous waste to take advantage of this opportunity and help preserve our natural environment."

"Improper storage or disposal of hazardous waste poses a health risk to our residents and our families," said interim Health Commissioner Michael J. Nesheiwat, MD. "We are very fortunate that our County Executive recognizes this and maintains this event in the budget each year. We have been holding this event for nearly two decades now. The number of 55-gallon drums of waste kept from our environment is

now well in the thousands."

Household cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, oil-based paint (not latex), solvents, thinners, mothballs, rodent poisons, gasoline, and kerosene can all be safely disposed of by Putnam residents, along with small propane tanks (up to 20 pound size). For a more complete list of acceptable items, click on the flyer posted under "Special Wastes" on the Green Putnam webpage at <http://www.putnamcountyny.com/green-putnam/>.

Disposal items must be labeled and identifiable to be accepted. Items not accepted include: water-based paints (latex), used oil, lead-acid batteries,

plastic bags, batteries, tires, electronic waste or any materials from commercial establishments. Materials packed into garbage or lawn bags will also not be accepted. Latex paints can be discarded by routine means, after they have been dried out.

Call early to reserve a spot. The Putnam County Department of Health number is (845) 808-1390 ext. 43150 for questions or to pre-register.

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

Putnam Visitor's Bureau Releases Travel Guide

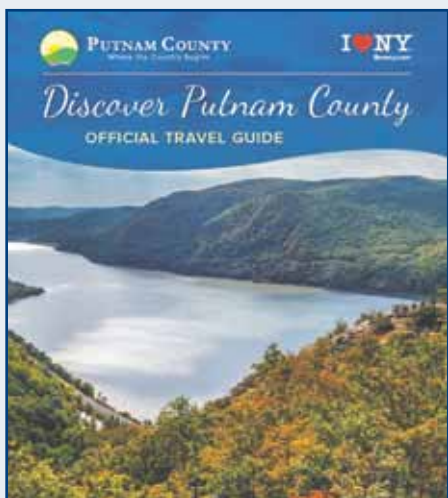
The tourism season has begun and after a long hard winter the Putnam County Visitors Bureau, Inc. is prepared for this year's tourism season. Just recently the PCVB, Inc. released an updated travel brochure to help visitors navigate all that Putnam has to offer.

The new 24-page, full color guide breaks up all the different areas that travelers will be looking for such as arts and culture, outdoor recreation, dining, and agriculture, along with interesting facts about Putnam. The guide has been sent to distribution centers to be placed in various visitor centers, has been handed out through the visitor bureau's office and on the website, visitors can see the digital guide or request one be sent directly to them.

"It has been some years since the PCVB, Inc. has released an updated brochure," Executive Director Bruce Conklin said. "We wanted to craft a brochure that would give an even representation of all the gems of the county while encouraging them to seek further information on our new website, www.VisitPutnam.org."

The new website was designed to be a focal point for visitors to find information and assist in planning their trip to the area. The website is not only a tool for visitors though, it is also a tool for local business and event planners who can easily add and update their listing to the site. "We wanted to give as much control to our tourism partners and stakeholders through the county to get their names and events in front of visitors," Conklin said.

Travel spending in Putnam has been increasing over the past 5 years and there is no sign of it slowing down. In 2016, tourism spending increased 6 percent in Putnam to more than 62 million and the industry is employing more than 1,000 people in Putnam County.



Hike Putnam with the Master Gardeners

Here in Putnam County there are so many beautiful natural places to explore. Numerous studies link walking in nature with improved mental and physical health, as well as stress relief. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County's Master Gardener Volunteers will guide six hikes on trails throughout the County beginning in May and running through October.

These free, guided hikes will explore land-use, history, and invasive plants. On the second Saturday of each month (rain date the following Sunday) participants will embark together for a 1 1/2 to 3 hour hike, depending on the location and the speed of the group. The tour guides will point out highlights along the way—describing the vegetation, invasive species, and wildlife, as well as historical significance of the area—in addition to answering questions from the group.

The first hike, scheduled for May 12th, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., will tour the Clearpool Model Forest in Kent, NY. This trail runs through one of four Watershed Ag Council teaching forests in the state which demonstrates forestry best-management

practices. Highlights will include a scenic overlook of Boyd's reservoir dam. This trail includes difficult and rocky slopes and runs about 2.5 miles with an elevation gain of 200 feet. Features include a deer enclosure and summit view.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming guided tours with the Master Gardeners: June 9 – Mount Nimham Multiple Use Area Trail, June 14 – California Hill State Forest, August 11 – Fahnestock, September 8 – Michael Ciaiola Conservation Area, October 13 – Wonder Lake State Park

Though the hike is free, reservations are necessary; space is limited. For the complete Hike Putnam calendar and reservations, please visit Putnam County's Cooperative Extension website: putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events or for additional information call 845-278-6738. Youth under 18 are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. All hikers will need to sign a waiver. Join Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County's Master Gardener Volunteers in a healthy, stress-reducing activity in beautiful Putnam County.

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Answers on page 14

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10. Hostile

11. Clutch
15. “American Boy” singer
16. ___ general rule
17. Dashboard abbr.
18. Marker letters
20. Shiraz resident
21. Crow’s call
22. Folks
23. Crafty, like a fox
29. Begley and Sullivan
30. Rap doctor?
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Obituaries

Theresa Ruyack

Terry Ruyack, age 86, died on April 16 at Putnam Hospital in Brewster. She was born to the late Pascuale and Louise (Colisanti) Fonzo on September 11, 1931 in Bronxville. On December 28, 1957, she married Raymond Ruyack Sr. and moved to Yonkers. Many years later she made her permanent residence in Lake Carmel. A graduate from Roosevelt High School in Yonkers and then New York University she was employed as a physical education teacher at Hawthorne Elementary School, P.S. #22 and Gorton High School in Yonkers and later as an administrative secretary at the Yonkers Board of Education. She is survived by her beloved son Raymond Ruyack Jr. and daughter-in-law Sandra Ruyack of Brewster, and her two grandchildren; Alex Ruyack of Ithaca, and Amanda Ruyack of Brewster. She is also survived by her sister Helen Bona of Scarsdale. She was predeceased by her husband Raymond Sr., son Paul, and sister Margaret Fonzo. She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Margaret Amanda Poulos

Margaret Amanda "Maggie" Poulos of Mahopac, died on April 16, after a valiant battle with breast cancer; she was 61. She was born in Grays Thurrock, England on January 15, 1957, the daughter of

John Albert and Mary Rose (Beart) West. She grew up with six brothers and sisters in the historic coastal town of Bridport, which lies between West Bay on the English Channel and the Dorset countryside. Maggie received her nursing degree from the Bristol Royal Infirmary. Her calm nature and incredible gift of nurturing and caring for people made Maggie an excellent nurse for 41 years. She got a taste for adventure and travel when she spent a summer in Greece while in secondary school. Nursing took her to London, Germany and Belgium where she met her husband Brad while working at La Faisanderie in Brussels. They married in Bradpole, England before moving to Rockland County, New York in 1985. They then lived in Staten Island for 10 years, before settling down in Mahopac in 1999. No matter where she, Brad and the children made their home in the U.S., they always went back to visit their extended family in England at least every other year. Maggie wanted a house with charm and character and her choice of the 1918 Mahopac Mines schoolhouse reflected both. She enjoyed gardening and knew the names of every flower, creating her own rambling English garden in their backyard. Maggie always warmly welcomed friends and family with a cup of tea when they visited

the house. Maggie sought to create beauty where ever she went. She was a patron of the arts, arranging gigs for local musicians in Peekskill because she loved listening to jazz performances so much. She adored her children, cooking dinners every night, sewing Halloween costumes, knitting scarves and gloves, as well as bringing them to their many extra-curricular activities. When the children moved away from home, Maggie would spend time with them wherever they lived, traveling to walk the beaches in Maine, shop markets in Vermont, and eat crab cakes in Maryland. As someone with high aspirations of seeking to add to her already impressive knowledge of medicine, and having a passion for holistic wellness, Maggie returned to school and received her Master's Degree from the NY College of Health Professionals in Acupuncture in 2015 - all the while working full time as a night time PACU/PICU nurse at Westchester Medical Center. Maggie is survived by her husband Dr. Bradford Poulos, her children Saskia Rose, Heather Elizabeth, and Benjamin B. L. Poulos; her father John Albert West, step mother Jean West, and her siblings Sarah, Elizabeth, Richard, Josephine, Paul, and Lydia West. She joined her mother who passed away in 1984, also from breast cancer, on her

mother's birthday.

Marie A. Hulbert

Marie A. Hulbert, a 40 year resident of Mahopac, died on April 16, at the age of 84. She was born in the Bronx on May 10, 1933, one of 17 children and the daughter of Michael and Rose (Martucci) Carbone. Marie worked as a bookkeeper for National Shopping Centers in Rye for over 30 years. Marie lived an energetic and accomplished life. At a young age, she excelled in school where she first learned about business, typing, and secretarial work. She was a member of her high school basketball team and helped to create her school's yearbook. Marie was also the first of her family to graduate from high school. Later in life Marie continued to be involved in many hobbies while she was a loving wife and mother. Marie was on a recreational bowling team and played tennis with friends. In addition to athletic hobbies, Marie traveled with her sisters and friends to many cities and countries most notably St. Maarten, Italy, and Alaska. She also took pleasure in theatre and music, especially that of Andrea Bocelli whom she saw in concert. Animals were near and dear to Marie's heart too. She loved all animals and treated her dogs like family. One

continued on next page

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Obituaries

continued from previous page

of Marie's greatest passions was being a devoted grandmother and aunt to many grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. She enjoyed vacationing with her grandchildren, even traveling with them to Disney World, and was ever present at their sporting events, concerts, and dance recitals. Marie was also the secretary of the Skating Club of Brewster where her granddaughters were members and loved traveling for their competitions. Marie is survived by her daughter Lisa Carroll and her husband Michael, her sons Brian and Steven, her grandchildren Christina Detz and her husband Brian, Brian, Marie, Nicholas, Paul, David, and James, and her great granddaughter Victoria. She was predeceased by her husband John in 2013.

Michael J. Aloia

Michael J. Aloia, 78, of South Glen Falls, formerly of Mahopac, died on April 18, surrounded by his loving family. Mr. Aloia was born on March 19, 1940 to the late, Salvador and Nellie (Savino) Aloia in Port Chester. He married the love of his life, Gail Birkenstock on July 10, 1960, who he met at the age of 15 and have been married for over 57 wonderful years together, they were blessed with four beautiful children; Michael, Melodie Fitzpatrick, Michele, and Melissa Pannozzo. He worked for over 38 years for Curry Chevrolet in Scarsdale as a Mechanic. Michael loved to tinker and modify remote control cars, boats and planes. He enjoyed watching The Godfather, Yankees, and Giants. Most of all he enjoyed dressing up as Santa for his grandchildren, great grandchildren and the children in the community. His lifelong dream was to go to and watch the Indy 500, unfortunately he was unable fulfill that dream. Although Michael loved tinkering with the remote cars, boats and planes, it was his family he was most dedicated to. He was a wonderful husband, a loving father, brother, uncle and a friend to many. His legacy and devotion to his family and friends will continue to grow in our hearts. He is survived by his devoted wife, Gail, his loving children; Michael, Melodie Fitzpatrick, Michele and Melissa Pannozzo. He is also survived by his two sisters; Judy Ferris, Barbara D'Amico; eight grandchildren; Jean Marie Davies, Michael Aloia, Billy Smoogen, Mason Lawrence, Trevor Krauss, Brielle Lawrence, Connor Fitzpatrick, Devin Krauss, and two great granddaughters Samantha and Jenna Davies.

Ronald F. Lewrick

Ronald F. Lewrick, a lifelong resident of Mahopac, died peacefully with his loving family by his side on Thursday, April 19, at the age of 78. He was born in Newburgh

on August 3, 1939, the son of Alfred and Lena Zilling Lewrick. Ronald graduated from Mahopac High School in 1957 and joined the US Navy following graduation to serve his country. Following his Naval service, he joined NYSEG where he retired as Chief Lineman after 35 years of service with the utility. Ronald was a member of the Secor Sports Club. He was an avid deep sea fisherman and a member of the Deep Sea Fishing Club of Rhode Island. He volunteered regularly at both the Brewster Food Pantry and St. John's Food Pantry in Mahopac. On December 20, 1959 he married Nancy Mosconi at St. John the Evangelist Church in the building that is now known as Our Lady Queen of Angel's Chapel. In addition to Nancy, he is survived by his daughters, Mary Gionta of Mahopac and Susan Shier and her husband, Steven of Poughquag; his grandchildren, Megan (Michael), Kayla (Edward), Sarah, Larissa and Abigail and his great granddaughters, Olivia and Veronica.

Carolyn Helen Cesare

Carolyn Helen Cesare, born January 18, 1943 at Queens Memorial Hospital, died April 19, in Putnam County, New York. She was the daughter of Christian Harold Nielsen (deceased) and Marie Nielsen (Bechtel). She is survived by her husband Julius Cesare, three sons, Mark Anthony, Michael Peter, Matthew David, daughters-in-law Jennifer, Maryna, and Patricia, grandchildren Steven, Nicolette, Christiana, Faith, Clea, Nijah, Angelina, and Tommy, and sister Diane Colburn and her daughter Krista Hogge. A lady of many talents, she was a gifted seamstress, knitter, quilter, watercolor artist, gardener, and musician. She was employed as an engineer draftsman, engineer office manager, business owner (The Spinning Wheel), a radio advertising salesperson, and Avon representative. All this, while being a loving mother to three boys. A faithful woman of God, she was a lifelong Lutheran and long time member at Trinity Lutheran Church, Brewster, New York. There she taught Sunday School, Confirmation, Cradle Roll, First Communion, and Vacation Bible School. She served on the Church Council, including Council President during the construction of a new Sanctuary and Sunday School area. She loved music of all kinds from classic hymns, Broadway musicals, and rock and roll. She loved to entertain and to cook and to bake. Her home was always filled with the aroma of fresh cooked cookies and delicious food.

Ray Vanzo

Ray Vanzo, 50, of Carmel, died on April 19, in Danbury Hospital in Connecticut. Mr. Vanzo was born on March 20, 1968 to Henry and Gloria E. Vanzo in the Bronx. In 1979 he moved to the Carmel

area and was a Carmel High School Graduate. He later went on to work with his dad, at H. Vanzo Knife Services in Croton Falls, where he made many friends with his customers. Ray was a loving son, a brother, uncle and a friend to many. In his spare time, he enjoyed bowling watching football going to the movies and the casino, but most of all he enjoyed spending his time with family and friends. He will be dearly missed by all who had known and loved him. He is survived by his loving parents; Gloria and Henry Vanzo, his two beloved brothers; Henry Vanzo III his wife Jennifer and Joseph Vanzo and his wife Christine, his cherished nieces and nephews; Sydney, Ashley, Grace, Logan, and from California Dominic and Mark Anthony all of whom he adored and each child held a very special place in his heart.

Umberto Lucia

It is with great sorrow that the family of Umberto Lucia announces his passing on April 21, at the Putnam Hospital center surrounded by his loving and devoted family. Umberto was born on September 11, 1939 to the late Armando and Valeria Lucia in Italy. He came to the United States at the age of 15. On November 15, 1965 he married the love of his life Alvisia in Italy and together they returned to the United States and welcomed an adoring

son Armando together. Mr. Lucia was extremely proud of his Italian heritage and upbringing in Italy but was equally proud to be an American, serving his country proudly with the United States Army being stationed in Hawaii for 18 months. Before his retirement Umberto worked as an appliance technician for Whirlpool, he was a genuine craftsman and loved to work with his hands, which pored over into his love of gardening. To say that Umberto had a green thumb would be a certain understatement; he had a garden that would make the produce section of any grocery market envious, along with having the most catered to, greenest lawn, in his entire neighborhood. He lived life to the fullest showing everyone in his life the same kind of love and care that went into his garden. Above everything, family meant the most to Umberto he was the pillar of his family. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle cousin and friend. His legacy of love and devotion will continue to bless his family and live on. Umberto is survived by his beloved wife of over 50 years Alvisia, his adoring son Armando, his daughter in law Annamaria, his cherished grandchildren who were the light of his life Isabella, Olivia and Carina. As well as his two brothers Pietro and Pio and two sisters Marisa and Biagia. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

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Peekskill Councilwoman Under Fire for Refusing to Say the Pledge

By Rick Pezzullo

Peekskill Councilwoman Vanessa Agudelo has come under fire for her decision not to say the Pledge of Allegiance during Common Council meetings and other events.

Agudelo, who has been on the council for four months since the Democrats swept all four seats up for grabs last November and now hold all seven seats, was criticized at the April 23 meeting by an outspoken resident and also was lambasted by former Mayor Frank Catalina in a Facebook post.

“Let me get this straight: An elected official cowardly stands while the Pledge is said but refuses to actually say the Pledge or even respectfully hold her hand over her heart; too young and immature to realize the significance of that pledge and showing respect for the millions who fought and died for her ‘right’ to be a moron and a poor example of a public official,” Catalina stated.

“Next time, and all the time, she should muster the backbone to fully exercise her ‘right’ by NOT standing, but to show her real ‘courage,’ petulance and ignorance, by sitting or taking a knee during the pledge rather than meekly posing,” he continued. “Let’s see if this coward shows that courage (or even shows up) at the solemn Memorial Day ceremony



Vanessa Agudelo

next month! I predict this extremist will retreat, hide her radicalism, and lack the real courage of her misguided convictions by ‘playing along’ with ‘rituals’ from now on.”

Leesther Brown confronted Agudelo during the hearings of citizens portion of last week’s meeting and called on the city’s Ethics Board to investigate the

consequences of Agudelo’s apparent stance.

“If you don’t want to take the Pledge, you need to step down,” Brown contended. “Her personal belief has nothing to do with it when she’s sitting up at the dais. You have no right when you represent the City of Peekskill.”

Agudelo responded to Brown but declined to explain why she doesn’t say the Pledge of Allegiance.

“I won’t come back with a public statement on why I won’t say the Pledge and what’s it’s for. I do have my right,” she said. “I did say the Pledge of Allegiance

when I was inaugurated out of respect for the ritual; that plays into the patriotism of the country.”

Agudelo did not answer an email from Examiner Media seeking further explanation, but Mayor Andre Rainey defended her “personal right.”

“To attack somebody’s beliefs to me is belittling them and is just disrespectful and unethical,” Rainey said at the end of last week’s meeting. “Peekskill, NY is a place where we appreciate the freedom to express yourself, the freedom to pursue life, liberty and freedom.”

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Does Your Street's Name Influence Your Home's Appeal?

Besides serving as a way to find where you live, can the name of your street influence the perception of your home and its value, positively or negatively?

The thought occurred to me a while back when I read a newspaper report about a complaint among residents of a certain town in Putnam County where a local motel housed a number of sex offenders in their midst. At the end of the article, almost as a throwaway, the motel's street address was listed as Sodom Road.

You just can't make this stuff up.

The origins of street names can be a fascinating study, ranging from history, their locations, mystery or sheer whimsy. I happen not to live on a street or road, but rather at a "park," specifically at a place called Trump Park. Interestingly, since last November, sharing my address of the past three years always elicits some kind of response, either positive or negative, but we residents who live at the property agree that it projects an image of quality.

I was first aware of how streets got their names when I went to grammar school in Philadelphia and the nuns taught us that the etymology of street names there were based on the plan developed by William Penn, where the major east-west streets

were the names of trees: Vine, Mulberry, Chestnut, Walnut, Locust, Spruce and Pine among them, intersected by a numbered grid.

And when we took a class trip to Washington, D.C., I found that all of the 50 states have streets named after them and most of them cross diagonally through an alphabetic as well as a numbered grid system. Rather than making an address clear, the intention of that system was to confuse invaders and to guard the Capitol, but today it serves to confuse tourists as well.

When I moved to the great metropolis of New York City, I was relieved to find a grid plan that made finding any address very easy, except for the wildly erratic system in Greenwich Village which was established before the grid system was in place, resulting in having West 4th Street somehow managing to intersect West 12th Street.

Until the mid-1800s, most of the population lived in densely populated cities where grid systems avoided chaos. But around 1850, people began moving out of congested cities to have cleaner air and less congestion. With increased value placed on nature, it became common to name streets after trees. As a result, my former neighborhood featured Hickory, Hemlock and Birch Streets.

The roads in our communities might reveal the types of industries they originally supported, such as Mill Street, Milk Street, Farmers' Market, Commerce Street and Mechanics Road. Also the Presidents were honored in every town: Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Madison, and Kennedy Boulevards abound across the nation. And some streets simply reflect what they face, such as Mountain View, Lakeside and Hudson View.

But the most creative names came with modern housing track developments where builders became responsible for naming streets, harnessing the suggestive power of words that shape a neighborhood even before the first home is built.

Sometimes the personal interests of builders attached themselves to street names. The most interesting I've found is a neighborhood in Mahopac known as the "fish bowl" where the streets are named Pike Place, Perch Drive and Trout Place. In the same town, my friends Jeanne and Gerry live in the "flower" neighborhood of Astor, Dahlia, and Tulip. And, nearby in Yorktown, we become American literary aficionados in Walden Woods with such names as Whitman, Emerson and Thoreau.

From the 1970s and 1980s, newer developments frequently adopted names of the developers' wives or daughters, and only infrequently, sons. Today, that practice is generally discouraged by town planning boards because those street signs tend to be stolen more frequently,

presumably by young people of the same names.

We can be either drawn to or repelled by the mystery of some street names. I had a real estate client who challenged me to find a house for her on Watermelon Hill Road simply because she loved the name so much. My personal favorites in this region are Pudding Street, Bullet Hole Road and Lover's Lane in Putnam Valley and Fiddler's Bridge Road in Dutchess County. Where did those haunting names originate, I wonder?

There's no denying that, whether your street suggests picking a flower, enjoying the comfort of a shade tree, paying tribute to a founding father, making love or catching a fish, its name can indeed add character, charm or mystery to where you live.

Here's a good trivia question for you. Can you guess the most popular street name in America? No, it's not Main, Maple or Elm. It's 2nd Street. Surprised? The reason is that most towns in America started with a simple grid of numbered streets, but many times 1st Street was renamed Main Street, boosting 2nd Street to the lead. So, you might say that 2nd is second to none.

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



By Bill Primavera

On a Treasure Hunt in Northern California for its Bounty and Beauty



By Nick Antonaccio

Last year, and again this spring, my wife and I embarked on a treasure hunt in northern California. We had been on these excursions in previous years. In fact, this was our 13th immersion into the idyllic lifestyle and wondrous landscape of one of the most beautiful locales in the world.

Our treasure hunt was two-fold.

We came seeking out artisanal wines produced in the backwater farmlands dotting the California coastline and inland slopes of gentle mountains. The number of passionate winemakers has grown exponentially over the past 25 years, fueled by technological advances and evolving techniques that have made it possible for winemakers to pursue their dreams within their financial means.

However, finding these unheralded treasures requires a pilgrimage to the source. As my wife and I roamed the

countryside, from the valley floors to the steep slopes of the mountains surrounding Napa Valley and the undulating terrain of Sonoma County, we visited a number of tasting rooms, sampling – and purchasing – a number of well-crafted and palate-pleasing wines.

And thus, my wife and I found ourselves immersed in the allure of the countryside, marveling at the natural beauty and bounty of the region.

On the valley floor, along the two main arteries running up and down the valley, it was easy to lose sight of the broader landscape and beauty of the Napa region. It was not until we climbed the hillsides that border the east and west of the valley that our perspective changed. Looking across the wide expanse of the valley we understood the unique terroir that has elevated Napa Valley to the heights of enological prestige.

In the mornings the fog hovers like a warm blanket, coddling the vines and protecting them from cool nights. As the sun burns away this layer, the vineyards radiate from the intense sunlight and heat.

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

The waning afternoon sun casts a glow on the valley floor that bursts with shades of red and orange, rivaling any artist's canvas brushstrokes.

As we drove west from Napa Valley, up and down the slopes and turns of the Mayacamas mountains, we headed toward the coast. Our destination: the isolated Sonoma Coast wine region and the Fort Ross Vineyards. In less than an hour we were cruising north along the Pacific Coast Highway. We have taken in the raw beauty of the scenic segment south of Monterey several times, but this was only our second time venturing along the stretch north of San Francisco.

Driving past the natural beauty of Point Reyes Station, with its dense population of soaring eagles, snowy egrets and 490 other species, we continued to our destination in Fort Ross. As we came upon Bodega Bay, the wide expanse of raw Pacific Ocean surf and wind, perfect for the multitude of hikers and surfers, was a radical change from the genteel greenery of Napa Valley.

Finally, we came to the turn-off for the Fort Ross Vineyard. We were not prepared for this encounter with nature.

From the turn onto the road winding up the mountainside to the winery, we felt the temperature dropping and the wind picking up. We counted 17 switchbacks and hairpin turns along the harrowing, narrow two-lane road, rising 1,500 feet above the ocean below us.

The treacherous ride rewarded us all the way to the top. With each switchback we were treated to a unique view of the surrounding forests of tall, lush pines. With each hairpin turn we witnessed long vistas north and south along the coast. The views and thrills were as exhilarating as those we encountered on the Pacific Coast Highway expanse along Big Sur to the far south.

We arrived at the winery by driving deep into the woods along a dirt trail until we came upon the modern tasting room and a new, mesmerizing vista. More on these wines and scenery next week.

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



Happenings

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

Art on Display:

Goldens Bridge, NY - The Katonah Art Center is thrilled to welcome artist Henry Finkelstein for a Plein Air workshop to be held at Caramoor Center for the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd, Katonah. May 11 - May 12, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The public is invited to a free lecture Friday evening at 7 p.m. to be held at The Katonah Art Center, 65 Old Bedford Rd, Goldens Bridge

Save the Date:

May 31: Oh, My Aching Knees! by Northern Westchester Hospital. 400 Main Street 1st floor conference center Mount Kisco, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Address your knee pain at our free seminar Join our panel of experts and learn more about: Eric L. Grossman, MD, FAAOS - Total Knee Replacement; Arthritis & Non-Operative Treatment of the Arthritic Knee David Yasgur, MD, FAAOS - Partial Knee Replacement and Patient-Specific Technology Victor Khabie, MD, FAAOS, FACS - Navio-Assisted Knee Replacement and demo David Miller, MD - ERAS (Enhanced Recovery After Surgery) Brittany Garrett, PT, DPT - Post-Operative Physical Therapy. Register <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/oh-my-aching-knees-registration-44455957967>

Vendors Wanted: Seeking Vendors for the 2018 Brewster Music Festival on June 9.

Ongoing:

Wednesdays:

Mental Health Association In Putnam Co. Support Groups: For more information contact Bonnie Soldano at 845 278-7600 or visit www.mhaputnam.org And Still I Rise, a women's group. Meets on Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in the kitchen at MHA in Putnam, 1620 Rt. 22, Brewster Family Support Group. Meets on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in the kitchen at MHA in Putnam, 1620 Rt. 22 Brewster

Tai Chi for Arthritis/Fall Prevention: Seniors 60 and over are invited to join Kim Cercena, at the William Koehler Senior Center, 160 Route Six, Mahopac, for Tai Chi for Arthritis/Fall Prevention. This safe, enjoyable program will meet twice a week for 8 weeks. Medical studies have shown that Tai Chi relieves pain and improves the quality of life for people living with arthritis. Participants do not need to have arthritis to participate. The program includes flexibility exercises which reduce pain and stiffness leading to increased mobility. It helps improve muscular strength (reduces pain and protects joints). Tai Chi also helps improve relaxation, balance, posture, and immunity. Classes will be held for one hour every Wednesday and Friday beginning Wednesday, April 11th at 10

a.m. For more information, please call Irene at 845-808-1734.

The Brewster Public Library is currently offering a free Basic ESL class on Thursdays, from 5 p.m. -6:30 p.m. The class will focus on practical communication skills and is intended for anyone who speaks limited English, but wants help improving their spoken and written English. The instructor, Steve Rome is a retired teacher of 30 years who has taught Social Studies, French and Spanish; he is also a certified TEFL instructor who has taught ESL in Taiwan. The class will run through May 31. For more information visit www.brewsterlibrary.org or call 845-279-6421.

Fridays:

Lend Me Your Ears - Music with Marlana continues at the Kent Library for those ages 3-5! Fridays, April 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th from 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Lend Me Your Ears is an exciting interactive music program for preschoolers. Children will have a ball singing along with Marlana as she plays her acoustic guitar. Shakers, scarves and lots of movement guaranteed. 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

May 1

Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s Math Club returns with season 2 at the Kent Library, starting Tuesday, May 1st from 5 p.m.-5:45 p.m., where you build stuff, run, jump and make music, make a mess...it's a totally new kind of math club!!! The Crazy 8's club is for those in Kindergarten through 2nd grade. This is a 8-week session. Some of the fun activities that we will do are funky fractals, beach ball party, glow in the dark geometry - math will never be the same! 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, NY 10512.

The Beat Goes On: Music of the Vietnam War Era. 7 p.m.

Dave Ehlert will present a wonderful visual presentation and perform the songs that marked this time in our history. We Gotta Get Outta This Place, Purple Haze, and Magic Carpet Ride are just a few of the songs you'll hear in this wonderful 50th Anniversary tribute to our Vietnam Vets. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

The Reads at Reed Book Club will be meeting on May 1st at 7pm to discuss the

book "Days Without End" by Sebastian Barry. The meeting will be held at Reed Memorial Library, 1733 Route 6, Carmel. Contact 845-225-2439 with any questions.

May 2

Mahopac Library's Teen Library Council Meeting. 2:30 p.m. If you are a teen in grades 6 and up, join the TLC and have a say in what happens at your library! Planning meetings take place once a month. Earn Community Service hours during the planning and double community service when working at special library events throughout the year. Registration requested; drop-ins welcome. Register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org.

Understanding the New Tax Laws, Wednesday, May 2 7 p.m. Fiduciary Advisor, Frank Marano, will discuss the changes in the tax laws and the impact they will have on all of us. Learn how they affect your personal taxes, finances, small businesses and your retirement and financial planning. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

4-H Dog Care Program & Training Series - Basic dog care and training for youth ages 9 and up. Wednesday evenings, May 2-June 20 from 6:30 p.m.-8p .m. \$65/pp for non-4-H members; \$30 for 4-H members. Dog ownership not required. Register online at <http://putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events> or call Cornell Cooperative Extension at 845 278-6738 for info.

May 3

Dr. Ken Hoffman, Medical Director of SOPHIA Natural Health Center in Brookfield will be at the Brewster Public Library on Thursday, May 3rd from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. to discuss "Critical Information on the Prevention and Care of Lyme Disease." Learn about new information from scientific sources on what to do if you find a tick, what tests to run that actually work and what protocols can work to eradicate Lyme. Dr. Hoffman will also present the science-based Integrative Natural protocols that can help relieve chronic Lyme for 80% or more of those who suffer. Register online at www.brewsterlibrary.org or call 845-279-6421.

May 4

Summer Theatre Auditions, Friday, May 4 5:30 p.m. This year's play will be Beauty and the Beast! Come out and audition for any part you'd like! For grades entering 3 through 7. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or

go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

Teen Play Info Session, Friday, May 4, 4 p.m. Our first teen play was a hit, so here we are for round two! If would be interested in the Teen Play, come to our info session! For ages 13 and up. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

First Friday Potluck: Join us at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2103 Rt 6, Brewster on May 4th from 6-8pm. Bring a dish and make new friends. RSVP 279-5181

4th Annual Teen Health Day on May 4th from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Carmel Fire Department, Carmel, NY. This event will be free and open to anyone 13 yrs. and older. Many community organizations will be on-site to answer questions on Teen Health issues. NO question is OFF-LIMITS. There will be free food and refreshments as well as raffles for movie tickets, mini golf and many more prizes

River View Poetry Getaway, Write. Relax. Reconnect. May 4-6. Garrison - The Garrison Institute (Route 9D at Glencliff, Garrison, NY 10524). Join us for a writing retreat to recharge your creative spirit, awaken your imagination and breathe new life into your poetry. Enjoy encouraging workshops, supportive feedback, nourishing meals, morning yoga and a nurturing community. Learn more: www.stockton.edu/murphywriting. This event does not reoccur weekly, or anything like that, although it is a full weekend long. To contact us, feel free to email Peter Murphy at info@murphywriting.com. Our phone number is 609-626-3594. For more information, please visit <http://stockton.edu/murphywriting>. The price of this event varies, depending on applicable discounts.

May 5

Bring your instrument, bring your voice, bring your talent and bring your friends to Teen Talent night hosted by libraries across Putnam County. When? Friday, May 5th from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Come represent your library at this multi-library event. Performers must be ages 13 -19! The Putnam County Teen Talent Show will be held at The Julia L. Butterfield Library in Cold Spring. The Library is located at 10 Morris Avenue, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Mother's Day Card Workshop at the Kent Library on Saturday, May 5th between 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Come on in and make a beautiful card for your mother, godmother, grandmother, or any other mom you want to celebrate! No registration is required. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY 10512

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AUCTIONS

AUCTION LEWIS COUNTY REAL PROPERTY TAX FORECLOSURES. 40 Properties May 9 @ 10AM. Elk's Lodge #1605, Lowville, NY. 800-243-0061 HAR, Inc.& AAR, Inc. Free brochure: www.NYSAUCTIONS.com

ONTARIO COUNTY TAX FORECLOSED REAL ESTATE AUCTION: Wednesday, 5/23/18. Registration: 6PM; Start: 7PM. Location: Ontario County Safety Training Facility; 2914 County Road 48, Canandaigua, NY. Pre-auction Bidders Meeting: 5/16/2018 (7PM) For complete details visit: www.auctionsinternational.com/liveauctions or call 800-536-1401

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EVENTS

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF RNB NEW YORK REALTY, LLC. Arts of Org filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/8/2017. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it

may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Kristen Renzulli, 31 Overlook Drive, Chappaqua NY 10514. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FERGUSON SERVICES LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 12/20/17. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **FERGUSON SERVICES LLC 90 Shinglehouse Road Millwood NY 10546. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KATIE MORGAN, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 2/5/18. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **121 North Chatsworth Ave., Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EMERSON INK LLC filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/13/2018. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **46 Grandview Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Literary Services.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SERENITY PUBLISHING, LLC. Art of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/05/2017. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and mailed by SSNY to: **312 Watch Hill Road, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful acts.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ALEX BOFFI, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/31/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, **14 Westview Avenue, Unit 603 Tuckahoe, New York 10707. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KSCRATCH NETWORKS, LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/13/2010. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **5 Shatterhand Close, White Plains NY 10603. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MOORELOVE4YOURSOU, LLC. Art of organization filed with the SSNY on

continued on next page

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continued from previous page

3/19/18 located in Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at **25 Lake Street #4J, White Plains, NY 10603. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LONG-STOCKING LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/20/2018. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it

may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **39 Chesterfield Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful acts.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: CANINE BODY DEFENSE, LLC. filed with SSNY on 4/03/18. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 241 East Main Street, Mount Kisco NY, 10549 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FOUR-SIX WP LLC filed with SSNY on 3/30/2018. Office in Westchester, SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **333 Mamaroneck Ave. #417, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BREWSTER SHIPPING LLC filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/27/2018. Office location: Putnam. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to principal business address: **12 Main St, Brewster, NY10509. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity**

LEGAL NOTICE PARKING LOT LICENSE AGREEMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND QUALIFICATIONS June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2021 The Village of Pleasantville Board of Trustees will be accepting proposals from qualified owners/operators of "for-hire" transportation companies for the exclusive right to occupy three (3) parking spaces within the Memorial Plaza parking lot, located adjacent to the Pleasantville railroad station between Bedford Road and Manville Road in Pleasantville, New York. Interested persons may obtain information, forms and instructions from the office of the Village Clerk, 80 Wheeler Avenue, Pleasantville New York. The Village of Pleasantville Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal. **Applications must be returned to the Village Clerk by 4:00PM on May 15, 2018.** Eric Morrissey, Village Administrator/Clerk, Village of Pleasantville, Westchester County, New York

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The Putnam
Examiner
Sports
Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

Cummings of Age!

**Upstart Lakeland
Outlasts Mahopac
for 3-0,
10-Inning Win**



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Lakeland junior SS Leo Cummings comes up just short of slapping the tag on Mahopac senior captain Anthony Caminiti as 2B Chris Ling backs up the play in the Hornets' 3-0, 10-inning win over the host Indians last Saturday. Youthful Class A Lakeland, which has just one senior in the starting lineup, has won five of the last six and looks to be ahead of its time by defeating a veteran Class AA Mahopac club... see Baseball Notebook

Sports

Boys' LAX Notebook

Section 1 Title Tilts Could Present Riveting Matchups

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

Based on the first month of the season, there's a chance we could get four really good Section 1 championship games at Lakeland High on May 29th and 30th. Nobody in Class A has emerged as a clear-cut favorite, though state-ranked (No.18) Mamaroneck remains the team to beat, with Mahopac, Scarsdale and Lakeland/Panas all vying to the second and third seed to avoid the Tigers prior to the finals.

In Class B, state-ranked (No.6) Yorktown and No.4 John Jay are in line for a larger-than-life clash, a battle that should deliver historical pomp and circumstance before, during and after. It's essentially a foregone conclusion as the two powers have distanced themselves from the vast majority of the section and could deliver one of the finest championships we've seen in recent years with so much D-I



ANDY JACOBS/BOB CASTNER PHOTOS

Lakeland/Panas' Steve Magarelli lays out for GB in Rebels' loss to Pleasantville Friday.

rankings and ultimately appear to be on everyone's radar now, not just ours.

Four Section 1 Class D teams have cracked the state's top 20, including No.1 Pleasantville, who might just be the second or third best team in the section this season, behind only Yorktown and Jay. But Westlake comes in at No.4 and should provide a whale of a foe, if it can survive either No.13 Briarcliff and No.14 Bronxville in what should also be some closely contested semifinals.

The final two weeks of the regular season are now upon us as April turns to May and the temps begin to soar into the 80s this week, so don't forget your sun block and saddle up for what should be a wild run for the roses...



Yorktown's Reece Andrews goes behind the back to beat Mahopac G Mike Argila in Huskers' 14-4 win over Indians Saturday.

talent storming the field. It could be a last-possession-wins game that will bring throngs of lax junkies to Lakeland.

In Class C, state-ranked (No.9) Rye is probably going to survive the early rounds to advance to the finals where one might expect to see No.12 Hen Hud, which could be one heck of a high-scoring affair should we be so lucky. Coach Troy Lepore's Sailors have finally cracked the state



Mahopac senior Mark Carey takes a run at Yorktown senior pole Brandon Meyreles in Indians' 14-4 loss to host Huskers Saturday.

NWE/Putnam Fab Five Lax Poll

No.1 YORKTOWN – After a lackluster three quarters, the Class B Huskers (8-3) went savage during a fourth-quarter run in a 14-4 win over Mahopac Saturday, unleashing a career-high six-goal from Alex DeBenedictis, who Coach Carney called a good, crafty finisher. Them Embury boys were at it again; A Jamison Embury added two goals and four assists while M Hunter Embury added two goals and one assist to run their scoring totals to an absurd 63 points for Jamison and 44 for Hunter. Reese Andrews and Keegan Doller each added a goal and an assist for the Huskers, who will visit Lakeland/Panas this Friday night (7 pm) with the fancied Murphy Cup on the line.

No.2 HEN HUD – Class C Sailors (9-1) made short work of Tappan Zee in a 9-4

rout of the Dutchies and ran their win streak to nine. Max Popilizio (2G, 1A), Austin Fraser (2G), Connor Gallagher, Evan Morris, Mekhi Gray and Ryan Pritchard also found the back of the net for the athletic and balanced Sailors, who should be chomping at the bit to challenge for their first ever Section 1 title come late May.

No.3 MAHOPAC – The Class A Indians (7-4) showed some grit this week in a 10-5 win over Scarsdale and then trailed Yorktown by just four goals after three Q's, which is better than most folks expected. The zone defense broke down in the 4th but the Indians have plenty to build on this week. Mahopac's Jack Sarfaty scored one goal and dished a choice feed for one assist and junior G Mike Argila

(10 saves vs. Huskers and 18 against Scarsdale) showed big-time capability this week. Indians James O'Brien (4G, 1A), Ryan Dugan (2G, 1A) and Tommy Elliott (2G) were prime-time players in the win over Scarsdale, which is allegedly nursing some key injuries and posted a big OT win against Westlake Saturday.

No.4 SOMERS – Class B Tuskers (6-5) knocked off Byram Hills, 9-6, when Somers A Vincent Cartelli (4G, 3A) went on a scoring binge. Tusker Brandon LaSpina (2G, 1A) continued to supply a consistent scoring threat while T.J. Deagan (3A) was dishing it. #Final4orBust for Tuskers!

No.5 LAKELAND/PANAS – If they ever get healthy, these Class A Rebels (3-8) might just bust up a playoff bracket

and ride the pieces to the finals. In a 13-10 loss to Section 2 power Niskayuna 13, Lakeland/Panas senior A JoJo Janavey (4G, 1A), Reagan Fallo (1G, 4A) and Steve Magarellia (2G) got it done for the Rebs, who also discovered that Pleasantville is no joke in a 16-11 Panther win. Like to see the Rebs give Yorktown a game on Friday, but they will need to play over their heads to do so.

HM PUTNAM VALLEY – Class D Tigers (5-6) staved off what would have been a woeful loss to Keio when Mike Nolan (3G) and Joey Vandeverdonk (GWG) erased a two-goal deficit in the final 2:36 of the fourth for a 7-6 win.

HM HALDANE – Class D Blue Devils (6-1) beat Croton, 9-5, when Sammy 'The Bull' Gianchinta hit on a hat trick.

Sports

Softball Notebook

Lakeland Win Streak at Nine After Win over Somers

Becker Whiffs 18 in Mahopac Win; PV Stays Hot

By Tony Pinciario

Four games into the 2018 season, **LAKELAND** was staring at an uncharacteristic record – 0-4.

The 2017 Section 1 Class A champions lost only one game last year, so the zero in the win column would be a cause for concern. Not so, according to junior P Claire Fon.

“We were still trying to work out the kinks,” said Fon, Lakeland’s No. 1 windmill. “We lost six players to graduation, including five starters and our entire infield. We felt we weren’t a team yet because we had had a new group, everyone was young and we were figuring out how to communicate.

“But our coaches helped us out and all the hard work we’ve been doing has been paying off.”

Lakeland shut out intra-district rival, Panas, 2-0, for its first win of the season to snap the four-game skid. Since then, Lakeland has been on fire. The Hornets are riding a nine-game winning streak, after victories last week over Pelham (10-1), Eastchester (7-3), Somers (13-0) and John Jay-Cross River (11-7).

During this nine-game run, Lakeland has outscored the opposition, 88-15.

Along with the pep talk from Lakeland coaches Joe Chiara and Steve Fallo, Fon said the team became one.

“We started doing team bonding, hanging out together and talked about how we were feeling,” Fon said. “We wanted to get a feel for everyone and by bonding, the communication has gotten so much better and it has brought us closer together.”

The team bonding also coincided with Lakeland beating Panas, behind a Fon two-hitter. The Hornets followed it up with a 13-4 triumph over rival, Brewster.

“It boosted everyone’s confidence,” Fon said. “Everyone was really excited for the Panas game and it was a game we wanted to win. Now that we’ve won nine games in-a-row, all of our confidence is boosted to levels we never thought.”

Lakeland has seven games

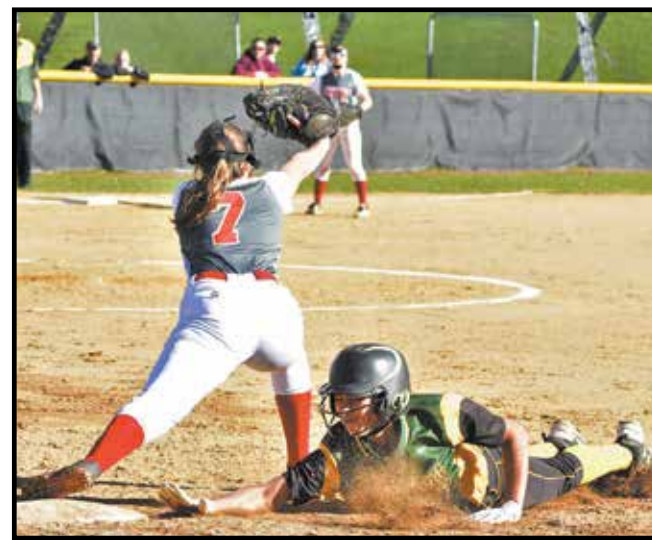
remaining in the regular season before it begins defense of its title.

Lakeland kept steamrolling opponents last week, beginning with Pelham as Sabrina Reichelt collected three hits, scored twice and drove in four runs. Fon had two hits, including a home run, and three RBI and Krystal Badillo scored three runs. Fon scattered seven hits and struck out nine.

The Hornets used a six-run third inning to take control of Eastchester. Eighth-grader Stella Bale smacked a home run and had three RBI. Hannah Matusiak added two hits and two RBI and Badillo also had two hits and drove in a run. Fon allowed six hits and struck out a season-best 14.

Fon tamed a **SOMERS’** lineup that was averaging double-digit runs, limiting the Tuskers to just two hits and again, whiffing 14. Lakeland’s offense ripped four home runs – Amber Lopez, Badillo, Bale and Fon, who finished with a team-leading four RBI. Lopez and Badillo each drove in two runs and 8th-grader Shannon Scotto and Bale had two hits and two runs scored, apiece.

Lakeland trailed John Jay, 6-3 in the second inning, before evening the score at 6-6. Lakeland took the lead for good with two runs in the fourth.



RAY GALLAGHER/ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

Lakeland’s Amber Lopez is narrowly nabbed by Somers 1B Jill Carlisto in reigning Class A champion Hornets’ 13-0 win over Tuskers.

For the second consecutive game, Lakeland went yard three times – Badillo, Lopez and Bale. Lopez and Bale each had three hits and two hits. Ava Knopf and Badillo contributed two hits and three RBI apiece.

PUTNAM VALLEY went 2-1 last week, beating Byram Hills (17-2) and Pleasantville (6-0), but falling to Ardsley.

Emily McKenna and Frankie Reyes collaborated on a two-hitter against Byram Hills. Alex Waters had two hits, three RBI and three runs scored and Sophia Lord had a double and drove in four runs.

McKenna registered her first shutout of the season with a two-hitter and 14 strikeouts as the Tigers made Coach Rena Finsmith’s return to her alma mater, Pleasantville, a happy one.

Finsmith, who starred for veteran Pleasantville Coach Gina Perino, said the two plan a scrimmage every year, but the weather did not cooperate. Fortunately, Finsmith had Pleasantville on the schedule.

“It’s nice to go back home, visit Pleasantville High School, see some teachers, if they are around, and, of course, get to coach against someone who taught me so much about softball,” Finsmith said. “There was a moment in the game when Gina was saying something to her kids about using the tee and my girls were like, ‘Wow, that sounds familiar.’ I said, ‘Yes, where do you think I learned it from?’ It was a funny moment.

“I look forward to playing Gina because it’s just nice to go back to where I really started to learn the game of softball. I was able to gain so much knowledge from her and take that with me, when I played in college and now as a coach. Throughout



Lakeland P Claire Fon had good reason to smile after driving in four runs and whiffing 14, including 200th career K in 13-0 shutout of Somers Thursday.



Somers C Gabby Mazzotta slaps tag on Lakeland’s Jessica Ascencao in the Tuskers’ stunning 13-0 loss to host Hornets Thursday.



Putnam Valley freshman P Emily McKenna, who has the makings of a great one, whiffed 13 in 6-0 shutout of Pleasantville last week.

continued on next page 23

Sports

Baseball Notebook

Carmel Takes Round 1 vs. Mahopac in Battle of Rivals

Lakeland Wins 5 of last 6; Brewster, Somers on Tears

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

CARMEL just might be for real on the Class AA circuit. The Rams' 7-3 League I-A win over visiting Mahopac last Thursday, behind yet another sterling effort from ace Matt Vitro, just adds to the notion.

"We can definitely keep this level of play up," said Vitro, who allowed three runs on six hits, sending 11 Indians down K-way. "We have a lot of pitchers who go out and throw strikes, which keeps us in the game. They aren't afraid to throw strikes because our defense is pretty strong, especially in the infield. Also, when our lineup is clicking it can be pretty dangerous 1-9."

Carmel SS Sean McCarthy, who stroked two hits, scored twice and drove home two against the Indians, has been pivotal. Ram Dan Castrovinci added three hits and reliever Jack Sullivan fanned four for

the save as the Rams improved to 8-4.

"Our players are putting in the time and dedication," Carmel skipper Joe Hackert said. "We are still a bit raw but working hard to improving each day. Most importantly, they are coachable. Vitro (5-1) has been a work horse on the mound and at the plate for us. He pumps strikes and is our most consistent hitter. Our greatest improvement has been defensively. My assistant, Coach Heitman, has done an unbelievable job with our infielders. They have kept use in every game. We have gotten great consistency from our two freshmen, Febo and Sullivan. Febo is a very good defensive catcher and puts the ball in play regularly. Sullivan has stepped up as our No.2 pitcher and has been very impressive. Both of them have a baseball IQ and maturity well ahead of their ages. Offensively, it seems like a different person steps up each game. Whether it be McCarthy, Gonzalez, Vitro,

Ciatto, Benitez or Loughran. Our early success is due to our team chemistry and senior leadership."

Carmel has exceeded expectations but whether or not the Rams are ready to make a run at the League I-A flag will be determined this week during a critical home-and-home set with undefeated RCK (11-0), the preeminent program in Section 1 the last 15 years. But a split with reigning Class AA champion

Arlington, plus wins over Mahopac (5-7), Somers (7-4) and Panas (7-3), is an indication that Carmel can hold its own and could secure a top-six seed and a first round home playoff game should this run continue.

MAHOPAC went on to lose a 3-0, 10-inning decision to visiting Class A Lakeland last Saturday when the old-school rivalry seemed to pick up a little steam, what with the jostling back and forth before the Hornets took advantage in the 10th of a couple of Mahopac errors. Prior to that, Lakeland lefty Evan Berta and Mahopac RHP Billy Moeller were shoving goose egg after good egg in an epic pitcher's duel.

After two quick outs at the bottom of the Lakeland order, leadoff hitter Matt Schenck and two-hitter Joey Vetrano each singled to set the table. Berta's RBI single up the middle plated the game's first run and the Indians misplayed it, allowing Vetrano to score. On the next play, Mahopac committed another error, allowing Berta to come around and score, which was only fitting since he whiffed 14 Indians over seven innings before reliever Mike Scotto chucked the final three frames for the win. Moeller sent 10 Hornets down K-way before being relieved by Andrew



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Mahopac IF Anthony Simeone can't get tag down in time on Lakeland's Jace Delulio, who swipes 2B in Indians' 3-0 loss to Hornets.

Simeone, the victim of three unearned runs in the 10th.

"Evan really kept his cool out there," Lakeland Coach Bill Casey said. "This was just a well-pitched game by both teams today."

Mahopac loaded the bases in the 10th with one out, but Scotto got out of the jam with strikeout and lineout to Vetrano to end the game. Scotto fanned five for the young Hornets (7-4), who are on the verge of big doings with just one senior starter.

"It was a tough day at the plate for us," Mahopac Coach Myk Lugbauer said. "Their guys kept us off balance all game long. We had our chances but couldn't come up with the clutch hit. Great thing about baseball is we have four games to start off the week and get right back at it. We need to start stringing some hits together and we'll be okay. Billy did a great job for us like he has all year long. He has been a bulldog on the mound and any time he is out there he gives us a chance to win."

YORKTOWN scored two in the ninth of a 7-5 win over Valhalla Saturday, doing so behind two RBI apiece from Huskers (3-8) Luan Biberaj, Tyler Pugliese and Nick Fardo. OSSINING (6-6) was mashed by Fox Lane, 11-0.

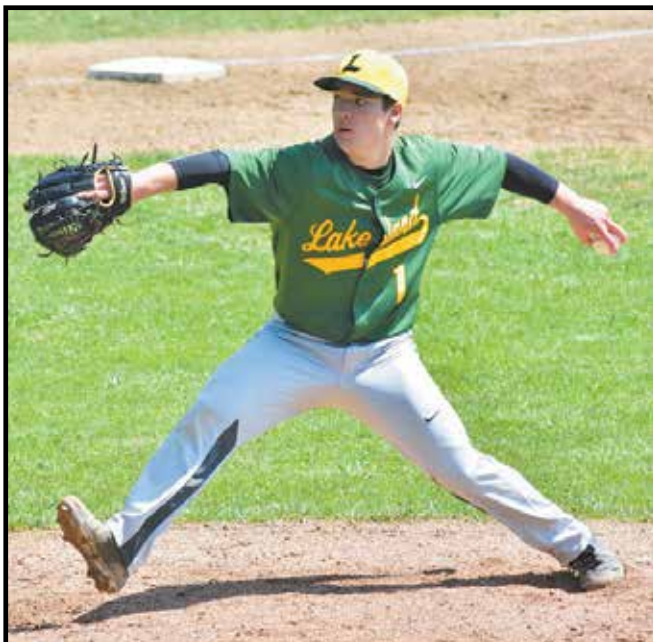
CLASS A LEAGUE II-C

You would have thought it was the opening round of the playoffs last Tuesday at Lakeland High where the Hornets and visiting Brewster Bears

continued on next page



Lakeland 3B Matt Schenck puts a pivotal tag on would-be Mahopac base thief Anthony Sochan in Hornets' 3-0 win over Indians last Saturday.



Lakeland lefty Evan Berta chucked seven scoreless innings in Hornets' 3-0 10-inning win over Mahopac Saturday.



Mahopac C Connor Stepkoski is quick to praise P Billy Moeller who fired seven shutout innings in 3-0 10-inning loss to Lakeland Friday.

Sports

Baseball Notebook

continued from previous page

(8-5) got after each other for nine innings of action-packed baseball. Brewster held on for a 9-6 League II-C win in what should be a wild chase for bragging rights between these two, Walter Panas (8-4), Somers and John Jay CR.

Down 4-1 through five, the Bears came charging back with five in the sixth to take a 6-4 lead, but the Hornets scored one in the sixth and one in the seventh to force extras.

Brewster's Michael Charbonneau (2 hits, 2 RBI), Paul Catalano (3 hits) and Joe

Girard (3 RBI) led the way. Leo Cummings knocked in two for the Hornets, who have a lethal sophomore class on the come. Lakeland returned the favor with a 5-4 win over the Bears on Friday, stroking 10 hits and getting four RBI and three hits from Berta.

Charbonneau then went nine innings, scattering four hits and no earned runs for a no-decision in the Bears' 5-4 win over Ardsley on Saturday. The visiting Bears and Panthers were tied at 1-1 after 13 innings before the Bears put up a four-

spot to prevail behind two RBI from Dean Johnson and another from Nick Girard.

P Bobby McBride finished off a strong week for the Bears by knocking in three runs and pitching Brewster to a 6-5 win over Tappan Zee on Sunday. He sent 10 Dutchies to the pine on K's.

SOMERS might be the biggest surprise to date. After a 9-3 win over Croton Saturday, the Tuskers are sitting pretty at 9-4 with a current No.5 seed, so get the Tuskers on your radar. Tusk slugger Chris Boncardo (2 for 4, 2 runs) did it again, homering for the seventh time this season. Soon enough, opponents will get wise to this kid's power and someone else we need to get clutch as pitchers avoid him like the plague.

Tuskers Nick Ruggiero (2 for 4, 3 RBI, 2 runs) and Liam Kaseta (2 for 4, 3 RBI, 2B) each supported winning P Austin Wainer (5 IP, 2 ER, 5 Hits, 2 BB) who fanned a career-high 12 Tigers.

LEAGUE II-E

Hen Hud (10-3) continued its winning way with a 6-5 league win over Lourdes, improving to 4-1 in II-E action and working their way toward a top three seed in the playoffs. The Sailors also defeated Ossining, 11-0, behind hurler Matt Imimbo, who pitched five scoreless innings of one-hit ball. Against Lourdes, Ryoji Schwartz led the Sailors, going 3-4 with two doubles and the game-winning RBI single. Billy Riefenhauser had two hits and two RBI to support P Nick Caruso, who chucked six innings and gave up two runs.

CLASS B

Will the real **CROTON-HARMON** please stand up, please stand up? Croton-Harmon's 5-4 win over visiting Rye Neck came behind P Max Luke, who didn't allow an earned run, while holding the Neck to just one hit while struck out nine for the win. reliever Toby Murphy chalked up the save for the Tigers (4-9), who have battled consistency issues all season. Supporting the cause was Bryan Scutari (2 for 3, RBI) and Evan Hunter (2 RBI). The Tigers are also the only team to blemish Briarcliff's otherwise perfect record, so the potential is there.

PUTNAM VALLEY (5-5) just can't seem to muster enough offense to make a sustained run at consistency. Wins over Brewster and Pawling were followed by losses to Briarcliff and Blind Brook, which was a tough, 5-4, nine-inning loss. Angelo Milano and Brian McBride each stroked a pair of run-scoring singles, but three unearned runs did the Tigers in against the Trojans. The win over Brewster was big and saw pitcher TJ Brescia (5 IP) and Alex O'Brien (2 IP) combine on a five-hit, seven-K gem.

Make no mistake: The road to the Class B title runs through Briarcliff (14-1).

CLASS C

HALDANE (5-6) got busy in an 8-6 win over Hamilton Saturday by getting clutch hits from George Leiter, Aidan Siegel, Kyle Kisslinger and Alden Dobosz. The Blue Devils will be chasing Tuckahoe and Pawling for Class C bragging rights.

Lakeland Win Streak at Nine After Win over Somers

continued from page 21

the season we will talk just about the nuances of coaching and it's nice to be able to turn to her for advice, considering her longevity and success in Section 1 softball."

Reyes went 3 for 3, with two RBI and two runs against Pleasantville. Keiko Waters, Sabrina Cross and Lord each had an RBI.

Putnam Valley is now 7-3, but Finsmith said the next two weeks will be difficult.

"We play back-to-back games against powerhouse opponents in Pawling and Westlake and then head into the following week playing every single day," Finsmith said. "We are going to be tested in the next two weeks, not only with great opponents, but having to physical and mentally prepare ourselves for the day in and day out of games."

BREWSTER dropped a pair of games to John Jay-Cross River, 17-8 and 9-6. The Bears are now 4-8 this season.

"We have shot ourselves in the foot defensively all season long, unfortunately."

and defensively, and are having terrific seasons. We have had some moments of brilliance. We went to Eastchester and came from behind to win, 9-4. We played a great game against Mahopac and won 3-2. Each and every game it seems we have that one inning that plagues us and they've all come back to get us. But, no one is giving up. We come to each game ready to give 100% and work on improving, and for that, I am very proud of them and their effort."

Eighth-grader Kate Katsetos had two hits, including a triple, a run scored and an RBI in the first John Jay game. Taylor Riccardi, Caroline Cherubini and Gabbi Dovi each had two hits and two RBI in the second John Jay game.

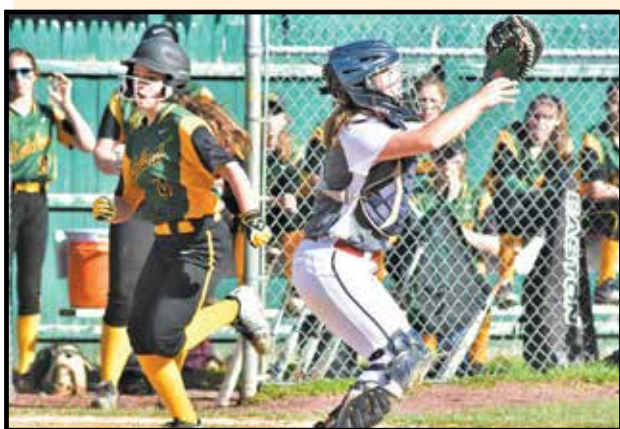
YORKTOWN played one game, thanks to Mother Nature not cooperating, and the Cornhuskers dropped a 3-2 verdict to Mamaroneck.

Angelique Serrano and Samantha Ricardulli each had two hits, including a double, and drove in a run. Erica Salveggi allowed one earned run and struck out six for the 8-2 Cornhuskers.

"It was a tough loss for us," Yorktown coach Ryan Iamurri said. "We kept getting runners on base, but couldn't get the timely hit. Erica pitched a great game for us and unfortunately, a couple of errors in the seventh inning really hurt us. Mamaroneck did a great job of putting the ball in play and capitalizing, which good teams are going to do."

MAHOPAC (6-4) frosh

Shannon Becker continued her wizardry over Section 1 foes in the Indians' 2-1 win over Clarkstown South. It took 10 innings but the RHP Becker fanned 18 batters to earn the win. Beth Schum's walk-off hit drove in the game-winning run in the bottom of the 10th. Kim Astrologo also shined for the tribe. The Indians also took third place in the FDR Tournament.



Lakeland 8th-grader Shannon Scotto eyes the plate and scores in Hornets' 13-0 win over Somers' Gabby Mozzatta and Tuskers.

Brewster coach Lisa Delzio said. "John Jay played well and hit extremely well against us both games. We cannot afford that type of defense and pitching against a well-coached team like that. Despite our record, the girls have played hard all year long. Seniors Taylor, Francesca (Cioffi) and Karen (Lennox) have continued their solid play, as they did last year, offensively

Somers Topples Lakeland, 11-5; McSherry Bags 100th Goal



Somers M Emma Kittredge and Lakeland-Panas M Emily Kness battle for possession in Tuskers' 11-5 win over visiting Rebels last Thursday.

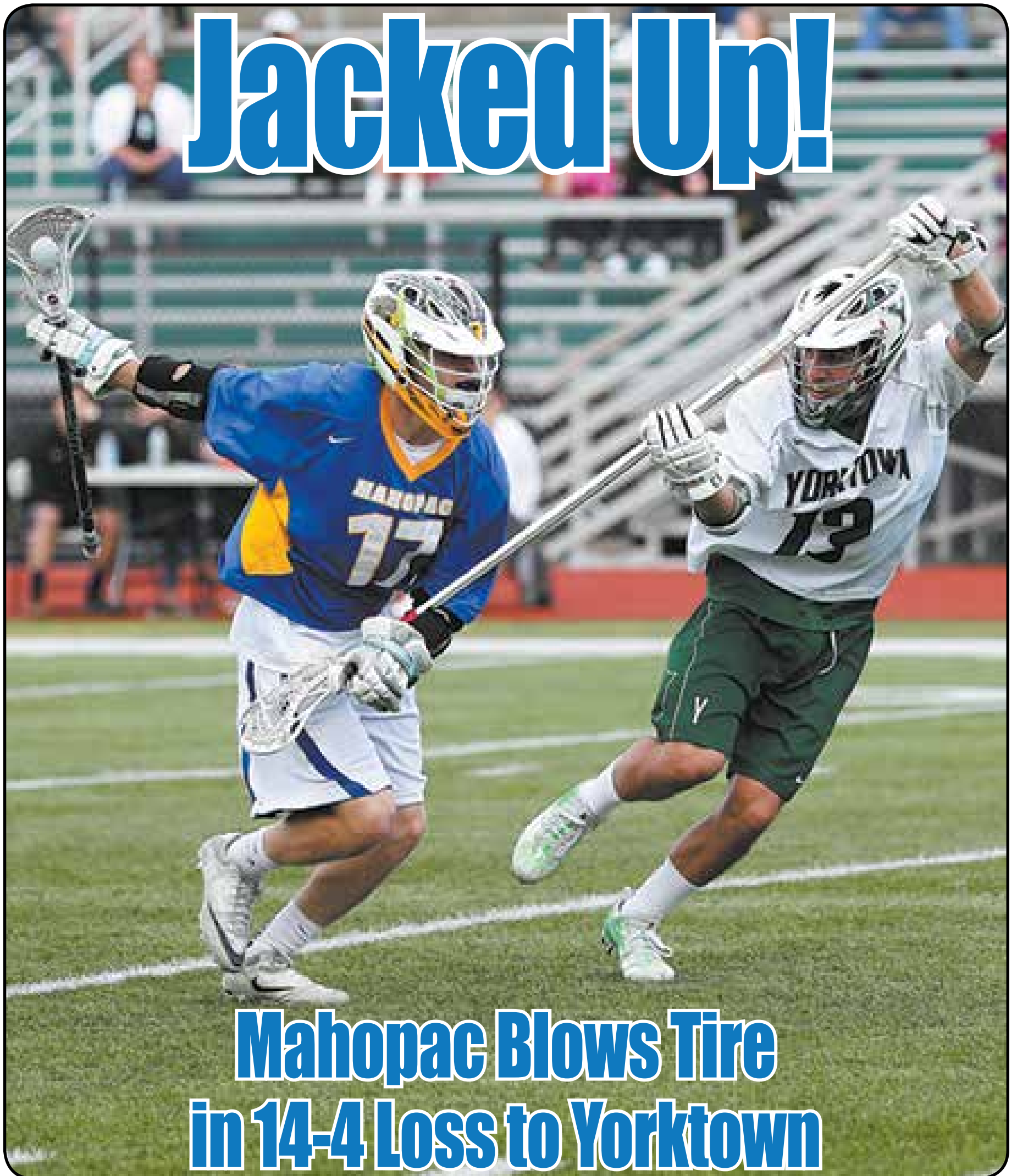


RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Above: Carmel's Emma McSherry (R) notched her 100th career goal last Wednesday in 16-9 win over Wappingers.



Left: Somers sniper Hannah Lustig looks to avoid check by Lakeland-Panas' Gianna Scialdone in Tuskers 11-5 win over Rebels last Thursday.



BOB CASTNER PHOTO

Mahopac senior M Jack Sarfaty (1G, 1A) makes a move against up-and-coming Yorktown freshman D Keith Boyer in the Indians' 14-4 loss to the host Huskers last Saturday when Yorktown scored six unanswered fourth-quarter goals to leave the Indians in the dust... see Boys' Lax Notebook