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September 25 - October 1, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 496

Kent Town and Carmel Schools Clash Over Bus Garage



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

Carmel school trustee John Curzio (right) and Kent Councilman Bill Huestis both oppose a \$25 million bond put forward by the Carmel school system.

By David Propper

As a Carmel school voter referendum nears, tensions between Kent town and Carmel school officials haven't eased as Kent town board members blasted the proposed bond that'll be considered at the ballot box next month.

During a town board meeting last Thursday, Kent town board members criticized the proposed \$25 million floated bond, mostly because it would eliminate a parcel of industrial land from town tax rolls. The bond would repairs roofs on all school buildings, make each building

ADA compliant, enhance the aging George Fischer Middle School library and build a new bus garage, which is easily the most contentious aspect of the bond. If the bond passes, the school district would purchase land in Kent (located at 1264 Route 52) to build the new garage, which would take some revenue away from the town.

The bond is \$25 million, but New York State aid would cover about \$20 million.

Supervisor Maureen Fleming and Councilman Bill Huestis expressed

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Southeast Candidates Announce Run for Vacant Council Seat

By David Propper

Less than a week after former Southeast councilwoman Liz Hudak resigned from her elected position, two candidates have come forward to run for the vacant seat.

With less than two months before Election Day, Democrat Melinda Montanaro and Republican Eric Larca will face each other to complete Hudak's term, which ends in 2021. Montanaro was selected Tuesday by Southeast Democrats and Larca was picked by Southeast GOP leaders Wednesday to run for the position.

Hudak stepped down on Sep. 14, citing family and personal health issues.

Montanaro, who was a candidate in 2017, said a year after she ran she believes Southeast is encountering the same issues,

including the crunch small businesses are feeling. A sense of community is ruined when only big businesses open in the area, she said.

Speaking out at different board meetings in the town, Montanaro said becoming a councilwoman would give her the opportunity to push for smarter development.

Montanaro, who knocked on more than a thousand doors last year when she ran, said now she has the chance to reach even more voters with her name already out there from a year ago.

Larca was born and bred in Brewster and graduated from Brewster schools. Several Republicans wanted to run for the

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ShopRite Marks Two Decades of Combatting Hunger



PROVIDED PHOTO

Last week Putnam elected officials from the community gathered to celebrate ShopRite of Carmel's 20 Years of giving back year round to the community with "Help Bag Hunger." Store Director Bob Gillick oversaw Sheriff Robert Langley, County Executive MaryEllen Odell and Town of Kent Supervisor Maureen Fleming showing off their bagging skills for customers and a red ribbon was cut to mark the occasion.

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Kent Town and Carmel Schools Clash Over Bus Garage

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concern and Councilman Paul Denbaum conveyed a full throttle opposition to the plan. Also speaking out at the meeting was Carmel school board member John Curzio, who has been opposed to the bond put forth by his colleagues on the board.

Curzio, who noted the comments he was offering were his personal opinion, strongly encouraged voters to oppose the referendum because it removed "prime industrial property" from Kent's tax rolls, hurting town residents by shrinking the tax base.

"Forcing Kent taxpayers to make up the difference, which in effect would be an additional tax increase on top of the cost of the bond," Curzio said, adding Carmel school officials have disregarded the concerns of Kent officials.

The Carmel school board should have split the bond into two votes; one for the roofs, ADA upgrades, and library improvements and another solely for the bus garage, Curzio argued.

Curzio also criticized the district for pushing out information to voters in a deceptive manner. Carmel voters received two different fliers about the bond, but Curzio argued the first flier failed to mention the interest would cost taxpayers an additional \$10.7 million and the second flier put that information in the smallest possible font that would make it

hard to see.

Huestis, a Carmel High School graduate, said he's always supported educational activities, but the bond would be another tax on homeowners, some that are already feeling the pinch. Many seniors have had to leave the area because they can't afford the high taxes anymore, he noted.

He said it was important to keep the parcel for the proposed bus garage on the tax rolls and try to develop that land commercially. Huestis said he encouraged school officials to use Putnam County's Fair Street property for its new garage as a shared service.

"I respect what the school's trying to do, but we need to cost conscience," Huestis said. "I am very concerned."

Fleming, who said she has always voted for every school budget offered, also condemned the bus garage component of the bond. She said in a town that has such little industrial and commercial property, losing industrial land to the schools would be painful.

Councilwoman Christine Woolley asked Curzio if the bond is turned down, would the school board then offer a bond only for building upgrades and leave the garage out of it, to which Curzio said, "that's be my hope." Since construction isn't supposed to start for another couple years, Curzio said if voters shoot down this bond, another referendum could still be set and not delay the upgrades.

Carmel Superintendent of Schools Andy Irvin said he stands by both mailers. The first mailer, which did not mentioned the interest, Irvin said district officials assumed residents knew there would an interest payment, similar to taking out a mortgage on a house.

The second mailer included the interest cost after Irvin was approached by a resident about it. When asked if the font should've been made larger, Irvin said no. He said the interest payment has been discussed openly during meetings and is online for residents to know about.

Irvin pointed out the district will also get state aid on the interest payments so local taxpayers would not bear the full \$10.7 million cost.

By the end of the bond, the district will have paid a little more than \$15 million overall, Irvin said.

As for the bus garage going on a Kent parcel, Irvin said the location being pursued is the best spot possible, noting other possible locations were too costly or might not even be plausible. The chosen parcel already has DEC approvals and is level, clear land that is shovel ready, Irvin said.

"I understand the perspective from the Town of Kent, but I can't say that the Town of Kent has priority over the Town of Patterson so if we had purchased the piece of property in Patterson, that's coming off their tax rolls," Irvin said. "Someone is

losing a piece of property from their tax rolls."

Board president Greg Riley echoed that, stating in an email, "The other properties would have cost the district significantly more to get them to the buildable condition the chosen property is in. And when asked why the bus garage wasn't a separate proposition, his reply was, "The board discussed the options and the final decision was to make it one proposition."

Regardless, it doesn't seem Kent officials will be happy if the bond is passed.

Denbaum offered the most stinging words about the bond and toward the school board. He said other Carmel school board members spent time and resources hoping to personally destroy and tear down Curzio instead of focusing on students. The majority of the board voted last year to hold a removal hearing for Curzio because they claimed he violated state education law in the manner in which he opposed a failed \$85 million bond referendum last year.

The small note about the \$10 million interest that Denbaum said was in microscopic font proves the board is encouraging residents to support it using taxpayer funds. He called it a "manipulation of facts" and "rank propaganda."

"I don't wish them luck on this referendum," Denbaum bluntly said. "I don't respect this referendum."



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Q: What can I expect from genetic counseling and testing?

A: Genetic counseling – which may lead to optional genetic testing – helps you understand your cancer risk so you can take steps to catch cancer early enough to make a difference, consider prophylactic medications or surgery to reduce your risk of developing cancer, and use the information to help you and your providers make the very best decisions about cancer treatment. While genetic testing consists simply of a sample of your blood or saliva, the consequences of various results should be considered with the guidance and support of a genetic counselor.

Q: What if I test positive for a hereditary risk of cancer?

A: Though unwelcome, the information can be lifesaving. If you have hereditary cancer syndrome, I review at what age you should start cancer surveillance, what your screening options are, and any steps that may reduce cancer risk. Following a cancer diagnosis, when patient and providers are faced with various treatment options, information about your hereditary risk can be a major factor in helping physicians recommend treatment for the best results.

Q: Who can benefit most from genetic counseling?

A: Consider counseling if you have a personal or family history of the following: onset of cancer before age 50; multiple new cancers in the same person; a personal history of ovarian cancer; the same or related cancer in close relatives or family generations; Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry, and a personal or family history of breast, ovarian or pancreatic cancer.

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Hero Officer Receives Liberty Medal for Saving Woman, Dog

By Rick Pezzullo

State Senator Terrence Murphy (R/Yorktown) presented New York Police Department Officer James Talbert with a New York State Liberty Medal at a ceremony held behind Yorktown Town Hall earlier this month for saving a woman and a dog from a burning car on the Taconic State Parkway in Yorktown in July.

"I'm sure anyone who found themselves in the same position would do what I did," said Talbert, who lives in Mahopac. "It was natural for me to stop. I didn't think twice."

The Liberty Medal is one of the highest civilian honors a New Yorker can receive. Murphy said he has only given out three others during the four years he has been in office.

"Presenting this award to Officer Talbert is one of those moments in politics that is a pleasure," said Murphy. "He has one of the toughest jobs there is. He disregarded his own safety to help someone else. Even when he was off duty, he was still doing his job. What Officer Talbert did was literally save someone's life."

While driving to his home in Mahopac from a friend's house, Talbert saw a vehicle overturned and on fire on the Taconic Parkway. Punching out the sunroof, he pulled a 59-year-old woman to safety. At the woman's request, he ran back to free



New York Police Department Officer James Talbert earned the New York State Liberty Medal for incredible bravery.

RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

her Yorkshire Terrier.

"My training kicked in when I saw the overturned car. When I pulled the woman out, she was semi-conscious and startled, but was all right. She was yelling for 'her

baby,' so I didn't hesitate to go back in and get her dog," Talbert said.

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne (R/Brewster), a former volunteer firefighter and EMT for the Kent Volunteer Fire

Department, spoke of the dangers associated with responding to such an accident. "It can be very difficult and dangerous to deal with a car fire. The word 'hero' is often overused in politics. That's not the case with Officer Talbert. He's absolutely a hero," Byrne said.

Among the guests attending the ceremony were Talbert's fellow NYPD members including Sergeant Sergio De La Mota and Police Officers Ryan Sheehan, Amir Cepeda, Michael Derosa and Kevin Navarro. His proud family members and friends on hand included his parents, Tim and Robin, his brother, Jake, grandparents, Ginger and Bill, his uncle, Matt, his girlfriend Brittney Bennett, and his friend, Kim Bennett.

The New York State Liberty Medal is given to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts and achievements on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers.

In July 2016, Michelle Margilaj, a bartender at Il Laghetto Restaurant in Mahopac, was awarded a Liberty Medal for rescuing an eight-year-old boy from drowning in Lake Mahopac. In December 2016, Murphy presented then 19-year-old student, Cullen Malzo, with a Liberty Medal. Malzo had rescued two teenaged girls from an overturned car that had skidded into Lake Mahopac.

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Southeast Candidates Announce Run for Vacant Council Seat

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open seat, but Larca, who was rumored to be prepping for a run next year, was able to get the nod.

Larca said there is no candidate more informed and more involved that he is. Larca originally got more involved in the town by joining the planning board two years ago and during his tenure, he hasn't missed a public meeting and staff meeting.

"I just love this community, I love the process, I love to know what's going on and I love to have an impact," Larca said.

A first time candidate, Larca conceded he's "green to the process" and with such a short period of time between now and the election it could make things more difficult. He still needs to set up an election committee to raise funds and purchase lawn signs and other campaign literature and material.

The town election could be one of the most consequential in Putnam County this election season. With a logistics center proposed in Southeast and requiring town board approvals, one vote could shift the direction of the town. Currently the town board has two Democrats, Councilwoman Lynne Eckardt and Councilman John Lord and

two Republicans, Supervisor Tony Hay and Councilman Edwin Alvarez.

Northeast Logistics is seeking to open a 1.1 million square foot site on 328 acres of land located off Puglsey Road. There would be four buildings with the closest warehouse 950 feet from Route 312.

Larca, who is considering the application on the planning board, said he has definite concerns with the project like environmental, traffic, and noise issues. He added it doesn't seem like the community wants it.

"I get that," Larca said. "I hear them."

He said the project has a lot of work in front of it before it can be considered. But he said the project still should be reviewed by the appropriate boards and follow the process.

Montanaro was even more blunt, stating she would vote against any zoning changes for the project if it came before the town board under its current proposal. The list of concerns are long, Montanaro said, and stressed the project is wrong for that parcel of land. The logistics center would chop off hilltop views, compromise wetlands, and inject enormous tractor-trailers on town roads, leading to traffic, noise and "cancer causing fumes."

"It's very concerning," Montanaro said. "I think we need to build better."



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Housing Foundation Donates to Homeless Shelter

A Brewster-based foundation that provides affordable senior housing for Putnam residents has donated funds to support an organization which shelters Putnam's homeless during the winter months. Brewster Senior Housing Foundation President Joseph DiVestea and Executive Director Marty Collins recently presented a check in the amount of \$5,000 to Putnam CAP Director Judy Callahan, a member of the Brewster Emergency Shelter Partnership (BESP) Board of Directors.

"We were thrilled to be able to help provide funding for the homeless shelter this year," said DiVestea. "It is our mission as a foundation to not only provide quality, affordable housing for Putnam residents, but also to give back to the local community. We strongly believe that supporting the Brewster Emergency Shelter Partnership goes hand-in-hand with that mission."

The BESP was formed in November 2010, a year after a homeless man was found frozen to death in a wooded area of Brewster. The group welcomed their first "guests," as the homeless are called, that same December. The four churches that provide sleep sights for the homeless include St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, First United Methodist Church, First Baptist Church and St. Lawrence O'Toole Roman Catholic Church. The shelters are open from December through March and each church rotates being host for a week at a time. BESP's official governing body is their Board of Directors. Tom Pease, who serves as the treasurer, said most Putnam residents are not aware of the number of homeless people in their county.

"There are somewhere between 30 and 40 homeless people at any given time in Putnam," Pease said. "We are still only serving a fraction of them. Last winter I think we averaged nine people per night, but there were some nights where we had 16 or 17 people."

While St. Christopher's Inn in Garrison can occasionally offer beds for the night during the winter months, the Brewster shelters are open seven days a week.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Brewster Senior Housing Foundation President Joseph DiVestea and BSHF Executive Director Marty Collins (left) present a \$5,000 check Judy Callahan, director of Putnam CAP, as a donation to the Brewster Emergency Shelter Partnership which provides shelter to the homeless during the winter months.

Fundraising to keep them open has become a major effort for Pease and Callahan.

"We are just trying to raise funds to get through the season," said Callahan. "It costs us, for just those four months, \$30,000 to operate and we're only paying one person, our shelter supervisor and we only pay \$15 per hour."

Callahan said BESP provides breakfasts to go and bag lunches on days when the local soup kitchen isn't open. They also provide clean underwear and warm socks.

Pease said originally, the majority of the guests who used the shelters were Hispanic in origin but that has changed.

"Now we're down to about 40 to 50 percent Hispanic and the rest are Caucasian," he said.

Pease explained that everybody has a different story, a different reason for seeking out the shelters. Alcohol and drug abuse or mental health issues often play a role but there are other factors such as losing a job or simply being in between places without having a place to stay.

Pease and Callahan visit town boards in their quest for monetary donations and

often meet with resistance as members deny their townspeople use the shelters. But Pease knows they have housed people from every town in Putnam at one time or another.

"Last winter we had several guests who had grown up in Putnam County and either lost their job or had a falling out with their family or moved away and then came back to Putnam and just couldn't

get it together and make it work. And, of course, they had no place to stay," he said.

Pease and Callahan explained how the shelters are run and who the volunteers are.

"For every night that we operate, we have our supervisor and we have what we call an overnight host, so we have two responsible adults on the premises. These hosts usually come from one of the four participating churches but there are a number of other churches in the area that provide meals and volunteers as well," Callahan said.

Shelter-seekers gather on Main Street in Brewster around 8:45 p.m. Should anyone show up with a child in tow, the Putnam County Department of Social Services is immediately brought in.

"The DSS can house a family," Callahan said. "We cannot."

Shelter doors open at 9 p.m. Guests are served a hot meal, and some shelters offer laundry facilities or a shower. The next morning, however, the homeless are back out on the streets in the bitter freezing weather by 6 a.m.

"It is a bleak situation," Callahan said.

Donations to support the shelters are still being sought and checks made out to the Brewster Emergency Shelter Partnership are most welcome. These should be sent to BESP at 12 Main Street, PMB 269, Brewster, NY 10509.

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Odell Rallies GOP Base Ahead of Election

By David Propper

Coming off a commanding victory in the Opportunity to Ballot Conservative primary, County Executive MaryEllen Odell officially opened the doors to her campaign headquarters last week.

Odell, who is seeking a second full term, which would be her last, ushered in about 50 supporters—a portion of whom were fellow lawmakers or county employees—and encouraged attendees to make their vote count this November. With talk of a “Blue Wave” of Democratic support coming this year, Odell and other elected officials stressed turnout was key.

Odell, a Republican, faces Kent Supervisor Maureen Fleming, a Democrat, in the general election. In the OTB for the Conservative line, Odell was able to easily beat Fleming with about 80 percent of the vote on Sep. 13.

Her campaign headquarters are along Route 52 in Carmel within the ShopeRite plaza.

NYS Sen. Terrence Murphy, a Republican up for reelection, endorsed Odell during the campaign office opening.

“You want to talk about integrity, you want to talk about leadership, you want to talk about a lady who is putting it all out there for the good of the county just to try to do the right thing,” Murphy said. “It is unbelievably important to make



County Executive MaryEllen Odell cut the ribbon to her campaign headquarters in Carmel last week.

DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

sure we get the vote out. It's craziness that's going on in America right now, but this is the epicenter right here because this is Republican leadership right here in Putnam County. We've got to set the example right here.”

County Clerk Michael Bartolotti, who is running for reelection unopposed, said the apparatus leading the county is working “for the people” and it's important that message gets out about that.

“Get out the vote, we got to get the people to the polls,” Bartolotti, a Republican, said. “That's the only way things are going to continue in the positive direction they're taken in.”

Several lawmakers were in attendance, including Republicans Ginny Nacerino, Paul Jonke, Neal Sullivan, Amy Sayegh, and Barbara Scuccimarra. Patterson Supervisor Rich Williams and Carmel Supervisor Kenny Schmitt were also in attendance.

Scuccimarra, who is up for reelection, said it was crucial to get the entire GOP base to vote this November. Nacerino said Odell has done an “awesome job” and “she's earned her keep 10 times over.”

Odell will be on the Republican, Conservative, and Independence lines and Fleming has the Democratic, Reform, and Women's Equality lines. Fleming has criticized Odell's administration for out of control spending and cronyism within county government. But Odell, who has rebutted those assertions, believes residents want another four years of her leadership.

“I think the folks in Putnam County appreciate the work we're all doing collectively, it's not one person, it's always a team,” Odell said. “This county is a great county. We're proud of all it's given us and all we've given them.”

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Letters to the Editor

LWV of Putnam to Hold Candidate Forums

The League of Women Voters of Putnam County is preparing for the upcoming general election. We have invited the candidates to participate in either one or both of our upcoming General Election Candidate Forums. The first forum on the west side of the county will be held on October 18, 2018, at 6:30 PM, at the Kent Firehouse, 2490 Route 301 in Kent, and will include races for NYS Senate District 41, NYS Assembly District 95, Putnam County Executive, Putnam County Legislature District 1, and Kent Town Council. The second forum, on the east side of the county, will take place on October 22 at 6:30 p.m., at the Mahopac

library, 668 US Rte 6, Mahopac, and will include races for NYS Senate District 40, NYS Assembly District 94, Putnam County Executive, Putnam County Legislature District 7, and Southeast town board.

Candidate forums are an important service to the voters. It gives them a means of forming a first-hand judgment of the candidates, and generates excitement for getting out the vote. It is also a service to the candidates because it provides them a platform to present their views to the voters. Voting is an extremely important part of our democratic process, where candidates and voters are provided the

opportunity to ask questions and interact, under the same roof.

The LWV of Putnam County Candidate Forums will be in accordance with League policies under strict, nonpartisan guidelines. League forums are fair, unbiased, conducted for informational purposes without a hidden agenda, and controlled by principles of nonpartisanship. The LWV does have an "empty chair policy". If only one candidate in a contested race accepts the League invitation, there can be no candidate debate for that office. Therefore, it is important that the voters encourage all candidates to attend the scheduled

forums. This will provide the opportunity to understand the candidate's proposed platform, and their plans to make our town, county and state the finest place to live, work, and retire.

Susan B. Anthony said, "Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it!"

Be part of the democratic process. Come learn and then cast your vote on Election Day!

Eileen Reilly, President
League of Women Voters of Putnam County

Carmel School Bond Won't Cost Taxpayers as Much as Believed

This is my personal opinion and does not reflect the opinion of any other Carmel School Board of Education member.

I am writing this letter to address several inaccurate and erroneous statements made by Dennis Illuminate in a letter to the editor (Sept. 10) regarding the proposed Carmel Schools capital project.

First, while the total cost of the project is \$25.4 million, the taxpayer share of the cost will be far less. This is because the project is timed to take advantage of debt service from previous projects that will be falling off in coming years. In addition, the District will receive up to 60 percent in New York State building aid on a large portion of the proposed projects. These are facts.

Mr. Illuminate also writes about tax increases. In reality, for residents of the Town of Kent the tax levy actually decreased for the 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2017-18 school year. These are facts.

Mr. Illuminate also states that this project has already been rejected by

voters. The current capital project before voters on October 2nd, however, is a substantially scaled-down capital project that only addresses critical infrastructure issues (roofs), library improvements at the middle school, Americans with Disability Act compliance items, and the replacement of an aging and out-of-compliance transportation facility. These are facts.

Several roofs need to be replaced in the next couple of years (we actually had a roof fail over the summer during one of the storms and it needed to be replaced immediately - with no state aid) and if they are replaced in this bond the cost will be far less, due to the 60 percent state aid. All one has to do is to visit the current transportation facility to see the conditions our employees work in, to understand how important the new facility is. These are facts.

If you'd like to view the facility please contact me griley@carmelschools.org and I will arrange for you to visit the current

facility.

We find no basis for Mr. Illuminate's statement that Carmel school taxes are higher than in neighboring districts. In looking at per pupil expenditure (tax levy divided by enrollment), Carmel is not the highest or the lowest, but rather in the middle of the pack. Brewster, Haldane and Garrison all have higher per pupil expenditures, while Mahopac and Putnam Valley have lower. These are facts.

As officials of the Carmel Central School District, it is our duty to deal in facts. The tax increase associated with this project will be mitigated to a large degree, by debt service falling off and NYS building aid (of 60 percent). The project will be bonded over time and monies will not be borrowed until and unless it is needed. Based on the 2018-19 tax levy, taxpayers would see no impact on taxes until the 2020-21 school year. From 2021-22 through 2026-27 (the peak period) the average levy increase would be 0.065 percent. That will be an average of \$6.33 per year for a homeowner with a house assessed at \$350,000 (for homes assessed lower the taxes will be lower, for homes assessed higher the taxes will be higher)

during that period. After 2026-27, the average levy would actually decrease in 4 out of the succeeding 5 years. These are facts.

The Carmel Central School District Board of Education is charged with being the stewards of the school district. In this role we are charged with creating and changing policy to reflect the educational needs and safety of our students and staff. We are also charged with the maintenance, repair and if necessary, replacement of the brick and mortar infrastructure of this district. The purpose is to maintain safety, quality of education and value of the Carmel Central School District properties, that our constituents have entrusted us with. Every member on this Board of Education takes these charges seriously.

We urge people to get the actual facts. More information about this project is available on our website (www.carmelschools.org). Please vote on October 2.

Greg Riley
President
Carmel School Board

Reing Best Choice for County Legislature

Scott Reing is the best choice for Putnam County Legislature. As a parent of a toddler in Putnam County, the thought of a representative who understands the realities and challenges of raising a young family here is refreshing and comforting.

I had the privilege of walking with Scott in my neighborhood in Southeast to collect signatures for his campaign. I was struck by how hardworking he is—willing to spend hours knocking on doors after a full day as a self employed attorney and father to two young children. Scott engaged and listened to hundreds of voters while collecting signatures for his campaign.

For too long our county government has

been business as usual. It is time for fresh ideas. Scott supports cutting waste and frivolous spending, and puts his money where his mouth is by advocating for cutting salaries of County Legislators. He also favors reducing Putnam County sales tax to make our local businesses more competitive. We need the perspective of people like Scott in our county legislature, who are invested in Putnam's future and are unafraid to stand up to the status quo. I proudly support Scott Reing for Putnam County Legislature.

Katherine O'Sullivan
Brewster

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Letters to the Editor

Bond Would Improve Carmel School System

At this point you have been reading many negative opinions about our school board. But they are personal opinions. I would like to share with you some highlights from the work this board and administration have done to make Carmel Central Schools stand out. I am a mom, community member and current board trustee who has been active in our schools and community for at least a decade.

Why is this even important? Because we, the school community, have a vested interest in continuing to grow our district. Strong schools produce strong students. Strong schools bring higher home values. Strong schools foster a strong sense of community.

Did you know?

Every student has different needs and yet we can support each student as individuals. We have programs that

help our most challenged students succeed. This was not always the case. Our programs and supports have changed and evolved through need and professional development. We partner with community organizations to be sure that our students that need the most support can work and be as independent as possible.

We support students that choose the vocational training path. 147 of our students utilize the VO-TECH program at BOCES.

For our students on the college track we have 1441 students enrolled in college level classes. Many of those classes are offered at no expense to our families or at a drastically discounted rate.

We have an engineering program called Project lead the Way that currently enrolls 126 students. This engineering program

not only has our students graduating with college credits, they leave us with a huge step forward in the field of engineering. We have 719 students enrolled in our large catalogue of Advanced Placement courses. Some courses include Physics, Calculus, English Literature, History, Art and Music. We offer clubs, activities, music, drama, art and sports. We try to be sure there is something for every student in our care. We believe that in fostering critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, citizenship, communication and compassion our students will have the foundation to pursue their dreams.

So, while we do amazing things inside these walls, it is also the job of the school board to be sure these walls stay standing. Just like our homes, we need to maintain our schools. It is our responsibility to provide a safe environment for our

children. I encourage you to ask questions and get the facts about the Bond the district is proposing. It is a fact that the signs around town stating a \$24 million dollar tax hike are untrue. Do not rely on the personal opinion of someone else to make a decision for you. I do not believe anyone should be told how to vote. I believe in sharing factual information about these projects that have been discussed for years at board meetings. I believe in making an informed decision. And I believe in our community.

Please take a few moments to look at our website. See the great things we do together. Be sure to check out our student video! I hope you will exercise your right to vote on October 2nd.

Michelle Yorio
Carmel School Board Member

Fleming's Accomplishments Warrant County Exec. Post

Now that the primaries are over it's important to consider Maureen Fleming's accomplishments and focus on what an impressive County Executive she will be.

In this age of extremes it will be a true pleasure to have a practical yet innovative leader at the helm. An experienced leader who will appoint the most qualified

individuals to important positions regardless of their party affiliation or friendship. A leader who will work hard to lower our sales tax rate so that Putnam residents and others will actually want to shop in our county. A fiscal conservative who understands the big picture and the ways Putnam county can reduce the size

and waste in our government.

Supervisor Fleming has a proven track record in Kent. Under her fiscal management there has been no tax increase since she took office in 2014. In addition Maureen will offer new solutions to old problems and add some much needed balance to our county

government. For these reasons and many others I'll proudly be voting for Maureen Fleming on November 6th.

Cathy Croft
Southeast Democratic Committee
Chairwoman

County Legislature Needs Independent Thinkers

Legislative bodies exist so that executive power can be checked and debate on important issues can be had. The Putnam County Legislature provides neither. As of this writing, in 2018 there have been votes on more than 200 resolutions. Of those, all but three have been unanimous. This means that 99% of the time, your Putnam County legislators have not had even modest debate or offered any differing opinions. This means that none of the nine districts have had reasonable advocates leading to better constituent outcomes.

Since January of 2015, District 7's representative, Joseph Castellano, has never voted in the minority on any of the 1,090 resolutions. He has never been an innovator or outlier; the lawmaker to stand up against pressures from his colleagues or the County Executive.

Two prime examples of why an independent legislator would enrich the lives of Putnam residents follow: In 2015 and 2017, there have been several votes

extending the 'temporary' increased County sales tax rate due to "current and ongoing fiscal challenges". We can and we should lower our sales tax rate, which is one of the highest in New York State. And just last year there was Mr. Castellano's self-serving vote approving an almost 14 percent raise for Putnam legislators, current and ongoing fiscal challenges be damned (Mr. Castellano now makes about \$50,000 as a part-time politician in 2018).

When elected, I will work hard with the other legislators to prove that there are better ways to save tax dollars. I will not be contrarian for the sake of being contrarian, but I also will not worry about getting left out of bowling night. On November 6th it is time for District 7 to elect an independent thinker who has the courage to stand up and represent all constituents.

Scott Reing
Candidate for District 7 Legislator
Brewster



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Farmers Insurance Andi Gamboa Agency Cortlandt

By Neal Rentz

Fishkill resident Andi Gamboa opened his Farmers Insurance Agency in Cortlandt in May, but his career was not always in insurance.

He was previously employed by Enterprise Rent-A-Car in a variety of capacities, including selling used cars for about eight years, Gamboa said last week. Working as a car salesman was his first professional introduction to the insurance business, Gamboa recalled.

"Recently I just made the jump," he said. "It was an opportunity to own my own business, to put myself in a better position where I could have a little more control of my business. Because I sold so many cars I had a constant stream of clientele that already did business with me."

Gamboa said business has been good so far for his agency. "I can't complain, It's alive and breathing," he said, adding business has been improving this month with people back from vacations and returning to school.

The agency will hold a grand opening on October 13 at noon. Gamboa's



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Fishkill resident Andi Gamboa opened his Farmers Insurance Agency in Cortlandt in May.

agency sells insurance for homes, life, autos, commercial properties, pets, motorcycles, boats and RV's. The agency offers "pretty much every type of

insurance except health insurance," he said.

Gamboa said he chose the Crompond Road location because, "I felt like this

was the common ground" surrounded by such municipalities as Peekskill and Yorktown. "I'm right in the middle," he said.

Gamboa's agency has been helping out the local community by doing two book bag drives in August in which book bags were donated to children in need who live in Peekskill. He said his goal was to increase the number of agents working for his firm. He currently employs two staff members and he would to eventually add two more employees.

Gamboa said he did not enter the insurance field just for the money. "There's more to it," he said. "It's a service industry. It's something that I feel is important. Everybody needs insurance. And I'm good at educating people. I'm good at talking. I'm good at understanding what people's needs are."

Farmers Insurance Andi Gamboa Agency is located at 2141 Crompond Rd. in Cortlandt. For more information, call 914-600-7160 or visit <https://agents.farmers.com/ny/cortlandt-manor/andi-gamboa>. The agency is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

DEP Announces 2018 Reservoir Cleanup Day

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) today announced that it will team up with school groups, business leaders, environmental advocates, local nonprofits and watershed citizens to remove litter and recyclables from public recreation areas at nine water supply reservoirs in the Catskills and Hudson Valley. Hundreds of volunteers are expected to participate in DEP's fifth Reservoir Cleanup Day on Sunday, Sept. 30. The volunteers will remove debris from areas that are generally used for fishing and boating access. Reservoir Cleanup Day is made possible with support from the Catskill Watershed Corporation.

This year's cleanup follows a record-setting effort in 2017, during which 418

volunteers removed more than 300 bags of debris and recyclables from reservoir shorelines. The haul weighed more than 4,500 pounds. In many cases, debris blew onto reservoir property from nearby roads, washed down toward the reservoirs by streams and rivers, or was left behind at access areas used by the public for fishing and boating.

DEP's Reservoir Cleanup Day is among dozens of similar events happening across the state as part of the American Littoral Society's annual New York State Beach Cleanup, which organizes volunteers to remove debris from beaches, lakes and other popular bodies of water. DEP is among the government agencies, businesses and foundations that sponsor

the statewide effort. In 2017, a total of 5,025 people participated in cleanup events throughout New York, removing 34,548 pounds of debris along 191 miles of shoreline.

"Reservoir Cleanup Day is special because it encourages each of us to volunteer and take responsibility for the cleanliness of our natural resources," DEP Commissioner Vincent Sapienza said. "Thousands of people each year visit our reservoirs and the forests that surround them because they are beautifully pristine – but they only stay that way through work and education. I want to thank all the volunteers in advance for their hard work, benevolence and commitment."

Cleanups this year will happen at Ashokan, Cannonsville, Neversink and Pepacton reservoirs in the Catskills, and at East Branch, Kensico, Lake Gleneida, Muscoot and New Croton reservoirs in the Hudson Valley. Each cleanup at these locations will begin at 12 p.m. and is expected to finish no later than 3 p.m. Volunteers will meet at central locations designated for each reservoir, which are listed below. DEP will have tents or signs posted at each of the locations to help volunteers find them.

To help reach volunteers, DEP has worked with local nonprofits, schools and community groups for the cleanup effort at each reservoir. Those who wish to volunteer can also reach out to DEP by calling (800) 575-LAND or by emailing watershedevents@dep.nyc.gov.

Pre-registration is highly encouraged. Registration links for each cleanup can be found below, or by visiting DEP's watershed Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/NYCWatershed.

- Muscoot Reservoir – Volunteers will meet at the end of Old Bedford Road in Goldens Bridge. Those interested in joining this cleanup can click here to register.
- Kensico Reservoir – Volunteers will meet at the old Kensico Laboratory near Aerator Road and Westlake Drive in Valhalla. Those interested in joining this cleanup can click here to register.
- Lake Gleneida – Volunteers will meet near the Sybil Ludington Statue on Route 6. Those interested in joining this cleanup can click here to register.
- East Branch Reservoir – Volunteers will meet near the boat mooring area No. EB5, which is located on Milltown Road, across the street from Burdick Road. Those interested in joining this cleanup can click here to register.
- New Croton Reservoir – Volunteers will meet at boat storage area No. 20 on Route 100, about one-quarter mile west of Muscoot Farms. Those interested in joining this cleanup can click here to register.

DEP and volunteers will keep a tally of the type and quantity of debris that is collected at each site throughout the day. Data will be reported back to the American Littoral Society at the end of the event.

Hudson Valley Sports Photography

★ Rick Kuperberg Sr. ★

Photographer
HVSP_2014@yahoo.com

Phone/Text (Cell)
(914) 490-9647

www.HVSP.Photos

Putnam County's 30th annual Columbus Day Parade, presented by the Italian-American Club, will take place Sep. 30 at 2:30 p.m.

The parade will begin between Lake Casse and Route 6 and end at the Mahopac Chamber Community Park and Annual Street Fair.

Columbus Day Grand Marshals in Their Own Words

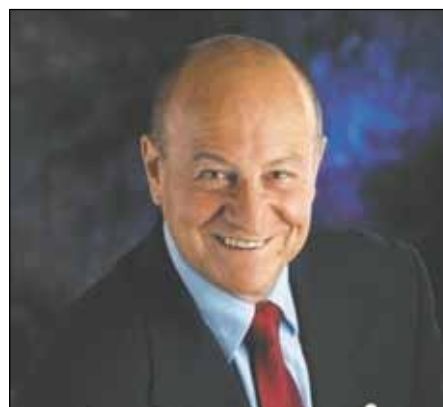
By Regina Morini

Mahopac is my lifelong home. I was born here on December 13, 1935, the fifth of Raymond and Teresa (Flaherty) Costello's seven children. We grew up in the white house at the corner of Mount Hope Road and Kennicut Hill. Just down the way, at the bottom of Kennicut Hill, was Buckshollow Road, where most of the Italian immigrants to Mahopac had settled; others lived on Kennicut Hill where the road then stopped before the development of Teakettle Spout. Back then, there was only one school in town. It's now known as Lakeview Elementary, but in my day it housed all the local schoolchildren, from kindergarten through high school. There was only one class for each grade level, so everyone knew everyone else. Tourism was a big part of the economy because the grand hotels that surrounded Lake Mahopac attracted throngs of "summer people," but the year-round population was relatively small. We all went to school together, and we all played together. Because I came from such a big family, a lot of the outdoor fun and games took place at our house; there was always someone around. Many of my playmates were first-generation Italian-Americans who spoke Italian at home and English at school. One of my special friends from my teenage years was a boy from Buckshollow Road named Nano Morini. His parents, Nano, Sr., and Ida, emigrated from Ripa, Italy in 1920. The Morini family, which included Nano's older siblings, Reno and Dena, lived across the street from the Louis Casagrande family; the Casagrandes were Nano's godparents. (When I say everyone knew everyone else in Mahopac in those days, I mean it.) Nano and I were childhood sweethearts. After high school, I graduated from Katherine Gibbs Business School and lived and worked in New York City for a few years. With a train station in Mahopac (now the American Legion), it was easy to come home on weekends. Nano graduated from college and then served in the Navy. We were married on November 30, 1957. Both my father and Nano's were Mahopac businessmen with connections to the Italian American Club.



Grand Marshal Regina Morini

My father, Raymond Costello, was one of the first lawyers to hang out a shingle in Mahopac. He had an office in Carmel and one at home and represented almost everyone who bought land on which to build a home. He also represented the Agor family, and his name is on the deeds that conveyed the land for the Italian American Clubhouse and the adjoining lot. Nano's father started a construction business, N. Morini & Sons, which is still in operation today. Nano, Sr., was one of the founders of the Italian American Club and helped to build the clubhouse. Another of his projects was digging Mahopac's Dixon Lake and developing the surrounding area. Both his sons joined him in the business and both raised their families in the Dixon Lake neighborhood. Dena Morini and her husband settled there as well. I still reside in the house my husband and his family built, the last Morini to hold down the fort in Dixon Lake. Nano and I had three children: Joan, Carol, and Paul. All three are married and I've been blessed with eight grandchildren and even one great-grandchild. Perhaps the greatest sadness of my life is that Nano didn't get to meet our six younger grandchildren. He died suddenly on March 3, 1990; he was 55 years old. His funeral was at St. John the Evangelist Church where both of us had been baptized and where we were married just 32 years earlier. So, at the age of 54, my life changed dramatically. Virtually overnight, I found myself alone for the first time--without my husband,



Grand Marshal Michael Simone

my partner, my lifelong friend, and the father of my three children who were only in their 20s at the time. We all missed Nano terribly. We still do. Public service and volunteering had always been a big part of my life, even while I was raising my children. Putnam County Executive David Bruen asked me to join his administration as the first Assistant County Executive, and I served in that capacity for eight years. In 1990, I was elected to the Putnam County Legislative and represented the people of District 9 for 18 years. I also joined the Lake Mahopac Rotary in 1988 (the first year it

continued on page 14



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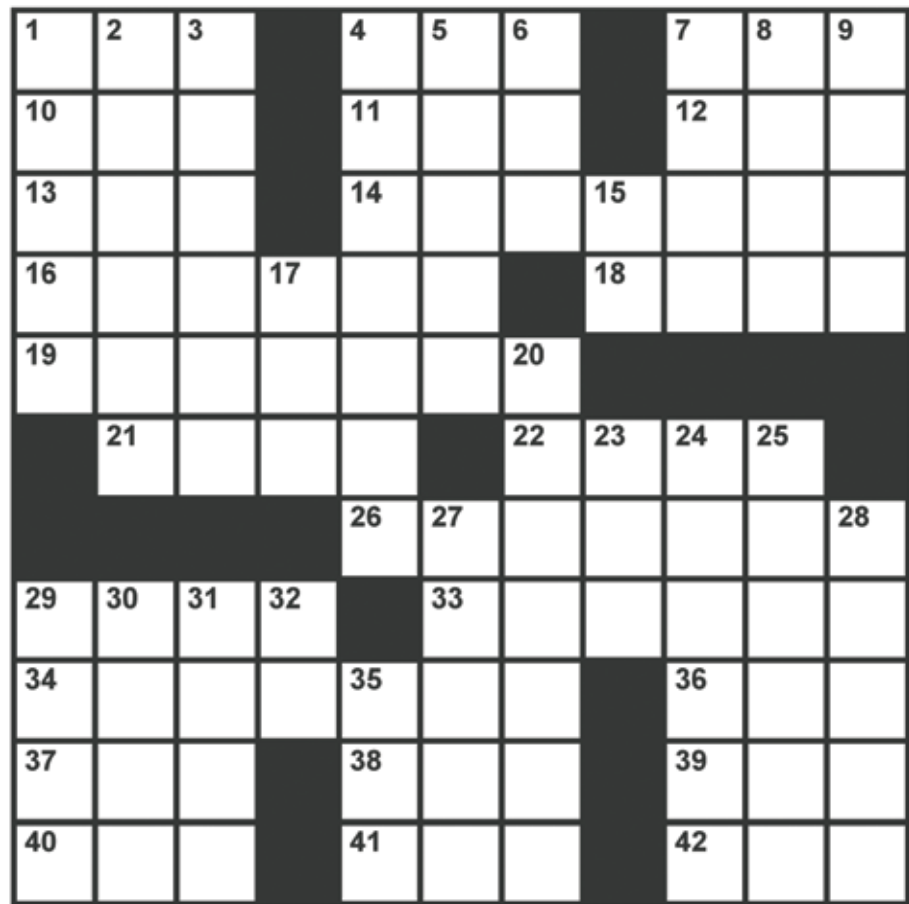
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Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 17

Obituaries

Jeffrey Chiacchia

Jeffrey Chiacchia of Mahopac, died on September 15, at the age of 54 surrounded by his loving family. He was born on July 7, 1964 in Mt. Kisco, to William and Patricia (Daly) Chiacchia. He graduated high school from Mahopac High School in 1982. He married the love of his life Jeanne Griffith on July 1, 1989 in Mahopac. Jeffrey and Jeanne together had a loving daughter Kelly. The most important aspect of his life was spending time and making memories with his family and friends. Jeffrey was also an avid Horse Race enthusiast. He worked for Meenan Oil Company in Peekskill, as a garage mechanic. Jeffery is survived by his loving wife Jeanne; an adoring daughter Kelly (Patrick Crecco). His three cherishing siblings Donna Aceto (Gennaro), Patricia Latuneru, and William Chiacchia. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews and friends whom all will miss him greatly.

Nicola Lasorsa

Nicola Lasorsa of Carmel, died on September 17. He was 80 years old. He was born in 1938 in Mount Vernon. He attended Mount Saint Michael Academy in the Bronx, NY. He worked for the US Postal Service for 35 years and retired as Superintendent of Postal Operations, Thornwood. On October 24, 1959 he married the love of his life,

Emma Squillante. They would have had celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary next month. Nicola, aka Nick will be remembered for his love and devotion to his family and friends. He will always be known for his BIG heart and always offering his guidance and support to everyone. He loved music from the Doo Wop days to even the latest and greatest hits of today. He enjoyed watching baseball, football, basketball and talking politics. His favorite pastime was to be a connoisseur of authentic Italian food. He loved anything homemade! He is survived by his devoted wife, Emma, his loving siblings, Vinny, Santa and Domenick, his daughters Debbie and her husband Tony Giannotti and Laura and her husband Nick Haramis, his brother-in-law, Ronnie who he was like a second father to and his four grandchildren, Anthony, Alexandra, Nicholas Joseph and Nicholas Ryan. He is pre-deceased by his parents Domenick and Emma Lasorsa.

Beverly Patricia Grace

Beverly Patricia Grace age 67, died on September 18, at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx, with her loving husband Joseph by her side. She was born on April 13, 1951 at Putman Hospital located in Mahopac to Edward and Mary Basset. Beverly attended high school and attended secretarial school after graduating. She worked as an administrative assistant for

Across

- Friend
- Modern navigational aid, for short
- Go on and on
- Abbr. for some generals
- Fleming who created 007
- Brit. recording giant
- Select
- Revolved
- Breakfast fruit or Cortlandt Manor bank
- Giving
- Fastened with pegs
- Menu option
- Elephant ____, carnival treat
- Writer, Lawrence
- Great Barrier __
- Cortlandt Manor Farmers Insurance agency
- Spore-producing bacteria
- Canoe equipment
- OJ's trial judge
- Black gold
- Beethoven's "Minuet __"
- Nine-digit ID
- 2nd letter addendum
- Zodiac sign

Down

- Ponder on

- Copies
- Canada city
- Cracked up
- Check endorser
- Elder
- Legendary humanoid in the Himalayas
- "You said it!"
- Cruel pirate
- Anchorage locale
- Las Vegas state, abbr.
- Throws off course
- Tentacle
- Prepare again, as water for tea
- Everett of 'Citizen Kane'
- Jamaican tangelos
- Key ____
- Sluggers' stats
- Alton Brown's show, Good ____
- Subj. for an M.B.A.
- Sci- ____
- Cut off



the New York Telephone Company in Peekskill, and later worked as a real estate investor. Beverly was an avid bowler and also a member of the Red Hats dancing club. She is survived by her three sons Joseph, Jeffrey and David, as well as six grandchildren.

W. Roger Backus

W. Roger Backus died peacefully at his home on September 18, in the Town of Putnam Valley. W. Roger Backus was born in the Bronx to Walter and Marion Backus on July 2, 1927. He went to NYC schools graduating from DeWitt Clinton High School. Roger was WWII veteran serving in the U.S. Navy. He then went to Delahanty School of Architectural Drawing in NYC before beginning work in the family business as a stone cutter eventually becoming a partner. Roger married Barbara L. Mulry on September 30, 1950 in Saint Margaret Church Riverdale. He volunteered for the Boy Scouts of America on the Local and District Level; from 1972 until 1992 he was the Ranger at Clear Lake Scout Reservation in Putnam Valley. He was involved locally in Putnam Valley as: Treasurer of the Putnam Valley Library, President of the Putnam Valley Ambulance Core. A member of the Putnam Valley Board of Education for 15 years. W. Roger Backus is survived by his wife Barbara Backus and his children Mathew and Susan Backus,

Parthenia Backus, Mark and Debi Backus, Marion Backus, Luke and Debbie Backus; along with 12 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Rita Jo Riehle

Rita Jo Riehle of Cold Spring died on September 18, surrounded by her loving family. She was 62. Born on July 21, 1956 in Lafayette, Indiana to Katherine Riehle and the late Paul Riehle. Rita was a graduate of Purdue University where she received her Nursing and Horticulture degrees. Rita met Lew at Stone Crop Gardens and married July 16, 1988 in Cold Spring. After they married Rita worked at Butterfield Hospital until 1992 when it closed and shortly after started a fine gardening business. Rita was a master horticulturist with an overwhelming knowledge of the natural world and a vast Latin plant vocabulary. She lived to enrich the lives of everyone she came to know with flowers and kindness. A truly selfless and generous person who will be sorely missed. Rita is survived by her beloved husband Lew Kingsley, loving children Forrest and Ian Kingsley of Cold Spring. Her Dear Siblings, Sharon Rettig, Paul Riehle, Mary Kewitt, Sarah Ledman, Anne Wells, Cathy Alexander, Edward Riehle, William Riehle, John Riehle, and James Riehle. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews who will miss her. Funeral services will be private.

Putnam Hosts Naturalization Ceremony

Putnam County Clerk Michael C. Bartolotti hosted a Naturalization Ceremony on Wednesday, September 12 at the Putnam County Historic Courthouse in Carmel. Bartolotti administered the Oath of Allegiance to 50 new citizens from 26 different countries. The Naturalization Ceremony opened by the posting of the colors by American Legion Post 1080 Color Guard. The John W. Sweeny, Jr., Associate Justice of the NYS Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Judicial Department served as the officiating Supreme Court Justice and offered court remarks. MaryEllen Odell, Putnam County Executive, offered welcoming remarks. Putnam County Sheriff Robert L. Langley, Jr. led the opening prayer. Karl Rohde, Director of Putnam County Veterans Affairs, led the Pledge of Allegiance. William Becker, representative from LiveonNY and an organ donor recipient, gave the Keynote Speech. Isabella Ciatto, a junior at Carmel High School, presented the gathering with beautiful renditions of the "Star Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America." After the ceremony, a coffee and cake reception was held to welcome our newest citizens.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

Over Summer Mahopac Gained Two Eagle Scouts

June 9 was a special day for two troop 371 scouts. After seven year of hard work, many milestones and achievements Dylan Halmy and Theo Martine were presented with their Eagle Scout awards. Through their time in scouting they participated in many activities, service projects and camping trips. On their way to Eagle Scout they learned many skills such as camping, cooking, first aid, emergency preparedness, citizenship, swimming, family life communications and life skills. They learned leadership, working together with others, self reliance and self esteem while being active members of our troop and the Mahopac community.



Dylan's Eagle Scout Service project involved the restoration of a long abandoned Continental Army site from the American Revolution. The site located in Putnam Valley, which had a house and barn that was burned, was used a medical station for American soldiers during the Revolution. With the help of the town historian, Dylan learned about the significance and importance of the site. After clearing the area to reveal the remains of the old foundations a historical marker was installed near the site. In addition to his Eagle Scout award, Dylan also earned three Eagle palms for earning a total of 40 merit badges.

Theo's Eagle Scout Service project was done at American Legion Post 1080.

With great respect for our military and veterans, Theo improved the ceremonial area in front of the American Legion Hall by adding a permanent lectern and benches for the elderly and handicapped veterans who attend the ceremonies. Funds for the project were donated by the Sons of the American Legion who also helped with the project. The installation of the lectern and benches required determining the exact positions in the ceremonial area, drilling holes in the concrete decking and assembling and mounting them using threaded rods, wood and additional concrete to secure them. The project was accomplished with the help of members of the troop and the American Legion. Theo earned 22 merit badges and served in several leadership positions.

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A World of Wellness... In a Chair

By Brianna Miller,
Marketing Associate at Northern
Westchester Hospital

A dimly lit room sets the scene for today's session. A sense of calm washes over the packed room as the instructor hands each yogi a cotton ball dabbed with aromatic essential oils. Today's scent is a combination of myrrh and frankincense, both used to enhance emotional well-being. Shoes are kicked off, eyes are closed, and the group takes deep breaths in unison as the instructor creates a sacred space for spiritual awakening. Her final touch is playing the most soothing music you've ever heard. Not bad for a Monday morning.

In this yoga studio there are no mats, you don't need to bend like a pretzel, and you certainly don't need to be able to stand on your head. The asana, or poses, are done while seated in a chair.

Toni Russo, a holistic nurse at Northern Westchester Hospital (NWH), leads a yoga class for seniors each week at the Bedford Community House. Chair yoga is a way to bring the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual benefits of yoga to a wide range of people, especially to those who can't enjoy them through traditional practice. "It's a safe, simple and comprehensive practice that brings the transformative power of mat yoga onto the chair, said Toni. "But yoga is only part of the story. Taking my lead



PROVIDED PHOTO

from the seniors, I've added many self-care modalities to the class."

A Nutritional Component

At the start of each class, Toni incorporates a nutritional component. Today, the group learns that grocery items like sugar, fried foods, and foods high in fat, stimulate the generation of free radicals, the oxygen molecules known to damage the cells lining our blood vessels and organs. The class is excited to learn, however, that

black coffee contains a rich dose of antioxidants. "I'm on a roll. I've had two cups already," says someone in the group as the rest laugh and cheer.

Tap Your Stress Away

The class next practices what Toni calls tapping, an Emotional Freedom Technique that can help anyone manage their body's emotional response to stress. "Notice what's happening inside your body," said Toni in a soothing tone. Following her lead, the group taps the outside of their hands. "Pick one thing that's happening that's getting in the way of you having the best day ever. Rate it from zero to ten and feel it in your body." The group taps the space between their eyebrows, their temples, then underneath their eyes. "Now say to yourself, 'Even though I have this problem, I still love and accept myself completely.'" Toni noted that tapping is scientifically proven to bring down the intensity of stress to a more manageable level. Said senior yogi, Diane Gittleston, "I use this technique whenever I'm feeling overwhelmed and it never fails me."

Reduce Your Joint Pain

Once the group has reduced their stress levels, it's time for the chair yoga session to begin. The yogis are impressive – mastering Sun Salutations, Mountain Poses, and Pigeon Poses from their chairs. These movements help the seniors keep their joints lubricated and make movement less painful. "My friends and I joke that as we age, we go to bed with Bengay, wake up with arthritis, and get diagnosed with something else

in between," said Catherine Migliaccio of Bedford Hills. "Since I began the chair yoga class with Toni, I don't have as much joint pain as I once had." Another dedicated senior, Ellen Cundari said, "When I wake up, every joint in my body hurts. But when I leave here, my body moves better. Who knew I'd be doing yoga at age 90!"

The Benefits

According to the National Institutes of Health, the benefits of chair yoga include improved core strength, balance, muscle tone and flexibility, deeper and fuller breathing, increased oxygen intake, and positive feelings. Toni benefits from the class, too. "As a holistic nurse, my intention is to give full attention to the whole self of each person." I've worked with some of these people for four years and have watched them grow physically, emotionally and spiritually."

Community, Friendship, and Trust

Toni Russo's class empowers seniors at a time in their lives when many feel they're losing power. Senior yogi, Margaret McHugh, who had knee replacement surgery with Dr. Karas at NWH, agreed. "Before my surgery, I couldn't do the things I loved doing. I felt myself aging," reflects Margaret. Thanks to the surgery and this class, I feel empowered. I left my home in Ireland when I was eighteen and now I'm going back at age 81 feeling better than ever."

Toni and the Bedford Seniors agree that the most important benefit of the class is the one that's most understated. "Everyone knows that exercise offers great benefits," comments Toni. "But the sense of community, friendship and trust that this class has built within a healing and wellness framework is truly astounding." For Margaret McHugh, chair yoga is a bridge to new friends. "I lost my husband in January and through this class, I've made new friends in my community."

A relaxed group of seniors slips shoes back on and together exits the sacred space created within the Bedford Community House. Some head home, others congregate in the meeting area for healthy treats and another cup of antioxidant-rich coffee. Again, not bad for a Monday morning. Namaste.

Editor's Note: For more information on chair yoga in our community, contact Grace O'Shaughnessy, Director of Community Health Education and Outreach at Northern Westchester Hospital at goshaughne@northwell.edu.

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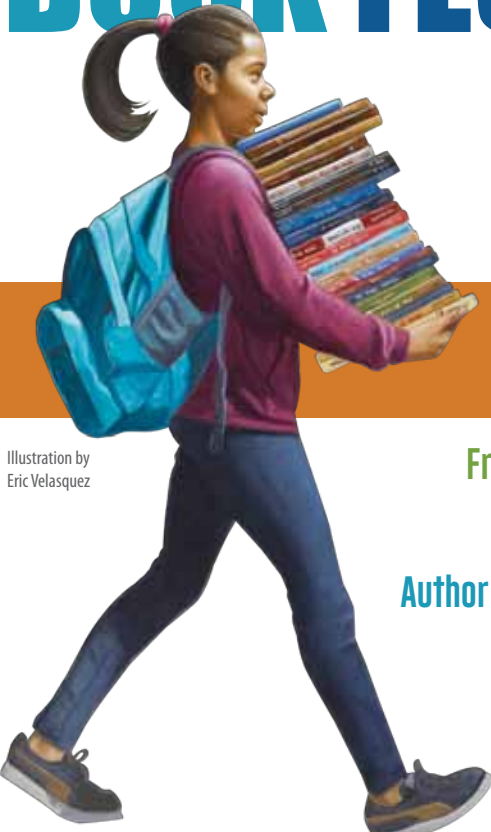


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Composting Makes Fallen Leaves a Valuable Commodity

In the weeks ahead, the leaves of our maples, oaks and ash trees will be turning colors through the miracle of photosynthesis and falling to the ground. You can actually hear them as they hit and cover the lawn.

In my last home, the property hosted a giant maple tree in the middle of the front lawn and another maple of equal age in our backyard. In my youth, before I could afford a lawn and landscaping service, I got stuck with the job of raking the brown, orange, red and yellow leaves from the ground.

It was a formidable job that had its positives, like good exercise, and negatives, such as leaving me with piles of leaves to be reckoned with. Actually, I would leave those piles in place for a few days so that my young daughter could have the fun of jumping in and out of them. Unlike what many homeowners in my town do, I never placed them in paper bags to be picked up by the town



By Bill Primavera

sanitation services. After all, why should I give away such a valuable commodity?

Some of the last leaves to fall during the fall season would simply be left on the ground, and I would plow through them with my lawnmower to reduce volume and to speed up decomposition time. That would result in a large volume of material that could be used partly for mulch and partly for the chore of making "black gold" in my compost pile in a back corner of my yard.

While a large pile of leaves will decompose, the process

is very slow. But leaf volume and decomposition time is greatly reduced by shredding. After my daughter was finished playing in the leaves, I would mow over the piles several times with my mower. Actually, a certain percentage of the shredded leaves can be applied to the lawn as fertilizer, but if it's more than three-quarters of an inch deep, you could end up with yellow and brown

patches of lawn come spring.

A percentage of the mulch was allocated to my perennial shade garden, a daunting task, shaded by the two aforementioned maple trees. Also, I used the mulch in my vegetable garden, which over the years dwindled from a wide variety of vegetables (even corn) to just a few vines of melon and cucumbers.

During the first few seasons of more extensive vegetable gardening, I even used the mulch to cover stretches of the garden that hosted cold-hardy vegetables like carrots and beets. By springtime, I would simply turn those rotting leaves into the soil.

Because decaying leaves use up nitrogen, I would replace nitrogen with an organic source such as composted animal manure before spring planting.

I also used shredded leaves as good mulch for my flower beds, which would gradually turn into compost and, again, tilled into the soil. To make it all look prettier, I would sometimes cover bare soil first with shredded leaves, then with a top layer of bark mulch, which I would buy from my garden center.

It is recommended to keep total mulch

depth to three inches or less and to make sure that it doesn't touch the base of tree trunks or shrubs since this can foment pests and disease.

If you don't have a good place to mulch on your property, you might contact your local municipality to ask if it maintains a town compost pile for residents' use. This is where those bags of leaves some residents leave at their curbside go to contribute to a large compost pile available to the public.

Remember, collected leaves cannot be burned. It is illegal to burn leaves anywhere in New York State. The smoke from burning leaves contains dangerous compounds and is harmful to the lungs, especially children and the elderly. Also, any outdoor fire can cause an accidental brush or house fire.

Why destroy such a valuable contribution to the garden and lawn?

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.

Columbus Day Grand Marshals in Their Owns Words

continued from page 11

allowed women as members) and was its first female president. After Nano died, I started volunteering even more as a way of keeping busy. In my experience, you meet the best people while volunteering; you wind up getting far more out of the experience than you give. Over the years, I have volunteered at St. John the Evangelist Church and remain a Eucharistic Minister there. I've volunteered in the Mahopac schools, with the Lake Mahopac Garden Club, and the American Cancer Society. I've been a member of the Boards of Trustees of the Putnam Hospital Center, United Way of Westchester/Putnam, the Mid-Hudson Library System, and the Mahopac Public Library (a true community center that thousands of residents patronize throughout the year and of which we can all be very proud). In the nearly 83 years I've lived in Mahopac, I've seen my community grow and change. All the hotels are gone. The railroad station so close to home no longer exists. And all the "Mom-and-Pop" stores I knew and loved have disappeared as well. But one thing has stayed the same: I realize how fortunate I've been to grow up and raise a family in a town where the people take pride in their ethnic heritage and ancestry and are also grateful for and contribute so much to our American way of life. And I am grateful to the Italian American Club for bestowing this honor on me. If Ancestry.com is correct, my DNA is 97 percent Irish. But I am also

Italian. Through marriage. And in spirit. Viva Italia!

By Michael Simone

2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the Simone family taking up residence in Mahopac. Josephine originated from Naples, Italy and Andrew originated from Campania, Italy. My Grandmother was 19 when she landed on Ellis Island and my Grandfather was 18. My Grandmother's older sister introduced them. They first lived in the Bronx, where my Grandmother gave birth to seven children. It was the summer of 1918 when they decided to settle in Mahopac. My Grandmother was pregnant with her eighth child—Andrew Simone, Jr. [my father]. She had eleven children in all; three died in childhood. My Grandfather was a builder. He built homes in the surrounding area, and his reach included Connecticut. He was also a real estate investor and owned the reservoir that supplied water to the bungalows in Mahopac. He funded the opening of Lombardi's. Their life was very basic, simple and real; they were straight to the point; there were no pretenses. They had a stable of horses and they lived from the land. My Grandmother grew everything imaginable—from a variety of vegetables to fruit trees; they slaughtered animals. My uncles were hunters. She did canning and pickling. She made her own pasta, and, of course, the tomato sauce was made from the tomatoes that came from her garden. To ever imagine eating anything from a can

was, needless to say, highly criticized. It was something only the Americans did. They were eating organic long before it became fashionable. My Uncle Joey would say, "We rarely went to the grocery store." She also made her own wine and stronger brews. My Grandparents had three sons who served in World War II. My Uncle Charlie was a paratrooper and was in the Battle of the Bulge. My Uncle Joey was a Marine and fought in Japan. My father, Andrew Simone, Jr., was in the Army and was wounded and received 3 purple hearts. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Silver Star in separate actions in the European theater. He saved a captain's life. My father Andrew Jr. was captured twice by Nazi soldiers and escaped twice. After the War my uncles opened a fuel and oil business and my father became a builder as well as a scratch golfer. My Dad Andrew Jr. married my Mom, Eleanor Barrett on Dec. 7th 1941 had 3 children, Terry, Myself, and my sister Luann. Many grandchildren came along to the Simone family. We gathered every Sunday for dinner, or a Bar-B-Que under the tree. My grandparents and so many others of that generation were the navigators, the architects, and the visionaries that created the path to greater opportunity and a better life for future generations. There was joy and hardships that they so gallantly endured. We are eternally grateful to them and they will always be etched in our memory. It is from them that we derive our determination, strength and courage to face life's slings and arrows

and to never give up and to always push forward. The family today is still very close even if we don't all live in Mahopac. I have had the good fortune to have grown up in Mahopac and continue to live here. I graduated from Mahopac High School 1971, raised 3 sons, all graduates of MHS and I am now Grandfather to 18-month-old Sophia. Both of my Parents were graduates of MHS – Mother, Eleanor (Barrett) Simone, and Valedictorian Class of 1938. I attended New England College – Warner, NH where I majored in Business Administration. Professionally, I have been The Town of Carmel Superintendent of Highways since 2000 and continue to manage my company ENOMIS CONTRUCTION. Community means a lot to me. I have volunteered in MSA Football & Cheerleading and am a Past Program Director – 11 Years. I have participated in The Prevention Council of Putnam – President 20 Years/Board Member 10 Years. I help out at Community Cares as Treasurer and currently I have been serving on The Mahopac Board of Education as a Trustee. I also maintain my affiliations with Westchester-Putnam Highway Superintendents Assoc. I am the Current President and served as Past Vice President for 8 Years and Secretary for 10 Years. I enjoy being involved and giving back to my Community. It makes me who I am. I would like to thank The Italian American Club of Mahopac for bestowing the honor of Grand Marshal on me this year. My grandparents would indeed be very happy.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION of MAR Sweet Homes LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 8/6/18. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **United States Corporation Agents, INC, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF YONKERS MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 8/13/18. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **185 Briggs Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HF SERVICES LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/07/2018. Office Location: Westchester. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to principal business address: **54 Lawrence Drive, Apt A, White Plains, NY 10603. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FELINE VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER, PLLC, Arts of Org filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 8/2/18. Office: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated for service of process & shall mail process to **10 Brady Lane, Somers, NY 10589. Pur-**

pose: Veterinary Medicine.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EVOLUTION LOCKSMITH, LLC a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY on August 08, 2018. The office of this LLC is located in Westchester County. Secretary of state is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC to **90 Stratford Ave., White Plains, NY 10605. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity.**

MARK WHALING being a natural person of at least eighteen years of age and acting as the organizer of the limited liability company formed under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law of the State of New York certifies that the name of the limited liability company is Whaleshark, LLC. The Articles of Organization were filed with the State on August 31, 2018. The purpose of the limited liability company is to engage in any lawful act or activity within the purposes for which limited liability company companies may be organized pursuant to Limited Liability Company Law. The office of the limited liability company is to be located in Westchester County. The address of the limited liability company is **10 Ormond Place, Rye, NY 10580. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SHAKER WAY LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 9/12/18. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **SHAKER WAY LLC 4 New King Street, Suite 140, White Plains, NY 10604. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

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Fill the Truck – Carmel Rotary Autumn Food Drive

On Saturday and Sunday September 29 and 30, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Carmel Rotary Club will once again attempt to –‘Fill the Truck’ with non-perishable groceries at Shoprite, Route 52 in Carmel, to benefit our local food pantries. The residents of Carmel, Brewster, Kent, Patterson, Stormville, Pawling, Mahopac and surrounding towns have been exceptionally generous to those in need. Each year the residents of Putnam County have joined the members of the Carmel Rotary Club, in conjunction with ShopRite's Partners in Caring campaign, in this worthwhile cause to help those less fortunate. There are many families in our community that find it difficult to adequately feed their families.

The Carmel Rotary Club will be sorting and bagging nonperishable food for distribution to the Brewster Community Food Pantry, Gilead Presbyterian Church in Carmel, Putnam Community Action Program (CAP), and St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. With the guidance and experienced direction of Carmel Rotarian George Knochel, who has been heading this food drive for over 10 years, joined by the Carmel High School Mentors and other Carmel Rotarians the goal is to increase the volume of donations from the many previous successful years.

If you are unable to take the time to shop either of those 2 days, why not consider stopping by and making a financial donation or purchasing premade grocery bags? All food donations and monetary contributions are divided among the food pantries. Gift cards are purchased with the financial donations and shared with the pantries.

For additional information please call Rotarian George Knoechel at 845-225-3919.

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: The Putnam Arts Council, Mahopac, is pleased to present our Push Pin Show: works on paper which will open at the A. Eric Arctander Gallery@the Belle Levine Art Center on Sunday, September 23rd and will run through Sunday, October 14th. The exhibition features 48 Gallery artists presenting 87 works on paper. For this show the artists have been pushed to think outside the box and create work that will be mounted to the gallery walls using only push pins. Gallery hours are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from Noon to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., evenings by appointment. Admission to our gallery is free of charge. The gallery is located at the Putnam Arts Council, 521 Kennicut Hill Road, Mahopac. www.putnamartscouncil.com

Board of Education Meetings: The Putnam Valley Central School District Board of Education will hold a Special Business Meeting on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, beginning at 7 pm. The meeting will be held in the High School main office conference room at 146 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley, New York

Recreation Programs: Patterson Recreation: Fall programs. High School Flag Football League for Gr. 9-12. Form a team, choose a captain and register! Optional weekday practice, games on Sundays. For more information visit www.pattersonrec.org or call 845 878-7200.

Youth Drama: Tilly Foster Farm Present Youth Drama-Farm Program Kids perform in musical "Charlotte's Web." Gr. K-8 at Putnam County's Till foster Farm. Rehearsals begin Sept. 29. K-2 rehearses on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m., with optional farm lesson from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Gr. 3-8 rehearses from 9:30 a.m.-noon, with optional farm lesson from noon-1 p.m. Performance is Saturday, Nov. 17. Pre-enrollment required online only at www.DramaDiscovery.com For more info email youththeater1@aol.com

Ongoing:

Three public flu clinics Hosted by the

Putnam County Department of Health (PCDOH Wednesday, October 10, at the Garrison Fire Department, 1616 Route 9; Monday, October 22, at Carmel Fire Department again. The health department's skilled and experienced public health nurses will be giving flu shots at each site from 2 to 6:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary. The clinics are open to all Putnam County residents 18 years of age and older. Proof of residency is required, along with a signed consent form. Forms will be available at the clinics, but residents are encouraged to download and complete the form ahead of time. Forms are posted on the health department's immunization page on Putnam County website at www.putnamcountyny.com/health/immunization. The fee for vaccination is \$25 for residents under 65 years of age. Those 65 years and older, or with a Medicare card, can receive the vaccine free of charge. High-dose flu vaccine is being offered for seniors, aged 65 years and older, as studies show this vaccine is more effective for this population. (Pneumonia vaccine will not be offered at the flu clinics.)

Save the Date:

Friday, October 19: Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 672 hosts Veterans Gala Dinner 6 p.m. - 10 p.m., Brewster Sheet Metal Hall 38 Starr Ridge Road, Brewster. Four-hour open bar, appetizers and dinner \$85 per person. 800 per tables of 10. RSVP Via text to Andrew DeStefano 845-519-3085. Checks can be made payable to: Brewster VFW#672 Peaceable Hill Road, Brewster NY 10509.

Saturdays: The Breakfast Club Beginning October 13 Second Saturday of the month. 11 a.m. Once-a-month, we meet to chat about an exciting YA novel and indulge in delicious food while hanging out with friends old and new. For ages 13-17. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

Tuesdays: Drawing Texture part 2 at Reed Library Tuesdays 10 am to 12 noon, six weeks beginning October 2. Students will learn both basic and refined drawing techniques using graphite pencils to lay a foundation for more complex media. Registration is required, and preference given to residents of the Reed Library District. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

Wonder Lab: Beginning October 2 Every other Tuesday 4:30 p.m., - 5:30 p.m., Kids will work together to explore the concepts of STEAM through fun activities, exciting experiments, and awesome art. For grades 3-6. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

Wednesdays:

Mental Health Association Peer Café: A safe and open space to talk about life. For ages 18-26. Coffee, tea and smoothies. Wednesdays from 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. at Mental Health Association. Contact Amanda Boccardi at 845 279-7600, ext. 205 or aboccardi@mhaputnam.org

Thursdays:

Crazy 8s Club: 4:30p.m.- 5:30 p.m. Are you ready to get crazy? Math will never be the same! During this 8-session club, Crazy 8ers build stuff, run and jump, make music, make a mess... All while bonding with new friends over math! For grades K-2. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-

6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

Coloring for Adults. Re-connect with your inner child. 7:00 p.m., Join us on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month for an evening of relaxation, stress relief, focus, and fun. For ages 18 and up. Materials will be provided; no registration needed. Call Mahopac Library for information: 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Basic ESL: Thursdays, starting September 27, 5:15 p.m. -6:45p.m. This ESL class will focus on practical communication skills and is aimed at helping anyone who has limited English, but wants help improving their spoken and written English. This course will be taught by Steve Rome, a certified TEFL instructor. Steve has retired from the Yorktown School District where he taught Social Studies, French and Spanish for over 30 years. Click here to register or call 845-279-6421.

Putnam County Youth Bureau Pegasus Program: Held on Thursdays from 6 p.m. -7:30 p.m., at the Putnam County Youth Bureau, beginning October 11, 2018. Children and their adult caregivers will have fun in an engaging and supportive environment. A free confidential program for children ages 6-12 who have a parent or family member suffering from alcoholism or other drug dependencies. Pre-registration required. Contact Stephanie Nocera at 845 808-1600, ext. 46126 or Stephanie.Nocera@putnamcountyny.gov

Philipstown Bike Day Scheduled

Almost one year ago, over 750 Philipstown residents cast ballots in the first Philipstown Community Congress and chose investing in safe biking and walking paths as their top community priority. Now it's time for Philipstown residents to show their public support by putting their pedals in motion.

The Philipstown Community Congress Trails Committee is pleased to announce the first Philipstown Bike Day slated for Sunday, September 30. Rain date: Oct. 7. All are invited to join in the event and bicycle, walk or participate in any other non-motorized form. The event will be from 9am to noon and will begin in the parking lot of the Haldane public school at 15 Craigside Drive in Cold Spring.

Participants will be part of an effort to bicycle a combined 500 miles in the spirit of encouraging a healthy active lifestyle and reducing our carbon footprint to help the environment.

Participants who successfully complete the 1.7-mile circuit at least once will receive a commendation to recognize their participation in the event and support for a more bike-able and walk-able community.

We would like to thank the Village of Cold Spring, Nelsonville and Town of Philipstown for supporting the event, the Putnam County Sheriff's office for providing a crossing guard, and Downey Energy for the use of their parking lot to ensure a safe bike route.

The Trails Committee consists of volunteers from The Philipstown Community Congress and other interested persons and welcomes any other interested individuals. For further information or to volunteer to help with the Philipstown Bike Day, please contact the Trails Committee co-chairs at philipstowntrails@gmail.com

The Trails Committee invites potential participants in the Philipstown Bike Day to register in advance by emailing philipstowntrails@gmail.com

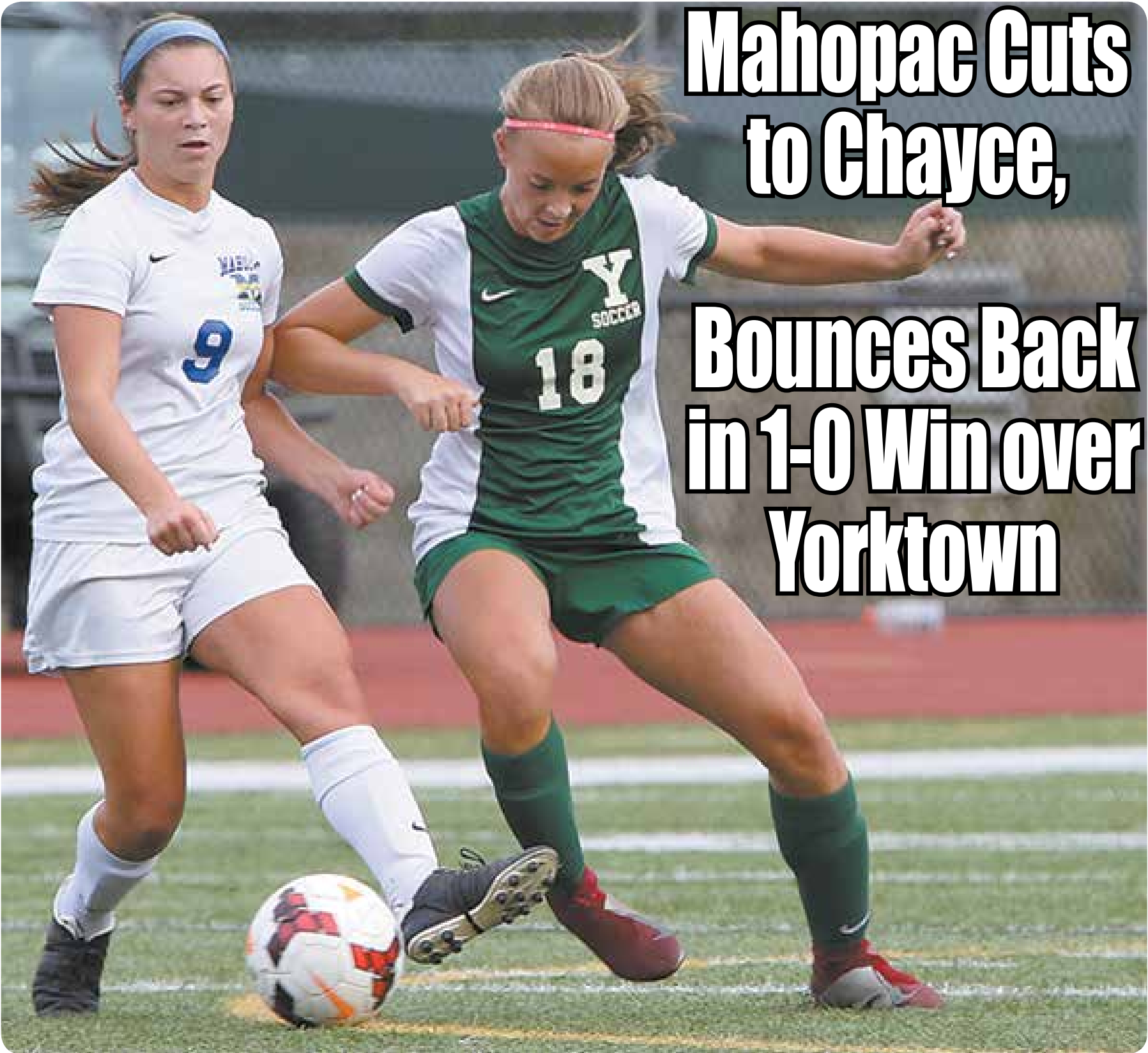


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Sports
Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports



**Mahopac Cuts
to Chayce,
Bounces Back
in 1-0 Win over
Yorktown**

RICK KUPERBERG PHOTO (PLEASE VISIT WWW.HVSPHOTOS.COM FOR MORE)

Mahopac got right to point in its 1-0 win over Yorktown and its lit sophomore Chayce Buono (R), who can't wrangle free of Indian senior M Sama Colatruglio in Mahaopc's 1-0 win over the host Huskers last Saturday when Grace DeVincenzo scored the only goal and ended state-ranked (No.5) Mahopac's unexpected two-game losing streak at the hands of North Rockland and Clarkstown South. G Isabel Ombini (6 saves) chalked up the shutout... see Soccer Notebook

Sports

Grid Notebook

Kaiser, Balancia Run Wild in Somers' Win over Yorktown

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

Both visiting Somers and Yorktown High packed Charlie Murphy Field last Friday in anticipation of the near-annual showdown between coach Tony DeMatteo's Tuskus, who had limped out of the gate with a 1-2 start, and Coach Mike Rescigno's defending Section 1 Class A champion Huskers, who were off and running at 3-0 while celebrating it homecoming day.

The game was going according to Yorktown's blueprint when, suddenly, with the Huskers racing out to a 21-7 lead, the game went off-script and Somers (2-2) scored 28 unanswered points in the second half en route to a 35-21 non-league triumph over the 2017 NYS runner-up Huskers (3-1).

Somers HB Charlie Balancia and burly FB Jack Kaiser rush 38 times between them behind a dominant offensive line for 363 yards and five touchdowns, Kaiser plowing and endowing for four scores. Balancia, just a junior, had a game-high 198 yards and another score.

Butterflies had consumed Somers throughout the first half, but once the nerves settled, the Tuskus went to work behind an offensive line – including John Squitieri, Dom Cheek, Mac Joyce, Joe Griffith, Joe Calandrucci and Liam O'Loughlin – that opened gaping holes for a barrage of Somers backs.



RAY GALLAGHER/AGE KAMALSKY

Somers NG Charlie Grindrod pressures Yorktown QB Tommy Weaver in Tuskus' 35-21 win over Huskers.

the ball in our offense to read the blocks and hit the holes hard. We worked hard all week. This was the single most important game to us all year, especially at their homecoming. Everyone contributed and it paid off big time."

When Yorktown QB Tommy Weaver scrambled before uncorking a 40-yard TD strike to TE Naim Sinanaj for a 21-7 lead in the opening minutes of the second half, the Huskers were rolling: Until

#KaiserRoll got buttered up. Kaiser (165 yards on 23 carries) punctuated a methodical 80-yard drive with a one-yard dip to paydirt. Trailing 21-14, Somers stole momentum and began to pile on when Kaiser went 62 yards in the final minute of the third quarter and tied the score at 21-all when steady K Kevin Graber hit the PAT (Graber, a weapon, was 5-5 on PATs and habitually pinned Somers at the 20 on kick-offs).

It took two Huskers to catch Balancia from behind when he busted off a 71-yard jaunt, which set up another Kaiser touchdown and a 28-21 Somers lead with 8:17 to play. Balancia finished the scoring moments later from 22 yards out, as Coach DeMatteo, the

legendary ringleader of the elephants, reveled with Tusker Nation.

Weaver completed seven passes for 140 yards and rushed seven times for 70 yards while Smith had a two short touchdown runs for Yorktown, but the Huskers could never get in rhythm offensively in the second half.

Next up for Yorktown, which was ranked No.27 in NYS coming in, is a Friday (7 pm) visit from state-ranked (No.14) Our Lady of Lourdes, a daunting task indeed.

Somers will visit Brewster Friday (7 pm).

BREWSTER (3-1) came back down to earth in a 36-7 setback to undefeated John Jay (4-0), who saw QB Bryce Ford go for a combined 431 yards, resulting in four TDs passing and running. The Bears had no answer.

HEN HUD (1-3) finally reached the win column in a 40-6 trouncing of LAKELAND (0-4) when Sailor WR Donte White scored three TDs in all phases, one receiving, one rushing and one on a



Somers LB Kevin Grabber gets hold of Yorktown QB Tommy Weaver in Tuskus' 35-21 win over Huskers last Friday.

"We finally got all of our nerves out in the second half and got a huge swing of momentum before the half (when Kaiser got the Tuskus on the board)," Balancia said. "Our O-line blocked perfectly, and it was just up to all of the backs running



Tuskus John Squitieri (76) and Conor Jaykus (24) celebrate one of four TDs scored by Somers FB Jack Kaider in 35-21 win over Yorktown.



Somers RB Charlie Balancia is caught by his shirttail on TD-saving tackle by Yorktown LB Eddie Capone and Trevon Johnson (3) in Tuskus' 35-21 win over Huskers.

60-yard punt return. The Sailors will visit a struggling Fox Lane outfit Friday (7 pm) while the Hornets visit rival WALTER PANAS (1-3), a 49-7 loser to Lourdes, Friday (7 pm).

CLASS AA

CARMEL (3-1) made short work of visiting North Rockland in a 27-0 Homecoming Day rout, pitching its third shutout of the season and setting up a Week 5 showdown with undefeated, state-ranked (No.30) John Jay EF.

Sports

Grid Notebook

continued from previous page



Patriotic Carmel Rams storm field decked in red, white & blue before 27-0 Homecoming Day rout of North Rockland.



Somers HB Charlie Balancia is stopped for one of the few times he would be contained by Yorktown LB Jack Tinari in Tuskers' 35-21 win over Huskers.

Carmel RB Sam Duke had his way. The senior rushed 20 times for 107 yards and a touchdown and was a menace on defense. Ram QB Peyton Cayea was serving up

an aerial show, dispensing TD passes to Chris Jordan and Will Boalt and finding his favorite target Joe Mascetta for 53 yards on five completions. James Cox capped the scoring with a 30-yard scoot to paydirt.

Duke, and many other throughout the section, believe the Rams are just starting to scratch the surface.

"I totally agree," Duke said. "I believe that as a good as we are doing now we are nowhere near our full potential yet. Our defense has been looking very strong, but I believe as we get later in the season our offense will be feared. We have a huge test this week against Jay and I think this game will help set the tone for the rest of the season. I know our coaches will have us ready and we will just put our pads on, keep our hands down and play football."

The Rams also stormed the field in fancy fashion, flashing 50 American flags before a raucous SRO crowd, something that gives goosebumps to many in the community.

"It's an amazing feeling, but sad thinking this is my last year," Duke admitted. "As a team, we are very thankful for everyone who has served and sacrificed their life for this great country."

Carmel just gets it!...

MAHOPAC probably suffered its worst loss in the second-season Dom DeMatteo era, falling 23-21 at home against RCK, on a fourth-quarter safety no less. There were bright spots but the loss triggers dread when it comes to playoff potential during a rough 1-3 start. QB Anthony Corrado threw for a TD pass to Rheal Allen and rushed for another score



Yorktown RB Dylan Smith hits paydirt for one of two TDs he would score in 35-21 loss to Somers.



Yorktown TE Naim Sinanaj snags TD catch over outstretched Somers DB TJ Deagan in Huskers' 35-21 loss to Tuskers last Friday.

and 155 yards on 10 carries. Indian RB Tim Cegielski rushed for 141 yards and a score on just 15 carries. The Indians will host Ramapo this Friday (7 pm) while Mahopac recognizes the 30-year anniversary of the undefeated 1988 bowl champions.

CLASS B

PUTNAM VALLEY (1-3) saw the cream of the crop in a 48-14 loss to state-ranked (No.7) Ardsley. The Tigers will host reigning Section 1 champion Pleasantville Saturday (6 pm). With no J.V. program to speak of, the Tigers are headed into a pivotal rebuilding situation that could take some time...

CLASS D

HALDANE (2-1) made short work of Section 9's Onteora when RB Sam Giachinta mashed for four touchdowns and 130 yards on just 14 attempts. Brad Dowd snagged a 39-yard TD catch from QB Daniel Santos...

CHSAA

KENNEDY CATHOLIC (3-0) routed St. Dominic's (Long Island), 35-0, for the second time this season when Myles Proctor went for 215 yards and three scores on just nine carries. Seth Surratt (4 carries, 45 yards & 12 yard TD catch), Ryan Johnson (2-5, 25 yards, TD), Eric Volpi (7-yard TD grab), Tyler Outhouse (2 catches, 57 yards) and Kieran Meyer (TD) were prominent figures in the offense while Brandon Gibson (INT), Cole Esposito (12 tackles, 1 sack) and Wyatt Rumpf (10 tackles, 1 sack) led a ferocious defense.

The Gaels visit Cardinal Spellman this week with a strong chance to improve to 4-0. Spellman barely beat St. Dom's, 7-0, but the Gaels can ill-afford to look past a Spellman outfit that defeated Kennedy twice last year, including a season-ending 16-14 NYCHSFL playoff loss to the eventual Class A champs. You know what they say about payback.

SHRUB OAK ATHLETIC CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERAL MEETING

The Shrub Oak Athletic Club will hold its annual open meeting on **Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.**

at the Copper Beach Middle School Cafeteria.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend.

Questions and suggestions about programs are welcome.

Nominations for the following positions will be accepted only at this meeting:

President, Executive Vice President, 2 Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer

For more information call 962-7099

Sports

Soccer Notebook

Kiss of Death Alive, Strikes Local Soccer Clubs

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

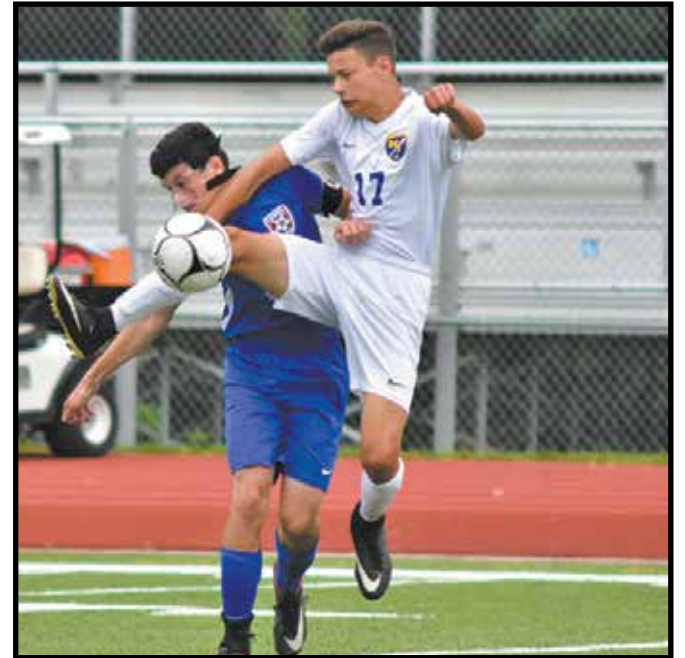
So, the Kiss of Death has struck again: Everybody knows that as soon as I prop you up in these pages, the fall will often follow. Last week, we featured the Class AA Ossining and Class A Brewster boys' teams, and the state-ranked (No.5) Class AA Mahopac girls in this here space, and right around the same time we went to print previously state-ranked (No.14) Ossining got knocked off by perennial state-ranked (No.10) powerhouse Arlington, which was no big surprise given the Admirals' penchant for owning Section 1 Class AA soccer foes.

But Class A Brewster got upended in a surprising 4-2 loss to Gorton later in the week, and the Lady Indians were then derailed in a 2-0 loss to mighty North Rockland and another 2-1 setback to Clarkstown South. Three teams featured, four key losses: The Kiss of Death lives!



RAY GALLAGHER/BOB CASTNER/RICK KUPERBERG/JERRI COHEN PHOTOS

Mahopac's Nick Pawliczko (19) heads one clear against defense from Carmel's Ryan Taormina in Indians' 2-0 win over Rams last Thursday.



Mahopac's John Shea (17) steps in front of Carmel's Danny Weiner to make play in Indians' 2-0 win over Rams last Thursday.



Yorktown's Chayce Buono is hounded by Panas' Emma Anderson in Huskers' 2-1 loss to Panthers last week.



Putnam Valley's Lindsey Cohen and Croton's Melissa Stok battle for 50-50 ball in Croton's 2-1 win last Friday.



Mahopac's Niko DeCola, who scored both goals, gains control against Carmel's David Romero

likes of Arlington and New Rochelle for the right to represent in the state tournament.

As for Brewster, let's pump the breaks. Somers and Yorktown are two of the premier obstacles in the days ahead, and those two games will tell us a lot about the Bears, who got back on track and improved to 4-2 with a quality 2-0 win over Lakeland Friday behind goals from Pat Feehan and Geo Zanetto, but a string of crazy games this week



Mahopac's Karl Thimm and Carmel's David Romero get after head ball in in Indians' 2-0 win over Rams last Thursday.

Now listen, we're still high on all three programs, especially since this was a wild week across the board on the Section 1 soccer circuit.

Ossining recovered two days later with a 1-0 win over Fox Lane on a Nolan Lenaghan goal, and the Pride would do well to reach the Section 1 Final 4 this season, battling the

will help determine whether of no the Bears are in it to win it: Monday, Nyack at Brewster; Tuesday, Somers at Brewster; Thursday, Brewster at Nanuet; Saturday, Mahopac at Brewster.

As for Mahopac, the Lady Indians will be just fine, as evidenced by Saturday's 1-0 win over Yorktown. The loss to North Rockland was a grudge match, something the Raiders had been carrying with them since last November when the Indians staged a great quarterfinal upset to end their season. In the end, the two could potentially meet again; either in the semis

of finals, dependent upon their respective seeds. For now, Mahopac needs to focus on the league title, with an eye on the big picture down the road...

BOYS' NOTES: In the biggest game of the week, **YORKTOWN** upended state-ranked Class AA New Rochelle, 1-0, when James Calidonna, assisted by Timmy O'Callaghan, scored the lone goal. For a Yorktown team that has been up and down early on, this signals the beginning of what could be a magical run to the Class A Final 4 or bust. Gritty Pat Boyle

continued on next page

Sports

Field Hockey Notebook

Somers Hoping to Take Next Step, Lakeland Clips Mamo'

By Tony Pinciario

A strong finish to the 2017 season, including a trip to the Section 1 Class B Championship semifinals, provided SOMERS with momentum and a sense of confidence coming into 2018.

"We had a good feeling because we have a great group of girls, not only skill-wise, but also attitude-wise," senior and four-year varsity player Rosalie Murphy said. "Our returnees are very strong and we have a very strong starting lineup. Each girl brings something different to the team."

Somers has won three of its first six games, including victories over perennial Section 1 Class B finalist Rye and Section 1 Class C finalist Pawling. Somers also defeated an improved Nanuet team, 3-1. Somers scored twice, both on penalty corners, in a four-minute span of the second half.

Following an upbeat preseason in which Somers welcomed new coach, Michelle Armstrong, the Tuskers opened the season with a 1-0 triumph over Pawling in a Somers' Tournament first-round game.

"Pawling was very aggressive which tested our patience and ability to stay composed, which we did," said Murphy, a starter on the forward line. "It was a great test for us and a huge win for us. It brought up our confidence."

Despite a loss to Scarsdale in the championship game, Somers knew it had to forget it and focus on its next game - Rye. Playing against a strong Rye team also made the Tuskers come in prepared and psyched.

"We talked about what Scarsdale did that worked on incorporating it into our game and we took everything they exploited against us and worked on it so we were not vulnerable against Rye," Murphy said, "but we rose to the occasion."

The result was a 2-1 victory and Somers added the win over Nanuet. Even though Nanuet took a lead three minutes into the game, Somers answered 42 seconds later when Emma Kittridge converted an Isabella Del Vecchio pass. Erin Clark snapped a 1-1 tie with 13:05 remaining in the game, assisted by Kittridge. Somers made Nanuet pay for a defensive foul in

the circle on its third goal, four minutes later, as Del Vecchio scored her first goal of the season, assisted by Murphy.

"What's pleased us is our overall improvement," Murphy said. "Even after a win, we talk about what we have to improve on. We've also become closer and closer, as a team, which has helped us on the field."

LAKELAND continued its winning ways with victories over Scarsdale, 9-2, and perennial Section 1 Class A champion and three-time state-titlist Mamaroneck, 2-0. Mamaroneck won state titles in 2004, '14 and '15. While Lakeland, now 7-0 this season, has won nine consecutive sectional and state titles, Mamaroneck has been the Section 1 Class A champion 10 of the last 11 years, including the last six.

Julia Cummings said Lakeland looks forward to playing Mamaroneck.

"We know it's always going to be a challenge," Cummings said. "We go in expecting a fast and intense game. It's a great experience because we are constantly thinking during the game which really tests our knowledge of the sport. A highly-

competitive game like Mamaroneck teaches us a lot and allows us to step up and play the best that we can."

Lakeland received goals from Cara O'Shea and Samantha Graap. Goalie Kellie Smith made three saves, but she received a huge life from teammate Emily Kness, who made a goal-line save to keep Lakeland up 1-0.

"Emily made an incredible play," Cummings said. "The ball was sent into the circle and a Mamaroneck player was standing in front of the goal. She tipped the ball and Kellie dove to try and stop it, but luckily it hit the post. Then more players ran in and were getting really scrappy, trying to hit it in. As this happened, Emily ran and dove behind Kellie. Emily was on the ground, her hands and knees, as the ball was shot again and she saved it and cleared it out."

Lakeland opened its week with the victory over Scarsdale as O'Shea finished with a hat trick. Kness had two goals and two assists, Erin Daly also scored twice and Julianna Cappello finished with one goal and three assists.

continued from previous page



Yorktown's Hailey Soliz gets airborne against Panas' Haley Ortiz, Alex Sudol and Ella Yaeger in Huskers' 2-1 loss to Panthers.



Mahopac's Bryan Tenenpaguay rips shot stopped by Carmel G Chris Cieciera in Indians' 2-0 win over Rams last Thursday.

saved the Huskers' hide when he flew in on defense and prevented a game-tying goal in the game's waning moments. His spectacular defensive play helped preserve the victory for the reigning Section 1 Class AA champion Huskers, who are obviously legit Class A title contenders this season when they bring the A-game.

"In our two losses this season we got in our own way," Yorktown Assistant coach Justin Huff said. "Come playoff time we'll be ready to play anyone and will be looking for some revenge against Beacon and Tappan Zee. We're officially a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde-type team. We seem to have turned things around for start of the league schedule this week."

They'd better have because if folks want to see something completely off the hook this week, they'd best be at Yorktown on Thursday (6 pm) when Somers pays a visit in what should be a raucous environment with the league chip potentially on the line. The Huskers have already stunned the Tuskers this season, Somers will be looking to extract its pound of flesh...

SOMERS defeated Pleasantville, 1-0, when Ethan Cukaj scored from Jon Riina,

but truth be told the Tuskers need to score more than once in a game against a Class B foe if they mean the kind of business they are capable of. The Tuskers put up a 7-spot in a shutout of Panas when Lucas Fecci and Diego Giron each scored two goals and dished as assist for the surging state-ranked (No.19) Tuskers (7-1), winner of five in a row. Film doesn't lie and Coach Brian Lanzetta's Tuskers look scary good on film, and once they become a cohesive unit watch out...

MAHOPAC senior Niko DeCola put on a second-half show in a 2-0 win over host CARMEL, scoring twice in dictating tempo throughout. His 45-yard laser off a free kick tickled twine and was a sight to behold...

GIRLS' NOTES: The **WALTER PANAS** Panthers came up with two theatrical wins this week, defeating bordering rivals, **YORKTOWN**, 2-1 in OT, and **LAKELAND**, 1-0, in the final minute. Noelle Fuller, the Panthers' keeper, made 19 saves and emerging Julia Araujo scored on a free kick with 48

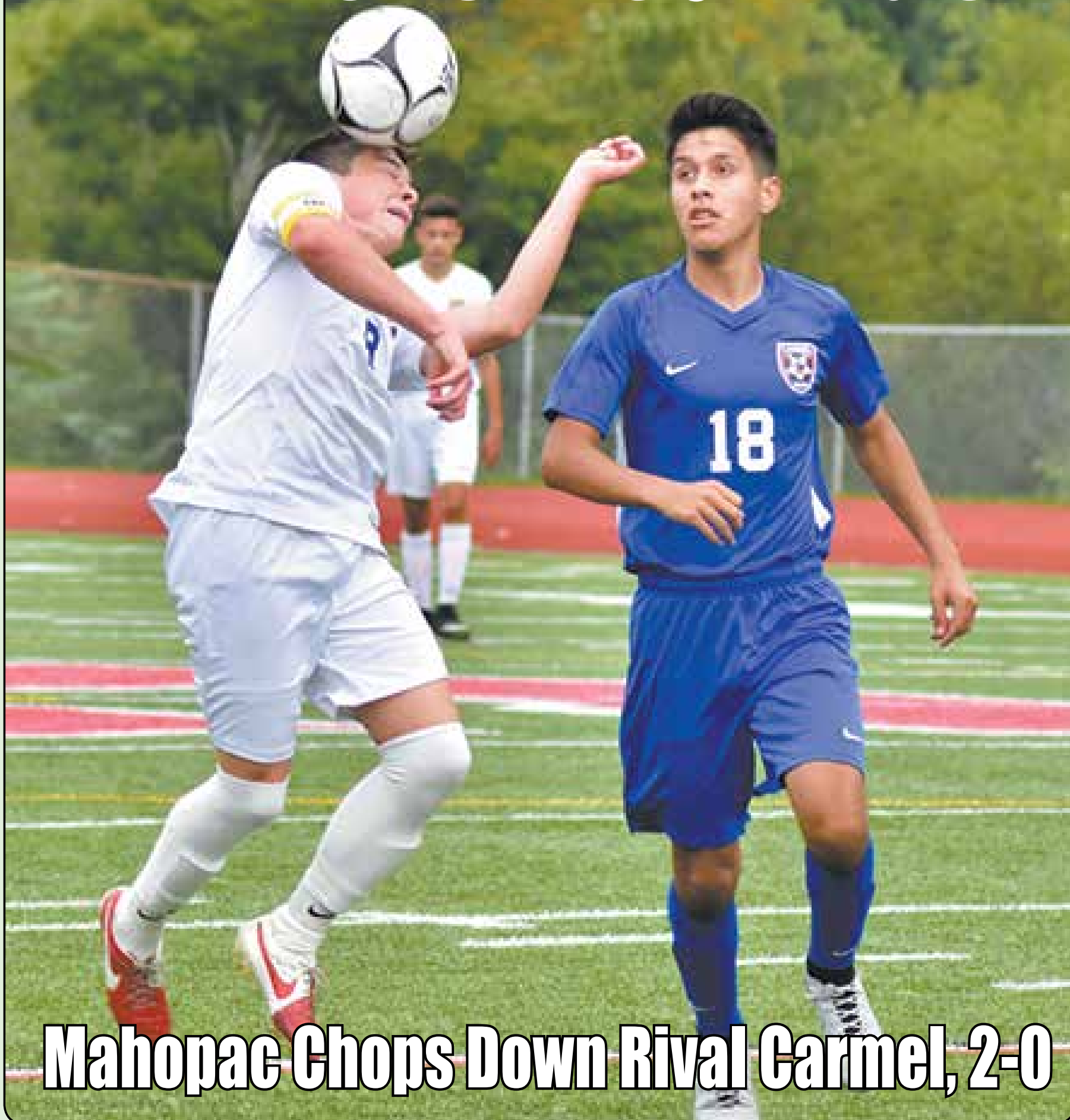
seconds left to beat Lakeland. Against Yorktown, Kaitlyn Roazzi and Araujo found the net. Reckon my man -- Panas Coach Kyle Pierce -- has the Panthers playing above their ordinary level after these two huge wins. Lakeland also suffered a 1-0 loss to **SOMERS** when Mia Klayman scored the lone goal off an assist from Dahlia Pepe...

PUTNAM VALLEY had a rough week for a team with high hopes and legit talent, losing a pair of 2-1 games to Croton and Hastings. Hey, it's early, but it's time to get your ducks in a row if the Tigers are going to make another Class B Final 4 run.



Panas' Julia Araujo has emerged as a viable force in recent wins over Lakeland and Yorktown.

An Axe to McGrinder



Mahopac Chops Down Rival Carmel, 2-0

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Mahopac senior captain Patrick McGrinder heads a ball in front of Carmel M David Romero in the Indians' 2-0 win over the host Rams last Thursday when Indian senior Niko DeCola placed a pair of goals between the pipes to ensure the win... see Soccer Notebook