



Putnam Valley 2020 Budget Exceeds Tax Cap

By Neal Rentz

The Putnam Valley Town Board on Nov. 13 voted 4-1 to pass a 2020 budget that exceeds the state-mandated 2 percent property tax cap by almost 1 percent.

Supervisor Sam Oliverio voted against the budget because he said he wanted to restore salary increases of \$5,000 each for two town employees who are managers, whom he declined to name.

Oliverio said four costs the town has no control over in next year's budget include unemployment insurance, employee health insurance, workers' compensation and liability insurance, which would have resulted in a 3.5 percent property tax hike.

However, the Town Board made spending cuts elsewhere to bring the tax increase to 2.9 percent, instead.

"We cut back in town the best we could," he said.

Prior to the vote, resident Patty Villanova spoke during the public budget hearing on the board's intention to override the tax levy cap. She said the taxpayers "did send a message" on Election Day by defeating a proposition to let the Putnam Valley Library collect more tax dollars for programs and services.

Villanova said there is a concern among residents about taxes in town and that she wished the Town Board would not override the cap.

Oliverio said two town employees who are not part of a union deserve raises, which were deleted from the budget at a previous meeting.

"I'm pushing this because it is so important that we remunerate individuals who have taken on extra duties and whose work has just blossomed beyond what the title and the job should entail," he said, adding that raises have been provided to other town employees in similar circumstances in the past.

"This is an issue of fairness," he said.

However, Councilwoman Jacqueline Annabi said Town Counsel William Florence stated in an e-mail that to do what Oliverio was requesting would be illegal. But Oliverio replied that it is up to the Town Board

to determine the base salaries for town employees who are managers.

Councilwoman Wendy Whetsel said the managers' contracts could be voided to provide the salary increases sought by Oliverio for the two managers.

Oliverio said he asked the Town Board for the raises for the two managers last spring but was told by his colleagues to bring the issue up during the budget season.

Town Declines to Pave Horton Hollow

Also during last week's meeting, Oliverio said the town will not move forward with paving Horton Hollow Road, due to objections

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Carmel Hires Manhattan Law Firm to Defend Against Article 78

By Holly Crocco

The Carmel Town Board has hired Manhattan law firm Cozen O'Connor to represent the town against an Article 78 lawsuit filed by Councilman Michael Barile and his partner Tommy Boniello. The suit also names the Putnam County Department of Health and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection as defendants.

Earlier this year, it was determined that the building that houses the restaurant known as Blu at the Lakehouse, which Barile and Boniello own, is hooked up to the town's sewer system without proper permitting.

The two sought to get the final DEP permit to bring the sewer hookup into compliance but, according to Barile (as quoted in previous news reports), that effort has been halted by his colleagues deliberately slowing down the process as retribution for his filing a complaint with the state comptroller's office last year over the town's procurement procedures.

In October, Barile announced that he

was filing an Article 78 lawsuit, which is an action used to appeal the decision of a state or local agency to the New York courts. In response, the town hired Cozen O'Connor to investigate the matter.

During the Nov. 13 Carmel Town Board meeting, tensions were once again high as the board voted 3-1 to also hire Cozen O'Connor to defend the town against the Article 78 lawsuit.

Barile abstained from the vote, and Town Supervisor Kenneth Schmitt was the lone "no" voice, saying he believes the board did not do its due diligence to seek out a more affordable option.

"Do we really need to give this work to a Manhattan law firm when we could retain the services of another law firm that could be less costly?" asked Schmitt. "Did we get a proposal from them with respect to costs to Article 78? ... The services that we agreed to (for the investigation) were very specific in nature – the scope of it was very specific. This is something very different."

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HOLLY CROCCO PHOTO

Thank You, Veterans!

Brewster Argonne American Legion Post 71 hosted its annual Veterans' Day ceremony Nov. 11 at Electra Zone Field in Brewster. Dozens of veterans – as well as family, friends and advocates – gathered to honor those who served our country. Additional photos are on pages 12 and 13.

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Putnam Valley 2020 Budget Exceeds Tax Cap

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expressed by the state's Department of Environmental Conservation.

A Class One wetland, which has the most restrictions to protect it, is located near the dirt road, and a trout stream is located adjacent to the road, according to Town Consulting Planner and Westlands Inspector Bruce Barber. He said the DEC is concerned about potential flooding of the area if the road is paved, potential runoff from the road, and the protection of endangered species in the area.

To allow the road to be paved, the DEC said the town would need to prove "a compelling economic or social need" to do so, said Barber.

Several residents said the road needs to be paved. One resident, who said she lived in the area for 15 years, said the road was better maintained 10 or 15 years ago. Another said the road regularly has potholes.

Oliverio said the town is not prepared to move forward with paving the road, which would entail about \$2.3 million in construction costs. However, the town will grade it in the spring to lower it, he said.

While Oliverio said he agrees the road should be better maintained by the town, he does not want to spend any more money on the project when the DEC does not approve the concept without "a very important reason" to pave the road.

Carmel Hires Manhattan Law Firm to Defend Against Article 78

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Councilwoman Susie McDonough said the final cost will depend on how the lawsuit plays out.

"They (Cozen O'Connor) cannot give a one-price cost because it depends on if it is going to go forward – if it is going to be going to court," she said.

She noted that Cozen O'Connor was the firm that investigated the matter, and if the town were to hire a different firm to defend against the lawsuit, that new firm would have to put in more hours to get up to speed, and may even need to confer with Cozen O'Connor, and the costs may be the same or more than if the town just moved forward with Cozen O'Connor.

"To me, it was cleaner; it was hopefully less time consuming," said McDonough. "I would like this whole thing to be resolved so we can move on."

"I, personally, am against it because it's going to cost a ton more money to defend this Article 78," replied Schmitt. "It's money that could be better spent elsewhere."

McDonough said that if the matter goes to court, it could cost the town \$100,000. However, she said she is hopeful the case will be dropped.

According to the councilwoman, Cozen O'Connor has given an opinion that "the relief sought against the town is that we be compelled – meaning the town – to review and decide petitioner's out-of-district sewer

connection to Sewer District Number One to take all necessary and appropriate actions formally to discharge their nondiscretionary administrative duties, which we were already doing.

"There is nothing more for the town to do with Mr. Barile's application," continued McDonough, citing correspondence from the law firm. "Our lawyers can move to dismiss the case, but he should really just drop it because having to defend against such a suit when there is nothing else that the town can do to satisfy Mr. Barile's requested relief is a waste of taxpayers' resources."

"What we're hoping is that the Article 78 will be dropped, but that's up to the lawyers and to Mr. Barile and Mr. Boniello," she said.

Barile, of course, responded.

"The Article 78 was filed by my partner and myself because a letter was sent to the DEP from the Town of Carmel asking them to stop their review, which will come out in a courtroom whether that's legal or not," he said.

"The Article 78 basically said to the Board of Health, the DEP and the Town of Carmel – and I'll use layman's language – 'Quit playing games with us and tell us what's going on,'" continued Barile. "That's it. Very simple. It's not a crazy lawsuit. Go in front of a judge, you three people, (and) tell me why my partner and myself are going around in a circle like this."

Reed Library Wins Award

The Reed Memorial Library in Carmel has been recognized with the Mid-Hudson Library System's Spotlight Award for its leadership in bringing local residents together for a common cause.

As an early participant in the statewide pilot of the Great Give Back, the Reed Memorial Library worked with the Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center and facilitated the collection of a large assortment of new sheets, quilts, bath towels, toiletries and gift cards for the center, which provides advocacy, shelter, clinical and case management services to women in transition.

The donations collected by library staff and patrons will help support the clients in the shelter, as well as non-residential clients – all who have been shattered by the trauma of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.

The Great Give Back demonstrates the power of collective impact projects and the important role libraries play in bringing people together to help address social issues of great concern in their communities.



Do You Have Acid Reflux Disease? Get smart about causes, symptoms and treatment options...

Ask the Doctor

Darren I. Rohan, MD, FACS
Westchester Regional Director
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Q: Do I have acid reflux disease?

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

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

Q: What causes it?

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

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

Q: What are my non-surgical treatment options?

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

Q: Do I need surgery?

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



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Cuomo Vetoes 'Mahopac Forgiveness Bill'

By Holly Crocco

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has vetoed a resolution by state lawmakers to "forgive" an administrative error that took place eight years ago at the Mahopac Central School District that could cost district taxpayers millions.

The district completed a bundle of eight capital improvement projects in 2010-11 that were eligible for state aid, and which included energy performance upgrades at almost all of the district's buildings. The following school year, the district neglected to file the final building projects report on time, making them ineligible for certain aid.

It was eight years before the district realized the report had not been filed, at which time it quickly reached out to the State Education Department, according to Superintendent Anthony DiCarlo.

"This error was immediately self-reported by the district upon discovery earlier this year," he said.

At that time, the district reached out to State Sen. Pete Harchuk, D-Peekskill, and Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, R-Mahopac, who worked together to get the "Mahopac Forgiveness Bill" passed in both houses.

The state legislation would have allowed the district to forgo having to repay \$3.1 million it has received so far for the projects, as well as \$2.7 million it was still eligible for.

"I am beyond disappointed with Gov. Cuomo's decision to veto this sorely needed legislation that would have assisted the Mahopac Central School District, and thereby aid our schools, students, and fellow taxpayers," said Byrne.

"At a time when Albany seems to be pushing for further decriminalization and reduced penalties for criminals, I find it

astonishing that Gov. Cuomo won't afford some level of forgiveness to taxpayers for an honest mistake made due to a filing error almost nine years ago," he continued. "MCSDD acted in good faith by making the error known and by trying to right the mistake of a prior administration. Sadly, it seems they are being punished for it."

According to news reports, Cuomo recently had eight bills on his desk from various districts asking for forgiveness for similar administrative errors, and it is unclear how he decided which districts should be spared.

He signed a bill that forgives the Roscoe Central School District of \$1.1 million in penalties for a paperwork omission made years ago, as well as a bill forgiving the Spackenkill Union Free School District of \$5.5 million in penalties for the late filing of paperwork also related to construction

projects.

However, in addition to Mahopac, a similar bill that would have forgiven a \$1.9 million penalty against the Monticello Central School District was also vetoed.

But local lawmakers and school leaders say they are not throwing in the towel.

"We have been working closely with the senator and assemblyman in helping to facilitate this bill being passed," said DiCarlo. "Although we are disappointed with regard to this result, we... will work together to continue to provide our students with a first-rate education, as a part of 'the Mahopac way' and our continued commitment to excellence."

The superintendent said the district will work with both Harchuk and Byrne in crafting a new bill in 2020 "that will once again pass both houses and hopefully be signed by the governor."

Carmel Man Charged in Crash That Shut Down Saw Mill

A Carmel man was charged with driving while intoxicated following a head-on collision Nov. 14 that closed the Saw Mill River Parkway in Chappaqua.

The incident occurred at about 2:40 p.m. when a GMC Envoy driven by Martin Goudie, 54, of Carmel, was traveling southbound in the vicinity of Route 120 and struck a guard rail, went airborne, and entered the northbound lanes of travel,

according to Westchester County Police. The Envoy then collided head-on with a Subaru Outback operated by Whitney Hill, 43, of Katonah.

Westchester County Police responded to the scene, along with the Chappaqua and Pleasantville volunteer ambulance corps. The northbound lanes of travel were shut down for more than an hour.

According to police, officers smelled

alcohol on Goudie's breath and saw multiple empty beer cans around the driver's seat and front passenger seat of his car. They also reportedly found several small plastic bags in the vehicle containing a small amount of a powdery substance believed to be cocaine.

Goudie was transported by ambulance to Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla for injuries he sustained in the collision. He was charged with DWI and seventh-

degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, misdemeanors, and issued appearance tickets to appear in New Castle Town Court.

Hill also suffered injuries and was taken to Northern Westchester Hospital Center in Mount Kisco, where she was treated and released.

Both drivers were the only occupants of their vehicles.

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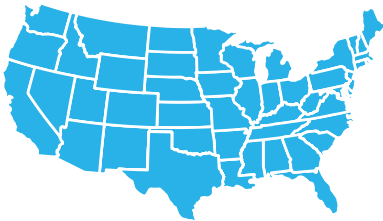
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Vets Receive Service Medal 100 Years After WWI Homecoming

By Holly Crocco

More than 100 years after Putnam County awarded service members with a medal upon returning home from World War I, the county honored veterans during a ceremony Nov. 9 on the steps of the Historic Courthouse in Carmel, handing out 97 Putnam County Service Medals to deserving residents.

"We re-enacted what took place 100 years plus two weeks ago," Legislature Chairman Joseph Castellano, R-Southeast, told his

colleagues during a county committee meeting last week.

"It was a proud moment in Putnam County," added Legislator Ginny Nacerino, R-Patterson.

A smaller ceremony took place in July, with additional presentations being made in the months since.

"The people of Putnam County fundraised \$10,000 to fund the first 400 medals," said Castellano, noting that not quite 200 have been distributed. "We still have a few more

medals to give away."

Former Gov. Alfred Smith authorized the county's Board of Supervisors to enact a reception and medal ceremony as a celebration of more than 200 returning soldiers Oct. 25, 1919 on the steps of the Historic Courthouse.

In 2017, Maj. Roderick Cassidy, a retired Army lawyer that lives in Brewster, approached Castellano and suggested the county hold another ceremony for the award's 100th anniversary – an idea that was

well received by lawmakers.

In 2018, the Legislature established the Putnam Medal Advisory Board, which sought to update the medal and organize a number of ceremonies to honor veterans.

The updated medal, first presented in 1919, features Revolutionary War hero Daniel Nimham. It was designed by artist Michael Keropian, a resident of Gipsy Trail in Kent who also serves as the sculpture chairperson for the Hudson Valley Art Association.



Almost 100 veterans were honored with a Putnam County Service Medal during a Nov. 9 ceremony on the steps of the Historic Courthouse in Carmel.



TODD GIANGUZZI PHOTOS

Legislators Ginny Nacerino of Patterson and Toni Addonizio of Kent hand out medals.

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Carmel Senior Citizens Enjoy Early Thanksgiving

The Carmel Teachers' Association once again organized a successful Thanksgiving luncheon for local senior citizens, which was enjoyed Nov. 7 at all schools in the Carmel Central School District. A turkey dinner and all the fixings was prepared by the district's food services staff, and served up by students – some of whom had loved ones in attendance.

PROVIDED PHOTOS



Kent Man Sentenced for 2018 DWI Fatality

A Kent man was sentenced to prison last week for killing a bicyclist almost a year ago while driving under the influence of alcohol.

According to Putnam County District Attorney Robert Tendy, on Nov. 27, 2018, Silvio Tenesaca was driving on Route 52 in the Town of Kent when he struck George Rosalino, who was riding a bicycle. The force of the impact killed Rosalino instantly.

Tenesaca did not stop and continued to drive home, said Tendy. After he arrived home, Tenesaca switched to a different car and returned to the scene, where he located Rosalino's body. He then drove to the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, where a breath test showed that Tenesaca had a 0.17 blood-alcohol level.

Tenesaca pleaded guilty Aug. 2 to second-degree vehicular manslaughter, and driving while intoxicated.

He was sentenced Nov. 6 by Putnam County Court Judge James Rooney to concurrent terms of 2 1/3 to 7 years in state prison for second-degree vehicular manslaughter, and 364 days in jail for DWI – the maximum sentence available for each charge. In addition, he forfeited the vehicle he used in the crime.

"Driving while intoxicated is not a victimless crime," said Tendy. "It can, and often does, produce horrible and tragic

results. George Rosalino was a beloved son and brother. He was a Navy veteran and a cancer survivor. The defendant chose to excessively drink and then operate a motor vehicle that night and this was the consequence. My sincerest condolences go out to the Rosalino family."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Larry Glasser. The PCSO investigated the case with assistance from the Kent Police Department.

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We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to Editor-in-Chief hcrocco@theexaminernews.com. The Putnam Examiner requires all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.

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Obituaries

Florence Margaret Paige

Florence Margaret Paige, 95, of Brewster, passed away peacefully Sunday, Nov. 17. Born in St. Michaels, Penn., Florence was a longtime resident of Brewster.

Florence was a devoted and loving mother. She was proud of her family and was excited to become a "grandma" to her 10 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren. Florence loved holidays and family time together; any chance to spend time with family was important to her. She enjoyed music, cooking, gardening and crocheting.



Florence was predeceased by her parents, Margaret and Leonard Mitchell; her husbands, Charles and George; brothers Leonard, Gerald and Robert; and her daughter Joyce. She leaves behind her sister Eileen, daughters Denise and Karen, and son Dennis.

Family and friends will gather at the Dwyer Funeral Home, 23 South St., Patterson, on Monday, Nov. 25 for visitation from 9 a.m. to noon, with a service being at noon. Interment will follow directly after in Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla.

Mark Stephen Graff

Mark Stephen Graff of LaGrangeville, formerly of Putnam Valley, passed away Nov. 11. He was born July 28, 1965 in Yonkers to Philip and Anita Graff.

Mark worked as a field technician for

Verizon Telephone Co. He was motorcycle enthusiast, avid fisherman and a member of the Whortlekill Rod and Gun Club.

He is survived by his mother, Anita Thomson; son Mark Graff Jr.; and sister Sandra Schechter and her husband, Jamie.

Diana Greco

Diana Greco, a resident of Holmes for 36 years, passed away at her home Wednesday, Nov. 6 at the age of 64.

Born in Poughkeepsie on March 16, 1955, she was the daughter of the late Raymond and Jeanne (DeVeux) Pine, and wife of the late Robert Greco, who predeceased her Sept. 8, 2017.

Diana grew up in Millbrook and met her future husband at school there. She loved the arts, especially artistic designs, and had a flair for color, fabrics and fashionable accessories.

Diana loved the outdoors and being active; she hiked, camped, kayaked, swam, enjoyed horses and had great love for her dogs. She was an avid reader, loved various kinds of music, and enjoyed dancing. Her late husband, Robert, and her son, Jesse, were the true loves of her life.

Diana was a teacher at Pawling Elementary School for 25 years, from 1994 to 2019, and thrived on her relationships with students, parents and faculty there. She was also a faithful member of the United Methodist Church in Pawling and in her earlier years at Verbank United Methodist Church.

Diana is survived by her son, Jesse, and his fiancé, Autumn, of Stormville; two brothers, Bill Pine (Lucy) of Pleasant Valley and Robert Pine (Samantha) of Bulls Gap, Tenn.; three sisters, Anita Murphy of Summerville, S.C., and Barbara Moore and Shirley Everet, both of LaGrange; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation was Nov. 10 at the Horn & Thomes, Inc., Funeral Home in Pawling, and a funeral service was held Nov. 11 at the Pawling UMC.

Val Myslim

Val V. Myslim of Brewster died Friday, Nov. 15 at Putnam Hospital Center. He was 48 years old. For the past few years Val battled demons. He lost his battle and is now at peace.

Val was born Aug. 8, 1971 in Carmel to Hatixhe Terry (Regep) Myslim and the late Avzi Q. (Artie) Myslim.

He worked as a mason for Rossi & Sons in

Brewster. In his younger years, Val enjoyed racing his ATV. He had the best time of his life when he was in a band playing his guitar. He enjoyed the blues, rock and southern rock.

Val is survived his mother; his sisters Holly and her significant other Joe Schaniel, and Merieme and her husband Billy Schaniel; his sister-in-law Mary Cannis Myslim; eight nieces and nephews; one great-niece and a great-nephew on the way.

He was predeceased by his father in 2001 and his brothers Bari in 2012 and Gani in 2014.

A funeral service took place Nov. 18 at Beecher Funeral Home in Brewster. A private cremation followed. Interment of his ashes will be held at a later date at Raymond Hill Cemetery.

Victor Torres

Victor C. Torres died surrounded by his family at Danbury Hospital on Nov. 15. He was 77 years old.

Born on March 11, 1942 in Manhattan, son of the late Corpus Torres and Rafaela (Ramirez) Vargo, he graduated from the Chelsea Vocational High School in New York City.

On Jan. 7, 1961 he married his childhood sweetheart, Marilyn Esmonde, at St. Gregory the Great Church in New York, N.Y. In 1968 they moved to Brewster, where they raised their family and resided for 40 years before moving to Heritage Hills in Somers for 13 years.

Victor was a specialist clerk for the Bank of America on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange for 40 years before his retirement in 2005. He and Marilyn traveled to many European countries, "the Islands" and Canada. His favorite place to visit was Italy. He was a parishioner of St. Lawrence O'Toole Church.

In addition to his wife, Victor is survived by his children: Jeanne Chiavetta (John) of Stormville, Victor Torres (Bonnie) of Elkins, W.V., Dennis Torres (James) of Black Rock, Conn., and Erin Torres of Danbury; his brother Danny Torres (Nicsa) of Meriden; his sister Diana Torres (Tony) of Humacao; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Nov. 19 at 11 a.m. at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Brewster. Interment will follow at St. Lawrence O'Toole Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Victor's memory may be made to Family Centers Inc., 40 Arch St., Greenwich, CT 06830.

Letter to the Editor

Kent Library Grateful for Support

Thank you to the voters of the Town of Kent for supporting the Kent Public Library's budget proposition on Election Day. Also, thanks to our Friends of the Kent Library organization, our volunteers, and our clerical and professional staff for all the good work they do throughout the year.

We will strive to continue to improve our programs for children and adults, our books and materials collection, as well as our

website and electronic resources. As always, if you haven't visited us recently, drop by the library or visit our website (kentlibrary.org) to check out what we have to offer.

Again, thanks for supporting your local library!

Michael Mahoney
President, Kent Public Library Board of Trustees



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Legislators Address Trailway Woes

By Dave Hoffman

Reports of vandalism and encampments along the Putnam County Trailway prompted a Nov. 12 discussion at the County Legislature's Physical Services Committee meeting, which focused on challenges in finding the resources to address safety and maintenance issues.

A combination of drone footage and resident feedback alerted legislators to the damage.

"We sent a drone out this morning, and we put it up and I sent some pictures off to see exactly what is going on," said Sgt. William Meyer of the Putnam County Sheriff's Department. "There is some graffiti; there are some encampments – there is one encampment by the high bridge. We basically want to increase some patrols out there at different times, especially at night."

Southeast Town Councilwoman Lynne Eckhardt shared a letter from one of her constituents enumerating several problems along a portion of the trail, including broken fencing, benches that have been destroyed and are surrounded by trash, areas with no grooming, a lack of signage reminding people that the path is closed after dark, graffiti, and evidence of

quads, mopeds and motorcycles using the path.

Eckhardt said residents have complained that the path is used 24/7, and there is evidence of alcohol use. Wooden posts that are used to prevent cars on the trail have been hacked by axes, and large items such as a couch and sewing machine have been dropped off of a bridge that crosses the path, she said.

Lawmakers cited a lack of resources as an obstacle to addressing the concerns.

"We're recognizing certain increases in the amount of work in order to keep these bike paths in decent condition," said Putnam Highway Commissioner Fred Pena. "I know (Deputy Parks Commissioner) Chris Ruthvan has mentioned to me on several occasions the costs involved with keeping these paths clean. That's normal maintenance. Now we're talking about criminal maintenance, which is really getting out of hand – well beyond our capabilities on any reasonable day without additional resources to do so."

"I don't think it was ever contemplated the amount of work that it really does take to maintain these bike paths," he continued. "It's really small roadway systems, but it's park systems, as well, and it's thousands of acres that go on."

Putnam Valley Man Killed in Crash

A Putnam Valley motorcyclist was killed last week after being involved in a crash on East Noxon Road in LaGrange.

According to the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, the incident took place at about 5 p.m. Nov. 11 at the intersection with South Cross Road. Preliminary investigation revealed that Mark Graff, 54, was driving a 2013 Harley-Davidson motorcycle eastbound on East Noxon Road when he attempted to make a left turn onto South Cross Road.

While making the turn, he was struck by a 2004 Mercury Sable operated by Matthew Brubacher, 32, of LaGrange. Graff was transported to Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Brubacher was uninjured in the crash.

An investigation into the crash is ongoing by members of the sheriff's Crash Investigation Unit, but at this time, the primary factor is considered to be Graff's failure to yield the right-of-way, according to the DCSO.

Suggestions included drawing from other organizations to put more manpower on the paths for maintenance, asking for community involvement by encouraging residents to call in when illegal activity is happening, and asking for assistance from each town that the path travels through.

Residents who find graffiti are encouraged to contact the county at 845-225-4300. "Kids, when they tag things, make their own tags – they make their own signature, their own style," said Meyer. "We get to learn that. We get to know who's doing the graffiti."

These concerns come at a time when the county is ready to add another 3 miles to the 12-mile-long trailway. Additionally,

the State of New York is planning to add an additional 8 to 10 miles of bike path through the county as part of the Empire State Trail, which will eventually connect New York City and Canada.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino, R-Patterson, said she is concerned that these new trails will further strain the ability of the county to meet these pressing safety and maintenance demands.

"As these paths age and there is no O&M (operations and maintenance) plan in place, that becomes problematic in the future, as well," she said. "I don't think the state has incorporated any O&M into this initiative."



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Forum Focuses on Ways to Combat Climate Change

By Abby Luby

Approximately 100 people braved frigid temperatures Nov. 13 to learn what they can do to fight climate change, during "A Community Conversation on Climate Change" at Cortlandt Town Hall, hosted by Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, D-Ossining.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration, 2019 was the hottest year on record, with temperatures spiking to more than 100 degrees in several countries, including the U.S. Expert guest speakers said the warming planet is caused by trapped greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, which prevents the earth's heat from escaping.

Burning fossil fuels such as coal and oil causes 40 billion tons of extra carbon to be dumped into the air every year, states NOAA.

However, in 2016, about 200 countries signed the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and pledged to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Although the Trump administration is withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris Agreement, individual cities, states and communities have assumed the agreement goals.

"Climate change can often feel like such an overwhelming issue," said Galef. "And yet, in the past few years, we have seen a surge in community advocacy – and all of you here tonight are a part of that. We've also seen legislative action that continues

to treat the problem on the scale required."

In July 2019, New York State passed into law the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, one of the country's most ambitious climate laws aimed to have 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2040, and net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. Other states passing similar clean energy laws are Maine, Oregon, Washington, Colorado, New Mexico, California and New Jersey.

The first speaker was Chandu Viswewariah, founding president and CEO of Utopus Insights, Inc., and former IBM energy and environmental science research fellow. "That it's cold outside is absolute proof of climate change," he said.

Viswewariah referenced how rising temperatures weaken the polar jet stream, allowing frigid, arctic air to reach further south.

Preventing the earth's average temperature from rising more than two degrees Celsius (35.6 Fahrenheit) is key to survival, he said. "If we do nothing and if we exceed 2 degrees Celsius, the danger is more dire than anybody imagined," said Viswewariah.

But solutions to cut carbon emissions are available. "For the first time in decades, economy is on our side," said Viswewariah. "The cheapest way of producing a unit of electricity anywhere in the world is by wind or solar. Not coal, gas or nuclear."

Most in the audience raised their hands when Donovan Gordan, director of clean

heating and cooling for the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority, asked how many people heat their homes with fuel (oil, propane or natural gas).

Today's improved air source heat pumps have become a strong and viable alternative to conventional heating in colder regions, he said. Wall-mounted units are used in small spaces for efficient heating and cooling. Geothermal heat pumps require drilling into the ground from 5 to 20 feet, where the temperature is a constant 55 degrees.

Because a heat pump doesn't burn fossil fuels to produce heat, there are no toxic carbon monoxide emissions known to cause serious illnesses, according to Gordon.

"This is about transforming our fossil fuel-based economy to a clean energy economy and creating new and sustainable, long-lasting jobs," he said.

New leadership in Albany has seen a number of climate-friendly and energy-saving bills passed into law. The Community Leadership and Protection Act became law in June and lays out a plan for NYS to become carbon-neutral by 2050.

"What this bill will do is transition us off of fossil fuels in the next 30 years," said Conor Bambrick, air and energy director of the Environmental Advocates of New York, a 50-year-old organization that is the leading environmental government watchdog in Albany. "We plan to ask Gov. (Andrew) Cuomo to dedicate a new climate

implementation fund for at least \$1 billion."

Bambrick talked about Electrify NY, a coalition of environmental advocates working to transition public transportation fleets to electric vehicles and to build a clean energy workforce. Electrify NY, which partners with Sustainable Westchester, is working to put 800,000 zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025.

"Most of us do not have the opportunity to participate in climate change at the international or national level or state level," said Mark Lowery, assistant director of the Office of Climate Change for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, formed in 2007. "But we all have the opportunity to participate at the local level."

The NYS Climate Smart Communities program helps municipalities reduce greenhouse gas emissions with free technical assistance, grants, and rebates for electric vehicles. To date, 283 communities are registered with the CSC program, including Philipstown and Putnam County.

"Combating climate change is not about making sacrifices or changing our way of life," said Viswewariah. "Your furnace, your car, your use of public transport, your diet. When people ask me 'What can I do?' I tell them (to) take a step in any one of these directions. Can your next car be a hybrid or an electric vehicle? Can you do a meatless Monday once a week? It's about the choices we make."

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For a Quicker Sale, Home Staging is the Path to Success

One of my most important jobs before listing a property is to help my sellers prepare their homes for showing to prospective buyers.

I was reminded during a recent presentation at my William Raveis office by home stager Susan Atwell who recommended engaging a home stager. Why? Because nobody can look at their homes objectively, even someone who's been in the business a long time.

Atwell didn't plan a career as a home stager. An English major in college, her true passions were science and math. After a few years in the business world, her love for logic first evolved into a successful career as a computer scientist.

So when she first heard that staged homes sell faster, it seemed to make sense. But she still wondered: How do they really know? In her mind, she figured there's only one way to prove that home staging works, and that's scientifically.

At her recent presentation, she said: "To perform this scientific experiment, it would be necessary to take two identical homes, one staged (or decorated to sell), one unstaged. Everything else being equal – the home's location, its price and promotion to potential buyers – and then see which one

sells faster.

"But, since we know this isn't really possible, we can still devise a comparable strategy. Not one that we recommend, of course, but one that many home sellers unwittingly end up trying."

Regardless, she stated, this technique will still prove true if staged homes really do sell faster than un-staged homes.

Here are the steps:

First, attempt to sell a home "as is." Then wait and see what happens. If there is no sale, stage the home. Clean, declutter, put away personal items, freshen up paint, add lighting, update bedding, remove old window treatments and put out fresh towels – anything that will show off your home's best features while making it feel both inviting and move-in ready.

Once staged, wait an equal amount of time, or until the home finally sells. Compare how long it takes to sell.

Atwell said she unwittingly performed this experiment some years ago with a friend whose home was on the market for nine months with no sale and no offers. The market was beginning to cool, but when the home was originally listed, the market was still hot – proving that even in the best markets, some homes won't sell "as is."



By Bill Primavera

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF OBJECT OF ACTION SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF PUTNAM

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Action to Foreclose a Mortgage Plaintiff, vs Dawn Ann Strand As Heir To The Estate Of William F. Strand, Unknown Heirs Of William F. Strand If Living, And If He/She Be Dead, Any And All Persons Unknown To Plaintiff, Claiming, Or Who May Claim To Have An Interest In, Or General Or Specific Lien Upon The Real Property Described In This Action; Such Unknown Persons Being Herein Generally Described And Intended To Be Included In Wife, Widow, Husband, Widower, Heirs At Law, Next Of Kin, Descendants, Executors, Administrators, Devisees, Legatees, Creditors, Trustees, Committees, Lienors, And Assignees Of Such Deceased, Any And All Persons Deriving Interest In Or Lien Upon, Or Title To Said Real Property By, Through Or Under Them, Or Either Of Them, And Their Respective Wives, Widows, Husbands, Widowers, Heirs At Law, Next Of Kin, Descendants, Executors, Administrators, Devisees, Legatees, Creditors, Trustees, Committees, Lienors, And Assigns, All Of Whom And Whose Names, Except As Stated, Are Unknown To Plaintiff,

People Of The State Of New York, United States Of America Acting Through The IRS John Doe (Those unknown tenants, occupants, persons or corporations or their heirs, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, guardians, assignees, creditors or successors claiming an interest in the mortgaged premises.)

**Defendant(s).
Index #: 501484/2019
Mortgaged Premises:
104 Hollowbrook Road
Lake Peekskill, NY 10537
SBL #: 91.34 - 1 - 1**

To the Above named Defendant: You are hereby summoned to answer the Complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Supplemental Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) within twenty days after the service of this Supplemental Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Supplemental Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. The Attorney for Plaintiff has an office for business in the County of Erie.

Its total transformation cost less than 1 percent of the listing price, Atwell said. Once staged, the home sold in just two months, with multiple offers and the beginnings of a bidding war. At the time the home was listed, there was a seven-month inventory of homes glutting the market. This means that under normal or average conditions, this home would not be expected to sell for at least seven months. Staging lowered that time to two months.

Even with her passion for decorating – and her acknowledged addiction to home staging television shows – it wasn't until Atwell saw firsthand the impact staging had that she was truly convinced that it worked.

The Real Estate Staging Association has used a similar approach – but on a much larger scale – to prove that home staging is effective. Each year RESA compiles a report based on feedback submitted by hundreds of home stagers around the United States. Here's what they found in 2011:

* RESA studied 174 homes that were previously on the market for an average of 156 days before the homeowners gave up trying to sell on their own and called in a professional home stager. Those same homes were staged, relisted and sold on average in 42 days – a 73 percent reduction in time on the market.

* RESA also studied 410 homes that were staged before they went on the market and sold in 42 days on average. The

study concluded that it doesn't benefit the homeowner to list the property first to see if it will sell.

So even if a home hasn't been staged yet, Atwell said that's okay because evidence shows it's never too late.

There are two variables not taken into account in RESA's study. It is not known if the asking price was adjusted or if the same real estate agent was used throughout the selling process. The influence of either could be significant.

It is also possible that anxious home sellers are not only more willing to properly prepare their home for sale, but may also be more willing to price the home to sell because there is no amount of staging or marketing that can make up for an excessive asking price.

Don't forget that even if a homeowner is planning to dwell rather than sell, there are great benefits to engaging a home stager for better utilization of space, furnishings and décor.

For more information about home staging, call Susan Atwell at 914-525-0454 or visit www.atwellstagedhome.com.

Bill Primavera is a realtor associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest-running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. To engage the services of the Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

Trial to be held in the County of Putnam. The basis of the venue designated above is the location of the Mortgaged Premises.

TO Unknown Heirs Of William F. Strand Defendant In this Action. The foregoing Supplemental Summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of HON. Victor G. Grossman of the Supreme Court Of The State Of New York, dated the Thirty-First day of October, 2019 and filed with the Complaint in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Putnam, in the City of Carmel.

The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage upon the premises described below, dated December 14, 2006, executed by William F. Strand (who died on July 1, 2016, a resident of the county of Putnam, State of New York) to secure the sum of \$191,900.00. The Mortgage was recorded at Book 5023, Page 417 in the Office of the Putnam County Clerk on February 1, 2007. The property in question is described as follows:

104 HOLLOWBROOK ROAD, LAKE PEEKSKILL, NY 10537

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the

answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

DATED: November 1, 2019
Gross Polowy, LLC
Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s)
1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100
Williamsville, NY 14221

The law firm of Gross Polowy, LLC and the attorneys whom it employs are debt collectors who are attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained by them will be used for that purpose.

America's Heroes Celebrated on Veterans' Day



From left are Rob Rottkamp, commander of VFW Post 672; Bill Miller, commander of the Brewster American Legion; and Louis Gasparini, commander of the Korean War Veterans' Association in Brewster.



Jack Duncan, commander of the Putnam County Marine Corps League, left; and Bruce Schwertolt of the Brewster American Legion.



Members of Brewster Boy Scout Troop 1 and Pack 1 practice their salute.



Veterans Joe Cioccolanti and Edward McDowell.

HOLLY CROCCO PHOTOS



America's Heroes Celebrated on Veterans' Day



Chaplain John Hyland leads a prayer.



Guest speaker State Sen. Peter Harckham thanks veterans.



Members of the New York Riders present the colors.



Noah Gebing of Boy Scout Troop 1 performs "Taps."



Brewster Argonne American Legion Post 71 hosted its annual Veterans' Day ceremony Nov. 11 at Electra Zone Field in Brewster. The event was followed by a luncheon at the Brewster Elks Lodge, with food donated by Acme Markets.



Dementia Care: Six Tips to Make Dementia Gentler on Everyone

By Northern Westchester Hospital's Chief of Psychiatry Dr. Richard Catanzaro and Associate Director of Psychiatry Dr. Suma Srishaila

When Robert Harris was 80 years old, he began to experience dementia. Suddenly he accused his 79-year-old wife of having an affair. The notion was so real to him and his fury so great, that Robert became violent. The typical treatment for disruptive dementia-related behavior is medication to sedate the person. But the drugs normally used carry extreme medical risks for the elderly. What's more, increasing numbers of clinicians agree that a sedated life is not a life.

Here, we'll discuss six newer approaches that are more effective, more humane, without risk of harm – and usable by family members.

1. Stop Overmedicating – Start Changing the Way You Interact

Elderly demented patients with no psychiatric diagnosis are often overmedicated when their behaviors become problematic. Atypical and typical anti-psychotic drugs are commonly used when a person with dementia acts out. Both drugs carry a warning that use with dementia patients increases mortality and the incidence of stroke.

Unintended consequences of multiple medications also include a higher risk of falls, with potentially more devastating results. Imagine someone on a walker getting up in the night to use the bathroom. They fall and



NWH Chief of Psychiatry Dr. Richard Catanzaro

fracture their hip or head. They are often on multiple medications, and this can cause brain bleed or a fatal clot in the lung.

Now surgery follows and therefore prolonged hospitalization – and the dementia can decline to the next stage. The person may never bounce back.

A growing body of evidence suggests that a low dose medication for a limited time coupled with ways of interacting that diminish the confusion and anxiety at the root of disruptive behaviors is best.

2. Rather than Trying to Fix, Accept Changes



NWH Associate Director of Psychiatry Dr. Suma Srishaila

Dementia is a gradual change of life. In medicine, usually the goal is to control or to improve; that can't always happen with dementia. Instead, you are managing some of the symptoms using the lowest effective dose of medication while helping the person maintain quality of life, dignity and caring relationships.

After the cognitive downslide, a person will arrive at a new normal that's different from the way they used to be. Although this is a difficult process for the person and caregivers, it is important to accept that new person.

Understanding why someone acts out

helps you address those needs. In dementia, remote memories remain but new memories are eroded. So the person sees a confused landscape that they're increasingly unable to navigate. In response, they can become agitated and overwhelmed. Some retreat into silence; others become aggressive, even violent. Such a person can express: "I don't know what I need or how to ask for it. Once I have what I need, I can relax. But if I never get it – I can never relax."

3. Help Your Loved One Maintain Their Daily Routine

The antidote to an unfamiliar, threatening world is to maintain daily routines and structure, along with purpose and personal agency. A routine can be short walks at the same time of the day. Dressing and eating at certain times give the day structure. Helping a person request specific meals and giving them small tasks empower them.

4. Participate More, Correct Less

Many people with dementia express beliefs that are factually wrong. These can amplify into paranoid delusions that are extremely distressing, such as that a daughter plans to steal their wealth. You'll feel tempted to correct them, to explain things logically, to present evidence to the contrary. But the more you try to counter the belief, the more fixed it can become and the more agitated the person can grow.

Instead, shift to listening and distracting.

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A Formula for an Intimate Tasting Event at Home



By Nick Antonaccio

I'm sure many of you have participated in wine tastings at fundraising events and/or at your local wine shop. Why not enjoy a similar event in the privacy of your own home with family and friends? A winetasting evening can be simple or elaborate, elemental or complex, informal or highly organized. Whichever route you take, it is always going to be fun. Consuming wine with family and friends seems to have a universal effect of conviviality.

Here are a few tips on planning and structuring an in-home wine tasting:

1. Decide on a theme. It can be a specific varietal, a specific region, or a combination of the two. Limit your individual wine selections to five or six wines. If you're planning to offer additional pourings of wines after the tasting session, purchase an additional bottle of each wine to be enjoyed by all.

Typically select wines in the \$10 to \$15 price range, but also throw in a \$9 bottle and a \$20 bottle in order to evaluate differences

in style and appeal of wines at opposite ends of the price spectrum.

2. Set up the tasting area. You'll need appropriate glassware. For informal tastings, almost any stemware will do. If you want to be more formal, select the appropriate glass shape for whites (tall and slender) and for reds (rounded bowl and more squat).

Next, fashion some form of scorekeeping sheet, either individual cards for guests to write notes and scores (a 1-10 scoring scale is sufficient) or a master sheet kept by the host to record verbal evaluations by each guest.

3. Taste the wines. Yes, there is a preferred way to experience wines. These simple steps apply at your tasting event, as well as when you order wine at a restaurant. Follow this "5 'S' Steps" sequence:

SIGHT: The color and viscosity of the wine will set up your expectations of the wine. A light, clear color typically equates to softer, less acidic styles of wine. A darker, opaque color typically equates to robust, more acidic styles of wine.

SWIRL: Holding the base of the glass on the table,

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

move the glass in a circular motion. This step opens up the wine from its cramped quarters in the bottle and allows it to breathe, which brings out the bouquet and aromas of the wine.

SMELL: Go ahead, don't be reluctant to stick

your nose into the glass to experience the sensory characteristics of the wine. After all, it is your sense of smell, with its 10,000 components, that determines your opinion of a wine.

SIP: Take a sip of wine and note how it initially feels on your palate. This is when your sense of taste comes into play (sweet, sour, salty, bitter, umami).

SWALLOW OR SPIT. When you swallow, the intensity of the wine – the "finish" – is experienced, as the wine passes through the rear of your mouth, where your bitter sensory taste buds reside. This will help you determine the acidic levels of the wine. Of course, by this fifth step, you've experienced 90 percent of the style and characteristics of the wine, so don't think it's inappropriate to spit the wine into a spittoon.

4. Evaluate the wines. As I note above, this can be recorded by each guest or by the host. At the end of the tasting, compare evaluations. It's quite normal for one of the wines to stand out as the worst in class; it's not so normal for one to stand out as best in class. If you enjoy a particular wine but it

'Consuming wine with family and friends seems to have a universal effect of conviviality.'

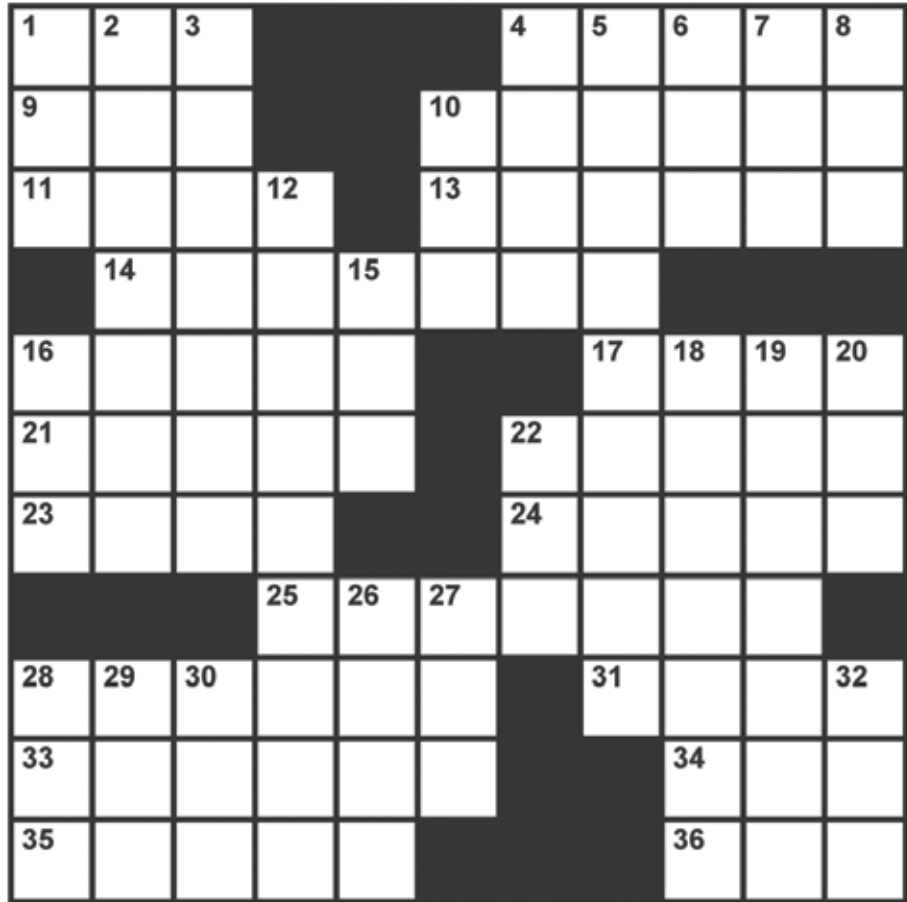
doesn't seem to be consensus opinion, don't fret. Go out and buy a case of that wine.

Wine tastings are an efficient way for you to develop and understand your wine palate. A side benefit is that you are likely to discover a wine that will become your new favorite – until the next tasting event.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For more than 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Antonaccio is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. His credo: Continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. Reach Antonaccio at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.



Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1. Mahopac emporium for our furry, finned and feathered friends, ____ Value
- 4. Offspring
- 9. Medical provider grp.
- 10. Chateaux
- 11. Jeanne ____
- 13. Tropical lizard
- 14. Becoming hardened to
- 16. Candied, as fruits
- 17. Chimney black stuff
- 21. Helped cause, with "to"
- 22. Food in Exodus
- 23. Baseball's Blue Moon
- 24. Like dessert wines
- 25. New discount store in Mt. Kisco ____ Shoppe
- 28. Alehouse
- 31. California's Santa ____ Valley
- 33. Some are animated
- 34. Evidence collectors
- 35. Plant also known as heartsease
- 36. President after F.D.R.

Down

- 1. University conferral
- 2. Sent with a click
- 3. Transport to Oz
- 4. Indicator
- 5. Keeps at it
- 6. In the manner of
- 7. Pale

- 8. Government security agency, abbr.
- 10. Caesar's 7
- 12. Cylindrical fruits
- 15. Memb. of Congress
- 16. Shine, in product names
- 18. Mark on a ruler
- 19. Harmony
- 20. "I tawt I taw a puddy ____"
- 22. Canned soup additive
- 26. Overly ornamental
- 27. E.R. workers
- 28. Cooking meas.
- 29. Gotcha!
- 30. Middle of many German names
- 32. Promgoer's woe



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

The Putnam/Northern Westchester Toys For Tots program is now underway. For drop-off locations, go to www.toysfortots.org.

Tuesday, Nov. 19

Books & Bites: 4:30 to 5:15 p.m. at Brewster Public Library. A monthly book club for children in 2nd and 3rd grade. Read and discuss a book together while having a snack, then do an activity to go along with it. Register at brewsterlibrary.org or call at 845-279-6421.

Cut the Cord: 1 p.m. at Patterson Library. Tired of dealing with your cable company? Ryan Biracree will discuss different types of streaming services and devices like Hulu, Netflix and Apple TV, and how they offer more reliable and versatile services. For information or to register, call 845-878-6121, ext. 10, or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Wednesday, Nov. 20

Wearable Electronics: 3:30 p.m. in the Learning Lab at Mahopac Public Library. For grades 6 through 12. Create a bracelet that lights up. Registration is required at www.mahopaclibrary.org or by calling 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Thursday, Nov. 21

Tri-State IBM Retirees: Social hour and coffee at 1 p.m., meeting begins at 1:30 p.m., at United Methodist Church Hall, East Main Street, Shrub Oak. Following an open discussion on medical plan options, speaker Lynda Nickelsen, an IBM retiree, will discuss the 2020 medical plan choices. Contact Peg Ryan 914-528-5916 for information.

Friday Nov. 22

Open Mic – Writers and Poets: 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Brewster Public Library. Open to all adults who would like to listen or read their work. Presented by Brewster Public Library and the Southeast Museum; facilitated by Heather Ostman. If you would like to share your work, call 845-279-6421. For more information visit Twitter @BrewsterLibrary or Facebook.com/brewsterlibrary.

Saturday, Nov. 23

Edible Crafts for Kids: Noon to 1 p.m. at Brewster Public Library. Children and teens may create fun and edible crafts including apple donuts, marshmallow slime, ants on a log and more. Let staff know if your child has any allergies before attending. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org or by

calling 845-279-6421. For information visit Twitter @BrewsterLibrary or Facebook.com/brewsterlibrary.

Carmel Rams Youth Lacrosse Clinic: 1 to 2 p.m. at Carmel Sports Club. Free. For boys and girls in kindergarten through grade 7. Learn the game and see if you have an interest in playing in the spring. Equipment is not necessary. To attend, RSVP to crylax2012@gmail.com ASAP with your child's name, grade and gender so that the event can be properly staffed.

Sunday, Nov. 24

Holiday Classics: 3 p.m. at the Brewster High School Performing Arts Center, 50 Foggintown Road. The Putnam Symphony Orchestra will perform holiday classics at its fall concert. Santa will be making a guest appearance, and children will have an opportunity to dance, sing, and frolic in a make-believe snowball fight. Tickets will be available at the door for \$12 general admission, \$30 for families, and \$8 for seniors and students. For information, visit <https://putnamsymphonyorchestra.com>.

Monday, Nov. 25

Harry Potter Adult Book Group: 7:30 p.m. at Mahopac Library. This group meets

on the fourth Monday of every month; new members always welcome. No registration needed. For information, call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Adult Trivia Night: 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Brewster Public Library. Form a group of up to 5 people and register just the group. If you do not have a group, you will be added to a group with less than 5 people. Register at brewsterlibrary.org or call 845-279-6421.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: 7 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Brewster. A special evening of worship and thanksgiving. Bring nonperishable food items for Putnam CAP, as well as financial offerings for the Brewster Emergency Shelter Partnership.

Saturday, Nov. 30

Holiday Bazaar & Vendor Fair: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Patterson Recreation Center, 65 Front St. More than 50 vendors featuring hand-crafted jewelry, decor, personalized items, confections, natural goods, photography and more. Enjoy breakfast or lunch while you shop, or even get a massage. Free admission. 845-878-7200.

Dementia Care: Six Tips to Make Dementia Gentler on Everyone

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Something as simple as "Let's go to the kitchen to check on lunch!" can work.

5. There is Comfort in Talk About the Distant Past

As insight, judgment, logic, and understanding of the environment become increasingly impaired, time and place confusion can also occur. Daily, a person may insist: "I need to leave now! I need to go to work!" Rather than replying, "But you retired 20 years ago," enter into their world by talking about their job, perhaps a

memory from years ago – the more distant, the better-remembered

6. Families Must Learn to Tolerate Their Own Distress as They Watch a Loved One Change

"But he's withdrawing..." or "Is she unhappy?" are typical anguished reactions. The reality is that dementia is a journey for the person going through it, and for you. And there are calming, loving behavioral techniques that make it gentler for everyone.



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Crossword Answers

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9	H	M	O				10	V	I	L	L	A	S			
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		14	I	N	U	15	R	I	N	G						
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21	L	E	D	U	P					22	M	A	N	N	A	
23	O	D	O	M						24	S	W	E	E	T	
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35	P	A	N	S	Y						36	H	S	T		

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LEGALS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a public hearing on **Wednesday, November 20th at 6:00 pm.** to hear comments on the use of Bubblers, De-icers and Aeration Systems in Water. **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will hold its public regular monthly meeting. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD** Sherry Howard Town Clerk Dated: 11-14-2019

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF 2020 PUTNAM VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the 2020 Fire Department Budget was adopted as the final budget on November 13, 2019. Sherry Howard Town Clerk Dated: 11/14/19

Town of Putnam Valley Town Board Meeting November 20, 2019 6 PM
1. Pledge of Allegiance 2. Proclamation for Eagle Scout Josh Uchetel 3. **PUBLIC HEARING ON DE-ICER LAW** 4. Departmental Reports 5. Supervisor's Comments 6. Legislative Report 7. School Report Parks and Recreation 8. Refunds 9. Children's Center salaries for 2020 10. Accept resignation of Joseph Piechocinski from the Parks and Recreation Commission 11. Accept resignation of Phil Keating from the Parks and Recreation Commission Highway Department 12. Request to go to bid for materials Building Department 13. Daily Fee Report Summary Finance Department 14. Budget Transfers 15. Public Comment 16. Audit of Monthly Bills

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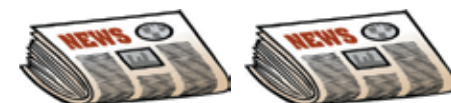
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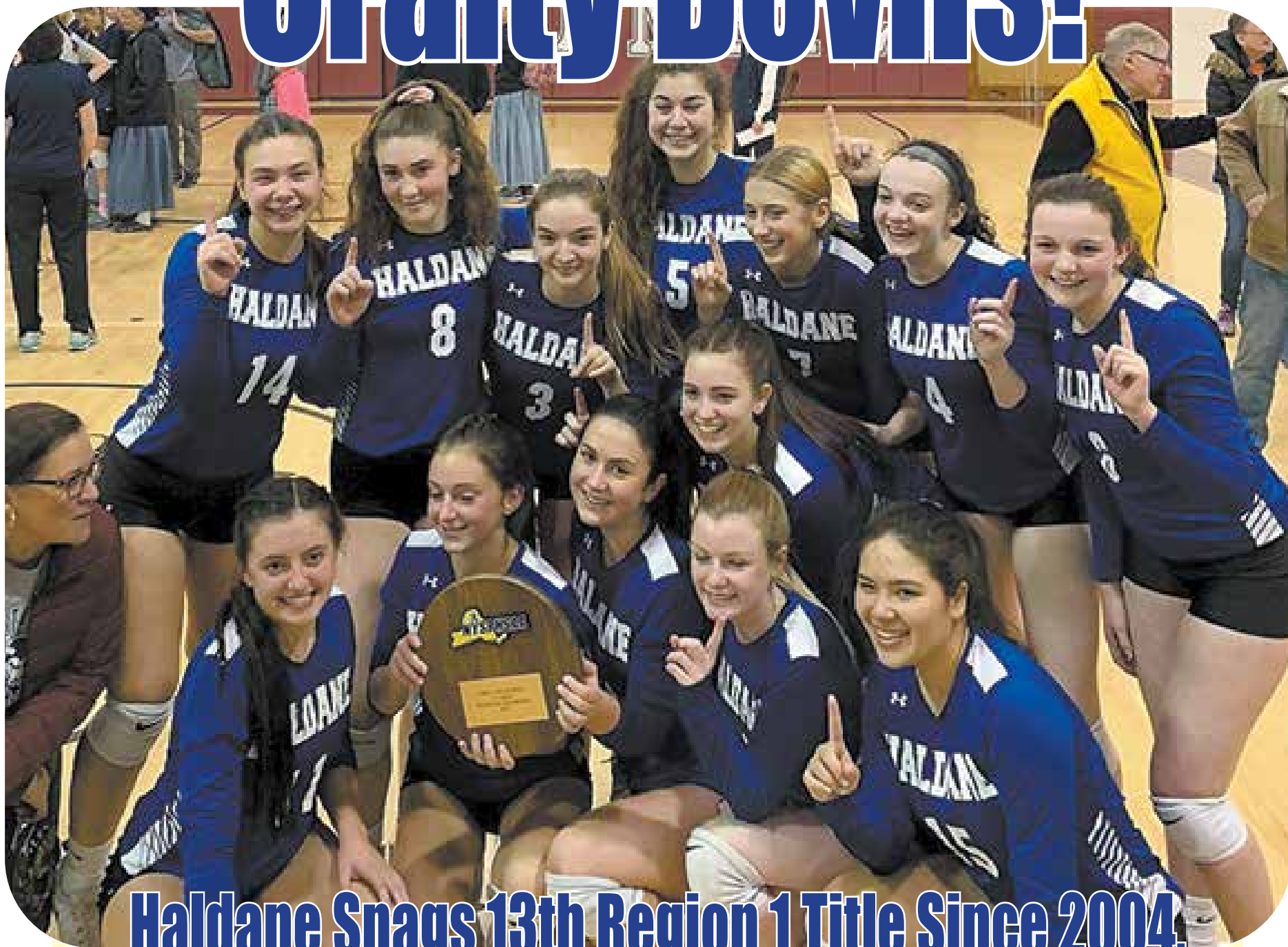
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Haldane Snags 13th Region 1 Title Since 2004, Heads to Glens Falls in Search of 5th NYS Title

MATT CHAMPLIN PHOTO

Members of the Haldane volleyball team pose with the NYS Region 1 Class D championship plaque after Coach Kelsey Flaherty's Blue Devils rallied to erase a five-point, fifth-set deficit and staged a mind-blowing comeback to defeat Section 9 champion Mount Academy -- 14-25, 21-25, 25-22, 27-25, 26-24 -- in last Friday's NYSPHSAA Class D regional final at O'Neill High School. The Blue Devils, who won their 13th Region 1 title since 2004, advanced to NYS pool play on Saturday, Nov. 23 at their former home away from home, the Cool Insuring Arena in Glens Falls, where the four-time NYS champion Blue Devils will seek their first state title since 2013... see Volleyball Notebook

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Volleyball Notebook

Ossining, Hen Hud, Haldane to Challenge for State Titles

By Tony Pinciario

The local volleyball circuit has witnessed a banner campaign, with three local teams – Class AA Ossining, Class A Hen Hud and Class D Haldane – each venturing north this week to Glens Falls, home of the state championships.

HALDANE faced a difficult task against Section 9's Mount Academy in the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Class D Volleyball Regional final.

The Blue Devils lost the first two games and were in danger of a quick exit. However, the two-game deficit did not make Haldane panic. Instead, an uplifting discussion with Coach Kelsey Flaherty between games two and three brought Haldane back.

The Blue Devils won three straight to take the match and earn a berth in the state final four, Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 23-24, at the Glens Falls Civic Center.

Haldane will be joined in Glens Falls by Hen Hud (Class A) and Ossining (Class AA). Hen Hud swept Union-Endicott (Section 4) and Ossining, trailing, 2-1, after three games, overcame Horseheads (Section 4), to earn the program's first trip to the final four.

"During the first two games, the Mount Academy certainly was outplaying us on offense," said Flaherty, who played on Haldane's 2011 state-championship team. "Their hitters exposed some open spots on our side of the court."

"After the first two sets I pulled the team in and talked to them about all of the intentions that we had for this game, and all of our goals that were in our reach for this entire season. I kept telling them that I believed in them, and that they needed to believe in themselves and in each other. When my team took the court in the third set I could tell that they had a different mindset, one that showed everyone in the gym that they were not going to give up. I



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Members of the Kennedy Catholic volleyball team pose with 2nd place plaques after losing to perennial CHSAA powerhouse St. Mary's.

reassured them that mistakes would happen because that's a part of this game, but to come out of the mistakes stronger, and try not to make the same one twice. In game three I think we started playing smarter volleyball. We started to expose their holes on defense which really took some of their stronger hitters out of system."

Flaherty noted that the senior leadership of captains Melissa Rodino, Grace Tomann and Olivia Monteleone was vital to Haldane maintaining its composure and rallying to the win.

"They were able to listen to me as I was giving them pointers and they were relaying the information to the rest of the team," Flaherty said.

Haldane, 20-2 this season, faced one more major hurdle, in the decisive game, as Mount Academy led, 20-15. Flaherty called a timeout and provided encouraging words.

"During that time out I told them not to look at the scoreboard. I told them to play every single volley with heart," Flaherty said. "I reassured them that they have to want it to win it, and want it more than the team across the net, and I could tell that they not only wanted to win, but they were not

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JOSUE ACEVEDO PHOTOS

Hen Hud players are all smiles after hoisting the program's 9th NYS Region 1 title plaque Saturday.



Hen Hud's Caitlin Weimar, Mackenzie Calhoun and Madisen Lupica revel in glory of Sailors' 3-game sweep Saturday.

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going to accept defeat. After that timeout we kept our serves strong and dominated on offense. We were not playing scared and we were swinging away."

Flaherty won a state title in 2011 and now she has the opportunity to guide her alma mater to yet another state title, what would be the fifth in program history.

"To say I'm proud of the team is an understatement," Flaherty said. "I have never felt anything like this in my entire life. I was in their shoes back in 2011, also fighting to get into the state tournament. All of the emotions that I felt back then, I know they felt them too after that win.

"Going to the final four has been our goal from the very beginning of the season. I always believed that they could do it. All the talent in the world can win you games, but teamwork and heart can win you a championship, and I know we have that.

"It was my dream back then to win states, and it is now my dream as a coach for my players to do the same."

OSSINING, after rallying from a 0-2 deficit to defeat North Rockland in the Section 1 Class AA final, faced a familiar foe in the regional semifinal – Pine Bush.

Pine Bush ended Ossining's 2018 state-championship aspirations in a regional final. The teams met twice during the regular season, at the Panas tournament. Pine Bush beat Ossining in pool play, but the Pride prevailed in a semifinal.

Now, Ossining had the opportunity to end Pine Bush's season and make the Section 9 champion feel the sting of a state-playoff loss. And the Pride did it, in five.

"After we beat them, in the semis, we knew we could compete with them," said junior and Captain Ede Walker. "Last year, we were mentally psyched out. This year, we focused on what we can do and not be

intimidated by them."

Pine Bush did push Ossining to five games, but the Pride responded and are moving on.

"I think that was a highlight of our whole season," said Walker of eliminating Pine Bush. "We wanted to end their season. But, we also wanted to do this for Mychel (Vernon) for her senior year. She has helped us all become better players, from the start."

Vernon finished with 44 kills, four blocks, an assist and an ace.

Zoe Farmakopoulos added 19 kills, while Briana Culcay had 50 assists and two aces. Ossining remained undefeated at 22-0.

Horseheads and Ossining alternated game wins with the Section 4 champion taking games one and three. No problem for Ossining, trailing 2-1 after three games. The Pride had Horseheads right where they wanted it.

Deficits don't phase Ossining as evidenced by the sectional final against North Rockland. Walker credits Ossining Coach Lauren Riccardi with preparing the team for challenging situations.

"We've been mentally strong from the beginning of playoffs," Walker said. "Coach Riccardi has been preparing us for times when we are down. We've stayed mentally strong and we pick each other up like a



Members of the Hen Hud volleyball team pose with the programs 9th NYSPHSAA Region 1 title plaque after sweeping Union-Endicott Saturday at Corning High.

family. We work together for our greater good toward a common goal."

The decisive game went to a tiebreaker with Ossining's mental toughness and talent prevailing, 27-25.

"After winning game four, we realized what we can do when we play our game," Walker said. "We focused on fundamentals, being in the right place and getting it to the right people to finish out the game."

Ossining girls' sports has always been recognized for the powerhouse basketball team. However, the volleyball team has established itself as the other Pride girls' championship team and first-time state-final-four participant.

"It feels unreal and we're so excited to be going to the final four," Walker said. "We've worked our hardest to win. We've come so far from the beginning of the season. It makes us feel so proud of ourselves. Coach Riccardi pushed us, she believed in us and she made us believe in ourselves."

HENDRICK HUDSON found itself in an unfamiliar position in the regional semifinal against Cornwall after the Section 9 champion won the first two games.

It was the first time the Sailors lost the first two games in a match this season. No problem, though, for Callie Pidorian and her teammates.

Hen Hud (23-0) stormed back to even the match at 2-2, then took the decisive game to eliminate Cornwall and exact revenge. Last year, Cornwall defeated Hen Hud in a regional semifinal.

"I think what really motivate us when Cornwall had a two-set lead on us was the fact that we knew this was our last chance to make it count," Pidorian said. "And eight of us are seniors on the team and we all knew that this could be our last chance playing together and we didn't want to be done yet."

Pidorian and her teammates felt a momentum shift after winning the fourth game to even the match.

"I think we all thought back to last year, and did not want a repeat of that game so we had to make it happen and fought

back," Pidorian said. "I think our heart and composure as a team helped us fight back this game. Beating Cornwall, after losing to them last year made it all even sweeter."

Hen Hud returns to the state final four aiming to reach an eight state final and win a fourth state title for legendary coach Diane Swertfager, who has led the Sailors to nine NYS Region 1 titles. Pidorian finished with 14 assists, two aces and six digs. Marist-bound Caitlin Weimer had 10 kills and 10 blocks. Ashanti Davis added eight kills and seven blocks. Julieta Antman contributed two aces while Natalie Urra had 18 digs.

"I am so honored to be a part of this team and I am so impressed that we never gave up," Pidorian said. "We are so excited about making it to the final four and it means the world to our seniors."

KENNEDY CATHOLIC finished second in the Catholic High School Athletic Association State Championship.

The Lady Gaels lost, in three sets, to St. Mary's of Lancaster, N.Y. St. Mary's was representing the Buffalo Catholic schools.

Kennedy earned a berth in the final with a semifinal victory over The Mary Louis Academy (Brooklyn/Queens), 19-25, 25-21 and 25-19.

According to Kennedy Coach Tony Santora, this is the first time Kennedy was second in the Catholic State Volleyball Championship.

"St. Mary's had a lot of down time and we were pushing our sets beyond the usual limits all day," Santora said. "My ladies had a tremendous run. What we lacked in height we made up with in heart. I am very proud of what my ladies have accomplished this season. What coach wouldn't be?"

Santora cited Julia Costa, Madison Troetti, Grace Tompkins and Anna Cascapera with leading Kennedy's offensive attack. He credited Ginny Capellupo, Jaclyn Garbarino and Madison Cartisano with anchoring the defense. He also noted the contributions of Erin Brann, Joanna Longest, Shannon Harrison, Jasmine Henriques and Sophia Frantzeskos to Kennedy's successful tournament.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Members of undefeated (21-0) Ossining volleyball team pose with NYSPHSAA Region 1 title plaque after 5-set win over Horseheads Saturday.

Sports

Soccer Notebook

Ossining Falls 1-0 to Brentwood in Overtime at NYS Final 4

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor@Directrays

Ossining High had never seen its boys' soccer team in this position before, so the NYSPHSAA Class AA Final was icing on the cake no matter the outcome of Saturday's Final 4. And, while the result didn't pan out

saves in the first half, 18 for the game, despite leaving for a spell after a nasty collision. The former academy star returned home to finish out a career that had many calling him the finest keeper in Ossining history, having notched 19 shutouts while posting a 34-5-2 record the last two seasons.

Chances were few and far between for Ossining at Twin Towers Middle School in Middletown, including right-wing forward Kevon Evans, who had a post-season to remember but was under the weather in the semifinals, and Ossining senior Nolan Lenaghan, who will go down as one of the program's purest scorers.

Brentwood's defense was stifling and would eventually lead it to the state title with a 4-0 win over Section 5's Fairport.

But the well ran dry for the Pride, who played without the services of suspended M Juan Pablo Estupinan, who hit the golden goal in the Pride's Region 1 championship win over defending NYS champion Monroe-Woodbury, and Eric Monges.

From 2016 to 2019, the Ossining Pride have enjoyed the most rewarding four-year

stretch in school history, capping off 2019 with a league title, the first Section title since 1978 and the lone regional title in school history. And what this particular program has done for the Ossining sporting community – on and off the field -- cannot go unrecognized. This four-year stretch has changed the culture of Ossining soccer under Coach Joe Scamarone.



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Ossining wing Kevon Evans and the Pride left their mark on NYS Class AA soccer circuit despite falling 1-0 in OT in state semis to top-ranked Brentwood.

in the state-ranked (No.3) Pride's favor, the 2019 club will go down in history as Ossining's finest.

Ossining senior G Carlos Zababuru did all he could to keep the Pride (19-3-1) in the game, but Section 11 champion Brentwood, the top-ranked team in the state, prevailed, 1-0 at 11:33 of the second overtime off a scramble in front of Zababuru, who made 14



Ossining's Nolan Lenaghan will go down in Pride history as one of its most prolific scorers despite 1-0 OT loss in NYS Class AA semifinals.



NICK ABREAU PHOTO

Ossining players basked in the glory of their finest season, which concluded in the NYSPHSAA Final 4 Saturday in 1-0 loss to Brentwood.

Brewster Runners Brave Elements, Score High in NYS X-C Meet

Brewster's Elsa Neubauer placed 22nd overall in the New York State Class B Cross Country Championships, gutting out the final two miles without one shoe (see photo), doing so on a snowy/slushy SUNY Plattsburgh surface and 20-degree temps.



HAROLD TURK PHOTOS



Brewster's Finn Ratajack placed 20th overall and earned an All-NYS medal at Saturday's NYSPHSAA Cross Country Championships at chilly SUNY Plattsburgh.

Sports

Rescigno Calls it Quits at Yorktown; Sarsen Cops Another Crown



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports
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It's hard to say good-bye, no matter what the situation, so you'll have to forgive former Yorktown football Coach Mike Rescigno for being choked up upon his unexpected resignation last Tuesday; just four days after the Cornhuskers' disappointing 41-7 season-ending loss to Rye in the Section 1 Class A championship, Friday, November 8th. The desire to see his children excel in their respective sports/activities, coupled with the inordinate amount of time it takes to be an exceptional varsity football coach, made it difficult but necessary to resign.

"I'm forever in debt to my coaching staff for their immeasurable sacrifice," Rescigno said. "To the extended Yorktown Football Family and The Crop (Yorktown fabled student body): It has been my sincere honor and privilege to be called your head coach for the past 15 years. You are the greatest fans in Section 1. Through a whirlwind of emotions, I am humbled by the incredible response of past players and families. These past 15 years have been the most fulfilling and rewarding years of my life, but I need to be there for my wife and kids. They are the cornerstone of my life."

Mike 'House' Rescigno -- the former Carmel High and Hofstra University standout -- is a giant figure, both literally and figuratively in the hallowed halls of Yorktown High, where he presided over all things football the past 15 years, doing so with no flare or fanfare... just productivity and class personified. His 100th win -- a 20-7 semifinal win over then-reigning Section 1 champion John Jay -- Cross River -- came at a time when his oldest son is just about ready for varsity action along the Class AA gridiron at Arlington High School, where they'd be nuts to not find a spot on the Admiral staff for the former Yorktown coach that produced three trips to the Section 1

finals since 2016 and a NYS runner-up status in 2017.

So, when this scribe broke the news to John Q. Public shortly after 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, phones were blowing up all over the place. Why would Coach Rescigno leave like this? Well, his family is of the utmost importance and his son, a legit two-player -- is ready to blow up, and, he's contemplated this before, knowing he would want and need to be at his son's games. Who will replace him? Yorktown A.D. Rob Barrett assures the process to find his replacement will begin quickly; as the recent season has just concluded, and it's like Black Monday in the NFL with all the coming and goings on the Section 1 circuit. Who's interested? Who wouldn't be, outside of the most established coaches in Section 1? Yorktown, with five sectional titles, three state championship appearances and two state titles since 1993, has long been a football hotbed with its staunchly committed, multi-sport athletes.

We'll here names like former Yorktown standout Paul Santavicca, the current coach at Port Chester, kicked around, and Rob Cappelli, the former longtime Lakeland coach and current Cornhusker assistant, plus others on the current staff. Know this much: There will be no shortage of potential candidates, despite the pressure



BOB CASTNER/JAMES VANDELDELDE PHOTOS

Yorktown Coach Mike Rescigno (center) will miss days like these but family time is his main concern now, thus his sudden resignation Tuesday.

to succeed and the high expectations within the community. Yorktown has had just three head coaches since 1989 -- Ron Santavicca, Dan Callahan and Rescigno -- and all three have copped Section 1 titles, so yeah, there

have been big shoes to fill before, but the Huskers have manned up each time and found a suitable replacement. Indeed, the show must go on.

"He's the best there is," Barrett said. "It's completely understandable and admirable to want to spend more time

with the family, but it doesn't make it any less significant of a hit to our program. We'll open it up and hope to get the best possible replacement ASAP."

Twitter blew up last Tuesday, with no shortage of reverent commentary.

From @YorktownLacrosse: Congrats @House55Mike on a great career. You have helped to change lives for the better in Yorktown. Big shoes to fill my friend.

From the fabled student body @THE_CROP: @House55Mike has given the team, school and community a huge reason to be proud of the program. We ALL will never forget what he has done! #100thwin #ourhouse.

From @skenn13 (former Yorktown baseball coach Sean Kennedy): They don't come better than @House55Mike! He has done an incredible job during his 15 years and I completely understand the desire to spend more time with your family. Congrats my friend.

From @Saltyhistory (fellow Yorktown teacher Seth Altman): As a teacher in the building, I cannot say enough about how @

House55Mike has built a quality program that does things the right way. Happy for Mike, but a sad day for the entire Yorktown sports program.

From @KDJmedia1 (legendary local sportswriter & sports enthusiast): Mike Rescigno is a great coach and his son is soon entering high school. Think it's impossible for a dad to coach at a school while his son is playing elsewhere.

From @coachStevensBFH: Yorktown and Section 1 losing a great coach. All the best to Mike and his family.

Good luck, my friend, 'twas a hell of a ride...

OOPS, THEY DID IT AGAIN -- Can't think of another athletic program that I've covered across the last three-plus decades like **LAKELAND** field hockey. Winning one state title is hard enough, but 13? After Sunday's 2-0 NYSPHSAA Class B title triumph over rival Garden City, Coach Sharon Sarsen's Hornets won their 10th state title in the last 11 years, 13th overall, behind a pair of goals from senior Jenna McCrudden, set up by senior Lauren Salazar. Folks like to throw the term dynasty around like a rag doll these days, but I can't think of any program in the once-great state of New York that commands the respect that Lakeland field hockey and Coach Sarsen does. It's a next-level dynasty, plain and simple, and that was on full display at Alden High School in Western, NY.

You can argue with me all you want about New York still being a great state (and parts of it are) -- despite its governor and shabby treatment of law enforcement -- but there's no debating the fact that Lakeland field hockey is unrivaled in this neck of the woods.



Lakeland seniors pose with 13th NYSPHSAA Class B title plaque in program history after defeating Garden City, 2-0.

**Direct
Rays**

All Turk & No Play!

Carmel Junior Braves Elements, Places 8th in NYSPHSAA Class A Cross Country Meet



HAROLD TURK PHOTOS

Carmel junior Katie Turk continued to punctuate her stupendous high school career as a distance runner when she logged in at 16:50 and placed eighth in the NYSPHSAA Class A Cross Country Championships last Saturday at chilly SUNY Plattsburgh where nationally renowned distance specialist Katelyn Tuohy of North Rockland set the pace with a blazing first-place time of 15:36.5 to three-peat the event. Turk took eighth in her Class A race and 10th overall out of 468 runners.

