



Merging of County's 911 Dispatchers Moving Slowly

By Holly Crocco

A plan to move the sheriff's department dispatchers to the 911 call center at the county's Bureau of Emergency Services that is taking longer than expected has county lawmakers questioning whether the goal is achievable.

"There are still a lot of moving parts," explained BES Commissioner Ken Clair at the November meeting of the county's Protective Services Committee.

The plan is to have all dispatchers under one roof, so if someone calls 911 for a fire or medical emergency, or they call the sheriff's office for a police matter, they will all be received at the Emergency Operations Center at the BES, located in the Donald B. Smith Campus on Old Route 6 in Carmel.

Clair explained that, while working through the technical issues of the merger has taken longer than expected, there is also the issue of merging personnel.

The merger will bring workers from two different unions together, and questions have arisen regarding who the different dispatchers will answer to, who will hold seniority, and other personnel matters.

"If the (sheriff's) dispatchers are going under the umbrella of EMS, I imagine EMS would have control," said Legislator Paul Jonke, R-Brewster.

"This is what we need to talk about, off the record, because it's a bigger topic than I think we understand," said Claire.

He said the plan originally called for a step program in which the sheriff's deputies would go to the Emergency Operations Center and eventually become 911 center dispatchers, but that may not be the most desirable option for all the employees.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino, R-Patterson, expressed disappointment over what she was hearing at the meeting.

"This is concerning because when we first learned of this, when this was proposed, our objective was to improve efficiencies and now it seems like there's a little internal minutia going on that needs to be addressed," she said. "It seems very territorial."

Sheriff Robert Langley Jr., however, said that's not the case.

"First and foremost, it's not territorial," he said. "Public safety is number one."

Langley said the sheriff's department and the BES are ironing out the decision-making processes, as well as a chain of command that all employees are comfortable with.

Nacerino seemed unconvinced.

"Wasn't it the objective to have these dispatchers dually trained to do each other's job?" she asked. "So why is there this

'Fire service has different demands than that of law enforcement.

They talk different languages, basically.'

*Putnam County Sheriff
Robert Langley Jr.*

segregation of who's manning the police and who's manning the other dispatchers?"

Langley said the object remains the same, but the path to get there is not a straight and narrow as they had hoped it would be.

"They are two separate animals," he said of EMS calls and police calls. "I think Kenny can agree with me that fire service has different demands than that of law enforcement. They talk different languages, basically."

However, the sheriff said he fully believes the vision is possible. "It can work, and it will work," he said. "We have to get everything set up at the 911 center. We have to make sure the phone tree is working. And we have to start on a trial basis."

"Is this something that can happen, or is this something that we're just dreaming about that's not going to happen?" asked Jonke. "Because I don't want to spend any more taxpayer money on a project that's not going anywhere."

"I'm 100 percent vested in this," replied Langley. "I see this as the right direction to go."

Jonke further asked: "If everything goes just peachy, when is this going to happen?"

Both Claire and Langley said they can't give a definitive answer.

"Summertime?" guessed Claire.

"Personally, I was thinking we'd be in there already," added Langley. "We want this to work flawlessly for the interest of public safety."

Nacerino said she is still concerned about the coordination of employees.

"It's a hard effort to coordinate, I get it," she said. "But we've been discussing this for a long time and there's still no light at the end of the tunnel."

Langley said he's just as frustrated as legislators are with the process, but he's optimistic.

"I see a light at the end of the tunnel," he said. "The equipment has been ordered. Hopefully the workers aren't on strike."

Lawmakers expect another update from the involved parties in January.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Mahopac Student-Athletes Celebrate Signing Day

Several Mahopac High School student-athletes committed to playing college sports during the recent MHS Signing Day. Brendan McCrosson has committed to Onondaga Community College; Tommy Elliott, Fairfield University; Frank Zito, the University of Alabama; Sophia Defrancesco, Lindenwood University; Christina Lopreato, Mercy College; Caitlyn Reilly, Assumption College; Alexa Rispoli, Wagner College; Sabrina Nogula, Southern Connecticut State University; Carly Steinberg, Colgate University; Jenna Daly, Iona College; and Grace Divencenzo, University of Connecticut.

Kent Residents Speak Out on Mining

By Examiner Staff

Kent lawmakers are moving forward with crafting legislation that would grant the town greater control over any mining work proposed by future developers.

During a recent public hearing, residents spoke in favor of amending the town code to include provisions for mining and excavation work. The town currently has few laws addressing site plan preparation, and mining isn't included in the town code.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is the only regulatory agency that can issue mining permits to developers.

"In the absence of references and procedures in the existing zoning code

surrounding mining, it is necessary that our town code address it and develop a code," said Eileen Civitillo, co-founder of the Stop Kent Truck Stop Committee. "We are of the belief that the town needs a mining code that will not discourage development but rather serve to encourage the right development for our town."

The topic of mining has become a hot-button issue within the town since Kent Country Square LLC proposed building a truck stop on a 137-acre parcel east of the intersection of Ludingtonville Road on Route 52, and 1,500 feet away from Kent Elementary School and Kent Primary School.

Original plans called for a gas station, a

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Interim Superintendent Tapped for Garrison Schools

The Garrison Union Free School District has hired an interim superintendent to lead the district during the second half of the school year, while a search commences for a new chief.

According to a letter from the Board of Education, Dr. Debra Jackson will serve as interim superintendent from Jan. 1 through June 30.

"Having held superintendency positions for Highland Falls, North Salem and Bedford school districts, Dr. Jackson comes to GUFS with a breadth and depth of experience that will greatly benefit our district," stated board members in a letter to the community.

In 2015, Gov. Andrew Cuomo appointed Jackson as compact commissioner for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

The school board has also hired District Wide Search Consultants to facilitate the search for a permanent superintendent.

"The board will meet with their team, Bob Freier and Joann Kaplan, in the coming weeks to orient them toward our expectations for a successful, transparent and inclusive search," stated the board.

District members can expect to receive a series of communications detailing the process and a schedule of opportunities to meet the consultants in the near future.

"As we move toward achieving our shared goal of making GUFS a thriving community where we can work, learn and live, the selection of a superintendent is critical," stated board members in their letter to the community. "The board would like to underscore the importance of your participation in this process. Your voice is vital to help inform the pursuit of exceptional candidates."

Kent Residents Speak Out on Mining

continued from page 1

rest stop, truck service and repair shop, two hotels, an indoor waterpark, a restaurant and convention center. Additionally, the plan would have resulted in the developer blasting 54 acres of rock and mining down 180 feet.

While the developer announced in October that the truck stop element of the project has been withdrawn, residents believe the developer still intends to mine the site owned by Kent Country Square LLC.

While creating a mining code was encouraged by some residents, others pressed lawmakers to also consider updating the town's comprehensive plan and approving a town-wide moratorium on mining that would last six months to a year.

"A mining moratorium would allow us to step back, pause, consider and re-evaluate all aspects that any mining operation would have, not with respect to the technical aspect of the mining industry, but with regard to the direction of the development in the Town of Kent and the resultant decades-long development ramifications," said Maureen Galway Croddy.

She said a moratorium would benefit the town as development continues to grow, adding that the demand for a particular use of land may arise, for which there are "inadequate or non-existent controls."

Some officials agreed on a moratorium, but

noted that one can't be placed on something the town doesn't currently include in its code.

Councilman Chris Ruthven, who last month suggested the town board address the issue of mining, said a form of mining is taking place within the town as contractors and developers seek permits from the state. While nobody is mining in the traditional sense for copper or gold, he said he believes that removing rock, dirt or topsoil is considered mining.

"I do think we need something," said Ruthven. "We need to define it well; understand how we can have at least some control. We don't want to stop development, but we want reasonable development and reasonable expectations of what developers are going to remove from our town as far as the minerals and the soils."

He also questioned if excavation would fall under the guise of mining, suggesting that officials take their time in crafting any future legislation to enforce.

Town Supervisor Maureen Fleming said the board would need to define "removal" or "excavation" that would satisfy a future mining code. She added that the town would likely not place a moratorium on mining, but instead on excavation of a certain amount.

"Our attorneys have to really look into how we craft any kind of moratorium," she said.



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Q: How do you recognize erectile dysfunction?

A: Erectile dysfunction is the inability to achieve or maintain an erection sufficient for satisfactory sexual performance.

Q: What causes ED?

A: When everything is working right, a normal level of testosterone sets the stage. The penis contains two tubes filled with vascular spongy tissue. An erection occurs when some stimulation excites the nervous system, causing extra blood flow into the tubes. There must also be an intact mechanism for preventing blood from immediately flowing out. Afterwards, blood drains from the two tubes and the erection disappears.

The immediate causes of ED all relate to conditions that impair the flow of blood into the penis. That includes blood pressure medications, a spinal cord injury, and especially diabetes, which damages small blood vessels and nerves. ED can also signal underlying heart disease from narrowing of the arteries in the heart and the penis. Smoking and excessive alcohol

can cause ED, and depression and anxiety can play a role. Being at your proper weight can lower your risk of ED. Regular exercise improves blood flow.

Q: Who should I see about possible ED?

A: Primary care physicians can initially diagnose and treat ED with pills such as Viagra. But if, after hormone tests, oral medications and perhaps an adjustment to blood pressure medication, the problem persists, you'll typically be referred to a urologist.

Q: What if pills don't work?

A: There are at least four other treatments. *Penile injection therapy* involves self-injecting a medication into the penis that dilates blood vessels. The *vacuum erection device* pulls blood into the penis. A *medicated suppository* inserted into the urethra dissolves into the tissues of the penis, causing an erection. Implantation of a *penile prosthesis* involves placing two cylinders within the penis, a pump in the scrotum, and a reservoir of salt water in the lower abdomen. A squeeze of the pump transfers fluid from the reservoir into the cylinders to create an erection.

Carmel H.S. Principal Celebrated at 'Riolo's Rally'

By Holly Crocco

After more than three decades of supporting students in academics, athletics, the arts and other pursuits, Carmel High School Principal Lou Riolo was the one being cheered on during a surprise pep rally held last week in his honor.

Riolo, a CHS graduate, has been employed at the school for more than 31 years – first as a social studies teacher for 26 years, then as principal for the past five years. He announced his resignation earlier this year, stating that he has accepted a position as assistant superintendent at Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES.

On Nov. 26, students, alumni, staff and family filled the high school gymnasium for the "Riolo Rally," where many shared touching tributes and fond memories of the longtime educator.

"For 31 years you have given us a reason to celebrate, and made a difference in thousands of lives including mine," said teacher Paul Brennan. "Your career goes far beyond social studies or being a principal... Please know, no handshake went unnoticed, no hug unappreciated."

After announcing his resignation earlier this year, Carmel Schools Superintendent Andy Irvin said Riolo leaves behind big shoes to fill.

"Few in the education field have been as dedicated to a single school district as has Lou," said Irvin. "Yet, as superintendent of schools, there is nothing I want more for



Riolo is brought to tears.

Lou than to see him advance his career to the next level."

An interim principal will be appointed from within the current administrative team for the remainder of the school year, while a search for a new CHS chief is conducted. It is hoped that a new principal will be hired in the spring with a July 1 start date, said Irvin.



PROVIDED PHOTOS

Carmel High School Principal Lou Riolo was surprised by a pep rally held in his honor.



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Cold Spring Chamber Looks to Improve Trolley Service

By Holly Crocco

In an effort to increase ridership and reliability of the Cold Spring Trolley, as well as influence tourism and connect residents and visitors with local cultural and historic destinations and businesses, the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce Trolley Committee is asking the Putnam County Department of Transportation to support a number of goals outlined in its recently-released 2020 Trolley Service Proposal.

The trolley is owned and operated by Putnam County.

"Because the trolley had been positioned as a tourist vehicle, businesses in the area saw it as an asset and we wanted to support that asset," explained Chamber President Eliza Starbuck.

The volunteer committee was formed in 2018 and members have spoken to more than 100 residents and visitors, conducted outreach and surveyed the community, provided rider support, met with village and county leaders, researched the qualities that make successful public transit systems, and followed a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats Analysis.

A survey of area residents and elected officials – mostly from Cold Spring, as well as Philipstown and Beacon – was recently answered by mostly adults (74 percent), as well as senior citizens (25 percent) and children and teens.

While 89 percent of respondents said motor vehicles are their primary means of



The Cold Spring Trolley.

local transportation, 69 percent said they also walk, 42 percent said they take the train, 15 percent bike, and 11 percent use ridesharing or taxis.

Nearly 23 percent of people said they did not know that the Cold Spring Trolley drives passengers to museums, historic sites, train stations and the main streets of Cold Spring, Garrison and Beacon on weekends. Only about 11 percent of people said they know of

the trolley and its schedule,

When asked if a \$2-per-trip cash fare would deter them from taking the trolley, about 64 percent of respondents said that would not be a turnoff.

Some of the strengths identified by the SWOT Analysis include that the trolley is Americans with Disabilities Act compliant, that the experience is nostalgic and unique, it receives state funding, it fulfills the demand

for public transit, and that the trolley has a long history.

Weaknesses include that the system lacks signage, the vehicle is bulky and has a high-carbon footprint, service is inconsistent, the public is unaware of its stops or schedule, it is a cash-only service, it periodically lacks a dispatcher, and the trolley travels too much geography to get to destinations.

Cold Spring village officials have expressed concern about the number of stops on Main Street and Route 301, and other locations, as well as an impact on traffic, and the effects of the size and capacity of the vehicle.

The committee has proposed changes to the trolley route, to make it one continual loop – reducing stops in Cold Spring village and Beacon, and increasing stops in Nelsonville. In addition, the committee suggests the county manufacture and install street signs at stops – such as the Metro-North stations, certain trailheads, libraries, Magazzino Italian Art, and other points of interest – to inform the public where to catch the trolley.

The committee also suggests keeping the current fees and payment options, especially for one-stop users, introducing a day pass option for those traveling to multiple stops and pricing it at a reduced rate, and exploring digital payment options.

The suggested day pass price is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for seniors

The committee also suggests offering a no-fee services to public transit agencies

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Two Injured in Mahopac Falls Crash

A head-on accident Nov. 30 at about 10 a.m. on Baldwin Place Road near the entrance to Mahopac Middle School drew a heavy response from local first-responders.

Fire police closed Baldwin Place Road from the intersection of Route 6N to the entrance to the middle school, while a call for extrication went out.

Two patients were triaged by paramedics and Mahopac Falls F.D. emergency medical technicians; one was taken to Danbury Hospital and the other to Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel.

The road was reopened about an hour later.

Putnam Asks MTA to Wait on Parking Fee Increase

Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell has called on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to abandon its proposed parking fee increase at Metro-North stations until the issue has had a full public hearing.

"It is not right to spring an unplanned parking fee increase on already overburdened commuters," she said. "As it is, Putnam County commuters pay nearly \$6,000 a year for their Metro-North tickets and parking fees. To add a 10 to 14 percent increase in parking costs on top of that, and without any warning, will be too much for some riders to bear."

The riding public and elected officials deserve time to assess and advocate over the fairness of this increase, said Odell.

The MTA did not publicly announce the price hike it proposed and the parking fee increases were not included in its fare

increase debate, according to the county executive. Instead, word leaked out through the media that parking costs would go up in December and that free Saturday parking would be eliminated.

The increases would raise the costs at 25 stations where parking lots are owned by Metro-North and operated by LAZ. That includes all five of the stations in Putnam County, where residents would see annual parking fees reach as high as \$512 in Brewster.

Daily metered parking would increase by 50 to 75 cents, with the highest set at \$6.50 for 16 hours at the Brewster station.

The Putnam County Legislature has written to MTA Chairman and CEO Pat Foye to request a delay to the increase until December 2020 public discussions and a subsequent board vote for the 2021 fare increase.



JACK CASEY PHOTO

A head-on car crash temporarily closed Baldwin Place Road on Saturday.

"We appreciate that the MTA has a budget problem and wants to solve it," wrote Legislature Chairman Joseph Castellano to the MTA. "But doing it on the backs of our already burdened riders doesn't seem fair nor in keeping with notion that the MTA is one system. We ask that you begin to think of the riders of Putnam County (and other counties at the further ends of the system) as equal members of this system and respect the limits of their abilities to pay to support this system."

Neal Zuckerman, Putnam County's representative to the MTA Board, said this parking fee increase would raise about \$1

million – a drop in the bucket compared to the MTA's budget deficit, which is expected to reach \$1 billion in 2022. Increasing parking costs by 10 to 14 percent on Metro-North parking does nothing to solve the MTA's existential problem, he said.

"I oppose any measure to further burden the riders who punitively pay by distance, versus the New York City riders who pay one fare to go any distance," said Zuckerman. "It is time to have a discussion of fairly sharing the burdens across the system."

Metro-North riders saw ticket fare increases of up to 4 percent in April 2019.

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Jaipore Royal Indian Cuisine Brewster

By Neal Rentz

Danbury resident Roshan Balan worked for several years in various capacities in the restaurant industry before deciding to own his own eatery.

Balan became owner of Jaipore Royal Indian Cuisine in Brewster five years ago, inheriting the name, which is after a city in northern India called Jaipur.

"Locals love it," he said. "It's mostly a family crowd."

The restaurant originally opened in 1993. The establishment was created by a group of investors who were eventually bought out by Balan's boss since 2001, Shiva Natarajan, who owned 18 restaurants in the area.

Balan is also the owner of Kolam Fine Indian Cuisine in Newtown, Conn.

Some of the popular dishes served at Jaipore include chicken masala; butter chicken, which is tandoor chicken strips and bell peppers in a creamy tomato sauce; and rice pudding, which includes one cinnamon stick per batch.

"That creates a great flavor," said Balan.

A popular feature at Jaipore is its Sunday brunch buffet. "It has everything from all parts of India," said Balan. "It's a huge selection."

For patrons who are new to Jaipore, the brunch lets them try a variety of the



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Danbury resident Roshan Balan has owned Jaipore Royal Indian Cuisine in Brewster for the past five years.

restaurant's fare. Balan tells his new customers to take a spoonful of each brunch item "and come back for what you like."

The Route 22 building that houses the restaurant has a long and storied history. The mansion was originally built in 1856 and was a private residence for decades. One

of its residents was Henry Ward Beecher, brother of Harriet Beecher Stowe of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" fame.

In the silent film era of the early 20th century, the building was occupied by Charlie Chaplin Studios and was used as a movie backdrop by the legendary comedian

and director. The great director D.W. Griffith is reputed to have used the building in his movies, and the cast of his movie "America" was housed there while the movie was being made.

In the 1920s, it was used as a speakeasy.

Jaipore Royal Indian Cuisine is located at 280 Route 22, Brewster. For more information, call 845-277-354, visit www.jaiporenyc.com, or email contact@jaiporenyc.com.

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Holly Crocco
hcrocco@theexaminernews.com
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Obituaries

Thomas A. Bonacci Jr.

Thomas A. Bonacci Jr. of Mahopac passed into eternal rest Nov. 22 at age 50. He was born to Thomas and Barrie (Proctor) Bonacci Sr. on May 16, 1969 in Port Chester.

Tom was a graduate of North Salem High School and Westchester Community College. He worked 30 years in the family business as a skilled craftsman. Tom also had a passion for restoration of vintage cars and motorcycles.

Tom and Andrea were married Feb. 17, 2006. He is survived by Andrea; his parents; his children Thomas Bonacci, Andrew Tocci and Kristin Tocci; and his sisters, Lorinda Hinty and Loralin Fioretti; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Visitation was Nov. 24 at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home in Mahopac. A Mass was celebrated Nov. 25 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. Private cremation services followed.

Barbara Bunyea

Barbara Bunyea of Mahopac passed away Nov. 22 at the age of 84. She was born in the Bronx on Jan. 17, 1935, the daughter of Dominick and Rose Monzillo. She was the youngest sister to Alberta Kramer (deceased) and Mary Griffin of Mahopac.

Barbara graduated from Cathedral High School in the Bronx and worked for the Daily News. Later, the family moved to Mahopac where she met her loving husband, Russ Bunyea. They were married for 63 years.

She is survived by her husband; her sons Doug Bunyea of Carmel, Steve (Veronica) of Mahopac and Mark (Kristine) Bunyea of Mahopac; her daughters Sally Wylock of Poughkeepsie and Laurie (Luke) Huggard of Pawling; 19 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Barbara worked for the Somers Central School District as a teaching assistant for 20 years. She was a devoted Catholic and parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac and, above all, she loved spending time with her family.

Visitation was Nov. 26 at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 27 at St. John the Evangelist Church, with interment at Ballard-Barrett Cemetery in Mahopac Falls.

Garyanne Higgs

Garyanne Higgs, 78, of Holmes, formerly of Wassaic and Cold Spring, died Nov. 22 in Newburgh.

Garyanne was born Feb. 20, 1941 in Lake Carmel to Henry and Elsie (Booth) Hyatt. She attended Carmel schools.

On Nov. 12, 1976, Garyanne married Warren E. Higgs at the Patterson Baptist Church in Patterson. Mr. Higgs died in 2001.

Garyanne was a school bus aide for the Carmel Central School District for 28 years, retiring in 2001.

Garyanne is survived by her sister Betty Lou Smith and her husband Gerald of Wyalusing, Penn., and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held Nov. 29 at Dwyer Funeral Home in Patterson.

Dorothy Jean Mahoney

Dorothy Jean Mahoney of Philmont passed away at her home surrounded by family Nov. 24. She was 88 years old.

Dorothy was born Sept. 19, 1931 in West Newberry, Vt., to Nicklos and Lucia (Despaw) Emerson. The daughter of a farmer, she moved around often as a child, eventually settling in Putnam County.

On Oct. 28, 1950, she married the love of her life, Robert J. Mahoney, in Brewster.

Dorothy was a homemaker for most of her years, having worked 10 years as a nursing home attendant in the surrounding Patterson area. Before her 20 years spent in Philmont, Dorothy lived in Wingdale for 22 years and Patterson for many years.

Dorothy is survived by her children Patricia Brizzie of Philmont, Robert J. Mahoney Jr. of Hazlet, N.J., Ronald Mahoney of Wingdale, and Randall Mahoney of Naugatuck, Conn.; brothers Raymond Emerson of Dover Plains, Daniel Emerson of Wingdale and William Emerson of Deltona Fla.; 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; as well as several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held Nov. 30 at Dwyer Funeral Home in Patterson.

Paulette A. McGlynn

Paulette A. McGlynn of Mahopac, formerly of Yorktown Heights, passed away Nov. 26 at the age of 74. She was born in White Plains on Oct. 13, 1945, the daughter of Martin and Jane (Turnbull) Hoffman.

Paulette graduated from White Plains High School and earned her bachelor's degree at Mercy College. She was a licensed real estate broker and owned the Fawn Agency in Mahopac since 1979. Paulette enjoyed traveling all over the world with her husband, Kevin, whom she married Oct. 31, 1965.

In addition to Kevin, she is survived by her daughters Christine Rooney and her husband Michael of Glenmont, and Sandy McNaughton and her husband Gary of Middleboro, Mass.; as well as grandsons Kevin, Jack, Matthew, Robbie and Connor.

Visitation and funeral services were Nov. 30 at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home. Private cremation services followed.

Esther Risolo

Esther Risolo of Mahopac passed away Nov. 23 at the age of 76. She was born in Manhattan on July 6, 1943, the daughter of Stefan and Esther (Cervik) Vidnansky.

Esther was a resident of Mahopac since 1973 and resided in the Bronx prior. She worked for many years as a secretary at Lincoln Hall in Lincolnville.

On Feb. 20, 1965 she married Peter Risolo at St. Joseph's Church in Manhattan. In addition to Peter, she is survived by her daughter Lisa Laub and her husband John of Staten Island, her sister Ellen Silverstein of Lakewood, N.J., and her three granddaughters Haley, Emma and Lindsay.

Visiting was Nov. 25 at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home with a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated Nov. 26 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. Interment followed at Ballard-Barrett Cemetery in Mahopac Falls.

Eleonore Helene Kolloge Seehaus

Eleonore Helene Kolloge Seehaus, 92, passed away Nov. 15 at Hudson Valley Rehab and Extended Care Nursing Home in Highland.

Born in Wildeshausen, Germany on Feb. 8, 1927, she was the daughter of Heinrich and Katherine (Buhlert) Kolloge and wife of Karl Seehaus. They were married Sept. 23, 1949 and moved to America in 1957. Karl predeceased her July 19, 2013.

A former resident of Woodhaven, Queens, she had been a resident of Pawling since 1961. She worked various jobs throughout the years, the first as a waitress at Michael's Quaker Knolls Restaurant in the 60s. She worked for years at the Village Pharmacy in Pawling as cosmetics consultant and at Ditrone, Inc., for a short while in the 80s.

She also worked for years at the Chemical/Chase Bank warehouse in Pawling. She taught yoga classes for years in various locations such as Lucille Roberts Gym in Poughkeepsie, Pawling Holiday Hills, and Pawling Town Hall Basement.

Eleonore is survived by her son Lothar Seehaus and his wife Joan Curley of Plymouth, Mass., and her daughter Elinor Bosworth and her husband Patrick of Hopewell Junction. She is also survived by her grandchildren Karl Seehaus of Sarasota, Fla., Melissa Stearns of Englewood Fla., Marin Curley of Sandwich, Mass., and Christopher Bosworth and wife Elisabeth of LaGrangeville; and her great-grandchildren Jacob and Tanner Stearns, and Tiernan, Elaine, Arya and Lyra Bosworth.

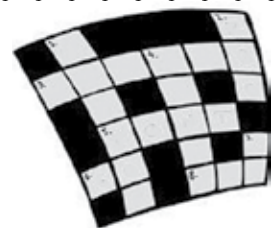
There will be no service or memorial, as was her wish.

Catherine Tuohy

Catherine Tuohy, 84, of Brewster, passed away Nov. 26.

Born in Brooklyn, Catherine was a sister to eight siblings. She married Matthew Tuohy on May 24, 1958. Together they raised nine children: Marie, Tommy, Barbara, Noreen, Raymond, Christine, Marykate, Andrew and Gerard. Through their years the family grew to include sons-in-law and daughters-in-law, along with 19 grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial was held Nov. 30 at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Brewster. Interment followed at St. Lawrence O'Toole Cemetery.



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CHS Inducts 17 Into Business Honor Society

The Carmel High School Career and Technical Education (Business Education) Department held its annual induction ceremony in November for the Business Honor Society, during which 17 students were inducted.

They include Alexander Beauchesne, James Danvin, Kaitlyn Dean, Alex Dedaj, Daniel Dedaj, Melanie Eriksen, Anthony Falco, Matthew Massi, Caroline McIntyre, Andrew Nunez, Rachel Pasquale, Julia Rudin, Michael Rosaforte, Chhiring Sherpa, Kevin Stenger, Michael Storen and Alyssa Thomas.

To be selected, students must be a senior and have completed at least four business education classes (including at least one college credit course). They also need to have at least an 88 average in those courses and have an overall average of 85 or greater.

These students have taken various business education classes such as college accounting, college management, college marketing, college business law, college business economics, digital media 101, business math, video game design, and career and financial strategies.



DAVE SALVO PHOTO

Recent inductees of the CHS Business Honor Society.

Mahopac Schools Support English Language Learners

The gymnasium at Lakeview Elementary School was filled with warm smiles and conversation for the Mahopac Central School District's second annual English as a New Language Family Night earlier this fall. Parents and caregivers throughout the district joined the Mahopac Schools' ENL team, school administration members, and community resources who help support an education and healthy living.

ENL Chairperson Leigh Galione and district translator Jackie Vasquez kicked off the evening with an overview of Mahopac Schools' services and offerings to students learning English as a new language.

"This evening is about you, your children and your families," said Galione, with Vasquez translating to Spanish. "It is important to know how much we care about you. We are very proud of all the wonderful programs our schools offer to ensure our children have a successful school career."

Superintendent of Schools Anthony DiCarlo gave the crowd a welcome in

Spanish and spoke of the mission of Mahopac Schools to "foster a partnership between our teachers, parents, caregivers and community members to ensure our ENL students receive a strong academic, social and career foundation with high standards of excellence and achievement."

The evening continued with the opportunity for parents and caregivers to get information and assistance from Mahopac Schools' educational and support services, community health and well-being resources.

Tomas Vasquez and Emmanuel Pichardo from the district's information technology department were on hand to help parents with the parent portal sign-up, student Chromebooks, and other questions.

"The district has a translation service we can provide in order to promote productive conversations; we don't want families to feel they cannot contact the schools," said Vasquez. "If you need assistance, we will be here for you."

Putnam Resident Inspires Assembly Resolution

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne recently met with Mahopac resident Marianne DeMasi Chaluian to deliver a resolution he passed in the Assembly raising awareness for Complex Regional Pain Syndrome, also known as Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, which Chaluian battles.

CRPS is a rare disease characterized by acute pain, swelling and tenderness of a limb, and in extreme cases can result in loss of mobile use of a limb. With fewer than 200,000 cases in the U.S. yearly, there is limited research and awareness about CRPS/RSD.

Byrne's resolution declared November 2019 as CRPS/RSD awareness month in New York State. The resolution had strong bipartisan support and was adopted by the Assembly on May 6.

Each year, the Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Association dedicates the first Monday of November as "Color the World Orange Day" to raise awareness for the condition.

"During this past legislative session, I was approached by a friend of Ms. DeMasi Chaluian, who explained what Marianne was forced to endure on a regular basis," said Byrne. "After asking what our office could do to help, I was happy to introduce and pass this resolution by working with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to raise greater public awareness in our state about CRPS/RSD and those who suffer from it."



PROVIDED PHOTO

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne delivers a resolution he carried during the 2019 legislative session to Putnam County resident Marianne DeMasi Chaluian, raising awareness for Complex Regional Pain Syndrome.

Chaluian thanked Byrne for his advocacy for people who are dealing with this debilitating disease.

"CRPS/RSD is still not well known publicly and we need further medical research to improve treatment and find a cure," she said. "It's an invisible condition. People on the outside cannot see the pain that people suffering from CRPS/RSD live through on the inside. By introducing a resolution and gaining support from his Assembly colleagues, Assemblyman Byrne is helping move our awareness campaign forward."

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That Guy in the Commercial? He's Going to the Olympics

You may recognize Eric Holtz from the Montefiore testimonial about his shoulder surgery. But the story just got way better.

BY DANA WHITE

The 30-second commercial was in heavy rotation all summer. Closeup on a middle-aged guy, very fit, with a shaved head, a soul patch and serious swagger. He lifts weights, throws pitches, swings a bat, while his voiceover describes the orthopedic surgery that saved his baseball career 15 years earlier: "At 39, I had a SLAP tear and ripped off my biceps tendon. Never pitch again? Yeah, right. I went to Montefiore Orthopedics and begged Dr. Levy to get me back on the diamond. At 41, I was drafted to play pro ball."

While compelling, the TV spot left millions of viewers scratching their heads: Who drafted a regular guy over 40 to play pro ball?

That would be Israel. In 2006, after a year of rehabbing from the surgery with his typically insane work ethic, the 6'1" Holtz was drafted to play for the new Israel Baseball League (IBL). He was a baseball-obsessed married father of three from White Plains with a women's clothing business moonlighting as a hitting coach at Manhattanville College. The IBL lasted a year, but the connections he made in Israel paid off bigtime down the line. In 2017, he was named manager/coach of Israel's national baseball team. In September, the "blue and white" advanced to the Africa/Europe Qualifying Event in Italy—and won it all, earning a berth at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. The *Jerusalem Post* called it a "miraculous accomplishment.... Manager Eric Holtz brought old-fashioned baseball to life, playing games one at a time."

Life Lessons

Most days you can find Holtz behind his desk at Game On 13, his elite training center in Elmsford. Holtz's big personality is somewhat subdued. The soul patch has grown out to a salt and pepper stubble. That and his shaved head make him a double for Bruce Willis from certain angles. At 54, he's mulling over a big year—the commercial, the Olympics, the wedding of his oldest child Jordan—and perhaps wondering what his present "whole crazy world" holds.

"I had no idea I was going to be on TV every night," he says, mean-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTEFIORE HEALTH SYSTEM

While Holtz's commercial was airing last summer, he was leading Team Israel to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

ing it. "I had no idea I was going to be on 11 billboards and in magazines and newspapers. I get it every day playing baseball: Oh, you're the Montefiore guy! But I don't want to lose focus on what I do. I'm just Eric, head coach of Israel baseball. Owner of Game On 13. It doesn't change anything."

His jam-packed office reflects his 24/7 commitment to baseball—and his entrepreneurial know-how. There are jerseys for the Fury and Lady Fury, his 13-team youth league, and one of his signature Holtz wood bats, made in upstate New York. The wall behind his desk is covered in photographs and motivational sayings and a photo of Lou Gehrig and Babe Ruth, an homage to his late father, who told stories about watching the two legends play at the old Yankee stadium. Samson, Holtz's massive Bernese mountain dog and "best buddy," is collapsed on the floor like a small mountain to be stepped over. Samson is in the Montefiore footage as well, frolicking with Holtz in the cavernous batting cage area. Dozens of T-shirts and jerseys with college logos hang high on the walls, signifying schools where the kids that train here have gone on to play. Coaching and motivating young people to be their best is his favorite part.

"Not everybody's going to be a professional player, but the game teaches you to work hard and be part of something bigger than yourself—part of a team, a culture. It teaches you about life."

The Boy from the Bronx

Holtz calls his business Game On 13 because that's his lucky



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC HOLTZ

Team Israel celebrates the victory that won the squad an Olympic berth.

number, the one on his jerseys throughout his own playing career. It started in the Bronx, where Holtz was born. He lived in Co-op City with his parents, Philip and Rosalind Holtz, and his older brother Steven. His dad was an accountant who passed his love of baseball down to Eric. He played catch and got on the floor to hold his son's feet in the correct batting stance. But Philip Holtz also suffered from polycystic kidney disease and required dialysis three times a week. "I played catch with my dad until he got too sick to," Holtz recalls. "It was a lot to ask of

a guy to take me to the park and play with me, because he was exhausted. But he always did."

After Holtz's father passed away at age 51, baseball filled a void. Two of his Little League coaches, both Puerto Rican, "almost adopted me as their own," including him in holidays and family vacations, "to make sure I wasn't alone." (His brother Steven, a retired attorney, "is not a baseball guy.") His father had been religious, and at age 13 his mother and a relative took Eric to Jerusalem for his bar-mitzvah at the Wailing Wall "out of respect

for my father." Holtz went onto attend New Rochelle Academy, where he was a varsity shortstop and pitcher.

In college, he butted heads with his coach. During the season, he left school to attend the funeral of a close friend who died in a car accident. "When I came home, the coach told me to clean out my locker. I'd let my teammates down. He didn't want me. I didn't pick up a baseball again until I was 35."

Back in the Game

Fortunately, there were softballs to pick up. After getting a two-year degree in physical education, Holtz entered the apparel industry in marketing and sales. When he wasn't traveling the world for a women's clothing line — doing well enough to buy his own co-op in Hartsdale at the age of 21 — he was playing in several fast-pitch softball leagues in the city. He showed up for his own wedding in 1991 with three broken ribs from sliding into second. His fiancé told him to suck it up and smile for the photos.

"We should have frequent flier miles at the hospital," says Traci Holtz today. "He's always breaking something, coming home with a big raspberry on his leg." The two met in summer camp as kids and reconnected when working in the fashion industry. Traci now works as an administrator in the Mount Pleasant Central School District, overseeing student support services. "Being his wife is accepting that baseball is a big love of his life; it's part of the package."

Holtz honed his natural coaching talent on his own kids. All three were standouts at Valhalla High

School and have played in college: Jordan, 26, at Bucknell University; daughter Sydni, 22, at NYU; and Brett, 20, at Columbia University, where he's a junior. According to Holtz, all this diamond time kept his kids "away from video games and helped get them into great schools."

For Sydni, a pediatric oncology nurse at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, playing ball was a given. "From the moment I can remember anything, we have been breathing baseball and softball. I don't think we had a choice necessarily. Baseball is important to my dad because of losing his father when he was young.... The bond between us with the sport didn't compare to any other sport we tried."

But Holtz's sour college experience gnawed at him. In the year 2000, at age 35, he signed up for the first of several trips to New York Yankees Fantasy Camp in Tampa, Fla., where regular people pay to play and hang out with real live retired Yankees. The experience "rekindled my love and my passion for baseball." He got into age-group open league baseball and started "killing it" as a third baseman/pitcher. "I'm making the All-Star game every year, playing against kids half my age. It came back quick. I got so enthralled with it, the more I did it, the more I wanted to do it. Before you know it, I was going to Florida and Puerto Rico with travel teams, looking for more and better competition. I was playing so much I hurt my shoulder. I was broken."

A Stitch in Time

For repairs, Holtz went to a good friend and softball teammate: Dr. Martin Levy, an orthopedic surgeon at Montefiore. "I talked him into fixing me. He said, 'Why don't you just stop pitching and play first base?' And I said 'Marty, I'm not ready for that! I've got a lot more life left in me!'" Levy did the surgery. Little did they know that years later, "I'd be contacted to do a feel-good story for Montefiore," says Holtz. Doctor and patient also starred in "Eric's Story," a short film that ran on the YES Network. "Without that surgery later in life, none of this would have happened."

Sometimes life takes a lucky hop. After his rehab, an old friend told Holtz about this new venture called the Israeli Baseball League. "I said, 'There is no baseball in Israel. None. Zero.'" The IBL was the quixotic dream of a millionaire Boston bagel maker who wanted to bring baseball to his spiritual homeland. They were having tryouts in the Berkshires. Holtz went "on a goof." He made the six-team league as a player/coach for the Bet Shemesh Blue Sox and spent two months playing in Israel, which has only one lighted field.

He got \$2,000 for the season



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC HOLTZ

"Eric is one of the most positive people I've ever met," says Team Israel pitcher Jonathan de Marte.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC HOLTZ

The banner says it all.

and a wise-cracking star turn in a documentary about the league called *Holy Land Hardball*. But his pro debut paid off in other ways. In 2013 he was a hitting coach at Westchester Community College when a former IBL teammate recruited him as assistant coach to America's 18 and under team in the Maccabiah Games (a.k.a. "the Jewish Olympics"). Team USA won gold, and in 2017 Holtz returned as head coach. They won again, this time with son Brett playing first base. The next day, Peter Kurz, President of the Israel Association of Baseball, hired Holtz to coach the Israeli national team. "Eric is dedicated, a true mensch, high energy, a great motivator," says Kurz. "We needed a guy like him."

Ascending to a New Level

Baseball remains a tough sell in Israel, a country the size of New Jersey with only 1,000 players. "Baseball requires patience, and the Israelis are not a patient people," Holtz explains. "When you're a kid you could wait five innings and not have a ball hit to you. Soccer and basketball are nonstop. Israel is not the baseball mecca of the world, but we have proven a lot of people wrong so far. We can compete with anybody out there."

Most of Team Israel's players are American Jews who played college and professional ball. Because they have to be Israeli citizens for Olym-

pic competition, Kurz arranged for all of them to obtain citizenship in Israel, a process called Aliyah, Hebrew for "ascending."

"Eric and I met a year and a half ago and I laid out the plan," Kurz explains. "I told him how I intended to bring American Jewish players on Aliyah. How we needed to win three tournaments in eight weeks in order to reach the Olympic qualifiers. How we could do well if our pitching held up, and how we could reach the Olympic Games in Tokyo. He looked at me like I was crazy, but immediately bought in because he has that crazy streak as well." Combined with the addition of six former MLB players, Team Israel had never been stronger.

The roster includes local legend Jonathan de Marte, the 2010 and 2011 New York State Gatorade Player of the Year from Yorktown Heights. He played for the University of Richmond and for independent leagues before Holtz recruited him for Team Israel. "Eric calls and says, 'I've watched you play for years, but I had no idea you were Jewish!'" says de Marte, who calls Holtz "one of the most positive, uplifting people I've ever met. He reminded us every day what we were playing for, who we were playing for, how it's on the international stage with all these eyes watching us. Thanked us for the effort we were putting in. He makes you feel your worth."

Close to the Heart

Throughout their march to

the Olympics—Bulgaria, Lithuania, Germany, Italy—Holtz was flying back home to run Game On 13 and squeeze in his own game time. The training center has become a home base for Team Israel players like pitcher Gabe Cramer, a Stanford graduate who plays on an L.A. Dodgers' minor league team. Cramer says that for what Holtz lacked in professional baseball experience as a manager, he made up for in passion.

"Eric is very outspoken. He wears his emotions on his sleeve. He was able to rally the team and make us feel like we were all chasing a common goal."

Holtz wears his emotions elsewhere, too. In 2011, his mother's death prompted him to leave the apparel business and open Game On 13. "Her journey through pancreatic cancer is what made me change my career and do something I love every day, because you're not promised tomorrow." He pulls down his shirt collar to reveal two faces tattooed on his chest. "My parents are with me everywhere I go."

Philip and Rosalind Holtz were with their son as he led Team Israel to win after win in Europe. Holtz remembers how, "whenever the Israeli national anthem played, my hand was covering both of my parents." His voice breaks, his eyes mist up. "I was thinking of how proud they would be."

Echoes of History

In early September, Team Israel arrived in Bonn, Germany, for the European Championships days before the 47th anniversary of the 1972 Munich massacre, where Palestinian terrorists murdered 11 members of the Israeli Olympic team. They were the first Israeli athletic team to compete in Germany since 1976. One team member's grandparents had survived Auschwitz.

"The experience transcended baseball," Holtz recalls. "Looking

around and understanding that 70 years prior I would've been killed just for being there. To compete against Germany and beat them on their soil was kind of life changing for me." Israel won a close and emotional game 5-4, before appreciative German fans. Holtz holds up the game ball, the only one he kept.

With a gleam in his eye, Holtz recounts the pep talk he gave on the team bus in Italy, with the Olympic Games on the line. "I pride myself on being incredibly even keeled during the game. Now, pregame? Postgame? I'm a lunatic. Five minutes before we got to the stadium I stood up and said, 'Gentlemen, there's nothing left to say. If you take care of business today, we leave the hotel as a baseball team and we come back as Olympians.' And the bus erupted." They trounced South Africa 11-1.

Next Stop, Olympic Podium?

Holtz calls himself "a proud Jew, but I'm not religious. My religion is being good to people." He's fallen in love with Israel, and is thinking about living there someday, Traci willing. She is proud of her husband yet unfazed by recent events: "That's the way it's always been with Eric. You never know what's going to happen next." She attributes his success in part to his playful spirit. "He's still that boy on the street, ringing all the doorbells, saying, come on everybody, let's play!"

And doors are opening. Since winning a spot in the Tokyo Olympics, Holtz has met the Israeli ambassador and started a public speaking business, talking to synagogues and men's groups about baseball and life. The Jewish Broadcasting Service has invited him to a menorah-lighting for Chanukah. In November, Westchester Community College gave him an award for his contributions to its team. A few weeks ago, Peter Kurz gave him a call. "He said, 'Hey Holtz, you ever hear of the Washington Nationals?'" The World Series Champions had invited Team Israel to play a training game in Florida in February. With only six baseball teams playing in Tokyo, there's a good chance Holtz could add an Olympic medal to his memorabilia wall. Suddenly, that commercial needs a sequel.

"My whole life I've prided myself on being a good person and treating people the way I'd want to be treated. I think it worked in my favor this year, being hard-working and passionate and helping people set and achieve goals. I think some of mine came to fruition as well."

Writer Dana White lives in Ossining.

Putnam Civil Air Patrol Cadets Earn Promotions, Awards

By Major Peter Milano

Civil Air Patrol cadets from the Putnam County Composite Squadron were recognized for accomplishments over the past year during a November ceremony at the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services in Carmel.

Cadet Second Lt. Diego Gonzalez received the Air Force Association Cadet of the Year Award, the Gen. Billy Mitchell Award, Red Service Ribbon and the Rocketry Award. He also received a certificate of merit from the New York State Senate and Assembly.

Jordan Hardy, community liaison for State Sen. Peter Harcham, presented the Mitchell Award that honors the late general – an aviation pioneer, advocate and staunch supporter of an independent Air Force for America. The award is earned after completion of the first eight achievements in the Civil Air Patrol cadet program.

Only 15 percent of cadets receive this milestone award.

Additional awards and promotions include:

Nick Ahern was promoted to cadet chief master sergeant and awarded the Red Service Ribbon and Rocketry Award.

Eduardo Gonzalez was promoted to cadet chief master sergeant and awarded the Air Force Association NCO Cadet of the Year Award, Red Service Ribbon and Rocketry Award. He also received a certificate of merit from the NYS Senate and Assembly.

Jaime Virola was promoted to cadet chief master sergeant and appointed cadet commander, and received the Red Service



Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Evan Regan leads the color guard to open the awards ceremony.

Ribbon and Rocketry Award.

Steven Johnston was promoted to cadet senior master sergeant and appointed honor guard commander.

Evan Regan was promoted to cadet senior master sergeant and awarded as an outstanding member on a U.S. Air Force training exercise evaluation.

Nick De Benedictis was promoted to cadet master sergeant and received the Red Service Ribbon and Rocketry Award.

Maggie Mahoney was promoted to cadet master sergeant and presented with the Wright Brothers and Rocketry Awards.

Frank DiMicco was promoted to cadet technical sergeant and received the Red Service Ribbon, Wright Brothers and

Rocketry Awards.

James Sullivan was promoted to cadet staff sergeant and earned the Red Service Ribbon, Wright Brothers and Rocketry Awards.

Corrine Taylor was promoted to cadet staff sergeant and received the Wright Brothers Award.

Michael Pereira was promoted to senior airman and presented with the Red Service Ribbon.

Also, Dominic Kentish, Caramia Leggiero, Rocco Rapisarda and Tara Rothenberg were all promoted to cadet airman first class; Jacob Leggiero was promoted to cadet airman; and Liam Brady, Benjamin Gormley and Damien Karnes were welcomed as new cadet members

Major Elena MacDermant, squadron commander, noted the exemplary effort cadets put forth to achieve their goals, underscoring the commitment cadets showed to community service throughout the year.

"I am proud of all our cadets who worked so very hard the past year toward their awards and promotions," she said. "Our cadets are a reflection of Civil Air Patrol's underlying values of integrity, volunteer service, excellence and respect."

The Putnam County Composite Squadron has received multiple Civil Air Patrol Quality



Cadet Airman First Class Dominic Kentish with his family at the Four Winds Ceremony.



Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Jamie Virola, newly appointed squadron cadet commander.

Cadet Squadron Awards for commendable cadet programs performance. Members meet Fridays from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Paladin Center, 39 Seminary Hill Road, Carmel.

For more information, contact MacDermant at 845-216-5433 or elenamac@aol.com, or visit <https://ny033.cap.gov>.

Cold Spring Chamber Looks to Improve Trolley Service

continued from page 4

that integrate "static" (set locations and routes) and "real time" (trip updates, service alerts and other variable information) transit system information with Google Maps, providing that the system maintains a publicly accessible service and operates on fixed routes and schedules.

In addition, the committee has created a logo that it hopes the county will formally adopt to use as a brand for the trolley service.

The chamber's 2020 Cold Spring Trolley Proposal has been presented to the villages of Cold Spring and Nelsonville, several local businesses and cultural institutions that are impacted by the trolley, and Putnam County Transportation Supervisor Vinny Tamagna, with whom the committee has been working

with.

"He's been very cooperative and supportive of our efforts," said Starbuck of Tamagna. "The reception was pretty encouraging."

Starbuck said that with the proposal now in the county's hands, chamber members are waiting to see if the county will implement any suggestions in the proposal, and what the next steps are.

The committee said it believes that as the trolley transportation system improves, ridership and community acceptance should increase. With growing emphasis on using green technology and sustainable practices, the committee envisions transitioning to smaller, more efficient hybrid vehicles without losing the trolley's "vintage" design.

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Mahopac Students Carry On Turkey Bowl Tradition

Fifth-graders at Fulmar Road Elementary School in Mahopac used basic math facts and strategic thinking during Turkey Bowl XXV, which is an annual pre-Thanksgiving tradition.

PROVIDED PHOTOS



Audition for Annual 'Brewster's Got Talent'

The Brewster Education Foundation is seeking talent for its annual Brewster's Got Talent Show scheduled Friday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. at the high school's Performing Arts Center on Foggintown Road.

Bands, singers, dancers, jugglers, comedians and other talents are invited to participate. All ages are welcome.

If you have participated in the past, contact Joe Cavanagh at brewstermajors@yahoo.com by Dec. 13. New acts must submit to Cavanagh their 3- to 5-minute audition via email. Send a YouTube link no later than Dec. 10., and include the name of the act and type, the main contact person with an email address and phone number, short biography and photo.

Judges will include Brewster Education Foundation members and local theater and music enthusiasts.

All acts must include one or more individuals that live, work, or is a student or former student in the Brewster Central School District. There will be \$1,000 in prize money awarded, among an adult, high school and youth winner.

Each member of each act must sell 10 tickets. Tickets will be available to selected acts and the public in late December. All proceeds will benefit the school district.

Businesses interested in sponsoring the event are also being sought; contact Cavanagh at 914-483-6620 or the above email address for more information.



Don't Understand Millennials? Maybe Reading This Will Help



By Erin Maher

My name is Erin, and I have a confession.

I'm a millennial.

We get a bad rap. And why wouldn't we? Generally, born between 1981 and 1996, ours is the first generation capable of ordering a meal, finding a job, video-chatting with our general physician and securing a date all from the comfort of our bed. I get it – I'd be jealous of me, too.

We vape instead of smoke; love our boozy, bottomless brunches; and have become the champion of avocado toast, the ubiquitous millennial meal that we probably munch on as we lounge on our parents' couch, as it takes us longer to move out compared to generations past.

By now, we've trashed those participation trophies from our youth, as we must rid

ourselves of anything that doesn't "spark joy," under the pretense of cleaning maven/Netflix star Marie Kondo. And we'll probably dedicate a six-part Instagram post or an entire podcast episode on the process, as anything we do in life must be documented as a testament to our "personal brand."

We travel the world in lieu of regular careers, a marriage and a mortgage. Because a one-way plane ticket to a faraway land where Sallie Mae doesn't reside is much more affordable than scrounging together enough cash for the down payment on a house as we struggle to climb out of the oppressive weight of student debt.

Any inconveniences in life we attribute to that pesky mercury in retrograde. Especially if, Heaven forbid, our Amazon Prime packages arrive late or that restaurant we just ate at did not match its Yelp review.

Work for millennials is not just confined to the usual 9-to-5. Instead, work permeates into other facets of our life, and more often than not, our employer name can be found

in both our LinkedIn and Instagram bios, blurring the lines between professional and personal.

And now, I'd like to officially join that cohort. At 28 years old, I am what I'd like to call a "mid-level" millennial – and proud of it. And I think it's time I give all my Westchester neighbors a glimpse into the millennial milieu.

This is the first of eight monthly columns exploring various topics such as money, love, education, and other interests concerning the millennial generation. I am here to be the unwanted, and certainly unasked for, voice for my generation.

It's not like my fellow millennials need me, either, since we have upward of 280 characters to tweet out into the universe our most inane thoughts.

A bit about me: I'm a native of Westchester and a lifelong resident. I was born in White Plains Hospital and returned there, 27 years later, to get my appendix removed. What can

Millennial Matters

I say, I'm brand-loyal. I'm a former Valhalla Viking and can confidently say I led the Lady Vikings tennis team to no league, sectional or state titles. We lost, and we did it well.

I worked at the North White Plains branch of the North Castle Public Library throughout high school and college, but the Dewey Decimal System still eludes me. It was at the library where I once accidentally locked a member of the North Castle Police Department in the men's room. Consider this a belated "my bad."

So, welcome, my Westchester neighbors, to your crash-course in millennialism. Make sure to take notes – and, yes, of course you can use your iPad.

Erin Maher is a writer in Westchester County. Find more of her musings at www.erinmaherwrites.com, or follow her on Twitter and Instagram @erinmaherwrites.

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 Kent Public Library is seeking candidates to fill an opening on its Board of Trustees. Trustees must be Kent residents, at least 18 years of age, and have held a library card for at least one year prior to their appointment. They are expected to attend monthly meetings (currently the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.) If interested, send a resume and letter of interest to Carol Donick, Kent Public Library, 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY 10512.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

Visit Santa: 6 to 7 p.m. at Kent Public Library. Have your picture taken, make a craft (as supplies last) and snack on cookies and hot chocolate. For ages 10 and younger. Registration is required for most events, at kentlibrary.org or by calling 845-225-8585.

Virtual Reality Games: 3 p.m. at Mahopac Public Library. For ages 14 to 17. Play games on the Oculus Rifts. Registration is required at www.mahopaclibrary.org or by calling 845-628-2009.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

A Conversation with Sheriff Robert Langley Jr.: 7 p.m. at Patterson Library. What are you concerned about in your community? Bring your questions, concerns and feedback. To register, call 845-878-6121, ext. 10, or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Christmas Traditions: 11 a.m. at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel. Register at www.carmellibrary.org or by calling 845-225-2439.

Thursday, December 5

Still Life Watercolor: 10 a.m. to noon at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel. Also Dec. 12 and 19. Register at www.carmellibrary.org or by calling 845-225-2439.

Friday, Dec. 6

Mahjong: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Patterson Library. Also runs Dec. 13, 20 and 27. Participants will split themselves into tables of new players and experienced players. The library has two sets of Mahjong tiles; any participant with tiles are asked to bring them in case there are more than two tables ready to play. To register, call 845-878-6121, ext. 10, or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Tri-State IBM Retirees: Holiday luncheon at 12:20 p.m. at Frankie & Augie's, 3673 Hill Blvd., Jefferson Valley. Individual lunch choice and checks. The next regular meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 30. For more information, call Peg Ryan at 914-528-5916.

Saturday, Dec. 7

Breakfast with Santa: 9 to 11 a.m. at Patterson Recreation Center, 65 Front St.; use side entrance. Enjoy a pancake breakfast, crafts and a photo with Santa. Make reservations by Dec. 3 by calling 845-878-7200. Admission is \$3 for children 9 and younger, and \$6 for those 10 and older. www.pattersonrec.org.

Chili for the Chilly: 4:30 to 7 p.m. at Gilead Church, 9 Church St., Carmel. A drop-in meal with plenty of holiday cheer prior to the parade of lights. The cost is \$10 for adults and teens, or \$5 for children ages 3 to 12. Meal includes chili, salad, cornbread, drinks and dessert.

Christmas Bazaar: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 411 Route 6N (at Secor Road), Mahopac. Snow date is Dec. 14. Featuring crafts, baked goods, gift items, decorations, breakfast and lunch for sale. For more information email presby411@verizon.net or call 845-628-2365.

Holiday on the Lake: 8 a.m. pancake breakfast with Santa at the Carmel firehouse; 11 a.m. crafts, singalong and Santa visit at Reed Memorial Library; 3 p.m. crafts, face painting and kids activities at Carmel High School cafeteria; 4 to 5:30 p.m. caroling and hayrides with Santa,

chowder tasting, tree lighting and veterans' ceremony at Cornerstone Park; 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. live music on the steps of the Historic Courthouse; 6:15 p.m. Santa Stroll down Gleneida Avenue; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. parade of lights, followed by caroling and free donuts and hot cocoa, tree lighting and arrival of Santa. Find more information at www.carmelcivicassoc.org.

Holiday Concert: 1 p.m. at Patterson Library. Sing along to your favorite holiday songs with the Mad Hatter Chorus. For ages 16 and older. Register by calling 845-878-6121, ext. 10, or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Caroling & Tree Lighting: 5 p.m. starting at the Southeast Museum, 67 Main St., Brewster. Join carolers winding their way down Main Street to the tree across from the train station where there will be a countdown to the lighting of the new tree and the arrival of Santa. Carolers will be led by the Mad Hatters. Followed by refreshments at Brewster Village Hall, 50 Main St. Event preceded by a family magic show at 4:30 p.m. at the Southeast Museum. Free. www.southeastmuseum.org.

Bowling to Beat Cancer: 2:30, 3 and 5 p.m. at Spins Bowl, 23 Old Route 6, Carmel. Tickets are \$35 for one person, \$100 for three, \$160 for five, and \$300 for 10 people and must be purchased in advance by contacting Tara at TaraEacobacci@gmail.com or 914 552-1973. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

Sunday, Dec. 8

"A Christmas Carol: 2 p.m. at Mahopac Public Library. Armchair Actors present a reading of this classic story, accompanied by holiday songs. Registration is requested at www.mahopaclibrary.org or by calling 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Tree & Menorah Lighting: Dusk on the shore of Lake Gleneida, at Champlain Road of Route 311. The Lake Carmel Park District Advisory Board welcomes all Lake Carmel

residents to the annual event. Bring family and friends to enjoy meeting your neighbors, music, light refreshments, and games for the children while waiting for Santa to arrive by escort of the Kent Police Department.

Artist Reception: 2 to 4 p.m. at Mahopac Public Library. Opening reception in the Third Floor Gallery for an exhibit of paintings from the "Finktown" and "Wabi Sabi" series by Peekskill resident Robert Barthelmes. Meet the artist and enjoy light refreshments; show runs through Dec. 27.

Penny Social: 2 p.m. at Knights of Columbus, 10 Fair St., Carmel. Hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary. Doors open at 1 p.m., calling begins at 2 p.m. There will also be raffles for gift baskets, lottery prizes and 50/50. Proceeds go to local charities. For information, email ladieskocf@gmail.com.

Candle Lighting: 1 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, Route 6, Brewster. A Compassionate Friends Worldwide event for family and friends to remember a child or sibling who has died at any age from any cause. This non-denominational event includes readings, music, lighting of candles and readings of names. Those attending may bring a photo or small memento for the remembrance table. RSVP by calling 845-225-4076.

Monday, Dec. 9

IDA Meeting: 6 p.m. in the conference room at the Putnam County Industrial Development Agency office at 2 Route 164, Patterson. Governance Committee, Audit Committee and regular Board meeting.

"Krampus" 6:30 p.m. at Mahopac Public Library. Watch the horror film, rated PG-13 and 98 minutes long. Drop-in program.

Edible Holiday Houses: 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Brewster Public Library. Sculpt graham crackers, gumdrops and frosting into festive scenes and architectural masterpieces. All materials provided. For kids and teens age 5 and older. Register by calling 845-279-6421.

Following Wine from the Vineyard to Your Glass



By Nick Antonaccio

When we are enjoying a glass of wine, we invariably immerse our senses in its particular aromas, flavors, tannins and acid profiles. This is the crux of wine appreciation.

Yet while evaluating and assessing the wine at hand, we instinctively compare it to the same wine from a different vintage, or a different location within the region, or a different region. We discern the unique characteristics of a 2015 French pinot noir from a particular producer, as compared to one from the same producer but a previous vintage, as compared to one from a neighboring producer, or a producer beyond the next hill or a producer halfway around the globe.

The same grape, grown and vinified in differing environments, may produce a unique wine.

The traits and characteristics of a wine are as much attributable to nature as they are to natural science. In the hands of a talented winemaker, that 2015 French pinot noir you enjoy is the result of personal choices made in the vineyard and in the winery.

Wine is a living, breathing organism, and as such, each vintage reacts to the ever-changing climactic environment in the vineyard and the direct influence of the winemaker's application of natural and man-created processes and procedures.

It is this interplay between man and nature that attracts us to one producer over another.

The evolution of wine as it ages in bottle is dependent on a number of factors. The compounds of wine interact with each other throughout its life. The effect of oxygen, tannins, acids and other elements continually change our experience of wine. Should we consume a bottle early in its development? Or let it age for several years – even decades – to provide for the ideal interaction of these basic elements?

There are a number of factors at work that will potentially influence each bottle of wine. Even as you open and pour the nectar of the Gods, the evolution continues. Many wines improve when exposed to air; the aromas and flavors that have been tightly confined since bottling are released when they come in contact with oxygen.

But most do not; they begin to deteriorate quickly.

Wine, in its most elemental form, is a fruit derivative and is perishable. It's just a question of time before

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

oxygen accomplishes its dastardly deed – oxidation and spoilage.

This week we'll explore a wine's evolution from several additional influences.

Soil and climate affect the ripening and maturation of wine in varying manners.

Each has an impact on the final product. However, once bottled, the natural chemical compounds in the juice and skins of crushed and fermented grapes continue to influence the wine.

1. Esters contribute to a wine's aroma. These compounds are created during fermentation from the chemical reaction of alcohol, acid, yeast and hydrogen. For example, the concentration of esters will influence the signature aromas of cabernet sauvignon, in its younger years in bottle and then again as it changes in its later years. The black fruit aromas may dominate initially, but over time may dissipate and earthy aromas may come to the forefront.

Ester creation and evolution may differ greatly by vintage, vineyard or producer.

2. Phenolic compounds in the skins of red grapes affect the taste of wine throughout its life. They vary by grape, by fermentation method and by length of aging. One of the most influential is tannin. Simply described as imparting a bitter, mouth-puckering effect in a young wine, tannins change as they age. They combine with other tannin compounds, changing their chemical structure, losing their strength and thus creating a more

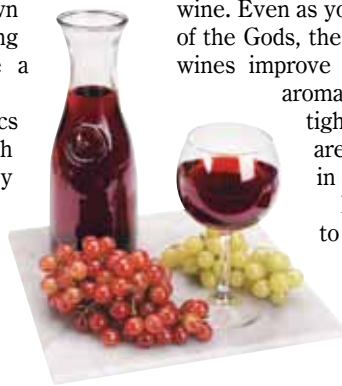
'Wine is a living, breathing organism'

supple, often silky taste.

Wine aging is a science. Chemical compounds influence the ageability of a bottle of wine and its evolution. Understanding their impact on a specific wine – and the artful influence of a winemaker – will greatly assist a consumer in finding a palate-pleasing wine.

We'll explore additional factors affecting the ageability and aging of wine in a future column.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For more than 25 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. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.



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Tracking the Evolution of the Closet in the Home

When my wife and I bought our first home in the suburbs, it was an historic structure built in 1734 and, indicative of the times, it had no closets.

A makeshift place for us to hang our clothes was in our bedroom where a clothes bar had been placed between the outcrop of the fireplace and the corner of the perpendicular wall.

Considering that in my younger days I was somewhat of a clothes horse, I was concerned. My wife took a larger linear closet, and in my smaller closet, I immediately doubled the hanging space by moving the clothes bar up as far as I could comfortably reach and installing a second clothes bar beneath that.

While today a closet is a little room where you hang your clothes, for much of its history it had served a different purpose entirely.

In the Middle Ages, having a bedroom was a rarity – even a bit of a privilege. Most ordinary people slept either on the floor of the great hall of the manor where they lived or in a single room that served multiple purposes as kitchen, living room, dining room and bedroom. Only very wealthy people had bedrooms, which were not just for sleeping but also for working and entertaining important guests.

The bedroom, at this time, was not a very



By Bill Primavera

private place, which created a need for another space, to be known as the closet.

By the end of the Medieval period, well-to-do homeowners began adding small rooms adjoining their bedrooms as a place to store treasured possessions, but it was also a place for prayer, reading and quiet contemplation. It was by far the most private place in the house, and to this day the word “closet” can carry a meaning of secrecy and privacy.

In Europe, the closet eventually disappeared as houses grew larger and other rooms afforded opportunities for privacy. But the Puritans took the idea of a closet with them to the New World, although their use of it by then was simply a place to store things.

In older houses, closets are not as prevalent; there might not even be one in every bedroom because people then had a lot less clothing. It was much more likely that clothes were stored in a chest or armoire rather than hanging them in a closet. In fact, the coat hanger wasn’t even invented until 1869. In that year, a shoulder-shaped hanger was invented by O. A. North of New Britain, Conn.

An employee of the Timberlake Wire and Novelty Company, Albert J. Parkhouse of Jackson, Mich., has also been credited with

the invention.

Today the closet is enjoying a bit of a resurgence, primarily because most Americans own (what would have been considered by the Puritans at least) enormous amounts of clothes. And hangers have diversified. There are shirt hangers – which should have divots or rubber-tipped ends to keep tank tops and silky fabrics from sliding off, pants hangers, sweater hangers, skirt hangers and suit jacket hangers.

The mania for luxury closets, such as those offered by California Closets, has even led to closets outfitted with sofas, vanities or desks, making them a sort of retiring room/

boudoir in addition to a storage space.

Which means these closets have, in fact, come completely full circle.

Bill Primavera, a realtor who writes, or a writer who sells real estate, is 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.

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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6				
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Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 19

Across

- Fed’s publisher
- High school course
- Rower
- Zodiac sign
- City map abbr.
- Really funny
- “Are you a man __ mouse?”
- Varied
- The name of this White Plains dentist office is its goal
- Hug and kiss, to a Brit
- High, in combinations
- Grouches
- Mahopac sports bar, ____ Pub
- Andes plant
- A cord worn around the neck to hold a knife or whistle
- __ be nice if ...
- Airline abbreviation
- Fall month, abbr.
- Deer’s mom
- Danson of ‘CSI’

Down

- Region of India
- Dance step
- Creature in “The Lord of the Rings”
- “Smart” guys
- Sphere
- “As the World Turns” actress
- Travel-guide listings

- French, melancholy
- Pocket-like structure
- Type of eucalyptus tree
- Elegant
- Topeka’s state
- Six-legged critter
- Gadget
- Exists
- Irritated
- Greek philosopher
- Arm bones
- French ‘king’
- Bug in a colony
- Salmon eggs
- Commonly rented item



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LEGALS

Town of Putnam Valley Special Meeting Agenda December 4, 2019 5 PM 1. Pledge of Allegiance 2. Set Public Hearing for De-icer Law as December 11th at the Fire House, 5 PM. 3. Waive permit and building fees for the Fire Department building. 4. Waive all Building fees for the

Kasper Property sale. 5. Authorize the Supervisor to waive the \$17.50 fee for marriage license only for active members of the armed forces.

MISCELLANEOUS

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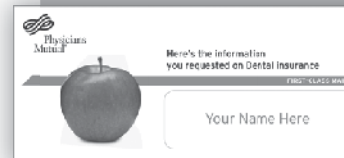
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Patterson Rotary Donates \$23,000 to Local Charities

The Patterson Rotary, a group comprised of approximately 40 local residents, once again extended its charitable giving arm in the fall to 28 nonprofit organizations, giving away approximately \$23,000 to help local communities and the world.

“It is an astounding number for such a small group,” said President Jason Maxwell. “Almost all of the groups we have provided funds to are local and help people in our communities. Being a part of this group is one of the highlights of my week.”

The organizations receiving funds cover the gamut, offering camp scholarships, local natural resource research, hospice care, veteran assistance and a homeless shelter.

Caren Mahar, who runs a camp for kids with a rare genetic disease, expressed her heartfelt thanks.

“We have had our ups and downs to try and support kids that have a rare disease,” she said. “There are almost no grant opportunities. Without the funds and generosity received from the Patterson Rotary, there would be no camp and all the kids we service would never have this experience we provide.”

Membership Chairperson Paula Hernandez also chimed in about this special group of people.

“You get up on a Tuesday at 7:30 in the morning for breakfast; you come into this energized room of people that want to change things right here in our community,” she said. “By the time you leave, you feel there is nothing this group can’t accomplish and it is one of the best days of your week.”

Rotary is always looking for new members, new ideas and new ways to help. If



PROVIDED PHOTO

Patterson Rotary members are joined by representatives from local nonprofits who received charitable donations from the group.

you would like to join this group, show up for breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Tuesdays (except the first Tuesday of each month) at the Patterson Recreation Center on Front Street. For more information, email PattersonRotaryNY@gmail.com.

Organizations that received funding include: Brewster Emergency Shelter Partnership, Camp Herrlich, Carmel Future Business Leaders of America, CoveCare Center, Friends of the Great Swamp,

Friends Network, George Fischer Middle School (for a scholarship for students to attend summer camp), Hospice Care of Putnam/Visiting Nurses, Julia’s Wings, Love Holds Life, Matthew’s Hearts of Hope, Matthew Paterson Elementary School (for a scholarship for students to attend summer camp), Patterson Community Church Food Pantry, Patterson Historical Society;

Also, Pawling Resource Center, Pegasus Therapeutic Riding – Financial Aid Fund

for Putnam County, Philanthro Festivals LLC, Polio Plus – World Polio Day, Putnam Community Action Partnership, Putnam Humane Society, Putnam County Land Trust, Putnam County Sheriff’s Cadets, Putnam Dental Missions, Putnam Ridge Christmas Gifts/Veterans Social Events, Shelter Box, Smith-Johnson Scout Cabin, Putnam/Northern Westchester Women’s Resource Center; and Xeroderma Pigmentosum – Camp Sundown.



PROVIDED PHOTOS

Having a ‘Whittle’ Fun With Soap

Inspired by a book they recently read, fourth-graders at CV Starr Elementary School in Brewster gathered outside with bars of soap, toothpicks and paper clips. Their mission was to whittle a tiger into the bar of soap, similar to the whittling of wood the main character did in Kate DiCamillo’s “The Tiger Rising.”

“The main character, Rob, whittles into wood,” explained Elena, one of the students in Danielle Recine’s class. “We’re whittling into soap because it’s safer.”

“Rob had a hard time allowing his feelings to rise up,” Recine said to the class. “When he whittled, it made him feel a lot better. Maybe this will be a calming technique for you too.”

The activity was an exercise in perseverance.

“The special trick is to do the body shape first, then go onto the head,” explained Logan Saldicco. “I’ve never done this before, but I think it looks good. I’m actually going to add something extra.”



(Above) Brewster fourth-graders show off their creations.

(Right) Students whittle their images into soap.

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