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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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## With Opinions Split, Marijuana Legalization Debated in Mahopac

By Neal Rentz

State legislation that would legalize the recreational use of marijuana has been hotly debated with no shortage of opinions during a forum last week in Mahopac.

The forum was hosted by state Sen. Peter Harckham, chairman of the Senate Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. Harckham, a Democrat, was joined by Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, a Republican, as opinions about legalization were split during the event, with speakers from Putnam and Westchester counties. About 50 people attended the Friday night forum at Mahopac High School.

Roger Green, executive director of the Hudson Valley chapter of National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), said he supported legalization. Green said in states that have legalized the recreational use of marijuana drug use by youths has not increased.

Legalizing marijuana would regulate

what is in it, Green said. Synthetic marijuana, which has posed dangers to users, could be barred if marijuana was regulated, he said.

Stephanie Marquesano, founder and president of the Harris Project, opposed marijuana legalization. Marquesano said she lost her 19-year-old son Harris as a result of co-occurring disorders in 2013. COD is the combination of one or more mental health challenges and substance misuse and/or addiction, according to the Harris Project Web site.

The human brain develops until the age of 25 and the use of marijuana could pose a danger to youths, Marquesano said. "This is a single request – slow down," she said state legislators should be told.

Another legalization opponent was former Carmel supervisor Frank Del Campo, who said Gov. Andrew Cuomo conveyed the state would receive \$300 million in tax revenue if recreational

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NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Roger Green, executive director of the Hudson Valley chapter of National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, spoke in favor of state legislation that legalize the recreational use of marijuana during a forum hosted by state Sen. Peter Harckham held on March 8 at Mahopac High School.

## Strong Backlash to Medicaid Cuts in Proposed State Budget

By Abigail Weinberg

More than 100 healthcare professionals gathered in Putnam Hospital Center Thursday to protest proposed cuts to Medicaid funding in New York State's 2019-2020 budget.

Members of the union 1199 Service Employees International Union, United Healthcare Workers East and the New York State Nurses Association teamed up with hospital administrators to voice their opposition to the possible \$550 million cut to Medicaid funding — the result of a shortfall in state revenue due in part to changes in the tax code. Because the federal government matches state Medicaid funding, the loss would total \$1.1 billion.

Peter Kelly, president of Putnam Hospital Center, estimates that the cuts could reduce Putnam hospital's budget by \$1 million or more.

"When you're talking about over a \$1 billion reduction in division of healthcare through Medicaid funding, that can be potentially devastating for so many hospitals in the state," he said.

A group of workers in hospital scrubs wielded signs that stated "Protect Putnam Hospital for the patients and community!"



ABIGAIL WEINBERG PHOTO

Healthcare workers at Putnam Hospital Center made it clear Medicaid cuts in the state budget would be devastating to patient care at a rally last week in Carmel.

and "No cuts! Protect our hospitals of the Hudson Valley."

"These cuts really cut us to the bone," Greg Speller, executive vice president of

1199SEIU, said. When Speller shouted to the protesters, "Are we gonna stand for that?" protesters roared, "No!"

Union members also signed a petition urging state lawmakers to restore the cuts.

"These are cuts to essential programs, and to basically — especially from our perspective — the staff in the building, which provide the critical care of people from this community," Speller said.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has argued the cuts are necessary because of a severe shortfall in revenue.

Nicole Lynch, a patient care technician, said the cuts would make it harder for her to do her job.

"Cuts, no matter where they are, all they do is hurt patient satisfaction," she said. "I can't take care of my patients, and nobody else can. This hospital depends on it. I depend on it, along with so many others."

Gayle Johnson, a respiratory therapist at the hospital, said that she refuses to let the proposed cuts damage the quality of care she provides to patients.

"The patients here are my family," she said. "We all put our patients first. Now, our lawmakers must make their constituents and the health of our

*continued on page 4*

# Nelsonville Election Fight Gets Heated

By David Propper

The only election left to be held in the month of March in Putnam County is shaping up to be a doozy as Nelsonville voters go to the polls next week to elect a mayor and fill two trustee seats.

Mayor Bill O'Neill is trying to fight off a challenge against village Trustee Chris Caccamise while three residents — incumbent Alan Potts, and challengers Dove Pedlosky and Lisa Mechaley — vie for two trustee seats on the board. In a village of less than 650 people, the race has turned into a spectacle with O'Neill pushing back hard against criticism of his performance during his two years in office. O'Neill and Potts are running as a team while Caccamise, Pedlosky and Mechaley have joined forces.

O'Neil, who is a former planning board chairman, said since becoming mayor, much work has been done. He said he's tackled traffic safety and has been leading the charge against two lawsuits—one by Homeland Towers and another by Verizon—because the village zoning board of appeals rejected a request to erect a tower near the Historic Cold Spring Cemetery.

O'Neill said putting a much needed sewer system together has also been critical and he wants to update the zoning code. O'Neill also boasted his strong



Mayor Bill O'Neill

relationship with county leadership.

He stressed only a full-time mayor can keep up with all the work required.

"I have the time now and skills to get the job done," O'Neill said.

But Caccamise argued that O'Neill has done a poor job of communicating with residents and being transparent. As someone who has been involved in politics on a larger scale and now locally, Caccamise said he sees potential to move the village forward.

"I see a lot of possibility for improvement in our village but I think we need to be able to get the villagers to the



Trustee Chris Caccamise

table more," he said. "They're really kept away from participation."

While Caccamise said O'Neill has some good ideas, he has done a poor job of communicating with people. The village must have a better working relationship with Cold Spring and Philipstown officials, rather than a combative one that O'Neill has occasionally had with officials from those other municipalities, Caccamise said.

A sewer system should be implemented, Caccamise said, and trails and roads need to be better managed and fixed up.

O'Neill actually voted to appoint

Caccamise to the board, he said, because he wanted someone newer to the village on the board. But he's been "extremely disappointed" with how he's performed as a trustee.

"He sat on the board month after month and never opened up his mouth," O'Neill said. "How he persuaded himself to run for mayor is beyond me."

"Bill doesn't actually know me," Caccamise said when asked to respond to O'Neill's assertion. "I'm not a big talker, I just like to get things done."

It's become tough to make decisions because O'Neill doesn't let information flow freely in the village, instead keeping things close to the vest, Caccamise said.

Both mayoral candidates fully acknowledge the race has become a nasty fight.

"I'm sad that this campaign is bringing out the worst in people," Caccamise said.

As for the three candidates for trustee spots, they have also quarreled over how well elected officials in the village have communicated with the rest of the public.

Mechaley said she is running because current village leadership identified a village owned wooded parcel less than 100 feet from several homes as a possible alternative for a cell tower site. She said

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## Your Achilles Tendon is Prone to Injury

Tips to get you back on your feet after a rupture...

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#### Q: What is an Achilles tendon rupture and what causes it?

**A:** When your calf muscles contract, your Achilles tendon tenses, allowing movement. As we age, its mechanical properties degrade and its blood supply diminishes. A sudden movement can result in a painful rupture — a complete tear through the tendon — and an inability to move your heel. Think of your Achilles tendon as silly putty. Pull it slowly and it elongates and stays intact; pull it fast and it may snap.

#### Q: This sounds painful, is there anything I can do to lower my risk?

**A:** Absolutely. Warm up before exercising to get your blood circulating; drink plenty of water to hydrate your muscles and tendons; and be aware of the temperature outside — strenuous activities in cooler temperatures put you at a higher risk. Your tendons become less elastic, less malleable and more prone to injury.

#### Q: What are symptoms of a rupture?

**A:** If it's a rupture, you'll likely experience one or more of these symptoms: the feeling of having been kicked in the back of the leg or heel; a popping sound when

the injury occurs; possible severe pain, with swelling near the heel; an inability to bend the foot downward or push off the injured leg when walking; an inability to stand on the toes of the injured leg.

#### Q: What should I do if I have symptoms?

**A:** If you have any of these symptoms, elevate and ice the leg to minimize swelling. If you're unable to bear weight you should go to the Emergency Room. If you can bear weight, make an appointment with an orthopedic surgeon for a diagnosis. If it's a rupture, I generally recommend surgery. Non-surgical management is associated with a higher risk of re-rupture and decreased strength. The goal of surgical treatment is to pull the frayed tendons together at the right length for optimal long-term function. This results in faster, more efficient tendon healing.

Regardless of the type of treatment, an Achilles tendon rupture requires a year or more to recover with full function. Consistent physical therapy will help strengthen your calf muscles and your Achilles tendon so you're able to resume all the activities you were doing before the rupture, without pain. The reported risk of re-rupture after surgical repair is about five percent.

# Odell Comes Out Strong Against Legalization of Marijuana

By David Propper

Putnam County's top elected official took a strong stand against the legalization of marijuana last week as County Executive MaryEllen Odell used her State of the County address to slam the proposal.

Odell railed against the possibility of New York State allowing marijuana use for adults over the age of 21 in front of more than 100 people inside the Putnam County Golf Course banquet hall last Thursday. She called the possible legalization the county's "newest enemy" during an address in which she dubbed 2019 the "Year of the Health Provider."

The Republican argued legalizing cannabis would lead to more harm than good.

Citing a study by the organization Smart Approach to Marijuana, Odell said when Colorado legalized cannabis in 2014, the windfall of revenue expected from it fell far short, with the state anticipating \$118 million in "pot taxes," but only getting about \$67 million. Another study indicated in Colorado that for every \$1 gained in tax revenue, about \$4.50 was spent to mitigate the effects of legalization.

Additionally, 69 percent of pot users admitted to driving while high in 2014 at least once, and 27 percent said they drove



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO  
County Executive MaryEllen Odell at last week's State of the County address.

stoned almost daily in Colorado. From 2013 to 2015, car accidents in Colorado increased by 40 percent and drivers in fatal accidents that tested positive for pot rose 145 percent from 2013 to 2016.

In also making her case against legalization, Odell brought up how it could lead to more youth marijuana

smoking. In Putnam's five schools systems, a survey of high school seniors revealed more of them currently smoke marijuana than cigarettes.

"The state is naïve to think a law that limits sales to only those 21 and over won't have negative impacts on children," Odell said.

She floated the idea of Putnam opting out of selling marijuana if it's passed at the state level, but it's not clear if counties are allowed to yet. Also if Putnam were to opt out, they would not enjoy any of the tax revenue from pot sales, Odell said, but might have to provide services to those residents that travel to other counties to buy the recreational drug and then have negative effects within Putnam borders.

"We're going to get stuck with the pain," Odell said.

She encouraged residents to contact state legislators about the proposal.

Odell also addressed the ongoing battle against drug addiction, which has been a focal point in the county the last several years. Odell noted that communities and states across the country are facing the same issue of drug addiction that Putnam is dealing with. There have been 71 overdose deaths in four years, Odell said. By comparison, there have only been 21 motor vehicle deaths over that same time frame.

"They're staggering and they're sad," Odell said of the number of overdose deaths.

In 2018, there were 151 overdose calls, in which 80 were transported, 38 were non-fatal and 18 resulted in death.

"I think everyone can agree, addiction, substance abuse and the opioid crisis is something we all are facing," Odell said. When she was in Washington, DC for a conference recently, curbing substance abuse was the top topic discussed among leaders across the country.

She noted there have been a number of public offices and non-profits locally that have worked together to beat back the drug crisis. In 2018, the county distributed 676 kits of a Narcan meant to reverse the side effects of opioids, Odell said. The county also joined a lawsuit against big pharmacy companies for their role in the opioid crisis and any money won would go right back toward the fight against drug addiction, Odell vowed.

The county fully backs Drug Treatment Court, run by county Judge James Reitz, which has resulted in 195 graduates from 2012-18, Odell said. There are also several medication take-back boxes in the county to dump prescription drugs, which in some cases can lead to harder and more

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# Strong Backlash to Medicaid Cuts in Proposed State Budget

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communities a priority.”

Kelly pointed out that the proposed cuts would affect urban medical centers, which have higher proportions of Medicaid patients, even more severely than suburban hospitals such as Putnam.

“It hurts everybody, but it really devastates some,” he said.

While the cuts may seem catastrophic, hospital workers are holding out hope that the state Legislature will amend its budget proposal. In addition to the rally at Putnam Hospital Center, the union is

preparing for another demonstration in Albany on March 19.

The April 1 budget deadline leaves the state Legislature with three weeks to make changes to Cuomo’s proposal.

“We have to do everything we can to stand together as health care providers to make sure that our elected officials understand the enormous and potentially life-threatening impact the proposed healthcare budget cuts will have on all New Yorkers,” Kelly said. “We’re looking forward to good judgment and common sense prevailing.”



ABIGAIL WEINBERG PHOTO

Speakers during the protest explained how the cuts to Medicaid could have negative effects not just at Putnam Hospital, but in hospitals across the state, specifically in lower income areas.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Unions came out in full force to protest a proposal in the state budget that Gov. Andrew Cuomo has said is necessary to curb spending.



ABIGAIL WEINBERG PHOTO

Members of the union 1199 Service Employees International Union, United Healthcare Workers East and the New York State Nurses Association teamed up with hospital administrators all joined forces last week.

## Odell Comes Out Strong Against Legalization of Marijuana

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dangerous drugs like heroin.

The county will be asking local dentist and doctor offices to give out Detera Drug Activation System that can help safely dispose of prescription drugs when

doctors hand out a prescription, Odell said.

The county has also pursued several outreach and awareness campaigns in recent years, including now partnering with 38 local pizza parlors to put a sticker

on a pizza box about the dangers of drug use.

The district attorney’s office, under the direction of Robert Tendy, has been using the ODMapping program that helps law enforcement identify overdoses, both fatal and non-fatal and identify any possible

clusters. The hope is these statistics will help develop a system of care for people that have overdosed Odell said.

“For Putnam County, it’s not about catch and punish, but identify and assist,” Odell said.

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*continued from page 2*

Pedlosky said the mayor and his allies on the board have been combative toward

All five candidates seem to agree that the future of the four-acre lot on Secor

Potts, the sole incumbent running for a trustee seat, said he, along with O'Neill and former trustee Thomas Robertson, created a "very ambitious agenda" to improve the quality of life in the village. During his first term, he said he helped negotiate a fair resolution between the village and Cold Spring over fire

Voting will take place at Nelsonville Village Hall Tuesday, March 19 from 6 a.m.-9 p.m.

The image displays four checkerboard patterns, each representing a different stage of perspective distortion. The patterns are arranged horizontally. From left to right, the first pattern is a standard 4x4 checkerboard. The second pattern shows a slight perspective distortion, with the squares appearing to recede into the distance. The third pattern shows a more pronounced perspective distortion, with the squares appearing to curve and warp. The fourth pattern shows the most extreme perspective distortion, with the squares appearing to be on a highly curved surface, creating a strong sense of depth and curvature.



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# With Opinions Split, Marijuana Legalization Debated in Mahopac

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marijuana use was legalized. But Cuomo did not take into account the added healthcare costs for those who experience difficulties as a result of marijuana use, Delcampo said.

Del Campo, who said he has been an educator for 34 years, said youths who use marijuana will move on to "more and more dangerous drugs."

Lewisboro Supervisor Peter Parsons said he supported legalization. If marijuana was not legalized New York State residents would be able to purchase

it from several surrounding states including Rhode Island, Massachusetts and potentially New Jersey, which is considering legalization, he said.

Pleasantville resident John Mueller, who opposed legalization, said his village recently passed legislation to ban the sale of marijuana in his village. Mueller said large corporations would get into the marijuana business if the substance was legalized. "It's not going to be mom and pop shops," he said.

Mount Pleasant Police Chief Paul Oliva said police chiefs from Westchester



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Stephanie Marquesano, founder and president of the Harris Project, opposed marijuana legalization during a forum held on March 8 at Mahopac High School.

County recently held a press conference to express their opposition to legalization. "It's based on public safety," Oliva said.

Unlike marijuana that was used in the past, "It's a lot more potent than it used to be," Oliva said.

**Wishing all my viewers a Happy St. Patrick's Day!**  
**Slainte!** -George Ondek

*May your neighbors respect you, trouble neglect you, The angels protect you, and heaven accept you.*

The following shows can be seen on Youtube by typing in "George Ondek" and the name of the guest or show theme.

1. Putnam County Executive Mary Ellen O'Dell
2. Music of the Fifties with singer Vinnie Coniglio
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## Business of the Week

By David Propper

Everyone is welcomed at Golf on 6 Indoor Golf Center.

There are people that come in just to have some fun with friends and more serious players that want to sharpen their techniques. With three golf stimulators and a friendly atmosphere, the Route 6 location has quickly made a name for itself among golfing circles.

"You see all different types of players," co-owner Dino Odoardi said.

The store opened Feb. 1, though for the first ten days people from the community were welcomed to come in and try the virtual courses free of charge. On Feb. 11, the first official day for business, customers kept flocking in to get some swings in while the weather is still too frigid and snowy to play outside. Odoardi, Jerry Delbene and Joe Vittoria, three buddies that play golf together, own the business.

The trio decided to open up the golf center when they had trouble leasing the space out after a dollar store decided to close down. With Delbene and Vittoria owning the gas station next door, the three business partners decided to take the plunge and turn the space into a high tech man cave/she-shed.

Delbene, a Yorktown resident, described it as a spur of the moment decision to open up a type of place that's



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

From left to right: Dino Odoardi, Joe Vittoria, and Jerry Delbene all own Golf on 6 together in Mahopac.

nowhere else in Putnam. It took about six months to get everything completed, including getting three golf stimulators in. The indoor golf center will be adding a clubhouse where customers can grab a beer or some food in the coming weeks.

The three men, all graduates of Manhattan College, have known each other for decades, with Vittoria and Delbene first cousins and Odoardi and Vittoria brother-in-laws. The three have bonded over golf, playing on local courses for 20 years.

"We're hackers," Vittoria, a Yorktown resident, said. "We just go out and have fun."

The center is filling a void that was left empty in the region when an outdoor driving range on the Somers/Mahopac border was closed a couple years ago to make room for a housing and commercial development.

"For the area it was something that was

missing," Delbene said.

While this is the busy season for indoor golf because of the weather, once it gets warmer, Vittoria said the hope is to attract people that work during the day and can't get to a course before sunset. Vittoria also wants to get people that watch golf but have never really tried playing it and are intimidated to go out on a real course.

"We're hoping to be that niche where they come, relax, hit a ball, no one is going to judge them," Vittoria said. "So that's another group we're going to try to reach out to."

Odoardi, a North Salem resident, said the center is also trying to attract younger golfers by reaching out to local school systems to have their golf teams try out the stimulators.

Private lessons are also offered with the tutelage of a golf pro.

And despite the general complications that come with owning a business, the three have a solid relationship. Even when asked who the best golfer of the three men was, there was no hesitation it was Odoardi.

"We all get along, which is the key thing," Joe said.

*Golf on 6 is located at 250 Route 6 in Mahopac and its phone number is 845-533-5335.*



The sleek indoor golf facility is located along Route 6.



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## Letter to the Editor

# Take Advantage of Drug Take Back Program

As many of us are given medication to stay healthy or to get better, we must be aware that old prescriptions that were not used and are not needed should be properly disposed of. Currently, we face the issue of young adults turning to unused opioids prescribed by a doctor to get high. In an effort

to curb opioid misuse, I would like to draw your attention to a new statewide

program known as the "Drug Take Back Act," which ensures that all pharmacies offer on-site collection or pre-paid envelopes for New Yorkers to dispose of unused medication.

Opioid addiction often begins with the misuse of prescription painkillers legitimately obtained from a doctor, or by using someone else's prescription. The Drug Take Back program creates a

way for people to easily cut the supply of opioids in their home after they are no longer medically necessary.

The rate of opioid overdose deaths doubled in New York State between 2010 and 2015. These are not just grim statistics - they represent real lives being lost and families torn apart. One of the most effective ways we can combat this devastating crisis is to stop addiction

before it even starts, and that's what this drug take back program will help do. I encourage you all to take advantage of this critical program now in effect throughout New York State.

Sincerely,  
Sandy Galef  
NYS Assemblywoman

## Recent Intoxicated/Drug Impaired Driver Arrests

The Putnam County Sheriff's Office reports recent Intoxicated/Drug Impaired Driver arrests.

On February 15, at approximately 8:51 p.m., Deputy Michael Neuner, of the Emergency Services Unit, responded to a Putnam 911 dispatch, to a Property Damage Auto Accident, in the area of State Route 6 and Stoneleigh Avenue, in the Town of Carmel. Upon arrival, Neuner investigated the accident. Neuner's accident investigation revealed that one of the drivers involved in the accident, Lisa Laureano, age 52, of Southeast, was allegedly intoxicated. When Neuner attempted to place Laureano under arrest she initially struggled but with the assistance of Deputy Yeager she was handcuffed and transported to the Putnam County Correctional Facility for arrest processing. Laureano was processed and charged with Driving While Intoxicated, (Misdemeanor), and Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated-for having a Blood Alcohol Content of .18

of 1% or more (Misdemeanor). Laureano was arraigned by the Honorable Justice Thomas Jacobellis of the Town of Carmel Justice Court. Laureano was released on her own recognizance by Justice Jacobellis. Laureano is scheduled to appear in the Town of Carmel Justice Court, at a future date and time.

On February 21, at approximately 9:30 a.m., Deputy David Rampolla and Deputy Kevin Osika responded to a two car Personal Injury Auto Accident, on State Route 312, in the Town of Southeast. Upon arrival, the deputies investigated the accident scene. The investigation revealed that one of the drivers involved in the accident, Dylan Stefanelli, age 19, of New Fairfield, Connecticut, was allegedly impaired by drugs. The investigation also revealed that Stefanelli was in possession of Saboxone and two Hypodermic Syringes, for which he did not have a prescription. Stefanelli was placed under arrest by Osika. EMSTAR Ambulance transported Stefanelli to a local hospital,

to treat minor injuries which he sustained during the accident. He was treated and released the same day. After Stefanelli was discharged from the hospital, Osika transported Stefanelli to the Putnam County Correctional Facility for arrest processing. Stefanelli was processed and charged with Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, (Misdemeanor), Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Seventh Degree (Misdemeanor), and Possession of a Hypodermic Instrument (Misdemeanor). Stefanelli was arraigned by the Honorable Justice Joseph Spofford of the Town of Carmel Justice Court, on behalf of the Town of Southeast Justice Court. Justice Spofford remanded Stefanelli to the Putnam County Correctional Facility on \$1,000 cash-bail/bail-bond. Stefanelli posted bail and is scheduled to appear in the Town of Southeast Justice Court, at future date and time.

On February 25, at approximately 10:29 a.m., Deputy Kevin Radovich and

Deputy Randel Hill were dispatched to the area of Hollowbrook Road and Oscawana Lake Road, located in the Town of Putnam Valley, for a report of an erratic driver. The deputies canvassed the area for the vehicle. While in the area, the deputies observed a vehicle commit traffic violations on Oscawana Lake Road. When the deputies attempted a traffic stop of that vehicle the driver turned into the Miranda Plaza, struck a curb and subsequently backed up and struck the Patrol car. A subsequent investigation revealed that the vehicle's driver, Mark Decker, age 47, of Lake Peekskill, was allegedly impaired by drugs. Radovich placed Decker under arrest for Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs (Misdemeanor). He was arraigned at the Town of Putnam Valley Justice Court, by the Honorable Justice Louis DiCarlo. Justice DiCarlo released Decker on his own recognizance, pending a future court date in the Town of Putnam Valley Justice Court.

## Humanity is Theme of Group Show at Mahopac Library

What are the qualities that make us human? How do we depict Humanity in art today, and how do we visually communicate values central to human rights? These are the questions that forty-five artists grappled with when they responded to a call for entries for a show entitled "HUMANITY". This exhibit, currently on display in the Third Floor Gallery at Mahopac Library, will remain on view through March 22 and can be visited during regular Library hours.

Artwork submitted for the Humanity show featured a wide variety of media: photography, fabric art, painting, mixed media, watercolor, pyrography, ceramic tile, hemp and beads, hand drawn computer art, minerals painted on slate, graphite, book art, and a video produced by Mahopac staff member Louis Crisci ("Building a Better World"). The submissions also elicited a range of content and emotion: from Andrea Miller's collage entitled "No Human is Illegal" to Ocean Morisset's photograph - "I Will Not Live in Fear"; and from Erica Rushin's three-dimensional painted wooden 'coffins'

entitled "A Silent Moment", to David Pond's photograph called "Reverence"; all of the work addressed the theme of Humanity in a profound and meaningful way.

John Hamburger's photographs mounted on reclaimed wine crates speak to feelings of despair, loneliness, and solitary meditation. Linda Stern's fabric art piece, "Mother and Child" beautifully conveys the bond between parent and child. Many of the photographs in the show capture a poignant and intimate moment including Lavinia Wiggins' image of an individual combing through garbage bins outside a local coffee house ("In Pursuit of..."), and Marcelino Pagan's "Tender Connection" which features a young boy feeding pigeons in a park.

Nancy Fauld's photographs feature desolate traces of humanity in her images of abandoned warehouses and factories ("Andrea Worked Here" and "Men at Work"). "Hillside Dwellings" by Randy Calderone depicts a crowded and endless cityscape that appears devoid of people; and David Lovelace uses minerals to paint handprints on a small slab of slate - a

reference to ancient cave dwellers in his piece entitled "Humanity".

The artists participating in this show reside in Putnam, Westchester, Dutchess, and Bronx counties; although they all depict the theme of Humanity in different ways, they successfully expressed what it means to be human, to reflect on the

human condition - our history, our creativity, the environment and times in which we live, and the way that we relate to those who touch our lives.

For further information about exhibits at Mahopac Library, please visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

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# Obituaries

## Eva M. Mattina

Eva M. Mattina of Mahopac, died peacefully on Sunday, March 3, with her loving family by her side. She was born at home in Manhattan on March 28, 1929, the daughter of Gaspare and Maria (Bruno) Brusco. Eva was an administrative assistant working at both Queens College and Baruch College from which she retired. She moved to Mahopac from Queens six years ago to live with her daughter, Bernadette and family. Eva loved Manhattan and would spend her days in the city frequently. Eva was a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. She was devoted to the Blessed Mother and prayed the Rosary daily. She attended the William Koehler Senior Center. Eva loved animals, especially cats. She was an avid reader and loved music, especially the music of Andre Boccelli and Ricky Martin. Eva was young at heart. She loved to be around young people and she loved to be with her family. She was very grateful for the love and care they showed her in her later years. She is survived by her daughter, Bernadette Matta and her husband, Orlando of Mahopac and her three grandsons, Joseph, Nicholas and Thomas. She was predeceased by her husband, Charles J. Mattina on April 28, 1986.

## Don Nice

Don Nice, an internationally known artist, a football player, golfer, environmentalist, husband, loving and loyal friend, teacher and father, died on Monday, March 4 at Hudson Valley Hospital after a long illness. He was 86. Don and his family lived in Garrison for over 50 years in an early 1800's house on Indian Brook Road. Don painted the Hudson Valley and the confluence of natural forces: he had a life-long love affair with Nature, its animals, fish and birds and the iconic objects found in it. Don was never without a pen or brush: painting, sketching, observing: whether in the Rocky Mountains, the Adirondack woods, in Africa or the Caribbean, in Europe or closer at home in church, on a dock, or on his porch overlooking Constitution Marsh. Nice had his first exhibition at age 14 in a local California library, through the encouragement of his aunt and grandfather, both painters, and went on to have one-man shows throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, Belgium, England, Holland and elsewhere. He had more than 20 solo shows in New York City and his work entered the permanent collections of more than 70 museums, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum, the Century Association, and the Natural Resources Defense Council. In 2018, Don was the recipient of the Lee Krasner award in recognition of his distinguished lifetime of artistic achievement. Nice was raised in

the San Joaquin Valley in California. A cowhand and horse wrangler, he worked on ranches, and guided mule-pack trips in the Sierra Nevada. He attended the University of Southern California on a football scholarship, he played football and ran track during the day and took art classes at night. On a Fulbright in Europe the influence of Oskar Kokoschka, and later by DeKooning and Pollock, helped develop his thinking and innovative devotion to representational imagery. While in Paris, he met a beautiful fashion model who became the love of his life: Sandra. They married for over 58 years until her death in 2017. In 1964, Nice earned a Master of Fine Art from Yale University and taught for over 20 years at the School of Visual Arts, becoming its Dean and inspiring many aspiring artists. After moving to Garrison in 1969, Nice's work focused on earth, fire, wind and water as power symbols of his own connection with the environment which in turn held great pertinence for the growing environmental movement. Don Nice's personal integrity and his warm and loving relationships with people were ever manifest in his life and his work. He was a man of grace and graciousness, with a deep generosity of spirit. Don is survived by his son, Brian Nice, his daughter Leslie Heanue and his grandchildren, Samantha, Macdara, and Devin Heanue, and Sarah Margaret Nice. A memorial service will be held at St. Philip's Church 1101 Route 9D in Garrison, on Sunday April 28 at 3 p.m.

## Harold P. Howard

Harold P. Howard, a longtime resident of Mahopac Falls, died peacefully on Friday, March 8, with his loving family by his side. Harold was born on January 6, 1938 in the Bronx where he graduated high school. He was a School Bus Driver in the Mahopac Central School District, retiring in 2009. Following retirement from the school district, he went to work at Stop & Shop in Somers until his second retirement two years ago. Harold always liked to keep busy. He was a life member of the Mahopac Falls Volunteer Fire Department. He attended the Senior Drop-In held at the Mahopac Fire House on Wednesdays and the Mahopac Seniors at the William Koehler Center. He is survived by his daughter, Theresa Keller and her husband, Rich of Glen Allen, VA, his sons, Christopher of Cortlandt Manor, Edward and his wife, Joanne of New Milford, CT and Mark and his wife, Sally of Myrtle Beach, SC, his grandchildren, Danielle, Andrew, Brittany, Matthew and Andrew and his sister-in-law, Elvira Howard. He was predeceased by his wife, Bernadette and his brother, Raymond.

## Robert M. Bauer

Robert M. Bauer, Sr., 82, of Mahopac, died peacefully on March 8, with his loving

family by his side. Robert (Bob) was born February 1, 1937 in Manhattan to the late Victor and Otilie (Wild) Bauer. On May 7, 1960 he married Loretta (Lorie) Neumayr. Bob graduated from White Plains H.S. in 1954. While attending the NYS College of Forestry at Syracuse University, he helped design the White House Rose Garden in Washington D.C. In 1958, he graduated as a landscape architect and went on to own a very successful landscape construction corporation. Later, Bob worked for the County of Putnam as the Deputy Highway Superintendent. He also worked for the Village of Irvington, as the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works where he was given the key to the city upon retirement in 2000. One of Bob's passions was playing golf. He and his wife were members of the Mahopac Golf Club for over 30 years, and they enjoyed the Friday Night League at Pehquenakonck Country Club in North Salem. Bob is survived by his loving wife, Lorie, of 58 years; daughter Carolyn Bauer and her husband Chris of Oak Hill; daughter Lisa Ellingham and her husband Craig of Cortlandt Manor; son Robert, Jr. and his wife Susan of Mahopac. He is also survived by his brother Victor Bauer, his wife Sonia and their family of New Jersey. Bob has 6 grandchildren: Brianna, Noelle, Kristen, Eric, Max, and Sophia; and 2 great grandchildren: Julia and Thomas, plus one on the way. Friends and family are welcome to attend a memorial visitation on Tuesday, March 12th from 2-4 & 7-9 PM at the Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home in Mahopac, NY. A prayer service will begin at 8:30 PM during the visitation. Private interment of ashes will take place in the Spring. In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions in Bob's name to the National Kidney Foundation, [www.kidney.org](http://www.kidney.org).

## Joseph D'Erasmio

Joseph D'Erasmio, age 75 of Brewster, died peacefully from an illness on March 8, while he was surrounded by family. Joe was born in Bari, Italy on February 21, 1944 and was one of the late Fedele and Antonia D'Erasmio's four children. He is predeceased by his sister Maria Rella and survived by both his sister Vita Rella and brother Vito D'Erasmio. Joe moved to the Bronx, New York in 1960 with determination to have a rich life. He worked as a chef and lead singer in an Italian-American band as he paid tuition for Beauty School. Later on, Joe graduated from CBS Beauty School in the Bronx, New York in 1965 and built a successful career in hairdressing for 50 years. He was the owner of Peppino of Italy Beauty Salon in Yonkers, from 1970 to 2004. Joe later worked part time as a hairdresser at Luke's Hair Design, then La Moda in Somers, New York. Joe is survived by the love of his life, Maria D'Erasmio, who he has been married to for 49 years. He met

his wife one night where he and his band were performing. Joe began raising his family with Maria in New Rochelle, in 1969 and later moved his family to North Salem, in 1984. He is also survived by his three children: son Philip D'Erasmio and wife Shira, daughter Annette Milne and husband Greg, and son Anthony D'Erasmio. Joe is also survived by his grandchildren Madison Milne, William Milne, and Dylan D'Erasmio. Joe's love for gardening, cooking, and music will never be forgotten. His memory will live on as his stories are told by family and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. A viewing will be held from 4 p.m.-8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, at Beecher' Funeral Home in Brewster, New York. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, March 13, at 10 a.m. at Saint Joseph's Church in Somers.

## Christopher Dentato

Christopher ("Christie") William Dentato of Putnam Ridge, Brewster, formerly of Stormville, Eastchester, and the Bronx, died on March 9, at the age of 94. Born in northeastern Ohio in 1924, Christie lived for a short time on a farm in that state, and for a short time on a farm in western New Jersey, before being raised and schooled in the Bronx. Christie attended Cardinal Hayes High School (Class of 1943), and, shortly after graduation, became a member of the U.S. Army, proudly serving his country's interests, defending our freedom and our way of life until war's end, in overseas battles as a Corporal in the 398th Anti-Aircraft Artillery/Automatic Weapons Battalion. An Army Truck Driver, Rifle Expert and Ground Aircraft Observer, Christie earned Medals for Good Conduct, European Service and World War II Victory. Christie married his childhood sweetheart, the late Filomena Dentato (nee Festa), in 1948, and the two were inseparable until Filomena's passing in 1998. The couple particularly enjoyed brief summertime vacations, nearly annually, in Lake George, NY. Christie was a life-long employee of the supermarket industry, managing a number of stores in New York City and Westchester County, first for Safeway, and later for Daitch Shopwell, in a career that lasted from the 1950s until Christie's retirement in the late 1980s. Christie was a big fan of the Yankees, the Mets, the football Giants, the Jets, and NYRA horse racing. A warm, kind-hearted, mild-mannered gentleman, and an amazingly patient and caring husband and father, one of Christie's favorite expressions was, "It never hurts to be nice!" In addition to his loving wife, Christie was predeceased by his parents, two brothers (Nick and Louis) and two sisters (Mary and Sylvia). Christie is survived by his loving sons,

*continued on page 15*

# Disrupted Presentation Turned Into Learning Experience

After an assembly on healthy relationships by the One Love Foundation was disrupted earlier this month, Senior Class President Argetim Krasniqi led the charge to get the presentation's full message out to fellow students.

"The purpose of the assembly was to highlight unhealthy relationships and how they play a role in our lives," Krasniqi said. "They wanted to shine a light on the topic and show how you can help yourself or recognize that you might be the cause of an unhealthy relationship."

Due to student disruptions, the presenter wasn't able to finish. Krasniqi was bothered by it. "It's something a lot of us see in our own homes with parents, family, friends and even ourselves," he explained. "I was moved by the topic because I've seen enough unhealthy relationships in my life. I knew I wasn't alone."

After a conversation and some encouragement from teachers Al Mazzotta and Shannon Riley, Krasniqi decided he wanted to do something.

"I wanted to make this topic more important and to really get the point across," he said. "I also wanted to let students talk to other students in a safe environment about a sensitive topic that's not often talked about."

Once Krasniqi made up his mind, a student-led assembly came together very quickly.

"Within thirty minutes of the assembly, Tim reached out to Nikki Horler and said that he was very bothered by what occurred," said Assistant Principal Danielle Trippodo. Horler gave Krasniqi until the end of the week — which was about 36 hours — to pull it together.

"Nikki reached out to some of our mental health counselors, our health and physical education teachers," Trippodo said. "And within an hour and a half Tim had already started putting together a presentation and shared it with her."



PROVIDED PHOTOS



A panel including students, teachers, and the School Resource Officer Deputy Matt Kraisky was assembled. Krasniqi organized talking points and secured microphones and tables.

"With the help of teachers and

students, I was able to organize the junior and senior classes into separate assemblies where we were able to talk in an open manner," Krasniqi said. "We even let students in the audience talk and ask the panel questions."

"Everyone involved was in complete agreement that it was so important to have the assembly student led," Trippodo said. "We felt students would be most receptive of communication coming from peers."

By all accounts, the assembly was a big success. Horler started it off by going over proper etiquette and protocols during a presentation and then turned everything over to the panel.

"It was so well received by our students that were in the audience," Trippodo said. "Seeing them so engaged with the students up on the panel was amazing."

According to Trippodo, students in the audience asked candid, appropriate questions. "Some of the students were asking incredible questions like 'What do you do if you observe some really unhealthy behaviors with one of your friend's relationships?' or 'What's the first thing you do to get out of an unhealthy or abusive relationship?'"

Most questions were answered by students on the panel from their perspective. Staff interjected when appropriate with specific advice and resources.

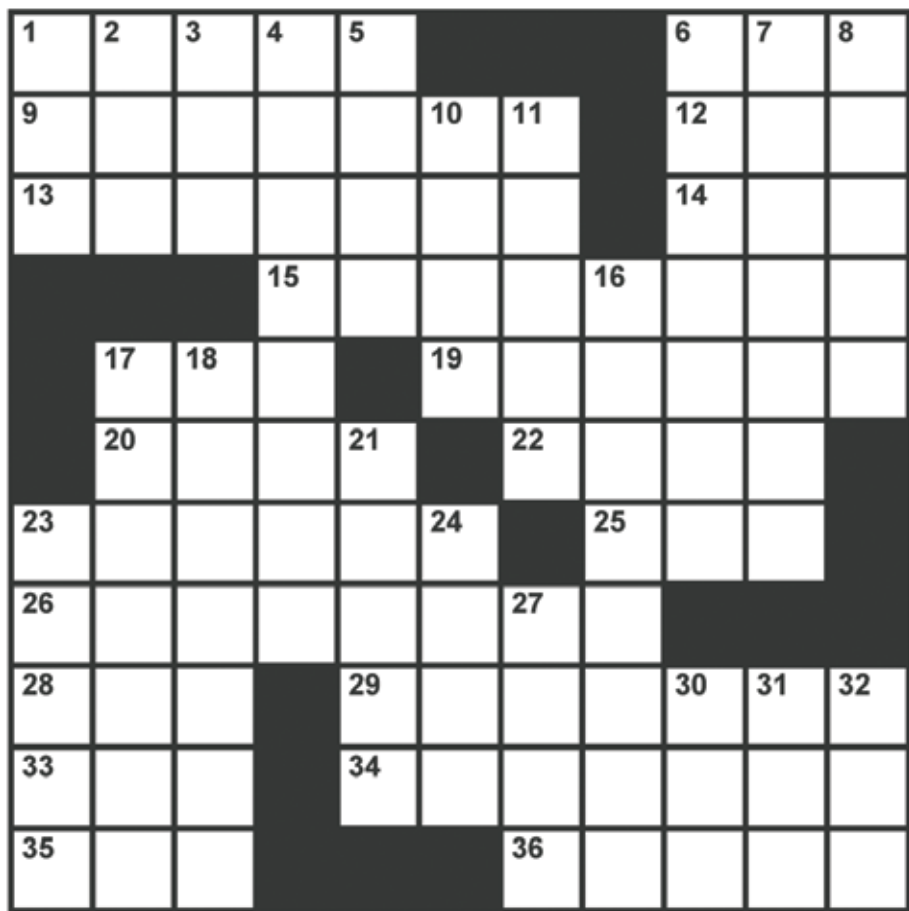
Trippodo praised all of the students and staff members who presented, but she was especially mesmerized by the students. "I can't even begin to tell you how impressed I was with the students. I had to keep reminding myself that these are high school students because they presented themselves in such a professional, mature, genuine way. It was outstanding. I don't think I blinked. I was that engaged in the presentation."

Krasniqi seemed to look at it as a civic responsibility. "Overall it was a success," he said. "I feel as though a good deed was done to help us grow as a community and understand each other a little more."

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Henning-Piedmonte was incredibly proud. "A bad situation was transformed by student leaders. It's such a great story."



# Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 15

- Across
1. Indian language

6. Baking need, abbr.

9. High up in an oak, for example

12. Soul singer Corinne Bailey \_\_\_\_

13. Westchester parkway or Mt. Kisco health club

14. BBC rival

15. Outdid

17. Cry on the set

19. Shoulder scarves

20. Beauty products provider

22. Start the betting

23. Without commitment to buy

25. 116 is one

26. Intellectuals

28. Coolness

29. Abolitionist Stowe or Pleasantville funeral home, \_\_\_\_ Flooks

33. Dictionary abbr.

34. Commentator

35. Two-time U.S. Open champ

36. Tent made of animal skins
- Down
1. City map abbr.

2. Retirement plan

3. Unprecedented

4. Garage band recording

5. "Put \_\_\_\_ writing"

6. The Three Amigos, e.g.

7. Cotton fabrics that feel like satin

8. Dangles

10. Arena shouts

11. Disney dog

16. Ice cream treat

17. Like an ice-cream holder

18. Overcoats

21. \_\_\_\_ buena, evergreen plant

23. Pizza ingredient

24. Battle of Normandy city

27. Suckling spot

30. Triangle part, abbr.

31. Ending for Japan

32. Numbered hwy.

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## DEP Offering Watershed Internships to College Students

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recently encouraged college students to apply for one of 17 summer internships at its offices in the Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountains. These paid internships are in fields related to science and engineering. Those accepted into the summer internship program will have the chance to work alongside DEP scientists, engineers, planners and other professionals who operate, maintain and protect the largest municipal water supply in the United States.

The intern positions available include summer work associated with water quality laboratories, water supply operations, drinking water treatment, environmental health and safety, stream management, wastewater and stormwater projects, water system modeling and research, and geology. The internships are located at DEP's offices in Delaware, Greene, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. In addition to the watershed positions, DEP also offers many internship opportunities at its offices in New York City.

Information about these internships, including online applications, can be found on the DEP website at: [http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/job\\_opportunities/internships.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/job_opportunities/internships.shtml).

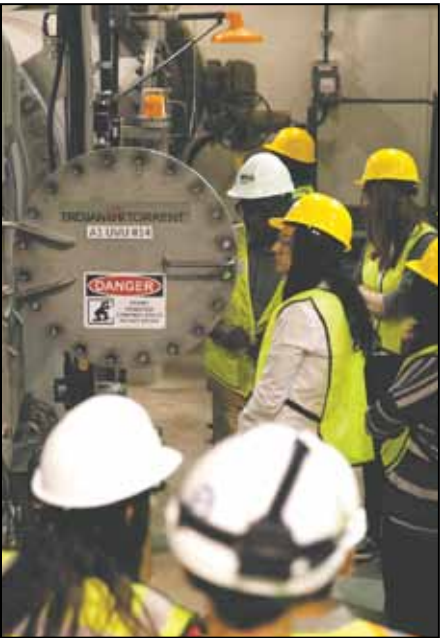
Prospective interns are encouraged to



carefully read the qualifications for each job to determine whether they meet the enrollment, GPA, coursework and other requirements. Candidates must submit applications by April 5.

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing more than 1 billion gallons of high-quality water each day to more than 9.6 million New Yorkers. This includes more than 70 upstate communities and institutions in Ulster, Orange, Putnam and Westchester counties who consume an average of 110 million total gallons of drinking water daily from New York City's water supply system. This water comes from the Catskill, Delaware,

and Croton watersheds that extend more than 125 miles from the City, and the system comprises 19 reservoirs, three controlled lakes, and numerous tunnels and aqueducts. DEP has nearly 6,000 employees, including almost 1,000 scientists, engineers, surveyors, watershed maintainers and other professionals in the watershed. In addition to its \$70 million payroll and \$168.9 million in annual taxes paid in upstate counties, DEP has invested more than \$1.7 billion in watershed protection programs—including partnership organizations such as the Catskill Watershed Corporation and the Watershed Agricultural



Council—that support sustainable farming practices, environmentally sensitive economic development, and local economic opportunity. In addition, DEP has a robust capital program with \$19.4 billion in investments planned over the next decade that will create up to 3,000 construction-related jobs per year. For more information, visit [nyc.gov/dep](http://nyc.gov/dep), like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/nycwater](https://www.facebook.com/nycwater), or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/nycwater](https://twitter.com/nycwater).

# St. Patrick's Day Parade 2019 Photos



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ASSEMBLYMAN BYRNES FACEBOOK PAGE PHOTO

# My Lifelong Attempt to Ban Foam Rubber From My Life

Perhaps you've never thought much about foam rubber as a stuffing for furnishings but I for one have never cared for it. In fact, I've always had a kind of aversion to it.

My last experience with foam rubber was a few years ago when the wingback chair in my office literally fell apart. I ordered a replacement from Macy's from a newspaper ad. I didn't think about the materials used when I ordered it, but it seemed to have an appealing shape, considering that it was a lounge in disguise. When it arrived, however, I was disappointed to find that its arms, seat and back were upholstered in foam rubber.

Well, I thought, it is not as though I bought the throne from King Tut's tomb. It was relatively inexpensive and I'd just live with it until I found a replacement with better materials before banishing this rubbery edition to a guest room or donating to Goodwill.

In the meantime, every time I sat to watch television, I never felt quite settled in place, but rather suspended by those little air pockets tucked within

the foam. This was not a new issue with me.

I still remember the joy and excitement when my mother came home one day with several tremendous paper bags filled with new pillows for the whole family.

"And they're foam rubber!" she exclaimed, as though modern science had finally reached our home.

I was only seven years old and had little to say about what things surrounded me in our home. But one thing was certain: when I lay my head on foam rubber, I couldn't sleep. I simply

tossed the pillow aside and lay flat on the mattress.

Mother insisted that I try to get used to it, but after a week of tossing my new pillow aside, feisty fellow that I was, she finally relented and bought me a feather down pillow. My older brother and sister knew from that point that I was the "different" sibling in the family, and I rather liked the distinction.

The only time I delighted in the use of foam rubber is when I ordered it as the mat beneath the wall-to-wall carpeting in the central hallway of my former

home, the result of a somewhat arbitrary decision. The red carpeting already had a deep rich pile and, combined with the mat, visitors literally sank into it as they walked across it, all but losing their balance in the process, especially women in heels.

I couldn't swear to it because I'm not the testing lab of Consumer Reports, but I suspect that its use extended the life of that carpeting by many years.

Where did this foamy substance come from, I wondered, and how long had it been around? I learned that the pioneering work was done in Germany by Otto Bayer in 1937. I'm sure that many people who enjoy bouncing around on it are grateful for his work.

As for me, I'm an old-fashioned guy who likes sofa pillows filled with goose feathers and goose down that have to be plumped up again after I sit on them. I remember the time when an exceptionally large fellow came to our home and sat on our camelback loveseat and all but squashed its all-down pillow to a flat pancake. When he rose to leave the room, unconsciously I went to the chair to fluff up the pillow again.

While down pillows are the highest quality filling that can be purchased, they are also the most expensive. They must have down proof ticking

under the upholstery fabric to prevent feathers from poking through and, still, sometimes they do. Also, there is the constant re-fluffing required. However, down used with other materials, such as polyester fiber, is a good option.

To be fair, there are foams labeled high resilient that are more comfortable and reduce that droopy, saggy feel that can come over time. It even comes with an "indentation force deflection" number ranging from 6 to 45 that will tell you in advance the softness or firmness of the upholstered piece.

The foam stuffing in that wingback chair, unfortunately, must have been on the lower end of the scale. When I replaced the chair, I bought one with a pillow that needed to be plumped up after each seating, one that, when I plopped down on it, stayed plopped. To me, this represents those little things in life that don't cost much but make you feel that you're living in luxury.

*Bill Primavera is a Residential and Commercial Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate, as well as a publicist and journalist who writes regularly as The Home Guru. For questions about home maintenance or to engage him to help you buy or sell a home, call him directly at 914-522-2076.*



By Bill Primavera

## Navigating the Corkage Fee Policy of Restaurants



By Nick Antonaccio

Restaurant wine lists, crafted by today's wine-focused chefs and highly-educated sommeliers, can be the epitome of the overall experience at a restaurant. Many restaurants painstakingly pair food and wine offerings and invest significantly in well-stocked wine cellars.

However, when celebrating a special occasion or trying to impress a potential business client, a diner may prefer to bring his or her personal bottle(s) of wine to a restaurant. Once looked upon with disdain by restaurant owners, many now offer this accommodation – typically at a charge.

This "corkage fee" is not necessarily an arbitrary policy to discourage diners inclined to enjoy a personal bottle of wine. Rather there is an underlying business logic. Restaurants typically work on tight profit margins. The food portion of a meal yields a thin margin. It is common knowledge that overall profitability

lies in the beverage menu. Few are willing to forego the profit in marking up wines to double or triple their cost.

Many restaurants have adopted corkage fee policies in recognition of exceptional dining occasions. In most instances, the fee is designed to cover the cost of the service required to present and serve a consumer's personal bottle of wine. Some peg their fee to the cost of a lower-priced bottle on their wine list.

Here are several guidelines to follow if you have been saving a special bottle of wine to celebrate with a restaurant meal.

1. Always call ahead to inquire of the restaurant's corkage policy. Rather than simply show up with that special bottle, calling is always preferable in order to avoid a potentially uncomfortable situation.

2. If you plan to order additional bottles from the wine list during the meal, let the restaurant know this when inquiring. This will partially compensate the restaurant for the loss of a sale; many will waive their corkage fee.

3. Don't embarrass yourself by showing

*You Heard It Through the Grapevine*

up with a wine that's already on the wine list. Check the online list ahead of your visit or call ahead to double-check.

4. Don't further embarrass yourself by showing up with a wine of less value than wines at the low end of the wine list. A restaurant is accommodating you on the premise that this is a special occasion or a special bottle. That \$12 bottle you had with pizza last Friday is an insult to the wine director who has meticulously crafted a wine list that represents the chef's carefully prepared and paired menu.

5. Share your good fortune. Offer the sommelier and waiter a taste of that special wine. It will usually guarantee the same stellar service you would receive if you were ordering an expensive bottle from the list. These folks work on the generosity of customers' tips. A shared taste of a memorable wine helps assuage their monetary loss.

6. Speaking of tipping, remember that wine service is the same regardless of the source of the wine. I usually tip based on the average price of a wine that I would otherwise have ordered from the wine list if it were not a special occasion.

While most restaurants have a corkage fee policy, in New York City at least 50 restaurants have blanket or one-night

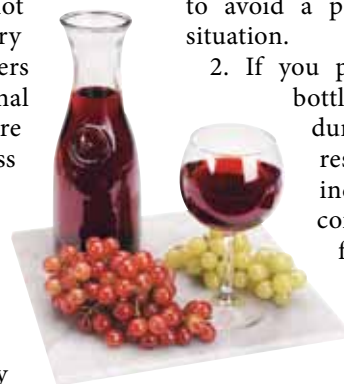
corkage fee waivers. Certain restaurants charge no fee but limit the number of bottles allowed. Others charge minimal fees between \$10 and \$25.

Still others charge according to their stature. If you're intent on bringing your own bottle to the highly acclaimed Eleven Madison Park, be prepared to pay \$65. Per Se charges a whopping \$150 per bottle for the privilege of not ordering wines from one of the most expensive wine lists in Manhattan (not to mention their \$355 per person tasting menus).

Several Westchester restaurants have reasonable corkage fee policies, although they are rarely publicized or in print. Call ahead. On certain nights, corkage fee policies may be waived. Mediterraneo in Pleasantville waives its fee every Tuesday night.

In 2019, there is no reason to compromise on a wine to accompany your meal. Avail yourself of knowledgeable sommeliers' wine lists – or simply BYOB.

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



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## AUCTIONS

**CHEMUNG COUNTY** Tax Foreclosed Real Estate Auction: 100+ Lots. Wednesday, March 27, 2019. Registration: 7:00AM; Auction Start: 9:00AM. Holiday Inn Elmira-Riverview, 760 E. Water Street, Elmira, NY 14901 Pre-Auction Bidder Seminar: Thursday, March 14, 2019, at 6:00PM. For complete information, visit [www.auctionsinternational.com](http://www.auctionsinternational.com) or call 800-536-1401, Ext. 110

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## EVENTS

**Watkins-Montour Rotary Club's ANTIQUE SHOW & COLLECTIBLES SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019 9:30am to 3:00pm** Clute Park Community Center, Rt. 414, Watkins Glen 32 DEALERS

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NEW-CASTLE BUILDING INSPECTORS, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/7/2019. Office Location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at: **P.O. Box 99 Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THUMBS UP! ENTERPRISES, LLC.** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 1/24/19. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to principal business address: **420 South Riverside Ave, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520. Purpose: Youtube Channel.**

**FORMATION OF ETNA CAPITAL ADVISORS LLC FILED WITH THE SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 1/25/19.** Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to **Richard Imprescia, 1821 Casey Ct., Mohegan Lake, NY 10547. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DISTINGUISHED DESTINATIONS LLC** Filed with SSNY on 9/12/2018, Office: Westchester County, SSNY Designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **c/o Elli Travel Group, 1967 Palmer Avenue, Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF REID & LEIVA MULTISERVICES LLC** Filed with SSNY on 01/14/2019, Office Westchester, SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **506 Van Cortlandt Park Ave, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**LEGAL NOTICE: NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the Limited Liability Company is Palmyra Holdings LLC. The Articles of Organization were filed with the New York Secretary of State on February 19, 2019. The office of the Company is located in the County of Westchester, State of New York. The New York Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the Company upon whom process in any action or proceeding against it may be served, and the address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of process in any action or proceeding against the Company served upon him or her is **110 Marquand Avenue, Bronxville, New York 10708. The purpose of the business is any lawful business.**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a license, pending for beer, wine and cider has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, wine and cider at retail in a restaurant under the Alcohol Beverage Control Law at **30 Wheeler Ave., Pleasantville, NY in Westchester County for on premises consumption. Potayto Potayto LLC DBA FALAFEL TACO**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIFE GIVERS TRANSPORTATION, LLC** Filed with SSNY on 1/22/19. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **75 Bruce Ave., Apt. 4F, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF E&L BY DESIGN, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with NYS Dept. of State on 1/9/2019. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, **2020 Maple Hill Street, Suite # 902, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF UP-STATE STUMP GRINDING, LLC.** Arts.

*continued on next page*

## CANADIAN RIVER CRUISING

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continued from previous page

of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/10/2019. Of-  
fice location: Westchester County. SSNY  
designated as agent of LLC upon whom  
process against it may be served. SSNY  
shall mail process to the LLC: **19 Terrace  
Ave., Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: any  
lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PRO-  
TO DOG SERVICES, LLC.** Arts of Org  
filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on  
09/13/2010. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY  
designated as agent of the LLC upon  
whom process against it may be served  
and shall mail process to the principal  
business address: **1707 EAGLE BAY DR  
OSSINING, NY 10562. Purpose: any  
lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DSG  
HOME RENOVATIONS LLC.** Articles  
of Organization filed with the Secy of  
State of NY (SSNY) on 11/08/2018. Of-  
fice location is Westchester County. SSNY  
designated as agent of the LLC upon  
whom process against it may be served.  
SSNY shall mail process to: **6 East Sidney  
Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Pur-  
pose: any lawful act or activity.**

**TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY WORK  
SESSION MARCH 13, 2019 6 PM**  
**Pledge of Allegiance Public Hearing**  
Acceptance of NRI Maps and Comments

**1.Leprechaun resolution** 2.**Appoint** An-  
thony Cotone and Gregory Kroohs as  
temporary Groundskeeper/Recreation  
Assistants. 3.**Award** open-top container  
bid. 4.**Request** by Peter Belefant to at-  
tend the NY Planning Federation Con-  
ference on April 28, 2019. 5.**Request** by  
Tom Carano to attend the NY Planning  
Federation Conference on April 28t, 2019.  
6.**Authorize** Supervisor to sign Badey &  
Watson contract agreement. 7.**Discussion**  
LP Pump Station *Audit of monthly bills*

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS** Notice is hereby  
given that the Town of Putnam Valley will  
receive requests for proposals and pub-  
licly open sealed bids for the contract:  
**2019 GRASS CUTTING** at the Town  
Clerk's Office located at the Town Hall,  
265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley,  
New York 10579 at the following date and  
time: **Date: April 1, 2019 Time: 2:00 PM**  
The contract Specifications will be avail-  
able at the Town Clerk's Office at the  
Town Hall. Contractors must carry statu-  
tory Disability and Worker's Compensa-  
tion Insurance and Liability Insurance of  
not less than \$300,000 naming the Town  
of Putnam Valley as additionally insured.  
Insurance policies are to be filed with the  
Town Clerk. Contractors must carry a  
performance bond if their Bid is \$25,000.  
or more. Contractors are to provide all  
supplies and equipment. Bids must be  
submitted in the form attached within  
a sealed envelope showing the Bidder's

name and clearly marked with the proj-  
ect name "2019 Grass Cutting Bid." Each  
Bidder must furnish with the Bid a prop-  
erly executed non-collusion affidavit. The  
Town of Putnam Valley reserves the right  
to reject any and all bids, to waive any in-  
formalities therein, or to award the Con-  
tract to any Bidder if deemed in the best  
interest of the Town to do so.

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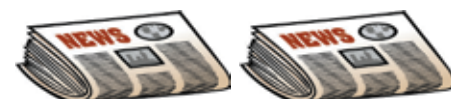
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## Crossword Answers



## Obituaries

continued from page 9

Christopher, Jr. (and his wife, Dawn)  
and William (and his wife, Gisella), as  
well as his sister, Emily, and several step-  
grandchildren, in-laws, cousins, nephews,  
nieces, grandnephews, grandnieces and  
friends. Visitation for Christie will be  
held on Tuesday, March 12, from 4 p.m.-

8 p.m., at the Cargain Funeral Homes  
Inc, 10 Fowler Ave, Carmel. A Mass  
of Christian Burial will take place on  
Wednesday, March 13, 10:30 a.m. at Our  
Lady Of The Lake Church, Lake Carmel,  
Following Mass, interment at Holy Mount  
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# 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](mailto:nikki@theexaminernews.com)*

**Mahopac Public Library Seeks Board Candidates:** On Tuesday, June 4, 2019, Mahopac Public Library will hold elections for four (4) open seats on its Board of Trustees. Individuals interested in running for election to the Library Board must be residents of the Mahopac Central School District. Petitions for the nomination of candidates are available at the Library beginning Tuesday, March 5. The petitions must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District, shall state the name and residence of each signer, state the name and residence of the candidate, and must be filed with the Election Clerk of the Library no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1. The election will be held at Mahopac Public Library on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. Three candidates will each serve a three-year term on the Board, beginning July 1.

**Reservations are now being taken for our annual Spring Dinner Dance/Veterans Benefit.** This year's event will take place on Saturday, April 13, starting at 6 p.m. Our own Chef Steve and his staff, will be preparing a complete Bavarian Schnitzel dinner. Music will be provided by the ever popular Joe Unger. The cost remains only \$50 per person. Since this affair is open to the public, and is limited to the first 100 paid people, reservations are now being taken by calling Anna Schramek at (845) 224-5855. Remember, all net proceeds generated by this dinner dance go to a worthwhile veterans organization. This year the money will benefit the Dwyer Vet to Vet Program of Putnam County. This organization helps local veterans in time of need.

**First Presbyterian Church of Mahopac:** 2019 Lenten Non-Food Drive For Putnam CAP Please help supply CAP (Putnam Community in Action) families with non-food, essential living items. First Presbyterian Church of

Mahopac 411 Route 6N Mahopac, For more information please call 845-628-2365 or email [presby411@verizon.net](mailto:presby411@verizon.net) Tax Donation receipts available upon request. Thank you for helping us help CAP!

**CareMount Medical will be hosting free, educational Medicare meetings.** Each seminar will discuss the basics of Medicare and your coverage options. If you need help understanding your Medicare options, come join us at a meeting! You'll learn about the choices you have such as: Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, Original Medicare, Medicare Supplement Insurance Plans, Medicare Advantage Plans Carmel, NY Nelson's Tavern at Centennial Golf Club (185 John Simpson Road, Carmel) 3-19, 4-16, 5-21 (10 a.m. - noon)

**Putnam Valley Monthly Commission Meeting:** Monday February 28th at 7 p.m. Parks and rec office 265 Oscawana Lake Road FMI: 845-526-3292.

**4-H Youth Development Opportunities:** For more information on programs contact Cornell Cooperative Ext. of Putnam County at <http://putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events> or email [dla25@cornell.edu](mailto:dla25@cornell.edu) or call 845 278-6738

Summer Camp At The Boces Tech Center At Yorktown: Programs for students 12-15 years old. Four one-week sessions in July. Registration is now open. Visit the website for more information or call Gerry Battista at 914 248-2220.

**Annual Seedling Sale:** Annual sale of trees, shrubs, groundcovers, ferns, flowers, grasses and more. Sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension and Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District. Order online at [www.putnamcountyny.com/keepputnamgreen](http://www.putnamcountyny.com/keepputnamgreen) Selections must be ordered by Wednesday, March 27. Pick-up is scheduled for Friday, April 26 and/or Saturday, April 27 at the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park. For info call 845

878-7918.

**Tickets on Sale Now: Murder Mystery Dinner:** The Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting a Murder Mystery Dinner on Saturday, March 9th 2019 at the Knights of Columbus, 10 Fair Street, Carmel. Cost of admission is \$50 - Includes Show - Buffet Dinner & 1 drink. This is a prepaid event (due by 3/1). Tables of 8 \$5 discount per person. Starts at 6:30pm. Proceeds to local charities. Questions & Payment Info [ladieskofc@gmail.com](mailto:ladieskofc@gmail.com)

**Carmel Recreation:** For more information on programs or Summer Camp please visit [www.carmelny.org/recreation](http://www.carmelny.org/recreation) or call 845 628-7888. Spring Class registration will begin on March 4 at 9 a.m. Go to [www.carmelny.org/recreation](http://www.carmelny.org/recreation) and register online. Summer class registration including kayaking and SUP for ages 13 and up will begin on May 1 at 9 a.m.

**Seeking Gardens:** Brewster-Carmel Garden Club Seeks Gardens Our Club is seeking fine gardens for our first showcase tour scheduled Saturday, June 8th from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. If you are willing to share your fine garden with the public for a worthy cause, please contact our Brewster-Carmel Garden Club Fine Gardening Tour Chair, Mary Bomba at 845-363-1796, or email at [mbomba111@gmail.com](mailto:mbomba111@gmail.com). We would love to include your fine garden on our exclusive tour.

Putnam Valley Central School District Board of Education: The full 2018-19 meeting list and the proposed meeting agendas can be found on the district website at: [www.pvcsd.org](http://www.pvcsd.org) prior to each meeting.

**The Putnam County Computer Learning Center Class Registration:** The first Thursday of every month from 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. A description of the classes can be found at: [www.putnamrsvp.com/clc/](http://www.putnamrsvp.com/clc/) Registration must be in person. FMI, call Judy Kolt (845)-277-5422

**Seeking Vendors:** Brewster Music Festival: For more information and to apply for a booth space, call (845) 363 - 8330, email [brewstermusicfestival@gmail.com](mailto:brewstermusicfestival@gmail.com) or visit: [www.BrewsterMusicFestival.com](http://www.BrewsterMusicFestival.com).

**Ongoing Fridays:** AARP Tax Help through April 12: The Patterson Library is hosting free AARP Tax Help for Seniors and other qualifying individuals. AARP volunteer tax aid counselors will be available by appointment on Fridays from 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Appointments will be filled on a first come-first served basis beginning January 15, appointments can be made by calling 211 or 845-878-6121 x15.

**Wednesday, March 13**

Movie Matinee: A Star is Born This

month's Movie Matinee 1 p.m. Patterson Library is "A Star is Born." Follow the inspiring story of Jackson Maine, an accomplished musician who meets and falls in love with a struggling artist named Ally. With Jackson's help, Ally's career takes off causing their relationship to struggle with the new found fame. Rated R: for language throughout, some sexuality/nudity and substance abuse. Starring: Lady Gaga, Bradley Cooper and Sam Elliot. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

**What is Ayurvedic Medicine?** 7 p.m. Feeling out of sorts? Learn how Ayurveda epitomizes a true body-mind approach to health and wellness. Dr. Somesh N. Kaushik will explain how Ayurveda defines health as a balance of body, mind, and spirit and how imbalance results in disharmony and may cause illness. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

**Thursday, March 14**

**PI Day:** Reed Library, 10:30 a.m. Everything you wanted to know about mathematics but were afraid to ask! Join us to learn about Pi and eat Pie! A delicious learning opportunity presented by John DeJulio. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

**Get into the spirit of St. Patrick's Day** with a little Irish music and dancing! 6:30 p.m. The Desmond-Fish Library is delighted to once again host the dancers of the Kelly-Oster School of Irish Dance. This event is free and everyone is invited to attend. The Desmond-Fish Library is located at 472 Route 403 (at the corner of 9D) in Garrison. For more information about any of the library's upcoming programs, please visit [www.desmondfishlibrary.org](http://www.desmondfishlibrary.org)

**Opioid Overdose Training at Mahopac Public Library:** 12:30 p.m., Arms Acres, in collaboration with Putnam Communities That Care Coalition, and Drug Crisis in Our Backyard presents: Life Saving Overdose Prevention 2019. In this workshop you will learn: what you need and want to know about NARCAN, how to recognize a heroin/opioid overdose, best practices in the event of an overdose, and local Stats and trends. Presenters: Arms Acres: Tammy Bender & Naura Slivinsky, Putnam Communities That Care Coalition: Marie O'Connor, and Drug Crisis in our Backyard: Susan Salomone. Limited enrollment; registration is required. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100



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# The Putnam Examiner Sports

Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

## Method to the Madness!



NIKKI GALLAGHER PHOTOS

## Mahopac Marches Toward Tournament Time



A raucous basketball crowd enjoyed an afternoon of March Madness at Mahopac High School last Saturday where members of the community featured basketball games between its three elementary schools — Austin Road, Fulmar Road and Lakeview — organized by the Mahopac High School Student Athletic Council. Students in all three elementary schools have been exposed to Math Basketball activities and challenges throughout the course of the school year, which promote a fervor for math while encouraging students to think critically and creatively while incorporating basketball, cheerleading (inset photo) and band (inset) into the mix, culminating in their own March Madness for students and teachers alike. Funds raised from admission fees and concessions help to fray the costs for the annual senior citizens prom that the Athletic Council holds every year.

# Ossining Wins 8th-Straight NYS Region 1 Hoops Title

## Troy-Bound Pride Head North in Search of 5th State Title

By Tony Pinciario & Ray Gallagher

As a seventh-grader in Ossining's Anne M. Dorner Middle School, Kailah Harris was a fan on her initial trip to the New York State Girls Basketball Championship Final Four in Troy, NY.

"Jaida and I went up with her parents to watch her older sister, Madison, play," recalled Harris. "The atmosphere there made us think what would it be like to play there and make a name for ourselves when we were older."

Little did Harris know that going to Troy (Hudson Valley Community College) would become an annual mid-March trip for her, her family, her teammates and the better part of Ossining Nation.

Harris and Strippoli were promoted to varsity as eighth-graders and made the first of what has become five consecutive state final fours for the senior class and eight straight for the program.

Ossining earned a berth following a 67-34 victory over Section 9 titlist Monroe-Woodbury in a Class AA state regional final, Saturday.

Pride All-American Aubrey Griffin scored a game-high 37 points and added 10 rebounds and Harris finished with 20

points and 11 boards. Strippoli had seven steals to get them going in transition.

The state-ranked (No.6) Pride (20-6) will play No.13 Longwood (Section 11), Saturday, March 16, 12:30 p.m. at Hudson Valley Community College. Longwood dethroned two-time defending state champion Baldwin in the Long Island Class AA final. The other semifinal is No.9 West Genesee (Section 3) vs. No.4 Bishop Kearney (Section 5), 2:15 p.m. The semifinal winners play for the title, Sunday, 11:45 a.m.

Prior to defeating Monroe-Woodbury, Ossining opened state play with a 98-58 derailment of the Elmira Express (Section 4) in the seniors' last home game. Since a three-game losing streak in January, Ossining has won 12 of its last 13 and six in a row.

During this final-four run, Ossining has won four state titles (2013-16) and a federation championship (2016). The Pride have been runners-up the past two years. Overall, the Pride are 11-3 in the final four.

"We went from being a fan the previous year to playing in the state final four in eighth grade and to experience that, being on the court and having our families watch us, made us want it even more," said the Seton Hall-bound Harris.

Even though Ossining is making its eighth consecutive state final four, the Pride don't take it for granted.

"It says a lot about everyone involved

in the program that puts in the effort and the pride we have in our program," Harris said. "This is what Coach Ricci and his staff have built. It's been amazing, but people forget how hard it is to get there every year. It's not something we take lightly."

Ossining had the good fortune of beginning state play with a home game and Griffin and Harris made it memorable. Griffin rang up 37 points and added 10 rebounds, six steals and four assists. Harris registered 30 points and grabbed five rebounds. Fellow senior Strippoli had a career-high 17 assists.

"It was amazing, playing our last home game on our court," Harris said.

"Everyone was able to contribute and we had a great all-around game."

One day later, Strippoli joined Harris and Griffin as a Con-Ed Scholar-Athlete recipient. Harris noted the trio had motivation to earn the award.

"This is something we've always talked about," Harris said. "The Con-Ed winners have plaques in front of gym and we pass them every day. We're all best friends and to all win it in one year makes us all proud. People forget that we are students first and athletes second. We pride ourselves on excelling in the classroom, first. Coach Ricci wouldn't take anything less."

Even with the program's success, Ricci is prouder of his players' academic success, having produced 12 Con Ed winners over the years, including a veritable who's who of Ossining hoops, including Whitney McDonald, Alex Venuto, Saniya Chong, Danielle Gervacio, Jalay Knowles, Stefanie Svoboda, Abby Squirell, Shadeen Samuels, Andra Espinoza-Hunter, Harris, Griffin and Strippoli.



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Ossining senior Captain Aubrey Griffin makes her patented step-back move for two of her game-high 37 in win over Elmira.



Ossining junior wing Julia Iorio spots up for three of her 12 points in Pride's 98-58 NYS Class AA playoff win over Elmira.



Ossining senior Captain G Jaida Strippoli led the charge with 17 assists in NYS Class AA playoff win over Elmira.



Ossining senior Captain Kailah Harris goes up for two of her 30 points in Pride's 98-58 NYS Class AA playoff win over Elmira.

*continued on next page*

## Sports

# Oops, Ossining Did It Again, Pride Reach NYS Final 4



By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports  
Editor

Oops, they did it again (credit Brittany Spears, yo!).

The surreal situation surrounding the Ossining High girls' basketball program continues to escalate, perpetuate and exacerbate after Coach Dan Ricci's Pride advanced to their eighth-straight NYSPHSAA Class AA Final 4 after

last Saturday's 68-34 win over Section 9 champion Monroe-Woodbury and last Tuesday's 98-58 trouncing of Section 4 champ Elmira.

The state-ranked (No.6) Pride (20-6) are not some cut-and-paste version of the former seven Ossining teams to advance to Troy, the stomping grounds of the state tournament at Hudson

Valley Community College, yet they are cut from the same mold and now head back to the Final 4 in Troy, where they will look to reach their seventh-straight state final and the fifth state title in school history. Ossining will play state-ranked (No.13) Longwood, of Section 11, which upset reigning two-time state champion Baldwin, in the Class AA state semifinals Saturday at 12:30 p.m. at HVCC. Section 4's West Genny (No.9) will face Section 5's Bishop Kearney (No.4) in the other semifinal. The finals are Sunday, March 17th at 11:45 a.m.

From the black knee pads, to the tenacious up-tempo style, to the



Ossining senior Captain Alexandra Forman sets up for shot in Pride's NYS Class AA playoff win over Elmira.

rambunctious coach on the sideline, very little – other than the names on the jersey's – has changed at Ossining since Coach Ricci orchestrated the first championship in 2004. Since then, eight other teams have marched to Troy in similar fashion; each outfit has mirrored the previous team. There are always stars – like current mainstays Aubrey Griffin, Jaida Strippoli and all-time rebounding leader Kailah Harris – yet the role players remain an integral part of the program – see Julia Iorio, Alexandra Forman and the rest of this current bunch.

It's pretty sick the way these kids buy into Ricci's steadfast assurance that Ossining basketball will forever change their lives, yet you can ask any one of them since the turn of the century and you'll find the same response – from Saniya Ching to Whitney

McDonald and Melissa Awerdick – and all points in between. It's a tough-love, life-changing experience that prepares players on and off the court and most are better for having done so.

"Of course we are so old and have arthritis and have had surgeries but it was all so worth it to be on that court and to play for a program that was beyond incredible," said Awerdick, who scored the game-winning points at the foul line (literally on one leg) for Ossining's first title back in 2004. "This program changed my life in such a way that, Coach Ricci will laugh, but it still carries on in my life to this day: If I'm not 15 minutes early to anything, then I'm late! That's something

"Having three Con-Ed winners in one season is amazing," Ricci said. "All three girls are great players, but also very good students and better people. We're strong students as well as great ballers. It's pretty impressive."

Harris and her classmates are looking to prolong the season. A state championship would lead to the federation tournament the following weekend, March 22-24.

"We want to make the season go as long as possible," Harris said. "Alumni always talk about Ossining girls' basketball and playing with your friends. We want to continue spending as much time as we can playing with best friends."

Longwood won't be easy, considering its size and the fact that it just took down Baldwin, but the Pride play at another pace and Coach Ricci plans on using tempo to his advantage.

that will stick with me forever. This has carried over into my work life, my relationship and with my son: We are all together in "the game of life" and we have to work together."

Awerdick had a message for the current members of this defining program.

"Play your heart out, give it your all, shoot your shot, learn about each other on and off the court and let coach's words echo: 'Don't cheat the program!'

That one last sprint, that one last rep, will make you, faster, better and stronger. Good luck to you all!"

**Section 1 boys' basketball** hasn't fared as well as the ladies have this season. With just Class A Poughkeepsie reaching the NYS Final 4, and Mount Vernon getting blown out in the regional finals, we can safely say that this was down year for the boys of Section 1...

**Just gonna throw this out there:** What my man Stephen McNamara of Somers High fame is doing out at Crossfit Somers X is nothing short of admirable. At 54 Miller Rd. in Baldwin Place, 'Big Mac' has turned adaptive fitness into something really special. No child, regardless of limitations, should go unfit, and the goal at Crossfit Somers X is to ensure that children of all abilities have an environment to discover health and fitness. With adaptive certified trainers in the house, Crossfit is taking no prisoners when it comes to revising health and fitness for all...

**We got your boys' lacrosse previews** coming within the next couple of weeks,



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Trio of Aubrey Griffin, Jaida Strippoli and Kailah Harris will seek a 2nd NYS title as a unit this weekend in Troy, what would be the 5th such title in Pride history.

and for the first time since 1979 we don't have a reigning sectional in our midst; our midst being Yorktown, Lakeland/Panas, Mahopac, Somers and Putnam Valley. Was this an aberration or something we need to get used to in this neck of the woods? Because, truth be told, 2019 is looking equally difficult according to the prospects I see...

**This #AOC gal should be dubbed #TOC;** as in #TotallyOuttaControl. There, I said it. Despite the fact she's a local, homegrown product, I simply can't get on board with her. I want to save the world, too, but I'd like a tangible plan that doesn't tax me to death, ban hamburgers and alter transportation as we know it. Yeah, I know I'm just a dimwit sportswriter, who should probably stick to sports most days, but this radical gal was pulling stick behind bar a few short years ago, and now I'm supposed to go all in on socialism and her pie-in-the sky ideology because she grew up locally #NoThanks #LetCowsBeCows. #IBartendedToo

## SHRUB OAK ATHLETIC CLUB RECREATION 2019 Spring Softball Registration



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Members of the undefeated Elizabeth Ann Seton 6th grade CYO team -- including Back Row: Coach Mike Marinelli, Jake Peterson, Caden Glenn, Patrick Keeley, Oban Radar, Coach John Constantino; Front Row: Paul Dillon, Sean Carroll, Dylan Merola, Jay Constantino, AJ Marinelli -- pose with the hardware after their 52-48 win over Iona Prep Lower School after winning the WPCYO C-Division championship on March 3rd at St. Patrick's in Armonk. The Seton team also won the Crusader Classic Basketball Tournament (6th grade division) on Monday, March 4th against St. Columbanus, 32-24, and went 15-0 in CYO games this season.



# Breakfast of Champions is Served!

## Seton, St. John's Feast on CYO Titles

Members of the Mahopac St. John's 5th grade CYO team pose with the championship hardware after defeating Staten Island and the Bronx to become the downstate champions last Sunday at Ursuline High School. The team of Eliza Pereria, Julie Fraser, Regan O'Boyle, Mia McConnell, Ashley Koch, Fiona Kelleher, Ryan Hodge, Niamh Kelleher, Gianna Dolan, Keira Callahan, Riley Hughes, Brianna Saloman and coaches KJ Koch and O'Boyle -- were also crowned WPCYO division champions for the second straight year earlier in the week and will now play for the NYS CYO championship this Saturday.

