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April 16 - April 22, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 525

## Croton Falls Rd. Cell Tower Proposal Faces Heat

By David Propper

With a decision possibly coming by the end of next month, Homeland Towers was back in front of the Carmel planning board to make its case to build a monopole along Croton Falls Road in Mahopac.

The monopole would be 160 feet, which is a 20-foot reduction from the original proposal, on a residential parcel off Croton Falls Road in Mahopac. The application needs approval from the planning board and a variance granted from the zoning board of appeals, according to town officials, because zoning code states in that area a structure is only allowed to be 50-75 feet high. There's been steady chatter of another cell tower that could be built off Dixon Road in Mahopac, but that application has not been before the planning board yet. Residents that would live near these towers came out in droves to protest the erection of the monopoles, decrying how the towers would hurt



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Attorney Robert Gaudioso appeared in front of the Carmel planning board last week on behalf of Homeland Towers.

home values and ruin the character of the neighborhood.

Town engineer Richard Franzetti said so far the applicant has responded to three of the 13 comments submitted by the town engineering department from last September. Permits are needed from the Town of Carmel Conservation Board, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Franzetti said because wetlands could be affected.

Town planner Patrick Cleary said the cell tower is proposed in a category five location according to the town's wireless communication ordinance, which is a "low priority" area.

"Which means it's the applicant's

burden to document why they can't be in a higher priority location," Cleary said, as residents applauded. Homeland submitted several pieces of supplemental information, Cleary said, that explains why they want a tower placed there.

An appraisal report that raised eyebrows from Homeland claims 14 residences (including four in Carmel) that had a view of a cell tower showed that property values actually rose (minimally), Cleary said, which he called a "little unusual." A study submitted by Homeland didn't indicate any designated scenic visual resources that would be affected by the tower, Cleary said, which he said would need further investigation.

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## Amid Statewide Debate, PV Pauses Marijuana Sales

By David Propper

Putnam Valley town board members aren't high on the idea of recreational marijuana being sold in their town.

As a result, the town board is expected to vote through a one-year moratorium that would prevent the sale of marijuana and paraphernalia connected to the recreational drug at its meeting this Wednesday. During a public hearing about the proposal last week, no residents came forward either in support or opposition to the measure. New York State has yet to legalize marijuana as state lawmakers continue to grapple with the positives and negatives of legalization.

The moratorium was introduced by Councilman Steve Mackay with other town board members in support of it. Mackay said recreational marijuana out there now is not the same marijuana that existed in 1960s. Marijuana is more potent today, he noted.

"I hope the county will also pursue this on a county level," Mackay said.

If the state legalizes the drug, there is a possibility that either counties or local municipal governments could opt out of selling in within their borders. Putnam Valley is the first town in the county to move forward with a moratorium on

marijuana sales.

Supervisor Sam Oliverio said during the meeting while the state hasn't legalized marijuana yet, he expects it be approved in the near future as other states move to do so.

In an interview, Oliverio said in order to be proactive, the town wants to delay allowing the sale of the drug in town if and when legalization is passed. The town wants to investigate where would be the proper locations in town for the sale of marijuana, Oliverio said, including what regulations need to be put in place.

The moratorium would begin this month and run until April 17, 2020. The moratorium could also be extended if necessary, Oliverio said.

"We're very concerned about this," Oliverio said. "We're concerned not enough research has been done."

Councilman Louie Luongo said if legalization was passed during the state budget season this year, it would have been thrown into the laps of local government officials immediately. The moratorium will give town officials time "to figure out some things." Councilwoman Wendy Whetsel said it would give officials time to

*continued on page 4*

## PV High Recognized as an IB World School



PROVIDED PHOTO

The Putnam Valley Central School District has announced the authorization of Putnam Valley High School as an IB World School for the Diploma Programme. Putnam Valley High School will begin offering an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program effective September 2019. This globally recognized program will afford students at the high school the opportunity to approach learning in a way that is centered on big ideas, inquiry, reflection and international mindedness. Putnam Valley is the first school in Putnam County to be recognized as an IB World School. Supporting the leadership of High School Principal, Dr. Sandra Intrieri and her collaboration with the high school staff, including PVHS Teacher and IB Project Coordinator Matt Mello, Dr. Fran Wills, Superintendent of Schools, believes that "opening the door to IB will advance student engagement in learning, and empower them to apply that knowledge to real-world issues that will matter most in their future endeavors."

# Republican Announces Early Run Against Rep. Maloney

By David Propper

Starting her campaign a year earlier than most candidates do, Chele Farley announced her run for the 18th congressional district against Democrat and current office holder Sean Patrick Maloney last week.

Accusing Maloney of embracing socialism, Farley came out swinging against the Cold Spring resident, who is in the middle of his fourth term in office and would be up for reelection in 2020. She particularly hit Maloney over his endorsement of the Green New Deal that has been a much talked about proposal put forward by Democrats in hopes of changing the dire direction of climate change, but has a sky-high price tag attached to it. In a press release announcing her candidacy, she vowed to find “practical and workable solutions” for the Hudson Valley.

“This district definitely needs infrastructure and lower taxes,” Farley said, adding New Yorkers aren’t getting enough money back from Washington. She blasted Maloney as ineffective during his tenure in Congress.

“He’s no longer representative of this district that Trump won,” Farley, who founded a private equity firm and has a



Chele Farley

background in engineering, said.

Besides dinging him over the Green New Deal, Farley criticized Maloney for his support of Medicare-for-all that she called too expensive. Farley said healthcare costs require fixing, but tweaking it would be better like allowing insurance plans to be purchased over stateliness. As for the environment, Farley said she wants to maintain clean air and water, but it has to be done in an economical way.

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# Danbury Man Arrested While in Possession of Murder Manifesto

By David Propper

A Danbury man who authorities alleged had a manifesto of people he wanted to kill was arrested last month after he was pulled over for driving erratically.

Last week, the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department announced the arrest of Nikolai Plastini, who was taken into custody on March 18. Plastini was charged with criminal possession of a weapon, driving while intoxicated, aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the 3rd degree and unlawful possession of marijuana.

Plastini, 31, was pulled over by a sheriff’s deputy in Carmel at about 12:40 p.m. after he was seen driving poorly on Route 301. As the deputy approached the vehicle, he smelled an odor of alcohol and marijuana from the car, according to the sheriff’s office.

Further investigation revealed Plastini was possibly intoxicated and in possession of marijuana, the sheriff’s office said. The investigation also discovered he was in possession of a .410 gauge shotgun, .410 shotgun shells and a notebook that appeared to be a manifesto, according to authorities.

The manifesto listed people Plastini wanted to kill, the reasons why and how



Nikolai Plastini

they had wronged him. The individuals listed in the notebook were contacted by members of the sheriff’s department and told about the manifesto, authorities said.

Plastini was arraigned by Patterson Justice Court on behalf of Carmel Justice Court and remanded to Putnam County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$10,000 cash/ 20,000 bond. Plastini, who is a former Carmel resident where his parents live, posted bail and is scheduled to be in Carmel Justice Court on April 23.



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#### Q: What is a bunion?

**A:** A bunion is a bump on the inner side of the foot at the base of the big toe. If you’ve never experienced a bunion, you might think this bump is an enlarged bone or even a growth, but it’s not. A bunion is actually a normally-shaped bone that has drifted into an abnormal position. As part of the deformity, the big toe becomes crooked, pointing more and more toward the second toe.

#### Q: Why are some bunions so painful?

**A:** It depends on the person. There are people with large bunions who are asymptomatic, and yet I have patients with small bunions who truly suffer. A bunion patient may develop painful symptoms due to footwear, activities, or other foot issues. Continually wearing poorly-fitting shoes that force the toes into certain positions may put additional pressure and pain on the bunion.

#### Q: How do you treat bunions?

**A:** The first step in treating pain and discomfort is choosing shoes that are wider, softer, and more comfortable. For women, I’ll suggest shoes with a lower heel and a wider toe. Sometimes the right shoe is all it takes to relieve the pain.

If you have a smaller bunion and aching near the base of the big toe try a foam or silicone rubber toe spacer. The spacer, inserted between the first and second toe, corrects the alignment of the first toe and improves the mechanics of the joint, often leading to improved symptoms. Placed over bunions, circular donut-like bunion pads may also provide comfort inside shoes.

#### Q: Do you recommend surgery for a bunion?

**A:** I don’t recommend bunion surgery for a bunion that’s not painful. It’s not about the X-ray, the size, or the look of the bunion. It’s about how the bunion impacts your life. At Northern Westchester Hospital, bunion procedures are same-day surgeries and surgeons use nerve blocks and sedation. Patients should expect to remain home with feet raised to minimize swelling, from three or four days to one week. Ten days after surgery, patients come for an office visit for removal of stitches. Six to eight weeks following surgery, most patients will be allowed to walk in a roomy sneaker. If you have bunion surgery on the right foot, you won’t be able to drive until your doctor gives permission. Full recovery takes about six months to one year.



# Supervisors in Most Putnam Towns Get Free Electoral Pass

By David Proper

Running a town in Putnam County doesn't seem to have the same allure it used to, as five of the six elections for supervisor in the county will be unopposed contests this year.

Besides in the Town of Kent, incumbent supervisors in Carmel, Patterson, Philipstown, Putnam Valley and Southeast will waltz into office barring anything unexpected. In what could easily be argued is the most influential elected position in any town, competition seems to be nonexistent for those offices as petitions to get on the ballot were due earlier than usual this year because of voting reforms passed in New York State.

Southeast Supervisor Tony Hay, a Republican, has never had a Democratic opponent, but did dethrone former supervisor and controversial Republican Michael Rights in a GOP primary for the position in 2011. When asked why there appears to be little interest in the position, Hay said as supervisor, when something in the town goes wrong, he is the first one to be blamed.

"Let someone sit in my seat for 24 hours and you'll find many people won't want it," Hay said. "You're a target for everything."

Hay still campaigns during petition season as if he is going to face someone, collecting more than 200 Republican signatures to get on the ballot, which is a high number compared to other office holders. He stressed running for office, especially for first timers, takes a lot of work.

Putnam Valley Supervisor Sam Oliverio, a Democrat that ran against Republican Councilwoman Jackie Annabi the first time he went out for supervisor in 2015, said both the GOP and Democratic committees in Putnam Valley understand he's always tried to be "apolitical" when it comes to making decisions in the town.

Even if the opposing political party doesn't cross endorse an incumbent, Oliverio said not running someone is a tacit approval of the job they're doing.

"If you're doing a good job and you're the incumbent, the wisdom of the (political) parties is it's going to be really hard to unseat that individual," Oliverio said. "They haven't harmed the town, they've done positive things for the town and political machine says 'we're not going to waste money trying to get a candidate to unseat that person.'"

Patterson Supervisor Richard Williams, a Republican, ran four years ago and squeaked out a close victory over Democrat Andy Falk, but he's looking forward to a less stressful night this Election Day. Williams also pointed out by not having to run a campaign, he can devote more time to town business rather than worrying about re-election.

Williams said the position is less of a draw than it used to be because it has become more complicated with more

rules and regulations than 30 years ago when Williams started with town on the environmental commission.

"It's very hard to do this job now," Williams said. "And you need people with experience and there's not a lot of people that want to take the time to learn this job."

Most of the supervisors interviewed mentioned running the town is a full time job, even if the pay doesn't equate to that.

Besides Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea, who runs a small business, and Kent Supervisor Maureen Fleming, who still practices law, the other supervisors are

retired and this job is a second career for them. Hay was a former county legislator and small business owner, Oliverio was a former county legislator and assistant principal, Williams was the former Patterson town planner and Carmel Supervisor Kenny Schmitt was a former Carmel police officer.

Schmitt hasn't had an opponent in almost a decade. Once he clinches reelection this year and serves out that new term, he will become the longest serving supervisor in town history with seven terms in office. Earning the endorsement of the local GOP committee,

which Schmitt is appreciative of, is all he's needed to run the largest town in the county.

Schmitt said being a town supervisor requires a lot of energy and focus and people in general don't seem interested in politics during such polarizing times, Schmitt said. He also said he's done a well enough job that there isn't a clamoring for change.

"I don't know too many people that want my job," Schmitt said. "It's a very difficult job, it's challenging and it's a lot of work."

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# Croton Falls Rd. Cell Tower Proposal Faces Heat

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Appearing on behalf of Homeland was attorney Robert Gaudio, who pushed the planning board to set a public hearing in order to move the application along.

Planning board member Carl Stone asked with a few smaller towers nearby, why another taller tower was needed at Croton Falls Road with Gaudio explaining cell service doesn't get into the area where the tower is proposed. To cover a wider area with more foliage and a tougher topography, a taller tower is needed, he said.

"This is a coverage problem," Gaudio said, rather than a capacity issue.

Gaudio said the Federal Communications Commission came out with an order that stated a cell tower company doesn't need to prove a gap in service, just that a lack of a monopole is inhibiting cell service in a specific area.

At one point, Cleary and Gaudio butted heads over whether a variance is actually necessary with Cleary insisting it is.

When asked whether alternative sites were explored, Gaudio said Homeland looked into other sites and found that the proposed parcel was the only one that worked. When asked by board chairman Craig Paeprer about whether the tower could be reduced in height anymore, Gaudio said any lower and the tower wouldn't be as effective.

Planning board David Furfaro said



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

Residents that would live near cell towers proposed showed up in force last week.



Planning board chairman Craig Paeprer and vice chairman Anthony Giannico at last week's meeting.

residents might be inclined to see some trees disturbed if it would result in a shorter tower, though Gaudio was non-committal to that idea. If and when cell towers in town become obsolete, the cell tower company would be responsible to take the towers down.

While Gaudio pushed for a public hearing to be set, planning board members rebuffed that request. A decision must be reached about the tower by May 31, Gaudio warned, which is in accordance with FCC law.

"There are still too many questions unanswered," planning board member Raymond Cote said.

Following the meeting, a large gathering of residents against the proposal spoke just outside the meeting room as they strategized the next steps. Resident Robert Buckley, who has been leading the charge against the towers, said he believes the planning board and town officials have the best interest of the residents at heart, but neighbors need to continue to show up to meetings and be vocal.

Buckley explained it's critical for residents to convey how the tower would hurt their neighborhood while also using arguments permissible under the law.

Residents will get to express their thoughts on the cell tower application once the public hearing occurs.

"I think the planning board is potentially going to have enough evidence to deny this application," Buckley said.

## Republican Announces Early Run Against Rep. Maloney

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While Maloney easily trounced his last two GOP opponents in 2016 and 2018, respectively, Farley believes she can make the race more competitive. She pointed to stronger fundraising numbers than past candidates and more enthusiastic support from the National Republican Congressional Committee. (The NRCC has placed Maloney on a list of a handful of Democrats they will be targeting in 2020.) Farley also said she's spoken with the White House about the race and has

President Trump's support. He won that district narrowly in 2016 when he ran against Hillary Clinton.

Farley is a proud supporter of Trump, but one area of disagreement she has with the president is over the SALT deduction cap that passed along with the new tax bill last year, which has hurt high tax states like New York. Farley said she would negotiate with Trump to increase the cap a homeowner can deduct from their taxes, which is currently only \$10,000.

Maloney, in past press briefings, said he

would support Trump when his policies would help the Hudson Valley and be a check on Trump when his actions were detrimental. Last November after an easy election win, Maloney said he would focus on healthcare and infrastructure needs during this current term. He said in a Fios television appearance earlier this month there should be a public option for people that want to buy into Medicare-for-all, but people that like their private insurance should be allowed to keep it.

The 18th district covers all of Putnam and Orange counties, and parts of

Dutchess and Westchester counties.

Farley ran against US Senator Kirstin Gillibrand in 2018 and was crushed, only garnering 33 percent of the vote statewide. It was her first time running for public office.

From that experience, Farley learned she needs to start campaigning and raising money earlier, which is why she's already thrown her hat into the ring. Having enough money to get her name and message out is key, she said.

"It is really important to take back the House," Farley said.



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## Amid Statewide Debate, PV Pauses Marijuana Sales

continued from page 1

see how the sale of cannabis is working in other states that have legalized the drug.

Councilwoman Jackie Annabi said during the meeting that the moratorium was similar to the resolution the town board put forward putting a pause of the creation of vape shops in town.

In a statement, Annabi said while the state might pass this, the town board would be in sharp disagreement over

legalizing marijuana.

"Although we cannot prevent the (state) law from passing, what we can do is protect our community the best we know how by proposing a moratorium to prevent any shops to sell marijuana here in Putnam Valley," Annabi said in an email. "These products are harmful to our youth, our community and our environment. We can only hope other communities and counties will follow suit."



# Southeast Officials Ponder New E-waste Program

By Brendan Dyer

The Southeast town board is considering plans for a new electronic waste disposal program, which would replace the Putnam County sponsored program closed last December.

Electronic waste, or e-waste, includes computers, televisions, cell phones, radios, computer games, and small appliances, but with no e-waste recycling program in place right now, residents are currently unable to properly dispose of electronics. Southeast Supervisor Tony Hay said e-waste is being wrongfully discarded outside the gate to the Southeast Highway Department on 10 Palmer Road.

The county has gotten three bids from different recycling vendors who could dispose of e-waste for towns in the county that sign on. The more towns that are included, the less expensive each haul would cost the county overall.

Whichever vendor is chosen would handle disposal of electronics and charge the county anywhere between 20 and 38 cents per pound.

According Hay, "The average household will maybe generate one to five items of e-waste a year." Southeast has a larger population than other towns and villages in Putnam so it produces more e-waste. Joined with Putnam's program, Southeast could contribute a large amount of waste and make the disposal cost cheaper for

*'We all have the intention to make it as easy and affordable for our residents as possible.'* -  
Councilman  
Edwin Alvarez

every town involved, Hay said.

Hay also received a bid from a fourth vendor who he contacted on his own. It would be exclusively for the residents of Southeast and the village of Brewster. Should the town board of Southeast decide not to join the county's e-waste program, Southeast would independently pay its vendor around \$1,875 per container filled.

The container that would be used holds up to 15,000 pounds. "We'd pack it as tight as we can," said Hay.

The drop-off location would still be at 10 Palmer Rd. and operate between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Monday through Friday. Two part-time employees would oversee the operation, verify residence of people dropping off e-waste, and monitor the wrongful discarding of items outside the hours of operation.

Compared to the county bids, Southeast could potentially pay between 13 and 15 cents per pound. The Southeast town board must decide if they want to dispose of their electronic waste independently or work together with the rest of Putnam in contributing to whichever e-waste disposal program the county chooses.

"All of the towns are waiting to hear from the county's bid," said Councilman Edwin Alvarez. "We all have the intention to make it as easy and affordable for our residents as possible."

"Time is more and more of the essence," Hay said. "If I could go to another town and see if the vendor I got would give them a similar deal, I'll do that."

*'Time is more and more of the essence.'* -  
Supervisor  
Tony Hay

According the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), properly recycling electronics limits greenhouse gas emissions from manufacturing new material. E-waste contains valuable materials like glass, plastic, and metals which require energy to mine and manufacture. The EPA also claims that for every million cell phones recycled, over 35 thousand pounds of precious metal is recovered, including copper, silver, gold and palladium.



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# Harckham Panel Discussion Centers on Steps to Clamp Down on Hate

By Martin Wilbur

State Sen. Peter Harckham (D-Lewisboro) earlier this month hosted a forum focusing on steps residents and policy makers in Westchester and New York State can take in hopes of stemming the rise of hate incidents and shootings.

The more than two-hour discussion on Apr. 3 at Pleasantville High School, "Hate in the Age of Multiculturalism: Are Thoughts and Prayers Enough?" featured an eight-member panel, nearly all of whom have experienced some form of bigotry. They included clergy, human rights advocates and representatives of various organizations.

The impetus for the forum came following Harckham's visit to a Mohegan Lake mosque shortly after the mass shooting in New Zealand last month. Its members were shaken up, unsure whether to send their children to school. One woman thanked the senator for stopping in but told him more needs to be done to combat hate.

"What we're trying to accomplish tonight are some action items, some things by the end of this session we can all own and take responsibility, whether that's a legislative perspective, from the faith-based community, things that we can do to ease the climate of hate and intolerance and certainly violence," Harckham said.

State gun laws were strengthened



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

State Sen. Peter Harckham moderates a panel discussion last week in Pleasantville on what practical steps can be taken to reverse the trend of intolerance throughout society.

earlier in the current legislative session in Albany with the passage of the Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), where someone that a court finds dangerous can have their weapons temporarily confiscated, and expanding the background check from three to 30 days, he said.

However, other remedies are needed that go beyond new laws, according to panel members. Finding venues and activities for the community at large to get to know each other is a good start.

Rev. Dr. Martha Jacobs, head minister of the First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, said when the church

offered space to the Upper Westchester Muslim Society until their new mosque is built, it wasn't something that seemed unnatural. The Chappaqua Interfaith Council has had functions that include a wide assortment of houses of worship in New Castle.

"We had meals together, we do a Thanksgiving feast together, Thanksgiving services together, we've done vigils together," Jacobs said. "We know each other, so it made it much easier to open our doors to our Muslim friends."

But diversity alone doesn't ensure harmony. Peekskill NAACP President Valerie Eaton said hate and intolerance is often taught in the home. Even in her home school district, which has a widely varied population, there are problems, she said.

"It's amazing to be that it still does happen because we have such a diverse school system," Eaton said. "Why is it still happening?"

Over the past couple of years, immigrants, particularly Spanish-speaking residents, have felt the sting

of bigotry, said panelist Martha Lopez-Hanratty, who works in County Executive George Latimer's office. While getting a cup of coffee at a Dunkin' Donuts in White Plains one day, a man in the shop heard the workers behind the counter speak Spanish, then called them "illegals" and ordered them to "speak English," she said.

"I fear for all the families who are walking down the street with their strollers, who may not speak English, who may not feel comfortable," Lopez-Hanratty said. "This is happening every single day. This is happening in Westchester."

Karin Anderson Ponzer, the director of the Mount Kisco-based Neighbors Link community law practice, said isolation often happens where people of different backgrounds don't interact.

"I think if there are ways we can sort of get to know each other, that we can remove the type of barriers, which I really think are language," Ponzer said.

Some of the panelists questioned whether their efforts can make a difference, but Rabbi Sarah Freidson of Temple Beth Shalom in Mahopac said hate can never be allowed to go unchallenged.

"I think we need to call out bigotry when we see it because it's wrong, not because it's going to lead to atrocities," she said.



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**Business  
of the Week**

# Luigi's Famiglia Cucina

## Carmel

By Neal Rentz

The Italian phrase famiglia cucina translated into English is family kitchen.

Luigi's Famiglia Cucina in Carmel, fittingly, is a family owned and operated business.

The restaurant, which opened in July of 2016, is owned by Luigi Rukaj and his sons, Anton and Simon.

Luigi's is the first business the family has owned, but Luigi Rukaj has had several years of experience in the restaurant industry, he said last week. He began his career in Rome in 1978, working for the family restaurant that invented fettuccini alfredo.

Luigi Rukaj moved to the United States in 1980 for "a better life," he said.

"I've had other businesses, but this is a case where this is the first family business," Anton said. Two concepts of the American Dream are "owning a house and the second one is being able to work for yourself," he said. "We've been able to employ our family and people within the community. It's nice to see how things progressed in the short time that we've been here."

The specialty of the restaurant is its wood fired oven, which is used to prepare pizzas and other dishes. Preparing pizzas in a wood fired oven give the pizza characteristics that are different from the pies made in gas or other types of ovens, Anton said. The crust from a wood fired oven is thinner and the cheese melts in a different way, he said.

"It's a different to the finished product," he said. The family uses dry oak and when possible, cherry wood, Anton said. The



NEAL RENTZ PHOTOS

Luigi's Famiglia Cucina is owned by, from the left, Simon, Luigi and Anton Rukaj.

wood taste, "in our opinion the best taste that could be made for pizza," he said.

The restaurant's wood fired oven can heat up to 800 degrees, Anton said. "It's fun to stay in the front if you enjoy the heat like I do," he said, adding it takes only about a couple of minutes to cook a pizza in his restaurant's wood fired oven, half the time it takes to bake a pizza in a gas fired oven. The traditional cheese pie is the restaurant's customer favorite, he said.

Aside from the pizzas the extensive menu includes a half-dozen or more

soups, appetizers and a wide selection of entrees. Anton said, "We try to see ourselves more as a better dining restaurant," he said.

Calamari is the most popular appetizer, Anton said. Another popular starter, which is not always on the menu, is the sautéed octopus, he noted.

Several pastas are available, with penne a la vodka being the best seller, Anton said.

The restaurant also specializes in seafood, with Zuppe Di Peshe, which includes shrimp, scallops, calamari, mussels and clams over linguini with marinara or fra diavolo sauce, being a particular specialty, Anton said.

Luigi said his customers come "from all over" both locally and from Connecticut.

Anton said his family works to support the local community. "Every day someone comes knocking to try to get us involved with some sort of event or donation. We try to do whatever we can," he said.

Some of the keys to the success of the restaurant is its philosophy is "doing the right thing and be honest with people," Luigi said. "I'm old fashioned. I always say the customer is always right."

Luigi's Famiglia Cucina is located at 62 Gleneida Ave. in Carmel. For more information call

845-225-4000 or visit <https://www.luigisofcarmel.com/>. The restaurant is also on Facebook and Twitter.



The Quattro Formaggi pizza baked in the wood fired oven at Luigi's Famiglia Cucina in Carmel.



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## Letter to the Editor

### Kreps Didn't Serve Kent Well with Regards to Bus Garage Bond

We have recently learned that Richard Kreps is running for Supervisor of the Town of Kent. Let's review the record. Mr. Kreps knows that when he was elected to the Carmel School Board, his priority is to represent his constituents who elected him. This is a foreign concept to Mr. Kreps because in the recent past he has supported a bond referendum proposed by the Carmel School Board and it was defeated, resubmitted and re-defeated, resubmitted again and re-defeated, and lastly resubmitted and overwhelmingly defeated in the Town of Kent but approved overall by the Carmel School District. This clearly demonstrates that Kreps is all

about his own agenda and not interested in representing the will of the residents of the Town of Kent, who overwhelmingly have defeated this proposal four times. Mr. Kreps has no loyalty to the people of his own town. Kreps has slapped all his fellow residents of the Town of Kent in the face, shoved this proposition down our throats, stabbed us in the back and turned on the very residents of the town where he now seeks to become supervisor. Furthermore, to demonstrate his total incompetence, we have now learned from the newspapers that the land involved in this proposition is not properly zoned and may not ever be properly zoned

to build this bus garage. A competent elected official would investigate first, to determine that what he is proposing to the voters is totally legal, meets all State, County and Town codes before – not after making a proposal to the voters. Can Kreps have any credibility in the upcoming election for Supervisor when it comes to doing what our voters want? If this transportation facility ends up in litigation, will Kreps represent the will of the residents of the Town of Kent, who are clearly opposed to the bus garage, or will he continue to represent his own agenda? Mr. Richard Kreps now has a decision to make. No evasive answers and no parsing

of words. Does Kreps stand shoulder to shoulder with the residents of the Town of Kent, who vehemently oppose this bus garage, or does he persist in aligning himself with his cohorts on the Carmel School Board who continue to seek to impose their will upon the people of the Town of Kent? We the voters need to know. I state that the voters cannot take a chance because Kreps has absolutely no credibility – a trait necessary to lead.

Dennis Illuminate  
Lake Carmel

## Obituaries

### Carmella DeOrio

Carmella DeOrio age 100, of Mahopac died April 4, after a long and blessed life. Carmella was born on March 20, 1919 in Mt. Vernon. She lived there with her parents and sisters for many years before moving to Yonkers, and eventually to Mahopac after retiring. She worked as a legal secretary/stenographer for Dante D'Alessandro Law firm beginning at the age of 18. Carmella maintained her own career during a time that was challenging for a woman to do so, and continued to care for her family. She was a fiercely independent spirit and prided herself on not always following the trend. She continued to work for Mr. D'Alessandro for the next 52 years. That type of dedication and loyalty speaks volumes of her character. Carmella had a kind and gentle soul and gave unconditionally to those she loved, especially her beautiful family, immediate and extended. Few people are blessed with 100 years but when you have the outpouring of love and kind soul Carmella did, 100 years doesn't seem hardly enough time. She will continue to be loved by everyone who knew her and will be missed. She achieved true happiness and success

in life proven by the way she loved, and how she was loved by all who were lucky enough to know her.

### Marjorie L. Beal

Marjorie L. Beal, age 94, a lifelong resident of Brewster, died Friday, April 5, at home surrounded by her family. Marjorie was born on June 12, 1925 in Monroe, to Frederick and Inez (Harrison) Lane. She graduated from Brewster High School. On March 21, 1946 Marjorie married the love of her life, Malcolm, at the First United Methodist Church of Brewster. Mr. Beal died on August 12, 2016. Through the years, Marjorie had worked at Feinson's Department Store in Brewster and assisted her husband with many aspects of the P.F. Beal & Sons Well Drilling in Brewster. Crossword puzzles, gardening and reading were favorite pastimes of Marjorie's, as well as, her many trips to their home in Englewood, FL. When she put her mind to anything, there was great focus and compassion. Marjorie was a Lady in every sense of the word... beautiful, graceful and with great strength. A loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Marjorie is survived by her four children, Malcolm T. Beal Jr, and his wife Nancy of New Lebanon, NY, Perry Beal and his wife Leslie of Hillsdale, NY, Phyllis Moore and her husband Raymond of Kennesaw, GA and Faith Lundy and her husband Christopher of Brewster. Also 16 grandchildren and 39 great grandchildren.

### John A. Mylenski

John A. Mylenski, age 68, formerly of Brewster, died Sunday, April 7, surrounded by his family. John was born July 19, 1950 in Bronxville, NY to Albin and Harriet (Hoey) Myslenski. A graduate of Salesian High School he attended Iona College in New Rochelle. John married the love of his life, Katharine Konrath on May 27, 1972 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Tuckahoe.

John was a Network Engineer working with IBM and AT&T for 40 years, retiring in 2014. As a youth, John had lived in the Eastchester/Tuckahoe area. He later lived with his family in Brewster followed by the Carolinas. John and Katharine made St. Augustine their home these past 10 years. Through the years, John enjoyed the camaraderie of his bowling league, the patience and concentration found during many golfing opportunities with friends and colleagues and quiet moments at the beach stretched out with a good book. John enjoyed creating the occasional culinary delight. Besides his wife Katharine of 46 years, John is survived by his daughters, Tara Mylenski Zantow (Keith), Danielle Mylenski-Graves (Robin); a sister, Margaret Jarosch (Reiner); a brother, Stephen Mylenski (Carolyn) and a sister-in-law, Carol Konrath Burnett. Grandchildren, nieces, nephews. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 23, 10:30 a.m. at St. Edwards 'The Confessor' Church in New Fairfield, CT. Friends may call at the Beecher Funeral Home, 1 Putnam Avenue, Brewster, NY on Monday, April 22nd from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. A private entombment of the ashes at Ferncliff

Cemetery, Hartsdale, will take place on Wednesday. [www.beecherfuneralhome.com](http://www.beecherfuneralhome.com). Contributions in John's memory be made to the American Lung Association. [www.lung.org](http://www.lung.org)

### Julia May Wanchow

Julia May Wanchow of Putnam Valley died on April 8. She was 79. Julia was the wife of the late Donald Wanchow, the mother of Natalie Castro, Donna Stiner, Mary Brenner (deceased), David Wanchow, and Donny Wanchow. She was a grandmother and great-grandmother.

### Anne Mertens

Anne Mertens, beloved wife, mother, grandmother and sister passed away at her residence in Carmel, on April 9, surrounded by her cherished family. Anne was born on February 16, 1931 to the late Florence and Luis Bethencourt she would go on to marry the love of her life John (Jack) Mertens and together they would be blessed with over 65 years together and seven sons, John Jr., Michael, Peter, Chris, Tim, Tom and Paul. Anne Mertens lived a blessed and happy life. During

*continued on page 18*



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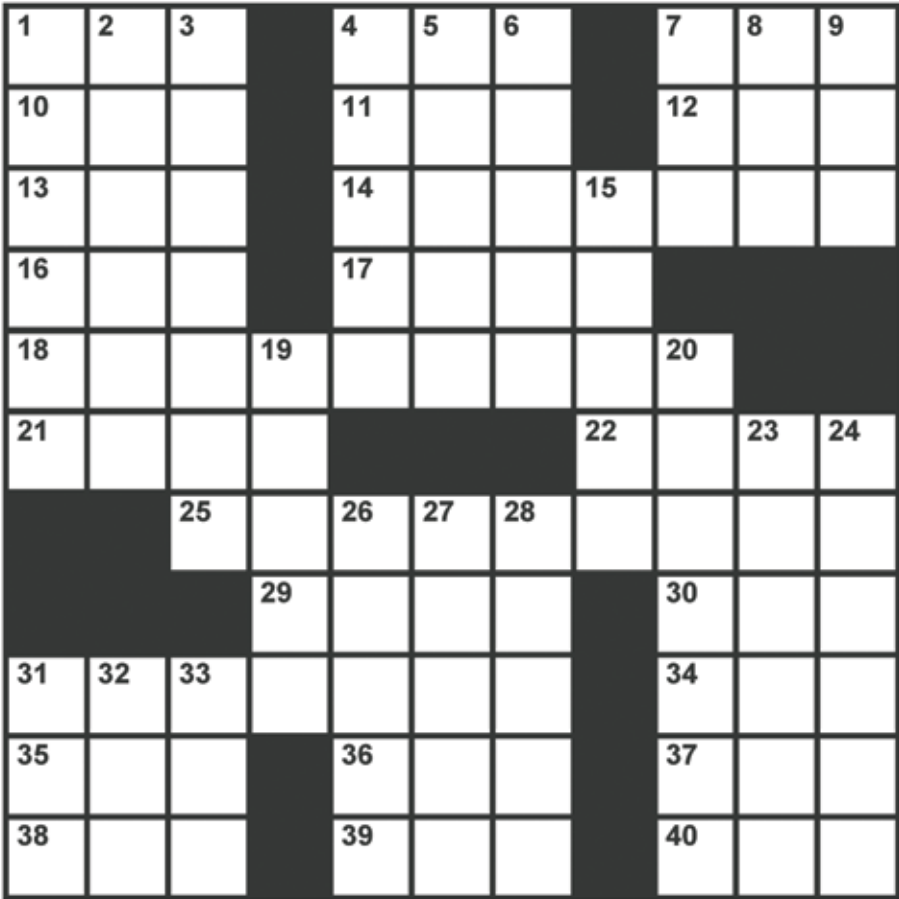
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Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 15

- Across
1. Canadian antlered animal

4. Bulge out

7. Nutritional std.

10. Lake Superior locks

11. He was famous for spoon bending

12. Add-\_\_\_ (extras)

13. One who walks a beat

14. Celebrations

16. Tempe sch.

17. Greek salad cheese

18. This Baldwin Place dance academy might be in your ears and in your eyes

21. Suffix with "consist"

22. Verge

25. Typical fast-food entree

29. Glorify

30. BBC rival

31. Imperiled

34. Compass point

35. African animal

36. Lunch hour

37. Cry for help

38. Common ID

39. Neither's partner

40. Building demolition material
5. Bay window

6. Michelangelo masterpiece

7. Decompose

8. Cell stuff

9. Knucklehead

15. More sensible

19. African antelope

20. Coolest

23. Boards

24. Writer Hemingway

26. Ga. town

27. Good, in Mexico

28. Milk provider

31. Classic sports cars

32. Lt.'s inferior

33. Sally Field's role

- Down
1. Slip away

2. Relax

3. Boxer's winning blow

4. Swollen



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# Health Quest and WCHN Form Nuvance Health

Health Quest and Western Connecticut Health Network (WCHN) have combined to form a new nonprofit health system. The name for the new health system will be Nuvance Health (pronounced NEW-vance). The new health system was created to provide communities across New York's Hudson Valley and western Connecticut with more convenient, accessible and affordable care.

## What is Nuvance Health?

Thirteen months after formally agreeing to create a new health system, Health Quest and WCHN have begun to operate as one organization after receiving the required federal and state (New York and Connecticut) regulatory approvals and support from patients, donors, and business and community leaders.

Dr. John M. Murphy is the CEO of the new health system, and Robert Friedberg is its President. Previously, Murphy served as President and CEO of WCHN and Friedberg was President and CEO of Health Quest. The new organization's board of directors includes diverse and equitable volunteer community representation: eight members were nominated by Health Quest and eight were nominated by WCHN.

The new health system will serve 1.5 million residents. It includes seven hospitals, more than 2,600 physicians and 12,000 employees. Projected annual revenues of the system are \$2.4 billion.

## Why was this new system formed?

The single, unified health system ensures the communities served have access to the latest treatments, technology, services and top-notch physicians and care teams.

"Our patients and communities are the heart of efforts to form the



Dr. John M. Murphy (left) and Robert Friedberg shake hands as they begin a new chapter in healthcare in the region.

new health system. We are steadfastly focused on how we can improve the health and well-being of the people we passionately serve," Murphy said. "Through the new integrated health system, we will be able to attract top clinical talent in order to provide even more advanced, compassionate and collaborative care."

The benefits of combining and creating the new health system include greater breadth of services, such as more specialty physicians and population health programs. Additional expected benefits include the use of data analytics to enhance quality and safety and improve health outcomes; and, growing medical education and learning to shape the future of medicine that best

serves each community's needs.

"By coming together, we will bring our communities more healthcare options through new programs and services, especially to help prevent

disease and effectively manage chronic conditions. Our communities will also benefit from having greater access to specialists and the latest treatments, conveniently within one health system and close to home," Friedberg said.

## What is going to happen?

Nuvance Health is devoted to caring for its unique communities. That is why local, community-based leadership and separate boards of directors oversee each hospital.

The name Nuvance Health, derived from a combination of the words "new" and "advance", will replace the legacy health network names Health Quest and WCHN. The organization will reveal a new logo and other brand marks in the coming weeks and months.

"The name Nuvance Health reflects a mission to continually make progress and pursue impossible, so we can improve the lives of every person in each of our communities," Murphy said.

Nuvance Health will remain a nonprofit organization, committed to community health and wellness and will continue to provide care to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay.

For more information about Nuvance Health, visit our website.

## Putnam One of Healthiest Counties in New York State

The ninth annual County Health Rankings was released last month by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and for the ninth year Putnam County ranks among the healthiest counties. Putnam is third in health factors, the influencers of health, up from last year's fourth place ranking. In health outcomes, based on length and quality of life, this year Putnam was sixth, compared to fifth last year, from among the 62 counties in the state.

"Putnam County continues to be a great place to live and work. We are fortunate to live in a safe, beautiful environment with easy access to parks, recreation and healthy, fresh food. This helps residents maintain a good lifestyle which translates to our health," said County Executive MaryEllen Odell. "We've declared 2019 the 'Year of the Health Provider' to honor the hard work of our nationally accredited health department and all the other county agencies and community organizations that work together to help residents remain healthy, safe and productive."

"The consistency that our county has demonstrated in these annual rankings speaks for itself," said Michael Nesheiwat M.D., Commissioner of Health. "The numbers always shift a bit. Changes in

data collection and the performances of other counties affect the rankings. This data reconfirms much of what we already know and points to areas we will continue to work on."

One of the identified challenges in the county is a higher rate of excessive alcohol use in Putnam compared to the rest of New York State. Alcohol-impaired driving deaths that had decreased from 27% to 22% last year, are back up to 28%. The health department continues to work on this pressing issue, working closely with two community organizations that spearhead the efforts, the Prevention Council of Putnam and the Communities That Care (CTC) coalition.

Similarly the numbers of sexually transmitted diseases rose, as they have around New York State and the United States. Left undiagnosed and untreated, these illnesses can have serious health consequences including infertility and in rare cases, even death. The PCDOH continues to spearhead prevention and surveillance efforts, including working closely with county physicians to increase routine testing.

For more information on the 2019 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, visit <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org>

## Putnam County Passport Saturday Coming Up

The Putnam County Clerk's Office is extremely proud to host Putnam County Passport Saturday this coming May; at its office located at 40 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, New York on Saturday May 4, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. to provide passport information to U.S. citizens and to accept passport applications.

Putnam County Clerk Michael C. Bartolotti is holding this event as a convenience to our customers who need to obtain a passport in time for the busy summer travel season. County Clerk Michael C. Bartolotti can be reached at 845-808-1142 X49301 for any questions or concerns regarding obtaining a U.S. Passport or traveling abroad.

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Information on the cost and how to apply for a U.S. passport is available at the Putnam County Clerk's Website located at [www.putnamcountyny.gov](http://www.putnamcountyny.gov). U.S. citizens may also obtain passport information by phone by calling the Putnam County Clerk's Office at 845-808-1142 X49273.





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# Easter Gift Giving: 6 Alternatives to Candy

When it comes to Easter, there's no doubt about it: candy is the go-to gift item for kids. But whether it's to avoid triggering food allergies or sugar overload or you just want to do something a little different this year, there are many reasons you may be in need of some alternative gift ideas.

With that in mind here are six Easter gift ideas that aren't candy:

- **Great books:** You don't need to forgo the Easter basket entirely. Just fill the basket with books in lieu of sweets. This is an opportunity to foster a love of reading and help build a young reader's personal

library.

- **Music maker:** Give the gift of music for life with an instrument that's designed to help someone learn to play for the very first time or dial up their existing skills. For example, the PX-S1000 is a keyboard with a slim profile that provides an authentic grand piano sound and feel. A great gift for budding and expert musicians alike, its Bluetooth audio playback features allows users to connect to their device and play along with their favorite songs.

- **A fun outing:** Whether it's spectating a baseball game or enjoying the thrills of an amusement park, the spring season is the

perfect time to gift kids and family with an experience they will remember long after they'd have unwrapped their last pieces of candy. Find an activity everybody will love and make a special day of it.

- **Fun movie night:** If you're looking for a gift the whole family can enjoy together, a projector to create an at-home theater experience is a good solution. Those from Casio's SLIM projector series require little to no setup time, and provide projection at maximum brightness in as few as five seconds. Each LampFree model is fitted with a fully connectable interface, including three types of video and audio inputs, as well as HDMI, RGB and RS-232C terminals, ensuring the family can get set up and begin watching favorite flicks quickly and easily.

- **Art kit:** For budding creative types, consider an art kit. From Easter egg-decorating -- if you want to stick with the seasonal theme -- to beading to sand art bottles, there is no shortage of arts and crafts kits for children of all ages, that make great gifts.

- **Bling:** Lots of kids want to look their best, just like you. Help them accessorize



PHOTO SOURCE: (C) ALEXAPHOTOUA / STOCK.ADOBE.COM

with a timepiece. For an option that's both on-trend and a classic look, consider the Vintage Collection of timepieces from Casio, which are good gifts for both boys and girls and are available in a range of bold metallics, including silver, gold and rose gold. Featuring an LED-lit display face and such functions as a countdown timer and a 1/10th second stopwatch, it's a great gift for stylish kids who want to be on time.

This Easter, think a bit outside the candy box. There are plenty of fun and creative gift alternatives out there.

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# Putnam Valley and Carmel Host Easter Egg Rolls

PROVIDED PHOTOS



Putnam Valley



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# Law Book: Insights from the 2019 Tax Season

By Salvatore M. Di Costanzo

As many of my readers know, I am a tax accountant as well as an elder law and estate planning attorney. In fact, many of my legal clients become tax clients to maintain a well-balanced relationship throughout the years. The concept is that by using me to prepare your tax returns, you have access to your attorney at least once a year to discuss relevant changes in your life. Often, clients just drop in to say hello. Other times, there could be something to discuss. Sometimes, it is serious.

For instance, this year, one of my legal clients for whom I've been preparing tax returns for several years dropped off her tax papers and asked to spend a few moments with me. She proceeded to tell me about her husband's cognitive decline and clearly, it was troublesome. Immediately, I was able to put the wheels of elder law planning in motion to ease the family's distress. They now have access to support services and a plan to protect their assets while paying for the cost of care.

I digress. I thought it would be a good idea to write about some of my experiences this tax season that might be of interest to you.

Approaching the tax season, many people were worried about the impact of the new tax law, especially here in New



Salvatore M. Di Costanzo

York where your state and local income tax deduction is now limited to \$10,000. When I look back at my clientele, most people were unharmed by the new tax law. If you analyze a return that is relatively unchanged from 2017, you will most likely see that your total tax liability decreased. Not by much, but it decreased.

You must then be asking, "Why is my refund less than 2017?" or "Why do I owe more than last year?" That was the surprise for many this tax season. You see, when the tax laws changed last year, the payroll tax withholding tables also changed. By way of example, claiming married "0" for payroll tax purposes now produces a deduction of \$75 per paycheck in federal taxes instead of \$100. While it put more money in your pocket on a monthly basis, most, if not all, of my clients didn't

recognize it since it was such a small adjustment. On an annual basis, however, the number became thousands of dollars, which resulted in smaller refunds or larger amounts due. I predict that this is going to have a negative impact on the economy this summer because many people rely on their refunds for vacations, etc. I received a phone call the other day from a client asking for an explanation and at the end of our conversation, she told me she was going to cancel her summer vacation.

Because of the \$10,000 state and local income limitation, many clients are no longer itemizing their deductions. A common mistake, however, is that clients stopped providing their itemized deductions. While you may no longer itemize on a federal tax return, you might still be able to itemize on the New York return. During the tax season, I had the opportunity to review a few returns prepared by other accountants, and the New York itemized deductions were ignored simply because the standard deduction was taken on the federal return.

Each tax season, I gain a good number of new clients and in doing so I have the opportunity to review prior returns. For those of you who receive government pensions, make sure that your pension income is excluded from your New York return. This mistake saved one of my new clients nearly \$3,500.00 this year

alone. Also, did you know that if you paid privately for care in a nursing home that you are entitled to a credit for certain taxes paid to the nursing home? The amount is generally 6.8% of the daily rate. This could be a really big number, and if your accountant is unfamiliar with elder law matters, that's lost money.

I hope this article interests you. One of the things that certainly rings true from this past tax season is that the preparation of tax returns did not become simpler, despite that the first two pages of Form 1040 look a bit simplified. In fact, things became more complex which, in my mind, necessitate the use of a professional.

*Salvatore M. Di Costanzo is a partner with the firm of Maker, Fragale & Di Costanzo, LLP located in Rye, New York, and Yorktown Heights, New York. Mr. Di Costanzo is an attorney and accountant whose main area of practice is elder law and special needs planning. He is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and a frequent author and lecturer on current elder law and special needs topics. Since 2013, Mr. Di Costanzo has been selected each year by the rating service, Super Lawyers as a New York Metro leading elder law attorney. He can be reached at (914) 925-1010 or via e-mail at [smd@mfd-law.com](mailto:smd@mfd-law.com). Visit his practice specific website at [www.plantodayfortomorrow.com](http://www.plantodayfortomorrow.com).*

## Coping With the 21st Century Paradigm of Brevity



By Nick Antonaccio

of multisyllabic descriptions and a syntax that draws out deep, carefully constructed ethereal emotions.

Each day the vicissitudes of the soundbite era pull me deeper into superficial strings of words, many of which attempt to communicate to me with nary a verb in each abbreviated sentence. News stories, web messages, e-mails from friends, longer than the unwritten rule of the three-minute attention span limit, constantly bombard me.

How I long for the pre-Facebook/Twitter era when proper grammar was highly valued and expected and when acronyms were used exclusively in the military and the corporate world. The Twitter police force me to encapsulate my thoughts and messages in 280 characters, although I seem somewhat the outlier since the average Tweet is only 33 characters.

So I've resorted to compromising my communication style by retaining my old

It's been creeping up on me. The influence of the webosphere has been slowly gnawing away at my enjoyment of immersing myself in long, languid, flowery prose full

school sensibility while occasionally resorting to the new school paradigms. I've been able to remain enmeshed in 21st century conversations, written and verbal.

However, yet another societal influence has blindsided me. Why communicate a concept, principal or other cogent argument employing words when one can resort to a numerical expression? Which expression do you prefer? "Medical concerns abound over rising alcohol consumption in America" or "5%, the increase in alcohol consumption from 1999 to 2019."

Which statement carries an intellectual effectiveness and which merely expresses a statistic, devoid of a context? I encounter this in every media outlet. In a number of instances, I've encountered newspaper reports that place as much emphasis on raw facts and stats as on measured analysis.

Oftentimes, these facts and stats ring hollow, lacking context for the meaning of the data. "Americans prefer wines produced domestically." "25% of wines Americans drink are imported, principally from Italy."

I encountered the following report last week. My perspective in evaluating this report: Statistics don't lie, but they don't

*You Heard It Through the Grapevine*

always tell the truth. And its corollary: 99 percent of all statistics only tell 49 percent of the story.

The Top 10 wines imported into the United States in 2018, and their market share, based on

sales, not volume:

1. Italy, 32.9 percent; 2. France, 29.2 percent; 3. New Zealand, 7.8 percent; 4. Australia, 6.4 percent; 5. Argentina, 5.9 percent; 6. Spain, 5.7 percent; 7. Chile, 3.8 percent; 8. Portugal, 2.4 percent; 9. Germany, 2.1 percent; 10. South Africa, 1 percent.

At first glance, the report seems very informative. Italy and France have captured the majority of the import market, which represents about 25 percent of overall American wine sales. While other countries have gained a foothold, they trail far behind. Would you have guessed New Zealand and Australia are ahead of Argentina and Spain? Not I.

What the statistics don't tell us:

1. The impact of the price range of the wines. The average price of a bottle of Italian wine is one-third less than a French bottle. How does that influence the market share? Italy would hold strong at 34.2 percent, but France drops to 18.3 percent. Australia jumps to third place, with Chile and Argentina in hot pursuit.

New Zealand drops to seventh place.

2. The geographic concentration of the imported wines. Do consumers in New York have the same buying habits as those in the Midwest? Most likely not.

3. The impact of grape preferences. The popularity of Italian Pinot Grigio and New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc significantly influence the rankings of those countries.

4. The impact of individual brand names. It would seem logical that the sustained popularity of Yellow Tail has buoyed Australia's position in fourth place. Likewise, the impact of Santa Margarita Pinot Grigio on Italy's ranking.

How to assess this particular report? As with most data with which we are bombarded, we must place it in the context of the factors that inform our unique decisions. Above all, don't succumb to today's trend of internet marketing: don't ask what consumers want, tell them what they need.

*Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at [nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.*



# Considering the Space Between Your Head and the Ceiling

Many years ago, when my wife and I discovered our dream home in the country, we were delighted that we could figure out a way to turn a one-and-a-half story saltbox wing with all original 18th century details into a separate apartment. It was the most charming rental unit, we're convinced, in all of Westchester.

However, it came with one caveat. Whenever it was available for rent and we received inquiries from prospective tenants, the first thing my wife would ask was, "Do you mind telling me how tall you are?"

There was always a questioning pause on the other end of the line, but if the answer was 6'2" or over, her response was, "Sorry, I don't think this apartment would be for you." The reason was simple to explain. The structure was built in 1734 when people were shorter, and the ceilings on both floors are barely two inches more than that in height.

We didn't want to waste any very tall person's time in considering a home where they might feel like Gulliver visiting Lilliput or Alice in Wonderland inside the rabbit's house.

In those early days, most houses were



By Bill Primavera

simple utilitarian structures and home builders knew that lesser heights meant less space to heat in the winter and therefore less wood chopping to fit into a day bursting with physical activity as it was.

My house belonged to a tenant farmer on the Van Cortlandt land grant and his needs were quite simple, but down the road a way at the landlord's Van Cortlandt Manor, greater affluence afforded ceilings with greater height. The same holds true today.

While ceiling heights in Victorian times had reached

average heights of 13 feet, based on English city houses, heights moderated down to eight feet with the advent of mass housing developments after World War II. That height, based on the standardized length of an eight-foot stud, stayed in place until the term McMansion was coined in the early 1980s where center halls and family rooms could soar two stories high.

By the end of the 20th Century, increased fuel costs put a damper on ceiling heights so that today the average ceiling height for new construction is nine feet on the first floor and eight feet on the second. That extra foot in height on

the first floor, it is estimated, can increase the cost of building a home from \$20,000 to \$30,000, for a 4,000 sq. ft. house, depending on the area of the country in which it is built. And to keep everything in proper scale, a higher ceiling means that furniture might have to be larger, windows have to be taller, crown molding has to be thicker, a fireplace mantel must be taller, light fixtures bigger and even artwork has to be larger to cover more wall space.

What mitigates the extra expense of taller ceilings is the cost savings that come from better insulation and other energy saving improvements to windows and doors.

In the past, homes were built with what we call a "balloon frame" where studs go from grade level to roof, as opposed to the "platform frame" we use today where each floor's studs make their own separate box and one box is placed upon the other. With a balloon frame, ceilings could be any height, but as the milling of studs was standardized to eight feet in the early 20th century, ceiling heights were almost universally that same measurement.

A comfortable ceiling height today depends on who you talk to. Affluent homebuyers are asking for a nine-foot minimum ceiling height, but prefer 10 or even 12 foot ceilings. Anything less than that is unacceptable to the people who

do not have to be concerned with utility costs. But, interestingly, new zoning regulations keep even the wealthiest clients from going overboard in that the overall building height is limited in our communities, which in turn limits the height to which we can build ceilings.

Beyond cost, another factor to consider is the psychology of it all. Pulte Homes, one of the nation's largest homebuilders, conducted research demonstrating that, while consumers like higher ceilings to have a room feel more expansive, they feel that it gives a greater sense of formality to the space, which can render it cold and austere.

But today, besides an open floor plan, we want homes that are more inviting, casual and warm. And, part of achieving that is with ceilings that are more humanly scaled. So, if you're a house-hunter, consider carefully the space between your head and the ceiling, because it can't be changed easily.

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

## Crossword Answers

1	E	2	L	3	K		4	P	5	O	6	P		7	R	8	D	9	A
10	S	O	O				11	U	R	I				12	O	N	S		
13	C	O	P				14	F	I	E	15	S	T	A	S				
16	A	S	U				17	F	E	T	A								
18	P	E	N	19	N	Y	L	A	N	20	E								
21	E	N	C	Y						22	E	D	G	E					
			25	H	A	26	M	27	B	28	U	R	G	E	R				
				29	L	A	U	D				30	I	T	N				
31	M	32	E	33	N	A	C	E	D			34	E	S	E				
35	G	N	U				36	O	N	E		37	S	O	S				
38	S	S	N				39	N	O	R		40	T	N	T				

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**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. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/10/2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC: **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. Office 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. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KC MAKEUP, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/16/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Kasey Camacho, 2 Stanley St., Pleasantville, NY, 10570 Purpose: any lawful act.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OLA SERVICES, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 3, 2019. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **OLA Services, LLC, 50 Broadway, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OLA ASSOCIATES, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 13, 2019. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **OLA Associates, LLC, 50 Broadway, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DORENBAUM & BECK, LLC.** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 2/28/19. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **20 Manville Ln., Apt 4, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Healthcare Communications Consulting.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF RHAK LLC.** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 3/13/2019. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **18 Belmont St., White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

*continued on next page*

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**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BEATS BY DANNY LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/01/2019. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, **7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EMPIRE AV LLC.** Art. Of Org. filed with Sec. of State on 12/10/2018. Off. Loc. In Westchester Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **3 FOREST CT, MONTROSE, NY 10548. PURPOSE: Any lawful business.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FAERIE CUTE LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/19/2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC: **233 N Macquesten Pkwy, Mount Vernon, NY 10550.** The business of the LLC is **233 N Macquesten Pkwy, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OH-SO EQUAL, LLC.** Skateboard Magazine filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/02/2019. Office location: Westchester. OH-SO EQUAL designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and mailed by OH-SO EQUAL to: **11 High Meadows Rd., Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: Any lawful acts.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF REVI-VA BEAUTY, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/12/19. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of any process to: **6 Tanglewood Rd., Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.**

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**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE FEISTY WOMAN LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/27/19. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of any process to **602 Williamsburg Dr., Mahopac, NY 10541. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.**

**LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY COUNTY OF PUTNAM NOTICE OF TENTATIVE COMPLETION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL** (Pursuant to Sections 501, 506 and 526 of the Real Property Tax Law) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Assessor of the Town of Putnam Valley, County of Putnam, has completed the Tentative Assessment Roll for the current year and that a copy will be available at the Assessor's Office, Putnam Valley Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York 10579, where it may be examined by any person interested, starting on or about May 1, 2019 daily between the hours of 8AM – 4PM, May 8, 2019 between the hours of 6PM – 9PM and May 11th, 2019 between the hours of 8AM – noon until the 28th day of May, 2019 and that on such day the Board of Assessment Review will meet at the Putnam Valley Town Hall at 6PM to hear and examine all verified written complaints in relation to such assessment on application of any person believing his property to be over-assessed. A publication containing procedures is available at the Assessor's Office at the Putnam Valley Town Hall or online at <http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/contest/grievproced.htm>.

**TOWN BOARD MEETING Town of Putnam Valley April 17, 2019 6 PM** 1. **Pledge** of Allegiance 2. **Departmental Reports** 3. **Supervisor's** Opening Comments 4. **Proclamation** for Giovanni Antonio Silvestro 5. **Legislators' Report** 6. **School Report:** Dr. Wills 7. **Approve** minutes 8. **Accept** Estimate from Newtech Recycling for E-Waste 9. **Authorize** Supervisor to sign Change Order #1, Town Generator Installation. 10. **Vote** on Marijuana Moratorium 11. **Set** public hearing for special use permit for cell tower: May 1, 2019 **Districts** 12. **Appoint** Lake Peekskill Beach Monitors. 13. **Authorize** Mike

and Chrissy Hritz to attend the NYSFOLA conference. 14. **Appoint** Lake Oscawana Harvester Operator 15. **Appoint** Roaring Brook Lake Superintendent. Building Department 16. **Daily** fee report for March, 2019. Parks and Recreation 17. **Request** for approval of the 2019 lifeguard pay scale. 18. **Personnel** changes. 19. **Budget** Transfers 20. **Public Comment** 21. **Audit of Monthly Bills**

NOTICE is hereby given to interested parties that a Public Hearing will be held by the Putnam Valley Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday April 25, 2019 at 6:30 at Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road for the purpose of considering the following petitions and requests together with all other matters that may properly come before the Board at this time. **AGENDA Held Over 1. Correia, Carlos, 1135 Williams Street-84.-2-48; CD** Request front yard setback variance and 280A variance for two lot subdivision. **Decision 2. Homeland Towers, LLC, 265-273 Oscawana Lake Rd.-72.16-1-23;CN** Request variance under Section 165-61 I 1 setback from the property line 210 ft. Request variance under Section 165-61 I 12a2 setback 750 ft. from a dwelling and public assembly. **New Application 3. Powers, James, 202 Canopus Hollow Road, -61.-2-40; R-3** Request front yard setback variance for generator and propane tank. **4. Quick, Jennifer, 18 Pembroke Ct, 92.-1-45; R-1** Amendment to previously approved Decision & Order. **5. Perez, Octavio, 55 Ridgecrest Road- 83.56-1-5,6 &7; R-1& LP** Request for side and front yard setback variance for the construction of a single family residence. **6. Babington, Peter, 72 Dunderberg Road,-62.14-1-47; R-3** Request side, front, lakefront and rear yard setback variance, and variance under Section 165-44 a (1) & (2) of the Zoning Code, and lot coverage variance for deck and addition to existing residence. **7. Steger, Kurt, 330 Lake Drive, 83.66-1-2; LP** Request lot coverage and side yard setback variance for detached workshop. **8. Fiorio, Robert, 66 Lee Ave, 62.18-1-33; R-3** Request lot coverage and side yard setback variance for extending and reconfiguring existing deck. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS WILLIAM MASKIELL CHAIRMAN**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL MEETING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** on May 8, 2019 at 6:00 PM the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a Discussion/Informational Meeting to hear public comments on the topic of AIRBNB's in the Town of Putnam Valley. **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will be holding the regularly scheduled work Session Town Board Meeting. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD** Sherry Howard Town Clerk Dated: 04-12-2019

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**, the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 6:00 PM at Town Hall located at 265 Oscawana Lake Road in Putnam Valley, NY. The Public Hearing shall be held for the purpose of granting a Special Use Permit for Cell Tower. **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will hold their Regular monthly Town Board Pre-Work Session Meeting. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD** Sherry Howard, Town Clerk Dated: 04-12-2019

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publication

# 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)*

## Tuesday, April 16

**Lifeguard Training:** Including Waterfront Lifeguard, CPR, first aid in June (dates being finalized) at Lake Carmel for those at least 15 years old. Cost is \$400 per person. Contact Michael O'Brien for more info at [mpo818@yahoo.com](mailto:mpo818@yahoo.com) or 914 806-1098.

**Action and Adventure:** Novelist Bruce Alterman taps into the forces of good and evil during private investigations. 6:30 p.m. the Reed Memorial Library. Refreshments served. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

**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, Nelson's Tavern at Centennial Golf Club (185 John Simpson Road, Carmel) Last date: 5/21 (10: a.m., noon

**Spring Crafternoon:** Reed Library. Ages 5 & up will make sock bunnies, edible peep houses and play jellybean bingo. 4:30 p.m. Please call Reed library to register 845-225-2439.

## Wednesday, April 17

**Earn your official babysitting certificate: Reed Library:** 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Bring pen/paper and a

snack. For boys and girls ages 10 & up. Registration required, please call Reed Library to register: 845-225-2439

## Saturday, April 20

**Community Passover Seder:** Temple Beth Elohim in Brewster will be having a Community Passover Seder in its Vista on the Hill. 6:30 p.m. No affiliation necessary. Cost is \$36 for adults, children 12 and under are \$12, and ages five and younger are free. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to [tbe1360@comcast.net](mailto:tbe1360@comcast.net) or call 845-279-4585 ext. 1. Guests can bring kosher for Passover dessert and wine. Checks are payable to Temple Beth Elohim and can be mailed to Temple Beth Elohim, 31 Mount Ebo Road North, Brewster.

**Military Collectables, Knife Show:** Patterson, Recreation Center, 65 Front Street, Patterson. This family friendly show runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$5...Children under 12 Free with an adult. Visit: [www.thedufflebaginc.com/tdb1/militaria3.htm](http://www.thedufflebaginc.com/tdb1/militaria3.htm) or contact The Patterson Recreation Center, 845-878-7200 or The Duffle Bag, 845-878-7106.

## Friday, April 19

**Plant and Flower Sale:** ALSO 4/20 4/21 9 a.m., - 7 p.m. (while supplies last!) Brewster Firehouse 501 North Main Street Choose From A Wide Selection Of Potted And Ready To Plant Blooms For info call 914-447-7123

**Movie Day:** 10:30 a.m., - 12:30 p.m. The final day of spring break camp ends with movie day! Have popcorn, and watch a movie on the big screen. For grades K

through 5. 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.

## Tuesday, April 23

**What is Ayurvedic Medicine:** Dr. Somesh N. Kaushik Ayurvedic and Naturopathic Physician will answer these questions and more at a workshop being held at the Desmond-Fish Public Library. 6:00 p.m., Refreshments will be served at this free event and everyone is invited to attend. The Desmond-Fish Public Library is located at 472 Route 403 (at the corner of 9D) in Garrison. [www.desmondfishlibrary.org](http://www.desmondfishlibrary.org).

**Declutter & Destress:** Reed Library: 6:30 p.m. Learn clutter-reducing techniques - reduce anxiety and increase productivity. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

## Wednesday, April 24

**Young Picasso Armchair Art Tour:** Reed Library. 11 a.m. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439

## Thursday, April 25

**Buying & Selling on eBay:** 6:30 p.m. Reed Library. Too much stuff? Looking for that special something? Learn how easy it is to buy and sell a wide variety of goods on eBay. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

**The Tri-State IBM Monthly Meeting:** United Methodist Church Conference Room, 1176 E Main St, Shrub Oak, Jillian Schwartz, of Clearview Acupuncture, PC,

will discuss comprehensive acupuncture. Set up at 12:30 p.m.; coffee and light refreshments at 1pm; meeting begins at 1:30pm. Info: Peg Ryan at 914-528-5916.

## Friday, April 26

**Paint Party at Reed Library:** 7 p.m. Help support the library's art classes while having fun creating a painting from start to finish, enjoying refreshments and sipping something delicious! Registration is required and seating is limited. Minimum donations \$25. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

## Saturday, April 27

**Mummies and More: An Introduction to Ancient Egypt.** 1 p.m. Experience a unique opportunity to learn about the art and archaeology with Marisa, a Harvard-trained Archaeologist-Educator. Discover this fascinating culture through dynamic storytelling and the use of authentic ancient artifacts. 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)

**Festa Italiana: Experience an Italian Village Party!** Enjoy a delicious Italian dinner catered by Frank and Augie's Restaurant and dance all evening to great Italian music by DJ Nick. 6 p.m. -10 p.m. Italian American Club of Mahopac. 141 Buckshollow Road, Mahopac Tickets \$40.00. Purchase tickets at [www.italianamericanclubofmahopac.org](http://www.italianamericanclubofmahopac.org) Call/text Nick (914)843-2153. Fundraising for the Italian American Club of Mahopac Accessibility Project for People with Disabilities.

## Obituaries

*continued from page 8*

a time when most women did not place the same emphasis on education as today, Anne went against social norms and proudly earned a Bachelor's degree from the College of Mount Saint Vincent. Anne worked as Assistant for the Recreation Department in the Town of Bedford, creating programs and advocating for the community of Katonah, where she raised her family. Anne brought beauty, compassion and love into everything and everyone, she touched in her life, her career, her community and most importantly her family. As a mother of seven sons, Anne had a limitless bounty of patience, a wealth of knowledge of sports and a first aid kit readily available at all times. She would gain the daughters and another son she had always hoped for when her sons would grow up and marry; Anne treated them as if they were her own. Jack and Anne had a warm and inviting home and were happiest when it was

full of company and laughter. Her heart was made complete when she became a grandmother. So much can be said about a woman who had a successful career, a loving marriage of over 65 years, seven children and thirteen grandchildren, but with a heart and character as great as Anne's, you would be barely touching the surface of what a honor and privilege it was to know her and be loved by her. Anne Mertens is survived by her husband Jack, her son John Jr. and daughter-in-law Barbara, her son Michael and daughter-in-law Marianne, her son Peter and son-in-law Joe Sercia, her son Chris and daughter-in-law Leslie, her son Tim and daughter-in-law Angela, her son Tom and daughter-in-law Teresa and her son Paul and daughter-in-law Kim. She is also survived by her thirteen precious grandchildren: Joseph, Robert, Kelly, Michele and grandson-in-law Chris, Meghan, Thomas, Jessica, Abigail, Alexander, Amanda, Brendalyn, Sean, and Jack. She is also survived by her

beloved sister Luise and she predeceased by her brother Robert.

### Martin S. Paysonm

Martin S. Paysonm, age 73, of Carmel, died peacefully on April 10. Martin is survived by his loving wife of 36 years Debbie, his two adoring children; his son Howard and his daughter Susan. He is also survived by his precious grandchildren Allison and Daniel, as well as being survived by his beloved sister Faith.

### Pasqua Fuschetto

Pasqua Fuschetto, age 89, of Brewster, died at her home on April 12, surrounded by her loving family. Pasqua was a loving wife, patient and kind mother, a grandmother who spoiled her precious grandchildren with love and a respected sister. She left her family with a legacy of love and devotion and they will continue to keep her in their hearts. She is survived by her adoring children Gaetano "Guy"

Fuschetto, Tammy Bersito, and Angela Caruso. She is also survived by her seven precious grandchildren and one great grandchild. As well she is survived by her beloved sister Tina Castellano.

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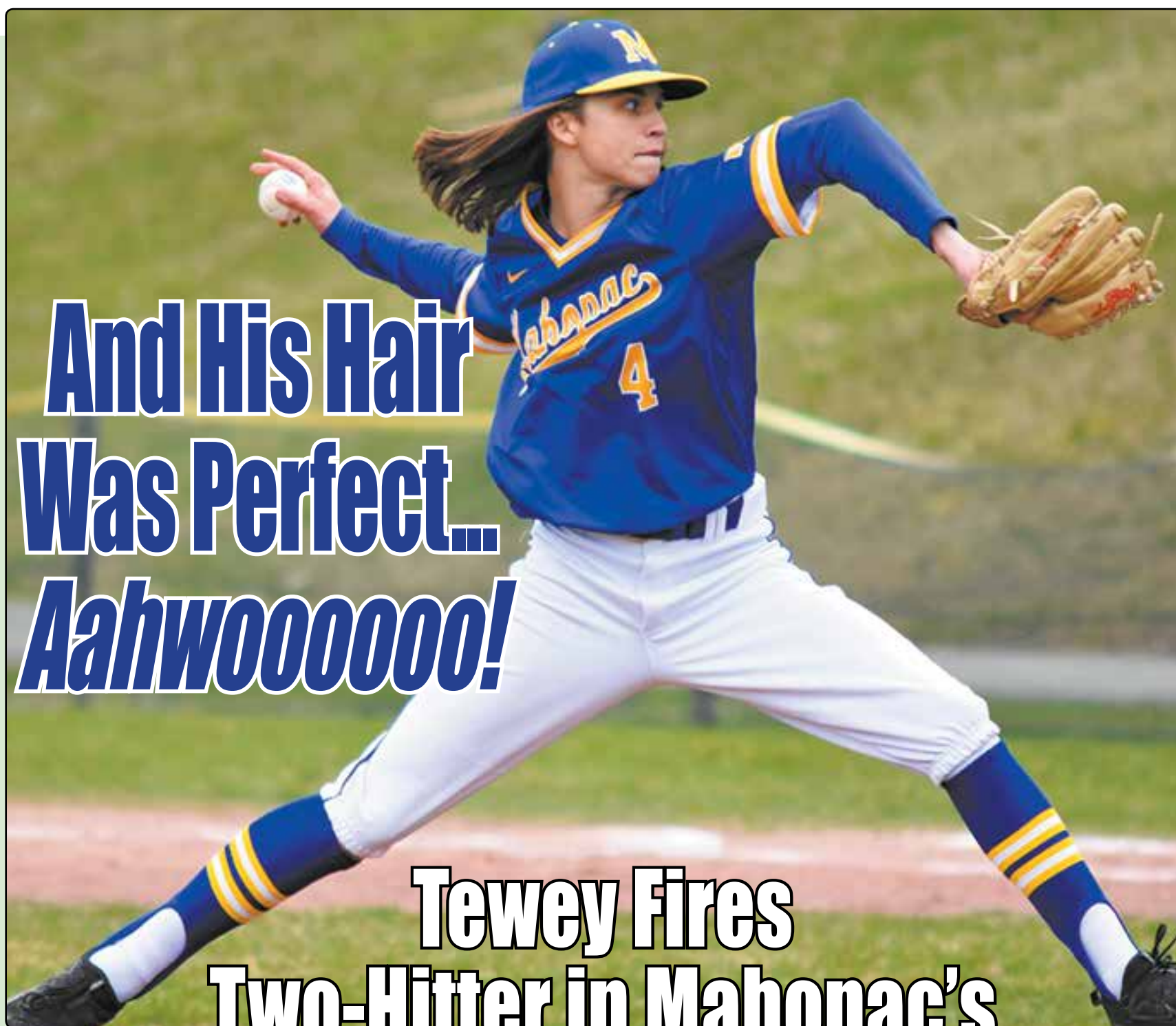
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# The Putnam Examiner Sports

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**And His Hair  
Was Perfect...  
Aahwoooooo!**

**Tewey Fires  
Two-Hitter in Mahopac's  
5-1 Win over Put Valley**

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Mahopac senior P Casey Tewey's performance on the hill was almost as perfect as his free-flowing mop in last Thursday's 5-1 Indian win over non-league host Putnam Valley, who could only muster a couple of hits (home book had 2, visitors had 1) against the RHP, who allowed one unearned run and went the distance for the win. Mahopac improved to 4-2 overall while the Tigers fell to 3-4... see Baseball Notebook



## Sports

## Baseball Notebook

# Vetrano Fires 5-Inning No-No in 10-0 Lakeland Win

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

The Section 1 Class A baseball title is there for **LAKELAND's** taking, much like it has been for the better part of 40-something years. The reigning champion Hornets, NYS runner-ups in 2018, are among the most consistent programs in Section 1 history, having copped two sectional titles since 2010 while remaining relevant each and every year. Lakeland snagged the flag for the third time in school history in 2010 and the fourth in 2018, but it has never repeated as Section 1 champs. The prevailing thought around Section 1 is that Lakeland is the team to beat in 2019 and its 5-1 start is additional evidence, though Rye (7-0) and Byram Hills (7-1) are legit threats, as is any team in Class A when it comes to baseball.

It's hard to imagine a high school baseball player providing more for his team than Lakeland junior P Joe Vetrano did last Wednesday in the Hornets' 10-0 League II-C win over visiting **YORKTOWN**.

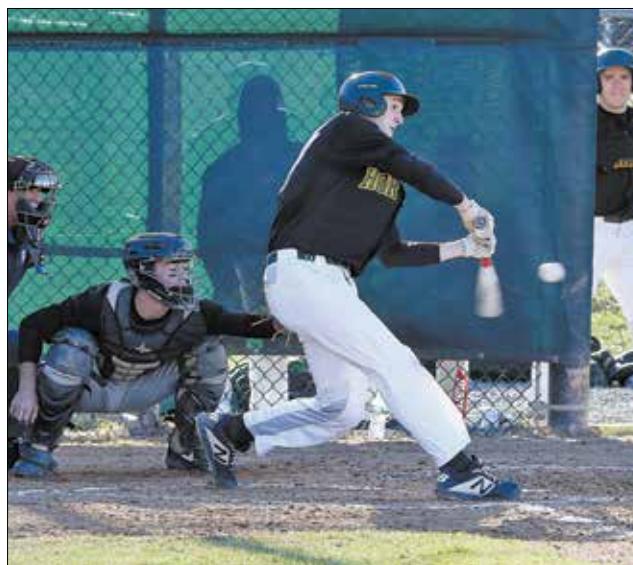
#JoeyBats declined much help, taking matters into his own hands by driving home five runs and tossing five innings of no-hit ball before the mercy rule was enacted against the Huskers (3-3).

To put his day into perspective, Vetrano had the hard parts of what might have been a cycle if the game continued, going 2 for 3 with a three-run homer and two-run triple. On the mound, the only blemish on his record was a lone walk, as he fanned 10 in one of the most impressive overall performances in Lakeland history.

The lefty swinging, lefty slinging Vetrano, who has committed to Boston College, displayed the kind of stuff that pro scouts will salivate over, including a 90 MPH fastball. The kid was shoving, according to longtime Yorktown Coach Sean Kennedy, who also saw former Lakeland stud Jonathan deMarte at his best back in 2010.

"(Jon) de Marte was the man," Kennedy said of the former NYS Gatorade Player of the Year. "His secondary stuff made him so tough. I really like the Vetrano kid, though. He works fast and pounds the strike zone with his fastball. Once he develops his others pitches he will be really good."

In a perfect world, Vetrano would get the ball on Monday, April 22nd against **BREWSTER**, opposite Bears junior ace Bobby McBride in a pivotal League II-C game. Someone (maybe, this scribe) might have to make a rare Monday appearance if this matchup comes to fruition. Heck, Brewster (4-1) is off to a terrific start, including its 6-2

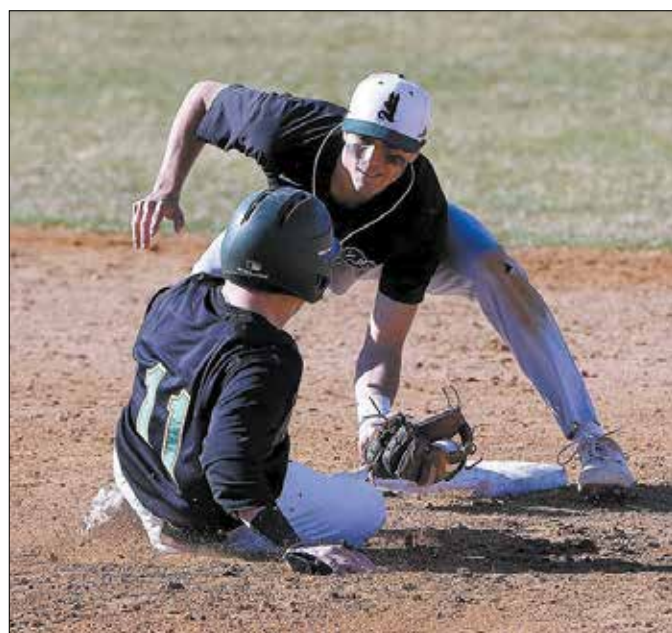


RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Lakeland's Joey Vetrano eyes up two-run yard bomb in Hornets' 10-0 win over Yorktown last Thursday.



Mahopac's Christian Campo tracks flight of well-struck ball in Indians 5-1 win over Putnam Valley.



Lakeland's Andrew Croce can't elude tag of Yorktown's ChRls Sica in Hornets' 10-0 win over Yorktown last Thursday.



Lakeland 1B Jason Green gets a late pick-off throw against Yorktown's Jack Tinari in Hornets' 10-0 win over Huskers last Thursday.



Mahopac's Chris Walpole is narrowly nipped by Put Valley 1B Matt Carravone in Indians' 5-1 win over host Tigers last Thursday.



Hen Hud player hoist the hardware after winning the Briarcliff Tournament last Saturday.

win over Pelham, in which Bears senior P Ryan Gergley allowed just one hit and three walks while sending eight Pelicans down K-way. He did not allow an earned run and seems to provide the Bears with a solid No.3. Bradlee McKeever had three hits and an RBI for the Bears while OF Paul Catalano had two RBI.

Perhaps, Brewster's most impressive win this season was a 10-9 slugfest over Beacon last Monday. Trailing 6-0 after a horrific first inning, the Bears went off for seven runs in the bottom of the sixth and two more in the seventh, capped by Catalano's walk-off for his third hit and fourth RBI of the day.

**SOMERS** and **PANAS** went head-to-head in a home-and-home set last week, including Thursday's featured matchup between Somers' SUNY Oneonta-bound senior Liam Kaseta and Panas junior Matty Calise, who salvaged a split for the Panthers in a 5-4 victory over the

*continued on next page*



# Sports

## Baseball Notebook

continued from previous page

Tuskers. Calise went 5-2/3rds and was touched for three earned runs. He fanned four and continued to emerge as a top-of-the-rotation chucker for Coach Anthony Fata. Calise also had an RBI to aid his own cause while Diego Urreta (2 for 4, RBI), Aidan Cohall (2 hits) and Don Hopper (2B, RBI and a run) were big for the Panthers (3-4).

The Tuskers also routed Panas, 10-0, the day before behind ace Logan Carriero, who pitched five scoreless innings, allowing two hits with four whiffs for the win. Teammates Mike Barbagallo hit a home run and had three RBI for Somers (4-3). Teammates Thomas Parisi and Jack Kaiser each went 2 for 2 and scored two runs.

After a 3-1 win over Beacon last Thursday, **HEN HUD** split the two-game set behind junior P Mike Greiner, who earned his third win of the season with four



Put Valley P Alex O'Brien tries to pick off Mahopac's Mike Musantry who gets in under tag of PV 1B Matt Carravone in Tigers' 5-1 loss to Indians last Thursday.



Mahopac's Kyle Brandsetter drives home a run in Indians' 5-1 win over host Put valley last Thursday.

scoreless innings. Ryoji Schwartz and Johnny Glashoff each drove home a run for the Sailors (6-2), who defeated Rondout Valley, 9-1, behind winning pitcher Donovan Burns in the Briarcliff Tournament over the weekend. Burns fired five terrific innings, allowing just a hit, a walk and one hit batsmen. Speedy Sailor Jordan Grullon reached base on 4 of 5 trips, going 2 for 4, with a double and two RBI, setting the table for the rest of the Sailors to manufacture runs.

Hen Hud was anything but done

after the opening round of the Briarcliff tournament as they went on to defeat the host Bears, 6-5, to cop top honors behind an MVP performance from Nick Hiltsey. Nick Caruso, who whiffed the last two batters for the save, and Jordan Grullon were also named to the All-Tournament team.

### CLASS AA

**MAHOPAC** and **PUTNAM VALLEY** got after each other last Thursday when the visiting Indians (4-2) managed a 5-1 victory behind the sterling pitching effort from senior righty Casey Tewey, who fired a complete game two-hitter, according to the home book. He gave up no earned runs and struck out four while pounding the strike zone incessantly.

"Casey did a great job for us today," Coach Myckie Lugbauer said. "He was able to be aggressive with his fastball today and attack hitters. He isn't going to be a guy to blow you away, but he pitches to contact and allows the guys behind him to play defense. I was happy to see him settle in today and get into a rhythm. He really did a fantastic job of attacking the zone today."

Senior Mike Musantry went 1 for 3 with two runs and an RBI for the Indians against PV hurler Alex O'Brien, who threw six strong innings for Putnam Valley (3-4), surrendering just one earned run off five hits while fanning seven. The Tigers' four errors truly hurt his cause, particularly during a three-run third. Mahopac has an interesting slate between now and April 27th with Clarkstown North, Yorktown, a pair with John Jay EF and rebuilding Fox Lane... anything less than 3-2 is an issue (IMO).

PV rebounded the next day effectively to beat Haldane, 11-0, in five innings behind starter John Millicker, who mastered the Blue Devils through four shutout innings, fanning a career-high 11, while, at the



Put Valley SS Frankie Curran scored lone for Tigers in 5-1 loss to Mahopac.

plate, going 2 for 4 with a two-run yard bomb. Reliever Matt Carlsen closed and went 2 for 4 with a double.

In **OSSINING's** 10-0 win over East Ramapo, Pride P AJ Manicchio fired a two-hit shutout, striking out nine. Mark DeAngelis went 1-for-2 with two walks, an RBI and run scored, while Nick Cascione scored twice as the host Pride improved to 4-1.

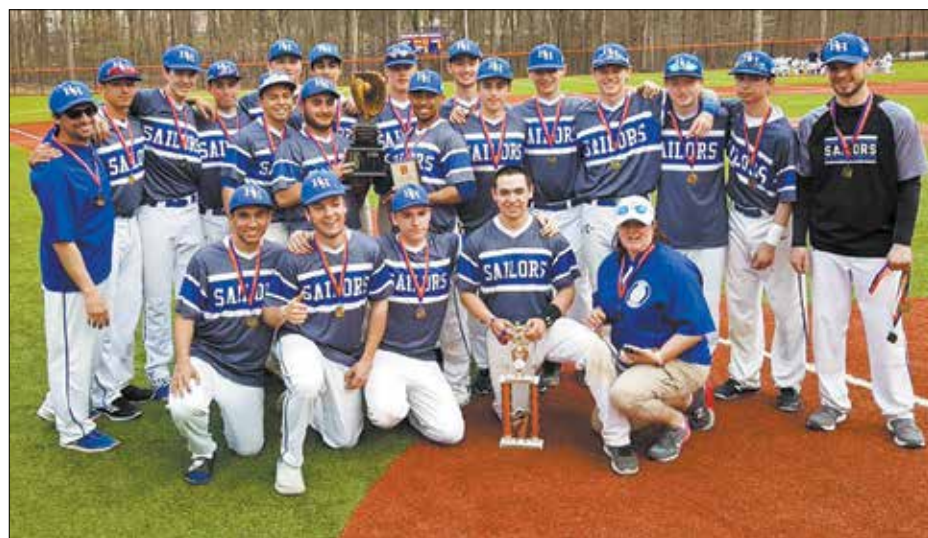
Ossining also had its hitting shoes on in a 10-1 win over Ardsley last Wednesday when chucker Peter Bossinas got the victory during a four-hit complete game gem. Bossinas struck out eight and walked only one and did not give up an extra base hit.

Hitting stars for Ossining included, AJ Mannichio (2 for 3, 2 doubles, 2 RBI, 2 runs), Joe Bossinas (two-run double) and Matt Minihan (1 for 4, RBI, 3 runs). Curious to see how Ossining fares against Class B Put Valley this week.

**CARMEL** was swept by Arlington and slipped to 2-4-1, and the dose of Dutchess dominance will soon be felt by Mahopac as well. The Rams and Indians were due to face undefeated RCK (6-0) and Arlington (5-3) in the weeks ahead. League rivals Arlington (3) and RCK (5) have combined to win eight Section 1 AA titles since 2002, and neither appear to be in decline this season as they sit atop one of the filthiest leagues in the state. Add in a home-and-home set with feisty John Jay EF and the going is sure to get tougher for both Carmel and Mahopac as the League I-A slate heats up in earnest.

### CLASS B

Croton P Max Luke was dealing in a four-hit 1-0 shutout of Pleasantville. He fanned four and went 2 for 2, going yard for the game's lone run as the Tigers improved to 4-2.



Hen Hud players pose off with the championship medals and hardware after winning the Briarcliff tournament last Saturday.



## Sports

## Softball Notebook

# Put Valley Striding, Waters Sisters Each Get 100th Hit

By Tony Pinciario

Coming into the 2019 varsity softball season, **PUTNAM VALLEY** junior Alex Waters was well aware she was closing in on a milestone. The catcher and five-year varsity starter knew 100 varsity hits was on the horizon.

It did not take long for Waters to reach the milestone as a single in a victory over Tuckahoe put her at the century mark. Waters then had the pleasure of celebrating two games later when sister, Keiko, also achieved 100 varsity hits.

It was part of a perfect week for the Tigers who defeated Tuckahoe, Haldane and Dobbs Ferry, improving to 6-1 this season. Putnam Valley also owns a win over Ardsley, the 2018 Section 1 Class A champion.

Along with the Waters' sisters' accomplishment, pitcher Emily McKenna



RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Putnam Valley's Keiko and Alex Waters each notched the 100th hit of their splendid softball careers last week.



Yorktown's Lainie Ornstein scurries back to 2B as Lakeland's Shannon Scotto applies tag in Huskers' 6-3 loss to Hornets.

"Sharing this special accomplishment with Keiko is the best," Waters said. "Keiko is the hardest-working person ever and I don't think that there is anyone that deserves it more than her. I'm beyond grateful that I got to share this moment with my best friend. And I couldn't be more proud. I love playing softball with my sister. She is my best friend and just makes everything about this team so much better."

Waters joined varsity in seventh grade and Coach Rena Finsmith made her the shortstop. However, Finsmith quickly realized Waters could handle catching.

"Alex entered into the program as a shy, but hardworking seventh-grader and stepped into a position that I asked a lot from her at such a young age," Finsmith said. "Alex has grown into an outstanding leader and captain for our team. This year, especially she has found her voice. She has always been that kid that does things by example but this year she's more vocal and provides that sense of calm for our team."

"Alex is so very deserving of reaching this milestone. This is a kid who works hard every single day, never takes a play off, and excels in the classroom. I am most proud of the fact that Alex is an excellent student-athlete."

Waters didn't mind playing shortstop, but she welcomed the return to her natural position.

"I love catching because I am in every play, somehow, which keeps me focused



Yorktown's Sam Riccardulli gets in a good cut in Huskers' 6-3 setback to Lakeland.



Lakeland C Amber Lopez readies for put-out of Yorktown's Alyssa Buck in Hornets' 6-3 win over Huskers.



Lakeland slugger Claire Fon is hitting a robust .628 BA with 26 RBI and 9 dingers through seven games for the undefeated Hornets.



Panas P Olivia Bordenaro delivers in Panthers' loss to Mahopac last Monday.

registered her 300th varsity strikeout.

"When I was one hit away, going into are Westlake game, I let the emotion of it get in my way to the point where I didn't get my hit in that game, but I learned from that game how to forget about myself and my 100th hit and focus on winning and doing the best I can for my teammates," Waters said. "So for the next game, against Tuckahoe, my goal wasn't the hit, it was done everything in my power to help my team win and that is when I was successful."

"The feeling of getting my 100th hit was amazing. It was such an accomplishment that I have wanted for a long time, and I was very excited that I finally reached my goal. I was extremely proud of myself of course, but also was so happy and grateful because of all of the love and support I got from my friends, family, and school."

While getting her 100th hit was special, Waters said seeing Keiko also achieve it made it memorable.

and in the game at all times," Waters said.

The fast start is what Putnam Valley was striving for. Even though the Tigers lost to Westlake, the 2018 Section 1 Class B champion, they compensated for it with a win over Ardsley.

"Beating Ardsley was an amazing team win, overall," Waters said. "We played the best game we possibly could have played and it gave our team so much confidence to keep playing this softball for the rest of the season. Overall, I am very happy with the start of the season. We are making all the plays, hitting the ball, and Emily is doing an amazing job in the circle. With a 6-1 record we are playing great softball and need to continue to do this."

**LAKELAND** ran its record to a perfect seven, 7-0, following wins over Arlington (9-0), John Jay-Cross River (13-6) and defending Class A champion **YORKTOWN** (6-3).

Senior Claire Fon tossed a two-hitter and struck out seven against Arlington. It was Fon's third shutout of the season.

*continued on next page*



## Sports

## Boy's LAX Notebook

# Yorktown Learning Lessons; Mahopac Riding Hot Streak

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

There's work to be done, and that is something every lacrosse coach in the land preaches in April as the best of the best prepare for the rigors of late May; when ordinary teams hoist themselves into championship caliber clubs in the hopes of representing Section 1 in the NYSPHSAA tournament.

And just because Class B **YORKTOWN** suffered an 11-5 loss at the hands of Class A Long Island powerhouse Chaminade last Saturday, and defending Section 1 Class B champion John Jay worked an impressive 11-9 win over reigning NYS Class D champion Pleasantville, Coach Sean Carney's 2018 Class B runner-up Huskers aren't sweating the minor details. Instead, Yorktown remains focused on the task at hand, and that assignment is crystal clear: Don't become the first team in Yorktown history to lose back-to-back sectional titles.

Anyone wagering against Coach Sean Carney's Huskers at this point in time is playing with fool's gold, but that doesn't mean Yorktown is a lock to represent at states: It only reaffirms what we've become accustomed to in this neck of the woods. Yorktown, which knocked off John Jay by five goals just a week or so ago, is the cream of the crop in this here region; though clubs like Class D's Bronxville and Pleasantville, Class C Rye, Class B's Somers and John Jay, and Class A's Lakeland/Panas, Mamaroneck and Mahopac – while collectively thinning the Section 1 divide from time to time -- remain the envy of the Yorktown juggernaut... beating them this season, while doable, is something

more along the lines of a wish list than an actual happening...

## NWE/Putnam Feb 5 LAX Poll

**No.1 YORKTOWN** –Class B Huskers (5-2) loss at the hands of Long Island Class A powerhouse Chaminade was preceded by a 13-10 East Coast vs. West Coast win over Mercer Island (WA), in which Husker long pole Keith Boyer, a sophomore mind you, scored two of the most impressive goals we've seen in several years, both coming unassisted, in full sprint, off draws he won (film don't lie, view here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWVt8tWddC4>). Boyer added a key assist off another clean face-off win. Chaminade showed the Huskers what they need to do in order to get to the next level, but doing so without face-off man Brendan Williams (hammy issue) and injured super soph Blake Borges would be next to impossible. Alex DeBenedictis and Reese Andrews had two goals apiece for the Huskers and Brendan Reagan added another. Shane Dahlke dished two assists.

**No.2A MAHOPAC** – Class A Indians (5-2) get the nod over L/P because they are on somewhat of a roll in recent days (5 W's in a row), but the fact that the Indians relied upon 16 saves from Pace-bound senior G Mike Argila in a 9-6 win over New Rochelle is a tad alarming. Junior Tommy Elliot dialed up a pair of goals for the Indians, who saw Andrew Dazi, Matt Riley, Drew Riolo, Anthony Corrado and Zach Esteves each provide a goal and an assist. In addition to the obvious; that being reigning champ Mamaroneck: It's time we start to recognize Scarsdale and North Rockland as potential Class A threats, too, so a Final 4 berth won't be as easy as one would hope. Anything big

happening on Thursday, April 25th? Not much time left to get ready for Class A's premier rivalry since 1989ish... 'Pac vs. Rebels! 19 sectional titles between the two since 1989... treat this game with the pomp and circumstance it deserves.

**No.2B LAKELAND/PANAS** – Youthful Class A Rebels (2-3) had a month's worth of growing pains in a tough week, which included three losses, but the most concerning was a 12-11 overtime loss to Scarsdale. The Rebs simply can't expect to beat Mamo' for what would be their fourth Section 1 title in six years if they can't fend off the Raiders. L/P played an exceptional first half in a 17-14 loss to Section 2 powerhouse Niskayuna but it takes two halves against the premier programs in NYS, so despite hat tricks from Alex Davoli (1A) and Tom Nolan (1A) and two goals from Mike Walsh, Coach Lindsay will go back to the drawing board in hopes of devising a better defensive game plan in front of G JP Walsh.

**No.4 HEN HUD** – Class C Sailors (5-2) made short work of Sleepy Hollow in a 16-5 triumph that saw Ryan Pritchard notch five goals and one assist for the surging Sailors, winners of three in a row. Max Popolizio added two goals and five assists while Jack Kapfer netted three goals and Bryce Caffrey had one goal and three assists for a Hen Hud team that needs to beat a contender before we hop totally aboard the bandwagon, but they did beat Fox Lane and that gets the Sailors the nod over Somers this week.

**No.5 SOMERS** – Class B Tuskers (3-4) squandered, no, really blew, an 8-3 lead in an 11-10 triple-overtime loss to Fox Lane, in which Nick Rossi had three goals and

one assist for the Tuskers. Lorenzo Sessa and T.J. Deagan each had two goals and one assist in the loss that shouldn't have. Thankfully, Somers figured out a better result in its 11-8 win over Arlington when Brandon LaSpina helped stop a three-game slide by bagging four goals. Sessa and Rossi each drew a hat trick.

**HM PUTNAM VALLEY** – Class D Tigers (4-2) got a career game from M Charlie Broas who dropped 4G in 13-11 win over Section 9's Warwick. Ethan Mounier (2G, 2A, 7 GBs) had quite the day while Joey van de Veerdonk (hat trick), Kyle Wassil (2G) and Jack Longden (1G, 1A) all had multi-point games and G Dan Clements (9 saves) came up big. Class D title looks like a few-team dogfight with Bronxville and Briarcliff ready to challenge defending champion Pleasantville. Whoa, that loss to Haldane!

**HM CARMEL** – Class A Rams (4-3) are making us notice them after a 7-3 win over White Plains, in which Ryan Taormina and Aidan Babnik (2G, 2A apiece) led the Rams to a second-straight win, Budding sophomore Ryan McDonald also scored a pair of goals.

**HM BREWSTER** – Class B Bears (4-3) suffered losses to Fox Lane and Byram Hills, and the Hen Hud game this Thursday should be a real indicator.

**HM HALDANE** – Class D Blue Devils (5-1) saw Jaeger Beachak, Mame Diba and Sam Giachinta all notch 100 career points this season and, to boot, Giachinta is just three goal shy of 100 for his career after 15-10 win over Hastings Saturday and his eight-point effort in a 12-9 win over Dobbs earlier in the week. Whoa, that win over Put Valley... HUGE!!!

continued from previous page



Mahopac P Shannon Becker delivers in Indians' win over Panas last Monday.

Fon also went 4 for 4, including two home runs, and four RBI. Hannah Matusiak added two hits and an RBI and Krystal Badillo had a hit, scored twice and drove in a run.

Lakeland pounded out 17 hits against John Jay, led by Shannon Scotto, Badillo and Fon, who had three hits apiece. Fon drove in three runs and Badillo had two RBI. Amber Lopez and Ava Knopf each had two hits, two runs scored and an RBI.

Lakeland scored three runs in each of the first two innings and Fon scattered seven hits.

Stella Bale finished with a team-best three hits and two RBI. Fon had two hits, including her ninth round-tripper of the season, and two RBI. This was also Fon's 33rd

career home run, which moves her into seventh place on the all-time NYSPHSAA list. Scotto also had two hits and an RBI.

**MAHOPAC** is now 6-0 this season after Shannon Becker blanked Panas, 4-0, and the Indians outlasted Colonie (Section 2), 2-1 in 11 innings. Mahopac Coach Christina Giansante cited incredible plays and game called by C Michelle DellaMura, who also singled along with Lauren Zecca (RBI), Danielle Sabia (2 hits, RBI).

Becker struck out 14 and also drove in two runs against Panas. Abby Mastropietro smacked a home run and also doubled.

Becker rang up 22 strikeouts against Colonie and only allowed one hit. Becker is now at 108 K's for the season after 6 games and needs 303 additional whiffs to establish a new star



Mahopac's Kailey Zecca takes cut in Indians' win over Panas last Monday.





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