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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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Disbandment of WIC Close to Done Deal

By David Propper

While no official action was taken last week, Putnam County lawmakers appeared poised to disband the Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) program in favor of handing off the responsibilities to a private entity in the county.

During last Wednesday's personnel committee meeting, most lawmakers seemed ready to transfer WIC services from the county to Open Door, a family medical center, by October. While most legislators stated services would not change for those in need of the program, several county employees in the health department could lose their jobs as a result of the switch.

Between 1,100 and 1,200 residents rely on WIC each year, according to county officials.

There are four full-time workers and five part-time workers whose positions would be eliminated.

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DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Rebecca Whittenberg, who is the WIC coordinator, pleaded with county lawmakers to save the WIC program that most seemingly are ready to transition to Brewster-based Open Door.

Small Amounts of Marijuana Decriminalized in New York

By David Propper

While the lofty goal of legalizing marijuana for recreational use didn't go through, New York State lawmakers opted to instead decriminalize small amounts of the drug as the legislative session came to a close last week.

Working past the legislative deadline, the state senate, followed by the assembly voted to reduce the severity of possessing less than two ounces of marijuana to a violation that would only result in a

fine. The penalty for possession under one ounce would be a \$50 fine and for possession between one and two ounces would be \$200. There would also be a process to automatically expunge records both retroactively and for future convictions tied to the recreational drug.

NYS Sen. Peter Harckham, who didn't support full legalization, but voted in favor of decriminalization, said in a statement by passing this law, it would address

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AMY KUBIK PHOTO

Embracing The Past

High school commencements were held throughout Putnam County last week as thousands of graduates donned caps and gowns to celebrate the completion of their high school careers with an eye on bigger and better things. The Brewster, Carmel, Haldane, Mahopac and Putnam Valley school systems all held their ceremonies over the past week, with photos of the festivities in a special pullout section of The Putnam Examiner. Congrats to all the graduates and good luck!

An Eye On The Future



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Study to Explore Southeast-Brewster Merger Shot Down

By David Propper

While there has always been chatter about merging the Town of Southeast and Village of Brewster into one municipality, a study meant to examine that combination was shot down by village officials last week.

Brought forward by Southeast Councilman Eric Larca last Wednesday during a village trustees meeting, the feasibility study would have examined if it was worth combining the two local governments into one, but village trustees said they didn't have enough information to agree to apply for the grant before its July 26 deadline. While one grant would be to study consolidating the two governments, the other possible grant would have been to explore shared service opportunities and combine certain departments between Brewster and Southeast.

While the town could've applied for the grant without the village's blessing, the more municipalities on board means more funding for the study. The proposal was not discussed during a town board meeting.

"It's just a study, I really wish they would've moved forward," Larca said. "It's just an analysis, where it says maybe there's nothing, maybe there's something."

Larca said he plans on bringing this grant up again next year and will go back



Brewster Mayor James Schoenig

to the village to request they sign on. He said there is "so much to be gained" by the two governments working more together and possibly consolidating completely.

"Let's rip the Band-Aid off, look at everything and see what the result is," Larca, who noted he would never want the Village of Brewster to lose its identity, said. "I'd be for combining if it



Southeast Councilman Eric Larca

made financial sense and if we were going to improve the community and provide more to the community."

He stressed this would not be a "takeover" of the village.

But Brewster officials weren't as enthusiastic, with Mayor James Schoenig stating the village did not have enough information to apply for this grant with

Southeast, including how long the study would take and the total costs associated with it. It is also unclear if the town would take over the village or if the village would take over the town, Schoenig said.

Schoenig also felt with the village on the precipice of its revitalization project, it would not be wise to pursue the study. The hope is to have a shovel in the ground in the next year, he said.

Schoenig said if a developer wanted to invest in the village and saw there was a possible merger, it might make that person rethink their interest. Schoenig said he's heard from developers and investors that Southeast government is not business friendly right now, which could discourage them from coming to Brewster if there was a chance Southeast government could take over the village.

"For us to even consider a merger would not be in the best interest of the village and not in the best interest of the developers," Schoenig said. "This really isn't the best time to do this."

Still, he would be open to more shared services if it saved money for both governments.

"This has been kicked around for years and it's gotten ugly," Schoenig said of past talks of a merger. "The town and the village should work together."



The Pap Test

What every woman must know about this test and possible results...

Ask the Doctor

Elisa Burns, MD

Medical Director,
Director of Quality and Outcomes
Institute for Robotic and
Minimally Invasive Surgery
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Q: What does the Pap test show?

A: The Pap test (or Pap smear) screens for pre-cancerous cellular abnormalities in a woman's cervix. If abnormalities are found, you can be monitored or treated so you don't develop cervical cancer. A Pap test involves scraping cells from your cervix to examine for pre-cancerous changes in tissue. Depending on your age, history and previous Pap test results, the cells might also be tested for high-risk types of the human papillomavirus (HPV), the most common cause of cervical cancer. Ninety-nine percent of cases of cervical cancer are caused by the human papillomavirus, which is generally sexually transmitted.

Q: If my Pap results are abnormal, what are the next steps?

A: If your cervical cells appear abnormal and/or you are positive for high-risk HPV, you may undergo a colposcopy, an examination of the cervix under magnification, to find areas most likely to have abnormal cells. If these are found, a biopsy is used to make a definitive diagnosis.

Among women aged 20 to 30 years, cervical cell abnormalities often go away by themselves, so we typically monitor rather than treat these women,

as cervical cancer develops slowly. However, when an older woman receives a positive biopsy report, we more often treat because abnormalities don't always go away on their own. We usually surgically remove the abnormal area.

Q: How effective is the Pap test?

A: Very. Routine Pap tests have decreased the rate of cervical cancer in the U.S. by 80 percent. Women who get screened for cervical cancer have an extremely low rate of this cancer.

Q: At what age should I start and stop having Pap tests?

A: Start at 21. Women under 21 have a very low incidence of the type of high-grade abnormalities that will progress to cervical cancer. Screening after age 65 isn't needed if you have a recent history of normal Pap results. If your Pap test and HPV test are negative, you should repeat both tests in three years.

Did you know?

Routine Pap tests have decreased the rate of cervical cancer in the U.S. by 80 percent.

Putnam Clerk Won't Commit to Issuing Licenses to Undoc. Immigrants

By David Propper

With a few county clerks throughout New York already threatening to defy a new state law that goes into effect later this year, Putnam County Clerk Michael Bartolotti remained non-committal whether his office would issue driver's licenses to immigrants in the country illegally.

The state Legislature approved the Green Light Bill last week, which would allow undocumented immigrants to obtain a driver's license. After the controversial measure passed through both the state senate and assembly, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the bill into law as New York became the 13th state, along with the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, to allow undocumented immigrants to have some form of a license.

Bartolotti, in a statement, said his office would continue to express concerns and questions to the state Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in hopes of affecting the implementation process while also consulting with the county attorney's office to explore further options.

Bartolotti, a Republican, said he and other clerks in the state have conveyed concerns about the Green Light Bill to state lawmakers and the governor's office, only for it to be ignored. He said this legislation puts clerks in the middle of a conflict between state and federal laws.

"We are very well versed in the driver's license issuing process, and are aware of the many pitfalls of this legislation," Bartolotti said. "The concept of allowing

driving privileges to those who cannot prove lawful presence in the United States is very troubling to me."

Supporters of the law, like NYS Sen. Peter Harckham, said it is a public safety measure that will help undocumented immigrants know the rules of the road and have car insurance. Those granted licenses will only get it after passing written safety and road tests and paying a fee to the state. The license would not be used to vote, board an airplane or gain citizenship, Harckham, a Democrat, said.

"The bill was supported by many law enforcement professionals who were concerned about untrained, unlicensed drivers on the road," Harckham said.

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, a Democrat, also voted in favor of the measure, though she originally had reservations about supporting the proposal. Ultimately for her, it came down to safety on the roads.

She said undocumented immigrants are already driving without licenses and might not know all the rules of the road.

In a recent questionnaire sent to her constituents, she said 58 percent of people that replied were in support of the Green Light bill.

"I think the views on this have changed over time," Galef said. "I think we're going to have safer roadways."

Norma Pereira, a Carmel resident who is active in the Latino community, said it was long past due for the state to approve licenses for undocumented immigrants. By passing this law, Pereira said it would allow those immigrants to come out of

the shadows.

"It's going to help everyone in the community," Pereira said.

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne and NYS Sen. Sue Serino, both Republicans, voted against the Green Light Bill.

Byrne said he doesn't believe in rewarding people that violate national and state laws. He had other problems with the bill, including police being handcuffed when doing their jobs and working with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Byrne said the Police Conference of New York publicly opposed the bill and he's spoken with others in law enforcement that were against it.

He said there were concerns that loopholes could allow people in the country illegally to use these licenses to vote.

When asked what he thought about county clerks objecting to issuing these licenses, Byrne said that was each clerk's prerogative.

"I could see their objection to it," Byrne said, noting there was a bill that would've allowed county clerks to opt out of issuing these licenses, but it was never taken up for a vote.

Serino, in a statement, said county clerks have indicated to her they do not have the resources to verify identifies using foreign documents as they would be required to under the legislation. She said the law is "ripe for abuse" that could "inadvertently leave New Yorkers vulnerable to serious security and public safety threats."



PROVIDED PHOTO

Putnam County Clerk Michael Bartolotti is unsure if he will issue driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants when the Green Light Bill goes into effect later this year.

"This bill is extreme in every way, goes beyond anything any other state is doing on this issue, and puts the rights of lawbreakers ahead of law-abiding citizens," Serino said. "If there is a problem with our immigration policy, we should be advocating for comprehensive change at the federal level, not further incentivizing illegal activity here in our state at the expense of our own legal residents."

Small Amounts of Marijuana Decriminalized in NY

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racial disparities that occur in New York's marijuana drug laws. By expunging the records of those already convicted of possessing small amounts of marijuana, Harckham, a Democrat, said those people would, "have access to higher education, employment opportunities and financial services."

He said he could not support full legalization because many of his constituents had numerous concerns. If marijuana was fully legalized, he said not enough resources would be dedicated to suburban police departments to address driving under the influence, to school systems for education and to help manage risky behaviors, and to public health groups for prevention and treatment.

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, a Democrat who was not in support of legalizing marijuana fully, said decriminalization was a good compromise. She doesn't believe putting people in jail for these low level offenses.

But there were plenty of detractors with regards to the new law, including Putnam Sheriff Robert Langley. He said

while he wasn't necessarily opposed to decriminalizing marijuana, there are numerous issues with the law that has been passed.

"The increase of possession weight of marijuana while reducing the level of the offense does not make sense and eliminating the section for smoking marijuana in a public place is irresponsible. This is only enabling persons to use marijuana more freely with little to no regard for the general public. The smoking of marijuana in a public place should hold a higher punishment as it is only encouraging the use of drugs and setting a poor example for our youth," Langley, a Democrat, said in a statement. "We as a society need to be responsible and specific aspects of the decriminalization of marijuana will have devastating consequences in our society. I only hope I am wrong in saying this, but I believe we will see an increase in accidents by persons impaired by marijuana along with fatal motor vehicle accidents and a rise in mental health related arrests."

NYS Sen. Sue Serino said while she believes in redemption when it comes to the criminal justice system and giving

people a second chance for low level offenses, she doesn't think this bill is the answer.

"It does nothing to disincentivize drug use among young people—in fact it does just the opposite," Serino stated. "I think we can do better when it comes to preventing drug use and lifting New Yorkers up and out of the system."

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne said a fine

for marijuana shouldn't be the same or less than what it costs to pay a parking ticket. Also, by putting in the law that a person can't smoke marijuana in places where you also cannot smoke tobacco products or vape, it is one step closer to full legalization, he said.

"It's an incremental step to full legalization," Byrne said. "They're not stopping here."




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Disbandment of WIC Close to Done Deal

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Personnel director Paul Eldridge said the county would do its best to help the employees who are in danger of losing their jobs find work elsewhere, whether that be in Putnam government or perhaps at Open Door. Some WIC program workers could even find other jobs in the health department as some of their colleagues plan to retire soon, Eldridge said.

"If this (WIC disbandment) occurs, we're going to work our butts off to make sure we give them as many opportunities as possible," Eldridge said.

County fiscal manager William Orr explained there was always "a thought" to disband WIC, but after a nutritionist left earlier this year creating a vacant position, the county decided to explore discontinuing the entire program rather than fill that position. Finance commissioner William Carlin said when the county originally started WIC decades ago, Putnam was a rural county and there was no other organization that could provide these services. Now, private organizations like Open Door exists to fill those needs. WIC is not a New York State mandated program.

While health commissioner Dr. Michael Nesheiwat said he values the WIC employees at the health department, sometimes you have to "sacrifice the part to protect the whole."

"Open Door can offer a lot more services than we can offer," Nesheiwat said. "It's really a one-stop institution for full services. The health department can't compete with that."

But at least one lawmaker fought back against losing WIC.

Legislator Nancy Montgomery, the sole Democrat on the board, butted heads with just about every other lawmaker over shifting WIC services. She argued there were still too many unanswered questions about the move, including how residents from the west side of the county would travel to Brewster where Open Door is located. Currently, the county



Personnel committee members Ginny Nacerino and Paul Jonke at last week's meeting.



Personnel director Paul Eldridge (left) and fiscal manager William Orr spoke with lawmakers last week during the hour-long discussion item.

sets up shop in different towns to make it more convenient for participants to get to. Montgomery also said she heard wait times at Open Door are "astronomical."

Montgomery said it appears like disbanding WIC is already a "done deal."

When Montgomery asked if the WIC program was running a deficit, Orr said it would either break even or run a small deficit. He noted there's been a savings because the county has not hired a full-time nutritionist or full-time WIC coordinator. Montgomery argued the legislature has approved high spending for amenities throughout the county, like at Tilly Foster Farm and the Putnam

County Golf Course, which bothered other lawmakers who claimed she was wrongly conflating two different issues.

"Taking care of people in need sometimes requires spending some money," Montgomery said, adding later. "We're replacing county employees and public health workers with catering companies and bartenders for Tilly Foster and the golf course."

"That's beyond ridiculous," Legislator Paul Jonke, who appears in favor of moving WIC to Open Door, said. "So stupid." (Jonke made clear he thought the comment was stupid, not Montgomery.)

Legislator and personnel committee chair Ginny Nacerino said she and other



CSEA president Janet Canaday spoke at last week's meeting in support of the WIC workers that could lose their jobs.

lawmakers would not agree to move the WIC program to Open Door if there were going to be less services for WIC participants.

"In fact, (services) will be enhanced," Nacerino said.

Nacerino said even if there are employees or WIC recipients adversely affected, the legislature needs to focus on the "greater good" and look at the "big picture."

CSEA union president Janet Canaday said WIC workers want to stay with the county. There is one employee who is one year away from retirement and two people who are about a year from 15 years, which would result in better health benefits in retirement.

Rebecca Wittenberg, who is the WIC coordinator, said she was skeptical if the four full-time employees would be able to be placed in other jobs in the county. She said the county should stick with the program for one more year until the federal grant expires.

WIC participants aren't going to get the personable service at Open Door that they do with the county, Wittenberg said.

"My staff goes above and beyond," Wittenberg said.

Brewster Teenager Hit with Rape Charge

By David Propper

A Brewster teenager was taken into custody last week when 19-year-old Dulvin Andres Ovalle was arrested on rape and related charges on June 17, New York State Police recently announced.

Ovalle was charged with rape in the 2nd degree, disseminating indecent material to minors in the 1st degree, both class D felonies, and endangering the welfare of a child, a class A misdemeanor, according to state police, which handled the case.

After being alerted by parents, investigators determined that Ovalle allegedly raped a victim he knew who was under the age of 15-years-old, state police said. Additionally, Ovalle allegedly sent indecent material to the cell phone of the victim, authorities said.

Ovalle was arraigned in Village of Brewster Justice Court by Judge Richard O'Rourke and remanded to Putnam County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$10,000 cash bail or \$20,000 secure bond.

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With New Program, Putnam Aims to Curb Veteran Suicides

By David Propper

Calling veteran suicide an epidemic, Putnam County Veterans Service Agency director Karl Rohde and members of Putnam's suicide prevention task force kicked off a three-year program last week in hopes of minimizing veteran suicides in the county and region.

The county welcomed the New York Promise Wall last week as it began its suicide awareness program. The Promise Wall exhibit commemorates servicemen and servicewomen who lived in New York and committed suicide as a result of PTSD.

The families of fallen veterans on the wall have given permission for their relatives to be featured, Rohde said, which includes a photo and short biography of each.

Currently, there are no deceased veterans from Putnam on it, but Rohde hopes to reach out to a few families in the area to seek their permission, stressing it's important to put a face to the names of those that have died far too soon.

There are 22 veteran suicides per day in the United States, with New York actually facing more self inflicted deaths than other states.

"It's brutal, sometimes I just can't believe it when I hear the numbers," Rohde said of the high number of suicides across the state and country.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

The New York Promise Wall was on display in Carmel last week in hopes of raising awareness of veteran suicides.

A grant was applied for and awarded to the county that would go toward a suicide awareness program meant to combat the high number of veterans that kill themselves each year. The grant lasts for three years and provides the county with \$15,000, which will allow them to develop different strategies and events to raise awareness and connect with veterans and their families. While

everyone knows about the suicides of celebrities like Robin Williams and Kate Spade, the disturbing number of veterans that kill themselves doesn't get the same volume of attention, Rohde said.

The Promise Wall was on display at the Carmel VFW building last Wednesday where veterans and others came together to hear different speakers discuss veteran suicide. The Promise Wall was in the

county office building the remainder of the week.

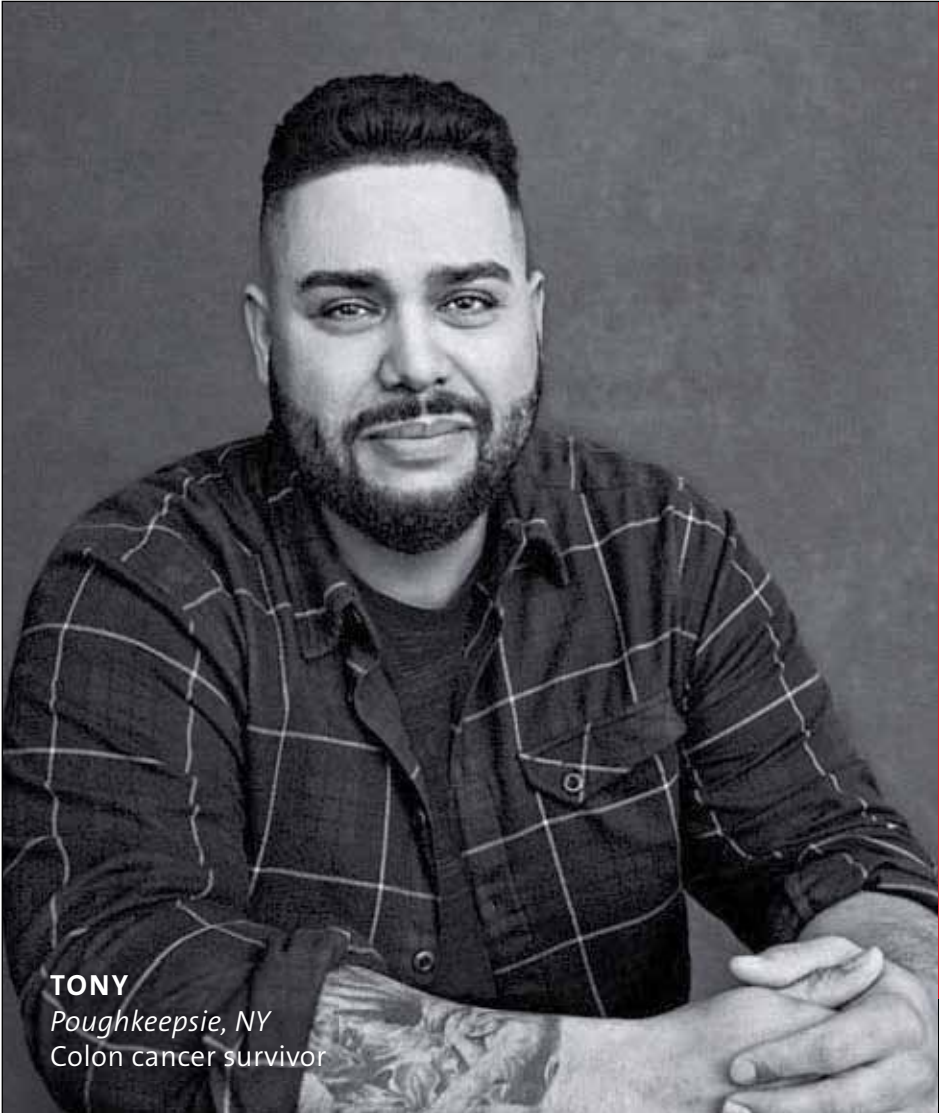
"It puts a face to what we're talking about," Megan Castellano, executive director of the county's Mental Health Association, said. "It's one thing looking at a piece of paper that has numbers, it's another thing to see these people were somebody's brother, sister, uncle, cousin, grandson, neighbor and granddaughter. It makes it very real."

Joseph P. Dwyer Vet-2-Vet program coordinator John Bourgress stressed that no soldier should ever left behind, even when it comes to helping them once they are back in civilian life.

"The idea is to show that they're not alone, that there's somebody here to support them, somebody here to help them and they'll always be," Bourgress said.

Castellano said the county's suicide prevention task force wants to make residents familiar with signs that could indicate a veteran is contemplating hurting him or herself.

"The biggest thing is if you're worried about someone, don't be afraid to ask," Castellano said. "Better to have that conversation before something might happen than after the fact. Don't be afraid to ask if somebody is thinking about suicide."



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Obituaries

Maria Delgado

Maria Belissa Fonseca Delgado, 85, of Mahopac, died on June 14, at Putnam Hospital Center, surrounded by her loving family. Maria was born on January 13, 1934 to the late, Albina Fonseca Delgado in San Jose Central Alajuela, Costa Rica where she was one of seven children. She grew up in a loving, caring environment, where she was taught at a young age, that family is everything. Maria would go on to meet the love of her life, Jorge Efrain Rafael Villalobos Gonzalez and they were married on March 31, 1954 in San Isidro Vazquez de Coronado, San Jose Costa Rica and together they were blessed with five children; Mainor, Roman, Mario, Jorge and Bolivar. On February 13, 1977, her loving husband passed away and a few years later, she came to America to meet up with her sons in Chicago, Illinois. She later moved to Yonkers. It was hard for Maria, being in a different Country, learning a new language and raising a young family, yet together with love, patience and endurance they survived. Maria was beautiful both inside and out. She had a warm inviting personality and a great big heart. She brought beauty to everything she touched, including her perfectly manicured garden. As a professional seamstress, she gifted her family with handmade sewing projects. Although she kept her mind forever young, just like her spirit, she preferred as time went on to stay home and entertain family and friends. She enjoyed having family over for dinners, hosting for holidays and taught her children and grandchildren, all about her family traditions from Costa Rica. Maria was a devoted wife, a loving mother and her heart was made truly full when she became a grandmother and even greater as a great-grandmother. Maria enjoyed watching all her little ones grow and attended many of their school functions and social activities. She was happiest when she was in the company of those she loved, her children, her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends. Maria's presence will be dearly missed by her family and friends, but her love and devotion to all, will live on forever in their hearts. Maria is survived by her five loving children; Mainor (Fernanda) Villalobos, of Mahopac, Roman (Elba) Villalobos, of Costa Rica, Mario A. (Seyly) Villalobos of Poughkeepsie, Jorge A. Villalobos of Costa Rica and Bolivar (Rebecca) Villalobos, of Costa Rica, 20 cherished grandchildren; Dave A. King, Cynthia Villalobos, Andrew Villalobos, Christopher Villalobos, Jorge Villalobos, Cindy Villalobos, Mario Villalobos, Jr., Nancy Villalobos, Daniel Villalobos, Lilliana Villalobos, Josue Villalobos, Jennifer Villalobos, Jorge Villalobos, Jr., Adriana Villalobos, Allison Villalobos, Dayhana Villalobos, Yeimy Villalobos, William Villalobos, Sharon Villalobos-Ramirez and William Villalobos Ramirez,

13 great-grandchildren; Belissa Mae Villalobos, Ethan V. Cantillo, Marquis Villalobos, Keyana Villalobos, Andre Villalobos, Anthony Villalobos, Julie Villalobos, Nathaniel Villalobos, Sebastian Villalobos, Lily Zoe Torres, Rosa Emilia Torres, Jeremiah Reise Torres, Leonardo Villalobos, and Georgie Villalobos, all of whom she adored and each grandchild and great-grandchild, held a very special place in her heart. She is also survived by her two loving sisters; Nora and Celina and many loving nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her beloved husband Jorge, her mother-in-law Amable Villalobos, her three brothers; Victor, Fabrique and Lelio, and her sister Damia. A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, June 30, at 3 p.m. at Templo Cristiano Fe, 168 Cannon Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

Vincenzo De Cicco

Vincenzo De Cicco, of Mahopac, died on Saturday, June 15, at the age of 85. He was born in Carbone, (Potenza) Italy on October 26, 1933, the son of Giuseppe and Angelina (Continanza) De Cicco. Vincenzo immigrated to the United States in 1950, settling in New York City. On September 17, 1960, he married Antoinette Mastropietro at St. Simon Stock Church in the Bronx. They lived briefly in New Jersey before moving to the Bronx, and then finally settled in Mahopac in 1973. Vincenzo was retired from the Local 2790, United Brotherhood of Carpenters in New York City. As a supervisor for a large woodworking company, he spent many years overseeing finished woodwork in major department stores throughout the United States. He was a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac and an active member of the Italian American Club of Mahopac. Family, gardening, food, and wine were his passions. He was an avid gardener who enjoyed preparing meals for his family and friends using the vegetables he grew and the prosciutto, sausage and soppressata he made himself. And of course, his homemade wine accompanied every meal. Vincenzo was predeceased by his wife, Antoinette on July 10, 2011. He is survived by his sons, Joseph and his wife, Donna of Katonah, Daniel and his wife, Colleen of Yorktown Heights, and Christopher of Mahopac and his beloved grandchildren, Nicole, Olivia, Vincenzo and Gabriella. His sister, Antonietta Bloise died in 1983.

Jason Caragine

Jason Grotsky Caragine of Mahopac, died on Sunday, June 16, at the age of 47. He was born in Yonkers, on September 27, 1971, the son of Louisa Deltreste and David Grotsky. Jason graduated from Gorton High School in Yonkers. He was the owner and lead garage door technician of Door Doctor in Mahopac. He was a classic

car enthusiast, loved spending time with his sons and granddaughter, and enjoyed sharing his mechanical knowledge with his children and their friends. Jason is survived by his wife, Cindy Caragine and his sons, Adam, Daniel, Gregory and Mark Caragine, all of Mahopac; his mother, Louisa Deltreste and her husband Giancarlo of Wappingers Falls; his father, David Grotsky of Fort Lauderdale, FL; his sister Meghan Deltreste of Wappingers Falls and his granddaughter, Carolyn Rose.

Joseph T. Salese

Joseph T. Salese of Mahopac, died suddenly on Monday, June 17, at the age of 36. He was born in Bronxville, NY on May 20, 1983, the son of Jerry and Barbara (née Terrase) Salese. In addition to his parents, Joey is survived by his children Rhianna Carroll and Joseph Salese, Jr., and his siblings Thomas and Christine.

Ruth Ann Wittmer

Ruth Ann Wittmer [nee Weil, aka Petrishin] of Mahopac, died peacefully on Monday, June 17, at the age of 81. She was born on August 17, 1937 to Julia Petrishin Weil and Harry Weil, Jr. in New York City. She was lovingly raised by her maternal grandmother, Catherine Petrishin, and adoptive parents, her Aunt Mary Petrishin Maduras and Uncle John Martin Maduras in Yonkers, NY. She graduated from Gorton High School and subsequently took bookkeeping courses from Mount Vernon School of Business. She received a certificate from the American Institute of Banking, and she graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Pace University. She worked for the Bank of New York and then at the United States Trust Company. She worked as an accountant with her husband James who was a self-employed contractor. For the past 23 years, she worked at H&R Block preparing tax returns for many clients who came back every year to see her. She is predeceased by her husband, James R Wittmer, her parents and her adoptive parents. She is survived by brothers John S Maduras (Elsie), David Weil (Marilyn), sister Sarah Bower (Wilmar), brother-in-law Robert Tidler (Lisa) and by ten nieces and nephews: goddaughter Katherine Anne Maduras, John Martin Maduras (Devin), Jennifer Jaret Stewart (Joseph), Christopher Jaret, Matthew Tidler, Jennifer Weil (Chrisanne), Michelle Nimick (Jan), David Weil, Jr. (Heidi), Mark Bower (Maria), Jeffrey Bower (Michelle). She is also survived by fifteen grandchildren and grand-nephews: John Steven Maduras, Samantha James Maduras, Jordan Jaret, Triston Jaret, Kayley Mroz-Weil, Sean Weil, Elizabeth Magie, Andrew Magie, David Magie, Matthew Magie, Matthew Bower, Benjamin Bower, Aaron Bower, Abigail Bower and Joshua Bower.

Dorothy Lapsley

Dorothy Lapsley, a longtime resident of Mahopac, died peacefully on June 19, at the age of 95. She was born in Brooklyn, on March 31, 1924, the daughter of Arthur and Loretta (Martin) Ford. Dorothy retired as head of accounting at Domino Sugar in Manhattan after many years of service. She was a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. She enjoyed bowling when younger, playing cards and going to casinos. In her later years, she enjoyed watching game shows, especially "Family Feud". On April 4, 1944 she married John Lapsley at Mary Queen of Heaven Church in Brooklyn. Jack passed away in March of 1988. She is survived by her son, John and his wife, Denise of Boynton Beach, FL, her daughters, Dorothy Gilroy of Mahopac and Loretta McCauley and her husband, Nicholas of Nyack; her brothers, Arthur Ford and Michael Brady, 11 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Visiting will be held on Tuesday, June 25 from 2-4 p.m. & 7-9 p.m. at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, June 26 at 11:30 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac with interment to follow at Ballard-Barrett Cemetery in Mahopac Falls. Dorothy moved to Florida in January of this year and passed away at Mediterranean Assisted Living Facility in Lake Worth.

Bridget Van Ryn

Bridget Teresa Van Ryn of Mahopac, died peacefully on Wednesday, June 19, at the age of 83. She was born in Co. Mayo, Ireland on February 11, 1936, the daughter of Patrick and Margaret (King) Hannon. Bridget was educated in Ireland and immigrated to the United States in the 1950's. She became a naturalized citizen in 1962. Bridget was a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. She frequently attended the Senior Drop-in held on Wednesday's at the Mahopac Fire Department. She enjoyed reading, knitting and crochet, loved to cook and was known for her delicious soda bread. Her favorite thing of all was spending time with her beloved grandchildren. On October 31, 1964 she married William J. Van Ryn in the Bronx. They lived in the Woodlawn section of the Bronx until moving to Mahopac in 1974. In addition to William, she is survived by her son, William and his wife, MaryAnn of Garnerville, her daughters, Kathleen Mazzei and her husband, John of Wappingers Falls, and Caroline Derrico and her husband, John of Harrington Park, NJ; her brothers Patrick and Sean Hannon, her sisters, Nancy Mulhern and Mary Darcy and her grandchildren, Amanda, William, Connor, Christopher, Andrew and Michael. Her sister, Margaret Cooper, died earlier.

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Maloney Announces 2019 Service Academy Appointments

Friday evening, Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18) announced that 15 Hudson Valley students, whom he nominated, have accepted offers of appointment at one of the United States' Service Academies.

"I couldn't be more proud to nominate these outstanding young men and women from the Hudson Valley to our Service Academies. These students have demonstrated strong leadership, character, and smarts, and will make our country proud," said Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney.

The United States Military Academy at West Point is located in New York's 18th Congressional District.

Service Academy students accepted include:

- MacKenzie Arns from Middletown – attending the United States Military Academy
- Bethany Carter from Highland Falls – attending the United States Military Academy
- Erica Harper from West Point – attending the United States Military Academy

- Terence Kelly from South Salem – attending the United States Military Academy
- Grant Nawoichyk from Tuxedo Park – attending the United States Military Academy
- Tommy O'Rourke from Carmel – attending the United States Military Academy
- Elisabeta Aversa from New Windsor – attending the United States Military Academy
- Maria Evans from New Windsor – attending the United States Military Academy
- Katherine McGrath from North Salem – attending the United States Military Academy
- Meredith Hickman from New Windsor – attending the United States Air Force Academy
- Benjamin Leicht from North Salem – attending the United States Air Force Academy
- Jack Ninos from Fishkill – attending the United States Air Force Academy
- Amanda Morales from Hopewell Junction – attending the United States Naval Academy

- Benjamin Werve from Hopewell Junction – attending the United States Naval Academy
- Aidan Finn from Warwick – attending the United States Merchant Marine Academy

Every year, Rep. Maloney has the honor of nominating outstanding high school students to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY. Students who wish to receive a nomination must go through a competitive application process and then be selected by an esteemed panel of local veterans and community leaders. The Academies make the final decision on who receives an appointment of admission.

More information for prospective U.S. Service Academy students can be found here: seanmaloney.house.gov/services/military-academy-nominations.

Free Concert And Fireworks To Take Place At Arts On The Lake

The Arts on the Lake Music Fest and the Town of Kent Fireworks will welcome summer 2019 with a bang. Join us June 29 at 7 p.m. for an evening of sights and plenty of sounds on the lawn overlooking Lake Carmel. Bring your family and friends to this free outdoor concert and celebrate America's birthday with some music, food, and drinks.

This event is a part of the Kent Fireworks Day festivities which also include Backyard Olympics from 10 AM-12:30 at Ryan's Field and a bike parade at the Kent Public Library. More information can

be found at <https://www.facebook.com/kentnyrecandparks>.

A local Folk/Pop band Two of Us will kick off the night at 7 p.m. Expect some familiar tunes from this Beatles tribute duo, who have been playing together for years. The Town of Kent Fireworks show will conclude the evening at 9:15 p.m., and the Arts on the Lake concert setting offers one of the best viewing spots in town.

Jim LaPaglia and Kevin Besig have been playing together since the 1970s and following a 30-year hiatus they rejoined

as Two of Us in 2017. While they play recognizable songs from the '60s, '70s, '80s and contemporary rock artists, the duo consider the Beatles to be their greatest influence.

LaPaglia states, "We have been so fortunate to experience what I consider to be the golden era of rock and roll. And at the head of class for me is the Beatles."

The Kent Fireworks and Music Fest set the stage for Arts on the Lake's summer concert series. Join Arts on the Lake every Friday night in July for a different performance. With soul music, latin beats, jazz, and rock there's something for every taste.

All concerts will be held outdoors at Art on the Lake's north lawn overlooking Lake Carmel. Families are welcome to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and food. Admission to the Fireworks Music Fest is pay as you wish and there will be food and beverages available for purchase. All concerts are rain or shine and can be held indoors.

Arts on the Lake is a non-profit corporation that fosters performances, exhibits and art classes in Kent. Arts on the Lake's mission is to sponsor, encourage, and create opportunities for all the residents of the Town of Kent and the larger community to participate in and appreciate the visual and performing arts, to be a roof and walls for performances, exhibits, classes and workshops.

For more information on the Summer Concert Music Series and other events at Arts on the Lake visit <http://www.artsonthelake.org/index.php>

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Hudson Valley Hockey Company

Jefferson Valley

By Neal Rentz

Whatever your hockey needs, there is a great chance that it can be met at the Hudson Valley Hockey Company, which is located in the Jefferson Valley Mall.

"We sell everything you need for ice hockey and roller hockey," the store's owner, Fran Vazquez of Patterson, said recently. "We sell everything from blades and roller blade wheels, all the way up to helmets, sticks and skates. We sell equipment, but we also service the equipment as well. We sharpen skates. We repair equipment. It's a full-service hockey business."

Hudson Valley Hockey is the first business Vazquez has owned. "Hockey is something I've known since I was five-years-old," he recalled. "I've been working on it in one aspect or another as a player, referee, coach and I worked at a pro shop for quite a while I was going to school at Plattsburg State. Once I came home I didn't find a job in my field for a little bit and I was encouraged by my parents actually to pursue a business plan of a hockey shop because that was something that I identified as a hole in the market in this area, something that wasn't present and something that I could offer assistance and knowledge to people."



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Patterson resident Frank Vazquez opened the Hudson Valley Hockey Company in January 2014 in Mahopac. He recently moved his business to the Jefferson Valley Mall.

The business originally opened in January 2014 in Mahopac. Hudson Valley Hockey recently moved to the Jefferson Valley Mall, where it opened in March. "The reason why we moved is because we wanted more visibility for the business. We wanted more foot traffic. And we just wanted a bigger space," Vazquez said.

Vazquez said most of his customers live in northern Westchester and Putnam,

but he added some customers also come from such other locations as Dutchess, Connecticut and New Jersey.

The store sells to local teams in the Mahopac Roller Hockey League, the Bedford Bears, the Putnam Panthers and several high school teams in the area, Vazquez said.

Vazquez said he joined the Peekskill Roller Hockey league at the age of six.

Sam Oitice, the league's commissioner, a referee and a coach, "took me under his wing and show me how to play the game," Vazquez said.

Oitice was a firefighter who died as a result of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in 2001. "He was a great man," Vazquez said. "The way that Sam treated me and the way he brought me under his wing and showed me the game is kind of what I want to do here."

At the Brewster Ice Arena, Vazquez provides private hockey lessons.

Vazquez explained his passion for hockey. "The thing I like about the game mostly is the intensity," he said. "The intensity of the game is something that you will see from the lowest levels of hockey to the highest level to the professional level. The bottom line is hockey is something that is kind of an esoteric sport. A lot of people want to play the game but don't know how and don't know where to go. So, I found myself in a position where I would be able to assist in that."

Hudson Valley Hockey Company is located in the Jefferson Valley Mall, 650 Lee Blvd. For more information call 914-556-6501 or visit <http://hudsonvalleyhockey.com/home.html>. The store also has a Facebook page.

Brewster High School Showcases Their Best Senior TED Talks

Students sat in complete silence, staring intently at senior Sara DeLuca as she spoke to them in Brewster High School's ILC. There was no fidgeting or quiet whispering. She held their undivided attention as she gave a deeply personal TED Talk.

Her talk, "Society's Secret Encouragement of Mental Illness," was part of a Best of Senior TED Talks conference created by English teacher Robert LoAlbo. DeLuca explored how social media contributes to depression and eating disorders and, during her talk, revealed that she has struggled with some of the issues she spoke about.

"I didn't think it was going to be hard to talk about," DeLuca said with a smile. "But then I got up the first time to do it and I realized that I really had to tell everyone that I suffer from so many things." She wondered if students would be able to relate or if they would think she was strange. After a little bit of thought, she realized she could not be the only one.

"When I looked at all of the kids' faces while I was speaking, they were completely zoned in. I felt like they were feeling what I felt at the same time," DeLuca said. "I think it's a topic that a lot of people can relate to, so it really influenced them. People even came up to me after the talk."

Not all of the talks were as personal



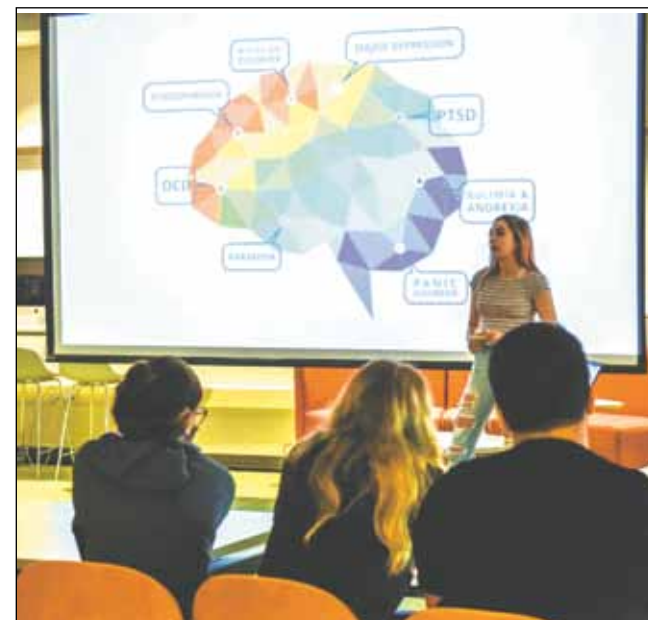
as DeLuca's, but they were all incredibly thoughtful.

"I listened to all my seniors," LoAlbo said. "These were the best."

In addition to DeLuca, Sierra Cervantes, Chloe Charles, Jessica Hamel, Tyler Maloney, Caitlin Otto, Mollie Toscano, and Gavin Winkler also shared their talks with their peers. Topics ranged from déjà

vu, self-love, disabilities, and premature birth to environmentalism, America, and politics.

"I've never done it on a grand scale like this," LoAlbo said of the talks. For two full periods, students could choose from three talks that were happening simultaneously in the ILC, the DaVinci lab, and the iTheater. "I've always had it in my brain



PROVIDED PHOTOS

to do it like this, but I haven't been able to work out the logistics until this year. It's good. They're getting a lot out of it."

When asked what she hoped her peers took away from her talk, DeLuca said, "Love yourself. What other people say about you, what society says about you doesn't determine your worth in this world."

Tech Center Graduates 450 in Class of 2019

Future engineers, nurses, fashion designers, chefs, graphic artists, builders, environmental scientists, physicians and physical therapists graduated Tuesday from the Career and Technical Education Center at Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES in Yorktown.

In all, 450 students from 18 local school districts graduated from more than 40 programs of study including Advertising Art & Design, Animation and Motion Graphics, Baking and Pastry Arts, Automotive Repair, Law Enforcement, Sports Medicine, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts and Construction Electricity, to name a few.

"We're here to celebrate the

accomplishments and outstanding work of the students of the Career and Technical Education Center," said District Superintendent Dr. James Ryan. "I am fully confident that you are well prepared. It has been our distinct pleasure to work with all of you."

Mahopac's Stephanie Felizardo, Tech Valedictorian and a graduate of the Child Development and Education program, said, "Without my experience at the Tech Center, I don't know where I would be. We will be not one, but two steps, ahead of all of our peers in the workforce and college thanks to what we learned here."

Putnam Valley's Joshua Uchetel, Tech Salutatorian and a graduate of the

Construction Electricity program, told his fellow graduates "having the right mindset makes all the difference." Uchetel said he was filled with anticipation for the next stage of his life, and urged his peers to "follow your dreams and find your path."

Other students who participated in the ceremony included Troy Bates, a Law

Enforcement graduate who led the pledge of allegiance; Matt Holic, who sang the National Anthem; and Jalissa Pugh and Grace Claffey, Cosmetology graduates who read the closing poem.

Finally, Career Academy Principal Stephen Lowery encouraged students "to persevere when life hands them setbacks because that is the only way to succeed."



PROVIDED PHOTO

Mahopac's Stephanie Felizardo delivers the valedictory speech at the Tech Center Graduation for the Class of 2019 on Tuesday, June 11.

Pines Bridge School Holds Prom for 'Transitions' Students

As the students in Pines Bridge's Transitions program made their grand entrances into the gym through a golden, picture-frame arch, each paused for a moment marked by smiles, giggles and camera clicks. It was Prom Day – and they were ready to celebrate!

This week, young women in fancy dresses and young men in jackets and ties enjoyed that most typical of high school milestones, Prom. They danced and clapped to "Shout" and other party standards spun by a DJ. They donned top hats and held up silly props for Polaroids snapped at a photo booth. And they enjoyed a special lunch served by teaching staff at the gym, which had been transformed by gold, black and white balloons and other decorations.

Students River Casey and Alexis Aguiar said they liked the dancing best. Jhuleidy Rivera enjoyed "the songs and posing for pictures." And classmate Erin Ledwith said "best part was dressing up for Prom."

For teachers and administrators at the Putnam | Northern Westchester BOCES campus in Yorktown, the "best part" was all of it. As staff joined in with students on the dance floor, several said they were thrilled to see their students laughing, dancing and mugging for pictures at a typical high school experience.

Pines Bridge Principal Csilla Mate said many young people with special needs share a love of music, adding that an opportunity to sing, dance or simply move to upbeat songs helps bring students out of their shells.

"It's a really exciting event for us," she said, looking around the gym on Thursday. "It offers a great opportunity for our students to experience one of the special parts of senior year at a typical high school – and they are just having a blast!"



PROVIDED PHOTO

Adult Ed Graduation at PNW BOCES Graduates 66 Students

A native of Jamaica, Antonise Haye worked two jobs to help support her family while earning her certification as a nursing assistant. That success inspired her to study further to become a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse.

There was just one problem: First, she would need to earn a high school equivalency diploma. That is where Putnam | Northern Westchester BOCES' Adult Education program entered the picture.

"My journey was not easy," Haye told 65 of her peers at the Adult Education Graduation on June 12 as her husband looked on with pride. "I had to make a lot of sacrifices and changes in order to attend."

Sacrifice and perseverance are things Haye's fellow graduates know a great deal about. Aisha Ikram, for example, completed the program in two months and passed the test just before giving birth to her second child. Isaias Velesaca, a graduate speaker and Ecuadorian immigrant who came to America looking for a better life, failed his math test twice

before passing and receiving his diploma.

"I always wanted to finish my studies but it was difficult because first I had to focus on working," Velesaca told the crowd. "One day, I found out through a friend that BOCES offered Spanish classes in the evening. Here I am today and it has been one of the best decisions that I have made."

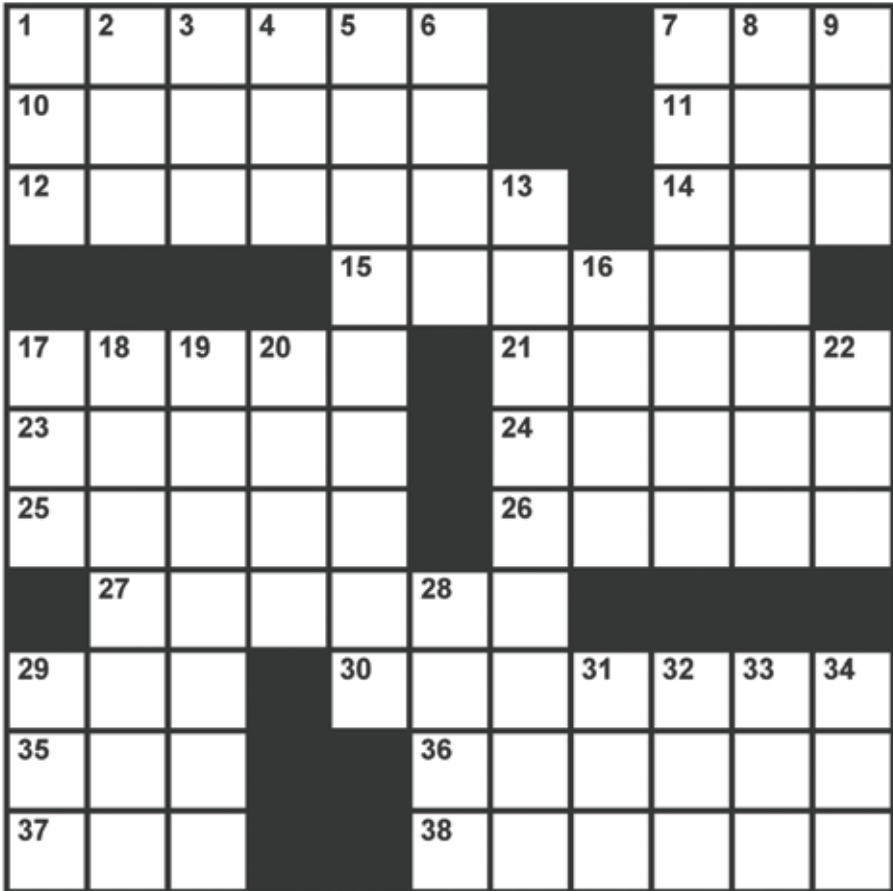
Velesaca started working with BOCES as an English language learner and kept working until he received his high school equivalency diploma.

Addressing the crowd in both English and Spanish, District Superintendent Dr. James Ryan praised and congratulated the graduates and their families, recognizing the hard work and dedication it took for each and every student to succeed despite many obstacles.

For many of the graduates, the ceremony is just the beginning as they plan to continue their educations and pursue new careers.

"Never give up on your dreams and goals," Velesaca told his peers. "Fight for them."

Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 13

Across

1. Prep. test
7. Military rank, abbr.
10. Concoct
11. Experienced
12. Everlasting
14. Tint of color
15. An unkind nickname for Capitol Hill, or Yorktown nature preserve, ____ Mountain
17. Electromagnetic amplifier
21. Traversed a strait, e.g.
23. Cape Cod town
24. County in western Ireland
25. Sunset ____
26. Moray catcher
27. Blacker
29. Canadian neighbor
30. Weather
35. Automatic cash provider
36. National Security assistant to President Bill Clinton or Hawthorne Hardware store
37. Ample shoe width
38. Ancient follower of Mosaic law

Down

1. Handheld
2. Avg., sizewise
3. Genesis outcast
4. Rapper prefix
5. Identical in all directions
6. Computer offering

7. Rounded
8. Swiss cheese
9. Foot extension
13. Food providers
16. Leafy green
17. High points, abbr.
18. Entertainer
19. Family tree entry
20. Estrada of "CHiPs"
22. ____ Spiegel (German magazine)
28. European river
29. Emirates, for short
31. ____ Butterworth's
32. Sensitive subject, to some
33. Decimal basis
34. Before, for Byron

Kent Library Takes Another Step Toward More Funding



PROVIDED PHOTO

For the past 5 weeks, Kent Library Board members, Kent library board members Mike Mahoney, Jessica McMath, Marty Collins, and other volunteers have collected signatures on a petition that would raise the library's appropriation from the Town of Kent by \$39,536, or \$6.01 annually for an average household. The petition was signed by 981 people. At their library board meeting on June 18, board members reported that they were grateful to the many volunteers who collected signatures and for the things people said as they signed the petition. The Library Board voted to accept the petition and request that the funding question be put on the ballot for the general election in November. The petition and 981 signatures were delivered to the Kent Town Clerk to be checked, and the petition will then go to the Kent Town Board.

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Confessions of a Compulsive Weeder

It never fails. I'll be in a rush to meet a client, dashing to my garage across my parking area, covered with crushed bluestone, and I'll spy a tiny fleck of green peeking through the gravel. Another weed. I must stop to pull it out.

When I bend over, I drop my car keys, my glasses fall out of my shirt pocket and, if the weed is deep-rooted, like a dandelion, my hands get dirty, requiring that I return to the house to wash them after the deed is done.

Or I'm coming home late, exhausted and I notice that nasty grout weed has all but consumed a clump of perennial geraniums. It's getting dark but there I am, stooped over again, releasing those delicate flowers from the clutches of that hostile invader.

Worse yet, we might be entertaining guests on our patio and in my peripheral vision I detect another unwelcome visitor in a nearby flowerbed. Nonchalantly, I'll push myself out of my glider, perhaps in the middle of a sentence, and conduct an enemy attack without missing a beat. Annoyed, my wife later tells me that I



By Bill Primavera

must not have been giving full attention to our guests.

Yes, I confess. I'm a compulsive weeder.

When I first discovered the joys of gardening as a youngster, it was all about planting annuals and seeing quick results. But by the time I was in high school, perhaps in dealing with my impetuous nature, I found that I equally enjoyed pulling weeds to help ease those first bouts of post-adolescent anxiety.

My weeding addiction became full blown as an adult when I moved to Westchester from the city and my responsibilities were upgraded from a small square patch of earth in front of my house to a verdant acre-and-a-half lawn and garden.

At the same time, I had started a new job and commuted a long distance every weekday to report to a boss who was the Mr. Hyde personality of all time. My weeding activity was especially intense during that period. Every time I yanked a weed, it was as though I was vicariously yanking his head bald, even though he was already bald.

Lest one think that I need intervention, I would say that there are good compulsive habits and this might be one of them.

Rather than considering weeding a chore or even therapy, it can be approached as an art, complete with its own techniques and disciplines, as I first learned many decades ago when I read a joyous book called "The No-Work Garden" by Ruth Stout, sister of the detective fiction writer Rex Stout.

Recently, I was reminded of the healing art of weeding when I discovered that the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series now features an edition "For the Gardener's Soul" by Marion Owen. In her blog at www.plantea.com, Owen says that weeding can be a pleasant "Zen-like" experience, and I agree.

She also writes that regular weeding in the garden is like regular vacuuming in the home. We probably don't like either chore, but it's essential to a successful garden.

Considering that a single weed can produce as many as 250,000 seeds, and that those seeds arrive through a multilevel attack from the air, rain runoff and bird droppings, weeding would seem to be a losing battle. But there are preventative measures that can help diminish sprouting weeds.

1. Uproot the offenders and place them in the compost pile before they go to seed.

2. Mulch, mulch, mulch. A three- to four-inch layer of mulch applied between plants or garden rows can slow down, or in many cases, prevent the regrowth of weeds.

3. In the spring, after preparing the soil for planting, let it set for seven to 10 days. Then work the surface of the soil with a hoe. This will slice off the newly emerged weed seedlings. If you have time before planting, let the soil rest another week or so and hoe again.

4. Cover the soil for a short while with black plastic, but don't leave it on for more than a couple of months because the soil needs air and water to remain healthy.

5. Use those vertical barriers, such as wood, metal or heavy plastic edging to prevent grass and weeds from encroaching from lawn to garden.

Be mindful of what William Shakespeare wrote: "Sweet flowers are slow and weeds make haste."

Bill Primavera is a licensed Realtor® (www.PrimaveraHomes.com), affiliated with Coldwell Banker and a marketing practitioner (www.PrimaveraPR.com). For questions or comments about the housing market or selling or buying a home, he can be reached directly at 914-522-2076.

A Perspective on the Evolution of the American Wine Industry



By Nick Antonaccio

The wine industry in the United States is thriving.

Consider this: The number of wine producers is growing, over 10,000 at last count;

the amount of wine being produced is at a record high, and now ranks fourth in the world; the amount of wine consumed annually is at a record high, and now ranks first in per capita consumption.

The environment for this rising influence of American wine throughout the world is due in no small part to the emergence of gentleman (and lady) farmers and producers. Recent advances in technology and techniques, in the vineyards and the wineries, have culminated in new, high quality wines in every wine shop in the country.

And investors and entrepreneurs are staking claims throughout the United States, notably in California and more specifically in Napa Valley. For the last four decades, new wineries have been popping up in Napa Valley at an historic rate. And many have succeeded.

Yet the wine industry in

the United States is quite young when compared to other wine regions around the world. Wine has been produced in the Middle East for 6,000 years. Its roots in Western Europe date back to the Roman Empire, more than 2,000 years ago.

In the United States, the wine industry has peaked and ebbed several times since the first grapes were planted in Florida and California a mere 400 years ago by French Huguenots and Spanish monks, respectively.

A number of factors contributed to the fluctuations in wine's popularity. I've begun to think about the wine industry in an historical sense, rather than focusing on the boundless agricultural and economic aspects of winemaking. I decided the subject of this week's column would be a broad-brushed insight into the pioneers of Napa Valley winemaking.

Despite the legacy of early wine producers, the United States wine industry does not have the deep, sustained longevity of Western Europe. Legacy in the United States is rarely deeper than two generations. By contrast, in France, Italy and Spain, family wineries have been plying their trade for

*You Heard It
Through the
Grapevine*

six, and sometimes more than 10 generations. The Antinori family has been continuously making fine wines for 26 generations, since 1385.

In the United States, winemaking began in earnest in the mid to late 19th century. The wave of European immigrants to California, notably Napa Valley, in pursuit of a better life, brought with them generations of winemaking heritage. And they were modestly successful.

The next wave of winemakers, in the early 20th century, discovered the unique terroir of the Napa Valley. Pioneers like the Mondavi family, the Gallo brothers, Georges de Latour and Louis P. Martini introduced wine lovers to high quality wines and refined winemaking techniques. Americans began consuming wine as never before.

Then a tsunami hit our shores. In 1920, Prohibition shut down the wine industry for 13 years. Decimated, it would not fully recover for nearly 50 years.

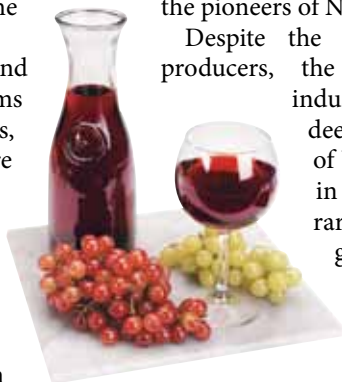
The most recent wave of winemakers to Napa Valley comes from all walks of life and with a broad range of experience. This new breed includes wealthy individuals who made their fortunes in other industries and became enamored with wine. Many considered wine as a means to be one with nature, escaping the capitalist trappings of mainstream society.

Others considered wine as the ultimate trophy, and a winery the pinnacle of bragging rights.

One of the prime differentiators over the years is the investment required to own and run a winery. In Napa Valley, the cost of prime wine property can be as high as \$300,000 per acre, compared to a more affordable \$100 in the late 1800s. Very few aspiring entrepreneurs, or the progenitors of pioneers, will be able to create, or sustain, a longstanding legacy.

Whether considering wine as a vocation or an avocation, today's California wine industry is a far cry from that of its early settlers.

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 or on Twitter @sharingwine.



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

Tuesday, June 25

Event - Mary Beth Pfeiffer author of, " Lyme: The First Epidemic of Climate Change." 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Q & A with Reception to Follow. Mary Beth Pfeiffer is an award-winning journalist. Her book, "Lyme: The First Epidemic of Climate Change", is an impeccably researched account of an enigmatic disease, making a powerful case for action to fight ticks, heal patients and recognize humanity's role in a modern-day scourge. Registration Required - Access the library website or call Venue - Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 website - www.butterfieldlibrary.org

Mahopac Public Library Children's Summer Reading Kickoff Family Event: 2 p.m. @ Mahopac Public Library Jester Jim returns! With nothing more than a trunkful of props, Jester Jim will have you cracking up in your seat. Juggling, balancing, and beatboxing, this show is packed with fun and excitement. Join us for this fun-filled family event for ages 3+ Registration begins June 3. Registration for the Kickoff Family Event is required. Register online or call 845-628-2009, ext 139.

Dungeons & Dragons: 1 p.m., - 2 p.m. Let the adventure begin! Join us for tabletop adventures of sneaking through forests, hunting down monsters and dangerous quests. Materials will be provided. All levels welcome. For ages 12 and up. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

Ice Cream Social: 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. We will start with an ice cream social in the park, where you can sign up for our summer reading program. Then, at 5:00, Jester Jim is here to bring even more fun and laughs! Separate registration for each part of this event. *In the event of inclement weather, the ice cream social will be cancelled. For ages 4 and up. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

Wednesday, June 26

Come join Charlotte for a Storytime: Centered around how it feels to be different and how it's important to be true to yourself, no matter what. 11 a.m. Ages 5 and up. Registration is required. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or www.kentlibrary.org.

Thursday, June 27

The all-new live-action DUMBO will play at the Kent Library 2 p.m. A young elephant, whose oversized ears enable him to fly, helps save a struggling circus, but when the circus plans a new venture, Dumbo and his friends discover dark secrets beneath its shiny veneer. Registration Required. Light refreshments will be served. Rated G for all ages. 1 hour, 52 minutes. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or www.kentlibrary.org.

Sunset Concert Series Mahopac Chamber Park. 7 p.m.,- 9 p.m. Free. Visit www.carlemny.org/recreation or Facebook @CarmelRecreation

Farmers Market returns to Putnam Hospital Center: Offering a bigger selection of fresh, affordable produce to the community. The seasonal market is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Thursday through October on the hospital campus. The market is located around the flagpole near the front entrance to the hospital. Six local vendors will sell a bounty of fruits, vegetables, meats, cheeses, breads, eggs, truffle products, home baked goods and handmade soaps. Vendors include Do Re Me Farms, West Cork Farm, General Cochran Farm, Sharamel, Nelson Truffles and Mind, Body & Bath. For more information, please contact Public and Community Affairs Manager Marcela Rojas 845-230-4773

The Tri-State IBM Retirees will hold their summer break luncheon 12:30 p.m. at Frankie & Augie'Z Restaurant, 3673 Hill Blvd, Jefferson Valley 914-245-9241. Individual lunch choices and cash payment. Call Peg Ryan at 914-528-5916 to confirm your attendance if you have not yet done so. Note there are no meetings in July and August. Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, Sept 26.

Do you know your status? Get tested for HIV. The Putnam County Department of Health is offering free HIV testing at the Health Department's main office at 1 Geneva Road in Brewster, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Results ready in 20 minutes! No appointments necessary. For more information, please call 845-808-1390.

Friday, June 28

Temple Beth Elohim invites the LGBTQ Community, friends, allies and supporters 7:30 p.m. to celebrate Pride Shabbat. Rabbi Laurie Gold will be sharing her coming out journey. 31 Mt. Ebo Road North Brewster 845-279-4585 Templebethelohim.org

Come in and make a popsicle stick pride flag, a pronoun pin, and other festive crafts. 1 p.m. -3 p.m. Program is planned with teens in mind but anyone ages 10 and up is welcome. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at 845-225-8585 or www.kentlibrary.org

Film: "How to Survive a Plague" at Tompkins Corners -7 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center will present the film, How to Survive a Plague, the definitive history of the successful battle to halt the AIDS epidemic, with special guest, Joy A. Tomchin, producer. Suggested donation is \$10. Tickets are available in advance at www.brownpapertickets.com. To make a reservation, visit <http://www.tompkinscorners.org> or leave a message at 845-528-7280.

Putnam Valley Residents Coalition's Farmers Market, which will once again be hosted by the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center at 729 Peekskill Hollow

Road, Putnam Valley. The Market is outdoors on the lawn (or in the shed if it rains) and will run each Friday from 3 to 6:30 p.m. starting on June 28 and continuing until August 30. The Farmers Market vendors offer a variety of fresh, locally grown produce, baked goods and crafts. Vendor inquiries are welcome. The Markets are sponsored by the Putnam Valley Residents Coalition, a nonprofit 501©(3) organization. Find out more at www.putnamvalleyresidents.com. Vendors should contact putnamvalleyresidentscoalition@yahoo.com or call 845-528-0066.

Saturday, June 29

The Kent Library is hosting its first-ever 4th of July Bike Parade on the Town Hall. 12:30 p.m. -2: p.m. Bring your pre-decorated bike, scooter, tricycle, balance bike, or wagon. No time to decorate? The library will have decorations on hand (while supplies last)! Separate bike parades for ages 0-7 (1:15) & 7+ (1:30). In addition to the bike parade, we'll also have mini golf, giant jenga, and sidewalk chalk! No registration is necessary. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at 845- 225-8585 or www.kentlibrary.org.

Tag Sale at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: A huge tag sale will be held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 1377 E. Main St., Shrub Oak, NY 10588 on Saturday and Sunday, June 29 - 30 and Saturday and Sunday, July 6 - 7, Saturday's 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Sunday's 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. New items are added each week. A great way to furnish a first apartment or college students dorm room. Just about everything is available except clothes. See www.seton-parish.org or call 914-528-3547 ext. 0 for directions and more information.

Sunday, July 1

Monthly crafting class for seniors: 2 p.m. Come make an easy and adorable patriotic garland to hang over your mantelpiece or doorway for your Fourth of July celebration! We're not in charge of who's considered a senior, but this program is for adults only! Registration is required. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or www.kentlibrary.org.

Flash Writing: How to Tell a Complete Story in Just 75 Words: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. This Creative Writing Workshop will not only dispel the myth that you can't write a complete story in just 75 words, it will teach you how to do it! We'll dissect what it takes to make such pint-sized prose pithy. We'll do it together. Led by Michael Turton & Anita Peltonen. Registration Required - Access the library website or call. Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845- 265-3040 www.butterfieldlibrary.org

Crossword Answers

1	P	2	R	3	E	4	L	5	I	6	M		7	S	8	G	9	T
10	D	E	V	I	S	E							11	P	R	O		
12	A	G	E	L	O	N	13	G					14	H	U	E		
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23	T	R	U	R	O					24	C	L	A	R	E			
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29	U	S	A			30	C	L	I	31	M	32	A	33	T	34	E	
35	A	T	M					36	B	E	R	G	E	R				
37	E	E	E					38	E	S	S	E	N	E				

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duced fluids (salt water) released from any operation on the lease that prevents large amounts of surface water from entering & flooding the lease site.*internship experience also accepted. **To apply, mail resume to Mahfuza Chowdhery, WSP: One Penn Plaza, New York, NY 10119 REQ # 2715.**

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION AUTHENTIKA LLC: Application for Authority filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/29/2019. Office location: WESTCHESTER County. LLC formed in Delaware on 03252019. SSNY has been designated as an agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is 399 West Street, Harrison NY 10528. The principal business address of the LLC is 1214 West Boston Post Road #125, Mamaroneck, NY 10528. Delaware address of LLC is 16192 Coastal Highway, Lewes, Delaware 19958-2677. Certificate of LLC filed with Secretary of State of Delaware located at **401 Federal Street, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901.** Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GO-LAB LAW, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on May 31, 2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office

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address to which the SSNY shall mail a
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enue, Suite 118, White Plains, New York
10602. The principal business address
of the PLLC is **248 West Street, White
Plains, New York 10605. Purpose: any
lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FILING COMPLETED
ASSESSMENT WITH TOWN CLERK**
(Pursuant to Section 516 of the Real
Property Tax Law) **NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN** that the final assessment roll for
the year 2019 for the Town of Putnam
Valley, County of Putnam has been com-
pleted by the undersigned Assessor, and
that a certified copy will be filed in the Of-
fice of the Town Clerk on or about the 1st
day of July, 2019 where the same will re-
main open to public inspection. The final
assessment roll is also available for inspec-
tion online via a link from our town web-
site at www.putnamvalley.com. **SHERYL
LUONGO, Assessor Dated: June 3, 2019**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CAM-
EO HOME INSPECTIONS, LLC.** Arts
of Org filed with the Secy of State of NY
(SSNY) on 6/6/2019. Office location:
Westchester County. SSNY has been
designated as the agent of the LLC upon
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SSNY shall mail process to **Cameo Home
Inspections LLC, 2 Ann Place, Valhalla,
NY, 10595. Purpose: any lawful act or
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Sports

Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports



Four Aces!

Carmel Quartet 12th at New Balance Nationals

The Carmel High girls' 1600-meter sprint medley relay team of seniors Caroline Douglas and Khadijah Johnson (running the 200m legs), junior Emily Alps (ran the 400m leg) and sophomore Katie Turk (anchored the 800m leg) competed in the New Balance Nationals Outdoors in Greensboro, North Carolina on June 15th, placing 2nd in their heat and 12th overall out of 41 teams. The unit legged a season-best time of 4:13.168, which was cause for celebration (inset).



HAROLD TURK PHOTO

Sports

Renegades Notebook

Renegades Win 4 of Last 5, Take 2 of 3 from Ironbirds

By JOSH CARAY

WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY—Rightfielder Hill Alexander collected three hits as the Hudson Valley Renegades defeated the Aberdeen Ironbirds, 5-1, Sunday evening in front of 4,907 fans from Dutchess Stadium. The victory gave the Renegades (5-5) the rubbergame over the Ironbirds (5-5) and was Hudson Valley's second consecutive series win. Aberdeen started the scoring in the second inning when first-baseman Alex Murphy blasted a solo-homerun down the leftfield line to put the Ironbirds on the board. It was Murphy's first homerun of the season.

The Renegades, though, would come back with two runs in the bottom-half. Alexander doubled to right while shortstop Nick Sogard reached on a fielder's choice to put runners at the corners with two away. With leftfielder Pedro Diaz at the plate, Sogard was caught in a run down between first and second on a pickoff attempt. Ironbirds pitcher Leonardo Rodriguez failed to cover first in the rundown, which allowed Sogard to scamper back safely while Alexander raced home to tie the game. After Diaz was hit with a pitch to put Sogard at second, third baseman Luis Arcendo

lined a single to bring him in and give the Renegades the lead.

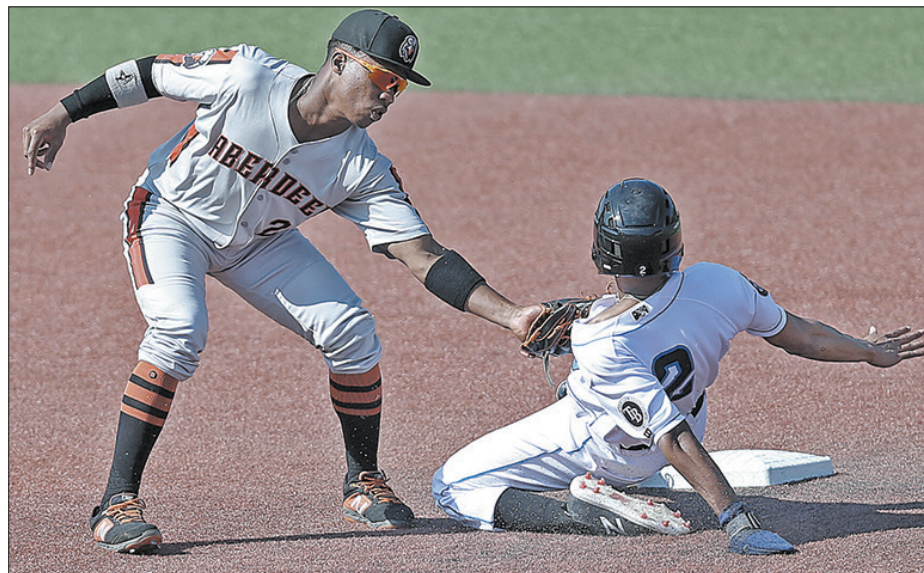
Things stayed that way until the sixth when Hudson Valley scored three more times to put the game away. A single, walk and hitbatsman loaded the bases with two out. Designated hitter Greg Jones drew a four-pitch bases-loaded walk to force in a run, before Alexander came up next and grounded a two-run single into center to make the score 5-1.

That was enough for Hudson Valley's pitchers as starter Edisson Gonzalez and relievers Joe LaSorsa and Hector Figueroa combined to strike out 11 Ironbirds. LaSorsa (1-0) got the win as the Katonah, N.Y. native and Iona Prep grad fired three innings of shutout ball on one hit. Gonzalez went the first four innings and struck out eight. The loss fell to Aberdeen's Rodriguez (0-1) who allowed two runs on four hits over five frames. The right-hander also struck out seven. The Renegades registered seven hits amongst three players. Alexander led the way by going 3-4 with a double, two RBI and a run scored. Sogard finished 2-4 with a double and two runs. Arcendo, meanwhile, went 2-4 with two singles, a stolen base and an RBI. Aberdeen collected six hits. Murphy



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

Renegades right fielder Hill Alexander had three hits and drove in a pair of runs in 5-1 win over Ironbirds Sunday.



Greg Jones, the first-round pick of the Tampa Bay Rays in the 2019 MLB, is nabbed stealing in 5-1 win over Ironbirds Sunday.

singled in addition to his solo-homer while going 2-4. Centerfielder Johnny Rizer also finished 2-4 with a couple of singles.

Hudson Valley was off Monday before embarking on a six-game road-trip starting with the first of a three-game series Tuesday against the first-place Staten Island Yankees (5-4). First-pitch is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Righty Daiveyon Whittle (0-0, 0.00 ERA) will pitch for the

Renegades against fellow-righty Nick Green (0-2, 2.08 ERA) of the Yankees.

The Renegades return home on Monday, July 1st when they open a three-game series against the Brooklyn Cyclones (4-5), the NY Mets' Class A affiliate. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased online at hvrenegades.com, in person at the Dutchess Stadium ticket window, or by calling the ticket office at 845-838-0094.

M-Hoops AAU Cops 2022 Spring Hoops Title



M-Hoops (2022) 9th grade AAU basketball team recently won the Brewster Sports Center spring league championship on Saturday. Following up winning the regular season league title. M-Hoops advanced to the playoffs and capped things off against the AAU program Mash Up with a 70-52 victory in the finals. M-Hoops was led by freshman shooting guard Patrick McMahon with 22 points and F Colum Ranaghan chipped in with 13. Stephen Firrincieli (5), Anthony DeMatteo (6), Jack Moore (8) Ryan Reilly (7), Adam Montalvo (8) and Craig Perri (6) all scored clutch points. M-Hoops is coached by Dan Callahan, Tom McMahon, and Keith Ranaghan. "Tom and Keith are both excellent basketball minds but also fantastic teachers of the game," Callahan said. "Every practice and every game is like a classroom session on basketball. Even Hall of Fame high school coach Lou Panzanaro came and ran a practice for us. The boys love basketball and we wanted them to have a fun experience. If it's not fun why are we doing it? This was all about setting up some time to work on player development. Working on all the fundamental skills and then competing against high-level competition. It was never about winning or losing but hoping to have each player reach their maximum potential. We hope to see the fruits of their labor next basketball season." M-Hoops, in their inaugural season, entered multiple tournaments on the AAU circuit this past spring season. A local town team, made up of nine freshman from Mahopac high school, M-Hoops hoops took on national elite AAU powers NY Lightning Nike EYBL, Queens Defender and many others. M-Hoops made it to the finals of the Gotham City Showdown in May earning an invite to the Zero Gravity National Tournament in Boston.

Sports

Augusta Out as Mahopac AD; Lynch Done as Hen Hud Grid Coach



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports
Editor

So, within a span of one hour last Friday afternoon, I put the symptoms of both ehrlichiosis and babesiosis aside to break a couple of heavy-hitting stories, including the resignation of both Mahopac High Athletic Director John Augusta and Hen Hud football Coach Mike Lynch.

Burnt to a crisp and dizzy as a drunkard after just 15 minutes in the sun (a side effect of the prescribed drugs for the tick-born illnesses), I tapped out a pair of surprising tweets; though one could see the Augusta thing coming for miles when he left for a brief stint as interim principal, only to return to the athletic department a year later.

Let's start there: Augusta took over for former longtime Mahopac AD/Coach Frank Miele about a decade ago, and he could never quite fill those shoes. But who could fill the shoes of a five-time sectional champion legend like Miele, who built a Mahopac baseball dynasty? Miele, who took over for longtime A.D. Gerry Keevins just after the turn of the century, was the last bastion at Mahopac, the only thing keeping the distance between the intersecting parallels of coaches, players and vicarious parents, whom he kept at bay better than most.

The Keevins to Miele transition was as smooth as the baby's proverbial bottom, seamless. Miele's passing of the torch to Augusta seemed doomed from the start. Miele bled blue and gold for more than 30 years, and when self-deputized parents came to him with, "I have an issue I'd like to discuss," it was dealt with in a stern, old-school, don't-let-the-door-hit-you-in-the-\$\$\$ manner. When Miele retired, Mahopac parents bashed the door down and bum-rushed Augusta, who came over from Walter Panas, was the furthest thing from Miele and struggled initially with support from a former administration, or so I'm told. It wasn't exactly a recipe for success. All things athletic turned on the dime and Mahopac, truth be told, was no longer the Mahopac people grew up on, which is not to say anything negative, just facts. Things soon morphed into something nobody saw coming.

Like President Jimmy Carter did, Augusta presided over stormy times, including the whole Mahopac/Mt. Vernon debacle at the County Center (no need to drudge up the particulars). Truly a nice guy by all accounts, Augusta seemed besieged by the 'New Mahopac'.

The district got another black eye when racial issues resurfaced against rival Carmel in yet another basketball setting, and yet again during a recent



Mahopac A.D. John Augusta resigned last week and the search for his replacement is ongoing.

JV boys' lax game with New Rochelle this past spring. Whether the two most recent allegations were true or not, they ended up on Augusta's desk, which was already teeming with internal issues; most notably the football program and its controversial 2017 transition from former Coach Mark Langella to current Coach Dominick DeMatteo. As acting principal at that time, Augusta was not in the actual crosshairs of the football situation, but he did deal with the bungled fallout upon his return.

So, yeah, the deck was stacked against Augusta, but, in my opinion, it just never seemed like the right fit for him or for Mahopac, which hasn't been the perennial, broad-brush powerhouse it was in the 90s and early- to mid-2000's.

It's been time for a change atop the Mahopac athletic department for quite some time, so the big question now is, who takes over for Augusta? Who inherits this once-proud franchise? Who rebrands Mahopac as the sports force it once was? Who dives into Friday Night Lights from the deep end? Who gets into the nitty-gritty with the Mahopac Sports Association to develop and enhance grassroots athletics across the board? Who, I ask the current Mahopac BOE and Superintendent Anthony DiCarlo, makes Mahopac Great Again?

Initially, my thought is he/she better bleed blue and gold and have some legit old-school values in them, so I wonder if the powers that be can woo current North Salem Principal Vince DiGrandi, the once-beloved Mahopac Middle School principal, back to town, but that might cost some mad bank. Or, perhaps luring Miele back on board would be something to strongly consider, to see if he can slip back in to his old shoes and right the ship. That's just me thinking outside the box, though, and I know I'm not the only one.



Former Hen Hud Football Coach Mike Lynch.

Either way, the search is on to restore the #MahopacWay, and the athletic future of an entire Class AA district is at stake while an interim A.D. is named in July (with any luck it'll be Miele), and the BOE ramps up the process to name a full-time replacement by next February...

Just like it is at Hendrick Hudson for a new football coach after Lynch shockingly resigned last week. You can bet your last dollar Lynch didn't go out on his own terms, but there is a disclosure agreement in place prohibiting all parties from talking. Make

no mistake, though: This was a forced resignation, which has taken the Section 1 coaching fraternity and Sailor Nation by surprise.

The ol' ball coach, who inherited a sub-par program, went 34-37 over eight years, which may appear sub-par on the surface. The fact is, Lynch made Hen Hud football relevant after years of substandard performance. That's not to say Hen Hud didn't play hard or die trying under the former regime, but Lynch brought the program into the future, installing a spread attack and an open, trustful mindset that allowed his players to flourish, especially

in 2017 when then-QB Nick Cunningham left Hen Hud with 19 school records to his credit. Lynch, and the lower-level coaches, integrated the new, up-tempo system on the modified and junior varsity where the results were fruitful. Under Lynch, opposing players and coaches knew they had better strap it up, as the Sailors were no longer a gimme.

While Hen Hud administrations remain mum, social media had its say. @BasedDarkness said: *Coach Lynch was great person he took a team that could barely wipe their own @\$\$es and turned it completely around idc what anyone says he's done great things for Hen Hud football.*

@mkmattkenney said: *Can't speak for anyone else's opinion. Personally though, I'm lucky to have played for Coach Lynch. Last played in '15 on a forgettable team, as a forgettable player. Talked often with him about his dad, an Army vet who served in Vietnam.*

And this from his own fraternity member, @ByramFootball: *For the record, Coach Lynch is one of the classiest guys I have met in Education, let alone football. He has helped me out tremendously over the last 3 years and created a championship culture at HH while doing it the right way.*

@stevellaker25 said: *Unfortunately it's the Hen Hud players and community that will suffer by this decision.*

@stevenbell50 called it #karma. So, I reckon there was a minority faction happy to see him go, but finding a suitable replacement with the start of the season little more than a month away won't be an easy task for Hen Hud Athletic Director Tommy Baker.

"Coach Lynch will not be returning and the search for his replacement has begun," a tight-lipped Baker said.

Well, yeah, that part we get. In the meantime, there's an on-line petition circulating for Lynch's reinstatement, but that stuff usually never amounts to a hill of beans once an administration makes its declaration.

Direct Rays

Angels Outlast Dodgers for MSA Pony League Title

Members of the grade 5-6 Mahopac Sports Association Angels team pose with their Pony League championship trophies after they defeated a gritty Dodgers team, 9-8, in an eight-inning, back-and-forth thriller that wasn't decided until Vincent Margiotta's walk-off double last Saturday night at the Jimmy McDonough Memorial Crane Field Complex.



'Pac Da House!



NICOLE GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Becker Honored as Mahopac Descends Upon the 'Dutch'

Members of the Mahopac community, MSA baseball players and others from around the region were included in the pre-game parade/ceremony at Dutchess Stadium that featured Mahopac junior-to-be Shannon Becker, who was asked to throw out the ceremonial first pitch to honor her “Perfect-Perfect Game” last May when she faced 21 batters in an 8-0 win over Carmel and struck out every single batter. Prior to the fireworks show at the end of the game, the Hudson Valley Renegades used timely pitching and deft base-running to earn a 5-4 win over the Aberdeen Ironbirds in front of 4,418 fans last Friday evening at ‘The Dutch’. It was the Renegades first home win of the season, and the team’s third in a row.