



FREE

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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## TOP SECRET

### County Legislators Vote to Green Light New Disclosure Law

By David Propper

A measure that could add an additional layer of secrecy to Putnam County government was passed by the county Legislature last week as the county executive's office now must schedule a public hearing to determine if the proposal should be signed into law.

The legislation adopted by legislators — but still needs to be signed by County Executive MaryEllen Odell — allows lawmakers, county officials and consultants to classify documents as confidential to prevent public disclosure. The amendment to the county code makes anyone who intentionally breaches confidentiality potentially subject to an ethics inquiry and even prosecution.

Additionally, communications from or to the county law department, legislative counsel or outside counsel would be marked confidential and the legislature would need to vote unanimously to release any of those documents.

The vote to pass the resolution was 7-1 with Legislator Nancy Montgomery the sole dissenter. Legislator Carl Albano was absent. A public hearing has not been scheduled by Odell yet, but would likely be held within a month.

Montgomery, a Democrat, and Legislator Neal Sullivan, a Republican, clashed prior

to the vote, with Montgomery urging her colleagues to delay voting on the matter until the origin of this proposal was examined. Montgomery said she was surprised the issue was being voted through so rapidly.

Sullivan, who is the rules committee chairman, replied, "I'm surprised you're surprised," arguing that this legislation has been discussed for an extended time, calling it an "important issue."

"There's been problems for years with people disclosing information that should not be disclosed," Sullivan said. "We've been talking about it for months and months."

Montgomery said this code amendment was not on any agenda in 2018 and was not brought forward in 2019 until a June committee meeting where it was passed on to a full meeting. She also pointed to the outpouring of public input about this issue as another reason to table the amendment.

Legislature Chairman Joe Castellano added since he's been on the legislature, the handling of confidential information has been discussed and he believes this code amendment would clarify how to handle private information.

"There's nothing changing," Castellano said. "There are no additional documents being marked confidential... I think this is a

*continued on page 2*



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

**Mahopac 10U Walks Off on Yorktown in  
Greater Hudson Valley Baseball Action**  
See Sports...

## County Hopes to Give Korean War Era Vet Proper Farewell

By David Propper

Putnam County officials are hoping to give a proper sendoff to a recently deceased local veteran with no friends or family before his body is sent to a national cemetery this week.

Donald Norton died last month apparently all alone with no family or friends coming

forward to claim his body. Norton was a veteran of the Korean War era and living in the county for about a year before his death.

The county's veterans service agency has worked with Veterans Affairs and Cargain Funeral Home in Carmel (10 Fowler Road) to host a brief sendoff for Norton this

*continued on page 4*



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

County resident hoping to attain information through the Freedom of Information Act, which the county clerk's office typically handles, might have another layer to deal with if a new law is put in place.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Donald Norton, a Korea War era veteran and late Mahopac resident, will be buried at Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Ceremony this week.

# County Legislators Vote to Green Light New Disclosure Law

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pretty straightforward resolution.”

Legislator Paul Jonke said lawmakers had a duty to maintain confidential information “to protect taxpayers.” The legislation is not about secrecy, Jonke claimed, but protecting sensitive information. Two years ago, Jonke said a former legislator revealed information to a news reporter that could’ve jeopardized a legal settlement.

“This behavior is what I hope the pending legislation discourages,” Jonke said.

“There is nothing secretive about this legislation,” Legislator Ginny Nacerino declared, adding FOIA laws would still be upheld.

But a long line of residents passionately and angrily voiced their opposition to the law.

Garrison resident Julia Famularo said she feared this amendment would have a “chilling effect” on whistleblowers. Carmel resident Rebecca Swan, who is running for the District 5 legislative seat, called the vote taken by GOP members of the legislature “shameful.”

She questioned why an amendment was needed considering more than one lawmaker said the resolution passed would not change anything. The legislature would now have broad power to label whatever they want confidential, Swan said.

Scott Reing, who is the new Putnam Democratic committee chair, said he thinks the new law is unconstitutional, according to New York State law. The new law could

backlog FOIA requests and appeals, making it more expensive to operate the county clerk’s office.

Reing said if the law was in place earlier, residents might not have ever found out that Odell’s campaign or Legislator Amy Sayegh’s non-profit got apparent discounted rates for events at the county golf course. When Reing brought up Sayegh, her husband, who was at the meeting, stood up and called Reing’s assertion a lie.

“We have the appearance of impropriety all over the county, I’m not calling any of you corrupt individuals, bad people,” Reing said with Sullivan interjecting, “You are.”

Southeast Councilwoman Lynne Eckardt,

who was representing herself, said this would make it harder to attain public information. She warned this law could backfire and does not help the public.

Cold Spring resident Kathleen Foley said lawmakers were leading residents “down a perilous path,” arguing it was an arbitrary and capricious law that would not stand up to a legal challenge.

At one point, Foley and Brewster resident Jordan Bailey-Hoover demanded Sullivan make eye contact with them when they were at the microphone.

“You guys are a body that does nothing repeatedly and you show yourselves,” Bailey-Hoover said. “With all due respect.”

*‘There is nothing secretive about this legislation.’*

*- Legislator  
Ginny Nacerino*

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#### Q: What are the symptoms of a kidney stone?

**A:** You might feel waves of severe pain in your back or side below the ribs. Pain might spread to your groin and lower abdomen. Nausea, vomiting and blood in the urine are possible. If you experience extreme pain, vomiting, or fever, go to an urgent care facility, or your hospital ER. Otherwise, have your symptoms evaluated by your primary care physician.

#### Q: What actually is a kidney stone?

**A:** A stone is rock-like material formed within the kidney. Most stones have a calcium component, and are caused by inadequate fluid intake, an overabundance of calories, and excessive salt intake. Stones with a uric acid component are caused by an excessive meat intake. When a stone passes out of the kidney and enters the ureter, the tube becomes blocked, urine backs up, the kidney swells and pain results.

#### Q: What are my treatment options?

**A:** A small stone may “pass” from your body naturally. If necessary, your physician can provide medication for pain and nausea and allow natural passage of the stone. Uric acid stones can sometimes be dissolved

with medication. A large stone blocking a kidney, or a stone associated with an infection, can be life-threatening and must be treated urgently. For stones that cannot pass on their own, a urologist may advise one of three outpatient procedures, depending on the size and location of the stone.

- (a) External shock waves to shatter the stone, turning it to smaller stones that can then pass on their own.
- (b) Inserting a small telescope to laser the stone into tiny fragments.
- (c) If the stone is very large, a telescope is passed directly into the kidney through ones back to fragment and remove the stone.

#### Q: Can I help prevent kidney stones from forming?

**A:** Yes, however, once a kidney stone is removed, if a person does not change his or her diet or fluid intake, there’s a 70 percent chance another will form. Help prevent calcium stones by remaining well-hydrated. Avoid consuming large amounts of dark leafy vegetables, peanuts, Vitamin C tablets and chocolate. To avoid forming a uric acid-type stone, limit meat, including red meat, chicken or fish.



# Improvement Districts Discussed in Putnam Valley

By David Propper

After there has been a decades-long pause on implementing improvement districts in Putnam Valley, town board members signaled their interest in reversing that trend last month as one community is seeking to become a district.

Floradan Estate residents want the town to make their community an improvement district, which would give the town the authority to handle certain services in the neighborhood. Currently though, a moratorium is in place that prevents districts in town from being considered or approved. As a result, Floradan residents submitted a petition that demanded the town board throw out that moratorium.

The petition stated that the moratorium denies some communities the governmental advantages that other communities gained from the districting structure. A public hearing should be held about it as soon as possible, the petition stated.

The town board voted to accept the petition, which does not mean they will necessarily agree with it.

Supervisor Sam Oliverio, who lived in Floradan for ten years, said he always wished that it was an improvement district. About 25 years ago, the town voted through a moratorium that would stop improvement districts, which is usually a private community that would allow the town to oversee services in that neighborhood, including possibly for garbage, water and road maintenance.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Floradan Estate residents want their community to become an improvement district sooner than later in Putnam Valley.

A work session starting at 5 p.m. that would continue this discussion is scheduled for this Wednesday at town hall.

Barger Pond was the last community to become an improvement district in town.

“Why did the town put the moratorium on there,” Oliverio said. “Quite frankly it’s

a lot of work for the town to oversee these services.”

Oliverio said he would like to rescind the moratorium as soon as this month. Councilwoman Jackie Annabi also said she would like to remove the moratorium, noting it could help other communities in town.

“It would be very helpful for our town,” Annabi said, stressing no matter how quickly an improvement district is approved, the formation of it would not happen in 2019.

Annabi, who is an aide to NYS Sen. Sue Serino, consulted with state attorneys about Floradan becoming a district and attorneys told her the town can’t usurp authority from a private entity, which currently runs Floradan.

Floradan Estates is controlled by a registered corporation, which would need to dissolve if the town wanted to take control. Annabi told Floradan residents at the meeting that residents need to figure out how the corporation can be dissolved while not affecting the pool and camp in the community.

“We cannot go in there and suddenly say we’re going to provide the services,” Oliverio said.

The services the town would provide is snow plowing, garbage collection and water. If a homeowner can’t pay the town for those services, Oliverio said the town would put the money forward and then get the money back by foreclosing on that homeowner.

There are homeowners that are not contributing to the funding necessary to ensure services are provided to the community, Oliverio said.

Councilman Steve Mackay said Floradan residents weren’t the only people in town pushing for an improvement district.

“You’re not alone in this process,” Mackay said.

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# County Hopes to Give Korean War Era Vet Proper Farewell

*continued from page 1*

Wednesday. While there won't be visitation hours or a service, county officials are hoping people from the public will come out at 9:15 a.m. in order to acknowledge Norton in the parking lot before he is driven up to Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Ceremony to his final resting place.

About two weeks ago, County Executive MaryEllen Odell received a call about a veteran who had died without any next of kin to notify as his remains lay at Putnam Hospital Center. Odell then contacted the county's veterans service agency where director Karl Rohde and deputy director Art

Hanley started coming up with a plan for Norton.

The veterans service agency has funds to pay for indigent veteran burials in its budget, Rohde noted, but to ensure the funds could be expended, Rohde had to contact several people and collect documentation to prove Norton was actually an Army veteran. Once that was confirmed, Rohde contacted Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Ceremony to see if he could be buried there.

Sadly, Norton lived many of his remaining years alone. Rohde said he found one family friend, but it appeared that person was closer to Norton's father than Norton. He has only

lived in Mahopac for about a year or so, Rohde said. Before landing in Mahopac, he was homeless and staying at the Montrose VA for awhile (which likely meant he had other problems, Rohde said) before an apartment was found for him in Putnam.

"It doesn't matter, he's an indigent veteran and we want to see that he has a proper burial," Rohde, who never personally interacted with him, said.

On his official documents from the VA, Norton, who was born in 1933, even listed himself as his next of kin.

"There was nobody to claim his remains," Rohde said. "I don't know what would have

happen if we didn't come through, but we were able to get it done."

Unfortunately, this is not the first time Rohde has assisted in indigent veteran funerals and burials. There was one deceased veteran from the veterans' residence in Patterson that was assisted, Rohde said, and another more recently that was helped by the community.

Even though he was unknown in the county, Rohde hopes people in Putnam and the surrounding region are able to give him worthy farewell. As a Korean War era veteran, Norton is owed a debt of gratitude.

"The worse thing for a veteran is to be forgotten," Rohde said. "This guy was completely forgotten."

## 'All-American' Concert At The Patterson Rec. Center

On Saturday, July 13, the Patterson Recreation Center will be the venue for a family-friendly "All-American" concert by the Southern Dutchess Concert Band and sponsored by The Duffle Bag and the Town of Patterson. The concert starts at 7 p.m. and admission is free.

The Southern Dutchess Concert Band continues in the great American tradition originated by the John Philip Sousa Band to entertain audiences with a wide variety of music. Featuring crowd-pleasing show tunes, popular standards, marches, light classical and wind ensemble music, the Southern Dutchess Concert Band consists of more than sixty six woodwind, brass and percussion musicians from southern Dutchess & Putnam Counties and surrounding areas.

For this "All-American" Concert, the Southern Dutchess Concert Band will be performing Patriotic tunes, Broadway showstoppers, Hollywood favorites, selections by famous American composers, including Leroy Anderson, popular standards, including "When You Wish Upon A Star", and, of course, rousing marches, including John Philip Sousa's "The Stars And Stripes Forever"! Irving Berlin, "the greatest American songwriter that has ever lived", will be celebrated with a collection of songs he wrote to honor our great country, including "God Bless America". Among other selections will be a special salute to American military service members, veterans and their families.

This concert will be held in the Patterson Recreation Center, which is a wonderful venue for a Summertime concert. The concert will be held regardless of the weather, so come and enjoy the amenities of air conditioning, convenient parking and handicapped accessibility, and FREE admission.

The Patterson Recreation Center is located on 65 Front Street in Patterson, just down from the Patterson Train Station.

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# Carmel Grad Puts Together Civil War Memorial

By David Propper

It's a war that claimed the most American lives, but until this week, there wasn't an encompassing memorial in Putnam County to honor the local men who fought in the Civil War.

With teenager Tyler Dicembrino leading the way, those veterans will now be remembered.

Over the past year, Dicembrino has been researching and fundraising for a Civil War memorial in honor of the veterans from Putnam that served in the gruesome war. Referring to the local archives, Dicembrino discovered that about 1,600 residents served in the war from the six towns in the county.

Now, a plaque that includes the names of those men and the town in which they lived is ready to be on display on July 16 at 11 a.m. with the unveiling ceremony taking place at Veterans Memorial Park in Kent. Dicembrino, who is a Carmel High School graduate, started this endeavor at the end of junior year and completed it by the time he wrapped up his senior year.

Dicembrino said while there

are memorials remembering Putnam residents from almost every war the United States has been a part of, there is nothing to really commemorate those Civil War heroes. There is a memorial in Cold Spring, but that only includes a small portion of residents that fought from Putnam.

"There's one thing that we're missing and that's any kind of remembrance to the Civil War," Dicembrino, who is going to college this fall to study American history, said.

During his deep dive into Putnam's connections to the Civil War, Dicembrino was surprised that so many men from the county fought.

"For back then, that was a lot," he said.

There were also notable residents, including Major General Gouverneur Warren, who was one of the head engineers of the entire Union army and Major General Daniel Butterfield, who wrote the famous bungle-call for burials, Taps, Dicembrino said.

The plaque won't indicate which residents died from battle, Dicembrino said, because some of the records have an unknown

fate included so he didn't want to accidentally skip someone who might've succumbed during the war.

Dicembrino originally had a further interest in the Revolutionary War, but it eventually transitioned to the Civil War after reading more about that bloody conflict. He got into American history by watching movies like *The Patriot* and *Gettysburg*.

Interested in war reenactment, he started participating with groups when he was 13 and continues that activity to this day.

The support from the veterans' community in Putnam has been incredible, Dicembrino remarked and the reenactment community from the region has also been helpful raising funds for the plaque.

Veterans Service Agency director Karl Rohde, who helped Dicembrino find a location for the plaque, said Civil War veterans are largely forgotten today because the war happened so long ago.

"Anytime we recognize any veterans, we don't want them to be forgotten so it's just a good thing," Rohde said.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Carmel High School graduate Tyler Dicembrino, who participates in war reenactments, put together a plaque to remember Civil War veterans from Putnam.

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# Westchester Receives Go-Ahead to Raise Sales Tax Next Month

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County's sales tax will rise by 1 percent on Aug. 1, a move that is intended to provide the county with greater fiscal stability in the years ahead.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo recently signed the bill passed earlier this year by the state legislature, and then the Board of Legislators approved the action in a 12-0 vote. The increase will bring the sales tax to 8 3/8 percent countywide and put it on par with New York City and Putnam County, said County Executive George Latimer.

The increase will also match what shoppers are charged in Yonkers, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and White Plains. Those cities are allowed to change their sales tax rates without state approval.

The new sales tax in the remaining 41 municipalities is expected to provide as much as \$140 million in extra revenue to Westchester in a full year, Latimer said after the Board of Legislators' vote was taken. As a tradeoff, he pledged to freeze county property taxes for the next two years, have municipalities and school districts share in a portion of the extra revenue and avoid having to sell off the parking lot at the County Center.

"The county needed to stabilize its finances and that's what this is about," Latimer said.

More precise numbers are expected to be made available next Monday when the county executive and local and county



Westchester County Executive George Latimer pushed for New York State to allow the county to raise its sales tax.

elected officials hold a briefing on the impacts of the sales tax increase.

Latimer said that municipalities will share in 20 percent of the extra revenue each year while school districts will receive 10 percent of the extra revenue. There will be formulas released by next week to show the breakdown for each municipality and district, which will be based on population, he said.

Latimer said there won't be a negative impact on commerce and shoppers because the sales tax is already 8 3/8 percent in most

neighboring counties. He also characterized it as a progressive tax. Currently, some of the poorest Westchester communities are paying that sales tax level and now the affluent communities will follow.

"If we deliver as I expect we will on our commitment on property taxes this will be a net benefit to the people of Westchester County," Latimer said.

Last year the county's bond rating was downgraded from AAA to AA1. Then Latimer and the Board of Legislators were forced to close a \$70 million budget gap

before the end of the year. Westchester's depleted fund balance had sunk to about \$70 million, down from a high of about \$170 million.

County lawmakers regardless of party affiliation who turned out for the vote supported the plan.

Legislator Michael Kaplowitz (D-Somers) said he would have liked to avoid raising the sales tax but it became necessary to try and replenish the fund balance and avoid one-time injections of revenue through the sale of properties and assets. The sale of the parking lot at the County Center in White Plains for a projected \$23 million can now be avoided, he said.

Kaplowitz said the unwillingness of former county executive Rob Astorino to have a small annual property tax increase put Westchester in a difficult position.

"We're now on a relative basis equal to all the other counties in the metropolitan area and we're able to avoid a huge property tax increase," Kaplowitz said. "That's the only other real option."

County Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant) said she was on board with the increase as well because it should help control local property taxes and school taxes.

"The sales tax is also shared with the school districts and the municipalities. It is important to try to get additional revenue for the schools and the municipalities to keep the taxes lower in both those areas," she said.

PROVIDED PHOTO

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# m f Designs Brewster

By Neal Rentz

Do you want an item designed for you or would prefer making it yourself?

A new business that provides both services is m f Designs, which is based in Brewster and Danbury, CT, opened about 18 months ago.

The business was started by Brewster resident Frannie Ballard and Danbury resident Maureen Molinaro.

Molinaro said last week it is the first business the partners have owned.

"We love art and we realized after working together at another place how much we shared in common about how we wanted to run businesses and how we want to bring art to the world and to work with people and teach," she said. "We decided that why not? We can do this. So we decided to start it up."

"Commissions are when people order things from us, if they want something made specifically," Molinaro said. "We also sell our commission pieces at fairs and festivals."

Some of items recently created for clients by Ballard and Molinaro were wine tumblers, clothing and signs.

"Our art parties are our big business," Molinaro said.

The parties are typically held at restaurants, bars or people's homes, she said. They also do corporate parties, she noted.

"We do public and private events where



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Brewster resident Frannie Ballard, right, and Danbury, CT resident Maureen Molinaro opened m f Designs about 18 months ago.

we teach people how to create different art pieces. We do a lot of wood – cutting boards, serving trays, Lazy Susan's," she said. "People will sign up online for an event."

The parties are held in New York and Connecticut.

"We teach them how to do everything, so they get to go home with a finished piece of their very own," Molinaro said.

Ballard said an example of an item that will be made at upcoming parties are cheeseboards. "We show everyone step-by-

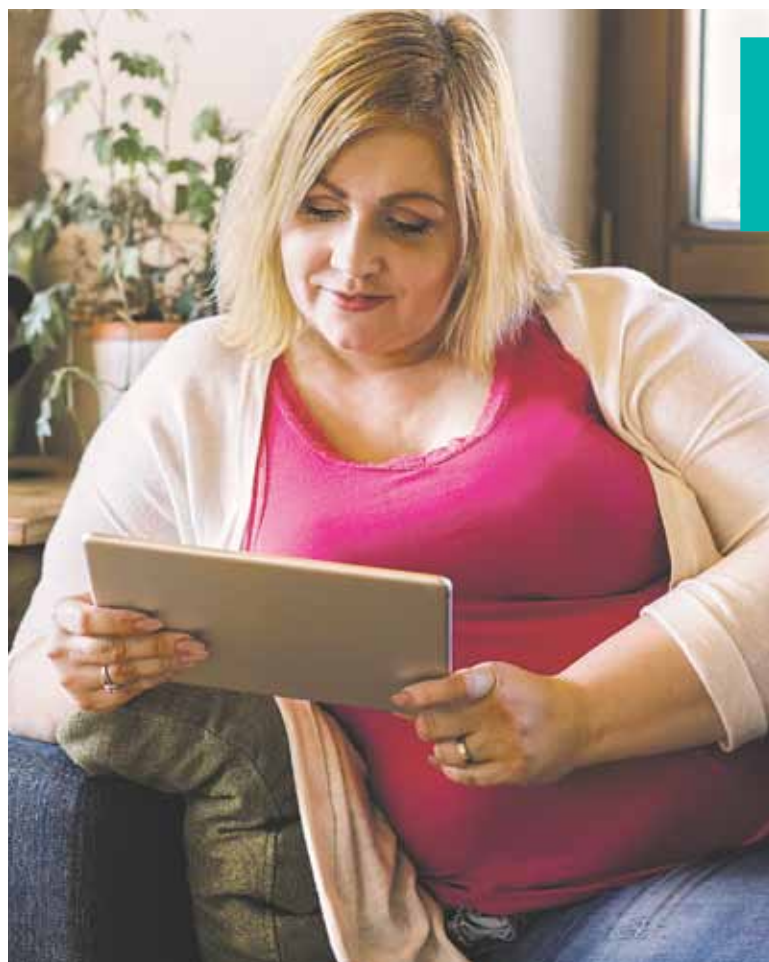
*'We decided that why not? We can do this. So we decided to start it up.'*- co-owner Maureen Molinaro

step how to stain it and put their designs on it," she said.

The main vehicle to publicize the new business has been social media, including a Facebook page, Molinaro said.

Molinaro said she enjoyed her new business. "It's fun work. I've worked in corporate my whole life," she said. "But this is really my favorite of what I've done."

For more information about m f Designs visit <http://www.mfdesignsct.com> or call 845-458-1080. The business also has a Facebook page.



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

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## Letters to the Editor

### Canada Geese Senselessly Slaughtered in Southeast

*Editor's note: The following is an open letter that was sent to the Southeast town board.*

Last week saw the senseless slaughter of flightless Canada Geese and their goslings by individuals who fired in the vicinity of the Lake Tonetta residential community. Taken unawares, since no prior notification was given, residents at first were puzzled and startled by the shots reverberating in their community and then sickened by the spectacle of individuals who randomly shot and then joked as geese were mortally wounded and according to one resident, injured. Are these the actions of sportsmen who use lethal weapons on animals unable to defend themselves and fly? Are these the actions of a town board who represent the community and sworn to protect it tolerating shots fired within a few hundred feet from residences?

In a telephone conversation with

Supervisor Hay, he informed me that proper permits had been obtained and that the Lake Tonetta Association had even engaged a geese chaser to deter the geese. As to cost of this senseless slaughter, he proudly stated that the town had simply expended funds for ammunition, a paltry amount in response to the Lake Mahopac Association and Carmel town expenditure of over \$10,000. And there is no absolution for the slaughter by donating their meat to upstate residents; meat laden with lead poisoning those residents.

Has this yearly, ineffectual and inhumane effort to eliminate the geese from their habitat on the lakes, deterred them? The answer is no. What humane methods are available? Prohibition of feeding by residents; almost any dog will do and then there is adding of the eggs while the geese are nesting which requires some observation of their habits and timing.

And finally, I thought we had come a long

way in showing compassion to our fellow species on this earth. It was not so many years ago that dogs and cats were tortured and abused. Now we have programs even for feral cats and we fine and imprison these abusers, scientifically recognizing that abuse of animals is a strong predictor of potential human abuse.

At the minimum, the town board should place this item on the agenda and take great pains to notify residents of any action contemplated. The granting of the permit should not be automatic.

Let this be the last year that residents hear shots and geese unable to fly, cower and die.

Ann Fanizzi  
Southeast

### County Legislature Gives Itself Authority to be Secretive

On July 2 the Putnam County Legislature voted to give themselves sweeping authority to declare almost anything and everything confidential. Not only did they give that ability to themselves, they also gave it to all county employees, their personnel decisions, and to the vendors and contractors that they select. At that meeting members of the county Legislature repeatedly said that this amendment to the Code of Ethics would change nothing. The problem is that saying something repeatedly does not make it a fact. Numerous members of the public, as well as myself, informed the Legislature

that this law was unconstitutional and that the law would be challenged in the courts. Court challenges are time consuming and expensive to the taxpayer.

The comments from the public ranged from mild disappointment to passionate claims of naivete, ignorance, and breaches of fiduciary duty. Not one taxpayer who spoke was in favor of the law. The minimum that the Legislature should have done was to table the vote and have a public discussion in committee. What plausible motivation could the legislators who voted for these far-reaching changes to the code of ethics have

other than to hide county government waste, mismanagement, and possible corruption?

When I'm elected to the legislature, I will fight to protect every Putnam County resident's right to open and transparent government.

Please vote for me November 5, 2019 for District 5 County Legislator.

Rebecca Swan  
Carmel

### Young and Old Pen Pals Meet to Share Tales

Since January, third graders at the Haldane Elementary School in Cold Spring have been learning to write in cursive and what could be a better way to learn and hone a new skill than to practice by writing letters weekly to your pen pal! But you need a "pal" to "pen pal" with. Jenny Carpenter, a parent and local artist, stepped in to volunteer to coordinate the "Out of the Blue" program – encouraging friendships to be made and letters in blue envelopes to be received out of the blue. The experience of receiving and opening a

letter from a friend surely warms the heart more than the annoying ping of a "got mail" alert on your smart phone. What was so special about this program is that the third graders of 2019 reached out to pal up with third graders from 1930 to 1960, the seniors of Cold Spring. As the school year nears its end, and after many letters have changed hands, and writing skills have improved with cursive more legible (we hope!), the pen pals were united this on June 12, at Putnam County's Office for Senior Resources'

Friendship Center at Philipstown. The house was packed with 36 third graders and 55 seniors sharing tables, sharing stories, and more importantly sharing new friendships that span generations. It was impossible to measure who embraced the interaction more – the school kids or the seniors. The smiles on all faces were broad and the chatter loud; decibel levels this high had not been heard at the Friendship since the construction tools went quiet when the Center opened this past December.



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**SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS**



# Byrne Offers Summer Reading Challenge to Area Students

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne celebrated the start of his 2019 New York State Assembly Summer Reading Challenge with a visit to Reed Memorial Library in Carmel on Tuesday, June 25. Byrne also visited the Putnam Valley Free Library on Thursday, June 27 to continue promoting the challenge throughout the district. The program is designed to maintain students' academic mindset throughout the summer months and prepare them for the upcoming school year. Students who complete the summer reading program receive a special Excellence in Reading Certificate.

Byrne's kickoff celebration offered students the chance to learn more about how they can participate in the Summer Reading Challenge, as well as discuss the importance of reading during the summer months.

This is the third year Assemblyman Byrne has hosted the Summer Reading

Challenge. Each of the last two years, between twenty to thirty students have completed the challenge. To celebrate their accomplishment, Assemblyman Byrne has rewarded their efforts with a pizza party and recognition ceremony.

"I'm happy to kick off our 2019 Summer Reading Challenge alongside students at the Reed Memorial and Putnam Valley Libraries, and I look forward to another year of enthusiastic participation from our local students," Byrne said. "The summer is a wonderful time for students to relax and enjoy the outdoors, but it's also a great opportunity to go on adventures and stimulate your mind through reading."

*For more information on how to participate in this year's Summer Reading Challenge and how to get a brochure, please call Assemblyman Byrne's office at (845) 278-2923.*



PROVIDED PHOTO

## Tree Falls on Police Car During Chase in Yorktown

By Rick Pezzullo

Westchester County Police arrested two Brooklyn men July 3 after they fled from officers in a van with stolen license plates before crashing it into some trees as they exited the Taconic State Parkway in Yorktown.

One of the trees struck by the van then toppled on to a County Police patrol car as the officer pulled up to the scene, shattering the windshield with the officer still behind the wheel. The tree did not enter the police vehicle and the officer was not injured.

The two suspects climbed from the van in a further attempt to flee but were taken into custody at the scene. The driver is facing multiple felony and misdemeanor charges.

According to County Police, the incident began about 11 p.m. when the Real Time Crime Center at police headquarters alerted patrol officers that a Honda Odyssey with stolen license plates was traveling on the Taconic State Parkway in Mount Pleasant. An officer observed the vehicle traveling northbound at Pines Bridge Road in New Castle and attempted to stop it, but the van fled at speeds up to 100 mph. The van's driver also turned off the headlights in an effort to avoid being captured.

The van exited at Underhill Avenue at a high rate of speed, lost control near the bottom of the exit ramp and collided with several trees. The vehicle came to a stop in some dense underbrush. As a police officer pulled up, one of the trees toppled

over on to his patrol car. That officer and others took both suspects into custody.

The driver of the vehicle, Francisco Torres, 47, of Brooklyn, was charged with Fleeing an Officer in a Motor Vehicle and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle 1st Degree, felonies; and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property 5th Degree, Reckless Endangerment 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree, misdemeanors. The drug charge stems from a small amount of heroin found in the vehicle.

The passenger, Luis Ramos, 47, also of Brooklyn, was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree and False Personation, misdemeanors. He initially gave officers a false name following his arrest.

Ramos complained of chest pain from injuries suffered in the crash. He was taken by the Yorktown Volunteer Ambulance Corps to Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, where he was admitted. He was released the next day, booked at County Police headquarters and then turned over to the NYPD on an active New York City arrest warrant.

Torres was held overnight at headquarters and was arraigned July 4 in Yorktown Town Court. He was remanded to the Westchester County jail in Valhalla without bail. The Yorktown Heights Volunteer Fire Department also responded to the scene and assisted county officers in removing the fallen tree from atop the patrol car.



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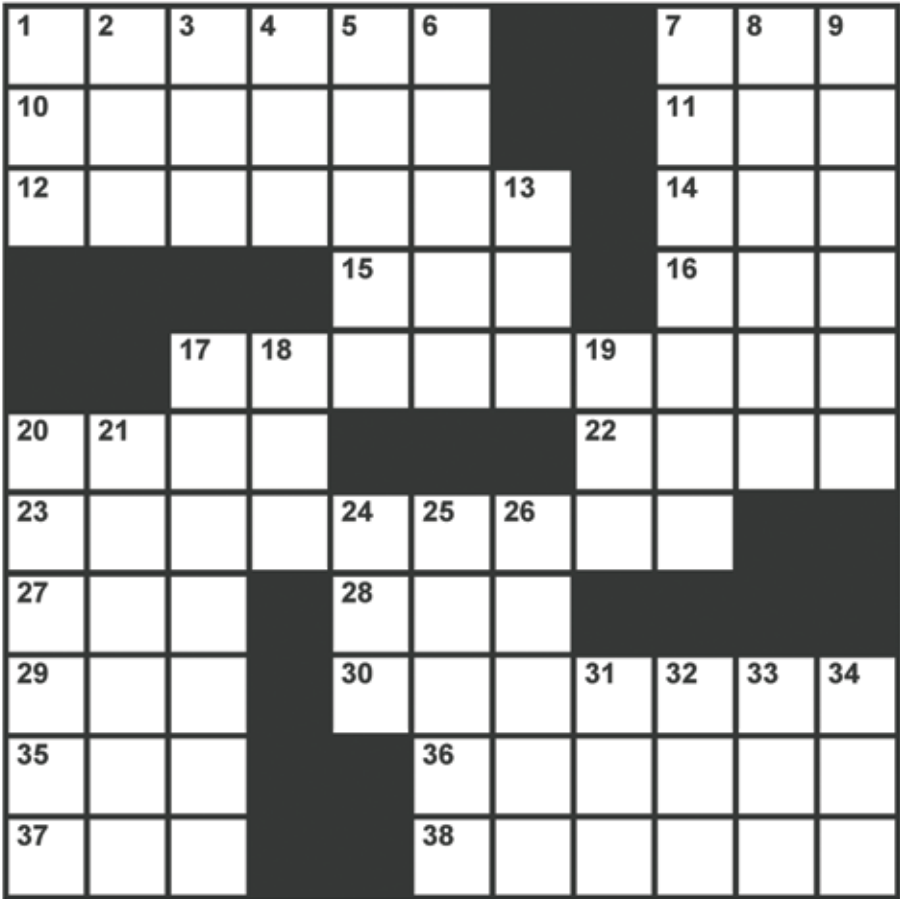
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# Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 13

- Across
1. Asian hostess

7. Crestfallen

10. Occurring every 365 days

11. Dwarf in "The Hobbit"

12. This Yorktown professional painter is biblical, \_\_\_\_\_ Pro Painters

14. Hosp. V.I.P's

15. Patriot's org.

16. Quarterback Roethlisberger

17. Sub

20. Neophyte

22. \_\_\_\_-bitty

23. Fundamental reasons

27. Yellowfin tuna

28. Charged particle

29. Hawaiian birds

30. Winter coat features

35. Parking \_\_\_\_

36. Pass something on

37. Compass point

38. Break out
- Down
1. Kind of order

2. Compass dir.

3. Days or Holiday

4. A boy called \_\_\_\_

5. Lacks, briefly

6. "Get \_\_\_\_!"

7. Material capable of being taken up by another substance

8. Newsman Peter
9. Mickey's creator
13. Camera type, briefly
17. Entertainer
18. French for law
19. Not a thing
20. Somers day camp, Summer \_\_\_\_
21. Louts
24. Beach grease
25. Hubbub
26. Archer and Frank
31. Company type
32. Confidentiality agreement, for short
33. Deprive by deceit
34. \_\_\_\_-Foy, Que.



## Newest American Citizens Proudly Take Oath of Allegiance

Putnam County Clerk Michael C. Bartolotti hosted a Naturalization Ceremony on Wednesday, June 26, at the Putnam County Historic Courthouse, where he administered the Oath of Allegiance to 43 new citizens from 27 different countries. The Naturalization Ceremony opened by the posting of the colors by American Legion Post 1080 Color Guard. The Honorable Christi Acker of the 9th Judicial District served as the officiating Supreme Court Justice and offered court remarks. Kevin Byrne, New York State Assemblyman,

offered welcoming remarks, Putnam County Undersheriff Michael Corrigan led the opening prayer, and District Attorney Robert Tandy led the Pledge of Allegiance. Carolyn Robinson from the Transplant Support Team, was a guest speaker. Isabella Ciatto, a junior at Carmel High School, presented the gathering with beautiful renditions of the "Star Spangled Banner" and God Bless America." After the ceremony, a coffee and cake reception was held to welcome our newest citizens.

PROVIDED PHOTOS



# Dusting Off the Subject of Household Dust

Have you ever heard of a dust fetish? I reluctantly admit to at least a keen interest in the subject, having alluded to it a couple of times in my column musings.

Just recently I learned about a new study conducted by a group of scientists who had collected dust samples from 1,200 homes across the United States. It revealed that we all cohabitate with a few thousand species of bacteria and about 2,000 species of fungi, most of which originate outdoors and probably come inside via soil particles or as airborne spores.

Add to our skin cells other flaky stuff like fabric fibers, dust mite excrement, hair, pet dander, regular dirt, debris and microparticles, and you have a pretty nasty brew that can give people with allergies and breathing problems a real hassle.

For anyone interested in forensic investigation, the study of bacteria and fungi in dust can determine whether a home has dogs or cats as well as the ratio of women to men on the premises.

For those with allergy issues, finding



By Bill Primavera

a solution can be a quagmire. While some argue that it's simply a matter of pulling up carpeting and living with bare hardwood floors to control airborne bacteria and fungi, the authors of this new study state somewhat extremely that "If you want to change your bacterial exposures, you just may have to change who you live with!"

Or better yet, "If you want to change the types of fungi you are exposed to in your home, it may be best to move to a different home (preferably far away)."

Well, no wonder we encounter so many people who are sniffing and apologetically tell us, sorry, it's my allergies acting up.

While dust is inevitable, it horrifies some of us, as though its presence on our furniture and floors tells the world something unflattering about us, not only as housekeepers but as human beings. Some of us just don't give a damn.

You may be familiar with the documentary, HBO movie or Broadway version of "Grey Gardens," in which Jackie Kennedy Onassis' aunt and cousin, Edie Beale, and her daughter, are depicted as living in squalor in

a neglected ramshackle house, with garbage strewn throughout and a hoard of cats and raccoons relieving themselves on the floor.

When Jackie arrives to help remedy the situation and registers her shock at the condition of the property, Edie dismisses it by saying simply that her daughter "hasn't been keeping up with the dusting."

Is inattention to dust the first degenerative step to chaos in the home? Maybe for some, depending on their mental attitude about it, and in turn, how unkempt homes can affect its occupants.

One survey reveals that 83 percent of us are happier in a clean house and the act of cleaning itself gives 57 percent of the population a feeling of satisfaction. Further, it shows that 38 percent of women and 24 percent of men experience stress living in a messy environment. It would seem that dusting and cleaning can be therapeutic. Psychologists have found that there is a marked difference in mood before and after cleaning, just as with a therapy session.

But beyond the psychological and unhealthy effects of dust, it can damage almost everything it lands on, from furniture surfaces to clogging up computer keyboards and vents.

There are fancy and simple ways to get rid of dust. The fancy way is with an air purifier

of which there are two types: those with fans that pull air through filters that trap the dust and those called electrostatic precipitators in which an electrical charge is applied to the dust drawn into the device and captured on oppositely-charged plates. Both are available as portable units or as whole-house systems. Prices range from \$100 for a portable model to over \$1,000 for a whole-house system.

Among the houses I've listed or sold, I was aware of only one couple who had a whole-house air purifier system. So, unless people are plagued by allergies, I suspect that most of us dust with old-fashioned elbow grease, using either rags or one of those new magic dusters to which particles cling. Because the latter option can be expensive, a rag can be made just as effective if dampened before use and shaken out frequently.

It's funny how the exploratory process can affect you. As I sit at my computer, I'm very aware that there is a lot of trapped dust on the keyboard. Are the raccoons soon to follow?

*Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.*

## Obituaries

### Barbara M. Fazzio

On June 28, Barbara M. Fazzio of Carmel, went to be with our Lord at the age of 86 surrounded by her loving family. Barbara was born to Frank and Hazel (Klein) Smith in 1932. She married Joseph Fazzio in 1955 together they had four daughters. Barbara



was known to have a green thumb. She would bring home the tiniest of flowers and with her loving heart and green thumb it would grow into an abundant bouquet. Barbara always gave people the benefit of doubt, saying "we all have bad days, just give them space." She is survived by her four loving daughters; Patti and her husband; Jerry Greco, Debbie and her husband Eddie Vasquez, Donna Fazzio Coyle and Kelli Fazzio with her partner Doris; grandchildren Christopher and his wife Sarah, Jason, Samantha and her husband Billy and Kayla; great grandchildren Haylee, Nicholas Julianna, Lilah, Liam and Rylee; nieces Patricia and her husband Kevin; nephew Robert; great-niece Bridget, as well as, her great-nephews Matthew and John. Barbara is predeceased in death by her husband; Joseph in 1977, granddaughter; Nicole, mother; Hazel, father; Frank, sisters; Rose, Marion and Patricia and nephew Richard Francis.

### Katie Berlanga Ortiz

Katie Berlanga Ortiz died peacefully and in her own home in the town of Mahopac, in the early morning of June 28. She had her devoted family by her side. Katie will be missed by her sister Maria Theresa Berlanga. Her children and their spouses, Lucille, Leah and Daniel, Daryll and Philip, Kathryn and Gilbert, Stephen, Barbara and Hector. She was so loved by her 19 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren and was their special Mima. Katie worked as a county court clerk with the Bronx District Attorney's office for 20 plus years and retired with great distinction. Her favorite hobbies included reading- especially Mary Higgins Clark, working her crossword and sudoku books, and she loved her jigsaw puzzles. Katie was a woman of many attributes. She empowered each one of us with her intelligence, talents and endearment. She truly defined what



it meant to be beautiful inside and out. She was genuine, supportive and brutally honest even when we did not want to hear it. She will also be forever remembered by her numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and dear friends; her heart and her home were always open.

### John Terrence Murphy

John Terrence Murphy of Carmel, died peacefully on June 29, at the age of 60. He was born in the Bronx on November 12, 1958, the son of Michael Sr. and Norah (née McNally) Murphy. A loving brother and uncle and devoted friend, John was trustworthy, kind and thoughtful. He will be remembered for his beautiful blue eyes and bright warm smile, and his dependable, loyal and genuine nature. Incredibly resilient, John endured each challenge he faced with a quiet confidence and grace. John loved the ocean, working for many years as a supervisor in the boating industry. He was also a talented handyman, carpenter and craftsman who enjoyed not only creating but refurbishing what others could not and breathing new life into forgotten treasures. He hand carved beautiful walking sticks and unique furniture pieces and restored everything from a broken lawnmower to antique model sailboats. John is survived by his sisters Patricia and Kathleen Murphy, and his brothers Michael (Colleen) and Patrick (Donna) Murphy, his nieces and nephews Kelly (Scott), Michael (Lindsay), Andrew (Sabrina), Connor and Norah, his great nieces and nephews Ava, Gracie, Michael Edward and Colin. He is also survived by his Beloved Joanne and her granddaughter Jazlyn.



### Patricia H. Bujarski

Patricia H. Bujarski of Putnam Valley, died on Tuesday, July 2, at the age of 67. She was born in Yonkers, on December 15, 1951, the daughter of Frederick and Marjorie (Doke) Hake. Patricia graduated from the Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, and went on to earn her Associates Degree. She worked as a certified medical assistant in Yonkers for several years and then as a school aide in the Haldane Central School District in Cold Spring, for 13 years; retiring in June of 2018. Patricia was a member of the Putnam Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corps and served as a past board member and past youth corps advisor. She had been active in scouting, both boy scouts and girl scouts, and had served as the health director at Clear Lake Camp (Durland). On May 13, 1978 she married William Bujarski at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Irvington. In addition to William, she is survived by her daughter, Kathryn Bujarski of Williamsburg, VA; her son, Christopher Bujarski and his wife, Julie of Cortlandt Manor; her sisters, Barbara Herberich of Akron, OH; Susan Luvison (David) of Fairfax, VA and Marjann Caldwell (William) of Springfield, VA and her granddaughters, Isla and Neveha; as well as her beloved fur-children Ricki and Mio.





# 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, July 9

**Virtual Reality Games** for ages 14 – 18. Come and play with Mahopac Library's Oculus Rifts and Virtual Reality Viewers. 3 p.m. A waiver is required for participation. Registration is required; register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

**Learn to sew with Lucille Merry and Polly Townsend** at a Sewing 101: Desmond-Fish Public Library. 6 p.m. Both adults or adult/child teams will learn how to make a lined tote bag. For more information about any of the library's upcoming programs, please visit [www.desmondfishlibrary.org](http://www.desmondfishlibrary.org).

**Drawing Faces at Reed Library:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This workshop will focus on the five elements of the human face – eyes, nose, mouth, ears and hair. Registration is required. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439

## Wednesday, July 10

**The Space Race at Reed Library:** 11 a.m. From the pioneering Mercury and Gemini flights to the first Apollo Moon landings, this lecture will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

## Thursday, July 11

**The Kent Library Scavenger Hunt!** Pick up a checklist and find every item on it for a chance to win movie tokens to Carmel Cinemas for your family. Then on Wednesday, July 17 at 1:00, come to a Lion King craft workshop. The final step in getting ready for the new film is revisiting the original, which you'll be able to do on Thursday, July 18 at 1 p.m.. Popcorn will be served! Registration is required for the craft workshop and for the movie screening. 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](http://www.kentlibrary.org).

**Chinese Brush Painting at the Reed Library:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This workshop will

explore the art of Chinese brush painting using traditional materials. Registration is required and begins June 24. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

**Science Tellers:** A science-themed summer reading adventure to the Desmond-Fish Public Library, 4 p.m. Aliens: Escape from Earth is an action-packed and educational alien adventure using science experiments for special effects. Everyone in the family is invited to this totally out-of-this-world performance. The Desmond-Fish Public Library is located at 472 Route 403 (at the corner of 9D) in Garrison. For more information about any of the library's upcoming programs, please visit [www.desmondfishlibrary.org](http://www.desmondfishlibrary.org).

## Friday, July 12

**Cornell Cooperative Extension's Eat Smart New York of the Hudson Valley Region:** Come enjoy free food, fun games, and great prizes. 11 a.m. -1:30 p.m., Hosted by The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or at [www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org).

**Hebrew Congregation of Somers Shabbat Service and Dinner.** Shabbat service at 6:30 p.m. followed by a potluck dinner. Hebrew Congregation of Somers is a small, informal and friendly synagogue affiliated with the Reconstructionist movement. First-year membership is free and includes High Holiday tickets. Email [info@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org](mailto:info@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org) or call 914-248-9532 for more information.

**Paint Party at Reed Library:** Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Painting begins at 7 p.m. Create a painting from start to finish, enjoy refreshments and sip something delicious! Registration required, please call the library to register 845-225-2439.

**50th anniversary of the moon landing:** 1 p.m. A Biopic on the life of the legendary American Astronaut Neil Armstrong from 1961-1969, on his journey to becoming the first human to walk the moon. Exploring the sacrifices and costs on the Nation and Neil himself, during one of the most dangerous missions in the history of space travel. Registration is required. This program is for adults and is part of our moon landing anniversary series. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or at

[www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org).

## Saturday, July 13

**The Desmond-Fish Public Library is pleased to host an Infant CPR Class.** 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. . The class will be facilitated again by instructor Mack Godbee, an EMT with the Garrison and the Peekskill Ambulance Corps for over thirty years. Registration is required for this one and a half hour non-accrediting class but it is open to all, including partners, relatives, babysitters, and other interested parties. Babies and siblings are welcome to attend with their parents. Please email [beautifulmamas123@gmail.com](mailto:beautifulmamas123@gmail.com) to sign up. There is a \$10 instructor fee for participation in the course. The Desmond-Fish Public Library is located at 472 Route 403 (at the corner of 9D) in Garrison.

## Sunday, July 14

**Music to Celebrate Summer at Reed Library:** 3 p.m. Featuring new American music for flute and clarinet, as well as traditional favorites. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

## Monday, July 15

**Rose Christmas, Founder/Facilitator of Lifestyle Adjustment Forums & Retreats,** returns to the Kent Library as Cancer phases into Leo to continue her Rainbow Medicine Lodge series 6:00, also July 20 at 11 a.m. and Monday, July 29 at 6 p.m.. Explore full-spectrum empowerment as we explore healing on a mental, physical, spiritual, emotional, & environmental level; healing with color, light, & sound; and clearing chakras. Program is for adults. 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 at [www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org)

**Desmond-Fish Public Library is excited to host NASA's live webcast in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11's Historic Moon Landing** on the big screen. 4 p.m., - 5 p.m. Join the fun at the library or watch the webcast on your own at URL: <https://youtu.be/Xhh7mNUJ9Oo>. This live webcast is brought to you by the American Museum of Natural History and the STAR Library Network's NASA

@ My Library program. The Desmond-Fish Public Library is located at 472 Route 403 (at the corner of 9D) in Garrison. For more information about any of the library's upcoming programs, please visit [www.desmondfishlibrary.org](http://www.desmondfishlibrary.org).

## Tuesday, July 16

**Come take another an all-new film celebrating the 50th anniversary of the moon landing:** 1 p.m. Watch this brand new movie, with never-before-seen footage and audio recordings that take you straight into the heart of NASA's most celebrated mission as astronauts Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins embark on a historic trip to the moon! Join us for this special screening of the historic event, on the actual 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 launch to the moon! Rated G - for all ages - bring the whole family! Registration is required. This program is for adults and is part of our moon landing anniversary series. The Kent Library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing off Route 52 and can be reached at (845) 225-8585 or at [www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org).

**Sybil Ludington, Patriot Hero of the Hudson Valley** talk Hosted by Vincent Dacquino. Reed Library. 6:30 p.m. Please call the library to register, 845-225-2439.

## Wednesday, July 17

**Wednesday Family Movie: How to Train Your Dragon: Hidden World.** 2 p.m. The citizens of Berk face a dragon trafficker who threatens their peace, dragons and friendships in the final installment of the fantasy trilogy. You may bring snacks, a pillow, and bring your friends! Drop-in program at Mahopac Library; no registration needed.

**St. James Feast:** Wednesday to Sunday July 17 – 20. Opens at 6 p.m. daily St. James the Apostle Church 14 Gleneida Ave, Carmel. Food - Rides - Games – Fun. More info at: <https://stjamesapostle.org/>

## ‘All - American’ Concert At The Patterson Rec. Center

*continued from page 4*

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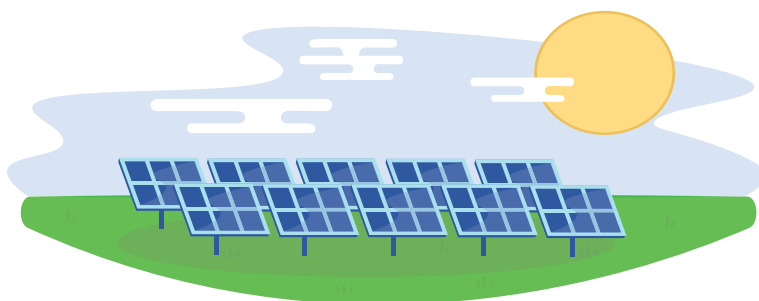
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## LEGAL NOTICES

**Town of Putnam Valley Work Session July 10, 2019 5 PM** 1. Pledge of allegiance. 2. Set Public Hearing for Removal of Moratorium on Districting 3. Discuss September meeting on Airbnb 4. Update on de-icer regulations 5. Personnel changes, Parks & Recreation 6. Parks and Recreation refunds. 7. Audit of monthly bills

**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 03/25/2019. 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 GOLAB 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 address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC served upon him/her is: 100 Fisher Avenue, 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 FORMATION OF CAMEO 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 whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Cameo Home Inspections LLC, 2 Ann Place, Valhalla, NY, 10595. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE is hereby given that a license, number "Pending" has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Wine and Liquor at retail at a Hotel under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 700-900 Fort Hill Road, Peekskill, NY 10566 for On-Premises Consumption. **1876 ABBEY LLC and HAY CREEK MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC ABBEY INN & SPA 700-900 FORT HILL ROAD PEEKSKILL NY 10566**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DAYTON LLC.** Arts of Org. filed with Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/30/2019. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, SSNY shall mail process to: David B. Petshaft, P.C., **222 Bloomingdale Rd. Suite 116, White Plains, New York 10605. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

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# When a Least Likely Component Has a Significant Impact



By Nick Antonaccio

Nature has always intrigued me. As a youngster, the ferocity of weather dazzled me, from experiencing the magnificence of a thunderstorm to the unbound energy of hurricanes and tornados. But I never became a meteorologist.

In adult life, I have become captivated by the processes involved in winemaking and am continually amazed at the natural process of the transformation of pressed grape juice (must) into an alcoholic beverage. But I'm not an oenologist.

The transubstantiation of fruit into a complex elixir is a marvel of nature. The combination of events and interactions of varied elements that must interact in perfect harmony – every time they interact – is a feat that boggles my mind. Last week I reported on a newly-developed synthetic form of yeast that may alleviate certain allergic reactions to wine. A reader queried me on the role yeast plays in wine production.

As with all things scientific, a logical structure and chemical interaction can explain this

marvel. But the process of taking an agricultural product like grapes and converting it to wine, that has numerous variations, to me is more alchemy than laboratory. Wine is a living, breathing organism, changing as it progresses through its life cycle, influenced by its changing chemical composition both in the winery and in the bottle.

Early in the life cycle of wine, an amazing transformation occurs. In its most elementary formation, wine is a byproduct of grape juice, yeast, bacteria and oxygen. Crushed grapes carry on their skins various forms of yeast. These yeasts transform the natural sugars in the juice into alcohol and carbon dioxide.

After fermentation, the small amounts of bacteria remaining from the dead yeast cells create a secondary (malolactic) fermentation, that results in a softer, less acidic wine. All through the fermentation, aging and bottle life processes, oxygen is ever-present and interacts with the components in wine to assist in refining and aging (or spoiling) wine over a period of time.

Let's take a closer look at the role of yeast in winemaking. Given my lack of scientific skills, I researched several

## You Heard It Through the Grapevine

sources for an understanding of this phenomenon. Here is my best effort at distilling and presenting an analysis, from the perspective of a right-brain dominant mind.

Numerous strains of yeast develop in vineyards. Each one affects fermentation in a slightly different way, hence influencing varying characteristics of wines. These yeast strains are a critical component in the concept of terroir.

While many winemakers trigger the fermentation process with the "wild" yeasts carried by the harvested grapes, a number seek out natural strains that have been cultivated elsewhere and packaged to meet specific characteristics sought by a winemaker. Grape must be inoculated with the purchased yeast and these organisms carry out their transformative role.

Each yeast cell secretes more than 20 enzymes, which in turn create over 30 chemical reactions that initiate and perpetuate fermentation. The winemaker's influence is in selecting the proper strain of yeast and then nurturing it throughout its reproductive and dying cycles.

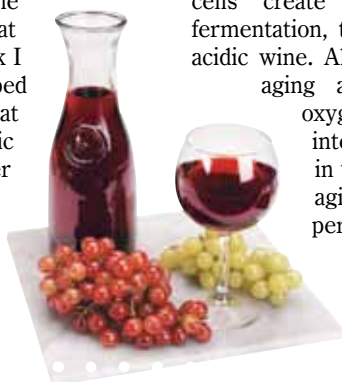
Yeast cells are quite productive. One drop of fermenting juice can contain five million yeast cells that are capable of doubling their number every two hours under perfect conditions.

Complete fermentation can take up to 14 days, creating a frenzy of activity. It is not

unusual to witness a froth of carbon dioxide bubbles on the surface of the fermenting barrel or tank as the density of yeast cells climbs into the hundreds of millions per ounce of juice. Once the yeast cells deplete all of the oxygen and nutrients in the juice, most die off and fermentation is complete (unless the winemaker chooses to retain the remaining bacteria, triggering the secondary – malolactic – fermentation process).

The marvels of science are diligently at work in the seemingly simple process of fermentation. The art of winemaking will always be dependent on a microscopic organism with a penchant for reproduction. I'll drink to that. At this, I've become expert.

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.



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# The Putnam Examiner Sports

Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

## A C.A.L.L. to All!



## Cortlandt American Serves Notice, Wins District 33 10U Little League Title

Members of the Cortlandt American 10U team proudly display their District 33 championship flag after defeating Putnam Valley, 4-2, last Monday night to advance to the 5 team double-elimination Sectional tournament where they will square off with four other district winners from Rockland, Orange, Middle Westchester and Southern Westchester with the winner advancing to the state tournament. Team members include, Front Row L-R: Thomas Imperati, Louie Vernagallo, Jake Bruno, Christopher Silvestri, Max Selinger, Matthew Clyman; Back Row (L-R): Maxx Minichino, Tristan Pagliettini, John Valentino, Kevin Brown, Matthew Mekuto, Michael Zumatto, Vincent Lugo; Coaches (L-R): Lou Vernagallo, Manager Jeremy Carlucci; Anthony Mekuto



Sports

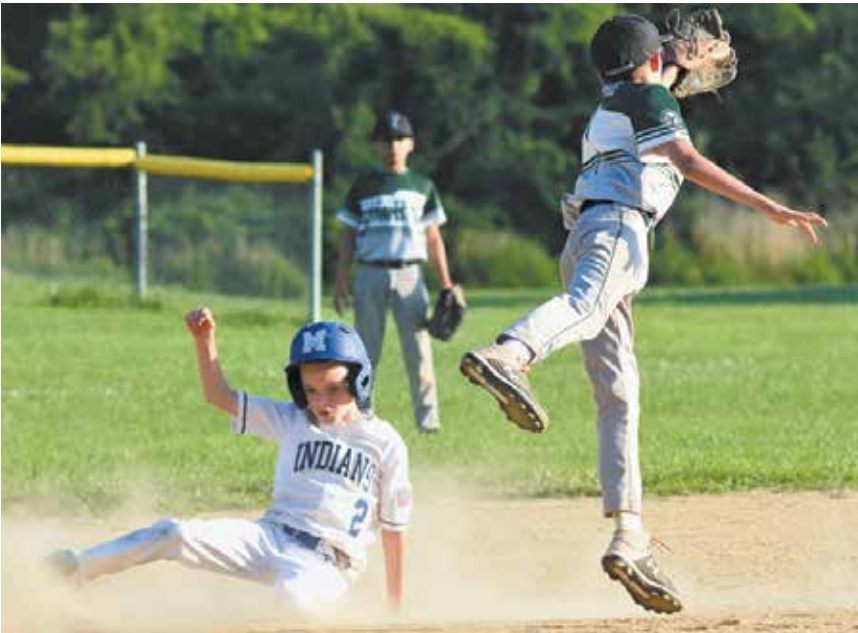
Baseball Notebook



Mahopac 1B Jacob Mendez mashes walk-off double in Indians' 4-3 GHVBL win over Yorktown last Wednesday.



Mahopac's Ryan Cotter strokes single in Indians' 4-3 11U win over visiting Yorktown last Wednesday.



Mahopac SS O'Ryan Ortiz slides in safely at 2B as Yorktown SS Lucas Schrade goes high for throw in Indians' 4-3 GHVBL win over Titans.



Yorktown's Liam Lauth slides in safely at 2B as Mahopac SS Aidan Kugler takes throw in Titans' 4-3 GHVBL loss to Indians.



Mahopac's Mike Stern tracks a shot in Indians' 4-3 win over visiting Yorktown last Wednesday in 11U Greater Hudson Valley Baseball action.



Yorktown's Liam Lauth slides in safely at 3B as Mahopac 3B Max Sorrentino takes throw in Titans' 4-3 GHVBL loss to Indians.

Mahopac 10U Walks Off on Yorktown in GHVBL Action



Mahopac P Aiden Kugler rounds 2B with winning run in 11U Indians' 4-3 GHVBL walk-off win over Yorktown.



Mahopac SS Aiden Kugler can't get tag down in time on Yorktown's Nick Hasim in Indians' 11U 4-3 GHVBL win over Titans last Wednesday.



Yorktown Titan P Connor Ropue fires pitch in 4-3 loss to host Mahopac 11U team last Wednesday.



Mahopac 2B Rocco Spirelli awaits throw for put-out in Indians' 4-3 GHVBL 11U win over Yorktown.



## Sports

# Coaching Carousel in Full Swing, A.D.'s Dropping Like Flies



By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner  
Sports Editor

Mother of Pearl, it's been quite a busy couple of weeks on the coaching carousel and A.D. roundabout, hasn't it? Perhaps the most stunning thing to go down is the whole Henry Sassone debacle over at North Salem.

Now, since we don't cover North Salem in these pages I'm not quite as dialed in over there as I am at say Mahopac or Putnam Valley, but I know when something's rotten in Denmark.

North Salem Superintendent Kenneth Freeston announced on June 19 that the school board had decided not to retain Sassone as athletic director next year and that he may no longer be the boys basketball head coach; both positions Sassone held for more than 30 years.

The school has posted the job opening via OLAS for an Interim Director of K-12 Physical Education and Athletics, and thus far the school board has refused to reappoint Sassone as the boys' basketball head coach.

These are fairly stunning developments given Sassone's status in Section 1 as a revered personality, a strong advocate for student athletes and a pretty damn good coach. But then again, nothing stuns me when it comes to school administrators and school boards. I'm not saying they don't have their reasons for these changes. Sassone must have rubbed someone the wrong way, or they wouldn't do this to a man of such status.

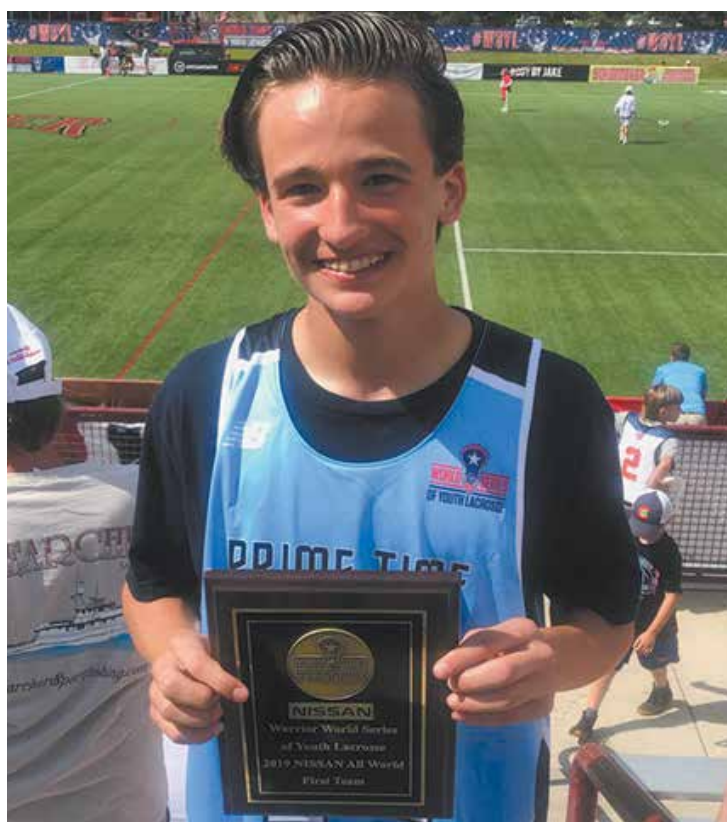
Lawyers for the district stated North Salem is ratifying the position of the director of physical

education and its regulations will now dictate that whoever holds that position must have both a Physical Education Certification and an Administrative Certification, which Sassone apparently does not have. So, he'll simply be retained as a physical education teacher. Can you imagine the tension in those hallways at North Salem when school convenes next September. I can't, and I can't imagine coaching high school sports nowadays. As coaches, teachers are literally putting their professional teaching careers in peril just by accepting a coaching position, which opens the door to heavy scrutiny and criticism, not to mention being run out of town. It's a damn shame and that risk is simply not worth the stipend...

**Moving on**, it's been a busy week elsewhere, too, particularly in Mahopac and Putnam Valley.

Putnam Valley boys' varsity basketball Coach Mike McDonnell tendered his resignation after six solid seasons, and then rolled on up at Kennedy Catholic as its new basketball coach. McDonnell's resignation wasn't completely out of the blue. It's been bandied about for a couple of years as relationships were beginning to deteriorate between McDonnell and the PV brass, despite his success on the court. So, McDonnell saw the writing on the wall and rewrote the ending. He'll now return to the Catholic High School Athletic Association after a prior stint with Sacred Heart.

"I want to be up front with everyone about this," McDonnell said, "so I met with the team this morning (Saturday) and informed them of my decision. I have nothing but the utmost respect for those kids and every kid I've coached in this program. I will never forget the relationships I've formed with them



Robert Plath of Mahopac and Prime Time Lacrosse was recently named to the All-World first team at the World Series of Lacrosse in Denver.

and the memories we have will last forever, but it's time to move on. I can't thank them enough.

"It has been a most memorable and rewarding six years, and truly an honor to represent the Putnam Valley community," he added. "I would like to thank the current and former athletic directors, the basketball-loving principal and superintendent, the athletic office secretaries, the parents, and most especially the young men I have been so blessed to coach. I must also acknowledge the most talented and supportive modified, junior varsity and varsity assistant coaches throughout my time here." McDonnell reached four Final 4's

and two finals in his time at the Valley and won 75% of his games, and now he'll enter back into the highly competitive Catholic circuit and the recruiting world. Best of luck, Coach! Your efforts to develop and promote hoops in the Valley were greatly appreciated...

**Mahopac officially tabbed Frank Miele** as its interim Athletic Director, and the veteran A.D. will become the busiest beaver on Lake Mahopac in the days ahead. He's got his feet to the fire when it comes to boys' basketball, which is Priority No.1 if you ask me. I'm pretty sure Mr. Miele knows who Mahopac teacher/MTA President Tom McMahon is, so let's hope he

reacquaints himself ASAP and gets him approved by the board in time for summer league, which is right around the corner. There are also some parental grumbings in some of the other major programs as well that may need some addressing...

Others on the move include Mahopac girls' soccer Coach Ross Fumusa, who was not rehired for 2019 by outgoing A.D. John Augusta, who did make a really solid hire before leaving when he brought in wrestling Coach Steve Tornambe, who takes over for NYS Hall of Fame Coach Dennis DiSanto. Tornambe will be named at the BOE meeting in mid-July and this is a blessing for the tight-knit Mahopac wrestling community, who gets a young, energetic infusion into a program that returns a bunch of veteran wrestlers. If that's the last thing Augusta did, it was indeed a very good thing...

**Lastly, congrats to Mahopac eighth-grader Robert Plath** for making the All-World first team at the World Series of Lacrosse in Denver. Word on the street is that Plath, a long stick defender who currently runs with Prime Time Lacrosse, is on the path to big doings, and one can only selfishly hope he hangs around Mahopac rather than opting for private school; only because I'd love to see a lock-down defender in blue and gold instead of typical Cornhusker green, ala Keith Boyer, Jose Boyer, Brett Makar, Rob Doerr, Brian Kuczma, Chris Watson et al.

"He works his tail off," Prime Time Director and Founder Nick Daniello said of Plath. "He was the best defensive player on the field all weekend at the World Series. He's a great kid, too, a very humble, blue collar guy."

Kid's got it going on. Hope Mahopac can keep him around.

## Cortland American Conquers Put Valley for 10U District 33 Title

The Cortlandt American Little League (C.A.L.L.) 10-U Williamsport All-Star team captured the District 33 Championship by edging Putnam Valley by a score of 4-2 early last week. It was a rematch as the team's also met in the opening game of the double-elimination tournament, which C.A.L.L. won by a score of 8-3. Putnam Valley battled through the loser's bracket to earn their spot in the finals. Each team scored two runs in the first inning but it was a pitcher's duel the rest of the way as PV's Logan Moriarty and C.A.L.L.'s Vinny Lugo were both dealing.

After falling behind in the first game against C.A.L.L., PV came out aggressive in the rematch and jumped out early scoring two runs in the top of the first with hits by

Mikey Frye, Moriarty and Parker Fisco.

However, C.A.L.L. was able to answer right back in the bottom half to knot it at two. It looked like C.A.L.L. was going to take the lead in the 3rd and 4th but the Putnam Valley defense made two fantastic plays in the field to cut down two runners at the plate to end each inning. It remained a 2-2 game until the bottom of the 5th when C.A.L.L.'s Maxx Minichino came to the plate with runners on second and third and two outs, and he delivered a clutch single to center that scored two runs to make the score 4-2. From there, Vinny Lugo and the C.A.L.L. defense closed it out in the 6th for the victory.

C.A.L.L. went 3-0 en route to the title and

have been anchored by the strong pitching of Lugo (winning pitcher in 2 of the 3 games) and Thomas Imperati (3 scoreless innings in a 15-0 victory over Brewster) as well as stellar defensive play all around as the team has not made an error in the three games.

The infield has been anchored by the strong play of SS Imperati but also flashing some serious leather has been 2B Max Selinger, 3B Matthew Clyman and 1B Michael Zumatto with all of them having plenty of fielding chances without an error. Catcher Louie Vernagallo has kept his pitcher's in the groove with his smooth work behind the dish and has also kept opposing base runners at bay.

The outfield rotation of Matthew Mekuto,

Tristan Pagliettini, Jake Bruno, Chris Silvestri, Kevin Brown and John Valentino has been very solid, tracking down numerous fly balls and doing an excellent job of keeping singles to singles. Offensively the C.A.L.L. attack has been led by Michael Zumatto, Maxx Minichino, Vinny Lugo and Max Selinger; with Selinger providing some pop from the lead-off spot with a dinger against Brewster to lead off the game.

C.A.L.L. now advances to the 5 team double-elimination Sectional tournament where they will square off with 4 other district winners from Rockland, Orange, Middle Westchester and Southern Westchester with the winner advancing to the state tournament.



# At Ease, Ortiz!



## Mahopac 10U Walks-Off on Yorktown in 4-3 GHVBL Win



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Mahopac SS O’Ryan Ortiz slaps an easy tag on Yorktown OF Anthony Iovenilla as 2B Rocco Spirelli backs up in Indians’ 4-3 walk-off win over the visiting Titans in 10U Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League action last Wednesday at Austin Road School where Jacob Mendez (inset) cracked the game-winning double... see Baseball Notebook