



Taxpayers Could Pay Part of Lawsuit Settlement in PV

By David Propper

A legal fight between Putnam Valley's building inspector and a town councilman could cost taxpayers thousands of dollars.

Richard Quaglietta, the town's building inspector and code enforcement officer, sued Councilman Steve Mackay for slander earlier this year, though the case will never go to trial after an out of court settlement was reached. The settlement was made last month with Quaglietta receiving \$17,500 as a result of the agreement. The town's insurance company will cover at least

\$12,500 of the payment due to Quaglietta, while it is up in the air where the other \$5,000 will come from.

Quaglietta sued Mackay last winter for slander after the Republican councilman allegedly made false statements against the town employee. Mackay allegedly told a group of people at The Quiet Man Restaurant in Peekskill during a party that Quaglietta was in big trouble because he illegally solicited \$400 from a movie company and threatened to close down the filming if he wasn't paid a bribe, according to the complaint. The lawsuit alleged that Mackay knew his statements that Quaglietta takes bribes from people were false and were made with malice in hopes of damaging the reputation of Quaglietta.

"(Quaglietta) has been greatly injured in his good name and reputation and has been deprived of the public confidence which he had as a (building inspector and code enforcement officer)," part of the lawsuit stated. "He has suffered a tremendous amount of embarrassment, humiliation and mental agony and has been held in contempt, distrust and ridicule in the eyes of his friends, business acquaintances and the public in general."

Quaglietta, a Kent resident, said he only found out about Mackay's alleged accusations when planning board member Tom Carano asked Quaglietta if he was having money problems and that Mackay told people he was taking bribes.

Quaglietta, who has been the Putnam Valley building inspector for six years, said he has never taken money under the table and was upset to learn what Mackay allegedly relayed to others.

"My name is everything to me as a building inspector," Quaglietta said, noting

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PROVIDED PHOTO

Brewster 10U Ball Players Crush Competition

The Brewster Orange Crush proved to be the real boys of summer when it won its bracket for the Under-10 B division in the Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League earlier this month. As the #7 seed, Brewster was able to top four teams en route to being the best squad out of 37 teams. In the finals, Brewster was trailing 9-1, but found a way to come back and pull out a victory. The coaches are Joseph Gileno, Michael Subin, Richie Anderson and Al Vazquez and players are Joseph Gileno, Michael Subin, Kaden Anderson, Troy Vazquez, Chase Prohaszka, Aidan Fisher, Sandro Velardo, Michael Connolly, Beckett Grutzner, Troy Ruggerio and Nico Corrado.

Cell Towers Proposed in Mahopac Slammed

By David Propper

For the first time in more than a year, residents that could live near two proposed cell towers had the chance to publicly decry the monopolies they believe will ruin their neighborhoods.

The two proposed cell towers were panned by residents that live near the 254 Croton Falls Road site and the 26 Dixon Road site with fears that the monopolies could drive down property values and ruin the aesthetics of the neighborhoods during a public hearing of the Town of Carmel

Planning Board last Wednesday.

Both the planning board and zoning board of appeals would need to sign off on the towers in order for them to be erected in residential neighborhoods. The public hearing remained open so more residents could comment at another planning board meeting next month.

Homeland Towers proposed the two towers, which would be built on private property, about a year ago, claiming the structures are needed to fill gaps in service in those areas. The Croton Falls Road tower

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he won't even let people in town buy him a cup of coffee because he doesn't want the perception of impropriety.

Quaglietta's attorney, George Calcagnini, said the settlement didn't include any admission of wrongdoing from Mackay. Calcagnini said in a deposition Mackay denied making the statements against Quaglietta, but Carano, in his deposition, explained in great detail the defamatory statements made.

Quaglietta confirmed the insurance company paid him the full \$17,500, but that doesn't mean the town won't get an invoice for \$5,000 in the future.

One of three things could now happen: the town might never receive a bill from the insurance company which might decide to cover it, the town could be billed and Mackay would pay for it out of his own pocket or the town would foot the bill.

Because Mackay agreed to a settlement, Quaglietta said he feels vindicated.

"If you're settling and paying a price, you're saying that you're guilty or wouldn't have settled, especially when you're not paying your own attorney fees," Quaglietta said.

When the lawsuit was first filed, Calcagnini called James Randazzo, Mackay's attorney, and told him Quaglietta was willing to settle

for \$5,000 and a public apology from Mackay, but that offer was rejected.

Supervisor Sam Oliverio confirmed the town's insurance company covered Mackay's legal costs and a \$12,500 payment to Quaglietta. Oliverio said he and the rest of the town board were unaware that town insurance covered Mackay's legal costs and Oliverio only found out about the lawsuit once the case reached its conclusion.

"I have no answer and no explanation for how insurance company handled it," Oliverio said. "All I know is that they did."

While the insurance company doled out funds for Mackay's legal representation and covered part of the settlement, the town won't be charged an additional fee from the company going forward, Oliverio said.

Emails to Mackay were not returned before press time and numerous calls to Randazzo were also not returned before press time.

Councilwoman Jackie Annabi said the town board was unaware of any lawsuit filed against Mackay and only found out about it because the town could be charged a \$5,000 deductible stemming from the settlement payout.

The town has not received an invoice yet, but if it does the matter would need to be discussed publicly. The town board would need to vote on the matter if it were considering paying the \$5,000 deductible.

"This is a circumstance that did not involve the town so I see no liability on the town's part," Oliverio said.

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Q: Why do people become obese?

A: Obesity is now recognized as an energy storage disease that's hormonally based. It can develop when we eat large quantities of simple carbohydrates that break down fast to sugar, such as bread, pasta and white rice. In response, your body produces excess insulin to keep the right level of glucose in the blood – a condition called insulin resistance.

Excess insulin production is a serious problem because insulin prevents fat breakdown, so more food converts to fat, promoting fat storage. High insulin also reduces the efficiency of the brain hormone, leptin that tells your brain you should eat less. In women, there's an extensive, complex interaction between the hormonally based reproductive cycles and insulin system, so subtle hormonal changes have a greater effect on women.

Q: Are obese women at risk for certain health problems?

A: Absolutely. Most problems revolve around excessive production of insulin. Obese women have more difficulty conceiving due to problems ovulating, and are more likely to have abnormalities during pregnancy,

such as high blood pressure. Obesity is the number one cause of female infertility in the U.S.

Obesity also increases the risk of irregular or painful periods, high-birth-weight babies, gestational diabetes, and miscarriages. There's a greater risk of breast cancer, especially post-menopause. Sixty percent of cancers of the uterine lining are caused by obesity, as are a significant number of uterine fibroids. Obese women with cancer have a higher rate of mortality and recurrence because treatments, typically tested on non-obese people, may not be as effective.

Q: What are the best remedies for obesity?

A: Weight-loss (bariatric) surgery can work because it helps establish a new weight set point, which is the weight range your body is genetically programmed for and that it tries to maintain. However, you must also eat more protein and vegetables – foods that break down more slowly. FDA-approved medications help some people lose weight. We now know that the best treatment for obesity is multi-pronged. Beside surgery, I use medications, behavioral therapy, and special exercise machines that make it possible for anyone to run. Exercise greatly improves insulin resistance.



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Bronx Man Nabbed for Illegal Dumping

By David Propper

Sifting through trash recently helped the Putnam County Sheriff's Office crack a case of illegal dumping.

On July 29, a sheriff's deputy was patrolling Barrett Road in Southeast when he found a large collection of trash and construction debris dumped on county property adjacent to Interstate-84. After surveying the scene, the deputy took photographs of the dumpsite and then dug through several bags looking for any garbage that might identify the owner. In one of the bags, the deputy found paperwork belonging to a Lake Carmel man, according to the sheriff's office.

Because of the quantity and substance of the garbage, which included roofing shingles, car tires, lawn mowers and household garbage, the sheriff's deputy contacted an Environmental Conservation Officer (ECO) to assist in the investigation, the sheriff's office said.

The deputy and ECO located the Lake Carmel man and learned that the man, who was a contractor, paid an independent contractor to remove waste from a construction site in Yonkers, according to authorities.

The independent contractor, Antonio Ortiz-Zayas, of the Bronx, was contacted by



PROVIDED PHOTO

Some of the debris was dumped on the side of the road unlawfully.

authorities and directed to meet the deputy and EDC at the dumpsite.

While all three men were at the dumpsite, Ortiz-Zayas told the officers he thought Barrett Road was a free dumping site, but his apparent misunderstanding made no difference. Ortiz-Zayas was issued a littering summons by the sheriff's department and an unlawful disposal summons by the ECO on the case. Both summons are returnable to the Town of Southeast Justice Court on Aug. 27.

As for the garbage illegally dumped--it was picked up by Ortiz-Zayas.

Carmel Sets Up Internet Purchase Exchange Location

By David Propper

The Town of Carmel now has a safe space to exchange internet purchases between buyer and seller.

The town unveiled two parking spaces that are designated as an internet purchase exchange location in the town hall/police department parking lot last week to give residents that are buying and selling products online a safe place to swap items and money.

Supervisor Kenny Schmitt said the designated spots where the exchange location is situated is under 24 hours surveillance with the Carmel police department monitoring the area. The internet purchase exchange location was determined by police chief Michael Cazzari.

"If (residents) want a safe place to exchange the purchase from either the seller or the buyer, they can come here to town hall and they'll be under video surveillance and the Carmel police are housed in the same building which makes it an even safer place for it to take place," Schmitt said.

Councilman Michael Barile came up with the idea and Schmitt then ran with it with the help of the police department.

Barile said there have been instances around the nation of too many people getting robbed, ripped off and even killed when they

'Putnam County is not the Putnam County of 50 years ago.' - Carmel Councilman Michael Barile

meet up with someone they bought or sold an item to online. (It doesn't appear a crime like this has occurred in Putnam County yet.)

"It's dangerous," Barile said. "Putnam County is not the Putnam County of 50 years ago."



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Cell Towers Proposed in Mahopac Slammed

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was originally proposed to be 180 feet, but has now been reduced to 140 feet and the Dixon Road tower was originally pegged for 156 feet, but has now been lowered to 110 feet. Still, both towers exceed the height allowable under town code, meaning variances need to be granted.

Residents living near the towers came out swinging Wednesday.

Mahopac resident Gail Fiero said the application for the Croton Falls tower might need to be redone because her property might be placed on the State/National Register of Historic Places. If it is placed on the registry, it could complicate matters for

Homeland, she said.

"I don't know anyone that would want this (cell tower) that cares about their family," Fiero said.

Mahopac resident Emmeline Swanson said the proposed cell tower near her home made her and her partner rethink whether or not they want to live in this area long term.

"We are not prepared to have our home value adversely affected so others can collect a check," she said. "Commercial activity of this scale in nature has no place in residential areas."

Mahopac resident Ron Leviner said it struck him as odd when the property owner that planned on leasing his land to Homeland Towers was granted a past variance by the town even though he didn't disclose a possible future deal with Homeland. Now, the property owner is looking for further variances to accommodate the cell tower he wants to rent on his land, he said.

Leviner also questioned Homeland's analysis of property values and coverage issues. Homeland has put forth a study that claims property values increase for homes near cell towers.

Mahopac resident Jennifer Simon asked why a site that is low on the town's priority list for a monopole would be selected as a proposed tower location.

She conveyed skepticism over the study offered by Homeland that shows property values increase for homes near cell towers. Simon said real estate groups and policy institutes generally state there are adverse



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

Mahopac resident Robert Montanaro spoke out against a cell tower proposed on Dixon Road last week.

social welfare effects and that property values go down near towers.

Attorney for Homeland Towers, Robert Guadiso, of Snyder and Snyder, declined comment after the hearing.

Mahopac resident Robert Montanaro, who spoke on behalf of all the concerned residents near the Dixon Road tower, slammed the proposal and challenged Homeland Towers' claim that property values actually increase when a cell tower is placed in their neighborhood.

Montanaro said he and other residents spoke with a half dozen realtors that work locally that all stated that if the tower is built, it would decrease property values for homes in the proximity. There are 30 homes in the immediate area where the tower is proposed, Montanaro said, that range from \$400,000-\$700,000. Those 30 homes play



Mahopac resident Ron Leviner argued a cell tower along Croton Falls Road should be rejected at a hearing last week.

close to \$500,000 in property taxes yearly, he noted.

Believing that the information provided by Homeland Towers about increased property values for homes near monopole is skewed, Montanaro said it should make the planning board question the credibility of all the of information Homeland is offering.

Montanaro also noted the tower would destroy the beauty of the neighborhood.

"Some (neighbors) have simply said they just want to sell and get out," he said.

What makes the situation worse is the rent Homeland Towers is paying for the Dixon Road monopole will go toward to a private individual, Montanaro said, rather than if the tower was on public property where the town could collect the money.

"I would describe this as a bad, bad deal," he said.

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**Business
of the Week**

Kwality Ice Cream Shop Mahopac

By David Propper

With summer and the hot, long days to go along with it, opening up an ice cream shop might be the most business savvy move a person can make.

And that's exactly what Vijay Rayavarapu did when he opened up Kwality Ice Cream Shop in Mahopac last month. The store, located off South Lake Boulevard, offers a wide array of ice cream flavors, cones, ice cream cakes and other novelty treats to customers looking to cool off.

Rayavarapu used to own two Carvel franchises, but decided to move on, allowing him to offer more to customers. By owning his own business, he doesn't have to follow instructions from any corporate bigwig.

"It's good to try your own brand so you can do whatever you want," Rayavarapu, who enjoys having fun at work, said.

Kwality offers more than 40 different flavors to customers and offers weekly promotions. (Buy one sundae, get one free on Mondays and buy one cone, get one free on Wednesdays.)

All the ice cream in the shop is homemade. (Mango is Rayavarapu's favorite.)

"Trying to give customers the healthiest, the best ice cream," Rayavarapu said.

Kwality Ice Cream opened on July 15 and has been doing well in its first month.



Vijay Rayavarapu, of Kwality Ice Cream Shop takes care of a customer's birthday cake request.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

Kwality Ice Cream Shop has dozens of flavors to pick from.

During that time, Rayavarapu, a Rockland County resident, has tried to make sure his ice cream shop is giving customers the best possible quality.

"We've been getting a good reception from the town," he said. "Everyone's been

very nice to us."

One more perk about running his own ice cream store is the name he came up is an ode to his family. Each letter in Kwality represents the name of someone in his family, including his wife, son and daughter.

"Never in my own history did I think I'd be opening my own business," Rayavarapu said. "But now that's what it is."

Kwality Ice Cream Shop is located at 939 South Lake Boulevard in Mahopac and its phone number is 845-803-8426.

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Maloney Remains Against Trump Impeachment Inquiry

By David Propper

As the number of House Democrats calling for an impeachment proceeding against President Donald Trump continues to grow, local Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney remains against opening an impeachment inquiry into the Republican president.

A spokesman for Maloney confirmed Maloney does not want an impeachment inquiry to start after his Republican opponent running in the 18th district slammed him for expressing a desire to impeach Trump. GOP candidate Chele Farley said Maloney, a Democrat, has once again shown that he is "out of touch with the values and priorities of Hudson Valley residents" by indicating he would green light any impeachment proceedings initiated by the Judiciary Committee against Trump.

"Impeachment is a drastic step that is not supported by the American people," Farley stated.

But in the WAMC New York interview that Farley referred to, Maloney didn't say he wanted the House to undergo an impeachment inquiry against Trump because strategically it would be ill advised even though he thought Trump committed impeachable offenses.

"I think the President's conduct is deserving of impeachment, I don't

recommend that tactically as a course we ought to take to hold him accountable, I think there's better ways to do that right now," Maloney said during the interview. "If you're asking if the guy deserves it, yeah, he deserves it."

Maloney went on to state, "If you put a red or green button in front of me and say you have to vote yes or no for impeachment, I'm going to vote to impeach the guy."

More than 100 House Democrats support opening an impeachment inquiry against Trump following the completion of the Mueller Report that outlined while Trump and his campaign did not conspire with the Russian government to win the 2016 election, there were several instances where Trump might've committed obstruction of justice during the course of the Russian interference investigation.

But Maloney has held back against supporting an impeachment inquiry. On July 17, Maloney voted against impeachment on the House floor. While he handily won his re-election for a third term in Congress in 2016, Trump received more votes in the 18th district than Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. Maloney, who is now in his fourth term, was only a handful of House Democrats to win a race in the same district Trump also won in 2016.

Farley's campaign stood by its statement criticizing Maloney.

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Back to School Guide



How to Help Your Child Deal With Back-to-School Anxiety

By Dr. Lata K. McGinn

Returning to school in the fall can bring excitement as well as stress for many children. There are several things parents can do to help their children ease back into the new school year and deal with the anxiety that often accompanies that first day and even those first few weeks.

1. Help your child know that feeling anxious about going back to school is normal and don't minimize how they feel. Don't say, "don't worry, it will be fine." Instead stress how it is normal to feel some anxiety about going back to school. Everyone feels it to some extent. Anxiety is a protective emotion and it will help prepare children to get ready for school and it will pass when a child adjusts to being back to school.
2. Help them understand what the purpose of anxiety is and to listen to it rather than push the anxiety away. Anxiety is like an unpleasant but helpful alarm, so the alarm will keep on ringing and get louder until a child figures out what it is alarming them.
3. Help children figure out what is making them concerned or anxious so they can talk to themselves in a way that will help them to cope. Ask them to pay attention to what is going through their minds when they get anxious and come up with helpful things to say to themselves. If



Dr. Lata K. McGinn

the anxiety, for example, is related to "I am starting high school and I will not do well and won't get into a good college," help them to say something like, "I am understandably anxious about starting high school and am worried that I won't do well but that doesn't mean I actually won't

do well. I just need to make sure I prepare in advance, organize my work, make sure I have enough time to study, take away all distractions when I study and get support when I need it."

4. Help them gradually approach all the things that are making them anxious rather than avoiding what is making them anxious about school. If seeing their friends is making them anxious and they are avoiding seeing them or thinking about meeting them at school, help them create a fear ladder and slowly climb it. Say, "how about you call Matt to see if he can meet up before school, and then after that, you could meet again and include Jack and Alex, too?"
5. Do something academic to prepare because the brain drain is real over the summer. If a student has a weak subject, get a tutor for a few weeks or use online forums like the Khan Academy or Crash course (a YouTube channel led by "Fault in Our Stars" author John Green and his

brother Hank) to help them prepare. It will help them get a refresher and build their confidence.

6. Help children to focus on positive things about going back to school. Ask them if they are looking forward to any aspect of going back to school. If seeing their friends is something they feel good about, say things like, "it will be nice to catch up with Jane. You have so much to tell her." Of course, if seeing their classmates is anxiety provoking, pick another topic.

Dr. Lata K. McGinn is a licensed clinical psychologist and co-founder of Cognitive Behavioral Consultants. She is also a tenured professor of psychology, director of the Doctoral Clinical Program, and director of the university-based Cognitive Behavior Therapy Training Program for Anxiety and Depressive Disorders at the Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, Yeshiva University/Albert Einstein College of Medicine. More information can be found at www.cbc-psychology.com.



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Op-Ed:

NY Committed to Helping Those With Opioid Addictions

By Peter Harckham

The opioid epidemic has touched every New Yorker either personally or through a friend, relative or community member.

With the proliferation of fentanyl, opioid drugs have become more deadly and more addictive. In 2018, more people died from drug overdoses than perished at the height of the AIDS epidemic.

While heroin addiction has been plaguing our urban communities for decades, the suburban and rural crisis has been fueled by unscrupulous pharmaceutical companies and distributors flooding the state with prescription opioid pain pills. From 2006 to 2012, New York State was inundated with nearly 3.4 billion pain pills. Westchester County was supplied with 120,521,446 prescription pain pills, enough for 18 pills per person per year; Putnam County received 14,979,750, enough for 21 pills per person per year; and Dutchess County was flooded with 59,935,295 prescription pain pills, enough for 29 pills per person per year. These numbers are shocking and unconscionable.

As chair of the New York State Senate's Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, the Senate listened to patient advocates and is taking action. This session,

we doubled the minimum number of days for inpatient substance abuse treatment, from 14 to 28, before insurance companies may conduct their concurrent review. Far too often, people seeking recovery were unable to obtain the proper treatment they needed because their insurance provider had kicked them out of treatment prematurely, often with no follow up plan. That will no longer be the case in New York State.

Further, we reduced the number of co-pays a patient could be charged for outpatient treatment to a single co-pay at the rate of a regular doctor visit. Frequently, patients were hit with multiple co-pays for each specialist they saw, in a single outpatient visit. With most patients needing multiple visits per week, outpatient Substance Use Disorder care became unaffordable.

We also mandated that Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) be covered by all insurance plans, both public and private. We required that MAT be mandated in all correctional facilities throughout the state. Additionally, we passed legislation requiring physicians to discuss the risks associated with opioid prescriptions and possible alternatives. And we passed Stephens Law, requiring that treatment centers, at the consent of the patient, inform their support network should they determine that a

patient is in a life-endangering situation, such as a failed drug test.

But with all that has been done, we still have a long way to go in our battle against opioids. Beginning this summer, along with Sen. Gustavo Rivera, chair of the Senate Committee on Health, and Sen. David Carlucci, chair of the Senate Committee on Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, I will be co-chairing a new statewide Joint Task Force on Opioids, Addiction & Overdose Prevention. We will travel the state and learn about the issues facing all of our communities as well as gaps that exist in the system. Most important, we will work to uncover best practices and develop solutions to address co-occurring disorders. Our ultimate goal is to prevent overdoses in people who are addicted and to find more avenues to get them into treatment.

If you would like to participate at one of the hearings or roundtables, please e-mail nysoverdosetaskforce@nysenate.gov or call my office at 914-241-4600 for more details. Together, we will continue to reverse this terrible crisis.

State Sen. Peter Harckham represents the 40th Senate District, which includes most of northern Westchester and portions of Putnam and Dutchess counties.

Obituaries

Paul A. Ascani

It is with heavy hearts that the family of Paul A. Ascani, 62, of Mahopac, announces his passing on August 8, at his home. Paul was born on April 7, 1957 to the late John and Anita (Maurer) Ascani in Tarrytown. Paul grew up in White Plains, and attended Northeastern University in Boston where he earned a Bachelor Degree of Science in Business Administration. On August 28, 1982 he married the love of his life and best friend Mary Schink in Middletown, NJ. Together they were blessed with nearly 37 years together and two loving children; Lauren and Christina. He was a member of the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society but Paul was most proud of his home and his adoring family, who are comforted by their fondest memories with him on family vacations,

summers spent on the lake and precious time spent around the dinner table. He owned his own business, C+L Contracting, named for his two daughters. Paul is survived by his beloved wife Mary, his two caring daughters Lauren E. Tattoli and her husband Cosimo R. Tattoli of Oradell, NJ and Christina M. Ascani of Washington D.C., two adoring brothers, John and Robert Ascani, one cherished sister Lorraine (Lorry) Arco. Paul was blessed with one granddaughter Michaela Marie, who loved her Pop Pop. At this time, the family requests all funeral services to celebrate Paul's life to be private. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and kindness during this difficult time. Cargain Funeral Homes, Inc., 418 Route 6, Mahopac, NY 10541 (845) 628-5655. www.cargainfuneralhomes.com

she was enjoying life's simple pleasures and you could often find her outside working in her garden. All those who knew and loved Ann Marie, will remember her as a true blessing and gift that they were all fortunate to have in their lives. Among those who had the privilege of knowing and loving Ann Marie are her beloved husband Bill; her two loving daughters Tina Marie and son-in-law Daniel Ferris; and Rose Mary and son-in-law Marshall Okin; and, the true loves of her life whom she adored, her grandchildren Lily, Annabelle and Thomas. She is also survived by father Otto Moravec of Boynton Beach, FL, predeceased by her mother Carmela Moravec, brother Otto Moravec, and sister Dawn Beach. She will be greatly missed.

Ann Marie Beach

Ann Marie Beach, age 57, a resident of Stormville, died on August 11, surrounded by her loving family at Putnam Hospital Center. Ann Marie was born in White Plains, New York on February 10, 1962. She was fortunate to meet the love of her life, William "Bill" Beach, while attending high school and, shortly after graduating, they married on June 28, 1980. They were married for 39 wonderful years and were blessed with two wonderful daughters, Tina Marie and Rose Mary. Bill was a military man serving in the US Air Force, stationed in Las Vegas, Nevada, where they began paving the way for their family. Ann Marie will be remembered most of all for the love and devotion she felt for her family and friends which included two adorable dogs, Cooper and Zoe. Ann Marie loved to travel, and when she wasn't traveling

Linda Eulagio

Linda Eulagio of Mahopac, died on August 13, at 2:17 pm. She was the beloved daughter of Frank (Deceased) and Rosina (Bologna) Eulagio. Linda fought a long, hard battle with cancer for ten years. She was strong willed and courageous each and every day. The support she received through friends and family never went underappreciated. She is survived by her loving mother Rosina, and her most cherished daughters, Nicole and Erica Quaedvlieg. Linda will be remembered for the kind, loving, understanding and genuine person that she was. Anyone lucky enough to have known her, knew she was someone they could depend on. She was dedicated to her family, friends, and her career. Especially to Nicole and Erica whom she loved more than anything. The influence she had on their lives was the most precious gift they could ever ask for.



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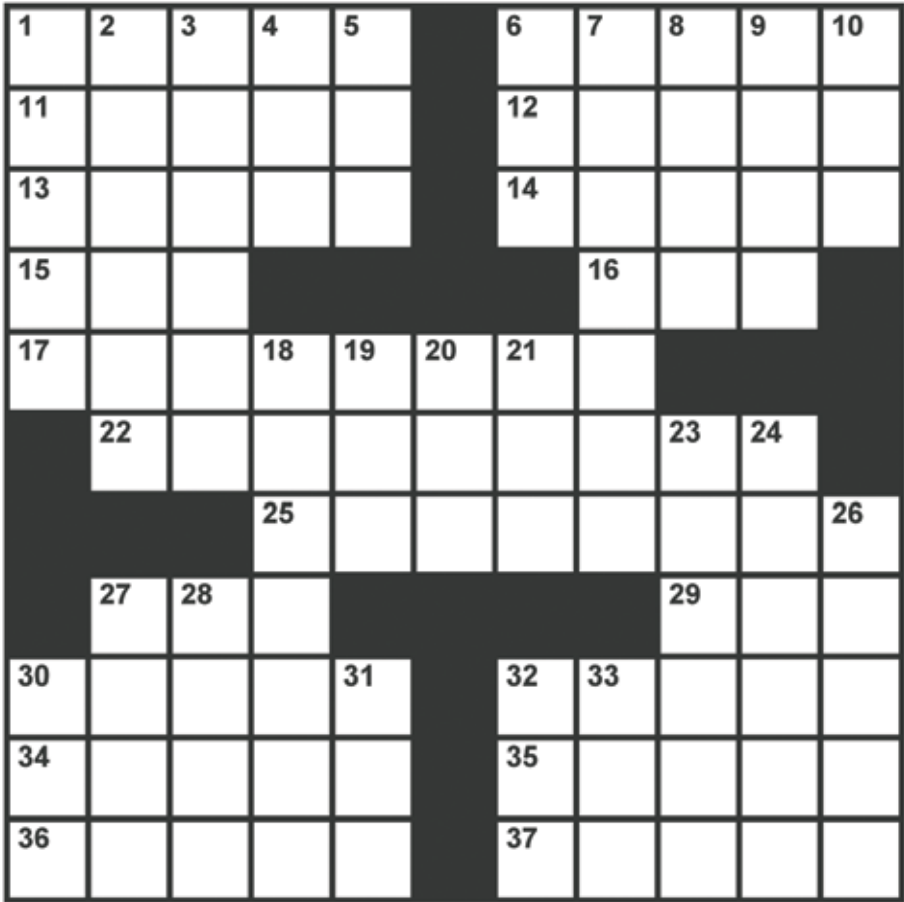
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Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 16

Across

1. Arise
6. Belonging to actor Galifianakis, or Mahopac pizzeria
11. Southern constellation
12. Pizza topping
13. Lying port-to-starboard
14. Playful animal
15. "Sands of __ Jima"
16. Ending for car
17. Press statements
22. Italian for "welcome" or Mahopac pizzeria
25. It moves heat from a cool space to a warm space
27. Fairy tale veggie
29. "Give __ break!"
30. "Whooping" bird
32. Luxurious fur
34. Veranda
35. Van Gogh painted here
36. Beasts of burden
37. El Greco's birthplace

Down

1. Transmitting
2. Old mansion decoration
3. Cuisine style
4. "Kill Bill" star, Thurman
5. PC capacity, for short
6. Where leopards can be spotted
7. Pays for a hand
8. Name

9. Weeder
10. Elder
18. Touch up
19. Fifth in N.Y.C.
20. Large volume
21. Sinusitis-treating MD
23. Spill
24. Ham and egg dish
26. Bel __ cheese
27. Advantages
28. All __ (fully attentive)
30. Number cruncher, for short
31. Baffled inquiries
32. Biological pocket
33. O'Hare abbreviation



SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF PUTNAM INDEX NO. 244/2014 ONEWEST BANK FSB,

Plaintiff designates **PUTNAM** as the place of trial situs of the real property **SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS** Mortgaged Premises **35 LARCHMONT RD CARMEL, NY 10512** District: Section: 33.50 Block: 1 Lot: 44

Plaintiff vs. **WILLIAM J. CARLIN JR. AS ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA J. ZASSO A/K/A PATRICIA ZASSO; PATRICIA WHITE, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA J. ZASSO A/K/A PATRICIA ZASSO; MAUREEN ZASSO, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA J. ZASSO A/K/A PATRICIA ZASSO** if living, and if she/he be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; **DENNIS ZASSO,**

AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA J. ZASSO A/K/A PATRICIA ZASSO; BRIAN ZASSO, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA J. ZASSO A/K/A PATRICIA ZASSO if living, and if she/he be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; **JAMES ZASSO, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA J. ZASSO A/K/A PATRICIA ZASSO; DAWN MARIE WYERS, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA J. ZASSO A/K/A PATRICIA ZASSO; CHRISTINE ZASSO, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA J. ZASSO A/K/A PATRICIA ZASSO; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - INTERNAL SERVICE,**

"JOHN DOE", "RICHARD ROE", "JANE

DOE", "CORA CORE", "DICK MOE" and "RUBY POE", the last six defendants last named in quotation marks being intended to designate tenants, or occupants in possession of the herein described premises or portions thereof, if any there be, said names being fictitious, their true name being unknown to plaintiff,

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS Mortgaged Premises: **35 LARCHMONT RD CARMEL, NY 10512** District: Section: 33.50 Block: 1 Lot: 44 To the above named Defendants

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney within 20 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until (60) days after service of the Summons; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$397,500.00 and interest, recorded on May 13, 2009, at Liber 5422 Page 55, of the Public Records of PUTNAM County, New York, covering premises known as 35

LARCHMONT RD CARMEL, NY 10512.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

PUTNAM County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county. **NO-TICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME**

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.

Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

RAS BORISKIN, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
BY: Glenn W. Caulfield, Esq.
900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310
Westbury, NY 11590
516-280-7675

When Buyers and Sellers Want Realtors to Be Blabbermouths

You'd never know it to meet me today, but I was born with some kind of neurological condition that resulted in my reaching the age of five without speaking a word.

That was in the days before so much was known about autism spectrum disorder. Certainly, there was no treatment available for kids like me who were non-social, withdrawn and didn't verbalize.

But from what my mother told me, I recovered from whatever the condition on the final day of a novena she made at St. Donato's Roman Catholic Church in North Philadelphia. After hearing this story, I never questioned reports of miracles, because I started verbalizing at the end of the novena and haven't shut up since.

While I was able to speak, I still had to challenge myself to become more socially interactive in school. I debated and wrote for the school newspaper, then once out of college, my first job was as a newspaper reporter. After that, a public relations practitioner, all requiring verbal communication.

But only when I ventured into real estate, did I find myself talking all the time. From



By Bill Primavera

what industry pundits say, that's a good thing.

At a real estate convention I attended early in my career, one of the keynotes impressed me when he identified the chief "irk" that sellers and buyers have with realtors – and it's all about communications.

Specifically, he said that the most common real estate situation that negatively impacts realtors' clients is inadequate disclosure. He went on to paint scenarios which might convince potential homebuyers and sellers to have frequent heart-to-hearts with their realtors to learn as much as they can about the entire process, particularly what is likely to happen next.

In defense of myself and my fellow realtors, I would say that out of self-preservation, we're way ahead of the game. I've never heard any group of people who talk as much as realtors do to inform their clients. Whenever I'm in the office, there is a cacophony of voices on the phone, all explaining to clients what is happening and what to expect.

But real estate purchases and sales is a complex process and such an all-encompassing discipline that the totally

unexpected or unknown can happen at any time. It's the realtor who can get blamed for lack of disclosure on the matter.

There are the standard disclosures which sellers and realtors sign when taking a listing: the disclosure of agency that identifies the relationship of the realtor to the seller; a lead disclosure if the house was built before 1978; and the affiliated business disclosure, so that sellers can be aware of the other businesses which the realtor's company owns.

The big disclosure that most buyers and sellers relate to is the property condition disclosure in which the seller identifies all the known defects of a house to its buyer. While it is required in many states, such as California where the code is particularly stringent, in New York, the seller may choose not to issue such a disclosure but rather pay \$500 at closing to the buyer. The overwhelming majority of sellers choose this option, rather than risk being liable for serious house defects.

Beyond these expected disclosures are those that require a simple explanation before the fact, rather than after. Nobody likes surprises when it may be too late to be informed. This is best accomplished by the realtor preparing a list of frequently asked questions, such as whether a lawyer is needed and who pays the commission?

Besides asking such questions, it is suggested that realtors also present a list

of what sellers or buyers can expect along the way. Sometimes, realtors who make appointments to show your home will sometimes be late or not show up; know that the HGTV shows are scripted; expect that the closing date will be delayed; and expect that you won't know until the last moment how much money you must bring to the closing.

The more realtors paint a realistic picture, especially accompanied by stories of personal experience, the better sellers and buyers will feel empowered to make informed decisions. That kind of clear and open communication is what helps avoid problems in the form of misunderstanding, missteps and/or unlawful acts.

Not so long ago I was in Philadelphia and happened to pass the church where my mother told me I was granted my ability to speak. It brought a lump to my throat, nudging alongside my voice box that has had a lot of practice in the years I've worked as a realtor who blabs on and on to clients about what's going on.

Bill Primavera, while a publicist and journalist, is also a Realtor® affiliated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

Delving Into Core Principles and Practices of the Wine Universe



By Nick Antonaccio

It's the dog days of August and I'm wilted from the heat we've been experiencing. I've decided for this week's column to reprise a previous nugget I wrote for you. Hope you enjoy it.

Here are random factoids, choice nuggets to elevate your game or to supplement your memory banks. Some of you will consider these to be revelatory; others may have a "tell me something I don't already know" reaction.

1. Always clear your palate before you taste a wine. Previous foods in your mouth will influence your experience with a wine. You will not enjoy a Cabernet Sauvignon if you just finished off a bag of salty chips.

2. Wine is best experienced when paired with food. In combination in your mouth, a "new" flavor is created. Remember that regional wines evolved over the centuries as accompaniments to regional foods, not as stand-alone expressions of a grape. I have often changed my opinion of a wine once it interplays with the flavors and aromas of a food dish.

3. Aromas dominate your appreciation of a wine. Our physiology has four elements of taste and over 10,000 elements of aromas.

4. Corollary to Number 3 above: swirling the wine in your glass releases the aromas and bouquet more quickly. Always swirl. It's

functional, not snobbery.

5. Sub-corollary to Number 3: Don't fill your glass more than a one-third; it allows the aromas to concentrate in the other two-thirds. Swirl a glass that has curved sides and a rim. It funnels and therefore concentrates the aromas toward your nose as you sip the wine.

6. Don't swallow too soon. Hold the wine in your mouth for a few seconds and "chew" it. This will allow the wine to coat the sensory areas of your tongue and mouth, enhancing your ability to appreciate the many nuances of the wine.

7. Red wine is healthier than white wine. The red grape skins that ferment with the juice contain compounds that are powerful antioxidants. One of these, resveratrol, has been proven to be a key to our overall health.

8. All grape juice is white (with one or two minor exceptions). Red wines derive their color from the grape skins, which are fermented with the juice and thereby impart the familiar color to the wine.

Corollary: Red grapes can produce a white wine – just remove the skins before fermentation begins. A classic example is sparkling wine, which invariably is produced from some or all red grapes. Brut Champagne is part Chardonnay and part Pinot Noir and/or Pinot Meunier; Blanc de Noir (White from Black) on the label signifies only red grapes were vinified in the production of the wine; Blanc de Blanc – you've got it, only

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

Chardonnay was vinified. Rosé Champagne signifies that the skins of the red grapes used in production were allowed to sit with the fermenting juice for a very short period – just long enough to infuse a light red/pink color to the wine.

9. Generally speaking, during the course of a meal or a wine tasting, enjoy the lighter wines first and then move to the heavier wines. Your palate will thank you and will remain fresher for a longer period of time. Likewise, white wines should generally be enjoyed before reds; dry wines before sweet wines; and young wines before older ones.

10. Need to chill a bottle of wine quickly? Don't put it in the fridge or the freezer. Rather, place it in an ice bucket filled one-

quarter with water and the remainder with ice. Fill as high as possible in order to surround the neck of the bottle. Add a hearty pinch of kosher salt, wait 10 minutes, open and pour.

Feel free to refer to these facts whenever you wish to impress friends with your wine knowledge, but most importantly to better understand the fundamental precepts and practical wisdom of wine appreciation.

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.





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Happenings

We're happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Nikki Gallagher at nikki@theexaminernews.com

Tuesday, August 20

Rent-A-Space Community Tag Sale: First Presbyterian Church located at 411 Rt. 6N (at Secor Rd) in Mahopac will host a Rent-A-Space Community Tag Sale Saturday September 14, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Rain or Shine. Refreshments will be available. Vendors are wanted. Double parking space \$25 in Advance (by check until August 30th, cash until September 12th) \$30.00 Day of Sale, Cash Only. Tables are available for rent at \$10 each, set up starts 8 a.m. For more information please call Kathy at 845-628-2365 or email presby411@verizon.net

Family Photo Collage with Lavinia Wiggins. Using a personal photograph as the focus we will create a family collage incorporating various papers and ephemera. You can make a copy of the photograph if you don't want to use the original. 6:30 p.m. Gather your items to make a memorable keepsake: fabric, lace, buttons, letters, postcards, etc. The instructor will also provide a range of photographs, craft materials and embellishments to choose from. \$5/person; pay fee to instructor at class. Registration is requested; register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call

845-628-2009, ext. 100

Reed Library is a Ted Talk Salon. 7 p.m. We will watch a TED talk on The Power of Vulnerability. Please call the library to register: 845-225-2439

Thursday, August 22

Adult Knitting Club: Repeats weekly. 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. Knitting is a wonderful craft reputed to be beneficial for wellness of mind and body! It's also a lot of fun! Get together with others who share your penchant for knitting - all skill levels are welcome! This is a great opportunity to share ideas and learn from one another. To register, click here or call 845-279-6421. Drop-ins welcome as well.

Saturday, August 24

Chip the Literacy Hound: 11 a.m. - noon Chip the literacy hound will be joining us on alternating Saturdays for story time! Chip is a friendly and well-mannered therapy dog who loves to be read to-- will you please come and read him a story? Drop in readers are welcome! For more information, click here or call 845-279-6421.

The Brewster Theater Company will hold auditions for the hilarious Neil Simon play, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Callbacks are Sunday, Aug 25. Auditions and performances take place at The Theater at Drew United Methodist Church, 28 Gleneida Ave, Carmel. The show is directed by Stacy Dumont. If available, please provide resume. Performance dates are October 25, 26, 27, Nov 1 and 2. For additional info, please contact BrewsterTheaterInfo@gmail.com or call 845-206-9013.

Monday, August 26

Rehearsals Begin: The Putnam Chorale joyously announces that it will begin rehearsals for its Fall/Winter program. 7:15 p.m. at the Carmel H.S. Music Building. This semester the Chorale will perform a selection of Dual Chorus Psalms by Bach, Handel and Mozart, with orchestra on December 6 in Beacon and December 8 in Brewster. In addition, the Chorale will make an ensemble guest Appearance singing Traditional 19th Century Christmas Music at the Boscobel Mansion on December 14th. Rehearsals are held each Monday (excluding Labor Day) at the same time and place. No auditions are required and all singers are cordially invited to join the Putnam Chorale. For more information please visit www.PutnamChorale.org

Virtual Reality Games for adults: 7:30 p.m. Come and play with our Oculus Rifts

and Virtual Reality Viewers. Registration is requested; register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Tuesday, August 27

Essential Oils Workshop: 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Brewster Public Library. What is CBD oil? What are essential oils? How do I use them? Why should I use them? What if I have pets? What are the safety concerns when using these oils? At this fun-filled presentation we'll take you through the basics of CBD and essential oils, so you can have a better understanding of what they are, the safety concerns and whether they are right for you and your family. To register call 845-279-6421.

Virtual Reality Middle Earth Trek: 3 p.m. Experience and control amazing landscapes with Nature Trek VR at Mahopac Library. For ages 14-18, registration and waiver required. Register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Wednesday, August 28

Create a Light up Eye of Sauron: 3 p.m. See ALL with this DIY project using simple materials. For teens entering grades 6-12; registration is required. Register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 139.

Putnam Hospital Center Offers Tai Chi Program

The Putnam Hospital Center Rehabilitation Department will offer two fall sessions of Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention starting in September.

Tai chi is a low-impact exercise that involves a series of movements, known as forms, performed in a slow, focused manner combined with controlled breathing. Research has shown tai chi is effective for arthritis and fall prevention as it improves mobility, balance and relaxation.

The program is taught by physical therapists at Putnam Hospital Center certified through the Tai Chi for Health Institute. Tai chi is appropriate for adults with or without arthritis, rheumatic disease or related musculoskeletal conditions, as well as mild, moderate and severe joint involvement and back pain. Participants should be able to walk independently and follow instructions.

There are 16 sessions that will take place from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays from Sep. 4 through Oct. 25 and another from Oct. 10 through Dec. 20 in the hospital's Integrative Health Center, Suite 114, 670 Stoneleigh Ave. There is a \$30 registration fee.

To register and for more information, please call 845-279-1785 (TTY 800-421-1220).



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE is hereby given to interested parties that a Public Hearing will be held by the **Putnam Valley Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday August 29, 2019 at 6:30 at Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road** for the purpose of considering the following pe-

continued on next page

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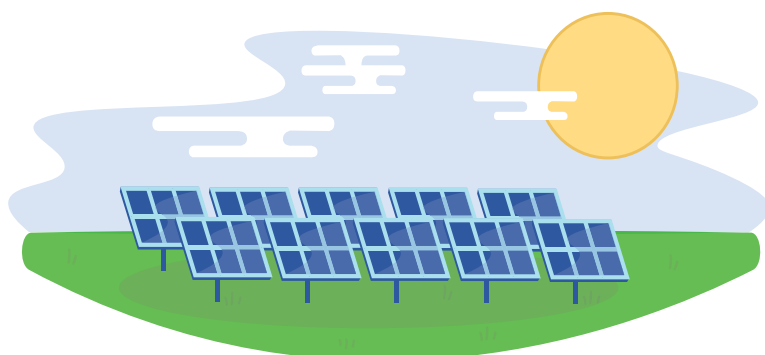
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titions and requests together with all other matters that may properly come before the Board at this time. **AGENDA New Application** 1. **Gonzalez, William, 243 Old Church Road, 73.-1-14; R-2** Request front yard setback variance for proposed shed. 2. **Sweezy, Jean, 141 Oscawana Heights Road, 52.-2-12; R-3** Request a side and front yard setback variance for proposed garage. 3. **Davino, Alfonse, 7 Briar Court-73.18-1-14; R-2** Request for side and rear yard setback variance for proposed pool and deck. 4. **DiLeo, Louis, 569 Lake Shore Road,-41.10-2-32; R-3** Request side yard setback variance for new generator. 5. **Maskiell, William, 135 Barger Street, 84.-2-56; R-3** Request side and height variance under Section 165-44 A (1) of the Zoning Code for replacing second floor to existing barn. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY OF APPEALS WILLIAM MASKIELL, CHAIRMAN**

Town of Putnam Valley August 21, 2019 Town Board Agenda 1. Pledge of Allegiance 2. Departmental Reports 3. Supervisor's opening comments 4. Legislator's Report 5. School Report 6. Approval of minutes for June 19, July 10, and July 17, 2019. 7. Waive all permit and building fees for Fire Department projects. 8. Discuss de-icers on lakes. 9. Approve the agreement between the Town of Putnam Valley and Brookfalls Cottages, Inc. Districts 10. Authorization to go out to bid for District Garbage Pick-Up. 11. Waiver of building permit and wetland permit waiver fees associated with the demolition of the old Lake Peekskill pump house. Building Department 12. Daily Fee Report Parks and Recreation 13. Approve person-

nel additions/changes: Wacaser and Brown. 14. Approve personnel additions/changes: Call, Nastri, Astrologo, Riley, Sainz and Cassidy. 15. Refunds. 16. Budget Transfers 17. Public Comment 18. Audit of monthly bills.

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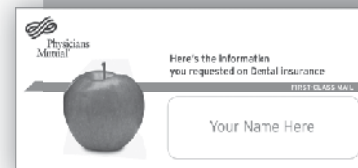
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Car Rolls Over Bright and Early in Mahopac

A little before 4 a.m. last Friday the Mahopac Falls Fire Department, EMS and Fire Police were dispatched to Baldwin Place Road and Stillwater Rd. for a one car rollover accident. Also responding were multiple units from the Carmel Police, a unit from the Putnam County Sheriff's Department, medics from EMStar and Valley Towing. The driver of the vehicle was out of the car upon arrival of emergency responders and was immediately triaged by Medics and EMTs. Fire Police closed the road for the safety of all on the scene as tow truck operators went about the job of trying to winch out the vehicle over a stonewall.



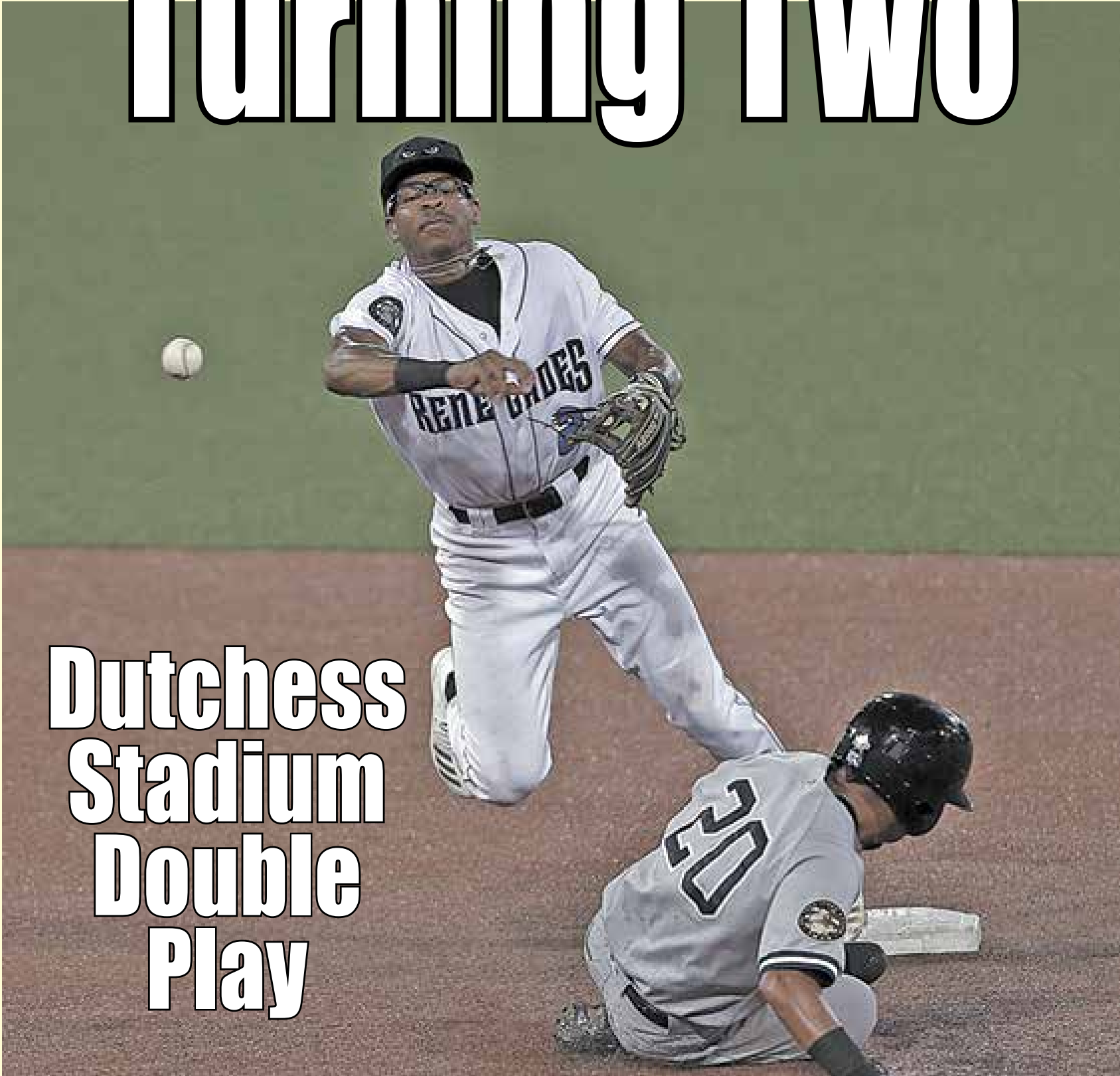
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Crossword Answers

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The Putnam
Examiner
Sports
Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

Turning Two



Dutchess Stadium Double Play

Hudson Valley shortstop Greg Jones fires to first base to complete a seventh-inning double play Saturday night as Staten Island's David Metzgar slides into second base.

RENEGADES vs. STATEN ISLAND



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

Renegades starting pitcher Rodolfo Sanchez delivers to the plate during Saturday evening's game at Dutchess Stadium.



The Renegades' Kevin Santiago lines out to left field in the third inning of Saturday's 4-3 loss to Staten Island.



Hudson Valley catcher Jordyn Muffley circles the bases after belting a home run in the third inning.



Garrett Hiott of the Renegades watches the ball sail into the third-base stands after fouling off a pitch vs. the visiting Staten Island Yankees.



Staten Island third baseman Andres Chaparro blasts a pitch down the line in left field in Saturday evening's 4-3 win over the host Renegades.



Anderson Munoz of the Staten Island Yankees gave up just two hits and one earned run in his five innings of work against the Renegades.



Yankee shortstop Josh Smith backpedals for a pop fly toward short left field in the bottom of the sixth inning at Dutchess Stadium on Saturday.



Staten Island right fielder Jacob Sanford had three hits Saturday, including a two-run double in the fifth inning that gave the Yankees the lead for good.



In a close play at first base, Staten Island's Ezequiel Duran barely beats the throw to the Renegades' Jacson McGowan in the first inning.

Sports

Contemplating Retirement Apparently Not an Option



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner
Sports Editor
@Directrays

Every once in a while I get this fleeting thought: Maybe it's time to let some youngin' take over the mental and physical grind of covering, writing, photographing and editing the local sports scene. Perhaps it's time to pass the torch to a new generation of sportswriter; a Twitter/Instagram savvy cat with his ear on the rail. Maybe it's time to say thanks to this tiny audience for reading 30 years of Direct Rays and the subsequent game stories, notebooks and, oftentimes, drivel I've passed along since 1989. After all, it is a young man's game, and my brain cells are sizzling at a rapid clip.

But then I score this chance meeting with legendary Somers football Coach Tony DeMatteo at La Famiglia Felice in Mahopac last week, and in this 10-minute chat -- just days before he begins his 50th season as a head coach in Section 1 -- I sense the fire is still burning in DeMatteo as he dumps a pound of parmesan cheese into a steamy bowl of Bolognese. So, the least I can do is continue to push on... continue

to promote the student athletes in and around Westchester and Putnam County, and live and die by the rivalries like Carmel vs. Mahopac, Somers vs. Yorktown and Lakeland vs. Panas. That's what keeps me coming back; that, and the extra loot.

And let me be the first to tell you: We've got some quality athletes on tap this fall, beginning with DeMatteo's Tuskers and this junior FB Jack Kaiser, who could end up rewriting the Somers records books when all is said and done.

"So where does Kaiser rank on your all-time list of fullbacks," I ask DeMatteo.

"He's right there in the top five already," replies Section 1's all-time winningest coach, who currently sits 2nd in state history. "And that's after his sophomore year. We'll see but the sky's the limit for this kid."

So Kaiser -- all 210 pounds of him -- is one of those athletes that keeps me coming back for more, that's for sure. I don't want to miss this kid if he and the Tuskers can snag a fifth sectional title under DeMatteo since 2000, what would be their fourth since 2012.

And there are plenty more super athletes out there this fall, including Mahopac senior soccer



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS

Lakeland field hockey has what it takes to bring fans back out there.

star Carly Steinberg, the 2019 pre-season All-American who hopes to lead the Indians to their first Class AA sectional title this November. The Colgate-bound Steinberg may be the straw that stirs the drink for first-year Indians' Coach Casey Carroll, but there's a ton of young talent around her, so we'll be hitting the soccer circuit early and often.

Sticking with soccer, defending Section 1 Class A champion Somers has lost quite a bit of

talent from a squad that's one two of the last three boys' sectional titles, but this Andrew Lasher kid is back for a senior campaign that could be on a league title collision course with Yorktown's Tim O'Callaghan and company. Rye may be the favorites to hoist the Class A crown in 2019, but I've been along for the ride with these 2018 NYS runner-up Tuskers since the days of Dervis Manizade, Sean Nealis, Mark Fiore the Stroh boys, et al, back in the wee 90s. I kind of owe it to these guys to be there if Coach Brian Lanzetta can hoist a third sectional title in four years, though it won't be a snap come this fall.

Similarly, just because Lakeland didn't win a 10th straight NYS field hockey championship last November, doesn't mean I should abandon Coach Sharon Sarsen's Hornets, who have copped 10 straight NYS regional titles and nine of the last 10 state nuggets. As far as dynasty's go, Lakeland field hockey is second to none; well, maybe Yorktown lax if the 40-time sectional champion Huskers can get their house back in order in the spring of 2020 after consecutive Section 1 championship setbacks (for the first time ever) to John Jay CR.

Additionally, I've been around the Hen Hud scene since

Anthony Alberti became a two-time state wrestling champion back in 1989-90, so I can't run out on Sailor A.D. Tommy Baker as he unveils the new digs at Hen Hud this fall; complete with a spanking new turf gridiron and track. 'Bakes' is my 'boy, a Mets fan through and through, so I hope like heck to be there in Week 4 of the football season when the Sailors and their first-year Coach John 'Big Cat' Catano, look to christen the new field with a home-opening win over Beacon. Heck, Hen Hud also has Division 1-bound senior Caitlin Weimar going for it this fall on the volleyball court as she preps for what is expected to be the single greatest individual basketball season in Sailor history this winter, but not before renowned volleyball Coach Diane Swertfager attempts to deliver a 15th sectional title in the last 19 years this November. When you mention the likes of DeMatteo and Sarsen as some of the greatest coaches in state history, you better bring up Swerty, too.

Gosh, there's a lot happening this fall, lots of homage to be paid. So, I reckon I'll stick around for one more year at the very least since it pays the mortgage and quenches my thirst for competitive sports.



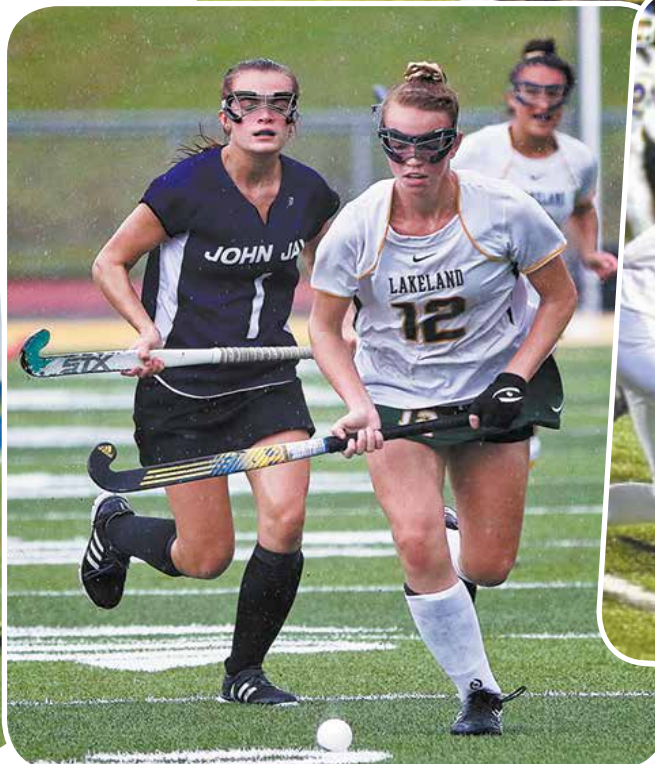
Big-time rivalries like Carmel vs. Mahopac keeps us coming back for more.

Back to Business!

Fall Sports Seasons Kick Off This Week



RAY GALLAGHER/RICK KUPERBERG PHOTOS



The 79 Section 1 member schools in Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester regions have officially declared it's time to get down to business this week, as Section 1 varsity and junior varsity practices and tryouts began Monday in football, field hockey, soccer, volleyball, swimming, tennis and cross country. So, it's time to rekindle the rivalries we've grown to love in this neck of the woods, including Carmel vs. Mahopac, Somers vs. Yorktown, Lakeland vs. Panas and much, much more... see Direct Rays