



Mining Moratorium Passed in Kent

Town Board Thanks the Public

By Holly Crocco

The Kent Town Board unanimously passed a mining moratorium during its March 3 meeting.

"I get excited when the entire town comes out to make us do our job, and I think that was the case with this one," said Councilman Paul Denbaum.

Residents began pushing for some sort of town code regarding mining when a developer proposed building a campus on Route 52 to include two hotels, a conference center and a truck stop. As part of the proposal, the developer would have to dig down 180 feet.

While the truck stop portion of the proposal has been withdrawn, the hotels and conference center are moving forward, with new retail space added to the plan.

"We have worked very hard on this," said Councilman Christopher Ruthven during the vote. "It's been an important topic to our town."

Echoing a sentiment expressed by Councilwoman Jamie McGlasson that "I don't think our work is done yet," Ruthven said passage of the moratorium is just one

*'It's been an
important topic
to our town.'*

*- Councilman
Christopher Ruthven*

step in a bigger process to create a mining section in the town code.

"We as town officials have to be vigilant to not let time slip by," he said.

Supervisor Maureen Fleming explained that the board tried to put a mining code together rather quickly late last year, but it was the public that suggested a moratorium to halt the current proposal while lawmakers could put together proper legislation.

"People did their homework and they came and they gave us documentation, and they gave us sites, and they made really cogent presentations up there at the lectern as to why this made sense," she said. "As Paul said – it's our job, and we listened. So I, too, want to thank the public for steering us in this direction."

Standoff in Southeast Ends Peacefully

Sheriff's Deputies Recover Gun, Bullets

A standoff between an allegedly armed and suicidal man and police at the man's Southeast home March 5 ended peacefully, according to Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr.

The incident began at about 7:30 p.m. after sheriff's deputies responded to a call of a suicidal male possibly armed with a gun. In the presence of a family member, the 20-year-old man allegedly pointed a shotgun at himself and expressed thoughts of suicide.

In addition to deputies, New York State Troopers and members of the Carmel Police Department responded to the house, located on Guinea Road. When they arrived at the scene, they were met with the family member who confirmed that the subject was still inside the home.

They established a perimeter around the

house and were able to contact the male, who refused to come out.

At about 7:55 p.m., the Putnam Emergency Response Team – a special weapons and tactics unit comprised of sheriff's deputies and officers from the Carmel and Kent police departments – was dispatched to the scene.

Parts of Guinea Road were closed to traffic while authorities evacuated several nearby residences.

After about two hours, ERT negotiators were able to persuade the young man to surrender himself peacefully. He was taken into custody and transported to Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel for a mental health evaluation.

A shotgun and shotgun shells were recovered from inside the home.



The 44th annual Putnam/Northern Westchester St. Patrick's Day Parade went on without a hitch March 8 along Route 6 in Mahopac. Here, Grand Marshal Elizabeth Flannery waves to the crowd.

Putnam Celebrates St. Patrick's Day Early

HOLLY CROCCO PHOTOS



Liam, age 7, and Gemma, age 6, had a front-row seat for the parade. Additional photos are on pages 10 and 11.

Brewster's Career Skills Students Featured on NBC News

The sun hadn't even come up yet, but 12 Brewster High School students excitedly milled about their classroom. Some spoke of how tired they were, while others were bursting with enthusiasm about the events that were about to unfold.

At about 5 a.m. Feb. 25, NBC reporter Gus Rosendale walked in with cameraman Danny Prado.

The news team visited Brewster to feature the incredible work being done in the career skills program, in which students run a few different businesses – one of which is a laundry service called the Bubbly Bears that services the entire school district. From uniforms and gym pinnies to rags and extra clothes, the Bubbly Bears wash, dry and fold laundry within 24 to 48 hours.

The group has also started lending its services to places outside of the school district. One such partnership is with Ann's Place, a local not-for-profit that provides free cancer support services. The Bubbly Bears do laundry twice a week for Ann's Place.

The laundry service is a small part of a much larger program. Aside from academic classes, students also participate in Practical Assessment Exploration System labs to learn important life and employment skills. Some students also hold internships at local businesses like Green Chimneys, and Kobacher's and Tops supermarkets.

They have even been credited with



PROVIDED PHOTO

Brewster's Bubbly Bears were recently featured on NBC news.

increasing winter coat sales at Marshalls during a warmer-than-average winter because of the diligent work they do straightening the racks.

Career skills students also cater events throughout the district, including faculty and department meetings and special visits from elected officials. They work shifts in the Brewster High School coffee shop, help sort mail – and so much more.

With a team of passionate, hardworking teachers, aides and assistants working to support the program, it is no surprise that students say they enjoy the work they do.

When asked by Rosendale what her favorite part of working with the Bubbly Bears is, Haley Riolo did not hesitate. "Folding," she said with conviction and a smile.

To view the news report, visit www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/meet-brewsters-bubbly-bears-learning-life-lessons-through-laundry/2302311.



Haley Riolo is interviewed by NBC's Gus Rosendale.

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Your Achilles Tendon is Prone to Injury

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

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

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

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

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

Q: What are symptoms of a rupture?

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

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

Q: What should I do if I have symptoms?

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

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

Weight Limit to Remain on Peekskill Hollow Road

By Holly Crocco

Residents in Putnam Valley and Kent may be relieved to hear that the weight limit on Peekskill Hollow Road will stay in effect for at least another two years while construction on the historic road continues.

Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell made the announcement earlier this week following a meeting with County Highway Commissioner Fred Pena, Putnam Valley Supervisor Sam Oliverio, and other town and county officials.

The temporary 12-ton weight limit that was imposed by the Putnam County

Legislature in 2013 will stay in place while road construction takes place from Adam's Corners to Oregon Corners, said Odell. The work includes resurfacing, drainage, and the repair of two bridges – one crossing Hollow Brook Creek and the other at Oregon Corners.

The 5-mile-long project is expected to take about two and a half years to complete.

"This is a sensible compromise," said Odell. "It will make the road safe while construction is taking place and give us time to figure out how to resolve the issues while leaving the weight limit that some residents have asked for in place."

Several weeks ago, Pena proposed removing the weight limit on Peekskill Hollow, a 15-mile road that runs directly from Route 301 in Kent to Route 6 in Westchester County, claiming the weight limit was forcing truck drivers onto smaller and more dangerous roads.

However, many residents said the weight limit needs to stay in place. At the most recent Putnam Valley Town Board meeting, town officials announced that they would consider taking legal action against the county if the weight limit was rescinded.

Now, Pena and Oliverio have agreed with Odell's suggestion to wait until the road

work is complete to address a possible lifting of the weight restriction.

"When the road construction project is over, we can re-evaluate the safety of Peekskill Hollow Road," said Oliverio. "Then the town can move forward with perhaps some alternative truck routes. Kudos to MaryEllen Odell for her leadership on this. It makes sense to wait until the construction is over – you certainly don't want 18-wheelers buzzing down the roadway while construction vehicles are working."

Haldane Schools May Increase Tax Levy 3.3%

By Holly Crocco

Haldane Superintendent of Schools Dr. Philip Benante has recommended that the Board of Education approve a 2020-21 budget that increases the property tax levy by the maximum allowed by the state, which represents a 3.3 percent increase from this year's budget.

During the board's March 3 meeting, Benante explained that this equates to an estimated \$56 per \$100,000 of market value property.

The \$25.2 million budget represents a \$660,000, or 2.69 percent increase from the current year's budget. According to Benante, the rollover budget – the starting point for administration in drafting the budget based on spending that rolls over from this year – leaves the district with a deficit of about \$430,000.

With state education aid increasing "a whopping \$2,500," the superintendent explained that Haldane is a school district that generates most of its revenue through the tax levy.

According to Business Manager Anne

Dinio, the tax levy is the highest this year compared to past years because building aid drops off this year, and the tax cap calculation allows a district to add back its debt service, less its building aid.

"Our building aid dropped substantially, so what's getting added back in is debt service at a higher level, and that makes our allowable tax levy higher," she said.

Haldane is still paying debt on a 30-year bond issue from 15 years ago, in which it was only getting aid for 15 years. "So that variance gets added back to your tax levy limit and it allows us to tax more, because we're getting less said," explained Dinio.

"So what we're not getting in aid we have to levy," clarified Benante. "A major contributing factor in the levy calculation formula for next school year is debt service."

Under the proposed spending plan, the administrative budget, which represents about 12 percent of the total budget, increases 4.7 percent from this year.

The capital budget, which includes operations and maintenance, employee benefits, and debt service, increases 1.17 percent. The capital budget represents about

14 percent of the total budget.

The program budget, which includes teaching and pupil services, instructional media and student transportation services, increases about 2.66 percent, based on the proposed spending plan. The program budget represents about 74 percent of the total budget.

Benante noted that the proposed budget maintains all levels of staffing, which "is going to become increasingly hard to do." However, by taking advantage of retirements – in which new teachers will be hired at a lesser salary – significant savings may be made.

The budget also includes the addition of a director of curriculum and instruction, the cost of which will be partially offset by modifying the district's contract with Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES, saving about \$40,000.

Benante also outlined other areas where he feels reductions can be made, "without any sacrifices to the integrity of Haldane's academic programs."

By reducing the elementary school's homework help program to two days per week, a savings of about \$5,000 may be realized; by reducing the sixth-period assignments through scheduling efficiencies, \$13,000 may be saved; a reduction in middle school intramurals may save \$2,400; eliminating the school peace officer position (not to be confused with the school resource officer, which will remain) would save \$35,000; and by making changes

in administrative and support services, about \$55,000 may be saved.

In addition, Benante said the district is anticipating some contractual expenses to change with regard to labor units, as the district is currently in the middle of contract negotiations.

Lastly, the teachers retirement system had rate adjustment, so while the district was anticipating a contribution rate of almost 11 percent, the final rate came in at 9.53, so the cost to the district will be about \$40,000 less, according to the superintendent.

Benante encouraged the board to develop a budget that meets the tax levy limit.

"On average, we already spend less per student compared to other school districts in the region," he said. Therefore, any "excess" funds will go toward enhanced programs, infrastructure support, and other services.

In May, in addition to voting on the budget, taxpayers will also be asked to vote on Proposition II, which would allow the district to purchase two buses, in line with the district's vehicle replacement plan.

According to Benante, this is a "tax-neutral proposition."

A public budget presentation is scheduled March 11 at 6 p.m. at the high school, March 17 during the PTA meeting at Butterfield Library, and March 24 at 3:30 p.m. at the high school. On March 17 there will be pre-budget hearing, and on April 21 the budget will be adopted by the Board of Education.

A public hearing is scheduled May 5, and the public budget vote is May 19.

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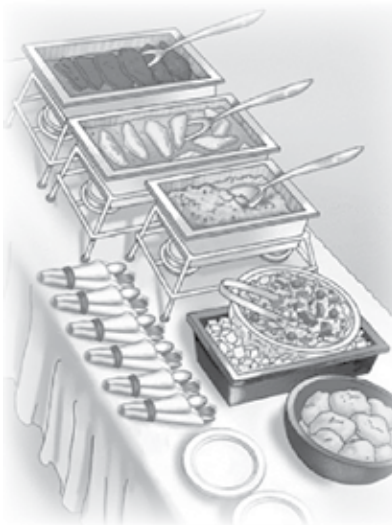
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Putnam Hospital Center Hosts Opioid Training for Clinicians

In response to the opioid crisis in New York, Nuvance Health has partnered with the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute to offer a training program for clinical providers.

Under current regulations, providers are required to obtain a waiver to prescribe buprenorphine, a medication to treat opioid addiction. Since there is a critical need for this treatment, the two agencies will sponsor a buprenorphine waiver eligibility training course from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 28 in the Michael T. Weber Conference Room at Putnam Hospital Center, 670 Stoneleigh

Ave., Carmel. A light lunch will be provided.

The training is open to physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, medical residents, clinical nurse specialists, certified registered nurse anesthetists and certified nurse midwives. Dr. Kelly Ramsey of Hudson River Healthcare in Poughkeepsie will lead the training.

For more information, contact Keith Prazeres at keith.prazeres@nuvancehealth.org or 845-278-5527.

To register online, visit <https://events.eventzilla.net/e/32820-buprenorphine-waiver-eligibility-training-for-clinical-providers-nuvance-health-2138777680>.

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Putnam Hockey Advances to Regional Competition



PROVIDED PHOTO

The Putnam Hockey Association's 14U team won the Connecticut State Championship and is advancing to the regional contest in Massachusetts.

By Holly Crocco

The Putnam Hockey Association recently made history when three of its teams made it to the finals in the Connecticut state championships, with one team moving on to the regionals in Massachusetts.

"This is the first time this has happened in the organization's existence," said Joe Mazzei, former president of PHA and former 10U coach.

The Putnam Hockey Association is a non-profit organization that was formed in 1973 and helps make the sport more affordable for local youth. It is a travel program that participates in the Connecticut Hockey Conference and USA Hockey's New England District, and is one of the smaller programs to play in

the conference.

"We run different fundraisers in order to keep the tuition low for students," said Mazzei.

There are about 50 kids in the program, and most of them come from the Brewster, Carmel and Mahopac area, he said.

Putnam Hockey Association offers a program for age 8 and younger, age 8 to 10, age 10 to 12, and age 12 to 14. This year, the 10U, 12U and 14U teams all made it to the finals.

According to Mazzei, the 10U team won the state championship, but the team is too young to advance to the regional level. The 12U team made it to the state championship but was defeated, and the 14U team won the state championship and is advancing to the regional contest in Massachusetts.

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Lawmakers Debate Spending at Tilly Foster Farm, Again

By Holly Crocco

The debate over whether Putnam should stop investing in Tilly Foster Farm and Educational Institute, and the accompanying Tilly's Table, was resurrected during a recent meeting of the county's Physical Services Committee meeting.

While the committee was being updated during its February meeting by Highways and Facilities Commissioner Fred Pena on projects that have taken place at the county-owned property over the last year, and projects that are upcoming, some legislators began asking for more financial oversight.

"How much, since 2014 – since we started this project – how much have we put into Tilly Foster?" asked Legislator Nancy Montgomery, D-Philipstown. "... And how many years are we going to put money into this and not get our money back?"

Montgomery noted that while the county is hosting concerts and workshops and other gatherings at the farm, and continuing to invest in repairs at the property, lawmakers struggled to fund many line items in the budget this year for various programs and services.

"We just awarded the Putnam Arts Council \$13,000 – that's all we're awarding to the arts council for all of these organizations across the county," she said. "And they are organizations that generate sales tax revenue for us, that bring people

together. This is where I think we need to be investing our money.

"We can't afford this. Based on what I'm seeing throughout this year that I've been a legislator and what we've struggled to fund, we can't afford this."

The county purchased Tilly Foster Farm in 2002 using East of Hudson funds. In 2014, the county – under the administration of County Executive MaryEllen Odell – began investing in the "dilapidated property" to make it a permanent greenspace where residents can enjoy parkland, explained Pena.

So far, about \$3 million of taxpayer money has been invested in the property, he said.

"When we saw it in 2014, we saw it as not being utilized," said Pena, noting that the county continues to utilize funds from the Department of Environmental Conservation, EOH and other resources to make septic and other updates to the property.

"So while we have invested taxpayer dollars, we have also found available funds that are there for this specific purpose, so I think when you add up the numbers... there is a large portion of the dollars that have been spent on this facility that are available by state and federal funds," he said.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino, R-Patterson, said she and her colleagues would be better assured if they had more oversight.

"I think this was a stupendous idea (to update the property)," she said. "It's a gem,

in my opinion, and it gives Putnam County residents a place for recreation... That being said, some of the things that go on throughout the year we really don't know."

While Pena said his department can work on having better communication with the Legislature, he's proud of what is being done at the property.

In 2019, he said crews opened up additional farmland for vegetables and fruit, installed irrigation, made landscaping and signage improvements, added parking lot lighting, and restored an old horse turnout shed. In addition, the county is in negotiations with Columbia University to initiate an engineering project based on a solar geothermal greenhouse.

"We're hoping to bring both Columbia and Cornell Cooperative Extension into a unified project to develop a low-CO2, low-energy greenhouse," said Pena. "So, we continue to study the facility and see what improvements (can be made) – and again, we don't make the decisions, we only look to give alternatives, and when we're directed to move forward we move forward."

Legislator Carl Albano, R-Carmel, noted that, when criticizing money being spent, lawmakers also need to consider revenue being generated at the property.

"If we borrow \$100,000 and we pay back \$10,000 a year for 10 years, if each year that particular item generates more than what we're paying back, then it's a good investment," he said. "We're going to look

at the money they (Tilly Foster and the Putnam County Golf Course) generate as compared to what they cost each year."

Albano also said it's important to make the investment to reap the rewards.

"It's a business that's generating money, and the whole purpose of it is for our residents to have a beautiful facility," he said. "The possibilities are endless now... But you'll never get there if you don't have the infrastructure."

General Manager Mike McCall said that last year, Tilly's Table turned a profit of about six figures.

"The restaurant and the barn, that piece of Tilly Foster generated a profit of \$100,000 – and it has another revenue source of BOCES rent," he said (referring to the agreement the county has with Northern Westchester/Putnam BOCES in which culinary arts students use the facilities).

At that rate, a \$1 million invest will be made back in 10 years, he pointed out.

Legislator Paul Jonke, R-Brewster, said he thinks the county has done great things with the property.

"I've said from the day I was elected that if I was on the Legislature when Tilly Foster was acquired I wouldn't have voted for it... but we have it now," said Jonke. "It's not about generating revenue. We're preserving open space; we've got parkland. It's for the public good..."

"You're doing a great job," he told Pena.

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Holly Crocco
hcrocco@theexaminernews.com
Editor-in-Chief

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Vendor Fair to Raise Money for RSD Foundation

By Holly Crocco

Marianne Chaluian's life changed drastically five years ago when an accident caused her to develop a rare disease characterized by acute pain, and swelling and tenderness of a limb due to damaged nerves. In extreme cases, the condition – Complex Regional Pain Syndrome, also known as Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy – can result in loss of mobile use of a limb.

"Unfortunately I still wear a braces," said Chaluian. "Everything still goes numb."

With fewer than 200,000 cases in the U.S. yearly, there is limited research and awareness about CRPS/RSD, for which there is no cure.

Bella Moda Hair Design in Mahopac will host a fundraiser for the RSD Foundation on

Saturday, March 28 from 6 to 8 p.m., at 271 Route 6. According to Chaluian, there are several businesses that have sponsored the event.

"It's going to be like a little vendor fair," she said. There will be prizes and raffles, as well other activities. Admission is free. "It's going to be really nice," said Chaluian.

In the fall, Chaluian was recognized by Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, who succeeded in having a resolution passed in the Assembly raising awareness for the disease.

"CRPS/RSD is still not well known publicly and we need further medical research to improve treatment and find a cure," said Chaluian. "It's an invisible condition. People on the outside cannot see the pain that people suffering from CRPS/RSD live through on the inside."



Marianne Chaluian

Letters to the Editor

Land Swap is a Bad Deal for Southeast Residents

Who doesn't like a baseball? Not I, who as a child was riveted to the radio listening to the Yankees of Yogi Berra, Vic Raschi, Allie Reynolds, Phil Rizzuto, et al. Those were the days, indeed.

So why am I opposed to having a well-known privately held company, ProSwing, exchange land on Starr Ridge Road (in Brewster) for that of designated open space on Pugsley Road?

I have an aversion to slick bait-and-switch, sweetheart deals concocted by attorneys in diners and back rooms and aided and abetted by complicit town officials who believe that some land and its residents are more valuable than others.

Nimbyism, pure and simple, fellow residents of Southeast, is at the core of this land swap. As admitted to by a resident of Starr Ridge at a Planning Board meeting, the increase in noise and traffic incurred by the prospect of a baseball facility on their scenic, paved, residentially-zoned road would be an

intrusion too much to bear.

So let's scuttle the concept baseball plan by ProSwing and instead find an expendable parcel of land, wooded and stonewalled along an unimproved, unpaved road that relatively few folks would care about except those living in Patterson and on Fair Street, and which is proposed as the site for distribution warehouses.

Let's secrete this swap and fast track it in two weeks' time of a workshop and public hearing before the residents of the town look up the word "alienation" and realize that town officials are relinquishing their preserved open space and swapping it for ProSwing land on Starr Ridge – no questions asked.

Would the owners of the Starr Ridge property then tolerate residents of the town using the swapped land for recreational purposes? What about locating a baseball facility on the same road as 300 semi-trailers moving cargo from Pugsley to Interstate-84

destinations? Would parents feel safe ferrying their children to such a facility? And why Pugsley when the town has 100 acres set aside for recreation with Volunteer Park not a mile away and with 45 acres of Scolpino Park accessible?

Who's profiting from the deal? What is ProSwing getting out of it? Just asking.

And, so, aside from not a single comment from the silent majority and only one negative vote by Councilman John Lord, the Town Board – led by Supervisor Tony Hay – adopted the home rule legislation that would signal the State Legislature to approve their raid on the preservation of open space and that they, like those of "Animal Farm," believe that some folks are more equal than others.

Ann Fanizzi
Carmel

Senator Chuck Schumer is a Shell of His Once Self

There can be no other reaction to New York Sen. Chuck Schumer's verbal attack on Supreme Court Justices Kavanaugh and Gorsuch than both threatening and borderline criminal (behavior) with his

tirade: "You have released the whirlwind. You won't know what hit you. You will pay the price."

Having known the senator in my nearly 20 years as an elected official in Putnam County

, I have seen his once open-minded attitude toward his opposition turn to rage and hate for all that represents President Donald Trump and the Republican Party. I, like many of his constituents, are pro-life and expect the senator to respect all of his constituents no matter their position on an issue.

There is no doubt in my mind that even though New York is a Democrat stronghold at the moment, the senator's behavior as minority leader over the past three and a half years should ultimately cause his defeat in his next election cycle. Instead of craving to appease the far-left of his party, he has totally misinterpreted what the majority of his constituents expect from his representation as our senator.

His inability and unwillingness to work in a bipartisan manner and his selfish lust for power will no doubt cause his demise in the next election.

Frank Del Campo
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Stone Home Inspections, LLC

Yorktown

By Neal Rentz

Yorktown resident Joshua Stone has spent decades seeking to protect the public in various ways. For nearly 20 years, he was a York City police officer before retiring from the force earlier this month.

About five years ago, while he was still a police officer, Stone began to assist the public in another way – creating Stone Home Inspections, LLC. The company now serves as his full-time profession. He started Stone Home Inspections with his wife, Lisa.

Stone Home inspects the homes of potential buyers. His clients live in Westchester, Dutchess, Putnam and Rockland counties, as well as Long Island and Connecticut, Stone said.

Stone, who has had an interest in real estate since he was a youth, explained why he became a home inspector. “I had a bad experience with my home inspector,” he recalled, recounting how the inspector he hired was not thorough and missed several large items that cost him a significant amount of money to repair.

He said he does not want that to happen to people who hire him.

“What I enjoy most about being a home inspector is helping homebuyers and homeowners make educated decisions about their potential new home,” said Stone. “The safety of our clients is our number-one



PROVIDED PHOTO

Yorktown resident Joshua Stone is owner of Stone Home Inspections, LLC, which he created with his wife, Lisa.

priority and we make sure every part of a potential home is safe for families to enjoy and love for years to come.”

Stone said he has trained inspectors and has partnered with several real estate agents who have referred clients based on his reputation of being thorough and detail-oriented.

Stone took the required courses to become a certified professional inspector at

the New York Home Inspector School, and took additional courses after obtaining his initial license. Stone is also certified in wood-destroying organisms and mold assessment.

He was recently appointed as a board member of NAHREP Putnam County, a non-profit group that educates and empowers the real estate professionals who serve the Hispanic community.

Stone said he does an in-depth inspection

of the home and takes his time to explain each of his findings with his clients. He points out maintenance items and what will be necessary to keep the home in good shape.

“We’re always here to help,” he said.

For more information about Stone Home Improvement, LLC, visit www.stonehomeinspections.net or call 914-642-5277.

Brewster Theater Presents ‘Much Ado About Nothing’

Brewster Theater Company will present its first mainstage production of the season, “Much Ado About Nothing,” this weekend in Carmel.

“We are so excited to feature the fresh directorial and conceptual ideas of Jenna Isabella,” said BTC President Stacy Dumont.

The play is the organization’s first presentation of Shakespeare in many years. “I believe that our local audiences will trust the quality of our work and sit to enjoy this production with us,” said Dumont.

The show is produced by Gina Stanton, choreographed by Brandy Mae Hughes, and stage-managed by Joe Coppola.

The show features Matt Henshaw, Kym Smith, Phil Pineau, Samantha Steere, John

Isabella III, Judy Brewster, Laurel Lettieri, Anna Fazio, Gina Stanton, Amanda Booth, PJ Mansfield, Diane Preston, Ken Shelby, Nick Tuosto, Chris Moser and John Isabella Jr.

Performances continue Saturday, March 14 at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, March 15 at 2 p.m., at The Theater at Drew Church, 28 Gleneida Ave., Carmel.

Tickets range from \$18 to \$20. Special table seating in the “Bard’s VIP Lounge” is available for \$25, and includes a signature mocktail and souvenir mask. Visit www.brewstertheater.org for more information and to purchase seats.

Email BrewsterTheaterInfo@gmail.com or call 845-206-9013 for additional information and group discounts.

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Irish Flags Fly in Mahopac for Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade



The 44th annual Putnam/Northern Westchester St. Patrick's Day Parade took place March 8 along Route 6 in Mahopac.



Putnam and Northern Westchester Go Green!



A group of Mahopac pals cheer on the parade.



Shannon, Vin, and Amelia, age 4, of Mahopac.



Obituaries

Alice Gorman Brandon

Alice Gorman Brandon of Brewster passed away Feb. 26.

Alice was born in Queens Village to George and Alice Gorman. Her family had started visiting Tonetta Lake in the 1940s, and in 1949 she met Bernard Brandon and they married in 1950 at Our Lady of Lourdes. Barney predeceased her in 2008.

Alice was active in St. Lawrence O'Toole Church as an ecumenical minister, and parishioner. She was a member of the Catholic Daughter's, and she and Barney traveled with the St. Lawrence Globetrotters and the Emerald Society. Alice worked as a teacher for many years, then after "retirement" went to work for the Department of Social Services until her true retirement at 85.

In addition to her husband, Alice was predeceased by her parents, brothers George and J. Kenneth, and sisters-in-law Constance, Sophia and Jeannette. She is survived by daughters Kathleen, Alice (David Quattrocchi), Constance (Emerson Phillips), Anne, Theresa (John Simao) and Bernadette; brothers Robert, Thomas and Francis (Pati); sisters-in-law Elizabeth, Constance and Maria; 14 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Feb. 29 at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Brewster. Interment was private.

Thomas J. Brogan

Thomas J. Brogan, 63, died Feb. 22.

Thomas was born May 11, 1956 in the Bronx to Thomas and Mary (Callaghan) Brogan. He graduated from Carmel High School. On Oct. 26, 1986, Thomas married Jamie Crawford at Our Lady of the Lake Church in Carmel. He worked as an electrician for Con Edison until he retired in 2017.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by children Caryn Brogan (Matt Higgins) of Stormville, Ryan Brogan of Cheboygan, Mich., and Brendan Brogan of Brooklyn; grandchildren Colten and Keegan; and siblings James Brogan of Peekskill, Edward and Harriet Brogan of Pawling, Mary and Mike McCormick of Florida, Anne and Ray Morison of Florida, and Martin Brogan of Yorktown Heights.

A Mass of Christian Burial took place Feb. 7 at Our Lady of the Lake Church, after which Thomas was brought to his final resting place at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

Christine Christ

Christine Christ, 62, died March 2.

Christine was born Oct. 19, 1957 in the Bronx to Anthony and Carmela (Saldamarco) Serino. On April 28, 1979, she married Henry Christ in Yorktown Heights. Christine worked as a Baker for Christelle's Cupcakes in Carmel and was an active member of St. James the Apostle Church in

Carmel for 39 years.

In addition to her husband, Christine is survived by daughter Danielle Christ, brother Anthony Serino, and sisters-in-law Lyla Serino and Melba Serino.

A Mass of Christian burial took place March 5 at St. James the Apostle Church. A private cremation took place the following day.

Sandra De Mers

Sandra De Mers, 81, of Nelsonville, died Feb. 29.

Born Nov. 17, 1938 in Cold Spring to the late Elliott and Eleanor Mancari Zeliph, Sandra was retired from the Putnam County Highway Department where she worked as a secretary for 21 years. She was a member of the "Golden Girls" in Cold Spring.

She is survived by sister Delores Moran; children Shawn Elizabeth O'Dell and her husband Jerome, and Patricia Marie De Mers; grandchildren Keli-Anne Leonardo and her husband Todd, Nicole D'Esposito and her husband Jesse, and Derek O'Dell and his wife Julia; and great-grandchildren Dominick, Taylor, Ella and Hudson.

She was predeceased by her husband Gordon De Mers and her dog Mollie.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated March 4 at Our Lady of Loretto Church in Cold Spring. Burial was private.

Pierina Federico

Pierina Federico, a long-time resident of Cold Spring, died March 1 at Putnam Hospital Center.

Born in 1922 to Domenico and Donata Ventresca in Petrorano Sul Gizio, Italy, she was the youngest of six children. Pierina married Erminio Federico on April 25, 1940, and immigrated to America in 1957. Together they settled in Cold Spring, where she worked as a seamstress and raised their three children, Luisa, Gina and Panfilo (Ben).

Pierina is survived by her three children, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial was held March 4 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. Interment followed at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Putnam Valley.

Albertina Mary Gallacher

Albertina Mary (Morfesi) Gallacher, 94, died Feb. 21.

Albertina "Tina" was born Nov. 26, 1925 to Albert and Nicolina Mary (Bartilucci) Morfesi in the Bronx. She married the late James Gallacher in 1953 and they raised their family primarily in Brewster.

Tina worked in the offices of the Garden Street School in Brewster, and later became an executive secretary at the American Can Company in Greenwich, Conn. She eventually moved to Danbury, where she

made her final home.

She was predeceased by her parents, brother George (Ann) Morfesi, sister Lucia (Ralph) Pisciotta, son-in-law Jon Sandstrom, and an infant son born in 1954. Tina is survived by children Lucia (Skip) Ahneman of Nantucket, Mass., Frances Gallacher Walsh of Brewster, James (Virginia) Gallacher of Naples, Fla., Robert (Stephanie) Gallacher of New Fairfield, Conn., Pamela (Abe Totah) Gallacher Sandstrom of Napa, Calif., and son-in-law Michael Walsh of Brewster; 15 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A Mass will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, March 28 at St. James the Apostle Church, 14 Gleneida Ave., Carmel. A luncheon will follow at the Putnam Lake VFW, 4 Fairfield Drive, Patterson.

Patricia M. Harney

Patricia M. Harney of Carmel died March 2. She was born in Carmel on Feb. 25, 1977, the daughter of John "Jack" and the late Susan Ann (Duane) Harney.

Patricia is survived by son Joseph, and siblings Kathleen Harney-Feierstein (Bill), John "Jack" (Christine), Michael (Susan), Brian, Jerry (Kimberly) and Daniel (Melissa).

A Mass of Christian Burial took place March 6 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. Interment followed at St. Lawrence O'Toole Cemetery in Brewster.

Rita O'Meara

Rita O'Meara, 76, died Feb. 25 at Putnam Hospital Center. She was born Jan. 25, 1944 in County Wexford, Ireland, to John and Ita Gallagher. Rita was a resident of Brewster for 47 years, and worked as a mortgage officer for PCSB in Brewster.

Rita is survived by her partner Ray Larkin; son Brian and daughter Maeve; grandchildren Chloe, Jack, Bryce, Rowen and Nathaniel; and sisters Joan, Florrie and Renee.

A service took place Feb. 28 at Beecher Funeral Home in Brewster.

Diana N. Rogers

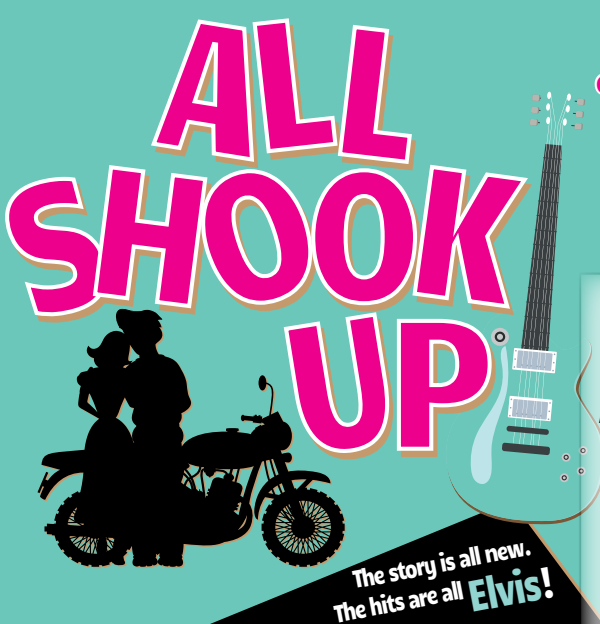
Diana N. Rogers, 73, of Brewster, died Feb. 26.

Born July 29, 1946 in Niagara Falls, she was the daughter of the late Hugo and Dorothy (Drazdik) Marinucci. On Nov. 28, 1964 she married William Rogers in Howard Beach. William predeceased his wife Jan. 21, 2012.

Mrs. Rogers was a special education teacher with the Carmel Central School District for more than 25 years before she retired.

A graveside service was held March 7 at Milltown Rural Cemetery in Brewster. Interment immediately followed.

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A Lens on the State of Choice in the American Wine Market



By Nick Antonaccio

I'm often asked about the price-to-quality factor in wine purchases. Readers want to know if standard brands are good values and if artisanal wines produced by small wineries are worth the extra investment.

By now most of you can anticipate my response: If you like a particular wine then it's a good wine for your palate, whether it's \$7 by-the-bottle or by-the-box or \$25.

There are relative merits and detriments of enjoying wines at differing price points. Most of my discussions evolve around production methods and marketing campaigns.

Many consumers believe the process for making wine is similar for all bottles. Further, the supposition is that all grapes are gently hand-picked at the epitome of ripeness, carefully sorted for rotten grapes, leaves and insects and then lovingly crushed, fermented, aged and bottled, all under the watchful eye of a master winemaker.

Although this process does occur in many wineries, it is a far cry from the vast quantity of wines sold in the United States. For the most

part, winemaking is big business. Over 80 percent of wines produced and sold in the United States come from about 2 percent of the number of producers.

At these mega wine factories, massive quantities of grapes are harvested by industrial-size machines. Rotten grapes, leaves, twigs and unlucky insects may adulterate the wine juice until they are filtered out. Engineers are responsible for blending grape juices to create consistent wines each year.

Add to this mix the countless virtual wineries in the United States – wineries that have no direct hand in the production of wine. These companies contract with wholesale producers who may have grown the grapes or may have simply purchased the grapes (or juice). The wholesalers then produce the wine and bottle it according to the specifications of the virtual winery.

Of the top 30 brands in the United States, only a handful of wineries are involved from start to finish. Very few grow their own grapes and produce or bottle the wine. This works well to meet consumer demand. Last year American wineries produced more than 800 million gallons of wine (84 percent in California). That's over 1.1 billion bottles,

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

of which nearly 900 million cases were produced by 2 percent (less than 100) of domestic wine companies.

All of this is done in an effort to present consumers with inexpensive wine with a consistent flavor profile. You know the wines: the

mass-produced bargain wines priced at \$5 to \$6 a bottle. You've experienced the wines at restaurants, weddings, charity dinners, pool parties.

Pleasing wines at great prices, what's wrong with that? In an absolute world – nothing. But many smaller producers have leveraged their wines to capitalize on consumer expectations. Across the winemaking world, value wines are being hand-crafted with hands-on expertise. From small producers (5,000 cases or less) in the United States to family-owned wineries in Spain, Portugal, Chile, Argentina, South Africa and even France and Italy, excellent wines are now available for \$8 to \$15.

Most of these wines are head and shoulders above their mass-produced counterparts. They have a soul, a unique flavor profile that is attained from close oversight of growing and production techniques that modern technology provides.

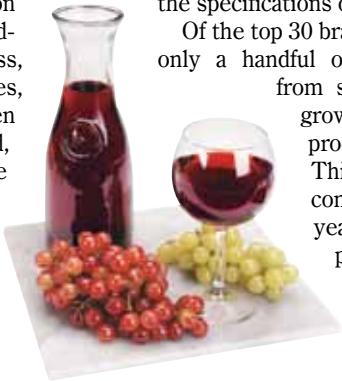
The wine giants can be extremely creative in developing label designs and brand names. A number of wine labels sport artwork of bucolic vineyards and workers lovingly tending vines. They are perfect images to entice consumers. In fact, mass-

'There are relative merits and detriments of enjoying wines at differing price points.'

producers rarely visit, let alone tend, the massive vineyards from which they grow or purchase grapes. Is this inventive marketing or deceptive advertising?

As occurs frequently with the discerning palate, individual judgments are key in wine-buying decisions. The competition for shelf space and for sales volume can be confusing, even misleading. Discerning consumers seek advice from reputable wine shop merchants to consider their numerous choices regarding price and quality.

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.



Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10				11				12		
13				14				15		
16				17						
18			19					20		
21								22		23
		25		26	27	28				
			29					30		
31	32	33						34		
35				36				37		
38				39				40		

Across

- 1. However, in verse
- 4. Vegas or Palmas
- 7. Liveliness
- 10. Ad ___ committee
- 11. Burning result
- 12. Put away
- 13. G.I. entertainers
- 14. ___ Falls (honeymoon destination)
- 16. Whitney or Rushmore (abbr.)
- 17. Monopoly, e.g.
- 18. "Welcome" in Italian or new Mohegan lake restaurant
- 21. Gin flavoring
- 22. Some nest eggs, abbr.
- 25. Give a new coat to
- 29. Red Sox great David Ortiz would eat at this "Big" White Plains restaurant
- 30. Colombian cheer
- 31. Father or brother
- 34. Bouquet on some islands
- 35. Compass heading
- 36. IBM products
- 37. Electric swimmer
- 38. "I'm so glad!"
- 39. Visit
- 40. Resort with mineral springs

Down

- 1. Hitches, as a ride
- 2. Lodge
- 3. Former Supreme Court lady, Sandra
- 4. "Blue Sky" Oscar winner

- 5. Eastern
- 6. Whale show
- 7. Green legume
- 8. Cereal spike
- 9. Educ. group
- 15. Arrive at an airport
- 19. Number-two execs
- 20. Baltimore's birds
- 23. Out for the night
- 24. Aussie lass
- 26. Improvises musically
- 27. Fast
- 28. Salon activity
- 31. Ignition insert
- 32. Tempest-teapot link
- 33. Napoleonic marshal



Brick by Brick: Building a Patio from Scratch

Long before I became a realtor, I was first and foremost a homeowner, beset with all the challenges of upgrading an old, historic home. Most of the projects I tackled as a young man gave me the gristle for many of the home improvement articles I write here.

One of my first projects was to convert an amorphously-shaped gravel patio area in the back of the house, actually our main entrance through a mudroom, into a bona fide patio of brick.

I lined the driveway with gravel and built up low flower beds on either side from stone. The sloping walkway leading to the door was replaced by brick steps bordered by large slabs of bluestone, which ruined the shocks of my car when transporting them in the trunk of my car from a source an hour away.

For those of us who live in regions where temperatures fall below freezing during the winter, a brick patio laid on sand can be an excellent choice for an outdoor living space. The small gaps between the bricks and the grains of sand allow for slight movement when any moisture in the ground expands or contracts with the change in temperature, unlike a more rigid surface which may crack. In addition, bricks give a warm, natural texture to traditional country landscapes, which was the look we wanted to achieve.

While many people recommend having friends help with the laying of a patio, I opted to go for it alone. In my earlier home-owning days, I found the laying of bricks and stones therapeutic, and in the years to come I would

create many steps and walkways wherever I could.

The first step was to cut away the old lawn and dig a level space into the ground, deep enough to hit the soil's clay-like layer. The step I didn't take, but perhaps should have, was to rent a compactor to make this base truly level. Indeed, my patio would always have a mild undulation because of it, but to my eyes this was part of its hand-hewn charm.

Next came my deliveries of gravel (most of which went toward paving the driveway), sand and the required number of bricks for the patio, all of which went into separate mounds behind our garage. I used my big red wheelbarrow to make hundreds of trips between the garage and the patio site, first laying down gravel and then sand.

At this point I leveled and tamped down the surface carefully. Had plastic edging been available to me back then, I would certainly have installed it in a well-camouflaged fashion, but I settled instead for using slate and four-inch by four-inch wood beams to support the brick pattern.

When the bricks were ready to be laid, I opted for a standard running bond pattern where the edges of two bricks meet under the center of the brick above them. Had



By Bill Primavera

I wished, I could have opted for many other varieties of patterns instead, such as herringbone, basketweave or radial designs. With a little ingenuity, a homeowner could even incorporate different sizes or colors of bricks to create a unique design.

As for me, the contrast between the red of the brick and the gray of the slate was intriguing enough, so I chose a simpler pattern to complement those colors. At the end I swept a fine layer of sand in between the bricks and I was done. (Today I would have finished by using a rented compactor a second time.)

For the most part, the patio was perfect. The only flaw in the design is that the patio was on the north side of the house, so we always had to shovel snow away cleanly from one end to the other as the sun would not melt it for us.

It took a summer's worth of work for me to build the patio, but the end result was worth it. We had many years of outdoor dining and relaxation under the shade of a large sugar maple close to the house. When the maple eventually succumbed to disease and had to be cut down, the patio still looked well-designed and front door-worthy under the direct light of the sun.

Bill Primavera is a realtor associated with



PROVIDED PHOTO

The brick patio that the Home Guru built solo.

William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

Brewster Schools Seek to Continue Fleet Replacement Plan

By Holly Crocco

By following a fleet replacement plan, the Brewster Central School District has been able to maintain a fleet of safe buses at an anticipated cost, according to Transportation Supervisor Mary Smith.

During the Feb. 25 Brewster School Board meeting, Smith explained that as part of the budget process, she is recommending the district purchase nine buses this year.

Of the district's 98 total buses, she said 46 are five years old or "younger," nine are between 6 and 10 years old, 37 are between 11 and 15 years old, and six are at least 16 years old.

"I have to tell you that we maintain these buses very well," she said.

In addition, Smith noted that her recommended bus purchase is determined through discussions with the district's mechanics, looking at the bus runs, and assessing other data.

"This is not just thrown together," she said. "This is a number based on what we need to make sure that we have enough vehicles to service the students."

The district is seven years into its fleet replacement plan. According to

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations Victor Karlsson, planning to purchase a few buses every year protects the district from large spikes in unanticipated purchases.

The buses are paid off over the course of five years, so this year, the payments on buses purchased in 2015-16 will be ending, making way for the new bus purchases.

In addition, the district is able to use New York State transportation aid, which has an aid ratio of about 49 percent. "So it almost works as a buy one, get one free deal," said Karlsson.

The net incremental cost will be about \$2 for the average homeowner, he said, adding that the first payment on bus purchases is always deferred to the next year, so any purchase made this year will not impact the 2020-21 budget.

"By 2023-24, there will be no incremental cost," said Karlsson. "The cost of the buses will be completely imbedded within the budget and there will be absolutely no additional cost on the budget each year."

Smith added that the new buses are fully equipped with GPS navigational systems, security cameras, stop-arm cameras and warranties.

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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, March 10

Virtual Reality: Grades 6-12: 3:30 p.m., Play great games on our Oculus Rifts! Parent/guardian must sign a Mahopac Library Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) Liability Release Form for attendee to participate. Registration required. Register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100

Wednesday, March 11

Tibetan Singing Bowls: 7:00 p.m., Michelle Clifton will explain the use of Tibetan Singing Bowls which have been used for centuries for healing and meditation in this hands-on workshop. The range of sounds the bowls create restores the normal vibratory frequencies of the body, mind and soul. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar

Celebrate Pi Day: Reed Library. 11:00 a.m., Join us to learn about Pi and eat Pie! A delicious learning opportunity presented by John DeJulio. Please visit www.carmellibrary.org/calendar to register

Thursday, March 12

Book Club: A new book club has been formed at the Desmond-Fish Public Library. The Ecology and Activism Book Club. 5:00 p.m., -7:00 p.m., Bring a vegetarian or vegan dish to share and an open mind to discuss the

book *Active Hope: How to Face the Mess We're In Without Going Crazy* written by Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone. There are limited copies available in the Library system however, Split Rock Books in Cold Spring has offered a 10% discount for Book Club members. Please email them at info@splitrockbks.com to reserve a copy with the discount

Saturday, March 14

Drug Crisis in Our Backyard: 9:30 a.m., - 3:00 p.m., 24 Smith Rd., Mt. Kisco. Suggested donation: \$20/pp, \$25/couple. Refreshments served. Better understand what drives substance use in your loved one. Apply techniques to take better care of yourself. Learn how to use tools that help your loved one move away from substance use and towards change with hope. To register visit cmccfc.org/events/drug-crisis-in-our-backyard or text/call Jean Cooney at 914 815-0034

4-H Lego Robotics: 6-week program: 10:00 a.m., to 11:30 a.m., in Brewster. Open to youth ages 9-14. \$20 for 4-H members, \$55 non-members. Pre-registration online required at <http://putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events>

Adults & Crafts: 12:00 p.m., -1:00 p.m., Adults come and get your craft on! In this monthly craft class, make a different themed craft every month. All supplies will be provided, registration is required. Register online at: brewsterlibrary.org or give us a call at 845-279-6421

Sunday, March 15

Ellen Woloshin Classic Jazz Vocalist: 2:00 p.m., Mahopac Public Library. BMM LENDS A HAND: You are invited to bring one non-perishable food item to this concert. All donations are delivered to a local food pantry to help our community members in need. www.mahopaclibrary.org 845-628-2009

VFW Post 672 St Patrick's Dinner: 262 Peaceable Hill Rd. Brewster. St Patricks Day dinner: 2:00 p.m., - 6:00p.m., \$12 adults, \$8 kids .Info contact Lisa 845-278-8879

Tuesday, March 17

Conversational English Classes: 6:30 p.m., Empezando martes 17 de marzo a las 6:30 de la tarde. Practice speaking and writing in English in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Free weekly lessons in grammar and vocabulary with an emphasis on the active participation of students. Practica hablando y escribiendo en inglés en un ambiente relajado y divertido. Lecciones semanales de gramática y vocabulario con énfasis en la participación activa de los estudiantes. El curso es gratis. Favor de llamar a 845-505-8051 para inscribirse Register online at www.carmellibrary.org/calendar Reed Memorial Library, 1733 Route 6, Carmel

Patterson Library Meeting: 6:30 p.m., The meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Patterson

Library at 845-878-6121

Thursday, March 19

Psychic Mediums: 7:00 p.m., Psychic Event Palm Readers Tarot Card Readers Psychic Mediums Angel Card Readings. 7:00 p.m., VFW Building. 32 Gleneida Ave (Rt 52), Carmel, NY Sponsored by Fr. Licata Lodge of the Sons & Daughters of Italy. For more information text/call: Pina at 914-419-7250

Friday, March 20

Teen Health Day: 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Carmel Fire Department, Carmel. This event will be FREE and open to anyone 13 yrs. and older. Many community organizations will be on-site to answer questions on Teen Health issues. NO question is OFF- LIMITS. A mobile testing van will be available for HIV and STD testing from 10:00 – 2:00 p.m. There will be FREE food and refreshments as well as raffles for movie tickets, mini golf and many more prizes.

"The Informer:" Dir. Arthur Robison. The Informer is set in 1922 in a newly independent Ireland, and is a drama/thriller. Live Musical Accompaniment by Cary Brown. The Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring, 7:00 p.m., - 9:00 p.m., Phone - 845- 265-3040

Crossword Answers

1	T	2	H	3	O		4	L	5	A	6	S		7	P	8	E	9	P
10	H	O	C				11	A	S	H				12	E	A	T		
13	U	S	O				14	N	I	A	15	G			A	R	A		
16	M	T	N				17	G	A	M	E								
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21	S	L	O	E						22	I	R	23	A	24	S			
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31	K	32	I	33	N	S	M	A	N				34	L	E	I			
35	E	N	E				36	P	C	S			37	E	E	L			
38	Y	A	Y				39	S	E	E			40	S	P	A			

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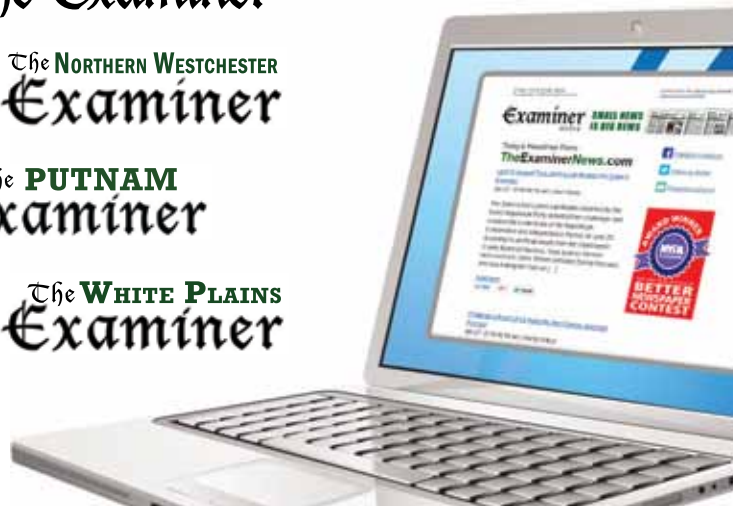
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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That A License, "Pending" For Poolside Café At The Cyc For Beer, Cider & Or Wine At

Retail In A Seasonal Café/Restaurant Under The Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 238 Kingsferry Road Montrose Ny 10548 For On Premise Consumption. **Paul & Gina DiPaterio Little Sorrento Inc. DBA Pool Side Café at the Cortlandt Yacht Club**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, number 1326336 for beer, cider, and wine has been applied for by Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado, LLC d/b/a Chipotle Mexican Grill #3467 to sell beer, cider, and wine at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 3144 East Main Street, Mohegan Lake, NY 10547, Westchester County for on premises consumption. **Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado, LLC d/b/a Chipotle Mexican Grill #3467**

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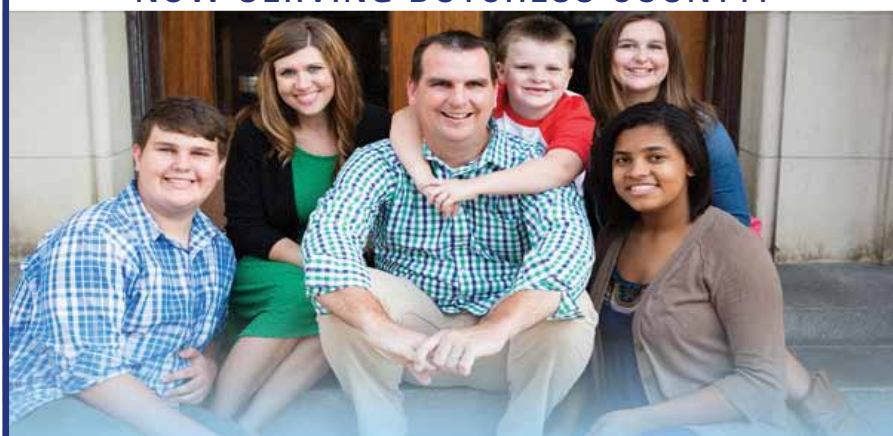
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Legal Notice

**STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT
COUNTY OF PUTNAM
SUPPLEMENTAL
SUMMONS
Index No. 500006/2018**

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST, Plaintiff, v. DEBRA A. SARICH A/K/A DEBRA ANN SARICH, NEW YORK COMMUNITY BANK, BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HIGH RIDGE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, FIA CARD SERVICES, NA, DISCOVER BANK, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, Defendants. 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 ap-

pearance on the Plaintiff's attorneys within thirty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, 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 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 your mortgage company will not stop this 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.

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of Honorable Victor G. Grossman, Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, signed the 29th day of January, 2020 at Carmel, New York. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage on the following property: **Tax I.D. No. 92-1-28 & 51** ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Putnam Valley, County of Putnam and State of New York known and designated as Lot Nos. 37 and 83 as shown on a certain map entitled, "Amended Phase Two Subdivision Map known as Highfields", filed in the Office of the Putnam County Clerk on January 5, 1995 as Map No. 2597-B bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING in the most easterly corner of parcel described herein, where the parcel herein intersects with the westerly side of Lot 38, and

running the following courses and distances:

- (1) South 71 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West 53.50 feet;
- (2) North 18 degrees 59 minutes 10 seconds West 32.50 feet;
- (3) **THENCE** Along a party wall parallel to the course in Item# 1 herein for a distance of 53.50 feet;
- (4) **THENCE** along a party wall parallel to the course in Item# 2 herein, for a distance of 32.50 feet, back to the point or place of **BEGINNING**. **TOGETHER** with a right of way in common with others for ingress and egress by foot and/or by vehicle over Pembroke Court to the nearest public highway. Subject to easements, covenants, and restriction of record.

These premises are also known as **35 Pembroke Court, Putnam Valley, NY 10579.**

**WOODS OVIATT GILMAN LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
500 Bausch & Lomb Place
Rochester, NY 14604**

Legal Notice

**STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT COUNTY
OF PUTNAM
SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS
Index No.: 501323/2019**

BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff, v. ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, DISTRIBUTEES OR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF THE LATE CHRISTOPHER STEWART A/K/A CHRISTOPHER M. STEWART, IF LIVING, AND IF ANY BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS WHO ARE SPOUSES, WIDOWS, GRANTEES, MORTGAGEES, LIENORS, HEIRS, DEVISEES, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS OR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF SUCH OF THEM AS MAY BE DEAD, AND THEIR SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, DISTRIBUTEES AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES AND PLACES OF RESIDENCE ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, JACQUELINE M. STEWART, JENNIFER ANN STEWART, Defendants.

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 attorneys within thirty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, 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 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 your mortgage company will not stop this 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.

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of Honorable Victor G. Grossman, Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, signed the 14 day of February, 2020 at Carmel, New York.

The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage on the following property: **Tax I.D. No. 33.57-1-23**

ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Kent, Putnam County, New York, more fully described as being Lots numbered 13568 through 13572 both inclusive as shown and delineated on a map entitled, "Twelfth Map of Lake Carmel, Town of Kent, Putnam County, New York," filed in Putnam County Clerk's Office the 18th day of August 1930, as Filed Number 130KK being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the corner formed by the intersection of the easterly side of Lincoln Drive and the southerly side of Mamasasco Road;

THENCE along the southerly side of Mamasasco Road, South 77 degrees 15 minutes 20 seconds East, 103.18 feet;

THENCE South 12 degrees 44 minutes 40 seconds West, 100.00 feet to the division line between Lot Numbers 13567 and 13568 on the above mentioned filed map;

THENCE along the last mentioned division line North 77 degrees 15 minutes 20 seconds West, 91.57 feet to the easterly side of Lincoln Drive;

THENCE North 06 degrees 07 minutes 20 seconds East along the easterly side of Lincoln Drive, 100.65 feet to the point or place of **BEGINNING**.

These premises are also known as **44 Lincoln Drive, Carmel, NY 10512.**

**WOODS OVIATT GILMAN LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
500 Bausch and Lomb Place
Rochester, NY 14604**

The Putnam,
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Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports



The Full Monty!

Haldane Wins 7th-Straight Section 1 Class C Title

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Haldane's Monteleone sisters, seniors Liv and Bela, hoist hardware after the second-seeded Blue Devils won their 7th-straight Section 1 Class C crown Saturday after a 49-22 beatdown of top-seeded Tuckahoe at the Westchester County Center. Haldane will play Section 9 champion Millbrook in a 5 p.m. regional contest today at Horace Greeley High School... see Girls' Hoops Notebook

Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

Hen Hud, Putnam Valley, Haldane Hoist Gold Balls

By Tony Pinciario & Ray Gallagher

They made basketball history at places like Hen Hud and Putnam Valley over the weekend, where both the Class A Sailors and Class B Tigers, respectively, were crowned queens of the Section 1 scene. And Haldane did what Haldane does in just about every Class C tournament; just win, baby!

HEN HUD opponents' follow the same defensive approach, which is to limit the offensive impact six-foot-four Caitlin Weimar has and force her teammates to beat you.

Fourth-seeded Harrison carried this out to near perfection in the Section 1 Class A Girls' Basketball championship game against second-seeded Hen Hud Sunday night.

Weimar was held to a season-low 11 points, well below her 23.7 points-per-game average. In fact, Weimar, the tournament most valuable player, didn't register her first field goal until 2:16 remained in the third quarter. Add in the absence of second-leading scorer Grace Moretti, who sustained a knee injury in the second quarter and never returned, and it would be easy to understand a Harrison victory.

However, Hen Hud has proved this season it is a complete team. Mylene Smith led the

charge and registered the eventual winning basket as Hen Hud rallied to a 46-45 victory at the Westchester County Center.

Hen Hud made history winning its first Section 1 title. The team celebrated the gold ball, given to the respective Section 1 championship teams, with its fans.

Hen Hud, which avenged its only loss of the season, to Harrison, has a bye into the regional final, Friday, at SUNY-Purchase. The second-seeded Sailors (23-1), riding a 19-game winning streak, will play the winner of Maine-Endwell (Section 4)-Section 9 champion.

"If you told me before the game that Caitlin would only score 11 points and we don't have Grace for two-plus quarters, I would have said we would lose by 20 points," Hen Hud Coach Ken Sherman said with a laugh. "But the girls showed so much grit."

It started with Smith, who had a team-leading 12 points. None more important than her three-point play -- a driving layup and free throw -- with 12.1 seconds remaining, giving Hen Hud a 46-45 lead. It was a set play out of a timeout.

"On the play, Harrison doubled Caitlin and Mylene takes it to the basket," Sherman said. "Mylene was confident on that play. We have to be more than just Caitlin and tonight we showed this."

Along with Smith's excellent play, Heather Reifenhauer came off the bench to score seven points and play excellent defense. Kira Varada, who was named to the all-tournament team, finished with six points and was the key, defensively, to the rally. Jacky Kenny added five points and Colleen Ryan



RAY GALLAGHER/JOSUE ACEVEDO PHOTOS

Hen Hud G Kira Varada uncoils shot in Sailors' 50-45 Class A semifinal win over Pearl River Thursday.

connected on her first 3-pointer of the season.

"Watching my teammates pick up the slack and make baskets just makes the game more enjoyable and exciting," Weimar said. "It takes more than one players. We are a team and everyone is important to winning and we showed that."

Hen Hud, which only led, 3-0, in the first quarter was constantly playing catch-up to Harrison. No.4 Harrison led by as many as seven points in the second half before a fourth-quarter surge. A Varada steal and layup gave Hen Hud a 40-38 lead with two minutes remaining.

"Kira is a spark plug off the bench," Sherman said. "Kira is a ball hawk, but sometimes she fouls. I sometimes limit her minutes, early on, before we unleash her. Kira



Sailors Mylene Smith, Colleen Ryan, Jacky Kenny and Caitlin Weimar revel in the glory of Hen Hud's 46-45 Section 1 title win over Harrison Sunday.

only has one speed and that's 100 mph."

The final two minutes of the game was a rollercoaster of emotions. A Kenny driving layup gave state-ranked (No.17) Hen Hud a 43-40 lead with 40 seconds remaining, but Gabby Marraccini answered with a rare four-point play. She swished a 3-pointer, was fouled, and then swished the free throw, giving Harrison a 44-43 lead with 25 seconds remaining.

A Hen Hud turnover on the subsequent possession and Harrison making one of two free throws set up Smith's winning play.

Even though Weimar had only three points and Hen Hud was a meager 10 of 22 from the free-throw line in the first half, Harrison only led by four at halftime.

"We spoke at halftime and we were only down four points, but if we just jeep plugging away and playing good defense our offense would come," Sherman said.

Sherman enjoyed watching his team celebrate the gold ball with their fans. So did the team, which got a hero's welcome upon arrival in Montrose.

"I can't even describe how exciting it was to win the gold ball and making it 10 times better because it was the first in program

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Haldane's Abigail Platt fires J in Blue Devils' 49-22 win over Tuckahoe for 7th-straight Section 1 Class C crown Saturday.



Hen Hud players bask in glory of their first Section 1 Class A semifinal win in program history last Thursday after knocking off Pearl River.



Hen Hud players react to their historic Section 1 Class A semifinal win over Pearl River, the 1st in program history.

Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

continued from previous page



PV players cut loose after knocking off reigning NYS champ Irvington for 1st Section 1 Class B title in girls' hoops history Saturday at County Center.



Put Valley players pose with 1st gold ball in school history after dethroning five-time defending Section 1 champ Irvington Saturday at County Center.



Putnam Valley's Kelli Venezia and Arianna Stockinger rejoice as teammate Amanda Orlando looks on after semifinal win over Hastings.



Put Valley's Kelli Venezia and Arianna Stockinger embrace as teammates celebrate 52-49 win over Irvington in Section 1 Class B title game Saturday.



Put Valley's Kelli Venezia and Eva DeChent kiss 1st gold ball in school after 52-49 win over Irvington in Section 1 Class B title game Saturday.



Haldane players pose with seventh-straight Section 1 Class C gold ball after defeating Tuckahoe 49-22 Saturday at County Center.

continued on next page

Sports

Girls' Hoops Notebook

continued from previous page

history," said Weimar, who won a Section 1 Class A volleyball title last fall. "My teammates and I were saying we don't even know how to act because we were so happy, but we worked so hard to make it to this point so we never gave up throughout the game. This is a feeling I will never forget, and to share it with such a great team is amazing."

PUTNAM VALLEY did something no other Section 1 Class B opponent had been able to do against Irvington – beat the Panthers in the sectional championship game – in the last five tries.

The second-seeded Tigers dethroned the fourth-seeded and five-time defending Class B champion Panthers, 52-49, in the

title game.

State-ranked (No.8) Putnam Valley, now 20-3 this season, will play Section 9 champion Marlboro in a state regional semifinal, Wednesday (5 p.m.), at Horace Greeley. The winner advances to the regional final, Sunday, March 15, against the Section 8-Section 11 victor.

Senior MVP Kelli Venezia finished with a team-leading 20 points, including two free throws in the last 10 seconds to seal the win. This, on the heels of a 23-point effort in the 69-46 semifinal triumph of Hastings, who had no way of stopping her seven first-half treys.

"I was able to come in confident in the finals because I shot pretty well in the semis, so I was still feeling pretty good," Venezia said. "Good but humble. You can't get too high off the one performance. This is just an amazing feeling right now, I can't even describe it."

PV freshman Eva DeChent added 17 points and junior F Arianna Stockinger contributed 10 points, including the game-sealing three in the game's waning moments. Stockinger's triple with just over one minute remaining in the game,



Jubilant Tigers rejoice after defeating Hastings to reach first Section 1 title tilt since 2007 last Tuesday.



Haldane senior G Bela Monteleone strikes pose after Blue Devils won 7th-straight Section 1 Class C crown Saturday.

giving Putnam Valley a five-point cushion.

"This is crazy," she said. "I'm emotional, happy... everything, such a surreal moment. We deserve this so much. We wanted this so much. Coach Dini is one hell of a coach, she prepares us for this. And this"

DeChent showed the poise of a senior down the stretch and should be the next big deal in Class B next season.

"You can't really think about the crowd or anything here," DeChent said. "You just have to play like it's another game, but you have to go as hard as possible and stay humble."

There's been adversity to overcome this season, but the Tigers have been the little engine that could all year.

"This group worked so hard for this," PV Coach Kristi Dini said. "We did all kinds of things to compensate for our lack of size. Everyone defends and everyone contributes in some way. I'm literally shaking in disbelief right now. I just have to thank my team, my family, the school district and the community for coming out for us."

It took a village to knock off Irvington, the 19-time Section 1 champs, which PV had never beaten before.

HALDANE made it lucky number seven as the second-seeded Blue Devils won their seventh consecutive Section 1 Class C championship with a 49-22 triumph of top-seeded Tuckahoe. First-year Coach Jessica Perrone stabilized a program that had to undergo a transformative period due to the release of Coach Tyrone Searight last November. Haldane, now 12-10 this season, played Section 9 titlist Millbrook, Tuesday, in a state regional semifinal.

Bela Monteleone (16 points, four boards) was selected the tournament most valuable player. Liv Monteleone and Shianne Twoguns were named to the all-tournament team. Liv Monteleone had 11 points and three rebounds. Twoguns and Madison Chiera added nine apiece while Abigail Platt finished with seven boards.

Carmel's P.J. Duke ATHLETE OF THE SEASON Winter 2020

This week marks the debut presentation of our new award, Athlete of the Season, sponsored by Club Fit. Our first winner secures the prize in a landslide, despite the many incredible performances by area student athletes this season.

Our winter winner is 13-year-old Carmel wrestler P.J. Duke.

Amazingly just a seventh-grader, Duke's regular and postseason wrestling record was an eye-popping 49-0. In fact, he did not allow a single point scored against him in the Section 1 and NYSPHSAA tournaments.

"In the 30-plus years I'm covering local sports in Northern Westchester and Putnam County, I can't ever recall a more dominating performance by a varsity wrestler, much less a seventh-grader," Sports Editor Ray Gallagher said. "P.J. Duke's run to the 99-pound NYSPHSAA wrestling championship was among the

most impressive deals I've seen by any varsity athlete in any prep sport, and I've seen my share of all-time greats."

Club Fit will be hosting P.J.'s team for a free Parisi Speed School training session. In addition, P.J. will also be receiving a private, one-on-one Parisi Coaching session.

"Congratulations to our inaugural Athlete of the Season Winner, P.J. Duke, on his record-setting title win — an amazing accomplishment," Club Fit President Bill Beck said. "Club Fit is happy to support young athletes in our community. It's never too early to start healthy habits. Studies show active kids become active adults, and are more likely to be healthy in adulthood as well."

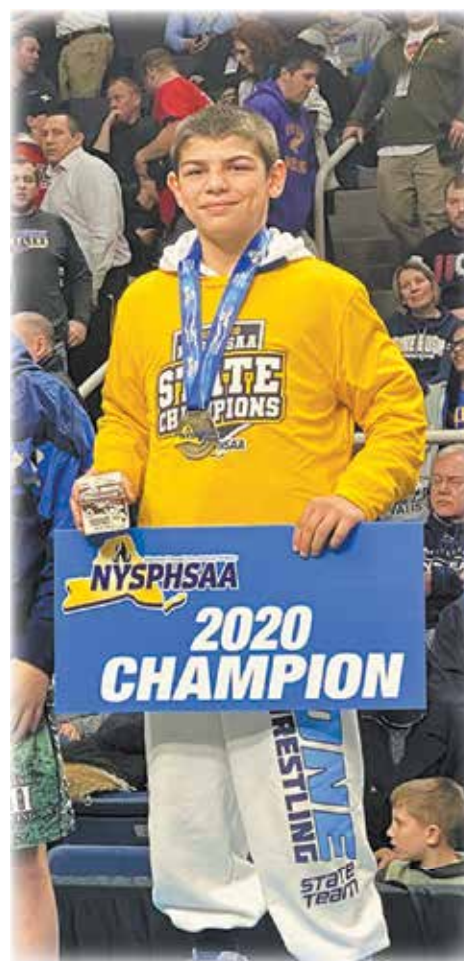
Seth Harrison, Carmel's wrestling coach, said he predicted big things from Duke this winter. But the seventh-grader surpassed

even his ambitious forecast.

"Our coaching staff and wrestling community knew the potential that the season held for P.J.," Harrison reflected. "But he didn't just exceed those expectations, he snapped them in half. Many wrestlers have come out of New York as state champions and furthered that success in winning NCAA championships and international accolades. Yet P.J. is the first seventh-grader and the youngest wrestler to ever win a state championship. His accomplishments this season was more than dominance, I believe it was a glimpse of greatness. Our wrestling program, community, Section 1 wrestling and New York are proud of his accomplishments."

Carmel's Director of Health, Physical Education & Athletics Susan E. Dullea cited all the work Duke has put in as a central reason for the young grappler's success.

"P.J. is a special student athlete," she said. "His work ethic, focus and sincere love for the sport are exceptional. This accomplishment is not by luck, it's based on hard work over time. Whatever P.J. sets out to do, he will be successful. He has an extremely supportive family, as well as a community of coaches, athletes and trainers who truly love him. Carmel is so very proud of him."



Sports

Historical Happenings for Putnam Valley, Hendrick Hudson



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports
Editor @Directrays

Win or lose last weekend, Class A Hen Hud and Class B Putnam Valley would always have that Westchester County Center experience to tell their children -- and their children's children -- about, until their dying days.

And since both made history over the weekend, the stories will only get better over time. The parallels between Hen Hud and Putnam Valley are as surreal as the County Center experience; the quaint, high-energy experience was almost dreamlike, as both the Sailors and Tigers, respectively, hoisted the first gold ball in girls' hoops history. In fact, Putnam Valley's gold ball was the first in school history -- boys' or girls' hoops -- while Hen Hud won a basketball sectional title for the first time since 1944 when the Sailor boys were crowned and FDR was our president.

It doesn't end there, though. Both Hen Hud Coach Ken Sherman and PV Coach Kristi Dini are alumni of their respective programs, both carving out a niche as players before returning as coaches.

The County Center forces players to bring out their best, and that's exactly what we got last Saturday -- when second-seeded Putnam Valley staged a 52-49 upset of 19-time Section 1 champion Irvington, the No.4 seed -- and again on Sunday --- when second-seeded Hen Hud reached deep for a thrilling 46-45 come-from-behind win over No.4 Harrison. So, both schools were seed-

ed second and beat the No.4 for the title... more parallels.

For PV Coach Dini, a 2004 Tiger alum, winning a gold ball has been a process nearly two decades in the making. After losing in the 2004 sectional semifinals while battling a 103-degree fever, Dini went on to Boston University where she set a national record for three-point shooting. She then played pro ball on the European circuit before returning to Section 1 as a coach at Briarcliff and Somers before settling in at her alma mater where she scored over 1,000 points in three years.

"Nothing compares to this," Dini said. "It's by far my finest basketball moment. I wouldn't trade helping these girls win a gold ball for anything in the world. These girls are my extended family. People don't see what goes on, on and off the court with these girls. We just beat Gina Maher's team, and she's the best, like family to me, too.

This group had to work hard to beat her team... I'm literally shaking right now."

There were many members of the community shaking, too, when sophomore G Amanda Orlando went down after a mean collision with Irvington senior C Grace Thy-

bulle, twice her size and then some. When the feisty Orlando went down in agony, the Tigers rallied around their family member and decided to dedicate the game to her.

"We all said in the huddle we're doing this for Amanda," Dini said. "I held her hand and told her 'We're going to win this for you'. Alex Waters comes in and defends and doubles and did exactly what we needed her to do."

The players -- a blend of experience and youth -- were stirred but undeterred.

"We definitely were nervous, we thought

it might affect us a bit," said junior All-Tournament selection Arianna Stockinger, who drained the game-sealing three from the right wing with 1:21 to play. "We did this for Amanda by stepping up our game on both ends of the floor. We deserved this with all the work we put in for it. Coach Dini is one hell of a coach, she prepared us for everything. It's crazy to share this with her and my dad (assistant coach Charlie Stockinger)."

PV senior Kelli Venezia maintained the poise you expect from a senior while delivering the post-season performance of a lifetime.

"It was scary when Amanda went down," said Venezia, the tournament and team MVP. "That was the lowest of the low, we could only go up from there. She's a key player for us and that win was definitely for her. To bring this gold ball when we go see her now is just going to be amazing."

Which is what happened when they finally caught up with Orlando, who came away from the spill without a serious injury and just might suit up in Wednesday's opening round of the state tournament.

For Hen Hud, the Sailors, too, had to win



RAY GALLAGHER/JOSUE ACEVEDO PHOTOS

Hen Hud Coach Ken Sherman congratulates players Kira Varada and Colleen Ryan after winning 1st Section 1 title in girls' hoops history Sunday at County Center.

without a key player in the lineup as junior G Grace Moretti went down with a knee injury that kept her sidelined for the entire second half. However, classmate Mylene Smith made the biggest shot in Hen Hud history when she banked home a lefty scoop-and-one at the line for the final margin with 12 seconds left.

What she might not have realized is just how much that shot meant to Coach Sherman, perhaps the most Hen Hud guy in existence. Beloved throughout the community, 'Sherm' bleeds the blue and white. So, just like Dini, his loyalty to his alma mater is unquestioned. You can tell by his relationship with his players that he's the father of several girls. He knows what buttons to push and when to peel back, and his blue-collar kids will run through walls for him, according to Sailor G Colleen Ryan.

"Coach Sherm makes this experience 100 times better with his locker room talks and his energy that fires everyone else up," the feisty, fun-loving sophomore said. "I am so glad I will get to play with him all four years of my high school career. He truly is an amazing coach!"

In conclusion, the buzz at the Westchester County Center was back last week as 13 gold balls went out during 26 title tilts, and Section 1 hoops was back where it belongs after a one-year hiatus. All the usual suspects were out in force: from my man 'County Center Keith', to JR the Mailman, to DJ Diz, to Booby and Frank from Mahopac, to the Voice of Section 1 Rich Leaf, to all my boys in the media... to many to mention. But if you hang out at the County Center each and every March (or Pace University depending upon circumstances), you know they'll be there and you love seeing them in their element, rooting on student athletes they'll never see again in most cases. It's Section 1 basketball at its finest, an event unlike anything else.



Putnam Valley senior Kelli Venezia sets up a hug with Coach Kristi Dini that was 15 years in the making after Tigers reached finals Tuesday.

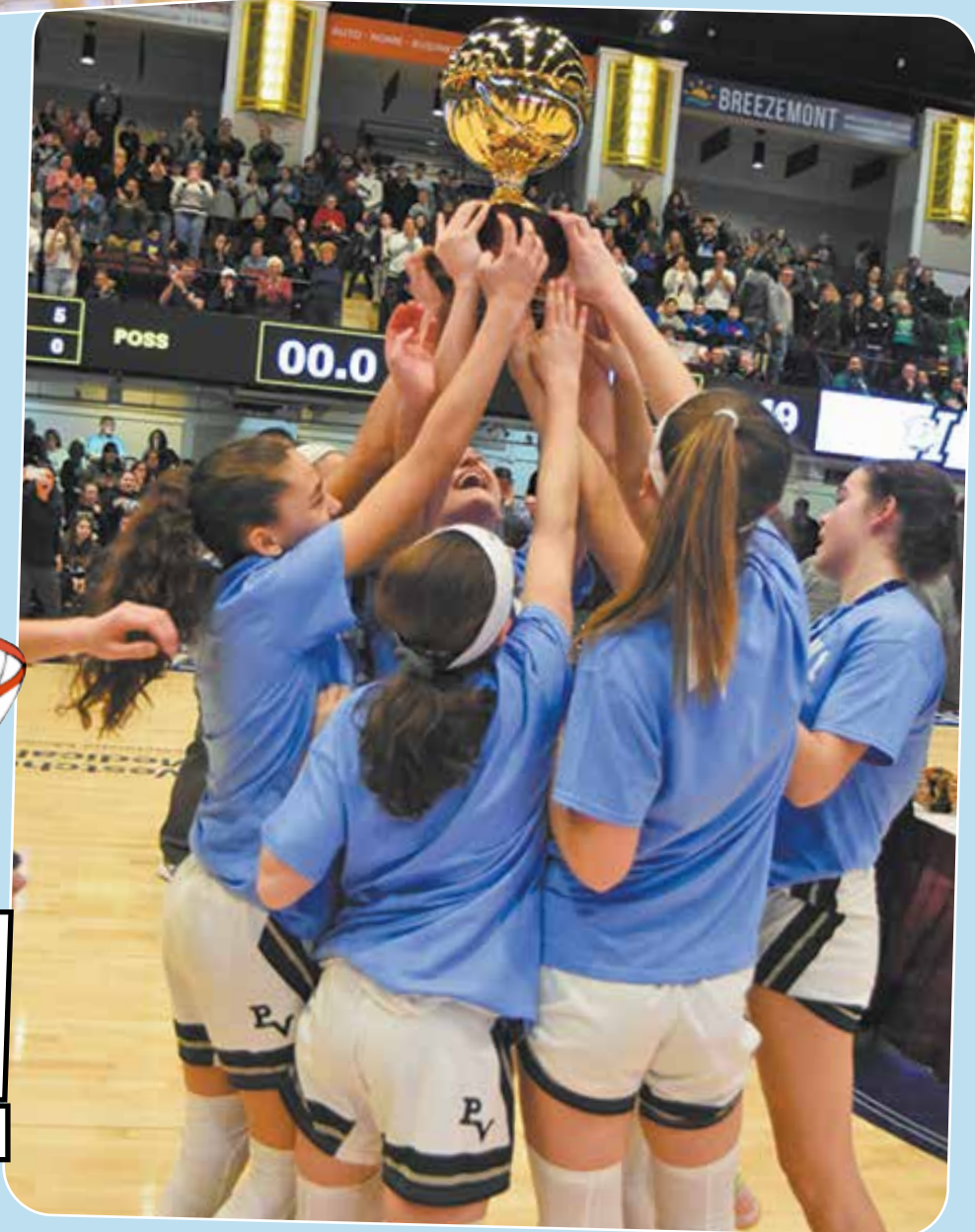


PV senior Kelli Venezia and Coach Kristi Dini unleash emotions after Tigers reached first Section 1 title game since 2007 last Tuesday.



**Putnam
Valley Wins
1st Section 1
Hoops Crown
in School
History
#GoldBall**

**Little
Engine
That
Could, Did!**



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Members of the Putnam Valley girls' basketball team hoist the first Section 1 Class B gold ball in school history last Saturday night at the Westchester County Center where the junilant, second-seeded Tigers knocked off reigning NYSPHSAA champion and five-time defending sectional champion Irvington, 52-49, to advance to Wednesday's opening round of the state tournament against Section 9 champion Marlboro (5 p.m.) at Horace Greeley High School... see Girls' Hoops Notebook