The Northern Westchester Examiner

Covering Yorktown, Somers, Cortlandt, Croton-on-Hudson, Buchanan, Ossining and Peekskill

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November 17 - November 23, 2015

Lachterman Elected to Town Board, Quast New Town Clerk

By Rick Pezzullo

The Republicans will hold a 4-1 super-majority on the Yorktown Town Board starting January 1 after Ed Lachterman was unofficially declared the second winner last week in the November 3 election.

After a recount by the Westchester Board of Elections and the inclusion of more than 480 absentee and affidavit ballots, Lachterman, president of the Yorktown Lions Club, finished second in the four-candidate race with 3,686 votes, edging Democrat and former town justice Ilan Gilbert by nine votes.

Councilman Thomas Diana was the top vote-getter among board candidates, receiving 4,328 votes to earn his first full four-year term. Councilwoman Susan Siegel, also seeking her first four-year term, came in a distant fourth with 3,431 votes.

Meanwhile, in the race to succeed longtime Town Clerk Alice Roker, Deputy Town Clerk Diana Quast thwarted a complete Republican election sweep by defeating Mary Capoccia by 30 votes, 3,886 to 3,856.

Quast, who was publicly endorsed by Roker, ran solely on the Democratic line and only led by nine votes after the initial results were reported on Election Day. Capoccia, secretary to Supervisor Michael Grace, ran on the Republican, Conservative, Independence and Reform Party lines.

Yorktown Republican Committee Chairman Matt Slater noted just six years ago Republicans held no seats on the five-member Town Board or in Yorktown Town Court, where Town Justices Sal Lagonia and Gary Raniolo, who was reelected handily two weeks ago over Democratic challenger Richard Abbate, now preside.

“This is just not the town. There are other agencies that have to endorse this,” Planning Board Chairman Richard Fon said.

Costco Gets Green Light in Yorktown

By Rick Pezzullo

Nearly six years after plans were first publicly presented to the town, a $60 million Costco Wholesale Club and member-only gas station on Route 202 were unanimously approved by the Yorktown Planning Board last week.

However, before any construction can begin on the 151,092-square-foot store, Costco still needs approval from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection for its storm water plan and the Westchester County Board of Legislators to become part of the sewer district, plus a critical use and occupancy permit from the state Department of Transportation.

“This is just not the town. There are other agencies that have to endorse this,” Planning Board Chairman Richard Fon said.

Costco representatives, who are hopeful of having the long-awaited project completed in 2017, must also have its building elevations pass the muster of the town’s architectural review board, submit an acceptable lighting plan and post erosion control, performance and wetlands planting bonds.

One issue that temporarily held up the passage of the resolution by planners was Costco’s reluctance to install solar panels on its building, which it doesn’t consider cost effective, according to Fon.

Planner John Flynn questioned Costco’s stance on solar panels since it is one of the leading sellers of panels in the country. Yet, only two of 89 Costco stores in the northeast have solar panels installed.

“It’s clear you guys are just blowing this away,” Flynn remarked, prompting a response from Costco attorney Al Capello.

Continued on page 2
Costco Gets Green Light in Yorktown

A request from Costco that the Planning Board wholeheartedly embraced was the town issuing a demolition permit for the dilapidated former motel structures on the 18.75-acre site before approvals from other agencies are granted.

"I don't think anyone wants to see those structures remain. The sooner the better," Savoca said.

State Senator Terrence Murphy (R/Yorktown), who served on the Yorktown Town Board from 2010 to 2014, noted the project includes $3 million in off-site road and storm water retention improvements.

"From the multi-million dollar redesign of the Jefferson Valley Mall and creation of Crompond Crossing and Crompond Terraces, to Costco, we are finally getting northern Westchester open for business," Murphy said. "For years, others told people why they couldn't. We have shifted the paradigm to tell people how they can. In the upcoming legislative session, I will work to pass legislation to re-establish the Yorktown IDA (Industrial Development Agency), which will give Yorktown additional tools to attract and retain businesses, which will alleviate the burden on our residential tax base."

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Alleged Incident at Yorktown Sober Home Alarms Neighbors

By Rick Pezzullo

Yorktown Police Chief Daniel McMahon said Friday an investigation into an alleged case of sexual abuse at a sober home on Underhill Avenue has been closed and no charges are being brought. A small group of neighbors of the Constellations Recovery facility at 482 Underhill Avenue requested to meet with the Yorktown Town Board to get details about what occurred on October 27 when two police cars were seen in the driveway of the home.

McMahon reported Friday during a special gathering set up by Supervisor Michael Grace at Town Hall that police received a call October 27 at 4:16 p.m. from a male subject who claimed his mother had been sexually abused a few weeks earlier by an employee at the sober home. Police later learned three separate incidents allegedly occurred between September 15 and 30.

After further investigation, which involved phone records and interviews with witnesses, McMahon said “none of it collaborated what the victim had said,” and the Westchester District Attorney's Office declined to press charges.

“We investigated it thoroughly. There were several deficiencies in this case,” McMahon said. “There was no evidence to substantiate a crime other than statements of the victim. Both of the subjects were consenting adults. The facts did not prove her side and they did not prove his side.”

One of the owners of the sober home, Thomas McCrossan, and his son, Devin, founder of Constellations Recovery, vehemently objected to the case being aired in public and stormed out of the meeting prior to McMahon’s briefing, but later returned and listened intently from the back.

“This is a police matter, not a neighborhood matter,” Thomas McCrossan contended. “It’s very hard for us not to be upset. We don’t bother anyone.”

McCrossan noted the resident who made the allegation voluntarily left the facility, but the employee who he said had 30 years of experience working with people in recovery still worked at Constellations Recovery.

Grace said he called the meeting as a courtesy to neighbors who the board promised they would keep abreast of activities at the sober home.

“It’s not uncommon to do this when there is a concern in a neighborhood,” Grace said. “It’s protection for you and your operation and protection for our citizens. You have to accept it. It’s the nature of the beast. It’s not unusual in a small town like this.”

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Dedications Mark Meahagh Park Project Completion in Verplanck

By Rick Pezzullo

Two residents were fondly remembered Saturday during a dedication ceremony of Meahagh Park in the hamlet of Verplanck.

Approximately 100 family and friends were on hand to witness the planting of a dogwood tree for former longtime town employee Robert "Sinbad" Sinclair, who died in October at the age of 62, and the placement of a bench for lifelong Verplanck resident Jefferey Keesler, who died in 2005 at the age of 22.

"I’m really happy that this park has come together the way it has," said Cortlandt Councilman Frank Farrell. "It is something we can really enjoy together as a community."

Besides the dedications for Sinclair and Keesler, town officials were celebrating the completion of a new full length basketball court, walking path, rowing boat dock and community garden at Meahagh Park.

Keesler, a 2001 graduate of Hendrick Hudson High School, grew up across from Meahagh Park and enjoyed playing basketball, along with hunting, fishing and target shooting. At the time of his death he was a fifth year apprentice for the IBEW Local #3 in White Plains.

"I’m grateful to the town for giving him this honor," said Keesler’s mother, Patrice. "I hope everyone enjoys hanging out and playing ball."

"He truly loved this park," said Councilwoman Debbie Costello. "He was a wonderful, wonderful young man. This is a great honor."

Sinclair worked for the town, mostly in the Highway Department, for 34 years before retiring in 2011. An avid Yankees and Giants fan, Sinclair enjoyed reading the Bible in his truck at the waterfront in Verplanck.

"He was just a joyful man," said Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi. "He loved to tell stories."

"Heaven has certainly gained another angel with his passing," said Costello, who resides in Verplanck. "He would be so very happy that we are dedicating a tree here at Meahagh Park."
Officials Call for Last Minute Halt of Tree-Cutting for Pipeline

By Arthur Cusano

Several local Democratic officials are calling for a halt to construction on the Algonquin gas pipeline until the plan to clear-cut hundreds of trees in Blue Mountain Preserve is reviewed by state officials.

State Assembly members Sandra Galef (D-Ossining) and David Buchwald (D-White Plains) joined several county legislators and members of Stop Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE) at the county building in White Plains Friday morning where they announced they were submitting a letter to County Executive Rob Astorino calling on him to rescind a work permit granted to Spectra Energy for the planned expansion of the Algonquin gas pipeline in the 1,538-acre county park in Cortlandt and Peekskill. Work on the project has just begun at the site.

“There is a parkland alienation law here in the State of New York,” Galef said. “We do not have a lot. If you have designated parkland, and you want to turn it into something else like the Algonquin Pipeline, you need to get state legislative approval. Also, if you remove parkland from the rolls you also need to find other parkland property to put on it.”

Galef said Astorino had signed a contract with Spectra Energy to allow the work to begin without getting proper state approval, and time was of the essence. “We are at a really critical moment in this whole issue,” Galef told those on hand. “As you know, many of us, including Congresswoman [Nita] Lowey and Congressman [Eliot] Engel, have been working very hard to try to get an independent safety assessment of the whole Algonquin Pipeline. As Spectra goes forward digging up land, cutting down trees – maybe a thousand trees this weekend up in the Blue Mountain park reservation – once you put that underground pipeline in, it’s very hard for it not to go into effect.”

Assemblyman Steve Otis (D-Rye) has also agreed to sign the letter to Astorino, Galef said.

The pipeline expansion project would run from Stony Point, under the Hudson River, through Peekskill, Cortlandt, portions of Yorktown and into Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. The project will remove an existing 26-inch gas pipeline and replace it with a 42-inch one. The gas pressure would also increase by 25 percent.

Buchwald said the county executive needs to immediately act to preserve the county land from being cleared. “Government officials should be working to preserve that trust the public has, that when parkland is dedicated, it’s preserved for parkland,” Buchwald said. “I feel that all of us are like the Lorax, we speak for the trees. But we also speak for the residents of Westchester County.”

Also on hand for the press conference were county legislators MaryJane Shimsky (D-Hastings-on-Hudson), Catherine Parker (D-Rye) and Democratic Majority Leader Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining), Blue Mountain Preserve is located in Borgia’s district. She said losing the parkland would be harmful to the flora and fauna that call Westchester home.

“We do not have a lot of old growth forest in Westchester County – we’re an overdeveloped county,” Borgia said. “This park is a little pocket of nature that we can very ill afford to lose.”

Borgia also pointed out that the pipeline runs past Indian Point nuclear power plant in Buchanan as well as schools and homes, which raises other safety

Continued on page 17

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Thank You Yorktown Voters for Continued Trust

To the Editor:

For the last four years, I have had the privilege and honor to serve as a Yorktown Town Justice, and I am very grateful for the trust the voters of Yorktown showed in me when first elected in 2011, and now again in 2015. The election was about honesty, integrity, experience and service to our community.

In 2011, my campaign was built on three (3) fundamental concepts:

• Promoting safety and security (law and order) for the residents of Yorktown;
• Providing reasonable access to the Court; and
• Bringing a focus on our youth.

Since that time I have worked diligently with many of you on fulfilling my campaign pledge and have delivered on those commitments. Today I pledge to continue that work, especially those efforts in support of our young people in our community. When it comes to our youth, law enforcement, service organizations and the education community, I will continue to support their efforts to enhance Yorktown’s quality of life, in the courtroom and beyond.

I would like to recognize my wife, Georgeann, for her tireless and endless support and for helping me run a successful campaign. She was always there every step of the way. Thank you to my children, Gary, Ashley and Heather for all their help and support. The concept of family is at the core of who I am. I could not have done this without you.

Thank you also, to the many friends and supporters who helped with the campaign, and to the agencies and organizations that endorsed my candidacy. I pledge to continue to live up to your expectations.

Thanks to the Yorktown voters’ approval, I will continue to deliver on my commitment to make the Yorktown Justice Court a place of efficiency, honesty and integrity that the residents will look at with great pride. I stand before you incredibly appreciative for your support, and I remain steadfast in my promise to serve the People of Yorktown to best of my ability.

Thank you,

HON. GARY J. RANIOLO

Gas Pipeline Project Will Scar the Region

To the Editor:

Most Westchester residents are blissfully unaware that Spectra Energy Corporation of Houston Texas has started construction of their jumbo fracked gas pipeline through the northern edge of our county. The construction will scar our region and put additional burdens on our local police, fire and EMS teams.

Pipelines like this one are metastasizing across the US as fossil fuel companies are in a mad rush to get them set up before folks wake up to the short and long term dangers of them. We do not need new gas infrastructure. Westchester County residents will not get any gas from this pipeline, this gas is headed to the coast of Massachusetts for export. Spectra Energy gets the profit, our families and communities have to deal with the risk.

This pipeline is more dangerous than most because of its proximity to the aging Indian Point nuclear power plant. There is no feasible plan for evacuating Westchester if nuclear disaster strikes. Adding an explosive pipeline to this area is making an already dangerous situation even worse. Nuclear and pipeline experts say that a Fukushima-like core meltdown could result from a gas pipeline rupture near Indian Point. How are Westchester residents expected to prepare for both a possible nuclear meltdown and a catastrophic pipeline rupture? Do Iodine pills protect from burns?

We must stop our over-reliance on this dangerous and dirty energy source – fracked gas. The real solution is energy efficiency and clean renewables.

The systems in place that allow fossil fuel companies to put communities under involuntary risk must be stopped. Playing by the rules doesn’t lead anywhere because those who write the rules write them to protect their interests. Our communities should not be “sacrifice zones” for Spectra Energy Corporation’s profit.

We have a moral catastrophe on our hands. We need to do everything we can to keep fossil fuels in the ground. We must challenge the projects that are standing between us and a healthy future.

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Peekskill Council Sets Hearing on Exceeding Tax Cap

By Rick Pezzullo

The Peekskill Common Council has scheduled a public hearing for November 23 to consider possibly exceeding the state imposed tax levy cap in the 2016 budget.

The tentative $37.2 million budget released by Acting Peekskill City Manager Richard Leins calls for a 5.9% tax hike, an increase of $180,000 from this year, which Leins maintained was a Herculean task given the city’s rising obligations.

“It’s virtually impossible to stick to that paradigm without reducing services that residents are expecting,” Leins remarked during a hearing on the budget last week.

In the proposed budget, which must be adopted by December 1, Leins is recommending the city pay its current outstanding balance of $4,278,000 to the New York State Pension system, instead of its deferred obligation of $360,000 under a previously agreed upon repayment schedule.

Leins explained mortgage tax revenue was down in the city, along with $336,481 from property taxes based on tax certiorari challenges. Meanwhile, medical and Workmen’s Compensation costs combined are projected to increase by $373,000 next year.

Given its current financial condition, Leins said Peekskill would have to float a bond of approximately $10 million to fund several projects, including the Central Firehouse.

Leins is also suggesting hiring a code enforcement officer in the Building Department to replace an assistant building inspector position, along with a laborer in the Parks Department and administrative employee that would share time between the Assessor’s Office and the Personnel Office.

Newly reelected Mayor Frank Catalina said city officials needed to continue to encourage developers to invest in Peekskill.

“Development is the way to get out of the financial mess that we have and expanding the tax rolls,” he said. “We can’t tax our way out of this. Developers are good for the City of Peekskill.”

Several business owners in Peekskill said they were willing to absorb a tax hike to help further boost the city’s recent economic growth.

“I think this city is on the verge of something amazing and we have to support it,” said John Sharp, owner of five parcels in the city, who opposed extending meter parking in Peekskill to Saturdays.

“We could be the next big thing since sliced bread,” remarked Louie Lanza, owner of The Hudson Room. “We could be the sixth borough. We have to take advantage of the vibe that people want to come to Peekskill.”

The hearing on Monday, November 23 is set to begin at 7:30 p.m.

Gullotta House Leads Fundraiser for Needy Ossining Family

Gullotta House Inc., Ossining High School Interact Club and Westchester County Legislator Catherine Borgia (D/Ossining) will be partnering with the Landmark Diner on Tuesday, November 24 from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. where 20% of the proceeds will help an Ossining family in need.

Additional donations received throughout the day at the diner on South Highland Avenue will also help the Ossining family. Meanwhile, Gullotta House will be collecting turkey donations for other families that the Interact Club will later distribute.

The Interact Club is part of the Ossining Rotary Club under the direction of Ron Whitehead. Each year the goal of the club is to sponsor one local and one international project each year.

Gullotta House is a nonprofit organization that aids residents in Westchester who are facing financial and other hardships. The organization provides food vouchers, scholarships for education, holiday assistance and community entertainment. To learn more, visit www.Gullottahouse.org.
Ex-Cop Charged in Fatal Crash that Killed Somers Teacher

By Rick Pezzullo

A former Carmel police officer and town councilman was charged with aggravated vehicular homicide following a Saturday evening three-car crash on Route 6 in Mahopac that claimed the life of a Somers elementary school teaching assistant.

Richard O’Keefe, 57, of Mahopac, was allegedly driving while intoxicated heading north on Route 6 in a Dodge Caravan when his vehicle struck a Jeep Patriot, operated by Anna Estrada, 53, of Carmel, who exited a parking area to make a left hand turn onto Route 6 south and failed to yield the right-of-way to O’Keefe, according to State Police.

O’Keefe’s vehicle struck the Jeep on the driver’s side, causing it to overturn. A third vehicle, driven southbound by Philip Kossin, 56, of Mahopac, was also struck in the crash, which caused Route 6 between Croton Falls Road and East Lake Boulevard to be closed for more than four hours.

Frances Ghelarducci, 54, of Mahopac, a rear seat passenger in Estrada’s vehicle, was pronounced dead at the scene. Ghelarducci was a beloved classroom teacher assistant at Primrose Elementary School in the Somers School District, where she was known affectionately as “Mrs. G.”

Somers Superintendent of Schools Dr. Raymond Blanch and Primrose Principal Katie Winter issued a joint letter to families in the district via email Sunday evening alerting them about the fatal accident and offered advice on how to break the news to students.

“As is expected, this news is shocking to us all, but will be especially so for those who had daily contact with her,” Blanch and Winter stated, noting Ghelarducci was an assistant in Mrs. Maliniak and Mrs’ Genez’s classes. “We know that Mrs. G touched many of our students’ lives at Primrose.”

Estrada and her passengers, Ernest Estrada, 57, and Steven Ghelarducci, 54, were transported by EMS personnel to Westchester Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

O’Keefe, his passenger, Michael Guariloff, 30, and Kossin were not injured.

Richard O'Keefe

Troopers who interviewed O’Keefe observed clues that he was intoxicated and placed him in custody, police said. O’Keefe was charged with DWI, a misdemeanor, aggravated vehicular homicide, a Class B felony, and vehicular manslaughter in the second degree, a Class D felony. He was arraigned Southeast Town Justice Richard Vercollone and remanded to Putnam County Jail in lieu of $50,000 cash bail or $100,000 bond.

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By Neal Rentz

Yorktown resident Daniel Wasserman is preserving and making memories every day at his Camel Video store in Yorktown.

When the store opened on Commerce Street in 1981 it specialized in renting and selling videos. But at the start of the 21st Century the store changed direction when the video rental business began its decline, while at the same time moving to the second floor of the building. Wasserman said while consumers still rent videos from Redbox, the public is no longer interested in going to a store to rent videos in metropolitan areas, though there are some video stores operating in rural areas.

Wasserman said last week that his store now specializes in converting video tapes, slides, audio tapes, cell phone photographs, and other media into DVDs or other custom digital formats. "I do it on the premises," he said.

His customers have many uses for Camel Video’s services, Wasserman said. For example, "We do high school sports tapes," which are sent by student athletes seeking college scholarships, he said.

Wasserman remembered fondly converting home movie footage of Westchester County from the 1950s where he saw footage of how the New York State Thruway looked at that time, how inexpensive gasoline was in that period and how the Tappan Zee Bridge toll was only 25 cents.

Wasserman said he will meet with customers who make a reservation because he wants to provide personal service. He wants to have the time to speak with his patrons and a conversation could last up to an hour.

Camel Video is located at 1929 Commerce St., on the second floor in Room 10 in Yorktown. To make an appointment, call Daniel Wasserman at 914-245-1002. For more information, visit camelvideo.com. Camel Video is also on Facebook.
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**Happy Thanksgiving**

Bring this ad in Fri., November 27th for a FREE Gift!

2019 Crompond Rd. Yorktown Heights. 914 962-3328
Happy Thanksgiving

to the people of Yorktown,
I will always be grateful
for your support!
-Councilman Vishnu Patel

Old Bet Farm Market
261 Route 202 • Somers
914-617-8450
Locally Grown
Organic Produce!

Happy Thanksgiving!
$5 OFF Any Purchase
of $25 or more!
With this ad exp. 11/25/15

Fresh Local Apples, Apple Cider
Pumpkins and Gourds
Fresh Cut Flowers and
Holiday Centerpieces

Fresh Vegetables from our Farm,
To Your Table!

Sponsor a Local Family
this Winter Holiday Season
All recipients are from
Westchester & Lower Putnam County
To sponsor a family visit us at:
Hidden Treasures & Donation Center
1736 Front Street, Yorktown Hts., NY 10598
Or Call Donna at: 914-743-1314 or 914-490-3966
Web-site:
www.yorktownloveinaction.com
Email Address:
yorktownloveinaction@gmail.com

Savings and Deals to be Thankful For

Is Your Lighting Ready for the Holidays?

10% OFF Showroom
With mention of ad

Gift Certificates Available

Mid-County Lighting Showroom
P.O. Box 894, 246 Rte 9, Wanamie, New York 10541
845-649-8100 sales@midcountylighting.com

Happily thanking to the people of Yorktown,
I will always be grateful
for your support!
-Councilman Vishnu Patel

2-Time Best of Westchester Winner!
Custom Picture Framing, Printing and Gift Shop
253 Route 202 • Somers 914-276-3173 • www.somerscustomframing.com
Call our Birthday Party Coordinator for Details
*Expires 12/16/15. New bookings only.

Call or Fax: 914-769-0771
15 Washington Ave • Pleasantville, NY
Mon-Sat 10am-6pm • Sun 12pm-4pm
www.westchesterchocolates.com
**Obituaries**

**Thomas McKeon**

Thomas W. McKeon, Sr., a resident of Verplanck, died November 8 at his vacation home in Sherburne, NY. He was 63.

He was born July 15, 1952 in Peekskill, to William and Faye Didcott McKeon and was a graduate of Hendrick Hudson High School in Montrose. On November 10, 1977, he married Margaret Alexander in Fishkill. He was a heavy equipment operator for the Town of Cortlandt for 36 years until retiring in 2011. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved spending time at his vacation home upstate hunting and fishing, and he was an adoring grandfather who loved to spend time with his grandchildren. He was a member of the Verplanck (NY) Fire Department for 40 years.

**Mary Jane Reagan**

Mary Jane T. Reagan, a lifetime Peekskill resident, died November 9. She was 83.

Mrs. Reagan was born in Peekskill on August 25, 1932 to John and Mary DeLuca Pacio. She was a graduate of Peekskill High School. She married Cornelius Reagan of Fishkill. She was a graduate of Peekskill City School District as a teacher’s aide. Mrs. Reagan volunteered at Hudson Valley Hospital and George Washington Elementary School.

She is survived by her husband, Margaret; her mother, Faye McKeon of FL; two daughters and sons-in-law, Joy and Brian Snyder, Samantha and Craig Skelly, all of Verplanck; two sons, Thomas “Tommy” McKeon, Jr. of Earlville and Adam McKeon of Verplanck; a sister and brother-in-law, Lucinda and Richard Malby of FL; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Timothy and Kathy McKeon of Eugene, OR; Terrance and Eileen McKeon of Verplanck; his beloved grandchildren, William McKeon, Abby and Ryan Snyder; Everett and Emme Skelly; several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project www.woundedwarriorproject.org or Friends of Karen www.friendsofkaren.org.

**Dexter Jones**

Dexter P. Jones, a resident of Ossining, died November 6. He was 85.

He was born August 31, 1930 in Tarrrytown to Earl and Mary (Millow) Jones. He began his career with the Scarsdale Police Department in 1954. He joined the Tarrytown Police Department in 1958 and served the community until his retirement in 1983. He was predeceased by his parents and two brothers Earl and Garrett Jones.

He is survived by his wife Anne (Herlihy); son Timothy Jones, daughters Kathleen Jones, Eileen Jones-Mireles (Ernesto), Geraldine Jones-Tomasulo (Paul); and grandchildren Lydia and Devin Mireles, Kaelyn and Paul Andrew Tomasulo.

**Dexter Jones**

Robert J. Branson, a resident of Somers died November 2 at Somers Manor Nursing Home. He was 85.

He was born May 4, 1930 in Davenport High School and graduated from Depauw University.

Mr. Branson was a corporal in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was employed by Readers Digest in Pleasantville as an Associate Director for the International Marketing Administration.

He is survived by his cousins: Lynn Bish of Weirton, WV and Jack Risher of Toledo, OH., the Lage family and all of his good friends from the Heritage Hills Travel Club.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project www.woundedwarriorproject.org or Friends of Karen www.friendsofkaren.org.

**Police Blotter**

**Yorktown Police**

November 5

12:11 p.m. – Marc McDermott, 57, of Old Yorktown Road reporting a domestic dispute in progress. An investigation revealed McDermott allegedly broke a phone and harassed the female in violation of a temporary order of protection.

November 12

6:45 p.m. – Frank Guida, Jr., 53, of 1911 Commerce Street • Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

**RF Joyce, CPA**

Certified Public Accountant

Financial Planner

Personal Taxes • Business Taxes

Estates • Trusts • Bookkeeping

Serving Individuals & Businesses

914-960-9285

robert.joyce@rfjoycecpa.com

1911 Commerce Street • Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS • 914-864-0878
Prizes Announced for the Annual Turkey Bowl Flag Football Fundraiser

The annual Turkey Bowl Flag Football fundraiser keeps getting better. Winning teams in all divisions will receive big prizes as well as championship pinnies. Yorkville Sports Association is also reducing team prices to help make the fundraiser a huge success.

“We are pleased to be offering additional prizes and team pricing to reduce the cost to players so they can enjoy the Turkey Bowl and we can support our local food pantries,” said Yorkville Sports Association president, Al Morales.

The 2015 Turkey Bowl will benefit local food pantries including Yorktown Community Help (YCH), a Yorktown-based nonprofit that was founded in the 1960s. Its purpose is to provide food to individuals and families in need. YCH is 100% volunteer run and will be accepting donations and non-perishable foods at the event. Winners will walk away with fabulous prizes. First place in the men’s and coed divisions will receive $500 cash and championship pinnies. The winner of the family division will receive championship pinnies and gift certificates to local eateries. The tournament MVP will receive a football. Additional prizes will be go to Team MVPs, Outstanding Athletic Recognition Award, Most Sportsmanship Award and the Muddiest Player Award. The event will also include a 50/50 Football Toss Accuracy Challenge! The tournament will be held at Navajo Fields at the Yorktown Sports Complex, which is generously donating their fields. You must be at least 18 years old to participate in the competitive divisions. All ages are welcome in the family division. Every player will receive a free commemorative t-shirt. The cost to participate is $35/player or $250/team in the men’s and coed divisions. Participation in the family division is $200/team. The cost for students is $20/player with a valid student id.

Team check-in starts at 11 a.m. on November 28 and the first game begins at noon. Activities will run from noon to 3 p.m. Please stop by and support this great cause! To register a team or for more information, visit ysaleagues.com/turkeybowl, call (914) 962-8390 ext. 14, or email marketing@ysaleagues.com.

Officials
Call for Last Minute Halt of Tree-Cutting for Pipeline

Continued from page 7 concerns that need to be studied.

In September, Borgia and several other county leaders announced legislation urging the state Department of Environmental Conservation to freeze the issuance of any new air and water quality permits for natural gas infrastructure project applications. The resolution also calls on the state Department of Health to perform a thorough assessment of the public health and safety risks of pipelines.

“We need to slow down this process and really look at the long-term impact and we need to do it right now before trees start coming down,” Borgia said.

Follow us on Twitter

Join us for an interactive evening to discuss...

“What You Learned About Your Family Over Thanksgiving”

Traditionally, Thanksgiving is the one holiday when the entire family is all together in one place and time. The holidays present a great opportunity for families to discuss sensitive topics which are often set aside for “some other time.”

Join us for an interactive evening to mingle and ask questions of our attorneys and other professionals who focus on elder law, estate planning, Medicaid planning, asset protection planning and long-term care planning.

Tuesday, December 1, 2015 (Yorktown Office)
5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Wednesday, December 2, 2015 (Rye Office)
5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Light fare and refreshments being served.

Kindly reply by November 30th.
Melanie Harrison: mharrison@mfd-law.com or 914.925.1010

www.plantodayfortomorrow.com

Visit us on Twitter
OPEN 7 DAYS • 3436 Lexington Avenue, Mohegan Lake, NY 10547
info@augiesprimecut.com • (914) 743-1357 • augiesprimecut.com

BLACK FRIDAY MADNESS!
50% OFF $50 & $100 GIFT CARDS
Nov. 20th- Black Friday (Nov. 27th)
11am-6pm every day (except Nov. 26th)

While supplies last $50 & $100 gift cards available in restaurant only.
Not to be combined with other gift cards or promotions.
One gift card per table.

TODAY’S STEAKHOUSE
Augie’s PRIME CUT
RESTAURANT & BAR

Black Friday Madness!
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TODAY’S STEAKHOUSE
Augie’s PRIME CUT
RESTAURANT & BAR

Paramount Hudson Valley Theater: 1008 Brown St. Peekskill NY, 10566 914-739-0039 x2

Thursday, Dec 3rd @ 7 pm
Featuring Westchester Youth All Star Chorus
-Jazz Legend-
David Benoit’s Christmas Tribute to Charlie Brown With Jane Monheit

Friday, Dec 4th @ 7:30 pm
WESTCHESTER ALL STARS CHRISTMAS FOR WOUNDED VETERANS
4th Annual concert to raise funds and awareness for our true American Heroes.
Hosted by actor/comedian Tony Darrow

Saturday, Dec 5th @ 8 pm
Ted Vigil’s John Denver Holiday Tribute With Special Guest Jessica Lynn!

Sunday, Dec 6th @ 3 pm
A Holiday Show by the Daisy Jopling Band Featuring Local Children’s Choir’s

-SHOWS THE WHOLE FAMILY WILL LOVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON-

CHRISTMAS WITH THE CELTS
Thursday, Dec 10th @ 7 pm
Fiddles, Pipes, Step dancers and more!

VISIT PARAMOUNTHUDSONVALLEY.COM FOR COMPLETE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

partner up to help families in need
BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER
at the
Landmark DINER
265 S Highland Ave, Ossining, NY 10562
November 24th • 6am - 10pm
20% of all purchases will go towards an Ossining family in need.

Turkeys for Thanksgiving
Please help the OHS Interact Club collect turkeys for families in need.
We would like to collect enough turkeys so every family would have one for Thanksgiving.
If you would like to donate a turkey, please bring it to the Landmark Diner on Tuesday, November 24th from 7am to 10pm.
Steps. Some people seek to avoid them in their housing choices, preferring one-level living, while others insist on having sleeping quarters on a second level. The reasons for either preference can be quite different.

When I was five or six years old, I had a recurring dream of tumbling down an endless flight of steps, but they were of a rubbery consistency and I just bounced like a ball the entire way. Maybe my subconscious had absorbed the story my mother had told me about how as a toddler I miraculously survived a fall down the steps to a concrete basement floor.

The experience never dampened my enthusiasm for a beautiful staircase, however, from the time I discovered that I could enjoy a bumpy ride down the bare wooden steps on my romp from our second floor.

When we moved from a two-story row home in Philadelphia to a ranch-style home in the south, I remember, even as an eight-year-old, it seemed strange that there were no steps to climb. From my bedroom on the same floor where I ate. From my trundle bed, there were no steps to climb. When it came time to climb to my weary sleeping quarters on a second level, The experience never dampened my enthusiasm for a beautiful staircase, however, from the time I discovered that I could enjoy a bumpy ride down the bare wooden steps on my romp from our second floor.

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Crossword

Across
1 Motel booking
5 Show piece?
8 Feel
12 Last word of Gilligan's theme song
13 Vital life force
14 Grimm beast
15 Dart here and there
16 A Great Lake
18 Storage box used by soldiers or JV Mall sportswear shop
20 Tai language
21 Gym-wear
25 Quickly, in music
29 Unbroken
30 "Back to the Future" actress ___ Thompson
31 Day before
33 Lennon's Lady
34 Rubberneck
36 Opposed to
39 Stocks and such
42 Elect
43 Tried out, perhaps
48 Huge city in China
51 Macabre
52 The best
53 Belonging to something
54 Thin
55 Blue-green
56 Loud thud
57 Let loose

Down
1 Repeated melodic phrase
2 Where Ibsen worked
3 Grab bag
4 Heart
5 Art & Craft retailer in Mohegan Lake
6 Snappy
7 Watch noises
8 Party
9 Grade A item
10 Time frame
11 1997 Will Smith film "___ in Black"
12 Last word of Gilligan's theme song
13 Vital life force
14 Grimm beast
15 Dart here and there
16 A Great Lake
18 Storage box used by soldiers or JV Mall sportswear shop
20 Tai language
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53 Belonging to something
54 Thin
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57 Let loose

Solution on page 24
Tuesday, Nov. 17

Farmers’ Market: The Putnam Valley Grange Farmers’ Market is held every Tuesday from 3 to 7 p.m. at the corner of Mill Street and Peekskill Hollow Road (Adams Corners).

Checkmate: A chess program is held every Tuesday at 4 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave. It is held in the second floor conference room. Info: 914-246-2416 Ext. 10.

Healthy Happy Hour: Healthy Happy Hours are held on Tuesday nights in Mahopac and another location may be added. Take a 10-day vacation from processed foods. Are sugary, fatty, easy-to-prepare, addictive junk foods making you feel sick and tired? Then reset your metabolism and break your addictions to unhealthy foods. For more information contact Diane at 914-843-8745.

Wednesday, Nov. 18

Seniors’ Fitness Classes: Free fitness classes are being offered to seniors who reside in Peekskill. The schedule is: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – The WorkOut – 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday – Fall Prevention Class – 10 to 11 a.m. Friday – Zumba Gold – 11 a.m. to noon. Call Terri Dean at 914-734-4250 Ext.1 for more information. Classes are conducted at 4 Nelson Ave., downstairs from the library.

Torah Studies Class: Chadad of Yorktown, 2629 Old Yorktown Rd., is proud to announce season one of the Torah Studies course that runs through Dec. 20. The program brings you a series of stimulating text and discussion based classes that take place on a weekly basis. Our lessons will engage you in a multidimensional way by challenging you intellectually, spiritually and emotionally. They explore contemporary issues through a Torah perspective as well as tackling timeless questions in the Jewish tradition.

The classes are open to all, whatever your level of learning may be. The fee for the full season (11 classes): is $36, and includes the textbook. Each class is independent. For more information, to view the topics of the classes, or to register visit: www.ChabadYorktown.com, call 914-962-1111, or email info@ChabadYorktown.com.

Field Library Exhibit: The Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill, and the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art are presenting Sabrina Occhipinti: Doorways at the library through Dec. 31. Info: 914-737-1212, peekskill.org or visit the library’s Facebook page.

Fitness Program: The POUNDTM Fitness Program, a 45-minute full-body cardio and stress relief jam session, fusion Pilates, cardio, plyometrics isometric movements and poses, is offered at Theatre and Dance Arts 131 Bedford Rd. Katonah. Drop in or weekly discount rates available. The program is being provided on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturdays at 11:45 a.m. Call Peggy for more information at 914 960-4097.

Bingo Wednesdays: Come to First Hebrew for $2,000 in total guaranteed bingo prizes, plus an average of $1,000 awarded in specialty games. Doors open 5 p.m. and games begin 7:15 p.m. every Wednesday (except holidays – check First Hebrew’s website calendar). First Hebrew is just west of the Beach Shopping Center at 1821 Main St., Peekskill. Info: 914-739-0500 of www.firsthebrew.org.

Thursday, Nov. 19

Taste Of Talmud: Every Thursday morning from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd., Wendy Segal conducts a class: titled “A Taste of Talmud” She discusses “How Jewish Thinking by our Sages Inform Our Lives Today.” Come join our lively weekly class (in its sixth year) which discusses contemporary ethical issues in light of the wisdom of the Talmud and our sages. No prior Jewish learning or Hebrew reading is necessary. Everyone is welcome. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

IBM Retirees Club: The Tri-State IBM Retirees Club will hold its November meeting at 1:30 p.m. in the church hall of the United Methodist Church, 1176 E. Main St, Shrub Oak. There will be no speaker at this meeting, which is being held the Thursday before Thanksgiving due to the holiday. Members are asked to participate in open discussion regarding medical plans. Reservations will be taken for the Dec 3 Holiday lunch and 2016 dues will be accepted. Sign in and refreshment service will start at 1 p.m. Info: 914-528-9516.

Love: “Love,” an exhibit about varying aspects of love in the 20th and 21st Centuries in paint, installation, video, and sculpture, is being held through Dec. 6 at the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, 1701 Main St., Peekskill. Artists include Alzamora, Barney, Bercea, Brenner, Brickley, Edmier, Feuerman, Gutheil, Hacker, Indiana, LeDray, Majic, Mapletonbeer, Neshat, Newsom, Otterson, Ozholt, Pretzer, Ritterpusch, Ruckhabecker, Sadler, Tomasula, and Wathen. Info: 914-788-0100 or www hvcca.org. HVCCA is also on Facebook.

Travel Italy: Eurobella Italian Travel will be presenting information about how to travel to Italy from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Katonah Library 26 Bedford Rd. This presentation is sponsored by Westchester Women’s Commerce connection. The cost is $10 per person. Space is limited and registration is required. Reserve your seat at www.westchesterwcc.com.

Yorktown Historical Society: The Yorktown Historical Society will present “Native American Sites & Stories at Croton Point” by archaeologist Tim Lloyd at the Yorktown Community Center, 1974 Commerce St., on the ground floor in the nutrition room. The free program is open to the public. Info: Charles Radke, Yorktown Historical Society, c. radke@ computer.org. The Society’s web site is www.yorktownhistory.org.

Friday, Nov. 20

Job Hunting Help: Free drop-in, hands-on assistance with online applications, resume writing, e-mail accounts and more is held on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the second floor conference room at the Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave. Assistance is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. This is not a computer class. Info: Cheryl at 941-2461 Ext. 315.

Free Play Dates: A free play date program is being held every Friday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Rosenthal ICC Early Childhood Center at the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. The program is intended for children between the ages of 16 and 36 months and their parents or caregivers. Children can play, do art and socialize all under the direction of an experienced early childhood teacher. Pre-registration is suggested. Contact Jennifer at 914-962-8430 or e-mail her at Jennifer@rosenthaljcc.org.

Card Party: The Fr. John LaFarge Columbiettes will hold a card party at 7 p.m. at the St. Patrick’s Parish Center. The $5 admission charge includes coffee and dessert. Info: 914-739-8537.

Mission To Survive: A free screening of “Mission to Survive” a powerful and beautiful film bringing together thinkers, scientists and spirituality leaders of today to ask, “How can we respond to the challenge of climate change?” will be presented from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Hudson Valley, 201 Albany Post Rd., (just off the Monterey exit of Rt. 9), in Croton. Discussion with snacks will follow the film.

Jewish Center Services: At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Friday night Sabbath services in the spring will begin at 8 p.m. and Sabbath services on Saturdays will be held at 9:15 a.m. On most Saturdays, after the services Rabbi Sternstein conducts a learning session based on the Torah portion of the week. Light refreshments are served and everyone is invited to join us as we share in the warmth, knowledge and friendship within our congregation. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Temple Beth Am Services: Every Friday evening at 8 p.m. Temple Beth Am, 203 Church Pl., Yorktown, “opens its doors to all who enter” for Shabbat. Our modern Sabbath service has a spiritual and engaging feel while following traditional modes. For information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbibw@optonline.net.

Flea Hects Meet-Ups: Meet-Ups, where like-minded people get together to do what it is they have in common like sailing or wine tasting, will now include a Shabbat Meet-Up where people who can connect to the Jewish community in northern Westchester and nearby Putnam. The program is being held on the third Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at First Hebrew, just west of the Beach Shopping Center at 1821 Main St., on the border of Peekskill and Cortlandt. The Shabbat Meet-Ups, featuring a wine and cheese reception, are held before Friday night services. As an inclusive congregation, everyone is welcome at First Hebrew regardless of whether you are affiliated with a synagogue or not, from an interfaith family or simply interested in Judaism. Visit www.firsthebrew.org, e-mail thc@firsthebrew.org, or call 914-739-0500 for more information.

Saturday, Nov. 21

Home Care & Hospice: A fund-raiser for Home Care & Hospice will be held at 9 a.m. at the Society Hill 2 Clubhouse, 2 Campus Rd., Peekskill. The donation is $15 for each swim and aerobic class. Home Care & Hospice will receive 75 percent of the proceeds. Info: 914-737-4909.

Yoga Program: Support Connection, which provides free programs and services for people affected by breast and ovarian cancer, announces a free program: “Yoga-A Path toward Wellness.” It is offered every Saturday from noon to 1:30 p.m., at Club Fit, 600 Bank Rd., Jefferson Valley. The program is open to women with breast, ovarian and gynecological cancer. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-332-4290.

Ossining Farmers Market: Down to Earth Markets is holding the Ossining Farmers Market outside at the corner of Spring and Main Streets. The market runs every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit DowntoEarthMarkets.com for vendor details, events, and other updates at Ossining’s Down to Earth Farmers Market.

Oveaters Anonymous: Worried about the way you eat? If food rules your life, Overeaters Anonymous—mous have the answer for you. There is no weigh-ins, dues or fees. The group meets on Saturdays...
HVCCA Exhibit: The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, 1701 Main St. Peekskill, is presenting Hermann Nitsch’s one-person installation, “Leviticus” through Dec. 6. The installation features Nitsch’s “Leviticus,” his seminal book (52” x 38”) opened to the segment describing the sacrificial services of the High Priest. The surrounding walls feature 12 terragraph prints and accompanying extracts from Leviticus in both Hebrew and German. Info: 914-788-0100 or www.hvcca.org. HVCCA is also on Facebook.

Peter Pan: “Peter Pan,” one of the most crowd-pleasing shows presented by the Yorktown Stage, will be performed at 7:30 p.m. at the theater, 1974 Commerce St., Tickets are $28 for adults; $21 for students (12-22) and seniors (63 and up); and $19 for children under 12. Group discounts are available. The show will also be performed on Nov. 22, 27 and 29 at 2 p.m. and on Nov. 28 at 7:30 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-962-0606 or www.yorktownstage.org.

Sunday, Nov. 22

Craft Fair: A Craft Fair will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Come and do your holiday shopping. You can choose from many handmade, creative, original items. Vendors are welcome. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Healing Yoga: Yoga classes for women with breast cancer are held at 5 p.m. on Sundays at Hudson Yoga, 5 Old Post Rd. South, Croton-on-Hudson. Weekly classes are being conducted by rotating instructors. The suggestion is $15. Info: Ellisha Simpson at 914-319-4010 or send an e-mail to info@laughingheartsyoga.com.

Library Art Exhibit: Gina Bodelsen and Kjersti Lovece will do a joint art exhibit at the Somers Library during the month of November. Bodelsen will exhibit works in oils and acrylics, showcasing still life, floral, and landscaping scenes. Lovece will exhibit landscapes in colored pencil. Call the library for viewing times in the Program Room at 914-232-5717.

Thanksgiving Interfaith Service: A Thanksgiving Interfaith Service will be held at 6 p.m. at Temple Beth Am at 203 Church Pl. Yorktown. The entire Yorktown faith community will come together to celebrate the value of thankfulness. Through Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and Buddhist prayers, we will gather to show our appreciation for all we have and all the blessings around us. Pastor Tami Seidel of the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown will deliver the sermon.

Financial donations will be collected for the local food pantries. All are welcome. For more information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbiw@optonline.net.

Monday, Nov. 23

Peekskill Swimming Lessons: A new season of swimming lessons for children and adults, as well as private lessons, are being provided at the Society Hill 2 Recreation Center, 2 Campus Drive, Peekskill. The lessons are led by an American Red Cross instructor in a heated pool. Call Terri at 914-737-4909 for more information.

Musical Munchkins: The Yorktown Musical Munchkins meet on Mondays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. at the Yorktown Stage Theater in room 12. The program is for older babies up to the 1’s. Free trial classes are offered. Info: 914-771-7000 or www.musicalmunchkins.com.

Pirkei Class: Every Monday, at 11 a.m. at the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd., Rabbi Urbas conducts a Pirkei class which discusses Jewish ethics. Everyone is welcome. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Free Jazz Sessions: Free Jazz Jam Sessions are being held every Monday at The Winery at St. George, 1715 E. Main St., Mohegan Lake. Info: 914-455-4272.

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The Northern Westchester Examiner 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 Neal Rentz at nrentz@theexaminernews.com.com.
Lakeland Wins 7th – Straight NYS Title; Bozek MVP

by Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

In what has become one of the most awe-inspiring winning streaks in New York State history, Coach Sharon Sarsen’s Lakeland High field hockey team captured its seventh-straight NYSPHSAA Class B championship last Sunday after knocking off Section 11 champion Garden City, 4-1, at Maine-Endwell High School. The undefeated Hornets (22-0) ran their unfathomable winning streak to 74 games overall and 149 against NYS foes, its last loss coming in the 2008 Section 1 championship to Putnam Valley.

Lakeland All-American Dana Bozek scored two goals, giving her 103 for her career, and the Hornets completed their third perfect season in a row. All-Section senior Briana Muniz and junior Meagan Fahey each added a goal for the Hornets. Hornet G Madison Beames had five saves. This win may have meant more to Sarsen than the last 149.

“Yeah, this group of seniors have done more with me field hockey wise than any group that preceded them,” said Sarsen. “No group worked harder and dedicated themselves to Lakeland in is unparalleled. If there is one thing I hope the younger players take from them it would be their commitment to me, Lakeland field hockey and the game which these girls showed every day of their high school careers. No one will not be cold turkey for most of them, as I will get to continue to coach them in club hockey and lacrosse. They are the most talented team in New York and beyond.”

Bozek banged the boards three more times in the Hornets’ 7-0 semifinal win over Brighton, who had no answers for a Hornet attack primed by the likes of freshman M Emily Kness, who, flicked home a backhanded assist from senior F Valerie Perkins. Brianna Muniz added a goal and an assist. Junior F Megan Fahey scored on an assist from junior F Cali Cortese.

When all is said and done, the unit becomes a key, record-setting part of NYS sports history, including Cali Cortese, Brianna Muniz, Katie Irish, Dana Bozek (C), Valerie Perkins, Emily Kness, Caroline Cahill, Julia Kim, Kelsey McCrudden, Meghan Fahey, Julianna Cappello, Julia Papanicolaou, Mia Lennon, Julia Wanamaker, Kristina Davies, Julia Cummings, Jessica Ascencio, Gianna Napoli, Sarah Bussell, Nicole Orlowlaski, Cassie Halpin, Gisselle Rentas and Madison Beames.
Hen Hud Falls Hard in Five-Set Thriller

Sailors Win First 2, Lose Last 3 in Class B Region 1 Championship

Hen Hud sophomore Zoe Staats shoots a kill back at Owego in Sailors’ grueling five-set loss in Region 1 title tilt last Saturday.

Hen Hud hitter Gillian Stieglitz slams one down in 5-set regional loss to Owego, who recovered from 0-2 deficit to win last 3 games to advance to NYS Class B Final 4.

Hen Hud’s Alicia Niebrzydowski and Niasia Ramsey go up for block in 5-set Regional championship loss to Owego.

Hen Hud hitter Gillian Stieglitz slams one down in 5-set regional loss to Owego, who recovered from 0-2 deficit to win last 3 games to advance to NYS Class B Final 4.

Hen Hud’s Emily Barthelmes attacks net in regional title loss to Owego.

Sailors celebrate a big point in Regional championship loss to Owego last Saturday at John Jay High.
Panas Clinches NYS Region 1 Crown; Glens Falls Here We Come!

By Ray Gallagher

Walter Panas sophomore Yvette Burcescu (5) is about as sure a thing as Panther Coach Joe Felipe can bank on this 18-1 season, and the All-NYS outside hitter got it done when it counted most in the NYSPHSAA Region 1 championship, leading the Panthers past Section 4 champion Horseheads last Saturday in a close four-game match (25-14, 25-27, 25-23, 25-17) at John Jay Cross River High School. Burcescu broke the school’s single season kill record (723) and career kill record (1,463) while Panther Lauren Feeley also snapped the school’s single season record for aces (86) as the Panthers advanced to the Class A state championships at the Glens Falls Civic Center, where they will participate in a four-team pool-play semifinal round Saturday, Nov. 21, at 8 a.m. The unit of Julianna Bottarini, Julia Fields, Taylor Kammerman, Yvette Burcescu, Lauren Feeley, Bridget Walsh, Francesca Giannetta, Jen Braun, Shauna O’Flaherty, Julene Pineda, Demitria Spanos, Melissa Lussier and Sabrina Patricello will take aim at school history, vying for the program’s first state title in their second visit to the Falls and the NYS Final 4 in the last four years.
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