Peekskill, Yorktown to Celebrate New Year with Ball Drops

By Rick Pezzullo

Tired of spending the final hours of each year watching Ryan Seacrest and Jenny McCarthy on the boob tube?

Not interested in being sandwiched between intoxicated strangers for hours in Times Square and then stumbling around to get back home safely amidst endless crowds?

The City of Peekskill and Town of Yorktown are offering alternatives for residents to ring in the new year closer to home.

The Peekskill 75th Anniversary Committee will be hosting the Second Annual Peekskill New Year’s Eve Ball Drop at the junction of South Division Street and Central Avenue. Kacey Morabito of WHUD will host the evening’s festivities, which will air live on the city’s local television station.

A free shuttle bus will start transporting visitors from Peekskill’s train station at 8 p.m. and a DJ will open up the evening of entertainment at 9 p.m. Hey Baby Band will take the stage at 10 p.m. and Grean will kick off the countdown activities at 11:30. At midnight the ball will drop to usher in 2016 with a spectacular fireworks display in the backdrop. Hey Baby Band will continue performing until 1 a.m. and the shuttle bus to the train station will end at 2 a.m. Peekskill’s ea-

continued on page 2

Peekskill Police Nab Suspect in Murder of 22-Year-Old Male

By Rick Pezzullo

A 24-year-old Peekskill man has been charged with the December 20 murder of a 22-year-old city man on the 1400 block of Park Street in Peekskill.

Janeil Myke was charged with murder in the second degree on December 22 after Police Chief Eric Johansen said he admitted to detectives he fatally shot Stephen Agosto at approximately 10:25 p.m. two days earlier. It was the first homicide in Peekskill since 2012.

During a press conference, Johansen would not reveal the motive for the shooting but said Myke acted alone.

“This was not a random crime,” Johansen said. “Homicides are a rarity. We’re a tight knit community. Disputes are not usually settled in this manner.”

Agosto was found mortally wounded lying on a sidewalk and was later pronounced dead at New York Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital. Detectives pieced together the final hours of Agosto’s life through numerous interviews and the execution of multiple search warrants.

Myke, who Johansen said has a criminal record, was developed as a suspect and detectives put his residence on Rolling Way in Peekskill under surveillance. At about 4:30 p.m. on December 22 Myke was spotted leaving his home on foot and was taken into custody after a brief pursuit.

Peekskill Police were assisted in their investigation by the FBI violent crime task force, the United States Attorney’s

continued on page 2

Dance Academy Raises $$ for Cancer Research

More than two dozen Westchester children, including two battling cancer, presented a giant check for children’s cancer research before a brief holiday dance performance on Sunday, December 20 outside Sears at the Jefferson Valley Mall.

The youngsters were performers from the Penny Lane Dance Academy of Somers and Chappaqua, which presented $4,123 to Alex’s Lemonade Stand, a preeminent children’s cancer research and support foundation. The Penny Lane dancers chose to give the money they raised by selling tickets to their annual holiday show in Yorktown after learning two members of the Penny Lane Dance Academy family were battling cancer.

Janeil Myke

continued on page 2
Peekskill, Yorktown to Celebrate New Year with Ball Drops

terries on Restaurant Row will all be open throughout the night.
Meanwhile, the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Town of Yorktown, will be holding the town’s inaugural New Year’s Eve Ball Drop at the intersection of Veterans Road and Commerce Street in downtown Yorktown.
Yorktown’s celebration will begin at 11 p.m. with a DJ spinning tunes. A countdown announcing the balls’ descent as 2015 comes to a close will be accompanied by a pyrotechnic display at midnight.
Town officials who were victorious in the November election will be sworn-in on the main stage after the hoopla dies down. Taking their oaths of office will be Supervisor Michael Grace, councilmen Tom Diana and Ed Lachterman, Town Justice Gary Raniolo and Town Clerk Diana Quast.

Peekskill Police Nab Suspect in Murder of 22-Year-Old Male

continued from page 1
Office, New York State Police, Westchester County Police, Westchester County Intelligence Center, New York City Police Department, New York State Crime Stoppers and the Teaneck, New Jersey Police Department.
“Our partners in law enforcement were able to provide us with the additional resources needed to bring this case to a quick and successful closure,” Johansen said. “This case is a classic example of the type of good police work that results from cooperation between multiple agencies and departments.”
Peekskill Mayor Frank Catalina praised the work of the Peekskill Police in solving the murder quickly and emphasized the crime rate in Peekskill has dropped dramatically in recent years. “It’s been a historically low period of violent crime,” Catalina said. “I can’t say enough about Chief Johansen and the department he’s running. When we really need them our officers are there.”

Peekskill, Yorktown to Celebrate New Year with Ball Drops

continued from page 1
Yorktown Small Business Association founder Bob Giordano (second from right), along with United Taxpayers of Yorktown President Ed Ciffone (left) and Peekskill community activist and cable show host George Ondek, congratulated Ray Hamed during a ribbon cutting ceremony recently for his new business Auto Images, located on Route 202 in Crompond. Auto Images specializes in automobile detailing and electronics. For more information, call 743-1447 or visit www.autoimagesny.com.

Ask the Doctor

M arshall D. Peris, MD, FAAOS
Co-Director, Spine Surgery
Orthopedic & Spine Institute
Northern Westchester Hospital
nwhothaneadspine.org/DrPeris

Q: My back is killing me – what can I do?
A: You’ll be happy to hear that most people recover from back pain within a few days just by taking it easy, continuing gentle activity, and using over-the-counter pain medicine such as naproxen or ibuprofen to ease their pain. If the pain doesn’t resolve itself within a week or so, your doctor may suggest physical therapy where you can learn stretches and ways of moving that will ease the strain on your back.

Q: What if that doesn’t work?
A: Next steps may include prescription pain medications and possibly steroid injections to reduce swelling in your back. You may also be referred for imaging to determine whether abnormalities in your spine are causing your pain. If your back pain doesn’t get better using these more conservative methods, your doctor may refer you to an orthopedic surgeon to determine if surgery can help. Sometimes abnormalities in the vertebrae or the soft discs that cushion your spine can press on spinal nerves and cause pain or numbness in your legs and make it difficult to walk or stand. In such cases, surgery can help immensely.

Q: Can surgery really solve my problem?
A: It can. Your orthopedic surgeon will explore your options with you, and the two of you can decide on the best approach. The good news is that the surgical solutions for back pain are continuously advancing. One exciting development used at Northern Westchester Hospital is direct lateral fusion, which can address back abnormalities that cause chronic pain.

As “lateral” implies, the surgeon works from the side of the patient. This advanced technique is much less invasive and allows us to achieve amazing results, especially in scoliosis patients. The incision is much smaller and we don’t have to fuse as many vertebrae to get great results. It’s often a simpler, more effective treatment, and patients are usually up and moving after one day (instead of three to four) and typically leave the hospital after three to four days versus six to seven. The vast majority of patients are much happier and back to their normal activities much sooner.

*American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

Watch Dr. Peris discuss Lateral Spine Fusion at www.nwhothaneadspine.org/DrPeris

Did You Know?
80 percent of Americans will experience back problems at some point in their lives.*

BEST REGIONAL HOSPITALS

USNews

NEW YORK, NY

NORTHERN WESTCHESTER HOSPITAL
400 East Main Street - Mount Kisco, NY 10549
914.666.1200 - www.nwhc.net
Putnam Judge Discusses Treatment Court Success in Yorktown

By Rick Pezzullo

The heroin epidemic has been spreading throughout the region in recent years, devastating the lives of adults, teenagers and their families.

Yorktown Against Heroin was created by Councilman Tom Diana, a retired police officer, and others to bring attention to the problem and try to find solutions to combatting it.

Last week, the task force invited Putnam County Justice James Reitz to Yorktown Town Court to discuss the success of the Putnam County Judicial Diversion/Treatment Court that he has overseen for the last nine years as an alternative to prison for non-violent drug and alcohol offenders.

“An alternative to living or dying,” Reitz remarked to about 30 people in attendance, including all five members of the Yorktown Town Board, Yorktown town justices Sal Lagonia and Gary Rainio and Police Chief Daniel McMahon.

“We believe for a lot of people it’s life changing,” Reitz said. “We give everybody a fighting chance. Nothing will work unless you’re willing to change yourself.”

Reitz said his two-year program has successfully complete the program relapse.

“It’s not easy. We hold people accountable,” Reitz explained. “Courts, attorneys, judges, elected officials have the power to hold people accountable like no one else in society. Parents don’t come close. Peers don’t come close. Anybody can take the easy way out and put someone in jail. How about you treat a human being and hold them accountable? This is a daily grind that takes work.”

Reitz estimated about 100 people in Putnam would be dead or in prison without the treatment court. He noted the cost of one person being jailed in Putnam for one year costs society $22,000.

“I will never say no because they need help,” Reitz said. “It’s not for everybody. It doesn’t always work. It’s a team collaborative approach.”

Reitz said most people on his staff are volunteers and the cost for Yorktown to start a similar program would be minimal.

“There isn’t one of life’s problems you can’t solve with kindness, decency, respect and understanding,” he said.
School Officials Urge State to Give District Its Fair Share

The Ossining Board of Education unanimously adopted a resolution at its December 16 meeting asking New York State officials to significantly increase funding for the 2016-17 school year so the district receives its fair share of education aid.

Slight increases in state school aid in the past two years have not made up for drastic funding cuts in previous years. New York froze Foundation Aid, the largest education grant to school districts, and implemented the Gap Elimination Adjustment program, which slashed education funding to help close a state budget deficit.

While New York’s finances have improved, it has not paid back all of the Gap Elimination Adjustment funds that are due to school districts. The state has not increased Foundation Aid to the levels promised by state lawmakers either.

This school year alone, the Ossining School District lost $676,693 due to the Gap Elimination Adjustment program, for a total state aid loss of $10.8 million since 2010.

The state is shortchanging our district’s Foundation Aid dollars by $12.4 million this school year. Ossining schools are receiving 41.6 percent of the Foundation Aid they are due this year.

“As a community, we’ve really been seeking to address what we feel is our right in terms of the amount of foundation aid that we should be receiving,” Superintendent Raymond Sanchez said.

Twenty percent of the school districts in Westchester and Putnam counties are receiving less state school aid than they did in 2008, and another 28 percent have received increases of seven percent or less, according to the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association. The group said school districts in Westchester and Putnam counties have been shortchanged by $430 million in Gap Elimination Adjustment funds in the past six years. The Foundation Aid freeze has cost schools in the two counties $186 million in 2015-16 alone.

Senator David Carlucci (D-Rockland/Westchester) joined Town of Ossining Supervisor Sue Donnelly and Town Foreman Mario Velardo on December 10 to announce a $50,000 state grant that went towards the purchase and installation of new LED lights at the Cedar Lane Park Pavilion.

Following Superstorm Sandy, the Cedar Lane Park Pavilion suffered heavy damage from wind and falling trees that forced the Town to call off concerts and other outdoor events held in previous years. Through funding secured by Senator Carlucci, all residents will be able to continue to enjoy the Pavilion with proper lighting and electricity.

“The damage following Superstorm Sandy forced the Town of Ossining to discontinue outdoor concerts and events Cedar Lane Park has played host to over the years which have brought together the Ossining community. With electricity at the Pavilion up and running, residents will be able to continue this tradition. I will continue to work with my partners in Ossining, including Supervisor Donnelly and Town Foreman Mario Velardo, to ensure Ossining residents will be able to enjoy Cedar Lane Park for years to come,” said Senator David Carlucci.

“The Town of Ossining has lights in the pavilion at Cedar lane Park! Not only lights but energy efficient LED lights! After Superstorm Sandy, we had a tremen-
Area conservation groups praised federal lawmakers who on December 18 voted to make permanent a federal tax incentive supporting land conservation. Farmers, ranchers and the public will directly benefit from the incentive that encourages landowners to place a conservation easement on their land to protect important natural, scenic and historic resources.

Bedford Audubon Society, Mianus River Gorge, North Salem Open Land Foundation, Pound Ridge Land Conservancy, Somers Land Trust, Teatown Lake Reservation, and Westchester Land Trust were among the 1,100 conservation organizations to support the incentive through a collaborative, multi-year campaign.

“The passage of this legislation is an incredible, non-partisan success,” said Lori J. Ensinger, President of the Westchester Land Trust. “It is a testament to how citizens can influence government and how local groups can help shape policy. This vote is proof that our government leaders can and do listen and respond when they see a clear mandate with broad-based support.”

The aforementioned land trusts and conservation organizations are members of the Land Trust Alliance, the national land conservation organization that led the campaign for permanence.

“The importance of this vote – and this incentive – cannot be overstated,” said Rand Wentworth, the Alliance’s president. “This is the single greatest legislative action in decades to support land conservation. It states, unequivocally, that we as a nation treasure our lands and must conserve their many benefits for all future generations.”

In a show of strong bipartisan action, the House voted 318-109 and the Senate voted 65-33 to pass the bills that included the tax incentive.

First enacted as a temporary provision in 2006, the incentive is directly responsible for conserving more than two million acres of America’s natural outdoor heritage. The incentive grants certain tax benefits to landowners who sign a conservation easement. Such private, voluntary agreements with local land trusts permanently limit uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. Lands placed into conservation easements can continue to be farmed, hunted or used for other specified purposes. The lands also remain on county tax rolls, strengthening local economies.

Once signed into law, the incentive will be applied retroactively to Jan. 1, 2015. An earlier version of the incentive expired Dec. 31, 2014.

The incentive advanced through Congress as part of the America Gives More Act, a package of tax incentives to encourage charitable giving. It passed the House earlier this year, 279-137. A standalone version of the incentive, the Conservation Easement Incentive Act, earned 52 Senate sponsors this year, including 26 Democrats, 24 Republicans and 2 Independents. The agreement announced this week additionally encourages donations to food banks and facilitates charitable deductions from IRAs.

New Year’s Day Polar Plunge in Peekskill to Benefit Students

The 4th Annual Polar Plunge, planned by the This Is Me Foundation and sponsored by The Quiet Man Public House, will take place at noon sharp on New Year’s Day at the Riverfront Green in Peekskill where local residents will enter the frigid Hudson River for a good cause.

All proceeds from the plunge will go towards college scholarships for local students who have faced an adversity, or helped a friend through a tough time, as well as national scholarships to students who have alopecia, an auto-immune disease that causes hair loss.

The This Is Me Foundation was founded by Peekskill residents Caitlin and Lauren Brady to raise awareness about alopecia. The This Is Me Scholarship Fund, inspired by Ryan Risco and Cait Chivonne Polhill, has provided 20 scholarships locally and nationally since 2012 and will present eight scholarships in 2016.

The plunge is open to the public to watch and cheer on the participants. Anyone interested in taking the plunge can email the This Is Me Foundation at polarplunge@thisismefoundation.com by December 31. To sponsor a plunger or make a donation, visit http://www.newyears.polarplunge.org.
Obituaries

Frank Mastro

Frank M. Mastro, a longtime Yorktown resident, died December 23. He was 86. He was born on September 21, 1929, in Yonkers. A long-time Yorktown resident and Air Force veteran, he was known and loved by many.

He is survived by his wife, Marie, three sons: Louis (Nancy), Michael (Jody), Frank (Cathy), daughter Rose Centanni, step-daughter Lorraine (John), brother Louis (Serafina), and sister Nancy Tempesta. He is also survived by 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his former spouse, Rose Mastro.

Thomas Dorsey

Thomas (Jim) Dorsey died December 20, at his home in Cortlandt, after an almost five-year battle with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease. He was 74.

Born on June 2, 1941 in Peekskill, he was the son of Ella (Bleakley) and Thomas Dorsey. Jim, as he was known to family, attended the Assumption School, Peekskill High School and Penn State. He was first employed by Fleischmann’s in Peekskill. When Fleischmann’s closed, he went to work for Best Plumbing Supply in Yorktown and Somers, where he was employed until his retirement in 2008. Upon retiring, his friend, Terri Berardi invited him to volunteer at The Community Food Pantry, which he did and enjoyed until his illness stopped any physical activity. In 1988, Jim and Judy, his wife, partner, and traveling companion of 34 years, bought their home in Cortlandt. Mr. Dorsey often told the story of how he applied for his passport after his first date with Judy. Together they would attempt to see the world. He loved driving in the United Kingdom, especially Scotland where he could navigate the challenge of one lane roads and sheep driven traffic jams. He enjoyed taking the Metro, Tubes, and buses and blending in with the native population whenever and wherever he could.

Mr. Dorsey taught himself to converse as well as read German, Italian, French, and even a little Mandarin to better absorb a country’s culture through its people and food, as well as its art and history. Whether with friends, Pat and Wayne Livingston, Elaine Desimone, Terri and Alex Berardi, or on their own, he enjoyed the adventure and knowledge that travel provided him. He often quoted Johnson, as a metaphor for travel “… When a man is tired of London he is tired of life.”

Mr. Dorsey is survived by his wife Judy Gallo, sister-in-law, Catherine Brittis, brothers-in-law, Anthony and Louise Gallo and Ken and Zirka Gallo, eight nieces and nephews and their spouses, 17 great-nieces and nephews, two great-great nephews and a great-great niece, as well as many dear cousins and good friends. Donations in Mr. Dorsey’s memory may be made to the charity of your choice, or to one of the following: ALS Association of Greater New York, Phelps Hospice at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center, or The Community Food Pantry at St Mary’s Mohagan Lake, 1836 East Main Street, Mohagan Lake, NY 10547.

Peter Birrittella

Peter E. Birrittella, a resident of Ossining, died December 23. He was 72.

Born on May 4, 1943 in Tarrytown to James and Violet Birrittella, he co-owned Birrittella Auto Sales for most of his life. He was a very hard worker and a man of integrity. He is survived by his loving wife, Margaret; four children, Tracy Cole (Billy), Michael Marshall, Kelly Riccardi (Mark), and Linda Marshall (Billy); four grandchildren; one great grandson; a brother, Thomas Birrittella; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother James.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1966-68 in Germany. He was a member of Parker Bale American Legion Post 1997 for 47 years. Donations can be made to The American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852.

Gustave John Klockgeter

Gustave John Klockgeter, (AKA Bud) a resident of Ossining, died December 23. He was 100.

He was born in the Bronx on September 25, 1915 and was the son of Gustave and Rosamond (Gereghty) Klockgeter. Mr. Klockgeter was a veteran of the U.S. Army during WWII. He was the proprietor of Meadowbrook Provisions located in the Bronx until his retirement.

He is survived by two daughters, Constance and Susan, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, Anne (Ardovino) Klockgeter.

continued on page 11
This season, give your family and friends the gift of great taste and great fun with a Gift Certificate! During the ENTIRE month of December, for every $100.00 gift certificate you purchase, we will give you a $25.00 gift card!

Smashburger in Cortlandt, which opened three months ago on Route 6.

Smashburger also offers chicken sandwiches, salads and side dishes which include a variety of fries, fried Haystack Onions, fried pickles, and Veggie Frites, which are fried green beans and carrot strips. The restaurant’s hand spun milkshakes feature Haagen-Dazs ice cream. Petry said the restaurant has a liquor license and sells beer. A children’s menu is also available.

Petry said Smashburger is continuing to expand. The corporation is seeking to add two more of its restaurants in Westchester and also some in Connecticut.

Smashburger is located at 3025 E. Main St. (Route 6) in Cortlandt. It is open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information call 914-236-5202 or visit Smashburger.com.
2015 Salutes and Salvos

Salute to Buchanan resident Nancy Vann for standing by her principles and refusing to budge from a tree on her property that Spectra workers were prepared to cut down to make room for an expanded gas pipeline.

Salute to Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino for allowing Spectra to rip through county-owned Blue Mountain Reservation in Cortlandt and tear down hundreds of trees.

Salute to Yorktown Town Clerk Alice Roker for her 25 years of service. It may be goodbye for now, but it’s likely not farewell to her career in politics.

Salute to the Hendrick Hudson School District for publicly displaying the colleges its graduating students are attending on the message board in front of the high school.

Salvo to local school districts that continue to mislead students and parents by claiming they don’t rank students when, in fact, they do. Incidentally, such lists are part of every student’s official transcript and can be obtained for college applications.

Salute to Somers High School freshman Jared Heller for taking an active role in raising awareness about juvenile diabetes.

Salvo to the Cortlandt Parks and Recreation Department for tying up soccer goals at Sprout Brook Park, preventing residents from playing friendly pickup games.

Salute to Cortlandt Councilman Frank Farrell for spearheading the creation of the Cortlandt Rowing Club, which has quickly garnered community interest.

Salute to Yorktown Councilwoman Susan Siegel for her comprehensive recap of town meetings that provide an invaluable service to residents on the inner workings of government.

Salvo to Kohl’s and other department stores that have eliminated giving out boxes with purchases. And then they wonder why more people do their shopping online.

Salute to Peekskill Mayor Frank Catalina for setting up a fund to help families when a fire left them homeless.

Salvo to Giants wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. for acting like a punk and initiating fights throughout the game vs. the Carolina Panthers, setting an awful example for so many youth who admired him for his gifted skills catching the football.

Salute to Cortlandt WATCH for 30 years of advocating responsible development and supporting many environmentally-friendly ordinances.

Salute to the customer service employees at ShopRite in Cortlandt for consistently demonstrating what customer service means.

Salute to The Quiet Man Public House in Peekskill for sponsoring the annual Polar Plunge for the last four years to support the This Is Me Foundation.

Salute to Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel for his tireless support of local scouts and enthusiastically sharing his knowledge of science with students in area districts.

Salvo to the Section 1 football committee for pulling its championship games out of Mahopac without so much as a hint of a Plan B for “Championship Weekend” last November.

Salute to Croton-Harmon hoops Coach Bill Thom on his well-deserved induction into the NYS Basketball Hall of Fame.

Salute to Lakeland field hockey Coach Sharon Sarsen and the Hornets on an unprecedented 7th NYS Class B championship.

Salute to Ossining girls’ basketball Coach Dan Ricci on an unprecedented third-straight NYS Class AA championship.

Salute to Husker gird star Nick Santavicca on becoming the all-time rushing leader at Yorktown.

Salute to Somers basketball Coach Chris DiCintio on getting the Tuskers back to the Section 1 Final 4 for the first time since 1992.

Salvo to any of the local school districts that think an Athletic Director’s position should be a part-time gig.

Salvo to manufacturers who issue coupons requiring the purchase of two or more items.

Salute to all volunteers and veterans for their selfless dedication and sacrifices.

Salute to local businesses who advertise in Examiner Media and make it possible for us to keep delivering the small news that is big news for the municipalities we cover.

The open welcoming to all and non-partisan character of Alice’s service as clerk was so renowned that after her first election the opposing party in town fielded no further candidates against her. She became for the remainder of her time Yorktown’s Clerk by acclamation, a remarkable recognition and honor in itself.

Susan Siegel has been a tireless servant of the interests of all Yorktown residents, both in her term as Councilwoman and in her prior service as Supervisor. Both while in office and while not Mrs. Siegel was and is an astute observer, and in fact a careful student, of the affairs of our town and its local government.

And the prodigious knowledge she so diligently acquired she shared freely. She took seriously her role as teacher of those arcane details of local government.
By George Ondek

In reading your news story in the December 8 edition Peekskill taxpayers were given coal by their local representatives for Christmas.

In the political campaign the Democrats who were running pledged to keep the tax increase under the cap proposed by Governor Cuomo and they voted no on the city manager’s proposed 5.9% tax increase, but the other two Democrats, Drew Claxton and Darren Rigger, decided at the last meeting before the budget was to be passed to vote along with the three Republicans on the Council to exceed the tax cap, and it passed by a 5-2 vote, although the Democrats have a 4-3 majority in Peekskill an could have come in under the cap, giving everyone in Peekskill a Christmas present from Albany (a tax rebate check).

After the vote was taken Mayor Frank Catalina stated because there was no agreement between the Democrats and the Republicans on the Council he was imposing the city manager’s budget with the 5.9% increase. The Democrats then bolted and said there was an agreement between the mayor and the Democrats and he reneged on it and went into emergency session and came back okay.

Before they went into emergency session they returned to then vote for Peekskill to stay under the cap by not paying $4 million up front on a retirement payment to the state instead of the approximately $400,000 a year Peekskill could pay in payments. The city manager Mr. Leins and the mayor seem to think to keep Peekskill fiscally sound this had to be paid up front.

I asked the city manager and mayor when they pay their mortgages or buy new cars do they pay up front? This writer suggested several weeks ago about six different ways the city could get down and below the tax cap and they disregarded them. Also for weeks the mayor and Council did an exercise in futility by interviewing department heads to look for cuts in the budget but not one cut was forthcoming. They are also adding new positions and buying vehicles that department heads can take home with them to other cities, instead of just paying them mileage if they get called in on emergencies.

Isn’t it interesting that people like Town Supervisor Linda Puglisi of Cortlandt, Governor Cuomo and Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino can come in under budgets year after year because they actively work to do so and care about New York State taxpayers, who are the highest taxpayers in the nation?

Some solutions for Peekskill in the future:

1) Hire a professional city manager with an M.B.A. in professional city management. That’s what the citizens of Peekskill deserve if they are paying a package of over $200,000 a year. You would not hire a law clerk to try a legal case. Why would Peekskill hire an interim city manager with a law degree instead of a business degree? We currently have an interim city manager more than six months.

2) In Peekskill we need a charter revision that states the professional city manager, who has the highest paid job in the city, should have an M.B.A. degree in professional city management. An interim city manager should also serve no longer than six months.

Once again the City of Peekskill taxpayers got coal in their stockings from Santa Catalina, the Republicans on the Council, and the Democrats who voted to exceed the cap to 3.5%. Not Merry Christmas, but Bah Humbug!

(In a recent development, Mayor Catalina announced city residents have filed an Article 78 over the meeting held by the Democrats where the mayor walked out because he wanted the 5.9% increase passed. This sounds like legalize to me. Why would any citizens want a budget vote that would increase taxes by more than what was voted on unless it appears someone put them up to it?)
More Living with Less Space, Possible with Convertible Furniture

In the early days of our marriage, my wife and I lived in a small New York City studio apartment, and we had to make the most of what space we had. Some of our neighbors opened up floor space by sleeping on Murphy beds that folded up vertically into the wall. We opted instead to purchase an extra-long convertible sofa, a Lawson style, upholstered in red velvet, and had that as our regular bed. It followed us through many moves, and the daily ritual of folding the sofa up again early in the morning became ingrained in us.

Eventually we settled into our home in the suburbs and acquired a queen-sized bed in its own bedroom. Our old convertible sofa became part of our living room furniture. We imagined that it could still be unfolded for our relatives when they came to visit, but as we already had a separate guest bedroom with its own bed, the sofa was opened up for company only rarely, mainly on Christmas Eve when relatives visiting from a distance stayed over. After many years we finally brought it to the curb and replaced it with a more delicate – but admittedly less adaptable – pink Sheraton-style settee. We felt fortunate to have enough rooms to meet our needs. But now, as we look forward, we see the appeal of having less house to tend to. Eventually we will downsize, yet we will still want to entertain and have family over as before. I decided to investigate convertible furniture to see if it has evolved from my old city days.

There is no doubt that the fold-out sofa is the classic choice for temporary guest bedding, although many of us dread spending a night over that inferno of metal bar that runs across the width of the mattress. Fortunately, a little research at sites such as Apartment Therapy or Consumers Digest can give you advice for choosing the newest comfortable brands. One alternative to the fold-out is a day-bed with a slide-out trundle underneath, turning a sofa into two side-by-side twin beds. Another is the ingenious sofa bunk bed, which unfolds upward, revealing easily-positioned ladder rungs and safety rails.

For the more experimental, many manufacturers offer geometric foam pieces that can be rearranged like building blocks into a sofa, a day bed, or a low table with extra blocks on the floor for seating. I’m not sure how much I would enjoy picking myself up off the floor after sleeping on that foam, but the younger or more limber among us may want to try it.

Once you know where your guests will be sleeping, it’s time to find them a place to sit and eat. The most traditional way to expand your dining table is to buy one that accommodates extra panels in the center, and perhaps unfold a card table for the overflow.

But if your space is too small for a dedicated dining table, there are still alternatives. One of my favorites is the fold-down table, where one edge is joined to the wall with hinges. When open, the legs unfold down for support, and when closed, the legs and eating surface lie flat against the wall. Some models, available online for the DIYer, reveal medicine-cabinet sized storage when the table is folded down. Other versions, such as those made by IvyDesign, turn the underside of the table into a framed work of art once it is folded up.

Even small items of furniture can give you more space when you need it. Not only can sets of end tables nest into each other, but with design ingenuity even chairs and coffee tables can be stored in a similar way.

For the ultimate in space efficiency, one can marvel at the highly-engineered components that make up accordion-style apartments, where sliding and pivoting structures transform one room into three or more. The traditional Murphy bed, for example, not only folds up into the wall, but it might pivot to reveal bookcases and a fold-down table on the other side. What looks like a solid wall might easily slide forward, similar to the mobile shelving in museum archives, to create a new mini-room with bunk beds or other storage that unfold from the newly revealed wall.

While I don’t see myself returning to the days of folding my bed away every morning, I can certainly handle stacking a few coffee tables, matryoshka doll-style apartments, and company leaves. Even this long-time suburban homeowner can adapt to using space in a new way.


By Jerry Eimbinder

At many local restaurants, mixologists have enhanced the dining experience by applying bold imagination and artistry to the ancient art of cocktail making. Blending in of new ingredients has produced “craft cocktail” alternatives to the Old Fashioned, Manhattan, Bloody Mary and the Cosmopolitan. The following directory has been prepared for the adventurous drinker seeking creative or exotic winter/holiday cocktails.

Armonk: Moderne Barn. Rum Toddy. Apple flavored rum, apple cider, cinnamon stick, clove, nutmeg, allspice, star anise, butter ($13).

Dobbs Ferry: Cedar Street Grill. The Big Apple Todd. Served warm with Murphy’s Apple Whiskey and local cider ($12).


Irvington: River City Grille. Winter Caipirinha. Leblon Cachaça, Cedilla Acai liqueur, cranberry, rosemary, lime, simple syrup muddle on the rocks ($13).


Mount Kisco: Pour. Between the Sheets. Parce 8-year-old Columbian rum, Guillon-Painturaud cognac, Gallo Solero and fresh lemon juice ($114).


Scarsdale: Meritage. The Hudson. Hudson Valley wheat whiskey, sweet vermouth, bitters, cherry ($14).

Sleepy Hollow: Bridge View Tavern. BVT Bloody Mary. Crop cucumber vodka, meddled sherry tomatoes, parsley and fresh horseradish with Bloody Mary mix. Served with fresh lemon, olives and crisp celery.


Tarrytown: Equus. Raz & Bubbles. Prosecco and Stoli Raz with muddled raspberries, fresh lemon juice, and Simple Syrup with a twist.


White Plains: Bao. French Martini. Vodka, Chambord liqueur, pineapple juice. ($10)


White Plains: Morton’s. The 36th Vote Manhattan. High West whiskey aged in oak barrels for three months, vermouth, bitters, stirred and served over an ice sphere.

**Crossword**

**ACROSS**
1. Steady date
5. Conn. University or Mahopac religious gift shop, ____
11. Kuwaiti leader
12. Sedative drug
13. Silly
14. Salt Lake City native, for example
15. Former NYC Dept. store of JV gourmet food shop
17. Sweater, cardigan combo
21. Band booking
24. Isuzu model
25. Eye opener
27. Indubitably
28. Intersection of perfect squares and prime numbers
30. Grazing ground
31. Broadcast
36. Water under the bridge
40. Bleep out
41. Supports
42. Noisy insect
43. Pig food
Down
1. Fourposter, e.g.
2. Kiwi walk-alike
3. Ambition
4. Polished
5. Steep in wine
6. Fitting
7. Tom Clancy subj.
8. Fan sound
9. JFK abbr.
10. Cub’s home
16. Ending of some business names (includes a punctuation symbol)
17. Hear
18. Hardship
19. Checks for under 21’s
20. Whopper
21. Exxon offering
22. Miff
26. Woolly S.A ruminants
29. Extreme
31. Communication authorities, for short
32. Garland
34. Where Springsteen was born
35. Doze off
37. Driller’s quest, often
38. Flap
39. Itty-bitty meas.

**Solution on page 12**

**School Officials Urge State to Give District Its Fair Share**

Ossining is one of several school districts in the region that has adopted a version of a resolution proposed by the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association.

The lack of adequate funding is compounded by Ossining’s fast-growing student population, especially since the state uses data from 2008 to determine Foundation Aid. Unlike most school districts, enrollment in Ossining is on the rise, growing by more than 700 students since the 2004-05 school year.

“ Adequate and appropriate State funding to ensure every child has access to a quality public school district is long overdue,” the resolution said. “School districts are relying on elected officials to take action to put students ahead of politics and make public education whole.”

**Ossining Receives Grant for New Lights at Cedar Lane Park**

continued from page 4

Ossining Parks Dept for working with the electricians to make this project happen. Looking forward to seeing many groups use the Pavilion starting next spring and bring life back to that part of the park. Thank you to Senator Carlucci for securing the funding for this project for the Town of Ossining!”

**Letters**

**Thank You Alice and Susan**

continued from page 8

In public meetings and private conversations Councilwoman Siegel was always meticulously prepared. She was persistently in command of the facts of whatever issue was at hand and ever ready to articulate the pros and cons as well as her position regarding it.

The wishie-washie was not for her. Her trademark was clarity. Her constituents knew both her position and the reasoning behind it. In Councilwoman Siegel Yorktown taxpayers had a dedicated and relentless watchdog.

Thank you Alice and Susan. Yorktown is a better-run community for your efforts. And here’s hoping you both will continue your contributions to our community in your new role as a private citizens.

ELLIOIT KROWE
AND RON STOKES,
Co-Chairs
Yorktown Democratic Committee

**Obituaries**

continued from page 8

**Gregory T. Roth**

Gregory Roth, a resident of Ossining, died December 22, in his home. He was 29.

He was an extraordinary young man, very kind and caring to everyone he met. He was an outstanding athlete and especially enjoyed snow-boarding, football, baseball and water sports. He was born on September 23, 1986 and grew-up in Irvington, where he attended the local public schools and was very popular among teachers and students. He graduated with a BA Degree from SUNY Binghamton in 2009 and worked as a paralegal in midtown Manhattan. He will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him.

**Letters**

**Thank You Alice and Susan**

continued from page 8

In public meetings and private conversations Councilwoman Siegel was always meticulously prepared. She was persistently in command of the facts of whatever issue was at hand and ever ready to articulate the pros and cons as well as her position regarding it.

The wishie-washie was not for her. Her trademark was clarity. Her constituents knew both her position and the reasoning behind it. In Councilwoman Siegel Yorktown taxpayers had a dedicated and relentless watchdog.

Thank you Alice and Susan. Yorktown is a better-run community for your efforts. And here’s hoping you both will continue your contributions to our community in your new role as a private citizens.

ELLIOIT KROWE
AND RON STOKES,
Co-Chairs
Yorktown Democratic Committee

**Obituaries**

continued from page 8

**Gregory T. Roth**

Gregory Roth, a resident of Ossining, died December 22, in his home. He was 29.

He was an extraordinary young man, very kind and caring to everyone he met. He was an outstanding athlete and especially enjoyed snow-boarding, football, baseball and water sports. He was born on September 23, 1986 and grew-up in Irvington, where he attended the local public schools and was very popular among teachers and students. He graduated with a BA Degree from SUNY Binghamton in 2009 and worked as a paralegal in midtown Manhattan. He will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him.
Happenings

Tuesday, Dec. 29

Blood drive: The Church of the Holy Spirit will hold its winter blood drive from 3 to 9 p.m. in the Parish Activity Center, 1969 Crompond Rd., Cortlandt. To schedule an appointment, please call 914-737-2316. Walk-ins are also welcome.

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).

Senior Benefits Information: Trained volunteer counselors help older adults and their caregivers find information about government benefits to help them stretch their budgets every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the John C. Hart Memorial Library, 1130 E. Main St., Shrub Oak. Get information on Medicare health and prescription plans, nutrition assistance, the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), tax relief programs, and much more. Info: 914-245-5262 Ext.227 or http://www.westchestlibrar.org/sbic.

Program (HEAP), tax relief programs, and much more. Info: 914-245-5262 Ext.227 or http://www.westchestlibrar.org/sbic.

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: 914-941-2416 Ext. 336.

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.

Somers Library Art Exhibit: Susan Haas will be the featured artist at the Somers Library during the month of December. Susan's work reflects an intuitive insight and intense love of nature. Her photography captures the beauty throughout the northeast and Nova Scotia. The Somers Library Art Gallery is open during normal library hours. Please call the library for additional viewing times in the program room at 914-232-5717.

Wednesday, Dec. 30

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.

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, Dec. 31

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 Informs 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 knowledge or Hebrew reading is necessary. Everyone is welcome. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewishcenter.org.

Job Hunting Help: For 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 class. Info: Cheryl at 914-2416 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.

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.

Saturday, Jan. 2

Ossining Farmers Market: The Ossining Down to Earth Farmers Market is being held outdoors every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Spring and Main Streets. Customers old and new will find delicious produce, pasture-raised meat, poultry, and eggs, breads, baked goods, and much more. For a full list of our markets and vendors, visit DownToEarthMarkets.com.

Tora Study: All are invited to study Torah with our engaging Rabbi Robbie Weiner at 9 a.m. at Temple Beth Am, 203 Church Pl., Yorktown. Bagels and coffee are provided for all wishing to explore how this week’s Torah portion is a mirror into our lives. No previous knowledge is required and all backgrounds are welcome. For information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbibw@optonline.net.

Magic The Gathering: Magic the Gathering Club for middle and high school students meets every Saturday at 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbibw@optonline.net.

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.

Overeaters Anonymous: Worried about the way you eat? If food rules your life, Overeaters Anonymous may have the answer for you. There is no weigh-ins, dues or fees. The group meets on Saturdays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the fourth floor conference at the Graymoor Spiritual Life Center, 1350 Route 9, Garrison. Info: call/text Lisa at 917-716-2488.

Yorktown Elks Present: Christmas Concert Saturday, December 12, 2015 7:30 - 9:00PM Tickets: $10.00 Children 12 & under $5.00 Includes cafe-style seating, snacks during the performance, cookies and punch reception Limited seating; advanced ticket purchase recommended. As always, beverages available from the cash bar to enjoy before, during and after the performance. Contact Jody Cole at jodycole616@gmail.com

Sunday, Jan. 3

Adult Jewish Education: An adult education program is being held at 10:30 a.m. at the Hebrew Congregation of Somers, located at Cypress Lane and Mervin Drive. Info: 914-248-9532.

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

Monday, Jan. 4

Swim Lessons: Society Hill 2 Recreation Center. 2 Campus Drive, Peekskill, is conducting a new session of swim lessons led by an American Red Cross Instructor in heated pool. Eight week sessions include one free swim per week. Call Terri at 914-737-4909 for more information.

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.

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@thenexaminernews.com.com.
The Rising Influence of the Millennial Generation

Much has been written about the Millennial Generation (born between 1982 and 2000): their unique buying patterns, social values, and affinity for all things digital. These attributes have influenced entire segments of the economy, social patterns and political ideologies. This uniqueness extends to preferences for wine (for those of legal drinking age). As their numbers and influence increase (they are over 75 million strong, larger than the Baby Boomer Generation, born between 1946 and 1964), they have garnered the attention of economists plotting future trends, which they deftly track on social media. Their disposable income, as a group, is greater than Millennials; thus, they still hold sway over many advertisers and marketers. In fact, Millennials, as a group, are at a distinct financial disadvantage. They have less wealth and more debt than previous generations did at the same age, due in large part to a shrinking job market, exorbitant student loans and climbing rent prices and home costs.

As Baby Boomers age and “fade away,” the growing influence of succeeding generations has captured the attention of advertisers and the media. In their efforts to prepare for the inevitable, are businesses being shortsighted in estimating the power of today’s Millennials?

Millennials are not a singularly unique demographic, but rather the leading indicator of where we are all headed, both the generations ahead of them and those in their rear-view mirrors.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted numerous wine tastings and lectures. 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

---

The Northern Westchester Examiner

December 29, 2015 - January 4, 2016

EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

AUCTIONS
Income Properties in Newport, VT
Auctions: Thurs., Jan 28 2S-Unit Apt. Building, 27,500/-SF Ind. Building, &
28,000/-SF Ind. Building THAuction.
com *800-634-7653

AUTO DONATIONS
Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes, benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free
towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call 315-400-6797 Today!

Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes, benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free
towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call 914-468-4999 Today!

HELP WANTED
NEW YEAR, NEW AIRLINE CAREERS
Get trained as FAA certified Aviation Technician. Financial aid for qualified
students. Job placement assistance. Overnight classes available. Call AIM 866-296-7093

IN HOME PET SITTING
PLEASANT PAWS INN LLC Our home
will be your home! 24/7 one on one love!
We only take a small group of dogs. For
quality care. Warm, cozy, relaxing no
stress atmosphere. Large yard to play in! We look forward to having them be
part of our family. Boarding: Daycare:

Dog walker available to come to your
home as well. Call Julie 914-906-8414
www.Pleasantpawssinn.com FB

LEGALS
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WHOLESALE GROWTH LLC db/a
Kumon of White Plains. Arts of Org
filed with Scy of State of NY (SSNY) on
agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against LLC to:
476 SHELTON RD TRUMBULL, CT, 06611. Principal business address:
600 N BROADWAY WHITE PLAINS, NY 10603. Purpose: any lawful act.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SORENSEN HC ADVISORS LLC. Articles of
Incorporation filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 7/17/14. Office location:
Westchester County. SSNY is designated
as agent of LLC upon whom process
may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 15 Petersville Road, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: General.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GELIX, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with Sec’y of State
of New York (SSNY) on 7/27/15. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated
as agent of the LLC upon whom process
may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 333 N. Bedford Rd. Ste. 230, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549.
Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THRIVE HR SOLUTIONS, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed
with SSNY on 7/17/15. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated
as agent of the LLC upon whom process
may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: United States Corpora-
tion Agents, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any;

WANT TO BUY
CASH FOR DIABETIC TEST STRIPS Up to
$35/Box Sealed & Unexpired. Payment
Made SAME DAY. Highest Prices Paid!!
Call Juley Today! 800-413-3479 www.
CashForYourTestStrips.com

TOP CASH PAID ON THE SPOT! - WE
BUY Baseball Cards, Autographs, Rec-
ords, Silver Coins, Golf Items, Art, Jew-
elry, Comics Etc., Call Joe Today @ 914-
310-5153

NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363
Ext.3000

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GELIX, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with Sec’y of State
of New York (SSNY) on 7/27/15. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated
as agent of the LLC upon whom process
may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 333 N. Bedford Rd. Ste. 230, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549.
Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Thrive HR Solutions, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY
on 7/27/15. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: United States Corpora-

Notice of formation of M.J. Fish LLC
filed with the Secretary of State of NY
on November 17, 2015. SSNY has been
designated as agent of the LLC upon whom
process against may be served. Office Lo-
cation: Westchester County. SSNY shall
mail process to 302 West Main Street, Suite 155, Avon, CT 06001.

WANTED
MOST CASH PAID FOR paintings, antiques, furniture, silver, sculpture, jewel-
ery, books, cameras, records, instruments, coins, watches, gold, comics, sports
cards, etc. PLEASE CALL AARON AT
914-654-1683

CASH for Coins! Buying Gold & Silver. Also Stamps & Paper Money, Comics, Entire Collections, Estates. Travel to your
home. Call Marc in NY: 1-800-959-3419

WANTED TO BUY
CASH FOR DIABETIC TEST STRIPS Up to
$35/Box Sealed & Unexpired. Payment
Made SAME DAY. Highest Prices Paid!!
Call Juley Today! 800-413-3479 www.
CashForYourTestStrips.com

CASH FOR YOUR TEST STRIPS

To Place a Classified Ad
Call 914-864-0878
or e-mail
classifieds@theexaminernews.com

Miss Classified Ad Deadline
is Thursdays at 5pm
for the next week’s publication

Sawmills from only $4397.00 & SAVE MONEY with your own band-

MISCELLANEOUS
December 29, 2015 - January 4, 2016

SPORTS SECTION

Frank the Tank!

Mahopac Streaks Past Croton in OT

Croton-Harmon F Frank Addeo (32) is confronted by Mahopac's Dom Iacuone (14) and John Jacklett (R) last Tuesday when the visiting Indians outlasted the Tigers for a 67-65 overtime triumph on a night when Croton formally honored longtime Coach Bill Thom (inset) on his induction into the NYS Basketball Hall Fame...
Boys’ Hoops Notebook

Hen Hud, Breeding Hoping to Reach Next Level in ’16

Putnam Valley Storms Woodlands; JFK 2nd in Fla. Tourney

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

HENDRICK HUDSON has had some really decent hoopers over the years (a bunch form the ’80s–’90s), but this Jesse Breeding kid is making a name for himself. Averaging 16 PPG and eight caroms per go, Breeding has been a monster in Hen Hud’s last two wins. The standard double-double in this neck of the woods is typically between 12-14 points and 10-12 rebounds, but over two of the last four games – victories over Brewster and Edgemont – Breeding’s numbers are exceedingly atypical.

The Concordia-bound swingman went for 17 points and 16 rebounds in a 54-45 triumph of Brewster last Tuesday and posted one of the gaudier stat lines of the 2015-16 season when he dropped 23 points and hauled in 15 boards in a 64-44 win over Edgemont earlier in the week. He added another 27 points in a 51-47 loss to Rye, a team that could be standing in the Sailors’ way if they intend to make Final 4 hay this March.

“Jesse has been playing hard and we’ve asked him to be assertive in the rebounding game,” said Sailor skipper Jordan Hirsch, a 2003 Hen Hud Grad. “He is extremely athletic and has played very aggressive, which has really gotten him to produce some nice numbers.”

Those are the kind of numbers that might lead the Sailors (5-3) to their first County Center visit since a 1991 playdate set up by none other than Chris Kelly, Ted Leshinski, Chris Talma, Tim McNulty and Keith Friedman, plus bench sparkplugs Will and Slack Mauro.

Those are some vintage names in the Sailor annals, but if Breeding can carry the 2016 Sailors to the County Center he might be mentioned in the same breath with some of the greatest ballers in Hen Hud history, including but not limited to the legends they still speak of at Fulgum’s Bar: As in guys like Steve Leshinski (circa 1987), a 6’11” center who went on to play D-1 at Bucknell; cats like Nelson Keels, Greg Economou (played at UConn), Chris Flink, Kurt Thomas, JJ “Thrill” Hill and the program’s only two 1,000-point scorers, Bruce Fulgum and Seth Heaton. Ol’ Bruce will still talk your ear off if you pull up a stool and get him started (Happy New Year, pal!)

Breeding will likely tap out around 800 points, but if he gets Hen Hud to County Center for the first time since ‘91 semifinal loss to Peekskill; he’s in conversation with the group above, but those are some serious ballers. We’ll see what Breeding’s Sailors are made of when they come out of the break and the league slate heats up in earnest with battles against Panas, Ossining and Lakeland, but the No.4 playoff seed is likely there for the taking behind state-ranked favorites like Tappan Zee (No.13), Lourdes (No.23) and Byram Hills (HM). Long way to, though…

CLASS B

There was no mention of vengeance last Tuesday night, not so much as an utterance of payback… PUTNAM VALLEY (8-1) simply wanted to continue to take care of business before, during and after its 51-41 triumph of reigning two-time Section 1 Class B champion Woodlands, the same Falcons (0-5) that had ended the Tigers’ season in each of the past two years in the sectional finals and semifinals, respectively.

“We weren’t thinking about the last two years,” said Putnam Valley senior G Kevin Gallagher, a veteran member of the team since 2013. “We don’t dwell on that. It’s a new year, a new team. Our goal is to get back to the County Center and take care of some unfinished business.”

The state-ranked (No.14) Tigers, so long as they remain focused, are looking like a contender to get back to the Westchester County Center – home of the Section 1 Final 4 – for a fourth-straight year, which was unfathomable just five years ago when the cellar-dwelling Tigers were struggling to make ends meet.

Fast forward to what should be a wild 2016, which gets off to a raucous start when Coach Mike McDonnell’s Tigers visit state-ranked (No.3) Briarcliff right out of the holiday break (January 7th, 4:30 p.m.) in one of the more anticipated games of the regular season. Briarcliff, the 2015 Class B runnerups, will surely expect to represent at the Mecca, and Nanuet (4-3), which took Cliffy into OT, Blind

Put Valley F Charlie Pagani has made steady contributions throughout the season for the Tigers.

Kennedy Gaels pose with 2nd place trophy at Fla. tourney.

PV’s Harrison Deegan attacks baseline for two in win over Woodlands.

Croton’s Rory Parker looks to fire shot against Indians Aidan Hynes.
Tigers.

Brook (5-2) and maybe even Ardsley (6-2) and/or Croton (4-3) are also posing as challengers to the Class B Throne Put Valley has never sat upon.

Class B is chock-full-of-interesting this season.

CLASS AA

MAHOPAC saw John Jacklett go off from downtown, nailing five 3's and a career-best 23 points in a 67-65 win over Class B CROTON last Tuesday. Senior G Christian Donahoe added 19 for the Indians (3-4), who will awake from their New Year break with a high noon tip off.

CROTON career-best 23 points in a 67-65 win over Class B.

Valley has never sat upon.

as challengers to the Class B Throne Put Valley has never sat upon.

2) and/or Croton (4-3) are also posing

Brook (5-2) and maybe even Ardsley (6-2) and/or Croton (4-3) are also posing as challengers to the Class B Throne Put Valley has never sat upon.

Class B is chock-full-of-interesting this season.

CLASS AA

MAHOPAC saw John Jacklett go off from downtown, nailing five 3's and a career-best 23 points in a 67-65 win over Class B CROTON last Tuesday. Senior G Christian Donahoe added 19 for the Indians (3-4), who will awake from their New Year break with a high noon tip off on January 2nd.

Kevin Blank and the Brewster Bears have some heavy lifting to do to make some hay in League I-D.

Kevin recently returned from Miami, Florida for the 4th Annual Akerman LLP Holiday Classic at Gulliver Prep where JFK beat Florida Christian, 81-55 behind the high output of Alex Benson (31 points) while de Sousa (14), Henry O’Reilly (11) and Jordan Wright (9) balanced the sheet.

Kennedy recently returned from Miami, Florida for the 4th Annual Akerman LLP Holiday Classic at Gulliver Prep where JFK beat Florida Christian, 81-55 behind the high output of Alex Benson (31 points) while de Sousa (14), Henry O’Reilly (11) and Jordan Wright (9) balanced the sheet.

Making a balanced attack to even its record in a dominant 62-37 defeat of North Salem, doing so behind senior F Matt Haughtney’s game-high 20 points last Tuesday. Ram G Ryan Train went for 16 while Ryan Sullivan (10) provided a third double-digit option. Quinn Willman (8) and Brian Harlin (7) were also contributors for the Rams, who expect to be among the league title contenders all taking aim at Lourdes, the pre-season league favorites.

Both Carmel and Mahopac will participate in the 9th annual Putnam Challenge at Carmel this Saturday, which includes: 10:00 a.m. WEBUTUCK vs. PAWLING; 12:00 p.m. MAHOPAC vs. PEEKSKILL; 2:00 p.m. DOBBS FERRY vs CROTON; 4:00 p.m. NORTH SALEM vs HALDANE; 6:00 p.m. JOHN JAY CROSS RIVER vs MAMARONECK; 8:00 p.m. SPRING VALLEY vs CARMEL.

CARMEL (4-4) used a balanced attack to even its record in a dominant 62-37 defeat of North Salem, doing so behind senior F Matt Haughtney’s game-high 20 points last Tuesday. Ram G Ryan Train went for 16 while Ryan Sullivan (10) provided a third double-digit option. Quinn Willman (8) and Brian Harlin (7) were also contributors for the Rams, who expect to be among the league title contenders all taking aim at Lourdes, the pre-season league favorites.

Both Carmel and Mahopac will participate in the 9th annual Putnam Challenge at Carmel this Saturday, which includes: 10:00 a.m. WEBUTUCK vs. PAWLING; 12:00 p.m. MAHOPAC vs. PEEKSKILL; 2:00 p.m. DOBBS FERRY vs CROTON; 4:00 p.m. NORTH SALEM vs HALDANE; 6:00 p.m. JOHN JAY CROSS RIVER vs MAMARONECK; 8:00 p.m. SPRING VALLEY vs CARMEL.

Neither could 6'10 and 6'7 and 6'6 in its starting line-up. de Sousa (14), Henry O’Reilly (11) and Jordan Wright (9) balanced the sheet.

Kennedy recently returned from Miami, Florida for the 4th Annual Akerman LLP Holiday Classic at Gulliver Prep where JFK beat Florida Christian, 81-55 behind the high output of Alex Benson (31 points) while de Sousa (14), Henry O’Reilly (11) and Jordan Wright (9) balanced the sheet.

One thing is certain in this competitive league: the outcome of this crazy rivalry. Don’t think the 3-point 2nd quarter in a 52-36 loss to Sleepy Hollow at the Slam Dunk friendly went unnoticed, because that was downright yuck. “We played very carelessly and poorly in every aspect of the game. Sleepy is a tough, scrappy, athletic team and we really didn’t do ourselves any favors,” Coach Hirsch admitted.

No.5 BREWSTER – Coach Nelly’s Bears (4-3) had a legit chance to turn this poll on its keister but they did not have a body to match up with Hen Hud’s Breeding, but they remain in the top 5 on account of quality W’s against Put Valley and Mahopac.

HM OSSINING – Coach Casey’s Pride (4-2) still have the curious loss to Greeley but the shakedown against Hen Hud comes on Jan. 9th at Pace University in what will be one of the early daggers in the league title chase. The Pride have length, size and athleticism on their side but I think the Sailors may have the best player (Breeding) on the floor and better discipline in their sets. We shall see, but there’s not much separating these two teams and Panas in a balanced league.
Mahopac graduated two starters and impact players – Alayne Felix and Caroline Horan – from the 2014-15 team so how would the Indians react to their departures?

Six wins in its first nine games has Mahopac ahead of schedule as it prepares for league season when school resumes in January. Add in the addition of four freshmen and one sophomore to the varsity team and it’s easy to understand Mahopac’s delight.

Mahopac closed out December with a 56-46 victory over Fox Lane as junior Amanda Geyer led the way with 14 points.

“We feel that it’s a good start and now we just have to keep going forward, not backward,” Geyer said.

Along with Geyer, classmate Carly Pease and senior Tara Ravoli returned for Mahopac. However, incorporating four freshmen and a sophomore into the team was an adjustment.

“We had a rough start with our scrimmages, but that was understandable because with four freshmen and a sophomore, who were new to the team, we hadn’t all played together so we had to get a feel for each other,” Geyer said.

Along with the five new varsity underclassmen, Geyer said the remainder of the team had to raise their level of play.

“We had to step it up and build it up, together,” Geyer said. “We all worked really hard because we love this sport and we are dedicated.”

Mahopac opened the season with a loss to Peekskill. The Indians rebounded to win the Lakeland tournament, then lost to R.C. Ketcham in overtime of the Panas tournament final. Somers dealt Mahopac a second consecutive loss, but the Indians bounced back with consecutive wins.

“Winning the Lakeland tournament definitely boosted our confidence, especially after a tough game against Peekskill,” Geyer said. “After the two losses in a row, it kind of brought us down, but made us come together.

“It was important for us to beat Kennedy and going into the Fox Lane game we felt better about ourselves.”

Geyer, along with Ravoli and Pease, have been instrumental in their underclassmen’s transition to varsity. Geyer said the trio is constantly encouraging the younger players and making sure they are ok.

Mahopac coach Chuck Scozzafava was especially pleased with his team’s performance against Fox Lane.

“We had a good effort,” Scozzafava said. “Our offense is making progress and our defense is coming along nicely. It was a nice team win with 10 girls scoring.”

OSSINING returned to its second home – the Westchester County Center – for the annual Slam-Dunk Challenge.

The Pride walked away with its third title in four years after beating Grand Street Campus, 75-67, then manhandling Albertus Magnus, 66-52. The final score was not indicative of Ossining’s dominance as the Pride led by 22 after three quarters.

Shadeen Samuels was named most valuable player after scoring 33 and 24 points, respectively. Freshman Aubrey Griffin added 21 points and nine
rebounds against Albertus Magnus. Griffin, who put up 51 points in the team’s last game, against Arlington last Friday, has made the transition from Chicago to Ossining quite swimmingly.

Samuels also finished with six rebounds, five assists and four steals against Albertus Magnus, and the youngsters appear to be handling the "Ossining Way" of doing things under her guidance.

"So far so good, a few bumps along the way but they seem to be getting it," Ricci said of the rookies. "We passed another test today beating reigning Class A champion. Shadeen has been great. There is a lot of pressure on her playing with three freshmen, but she has done a great job so far. I would like her to be more vocal when things get chaotic and she will with time."

Ossining trailed by five points, 38-33, at halftime against Grand Street Campus before outscoring the Brooklyn school by 13 in the second half.

The 6-0 Pride travel to Orlando, Florida for three games in the KSA Classic. Ossining opens with St. Thomas More, of Lafayette, La., Tuesday, before beginning their assault on League I-B foes.

LAKELAND went 0 for 2 on the short week. PUTNAM VALLEY rallied to a 46-42 win over Lakeland, then the Hornets ran into a buzzsaw in Pearl River.

“We were leading through the third quarter then struggled offensively when Colleen (Walsh) had to sit with foul trouble in the third and part of the fourth quarters,” Lakeland coach Miranda Lustig said. “Both Colleen and Jordyn Coitino fouled out in the fourth quarter.”

Coitino led Lakeland with 15 points and Walsh finished with eight points.

Putnam Valley was led by senior C Reena Olsen, who had 16 points and 12 rebounds in the win over the Hornets. F Alyssa Stockinger chipped in with 11 points after going for a triple double against Croton a week earlier. Stockinger added four rebounds and hit two free throws to seal the win over Lakeland, one of the Valley’s biggest since 2007.

Tiger point guard Maria Tomais added 10 points (2 3’s). Lakeland was led by sharp-shooting Coitino, who hit three 3’s.

Putnam Valley (4-4) faces visiting Pleasantville on Jan. 5th. PEERKSKILL saw its All-NYS G Lanay Rodney go off for a career-high 44 points in a 79-77 win over Woodlands, Peekskill improved to 3-1.

Girls basketball coaches who are not contacting Examiner girls’ hoops beat writer Tony Pinciaro at Tfinch23@optonline.com are doing the student athletes in their respective program a serious injustice. If you don't see your team's recaps in this weekly notebook, ask your coach why.
In one of Putnam Valley’s biggest wins in at least eight years, senior center Reena Olsen notched a bountiful double-double, dropping 16 points and snagging 12 rebounds in last Monday’s 46-42 win over visiting Lakeland. The Cornell-bound Olsen added four blocks and made Colleen Walsh (fouled above) and the Hornets pay for every point they got during the Valley’s biggest win in nearly a decade... see Girls Hoops Notebook.