VA Officials Express Commitment to Future of Montrose Campus

By Rick Pezzullo

The future of the FDR VA Hospital remaining in Montrose appears to be on solid footing with nearly $100 million committed for improvements on the 172-acre site over the next five years.

While VA officials who appeared at a veterans forum at Cortlandt Town Hall last week revealed the 65-year-old facility now serves veterans primarily as outpatients, they stressed the planned demolition of five buildings on the west side near the Hudson River was intended to clear space for a park, not high-priced townhouses.

“This property is designated for veterans and there is no plan on changing that,” said John Cliffe, chief of engineering and acting associate director for the V.A. Hudson Valley Healthcare System.

Two years ago, more than 100 veterans and local elected officials held a rally at the entrance to the VA on Route 9A lambasting plans to demolish 25% (five) of the buildings on the grounds, contending it was part of a larger scheme to eliminate services and develop the property.

At that time, Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi charged dismantling the buildings was a “backdoor way” for federal officials to cripple the VA. In 2012, an agreement between the VA and a developer to lease 160 acres expired.

“A proposal from a private company was rejected. We were never intending on putting condominiums,” Cliffe said.

“I think the goal is the same: more space for veterans.”

Cliffe said four of the five buildings being taken down have been vacant for 20 years.

continued on page 12

Busing for Peekskill Elementary Students at Stake in Proposition

By Rick Pezzullo

A transportation proposition to only include busing next year for Peekskill School District students in kindergarten through fifth grade in public and private schools will be decided by voters next Tuesday.

If the controversial proposition fails on May 19, no bus transportation would be available for any students in public or private schools, and elementary schools in the district may be redistricted.

“A lot of deliberations it was not an easy decision,” Superintendent of Schools Larry Licopoli said during a recent joint meeting with the Peekskill Common Council. “The board had to grapple with this and rethink how to best serve our kids.”

District officials had been considering asking voters to approve a proposition that would have provided busing for all students, including in the middle school and high school, who currently have to walk or be driven to school.

“We were deadlocked to the last minute,” Board of Education President Douglas Glickert said. “We care about every student in the district.”

If approved, the $1.765 million referendum would cover busing for 1,123 elementary public school students and 192 private school students who live within 15 miles of the school they attend. Not covered would be private high school students who have received busing from the district for the last 20 years.

John F. Kennedy High School President/Principal Rev. Mark Vailancourt told the Board of Education and Common Council 50 students from Peekskill who currently attend his Catholic school in Somers would likely not be able to continue there without busing.

“I saw this as losing a partnership with the district. The bus is the bedrock of that relationship,” he remarked, noting JFK has students bused from 18 different districts in the region. “We’re just helping to give an option for education for people in your district.”

In March, district officials held a quickly organized informational meeting to inform parents and guardians that current district continued on page 6
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Newcomer Seeks to Win Seat in Peekskill Board of Ed Race

By Rick Pezzullo

A local taxi driver and father of two Peekskill High School students is running against two incumbents for two available seats on the Peekskill Board of Education on May 19.

Ramon Fernandez, president of the Peekskill Youth Soccer Club, is squaring off against Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon and Colin Smith, who are both seeking their second three-year terms.

“I intend to create a sense of pride in all of the Peekskill School District’s students by moving beyond the status quo, reinforcing what is beneficial to the students while identifying their needs and coming up with creative solutions to meet them,” said Fernandez, who has lived in Peekskill since 2006. “I intend to knock on doors, as many as needed, to bring these solutions to the table.”

Aspinall-Kellawon brings to the board more than 24 years of teaching experience, most of which she gathered during her time teaching at the Central Harlem School District in New York City. There, she began her career at an early childhood education school servicing students from Pre-K to Grade 2 as a Title I math teacher, second grade common branch teacher, math coach and teacher trainer.

She stated her goal is to be an advocate for children by helping them receive a sound education. She believes education opens the doors to most opportunities and provides a foundation from which one can grow and self-actualize, while being a primary building block in a prosperous and financially responsible life.

Smith, a lifelong Peekskill resident who graduated from Peekskill High School in 1991, is an attorney with offices in Peekskill.

“During my time on the board I have been privileged to be part of many exciting changes within our district. Notably among them has been the implementation of the district's reorganization plan and curricular realignment. Central to this process was the hiring of a new superintendent, someone who we all know and love, our very own Dr. David Fine,” Smith stated. “I believe that these changes, along with many others, have put Peekskill City Schools on track to becoming the best in educational opportunities for our students.”

If reelected, Smith vowed to enhance opportunities for students, saying, “Call me old-fashioned, but I am still a firm believer that a solid education is foundational to a successful and fulfilling life.”

In addition to the Board of Education race and the controversial K-5 transportation proposition, residents will also vote on the $81.89 million budget for the 2015-16 school year that carries a tax increase of 2.62%, which is just below the state mandated tax cap of 2.67%.
Four Vie for Three Seats on Lakeland Board of Education

By Rick Pezzullo

At least two new members will be joining the Lakeland Board of Education as only one incumbent is among the four candidates running for three trustee seats on May 19.

Carol Ann Dobson, a former board president, is seeking a sixth three-year term. Joining her on the ballot is former trustee Michael Cherchia, who served six-and-a-half years on the board before falling short last year; Michael Daly, treasurer of the Lakeland Education Foundation (LEF); and Karen Pressman, president of the District Parents’ Council.

Trustees James Carroll, Jr. and Brian Hugick opted not to seek reelection.

Dobson, who has lived in Cortlandt for 33 years and had two sons graduate from the district, said her experience and patience in resolving issues were her strengths as a trustee.

“I enjoy what I do. There’s a lot of things that need to be addressed, which reinvigorates your passion for advocacy,” she said. “I don’t believe in a one size fits all education.”

Cherchia, a practicing podiatrist in Peekskill who has lived in Cortlandt for 22 years, said he would like to return to Peekskill who has lived in Cortlandt for all education. “I don’t believe in a one size fits
district’s teachers, administrators and civil service employees to share sacrifices to maintain our educational standards.”

Daly, who works in the financial services industry, has lived in Yorktown for 18 years and has two daughters attending district schools and one daughter who graduated from Lakeland High last year. He has been on the LEF since 2007 and served as director of the Shrub Oak Athletic Club’s girls’ basketball program since 2013.

“People I have successfully interacted with while on the LEF and SOAC boards have strongly urged me to run for several years. In their opinion my financial background and strong community involvement would make me an ideal fit for the school board,” Daly said. “This year two incumbents have decided not to run opening the door for a fresh perspective and the addition of a financial professional.”

Pressman, who has lived in Cortlandt for 12 years and is the mother of a freshman at Walter Panas and a sixth grader at Lakeland Copper Beech Middle School, has worked in communications and public relations for 25 years, skills she feels would be an asset to the board.

“I’m running for the Board of Education because I’m a strong believer in public education and community service. I also know how fortunate we are to live in an area that provides an excellent education for our children while still supporting the arts, music and athletics,” she said. “Every day I’m impressed by the wonderful things happening in the Lakeland Central School District and I want to see those programs continue to flourish while exploring new opportunities for our kids.”

Meanwhile, taxes are projected to decrease in five of the six municipalities situated in the Lakeland School District under the proposed $161 million 2015-16 budget.

In Westchester, Somers is anticipated to see a 2.2% decrease, while Cortlandt property owners will see a slight 0.5% drop. Yorktown taxpayers are slated to experience a 2.2% increase.

In Putnam, where assessments have yet to be finalized, Putnam Valley residents could see a 9.7% decrease, Carmel residents a 7.3% decrease and Phillipstown a 2% drop.

Voters will have a chance to let their feelings known on May 19 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Van Cortlandtville Elementary School.

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Transformer Fire at Indian Point Plant No Threat to Nuclear Operation

By Rick Pezzullo

A fire at one of two main electrical transformers at the Indian Point 3 nuclear power plant in Buchanan Saturday evening posed no threat to the public, according to Entergy officials, operators of the facility.

Entergy officials said the plant safely and automatically shut down following the 6 p.m. incident. The fire, which caused black smoke to hover over the plant, was quickly extinguished by an automatic sprinkler system and trained onsite personnel. No injuries were reported and the cause of the fire is under investigation.

The fire was classified as a Notice of Unusual Event, the lowest of four emergency designations for U.S. nuclear power plants, as outlined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Indian Point 2 was not affected by the fire and is operating at full power.

Governor Andrew Cuomo, who has long supported the closing of the nuclear facility, was briefed on the fire at the site and revealed some oil from the transformer was discharged into the Hudson River. He said the state Department of Environmental Conservation was monitoring the situation.

"Anything that happens at this plant obviously raises concerns. A transformer fire in and of itself was not dangerous, but the fear is always that one situation is going to trigger another, and again there has been a repetition in the number of transformer fires that have happened," Cuomo remarked.

"This plant is the nuclear plant that is closest to the most densely populated area on the globe. If something goes wrong here, it can go very wrong for a lot of people. So it's always been a priority for us," he said. "I was the Attorney General before I was Governor and at that time I was very concerned about the plant. I had serious misgivings, and I made it clear at that time. So now, from an emergency management point of view, if there is any issue we want to make sure we know exactly what it was, what it is, were all the protocols followed, etc."

Busing for Peekskill Elementary Students at Stake in Proposition

continued from page 1

transportation practices, including propositions and resolutions that authorized them, were not in full compliance with state Education Law.

With busing included, the proposed budget for next school year currently stands at $83.65 million, and includes a tax increase of 2.62%. Without busing, taxes would decrease 2%. Busing for field trips, athletic events and special education students would still be provided if the transportation proposition is defeated.

Peekskill received $2.5 million more in state aid than it had anticipated. The additional funding will allow the district to offer new programs and services and add 27 new positions, including six part-time teacher aides, four reading teacher specialists, one bilingual secretary and a dance teacher for the middle school and high school.

The debate spilled into the Common Council, where Councilman Vincent Vesce, whose children attend JFK, argued busing was an essential service provided by the district.

"We look at it as giving people a choice. People who live in Peekskill don't have the choice to send children to private or Catholic schools," Vesce said of the proposition. "It's a serious issue."

However, Councilwoman Vivian McKenzie said the Board of Education made the right decision, remarking, "To make the school system better I think that's the better choice."

During a work session last week, Vesce took Councilwoman Kathy Talbot to task for posting a Facebook message alleging he, Mayor Frank Catalina and Councilman Joe Torres invited Vaillancourt and private school parents to the joint meeting with the Board of Education without informing the Democratic majority or the public.

Vesce called Talbot's actions a "divide and conquer tactic" and stressed the joint meeting was publicly advertised and open to anyone.
Clara Ann Cartelli

Clara Ann Cartelli, a longtime resident of Yorktown Heights, died May 4 after living 80 beautiful years. Born in Yonkers to George and Anna Betchley in 1934, she graduated from Commerce High School where she was a comprehensive award winner in its 1952 Secretarial class having received highest honors in typing.

In 1954, she married Carl Cartelli of the Bronx. They raised four children and were married for 46 years. Mr. Cartelli predeceased her in 2000. Mrs. Cartelli worked for the Yorktown Central School District for 28 years. She was an active member of the Yorktown Elks, the St. Pat’s Seniors and the American Cancer Society Discovery Shop. Her most important achievement, however, was a life lived with unparalleled devotion to family.

She is survived by her children, Karen Bobay of Cortlandt, Carl (Chuck) Cartelli Jr. of Yorktown, Kenneth Cartelli of Somers, Lori Salotto of New City and her 11 beloved grandchildren, Carl (Chuck) Cartelli III, Lauren Bobay, Michael Cartelli, Amy Castellano, Gregory Bobay, Kara Cartelli, Katy Cartelli, Quinn Cartelli, Austin Cartelli, Vincent Cartelli and Charlotte Salotto.

Donald Marallo, Sr.

Donald J. Marallo, Sr. a life-long resident of Peekskill, died May 7. He was 89. Mr. Marallo worked for IBM for 37 years. He retired as Superintendent of Semiconductor Manufacturing at the East Fishkill Plant.

He was born on April 12, 1926 in Peekskill, to Joseph and Carmela Caputi Marallo. Mr. Marallo served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and the Korean War Era. On August 13, 1949, he married Roberta Martin at St. Christopher’s Church in Buchanan. He was a life member of the Peekskill Fire Patrol and the IBM Quarter Century Club. He was also an avid golfer, enjoyed gardening and traveling.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years Roberta Marallo of Peekskill and four children, Mary Ann (Martin) Corsa of Peekskill, Donald J. (Elizabeth) Marallo, Jr. of San Diego, CA, Roberta (Sean) Michaels of Poway, CA and Donna (Peter) Towler of Peekskill. Also survived by nine grandchildren, Emily Solt, Martin Corsa, Jr., Lauren, Mary and Katherine Marallo, Max and Jake Michaels and Sarah and John Towler. “The family goes on”. A great-grandson is expected in November. Also surviving are three sisters and a brother, Geraldine D’Angelo, Priscilla Cody, Joseph Marallo and Jean Squires. He was predeceased by a brother, Charles Marallo and two sisters, Carmela Keon and Mary Divine.

Joseph S. Carr, Jr.

Joseph Stockholm Carr, Jr., of Mahopac, died peacefully at home on May 4, surrounded by his loving family. He was 89.

Mr. Carr was a lifelong resident of Mahopac. He was predeceased by his parents, Joseph Stockholm Carr, Sr. and Mary Spain Carr, his brother and wife, Rody and Enis Carr, and his brother-in-law Larry Thomas. Mr. Carr was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army after serving as a Staff Sergeant with the Combat Engineers in Germany and the Philippines during World War II.

He was a dedicated teacher in the Somers School District, and also enjoyed serving as Principal of the Somers Jr. High School. He was a beloved football coach at Somers High School. Mr. Carr was a devout Catholic throughout his life, and was a lifetime member of St. John the Evangelist Church, where he was baptized. He was a founding member of the St. John’s Respect Life Society.

He married Terry (nee Thomas) on December 18, 1948 and they recently celebrated 66 years of marriage, as committed and in love with each other as the day they were married. Joe was a devoted family man and is remembered lovingly by his nine children, Mary Carr, Joe (Barbara) Carr, Karen Ames, Tom (Audrey) Carr, Anne Tascio, John (Patricia) Carr, Jean McMahon, Therese Sheehan, and Kathy Carr; his 26 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren; and his many nieces and nephews. He is survived by his brother and wife, Larry and Pat Carr, his sister-in-law Jane Thomas and his brother-in-law and wife, Jerry and Lou Thomas.

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Guest Commentary

Racing's Biggest Winner This Saturday will be the Preakness

By Charles Palombini

That's right…the Preakness Stakes. You know what it is! It's the dimmest jewel in horse racing's Three Jeweled Tiara. It's a Stakes race that would have long been forgotten save for the fact that it is a mandatory stop if you are in pursuit of horse racing's Triple Crown. It's the beer fest in Baltimore that becomes a yawn 10 minutes after it's over unless the Kentucky Derby winner is good enough to wear the Black Eyed Susan's and set up yet another run to immortality at Belmont on the first Saturday in June. Yes that Preakness Stakes.

And this year the race gets to perform on a huge stage because of American Pharoah, the only horse now eligible to win horse racing's Triple Crown. You see…American Pharoah's victory at Churchill Downs was not just a Kentucky Derby Win by a horse lucky enough to be in the right spot at the right time. Nor was he the beneficiary of a race pace that just happened to break his way. No, this is a super horse that demonstrated just a few of the weapons in his arsenal of talent that make him the first legitimate contender for the Triple Crown since Smarty Jones was beaten by Birdstone on the wire in the 2004 edition of the Belmont Stakes. Yes, there have been others since then, but none with the dominance of a Smarty Jones, or a Secretariat (Triple Crown Winner in 1973), or Seattle Slew (Triple Crown Winner in 1977). These were not just winners…they were champions!

And American Pharoah's performance rates with the best of them. This is a horse that lined up against the toughest field of Kentucky Derby contenders in 25 years. If he had not been in the race there were at least six horses, that with a little bit of racing luck, might have won the race. It was that good a field. But with American Pharoah in the field racing luck was forced to give way to racing talent. American Pharoah was at a disadvantage before the gate ever opened by having to start from the 18 slot in the rarely used auxiliary gate. His jockey, Victor Espinoza, then had to use the horses speed to position himself right off the leaders where he could stalk them to the top of the stretch. And finally, after a grueling mile and a sixteenth he again demonstrated his talent by turning on the after burners and sprinted by the competition to be first under the wire. And let the record show no challenger was making up any ground on him. His two length victory may not have looked super, but trust me, it was a stunning performance by a horse that will rival the greats in reputation when all is said and done.

So do we really need to talk about the other pretenders in the Preakness! I'd much rather talk about the beer!

Charles Palombini is a resident of Cortlandt and owner of thoroughbred horses.

Letters

Condo Owners Would Be Hurt by Full Valuation in Westchester

To the Editor:

The article written in Tax Watch by David McKay Wilson (Journal News) on full value condo taxation shows why Mr. Wilson should not give his views on full property value in Westchester especially on condominiums.

I live in a condo in Society Hill II in Peekskill and for the following reasons full valuation would be wrong.

1. My wife and I pay almost $5,000 a year in charges which are not tax-deductible. This is probably the main reason condo owners should not be taxed at the same rate single-family homes are taxed.

2. In Peekskill condo owners have to pay private carter’s to pick up the garbage while single-family home owners and business owners in the downtown area do not, and business owners in the downtown area have four pickups a week subsidized by the homeowners in Peekskill.

3. Bulk garbage has to be dumped by the individual condo owners at a fee. Homeowners have it picked up at their homes on special days at no additional charge.

4. Single homeowners get their snow plowed by the city; condo owners have to pay extra for this service.

5. God forbid a water main breaks the city fixes it on city streets but if it happens in a condo development the individual condo owners are responsible for fixing and are assessed an extra fee.

6. If a road in the condo development needs to be re-tarred a special charge can be levied on the condo owners.

For the above reasons condo owner should not be charged the same under the Homestead Act but the Town of Austin has been proposing under its full valuation plan. This is starting to show. The pitfalls of a company from Texas who has come to New York praising the benefits of full valuation.

What many people don’t realize in this case, condo owners will be hurt very bad because it would be unfair that they would be getting double, triple, or even quadruple taxation and fees and senior citizens who live on fixed incomes would be hurt very severely by full valuation.

Many people don’t realize this company in Texas that’s pushing this full valuation concept is profiting greatly, I understand the City of Yonkers has paid $5 million for the service and my City of Peekskill would’ve been charged close to $1 million for it.

In concept it sounds like a great idea everyone would have full valuation on their house but how can the average middle-class homeowner pay a 10%, 20% or 30% increase in one year if the economy booms and house values go up? Let’s not forget the economy values have been down for the past seven or eight years.

For the above reasons I feel full valuation in Westchester County is wrong for Westchester and should not be further implemented. Just look at what’s happening in Ossining after implementing this plan.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE ONDEK
Peekskill
Mahopac Woman Shoots, Kills Ex-Boyfriend After Break-in

By David Propper

A woman shot and killed an intruder who happened to be a former domestic partner early Sunday morning that rocked a sleepy street in Mahopac with sounds of gunshots and police sirens.

The woman, who police have not identified, shot Philip Miraiglia of Mahopac, a person she was once romantically involved with, after he allegedly broke into her residence on Ann Road and was carrying a gun. According to the Carmel Police Department, two emergency calls were made, one from the woman who said there was an attempted burglary into her home in progress and another from a basement tenant that said he saw a male with a gun trying to break into the house.

When Carmel police officers arrived within four minutes around 2 a.m., they found Miraiglia shot several times in the upper torso and the woman with a gunshot wound to the leg, according to Carmel Police. County coroner Dan Stephens pronounced Miraiglia dead at the scene. The woman was taken to Danbury Hospital by the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department Ambulance and released after being treated.

According to a lohud.com report, Carmel Police Chief Mike Cazzari said the woman would not be charged because “She was defending herself after someone broke into her house. She was the victim.” She apparently wrestled the gun away from Miraiglia, though at this time it is unclear how. It is also unknown before press time if Miraiglia shot her or if she shot herself accidentally.

An autopsy report done at Putnam Hospital Center Sunday revealed Miraiglia’s cause of death was gunshot wounds to the torso with perforation of the lung, aorta, liver, and mesentery.

Police don’t plan on releasing more information about the woman, including her name, because they are treating the incident like a domestic violence case. The investigation is ongoing and is being conducted by Carmel Police Department and the Putnam County Sheriff’s Forensics Investigation Unit.

Mahopac Woman Shoots, Kills Ex-Boyfriend After Break-in

Yorktown Police

May 5 - 2 p.m. – Garvin Okipl, 24, of Yorktown, was charged with petit larceny following the report of a domestic incident on Gomer Street. Following an investigation, it is alleged Okipl removed property from the residence on May 3 without having permission from the owner and refusing to return it. He was arraigned in Yorktown Town Court and released on $250 bail.

May 6 - 12:42 p.m. – Joseph Colaizzi, 30, of Yorktown, was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance and two counts of criminal contempt following the report of a domestic dispute. Investigation at the scene revealed Colaizzi was in possession and under the influence of a controlled substance in violation of a Westchester County Family Court Order of Protection. He was arraigned by Yorktown Town Justice Sal Lagonia and remanded to Westchester County Department of Corrections in lieu of $500 cash bail.

May 8 - 9:24 a.m. – Thomas Spydale, 41, of Mahopac, was charged with grand larceny in the third degree, a Class D felony, after police received a call from a patron of the Valley Market who reported her car was stolen. Officer Jason Swart responded, encountered the vehicle and a short pursuit ensued. The suspect left the vehicle abandoned on Benjamin Boulevard and fled on foot. He was apprehended a short time later on Gregory Street.

Police Blotter
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Gyaljen Nuru Sherpa has collected $10,000 over the last few weeks outside his Jewel of Himalaya restaurant in Yorktown to support his homeland of Nepal, which was devastated by a 7.8-earthquake on April 25. Besides visiting his restaurant in the Triangle Shopping Center, anyone interested in making a donation of any kind can visit www.nepalese4socialchange.com or www.helpnsavenepal.com.

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G y a l j e n  N u r u  S h e r p a  h a s  c o l l e c t e d  $ 1 0 , 0 0 0  o v e r  t h e  l a s t  f e w  w e e k s  o u t s i d e  h i s  J e w e l  o f  H i m a l a y a  r e s t a u r a n t  i n  Y o r k t o w n  t o  s u p p o r t  h i s  h o l o m e n d  o f  N e p a l ,  w h i c h  w a s  d e s t r a v a t e d  b y  a  7 . 8 - e a r t h q u a k e  o n  A p r i l  2 5 .  B e s i d e s  v i s i t i n g  h i s  r e s t a u r a n t  i n  t h e  T r i a n g l e  S h o p p i n g  C e n t e r ,  a n y o n e  i n t e r e s t e d  i n  m a k i n g  a  d o n a t i o n  o f  a n y  k i n d  c a n  v i s i t  w w w . n e p a l e s e  4  s o c i a l  c h a n g e . c o m  o r  w w w . h e l p n s a v e n e p a l . c o m .

At Soundview Prep, we’ll find your child’s road to success.

Families choose Soundview Prep because of its rigorous college preparatory curriculum, its strong music and art program, and its personalized learning community.
VA Officials Express Commitment to Future of Montrose Campus

continued from page 1

more than 10 years and are becoming a safety hazard.

Originally designed to accommodate 2,000 in-patients, Cliffe noted there are currently approximately 200 in-patients that are cared for in Montrose.

“Due to the changing needs of our current and future veterans, VA Hudson Valley HCS must change as well,” Cliffe said. “These demolitions are the first phase of our commitment to changing for the veteran so we can build new care facilities specific to their needs. We have a lot of extra space and lot of maintenance is required in that space.”

Puglisi echoed the sentiments of several veterans and other elected officials at last week’s forum that an effort should be made to save the five buildings.

“We want them to be saved,” she said, suggesting the VA would ultimately tear down the remaining 15 buildings. “It’s a slippery slope in our opinion. We all think it should be reevaluated for many reasons.”

One veteran, George Price, maintained the five buildings, totaling 250,000 square feet, could be renovated for 250 apartments, helping Westchester County satisfy its affordable housing obligation with the federal government.

Town officials were pleased to learn that a swimming pool at the VA that has been closed for more than a decade will be replaced with a new one, starting this summer and slated for completion by the fall 2016.

Armed Forces Day Picnic Sunday in Verplanck

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel aSociety will be hosting its 4th Annual Armed Forces Day Picnic Sunday, May 17 (rain or shine), from 1 to 5 p.m., at Mt. Carmel Society Field at 155 Highland Avenue in Verplanck.

The picnic is free for all veterans, military personnel and family members. There will also be music and other fun events to honor those who have provided service to their country.

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Putnam Hospital Center seminars
May 21st and June 18th at 4:30 PM

Vassar Brothers Medical Center seminars
May 7th and June 4th at 5:00 PM

BARIATRIC SURGERY SUPPORT GROUPS
Northern Dutchess Hospital May 5th and June 2nd at 7:00 PM — (845) 871-3600
Putnam Hospital Center May 21st and June 18th at 6:00 PM — (845) 230-4797
Vassar Brothers Medical Center May 20th and June 17th at 6:00 PM — (845) 454-8500 Ext. 72112
King Kone
Somers

By Neal Rentz

It has been a popular dessert destination in Somers since 1953.

King Kone, with its symbol of a smiling soft serve cone with sprinkles, has been serving frozen and savory treats for generations and it is still going strong.

Continuing the tradition of the eatery are its current owners, the husband and wife team of Katonah residents Deb and Brian Hopkins, who purchased King Kone 14 years ago.

“There aren’t many places like this, I think, any more,” Deb Hopkins said last week. “It makes people feel very nostalgic.”

Buying King Kone was not the first foray into the ice cream business for the couple, Hopkins noted. The couple owned, and continues to own, a fleet of Good Humor trucks.

“We’ve been in the ice cream business since the early ’90s,” she said. “We used to have a gourmet shop in Armonk and a lot of our customers for catering jobs for parties and things on the weekends had asked us for ice cream trucks because there weren’t any in the area.”

Hopkins said she and her husband want to continue the tradition of King Kone.

“It’s one of those buildings that haven’t been torn down for a strip mall. It seems like there’s very few of them left,” she said. “When you see the building you kind of know what it is.”

King Kone is typically open from the beginning of April to the middle of October, Hopkins said.

In back of the walk up building there are several tables, a couple of rides for youngsters and a sandbox.

King Kone has been a popular dining destination in Somers since it opened in 1953.

King Kone offers both soft serve and a variety of hard ice creams, including many daily choices. Most of the hard ice cream is purchased from Gifford’s, a small company located in Maine, Hopkins said. “We don’t have enough room to make the ice cream here,” she said.

“We’re kind of famous for our soft serve. We sell a lot more of that than the hard flavors,” Hopkins said. “That is most definitely the primary reason that people come here. We do a lot of shakes, a lot of sundaes and a lot of cones.”

King Kone also offers an extensive food menu. “People come here from all over for our lobster rolls,” Hopkins said. “I used to vacation every summer when I was a kid in Maine and I loved the lobster rolls there and we do them the same way here on a toasted, buttered New England roll.”

Another item is the “Grown Up” grilled cheese sandwich, which could include pimento cheese, which Hopkins makes herself, based on her grandmother’s recipe.

Her employees are a key to the success of King Kone, Hopkins said. “I have a wonderful staff. They’re really friendly. They’re singing all the time at work. They’re joking around with the customers.”

Hopkins said King Kone has been a lot of fun for both her and her husband and their customers.

“It’s a very happy business,” Hopkins said. “We certainly have our headaches just like everybody else, but it makes people really happy. And I think this place in particular makes people feel like this is the reason they live in a small town.”

King Kone is located at the corner of Routes 100 and 35 in Somers. For more information call 914-232-0571.
Westchester County Offers Camp for Almost Every Child’s Interest

Whether your youngster is a nature nut, a budding musician or a sports hound, Westchester County Parks’ popular summer camps offer something for kids of all ages and interests.

Boys and girls in grades 1-9 can hit the boards at the air-conditioned County Center during the Slam Dunk Basketball Camp. “Little Hoopers” in grades 1 and 2 runs from 8:30 a.m. to noon for $150 per session before June 30 or $175 afterward. Campers in grades 3-9 attend from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for $325 per session before June 30 or $350 afterward. Four one-week sessions begin Monday, June 30. A special discount team rate of $250 per camper per week is also offered for 10 or more members from a basketball team who sign up for the same week. For more information and for a special group registration form, call 914-231-4673.

Girls volleyball camp for grades 6-12 is also available at the County Center. The camp runs for two one-week sessions beginning July 28 and Aug. 4. Hours are 3 to 5 p.m. for youngsters in grades 6-8 and 6 to 9 p.m. for high school players (grades 9 – 12 ). The fee is $150 per session for middle school and $200 per session for high school. For more information, call 914-231-4673.

Youngsters 10 to 17 years old can hit the greens during the Hole-in-One Junior Golf Camp offered at the six county golf courses: Dunwoodie and Sprain Lake in Yonkers; Hudson Hills in Ossining; Maple Moor in White Plains; Mohansic in Yorktown Heights; and Saxton Woods in Scarsdale. Taught by top Professional Golf Association pros, the camp meets for two hours daily and runs in week-long sessions. The fee for each session is $50. Times and days vary at each course. For more information, call 914-231-4673.

The Summer Music Center at the County Center is a six-week music instruction program for students in grades 3-12, providing daily class instruction in band and orchestral instruments as well as keyboard, guitar and recorder. The program runs from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily, from June 30 through Aug. 8. Tuition is $575 for Westchester resident participants registering before May 30, $625 after; keyboard students pay $675 before May 30 and $675 after). Non-residents add $75 to each fee. For information, call 914-231-4673.

The Children's Summer Ecology Program introduces children in grades 1-6 to the natural world and is conducted at three nature centers: Cranberry Lake Preserve in North White Plains; Marshlands Conservancy in Rye; and Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation in Cross River. Camp runs weekdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. beginning July 7. The fee is $275 for each session. For information, call 914-864-7273.

The Challenger Sports Soccer Camp for boys and girls in grades 1-9 is offered at V.E. Macy Park in Ardsley. Operated by the prestigious Westchester Soccer Academy, top-notch coaching is offered to kids in grades 1 and 2 during a half-day program from 9 a.m. to noon, while a full-day session is offered for children in grades 3-9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fees range from $132 to $245. Camp runs in six one-week sessions beginning June 22. For more information, call 914-714-8601.

The fee is $725 for each session. For information, call 914-864-7273.

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A Hidden Treasure for Golf and Beach Lovers in Mahopac

On the banks of Lake Mahopac in southern Putnam County lies one of the tri-county areas most hidden treasures - Mahopac Golf and Beach Club. (MGBC)

This private, member-owned golf course was founded in 1898, with the current 18 hole layout designed by Devereux Emmet, the highly renowned architect who also designed Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland, considered by many to be among the top 10 courses in the entire country. The Mahopac course is beautifully situated amongst scenic old trees, with lush fairways and perfectly maintained greens - and provides a fun time and challenge for golfers of all levels and experience. Mahopac offers many golf events throughout the season, designed to ensure all golfers are as active as they choose to be. Some examples are the Men’s Tuesday Night League - Ladies Wednesday Night League - ABCD Mixed Tournaments - Member/Member and Member/Guest Tournaments - Men’s, Ladies and Junior Club Championships and a Husband & Wife Tournament. The Club Golf Professionals oversee very popular Junior Golf Clinics as well.

Despite the magnificent course and the multitude of golfing related activities, MGBC is more than just about golf. An important part of the lives of the club’s members, families and friends is the beautiful beach on 450 feet of lakefront along the clean and much desired Lake Mahopac. Whether you want to relax, sunbathe, take a refreshing swim, participate in one of the several social events held on the beach each season, or just enjoy one of the many breathtaking sunsets over the lake while sipping your favorite beverage - the beach at Mahopac Golf and Beach Club is the perfect venue.

The membership is friendly and very welcoming. MGBC also has an excellent food and beverage team, and offers a very active family inclusive social calendar. Members and guests are treated to extra-ordinary social events such as A Day at the Kentucky Derby, Mother’s Day Brunch, Wine Maker’s Dinners, Father’s Day BBQ, a Craft Brewery Tasting Event, Family Day of Golf & BBQ, Kids Halloween Party, and Breakfast with Santa. If you’d like more information on this hidden treasure, visit their website at www.mahopacgolfclub.com or contact the club manager at (845) 628-9335.

Westchester County Offers Camp for Almost Every Child’s Interest

continued from page 14

or visit challengersports.com.

The Perfect Pitch and Swing Baseball Camp provides children ages 8 to 12 with training that uses unique and innovative methods, combining traditional baseball skills with disciplines from other sports at V.E. Macy Park. The daily schedule includes drills, hitting, throwing/pitching, fielding instruction and games. For information, call 914-231-4673 for brochure and application.

Online registration for all camps has begun. Visit www.parks.westchestergov.com/activities/childrens-camps. For more information and for applications, call 914-231-4500.

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For Details

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Against the Tide: The Argument for Clutter

My wife and I frequently comment about how barren those new multimillion-dollar condos in Manhattan look when we see those ads with only a sofa, a coffee table and maybe a sideboard in the living room.

God forbid you walk around in your underwear in that room, put your feet up and munch on a bagel with lox and cream cheese. How do you live in a room like that? And what do you enjoy visually, other than the view of the skyline? Maybe that’s the point? Just look beyond the void of the room into the wild blue yonder because there’s certainly nothing to ponder inside.

While most of us seem possessed with de-cluttering, especially when it comes time to sell our homes, fashion designer Iris Apfel, 93, is known for keeping her house filled with all sorts of treasures.

When interviewed recently by The New York Times, she said, “I love clutter. I think being totally minimal shows a lack of history and soul, and I find it pitiful. I think it’s wonderful to lack of history and soul, and I find it pitiful.”

Against the Tide: The Argument for Clutter

By Bill Primavera

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Yes, the next chapter of our lives will be spent sharing space with many years of collectables, all items that have personal meaning to us. Among them are those few things, heirlooms that have come from my parents and their parents: a Lionel train set from 1934, a Rosewood vase, a watercolor painting from my Aunt Helen, dated 1939. And from my wife, some pieces of Meissen china that her Helen, dated 1939. And from my wife, some pieces of Meissen china that her

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Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is: www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com and his blog is: www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.
This past weekend, as I sat at my keyboard contemplating the 396th column of You Heard It through the Grapevine, an urge struck me to indulge in one of the topics I had previously focused on.

So it is that I am sitting here this Sunday evening, with a glass of red wine at hand and an artisanal bar of Amedei chocolate nearby. I realize that the similarities between wine and chocolate go beyond their agricultural heritage and processing. It is in the consumption of each that the similarities are equally striking.

When I guide my guests in one of the many wine tasting seminars I conduct, I walk them through several steps to better understand and savor each glass of wine they consume. So too with a chocolate tasting seminar I conducted several years ago.

For each wine and chocolate experience there are five steps (the 5 S's) that assist in honing our senses and enjoyment.

Step 1: “See” the wine. This is your first interaction and provides an overall indication of the style, from light to robust. Hold the glass of wine up to the light. Generally speaking, the lighter the color the lighter the weight and intensity of the wine. Conversely, the deeper the color, the more body and richness. So too with chocolate. A light brown color indicates that more milk product was added during processing. A dark, burnt umber color indicates a high concentration of cacao butter and less milk.

Step 2: “Swirl” the wine in the glass. This infuses oxygen into the wine and opens the bouquet to your olfactory senses. For chocolate, gently “Squeeze” a small piece between your fingers. The higher the cacao butter content, the more quickly it will melt; the lower, the longer it will take. Cacao butter is the foundation of the highest quality chocolates, providing the richness and smoothness desired by connoisseurs.

Step 3: “Sniff” the wine. Bring the glass to your nose; it is in this step that your overall impression of the wine will be set, as well as its nuances. Our sense of smell has tens of thousands of olfactory receptors, which transmit the aromas of a wine to our brains, resulting in a pleasurable or off-putting impression. So too with chocolate. Bring a piece of chocolate to your nose and breathe in the fragrances. Our olfactory receptors are inundated with the aromas that form our impression of the particular brand and style of chocolate. High quality chocolate will have deep and rich aromas, without metallic or medicinal undertones.

Step 4: “Sip” the wine. Our tongue and mouth dominate our sense of taste. Here is where our palates determine if a wine is bitter, sweet, salty, sour or savory. These senses translate to our perception of a wine to be fruity or dry, soft or tannic. So too with chocolate. As you taste a piece, savor it as it melts in your mouth. How does your palate perceive it? Smooth or gritty? Robust or velvety? Sweet or bitter? Which profile do you prefer? This will determine your individual interaction with the chocolate; mine may be diametrically different.

Step 5: “Swallow” the wine or chocolate. The finish is the final impression on your palate. A long, lingering, sensation is another indication of the quality of each. For wine, it transmits a desired level of complexity and finesse. The ability of a wine to impart this sensation is a clear sign of its quality. So too with chocolate. A high level of cacao butter will dissipate on the palate, highlighting the flavors; a low level will leave a waxy or greasy coating in your mouth, muting the flavors and diminishing the experience of the next bite.

As I take another sip from my glass of fruity and mildly acidic Zinfandel (although Port is likely the best pairing with chocolate), my senses of smell and taste are enhanced by the richness and moderate bitterness of the 70 percent Amedei chocolate.

Ah, I love writing this column.
Crossword

**ACROSS**
1 Thorn
5 Result of a big bang theory?
8 Benjamin Disraeli, e.g.
12 Sundae topper, perhaps
13 “Now is the winter of ___ discontent” (opening line of “Richard III”)
14 Alternative word
15 “Beat it!”
16 Subtly humorous
17 First place
18 Belonging to an Italian movie star or Yorktown pizzeria
20 Give in to
21 Chicken preference
24 Mended a sock
28 Moses’ sister
32 Alpinist’s implement
33 1,000 kilograms
34 Relative
36 Breakfast activity or Westchester & Putnam coffee favorite
37 Exhausts
39 Musical close
42 Improvement
47 He’s a deer
48 Pay___
50 Catchall abbr.
51 NYC’s Park, for one
52 11,000-foot Italian peak
53 Explanations
54 Survey check box
55 “No sweat”

**DOWN**
1 Leader
2 Musical direction
3 Enjoy profits
4 Two out of two
5 Coming near
6 Call from a ward
7 Take a stab at
8 Particle within an atom
9 Presidential assistant
10 Kind of organ
11 Crescent shaped object
12 Mountain goats
13 Before noon
14 Alternative word
15 “Beat it!”
16 “The Picture of Dorien ___” by Oscar Wilde
17 First place
18 Belonging to an Italian movie star or Yorktown pizzeria
19 Mountain goats
22 Tummy toners
23 Tummy toners
24 Racket
25 Top hold’em card
26 Pt. of a gym set
27 Ancient Mexicans
28 Moses’ sister
29 Octopus’s defense
30 Darth Vader’s boyhood nickname
31 Blokes
32 Alpinist’s implement
33 1,000 kilograms
34 Relative
35 ___ the people
36 Town House alternative
37 Exhausts
38 Debonair
39 Think about, with on
40 Formal affirmation
41 Transporter of heavy loads
42 Tummy toners
43 Expression of enthusiasm
44 Itty bit
45 Whoopi Goldberg friends
46 “The Picture of Dorien ___” by Oscar Wilde
47 Dance bit

---

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7/22 Thunder from Down Under * 8/14 Atlanta Rhythm Section & The Georgia Satellites
Happenings

Wednesday, May 13
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, May 14
Documentary & Discussion Series: The Ossining Documentary & Discussion series will continue with “Food Chains: Feeding the Nation” at 6:30 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library’s Budraz Theater, 53 Croton Ave. Following the screening there will be a discussion featuring local farmers and activists.

Temple Beth Am Programs: Two programs have been scheduled for this week at Temple Beth Am, 203 Church Pl., Yorktown. Come to Beth Am for an informal conversation with the Jewish community on the issues that affect our lives at Wine with Weiner, which will be held on May 14 at 7:45 p.m. With welcoming wine (or other beverages people bring), Rabbi Weiner facilitates a fascinating “laid-back” discussion while bringing us closer as a Jewish community. Congregants and non-congregants alike are invited to take this journey with our Rabbi. No previous knowledge is required, and all backgrounds are welcome. All are welcome to Shabbat, which will be held on May 15 at 8 p.m. For more information, call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbwi@optonline.net.

Friday, May 15
Free Play Dates: A free play date program is being held every Friday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Rosenthal JCC 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.

Bean Runner Events: A series of performances have been scheduled for this weekend at the Bean Runner Café, 201 S. Division St., Peekskill. The four piece band, Harmony Road, will perform on May 15 at 8 p.m. The Todd Londagin Band will perform on May 16 at 6 p.m. Jeff Entin and Bob Blum will perform on May 17 at 4 p.m. Admission for each show is $10. Info: 914-737-1701 or beanrunnercafe.com.

Charity Concert: “Rock the Halls,” a John Jay Middle School charity concert featuring the vocal and instrumental talents of John Jay Middle School students, will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the school, 40 North Salem Rd. (Route 121), Cross River. The suggested donation is $10. Info and tickets: 914-763-7500 or www.guidingeyes.org/rockthehalls. All proceeds will benefit Guiding Eyes for the Blind. Tickets will also be available at the door.

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 www.info@yorktownjewishcenter.com.

Saturday, May 16
Tag Sale: The Van Cortlandville Elementary School PTA Annual Tag Sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the school, which is located across the street from the Cortlandt Town Center in Mhobgan Lake. Donations can be left at the school front entrance on May 15 and 16 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. On the day of the event enter through the large gym doors only. Info: 914-528-1354.

Lunch & Learn: A Shabbat service followed by Lunch & Learn will be held at 9:30 a.m. at the Hebrew Congregation of Somers, located at Cypress Lane and Mervin Drive. Info: 914-248-9532.

Historical Society Event: Noted naturalist, historian, photographer and environmental educator Donald “Doc” Bayne will present a PowerPoint program—“The History & Mystery of Iona Island” —at 2 p.m. at The Little Red Schoolhouse, 297 Locust Ave. Cortlandt. He will illustrate the intriguing and mysterious history of the 556-acre bedrock island off the west shore of the Hudson River below Bear Mountain. Once the site of Native American settlements and Colonial farms; then an amusement park and hotel in the late 1800s, and later a major U.S. naval arsenal complete with explosions and saboteurs and the famous “mothball fleet” moored offshore, it is now treasured today as a nature preserve. Sponsored by the Van Cortlandville Historical Society, the free event is open to the public. The schoolhouse is located next to Old Saint Peter’s Church and cemetery on the hill just south of Oregon Road. For more information, visit: www.vancort.net; or call 914-736-7868.

Job Search Program: A program about job searching and salary negotiation will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Somers Library. The free workshop will be conducted by a professional counselor and sponsored by the Westchester Library System as part of WEBS Career & Educational Counseling Service. Please register for this event by calling the Somers Library at 914 232-5717 or register online at www.somerslibrary.com.

Bob Newhart Show: Comedy legend Bob Newhart will make a rare local concert appearance at 8 p.m. at The Paramount Hudson Valley Theater, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. For tickets, call 914-739-0039 Ext. 2 or send an e-mail to boxoffice@paramounthudsonvalley.com.

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 Alzamaora, Barney, Beracea, Brenner, Brickley, Edmier, Feuerman, Gutheil, Hacker, Indiana, L’Dray, Majic, Mapletonethorpe, Nesbit, Newsom, Otterson, Ozbolt, Pretzer, Ritterpusch, Ruchèberle, Sadler, Tomasula, and Wathen. Info: 914-788-0100 or www.hvcca.org. HVCCA is also on Facebook.

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 800-532-4290.

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 DownoEarthMarkets.com for vendor details, events, and other updates at Ossining’s Down to Earth Winter Farmers Market.

Overeaters Anonym–ous: Worried about the way you eat? If food rules your life, Overeaters Anonym–ous 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.

NOTICE – ANNUAL MEETING
AMAWALK HILL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
The Annual Meeting of the
AMAWALK HILL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
will be held on
Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

AT THE QUAKER MEETING HOUSE
Quaker Church Road, Yorktown Heights, NY
All interested parties are invited to attend

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@thenex examinernews.com.
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MISC FOR SALE

The Northern Westchester Examiner
Lakeland senior Molly Fitzpatrick (7) has averaged more than a hat trick per game (3.3 goals) during her storied five-year varsity career and last week those goals paid dividends in the form of a Lakeland/Panas district record as the Manhattan-bound captain scored 13 goals in three games, including four in a 16-8 road win over the Hen Hud defense and G Mackenzie Porter last Wednesday, thus snapping former All-American Colleen Carney’s record of 266 career goals. Fitzpatrick, who scored 78 goals in her sophomore and junior campaigns, now has 274 goals for her career and 62 on the season with at least two -- more likely three or four -- games left to pad the record... see Girls Lax Notebook
Mahopac Nips Yorktown on Clutch Reda Stroke

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor

For all intents and purposes, Saturday’s non-league tilt between MAHOPAC and host YORKTOWN was for bragging rights between the top two teams in the NWE/Putnam Examiner region. And it would make for a thrilling three-run seventh by the Indians to decide the outcome – a 5-4 Mahopac win -- which came about courtesy of John Reda’s clutch game-winning hit that produced the go-ahead run.

“Reda is the energy of the team,” Mahopac skipper Chris Miller said. “The team expects that he will come through every time. It was a huge win for us. We needed to win that game and the boys pulled it out. It’s something we can build on for this last week as we head into playoffs.”

Both clubs are in the midst of solid campaigns, but the Class AA Indians were a smidge more clutch down the stretch, including Louie Nardello (2 RBI) and closer Chris Dellamadaglia, who worked the final two innings; hitless and scoreless.

Class A Yorktown’s S Weaver stroked two hits and drove home three in defeat, leading a nine-hit attack.

The battle tested the mettle of both clubs, who appeared poised to do some damage in their respective classes, with both coming in currently at No.8 in their respective brackets.

So if the playoffs began today (according to MSG’s Bracketology), Mahopac (10-6) would host No.9 Suffern in what would be an awful draw against one of the premier programs in Section 1 over the last 25 years. Meanwhile, No.8 Yorktown (9-6) would open up against crosstown rival No.9 LAKELAND (10-6), which is really coming on strong the past week after a split with PANAS (8-9), which comes in at No.15 in Class A and would open up against No.2 Lincoln, which would be a terrific draw against a program that hasn’t faced the stiffest of competition this season.

Panas chucker Steven Speedling (1.81 ERA) chucked a gem in a 2-1 win over the Hornets last Friday night during a wicked three-hitter. You put that kid on the hill against Lincoln, or a slew of other potential top seeds, and the Panthers have bracket-busting capabilities for shiz.

Adam Hurowitz and Greg Karales each knocked in a run for the Panthers, who also played Lakeland tough for six innings in an 8-0 Lakeland win behind a vintage effort from chucker Kyle Peterson.

Panther P Brian Dinnen pitched a three-hitter with nine strikeouts in Panas’ 1-0 win over Tuckahoe in the Dom Cecere Tournament, providing the Panthers with a solid No.2 arm behind Speedling.

Trevor McCarthy went 3 for 5 and had three RBI for Lakeland in a 12-4 win at Pearl River Saturday. If Mike Morelli was 3 for 5; both he and McCarthy are two of a handful of Indians who Coach Bill Casey expects to carry the club down the stretch.

Class AA’s CARMEL (7-10) would open up as the No.16 seed against potential No.1 RCK, who the Rams will see twice (No.3) Keio, but god-awful in a 13-3 loss to John Jay CR a few days later. Memo to the Tigers: Hold yourselves an accountable, closed-door meeting; aggressively air out your grievances/differences (like some did on the field against John Jay Thursday) and then leave the B.S. in the room when you leave. Raise you baseball IQs, trust one another to do the right thing and maybe, just maybe, this thing comes together in time to make a run. Ignore the issues, continue to squabble internally and you’re as good as one-and-done in the playoffs.

If the Class B playoffs opened today, the Tigers would draw the No.7 seed and open against No.10 Dobbs Ferry. Croton-Harmon would draw the top seed and open against No.16 Pawling. Croton and PV were set to square off yesterday in a game that should tell us something about the direction of the tournament and provide some clue as to what Put Valley, which has yet to lose to a Class B club, plans to do in the post.

Put Valley P Eddie Lent and Dan McCann each had two RBI in Putnam Valley’s 7-6 win over Pawling in nine innings.

OSSINING can no longer be ignored after it beat CROTON 1-0 in eight innings. The Pride are shaping up as a No.10 seed, which might open against No.7 Greeley. Kennan Grimley went the route for the win and Luis DeJesus (2 hits) capped a great day with a game-winning sac-fly. Scott Giordano went 4 for 4 with three RBI for Croton in an 11-6 win over visiting Rye Neck. Shane Andrews tossed a tidy complete game in Croton-Harmon’s 9-1 win Westlake.

Reminder: these are simply playoff projections with much more to play out before anything is final.
**Boys LAX Notebook**

**Fox Lane Serves Yorktown Wake-up Call in OT Triumph**

**Foxes Snap Huskers’ String of 53-Straight Wins over Section 1 Foes**

By Ray Gallagher

April 3rd, 2010 was the last time Class B Yorktown High had felt the sting of a home loss to a Section 1 opponent; until Class A Fox Lane waltzed off Charlie Murphy Field with an unexpected 8-7 triumph last Saturday. State-ranked (No.4) Yorktown’s 53-game streak came to an end when Fox junior Cullen Morgan scored late in regulation and then again in overtime, leaving Yorktown senior captain Michael Dedvukaj and the rest of the Huskers empty on senior day at The Murph. The Foxes fell to the Huskers by 10 goals back on April 23.

“It’s annoying, because we should have (beat) them,” said Dedvukaj, who was held to just a goal and an assist. “We’ll be alright, though. We still believe we’re in good shape for the (Class B) playoffs.”

Nobody doubts that, as Class B foes haven’t been any closer than seven goals, but the loss to the state-ranked (No.25) Foxes should serve as a wakeup call. Not just to the Huskers, but to local media types, who had put the cart before the horse in a recent dalliance with the self-imposed hype machine (yeah, this scribe). What we write about Yorktown, or anybody for that matter, don’t mean a thing when it comes time to lace ‘em up.

“They just came out harder than us plain and simple. We beat them up the first time or anybody for that matter, don’t mean a thing when it comes time to lace ‘em up.”

“Husker senior and simple. We beat them up the first time and didn’t have a good mentality coming into the game on Saturday” Husker senior co-captain Ryan Baker said.

So what we’re left with in all of this is a pretty evident Class A favorite in Fox Lane (12-4), especially considering state-ranked (No.23) Mamaroneck (10-6) was dropped by Class B Rye (11-5) on the same day, though Mamo’s recent history in the tournament — two titles in 2012-13 — would indicate the Tigers are in it to win it as well. A pair of local Class A powers, reigning Section 1 champion Lakeland/Panas and 2011 champion Mahopac — are still quite capable of making considerable noise should they be at full health and play to their capabilities, but Arlington is also in the mix of Class A teams that “on any given day”...

**Mahopac LSM Aidan Hynes and the Indians don’t have much time left before asserting a ‘Pac’ mentality on Class A playoff foes.**

But neither the No.9-seeded Rebels nor the No.8 Indians — who, fittingly, will meet in the Thursday’s opening round — have been consistent enough this season to wear the favorites label, so anything beyond a Final 4 showing would be inspiring and largely unexpected from either or both. We’re just not sure if 2015 will go down as a down year on the local lax circuit, or if the increase in parity throughout Section 1 is causing the discrepancy between what we’re accustomed to (in this neck of the woods) and what we’re actually getting from the Mahopacs, the Put Valleys, the Lakeland/Panas and Somers.

**Putnam Valley M Kevin Gallagher and the Tigers have set a realistic Class C Final 4 goal for the rest of the way.**

No.1 YORKTOWN — Coach Marr’s top-seeded, state-ranked (No.4) reigning NYS Class B champion Huskers (12-4) were stunned but have always had sound recuperative powers, but they needed more than Logan Peters (3G-1A), Justin Cavallo (2G) and Liam Donnelly (15 saves) against Fox Lane. Could see No.5 Hen Hud in semis if all shakes out well.

No.2 HEN HUD — Coach Solly’s Class B Sailors (11-5) saw Mike Smith (4G-3A), Nick Marra (2G-5A), Ryan Tandy (2G-4A) and Austin Fraser (4G) pace the Sailors in a 16-7 win over Croton, but the Sailors, despite wins in 4 of last 5, have slipped some in the eyes of Laxpower, falling to the 4th-ranked team in Class B after a brief stint at No.2.

No.3 MAHOPAC — Coach Haddeland’s Indians (8-8) saw only Andrew Evans, Frank Ward and Ryan Maloney score in a humbling 16-3 loss to Long Island’s Bishop’s School. Would love to see the team that beat Hen Hud, Somers and Suffern more often as we enter the playoffs. Look, it hasn’t gone Mahopac’s way this year, but we’re hoping for a stronger finish than the one we got in hoops. Call upon the pride of the 1996 NYS championship and those nine Section 1 titles; do anything but go out with a whimper.

No.4 SOMERS — Coach DeGregorio’s Tuskers (6-10), despite lop-sided losses to John Jay and Fox Lane, are going to get the biggest bump in the poll this week after their 10-4 triumph of Lakeland/Panas, in which the Tuskers introduced the Rebels to fresh-faced frosh Vinny Cartelli (4G-1A), the future of the program. Joltin’ Joe Hashmall added 3G. No.11 Somers draws No.6 Byram in opening round. REVENGE, anyone!

No.5 LAKELAND/PANAS — Coach Lindsay’s Class A Rebels (5-10) showed us once again what we can expect from a youthful rebuilding unit in a surprising 6-goal loss to Somers; surprising in margin only. We fully expected this tango to go down to the wire and thought we’d see more against an Arlington club that was clearly superior in a 15-8 Admirals win. Time is officially short, boys. Draw strength from history (9 Section 1 titles) or bring in two-time All-American Ric Beardesley on a conference-call pep talk.

HM PUT VALLEY — Coach Ignatz’s Class B Tigers (11-5) saw Kyle Bronzo pump home four goals and two assists in Saturday’s 10-6 win over Haldane. Still believe firmly that 4th-seeded PV can reach the Final 4 should they carry their A-game into the post against No. 13 Dobbs and the No.5 Nanuet/No.12 Croton winner. But the 18-7 loss to four-time reigning Class B champion Bronxville — who played without two of its best players — should tell us all we need to know about attaining a championship this spring.

HM HALDANE — Coach Crowe’s 6th-seeded Blue Devils (11-5) are making torrent strides in developing their program and we’d love to see this level of play next season and beyond when 200-goal scorer Tucker Hine and athletic Peter Hofmann bolt for college. No.14 Lourdes & No.3 Briarcliff is their likely path to a first Final 4. Shock the world!
Putnam Valley Stuns State-ranked North Salem

By Tony Pinciario

Class C Putnam Valley was facing a five-goal deficit against state-ranked (No.16) North Salem at halftime and later a seven-goal hole with just over six minutes remaining.

The Tigers did not panic. Instead, they staged a furious rally, resulting in the decisive goal by eighth-grader Jacklyn Phillips with 1:20 on the clock in a 13-12 win.

Maddie Deegan gave Putnam Valley a chance, scoring the equalizer just prior to Phillips’ winner.

“This win was huge for us and could not come at a better time,” Putnam Valley coach Megan Connolly said. “The girls were hanging their heads, a little, at halftime. We were not placing our shots and this was evident by the halftime score. Our defense played great, but could only do so much.

“We hung in there, won the draws, went to goal and made our shots count. Our success was in large part to our wins off the draw in the second half. Maddie Deegan stepped up big for us, taking the draws, self-drawing and maintaining possession through the transitions.”

Put Valley’s Maddie Deegan ties game with clutch goal in 13-12 win over North Salem.

Senior Eva Rabson and Phillips each had four goals and Deegan contributed three, Rabson adding to her school record.

“We have a fairly young team this year with nine seniors, four juniors, one sophomore, five freshman and one eighth-grader, but you would never know it,” Connolly said. “This win really shows how much we have improved. It meant even more that North Salem was 10-1 prior to our win. It really helped boost our confidence and help the girls see their potential.

“The girls played with such heart in this game and really earned the win. They now know we can hang with the big dog teams and hold our own. I could not be more proud of my girls for giving it their all and pulling off the win.”

Not only did LAKELAND/PANAS close out the season with four games in six days, the Rebels had to do so away from home.

If there were reward miles for riding a bus, then Lakeland/Panas would be loaded after travelling all over Northern Westchester County. The Rebels proved to be road warriors, beating Horace Greeley (17-13), Hen Hud (16-8) and Fox Lane (9-8), but North Salem surprised the Rebels (11-7).

In the North Salem game, Molly Fitzpatrick went to the head of the class, scoring four goals to become the program’s leading goal scorer, with 267. She eclipsed the old standard of 266, set by former lacrosse and field hockey great, Colleen Carney.

Lakeland/Panas closed out its week, rallying to the victory over Fox Lane in what was the Rebels’ fourth game in six days. Fox Lane led, 7-4 early in the second half before the Rebels’ offense took over and their defense stifled Fox Lane.

“Our defense was the star of the show, playing smart and consistent,” Lakeland/Panas coach Sharon Sarsen said. “We had contributions from so many people, including Brianna Muniz and Courtney Araujo in clearing; Julia Kim, Dana Bozek, Molly Fitzpatrick, Katie Bradbury, in draw possessions, and Gianna Paglia, Valerie Perkins and Meghan Fahey on defensive transition. Goalie Alex Halpin, once again, starred in net and gave us the chance to win.”

Fitzpatrick scored five goals for the Rebels in the win.

Lakeland/Panas and North Salem were even at 4-4 at halftime before the Tigers roared in the second half.

“North Salem played a strong game and deserved the win,” Sarsen said. “Our highlight was Molly Fitzpatrick scoring four goals to become our program’s all-time leading goal scorer.”

Sarsen said her girls were ready to play against Hen Hud and the result told the story.

“After a practice on our grass football practice field, we did a much better job on ground balls and grass play,” Sarsen said. “Our offense was very spread out with Gianna Paglia, Valerie Perkins, Dana Bozek, Jackie Picard, Molly Fitzpatrick and Katie Bradbury all scoring multiple goals. Our defense was excellent with Ellie Dineen-Carey, Brianna Muniz, Courtney Araujo, Kelsey McCrudden and Mia Lennon all working well.”

Put Valley 8th grader Jackie Phillips scored fourth-quarter game-winning goal against N. Salem.

Lakeland/Panas’ Dana Bozek sets up her shot against defense of Hen Hud’s Olivia Tivnan in 16-8 Rebel win.

sectionals and the girls did just that.

“They stayed focused and supported each other all over the field. We worked well in transition both offensively and defensively and were able to gain momentum and continued to feed off of it. I am really proud with how they handled

Continued on next page
NY Extreme Teams Explode at Inaugural Extreme Hoops Challenge

Somers opened the week with the win over Rye as DeMase scored five goals, Gabby Rosenzweig chimed in with four and Livy Rosenzweig collected three.

MAHOPAC won twice, extending its winning streak to 10 consecutive. The Indians dominated Kingston, 18-7, behind nine goals and two assists from Kim Harker. Mahopac followed it up by gaining revenge on Arlington, 10-8.

Earlier this season, Arlington shocked Scarsdale while Livy Rosenzweig added three goals and Emily Englert added two goals and two assists.

"Going into this game we knew it was going to be competitive since we had beaten them last year in sectionals and beaten them two weeks earlier by just one goal," Irving said.

Harker noted that after the loss to Arlington they would not allow it to happen again. The teams were tied at 4-4 at halftime, but Mahopac took control in the second half.

"I am so proud of this team, especially our seniors, who really stepped up and worked hard," Harker said.

Harker led Mahopac with seven goals. Francesca Ferreira had a team-high four groundballs and Kelly Maxwell, Kasparian and Harker scooped up three apiece.

"I am very proud of our team for such a great effort in our win," said Harker of the Arlington game. "This game was won by our great defense and ground balls. Sarah Quarto, Jane Kasparian and Alyssa Kirby came up huge with great stops and ground balls.

"Arlington did its homework on us, but everyone stepped up and we couldn't be more happy."
Yorktown's Andy Greene (4) can't get the tag down in time against Mahopac's Louie Nardella (2), who drove home a pair of runs in the visiting Indians' 5-4 win over the Huskers last Saturday when Yorktown squandered a 4-2 sixth-inning lead... see Baseball Notebook.