Fight to Derail Gas Pipeline in Area Continues

By Rick Pezzullo and Art Cusano

Work on expanding the controversial Algonquin natural gas pipeline is scheduled to begin next month, but some local officials and grassroots groups are continuing to raise concerns in an effort to put the brakes on the project.

Last week, Catherine Borgia (D/Ossining), majority leader of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, and a few of her colleagues stood in front of the path of where the pipeline is slated to run through in the Village of Buchanan to announced legislation they are sponsoring urging the state Department of Environmental Conservation to freeze the issuance of any new air and water quality permits for natural gas infrastructure project applications.

The resolution also calls on the state Department of Health to perform a thorough assessment of the public health and safety risks of pipelines.

“We’re really concerned about the rapid progression of this pipeline,” Borgia said. “This is not a not in my backyard issue. This is a health and safety issue. People’s lives are too important not to do all of the proper studies.”

Several municipalities, grassroots groups and individuals from four states affected by Spectra Energy’s expansion of the Algonquin natural gas pipeline filed a Request for Rehearing in April in response to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s widely criticized March 3 approval of the controversial project.

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

Opponents of the pipeline presented FERC with a petition containing more than 26,000 signatures at a public hearing last year in Cortlandt. Many raised concerns about the pipeline, which has been located in the area for more than 50 years without incident, sitting 1,500 feet away from the Indian Point nuclear power plants in Buchanan.

In the 66-page decision, FERC appeared

New Location

Yorktown Love In Action, a not-for-profit organization that sell high quality items at a discounted price, recently relocated to a new space at 1736 Front Street in Yorktown. Last holiday season, the organization helped more than 120 local families. For further information, call (914) 490-3966 or send an email to yorktownloveinaction@gmail.com.

Principal Charged with Stealing Money from School

By Rick Pezzullo

A Yorktown woman was charged last week with stealing approximately $30,000 from a school where she previously served as principal.

Jennifer Ciavirella Schmidberger, 40, of Delra Lane, was charged by the Westchester District Attorney’s Office on September 2 with one count of grand larceny in the first degree, a class D felony, and was arraigned in Bedford Town Court.

The District Attorney’s Office was contacted by the Archdiocese of New York after a 2014 audit of the finances of St. Patrick’s Parochial School in Bedford revealed irregularities. An investigation later revealed that Schmidberger, who was principal, had stolen money from the school.

By Rick Pezzullo

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Fight to Deraile Gas Pipeline in Area Continues

continued from page 1

satisfied with the measures Spectra proposed for the pipeline near Indian Point in its FEIS, stating, "The NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) concluded that a breach and explosion of the proposed 42-inch diameter natural gas pipeline would not adversely impact the safe operation of the Indian Point facility."

Spectra has already received a work permit from FERC to begin construction in Buchanan, but Nancy Vann, a homeowner who will have the pipeline virtually in her backyard, still has many unanswered questions.

"It is well established that having a high pressure gas pipeline crossing your property results in a decrease in the property's value, not just where the pipeline runs, but for the entire property," Vann said. "Will Algonquin indemnify us for any damage the construction or a future pipeline accident does to people or to other property? Will Algonquin be responsible for paying increases in our insurance premiums due to this expanded pipeline? They just want to come in and take what they want and leave us with the dangers and the costs."

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, there were 119 incidents in gas transmission pipelines in 2014.

A few hours later in Southeast, home of one of the pipeline's compressor stations, dozens of Spectra Energy employees came to Elks Lodge 2101 in Brewster for an open house for residents to ask questions about the project and view large maps of the pipeline route.

Director of Stakeholder Outreach for Spectra Energy Marylee Hanley said letters were sent to landowners in the town to inform them about the project and the informational event. The planned expansion is due to an increase in demand for natural gas, she said, and Hanley stressed the pipeline will continue to be run in a safe manner. The pipeline is monitored 24 hours a day, she said.

"The Algonquin Transmission Pipeline has been operating in this area safely for more than 60 years, providing clean, reliable, domestic natural gas," she said.

The planned project is referred to as a "lift and relay," in which the existing 26-inch diameter pipelines are removed and replaced with larger 42-inch diameter pipes. The pipeline will allow for increased output to help meet the demand from power generators in New England, said Manager for Stakeholder Outreach Arthur Diestel.

"We're committed to building this safely," Diestel said. "We're here engaging early so we can gather information as we kick off our permitting process, which we will start later this year. We won't file our formal application until the end of next year.

Did You Know?
There are 3 million new whiplash injuries in the U.S. every year.*

We anticipate construction starting in early 2018."

Also on hand for last Wednesday's event was a contingent from New York State Laborers, which represents approximately 40,000 laborers across the state. Organizer Fred Butwell said the project would create skilled jobs for union members in the Hudson Valley.

"It would be local people doing local project, which is what we like to see," Butwell said.

Principal Charged with Stealing

continued from page 1

had been principal since 2010, had allegedly made personal purchases using a school credit card and made cash withdrawals from the school account over a period of four years without permission or the authority to do so.

Schmidberger could face a maximum of seven years in state prison. Her bail was set at $1,500 cash or $5,000 bond. Her next court date is set for October 7.

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HEAD AND NECK INJURIES
What you need to know about whiplash...

Ask the Doctor

Ezriel (Ed) Kornel, MD, FACS
Director, Orthopedic & Spine Institute
Northern Westchester Hospital
nworthoandspine.org/DrKornel

Q: What is whiplash?
A: Technically, it’s a rapid acceleration and then deceleration of your head. In fact, the medical name for whiplash is "cervical acceleration deceleration" or CAD. It’s almost like your head and neck are at the end of a cracking whip. The dramatic forward and backward motion can lead to strained or torn tendons or ligaments, cracked vertebrae (the donut-shaped bones in the spine and neck), and concussion, even if the victim doesn’t strike his or her head.

Q: What causes whiplash?
A: While one of the most common causes is a rear-end car collision, there are many instances that may trigger whiplash symptoms: Workplace injuries such as falling from a ladder, a collision while playing basketball, soccer, or football, or even falling off a bike. For these reasons, parents and coaches must also be vigilant about watching for the signs of possible whiplash in children.
Testa Election Fraud Scheme Claims Ruled Unfair

By Rick Pezzullo

The Westchester County Fair Campaign Practices Committee ruled last week that Westchester County Legislator John Testa’s (R/Peekskill) allegations that a host of local elected officials participated in a fraudulent scheme to get a prospective opponent on the ballot were unfair.

On August 4, Testa accused more than 20 other area elected officials and district leaders of “knowingly” submitting petitions with “fraudulent, unqualified entries” and taking part in the “scheme” to help first-time candidate Derek Hartley, a Democrat looking to challenge Testa, a Democrat looking to challenge Testa.

Those named by Testa included Peekskill Council members Darren Rigger, Vivian McKenzie, Kathy Talbot and Drew Claxton, Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel, Peekskill Democratic Party Chairwoman Marina Ciotti, Cortlandt Democratic Party Chairman John McBride and Yorktown Democratic Party Chairman Ron Stokes. He alleged fellow county Legislator Catherine Borgia (D/Ossining) was the “ring leader” of the alleged devious plot.

McKenzie, who is seeking reelection to the Peekskill Common Council, did not sit back idly and filed a complaint with the Fair Campaign Practices Committee, maintaining Testa made several demonstrably false claims and his “inflammatory rhetoric was irresponsible.”

“Testa cast an unsuccessful but otherwise innocuous effort to run a Democratic opponent against him as a criminal activity,” McKenzie stated in her complaint. “Nothing in any of the rulings by the Board of Elections states or even implies fraud. Neither does Mr. Testa furnish any evidence of fraudulent intent or illegal actions committed by the 25 people he calls out by name. Besides this, Mr. Testa’s casual disregard for easily verifiable facts not only discredits his overall accusation, it also calls into question the integrity of his intentions.”

McKenzie appeared before the Fair Campaign Practices Committee on September 3 with Stokes, Democratic Peekskill mayoral candidate Ken Martin and Allyson Curtis. Testa was accompanied by John Mattis of Cortlandt and T.J. McCormack.

The committee, which seeks to promote a climate in which candidates conduct honest and fair campaigns but has no power to compel anyone to stop distorting the facts, issued its findings, determining Testa’s use of such terms as “fraud,” “fraudulent,” and “corrupt syndicate” was “unsupported by any evidence presented, nor was any evidence presented that any of the named individuals had engaged in fraudulent or otherwise illegal conduct.”

Overall, more than 100 of Hartley’s signatures were disqualified for various reasons, leaving him below the necessary 500 to be a candidate in November.

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Annual Yorktown Grange Fair to Celebrate Agricultural Heritage

By Rick Pezzullo

It’s been a community staple in Yorktown for 91 years, and it keeps reinventing itself while always keeping to its core mission of celebrating agricultural heritage.

The annual Yorktown Grange Fair, the only true country fair remaining in Westchester, will open its gates on Mo- same Road to visitors of all ages from Thursday, September 10 to Sunday, September 13 with livestock, produce and flower competitions and exhibits, along side carnival rides, midway games, audience participation contests, as well as lots of local bands live onstage.

This year’s headlining musical act is Strawberry Fields, The Ultimate Beatles Tribute Band. Fair hours are Sept. 10 5 to 10 p.m.; Sept. 11 4 to 11 p.m.; Sept. 12 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sept. 13 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The fair’s annual Antique Tractor and Vehicle Parade will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12 at noon on Veterans Road, near the fire department and continues through Commerce Street up Hanover Street to Mo- same Road and into the Yorktown Grange Fairgrounds. The parade is open to any and all farm and garden tractors, pre-1973 trucks and cars from 1900 to 1966. Line up begins at 11 a.m.

As a special treat this year, the Grange Fair is partnering with the TasteNY program to host a tent of New York based food and beverage producers offering both free tastings and products for sale to take home.

“We’re excited to welcome the TasteNY program to the Grange Fair this year,” said Josh Davies, Grange Fair president. “This state-wide program, focusing primarily on small, local NY State vendors, ties in nicely with the theme of this year’s Fair: “A Taste of the Farm,” and with the Grange Fair’s tradition for the past 90 years of showcasing our agricultural heritage.”

For more information, visit www.yorktowngrangefair.org or call the fair office at (914) 962-3900 or email fairoffice@optonline.net if interested in being a parade entrant. The parade is open to any and all farm and garden tractors, pre-1973 trucks and cars from 1900 to 1966. Line up begins at 11 a.m.

Cortlandt Family Fun Day, Fireworks Slated for Saturday

By Rick Pezzullo

The 10th Annual Cortlandt Family Fun Day will be held Saturday, September 12 from 2 to 8 p.m. near the Cortlandt Youth and Recreation Center and Cortlandt Train Station off Route 9A.

The free annual event, which will end with a bang with a spectacular fireworks show at 8 p.m., will feature a small world area for children six and younger; inflatable rides; Midway games; prizes; face painting; tattoos; music from a local band at 6 p.m.; and a food court of many local restaurants and delis.

Rain date for Family Fun Day is Sunday, September 19 from 2 to 8 p.m.

To volunteer or for more information, contact the Cortlandt Recreation Department at (914) 734-1050.

Pie eating contest is always a fan favorite at the Yorktown Grange Fair.
Residential Continues Assault on Cortlandt Shopping Center

By Rick Pezzullo

Two Cortlandt residents continued to lambast a new shopping center proposed across from the Cortlandt Town Center on Route 6.

Tony Czarnecki, a 40-year town resident, and Domenick Esposito, a resident of Lux Lane, located a stone’s throw from Cortlandt Crossing, appeared before the Cortlandt Planning Board last week to once again express their dismay over the 130,000-square-foot project bringing additional traffic to an already congested roadway.

“We didn’t move to the Town of Cortlandt to witness the recreation of Central Avenue in Yonkers,” Czarnecki remarked. “Cortlandt Crossing should not be built at this time. There are serious traffic flow problems that need to be addressed first. We need to learn from past mistakes before we proceed down a slippery slope and create more mistakes.”

Besides the 130,000-square-foot main structure, Acadia Realty, owners of the Cortlandt Town Center, are proposing three separate commercial buildings in the front of the 36-acre property for a 13,500-square-foot retailer, an 8,420-square-foot restaurant and a 3,500-square-foot bank. In addition, 619 parking spaces are proposed.

Acadia is seeking the rezoning of seven residential acres to commercial on the property to make room for the large retail building from the Town Board. It will also need a zoning variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals for 74 parking spaces.

Czarnecki called on town officials to impose a moratorium on any further commercial development along Route 6 from Westbrook Drive to Lexington Avenue, while Esposito maintained the zoning should remain residential.

“At that location, a lot of years ago for a reason. Leave it residential,” Esposito said. “We have to stop this thing. There has been an existing traffic problem for years and nobody is doing anything about it.”

Planners told Czarnecki and Esposito they are only charged with reviewing the site plan of the project. The Town Board closed a hearing on the rezoning request in February but has yet to render a decision. Town Planning Director Chris Kehoe said the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the project is expected to be submitted to the town within a month.

Police Blotter

State Police

August 29 - Troopers from the Hawthorne barracks charged Jason VanEtten, 31, of Croton-on-Hudson with aggravated driving while intoxicated after observing a vehicle traveling more than 80 miles per hour on the Sprain Brook Parkway. VanEtten was charged with the offense since he was convicted of a DWI-related possession of a controlled substance, a felony, after troopers located the vehicle described as an erratic vehicle on Route 9 in Philipstown.

August 30 - Claudia Panza, 28, of Peekskill, was charged with driving while intoxicated following a report of an erratic driver in Philipstown. He is due in court on September 9.

Edgar Merchán, 38, of Peakskill, was charged with driving while intoxicated, a Class E felony, following the report of an erratic vehicle on Route 9 in Philipstown. Troopers located the vehicle described by a caller in a gas station parking lot. Merchán was charged with felony DWI since he was convicted of a DWI-related offense in May 2010.

August 31 - George Maggioni, 24, of Cortlandt, was charged with driving while ability impaired by drugs and criminal possession of a controlled substance, both misdemeanors, after troopers were dispatched to conduct a wellness check on a driver located behind the wheel of a vehicle unresponsive. An investigation revealed Maggioni was impaired by drugs. He was also charged with possessing Clonazepam, a controlled substance. He is due in Cortlandt Town Court on September 11.

Yorktown Police

September 4 - 2 p.m. – Police are seeking help in locating a suspect who robbed Putnam County Saving Bank on Lee Road in Jefferson Valley. According to police, a light-skinned black male, approximately 6’2” tall, wearing a black baseball hat, sunglasses, light-colored pants and a white and green “Mexican hoodie” walked into the bank, handed several plastic bags to a teller and instructed her to put money in the bag. He then left the bank in an unknown direction. Anyone who may have witnessed the incident or has information can contact police at (914) 962-4141.

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Food Bank Launches Go Orange to End Hunger Campaign

The Food Bank for Westchester joined with its partner agencies, government officials, supporters and staff last week to announce its Go Orange to End Hunger campaign, a major component of the Food Bank’s month-long calendar of activities designed to encourage people to take action against hunger during the month of September, Hunger Action Month. In its second year, this campaign is a month-long movement designed by the Food Bank to focus awareness on the subject of hunger in Westchester County.

During the campaign launch, Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino announced that the county will help promote Hunger Action Month via Westchester County’s digital board to encourage people to text-to-donate to end hunger. Yonkers City Hall will also join the movement by turning its exterior lights orange and Empire City Casino will take action by turning its entrance canopy orange to raise awareness for the campaign. Additionally, students and staff from Claremont Elementary School will wear orange T-shirts during the month to raise awareness.

“Westchester County is proud to support this great initiative,” Astorino said. “Hunger is not an issue that is always easily detected, which is why raising awareness is so critical. Contributions to the Food Bank will make a difference in the lives of so many, and will lead us one step closer to ensuring that no one in this county ever goes hungry. I encourage everyone to donate and to help spread the word via social media.”

The Food Bank, which is one of eight regional food banks in New York State in the Feeding America network, estimates that one in five Westchester County residents — approximately 200,000 people — are hungry or at-risk of being hungry. One-third are children and 22% are seniors over the age of 60.

“Hunger Action Month is dedicated to heightening awareness, rallying volunteers, raising funds and driving solutions to end hunger across the country and here in Westchester. We are asking residents and community leaders to join us in fighting hunger in our community. We can all find a way to make a difference,” said Ellen Lynch, President and CEO of the Food Bank for Westchester. “The work that you all do means that people in need will have access to services that are a crucial lifeline. At the Food Bank for Westchester, we will be coordinating several initiatives throughout September to bring awareness to hunger, including social media campaigns, as well as events and partnerships to bring this topic to the forefront.”

During September, the Food Bank will announce its Annual “An Evening of Good Taste” event to end childhood hunger that allows people to support hunger initiatives while enjoying delicacies from the region’s top restaurants and caterers. In addition, it will host its Annual Agency Day, an event where nearly 300 hunger-relief member agencies come together to learn how to better serve the community and strengthen hunger relief.

Supporters and staff members of the Food Bank will wear orange wristbands to promote the campaign throughout September and encourage the community to join them in the following digital media initiatives:
- Donate for the cause by texting FB4W to 88500.
- Post or tweet photos wearing something orange to the Food Bank Facebook page (facebook.com/foodbankforwestchester) or Twitter page (@FoodBankforWest). When posting and tweeting, use the following: #foodbankforwestchester, hungeraction, @feedingamerica, #FB4W, #goorange.
- Change social media profiles to orange for the month of September.

The Food Bank also provides other opportunities for the community to help fight hunger:
- Organize a food drive to benefit the Food Bank for Westchester
- Volunteer at its warehouse
- To learn more about Hunger Action Month, please visit www.foodbankforwestchester.org.

Christopher Columbus Society Annual Dinner Dance set

The Christopher Columbus Society of Yorktown will be holding its annual dinner dance on October 9, honoring Jim Zappi of Zappico Real Estate Development for his service to the organization and the local communities he works in. In addition many of the society’s members and local small businesses that worked with Jim and the building committee to refurbish the society’s facility are being recognized.

The public is welcome, reservations are required and space is available in the event journal. For information, tickets or to place ads in the journal, contact John Scagnelli GS34@optonline.net 447-2897 or Bob Giordano rgiord19@optonline.net 874-4347.

The public is welcome, reservations are required and space is available in the event journal. For information, tickets or to place ads in the journal, contact John Scagnelli GS34@optonline.net 447-2897 or Bob Giordano rgiord19@optonline.net 874-4347.

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The Northern Westchester Examiner
Obituaries

Michael Sellazzo

Michael “Big Mike” Sellazzo, a resident of Cortlandt, died peacefully September 5 after a valiant fight with pulmonary fibrosis, surrounded by his family, in Pittsburgh, PA. He was 68.

He is survived by his beloved wife Laura Sellazzo of 43 years and his four children Melissa (John) Mish, Peter (Lauren), Jason (Stephanie), and Erica Sellazzo. He also is survived by his six grandchildren Pearl, Poppy, Madden, Hogan, Dalton and Sloan. Born on June 24, 1947 in Ossining, to Michael and Florence Sellazzo, Mr. Sellazzo graduated from Ossining High School in 1965 and remained a leader in alumni activities for the class. After moving to Cortland in 1971 to raise his family, he volunteered in the community dedicating his time to various youth sports. He taught hundreds of athletes across the Town of Cortlandt and Putnam Valley to love football, basketball and his favorite sport, baseball. The baseball diamond was Michael’s second home where he served behind the plate as an umpire calling balls and strikes; all while making friends and possibly some enemies with his infamous “Strike Zone”.

A die-hard Yankee fan, Mr. Sellazzo bore a striking resemblance to Yankee legend Babe Ruth. He celebrated this likeness by attending games in a vintage uniform, participating in a look-a-like contest and even was featured in the New York Post. He also was a long suffering New York Jets fan.

Known as “Big Mike” to his friends and family, he was a larger than life person always wearing a huge smile on his face. He embodied his nickname living a rich and complete life which celebrated his family and inspired his community. A public viewing will be held on Wednesday, September 9, at Joseph F. Nardone Funeral Home in Peekskill, from 4 to 9 p.m.

Anita Hersh

Anita Delores Hersh, wife of former Peekskill attorney Benjamin B. Hersh, died September 4 at NY Presbyterian-Hudson Valley Hospital. She was 92.

Mrs. Hersh, as well as her husband, were dog lovers and always had a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel named Tennie. She was a lovely, generous woman who was loved by all and will be greatly missed.

She is survived by two sons, Philip (Patti) and Robert, six grandchildren: Jenny, Vicki, Sarah (Steve), Rebecca, Jeff (Suzanne Puglisi) and Zack and 11 nieces and nephews: Scot, John (Doriann), Baron (Emily), Todd (Justine) Rose, Nicole (Michael), Richard, and Anne. She also had two great-grandchildren: Ella and Oliver. She was predeceased by her husband of 60 years.

Donald DeBerardinis (DeBar)

Donald A. DeBerardinis, a former Ossining resident, most recently of Fishkill, died September 3 after a brief illness.

Known to his friends, co-workers and generations of young athletes as Don DeBar (Sr.), he graduated from Ossining schools and was a member of the OHS Class of 1950. He served in the U.S. Air Force at Hill AFB, Ogden, UT. Mr. DeBar was manufacturing superintendent at P.R. Mallory Battery in North Tarrytown, until 1968, when he began a career in the title insurance business. He worked as a title examiner until his passing.

He was also involved in a number of youth athletic programs - he was a co-founder of the Town of Ossining Junior Basketball League and coached, supervised and officiated for dozens of little league baseball, football and basketball teams, while his wife Barbara drove and fed the kids by the hundreds. He was also involved in local politics and community causes.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Barbara Marasco DeBerardinis, six children, five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews, and his faithful companion Roxy. He was predeceased by six brothers - Frank, John, Michael, James, Robert and Eugene DeBerardinis. His two sisters, Julia Chee and Rosemarie Moses, survive.

Surviving children are Donald J. DeBerardinis and spouse Barbara Corti of North Tarrytown, until 1968, when he

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Guest Commentary
An Up Close Look at How 9/11 Changed the Lives of Many

by Amy Daschle

In late March 2014, 25 full-time MBA students and partners had the privilege to visit the World Trade Center development site and the 9/11 Memorial. Hosted by leaders at Silverstein Properties Inc., the real estate development company that has been redeveloping the site for the past 12 years, the tour represented a unique opportunity for members of the Wharton Veterans Club whose lives were significantly changed following the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

The diverse Wharton Veterans Club consists of former service members of the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force, along with the Australian Defense Force and Korean and Israeli militaries. Most members of the club began their service after 9/11 and have experience serving in the Middle East, Iraq, Afghanistan and Asia as helicopter pilots, intelligence officers, SEALs, Special Forces Rangers, F-22 pilots, infantry, submariners and engineers. The majority of the group had never visited the 9/11 Memorial or the World Trade Center before.

Our tour started at the first tower built following the September 11 attack: World Trade Center 7. Mike Marcucci, the producer of the film 16 Acres, the documentary about rebuilding at Ground Zero, hosted our group and shared details of the redevelopment. The trip quickly proved to be a special behind-the-scenes event from a security, real estate and business perspective. We then visited the expansive marketing center, where potential tenants and visitors to the new World Trade Center are shown the history and the vision for the future of the site, including information about the security measures and architecture behind each of the new buildings. From there, we had an incredible view, inaccessible to the public, of the memorial pools at the 9/11 Memorial Park and much of the construction taking place.

“We have seen the videos of that dreadful morning hundreds of times, but standing there, looking into the footprints of the original twin towers at the 9/11 Memorial, is a surreal moment that no one ever forgets. I know I won’t,” said second-year MBA Grant Mooy, a U.S. Marine who pursued an internship in consulting this summer.

The 9/11 Memorial Park opened on the tragic attack's 10th anniversary. Its two magnificent pools sit in the original locations of the North and South tower foundations. New construction, built over 16 acres of lower Manhattan, surrounds it. “The names at the 9/11 Memorial came alive for me because we know so many of their stories,” Mooy recounted. “The business executive leaving a voicemail for his wife and kids from the 88th floor. The firemen who raced up the twin towers to help evacuate the injured. These aren’t simply anonymous names. Their stories will live forever at that memorial.”

Those stories were made even more real for us when we met someone who lived through them. Michael Moore, the life safety director of Silverstein Properties, escorted us for part of our day and told the remarkable story about his time as a New York fireman. He witnessed the 9/11 attacks and participated in recovery efforts at Ground Zero. He is now responsible for the safety of the new towers going up on the site and their tenants.

Meeting Moore was the highlight for second-year MBA student John Withers, a former U.S. Army Special Operations helicopter pilot. “His efforts, and those of his team and all the volunteers, were truly heroic as they worked to save lives, including some of his closest friends. He’s a national hero, and it was our honor to be able to listen to his story,” Withers said.

During our visit with Silverstein Properties, we donated construction vests, hard hats and boots as we made our way across the construction site. We visited the new office space at Tower 4 and took in the 360-degree view of New York City from the 68th floor. Outside on a terrace, we glimpsed an up-close view of Tower 1, more commonly referred to as the “Freedom Tower.”

What was most poignant about this visit to hallowed ground was the realization of how much our lives changed on that day in 2001. We paused to remember our friends and fellow comrades who paid the ultimate sacrifice and reflected on our resilience. It was a powerful day to be remembered by all who attended.

Amy Daschle served five years as a U.S. Army engineer in Iraq and Afghanistan, and two years as a sales and marketing manager at PepsiCo prior to Wharton. Since graduating, she works in strategy consulting in Philadelphia. She was a recipient of the Class of 2014 Core Value Leadership Award. She wrote this essay while still a student in the Wharton MBA Program. She is the daughter of Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel.

Letters

To the Editor:

Your editorial in the August 18-August 24, 2015 paper about your disdain for the NYS Election Law concerns me. The NYS Election Law serves to protect the electoral system from fraud or irregularity. In the past when we carried nominating petitions we were given specific instructions and lists generated by the Board of Elections in ED and AD order. We were told to knock on doors, ask for specific listed individuals and ask that they sign their name exactly as it was listed on the Board of Elections enrollment list.

One of the individuals that was collecting signatures in Yorktown claimed ignorance when many of the signatures that were collected were determined to be invalid. This same individual claimed ignorance when the same issue occurred the last time that that individual collected signatures. Any person that is circulating nominating petitions in Westchester County or the Town of Yorktown should know that an Ulster County resident cannot sign the petition. Incidentally, when that same individual ran for office the first time he/she came to my door, with list in hand, and asked for me, by name.

The issue of voter fraud or irregularity is not as uncommon as we have been told. Just look at what is going on in one of the counties just west of ours where 30 or more people tried to register to vote from vacant or abandoned properties.

The issue of voter fraud (deliberate) or irregularity (ignorance) can have an impact on the electoral process, especially in smaller communities.

Hopefully in the future your editorials will support the lawful electoral process rather than the attempt to install a candidate by other than lawful means.

JAY KOPSTEIN
Yorktown Heights
Somers Town Board Supports Playing Field Plan

By Neal Rentz

Additional recreational facilities, including playing fields, could become a reality on property located adjacent to Reis Park in Somers.

At its September 3 work session, the town board expressed support for a plan that would modify the conservation easement for the Angle Fly Preserve, which is co-owned by the town and Westchester County. The 654-acre Preserve is located in the middle of Somers between the town-owned Reis Park and the county-owned Lasdon Arboretum.

Town resident Paul Elconin told the town board he has been working with the State Department of Environmental Conservation for the past four years on a plan that would allow recreational uses, such as playing fields, to be allowed on a roughly 11-acre portion of Angle Fly adjacent to the park, located off Route 139.

To allow for the plan to proceed, that portion would be changed to Athletic Field Area. At the same time, the conservation easement for the approximately 14-acre area located in the Angle Fly adjacent to Somers Manor would have its designation under the conservation easement changed to Open Space Recreation Area that would only allow for passive recreation, like a walking trail. Elconin said the DEC is open to the idea of the conservation easement changes, as is the county. He said the Somers Manor area land is more environmentally sensitive than the Reis Park parcel and the park would provide easier access to the public using the Athletic Field Area as compared to the land near Somers Manor.

Somers Supervisor Rick Morrissey said the county is open to the conservation easement changes.

At the suggestion of Town Attorney Roland Baroni, the town board agreed to vote to schedule a public hearing on the proposed conservation easement changes when it meets on September 10.

Paramount End of Summer Jam Out Set for Saturday

Paramount Hudson Valley is set to launch its first ever end of Summer Jam Out on Saturday, September 12 which will feature an outdoor street festival on Brown Street in Peekskill with food and drink vendors from the Hudson Valley, an Oktober Fest beer garden sponsored by Bertolini and Sons and random acts of music highlighting the best local talent in the Hudson Valley Region.

On the Paramount main stage four headlining jam bands TAUK, DJ Logic, Yardsale and Gedeon Luke and the People: Bring music to the world. TAUK brings Heavy Instrumental Rock Fusion created by Matt Jalbert (guitar), Charlie Dolan (bass), Alric “A.C.” Carter (keyboard-organ), and Isaac Teel (drums). The transcendent instrumental band seamlessly brings together genres as diverse as melodic rock, fusion, gritty funk, progressive rock, ambient, classic rock, hip hop and jazz. This Oyster Bay, New York-based quartet has received accolades from a number of tastemaking authorities, including an “On The Verge” feature in Relix Magazine and frequent rotation on Sirius XM Jam On.

On the Artists: DJ Logic: Since his emergence in the early 90s amidst the Bronx hip-hop scene, the New York City based DJ LOGIC has been proving the theorem of turntablism as musician, with jazz as his foundation. LOGIC has become a wax innovator by crossing genres and sprinkling his sound across the map. As one of the world’s most accomplished turntablists, DJ LOGIC is widely credited for introducing jazz into the hip – hop realms. LOGIC can always be found paying homage to his predecessors while contributing his vision to the deejay genre.

Gedeon Luke and The People: Bringing vibrant, funky, passionate soul from the purest of places, soul music flows through Gedeon Luke’s veins in rainbow colored hues. Weaned on the gospel infused sounds of Sly Stone, Curtis Mayfield and Al Green and inspired by the rock ’n roll passion of The Beatles and The Rolling Stones, Gedeon is here to crash through the boundaries of music and society, to bring Love, Peace and Soul to the world.

Street festival is free and fun for all. All day music pass for the Paramount main stage $30 and $20 for students. For tickets and more information, visit paramounthudsonvalley.com or call the box office at 914-739-0039.
Obituaries

Continued from page 7
Surviving grandchildren are Jennifer Smith, Jessi Ryan, Heather Walton, James Walton and David Donald DeBerardinis. Surviving great-grandchildren are Yasmine DeBar, Joselyn DeBar and Italia DeBar.

Louise Costable

Louise Costable, a longtime resident of Cortlandt, died September 5. She was 92.
She was born on May 2, 1923 in Yonkers, to Micheilo and Rosina (Ciarletto) Costable. She grew up on farms, and moved to Cortlandt, where she has worked on the family farm for 72 years. She also enjoyed gardening.
She is survived by her sister-in-law, Millie (Carmen) Costable and brother-in-law, Frank (Rose) Mastro, and several nieces and nephews and great-nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by brothers: James, Patrick, Carmen and John Costable; sisters: Anne Maniz, Helen Depew and Rose Mastro, and lifelong companion, George Wilson.

Barbara Falcone

Barbara A. Falcone (nee Santamorena), a resident of Putnam Valley, died September 4. She was 75.
She was born in Yonkers on May 22, 1940, to Salvatore and Barbara Santamorena. She married Joseph Falcone in 1959 and celebrated 52 years together before his passing in 2012. A graduate of Yonkers High School, she was retired from the Lakeland School District.
Mrs. Falcone will always be remembered as a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend. Her legacy is her love for her family and the way she lived her life. She enjoyed cooking, gardening and simply spending time with those she loved. She is survived by her three children, Barbara Ann (Dan); Joseph, Jr. (Lillian) & John (Tracy), brother Salvatore and many caring wonderful family and friends. “Nana” will be cherished in the memories of her grandchildren: Matthew, Sarah, Joseph III, Daniel, William, Elizabeth, John John and Sofia. She was predeceased by Mia and Anthony.

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Louise Costable

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Layaways... 10% Down
By Neal Rentz

Yorktown resident Patricia DiPaolo began her passion for making women look attractive back in childhood. “Ever since I was a child I’ve always loved to work with color,” she recalled.

As a young girl, she received as a gift of a plastic head with makeup and hair color that could wash off. “I just remember playing with it for hours and hours and hours,” DiPaolo remembered.

While attending college, DiPaolo had a part-time job working in the makeup area of a department store. “I just fell in love with it,” she said. “After I graduated I never looked back and it became my passion.”

DiPaolo brought her passion to beauty into a career, which has included doing makeup applications for several television shows including “Geraldo” and “The View,” as well as commercials. “The television was a fabulous experience,” she said.

She was also a creative consultant for the international division of Estee Lauder. She introduced the company’s line of products in Asia.

In addition, DiPaolo worked for several companies as a makeup artist. She recently brought her years of experience to northern Westchester by opening BeScene. BeScene had its grand opening on July 23. The name of the business refers to, “Present yourself to the world as how you want to be seen,” DiPaolo said. “I just thought a little play on the spelling was a little bit different.”

DiPaolo sells her own BeScene Botanical Skin Care System and BeScene Cosmetics.

The Underhill Avenue location of her new business, “sort of chose me,” DiPaolo said. “I thought it was a perfect, beautiful space for a makeup studio and skin care studio.”

BeScene provides a variety of services for women. It offers one hour full European facials, which include steam, message, masks and exfoliation, a process that removes dead skin. “What’s a little different about my facials is that I use fresh herbs in the steam, depending on what the skin type is,” DiPaolo explained.

She also offers 10-minute naps for customers in a room set aside for after her treatments. “In my own experience, you never want to get up right after a relaxing facial and have to leave,” she said.

She also offers skin peels and anti-aging therapy for the skin. In addition, BeScene prepares women for weddings. “This is really like a Manhattan studio in the suburbs,” she said.

DiPaolo is planning to work with women in the Care Connection, a cancer support group.

“Every woman has the ability to bring out her own glow and her own beauty,” DiPaolo said. “Be seen as who you are.”

“I’d like to just empower women and make them feel good about how they present themselves to the world,” DiPaolo added.

The most gratifying aspect of her work is “to make someone who’s maybe not feeling so great about themselves walk out of here and feel wonderful about themselves or feel really pretty or feel more confident or feel energized about their look,” DiPaolo explained. “That is the most gratifying, to show women how to bring out their best features in a very natural way.”

BeScene is located at 360 Underhill Ave. in Yorktown. For more information call 914-659-8563 or visit or http://www.besceneny.com. BeScene also has a Facebook page.

Reform Temple of Putnam Valley

High Holiday Services

Rosh Hashanah
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Mon. Sept 14th at 10:00 am

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Tues. Sept. 22nd at 8:00 pm
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Medicaid Liens and Recoveries

By Salvatore DiConstanza

For many families, a good portion of their wealth exists through the equity in their home. The home may also be the most sentimental asset as it carries many memories and emotional ties, especially if owned by the family for many years. In some cases, the home has been passed down through generations. We often counsel clients on different planning techniques to protect the home where Medicaid is contemplated to pay for nursing home or home care. I thought it would be good to discuss just exactly how Medicaid can take your home if you don’t implement some form of planning that we offer to protect your assets.

It is inevitable that we may all at some point fall victim to an illness and require care, including nursing home care or home care. It is important to note that there are only four ways to pay for your long term care: private payment (meaning with your own assets), Medicare, long-term care insurance and Medicaid. No one wants to privately pay for their care and most people cannot afford to do so as costs can exceed $15,000/month. Medicare is limited in that it only pays for, at most, 100 days in a nursing home or 4 hours a day at home for a limited period. Long-term care insurance may be an option, however, many people cannot get it due to health, age or cost. Thus, Medicaid has become the insurance of the middle class, especially in nursing home and home care cases.

In order to be eligible for Medicaid, you cannot have more than $14,850 in assets. There are many exceptions to this rule and planning techniques to reduce your assets below this amount in order to that require the assistance of an elder law attorney. When contemplating Medicaid eligibility, the home is generally treated as an exempt asset for purposes of determining whether you have less than $14,850 in resource. However, Medicaid keeps track of the benefits that they pay on your behalf and has the opportunity to place a lien against your home if you are in a nursing home or file a claim against your estate upon your death to recover all of the benefits they paid on your behalf.

As discussed above, it is likely you may become a Medicaid recipient at some point. If you are a Medicaid recipient, a lien can be placed against your home if you are in a nursing home and not reasonably expected to be discharged from the nursing home and return home. A lien allows for Medicaid to recoup what they paid on your behalf when the property is sold. Prior to placing the lien, Medicaid must provide notice to you that they intend to file a lien against your home. If proper notice was not provided, there may be an opportunity to remove the lien.

Notwithstanding the above, Medicaid cannot place a lien against your home if any of the following persons live there: i. your spouse; ii. a minor child, or a child of any age who is certified blind or disabled; iii. a sibling who has an equity interest in the home and who was residing in the home for at least one year preceding the date you entered the nursing home.

A very important and less known provision of the law provides that any lien placed against the home must be removed if you return home. This has proven to be an important planning technique in cases where clients have done no prior planning with me and had a lien placed against their home.

Another avenue for Medicaid to recover benefits that they paid on your behalf is by filing a claim against your estate. For instance, when you die, your Will needs to be probated. Once the Will is probated, Medicaid will send the Executor of your estate a letter demanding payment for benefits paid. The Executor of your estate cannot ignore this otherwise they may become personally liable for the amount. Moreover, where there is a home that is to be sold by your children, Medicaid is unwilling to negotiate the balance due.

Please don’t procrastinate to protect your wealth and memories for the next generation. Contact us to discuss your options. I can be reached at 914-245-2440 or by e-mail at smd@mfd-law.com.

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The Chandelier’s History: Basic Function to Decorative Beauty

One big question mark remains in the decoration of the great room of our new home and it doesn’t seem likely to be answered anytime soon. That is the choice of chandelier to be hung in our dining area.

For the first time in our long marriage of agreeing over most things that surround us, my wife Margaret and I are not in accord about what device of illumination should hang above our heads as we entertain guests at a good meal. Right now, there is just a small ceiling fixture that came with the condo that I lived in historic homes, choosing chandeliers was always a simple matter, with our having gone toward the 18th century and more modern designs found in Colonial Williamsburg.

The idea of a device shedding light from the ceiling goes back as far as the Middle Ages, first as a matter of practicality, but it wasn’t long before chandeliers came to represent prestige and power. Early in the 14th century, the first chandeliers were made of wood and iron in a wooden ring, designed like a crown, and intended to be moved from room to room. These simplistic devices could have one or many wooden arms with small iron plates upon which a candle would rest. The device would be connected to a chain, which could be hung from the ceiling of a great hall or, more often in churches, when they would have been adorned with religious iconography.

By the 15th century, chandeliers were utilized by the wealthy to demonstrate their power and status, and that is when different designs were created to show the individuality of the various palaces and houses of nobility, clergy and merchants.

The arms of chandeliers adopted curves and many more candles into the design by the 18th century and they were beginning to be placed in the homes of the working class as well as the upper class. At the same time, Greek and Roman influences became popular, along with production from cast metals.

Also in the early 18th century, the crystal chandelier was introduced by Bohemian and Venetian glassmakers. By the time crystal chandeliers were hung in the Hall of Mirrors in the Palace at Versailles, they had become a magnificent art form that continues to impress to this day.

The mid-19th century saw a revolution in chandelier production with the introduction of gas lighting, replacing candles. By the 1890s, with the introduction of electric light, chandeliers became truly free for artistic expression from the most reasonably priced that you might find at Home Depot to the most expensive at decorators’ showrooms.

It’s interesting to note how much lighting fixtures that hang from the ceiling can influence the perceived value of a home. The owners of the last home I listed, now in contract, retained a home stager who suggested that all the chandeliers be updated with moderately priced, more contemporary looking designs. That one recommendation made a significant difference in updating the entire look of the home’s interior.

As for the choice of chandelier in my dining room, let’s just say it’s a work in progress.

### Crossword

**ACROSS**
1. Watchers
2. Masseur's workplace, maybe
3. Invalid reasoning
4. Buff
5. Italian for “The oven” or Somers restaurant
6. Guinness suffix
7. It may need massaging
8. Fraternity chapter
9. Thick
10. Staples staple
11. Gumbo thickener
12. It’s full of hot air
13. Low card in poker
14. Parts of an action plan
15. Fall off
16. Masseur's workplace, maybe
17. Testing area
18. Invalid reasoning
19. Buff
20. Italian for “The oven” or Somers restaurant
21. Guinness suffix
22. It may need massaging
23. Fraternity chapter
24. Thick
25. Staples staple
26. Gumbo thickener
27. It’s full of hot air
28. Low card in poker

**DOWN**
1. Caesar’s 7
2. Feverish
3. Christmas worker
4. Butter up
5. Nuptial need
6. Ice cream serving
7. A spire is part of one
8. Composition of flat objects
9. Red supergiant star of Scorpius
10. Showed off, as clothes
11. Japanese art of flower arranging
12. Defeated decisively
13. Cul-de-__
14. Toward the rear
15. Throw out
16. Mideast land
17. Diamond Head locale
18. Disposed
19. Bookkeeper (abbr.)
20. A girl
21. Paleozoic, for one
22. A spire is part of one
23. Composition of flat objects
24. Red supergiant star of Scorpius
25. Showed off, as clothes
26. Japanese art of flower arranging
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29. Toward the rear
30. Throw out
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32. Diamond Head locale
33. Disposed
34. Bookkeeper (abbr.)
35. A girl
36. Paleozoic, for one

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- 10/29 B.B. King Tribute ft. Joe Louis Walker, Jay Geils
- 11/7 Call Mr. Robeson: A Life, with Songs
- 11/13 Artie Lange
- 11/14 Don McLean
- 11/15 The Django Festival AllStars and Friends
- 11/25 George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic

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**ParamountHudsonValley.com**
1008 Brown St. Peekskill, NY 10566 Phone: 914-739-0039
**Happenings**

**Tuesday, Sept. 8**

**Stress Reduction:** Breathing Techniques & Meditation to Reduce Stress will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Somers Library. An internationally acclaimed seminar based on innovative breathing techniques that can reduce stress and heighten mental clarity and awareness. The program is presented by Manjula Khanna. Registration is required. Call the library at 914-232-5717 to register or register online at www.SomersLibrary.org.

**Wednesday, Sept. 9**

**Bingo Wednesdays:** Come to First Hebrew for $2.00 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, Sept. 10**

**Support Connection Open House:** Support Connection is holding an open house from 4 to 7 p.m. at its Yorktown office, 40 Triangle Center, Suite 100. Everyone is invited to meet Support Connection staff and volunteers, enjoy free light refreshments and receive hands-on help getting ready for the 21st annual Support-A-Walk for Breast and Ovarian Cancer, scheduled for Oct. 4 at FDR Park. For more information, contact Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or walk@supportconnection.org. To learn about the Support-A-Walk, visit www.supportconnection.org.

**Yorktown Grange Fair:** The 91st Annual Yorktown Grange Fair, the only remaining, true country fair in Westchester, celebrating agricultural heritage with livestock, produce and flower competitions and exhibits, alongside carnival rides, midway games, audience participation contests, as well as lots of local bands live on stage, kicks off. Visit www.yorktowngrangefair.org for more information.

**Friday, Sept. 11**

**Hilltop Hanover Programs:** Several programs have been scheduled for September at Hilltop Hanover Farm, 1271 Hanover St., Yorktown. A farm stand will be open every Friday from 1 to 7 p.m. Visit HilltopHanoverFarm.org for a list of weekly available produce. Free farm tours will be held every Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. U Pick Saturdays will be held every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. this month at the farm stand. Check the Web site for a list of available produce. For more information about Hilltop Hanover Farm programs visit its Web site or call 914-962-2368.

**Friday Evening Service:** A Friday evening service and potluck dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Hebrew Congregation of Somers, located at Cypress Lane and Mervin Drive. For information, please e-mail info@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org, visit www.hebrewcongregationofsomers.org or call 914-248-9532.

**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 p.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. High Holiday Services will be held at the Yorktown Jewish Center for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Consult the YJC website or call the office for more details.

**Temple Beth Am Service:** Every Friday evening at 7 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.

**Bean Runner Performances:** Two performances have been scheduled for this weekend at the Bean Runner Café, 201 S. Division St., Peekskill. Mary Mancini & Mario Taccia, with Mike Caruso (guitar), and Ricci Saracino (drums), will perform on Sept. 11 at 8 p.m. Admission is $15. Lines of Reason, with Michael Cochrane (piano), Marcus McLaurnie (bass), Joe Ford (sax), and Alan Nelson (drums), will perform on Sept. 12 at 8 p.m. Admission is $10. Info: 914-737-1701 or beanrunnercafe.com.

**Sinbad Performs:** Sinbad will perform at 8 p.m. at the Paramount Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. Tickets are $40, $50 or $60 each, including all tax and fees. You can purchase tickets in-person at the box office, or over the phone at 914-739-0039, or through our website at http://paramounthudsonvalley.com/events/event/sinbad.

**Saturday, Sept. 12**

**Muscoot Farm Programs:** A series of programs have been scheduled for this weekend at Muscoot Farm, located on Route 100 in Somers. Artwork from the Hope Friedland Group is on view in the Main House Gallery every Saturday and Sunday in September from noon to 4 p.m. A Farmers Market will be held every Sunday in September from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Shop from over 20 local vendors offering produce, cheeses, crafts and a variety of local items. Info: parks.westchestergov.com, or 914-846-7282.

**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.

**College Application Essays:** How to Write a Great College Application Essay will be held at 1 p.m. at the Somers Library. This presentation will break down the mystery behind what is involved in great essays and why they are “great.” This program is intended for students, but parents are also welcome. Registration is required. Please call the library at 914-232-5717 to register, or register online at www.somerslibrary.org.

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

**HVCCA Exhibit:** The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, 1701 Main St., Peekskill, is presenting Hermann Nitsch’s one-person installation, “Leviticus” through Dec. 6. A reception has been scheduled for Sept. 12 from 5 to 7 p.m. The installation features Nitsch’s “Leviticus,” his seminal book (522 x 38”) opened to the segment describing the sacrificial services of the High Priest. The surrounding walls feature 12 terragraph prints and accompanying extracts from Leviticus in both Hebrew and German. Info: 914-788-0100 or www.hvcca.org. HVCCA is also on Facebook.

**Evening In Venice:** Tickets for An Evening in Venice, scheduled for Oct. 9 from 7 to 11 p.m. at Church of the Assumption, 131 Union Ave., Peekskill, are being sold after all the masses on the weekends of Sept. 12 and 13 and 19 and 20. The reservation deadline is Sept. 28. Tickets are $40 and seating is limited. The event will feature antipasto, An Italian style buffet dinner, wine, music, entertainment, and a Venetian dessert table. You can also order your tickets by mail. Send a check, made payable to Assumption Church, to Mary Mancini, PO Box 784, Crompond, NY 10517. For more information, call Mary at 914-737-8872.

**Sunday, Sept. 13**

**Chabad Rosh Hashana Services:** Join Chabad of Yorktown, 2629 Old Yorktown Rd., for Rosh Hashana Services. All are welcome. No membership fees. There will be a children’s program and traditional services with contemporary messages. Hebrew - English prayer books will be available. Prayer instructions will be provided throughout the service. Light buffet dinner, wine, music, entertainment, and a Venetian dessert table. You can also order your tickets by mail. Send a check, made payable to Assumption Church, to Mary Mancini, PO Box 784, Crompond, NY 10517. For more information, call Mary at 914-739-5590 or 845-222-3384.

**First Hebrew Rosh Hashana:** Usher in the Jewish New Year and High Holidays at First Hebrew. Rosh Hashana services start the evening of Sept. 13 at 6 p.m. Services continue Monday and Tuesday, September 14 and 15 at 9 a.m. If you have questions or are new to the area please call Lisa at the office at 914-739-0500 or email fhc@firsthebrew.org. First Hebrew, 1821 Main St., Peekskill, just west of Beach Shopping Center. Visit www.firsthebrew.org.

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SEPTEMBER 8 - SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

The Northern Westchester Examiner
Yorktown senior RB Nick Santavicca (5) ran roughshod for 181 yards and two scores on just 15 carries, and snapped Husker hotshot Pete Carriello’s career rushing record of 2,048 yards, a standard that stood for 19 years before the absolute smashing of it last Friday night when visiting Yorktown rudely introduced reigning Class B champion Lourdes to Class A football in a 27-14 rout... see Grid Notebook
Santavicca Shatters Yorktown Rushing Record in Husker Romp

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

If Week 1 on the Section 1 gridiron is a portent of things to come, we better strap ourselves up for a wicked ride.

Yorktown senior RB Nick Santavicca strapped up last Friday night in Poughkeepsie during the Huskers’ 27-14 victory over reigning Class B champion Our Lady of Lourdes when he shattered former Husker Pete Cariello’s career rushing record of 2,048 yards. Santavicca rushed for 181 yards and two scores on just 15 carries while breaking a record that stood for 19 years. “It feels great,” Santavicca said. “It’s unbelievable. Never did I think I would become the leading rusher in Yorktown history. It’s an awesome feeling.”

If you ever saw Cariello play football during the mid-’90s, you saw the greatest all-around player in the history of Yorktown football, but it is more than fitting that the Santavicca name is atop Yorktown football, but it is more than fitting that the Santavicca name is atop the career rushing list, seeing how a member of the Santavicca family has been coaching or playing at Yorktown for a quarter century. Barring misfortune, Santavicca has at least six more games, probably seven, to pad his numbers, which could reach 3,000 yards before all is said and done.

Leading the way will be OL Joey Costella, a two-year starter who opens more clogged holes than Liquid Plumber. He admits Santavicca is just amazing to watch, and loves life from his perspective, leading the way for a record-setting tailback. “He runs the ball like a straight up beast and he runs with no fear. His vision and cuts are ridiculous. Blocking for him is easy,” Costella said. “I know for a fact I wouldn’t be the same player without him. I couldn’t ask for a better player and person to block for. He’s probably the most humble person on the team. After every drive he thanks the O-line, and that’s a big part of why we block so hard every play. He gives us the recognition we feel we deserve, but we rarely get.”

Santavicca knows who butters his bread. “My O-line is the best in the section,” he said.

Husker QB Jose Boyer had 65 yards and a touchdown on nine carries as Yorktown (1-0) amassed over 300 rushing yards in the first half alone, including a 60-yard score from RB Scott Weaver. Brewster 45, Hen Hud 20

The host Bears (1-0) gained 538 yards of offense, including over 400 yards on the ground, most coming off the legs of QB Matt Catalano and RB Jack Guida. Both ran for two scores and Catalano fired off two more through the air, connecting with Derek Diaz and Jeremy Meissner.

Brewster’s first three TDs were all scored on pivotal fourth down conversions, as the Sailor D could not hold up. “I did not expect that kind of production (right out of the gate),” Bears Coach Ed Mulvihill said. “Guida is a real sleeper, and the good news is the defense was really solid.”

Guida finished a monster day with 16 carries for 178 yards while Matt “The Cat” Catalano whipped up 115 yards through the air and another 85 yards on the ground. “I expected that from Matt,” the coach said.

The Sailors (0-1) hurt themselves a couple of times, leading Coach Mike Lynch to say: “We dropped a vertical right down the middle of the field that would’ve made it 7-7 and when we were down 14-0 we couldn’t punch it in and left the ball on the one-yard line. Brewster was big up front and to their credit they made plays when they needed to. Hopefully, our guys learned from this and we will move forward. It’s a long season.”

Rye 21, Somers 6

Somers K Eric Silvester, one of the best weapons in Section 1, booted a pair of field goals from 38 and 37 yards out, but that was all the points the Tuskers (0-1) could muster on a night when the lights went out (Friday) and the game was suspended and picked up (Saturday).

Fox Lane 25, Lakeland 7

The visiting Hornets (0-1) could do nothing to slow down rookie RB Tanner More, who torched Lakeland for four TDs and 178 yards on the ground.

Sleepy Hollow 19, Panas 6

The host Panthers (0-1) generated less than 100 yards of total offense in a season-opening loss.
Kocovic Sparks Electric Mahopac Comeback over Mam’neck Carmel, Put Valley Impressive in Opening-Day Wins

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

The first three quarters were spent measuring out their opponent and overcoming a couple of self-inflicted wounds, but the fourth quarter was all magic came with our superior physical condition. None of us were tired. Since the spring we’ve been conditioning with (Assistant) Coach Jim (Donahoe) or lifting, and it shows. We’re still going full speed in the fourth quarter like we did in the first.”

Let’s not mince words here: There was a significant amount of bad blood brewing between Mahopac (1-0) and Mamaroneck (0-1) over the hostility about the change of venue, which, according to Mahopac’s side of the story, was brought about by Mamaroneck’s refusal to travel to Mahopac amidst allegations of poor sportsmanship. Section 1 changed the venue from Mahopac to Mamaroneck, triggering disbelief among the Indians’ coaching staff, so getting the victory and the last laughs was extra special as of a 69-yard effort on the day. QB Christian Donahoe, subbing for the injured Dan Foley, rushed for 73 yards on 17 totes. Foley is out indefinitely but hopes to return for Week 2.

CARMEL 39, WHITE PLAINS 24

Firing on all cylinders, Coach Todd Cayea’s Rams held nothing back against the visiting Tigers. The rushing game and aerial attack were in synchronicity, each triggering an explosion that left Cayea cautiously optimistic.

“We have a long ways to go, but we really clicked around, which really puts a lot of stress on the D and our wide receivers made some great catches.”

Ram WR Quinn Willman (4 grabs, 120 yards) set Carmel (1-0) up with big catch after big catch from QB Joey Rodriguez, who hit on 8 of 13 passes for 128 yards, including TD strikes to WR Ryan Sullivan and TE Josh Beausheene. Junior Ram RB David Vega was a beast on the ground, rushing for a career-best 148 yards and a TD.

“It was a great game and an awesome way to start the season,” Willman said. “The entire team played how we needed them to play and it resulted in the win. The chemistry between J-Rod (Rodriguez) and I started since sixth grade and when you’ve been playing together for that long, connecting with each other is just automatic. J-Rod is great quarterback that I have a lot of faith in. He makes me look good and he makes me look good, and when we perform in that fashion, it’s an exciting show to watch.”

Mahopac RB Joe Cavaciuti breaks free for a chunk of yards while igniting a fourth-quarter Indian rally in a 21-7 win over Mamaroneck.

OSSINING 43, GREELEY 20

Versatile RB Shamar Holebrook looked the part of a budding junior when he went 58 yards and a touchdown on the ground and threw a 24-yard TD strike to Obadiah Toppin. Senior RB Kyle Cristello busted out in fancy fashion, amassing 82 yards and two touchdowns on just six totes. Senior RBs Mekhi Knox and Damani Harrison each added 63 yards rushing and a TD for the Pride, who laid it all on the line and dedicated their season to affable longtime assistant Coach Roger Rowe, who is ill and not with the team right now.

CLASS B

PUTNAM VALLEY 34, BLIND BROOK 17

Coach Matt Mello’s Tigers (1-0) wasted no time in showing the rest of Class B that they are a sleeper candidate for one of four playoff spots later this fall. Mike Dellabate (7 rushes, 117 yards, 15-yard TD and 1 INT) and Dillon White (13 rushes, 98 yards and 2 TDs from 4 and 6 yards out) rushed with equal effectiveness and each scored a TD on one side of the ball, while LB Luis Fernandez was a stalwart on D, raking in two interceptions, one a pick-six.

QB Zach Girvalo scored off a four-yard TD trot.

“I was thinking was get into the end zone as fast I can.”

Mahopac RB Joe Cavaciuti got the scoring started for the Indians, cruising in from four yards out, part Put Valley RB Mike Dellabate scored a TD and rushed for over 100 yards in Tigers’ 34-17 win over Blind Brook.

Put Valley DB Alec McDonald breaks up an intended pass in the Tigers’ 34-17 rout of host Blind Brook Saturday.

Carmel RB Quinn Willman breaks down the sideline, stiff-arming cats along the way.

“First, running down the side was an awesome feeling hearing everyone cheering,” he said. “The only thing I was thinking was get into the end zone as fast I can.”

Mahopac WR Quinn Willman rips off a chunk of his 120 receiving yards in Rams’ win over White Plains last Friday.

Put Valley WR Quinn Willman rips off a chunk of yards while igniting a fourth-quarter Indian rally in a 21-7 win over Mamaroneck.

Put Valley RB Mike Dellabate scored a TD and rushed for over 100 yards in Tigers’ 34-17 win over Blind Brook.

Carmel running back Kasey Correa chugs for yards in the Rams’ win over White Plains last Friday.

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Put Valley RB Mike Dellabate scored a TD and rushed for over 100 yards in Tigers’ 34-17 win over Blind Brook.
By Tony Pinciaro

It has become an annual, celebratory November weekend when it comes to the Lakeland High field hockey team. The Hornets have dominated the month of November, winning an unprecedented six consecutive New York State Class B championships. In fact, Lakeland also won state titles in 2003 and 2006 and played for the state championship in 2007.

Lakeland looks to make it a lucky seven this year and Coach Sharon Sarsen has a talented team returning to make a state title a reality. Lakeland will have to compensate for the graduation of six players – Molly Fitzpatrick, Alex Halpin, Sarah Bard, Emily Power, Eileen Dineen-Cary and Kimmy Briscoe, but the Hornets have reloaded for 2015.

It all starts with senior and five-year varsity player Dana Bozek, who debuted as an eighth-grader on the 2011 state-title team. Bozek, a 2014 all-section, all-state and all-American selection will play center mid, the same position older sister and current Boston College assistant coach, Megan Bozek, played. Megan Bozek got it all started as she led the 2009 team to the state crown.

Bozek will be flanked on the left side by classmate Valerie Perkins, an all-section pick last year. Senior Julia Kim, also all section and all state last year, returns to anchor the defense at center back. Junior Mia Lennon will join Kim on defense while sophomore Kelsey McCrudten will play either midfield or defense. Returning to headline the forward line is senior Brianna Muniz, an all-section selection in 2014.

Youth will be served as a new group joins varsity. Sophomores Caroline Cahill (forward/midfield), Jessica Ascencao (midfield), Julia Papanicolaou (defense) and Cassie Halpin (goalie), Alex Halpin's younger sister, are joined by freshman Emily Kniss (midfield).

Sarsen begins her 34th year with 500-plus wins and is among the winningest coaches in the state. Sarsen is widely-considered one of the best coaches, if not the best, in New York and the country. "We have a strong core of players that set the bar high," said Sarsen, who guided Lakeland to a 22-0 record in 2014. "Their work ethic and commitment is excellent. Our four captains, Dana Bozek, Julia Kim, Brianna Muniz and Valerie Perkins are great players and great people. We have some great opportunities ahead of us and we will have to work hard for the next three months."

YORKTOWN welcomes Bernadette Gannon as its new coach. Gannon is a veteran who guided Suffern for 19 years and led the Mounties to the 2011 Section 1 Class A title. Suffern is the only Rockland County school to win a sectional title. Gannon spent the last two years at Clarkstown North, but will coach where she teaches.

Gannon has a situation any incoming coach would relish as she inherits a team of players that set the bar. "Each day the girls come to practice ready and eager to learn and continue to improve," Irving said. "The chemistry on offense is solid and we will be looking to take full advantage of our scoring opportunities. This year we are looking to continue building the program and improving each day. We want the program to be competitive and make a run in playoffs."

CARMEL had an excellent 2014 for Coach Aislinn Breslin, going 11-4-1 and advancing to the Section 1 Class A quarterfinals. Breslin may have been a little tear-y-eyed at graduation. "As well as being strong players able to play anywhere I put them, these girls are also great leaders that the younger girls look up to," said Breslin, in her third year at Carmel.

Carmel will miss this talented, large group, but the Rams have a solid nucleus ready to resume where the 2015 class concluded. The triumvirate of Casey Gilchrist, Sam Infantino and Taylor DeBello form the midfield. This group is primed to run the offense and make sure nothing gets through defensively.

Making the step up from junior varsity and stepping in on defense are the junior trio of Taylor Turchick (forward), Mary Kate Mollaghan (midfield) and Katie Campbell (forward), return, as does sophomore Teagan Lucchesi (forward)."
On many levels; primarily to prove to themselves that they are legit Class AA contenders. A full house, as the Patriots (0-1) and their faithful enter Indian Country, would go a long way. Let’s hope QB Dan Foley is good to go because the Indians are gonna need him.

YORKTOWN and @THE__ CROP, which hosts John Jay CR, is ready to break out in full throat in the hopes that record-setting RB Nick Santavicca goes for a couple hundred yards and a few scores in what should/could be one of the great shootouts this regular season. These are a pair of prolific offenses that might provide a track-like atmosphere Friday night (7 p.m.), so bring your starting blocks and get ready to jump off like Usain Bolt.

NYS Powerhouse Lakeland Tracking 7th NYS Title continued from previous page

Erika Tierney will join Korusiakova on the forward line and Ashley Macri will add talent to the midfield. Defensively, Carmel has plenty of talent with juniors Margaret Geoghegan, Hannah Weber, Jessica Buckley and Courtney Monahan vying for starting spots. Sophomores Liz Pulley (midfield) and Francesca Miroque (forward) round out the newcomers.

“Our team strengths this year are our team defense and our speed,” Reslin said. “We have a very fast group of girls that are all able to move the ball very quickly up the field. Our girls are also very strong with their stick skills and will be using them to their benefit.”

If Carmel’s opponents expect the Rams to be down this year with the graduation departures, they will be mistaken.

“Having a completely different team than last year I have been so proud of how the older girls have stepped into the leader role and how the younger girls have stepped up to play at the next level and bring the team to the next level,” Reslin said. “I have a hardworking group of girls that are willing to do whatever it takes to get the ball in the back of the net. I am really looking forward to seeing all of the players hard work pay off!”

BREWSTER and second-year coach Art Holzmann can identify with Breslin last weekend. Hello, MAHOPAC and the @MahopacManiacs! Time to rise and shine from your siesta. Your boys are hosting the defending Section 1 Class AA champions from John Jay EF this Friday (7 p.m.) and your presence is not only requested, it’s required! This is going to be one of those make-or-break games that the Indians (1-0) will need.
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