Patterson GOP Committee Endorses Tendy Over Levy in DA’s Race

By David Propper

In a move that sent some shockwaves across Putnam County, the Patterson Republican Committee formally endorsed Putnam Valley Supervisor Bob Tendy for the county District Attorney’s seat over incumbent Adam Levy.

The endorsement came last week after the committee told Tendy he received their nod over the two-term Levy, who is up for reelection. Announced in a press release sent out by Tendy, the criminal defense attorney expressed he was “truly grateful” for the vote of confidence from the Patterson committee, which was the first GOP committee to publicly disclose its decision.

“We’re very confident that the electorate will see Bob Tendy as the person who will do what needs to be done to clean up corruption in the county,” saidunny Tendy.

Bob Tendy

In an interview, Tendy said it is “very significant” for Levy to lose the endorsement of the first GOP committee to take a vote.

“Kudos should go to the Patterson committee for having the courage to sound the alarm that there are problems continued on page 6

Hundreds of Putnam Students Refuse State Tests As District Officials Fret Over Fallout

By David Propper

Controversial New York State testing took a major hit last week as parents opted their child or children out in droves from taking the standardized ELA tests that lasted three days.

In a statewide movement to protest the testing, school systems in Putnam County saw a high number of students sit out from the tests that took place from April 14 to April 16. As students sat out, administrators and school board members’ anxiety rose over whether schools that don’t have at least a 95 percent participation rate could risk losing federal or state aid.

Three days of math exams are scheduled for this week.

The Mahopac school district had the highest percentage of opt-outs at about 50 percent overall. In the Putnam Valley school system, 268 total students or 34 percent opted out. The Carmel school district had 692 students refuse, or 35 percent of grades eligible for the tests. Within the Brewster school system, roughly 70 percent of middle school students opted-out and 25 percent of elementary student refused. The Garrison school district saw 24 students sit out equaling 16 percent of students eligible to take the exams and the Haldane school district has the lowest percentage of students refuse, where the elementary and middle school saw a combined 15 percent not take the test which is 59 students overall.

Over the course of his longtime public education career Mahopac Superintendent of Schools Dr. Brian Monahan said he couldn’t recall “anything as specific and dramatic” as the massive test refusals that occurred last week.

Brewster Board of Education continued on page 8

As Legal Drama Unfolds, Appt. of New EMS Commish Questioned

By David Propper

Legislator Roger Gross brought up the lawsuit, a case currently heard by State Supreme Court Justice Victor Grossman. A decision on whether Odell illegally removed Stiebeling could come within the next month.

“I am concerned that we could end up with two commissioners of emergency services,” Gross said. “I don’t want to put the legislature in the position of being in the middle of litigation.”

When asked, the legislature’s legal counsel Clement Van Ross advised legislators not to take any action on Sutton until the legal mess with Stiebeling is resolved. In the resolution drafted, the final part states Sutton’s approval would go through ”subject to the successful resolution of the above referenced supreme court matter,” but Van Ross said he wasn’t comfortable with that final part.

continued on page 4

continued on page 6
By Neal Rentz

The Brewster Village Board of Trustees has approved a $1.5 million 2015-16 general fund budget that will meet the state mandated property tax levy cap.

The trustees voted unanimously to approve next year’s budget, which includes a property tax rate increase of 2.8 percent, on April 15. Following last week’s meeting Village Clerk and Treasurer Peter Hansen said the budget meets the state tax levy for the village cap of 3 percent.

The budget includes no program cuts or layoffs or major program additions, but does call for the hiring of two part-time employees to work at Wells Park, Hansen said.

One resident spoke during last week’s public hearing on the budget. Resident Jack Gress said he was concerned “the fund balance has been cut in half.” Hansen replied that the reduced fund balance was used to hold down the property tax increase and it was not intended to be set aside for future projects. “Otherwise we’d have to raise taxes more or spend less money,” if the fund balance was not utilized, Hansen said.

Mayor James Schoenig and Trustee Terri Stockburger were ill and could not attend last week’s meeting.

“I’m not aware of any issues” the two absent board members had with the budget, Deputy Mayor Christine Piccini said and she called for a vote on the spending plan.
After Delay, Letter From County to Butterfield Request Senior Center Space

By David Propper

The Putnam County Legislature’s Physical Services Committee made a decision last week concerning the Butterfield redevelopment that brought one Philipstown senior to tears of joy.

During an April 13 meeting, legislators agreed to send a letter of intent to Butterfield developer Paul Guillaro signaling that the county intends to lease space in the development for a long awaited new and improved senior center for west Putnam seniors. The move, which will go to the full legislature for its May 6 meeting, comes after several legislators stalled on signing off on the letter during a meeting last month because many panned the letter as incomplete.

The plan would bring a multipurpose room, a dining area, kitchen, and offices housed in 6,000 square feet in the second building of the site plan, according to Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Fred Pena.

The cost to the county was estimated at $850,000, Pena said. Some of that tab would be picked up by a $500,000 donation from Garrison resident and Fox News mogul Roger Ailes.

Deputy County Executive Bruce Walker said the 15-year lease would cost $3.4 million all together. During the first year, the costs would be $195,000 and by the 15th year would be $266,000. The gross tax revenue returning to the county from the entire development over 15 years would be about $1.1 million.

After an 80-minute argument over the letter of intent last month, legislators were satisfied with what the county executive administration offered this time around.

Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, who has been tirelessly advocating for a senior center in her district, said the county is taking advantage of an opportunity as a result of the development being constructed.

“Thers’s nowhere else in Cold Spring where we can do this,” Scuccimarra said. “And we certainly don’t have millions of dollars to build from scratch so this is best opportunity we have.”

Legislator Roger Gross called the numbers offered by the county senior and improved senior center. Even as recent as the day of the meeting, Sheehy said Philipstown seniors told her they never thought they would see a new center in their lifetime.

After the meeting and a small celebration in the hallway of the county offices’ third floor, Sheehy said it was a huge relief that the county is ready to officially motion that it wants space for a new senior center. She described it as the “end of a fairytale” for some seniors in the community.

Pat Sheehy said there are Philipstown seniors that died while waiting for a new center in their lifetime. After the meeting and a small celebration in the hallway of the county offices’ third floor, Sheehy said it was a huge relief that the county is ready to officially motion that it wants space for a new senior center. She described it as the “end of a fairytale” for some seniors in the community.

Now that the letter of intent is going to the full legislature, Sheehy said she thinks seniors can finally loosen any skepticism they had over whether the county would ever approve a new senior center.

“But I think once the first shovel is in the ground is when people will start to really be relieved,” Sheehy said.
Legislator Dini LoBue, who has hammered Odell for getting rid of Stiebeling, said she would not vote to approve Sutton until a resolution was reached in the Stiebeling case. “These are unusual circumstances,” LoBue said. “I wasn’t in favor of having Tony announced at the State of the County because I thought it was unfair to Mr. Sutton because we are in a situation where there is pending litigation.”

Legislator Kevin Wright said while the county is fortunate to have Sutton, he too was worrisome over approving him. He said the wording of the resolution “leaves it rather nebulous to what a successful” conclusion of the Stiebeling lawsuit could be. Wright suggested the legislature appoint Sutton, who now lives in Carmel, “acting” commissioner—a position currently held by Bob Lipton—and make Sutton the permanent commissioner when the time is right.

“We shouldn’t be passing resolutions subject to court actions,” Wright said. Legislators in support of pushing the appointment forward noted the emergency services commissioner’s position is too critical to leave in limbo.

County Attorney Jennifer Bumgarner argued legislators could move forward with the approval regardless of the legal case ongoing. She also said she was confident the courts would support the county’s position over Stiebeling’s, who is represented by prominent attorney Michael Sussman. “(Stiebeling’s) term had expired and he simply was not reappointed,” Bumgarner said.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino said that Sutton understands the situation at hand and that there could “remotely and possibly be a change in the outcome that’s not in his favor.” She said “time is of the essence” and Sutton should be appointed as soon as possible.

Legislature Chairman Carl Albano said he was confident the courts would rule in the county’s favor and it was time to kick the office into “full gear.” “In the end if we have to make a change, we’ll make an adjustment and we’ll still end up with the same outcome,” Albano said. “We have a highly qualified individual here, he’s ready to go.”

The Personnel Committee voted 2-1 to move the proposed appointment forward to the full legislature meeting in May, but it could be tabled if the court decision with Stiebeling doesn’t come back by then.

The Master Gardeners’ May Plant Sale

If you’re interested in a great selection of plants chosen for success in Putnam County then mark your calendars for Saturday May 16th, and prepare to be there at the starting gun, because this is one plant sale where the plants move faster than you ever imagined! The Master Garden Volunteers of Cornell Cooperative Extension will host this sale from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the parking area of Cornell Cooperative Extension, 1 Geneva Road, (off Route 312 – upper DMV Parking Lot) in Brewster.

The event features an incredible variety of heirloom and hybrid tomatoes, peppers, eggplants and other popular vegetable seedlings plus annuals, perennials, herbs and specific native plants grown by or specifically selected by the Master Gardeners of Putnam County. Master Gardeners are on hand to answer your questions about planting, nurturing and harvesting, so you’ll be sure to have a successful gardening season.

Don’t forget to stop at “Our Favorite Gardening Gear”, an area full of specialized tools, gardening gloves, soaps, hand-crafted hypertufa planting pots and other select gardening items. New this year is ‘Beauty and the Bees’! Come learn about our native plants and their importance in our environment.

Free soil testing will also be available. The soil’s pH (acidity or alkalinity) can make a real difference for your plants. It may be necessary to amend the soil to change its pH in order to make the vegetable garden thrive. Bring a half-cup sample of your garden soil in a plastic bag for a Free soil pH test.

For additional information check our website www.cce.cornell.edu/putnam or call 845-278-6738.
Local Reaction Mixed, Along Party Lines to Clinton Presidential Run

By David Propper, Martin Wilbur, and Janine Bowen

After there was plenty of waiting but little wonder, the Lower Hudson Valley's own Hillary Rodham Clinton finally declared her run for president, giving regional residents more of a reason to be interested in the race for the presidency in 2016.

Reaction was mixed among Putnam County politicos, falling neatly within party lines following the Democratic superpower’s formal announcement on April 12 where Clinton said, ”Everyday Americans need a champion and I want to be that champion.” The former First Lady has lived in New York in neighboring Westchester County since September 1999 when she ran and won a United States senate seat.

Southeast Democratic chairwoman Cathy Croft bluntly said, “I look forward to her being elected our next president.” She went on to elaborate, “I think it is fabulous news that Mrs. Clinton is running for president. Her past experience as secretary of state and our senator, has shown us that she is an extremely capable, hardworking woman and is certainly well-qualified to serve in the oval office.”

County Democratic chairman Ken Harper said Clinton’s confirmed run is the “longest anticipated announcement that I can recall for someone running for office.” He said Clinton has plenty of experience for the Oval Office serving as a US senator for eight years and the secretary of state for four years.

“It looks like a good first step toward maybe a woman in the White House, which has been long overdue,” Harper said.

Harper said Clinton came to Putnam County shortly after she was elected to the senate for a chamber of commerce event in Mahopac. He noted she’s very knowledgeable and hardworking.

Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney in a statement was quick to throw support behind Clinton. The Democrat worked in the White House when Bill Clinton was president and has known the Clinton family for more than two decades. During his successful reelection campaign, he commonly referred to himself as a “Clinton Democrat.”

“Too many of our hard-working neighbors are still struggling in this economy; we need to elect a tenacious leader focused on moving our country forward, for everyone,” Maloney stated. “For almost 25 years, I’ve watched Hillary go to bat for all Americans - no matter who they are or who they love. I’m looking forward to hearing her plans to help hardworking families get ahead and stay ahead.”

But county Republican chairman Tony Scannapieco flatly said Hillary is nothing like former president and husband Bill Clinton. Scannapieco said Hillary Clinton comes with a lot of baggage and every couple weeks something seems to come up that makes her look bad.

“Bill Clinton is very charismatic, everybody likes Bill Clinton,” Scannapieco said. “There are a lot of people that don’t like Hillary Clinton.”

As for residents in her own adopted hometown of New Castle in Westchester, many were abuzz with having one of their very own possibly becoming leader of the free world.

Having a presidential candidate along with a former is an honor, said New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein. He said he “was humbled” when Hillary Clinton swore him in as supervisor in January 2014. At the time he said he would happily return the favor by attending her inauguration as president.

“We have a lot of famous people who live in town. But (the Clintons) aren’t just residents, they’re out there,” Greenstein said. “They’re really contributing to the community.”

Even a prominent Westchester Republican, County Executive Rob Astorino, had only good things to say about Clinton’s announcement.

“Westchester is proud to have Secretary Clinton as a leading candidate for president,” Astorino said. “Mrs. Clinton and I may come from different political parties, but I admire her service and we have always enjoyed a friendly rapport. I wish her the absolute best in the Democratic primary.”

Astorino later had to clarify the comments, noting while he wished Clinton well, he would be endorsing a Republican candidate in the general election.

Local Reaction Mixed, Along Party Lines to Clinton Presidential Run

ANDY JACOBS PHOTO

Hillary Clinton, seen here at New Castle’s Memorial Day parade last year, has plenty of fans in her and Bill’s adopted home town.

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Patterson GOP Committee Endorses Tendy Over Levy in DA’s Race

continued from page 1

with the District Attorney’s Office that the Republican Party needs to address,” Tendy said.

Tendy said Levy even appeared in front of the Patterson committee twice, the second time to rebut what Tendy said.

But Levy didn’t seem too concerned in a press release sent out by his campaign team. Levy, who has had an embattled relationship with the media since the controversial Alexandru Hossu rape case, never formally held a reelection announcement or even sent out a formal statement announcing his candidacy for a third term.

Levy, who has never had a primary opponent or a general election opponent in his two runs for DA, said in a statement, “I am proud of my record as District Attorney and am enthusiastic about the opportunity to campaign on it.”

Since taking office in 2008, Levy listed that DWI is down 34 percent, violent crime has dropped 41 percent and property crime has decreased 24 percent. He also said his office has sought the strongest Child Safety legislation in the state to protect children and stood up for the 2nd amendment against the state’s overreach with the SAFE Act.

“Our office continues to maintain the highest standard of integrity and we are always working to meet the challenges of keeping our communities safe,” Levy stated. “I appreciate the chance to bring this record to our citizens in the upcoming election campaign and hope they will see the value in keeping a seasoned prosecutor as DA rather than turn it over to a local politician (Tendy) who has a record of consistently raising taxes to compensate for his mismanagement.”

GOP chairman Tony Scannapieco said even though the Patterson committee made an endorsement, all county GOP members would have to vote again at the countywide convention, a date that has yet to be determined, though mid to late May seems to be a probable time frame.

“It’s an endorsement, but they still have to vote at the county convention,” Scannapieco said of the Patterson decision. “It’s not binding on any committee member of any town if the town did an endorsement, they’re still going to vote at the convention.”

Tendy said he was “cautiously optimistic” that he could get the nomination from the countywide GOP committee, though it routinely supports incumbent candidates.

Patterson GOP Committee Endorses Tendy Over Levy in DA’s Race

Expo Brings Residents and Businesses Together

Another year brought another successful Shop Putnam Business and Home Expo inside Mahopac High School last Sunday. Hosted by the Mahopac-Carmel Chamber of Commerce, hundreds of residents and businesses mingled and mixed, including Examiner Media, which had a table manned by media consultant Corinne Stanton and her kids Diana and Michael Procopis. The event has been running since 2004.

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By Janine Bowen

Mahopac Central School District residents will see a tax increase of less than 1 percent thanks to the budget adopted by the Board of Education during its April 14 meeting.

The 2015-2016 budget comes in at $119.9 million, which marks an increase of $2,235,541 or 1.90 percent over last year. The total tax levy will be $84,101,189, which represents an increase of .99 percent over the 2014-2015 budget.

Residents in the town of Carmel will see a tax rate increase of just 39 cents while Putnam Valley residents will see a tax rate increase of 25 cents.

Superintendent Brian Monahan stated, via email, that the low tax levy was made possible due to increases in state aid, reductions in the district’s required payments to the state pension system, and careful fiscal management.

“For next year, we will be able to maintain reasonable class sizes—something that is always a high priority with teachers and administrators, especially at the lower grade levels,” said Monahan of the budget’s achievements. “We are also providing some additional support for students with special needs and students that are struggling.”

District officials divided the budget into three areas during an April 14 presentation. Administrative costs, which include employee benefits and curriculum and instruction, come in at $8,894,006 that represents a decrease of $1,127,294 over the current budget. Programming expenditures, which includes guidance, psychological, and social worker services as well as transportation, are estimated at $97,440,917, which represents an increase of $4,351,838 over 2014-2015. Finally capital costs, which include basic operations and maintenance, are expected to drop by $989,003 for a final cost of $13,663,844.

This budget is unique for Monahan as it marks the first time since he became a superintendent in 2004 that he was able to go through the budget process without discussing layoffs. The 2015-2016 budget currently does not call for any employee layoffs or the elimination of any programs. In addition, the district was able to allocate additional money in the budget for a drug and alcohol abuse counselor at Mahopac High School as well as funding for additional health education at the middle school to address the drug problem that has been gripping the county for the past few years.

“That is something that has been a high priority of the Board of Education,” said Monahan of adding a drug and alcohol abuse counselor. “Like schools throughout the region, we have been troubled and saddened by the impact that substance abuse has had on our young people.”

A public hearing regarding the adopted budget will be held on May 12 at 7:30 p.m.
Hundreds of Putnam Students Refuse State Tests As District Officials Fret Over Fallout

continued from page 1

April 21 - April 27, 2015
The Putnam Examiner

president Dr. Stephen Jambor said while he legally can’t actively support state test refusals, he certainly understands why parents are making that decision. Jambor believes parents are trying to convey to the state that it is time to halt the level of testing and start rethinking education in New York.

“The opting out is a wake up call,” Jambor said.

While the civil disobedience has gotten plenty of attention, Jambor said the bigger question looming is what will happen next. District officials are feeling apprehension across the state over whether their district could lose funding from the federal or state government for having a low participation rate.

“It’s a concern, but I do not believe it’s going to happen,” Monahan said. “But it doesn’t mean that we’re not concerned about it. In some ways it seems unfair. We were following all the rules here. What happened here isn’t something the district did.”

Carmel Deputy Superintendent Andy Irvin said from the research he’s done, he doesn’t see anything where the state could withhold funds from schools because of a low participation rate. The potential to lose federal funding is not as clear, Irvin noted.

If a district’s participation rate is lower than 95 percent for two straight years, then that district could be designated as a school in need of improvement. Once a district is identified as that, there is a rigorous and labor-intensive process that includes losing some of the Title I funds federally given because a part of those funds have to be spent in efforts for an improvement plan.

“How can you improve it? We’re not actually improving an area of weaknesses, it’s a test refusal,” Irvin said. “And so to have to do any of that would be again taking us off task from what we’re supposed to, which is to educate children.”

Because most grades 3-8 in Carmel didn’t hit the 95 percent mark last year and won’t hit that mark this year, Irvin said Carmel school officials would have to wait to see what the fallout could be.

“Because unless something changes significantly, this is not going to get any better,” Irvin said.

Franz Joseph Haydn
Theresienmesse
(Maria Theresa Mass)

Franz Schubert
Mass in G major
D. 417 (final version)

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This program is made possible, in part, by public funds from Putnam County. This re-grant program is managed and monitored by the Arts Link program of the Putnam Arts Council, Mahopac, NY.

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By David Propper

Growing up, Ian Groombridge couldn’t always find fellow gamers his own age to play with or against. They were either a little older or younger than him.

Now, Groombridge Games is making it easier for residents interested in certain card games and fantasy tabletop role-playing games to come together, becoming a community of sorts in the village of Cold Spring.

Opened at the end of January by Groombridge and his mother Kim Connor, Groombridge Games is becoming the go-to place for gamers of all ages to congregate and take part in certain card games, dungeon and dragons and magic. Hosting events almost every day of the week, the village main street location continues to draw more residents as they come out of hibernation following a long winter.

“It’s a meeting place for people who don’t know each other to get to know each other,” Groombridge said. “It’s hard to tell who in normal life plays a game and who’s interested in this stuff but once you go to a game store you can just hang out and meet other people.”

Groombridge, 22, said there used to be a couple of similar stores in the region, but they recently closed leaving the greater gaming community in need of a new location. As Connor said, if you walk by on a Friday or Saturday night, the location begins to quickly fill up. The store is open five days a week, Wednesday to Sunday.

Self-described as a gamer all his life, Groombridge noted there are multiple skills participants must use in order to stand a chance against competitors, including probability, memory, math skills, reading comprehension, and having the uncanny ability to know what your opponent is thinking.

“These games are the kind of things that people think about a lot and learn,” Connor added. “There are many sets of rules, versions and things so someone who’s interested in amassing a great deal knowledge about something like this, this is the sort of thing that appeals to them.”

Groombridge would certainly know all about the intricacies of the variety of games played at the store. He owns more than 10,000 cards and is a certified judge for magic tournaments, which is useful when tournaments are held at his store.

With the business only three months old, Connor said the two are still experimenting with other possible games and events to introduce. The store recently held its first video game event after Groombridge convinced Connor to allow it, and the two are considering holding Cosplay events, which is short for costume play that has participants wear costumes and accessories representing certain characters.

While the Internet allows gamers to play each other online, there is a certain camaraderie felt when staring down an opponent face-to-face.

“It’s a lot more social to be with an actual person, a lot more interesting,” Groombridge said. “A lot of these games are essentially trading really good graphics for a much more social atmosphere.”

Groombridge Games is located on 165 Main Street in Cold Spring and its phone number is 845-809-5614. Its website is http://www.groombridgegames.com.
Letters to the Editor

Brewster School District Needs to Explore Other Ways to Trim Budget

In reference to David Propper's April 14th article in reference to the Brewster Schools proposed 2015-2016 school budget, staying under the tax cap, with little public scrutiny, I think the public should be aware of some savings that can or could have been easily achieved to prevent the cutting of any library personal, that will wind up hurting the students of the district. Brewster Schools paid $24,000 to Dr. Conway for educational expenses related to him becoming a doctorate, which made him qualified to be school superintendent when Dr. Sandbank was forced to retire. There is no agreement that he works for Brewster for any amount of time, he can quit tomorrow and not have to reimburse the district for his educational expenses. Brewster Schools paid a search firm at least $17,000 to conduct a nationwide search for a new superintendent. No one else was interviewed besides Dr. Conway by the Board of Education (I am not even sure if Dr. Conway was actually interviewed, but according to a report in the Courier last year, he is Dr. Jambor's friend). Brewster Schools pays Mr. Eric Gross, of the Putnam County Courier and WHUD a little over 100 dollars-an-hour for Public Relations, which comes out to around 10,000 dollars a year. (Ask the Superintendent show on Comcast ch. 22 and some other work, I believe). Brewster Schools reimburses Putnam County 100 percent for all costs associated with having a Deputy Sheriff at JFK School, which comes out to way over 100,000 a year, with medical, FICA, and NYS pension costs. The deputies at the BHS and CV Starr/HH Wells is a 50-50 split with Putnam County.

If the BOE wanted to really save money, and keep educational personal intact, they would not have paid for Dr. Conway's degree, so that he could get a higher salary of $250,000 a year. Use a HS student to do public relations work as part of their Audio Visual club, which would give these students real world experience. Hire what is known as a “SPO” special patrol officer, which is a recently retired police officer at the cost of $ 30,000 plus around $10,000 for training. uniforms, etc. Mahopac Schools do this, Putnam County does this at the county office building, and at motor vehicles and County Legislature meetings. Mahopac Schools has more safety, because they can hire several SPO’s for the cost of one deputy. I believe a study needs to be done to see if privatizing transportation and food services would produce significant cost savings.

In this day of record high foreclosures in Putnam County, school taxes, which are at least 75 percent of a property owners tax bill, the BOE should be thinking out of the box to achieve the most savings possible, so that more dollars can be spent on education of our children. Investigate if our students actually live in the confines of the Brewster School District too. Cutting teacher’s, aides, and library staff should be the last option on the table.

Robert Cullen
Brewster Central School District
Resident and Parent

Cooperative Southeast Board Has Led to Functional Government

I’d like to thank Neal Rentz for his excellent coverage of the upcoming council race in the Town of Southeast. There is one important piece of information that I failed to mention and, with apologies for this omission, I’d like to take a moment to correct this oversight. Working with my fellow Board members in Southeast has been an absolute pleasure. They have been both courteous and cooperative, qualities often lacking in our current political system. While my colleagues and I don’t always agree our working atmosphere has remained civil and professional. This is a far cry from the recent past and, more importantly; it is the way much can be accomplished. Supervisor Hay has been an outstanding leader as he holds all of us to a high standard of cooperation. Residents want and deserve positive results. There’s no question that a cooperative Town Board is far more likely to deliver these results. Again, many thanks to my colleagues for their ongoing civility and professionalism, despite an upcoming campaign I look forward to moving Southeast forward in 2015.

Lynne Eckardt
Councilwoman, Town of Southeast

Eckardt and Lord Qualified Candidates for Southeast Town Board

I’d like to thank Neal Rentz for his excellent coverage of Southeast candidates Lynne Eckardt and John Lord. It was a pleasure to read about Councilwoman Eckardt, who hit the ground running and has accomplished so much in her first term. She has remained committed to Southeast residents and encourages public their input at meetings. Even when confronted with disagreement and negativity Lynne remains above the fray and has Southeast’s best interests at heart. It was also exciting to see that John Lord is running. John is deliberative, dedicated and passionate about Southeast. Because John regularly attends meetings and understands local issues he will serve the town well if elected this November.

Obituaries

Robert Patrick Brown Sr.

Robert Patrick Brown Sr. of Moscow, Pennsylvania formerly of Carmel, died after a brief illness on Sunday, April 12 at Geisinger CMC Hospital in Scranton surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Brooklyn on November 7, 1939 to Cornelius and Bridget (Tuohy) Brown. He attended Chelsea Vocational High School in New York City and served honorably as a U.S. Army Engineer from 1959 to 1962. On August 31, 1968 he married Mary Griffon, at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Brooklyn. Bob worked at Con Edison in Westchester for 35 years in Gas Construction. He is survived by his loving wife Mary; his children, Robert P. Brown, Jr. of Canov and Catherine M. Henneforth (Aaron) of Newfoundland, Pennsylvania, three grandchildren, Caitlin and Matthew Henneforth, and Isabelle Brown; two sisters- Bridget Corrigan (Joseph) and Helen Poidievin (Donald) and his Jack Russell Maggie. He was pre-deceased by his parents and brother Cornelius.
Brewster School District Responds to Parent’s Criticism

The following is a response to Robert Cullen’s letter to the editor printed in this edition on page 10 titled: Brewster School District Needs to Explore Other Ways to Trim Budget.

Before we respond to Mr. Cullen’s statements, we wanted to point out that on our website, www.brewsterschools.org, there is a link to a copy of our recent audit report prepared by the Office of the New York State Comptroller. We believe it is important to note that the report is unusual in that it contained no criticisms of our financial operations and instead contains highly complimentary statements. For example, the State Comptroller’s Office commended Brewster School officials for their progressive involvement in managing the District’s financial condition. As a result, the District’s financial position has remained strong.

1) Per Mr. Cullen:
In reference to David Propper’s April 14 article in reference to the Brewster Schools Proposed 2015-2016 school budget, I think the public should be aware of some savings that can or could have been easily achieved to prevent the cutting of any library personal, that will wind up hurting the students of the district.

Response From Brewster Schools:
Each annual school budget evolves over a period of several months, and Brewster Schools solicits input from various segments of the community throughout this lengthy process. After considering input from the community received at the most recent Brewster Board of Education meeting, the librarian position in next year’s budget has been restored. Therefore, this is a moot issue at this point.

2) Per Mr. Cullen:
Brewster Schools paid $24,000 to Dr. Conway for educational expenses related to him becoming a doctorate, which made him qualified to be school superintendent when Dr. Sandbank was forced to retire. There is no agreement that he works for the District for his educational expenses.

Response From Brewster Schools:
Dr. Sandbank was not forced to retire. There is no agreement that he works for Brewster for any amount of time, he can quit tomorrow and not have to reimburse the District for his educational expenses.

3) Per Mr. Cullen:
Brewster Schools paid a search firm at least $17,000 to conduct a nationwide search for a new superintendent. No one else was interviewed besides Dr. Conway by the Board of Education.

Response From Brewster Schools:
The Brewster Board of Education considered it their duty to find the most appropriate Superintendent to lead Brewster Schools after Dr. Sandbank announced her retirement and, therefore, they retained the services of a renowned search firm with a strong reputation. The Superintendent’s position was advertised nationally, and over 60 applicants from around the country applied for the position. There were four rounds of interviews conducted by the search firm, the Board of Education, and a committee of individuals representing Brewster School parents, teachers, support staff, principals, and taxpayers.

4) Per Mr. Cullen:
Brewster Schools pays Mr. Eric Gross, of the Putnam County Courier and WHUD a little over 100 dollars a hour for Public Relations, which comes out to around 10,000 dollars a year. (Ask the Superintendent show on Comcast ch. 22 and some other work, I believe).

Response From Brewster Schools:
It is not uncommon for area school districts to have help getting public information to community members. Mahopac, Carmel and Putnam Valley Schools, for instance, all have made use of Mr. Gross’ expertise to help inform their constituents of school district events.

5) Per Mr. Cullen:
Brewster Schools reimburses Putnam County 100 percent for all costs associated with having a Deputy Sheriff at JKF School, which comes out to way over $100,000 a year, with medical, FICA, and NYS pension costs. The deputies at the BHS and CV Starr/HH Wells is a 50-50 split with Putnam County. Hire what is known as a “SPO” special patrol officer which is a recently retired police officer at the cost of $30,000 a year. Mahopac Schools do this, Putnam County does this at the county office building, and at motor vehicles and County Legislature meetings. Mahopac Schools has more safety, because they can hire several SPOs for the cost of one deputy.

Response From Brewster Schools:
Mr. Cullen is correct that the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office subsidizes 1/2 of the cost of the School Resource Officers at Wells Middle School/C V Starr and Brewster High School. Therefore, this arrangement benefits the taxpayers of Brewster Schools. Also, Mr. Cullen’s recommendation that Brewster Schools hire SPOs instead of using law officers (SROs) from the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office has serious drawbacks. For example, our School Resource Officers can make arrests, provide classroom instruction to children regarding safety issues and are in constant contact with the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office if additional help is needed. SPOs do not provide these services. This issue has been discussed at many school forums in the past, and parents are solidly in favor having School Resource Officers in our school buildings.

6) Per Mr. Cullen:
If the BOE wanted to really save money, and keep educational personal intact, they would not have paid for Dr. Conway’s degree, so that he could get a higher salary of $250,000 a year.

Response From Brewster Schools:
Superintendent Conway’s salary for the next school year is the same as this school year. Therefore, Dr. Conway is the only Brewster School employee not taking a salary increase for next year. Also, Dr. Conway’s salary is the same as the newly-hired Superintendent at Mahopac Schools and is less than the salary of the Superintendent at the Carmel School District.

7) Per Mr. Cullen:
I believe a study needs to be done to see if privatizing transportation and food services would produce significant cost savings.

Response From Brewster Schools:
Our food service department is staffed by dedicated individuals, many of whom live in the Brewster School District. Also, the food service department is financially self-sufficient and is not supported by taxpayer dollars. We believe that students and parents wish to continue the fine service of our existing food service staff. Also, our school bus transportation department is staffed with dedicated and knowledgeable individuals, many of whom also live in the Brewster community. We believe that cutting the positions of hundreds of transportation department employees would lead to a decrease in the quality of service since bus service would be under the direct control of a bus contractor and not the school district.

8) Per Mr. Cullen:
In this day of record high foreclosures in Putnam County, school taxes which are at least 75 percent of a property owners tax bill, the BOE should be thinking out of the box to achieve the most savings possible, so that more dollars can be spent on education of our children. Investigate if our students actually live in the confines of the Brewster School District, too.

Response From Brewster Schools:
Mr. Cullen was at the Board of Education meeting of January 13, 2015 when Brewster School’s protocol for checking residency was thoroughly discussed. Additionally, the following is a quote from a posting on the District’s website, twitter page and Facebook page which also responded to this issue: “This district, as with many districts, has the authority to investigate when it is suspected that a student enrolled in our district is not actually a resident. Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES offers this service to us and all districts in the area. The Brewster Central School District uses this BOCES investigative service when needed.”

9) Per Mr. Cullen:
Cutting teacher’s aides, and library staff should be the last option on the table.

Response From Brewster Schools:
Anyone who has regularly attended Brewster School Board meetings over the years knows that cutting staff positions is the last option that the Board of Education considers when preparing any school budget. As stated in #1 above, no library staff position is slated to be eliminated next year. No aide is slated to lose his or her job with Brewster Schools next year. Finally, no full-time teacher is being separated from employment with the District.

Stephen O. Jambor, Ph.D., President of the Brewster Board of Education Timothy J. Conway, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, Brewster Central School District
Reflections on a Day of Cleaning Up the Neighborhood of Litter

A few years ago, I wrote a piece about litter and how it relates to the real estate industry. I was inspired because I had just been asked to cancel a showing appointment when a couple had done an advance drive-by of the house and found that it was in a neighborhood where they felt there was an excessive amount of litter left on the streets.

“We wouldn’t want to live in a place where our neighbors could just leave litter in front of their own homes without picking it up,” they told me. They even added for emphasis, “We just wouldn’t want to live among people who could stand to live like that.”

I must confess, I have similar feelings when I’m driving down a road. I don’t know if I’m obsessive, okay. Maybe I am, but any foreign object of litter on the road catches my eye like a magnet and sets up that feeling of guilt that I can’t stop my car, get out and pick it up.

If I happen to be on my own street, even if it’s not in front of my house, I do it. Otherwise it’s just impractical. After all, don’t we all get honked at if we linger just a second too long when the light turns green? Litter does affect the value of our neighborhoods and, unfortunately, at least in my case, it tends to affect our feelings about those among us who are not as conscientious as we are, just as my client expressed when canceling her appointment. Indeed, what kind of people would throw trash from their car on to the road and just not give a damn about it?

Last Saturday, I had six hours to ponder that question as I personally cleaned up a half-mile of one of the three roads, the busiest one, that borders my property. It was the day Yorktown designated as “The Battle of Yorktown,” our annual litter clean up wonderfully sponsored by our town and directed by Kim Angliss-Gage.

I adopted that road some years ago in exchange for a sign promoting my real estate practice, and at first, I would hire people to do the job for me. But for the last two years I’ve done the job myself as mental therapy, in part to vent my anger against those who litter and in part, of course, to maintain the appearance of my neighborhood.

First, I am unhappy to report that despite all the campaigns to discourage littering, we seem to have more of it on our roads. My collected volume was probably at least 25 percent more this year than last year. But the type of litter seems to be shifting a bit. The number of empty cigarette packs has diminished (besides the health factor, who can afford them anymore?), but alarmingly, the number of empty liquor bottles has greatly increased as has beer cans.

As I worked, I would quell my anger by visualizing the litterbugs as mostly unhealthy people, judging from the predominance of fast food packaging and plastic containers of those sugary jumbo drinks. Indeed, since litterbugs offend only when no one is looking, all we know about them is the scant information Keep America Beautiful tells us: they tend to be men between the ages of 18 and 34 who drive more than 50 miles a day and eat in fast food restaurants at least twice a week.

While I mumbled and grumbled during the course of those hours I spent keeping a watchful eye on how close the cars were driving to me (most drivers were very courteous), I totally enjoyed the experience of cleaning up. In fact, these were among the most gratifying hours of my year. While doing something good for myself and the neighborhood, I helped restore a patch of Mother Earth to some semblance of how she should be.

There was only one negative factor involved in the experience. From so much bending and stooping, I found that my muscles were aching the next morning, more so than I remember in the past. Oh, yes, I forgot. I’m another year older. That’s all right. Doing good at least makes me feel younger.

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.

SATURDAY-MAY 2nd, 2015

PUTNAM COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS Waste Collection Day

Location: Fahnestock Park Canopus Beach Parking Lot Route 301 Kent, NY

Items Accepted: Drain/Oven cleaners, Rug & Upholstery cleaners, Polishes & waxes, Spot removers, Oil-based paints, Solvents, Thinners, Wood preservatives, Strippers, Mothballs, Rodent poisons, Insecticides, Herbicides, Flea powder, Antifreeze, Gasoline, Kerosene, Photo chemicals, Chemistry kits, Nail polish remover, Hair dyes, Hair sprays, Propane tanks up to 20 pound size.

Items Not Accepted: Electronic waste (e-waste), Used oil, Latex paint, Lead-acid batteries, Plastic bags, Tires, Unlabeled/ unidentified containers, Batteries.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT WASTE DISPOSAL OPTIONS, RECYCLING, AND MORE, PLEASE VISIT: http://www.putnamcounty.ny.com/green-putnam/or call (845) 808-1390 ext. 43166

Event Time: 9:00am—12:00pm
Pre-Registration Required. Call (845) 808-1390 x 43150.
Putnam County Residents Only— No Commercial Establishments
Is Your Home Hurting You? Reducing Pollutants and Chemicals at Home

The spring cleaning season is a great time to take a closer look at some of the potentially harmful chemicals present in your home -- and to seek out healthier alternatives.

In recent years, homeowners have started asking better questions about what pollutants are lurking around nearly every corner, from building materials to the paint on the walls down to the backing on carpeting. While it’s neither realistic nor necessary to remove every toxin from a home, there are a few common sources that can be addressed easily.

“The good news is, you don’t have to be a chemist to understand what products and materials are safe to have in your home,” said Anne Hicks Harney, architect and director of sustainability at architectural firm Ayers Saint Gross and member of the American Institute of Architects’ (AIA) Materials Knowledge Working Group. “You can arm yourself with the knowledge needed to make smarter choices for you and your family.”

Harney offers a few tips to help reduce or eliminate common toxins in the home.

Go Natural
Whenever possible, use natural or water-based materials and cleaning agents. Also, be aware of:

• Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCS). From paint to composite wood, VOCS are found in many products and are responsible for that tell-tale chemical “smell.” When it comes to paint, “Low VOC” or “No VOC” are your best options and are easy to find.

• Flame Retardants and Petrochemicals. Commonly found in such foam products as couch cushions and insulation, these are a bit more challenging to avoid. The risk is that these chemicals are known to accumulate over time in the human body. Looking for an alternative? Try a natural fiber such as down in your upholstery.

• Plastic Additives. Plastics are beneficial in a number of household materials but their use should be limited when possible. Search for a carpet with a polyvinyl chloride (PVC)-free backing or try wool, a natural alternative. For tile or sheet flooring, avoid vinyl products and consider linoleum or cork and rubber options instead.

Ventilate Your Home
It’s good to open your windows every now and then to get the air circulating into your home and any chemical smells out. If you can’t open your windows due to outdoor allergies or poor outdoor air quality, indoor plants constantly regenerate air and provide a pretty alternative.

Take to the Web
Manufacturers and professional organizations are becoming more transparent about educating consumers. Check out resources like the AIA Materials webpage or http://architectfinder.aia.org to learn more about sustainable products and to find professionals who can assist your efforts.

Don’t Know? Don’t Buy
As a general rule of thumb, if you don’t know and understand what a product contains, don’t put it inside your house. Take advantage of the wealth of information now available at your fingertips to make safer choices.

During this spring cleaning season, take the time to protect your family by removing harmful pollutants from your home.

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Fulmar’s Got Talent! Students Show Off Wide Range of Abilities

Fulmar Road PTO presented its 2015 Talent Show on April 10th. Students from 1st - 5th grade performed in 36 acts which included singing, dancing, Zumba, musical talents and teacher tributes. In addition to the line up, 77 5th grade students sang/battled (boys vs. girls) their knowledge of the Periodic Table lead by 5th grade teachers Mr. Mitchell & Mr. Jordan. Photos by: Fulmar Road Yearbook Committee.
Doctor's Note: Facts About COPD and Benefits of Pulmonary Rehabilitation

By Harlan R. Weinberg, Medical Director, Pulmonary Rehabilitation, Northern Westchester Hospital

Pulmonary rehabilitation (PR) is increasingly recognized as a significant part of treatment for people with chronic respiratory illnesses and other lung conditions. Even for those with very impaired lung function, this specialized rehab can improve quality of life and the ability to live independently.

This program of specialized exercise and patient education helps improve activity endurance, while lessening a person's sensation of shortness of breath. The goal is to improve quality of life and a person's ability to function independently at home and outside. PR benefits those with COPD, smoking-related lung disease, asthma, and other lung disorders that progressively limit breathing, as well as people recovering from an acute exacerbation of COPD, those who are pre- or post-lung transplant, and lung cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy.

Here, I replace popular myths about chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) with empowering truths about the positive impact of PR for people with this illness. I think you'll breathe easier after getting this encouraging information.

**Myth:** Only smokers get COPD.
**Truth:** A substantial number of people with the condition have never smoked. 42 percent of COPD sufferers are former smokers, 34 percent currently smoke, and the remaining 24 percent never took a single puff.

**Myth:** There is no treatment for COPD.
**Truth:** There is a range of treatment approaches for COPD that can help a person live better with the disease. These include medication, supplemental oxygen, transplant evaluation, enzyme replacement and/or pulmonary rehab.

**Myth:** You can't quit smoking.
**Truth:** It is never too late to quit smoking. Doing so will help slow the progression of the disease.

**Myth:** Exercise is too hard if you have COPD.
**Truth:** Exercise is a very important part of improving life with COPD, and a vital component of a comprehensive pulmonary rehabilitation program. The rewards of exercise are plentiful: It will improve your COPD symptoms, increase your endurance and help reduce stress among many other benefits.

Harlan Weinberg, MD, is Medical Director of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Northern Westchester Hospital in Mt. Kisco, NY. Dr. Weinberg offers expertly curated medical information on his website: www.knowledgeofmedicine.com
**Auction:** The Town of Patterson’s Putnam Lake Park District will hold a public auction of abandoned boats on Saturday, April 25 at 11 a.m. at the Boat House located at the corner of Fairfield and Lake Shore Drive, Patterson, NY. Boats will be available for inspection at 10 a.m. Cash only. All abandoned boats will be sold in “as is” condition and with no warranties as to the condition thereof or title thereto. Each purchaser of a boat will indemnify and save the Town of Patterson free and harmless from and against any claims, damages, causes of action, cost or expenses of whatever kind or nature regarding title to, or the condition or suitability of, such boat.

**Register Now:**
Art Classes @ Putnam Arts Council, Mahopac: Adult classes in the arts begin the week of April 20, with kids offerings beginning the first week in May. Classes are offered in Painting, Pottery, Drawing, Photography and are available days, evenings, after-school and weekends. Private piano, voice and acting lessons are also options for 16-adult. Register now - details and forms @ putnamarts council.com.

**Vendors Needed for Indoor Community Tag Sale on May 16th.** Do a little Spring cleaning and reserve a spot to sell your items. Patterson Recreation Center, 65 Front Street, Patterson, 845-878-7200.

**Ongoing:**
Certified Application Counselor from Open Door will be available to answer questions and make appointments for consumers to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace, 3 p.m.-7 p.m. Brewster Public Library. Walk-ins are welcome, but to schedule an appointment, please call 914-962-6402 or snezana@dejanovic@aol.com. For more information about either of these services, call the Brewster Public Library at 845-279-6421.

**Wednesday’s:**
**Wednesdays is Ladies Day:** Ladies will receive a round of golf and lunch at the Terrace Grill for $50. Special Menu Selections. Wednesday only. For more information/Questions please call 845-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

**April 25, 2015**

**Lake Carmel Fire Department** is conducting a free CPR class open to the public from 9 a.m. to noon. There is a maximum seating of 20. There is also an annual open house event from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., which is a recruitment program, located at 851 Route 52 in Lake Carmel. We are looking for folks to join the fire department as firefighters or EMT. We provide training to those that need it. We will have a car exhibition demo around 12:30 p.m., hot dogs, fire prevention, balloons and more.

**Putnam County Medication Take Back Day:** The Putnam County Communities That Care Coalition, in collaboration with the Putnam County Health Department and Putnam County Sheriff’s Department, will be holding a Spring Medication Take Back Event at Putnam Hospital Center (PHC). The disposal hours are between 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Please enter through the PHC Cancer Pavilion entrance. Signage will be posted leading to the disposal area.

**Saturday’s:**

**Winter Farm Market** This season, the Winter Market will be open every Sunday until May 31, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Winter Market footprint will be located in the lower level of the HVCPA building (15 Mt. Ebro Road South, ) and we are proud and excited to showcase vendors including: Vegetables, fruit, meat, fish, jams, bread and baked goods (gluten free too!), eggs, flowers, plants and weekly farm artis and specialty items from local growers and producers.

**Cancer Support:**

**Cancer Support Available: Support Connection, Inc.,** a not-for profit organization that provides free, confidential support services for people affected by breast and ovarian cancer, offers a wide range of free support groups women with breast and ovarian cancer. Groups focus on topics pertaining to living with cancer through all stages of diagnosis, treatment and post-treatment. They are offered in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess, and by toll-free teleconference. For a complete calendar of groups at all locations, visit www.supportconnection.org. Advance registration is required for all groups; call 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

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 Individuals can dispose of prescription medication, over the counter medication, and pet medication. Syringes will not be accepted, but we will keep your found syringes in their original packaging and remove personal patient information. For more information, please call Robert Morris of the Putnam County Health Department at (845) 808-1390 ext. 43166 or Kristin McConnell of the National Council on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependendencies/Putnam at (845) 225-4646.

**The Kent Historical Society Meeting:** Noon at the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park, 201 Gipsy Trail Rd., Carmel, for a walking tour of the lower park and a tour of the historical artifacts in the Museum. Free & open to the public. FMI: kenthistoricalsociety@gmail.com"

**Historic Area Clean-up:** The Milltown Association will conduct its annual Road Clean-Up of Milltown Road, Old Milltown Road, Gage Road and others within the Historic Milltown Area of the Town of Patterson during the annual open house event from 9 a.m. to noon. The volunteer area clean up is sponsored by the Milltown Association in 1984. Please join us for a couple of hours restoring our historic district to its natural, park like appearance. We meet at 8:30 a.m. for coffee, donuts and assignments. Sunday parking at the intersection of Milltown and Old Milltown Roads.

Brewster Fire Department is hosting a complete Herb-Roasted Chicken Dinner. 6 p.m. Includes appetizers, salad, entree and dessert. Handicap accessible. Adults $17, Ages 4-10 $6, under 3 eat Free. RSVP’s requested by Thurs Apr 23. Call 845-234-3127 or email BrewsterFDevents@aol.com

**Bird Walk to the Board Walk:** Take a hike on the HHLT and share a 2-mile hike with us! The trail is marked with brown signs and includes several lookouts with great views of the river and surrounding woods.
ADPTION
Unplanned Pregnancy? Caring licensed adoption agency provides financial and emotional support. Choose from loving pre-approved families. Call Joy toll free 1-866-922-3678 or confidential email: Adopt@ForeverFamilies-ThroughAdoption.org

Warmhearted couple wishes to give unconditioned love to an infant. Get to know通过Adoption.org dential email: Adopt@ForeverFamilies.


classifieds

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FOR SALE

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PLEASANT PAWS INN LLC Catering to the most discerning dog owners in Westchester. Our home will be their home. 24/7 one on one love. Boarding, daycare, walks & transportation services available. Book a reservation at info@pleasantpawsinn.com or 914-773-2020 or 914-906-8414. 9 acreocards, etc.

ABANDONED FARM! 34 acres $169,900 Upstate NY farmhouse, barn, apple orchard, woods, long gated drive, incredible setting! Terms avail! 888-905-8847 newyorklandandlakes.com

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RUSHING STREAM- CHRISTMAS TREE FARM- 6 acres - $26,900 BUY BEFORE MAY 1ST AND TAKE $5,000 OFF! Gated drive, views, stunning upstate NY setting! Town rd, utilities, terms! 888-701-7509

Spectacular 3 to 22 acre lots with deep-water access-Located in an exclusive development on Virginia’s Eastern Shore and just hours away. Amenities include community pier, boat ramp, paved roads and private sandy beach. May remind you of the Jersey Shore from days long past. Great climate, boating, fishing, clamming and National Seashore beaches nearby. Absolute buy of a lifetime, recent FDIC bank failure makes these 25 lots available at a fraction of their original price. Priced at only $55,000 to $124,000. For info call (757) 442-2171, e-mail: oceanlandtrust@yahoo.com, pictures on website: http://Wibiti.com/5KQN

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CASH for Coins! Buying Gold & Silver. Also Stamps, Paper Money, Comics, Entire Collections, Estates. Travel to your home. Call Marc in NY: 1-800-959-3419. SWANTED COMIC BOOKS Pre-1975: Original art & movie memorabilia, sports, non-sports cards, ESPECIALLY 1960’s Collector/Investor, paying cash! Call WILL: 800-242-6130 buying@getcashforcomics.com

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Classified Ad Deadline is Thursdays at 5pm for the next week’s publication
Louie, Louie, Oh Baby!
Mahopac Sitting Pretty at 6-0; Indians Sweep Carmel, Beat Lakeland

Mahopac IF Louie Nardella and the Indians were in synch on defense and offense last week when the undefeated Indians (6-0) swept Sam Ferranto (sliding) and the Carmel Rams behind a pair of sterling pitching performances from John Reda and Cal Lawrence. Mahopac capped the week off with a 5-0 shutout of Lakeland and now brace for the most difficult stretch in their schedule, including six games against the Dutchess County powers that be from today through May 7th... see Baseball Notebook
Yorktown Establishing Itself as Team to Beat in Section 1
Harker Nets 200th Career Goal; Ossining Program Taking Shape

By Tony Pinciaro & Ray Gallagher

SOMERS suffered its first loss of the season, 13-3 to YORKTOWN, but rebounded with a solid second half to overcome Fox Lane, 12-11. Meanwhile, the Huskers have established themselves as the team to beat after knocking off John Jay, 7-5, on Friday.

“Playing major competitors like Ward Melville, Somers, and John Jay all in one week was very exciting and we knew we had to have a winning mentality to carry us through,” said Husker Jenna Gammer, who put two between the pipes against Jay. “What sets our team apart from others is the close family-like bond we share. It actually is family for me, as I get the chance to play on the same team with my twin sisters, Natalie and Lauren, every day. Our team’s close bond translates into the teamwork we have all over the field. To have such a successful week is awesome as we were able to prove to ourselves, our coaches and the rest of Section 1 that we are ready for any challenge that is presented to us. My teammates and I have been playing together for years, and with our camaraderie both on and off the field, motivation, and work ethic, I think we will have a much happier outcome at the end of this season.”

In a feisty affair with Jay, Husker Casey Duff bagged the last two goals to secure the win, furthering ticking off an angry Jay crowd. YORKTOWN’s USC-bound All-American Emily Concialdi scored the game’s first two goals before injuring her knee and sitting out much of the game. An MRI would reveal the extent of the injury sometime this week.

Against Somers, the reigning Class B champion Tuskers simply lacked the firepower to stay with a driven Yorktown team, which lost in last year’s finals.

“It was definitely not our best game,” said Somers’ coach Jaime Irving of the Yorktown game. “We struggled on the draw and could not gain any momentum. Yorktown played a great game and took full advantage of our team’s turnovers. This is the kind of game we needed help us make to proper changes and use it as a learning experience.”

Somers trailed Fox Lane, 8-6 at halftime, but the defense clamped down and the offense took over, fueling the Tuskers to victory.

Nicole DeMase led Somers with five goals and two assists and Livy Rosenzweig added four goals.

“Their defense is so good,” Irving said. “We were able to make improvements from Tuesday’s loss.”

Following a grueling three-game stretch of Yorktown, Somers and John Jay-Cross River, resulting in two losses and a tie, LAKELAND/PANAS demonstrated why it’s a perennial power. The Rebels answered back with victories over Pawling (19-0), Beacon (19-0) and Brewster (19-8).

“I really think we have shown good improvement this week with possession skills, clearing and spreading out our offense and getting contributions from everyone,” Lakeland/Panas coach Sharon Sarsen said. “I think we have found a bit of a rotation and the players are starting to gel.”

Thirteen players had goals for the Lakeland/Panas against Pawling. Jackie Picard led the Rebels with a goal and four assists and Katie Bradbury chipped in with two goals and two assists. Dana Bozek, Meghan Fahey and Emily Power each had two goals and one assist.

Lakeland/Panas had scoring diversity against Beacon with 11 player scoring goals and none had more than two. Bozek led the way with two goals and three assists and Gianna Naopli and Bradbury had two goals and two assists apiece.

The Rebels finished their week with Bradbury scoring five goals and adding two assists in the victory over Brewster. Bozek finished with three goals and five assists and Valerie Perkins had a hat trick.

It took a week for the OSSINING basketball players to get their lacrosse legs and now the Pride are rolling.

Since an opening-game loss to Fox Lane, Ossining has run off five consecutive wins, including four in a six-day stretch—Sleepy Hollow (17-1), North Salem (11-9), Briarcliff (18-6) and New Rochelle (15-7).

The basketball players, led by Abby Squirrell, Stefanie Svoboda and Jalay Knowles, were fresh off a New York State Class AA basketball title so they had to jump right into lacrosse practice. Despite missing the first two weeks because of basketball, Squirrell said the girls were ready to go.

“It definitely set us and the team back a little, but with so many basketball players playing lacrosse we’re used to playing with each other,” said Squirrell, who will attend Marquette next fall and play lacrosse. Meghan Hooley and Gabey Hagerman led the Pride with five and three goals, respectively, against Sleepy Hollow. Squirrell contributed two goals and two assists. Squirrell took over against North Salem with seven goals.

Briarcliff entered the game with one priority, stop Squirrell. Squirrell, Ossining’s defensive stopper in basketball, was more than happy to accept the determined attention Briarcliff gave her. With the defense focusing on her, Squirrell knew how to make the Bears pay—pass to open teammates.

Stefanie Svoboda responded with eight goals and Squirrell finished with eight assists and three goals. Hooley also

continued on page 23
Boys LAX Notebook

Class B Yorktown Preps for Class A Heavy Fox Lane

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor

When Yorktown All-American-in-waiting Mike Dedvukaj said “it just proves we’re not the hot (stuff) we think we are” after the Huskers were soundly defeated in a 14-6 loss to state-ranked (No.6) Class A Long Island powerhouse Ward Melville, he wasn’t spouting some hollow message to the media on behalf of the reigning NYC Class B champions. He knew his teammates would read it and take his confession to heart.

Surely, the senior middie did just that when he put six between the pipes in Coach Dave Marr’s state-ranked (No.1) Huskers’ 10-9 victory over CT powerhouse Wilton, while holding firm to the Turnbull Cup that honors Jim Turnbull, THE foremost coach in Yorktown and Section 1 history.

“We finally played together as a whole this season,” said Dedvukaj, who has a team-high 28 goals and 34 points. “We talked about it at halftime against Somers and we haven’t looked back since then. It was a great win for us, but we are not satisfied yet. We’re into the heart of our schedule right now playing some very good teams. If we keep playing how we played Saturday and get better, we’ll be tough to beat.”

The All-American-clad Yorktown coaching staff has been preaching a four-quarter mantra since the slow starts began back in Week 1 and they finally got something resembling a complete game against Wilton.

“We haven’t played a complete game all year but going all four quarters really showed what our team is about,” said senior middie Ryan Baker, who scored seven goals and won 72% of his draws in a rout of Somers and leads the club in points (35) and GBs (63). “When our defense wasn’t playing as good as it should, our offense had their back, and the same thing when the offense wasn’t playing well, the defense has their back. Our goalie Liam Donnelly had a huge game and came up with big one-on-one saves, which really helped get the win. It was just a great team effort from all over the field, but still wasn’t the best we could have played.”

The Huskers will need their best effort this Thursday when they take on a Fox Lane program that might be the most improved in at least a decade in Section 1. The jump the Foxes have made from last year to this year has signaled the beginning of a new era in Class A; whether it’s cyclical or not remains to be seen, but Fox Lane looks like it might be the team to beat in Class A this season and possibly next. It’s been quite some time since the media professed anything like that regarding the Foxes, so maybe Mahopac would like to debate that notion should the road veer toward Bedford in late May.

“We know that they’re full of D1 commits all over the field, so if we don’t come out ready to play it might not go our way Thursday night,” Baker admitted.

NWE/Putnam Fab Five Lax Poll

No.1 YORKTOWN – Coach Marr’s nationally-ranked (No.15) Huskers (8-1) put the 20-6 hurt on Somers, doing so behind seven points apiece from Baker and Kyle Casey (4G, 3A). Billy Strassman, Nick Santavicca, Nike Del Bene (1A) and Justin Cavallo (1A) each put a pair between the pipes. Big Logan Peters went for 1G, 4A.

No.2 MAHOPAC – Coach Haddeland’s Indians (5-3) are one team that, when healthy, might pose some sort of threat to Fox Lane and the rest of the Class A contenders. With recent triumphs over Hen Hud (12-9) and Somers (10-9 in OT), the Indians pushed their win streak to four games behind the vintage efforts of All-American hopeful Dan Foley, who went for 6G, 1A against Somers – including the game-tying and game-winning goals – and 3G and 2A against Hen Hud when he got some help from Christian Donahoe (2G-2A), DJ Pearl (3G) and Johnnie Ward (2G-3A). The early panic has subsided as...
**Undefeated Mahopac Sweeps Carmel, Blanks Lakeland**

**Putnam Valley, Lent Shut Down John Jay EF; Croton Rolling**

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor

It took some time for Mother Nature to release her hold, but once she did the Section 1 baseball circuit got live in a hurry. **MAHOPAC** is a sterling 6-0 after knocking off Put Valley last week, sweeping a pair from **CARMEL** and shutting out **LAKELAND**, 5-0, to conclude the week of action on Saturday.

And what a week it was for Coach Chris Miller’s Indians, who will lather up in the days ahead against the powers that be in Dutchess County. The Indians have done so with brilliant pitching from starters John Reda, Cal Lawrence and Brendan White, who fired a complete-game four-hitter against Lakeland.

Lawrence threw another complete game with six whiffs and James Curtin had a career-best four RBI while Louie Nardella knocked in three as the swept Carmel, 9-4. The day before, Reda went two runs in support of winning pitcher Brendan White, who fired a complete-game four-hitter against Lakeland.

Junior Greg Cavaliere drove home two runs in support of winning pitcher White, who shut down the Lakeland last Saturday. In what was White’s finest varsity hour to date, the RHP sent nine Hornets (3-2) down K-way and walked just one while scattering five hits. If White can provide the Indians with a solid No.3 behind Reda and Lawrence, the Indians could do some damage in what might be a special season. However, the next stretch of games are brutal, including six games with 2013 Class AA champion Arlington, Jay EF and reigning champion RCK, plus Fox Lane, losers of the last two championships. Throw in Class B power North Salem and scrappy Class A **PANAS** (4-1) and we’ll see just how good the Indians are by May 7th.

“We have had a really great start,” Mahopac skipper Chris Miller said. “We’re playing well in all phases right now, but I think it is way too early to say we gave something special. We have a long season ahead of us with some tough teams coming up. Let’s get into May before we use the special word.”

**PUTNAM VALLEY** has been getting it done with pitching as well, doing so in a pair of one-run wins over Hen Hud and John Jay EF. Against East Fishkill, senior RHP Eddie Lent went the distance in a 2-1 win, which came about after junior Mike Dellabate (2 hits) beat out an error for the winning run in the bottom of the seventh. OF Zach Girvalo knocked in the first run for the Tigers (3-2).

Lent whiffed six and scattered five hits and has now had imposing showings against a pair of Class AA foes, including Mahopac, whom he held scoreless for six innings, and John Jay EF.

Against the Sailors, Hen Hud tied the game on a suicide squeeze in the top of the 7th, but Put Valley won 3-2 on a walk-off single from senior IF Nick Marro.

Dellabate also stroked home a run against Hen Hud, supporting starting pitcher Ryan Basso (5 Ks, 5 hits allowed), who went six strong but yielded to Lent, who chalked up his third win, in the seventh.

PV Coach Joe Natalie had a heart-to-heart with his boys this week and the message is simple: “It’s us against the world from here on out.” Coach Nats was hoping his unit would settle down and relieve some of the pressure it has put on itself to win a section title as the Tigers seemed to be pressing at the plate during the recent run-scoring dearth that has plagued the team and put mega pressure on the pitching staff. When the Tigers start to hit to their capabilities, the unit should be able to contend with most, if not all, Class B teams.

**LAKELAND** improved to 3-2 after a 12-6 win over Ossining. Ace Rick Burroni secured his first win.

**CROTON-HARMON** beat Dobbs Ferry, 10-4, behind P Scott Giordano. Izaak Cohen knocked in RBI and the Tigers improve to 7-0 for the first time anyone can recall. The Coach Eric Rosen’s Tigers also shelled Pleasantville, 16-12, in a game where nobody could stop the opponent from putting crooked numbers on the board.

Christian Lando went the route with 7 K’s and Dom Pintavalle went 2 for 4 with a HR in Brewster’s 6-3 win over Lourdes.

**YORKTOWN** settled for a split with John Jay CR last week, beating the Indians 8-7 last Wednesday and losing...
Sports

Yorktown Establishing Itself as Team to Beat in Section 1

continued from page 20
added a hat trick.

"Briarcliff had their defense focused on me so that was leaving Stefanie open," Squirrell said. "I just kept passing to Stefanie."

Squirrell netted seven goals against New Rochelle to close out the four-win week. Hooley and Hagerman each scored three goals.

Squirrell noted that Ossining's bounce-back win against Ursuline, after losing to Fox Lane, gave the Pride a confidence boost. Since then, Squirrell said that the Pride are receiving contributions from everyone which has led to this winning streak.

MAHOPAC split a pair of games, opening with a 19-2 win over Wappingers before a 7-6 loss to Arlington. Vicky Moundroukas, Gabby Light, Kelly Maxwell and Kim Harker each had hat tricks in the victory. Maxwell also finished with eight assists, a new Mahopac single-game record, breaking the old standard of five, which stood for 12 years. In addition, Harker scored the 200th goal of her career, further padding her school record with yet another milestone.

"Kelly had a tremendous day leading the team and playing unselfish to break a record that has been held for 12 years here at Mahopac is spectacular," Mahopac coach Jim Lieto said. "I am so proud of the leader on the field that Kelly has become. It is also great to get a win in our first league game. It is a new league this year and we were very focused on getting off on the right foot."

Harker finished six of nine on draws and Tara Rivoli was four of six. Alyssa Kirby was a vacuum with nine ground balls.

Arlington had a 6-2 lead at halftime and staved off a second-half Mahopac surge. Harker led Mahopac with four goals and Francesca Ferreira added two scores.

"Arlington came in with a great game plan and unfortunately we were not able to counter what they were doing," Lieto said. "We mounted a little bit of a comeback in the second half, but unfortunately we fell behind too far to come back from."

Rivoli went eight of 10 on draws and Kirby paced the team with six ground balls.

Brewster had a difficult week with losses to John Jay-Cross River (16-8) and Lakeland/Panas (19-8). Mary Kate Longeana and Lauren Craft had three goals and an assist each against John Jay. The tandem each had a hat trick.

the real Indians have begun to step up, showing athleticism, skill and resolve in tough spots. We were high on Indians early on and this is about where they belong when healthy, right behind Yorktown.

No.3 HEN HUD – Coach Solly’s Sailors (6-3) needed junior M Mike Smith to bag four goals against Lourdes to reach 100 for his storied career, but the Sailor sniper put a six-pack on the Warriors instead during state-ranked (No.15) Hen Hud’s 19-6 win. Nick Marra added 3G, 3A.

No.4 SOMERS – Coach DeGregorio’s Tuskers (2-6) once again played Yorktown tough for a half (6-4) before the Huskers toyed with them in the second half. If Somers could just put together two halves, the Tuskers could figure out a way to

Class B Yorktown Preps for Class A Heavy Fox Lane

continued from page 21

the Class B Final 4 or better. We hear it got pretty chippy against Yorktown, which at least tells you Somers won’t take a beating lying down. Same could be said for their effort against Mahopac in which Bob Zottola and Joe Hashmall each scored twice. Somers is probably the best 2-6 team out there right now and a whole lot better than that.

No.5 PUT VALLEY – Coach Ignat’s Tigers (4-3) saw Alex Bronzo (5G-3A), Jake O’Connell (4G-1A) and Kevin Gallagher (2G-3A) do major damage in the Tigers’ 14-1 win over Peekskill, but wins in this league they play in aren’t helping prepare the Tigers for a crack at P’Ville or Bronxville.

HM BREWSTER – Coach Honey’s Bears (2-7) were all set to climb into the 5-spot before they were rocked by Wappingers, who we understand is improving but should not be beating Brewster by seven goals just a couple of days after the Bears pushed Hen Hud to the limit in a 1-goal loss. What gives, fellas?

HM LAKELAND/PANAS – Add Wappingers and Briarcliff to the list of teams we NEVER expected Coach Lindsay’s Rebels (2-6) to lose to. This is getting both worrisome and vexing as April turns toward May and the skid hits six games. Guess we’re not as high on the Rebels as we once were.

Undefeated Mahopac Sweeps Carmel, Blanks Lakeland

continued from page 22

7-6 last Friday. The Huskers (4-2) saw 3B Jack Kelly drive home two in the loss while Jan Kluk knocked in a pair in victory as the Huskers scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh. Jake Bichler was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to win it. The Huskers and Hornets have been a tad streaky to start the season, and the two will see which team is more stable this week in their annual dust-up.

ON DECK – The 34th annual Sorrentino Cup Game will be the featured game of the upcoming week when the Yorktown Huskers will welcome the Lakeland Hornets on Saturday, April 25 at 11 am. This annual event is played in memory of Joseph Sorrentino, Jr., a Yorktown High School athlete and star pitcher who passed away in 1981. This special memorial tribute game has long been a community staple and promises to be one of the better games these two rivals play this season. We’re told that the bleachers should be full, so remember to bring yourself a lawn chair.

Put Valley RHP Eddie Lent has been very ace-like for Coach Joe Natalie’s Tigers this season.
Double Trouble!

Mahopac Duo Drops Hen Hud, 12-9

Mahopac’s dynamic duo of juniors Dan Foley (3) and Aidan Hynes (29) double up on Hen Hud senior pole Carson Jacobs in the Indians’ 12-9 triumph of the visiting Sailors last Wednesday when M Foley went for three goals and two assists while LSM Hynes led a defense that shut the Sailors out in the last seven minutes of play. ... see Boys Lax Notebook.