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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025



Eagle Scout Connor O'Reilly, far left, with members of Somers Boy Scout Troop 228, Putnam County Historian Jennifer Cassidy, Southeast Historic Sites Commission Chairperson Cathy Croft, former County Legislator Joseph Castellano, Southeast Town Supervisor Nick Durante, Southeast Town Historian Jack Alcott, and others at the sign unveiling.

New Sign Marks Historic 1891 Debut of East Branch Reservoir

By Jack Alcott

Connor O'Reilly's Eagle Scout project celebrates the 1891 opening of the East Branch Reservoir and Sodom Dam in Southeast.

A blue and gold historical sign – the result of O'Reilly's research and work – was unveiled Nov. 23 during an afternoon ceremony at Milltown and Old Milltown roads. O'Reilly's project included a thorough documentation of the dam and reservoir, which was all part of a vast 19th century engineering feat that brought fresh water to New York City.

Members of the Putnam County Italian American Social Club and President Randy Calano were key supporters of the historic sign

project and were on hand to congratulate O'Reilly, who is a member of Somers Boy Scout Troop 228.

Putnam County Historian Jennifer Cassidy noted how important Italian-American laborers, stonemasons, and artisans – many of them immigrants – were to the successful construction of the Sodom Dam and reservoir complex. Many were injured and one Italian worker died in an accident at the dam site.

In fact, Italian immigrant workers played a key role in the building of NYC's entire reservoir system.

The historical sign is adjacent to the parking lot at Milltown and Old Milltown roads and faces the

reservoir. It's not far from numerous huge blocks of stone that once belonged to a working mill on the Croton River in the 1800s.

Hundreds of acres of land were flooded by the dam and 21 homes, three saw and grist (grain) mills, along with a carriage factory and a sash and blind factory were all sent to a watery grave in the Sodom hamlet of old Southeast Centre.

A number of the homes and the surviving one-room Milltown schoolhouse were moved to higher ground along Milltown Road.

During times of drought and drawdowns, the old roads and foundations of the long-forgotten homes and mills rise ghostlike from the reservoir's desolate bed.

Putnam Valley Considers Eased Commercial Zoning

By Rob Sample

Putnam Valley residents turned out in force for a Nov. 19 public hearing on zoning changes that aim to facilitate the creation of small businesses in residential areas and neighborhoods. Almost unanimously, residents spoke opposed the changes, saying the town needs to preserve its semi-rural character and find occupants for the many vacant commercial structures in town.

Town Supervisor Jacqueline Annabi described the plan as a framework for enhancing the aesthetics and neighborhood vibe for the town's historic hamlets, by making it easier for small businesses to open and thrive. Current zoning rules make doing so difficult, she said.

The proposed commercial/neighborhood districts would foster mixed-use development.

"The CN district is designed specifically to support small-scale, neighborhood-oriented businesses that serve the surrounding community without competing with larger commercial zones," said Annabi. "And, importantly, every project within these areas will still undergo site-specific environmental review... to ensure traffic,

environmental, and community impacts are carefully evaluated."

Bruce Barber, the town's wetlands inspector and town planner, noted that under the current zoning rules, small businesses that wanted to set up shop in residential zones have had their proposals turned down.

"The idea behind this is to open up these types of local businesses in the community for the community, and hopefully bring people from outside the community in to shop as well," he said.

Tom Carano, vice-chairman of the Putnam Valley Planning Board, pointed to a recent town-wide survey on commercial development that would seem to favor this proposal. The survey is still ongoing, but among respondents thus far, 77 percent favor more eateries, 67 percent favor more retail space, and 62 percent want more health and wellness venues.

Nonetheless, approximately one dozen residents who spoke at the hearing were far less sanguine.

"We moved here for the amazing country character and the natural beauty of the mountains, the lakes, and the gorgeous glacial rock," said Karla Ruth. "That's

Continued on Page 11

Lawmakers Urge Action on Optum Coverage Cuts

Assemblyman Matt Slater, R-Yorktown, and State Sen. Pete Harcham, D-Peekskill, recently urged the New York State Department of Health to take immediate action in response to Optum's decision to drop coverage for several low-cost health plans and close local medical facilities.

In a letter to Health Commissioner James McDonald and NYS Department of Financial Services Acting Superintendent Kaitlin Asrow, Harcham and Slater stressed that eliminating multiple plans – including individual exchange options such as Fidelis/Wellcare and Cigna/HealthSpring – will directly harm low-income residents, Medicare Advantage enrollees, and Medicaid patients.

The legislators also warned that closing Optum's multi-specialty medical office in Somers will force patients – many of them older adults or individuals with complex medical needs – to

travel farther for care. This action, they said, will disrupt a continuity of care and contradict the convenience and accessibility Optum pledged when it first acquired these practices.

"Let's call it what it is – absurd," said Slater. "Shuttering sites and dropping coverage does nothing to make local healthcare more affordable or accessible. In fact, it does the opposite. Real people's lives are being affected by these decisions, and we're doing everything we can to protect patients from the lack of transparency and ensure continuity of care."

"Forcing people to travel farther and pay more for essential care, especially as the cost of living continues to soar, is unacceptable," added Harcham. "We should be working together to protect patients and ensure they receive the care they need, not

Continued on Page 11



Mahopac Lights Up for the Holidays

Mahopac rang in the start of the holidays with the second annual Lights of Lake Mahopac Thanksgiving Parade on Nov. 22. Knights of Columbus 5743, Schwick Wheels, Carmel Councilman Robert Kearns, and St. James the Evangelist Church of Mahopac sponsored the event. Contributed photo.



Working Mom

By Holly Crocco

Thankful

I was sick as a dog the day before Thanksgiving. Unfortunately, Mikey only had a half-day of school Wednesday, which meant my husband was on entertainment duty for the afternoon even though he was still supposed to be plugged in for work. I was in and out of consciousness all day, but the fragments I took in weren't good. It started in the morning when I heard Mike tell the 7-year-old to get his shoes on approximately 14 times. As expected, his volume rose with each request. Little did he know that he had at least another six times to issue the order before the kid actually did as he was asked. The three hours that Mikey was at school were relatively peaceful as my fever pulled me under, but then it was nearing time for his return home. "What time does he get out on a half-day?" My husband asked from the threshold of the spare room. "I dunno," I mumbled. "Noon?" "Noon? No. I thought it was 12:30?" "Maybe? Check the app." (Thirty seconds later ...) "The app isn't working." "Well, then, open the front door and listen for the bus to pull up and beep." I fell back into unconscious-

ness, but was awoken to the raised voice of my husband as he attempted to take Mikey's lunch order. "Mikey! I asked if you wanted a hamburger or leftover pizza... HELLO? No, turn that thing off - you're not going to sit on the tablet all afternoon!" Unpopular opinion: I say when you're in survival mode, let the kid melt into the screen for the day. Tomorrow is a new day. But I wasn't running the show, so I listened to Mike stomp across the living room and - I assume - dislodge the tablet from the child's cold, dead hands. Then came the real fighting words. "Buddy, listen, you have to come with me to the store real quick." I winced in my sweat-soaked sheets, bracing for the backlash that I knew was coming. Here's the thing: I had offered to bake the pumpkin pie and a cake to bring to Thanksgiving dinner at the in-laws. Not only would it provide dessert for everyone, but it was supposed to be the afternoon activity for me and Mikey. But, since no one wants a side of the plague with their holiday meal, Mike was forced to go to the supermarket. Specifically the bakery section... They day before Thanksgiving...

Toting a 7-year-old under duress... At that moment I was thankful to be fighting fever dreams in lieu of having to go to the store myself. I could hear Mikey's whines of protest, and maybe even a little stomping, but at some point - maybe minutes, maybe hours later - I heard the door slam shut and it was quiet in the house. A short while later - again, maybe minutes, maybe hours - I was startled awake to Mikey's voice right next to my ear. "Mom!" "Gah! What? What... Did you go to the store?" "Yes. You're all sweaty." "Thank you." "Why are you sweaty?" "Because I'm sick, and you probably shouldn't get too close." He ran off but a moment later was back. "Mom!" "Gah! What?!" "Dad swore." "Well, we all slip sometimes. Give him a break... Why did he swear?" "He said he got the wrong pie. He said it looked the same but it was the wrong one." "Well, dessert is dessert, bud. And people don't have to eat it if they don't like it." "And he said he bought an expensive cake because it was the first one he saw and he wanted to get the heck out of there." "I support that decision." Mikey skipped back out of the room and a short time later I heard some more yelling, whining, dinner negotiations, and then laughter and the sound of Roblox. I was regaining consciousness when Mike popped his head into the room. "You feeling any better?" he asked. "I think I'm going to live." "Good. It's been a rough day." "Yeah, I heard you fighting for your life. It's almost over." "It's 5:30 p.m."

My fever broke in the middle of the night Wednesday to Thursday, but I still stayed home while the husband and child went to Thanksgiving festivities as the in-laws. And, between you and me, I might have been a little bit thankful to have a day to lay on the couch and binge Netflix shows. Happy holidays! *Holly Crocco is editor of the Putnam County Time/Press and mother of a 7-year-old boy. She can be reached at editorial@putnampresstimes.com.*

Winter Ensemble

Putnam Chorale's select winter ensemble will perform "Joy in Every Measure" in multiple venues in the month of December. The program includes classical songs like Vivaldi's "Gloria," as well as new rhythmic takes on "Deck the Halls" and "Dashing through the Snow: A Jingle Bells Spectacular." Concerts will take place Thursday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m., at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Somers; Saturday, Dec. 13 at 2:30 p.m., at Putnam Ridge Nursing Home in Brewster (closed to the public); Friday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m., at the Graymoor's Spellman Library in Garrison; and Saturday, Dec. 20 at the Lyndhurst Estate Welcome Center at 2 and 4 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 to \$25 and are available at putnam-chorale.org/next-event.



Haris Pupovic on the obstacle course.

Mahopac Youth is a Ninja Warrior

Mahopac sixth-grader Haris Pupovic recently participated in the most competitive event within the sport of Ninja Warrior - The World Ninja League Premier Finals. Ninja Warrior is a growing sport that developed due to the popularity of "American Ninja Warrior," which consists of obstacle course racing. Pupovic participated alongside the most competitive ninjas in the world in Lee's Summit, MO. Pupovic had a fabulous season, placing second overall at the World Ninja League Northeast regionals and first on one of their courses. He is ranked 13th in the world within his age division - a result of becoming gradually stronger each year that he competes. "The sport has developed Haris' character to overcome obstacles off the ninja course as well," said mom Emily Pupovic. "He's also a kind person, an excellent student and athlete as well. We're so very proud of him."

Letters to the Editor

Torpey Should Resign

Dear Editor: As the mother of two children who went through the Carmel schools from Kent Primary through Carmel High School from 1991 through 2007, and now as the grandmother of two Carmel students, one in 11th grade and one in second grade, I attended the board of education meeting on Tuesday night (Nov. 18) and agree with the people who spoke up and said that Michael Torpey must leave the board of education either by resignation or by being voted off. Mr. Torpey's Islamophobic sentiments expressed online and witnessed by dozens or hundreds of people referenced his role as a Carmel board member and thus ties him to the school district. Yes, we still enjoy First Amendment rights to speak our minds, but Mr. Torpey specifically referenced his membership on the school board as an elected official and that is what has inflamed the community. Torpey's remark denigrating the victory of Zohran Mamdani as mayor of New York City as a harbinger of "the Islamic takeover of western society" is appalling but not surprising, given the culture of the Carmel school district. Mr. Torpey's remark didn't come out of nowhere; the attitude he expressed has been prevalent in the district for decades now. No amount of training is going to change the lifelong attitudes of Mr. Torpey and people like him. The best we could hope for is that he would be able to keep his mouth shut. The week before the school

board meeting, I attended the pops concert in the gym of CHS. I have been so encouraged by the increasing diversity in the Carmel schools, compared to when my kids attended 30 years ago. But the culture hasn't changed. Racism is still rampant and it is expressed aloud with impunity by the "white privileged" families whose children and grandchildren remain here because Putnam County is a great place to live. Years ago, a Muslim family moved next door. The youngest daughter was in kindergarten and because her parents both worked, I volunteered to meet the bus and drive her home where her grandmother waited. Earlier this year I found out that her mother had to remove her daughter (now in high school) from Carmel and enroll her in another district where family members live due to the continual abuse she suffered in school. Mr. Torpey's remarks and the attitude behind them as a representative of the Carmel school district cannot be permitted. Removing his committee assignment but allowing him to remain on the board is indefensible. It furthers the ingrained racist mentality and has no place on a school board that claims to place high value on the best education our tax dollars can provide to every student from kindergarten to graduation. Mr. Torpey must leave the school board. If he doesn't have the courage and integrity to resign, the board members must vote him off. Anything short of that is unacceptable. *Judy Allen
Putnam Valley*

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Putnam Valley Cheer Team Champs Honored

The Putnam Valley High School Varsity Cheer Team was recently recognized by the Putnam County Legislature for reclaiming the Class C New York State Game Day Championship on Nov. 9 at Hudson Community College in Troy. This is the Tigers' second "Game Day" championship title in three years (in 20024 they placed second). The team, led by Head Coach Kelly Wilson and Assistant Coaches Nicole D'Addona and Joseph D'Addona, went undefeated throughout both the regular season and post-season.



Nutrition Corner

By Allison J. Stowell
MS, RD, CDN



Holiday Snacks

The holiday season can be an endurance event. The days may include extra errands or commitments. Or somehow it seems like the usual errands and commitments just take longer, contributing to an exhausting day. When life gets busy (likely interrupting your meals), I highly recommend planning balanced snacks. If not, you may find yourself grabbing fast food or succumbing to a decadent choice as an afternoon pick-me-up.

Here are some ideas to stay energized while shopping, wrapping, decorating, or trying to make it make it to your child's poorly timed school event. Whether you're home or on-the-go, there's a snack for that:

If you're home:

Sliced cheese or cheese stick, low sodium turkey breast and no salt added crackers

Single-serve guacamole with multigrain chips

Toasted whole grain waffle topped with chocolate sunflower seed butter

Hummus with carrots, sugar snap peas, grape tomatoes

Oatmeal cup (with added protein or fiber, and zero added sugar)

Banana and peanut butter

No sugar added, Greek yogurt topped with 1/3 cup high protein granola

Bread toasted and topped with mashed avocado and sliced hard-boiled egg

If you're on the go (or traveling):

Guiding Stars rated trail mix (1/2-1/2 cup)

High protein, no sugar added yogurt drink (15-20 grams protein)

"Sippable" soup (like tomato or butternut squash soup that can be enjoyed in a to-go cup)

Small container of blueberries and lightly salted almonds

Granola bar (with at least 7 grams protein, 5 or more grams fat, minimal saturated fat, zero added sugar)

Peanut or almond butter pouches (pair with fresh fruit if it's available, or crackers)

Individual packet of protein powder (add to dairy/non dairy beverage)

A note on beverages:

This time of year, it's easy to have beverages with more added

sugar and calories than we realize. Before ordering a coffee drink, picking up a bottled beverage, or going for a mocktail, carefully review the nutrition facts panel. Choose an alternative or adjust ingredients if needed to reduce the number of calories, added sugar, or saturated fat in your drink.

Allison Stowell MS, RD, CDN is a registered dietitian for Hannaford Supermarket. For more information on free, virtual nutrition classes and more, email: astowell@hannaford.com. To learn more about the Guiding Stars nutrition guidance program, visit GuidingStars.com.

**Rigatoni with Sausage, Peppers and Zucchini
(2 Guiding Stars)
Hannaford.com**

After a long day, you need a hearty, flavorful meal that's both comforting and effortless. Using reserved pasta water creates a light sauce that brings everything together.

Ingredients:

- 2 red bell peppers
- 2 medium zucchini
- ¾ lb rigatoni
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 1 lb hot Italian ground sausage (or all natural chicken sausage)
- 5 cloves garlic, minced

Directions:

Halve bell peppers and remove the stems and seeds. Dice peppers and zucchini.

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil over medium-high. Cook rigatoni until al dente, according to package directions. Drain pasta, reserving 1 cup pasta water.

In a separate large pot or Dutch oven, heat oil over medium. Add sausage cook until browned, 6 to 8 minutes, breaking up meat with a wooden spoon. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, 1 minute.

To pot with sausage, add reserved pasta water and peppers. Season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, until peppers are tender, 10 to 12 minutes. Stir in zucchini and cook 5 minutes more. Add cooked rigatoni and toss to combine.

Hot Honey Chicken & Waffle

(Family Features)
Hot Honey Chicken and Waffle

Ingredients:

1 Minute Hot Honey Chicken Seasoned Rice Cup

1 egg

nonstick cooking spray

2 chicken tenders, cooked

2 tablespoons honey, for garnish

1 tablespoon powdered sugar, for garnish

Directions:

Preheat mini waffle maker. Heat rice according to package directions.

In medium mixing bowl,



combine rice and egg. Mix well. Spoon rice mixture into waffle maker. Cook until light goes off.

Place waffle on plate with cooked chicken tenders on top.

Drizzle with honey, sprinkle powdered sugar on top and serve.

Servings: 1

Source: Minute Rice

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Putnam Youth Court Members Sworn In

Putnam County Youth Court’s newest members were sworn in Nov. 19 by Putnam County Supreme Court Judge Joseph Spofford. Thirty-seven youth dedicated to serving their community completed the 10-session training program where they learned about the justice system, toured the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department/Correctional Facility, observed Carmel Court Judge Thomas Jacobellis’ criminal court proceedings, and more.

Officer-Involved Shooting in Brewster

A Putnam County sheriff’s deputy shot a suspect who hit him with a vehicle while attempting to flee the scene of an investigation last month in Southeast.

According to Sheriff Brian Hess, at about 8:35 p.m. Nov. 24, deputies were conducting an investigation on Sodom Road when the vehicle involved attempted to flee, striking and injuring a deputy.

After being struck, the deputy shot the suspect, and that person was transported to a medical facility with serious injuries.

The deputy was transported to a local hospital, evaluated, and later released.

Following the incident, the sheriff’s office requested the New York State Police assume the lead role in the investigation into the officer-involved shooting. The NYSP Bureau of Criminal Investigation at Brewster is actively investigating this incident.

A Putnam man was recently arrested following an early-morning shooting in the Town of Southeast.

According to Sheriff Hess, at about 4:40 a.m. Nov. 23, the sheriff’s office was notified of a shooting that had occurred in the parking lot of Towne Centre Plaza. Responding deputies learned that a local taxi driver had been involved in a dispute over a fare with a male customer, and during that confrontation, the suspect allegedly produced a firearm and intentionally discharged a round into the passenger compartment of the taxi while the driver was seated

in the driver’s seat.

The sheriff’s Crime Scene Unit responded and processed the scene, recovering a 0.45 caliber shell casing and obtaining video footage of the incident, and a suspect was quickly developed. Investigators from the Bureau of Criminal Investigation interviewed the victim and obtained a search warrant for the suspect’s residence, vehicle, and person, including collection of gunshot residue.

Members of the Narcotics Enforcement Unit and the patrol division established a perimeter around the suspect’s residence in Southeast. The search warrant was executed without incident, and the suspect, Luis Galvez, 37, was taken into custody.

During the search, investigators located a 0.45 caliber pistol consistent with the evidence recovered at the scene. During a subsequent interview with BCI members, Galvez allegedly admitted to his involvement in the incident. He was charged with second-degree attempted murder, first-degree criminal use of a firearm, and two counts of second-degree criminal possession of a weapon, all felonies.

Galvez was arraigned in Southeast Town Court and remanded to the Putnam County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$150,000 cash bail or \$300,000 bond.

Hess commended the coordinated efforts of the patrol division, NEU, CSU, and BCI in bringing the incident to a prompt and safe resolution.

Chanukah Celebrations

Chabad of Putnam will host a joyful array of Chanukah programs and celebrations for all ages this holiday season, and the entire community is invited to join in the festivities.

On Tuesday, Dec. 9 at 10:30 a.m., children up to age 5 can take part in a Chanukah story and craft at the Reed Memorial Library in Carmel, where they may enjoy an interactive storytime, a holiday craft, and treats.

On Sunday, Dec. 14 at 10:30 a.m., children age 5 to 12 are invited to the CKids “Miracle Makers” olive press workshop, a hands-on

experience that brings the miracle of oil to life as kids harvest and press olives to create their own pure oil – just as it was done in the Holy Temple thousands of years ago.

Teens can join the CTeen “Choco-Lit” Chanukah party Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 5 p.m., featuring an evening of fun, music, and chocolate treats celebrating the miracles of Chanukah.

Also, there will be community menorah lightings in Carmel on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 4 p.m.; in Brewster on Monday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m.; and in Cold Spring on Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 5 p.m.



Mahopac High School musicians, vocalists, and tech crew will shine during “Illusion 2025.”

Mahopac’s Biggest Night of Music Returns

After weeks of auditions and dedicated rehearsals, “Illusion,” Mahopac’s annual student rock and pop showcase, returns for another spectacular year.

This high-energy tradition brings together Mahopac High School’s talented musicians, vocalists, and tech crew for three unforgettable nights of live music, dazzling lights, and crowd-pleasing performances.

This year’s concert – running Dec. 11, 12 and 13 at 7 p.m., at the Mahopac High School auditorium

– will highlight a dynamic mix of classic rock favorites, modern pop hits, and everything in between. Each performance reflects the passion, teamwork, and creativity that make “Illusion” a staple of the Mahopac community.

““Illusion”” Director and Mahopac audio/video production teacher Stas Przymyski shared his excitement about what audiences can look forward to this year.

“Every year our students raise the bar, and this year is

no exception,” said Przymyski. “The musicians, vocalists, and crew have poured their hearts into creating a full-scale concert experience – from the sound, to the lighting, to the energy on stage. Whether you’re a longtime fan or joining us for the first time, you’re going to walk away impressed with what these students can do.”

As always, admission is free. Instead of ticket sales, attendees are encouraged to support Relay for Life with a donation benefiting the American Cancer Society.

Summer 2026 Student Internships

The application for the Putnam Invests in Leaders of Tomorrow student internship program for summer 2026 is now open.

Known as P.I.L.O.T., the program began in 2013 with the support of the Putnam County Legislature. Heading into its 14th year, the program has provided more than 400 students with internship opportunities, working in various county offices.

Accepted students gain

hands-on, professional experience in areas including finance, engineering, information technology, health, social services, and law, while contributing to their community.

Internships run from June through August for seven weeks. High school juniors and seniors, undergraduate, and graduate students are welcome to apply. Applicants must be currently enrolled in school and be planning to enroll for fall 2026.

Also, applicants must be Putnam County residents or attend school in the county, be at least 16 years of age, and hold a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher.

Interested students must submit all application materials online by Friday, Jan. 30. A resume is required and a cover letter is encouraged. More information on the program and how to apply can be found at www.putnamcountyny.com/internapply.

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A Dream World of Day-Glo at C.V. Starr



Brewster fourth-graders made projects inspired by artist Lisa Frank.



It's a dream world of Day-Glo parrots, pandas, koalas, unicorns, and alien spacecraft that actually glow in Danielle Michielini's fourth-grade art classes.

The vibrant, glowy depictions were inspired by the artist Lisa Frank – a name you would recognize if you were a teen in the 1980s. Frank's designs expressed

a colorful, psychedelic sensibility and could be found on all manner of decorative products.

The school's art theme of the year is GLOW, and this assignment fits squarely into the theme.

"I want students to create the most colorful and imaginative project of the year," said Michielini. "The challenge is to create a wild, layered background

for an animal of their choice and to fill the space with tons of fun, colorful, and completely jumbled ideas from the students' imagination."

The ideas were bursting with creativity.

Nik Vataj illustrated a boy with a jet pack, dogs on the moon, a bone in space, and an earth that drips like ice cream.

Dylan Graff created a world surrounding a giant bear, including a flying shark, vortex, and drips of goo falling from an alien space ship. And Valentina Juarez was excited about her super bright mushroom.

Using Day-Glo markers, the students got busy adding elements such as a sparkling rainbow road made of ice cream,

cosmic objects such as a cloud shaped like a puppy, action or flying vehicles, and repeated details to fill in the background space, such as sprinkles, smiley faces, stars, and hearts.

The students then lined up at a black light board to test their glow, when parrots, pandas, and koalas lit up in yellow, pink, green, and blue.

Local Watercolor Artist Featured at Mahopac Library



"Horse Rider" by Tooraj Pourmand.



"Venice" by Tooraj Pourmand.

"Translucent Moments on Life & Nature" featuring watercolor paintings by Mahopac artist Tooraj Pourmand will be on display Dec. 10 through Jan. 5 in the Third Floor Gallery at Mahopac Public Library.

Renowned for his watercolor paintings, Pourmand celebrates everyday beauty, which resonates

through his portraits, landscapes, and still-life compositions. He said he is dedicated to watercolor as his medium of choice, and views it as a language with a vast vocabulary, enabling endless experimentation and expression.

"Watercolor, as a medium, mirrors the flow of human life with remarkable fidelity," said

Pourmand. "Like the stream of our thoughts and experiences, watercolor moves freely, shifting from gentle to forceful, from transparent to intense."

"Translucent Moments on Life & Nature" features four parts – the beauty of still-life, graceful horses, tranquil landscapes, and humanity's beauty: grief and

shame.

Pourmand was born in Ahvaz, Iran, and earned his master of arts degree in architectural design from Tehran University, later joining the faculty. He has exhibited his work in Tehran, Los Angeles, New York, and Paris. As a current resident of Mahopac, Pourmand has shared his artistic talents with the commu-

nity by teaching watercolor classes at Putnam Arts Council.

The public is invited to attend an opening reception Thursday, Dec. 11 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

For additional information about this exhibit and upcoming events, visit mahopaclibrary.org/art-galleries or email mplgallery-committee@gmail.com.

Italian American Club of Mahopac Celebrates Veterans



Jimmy DePelisi, a 99-year-old World War II Coast Guard veteran and honorary member of the Italian American Club of Mahopac, was given special recognition for his military service and for serving the community patrolling Lake Mahopac. He's pictured with this year's Miss Columbus, Mahopac High School senior Lola Lauro, who treated guests to a patriotic entertainment program.



The Italian American Club of Mahopac hosted its first veteran appreciation dinner Nov. 16, inviting 25 members from each Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5491 and American Legion Post 1080 to enjoy a four-course meal prepared and served by members of the club.

Austin Road Students Visit New Lockers They Helped Inspire

Students at Austin Road Elementary School experienced a powerful full-circle moment recently as members of last year's Student Leadership Team returned to campus to celebrate the installation of new lockers on the school's second floor – an improvement they helped bring to life through their advocacy.

The project began last school year when the fourth- and fifth-graders on the leadership team identified the original lockers as an area in need of significant improvement. After researching the issue, students presented their concerns to Austin Road Principal Bryan Gilligan and district Director of Facilities Timothy Walsh.

Their thoughtful arguments and willingness to speak up led the Mahopac Central School District to include funding for the new lockers in this year's school budget.

To honor the students' leadership and initiative, Gilligan invited the now-sixth graders back from Mahopac Middle School to join this year's fifth-graders, allowing the full Student Leadership Team to celebrate the moment together.

"When we formed this team last year, we wanted students who would not be afraid to tell us what needed to be improved at Austin Road," said Gilligan. "When they identified the lockers as an issue, they researched the problem, prepared presentations for Mr. Walsh, and answered his questions with confidence. Their work led directly to the lockers



Mahopac Middle School students returned to Austin Road Elementary School recently to see new lockers that were installed as a result of their advocacy.

being added to the budget. Every sixth-grader returned today despite knowing they wouldn't be the ones using these lockers, which speaks to their character. They wanted to leave the school a better place than they found it."

Students traveled upstairs, where banners hung above the brand-new lockers that read "Student," "Leadership," and "You Made This."

"I like how these lockers are bigger and you can fit things without a struggle," said Fifth-grader Natalie Gumina. "I love how we get to make a difference in the school and that the younger students will get to use these in the future."

Gilligan and Assistant Principal Elizabeth Lee presented the students with goodie bags, including magnets that read, "Austin Road Student Leadership Team, You Locked In Your Legacy."

Superintendent of Schools Frank Miele praised the students for demonstrating leadership far beyond their years.

"These students showed a genuine desire to make their school better," he said. "Leadership begins with recognizing a problem and having the courage to speak up, and the result is that their work has made a lasting impact on Austin Road. I couldn't be prouder of the example they have set for our entire district."



Brewster Chamber of Commerce Members Honored

The Brewster Chamber of Commerce honored five members at its annual awards dinner Oct. 22 at Brewster's Lakeview Manor. Nancy Teague, CEO and founder of Putnam Service Dogs, received the Business Person of the Year Award; Kate Corsitto, senior development manager of the American Cancer Society, received the Community Leader Award; Christine Zito, owner of Tapped Hudson, received the Rising Professional Award; George Apap Painting received the Legacy Business Award; and DC Hair Studio & Spa received the Customer Favorite Award. Photos by Cohen.

View 'Colors that Pop' at Kent Library



"Inner World" by Linda Winters.

Art by Linda Winters is on display at Kent Public Library through Dec. 31.

Winters is a painter who lives and works in Peekskill, where she is active in a growing artistic community. Primarily interested in using everyday items found in her studio as the starting point from which to explore color and space, Winters works in a wide variety of mediums – from water-based paints like acrylic and casein, to oil – and often uses colors that pop.

Recent work has been described as melodic, as tickling the eye, and spanning time.

"I draw and paint what I see in an exploratory manner, keeping an open mind, following neural grooves, and continuously making adjustments as I am presented with new discoveries," said Winters. "My subject matter is usually a still-life of items found in my studio, which are simply catalysts for exploring the relationship between color and space. This is my primary passion, and full-time



View work by Peekskill artist Linda Winters at Kent Public Library.

pursuit." For more information, visit www.lindawinters.com or www.instagram.com/wintersfineart, or kentlibrary.org.

Putnam County Community Events

Notice of Vacancy
The Carmel Town Board is looking for interested and qualified individuals to fill a vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review. Send a letter of interest and resume to Supervisor Michael Cazzari, Carmel Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Ave., Mahopac, NY 10541; or kjk@townofcarmelny.org. Deadline to submit is Dec. 22.

Winter Coat Drive
Putnam Community Action Partnership is collecting new winter coats (tags still on) in all sizes for children age 0 to 18. Donations can be made at Putnam CAP, 121 Main St., Brewster, through Feb. 28. Financial donations to help Putnam CAP purchase coats for those in need can be made at www.putnamcap.org. For information, call 845-278-8021.

Kent Library Food Pantry
The Kent Public Library now offers a free, confidential food pantry for individuals and families in need. No appointments are needed, and the pantry is open during regular library business hours, at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes. For more information, call 845-225-8585 or visit kentlibrary.org. No more donations are needed at this time.

Tuesday, Dec. 9
Chanukah Story & Craft
On Tuesday, Dec. 9 at 10:30 a.m., children up to age 5 can take part in a Chanukah story and craft at the Reed Memorial Library in Carmel, where they may enjoy an interactive story time, a creative holiday craft, and Chanukah treats.

Wednesday, Dec. 10
The Peekskill Raid
Join Kent Public Library and the Kent Historical Society for a presentation by historian Michael J.F. Sheehan on Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m. In March of 1777, the British launched a campaign with a raid up the Hudson River, attacking Peekskill. At the time, Peekskill held a massive amount of food, goods, and other stores destined for Washington's fledgling Continental Army. Hear how this event rocked the Hudson Valley. Register at kentpl.library-calendar.com.

Carmel Town Board
The Carmel Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. Dec. 10 at Town Hall.

'Coffee With Byrne'
County Executive Kevin Byrne will continue his "Coffee with the County Executive" series Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m., at Thunder Ridge, 137 Birch Hill Road, Patterson, inviting residents to sit down, share a hot beverage, and discuss the issues that matter most to them.

Marine Corps League
The Marine Corps League Putnam County Detachment meets the second Wednesday each month at noon at George's Place on Gleneida Avenue in Carmel. For membership, email MCLPutnamCountyNY242@gmail.com.

Winter Concerts
The Carmel High School chorus will perform a winter concert Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m., and the CHS band and orchestra will perform

Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m., both at the George Fischer Middle School auditorium.
The seventh-grade winter concert at **George Fischer Middle School** is scheduled Dec. 15 at 6:30 p.m., the eighth-grade concert is scheduled Dec. 17 at 6:30 p.m., the sixth-grade concert is scheduled Jan. 8 at 6 p.m., and the fifth-grade concert is scheduled Jan. 15 at 6 p.m. All concerts take place in the auditorium.

Thursday, Dec. 11
CHS Symphony
Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will present "Seasonal Symphony: Carmel High School Students in Concert" on Dec. 11 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. This is a special holiday performance featuring the brass, woodwind, and string students of CHS. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

'Illusion'
Mahopac's annual student rock and pop showcase "Illusion" returns Dec. 11, 12 and 13 at 7 p.m., at the Mahopac High School auditorium, highlighting a dynamic mix of classic rock favorites, modern pop hits, and everything in between. Free.

Busted Canvas Workshop
Get into the holiday spirit with during hands-on workshop Thursday, Dec. 11 at 4 p.m., at Brewster Public Library. Adults age 18 and older of all skill levels are invited to create a holiday-themed artwork on canvas. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

Meditation Circle
Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will present its monthly medication circle via zoom Dec. 11 from 6 to 7 p.m. Reconnect with yourself in a calming virtual meditation circle. Each month, Kris Noelle of Kris Noelle Wellness will gently guide participants through a meditative journey designed to restore the spirit. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

'The Baltimoreons'
Patterson Library will screen "The Baltimoreons" on Thursday, Dec. 11 at 1 p.m. This warm, witty, and offbeat holiday film follows a newly sober man whose Christmas Eve dental emergency sparks an unexpected romance with his older dentist. Adult 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Saving Energy, Saving Dollars
A Saving Energy, Saving Dollars workshop will be held Thursday, Dec. 11 from 6 to 7:15 p.m., at Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison. Learn how to make your home more energy efficient, save money on utility bills, and connect with energy-efficiency programs, incentives, and resources. Free energy saving kits will be provided, including DIY improvements folks can make in their homes such as door sweeps, weather stripping, LED light bulbs, smart power strips, etc. Free. Hosted by an energy advisor with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County. Register at desmondfishlibrary.org/event.

Winter Ensemble
Putnam Chorale's select winter ensemble will perform "Joy in Every Measure" on Thursday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m., at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Somers; Saturday, Dec. 13 at 2:30 p.m., at Putnam Ridge Nursing Home in Brewster (closed to the public); Friday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m., at the Graymoor's Spellman Library in Garrison; and Saturday, Dec. 20 at the Lyndhurst Estate Welcome Center at 2 and 4 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 to \$25 and are available at putnamchorale.org/next-event.

Friday, Dec. 12
Teen Trivia Night
Mahopac Public Library will present a teen trivia night Friday, Dec. 12 at 5 p.m. Invite your friends, make a team, show off how much you know, and win prizes. This month's theme is holiday time. For information, email Amanda at astalecup@mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-682-2009, ext. 153.

Adult Craft
Adults may create a "jar of winter dreams" at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel on Dec. 12 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Design glowing jar scenes filled with snow, sparkle, and seasonal charm. All materials provided. This is a self-led craft – there will not be an instructor guiding the session. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

Live Radio Play
The Brewster Theater Company will present "A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play" at The Theater at Drew Methodist Church, 28 Gleneida Ave., Carmel, at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, and Saturday, Dec. 13. Adapted from Charles Dickens' classic story of Ebenezer Scrooge, it recreates the experience of a 1940s broadcast with actors playing multiple roles, live music, and Foley sound effects. Tickets are \$28 and available at thebrewstertheatercompany.thundertix.com.

'Year-End Night at the Museum'
The Putnam History Museum will host a "Year-End Night at the Museum" on Friday, Dec. 12 from 5 to 7 p.m., at 63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring. Free. View two of the museum's most recent acquisitions: an 1862 architectural drawing of the West Point Foundry, and a 19th Century bellows of the type used in the foundry donated by Imogene Drummond. Explore the galleries, enjoy refreshments, and bid farewell to Executive Director Kevin Price.

Cold Spring Aglow
The Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce will host a "Celebration of Light & Community" on Dec. 12 beginning at 4:30 p.m., along Main Street. In collaboration with Permaculture Arts Collective, enjoy glowing lanterns, puppets, live music and local shopping.

Saturday, Dec. 13
Music at St. Mary's
"Music at St. Mary's" continues Saturday, Dec. 13 at 2 p.m., at 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, featuring Art Labriola Jazz Trio with special guest Andy Stack on guitar. Free.

Parade & Tree Lighting
The second annual parade of decorated trucks along Route 311, followed by a tree lighting next to Patterson Library, is scheduled Saturday, Dec. 13. Begin with a 3 p.m. holiday concert at the library, accompanied by an outdoor market featuring vendors, food trucks, live petting animals, children's activities, a fire pit, and seasonal music. At 4:45 p.m., the parade will begin at the intersection of Maple Avenue and Route 311, traveling to the library. Around 5:30 p.m., Pastor David Frost of Patterson Community Church will lead the dedication and tree lighting.

Live Nativity
Lakeview Community Church will present a live nativity Saturday, Dec. 13 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. (rain date Sunday, Dec. 14), at 387 Route 52, Carmel. Reserve your free timeslot at lakeviewcc.org. "Journey to Bethlehem" will include real live animals as the nativity story is told in an immersive way.

'Wintering Within'
Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will present "Wintering Within: Rest and Reflect" on Dec. 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Ease into the winter season with a cozy circle of guided meditation, gentle sound healing, and simple journaling practices. This nurturing session invites participants to slow down, turn inward, and cultivate inner calm to support themselves through the darkest months of the year. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

Repair Cafe
Sustainable Putnam's Repair Cafe returns to Mahopac Middle School, 425 Baldwin Place Road, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Dec. 13. Residents are invited to bring broken household items for a free repair by expert volunteers. Lamps, clocks, toasters, small appliances, audio equipment, small furniture, clothing, and more. Free refreshments provided. Registration appreciated; visit sustainableputnam.org/repair-cafe or call 646-598-6560. Walk-ins welcome.

Holiday Show & Sale
The Art Barn will present a holiday painting show and sale featuring original works for viewing and gifting, including colorful Landscapes by Rebecca Rabinowitz and abstract illuminations by Tom Bisogno, on Dec. 13 and 14, and 20 and 21, from 2 to 6 p.m., at 155 Ice Pond Road, Brewster. View the online show and sale at www.rabzart.com or www.mezmer.art. Text or email before your visit – rebecca@ice-pond.com or 914-629-0027.

Taghkanic Chorale
The Taghkanic Chorale will present "Rejoice and Sing! Chorale Masterworks for the Season," on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 14 at 4 p.m., at St. Columbanus Church, 122 Oregon Road, Cortlandt Manor. The program features Handel's "Dixit Dominus" along with motets by Praetorius, Brahms, and Mendelssohn. Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$22 for seniors, and \$12 for students, and available at <https://taghkanicchoraleF25.rsvpify.com> or in person.

Defensive Driving
Kent Public Library will host a defensive driving class Saturday, Dec. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Receive up to a 10 percent discount on your motor vehicle collision and liability insurance premium for up to three years, and up to a four-point reduction on your driving record. This class is offered by DigitalDefensiveDriving.com. \$40. Register at kentpl.librarycalendar.com.

Holiday Houses
Kids age 3 and older are invited to the Brewster Public Library's annual holiday house program Saturday, Dec. 13 at 11:30 a.m. Get in the holiday spirit while creating houses out of graham crackers, candy canes, and an assortment of colorful sweets. Supplies provided. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

Evening of Healing
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center invites audiences to "An Evening of Community, Connection, and Healing" on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m., at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road. The Field Music to Heal is a co-creation between composer/pianist and singer Alison Jolicoeur and multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and producer Chris Toland. The interweaving of textured vocals, electronic and acoustic sounds, soulful lyrics, and chants creates a harmonious, heartfelt musical experience that uplifts, inspires, and heals. The evening will conclude with a sonic gong bath and sound journey. Tickets are \$20 at Eventbrite.com.

Tree Lighting
The Lake Carmel Park District will hold its annual tree and menorah lighting Saturday, Dec. 13 at 5 p.m., on Champlain Road, across from the veterans memorial. Santa, refreshments, music and more.

Sunday, Dec. 14
Bingo
The Knights of Columbus Council 6318 ladies auxiliary will hold a cash bingo Sunday, Dec. 14. Doors open at 1 p.m., first game at 2 p.m. \$35 via Eventbrite.com, \$40 at the door. Proceeds benefit charity. Concessions. Bell jar.

Olive Press Workshop
On Sunday, Dec. 14 at 10:30 a.m., children age 5 to 12 are invited to the CKids "Miracle Makers" olive press workshop at Chabad of Putnam, 5 Fair St., Carmel. This is a hands-on experience that brings the miracle of oil to life as kids harvest and press olives to create their own pure oil – just as it was done in the Holy Temple thousands of years ago.

Send Us Your Community Events

Let everyone in Putnam County know about your upcoming Community Events and Events Online

Send info to
Editorial@putnampresstimes.com.
Please allow two weeks notice.

WWII Vets Visit With Carmel Students

Two 99-year-old World War II veterans recently spoke to eighth-graders at George Fischer Middle School, and they didn't mince words.

When students asked the men to describe their experience in one word, Ralph Osterhoudt Sr., who entered the U.S. Army before even graduating from high school and fought in the Battle of the Bulge, said "Hell."

He described the scenes of destruction he saw in France and Germany, and reminded students that soldiers who fight wars are often just 18 years old.

Nils Mockler, who served in the Marines Corps and fought at Iwo Jima, told students about the battle and the pride he felt when he finally saw – from a far distance – the American flag being raised at the top of Mt. Suribachi.

"It was the size of a postage stamp, and it was the most beautiful thing I've ever seen in my life," he said. "I knew we were going to make it."

Osterhoudt said he would always be proud of his service. "You are speaking English today," he said. "If we didn't win that war, you



World War II veterans Ralph Osterhoudt Sr. and Nils Mockler with George Fischer Middle School students.

might not be speaking English."

In introducing the veterans, Superintendent of Schools Michael Plotkin noted, "It's important to teach the next generation about history, so we don't repeat it." He thanked social studies teacher Lisa Steiner and assistant superintendents Jeff Gorman and Ken Silver for arranging the program.

The lesson had an impact on

the auditorium full of eighth-graders.

"I wouldn't even be alive if it wasn't for them," said Paul, a 13-year-old. "My whole family is from France. My grandparents immigrated here after the war. It's crazy to think about. My family might have been caught up by the Nazis if it wasn't for the veterans who defended us."

Man Accused of Burglarizing School

A Cold Spring man was arrested last month in connection with multiple recent burglaries.

According to Putnam County Sheriff Brian Hess, on Nov. 4, Kristjan Holmbo, 19, unlawfully entered Haldane School and removed prescription medications from the nurse's office. Following an investigation by the School Resource Officer and Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Holmbo was identified as the suspect, and a search warrant was executed Nov. 13 at his residence where he was arrested.

Holmbo was charged with third-degree burglary, and tampering with physical evidence, felonies; and petit larceny, fifth-degree criminal possession of stolen property, and seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, misdemeanors.

This arrest also links Holmbo to a prior attempted burglary June 18 at a pharmacy in Cold Spring, where he allegedly attempted to gain entry to the building but was unsuccessful. Evidence collected during the investigation, including items

recovered from Holmbo's residence, corroborated both incidents, according to Hess.

Holmbo was additionally charged with third-degree attempted burglary and third-degree criminal mischief, felonies.

"Through a coordinated effort between our criminal investigators, the school resource officer, and school officials, this investigation quickly identified and led to the arrest of the suspect," said Hess. "We thank the staff at Haldane School and our SRO for their cooperation and assistance in ensuring the safety of the students and community."

A Poughkeepsie man was arrested last month after briefly fleeing police.

According to Sheriff Hess at about 1:30 p.m. Nov. 28, the Westchester/Putnam Real Time Crime Center notified Putnam patrols of a license plate reader hit related to a prior grand larceny investigation in Southeast. A deputy located the vehicle on Route 9 and conducted a traffic stop, but as they approached, the driver fled.

The vehicle was located a short time later in Philipstown, and Demetri Salmon, 26, was taken into custody. A female passenger and a 4-year-old child were also in the vehicle. Both were unharmed and released to family members.

Salmon was charged with several misdemeanor offenses, including reckless driving, aggravated unlicensed operation, fleeing an officer, possession of a forged instrument, obstructing governmental administration, reckless endangerment, and endangering the welfare of a child, along with various traffic infractions.

In regard to the past grand larceny investigation, Salmon was charged with one count of grand larceny, a felony, and one count of criminal possession of stolen property, stemming from a Nov. 3 incident at a business in Southeast.

He was arraigned in Philipstown Town Court, released on his own recognizance, and turned over to the New York State Police on an outstanding warrant.

Winter Holiday Concert at Mahopac Library

Alex Prizgintas will present a holiday concert on his electric cello Sunday, Dec. 14 at 2 p.m., at Mahopac Public Library.

Comprised of seasonal, Christmas, and Hanukkah selections – with jazz, rock, klezmer, and traditional styles – this program offers a wide palette for the discerning listener. Equally comfortable with intimate and stadium settings, Prizgintas is able to craft his own wall-of-sound through his 1,000-watt amp.

Accompanied with a narration that reveals some of the back stories of his selections, he immerses his audience in a journey through musical history.

"Most often, cellists play concerts," said Prizgintas. "I'm a little different in that I try to give a show."

That "show" offers more give-and-take with the audience while delivering bits of information revealing some of the background behind the melodies and the melody makers.

Those familiar with Prizgintas' work on the cello might be surprised to learn that he recently graduated summa cum laude with undergraduate and graduate degrees in history from Marist College, and is heavily involved with leading historical societies in the Hudson Valley. He also serves

as president of the Woodbury Historical Society in Orange County, town historian of Woodbury, and town historian of Tuxedo.

"I tend to have two audiences – those who know me as a cellist and those who know me through my lectures on topics of regional history," said the musician. "My bifurcated interests certainly keep me busy developing new stories to share about our Hudson River Valley as well as expanding my concert programs that strive to keep audiences engaged, enlightened, and hopefully entertained."

To learn more and see video samples of his music and lectures, visit alexprizgintas.com.



Elder Law Advice *Alan D. Feller, Esq.*

Do-Overs

For 22 years I have commuted between Brewster and Mahopac. My route has changed a few times over that period, as a short-cut was abandoned following an unexpected, early morning rendezvous with a deer.

It was not an immediate repudiation of that particular commute. I tried the short cut a few more times, but after noticing more than one deer standing on the roadside, eyeing me with a mixture of suspicion and contempt, I decided to stick to Route 6.

Commuting affords me a sliver of time to listen to podcasts and audiobooks – mostly sports, history, interviews, and occasionally fiction. Once in a while a recording captures my attention and the anticipation for the next leg of my commute builds as I contemplate the next listening opportunity.

The novel "Twice" by Mitch Albom had a familiar premise – a character was able to travel back to the past to change events in their life to alter the future whenever they wanted. The catch was that the character could only experience a moment twice. There was no third time.

The audiobook version drew me in quickly and got me thinking. We screw things up... a lot. Not necessarily big things, although that happens too. We say the wrong thing, don't listen, make a poor first impression, focus on the wrong priorities. We apologize but it doesn't change the outcome.

However, my profession allows me to change certain things. Estate planners can change the future.

The documents we create – wills, trusts, powers of attorney, health care proxies – are not encased in cement. They can be

changed. Even irrevocable trusts have the ability to be revoked, provided specific conditions are met. Your closest people today may become strangers tomorrow, and vice versa. Your assets may rise and fall with the seasons.

Estate planning documents are only recipes. If you do not like the taste, change the ingredients.

You may have favored one child in the past. Your revocable trust had provisions leaving a higher percentage of your trust estate to that child and their family, and your other child was going to get less. There was nothing wrong with them, you just felt that the favored child went the extra mile. This was the version of the future that you set up all those years ago.

Then, at a holiday dinner, you looked around the dining room table. You saw all of your children and grandchildren smiling and laughing together. A sudden thought flashed in your head: the unequal nature of the trust provisions would create bad feelings.

Rewarding one meant hurting the other, and that was not what you wanted.

Your younger self had a more simplistic view of the world, but you have evolved. A different future can be ordered... one with equality. One that allows all of your grandchildren to afford college without loans. One that removes enough struggle to ensure a fighting chance for success.

You do not own a time machine or have a special power, but you do have an estate planning attorney. You call and make an appointment and the two of you change the future.

Alan D. Feller, Esq., is managing partner of The Feller Group, located at 572 Route 6, Suite 103, Mahopac. He can be reached at alandfeller@thefellergroup.com.

Putnam Arts Orgs. Received State Grants

Several Putnam arts organizations have been awarded grants through the New York State Council on the Arts.

Under the "Support for Organization Awards" category, Boscobel Restoration was awarded \$25,000, Brewster Theater Company was awarded \$10,000, Copland House was awarded \$25,000, the Daisy Jopling Foundation was awarded \$25,000, Garrison Art Center was awarded \$49,500, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival was awarded \$49,500, and Putnam History Museum was awarded \$49,500.

Under the "Support for Artist Awards" category, Bannerman's Castle Trust was awarded \$10,000 for "Skyla Schreter: 'The Flock' at Bannerman Island," the Daisy Jopling Foundation was awarded \$10,000 each for "Anita Lee: The Diary of Fragrant" and "Evan Pritchard: Clovis Flint: The Eleven Thousand Year Old Man," Garrison Art Center was awarded \$10,000 for "Mara Baldwin: Visiting Artist | Rover: New Work," and Philipstown Depot Theater was awarded

\$10,000 for "Gwen Marie Laster: Is My Black Still Beautiful: Reflections on a Childhood in Detroit."

Putnam Arts Council received a \$100,425 "Regrants & Services Award."

NYSCA is currently accepting applications for its \$80 million Arts Capital Projects Fund, which closes Jan. 13. This fund invests in capital facilities and expansion projects for cultural nonprofit organizations that promote accessibility, diverse programming, environmental sustainability, and more. Funding helps preserve and create jobs that contribute to the growth of New York's arts and tourism sectors.

"During these challenging times, the New York State Council on the Arts has been a stalwart and innovative funder," said NYSCA Executive Director Erika Mallin. "These grants will serve artists and organizations in every region and county, fueling our economy and serving our communities. We know this support isn't just an investment in the arts; it's an investment in New York's future."

Local Artists Receive Grant Funding

The Putnam Arts Council ARTS LINK grant program has awarded five grants totaling \$13,500 to individual artists residing in Putnam County. The funds were awarded to artists working in various genres and are intended to advance the development of local working artists and provide a venue for

public engagement through exhibitions, workshops, lectures, and performance.

Joann Zwolski from Lake Peekskill has been awarded \$1,500 for “Art Born from Grief,” a series of drawings inspired from art history and a grief journey.

Michael Cole from Mahopac has been awarded \$3,000 for his first solo exhibition show, highlighting nature-inspired ceramics and reflecting on mentorship, artistic growth, and community connection.

Actress, dancer, and writer Susannah Millonzi from Cold Spring – who co-adapted Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s “The

Yellow Wallpaper” with director Caitlin Morley in her solo performance at the Depot Theatre in Garrison – has been awarded \$3,000.

Artist Alex Sewell from Kent has also been awarded \$3,000, for a visual arts installation project titled “Welcome to Kent,” with an onus on community awareness, historical celebration, and inclusion in regards to the Town of Kent community.

Choreographer and founder of Cold Spring Dance Cally Moraytis Kordaris has also been awarded \$3,000 for the creation of a Greek contemporary ballet titled “Resurrection.”

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

To Place Legal Notices, Email (legals@putnampresstimes.com) or Call 845-628-8400

PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE						
<p>Kent</p> <p>LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>BY THE KENT PLANNING BOARD FOR THE KIBBUTZ CARMEL LLC 137 COLE SHEARS COURT KENT, NY 10512 TM: 32.-1-26</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing pertaining to the property noted above will be held before the Town of Kent Planning Board on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 7:30 P.M. at the Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent, NY 10512 or as soon thereafter as the matter may come to be heard.</p> <p>This Public Hearing pertains to an application from:</p> <p>Kibbutz Carmel LLC 137 Cole Shears Court Kent, NY 10512 Tax Map: 32.-1-26</p> <p>For a Town of Kent Steep Slope, Erosion Control Permit and a Freshwater Wetlands Permit. This application proposes the demolition of the two existing residential buildings, garage and driveway with the construction of a new residential building, SSTs, well, stormwater management areas and mitigation areas in an R-80 zoning district. Total acreage involved in this application is 85.95 +/- acres.</p> <p>At this hearing, all persons speaking in favor of or in opposition shall be heard. If there are any questions or comments pertaining to this project, please send them to: planningkent@townofkentny.gov. The telephone number for the Kent Planning Board is: 845-306-5612.</p> <p>Date: December 1, 2025</p> <p>By order of: Vera Patterson, Secretary for The Town of Kent Planning Board County of Putnam planningkent@townofkentny.gov</p> <p>Kent Planning Board Public Hearing Notice December 1, 2025 through 12/11/25</p> <p>P. 12/10 - 73</p>	<p>nacci: Case #12-25– Area Variances (Held Over since November 18, 2025): Applicants are requesting three area variances pursuant to §154-27A(12) of the Patterson Town Code in order to legalize a 12 ft. x 10 ft. shed in a front yard. Town Code §154-27A(12)(a) prohibits accessory structures from being located in the front yard. The subject property has frontage on two streets and, therefore, is deemed to have two front yards. Shed is located between the side of the dwelling and Wallace Place; variance requested is to allow the shed to be located in a front yard. Town Code §154-27A(12) (b) prohibits accessory structures from being located nearer than 15 ft. to the principal dwelling. Shed is 7 ft. from the dwelling; variance requested is for 8 ft. Town Code §154-7 requires accessory structures to meet a minimum front yard setback of 15 ft. Shed is 12 ft. from the front property line; variance requested is for 3 ft. This property is located at 15 Sharon Road. Tax Map 36.23-1-20 (RPL-10 Zoning District).</p> <p>2. New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless: Case #19-25– Use Variance and Area Variance (Held Over since November 18, 2025): Applicant is requesting a use variance and area variance in order to install a public utility wireless telecommunications facility. The Patterson Town Code does not permit wireless telecommunications facilities in the GB Zoning District. The proposal includes the installation of a 125 ft. monopole. Town Code §154-7 states that the maximum height for a structure is 38 ft.; variance requested is for 87 ft. This property is located at 4 Fairfield Drive. Tax Map 36.9-1-24 (GB Zoning District).</p> <p>3. Caccioppoli Engineering, PLLC (Pat Moretti): Case #26-25 – Area Variances (Held Over since November 18, 2025): Applicant is requesting two area variances pursuant to §154-7 of the Patterson Town Code due to insufficient lot frontage and lot width for Lot #1 of a proposed 2-lot subdivision. Town Code §154-7 requires a minimum road frontage of 225 ft. Lot #1 will have 108 ft.; variance requested is for 117 ft. of road frontage. Town Code §154-7 also requires an average lot width of 250 ft. Lot #1 has a proposed average lot width of 187 ft.; variance requested is for 63 ft. This proposed subdivision is located at 66 Somerset Drive. Tax Map 23.-1-21.3 (R-4 Zoning District).</p> <p>4. Robert Herman: Case #28-25 – Area Variances: Applicant is requesting two area variances pursuant to §154-7 and §154-81 of the Patterson Town Code in order to legalize a storage container and metal-sided storage shed. Town Code §154-7 requires accessory structures to meet a minimum rear yard setback of 30 ft. Storage container is 12.6 ft. from the rear property line; variance requested is for 17.4 ft. §154-81 of the Town Code requires metal-sided buildings to be at least 150 ft. away from a public right of way. Storage shed is 51.4 ft. from State Route 22;</p>	<p>variance requested is for 98.6 ft. This property is located at 2249 Route 22. Tax Map 35.7-1-4 (C-1 Zoning District).</p> <p>5. Nelson Colon: Case #29-25– Area Variances: Applicant is requesting two area variances pursuant to §154-7 of the Patterson Town Code in order to construct a 10 ft. x 14 ft. shed on a nonconforming lot. Town Code §154-7 requires accessory structures over 120 sq. ft. in the RPL-10 Zoning District to meet a minimum rear yard setback of 10 ft. Shed is proposed 5 ft. from the rear property line; variance requested is for 5 ft. Town Code §154-7 limits impervious surface coverage levels to a maximum of 38% of the lot; proposed shed will bring impervious surface coverage levels to 45%. A variance was previously granted for 4% over the 38% permitted; additional variance requested is for 3% over the 42% impervious surface coverage levels that were previously approved. This property is located at 124 Lake Shore Drive. Tax Map 25.48-2-15 (RPL-10 Zoning District).</p> <p>By Order of the ZBA Robert Schmitt, Chairman</p> <p>P. 11/26 - 153</p>	<p>the proposed relief is listed below:</p> <table><tr><th>Required Variance</th><th>Proposed</th></tr><tr><td>Rear Yard Setback</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>35'</td><td>3' 32'</td></tr></table> <p>Dear Resident/Property Owner: You have received this notice from the Village of Brewster Planning Board in accordance with Village Code Section 263-26(F). According to our records property that you own is within 200 feet of the property referenced within the application and therefore you are entitled to receive this notice. You are NOT required to take any action or appear at the scheduled public hearing unless you and/or your representative(s) choose to do so.</p> <p>P. 12/10 - 58</p>	Required Variance	Proposed	Rear Yard Setback		35'	3' 32'	<p>filed with SSNY on 09/02/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Pat Longobucco, 9 Pleasant Ridge, Putnam Valley, NY 10579. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.</p> <p>P. 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Micaela Lynn Events LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 09/02/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1 Rustic Lane Mahopac, NY 10541. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.</p> <p>P. 11/12, 11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Movement Growth & Development LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 7/12/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Movement Growth & Development LLC, 6 Poplar Street, Lake Peekskill, NY, 10537. Purpose: Movement Growth & Development LLC provides individualized and small-group training sessions focused on sport-specific skill and fine and gross motor development for children of all ages and abilities.</p> <p>P. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Qualification of KINGFISHER PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC</p> <p>Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/26/25. Office location: Putnam County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 07/31/25. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 1 Rockefeller Plaza, Rm. 2500, NY, NY 10020. DE addr. of LLC: c/o Corporation Service Co., 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Charuni Patibanda-Sanchez, Secy. of State of the State of DE, 401 Federal St., Ste. 3, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.</p> <p>P. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Vitalis Communications, LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 10/02/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Vitalis Communications, LLC, 5 Hildacar Lane, Carmel, NY 10512. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.</p> <p>P. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14</p>
Required Variance	Proposed									
Rear Yard Setback										
35'	3' 32'									
<p>Patterson</p> <p>TOWN OF PATTERSON PLANNING & ZONING OFFICE</p> <p>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE TOWN OF PATTERSON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS of the following public hearings to be held on Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Patterson Town Hall, 1142 Route 311, Patterson, Putnam County, New York to consider the following applications:</p> <p>1. Rebeca & Steven Bo-</p>	<p>And Village of Brewster Code Section 263-26(F), Notice is Hereby Given that a Public Hearing will be held on: December 18, 2025 – 7:00 P.M. Village Hall at 50 Main Street, Brewster, NY</p> <p>TO HEAR THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION:</p> <p><i>Area Variances are sought from the Zoning Board of Appeals in connection with the proposed building permit of Tax Parcel 56.82-1-33, with a physical address of 42 Center Street. The property is located in the R with a single-family dwelling built, and a shed to be built, with</i></p>	<p>Supreme Court</p> <p>NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCAF Acquisition Trust, Plaintiff AGAINST Wilson David, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered September 26, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Court, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on January 5, 2026 at 10:30 AM, premises known as 31 Stanwich Road, Carmel, NY 10512. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Kent, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 33.42 Block 2 and Lot 13. Approximate amount of judgment \$349,712.21 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #501525/2024. Cirino M. Bruno, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC 1775 Wehrle Drive Williamsville, NY 14221 24-001560 87996</p> <p>P. 12/3, 12/10, 12/17, 12/24 - 37</p>	<p>LLC</p> <p>Notice of Formation of GP CPA PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/26/2025. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 960 US-6, Suite 126, Mahopac, NY 10541. Purpose: to practice the profession of Public Accountancy.</p> <p>P. 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of See-SaoNoi1, LLC. Articles of Org</p>							

‘Journey to Bethlehem’ With Lakeview Community Church

“Joy to the world!” That’s the shout you’ll undoubtedly hear at Lakeview Community Church on Saturday, Dec. 13 when – for the first time – Lakeview will be hosting “Journey to Bethlehem,” an immersive living nativity that brings the Christmas story to life. This captivating recreation of the first Christmas will take guests on a guided journey through the story of Jesus’s birth.

“You’re going to see the story of the first Christmas like you’ve never seen it before,” said Jeremy Brown, a member of the church and one of the creative leads behind the event. “We’re going to take you back in time more than 2,000 years and show you what it was really like for Mary and Joseph – traveling to Bethlehem for the census, searching for a place to stay, and ultimately finding refuge in a humble stable. You’ll feel the hustle and bustle of the marketplace, you’ll encounter Roman centurions, and there will be a few surprises along the way.”

The adventure begins right outside the gates of Bethlehem.

From there, a guide will lead guests through the unfolding story.

“You’re not a passive viewer here,” said Brown. “You’re an active participant. You’ll walk the streets of Bethlehem; meet merchants, innkeepers, shepherds, and wise men; and journey through the entire narrative until you arrive at the stable where the first Christmas comes to life.”

Bustling marketplaces, singing shepherds, calling angels, and live animals await as visitors make their way through Bethlehem, all culminating at a simple manger where the true meaning of the season is revealed.

“The community will get a visual tour of what it might have been like to stand in Bethlehem,” said Lead Pastor Brian McIntyre. “People will be transported back to that setting and get a taste of the meaning of Christmas through the birth of Christ.”

Everyone at Lakeview is thrilled to bring “Journey to Bethlehem” to the region.

“I’ve had the idea in my heart for years,” shared McIntyre. “It just took the right people

at the right time to bring it to life.”

Authenticity is key for the team, as the church has spent months building a faithful recreation of early-century Bethlehem.

“Our team has been working tirelessly to create an incredible, immersive experience that pulls you into the story from the moment you arrive,” said Brown. “When you walk through those gates, you’ll leave Carmel behind and travel back 2,000 years into the busy City of Bethlehem. And hopefully, when you leave, you’ll reflect on the true message of Christmas and what it’s really all about.”

“Journey to Bethlehem” will be held at Lakeview Community Church, 387 Route 52, Carmel, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, with tours running every 30 minutes. Additionally, there will be a table set up to drop off canned goods that will be donated to local food pantries, helping to provide for families in need during the holiday season.

Sign-ups are currently open; visit <https://lakeviewcc.org> for more information.

CLASSIFIEDS WANTED

BUYING VINTAGE CAMERAS, LENSES, WATCHES, JEWELRY, COINS, CLOCKS, FISHING, HUNTING, MILITARY, FIRE HELMETS, SWORDS, KNIVES, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, COMICS, SPORTING, TOYS,

FOUNTAIN PENS, WESTERN And More. Please Call Frank 914-763-8766. 1/31

WANTED – Private collector buying firemen’s helmets, fishing, hunting items, rods, reels, lures, all types old or new, paintings of fishing, hunting, wildlife art, bows and arrows, no compound bows. Call 845-878-3665 or 845-661-9059. 2/28

Lawmakers Urge Action on Optum Coverage Cuts

Continued from Page 1

creating barriers to care.”

Slater and Harckham noted that discontinuing coverage for certain plans effectively pushes residents toward competing plans offered by UHG, Optum’s parent company – further concentrating market power, reducing competition, and accelerating consolidation in the healthcare industry.

The lawmakers urged the agencies to take three specific actions: Conduct a review to determine whether excluding competing exchange plans presents a conflict of interest for Optum and UHG; adopt regulations requir-

ing advance notice to patients, lawmakers, local governments, and the public – along with opportunities for community input – before major clinic closures occur; and assess the impact of Optum’s network reductions and facility closures on healthcare access and affordability in the Hudson Valley.

According to the lawmakers, concerns about access to affordable care have grown following the passage of the Trump administration’s “One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” encompassing the federal budget, which is expected to reduce healthcare funding in New York by an estimated \$13.5 billion annually due to Medicaid cuts.

Additionally, the expiration of Affordable Care Act tax credits is projected to cost New York’s healthcare system another \$213 million, further straining communities already grappling with reduced coverage options.

Tax Prep Volunteers Needed

United Way of Westchester & Putnam, in collaboration with The Hudson Valley CASH Coalition and the AARP Foundation, are recruiting volunteers to assist with tax preparation in Putnam County during the upcoming tax season.

The Hudson Valley CASH Coalition and the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program provide free, reliable tax preparation assistance to low- to moderate-income residents of Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange counties.

There are three ways to volunteer: Tax counselors help prepare taxes for clients on-site in Putnam, client facilita-

tors support the tax counselors and ensure appointments run smoothly on-site in Putnam, and appointment specialists assist with the overflow of appointment calls and ensure clients receive tax help (can be done remotely).

Volunteers must be familiar with technology and work with people on a regular basis. Individuals with computer proficiency and a desire to help others are strongly encouraged to join the volunteer team. Prior experience with tax filing is advantageous but not mandatory. Tax volunteer classes will provide comprehensive training and culminate in

IRS certification upon successful completion.

The Hudson Valley CASH Coalition is actively seeking bilingual volunteers to better serve Spanish-speaking clients.

Tax preparation is now open and goes through April, and volunteer training courses will take place in the fall and early winter.

More information for each position can be found at www.uwwp.org/tax-volunteers.

For more information and to become an IRS-certified volunteer tax preparer, visit www.uwwp.org/tax-volunteers or contact Edward Gonzalez at egonzalez@uwwp.org.

Putnam Valley Considers Eased Commercial Zoning

Continued from Page 1

what I’d like to see preserved. My concern is, in all the years I’ve been here, many businesses that have come in have closed. Even busy Oregon Corners has its share of vacant buildings, and our neighboring towns have many, too. I think the town should be focusing on those. You should not be adding any more.”

Sam Oliviero, a past town supervisor, noted that the town also must balance its own goals with county-level concerns.

“The county is the one that has constantly shut down anything being built because of the septic (concerns),” he said. “We’re on a watershed – these are things that need to be considered. Also, I think we need more community input.”

Oliviero also said the proposed set of zoning changes includes some good proposals but needs to contain some fail-safe measures to ensure the planning board properly analyzes commercial development.

Resident Susan Hoekstra said commercial development has a financial costs to residents. “If you lived in a purely residential, rural area and all of a sudden a mini-mart showed up, you’d have lost several thousands in real-estate value,” she said. “How will the town compensate us for that? I don’t think this has been considered.”

Nick Oliviero noted that people in homes adjacent to busy enterprises will face a loss of privacy, despite provisions calling for robust landscaping and privacy hedges as a buffer. He also mused if business owners would, themselves, be residents of the adjacent

neighborhoods or live elsewhere.

“It becomes (an issue of), I’m not doing this in my backyard, but I can do it in your backyard,” he said.

Peter Kirshner called for more robust provisions in the proposals to ensure that standards such as privacy landscaping are followed through a project’s life cycle. “Standards that only came in during the proposal of a project need to be stronger and there needs to be code that takes it through the lifetime of a project,” he said.

Town Supervisor-elect Alison Joilcouer commended the work that has been done thus far on the zoning proposals, but also said it vests too much authority in the planning board.

“I do acknowledge that this proposal has been a long time coming and goes back to the comprehensive plan that stated in 2007 from 18 years ago – and many residents have been wanting to see plans that align with the vision that was laid out,” she said. “I fully support bringing in businesses that are a good fit for our community. We also need to recognize the reality we face today, and that has been set already that we have multiple commercial buildings sitting empty and some businesses that are struggling to survive. So, any zoning changes must be paired with a strategy that supports and strengthens the businesses we already have.”

No vote was taken on the zoning proposal, which will be revised and again discussed at an upcoming town board meeting and public hearing.

“Remember, everything is in draft form,” said Stephanie Russo of the Putnam Valley Neighborhood Business Council. “So, now is the time to come together for an open and productive discussion, and to make appropriate edits so that we can move forward. And rather than have dilapidated structures as part of our landscapes, we can have thriving small businesses that serve our residents.”

CLASSIFIED ADS

PRINT CLEARLY your AD on the form below and send it to: PUTNAM COUNTY PRESS, P.O. BOX 608, MAHOPAC, NEW YORK 10541 by theWEDNESDAY before publication, or email your ad to advertising@putnampresstimes.com. We will run your ad for four (4) weeks. If after that time you wish to renew for another four weeks, resubmit your AD on the form. The price for classified advertising is \$17.50 for 25 words. Please include a check with your submission.

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Past & Present Converge at Art Show in Brewster

“Transitions: Where the Past Nudges into the Present” is currently on display in Brewster, featuring paintings by Elizabeth Elder.

We are always transitioning, and in the spirit of embracing what’s to come, painter Elizabeth Elder has assembled a selection of paintings informed by her long and varied life to be displayed on the walls at Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., through the winter.

Elder has experienced a creative explosion in recent years, most recently enjoyed by audiences at her first produced play, “Break of Day,” which appeared in the Old Town Hall Theatricals’ September production of “Little Local Dramas.”

Elder’s character in the play, Norma, looks back over her long life with regret that so much is lost – but by the end of the play, she sees that

we are always in “the now” where “the past nudges into the present and mixes with ideas that might grow into moments we don’t know about yet.”

This attitude is reflected in Elder’s bright, unexpected paintings. She currently works with acrylics, implementing a style of abstract expressionism. Using a layering process, she develops depth and lets each layer inform the next. Each piece may conjure up a sense – or a moment – of transition or passage.

The show as a whole could be viewed as a life metaphor in which particular – or limited – outlooks transition over time into broadly interpretive perspectives. All works are available for purchase.

Elder grew up in Bristol, R.I., lived for a couple of decades in Maine, spent another dozen years



Art by Elizabeth Elder is currently on display at Studio Around the Corner.

in Baltimore, and has lived for the past few years in Westchester and Putnam counties. She studied art at Skidmore College and the Maine College of Art, and is a former editor of community newspapers and



“The Other Way Out” by Elizabeth Elder.

has published books, plays, essays, and verse collections. She also taught English and coached creative

writing at the high-school level.

Her art extends to ballroom and partner dance traditions.

Aquaflayers Perform in Turkey Splash

The New Fairfield Aquaflayers – which includes swimmers from Patterson, Brewster, and Carmel – hosted the annual Turkey Splash Mini Meet on Nov. 19, when the Minnows, Dolphins, and Marlins competed in each stroke, as well as a fun inflatable relay race.

Isabella Cardona took third in the 25-yard backstroke and fifth in the 25-yard freestyle.

Owen Fabiano placed ninth in the 25-yard freestyle and the 25-yard backstroke.

Benjamin Kozlenko took 10th in the 25-yard freestyle and the 25-yard backstroke.

Willow Krompinger placed fourth in the 25-yard freestyle and the 25-yard backstroke.

Hailey Lyons took sixth in the

25-yard freestyle and seventh in the 25-yard backstroke.

Adrianna Rasulo placed seventh in the 25-yard freestyle and eighth in the 25-yard backstroke.

Hailley Sandoval took first in the 25-yard backstroke and second in the 25-yard freestyle.

Charlotte Smith placed second in the 25-yard breaststroke, third in the 25-yard freestyle, and sixth in the 50-yard backstroke.

Olivia Stunkard took first in the 25-yard freestyle and the 25-yard breaststroke, and second in the 25-yard backstroke.

Hannah Sullivan placed fifth in the 25-yard freestyle and eighth in the 25-yard freestyle.

Wylann Archer took third in the 25-yard butterfly.



Members of the Aquaflayers at the Turkey Splash.

Corrine Brown placed second in the 50-yard freestyle, and fifth in the 50-yard backstroke and 50-yard butterfly.

Jackston Burdi took first in the 50-yard backstroke and 50-yard breaststroke, and second in the 50-yard butterfly.

Chloe Carey placed second in the 50-yard breaststroke, tied for fourth in the 50-yard freestyle, and took sixth in the 50-yard backstroke and seventh in the 50-yard butterfly.

Tony Cullen took ninth in the 25-yard butterfly.

Violet Fairchild placed 10th in the 25-yard butterfly.

Brynn Frederick took eighth in the 50-yard breaststroke.

Seth Garcia placed sixth in the 50-yard butterfly.

Rebecca Gavin took sixth in the 25-yard butterfly.

Anthony Jachym placed third in the 50-yard freestyle and eighth in the 50-yard backstroke.

Kyleigh Janecek took eighth in the 25-yard butterfly.

Tristan Keutmann placed fifth in the 50-yard breaststroke, eighth in the 50-yard butterfly, and ninth in the 50-yard freestyle.

Zachary Krompinger took first in the 25-yard butterfly, sixth in the 50-yard breaststroke, eighth in the

50-yard freestyle, and 10th in the 50-yard backstroke.

Kylie Mino placed fourth in the 50-yard butterfly, seventh in the 50-yard breaststroke, and 10th in the 50-yard freestyle.

Jackson Monroe took fourth in the 25-yard butterfly.

Saige Mosiej placed first in the 50-yard freestyle, third in the 50-yard butterfly, fourth in the 50-yard backstroke, and ninth in the 50-yard breaststroke.

Zachary Ravich took seventh in the 25-yard butterfly.

Michael Romano placed fifth in the 25-yard butterfly.

Alejandro See took third in the 50-yard backstroke, seventh in the 50-yard freestyle, and 10th in the 50-yard breaststroke and 50-yard butterfly.

Desiree Stancek placed second in the 25-yard butterfly and ninth in the 50-yard backstroke.

Giovanna Węgrzyn took fourth in the 50-yard breaststroke, sixth in the 50-yard freestyle, seventh in the 50-yard backstroke, and ninth in the 50-yard butterfly.

Quinn Welsh placed first in the 50-yard butterfly, second in the 50-yard backstroke, third in the 50-yard breaststroke, and tied for fourth in the 50-yard freestyle.

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