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TIMES

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2025

Food, Fun & Friends at Annual St. James Feast



St. James the Apostle Church in Carmel once again invited community members to enjoy food, live music, bouncy attractions and games, religious activities, and more at its annual Feast, which took place July 17 to 19. Here, volunteers are busy frying up some of the "famous" zeppole the event is known for.



Ring toss, Plinko, and a basketball shootout were just some of the games available. Here, a youngster practices his aim with a target game. Additional photos are on page 16.

Firemen's Parade Draws a Crowd to Carmel



The Carmel Fire Department celebrated its 110th anniversary during its annual parade July 19 along Gleneida Avenue. Various fire departments and marching bands proudly participated, and were cheered on by on-lookers.



Additional photos are on pages 8 and 9.

Putnam Chosen to Pilot LOSS Team

Provides Suicide Survivors Outreach

By Holly Crocco

Putnam is one of only four counties in New York State whose Suicide Prevention Task Force was selected to receive funding earlier this year to develop and pilot a LOSS team (Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors) to support individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide.

"The goal of the team is to be able to provide timely, empathetic support to folks who have experienced a loss to suicide," said Paul Tang, Putnam's director for mental health, at the County Legislature's July 17 Health Committee meeting.

"Studies have shown the faster that we can get resources and support to people who have experienced such a loss, it significantly decreases the time people were able to receive help and begin their recovery," he said. "So we're talking about the difference between years and months."

The LOSS team made its formal launch at the county's mental health forum in May. It is co-chaired by Marla Behler, director of the Putnam Child Advocacy Center, and Megan Castellano, homefront executive program director for Guardian Revival. It includes Sara Servadio, commissioner of the departments of mental health, social services and Youth Bureau, as well as Tang, and civilian "peers" who have experience with this type of loss.

"That lived experience is really important, to be able to give that to folks who have also experienced a loss," said Tang.

While the funding isn't astronomical – \$12,480 for the two-year cycle – he said the task force is proud to have been chosen to pilot this program.

The LOSS team works with loved ones who may fall anywhere on the sphere of impact – which includes exposed, effected, bereaved long-term and bereaved short-term, as well as the impact on first-responders.

"Because our community is small and a lot of our departments are volunteers, this increases the individuals who may be affected," explained Castellano. "They may go from being exposed to being more effected or bereaved, whether that be short-term or long-term."

Data shows that in communities with outreach, such as a LOSS team, the amount of time it takes for loved ones to seek and receive help may decrease from 3.4 years to 47 days.

In Putnam County, based on the five responses the team has been called to this year, it's even less turnaround time.

"We've been able to turn around and care for people in as little as the same day, which has been incredible," said Castellano. "A lot of that is thanks to the commitment of many of the providers in the community who understand why this work is important, and their support has really been invaluable."

The funding has allowed the team to rebrand and update the promotional pamphlets and folders

Continued on Page 12



Photo courtesy of the Putnam County Executive's Office.

County's Internship Program a Win-Win

Putnam County Department of Public Works summer interns are currently working on various infrastructure projects around the county, including along Fair Street and Sprout Brook Road.

The internship program provides invaluable, real-world experience that young people can use in their career advancement. For example, Nicholas Pawliczko, a recent graduate from the University of Delaware, was hired by a structural engineering firm in New York City.

"By interning with Putnam County DPW, area young people

can receive hands-on training from local experts and contribute to major projects that move people and commerce across our community," said County Executive Kevin Byrne. "I am grateful for the contributions of these program participants and I encourage others interested in the civil engineering and construction fields to intern with us next year."

DPW Commissioner Thomas Feighery said the internship program benefits both the intern and the county.

"The intern gains valuable, hands-on experience in their field

of study, applying classroom knowledge to actual projects," he said. "Meanwhile, Putnam County builds connections with emerging professionals and positions itself as an attractive potential employer after graduation. It has been very rewarding to watch local talent excel and we look forward to continuing this program in conjunction with our successful Personnel Department's Putnam Invests in Leaders of Tomorrow initiative."



Photo provided by Carmel Fire Department.

Person Extricated in Carmel Crash

The Carmel Fire Department, along with Carmel Volunteer Ambulance Corp. and the Carmel Police Department, were dispatched to Stoneleigh Avenue near the intersection of Drewville Road for a reported motor vehicle accident with injuries, just after noon July 19.

First responders encountered a head-on collision involving entrapment in one vehicle, with severe injuries to one of the occupants. Firefighters immediately initiated extrication efforts, which lasted approximately 30 minutes and were led by Operations Chief Vincent Ruggiero.

Paramedics on-site determined the patient was in urgent need of blood, and the incident commander requested a medical helicopter to the scene. Once the

helicopter landed, its medical crew was transported to the scene to assist with advanced patient care.

Brewster Fire Department paramedics, who had recently cleared Putnam Hospital and were in the area, responded to assist with patient care, along with Putnam County Medic 3. Their support was instrumental in stabilizing the patient during the prolonged extrication process, stated CFD.

Following successful extrication, the patient was airlifted to Westchester Medical Center for further treatment.

Stoneleigh Avenue remained closed for an extended period while Carmel P.D. conducted an investigation into the cause of the accident.

Carmel Schools Name New Administration Member

Dr. Jeff Gorman has been appointed assistant superintendent of instruction for the Carmel Central School District, following a vote by the Carmel School Board at its July 21 meeting. Trustee John Curzio II was the lone dissenting vote.

Gorman has held leadership positions in school districts throughout Westchester County and New Jersey. His start date with Carmel was July 23.

"I'm excited to join a school district community that values student-centered instruction," he said. "Together we will work to make certain that all of our students are ready for college or career upon graduation."

After beginning his career as a mathematics teacher, Gorman moved into leadership

with roles that often focused on curriculum and instruction. Most recently, he served as interim assistant superintendent of curriculum, instruction and equity in Tarrytown, where he implemented a comprehensive literacy program that included dual language instruction.

He also served as deputy superintendent of schools in Mount Vernon, and was an assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction in the Monroe Township schools in New Jersey.

Gorman received a Doctor of Education in educational leadership from Rowan University, a master of arts degree from Kean University, and a bachelor of arts degree from The College of New Jersey.

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Letters to the Editor

Challenging Crowley for Legislature

Dear Editor:

I am deeply troubled by the allegations that Erin Crowley, Putnam County legislator and Congressman Michael Lawler's deputy district director, used a fake name to infiltrate a private signal group chat and then urged disorderly behavior by members of our community at Congressman Lawler's Town Hall meeting. The actions that have been reported show a shocking lack of integrity.

I am running against Ms. Crowley to represent Mahopac in the Putnam County Legislature. I've lived in this county for 30 years, and my wife and I raised our two sons here. I am a proud member of Local Union 3, with decades of business experience managing large construction projects and achieving results on time and on budget.

I entered this race to provide a voice of integrity and transparency in our Legislature because I love Mahopac and have a deep commitment to protecting the area and our community.

I understand this is a politically divisive time in our country and that party identification feels very important. At the same time, I believe that on the local level, in Mahopac, we all share similar goals.

We want safety and security for our residents, good education and opportunity for our children, and lower taxes. And we want to know that our government officials have integrity and transparency and will work tirelessly toward these goals.

Our town deserves better, and I ask for your consideration.

Lenny Harrington
Mahopac

CAREERS Support Services May Get Boost in County Funding

Monies Also Secured for Program in 2026 New York State Budget

By Holly Crocco

A local not-for-profit that helps people with disabilities enter and say in the workforce is poised to receive an extra \$15,000 in county funds, with the County Legislature’s Rules Committee moving the request from CAREERS Support Solutions to the full meeting for approval.

The action occurred just days before State Sen. Pete Harkham announced that he helped secure \$85,000 for the agency in the 2026 state budget, to go toward operations and educational programs.

Currently, the organization serves about 350 clients per year; about 100 of them are from Putnam.

“They are intellectually and developmentally disabled and they also may have psychiatric issues,” said Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria. “Everything we do gets them to be more independent, to gain confidence, to gain self-esteem, to get into possibly an internship and then a paid job where they are part of the community and giving back.”

CAREERS provides workforce readiness training and placement, works with students in all school districts, leads classes, sets up paid internships, helps adults who are ready to enter the workforce draft resumes, provides on-the-job training, and provides long-term and ongoing support leading up to retirement.

“I’ve been with the agency for 37 years and some of my clients are still with me,” said the director.

Cornish-Lauria said she has to fundraise about \$347,000 every year to meet the agency’s budget. Last year and this year it received \$15,000 from the county, even though this year she asked for \$30,000 during the budget process.

“At 100 people on average that we’re working with, for \$15,000, that means it’s \$150 per client,” said the director. “We work with many of our clients every single day of the year, and all of our other clients we’re working with could be several times a week, every week. So \$150 barely puts a dent in it.”

She noted that the request for another \$15,000 – to total the \$30,000 that was originally requested – “isn’t really additional because, again, I have to fundraise about \$340,000 to meet my budget ... I have a hole that I

have to fill,” she said. Cornish-Lauria has requested \$30,000 for 2026 as well.

With more money coming from the county, she said it would free up time that is currently spent writing grants and fundraising, to instead go toward programming.

Legislator Dan Birmingham, R-Southeast, explained that, as the county approaches the end of its fiscal year, it still has \$57,000 in “contingency” for outside agencies.

Legislator Paul Jonke, R-Brewster, said that to ask outside agencies that rely on county funding to wait until next year’s budget is unfair.

“Agencies like yours do work for the community that the county does not do,” he said. “So you’re filling a need in our county and I’m grateful for your work and all the work these agencies do.”

Legislator Amy Sayegh, R-Mahopac Falls, said she would like to know what exactly will be funded with the county’s support, to which Cornish-Lauria said the money would go to salaries.

“That’s where I have a problem, is staff salaries,” said Sayegh. “That’s what you should be fundraising for, not going to the taxpayers.”

Rather, Sayegh said she would like to see the county funds go toward programming.

“But what is programming?” asked Cornish-Lauria. “Programming is the staff providing the program. That’s where the money goes to.”

She likened it to educational funding going toward teacher salaries, as opposed to desks or equipment.

“It’s a reality that every organization runs on salaries,” added Birmingham. “This government runs on people being paid. Certainly not-for-profits... they need to be paid as well.”

Legislator Greg Ellner, R-Carmel, said the support goes hand in hand with the county funding an early childhood learning center.

“We’re spending million of dollars for our early learning center and these are the same individuals who, as they matriculate, they are going to benefit from these organizations,” he said. “So, to me, an additional \$15,000 for up to 100 or more people, this is a very, very good investment.”

Legislator Toni Addonizio,

R-Kent, agreed. “We save money, as a county, by the services that you provide,” she told Cornish-Lauria.

The full Legislature will vote on the funding during its August meeting.

In announcing the funding for CAREERS last week, Sen. Harkham, D-Peekskill, also announced \$7,000 for Prevention Council of Putnam for operations and educational programs, and \$35,000 for the Putnam/Northern Westchester Women’s Resource Center for advocacy outreach.

“These investments are important to organizations that are providing frontline services to our most vulnerable residents,” said Harkham. “Many of these are nonprofits operating on shoestring budgets and they accomplish so much. I am glad to have secured this funding because these programs will help empower residents and benefit them in so many ways.”

Cornish-Lauria said the funding provided to CAREERS by the state is “life-changing for the individuals with disabilities who rely on our services.”

“The senator’s commitment to our mission enables clients to receive the job training, job placement assistance, and ongoing long-term support they need to help them find, and keep, jobs they can be successful in,” she said. “Providing initiatives to help individuals with disabilities become financially independent, while also gaining self-esteem through work, is simply invaluable.”

Jessica Grainger, associate executive director of Putnam/



CAREERS Support Services Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria with State Sen. Pete Harkham.

Northern Westchester Women’s Resource Center, said the state funding represents more than financial support.

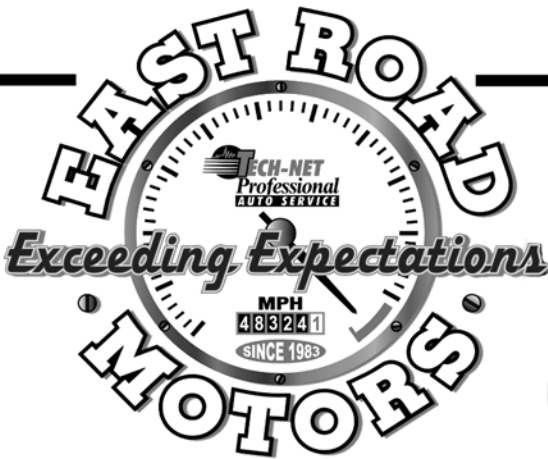
“It’s a vital lifeline that enables us to continue providing

compassionate, dignified care to survivors of violence,” she said. “It also allows us to enhance our confidential shelter, ensuring it remains a safe, healing, and hopeful space for those in need.”

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Jose Dionel Perez Perez,
36, July 20. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

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Janice M. Perillo, 77, July 15. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Muriel A. Hill, 102, July 15. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Steven A. “Stevie” Walter, 33, July 20. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

William C. “Willy” Rush,

39, July 21. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Anthony Passafiume, 75, July 23. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Patterson

Jack Geiyer, 97, July 21. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

Anatoli Kashpur, 70, July 15. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Putnam Valley

Antonio “Tony” Zegarelli, 68, July 18, Yorktown Funeral Home, Shrub Oak, (914) 962-0700.



Sign Up for Columbus Day Parade

The Italian American Club of Mahopac is looking for marchers, antique/muscle car drivers, dance and performing groups, and community organizations to be part of the lineup for the 2025 Putnam County Columbus Day Parade on Sunday, Oct. 5, stepping off at 2:30 p.m., along Route 6 in Mahopac. Contact Giulio Cefaloni at 845-745-2655 for more information, or visit ItalianAmericanClubofMahopac.org or Facebook. File photo.

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Nutrition Corner

**By Allison J. Stowell
MS, RD, CDN**

Summer Health Halos

“Health halo” foods are foods that are perceived as good for us. These are the foods we choose thanks to their good reputation and belief that they are “better for us”. Let’s take a closer look at some summer health halos.

Smoothie Bowls: A typical smoothie bowl is made from smoothie (thick enough to eat with a spoon), complemented by assorted toppings like fresh fruit, granola, seeds, and nuts or nut butters (or sometimes Nutella). While it may seem like this combination is a healthful option, it’s important to consider how it’s made (and how it’s topped). If you’re ordering a smoothie bowl, ask how it’s prepared, noting any added sugar ingredients like syrups and juices. Then choose balanced toppings that work well within your day and caloric needs. Depending on how it’s made, a smoothie bowl can be around 500-700 calories once all the ingredients are included.

Frozen Yogurt: While it may sound like a “better for you” alternative to ice cream, frozen yogurt is not necessarily the “healthier” option when it comes to enjoying a frozen dessert. While ice cream will have a higher fat content, frozen yogurt is likely to be higher in sugar. Both tend to offer similar calories. In some cases, you may find frozen yogurt that contains live cultures, but frozen yogurt is not usually considered as a probiotic source (and therefore won’t enhance gut health).

“Better for You” Beverages: The beverage aisle offers an abundance of alternative sodas, juices, mocktails, and other beverages that are marketed as “healthier” options. I recommend reading nutrition labels carefully to ensure your beverage doesn’t contain ingredients you typically seek to limit (like added sugar and artificial colors). Additionally, remember that even a “low calorie” drink is still adding calories and may lead to over consuming your calories for the day.

Allison J Stowell MS RD CDN serves as the online dietitian for

Hannaford Supermarket. To learn about FREE, virtual nutrition classes and more, visit Hannaford.com/dietitians. For more on the Guiding Stars nutrition guidance program, visit GuidingStars.com.

Air Fryer Crispy Fish Sandwiches (1 Guiding Stars)
www.Hannaford.com

Greek yogurt stands in for mayo in a tangy, creamy tartar sauce.

Ingredients:
1 (12-oz.) package frozen had-dock fillets
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
2 large eggs
1 1/2 cups panko breadcrumbs
Cooking spray
16 dill or bread and butter pickle chips, divided
1/2 cup nonfat Greek yogurt
1 tsp. apple cider vinegar
4 whole wheat or regular hamburger buns, toasted, if desired
Bibb lettuce leaves, for serving

Directions:
Preheat air fryer to 400 degrees F. Pat fish dry with paper towels and season with salt. Add flour to a shallow bowl. In a second shallow bowl, beat together eggs and 2 tablespoons water. To a third bowl, add panko breadcrumbs. Season all three bowls with salt and pepper.

Coat fish in flour, tapping off excess. Dip fish in eggs, allowing excess to drip off, then coat in breadcrumbs. Spray air fryer basket with cooking spray. Add fish to basket and lightly spray tops with cooking spray. Air-fry until fish is cooked through and crust is brown, 10 to 12 minutes.

Meanwhile, finely chop 8 pickle chips. In a small bowl, combine yogurt, chopped pickles and vinegar. Season with salt and pepper. Spread tartar sauce on the buns. Top with fried fish, remaining pickle chips and lettuce. Serve immediately.

Chicken Skewers

(Family Features)
Chicken Skewers

Ingredients:
1 cup brown sugar
1 can (6 ounces) tomato paste
1/2 cup apple cider vinegar
1 tablespoon mustard
2 teaspoons onion powder
1 teaspoon garlic powder
2 teaspoons smoked paprika
2 teaspoons barbecue seasoning

Directions:
In saucepan over medium heat, cook brown sugar, tomato paste, apple cider vinegar, mustard, onion powder, garlic powder, paprika, barbecue seasoning, honey and teriyaki sauce until well combined.
Cube chicken and place in

large bowl. Pour sauce over chicken, saving some for basting. Marinate at least 1 hour.
Heat grill to medium heat.
Place marinated chicken cubes on skewers and arrange on baking sheet. Grill until chicken reaches 165 F internal temperature, 20-30 minutes. Baste with remaining sauce as needed. Serve over rice or use for chicken tacos.
Substitution: Use hot honey instead of regular honey to spice it up.

*Servings: 4-6
Source: Culinary.net*



An oil-on-canvas piece by Lynn Burkett of Carmel took home an honorable mention from the show.

View ‘Floral Adventures’ at PAC Through Aug. 3

“Floral Adventures” is currently featured in the A. Eric Arctander Gallery at Putnam Arts Council.

The exhibit features 139 pieces of original fine art created by 75 artists from across the region and includes drawings, paintings, photographs, mixed media, and ceramics. The event provides an opportunity for regional artists to showcase their recent work in a professional gallery setting.

The Jeanne Demotse Awards of Excellence were selected by Tooraj Pourmand, a professional artist and educator who served as juror for the show. Kelly Edwards of Carmel won

third-place for her mixed-media piece, and an oil painting by Lynn Burkett of Carmel and a watercolor by Maria Calegari of Carmel earned honorable mentions.

The A. Eric Arctander Gallery, located at 521 Kennicut Hill Road, Mahopac, is open to the public and free of charge through Aug. 3, with remaining gallery hours of 2 to 5 p.m. Sundays, and 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, or by appointment.

An artist talk is scheduled from 3 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3 – closing day. Meet the artists and learn about their art, their inspiration, and their process during this free event.

Assemblyman Slater Launches Online Survey

Assemblyman Matt Slater, R-Yorktown, is asking residents of the 94th Assembly District to participate in his 2026 legislative priorities survey as he begins preparing for the upcoming legislative session.

The 18-question survey gives constituents a direct way to share their opinions on the issues that matter most to them.

“This is one of the best tools I have to make sure I’m fighting for the issues that matter most to the people I represent,” said Slater. “This survey helps me better understand the priorities of our communities and ensures those concerns are reflected in the policies I push for in Albany.”

The survey covers a wide range of topics including local road and infrastructure needs, public safety and law enforcement support, affordability and the rising cost of living, child care access, environmental and clean energy issues, job training and workforce development, public transportation, and communication preferences.

“Thank you to everyone who takes a few minutes to complete the survey,” said Slater. “This is

your direct line to Albany – use it to make your voice heard.”

The survey is available at <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Matt-Slater> or <https://t.co/1mBgP5Mwg1>.

Jim Dale Presents ‘An Actor’s Nightmare’

Tony Award winner Jim Dale, one of America’s great raconteurs, will be performing his brand new one-man show “An Actor’s Nightmare” at Arts on the Lake on Aug. 17 from 4 to 7 p.m.

His latest show takes the audience through his earlier years as a leading actor with Britain’s National Theatre, led by Sir Laurence Olivier, who dubbed Dale as “God’s gift to Shakespeare’s comedies.”

Dale, who began his career as a young comedian in British music halls, has explored every branch of show business – from ballet to circus clown, from drag queen to Disney villain, from London West



Kent resident Jim Dale will perform Aug. 17 at AotL.

End comedies to Broadway musicals. He has starred in 16 plays and musicals on and off-Broadway.

Dale also narrated all seven “Harry Potter” audiobooks, creating more than 220 different character voices. His work won him two Grammy awards, seven Grammy nominations, and four Narrator of the Year awards.

The upcoming event is AotL’s end-of-summer fundraiser. The benefit begins at 4 p.m., at 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, with refreshments, wine, and light fare. Dale will begin performing at 5 p.m. Questions and a social hour will follow.

There will be limited seating for the indoor event. Tickets are \$75 and available at www.artsonthelake.org.

United Way Awards Grants to Putnam Nonprofits

United Way of Westchester & Putnam has awarded 35 community impact grants totaling \$150,000 to support local nonprofits serving the needs of the under-resourced or ALICE (those who are employed but are living paycheck-to-paycheck) populations in Westchester and Putnam counties.

Among the grant recipients are the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub, Putnam Community Action Partnership, and Second Chance Foods in Brewster.

“Our grant recipients are the backbone of community support in Westchester and Putnam counties, delivering life-changing services to families who need them most,” said United Way President and CEO Tom Gabriel. “Each organization has consistently demonstrated their ability to meet critical needs, whether they are keeping families housed, providing meals, or creating opportunities for youth. With these grants, they will continue their essential work of strengthening our communities and helping ALICE households achieve stability and hope.”

percent from 2022. It is the largest number of households falling below the ALICE threshold since the study began in 2010.

Westchester Community Opportunity Program, the parent organization for Putnam CAP, works to combat the difficulties many of their community members face in Putnam County.

“We are incredibly grateful to the United Way of Westchester & Putnam for awarding us with a generous \$5,000 community impact grant,” said WestCOP Director Marisa O’Leary. “This vital funding will directly help low-income residents in Putnam County facing immediate crises by providing crucial assistance with rental and utility arrears. It means we can keep families housed and their lights on, preventing the devastating ripple

effects of eviction and utility disconnection, and offering a critical lifeline to those in urgent need.”

United Way of Westchester & Putnam is an anti-poverty organization dedicated to improving the lives of 40 percent of residents who live in poverty or paycheck to paycheck. It offers a 211 helpline, early literacy programming for preschoolers, job skills training and financial empowerment, as well as access to health services and discounts on prescription drugs. It supports hundreds of local nonprofits with millions of dollars in grants and essential goods for basic needs, as well as by providing affordable professional development and connecting nonprofits to new resources.

For more information, visit www.uwwp.org.

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With actors Micah Abrams, Winnifred Allison, Rob Dumont, Tess Kaplan, Isabella Moncado, Rosey Murrah, Dante Nastasi, George Petkanas, James Purr, James Shearwood, Theo Vanis.

SKIMMERHORN: *I'm A.B. Skimmerhorn, Mr. Van Dorn, president of Igneous Trap-rock and I'm glad to meet you. I can offer you a fair price for your land, and if you don't take it we may have to push you a little, because we want this acreage and we intend to have it.*

[After refusing increasingly higher offers for his land, VAN DORN is asked, "Good God, what do you want?"]

VAN DORN: *I want it back the way it was before you came here. And I won't get that. I know what kind of a fool I look to all of you, all but old John there. But I'll be a fool along with John, and keep my own, before I let you have an inch. John, fifty thousand or this old hill top. Is it worth keeping?*

Find the answer at one of the performances of *High Tor*.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1ST AT 7PM AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 2ND AT 2PM AND 7PM.

640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, NY 10512
Visit www.artsonthelake.org for tickets and more info.



Mahopac Grads Recognized

Mahopac High School Class of 2025 graduates Violet Bica and Regan Lux were recently recognized with the prestigious New York State Attorney General’s Triple “C” Award, for demonstrating exceptional character, courage, and commitment in their academic and personal lives. The award celebrates students who not only succeed academically, but also serve as leaders in their school communities. Bica and Lux were recommended for recognition by MHS faculty for their dedication, perseverance, and integrity.

Area Filmmaker Directs ‘High Tor’ Revival at AotL

Trained as a filmmaker at Purchase College, Carmel High School graduate Tim Bohrman is directing the revival of Maxwell Anderson’s play “High Tor” at Arts on this Lake this week-end.

One performance is scheduled for opening night, Aug. 1, at 7 p.m. On Saturday, Aug. 2, performances are scheduled at 2 and 7 p.m.

Although written in the midst of the Great Depression, the play’s discussion of who should own



Tim Bohrman

scenic and environmentally important lands has only become more relevant with the passage of time.

Anderson was already a well-established Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and part of the Rockland County arts community when he wrote this play about a young man who

wouldn’t sell his cabin on High Tor mountain to developers wanting to extract by dynamite the trap rock for use in construction elsewhere.

Discouraged by the politics of both parties, seeing the corruption of “fat men in suits” able to buy and sell almost anything and anyone, this young man – who might have been Maxwell Anderson a few years earlier – was portrayed in the original Broadway production in the late 1930s by the then-young Burgess Meredith.

It might also be any number of young men or women in the five boroughs or suburbs of New York today.

In 1939, the play so moved audiences that New York State moved in to stop the destruction of High Tor mountain using the only means it had at the time: buying the land to turn it into the state park it is today.

Bohrman has cast Rob Dumont of Brewster and Winnie Allison of Brooklyn as the romantic leads; George Petkanas and Dante Nastasi of Philipstown and James Shearwood of AotL as the developers; and Micah Abrams, Tess Kaplan, Isabella Moncado, Rosey Murrah, James Purr, and Theo Vanis as some of the sailors stranded on the mountain from Captain Henry Hudson’s ship the Half Moon.

Bohrman directed several independent films while a student at Purchase. He is best known in the area for forming with others the Carmel Film Club in 2018, and directing and producing the full-length film “Legends of the Gallowglass,” shown at AotL last year to more than 100 viewers.

Arts on the Lake is located in the former Lake Carmel firehouse at 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes.

Tickets to the upcoming performance can be secured at www.artsonthelake.org.

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Putnam County Community Events

Parade Participants Sought
The Italian American Club of Mahopac is looking for marchers, antique/muscle car drivers, dance and performing groups, and community organizations to be part of the lineup for the 2025 Putnam County Columbus Day Parade on Sunday, Oct. 5, stepping off at 2:30 p.m., along Route 6 in Mahopac. Contact Giulio Cefaloni at 845-745-2655, or visit ItalianAmericanClubofMahopac.org.

Carmel Cruisers
The Carmel Cruisers are returning to Wendys in the Putnam Plaza, 1894 Route 6, Carmel, for their fourth season of free car shows for the community. The will be at Wendys every other Saturday from 3 to 8 p.m., through Sept. 20, and every Sunday morning from 9 a.m. to noon through Oct. 12.

Farmers’ Market
The Town of Carmel Recreation & Parks Department will host a farmers’ market every other Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 19 at the Michael Geary Memorial Hockey Rink at 740 Route 6, Mahopac. Live music, food, vendors. Updates available on social media @CFMatlakemahopac.

Tuesday, July 29
Energy Savings Session
Desmond-Fish Public Library, 472 Route 403, Garrison, will host a Save Energy, Save Dollars workshop Tuesday, July 29 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Hosted by an energy advisor from CCE-Putnam County, it offers a free session to help participants improve home energy efficiency, reduce utility bills, and access energy-saving programs and resources. It includes free energy savings kits with do-it-yourself items like door sweeps, weather stripping, LED bulbs, and smart power strips. Register at desmondfishlibrary.org.

‘A Complete Unknown’
Patterson Library will show “A Complete Unknown” on Tuesday, July 29 at noon. Nominated for eight Academy Awards, the film tells the story of a then-unknown 19-year-old Bob Dylan arriving in New York City with nothing but his guitar, forging relationships with musical legend Pete Seeger and others as he rises to fame – culminating in a groundbreaking performance at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival that sets him on the path to becoming a legend. Rated R. Adults 18 and older only.

Wednesday, July 30
Summer Music Series
The 2025 Brewster Summer Music Series continues Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Southeast Veterans Park at the corner of Railroad and Morningthorpe Avenue, with Genevieve Faivre & Friends playing Brazilian, jazz and more July 30.

‘Library Talks’
Putnam County executive Kevin Byrne will “Talking in the Library” on July 30 from 5 to 6 p.m. at Patterson Library.

Adult Trivia Night
Mahopac Public Library will host an adult trivia night Wednesday, July 30 at 5:30 p.m. Join JB from Hudson Valley Trivia for a night of Bingo trivia. Test your knowl-

edge during four rounds covering a wide variety of topics. There will be a prize for the winner of each round. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Wyld Blu
Award-winning Alana Wyld & Wyld Blu take the stage at the Patterson Library on Wednesday, July 30 at 6 p.m. (rain date Aug. 6) for an outdoor summer concert. Blues with a bold, flavorful twist, infused with rhythm, heart, and soul. Bring a chair. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Thursday, July 31
Mahopac Carnival
The Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual carnival July 31 through Aug. 2. Hours are 7 to 11 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 6 to 11 p.m. Saturday.

Live Concerts
The Town of Carmel Recreation & Parks Department will hold free concerts the following Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at Sycamore Park in Mahopac: July 31, Patrick Perone Elvis Tribute & the Blue Suede Rockers; Aug. 7, Good Old Brothers.

Art Show
FrOGS is collaborating with Hudson Valley InterArts to sponsor an art show through July 31 with the theme of “Living Water: Wet Land,” exploring the meeting of human and ecology, body and place, water and life, at 40 Jon Barrett Road, Patterson.

Science Program
Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will present “Science Heros: Adventure of the Missing Color” on July 31 at 6 p.m. for families with children age 4 and older. An interactive learning adventure with hands-on science experiments. Registration is required at Carmellibrary.org or 845-225-2439.

Yoga in the Park
Patterson Library will present yoga in the park Thursdays, July 31, Aug. 7 and Aug. 14 at 10:30 a.m. For all levels. Julia of Yoga In The Trees will lead meditation and movement for a new experience with this ancient practice. Bring a mat or blanket and water. Adults 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Friday, Aug. 1
Teen Trivia Night
Mahopac Public Library will host a teen trivia night Friday, Aug. 1 at 5 p.m. Invite your friends, make a team, show off how much you know and win prizes. This month’s theme is surfing the web. Registration is required at www.mahopaclibrary.org or 845-628-2009, ext. 153.

Teen Art Takeover
Teens in grades seven through 12 may join Kent Public Library for a three-week summer art series beginning Friday, Aug. 1 from 1 to 3 p.m. Explore a new artistic style each week, guided by local artists. Registration is required.

‘High Tor’
Trained as a filmmaker at Purchase College, Carmel High School graduate Tim Bohrman is directing the revival of Maxwell Anderson’s play “High Tor” at

Arts on this Lake in Kent Lakes on Aug. 1 at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Aug. 2 at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets can be secured at www.artsonthelake.org.

Saturday, Aug. 2
Dinner & Music
“A Tribute to Sinatra & Dino” will take place Saturday, Aug. 2 at Patterson Community Church, 1062 Route 311, with dinner seatings at 5 and 5:45 p.m. Food provider by Sauro’s. Showtimes are 7 and 9:30 p.m. \$75 per ticket. Reservations are strongly suggested by calling 845-430-0415 or 845-661-6282.

Tuesday, Aug. 5
Garden Club Meets
The Lake Mahopac Garden Club will meet Tuesday, Aug. 5 at 11:30 a.m., at the home of member Lois C. in Mahopac. Participants are welcome to bring their own lunch. The program topic is trees, featuring guest speaker Brad Gurr representing the Hudson Valley SavATree branch. For location information, call 845-628-0588.

Kent Town Board
The Kent Town Board will meet the following Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Town Hall: Aug. 5 and 19 (daytimes), Sept. 2 and 16, Oct. 7 and 21, Nov. 18 and 25, and Dec. 2 and 16.

National Night Out
The **Carmel Police Department** and PBA will host National Night Out events Aug. 5 at Airport Park, from 5 to 8 p.m., coinciding with the grand opening of the new playground at the park. Food trucks, bounce house, and more. The **Town of Kent** and its police department will host National Night Out events Aug. 5 beginning at 6 p.m., at 25 Sybil’s Crossing, Kent Lakes. Food, fund, safety demos, and more.

Roaming Readers
Reed Memorial Library in Carmel presents Roaming Readers, a friendly walking group, at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays through November, weather permitting. Meet at the library and enjoy a walk through Carmel. All fitness levels. Registration required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

Wednesday, Aug. 6.
Library Meeting
The Reed Memorial Library Board of Trustees will meet at 5 p.m. in the reference room of the Carmel library on the following dates: Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, and Dec. 3. Board meetings are open to the public.

Carmel Town Board
The Carmel Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. the following Wednesdays at Town Hall: Aug. 6 and 13; Sept. 3, 10 and 17; Oct. 1, 8 and 15; Nov. 5, 12 and 19; and Dec. 3 and 10.

Thursday, Aug. 7
Southeast Town Board
The Southeast Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. the following Thursdays at Town Hall: Aug. 7 and 21, Sept. 11 and 25, Oct. 9 and 23, Nov. 6 and 20, and Dec. 4 and 18.

Google Calendar Basics
Mahopac Public Library will present “Google Calendar Basics” on

Thursday, Aug. 7 at 10 a.m. Discover how Google Calendar can keep you on time and organized. Add events and reminders to your calendar, and share them with others. To participate in the practice activities, bring your Google (Gmail) username and password. This class is hybrid – in person and virtual. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Friday, Aug. 8
Movies in the Meadow
The Town of Carmel Recreation & Parks Department will host movies in the meadow at Camarda Park at dusk on Friday, Aug. 8. Free.

Saturday, Aug. 9
Drawing Class
Kent Public Library will host a drawing class Saturday, Aug. 9 at 11 a.m. Join local artist Keith Mueller for “Drawing Jewelry: Make It Sparkle and Shine.” Students will learn basic and refined techniques for graphite pencil drawing. Register at kentpl.librarycalendar.com.

Sunday, Aug. 10
Penny Social
Putnam Lake VFW Auxiliary 9257 will hold its 57th annual penny social Sunday, Aug. 10, at 4 Fairfield Dr., Patterson. Doors open at 1 p.m., calling starts at 2 p.m. Seating is limited. 845-656-3364.

Poets’ Corner
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley welcome Elizabeth Burk, a psychologist and native New Yorker, to the Poets’ Corner on Sunday, Aug. 10 at 3 p.m. She will read from her debut full-length poetry book “Unmoored,” which was published in 2024. An open mic will follow. All writers are welcome. The reading will take place on our outdoor stage, weather permitting. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at the door. Students are free.

Water Fight Parade
The Patterson Fire Department will kick off a water fight parade Saturday, Aug. 10 at 3:30 p.m. Arrive early to snag a good spot along Route 311 between the train tracks and Burdick Road in front of the firehouse. Bring water blasters, super soakers – there will be troughs of water along the route to refill. No water balloons, as they are difficult to clean up. To enter a float or vehicle and in the parade, contact Angela at 845-821-3687. Parade watchers are welcome to join the fun.

Corn Festival
The Beacon Sloop Club’s Corn Festival is scheduled Sunday, Aug. 10 from noon to 5 p.m. at Pete & Toshi Seeger Park. Enjoy fresh-picked Hudson Valley corn, free sails on the Woody Guthrie, live music on two solar-powered stages, local food, crafts, kids’ activities, and more. Free admission, rain or shine.

Monday, Aug. 11
‘Jaws’
Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will show “Jaws” on Aug. 11 at 1 p.m. Enjoy refreshments in a cozy atmosphere. No registration required.

Tuesday, Aug. 12
Narcan Training
Join Reed Memorial Library in Carmel for an interactive and informative training session presented by an opioid overdose training specialist Aug. 12 at 5 p.m. Gain the skills and knowledge to respond to an opioid overdose situation. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

Henna Workshop
Kent Public Library will host a henna workshop Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 5:15 p.m. Join Making Faces Parties for a creative and culturally enriching experience. Learn the origins of henna and the diverse traditions surrounding its use in celebrations, rituals, and rites of passage across the globe. Register at kentpl.librarycalendar.com.

Plein Air in the Park
Bring your cameras, pencils, paints, canvases, and easels to set up on the grounds of Patterson Library for a plein air event Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 10:30 a.m. The Great Swamp, gazebo and gardens, as well as distant vistas are just a few of the interesting subjects offering inspiration. Arrive and leave at your convenience. Works created at this event are eligible for submission to the FrOGS’ Great Swamp Celebration & Art Show on Oct. 18 and 19. Adults 16 and older.

Wednesday, Aug. 13
Foam Party
Children of all ages and their families are invited to the Kent Public Library on Wednesday, Aug. 13 at 5 p.m. for a foam party. Bring a towel, wear your bathing suit, and pack extra socks. For children younger than 18 only. Registration required.

Learn a New Language
Mahopac Public Library will present a program on Transparent Language on Wednesday, Aug. 13 at noon. Transparent Language is an easy-to-use app that can help you learn another language. Learn how to get started using Transparent Languages for free with your library card. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Thursday, Aug. 14
Meditation Circle
Join Reed Memorial Library in Carmel to reconnect with yourself in a calming virtual meditation circle Aug. 14 at 6 p.m., via Zoom. Each month, Kris Noelle of Kris Noelle Wellness gently guides participants through a soothing meditative journey designed to restore your spirit. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

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NT CELEBRATES 110 YEARS

The Carmel Fire Department celebrated its 110th anniversary during its annual parade July 19 along Gleneida Avenue. Various fire departments and marching bands proudly participated, and were cheered on by on-lookers. Photos by Holly Crocco.



Community Foundations to Celebrate Changemakers

The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley will host its annual Garden Party on Sunday, Sept. 14 from 2 to 5 p.m., at the Highlands Country Club in Garrison. This year's celebration will honor five individuals whose unwavering commitment to the region has made a lasting impact: Michael Fleischer and Michael Dupree, Garry and Diane Kvistad, and George Whipple III.

A tradition since 1994, the party brings together friends and supporters for an afternoon of celebration and purpose. As CFHV's signature fundraising event, it supports the organization's mission of inspiring and celebrating philanthropy across Dutchess, Ulster, and Putnam counties.

"The Garden Party showcases the values at the heart of our mission," said Laura Washington, president and CEO of CFHV. "The event not only helps fuel our philanthropy for the year, but also connects nonprofits and grantees with donors who can help make their goals a reality. Our honorees are unwavering supporters ... uplifting those in need, creating opportunities, and inspiring others to lead with compassion and purpose. We are proud to spotlight and celebrate them this year."

Since moving to Hyde Park in 1993, Michael Fleischer and Michael Dupree have been tireless advocates for Dutchess County's historic preservation, economic development and civic engagement.

As longtime Ulster County residents and the founders of Woodstock Chimes, Garry and Diane Kvistad have blended entrepreneurial success with a deep and lasting philanthropic impact.

A dedicated philanthropist and civic leader, George Whipple III has made significant contributions to historic preservation and environmental causes in Putnam County, where he resides. Known professionally as a prominent attorney and an Emmy-winning entertainment and lifestyle reporter with NY 1 News for his work on "On Stage Presents Broadway's Revival" in 2022, Whipple brings a passion for history, the arts, and public service to everything he does.

Proceeds from the Garden Party benefit CFHV's Community Grants Program, which has distributed more than \$2 million to nonprofit organizations throughout the Hudson Valley since 2000. This year's funding priorities are guided by insights from CFHV's recent "Voices of the Hudson Valley" report identifying the most pressing issues in the region as shared in community conversations with residents, nonprofit leaders, and civic partners.

For tickets to the event and more information, visit www.communityfoundationshv.org/events/the-garden-party.

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley is a partner in philanthropy, empowering individuals, families, businesses, and organizations to establish charitable funds that address the needs of Dutchess, Putnam, and Ulster counties. Established in 1969 as the Area Fund, CFHV has grown to manage more than \$100 million in assets and administers nearly 600 charitable funds, distributing more than \$20 million in grants and scholarships in 2024.

Gas Prices in NYS Rise Slightly

Average gasoline prices in New York rose 0.7 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.15 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's survey of 6,118 stations in New York. Prices in the state were 1.5 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and 44.2 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

The national average price of diesel increased 1.7 cents and stood at \$3.69 per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline fell 1.7 cents per gallon, averaging \$3.09. The national average was down 11.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stood 37.7 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

"The national average price of gasoline slipped slightly over the last week, falling alongside oil, which dropped more than \$2 per barrel," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "However, a few states — including Florida, Nebraska, and Indiana — bucked the trend, posting double-digit increases per gallon. These areas are prone to a phenomenon known as price cycling, where prices can spike and plunge every couple of weeks even if wholesale costs remain mostly unchanged."



App Helps Navigate Disability Services in Hudson Valley

Abilibee, a free mobile app designed to help families navigate New York State's developmental disability services, is now available at both the App Store and Google Play, announced Abilities First.

This milestone expands access to Abilibee, transforming how individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and caregivers navigate the complex state support systems, putting advocacy, support, and resources right at their fingertips.

Initially launched as a web application in the fall of 2024, Abilibee has already attracted more than 600 active users statewide through word of mouth alone. The app provides comprehensive guidance from early childhood through adulthood, helping families navigate critical system changes and life-stage transitions.

"When the transition from school-age to adult services is commonly referred to as 'the cliff,' it signals how overwhelming the current experience is for parents and caregivers," said Marcy Handler, director of strategic initiatives at Abilities First, and Abilibee's project lead. "Abilibee was created by people who understand the daily challenges of caring for an individual with disabilities and provides a step-by-step guide through each transition, annotated with useful resources and planning tools for support."

Abilities First's mission has always been to empower people facing developmental disabilities, according to Dr. Jeffery Fox, president and CEO of Abilities First.

"Families throughout New York State have long struggled with a patchwork of services that are difficult to navigate, often missing crucial opportunities as a result," he said. "Abilibee represents our commitment to bridging these gaps by giving families a clear roadmap through each life stage. This app puts the power of knowledge directly in their hands, transforming how they connect with services and ultimately improving lives. It's about turning confusion into confidence and frustration into forward momentum."

The Abilibee app features: transition navigation, including step-by-step guidance through critical life stages; a resource library, including a curated bank of resources; planning tools such as templates to help families better advocate for their needs; a communication log to organize notes from interactions with providers; daily check-in tools to track and celebrate milestones; and multi-language support to expand accessibility to diverse populations.

Early user data indicates the complexity of the state's disability service delivery, highlighting the demand for clear navigation tools even among professionals. Currently, Abilibee users self-identify as 57 percent advocates (parents, guardians, and caregivers), 8 percent self-advocates (persons with individual developmental disabilities), and 35 percent agency members (care managers and provider professionals). The significant percentage of professional users highlights the need for better tools.

"When my husband and I were walking to the car after getting our son's diagnosis, we just looked at each other and said, 'Now what?'" shared one parent user. "You must have been reading my mind when you created this app."

For more information, visit abilibee.org or email busybee@abilibee.org.

Abilities First is a Hudson Valley nonprofit provider of educational, vocational, residential, and community-based services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Founded in 1962 by a handful of parents, it has grown to keep pace with community needs and now serves more than 1,400 people with disabilities and their families each year.

For more information about Abilities First, visit www.abilitiesfirstny.org.



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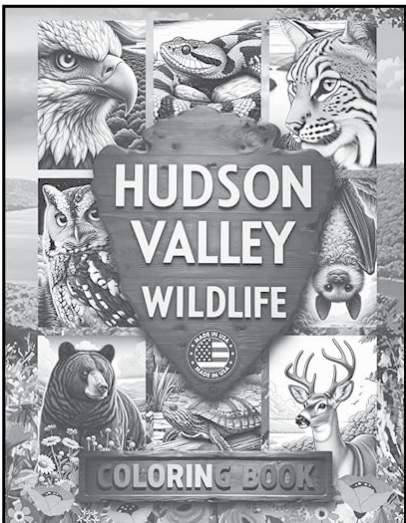
Kevin Spinelli of Carmel has graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, College of Letters and Science, with a bachelor of science degree in economics.

Ahota Tchavtchavadze of Brewster and Carlos Andres Tenenpaguay of Carmel have graduated from Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Cold Spring Resident Publishes Coloring Book



Anthony Bopp is a former wildlife rehabilitation educator, Alaskan guide, and active wildlife photographer.



"Hudson Valley Wildlife" is available on Amazon.

A Cold Spring resident is celebrating the release of his new coloring book, which highlights the region's natural beauty and promotes conservation and education.

Former wildlife rehabilitation educator, Alaskan guide, and active wildlife photographer Anthony Bopp's "Hudson Valley Wildlife" features detailed black-and-white illustrations of local wildlife inspired by his photography and created using mixed-media and digital tools.

Designed for all ages, it in-

cludes interactive elements like a wildlife checklist and nature journal pages to encourage mindful exploration of the Hudson Valley's ecosystems.

"I've spent decades exploring and capturing the beauty of the natural world," said Bopp. "Inspired by my children, I began transforming my photographs and experiences into interactive coloring books they could engage with. Through these books, I hope to inspire and educate people of all ages to appreciate, respect, and connect more deeply with wildlife

and the outdoors."

After traveling across the U.S., Bopp said he's come to appreciate the region's rare blend of natural beauty, rich local history, and thriving ecosystems.

"My mission is to inspire, educate, and spark interest in protecting and exploring nature," he said.

The coloring book may be purchased on Amazon at www.amazon.com/dp/B0FBGMJ78R.

A portion of the proceeds from sales will support local wildlife and conservation efforts.



Guest speaker Mark Perna addresses the crowd.

Workforce Development Board Inspired at Annual Meeting

The Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Board recently celebrated a successful year of collaboration between state and county agencies, non-profits, public education, and the private sector to engage and unleash the potential of the current and upcoming workforce.

More than 200 local business, education, nonprofit, and government leaders, as well as workforce staff, gathered June 24 at The Gateway Center at Westchester Community College in Valhalla for the occasion.

The meeting kicked off with breakfast and networking before transitioning to the keynote theme, "Igniting the Spark: Unleashing Passion, Purpose & Performance in a Multi-Generational Workforce."

Author and internationally known speaker Mark Perna spoke for 90 minutes, identifying and unlocking the secrets of the "Why Generation" – how they think, what makes them tick, and how they make decisions. He spoke on how the landscape of education, workforce, and economic development has shifted and led to disengaged, demotivated youth.

The solution, according to Perna, is through "education with a purpose," which leads to "employ-

ment with passion."

"I believe this generation is the smartest, most innovative generation in 50 years," he said. "They can achieve beyond all expectations if we bridge the generational divide and answer their why. As the skills gap widens, employers must tap into the creativity, intelligence, and potential of the next generation."

The Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Board is comprised of leaders and staff of state and county government agencies, nonprofits, public education, and the private sector who work together to strengthen the partnerships between business, education, and service providers within the Career Center Network to meet the needs for a skilled workforce. It pursues funding opportunities and develops model programs and leading-edge practices.

The "network" is made up of four career centers (in Carmel, White Plains, Mount Vernon, and Peekskill) as well as partner agencies that provide state-of-the-art technology, training, resources, and services to youth, adults, and employers. For more information, visit www.westchesterputnamonestop.com.

Septic System Improvement Made More Affordable in NYS

Legislation that makes it easier and more affordable for New Yorkers to upgrade to advanced septic systems that Gov. Kathy Hochul says will significantly reduce water pollution, protect public health, and improve water quality was recently signed into law.

The governor also announced a \$30 million investment for round five of the successful State Septic System Replacement Fund Program to help homeowners upgrade or replace failing septic systems, particularly those impacting water bodies designated as priority areas.

The \$30 million in grants are awarded by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, in coordination with the departments of health and environmental conservation, and will be provided to counties to reimburse eligible property owners for a portion of the cost of replacing cesspools and septic systems and installing more environmentally effective systems, like enhanced septic systems.

Under the new law, eligible property owners can be reimbursed 50 percent of eligible costs up to \$10,000 for the installation of a conventional system, or up to 75 percent of eligible costs up to \$25,000 for the installation of an enhanced septic system, to help make these more enhanced sys-

tems equal or even more affordable than the regular systems.

Counties may also set graduated incentive reimbursement rates for septic system projects to maximize program participation and pollution reduction goals.

Outdated or failing septic systems are a significant contributor to nutrient pollution in New York, fueling harmful algal blooms and negatively impacting water quality.

"Replacement of inadequate septic systems prevents pollution from entering our sensitive waterways and creates a lasting improvement to water quality throughout the state," said DEC Commissioner Amanda Leffton. "The new law increasing the affordability of enhanced septic replacements and the new \$30 million in funding will incentivize a common-sense and effective approach to reducing contamination and protecting New York's water quality."

State Sen. Pete Harekham, D-Peekskill, said septic system upgrades across New York are essential for protecting waterways, public health, and the environment – but they can be costly.

"This new law, which will reimburse installation of new systems, including enhanced treatment units, will allow homeowners to make improvements without

breaking the bank while safeguarding nearby aquifers and other fragile drinking water resources," he said.

Eligible waterbodies for round five of the funding will be posted once counties have been notified of their funding amount.

SUN SAFETY

In Case of Sunburn:

- Apply cold compresses
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Call health provider if sunburn is severe or fever develops

In Case of Heat Exhaustion:

- Symptoms: pale/moist skin, high temperature, dizziness, nausea, rapid pulse, cramps, muscle spasms
- Stop all activity, move to cooler place, rest
- Drink cool water
- Call provider if symptoms don't improve

Putnam County Department of Health

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Science Goes a Little Nutty at Reed Library



“Little Readers” at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel were castaways with the Nutty Scientists last week. There were bubbles, experiments, slime, and more as the Nutty Scientists turned the library into a tropical lab of learning and laughter.



Mahopac Appoints New Special Education Administrator

Leanne Janos has been appointed secondary supervisor of special education at Mahopac Central School District.

With more than 15 years of experience in education, Janos has an abundance of knowledge and a deep commitment to student success.

“Leanne Janos brings a wealth of experience and a student-centered approach to her work,” said Superintendent of Schools Christine Tona. “Her dedication to inclusive education and her strong leadership background make her an excellent addition to our team. We are thrilled to welcome her to Mahopac.”

Janos most recently served as the special education liaison for grades six through 12 in the Rye City School District, where she led professional development, coordinated department initiatives, and helped secure grant funding to enhance classroom instruction with innovative technology. She has also served as an administrative intern and special education teacher, developing inclusive practices and mentoring new educators.

Throughout her career, Janos has demonstrated a commitment to instructional leadership, inclusive



Leanne Janos

education, and student success. She holds multiple New York State certifications, including school district leader and school building leader, as well as certifications in English language arts and working with students with disabilities (grades five through 12).

“I am passionate about special education and deeply committed to supporting students and their families,” said Janos. “I’m excited to join the Mahopac Central School District and contribute to the important work already happening here. This is a vibrant, student-centered community and I look forward to collaborating with families, staff, and leadership to help students thrive.”

Janos earned her master of science degree in educational leadership and administration, and certificates of advanced study in school district and school building leadership from the College of St. Rose. She also holds a master of professional studies in English language arts and special education from Manhattanville College, where she earned her undergraduate degree in English literature and music.

Putnam Chosen to Pilot LOSS Team

Continued from Page 1

the task force provides to loved ones, which includes information on funeral services, cleanup crews, support groups, and other services.

Team members also have “trunk kits,” which are boxes of comfort items such as mints and water, tissues, blankets, pens and paper, and even stuffed animals for situations in which a child is affected, so first responders who arrive on the scene can offer comfort to loved ones.

“A big part of this is support for first responders,” said Behler. “So they can focus on the scene and their investigation, and we can be there to provide the crisis intervention and support to the surviving family members.”

In addition, the team can be

available to support those who may have experienced a loss in the past but still needs support.

“There’s no expiration date on grief, and the grief process isn’t necessarily linear,” said Castellano. “So I think as the word starts to get out ... we want people to know that we’re here. We want people to reach out for us, even if it’s something they experienced in the past.”

The team also follows up with the first responders who arrived at the scene, to check in their well-being as well.

“This is a great option for people that will need it,” said Legislator Laura Russo, R-Patterson.

Legislator Nancy Montgomery, D-Philipstown, said she’s proud the county is offering such outreach, and acknowledged the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office and other law enforcement that has been doing this type of work until this point.

The team is actively recruiting volunteers who have experienced the loss of a loved one to suicide to join its ranks. For more information, visit putnamcountyny.gov/hope.

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- Tea
- Granola Bars
- Protein Bars

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- Hot Coca (individual packs)
- Individual Powdered Drink Mix
- Mouth Wash
- Sunblock (non-aerosol only)
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- Shave Cream (Non-Aerosol Only)
- Chapstick

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7 summer energy efficiency tips for homeowners

FAMILY FEATURES

As temperatures soar during the summer months, many homeowners find themselves relying heavily on air conditioning to stay cool. Comfort doesn't have to come at the cost of high energy bills, however. With a few smart strategies and routine maintenance, you can efficiently and affordably keep your home cool.

Here are some top tips to maximize your air conditioning system's energy efficiency this summer.

1. Schedule Regular HVAC Maintenance

Just like a car, your AC unit runs best when it's well-maintained. A dirty or poorly functioning system uses more energy to do the same job.

Maintenance checklist:

- Inspect or replace air filters every 2-3 months. The frequency of air filter replacement depends on several factors, including the type of filter, the system and living conditions.
- Check and clean the evaporator and condenser coils.
- Clear debris from around the outdoor unit.
- Have a professional HVAC technician inspect your system annually, ideally before peak usage.

2. Install and Use a Smart Thermostat

Smart thermostats are one of the easiest and most effective upgrades you can make to your home's cooling system. For example, Carrier's Smart Thermostat allows you to control your home's temperature remotely via smartphone and comes with learning features that adapt to your schedule and preferences.

Set your smart thermostat to raise the temperature while you're away and cool the home down just before you return. Even raising the thermostat by 7-10 degrees for 8 hours a day can save up to 10% a year on cooling costs.

3. Seal and Insulate Your Home

Cool air escaping through leaks or inadequate insulation forces your air conditioner to work harder. Ensuring your home is sealed and insulated properly can significantly improve efficiency.

Quick fixes:

- Use weatherstripping on doors and windows.
- Seal leaks around ducts, vents and pipes.
- Add insulation to attics and walls, if needed.

4. Use Ceiling Fans Wisely

Ceiling fans don't lower a room's temperature, but they help circulate air, making you feel cooler.

Efficiency tip: Use ceiling fans in occupied rooms only and make sure they're spinning counterclockwise in the summer to push cool air down.

5. Block Out the Sun

Sunlight streaming through windows can significantly increase your home's indoor temperature.

Simple solutions:

- Close blinds or curtains during the hottest parts of the day.
- Consider installing reflective window films or insulated blackout curtains.
- Use awnings or plant shade trees to block direct sunlight.

6. Upgrade to an Energy-Efficient Unit

If your AC system is more than 10-15 years old, it might be time to consider upgrading to a newer, energy-efficient model. Look for units with a high SEER2 (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio) rating and the ENERGY

STAR label. As a leader in modern day air conditioning, Carrier offers some of the most innovative and efficient central air conditioning units available.

Many manufacturers and utility companies offer rebates for installing high-efficiency systems and some tax credits may still be available.

7. Avoid Heat Buildup

Reduce the amount of heat your home generates during the day by being mindful of appliance usage.

Tips:

- Cook with a microwave or grill instead of the oven.
- Run dishwashers and dryers at night.
- Switch to LED lightbulbs, which produce less heat than incandescent ones.

By combining smart technology, routine maintenance and simple home adjustments, you can enjoy a cooler home without sacrificing energy efficiency. You can help lower monthly bills but also extend the lifespan of your air conditioning system, keeping you comfortable all summer long. Find more information, including additional rebate information, by visiting [Carrier.com](#).



PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

PUBLIC NOTICE Carmel Schools Carmel Central School District Public Hearing: Code of Conduct Tuesday, August 12, 2025, 6:30 p.m. Carmel High School Library 30 Fair Street, Carmel NY 10512 P. 7/30 - 13	PUBLIC NOTICE structure. Proposed Lot 1 would be ±8.579 acres and contain the proposed new residence and associated septic and well, as well as existing stormwater infrastructure for Lot 2; Lot 2 would be ±7.840 acres and contain the existing residence and associated septic and well; and Lot 3 (±7.630 acres) would be reserved for conservation. Thomas LaPerch, Chairman Town of Southeast Planning Board Dated: July 14, 2025 P. 7/30 - 51	PUBLIC NOTICE ASSOCIATION is the Plaintiff and KEVN MCGUIGAN, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the PUTNAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE 20 COUNTY CENTER, CARMEL, NY 10512, on August 25, 2025 at 10:30AM, premises known as 9 FULOP LANE F/K/A 3 FULOP LANE, MAHOPAC, NY 10541; and the following tax map identification, 75.6-1-72. ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE IN THE TOWN OF CARMEL, COUNTY OF PUTNAM, STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 500444/2019. Christopher York, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES. P. 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13 - 69	PUBLIC NOTICE trial BEATA PARUCH, Plaintiff against JAN ONDRISKA, Defendant. ACTION FOR A DIVORCE. To: Jan Ondriska, you are hereby notified that an action inquest will be held in the Putnam County Courthouse, 20 County Center, Carmel, New York on August 19, 2025 before Justice Gina Capone at 9:30 am. This Notice is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Supreme Court of the State of NY, Putnam County. The object of this action is to obtain judgment for absolute divorce. YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear at the inquest or said judgment will be taken against you by default. Plaintiff's Attorney: Vincent Ansaldo Esq. 2493 Welsch Court Yorktown Heights NY 10598 (914) 217-9975 P. 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13 - 37	PUBLIC NOTICE Notice of Formation of LLJ Financial Services LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/11/25. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 622 Richardsville Road, Carmel, New York 10512. Purpose: any lawful purpose. P. 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27
PUBLIC NOTICE Southeast SOUTHEAST PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Board/Architectural Review Board of the Town of Southeast, New York, in accordance with Chapters 78 and 138 of the Code of the Town of Southeast, and NYCRR Part 617 of the Environmental Conservation Law (as applicable), will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., at Southeast Town Offices, 1360 Route 22, Brewster, New York to consider the following: 440 MILLTOWN SUBDIVISION – Application is being made for a Major Subdivision for a proposal to subdivide an approximately 24-acre property into 3 lots, and construct a new single-family residence on one of the new lots ("Proposed Project"). The site currently contains a nearly complete residence with a driveway and stormwater infrastructure.	PUBLIC NOTICE Supreme Court SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF PUTNAM WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, -against- KEVN MCGUIGAN, ET AL. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Putnam on September 29, 2022, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL	PUBLIC NOTICE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF PUTNAM, Index No. 1601/2023; SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT dated September 13, 2023 Plaintiff designates PUTNAM County as the place of	PUBLIC NOTICE LLC Notice of Formation of NA-POLEON AVENUE, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/06/2025. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: ERESIDENTAGENT, INC., 1 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, STE. 1204, NEW YORK, NY 10020, also the registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful activities. P. 7/2, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23, 7/30, 8/6	PUBLIC NOTICE Notice of Formation of COLORED TIRES USA LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/03/2025. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: THE LLC, 22 ROSE DR., MAHOPAC, NY 10541. Purpose: any lawful activities. P. 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27
			PUBLIC NOTICE Notice of Formation of Gloss Salon II LLC. Articles of organization filed with the SSNY on 10/26/2021. Office Location: Putnam County. Designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to: Wesley M. Beal: 83 old Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT, 06897. Purpose: Any lawful purpose or activity. P. 7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27, 9/3	

More Summer, Less Stress

How to make the most of summer family vacations

FAMILY FEATURES

As the days stretch longer, summer has a way of calling families to pack up and go, whether it's for a weekend getaway, family reunion, road trip or one more beach escape.

To make the most of every moment, your accommodations matter. From convenient locations to family-friendly amenities, the right setup can ease the stress of travel. These tips can make your adventures more enjoyable, whether you're hitting the road or catching a cross-country flight.

Pick a Place Where You Can Spread Out

- Accommodations with spacious sleeping and living areas give everyone the room they need to recharge.
- **Beds for Everyone:** Look for hotels that offer generous family suites, some with over 700 square feet or those that feature clever configurations like bunk beds, giving everyone dedicated space to unwind. If you're bringing the dog, ensure your accommodations are pet-friendly, too.
 - **Road Trip Ready:** For families planning a road trip with multiple

destinations, consider staying at hotels strategically located along popular routes for comfort and consistency. Some may offer distinct family accommodations, like the casitas unique to Hyatt Place Moab in Utah, featuring multiple beds, a living area, kitchenette, patio and more. The outdoor pool is also perfect for cooling down after a day of hiking.

Hotels with Amenities Parents Actually Need

- Family travel can be full of unforgettable moments, but it also comes with a lot of logistics. From hungry kids to forgotten toothbrushes, choosing a hotel with practical amenities can make all the difference.
- **Rooms with Kitchens:** Guestrooms with in-room kitchenettes are ideal for prepping lunches or reheating leftovers, which can help save money. Even on an international adventure, hotels like Hyatt House Kanazawa in Japan offers fully equipped kitchens, including a refrigerator, microwave, stovetop, sink and dishwasher, making it easy to enjoy a little home-cooked convenience abroad.



- **Family-Friendly Amenities:** Whether taking a weekend trip or exploring a new country, look for hotels that make it easier to entertain. Consider amenities such as outdoor pools and hotels situated by popular attractions to keep the family engaged, like Hyatt Place Los Cabos. For longer stays, guest laundry facilities can help families pack lighter and stay fresh. Travelers can also consider dual-branded developments that combine the best of both worlds, like Hyatt Place LAX/Century Blvd and Hyatt House LAX/Century Blvd, offering flexible room options for multi-generational families and shared amenities under one roof.
- **The Essentials:** Packing for the family often means something gets left behind. Find hotels that offer programs that help fill in the gaps, whether it's a phone charger, toothbrush or other necessities, available to buy, borrow or enjoy for free.
- **Dining Options:** Dining out can be costly and time-consuming. For families wanting to enjoy local flavors while keeping things simple, find hotels that offer daily breakfast and grab-and-go markets, like Hyatt House and Hyatt Place hotels. Many also

feature lobby bars, and select locations offer signature restaurants such as Azotea Roof Top & Hacienda in the United Kingdom or rooftop bars like Pesca Rooftop in Florida, to keep everyone fueled without leaving the hotel.

Book Smarter for Longer Stays

Find hotels that reward you for your stay. For example, World of Hyatt members can earn up to 16,000 Bonus Points through an offer at participating Hyatt Place and Hyatt House hotels when members register and then complete stays by Sept. 7.

- Stay three nights to earn 3,000 Bonus Points
- Stay five nights to earn an additional 5,000 Bonus Points for 8,000 total Bonus Points
- Stay eight nights to earn an additional 8,000 Bonus Points for 16,000 total Bonus Points

That's extra value for taking your trip. With stays starting at 3,500 points per night off peak, a little can go a long way, especially if you're planning more than one adventure. Travel smarter and visit Hyatt.com to discover how to do more and enjoy what matters most: time together.

STAR Benefits Coming to Homeowners Soon

Phase two of the School Tax Relief program benefit season has begun, and eligible homeowners in communities with school tax due dates in August or September will start receiving their STAR benefit in the coming weeks.

Most homeowners eligible for a STAR credit will receive a check between \$350 and \$600. Most seniors eligible for an Enhanced STAR credit will receive a check between \$700 and \$1,500.

STAR recipients can visit ny.gov/STAR to track their check delivery or enroll in direct deposit.

“Visit our STAR resource page to sign up for STAR if you are a new homeowner and, if you’re an existing homeowner, to check on when your STAR credit or direct deposit will arrive,” said New York State Department of Taxation & Finance Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller.

The STAR program provides property tax relief to eligible New York State homeowners. During STAR benefit season, which runs from June to November, nearly 3 million homeowners will receive more than \$2.2 billion in property tax relief through the program.

Homeowners who are eligible and enrolled in the STAR program receive their benefit each year in one of two ways: as an exemption that reduces their school tax bill, or as a credit issued as a check or direct deposit.

Those who receive the STAR credit as a check or direct deposit can view the delivery schedule at www.tax.ny.gov to learn when credits will be issued in their area. Property owners who are looking for details about STAR credits that have already been issued should use the property tax credit lookup feature on the website.

Homeowners can enroll in the STAR Credit direct deposit program through the Homeowner Benefit Portal on the Tax Department's website. Homeowners can also use the portal to manage their STAR benefits easily and efficiently.

The direct deposit option enables eligible STAR credit recipients to get their STAR credits without having to wait for and cash a check. To ensure they receive their STAR credit by direct deposit this year, homeowners should enroll as soon as possible. Homeowners who enroll fewer than 15 days before their STAR credit is issued will receive a check this year, and direct deposit will begin next year.

“My constituents are extremely concerned about affordability, especially in light of the devastating cuts to the federal assistance programs on which many households rely to make ends meet,” said Assemblymember Dana Levenberg, D-Ossining. “I am proud that in New York we are looking out for your bottom line, providing STAR program tax relief totaling \$2.2 billion across the state, with payments coming via direct deposit, credit on your school tax bill, or a check in your mailbox in the coming weeks.”

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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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. 8/27

A Summer Tradition Continues in Carmel



St. James the Apostle Church in Carmel once again invited community members to enjoy food, live music, bouncy attractions and games, religious activities, and more at its annual Feast, which took place July 17 to 19. Photos by Holly Crocco.





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