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TIMES **FREE**

PUTNAM COUNTY'S LOCAL NEWSPAPER

This paper publishes official notices for Putnam County, Carmel, Kent, Southeast, Brewster, Patterson

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025



Patterson Library celebrated its newly renovated building space with a Dec. 13 ribbon cutting ceremony led by Library Director Stephanie Harrison and Board of Trustees President Donald Ferraro.

A New Chapter for Patterson Library

Patterson Library celebrated the completion of its newly renovated building space with a Dec. 13 ribbon cutting ceremony led by Library Director Stephanie Harrison and Board of Trustees President Donald Ferraro.

The project, which broke ground in May, has revitalized the Adult Library space to better serve patrons' needs and create a more welcoming, functional environment for the entire community. Upgrades include two new reading nooks with comfortable seating and tables, lower shelving for improved accessibility, updated HVAC and lighting systems to increase energy efficiency, and refreshed carpeting and paint.

"Walking into the renovated space, you can feel the difference," said Assemblyman Matt Slater, R-Yorktown, who helped secure \$20,000 in state Bullet Aid for the project. "I'm grateful to everyone who worked hard to make this happen, and I can't wait



Assemblyman Matt Slater presented a certificate to Harrison and Ferraro. Provided photos.

to see Patterson residents enjoy the improvements."

Library Director Stephanie
Continued on Page 12

Apply Now For NYS Home Energy Assistance

New Yorkers can apply for heating assistance through the Home Energy Assistance Program to help defray the high cost of heating their homes during the winter. HEAP can provide up to \$996 to eligible households, depending on how the home is heated.

Many households automatically receive a HEAP payment due to their enrollment in other programs. The Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance prepared those automatic payments ahead of time and these households can now be assured that a HEAP payment will be made to their heat supplier without needing to apply or take any additional action.

Eligible households can receive one regular HEAP benefit per season and could also be eligible for an emergency HEAP benefit if they are in danger of running out of heating fuel or having their utility services shut off. Applications for the additional emergency benefits will be accepted beginning Jan. 2.

The benefit amounts vary – with a maximum of \$996 – based on income, household size, heating source, and if the household

contains a vulnerable member. A family of four can have a maximum gross monthly income of \$6,680 or an annual gross income of \$80,165 and still qualify for assistance.

Applications for assistance are accepted at local departments of social services (110 Old Route 6, Building 2, Carmel; 845-808-1500) and can be submitted online, through the mail, or in person. Additionally, older adults needing assistance with HEAP applications can contact their local office for the aging (110 Old Route 6, Building 3, Carmel; 845-808-1700, ext. 47134) or contact the NY Connects helpline at 1-800-342-9871.

More than 1.5 million households received a regular HEAP benefit last year. Assistance is provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

"HEAP is a lifeline for thousands of low- and moderate-income households across New York State struggling to cover the cost of heating their homes in the cold winter months as they face rising housing, food, and energy costs," said NYS Office of Tem-

Continued on Page 12

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**

An Active 2025 for Enoch Crosby Chapter, DAR

The Enoch Crosby Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated the holiday season and reflected on the conclusion of another year of service by hosting a Yankee swap and gift card collection, along with its regular meeting Dec. 13 at the Cornerstone Park building in Carmel.

Many gift cards were donated by chapter members to be delivered to the Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center, as members said they are delighted to be able to support families in need through this annual tradition.

The joy of the holiday season was set in motion the weekend before in Pawling, where members decorated a Christmas tree in the village green. Together with members of the John Jay Chapter of the Children of the American Revolution, the tree was adorned in a Colonial-era theme with dried

fruits and handmade decorations.

"Looking back, this has been a very busy year for our chapter as we planned and began celebrations for America250!" said Sue Rebentisch, chapter regent. "We look forward to seeing everyone in February when we resume our monthly meetings and finalize plans for the chapter's 100th anniversary celebration April 11."

The year 2026 looks to be an exciting and busy year for the chapter.

"We can proudly celebrate and honor those patriots who gave us our freedom which we enjoy today," said Rebentisch. "We look forward to everyone's participation in some of the many events next year."

Members who mentor the New York State Society/Children of the American Revolution headed north to Cohoes after the meet-

Continued on Page 12



Members of the Enoch Crosby Chapter, DAR in front of a tree they decorated in Pawling village green.

Letters to the Editor

Taxi Commission Needed

Dear Editor:

The last two serious crimes in Putnam County involved taxi drivers. Sadly, one cab driver was killed; the other one escaped injury from a firearm shot at his taxi. Both crimes were reported to have been caused by disputes over cab fares.

Putnam County has no regulations with taxis. Unlike other counties, there is no taxi and limo commission; no organization to set fares. If anyone ever had to take a taxi, especially late at night from a train station, they know fares can change by the whim of the cab driver who knows passengers want to get home and have no other options. There is no one a customer can complain to if someone is overcharged.

While the Village of Brewster has a taxi commission, once a cab leaves the village, there is no longer any regulations or fee structure, from what I understand.

It is long time Putnam has regulations to protect cab customers and drivers. There should be safety requirements placed on cab owners, mandating cameras in taxis and maybe even safety barriers between the front and back seat to protect taxi drivers.

Many legit Putnam cab and limo companies actually get a Westchester taxi and limo license so they can pick up legally at New York-area airports, which require such a license and special taxi and

limo license plates. Taxi drivers should also be fingerprinted and issued a picture ID card like other counties do, to protect customers from bad actors driving taxis.

My prayers go out to the family of the murdered cab driver. If there was a safety barrier between the front and rear seat, this driver might still be alive.

Robert Cullen
Southeast

Putnam Valley Library Year in Review

Dear Editor:

On Monday, Dec. 15, the Putnam Valley Free Library held its annual meeting to review the 2024-25 fiscal year, conduct the usual business of approving new trustees, and say goodbye to dedicated volunteers and friends.

We approved Elizabeth Broas for a full five-year term starting next month; she is currently serving as an interim trustee. Sadly, we also had the difficult task of saying goodbye to our friend Tom Pendleton, who is wrapping up his third interim trustee term.

Thank you, Tom, for serving your community.

The Board of Trustees also nominated and voted to appoint board officers for the 2026 calendar year: Joseph Ferraro as president, Virginia Lefurgy as vice president,

Leslie Martin as treasurer, and Terry Raskyn as secretary.

On behalf of all the trustees, Director Amina Chaudhri, our staff, volunteers, friends, supporters, and neighbors, the Putnam Valley Free Library is pleased to share highlights from our 2024-25 fiscal year – a time marked by growth, revitalization, and expanded service to our community.

Over the past year, the library expanded both adult and children's programs, including book clubs, concerts, daily story times, cooking classes, teen Dungeons & Dragons campaigns, and our most extensive summer reading program to date. Hundreds of children benefited from new books added through the Children's Book Council Awards, and adults enjoyed a diverse range of arts, wellness, and cultural events.

We strengthened partnerships with Putnam Valley Elementary School, Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Meals on Main Street, Cornell Cooperative Extension, local scouts, and many others. Through these collaborations, the library provided meals, educational experiences, outdoor learning options, and essential resources for families and seniors.

Major facility upgrades have been completed, including our Americans with Disabilities Act-accessible bathroom renovation, a refreshed conference room, new water filtration systems, and safety updates. Ongoing projects such as the Community Room renovation, parking lot repairs, and planning for a future Fireplace Café will ensure modern, inviting spaces for everyone.

These achievements were made possible through responsible financial management and several key grants, including a pending New York State construction grant, \$20,000 in Bullet Aid, and a \$3,000 ADA grant.

We are excited to share that we are continuing to explore the best ways to add additional evening and Sunday hours, expanding access for working families and students.

Thank you to the residents of Putnam Valley for your ongoing support. Together, we continue to build a library grounded in creativity, connection, and community.

Joseph Ferraro
Board of Trustees President
Putnam Valley Free Library

Fatal Crash in Southeast

A New York woman was killed in a car crash in Southeast last week.

According to the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, the collision occurred Dec. 16 at about 7:11 a.m., in the area of Deans Corner Road and Turk Hill Road.

Preliminary investigation determined that Jaclyn Hamill, 43, was driving a 2016 Honda Civic southbound on Deans Corner Road, approaching Turk Hill Road, when she crossed over the double-yellow line while negotiating a curve and struck an oncoming commercial moving truck.

Hamill was pronounced dead at the scene. The two occupants of the moving truck were not injured.

Deans Corner Road was closed for several hours to allow emergency responders and investigators to process the scene. The New York State Police Accident Reconstruction Unit assisted with the investigation, which is ongoing.

Drone & K-9 Demos Part of Mahopac DARE Assembly



Carmel and Kent police recently participated in a DARE assembly at Mahopac Middle School.



Mahopac Middle School recently hosted a high-energy culminating assembly for its Drug Abuse Resistance Education program, welcoming police officers and K-9 units from Carmel and Kent.

DARE is a nationally recognized program that teaches students how to make safe, healthy, and responsible choices. At Mahopac Middle School, seventh-graders learn about the dangers of drugs, how to handle peer pressure in real-life situations, and the importance of effective communication and decision making.

"We are fortunate to work with Officer (Vincent) Serio and the Town of Carmel Police Department, whose guidance and support help make the DARE experience meaningful and memorable for everyone," said Assistant Principal Anthony Muia, who spearheaded the program at the middle school. "This year's program was a huge success, and we are proud of all the students for their participation and hard work."

During the assembly, Police Officer Vincenzo Rocco conducted an indoor drone demonstration using a compact drone designed for interior use. Operating the

drone remotely with a headset and his back to the gymnasium, Rocco navigated it throughout the space, explaining how the technology allows officers to deploy eyes inside a building during an emergency.

Students were also introduced to police K-9 partners, including Officer Vincent DeSantola and K-9 Pietro from the Carmel Police Department, and Sgt. Ryan Piekarski and K-9 Saber from the Kent Police Department. Both dogs are German shepherds trained to assist law enforcement in tasks such as locating missing persons, detecting narcotics or explosives, tracking suspects, and supporting officer safety.

K-9 handlers demonstrated how the animals apprehend suspects using controlled commands, with one officer acting as a decoy while wearing a heavily padded protective sleeve. Another demonstration showed a K-9 locating hidden narcotics, highlighting the dogs' discipline, training, and precision.

The assembly concluded with a tug-of-war between students and officers. Despite being outnumbered by more than 15 seventh-graders, the officers secured the win to the cheers of the crowd.

ember 14. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Mahopac
Martin R. Graf, 87, December 7. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Robert E. Courtney, 96, December 9. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Thomas J. "TK" Kavanaugh, 78, December 14. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

We Will Miss

Brewster
Janice R. Higgins, 84, December 14. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

Carmel
Dorothy Hebrank, 102, December 13. Balsamo-Cordovano Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-2144.

Frances McBride, 78, No-

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Sayegh Not Seeking Re-Election

McCracken Announces Candidacy for Legislature



Legislator Chairwoman Amy Sayegh will not run for re-election in 2026.



Mahopac School Board Trustee Tanner McCracken has announced his candidacy for the legislative seat.



Carmel Town Councilman Frank Lombardi said he is considering a run for Legislature.

By Holly Crocco

Local elected officials have begun circling an open seat for Putnam County Legislature after it was reported that Legislator Chairwoman Amy Sayegh, R-Mahopac Falls, will not be seeking re-election next year.

Sayegh allegedly notified party leaders Dec. 18 of her decision not to run again.

Within hours, Mahopac School Board Trustee Tanner McCracken announced his candidacy

"I'm a lifelong conservative Republican and a proven fighter for lower property taxes, real government transparency, affordability, and strong financial policies," he posted on social media. "As your Mahopac School Board trustee, I didn't just talk about

these issues – I delivered results. Now it's time to bring that same proactive, fresh leadership to the County Legislature."

First elected in 2020 at the age of 20, McCracken was the youngest person ever to be elected to the Mahopac School Board. He is a 2017 Mahopac High School graduate and has been a resident of Mahopac since 2006.

In his announcement last week, McCracken cited crushing property taxes, the out-of-control cost of living, and unaffordability for seniors and young families as reasons he's stepping up.

"Mahopac has been my home since I walked into Mahopac schools at 7 years old," he said. "Serving my community and fighting to make sure my neighbors can afford to live here

is personal to me... I'm ready to work hard, earn your support, and earn your vote."

Republican Carmel Town Councilman Frank Lombardi also expressed interest in the seat.

"With Putnam County Legislator Amy Sayegh deciding not to seek another term on the Legislature in District 8, I have been asked to give strong consideration to running for her seat, in a district that I have lived in for over 20 years," he wrote on Facebook.

Lombardi has 14 years of experience serving on the Carmel Town Board, having been deputy supervisor for more than 10 years.

"I am strongly contemplating running next year and will make a decision in the near future," he wrote. "I hope to have the support of my neighbors and friends."

Career Day Inspires Brewster 8th-Graders

Career Day at Henry H. Wells Middle School is an important part of Brewster students' education, exposing them to a wide range of possibilities they might not have known existed.

Eighth-graders recently participated in Career Day, attending three sessions with 24 speakers from a variety of fields, from architecture to comedy, and entrepreneurship to cosmetology. Although their careers differed, each speaker emphasized the importance of open-mindedness, flexibility, and strong interpersonal skills.

The morning opened with a keynote from Eric Zeyher, a former D-1 athlete-turned-music-producer, trainer, and business owner, who pushed students to stay curious and ask meaningful questions.

Each classroom in the eighth grade hallway was filled: architect Erik Wilson was in Room 206, SPCA officer Ken Ross was in Room 220, crime scene analyst Courtney Effaldana was in Room 222, lawyer Robert Biagi was in Room 225, art director Taylor Martin was in Room 208, retired Secret Service agent/security consult Scott Lewis was in Room 226, and CPA/professor Franklin Asante was in Room 227.

Students got to try on gear, pat work dogs, practice rolling hair on a mannequin, and test equipment.

Speaker Graeme Banks is only a junior in college but already the founder and CEO of his own company, TransferU. After struggling to transfer credits to his new college – and realizing that



A Wells student tries her hand at rolling hair during Career Day.

families spend millions of dollars each year on extra classes because transfer credits are lost – he created software to help others avoid the same problem.

"I'm a humanities student. I study social studies," he said. "I never imagined myself writing code to solve a problem. But I saw a problem and wanted to solve it. I want you to know you can do anything you put your mind to. Find your why."

His message resonated with aspiring entrepreneur and eighth-grader Jackson Malloy, who spent the entire summer trying to identify a problem in the market that hadn't already been solved.

"The market is so oversaturated," he said. "I couldn't find anything that hasn't been done already."

Graeme responded by ex-

plaining, "I didn't know transfer credits were a problem in the world until I lived it. My lived experience sparked my imagination."

Carmel Man Found Guilty of 2022 Murder

By Holly Crocco

A Carmel man was recently found guilty of the 2022 murder of a Putnam woman he allegedly thought was stealing drugs from him.

According to U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York Jay Clayton, following a one-week trial before U.S. District Judge Philip Halpern, a jury found Dwayne Pulliam, 63, guilty of Travel Act murder, participating in a conspiracy with intent to distribute and possess heroin and 28 grams of crack cocaine, and possession and distribution of heroin and crack cocaine.

He faces life in prison.

According to the indictment, Pulliam had a lengthy criminal history including convictions in North Carolina in 1981 for breaking and entering, larceny, and assault on a female; in 1985 for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill; in 1988 for possession of a firearm by a felon and trafficking cocaine; in 1992 for assault on a female and hit-and-run; and in New York in 1999 for intentional murder, for which Pulliam was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison and released to lifetime parole Dec. 1, 2020.

After his release from prison, Pulliam – who used the nickname "Doc" – got a job at a drug rehabilitation facility in Carmel. He began distributing retail quantities

of crack cocaine in New York and Connecticut, including for both money and sexual favors, according to the indictment.

Additionally, he would use his customers as workers, paying them in drugs.

On or about March 28, 2022, Lori Lynn Campbell – one of Pulliam's customers – was at his apartment in Carmel when he suspected that she was stealing drugs from him and his business, and "tested" her by leaving a small amount of crack cocaine in a room with her. When Pulliam returned, the drugs were gone, and he confronted Campbell.

When Campbell tried to leave, Pulliam allegedly strangled her to death. As he later told one of his customers/workers, he "stopped her from screaming," reads the indictment.

Pulliam had one of his customers/workers help him move Campbell's body to the trunk of his car, during which they used so much force that it broke one of her vertebrae. Pulliam then drove to North Carolina, where he wrapped Campbell's body in a plastic sheet, covered it with sulfur powder, and buried it in a shallow grave, according to court documents.

After he returned to New York and Connecticut, Pulliam continued selling drugs until he was arrested in this case.



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Car Fire in Putnam Valley

The Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Department was called to a rollover motor vehicle accident Dec. 17 just before 8 a.m. First responders found the vehicle on fire, with the driver having safely exited. The blaze was quickly extinguished, and the driver received an on-scene evaluation by Putnam Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corps and Putnam County Medic. Photo by PVVFD.

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Nutrition Corner

By Allison J. Stowell
MS, RD, CDN



Food Gifts

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Cioppino (Seafood Stew)

(1 Guiding Stars)

Hannaford.com

Prep Time: 20 minutes

Cook Time: 30 minutes

Ingredients:

3 tbsp olive oil
1 fennel bulb, thinly sliced
1 large onion, chopped
4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
½ crushed red pepper

1 (28 oz) can crushed tomatoes
1 ½ cups dry white wine
4 cups seafood or fish stock
1 bay leaf

1 lb. littleneck or manila clams, scrubbed
1 lb. mussels, scrubbed and debearded

1 (16 oz) bag peeled and deveined large raw shrimp, thawed
1 ½ lbs. cod fillets, cut into 2-inch chunks

3 tbsp chopped fresh parsley
Sourdough bread, to serve

Directions:

1. Heat oil in a heavy-bottomed pot or Dutch oven over medium. Add fennel and onion and season with salt. Cook until onion is translucent, about 10 minutes. Add garlic and crushed red pepper. Cook another 2 minutes. Add crushed tomatoes, wine, stock and bay leaf. Bring to a simmer. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover and simmer until the flavors blend, 30 minutes.

For the home chef

If your friend is tasked with the daily (daunting) task of making family dinner, then they are likely to appreciate a gift that answers the essential, "what's for dinner?" question. Put together a basket with your favorite recipe, ingredients (exclude perishable), and maybe some new kitchen tools or dishes to bring it together. Your chosen recipe might just become their family favorite too.

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

Zucchini Spice Bundt Cake

(Family Features)
Zucchini Spice Bundt Cake

Ingredients:

1 box spice cake mix
2 cups grated zucchini
1/3 cup melted butter
3 eggs
1 cup chopped walnuts, divided
1 cup chopped white chocolate chips, divided
1 cup powdered sugar

milk

Directions:

Heat oven to 350 F.
In bowl, mix cake mix, zucchini, butter, eggs, 3/4 cup walnuts and 3/4 cup white chocolate chips. Pour into greased bundt pan and bake 40 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.



Let cool about 10 minutes then remove from pan to finish cooling.

Mix powdered sugar and milk, about 1/4 cup, to reach desired consistency of frosting. Pour over cooled cake then sprinkle with remaining walnuts and remaining white chocolate chips. Cut and serve.

*Servings: 10
Source: Culinary.net*



Truck Rollover Causes Traffic Nightmare on I-84

Traffic was snarled on Interstate 84 for hours last Thursday as emergency responders attempted to clear the scene of a large truck rollover on the westbound side. The incident occurred around 4 p.m. Dec. 18. Photo by Brewster Fire Department.



Siblings Jason and Abigail Stone reunite at Henry H. Wells Middle School.



Jacob Stone surprises his sister Ryder Stone at CV Starr Intermediate School.

Surprise Holiday Homecoming for Brewster Students

A pair of Brewster sisters were surprised last week by the unannounced return of their big brother who has been away completing training with the U.S. Army.

Jacob Stone, a recent Brewster High School graduate and former National Junior Reserves Office Training Corps member, enlisted in the U.S. Army shortly after graduation. He went to basic training and has been hard at work at Fort Gordon, Ga., completing job training as a network and communications specialist.

Stone signed a three-year contract with the Army and has been away from home since July.

On Dec. 18, he returned home and – along with his parents – showed up to surprise his siblings, Abigail Stone at Henry H. Wells Middle School and Ryder Stone

at CV Starr Intermediate School. The reunions were filled with

happy tears, hugs, and unforgettable moments.



Putnam County public health nurse Miriam Narcise tests her interviewing skills with Medical Reserve Corps volunteer Alfred Dubongco.

County Trains for Future Outbreaks

Medical Reserve Corps volunteers teamed up with Putnam County Health Department staff last month to fine tune their outbreak interviewing skills. Two training and role-playing sessions – conducted by Christina Gulotta, a New York State regional epidemiologist, and Alison Kaufman, a Putnam County epidemiologist – were held at the Bureau of Emergency Services in Carmel.

Earlier this year the health department's core outbreak team incorporated additional tiers of staff into the lineup. These staff members were among those who took part in the training to strengthen the surge capacity needed in a large outbreak.

More than two dozen participants attended one of the two-hour trainings. Working in pairs, each person conducted a 20-minute mock interview with their partner. The scenario was a food-borne illness outbreak at a large wedding event.

The goal? To enhance their “disease detective” skills, identify “patient zero” and the source of the pathogen, and stop further transmission.

Everyone received a role assignment sheet, which outlined their symptoms, the food and drink ingested, and other pertinent details about their wedding experience. A 14-page, 59-item ques-

tionnaire was also provided as a guide for each participant when playing the role of interviewer.

Kaufman emphasized how information obtained through interviews is one of three main components in an outbreak investigation.

“We do an environmental investigation at the site, obtain specimens and test them for pathogens, and conduct interviews with people who may have been exposed,” she said. “We want to speak with both those who became sick and those who did not get sick. Comparisons between sick and well, alongside information from the site investigation and lab testing, all help us put the pieces together to determine what caused the outbreak and how to prevent more people from getting sick.”

Medical Reserve Corps volunteers have played an integral role in past departmental responses, according to Connie Bueti, emergency preparedness coordinator for Putnam County who also co-manages the MRC – which marked two decades of service to Putnam County residents.

Nearly 100 dedicated residents make up the corps, with skills in areas like clinical, logistical, and administrative that make a difference in protecting and strengthening health and safety in the county.

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**Looking For
Something to Do?
Check Out Our
Community
Events on Page 8**

Mahopac Students Perform at the Happiest Place on Earth

By Junior Cira Graap

As Mahopac High School students took their first steps off the plane in Orlando, Fla., they knew they were about to embark on their best field trip yet.

From Nov. 6 through 11, nearly 90 students from the MHS music department experienced the adventure of a lifetime in the happiest place on earth.

The excitement peaked Nov. 7, when the MHS band, orchestra, and chorus delivered stellar performances at Disney Springs. Between their musical moments, students explored Animal Kingdom, Magic Kingdom, Hollywood Studios, EPCOT, and Disney Springs – making memories around every corner.

"I had the best time in Hollywood Studios," said junior Eileen Bergerson. "I had so much fun with all my friends – the people truly made it special."

Fellow junior Tiago Evangelista added, "The thrill of performing was an unbelievable experience."

But the trip wasn't just fun and performances. Each ensemble also had the rare opportunity to participate in workshops led by professional Disney conductors. Students returned home inspired, bringing new techniques and insights back into their MHS music classrooms.

With unforgettable performances, new learning experiences, and plenty of Disney magic, this year's music department trip was one for the books.



Mahopac High school music students on their recent trip to Disney.



Goody, Goody Gumdrops!



Mahopac Public Library hosted its annual gingerbread house building event earlier this month, where families used their imaginations to construct sweet structures with icing, graham crackers, and candy decorations.



Carmel Students Join 'TubaChristmas' in NYC



Carmel tuba players recently performed in front of the Rockefeller Christmas tree in NYC.

Students from George Fischer Middle School and Carmel High School joined about 100 musicians from around the world to play holiday tunes at Rockefeller Center's 52nd annual TubaChristmas in New York City on Dec. 14.

This was the third consecutive year that GFMS music teachers Erika Wahlers and Eric Pecor led Carmel students to participate in the event.

"Tubas are not instruments that typically have melodic parts," said Wahlers. "TubaChristmas is an event that allows tuba players to make up an entire ensemble, meaning tuba players get to be the melody, the harmony, and the bass. This provides a unique playing opportunity for the students that they do not get every day in school."

The students got to play holiday classics like "Deck the Halls,"

"Joy to the World," "Silent Night," "Jingle Bells," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," but the event was about more than music.

"The students are able to connect with other tuba players from Carmel but also get to meet tuba players from other schools, professional musicians, and adults who have continued to play for the joy of making music," said Pecor. "This is a fun performing opportunity where students get to share holiday cheer."

TubaChristmas was conceived in 1974 by Harvey Phillips as a tribute to his teacher and mentor William J. Bell, who was born on Christmas Day 1902. Now, tuba and euphonium players from around the world gather in front of the Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center for one afternoon a year to play Christmas carols on their horns.

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Patterson Comes Alive With Holiday Spirit



This year's Patterson Holiday Festival included a parade of lights with more than 40 decorated trucks and vehicles, as well as a tree-lighting celebration that featured firepits, food trucks, vendors, and other activities at Patterson Library, and a closing fireworks display to entertain hundreds of guests who braved the cold to come out and celebrate the season. Provided photos.



Cookies & Comradery



Haldane High School students recently helped kindergarteners bake, decorate, and snack on some holiday cookies. Provided photos.



people USA Peer Support Groups

People USA invites you to join us for peer-led wellness programs focused on helping people cope with mental health challenges and addiction. These sessions are FREE to attend and open to all residents of Putnam County.

Emotional Life Skills

Learn about yoga, mindfulness, and the other activities to help with your emotional wellbeing.

Tuesdays - alternating session times
3pm - 4pm (starting December 9, 2025)
12pm - 1pm (starting December 16, 2025)



Healing through Art

Art therapy to build self confidence, patience, self determination, and daily coping skills.

Thursdays - Starting December 11, 2025
12pm - 1pm

All sessions held at the
MHA Putnam Engagement Center, 1620 NY-22, Brewster, NY

Enter through the front door, you will go up the stairs by Fiesta Mexicana, make a right at the top of the stairs and look for the Door with MHA sign

Putnam County Community Events

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.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the Brewster High School Class of 2039 will take place the weeks of March 2 and March 9, by appointment only. Children who will be 5 years old on or before Dec. 1, 2026, are eligible to register for September classes. Families residing in the district are asked to call 845-279-5051, ext. 6162, for English; or 845-279-2087, ext. 4143 or 4144, for Spanish, for more information.

Snow Ordinance

To facilitate the removal of snow from the roads withing the Town of Kent, through April 15, the overnight parking of vehicles on the town right of way is prohibited. Violators will be issued a traffic summons and towed at the owner's expense. All individuals plowing snow must remove it from the town right of way. Also, anyone whose vehicle becomes disabled during a snow event and abandoned must call the Kent Police Department.

Find Shelter

Brewster Cares' winter shelter is open nightly at 8:30 p.m. (you must arrive by 9 p.m.) Daytime warming center hours are 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Meet for screening at 72 Main St., Brewster.

Tuesday, Dec. 23

Lego Program

Mahopac Public Library will present a LEGO program for kids age 5 to 11 on Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 1 p.m. Build a creation with the library's collection of LEGO bricks, then leave it on display for all to see. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Kids' Crafts

Youth age 7 to 12 may enjoy a hands-on winter STEM activity Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 4:15 p.m., at Brewster Public Library. Kids will create their own snowstorms in a cup using simple materials, then watch the swirling magic come to life. Kids age 4 to 6 may make their own melted snowman slime Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 5:30 p.m., at Brewster Public Library. Mix, stretch, and play with slime that looks just like a melted snowman. Registration required at brewsterlibrary.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve Service

The Hon. George Carroll Whipple III and Miss Elizabeth Marie Whipple will present the 193rd annual Christmas eve service Dec. 24 at 10 p.m., at the Whipple-Feeley Putnam County Veterans Memorial Chapel, 200 Gipsy Trail Road, Carmel. A night of festive cheer, Christmas stories, and more. RSVP to george@georgewhipple.com.

Monday, Dec. 29

Pokémon Card Extravaganza

Mahopac Public Library will present a Pokémon Card Extravaganza on Monday, Dec. 29 at 1 p.m. An afternoon of playing Pokémon, trading cards, and doing a special card-themed craft. First preference given to residents of Mahopac/Mahopac Central School District. All children in fifth grade and younger must be accompanied by an adults. Registration opens Dec. 1. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Blood Drive

The NY Blood Center will hold a blood drive Monday, Dec. 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., at the Mahopac Public Library. No appointment required.

Tuesday, Dec. 30

Indoor Snowball Fight

Mahopac Public Library will present an indoor snowball fight Tuesday, Dec. 30 at 11 a.m. Enjoy relay races, an edible craft, and a giant snowball fight – in the warmth of the library's community room. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 139.

Thursday, Jan. 1

Concert for Peace

Ring in the New Year with music, readings, and camaraderie at a peaceful gathering at the Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster, on Thursday, Jan. 1 at 2 p.m. Attendees may enjoy the "Concert for Peace" for free, but a \$20 donation is suggested. Refreshments will be available. Reservations at www.culturalartsco.com.

Friday, Jan. 2

'Smallfoot'

Mahopac Public Library will screen "Smallfoot" on Friday, Jan. 2 at 1 p.m. For kids in kindergarten and older. Rated PG. Bring pillows, blankets, snacks, water and a friend. No registration required.

Tuesday, Jan. 6

CCE Cut Flower Webinar Series

The fifth annual Cornell Cooperative Extension cut flower webinar series begins Jan. 6 and continues Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. over five weeks. This is a popular series of online events with speakers, a variety of subjects concerning growing cut flowers, and interaction between speakers and attendees. Webinars will be recorded and sent to registrants for future review. \$60 for all five sessions, \$20 for single sessions. Register at pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration.

Thursday, Jan. 8

MPL at Home

Learn how to access Mahopac Public Library over the computer, Thursday, Jan. 8 at 10 a.m., at the library. With your library card you have access to many resources at home. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

'A Walk In the Woods'

Patterson Library will screen "A Walk In the Woods" on Thursday, Jan. 8 at 1 p.m. An aging travel

writer embarks on one final adventure: hiking the 2,200-mile Appalachian Trail with an eccentric friend. Along the way, they encounter a cast of quirky, determined fellow hikers and discover unexpected lessons about life, resilience, and the enduring power of friendship. Adults 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Friday, Jan. 9

Vision Board Workshop

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will present "Manifest & Make It: 2026 Vision Board Workshop" on Jan. 9 from noon to 2 p.m. Design a vision board that reflects your goals, dreams, and inspirations for 2026. The library will provide the supplies – magazines, scissors, glue, and boards. Register at carmellibrary.org.

Saturday, Jan. 10

'Your AHA Year'

Patterson Library will present "Your AHA Year" on Saturday, Jan. 10 at noon. After 35 years of corporate achievement and training thousands to reach their potential, Jeff Arnold now empowers people to transform their lives from the inside out. In "Your AHA Year," he shares his personal journey and proven steps to help you define, pursue, and achieve your version of better so you can take bold, actionable steps toward lasting change. Adults 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Sunday, Jan. 11

Breakfast

Brewster VFW Post 672 will host a breakfast fundraiser the second Sunday of every month from October to May, from 9 to 11 a.m., at 262 Peaceable Hill Road. Coffee, juice, waffles, pancakes, bacon, sausage, eggs, omelet station, home fries, tater tots, biscuits and gravy, and more.

Monday, Jan. 12

Excel Series

Proficiency in Microsoft Excel is a high-demand skill in the job market. This series will take you from getting to know the layout of Excel to creating PivotTables. The class will meet Mondays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., for four weeks beginning Jan. 12, at Mahopac Public Library. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

'Harry Potter'

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will show "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" (2001) on Jan. 12 from 1 to 3 p.m. No registration required.

Bingo Bash

Kids age 7 to 12 may play Bingo at Kent Public Library on Monday, Jan. 12 at 5:30 p.m. Registration is required.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Social Security Seminar

Mahopac Public Library will hold a Social Security seminar titled "Understanding How It Works" on Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 6 p.m. Join Jack Cunningham, managing partner of Harness Wealth Strategies, for an informative, easy-to-understand seminar on

everything you need to know about Social Security. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Make Dreamcatchers

Teens age 14 to 18 may make their own dreamcatchers Tuesday, Jan. 13, at 5 p.m., at Kent Public Library. Registration is required.

Chakra Workshop

Join Julia Calabrese-Harrer of Yoga in the Trees for an inspiring exploration of the Seven Major Chakra Energy Centers on Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 6 p.m., at Patterson Library. Learn how each chakra connects to both the physical body and the subtle energy body. Adults 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 14

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 MCLPutnamCounty242@gmail.com.

Paws to Read

Sunny Boy, a volunteer from Therapy Dogs International, will visit Kent Public Library on Wednesdays, Jan. 14 and 28 at 4 p.m., to give children age 5 to 11 the opportunity to gain confidence, improve reading skills, and/or relieve anxiety by reading aloud to a therapy dog. Registration is required.

Thursday, Jan. 15

Fundraising for Nonprofits

Mahopac Public Library will present "Introduction to Fundraising Planning for Nonprofits" on Thursday, Jan. 15 at 10 a.m. Learn basic steps for developing a fundraising plan that meets your organization's needs and resources, including making a case for support, creating a plan of action, and tips on diversifying fundraising base. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Financial Program

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will present "What Does That Mean? The Market, the Economy and You!" on Jan. 15 from 3 to 4 p.m. This workshop breaks down the key components, and jargon, of the financial markets and the economy in a clear, accessible way. Register at carmellibrary.org.

Senior Forum

Yvonne Niles of the Putnam County Office for Senior Resources will be at Patterson Library on Thursday, Jan. 15 at 11:30 a.m., to discuss the many programs available to area senior citizens. A light lunch will be available. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Friday, Jan. 16

'Consent & Healthy Relationships'

Mahopac Public Library will present "Consent & Healthy Relationships" on Friday, Jan. 16 at 5:30 p.m. Participants will learn to identify and define the key components of consent, discuss ways to help their young person under-

stand consent as an essential part of all sexual interactions, explore common barriers that may affect a young person's ability to practice consent, and develop strategies for becoming an "askable" parent. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Film Night

Mahopac Public Library will screen a film for adults Friday, Jan. 16 at 6 p.m. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Saturday, Jan. 17

Pokémon Club

A Pokémon Club for kids in grades two through five will meet Saturday, Jan. 17 at 11:30 a.m., at Kent Public Library. Do Pokémon crafts, battle, and trade cards. Snacks provided. Registration is required.

Sunday, Jan. 18

Cello Concert

Alex Prizgintas will perform "Winter Holidays on the Cello" on Sunday, Jan. 18 at 2 p.m., at Mahopac Public Library (rescheduled). Comprised of seasonal selections that are inclusive to all, there is a little bit of something for everyone in this holiday cello show. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Monday, Jan. 19

Teen Crafts

Teens in grade six through 12 can make a shadowbox museum with pictures, frames, and mini museum-goers Monday, Jan. 19 at 5:30 p.m., at Mahopac Public Library. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 139.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

Kids Craft Club

Kids in kindergarten through fourth grade may visit Kent Public Library on Tuesday, Jan. 20 at 4:30 p.m., for Kids Craft Club. Read a book and make a seasonal craft. Registration is required.

Thursday, Jan. 22

Throw-Back Tech Basics

Mahopac Public Library has the tools to help you convert old media into digital formats. Learn more about these tools and how you can use them Thursday, Jan. 22 at 10 a.m. This class is a demonstration. Materials will not be converted during the class. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

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.



Elder Law Advice

Alan D. Feller, Esq.

The Speed of Life

You press that app icon just as you have done a billion times. Your feed pops up. Some light scrolling, a stop and click (a guy in a dinosaur costume riding a unicycle and playing the bagpipes... Sure, I'll watch that!), and after a minute or two the memes, the reels, and the posts feel like repeats.

Facebook is a "Brady Bunch" rerun – comfort food for an anxious mind. The algorithm has you mathematically pegged. You mentioned fishing two days ago? Up pops a guy in a boat wrestling with a baby shark.

You swipe two more times, then you see it. A class reunion group post features a photo portrait of a familiar classmate. It does not take long to process the magnitude of the post. This person was in your life from early single-digits to cap-and-gown days. Their personality and life force was imprinted on your brain.

Now they are gone.

Social media records loss so completely, it can overwhelm. Even if it has been decades since you last had contact with the departed – the photographs, the condolence messages, and the showering of love and support online memorializes their impact in truly powerful ways. When the loss is a peer and schoolmate, the blow is more personal. If they can leave this world, so can I.

Am I prepared? Did I plan well enough to allow my family to continue with some degree of security and comfort?

Appreciating the fragility of life usually comes with age, but being prepared has no age requirement. Set up an estate planning consultation.

Think about your people. Who do you want to protect and who do you want to protect you? Planners will ask these questions. Certain core documents are always going to be emphasized.

Every person should have a Power of Attorney and a Health Care Proxy. If a sudden illness or injury impacts your decision-making ability, you need to have legally authorized people looking out for your well-being. Powers of Attorney cover financial decisions while healthcare decisions fall under Health Care

Proxies. These documents remain in effect as long as you continue to live and have not revoked them.

Once you pass away, a whole other set of documents and designations take effect.

Younger families dealing with an unexpected passing face immediate financial pressures after losing a primary income earner. There may be school payments, large mortgage and tax payments, childcare costs, and all of the trappings of a middle-class life in New York that demand remittance.

The slowness of the Probate process in New York delays the actual receipt of necessary funds. Having updated beneficiary designations including contingent beneficiaries in place for your qualified retirement accounts (401k, 403b, IRA), non-retirement investment accounts, and life insurance policies will allow larger sums to be transmitted much more quickly.

With named beneficiaries on file, the companies managing these assets can send and receive the necessary documentation expediently and issue payment many months earlier than Probate. Joint accounts and jointly held property with rights of survivorship also directly transfer ownership immediately to a surviving spouse. Same with trusts holding assets which flow to named beneficiaries without court intervention.

These are the tools of our trade and when they are correctly drafted, executed and administered, a family's stress in the aftermath of an unexpected loss can be softened.

Estate planning is one the very few human endeavors in which the impact and benefits far outweigh the energy required to get started. Once they are completed and comfortably situated in your home in a decorative folder, your planning documents are always ready to carry you and your family through life's toughest moments.

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 Seeks Board of Ethics Members

Putnam County is seeking qualified residents to apply for appointment to the Putnam County Board of Ethics, which is responsible for upholding the standards of ethical conduct within county government.

Interested individuals are encouraged to submit a brief cover letter and resume to the Putnam County Executive's Office at countyexecutive@putnamcountyny.gov.

In accordance with the Putnam County Charter, members of the Board of Ethics are appointed by the county executive and confirmed by the County

Legislature. The board plays a critical role in fostering transparency, accountability, and public confidence by administering and enforcing the ethical standards set forth in the Putnam County Code.

"Maintaining strong ethical oversight is essential to good government," said County Executive Kevin Byrne. "We are looking for individuals of integrity, sound judgment, and professional experience who are willing to serve the public and help ensure that Putnam County government continues to operate with transparency and trust."



Rollover Crash in Mahopac

Four people were transported for medical evaluation following a rollover crash in Mahopac on Dec. 13. The Mahopac and Mahopac Falls volunteer fire departments, along with Carmel police and Carmel Volunteer Ambulance Corp., were called to the intersection of Route 6 and Route 6N in the hamlet for a two-car crash. Traffic was diverted until the vehicles could be removed. Photo by MVFD.



Members of the Brewster NJROTC at the Bethel Drill Meet.

Brewster NJROTC Earns Awards at Drill Meet

Brewster High School student members of the National Junior Reserves Officer Training Corps recently competed against 15 schools from across the northeast at the Bethel Drill Meet and delivered a performance that earned awards in multiple events.

The Armed Platoon led by Cadet Ethan Cruz took first place. Brewster also placed first for its freshman inspection, commanded by Michael Biancamano, and in rocketry led by Cadet Riley Borneman.

The freshman platoon drill commanded by Abigail Ingunza placed second. Brewster also took second in athletics with Danna Hernandez, Wyatt Lewis,

Charleigh Scott, Martin Sauca, and mentored by Christian Fox.

The drone team led by Cadets David Arias and Nick Anderson placed third.

Through the entire team's efforts, BHS earned third place overall.

In the Area 1 Orienteering Championship, while battling cold weather including snow flurries, students navigated the woods and hills in the Pond Natural Area in Kent, Conn. Out of the seven schools competing, the efforts of all 10 junior varsity and varsity members earned the team second place overall.

Varsity members include Will Mattson, Riley Borneman, Steven

Alonzo Lemus, Marcos Chinchilla and Sam Sanchez Gill. Junior varsity members include Anthony Borja, Johann Mojica, Kevin Ramos, Emma Plouffe, and Luca Borneman.

Two Brewster students earned individual awards for the fastest time out of more than 90 competitors: Mattson ran the fastest time on the men's varsity course, and Borneman placed first on the JV course.

Based on the team's accomplishments, the BHS NJROTC orienteering team earned the right to be one of the schools to represent Area 1 at the NJROTC National Orienteering Championships to be held in Florida in March.

Member Show Returns to Garrison Arts Center

Garrison Art Center will host its annual Member Show from Jan. 10 through 25, with an opening reception Saturday, Jan. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m., at 23 Garrison's Landing. This year's exhibit features a mix of pottery, sculpture, painting, drawing, fiber art, and more.

For more than six decades, thousands of artists have brought their voices, vision, and energy to GAC. The 2026 Member Show continues that tradition, celebrating the talent of the community.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All exhibition-related

events are free and open to the public.

Founded in 1964, GAC remains a home for exhibitions, classes, and events that connect people through the arts. For more information – or to become a member – visit garrisonartcenter.org or call 845-424-3960.

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

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, January 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m., at Southeast Town Offices, 1360 Route 22, Brewster, New York to consider the following:

ACE ENDICO TRANSPORTATION LOT – Application is being made for Site Plan and Wetland Permit for a proposal to develop a 24-hour Transportation Facility for a food service distribution operation with a 600-sf dispatch office building, parking for 87 trucks, and diesel fuel filling station on a 42.48-acre property located at 12, 24, and 40 Endico Way, Brewster, NY, in the SP-Z Zoning District, and identified as Tax Map Numbers 45.-1-39.2, 45.-1-39.3 and 45.-1-39.4. The stormwater management facilities, located within a Town of Southeast Wetland buffer, and some of the road infrastructure was installed as part of the previous senior housing project.

ARBOR FIELDS – Application is being made for Site Plan, Conditional Use Permit and Special Permit for a proposed landscape nursery on a 13 acre property located at 11 Fields Lane and 383 North Salem Road, Brewster, NY, in the OP-1 and R-60 Zoning District, and identified as Tax Map Numbers 78.-2-72.2 and 78.-2-72.1. Existing uses include office, outdoor storage, and a single-family residence, which are intended to continue. No new buildings or alterations are proposed. Approximately 8 acres would be used for the nursery. The Project proposes removal of existing dilapidated fencing and invasive/dead vegetation, and installation of 6' perimeter fencing, screening fencing, and new plantings. The southern portion of the project site includes protected wetland areas.

LABORERS INTERNATIONAL LOCAL 60 – Application is being made for Site Plan and Wetland Permit for a proposal to construct a two-story office building on a 7.61-acre property located at 25 Independent Way, Brewster, NY, in the OP-2 Zoning District, and identified as Tax Map Numbers 56.-1-28.1. The Project Site contains NYSDEC wetlands, and the project would disturb 0.146 acres within the wetland buffer area.

2525 CARMEL AVE. LLC. – Application is being made for Site Plan for a proposal to redevelop an existing 1,400 SF building into an automotive vehicle service garage on a 0.69 acre property located at 2525 Carmel Ave., Brewster, NY, in the GC Zoning District, and identified as Tax Map Numbers 67.6-1-35. The property was previously used as an office and for outdoor storage.

Thomas LaPerch, Chairman
Town of Southeast Planning
Board
Dated: December
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Carmel

NOTICE OF RE-SCHEDULING OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Board of the

PUBLIC NOTICE

Town of Carmel will conduct a Public Hearing at the Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York 10541 on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter that evening as possible on a proposed Local Law amending Chapter 156 of the Code of the Town of Carmel, entitled "Zoning".

Copies of the full text of the proposed Local Law are available in the lobby at Town Hall, from the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours as well as on the Town of Carmel website at townofcarmelny.gov.

At said Public Hearing, all interested persons shall be heard on the subject thereof. The Town Board will make every effort to assure that the Public Hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Anyone requiring special assistance and/or reasonable accommodations should contact the Town Clerk.

By Order of the Town Board
of the Town of Carmel
Alice Daly, Town Clerk

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PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town of Carmel, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York 10541, until 11:00 AM on February 5, 2026 at which time all bids will be publicly opened, read, and recorded by the Town Clerk for the following:

INSTALLATION/REPLACEMENT OF GENERATORS AT: CWD #3 - SPRING STREET, CWDs #10 and # 13 SENIOR AVE,
CSD #1 WHITE SAIL PUMP STATION, CSD #4 UNDER-HILL PUMP STATION
CARMEL TOWN HALL CONTRACT NO. C308

All bidders must comply with Section 103(a) and 103(d) of the General Municipal Law relating to non-collusive bidding and waiver of immunity against criminal prosecution.

Specifications may be obtained at the Office of the Town Clerk, at the above address, beginning **December 31, 2025** between the hours of 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

Copies of Bid Documents may be obtained upon receipt of \$50.00 per set; cash, certified check or money order payable to the Town of Carmel, **non-refundable**.

A **pre-bid conference** will be held on **January 13, 2026** at 10:00 AM, at the Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York 10541. The purpose of the pre-bid conference is to afford the prospective Bidders and interested parties an opportunity to raise questions pertaining to the Bidding and Contract Documents and for the OWNER or its representatives to clarify any points. A site visit will be conducted to each site following the Pre-Bid Meeting.

Bid envelope shall be marked "**BID**" plus bid title and number.

The Town Board of the Town of Carmel reserves the right to reject any and all bids and abandon the proposal or may reject all bids and re-advertise at a future date.

By Order of the Town Board
of the Town of Carmel Alice Daly,
Town Clerk

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Supreme Court

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, situated, 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.

Brooke D. Youngwirth, Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.: 190451-4

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, U.S. BANK TRUST, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF THE BUNGALOW SERIES IV TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. LINDA M. COOPER, ETAL., Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Decision & Order & Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on October 29, 2024, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Courthouse, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on January 26, 2026 at 10:30 a.m., premises known as 15 Steiner Drive n/k/a 38 Steiner Drive, Mahopac, NY 10541. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situated, lying and being in the Town of Patterson, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 64.9, Block 1 and Lot 5. Approximate amount of judgment is \$616,868.60 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 500177/2017

Maureen Fleming, Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.: 222812-1

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF PUTNAM

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR FREMONT HOME LOAN TRUST 2004-4, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-4

Plaintiff,

Against

NELSON E. ROSSY A/K/A NELSON ROSSY, if living, and if dead, the respective heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignors, lienees, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and their respective husbands, wives or widow, if any, and each and every person not specifically named who may

P. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14

PUBLIC NOTICE

be entitled to or claim to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the verified complaint; all of whom and whose names and places of residence unknown, and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained by the Plaintiff; et al

Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered 10/30/2025, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, at the courtroom 209 in the Putnam Supreme Courthouse, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on 2/2/2026 at 9:30AM, premises known as 1404 Brentwood Drive, Brewster, NY 10509, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situated, lying and being a Part of a Condominium in the Town of Southeast, County of Putnam and State of New York, known and designated as Unit No. 14-1404 together with .95248 percent undivided interest in the common elements of the Condominium.

Section 46 Block 2 Lot 27.1404

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$394,504.16 plus interest and costs. The Premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 500177/2017

Kenneth Lyle Bunting, Esq., Referee.

MCCABE, WEISBERG & CONWAY, LLC, 10 Midland Avenue, Suite 205, Port Chester, NY 10573

Dated: 12/3/2025 File Number: 17-300401 CA

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PUBLIC NOTICE

LLC

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. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of **KINGFISHER PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC**. 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. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **Vitalis Communications, LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on



Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley president and CEO Laura Washington with representatives from grant recipients: Be a Friend Project, CAREERS Support Solutions, Child Care Council of Dutchess & Putnam, Cold Spring Farmers' Market, Garrison Art Center, Habitat for Humanity of Dutchess County, Hillside Food Outreach, Philipstown Depot Theatre, Putnam County Housing Corp., Second Chance Foods, Sustainable Putnam, The Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub, and Tompkins Corners Cultural Center.

Putnam Nonprofits Receive \$75,000 from Community Foundations

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley has awarded its 2025 Community Grants, bestowing a total of \$542,000 to nonprofits across Dutchess, Putnam, and Ulster counties and marking the foundation's largest round of grants ever.

In Putnam County, 13 nonprofits have received a total of \$75,000 – an unprecedented level of CFHV-driven support for the community.

"CFHV spent the past year listening to the community to learn what matters most to the people who live and work in the Hudson Valley – what they love about living here as well as their most pressing concerns and needs," said Laura Washington, president and CEO of CFHV. "This feedback guided our grant-making decisions, keeping in mind the most pressing needs expressed by community members: housing, food security, mental health, childcare, and more."

Community Foundations is extending its impact beyond funding by supporting Putnam County nonprofits with essential educational resources and training. Through complimentary memberships to

the Nonprofit Learning Lab, nonprofit leaders gain access to expert guidance on fundraising, strategic planning, volunteer management, and other critical skills.

Monthly capacity-building workshops further strengthen organizational fundraising, governance and operations, communications, and financial management. These initiatives reflect CFHV's approach to philanthropy – providing nonprofits with both resources and expertise to expand their programs, launch new initiatives, and amplify their impact across the community.

CFHV celebrated the 13 Putnam County grantees at its annual changemaker event Dec. 3 at the Putnam History Museum in Cold Spring. Awardees include: Be a Friend Project, CAREERS Support Solutions, Child Care Council of Dutchess & Putnam, Cold Spring Farmers' Market, Garrison Art Center, Philipstown Depot Theatre, Putnam County Housing Corp., Sustainable Putnam, The Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub, Second Chance Foods, Tompkins Corners Cultural Center, and more.

"It is so encouraging to be sur-

rounded by diverse organizations who build up our communities," said grant recipient Joseph Montuori, executive director of Sustainable Putnam. "Thank you for facilitating those connections and for your ongoing support."

To apply for a grant in 2026, visit CommunityFoundationsHV.org.

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley is 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, it has grown to manage more than \$130 million in assets and administers nearly 600 charitable funds, distributing more than \$17 million in local grants and scholarships in 2024 alone.

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

To Place Legal Notices, Email [\(legals@putnampresstimes.com\)](mailto:(legals@putnampresstimes.com)) or Call 845-628-8400

PUBLIC NOTICE

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. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **Serenity Yoga, LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/09/2025. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 805A, P. 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28

PUBLIC NOTICE

Albany, NY 12210, CCS Global Solutions, Inc. Purpose: any lawful activities.

P. 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **Umarell, LLC**. Articles of Org. filed with SSNY on 8/27/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Umarell, LLC, 44 Knollwood Lane, Cold Spring, NY 10516. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.

P. 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28

Start 2026 With a 'First Day Hike'

New Yorkers are encouraged to start their year off with wellness by participating in the free First Day Hikes initiative at state parks, historic sites, natural areas, canal trails, environmental education centers, and various other public lands across the Empire State on Jan. 1.

To keep the event affordable, the normal parking fee at state parks and sites will be waived Jan. 1.

"First Day Hikes offer a welcome break from the holiday rush and a chance to reconnect with nature and one another," said New York State Parks Acting Commissioner Kathy Moser.

Most hikes are beginner- and family friendly, typically ranging from 1 to 5 miles depending on the location and trail conditions.

Many First Day Hikes are led in partnership with "friends" groups who are stewards on state lands, as well as other partners across the state. This year, the Department of Environmental Conservation and State Parks are partnering with the New York State Outdoor Guides

Association to offer even more hiking opportunities to the public with several First Day Hikes led by NYS-licensed guide professionals.

Local sites participating in the initiative include Hudson Highlands State Park/Little Stony Point in Cold Spring, FDR State Park in Yorktown Heights, Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park in Cortlandt, Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site in Yonkers, Rockefeller State Park Preserve in Sleepy Hollow, Stony Kill Farm Environmental Education Center in Wappingers Falls, Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park in Highland, and Bear Mountain State Park.

A list of all First Day Hikes, location details, format, pre-registration requirements, and additional information can be found at parks.ny.gov/events/first-day-hikes. Interested participants are encouraged to check the details of their preferred host site in advance and register if required.

Starting in Massachusetts in 1992, First Day Hikes is now a national event taking place in all 50 states.

CLASSIFIEDS

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Cuisinart private electric reserve **WINE CELLAR** \$50; three 2000 **HESS TRUCKS**, one 2005 Hess truck, one 1995 **GETTY TOY RACE CAR** \$30 each or \$100 for all. 845-222-9488. 1/14

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

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 the WEDNESDAY 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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An Active 2025 for Enoch Crosby Chapter, DAR

Continued from Page 1

ing to take part in the commemoration of the epic accomplishment of Henry Knox. In December 1775, Knox, a bookseller from Boston acting on a request by George Washington, set out on a 300-mile winter journey across Adirondack waterways and Massachusetts' Berkshire Mountains to deliver 59 tons of artillery and military supplies to the Continental Army outside Boston.

The arrival of more than 50 cannons from Fort Ticonderoga caused the British to leave the city and ended the Siege of Boston on March 17, 1776.

As president of the NYSS-CAR, Kate Keesler was among those offering greetings at the commemoration at the historic Van Schaick Mansion on Dec. 14. Keesler has been working to promote the theme "Triumph at Ticonderoga," celebrating the 250th anniversary of the bloodless

capture of the strategically important fort at the confluence of Lake George into Lake Champlain.

Throughout the year, NYSS-CAR programs have helped its members – up to age 21 – understand the roles that cannons, tradespeople, and draft animals such as heritage red devon oxen played in supporting the Continental Army during the American Revolution. Funds raised by the CAR will be donated to the Fort Ticonderoga Association to reconstruct an 18th century cannon carriage for a three-pounder cannon that's used in the fort's living history demonstrations.

In addition, chapter members had been anticipating the Wreaths Across America event, which was postponed until Dec. 21, to place wreaths on the graves of military members laid to rest at Gilead Cemetery in Carmel – the final resting place of chapter namesake Enoch Crosby, and many other Revolutionary War patriots.

Any woman age 18 or older regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible to join the DAR. For more information, contact Registrar Libby Baker at libbybaker@aol.com.

Apply Now For NYS Home Energy Assistance

Continued from Page 1

porary & Disability Assistance Commissioner Barbara Guinn. "I encourage all eligible households to apply for this vital assistance as

soon as possible."

New Yorkers are also urged to enroll in the state's Energy Affordability Program, which provides up to \$500 in annual discounts on energy bills. EAP already serves approximately 1 million households statewide, but state officials estimate that approximately 1.5 million more households are eligible to receive a discount.

Visit ny.gov/EAP to learn about eligibility and enrollment.



Chloe Carey, Anastasia Kozlenko, Quinn Welsh, Maeve Smyth, and MJ Juarbe.

Aquaflyers Perform Well at November Qualifier

The New Fairfield Aquaflyers – which includes swimmers from Patterson, Brewster, and Carmel – competed in the RST November Sprints Age Group Qualifier on Nov. 22 and 23 at Mask High School in Monroe, Conn.

Sam DeNichilo placed second in the 100-yard breaststroke, third in the 50-yard butterfly, and 15th in the 50-yard freestyle.

MJ Juarbe placed second in the 100-yard butterfly, ninth in the 50-yard freestyle, and 12th in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Shayla Knolker took second in the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyles, third in the 400-yard individual

medley, fifth in the 500-yard freestyle and 100-yard backstroke, and seventh in the 50-yard freestyle.

Anastasia Kozlenko placed second in the 50-yard breaststroke, third in the 100-yard and 200-yard individual medley, fourth in the 100-yard butterfly and 50-yard freestyle, and fifth in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Irene Rotariu placed fifth in the 50-yard breaststroke, sixth in the 50-yard butterfly, seventh in the 100-yard breaststroke, 10th in the 100-yard freestyle, and eighth in the 50-yard backstroke.

Maeve Smyth placed third in the 50-yard backstroke, eighth in the 200-yard freestyle, and 13th in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Quinn Welsh took eighth in the 100-yard butterfly, 11th in the 200-yard individual medley, 13th in the 200-yard freestyle, and sixth in the 100-yard backstroke.

Kailyn Welsh placed second in the 50-yard freestyle, second in the 200-yard butterfly, third in the 100-yard butterfly, fifth in the 100-yard freestyle, sixth in the 200-yard freestyle, and seventh in the 500-yard freestyle.

The girls' relay team – MJ Juarbe, Quinn Welsh, Maeve Smyth, and Anastasia Kozlenko – took fourth in the 200-yard freestyle.

The team of Sam DeNichilo, Irene Rotariu, and Kailyn Welsh placed third in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Jackson Burdi placed 11th in the 100-yard breaststroke, 12th in the 50-yard breaststroke, 14th in the 50-yard freestyle, and 15th in the 200-yard freestyle and 50-yard butterfly.

Dylan Dawes placed first in the 100-yard butterfly and the 50-yard butterfly; second in the 100-yard freestyle, 50-yard breaststroke, and 50-yard freestyle; and third in the 200-yard freestyle.

Sebastian Kozlenko took eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke, 10th in the 200-yard freestyle and the 50-yard butterfly, and 12th in the 100-yard freestyle.

Zachary Krompinger placed first in the 25-yard breaststroke and the 100-yard individual medley, second in the 25-yard freestyle and 25-yard butterfly, sixth in the 25-yard backstroke, and 14th in the 50-yard breaststroke.

Frank Marcigliano placed fifth in the 100-yard butterfly, sixth in the 50-yard butterfly and 200-yard individual medley, 11th in the 100-yard freestyle, and 15th in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Michael Romano took second in the 50-yard freestyle, fourth in the 25-yard butterfly, fifth in the 25-yard breaststroke, sixth in the 25-yard freestyle, and eighth in the 25-yard backstroke.

Marcos Sa placed sixth in the 100-yard butterfly, eighth in the 100-yard backstroke, and ninth in the 50-yard butterfly and 100-yard individual medley.

Chase Thomas placed ninth in the 100-yard breaststroke, 10th in the 50-yard backstroke, and 11th in the 200-yard freestyle.

Aaron Vesseliza took first in the 50-yard backstroke, second in the 200-yard and 100-yard backstroke, fifth in the 200-yard individual medley, sixth in the 100-yard freestyle, and seventh in the 50-yard freestyle.

Connor Welsh placed second in the 100-yard breaststroke and the 500-yard freestyle, fifth in the 200-yard freestyle, 14th in the 100-yard freestyle, and sixth in the 100-yard butterfly.

The boys' relay team – Jackson Burdi, Marcos Sa, Sebastian Kozlenko, and Chase Thomas – placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay and third in the 200-yard medley relay.

and inviting space for everyone who uses it.

"New reading nooks and study areas give patrons places to focus, learn, and relax, while improved shelving and building upgrades make the library easier to navigate and enjoy," she said.

Ferraro surprised his wife, Judy Ferraro – past library board president and 30-year trustee – by dedicating one of the new reading nooks in her name.

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A New Chapter for Patterson Library

Continued from Page 1

Harrison said the renovation has transformed the building into a more comfortable, accessible,