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PUTNAM COUNTY'S LOCAL NEWSPAPER

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026



Lawmakers across the county took the oath of office last week, before officially assuming their roles in local government. LEFT: Jake D'Angelo, R-Carmel, is sworn in as Putnam County legislator representing District Five. He is officially the youngest county legislator in Putnam history. RIGHT: Democrat Stacy Dumont is administered the oath of office to take her seat on the Patterson Town Board.



Legislature Wants Its Own Attorneys *Votes to Bring Leg. Counsel Back, for Majority & Minority*

By Holly Crocco

Putnam County lawmakers unanimously voted last month to change the county charter to allow the Legislature to hire an attorney for each the majority and minority parties of the governing body.

Historically, the Legislature has had its own legal counsel up until last year, when it was abolished by County Executive Kevin Byrne, who appointed counsel employed by the County Attorney's Office.

Since Byrne has to sign off on the charter change, whether it will come to fruition is up in the air.

Legislators say their branch of government needs to have counsel separate from and not dependent upon the approval and resources of the executive branch, to maintain checks and balances.

During the Dec. 18 Rules Committee meeting, followed by a full Legislature meeting, Legislator Nancy Montgomery, the lone Democrat on the governing body, said a lot of work went into the new local law during the budget process and beyond.

"I worked really hard on this – I know a lot of you did," she told

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Is Putnam County Going Purple? *Democrats & Republicans Take Their Seats*



LEFT: Tommy Regan, R-Southeast, is sworn in as Putnam County legislator representing District Six, during a swearing-in ceremony at the Historic Courthouse in Carmel. RIGHT: Democrat Gwen Dougherty takes the oath of office before taking her seat on the Patterson Town Board.



Candidates Stepping Up For County & Town Offices

By Holly Crocco

After a few weeks of speculation, Republican Carmel Town Councilman Frank Lombardi has announced that he is running for Putnam County legislator in District Eight, since current Legislator Amy Sayegh, R-Mahopac Falls, is not seeking re-election in November.

"As a 23-year resident of this town and specifically this legislative district, I have raised a family, paid the taxes, and pay a mortgage," he said. "I know the difficulties families are having affording to raise a family."

During his time on the Carmel

Town Board, Lombardi said he's been a fiscal conservative, "cutting costs while at the same time making sure our budget allows for the Town of Carmel to continue to be one of the safest and best places in America to raise a family."

"I have worked with many of the current legislators as well as our county executive in the past," said Lombardi. "I believe with my experience as a lawyer for nearly 30 years and my experience in local government, I will have a positive impact on our town serving on the Legislature."

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From left are Philipstown Councilman Ned Rauch, Town Supervisor John Van Tassel, Town Justice Fred Clarke, and Councilman Nat Prentice, who were sworn in last week. All are Democrats and ran unopposed in the November election.



New Democratic Putnam Valley Town Supervisor Alison Jolicoeur took her seat on the town board last week along with Democratic Councilman CJ Brooks. Shawn Keeler was also sworn in for another term as highway superintendent.



Putnam Leads NYS in Flu Cases

Last month, Putnam County had the highest rate of flu cases compared to all other counties in the state, according to the NYS Department of Health.

For the week ending Dec. 20, Putnam's rate was 918 cases per 100,000. This incidence rate was not only the highest in the state, but also 61 percent higher than the next highest county – Nassau, on Long Island.

For residents with challenges accessing flu vaccines, the health department will offer the shots to both children and adults. Vaccines are also available at pharmacies and

through healthcare providers.

"More than half of our flu cases are in children from 5 through 17 years of age," said Health Director Rian Rodriguez. "We urge residents to take precautions and stay home when sick to avoid spreading germs. It is also not too late to get vaccinated, since flu season typically runs until late April or early May, and vaccines remain the best preventative measure."

After children, the second most vulnerable population is older adults. Like children, seniors can have compromised immune

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Letters to the Editor

Putnam’s Progress in 2025 & the Year Ahead

Dear Editor:

Last year, Putnam County reached major milestones for our residents, highlighted by a budget that delivered the largest property tax cut in county history and set the stage for continued progress in 2026.

Putnam County remains one of the safest and healthiest places to live in the U.S., and we are committed to building on that success. Together, we are delivering real results that make a meaningful difference for the people who call Putnam County home.

As a former assemblyman and now county executive, I have opposed every tax hike and worked to deliver a series of historic tax cuts to make Putnam County more affordable. In our 2026 budget, we maintained all prior tax cuts, reduced the levy by an additional \$1 million, and lowered the property tax rate to pre-recession levels – the lowest in nearly two decades.

We also continued a special exemption I first introduced to eliminate county sales tax on clothing and footwear purchases less than \$110, both online and in-store. This policy makes our tax system less regressive and provides real relief during a time of persistently high costs.

Over three years, these actions amount to more than \$10 million

in tax relief for Putnam County residents.

Transparency remains a core commitment of our administration. Anyone who wishes to review the details of our enacted 2026 budget or suggest better ways the county can spend or save taxpayer dollars can access our user-friendly budget transparency website. This was a promise I made during my 2022 campaign and it continues to be a key pillar of our transparency agenda.

Last year, we also finalized a historic revenue-sharing agreement to ensure county sales tax supports infrastructure improvements in every town and village. For the first time in Putnam County history – and now as a matter of state law supported by this administration, our state legislators, and most members of the County Legislature – municipalities will receive a share of county sales tax revenue to fund local infrastructure projects. This further reduces reliance on property taxes.

This compromise was critical to responsibly delivering the largest property tax cut in county history, and I am grateful to the federal, state, county, town, and village officials who worked together to make it possible.

In 2025 we made meaningful progress in lowering the cost of living. Affordability matters to everyone, from young families renting or buying their first home to seniors

on fixed incomes. We achieved this not only by reducing the tax burden, but by thinking differently about how government delivers services.

Last year, we opened our first-of-its-kind early learning center and launched the award-winning Putnam On-Demand micro transit service. These two innovative programs reduce costs in special education and transportation and are already being looked to as models by neighboring counties.

By continuing to limit new borrowing, we are now on track to reduce long-term county debt by 58 percent, maintaining essential services without unnecessarily raising taxes on today’s or tomorrow’s residents.

Public safety remains a top priority. In 2025, we completed major infrastructure projects such as the Peekskill Hollow Road overhaul and the Sprout Brook Road bridge replacement, while making significant progress on the repaving and modernization of Fair Street, which is scheduled for completion this year.

We also opened the new Lt. Michel Neuner Fire & EMS Training Facility, giving our emergency responders a modern, county-based training center and reducing the need to travel outside Putnam for essential instruction.

Most recently, we finalized New York State’s first countywide community paramedicine program, bringing preventive care directly to seniors and others in need while helping reduce hospital costs for everyone.

Our administration took on tough challenges in 2025 and delivered for the residents of Putnam County. From affordability and public safety to accountability and transparency, we continue to evolve in how local government can best serve the people. As we look toward the year ahead, my mission remains unchanged: to deliver a more affordable, accountable, and accessible county government that serves us all. We are delivering on that promise, and we are just getting started.

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy, and prosperous 2026.

Kevin Byrne
Putnam County Executive



Working Mom

By Holly Crocco

‘Hello, is this Mikey’s Mom?’

I get a call from Mikey’s school almost weekly.

He and some friends were pushing and shoving. He keeps speaking out of turn. He laughed and encouraged another student when they were making a bad decision. He and some friends were pushing and shoving, again.

Every time my phone rings during school hours and I see that familiar number flash across the screen, I do an eye roll. My greeting is usually something to the effect of, “What did he do now?”

However, throughout the weeks, I’ve developed a chip on my shoulder and – I’m not proud of it – recently gave the teacher attitude when she called to tell me that my 7-year-old son had to go to the principal’s office because during a snowball fight at recess he pushed a classmate to the ground.

I don’t know about you, but to me, allowing a snowball fight among a bunch of rowdy second grade boys sounds like a disaster waiting to happen.

My call with the teacher ended with the usual “I’ll talk with him about it.”

When Mikey came home, I asked him about what happened and he quickly confirmed, “Yeah, I pushed Henry down because he kept throwing snowballs at Ryan, and Ryan asked him to stop but he didn’t.”

Before I could go into my speech about how it’s honorable to defend your friends but perhaps a better solution is to walk away from those whose behavior is upsetting you, he further confessed, “I also hit Peter in the face with a snowball because he was throwing snow at Thomas and acting like he wasn’t.”

The conversation ended with me explaining that if he doesn’t want to miss out on recess, he’s got to figure out how to resolve these things without resulting to vigilantism.

A week later, the phone rang at about 1 p.m., and that familiar number danced across the screen again. When I answered, it was not only the principal, but also the vice principal on the line.

Awesome.

As usual, the principal started by explaining, “This isn’t an emergency, everything is OK, but...” and I waited to hear what offense my son had committed that required not only the top dog, but also the second in command to be in on the call.

The principal explained to me that during recess, Mikey was hit by another child who was “extremely dysregulated” and striking out as he ran away from an aide. She told me it was through no fault of Mikey that he was hit – he was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Both the principal and vice principal nervously explained to me that the child struck Mikey on the back and shoulders, his neck, and the back of the head. They immediately brought Mikey to

the nurse’s office and he showed no sign of harm or distress.

Then the principal went on to tell me how proud and inspired they were by the way Mikey handled the situation. Apparently, when he turned around to see who was essentially attacking him, he saw who it was and didn’t retaliate.

Now, while the administrators never divulge the names of other students involved in incidents, and can’t talk about the other students’ personal information, I knew right away that the classmate involved was one who is part of the special education program who spends only about half of the day in class with the traditional learners. He is a wonderful child who is affected by many challenges that impair his motor function and emotional regulation, and he is non-verbal.

The principal told me that when Mikey saw this student acting out, he simply took a few steps back, and showed the other child nothing but kindness and compassion. When he was with the nurse, she asked him to express his feelings, and he said he wasn’t angry with his classmate for hitting him because he understood that the child was “having a bad day” and “it’s not his fault.”

When the administrators were done talking and there was silence on the phone, I cried.

I’m pretty sure the principal and vice principal were nervous that I was upset that Mikey had experienced this mini-assault, because they just kept apologizing and reiterating that they will do everything they can to prevent something like this from happening again.

When I got my emotions under control, I told the women that I was not at all worried about my kid. I knew Mikey was fine. The reason for my emotions was pride, because I know that if Mikey had turned around and it was one of his other buddies, he would have retaliated without a second thought. But the fact that he saw who it was and understood that this student was having a bad moment, and that life is not easy for this child, he chose kindness and compassion.

And my kid doesn’t always show kindness and compassion.

As strange as it sounds, I’m glad Mikey was the one standing in the other child’s path that day, because it gave him the opportunity to prove that he does, in fact, have empathy.

If only we can get him to exhibit that every day ...

The next week when the call came in that Mikey was back to his usual handsy ways, I still cringed, but at least I know he’s got a good heart in there somewhere.

Holly Crocco is editor of the Putnam County Times/Press and mother of a 7-year-old boy. She can be reached at editorial@putnampresstimes.com.

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PUTNAM VALLEY

Putnam Valley Town Hall



From left are Kent Fire District Chairman Barry Sanel, State Sen. Pete Harckham, Kent Fire Chief Matt Valente, and Kent Fire Department Lts. Dan Wiley and Joe Stevenson. Photo by James Persons/Harckham's office.

Grant Helps Kent F.D. Purchase Breathing Apparatus

Town of Kent firefighters can breathe easier when responding to fire emergencies, thanks to new portable breathing equipment that was recently purchased with a \$100,000 State Senate grant that was secured with help from Sen. Pete Harckham, D-Peekskill.

"I'm proud to help deliver the resources the Kent Fire Department needs to stay safe and effective," he said. "This new breathing apparatus equipment will provide critical protection for the firefighters who work tirelessly to protect all of us. I will do all that I can to support our brave, hard-working first responders – many of whom are volunteers sacrificing themselves to serve our community and running toward danger so that lives can be saved."

Harckham recently visited the Kent Fire District No. 1 headquarters to see the 20 new self-contained breathing apparatus, which were purchased with funding from the state's Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability & Technology program.

"The new state-of-the-art SCBA breathing equipment will significantly enhance firefighter safety during fire incidents and other hazardous situations," said Barry Sanel, chairman of Kent Fire District No. 1. "This investment replaces equipment that is more than 15 years old and at risk of falling out of compliance with state regulations."

A self-contained breathing apparatus is a piece of personal protective equipment that provides a portable supply of breathable air from a compressed air cylinder, allowing users to operate in hazardous, oxygen-deficient, or toxic environments.

The main components are a face mask, a high-pressure air cylinder, a carrying frame, and a regulator. SCBAs are essential for firefighters and industrial workers.

Kent Fire District No. 1 was established in 1958 and serves the west side of Kent and counts on 40 volunteers. Last year, it responded to 359 emergency calls.

Drug Charges

Two Mahopac residents were recently arrested by the Carmel Police Department following a months-long investigation into the sale of crack cocaine from their residence.

The investigation began in the fall when a Carmel police officer, while responding to an unrelated call, received a complaint about alleged narcotics sales occurring from a home on Union Valley Road. The officer passed this information along to detectives who immediately initiated an investigation, collaborating with the Putnam County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Enforcement Unit and the Westchester/Putnam FBI Safe Streets Task Force.

Officers gathered evidence showing that the pair was dealing crack cocaine in and around their residence, which provided more than sufficient cause to obtain search and arrest warrants, culminating in the arrests of both individuals Dec. 22.

Omar Miles 46, was taken into custody outside of the residence, and Samantha Dekrell, 33, was arrested during the execution of a search and arrest warrant at the home.

Seized items included a large amount of cash, narcotics consistent with crack cocaine, and paraphernalia associated with drug sale and distribution.

Miles and Dekrell face a combined total of 15 felony counts and 10 misdemeanor counts related to the criminal possession and sale of controlled substances. They were arraigned in Carmel Town Court, with Dekrell being released to appear at a future court date and Miles being remanded to the Putnam County Correctional Facility pending a bail hearing in Superior Court.

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Local elected officials join with highway department crew members, union laborers, and others to celebrate the official opening of the Maybrook Trailway bridge in Putnam.

Maybrook Bridge Connects Cyclists & Pedestrians to Empire State Trail

One of the local accomplishments of 2025 was the completion of the new Maybrook Trailway bridge in Southeast, which has been in use by the public since Nov. 7. Recently, elected officials gathered to commemorate its official opening.

The county's Department of Public Works oversaw the contractors, Harrison and Burrowes Bridge Constructors, as well as Barton Loguidice, who completed this multi-use infrastructure project rehabilitating a 115-year-old span over the East Branch of the Croton River.

The bridge is the result of an approved project labor agreement entered into by Putnam County with members of the LIUNA Laborers Local 60 and 235, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 137, and Ironworkers Local 417 for structural replacement, lead-paint removal, crack repair, and more.

"Southeast is grateful for the opening of this critical bridge along a well-traveled recreational span," said Town Supervisor Nick Durante. "This federal, state, and local collaboration has resulted in better access to our stretch of the Empire State Trail and an enhanced quality of life for residents and visitors alike."

"This bridge-construction project was a major undertaking for Putnam County, knitting together our recreational trails and connecting residents and visitors alike with the Empire State Trail's major arterial," said Byrne, who is now county executive.

The Maybrook Trailway is an off-road, paved, 9-mile stretch of the Empire State Trail extending from Brewster to the Pawling border. With this bridge completed, people can travel on the trail continuously from the Connecticut state line through Putnam County, up through Dutchess and across

the Walkway Over the Hudson in Poughkeepsie.

"It's great to see this bridge open, connecting the Maybrook Trailway to neighboring towns and giving residents and visitors new access to the trail system," said Slater.

"This project strengthens the Empire State Trail, improves safety for cyclists and pedestrians, and connects more of our communities to the outdoors," added Lawler.

For a map of Putnam County outdoor excursions and activities, visit <https://putnamcountyny.gov/tourism#map>.

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Patterson & Putnam Valley Libraries Receive State Aid

Two libraries in Putnam County have been awarded state aid for construction and renovation projects that support critical upgrades to improve accessibility and energy efficiency.

Patterson Library will receive \$176,068 for mechanical, lighting, and other interior improvements to the Adult Collection Area; and Putnam Valley Library will receive \$72,709 to upgrade the Community Room, bathrooms, and kitchen to Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, improving safety, reducing energy use, and increasing access.

“This funding supports upgrades that enhance comfort, accessibility, and functionality while preserving the welcoming atmosphere our patrons value and reinforcing the library’s role as a vital community resource for reading, learning, and connection,” said Patterson Library Director Stephanie Harrison.

Putnam Valley Library Director Amina Chaudhri said the Community Room is the true heart of the library.

“From our local scouts and Mahjong players to our widows group, this space serves everyone, yet it has remained untouched for decades,” she said. “We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to finally bring it into the modern era. Our planned upgrades include a new ADA-compliant exterior door, an efficient closet system, updated electrical and LED lighting, spray foam insulation, fresh paint, and new flooring.”

“Libraries give our communities so much, whether it’s resources for learning, technology, or just a place to come together,” added Assemblyman Matt Slater, R-Yorktown, who advocated for the funding. “If we want them to keep playing that role, we have to invest in them, modernize their spaces, and make sure they’re ready to serve the next generation.”

Slater, who previously served as ranking minority member of the Libraries Committee, added that the need for library upgrades across New York is enormous, with many buildings more than a century old and struggling to meet modern demands.

“Many facilities lack accessibility for people with disabilities, have outdated electrical wiring, and can’t adequately support today’s modern technology or community programming,” he said. “I’m grateful our local libraries are receiving this funding to make the upgrades they need.”

Nutrition Corner

By Allison J. Stowell
MS, RD, CDN



New Year Self-Care

With the new year approaching, it’s a great opportunity to prioritize self-care. Here are some simple tips for starting 2026 focused on personal wellness.

Exercise: Find at least 20 minutes daily for exercise. While more would be better, even 20 minutes reminds you to stay on track with fitness. Vary it day to day to hit different muscle groups. Look online or YouTube for free classes, or consider a fitness app.

Breath or meditate: You may just have five minutes. But if you use it to sit, breathe, and regroup it will have a positive impact on your day.

Maintain a regular sleep schedule: This is critical for keeping up with the daily tasks and stress of life. Get in the habit of prepping veggies: Set a goal to have vegetables with at least two meals every day. Visit Hannaford.com for many crowd-pleasing ideas.

Moderate your alcohol intake: Mocktails and non-alcoholic beverages are more popular than ever. Let this trend guide you toward less alcohol consumption. Consider engaging in Dry January to shift your relationship with alcohol.

Simple meals: Ensure that a balanced meal is minutes away with easy recipes and smart shopping that includes more “better-for-you” convenience items that help you quickly build nutritious plates. Develop a plan/shop/prep plan that makes sense for your household.

Say “no”: Sometimes the best thing you can do for yourself is say “no”. Try to balance your commitments with time to restore yourself.

Make time for better balance: Engage in activities that encourage you to slow down and focus on gratitude to create better balance. Donate your time or needed items to local non-profit organizations. Clear clutter. Read more. Spend less time scrolling on your phone. Begin journaling.

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

Baked Salmon with Beet and Watercress Mash
Hannaford.com
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes

Delicious and nutritious! Salmon is full of Omega-3 fatty acids and the beets and watercress are rich in antioxidants.

Ingredients:
2 lbs baking potatoes
1 (15 oz) canned no-salt-added sliced beets
1 large red onion
2 cloves garlic
1 bunch watercress
3 tbsp vegetable oil
12 oz salmon fillets
1 (6 oz) container plain yogurt, room temperature

Directions:
Peel the potatoes and cut into quarters. Bring a pot of salted water to the boil and cook potatoes for 20 min., or until tender. Drain beets in a colander. While potatoes are cooking, halve the onion and slice. Coarsely chop the garlic and watercress.

Heat 2 tbsp oil in a skillet over medium low heat and sauté the onion and garlic for 10 min., stirring frequently. Set aside and wipe out the skillet with a paper towel.

Pat the salmon dry. Brush with the remaining oil and sprinkle with pepper and salt. Heat the skillet (do not add oil or butter) over medium heat and sauté the salmon 4 min. per side, or until it is just done.

Drain the potatoes, put back in the pan, add the yogurt and coarsely mash with potato masher. Mix in the drained beets, onion, garlic and watercress and season with pepper and salt. Divide salmon and mash among 4 plates and serve.

Easy Beef Bulgogi Rice Bowl

(Family Features)
Easy Beef Bulgogi Rice Bowl

Ingredients:
1/4 cup soy sauce
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 tablespoon sesame oil
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 pound beef sirloin, thinly sliced
1 bag (14 ounces) Success Jasmine Rice
1/4 cup carrots, julienned
1/4 cup cucumbers, julienned
1/4 cup onions, chopped
2 green onions, chopped
1 tablespoon sesame seeds

Directions:
In bowl, combine soy sauce, brown sugar, sesame oil and garlic. Add beef and mix well. Refrigerate marinated beef at least 30 minutes, or overnight.



Prepare rice according to package directions.
Heat skillet over medium-high heat. Cook beef 7 minutes, stirring often, until cooked through and caramelized. In last 3 minutes, add carrots, cucumbers and onions.
Divide rice between bowls. Top with beef bulgogi. Garnish with green onions and sesame seeds.

Servings: 2-4
Source: Success Rice

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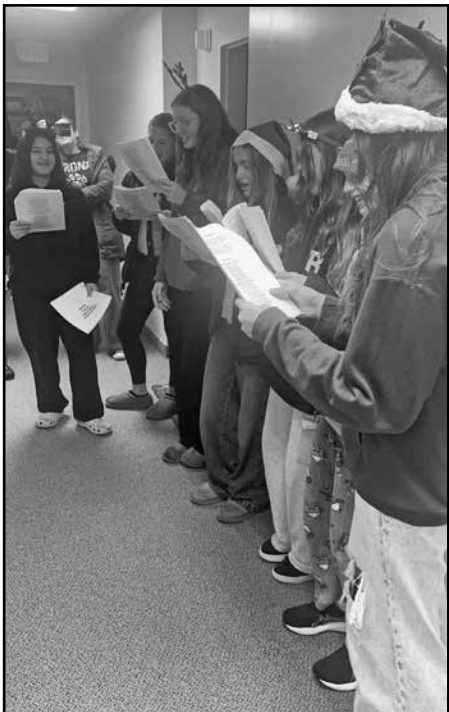
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Brewster Girl Scouts Mingle with Hughson Commons Residents



Brewster Girl Scouts from Troops 1063 and 1805 stopped by Hughson Commons in Carmel on Dec. 19 to spread some holiday cheer. Monica Lueck, center, joined the troops in singing, while wearing in her Girl Scouts uniform from her days as a troop member in Throgs Neck.

Two Brewster Girl Scouts troops braved the stormy weather Dec.19 to join the residents of Hughson Commons in Carmel for a holiday celebration. Members from Troops 1063 and 1805 were invited to sing carols, enjoy snacks, and mingle with the residents throughout the complex.

The residents, in turn, pro-

vided homemade snacks, hand-made bracelets, gift bags for the young ladies, and warm conversations.

“This is our second year doing this, and the girls absolutely love it,” said troop leader Jen Galluzzo. “They enjoy the stories and cherish the differences between the various gen-

erations.”

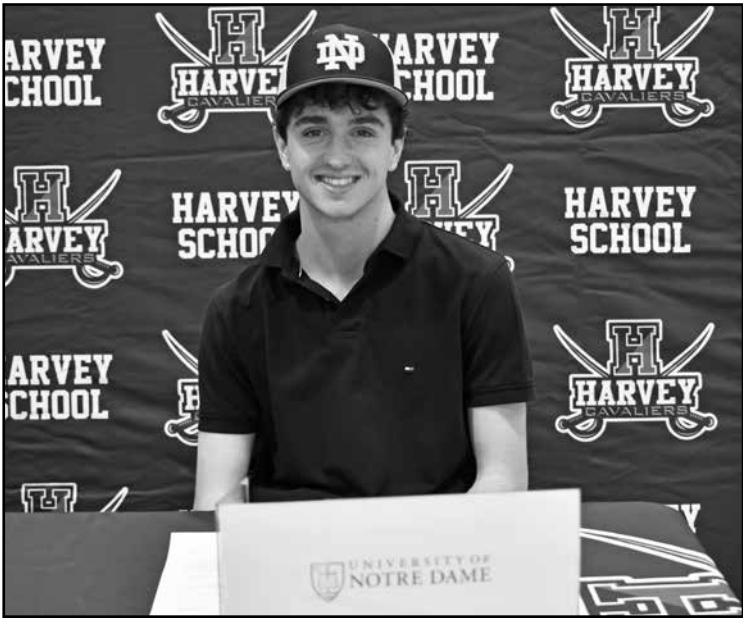
Monica Lueck joined the troops in singing, while wearing in her Girl Scouts uniform from her days as a troop member in Throgs Neck.

“I still remember my scout leader, Madeline Rowan,” she said. “I just loved Girl Scouts. This is amazing to do this for us.”

We Will Miss

- Brewster**
Felix Roman Jr., 81, December 18. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.
Joseph N. Prezzano, 87, December 22. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.
Lindsey Marie Ragan, 29, December 24. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.
Meryl DiDio (Scheiner), 71, December 24. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.
- Carmel**
Maria Teresa Kelly, 69, December 14. Cargain Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-3672.
Michael A. McCarthy, 74, December 18. Cargain Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-3672.
James Peter Freeman, 86, December 19. Cargain Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-3672.
Virginia M. Walsh, 99, December 21. Cargain Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-3672.
Robert “Bob” McGuigan, 93, December 23. Cargain Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-3672.
- Cold Spring**
Ronald Philip Mazzuca, 89, December 22. Clinton Inc Funeral Homes, Cold Spring, (845) 265-3333.
- Lake Peekskill**
Ellen T. Bardes, 90, December 25. Heritage Funeral Home, Putnam Valley, (845) 526-3000.
- Mahopac**
Jean Anne Frumkin, 93, December 22. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

- Ida Angela Kretzschmar**, 86, December 24. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.
- Nelsonville**
James F. Myatt, 100, December 18. Clinton Inc Funeral
- Homes, Cold Spring, (845) 265-3333.
- Patterson**
David P. Leibnitz, 67, December 19. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.



Patrick Cuneo. Photo courtesy of The Harvey School.

Patterson Teen to Play Soccer at Notre Dame

Harvey School senior Patrick Cuneo of Patterson was one of the Katonah prep school’s three student-athletes acknowledged recently for having signed letters of commitment to the colleges of their choice.

Cuneo, a highly touted player, has committed to attending Notre Dame University and will play division one soccer for the Fighting Irish, who compete in the Atlantic Coast Conference and make regular appearances in the NCAA Tournament.

Cuneo displayed top-level skills from the start of his Harvey soccer career. As a freshman in 2022, he led the team in goals with 25 and was a Housatonic Valley Athletic League All-League selection. In his sophomore year, Cuneo led the team in scoring once again with 34 goals, establishing a new

school record.

He earned his second HVAL All-League selection and received All-NEPSAC recognition from the New England Prep School Athletic Council. Cuneo was also chosen as a Western New England Prep School Soccer Association All-Star.

For the past two years he has played forward for the highly competitive New York City Football Club.

Coach Alex Morse said Cuneo’s arrival four years ago helped usher in a “Golden Age” for soccer at the school.

“Despite playing for NY-CFC at the highest level, Patrick remained loyal to our program, helping us capture two league titles and gain three berths in the New England Prep School Council’s championship tournament,” said Morse.

PUBLIC NOTICE						
VEOLIA WATER NEW YORK, INC. - NEW YORK RATE DISTRICT - FOREST PARK SYSTEM						
Pursuant to an Order of the Public Service Commission of the State of New York, issued on May 16, 2024 in Case 23-W-0111, Veolia Water New York Inc., has been granted an increase in rates for water service in the "levelized" amount of \$9.9 million or 6.7%, effective February 1, 2026.						
The old and new rates are set forth below:						
	Old Rates	New Rates		Old Rates	New Rates	
SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL			SERVICE/FACILITY CHARGE			
			Meter size per month (Single & Non-Residential)			
Quantity Used in the Month			5/8"	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.00	
	(Per Hundred Cubic Feet (ccf))		3/4"	\$ 21.45	\$ 21.45	
First 5 ccf	\$ 6.2517	\$ 6.8049	1"	\$ 30.11	\$ 30.11	
Next 7 ccf	\$ 8.2593	\$ 8.9902	1 1/2"	\$ 43.03	\$ 43.03	
Over 12 ccf	\$ 13.0780	\$ 14.2354	2"	\$ 68.74	\$ 68.74	
Cost of Water (all usage)	\$ 1.8975	\$ 1.8975	3"	\$ 128.96	\$ 128.96	
			4"	\$ 214.88	\$ 214.88	
	(Per Thousand Gallons (mgl))		6"	\$ 429.63	\$ 429.63	
First 3.74 mgl	\$ 8.3578	\$ 9.0975	8"	\$ 687.40	\$ 687.40	
Next 5.24 mgl	\$ 11.0418	\$ 12.0190				
Over 8.98 mgl	\$ 17.4840	\$ 19.0313				
Cost of Water (all usage)	\$ 2.5368	\$ 2.5368				
			NOTE: The rates and charges for service under the above service classifications will be increased or decreased by surcharges as provided for elsewhere in the Company's tariff.			
NON-RESIDENTIAL						
Quantity Used in the Month			The following is a comparison of current and proposed monthly bills for single family residential customers at various levels of consumption using a 5/8" meter.			
	(Per Hundred Cubic Feet (ccf))		MONTHLY WATER CONSUMPTION			
First 900 ccf	\$ 6.9184	\$ 7.8290		4 ccf	9 ccf	15 ccf
Over 900 ccf	\$ 8.9189	\$ 10.0929		(2,992 gals)	(6,732 gals)	(11,220 gals)
Cost of Water (all usage)	\$ 1.8975	\$ 1.8975				
	(Per Thousand Gallons (mgl))		Monthly			
First 673.2 mgl	\$ 9.2492	\$ 10.4666	Old	\$ 49.60	\$ 98.37	\$ 173.77
Over 673.2 mgl	\$ 11.9237	\$ 13.4931	New	\$ 51.81	\$ 104.06	\$ 185.12
Cost of Water (all usage)	\$ 2.5368	\$ 2.5368		4.5%	5.8%	6.5%
			Annual			
Flat Rate Customers			Old	\$ 595.16	\$ 1,180.47	\$ 2,085.24
Service Charge			New	\$ 621.72	\$ 1,248.75	\$ 2,221.49
per Month	\$ 137.3013	\$ 137.3013		4.5%	5.8%	6.5%

New & Returning Lawmakers Take Oaths



The 2026 Carmel Town Board includes, from left, Robert Schanil, Frank Lombardi, Michael Lugo, and Robert Kearns.

Below: Republican Carmel Town Councilman Robert Schanil is administered the oath of office, marking his return to the board.



Putnam County Legislator Erin Crowley, R-Mahopac, who represents District Nine, is sworn in by Alana Sweeney in the Historic Courthouse in Carmel.



Elected officials in Patterson were sworn in last week, including new Councilwomen Gwen Dougherty and Stacy Dumont, Justices Robert Leader and Michael Caruso, and Receiver of Taxes Mary Delanoy.



Republican Carmel Town Councilman Mike Lugo takes the oath of office.



New Democratic Putnam Valley Town Supervisor Alison Jolicoeur took her seat on the town board last week.

Encaustic Art on Display at Kent Public Library



“Bundle of Hope.”

An exhibit titled “River” by Christine Rice is now on display at the Kent Public Library, and will remain on view through Jan. 31.

“In my studio, my go-to tools are a large griddle, a 16-inch hot plate, a heat gun, a torch, an iron, and a plug-in tool with various heated tips, along with natural bristle brushes,” said Rice.

The artist specializes in encaustic painting, also known as hot wax painting. “With a hard-wooden board that’s been gessoed, sanded, and heated, I can begin to paint, fusing each layer of wax with a torch as I go,” she explained.

Rice said the beauty of encaustic painting is its luminosity, transparency, and versatility.

“One can make a painting, create perfect archival reproductions using photo transfers that are literally floating between layers of wax, print etchings, carve sculptures, and – using rice



Work by Christine Rice is on display at Kent Public Library throughout the month.

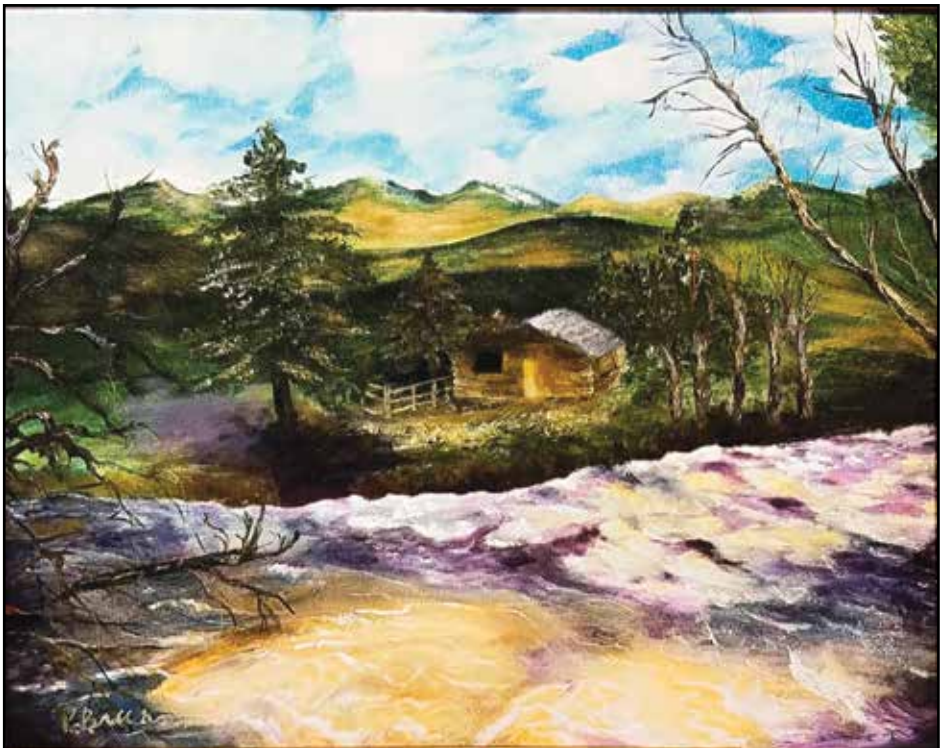
paper soaked with wax – fashion lamp shades for battery-powered lights,” she said. “The possibilities are endless.”

For more information about the artist, follow her on Instagram at Christine_oma_rice.

View Trio Exhibit by Mahopac Artists



“Farm Scene” by Monica Craig.



“Cabin” by Pauline Bruno.



“Flowers” by JoJo Maxwell.



“Darth Blader” is unveiled.

Putnam Students Name County Snowplows

Four snowplows that are part of the Putnam County Department of Public Works fleet were recently named by schoolchildren, as part of a contest that was suggested by Crew Chief Craig Moran.

The plows, weighing several tons, and winter sand trucks were recently lettered with the winning names and unveiled to the public. Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne and DPW Commissioner Thomas Feighery visited Putnam Valley Elementary School, Lakeview Elementary School, Fulmar Road Elementary School, and John F. Kennedy Elementary School on Dec. 18 to showcase the winning names.

The top vote-getters were “Mr. 67,” “Frosty,” “White Tiger,” and “Darth Blader.”

The naming contest was also an opportunity to educate schoolchildren about snowplow and road safety in low-visibility and other potentially hazardous conditions, with reminders such as “Don’t crowd the plow.”

With more winter weather expected, county residents can expect to see the newly christened vehicles on roadways soon as part of Putnam’s 74-vehicle-strong fleet.

Watercolor and oil paintings by three Mahopac artists will be on display in the Third Floor Gallery at Mahopac Public Library from Jan. 9 through 30.

An opening reception is scheduled Saturday, Jan. 10 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and no registration is required.

Pauline Bruno is a graduate of the High School of Industrial Art in New York City where she studied fashion design and illustration. She was married for 58 years to NYC police officer Frank Bruno, and is a mother of eight children.

Bruno paints primarily in watercolors and acrylics in an impressionistic style. In addition to painting, she sings in several local groups and has appeared in Yorktown Stage productions.

Monica Craig lives in Mahopac with her husband, Steve. She was born in Bolivia, came to America in 1979, and continues to be a world traveler. Criag was a teacher in Bolivia and holds a degree in respiratory therapy. Painting in watercolors began as a hobby and ultimately developed into a full-time passion.

In addition to painting, Craig has illustrated children’s and adult books.

JoJo Maxwell is a long-time Mahopac resident who is a self-taught artist with experience in oils and fabric painting. However, watercolor has grown to become her favorite medium over the past 15 years.

Maxwell is a member of Putnam Arts Council and has displayed her paintings throughout the area including in previous years at Mahopac Public Library.

The Trio Art Exhibition will feature 15 selected works from each artist with a variety of landscapes, still-life, figure, and wild-life paintings. Many pieces are available for purchase.

For more information, visit mahopaclibrary.org/art-galleries and Instagram @mplartgallery.

A logo for the Center for Physical Therapy, featuring a stylized figure in a blue circle.

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CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY

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Fax us: (845) 200-7354

A circular portrait of Tyler Shaffer, a man with short brown hair.

www.centerforphysicaltherapy.com

Raquel DiVincenzo, DPT – Tyler Shaffer, DPT

Putnam County Community Events

History Contest
To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, Putnam History Museum has brought back the Jean Saunders History Contest, open to all seventh grade students in Putnam County who can try their hand at researching and making a new creative project based on a Revolutionary War topic of their choosing. Projects are due Friday, Feb. 6. For details, visit www.putnamhistorymuseum.org/saunders.

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.

ZBA Vacancy
The Town of Kent is accepting resumes for the Kent Zoning Board of Appeals. Interested individuals should submit a resume and letter of interest to Kent Town Clerk Yolanda Capelli at 25, Sybil’s Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY 10512; or lcappelli@townofkentny.org.

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.

Wednesday, Jan. 7
Library Meetings
Reed Memorial Library’s Board of Trustees will meet Jan. 7, Feb. 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, and Dec. 2, in Carmel

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 Ma-

hopac 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
Library Closures
Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will be closed Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 14 and 15, for essential building maintenance. The Library will also be closed Monday Jan. 19, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Digital resources are available 24/7 at www.carmellibrary.org.

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

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 understand 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
Ally Sheedy Visit
Acclaimed actress and author Ally Sheedy will lead a creative writing workshop for young authors at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison on Saturday, Jan. 17 at 2 p.m. Sheedy will be interviewed by screenwriter Emily Lansbury about her early writing journey, then lead participants in a mini-workshop where children will craft a short piece of historical fiction. Free. Register at desmondfishlibrary.org/event/ally-sheedy.

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.

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.

1st Rhode Island Regiment
The First Rhode Island Regiment, a multiracial force that fought bravely in key battles during the American Revolution, is the subject of a talk by Dr. Aaron Mair at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison, on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, Jan. 19 at 1 p.m. Mair, the first black president of the Sierra Club and more recently director of the “Forever Adirondacks” policy initiative of the Adirondacks Council, is known as a fighter for environmental justice. Register for the program at <https://desmondfishlibrary.org/event/mlk-26>.

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.

Friday, Jan. 23
Documentary Screening
Cold Spring filmmaker Ivy Meeropol’s critically acclaimed new film “Ask E. Jean” will be screened at the Philipstown Depot Theater in Garrison on Friday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m., and on future dates. Carroll broke barriers as the first female editor at Esquire, Playboy, and Outside, helping to redefine women’s roles in media with her sharp wit and fearless voice. For information, contact philipstowndepottheatre.ticketspice.com/ddaskejean or 845-424-3900.

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.

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Southeast SOUTHEAST TOWN BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Southeast shall hold a Public Hearing on January 22, 2026 at the Town Hall, 1360 Route 22, Brewster, NY, at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as interested parties may be heard, pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law to consider a proposed local law which, if adopted, would amend Chapter 54 (Building Construction and Fire Prevention), Section 54-7 to provide that fees for uses and/or occupancies set forth is Section 54-7 shall be in accordance with the fee schedule adopted by the Town as the same may be revised from time to time by properly adopted resolution of the Town Board. Copies of the proposed Local Law can be obtained from the Town Clerk at Town Hall during normal business hours. Anyone who has an interest in the foregoing matter will be given an opportunity to be heard at this time.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
Hon. Kathleen Chiudina,
Town Clerk

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PUBLIC NOTICE

2026 PUBLIC NOTICE TAX ROLL & WARRANT LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF SOUTHEAST NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF TAX ROLL AND WARRANT

TAKE NOTICE that I, AnnMarie Milano, the Receiver of Taxes for the Town of Southeast, County of Putnam, State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Southeast for the year 2026 and that I will be in attendance at the Town Hall, 1360 Route 22, Brewster, New York from December 31, 2025; 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays, for the purpose of receiving taxes listed on said roll.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the taxes may be paid on or before

January 31, 2026, without charge or interest. On all taxes received after that date, there shall be an added interest of one percent for each additional month or fraction thereof, thereafter, until such taxes are paid or until return of unpaid taxes to the Commissioner of Finance, pursuant to law.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that

\$2.00 shall be charged against each parcel if taxes remain unpaid, and a second notice is mailed, pursuant to law.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that pursuant to the provisions of law, the Tax Roll of the Town of Southeast will be returned to the Commissioner of Finance of the County of Putnam on the first day of April 2026.

Dated: December 22, 2025

AnnMarie Milano
Receiver of Taxes
Town of Southeast
County of Putnam
State of New York

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Brewster LEGAL NOTICE VILLAGE OF BREWSTER PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Village of Brewster Planning Board will hold a public

PUBLIC NOTICE

hearing pursuant to Village Law Section 7-712-a(7) and Village of Brewster Code Section 263-26(F) to hear the following application: a lot line adjustment for 559 North Main Street, Tax Map ID 56.19-2-6, which is owned by the applicant and will directly impact 531 North Main Street, Tax Map ID 56.82-1-1, which is owned by the Village of Brewster. This adjustment will create a more uniform line between the properties and allow for proper leasing agreements for the facilities on the properties. The Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 7:30 P.M. at Village Hall at 50 Main Street, Brewster, NY 10509; all interested persons shall be heard on the subject thereof. The Planning Board will make every effort to ensure that the Public Hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Anyone requiring special assistance and/or reasonable accommodations should contact the Village Clerk. Anyone wishing to speak may do so.

By Order of the
Planning Board of the
Village of Brewster
Michelle Diebold
Village Clerk

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Kent Legal Notice Town of Kent Notice of the Receipt and Tax Warrant

TAKE NOTICE, that the Receiver of Taxes for the Town of Kent, County of Putnam, State of New York, has duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Kent for the year 2026; and I will be in attendance at the Kent Town Center located at 25 Sybil's Crossing in the said Town of Kent Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., except holidays for the purpose of receiving taxes listed on the said roll.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that taxes may be paid on or before January 31, 2026 without charges or interest. All taxes received after that date shall have an added interest of one percent (1%) for the first month and an added one percent (1%) for each additional month or fraction thereof, thereafter until such taxes are paid or until return of unpaid taxes to the Commissioner of Finance pursuant to law. The expense of mailing any notice of unpaid taxes shall be an additional penalty of two dollars (\$2.00) chargeable against the parcels for which taxes have not been paid.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that pursuant to the provisions of law, the Tax Roll of the Town of Kent will be returned to the Commissioner of Finance of the County of Putnam on the first day of April, 2026.

DATED: December 30, 2025

Stephanie Nix
Receiver of Taxes
Town of Kent
County of Putnam
State of New York

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PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BY THE KENT PLANNING BOARD FOR THE KIBBUTZ CARMEL LLC 137 COLE SHEARS COURT

PUBLIC NOTICE

KENT, NY 10512 TM: 32.-1-26 (CONTINUATION)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing pertaining to the property noted above was held before the Town of Kent Planning Board on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 7:30 P.M. at the Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent, NY 10512. This Public Hearing was adjourned at that time and will be continued on January 8, 2026 or as soon thereafter as the matter may come to be heard.

This Public Hearing pertains to an application from:

Kibbutz Carmel LLC
137 Cole Shears Court
Kent, NY 10512
Tax Map: 32.-1-26

For a Town of Kent Steep Slope, Erosion Control Permit and a Freshwater Wetlands Permit. This application proposes the demolition of the two existing residential buildings, garage and driveway with the construction of a new residential building, SSTS, well, stormwater management areas and mitigation areas in an R-80 zoning district. Total acreage involved in this application is 85.95 +/- acres.

At this hearing, all persons speaking in favor of or in opposition shall be heard. If there are any questions or comments pertaining to this project, please send them to: planningkent@townofkentny.gov. The telephone number for the Kent Planning Board is: 845-306-5612.

Date: D e -
cember 29, 2025

By order of:
Vera Patterson, Secretary for
The Town of Kent Planning
Board
County of Putnam
planningkent@townofkentny.gov

Kent Planning Board Public
Hearing Notice
December 11, 2025 through
01/08/26

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Carmel Date: 12/22/25 TAX MAP #53.-1-59.-53

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A WETLAND PERMIT

Pursuant to the Town of Carmel Wetland Ordinance, Chapter 89-5.

Applicant: **Lake Ossi Sports Club – Attn: Jim Mills**

Address: **35 Ossi Lane, Mahopac, NY 10541**

Has filed an application with the Clerk of the Town of Carmel where the application and associated documents and maps along with published rules and regulations are available for public inspection.

The applicant requests that a permit be issued to:

Manage the overabundance of floating aquatic and emergent plant species utilizing hydroraking methodology.

The property is located: **35 Ossi Lane, Mahopac, NY 10541**

Situated within the periphery of a freshwater wetland and the “adjacent areas”. (100 feet of the wetlands associated with) **Lake**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ossi.

In the Town of Carmel, Putnam County, New York.

Any person interested in this application who wishes to become a “party in interest” in this proceeding must file a statement of the precise grounds of support of, or opposition to, or interest in the application, with the undersigned no later than **Wednesday, January 14, 2026**.

Any party of interest will be eligible to be heard if a public hearing is ultimately held in connection with application.

Robert Laga

Chairman, Environmental Conservation Board

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Putnam

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the County Executive of the County of Putnam at **Room #102** of the County Office Building, 40 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, New York 10512 on the **15th day of January, 2026 at 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.** concerning:

APPROVAL/ RE-ADoption LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 25, ARTICLE VI, ENTITLED “TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL” (Rescinded Reso#377 of 2025)

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 25, ARTICLE VI, ENTITLED “TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL”

Section 25-40, Membership and term to be amended to provide updated guidelines regarding the eligibility of the members of the Transportation Advisory Council. Additionally, Section 25-42 has been amended to provide specificity to the powers and duties of the Council.

Copies of the Local Law are available at the Office of the Putnam County Legislature, Room 318, 40 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, New York 10512.

At the aforesaid time and place all persons interested in the subject matter thereof will be heard concerning same. Comments will also be accepted via regular mail submitted to the above referenced address, to send an email: Please go to the following website and click “**Send us a message**” countyexecutive@putnamcountyny.gov, and facsimile to (845) 808-1901.

This local law shall take effect immediately.

Dated: January 2, 2026
Carmel, New York
C. Compton Spain
Putnam County Attorney

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the County Executive of the County of Putnam at **Room #102** of the County Office Building, 40 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, New York 10512 on the **15th day of January, 2026 at 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.** concerning:

Amending the Code of the County of Putnam, as approved and re-adopted by the Putnam County Legislature by resolution #388, by amending Chapter 2, adding section 11, “Counsel to the Majority of the County Legislature and Counsel to the Minority of the County Legislature.” (Rescinded resolution #379 of 2025)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Section 2.11 establishes the positions of Counsel to the Majority of the County Legislature and Counsel to the Minority of the County Legislature in order to protect the system of checks and balances inherent in the separation of powers of each branch of the government, thereby protecting individual liberties and preventing one branch of government from having supremacy over another.

Copies of the Local Law are available at the Office of the Putnam County Legislature, Room 318, 40 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, New York 10512.

At the aforesaid time and place all persons interested in the subject matter thereof will be heard concerning same. Comments will also be accepted via regular mail submitted to the above referenced address, to send an email: Please go to the following website and click “**Send us a message**” countyexecutive@putnamcountyny.gov, and facsimile to (845) 808-1901.

Pursuant to Section 34(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, this Local Law shall take effect sixty (60) days after its final enactment and is subject to permissive referendum.

Dated: January 2, 2026
Carmel, New York
C. Compton Spain
Putnam County Attorney

P.1/7 - 64

PUBLIC NOTICE

DEC

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Notice of Complete Application
Date: 12/18/2025

Applicant: KIRK LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION INC. PO BOX 191 MAHOPAC FALLS, NY 10542-0191

Facility: KIRK LAKE Btw W Lake Blvd & Hill St Mahopac, NY 10541

Application ID: 3-3720-00402/00005

Permits(s) Applied for: 1 - Article 15 Title 5 Excavation & Fill in Navigable Waters 1 - Article 24 Freshwater Wetlands Project is located: in CARMEL in PUTNAM COUNTY

Project Description: The project sponsor proposes to disturb NYS Freshwater Wetlands and state regulated 100 foot adjacent areas associated with Kirk Lake in order to place, and eventually remove, tubes of biochar generally referred to as “socks”. Biochar is designed to absorb nutrients from the water column which could inhibit excessive plant and algae growth in the lake. The socks would be hung from the docks of lakeside residents on a voluntary basis. This activity also requires an Article 15 Protection of Waters Permit. Availability of Application Documents: Filed application documents, and Department draft permits where applicable, are available for inspection during normal business hours at the address of the contact person. To ensure timely service at the time of inspection, it is recommended that an appointment be made with the contact person via email to mike.grosso@dec.ny.gov State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Determination Project is an Unlisted Action and will not have a significant impact on the environment. A Negative Declaration is on file. A coordinated review was not performed. SEQR Lead Agency None Designated State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA) Determination The proposed activity is not subject to review in accordance with SHPA. The application type is exempt and/or the project involves the continuation of an existing operational activity. DEC Commis-

View E. Jean Carroll Documentary in Philipstown

Cold Spring filmmaker Ivy Meeropol’s critically acclaimed new film “Ask E. Jean” will be screened at the Philipstown Depot Theater in Garrison on Saturday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m., and on future dates.

“Ask E. Jean” is the adventurous life story of E. Jean Carroll from her early days as Miss Cheerleader USA to her rise as a

trailblazing journalist, author, and beloved advice columnist.

Carroll broke barriers as the first female editor at Esquire, Playboy, and Outside, helping to redefine women’s roles in media with her sharp wit and fearless voice. In recent years, she reignited public discourse when she defeated Donald Trump twice in court – the only woman to do so

– and sparked a national conversation about accountability and resilience.

According to local co-producer Emily Lansbury, “This film is a portrait of an indomitable woman who proved it’s never too late to reclaim your voice, rewrite your story, and change the world.”

Director and producer Meeropol is another indomitable woman,

whose work has been nominated for multiple Emmys. Her debut film “Heir to An Execution” (HBO) explored the legacy of her grandparents Ethel and Julius Rosenberg. It premiered at Sundance and was shortlisted for an Academy Award. Her HBO documentary “Roy Cohn: Bully, Coward, Victim” was nominated for an Emmy for outstanding his-

torical documentary.

Meeropol has also written and filmed extensive work for television, focussing on stories of truth and justice.

The Depot Theater plans to add additional screenings of the film. For more information, visit philipstowndepottheatre.ticketspice.com/ddaskejean or call 845-424-3900.

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE
<p>sioner Policy 29, Environmental Justice and Permitting (CP-29) It has been determined that the proposed action is not subject to CP-29.</p> <p>Availability For Public Comment Comments on this project must be submitted in writing to the Contact Person no later than 01/08/2026 or 15 days after the publication date of this notice, whichever is later. Contact Person MICHAEL V GROSSO NYS-DEC 21 S Putt Corners Rd New Paltz, NY 12561 (845) 256-3165 mike.grosso@dec.ny.gov</p> <p>P.1/7 - 83</p>	<p>signed 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 3:30 p.m., premises known as 832 Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10524. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Philipstown, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 71, Block 1 and Lot 46.2. Approximate amount of judgment is \$321,518.96 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 501857/2024.</p> <p>Brooke D. Youngwirth, Esq., Referee</p> <p>Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.:190451-4</p> <p>P. 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14 - 50</p>	<p>Plaintiff,</p> <p>Against</p> <p>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, lienors, 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 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</p> <p>Defendant(s)</p> <p>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:</p> <p>ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, 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.</p> <p>Section 46 Block 2 Lot 27.1404</p> <p>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</p> <p>Kenneth Lyle Bunting, Esq., Referee.</p> <p>MCCABE, WEISBERG & CONWAY, LLC, 10 Midland Avenue, Suite 205, Port Chester, NY 10573</p> <p>Dated: 12/3/2025 File Number: 17-300401 CA</p> <p>P. 12/31, 1/7, 1/14, 1/21 - 92</p>	<p>KATHLEEN SANTIAGO, ET AL., Defendant(s).</p> <p>Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on November 21, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Courthouse , 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on February 9, 2026 at 9:30 a.m., premises known as 1404 Eagles Ridge Road, Brewster, NY 10509. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Southeast, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 56.14, Block 3 and Lot 50-.1404 together with an undivided 2.4721 percent interest in the Common Elements. Approximate amount of judgment is \$265,395.31 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 500851/2024.</p> <p>Paul C. Brite, Esq, Referee</p> <p>Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.:231623-3</p> <p>P. 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28 - 56</p>	<p>talis Communications, LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 10/02/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Vitalis Communications, LLC, 5 Hildacar Lane, Carmel, NY 10512. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.</p> <p>P. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14</p> <p>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, Albany, NY 12210, CCS Global Solutions, Inc. Purpose: any lawful activities.</p> <p>P. 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28</p> <p>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> <p>P. 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Putnam County Press & Times LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/15/25 Office loc: Putnam County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 250 Old Stone Road, Garrison, NY 10524. Purpose: any lawful act.</p> <p>P. 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Clockwork Electric LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 12/19/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Maciej Gasior, 80 Nardin Road, Lake Peekskill, NY 10537. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.</p> <p>P. 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Freedom Trailer Rentals LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 8/20/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: United States Corporation Inc, 7014 13th Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.</p> <p>P. 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11</p>
PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE
<p>Supreme Court</p> <p>NOTICE OF SALE</p> <p>SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FREDDIE MAC SEASONED CREDIT RISK TRANSFER TRUST, SERIES 2020-1, Plaintiff, vs. KEITH J. SPOSATO, ET AL., Defendant(s).</p> <p>Pursuant to an Order Amending Caption, Confirming Referee’s Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on November 3, 2025, 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 11:30 a.m., premises known as 7 Hazel Drive, Patterson, NY 12563. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Patterson, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 25.78, Block 1 and Lot 20. Approximate amount of judgment is \$427,358.20 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 501186/2023. Cash will not be accepted.</p> <p>Wendy M. Weathers, Esq., Referee</p> <p>Knuckles & Manfro, LLP, 120 White Plains Road, Suite 215, Tarrytown, New York 10591, Attorneys for Plaintiff</p> <p>P. 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14 - 54</p>	<p>NOTICE OF SALE</p> <p>SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, U.S. BANK TRUST, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF THE BUNGALOW SERIES IV TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. LINDA M. COOPER, ET AL., Defendant(s).</p> <p>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, situate, lying and being in the Town of Carmel, 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 # 501476/2022.</p> <p>Maureen Fleming, Esq., Referee</p> <p>Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.: 222812-1</p> <p>P. 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14 - 49</p>	<p>NOTICE OF SALE</p> <p>SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF THE TRUMAN 2021 SC9 TITLE TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE ESTATE OF KATHLEEN DUKE SANTIAGO A/K/A</p>	<p>LLC</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Movement Growth & Development LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 7/12/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Movement Growth & Development LLC, 6 Poplar Street, Lake Peekskill, NY, 10537. Purpose: Movement Growth & Development LLC provides individualized and small-group training sessions focused on sport-specific skill and fine and gross motor development for children of all ages and abilities.</p> <p>P. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14</p>	<p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Qualification of KINGFISHER PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC</p> <p>Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/26/25. Office location: Putnam County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 07/31/25. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 1 Rockefeller Plaza, Rm. 2500, NY, NY 10020. DE addr. of LLC: c/o Corporation Service Co., 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Charuni Patibanda-Sanchez, Secy. of State of the State of DE, 401 Federal St., Ste. 3, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.</p> <p>P. 12/10, 12/17, 12/24, 12/31, 1/7, 1/14</p> <p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Vi-</p>
NOTICE OF SALE	PUBLIC NOTICE	NOTICE OF SALE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE
<p>SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, WILMINGTON TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF MFRA TRUST 2014 2, Plaintiff, vs. TIMD’ACQUISTO, ETAL., Defendant(s).</p> <p>Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on October 29, 2025, I, the under-</p>	<p>NOTICE OF SALE</p> <p>SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF PUTNAM</p> <p>DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR FREMONT HOME LOAN TRUST 2004-4, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-4</p>	<p>SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF THE TRUMAN 2021 SC9 TITLE TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE ESTATE OF KATHLEEN DUKE SANTIAGO A/K/A</p>	<p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Vi-</p>	<p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Notice of Formation of Vi-</p>

Candidates Stepping Up For County & Town Offices

Continued from Page 1

Mahopac School Board Trustee Tanner McCracken has also announced his candidacy for the seat, stating, “I’m a lifelong conservative Republican and a proven fighter for lower property taxes, real government transparency, affordability, and strong financial policies.”

In District Two, Republican Putnam Valley Town Councilman Christian Russo has announced his run for the County Legislature seat that Bill Gouldman will be vacating due to term limits.

Russo said he has fought for balanced budgets under the tax cap, helped secure more than \$7 million in grants, played a key role in creating the town’s short-term rental law to improve safety and generate new revenue, and advocated for shared sales tax to bring money back to Putnam Valley.

“It’s been an honor serving as your deputy town supervisor



Carmel Town Councilman Robert Kearns is running for town supervisor.

in Putnam Valley, and I’m ready to bring that same focus on fiscal responsibility, property tax relief, public safety, and keeping our community affordable to the county level,” he said. “If I’m fortunate enough to be elected, I will continue fighting for taxpayers as your next county legislator, delivering value for every tax dollar and always putting residents first.”

Russo has operated Family Chiropractic and Injury since 2011. He was first elected to the Putnam Valley Town Board in 2021 and was re-elected this past November,



Mahopac School Board Trustee Tanner McCracken is running for Putnam County Legislature, District Eight.

currently serving as deputy town supervisor. He also serves on the board of the Putnam County Housing Corporation and is treasurer of the Putnam County Republican Party.

No other candidates have publicly announced campaigns for district two.

Over in Carmel, Republican Town Councilman Robert Kearns has announced his run for town supervisor.

“Carmel needs proactive leadership, not reactionary government,” he said. “I believe in



Carmel Town Councilman Frank Lombardi is running for Putnam County Legislature, District Eight.

planning ahead, asking tough questions, and delivering results that protect taxpayers... As a town board member, I helped cut the Carmel Water (District) 2 project from an estimated \$28 million to an estimated \$13.8 million, saving taxpayers nearly \$15 million, and pushed forward long-stalled projects like Swan Cove and the Master Plan.”

Kearns, a Navy veteran, recently became vice commander of VFW Post 5491 Mahopac. He is believed to be the youngest person ever elected to the Carmel Town



Putnam Valley Councilman Christian Russo is running for County Legislature, District Two.

Board when he won in 2023 at age 31.

As town supervisor, Kearns said he’ll focus on long-term planning, transparency, accountability, and finishing projects that have stalled for years.

“Carmel deserves leadership that shows up, listens, and delivers,” he said. “I pride myself on being one of the most accessible elected officials in Putnam County, and that won’t change.”

The Republican primary is scheduled June 23, with the general election set for Nov. 3.

Putnam Leads NYS in Flu Cases

Continued from Page 1

systems. While infants’ immune systems are still developing, older adults have immune systems that may have changed and weakened.

Flu vaccines are available at no-cost for both under- and un-

insured adults and children at the health department. COVID vaccines are also available for adults. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 845-808-1332.

With insurance, others can find a vaccine by visiting <https://vaccinefinder.org>, <https://cveep.org/vaccine-locator>, or www.easylvax.com/dtcdpsearch.

Residents are reminded to watch for flu symptoms in infants and the elderly, who are at highest risk of serious complications and death. These symptoms include fever, runny or stuffy nose, worsening

cough, body aches, headache, sore throat, tiredness, and possible nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

These symptoms can progress quickly and should be taken seriously to avoid tragic outcomes.

The health department has reached out to healthcare providers in Putnam including nurses at local schools to alert them of this rapid rise in case numbers. Residents can monitor the weekly shifts in cases of all respiratory diseases in Putnam via the online Respiratory Virus Surveillance Dashboard at www.putnamcountyny.gov/respdash.

Legislature Wants Its Own Attorneys

Continued from Page 1

her colleagues, legislative staff, and the county attorney’s office, noting that the change is about capacity, not conflict.

“There has been controversy and the appearance of conflict and the appearance of power grabs,” she said. “This law gives the Legislature the tools to do its job better regardless of party. It creates counsel for both the majority and minority. It ensures that we reinforce the separation of powers that protects all of us, regardless of who holds power at any given moment. Power could change. The majority could be a different party and you’ll be thankful that you have minority counsel, maybe.”

According to Montgomery, the new law doesn’t weaken the executive branch or undermine the county attorney’s office, but rather gives the Legislature the ability to govern more effectively.

Per the local law, each the minority and majority may appoint counsel to oversee the preparation of local laws and ordinances; research problems related to the function, powers, and duties of the Legislature; prepare written reports on the breadth and depth of function, powers and duties of the Legislature; attend meetings; provide advice on the rules of order

and other procedural questions; recommend and coordinate appropriate ways to communicate initiatives and policy through media and other mechanisms; and more.

Legislator Toni Addonizio, R-Kent, said a dedicated legislative attorney ensures that the Legislature will receive legal guidance that is independent from the executive branch.

“This helps to avoid conflict of interest and protects the Legislature’s authority,” she said. “Also, a legislative attorney helps to safeguard the separation of powers. A County Legislature with its own attorney will operate more effectively. This supports democracy at the local level, ensuring power is respected and public interest is respected... I don’t believe this is a luxury, I believe this is a safeguard for effect governance,” she said.

Legislature Chairwoman Amy Sayegh, R-Mahopac Falls, explained that the legislative branch of government has always had separate counsel in Putnam County.

“For some reason last year, our legislative counsel was revoked and removed,” she said. “We had a contract for legislative counsel which saved taxpayer money... but for some reason that contract was not renewed, nor were we able to hire our own legislative counsel or even attempt to interview or hire legislative counsel outside of our County Attorney’s Office. For some reason that happened just a year ago, and this past year has been difficult.”

Sayegh said the creation of the law was a collaborative process in which all legislators had a say, and

will benefit not only this current Legislature, but future ones as well.

Legislator Paul Jonke, R-Brewster, called the revocation of the Legislature’s outside counsel a year ago a “witch hunt.”

“It’s a disgrace that this Legislature had to go through the last year without independent legislative counsel,” he said. “They (Byrne) discontinued the contract – a valid contract that this Legislature approved and the county attorney canceled. And at that time let’s not forget about the county executive suing the Legislature.”

The lawsuit came after an ethics complaint filed by County Attorney Compton Spain, accusing Legislator Addonizio of failing to disclose that the person seeking to buy a county-owned property was her son-in-law. The Legislature then voted 6-3 to pass a charter amendment that would allow it to fire the county attorney, which Byrne alleged was in retaliation.

Montgomery noted that, according to county code, the county attorney has the authority to oversee the hiring and firing of legislative counsel.

“Whatever mistakes were made – and I really believe mistakes were made on both sides, the legislative and executive side – I think that’s why this code needs to be presented and implemented and passed,” she said.

Montgomery also acknowledged that Byrne may very well veto the new local law. “Hopefully the county executive will pass this and sign it into law,” she said. “If he doesn’t, we’ll bring it up again next year.”

Learn About the 1st Rhode Island Regiment

The First Rhode Island Regiment, a multiracial force that fought bravely in key battles during the American Revolution, is the subject of a talk by Dr. Aaron Mair at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison, on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, Jan. 19 at 1 p.m.

Mair, the first black president of the Sierra Club and more recently director of the “Forever Adirondacks” policy initiative of the Adirondacks Council, is known as a fighter for environmental justice. His passion for history is what brings him to the Desmond-Fish

Public Library speaker’s podium.

Mair is deeply involved with the history of the First Rhode Island Regiment, in which black, white, and Native American soldiers bravely served and fought side by side. In 1781 (then the Rhode Island Regiment), they fought in the Battle of Pines Bridge in Yorktown Heights. Mair is advocating for further recognition of the men who served, hoping for a lasting freedom.

Register for the program at <https://desmondfishlibrary.org/event/mlk-26>.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED

BUYING VINTAGE CAMERAS, LENSES, WATCHES, JEWELRY, COINS, CLOCKS, FISHING, HUNTING, MILITARY, FIRE HELMETS, SWORDS, KNIVES, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, COMICS, SPORTING, TOYS, FOUNTAIN PENS, WESTERN And More. Please Call Frank 914-763-8766. 1/31

WANTED – Private collector buying firemen’s helmets, fishing, hunting items, rods, reels, lures,

all types old or new, paintings of fishing, hunting, wildlife art, bows and arrows, no compound bows. Call 845-878-3665 or 845-661-9059. 2/28

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

DOUBLE PLOT - for sale at Rose Hill Memorial Park located on a grassy knoll. Easy parking. Incredibly priced. Call Alfred at 917-855-5889. 1/24

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

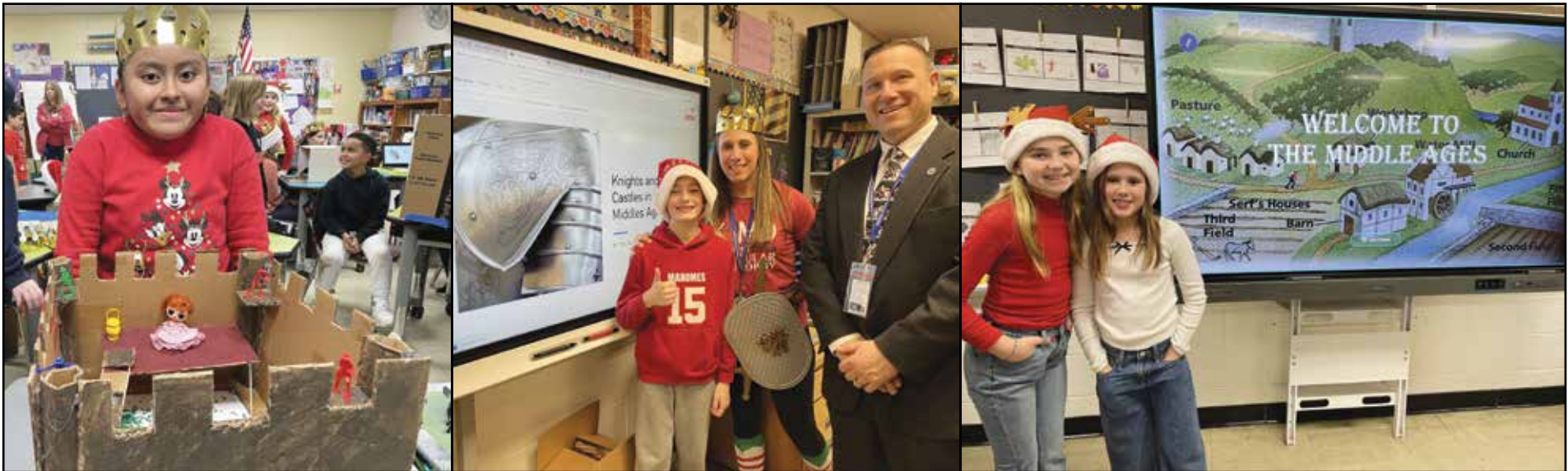
TOWN OF SOUTHEAST Help Wanted Dog Control Officer

The Town of Southeast is seeking a well-qualified, dependable individual to serve as its Dog Control Officer. Position is part-time with varying weekly hours; candidate should be able to respond to calls within 30 minutes. Duties include but are not limited to responding to loose or stray dogs, transporting dogs to the appropriate shelter, completing required paperwork, and handling nuisance complaints in accordance with the Town Code and NYS AGS and Markets Law. Qualified candidate should have a high school diploma or GED and at least six months experience working with animals in the animal control field or as an animal hospital aide; must have an appropriate vehicle and a valid driver's license throughout employment. Must be reliable, able to work independently, comfortable handling dogs and interacting with the public. Salary ranges from \$24,000 - \$27,000 plus mileage reimbursement. Please send applications by January 9, 2026 to apply@southeast-ny.gov. 1/7, 1/14

Carmel Fourth-Graders Revisit the Middle Ages



Matthew Paterson students show off their projects. Provided photos.



Learning about the Middle Ages is part of the fourth grade curriculum at Carmel Central School District. To bring that curriculum to life, students at Matthew Paterson Elementary School recently showed one another what they learned about the medieval period. The students had to pick a

topic – castles and knights, lord of the manor or serf, medieval village, etc. – and decide how to present it to the class. They could make a diorama, a poster, or a PowerPoint presentation before they took turns visiting each other’s classrooms and seeing what their schoolmates created.

Johniel’s diorama showed what life was like during the plague. “I learned that hundreds of people died because doctors then didn’t have the tools they do now,” he said. “Their streets were really dirty. There was sewage everywhere. They used to hold flowers in their mouths to keep from smelling the bad smell.”

Daniel said it took him half the weekend to make his diorama. “I had help,” he said. “My mom made the moat. My uncle showed me how to use the 3D printer to make the castle.”

Emily said she thought it would be fun to live in a big cas-

tle. “I think I would have liked to live in the Middle Ages,” she said. “They didn’t have to go to school.”

In some ways, not much has changed since the Middle Ages. Then – as now – several students agreed that it would have been better to be the lord of the manor than a serf.



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Photo provided by Carmel Fire Department.

Multi-Agency Technical Rescue in Carmel

The Carmel Fire Department and other area firefighters were called to a serious single-motor-vehicle accident Dec. 23 along Stoneleigh Avenue near Vista-on-the-Lake in Carmel.

While en route, responders were advised by the Putnam County 911 Center that an OnStar notification had been received indicating the vehicle had rolled over and there was no contact with the driver. Upon arrival, Assistant Chief 12-1-2 confirmed one occupant was trapped inside the vehicle, which had rolled into a wooded area, and required extensive extrication.

Due to the vehicle’s position and challenging terrain, a coordinated technical rescue operation was initiated. Firefighters, EMS, and law enforcement personnel worked together to stabilize the vehicle, safely access the patient, and perform a controlled extrication using specialized equipment and rope rescue techniques.

The patient was evaluated on scene, treated, and transported by EMS to a local trauma center for further medical care.

Assisting agencies on scene included Carmel Volunteer Ambulance Corp., Carmel Police Department, Putnam County Department of Public Works, Empress EMS Paramedics, and Brewster Fire Department paramedics.

The cause of the accident remains under investigation.