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PUTNAM COUNTY'S LOCAL NEWSPAPER

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

VOL. 166 NO. 20

P.O. BOX 608, MAHOPAC, NEW YORK 10541

845-628-8400

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

County Prioritizes Mental Health & Substance Use Services *Co-Responder Team Debuts; New Site for Crisis Stabilization Center*

By Holly Crocco

With May being Mental Health Awareness Month, it is appropriate that the Putnam County Legislature was recently updated on measures to increase mental health and substance use services locally.

The county's new Co-Responder Team hit the ground running this year, with the help of Putnam's first dual recovery coordinator, Lauren Johnson, who left the Prevention Council of Putnam to join the Department of Mental Health

"The dual recovery role is a

brand new position here in Putnam County," explained Johnson at the April 17 meeting of the county's Health Committee. "It is focused on the integration of mental health and substance use, both at a system level, as well as a consumer level, providing support and education to providers and businesses on how to provide services to those who are diagnosed with a co-occurring disorder – somebody with a mental health and a substance use disorder – as well as providing support and services to families and to individuals."

Department of Social Services

Commissioner Sara Servadio said her office has been working with law enforcement in responding to cases that involve a mental health matter.

"We've started to identify individuals where the call for service may have involved substance use, so Lauren is essentially co-responding with the Co-Response Team," she said.

Legislator Amy Sayegh, R-Mahopac Falls, chairwoman of the health committee, said the community will only benefit from this type of support.

"I'm excited about this

position – I think it's needed," she said. "Most people, if they have a substance abuse problem, that started for a reason because they had a mental health situation that they wanted to medicate, or forget. So I think it's so important in recognizing that... (treating) the whole person."

The county's new Dual Responder Team has been up and running since February, created with grant funding bestowed to the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

"We've been very busy... and it just seems to be getting busier," said team member TJ Ward, who

is a combat veteran. "It's a very good program."

Since the program kicked off three months ago, there has been 125 "engagements."

"Of the 125 people that have been engaged, only 25 have ended up in an inpatient psychiatric unit, so it's a significant amount of people that essentially they're providing case management for, and family support," said Servadio.

And the team is getting better at identifying people in need this type of response, so most 911 dispatches can be handled

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Man, & Woman's Best Friend On Parade at Funminster



Putnam Service Dogs hosted its fifth annual Funminster Dog Show on May 4 at Patterson Recreation Center, where dozens of furry friends and their owners competed for most talented, best wiggle butt, dog/owner look-alike, best tail, best ears – and more. Provided photos.



Ex-Brewster Cop Sentenced to Jail *Supported Sex Biz in Village*

Former Village of Brewster Police Officer Wayne Peiffer was sentenced May 2 in federal court in Brooklyn by U.S. District Judge LaShann DeArcy Hall to 36 months' imprisonment for his participation in a conspiracy to commit Hobbs Act extortion and conspiracy to commit bribery.

Additionally, Peiffer must pay \$5,000 in forfeiture, as well as perform 208 hours of community service in Brewster or a surrounding community during his supervised release.

The charges arose from Peiffer's protection of two Queens-based prostitution businesses from law enforcement, when the businesses brought women to

Brewster to engage in prostitution. Peiffer pleaded guilty to the charges in April 2022.

"The defendant is rightly punished with a prison sentence for disgracing his badge, violating the public trust in the community he was sworn to serve, and facilitating the victimization of vulnerable women – all for his own self-satisfaction," said U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York Breon Peace, who also expressed his appreciation to the Putnam County District Attorney's Office for its support and assistance throughout the investigation.

From approximately 2010 through October 2018, Peiffer

Continued on Page 11

Carmel to Discuss Battery Farm Ban

By Holly Crocco

The Carmel Town Board will vote during its May 15 meeting on a resolution to hold a public hearing regarding a possible moratorium on lithium battery farms.

Residents of Mahopac and Carmel, as well as Somers, have expressed concerns over the development of a lithium battery farm on the county line, which includes a 116-megawatt battery energy storage system, two substations and two enclosure pads.

The proposed Union Energy Center, a grid-scale energy storage system project on a 93.5-acre parcel of land off Miller and Union Valley roads in Mahopac, adjacent to the border of the Town of Somers, is currently before the planning board.

According to the developer, East Point Energy of Charlottesville,

Va., the project is meant to reduce some of the strain on the regional electric grid, which would be helpful during blackouts, and also alleviate some costs to both the electric utility and consumers. The system would be connected directly to the electricity grid in Mahopac, where it is under operation of New York State Electric & Gas.

During the May 8 Carmel Town Board meeting, Town Supervisor Mike Cazzari explained that after Councilman Frank Lombardi researched state regulations regarding moratoriums, the town reached out to other local municipalities that have implemented moratoriums, as well as legal counsel, and learned that such action may be doable.

"We'd like to do a public

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Working Mom By Holly Crocco

A Tough Crowd

I recently received an email from Mikey’s teacher regarding an upcoming reading program, and it sparked a memory – or, more accurately, a nightmare.

Post-traumatic stress at its finest.

When Mikey was in pre-kindergarten, I signed up to read to his class. Throughout the year, the program welcomed one parent a week to go in and read, so I carved out a half-hour one week to participate.

Like many of you, public speaking isn’t my forte. But with a bunch of 4- and 5-year-olds as my audience, I figured ... How hard can it be?

Mikey selected his favorite book at the time, “Mosquitos Can’t Bite Ninjas.” I encouraged him to pick something with a little more “substance” – or, in adult terms, even just slightly educational. But he wouldn’t back down.

So a few days later, there I was, with my child-bearing hips overflowing a teeny-tiny plastic chair that I wasn’t entirely certain wouldn’t buckle under my post-motherhood body. With my pre-arthritis knees bent near my ears, I was certain I would need help getting up.

And before me were a dozen youngsters sitting “crisscross applesauce” with wide eyes and

gaping mouths. Suddenly, I was very nervous. I shifted (the chair creaked) and held the book up and started reading aloud, making sure to show off the pages as I went. Then I suddenly realized that, in addition to the book lacking any sort of moral to the story or purpose whatsoever, it also took me approximately 4 minutes to read.

I closed the book and all those eyes were still staring at me, so I decided to ask questions. They do that in school, right?

“What was everyone’s favorite part of the book?”

Twelve hands popped up, and I picked one. “Um,” said a cute-as-a-button little blonde boy. “I, uh ... I like when the ninja ate the mosquito!”

“Yes, that was funny, wasn’t it.” I picked another child.

“I also liked when the ninja ate the mosquito!”

“Oh, well I’m glad that was a popular part of the book.”

Another kid chimed in. “I eat

mosquitos!” “Ewww,” said three kids in unison.

I started to sweat as things went downhill fast.

“Hey,” I raised my voice to get their attention. “What about the pictures? Which pictures did you like best?” I picked the book back up and glanced at the clock. It had been 7 minutes.

“I liked the one where the mosquito got stuck in the sandwich and the ninja ate it!” said a kid with brown hair, freckles, and the unmistakable flush of cheeks that indicate a brewing illness.

“Yes, we have determined that we all like the part where the ninja eats the mosquito. But what else?”

Two kids stood up and approached me. “I liked when the mosquito tried to bite the lady in the pool,” said one little girl.

“That was funny, right?”

Three more kids approached. “I, um, I liked when the baby ninja hung from the tree upside down,” said another girl.

Then Flushed-Cheeks Kid approached and announces his favorite part, but I didn’t take in what he said because I was too busy being bathed in the spray of his sneeze and wondering what bodily harm I would be enduring in the next few days as a result.

I also made a mental note to up the ante for the end-of-year teacher gift, since she survives this nightmare every day.

Finally, after the longest 10 minutes of my life, said teacher had mercy on me and redirected the kids to their tables to color and I was relieved of my duties. Mikey gave me a big hug – clearly unaware of my impending panic attack – and that was all that really mattered.

When I got home and my husband asked how it went, I replied: “It was awesome! You should definitely sign up to do it.”

Holly Crocco is editor of the Putnam County Times/Press and mother of a 6-year-old. She can be reached at editorial@putnampresstimes.com.

Letters to the Editor

Don’t Wait for the Nanny State

Dear Editor:

Last month, I submitted

a letter highlighting the need for more transparency from our county government. I tried to shine a light on the fact that Putnam County residents had

more access to the Putnam County Legislature’s committee meetings during the COVID-19 lockdowns than they do today. This is largely due to the state mandating virtual access to committee meetings via livestreaming.

All I am advocating for is greater access to county public meetings, just as our towns and school districts have been doing for years. It’s been a major platform of my campaign for County Legislature.

Putnam County livestreamed MaryEllen Odell’s State of the County address on YouTube in 2018. The technology has been available for well over six years, and yet the county failed to move forward with enhancing access.

Recently, New York finally passed the 2024-25 budget, and an important yet under-reported part of it included a modification to the state’s Open Meetings Law and Freedom of Information Law, where it mandated all state and local authorities – including county governments – “shall, to the extent practicable, stream all open meetings and public hearings on their website in real-time, post video recordings of all open meetings and public hearings on their website within five business days of the meeting or hearing, and maintain such recordings for a period of not less than five years.” (S.8308/A.8808-C, Part SS, Subpart B.)

While I’m pleased this change means Putnam County should have to livestream its meetings, I’m disappointed it took this long because our county government failed to act on its own. Putnam County government began the journey toward livestreaming meetings back in 2018, but then refused to respond to calls from numerous legislators who ran on the issue.

Our Legislature waited so long that it required action from the overbearing “nanny state” of New York to make it a reality. We cannot let this become the norm. When we know something needs to be changed, we should change it. We shouldn’t wait until someone in an ivory tower up in Albany forces us.

Make no mistake, livestreaming is a needed and welcome improvement, but it was mandated the wrong way. As your Putnam legislator in Patterson, I won’t shy away

from issues like this when I see something needs to be done, and I won’t wait for the state or federal government to make us do our jobs. We have county government and locally elected leaders for a reason – to act in the best interest of our community. Know that I will do just that.

Please consider voting for me in the Republican primary June 25. Early voting begins June 15.

*Laura Russo
Patterson*

Support for Curzio

Dear Editor:

I am supporting Trustee John Curzio in his re-election campaign to the Carmel School Board on Tuesday, May 21. He has consistently proven himself to advocate for the taxpayers and always asks probing questions of school district administration regarding the finances of the district.

John Curzio has served on the school board for two terms and has never been afraid to oppose unnecessary and irresponsible tax increases, including his fearless opposition to the three high-tax bus garage and land bond votes. Mr. Curzio has the courage of his convictions to keep his campaign promises.

Trustee John Curzio also cares deeply about the education our children receive in the Carmel Central Schools. He was on the forefront of saving kindergarten in the upcoming school year and is supporting the creation of a school district policy to mandate kindergarten so it can never be threatened with elimination ever again. He also insisted that extracurricular activities, including sports and clubs, be preserved, in addition to music and art programs.

Mr. Curzio led the effort to adopt a budget with a 0 percent tax levy increase – the first time in Carmel School Board history this has happened. This is a huge relief to our beleaguered taxpaying residents.

The school board also ordered the administration to preserve all programs for kids when deciding what to eliminate. Mr. Curzio articulated during school board meetings that the numbers administration

provided to the school board were not accurate, and that administration had irresponsibly overspent multiple line items. Furthermore, Mr. Curzio pointed out the numbers associated with some savings proposed by administration did not take into account other added or hidden costs.

Consequently, Mr. Curzio said the administration did not earn the trust of the school board or the community to ask for more of our tax dollars, and that they would have to make do with the \$141 million they already have.

When you go to the polls Tuesday, May 21 to vote for school board members, please support our children and our wallets by voting to re-elect Trustee John Curzio.

*Jarred Buchanan
Carmel*

Vote for Original Medicare

Dear Editor:

We have a sizable number of Medicare-eligible New York City retirees living in our community. We, as members of every agency and union, devoted many years of service to the people of NYC, working as EMTs, police, fire, corrections officers, in sanitation, as nurses and educators. We accepted smaller paychecks than those in neighboring areas with the promise of continued choice of health benefits as retirees.

Together, with the NYC Organization of Public Service Retirees (nyc retirees.org), we retirees have been in the fight of our lives for the past three years. We are trying to preserve our current, traditional Medicare and supplemental health insurance through four lawsuits now being appealed by NYC.

The city, with the deplorable help of the union umbrella group, the Municipal Labor Committee, and its current controlling bosses, continues to attempt to force NYC Medicare-eligible retirees into a Medicare (Dis)Advantage plan, or choose to end our healthcare benefits. If this happens, many of our retirees across the U.S. will not be able to continue current treatments and will need to find new doctors and/or hospitals.

These bosses are trying to
Continued on Page 5

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Putnam Valley Town Hall
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Birmingham: No 'Pay to Play' for County Contracting

Dan Birmingham, the Republican and Conservative candidate for Putnam County District 7 legislator in the November election, recently announced his proposal to enact a comprehensive set of local laws that would prohibit certain large political contributors from engaging in business with county government.

"Putnam's residents should know their tax dollars are being spent wisely," he said. "Those who provide professional services to the county should not be chosen on the basis of the size of their political donations, but rather by merit, talent and value to the taxpayers. There are many counties and towns throughout the state – some right here in the Hudson Valley – who have already adopted these local laws, and it's time Putnam County got on board."

Birmingham said his legislative package would include a series of local laws that would accomplish the following:

- An anti-"pay to play" regime that would limit the amount of political donations from professional business entities who contract with county government.

Under Birmingham's proposal, no professional business entity who contracts with the county shall make a monetary or in-kind contribution to the county executive or any county legislator if that contract must be approved or voted on by such individual, or to a political committee controlled by such

individual, in an amount not to exceed \$250 per calendar year or not to exceed \$1,000 during such administrative or legislative term of office.

- A public database listing all county contracts in an easily-searchable and user-friendly form – another first for Putnam.

To enhance and improve upon the County Legislature's oversight responsibilities of the executive branch of government, this database would be housed and maintained on the county's auditing department website.

- A direct link from the auditing department website to the county executive and legislator campaign financial disclosure reports residing in the New York State Board of Elections website. This would provide access to the campaign financial disclosure reports of the administration and legislators to provide a side-by-side comparison of political contributions to county contracts.

"There is no better defense against political cronyism and patronage than sunlight," said Birmingham. "I'm a firm believer that the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches of county government is critical in maintaining a properly run, and honest democracy. Sourcing and populating these publicly accessible databases in the auditing department will provide the County Legislature – and the public – a powerful tool

in exercising these oversight responsibilities."

This county database would provide information such as the name of the county contractor, the maximum amount awarded under the contract, and the duration of the contract.

Birmingham said this proposed legislation would apply equally to both the legislative and the executive branches.

"While the county executive is the official who, with very few exceptions, has the sole power to sign county contracts, the County Legislature also has powers to approve many transactions, such as the sale and leasing of county property, the provision of tax abatements pursuant to certain county programs such as the agricultural district, as well as the awarding of payments-in-lieu-of-taxes," said Birmingham. "The public disclosure and donor limitations which I am proposing would be effective with respect to these legislative approvals, as well."

Birmingham pointed out that, due to certain federal and state statutes and regulations, there would necessarily be limited exceptions to these "pay to play" measures, such as the provision of certain goods and services obtained pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law; contracts with another unit of local government, the state government or the U.S. government; or when such contract is awarded based upon the lowest responsible bidder pursuant to NYS law.



Mahopac ACME Celebrates National Honor Society Members

ACME Markets of Mahopac recently celebrated front-end associates who have been inducted into the prestigious National Honor Society at Mahopac High School. Brayden Torrey is a junior who plays lacrosse and soccer, and is pursuing aerospace engineering. Dominic Marangiello is a junior who plays soccer and track, pursuing engineering/psychology. Yadhira Tenenpaguay is a senior who plays volleyball and is accepted to the University of Connecticut for nursing. Photo by Patricia Marangiello.

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The Career Corner

Putnam Pride Returns June 1

Putnam Pride will host its fifth annual Pride event Saturday, June 1, from 1 to 5 p.m., at a new venue – Veterans' Memorial Park, 201 Gypsy Trail Road, Kent/Carmel.

Gather at 1 p.m. at Gilead Presbyterian Church, 9 Church St., Carmel, where a lineup of local speakers and returning legendary hosts Angel Elektra and Shay D'Pines will kick off a car caravan to Pride. Decorated cars are encouraged.

At Veterans' Memorial Park, enjoy entertainment, vendors, food trucks, an open mic, kids' activities, and DJ Brittany Carrasco on the turntables.

Putnam Pride's mission is to promote visibility and community for LGBTQ+ and other marginalized groups in Putnam and neighboring counties. The last two years' Pride events in Brewster village drew more than 300 attendees and included an array of local performers, speakers and vendors.

Brewster's Chief of Police described the event as "a joyous day in the village."

Putnam NY Pride is a registered 501(c)3 organization. For more information, visit www.putnampride.com or email putnamnypride@gmail.com.

Vendors Wanted for 4-H Fair

The Putnam County Fair & 4-H Showcase is scheduled Saturday, July 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, July 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Putnam County Veterans' Memorial Park in Carmel/Kent.

Putnam County and Cornell Cooperative Extension-Putnam

are seeking food trucks, crafters and vendors who offer high-quality, unique and engaging products and services that align with the values of the event.

For more information, call the Putnam County Parks Office at 845-808-1994, or email parks@putnamcountyny.gov.

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ARE YOU READY FOR THE SUMMER SEASON?



Accident Causes Power Outage

Milltown Road in Brewster was closed for several hours May 4, from Route 22 to Gage Road, in both directions, due to a motor vehicle accident involving utility poles and wires. Power was also temporarily out in the area, while New York State Electric & Gas worked the scene, along with Brewster firefighters.

Nutrition Corner

By Allison J. Stowell
MS, RD, CDN



Good Habits for Gut Health

Maintaining a healthy gut tops the list of preventative measures we can engage in. It seems that every day we learn more about the importance of a healthy gut for reducing gastrointestinal disorders, supporting strong immunity, preventing chronic disease, and even possibly reducing potential for Alzheimer's disease.

Prebiotics

A healthy gut begins by consuming adequate daily fiber (25-30 grams). Choose fiber from a variety of sources including whole grains, beans, fruits, and vegetables. Considered as prebiotics, this fiber serves as the food for your probiotics, allowing beneficial bacteria to grow and flourish.

Probiotics

Probiotics, the "good" bacteria that we want in our gut, allows for a robust microbiome. Probiotics can be found in fermented foods like kefir, kombucha, kimchi, unpasteurized sauerkraut, and some yogurt varieties (if they are made with added live culture). You can also consume a probiotic supplement. Since we must consume probiotics regularly (daily preferred), a supplement may be easiest. Please keep in mind that if you take an antibiotic, your probiotic needs are even greater.

Postbiotics

Postbiotics may be new to you. Postbiotics are produced when probiotic bacteria consume prebiotic fiber. Think of them as the result of having a flourishing microbiome, particularly when you're adequately consuming pre and probiotics. They include vitamins, amino acids, and substances called antimicrobial peptides that help slow down the growth of harmful bacteria in your gut (allowing beneficial bacteria to flourish).

Taco Salad with Creamy Cilantro Dressing (3 Guiding Stars) Hannaford.com

A colorful, layered, mason jar salad. Perfect for on-the-go and packed with prebiotic fiber. Visit Hannaford.com to see a picture of this and other mason jar salads!

Ingredients:

For the dressing:
1 1/2 cups cilantro (stems and leaves)
1/3 cup nonfat plain Greek yogurt
1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1 Tbsp. water
1/2 tsp. ground cumin
1/4 tsp. salt, or to taste
1/4 tsp. freshly ground black pepper, or to taste

For the salad:

2 (15.5 oz.) cans black-eyed peas, rinsed and well drained
1 1/2 cups fresh or frozen sweet corn kernels
1/4 cup chopped scallions
1 cup chopped fresh tomatoes (about 2 medium)
1 avocado, peeled and diced
3/4 cup shredded low-fat cheddar cheese
1/4 cup reduced-fat sour cream
1 small jalapeño, seeded, deveined, and minced (optional)
1/2 cup coarsely crushed corn tortilla chips

Directions:

1. Prepare the dressing. In the bowl of a food processor, combine cilantro, yogurt, lemon juice, water, cumin, salt, and pepper. Blend until pureed, about 30 seconds to 1 minute. (Alternatively, combine ingredients in a deep bowl and puree using an immersion blender.) Distribute the salad dressing among 4 (1 pint) mason jars.

2. Prepare the salad. Evenly distribute the ingredients in each mason jar in order: black-eyed peas, corn, scallions, tomatoes, avocado, cheese, sour cream, jalapeno if using, and tortilla chips. (If packing the jars for later, store the chips in a separate container so they'll stay crunchy.)

3. Place a lid on each jar and store in the refrigerator for up to 3 days. To serve, if chips have not been added, add chips to the jars, then secure lids and instruct diners to gently shake the jar to distribute dressing and ingredients, then open.

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.

Easy as 1-2-3 Potato Salad

(Family Features)

Easy as 1-2-3 Potato Salad

Ingredients:

1 package A Little Savory Herb Microwave Ready Little Potatoes, with included seasoning pack
2-3 tablespoons green onions, chopped
1/2 cup mayonnaise or plain Greek yogurt

Directions:

In microwave, cook potatoes 5 minutes according to package directions.

Combine seasoning pack, chopped green onions and



mayonnaise or Greek yogurt. Pour dressing over cooled potatoes. Stir gently and serve.

Servings: 4

Source: The Little Potato Company

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Carmel music students perform at the May 7 school board meeting.

Carmel Music Students Hit a High Note

Music students throughout the Carmel Central School District selected for the all-county and honors ensembles were recognized at the May 7 Carmel School Board meeting.

“This year, we had over 50 students perform in area All-State,” said Music Department Chairperson Meghan Cabral. “We also had students perform with New York State School Music Association’s All-State festival, and the NYS Band Directors’ Association honor bands. Our George Fischer Middle School students stood out at the Putnam County Music Educators’ Association all-county festivals, too. This year we had over 70 students accepted. Each year we also have students earn ‘excellent’ and ‘outstanding’ ratings at the NYSSMA solo festival.”

Carmel schools have been recognized as one of the best communities for music education by the National Association of Music Merchants for seven years in a row.

At the district’s three elementary schools, students learn the foundation of musical skills, including how to play Orff instruments and recorder, what makes a rhythm and a beat and, of course, singing. This prepares them for success at middle school and beyond, while also

delighting the community with performances.

In regular music classes, fifth- and sixth-graders learn to play baritone ukulele and study early American music and its history – specifically folk music. They learn to sing and play chords at the same time, which shows a higher level of comprehension and mind-hand coordination throughout the course.

In grades five through 12, the performing ensembles learn repertoire from Grainger to Taylor Swift. In these courses, students learn to play their instruments from the very first sounds and the meaning of being a part of something bigger, to learning how to perform musical techniques.

This year, the middle school band teachers joined a consortium to include two pieces that are about mental health, and the seventh-grade band will perform one of the pieces this year. The ensembles have also been rated highly at NYSSMA majors festivals.

Many Carmel graduates go on to attend top music schools, continue to perform, and even receive scholarships because of their abilities. The Tri-M Honor Society and the music department work together to award scholarships to more than

30 seniors each year, and GFMS also gives scholarships to at least three eighth-graders annually.

“Our Tri-M students are fantastic,” said Cabral. “They volunteer to help at our concerts and musicals, spread cheer through holiday caroling, and at the annual Thanksgiving luncheon for senior citizens. And let’s not forget the fun moments, like when a group of GFMS music students played a New Orleans-style arrangement of ‘Happy Birthday’ to celebrate George Fischer’s birthday. How cool is that?”

The Carmel High School musical production of “How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying” was a huge success, and well received by the community – giving students the opportunity to compete with other high-schoolers for Metro Awards and Roger Rees Awards.

Several Carmel performers also received scholarships to attend the New York Conservatory for the Dramatic Arts for summer or full-year programs. CHS has also been invited to perform at the open mic night sponsored by LoHud and Peter Kramer, which will feature the best scenes from musicals all over Westchester and Putnam counties.

Putnam Arts Orgs. Receive Funding

Putnam Arts Council will distribute 26 awards totaling \$44,793 to 23 organizations through its Arts Link Grant Program this year. Sixteen projects will be supported by \$30,800 in state funding, with public funds from Putnam County totaling \$13,993 awarded to 12 local organizations.

All projects will take place in Putnam County and will be open to the public.

Awardees include: Putnam Chorale, Putnam County Dance Project, Putnam Pride and Putnam Symphony; Southeast Museum and the Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition; Arts on the Lake in Lake Carmel, Brewster Theater Company, Doansburg Chamber Ensemble in Mahopac, Kent Public Library, Patterson Library, and the Town of Carmel Department of Recreation.

In addition, awards will go to: Cold Spring Dance Company, Chapel Restoration, Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, Putnam History Museum and the Episcopal Church of St. Mary’s-in-the-Highlands, all in Cold Spring; Garrison Art Center, Garrison Landing Association as a sponsor for The Aery Theatre, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival and

Boscobel House & Gardens, all in Garrison; and Collaborative Concepts and Tompkins Corners Cultural Center, both in Putnam Valley.

PAC’s Arts Link Community Regrant Program is intended to increase public access to quality arts programs while supporting the work of individual artists and arts groups. It is comprised of public funds made possible from Putnam County, and public funds through the Community Regrant Program from the New York State Council on the Arts, with support from the governor’s office and the State Legislature.

Awards support a wide range of programs in the visual, performing and literary arts, with projects taking place in 2024 throughout Putnam County.

PAC, chartered by the NYS Department of Education in 1963, administers state and county funding programs for artists and local cultural organizations and plays a leadership role in the county-wide development of community arts programming and arts access for everyone.

A detailed list of 2024 Arts Link Community Grant Award recipients can be found at www.putnamartscouncil.com.

We Will Miss

Carmel
Lorna Armbruster, 86, May 5, Cargain Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-3672.

Anita “Gioia” DeGregorio, 92, April 30, Balsamo-Cordovano Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-2144

Richard Frederick Markert, 75, April 30, Joseph J. Smith

Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

Cold Spring
Carol Diane Pasqualla Bullard, 75, April 29, Clinton Inc Funeral Homes, Cold Spring, (845) 265-3333.

Patterson
Raymond Majette Sr., 72, April 27, Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

Letters

Continued from Page 2

repay a stabilization fund they used for raises, to the detriment of retirees they no longer represent.

Former NYC educators can fight back by taking control of the Retired Teachers’ Chapter of the UFT in an election this spring. I encourage all members of the UFT/RTC to cast their important vote for the entire retiree advocate slate of officers

and delegates, of which I am one. This will send a strong message to current leaders and the rest of the Unity leadership that their job is to represent and improve benefits/conditions for their members, both active and retired, instead of selling them out.

Leaders and their followers continue to mislead UFT retirees and actives about changes in their healthcare coverage. They have had the audacity to have their lawyer file Friend of the Court briefs siding with NYC against their own retirees.

Vote for the Retiree Advocate/UFT Team in the UFT/RTC elections this May.

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Brewster Loses Another Police Officer

Westchester Cop from Put Valley Dies

Brewster Police Officer Jose Colon, 55, died May 3 after experiencing a heart attack while driving home, and crashing his car off of Route 202 in Yorktown.

Colon served in the U.S. Army before joining the New York City Police Department in 2000, where he served in the 40th Precinct in the Bronx. On Sept. 11, 2001, he was one of the first-responders to the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center.

In June 2020, he retired from NYPD and worked various security positions before joining the Brewster Village Police Department in March of this year.

Colon was buried with military honors during a May 13 ceremony at Hillside Cemetery in Cortlandt Manor.

Putnam Valley resident and off-duty Westchester County Police Officer Alfred Mosiello Jr., 42, died May 2 when his compact tractor overturned while he was riding it.

“With appreciation and respect, we remember his honorable service to our department and the people of Westchester,” said Police Commissioner Terrance Raynor. “Al’s passing is a tremendous loss for his wife and two children, the entire Mosiello family, his many friends, and his brother and sister officers in our department.”

Mosiello began his law enforcement career in 2013 with the Pelham Manor Police Department before transferring to Westchester County P.D. in 2021, serving on the Patrol Services Division.

Local Senior Sparks a Career in the Trades

Dominick Tamburrino is a skilled tradesman. He is also an artist.

A senior at Brewster High School, Tamburrino started welding just last year, but has gained an education, and experience through the program at Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES.

“I knew I wanted to go into the trades,” he said. “I’ve seen so many people just impulsively go to college, pick a random major and never get a job in that field. And I always liked building things, working on my grandmother’s 4-H horse farm, building fences and sheds. I also like to forge—like a blacksmith.”

Tamburrino once made a boot jack out of horseshoes for his uncle who has muscular dystrophy.

“So, I picked welding and it just clicked,” he said. “I love it.”

Tamburrino already has his Occupational Health & Safety Administration certification.

“It’s the main reason I went to



Tradesman and artist Dominick Tamburrino, a Brewster High School senior, shows off the trophies he created for the Trans Ams & Camaros of the Hudson Valley car show at Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES.

BOCES – I’ll be five years ahead of the game, versus people just starting

out,” he said. “I’d love to work in ship building. Maybe go to an apprenticeship school; go to work in a shipyard, or a trade school to learn more. I want to make sure it’s right, though. I don’t want to jump into the next thing too fast.”

So far, Tamburrino has learned all the basics, such as stick welding, TIG welding and MIG welding.

“Now I am on to aluminum TIG,” he said, “That’s harder because there are no color patterns – you have to watch for the puddles and move the puddle with the torch and add filler wire and bulk it up to make it strong. The best thing to look for is making sure the puddle looks like a mirror when you add filler.”

In addition to the practical lessons, Tamburrino said his teachers have been true mentors.

“Mr. G has been a great supporter. He helped me pick it up so quick,” said Tamburrino. “Mr. Stanford owned two underwater welding companies, so he has lots of experience. Mr. M was also a huge supporter. He reminds me of my brother.”

Last year, Tamburrino got so good at welding that “Mr. G” asked him to make a carry-all frame for his tractor.

This year, however, it’s been all about the trophies.

“Mr. Simpson, the auto body teacher, had seen some of my work before and was impressed,” said Tamburrino. “I had made planes and birds out of nuts and screws and spark plugs as Christmas gifts for family. He came up to me and asked if I wanted a challenge and told me about the car show. I ended up making 31 trophies for the show held at BOCES. The Trans Ams & Camaros of the Hudson Valley put the show on (as) a fundraiser for BOCES and the SkillsUSA program, which helps kids getting into trades get scholarships – a really awesome program.”

Tamburrino, who grew up going to car shows with his dad, said he always saw plastic, rinky-dink trophies going to beautiful cars.

“So when I got the opportunity to make trophies out of scrap steel and car parts, I was all in,” he said. “Each of the trophies was different. Not one was the same. Some had the same premise, but none the same. It was a creative process. One of the winners even asked to have his picture taken with me.”

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Putnam County Community Events

Country Fest & 4-H Showcase

The third annual Putnam County Country Fest & 4-H Showcase is scheduled July 27 and 28 at Putnam County Veterans' Memorial Park on Gypsy Trail in Carmel/Kent. Enjoy traditional 4-H activities including arts & crafts, STEM demonstrations, animal shows and magic show. Also, lemonade and grilled corn as well as other refreshments. Car show, inflatables, craft vendors. The event will culminate with the CCE Duck Derby FUNd-Raiser on Sunday afternoon.

Petra Island Raffle

The Italian American Club of Mahopac will raffle off a boat ride to, and tour of Petra Island's Frank Lloyd Wright House in Lake Mahopac, to raise funds for its Putnam County Columbus Day Parade. Tickets are \$10 and seven winners will be selected. Each may bring a guest. The drawing will take place at Evening in the Piazza at Mahopac Chamber Park on Saturday, Aug. 17. Tickets are available at all IAC events and at Freight House Café, 609 Route 6, Mahopac. For information, call Giulio Cefaloni at 845-745-2655 or Donna Massaro at 845-628-1872.

Cruise Nights

The Carmel Cruisers are back for their third season of free Wendy's car shows at 1894 Route 6, Carmel. Cruises are from 3 to 9 p.m. the last Thursday of the month and every other Saturday, beginning through the end of September; as well as 9 a.m. to noon every Sunday continuing through the end of October. Weekly updates can be found on Facebook.

IDA Seeks

Board Member

The Putnam County Industrial Development Agency seeks a responsible person to represent the Philipstown area on its all-volunteer seven-member board, which generally meets on the third Tuesday of each month in Patterson to review and act upon applications for incentive benefits to qualified businesses seeking to move into Putnam or to expand operations in the county. For information, or to send a letter of interest and a resume, contact Chairman Bill Nulk at 845-721-9216 or william.nulk@putnamida.com.

Tuesday, May 14

Baby Groove Time

Join popular kids' musician Patti Hupp at Brewster Public Library on Tuesday, May 14 from 9:30 to 10 a.m. for a fun music class that will have little ones age 0 to 3 singing, dancing and feeling groovy. Registration is required.

Budget Building

An introduction to project budgets for nonprofits will be offered May 14 at 2 p.m. at Mahopac Public Library. Learn the basic elements of how to draft a project budget with confidence, with step-by-step instructions on how to generate a standard project budget for a foundation proposal. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Yankees History

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will host "History of the Yankees: A Baseball Celebration Presentation" on May 14 at 11 a.m.

Marty Gitlin will host this fun, lively and informative presentation celebrating the history of the Yankees. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

Wednesday, May 15

Crafty Storytime

Ages 3 to 5 and their caregivers may join Ms. Audra at Brewster Public Library on Wednesday, May 15 from 10 to 10:30 a.m. for a morning of stories and crafts for the spring season. Registration required.

Carmel Town Board

The Carmel Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. at Town Hall on the following Wednesdays: May 15; June 5, 12 and 19; July 3; Aug. 7; Sept. 4 and 18; Oct. 9 and 16; Nov. 6, 13 and 20; and Dec. 4 and 11. The March 6 and Oct. 9 meeting will be held at the Carmel firehouse.

Trailblazing with Byrne

Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne will host "Trailblazing with Byrne" constituent forums Wednesday, May 15 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at the Empire State Trailhead, near 629 Route 311, Patterson; Sunday, May 19 from 1 to 3 p.m., at the Tonetta Lake Empire State Trailhead, 192-198 Pumphouse Road, Brewster; and Thursday, May 23 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at the Cold Spring Pier/Bandstand, at the intersection of Main and West Streets, Cold Spring. An hour of informal discussion about various topics regarding Putnam County, followed by an hour-long walk.

'Talk Saves Lives'

A "Talk Saves Lives" Zoom Presentation is scheduled May 15 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., sponsored by the Mental Health Association in Putnam County, and National Alliance on Mental Illness-Putnam. Maria Itoni, area director of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention-Hudson Valley/Westchester Chapter, will be the presenter. Register to receive the Zoom link, at <https://talk-saves-lives-putnam-nami-yagzt.attendee.com>.

Spelling Bee

CoveCare Center's annual Team Spelling Bee is scheduled May 15 at 5:30 p.m. at Centennial Golf Club in Carmel. \$50 per player, includes dinner. Cash bar. Come up with the correct spelling of words through several rounds, with three winning teams getting trophies. Teams consist of up to 10 players and are eliminated after three misspelled words. Mulligans sold. Register at covercarecenter.org/2024-spelling-bee/. Help raise funds for mental health services.

Thursday, May 16

Intro. to Beekeeping

Apiarist BobBee will take participants through the steps to becoming an amateur beekeeper and the tricks to keeping a healthy, flourishing hive, Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Patterson Library. Adults only. For information, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Saturday, May 18

Swiftie Saturday

A Taylor Swift-celebration for ages 13 to 17 is scheduled Saturday, May 18 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at

Brewster Public Library. Create a themed diamond painting coaster while enjoying your favorite songs, including the latest album. Registration required.

Guided Hike

Join Cornell Cooperative Extension-Putnam Master Gardener volunteers on a guided hike Saturday May 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., beginning at the Hubbard Lodge at Fahnestock State Park. Walk along an old road through long-abandoned farms with gradual elevation change along East Mountain. It is a moderately strenuous 5-mile hike. Registration is \$10 per person and can be completed at <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/webLink/WebLink.aspx?name=E360490&id=137>.

Street Fair

The Greater Mahopac-Carmel Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Carmel Spring Fair on Saturday, May 18 from noon to 4 p.m. (rain date Sunday, May 19) on Gleneida Avenue between Fair Street and Vink Drive. Food, vendors, entertainment. To sign up to be a vendor, visit www.mahopaccarmelchamber.com or call 845-628-5553.

Water Safety Program

Children in preschool through third grade with a caregiver are invited to Kent Public Library on Saturday May 18 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for a water safety program hosted by Wings Over Water Swimming School. Enjoy a Safety Smart video with characters "Timon and Pumbaa" from the Lion King; a dry land swim lesson and the foundations in swimming such as breathing, buoyancy, shapes/postures and safety; a "Simon Sez" water safety coloring book to take home; and a family swim day for each family to practice their swimming together. Register online using the group option.

Music at St. Mary's

New Muse 4tet, the improvising string quartet recently recognized by Chamber Music America with the 2024 Performance Plus Award, will perform Saturday, May 18 at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring. Free.

Sunday, May 19

Poets' Corner

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center will present a Poets' Corner featuring Linda McCauley Freeman on Sunday, May 19 at 3 p.m., at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley. Followed by an open mic. \$10. Register on-site. Law Enforcement Appreciation A law enforcement and first responder appreciation event is scheduled Sunday, May 19 at 10:30 a.m. at MCB Church, 76 Gleneida Ave., Carmel, featuring a color guard presentation, service, luncheon and motorcycle ride.

Classical Music

Violinist Rolf Schulte and pianist James Winn will perform music by Stravinsky, Ravel and Debussy at the Chapel Restoration, 45 Market St., on Sunday, May 19 at 4 p.m. Free.

Chicken BBQ

Patterson Community Church will hold a grab'n go chicken BBQ on Sunday, May 19 from noon to 3 p.m. at 1062 Route 311. \$15 per

person includes half a chicken or a dozen wings, two sides and chips. 845-878-3961 or info@pattersoncommunitychurch.org.

Youngblood & Co.

Hudson Valley Blues Society will host a Sunday Concert Series with Youngblood and Co., on Sunday, May 19 from 2 to 4 p.m. Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster. For tickets, visit www.thehvbs.org/sunday-concert-series.html.

Farm Market

The Carmel Farmers' Market will take place Sundays, May 19 and 26 from 9 a.m. to noon at Mahopac Chamber Park, at the intersection of Routes 6 and 6N. Fresh produce, wine, plants and more, as well as musical entertainment.

Monday, May 20

Italian Dinner

The Italian American Club of Mahopac will hold two "dinner extravaganzas" to benefit Relay For Life, on Monday, May 20 from 5 to 9 p.m. at its clubhouse, 141 Buckshollow Road. \$40 for non-members, \$30 for members, \$20 for age 15 and younger. Includes a four-course dinner, music, raffles and a complementary glass of wine. Reservation with payment due by April 23. Visit Freight House Café, 609 Route 6, Mahopac; send a check to IAC, P.O. Box 931, Mahopac, NY 10541; or call Linda Cefaloni at 914-582-4373 or Donna Massaro at 845-628-1872.

K-Dramas

Discussion Group

K-drama enthusiasts are invited to join a chat about the 2023 Korean drama "Daily Dose of Sunshine" at 6 p.m. May 20 at Mahopac Public Library. This adult discussion group is open to new members. No registration is required. Participants must have a Netflix account to watch and participate. For information, email storregrossa@mahopaclibrary.org.

Tuesday, May 21

IDA Meeting

The Putnam County Industrial Development Agency will meet Tuesday, May 21 at 6 p.m. at 2 Route 164, Patterson. View the meeting at www.facebook.com/putnamida, and the minutes and a recording of the meeting will be posted to www.putnamida.com as soon as possible after the meeting has been adjourned.

Kent Town Board

The Kent Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. at Town Hall on the following Tuesdays: May 21, June 4 and 18, July 2 and 16, Aug. 6 and 20 (daytime), Sept. 3 and 17, Oct. 1 and 15, Nov. 12 and 19, and Dec. 3 and 17.

Mental Health Forum

Putnam County will host a mental health forum Tuesday, May 21 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Bureau of Emergency Services, 112 Old Route 6, Carmel. Discuss the emerging and existing needs for mental health within a number of sectors and how to work together to address these needs. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/241094989511161>.

'Quiet Your Mind'

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will host "Quiet Your Mind Workshop" on May 21 at 11 a.m.

This workshop offers a sanctuary for your mind and spirit, providing tools and techniques to calm racing thoughts, release tension and cultivate mindfulness. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

Kent Library Board

The Board of Trustees of the Kent Public Library meets at the library the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., May 21.

Wednesday, May 22

Patterson Town Board

The Patterson Town Board will meet the following Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Town Hall: May 22, June 12 and 26, July 10 and 24, Aug. 14 and 28, Sept. 11, Oct. 9 and 23, Nov. 6 and 20, and Dec. 4 and 18.

Mental Illness

Family Support

A mental illness family support groups will meet May 22 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Putnam Hospital, in the fourth-floor conference room. Connect with families that have the same struggles as you.

'Driving Madeleine'

Patterson Library will screen "Driving Madeleine" on Wednesday, May 22 at 1 p.m. Watch the French foreign film, shown with subtitles. A beautiful story about an elderly woman forced to move into a nursing home who spends her last day with a taxi driver she befriends. Adults 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click the calendar.

Thursday, May 23

Herb Gardening

Herbalist Tamara Dumay will teach the basics of seeding, transplanting, bed preparation and soil testing for herbs Thursday, May 23 at 1 p.m. at Patterson Library. Learn the health benefits of each plant and how to create your home garden. Bring your gardening gloves and help plant some herbs in the library garden. Adults 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click the calendar.

Friday, May 24

Comedy Showcase

The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition will present "Comedy Around the Corner," a showcase featuring up-and-coming comics from the Hudson Valley, on May 24 from 8 to 9:30 p.m. at Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster. Register at www.culturalartsco.com.

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Carmel Schools Co

Carmel Central School District's Special Education Parent-Teacher Organization, Carmel Teachers' Association, the Carmel School Board, Putnam County Community Engagement & Police Advisory Board, local businesses, organizations, residents, students, teachers and other advocates came together during a district-wide multicultural fair May 3 at George Fischer Middle School. The event included art, cultural displays, food, entertainment and more.

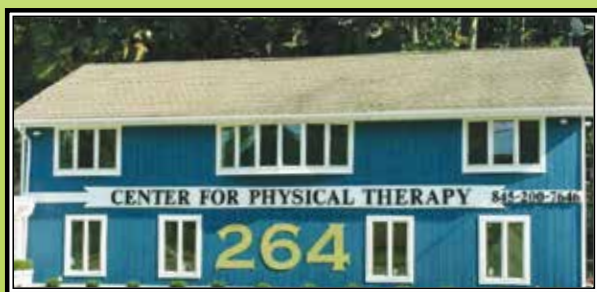


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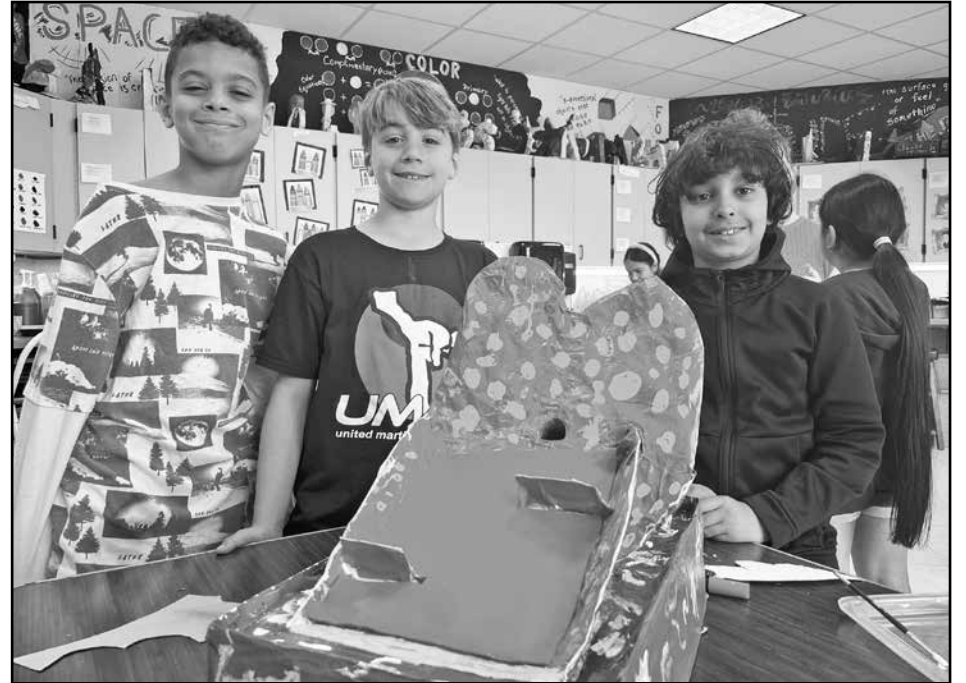
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Arts & Athletics Merge at Brewster School



Students put the finishing touches on their artist-inspired mini-golf holes.

Fourth-graders at C.V. Starr Intermediate School in Brewster have been working on a year-long multidisciplinary project in their “specials” classes that

will culminate in a school-wide mini-golf event, in which each student will be able to golf a hole inspired by an artist.

Earlier this year, in art class,

students picked artists such as Walt Disney, Romero Britto, Basquiat and Wayne Thiebaud, to name a few.

They created a paper doll

of the artist with moving arms and legs, researched the artist in library, and are creating a multimedia commercial using their Chromebooks to present.

In music class, students have been creating jingles to go along with their artist, and in gym class, they are learning all about golf.

Trailblazing with Byrne

Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne recently announced the scheduling of his annual “Trailblazing with Byrne” constituent forums. Each event begins with a scheduled hour of informal discussion about various topics regarding Putnam County, and is followed by an hour-long walk along a nearby trail or walking path, where more informal conversation continues.

This year’s trailblazing events will feature a number of parks, trails and preserved open

spaces throughout the county. The schedule is as follow:

- Wednesday, May 15 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at the Empire State Trailhead, near 629 Route 311, Patterson
- Sunday, May 19 from 1 to 3 p.m., at the Tonetta Lake Empire State Trailhead, 192-198 Pumphouse Road, Brewster
- Thursday, May 23 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at the Cold Spring pier/bandstand at the intersection of Main and West streets, Cold Spring

County Prioritizes Mental Health & Substance Use Services

Continued from Page 1

as two crisis calls. This means law enforcement can address any immediate danger, while the Co-Responder Team and dual recovery coordinator can help someone experiencing the more complicated issue of a mental health challenge or substance use problem, by

connecting them with extended services.

Legislator Bill Gouldman, R-Putnam Valley, expressed full support for the initiative. “It is needed. I know that, and I’m glad we have it and it’s become effective,” he said.

Putnam is also pushing forward with creating a stabilization center to address people with mental health needs, including addiction, social isolation, trauma, housing instability, suicidal thoughts, and other detriments.

According to County Executive Kevin Byrne, a new location for the center has been selected, at 1071 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel – not far from Putnam Hospital.

“It’s an excellent location,” he said. “I believe it provides a close proximity to a number of facilities and spaces that it complements, and should be very much welcome as a new tenant in the community, and the building.”

Discussions of creating a stabilization center in Putnam began in spring 2022, when the previous administration said it would commit \$2.5 million of American Rescue Plan Act funds to support the cause.

“We are facing a behavioral health crisis in our country, and addressing this locally is imperative,” said Sayegh.

She said the center will be 100 percent voluntary, in which adults, children and families can get help for up to 24 hours – either walking in on their own or being brought in by EMS or law enforcement. It will be a non-clinical facility where patients can connect with counselors, psychiatrists, care managers and other specialists.

“The purpose is to create a 24/7 community crisis hub where people of all ages can connect with an array of health care professionals and services providers,” said Sayegh.

In July, the County Legislature voted to commit the \$2.5 million in ARPA funds to partner with PeopleUSA to develop the center at a location at 2505 Carmel Avenue (Route 6 – near JNR Pharmacy). However, that plan fell through.

“After the Southeast location did not work out, we immediately

– that week – started looking for new sites in the county,” explained Servadio, who said the building on Stoneleigh Avenue is an ideal location.

Steve Miccio, president of PeopleUSA, said the location will allow for a dedicated space for youth, as well as an entry for law enforcement to drop off patients that is separate from those who walk in on their own accord.

“It’s just the perfect scenario and will work well for the county and work well for us,” he said.

According to Miccio, a contract is in the works to rent the space. “We stand at the ready to move forward,” he said.

Servadio noted that the new recovery center aligns well with the Co-Responder Team and dual recovery coordinator position.

“We see them working very cohesively – coupled with our to-be-established mobile crisis team that PeopleUSA will be running,” she said. “The Co-Responder Team will be in the community and will be bring people into the crisis center.”

Legislator Ginny Nacerino, R-Patterson, said she is happy to see the center moving forward with another location.

“We know from all our past discussions under (former DSS Commissioner) Mike Piazza, and with Sara, how many times we talk about our youth sitting in Putnam Hospital, in the ER, hours and hours, only to be released,” she said. “We are doing such an injustice to our youth. We need these resources, and I certainly hope and expect this will come to fruition.”

Legislator Tony Addonizio, R-Kent, agreed.

“I’m in total support of this – it’s so needed,” she said. “In this day and age, the stigma that’s attached (to mental health), it amazes me.”

Putnam County will host a Mental Health Forum on May 21 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Bureau of Emergency Services, 112 Old Route 6, Carmel. Key areas of focus will include intentional language and person-centered care, and strengths-based services. The event is open to all, and registration is required, at <https://form.jotform.com/241094989511161>.



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Early Salamander & Frog Migration in Hudson Valley

The breeding migrations of vernal pool amphibians got an early start this year due to weather conditions, and 167 volunteers throughout the Hudson Valley braved the rain to document the emergence. Volunteers document the seasonal migration and help salamanders and frogs travel safely as part of DEC's annual Amphibian Migrations & Road Crossings Project.

"The Hudson Valley is home to remarkable amphibian diversity and during this time of year, road mortality poses a significant threat to salamanders and frogs migrating from forests to vernal pools for breeding," said New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos.

"DEC is grateful to the dedicated volunteers ready to assist amphibians attempting road crossings during their annual migrations," he continued. "I encourage all New Yorkers and visitors traveling the state's roads

to be on the lookout for these vulnerable amphibians and the dedicated volunteers keeping them safe."

The Amphibian Migrations & Road Crossings Project was initiated by DEC's Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell University to raise awareness about critical amphibian habitat, engage volunteers to help collect data on the annual migration, and reduce amphibian road mortality. More than 1,000 volunteers have participated in the effort since 2009, helping to move more than 40,000 salamanders, frogs and toads safely across roads.

In late winter and early spring, amphibian species like wood frogs, spotted salamander and Jefferson-blue spotted salamander complex emerge from underground shelters in the forest and head to vernal pools for breeding.

Vernal pools are small, temporary wetlands that are critical breeding habitat for these amphibians. The pools hold

water until summer, so the adult amphibians must gather, breed, and deposit eggs early enough to ensure their aquatic young can hatch, grow, and leave the pools before they dry up.

The timing of migration is weather-dependent with concentrated activity on the first rainy nights of the season, when the ground is thawed and night air temperatures remain above 40 degrees Fahrenheit. The timing of migration varies throughout the Hudson River estuary watershed, but when weather conditions are just right, there can be explosive "big night" migrations with hundreds of amphibians on the move.

On their journeys between forest habitat and breeding pools, these amphibians often need to cross roads, where mortality can be high even when traffic is low.

With the mild winter and warm days, rainfall triggered one of the earliest migrations DEC has observed since the AM&RC project



Photo courtesy of NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

started in 2009. Volunteers counted more than 2,000 amphibians since Feb. 27, mostly wood frogs and spring peepers. More migration, including the appearance of salamanders that breed in vernal pools, was expected to continue.

Project volunteers document road locations where they observe migrations in the Hudson Valley, record weather and traffic conditions, and identify and count amphibians on the move. Volunteers also carefully help the amphibians safely cross roads.

Since the project started, volunteers have documented 20

species and counted more than 47,000 live amphibians and 20,000 migrating amphibians killed by passing vehicles. Species reported most frequently during migration nights include spotted salamander, wood frog and spring peeper.

To a lesser degree, volunteers have also observed Jefferson-blue spotted salamander complex and four-toed salamander – two species of conservation concern in New York.

For more information, including a short video about amphibian migrations, visit <https://dec.ny.gov>.

North Salem Farmers Market Opens in Croton Falls

A new farmers' market opened in northern Westchester on May 11 in the hamlet of Croton Falls, and will return every second Saturday of the month through September.

From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., there will be about 20 vendors selling an array of produce and products, including vegetables, fruit, meat, fish, poultry, eggs, dairy, cheese, baked goods, prepared foods, plants, flowers, cider, and wine and spirits. Each market will offer different kids' activities and musical guests.

This community initiative was started by Natalie Gehrels and Jonas Andersen, owners of Folkways Wines, when they witnessed a growing desire by their customers for a connection to local food sources with the greater Hudson Valley in such close vicinity.

The focus of the North Salem Farmers' Market is to promote

and support local farmers and producers while facilitating an all-round shopping experience for patrons. With ample parking and public transportation, the location was selected for ease for both farmers and patrons alike.

With time, the hope is to grow the market to become a weekly event the community looks forward to and emphasizes the importance of healthy and thoughtful local food systems.

"We are excited to showcase the remarkable talent and rich agricultural heritage of our region," said Gehrels. "This market will become a hub for community engagement, fostering connections between farmers and the residents of northern Westchester and beyond."

For more information, visit www.northsalemfarmersmarket.org or follow the farmers' market on social media.

organization's employees in a service station and told him to leave the area.

On another occasion, Peiffer called one of the Cid-Hernandez drivers and advised him not to travel to Brewster because of law enforcement activities. When a driver for the organization was pulled over by another Brewster police officer, Peiffer vouched for the driver, describing him as a "friend."

In exchange for his assistance, Peiffer received sexual services from the women at no cost, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Four of Peiffer's co-defendants – Luz Elvira Cardona, Roberto Cesar Cid Dominguez, Blanca Hernandez Morales and Jose Facundo Zarate Morales – were convicted of sex trafficking, after trial in October 2023, and are awaiting sentencing. Co-defendant Cristian Godinez pleaded guilty to conspiracy to facilitate prostitution and conspiracy to facilitate bribery and was sentenced in December to 14 months in prison.

Carmel to Discuss Battery Farm Ban

Continued from Page 1

hearing, and we'll discuss a moratorium on the large-scale battery farms, and we'll see if their legal opinions are right, and if anyone can sue us," he said. "And let's see if we can sustain it."

After weeks of bitter back-and-forth between the residents and the board, neighbors said they were happy to learn of the board's actions.

"Just in case you don't hear it enough, thank you for hearing us, our neighbors, and trying to be proactive to catch up to something that kind of smacked us all in the face," said Jennifer Cargain. "I appreciate your attention to this, in bringing this moratorium, and hopefully it works to put the brakes on something that I think is very hazardous to everybody here."

Joyce Lambert said the town's zoning codes, laws and requirements are antiquated.

"They were created way before the new technology of lithium-ion batteries," she said.

There is an ongoing race by corporate America to obtain permits to build these green energy facilities before new zoning ordinances affect their opportunity to build these facilities... It is this board's responsibility to protect the people by approving a moratorium to allow a thorough environmental study to be completed."


Ex-Brewster Cop Sentenced to Jail

Continued from Page 1

reportedly provided protection to members of a prostitution business and a sex trafficking organization that each transported women from Queens to Brewster for the purposes of engaging in prostitution.

According to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Peiffer's protection included advance notice of increased law enforcement activities and assistance with avoiding detection and apprehension.

For example, on one occasion, Peiffer warned members of the Cid-Hernandez Sex Trafficking Organization not to travel to Brewster because law enforcement officers in a narcotics investigation were conducting car stops in the area. Peiffer met one of the criminal



TALK SAVES LIVES

A Brief Introduction to Suicide Prevention

Suicide can be prevented. This presentation will cover what we know about this leading cause of death, the most up-to-date research on prevention, and what we can all do to fight suicide.

Participants will learn the common risk factors for suicide, how to spot the warning signs in others, and how to keep ourselves, our loved ones and those in our community safe.


Date: May 15th

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Location: Online-Zoom

Registration is Required

to receive the Zoom Link




<https://talk-saves-lives-putnam-nami-yagzt.attendase.com/>

Brought to you by funds raised by the Hudson Valley/Westchester AFSP Chapter

Co-Sponsored by: MHA in Putnam County and NAMI Putnam

Program Presentation by: Maria Idoni, Area Director
The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention – Hudson Valley/Westchester Chapter



PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Putnam Valley Schools

PUTNAM VALLEY
CENTRAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT
171 OSCAWANA LAKE
ROAD
PUTNAM VALLEY, NY 10579
RFP No. 2023-24-08

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of Putnam Valley Central School District of the towns of Putnam Valley, Lake Peekskill, Cortlandt Manor, and Carmel in accordance with Section 103 of General Municipal Law, hereby invites the submission of sealed RFPs from reputable and qualified Universal Pre-Kindergarten providers for:

UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN (UPK) PROGRAM 2024-2025 RFP No. 2023-24-08

Bid documents are available at the Putnam Valley School District Office, 171 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, NY. Documents can also be found at:

<https://pvcsd.org/index.php/district/district-info/bids-rfp/>

Sealed bids must be clearly marked and will be received until 2:00 pm on May 17, 2024, at the office of the Purchasing Agent:

Putnam Valley Central School District
171 Oscawana Lake Road
Putnam Valley, NY 10579

Each RFP will be awarded to the Vendor with the highest points scored based on the following criteria:

- 10 points - Quality of proposal submitted
- 10 points - Completeness of the proposal submitted
- 15 points - Experience in the field and qualifications of the professional staff assigned to the program
- 30 points - Overall cost of program
- 15 points - References
- 20 points - Proximity of facility to PVES and walkthrough inspection of facility

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

By: Jill Figarella, Director of Business Administration

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Brewster Schools

NOTICE OF ANNUAL
BUDGET HEARING,
BUDGET VOTE AND
ELECTION OF THE
BREWSTER CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT,
PUTNAM COUNTY,
BREWSTER, NEW YORK

a) **NOTICE IS GIVEN** that a Public Hearing for the purpose of discussing the expenditure of funds and the budgeting thereof for the 2024/2025 school year shall be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, in the Brewster Central School District Office Board Room, 30 Farm to Market Road, Brewster, New York at 6:30 p.m.

FURTHER NOTICE IS GIVEN that a detailed statement of the amount of monies which will be required for the ensuing year for school purposes will be available to residents between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. during the fourteen (14) days, other than a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, immediately preceding the Annual Election to be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Such copies will be available on the

PUBLIC NOTICE

District's website, and at all public school buildings, to wit: District Office, 30 Farm to Market Road; Brewster High School, 50 Foggintown Road; Henry H. Wells Middle School, 570 Route 312; C.V. Starr Intermediate School, 20 Farm to Market Road; John F. Kennedy Elementary School, 31 Foggintown Road, Brewster, New York. Such copies will also be made available at the Public Hearing on May 14, 2024.

b) **VOTING** on the budget and the following propositions will be held at Brewster High School, 50 Foggintown Road, Putnam County, Brewster, New York on the 21st day of May 2024, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

PROPOSITION NO. 1 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Brewster Central School District be authorized to appropriate the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures of the district for the forthcoming fiscal year 2024/2025; such funds to be raised by tax on the taxable property of the district to be levied and collected as provided by law.

c) **NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN** that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education or other propositions must be filed with the District Clerk between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. not later than Monday, April 22, 2024. The following vacancies are to be filled on the Board of Education:

Three (3) Seats for 3-Year Term: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027

All seats on the Board of Education are at large. Each petition nominating a candidate must state the name and residence of the candidate, must be signed by at least 28 qualified voters of the District, and must state the residence of each signer.

All other petitions must be directed to the District Clerk and must be signed by at least 68 qualified voters of the District.

d) **NOTICE OF REGISTRATION**: Registration will be accepted for the purpose of preparing a register of the qualified voters of such District at the District Office, 30 Farm to Market Road, Brewster, New York throughout the year, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The last day of registration before the Annual Election of May 21, 2024 will be Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

A qualified military voter who is not currently registered can request a military personal registration form from the District Clerk between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Additionally, qualified military voters can contact the District Clerk to indicate their preference to receive a military personal registration form via mail, facsimile or electronic mail.

Voters registered for general elections under Article 5 of the Election Law are eligible to vote at the May 21, 2024 election without further registration. Voters who have been previously registered for any annual or special meeting or election and who have voted at any such annual or special meeting or election held or conducted during the last four calendar years preceding 2024 are eligible to vote at the May 21, 2024 election without further registration.

The register prepared will be filed in the office of the District Clerk and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on each of the five days prior to the election including Saturday,

PUBLIC NOTICE

May 18, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The register will not be available on Sundays. The register will also be available for inspection on the day of the election at the polling place at Brewster High School.

In addition, the Board of Registration shall meet during the hours of election on May 21, 2024 to prepare a register for meetings or elections held subsequent to the Annual Election.

e) **NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN** that applications for absentee ballots and early mail ballots for election of Members of the Board of Education, and adoption of the annual budget and referenda may be applied for at the Office of the District Clerk. Such application must be received by the District Clerk no earlier than thirty (30) days before the election, and at least seven days before the election, if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or on the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter or the designee listed on the application. Qualified military voters may request a military absentee ballot application from the District Clerk between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and may indicate their preference to receive a military absentee ballot application via mail, facsimile or electronic mail. Absentee ballots for military voters shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of Section 2018-d of the Education Law and Part 122 of the Commissioner's Regulations. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots and early mail ballots shall have been issued will be available in the office of the District Clerk between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on each of the five days prior to the election including Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The registers will not be available on Sundays. The registers will also be available for inspection on the day of the election at the polling place at Brewster High School. No absentee voter's ballot or early mail voter's ballot shall be canvassed unless it shall have been received in the office of the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

By order of:
The Board of Education
Lauren Zagorski-Treuel,
District Clerk
Brewster Central School
District
Brewster, New York 10509

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Carmel Schools

CARMEL CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Patterson, NY 12563

NOTICE OF ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING AND ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual District Meeting and Election by the qualified voters of the Carmel Central School District, in the Counties of Putnam and Dutchess, New York (the "District"), will be held in each of the voting districts set forth below at the place specified in each election district where the annual budget vote and election will be conducted by voting machine on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM. A public hearing shall be held for the purpose of presentation of the expenditure of funds and the budgeting thereof for the 2024-2025 school year on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, in the George Fischer Middle School Auditorium, 281

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fair Street, Carmel, NY 10512.
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that two vacancies exist on the Board of Education for the seats of Trustee John C. Curzio II and Trustee Melissa Orser as follows: Two (3) year terms commencing July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2027.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education shall be filed with the Clerk of said School District at her office in the Administration Building, 81 South Street, Patterson, NY, not later than Monday, April 22, 2024, between 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM. Vacancies on the Board of Education are not considered separate, specific offices; candidates run at large. Nominating petitions shall not describe any specific vacancy upon the Board for which the candidate is nominated; must be directed to the Clerk of the District; must be signed by at least sixty-eight (68) qualified voters of the District; must state the name and residence address of each signer and must state the name and residence address of the candidate.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the following propositions in substantially the following form shall be presented to the qualified voters of the District at such Annual District Meeting and Election:

(1) a proposition to adopt the annual budget of the School District for the fiscal year 2024-2025 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.

(2) **RESOLVED**:

(a) That the Board of Education of Carmel Central School District, in the Counties of Putnam and Dutchess, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to construct safety and security improvements to District buildings (the "Project"), substantially as described in a plan prepared for the District with the assistance of Triton Construction (the "Plan"), which is on file and available for public inspection at the office of the District Clerk; such Project, to include (as and where required) improvements to enhance the safety of facilities and buildings, including door lock hardware and entrance enhancements; door and window replacements; security cameras; emergency lighting; window security and strengthening measures, including intruder-resistant film; and acquisition of AED machines; all of the foregoing to include the original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus and ancillary or related site and other work required in connection therewith; and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of \$11,800,280; provided that the detailed costs of the components of the Project as set forth in the Plan may be reallocated among such components if the Board of Education shall determine that such reallocation is in the best interests of the District;

(b) that a tax is hereby voted in the amount of not to exceed \$11,800,280 to finance such cost, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education; and

(c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of not to exceed \$11,800,280 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that for the purposes of voting, the School District has been divided into three (3) election districts and that an accurate

PUBLIC NOTICE

description of the boundaries of these election districts is on file and may be inspected at the Office of the Clerk, 81 South Street, Patterson, NY, on weekdays when school is in session, during regular work hours, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. The vote upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures or propositions involving expenditure of money, or authorizing the levy of taxes, for the 2024-2025 school year, and for the election of Board members shall be held in each election district at the place designated as follows: Election District No. 1. Register and vote at Carmel High School. Election District No. 1 shall be comprised of Carmel Central School District residents who are within the Towns of Carmel, Southeast and Putnam Valley. Election District No. 2. Register and vote at Kent Elementary School. Election District No. 2 shall be comprised of Carmel Central School District residents within the Towns of Kent in Putnam County, and East Fishkill in Dutchess County. Election District No. 3. Register and vote at Administrative Offices of Carmel Central School District. Election District No. 3 shall be comprised of Carmel Central School District residents within the Town of Patterson.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT a statement of estimated expenses for the school year will be completed, and copies shall be made available, including the tax exemption reporting form, at each school house in the District in which school is maintained from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the District Office from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM on each day other than a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, and at any free association or public library in the School District, during the fourteen days immediately preceding the annual budget vote and election, together with the text of any proposition which will be presented to the voters. The Budget will also be available on the District website.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law, personal registration of voters is required. No person shall be entitled to vote at the annual budget vote and election whose name does not appear on the register of the School District, or who does not register as herein provided.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any person registered to vote with the Putnam or Dutchess County Board of Elections pursuant to the Election Law is eligible to vote at the annual meeting without prior registration with this school district. If any person has heretofore registered to vote with the school district and has voted at an annual or special school district meeting within the last four (4) calendar years, they are eligible to vote at the annual meeting on May 21, 2024.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the qualified voters of the District may register on any regular business day at the office of the District Clerk, 81 South Street, Patterson, NY, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM until five (5) days prior to the vote. No person shall be entitled to vote whose name does not appear upon the School Register or upon the registration list furnished by Putnam and Dutchess Boards of Election for election districts encompassing the District.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the register of qualified voters, including military voters who have registered to vote, shall be filed in the office of the Clerk of the District at the School District Office, 81 South Street, Patterson, NY, in said School District; that such register shall be open for inspection by any qualified voter of said District on each of the five (5) days prior to the vote between the hours

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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PUBLIC NOTICE

of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, except Sunday, on Saturday May 18, 2024 by appointment only, and at the polling places on the date of the annual meeting.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, pursuant to Section 2018-a of the Education Law, applications for absentee ballots and early mail ballots for the budget vote and election of board members may be obtained at the office of the Clerk of the District. An application for an absentee or early mail ballot must be received by the District Clerk no more than thirty (30) and at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter or the voter's authorized agent set forth in the application, at the District Office. A list of all persons to whom absentee and early mail ballots shall have been issued and a list of all military voters to whom military ballots have been issued, will be available for public inspection in the said office of the Clerk during regular office hours until the day of election. Any qualified voter may file a written challenge of the qualifications of a voter whose name appears on such list, stating the reasons for the challenge.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that military voters who are not currently registered to vote may obtain an application to register as a qualified voter of the District and military voters who are registered to vote in the District may obtain an application for a military ballot, for the Annual Meeting on May 21, 2024 by contacting the District Clerk at 81 South Street, Patterson, NY, Telephone (845) 878-2094, Ext. 201, or email jstevens@carmelschools.org. The military voter may indicate their preference for receiving the registration and/or ballot application by mail, facsimile or email. The completed application to register and/or for a military ballot must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 P.M. on April 23, 2024. Military ballots will be mailed or otherwise sent no later than 25 days before the election. Military ballots must be returned by mail or in person and received by the District clerk by 5:00 P.M. on May 21, 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CARMEL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT DATED: Patterson, NY By: Joanne Stevens March 2024 Clerk, Board of Education

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Kent

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

25 Sybil's Crossing Kent Lakes, NY 10512 Agenda May 20, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Kent will hold a Public Hearing on Monday May 20 2024 at the Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY at 7:30 p.m. to review the following applications

1. Victor Alacon 14 Little Fill Court Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-24-004 Replacing existing shed for a bigger shed (12x10) and move the location about four feet back from current position. Tax Map 32.-1-52

2. Carmel Studios/Michael Gileno 539 Route 52 Carmel, NY 10512

PUBLIC NOTICE

ZBA-24-006 Variance for a change of use, from a motel to apartment/residential use. Tax Map 33.40-1-1

3. Julian Paz 12 Harvard Drive Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-24-007 Variance to permit the continuation of a two family use, non-owner occupied. Tax Map 22.74-1-72

4. Paul Zaino 43 Ludington Court Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-24-008 Variance for building a 16x25 shed that will be less than the required distance from property line (25 feet front yard)

5. Michael Corrado 221 Ressique Street Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-24-009 Variance for square footage and road frontage

The Zoning Board of Appeals will entertain any other business, which is properly presented to the Board.

SITE INSPECTIONS ARE THE 2nd. SUNDAY OF THE MONTH. Between 9am & 10:00am

CC:Town Clerk Town Board Zoning Board of Appeals Members Planning Board Clerk Wm. Walters, Building Inspector

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Southeast

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

STARR RIDGE MANOR WATER DISTRICT IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHEAST, PUTNAM COUNTY, NEW YORK

INCREASED COST OF IMPROVEMENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Southeast, Putnam County, New York, did duly adopt on April 25, 2024, the following Order Calling a Public Hearing on the question of an increase in the cost of the improvements to the Starr Ridge Manor Water District in the Town in the amount of \$2,550,000.

Southeast, New York Kathleen Chiudina May 10, 2024 Town Clerk

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Southeast, Putnam County, New York, held at the Town Hall, in Brewster, New York, in said Town, on the 25th day of April 2024, at Seven o'clock P.M., Prevaling Time.

PRESENT: Nick Durante Supervisor Eric Cyprus Councilmember Eric Larca Councilmember Wendy Lewis Councilmember Alex Mazzotta Councilmember

In the Matter Of a Proposed Increase (Pursuant to Section 209 h of the Town Law) in the Maximum Amount Authorized to be Expended in Connection with the Establishment of a Water District in the Town of Southeast, Putnam County, New York, Known as Starr Ridge Manor Water District

PUBLIC NOTICE

in said Town ORDER CALLING PUBLIC HEARING

WHEREAS, the capital improvements hereinafter described have been determined to be a Type II Action pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the implementation of which as proposed, the Town Board has determined will not result in a significant environmental effect and adopted a resolution memorializing such determination on February 22, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the improvements to be made are the construction of a water filtration system, including installation/replacement of water filtration and storage facilities, mains and laterals, the construction/replacement of wells, and construction/replacement and operation of pumps and pump station(s) to serve properties in a water district in the Town of Southeast, Putnam County, New York, known as Starr Ridge Manor Water District (the "Water District"); and

WHEREAS, after all necessary proceedings were duly had and taken in accordance with the provisions of the Town Law, the Town Board of the Town of Southeast, Putnam County, New York, has heretofore duly established the Water District at a maximum estimated cost of \$25,000.00 and such establishment was approved by the Order of the New York State Controller ("OSC") issued April 19, 1965; and

WHEREAS, the Water District has been operating and providing water to the residents within the Water District since its inception; and

WHEREAS, recent water tests have revealed the presence of "emerging contaminants" of a chemical nature emanating from the ground water which require treatment to reduce / eliminate such contaminants from the water according to Federal, State and local health regulations; and

WHEREAS it now appears that such maximum estimated cost for the improvement must be increased to a new maximum estimated cost of \$2,550,000 and proceedings commenced pursuant to Section 209 h of the Town Law for the approval of such estimated expenditure; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of hook-up fees to the typical property in the Water District remains \$-0- and the estimated cost of the Water District to the typical property therein, being a one family home, is estimated to be \$1,886 in the first year in which operation, maintenance, debt service and other charges and expenses are to be paid; and

WHEREAS, a detailed explanation of the manner by which said costs for the typical property were computed as well as all materials completed in compliance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act, have been filed in the office of the Town Clerk where the same are available for inspection during regular office hours; and

WHEREAS, the properties within the boundaries of said Water District described by applicable tax map designation are attached hereto as Exhibit A and hereby made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to call a public hearing upon the

PUBLIC NOTICE

question of the aforesaid increase in costs for the establishment of said Water District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

ORDERED, by the Town Board of the Town of Southeast, Putnam County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Southeast, Putnam County, New York, shall be held at the Town Hall, 1360 Route 22, in Brewster, New York, in said Town, on the 30th day of May, 2024, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., Prevaling Time, to consider the question of determining whether to increase the maximum estimated cost described in the preambles hereof is in the public interest, and to hear all persons interested in the subject thereof concerning the same, and for such other action on the part of said Town Board in relation thereto as may be required by law or as may be proper in the premises.

Section 2. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this Order to be published once in the official newspaper of said Town, and a copy thereof to be posted on the signboard of said Town maintained pursuant to subdivision 6 of Section 30 of the Town Law, both publication and posting to be made not less than ten (10) nor more than twenty (20) days before the date set herein for the hearing as aforesaid.

Section 3. This Order shall take effect immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Order was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Councilman Eric Cyprus voting Aye Councilman Eric Larca voting Aye Councilwoman Wendy Lewis voting Aye Councilman Alex Mazzotta voting Aye Supervisor Nick Durante voting Aye

The Order was thereupon declared duly adopted.

EXHIBIT A

- 79.-1-32 79.-1-35 79.-1-36 79.-1-38 79.6-1-1 79.6-1-2 79.6-1-3 79.6-1-4 79.6-1-5 79.6-1-6 79.6-1-7 79.6-1-8 79.6-1-9 79.6-1-10 79.6-1-11 79.6-1-12 79.6-1-13 79.6-1-14 79.6-1-15 79.6-1-16 79.6-1-17 79.6-1-18 79.6-1-19 79.6-1-20 79.6-1-21 79.6-1-24 79.6-1-26 79.6-1-27 79.6-1-28 79.6-1-29 79.6-1-30 79.6-1-31 79.6-1-32 79.6-1-33 79.6-1-34 79.6-1-35 79.6-1-36 79.6-1-37 79.6-1-38 79.6-1-39 79.6-1-40 79.6-1-41 79.6-1-42 79.6-1-43

PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Patterson

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Town of Patterson Planning Board of a public hearing to be held on June 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard, at the Patterson Town Hall, 1142 Route 311, Patterson, Putnam County, New York to consider an application entitled "Fair Street Enterprises Site Plan and Wetlands/Watercourse Permit Applications" for the construction of 25,712 s.f. of commercial buildings to be used for contractor rentals. The proposal is for four 150' by 40' buildings, each with four 40' by 40' units which include 245 sq. ft. of office space and a small vestibule/reception area. Behind each building is a fenced gravel area for the contractors' use. Wetlands exist on the site with a portion of the proposed development within the wetland buffer. Other site improvements, such as parking and stormwater practices, are also being proposed. The 11.31± acre property runs parallel to Interstate 84 to the west and is located at 763 Fair Street (I Zoning District) Patterson, New York. All interested parties and citizens will be given an opportunity to be heard in respect to such application.

By Order of the Planning Board Ron Taylor, Chairman

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PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Supreme Court

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK INDEX NO. 500805/2023 COUNTY OF PUTNAM

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING

Plaintiff, vs.

CHRISTOPHER M. PIESCO; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; MAREL CAPITAL, if living, and if she/he be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

“JOHN DOE #1” through “JOHN DOE #12,” the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint,

Defendants.

Plaintiff designates PUTNAM as the place of trial situs of the real property

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Mortgaged Premises:

93 OAK RIDGE DRIVE, PUTNAM VALLEY, NY 10579

Section: 30.18, Block: 1, Lot: 3

To the above named Defendants

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judgment against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum

PUBLIC NOTICE

of \$328,652.00 and interest, recorded on December 14, 2018, in Liber 6878 at Page 320, of the Public Records of PUTNAM County, New York., covering premises known as 93 OAK RIDGE DRIVE, PUTNAM VALLEY, NY 10579.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

PUTNAM County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer to the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.

Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: April 15th, 2024

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Jinghan Zhang, Esq.
900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310
Westbury, NY 11590
516-280-7675

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT PUTNAM COUNTY

SANTANDER BANK, N.A., Plaintiff against

ERIC MOORE, et al Defendant(s)

Attorney for Plaintiff(s) McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC, 28 Corporate Drive, Suite 104, Halfmoon, NY 12065.

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered October 20, 2023, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the Putnam County Courthouse, Courtroom 209, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on June 3, 2024 at 9:30 AM. Premises known as 25 Ferris Drive, Garrison, NY 10524. Sec 90.8 Block 1 Lot 29. 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. Approximate Amount of Judgment is \$467,899.32 plus interest, fees, and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No 800093/2022.

The foreclosure sale will be conducted in accordance with 9th Judicial District's Covid-19 Policies and foreclosure auction rules. The Referee shall enforce any rules in place regarding facial coverings and social distancing.

Craig Wallace, Esq., Referee File # 23-001045-01

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PUBLIC NOTICE

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF PUTNAM

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF2 ACQUISITION TRUST, Plaintiff - against - DAVID SOTO, et al Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on March 19, 2024, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Putnam Supreme Courthouse located at 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on the 10th day of June, 2024 at 10:30 AM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate at Lake Nimham, in the Town of Kent, County of Putnam and State of New York.

Premises known as 45 Chief Nimham Drive, Carmel, (Town of Kent) NY 10512.

(SBL#: 21.13-1-50)

Approximate amount of lien \$182,448.72 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.

Index No. 501077/2022. Wendy Marie Weathers, Esq., Referee.

Davidson Fink LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 400 Meridian Centre Blvd, Ste 200

Rochester, NY 14618

Tel. 585/760-8218

Dated: March 29, 2024

During the COVID-19 health emergency, bidders are required to comply with all governmental health requirements in effect at the time of sale including but not limited to, wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing (at least 6-feet apart) during the auction, while tendering deposit and at any subsequent closing. Bidders are also required to comply with the Foreclosure Auction Rules and COVID-19 Health Emergency Rules issued by the Supreme Court of this County in addition to the conditions set forth in the Terms of Sale.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF PUTNAM

-----X

HUDSON VALLEY CREDIT UNION F/K/A HUDSON VALLEY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, NOTICE OF SALE

Plaintiff, -against- Index No. 500015/2023

ROBERT J. LINKENHOKER, “JOHN DOES” and “JANE DOES”, said names being fictitious parties intended being possible tenants or occupants of premises, corporations, other entities or persons who claim, or may claim, a lien against the premises,

Assigned

Judge: Hon. Gina C. Capone Justice of the Supreme Court

Defendants.

-----X

In pursuance of an Order Confirming Referee's Report And Judgment of Foreclosure And Sale duly entered the 8th day of April, 2024, I, the undersigned, Referee in said Judgment of Foreclosure And Sale named, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the Putnam County Courthouse, Courtroom 209, 20 County Center, Carmel, New York 10512, on the 10th day of June, 2024 at 3:30 o'clock in the

PUBLIC NOTICE

afternoon of that day the premises known as 1-1A Ward Street, Brewster, New York 10509. ALL THAT PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN THE VILLAGE OF BREWSTER, TOWN OF SOUTHEAST, PUTNAM COUNTY, STATE OF NEW YORK, (TAX MAP ID #56.81-1-29) BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS A METES AND BOUNDS PROPERTY, directed by said Judgment to be sold. APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF JUDGMENT \$167,900.44 PLUS INTEREST AND COSTS.

The premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment of Foreclosure And Sale and Terms of Sale.

Carl Laurence Finger, Esq., Referee
HANDEL & CARLINI, LLP
1984 New Hackensack Road
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603
Tel. No. (845) 454-2221

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF BKPL-EG HOLDING TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. KRISTEN DEAK A/K/A KRISTEN J. DEAK A/K/A KRISTIN TURNER A/K/A KRISTEN DEAK-TURNER, Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on October 19, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Courthouse, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on June 10, 2024 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 130 Hewitt Street, Lake Peekskill, NY 10537 a/k/a 10579. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Putnam Valley, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 83.67, Block 1 and Lot 9. Approximate amount of judgment is \$351,784.99 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #501131/2022. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed at the foreclosure sale.

Frank Lombardi, Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff
Firm File No.: 221838-1

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT, Plaintiff AGAINST UNKNOWN HEIRS OF HERMAN FRIEDMAN IF LIVING, AND IF HE/SHE BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING: OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered March 15, 2024, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the

PUBLIC NOTICE

Supreme Court in Courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Court, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on June 10, 2024 at 11:30AM, premises known as 160 Simpson Road, Carmel, NY 10512. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Southeast, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 44, Block 1 Lot 25.3. Approximate amount of judgment \$890,089.32 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #501089/2022. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the PUTNAM County COVID-19 mitigation protocols and as such all persons must comply with social distancing, wearing masks and screening practices in effect at the time of this foreclosure sale. Anthony Centone, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC 1775 Wehrle Drive Williamsville, NY 14221 21-000576 80373

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM MEB Loan Trust VII, U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee, Plaintiff AGAINST Charles G. Melchner; Lillian K. Melchner; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered March 25, 2024 I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Court, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on June 17, 2024 at 3:30PM, premises known as 722 South Lake Boulevard, Carmel, NY 10541. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Hamlet of Mahopac, Town of Carmel, County of Putnam, State of NY, Section 75.11 Block 2 Lot 4. Approximate amount of judgment \$964,850.88 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 500309/2020. The auction will be conducted pursuant to the COVID-19 Policies Concerning Public Auctions of Foreclosed Property established by the Ninth Judicial District. Joseph Anthony Ruggiero, Esq., Referee LOGS Legal Group LLP f/k/a Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: April 9, 2024 80274

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF THE LB-CABANA SERIES IV TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. PETER AMEIJIDE, Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on March 15, 2024, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Courthouse, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on June 17, 2024 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 784 Union Valley Road, Carmel, NY 10512. 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 77.13, Block 1 and Lot 1. Approximate amount of judgment is \$374,742.15 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold

Carmel Students Honor Pacific Islander Heritage



First-graders at Kent Primary School recently learned about Pacific Island culture.

When a video of a young hula dancer played on the white board in Allison Keating's classroom, some first-graders caught their breath.

"She's just a little girl," said Eva, age 6. "How does she know how to do that?"

Juliane, 7, quickly piped up. "She's not a little girl. She might be 6 or 7 years old or something."

Soon, the 6- and 7-year-olds in Kent Primary School's four first-grade classes were waving their arms, tapping their feet and doing their own hula dances.

The children celebrated Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month by dancing a Hawaiian hula, drawing Japanese cherry trees, cutting out and coloring "birds of paradise" from Papua

New Guinea, and creating masks of Chinese dragons.

"We have read-alouds, crafts, PowerPoints and more that we are working on," said teacher Corinne Phillips. "We think this will be a great enrichment and equitable opportunity for the first grade here at KPS."

Each of the four first-grade classrooms was set up as a different

nation and as the children went from one room to the next, they learned a little about the history, culture and geography of the various countries.

Looking at the Hawaiian Islands on a global map, Ronin asked, "Why is Hawaii so small?"

His friend Ethan answered, "It's small for the U.S., but it's big for humans."

Graffiti Art Brings Nostalgia to Carmel



Work by Jose Marti is currently featured at Arbor Gallery in Carmel.



Arbor Gallery's May exhibit, "Underground Styles," with artwork by Jose Marti, is on view through May 30, at Promenade on 6, 1875 Route 6, Carmel. The show features graffiti and street-style art on subway maps and signs, skate decks and more.

"This is a show that everyone is connecting to in some way," said curator Kelly Edwards. "We have a lot of residents who have grown up in the city or commuted on these rails for years, and when they see their area highlighted in such a way, they instantly start telling me stories about their experiences. Some of these maps are vintage, from the 1970s, which has prompted discussions about their times on those trains back then."

Marti's use of spray paint, color and line on top of authentic maps and signs connects the graffiti style to its New York City roots in a way that can be brought into the home.

The artist said he is inspired and influenced by growing up in Brooklyn, his passion for martial arts, and his love of animals, nature and heritage.

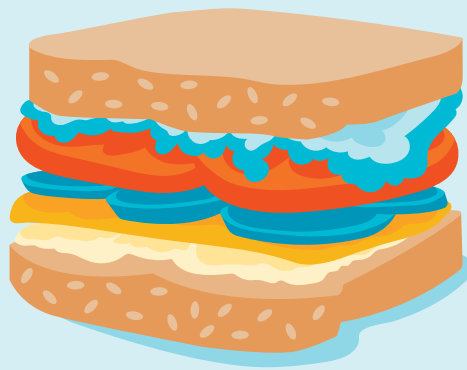
A catalog of works in the exhibit is available at www.arbortgallery.art.

Arbor Gallery hosts art nights every Friday from 5 to 7 p.m., when artists are welcome to bring their own supplies and create in the gallery. Also, "It's Okay to Wobble," a solo exhibit by Ryan Patrick Martin, will be featured in June.

For more information on shows, events and opportunities, visit the website, or Facebook/Instagram.

Optum

Essential precautions for summer food festivities



As Memorial Day weekend launches the onset of summer vacation and travel, families eagerly anticipate gatherings filled with flavorful barbecues and picnics. Amid the joyous celebrations, it's paramount to prioritize safe food handling practices to keep you and your guests safe from potential foodborne illnesses such as Salmonella and E. coli. Implementing precautionary measures during food preparation and consumption helps to prevent the risk of illness, hospitalizations and even fatalities.

What are some food safety guidelines to follow?

Some helpful and easy tips include: wash your hands and surfaces often, keep raw meats, poultry, seafood and eggs separate from cooked and ready to eat food, cook to the right temperature (depending on the type of food a safe temperature is 145°F to 165°F), and refrigerate perishable food within two hours (one hour when temperatures are over 90°F degrees).

What are the most common symptoms of food poisoning?

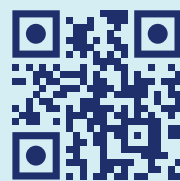
Symptoms can range in severity as well as duration, depending on the germ ingested. The most common symptoms include:

- Diarrhea
- Nausea
- Fever
- Stomach pain or cramps
- Vomiting

When should I see a doctor for food poisoning?

It is important to seek medical care when symptoms are severe or prolonged. According to the CDC these symptoms include:

1. Bloody diarrhea
2. Diarrhea that lasts more than 3 days
3. High fever (temp. over 102°F)
4. Vomiting so often that you cannot keep liquid down
5. Signs of dehydration
6. If you are pregnant and have a fever and other flu-like symptoms, you should see your doctor immediately



Scan the QR code or visit optum.com/medicalcare

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