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PUTNAM COUNTY'S LOCAL NEWSPAPER

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

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EDITORIAL@PUTNAMPRESSTIMES.COM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024

## 100 Days Smarter! Students Celebrate School Year Milestone



Students in many districts across the county celebrated the 100th day of the school year recently by dressing as 100-year-olds and participating in activities that highlighted the number 100.



Kindergartners in the Brewster Central School District (pictured) made hats, counted out 100 Fruit Loops to make necklaces, sang songs, drew pictures of themselves as 100-year-olds, read 100 words, listed 100 things they have learned in the first 100 days of school – and more. Provided photos.



## Nuvance Health-GoHealth Urgent Care Opens Center in Carmel

Nuvance Health-GoHealth Urgent Care has opened a new center in Carmel, providing an affordable and accessible healthcare option for people who live and work in the Hudson Valley.

The new center is located in the ShopRite Plaza at 186 Route 52, near the Carmel Cinema entrance, and in the same shopping center as Nuvance Health Primary Care.

Patients can see a Nuvance Health-GoHealth urgent care provider for diagnosis and treatment of non-life-threatening illnesses or injuries, and can also receive referrals to Nuvance Health's network of primary and specialty care providers, when necessary.

"Having easy access to high-

quality care is essential for our community's health," said Dr. Reed Idriss, medical director at Nuvance Health-GoHealth Urgent Care. "We are committed to expanding our urgent care network and are excited to open our new center in Carmel, bringing convenient and affordable care to where our patients live and work."

The Carmel center provides care for patients age 6 months and older, offering a wide array of services for conditions including flu, fever, earaches, insect bites, sprains, simple fractures, eye injuries, and cuts requiring stitches. It is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day, including holidays.

The new location follows  
*Continued on Page 10*



Patients can walk into the new center at 186 Route 52, Carmel, for healthcare.

## Carmel & Kent Double Down on Emergency Team

By Holly Crocco

With the Putnam County Sheriff's Office pulling out of a longtime partnership with the Kent and Carmel police departments to make up the Putnam County Emergency Response Team, the two town boards and police departments recently reaffirmed their commitment to keeping the team alive.

In October 2006, the three agencies entered into a moratorium of understanding to receive and extend assistance to each other in the form of emergency services, and have been doing so ever since. However, last December, the towns were notified by the Putnam County Attorney's Office that due to an administrative error,

the sheriff's office must withdraw from the agreement.

At the Feb. 6 Kent Town Board meeting, Supervisor Jaime McGlasson said the town "regretably" accepts the county's withdrawal from the ERT, but, along with the Kent Police Department, will continue to work with the Town of Carmel and the Carmel Police Department in making up the ERT.

"In our towns, shared services are such an important aspect of what we do, and this is like the ultimate shard service because it keeps our residents safe," she said. "Carmel, Kent, everyone working together benefits our residents."

Kent Police Chief Kevin  
*Continued on Page 11*

## Putnam Hires New EMS Director

Christopher Shields started his tenure last week as the new director of emergency management in the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services. He brings with him 20 years of experience as a special agent in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and six years as a U.S. Capitol Police special agent.

Shields assumed his duties Feb. 13, coinciding with a significant snowstorm that saw nearly a



Christopher Shields

foot of snow in Putnam County. Undeterred by the challenging weather, Shields jumped in and played a significant role, working side-by-side with EMS Commissioner Bob Lipton in managing the response efforts on his first day.

"Christopher Shields brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role of director of emergency management," said Lipton. "His

*Continued on Page 12*

# Letters to the Editor

## Laura Russo Earned Her GOP Endorsement

Dear Editor:

I'd like to clear the record surrounding the nomination of Laura Russo to run for county legislator. Many of you may know me from my years of service to the Town of Patterson as a proud member of our Putnam Lake community. What you may not know is I've also served the Republican Party as a town and county committee member for well over a decade, and most recently as its secretary.

I was shocked to read Ms. Kozlowski's recent letter to the editor with many ill-informed assertions about our GOP committee's January meeting, where every candidate had the opportunity to engage with committee members before, during and after, to solicit support.

First off, Ms. Kozlowski was not there. If she had attended, she would have known that our endorsed candidate for county legislator, Laura Russo, was the only candidate to receive a nomination at the meeting. She would have known that while Laura was serving as the interim chairperson of the committee, to avoid any conflict, Laura tempo-

rarily stepped back from her post when the position of Legislative District 4 came up for discussion and I, as committee secretary, ran the meeting.

Ms. Bumgarner was given proper notice and was present at the meeting, and yet not a single person stood up to nominate or voice their support for her candidacy – for any elected post, which is why Laura won the endorsement 14-1. This doesn't mean our committee agrees on everything. At this very same meeting, a separate interview process occurred to endorse a candidate to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Republican Patterson Town Councilman Pete Dandreaano. That interview and selection process was hotly contested.

The point is there was a wide variety of opinions in the room, but every one of us voted for Laura, except for Ms. Bumgarner, who without explanation voted nay.

Ms. Kozlowski would have known this if she was a member of the Republican committee, but she's not. I looked her up in the Republican roles from the Board of Elections and was surprised to see she's not even a registered Republican. So in the end, she

would not have been welcome at our meeting, regardless.

This is Putnam County, not New Hampshire. Every law-abiding citizen has a right to vote, and our friends who are registered Democrats, Independents, Conservatives, etc. ... all have a sacred right to vote, but that's in the general election or in their own political primary – not in our Republican committee or in our Republican primaries.

All this comes as less of a surprise once you learn that Ms. Bumgarner only recently joined the Republican town committee a few months ago. Never before has she expressed an interest in supporting our Republican Party or its candidates. ...

Laura Russo has always stood up for our Republican and Conservative values.

Laura is a regular presence at Patterson Town Board meetings. She also attended the more recent Putnam County legislative meeting where we stood up to New York City's effort to drop migrants in our community. Laura Russo's commitment to public service is also highlighted by her many hours of volunteer service as a member of the Putnam Lake Park District Advisory Board and as a member of the Putnam Lake Fire Department's Ladies Auxiliary. She cares.

There is a reason the Patterson Town Republican Committee met, interviewed, and ultimately backed Laura Russo for Putnam County legislator. There's a reason she's now endorsed by Putnam County Republican Chairman Andres Gil, Assemblyman Matt Slater, County Executive Kevin Byrne and Legislator Bill Gouldman. It's because she earned it.

*Peggy Burns  
Patterson*

### Help Honor Carmel's Heroes

Dear Editor:

The Carmel School Board's Facilities & Transportation Committee is endeavoring to identify the names of all Carmel High School students who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our nation in the armed forces. It is our hope to honor the sacrifice made by these heroes on a plaque to be placed in a prominent location at the high school.

To date, we have identified the following (former) CHS students:

World War II – Sgt. John J. Cook and 2nd Lt. William Mahl. We also believe Pvt. Francis J. Adams may have been a CHS student.

Korean War – Pvt. 1st Class Richard F. Turpin

Vietnam War – Cpt. James C. Foster Jr., Lt. Col. Harry Roy Lagerwall and Capt. Edward I. Starr.

If you are aware of a former Carmel High School student who died while serving our country, please send an email to [jourzio1@carmelschools.org](mailto:jourzio1@carmelschools.org), [vrocco@carmelschools.org](mailto:vrocco@carmelschools.org), [jparaske@carmelschools.org](mailto:jparaske@carmelschools.org) or [BOE@carmelschools.org](mailto:BOE@carmelschools.org). You can also call 845-902-8477.

We thank the community for their assistance in helping honor our community's heroes.

*John Curzio II, Valerie Crocco and Jason Paraskeva*

*Transportation & Facilities Committee, Carmel School Board*



## Working Mom By Holly Crocco

# Learning to Lose

Mikey is going through a phase where he doesn't like to lose. Actually, that's putting it mildly. He can't tolerate it in any way, shape or form, and has an epic meltdown when he doesn't win.

Even if we're just shooting hoops outside, any time I land a basket – even if we aren't keeping score – he says, "That doesn't count."

Since my husband and I insist on playing by the rules and losing gracefully, this leads to a lot of unfinished games; if the 5-year-old doesn't want to play by the rules, or otherwise throws a fit, we tell him we don't want to play with him.

However, Mike and I recently had a losing situation that was hard for us, as parents, to swallow.

Mikey participated in his first Boy Scouts pinewood derby earlier this month. Now, other parents had told us the event is a you-know-what match between dads, but we shrugged that off.

The "supply kit," being the box that came with a block of wood and four wheels, came home with Mikey and his dad from a December meeting. My husband used time off during Christmas break to work on the car with the child. Since he's only 5 he wasn't exactly able to use the saw, but he helped draw a design, and he marked on the wood where his dad should make the cuts.

Also during the holiday break, Nonno came over and they painted it together. Once the car was decorated, Mike let Mikey help him drill the holes for the nails that hold the wheels in place. Since Mikey was helping, the wheels ended up a little crooked, but they're only plastic and Mike was afraid to forcefully correct them, so they just lived with it.

I should note that throughout this process, Mikey definitely lost interest a few times and had to be redirected back to the project. But he was an active participant and Dad and Nonno were feeling good about helping Mikey build his first pinewood derby car.

The week of the event, the Scouts had a practice run on a small track. There are only four kids in Mikey's level, which is Lions. They are the youngest Scouts (many troops don't even have kindergarteners).

Anyway, at the practice run, one kid showed up with the rectangle block on wheels. Legit zero effort by Scout or parent put forth. Another's kept breaking. Mike thought to bring some tools with him to the meeting, which he lent to the Scout and his dad to make some tune-ups. That same dad texted Mike later that night and asked if he had any extra magnets, which the Scouts use to weigh down the cars. Mike did have extra, so the other dad came and picked some up.

Also during the practice run, Mikey's car seemed to be performing just fine... But not nearly as fine as the kid whose father clearly did all the work and used some sort of laser saw to perfectly shave a vehicle that can break the sound barrier. No way did a 5-year-old make that car. No way. No how.

Race day came and it was a cool event! The track was bigger than I thought it would be, and there was a computer system that picked up how the cars placed and displayed it on a big TV screen.

There were even raffles and snacks for sale, as friends and family came to watch the races and cheer on the Scouts.

The Lions went first. There were four lanes on the track, and the group raced four times, with each car getting a turn on each lane, with an average figured for the final rankings.

And out of the four kids, Mikey came in dead last every time. We knew it was because the damn wheels were crooked.

Every time the picture of Mikey's car showed up with the number 4 under it, he turned to us and asked why his car was coming in last place. We did our best to tell him it didn't matter, that the point of the whole project was to build something with your dad (and grandpa) and have fun – which he was.

At the end of their race, all four boys got medallions.

And Mikey was resilient. As the event progressed, he didn't seem to mind any longer that his car came in last place. He was running around with his friends and cheering on the older kids.

But I knew my husband was stewing.

Later that night, after Mikey went to bed, Mike told me it was burning him up that a kid who had a literal brick on wheels – no effort put forth by father or son – kept coming in second. And that the other Scout would have had a dud if my husband hadn't lent him tools and weights. And the kid who wiped the floor with all the other Scouts, the one who clearly didn't participate at all in his car building. ...

It was all so unjust.

But, I guess that's life, right?

I tried my best to give my husband the whole, "You had the bigger win because you stuck to the spirit of the project and Mikey spent quality time with his dad and grandpa building the car" spiel, but I knew it was lame.

It was just unfair.

It also seemed stupid for both my husband and I to lose sleep over it. But we did.

The next morning I circled back around to the topic and said we can't really begrudge the guy who has older kids in Scouts and knew what to do to design a car for his kid that left everyone else in the dust. I mean, it wasn't his first rodeo. Whatcha gonna do?

Mike agreed, and told me he spent the entire night planning how he's going to make next year's car: small and heavy. He's going to whittle that block down to a toothpick and put wheels and weights on it and watch it go like the DeLorean.

And Mikey's going help.

Watch out, boys, we're coming for you in 2025!

*Holly Crocco is editor of the Putnam County Times/Press and mother of an almost-6-year-old. She can be reached at [editorial@putnampresstimes.com](mailto:editorial@putnampresstimes.com).*

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Putnam Valley Library

## Brewster F.D. Honors 'Old Timers'



Brewster Fire Department honored longtime members Alan Mitchell, Charlie Erickson, George Godfrey, Joe Dexter, Frank Rondinone, Jim Delawder, Al Palancia, Rich Taylor and many others for making the department what it is today.

Among the members honored was past Capt. Charlie Erickson, with more than 65 years of service under his belt. Erickson has picked up painting in his spare time, and donated a piece of art to the department, which will be framed and hung in the firehouse.



The Brewster Fire Department held its annual Old-Timer's Night on Feb. 9, honoring the achievements made and years of service given to the department by its most senior members.

"Thank you for coming out tonight and, more so, thank you for allowing me to share in celebrating this special night with you all," said Assistant Chief Steve Miller at the gathering.

As an assistant chief, it is his responsibility to help train new probationary members as they enter the ranks of the volunteer organization. On orientation day, one of the first slides they see in the welcoming presentation is titled "Who Are We?" – as in, who is the Brewster Fire Department?

"In 1870, the Brewster Fire Department was formed by a group of local merchants and willing residents of the community," recited Miller. "Their efforts were the beginning of a life-saving and property protection organization that has evolved into a modern fire defense and ambulance service."

He said the department firmly believes this is so important for new members to understand, "because we can't exactly know who we are, unless we truly

grasp who we came from."

BFD is made up of local merchants and willing residents. But it is also Alan Mitchell, with more than 70 years of service. It is Charlie Erickson and George Godfrey, with more than 64 years of service; Joe Dexter and Frank Rondinone with more than 50 years of service; Jim Delawder, Al Palancia and Rich Taylor with more than 40 years of service; and so many more just like them who make the department what it is today.

"While the faces going in and out of the firehouse everyday may have changed, rest assured that your traditions are our traditions, your laughs are our laughs, and your pride is indeed our pride," said Miller. "I am truly honored and humbled to be able to call myself a chief in this outstanding department. Thank you all for paving the way for the future of the Brewster Fire Department."

## Southeast Pharmacy Burglarized

The Putnam County Sheriff's Office is investigating a burglary that took place at a pharmacy in the Town of Southeast.

According to Sheriff Kevin McConville, at about 3:45 a.m. Feb. 12, deputies were dispatched to the JNR Pharmacy for a commercial burglar alarm activation. Upon arrival, it was determined that the front glass door was

smashed, and that someone(s) had entered the building, then fled.

The owner was contacted and is in the process of determining the amount and type of loss.

Sheriff's deputies and investigators are working with other law enforcement agencies to determine if it is related to other pharmacy burglaries that have occurred in the area recently.

## Bullet Found on School Property

The Putnam County Sheriff's Office was recently called to a local school after a bullet was found on the property.

According to Sheriff Kevin McConville, just before noon Feb. 8, a single live round of ammunition was found in the grassy area near the playground at the George Fischer Middle

School on Fair Street in Carmel. A lockdown was put in place at the school while a search was conducted of the building and grounds, with help from Kent and Carmel police.

About 45 minutes later the lockdown ended.

The investigation into the incident is continuing.

## Missing Vulnerable Adult from Garrison


The Putnam County Sheriff's Office is asking for the public's assistance in locating a missing "vulnerable" adult from the Garrison area.

According to Putnam County Sheriff Kevin McConville, Colin Albert Marma, 26, has schizophrenia and bipolar disorder and may be in need of medical attention.

He was last seen Feb. 2 wear-

ing a black sweatshirt, black gym pants, red sneakers and a black baseball cap. The vehicle he was operating, a 2004 Mercedes with New York registration KXE6055, was recently located in the Hamilton Heights neighborhood of upper Manhattan.

Marma is believed to be in the New York City area. Anyone with information on his whereabouts is asked to call 845-225-4300.



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# Kent Seniors Learn About Consumer Affairs

The Kent Senior Citizens Club recently learned how the Putnam County Consumer Affairs Department operates, when Senior Code Enforcer Joseph Baldanza treated more than 100 club members to a presentation that included a question-and-answer period. Their next meeting was scheduled Feb. 18, with members of the Lake Carmel Fire Department as the guest speakers. Here, club President Nina Veale thanks Baldanza.



## Nutrition Corner

By Allison J. Stowell  
MS, RD, CDN



## Heart Health: Know Your Numbers

Happy Heart Month! It's that time of year when folks like me remind you that we need to take risk factors for heart disease seriously and do what we can reduce our risk. The most common risk factors for heart disease are chronic elevated blood pressure, elevated cholesterol, a BMI greater than 25, smoking, alcohol, and improper diet. While it's true that age and family history are also risk factors, they're significantly offset when the previous six risk factors are reduced. I regularly offer free, 30-minute, Zoom classes focused on empowering you to do just that (email me for more information!).

Understanding your heart disease risk begins with having regular blood work to know your numbers: LDL Cholesterol: Elevated LDL cholesterol puts you at greater risk for heart attack and stroke. We must seek to keep our LDL cholesterol below 100mg/dL. To lower LDL cholesterol reduce your intake of saturated fat from high fat meats, whole milk dairy, and coconut as much as possible.

HDL Cholesterol: Unlike LDL cholesterol, we want to see your HDL cholesterol high (above 40mg/dL for men/above 50mg/dL for women). Increasing your activity level is the best way raise your HDL cholesterol, while only consuming mono and poly unsaturated fats prevents it from lowering.

Total Cholesterol: This is a measure of your HDL and LDL combined. To reduce risk, aim to keep your total cholesterol below 200.

Triglycerides: Elevated triglycerides along with elevated LDL cholesterol increases risk of heart disease. If your cholesterol levels are normal, but triglycerides are elevated then I strongly recommend moving toward a diet low in saturated fat and especially carbohydrates (carbohydrate intake can elevate triglyceride levels).

Blood Sugar: While elevated blood sugar is not a marker for heart disease, it's an important measurement to keep in mind. There is a common crossover between heart

disease and diabetes, and having risk factors or being diagnosed with one of these chronic diseases increases your risk for the other.

Allison Stowell MS, RD, CDN is a registered dietitian for Hannaford Supermarkets. For more information on free, virtual nutrition classes and more, email: [astowell@hannaford.com](mailto:astowell@hannaford.com).

### One Pot Ratatouille (2 Guiding Stars) Hannaford.com

Ratatouille freezes well and makes the perfect make-ahead meal.

#### Ingredients:

- 4 tsp. olive oil, divided
- 2 yellow onions, chopped
- 3 bell peppers, chopped
- 6 medium zucchini, chopped
- 2 medium eggplants, cubed
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 large tomatoes, chopped
- 1 bay leaf
- 4 sprigs thyme
- 1 tsp. salt
- Pepper to taste
- 1/4 cup sliced fresh basil

#### Directions:

1. Warm one-quarter of the oil in a large, heavy-bottomed pot over medium-high heat. Sauté the onions and peppers until brown and soft (8-10 minutes). Transfer to a large bowl and set aside.

2. Add one-quarter of oil to the pot and sauté the zucchini until soft (2-3 minutes). Add to onions and peppers.

3. Add one-quarter of oil to the pot and sauté eggplant until translucent (5-6 minutes). Add to cooked vegetables.

4. Add remaining one-quarter of oil to the pot and sauté the garlic until fragrant (1 minute). Stir in the tomatoes, bay leaf, thyme, and salt.

5. Return all vegetables to the pan. Simmer, stirring occasionally, until all vegetables are tender, and mixture is slightly creamy (1 hour). Remove bay leaf and thyme. Add pepper to taste and stir in the basil to serve.

## Sweet Chili Shrimp with Quinoa

(Family Features)  
Sweet Chili Shrimp with Quinoa

#### Ingredients:

- 1 Minute Brown Rice & Quinoa Cup
- 4 ounces (1/2 cup) cooked shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1/2 cup frozen Asian-style mixed vegetables, thawed
- 2 tablespoons sweet chili sauce
- 2 tablespoons thinly sliced green onions
- 1 tablespoon chopped peanuts

#### Directions:

Heat rice and quinoa cup according to package directions. In small, microwave-safe bowl, combine shrimp and vegetables.



Microwave on high 30 seconds. Stir in sweet chili sauce. Blend well.

Serve shrimp mixture over rice topped with green onions and peanuts.

Servings: 1  
Source: Minute Rice

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# Mahopac Youngsters Get Visit from Carmel P.D.



After Mrs. Ettlinger's class at Lakeview Elementary School in Mahopac surprised members of the Carmel Police Department with drawings, cards and a basket of snacks, officers stopped by the classroom to thank the youngsters for their kindness. They presented the class with a certificate of kindness, answered questions and let the "junior officers" try on some police gear.



# Feral Cat from Put Valley Tests Positive for Rabies

A feral cat recently found in the Peekskill Hollow Road and Tinker Hill Road section of Putnam Valley has tested positive for rabies.

The Putnam County Department of Health asks any residents who may have come into contact with this cat to call 845-808-1390 to determine if post-exposure treatment is necessary. Rabies staff can be reached 24 hours a day.

The rabies virus is nearly 100 percent fatal once a person begins showing signs and symptoms, according to the health department.

Early last week, the un-owned cat was safely transported to a veterinarian after it was exhibiting neurological signs of rabies. The health department worked with the veterinarian to determine the need for rabies testing, which was lab-confirmed positive Feb. 8.

This is the second incidence of confirmed rabies in Putnam Valley this year, and is an important reminder to keep pets up to date on rabies vaccinations and avoid contact with all wild animal, according to the health

**RABIES ALERT**

A feral cat was found in Putnam Valley that tested positive for rabies. The cat was located in the area of Peekskill Hollow Road and Tinker Hill Road on February 3.

If you were in contact with this cat, immediately call the health department at 845-808-1390. If you are calling after 5pm or on the weekend, call 845-808-1390 and press 3 for the emergency line.

The Putnam County Department of Health reminds residents that strange behavior in an animal may be a sign of rabies. This includes acting unusually aggressive or tame, excited, irritable, or lethargic.

Putnam County Department of Health

This cat, which was found in Putnam Valley, has tested positive for rabies.

department.

The department reminds residents that strange behavior in an animal may be a sign of rabies. This includes acting unusually aggressive or tame, excited, irritable or lethargic.

Residents are also reminded to promptly report any animal bite, or contact with a wild animal, to the health department at 845-808-1390. After-hours or on weekends, staff can be reached through voicemail by pressing "three." A health department representative will return the call promptly.

The health department offers three free rabies pet vaccination clinics each year. The next is scheduled March 23 from 10 a.m.

to noon at Veteran's Memorial Park in Carmel. The other two

clinics occur in July and November. More information can be found at [www.putnamcountyny.com/health/rabies](http://www.putnamcountyny.com/health/rabies).

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## We Will Miss

### Brewster

**Thomas Palmer**, 60, February 3, Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

### Cold Spring

**Giovanni (John) Joseph Scanga**, 67, January 29, Clinton Inc Funeral Homes, Cold Spring, (845) 265-3333.

### Mahopac

**Frank Dominick Piccone**, 93, January 29, Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

**Michael S. Donohue**, 91, February 1, Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

**Ezekiel McCray**, 97, February 5, Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

**Vincent "Vinny" Lupinacci**, 83, February 6, Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

**Francesca Maria Iannitto**, 85, February 6, Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

**Catherine DeCandia**, 99, February 8, Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

**Bridget H. O'Mara**, 90, February 8, Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

### Patterson

**John Edward Byrne**, 64, February 6, Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

**Thomas M. Lennon**, 60, February 7, Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

### Putnam Valley

**Joseph Piechocniski**, 73, February 1, Heritage Funeral Home, Putnam Valley, (845) 526-3000.

**Edward T. Crane Sr.**, 77, February 9, Cargain Funeral Homes Inc., Mahopac, (845) 225-5655.



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# Carmel Veteran Receives Congressional Gold Medal

A small crowd gathered recently at Carmel Town Hall to witness Congressman Mike Lawler bestow the special Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal to World War II veteran Jim Dipelesi, as authorized by special legislation in 2020.

Dipelesi, now 97, joined the U.S. Merchant Marine at age 16 right after the attacks at Pearl Harbor. After training at the base in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, he sailed during the Battle of the Atlantic, bringing vital supplies to U.S. allies in the fight against the Nazis and fascists.

Subsequently, when he became of age, Dipelesi joined the U.S. Navy and served on a light cruiser, the USS Duluth, in the South Pacific. While on the Duluth, he served during a typhoon, Kamikaze attacks, and ended up sailing into Tokyo Bay.



Veteran Jim Dipelesi is honored by Congressman Mike Lawler.



Jobseekers peruse the tables at the recent Putnam County Career Expo.

## Putnam Career Expo an 'Overwhelming Success'

Some 200 jobseekers attended the first Putnam County Career Expo on Feb. 7, at the Bureau of Emergency Services in Carmel. The event was organized by the county's personnel department, and featured 10 county government departments that set up booths to discuss current and future vacancies in their respective offices.

Attendees were able to meet department heads and employees, complete applications and submit resumes for both full- and part-time positions.

"This was an overwhelming success, especially for a first-time event," said County Executive Kevin Byrne. "We received a number of qualified applicants for key positions in county government. Hopefully we can bring some folks on board and fill these vacancies. We're always looking for new talent and there's a lot of great career paths offered."

Virginia Redlon of the personnel department said she was pleased with the turnout.

"This was a big undertaking and we are so happy with the success of the event," she said. "We are so grateful to have the support of the County Executive's Office and the attending departments. Everything came together perfectly."

Personnel department staff were on hand to walk individuals through the application and hiring processes, discuss civil service examinations and the professional and personal benefits of working for county government.

The Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center and several area volunteer fire departments were also recruiting at the expo.

With the success of the event, the county has already begun preparations to host another career expo in the fall, with plans to expand the number of employers present.

For announcements and more information about job postings in county government, visit [putnam-countyny.com/personnel](http://putnam-countyny.com/personnel).

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# Putnam County Community Events

## Free Trees for Kids

Kent Public Library is partnering with Neighborhood Forest for Earth Day 2024. Register your child to receive a free tree to plant in your yard. Registration lasts until March 15, at <https://kentlibrary.org>.

## Irish American Org. Seeks Members

The Ancient Order of Hibernians of Peekskill is seeking new members to join in celebrating Irish heritage and culture. Monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Brodie's Pub, 3262 E. Main St., Mohegan Lake. Contact President John Joyce for more information at 914-844-7744 or [aohdivision-18peekskill@gmail.com](mailto:aohdivision-18peekskill@gmail.com).

## Tuesday, Feb. 20

### IDA Meeting

The Putnam County Industrial Development Agency will meet Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. in the conference room at 2 Route 164, Patterson. View the meeting at [www.facebook.com/putnamida](http://www.facebook.com/putnamida). The minutes and a recording will be posted to [www.putnamida.com](http://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: Feb. 20, March 5 and 19, April 2 and 16, May 7 and 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.

### Winter Break Programs

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will host winter break programs for ages 6 and older at 11 a.m. Make snowflakes/winter crafts Feb. 20, enjoy brownies and Bingo on Feb. 21, enjoy a movie and popcorn Feb. 22. Registration is required at [www.carmellibrary.org](http://www.carmellibrary.org) or 845-225-2439.

### 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., which for the first five months in 2024 will be Feb. 20, March 19, April 16 and May 21.

## Wednesday, Feb. 21

### Carmel Town Board

The Carmel Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. at Town Hall on the following Wednesdays: Feb. 21; March 6, 13 and 20; April 3, 10 and 17; May 1, 8 and 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.

### Spanish for Kids

Join Miss Jen and build language skills through stories, songs and activities at Brewster Public Library. For ages 5 to 8 from 4:30 to 5 p.m., and for ages 9 to 11 from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m., on Wednesdays, Feb. 21; March 6 and 20; and April 3 and 17. Registration is required at [brewsterlibrary.org](http://brewsterlibrary.org) or 845-279-6421.

## Thursday, Feb. 22

### Southeast Town Board

The Southeast Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. at Town Hall on the following Thursdays: Feb. 22, March 7 and 21, April 11 and 25,

May 9 and 30, June 13 and 27, July 11 and 25, Aug. 8 and 29, Sept. 12 and 26, Oct. 10 and 24, Nov. 7 and 21, and Dec. 5 and 19.

### Trivia Night

Sean McGrath will bring Trivia Night to Patterson Library on Thursday, Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m. Gather your team of six or the library will team you up with others when you arrive. Adults only. Attendance is limited. Register at 845-878-6121 or [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org).

## Friday, Feb. 23

### Veterans Ski Event

Veterans, first responders and their families are invited to join Guardian Revival and Hudson Valley ShredVets at Thunder Ridge Mountain in Patterson on Feb. 23 from 2 to 8 p.m. Equipment and instruction available. Email [hello@guardianrevival.com](mailto:hello@guardianrevival.com).

### Build, Play & Socialize

Spend an hour of STEM play with a variety of building materials suitable for age 18 months and older, from 9 to 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 23 at Brewster Public Library. Children and their caregivers can get creative with a supply of Duplo bricks, magnetic tiles and Plus Plus blocks, while socializing with other families. Drop-in, free build program.

### Trivia Night

Putnam History Museum will host an American Revolution Trivia Night on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. at 63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, or remotely. Tickets range from \$15 to \$20. Register at [www.putnam-historymuseum.org](http://www.putnam-historymuseum.org).

## Saturday, Feb. 24

### Intro. to Tarot Cards

Teens in grades seven through 12 are invited to Kent Public Library for an interactive program Saturday, Feb. 24 from 1 to 2 p.m. Discover the art of Tarot and Oracle cards with longtime enthusiast and collector Aldona Pilmanis. Learn the history behind these magical decks and get tips on where to (and not to) buy cards, how to store and care for them and how best to learn what the cards mean.

## Monday, Feb. 26

### History of Slavery

Peter Bunten, executive director of the Mid-Hudson Antislavery History Project and vice president of the Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State, will present "History of Slavery and Antislavery in the Mid-Hudson Area" on Feb. 26 at 11 a.m. at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel. Registration is required at [carmellibrary.org/calendar](http://carmellibrary.org/calendar).

### Explore the Cosmos

Take a stellar journey in preparation for the April 8 total solar eclipse. Join Dr. Michael Zeilhofer to explore the cosmos and learn how stars are classified and the evolutionary track of all the known types of stars in the universe, Monday, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. at Kent Public Library and via Zoom. Register at <https://kentlibrary.org>, [Programs@KentLibrary.org](mailto:Programs@KentLibrary.org) or 845-225-8585.

## Tuesday, Feb. 27

### CCSD Budget Meetings

The Carmel School Board will

discuss the 2024-25 budget on the following dates, at 6:30 p.m. in the Carmel High School library: Feb. 27, March 12 and 26. In addition, a presentation is scheduled April 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the George Fischer Middle School auditorium. The annual budget hearing is May 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the CHS library, with the vote May 21. Visit [carmelschools.org](http://carmelschools.org), click "District Information" and then "Budgets & Audits," for more information.

## Wednesday, Feb. 28

### Patterson Town Board

The Patterson Town Board will meet the following Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Town Hall: Feb. 28, March 13 and 27, April 10 and 24, May 8 and 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.

### 'Barbie'

Patterson Library will show "Barbie" on Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 1 p.m. Following the chance to leave Barbie Land and venture into the real world, Barbie and Ken quickly realize the ups and downs of living among humans. Rated PG-13. Register at 845-878-6121 or [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org).

### Blues Jam

The Hudson Valley Blues Society hosts a blues jam every fourth Wednesday of the month from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster. A backline is provided so bring your instrument, your voice, or just listen to some great music; small pedalboards now permitted. \$7 for HVBS members; \$10 for non-members. BYO refreshments; water and soft drinks sold. [www.thehvbs.org](http://www.thehvbs.org).

## Thursday, Feb. 29

### Winter Coffeehouse

The Cultural Arts Coalition will present its winter coffeehouse, the first of a quarterly series, Thursday, Feb. 29 at 7:30 p.m., at the Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster. Poet and DJ Brittany Carrasco will host this open-mic-style evening of poetry, acoustic music, comedy and stories shared in a supportive, cabaret-style environment. Signups start at 7 p.m. Admission (at the door) is \$5, and refreshments will be served. Other coffeehouses are scheduled Thursdays, April 11, Aug. 22 and Nov. 7. [www.culturalartsco.com](http://www.culturalartsco.com).

## Friday, March 1

### Irish Soda Bread Sale

The Brewster VFW Post 672 auxiliary is holding a homemade Irish soda bread bake sale fundraiser. \$20 per loaf. Orders will be accepted by phone from March 1 to 10. Call Chris at 914-588-9497, Deb at 845-803-1563 or Karen at 845-721-0265. Orders can be picked up Saturday, March 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the VFW Hall.

### Light Up the Sky

Light Up the Sky to raise funds for St. Jude Children's Hospital on March 22 at Arts on the Lake, 640 Route 52, Carmel. Release lanterns and participate in a silent auction. Vendors sought. A vendor networking party is scheduled March 1, with free advertising for vendors and donors. Follow Instagram for information. Text or call 407-545-5061, or email

[lightupthesky2939@gmail.com](mailto:lightupthesky2939@gmail.com).

### 'Romeo & Juliet'

The Brewster Theater Company will present a special production of Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet" at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, March 1, 2, 8 and 9; and at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at The Theater at Drew Methodist Church, 28 Gleneida Ave., Carmel. Tickets are \$25 and available at [www.brewstertheater.org](http://www.brewstertheater.org) and at the door.

## Saturday, March 2

### 'Inside Emily Dickinson'

The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition will kick off Women's History Month with an empowering literary and theatrical experience Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. at Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster. Tickets cost \$20, or \$10 for students, and may be purchased at [www.ticketleap.events/tickets/culturalartsco/inside-emily-dickinson](http://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/culturalartsco/inside-emily-dickinson). Refreshments will be served.

### Good Witch of Salem

Arts on the Lake will present "A Magical Afternoon" with the Good Witch of Salem, on Saturday, March 2 from 1 to 3 p.m., at 640 Route 52, Kent. Children of all ages (accompanied by an adult) are invited to this story experience, and make crafts. Tickets are \$40 for one child and adult, and \$15 for each additional child. AotL members receive a \$5 discount. Ticket includes admission and all crafting materials. Tickets at [www.artsonthelake.org](http://www.artsonthelake.org). For more, visit [www.goodwitchofsalem.com](http://www.goodwitchofsalem.com).

### Community

#### Basketball Challenge

Carmel Rotary Club, Carmel High School Interact Club and CHS Mentor Club will present the 17th annual Community Basketball Challenge Fundraiser on Saturday, March 2 from 9 a.m. to noon at the CHS gymnasium, 30 Fair St., Carmel, once again offering nonprofit organizations and community groups an opportunity to raise funds to support their programs and services. Details are available at <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/2208>, or by emailing [rotary.carmel.ny@gmail.com](mailto:rotary.carmel.ny@gmail.com).

## Monday, March 4

### Sonic Tournament

Join Kent Public Library for an epic PS5 Sonic Superstars Tournament on Monday, March 4 from 5 to 9 p.m. Play as Knuckles, Tails, Sonic and Amy Rose - work together to defeat the evil Dr. Eggman. Snacks provided. For grades five through 12. Registration is recommended at <https://kentlibrary.org>, [Publicity@KentLibrary.org](mailto:Publicity@KentLibrary.org), or 845-225-8585.

## Tuesday, March 5

### Table Talk Tuesdays

CoveCare Center will present Table Talk Tuesdays to promote resilience and family connections, at 6 p.m. at Sauro's Town Square Pizza, 1072 Route 311, Patterson, on March 5; Cold Spring Pizza, 120 Main St., on March 12; Cacciatori Pizza, 941 South Lake Blvd., Mahopac, on March 19; and Gaetano Pizza & Cafe, 100 Independent Way, Brewster, on March 26. Reservations are required. Email [prevention@covecare-center.org](mailto:prevention@covecare-center.org) or call 845-225-2700, ext. 117. Includes complimentary

pizza, soda and light dessert.

## Lake Mahopac Garden Club

The monthly meeting of the Lake Mahopac Garden Club will be held Tuesday, March 5 at Airport Park in Mahopac. Participants are welcome and asked to bring their own lunch. Meeting begins at 11:30 a.m. The program presentation will be "Current Trends in Flower Arrangement" by Karen Climi, owner of Flower Boutique Shop in Mahopac. [www.lakemahopacgc.com](http://www.lakemahopacgc.com).

### Medicare Plans

Do you receive Medicaid or Veterans benefits? Did you know you can also register for Medicare and receive additional benefits? Tuesday, March 5 at 1 p.m. at Patterson Library, Maggie Flynn of Advocate Health Advisors will explain how to increase your benefits by enrolling in all the plans you qualify for. Register at 845-878-6121 or [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org).

## Thursday, March 7

### Celtic Duo Concert

Join Patterson Library on Thursday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m. for a musical evening with the Celtic Duo Dan Ringrose and Jeanne Freeman. They will entertain with traditional Irish and Celtic music with a touch of contemporary folk. Adults only. Register at 845-878-6121 or [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org).

## Saturday, March 9

### Trivia Night

CoveCare Center will present an online trivia night Thursday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 9. Teams of up to 10 compete through four rounds of trivia. Prizes for first place and best team name. \$25 per player. Mulligans are \$30 per pack of three, for rounds one through three only. Sign up at <https://covecarecenter.org>.

### Reduce College Costs

Learn how to research the true cost of college and how to negotiate the college tuition Saturday, March 9 at 11 a.m. at Kent Public Library. Discuss FAFSA, grants, loans, scholarships, work study programs, federal vs. private loans, 529 plans and the Navient lawsuit. For teens and adults. Registration is ded at <https://kentlibrary.org>, [Programs@KentLibrary.org](mailto:Programs@KentLibrary.org) or 845-225-8585.

## Sunday, March 10

### Parade

The Northern Westchester/Putnam St. Patrick's Day Parade is scheduled Sunday, March 10 (rain or shine) at 2 p.m., along Route 6 in Mahopac.

### Send Us Your Community Events

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

Send info to [Editorial@putnampresstimes.com](mailto:Editorial@putnampresstimes.com).

Please allow two weeks notice.

# Colorful & Culinary Creations

Young patrons at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel recently spent an afternoon painting and making edible snowmen.



# FEEL THE RHYTHM



Ernesto of Song & Beat, Inc., recently led an interactive, informative and exciting family drumming circle at Kent Public Library. Families had fun playing African drums and percussion, and singing call and response.

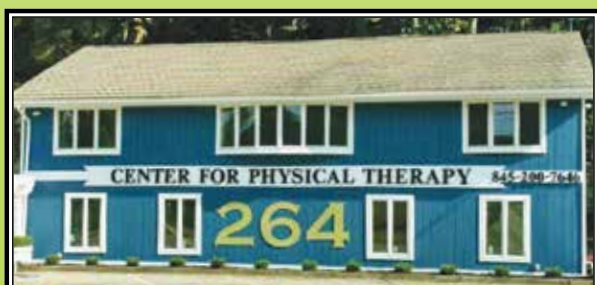


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# 'WIZARD' VISITS BREWSTER STUDENTS



The parent-teacher association organizes these shows to raise money for the district. Last year, proceeds went to purchase a gaga pit, among other things.

Student volunteers helped Big Jake spin the basketball on a pen, dribble the ball, dance and shoot the ball. They received posters and free Wizards swag for their participation.

Big Jake of the Harlem Wizards – who is 6 feet, 8 inches tall – visited CV Starr Elementary School and Henry H. Wells Middle School in Brewster for grade-level assemblies Feb. 5, before the Wizards played against teachers that weekend at the middle school.

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[ArtsOnTheLake.org](http://ArtsOnTheLake.org)

EXCLUSIVE NY APPEARANCE



## The Good Witch of Salem

March 2, 1 - 3 pm

Arts on the Lake

640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, NY 10512

Info/Tickets:

845 228-2685

[artsonthelake.org](http://artsonthelake.org)

# Beat the Winter Blahs

(Family Features) Cool winter days may have you tempted to burrow under a blanket and wait out the weather, but there are plenty of entertaining and affordable ways to enjoy quality family time together despite chilly temperatures.

Kids who are cooped up indoors during the winter often get restless, but you can make the most of that boredom by gathering everyone and discovering new ways to create memories together.

## Get Your Game On

Forget about screen play and instead show the younger generation how much fun it can be to take on family rivals with classic board games or work in teams to complete age-appropriate puzzles. These activities allow everyone to participate and practice skills like problem solving while having fun.

## Make a Meal Together

You likely know it's a good idea to gather the family around the table for a meal, but there's no need to wait until the food is done. Not only does cooking together give you something fun to do as a family, but it also helps kids develop important life skills and healthy habits, exposes them to new food options and allows them to practice reading and math when they follow recipes.

Get everyone in on the prep work with kid-friendly foods such as flavorful frozen waffles that can be used as the base for simple and delicious recipes. Start the day by making breakfast a family affair or mix things up and prepare a breakfast menu for dinner.

## Explore What Surrounds You

Resist the temptation to huddle indoors and instead ex-



Photo courtesy of Family Features.

plore how your community transforms with the seasons. Look for the best sledding hills or check out seasonal attractions like ice rinks and festivals. Even taking a family drive to marvel at the way snow transforms your surroundings gives you a way to break out of the house and enjoy some entertaining fun.

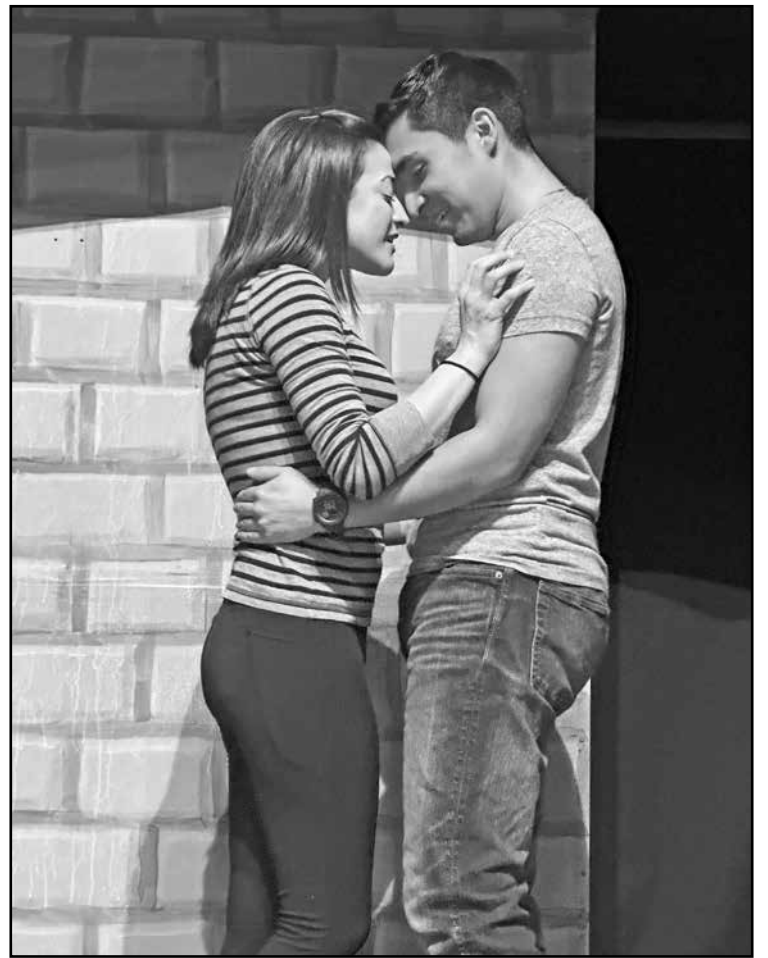
## Give Back to Others

It's never too early to learn the intrinsic good of giving back, and cold winter months are an ideal time to instill a giving

mindset. As a family, you could volunteer time at a local food bank or work together to assemble care kits with warm blankets and socks for the homeless. You could write letters to soldiers or make seasonal greeting cards for seniors at a local nursing home. Big or small, they're gestures that make a lasting impression on young minds.

Find more family-friendly ideas for a winter to remember at [postpebblescereal.com](http://postpebblescereal.com).

Source: *Post Cereals*



Sergio Arguelles and Kat Gonzalez are The Brewster Theater Company's Romeo and Juliet. Photo by Vince Umbrino

## 'Romeo & Juliet' Opens Brewster Theater Co.'s 24th Season

The Brewster Theater Company will present a special production of Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet" at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, March 1, 2, 8 and 9; and at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at The Theater at Drew Methodist Church, 28 Gleneida Ave., Carmel.

Tickets are \$25 and available at [www.brewstertheater.org](http://www.brewstertheater.org) and at the door.

The play is directed by Vince Umbrino and produced by C.J. Umbrino, both of Carmel.

"Shakespeare invented the modern romance story with 'Romeo & Juliet' – this is why it is special and why it still resonates 400 years later," said Vince Umbrino. "But on a deeper, more fundamental level, we think what makes this play special is its ability to fool us into thinking, 'Maybe this time it will be different. Maybe this time they'll make it and run off together, or repair the rift between the families.' It

engenders hope in the audience with each performance."

He said the group strives to find that hope through the text and continue the tradition of passing it along to audiences.

Artistic Director Christopher Gladysz of Brewster elaborated on this choice for BTC's 2024 season.

"Vince presented a vision for his production of 'Romeo & Juliet' to the BTC board that was exciting and compelling, and we just had to say yes," said Gladysz. "I think audiences are in for a terrific night of theater with this production."

The production includes 25 performers and staff from across Putnam, Westchester, Dutchess and Orange counties, and Connecticut.

The Brewster Theater Company is a 501(c)3 nonprofit community theater, entertaining audiences and bringing artists together in Putnam County and its surrounding areas since 2000.

## Nuvance Health-GoHealth Urgent Care Opens Center in Carmel

*Continued from Page 1*

the openings of centers in Poughkeepsie, Kingston and Wappingers Falls, which opened last year under the new partnership. Nuvance Health-GoHealth plans to open additional centers throughout the Hudson Valley, and in Fairfield County, Conn., in 2024 and beyond.

Patients can walk into any Nuvance Health-GoHealth center or use Nuvance Health-GoHealth's online "save-a-spot" tool, which allows patients to save time by securing their spot in line, checking in and completing registration before arriving.

For details about all Nuvance Health-GoHealth locations, [www.gohealthuc.com/nuvancehealth](http://www.gohealthuc.com/nuvancehealth).

Nuvance Health is a system of nonprofit hospitals and outpatient healthcare services throughout the Hudson Valley and western Connecticut, including Danbury Hospital and its New Milford campus, Norwalk Hospital and Sharon Hospital in Connecticut; and Northern Dutchess Hospital, Putnam Hospital and Vassar Brothers Medical Center in New York.

GoHealth is an on-demand consumer-centric care platform that serves as the digital and physical front door to the healthcare ecosystem. Through its partnerships with market-leading health systems and a technology-enabled and data-driven approach, it aims to provide timely, accessible and high-quality on-demand care to patients – both virtually and in person.



## Northern Westchester – Putnam 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade

Sunday, March 10, 2024 at 2:00pm  
Grand Marshal of the 2024 Parade

## Brendan McDonnell

This Parade is one of the largest parades in New York State with six divisions – it consists of numerous marching bands, police and fire departments, civil servants, schools and various organizations throughout the state

Parade will be kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance at 1:30 by the 9/11 memorial on the corner of Route 6 and Croton Falls Road

Parade will kick off at 2:00 pm sharp. Lineup will be on Route 6 between Mt. Hope Road and the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department

Buses will run from the Lake Plaza Shopping Center to the Corner of Route 6 and Croton Falls Road starting at 11:30 am.  
PLEASE COME OUT AND SHARE THE DAY

CELEBRATE YOUR HERITAGE AND BEING AN AMERICAN

For Participation or Sponsorship Information

email [MahopacStPatricks@aol.com](mailto:MahopacStPatricks@aol.com)





From left are Assemblyman Matt Slater, Rep. Mike Lawler and Carmel Town Supervisor Mike Cazzari kicking off the diaper drive at Carmel Town Hall, on Feb. 9. There are various drop-off locations across Putnam and northern Westchester County.

## Diaper Drive Continues Through February

Research shows that one in two U.S. families cannot afford enough diapers to keep their infant or child clean, dry and healthy, which is why for the month of February, Assemblyman Matt Slater, R-Yorktown, is holding a diaper drive to help the efforts of Putnam Community Action Partnership.

There are various drop-off locations throughout the 94th assembly district for donations, to help provide and support the basic needs required to build a strong foundation for healthy growth.

"I'm happy to join forces with Putnam CAP to support families facing challenges in meeting their children's basic needs," said Slater. "I urge those who are able

to visit their nearest drop-off point and contribute. Too many families are grappling with the burden of providing essential resources for their children, and it's imperative we come together to offer any support we can."

Drop-off locations include the Putnam CAP office, 121 Main St., Brewster; Carmel Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Ave., Mahopac; Putnam Valley Town Hall, 265 Oscawanna Lake Road; Southeast Town Hall, 1360 Route 22, Brewster; Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes; Patterson Recreation Center, 65 Front St.; Yorktown Town Hall, 363 Underhill Ave., Yorktown Heights; and Somers Town Hall, 336 Route 202.

### Carmel & Kent Double Down on Emergency Team

*Continued from Page 1*

Owens thanked the town board for the support.

"We are looking forward to moving forward with Carmel P.D.," he said. "We were disappointed when we got the letter (from the county). We look forward to working with them in the future, but right now we want to make sure everyone is safe and that we can continue to support the community."

"We hope they change their mind," added McGlasson, of the county's decision to pull out of the agreement.

The following night, the Carmel Town Board also accepted the county's withdrawal.

"Together with the Town of Kent we are going to continue our commitment to the safety of our residents," said Supervisor Mike Cazzari. "Through our many years, we did joint operations with the sheriff. We did DUI enforcement and drug enforcement and the ERT team, and many other things like accident reconstruction – all for the benefit of the community... For the people of Putnam, not just the Town of Carmel."

He said the "unfortunate event" of the sheriff's office leaving the ERT team causes safety concerns.

"That's why the Town of Carmel Town Board and the Town of Kent Town Board are committed

to keeping our communities safe, and we are going to do whatever we have to do to keep our police departments protecting each of you (residents) – God forbid something bad was to happen," said Cazzari.

During the County Legislature's Dec. 18 Protective Services Committee meeting, Sheriff Kevin McConville explained that the ERT was created in the early 2000s and included members from the sheriff's department and the Carmel and Kent police departments, who made up an agency tasked with training for and responding to critical incidents including hostage situations, barricaded individuals, active shootings, mass casualty and other major incidents.

However, it was brought to the attention of the Putnam County Personnel Department that while new team members were being required to complete and pass physical fitness tests, the personnel department had no paperwork or records of any legislative action that approved these measures, according to McConville.

In early December, all the agencies involved received a letter from the Putnam County Law Department advising the ERT to cease its actions until the matter could be resolved.

The law department "made a determination that since the team was never approved by the appropriate legislative action, nor did it receive insurance, that we had to stop the team as constructed," said McConville.

At that December meeting, he said the sheriff's office was moving ahead with putting together its own team.

## Adoptable Pet of the Week



### Atlas

The Putnam Humane Society has dozens of animal friends in need of homes. Atlas is about 3 years old, and is playful and affectionate. He loves to hike and be outside, but needs to be the only dog in the household. To learn more, contact Putnam Humane Society, 68 Old Route 6, Carmel, at 845-225-7777.

COUNSELING THAT EMPOWERS CHANGE

CoveCare Center®

TRIVIA NIGHT  
VIRTUAL



Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> - 6:30PM  
\$25 per player

\*\* Teams of up to 10 compete through 4 rounds of trivia \*\*

HOST A TRIVIA PARTY!

Get your friends/family together for some laughs and a good cause!

Prizes awarded to the 1st Place Team & Best Team Name

We are in need of EVENT & TRIVIA ROUND SPONSORS!

To sponsor or register, scan the QR code or visit:  
<https://covecarecenter.org/covecare-virtual-trivia-night-2024/>

For more details contact: [development@covecarecenter.org](mailto:development@covecarecenter.org)

Join us for a fun night of trivia and laughs to support the local community programs of CoveCare Center!



Artwork by Mahopac High School's art club is on display at PAC.

## Pop-Up Show Features Mahopac H.S. Artists

The Putnam Arts Council is presenting "Collage Collective: Exploring Unity Through Art," a pop-up show featuring the creative endeavors of Evo44, also known as the art club from Mahopac High School and advised by Sean Flanagan, through Feb. 25 in the A. Eric Arctander Gallery, 521 Kennicut Hill Road, Mahopac.

Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.putnamartscountil.com](http://www.putnamartscountil.com) or call 845-803-8622.

Evo44 provides a safe and motivational environment for students to explore their creativity and inspire one another. Through independent expression and collaborative projects, club members engage in a diverse range of artistic endeavors that reflect their individuality and collective vision.

The art club proudly incorporates Mahopac branding into artworks and advertisements,

showcasing its school pride and support for various school events. This exhibition not only celebrates artistic expression, but also promotes the vibrant spirit of Mahopac High School within the broader community.

Art enthusiasts, supporters of youth creativity and members of the community are invited to view "Collage Collective: Exploring Unity Through Art" and learn about Evo44's mission to evolve the art presence at MHS.

## Table Talk Tuesdays

CoveCare Center will present Table Talk Tuesdays next month to promote resilience and encourage families to connect at mealtime. Each event includes complimentary pizza, soda and light dessert.

Table Talk Tuesdays begin

Marcy 5 at Sauro's Town Square Pizza, 1072 Route 311, Patterson.

On March 12, it will continue at Cold Spring Pizza, 120 Main St.

On March 19, the event will be held at Cacciatori Pizza, 941 South Lake Blvd., Mahopac.

The initiative will end March 26 at Gaetano Pizza & Café, 100 Independent Way, Brewster.

All events begin at 6 p.m.

Reservations are required; email [prevention@covecare-center.org](mailto:prevention@covecare-center.org) or call 845-225-2700, ext. 117.



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

# Navigate the Month of Love

Connecting Medicaid Planning to matters of the heart may seem unconventional, but the law is surprisingly sympathetic to your primary love relationship. New York State law allows transfer of assets to your spouse to obtain Medicaid for long-term care.

These transfers are not penalized. Even if the total assets exceed community spouse guidelines, a "spousal refusal" form may be filed, which allows the ill spouse to receive Medicaid without considering the healthier spouse's assets and income.

No other relationship is treated with the same compassion. For example, with nursing home applications, Medicaid penalizes most asset transfers to children if the purpose of those transfers is to attain financial eligibility.

An elder law attorney's office is an unlikely venue to discuss a romantic couple's journey toward wedded bliss, but it happens. Long-term cohabiting companions and formerly divorced spouses will sit across from me and lament on how one partner's health issues will have major pocketbook implications.

I usually nod and carefully mouth these words: "You may or may not want to consider getting married." With that, I stop, avert my eyes for a second and wait for the lovebirds to laugh uncontrollably or solemnly take each other into their arms and profess their undying love.

There is a sound planning reason to walk down the aisle. Spousal Medicaid protections will preserve more of the couple's assets. Remaining unmarried affords no Medicaid asset protection. Asset transfers from one companion to the other is a penalizable gift for Nursing Home Medicaid.

Besides the wedding cake, another perk of marriage involves taking a spouse's higher Social Security amount for themselves after a spouse's death.

We understand there may be valid reasons why a couple decided to remain unmarried for 40 years. Complicated family dynamics, step-children, and other fun social experiments may be lurking. After tying the knot and dancing that first dance, a couple can work on Medicaid planning and set up a trust to ensure both spouses' families are recognized and protected.

The unromantic view of Medicaid planning and marriage is that New York State does not want the ill spouse's decline to financially decimate the healthier spouse. A married couple is considered one unit under the law. Each county in New York has discretion to seek financial contributions from the spouse who has received the bulk of the family's wealth to pay for some of the long-term care. These contributions may be negotiated and counties usually do not want to place unreasonable burdens on spouses.

As a matter of governmental fiscal responsibility, it is generally good policy to set rules that limit a very wealthy family's access to an entitlement program. That said, the massive costs of long-term care can wreak havoc on most families.

You probably will not see "Love and Medicaid" on the Hallmark Channel any time soon, and that is too bad. Just know that elder law attorneys are no strangers to cupid and his arrow.

*Alan D. Feller, Esq., is managing partner of The Feller Group, located at 625 Route 6, Mahopac. He can be reached at [alandfeller@thefellergroup.com](mailto:alandfeller@thefellergroup.com).*

## Putnam Hires New EMS Director

*Continued from Page 1*

background in federal law enforcement and emergency response will be invaluable as we continue to enhance our county's emergency preparedness and response capabilities."

"We are fortunate to have someone of Christopher Shields' caliber join our team," added County Executive Kevin Byrne. "His extensive experience and immediate involvement in assisting with our recent snowstorm demonstrates his commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents. His diverse emergency services background, including his time with the U.S. Capitol Police, will be invaluable to our team as it takes on new responsibilities and challenges in emergency management planning and response."

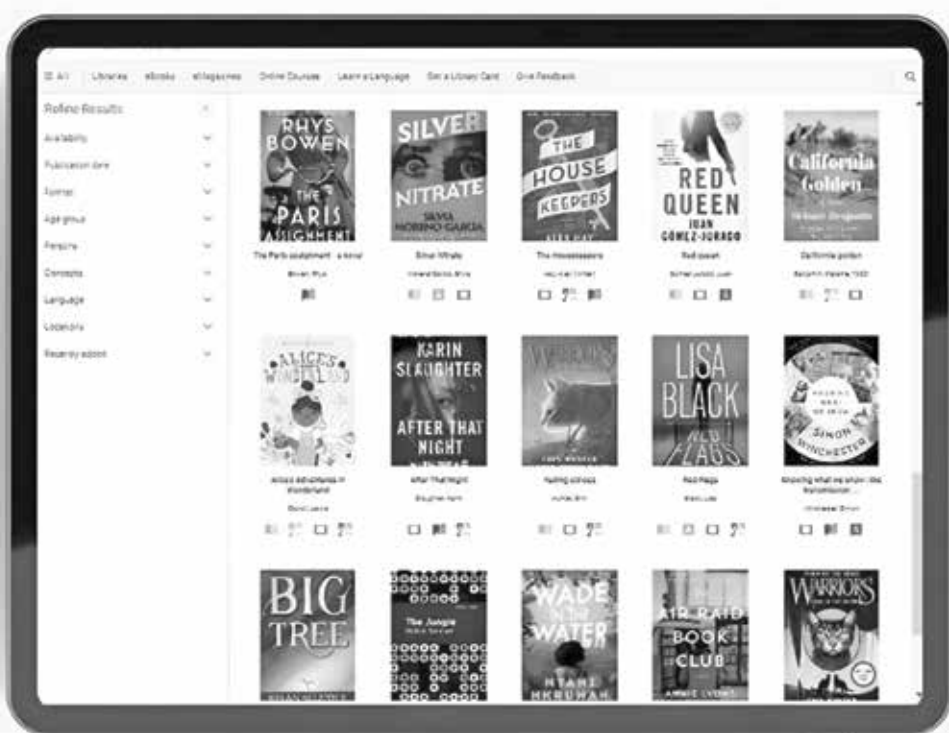
Shields shared his enthusiasm over being selected for the

role, which had been vacant. "My career in federal law enforcement has provided me with the skills and experience necessary to contribute to the safety and security of the community," he said. "I look forward to working collaboratively with our dedicated emergency services team to ensure the county is well-prepared for any challenges that may arise."

Sheriff Kevin McConville called Shields a consummate professional with a deep understanding of emergency management. "I've had the pleasure of knowing him for many years, and his dedication to public safety is unmatched," said McConville. "His appointment is a significant asset to Putnam County."

As the director of emergency management, Shields will play a critical role in ensuring the county is well-prepared to handle large-scale emergencies. This includes the development of a comprehensive emergency management plan and the activation and operation of the county's Emergency Operations Center, which serves as the central hub for coordinating, communicating, and sharing resources during emergencies.

## Brand New Library Catalog



[discover.midhudsonlibraries.org](http://discover.midhudsonlibraries.org)

# PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## Carmel

### LEGAL NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received at the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Carmel, Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York until 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, the 7th day of March, 2024 at which time all bids will be opened, publicly read and recorded by the Town Clerk, no less than five (5) days subsequent to publication of this notice in the official newspapers of the Town of Carmel for the following:

- BITUMINOUS CONCRETE**
- CATCH BASINS AND**
- SUMPS WITH TOPS**
- CRUSHED GRAVEL**
- ALUMINUM CULVERT**
- DRAINAGE PIPE**
- POLYETHYLENE**
- DRAINAGE PIPE**
- STEEL CULVERT**
- DRAINAGE PIPE**
- GRANULAR BASE (ITEM 4)**
- ROAD OILS,**
- CUT BACKS, ETC.**
- RUN OF BANK GRAVEL**
- TREE TRIMMING/  
FELLING**

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

Specifications may be obtained at the office of the Town Clerk at the above address, between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Bid envelopes shall be marked "BID" and identify each item bid. All bids must be submitted on bid form furnished by the Town of Carmel.

The Town Board of the Town of Carmel reserves the right to reject any and all bids and re-advertise for new bids at a future date.

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

P. 2/21 - 68

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## Supreme Court 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, vs. PATRICK HAMILTON, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to an Order Confirming Referee's Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on December 18, 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 March 4, 2024 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 237 Stage Coach Road a/k/a 237 Stagecoach Road, Patterson, NY 12563. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Patterson, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 15, Block 1 and Lot 13 f/k/a Section 15, Block 1 and Lot 12. Approximate amount of judgment is \$928,250.81 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 500399/2020. Cash will not be accepted. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed at the foreclosure sale.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Paul C. Brite, Esq, Referee

Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff

P. 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21 - 55

### PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF PUTNAM

-----X

### HUDSON VALLEY CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, -against- No. 800015/2020 BRADLEY APPELL; DEBRA APPELL; JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A., A s s i g n e e d

Index  
Judge:  
Hon. Gina C. Capone  
Acting Supreme Court Justice  
Defendants.

-----X

In pursuance of an Order Confirming Referee's Report And Judgment of Foreclosure And Sale duly entered the 26th day of July, 2023, 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 4th day of March, 2024 at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon of that day the premises known as 466 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York 10579. ALL THAT PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY, PUTNAM COUNTY, STATE OF NEW YORK, (TAX MAP ID #62-2-31) BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS A METES AND BOUNDS PROPERTY, directed by said Judgment to be sold. APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF JUDGMENT \$786,899.58 PLUS INTEREST AND COSTS.

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

Jo-Ann Cambareri, Esq., Referee  
HANDEL & CARLINI, LLP  
1984 New Hackensack Road  
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603  
Tel. No. (845) 454-2221

P. 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21 - 67

### PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM Bank of America, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST Arthur J. Simmons, as Heir to the Estate of Arthur R. Simmons, William P. Simmons, as Heir to the Estate of Arthur R. Simmons and Arthur R. Simmons' unknown heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors, and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise, any right, title or interest in the real property described in the complaint herein, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered January 3, 2024, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Supreme Court in Courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Court, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on March 4, 2024 at 9:30AM, premises known as 29 Hilltop Court, Kent, NY 10512. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with

### PUBLIC NOTICE

the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Kent, County of Putnam, and State of New York, SECTION: 31.5, BLOCK: 1, LOT: 19. Approximate amount of judgment \$538,590.58 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #500166/2020. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the PUTNAM County COVID-19 Protocols located on the Office of Court Administration (OCA) website (https://ww2.nycourts.gov/Admin/oca.shtml) and as such all persons must comply with social distancing, wearing masks and screening practices in effect at the time of this foreclosure sale. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. Joseph Arthur Charbonneau, Esq., Referee Frenkel Lambert Weiss Weisman & Gordon, LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 01-092339-F00 79236  
P. 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21 - 65

### PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF PUTNAM

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO

WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

V.

PETER SHUSHKEWITCH, ET AL.

### NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated October 18, 2023, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Putnam, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION is the Plaintiff and PETER SHUSHKEWITCH, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the PUTNAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 20 COUNTY CENTER, CARMEL, NY 10512, on March 04, 2024 at 11:30AM, premises known as 31 PONDEROSA ROAD, CARMEL, NY 10512: Section 20.12, Block 1, Lot 9:

**ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE IN THE TOWN OF KENT, COUNTY OF PUTNAM, STATE OF NEW YORK**

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 501829/2019. Raymond A. Cote, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. \*LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.  
P. 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21 - 70

### PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT PUTNAM COUNTY

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR WAMU MORTGAGE PASS- THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2004-PR2 TRUST, Plaintiff against

NANCY MARINACCIO A/K/A NANCY A. MARINAC-

### PUBLIC NOTICE

CIO, et al Defendant(s)

Attorney for Plaintiff(s) Fein Such & Crane, LLP, 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800, Rochester, NY 14614.

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered July 14, 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 March 4, 2024 at 10:30 AM. Premises known as 2 Mountain Brook Drive, Brewster, NY 10509. Sec 58.5 Block 1 Lot 1. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Southeast, County of Putnam and State of New York. Approximate Amount of Judgment is \$426,579.49 plus interest, fees, and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No 500967/2022.

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.

Andrew Walter Szczesniak, Esq., Referee File # SP-SNY667

P. 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21 - 54

### PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF PUTNAM

LOANCARE, LLC,

V.

ELAINE O'KEEFE, ET AL.

### NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated June 07, 2023, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Putnam, wherein LOANCARE, LLC is the Plaintiff and ELAINE O'KEEFE, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the PUTNAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 20 COUNTY CENTER CARMEL, NY 10512, on March 11, 2024 at 10:30AM, premises known as 16 LAFAYETTE ROAD, PATTERSON, NY 12563: Section 36.57, Block 1, Lot 21:

**ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING AT THE CORNER OF WESLEY AND LAFAYETTE ROADS, PUTNAM LAKE IN THE TOWN OF PATTERSON, COUNTY OF PUTNAM AND STATE OF NEW YORK**

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 500183/2018. Anthony C. Carlini, Jr., Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. \*LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

P. 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28 - 63

### PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC., Plaintiff AGAINST CHRISTINE L. HANKEL, ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered December 11, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Supreme Court in Courtroom 209 of the Putnam Supreme Court, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on March 11, 2024 at 9:30AM, premises known as 13 Longridge Trail, Putnam Valley, NY 10579. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Putnam Valley, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 61.8 Block 1 Lot 29. Approximate amount of judgment \$233,348.74 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #500320/2023. 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. Niki P. Quinn, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC 1775 Wehrle Drive Williamsville, NY 14221 22-004653 79182

P. 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28 - 45

### PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS-SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF PUTNAM, MCLP ASSET COMPANY, INC, Plaintiff, -against- RAJMONDA X. HODAJ, MIKE M. SKIRIANOS AND GEORGIOS SKIRIANOS, AS HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE DECEDENT MICHAEL SKIRIANOS A/K/A MICHAEL SKYRIANOS A/K/A MIHAEL SKIRIANOS A/K/A MIHAEL SKIRIANOS; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW, NEXT-OF-KIN, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST AND GENERALLY ALL PERSONS AND PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING, UNDER, BY OR THROUGH THE DECEDENT MICHAEL SKIRIANOS A/K/A MICHAEL SKYRIANOS A/K/A MIHAEL SKIRIANOS A/K/A MIHAEL SKIRIANOS, BY PURCHASE, INHERITANCE, LIEN OR OTHERWISE, ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PREMISES DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN; DERAFFELE MFG CO. INC.; ABSOLUTE RESOLUTIONS VI, LLC; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ( SOUTHERN DISTRICT ); "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #10" inclusive, the names of the ten last name Defendants being fictitious, real names unknown to the Plaintiff, the parties intended being persons or corporations having an interest in, or tenants or persons in possession of, portions of the mortgaged premises described in the Complaint, Defendants - Index No. 500186/2023 Plaintiff Designates Putnam County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject premises is situated in Putnam County. To the above named Defendants- YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your Answer or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance upon the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the date of service or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York. If you fail to so appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. That this Supplemental Summons

# Harckham-Sponsored Stormwater Bills Pass in Senate

Two of State Sen. Pete Harckham's stormwater-related bills have unanimously passed in the State Senate. The bills, aiming for greater transparency regarding the state's storm response expenditures as well as potential flooding caused by construction projects, were part of a group of bills considered by lawmakers to aid New Yorkers with storm recovery efforts.

"Due to climate change, regular storms now often become superstorms," said Harckham. "We need to address this issue head-on because residents and business owners have pressing questions about property damage, avenues for assistance and recovery efforts... Providing greater awareness and more information on these subjects will greatly assist our communities going forward."

The first bill (S.8170) requires the state's Department of Environmental Conservation, after consultation with the Environmental Facilities Corporation and Department of State, to submit an annual agency stormwater expenditure report.

New York has invested a great deal in flooding mitigation efforts over the years through a variety of programs, but a centralized accounting of state spending on stormwater infrastructure projects is not available. For instance, a variety of water infrastructure grants through the EFC are often lumped together without clarity about project type.

In addition, there is no strate-



State Sen. Pete Harckham speaks on the floor of the State Senate, in support of his stormwater-related legislation. Photo provided by Senate Media Services.

gic plan on how to maximize state dollars when it comes to flooding mitigation spending.

Harckham's bill aims to provide more insight into current and planned flooding infrastructure spending, and help the state understand and prioritize the most critical project types for future investment.

The second bill (S.8171) enhances awareness in municipalities where construction activities may increase flooding.

Construction projects sometimes increase the risk of flooding downstream through land disturbance and the establishment of impermeable surfaces, both of which can increase runoff that fills streams, rivers, lakes and other water bodies.

The federal Clean Water Act regulates such construction as a "point source" of water pollution, and the state requires a

permit prior to such construction activities whenever there will be a soil disturbance of more than 1 acre (or more than 5,000 square feet in the New York City East of Hudson watershed). As it stands now, circulation and notice of the permit need only reach interested and potentially interested parties – and not necessarily downstream communities that may be affected by potential flooding risks.

Harckham's bill would require the permit applicant to also send the required permit notice to counties whose watersheds may be affected, and further require those counties then publish that notice on their website. This aims to spur additional engagement and activity on the part of the county and raise awareness for downstream municipalities who might also wish to engage public comment regarding the construction.

# New Citizens Naturalized in Carmel



Thirty-three new citizens from 20 different countries were administered the Oath of Allegiance by Putnam County Clerk Michael Bartolotti on Feb. 7, during a naturalization ceremony at Putnam County Historic Courthouse in Carmel. Honorees hailed from Argentina, Honduras, Israel, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Slovak Republic, South Korea, the Ukraine and beyond.



The Hon. David Squirrell served as the officiating judge, Carmel High School students Danica Day and Carissa Reid sang the "Star-Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America," Rabbi Avi Korer from Chabad of Putnam led the prayer, and Lauren Shields from LiveOnNY – a double organ recipient – was the guest speaker. For more pictures, and additional information about naturalization, visit [www.putnamcountyny.com/county-clerk](http://www.putnamcountyny.com/county-clerk).

## PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

### PUBLIC NOTICE

is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated January 5, 2024. 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 on 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 (MCLP ASSET COMPANY, INC) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Gina C. Capone J.S.C. Dated: January 5, 2024 Filed: January 8, 2024. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage and covering the premises known as 25 Spring Drive, Mahopac, NY 10541. Dated: January 10, 2024 Filed: January 19, 2024. Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Richard F. Komosinski, Esq., 565 Taxter Road Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523 Phone: (914) 345-3020.

P. 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28 - 122

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF SALE

S U P R E M E C O U R T

### PUBLIC NOTICE

COUNTY OF PUTNAM, CAR-RINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. RAYMOND R. GERATY, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to an Order Confirming Referee Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on November 1, 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 March 18, 2024 at 9:30 a.m., premises known as 251 Route 301, Cold Springs a/k/a Cold Spring, NY 10516. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Philipstown, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 38, Block 3 and Lot 74. Approximate amount of judgment is \$389,656.57 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 501230/2022. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed at the foreclosure sale.

Anthony J. Centone, Esq., Referee

Greenspoon Marder, 590 Madison Avenue, Suite 1800, New York, NY 10022, Attorneys for Plaintiff

P. 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6 - 49

### PUBLIC NOTICE

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF PUTNAM WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF

### PUBLIC NOTICE

MASTR ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES TRUST 2007-NCW, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-NCW, Plaintiff - against - JOSEPH OLIVERIA/K/A JOSEPH D. OLIVERI, et al Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on November 6, 2020. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Putnam Supreme Courthouse located at 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on the 18th day of March, 2024 at 10:30 AM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Southeast, County of Putnam and State of New York.

Premises known as 917 Drewville Rd., Brewster, (Town of Southeast) NY 10509. (SBL#: 67.9-1-17)

Approximate amount of lien \$436,577.83 plus interest and costs.

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

Index No. 500222/2017. Julie A. Cherico, Esq., Referee.

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

Rochester, NY 14618 Tel. 585/760-8218

For sale information, please visit [www.Auction.com](http://www.Auction.com) or call (800) 280-2832 Dated: January 12, 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

### PUBLIC NOTICE

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.

P. 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6 - 71

### PUBLIC NOTICE

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

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR HSI ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES 2006-HE1, Plaintiff - against - ERNAN PEREZ, et al Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on October 31, 2022. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Putnam Supreme Courthouse located at 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on the 25th day of March, 2024 at 10:30 AM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Patterson, County of Putnam and State of New York.

Premises known as 158 Bullethole Road, Carmel, (Town of Patterson) NY 10512. (SBL#: 34.-3-6)

Approximate amount of lien \$834,194.18 plus interest and costs.

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

Index No. 501657/2019. Anthony C. Carlini, Jr., Esq., Referee.

Davidson Fink LLP

### PUBLIC NOTICE

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P. 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13 - 71

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## LLC

Notice of Formation of **Hearth, Horse & Home, LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 11/14/2023. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228, USA. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.

P. 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27 - 13

# \$200M in Utility Relief for New Yorkers

The New York State Public Service Commission has adopted a \$200 million New York State energy bill credit to be administered by the large electric and gas utilities on behalf of their customers.

The energy bill credit is a one-time credit using state-appropriated funds to provide energy bill relief to more than 8 million directly metered electric and gas customers. With last week's action, more than \$1.4 billion has been or will be made available to New York consumers to help offset energy costs in 2024.

The program, proposed by the Energy Affordability Policy working group, provides that the \$200 million appropriation included in the state budget will be allocated to customer accounts through a one-time credit within roughly 45 days of the utilities receiving budget funds.

The Department of Public Service, in consultation with the EAP working group, was tasked with designing a utility bill relief program related to the costs of utility affordability programs in recognition of energy commodity cost increases and the costs of utilities' delivery rate increases.

The working group considered multiple proposals over several months to effectuate the desired relief. The majority of the working group agreed to the staff proposal after several key modifications and recommended the PSC implement a one-time energy bill credit that would primarily benefit residential and small business electric and gas customers.

In addition to the energy bill credit funds and EmPower+, New York State programs offer funding and technical assistance that can assist homeowners, renters and businesses manage their energy needs.

• Apply for HEAP: As of Nov. 1, applications are being accepted for the Home Energy Assistance Program, which can provide up to \$976 to eligible homeowners and renters depending on income, household size and how they heat their home (e.g., a family of four with a maximum monthly gross income of \$5,838 can qualify).

• The EAP/Low Income Bill Discount Program provides income-eligible consumers with a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills, as well as

other benefits, depending on the characteristics of the particular utility's program. New Yorkers can be enrolled automatically if they receive benefits from a government assistance program.

• Community-based Service Programs: Service organizations and local community agencies provide financial aid, counseling services and assistance with utility emergencies. New Yorkers can contact organizations like the American Red Cross (800-733-2767), Salvation Army (800-728-7825) and United Way (2-1-1 or 888-774-7633) to learn more.

• Income-eligible households can receive a home energy assessment and no-cost energy efficiency upgrades through the EmPower+ program, administered by New York State Energy Research Development Authority.

• Administered by New York State Homes & Community Renewal, the Weatherization Assistance Program provides income-eligible households with no-cost weatherization services. Rental properties can also be served, although there are additional requirements for owners of rental properties.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## GENERAL MERCHANDISE

**20" AAVIX SNOW BLOWER** - Brand new in box. Model ACT1420. Gas powered. Asking \$300. 845-803-3272. 3/6

**WOOD STOVE INSERT** - New. \$1,500 OBO. Can deliver. 845-313-1094. 2/28

## WANTED

**BUYING VINTAGE CAM-**

**ERAS, LENSES, WATCHES, JEWELRY, COINS, CLOCKS, FISHING, HUNTING, MILITARY, FIRE HELMETS, SWORDS, KNIVES, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, COMICS, SPORTING, TOYS, FOUNTAIN PENS, WESTERN AND MORE. PLEASE CALL FRANK 914-763-8766. 2/28**

**WANTED** - Private collector buying fishing, hunting items, rods, reels, lures, all types old or new, paintings of fishing, hunting, wildlife art, bows and arrows no compound bows. Call 845-878-3665 or 845-661-9059. 4/30

**PUTNAM COUNTY PERSONNEL ISSUES CIVIL SERVICE EXAM PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS**

Exam Title & No: Supervising Crew Chief 86-419  
 Exam Date: April 13, 2024  
 Salary: \$71,768-\$88,131 (Salary will vary according to Agency)  
 Last Filing Date: February 22, 2024  
 Exam Filing Fee: \$45

To apply and for information about minimum requirements, job duties, and subject of the exam, as well as the exam announcement, please visit: <https://putnam.munisselfservice.com/employmentopportunities/default.aspx> or call Putnam County Personnel Department (845) 808-1650 X46105. EEO/AA 2/14, 2/21

**PUTNAM COUNTY PERSONNEL ISSUES CIVIL SERVICE EXAM PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS**

Exam Title & No: Residency Officer (Spanish Speaking) 66-790  
 Exam Date: April 13, 2024  
 Salary: \$30,000-\$35,000 (Brewster School District, part-time position); Salaries vary according to school district  
 Last Filing Date: February 22, 2024  
 Exam Filing Fee: \$25

To apply and for information about minimum requirements, job duties, and subject of the exam, as well as the exam announcement, please visit: <https://putnam.munisselfservice.com/employmentopportunities/default.aspx> or call Putnam County Personnel Department (845) 808-1650 X46105. EEO/AA 2/14, 2/21

**PUTNAM COUNTY PERSONNEL ISSUES CIVIL SERVICE EXAM PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS**

Exam Title & No: Project Manager 60-052  
 Exam Date: April 13, 2024  
 Salary: \$74,520-\$82,800 (2024 Salary)  
 Last Filing Date: February 22, 2024  
 Exam Filing Fee: \$45

To apply and for information about minimum requirements, job duties, and subject of the exam, as well as the exam announcement, please visit: <https://putnam.munisselfservice.com/employmentopportunities/default.aspx> or call Putnam County Personnel Department (845) 808-1650 X46105. EEO/AA 2/14, 2/21

**PUTNAM COUNTY PERSONNEL ISSUES CIVIL SERVICE EXAM PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS**

Exam Title & No: Health Benefits Assistant 66-238  
 Exam Date: April 13, 2024  
 Salary: \$26.00/hour (Carmel Central School District)  
 Last Filing Date: February 22, 2024  
 Exam Filing Fee: \$35

To apply and for information about minimum requirements, job duties, and subject of the exam, as well as the exam announcement, please visit: <https://putnam.munisselfservice.com/employmentopportunities/default.aspx> or call Putnam County Personnel Department (845) 808-1650 X46105. EEO/AA 2/14, 2/21

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Send Legals Inquiries to [legals@putnampresstimes.com](mailto:legals@putnampresstimes.com)

Send News Releases, Letters and Inquiries to [editorial@putnampresstimes.com](mailto:editorial@putnampresstimes.com)

# New Law Clarifies Disclosure of Credit Card Surcharges

A new consumer protection law went into effect Feb. 11 that amends and clarifies New York's prior credit card surcharge law.

The legislation, signed by Gov. Kathy Hochul on Dec. 13, provides greater transparency and protections for consumers by limiting credit card surcharges to the amount charged to the business by the credit card company; and requiring businesses to post - before checkout - the total price of an item or service inclusive of the credit card surcharge, or a two-tiered pricing option that requires the credit card price to be posted alongside the cash price.

"New Yorkers using credit

cards have a right to know the total cost of the purchase, inclusive of any surcharge, before they reach the register," said New York Secretary of State Robert Rodriguez. "This new law signed by Gov. Hochul will offer clarity and provide transparency to both the consumer and business owners about the surcharges when using a credit card."

The following practices and examples comply with the law's credit card surcharge notice requirements: Businesses listing the higher credit card price next to a lower cash price; listing the credit card price for items and services, then letting customers know they

will receive a discount for using cash; and changing all prices to the credit card price.

Businesses may not post a sign on the door and at the register stating an additional 3.9 percent surcharge will apply for credit card purchases. They also may not charge a convenience fee, service fee, administration fee, non-cash adjustment, technology fee, processing fee, etc., to credit card users, or add it as a separate line item on a customer receipt.

Also, the price tag of an item may not show "\$10 plus 4 percent if paying with a credit card."

This law does not apply to debit cards.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

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

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL OFFER**

# **WINTER SALE**

**UP TO 50% OFF**

**New customers can purchase a**

**FULL PAGE**

**COLOR AD**

**for \$450**

**in this newspaper  
(that's a \$900 value!)**

**Includes a link to your  
business from our website**

**1/2 and 1/4-page ads discounted 30%**

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or call 845-628-8400 for more information**