



The
Putnam
County

TIMES

FREE

PUTNAM COUNTY'S LOCAL NEWSPAPER

This paper publishes official notices for Putnam County, Carmel, Patterson, Southeast, Kent, Brewster, Nelsonville, Putnam Valley, Philipstown, Brewster Schools, Garrison Schools, Carmel Schools, and Putnam Valley Schools

VOL. 168 NO. 29

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

845-628-8400

EDITORIAL@PUTNAMPRESSTIMES.COM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026

Victims of 1895 Tilly Foster Mine Collapse Honored

By Holly Crocco

For the second time within a year, the Putnam County Italian American Social Club has honored the immigrant miners who perished in the Tilly Foster Mine tragedy of Nov. 29, 1895.

The disaster made worldwide headlines, yet the 13 men themselves were never given a proper burial or memorial. Historical records suggest that at least seven of these Italian miners were laid to rest at St. Lawrence O'Toole Cemetery in Brewster, where a ceremony and final repose was held Nov. 29, 2025 – 135 years after the event.

On Sunday, July 12, a newly placed monument and commemorative plaque were unveiled at the rail trail near the mine off Route 6. More than 100 people were in attendance for the dedication.

“At that time, the seven Italian men who lost their lives were only identified by numbers, rather than names,” according to Paul Anthony Fucito. “The Italians were all buried in an unmarked grave ... perhaps together? It's unknown.”

Seven Italians died –along with six others, including American-born miners who were evidently given decent burials with tombstones.

The Putnam County Italian American Social Club has been committed to ensuring that these

men finally receive the honor and recognition they deserve, dedicating almost two years of planning to complete the task.

According to Town of Southeast Historian Jack Alcott, the Tilly Foster Mine was one of the 19th century's most advanced iron mining operations, and its immense water-filled crater remains not far from the intersection of routes 6 and 312 in Brewster, off Old Mine Road and the present-day Empire State rail trail.

Using coal-burning steam engines, dynamite, draught animals, and men (mostly immigrants) armed with pick and shovel, the mine's Gilded Age owners

Continued on Page 15



Members of the Putnam County Italian American Social Club show off the new monument. Photo by Paul Anthony Fucito.



Staff, board members, and Friends of Reed Memorial Library celebrate after signing a lease with Gilead Presbyterian Church to rent space for jobs training, community gatherings, and more.

Reed Library Announces ‘Expansion’ Offers Community Hub & Jobs Training Café at Gilead Presbyterian Church

The Reed Memorial Library Board of Trustees, staff, and the Friends of the Reed Library recently announced a new chapter in community partnership and accessibility. Beginning this fall, the Carmel library and its Friends group will expand operations into a newly leased, 1,900-square-foot suite of classrooms at the Gilead Presbyterian Church.

This fully Americans With Disabilities Act-compliant space will be transformed into a dynamic community hub featuring a jobs training café in partnership with organizations serving individuals of all abilities, alongside a gathering space for local non-profits, civic groups, and youth organizations.

“As a proud member of the Board of Trustees, I am continually inspired by the thoughtful steward-

ship and longstanding dedication that shaped this project,” said Vickie Causa, library board president. “The space being created meaningfully supports the community we serve today and is intentionally prepared to grow and transform as the needs of tomorrow emerge.”

As a historic facility, the main Reed Memorial Library building on Gleneida Avenue presents physical accessibility challenges for some community members. While the library's permanent collection will remain securely housed at its landmark location, this new off-site initiative bridges the gap for individuals with mobility challenges. The Gilead Presbyterian Church location will serve as a fully accessible gateway where any community member can effortlessly access essential library services, consult

with staff, and pick up or return borrowed materials.

“This expansion represents a massive leap forward for inclusivity in our town,” said Library Director Denise Martens. “Our historic building is deeply loved, but it has architectural limitations. By establishing this beautifully accessible space at Gilead Presbyterian Church, we are ensuring that every single resident – regardless of physical mobility – can experience the full warmth, utility, and resources of the Reed Memorial Library.”

Beyond its library and vocational functions, the facility is intentionally designed to serve as a robust civic and community center.

“Carmel Hamlet and Kent do not currently have a dedicated community center, so I am thrilled

Continued on Page 11

New SNAP Benefit Cards Coming in 2027

In making strides in its ongoing efforts to protect Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients' benefits from theft, New York State has announced that new, more secure chip-based cards will be issued beginning early in 2027.

The NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance recently finalized a contract with a vendor to provide the cards, which are expected to limit theft of benefits by criminals using illegal “skimming” devices.

“We are committed to protecting New Yorkers from benefit theft, and modernizing our EBT system is the most effective tool we have to prevent heartless criminals from preying on some of our most vulnerable residents,” said Gov. Kathy Hochul. “As the federal administration continues to undermine efforts to address food insecurity and hunger, New York remains focused on uplifting families and ensuring they have the help they need to put food on the table.”

Fidelity Information Services, LLC, will provide the new cards, which utilize chip technology that is standard with commercial debit and credit cards. The Federal Electronic Benefits Transfer system, which is used nationally to distribute and use SNAP benefits, only recently gained the ability to accept chip cards.

The new cards will begin being issued to recipients in the first quarter of 2027.

New York is one of just a handful of states transitioning to secure, chip-based EBT card technology. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, five states have already issued chip cards and

five more states, including New York, are in progress.

The funding to support the transition was included by the governor and the State Legislature in the 2027 budget. About 2 million new cards are expected to be issued.

“SNAP recipients, most of whom are children, older adults, or disabled, count on SNAP every month to feed themselves and their families,” said Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance Commissioner Barbara Guinn.

The office recently began outreach to retailers and financial institutions, encouraging them to make sure their systems and equipment are updated to accept the new EBT chip cards before the end of the year, so that they can continue accepting SNAP benefits as payment when the new cards are issued.

EBT cardholders will be notified before their new card is issued.

There has been increased awareness in recent years of the use of skimming devices to capture recipients' card information and personal identity numbers, with criminals using skimmed information to access accounts and steal the recipients' benefits before recipients have a chance to spend them. The new EBT cards, which are also used by public assistance recipients to access their benefits, will be virtually impervious to skimming, according to the governor.

EBT cardholders can help protect their benefits by using the freeze/unfreeze card feature in the ebtEDGE mobile app or online cardholder portal. They can also

Continued on Page 16



Patterson Teen Wins International Pageant Title

Dorian Solimano of Patterson has earned the title of United International Elite Exceptional Teen, after competing in the pageant which took place June 23 to 27 in Atlanta. Girls and ladies from across the country competed in a series of national events. Solimano – the reigning United International Elite Miss New York – walked away from the 13 to 25 age division as overall winner in the talent competition, and took second-place in casual wear, “Rock the Runway,” and casual wear. In the overall age divisions, she earned the Lifetime Volunteer Service Award for 4,000-plus hours of community service.

Mahopac Library Awarded State Funding

Mahopac Public Library has been awarded state bullet aid funding to modernize the audio-visual equipment in its third floor meeting room and improve lighting in the community room.

A total of \$40,000 will be split between Mahopac, and the John C. Hart Memorial Library in Yorktown.

“Our public libraries serve as cornerstones of our communities, providing educational opportunities, technology, programming, and gathering spaces for residents of every age,” said Assemblyman Matt Slater when announcing the awards. “Whether it’s expanding programs, improving facilities, or investing in technology, these projects will ensure our libraries remain vibrant community resources for years to come.”

Library Director Michele Capozzella expressed appreciation for the funding. “These upgrades will increase accessibility and flexibility to provide an environment for collaboration, learning, and civic engagement,” she said.



The Bright Star Dino Academy puppet show was recently presented in the Mahopac Public Library community room – which is slated for an upgrade thanks to state funding.

Letters to the Editor

When Our Voices Leave No Room for Others

Dear Editor:

Every Fourth of July, we celebrate the words that gave birth to an extraordinary experiment: that people should be free to speak, believe, disagree, and govern themselves.

This year, in Carmel, a public copy of the Declaration of Independence was placed outside the Historic Putnam County Courthouse, inviting neighbors to add their names, not as a legal act, but as a shared expression of civic pride. Then, the document was covered with political messages.

Whether one considers that vandalism or simply poor judgment isn’t what stayed with me.

Instead, I found myself asking:

what happens when exercising one person’s freedom quietly limits someone else’s?

I live in neighboring Patterson with my children attending Carmel schools. More than a decade ago, my family was drawn here by the area’s beauty, history, and strong sense of community. Around our dinner table, we often talk about history – not just the events themselves, but the values they represent.

As a first-generation American, those conversations matter deeply. My father came to this country from the Philippines believing America’s greatest strength wasn’t that everyone agreed, but that everyone had the freedom to disagree. That freedom is precious.

The image that played out in my mind wasn’t the political

statement. It was the grandparent who might have wanted to sign the Declaration with a grandchild. The powerful feeling of a young adult writing their name beneath those historic words for the first time. The recluse neighbor who simply wanted to participate in a shared civic tradition.

When the display was removed, those voices lost their opportunity too.

Democracy depends on passionate expression. Protest has always been part of America’s story, but shared civic spaces belong to all of us. They should invite participation, not prevent it.

As we celebrate 250 years of American independence, perhaps our challenge isn’t only protecting our own freedom to speak – it’s preserving the opportunity for our neighbors to speak as well.

Liberty is not only the freedom to declare our own beliefs. It is the willingness to preserve the space for our neighbors to declare theirs.

Tahra Millan
Patterson

County to Use \$2M ARPA Funds for Infrastructure

Mental Health Reserve Fund Created

A total of \$2.1 million in remaining federal American Rescue Plan Act funding for Putnam will not be lost, with the County Legislature recently approving a request by County Executive Kevin Byrne to reallocate the dollars from the previously planned crisis stabilization center project – which has been rejected by communities three times – to countywide road paving projects, following updated guidance from the U.S. Treasury Department.

The reallocation ensures the federal funding remains available for critical infrastructure improvements after the stabilization center project was no longer able to move forward under the original plan.

Byrne said his administration has not walked away from its commitment to expanding mental health services, having set up a separate \$2.1 million Mental Health Reserve Fund. Unlike ARPA funding, the reserve fund provides the county with greater flexibility to invest in behavioral health initiatives without the restrictive federal requirements attached to pandemic-era relief dollars.

“This is a win for Putnam County taxpayers on multiple fronts,” said Byrne. “We refused to let more than \$2 million in federal funding go to waste. Instead, we worked diligently with federal officials, secured additional guidance from the U.S. Treasury,

and found a path that allows us to improve roads across Putnam County while still maintaining our strong commitment to expanding mental health services through a more flexible funding source.”

The \$2.147 million allocation of ARPA funds will be dedicated to countywide paving projects.

“Our administration remains committed to being good stewards of taxpayer dollars,” said Byrne. “Whether it’s finding innovative solutions to preserve federal funding or ensuring we have the flexibility to respond to future mental health needs, we’re focused on delivering results that benefit Putnam County residents today and for years to come.”

FREE FREE

The Putnam County TIMES

is available at the following locations
EVERY WEEK, and prints the Official notices
for Putnam County, Carmel, Patterson, Southeast,
Kent, Brewster, Nelsonville, Putnam Valley,
Philipstown, Brewster Schools, Garrison Schools,
Carmel Schools, and Putnam Valley Schools

BREWSTER

Brewster Library
Southeast Town Hall
Kobacker’s Supermarket
Buy Rite Liquors
Brewster Village Office
DeCicco’s Supermarket

MAHOPAC

Red Mills Market
Carmel Town Hall
Stop & Shop Supermarket
Mahopac Library
Olympic Diner

PATTERSON

Patterson Library
Putnam Diner
Patterson Town Hall
Sauro’s Deli
Putnam Lake Market
Putnam Lake Pizza
Patterson ACME

PHILIPSTOWN

Philipstown Town Hall
Foodtown Supermarket
Desmond-Fish Public Library
Butterfield Memorial Library

PUTNAM VALLEY

Putnam Valley Town Hall
Putnam Valley Library

CARMEL

Shoprite Supermarket
County Office Building
TOPS Supermarket
Sheriffs Office
Reed Memorial Library

KENT

Kent Town Hall
Deli Land - 508 Rte. 52
Kent Library
Kent Liquors - 1078 Rte. 52
Lake Carmel Pharmacy



Allegra Clementson is presented with a proclamation from Philipstown Town Supervisor John Van Tassel.

Haldane Youth Leads Food Scraps Program

By Holly Crocco

Local high school student Allegra Clementson was recognized for her environmental stewardship and tireless effort to create sustainable reduction of community greenhouse gas emissions, during the July 9 Philipstown Town Board meeting.

The town’s household food scrap program is about 4 years old now, according to Karen Ertl, a volunteer who helped establish the initiative.

“It was formed because of a belief of the town in the project, and then the project was really embraced by the community, which is what has allowed it to continue,” she said. “Otherwise, it would have fallen apart.”

About two years ago, Clementson approached Ertl and asked how she could organize a similar program at the Haldane Central School District.

“Working together, the town found ways to support her and her efforts,” said Ertl. “She has gone almost singlehandedly through the

community pilot program through the Chamber of Commerce and gotten Haldane School District to be part of that pilot program and worked to have a food recycling program.”

Ertl said Clementson has shown the type of initiative needed by young people to help shape a future that is more environmentally sound.

Clementson explained that, in the cafeteria, there are designated food waste bins, compost bins, and other places to deposit paper and other materials, saving them from going directly into the garbage.

Town Supervisor John Van Tassel presented Clementson with a proclamation acknowledging her efforts.

“You start losing faith in our youth, and then a young lady like this steps up and does a project like this,” he said.

For more information about the Philipstown food scraps recycling program, visit www.climatesmartphilipstown.org/blank-13.

Carmel to NYC: Uphold Your Commitment to the Belden House

With unanimous support from the Carmel Town Board, Town Supervisor Michael Cazzari has written to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection regarding its longtime neglect of the historic 1760 Thomas Belden House, and its failure to uphold the commitments made to the people of Putnam County when the property was acquired 20 years ago.

“The letter outlines my concerns about the deterioration of this important historic resource and the city’s responsibility to preserve it in accordance with those commitments,” said the supervisor.

The promise to restore this landmark was part of the broader agreement between NYC and Putnam County that secured long-term protection of the city’s drinking water supply.

“For decades, the residents, businesses, and local governments of Putnam County – including the Town of Carmel – have accepted strict watershed protections and land-use restrictions to ensure that New York City’s drinking water remains among the cleanest in the nation,” Cazzari wrote in the letter. “Putnam County has fulfilled its obligations under that agreement. New York City has not.”

In 2006, the NYSDEP announced that it would invest \$2.9 million to restore the Belden House. However, two decades later, that promise remains unfulfilled, according to Cazzari.

“Rather than being restored, this irreplaceable historic struc-



The Belden House has been in disrepair for years.

ture has been left to deteriorate through years of neglect,” he wrote. “Each passing season brings the building closer to irreversible loss.”

In 2023, the Carmel Town Board unanimously passed a resolution calling for the preservation and restoration of the Belden House, and requested the city’s assistance – which never came.

On July 1 of this year, Cazzari requested that the NYCDEP reaffirm its commitment to restore the Belden House, provide a timeline for stabilization and restoration of the structure, identify funding and necessary project milestones, and meet with representatives from the town and county to discuss a path forward.

“The continued deterioration of the Thomas Belden House is entirely preventable,” he wrote. “Every year of inaction increases restoration costs and risks the

permanent loss of an irreplaceable piece of New York and American history.”

Constructed around 1760, the Belden House stood during the years leading up to the American Revolution – and the birth of our nation.

“As our country commemorates the 250th anniversary of American independence, it is deeply troubling that New York City is allowing one of the few surviving structures from that era to decay on property it owns,” wrote Cazzari.

Further, he said the matter is not just one of historic preservation, but also public trust.

“Putnam County has consistently protected the watershed that supplies drinking water to millions of New Yorkers,” wrote the supervisor. “It is time for New York City to honor its commitment to Putnam County.”

‘Duality in Detail’ at Arbor Gallery

“Duality in Detail: Biomorph Immersion,” a solo exhibition by Ana Pedro, will be on view at Arbor Gallery, 1875 Route 6, Carmel, through July 31.

Pedro invites viewers into a vivid world of magnified observation where familiar natural forms are transformed into immersive fields of color, texture, and pattern. Working primarily in soft pastel and dry media, she creates works that move between realism and abstraction, encouraging a slower, more intimate way of seeing.

Born in Leiria, Portugal, Pedro studied at the Faculty of Fine

Arts in Lisbon before relocating to New York in 2022. Her work, which ranges from human and pet portraiture to botanical studies, is rooted in a deep appreciation for nuance.

“Pedro’s realism is extraordinary, but what makes this exhibition so compelling is the way that realism becomes almost dreamlike when viewed through such intense detail,” said Kelly Edwards, owner and curator of Arbor Gallery. “Her work draws you in immediately, but it also rewards time. The longer you look, the more the image shifts between the familiar and the abstract.”



INTO THE WOODS

Performs
July 17-August 2, 2026

Tickets at:
brewstertheater.org





YELLOW SHED ANTIQUES

BUYING ONLY

WE BUY:

Gold • Sterling Silver • Jewelry
Coins • Paintings • Bronzes • Clocks
Collectibles • Antiques • ETC.

Items for sale? Call us!

845-628-0362

WE WILL COME TO YOU!



A Guide to Putnam’s Revolutionary War Patriots

In celebration of America’s 250th anniversary, the Enoch Crosby Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is launching a comprehensive digital reference guide documenting the Revolutionary War patriots laid to rest throughout Putnam County.

“Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in Putnam County, NY” is accessible at www.putnam-countyny.gov/county-historian. It is the second expanded edition of a paperback book of the same title, originally compiled by the Enoch Crosby Chapter in 2012 to commemorate the bicentennial of Putnam’s founding. The newly expanded edition is one of the chapter’s contributions to the America250 celebration in the county.

Prepared over the course of a year by a team of Enoch Crosby Chapter members led by chapter member Libby Baker, a DAR-trained genealogist, the guide represents countless hours of research, fieldwork, and historical documentation. The publication identifies patriots buried in 53 cemeteries throughout the county and includes more than 420 names.

In addition to military veterans, the research recognizes individuals whose patriotic service included appearing on the October 1779 Supply Tax, as well as those who served in civil capacities, including judges and jurors, during the Revolutionary War.

“This publication is a tribute to the men and families whose sacrifices helped secure our nation’s independence,” said Baker. “By documenting these burial sites and preserving their stories, we hope to ensure that their legacy continues to educate and inspire future generations.”

Of the more than 420 patriots documented, approximately 40 lived in or served in Putnam but are buried outside the county or have gravesites that remain unknown.

For each patriot included, the publication identifies the individual’s recognized Revolutionary War service and the source doc-

Academic Achievement

The following students have received degrees from Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn:

Brewster – Natalie D’Amato, bachelor of arts in public relations; Marco Galizia, master of health science in biomedical sciences; and Monica Widman, bachelor of science in health science studies.

Carmel – Megan Mackin, B.S. in diagnostic medical sonography; and Evelyn Regan, B.S. in nursing.

Mahopac – Hailey Campisi, B.S. in nursing; Robert Margiotta, master of business administration in management science; and Stephanie Pereira, B.S. in diagnostic medical sonography.

Patterson – Erin Leather, Juris Doctor.

Nutrition Corner

By Allison J. Stowell
MS, RD, CDN



Summer Berries

In the summer months, nutrient-rich berries are bountiful. Berries are high in polyphenols, powerful antioxidants that are aligned with brain health, disease prevention, and improved mental health. They’re also a great source of fiber (a cup of raspberries, for example, offer 8 grams). I recommend keeping berries on your weekly shopping list and choosing options that are on sale and look good to you. Or maybe visit a pick-your-own farm, farmer’s market, or grow them yourself. Either way, when berries are on hand, it’s easy to use them in a variety of ways. When you make it a regular habit, you’re likely to improve your current and future health.

- #### Breakfast

Add berries to your morning parfait, oatmeal, or pancakes for an effortless nutritious boost. Or go for a unique Berry Breakfast Bowl. You can also use berries to level up syrups, sweet toppings or jams (like Chia Seed Jam made with fresh blueberries).
- #### Lunch

Summer salads are made brighter and more interesting when berries are included as an ingredient or dressing. Try chilled Couscous and Fruit Salad for a unique dish alongside a simple protein.

Dinner

It’s easy to overlook the versatility of berries when planning a savory dinner meal. But when you pair Blueberry Mint and Cucumber Salad with Feta and grilled fish, served with Strawberry Salsa, you’ll be happy. Or for something different grill your chicken with Blueberry Barbecue Sauce.

Dessert Too!

I know, I know...of course the dietitian is going to recommend fruit for dessert. But until you try Cherry Cobbler or Frozen Yogurt Bark, don’t judge. Or keep it simple with fresh berries paired with a small scoop of creamy ice cream or home-made whipped cream for an elegant, easy summer dessert.

Beverages

Use berries to add color and flavor to beverages. Add a few to an

Italian Sausage & California Grape Skewers

(Family Features)

Italian Sausage and California Grape Skewers



Ingredients:

1 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
1/2 tsp dried Italian herb seasoning
4 precooked chicken Italian sausages
6 skewers (10 inches)
30 green, black and red Grapes from California
24 squares (1 inch) red onion snipped fresh basil (optional)

Directions:

In small bowl, combine olive oil, balsamic vinegar and Italian herb seasoning; set aside. Cut each sausage into six slices. Thread on skewers, alternating with grapes and onion. Preheat grill to medium-low heat.

Place oiled piece of foil on grill and top with skewers. Grill 5 minutes, or until grapes are softened and sausage and vegetables are lightly browned, turning and basting with balsamic vinegar mixture occasionally.

Transfer to platter and garnish with snipped fresh basil, if desired.

Servings:6
Source: California Table Grape Commission

HOME DELIVERY BY MAIL

The Putnam County Press/Times

Only \$40.00 per year!
in Putnam County

Delivered to you in Putnam County by your mailman every week. It’s the only newspaper in Putnam County with complete county coverage from Patterson to Cold Spring by professional journalists.

The official newspaper for Putnam County notices.

Return This Coupon

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ Zip Code _____

Check Enclosed _____ Bill Me _____

Out of County Subscriptions are \$55.00 per year.
Return coupon with payment to P.O. Box 608, Mahopac, NY 10541.

Mahopac Students Team Up With Service Organization This Summer



Students and staff from Mahopac High School’s Skills Program are volunteering at United for the Troops this summer. Pictured are, from left, James Miglio, Brandon Pagan, Meghan Lepore, Nicole Burt, Aiden Fleming, Diane Lakestream, Brianna DelVecchio, Geraldine Recinos-Garcia, Kris Suozzo, and Ava Alvarez.

It may be summer, but students in Mahopac High School’s Skills Program are still making a meaningful impact in their community while developing valuable vocational and life skills through a partnership with United for the Troops in Carmel.

Each Wednesday, the students volunteer at the nonprofit organization, helping pack care packages filled with hygiene items, snacks, and other essentials for active-duty military members serving around the world. The

experience provides students with opportunities to practice workplace skills while contributing to an important cause.

“This program has been fantastic,” said special education teacher Kris Suozzo. “One of the best things about volunteering at United for the Troops is that there’s truly something for everyone. Some of our students are excellent at counting items, others are great at organizing and distributing supplies into the boxes, and everyone is able to contribute in a

meaningful way.”

Students say the experience has been especially rewarding.

“Helping gives me a sense of accomplishment,” said Brianna DelVecchio.

Classmate Brandon Pagan agreed, saying, “It feels good to give back to the troops.”

In addition to volunteering at United for the Troops, students in the Skills Program participate in a variety of community-based vocational experiences. Students have worked at Tractor Supply,

where they complete tasks such as folding clothing, setting up merchandising displays, organizing shelves, cleaning aisles, and watering plants while developing valuable workplace skills.

The Skills Program also focuses on essential daily living skills, providing instruction and practice in areas such as cooking, laundry, and other independent living tasks that help prepare students for success beyond high school.

Mahopac Superintendent of Schools Vincent DiGrandi said

experiences like these demonstrate the importance of learning beyond the classroom.

“I’m grateful to our teachers and staff for providing our students with authentic, hands-on experiences in our community that help them build confidence, develop practical workplace skills, and discover their own strengths,” he said. “I’m especially proud that our students are using those skills to support United for the Troops and give back to the men and women who serve our country.”

4-H Livestock Club Focuses on Guinea Fowl Care

By Brandy Keenan
4-H Educator

The Hay You! Livestock Club – part of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County’s 4-H program – continues learning and exploring different aspects of animal husbandry. Recently they learned about lice: how it is species-specific, how to spot an infestation, how to treat, and how to minimize lice in livestock.

They also helped transport young guineas from the brooder to a larger coop to get acclimated before being allowed to free range.

Guinea fowl are highly ben-

eficial due to their voracious appetite for pests like ticks, beetles, and grasshoppers. They serve as natural alarm systems by loudly alerting owners to predators or intruders, and unlike chickens, they forage without scratching up or destroying garden plants.

Their eggs are also incredibly delicious and highly nutritious. They boast a richer, creamier, and slightly gamier flavor than standard chicken eggs because of their high yolk-to-white ratio.

Telling male and female guineas apart can be difficult unless you just listen to them. Males make a harsh, one-syl-

lable “chi-chi-chi” or “kek-kek” sound, which the females can also make. However, only females can make a distinct two-syllable “buck-wheat” sound.

You hear that, and it's a female.

Guinea fowl have a rich history spanning thousands of years, originating as wild birds in the sub-Saharan savannas of Africa. Although native to Africa, they were later domesticated by ancient Mediterranean civilizations, introduced to Europe by Portuguese explorers, and eventually brought to the Americas by early settlers.



Members of the Hay You! Livestock Club are learning about guinea fowl.

Hygiene Drive Success

If you donated to Assemblyman Matt Slater’s fourth annual feminine hygiene drive for Putnam Community Action Partnership, you were one of the many who helped more than 120 local households.

“Access to feminine hygiene products is a basic necessity, yet for many families these items can place an additional strain on already tight budgets,” said Slater. “For the fourth year in a row, our community stepped up in an incredible way to help neighbors in need. I am grateful to everyone who donated and helped make this drive a success.”

Donations included a variety of feminine hygiene products, personal care items, and self-care essentials – all of which were distributed through Putnam CAP to local households facing financial hardship.

Make the Promise.
Keep the Promise.
Help Save Lives and

DON'T DRINK & DRIVE

STOP
DWI

New York
PUTNAM COUNTY

Community Focused.
Saving Lives.

STOPDWI.ORG

onelink.to/2c2frp

Man Gets Jail Time for Drug Trafficking

A Brooklyn man who was reportedly caught with drugs in Putnam County a few years ago was recently sentenced to jail time.

Michael Carroll, 46, will serve four years in prison followed by two years post-release supervision after pleading guilty to one count of fifth-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance and one count of third-degree bail jumping.

According to Putnam County District Attorney Robert Tendy, in March 2021, a sheriff's deputy saw Carroll commit multiple traffic infractions while driving on the Taconic State Parkway in Putnam Valley. The deputy conducted a traffic stop and asked Carroll for identification, at which time Carroll reportedly gave a fake name and date of birth.

A search of Carroll's car revealed that he was trafficking more than 1,500 methamphet-

amine pills and pill fragments weighing more than 2 ounces, according to Tendy.

After failing to appear in Putnam Valley Court later that month, Carroll was indicted for second-degree bail jumping and eventually located and arrested in September 2025.

Tendy said Carroll may have been splitting up the pills for sale purposes, calling the operation "really dangerous stuff."

"When he was arrested in 2021, he never came back to court and a warrant was issued," said Tendy. "Fortunately, we got him back. Fantastic job by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office for the initial arrest and then tracking him down. Also, great job by First Assistant District Attorney Breaanne Smith, who prosecuted the cases."

Carroll reportedly has numerous prior arrests and felony convictions, according to law enforcement agencies.

Farm Fresh Food Grants Awarded in Putnam

The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley has committed more than \$1 million over the next three years to strengthening food security across the region through its Farm Fresh Food Grant initiative.

Made possible with support from the NoVo Foundation, along with contributions from other funders, the initiative will provide annual grants totaling \$350,000 to 28 organizations working to expand access to healthy food throughout the Hudson Valley.

Local grant recipients include Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County, Glynwood Center for Regional Food & Farming in Cold Spring, Pawling Resource Center, the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, Scenic Hudson, and Second Chance Foods in Brewster.

The grants support a wide range of efforts including partnerships between farms and food pantries, fresh produce



Volunteers prepare a meal at Second Chance Foods in Brewster, which is one of the local recipients of a grant from Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.

production and distribution, meal delivery for seniors and individuals undergoing cancer treatment, nutrition education, and hands-on agricultural learning opportunities for students.

"Healthy food is essential to healthy communities," said Laura Washington, president and CEO of CFHV. "These grants invest in organizations that are addressing immediate needs while building stronger, more resilient local food systems. By supporting partnerships among farmers, food pantries, schools, and community organizations, we're helping ensure more of our neighbors have reliable access to fresh, nutritious food."

The Farm Fresh Food program has grown into a comprehensive regional effort to strengthen food access and build a more resilient local food system. Since its inception in 2013, more than \$5.4 million has been distributed to 54 organizations – but its impact extends far beyond these grants. The program also supports innovative efforts that reduce food waste and strengthen the regional food systems, including FeedHV, the Chowmatch app, and the Food Systems Coalition.

This latest round of funding builds on CFHV's longstanding commitment to food security across the Hudson Valley. That commitment was affirmed by findings from the foundation's 2025 "Voices of the Hudson Valley" report, which identified food assistance organizations as among the most valued community resources and highlighted growing demand for the services they provide.

According to the report, the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley distributed 54 million pounds of food in 2024, compared with 38.8 million pounds in 2018 – an increase of approximately 45 percent.

For more information about Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley and its efforts to strengthen food security across the region, visit CommunityFoundationsHV.org.

CFHV is a partner in philanthropy, empowering individuals, families, businesses, and organizations to establish charitable funds that address the needs of Dutchess, Putnam, and Ulster counties.

Visit Our New & Improved Website
www.putnampresstimes.com



Read the Latest News & Columns
View a PDF of This Week's Issue
Access Archives

No Online Subscription Necessary!

Contact Us at
sales@putnampresstimes.com
To Learn How You Can Advertise Your Business Online

Putnam County Community Events

Tour Constitution Island

Tours will be offered of Constitution Island on Saturdays, Aug. 8, Sept. 12 and 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., departing from 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring. Register at www.constitutionisland.org.

Tuesday, July 21

Kent Town Board

The Kent Town Board will meet at Kent Town Hall at 7 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) on: July 21, Aug. 4 and 18, Sept. 8 and 15, Oct. 6 and 20, Nov. 10 and 17, and Dec. 1 and 15.

Dino Fun

“Little Dino Explorers” with the Mid-Hudson Museum is a science program for ages 3 to 7 that will be presented July 21 at 3 p.m., at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel. Explore the lives of dinosaurs. A Dino Discovery Lab for children ages 7 and older will begin at 4:30 p.m. Registration is required at 845-225-2793.

IDA Meeting

The Putnam County Industrial Development Agency will meet Tuesday, July 21 at 6 p.m., at 2 Route 164, Patterson. You can view the meeting at www.facebook.com/putnamida.com as soon as possible after the meeting has been adjourned.

Teen Craft

Teens are invited to make a pool noodle beaded lizard Tuesday, July 21 at 5 p.m., at Mahopac Public Library. For grades six through 12. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 153.

Business Development & Marketing

Join Cornell Cooperative Extension for a business development and marketing Zoom series from noon to 1 p.m. to following Tuesdays: July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17, and Dec. 15. These monthly webinars focus on a variety of business development and marketing topics. All sessions will be led by content experts across the CCE system, organizations and businesses which support agricultural operations across New York State. Free. Register online.

Wednesday, July 22

Gotham Kings

The Brewster Summer Music Series will host Gotham Kings at the gazebo in Southeast Veterans Park for the first time Wednesday, July 22 at 6:30 p.m., for a showstopping free concert. A dynamic, New Orleans-inspired jazz ensemble that regularly performs as the Mardi Gras house band at Jazz at Lincoln Center. Wear beads and masks; the Cultural Arts Coalition will also be handing them out to the crowd. Bring lawn chairs or blankets.

Digital Art Workshop

Mahopac Public Library will host a digital art workshop for teens Wednesday, July 22 at 5 p.m. Do Art Productions wants to empower teens to create with the tools of tomorrow. This workshop introduces teens to professional digital drawing and design on iPads (or similar devices), showing how technology and creativity work hand

in hand. Learn the essentials of digital illustration. For grades six through 12. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 153.

Thursday, July 23

Christmas in July

The Carmel Civic Association needs hundreds of bows for Holiday on the Lake and is turning the job into a festive community event Thursday, July 23 from 5 to 7 p.m., and Saturday, Aug. 1 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Reed Memorial Library. Enjoy holiday treats while you work. Registration is preferred at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

Putnam Chorale

The Putnam Chorale Summer Ensemble will continue its “American Tapestry” concert series Thursday, July 23 at 7 p.m., at Old Southeast Church in Brewster. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and students, and free for children age 12 and younger, at <https://events.ticketleap.com>. Featuring work by American composers including Samuel Barber, Aaron Copeland, Randall Thompson, and Leonard Bernstein.

Yoga in the Park

Yoga in the park for all levels of practitioners will be held Thursdays, July 23 and 30 at 10:30 a.m., at Patterson Library park with Julia Calabrese-Harrer of Yoga in the Trees. She will lead meditation and movement for a new experience with this ancient practice. Adults only. Bring a yoga mat or blanket, and water. By registering for this program, you agree to sign a waiver and release before participating. Register at www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Mahopac FD Carnival

The Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department carnival is scheduled Thursday and Friday, July 23 and 24, from 7 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, July 25 from 6 to 11 p.m.; and Sunday, July 26 from 3 to 7 p.m.; as well as Thursday and Friday, July 30 and 31 from 7 to 11 p.m.; and Saturday, Aug. 1 from 6 to 11 p.m.

Friday, July 24

The Trunk Band

The Arts on the Lake Summer Concert Series of music under the stars continues Friday, July 24 at 7 p.m., at 640 Route 52, Lake Carmel, with The Trunk Band performing a mix of traditional bluegrass standards, country, and bluegrass-styled covers featuring a rotating cast of banjos, mandolins, and acoustic guitars. Bring lawn chairs or rent one for \$1. Street Cuisine available from Chef Rubeo’s food truck. Tickets are \$10; kids admitted free.

Music in the Park

Music in the Park continues at Patterson Veteran Memorial Town Park, 65 Maple Ave., on Friday, July 24 at 6 p.m. with Traveling Riverside Blues; and Friday, Aug. 14 at 6 p.m., with Jamie Cairney Acoustics. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. food and ice cream truck on-site.

‘Into the Woods’

The Brewster Theater Company will present “Into the Woods” at the Theater at Drew Methodist

Church, 28 Gleneida Ave., Carmel, on Fridays, July 24, and 31 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, July 25, and Aug. 1 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sundays, July 26 and Aug. 2 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at www.brewstertheater.org and at the door. (Reservations are recommended.)

Saturday, July 25

Medicare 101

Mahopac Public Library will host a Medicare workshop Saturday, July 25 at 10:30 a.m. Learn how and when to enroll, when you can make changes, and the different types of insurance options available. John Bousquet from Medicare Resource Group will address the resources available. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Friends Day

Join Holmes Camp & Retreat Center (Denton Lake Road, Holmes) on Saturday, July 25 starting at 11:30 a.m., for food, fun, and fellowship. Admission is free and includes most of the day’s activities. Meal tickets can be purchased for \$15 for lunch or dinner/\$11.25 for youth meals (4 to 12 years old). RSVP to holmescamp.org/friendsday.

4-H Fair

The Putnam County Fair & 4 H Showcase returns July 25 and 26 to Veterans Memorial Park in Carmel/Kent, offering a fun-filled weekend of family-friendly entertainment, educational exhibits, and community activities – all with free admission and parking. The fair will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and until 5 p.m. Sunday, at 201 Gypsy Trail Road.

Corgi Racing

Corgi racing will take place at this year’s Putnam County 4-H Fair, at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 25, and 11:30 a.m., Sunday, July 26, at Veterans’ Memorial Park in Carmel. Registration is \$20 for one day or \$30 for both days. Corgis must be at least 2 years old. Email NYSCapitalRegion-CorgiEvents@gmail.com for information.

Music at St. Mary’s

The Gee-Mackey Duo will present “A European Salon Afternoon” featuring David Gee on cello and Lynne Mackey on piano, July 25 at 2 p.m., at St. Mary’s in Cold Spring. All ages welcome. Free.

Sunday, July 26

Dueling Pianos

On Sunday, July 26 at 3 p.m., audiences will have the opportunity to hear two pianos played simultaneously for the first time, during a “Concert Around the Corner” titled “Two Grands – Four Hands,” at 67 Main St., Brewster. Admission is \$25 for adults or \$20 for seniors and students, and can be purchased at www.culturalartsco.com.

Music from Barcelona

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center welcomes Sam Lardner and Varroomba! from Barcelona for an outdoor concert Sunday, July 26 at 4 p.m., at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley. This special pro bono performance supports the Putnam Valley

Community Food Pantry. Bring a lawn chair. Home-baked goods and beverages will be available for purchase, as will food from Panchos and Gringos. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at Eventbrite.com or at the door. Children and students are free.

Monday, July 27

Library Meeting

The Friends of Reed Library will meet July 27 from 6 to 7 p.m., at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel. All are welcome to attend.

Library Resources

Need to find a job or change your career but don’t know where to start? The Mahopac Public Library has resources accessible from home to get resume help, learn career insights, and find job listings. Learn more about what you can do with your library card Monday, July 27 at 6:30 p.m., or Thursday, July 30 at 11 a.m. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Pop Culture Nights

Join Mahopac Public Library every other Monday night during the summer for its pop culture nights, at 4 p.m. Join friends and other fans and watch popular internet series with crafts and snacks. Dress up, hang out, sing along, and join in for a giveaway. Grades six through 12, Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 153.

Tuesday, July 28

Dino Slime

Make dinosaur-themed slime Tuesday, July 28 at 5 p.m., at Mahopac Public Library. Grades six through 12. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 153.

Comets & Meteors

“Dr. Z” will present “Space Snowballs & Shooting Stars: A Guide to Comets and Meteor Showers” on Tuesday, July 28 at 6 p.m., at Kent Public Library. The Perseid meteor shower will once again light up the skies in August. In preparation, Dr. Z is here to tell you everything you need to know about comets. This is a community program open to ages 7 and older. Register at kentpl.librarycalendar.com.

Wednesday, July 29

Jon Bates Band

The Brewster Summer Music Series continues Wednesday, July 29 with local favorite The Jon Bates Band and opening artist Laura Elliott. The concert will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the gazebo in Veterans Memorial Park. In case of rain, the event will be held at Tom and Jerry’s Bar and Grill, also in Brewster. Free.

Teen D&D

Mahopac Public Library will host a Dungeons & Dragons series beginning Wednesday, July 29 at 5 p.m. Venture to Port Nyanzaru where dinosaur races bring in crowds and fast cash, but also a danger that threatens the port’s citizens. Solve the mystery and save the day. Experience a D&D game catered to beginners. This is a five-week program. Signing up for one session signs you up for all. Grades six through eight. Register at

www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 153.

Trailblazing With Byrne

Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne will continue his “trailblazing” series Wednesday, July 29 from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at Tilly Foster Farm, 100 Route 312, Brewster; Saturday, Aug. 1 from 9 to 10:30 a.m., at Rock Hill Girl Scout Camp, 300 Wixon Pond Road, Mahopac; and Saturday, Aug. 8 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Nicole Ettere Hope & Healing Garden, behind CoveCare Center, 1808 Route 6, Carmel. Free.

Plein Air Event

Artists, leave your studios behind and bring your cameras, pencils, paints, canvases, and easels to set up in the Patterson Library grounds for a plein air event Wednesday, July 29 at 10 a.m. The Great Swamp, a gazebo, and gardens as well as distant vistas are subjects for work. Teens and adults welcome. Register at www.pattersonlibrary.org.

Home Seller’s Workshop

Mahopac Public Library will host a home seller’s workshop Wednesday, July 29 at 6 p.m. Join Christina Nardulli from Kelly Williams Realty Partners for an interactive workshop designed specifically for home owners looking to sell or downsize in the future. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

Thursday, July 30

Summer Concerts

The Town of Carmel Recreation & Parks Department will hold its Sunset Concert Series Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m., at Sycamore Park, on the following dates: July 30, Back to the Garden 1969; Aug 6, Orquesta Afinke. Free. Putnam Valley Parks & Recreation Department will present its Thursday night summer concerts from 7 to 9 p.m., at Johnson Field. July 23, FDR Drive Band; July 30, Hey Baby Band; Aug. 6, Smoked Glass; Aug. 13, Mike Risko Band; Aug. 20-Family Day, Elysian & CJ the DJ (5 to 7 p.m.), and Loose Wheel Band (7 to 9 p.m.). Food for sale.

Summer Coffeehouse

The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition will host a summer coffeehouse, “They Are Not Disposable,” hosted by poet Brittany Carrasco, on Thursday, July 30 at 7:30 p.m., at Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster. Signups start at 7 p.m. \$5.

Send Us Your Community Events

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

Send info to
**Editorial@
putnampresstimes.com.**
Please allow
two weeks notice.

St. James Feast a Summer Tradition



Cardinal Timothy Dolan, former archbishop of New York, chats with guests.

The Feast at St. James the Asposle in Carmel drew a crowd of visitors looking to eat, dance, play games, and otherwise enjoy a beautiful summer event. Photos by Chloe Wareham-Gordon.



Nonna Sorni's zeppole was in high demand during the three-day event, from July 9 to 11.



Putnam Lake Celebrates Rev250



The Putnam Lake community celebrated America’s 250th anniversary with a July 11 parade through the hamlet, followed by a celebration featuring live music, food trucks, and activities. It was hosted, in part, by VFW Post & Auxiliary 9257 and AMVETS Post 2017 Putnam Lake. Provided photos.





CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY



264 RT 52 CARMEL NY

HALF A MILE NORTH OF SHOPRITE



RAQUEL

Call for an appointment today!

(845) 200 – 7646

Fax us: (845) 200-7354



TYLER

www.centerforphysicaltherapy.com

Raquel DiVincenzo, DPT – Tyler Shaffer, DPT

1776 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 2026

250 YEARS STRONG.





KEVIN ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BYRNE

FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Paid for by Byrne for County Executive

‘Trailblazing with Byrne’ Forums Continue

Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne has announced the remaining schedule of community forums taking place throughout the summer as part of his “Trailblazing with Byrne” series.

The initiative gives residents an opportunity to speak directly with their county executive in an informal setting while enjoying some of the county’s most scenic locations.

Earlier this month, Byrne hosted well-attended forums at Green Chimneys in Patterson and Boscobel House & Gardens in Philipstown, where residents discussed a wide range of topics affecting Putnam County.

“One of the promises I made as county executive was to remain accessible to the people I serve,” said Byrne. “These forums have been a great opportunity to hear directly from residents in a relaxed setting while showcasing some of the

incredible places that make Putnam County special. Whether you have a question, a concern, or simply want to say hello, I hope you’ll join me at one of our remaining stops this summer.”

The remaining “Trailblazing with Byrne” dates are: Wednesday, July 29 from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at Tilly Foster Farm, 100 Route 312, Brewster; Saturday, Aug. 1 from 9 to 10:30 a.m., at Rock Hill Girl Scout Camp, 300 Wixon Pond Road, Mahopac; and Saturday, Aug. 8 from 9 to 10:30 a.m., at the Nicole Ettere Hope & Healing Garden behind CoveCare Center, 1808 Route 6, Carmel.

Residents are encouraged to stop by at any time during the scheduled forums. No registration is required.

For updates or weather-related announcements, follow Putnam County government on social media or visit the county’s website.

‘Two Grands – Four Hands’ in Brewster

The Studio Around the Corner is blessed to have two grand pianos. On Sunday, July 26 at 3 p.m., audiences will have the opportunity to hear those two pianos played simultaneously for the first time, during a “Concert Around the Corner” titled “Two Grands – Four Hands,” at 67 Main St., Brewster.

Celebrated musicians Sharon Chang and Dr. Michael Mulder will provide a joyous afternoon as they perform music by Mozart, Ravel, and Arensky – using all 176 keys.

Chang is an internationally-recognized concert pianist who performs extensively as both a soloist and chamber musician across the U.S. and China. She has built a reputation for her dynamic rep-

ertoire spanning classical works and world premieres.

Mulder is a classically-trained pianist, organist, and educator in New York. He is currently the band teacher in the Bedford Central School District and Choir Director/organist at St. James Church in North Salem.

Admission is \$25 for adults or \$20 for seniors and students, and can be purchased at www.culturalartseo.com.

Concerts Around the Corner is a classical and jazz chamber music series under the guidance of Robert Zubrycki and Philip Anderson, co-artistic directors, featuring accomplished musical experts associated with the professional orchestras in the New York region.

Meanderings

Lou Orfanella

Creativity Comes in Different Forms

There’s a lot of unlearning involved with learning to write.

Let me back up a bit... I had to first learn that I was untalented in the other arts before eventually finding one where I was able to develop even a modicum of proficiency.

I loved music as a kid. I would listen to middle-of-the-road pop, aka easy listening radio stations, as much as the hit-based top 40 broadcasters on my transistor radio. From Bobby Goldsboro’s overly sentimental “Honey” to Tony Bennett’s cover of the Beatles’ “Something,” music became a part of my everyday life.

By the time I was in second grade I wanted to learn how to play the guitar. My parents found a music school just one town away in a nondescript building near the single-screen Cameo movie theater on Main Street in Brewster. Looking back now, their teaching method doesn’t make much sense to me. Every student, regardless of the instrument they wanted to learn, was required to first learn how to play the accordion.

It didn’t take long for me to decide that the accordion and learning any musical instrument was not in my wheelhouse. Both of my younger brothers went on to become professional musicians, but I knew we would never share a stage.

My lack of artistic ability car-

ried over to the visual arts as well. Be it watercolors, pencil, or even crayons from the box of 64 Crayolas with the sharpener built into the back, my pictures never looked on paper anything like they did in my head. Even drawing diagrams in high school math class prompted a teacher to say to me, “An architect you’ll never be,” dashing any hopes that could potentially have arisen in the mechanical drawing class I was also taking that term.

While I may not have realized it at the time, writing was an early introduction to creativity for me. When I was about 9 or 10, I would write little parodies of television shows on unlined tablets purchased at Fogel’s variety store in Carmel. The pieces were all dialogue, no stage directions, and only a few pages long. I suppose it might have been considered some early type of fan fiction.

I would change the titles from “The Courtship of Eddie’s Father” to “The Courtship of Janie’s Mother” and such, and feel that I was being oh so creative. It was awful stuff, but looking back it was the first time – and the only time for many years – that I looked at writing as a pleasant experience.

I suppose widespread student aversions to writing should not come as a surprise. We were, by and large, taught writing by people who were competent teachers but not necessarily professional

writers. As kids, we learned the alphabet, words, how to diagram and parse sentences, and then make paragraphs. Once we learned the intro-body-conclusion structure it was thought that we would be ready for all writing assignments public and private.

What we weren’t taught was where to find the heart and soul of writing. We weren’t taught that all the mechanics of writing, while useful tools, must come into use after we have found something to say, something to shape, something that makes us lose track of time when we are trying – at a speed that never keeps up with the pace of our creative mind – to get it down on paper.

We weren’t taught that there is no such thing as a writer’s block. That you can fill that blank page with disorganized random thoughts that can then be molded into a piece of your creative inner self.

I learned the creative-inner-self part of writing through reading and writing, and by becoming part of academia where I was introduced to creative minds and methods that I never knew existed. As a student of legendary professors Kenneth Koch, Wallace Gray, and Karl-Ludwig Selig, I unlearned to write, and became part of the creative community.

Shortly after my first two poetry chapbooks were published, I was scheduled to do a reading and book signing at a Barnes and Noble. My brother Perry, being an established professional bass player by that time, accompanied me with an improvised soundtrack as I read from my publications.

As unlikely as it seemed to me when we were growing up, we finally found ourselves sharing a creative space – and stage – after all.

Lou Orfanella is a freelance writer and tutor. He can be contacted at WriterAndTutor@outlook.com.

Jon Bates Band Returns to Brewster

The Brewster Summer Music Series continues Wednesday, July 29 featuring local favorite The Jon Bates Band with opening artist Laura Elliott, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the gazebo in Veterans Memorial Park. In case of rain, the event will be held at Tom & Jerry’s Bar and Grill.

Music lovers of all ages will enjoy an energetic blend of soul, rock, R&B, jazz, and popular fa-

vorites.

Local Brewster resident Jon Bates is the common thread who – as he describes it – “was blessed with the extraordinary friendships and opportunities that gave me a chance to bring this world-class group of musicians and vocalists together as a working unit.”

Throughout his career, Bates became well known as a music contractor and producer, assembling performers for concerts, festivals, corporate events, and clubs around the world. Because clients, producers, agents, promoters, and event planners consistently turned to Bates to create exceptional musical experiences, this collection of talent naturally became known as The Jon Bates Band.

The current lineup showcases a group of accomplished musicians, each with impressive careers of their own. The band features lead vocalists Steve Riddick and Debbie Major, joined by saxophonist, flutist, and vocalist Scott Harper. The rhythm section includes keyboardist and vocalist Akie Bermiss, guitarist Ken McGloin, bassist Bill Dotts, and Bates on drums and vocals.

Opening the evening is Laura Elliott, a rising indie singer-songwriter from the Hudson Valley. Known for her acclaimed EPs “Car Sick” and “People Pleaser,” Elliott’s heartfelt songwriting explores themes of love, loss, and resilience through honest, emotionally engaging performances.

Concertgoers are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets.



»HOSTING AN EXCHANGE STUDENT BROUGHT A NEW PERSPECTIVE TO OUR FAMILY.«

MILLER FAMILY, TEXAS

HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT

- Enrich your family with another culture
- Make a difference helping students from around the world
- Students available from over 50 countries
- Local support throughout the year



FRANCESCA
FROM ITALY, 16 YRS.

Enjoys gymnastics, swimming and photography. She’s positive, fun loving and easy to get along with.



ROMAN
FROM GERMANY, 17 YRS.

Loves soccer and would like to learn baseball. Roman is a boy scout and enjoys the outdoors.

For privacy reasons, photos above are not photos of actual students.

Obituary

Richard Benjamin Umland

It is with heavy hearts that family announce the passing of Richard Benjamin Umland. Richard, known to all as Ricky, was born May 12, 1969, in Brewster, N.Y. He passed away May 25, 2026, in Morgan Hill, Calif. He was 57 years old.

Ricky excelled at everything he did. In his youth, he was a straight-A student and a stellar athlete. He began playing hockey at a very young age and took to it immediately. His athleticism came naturally, but his hard work and determination led him to become a standout among his peers. He was a star on the ice, and his passion for the game carried on through adulthood as he continued playing in pick-up leagues well into his 50s.

In his early 20s, he joined the Local 21 Steamfitters Union and quickly became a highly accomplished steamfitter. He took great pride in his work and found a beloved brotherhood within his union.

With a desire to spread his wings, he eventually set off



Richard Benjamin Umland

around the country, landing in various states where work was plentiful. He inevitably fell in love with California, where he remained for the last 15 years. There, he joined the Local 393 where he became a very active participant in union affairs. His union manager spoke highly of him and described him as “the kind of guy who would give you the shirt off his back.”

His pride and joy was Nala, a Goldendoodle whose big heart and playful spirit matched his own. He loved her dearly.

Although Ricky lived far away, his family remained deeply important to him. He called home often and never ended a conversation without saying “I love you.”

He most recently returned to New York to spend Thanksgiving with his family and a few months prior, to surprise his father for his 80th birthday.

Ricky was a kind and charismatic person who made an impact on everyone he met. He was not only always willing to help a friend in need, but also often extended a helping hand to strangers who were less fortunate. His generosity, warmth, and genuine spirit left a lasting impression on those who knew him. Ricky will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

He is survived by his mother, Patricia Smith; father, Richard C. Umland and wife, Jill Wetzler; sisters Gretchen Umland, and Kimberly Hade (formerly Umland) and husband, Adam Hade; nephew Caleb Hade; and nieces Ryan Hade and Shannon Hade.

A Celebration of Life will be held July 25 from 4 to 8 p.m., at the Tonetta Lake Beach Club on Shore Drive in Brewster. Friends and loved ones are welcome to drop in at any time.

Affordable Home Tax Credits & Subsidies Available

Proposals are now being accepted for the state’s annual 9 percent Low-Income Housing Tax Credit awards, which will make available up to \$58 million in 9 percent federal low-income housing tax credits, \$10 million in New York State low-income housing tax credits, and more than \$200 million in state capital subsidy loan programs.

The initiative, administered by New York State Homes & Community Renewal, will accept proposals through Sept. 10.

The 9 percent low-income housing tax credit request for proposals, issued once a year, is a highly competitive process through which Homes & Community Renewal seeks proposals for the creation and preservation of high-quality affordable housing throughout the state.

It is a component of Gov. Kathy Hochul’s \$25 billion five-year housing plan to create or pre-

serve more than 100,000 affordable homes across New York, including 10,000 with support services for vulnerable populations.

“Projects funded through this year’s 9 percent RFP will put \$270 million in tax credits and capital subsidies to work expanding housing opportunities for families and individuals, revitalizing neighborhoods, enhancing local economic development initiatives, and making New York a place where people can live independently and affordably in the communities they choose,” said NYS Homes & Community Renewal Commissioner RuthAnne Visnaukas.

The agency’s RFP page at <https://hcr.ny.gov/2026-multifamily-finance-9-lihtc-rfp> includes all relevant information, including available resources, project eligibility, and submission requirements.

Brian Hess Scholarship Fund Names First Awardees

Five graduating seniors from Putnam County high schools recently received awards from the Brian Hess Scholarship Fund of Putnam County, Inc., in its inaugural year.

The following students were acknowledged for their academic achievement, leadership, character, perseverance, and commitment to serving their communities: Ofelia Isabel Martinez Esquivel of Brewster, Dominic Piazza of Carmel, Marisa Peters of Haldane, Matthew Conelli of Mahopac, and Lubriza Alfaro Camejo of Putnam Valley.

Each student has been awarded a \$500 scholarship to support their higher education and pursue future goals.

“We created this scholarship fund to recognize students who

lead with integrity, work hard, and make a positive impact on those around them,” said Hess. “These five students represent the very best of our community, and we are incredibly proud to support them as they begin the next chapter of their lives.”

Hess congratulated each of recipient on the accomplishment, saying, “We are proud to invest in your future and look forward to seeing all that you accomplish in the years ahead.”

The scholarship recipients will be recognized during a presentation ceremony at the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office, where Hess and members of the Board of Directors will present each student with their award.

The Brian Hess Scholarship Fund of Putnam County, Inc., is a

nonprofit organization dedicated to investing in the future of Putnam County.

Reed Library Announces Expansion

Continued from Page 1

to be a part of the team bringing this hub to fruition,” said Kathy Kahng, Friends group president. “It will serve as an invaluable resource and refuge for the entire community.”

The versatile space will be open to hold meetings, workshops, and activities for various town organizations, including local government agencies conducting public outreach or informational clinics; town non-profit organizations seeking central, accessible meeting spaces; youth and civic groups including local Scout troops and community sports teams; and grassroots community circles looking for an inviting, inclusive

gathering place.

A crown jewel of the new space will be the Jobs Training Café, which will provide hands-on employment training and life skills for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Simultaneously, it will offer a welcoming spot for visitors to enjoy a beverage, connect with neighbors, and browse used books and library merchandise.

“The Friends of Reed Library are incredibly proud to support this project – something we have been working on for nearly a year,” said Brett Yarris, vice president of the Friends of Reed Library. “This is more than an expansion of space, it is an expansion of opportunity... This sustainable model will not only fund itself but also raise vital funds for the library – a true win-win for everyone involved.”

Grand opening details, operational hours, and scheduling guidelines for community groups wishing to reserve the space will be announced in the coming weeks.

SCAN HERE TO FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

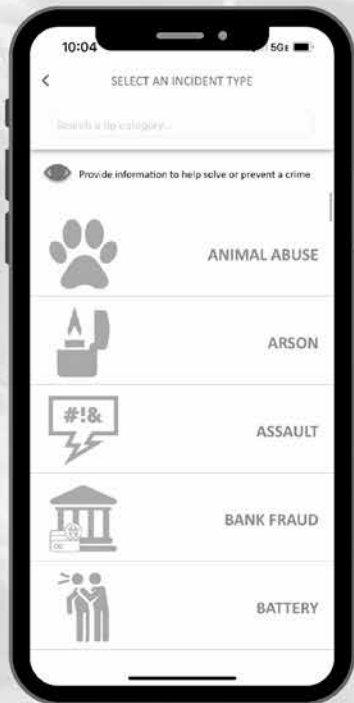


SEE SOMETHING? SEND SOMETHING.

We’ve made reporting animal cruelty quicker and easier!

JOIN PUTNAM COUNTY SPCA’S ANIMAL CRUELTY WATCH AND HELP PROTECT ANIMALS IN OUR COMMUNITY FROM ALL FORMS OF CRUELTY.

- 1 DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP**
Visit [SaferWatchApp.com/download](https://saferwatchapp.com/download) to get the SaferWatch App for your iPhone or Android, or simply search “SaferWatch” in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
- 2 JOIN PUTNAM COUNTY SPCA**
Create your free SaferWatch account and join Putnam County SPCA.
- 3 REPORT A TIP**
Report a tip by uploading text, photos, videos, or audio—with the option to remain anonymous.



Scan the QR code and download SaferWatch

24 Hour Hotline: 845-520-6915

spcaputnam.org



Scribbles on a Notebook

By Rich Thomaselli

The Summer Slump

Did you survive?
Were you able to get past the dead time?
The baseball All-Star Game, which affects both the majors and minors, is the traditional start of the barren week or so of the season. It seems like forever... It isn't.
Think of it as a chance to regroup and think of everything that's ahead.
The start of the high school athletic season might seem like a long way away, but it's only seven weeks or thereabouts. Will one of our local schools emerge as a state contender in football, soccer, volleyball, or lacrosse? How about individuals who run cross-country?
The rest of the Major League Baseball season is upon us; the start of college and pro football is near. Is The Ohio State as good as everybody says they are? As a Michigan fan, I hope not. Will Patrick Maholmes and his torn knee be ready? Will the Knicks be as good as this past season? Hey, October is right around the corner... the National Hockey League will also be back.
And that's barely touching the surface. That's only the high-pro-

file stuff.
The point is athletics will always be a huge part of our lives. We need to get past the few days of the dead time every summer because the rest of the year is so rewarding.
Can you imagine October without the World Series? Can you imagine October and November without the sectional playoffs in high school? Can you picture December and January without college football playoffs? What about February and the Super Bowl?
And I can't fathom a time when I won't see some teenager in tears after winning a high school championship.
That's what it's all about.
I will gladly trade a few days of boredom for the rest of the year.
Rich Thomaselli is a longtime sports reporter in the Hudson Valley, and currently covers Putnam County. He can be reached at rich.thomaselli@gmail.com.

Fall Season is Coming Quick

It's never too early to start thinking about the next high school athletic season.
Because we can guarantee you the players and coaches are thinking about it.
And while the 2026-27 school year for Putnam County begins traditionally around Labor Day, Sept. 7, most high schools will already have hit the field or court by then. Yes, that's only seven weeks from now – it's getting earlier and earlier each year.
In the fall, the Carmel High School girls' tennis program has the honor of kicking things off. The Rams will host Somers on Monday, Aug. 31 at 4:30 p.m.
A day later, Tuesday, Sept. 1, Brewster travels to Pawling for a volleyball match against the Tigers. It is scheduled for a 6:15 p.m. start.
Wednesday, Sept. 2 is a big day, as Mahopac, Putnam Valley, and Haldane are all in action. Mahopac field hockey is home to John Jay-East Fishkill at 11 a.m., Putnam Valley field hockey hosts Section 1 power Lakeland on the same day at 4:30 p.m., and Haldane girls tennis' is home to Arlington at 5 p.m.
Start your planning and car-pools now.

Renegades are Back, Baby!

FISHKILL – Suddenly, the Hudson Valley Renegades Minor League Baseball team is hot again.
After falling six games below .500 at one point, the franchise won five in a row and as of July 15, Hudson Valley was just two games behind Greensboro in the South Atlantic League North Division for the second half title.
Such is the cyclical nature of MiLB at the Class A level – especially when your parent club makes more than 30 roster moves so far this season.
After the All-Star break, the Renegades were scheduled to continue with the season Friday, July 17 against Brooklyn.

Drug & DWI Arrests

A Danbury man was arrested last week by Putnam County sheriff's deputies following a traffic stop during which cocaine, oxycodone, marijuana, and narcotics distribution materials were reportedly recovered from the vehicle.
According to Sheriff Brian Hess, at about 1 a.m. July 7, deputies were conducting traffic enforcement on Interstate 84 west in Southeast when they saw a driver commit multiple traffic violations. They initiated a traffic stop and found that the driver, Frederick Douglass Wolfolk, 33, had a suspended driver's license.
Two passengers were also inside the vehicle.
During the stop, deputies reportedly recovered approximately 7.5 grams of cocaine, oxycodone tablets, marijuana, a digital scale, packaging materials, a vacuum-sealing device, and other items commonly used in the packaging and distribution of illegal narcotics.
Wolfolk was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Putnam County Correctional Facility for processing. He was charged with third-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance (intent to sell) and fourth-degree criminal possession of a narcotic drug, felonies; seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance and two counts of second-degree criminally using drug paraphernalia, misdemeanors; and unlawful possession of cannabis, aggravated unlicensed operation, and multiple traffic infractions.
Wolfolk was arraigned in Southeast Town Court and released on his own recognizance.

An alleged drunk-driver was arrested by New York State Police on June 28 in Southeast.
At about 1:40 a.m., troopers were notified by Dutchess County 911 of a driver traveling eastbound in the westbound lanes of Interstate 84 near mile marker 57.0 in East Fishkill.
Members of the NYSP in Brewster, with the assistance of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, located a 2024 GMC heading eastbound in the westbound lane near mile marker 66 in Southeast. Troopers successfully deployed a tire deflation device, bringing the vehicle to a stop.
During an investigation, the operator and sole occupant, Edward Navedo, 41, of Germantown, allegedly exhibited signs of intoxication. He was taken into custody and transported to NYSP-Brewster for processing, where he submitted to a chemical breath test that yielded a blood-alcohol content of 0.19 percent.
Navedo was charged with first-degree reckless endangerment, a felony; as well as aggravated driving while intoxicated with a BAC of 0.18 percent or more, DWI, and reckless driving, all misdemeanors. He was arraigned in Kent Town Court and released on his own recognizance with a future court date.

RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT

A Band Playing Covers of Popular Songs in The Hudson Valley Area

Reckless Endangerment Show Dates

Saturday, July 25 • Mahopac Inn, Rt 6N, Mahopac NY
Sunday, July 26 • Putnam County Fair, Putnam County Fair Grounds, Kent, NY
Friday, July 31 • Red Line Roadhouse, Cortland Manor, NY
Saturday, August 1 • Headquarters, Rt 52 Kent, NY
Wednesday, August 5 • Red Line Roadhouse, Cortland Manor, NY
Saturday, August 8 • Pawling Fireman's Carnival, Lakeside Park, Pawling, NY
Saturday, August 15 • Red Line Roadhouse, Cortland Manor, NY
Sunday, August 23 • Poughkeepsie Porch Fest
Friday, August 28 • Spins Bowl, Carmel, NY
Sunday, September 26 • Nyack Porch Fest

Join our mailing list to receive email updates

Need to Reach Us?

Send Advertising Inquiries to
advertising@putnampresstimes.com

Send Legals Inquiries to
legals@putnampresstimes.com

Send News Releases,
Letters and Inquiries to
editorial@putnampresstimes.com

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Carmel NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Town Board of the Town of Carmel will conduct a Public Hearing at Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York 10541 on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter that evening as possible on a proposed Local Law amending Chapter 156 of the Code of the Town of Carmel, entitled “Zoning”.

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

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

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

P. 7/22 - 42

PUBLIC NOTICE

Nelsonville

The Village of Nelsonville’s Annual Financial Statement for the period June 1, 2025, through May 31, 2026, has been filed with the State Comptroller. A copy of the statement is available for public inspection at the Village Office, 258 Main Street, Nelsonville, NY, during normal office hours.

Melissa Harris
Village Clerk/Treasurer

P. 7/22 - 16

PUBLIC NOTICE

Philipstown NH Fire District

PUTNAM COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE
PHILIPSTOWN NORTH HIGHLANDS FIRE DISTRICT
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there will be a special meeting of the Philipstown North Highlands Fire District for the purpose of budget review which will take place on July 29, 2026 at 7:30 P.M. at the North Highlands Engine Co. No. 1 Fire House located at 504 Fishkill Rd. Cold Spring, N. Y. for the purpose of discussing and preparing the 2027 budget.

Dated July 13, 2026
Linda Valentino, Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners
Philipstown North Highlands Fire District

P. 7/22 - 26

PUBLIC NOTICE

Putnam

COUNTY OF PUTNAM
NOTICE FOR BID
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Director of Purchasing of Putnam County for the following commodities and/or service: **RFB-26-26 – DOANSBURG ROAD BRIDGE REPAIR** Detailed specifications may be secured at the office of the Director of Purchasing, Putnam County Office Building, 40 Gleneida Avenue, Room 105, Carmel, New York 10512 between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday or you may download from the Empire State Bid System’s website www.empirestatebidsystem.com. Sealed bids must be filed in the above office on or before **1:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2026. dated: Carmel, New York, July 16, 2026, Sgd/John Tully, Director, Putnam County Purchasing Dept**

P. 7/22 - 27

PUBLIC NOTICE

COUNTY OF PUTNAM
NOTICE FOR
BEST VALUE BID
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Director of Purchasing of Putnam County for the following commodities and/or service: **RFB-27-26 BV – TWO (2) FORD XL HIGH ROOF TRANSIT VANS WITH PARATRANSIT UPFIT (OR EQUAL)** Detailed specifications may be secured at the office of the Director of Purchasing, Putnam County Office Building, 40 Gleneida Avenue, Room 105, Carmel, New York 10512 between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday or you may download from the Empire State Bid System’s website www.empirestatebidsystem.com. Sealed bids must be filed in the above office on or before **1:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026. dated: Carmel, New York, July 16, 2026, Sgd/John Tully, Director, Putnam County Purchasing Dept**

P. 7/22 - 31

PUBLIC NOTICE

COUNTY OF PUTNAM
NOTICE FOR
QUALIFICATIONS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that statements of qualifications will be received by the Director of Purchasing of Putnam County for the following commodities and/or service: **RFQ-01-2026 – ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR ADA SIDEWALKS (HUD SUPPORTED)** Detailed specifications may be secured at the office of the Director of Purchasing, Putnam County Office Building, 40 Gleneida Avenue, Room 105, Carmel, New York 10512 between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday or you may download from the Empire State Bid System’s website at www.empirestatebidsystem.com. Submissions must be filed in the above office on or before **1:00 P.M., FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026. dated: Carmel, New York,**

PUBLIC NOTICE

July 16, 2026, Sgd/John Tully,
Purchasing Director, Putnam
County Purchasing Department

P. 7/22 - 30

PUBLIC NOTICE

Putnam Valley LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF
PUTNAM VALLEY
PUTNAM COUNTY,
NEW YORK

ZERO EMISSIONS
VEHICLE CHARGING
STATION PROJECT

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town of Putnam Valley, 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York 10579, until 11:00 A.M. on August 5th, 2026, immediately after which the bids will be opened publicly and read.

The work under this Contract comprises the furnishing of all tools, equipment, materials, and labor for the construction of the Zero Emissions Vehicle Charging Station Project located in the Town of Putnam Valley, New York, complete, in place, and ready for use in accordance with the Contract Documents.

The principal features of the Work to be performed under this project are defined in the Contract Documents and include: installation of two Level 2 Commercial Dual Charging Stations, including concrete footings, electric meter installation, four concrete-filled steel bollards, and all electrical appurtenances required to meet all local, state, and federal permitting agency requirements, as specified and required to complete the project. Excavation work to be completed by others.

The foregoing is a general description only and shall not be construed as a complete

PUBLIC NOTICE

description of the work to be performed for this project. Prospective Bidders shall refer to the Contract Documents, including Contract Drawings, for additional project work information.

Contract Documents may be examined at the Town of Putnam Valley Town Hall. Copies may be obtained from the offices of the Town of Putnam Valley Town Clerk beginning on July 22, 2026, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Prospective bidder’s requests for mailing of Contract Documents will be filed by Federal Express or United Parcel Service. Prospective bidders shall furnish a prepaid Air Bill or Account Number. Neither OWNER nor ENGINEER shall be responsible for any delay in such shipment. Prospective bidders shall make such a request and provide such airbill a minimum of one (1) week before the mandatory pre-bid conference.

Neither the OWNER nor the ENGINEER will be responsible for full or partial sets of Contract Documents, including any Addenda, obtained from other sources.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10 a.m. on July 29, 2026, at the Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York 10579. The purpose of the pre-bid conference is to afford the prospective Bidders and interested parties an opportunity to raise questions pertaining to the Bidding and Contract Documents, and for the OWNER or its representatives to clarify matters related to the Project.

Bid security and proof of qualifications to perform the Work shall be as described in the Instructions to Bidders.

Bidders shall comply with all special and statutory requirements in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Contract time of commencement and completion will be as specified in the Agreement.

This project is subject to the provisions of Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York and certificates required thereunder shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk, Town of Putnam Valley, New York.

For any reason whatsoever, or for no reason, the Town reserves the right to waive any informalities in the bids or to reject any and all bids. No bidder may withdraw their bid except by written request submitted at least twenty-four hours before the time of opening or until the lapse of 45 days after the actual opening thereof.

The Town is exempt from payment of sales and compensating use taxes of the State of New York and of Cities and Counties on all materials to be incorporated into the Work. These taxes shall not be included in the Bid.

The Town will furnish the required certificates of tax exemption to the CONTRACTOR (s) for use in the purchase of supplies and materials to be incorporated into the Work.

The Town’s exemption does not apply to construction tools, machinery, equipment or other property purchased by or leased by the CONTRACTOR (s), or to supplies or materials not incorporated into the Work.

Non-Discrimination in Employment:

JOHN MAXWELL
Chairman

SILVIO BALZANO
Vice-Chairman

TOWN OF CARMEL
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS



60 McAlpin Avenue
Mahopac, New York 10541
Tel. (845) 628-1500 – Ext 187
www.townofcarmelny.gov

EDWARD SPADARO
Building Inspector

BOARD MEMBERS
ROSE FABIANO
CLAUDINE MCDERMOTT
JULIE MCKEON
WILLIAM SANTINI
JOHN STARACE

LEGAL NOTICE

By the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Carmel pursuant to Section 267 Town Law, notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held on:

JULY 30, 2026 – 7:30 P.M.

To hear the following applications:

HOLD OVERS:

1. Application of **JOANNE MCCONNELL** for a Variation of Section 156-9 seeking both Area Variances & Use Variance for permission to allow conversion of an existing structure to a dog kennel with associate site improvements. The property is located at 605 Union Valley Road, Mahopac NY and is known as Tax Map #76.20-1-42.

Code Requires/Allows	Provided	Variance Required
Lot Area: 120,000 sq ft	61,855 sq ft	58,145 sf
Side Yard Setback: 50 ft	20 ft	30 ft
Kennel Setback: 100 ft	20 ft	80 ft
Fence Height: 6 ft	8 ft	2 ft
Vegetative Buffer Required	No vegetative buffer	Variance Required
Loading Space: 1 Required	0	Variance Required

2. Application of **MICHELE MONTEIRO/114 OLD ROUTE 6 REALTY LLC** for a Variation of Section 156-9 seeking an Interpretation regarding previous variance granted to allow Martial Arts Studio. Now wants to convert to Day Care Center. The property is located at 114 Old Route 6, Carmel NY and is known as Tax Map #55.12-2-6.

Code Requires/Allows	Provided	Variance Required
1 acre	.98 acres	.02 acres
Outdoor Play Space	Indoor Only	Allow indoor space for play space

3. Application of **ELLEN LEVER REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST** for a Variation of Section 156-9 seeking a Use Variance for permission to install two sheds on vacant property. The property is located at 34 Averill Drive, Mahopac NY and is known as Tax Map #65.13-1-24.

NEW APPLICATIONS:

4. Application of **CHARLES WILLIAMS** for a Variation of Section 156-9 seeking an Area Variance for permission to house six chickens in a chicken coop/run. The property is located at 88 Bryant Trail, Carmel NY and is known as Tax Map #44.10-1-32.

Code Requires/Allows	Provided	Variance Required
40,000 s.f.	25,778 s.f.	14,222 s.f.
6 chickens/acre	6 chickens/25,778 or 3.8667	2.1333 chickens per acre

5. Application of **MARYANN TIFFANY** for a Variation of Section 156-9 seeking an Area Variance for permission to retain existing deck, gazebo & fence. The property is located at 142 Orchard Road, Mahopac NY and is known as Tax Map #74.26-1-40.

Code Requires/Allows	Provided	Variance Required
Front: 25’ – Gazebo	22’ 3"	2’ 9"
Rear: 10’ – Gazebo	3’ 10" Orchard Rd.	6’ 2"
Front: 25’ - Deck	17’ 8" Brook Rd.	7’ 4"
Front: 25’ - Deck	7’	18’
Front: 4’ High – Fence	6’	2’

6. Application of **PUTNAM COUNTY HOUSING CORP.** for a Variation of Section 156-9 seeking an Area Variance for permission to add 3 additional ADA apartments. The property is located at 11-17 Seminary Hill Road, Carmel NY and is known as Tax Map #55.6-1-19.

Code Requires/Allows	Provided	Variance Required
Side Yard: 10 ft.	3.5 ft.	6.5 ft.
P.S. Width: 10 ft.	9.5 ft.	0.5 ft.

P.S. Length: 20 ft.	19 ft.	1.0 ft.
Back-Up Spaces: 25'	22.6 ft.	2.4 ft.
Parking Spaces: 11	7 p.s.	4 p.s.
3,000 s.f. lot area per apt./21,000 total	7 apts.	5 apts. or 15,000 s.f.
Utilities – Underground	Utilities Above Ground	Utilities Above Ground
300 s.f. of recreation x 7 = 2,100 s.f.	0	2,100 s.f.
Lot coverage: 65%	98.2%	33.2%

MISCELLANEOUS:

MINUTES: June 25, 2026

By order of the Chairman, John Maxwell

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity
P. 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **SightAngle Systems LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 06/17/26. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o SightAngle Systems LLC, 1511 Route 22 Suite A1 #104 - Brewster, NY 10509. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.
P. 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of formation of **POINT SCS LLC**. Art. Of Org. filed with the Sect’y of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/18/26. Office in Putnam County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 403 FARMERS MILLS RD CARMEL, NY, 10512. Purpose: Any lawful purpose
P. 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29

PUBLIC NOTICE
LA BOOZA BELLA, LLC. Filed with SSNY on 03/16/2026. Office: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 63 AQUEDUCT RD, GARRISON, NY 10524. Purpose: Any Lawful
P. 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **Girl From Ipanema, LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 3/31/2026. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Girl From Ipanema, LLC, 500 Lake Shore Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.
P. 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5

PUBLIC NOTICE
Peckham Real Estate NY, LLC filed Art. of Org. with the Sec’y of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/25/26. Office: Putnam County. SSNY has been designated as agent for the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Corporation Service Company, 80 State Street, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.
P. 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5

PUBLIC NOTICE
DANNY’S PROPERTY 2 LLC. Filed with SSNY on 06/23/2026. Office: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 313 ROUTE 6N, MAHOPAC, NY 10541. Purpose: Any Lawful
P. 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12

PUBLIC NOTICE
GRM CONSULTING SERVICES LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 9/4/25. Office in Putnam Co. SSNY design. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1511 NY 22, Ste. 118, Brewster, NY 10509, which is also

PUBLIC NOTICE
the principal business location. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.
PUBLIC NOTICE
P. 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12
Notice of formation of **Pine View Farm I LLC**. Articles of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/29/26. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o George Whipple, 250 Old Stone Road, Garrison, NY 10524. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.
P. 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of formation of **Pine View Farm II LLC**. Articles of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/29/26. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o George Whipple, 250 Old Stone Road, Garrison, NY 10524. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.
P. 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **LJB Inspections, LLC** . Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on June 20, 2026. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 549 Peekskill Hollow Rd., Putnam Valley, NY 10579. Purpose: any lawful purpose.
P. 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **30 Milan Road LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 6/23/26. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o DelBello Donnellan Weingarten Wise & Wiederkehr, LLP, 360 Hamilton Ave, White Plains, NY 10601. Purpose: any lawful activity.
P. 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **POST ROAD HOUSE LLC** . Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/30/26. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Post Road House LLC, PO Box 16, Garrison NY 10524. Purpose: any lawful purpose.
P. 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **Jodi Carlson Art LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 6/23/2026. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o Jodi Carlson Art LLC. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.
P. 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **PROVEN 1926 LLC**. Filed with SSNY on 06/17/2026. Office: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail

PUBLIC NOTICE
to: 859 FAIR ST, CARMEL, NY 10512. Purpose: Any Lawful
P. 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **CK3 Enterprises LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 5/1/2026. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: CK3 Enterprises LLC Purpose, 336 Horseman Blvd, Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.
P. 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **JJA Silva Property Group LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York on July 7, 2026. Office location: Putnam County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process to: 12 Main Street, Unit 2186, Brewster, NY 10509. Purpose: To engage in any lawful act or activity for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of New York.
P. 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19

PUBLIC NOTICE
165 FAIRFIELD LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/08/26. Office: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 6 Hawk Ridge Lane, Brewster, NY 10509. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.
P. 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of **Third Track Home Services, LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 5/13/2026. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Third Track Home Services, LLC, 2 Miller Rd, Putnam Valley, NY 10579. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.
P. 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of formation of **23 GATTO DRIVE LLC**. Art. Of Org. filed with the Sect’y of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/24/26. Office in Putnam County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 8 BIANCA CT CARMEL, NY, 10512. Purpose: Any lawful purpose
P. 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19, 8/26

PUBLIC NOTICE
Voices by Allan Brown LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/21/26 Office loc: Putnam County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 301 Cornwall Meadows Lane, Patterson, NY 12563. Purpose: any lawful act.
P. 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19



The new monument identifies seven of the previously nameless victims.

Victims of 1895 Tilly Foster Mine Collapse Honored? Continued from Page 1

gouged out one of the largest man-made craters on Earth. In a time before meaningful safety regulations, it was dangerous, backbreaking work and not without tragedy. On Nov. 29, 1895, the mine collapsed, crushing 13 miners under about 100 tons of rock 50 stories below. Many of the pulverized miners were Irish and Italian immigrants whose mangled bodies were initially identified only by the numbers the company had assigned them; their names remained unknown until the coroner’s report the following January. At its peak in 1879, Tilly Foster was churning out about 7,000 tons of ore a month and had shafts going down 600 feet. Roughly 300 workers – many Italian, Irish, Welsh, and Swedish immigrants – were employed in

the mines, along with mules, horses, and a small steam locomotive on a narrow-gauge railway used to carry the ore to the Brewster depot, where it was shipped out. Miners were lowered the 50 stories into the Tilly Foster pit in giant open buckets suspended on cables from an overhanging crane. Other cranes and buckets lifted the ore to the surface. The ore was transported away from the mine by narrow-gauge rail locomotives right from the edge of the pit. By the 1880s, as it became more difficult to excavate Tilly Foster’s ore via mine shafts, it was turned into an open pit. The deadly mine collapse of 1895 and growing concerns about safety, along with the nearby flooding of the area for NYC reservoirs, conspired to end mining at Tilly Foster in 1897. The remnant of the mine exists today near routes 6 and 312 as a huge, water-filled moon crater with sheer cliffs falling 50 or 60 feet into the water. The original mine shafts had drilled down about 50 stories below the surface, and the open pit itself is at least 400 feet deep and 200 yards across.

CLASSIFIEDS WANTED

Young female senior citizen **LOOKING FOR FURNISHED ROOM**, and/or Efficiency/Studio apartment to begin June 30 thru November 30, ‘26. I am quiet, clean and responsible. Have been with present landlord almost 15 years. Prefer lower Putnam County. Would love to hear from you! 7/22

WANTED – Private collector buying firemen’s helmets, fishing, hunting items, rods, reels, lures, all types old or new, paintings of fishing, hunting, wildlife art, bows

and arrows, no compound bows. Call 845-878-3665 or 845-661-9059. 9/30

SERVICES AVAILABLE
PAINTING – exterior, interior, walls, trim, ceilings; sheet rock repair also. Concrete – sidewalks, recycling bin pads, garage floors, pods, driveways. Contact Stephen at 845-527-1857. 7/22.

YARD MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT. Remove and replace trees and shrubs, cut away from house and roof. Irrigation and drainage systems, clogged gutters. Call Robert at 914-203-0031. 7/22

Shop Local Businesses in Putnam

MatchingDonors
Donate Your Car, Boat, RV or Real Estate
You don't have to donate a kidney to save a life.
• We will accept any auto - running or not.
• 100% tax deductible.
• MatchingDonors.com is a 501C3 nonprofit organization.
• 100% of the proceeds will go to help saving the lives of people needing organ transplants.
Call us at 1.800.385.0422 Or donate on line at MatchingDonors.com

Collaborative Printmaking Exhibit on View in Garrison

A collaborative juried exhibition is on display at the Desmond-Fish Public Library through Oct. 25, featuring unique work that brings together the local community to explore the profound intersections of nature, history, and narrative through printmaking.

“Roots,” presented by Garrison Art Center and the Desmond-Fish Public Library, was inspired by the discovery that both organizations had complementary summer themes – GAC’s “Rooted: Art & the Natural World” for its kindergarten-through-grade-12 summer programs, and the library’s summer reading theme, “Unearth A Story.”

The two aimed to highlight the compelling connections between art, storytelling, and the natural world. Participating printmakers were encouraged to think expansively and approach the concepts of being “rooted” and “unearthing” both literally and conceptually.

Artists featured in the show

include Lauren Adelman, Carol Barsha, Gary Blake, Ada Cruz, Vanezza Cruz, Gail Cunningham O’Donnell, Autumn Cupano, Carolyn Dateo, Sally Frank, Gregory Fry, Beka Goedde, Sarah Haviland, Ezra Heller, Polly Law, Anat Laytner, Susan M. Story, Jacquelyn Martino, Marta Nowicka, Polly Perkins, Shea Phelan, Michael Piotrowski, Catherine Schmitt, Sarah Sczepanski, Gloria Shows, Amy Silberkleit, L. Tania Snihur, Deborah Stock, Kara Wilson, and Jennifer Zwarich.

“Roots” can be viewed at 472 Route 403, Garrison, during regular library hours, which are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Right: “Garden Variation III” by Carol Barsha.

Far Right: “The River Runs Both Ways” by Lauren Adelman.





Cornell Cooperative Extension
Putnam County

I ♥ NY
iloveny.com



PUTNAM COUNTY
FAIR & 4-H SHOWCASE

JULY 25 & JULY 26
SATURDAY - 10AM - 7PM SUNDAY - 11AM - 5PM

FREE ADMISSION & PARKING

- ★ 4-H Miniature Horse Showmanship
- ★ 4-H Showcase
- ★ K-9 Demonstrations & Corgi Races
- ★ 250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War Activities
- ★ Pony Rides

- ★ Entertainment
- ★ Kid Friendly Activities
- ★ Educational Displays
- ★ Community Organizations
- ★ Vendors
- ★ NY Cruisers Car Show
- ★ Food Trucks

PLAN YOUR VISIT TO PUTNAM COUNTY
WWW.VISITPUTNAM.ORG

PUTNAM COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
201 GIPSY TRAIL ROAD
CARMEL, NY 10512

©I LOVE NEW YORK is a registered trademark and service mark of the New York State Department of Economic Development; used with permission.

We Will Miss

Carmel
Joseph P. Castellano, 99, July 6. Balsamo-Cordovano Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-2144

Putnam Valley
Jeremiah Joseph Toone, 68, July 8. Yorktown Funeral Home, Shrub Oak, (914) 962-0700.

Mahopac
Luigino Rosanova, 93, July 8. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.
Thomas Patrick Crowe, 83, July 21. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

*New SNAP
Benefit Cards
Coming in 2027
Continued from Page 1*

choose to block online and out-of-state purchases.

Resources to assist the public with information about EBT scams and how to protect their benefits can be found at otda.ny.gov/ebtscam.

“County social services departments across New York strongly support the transition to chip-enabled Electronic Benefit Transfer cards for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program,” said NYS Association of Counties Executive Director Stephen Acquario. “This upgrade is a practical and necessary step to strengthen program integrity, reduce fraud, and ensure that benefits reach the individuals and families who truly need them.”

**Looking For
Something to Do?
Check Out Our
Community
Events on Page 7**



The
Putnam
County

PRESS

Established 1858
(USPS 451-060)

Published Weekly
\$40 Per Year
Out of County
\$55 Per Year

Official Newspaper for Putnam County,
Carmel, Patterson, Southeast, Kent, Brewster,
Nelsonville, Putnam Valley, Philipstown,
Brewster Schools, Garrison Schools, Carmel
Schools, and Putnam Valley Schools