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PUTNAM COUNTY'S LOCAL NEWSPAPER

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025

## Carmel Opens New Adaptive Playground at Airport Park



State Sen. Pete Harckham is joined by Carmel Town Supervisor Mike Cazzari, town board members, and community members at the recent ribbon cutting of the Airport Park inclusive playground in Mahopac. Photo by James Persons/Harckham's office.



The Carmel community came together recently to celebrate the grand opening of the new Airport Park adaptive playground in Mahopac, which was made possible in part by \$250,000 in state funding that State Sen. Pete Harckham helped secure.

"Inclusive playgrounds are more than just accessible – they are vibrant spaces where children of all abilities can play, learn, and grow together," said Harckham. "They not only break down physical and social barriers, but also cultivate a community that

shares its values. I thank the town supervisor, the Town Board, the recreation staff, and the community at large for proving that positive things can happen when everyone works together."

The town held a special ceremony for the new playground opening during its National Night Out celebration Aug. 5, where community members of all ages joined Harckham and Carmel Town Supervisor Michael Cazzari in officially cutting the ribbon for the new space.

"Thank you to Sen. Harckham for all your support – each

and every year you come through for Carmel," said Cazzari. "This playground is an awesome addition to our community that everybody can enjoy."

The playground includes slides, monkey bars, and swings. The equipment is wheelchair and American-with-Disabilities-Act-accessible, multisensory, and developmentally friendly, where children of all abilities can play together.

Harckham was able to secure the \$250,000 through the New York's State Aid to Municipalities grant program.

## Mahopac Schools Super. Retires

### District Buys Out Her Contract

By Holly Crocco

Mahopac Central School District residents expressed disappointment in the school board and administration's apparent decision to buy out the remainder of Superintendent Christina Tona's contract, and hire an interim leader until a new, permanent superintendent is selected.

"This is truly a bittersweet moment for me," Tona said at the Aug. 5 Mahopac School Board meeting. "After 33 fulfilling years in education – as a teacher, a principal, an assistant superintendent, and for the past three years proud superintendent of the Mahopac Central School District – I am announcing my retirement effective Sept. 1, 2025, with a leave of absence beginning Thursday, Aug. 7."

Tona said that when her contract was renewed in the spring of 2024, she fully expected to continue



Christina Tona

until June 2027 – and perhaps beyond, "but plans change."

The board voted 5-3 to hire Frank Meile as interim superintendent, on a per diem basis at a rate of \$1,200 a day, effective Aug. 7. Trustees Lisa Carway, Ben DiLullo, and Jennifer Travis voted against the

motion.

Miele served for many years as the district's athletic director, and served as an interim superintendent in 2021.

Residents who spoke at last week's board meeting expressed concern and frustration over Tona's departure.

"Without a question, she has been the most effective and most committed superintendent this district has had in many years," said Kristin Fleming. "She is fair. She is approachable, transparent, and

*Continued on Page 15*

## Change at the Helm In Finance Dept.

### Carlin Returns to County Role



Returning Commissioner George Carlin

By Holly Crocco

A familiar face has returned to Putnam County, with Bill Carlin coming out of retirement to return to his role as commissioner of finance, being immediately appointed following the departure of Michael Lewis.

"I am thrilled to welcome Bill back to the Finance Department," said County Executive Kevin Byrne in a press release sent out Aug. 1. "His experience



Departing Commissioner Michael Lewis

and dedication to the county will be invaluable as we continue to move forward with our financial operations. Bill's leadership will ensure a seamless continuation of the county's financial functions and provide the stability needed during this time of change."

During the County Legislature's Aug. 5 meeting, Legislator Paul Jonke, R-Brewster, thanked

*Continued on Page 12*





## Plein Air Event at Patterson Library

Artists, leave your studios behind and bring your cameras, pencils, paints, canvases, and easels to set up on the grounds of Patterson Library for a plein air event Tuesday, Aug. 12. The Great Swamp, the gazebo and gardens, as well as distant vistas are just a few of the interesting subjects offering inspiration. Artists age 16 and older can spend time in the park between 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Register at [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org).

## Summerween at Reed Library



Reed Memorial Library in Carmel recently hosted Summerween – a wild, sugar-fueled, fruit-carving frenzy for Little Readers. Cupcakes were frosted, melons were carved, and sugar levels were astronomical. Provided photos.



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Kent Town Hall

Deli Land - 508 Rte. 52

Kent Library

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Lake Carmel Pharmacy

## Putnam Men Face Child Porn Charges

Two Putnam residents were recently arrested and charged with possessing child pornography, after separate investigations by the Putnam County Sheriff’s Office and New York State Police.

In April, sheriff’s investigators were alerted by the NYSP Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force of a cyber tip related to sexually explicit videos and images that were being transmitted from residences in Putnam County. An investigation started, which included gathering computer forensic evidence through subpoenas.

According to Sheriff Kevin McConville, on June 12, a search warrant was executed at the residence of Richard Schwabedissen, 55, of Carmel, who was interviewed and charged with three counts of promoting a sexual performance by a child under the age of 17, and three counts of possessing a sexual performance by a child under the age of 16, both felonies.

He was arraigned in Carmel Town Court where he was released on his own recognizance with a future court date.

On June 19, investigators arrested Alex Jimenez Cochancela, 24, also of Carmel, and charged him with one count of promoting a sexual performance by a child under the age of 17, and one count of possessing a sexual performance by a child under the age of 16.

Cochancela was arraigned in Carmel Town Court where bail was set at \$50,000 cash or \$100,000 bond.

## Letters to the Editor

Criticism for Lawler

Dear Editor:

Congressman Mike Lawler held a raucous press conference last week to take credit for the raised cap on SALT deductions – his signature issue.

Previously, homeowners could deduct the full amount of their state and local taxes on their federal tax returns. In 2017, President Trump imposed a cap of \$10,000 on those deductions. Rep. Lawler is taking a victory lap for getting that limit raised to \$40,000 as part of the One Big Beautiful Bill that recently passed by one vote in each house of Congress.

Now, those who itemize their federal returns can take this larger SALT deduction.

So why all the fuss about this big “win?” Who would object to a tax deduction? It turns out there’s a reason that President Trump wanted this Big Mac of a bill passed quickly. Because just like

a Big Mac, it’s stuffed with things that are not so good for you.

Dozens of Lawler’s constituents showed up to the press conference to remind him that in voting for the raised SALT cap, he also voted to slash funding for Medicaid, SNAP (food stamps), and the federal subsidies that help people to buy health insurance. He also voted to increase the funding for ICE to \$75 billion, turning our country into a police state where masked officers can abduct our neighbors without due process and send them off to inhumane detention centers.

Lawler also voted to give tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans, exploding the federal deficit to the point where it will trigger the PAYGO Act, resulting in mandatory cuts to Medicare.

But Mike Lawler is hoping you’ll just be happy with your extra SALT Big Mac and not notice all the really nasty stuff inside.

Celeste Theis

Croton on Hudson

Like to Take Photos?

Send pictures from your Putnam event to editorial@putnampresstimes.com with a description of the event and your name and check out future editions to see if your photo was published!



# Volunteers Fight Vehicle Fires in Put Valley & Kent



The Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched July 31 at about 11:30 p.m., to a vehicle fire on Dennytown Road. Upon arrival, firefighters discovered three golf carts had ignited and the fire engulfed a nearby vehicle as well. The responders were able to quickly extinguish the burning vehicles.



## Men Face Jail Time for DWIs in Putnam

A Holmes man was recently sentenced in absentia following his guilty pleas to driving while intoxicated and aggravated DWI, class D felonies, which took place in Southeast and Kent.

Anner Osorio-Sarseno, also known as Willian Suniga, 34, was sentenced July 30 by the Hon. Anthony Molé in County Court.

According to Putnam District Attorney Robert Tendy, on Aug. 19, 2023, a member of the New York State Police saw a vehicle traveling on Route 312 in Southeast that was unable to maintain its lane of travel. When a traffic stop was initiated, the vehicle was stopped in the middle of a three-lane intersection.

The driver, who identified himself as Willian Suniga, reportedly admitted to consuming five beers prior to driving home. After failing standardized field sobriety tests, he was placed under arrest and provided a breath sample that revealed his blood-alcohol content to be 0.18 percent.

After the man was fingerprinted, it was discovered that his name was Anner Osorio-Sarseno.

On Oct. 12, 2024, an NYSP trooper saw a vehicle speeding on Interstate 84 in Kent. The driver, identified as Osorio-Sarseno, was again determined to be intoxicated. Following his arrest, an almost empty can of beer was found wrapped in a sweatshirt on the passenger side floor of the vehicle, said the D.A.

Osorio-Sarseno provided a breath sample that revealed a BAC

of 0.16 percent.

He was convicted on two prior occasions of DWI – a crime that is not bail eligible under New York State’s bail reform.

On May 7, 2025, Osorio-Sarseno pleaded guilty with an agreed-upon sentence of one to three years in state prison. On the day of sentence, he failed to appear, and a second date of sentencing was scheduled. After his second failure to appear, the D.A.’s office petitioned the court to proceed with sentencing in his absence and requested an enhanced sentence of two to six years on each count, to be served consecutively.

The court granted the motion and Osorio-Sarseno was sentenced to a total of four to 12 years in state prison.

“It’s bad enough this defendant was drinking and driving – again,” said Tendy. “Then he didn’t show up for sentence, so now there’s a dangerous driver out there. He’ll get picked up, hopefully before he hurts someone, and he’s going to get a lot more jail time than originally agreed upon. He deserves that.”

The case was prosecuted by Assistant D.A. Mackenzie Ferguson.

\*\*\*

Joshua Praino, 40, of Pawling, was found guilty of DWI and resisting arrest following a jury trial that concluded Aug. 1, before the Hon. Gregory Folchetti.

Praino was arrested Sept. 3, 2023, after NYSP troopers saw his

vehicle operating erratically on Route 22 in Southeast. During a traffic stop, Praino was determined to be under the influence of alcohol. When troopers attempted to place him under arrest, he refused to comply with verbal commands and physically resisted being handcuffed, by struggling and holding onto the push bar of the patrol vehicle.

Sentencing in this matter is scheduled Oct. 9.

“Don’t drink and drive – it’s that simple,” said Tendy. “If you are arrested for driving while intoxicated, you’ll be prosecuted and held accountable.”

The case was prosecuted by Assistant D.A.s Mackenzie Ferguson and Nicole Camillone.

At about 11:10 a.m. Aug. 5, the Kent Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to the Taconic State Parkway southbound, near the Exit 31B ramp, for a vehicle fire. Upon arrival, an active fire was confirmed and a hose line was quickly deployed, successfully extinguishing the blaze. No injuries were reported. East Fishkill Fire-Wiccopee Fire Company assisted at the scene.

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## Artist Grants Available

ARTS LINK Individual Artist Grants, which offer commissioning support to individual practicing artists in the amount of \$3,000 for the creation of a new work or to complete a work-in-progress, are available to Putnam residents.

This opportunity represents a “live and work” investment in local artists. Public presentation or some aspect of community interaction/engagement is required. It is designed to increase support for local artist-initiated activity across the county and to acknowledge the vital importance of Putnam County artists who enhance the cultural life, economic growth, and social fabric of local communities.

Grant guidelines and the application are available at [www.putnamartscouncil.com/arts-link-individual-artist-grants](http://www.putnamartscouncil.com/arts-link-individual-artist-grants). The deadline to apply is 5 p.m., Friday, Aug. 29.

A preliminary meeting with the artist is required. Contact Putnam Arts Council to schedule an appointment, by calling 845-803-8622 or e-mailing [grants@putnamartscouncil.com](mailto:grants@putnamartscouncil.com).

Grants are administered by the Putnam Arts Council through the ARTS LINK grants program and are made possible through the Statewide Community Re-grants Program of the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the Office of the Governor and the State Legislature.

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## NY Cruisers Donate to Vets Campaign

The New York Cruisers car club recently presented a donation to ShopRite of Carmel for its veterans campaign. The club is also organizing a toy drive for kids in need in Putnam County. If anyone would like to donate a new toy, they may do so at the club's weekly Friday night car show at Lakeview Plaza on Route 22 in Brewster. Photo courtesy of Tom Broderick, president of New York Cruisers.

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## Nutrition Corner

By Allison J. Stowell  
MS, RD, CDN



## Campsite Meals

Preparing nutritious campsite meals can be challenging. But with the right shopping list and a bit of strategy, healthy meals and snacks are possible.

Just add water: Go for oatmeal or another whole grain cereal. Or add soup to dinner. Pass on high sodium options and choose a Guiding Stars earning, protein-rich bean soup. Also, look for grain and legume bowls that also come together in minutes with boiling water (and then enjoy warm or cold).

Nutritious Snacks: Choose high quality granola bars that are low in added sugar and offer at least 7 grams of protein. Also look for bars with raw fruit and nuts, simple ingredients, and loaded with heart healthy fat to satiate you. Keep veggies and fruit on hand that don't require refrigeration like mini (pre-washed) baby potatoes, onion, grape tomatoes, bananas, apples and under ripe fruit.

Nutritious add-ons: Dehydrated nut butter powders can be added to yogurt, oatmeal, and more to increase the protein content of your food. Or add nuts or seeds to add healthy fat and protein. For additional protein, keep tuna pouches on hand to add to greens or enjoy with protein-rich breads or wraps.

Foil packet meals: Visit Hannaford.com for an array of recipes prepared in foil packets. You'll be able to easily cook fresh fish and other meals right over your flame with ease and little clean up. Try all-natural, pre-cooked chicken sausage (with sliced bell peppers and onions).

Additional tips: Look for packaged foods that make prep easier and faster. In the produce department, choose pre-sliced veggies and cubed fruit. Then look for microwavable grain and bean pouches (while you may not be able to microwave these products, they will simply need to be warmed over flame). Pack low sodium salt blends that work well with many dishes for easy, convenient flavor.

Allison J Stowell MS RD CDN serves as the online dietitian for Hannaford Supermarket. To learn about FREE, virtual nutrition classes and more, visit [Hannaford.com/dietitians](http://Hannaford.com/dietitians). For more on the Guiding Stars nutrition guidance program, visit [Guiding-Stars.com](http://Guiding-Stars.com).

**Camp Breakfast  
Hash with Eggs  
(1 Guiding Stars)  
[www.Hannaford.com](http://www.Hannaford.com)**

Cook this hearty one-pan breakfast over an open fire on your next camping trip or on the grill. It comes together quickly with frozen veggies and par-cooked potatoes.

Ingredients:  
2 Tbsp. canola oil  
1 (20-oz.) pkg. refrigerated diced potatoes  
1 cup frozen diced onions, thawed  
1 cup frozen diced green peppers, thawed  
1 (12-oz.) pkg. sweet Italian chicken sausage, diced  
1 tsp. paprika  
1/2 tsp. garlic powder  
4 large eggs

Directions:  
Arrange a grate over a hot fire or set a grill to medium-high. To a 12" cast-iron skillet, add oil. Place skillet on heat. Add potatoes and season with salt and pepper. Cook until potatoes begin to brown, about 5 to 6 minutes.

Drain any liquid from the onions and peppers. To skillet, add sausage, onions, peppers, paprika and garlic powder. Cook until vegetables are tender and golden brown, about 8 to 10 minutes.

Using a spatula, make 4 small indents in hash. Add 1 egg to each. Season with salt and pepper. Move skillet to cooler part of fire or reduce grill heat to medium. Cover and cook until whites are just set, about 3 to 4 minutes. Serve immediately.

Tip: To make this at home, place the skillet on medium heat.

## Mango and Pineapple Tropical Parfaits

(Family Features)  
**Mango and Pineapple  
Tropical Parfaits**

Ingredients:  
1 medium mango, peeled and chopped  
2 cups nonfat plain Greek yogurt  
1/2 cup low-fat, no-added-sugar granola  
1/2 cup diced pineapple  
1 medium banana, sliced  
1/4 cup pomegranate seeds or arils  
2 tablespoons unsweetened flaked coconut

Directions:  
In each parfait glass, layer 1/4 mango, 1/4 cup yogurt, 1 tablespoon granola, 2 tablespoons



pineapple, 1/4 banana slices and 1/4 cup yogurt. Top with remaining granola. Sprinkle with pomegranate seeds and coconut.

Serve immediately for peak flavor and texture.

Servings: 4  
Source: American Heart Association

# Putnam Municipalities Receive ‘Public Space Grants’

More than \$2.1 million in discretionary grant funding is heading to local municipalities to help initiate and complete important projects and upgrades related to their public spaces, announced State Sen. Pete Harchkham, D-Peekskill, last week.

Each municipality in the 40th Senate District – which spans parts of Putnam and Westchester counties – is receiving \$100,000 in grants, to be focused on parks, playgrounds, municipal buildings and parking areas, Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, and sidewalks and promenades.

“Knowing that too often state grants are competitive, with many municipalities left out of the queue, I am pleased to be able to fund ongoing and planned public spaces initiatives around Senate District 40,” said Harchkham. “These grants will make a real difference for these municipalities while also helping to ease the property tax burdens.”

A bipartisan group of local elected leaders joined Harchkham at the historic Elephant Hotel in Somers to discuss how they plan to use the grant funding for projects in their municipalities.

“Accessible public spaces are essential for the effective delivery of public services that thousands of residents rely on daily,” said Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne. “It’s critical that these common spaces, whether parks or the county office building, remain accessible for people of every ability to use and enjoy. We have already completed several accessibility-related improvements to our facilities in recent years. This new funding will allow us to accomplish even more while better enabling our scenic county, towns, and villages to better showcase their abundant outdoor options for residents and visitors alike.”

Patterson Town Supervisor Richard Williams said the funds going to that municipality will

be used to update the heating and cooling system at Town Hall, which has proven to be inefficient, required frequent repairs, and must be replaced with one that is environmentally friendly, reduces the town’s carbon footprint, and addresses climate smart goals.

“But the cost to replace the system, coupled with the need to fund other necessary priority capital improvements, has prevented the town from acting,” said Williams.

This funding will make the difference.

Village of Brewster Mayor James Schoenig extended gratitude to Harchkham for his efforts in securing monies in support of the village’s adaptive playground project.

“His commitment to obtaining these funds is not only a gift to our community, but also a meaningful investment in creating an inclusive space where all children can play, learn, and grow together,” he said.

“Amid the political whirlwind in our country, with people often closed-minded to opposing opinions, I’ve found that even though Sen. Harchkham and I don’t see eye-to-eye on some policies, he remains professional and open-minded in his interactions with me,” added Southeast Town Supervisor Nick Durante. “Southeast is truly grateful for the funding we’ve received (through) his office, which has been put to much-needed use here in the region.”

Kent Town Supervisor Jamie McGlasson said the funding headed to that municipality will help the town take a major step toward a more sustainable future.

“By installing geothermal energy at Town Hall annex and adding electric vehicle chargers, we’re reducing our carbon footprint while cutting long-term energy costs,” she said. “These upgrades are a win for both residents and the environment.”

# Quakes Shake Putnam

Area residents felt the earth shake twice in one week, with a 3.0 magnitude earthquake reported along the Ramapo fault near Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., on Aug. 2, which then gave off an aftershock three days later.

On social media, Susan Andrews said she felt the initial tremor in Mahopac, and Elsa Silva said she felt it in Brewster at about 10:40 p.m.

On Aug. 5 at around noon, a 2.7 magnitude aftershock was reported near Hillsdale, N.J.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, while the quake was felt throughout the tri-state area, no initial reports of damage or injury were reported.

“Heard it in Brewster, my son felt it upstairs weird,” wrote Kathleen Sanchioli on social media.

Miriam Ruza in Cold Spring and Alice Daly in Mahopac also reported feeling it.

“From the work done by geologists at Rutgers, we can say it seemed likely that both of those were coming off at depth off of the border fault,” Rutgers University Seismologist Ken Miller told News12 New Jersey. “The border fault runs to the west in a northeast-southwest fashion, and it runs right near Tewksbury, where the big earthquake was in 2024.”

More aftershocks are likely over the next week or two, he said.

Carmel, (845) 225-3672.

**Mahopac**  
**Raymond R. Romeo**, 85, August 1. Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac, (845) 621-1992.

**Putnam Valley**  
**Paul N. Legagneux**, 85, July 4. Heritage Funeral Home, Putnam Valley, (845) 526-3000.

**We Will Miss**

**Carmel**  
**Naomi Mamiko (Bisagni) Card**, 53, July 30. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

**Oliver Anastacio**, 83, August 4. Cargain Funeral Home,



Pictured are Southeast Town Supervisor Nick Durante, Putnam County Clerk Mike Bartolotti, Assemblyman Matt Slater, Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne, County Legislator Erin Crowley, and Putnam Veterans Services Director Karl Rohde, with veterans Richard Buck and Gregory Bagan (center) holding their Putnam County Service Medals.

# Veterans Earn Service Medals

## Service Members Honored at Annual Luncheon

Hudson Valley veterans were honored July 22 at VFW Post 1374 in Carmel, during Assemblyman Matt Slater’s third annual free luncheon for military personnel and their families.

The event provided an opportunity to connect with fellow service members and elected officials, learn about benefits and services available, and meet with organizations like Hudson Valley Honor Flight, Putnam Veterans Council, United for the Troops, and others.

Veterans Gregory Bagan and Richard Buck were honored with Putnam County Service Medals in recognition of their service.

“We look forward to this event every year because it’s our way of saying thank you to our veterans,” said Slater. “While words of appreciation matter, it’s equally important to make sure our veterans are taken care of in real, tangible ways. That’s why, beyond having a nice meal, this luncheon is curated to be an opportunity for veterans to connect with one another, speak directly with local officials, and learn about the benefits, programs, and services available to them.”

He also extended thanks to local Girl Scouts who handed out free cookies to veterans, and to the many volunteers and county offices who helped make the event possible.

“Thank you to our veterans for your service to our nation, and for your participation in yesterday’s event,” said County Clerk Mike Bartolotti.

Putnam Executive Kevin Byrne said he was honored to be part of a “heartfelt tradition that recognizes the incredible service and sacrifice of the men and women who wore our nation’s uniform. Events like this remind us of the importance of never taking our freedoms for granted and always showing gratitude to those who defended them,” he said.

Putnam County Veterans Services Director Karl Rohde said the event went beyond just a meal.

“The comradery that the veterans gathered were able to experience had to be the highlight of the day,” he said. “Old friends were met and new friends were acquired. Then from the various speakers that addressed the veterans, we were able to hear about some new legislation that is very positive for the veteran community.”



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## Elder Law Advice

*Alan D. Feller, Esq.*

# Estate Planning During a Hospitalization

I was prepared to write a regular estate planning article tied into Independence Day with July Fourth and fireworks references – fitting for this time of year. Then, a few days before the article’s due date, I entered a New York City hospital with an advance directive prepared for a client.

This was not my first time visiting a client in a hospital with the approval and supervision of the client’s immediate family on the patient’s behalf. In fact, this has been a common occurrence for most of my career. New York law specifically states that, “Every patient shall have the right to have private communications and consultations with his or her physician,

attorney and any other person.” Hospitals still have the ability to control the access, flow, and timing of patient visitation as it pertains to a patient’s safety and well-being. Good practice dictates that a family member seeks to communicate with the social work staff or hospital administrator prior to the attorney visit to ensure there will be no issues, especially in situations where a patient’s illness has adversely affected their energy level and usual communication abilities.

A plan for witnesses and notarization is also part of the process. The goal is to have a Power of Attorney executed that would allow family funds to be protected

in the face of mounting long-term care costs.

Advance Directive signings can create anxiety among hospital staff. Advance Directives include Powers of Attorney, Health Care Proxies, Living Wills, and HIPAA forms.

Fears of unscrupulous lawyers taking advantage of incapacitated patients are not unfounded. However, our presence is designed to be flexible. Should a patient not have the capacity to execute a document, we – as licensed professionals – will not allow that document to be executed.

Things get tricky when a patient has received a medical diagnosis that calls their capacity into question. For elder care attorneys, New York’s case-by-case approach has shown that mild dementia symptoms do not automatically disqualify an individual from executing advance directives. We have our observation protocols and list of questions to establish that an individual has enough legal capacity to sign.

Many hospitals and health care facilities draw a line in the sand when staff is made aware of a

dementia diagnosis. No legal documents will be signed by that patient in their building. At that point, the advocacy of the patient’s loved ones and the assistance of legally authorized representatives will not be honored.

Superseding a hospital’s decision requires either a court order or the removal of that patient from their facility.

Timing is everything. An adversarial relationship between hospital staff and a patient’s family may prevent important documents from being properly executed, necessitating a lengthy Article 81 Guardianship proceeding that may cost 20 times what the Advance Directives cost. In the meantime, proper Medicaid planning cannot be completed and many thousands of dollars will be spent that could have been saved by the family.

All in all, a total lose-lose scenario.

So, now that you have the context, here is the story: Upon entering the hospital and passing through the metal detectors, I was asked to identify myself and the patient I was visiting by hospital intake. I explained who I was and

my purpose. The patient’s family had communicated the day prior with hospital staff as to the reason for my visit.

Hospital intake then pointed me toward the NYPD office on the first floor. NYPD staff were shown my driver’s license and Attorney Secure ID as well as the proposed Advance Directive.

I called our client’s son to let him know what was happening. Within 10 minutes, I was told that I would be escorted by a NYPD officer to the Risk Management Office. The officer and I rode the elevator up to the correct floor. We walked to Risk Management and I entered the office, coming face to face with an unsmiling bureaucrat.

I explained my purpose again, and was told that the patient had an unfavorable diagnosis and I was not allowed to visit the patient’s room even with the son’s approval. I was also not allowed to conduct my own evaluation of the patient’s legal capacity. The same NYPD officer who escorted me up the elevator was now called upon to escort me back down.

In the hospital lobby, the patient’s son and I discussed the situation and came to only one conclusion – get his mom out of there before it’s too late.

To know that your ability to receive proper legal support during the most difficult period of your life is controlled by a few hospital employees should send shudders down everyone’s spines.

The best way to avoid hospital interference is to have your estate planning documents and Advance Directives completed before a hospitalization. If you do not have advance directives – get them.

*Alan D. Feller, Esq., is managing partner of The Feller Group, located at 572 Route 6, Suite 103, Mahopac. He can be reached at [alandfeller@thefellergroup.com](mailto:alandfeller@thefellergroup.com).*

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To Learn How You Can Advertise Your Business Online

## Three Arrested for Shoplifting

Three people were recently arrested for shoplifting from businesses on Independent Way in Southeast.

According to Sheriff Kevin McConville, on July 30 at about 5 p.m., deputies were alerted that a vehicle that was wanted in connection with felonies in New Jersey was in the area of Interstate 84 and Route 312. The vehicle was located in a parking lot and deputies reportedly saw individuals leaving a store to enter the vehicle, with multiple items that were later confirmed as stolen.

Arrested were Latifah Smith, 35, of Carmel; Shatoya Smith, 28, of Newburgh; and Carlan Newby, 25 of Beacon. They were each charged with fourth-degree criminal possession of stolen property and fourth-degree grand larceny, felonies; and misdemeanor criminal possession of an anti-security item.

Both Smiths were also charged with being fugitives, as they were wanted for felonies from the Paramus Police Department.

All three were arraigned in Southeast Town Court and remanded to the Putnam County Correctional Facility due to multiple felony convictions and warrants.



# Putnam County Community Events

**Restaurant**

**Gift Card Raffle**

The Putnam/Northern Westchester Women’s Resource Center is hosting its annual restaurant gift card raffle, with tickets available for purchase through Sept. 1. Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$25, and may be purchased at prwwrc.org. Winners will receive a \$100 give certificate to a participating restaurant.

**Autumn Sale**

The Somers Women’s Club will hold its annual autumn tag and craft vendor sale Sunday, Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Reis Park on Route 139 in Somers. This fundraiser supports families in need in the community. Baked goods, crafts, new and used items, books, toys, housewares, collectibles, jewelry and more. Vendors can register to rent a 12-by-12-foot space for \$50. E-mail SWCAutumnSale@gmail.com or call 914-406-1593.

**Parade**

**Participants Sought**

The Italian American Club of Mahopac is looking for marchers, antique/muscle car drivers, dance and performing groups, and community organizations to be part of the lineup for the 2025 Putnam County Columbus Day Parade on Sunday, Oct. 5, stepping off at 2:30 p.m., along Route 6 in Mahopac. Contact Giulio Cefaloni at 845-745-2655, or visit ItalianAmericanClubofMahopac.org.

**Tuesday, Aug. 12**

**AI for Small Business 101**

Brewster Chamber of Commerce invites local businesspeople to learn about the basics of artificial intelligence at the Breakfast B4 Business Chamber Classroom seminar “AI for Small Business 101” on Tuesday, Aug. 12 from 7:30 to 9 a.m., at First Baptist Church Brewster, 460 N. Main St. Free. Coffee and light breakfast will be served. Register at info@brewsterchamber.com.

**Firehouse Info. Meeting**

The commissioners of the Brewster-Southeast Joint Fire District are inviting residents to join them at fire headquarters, 501 N. Main St., at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 12, or Monday, Aug. 25, to tour the existing facilities and view a proposal of a new firehouse. The proposal will be placed for voter approval at an upcoming special bond election scheduled Tuesday, Sept. 9 from noon to 9 p.m., at fire headquarters. All residents living within the boundaries of the district are encouraged to attend.

**Narcan Training**

Join Reed Memorial Library in Carmel for an interactive and informative training session presented by an opioid overdose training specialist Aug. 12 at 5 p.m. Gain the skills and knowledge to respond to an opioid overdose situation. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

**Henna Workshop**

Kent Public Library will host a henna workshop Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 5:15 p.m. Join Making

Faces Parties for a creative and culturally enriching experience. Learn the origins of henna and the diverse traditions surrounding its use in celebrations, rituals, and rites of passage across the globe. Register at kentpl.librarycalendar.com.

**Plein Air in the Park**

Bring your cameras, pencils, paints, canvases, and easels to set up on the grounds of Patterson Library for a plein air event Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 10:30 a.m. The Great Swamp, gazebo and gardens, as well as distant vistas are just a few of the interesting subjects offering inspiration. Arrive and leave at your convenience. Works created at this event are eligible for submission to the FrOGS’ Great Swamp Celebration & Art Show on Oct. 18 and 19. Adults 16 and older.

**Wednesday, Aug. 13**

**Carmel Town Board**

The Carmel Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. the following Wednesdays at Town Hall: Aug. 13; Sept. 3, 10 and 17; Oct. 1, 8 and 15; Nov. 5, 12 and 19; and Dec. 3 and 10.

**Marine Corps League**

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

**Foam Party**

Children of all ages and their families are invited to the Kent Public Library on Wednesday, Aug. 13 at 5 p.m. for a foam party. Bring a towel, wear your bathing suit, and pack extra socks. For children younger than 18 only. Registration required.

**Learn a New Language**

Mahopac Public Library will present a program on Transparent Language on Wednesday, Aug. 13 at noon. Transparent Language is an easy-to-use app that can help you learn another language. Learn how to get started using Transparent Languages for free with your library card. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

**Treasure Hunt**

Kids age 7 to 14 are invited to Brewster Public Library on Wednesday, Aug. 13 at 4:30 p.m. for a thrilling journey where teamwork is key. Join forces to navigate mysterious paths, discover hidden clues, decode secret messages, and tackle challenging riddles – all while searching for a pot of gold at the end of the Rainbow Trail. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

**Thursday, Aug. 14**

**Yoga in the Park**

Patterson Library will present yoga in the park Thursday, Aug. 14 at 10:30 a.m. For all levels. Julia of Yoga In The Trees will lead meditation and movement for a new experience with this ancient practice. Bring a mat or blanket and water. Adults 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

**Meditation Circle**

Join Reed Memorial Library in Carmel to reconnect with yourself in a calming virtual meditation circle Aug. 14 at 6 p.m., via Zoom. Each month, Kris Noelle of Kris Noelle Wellness gently guides participants through a soothing meditative journey designed to restore your spirit. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

**Make Buttons**

Youth age 13 to 17 can design and press custom pins using artwork, quotes, memes, or whatever inspires them Thursday, Aug. 14 at 5:30 p.m., at Brewster Public Library. Make them for a backpack, jacket, or to trade with friends. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

**Diamond Painting**

Learn the calming, relaxing craft of arranging sparkling resin “gems” to form a beautiful design Thursday, Aug. 14 at 2:30 p.m., at Brewster Public Library. Age 18 and older. No experience required. Take home your own sparkly masterpiece. All materials provided. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

**Friday, Aug. 15**

**Adult Craft**

Celebrate the end of summer with a special adult craft program Aug. 15 at noon at Reed Memorial Library in Carmel. “Paper Mâché with Perception Horticulture” is a hands-on workshop perfect for beginners to create and bring your imagination to life. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

**Sail the Clearwater**

The Hudson River Clearwater Sloop will host public sails at Bear Mountain State Park on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 15, 16 and 17, at 1 and 5:30 p.m. each day. \$30 for adults, \$15 for children. Get tickets at www.clearwater.org/public-sails.

**Film Night for Adults**

Mahopac Public Library will host a film night for adults Friday, Aug. 15 at 6 p.m. It could be an old Hollywood classic, an international film, a modern trailblazer, or something completely different. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

**Splash & Paint**

Kids age 4 to 7 and their caregivers are invited to celebrate color in the most fun (and messy) way possible Friday, Aug. 15 at 10:30 a.m. at Brewster Public Library. Little ones will explore a rainbow of fun using safe, colorful powders. Dress for mess. Wear white or light-colored clothes to make the most of the colorful fun. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

**Saturday, Aug. 16**

**Jazz Quartet**

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center will present the Eddie Allen Jazz Quartet on its outdoor stage Saturday, Aug. 16 at 6 p.m., at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at Eventbrite.com or at the door. Students are free. Bring a lawn chair and a picnic. If it rains, the show will be held indoors.

**Sunday, Aug. 17**

**Classical Music**

Pianist Euntaek Kim will continue his marathon of performing all of Prokofiev’s piano music at the Chapel Restoration, 45 Market St., Cold Spring, on Sunday, Aug. 17 at 4 p.m. Free. Hear Prokofiev’s “Schubert Waltzes,” his “Sonata No. 7 in B-flat Major, Op. 83,” and excerpts from “Six Pieces from the ballet ‘Cinderella,’” along with “Four Mazurkas, Op. 17” by Frédéric Chopin.

**Chicken BBQ**

Patterson Community Church will hold a grab’n go chicken BBQ fundraiser to support outreach ministries Sunday, Aug. 17, from noon to 3 p.m., at 1062 Route 311, Patterson. \$15 per person. 845-878-3961 or pattersoncommunitychurch.org.

**Night With Jim Dale**

Tony Award winner Jim Dale will be performing his brand new one-man show “An Actor’s Nightmare” at Arts on the Lake on Aug. 17 from 4 to 7 p.m. The benefit begins at 4 p.m., at 640 Route 52, Kent Lakes, with refreshments, wine, and light fare. Dale will begin performing at 5 p.m. Questions and a social hour will follow. There will be limited seating for the indoor event. Tickets are \$75 and available at www.artsonthelake.org.

**Monday, Aug. 18**

**Vacation Bible School**

Sign up your children for Vacation Bible School with a “Wonder Junction” western theme, Monday through Friday, Aug. 18 to 22 from 9 a.m. to noon., at MCB Church-Simpson Hall, 76 Gleneida Ave., Carmel. Ages 4 to 12 (must be potty trained). Adults and teenagers are welcome to sign up as volunteers. For information and to register, visit mcbchurch.myanswers.com.

**Glow & Create**

Kids age 8 to 12 are invited to Brewster Public Library on Monday, Aug. 18 at 5 p.m. to light up their imagination. Using paint pens, black canvas, and bold ideas, kids will design their own “neon” signs. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

**Tuesday, Aug. 19**

**Kent Town Board**

The Kent Town Board will meet the following Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Town Hall: Aug. 19 (daytimes), Sept. 2 and 16, Oct. 7 and 21, Nov. 18 and 25, and Dec. 2 and 16.

**‘The Beatles – 60 Years Later’**

Mahopac Public Library will present “The Beatles – 60 Years Later” on Tuesday, Aug. 19 at 6 p.m. Join Barry Wiesenfeld, an internationally recognized award-winning musician, published author and member of the music faculty of SUNY and Ramapo College for a closer look into the legendary band. Explore the phenomenon that was The Beatles, their growth, originality, music innovations and lyric depth. Ages 18 and older. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org or 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

**Elder Law Program**

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will host “Myths & Misconceptions in Deed Planning for Estates & Elder Planning” on Aug. 19 at 5 p.m. An informative and lively discussion presented by Sayegh Law on how to avoid common mistakes involving estates and elder planning. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

**Library Meetings**

The **Kent Public Library** Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. in the library on the following Tuesdays: Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18 and Dec. 16. The **Patterson Library** Board of Trustees will meet Tuesdays, Aug. 19 at 6:30 p.m.

**Poetry &**

**Picnic in the Park**

Patterson Library will present “Poetry & Picnic in the Park” on Tuesday, Aug. 19 at 11 a.m. (rain date Aug. 21). Breathe in the fresh air, soak in the natural beauty, and let the words transport you. Enjoy original works by acclaimed local poet Tony Howarth, along with selections from other celebrated poets. Light refreshments served. Adults 18 and older. To register, call 845-878-6121 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org.

**Roaming Readers**

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel presents Roaming Readers, a friendly walking group, at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays through November, weather permitting. Meet at the library and enjoy a walk through Carmel. All fitness levels. Registration required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

**Thursday, Aug. 21**

**Women’s GOP Club**

The Putnam County Republican Women’s Club meets every third Thursday of the month. Consider joining in discussion about Republican programs, policies, and issues affecting the county. Email the president at utnamwomensgop@gmail.com for more information, including time and location.

**Southeast Town Board**

The Southeast Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. the following Thursdays at Town Hall: Aug. 21, Sept. 11 and 25, Oct. 9 and 23, Nov. 6 and 20, and Dec. 4 and 18.

**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.



# Good, Old Fashioned Fun at



The annual Muddy Project Mess Fest took place on Aug. 2 at Camp Kiwi in M... where filthy fun was had by families from near and far. Dirty Dunk, a food fight, galore, and so much more. Kids and adults enjoying a spirited day. Photos courtesy of Laurie and John Spens...



The day included face painting, mini golf, kayaking and paddle boating, a color run, giant slides and-slide, zip-lining, tie-dye and other activities.





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The event is a fundraiser for the TLC Foundation of Carmel, which raises money for childhood cancer research. It is named in honor of Ty Louis Campbell, who passed away at 5 years old.

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Photo courtesy of Zac Olson.

## Hudson Valley Culinary Event & Farmers Market

Hudson Valley magazine will host its first Harvest Culinary Event & Farmers Market on Aug. 17 at Stissing Center in Pine Plains, bringing together the talented chefs and local purveyors of the region.

Chefs include David Kim of Milea Estate Vineyard, James Palmeri of Mohonk Mountain House, Maya Kaimal of Maya Kaimal Foods, and Zac Olson of The Millbrook Inn.

“Join us for Hudson Valley Magazine’s foodie event of the summer,” said Associate Publisher Lauren Buerger. “These talented chefs will be showcasing local foods and wines. Guests will be able to enjoy the best flavors the Hudson Valley has to offer. It’s the perfect opportunity to support the region’s hardworking farmers, chefs, and purveyors who shape the Hudson Valley’s identity.”

In addition to tastings and chef demonstrations, the farmers market will be available to all guests to shop around and pick up fresh produce and goods from local farmers, distilleries, and purveyors.

Tickets are \$75 and available at <https://hvmag.com/events/harvest>.

Purveyors of the Harvest Culinary Event & Farmers Market include Baldor, Bear Creek Farm, Crumble & Melt, Fruition Chocolate Works, Harlem Valley Homestead, Hudson Roastery, Lotuswood Organic Wellness Farm, Ronnybrook Farm & Dairy, Stonewood Farm, Terra Ridge Farm, The Dutchess Trading Company, Tivoli Mushrooms, and Uncle Gee’s Honey & Hot Sauce by Gino Robustelli.

“As executive director of Stissing Center, I’m thrilled to see Hudson Valley magazine celebrate the rich tapestry of culinary talent in our region,” said Patrick Trettenero of Stissing Center for Arts & Culture. “Just as we champion music, theater, and dance, we see the culinary arts as an essential expression of creativity and culture. In a community rooted in agriculture and artistry, food connects us – whether it’s through farm-to-table meals, shared stories, or folk songs passed down over generations.”

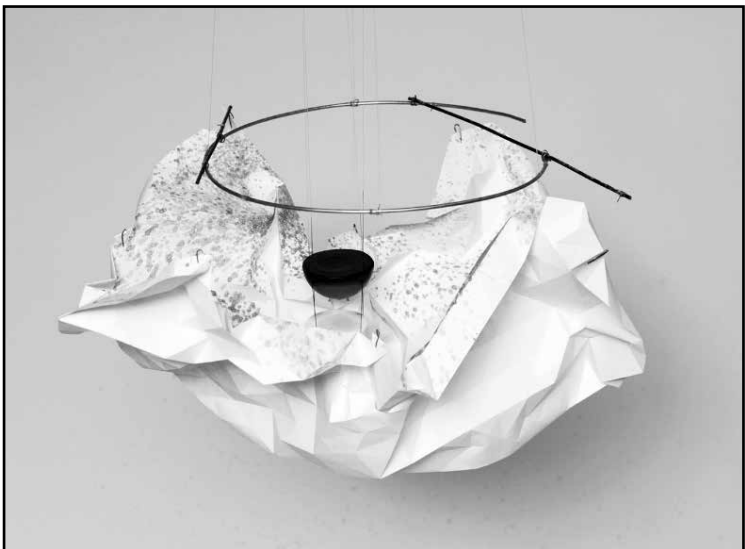
## Explore Natural Systems at Garrison Art Center

Garrison Art Center will present work from two artists who are each exhibiting their first solo show at the location, from Aug. 16 to Sept. 14, at 23 Garrison’s Landing. An opening reception is scheduled Saturday, Aug. 16 from 5 to 7 p.m.

“Axons,” an exhibition of work by Marieken Cochius, features welded steel sculptures and work on paper inspired by forms that reflect energy patterns and material surfaces in motion, think root systems, or currents of water. The works range from wall-mounted and free standing steel sculptures to collage on paper.

“My work is rooted in the paths energy takes – how it moves, branches, and connects,” said Cochius, who is a Dutch-born artist living in the Hudson Valley. “Axons,” which are the primary transmission lines of nervous systems and transmit electric signals from cells to other cells, is the name of the exhibition.

“I explore these intricate networks in welded steel wall pieces, which I think of as welded drawings,” said Cochius. “They are the handmade opposite of 3D printing; I use a welder like a drawing tool, building up forms of molten welding wire on steel sheets before cutting them free with a torch. These and the pedestal sculptures echo root systems, appearing held together by wire, their shadows becoming



“Emptying in” by Bill Schuck.



“Welded Drawing” by Marieken Cochius.

part of the structure.”

The paper works, dendrite-like pencil movements with glassine collaged on top, are inspired by the fleeting convergence of ice floes and echo the metal works in texture and shapes, explained the artist.

“Across all of it, I’m fascinated by growth-forms and communication patterns in the natural world – from deep space to neurons,” said Cochius. “I want to create an effect of movement that is mesmerizing, something that looks familiar, but that you cannot exactly place.”

An artist talk with Cochius is scheduled Sunday, Aug. 24 from 2 to 3 p.m.

“Axons” will be on view in the Gillette Gallery, concurrent with “remnants and schemes” by Bill Schuck in the Balter Gallery.

Schuck’s work is an exhibition of self-generating devices and objects.

“The marks on my work are made without the direct touch of my hand,” he said. “Using a custom-built system of industrial pumps, timers, and switches, I release ink, bleach, or vinegar one drop at a time. These drops, whether additive or subtractive, create self-organizing radial patterns as they scatter across

the surface, slowly revealing its topography.”

Over time, the liquid disperses, leaving only a trace, explained the artist.

“As the process unfolds, my original vision recedes, giving way to the independent identity of the piece,” he said. “I am both the steward and the author, guiding a system that ultimately moves beyond my control.”

Schuck said some pieces are still in motion, quietly forming as the system drips on; others are complete, shaped by a process now at rest. “Mounted on walls or suspended in space, the works offer a glimpse into transformation – each one a record of time, change, and the quiet surrender of control,” he said.

An artist talk with Schuck is scheduled Sunday, Sept. 24 from 3 to 4 p.m.

All exhibition related events are free and open to the public.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except for the exhibition’s opening day, when the hours are noon to 7 p.m.

For information about exhibitions, classes, and other programs at Garrison Art Center, visit [garrisonartcenter.org](http://garrisonartcenter.org) or call 845-424-3960.

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Consider joining the Putnam Chorale.

## Putnam Chorale Invites New Singers

The Putnam Chorale will begin its 41st season Sept. 8, with Monday evening rehearsals at Carmel High School. Now with more than 65 singers, the chorale is seeking new members from Putnam and Dutchess counties to join its ranks of talented performers.

"More singers means a bigger sound, and the ability to tackle more ambitious pieces," said Dr. Jason Tramm, music director and conductor. "The chorale is a well-established community choir, meaning the group does not audition singers, except if needed for section placement. However, prior experience with singing in a choir or in an educational setting makes learning challenging music easier, so we can better perform a meaningful variety of music."

In addition to performing masterworks at venues in Putnam and Dutchess counties, many Putnam Chorale singers traveled to Italy in May to perform works by Vivaldi and Mozart in historic churches in Rome, Assisi, and Venice.

This December, the group will be performing in two con-

certs titled "Shimmering Night: Songs of Wonder, Mystery and Serenity" that will feature music by composers Britten, Gjeilo, and Cohen.

"Our singers range in age from 14 to 80, and it's an inviting, down-to-earth mix of people from around the Hudson Valley region," said Katherine Gambino, Putnam Chorale president. "Learning and singing great music is a fun stress reliever as well as a challenging mental and physical exercise. Anyone who loves to sing should consider joining. We offer rehearsal aids and recordings that make it easier to learn and perform."

Rehearsals run from 7 to 9:30 p.m., at Casey Hall in Carmel High School. If interested in joining the chorale, you may pre-register at <https://forms.gle/sEmzDihCPZFWGCE7> or email [Contactus@putnamchorale.org](mailto:Contactus@putnamchorale.org) for more information.

Tuition is \$160 per semester. The Putnam Chorale is a 401(c)3 non-profit organization established in 1984 for the purpose of providing the community with opportunities to perform and to hear quality performances.

## Blood Drive Nets 21 Units in Carmel

Assemblyman Matt Slater and the American Red Cross hosted a blood drive in Carmel on July 18 to help support the ongoing need for lifesaving blood donations.

With donated blood expiring in 42 days or less, a steady stream of donations is critical. According to the Red Cross, someone in the U.S. needs blood or platelets every 2 seconds. However, only about 3 percent of age-eligible Americans donate each year.

During the recent blood drive, 21 total units were collected, which has the potential to save up to 63 lives.

There were seven first-time donors among the 19 total participants.

"Thanks to all who came out to give blood," said Slater. "It only takes a few minutes, but you're giving someone the chance at years of life. Donating blood is one of the easiest and most powerful ways to give back. It was great to see so many residents show up and prove once again that our

community cares deeply for one another."

According to the Red Cross, summer can be a tough time to collect donations.

"Between holiday travel, summer storms, and busy schedules, it's easy for the blood supply to drop," said the organization. "Thanks to this partnership, we were able to help ensure that patients – especially those in emergencies – have the lifesaving blood they need. Every donor who showed up made a real difference, and we're so grateful for the support from Assemblyman Slater and the local community."

Carmel Town Supervisor Michael Cazzari, who attended the blood drive for the second consecutive year, praised the effort, saying, "Giving blood helps save lives; it's a simple way to make a big difference."

For more information about donating blood or future donation events, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), use the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

## NYS Discovery Law Improvements Take Effect

Essential changes to New York's Discovery Laws, which took effect Aug. 7, were highlighted by Gov. Kathy Hochul during a recent press conference with New York district attorneys, victim advocates, and local law enforcement.

"These changes give us the tools to better protect victims, hold offenders accountable, and keep cases moving without unnecessary delays," said New York State Police Superintendent Steven James. "They strengthen public safety while ensuring fairness for everyone in our justice system."

Common-sense adjustments to discovery maintain due process for defendants while replacing a system that allowed for automatic dismissals based on technical errors and had adverse effects on survivors of domestic violence and other serious crimes, according to the governor.

With bipartisan support from district attorneys, domestic violence victim advocates, religious leaders, and business groups, these

discovery changes will:

- Require courts to consider the prosecutor's efforts as a whole and whether any missing material prejudiced the defense, preventing cases from being thrown out over insignificant mistakes.

- Narrow the scope of the items that must be disclosed and cut out the need to seek certain materials that are irrelevant to the charges against the defendant, allowing prosecutors to better focus on gathering the evidence that really matters.

- Allow prosecutors to move the case forward after they have exercised good faith and due diligence to obtain discoverable material and disclosed everything they have actually obtained, even if there are items they are waiting on.

- Protect against manipulation of the speedy trial clock, requiring defense attorneys to bring challenges early in the case and confer with prosecutors to resolve issues and move cases forward quickly.

- Streamline protections for sensitive witness information, both

to protect witnesses and to facilitate a culture of witnesses feeling empowered to come forward.

"It takes all facets of a community and the criminal justice system working together to ensure those who commit crimes are held accountable, the voices of victims and survivors are heard, and communities disproportionately affected by crime have opportunities, programs, and support to help make them whole," said NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services Commissioner Rossana Rosado.

A total of \$135 million was allocated in the 2026 state budget for both prosecutors and defenders across New York to help ensure compliance with discovery.

Also in next year's budget, \$347 million is being invested in gun violence prevention programs, increasing law enforcement presence in the New York City subways, combatting the rise in hate crimes, and continuing efforts to address sexual assault, domestic violence, gender-based violence, and sex trafficking.

## Live Americana Music

Celebrated Americana singer/songwriters Kieran Kane and Rayna Gellert will return to Tompkins Corners Cultural Center for their third annual concert Friday, Aug. 22 at 7:30 p.m., at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley.

The duo is touring in support of their new album "Volume 4," which reflects their minimalist musical

approach with fresh twists.

Kane's influential career includes groundbreaking work with The O'Kanes and the founding of the independent label Dead Reckoning Records. His songs have been recorded by artists such as Alan Jackson, John Prine, and Emmylou Harris.

Gellert, a renowned fiddler,

embraced Appalachian old-time music early on and helped revive string band traditions through her work with the acclaimed group Uncle Earl. Her arrangements of traditional tunes are now staples at square dances across the nation.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) or at the door.

# Seed Saving Basics

with Cornell Cooperative Extension Putnam County

**• Tues. Aug. 26th, 5pm •**

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# Hear Prokofiev Performed in Cold Spring

Pianist Euntaek Kim will continue his marathon of performing all of Prokofiev’s piano music at the Chapel Restoration on Sunday, Aug. 17 at 4 p.m.

Kim will perform Prokofiev’s “Schubert Waltzes,” his “Sonata No. 7 in B-flat Major, Op. 83,” and excerpts from “Six Pieces from the ballet ‘Cinderella,’” along with “Four Mazurkas, Op. 17” by Frédéric Chopin.

The concert is free and open to all.

Hailed by The New York Times as “nimble” and “colorful,” Kim is an American pianist, composer, and conductor receiving worldwide recognition for his unique and ambitious work. Originally from Incheon, South Korea, he graduated from the Juilliard School and Yale, where he studied with Jerome Lowenthal and Boris Berman. He has performed solo recitals in Belgium, Canada, Chile, Italy, South Korea, and the U.S., and as a chamber musician has collaborated with members of the Enso, Escher, Parker, and Ying quartets.

Kim’s performances can be



Pianist Euntaek Kim will perform Aug. 17 at Chapel Restoration.

heard on his debut solo album “Debut – CME Presents Vol. 3: Russian Piano,” as well as “Hertzberg: The Rose Elf,” and “The Wake World.” He is currently recording the complete solo piano works of Sergei Prokofiev, slated to be available in 2028.

The Chapel Restoration is located at 45 Market St., Cold Spring. Parking is free on Sundays.

For more information, visit [www.chapelrestoration.org](http://www.chapelrestoration.org).

# NYS Hunting & Trapping Licenses on Sale Now

New York State hunting and trapping licenses and Deer Management Permits for the 2025-26 season are now on sale.

Licenses and permits can be purchased at <https://decals.east.licensing.app>, by telephone at 866-933-2257, or at any of DEC’s license-issuing agents (find a list at [https://decals.east.licensing.app/vendor\\_location\\_search](https://decals.east.licensing.app/vendor_location_search)).

Hunting and trapping licenses are valid from Sept. 1 through Aug. 31 each year, while annual fishing licenses are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase.

Through Nov. 30, the DEC Call Center is operating from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday; from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays; and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 16 and Dec. 7.

Hunters should have the following ready when buying a license: complete contact information, a DEC customer ID number (if applicable), proof of residency (driver’s license or non-driver’s ID with a valid NYS address), a valid credit card if purchasing by phone or internet, and – if not already entered in DEC’s automated licensing system – proof of hunter or trapper education certification or a copy of a previous license for all hunting and trapping license purchases.

The “2025-26 Hunting & Trapping Regulations Guide,” which provides a collection of rules and regulations, is available on the DEC webpage and at license issuing agents.



The HuntFishNY app is available for download from the Apple App and Google Play stores, and gives hunters and anglers an easy way to view important hunting- and fishing-related information through the convenience of a smartphone

Legislation regarding use of crossbows and a regulatory proposal for electronic carcass tagging and harvest reporting are both pending and are not enacted. Hunters are encouraged to stay up-to-date on potential changes as they prepare for the fall hunting seasons by visiting the hunting page on DEC’s website.

New York’s habitat serves a vital role in maintaining healthy and sustainable fish and wildlife resources. Purchasing a hunting, fishing, or trapping license helps support DEC’s conservation projects and ensures the future of natural resources for generations to come.

Deer Management Permits (tags for antlerless deer) are available at all license-issuing outlets, by phone, or online through Oct. 1. DMPs are used to manage the deer herd and are issued through an instant random selection process at the point of sale. The chances of obtaining a permit remain the same throughout the application period; hunters need not rush to apply.

The 2025 chances of selec-

tion for a DMP in each Wildlife Management Unit are available online, through license issuing agents, or by calling 1-866-472-4332.

DEC’s HuntFishNY app gives hunters and anglers an easy way to display sporting licenses and privileges and view important hunting- and fishing-related information through the convenience of their smartphone. In addition to providing instant mobile access to electronic versions of your sporting licenses and privileges, the app offers the ability to report game harvests immediately while afield even when not in cell service, as well as links to useful information like season date summaries, regulations guides, a DEC contact list, and more.

Download HuntFishNY from the Apple App and Google Play stores.

All first-time hunters, bow-hunters, and trappers must pass one or more courses before they can purchase a license. In-person courses include a field day where new hunters can get hands-on experience. All in-person courses are free of charge, but space may be limited. Courses fill quickly, so be sure to sign up early.

All the requirements to earn a New York hunter education certificate can also be met by completing DEC’s online hunter education course and passing the exam. Upon passing, participants will receive a hunter education certificate so they can purchase a hunting license. The cost of the course is \$24.95.

The state is also offering an online bowhunter education certification course. Upon passing, hunters will receive their bowhunter education certificate so they can purchase a bowhunting privilege. The cost of the course is \$30.

## Change at the Helm In Finance Dept.

Continued from Page 1

Lewis for the service he provided to the county, noting that, “On Friday he was unceremoniously terminated from his position as commissioner of finance.”

“His termination was sudden,” said Jonke. “It was after the 2026 budget process had begun. There have been meetings with departments and department heads to instruct the budget for next year, so I’m really a little bewildered at how this happened.”

Jonke, who has been critical of Byrne’s leadership, called the 2025 budget process “a disaster” – at no fault of Lewis.

“Nobody had any answers to any of the questions that we asked during our committee meetings – except for Mike Lewis. He answered us. He was transparent... While it is a prerogative of the county executive to hire and fire these positions, I don’t understand it and I once again thank Mike Lewis for his

service.”  
Legislature Chairwoman Amy Sayegh, R-Mahopac Falls, also thanked Lewis.

“He was very professional, very responsible, and responsive to all the legislators,” she said. “I’m sorry to see him go.”

She also thanked Carlin for his willingness to come back to the position, especially to help the county through its budgeting process for next year.

Carlin, who served as the county’s chief financial officer for 33 years before retiring in 2023, played a crucial part in maintaining the county’s fiscal health, managing budgets, and overseeing financial reporting for decades. His leadership was instrumental in implementing best practices in financial management.

“I am honored to be asked to return and serve as commissioner of finance,” said Carlin. “I look forward to working with the executive’s office, the Legislature, and the dedicated team in the Finance Department to ensure the continued financial health and efficiency of Putnam County.”

Lewis served under Carlin as chief deputy commissioner for two years, prior to Carlin’s retirement and his own appointment.

## Need to Reach Us?

Send Advertising Inquiries to  
**[billing@putnampresstimes.com](mailto:billing@putnampresstimes.com)**

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

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

# 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](http://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

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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](http://spcaputnam.org)



# PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Putnam LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on September 3, 2025, in the office of the Putnam County Personnel Officer located in Building #3 at 110 Old Route 6 in Carmel, NY at 10 a.m. on the matters of amending the Putnam County Civil Service Rules and Appendices.

Such proposed changes are available for inspection during business hours in the office of the Putnam County Personnel Officer located at the address listed above.

P. 8/13, 8/20, 8/27 - 17

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Patterson TOWN OF PATTERSON PLANNING & ZONING OFFICE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE TOWN OF PATTERSON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS** of the following public hearings to be held on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Patterson Town Hall, 1142 Route 311, Patterson, Putnam County, New York to consider the following applications:

1. **Fredy Beltran & Doris Vasquez: Case #20-24– Area Variances (Held Over since July 16, 2025):** Applicant is requesting three area variances pursuant to §154-7 and §154-27A(12) (a) of the Patterson Town Code in order to legalize a 4 ft. x 6 ft. shed for garbage receptacle storage forward of the principal dwelling. Town Code §154-7 requires accessory structures in the R-1 Zoning District to meet a minimum front yard setback of 35 ft. and a minimum side yard setback of 15 ft. Structure exists 10 ft. from the front property line and 13 ft. from the side property line; **variances requested are for 25 ft. and 2 ft. respectively.** Town Code §154-27A(12)(a) prohibits accessory structures from being located in the front yard; **variance requested is to allow the structure to be located in the front yard.** This property is located at 155 Route 164. Tax Map 23.11-1-45 (R-1 Zoning District).

2. **Rebeca & Steven Bonacci: Case #12-25– Area Variances (Held Over since July 16, 2025):** Applicants are requesting three area variances pursuant to §154-27A(12) of the Patterson Town Code in order to legalize a 12 ft. x 10 ft. shed in a front yard. Town Code §154-27A(12)(a) prohibits accessory structures from being located in the front yard. The subject property has frontage on two streets and, therefore, is deemed to have two front yards. Shed is located between the side of the dwelling and Wallace Place; **variance requested is to allow the shed to be located in a front yard.** Town Code §154-27A(12) (b) prohibits accessory structures from being located nearer than 15 ft. to the principal dwelling. Shed is 7 ft. from the dwelling; **variance requested is for 8 ft.** Town Code §154-7 requires accessory structures to meet a minimum front yard setback of 15 ft. Shed is 12 ft. from the front property line; **variance requested is for 3 ft.** This property is located at 15 Sharon Road. Tax Map 36.23-1-20 (RPL-10 Zoning District).

3. **Ann Denholm: Case #16-25– Special Use Permit and Area Variance-Accessory Apartment (Held Over since July 16, 2025):** Applicant is requesting a special use permit and one area variance pursuant to §154-105 of the Patterson Town Code in order to legalize an accessory apartment in an existing single-family dwelling. Town

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Code §154-105 limits accessory apartments to a maximum floor area of 600 sq. ft. Existing apartment is 706 sq. ft.; **variance requested is for 106 sq. ft. over the 600 sq. ft. maximum permitted.** This property is located at 61 Baldwin Road. Tax Map 13.-1-34 (R-4 Zoning District).

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN BY THE TOWN OF PATTERSON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS** of the following application to be heard on **Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Patterson Town Hall, 1142 Route 311, Patterson, Putnam County, New York, with a separate public hearing date forthcoming:

1. **New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless:** Case #19-25– Use Variance and Area Variance: Applicant is requesting a use variance and area variance in order to install a public utility wireless telecommunications facility. The Patterson Town Code does not permit wireless telecommunications facilities in the GB Zoning District. The proposal includes the installation of a 125 ft. monopole. Town Code §154-7 states that the maximum height for a structure is 38 ft.; **variance requested is for 87 ft.** This property is located at 4 Fairfield Drive. Tax Map 36.9-1-24 (GB Zoning District).

By Order of the ZBA  
Robert Schmitt, Chairman

P. 8/13 - 136

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### SE/Brewster Fire District NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION BREWSTER-SOUTHEAST JOINT FIRE DISTRICT IN THE VILLAGE OF BREWSTER AND TOWN OF SOUTHEAST

PUTNAM COUNTY,  
NEW YORK  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Election of the qualified voters of the Brewster-Southeast Joint Fire District (hereinafter called the “Fire District”), in the Village of Brewster and Town of Southeast, Putnam County, New York, will be held at the Main Fire House located at 501 North Brewster Road in Brewster, New York, in said Fire District, on Tuesday, September 9, 2025.

The polls shall open at 12:00 o’clock noon P.M. (Prevailing Time) and shall remain open until 9:00 o’clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) or as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters then present to cast their votes.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to the resolution adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Fire District on July 21, 2025, the following Proposition will be submitted to the qualified voters of the Fire District for approval or disapproval:

#### PROPOSITION

SHALL the bond resolution of Brewster-Southeast Joint Fire District, in the Village of Brewster and Town of Southeast, New York, entitled:

“BOND RESOLUTION OF THE BREWSTER-SOUTHEAST JOINT FIRE DISTRICT (“FIRE DISTRICT”), IN THE VILLAGE OF BREWSTER AND TOWN OF SOUTHEAST, PUTNAM COUNTY, NEW YORK, ADOPTED JULY 21, 2025, AUTHO-

## PUBLIC NOTICE

RIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FIRE STATION ON A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE EXISTING SITE OF THE MAIN FIRE HOUSE OF THE FIRE DISTRICT, WHICH SUCH PARCEL IS EXPECTED TO BE CONVEYED TO THE FIRE DISTRICT BY THE VILLAGE OF BREWSTER, ALL AS SUBSTANTIALLY DESCRIBED IN THE PLAN PREPARED FOR THE FIRE DISTRICT BY KAEYER, GARMENT, AND DAVIDSON ARCHITECTS, P.C., MOUNT KISCO, NEW YORK, INCLUDING, TO THE EXTENT NEEDED, THE PURCHASE OF ORIGINAL FURNISHINGS, EQUIPMENT, MACHINERY OR APPARATUS AND ANY ANCILLARY OR RELATED SITE, DEMOLITION AND OTHER WORK REQUIRED FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH SAID NEW FIRE STATION IS TO BE USED; STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS NOT TO EXCEED \$38,000,000, INCLUDING PRELIMINARY COSTS AND COSTS INCIDENTAL THERETO AND TO THE FINANCING THEREOF; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT FOR SUCH PURPOSE; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF THE FIRE DISTRICT IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$38,000,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION; AND PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES TO BE COLLECTED IN INSTALLMENTS TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS,” BE APPROVED?

All residents of the Fire District who were duly registered to vote with the Putnam County Board of Elections on or before August 18, 2025, shall be eligible to vote at said Special Election.

BY ORDER OF THE  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
DATED: July 21, 2025

Maurice DeSantis  
FIRE DISTRICT SECRETARY

P. 8/13 - 130

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### AVISO DE ELECCIÓN ESPECIAL DISTRITO DE BOMBEROS CONJUNTO BREWSTER- SURESTE EN LA ALDEA DE BREWSTER Y EL MUNICIPIO DE SURESTE CONDADO DE PUTNAM, NUEVA YORK 9 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2025

POR LA PRESENTE SE NOTIFICA que se celebrará una Elección Especial de los votantes calificados del Distrito de Bomberos Conjunto Brewster-Sureste (en adelante, el “Distrito de Bomberos”), en la Aldea de Brewster y el Municipio de Southeast, Condado de Putnam, Nueva York, en la Estación Principal de Bomberos ubicada en 501 North Brewster Road, Brewster, Nueva York, en dicho Distrito, el martes 9 de septiembre de 2025.

Las urnas abrirán a las 12:00 p. m. (hora vigente) y permanecerán abiertas hasta las 9:00 p. m. (Tiempo Prevaliente) o por el tiempo que sea necesario para que los votantes presentes puedan emitir su voto.

SE NOTIFICA ADEMÁS que, de conformidad con la resolución adoptada por la Junta de Comisionados de Bomberos del Distrito de Bomberos el 21 de julio de 2025, la siguiente Propuesta se someterá a la aprobación o desaprobación de los votantes calificados del Distrito de Bomberos:

PROPUESTA  
¿SE DEBERÁ la resolución de emisión de bonos del Distrito de Bomberos Conjunto

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Brewster-Sureste, en la localidad de Brewster y el municipio de Southeast, Nueva York, titulada: “RESOLUCION DE BONOS DEL DISTRITO DE BOMBEROS CONJUNTO BREWSTER-SURESTE (“DISTRITO DE BOMBEROS”), EN LA ALDEA DE BREWSTER Y EL MUNICIPIO DE SOUTHEAST, CONDADO DE PUTNAM, NUEVA YORK, ADOPTADA EL 21 DE JULIO DE 2025, QUE AUTORIZA LA CONSTRUCCION DE UNA NUEVA ESTACION DE BOMBEROS EN UN TERRENO UBICADO ADYACENTE AL TERRENO EXISTENTE DE LA ESTACION PRINCIPAL DE BOMBEROS DEL DISTRITO DE BOMBEROS, QUE SE ESPERA QUE DICHA PARCELA SEA TRANSFERIDA AL DISTRITO DE BOMBEROS POR EL PUEBLO DE BREWSTER, TODO COMO SE DESCRIBE SUSTANCIALMENTE EN EL PLAN PREPARADO PARA EL DISTRITO DE BOMBEROS POR KAEYER, GARMENT Y DAVIDSON ARCHITECTS, P.C., MOUNT KISCO, NUEVA YORK, INCLUYENDO, EN LA MEDIDA NECESARIA, LA COMPRA DE MOBILIARIO, EQUIPO, MAQUINARIA O APARATO ORIGINAL Y CUALQUIER TRABAJO AUXILIAR O RELACIONADO, DEMOLICIÓN Y OTROS TRABAJOS REQUERIDOS PARA LOS FINES PARA LOS QUE SE USARA DICHA NUEVA ESTACION DE BOMBEROS; INDICANDO QUE EL COSTO MAXIMO ESTIMADO DE LA MISMA NO DEBE EXCEDER LOS \$38,000,000, INCLUYENDO LOS COSTOS PRELIMINARES Y LOS COSTOS INCIDENTALES A LOS MISMOS Y AL FINANCIAMIENTO. DE LO CUAL; ASIGNANDO DICHA CANTIDAD PARA TAL PROPOSITO; AUTORIZANDO LA EMISION DE BONOS DEL DISTRITO DE BOMBEROS POR UN IMPORTE PRINCIPAL QUE NO EXCEDA LOS \$38,000,000 PARA FINANCIAR DICHA ASIGNACION; Y DISPONIENDO LA RECAUDACION DE IMPUESTOS A PLAZOS PARA PAGAR EL CAPITAL Y LOS INTERESES DE DICHOS BONOS”, ¿SE APRUEBA?

Todos los residentes del Distrito de Bomberos que se registraron debidamente para votar en la Junta Electoral del Condado de Putnam el 18 de agosto de 2025 o antes, serán elegibles para votar en dichas Elecciones Especiales.

POR ORDEN DE LA JUNTA DE COMISIONADOS DE BOMBEROS  
FECHA: 21 de julio de 2025  
Maurice DeSantis  
SECRETARIO DEL DISTRITO DE BOMBEROS

P. 8/13 - 131

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Carmel LEGAL NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

TOWN OF CARMEL  
PUTNAM COUNTY,  
NEW YORK

### IGUANA CAR WASH CULVERT REHABILITATION CONTRACT NO. C298 NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town of Carmel, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York 10541, until 11:00 A.M. on **September 15, 2025** 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

## PUBLIC NOTICE

labor for the cured-in-place lining of approximately 800 linear feet of drainage pipe located in the Town of Carmel, New York, complete, in place and ready for use in accordance with the Contract Documents prepared by J. Robert Folchetti & Associates, L.L.C. The principal features of the Work consist of cleaning, televising, and cured in place lining of approximately 800 LF of 36” CMP storm drain; additional alternate for a +/- 50 foot 30” culvert on Baldwin Lane, and all other appurtenant and related Work including bypass pumping, connection to existing facilities, demolitions and removals, maintenance and protection of traffic, and environmental protection as shown, specified, and required to complete the Project. The foregoing is a general description only and shall not be construed as a complete description of the Work to be performed for this Project.

One Bid will be received. Bids shall be on a unit price basis. Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the Office of the Town Clerk upon receipt of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per set. Payment shall be in the form of Cash, Certified Check or Money Order, payable to the Town of Carmel. Contract Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Town Clerk, Carmel Town Hall beginning **August 13, 2025** from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Contract Documents may be examined at the Office of the Town Clerk or at the office of the ENGINEER, J. Robert Folchetti & Associates, L.L.C., 31 Sodom Road, Brewster, NY 10509.

Prospective bidders may request mailing of Contract Documents by contacting the Town Clerk’s Office. Bidders must provide a prepaid air bill for mailing a minimum of one week prior to the mandatory pre-bid conference. Neither OWNER or ENGINEER shall be responsible for any delay in such shipment. 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 10:00 AM on September 2, 2025, at Carmel Town Hall, 60 McAlpin Avenue, Mahopac, New York 10541 to provide prospective Bidders and interested parties an opportunity to raise questions pertaining to the Bidding and Contract Documents, and for the OWNER or its representatives to clarify any points.

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.

The Bid Bond Form is contained in the Contract Specifications. Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond, or Certified Check accompanied by a Certificate of Surety, the coverage of which is specified in the Instructions to Bidders.

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 Carmel, 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



# PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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 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, or to supplies or materials not incorporated into the Work.

Non-Discrimination in Employment: It is the policy of the Town that their Contractors shall comply with all Federal, State, and local law, policy orders, rules, and regulations which prohibit unlawful discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, or national origin, and will take affirmative action to insure that they are afforded equal employment opportunities without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin. Provisions concerning this requirement are detailed in the Supplementary Conditions.

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

P 8/13 - 188

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Carmel, Putnam County, New York, at a regularly scheduled meeting held on the 6th day of August 2025 duly adopted the following resolution subject to **permissive referendum**:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT OF EASEMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Carmel hereby authorizes the conveyance of a permanent easement over the property known as 69 Everett Road to Overlook by Toll Brothers Homeowner’s Association, Inc, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said easement to be for purposes permitting the installation, construction, operation, repair, maintenance, and replacement of a high pressure water distribution system including a pumphouse building or enclosure; water pumps; pressure tanks; water meters; associated controls and monitoring systems; buried or above-ground piping and valves; electrical service and connections; an emergency backup generator; and a buried propane storage tank or other fuel supply, together with any telemetry, data transmission equipment, fencing, and safety or drainage structures necessary for the proper functioning and code compliance of the water booster system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said easement shall be in general form and content as attached hereto and made a part hereof \*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Overlook by Toll Brothers the County of Putnam shall be responsible for all recording fees incurred in connection therewith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is subject to permissive referendum.

By Order of the Town Board of the Town of Carmel  
Alice Daly, Town Clerk  
August 7, 2025

\* Copies of the Easement

PUBLIC NOTICE

Agreement, Schedule “A” and Schedule “B” are available in the lobby at Town Hall, from the Town Clerk’s office during normal business hours as well as posted on the Town of Carmel’s website under Legal Notices at [www.townofcarmelny.gov](http://www.townofcarmelny.gov).

P 8/13 - 78

PUBLIC NOTICE

Kent

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

25 Sybil’s Crossing  
Kent Lakes, NY 10512

Agenda August 18, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Kent will hold a Public Hearing on **August 18, 2025** at the Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil’s Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY at 7:00 p.m. to review the following applications:

1. William & Dawn Somokey  
19 Bedford Road  
Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-25-010: Requesting a 3 ft. side variance from property line for an increase in non-conformity.  
TM# 33.66-2-47

2. Peder Scott  
253 Route 52  
Kent, NY 10512

ZBA-25-011: Pursuing an interpretation and variance as it relates to section 77-21(6) of the zoning code for remodeling of an automobile garage with gas pumps to an Automotive Service Center which includes a convenience store that will also sell automotive accessories. In addition, requesting a variance for parking and loading in the front yard.  
TM# 44.5-2-23

3. Jack Berkowitz  
75 Golf Ridge Road  
Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-25-012: Requesting a 7 ft. front yard variance for a 16 x 20 shed.  
Tax Map # 42.11-1-5

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

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SITE INSPECTIONS ARE THE 2nd. SUNDAY OF THE MONTH. Between 9am & 10:00am  
CC: Town Clerk  
Town Board  
Zoning Board of Appeals Members  
Planning Board Clerk  
Wm. Walters, Building Inspector

P 8/13 - 73

PUBLIC NOTICE

Southeast

Southeast Parks & Recreation Batting Cage Project Notice for Newspapers

The Town of Southeast will be accepting bids for the supply and installation of two double-tunnel baseball/softball batting cages. These cages are to be installed at Markel Park and Volunteer Park in accordance with the specifications contained within the complete bid package. Bid packages can be obtained from the Office of the Town Clerk, Town of Southeast, 1360 Route 22, Brewster, NY 10509, via our website at [www.southeast-ny.gov](http://www.southeast-ny.gov) (on the Town Clerk’s page), or via Bidnet at [www.bidnetdirect.com](http://www.bidnetdirect.com).

The Town will accept bids on or before September 3, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

at 11:00 a.m. at the Town Clerk’s Office. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with “Bid for Southeast Parks & Recreation Batting Cage Project” and company name on the front. A digital copy of your bid stored on a USB thumb drive must be submitted along with the paper copy. Proposals will be opened at 11:01 a.m. or soon thereafter; proposers will be notified of the results.

For additional information or with questions concerning this bid request, please contact Town Clerk, Kathleen Chiudina, at 845-279-2196 or [kchiudina@southeast-ny.gov](mailto:kchiudina@southeast-ny.gov).

P 8/13, 820 - 46

PUBLIC NOTICE

Supreme Court

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF PUTNAM

**WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,**

-against-

**KEVN MCGUIGAN, ET AL.**

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Putnam on September 29, 2022, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION is the Plaintiff and KEVN MCGUIGAN, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the PUTNAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE 20 COUNTY CENTER, CARMEL, NY 10512, on August 25, 2025 at 10:30AM, premises known as 9 FULOP LANE F/K/A 3 FULOP LANE, MAHOPAC, NY 10541; and the following tax map identification, 75.6-1-72.

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

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 500444/2019. Christopher York, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. \*LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

P 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13 - 69

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF PUTNAM, Index No. 1601/2023: SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT dated September 13, 2023 Plaintiff designates PUTNAM County as the place of trial **BEATA PARUCH**, Plaintiff against **JAN ONDRISKA**, Defendant. ACTION FOR A DIVORCE.

To: Jan Ondriska, you are hereby notified that an action inquest will be held in the Putnam County Courthouse, 20 County Center, Carmel, New York on August 19, 2025 before Justice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Gina Capone at 9:30 am. This Notice is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Supreme Court of the State of NY, Putnam County. The object of this action is to obtain judgement for absolute divorce. **YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** to appear at the inquest or said judgment will be taken against you by default. Plaintiff’s Attorney: Vincent Ansal di Esq. 2493 Welsch Court Yorktown Heights NY 10598 (914) 217-9975

P 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13 - 37

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF PUTNAM

**DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR PFCA HOME EQUITY INVESTMENT TRUST CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2002-IFC2,**

Plaintiff,

Against

**PALOKA ULIA A/K/A PALOK ULIC A/K/A PALOK ULAJ; DRANE ULIC; et al**

Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered 04/22/2024, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, in the courtroom 209 in the Putnam Supreme Courthouse, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on 9/8/2025 at 10:30AM, premises known as 24 James Court, Mahopac, NY 10541, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Carmel, County of Putnam and State of New York. Section 53. Block 1 Lot 83

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$950,495.55 plus interest and costs. The Premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 500301/2017

Maureen Fleming, Esq., Referee.

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

Dated: 7/9/2025 File Number: 16-303764 CA

P 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27 - 60

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, **U.S. BANK TRUST, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF THE BUNGALOW SERIES IV TRUST, PLAINTIFF, VS. LINDA M. COOPER, ET AL., DEFENDANT(S).**

Pursuant to a Decision & Order & Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on October 29, 2024, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at court room 209 of the Putnam Supreme Courthouse, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on September 8, 2025 at 9:30 a.m., premises known as 15 Steiner Drive n/k/a 38 Steiner Drive, Mahopac, NY 10541. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Carmel, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 64.9, Block 1 and Lot 5.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The approximate amount of judgment is \$616,868.60 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to the provisions of filed Judgment Index #501476/2022.

Maureen Fleming, Esq., Referee

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

P 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27 - 50

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS-SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF PUTNAM - GITSIT SOLUTIONS, LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE OF GITSIT MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST BBPLC1, Plaintiff, -against- RENATA V. BAKER AND EDIN ZBANIC, AS POTENTIAL HEIRS TO THE ESTATE OF **BLAGOJA BOLIC**; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT-LAW, NEXT-OF-KIN, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST AND GENERALLY ALL PERSONS AND PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING, UNDER, BY OR THROUGH THE DECEDENT **BLAGOJA BOLIC**, BY PURCHASE, INHERITANCE, LIEN OR OTHERWISE, ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PREMISES DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (SOUTHERN DISTRICT); NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; “JOHN DOE #1” through “JOHN DOE #10” inclusive, the names of the ten last name Defendants being fictitious, real names unknown to the Plaintiff, the parties intended being persons or corporations having an interest in, or tenants or persons in possession of, portions of the mortgaged premises described in the Complaint, Defendants - Index No. 500589/2025 Plaintiff Designates Putnam County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject premises is situated in Putnam County. To the above named Defendants- **YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your Answer or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance upon the Plaintiff’s attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the date of service or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York. If you fail to so appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. That this Supplemental Summons is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated July 22, 2025. **NOTICE- YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME** – If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. **YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (GITSIT SOLUTIONS, LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT**



CLASSIFIEDS  
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

**FOUR PLOTS IN ROSE HILLS** - available in a row together. Veterans section, on hill. Don’t have to be a veteran. \$2,000 each or best offer. 845-224-9904. 8/27

**FOR SALE - DOUBLE CRYPT/MAUSOLEUM** at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Shrub Oak/ Putnam Valley. Asking \$10,000. Call 631-402-3585. 9/3.

**WANTED**  
**BUYING VINTAGE CAM-**

**ERAS, LENSES, WATCHES, JEWELRY, COINS, CLOCKS, FISHING, HUNTING, MILITARY, FIRE HELMETS, SWORDS, KNIVES, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, COMICS, SPORTING, TOYS, FOUNTAIN PENS, WESTERN** And More. Please Call Frank 914-763-8766. 10/31

**WANTED** – Private collector buying firemen’s helmets, fishing, hunting items, rods, reels, lures, all types old or new, paintings of fishing, hunting, wildlife art, bows and arrows, no compound bows. Call 845-878-3665 or 845-661-9059. 8/27

Putnam CAP Awarded Grant to Address Utility Costs

Putnam Community Action Partnership has received a \$5,000 Community Impact Grant from the United Way of Westchester & Putnam to help low-income residents pay utility arrears, preventing service disconnection.

Utility costs have become a significant barrier for many low-income individuals and families, making it difficult to keep up with bills and maintain service. This grant will allow Putnam CAP to provide direct assistance to those who are struggling, ensuring they can keep their lights on and their

homes warm.

“We are incredibly grateful to the United Way of Westchester & Putnam for their generous support,” said Marisa O’Leary, Director of Putnam CAP. “This grant comes at a crucial time. The rising cost of living – particularly utilities – is putting immense pressure on our most vulnerable neighbors. This funding will directly impact the lives of residents, helping them avoid the stress and hardship of having their utilities disconnected.”

Tom Gabriel, president and

CEO of United Way of Westchester & Putnam, said the organization is proud to support the critical work of Putnam CAP.

“Their efforts to assist residents with utility payments are more important than ever,” he said. “We are committed to helping our communities thrive, and this partnership is a key part of that mission.”

Putnam CAP is a private, nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to providing opportunities and resources to help residents become self-sufficient.

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE OF GITSIT MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST BBPLC1) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Gina C. Capone, J.S.C. Dated: July 22, 2025 Filed: July 22, 2025. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage and covering the premises known as 73 Hewitt Street, Lake Peekskill, NY 10537. Dated: April 4, 2025 Filed: April 7, 2025. Knuckles & Manfro, LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Richard F. Komosinski, Esq. of Counsel, 120 White Plains Road, Suite 215, Tarrytown, New York 10591 Phone: (914) 345-3020 P. 8/13, 8/20, 8/27, 9/3 - 124

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT PUTNAM COUNTY

**FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION**, Plaintiff against

**DANIEL O’BRIEN**, et al Defendant(s)

Attorney for Plaintiff(s) McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, 420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 840, New York, NY 10170.

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered June 23, 2025, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the Putnam County Courthouse, Courtroom 209, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on September 15, 2025 at 10:30 AM. Premises

known as 78 Craescot Way, Mahopac, NY 10541. Sec 53. Block 2 Lot 82.46. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Carmel, County of Putnam, State of New York. Approximate Amount of Judgment is \$295,948.99 plus interest, fees, and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No 501398/2024. The foreclosure sale will be conducted in accordance with 9th Judicial District’s Covid-19 Policies and foreclosure auction rules. The Referee shall enforce any rules in place regarding facial coverings and social distancing.

For sale information, please contact XOME at www.Xome.com or call (844)400-9633. William T. O’Keeffe, Esq., Referee File # 24-17951NY P. 8/13, 8/20, 8/27, 9/3 - 53

PUBLIC NOTICE

**LLC**  
Notice of Formation of **LLJ Financial Services LLC**. Arts. of

PUBLIC NOTICE

Org. filed with SSNY on 6/11/25. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 622 Richardsville Road, Carmel, New York 10512. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

P. 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **COLOR-ORED TIRES USA LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/03/2025. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: THE LLC, 22 ROSE DR., MAHOPAC, NY 10541. Purpose: any lawful activities.

P. 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **Gloss Salon II LLC**. Articles of organization filed with the SSNY on 10/26/2021.

Office Location: Putnam County. Designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon

whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to:

Wesley M. Beal: 83 old Ridgefield Road, Wilton,CT,06897.

Purpose: Any lawful purpose or activity.

P. 7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27, 9/3

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **BNF Consulting Westchester LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 5/6/25.

Office location: Westchester County.

SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served.

SSNY shall mail process to: BNF Consulting Westchester LLC

301 QUARROPAS ST #10D WHITE PLAINS, NY 10601 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

P. 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27, 9/3, 9/10

PUBLIC NOTICE

**STABBYNESS LLC** Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 4/10/25. Office in Putnam Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 56 Parrott St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

P. 8/13, 8/20, 8/27, 9/3, 9/10, 9/17

Mahopac Schools Super. Retires  
Continued from Page 1

deeply invested in working collaboratively with teachers, families, and students to make Mahopac the best district it can be. Her leadership has brought much needed stability, accountability, and integrity to our schools.”

Fleming called the decision “ridiculous” and a “waste of taxpayer money” to be spend to buy Tona out of her contract, hire a headhunter, and pay an interim superintendent.

“Equally troubling is the lack of transparency around this decision,” she said. “What has happened that would warrant a decision like this? ... She has always acted in the best interest of our students and families. She listens. She engages.”

Dara Berkwits, a librarian in the district, also said she is “deeply disappointed in the separation agreement.”

“This is a loss,” she said. “We are losing an exceptional leader. Someone who was chosen for this role because of her extensive experience in education, her proven leadership skills, and her ability to connect with students, staff, and families alike.”

Berkwits called Tona a lifelong educator who has consistently put children first.

“She didn’t just work here, she committed herself fully to the success of the district, and now via a separation agreement we are choosing – not being forced into – but choosing to spend hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars to remove her,” she said. “Our students deserve strong, experienced leadership at the top – the kind of leadership we are now choosing to walk away from.”

Tona said that during her time at Mahopac, she has had the privilege of working alongside “some of the most dedicated educators and staff members I have ever known, all of whom place the needs of our students at the center of every decision. Being part of this committed and compassionate community has been an incredible blessing,” she said.

The outgoing superintendent said she is proud of the work she helped the district accomplish over the past three years, under her leadership.

“With the best team of building and district administrators I have ever worked with, we kept a constant eye on our strategic plan,” she said. “And with execution by out talented faculty and staff, we improved safety and security across the district; expanded STEAM opportunities for all students; introduced new career pathways in business, health science, and education

at the high school level; enhanced social-emotional supports; strengthened data-enforced instruction; and embraced the science of reading, to ensure every student is academically prepared for the future.”

Tona recognized the assistant superintendents for their leadership and commitment, and also thanked the leadership of local bargaining units for their professionalism, kindness, and respect when negotiating contracts.

“To our students: continue to work hard, be kind to each other, and as our mission statement encourages, stive to become educated, upstanding citizens with practical life skills and a readiness for the real world,” she said. “Watching you grow in our classroom, on our athletics fields, through your extracurricular pursuits, and right her on this stage has been one of the greatest joys of my career.”

Tona also thanked staff and community members who have supported her, “especially over the past few months... Your emails, notes, and kind words meant more to me that you know,” she said. “My husband and I look forward to remaining part of this beautiful community we call home.”

Following a standing ovation of community residents at last week’s meeting, School Board President Michael Mongon thanked Tona for her service to the district.

“On behalf of the board, we wish you the very, very best,” he said.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_



Help Anxious Dogs Find Their Calm

No Sleep at Pajama Storytime in Kent

(Family Features) Just like humans, pets experience anxiety due to various triggers such as loud noises, changes in their environment, or separation from their owners. Understanding the root cause of your pet’s anxiety is the first step in coping.

Common signs of anxiety in pets include excessive barking, destructive behavior, pacing and restlessness – especially when experiencing separation or environmental stress. By recognizing these signs early, pet parents can take proactive steps – including

these ideas from Oh Norman!, the pet wellness brand co-founded by “Big Bang Theory” actress and animal advocate Kaley Cuoco – to help their furry friends overcome anxiety and live calmer, happier lives.

- Practice Desensitization Training

Desensitization training involves exposing your pet to anxiety-inducing stimuli in a controlled (and gradual) manner. Start with short departures if your pet experiences separation anxiety and gradually increase the length

of time you’re away to help your pet become more comfortable being alone. Pairing these departures with positive reinforcement, like treats or favorite toys, can help create a positive association.

- Harness the Power of Familiar Scents

In your absence, leaving behind a worn t-shirt or blanket that smells like you can be soothing for anxious pets. A familiar scent can provide a sense of security and reassurance, reducing anxiety levels.

- Consider Vet-Approved Supplements

For pets needing extra support, science-backed supplements can combat stress from separation, vet visits, travel, and fireworks.

“I love seeing my dogs get super excited, but sometimes they need to chill,” Cuoco said. “Having a vet-approved natural supplement that calms stressed-out dogs gives me peace of mind.”

- Provide Mental Stimulation

Regular mental stimulation can help reduce anxiety for some pets. Try introducing interactive toys, puzzle feeders, and other engaging activities to keep your pet’s mind occupied and help prevent boredom-induced anxiety.

- Increase Physical Activity

Exercise, such as daily walks or play sessions, helps release pent-up energy and promotes relaxation. Prior to departing, give your pet some extra attention by playing a game of fetch in the backyard, spending some time at your local dog park, or going for a walk on a new trail.

To find more pet health resources, visit [ohnorman.com](http://ohnorman.com).

Source: Oh Norman!



Young bookworms showed up in their pajamas, clutching their beloved stuffies, ready for an evening of stories and songs with Miss Marlana and Miss Chris during a recent pajama storytime and stuffed animal sleepover at Kent Public Library.



Jim Dale

An Actor’s Nightmare

Sir Laurence Olivier, Anthony Hopkins, and Jim Dale are in your cast, what could possibly go wrong?

arts ON THE LAKE

This is a *new* show as a benefit performance by Tony award winner, Jim Dale.

August 17, 4 - 7 PM

Tickets and info: [artsonthelake.org](http://artsonthelake.org)

101st Annual

Yorktown Grange Fair

September 5 — September 7

Presented by the Yorktown Grange Agricultural Society

Rides ~ Exhibits ~ Livestock ~ Contests

Craft Vendors ~ Great Food & Craft Beer

Live Music All Weekend!

Only \$15 per Carload

Yorktown Grange Fairgrounds  
99 Moseman Road, Yorktown Heights  
Antique Tractor Parade Saturday at Noon!

All proceeds benefit the Yorktown Grange Agricultural Society, a 501(c)(3) corporation.