



The Putnam County

TIMES

FREE

PUTNAM COUNTY'S LOCAL NEWSPAPER

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026



Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne delivers his State of the County address March 2 at the Joe Palumbo Soccer Academy in Putnam Valley. Photo by Chloe Wareham-Gordon.

Putnam Executive Says County Government Works for Residents

Byrne Delivers State of the County Address

By Holly Crocco

A more affordable, accountable, and accessible county government that serves every resident was lauded by Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne during his State of the County address March 2 at the Joe Palumbo Soccer Academy in Putnam Valley.

"From day one of this administration, we committed ourselves to (that) simple but powerful mandate," he said. "Because when I said we were going to make Putnam County more affordable, I meant it... and year after year, this administration backs it up with action."

His first example was the \$1 million reduction in the county's property tax levy that was realized in this year's budget, in partnership with the County Legislature, which resulted in a property tax rate of

\$2.39 – the lowest it has been in nearly 20 years.

"Since taking office, through targeted sales tax exemptions and property tax cuts, we have effectively delivered over \$10 million in tax relief," he said. "Show me another municipality in this state that can make that claim."

In addition, the administration decided to limit borrowing and aggressively pay down long-term debt – reducing that debt from more than \$51 million to a projected \$21.6 million by the end of this year (a 58 percent reduction).

"What that means is simple – fewer interest payments, less pressure on future budgets, and no passing the bill on to the next generation of taxpayers," said Byrne.

The county has also maintained a healthy Property Tax Stabilization

Fund and preserved its AA1 bond rating from Moody's Investment Services.

"And then there is what I believe will be remembered as one of the most important agreements for the long-term financial future of Putnam County... our historic sales-tax revenue-sharing agreement with every town and village," said the county executive. "Without that agreement, our county's sales tax rate would have defaulted to a dramatic 25 percent cut, and we would have lost more than \$21 million in annual revenue... Instead, we came together and delivered \$2.3 million in real revenue sharing for local tax relief and infrastructure."

Seniors & Students

Byrne announced that just a week prior, after working with the

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Democrat Brett Yarris kicks off his campaign for Putnam County executive on March 1 at The Garrison.

Yarris Kicks Off Campaign for Putnam's Top Seat

By Holly Crocco

From the podium at the front of a 200-plus crowd March 1 at The Garrison on Route 9, the Democratic-endorsed candidate for Putnam's top seat rallied the troops, saying: "My name is Brett Yarris, and today I am officially announcing by candidacy for Putnam County executive."

Yarris has earned the endorsement of not only every town Democratic committee, but every voting member of each committee.

But support hasn't only come from Democrats. "It's a mixed crowd here tonight," he said. "There are members of all political parties in this room, which people wouldn't know by just looking around... You only see your neighbors. That is what we have lost in Putnam County."

Yarris noted that, while it used to be assumed that a Republican victory was a foregone con-

clusion in Putnam County, that's no longer the case. "The pathway to victory is very real," he said. "The two parties are nearly even."

According to Yarris, of the 77,000 registered voters in Putnam County, Republicans outnumber Democrats by only about 1,700. In addition, about one-third of the electorate are independent voters.

Yarris' first run for county office took place in November, when he ran against Republican Jake D'Angelo for District 5. While he lost by a tally of 1,353 to 1,210, Yarris was successful at closing the margin between the Democratic and Republican votes.

In the 2024 presidential races, Donald Trump won Putnam County's District 5 with 60 percentage points, compared to Kamala Harris' 40 points – leaving a 20-point margin. One year later, in that same district, D'Angelo only de-

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Philipstown Told Fjord Trail South is 'Going to Take Time'

Equal Protection Update Committee Approved

The Philipstown Town Board on March 5 approved a new advisory committee to propose amendments to the town's "equal protection" amendment, heard a proposal for a memorial garden for suicide loss survivors, and received an update on the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail from Executive Director Peter Mullan.

Town Supervisor John Van Tassel thanked HHFT for a \$450,000 matching grant that will assist the town, Village of Cold Spring, and Putnam County in obtaining a major Transportation Alternatives Program grant from the New York State Department of Transportation for improving and extending Fair Street sidewalks in Cold Spring.

Using a slide presentation, Mullan explained that HHFT's priority now is on what he describes

as "Fjord Trail North," from Breakneck Ridge in Fishkill to Long Dock Park in Beacon. This involves a group of projects including drainage infrastructure along the route and rehabilitating the landscape between Metro-North train tracks and Route 9D, ecological restoration in the forest and marsh areas, as well as subaquatic vegetation in the Hudson River.

The goal is to create a trail that is Americans with Disabilities Act-accessible "from end to end," and that includes building a pedestrian bridge over Fishkill Creek, as well as other streams.

HHFT also seeks to transform Dutchess Manor by restoring the building to its 1868 envelope and expanding parking at that location.

"What is the Fjord Trail's

Continued on Page 11



A slide shared by Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Executive Director Peter Mullan at the March 5 Philipstown Town Board meeting.

Cold Spring Talks Water Rates, & Other Budget Considerations

By Rob Sample

Facing a host of expensive infrastructure needs, the Cold Spring Village Board on Feb. 25 grappled with spending priorities for 2026-27 – the village’s next fiscal year.

No decisions were made at the first of what will be several budget roundtables prior to the official budget deadline of March 20 and public hearing April 8. However, Mayor Kathleen Foley and Village Accountant Michelle Ascolillo both hinted at a modest tax increase, enabling the village to cope with its pressing infrastructure needs.

“We need to determine salary adjustments for our staff and work toward expanding revenue generation,” said Foley. “We’ll all be part of discussions going on, but I’m sure those of you who have sat in department meetings are getting a sense that we’ve got a lot we have to fund this year.”

That includes the village’s financial obligation to the Length of Service Award Program, a pension-like benefit provided to volunteer firefighters.

Ascolillo noted that under New York law, village property taxes may exceed the state’s 2 percent cap on increases based on positive changes in assessments, new construction, and renovations to existing buildings. She said any increase would likely be around 3 percent.

The trustees tackled the village’s water and wastewater programs, both of which are funded through a combination of flat con-

nection fees and usage rates. Last year, the village hiked its quarterly water rates by half to help defray the cost of issuing bonds for badly needed improvements, with one dam dating to 1865.

The village is anticipating another increase for 2026-27.

“Last year, the village increased the flat water rate 50 percent to help start planning for the bond payment for the dam,” noted Ascolillo. She said that the fixed nature of the rate increase provided more of a guarantee to pay the bond’s debt service, which the village expects to retire in 2029 or 2030.

“The money that the village is raising or charging is not just sitting, it’s going toward the behind-the-scenes work to get the dam ready for construction,” as well as engineering costs, said Ascolillo.

The flat water rate increase would be per connection and would not be based on usage. The board discussed several varieties of increases beginning at \$15 per user.

Trustee Laura Bozzi called this method regressive.

“I would much prefer to have people pay for what they use,” she said. “Fifteen dollars is nothing for someone who has a huge house, a big yard, and they’re doing all their landscaping. But for someone who is on a fixed income, it’s a big deal. My preference would be to try to split it between a flat and a usage rate, something to reflect that people are using the resource differently and are in really different

circumstances.”

Foley countered that during a drought, the revenue to provide for underlying infrastructure needs would fall short. Ascolillo said her office would model revenue trends during a drought last year.

Trustee Andrew Hunt also pointed out that the increase in funds coming from property owners who use more water should ultimately balance out any regressive effects of a flat rate increase.

Long-deferred infrastructure needs have come to a head, said Foley.

“The village for many, many years did not think in terms of capital projects and long-range asset care,” she said. “The dam is a public safety hazard and we’ve got to deal with it. So, it stinks to be the board that has to deal with it.”

The wastewater plant is also quite dated and needs a host of improvements, including new pumps, and all that would require bonding. “These are all replacement and repair costs,” said Foley.

Among other big departmental requests, the village’s police department is asking for a new patrol vehicle “to replace one of their old, outdated ones that has a lot of issues,” said Ascolillo. The new vehicle cost would be about \$65,000 to \$70,000 for a fully-outfitted Durango, and would be purchased on a three- to five-year installment plan.

The highway and facilities department is looking to increase one of its part-time employees to full-time, among other things. “Their big equipment request is a new backhoe, estimated at \$120,000 on

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Guest Column Fr. Emil Tomaskovic, S.A.

Pray for Peace

In these days of global unrest and deepening conflict, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement pause to pray – and to invite all God’s people to pray with us – for peace in our world.

As Atonement Franciscans, our vocation is “At One Ment:” the lifelong work of reconciliation with God, with one another, and with all creation. In moments marked by fear, division, and violence, this call becomes not optional, but urgent.

Peace is not an abstract ideal. It is a spiritual responsibility.

For over a 127 years, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement have carried this mission into the world: fostering unity among Christians, standing in solidarity with the marginalized, and bringing hope to communities affected by poverty, injustice, and violence. Through our ministries – from welcoming those in need at St. Christopher’s Inn to building bridges in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue – we strive to live the gospel as a tangible force for peace and reconciliation.

This year, as we mark 800 years since the death of Saint Francis of Assisi, we remember a man who lived amid conflict and turmoil yet chose a different way. He taught us that peace begins not with power or force, but with conversion of heart and trust in reconciliation, even when it seems most fragile.

The Franciscan tradition does not deny the reality of suffering or injustice. We do not turn away from the pain of those caught in conflict, nor from the fear that grips

communities and nations alike. But neither do we accept violence as inevitable. Prayer is not an escape from the world’s wounds; it is a way of standing within them with hope, courage, and faith.

At this moment, we ask especially for prayer – prayer for those who suffer, for leaders entrusted with grave responsibilities, for communities torn by fear and violence, and for ourselves, that our hearts not harden or grow indifferent.

In a world that so often speaks the language of force, prayer teaches us the language of mercy. In a culture shaped by division, prayer forms us for encounter and reconciliation.

Saint Francis greeted the world with the words, “May the Lord give you peace.” This was not a polite wish but a demanding way of life. It required humility, restraint, and the courage to believe that love is stronger than fear. That same challenge stands before us today.

The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement invite our community, our partners in ministry, and all who share a longing for peace to join us in prayer. May God draw us toward At One Ment – within ourselves, among nations, and across every boundary that divides us.

May the peace of Christ, which the world cannot give, take root in our hearts and bear fruit in our lives.

Fr. Emil Tomaskovic, S.A., is minister General at the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, headquartered at Graymoor in Garrison.

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- Stop & Shop Supermarket
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Raquel DiVincenzo, DPT - Tyler Shaffer, DPT

Excitement Brews Over New Home for Brewster Theater Co.

A 25-year-old landmark Putnam theater company is realizing its dream of "home ownership."

The Brewster Theater Company, a nonprofit 501(c) community theater that produces live theater at Drew United Methodist Church in Carmel, has officially become owners of 69 Gleneida Ave., Carmel – formerly the popular Florrie Kay Tea Shop.

After 15 years of operating as a nomadic theater group – performing and gaining audiences in venues such as the Brewster Public Library, Brewster and Carmel school auditoriums, the former Melrose School, and the Hudson Valley Cerebral Palsy space – the theater group board members were introduced to Drew Church. Ten years and 40 shows have passed since BTC first rented the church's shared gym space, which is converted into a theater for every production.

Stacy Dumont, who co-founded the company in 2000, expressed relief and excitement that BTC's community of artists and audience members will finally share in a new and special place.

"I have been around for 25 years of the schlepping, sweating, organizing, promoting, making and loss of theater family, artistic and financial decisions, and having \$500 left in the company bank account during COVID," she said. "Our board, audiences, state and county funding organizations, sponsors, and performers all believed in the power of community arts and here we have it, our own space at 69 Gleneida Ave."

BTC Vice President Judy Brewster said the group is thrilled to be realizing its dream of owning its own theater space.

"This milestone belongs to our patrons and the entire community – your unwavering support and enthusiasm have made it possible to build Brewster Theater Company's future here in Carmel," she said. "We invite everyone who shares our passion for the arts to join us and become part of this exciting new chapter as we grow together."

We Will Miss

Brewster

Maria Antonella Sentinelli, 64, February 21. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

Rocco Zito, 94, February 27. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

Daniel Thomas Dwyer, 36, February 27. Beecher Funeral Home, Brewster, NY, (845) 279-3615.

Carmel

Kenneth J. Fulling Jr., 79, February 18. Cargain Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-3672.

Lake Peekskill

Karl P. Baisley, 88, February 14. Heritage Funeral Home, Putnam Valley, (845) 526-3000.

Patterson

Justin A. Hyatt, 43, February 21. Balsamo-Cordovano Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-2144

Putnam Valley

Benedict "Ben" Manna, 78, February 17. Cargain Funeral Home, Carmel, (845) 225-3672.

Raising the necessary funds was spearheaded by Treasurer & Fundraising Chairman Bob Dumont. Two years ago, the group started with a fundraising idea they dubbed "Raise the Curtain." The goal was to raise \$500,000 in five years.

"The response to that call was incredible," said Dumont. "Since October 2024, BTC has raised over \$200,000 – enough for our downpayment. Our final hurdle is to raise \$150,000 for the necessary renovations. The support of sponsors, audiences, and arts lovers everywhere is necessary to get us over the hurdle. Raising this money will power an arts center in the center of Carmel for decades to come."

Donations can be made toward BTC's "Raise the Curtain" fund by purchasing and dedicating a brick for the theater's outdoor patio, or by making a tax-deductible contribution at BrewsterTheater.org.

The 2026 season will be performed at BTC's current Drew Church, at 28 Gleneida Ave.



Brewster Theater Company board members at the closing on their new home, at the former Florrie Kay Tea Shop on Gleneida Avenue in Carmel.



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Teams Minnows and Dolphins at the recent swim-a-thon.

Swim-a-Thon Raises Funds for Aquaflyers

The New Fairfield Aquaflyers – which includes participants from Patterson, Brewster, and Carmel – held its annual swim-a-thon Feb. 11, which is a USA Swimming-sponsored fundraiser in which participants earn money for their team by swimming lengths of the pool. Top fundraisers were Violet, Frank, and Jackson B. The Sharks raised the most money overall as a team and earned

a pizza party. Winners per-team for most laps included: Minnows – Tied for first place, swimming 46 laps each, were Ronin and Hailey. Dolphins – Zach K and Jackson M tied with 48 laps. Marlins – Jackson B had 128 laps. Sharks – Daniel had 164 laps. Barracudas – Kailyn and Ana-

lia tied with 178 laps. On Jan. 30, the Aquaflyers participated in the RST Winter Distance Swim Meet. Kailyn Welsh placed first, Analia Garcia placed third, and Irene Rotariu placed fifth in the 1,000-yard freestyle; Welsch placed first in the 400-yard individual medley; and Quinn Welsh placed third in the 200-yard backstroke and 200-yard breaststroke.

Nutrition Corner

By Allison J. Stowell
MS, RD, CDN



National Nutrition Month

Happy National Nutrition Month! This March, we're taking a moment to consider the "power of nutrition" and all that food can do for us. Our diet can prevent disease, maintain strong bones and muscles, support cardiovascular and neural health, and more. We tend to adopt difficult diets or follow complicated guidance. Yet we don't need to. When we eat a balanced, colorful diet that includes whole grains, lean proteins, and heart-healthy fats, we are using food to support a healthy body and will likely meet our health and wellness goals. It can be quite simple, uncomplicated, and aligned with our lifestyle. However, it requires slowing down, becoming more mindful of our choices and prioritizing food choices within our day. In many cases, this is the hardest part.

In honor of National Nutrition Month, let's consider where we're turning to for nutrition information. Along with advice and education from a Registered Dietitian (in New York, we don't have state licensure for "nutritionists"), I suggest seeking advice from websites that are supported by universities, hospitals and professional organizations. Social media influencers and websites selling supplements or other products are generally not the best place to find sound, science-based advice.

I also encourage you to reflect on the role that food plays for you and the support you need to meet your diet goals. If you are looking for more education, I strongly recommend checking out our FREE online classes that cover a variety of topics including Nourishing Success with GLP-1 Medication, Digging Deeper into Diabetes, Food as Fuel and more. Visit our website to learn more (shared below).

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

Air Fryer Honey-Chipotle Salmon Hannaford.com (3 Guiding Stars)

Salmon fillets go right from freezer to air fryer, making this a fast weeknight meal. Honey balances the smoky heat of canned chipotles and creates a nice sticky glaze.

- Ingredients:
- 4 cups water
 - 2 cups tricolor quinoa
 - Cooking spray
 - 1 (12 oz) pkg snipped green beans
 - 2 (12 oz) pkgs frozen salmon fillets
 - 4 tbsp honey
 - 2 tbsp chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, chopped
 - 2 tbsp less-sodium soy sauce (or tamari)

- Steps:
1. In a medium pot, bring water to a boil on high. Stir in quinoa. Cover and reduce heat to low. Simmer 15 minutes. Remove from heat and let stand, covered, about 5 minutes.
 2. Meanwhile, preheat air fryer to 400°F. Coat basket with cooking spray. Place green beans in air fryer and season with salt and pepper. Spray tops with cooking spray. Air fry until tender, 6 to 7 minutes, tossing halfway through. Transfer to a bowl and cover with foil to keep warm.
 3. Pat salmon fillets dry and season with salt and pepper. Transfer salmon to air fryer and cook 7 minutes, in batches if needed. While salmon is cooking, in a small bowl, combine honey, chipotle peppers and soy sauce.
 4. Brush half of the honey-chipotle glaze on salmon fillets and cook until glaze is browned in spots and salmon is cooked through, about 3 to 4 minutes more.
 5. Fluff quinoa with fork and serve with salmon and green beans. Top with remaining honey-chipotle glaze.

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St. Patrick's Day Sandwiches

(Family Features)
St. Patrick's Day Sandwiches

- Ingredients:
- 8 ounces plain cream cheese spread, softened
 - 1 cup finely shredded mozzarella cheese
 - salt
 - 4 English muffins
 - 24 slices cucumber
 - 8 thin slices green pepper
 - fresh cilantro leaves
 - lemon juice
 - lemon slices, for garnish (optional)

- Directions:
- In bowl, mix cream cheese spread, mozzarella cheese and salt well.
- Split English muffins in half. Cut each muffin half into shamrock



- shape.
- Spread cheese mixture over each muffin half.
- Place three cucumbers on each "shamrock," one on each "leaf." Use green pepper slice as stem. Place cilantro leaf on top of each sandwich.
- Sprinkle sandwiches with lemon juice and add lemon slices, for garnish, if desired.
- Servings: 8 sandwiches
Source: Culinary.net

Kahng Making Second Attempt for Legislature Seat

Kathy Kahng recently announced her campaign for Putnam County legislator in District Three, which represents the Town of Kent and part of the Town of Patterson.

The longtime community advocate has received strong backing from local Democrats, being unanimously endorsed by the Kent Democratic Committee and receiving the endorsement of the Patterson Democratic Committee.

“I am honored by the support of the Kent and Patterson Democratic committees,” said Kahng. “District Three deserves proactive leadership and a positive vision that helps our community thrive. I look forward to meeting neighbors across Kent and Patterson and sharing my plan for workforce development, economic growth, and environmental stewardship.”

Three years ago, Kahng ran a close race against three-term incumbent Toni Addonizio, who is now term-limited from running again – creating an opportunity for new leadership.

“Putnam County leadership has allowed the county to remain



Kathy Kahng

stagnant,” said Kahng. “I have a positive vision to help our community thrive, investing in our workforce, supporting smart economic growth, and protecting the environment for future generations.”

Kahng’s campaign platform focuses on workforce development by investing in local youth

and creating opportunities for the next generation, economic development by promoting sustainable growth while balancing the tax burden for residents, and proactive environmental stewardship by protecting the county’s water, green spaces, and natural resources.

Kahng brings experience in business and community leadership to the table. She has worked with municipal and transit agencies nationwide, managed companies with annual revenues ranging from \$1 million to \$100 million, and has been a small business owner since 2000. She has served as founding president of the Friends of Reed Memorial Library, as a trustee of the Putnam County Land Trust, and on numerous local advisory councils and environmental boards.

Residents are encouraged to meet Kahng at monthly campaign events in Kent and Patterson. For a schedule, visit kathy4putnam.com.



Isabel Bradley at work at Tops Friendly Market in Carmel.

CAREERS Employee Celebrated for Work Ethic

CAREERS Support Solutions provides individualized services to people with disabilities that go beyond finding them a job. The organization teaches workforce and financial literacy skills and provides resume preparation, mock interviews, internship and job placement, long-term ongoing support, and more.

The road to success looks different for each person, and Carmel resident Isabel Bradley is no exception.

Bradley arrived at CAREERS in 2008 seeking assistance with resume development, interview preparation, and job searching. The organization helped her find work in a daycare as a teacher’s assistant, where she spent many years before transitioning to retail work in 2014. With CAREERS assistance, she worked at Kmart and eventually at Carmel Cinema as a cleaner.

When the theater closed during the COVID pandemic, Bradley was determined to continue working.

In 2020, with the support of her CAREERS employment specialist, she secured a position at Tops Friendly Market in Carmel

as a front end clerk. In this role, Bradley’s primary responsibilities focused on keeping the store clean and sanitized—an especially stressful and demanding task during the pandemic.

Over time, Bradley continued to assist with maintenance duties and in October 2025, when a maintenance position became available, she was offered the role. Her job requires regular interaction with every department in the store, and includes emptying trash bins, collecting cardboard for recycling, maintaining restrooms, and caring for the front end of the store.

Bradley is often requested for special cleaning projects and during corporate visits is typically the employee chosen to prepare the store, as the team trusts the quality and consistency of her work. CAREERS will continue to work with Bradley on a regular basis to help her maintain her high standards for success, and looks forward to seeing her grow and add more responsibilities in the future.

For more information about CAREERS Support Solutions, visit www.careersupportsolutions.org.

In Remembrance

Brian Thomas O’Neil

Brian Thomas O’Neil (Dec. 6, 1971 to March 13, 2025) entered into eternal rest at Yuma Regional Hospital in Yuma, Ariz. He was surrounded by his wife, Kathy, and sisters Jackie and Elizabeth.

Brian was born in Stamford, Conn. After moving to New York, he attended the Carmel Central School District where his passion was football, graduating in 1990. He attended Ohio University and then ventured to California where he studied at The Music Institute, later relocating to Atlanta, Ga., to pursue a music career.

He met his wife, Kathy and they were married Dec. 22, 2008.

Brian and Kathy had spent the past six years in Yuma, Ariz., where Brian worked as security and civilian police.

Brian is survived by his wife, Kathy; sisters Jackie (David) Owens and Elizabeth (Michael) Hanrahan; his half-brother James O’Neil; nieces Katharine Owens and Skyler Kerschner; and nephews James and Shane O’Neil, Matthew Schutte, and Gil Davis.

A celebration of life took place Oct. 18, 2025, at the Knights of Columbus in Carmel.

In lieu of flowers, adopt an animal from your local shelter and/or donate to your local shelter in Brian’s name.

**Looking For
Something to Do?
Check Out Our
Community Events
on Page 6**



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MARCH 18: EXHIBIT OPENING

The Ryder Family Collection of original oil paintings by renowned American artist Jean Leon Gerome Ferris at the Southeast Museum, 4:30-5:30PM followed by the Brewster Chamber Meeting

HUDSON VALLEY HISPANIC BUSINESS COUNCIL

NEW:

Ask us about networking with the Chamber’s Hudson Valley Hispanic Business Council.

NUEVO:

Pregúntenos sobre cómo establecer contactos con el Consejo Empresarial Hispano del Valle de Hudson. Todos son bienvenidos.

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The Brewster Chamber of Commerce isn’t just a network; it’s a legacy. We’ve been the backbone of local commerce in Brewster and Southeast through decades of change.

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Putnam County Community Events

Seedling Sale

Cornell Cooperative Extension-Putnam County and the Soil & Water Conservation District's annual tree and shrub seedling sale is open online through March 27, at cceptutnamcounty.org. Native trees, shrubs, and perennials that support birds and pollinators. Native plant plugs.

Find Shelter

Brewster Cares' winter shelter is open nightly at 8:30 p.m. (you must arrive by 9 p.m.) Daytime warming center hours are 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Meet for screening at 72 Main St., Brewster.

'Fixers' Needed

Sustainable Putnam needs volunteer "fixers" with skills in either sewing, gluing, basic electrical or mechanical work, to help at its Repair Cafes. These "repair coaches" work together to diagnose and repair a wide array of household items. Volunteers are provided with snacks and lunch. Email volunteer@sustainableputnam.org or call 646-598-6560.

Ballot Applications for Garrison School Board

Absentee ballot applications, early mail voter ballot applications, and military voter absentee ballot applications are now available for the 2026 Garrison school budget vote and board election, at www.gufs.org/44298. For more information regarding the applications, or questions about this year's school budget vote and board election, contact the district clerk at dcallo@gufs.org or 845-424-3689, ext. 550.

Tuesday, March 10

Irish Soda Bread Sale

The Brewster VFW 672 Auxiliary is holding an Irish soda bread fundraiser, with orders accepted through March 10, to Chris at 914-588-0407, Karen at 845-721-0265, or Deb at 845-803-1563. \$20 per loaf. Orders may be picked up Sunday, March 15 between 1 and 3 p.m., at the VFW Hall, 262 Peaceable Hill Road.

Table Talk

CoveCare Center will hold Table Talk Tuesdays, including dinner and conversation about living a drug-free life, at the following locations: Cacciatori Pizza in Mahopac on March 10, Gaetano Pizza & Café in Brewster on March 24, and Cold Spring Pizza on March 31. All events begin at 6 p.m. Reservations are required at prevention@covecarecenter.org. Adults must be present with their children/teens.

Author Event

Allison Pataki will launch her new book "It Girl" at her hometown library in Garrison on March 10 at 6 p.m. The Desmond-Fish Public Library will present Pataki in conversation with fellow novelist Lauren Willig. Signed copies of "It Girl" will be available for purchase at the event through Split Rock Books and can be preordered at splitrockbooks.com.

Celtic Celebration

Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will present "Celtic Sounds & St. Patrick's Day Spirit" on March 10 from 2 to 3 p.m. Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a performance by Francine and Joel of F&J Music, featuring music, humor, and festive charm. Their vibrant style brings Irish culture to life, creating

a cheerful and entertaining St. Patrick's Day celebration. Registration is required at carmellibrary.org/calendar.

Mario Kart Night

Celebrate National Mario Day by racing your friends on the big-screen Nintendo Switch at Brewster Public Library on Tuesday, March 10 at 5:30 p.m. Compete for prizes, enjoy snacks, and show off your skills. For ages 5 to 8. Registration is recommended at brewsterlibrary.org.

History Talks

Join Kent Public Library on Zoom for a presentation by historian and education specialist Jeffrey Urbin from the FDR Museum & Presidential Library on Tuesday, March 10 at 6 p.m. From the Great Depression to World War II and beyond, these monthly sessions offer a deeper understanding of FDR's impact on the world stage. Register at kentpl.librarycalendar.com.

Wednesday, March 11

Carmel Town Board

The Carmel Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. the following Wednesdays, at Carmel Town Hall: March 11 and 18; April 8, 15 and 22; May 6, 13 and 20; June 3, 10 and 17; July 1 and 8; Aug. 5 and 12; Sept. 2, 9 and 16; Oct. 7, 14 and 21; Nov. 4, 10 and 18; and Dec. 2, 9 and 16.

Community Chat

The Reed Memorial Library in Carmel will present its new monthly "community chat" with Director Denise Martens on March 11 from 10 a.m. to noon, April 2 from 4 to 6 p.m., May 8 from 3 to 5 p.m., June 15 from noon to 2 p.m. Learn about what's happening with your library. Email devans.durkin@carmellibrary.org with questions.

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 MCLPutnam-County242@gmail.com.

Thursday, March 12

'The Problem with People'

Patterson Library will screen "The Problem with People" on Thursday, March 12 at 1 p.m. Two distant cousins, total strangers, one from NYC, one from a remote Irish village, attempt to settle a generations-old family feud. Set amid Ireland's lush countryside, it is a heartfelt comedy about family, peace and sheep. Adults 18 and older.

Walk In My Shoes

Join Brewster Public Library for an educational and meaningful program in recognition of National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, on Thursday, March 12 at 5:30 p.m. For ages 5 to 8. Through books and activities, children will explore inclusion and learn about the different ways people experience and navigate the world. Take part in mini challenges designed to encourage understanding, empathy, and respect. Registration required at brewsterlibrary.org.

The Shroud of Turin

Join St. James the Apostle and Our Lady of the Lake/Mt. Carmel Parish for a multimedia presentation

on the Shroud of Turin presented by Sean Fitzgerald of the Augustine Institute, on Thursday, March 12 at 7 p.m., in Doherty Hall, 14 Gleneida Ave., Carmel. This Catholic-focused lecture weaves together scripture, tradition, history, and science, highlighting how the Shroud reflects the Gospel accounts of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection. The presentation lasts approximately 90 minutes, followed by time for questions.

Friday, March 13

Irish Music

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley will welcome back Bruce Foley and John Nolan on Friday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m., in celebration of Irish-American Heritage Month. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at Eventbrite.com.

'Chicago: Teen Edition'

Carmel High School will present "Chicago: Teen Edition" on Friday, March 13 at 7 p.m., and Saturday, March 14 at 1 and 6 p.m., at the George Fischer Middle School auditorium. Purchase tickets at <https://chperform.booktix.com>.

'Aladdin Jr.'

The Mahopac Middle School Theater Company will present "Aladdin Jr.," on Friday, March 13 at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, March 14 at 2 and 7 p.m., on the middle school stage. Tickets are \$7 and will be sold at the door. Students must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, March 14

History Program

Join Historian Todd Braisted as he examines the role New York's Hudson Valley played in supporting British efforts in the war, their leaders, and the corps they served in, Saturday, March 14 at noon at Mahopac Public Library with "The Hudson Valley Takes up Arms for King George." Their numbers, services, and where they fought may surprise you. Register at www.mahopaclibrary.org.

Bracelet Workshop

Youth ages 7 to 12 may design a St. Patrick's Day bracelet using colorful beads and festive charms Saturday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m., at Brewster Public Library. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

Comedy Showcase

The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition will present a comedy showcase produced and headlined by Jack Ludlum on Saturday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m., at Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Also featuring Geordan Mallas, Jakob Gleason, Jon Leary, and PJ Slattery.

Irish Concert

Tara O'Grady's Black Velvet Band presents "Alive With the Future of Ireland" on Saturday, March 14 at 2 p.m., at St. Mary's Church, 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring. Free for all ages.

Sunday, March 15

Briscola Tourney

The sixth annual Briscola Card Tournament will be hosted by the Italian American Club of Mahopac on March 15 at 141 Buckshollow Road. Admission is \$40 and includes a three-course dinner which

begins at 1 p.m., with card playing beginning at 2 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to the winning teams. For more information contact Joseph Fierro at jfierro@olace.com or 914-584-9641 by April 28. italianamericanclubofmahopac.org.

Broadway Music

The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition invites the public to an afternoon of romance and adoration as Brewster's Robert Zubrycki, along with Lisa Tipton, Adria Benjamin, and Peter Sanders perform "A Love Affair-Classical Composers & Broadway" on Sunday, March 15 at 3 p.m., at Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster. Tickets are \$25, or \$20 for students and seniors, and can be purchased at www.culturalartsco.com or at the door.

Monday, March 16

Shamrocks Stories

Kids age 4 to 6 may enjoy festive stories packed with cheerful tales, and a simple craft to take home Monday, March 16 at 4:30 p.m., at Brewster Public Library. Registration is required at brewsterlibrary.org.

Tuesday, March 17

Library Meeting

The Patterson Library Board of Trustees will meet March 17 at 6:30 p.m. For information, call 845-878-6121.

Kent Town Board

The Kent Town Board will meet at Kent Town Hall at 7 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) on: March 17, April 14 and 21, May 5 and 19, June 2 and 16, July 7 and 21, Aug. 4 and 18, Sept. 8 and 15, Oct. 6 and 20, Nov. 10 and 17, and Dec. 1 and 15.

Wednesday, March 18

Medicare Seminar

Brewster Public Library will host a Medicare seminar with Dan Calebrese on Wednesday, March 18 at 5:30 p.m., via Zoom. Explore a variety of crucial topics to assist in making informed choices regarding healthcare coverage. Register at brewsterlibrary.org.

Thursday, March 19

Italian Mass

The Italian American Club of Mahopac and St. John the Evangelist Church invite the community to a mass in Italian and English in honor of the Feast of San Giuseppe (St. Joseph) on Thursday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m., at St. John's, 221 East Lake Blvd., Mahopac. Hospitality served in the Social Hall after mass.

Food Preservation

Cornell Cooperative Extension-Putnam County will present a food preservation lunch and learn series Thursday, March 19 from noon to 1 p.m., via Zoom. Ag & Food Systems Coordinator Ruby Koch-Fienberg will focus on "planning your garden for the jar." \$5 per class. Register at cceptutnamcounty.org/events.

'Art Songs 1'

Don't miss your chance to see Sharon Nakazato's multi-media artwork up close in the Patterson Library through March. A reception and artist talk is scheduled March 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults 18 and older.

MLP at Home

Mahopac Public Library will discuss ways to access the library at home, Thursday, March 19 at 10 a.m.; and Monday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m. Learn about the new resources available with your library card. Heritage Hub has genealogical records including obituaries, death notices, and news articles, from 1704 to today. America's News features a wide variety of news sources spanning the U.S. This is a hybrid class. Register to attend in-person or virtually, at www.mahopaclibrary.org.

Mobile Office Hours

Sen. Rob Rolison will host mobile office hours at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison on Thursday, March 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Meet with the senator's constituent service staff and discuss state-related issues like unemployment benefits, DMV issues, unclaimed funds and more.

Friday, March 20

'Les Misérables'

Haldane Drama will present "Les Misérables" on March 20 and 21 at 7 p.m., and March 22 at 2 p.m., at the school auditorium, 15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring. Buy tickets at <https://cur8.com/23423/project/137603>.

Saturday, March 21

Western Concert

The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition will present "A Cowboy's Dream" – a western music concert, on Saturday, March 21 at 7 p.m., at Old Town Hall Theater, 67 Main St., Brewster. Featuring Ernie Sites, "the yodeling cowboy." On March 22 there will be a half-price performance at 2 p.m. Tickets at www.culturalartsco.com.

Rabies Vaccine Clinic

Putnam Residents may bring their dogs, cats, and ferrets to a free rabies vaccination clinic Saturday, March 21 from 10 a.m. to noon at Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park (upper park), 201 Gypsy Trail Road, Carmel. Bring photo ID as proof of residency, as well as proof of prior vaccination. Tags are not acceptable. If no proof, the pet will receive a one-year vaccine. Pets must be at least 12 weeks old.

Folk Duo

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center will present Hildaland, a contemporary duo blending Scottish and American traditional music, Saturday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m., at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley. Tickets are \$25 and available at Eventbrite.com or at the door.

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.

History Column

Jack Alcott, Southeast Historian



A newspaper clip from the Jan. 30, 1947, Brewster Standard.

The Big Top in Brewster

Hachaliah Bailey in Somers had Old Bet the elephant in his menagerie (a zoo, not a circus) and Southeast's Nathan Howes borrowed the pachyderm for his show in Southeast's Sodom section, circa 1825-26.

This was the nation's first real multiple-act circus with an elephant, acrobats, trick horse riders, a band, circus ring and ringmaster/clown, as well as peanuts and lemonade all under a big top tent made from Russian sailcloth.

It's possible that P.T. Barnum, who was a 15-year-old kid that year in Danbury, heard about all the excitement across the border and came to Brewster for his first circus. (Yes, Danbury... Bethel didn't break away from that city until 1850.)

Barnum didn't join his first low-level circus job (in North Salem) until about 10 years later, following a stint as a Danbury newspaper writer and editor in the early 1830s.

From 1850 to 1857, Barnum hired Nathan's brainy Brewster brother and acrobat Seth B. Howes to run his Great London & European Circus.

Barnum was mostly the circus publicity man while Howes ran the day-to-day showbiz operation, prompting none other than Barnum himself to call Howes "the father of the American Circus." I, personally, believe his older brother Nathan really deserves that title since he started it all.

Howes made a fortune in the circus, but also in Chicago real estate and railroad and steel investments at the height of the Industrial Revolution and Gilded Age. He was clearly some kind of 19th century multitasking mutant genius - born in Brewster.

A multimillionaire, he of course renovated the Howes' "Stonehenge" family homestead on Brewster Hill Road and built the magnificent "Morningthorpe" castle on Turk Hill.

Jack Alcott is the Town of Southeast historian and a Brewster history enthusiast. See more on Facebook, at "Southeast, NY - Historian."

New Exhibit Takes Flight in Kent

Joan Kendall is the featured artist at Kent Public Library this month, with "Mostly Birds" on display through March 31. The show is co-sponsored by Arts on the Lake.

Kendall is a former teacher of children who are deaf and hard of hearing, with a master's degree in deaf education from Boston University. She developed curriculum and worked in schools for the deaf in Rhode Island, Illinois, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. Kendall taught developmental language and speech, and used art and illustration extensively to teach language and language concepts.

After leaving a career in teaching, she began to pursue her love of art. After first exploring painting in watercolor, Kendall took her first oil painting class at the Silvermine School of Art in New Caanan, Conn., and fell in love with the medium.

She continued attending classes at Silvermine with gifted and talented teachers, and has taken workshops with well-known



"Fire Cloud" by Joan Kendall will be on display at Kent Public Library.

realist and contemporary impressionist painters both in the U.S. and abroad. Among her teachers

are Dmitri Wright, Maggie Signer, Jeanne McGuire, Larry Moore, and Ian Roberts.

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Hamantash Bake a Sweet Precursor to Purim

Chabad of Putnam County hosted a community-wide "hamantashen bake" on Feb. 22 at the Carmel VFW. Participants young and old rolled, filled, pinched, and shaped their treats while discovering the deeper meaning behind these iconic cookies that are often enjoyed during Purim.



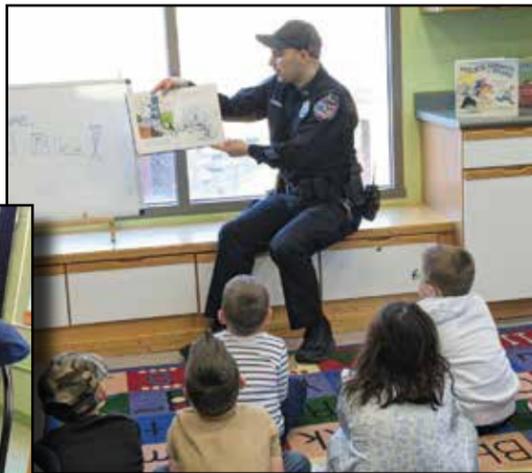
Nothing But Net at Carmel Rotary Fundraiser

The Rotary Club of Carmel and Carmel High School Interact Club hosted their annual Basketball Challenge Fundraiser on Feb. 28 at CHS. Individuals, business, and various agencies and organizations shot some hoops to raise money for their causes. Contributed photos.



Read Across America Turns a Page in Putnam

Carmel Police Officers Macom, Serio, and DeSantola visited Mahopac Public Library on March 2 to help celebrate Read Across America Day. Sgt. Serio read "Officer Buckle and Gloria" and talked about safety, and the children got a chance to meet and K9 Officer Pietro.



Explorer Day was a recent spirit week theme at JFK Elementary School in Brewster, and Taheera Mushatt's class made vests and binoculars to participate in the JFK Reads journey. The event coincided with Read Across America Day, observed annually on March 2 as a nationwide initiative to promote a love of reading among young kids.



In celebration of Read Across America Day, Assemblyman Matt Slater visited the Brewster Public Library to take part in a special story time. "Helping children discover a love of reading is one of the most powerful investments we can make in their future," he said. "At a time when screens compete for so much of their attention, building strong literacy skills is essential."



Jack Ludlum performs during a weekly open mic night in Brewster.

Laugh Out Loud in Brewster!

The Town of Southeast Cultural Arts Coalition invites you to forget your cares at the 2026 comedy showcase Saturday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m., at the Studio Around the Corner, 67 Main St., Brewster.

any number of subjects on his growing Instagram comedy channel (@geordanfromtheinternet) and "cares deeply about his craft and giving the audience a fun night out."

Host Jack Ludlum will headline the show, which features four other comedians who have been sharpening their craft Monday nights at TOSAC's long-standing comedy open mic nights.

Three showcase first-timers – Jon Leary, PJ Slattery, and Jakob Gleason – will round out the show.

A self-proclaimed "encyclopedia of useless information," Ludlum has been performing all over New York State and the Hudson Valley for over a decade. His act has evolved from his myriad of interests, including science, film, music, and even his own turbulent personal life. His influences include George Carlin, Colin Quinn, Patrice O'Neal, Dave Attell, and Doug Stanhope.

Improviser and actor Leary is co-host of the "Great to Be Here" podcast and can be found at @JonLearyHAHA on all platforms.

Ludlum will be joined by returning showcase comic Geordan Mallas, who likes to joke about

Carmel native Slattery has been doing standup since 2020 and suggests that you've probably seen him perform "in public restrooms, at the DMV, and on milk crates in your local alleyway to stray cats."

Gleason performs at showcases all over the Hudson Valley, including venues like City Winery and The Grisly Pear.

Tickets to the March 14 show are \$10 and can be purchased at www.culturalartsco.com or at the door.

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Real Estate By Vanessa Alfano

Thinking of Selling This Spring?

Spring has traditionally been one of the most active seasons in real estate — and in Putnam County, that pattern still holds. As the weather shifts and daylight extends, buyer activity typically increases. Listings begin appearing more frequently, open house signs return to corners, and conversations about “maybe this is the year” start to turn into plans.

But while spring brings opportunity, it also brings competition.

Inventory tends to increase across towns like Carmel, Mahopac, Patterson, and Brewster. Buyers have more to compare, more to analyze, and more leverage in deciding what truly stands out.

That’s why preparation matters more now than timing alone.

A well-prepared home does more than photograph well — it signals care. Buyers notice when deferred maintenance has been addressed. They notice clean lines, open light, thoughtful staging, and uncluttered spaces. They notice curb appeal before they ever step inside.

And in a measured market like ours, those details influence perceived value.

Pricing strategy is equally critical. Spring can create optimism — but entering the market too aggressively priced can stall momentum before it begins. Homes that launch aligned with recent comparable sales often generate stronger early interest and preserve negotiating positions. Those that “test” the market frequently require visible price adjustments later.

There is also a personal side to timing. School calendars, job transitions, downsizing plans, or upsizing needs should all factor into the decision. In some cases, waiting

until late spring may align better with lifestyle logistics. In others, listing early before inventory builds can create advantage.

The key is intentional timing — not automatic timing. Spring does not guarantee results. Preparation does.

But spring is still a season of renewal, and real estate tends to follow that rhythm. Lawns green up, porches get swept, windows are opened. “For Sale” signs appear where there were none just weeks before.

Energy builds naturally this time of year, and buyers respond to that momentum.

For sellers who prepare thoughtfully and price strategically, spring offers something powerful: visibility, activity, and fresh opportunity.

In Putnam County, this season isn’t about rushing — it’s about rising. And with the right preparation, it can be a season not just of listing but of real progress.

Spring Seller Prep Checklist

- Declutter and depersonalize main living spaces
- Address deferred maintenance and small repairs
- Refresh landscaping and entryway curb appeal
- Deep clean and consider light staging in key rooms
- Review recent comparable sales before finalizing pricing

Vanessa Alfano is a real estate professional working with buyers and sellers throughout the county. She tracks inventory movement, pricing shifts, seasonal patterns, and neighborhood-level trends to help clients make informed decisions in a changing market. Contact her at vanessaErealty@gmail.com.

Philipstown Told Fjord Trail South is ‘Going to Take Time

Continued from Page 1

timeline for Philipstown?” asked Van Tassel. “Five years?”

Mullan responded: “Honestly, we don’t know. We are trying to be responsive. Fjord Trail South (connecting to Cold Spring) is complicated... It’s going to take time.”

Also at the March 5 meeting, the Equal Protection Update Committee was approved, with the purpose of proposing amendments to the town’s existing “equal protection” amendment and authorizing the town attorney to participate. In discussion, it became clear that an informal committee has already been meeting for the last month since an amended policy was proposed at the Feb. 5 meeting.

The informal committee, which includes town board members Nat Prentice, Ned Rauch, and Judy Farrell, as well as community members Alexandra Cain, Liz Corio, Susan Anspach, and Dan Nobel, drafted a new resolution for the town attorney

that makes the committee official and adds new members Madeline Rae, Victor Burgos, and Recreation Director Cecily Hall.

“We have made excellent progress and should have a resolution and policy ready for approval by our next meeting,” said Rauch. “We have heard from many residents in support of strengthening our community’s defenses against ICE.”

Also, Theresa Frey of the Philipstown Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility Committee read a statement in support of a stronger resolution and policy.

In other business, the town board reacted favorably to a proposal from the Nicole Etere Memorial Gardens Foundation, Inc., for the creation of a memorial garden of remembrance to help suicide loss survivors who are left behind to cope. The foundation has similar gardens in Carmel and Mt. Kisco, and has been working with the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub to hold suicide prevention workshops.

Van Tassel suggested that the area around Glassbury Court lake be considered for the garden, which would be approximately 20 by 30 feet in size.

The Philipstown Town Board meets again April 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Carmel High School Brings On the Razzle-Dazzle



Students and staff at Carmel High School have been busy rehearsing for “Chicago: Teen Edition.”



Carmel High School is set to electrify the stage with its spring musical “Chicago: Teen Edition,” on March 13 and 14.

This year’s production showcases the energy and talent of CHS student performers, musicians, technical crew, and the dedicated faculty who bring the performing arts program to life.

Audiences can look forward to the iconic sharp wit, choreography, and unforgettable music that have made “Chicago” a Broadway classic. The production reflects months of collaboration across the school’s

performing arts programs, highlighting the strength and creativity of Carmel’s arts community.

“This show is a testament to what our students can achieve when they are supported by dedicated educators and a community that values the arts,” said Lenka Gray-Devitt, president of the CHS Performing Arts Booster Club. “Their commitment, talent, and enthusiasm shine through in every rehearsal. We’re incredibly proud of them and excited for the community to experience this production.”

Performances will take

place at George Fischer Middle School’s auditorium at 7 p.m. Friday, March 13, and at 1 and 6 p.m. Saturday, March 14.

Purchase tickets at <https://chsperform.booktix.com>.

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Have You Seen the Snow Flea?

By Janis Butler
Master Gardener Volunteer

Sometimes snow looks disappointingly dirty – as though someone sprinkled black pepper on it. And you might think, wistfully, how those flakes – beautiful when fresh-fallen – so quickly lose their charm to grit and grime.

But that might not be dirt...

Are those little bits of debris moving? Jumping?

If so, they might be snow fleas – *Hypogastrura harveyi* or *H. nivicola* being the most common species. If you see them, fear not, as they are harmless – not really fleas at all – and, in fact, contribute mightily to ecosystem health in their role as decomposers. They often appear as if by magic on warm winter days, forming tight clusters and drifting in waves across the surface of the snow in mysterious migrations that have been measured as far as 25 meters.

Snow fleas are not the prettiest critters in the world, but they are arguably among the most interesting. Their name comes from their ability to jump like fleas. They're actually a type of springtail, not even considered insects, but rather in a class related to crabs and lobsters.

The scientific jury is still out on this classification, however.

Snow fleas are very small, only about 1/10th of an inch long, and dark blue-gray. They lack wings but sure can jump. Unlike true fleas who use their powerful hind legs to jump, snow fleas use a forked appendage called a furcula located under their abdomens and held in place by clasp-like hooks until it is ready to leap.

When released, the furcula snaps downward with great force, propelling the snow flea high into the air – often 100 times the length of its body – high and fast enough to avoid predators.

Snow fleas have what we might consider poor eyesight but is quite adequate for the lives they live, which are mostly



Provided photo.

underground. They don't have compound eyes like many insects but instead have two eye patches, one on either side of the head, each with eight ocelli.

Ocelli, a type of simple eye, are used to calculate the angle of the sun and help snow fleas orient themselves on snowy fields lacking landmarks. These eyes also calculate the sun's elevation angle immediately before making a jump so their furcula can send them in the right direction to avoid a potential predator.

When the sun is obscured by clouds, they use polarized light instead.

Orienting to the sun's rays also helps with temperature control. Snow fleas can adjust their body position for maximum heat absorption on cold days, or to avoid the sun when it gets too hot.

Snow fleas mate in early spring, when the snow is melting, and the female lays her eggs in the warming soil. In about three weeks, the eggs hatch and the nymphs emerge to spend most of their lives in the soil and leaf litter. They go through several molts as they grow larger and are full-sized by fall.

Although they lead quiet, inactive lives for most of the winter, they start to emerge through breaks in the snow on warm days – especially in late winter. That's when we notice them.

As omnivores, snow fleas eat

decaying leaves, pollen, mold, fungi, bacteria, pollen, algae, lichens, insect feces, and microscopic animals like nematodes and protozoans. During most of the year, snow flea meals are found in the soil or leaf litter, but even in fairly fresh snow, they find tiny bits of organic matter by following chemical cues emitted by bacteria on the food source.

This makes them important players in keeping winter ecosystems healthy.

Winter is a great time to be active because there are fewer predators.

In winter, snow fleas produce the amino acid glycine, a rich antifreeze protein that prevents ice crystals from forming in their internal tissues.

Snow fleas are so tiny that you've probably encountered thousands in your garden without knowing it. If they get into your house, however, they are more noticeable and less welcome. They're attracted to moisture, so the first steps are to turn on the dehumidifiers, fix leaky pipes, remove mold and mildew (food sources), and generally improve ventilation wherever you see them.

The kindest way to remove them indoors or on a patio is to sweep them gently into a dustpan and release them into a pile of leaves, or use a vacuum cleaner and empty it outside.



Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne with members of the Joe Palumbo Soccer Academy in Putnam Valley, after delivering his State of the County address March 2. Photo by Chloe Wareham-Gordon.

Putnam Executive Says County Government Works for Residents

Continued from Page 1

County Legislature, he signed into law new legislation to expand the maximum property tax exemption for eligible seniors, from 50 percent to 65 percent of a home's assessed value – an opportunity that was made possible because of a new state law.

Also, in September, the county opened the doors to a local, integrated early learning environment that provides preschool, specialized services for children with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

"For years, too many of our youngest residents – some with the greatest needs – were spending hours on buses every single day, traveling outside the county just to receive the services they deserve," he said. "But not only was it not fair for children, it wasn't sustainable for taxpayers. The transportation of just a few dozen children was costing us over \$1 million a year."

Together with the health department, local non-profit Community Based Services, the Brewster and Carmel school districts, and the Legislature, the facility opened.

"The success here is real, which is why we're committed to our plans for expansion," said Byrne. "In the coming years, we're going to increase the number of students at the early learning center, and we will expand our partnerships with other school districts to bring this program to more children and families that want it."

Health & Transit

Through a new community paramedicine initiative, trained paramedics can visit residents in their homes to provide preventive care, wellness checks, post-discharge follow-ups, medication monitoring, and connections to long-term services.

"Everyone will benefit from better health outcomes for our residents and soon enough, we'll have real savings for taxpayers," said Byrne. "But perhaps more importantly, this program – the first county-wide community paramedicine program in NYS – gives dignity to some of our most vulnerable residents."

The county also addressed transportation services this year, changing a fixed bus route in the Patterson area that ran on a rigid schedule with large vehicles that were often empty, to a system built around the rider. With Putnam On-Demand, residents can book a trip through an app or with a phone call and receive door-to-door service that connects them to jobs, medical appointments, shopping center, Metro-North stations, and county services.

Last year, Putnam On-Demand received the Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress' "Progress in Action" award – a regional honor given to initiatives that improve quality of life and drive innovation.

"We are now undertaking a countywide transit study to position Putnam for additional federal funding, because we know we need to find ways to expand micro-transit and para-transit services to other underserved areas of this county, specifically Putnam Valley and Philipstown," said the county executive.

Infrastructure

Last year, for the first time, all nine of the county's towns and villages joined Putnam in a formal public works shared services intermunicipal agreement to create a countywide framework to share equipment, personnel, and resources. Projects completed include the renovation of Peekskill Hollow Road and the Sprout Brook Road Bridge in Continental Village. Also, the Fair Street project in Carmel is moving forward on time and on budget, according to Byrne.

"I am proud to report, with the completion of these projects, Putnam County today has zero red-flag bridges, which is a direct result of the consistent investment, planning, and hard work of our Department of Public Works," he said.

After deciding in this year's budget to pay off the remaining bonds on the Putnam County Golf Course, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in future interest, the Department of General Services restructured the agreement and, now, one vendor manages both the golf course and the catering operations at the facility.

Additionally, the Fraud & Resource Recovery Unit, working with the law department and district attorney's office, recovered more than \$940,000 for taxpayers last year.

Over the past three years, upgrading and modernizing county facilities has been a priority for the administration – because employees and residents deserve safe, functional, and welcoming environments, said Byrne. This includes improvements to the board of elections, William Koehler Memorial Senior Center in Mahopac, and county office building in Carmel, as well as the new Department of Public Works garage on Route 6N and new DPW main construction hub on Fair Street.

Also, the new \$1.5 million Lt. Michael Neuner Fire & EMS Training Center in Kent opened, providing a state-of-the-art facility where firefighters and EMS professionals from across Putnam can train together, and the Putnam County Youth Bureau moved into its new home at Tilly Foster Farm in Brewster. Coming soon, the Youth Bureau will have a new neighbor, with the ongoing construction of a new home for Cornell Cooperative Extension at the farm.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Monday & Friday mornings from 9:00 am - 11:00 am to help unload and sort food donations (must be able to bend and lift a minimum of 25 lbs.)

Mondays from 2-4:30 pm to help pack and distribute food bags to clients, restock shelves and breakdown cardboard

More info, contact the Putnam CAP Food Pantry Operator

 (914) 924-3540

 knamba@westcop.org

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

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, March 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Patterson Town Hall, 1142 Route 311, Patterson, Putnam County, New York to consider the following applications:

1. **Rebeca & Steven Bonacci: Case #12-25- Area Variances (Held Over since February 18, 2026):** Applicants are requesting seven area variances pursuant to §154-7 and §154-27A(12)(a) & (b) of the Patterson Town Code in order to legalize a 12 ft. x 10 ft. shed, a 10 ft. x 8 ft. shed and a 6 ft. privacy fence, all located in a front yard. This property is located at 15 Sharon Road. Tax Map 36.23-1-20 (RPL-10 Zoning District). The variances requested are as follows:

- Shed (12 ft. x 10 ft.): 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 2 front yards. The shed is located between in the front yard; **variance requested is to allow for the structure to be located in the front yard.** Town Code §154-27A(12)(b) limits accessory structures to a minimum separation distance of 15 ft. from the other structures. The shed is 7 ft. from the house; **variance requested is for 8 ft.** Town Code §154-7 requires accessory structures to meet a minimum front yard setback of 15 ft. The shed is 12 ft. from the property line; **variances requested are for 3 ft.**

- Shed (10 ft. x 8 ft.): 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 2 front yards. The shed is located between in the front yard; **variance requested is to allow for the structure to be located in the front yard.** Town Code §154-27A(12)(b) limits accessory structures to a minimum separation distance of 15 ft. from the other structures. The shed is 3 ft. from the other shed; **variance requested is for 12 ft.** Town Code §154-7 requires accessory structures to meet a minimum front yard setback of 15 ft. The shed is 12 ft. from the property line; **variances requested are for 3 ft.**

- Fence: Town Code §154-15A(1) limits fences in front yards to 4 ft. in height. Fence is 6 ft. in height; **variance requested is for 2 ft. in height over the 4 ft. permitted.**

2. **Caccioppoli Engineering, PLLC (Pat Moretti): Case #26-25 - Area Variances (Held Over since February 18, 2026):** Applicant is requesting two area variances pursuant to §154-7 of the Patterson Town Code due to insufficient lot frontage and lot width for Lot #1 of a proposed 2-lot subdivision. Town Code §154-7 requires a minimum road frontage of 225 ft. Lot #1 will have 108 ft.; **variance requested is for 117 ft. of road frontage.** Town Code §154-7 also requires an average lot width of 250 ft. Lot #1 has a proposed average lot width of 187 ft.; **variance requested is for 63 ft.** This proposed subdivision is located at 66 Somerset Drive. Tax Map 23.-1-21.3 (R-4 Zoning District).

3. **Ivan Pintado: Case #01-26- Area Variance:** Applicant is requesting one area variance pursuant to §154-7 of the Patterson Town Code in order to legalize the conversion of an existing garage to a single-family dwelling. Town Code §154-7 requires a minimum road frontage of 225 ft. Existing lot has 50 ft. of

PUBLIC NOTICE

road frontage on Longview Drive and previously received a variance of 50 ft., for a total of 100 ft. of road frontage; **variance requested is for the remaining 125 ft. of road frontage required.** This property is located at 60 Longview Drive. Tax Map 13.-3-96 (R-4 Zoning District).

By Order of the ZBA
Robert Schmitt, Chairman

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Kent

LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BY THE KENT PLANNING BOARD FOR THE CARRATURO PROPERTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing pertaining to the property noted above will be held before the **Town of Kent Planning Board on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 7:30 P.M. at the Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent, NY 10512** or as soon thereafter as the matter may come to be heard.

This Public Hearing pertains to an application from:

Carrataro Property
474A Ludingtonville Road
Kent, NY 10512
.-3-32

This project is a proposal to construct a 2,500 square foot, single-family residence with a new well and septic system. The property Size: 8.465+/- acres in an R80 zoning district. Land disturbance and Grading will be 0.898 acres.

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

An Erosion Control Permit will be required. Weather conditions have precluded a site inspection. The applicant provided a wetland Delineation and there is no proposed disturbance in the wetland buffer.

February 28, 2026

Publish March 3, 2026 through March 12, 2026 February 12, 2026

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

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 25 Sybil's Crossing Kent Lakes, NY 10512

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Kent will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, March 16th, 2026** at the Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY at 7:00 p.m. to review the following applications

1. Andrew Pile
151 South Knapp Ct.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-25-022 - Requests: 8 ft. variance front yd. for roof covering over existing patio Lot Tax Map # 9.-1-38.

2. ARElex Consulting & Design for Vendee: Panco Elite Homes
119 Dixon Rd
Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-25-023 -Requests 40,000 sf. Area variance to construct a home in an R-80 Zone, 150 ft. lot frontage & 150 ft. lot width. Tax Map # 20.8-1-26 @ 157 Kentview Dr.

3. Twin County Collison - Raymond See Jr.
1013 Route 52
Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-25-25- Requests 15' Side property line Area variance for a proposed 30 x 30 for Accessory building. Tax Map # 22.-1-16

4. Michelle McCormick
12 Summit Lane.
Carmel, NY 10512

ZBA-25-026 - Requesting a 6 ft.. Rear area variance for 16 x 15 addition for TV room on a Pre-Existing Non-Conforming lot. Tax Map # 21.18-1-30

5. Homeland Towers and Verizon Wireless
59 Hortontown Hill Rd.
Carmel NY 10512

ZBA-25-024 - Requesting a 30 ft. Height variance and, 10 ft. side & 135 ft. Rear for a proposed cell tower Tax Map# 9.-1-5

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

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

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

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Supreme Court NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM, WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE OF CIM TRUST 2023-R1, Plaintiff, vs. **MICHAEL J. HOAG A/K/A MICHAEL HOAG, ET AL., Defendant(s).**

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on February 26, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in court room 209 of the Putnam Supreme Courthouse at, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on March 23, 2026 at 9:30 a.m., premises known as 2407 Route 301, Carmel, NY 10512. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Kent, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 20., Block 1 and Lot 13. Approximate amount of judgment is \$404,523.48 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #501723/2023.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Anthony C. Carlini, Jr., Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.: 232472-1

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT 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, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTUTES OF THE ESTATE OF **GERMAINE CHANDELIER, ET AL., Defendant(s).**

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on December 22, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the at court room 209 of the Putnam Supreme Courthouse at, 20 County Center, Carmel, NY 10512 on March 30, 2026 at 9:30 a.m., premises known as 378 Lake Shore Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being at Roaring Brook Lake, in the Town of Putnam Valley, County of Putnam and State of New York, Section 30.18, Block 1 and Lot 42. Approximate amount of judgment is \$1,087,927.26 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 500370/2025.

Joseph J. Tock, Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.: 242959-2

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PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF PUTNAM

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.,

-against-

DANIEL SZIGETHY A/K/A DANIEL J. SZIGETHY, ET AL.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Putnam on December 19, 2025, wherein **WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.** is the Plaintiff and **DANIEL SZIGETHY A/K/A DANIEL J. SZIGETHY, ET AL.** are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the PUTNAM COUNTY SUPREME COURT, COURTROOM 209, 20 COUNTY CENTER, CARMEL, NY 10512, on April 13, 2026 at 3:30PM, premises known as 44 JOHNSON STREET, LAKE PEEKSKILL, NY 10537; and the following tax map identification: 91.25-1-41.

ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAKE PEEKSKILL IN THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY, COUNTY OF PUTNAM AND STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold

PUBLIC NOTICE

subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 502008/2024. Daniel Lawrence Pagano, 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. 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1 - 65

PUBLIC NOTICE

LLC

Notice of Formation of **Sterling Oaks, LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 01/05/2026. Office Location: Putnam County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 33 Arborview Carmel NY,10512. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity. P. 2/11, 2/18, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **Borderless Solutions, LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 12/24/2025. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Almonte Law Firm P C, 2472 McDonald Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11223-5233. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity. P. 2/11, 2/18, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **Cabrera Property Holdings LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 1/16/2026. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY Should mail process to: Julie Cabrera, 90 Cherry Hill RD, Carmel, NY 10512. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity. P. 2/18, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **HOMETOWN HANDYWOMEN LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/18/2025 Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 15 Parsonage Street Cold Spring, New York, NY, 10516, USA. Purpose: any lawful act or activity P. 2/18, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **Hudson Valley Epoxy, LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 2/12/2026. Office Location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Hudson Valley Epoxy, LLC. 54 Concord Dr, Mahopac NY 10541. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity. P. 2/18, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **DK Athletics, LLC**. Articles of Org filled with SSNY on 2/9/2026. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: DK Athletics, LLC, 421 Kennicut Hill Road, Mahopac, NY 10541. Purpose, any lawful purpose or activity. P. 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8

PUTNAM COUNTY AND TOWN NOTICES

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **BALDWIN PARK LLC** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/01/02. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o the LLC, P.O. Box 118, Mahopac Falls, NY 10542. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

P. 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **The Memory Press, LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/15/26. Office location: Putnam Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to United States Corporation Agents Inc., 7014 13th Ave, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful activity.

P. 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Formation of **Serenity Rehab & Wellness LLC**. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 2/12/2026. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 101 Archer Rd, Mahopac, NY 10541. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

P. 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15

Yarris Kicks Off Campaign for Putnam's Top Seat

Continued from Page 1

feated Yarris by four points.

Yarris said that's not because people moved – it's because people want change. "I did that because a lot of independent voters, Republicans, and Conservatives voted for me," he said. "I did it by listening to real Putnam County issues."

After his loss in November, Yarris said there were other candidates for county executive that he was ready to throw his support behind, but after polls were conducted, it became clear that he was the Democratic candidate with the best shot at winning.

"It was evident that not only was there a path to victory, but that I may be the one to do it," he said. "Folks seemed to resonate with my message last year with how to move Putnam forward."

Although he has never held office before, Yarris said he has plenty of executive experience, having served as a CEO and chief strategic officer of various companies, and evening building his own companies from the ground up.

"We have had (county executives) with plenty of political experience... so we've seen where the county has gone by picking people only grounded by politics," he said.

Yarris said politics has become priority over good government. He referred to the creation of the county's new early childhood learning center as an example of a much-needed program that faced unnecessary obstacles because of partisan fighting between the Legislature and the executive, "all in the name of political maneuvering."

Rather, he said the two sides need to be able to come together, put aside their differences, and get the people's work done.

"My experience with leadership is going to prove to be what's most valuable here, because that's what's missing," said Yarris. "People are not asking for more partisanship, they are asking for leadership... I'm not a boss. I'm not a manager. I'm a leader."

If elected, Yarris said he will fight the county's current "tax

and hoard" policy, accusing it of holding tight to an \$80 million unassigned fund balance while collecting more taxes from residents each year.

"When people are struggling, they don't need photo-ops, they need systems that work – no excuses," he said. "Putnam leadership is broken and we can no longer be told 'everything is fine.' Over the last three years, the cost of living has surged... People are paying more, driving farther, and getting less."

He said Putnam is the fourth most expensive county to live in in New York State, and that's without having cities, malls, and other things that justify a higher cost of living. It's not sustainable, fair, or the future that young people deserve, he said.

Yarris said young adults are moving out Putnam at one of the fastest rates in the Hudson Valley. "That's our future leaving out from under us," he said. "Twenty-three years ago, Putnam County was the fastest growing county in New York State... Too many of the challenges identified 23 years ago remain today."

This particularly hits home for Yarris, who has a 10-year-old daughter. "I don't have 23 years to fix things," he said. "I have seven or eight years to teach her that Putnam is a place to stick around for."

The candidate said he will advocate for an educational and workforce development program – "a Putnam 'career campus' that educates, trains, and builds futures here." He also said that giving families places to live – starter homes, downsizing options, accessory dwelling options for multi-generational living – will be a priority.

Further, he said the county needs to invest in, and protect, local farms and open spaces by not treating them as obstacles to growth but as valuable assets that can be part of the solution to challenges we face.

Although born and raised on Long Island, Yarris moved to Putnam County 17 years ago. "I became a man in Putnam Valley," he said. He and his wife later settled in Carmel, where they are raising their children.

A longtime special education teacher, Yarris is vice chairman of the Putnam County Soil & Water Conservation District, and a member the Putnam County Business Council and Friends of Reed Memorial Library board.

hotels and inns and will soon encompass Airbnb rentals. Additionally, it's not uncommon for a flood of day-trippers to show up during warm months, prompting several board members to suggest instituting a day pass or visitor's fee to help the village cope with the influx of people – particularly with regard to trash cleanup.

"Another increase to sources of revenue is the new Putnam County tax-sharing contract," said Ascolillo. "It's new to the budget... We will (also) need a deeper dive on grants the village wants to apply for. That's something that I will work on, and docking (fees) are another."

Cold Spring Talks Water Rates, & Other Budget Considerations

Continued from Page 2

the low end," said Ascolillo.

The board also eyed several measures aimed at increasing village revenues.

The village recently increased its occupancy tax from 4 to 5 percent, based on a change to state rules. This tax encompasses three

CLASSIFIED ADS

PRINT CLEARLY your AD on the form below and send it to: PUTNAM COUNTY PRESS, P.O. BOX 608, MAHOPAC, NEW YORK 10541 by the WEDNESDAY before publication, or email your ad to advertising@putnampresstimes.com. 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.

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Contact Steve at 845-527-1857. 4/1

GERMAN AMERICAN CLUB CELEBRATES 90 YEARS



Who doesn't love a good Halloween party?



Members at the annual Steuben Day parade Sept. 17, 2016, in Central Park.



A throwback to the 2012 Oktoberfest.



Oktoberfest and Germanfest are two of the organization's most popular annual events.



The German American Social Club of Peekskill – located in Putnam Valley – invites the public to join in celebrating its 90 years of service and community spirit.

Originally established to promote German heritage and German-American history, the club has evolved from being merely a social club, to also being a benevolent organization serving the citizens of Putnam County and the greater Hudson Valley region.

According to Club President Anna Schramek, its primary purpose is to offer outreach programs and support for residents and community organizations.

In March 1936, a small group of Americans of German descent met in Peekskill to form a club with the goals of preserving the culture, customs, and traditions of their German heritage. Monthly meetings were held from the 1940s through the 70s in clubhouses and meeting halls in the Peekskill area.

After several years of searching, in April 1979, the present 8.5-acre property at 11 Kramers Pond Road was purchased. Since that time, the interior has been

remodeled and enlarged. A second story and a gabled roof were also added, all in the classic Alpine design.

Much of the work was accomplished by the members themselves, and their enthusiasm, unity, and wealth of skills is evidenced by the present clubhouse.

For 90 years the club has promoted social and fraternal relationships among its members and the community. Its focus has shifted and is now concentrated on benevolence, while maintaining its social and fraternal traditions.

The German American Social Club of Peekskill – which has been designated an “emergency comfort station” by the Town of Putnam Valley and the County of Putnam – invites its members and the public to attend its functions, activities, and membership meetings. This includes its black-tie-optional 90th anniversary gala scheduled Sunday, May 3 from 2 to 6 p.m., at Centennial Golf Club, 185 John Simpson Road, Carmel.

For more information, email germanamericansocialclub@gmail.com.

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SPECIAL EDITION

2025 -
2026

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REVOLUTIONARY PUTNAM COUNTY



“MARCH: TO THE REVOLUTION!”

Revolutionary Putnam County Exhibit and programs at the Mahopac Library, sponsored by the Putnam County Historian’s Office. Includes General Putnam paintings and artifacts from the collection of George Whipple.

Opening Reception and Talk by Educator and Reenactor Robert Buccheri

Saturday, March 7, 2026 at 12:30 p.m.
at the Mahopac Library, 668 U.S. Route 6, Mahopac.

Additional events sponsored by the Putnam County Historian in partnership with the Mahopac Library:

History Talk: “The Hudson Valley Takes up Arms for King George”
Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Musical Performance: Ministers of Apollo: Chamber Music Concert
Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

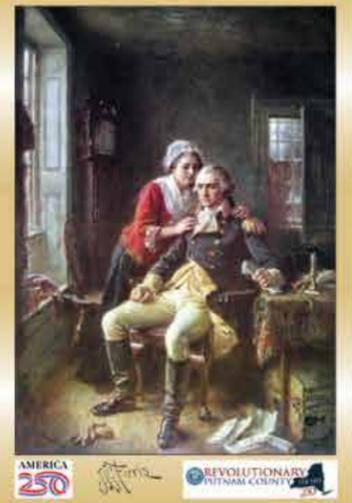
Remember the Ladies: 18th Century Women in Song
Saturday, March 28, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.



Ribbon Cutting: Jean Leon Gerome Ferris Exhibit: Scenes from American History

This exhibition features the Ryder Family Collection of original oil paintings by renowned American Artist Jean Leon Gerome Ferris.

March 18, 2026 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Southeast Museum at 67 Main Street, Brewster
Co-hosted with Brewster Chamber of Commerce.
Musical performance by members of the Doansburg Ensemble.



June 6, 2026

Putnam County Heroes battle the Redcoats
A living history event at Putnam Veterans Memorial Park.

August 15, 2026

George Washington Inaugural Bible
Coordinated by Philipstown Lodge 236

August 30, 2026

Dedication of bust of Daniel Nimham

Installation event at the base of Mount Nimham, Gipsy Trail Road

For more events and activities visit: revolutionaryputnam.org
For newsletter updates, email: REV250Putnam@gmail.com

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

REVOLUTIONARY PUTNAM COUNTY COMMITTEE

- HON. GEORGE PATAKI
CO-CHAIRMAN
- GEORGE C. WHIPPLE III
CO-CHAIRMAN
- HON. KEVIN BYRNE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
- AMY SAYEGH
PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATOR
- JENNIFER CASSIDY
COUNTY HISTORIAN
- TARA KEEGAN
DIRECTOR OF TOURISM