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ELECTION
2014 GUIDE

Odell and Oliverio Fight for County Executive Seat

By David Propper

The marquee race, the fight for county executive, is between incumbent Republican MaryEllen Odell and longtime Legislator and Democrat Sam Oliverio. Both are lifelong Putnam residents who have stark differences on how county government should work.

MaryEllen Odell

Having been in office for the past three years, County Executive MaryEllen Odell believes her administration can expand on accomplishments she's already reached if voted in for a full term. After winning a special election following Vinny Leibell's legal troubles and resignation, Odell said she has kept her promises during her short tenure, "and I think the people of Putnam County see that." Those promises include a myriad of initiatives Odell pushed forward, including improvements to the Putnam County Golf Course, cultivating a relationship with the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce, and staying under the tax cap while under spending the budget. As a working mother of two children who owned a small business and is always visible in the community, Odell noted she's a lot different than previous administrations that constituents find

refreshing. Before being a legislator for five years, Odell got involved by building up the Carmel Sports Association and helping veterans. Going more specifically into the golf course and Tilly Foster Farm, Odell knows the county has taken appropriate action with both. At the golf course, Odell said by partnering with private investors, but still having a general manager who answers to the county, it has made the golf course more accountable. The overhaul in renovations like redoing the parking lot by using East of Hudson funds has turned the facility around and attracted more events like weddings. At the farm, the county's focus on making Tilly Foster an educational center for agriculture and culinary by partnering with BOCES, while keeping its historical value has also been the right decision for the county. While running on her record, Odell said there are many other things to be cognizant of going forward. She wants to see the Butterfield hospital site redeveloped and make more county services available to the west side of the county, especially a new and improved location for a senior center. She wants to work closely with the Fiscal Vision and Accountability Commission recently set up in order to find ways to make government work more efficiently and possibly find ways in



MaryEllen Odell

which services can be shared at different levels of government. Continuing the fight against Medicaid fraud, worker's compensation fraud and the war on drug addiction, are also priorities for the Odell administration. She also will continue to fight The Journal News' attempt to obtain pistol permit records in court, despite there being an opt-out form for those residents that want their information private. Odell has defended actions that have been scrutinized by opponent Sam Oliverio, like the accusation she too often mixes politics

with government. Her response is, "I never feel like I'm taking advantage of my office, nor would I ever." Looking back on her three years in office, Odell said she has no regrets about what decisions she's made and actions she's taken. "When we came up here on the third floor, we had a vision and you take that vision and you design a plan and you execute that plan," Odell stated. "And that's what we've done. We've stuck to that plan." Overall, when comparing herself to Oliverio, Odell said the choice

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Odell and Oliverio Fight for County Executive Seat

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is clear. Voters want a county executive they can relate to and that means a resident living paycheck to paycheck, a community leader who raised a family while running a business. "This is not an encore career for me," Odell said, taking a jab at Oliverio. "But as an opportunity to get this county to where I believe we should have always been. We have so much to offer here."

Sam Oliverio

Sam Oliverio, an assistant principal at Putnam Valley High School, believes the focus of government in Putnam County is not where it should be. His vision of Putnam is to take care of the health and safety of its residents. "The current administration is not in league with my vision nor do I believe it's in the vision of the people of Putnam County," Oliverio, a Democrat and 18-year legislator, said. "For too long we've had one party rule." Oliverio during his campaign expressed 15 beliefs that have a myriad of ideas to make residents a priority. Oliverio said to boost business development the county should focus on supporting small, main street businesses and not big box stores. That means giving small business owners the same tax breaks that bigger companies are given. County services should better suit constituents, and if

elected, Oliverio pledges to attempt to open a senior center in every town in the county. Oliverio has also said reopening the closed kitchen at the Putnam Valley Senior Center would be one of the first things he does if in office. Another way to better serve residents, Oliverio said, is to foster a better relationship between the two branches of county government. Right now, there is little communication between the county executive office and the legislature, which is a problem because the nine legislators are the closet to the people they represent, he said. "That will empower our people," Oliverio said, noting consensus building between both sides would lead to better government. During almost two decades on the legislature, Oliverio said his work has led to successful initiatives. Putting forward a Pro-Act card, improved Indian Point regulations that result in more safeguards, and saving transportation lines after they were originally slashed are all examples he's given. One promise Oliverio has offered is lowering the salary of the county executive from \$146,000 to \$102,000, noting in tough economic times the head of the county should lead by example. Another lofty plan Oliverio would pursue is trying to land a community college in Putnam. With open space available, Oliverio said the money paid in reimbursement

tuition fees could be used to build the college. When addressing two county properties, Tilly Foster Farm and Putnam County Golf Course, Oliverio was critical on how Odell has handled both. While he likes the direction the golf course is going, the amount of money poured into the facility makes Oliverio uneasy. At the farm, he wants it to be a traditional agricultural center and maintain its historical value. When addressing the county's ongoing legal battle with The Journal News regarding handing over pistol permit information to the news organization, Oliverio said he would drop the appeal the county has put forward because there is now an opt-out form that allows gun owners to remain private. "The appeal, I really question the validity and sense of purpose," Oliverio said, but did note he fully supported the county's first stand against the newspaper because that opt-out form was not available back then. He's also doesn't like the way Odell has mixed politics with government. He said Odell has given patronage jobs to political allies and let political influence dictate policies she pushes forward. "There is so much politics going on," Oliverio said. "You follow the money, it's a political agenda or maybe an idea from someone who gave a lot of money to your campaign." Oliverio noted he



Sam Oliverio

pays for all his campaigns and takes no donations, which makes him fully independent. Oliverio, as a Democrat in a Republican county knows he's the underdog, but his confidence is high just a week before the election. "I represent the people," he said. "Under my governance, all individuals will be represented, not just the favored few."

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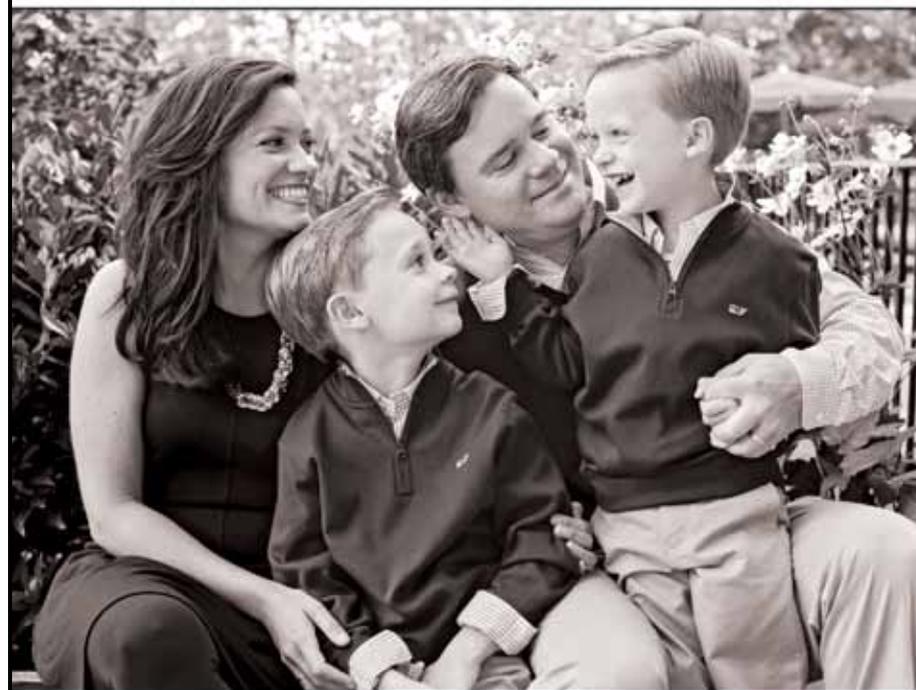
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After Close 2012 Loss, Wagner Returns to Take 40th Senate Seat

By Rick Pezullo

Two years ago, Croton-on-Hudson resident Justin Wagner came within two percentage points of upsetting State Senator Greg Ball (R,C,I/Patterson) in the 40th District, the closest race in the state involving an incumbent.

The 33-year-old Democrat has returned this year for another shot at the same seat, this time against Yorktown Councilman Terrence Murphy after Ball opted not to seek reelection.

"I'm running for the State Senate because of all the government bodies we can make the most change and there's the opportunity for reform," Wagner said. "The desire for reform and change unifies the region. Everybody wants something new. We have a very good chance of winning."

Wagner is a district leader in the Town of Cortlandt. He works as an attorney at the law firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges where he is a litigation associate in the Complex Commercial Litigation group. In 2009, he spent four months working pro bono in Brooklyn representing indigent homeowners facing foreclosure proceedings.

He is currently on a leave of absence from his firm and said he will leave his practice if he is elected to the Senate on November 4.

"I'm no Greg Ball. I have no chicken

suits," Wagner remarked. "I've put forward a set of substantive ideas. We want to push our issues. Let them push the garbage. He's (Murphy) only been there (on Yorktown Town Board) for one term. It's not like he is some sort of Socrates of local government."

Economic Development

Wagner said his approach to economic development would be to focus on small businesses by maybe offering tax incentives. He said he supports Governor Andrew Cuomo's Start Up NY plan.

"I support that type of creativity," Wagner said, noting he believes the tax code can be revised to reward businesses that create jobs. He also maintained unnecessary and burdensome regulations that hamstring businesses should be repealed.

Gas Pipeline

Wagner has joined the anti-"Murphy Pipeline" movement by criticizing his opponent for voting to ask the state Legislature for permission to pursue the alienation of parkland in Yorktown to clear the way for a proposed expansion of a controversial natural gas pipeline. He



Justin Wagner

also stressed Murphy was silent when Spectra Energy representatives appeared at a work session to discuss their plans.

"When he had them for an hour in front of him he didn't ask one question. His board had the leverage," Wagner said. "This is not for any public benefit. What are we getting? We're getting a lot of construction and a lot of radon. I was one of the first

people to speak out about this. I sat down with Spectra and it became very apparent that they would just railroad this through."

Wagner, who was endorsed by the Sierra Club, the nation's oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization, said he was "very skeptical" about fracking, but added "if there is a way to do it and create jobs, let's do it. I will defer to people we have at the state who study this." He noted he would, however, vote for both a moratorium bill and a ban on hydrofracking.

Women's Equality Act

Wagner said he would support all 10 points in the proposed Women's Equality Act, and labeled Murphy "anti-choice" for being against the controversial 10th point

where abortions would be allowed at 24 weeks or later if a woman's health, including her emotional health, was in danger.

"I support all 10 points and I could vote individually on them," he said. "Those decisions should be between a doctor and a woman."

NY SAFE Act

Following the school shootings in Newtown, CT, Wagner joined the Board of Directors of New Yorkers Against Gun Violence, an organization that sponsors programs in schools to educate youth about gun violence and teaches non-violent conflict resolution strategies to students.

Wagner said he supports some parts of the New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013. The gun control law was passed by the New York State Legislature on January 15, 2013, and was signed into law the same day by Governor Andrew Cuomo.

However, he said he "takes exception to how it was passed," noting he supports legislation that prohibits voting in the state Legislature after 9 p.m.

"So many deaths are attributable to unlocked guns," he said. "90% of Americans support background checks. I care deeply against the crisis of gun violence. I reject the idea that we can't do anything to make the streets safe."

After Years of Service, Murphy Looks to Take 40th Senate Seat

By Rick Pezullo

Serving people is something Terrence Murphy takes pride in all aspects of his life.

"I'll never get tired of serving the community. It's something I do every day as a health care provider," said Murphy, a chiropractor who has operated Yorktown Health and Wellness Center on Commerce Street since 1999. "There's some DNA involved in it, serving people."

Murphy, 48, who with his mom and five older siblings opened Murphy's Restaurant in Yorktown in 2006 as a tribute to his late father, is a lifelong town resident who grew up near Wilken's Fruit Farm. For 15 years he volunteered caring for Yorktown High School athletes as an on-field medical professional and started the watchdog group Keeping Westchester Safe.

He was first elected to the Yorktown Town Board in 2009 and was reelected to a second four-year term last year. He ran unsuccessfully for the Westchester County Board of Legislators on two occasions and is now looking to succeed state Senator Greg Ball (R,C,I/Patterson) in the 40th District, which spreads from northern Westchester to Sleepy Hollow and includes Putnam and a portion of Dutchess County.

Murphy is running on the Republican, Conservative, Independence, Green and Stop the Common Core lines and believes his governmental experience sets him apart from his Democratic opponent Justin Wagner.

"The difference between me and my

opponent is I have a track record. The difference between us is experience," Murphy said. "The difference between me and my opponent is integrity. I will not lower myself to his cesspool. He's come after my wife, my kids, my restaurant. Hopefully people will see through his nonsense."

"It will be a little bit of a learning curve for me but I will be able to transition much smoother than him," Murphy added. "This is a real big deal and I'm looking forward to it. You're in the Major Leagues now."

Economic Development

Over the last five years Murphy said he has helped pave the way for more than three dozen new businesses to open in Yorktown and approval of multi-million dollar development projects including public-private partnerships which address Yorktown's infrastructure and flood mitigation needs. Among those he cited were Costco, the Mount Kisco Medical Group building on Hill Boulevard and The Field Home on Catherine Street.

"New York State ranks 50th among business-friendly states. We have the highest taxes and we've lost close to 400,000 people. People are leaving in mass because they can no longer afford the taxes," he said. "I'm a fiscal conservative. How about a two percent spending cap? The school taxes



Terrence Murphy

are a crushing burden on constituents."

Gas Pipeline

Murphy has come under fire for voting to ask the state Legislature for permission to possibly alienate parkland in Yorktown for a "pigging station" as part of a proposed expansion of a natural gas pipeline. He later voted for a resolution that expressed serious concerns about the

project.

He contended with a deal calling for Spectra to contribute \$1.5 million for recreational fields at Granite Knolls off the table he would lobby in the Senate to have the "pigging station" relocated out of Yorktown, although he maintained the state and municipalities were at the mercy of the federal government with the pipeline.

"We have no say in it. The pipeline has been here for over 60 years. The infrastructure of the pipeline is crumbling," Murphy said. "The pipeline needs to be changed. From day one it's been about safety and transparency. We have a pipeline that runs right through Legacy Field. My kids play on that field."

Murphy noted he was against fracking because "anything that will contaminate our water is completely unacceptable," and stressed he was proud of his environmental voting record as a councilman.

Women's Equality Act

Murphy said he would support nine of the 10 points in the proposed Women's Equality Act, but was not in favor of the controversial 10th point where abortions would be allowed at 24 weeks or later if a woman's health, including her emotional health, was in danger.

"Bring Justin Wagner here. I'll sign off on nine of the 10 points right now," Murphy said. "On the last point you would not only be harming the baby but also the woman. If you think as a health practitioner that I would vote to allow a non-health professional to perform that procedure it is incomprehensible."

NY SAFE Act

Murphy said he would support a full repeal of the New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013. The gun control law was passed by the New York State Legislature on January 15, 2013, and was signed into law the same day by Governor Andrew Cuomo.

"It's just a matter of doing things the right way. Don't shoot and then aim. I think that's what they did," Murphy remarked. "As a father of three kids it knocked me to my core what happened in Newtown but under this law an SRO officer would become a criminal by going on school grounds with a gun."

Murphy noted that he voted to put a drug enforcement officer on the Yorktown Police Department to help combat the growing heroin problem in the region, adding Putnam is considered one of the highest drug trafficking counties in the state.

Gipson, Serino in Dogfight to Represent 41st District

By Janine Bowen

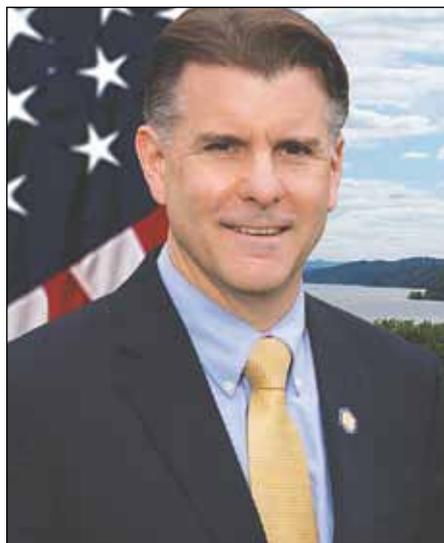
In the race for the 41st Senate District, Democratic incumbent Terrance Gipson and Republican challenger Sue Serino seem to agree on most issues but plan to take different paths to finding solutions.

One of the biggest issues for both is the rising cost of property taxes in Putnam and Dutchess Counties.

"I'm interested in cutting taxes and not creating new ones and my opponent's record is completely the opposite of that. She voted for two consecutive budgets during her time as county legislator that had created brand new taxes on her constituents in Dutchess County," said Gipson.

Serino clarified this by saying that she voted against the 19% tax increase while serving on the Dutchess County Legislature but approved the budget, which did include the tax, because it included several other important items, and she felt that it would be fiscally irresponsible to vote against it.

She stated that Gipson needs to focus on repealing the 18A tax, which has increased from \$169 million to \$183 since he took office, rather than "spreading lies" about her. She also called for a repeal of the MTA payroll tax, stating it is unfair that people are paying into it but have not seen a forensic audit explaining where the money goes.



Terrance Gipson

Both candidates agree that, when it comes to achieving lower taxes, the state needs to take a bigger role in funding education. Gipson is calling for a complete overhaul to the way public schools receive funding, noting that the current system, which is largely reliant on property taxes, is causing rates to skyrocket and isn't helping the schools. Having met with local teachers, parents, and school administrators throughout his term, he found that many feel the funding system is antiquated and that the formulas used to calculate funding



Sue Serino

don't make sense.

Serino noted that Hudson Valley Schools only receive \$6,200 per student in state aid, as opposed to \$8,300 per student in other parts of the state and said this needs to change in order to reduce the tax burden on property owners. While both candidates take issue with the Common Core Standards, Serino stated that Gipson's call for a reform of the system is not enough and that the Common Core should be repealed.

Serino also stated the state needs to take back Medicaid. The system, which accounts for 10 percent of the Dutchess County budget, is paid out by municipalities but the state is not watching out for those who commit fraud or abuse the system at the expense of the town.

She noted that it's going to take more than lower taxes to keep people in Dutchess and Putnam Counties. Since the mortgage crisis, banks have made it incredibly difficult for young people to be approved and the red tape and restrictiveness needs to be reduced, Serino said.

"It's the American Dream to own your own home. They should make it easier," she said.

Both candidates noted that, in addition to helping residents stay in their homes, it is important to make it more affordable to do business in Dutchess and Putnam.

Gipson stated that, this year, he was proud to be able to get the two counties included in a new manufacturing zone. Proposed by the governor, the zone allows manufactures within it to pay zero percent in corporate tax, making it more affordable to do business in the region. He stated that the region has a lot of enterprising people who would be more inclined to remain in the area with this incentive, thereby creating more jobs.

Serino, who opened her own real estate business in Hyde Park in 1996, stated that the focus needs to be on Mom and Pop businesses, which have been in the

counties for decades and remained even through the tough economic climate. She called Gipson's initiatives a "slap in the face" to business owners who have remained loyal to the region and stated that they should be the ones benefiting from tax breaks instead of brand new enterprises.

After the failure of the Moreland Commission in Albany earlier this year, ethics is a hot topic and both candidates acknowledge that there is a need for more governmental transparency. Each supports holding elected officials to higher standards and stripping all politicians who are accused of committing a felony of their pensions.

Gipson stated that he recently submitted the Vampire Voting Act, which would prohibit the Senate or Assembly from voting on any legislation between the hours of 9 p.m. and 9 a.m., thus creating more government transparency.

The one area where the candidates differ greatly is in their view of the Women's Equality Act, which has passed twice in the Assembly but continues to fail in the Senate.

Gipson stated that he is pro-choice and would fully support the Women's Equality Act, a ten point plan that deals with domestic violence, equal wages, and reproductive choices for women. He stated that Serino does not support the final point of the plan, which tackles reproductive rights.

"If you are in agreement, in support of Roe V. Wade right now, there's no reason that you should oppose the Women's Equality Act," said Gipson.

Serino conceded that she is not in support of the tenth point of the plan, because she opposed abortions that are not performed by doctors and is against abortion during the ninth month noting that babies, including her own son who was born six weeks early, can survive outside the womb at that time. She stated that she would like to see the act approved, without the final point.

"I am a mom and a wife and I understand the challenges women of the Hudson Valley face and I support the nine points of the Women's Equality Act...and we're being held hostage because of the tenth point and that's not fair for women. We need to protect their rights," she said.

With the election just days away, Gipson stated that he is proud of his record, specifically his history of working with towns and villages in his district to learn what constituents really need. Serino, however, stated that she is confident in her ability to win, having heard from residents who are unhappy with the current status quo in Albany.

"We're not doing any better since [Gipson's] been in office," she said.

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Maloney and Hayworth Square Off for 18th Congressional Seat

By David Propper

Sean Patrick Maloney, the Democratic officeholder in the 18th congressional seat, takes on Republican challenger Nan Hayworth, who was in Congress for two years before Maloney ousted her in 2012.



Sean Patrick Maloney

Sean Patrick Maloney

In Congress for the past two years, Sean Patrick Maloney said time and time again he's been able to work with both Democrats like himself and Republicans across the aisle. Passing 13 pieces of legislation through the House of Representatives, in which three were signed into the law, have all helped Hudson Valley residents. "Those laws invest in our infrastructure, help our veterans and support our farmers," Maloney said, adding his office has helped more than 600 veterans in the region with all sorts of claims. Maloney said that bipartisanship was shown when he received endorsements from state Senators like Republican Greg Ball and Republican Bill Larkin, "who recognize our efforts to reach across the aisle and get results." Simply stated, Maloney is running on his record. When explaining the difference between himself and challenger Nan Hayworth, Maloney repeated much of what he's said during the campaign about Hayworth. That includes calling her a "Tea Party radical" who has no legislative accomplishments during her one term in congress from 2010-2012. Hayworth was not able to get one piece of legislation signed into law, Maloney said, and added she has no future vision for the Hudson Valley. "This is a choice between a Bill Clinton Democrat and a Tea Party radical," Maloney said. One local issue that has consumed the race is the new capacity put in place by FERC that bunches the Hudson Valley

into the same zone as New York City, hiking up electricity bills. Maloney said he's introduced and passed a bill that has both political parties support that will "blow this thing out of the water." Since the bill has passed, Maloney, a former attorney who lives in Cold Spring, said FERC has agreed to reopen the issue and he added, "We are going to win this thing. That's a real result." Maloney said Hayworth's claim that she put forward legislation called the REINS Act that would have controlled FERC's new capacity zone as a "smokescreen." He added the legislation she's touting is a "silly, Tea Party fantasy" that in fact would not have controlled FERC's new measure. During his tenure, Maloney has highlighted numerous initiatives that have resulted in more assistance for Hudson Valley residents. After the tragic Dec. 1 MTA train crash that killed four people including a Cold Spring resident, Maloney has fought for safety upgrades including a positive train control crash avoidance system. He has also advocated for legislation that would cut red tape for veterans in need. Economically, Maloney has worked toward infrastructure upgrades for part of the region in need and has helped manufacturing jobs with the Made in America Act to boost local industries. Congressional Quarterly and the National Journal have ranked Maloney in the top 3 percent of all members of Congress for bipartisanship in regards to his voting record. "The only way I achieve the results that we've gotten is by being bipartisan," Maloney said. "Voting against my own party and my own president when I thought it was right."

Nan Hayworth

Hoping to make a comeback to Congress, Nan Hayworth, a doctor, has been reminding voters how hard she fought for the Hudson Valley when she was in office for two years. And she has no problem stressing to those voters where Maloney has failed. Hayworth said she voted time and time again to help small main street businesses, assist veterans by keeping VA hospitals in the region open just for those veterans, and save seniors who rely on Medicare by keeping those dollars where they belong, while Maloney has not. Traveling around the district the past five years, Hayworth, a Bedford resident, said she understands how businesses and residents are suffering, especially from the aftershocks of the Affordable Care Act, or in other words Obamacare. She said people are losing access to healthcare because insurance has actually gone up and businesses aren't hiring as many employees or they are knocking them down to part-time positions. Hayworth also said she would like to loosen up regulators who

are making it harder to get a loan or mortgage in the Hudson Valley. Finally, she wants the tax code to be fairer to the middle class and small businesses.



Nan Hayworth

"When you have a Washington heavy agenda the way the congressman does, the insiders are going to do well," Hayworth said. "It's the folks here who are suffering." When addressing the new capacity zone that bunches the Hudson Valley and New York City together, raising electricity prices sharply, Hayworth said the representative from this area must not empower Washington bureaucrats and regulators like Maloney has done. Hayworth said she co-sponsored the REINS Act, which would have made regulators accountable to Congress if they were going to impose a rule that would cost at least \$15 million in economic consequences, which applies to the new capacity zone. In 2013 when it was known the prices were going to hike, Hayworth said Maloney did nothing until there was public outcry in 2014 once the regulation took effect. "It's not enough to try to come after the fact when people are suffering now," she said. "And suffering for months and FERC is a very tough adversary." Hayworth said legislation to reverse the price hike is far from a guarantee. Another way Maloney would be responsible for energy price hikes is if his support of closing nuclear power plant Indian Point actually happened, Hayworth argued. Hayworth noted several occasions where she worked with Democrats. Examples of that include getting residents Hurricane Irene relief and Tappan Zee Bridge funding. "It think it's crucial we work together," she said. Hayworth also said she voted against her own party when it came to environmental issues. After beating Maloney in a primary in June for the Independence Party line, Hayworth is confident she can do it in the general election. "(Voters) know I will be a solid, honest, independent vote who stands with the Hudson Valley," Hayworth said.

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Whetsel and Gouldman Make Case to Fill Oliverio's Seat

By David Propper

It's been a sleepy race in Putnam Valley between Democrat Wendy Whetsel and Republican Bill Gouldman to take the District 2 seat currently held by Sam Oliverio. Both are hoping to be the new legislator in a district that has seen the same one for 18 years.

Wendy Whetsel

As the Democrat running in this race, Wendy Whetsel understands how crucial it is to have balance in the county Legislature. With current Legislator and Democrat Sam Oliverio, one way or another, not returning to his seat on the legislature, Whetsel hopes to fill the shoes of Oliverio as the only Democrat on the board. "You need to work together, you need to create balance and try to find the best solutions possible," Whetsel said. When evaluating how the legislature has done, she said she felt, "they haven't done a terrible job" but couldn't go into specifics because Whetsel attends her own town board meetings rather than the county ones. When talking about Tilly Foster Farm, she believes holding agriculture classes there could work as a way to get

young people involved in farming. As for Putnam County Golf Course, Whetsel said the county has done a good job of emphasizing tourism.

Going forward, Whetsel said she would like

to see the county welcome renewable energy projects as a way to help the environment and boost job production. "These are things that definitely have to be valued and protected," Whetsel said. "And even the senior population is growing and we have to create an environment that is economically viable for them to stay in." On the town board for nine years, Whetsel said she has done a good job of protecting town assets, assist in keeping a conservative budget, and help residents find better ways to heat their homes.



Wendy Whetsel

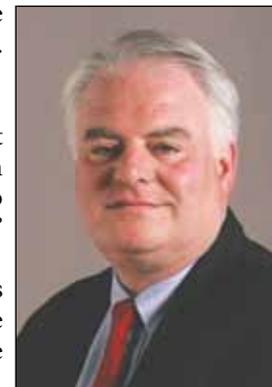
"I've been involved in the community," Whetsel said. "I have the experience. I love working with people. I just think I'm a better, more reachable, more informed choice."

Bill Gouldman

Claiming to be a businessman and not a politician, Republican Bill Gouldman wants to see county government run more like a business. He believes his unique qualifications of owning two different businesses over the past 20 years are things he can bring to the county Legislature. "If we ran the county as a business, services would be improved, we can cut the cost of these services, and we can cut the waste that is in county government," Gouldman said. While he couldn't pinpoint one area to cut waste, Gouldman said his experience allows him to find areas that can be reduced whether it's five percent, 10 percent or even more. Gouldman, who has run against Assemblywoman Sandy Galef twice and lost, said the biggest issue Putnam faces is a brain drain where recent college graduates can't afford to live in the county. By increasing the business sector, Gouldman said it could draw more people

or retain those young people. "Because (Putnam) is small, it doesn't mean we can't do big things," Gouldman, who is part of the volunteer fire department in Putnam Valley,

said. When addressing the two biggest county properties, Putnam County Golf Course and Tilly Foster Farm, believes both are headed in the right direction. Plans at Tilly Foster are "viable," Gouldman said. Gouldman said the county should follow the lead of places like Cold Spring with its kayaking or Patterson with its ski resort and try to "multiple on" that. Overall, Gouldman, a 20-year resident stated, "I believe I'm the right person for this position and I hope the voters come out and vote for me."



Bill Gouldman

Addonizio and Green Spar in Race for Leg. 3 Seat

By David Propper

After beating Lou Tartaro in a Republican primary, Toni Addonizio and Democratic nominee Jeff Green battle to represent District 3, which covers Kent and a slice of Patterson.

Toni Addonizio

After an impressive primary night win, Republican Toni Addonizio is hoping to carry that momentum right into the general election. Beating incumbent Lou Tartaro soundly, the lifelong Kent resident has continued to go door-to-door and hear concerns from residents. Noting her belief in open government, Addonizio stressed even after the election, if elected, she would be accessible to all residents in her district. When asked about the proposed county budget, Addonizio called it "very good" because it was able



Toni Addonizio

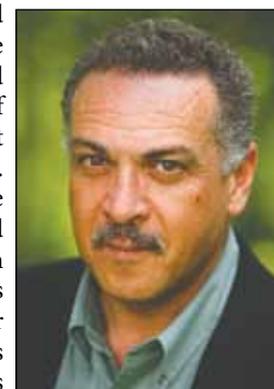
the county. She also thinks investing in a college in Putnam would eventually provide relief to the county because it has to pay a reimbursement tuition fee when a student leaves the county for state schooling. Specifically to the town of Kent, Addonizio said it needs to better focus on bringing small businesses back. "We have no industry at all, we having nothing in Kent," Addonizio noted, mentioning a strip that is currently empty that the county should promote to bring businesses into. When addressing the entire county, Addonizio said the focus on Tilly Foster Farm should be agricultural and educational. By bringing in musicals, parties and other events on the farm's property, Addonizio believes it would promote tourism. If elected, Addonizio said she would be an independent voice on the legislature and make every decision by advocating for

her constituents and fight to be fiscally responsible. While her opponent has claimed the Republican "machine" is backing any candidate to beat him, Addonizio dismissed that, stating the campaign has been run free of influence and she "isn't run by anyone." Overall, Addonizio, who is part of Rotary International and on the board for Cornell Cooperative said, "I'm looking forward to serving the community and I

hold myself to high standards."

Jeff Green

From Jeff Green's point of view, he believes that county government in Putnam still thinks this is "1950-something and it's time that they bring this county into the 21st century." Green, a Green Party member running on the Democratic ticket and longtime Kent resident, said the county is more diverse financially, racially, and religiously, and the needs of all residents should be met and reflect that diversity. He originally got into the race because he noticed his worker's compensation bill had two different taxes from Putnam County. After that, he found other ways the county taxed its citizens and called it startling. "I got thinking maybe this is a good time to run, get on the legislature and try to lift the veil on Putnam County government," Green said. Green has a stark difference on many views the county currently holds. For one, he believes resources for the war on addiction should go to more social workers, instead of sheriff deputies like what is proposed in the county budget. Green also said he thinks a walk-in clinic, something that the county currently doesn't have, should



Jeff Green

be brought into Putnam. Additionally, having a more robust county recreation program for residents during the summer would also be a good idea to pursue, Green said. When addressing the future of Tilly Foster Farm, Green lambasted the former lease between the county and Preserve Putnam. He said the contract written out was "garbage." But since the lease has been broken,

Green said he has to give the county credit for trying to turn around the farm. The biggest thing Green would like to see legislators consider is replacing the county executive, an elected position, with an appointed county manager. By doing that, it would make the legislature more responsive to the community and remove the political head from the county, which he said causes nepotism. Overall, Green said when lawmakers discuss county projects, they need to do a better job of truthfully expressing their needs, and not pushing for more than they want in order to come away with something, rather than nothing. "If everybody went in openly and honestly with their needs, then we could reach consensus on things so that nobody's losing," Green said. "I'm willing to bet if I have three years sitting on the legislature that I might be able to make some change."

Rematch Set for Leg. 8 Seat Between LoBue and Sayegh

By David Propper

After Dini LoBue beat Amy Sayegh in a Republican primary, the two are set for a rematch in the general election.

Dini LoBue

After a tense Republican primary in which current Legislator Dini LoBue's run as a lawmaker was on the line, the Mahopac resident pulled through with a win, touting herself as the most "independent" legislator in the county. Known to scrutinize and question every cost of county money, LoBue has said she's proven she's a fiscal conservative. During budget season, LoBue has been the most outspoken against raises for certain county employees. While LoBue hasn't proposed many new laws, her defense is that she is an advocate for smaller government. LoBue has lived in Putnam for 44 years and is a graduate of the Mahopac school system. If she wins the general election, she would be the most experienced legislator on the board. During her six years, LoBue believes she has earned the trust of the people in her

district. LoBue is also on the Conservative line.



Dina LoBue

Amy Sayegh

While a newcomer to the political scene, Amy Sayegh still posed a threat to her incumbent opponent leading up to a primary election. Ultimately, she wasn't able to earn the Republican line and while it was originally thought she might have snagged the Conservative line from LoBue, a thrown out ballot prevented that from happening. Regardless of the setbacks, Sayegh has stayed in the race, running solely on the Independence line. Sayegh would like to see the county and her district encourage more "mom and pop" businesses to come to the area for better economic development. Sayegh has been critical of LoBue, criticizing her as a politician who is "out of touch" with her district and someone who is hurting her district because she's too busy engaging in petty politics. Sayegh, a breast cancer survivor, started her own non-profit organization in 2008 called Community Care, which helps residents going through cancer treatment.



Amy Sayegh



Shulgin and Rogan Battle to Take One-Year Term on Patterson Town Board

By David Propper

Appointed board member and Republican Shawn Rogan hopes to keep his seat over Democrat Luz Shulgin in the only town race in the county after a former town board member resigned to take another job within the town government. The term is only for one year.

Shawn Rogan

Even before he was appointed to the Patterson Town Board after former councilman Bob McCarthy left, Shawn Rogan has been a resident committed to public service. Employed by the county Health Department and a former planning board member for 13 years, Rogan said he's always had the mentality of providing good "customer service." Serving on the planning board, including as chairman, Rogan said the board always strived to include the public in any discussion about proposed projects. The planning board instituted a policy where neighbors possibly affected by developments were



Shawn Rogan

notified early on in the process. The 16-year town resident said the biggest concern he's heard from voters is high taxes. In order to keep those taxes at bay, Rogan noted it's important to carefully review every expenditure spent and limit borrowing except for major projects, something he thinks the town has done a good job at. "The town board has worked very well over the last several years to be fiscally responsible and I think my focus is just continuing on that tradition." Overall, Rogan said he's been impressed how the board doesn't let politics influence policy and it's a board that can make residents proud. If elected to the seat for the next year, Rogan said he would like to see regulations simplified, so it's easier for residents to understand. When voters decide between Rogan and his opponent, he said experience and having a track record largely matter. "The way I serve the community has nothing to do with political lines," Rogan said. "It has to do

with listening to people and trying to serve for the greater good of the community."

Luz Shulgin

After running for Patterson Town Board a year ago and losing narrowly, Shulgin is back this year running again. Hoping to become an "excellent compliment" to the current town board, Shulgin, a Democrat, believes she has many skills to make the town more viable. "I think I can give a fresh, new perspective to the town," Shulgin said. The 12-year Patterson resident said she wants to push the local government to be more proactive, rather than reactive. Decisions and actions currently taken occur too late, like emergency preparedness after a storm has already hit the region. She believes the town board has really been "status quo." During the past decade, she's seen taxes double without services improving. While not opposed to a tax increase, she wants to see town residents get the most bang for their buck. Working for a pharmaceutical company in quality management, Shulgin said she's attained knowledge she could



Luz Shulgin

translate to public service. That includes risk management and using innovation to find solutions. If elected, Shulgin wants to "burst the bubble" by taking practices and procedures from other counties and towns and bring them to Patterson. Changes, big or small, could help town residents. She also wants Patterson to be a bigger advocate for itself. Right now, she believes money given to Putnam and spread across much of the county isn't being evenly distributed to Patterson. "I don't see the town of Patterson getting its fair share," she said. Once it gets more funding, Shulgin would push the town to support small businesses because right now she sees too many empty storefronts. "I really think part of it has to do with the lack of attention that may have been given to the town of Patterson over the years," Shulgin said.

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Gun Map, Technological Advances Center of Clerk's Race

By David Propper

After current county clerk Dennis Sant retires this year, there will be a new man to lead the office. The race is between Republican Michael Bartolotti, a lifelong Putnam County resident or Democrat Lithgow Osborne, who has made the race more interesting than many originally thought.

Michael Bartolotti

As first deputy county clerk, Michael Bartolotti has been a step away from the office he is now running for the past 12 years. As current county clerk Dennis Sant's right hand man, Bartolotti said if elected "it'd be a dream come true."

The Southeast resident and attorney hopes to keep the county clerk's office as well tuned and service oriented as it is now. Bartolotti defends the office for not releasing the names of pistol permit holders after The Journal News requested the information and said he'd take the same steps Sant has taken, including

appealing the decision after a judge ordered the county to release the names. While his opponent contends the clerk's office broke the law, Bartolotti said he actually believes the law was followed. As the custodian of all records, the clerk can examine how granting the request would affect county residents' safety, in this case negatively. Bartolotti said despite there being an opt-out form that allows gun owners to shield their names from public eyes, the process to opt-out



Michael Bartolotti

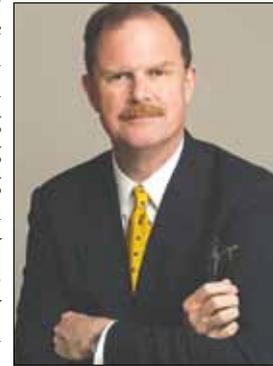
can be a confusing, disjointed one where residents are unsure how to fill out the paperwork. Bartolotti also clarified all the legal work on the appeal has been done in house, so there hasn't been an added burden to taxpayers. Moving on past the issue of the controversial gun map, Bartolotti said he would like to keep the F.A.V.O.R program, that assists veterans, moving in the right direction and keep the DMV office at a county level, rather than boot it up to the state. One initiative Bartolotti wants to see come to fruition is holding naturalization ceremonies in the county, which would provide an easier way for residents to become citizens. Addressing online capabilities of the

clerk's office, Bartolotti said residents must pay to view land records online because it cost money to host an online solution that keeps records secure and it also gives the clerk an idea of who is on the website. "We're the clerk of the court, we need to make sure those records aren't being messed with," he said. "Technology,

we've done a ton." It's important to keep in mind, Bartolotti said that when technological advances are taken, it's done deliberating and carefully. "We may not be the first person to table with something like e-filing of courts or e-recording of land records but it's always in development," he said. "We want to make when it's out there it's a product people are going to be happy to use."

Lithgow Osborne

Feeling well-equipped to take on the position of county clerk, Philipstown resident and antique marketing consultant Lithgow Osborne decided to throw his name in the ring to make sure voters had a choice for that office, rather than another Republican sliding in unopposed. When addressing the controversy surrounding the clerk's office denying The Journal News pistol permit information of every registered holder, Osborne, a Democrat, said the law would have compelled him to comply with the freedom of information request. "I think the clerk by denying the request, broke the law," Osborne said. "I don't believe in breaking the law." Seeing it for the hot button issue it is, Osborne said he would have invited gun advocates to take on the role of an activist, rather than the county clerk taking a principle stand because it's not the clerk's job to do so. It also sets a bad precedent for future FOIL request, where the clerk might "pick and choose" what he likes and doesn't like. Now the case is being appealed after Putnam County was sued by The Journal News for the names and lost the first round of the



Lithgow Osborne

lawsuit. Osborne said he doesn't believe an appeal is worthwhile because state law now allows any gun owner to opt out of letting their name become a public if a request is made. If elected, Osborne wants to pursue ways to make the clerk's office more accessible online without residents going into the office. A push into a more modern day office is imperative, Osborne said. "The website itself needs to be updated," Osborne said. "We need to expand whatever capabilities the website has." He also disagrees with the clerk's office forcing residents to pay to simply view county land records online. By having more items online, Osborne said the office could put in place a hiring freeze while retraining the current staff to stay up to date with any technological advances. Satellite offices in other parts of the county, perhaps the west side, and possibly expanding office hours on a certain days are other initiatives Osborne would explore. "I feel like I can bring the county clerk into the 21st century and I feel like I can do it with fresh eyes and new ideas," he said. "And a commitment to better government."

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