



FREE



twitter.com/ExaminerMedia

February 16 - February 22, 2016

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 360

## Fallout Continues Over Two Nonprofits Led by Libby Pataki

By David Propper

An investigation into two nonprofits headed by former New York State First Lady Libby Pataki is underway as at least one legislator has called for the Visitor's Bureau director and wife of former Governor George Pataki to step down from her post.

Two weeks ago an article in The Journal News detailed how Pataki started a second nonprofit called Putnam Tourism Corp. in 2012 without telling the Putnam County

Legislature. Additionally, Pataki didn't have functional boards of directors for either the Visitor's Bureau and Tourism Corp. and was paying herself as director of the second foundation. In 2014, she pocketed \$50,000 from Tourism Corp. on top of her salary as Visitor's Bureau director.

The Visitor's Bureau has made clear no tax dollars supplemented the second nonprofit, but Putnam Tourism Corp. did

*continued on page 2*



Legislator Roger Gross (left) has called on Visitor's Bureau director Libby Pataki to resign.

## George Fischer Middle School Completes Million Page Challenge



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ELIZABETH KRIEGER

Congratulations to the George Fischer Middle School 6th grade! The class conquered and actually surpassed the million-page challenge with 1,336,206 pages read since the challenge began in the fall. Mrs. Elizabeth Krieger, the school's librarian, set the challenge for all 5th and 6th grade students in the school.

Some notable accomplishments included:

- Classes with the most pages read: Mrs. Jamie Walner's 6th grade classes read a total of 765,926 pages. Her first period class read the most with a total of 98,449 pages
- Fifth Grade classes read a total of 222,177 pages. Mrs. Michelle Lynch's second period class read the most in the 2nd quarter, with a total of 42,869.
- The 6th grade student with the most pages read in the first quarter of the year was Colin Forster with 21,565 pages. In the second quarter Sasha Ramdat read the most pages at 20,295.
- The 5th grade student with the most pages read in both the first and second quarter was Erin Lee. She read 16,249 and 11,702 pages respectively.

In above photo, Mrs. Jamie Walner and her first period 6th grade class read the most pages (98,449) in the Million Page Challenge. Krieger (back row) was so impressed, her hair turned pink.

## Brewster School Chief Announces Retirement

By David Propper

Once the Brewster Central School District school year comes to close, so will the tenure of Superintendent Dr. Timothy Conway.

After leading Brewster schools almost the last three years and being in the district the last dozen, Conway announced his retirement from the school system on the district's website Thursday in hopes of pursuing new endeavors and spending more time with his family. Conway, who replaced former Brewster school chief Jane Sandbank first on an interim basis and then permanently, informed the Board of Education of his decision last Tuesday after the board's meeting. He plans to leave at the end of July 2016.

In the online announcement, Conway said the decision came after

*continued on page 4*



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Brewster Superintendent Tim Conway is set to retire at the end of the year.



The Masucci Family  
LOVES CLUB FIT

# JOIN TODAY

for \$50  
& get a free massage or personal training



WWW.CLUBFIT.COM

Offer ends 2/29/16. This offer requires payment of regular monthly dues and cannot be combined with any other offer. Customers received an item of value in exchange for their endorsement/testimonial. Other free appointments available are 1 Hour Private Swim Lesson, 1 Hour Private Tennis Lesson, or 1 Nutritional Consultation (available in Jefferson Valley only). One free appointment per new membership agreement. Appointment must be completed by 5/31/2016. Certain limitations apply.

# Fallout Continues Over Two Nonprofits Led by Libby Pataki

continued from page 1

support many initiatives of the Visitor's Bureau.

Legislator Roger Gross of Southeast said in an interview with The Putnam Examiner that Pataki should step down in light of reports that have sent tourism into turmoil. The lack of board of directors meetings and duel stream salary going to Pataki is "unacceptable," Gross said.

"Ms. Pataki is a nice lady. I admire her, I like her as First Lady, it's not a personal thing," Gross said. "I'm not happy with the situation, it's very troubling."

During a committee meeting last week, Deputy County Executive Bruce Walker said he heard from Pataki that the state Attorney General's office has sent a letter requesting information from the agency, including a nine-item list that needs to be provided by Feb. 24. The letter also requests a meeting with Pataki and county officials by March 15.

While Walker only addressed the AG investigation related to the Visitor's Bureau as it pertains to the county, Legislature Chairwoman Ginny Nacerino noted the AG's office also sent a letter to the second nonprofit, Putnam Tourism Corp. seeking information. Nacerino said if Pataki appears in front of the legislature, she should be prepared to discuss that second foundation and any investigation findings.



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Legislator Carl Albano defended colleague Barbara Scuccimarra who faced some heat in an article from The Journal News.

Legislator and Economic Development Chairwoman Toni Addonizio said she plans on requesting Pataki's presence to speak on the situation at the March committee meeting and also requested a list of relevant information.

At the meeting, Gross, who called the news reports a "blemish" on the county, said the county Legislature would ensure better oversight and recommended a forensic accounting of the Visitor's Bureau.

"We did not know about this situation particularly with the duel stream salary," Gross said. "We know about it now and we're going to act on it."

Gross did stand up for embattled

Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, calling her "an honorable person, full of integrity." Gross' comments were preceded by Industrial Development Agency chairman and Brewster resident Richard Ruchala stating at the meeting Scuccimarra should resign for voting on matters concerning the tourism bureau while also acting as its treasurer. Scuccimarra said according to The Journal News article that it was a mistake not to reveal that outside position and she would disclose that leadership position to the county ethics board.

Gross said she believes Scuccimarra has been treated unfairly in the media and is simply a friend of the Pataki family that didn't have full knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the nonprofits.

"I thought that was a real smear and inappropriate on part of the media," Gross said, referencing how the article mentioned that Scuccimarra's husband, Judge Thomas Scuccimarra was appointed to his position by George Pataki when he was governor.

Legislator Carl Albano also defended Scuccimarra, calling her a "very honorable person." He noted how Scuccimarra has done a good job as a lawmaker and some of the news reports were "really twisted and just inappropriate."

"Occasionally, T's don't get crossed and stuff," Albano said. "You take care of it and

fix it. I'm not really worried about that."

Resident Alexandra Valentine, who was critical of the Visitor's Bureau during the county budget season, said she thinks the agency should face an audit. She also said she's filed Freedom of Information Act requests to the Bureau that are flatly ignored.

Although Legislator Dini LoBue brought up the horrid state of the website several months ago during budget season, Valentine said nothing was done to fix it. Currently, the Bureau's website is down and under construction. In a competitive market, to not have a functional website wouldn't pass muster in the private sector, Valentine said.

"The website is terrible and we just spent \$17,000 on CBS news (advertisements) driving people to this website so given how poor that website was managed I think we can safely say that was a waste of money," Valentine said. "You heard the website was a piece of junk, it was terrible and yet year after year including 2016, you go ahead and make thousands of dollars available to these people."

Gross said legislators were dealing with a variety of issues concerning the county budget and tourism wasn't at the top of the list. He did point out four legislators, including himself, voted against the county budget that included the tourism money.

Quality, patient-centered care that's close to home

## BATTLING BACK PAIN?

What you should know about treatment options...



### Ask the Doctor

**John Abrahams, MD, FAANS**

Chief, Neurosurgery  
Co-Director, Orthopedic & Spine Institute, Spine Section  
Northern Westchester Hospital  
nwhorthoandspine.org/DrAbrahams

#### Q: What can I do about my aching back?

**A:** Back pain is surprisingly common – nearly 80 percent of Americans will experience back pain at some point during their lives. For most, stretching, rest, and over-the-counter painkillers will resolve the issue. If your pain is persistent, your doctor might refer you to a physical therapist for guidance in how to sit, lift, and move in ways that won't exacerbate your pain. A physical therapist can teach patients stretches and exercises that will help prevent future back troubles.

#### Q: What causes back pain?

**A:** Strains are the most common cause of back pain and usually occur from awkward lifting or even a sudden movement. Structural problems are also a common source of back pain. Discs can bulge and press on the spinal nerves, the vertebrae can develop arthritis, narrowing and pressing on the spinal cord, or osteoporosis can develop. Although rare, it's possible to get infections or cancer in the spine.

#### Q: What if my back pain won't go away?

**A:** After standard treatments such as rest, physical therapy, painkillers and steroid injections have failed, your physician might refer you to a spine specialist. There are several surgical solutions for chronic back pain, and

the tools and techniques have vastly improved.

The O-Arm Surgical Imaging System at Northern Westchester Hospital is an innovative technology that provides surgeons with a detailed, multidimensional CT scan of the spine during surgery.

The detailed views offered by the O-Arm enable surgeons to operate with increased precision and patient safety when performing complex neuro and spine surgery. With the treatments available for many spinal disorders, there is no need to live in pain.

#### Q: When should I see a doctor for my back pain?

**A:** Your pain can be your guide - if you're worried about your back, definitely make an appointment. Some signs that your back trouble might be serious are if the pain:

- Spreads to one or both of your legs
- Is constant or intense especially when you lay down
- Causes weakness or numbness in your legs
- Comes after a fall
- Causes bowel or bladder problems
- Is also in your abdomen, is throbbing, or is accompanied by a fever

\* American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

Learn about the innovative technologies available at the Orthopedic & Spine Institute at Northern Westchester Hospital, visit [www.nwhorthoandspine.org](http://www.nwhorthoandspine.org)

**NWH** NORTHERN  
WESTCHESTER  
HOSPITAL

400 East Main Street • Mount Kisco, NY 10549  
914.666.1200 • [www.nwhc.net](http://www.nwhc.net)

**Did You Know?**  
30 percent of Americans  
experience **back pain** on any  
given day.\*



# Resigned IDA Board Members Face Off with Legislature

By David Propper

After the entire Industrial Development Agency board stepped down last month, some board members came in front of Putnam legislators last week with the possibility of those resignations being pulled back.

IDA chairman and Brewster resident Richard Ruchala said he would reconsider his resignation if the county administration decides to release \$75,000 to the IDA, though he couldn't speak for the rest of the board. Lawmakers on the Economic Development Committee voted to send a letter to the county executive's office urging them to give funds to the IDA.

"The check should have been delivered by now," Ruchala said in an interview. "I have no idea why they're delaying what obviously is necessary."

Despite the resignations, every IDA board member is still technically on the board until replacements are found. County Executive MaryEllen Odell has been against giving the IDA funds because she believes they can be self sustaining. IDA board members claim new regulations make that impossible.

Legislator Roger Gross said the resignations stem from a lack of county government support and the agency can't compete with other counties if they don't have the necessary funds. There are also

several projects in the pipeline that are now stalled since the mass withdrawal took place last month, he said.

Legislator Dini LoBue said for two years the IDA board came to the county Legislature in need of help with little luck. She described the IDA as the incentive arm crucial to reeling businesses in. The IDA has outlined the projects they've worked on and fulfilled requirements from the state, she added.

"I think it's a disgrace and an embarrassment to the county," LoBue said. "How can you talk about economic development without supporting the IDA?"

LoBue said there is a sales tax abatement connected to the Butterfield redevelopment that could be affected if the IDA doesn't get up and running. Legislators should move quickly and unanimously to resolve any issues, LoBue said.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino said the IDA board resigned before the lawmakers could talk with them about releasing funds currently in sub-contingency. But Ruchala mentioned how Economic Development meetings in June and July were both cancelled and then again in October and December. Ruchala said he requested an emergency meeting that wasn't ultimately held.

Legislators Carl Albano and Barbara

Succimarra both renewed their call for the IDA to present a business plan before the money is released. Albano said "if there's not tremendous potential" then the county should not fund it.

Legislator Toni Addonizio reminded other lawmakers the IDA legally must stay intact until 2041 because of tax abatement deals it's made.

"We don't really have a choice," she said. "We're at a crossroads and we need to figure something out."

Ruchala said "the straw that broke the camel's back" is when the county opted to give a local development corporation to Dutchess County without any concrete information provided, noting "Dutchess County, in all truth, has no interest in your interest."

"I think every part of economic development has been destroyed in this county," Ruchala said. "And now you have to regroup it."

Ruchala said he thinks the IDA should be the "top dog in the group" and the Economic Development Corporation should be an advisory council and the money given to the EDC should go to the IDA instead. He noted how the IDA has more complexities than the EDC like putting together certain reports for the state.

The IDA, EDC and tourism should all be housed at 34 Gleneida, instead of

the latter two being stuck on third floor of the county office building, Ruchala said.

"You need to think smarter and less expensively," Ruchala said.

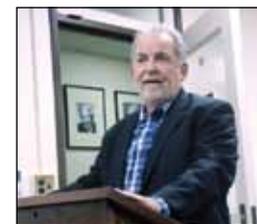
Ruchala said \$75,000 would not be enough

for this year, with much of the money going toward a CEO. With the increased regulations facing IDAs statewide since 2008, it has made it difficult for those agencies to operate effectively.

IDA board member Bill Nulk said he's come before the legislature many times telling them the IDA needs assistance because the IDA is a "critical part of the economic team."

Economic Development Corporation president Jill Varricchio noted the EDC and IDA work hand in glove and it might be better to put the two agencies under one umbrella.

"When opportunities knocking and (businesses) are looking for incentives, what do we do," she said. "One of the tools in the toolbox should be, has to be, at least most of the time is an IDA."



DAVID PROPPER PHOTO

Resigned IDA chairman Richard Ruchala spoke at last week's committee meeting.

## Tour Your Future

At The Tech Center at Yorktown

### Tech Center Tours

For High School Sophomores and Juniors

February 24th and 25th • 8:00 am-10:00 am and 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Snow Date: February 26th

- Visit over 40 programs within 10 career academies
- Learn about opportunities to earn high school academic credit, college credit, and national technical certifications
- Please see your home school counselor for further information



Information Contact:  
Karen Carey at  
914-248-2427 or  
kcarey@pnwboces.org

200 BOCES Drive  
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598  
914.248.2420  
pnwboces.org/tech

PUTNAM  
NORTHERN  
WESTCHESTER  
BOCES



# Brewster School Chief Announces Retirement from District

*continued from page 1*

"much thought and discussion with my family."

"I would like to thank you for allowing me to serve the students of this district and for being a part of their lives," Conway stated. "This was truly the best part of my experience here in Brewster. I would also like to thank the Board of Education for their support and encouragement during my 12 years in Brewster. Please be assured that the District will continue to be in good hands in the days ahead."

School board president Dr. Stephen Jambor said the board would start canvassing the community to see what residents want in the next school chief and the hope is to have a permanent superintendent in place by the time

Conway steps aside. With several months to find a new school leader, Jambor doesn't believe the process will be rushed.

"It did come as a bit of a surprise to us because nothing obvious was going on," Jambor said. "There's been no difficulty, there's been no friction, and we've been moving full steam ahead."

In an interview, Conway said he wanted to leave before major construction took place on school facilities that would take several years to complete after a bond referendum was passed in Dec. 2014. Rather than depart in the middle of the massive project, Conway wants to retire now so the new school superintendent can see the entire project through from start to finish.

He noted the most important part of his tenure as superintendent is getting the bond referendum--the largest put forth in district's history--passed that December to improve facilities across the school district.

Conway doesn't have any concrete plans once he leaves, but said he looks forward to fishing more and spending time with his children, grandchildren and wife. Additionally, Conway hinted he may get involved in local politics and would consider teaching higher education.

"I'm looking forward to some time to enjoy life," Conway said, "Not be so hectic and time crunch all the time."

Conway described how grueling it can be to lead a school district where he estimates he puts in 60-70 hours per

week. Days can start as early as 4 a.m. if the school is contemplating a snow day and can last as long as midnight depending on the meeting or other school event occurring.

A day can be fully scheduled and change on a whim with almost 4,000 people on campus each day, Conway pointed out. Emergencies come up that can take the entire day or several days in a row to address, he said.

"You never know what each day is going to bring, the days are long and if it wasn't for the folks I get to work with and the smiling students it would be much tougher," he said. "You definitely have to make a commitment to the school district because it doesn't allow you much time for anything else."

## State Trooper Rescues Dog from Icy Pond in Somers

By Rick Pezullo

A New York State trooper rescued a yellow lab that had fallen into a partially frozen pond Saturday afternoon behind John F. Kennedy High School in Somers.

Trooper Christopher Spallone, a 10-year veteran of the State Police stationed in the Somers barracks, responded to the scene after police

received a report at about 12:15 p.m. that the owner of a dog was attempting to rescue the lab, named Shelby.

Spallone noted the dog appeared to be in distress due to the frigid water temperature. He walked on to the ice and was able to rescue the lab. However, as he walked back to the shore line, the ice fractured and he fell into the water.

Somers Police Officer Curtis Dustin

and Somers firefighter Michael Cyrulik were nearby and were able to assist Spallone out of the water.

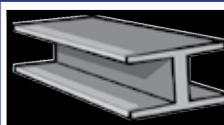
Spallone was transported to Northern Westchester Hospital by Somers firefighters and was treated and released. Dustin, who was exposed to the cold water, was treated at the scene. Shelby is expected to make a full recovery, according to police.



Find us on  
**Facebook**

Search for  
**EXAMINER MEDIA**

**914-864-0878**  
advertising@theexaminernews.com  
www.theexaminernews.com



## OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

### LARGEST SELF-SERVICE BARGAIN BARN IN THE NORTHEAST

Catering to: Farmers ♦ Welders ♦ Artists ♦ Contractors  
♦ Sculptors ♦ Handy Men ♦ Students ♦ Men & Women  
♦ Do-It-Yourselfers..... Since 1972

- ♦ Sq & Rec Tube
- ♦ Pipe-Angles
- ♦ Beams-Sheet
- ♦ Plate-Channel
- ♦ Grip Strut
- ♦ Exp. Metal



**10 lbs – 1,000,000 lbs**

**Carbon Steel, Stainless Steel,  
Aluminum, Galvanized  
Flats \* Rounds \* Squares \* Hexes \* Cold Rolled  
\* H.R.**

## LOGAN \* CESCO STEEL COMPANY

NEW INVENTORY DAILY \* COME IN & BROWSE & SAVE \$\$  
**WE SANDBLAST - PRIME - PAINT  
AND POWDER COAT**  
M-F 7:30-4:30 SAT: 8-12

**MERIDEN, CT & TORRINGTON, CT**  
**800-560-3317 LOGANSTEEL.COM**

www.tomthumbpreschool.com  
see our web site for tuition costs

**tom thumb preschool** **We are a school!**  
Ages 2.9 to 5 years old

Full Day Programs: 8:45 am to 2:15 pm OR 3:15pm dismissal  
Operating Hours: 7am to 6pm

**OPEN HOUSE DATES**

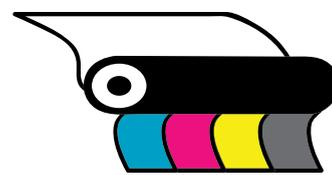
For Children and parents  
**Sunday, Feb. 21 OR Saturday, Feb. 27**  
from 1pm to 3 pm

**OR**

for parents only- **Tuesday, Feb. 23**  
from 7pm to 8:30 pm  
Come and see the difference!

**ThumBelina School for 2's**  
ThumBelina offers Half Day and Full Day Programs

Both programs are now registering for September 2016  
For information on these programs call 914-528-5600  
1949 E Main ST, Mohegan Lk, NY Nancy Brophy, Owner/Director



## Trumbull PRINTING

Newspapers • Publications • Shoppers • Catalogs • Magazines  
Directories • Coupon Books • College Course Catalogs  
Business and Financial Periodicals  
Free Standing Inserts • Advertising Supplements

**205 Spring Hill Road, Trumbull, CT 06611 • 203.261.2548**  
[www.trumbullprinting.com](http://www.trumbullprinting.com)

# Patterson Procurement Policy Updated; Vet Tax Exempt Addressed

By Neal Rentz

The Patterson Town Board voted unanimously on Feb. 10 to make changes to its procurement policy.

Supervisor Richard Williams said the policies will change for the purchase of goods and services and "bring it up to date" because it has not been changed for many years and it needed to be revised.

Councilman Shawn Rogan said one part of the revised policy would make it easier for the town to continue providing contracts for local vendors it felt comfortable with.

No residents spoke during last week's public hearing, which was closed.

## Veterans Tax Exemption

The board also voted unanimously to schedule a public hearing on Feb. 24 at

7 p.m. on legislation that would allow veterans to carry with them their property exemption if they move within Patterson or to elsewhere in Putnam County without losing their tax break.

The tax exemption only applies to primary residences.

Williams said the state Legislature last year approved the legislation, which municipalities need to approve individually.

Resident Ben Murphy asked if it would be "much easier" to carry over the veterans tax exemption if the legislation was approved by the town board. Williams said the legislation would allow veterans to show their paper that indicated their qualification for the exemption in the town they are moving to.



The Patterson Town Board at its Feb. 10 meeting.

NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

# Trial of Pipeline Protestors Adjourned in Cortlandt Court

By Rick Pezzullo

The trial of nine local residents and community activists who were arrested in the fall for blocking access to Spectra Energy's pipeline construction yard in Montrose was adjourned two weeks ago over the scheduled testimony of a Cortlandt councilman.

Town Justice Daniel McCarthy

adjourned the case of the so-called "Montrose 9" to an unspecified date to review procedural steps governing an elected official, in this instance Councilman Seth Freach, testifying before him. McCarthy noted the issue may result in a change of venue for the case.

The nine defendants were charged with disorderly conduct by State

Police and have pled not guilty. Legal representatives of the defendants have filed a Necessity Defense, which contends the protestors actions were warranted because of the imminent and grave risks Spectra's natural gas pipeline expansion poses on a local, regional and global level, which outweighs any potential harm of their actions.




**Your Complete Automotive Service Center**

**Bumper to Bumper... \$29.95 SPECIAL**



Change motor oil and filter, check battery and alternator operation, inspect all belts and hoses, inspect and top off all fluid levels, test coolant, inspect brakes and adjust as necessary, check struts, shocks, and CV Joints, check lights, rotate tires, check tire pressures and adjust to spec, inspect wipers and we even vacuum your front carpet!!  
Most cars and light duty trucks up to 6 qts. motor oil.  
Synthetic oil extra \$15.00  
Offer Expires: 2/29/16

Facebook icon Instagram icon  
PattersonAutoBodyNY 2597 Rt. 22 Patterson PattersonAutoBody.com

Check us out on Facebook for exclusive specials! **845.878.3456**

**FREE Flu Shots!**  
While Supplies Last  
Please call ahead to reserve your appointment



**Pulse MD Urgent Care**



Toll Free: 855-85-PULSE [www.pulse-md.com](http://www.pulse-md.com)

- Open 7 days a week from 8am-8pm
- Adult & Child Immediate/Walk-In Care
- Occupational Medicine
- On-Site X-ray and Quick Lab
- Most insurances accepted or self-pay welcome
- Continuity of care. Follow-up report faxed to your Primary Care Doctor

3244 E. Main Street  
Mohegan Lake  
845 204-9258  
572 Rt. 6 • Mahopac  
845-621-3100

# First Case of Zika Virus Confirmed in Putnam

One Putnam County resident has been confirmed positive for Zika virus and a second additional case is being tested, announced the Putnam County Department of Health Thursday. Both residents had recently travelled out of the country. The current case count in New York State is 16 confirmed infections. There was no update on the second person being tested as of Monday afternoon.

“We are working with our local physicians and the New York State Department of Health to monitor

and test residents with recent travel to a Zika-affected area,” said Michael J. Nesheiwat, M.D., Interim Commissioner of Health. “Symptoms of Zika infection are usually mild. Male travelers without symptoms do not require testing. However, all pregnant women—with or without symptoms—who have travelled to a Zika-affected region should be tested, because of a link to microcephaly or other birth defects.”

Zika virus, which is spread by infected mosquitos, has been appearing

around the continental United States, mostly in travelers who have visited a Zika-affected area. One lone case in Texas is being investigated in a sexual partner of a traveler from one of the affected areas.

The situation regarding Zika virus has been changing as new information develops. The Centers for Disease Control have set up a dedicated website at [cdc.gov/zika](http://cdc.gov/zika) and the New York State Department of Health has established a Zika Information Line: 1-888-364-4723.

*‘All pregnant women — with or without symptoms — who have travelled to a Zika-affected region should be tested.’ - Michael J. Nesheiwat, M.D., Interim Commissioner of Health*

Testing is currently not available through commercial laboratories. Residents who have travelled to an area with Zika infection should contact their personal healthcare provider who will work with the Putnam County Department of Health (PCDOH) to facilitate the proper testing procedure through the NYSDOH laboratory at Wadsworth Center. Wadsworth is one of only three state laboratories in the country equipped to perform the screening and confirmatory tests of Zika antibodies and other related viruses.

To date local transmission of Zika infection has been identified in 30 countries and territories, including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Caribbean. Further spread in the region may occur. Prior to 2015, outbreaks of the virus had occurred only in areas of Africa, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands. Last May the first confirmed cases were reported in Brazil.

**IF YOU'RE CONSIDERING WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY, ATTEND A SEMINAR TO LEARN WHAT'S INVOLVED.**

Join us for a no-commitment seminar, where you can learn more about the bariatric surgery program, including advanced surgical techniques, nutritional counseling and support programs.

Thursday, February 18  
5PM to 6PM  
Call (845) 230-4797 to reserve your spot.

**PUTNAM  
HOSPITAL CENTER**

To learn more, visit [healthquest.org/WeightLossSurgery](http://healthquest.org/WeightLossSurgery)  
TTY/Accessibility: (800) 421-1220

Don't give up on your  
**SOCIAL SECURITY/  
DISABILITY CLAIM!**

Helping you get the  
benefits you are entitled to  
is our specialty.

Contact  
**ALEGRIA & BAROVICK LLP,**  
in White Plains, today.

**Call 914-761-1133**

**A&B**

# PV Supervisor Takes Aim at Empty ‘Zombie Homes’

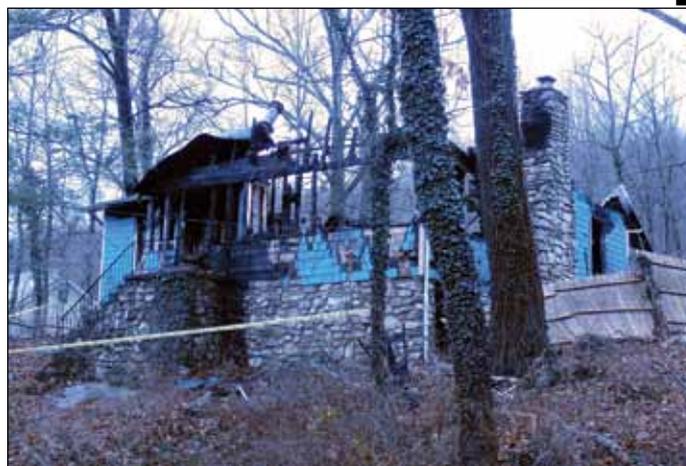
By David Propper

Living in Putnam Valley his entire life, Putnam Valley Supervisor Sam Oliverio has seen the number of abandoned and decrepit houses increase sharply with much of it a byproduct of the Great Recession. In his first month on the job, Oliverio is looking to rid the town of the empty, ugly homes.

Oliverio is taking an aggressive approach to get houses in town up to bearable standards, focusing on properties no longer occupied by anyone, but owned by an individual or entity. Some of the blighted properties are owned by single former residents or businesspersons that own multiple parcels in town. The banks and even Putnam County also own some of those properties, Oliverio noted.

His plan is for the town to identify homes that are potentially an attractive nuisance with the help of the building inspector. Then, the owner of the property would be served a notice warning them to either fix it up or the town is going to “condemn it, rip it down ourselves and then charge them back.” So far, only a few homes have faced that pressure, but Oliverio wants to go after many more.

The planned action is welcomed by neighbors in communities that have blighted homes, considering a neglected home next door can lead to dropping



DAVID PROPPER PHOTOS

These abandoned houses are just a small sample size of the problem that exists in Putnam Valley, according to Supervisor Sam Oliverio.

property values for everyone else on the block.

“You have a beautiful house next to one these zombie homes and you can’t expect that your house will (get the highest value) if the house next to it isn’t as nice as the one you’re selling,” Oliverio said. “So it impacts every resident in this community.”

If a child or teenager enters one of those structurally unsafe homes and is injured or killed, Oliverio warned the liability legally lies with the owner of that property.

Oliverio stressed the town is not looking to put the hammer down on an

individual owner is who is facing tough times. In that case, the town hopes to work with that property owner. Oliverio’s attention is more toward a person who owns multiple units that sit there without any use.

“They need to know once you purchase one of these homes, you’re responsibility is to bring it up to code or to remove it,” Oliverio said.

The banks that own certain broken-down homes are usually attentive to making the needed repairs when the issue it brought up to them, Oliverio said.

The same can be said for the county that also cooperates when approached,

though Oliverio urges the county to lower the sale price of certain properties if they aren’t selling in order to get a family in that home and renovate it.

The sharp increase in “zombies homes” as Oliverio commonly refers to them can be traced back to 2008 when the housing market collapsed and so many residents lost their homes.

“My heart goes out to them, but their houses now, they left, they abandoned them,” Oliverio said. “And they’re sitting there overgrown, looking like something out of the deep Appalachian and it’s frightening. We can’t have that.”

## We’ve moved!

JUST A STONE’S THROW, WE ARE ACROSS THE STREET FROM OUR OLD OFFICE, OUR NEW OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 140 MAIN STREET.

Additional exciting news for 2016 is that along with the leadership of Robert A. McCaffrey, our newly-added managing agent, Bill Hussung, will be on hand to help with daily operations. If you are thinking of selling your home, Robert A. McCaffrey Realty has a very active marketing program choosing appropriate print and online advertising for each listing. We aren’t the largest, but we get results and we reach the masses.

### eFlyer Marketing Program

eFlyer is a service that emails custom flyers, reaching 20,000+ local agents.

### ListHub

ListHub, the online publishing network, further markets our listings to more than 80 top real estate websites.

### Luxuryportfolio.com

Our affiliation with Luxury Portfolio International® drives traffic to our website through a multi-million dollar brand advertising campaign.

### LuxuryRealEstate.com

The Who’s Who In Luxury Real Estate brand is a network of more than 1,500 brokerages with over 55,000 distinctive properties for sale.

### NYTimes.com

With over 28 million unique visitors each month, NYTimes.com is the #1 individual newspaper site in the U.S., a most-valuable place to advertise.

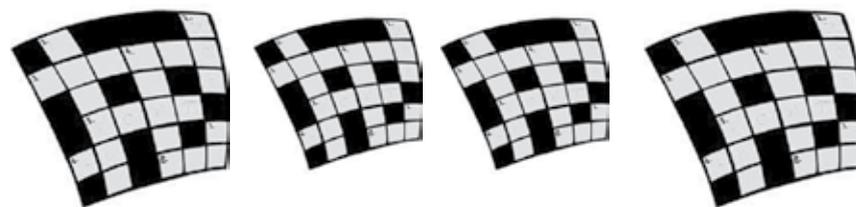
### Realtor.com

Realtor.com® is one of the most visited homes-for-sale site.

**ROBERT A.  
McCAFFREY  
REALTY INC.**

140 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516  
phone 845-265-4113  
info@mccaffreyrealty.com  
www.mccaffreyrealty.com

Visit  
**TheExaminerNews.com**  
and click on Puzzles  
at the top of the homepage  
to play today's crossword!



**Annual  
Clearance  
Sale  
Going  
On Now!**



QUOIZEL  
TIMELESS DESIGNS  
KICHLER

**MC Mid-County**  
LIGHTING SHOWROOM  
ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES  
P.O. Box 894, 240 Rte 6, Mahopac, New York 10541  
845-628-9106 sales@midcountylighting.com

# Personal, Professional Experiences Aid Author in Debut Novel

By Michael Giuliano

Local author John Roche may now reside in Mohegan Lake, but his heart has always belonged to the Bronx.

In his debut novel, *Bronx Bound*, Roche details the life of Matt Brady, a news reporter for the fictional Bronx Ledger who stumbles upon a murder scene. Originally written under the title "88," the book is a mix of crime noir and mystery, set during the winter of 1988.

"I wanted to write sort of a love letter to the Bronx," Roche said during a recent interview. "Warts and all."

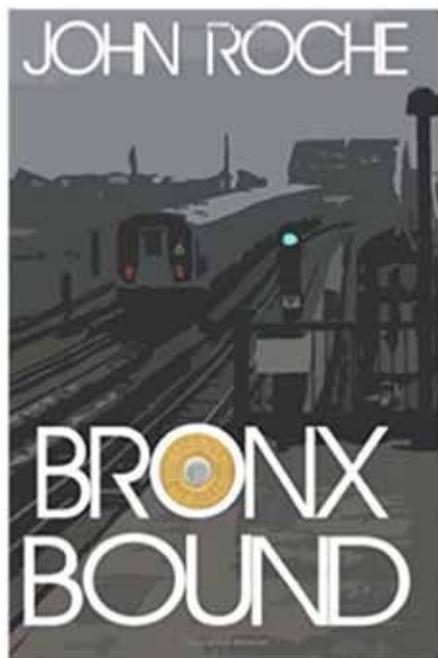
Roche, who was born and raised in the Bronx, received a bachelor's degree in communications from Marist College and a Master's in Fine Arts from Western Connecticut State University. He now teaches at both schools, along with Norwalk Community College, and still occasionally writes articles for local publications in his spare time. *Bronx Bound* is the culmination of his thesis project while at WCSU.

"I started writing, and I didn't know what it was going to be," Roche said on the original concept for *Bronx Bound*. "I knew that I wanted to write something about newspapers, I wanted to write something about the Bronx, and I wanted to write about wanting to get away from your hometown but being tied to it."

Over time, Roche has seen how changes in technology have affected the journalism business, and wanted *Bronx Bound* to reflect an older school of practice.

"I wanted it to be set before technology became so ubiquitous. If you and I were talking and then we leave, I could Google you and pretty much find out 90 percent of your life," Roche said. "I wanted it to be before then, when you had to work for it: You had to go talk to the neighborhood gossips, or the cabbies or the bartenders [to get a story]. That was exciting."

A veteran journalist of more than 20 years, Roche got his start at the Bronx Times before moving onto other weekly publications like New York Newsday, The Record Review, and North County News,



just to name a few. Eventually he went on to manage and edit at several newspapers and newsrooms, but that tended to take away from actual writing time.

"The weird thing about newspapers is that the better you write, the further away from writing you get," Roche said regarding his experience as a copy editor and manager. "You're a reporter, you're an assistant editor, then you're an editor, the next thing you know you're an associate publisher. I was good at it, and I managed a lot of newspapers and newsrooms, but I got away from why I got into [writing] in the first place."

Working as a journalist gave inspiration to several ideas and situations that appear in *Bronx Bound*, including the practice of having housewives as publishers and editors at newspapers when staff was in short supply. Roche also took the real-life experience of participating in a prostitution sting during the 1990's and inserted it into the book. The real-life backlash Roche and his co-workers faced after publicly naming the Johns busted in the prostitution stings led to Roche adding the twist of having his character Brady getting involved with a prostitute in the book.

"I would know a lot of people from the neighborhood, and, inevitably, you'd know the people that you were writing about," Roche said. "[This one friend] was in tears on the phone, and he cursed me out because I said, 'No' [to omitting his name from the report]. Then, as he was hanging up he said, 'What if it was you?' I loved that idea, so it always stuck in my head."

As a professor, Roche said one of the greatest rewards comes from being able to connect with other writers, whether they are students or other professional writers.

"I get juiced by being around other writers," Roche said. "It's exciting, to me, to help other writers write better."

When asked what advice he would give to his students or any other aspiring writers, he stressed the importance of writing every day, something that he admits is difficult for him to do.

"I wish I did. It's a bad habit, and it's definitely, 'Do as I say, not as I do,'" Roche said, laughing. "It's a curse and a blessing from the journalism background. I perform well with the adrenaline of having a deadline."

Aside from writing consistently, Roche maintained that it is important for a writer to be well-balanced in their craft, by taking information and techniques from all forms of writing.

"[At WCSU] as a fiction writer you're

not just dealing with other fiction writers: you're exposed to poetry, screenplay, technical writing, and I think that all helps you as a writer," Roche said. "I'm under the impression that writing is writing. So, if you're a fiction writer, what can you learn from poetry? Well, that language has to be vivid, that every word has to count, that you have to write tight and move it along."

As for what the future holds, Roche said that he is currently writing a follow-up to *Bronx Bound*, though he is a little hesitant to officially use the word "sequel" when it comes to describing the book.

"You never call it a 'sequel,'" Roche said, "because [if] it's a mystery or crime novel, at some point you want people to think, 'Is anybody going to make it out alive?'" Still, fans of the book should expect to see some familiar faces in the future. "It is probably about a year later, as a standalone book but still connected to *Bronx Bound*," he said.

Roche doesn't have a current ETA on the arrival of his next book, but if it is as exciting as *Bronx Bound*, it will be well worth the wait.



**\$30**  
Round Trip  
Bus Fare

**\$40 BONUS PACKAGE VALUE!**  
**\$15 Meal/Retail Coupon**  
**Two \$10 Free Bets & One \$5 Free Bet**

## Why Drive?

For Information Call:  
JTR Transportation  
1.800.433.7444  
ext. 103

[www.SeeYouOnTheBus.com](http://www.SeeYouOnTheBus.com)

Tuesdays, Thursdays  
& Sundays

Hyde Park  
Poughkeepsie  
Fishkill  
Brewster/Carmel

Bonus packages are issued to individuals 21 years of age or older. To receive a casino bonus package, passengers must have a Momentum card or be able to sign up for a Momentum card on day of travel. Proper identification required. Please visit the Bus Marketing Window for official rules. Offer subject to change without notice. mohegansun.com

Why not extend your stay?  
Visit [mymohegansun.com](http://mymohegansun.com)  
to view your hotel rates.



## NORTHEAST TAX & BUSINESS ASSOCIATES

Are available for your Tax needs!  
We offer FREE returns  
for your dependents.  
Drop off service available.



Call today to set up your appointment.

**845-621-2400**

Janine Angelo • Nicholas Brown

**566 Route 6 – Building 1**

(in front of Albano Insurance Building)

**Mahopac, NY 10541**

Business  
of the Week

# La Petite Salon Mahopac

By David Propper

Lia Iossa wants to offer women big city looks, but at a price that Putnam County residents are used to, which is why she opened La Petite Salon.

After opening two months ago, Iossa is set on bringing an upscale hair salon to the area while charging customers affordable rates. Iossa seeks to style a woman's hair similar to if that client got her hair done in Westchester or Manhattan, describing her business as a "boutique salon" with the beautiful view of Lake Gleneida as a backdrop.

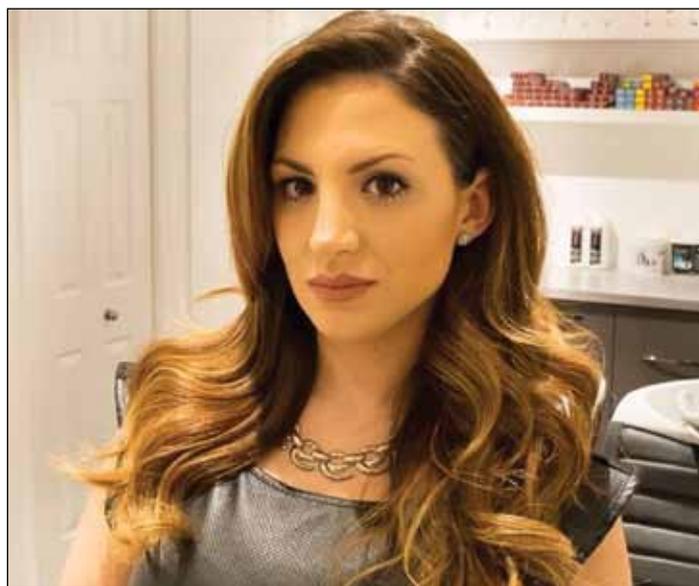
A haircut at her salon is \$40; down in Westchester it could be upwards of \$80.

"It's bringing something sophisticated to this area," Iossa said. "I feel like a lot of people travel outside of Putnam County to get their hair done whether it be Connecticut or Westchester because there's no where to get your hair done around here."

When Iossa was 16, she nailed down her first hair styling job and a little later on went to New York City for beauty school. From there, she started working in Westchester and had been there for ten years. The idea of running her own business never crossed her mind until recently.

One of her clients, who is a real estate agent, pushed her to start her own salon. The client sent her some listing and Iossa immediately fell in love with the location she currently occupies.

"It really wasn't my plan to be the boss



PROVIDED PHOTO

Lia Iossa opened her salon a few months ago.

but I actually saw this space and I had a vision and it just kind of snowballed from there, Iossa said. "I just wanted to do something different."

Iossa said being her own boss has been enjoyable. The most strenuous aspect was getting the salon ready and making Iossa's vision of what she wants in a salon come to life. It took six months of renovations to put everything into place. But now that she's simply working on clients since opening the doors, she's "back in the swing of things."

Iossa has a wealth of hair styling knowledge. A different shade of color

in a client's hair or a fresh haircut can make a big difference. A person can be having the worst day, Iossa said, and one blow-drying session can change everything.

"If you look good, you feel good," Iossa said. "I definitely want people to look their best so they feel their best."

Iossa said there are things a person can do everyday that can be better or worse for their hair.

For instance, shampooing should be done at the scalp and conditioning at the ends of hair. People should also avoid rubbing their hair with a towel

because it will break the hair.

Although Iossa started out never wanting to run an entire salon, she knows the younger version of herself is proud, and would be saying, "You did it and usually what you least expect will usually happen so be prepared for the unexpected."

"I'm definitely in my element right now," she said. "I'm just so happy to be giving people what they want."

*La Petite Salon is located at 1701 Route 6 in Carmel. For new clients, there's a 20 percent discount for color service or haircut. La Petite is an L'Oreal salon.*



PROVIDED PHOTO

The sleek interior of La Petite Salon in Carmel.

## 'Shattered' Portraits by Brianna Vanacoro on Display

Brianna Vanacoro's exhibit of paintings in the Third Floor Gallery at Mahopac Public Library represent a series of work that is both powerful and poignant. "Shattered Portraits", the title of her show, features images of family members and artists, as well as self-portraits that express emotion through the play of dark and light geometric shapes. Vanacoro's show is currently on display in the Third Floor Gallery at Mahopac Public Library; the show will remain on view through February 28.

From a very early age Brianna Vanacoro was inspired by her grandmother, an artist and a mentor to her granddaughter. Brianna remembers the feeling of walking into her grandmother's art studio and knowing that this was the path she wanted to follow. After her grandmother passed away Brianna was filled with grief and sorrow. She began to create a series of "shattered" portraits using sharp, broken patterns to express her deepest emotions following the loss of a woman who represented all that she was striving to become. Some of her paintings,

such as "Anger" and "Sadness", depict her overwhelming pain and the depths of her heartache. Others are contemplative and quiet – portraits of family members and of artists who may have inspired her including Frida Kahlo and Vincent Van Gogh. All of the paintings share the effect of looking into a broken mirror – Brianna uses sharp, rudimentary shapes to produce a composition that is both abstract in design yet representational in imagery.

A Yorktown resident, Brianna received her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts/Painting from Long Island University, Post. She has traveled to Turkey, Greece, Italy, France, and England to pursue her love of art, and has exhibited her work in New York City, Long Island, and locally in Shrub Oak and Jefferson Valley. To view Brianna's work online, visit [www.briannavanacoro.com](http://www.briannavanacoro.com).

*The Third Floor Gallery at Mahopac Public Library is open during regular Library hours. For additional information please call 845-628-2009, ext 108.*



## Letter to the Editor

### Serino Fighting for Overpass in Putnam Valley

The issue of the Pudding Street Intersection on the Taconic State Parkway has been a source of unparalleled frustration for local leaders and community members for decades. The area represents a severe safety hazard and puts the lives of drivers in danger each and every day. It is even fair to argue that those most in danger are the school children whose buses cross the intersection multiple times per day.

Building an overpass to facilitate

safe passage is something that has been a priority for this community for as long as I can remember. But, for years the bureaucratic red tape has made it impossible to get the project off the ground.

However, the hardworking men and women of this community have refused to let this issue fall to the wayside. It was thanks to their efforts that NYS Senator Sue Serino was able to jump on this issue quickly and effectively when she took

office last year, working to get the ear of the NYS DOT Commissioner to plead our case directly. Without her advocacy, the feasibility study necessary to make this project a reality would never even have gotten off the ground.

I can honestly say that NYS Senator Sue Serino has done more to get the wheels turning on the overpass for this dangerous intersection in the first 6 months of her term than any other Congressional or State Leader has done since the 80's. Her

dedication to the safety of our community is truly commendable.

It is time that the NYS Department of Transportation accepts responsibility for the safety of this intersection. It is time for them to turn rhetoric into action and make the Pudding Street Overpass a priority before tragedy strikes.

Sergio Recine  
Putnam Valley

### Carmel School District Seeks Input on Communication Effectiveness

The Carmel Central School District has joined with SCoPE School Surveys to gain input on the district's communications. School Communications Performance Evaluation (SCoPE) Surveys seek feedback from district staff, parents of students, and community members on how they receive information and whether they consider the communication to be effective.

"SCoPE Surveys will help us to take the guesswork out of our communications," explains Andy Irvin superintendent of schools. "Through the surveys, we will learn whether people prefer receiving an email, seeing a post on social media, or reading about something in the local paper. We will also find out if we are providing enough information about key topics and issues."

SCoPE Surveys are conducted online

in a secure portal and take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Questions revolve primarily around the district's communication mechanisms, the effectiveness of communications in key areas of importance to each audience, and whether communication is considered to be accurate, timely and trustworthy. Participants can access the surveys on desktop and laptop computers as well as most tablets and smart phones. The surveys are available in both English and Spanish and participation is completely anonymous.

The Carmel Central School District's SCoPE Surveys will open on Monday, February 22 and constituents will have until Friday, March 11 to participate. Because the reliability of the results increases with the percentage of people taking the surveys, participation is

significant. "We strongly encourage everyone to take the time to give us this extremely important feedback," urges Mr. Irvin.

Once completed, SCoPE then provides reports of the results and an individualized review pointing to school communications program standards based on Carmel Schools highest and lowest performing areas. This review helps the district identify opportunities to improve communications and prioritize next steps.

Developed by leaders in school communications, SCoPE Surveys are rooted in research and align with nationally developed standards for effective school communication. "We have experienced first-hand how effective communication builds trust. Faculty and staff, parents and families, and

community residents all deserve to be informed about their local schools so that they can each do their share in supporting student achievement," note founders Sandy Cokeley, APR, and Julie Abbott.

Andy Irvin concurs. "In Carmel, we agree that effective communication is essential to supporting our students' success as well as our success as a school district. Once again, we need to hear from our constituents on what is working and what is not and we ask everyone to participate," he states.

For more information about Carmel Central School District's SCoPE Surveys, visit <http://www.carmelschools.org>. For questions on participating, contact Susan Dieck, APR, in the Public Information Office at 845-878-2094, ext. 202. To learn more about SCoPE, visit [www.scopeschoolsurveys.com](http://www.scopeschoolsurveys.com)

### Putnam County Implements 'No Smoking, No Vaping' Policy

While health officials debate the question of electronic cigarettes nationwide, Putnam County is moving ahead with implementation of a revised County Code that expands the definition of smoking to include the use of electronic cigarettes. What this means is that where smoking is prohibited in public places,

such as a Putnam restaurant, bar, or school, then using electronic cigarettes is also against the law. Last May the Putnam County Legislature voted unanimously to extend the County's Clean Indoor Air Act legislation to include all vapor-producing devices. POW'R Against Tobacco, a community advocacy group, funded

through the New York State Bureau of Tobacco Control, had been instrumental in efforts to educate about the legislation's importance.

"Protecting Putnam County residents is our highest priority. We are taking the lead here to protect our residents and visitors from the harms of tobacco," said MaryEllen Odell, County Executive, "and the health department has already begun distributing 'no-smoking-no-vaping' signs to area establishments."

"The vapor from e-cigarettes is not benign," said Michael Nesheiwat, MD, Putnam County's Interim Health Commissioner. "It has fewer toxic ingredients than cigarette smoke, but that does not make it safe. Some research has shown that nicotine replacement therapy during pregnancy has adverse effects on the developing fetus, but most of the science so far focuses on the thousands of chemicals in

cigarettes, not the nicotine present in both traditional and electronic varieties."

Primary enforcement of the new code pertaining to vaping, as with cigarettes,

is the responsibility of the owner of the establishment. Owners, landlords and other establishment managers

are now expected to ask patrons to turn off e-cigarettes in the same way they would ask one to put out a cigarette, pipe or cigar. As with tobacco smoking, the Putnam County Department of Health can be notified to make a complaint.

The Health Department's mission is to improve and protect the health of the Putnam County community, composed of nearly 100,000 residents. Core services include community health assessment, disease surveillance and control, emergency preparedness, environmental health protection, family health promotion and health education. For more information, please visit the PCDOH website at [www.putnamcountyny.com/health](http://www.putnamcountyny.com/health) or visit the social media sites on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/putnamhealth](http://www.facebook.com/putnamhealth), [www.facebook.com/RunWalkPutnam](http://www.facebook.com/RunWalkPutnam), [www.instagram.com/PutnamHealthNY](http://www.instagram.com/PutnamHealthNY) and Twitter @PutnamHealthNY.

The PUTNAM  
Examiner

Adam Stone  
astone@theexaminernews.com  
**Publisher**

David Propper  
dpropper@theexaminernews.com  
**Editor-in-Chief**

To advertise in The Examiner,  
call 914-864-0878  
or e-mail  
advertising@theexaminernews.com

To inquire about paid subscriptions, email [subscriptions@theexaminernews.com](mailto:subscriptions@theexaminernews.com)  
for pricing and other details.

PO Box 611, Mount Kisco, NY 10549 • 914-864-0878 • [www.TheExaminerNews.com](http://www.TheExaminerNews.com)

Examiner  
MEDIA

also publishes

The Examiner

The NORTHERN WESTCHESTER  
Examiner

The WHITE PLAINS  
Examiner

Member of  
**NYPA**  
NEW YORK PRESS ASSOCIATION

# Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12					
13					14					
			15	16						
17	18	19				20	21	22	23	24
25							26			
27				28		29				
				30	31					
32	33	34	35				36	37	38	39
40							41			
42							43			

Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 13

**Across**

- 1 Type of plum tomato or Mohegan Lake restaurant
  - 5 Complain
  - 11 Decorous
  - 12 Zimbabwe's capital
  - 13 "Physics" preceder
  - 14 Court with a skylight
  - 15 A Pueblo people of New Mexico
  - 17 Remove, as wallpaper
  - 20 Mariner's aid
  - 25 Forever and a day
  - 26 All over
  - 27 Flavors
  - 29 Take precedence
  - 30 Title below marquis
  - 32 Belonging to actor Blades or Peekskill Mexican cafe
  - 36 "Love Will Find \_\_\_"
  - 40 Once more
  - 41 Political fundraiser, often
  - 42 Black-footed albatross
  - 43 Midterm, e.g.
- Down**
- 1 Spinning abbr.
  - 2 Seam content
  - 3 'Good Will Hunting' sch.
  - 4 Astounding
  - 5 Asian ruler
  - 6 Characteristic of a prophet
  - 7 Be incorrect
  - 8 Japanese food fish
  - 9 Wine class
  - 10 Border
  - 16 "Move on \_\_\_!"

- 17 Was idle
- 18 Earl Grey for one
- 19 Harry's Weasley pal
- 21 Process of towing
- 22 Certain colonist
- 23 Cardinal
- 24 Deuce
- 28 Smarts
- 29 This \_\_\_ that
- 31 Far from ruddy
- 32 Old cloth
- 33 Roswell craft
- 34 Dude
- 35 Night of poetry
- 37 Polish the car
- 38 Chicken-king connector
- 39 Turkey Day tuber



**Bambi is sweet & happy. She really is the *perfect* girl!**  
**The Putnam Humane Society**

## SOMERS CUSTOM FRAMING



2-Time Best of Westchester Winner!

**Custom Picture Framing, Printing and Gift Shop**

253 Route 202 • Somers 914-276-3173 • [www.somerscustomframing.com](http://www.somerscustomframing.com)

# Exami Blast

Visit [TheExaminerNews.com](http://TheExaminerNews.com)

to subscribe to

Examiner Media's

**FREE, daily e-mail newsletter**

Get the latest headlines now



*We Make Warm Friends*

# WINTER SALE

**Generators, complete high-efficiency heating and cooling systems now on our Winter Sale**

**Licensed, insured and bonded!**

**Quality guaranteed!**

**845 628-1330**

**[sclafanienergy.com](http://sclafanienergy.com)**

# With Master Baths So Large, They Can Be So Much More

A home stager recently pointed out to me that of all the staging offenses she had witnessed on a listing photograph was a bathroom shot showing a toilet with the lid and seat in the up position, highlighting the classic argument between male and female members of a household.

I must confess that in my own listings, I frequently don't post photos of bathrooms because, let's face it, they can be the least attractive rooms in the house.

Maybe it's just that there's a mental process we must go through to find beauty there. Or maybe it's an evolutionary kind of thing, considering that the bathroom is the very latest room to appear in American households and hasn't had time to catch up in our consciousness when we think about decorating our homes. It's probably last in the lineup.

It wasn't until the 1840s that architects who made pattern books – books that everybody could buy and then build according to the patterns in the book – added a small room that was called a “bath room” for the first time. It signaled



By Bill Primavera

that eventually there would be fixed plumbing in that room.

But that wasn't to be until well into the 1920s. Until that time, especially in rural places, people would just move a tin tub into the kitchen on a Saturday night, fill it with warm water, and everybody in the family, one by one, would get into the same water and bathe.

As for me, I've always been lucky to have exceptionally large bathrooms because they didn't start out that way. When my antique homes were built, there was no indoor plumbing, thus no bathrooms.

In those days, outdoor privies served for eliminating body waste and indoor bowls, pitchers and washtubs for personal hygiene. With the advent of indoor plumbing, bathrooms were carved out of smaller bedrooms.

That kind of spaciousness gave me the opportunity to play and reach beyond the practicality of bathrooms to make them so much more. In my experience as a realtor, I've found many instances where other homeowners have been playful as well. And in new homes today, master baths are designed so spaciouly that

any homeowner has the opportunity to make them really interesting to enjoy an experience beyond hygiene while they relax in the Jacuzzi or shave leisurely.

While it might be as simple as installing a television from the ceiling, in my own case I've always treated my large bathrooms as mini art galleries. There was one exception to that rule during a period when I had put on more weight than I ever thought my frame would accommodate. Rather than art, I placed large mirrors on each of the three walls that didn't have a window so that I couldn't escape surveying all the damage every morning. It worked like a charm and during the course of a year, I whittled that excess weight away. For good measure, I kept those mirrors there for another couple of years after I had achieved a normal weight, serving to double-check the bathroom scale.

There was another period when the theme of my master bath was seascape paintings and seashells, started after a trip to the Caribbean. Other themes followed: a collection of paperweights were lined up along our new double sink counter, then there was my collection of large crystals.

In our latest master bath, on the inside wall of a condo there is no window, so we've decided to bring the indoors inside. Our Jacuzzi is set catty-corner, which leaves a large triangular space for placing

things in the corner. We've also brought in outdoor sculptures from our former poolside – a large metal heron perched next to a fern and the fancy stone capital from a Corinthian column.

Creative decorating in bathrooms extends an otherwise perfunctory experience and, further, offers an opportunity to invite guests to the master bath, rather than the powder room, to share your whimsies as they spend time there.

And in that regard, there is one bathroom practice I've occasionally seen which I've never understood – the idea of placing a basket of magazines or even books on the tank or next to the toilet. It seems to me that anyone who has to sit long enough to read a magazine article waiting for that final stage of peristalsis to take place should be thinking about visiting a gastroenterologist.

*Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com, and his blog is www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.*

## Determining the Age-Worthiness of Wines. Nature or Nurture?



By Nick Antonaccio

“I purchased a wine that I thoroughly enjoyed and would like to save a few bottles for consumption over time. Will my wine age well?”

I am frequently asked this question. Invariably, my response is “It depends.”

As a living, breathing organism, every wine undergoes changes as it ages. Yet each ages differently, depending on its heritage, construct and the imprint of its winemaker. Certain grape varieties have ageworthy genes; many do not. Certain regions produce grapes that mature under ideal terroir conditions; many do not. Certain harvests are vinified in the hands of winemakers whose express intent is to produce wines that will mature over time, even foregoing early drinkability; many are not.

A fine wine's life cycle can span a long period, as it evolves from a raw, unbalanced bottling to a complex, nuanced embodiment of the influence of its maker. This evolution in a bottle, if you will, takes place with varying results. In many ways, this is similar to the

developmental stages of a child, who 1) is born into the world with the imprint of his or her genealogy, 2) is nurtured in unique familial surroundings and 3) ultimately matures as a unique representation of his or her upbringing.

Just as human development is impacted by an individual's history and environment, so is it with wine. Certain wines reach their peak early in their life cycle, never to improve, while others have an intrinsic potential that evolves and blossoms over time. These latter wines require the patience of a wine consumer, often measured in decades, before their full potential is reached and a superior product is achieved.

Which brings us to the ultimate question: Is fine wine a result of nature or nurture? Which exerts the greater influence, genetic code or environmental circumstances?

My personal viewpoint is that each is equally influential in determining the age worthiness of wine. Without a certain genetic makeup, the ability of a wine to develop and mature over time is limited, despite the skills of a winemaker. Likewise, in the hands

*You Heard It Through the Grapevine*

of a less inclined or unskilled winemaker, wines produced from highly lauded grapes or growing regions may be stunted and their potential may dissipate after several years.

However, when the alchemy of nature and nurture are in sync, the result can be extraordinary. This is why I believe select wines from Bordeaux and Napa Valley command such high regard and concomitant prices, compared to other regions or winemaking traditions.

This pontification on my part carries a natural caveat. The influences on wine are not always in alignment. Many examples exist of widely varying results from highly regarded grapes in the hands of highly regarded winemakers. Long-lived wines may not be pleasing to the palate; they may age without deteriorating, but there is no assurance their aromas or taste will excite a discerning palate. This is the essence of one of life's paradoxes: consistent excellence, in spite of esteemed genetics and environment, can be highly elusive.

Experts agree. Kevin Zraly, a Pleasantville native, and author of the highly acclaimed book “Windows on the World Complete Wine Course,” states: “More than 90% of all top wines made in

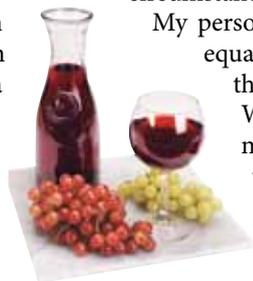
the world should be consumed within a year, and less than 1% of the world's wines should be aged for more than 5 years.”

How does nature influence a wine's longevity? There are four basic components of wine, each present in varying degrees and exerting varying influences: tannins, acidity, taste and alcohol. The combination of each determines the final style and life cycle of wine. More on these in a future column.

The influences of nurturing on a wine's longevity are more evident. A select group of winemakers have garnered reputations for producing fine, ageworthy wines. Seeking them out is just a mouse click away, but be sure your PayPal account link has a three- or four-digit balance.

Just as we observe our fellow humans as they age and mature, developing our own perception of their personality and character, so too with wine. But don't overthink either.

*Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.*



# PCCC Announces First Trailblazer Alumni Event

The Putnam County Chambers of Commerce (PCCC), the county's largest business organization and primary advocate, voice, and resource for the business community, announced today it will host the 1st annual Trailblazer Alumni Networking Event at Brewster's Bull & Barrel Brew Pub on February 25th from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. The affair will honor 135 Trailblazer Award recipients from the past six years with live music, delectable food and drinks. Tickets can be purchased for \$65, at [www.PutnamChamberNY.org](http://www.PutnamChamberNY.org) or send a check to Putnam County Chamber of Commerce at 953 South Lake Boulevard, Mahopac, NY 10541.

"Over the last six years, the PCCC has honored local business owners with the 40 under 40 award and the Trailblazer awards. This year we are pulling together the alumni recipients for the largest networking event in Putnam County," said Jennifer Maher, Chairwoman, Putnam County Chambers of Commerce.

"This opportunity to spotlight and showcase Putnam County businesses is the best

opportunity for business owners and leaders to increase their reach throughout the region. A true county-wide networking opportunity," said County Executive, MaryEllen Odell.

Now in its seventh year, the Trailblazer Awards program honors Putnam County business owners and business employees who have gone above and beyond in one of the following categories: Emerging Trailblazer, Established Trailblazer, Mature Trailblazer, Environmentally Engaged Trailblazer or Socially Conscious Trailblazer.

## Sponsorship Opportunities

A variety of sponsorship opportunities are still available ranging in price from \$200 to \$5,000. Please see details on the ad program online here: <http://ht.ly/YdqmO>. The deadline is February 18th; please contact Rev Design for additional information, 845-225-0770.

## List of Alumni Trailblazer Award Winners & Honorees

### Name & Place of Employment

Joe Bulzacchelli, Advance Automotive of Carmel Inc.  
 Dr. Rennie Statler and Dr. Anne Brandon, Advanced Chiropractic Wellness Care  
 Savanna DeStefano, Alesca Productions  
 Glen Silverstein, All Alert Alarm and Locksmiths  
 Louise Lomeli, Animal Rescue Ark  
 David Lilburne, Antipodean Books, Maps and Prints  
 Thomas J. McDermott, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP, Architectural Visions, PLLC  
 Marilyn Heberling, Art to Wear Too  
 James Shearwood, Arts on the Lake  
 Carmelo Zagari, Arturo's Tavern  
 Jonathan W. Garcia, Balsamo-Cordovano Funeral Home  
 Glenn Palmieri, Bentwood Studio  
 Mark Buzzutto, Brewster Flower Garden  
 Erin Meagher, Brewster Shipping Center  
 Richard Ruchala, Brewster Shipping Center  
 Dan Iarussi, BTS Custom Cart  
 Mike Bucci, Bucci Brothers Deli

Tom Bucci, Bucci Brothers Deli  
 Paul Camarda, Camarda Realty Investments LLC  
 Ivan & Karla Bellotto, Camp Kiwi  
 Anthony Campanella, Campanella Fence Center  
 William Sampson, Carmel Advertising Specialties Co  
 Candice Sciarriello, Carmel Cinema  
 Ruth Ayala-Quezada, Carmel Taxi  
 Gary Brunner, Carmel Taxi and Car Service, Inc.  
 Luigi Manente, Cartwright & Daughters  
 Cathryn Fadde, Cathryn's Tuscan Grill  
 Charles P. Stein CPA, Charles P. Stein CPA PC  
 Lee Erickson, Citizens of Philipstwon  
 Andrew & Samantha Lutzer, Cold Spring Coffee Pantry/On the Fly  
 Alan Grogy, Colonial Terrace  
 Christina Vataj, Countryside Kitchen  
 Lee Vataj, Countryside Kitchen  
 Harold Lepler, Covington Development LLC  
 David Dretel, D & S Pump & Supply  
 Daniel C. Doyle DMD, Daniel C Doyle DMD, PC  
 Roderick MacRae III, Dentist  
 Dorothy Visconti, Dot & Joe's Deli  
 Andrew Zacotinsky, East Road Motors  
 William Zacotinsky, East Road Motors Ltd.  
 Faith Ann Butcher, Examiner Media

Shelley Boris, Fresh Company LLC  
 Carinda Swann, Garrison Art Center  
 Angelina Mendes, George Fischer Middle School  
 George Hartshorn, George Hartshorn Paving  
 Kathy Hartshorn, George Hartshorn Paving  
 Amit Patel, Gino's Deli & Pizza  
 Joseph Whalen, Green Chimneys  
 Michael Maegerle, Groundwater & Environmental Services, Inc  
 Katherine Fairfield Freston, H.G. Fairfield Arts Center for the Environment Inc.  
 Brett Freeman, Halston Media  
 Shelley Kilcoyne, Halston Media LLC  
 Heather Soss, Health & Harmony Wellness Center  
 Ryan Healy, Healy's Corner  
 Douglas Holly, Holly Real Estate  
 Julie Barr, Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union  
 Abigail Adams, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Theater  
 John M. Watson, P.E., Insite Engineering, Surveying & Landscape Architecture, P.C.  
 Jim Matero, Jaymark Jewelers  
 Melanie Mateo, Jaymark Jewelers  
 Joseph Lucia, Joseph Lucia & Associates  
 Alicia Canfield, Kidz Country  
 Laurie Lee Ford, Kidz Country Day Care  
 Lauren Pistone, L J Strategies  
 Margherita Morrocho, La Famiglia  
 Nagi Wissa, Lake Mahopac Pharmacy & Surgical Supply  
 Joseph J. Tock, Law Offices of Joseph J. Tock  
 Gary Guerrazzi, Lou's Restaurant  
 Jessica Olson, Magic Mirror  
 Therese Fokine, Mahopac Carmel Chamber of Commerce  
 Fausto Quezada, Mahopac Taxi Corp  
 Carla Churyk, Markets Beyond, LLC  
 Barry Haitoff, Medical Management Corporation of America  
 Katie DeMarco, Mid-Hudson Concrete Products  
 Carlo Marano, Millennium Printing  
 Richard Seidel, Millennium Printing  
 Rebecca Bertoldi, Modern Media Publishing/Eventful Magazine  
 Joe Bachmeier, New York State Senate  
 Glenn R. Niese, Nieves Maple Farm  
 Dorothy Olson, Olson's Trophies & Awards  
 Lisa Montalto Rodrigues, Once Upon A Time Preschool/Daycare  
 Joe Marconi, Osceola Garage  
 Richard Osmer, Oscom Communications  
 Richard D'Andrea, Park Ford  
 Matt Bondi, Patterson CofC  
 Gene Gold, Pearle Vision

Stephen Ives, Philipstown Depot Theatre  
 Brittany Hyatt, Polhemus Construction Company  
 Jillian Bono-Kelly, Powers and Haar  
 Jamie Imperati, Professional Women of Putnam  
 Lisa Kaslyn, Prosper Communications, Inc.  
 Marisa O'Leary, Putnam Community Action Program (CAP)  
 Lucho Carrion, Putnam County National Bank  
 Katie Robertson, Putnam County Visitors Bureau  
 Adrienne Spadaccini, Putnam County, Law Department  
 Elizabeth Ailes, Putnam Courier/News & Recorder  
 Bramdeo Singh, MD, Putnam Hospital Center  
 Tara Scozzafava Baisley, Putnam Valley Florists  
 Jason Pabon, Putnam Valley Pharmacy  
 Sue Boyd, Putnam Valley Schools  
 Michael Lee, Putnam Valley Schools - BoE  
 Timothy Plummer, Quality Rent All, Inc.  
 David Radovich, Radovich & Dean Music  
 George Barbarossa, Rev Design, Inc  
 Daniel J. De Filippis, Rev Design, inc.  
 Anthony Lomeli, RevDesign  
 Ted Hill, Rid-A-Pest  
 Robert Lomino, Robert's Total Care Salon  
 Grace Pietrosanti, Sacred Heart Gifts and Apparel  
 Vincent Bellissimo, Salem Fence Co Inc  
 Stephanie Tomlinson and Jacqueline Tucci, Salon Uccelli  
 Jonathan Schneider, Schneider Financial Group  
 Anthony Porto, Sr., Smalley's Inn  
 Drs. Linda and Alvin Silbert, Strong Learning  
 Eytan Hammerman, Temple Beth Shalom  
 Robert Dumont, The Bowl Company  
 Matt Camerino, The Chophouse Grill  
 Toni Vulaj, The Chophouse Grill  
 Ava C Bynum, The Cold Spring Farmers' Market  
 Chip Allemann, The Garrison  
 Marc Anthony, The South Side Inn of Mahopac  
 Thomas O'Leary, The UPS Store  
 George Whipple, The Wipple Foundation  
 K. David McCarthy, Tightrope Interactive  
 Stacey Tompkins, Tompkins Landscaping  
 Paul Mella Jr, United Martial Arts Center  
 Alana Sweeny, United Way of Westchester & Putnam  
 Peter West, United Way of Westchester & Putnam  
 John Crecco, Villa Barone Hilltop Manor  
 Nicky Crecco, Villa Barone Hilltop Manor  
 Michael Weber, Weber's Lawn Care, Inc.  
 Scott G. Weiss, CFP, Weiss Financial Group  
 Scott Van Niekerk, Wholistic Physical Therapy  
 Putnam ARC  
 Putnam Hospital Center

## Crossword Answers

1	R	2	O	3	M	4	A		5	K	6	V	7	E	8	T	9	C	10	H
11	P	R	I	M					12	H	A	R	A	R	E					
13	M	E	T	A					14	A	T	R	I	U	M					
				15	Z	16	U	N	I											
17	S	18	T	19	R	I	P			20	C	21	H	22	A	23	R	24	T	
25	A	E	O	N						26	A	N	E	W						
27	T	A	N	G	28	S			29	O	U	T	D	O						
					30	E	31	A	R	L										
32	R	33	U	34	B	35	E	N	S		36	A	37	W	38	A	39	Y		
40	A	F	R	E	S	H				41	G	A	L	A						
42	G	O	O	N	E	Y				43	E	X	A	M						

## About the Putnam County Chambers of Commerce

Since 2010, the Putnam County Chambers of Commerce (PCCC) has been dedicated to serving as the primary advocate, voice, and resource for our business community. The PCCC's utmost priority is to promote its members, provide educational opportunities and to enhance individually viable commerce districts throughout Putnam County and beyond.

# Happenings

We're happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Nikki Gallagher at [nikki@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nikki@theexaminernews.com)

## Cancer Support Available:

**Support Connection, Inc.**, a not-for-profit organization that provides free, confidential support services for people affected by breast and ovarian cancer, offers a wide range of free support groups women with breast and ovarian cancer. Groups focus on topics pertaining to living with cancer through all stages of diagnosis, treatment and post-treatment. They are offered in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess, and by toll-free teleconference. For a complete calendar of groups at all locations, visit [www.supportconnection.org](http://www.supportconnection.org). Advance registration is required for all groups; call 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

## Book Clubs:

**Mahopac Public Library Adult Book Groups:** Monday Evening Book group: Meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Light Bite Book Group: meets on the third Monday or third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. Flo Brandon Book Review Group: meets on the first Friday of each month at 11 a.m. Wednesday Evening Crossover Book Group: meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Registration is required for the young reader book groups. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100

## Art on Display:

**Kaitlin M. Duffy**, the art teacher at Fulmar Road Elementary School, has installed an impressive show of artwork created by 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders in the Young Arts Gallery at Mahopac Public Library. Hanging scrolls, Greek Amphoras, and Arctic landscapes are featured in this exhibit that will remain on view through March 14. The Young Arts Gallery is located in the entryway to the Children's Wing; visitors to Mahopac Library can view the student artwork during regular Library hours.

**Plastic Harvest:** March 4 – March 27. Weekly, Friday – Sunday, noon – 5 p.m. Location: Gallery 66 NY, 66 Main Street,

Cold Spring, NY. Opening Reception: March 4, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. 845-809-5838. Website: [www.gallery66ny.com](http://www.gallery66ny.com). Free to the Public. Contact: Barbara Galazzo, 845-809-5838.

## Tuesday, February 15

**Watch a Movie: PlantPure Nation** - a documentary Monday, February 15, 6:30 p.m. This documentary tells the story of three people on a quest to spread the message of the health benefits of a plant-based diet. Visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100, for more information or to register for programs that do not require a fee. You can also pick up a Month of Wellness brochure at the Library's Information Desk.

## Wednesday, February 16

**Self-Discovery through Yoga with Wendy Wolf.** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$10/person for two-week session. Participants are guided to listen to their bodies and their mind, including thoughts, emotions and spirit. As you learn more about yourself, you will access what is supporting you in your life and where you want to make changes. Visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100, for more information or to register for programs that do not require a fee. You can also pick up a Month of Wellness brochure at the Library's Information Desk.

**DIY Crafts :** February 16, 17, and 18 from 11 a.m. – noon. Ages 4 to 9. Have fun with friends and enjoy creating your own unique Do-It-Yourself crafts with Miss Kathleen. Registration required. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

## Wednesday, February 17

**Club for cooks: Kent Library.** The Kent Library's club for cooks is held every 3rd Wednesday of the month. We will meet to celebrate the wonder of cooking and cookbooks! This group is for those who love to cook and try new foods, or the same old foods you love, made in different

ways. 6 p.m.-7 p.m. The February theme is breads and spreads! Our meetings will be themed, and each person is asked to bring a dish (and the recipe) for everyone try. Please let us know of any food allergies you may have. Registration is required. Please register each person planning to attend the event. You may register for the program by going to [www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org) or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

**Yoga & Spa Afternoon:** 3-5 p.m. For grades 6-12. \$5 material fee. Experience one hour of yoga with Chun-Kim Levin followed by a Spa workshop! Enjoy a relaxing all-natural facial and create your own aromatherapy products for you to take home! Wear comfortable clothing; bring a small towel and hair ties or headband. No yoga experience necessary. Visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100, for more information or to register for programs that do not require a fee. You can also pick up a Month of Wellness brochure at the Library's Information Desk.

**Newbery Book Club at Kent Library:** 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Kent Public Library. 4:30 p.m.-5:15 p.m. We will be reading From the Mixed-up files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L. Konigsburg. Newbery books are often on lists of summer reading, they are favorites of parents and teachers. We'll have fun reading them, and doing book related activities. Registration is required. You may register for the program by going to [www.kentlibrary.org](http://www.kentlibrary.org) or calling the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. The library is located at 17 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes.

## Thursday, February 18

**Desmond-Fish Library's new Food Forum:** 7 p.m. with "More Go To Dinners - Recipes for Keeping Resolutions and Eating Right!" This series is facilitated by our local Culinary Institute alumna Rebecca Weber. This month's meeting

will begin with sampling Mediterranean Chicken - a crock pot recipe, Curried Sauteed Chicken with Coconut Milk and Rice. Rebecca will then give a demonstration and tips on how to roast a whole fish with accompaniments including chimichurri and herbed butter. A tasting will follow! And finally, those who wish to participate will work together to make a fun salad. To help cover expenses there is a suggested \$10 donation. Please RSVP 845-424-3020 or send us a note at [dfstaff@highlands.com](mailto:dfstaff@highlands.com) so we know how many to expect. The Desmond-Fish Library is located at 472 Route 403 (at the corner of 9D) in Garrison, NY. For more information about any of the library's upcoming programs, please visit [www.desmondfishlibrary.org](http://www.desmondfishlibrary.org)

## Friday, February 19

**Jester Jim Comedy Show:** 11 a.m. – noon. Ages 4.5 and up. Back by popular demand the popular Jester Jim. Jim brings a trunk full of props and looping machine and takes the stage to juggle and joke. It is hilarious fun for the whole family. Registration required. For more information or to register contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

## Saturday, February 20

**Baseball Workouts Hudson Valley:** The Hudson Valley Men's Baseball League (HVMSBL) is holding its Annual Workout/Tryout for the 2016 Season. Noon at Extra Innings in Fishkill. There will be an additional workout Sunday March 20th, 10 a.m. also at Extra Innings. Workout is free. Season starts April 10th and age divisions are 18+ and 35+, both Sunday morning division and mid-week as well. Games are played in Putnam, Dutchess and Orange counties. For more information and to pre-register please visit [www.hvmsbl.com](http://www.hvmsbl.com) and or email the League Commissioner at [hvmsbl@gmail.com](mailto:hvmsbl@gmail.com).

**Divine Sleep Yoga Nidra with Phyllis Solar:** 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m. \$5/person. Divine Sleep Yoga Nidra is a guided meditation that systematically guides and relaxes you at every level of your being. Reduce stress and its effects, give your body an opportunity to heal. No yoga experience needed; participants should bring a favorite blanket to this workshop. Visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100, for more information or to register for programs that do not require a fee. You can also pick up a Month of Wellness brochure at the Library's Information Desk

## Sunday, February 21

**Putnam Lake Fire Department breakfast:** 9 a.m. to Noon. Eggs, Bacon, Pancakes, Coffee. Located at 72 Fairfield Drive, Patterson. Putnam Lake area. Adults \$6 Children \$3. Contact: Krystal Doyle 1-845-208-1847

## Obituaries

### Diane M. Aber

Diane M. Aber of Mahopac, died on February 13, at the age of 55. She was born on September 23, 1960 in Queens, to Robert and Ann (Tierney) Masterson. She was married to her late husband Christopher Aber. Diane worked as a Nurse for Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville. Diane is survived by her loving children Kate and Christopher Aber. She is also survived by her mother Ann Masterson, her three siblings Scott Masterson and his wife Shelley Masterson, Susan Masterson, Jeanne Piekutowski and her husband Steven Piekutowski and

her two nephews Brian and Matthew Piekutowski. She is predeceased by her husband Christopher Aber and father Robert Masterson. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2 p.m. -4 p.m. and 7 p.m.-9 p.m. at Cargain Funeral Homes (Mahopac). A Funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, February 17, at 10 a.m. at St. John's the Evangelist Church. Interment to follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. In Lieu of flowers donations in Diane's memory can be made to the American Lung Association online at [www.lung.org](http://www.lung.org) or by mail at American Lung Association, 155 Washington Ave., Suite 210, Albany, NY 12210.



**CARGAIN**  
FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

*A Professional Commitment to Service*

**Michael H. Muenz**  
Funeral Director  
Owner

---

418 Route 6  
Mahopac, NY 10541  
(845) 628-5655

10 Fowler Avenue  
Carmel, NY 10512  
(845) 225-3672

# EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

021616

## ADOPTION

**ADOPT:** An experienced mom, dad, and hopeful big brother are ready to welcome a new baby. Expenses paid. Please call Alana & Michael: 1-855-840-3066. AlanaAndMichaelAdopt.net.

## AUTO DONATIONS

**Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes,** benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call 914-468-4999 Today!

**Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes,** benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call 315-400-0797 Today!

## HELP WANTED

**Day Care Center in Somers. FULL TIME and PART TIME** positions available immediately, 5 Days a week. Please email resume to [Raquel@learninggardendaycare.com](mailto:Raquel@learninggardendaycare.com) or fax to 914-243-0877.

**P/T DELIVERY PERSON** needed Mount Kisco area Call Kevin 347 652 5603

**STYLIST WANTED,** man or woman, following preferred, for a growing salon in Katonah. 914 232 5201

**Can You Dig It? Heavy Equipment Operator Career!** We Offer Training and Certifications Running Bulldozers, Backhoes and Excavators. Lifetime Job Placement. VA Benefits Eligible! 1-866-362-6497

**AIRLINE CAREERS Start Here!** Get trained as FAA certified Aviation Technician. Financial aid for qualified students. Job placement assistance. Call AIM for free information 866-296-7093

## IN HOME PET SITTING

**PLEASANT PAWS INN LLC** Our home will be their home! 24/7 one on one love! We only take a small group of dogs. For quality care. Warm, cozy, relaxing no stress atmosphere. Large yard to play

in! We look forward to having them be part of our family. Boarding: Daycare: Dog walker available to come to your home as well. Call Julie 914-906-8414 [www.Pleasantpawsinn.com](http://www.Pleasantpawsinn.com) FB

## LAND FOR SALE

**CATSKILL MOUNTAIN ABSOLUTE LAND LIQUIDATION!** FEB 20th & 21st! 34 Tracts from 3 to 39 acres Examples: 5 acres- \$24,900 20 acres- \$59,900 31 acres- \$89,900 2 æ Hours from NY City, Extraordinary Mountain Views, Trout streams, Apple Trees, Old Barn, Covered Riding Arena, Clear title, All Governmental Approvals in Place! Terms available! Call 888-905-8847 to register or go to [NewYorkLandandlakes.com](http://NewYorkLandandlakes.com) to take the virtual tour.

## LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PARANDA MEDIA, LLC, ARTS OF ORG.** filed with Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/11/2006. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, SSNY shall mail process to: **80 Vaughn Ave, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

**Notice of Formation of Jenny Dobell Gardening, LLC Art. Of Org.** filed with SSNY on 12/17/15. Offc. Loc: Westchester Cty. SSNY desig. as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, **10 Central Ave. Rye, NY, 10580. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**Notice of Formation of Sabina Global Communities, LLC. Sabinagc.com** filed with Department of State of New York on 8/28/15. Office location: Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. Suite 202; 7014 13th Avenue Brooklyn NY 11228 designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **United States Corporation Agents, Inc. Suite 202;**

**7014 13th Avenue Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**Notice of Formation of HSN Property, LLC Art. Of Org.** filed with SSNY on 11/27/15. Offc. Loc: Westchester Cty. SSNY design. As agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, **2 Overhill Road Suite 260, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful business activity.**

**Notice of Formation of Invariably Digital, LLC Art. Of Org.** filed with SSNY on 9/9/2015. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Invariably Digital LLC, 143 Park Dr, Eastchester, NY 10709 Purpose: any lawful purpose**

**LEGAL NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SO MULCH MORE, LLC. Art. Of Org.,** filed with SSNY on 1/07/16. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **28 Fox Lane, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

**Notice of Formation of CGC Solutions LLC** filed with the Department of State on 09/30/2015. Putnam County, SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, **74 Hillside Park, Brewster, NY 10509. General Purpose.**

## MISCELLANEOUS

**SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY** with your own band-mill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: [www.NorwoodSawmills.com](http://www.NorwoodSawmills.com) 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N

## VACATION RENTALS

**OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND.** Best selection of affordable rentals. Full/ partial weeks. Call for FREE brochure. Open daily. Holiday Resort Services. 1-800-638-2102. Online reservations: [www.holidayoc.com](http://www.holidayoc.com)

## WANTED

**MOST CASH PAID FOR** paintings, antiques, furniture, silver, sculpture, jewelry, books, cameras, records, instruments, coins, watches, gold, comics, sports cards, etc. **PLEASE CALL AARON AT 914-654-1683**

**To Place a Classified Ad  
Call 914-864-0878  
or e-mail  
classifieds@  
theexaminernews.com**

**Classified Ad Deadline  
is Thursdays at 5pm  
for the next  
week's publication**

## DONATE YOUR CAR

*Wheels For Wishes* Benefiting  
**Make-A-Wish®  
Hudson Valley**

\*Free Vehicle/Boat Pickup ANYWHERE  
\*We Accept All Vehicles Running or Not  
\*Fully Tax Deductible

**WheelsForWishes.org**

\*Wheels For Wishes is a DBA of Car Donation Foundation.

**100% Tax  
Deductible**

**Call: (914) 468-4999**

## Your First Step Toward a Secure Future

WRITTEN TEST TO BE HELD APRIL 9 • FILING DEADLINE FEBRUARY 24

### Correction Officer Trainee

- \$40,590 hiring rate
- \$42,695 after 6 months
- \$48,889 after 1 year
- PAID time off
- GREAT benefits
- Retire after 25 years  
AT ANY AGE

Apply on-line today or download exam information and applications at: [www.cs.ny.gov/exams](http://www.cs.ny.gov/exams)

Additional information about the position of correction officer is available on our website at [www.doccs.ny.gov](http://www.doccs.ny.gov)



**Corrections and  
Community Supervision**

ANDREW M. CUOMO, GOVERNOR • ANTHONY J. ANNUCCI, ACTING COMMISSIONER  
An Equal Opportunity Employer



# HOULIHAN LAWRENCE

SINCE 1888



## THE POWER OF LEADERSHIP

### The #1 Selling Real Estate Brokerage in Putnam County



**Geraldine "Gigi" Finan**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 845.590.6864  
31 Kaitlin Drive  
Mahopac

IN CONTRACT

\$729,000



**Kathleen "Kathy" O'Driscoll**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 914.473.6184  
87 Majestic Ridge  
Carmel

WEB# PS1289061

\$620,000



**Geraldine "Gigi" Finan**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 845.590.6864  
501 North Lake Boulevard  
Mahopac

SOLD

\$599,980



**Matthew F. Bevilacqua**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 914.217.3569  
520 North Lake Boulevard  
Mahopac

WEB# PS1295542

\$599,900



**Barbara L. Sawin**  
Real Estate Salesperson  
Mobile 914.806.2933  
4 Pheasant Run Road  
Putnam Valley

WEB# PS1154656

\$525,000



**Virginia "Ginger" Talbert**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 914.403.2071  
585 Peekskill Hollow Road  
Putnam Valley

SOLD

\$489,000



**Barbara L. Sawin**  
Real Estate Salesperson  
Mobile 914.806.2933  
11 Birch Hill Road  
Putnam Valley

WEB# PS1187305

\$475,000



**Elsa D. Ferreira**  
Real Estate Salesperson  
Mobile 914.882.7236  
1443 Hiawatha Road  
Mohegan Lake

IN CONTRACT

\$475,000



**Grace Dunne**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 914.393.1129  
285 Secor Road  
Mahopac

WEB# PS1186562

\$439,000



**Justine Cummings**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 914.393.3901  
543 Peekskill Hollow Road  
Putnam Valley

WEB# PS1165793

\$369,000



**Justine Cummings**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 914.393.3901  
25 Shady Lane  
Putnam Valley

WEB# PS1288404

\$294,000



**Virginia "Ginger" Talbert**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 914.403.2071  
28 Pembroke Court  
Putnam Valley

SOLD

\$272,000



**Virginia "Ginger" Talbert**  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Mobile 914.403.2071  
38 Northway  
Putnam Valley

WEB# PS1184717

\$95,000