



PV, Kent Library Propositions on Election Day Ballot

By Rick Pezzullo

Voters in the towns of Putnam Valley and Kent will not only be choosing candidates on Election Day, but also weighing-in on library propositions.

In Putnam Valley, the library board of trustees is offering residents a Chapter 414 proposal in hopes of collecting more money for the library and its operations.

Currently, the library receives its funding from the town board, but library officials believe that amount is unsustainable for the future. With a Chapter 414, the library would ask voters in town to decide whether or not they want to pay more for library services.

From January to August, the town board has provided the library with \$310,000. The library also gets money from various grants and donations. The additional funding from

the Chapter 414 could open up more doors for the library, including keeping the doors open longer and on every day of the week. The library currently closes by 5 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays and by 4 p.m. on Saturday. It is closed Sunday.

More staffing could be hired, which could lead to more programming, library director Deirdre Farabough has said. Right now, most programs depend on staff availability and getting help from local residents who hold programs for free or at a discounted rate.

One of the major projects the library would pursue is putting up an electronic sign that would be in front of the library for vehicles to see as they pass along Oscawana Lake Road. It would be a way to keep the community informed with library happenings and events and important information the town would like residents to know about.

A community room that the library uses for events and rents out could also be upgraded.

Residents in the past have been wary to put more on their tax bill to provide for it. When the library offered residents a Chapter 414 three years ago, the proposal was rejected.

If approved, a household assessed at \$350,00 would pay \$16-\$18 more annually in taxes, according to library trustees.

In Kent, more than 900 people signed petitions to put a referendum question on library funding on the ballot. In the last 13 years, inflation has increased by 22%, while the library appropriation from the Town of Kent has increased by only 1/2 of 1%. The library board feels it is now necessary to approach Kent voters for an increase.

Board President Michael Mahoney said, "Library patrons saved over \$1.4 million a year by using the Kent Public Library. Patrons of all ages have benefited from the

library's expanded program offerings, its added space for programs and meetings, its electronic resources, and so many other services. We continue to be thankful for the town's support, funds secured and donated by the Friends of the Kent library and grants from New York State but in order to plan for the future and rely on an adequate, sustainable source of funding, it is time for the people of Kent to vote on the library's budget."

The referendum will ask for an average increase of \$6.01 per household based on an average home value of \$255,000. This will bring the amount the average Kent household spends in taxes for the library from \$80.15 up to \$86.16 per year.

"The library is a vital hub for our community. Keeping it adequately funded assures fine programing, accessible services, and makes Kent more attractive to newcomers," said Library Trustee Beth Herr.

Putnam Valley Judge Looks to Make History on Election Day

By Rick Pezzullo

Putnam Valley Town Justice Gina Capone has an opportunity to enter the New York State record books on Election Day.

Capone, who has presided over thousands of cases in Putnam Valley Court since 2001, is one of five candidates vying for four available seats on the New York State Supreme Court 9th Judicial District. If she finishes in the top four, Capone would become the first female from Putnam County to serve in the state's Supreme Court.

"It would be a great honor to be elected as the first female Supreme Court Justice in Putnam County. I believe we need more qualified women on the bench, so the court is more reflective of the people that we serve," Capone said.

"I don't think people realize the importance of judges and the important role we play in their lives," Capone stated. "I have 18 years of judicial experience as a town judge and always keep in mind that my decisions will have a profound impact on those that appear before me. People deserve the right to be heard and my job is to render fair and unbiased decisions. That is what I have done in the past 18 years and will continue to do if elected as a Supreme Court Justice."

Since January 2001, Capone has handled both criminal and civil cases, ranging from DWI and felony hearings to landlord/tenant, small claim and building code cases.

Capone earned her law degree in 1996 from Pace University School of Law in White



PROVIDED PHOTO

Judge Gina Capone

Plains and has run a general law practice since 1997.

On November 5, Capone will appear on the Republican, Conservative, Democratic and Independence lines. The 9th Judicial District she hopes to serve covers Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Dutchess and Orange counties.

The other four candidates in the race are Robert Freehill, Nancy Quinn Koba, Lewis Lubell and Steven Milligram.



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Memory of Buddy Decker Honored

Members of the late Austin "Buddy" Decker family posed for a ceremonial photo last Saturday at Sycamore Park in Mahopac where the Carmel Parks & Recreation Department and Town of Carmel, including Supervisor Ken Schmitt, dedicated their new basketball courts to the patron Saint of all things CYO basketball and St. John's hoops. Decker, a USA Air Force Captain, husband, father, grandfather, coach and longtime member of the Carmel Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, died on Saint Patrick's Day, 2018, but his memory will live forever at the newly minted Sycamore Park courts.

Retro Fitness Suddenly Closes Doors at Cortlandt Location

By Rick Pezzullo

The Retro Fitness gym on Route 6 in Cortlandt suddenly closed its doors Saturday, leaving members perplexed and about 50 workers unemployed.

Retro Fitness General Manager Jennifer Crowell-Evans alerted members Saturday night by email about the closure.

"Attention members: Please note that effective immediately, this Retro Fitness location has permanently closed. Your membership will be automatically canceled with no further charges against your account. We appreciate your support over the years," Crowell-Evans stated.

The announcement was also made on Facebook: "Dear Valued Members, it is with heavy hearts that we announce the permanent closing of Retro Fitness - Cortlandt Manor at 3006 Main Street, Cortlandt, NY 10567 effective Saturday

10/26/19. Your patronage has been greatly appreciated over the years. We wish you the best of luck in your continued journey to good health!"

Chris Spell, a Retro Fitness member for the last two years who used the facility to set a Guinness Book of World Record for the highest standing jump on July 28, said he wasn't surprised when informed about the news.

"It was clear that the Cortlandt Manor (gym) was struggling for a while now. I wouldn't say it was all because of Level Fitness, but more because of poor decisions and mismanagement," he said.

Another member, Mike Crovetto of Cortlandt, said he was disappointed his workout facility, located near Kohl's, was out of business.

"I'm sad to see this place leave. They were conveniently close to my house," he said. "Now I'm on the hunt for a new gym."

Letter to the Editor

Eckardt and Disador Will Serve Southeast Well

As the Town of Southeast election nears on November 5th, I hope everyone is paying attention and realizes what a tremendous asset incumbent Councilwoman Lynne Eckardt is as a member of The Town Board, and that the election outcome shows overwhelming support for her and running mate Zach Disador. These are people who have tirelessly committed themselves to our community and made our quality of life a top priority.

Lynne Eckardt has proven again and again her ability to work cooperatively in a nonpartisan way to help dramatically increase Southeast's fund balance, keep local taxes to a minimum (the lowest of any town in Putnam County), and initiate positive changes that enhance the community and consistently improve our property values.

Zach Disador is a breath of fresh air, and will make a wonderful addition to the Town Board as well! He is a lifelong Brewster

resident with deep roots in our community, and a distinguished Brewster High School graduate. Through his work at Putnam ARC and now Director of their Respite Services, he has devoted his career to helping and advocating for individuals and families with special needs and disabilities. He is committed to enhancing our property values through sensible sustainable development that benefits all residents, with a strong focus on keeping our taxes to a minimum.

Lynne and Zach are high integrity people who have demonstrated their ability to make intelligent decisions with an informed and objective view of the issues. I strongly urge all friends, neighbors and Southeast residents to please vote for them on November 5th!

Jon Bates
Brewster

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Q: Why is it important to have routine screening mammograms?

A: Early detection with a screening mammogram can catch cancer years before it becomes discernible by touch. It is important to catch cancer earlier, because the size of the tumor and its stage influence treatment and prognosis.

Q: During what ages should I have annual mammograms?

A: Starting at age 40, this screening tool saves the most lives. There is no defined upper age limit to stop mammography. The incidence of breast cancer increases with age: 30 percent of invasive breast cancers occur in women over the age of 70. We recommend that annual screenings continue as long as the patient is in otherwise good health and willing to undertake additional testing if an abnormality is detected.

Q: How do I benefit from advanced breast cancer screening technologies?

A: The latest mammogram screening technology is the **3-D mammogram** (digital mammogram with tomosynthesis), which lets us see through tissue and find more cancers than does a standard digital

mammogram. Another newer technology is the **supplemental screening ultrasound** for dense breasts, which helps us evaluate dense breast tissue and masses seen on the mammogram by letting us distinguish between solid and cystic tissue. The **breast MRI** can be used to screen women at high risk for breast cancer due to genetic factors, family history or previous high-risk findings, or used as an additional tool to look for further abnormalities in women recently diagnosed with cancer. Advanced imaging technologies are offered at Northern Westchester Hospital's women's imaging sites in Mt. Kisco and Yorktown.

Q: Should women with dense breast tissue receive special screenings?

A: About 40 to 50 percent of women have dense breast tissue. There are two components of breast tissue: fatty tissue and fibroglandular tissue. Fibroglandular tissue appears white on a standard mammogram, as do tumors, so tumors can be obscured. If you have dense breasts, ask about supplemental screening with a breast ultrasound. This technology increases detection by a rate of approximately four cancers per 1,000 screenings over that achieved by a standard mammogram.

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Paid for by Southeast Republican Committee

“Mayhem” Squad Brings a Buddy Bench 1,800 miles to Mahopac School

When you play together for more than five years like the boys of the Mahopac Soccer U12 team “Mayhem,” you inevitably build a bond. And for the “Mayhem” players, this bond isn’t just on the field.

The families of this middle school-aged Westchester Youth Soccer League travel team also commit to exposing their players to ways of collectively helping others.

“It’s important for us to teach the boys about giving back to the community,” said Linda Pinto, mother to two of the players and coordinator of the team’s charitable initiatives. The team has come together in the past with charitable acts ranging from providing Christmas presents for a single mother with four teenagers to wearing purple socks at a soccer tournament to help raise funds for Relay for Life.

This is also how a Buddy Bench, built from repurposed plastic caps, made its way to Austin Road Elementary School, where Pinto’s children, along with several other teammates, attended. A Buddy Bench is a seating area in a school playground where children who are lonely or bullied can go to find friends. If a student spots another child on the bench, the intention is for that student to go join the child in need of comfort.

Last spring, the team sought out to collect more than 200 pounds of plastic caps. This is the required amount that Green Tree Plastics, located in Indiana, needs to turn around a bench crafted from 100 percent recycled plastic.

Word spread fast and people from all over the community were donating plastic



PROVIDED PHOTO

The Mayhem team strike a pose.

caps. Patricia Marangiello, customer service manager at the ACME in Mahopac, facilitated droves of plastic caps donated by customers.

“I put up a sign at the store and customers were immediately supportive. Some customers are still coming up to me with baggies of plastic caps. It’s nice to see everyone want to help out,” Marangiello said.

Rainey Cuomo was another significant source of generating the plastic. With her husband Jerry, she rallied her fellow seniors from Carmel Friendship Center and neighbors in their apartment complex. One parent, who is a member of the New York Firefighter Department, received an outpouring of support from people donating their plastic caps at his station in Manhattan. Pinto’s brother chipped in too with helping

to bring in a significant donation

of plastic caps from Bryant Pond Laundry & Dry Cleaners.

By the first week of August, “Mayhem” reached their goal of more than 200 pounds of plastic

caps (about the size of a Mini Cooper car) that was sorted and packed for delivery. Tom Pinto, Linda’s husband, and James Dannolfo, who has a fifth-grade daughter in Austin Road, loaded the mass quantity of plastic into Pinto’s pickup for the 920-mile trip to Evansville, Indiana. They ended up doubling their load by generously delivering an additional 200 pounds-plus of plastic caps from an elementary school in Albany that did not have the resources to make the delivery.

After the drive of roughly 15 hours, Pinto and Dannolfo arrived at Green Tree Plastics and unloaded the plastic caps. In return, they were provided with two pristine blue benches, one for each school. Green Tree Plastics reduces material that otherwise is sent to landfills by producing the durable, eco-friendly and longest-lasting plastic lumber products like benches and

tables. The organization also works with community groups all over the country with its “bench for caps” program.

“The benches are high quality and sustainable. Even the dyes to color the lumber are made from non-hazardous chemicals,” Mr. Pinto said.

Earlier this week, Austin Road Principal Jim Gardineer hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate the generous act of bringing the Buddy Bench to the school playground. The “Mayhem” families, coaches Chris Provenzano, Freddie Sanchez and Bobby Keen, along with Mr. and Mrs. Marangiello, Mr. and Mrs. Cuomo, Assistant Principal Bryan Gilligan, Superintendent Anthony DiCarlo and Assistant Superintendents Deborah Legato and Michael Tromblee took part in the celebration.

The Buddy Bench arrival had impeccable timing as it is also National Bullying Prevention Month. According to the American Society for the Positive Care of Children, this is a nationwide campaign recognized during October that encourages schools, communities, parents and children to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying.

“We are grateful to Mahopac Soccer’s ‘Mayhem’ team and their families. We are also so appreciative of Mr. Pinto and Mr. Dannolfo who drove over 1,800 miles for the bench. The story of how this buddy bench came to Austin Road makes it all the more special,” Principal Gardineer said.



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has over 20 years of judicial trial court experience and 33 years as a trial lawyer in Putnam County. During his tenure as a Judge, he has tried over 50 cases to verdict in Family Court, Surrogates Court, and Criminal Court. It’s why law enforcement, elected officials, and community leaders support his candidacy.

“As Carmel Town Justice and a practicing attorney, I’ve dedicated my career towards ensuring equal justice under the law for all. As Putnam County Court Judge, I will use my experience to enforce the law fairly, offer a firm but helping hand to those who need it most, and implement the criminal justice reforms.”

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Business Owner Outlines Challenges of Running a Successful Preschool

by Abby Luby

Running a daycare facility and nursery school is not for the faint of heart. The growth of this multi-billion-dollar industry requires many layers of regulatory oversight — the eyes and ears assuring children are dropped off in the morning at a place that is safe, nurturing and educational. Success in this field doesn't come easy, but if your business plan favors a child's welfare above all else, then you will prosper and grow.

Lisa Montalto has been the operating owner of Once Upon a Time Preschool in Putnam Valley for eight years. At a CEO Chat last week held in Peekskill by the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce, Montalto shared her own story of how she held to her concept of what a preschool should be and made it a profitable reality.

In her presentation, "How Do You Define Success?" Montalto was very frank and down-to-earth about what inspired and encouraged her to take on the challenges of professional childcare. Montalto's history reflects a steadfast belief that wherever you are, you treat any and every child as one of your own.

"Everything I have done has always revolved around children," she told the audience.

As a mother, educator and community leader, Montalto highly valued all her experiences. "No experience you have in your life is a bad experience," she said. With three young sons, she worked at home on payroll for another company which taught



Once Upon A Time Preschool Owner Lisa Montalto family and friends that turned out for her talk.

her about business accounting. She said her advanced education in teaching and in speech pathology has been invaluable in dealing with children with special needs. Her known dedication to volunteering put her on the educational map when she became a PTA President at a Lakeland elementary school and eventually president of the Lakeland Board of Education for six years.

Montalto knew that more and more, both parents were working to make ends meet and there was a need for a good local preschool and daycare. At first finding a building suitable enough for what she envisioned, meant an in-depth search. A serendipitous tip-off about a more expensive space led her to check it out. It was exactly

what she was looking for and the preschool is in that building today.

Montalto said some things were learned "on the fly" and with the help of friends. "Surrounding yourself with good people is key. I had to create a business plan for a small business loan. Luckily, I knew a parent in marketing who helped me. Another friend's son-in-law knew digital design and he helped with the logo," she explained.

Getting to opening day wasn't without pitfalls. The first year, opening in time for the school year, was held up by the Small Business Loan process and the school staff that had already been hired had to be paid for a full year before any youngster first stepped inside the school.



ABBY LUBY PHOTOS

"The biggest fear when you first start a business is that you have to make it work that first year. But I learned that fear is crippling and if you know your worth, you will stick to it. You have to trust your gut," Montalto said.

Sitting in the audience was Joanie Sirefman, a former chamber member who has known Montalto for years. "We never saw that fear, Lisa. You are a testament to your goals and how hard you work."

The second year at the Once Upon a Time Preschool saw a more promising enrollment and every year since, those numbers continue to grow. Today, the preschool has programs for six weeks old to 12 years old

continued on page 22

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Election Preview

Fleming Vies for Fourth Term as Kent Supervisor vs Kreps

By Abby Luby

Kent Supervisor Maureen Fleming (D,C,LBT,SAM,Common Sense) is looking to serve another two years as she goes up against Richard Kreps (R,I).

Maureen Fleming

After serving as the Town of Kent Supervisor for six years, Fleming wants to accomplish much more. One of those goals is to create a place giving residents more opportunities to come together. "The Town of Kent doesn't have a traditional Main Street where residents can meet and greet each other. I believe we need a recreation center where young, old and everyone in the middle can gather for



Maureen Fleming

meetings, games, activities, exercise or just to enjoy each other's company. I would love to get funding for this project and see it become a reality." Fleming said she spearheaded the Town of Kent Winter Fest, the annual Independence Day celebration, the Recreation Department's Backyard Olympics, and a Kent Library event which offers an evening of free music outside at Arts on the Lake that ends with fireworks.

Fleming has always considered herself a fiscal conservative and one of her specific goals going forward is to keep taxes as low as possible while improving the town's infrastructure.

"While county and school taxes increase

every year (this year's increase in the Carmel Central School District was 2.6%), in Kent we have kept town taxes even. This is a relief to many of our residents who struggle to keep a roof over their heads and put food on the table," Fleming said.

She pointed out that many of her accomplishments happened without raising town taxes. "We have achieved a lot in the Town of Kent during my tenure including significant equipment purchases for the Highway Department, Lake Carmel Park District, Parks and Recreation Department and the Lake Carmel Sanitation Department." Fleming highlighted other important realized goals including negotiating two rounds of four-year contracts with town employee labor unions, securing grants to reconstruct the Nichols Street Causeway, funding major paving projects and the purchase of equipment and construction of an all-abilities playground. Fleming cited her other achievements that included revamping meeting procedures to allow unlimited public participation. "Very recently concerned citizens spoke for about an hour on an issue that was not on the town board agenda and they were able to do so without a time limit." During Fleming's tenure she was able to make important amendments to the town code; the town website was improved to be more user friendly and informative.

Fleming didn't say she personally opposes the controversial truck stop that is part of the proposed new development, Kent Country Square, on a hill overlooking Route 52. The project would include a truck stop, truck wash and truck repair, two hotels, an indoor waterpark, a restaurant and a convention center. If the plan is approved, it would mean blasting 54 acres of rock to mine down 180 feet. A movement has steadily grown opposing the truck stop. After Fleming attended a recent meeting at the Carmel VFW Hall to hear a large group of residents speak out against the truck stop, she contacted the attorney for the project and asked him if his client would consider removing this element from the project.

"The attorney told me that the owner is looking at different configurations," she explained. "I believe most residents would find the other parts of this project more

acceptable without the truck stop. There are still many questions to be answered before any action is taken by the Planning Board. This is a long process that concerns issues such as groundwater concerns, pollution, noise, light, traffic and quality of life." Fleming said residents will continue to be heard. "Everyone wants what's best for the town and for our residents. When this project was first brought to the town board there was excitement about the tax revenue to be generated as well as the number of jobs that a project of this magnitude could bring to the town."

Recently U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (D) of New York visited the abandoned Kent Arsenic Mine near Gipsy Trail Road where for decades toxic arsenic has seeped into the soil and water. Schumer and Fleming wanted to draw attention to the inactivity on the part of the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) who has yet to place the mine on the top of the list for a federally-funded clean-up. When asked if the town could be more pro-active on the arsenic mine clean-up Fleming said, "I appreciate the Senator's efforts to put this issue into the spotlight and perhaps hasten a resolution for the families and homeowners affected. At this point it is in the hands of the EPA. I have facilitated forums for residents to meet with federal, state and local agencies so that they could have all their questions answered in one setting. We will continue to assist in any way possible."

Fleming believes that by working with the Economic Development Corporation and the Carmel-Kent Chamber of Commerce, more businesses can be encouraged to come to Kent. "Many new businesses have opened their doors in my tenure and I hope they continue to come here. Kent is a wonderful place." Fleming said she supports the town to become a "Climate Smart Town."

Public service is what keeps Fleming's 'door always open.' "I value our residents and their input. I am always there for them and take my responsibility seriously. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the residents of Kent. I love this town!"

Rick Kreps

Kreps is running for Town of Kent Supervisor because he wants to lower taxes through responsible growth. He believes that enhancing the infrastructure will invite more businesses. "If I'm elected, I want to encourage the town's many boards to treat constituents with respect," he said.

Currently Kreps is the Vice President of Operations of the Croker Fire Drill Corporation which oversees all field operations. He is retired from the NYPD Emergency Services Unit and has been a Kent resident since 1983.

For 20 years, Kreps volunteered as a School Board trustee on the Carmel Central School District Board and the Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES. Many of those years he led the boards as president or chairperson.

Kreps supports encouraging responsible

growth in the Town of Kent. "Bringing health care companies to our town that could have physicians, labs and X-ray departments would not only be convenient for our residents, but it will add to local job growth and lower taxes," he explained.

Keeping infrastructure up to date will also attract business, Kreps said. "We should ensure that the state and county continue to update our roads and maintain and upgrade our parks. We need to work with legislative and private partnerships to get needed grants." He added that the town of Kent should certainly work towards being a climate smart town. "All towns should be smart about our environment



Rick Kreps

and climate. However, we should be smart and not overregulate." As supervisor, Kreps said he'd like to create a recreation facility for all Kent residents. "It would be a place for the young and for our seniors."

While supporting responsible growth, the Route 52 truck stop is the part of the project that Kreps considers "not responsible in its present form" because he opposes the truck stop at the proposed location. "The right type of hotel and conference center would be appropriate," he said.

Kreps admitted he hadn't fully researched the arsenic mine issue. "I first need to do my homework, yet I can see the dangers it presents to our citizens," he explained. "We should be proactive and have discussions about it at our board meetings. It should not take a photo op by a US Senator (Schumer) to begin the conversation." He said he supports aggressively moving forward to resolve the problem. "The town needs to keep up the pressure. As a school board trustee I went to Albany and Washington D.C. to lobby for our issues."

Kreps said he believes he is a desirable candidate because of his dedication to public service. "I have been a volunteer in our town and have assisted in helping to make programs better for all the citizens of the Town of Kent."

Letter to the Editor

Vote Schanil for Carmel Councilman

About 15 years ago is when I had the pleasure of 1st meeting Bob Schanil. As a newcomer to the community of Carmel he and his wonderful family welcomed us to the neighborhood and to his home. Since then Bob has over and over demonstrated integrity and true caring for our community. He is a grounded individual who is a very reasonable person. He too feels and understands the tax burden we all face. I know that Bob wants to represent all of us

on the Carmel Town Council for the right reasons. Bob would be a new voice for us and a Councilman who is willing to listen so problems can be solved. I hope the you too will be voting for Robert Schanil on Tuesday, November 5th.

Sincerely,
Greg Ellner
Carmel



Election Preview



Four Candidates Run for Two Kent Town Board Seats

By Abby Luby

Two council seats are open on the Town of Kent Board. Incumbents running for re-election are Jaime McGlasson (R,C,I) and Christopher Ruthven (R,C,I). Running to unseat them are Anne Campbell (D, Common Sense) and Nina Gerosa (D, Common Sense). The term for a board seat is four years.

Jaime McGlasson

For her second term, Councilwoman McGlasson wants to focus on bringing smart economic development to the Town of Kent. "We need to find development that is right for the town," McGlasson said. "I want to maintain the small-town atmosphere and have businesses come that will benefit the residents of Kent."

A lifelong Kent resident, McGlasson is the mother of two young children. She found that Kent "is the best place for a child to grow up."

McGlasson said she was against the controversial truck stop as part of the proposed new development on Route 52. "I do not feel that this kind of development is appropriate for our town. I also am very concerned with the amount of drilling and mining that is proposed for this project," McGlasson added "the project would be better off in a location other than the Town of Kent."

Encouraging new businesses to open in the Town of Kent is a goal McGlasson wants to pursue. "We need to continue to offer tax credits and really help people who want to bring business into our town. I don't want us to be known as the Town of "Kant" any longer! We also need to shop local as much as we can."

She strongly supports the town becoming a "Climate Smart Community" as a good initiative. The Climate Smart Community is a New York State program helps local governments reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the changing climate by offering free technical assistance, grants, and rebates for electric vehicles. "It's a win-win for the town and the community," said McGlasson. "It will also open up the town for a lot of grant opportunities. I think it would be great for Kent to lead the way in this initiative."

In early October, U.S. Senator. Charles Schumer (D-NY) and Kent Supervisor Fleming went to the Kent Arsenic Mine on Gypsy Trail Road to call out the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) for their inactivity on cleaning up the decades long toxic mine.

McGlasson would like the town board to be more proactive on the clean-up for the Kent Arsenic Mine near Gypsy Trail Road. "As a town board we need to be contacting our state and federal representatives for immediate action for the health and safety of our residents!"

Expanding the town's Recreation Department by offering different programs and adding events is an important project McGlasson wants to continue to work on. "We have also recently hired a new grant writing firm for the town and I am excited to

see what grants they will be able to acquire and what new projects this will mean for us."

Christopher C. Ruthven

Last year Chris Ruthven won a board seat held by Councilwoman Christine Wooley who was appointed to fill Scott Chin's vacant seat after Chin resigned. Ruthven has only served on the board for 10 months, but his lengthy previous experience includes volunteering as Director on the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation Board for nearly 18 years. Improving the town infrastructure is paramount. Ruthven said, "The one thing that all of us use every day is our town roads." He recalled that a few years ago the highway department was repaving approximately four miles per year out of 216 miles of road, which is the second most of any Town in Putnam County. "At that rate it would take over 50 years to repave all of our roads." Ruthven advocates for a renewed working relationship with the Highway Superintendent to continue the paving project from last year.

Ruthven has been working with the highway superintendent to obtain \$1.2 million from the Bridge NY program to rebuild the town's 14 small bridges. "These bridges are spanning NYCDEP watershed streams and were constructed before World War II. Everyday our children's school buses, fuel trucks, septic trucks and other heavy vehicles have to cross these aging and failing structures."

As liaison to the Lake Carmel Park Advisory Board, Kent Conservation Advisory Committee, Storm Water Committee and frequent attendee at Kent Lakes Committee meetings, Ruthven said that harmful algae blooms are the modern-day nemesis of lake communities and parks. "It is a problem that is not going away anytime soon, but by working with our volunteer residents and consultants I will continue to implement preventative measures such as the reduction of phosphorus and other nutrients through storm water programs, hotspot testing, septic pumping enforcement and tree/riparian buffer plantings."

Ruthven would like to improve what he calls the town's non-conventional business district. "We have an underused sewer district that should be attracting new business opportunities to our Route 52 corridor. Instead, [the sewer district] is excessively taxing the few businesses forced to be hooked up to it in order to pay for itself." Ruthven wants to establish a viable plan to help Kent's existing businesses thrive while pursuing new businesses. Key to that plan is partnering with the Economic Development Corporation, Chamber of Commerce, local realty agencies and existing businesses to get new businesses to come to Kent. "But the residents are the most important factors that need to be considered," he said.

Ruthven opposes the Route 52 planned development with a truck stop. "It would be a better development if it didn't have a truck stop and didn't mine down through 140 feet of rock!"

The toxic Kent Arsenic Mine near Gypsy Trail Road is especially troubling to Ruthven; he and his family live about one mile down-

stream from the site and his friends live in the contaminated zone. "We need to lobby our state and federal representatives to act now. The EPA has been testing the surrounding area over the past year and trying to put a band-aid fix on it all summer. This poisoning has been going on for decades and everyone knew about it. Only now after people have already gotten sick is it even being considered. That is completely unacceptable."

Currently Ruthven is involved in working to improve the Lake Carmel Park District and the Lake Community. He has proposed a new basketball court, beach bulkheads, fencing, walking path and a dam. "The residents of Lake Carmel deserve better than the rundown state of disrepair that their park district is currently in and I pledge to see that they get better."

Anne Campbell

Anne Campbell has years of community service in her 36 years as a Kent resident. Currently she teaches at SUNY New Paltz where she is the faculty governance leader representing some 600 academic and professional faculty, and she presides over a 50-member faculty senate. She has worked in the healthcare industry and for IBM.

"My record of community service goes back to the early 1980s," she said. "I've volunteered for the Putnam Recreation Program for the Handicapped, Putnam Horse Council, 4-H clubs, the Mid-Hudson Bicycle Club, and the Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee (KCAC)." When her children were enrolled at the Carmel schools she volunteered there as well.

If elected to the town board, one of Campbell's top priorities would be promoting economic development that would preserve the character and quality of life of the town. "I also support bettering the health and water quality of the town's lakes, the NYS DEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) Climate Smart Community program, and the Kent Recycling Center." She said she intends to work collaboratively with town board members, committees, town administration and the community.

Regarding the controversial proposed hotel/truck-stop development on Route 52 Campbell said that removing the truck stop would eliminate the impacts due to truck traffic, truck washing, and truck repairs. "But many other impacts would remain, including the significant concerns related to the proposed mining of the site to a depth of 140 to 180 feet." Campbell is apprehensive that the developer could seek a "spot zoning change" to alter the zoning code for building height limits. "Per New York State law, a decision to deviate from the town's master plan for a single project must be based on a clear benefit to the town, not the potential benefit to the developer." Campbell didn't give an opinion on the entire project because she would have to recuse herself from voting on the issue if she were elected to the board.

Campbell believes contamination from the Kent Arsenic Mine is not a town issue but under the jurisdiction of the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency). "The

New York State Department of Health and Human Services issued a public health advisory in April of this year, and the EPA has put interim measures in place to reduce public exposure," she said. "The visit by Senator Schumer was part of an effort to move the site to a high-priority list for an actual clean-up by the EPA. I am sure the town board will support the work of the EPA in any way possible."

Campbell applauds the town's effort to create the Kent Sewer District which will make Kent more business friendly. For ten years Campbell has been a member of the Kent Conservation Advisory Committee (KCAC) and she said she is committed to making the town a Climate Smart Community. "The first step is to pass a resolution adopting the Climate Smart Communities Pledge," she explained. "Our next step will be to form a Climate Smart Task Force consisting of members of the KCAC, representatives of the town, local experts and interested citizens."

When Campbell's town board opponents declined to participate in a debate sponsored by the League of Women Voters, she said, "As a bipartisan organization, the League will not sponsor "empty chair" debates, so Kent residents have lost the opportunity to have this event." Getting involved in local government has motivated Campbell. "My hope is to bring more benefit to my community by working collectively in government than I can bring as an individual volunteer."

Nina Gerosa

Nina Gerosa has lived in the Town of Kent since 1997 and both her children are graduates of the Carmel Central School District. A practicing attorney since 1985, Gerosa was a Court Attorney for the Surrogate's Court for nine years, in private practice for 14 years, and a civil rights attorney for psychiatric patients and the intellectually and developmentally disabled for the past 11 years. She served on the board of the Carmel Central School District, the Kent Zoning Board of Appeals, and was a Parent Advocate in the Carmel school system. She was also a volunteer EMT at the Lake Carmel Fire Department.

Gerosa praised Supervisor Maureen Fleming for keeping taxes at the same rate. "However, many people in our town are struggling to make ends meet," Gerosa said. "With rising costs, this is not sustainable without commercial development to generate tax revenue for our community. I encourage a long-term plan of development that will address spiraling school taxes and an aging and fixed-income population." Affordable housing is an issue Gerosa wants to address. "It would mean our children can afford to stay in our town and young couples with children would be able to move here."

Putting effort into cleaning and restoring local lakes and making Kent a New York State Climate Smart Community is high on Gerosa's list. "We also have to continue the wonderful recreational program we have in Kent, and to add more teen activities and support groups that serve our youth."

continued on page 22

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Letters to the Editor

Kreps' Poor Record Speaks for Itself

As a current resident of the Carmel School District, former longtime Kent resident, homeowner and taxpayer in the Town of Kent, I believe it is necessary to speak to and about the candidates for supervisor of the Town of Kent.

In particular, I must raise my voice against Richard Kreps for numerous reasons. First and foremost is the matter of excessive and punitive taxes. Mr. Kreps has been in government for more than twenty years and has voted to raise taxes a minimum of 20 times and with all my research I have not been able to locate a single vote cast by him to the contrary. His record shows that Mr. Kreps voted to increase taxes during his entire career which spans 20 years. In fact, Mr. Kreps has never met a tax that he has not liked or hiked. He is no Republican. While campaigning, he now states that he will lower taxes for the Town of Kent, but justifies his career of tax increases by blaming government mandates. I now ask Mr. Kreps, how did Supervisor Maureen Fleming, during her entire six years in office as town supervisor, manage to avoid any tax increases for our town and residents, while obeying these same government mandates?

Further, Mr. Kreps led the assault against one of our most sacred rights, the right to free speech, by attempting to remove from office a duly elected fellow school board trustee who dared to disagree with his agenda. Knowing that his effort had no chance of success, he none the less wasted \$20,000.00 of hard-earned taxpayers' money on his ill-fated and ultimately failed effort, just because he could. What type of classroom supplies for our students could that \$20,000.00 have purchased? Mr. Kreps ambushed this trustee by using unethical procedures designed to limit the information and participation of an equal member of the school board. Does the future present the attempted removal of any official who dares to publicly disagree with Mr. Kreps?

Mr. Kreps also ignores his constituents by not accepting the results of their vote. The Town of Kent residents voted 4 times against the school bus bond referendum which had no effect on his position. Mr. Kreps does not understand the meaning of representative government.

Now comes the matter of incompetence. Prior to submitting, supporting and voting for the bus garage referendum, a trustee

should have thoroughly investigated and known positively whether the property was properly zoned for this construction. After finally getting his way on the fourth vote, the taxpayers have learned that this bus garage cannot be erected under current zoning law. Now that this referendum was finally jammed through and millions wasted, Mr. Kreps is strangely silent.

In closing, the voters must now judge him not by his words, but by his record. Mr. Kreps has exposed himself to be a self-serving vindictive opportunist, a tax and spend politician who must not be allowed to bring his form of governing by intimidation, bullying and vengefulness from the school board to the supervisor's office. In Mr. Kreps' world, there is no room for disagreement, discussion or dissent and there should be no room in the supervisor's office for Mr. Richard Kreps.

Mario Curzio
Stormville

Vote Yes on PV Library Referendum

In November Putnam Valley will vote on the PV Library referendum. Why should taxpayers be asked to do this? Because Public libraries like the PV library play an essential role in providing safe, accessible, and 100% free educational resource centers for every member in the community.

Since January, the number of visits to the library has reached approximately 25,000. The reasons behind these visits are varied and diverse: the director of the senior center who picks up items for the seniors' book club; seniors who utilize the library's e-book and e-audiobook collection via Library-provided Kindles; residents taking advantage of Tech Help hours; young patrons who attend library programs like Babytime that help meet a critical need for early literacy education.

As the school library services have been diminished (only the High School has both a library and state certified librarian; the

Elementary School has a library room, no staff; the Middle School has no library), the PV library staff have collaborated with teachers by fostering students' research and language learning, information literacy, technology and art education, and providing digital resources such as e-audiobooks for struggling readers, saving tax money by centralizing services. Children's library programs create learning for kids and connections for parents. The "Universal Class" offers continuing education credits for anyone with a library card.

With sustainable funding, the Putnam Valley Library will be able to fulfill its long-range goals including: meeting patrons' demands for expanded access to information and resources; providing free access to 24/7 resources including online courses and streaming video; expanding technology and STEM offerings; improving book, media, and digital collections; improving the library's

accessibility and services for all members of the community.

Throughout all the community conversations the library hosted this spring, three main themes emerged: connection, communication, and accessibility. Putnam Valley residents want more access to information, to places, and to other people. With the passage of the 414, the Putnam Valley Library will be able to fulfill its goals and meet residents' ever-growing needs, and perhaps most importantly in a town as spread out as ours, remain a center of crucial community connection.

So on Election Day, flip over the ballot and VOTE YES on Prop 1!

Leslie Martin

Spofford Has Experience to Excel as Putnam County Judge

I am asking voters to come out on November 5, 2019 and vote for Judge Joseph Spofford for Putnam County Court Judge, because experience does matter. Joe Spofford has been a Judge in Carmel for the last 20 years and presides over Carmel court which averages approximately 50-70 a night and his court meets four times a month. In addition Judge Spofford has been a practicing attorney for 33 years.

Judge Spofford is a compassionate man who treats everyone with dignity and respect. Judge Spofford understands that sometimes there are underlying issues that can be the root cause of why a defendant may be before his court. Judge Spofford is a

strong proponent of helping people who have an addiction to drugs or alcohol or if they have mental health issues. Judge Spofford works closely with the District Attorney's Office and outside agencies in trying to help those who come before him get the help they need.

On the other hand, if you are before Judge Spofford and crime is the life you chose to live, Judge Spofford has no problem sending criminals to jail if necessary.

There is a reason why the Town of Carmel PBA, the Putnam County Sheriff's Department PBA, the Affiliated Police Association of Westchester County, the NYS Fraternal Order of Police, the Westchester

County Correction Superior Officers Association and the PBA of the New York State Troopers, Inc. have all endorsed Judge Spofford to be our next County Court Judge.

These law enforcement agencies, many of whom are in Judge Spofford's court often know firsthand that Judge Spofford is the most experienced and is best prepared to serve as our next Putnam County Court Judge.

Robert Buckley
Mahopac



Game USA New York

Jefferson Valley

By Neal Rentz

Lifelong Mahopac resident Robert Ponte said last week he chose to create Game USA New York in the Jefferson Valley Mall because “I had a huge passion about it.”

“Ever since I was a little kid, I’ve always told my parents I wanted to play video games,” Ponte said. “They said well, you’ve got to learn something else because you can’t make a living off of playing video games. I kind of pushed that right back in their faces now that I’m 28.”

Game USA New York, which opened on October 5, has 30 game stations featuring various brands. “People can come in with a group of friends and jump right online and all be connected simultaneously,” Ponte said. “Or you could have one or two people walk in with their mom or their dad or their family and they can sit on the couches and enjoy some family fun gaming.”

Game USA also hosts three to four tournaments a week, with a capacity of 120 people, Ponte said. In addition, the business hosts birthday parties and other special events.

Ponte is seeking to hold fund raising events to benefit the local food pantry and also to assist local student athletes to obtain



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Lifelong Mahopac resident Robert Ponte opened Game USA New York in the Jefferson Valley Mall on October 5.

new jerseys and equipment. “I’m a kid from the community so I want to do whatever I can to help the community out,” he said.

Video gaming has grown significantly in recent years, Ponte said. “It’s amazing how much this has taken off just in my lifetime,” he said. Over the past 20 years gaming done online has allowed game players to compete

with others from around the world, he said. “These kids love to be on the Internet and love to be as close to technology as possible,” he said.

Ponte explained why he opened his new business in the Jefferson Valley Mall. “I wanted give them (youths) a place where they could go and meet people with the same interest,” Ponte said. “Malls should move toward the community center type of atmosphere where you do have 10 or 15 businesses that are giving you an experience or proving a service rather than a product because products you can get on Amazon.”

Ponte said he decided to name his business Game USA because “I wanted it to be a franchise name because eventually I want to expand into multiple different states. So, I figured that USA gives me a national brand.”

Ponte said he will seek to have his business be an arena for tournaments and to sponsor youths “to get them onto the national circuit” and lead them to ultimately become professional gamers.

Game USA New York is located on the first floor of the Jefferson Valley Mall, 650 Lee Blvd. For more information, call 914-272-9771 or visit gameusany.com. Game USA New York is also on Facebook and Instagram.

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Election Preview



Three Competitive Races on Ballot in Putnam Valley

By Neal Rentz

Putnam Valley voters will go to the polls on Election Day to vote for two seats on the Town Board, highway superintendent and town justice.

Two Democrats, Supervisor Sam Oliverio and Town Clerk Sherry Howard, are running unopposed.

In the competitive races, incumbent Republican Councilmen Louie Luongo and Steven Mackay are being challenged by Democrats Ralph Smith and Anthony Williams and Libertarian Patty Villanova.

Republican incumbent Highway Superintendent Larry Cobb is being challenged by Democrat Shawn Keeler. In the town justice race, Democrat Terry Raskyn is facing off against Republican Clem Van Ross.

Town Board

Louie Luongo

Luongo, a 35- year town resident, has been on the Town Board for seven years.

“Being part of the Town Board we have accomplished so much to improve the health and safety of the residents of Putnam Valley,” Luongo said. “However, it is a continuing effort and I want to remain a part of making these improvements to our beautiful community.”

If reelected, Luongo said he would continue projects the board has been working on and make additional improvements. “Some of our goals are to keep taxes as low as possible by examining the budget line by line as we do every year, become a climate smart town, to implement short term rental regulations and the installation of solar panels to take advantage of our renewable energies, just to name a few,” he said.

Luongo said his priorities would be “keeping taxes as low as possible, improving the town’s infrastructure and communications with our county and state

representatives for tax relief incentives as well as to continue to expand our shared services.” The board is working on incentives to attract businesses; continuing to monitor and refine the septic pump out rule, restricting the use of phosphorous materials to protect the aquifers and other programs while maintaining the town’s rural character.

Luongo, 56, will be on the Republican, Conservative and Independence Party lines. He has been employed by Metro-North since 2004 and is currently an instructor in the maintenance of equipment department.



Louie Luongo



Steven Mackay

For the past 35 years Luongo has been a member of the Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Department and is a deputy chief. For 20 years he has been working with the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services and is a deputy emergency services coordinator. He is a 33-year life member of the Putnam Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corps, where he served as lieutenant and chairman of the board of directors.

Steven Mackay

Mackay, who has been on the Town Board for eight years, said he was seeking another term “to continue the great work that we have accomplished by working together to move Putnam Valley forward.” He noted the Town Board was given a Trailblazer Award 2019 by the Putnam County Business Council for “Leadership in Economic Development.”

“I have worked hard for all the people of Putnam Valley and one look at what this Town Board has accomplished will show why this board should remain,” Mackay said. “We have introduced a Drug Take Back Box; moratoriums on opening of any vape shops one year before the state or federal officials acted,” as well as passing moratoriums on opening of recreational marijuana shops.

“My priorities have been keeping taxes low; working with our partners at the state and county level, whether it be shared

continued on page 16

Strong Leadership for Carmel

VOTE NOV. 5

Ken Schmitt

Town Supervisor

Frank Lombardi

Town Councilman

Robert Schanil

Town Councilman



Frank Lombardi

Ken Schmitt

Robert Schanil

Endorsed Republican Conservative Independence Candidates

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Paid for by Friends to Elect Frank Lombardi and Friends to Elect Robert Schanil Jr.

Election Preview

Three Candidates Jockey for Two Seats on Carmel Town Board

By Eric Stutz

In the Town of Carmel, three candidates are seeking two town board seats: Democrat Jean Hopper and Republicans Frank Lombardi and Robert Schanil Jr.

Hopper, a political newcomer, said she began attending town board meetings several years ago.

"I became frustrated with the way I saw town business being handled," she said on Locally Sourced, a public access TV series. "We've had over 20 years of one-party rule in Carmel, and I think that's closed the door to innovation and opposing views."

She started collecting signatures, going house to house. "I've met a lot of wonderful residents and voters who share the same concerns that I have," she said.

Although some people have brought up her lack of political experience, Hopper said, "Our country was based on government for the people, by the people, and I really believe that. Our Founding Fathers as civic-minded folks wanted people to stand up – ordinary everyday folks – and serve in their government."

"I have balanced my home budget," she said. "I can make a penny squeak and I'll do the same thing for Carmel."

She said the town board needs to stay on top of highway maintenance, which means coordinating with county and state agencies. "I'm not afraid to reach out to the county or

to the state and see what needs to be done." Hopper said municipalities should update their master plans every 10-20 years. "We're going on 24."

"Without a master plan, we become wasteful with our revenue, with our money, because there's mismanagement," she said.

Schanil Jr. agreed about the importance of the town's unfinished master plan, which encompasses not only the town's physical aspects but also economic and cultural aspects, recreation, transportation and

infrastructure.

"I'd like to see the master plan get done," he said. "I'd like to see what our strengths and weaknesses are, and then decide what needs to be done immediately and what will be done in the future."

"Taxes are always an issue, but I think we have pretty good services," Schanil said. "The police department, the highway department, the fire department – this all costs money."

One thing that needs to be done is to

upgrade the water districts. In August, members of the Carmel Town Board decided to bond the cost of a \$2.7 million project to rehabilitate nine water tanks.

"That could have been avoided, I think, as part of doing the master plan," Schanil said. "I think things were probably overlooked at some point. The infrastructure could have been repaired a little bit earlier instead of being so dilapidated that it takes so much money now to fix it."

continued on page 18



Frank Lombardi



Jean Hopper



Robert Schanil Jr.

Re-elect Maureen Fleming Kent Town Supervisor

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Continue the Progress!

Paid for by Maureen Fleming for Supervisor

Four Vie for Two Seats on Southeast Town Board

By Joan Gaylord

Town Board races take center stage in the Southeast elections with incumbents Lynne Eckardt (D, W) and Edwin Alvarez (R, C, I) both seeking third terms, with challengers Zach Disador (D, W) and John O'Connor (R, C, L, I) also vying for the two available seats on the Council. Supervisor Tony Hay (R, C) is running unopposed.

Also of note is the race for Highway Superintendent. Michael Burdick (R, C) and Robert Pigan (I) are running for the position currently held by Michael Bruenm, who is not seeking another term.

Candidates for Town Board all said the greatest challenges facing Southeast in the

coming years will be the need to address the town's infrastructure, as well as the need to find a balance between sustained economic growth and its impact upon the quality of life, including taxes. In response to written questions asked of the four candidates, Disador shared, "While canvassing, the voters of Southeast have let me know that they're most interested in good development and sound infrastructure."

The incumbents specifically cited the millions of dollars of roadwork and drainage projects the town must tackle and the need to find funding for these projects. Eckardt stated the priorities of these paving and repair projects would be decided by the new Highway Superintendent but would require a

team effort. Alvarez shared this perspective as well as the need to identify state and federal grants to help offset these costs.

Each candidate offers unique qualifications to the board.

O'Connor, who holds a Master's of Public Administration degree and a bachelor's degree in emergency and disaster management, is currently the Putnam County Safety Officer. He and his wife moved to Southeast almost six years ago to raise their family. He also said that, as a long-time Conservative, he believes that "less government is good government" and he would seek to deliver essential services in ways that mitigate the tax burden as much as possible.

Disador said his career as a supervisor at ARC equips him to advocate for all people within the community, including those who are often over looked. He believes his experience working with school districts, advocating for necessary funding, as well as developing effective teams would be an asset to the town and he would especially want to contribute his knowledge of health and human services. Disador, a lifelong resident of Southeast, said he wants "to ensure that everyone gets a chance to have the wonderful opportunities afforded me in this town."

Alvarez, an Army veteran, currently serves as the Town Council's liaison to the

continued on page 18



Lynne Eckardt



Edwin Alvarez



Zach Disador



John O'Connor

JEAN HOPPER

FOR CARMEL
TOWN BOARD

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ENOUGH'S ENOUGH.

IT'S TIME FOR A
BRAVE VOICE
IT'S TIME TO
WORK
FOR ALL OF US.

By Eric Stutz

However, Albano said the amendment



Carl Albano

“There are certain things that appropriately should not be released until they are addressed and resolved. That’s just good government,” Albano said. “Anything that should be available to the public is always going to be available to the public. We have always been open.”



Rebecca Swan

Albano said he is proud that Moody's Investors Service upgraded Putnam County's rating to Aa1 from Aa2, citing the county's reserves and liquidity, and its disciplined approach toward budgeting sales

“I think there are a lot of questions and concerns about the way things are being run.”



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Election Preview



Mayor Merandy Seeking Third Term as Mayor in Cold Spring

By Examiner Staff

Mayor Dave Merandy wants to continue his work improving the quality of life in Cold Spring if elected to a third term November 5.

Facing off against Charles Hustis, a former village trustee, for mayor, Merandy believes his management skills, experience in public policy and “genuine” interest in public service makes him the best-qualified candidate to lead the village.

“I’ve successfully led our Village Board and village staff expanding existing sources of revenue, creating new sources of revenue, maintaining services thru multiple staff retirements, and investing in the improvements to village life for all residents and business owners,” Merandy, 64, said. “I want to continue this work for our village.”

Hustis didn’t immediately respond in time for this article.

If re-elected, Merandy, a general contractor, wants to develop and adopt a fair and enforceable local law that will allow the village to manage short-term rentals, explaining that short-term rentals have made an impact on the availability of housing for residential use, the villages character, noise and parking.

“As more and more people visit Cold



Mayor Dave Merandy

Spring to enjoy what we love so much – our beautiful Village and the natural beauty of our surroundings – we need to be thoughtful and deliberative about how we manage the impact of those guests,” Merandy said.

With residents and business owners expressing their concerns overtime, Merandy said he plans to work with the Village Board to mitigate those issues while balancing individual property owners’ rights.

Merandy also hopes to finalize and adopt an updated Cold Spring Village Code. He said the village’s Code Update

Committee has spent five years conducting an “exhaustive” review and preparing recommendations for the board. Once publicly heard and adopted, the updated code will be an essential tool for village departments, board and committees, he said.

Additionally, Merandy will throw his support behind repairing the Upper Reservoir Dam, asserting his position to finalize the agreement with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to ensure village access to the aqueduct water system. He added his desire to completing a land use easement that will secure village access to the dam through adjacent private properties.

“I have already reached out to all of the property owners where potential easements are needed and have met with a few,” Merandy said. “Once an agreement is reached with NYCDEP, I will work with

village engineers on the best routes to access the dam and resume conversations with the property owners.”

Noting his efforts to enhance the village by preserving taxpayer dollars, generating thousands in revenue, overseeing capital investments and improvements, and improving transparency and communication between officials and residents, Merandy said he’s a candidate people can rely on.

“It’s my responsibility to ensure our limited resources and funding are used responsibly and to set a course for a safe, sustainable future of our village,” Merandy said. “By balancing short – mid-range – and long-term goals with daily priorities and sensible spending, I’ve been able to demonstrate to the trustees on the board that the direction our village is going in is worth supporting.”



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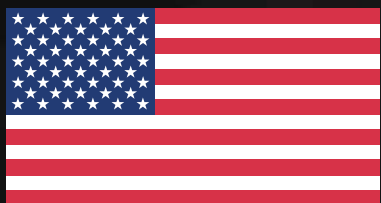
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camille linson
for putnam county judge

PAID FOR BY ELECT CAMILLE LINSON



continued from page 10

continued on page 23

Paid for by the Putnam County Republican Committee

Obituaries

Gaetano Virtuoso

Gaetano Guy Virtuoso, a resident of Carmel, died October 22 surrounded by his loving family at Putnam Hospital Center.

He was born in the Bronx on August 15, 1945 to Dominick and Matilda (Labruzzo) Virtuoso. He graduated from Sleepy Hollow High School and three years later, he entered the Navy on October 3, 1963 where he was as a Machinist Mate 2nd class working the engine room on the USS Kankakee Kennebec-Class Fleet Oiler. For his service he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal and Honorably Discharged from active duty on September 29, 1967. On July 12, 1980, he married the love of his life, Barbara A. Bass. Together they created a family with six wonderful children. Mr. Virtuoso worked as a Parts Manager a Big Dee Volvo in White Plains until he retired in May 2011.

His greatest love in life was his family. He loved spending time with them, especially his 15 grandchildren and one great-grandson, all of which gave him endless pride and happiness. Next to being with family, he enjoyed boating with his family. He was a member of the Cold Spring Boat Club and they spent many hours cruising on the Hudson River. One of his biggest passions was being a member of the New England Air Museum in East Grandby, CT. He also enjoyed the collecting and selling of WWII vintage Aircraft, Ships and other rare collectibles. Mr. Virtuoso had a big heart and loved welcoming friends and family to his

home to break bread and enjoy each other's company. He enjoyed the simple things in life. He loved spending nights with his wife Barbara and their friends frequenting the local movie theaters, and the Putnam Plaza's "Greek Village" for family style dining. On July 12, 2019, he and Barbara enjoyed their 39th wedding anniversary, and their love had seemingly never missed a beat.

He is s is survived by his devoted wife and their six children, Dominic Virtuoso, Danny Virtuoso, Dawn Alexander, Philip McSpedon, George McSpedon and Michael McSpedon; 15 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Several nieces and nephews that always held a special place in his heart also survive him. He was the son of the late Dominick and Matilda (Labruzzo) Virtuoso and was most recently predeceased by his loving sister, Sarah Gross, on May 7, 2019.

Hugh Power

Hugh Daniel Power died October 23 with his children by his side after a heroic battle with cancer. He was 57.

Born April 15, 1962, he was a dedicated teacher in New York City promoting literacy and his passion for equality. He took pride educating students from all over the world. He was known for always having a positive outlook. His optimism burned bright to all and was loved by all. His contagious smile always brightened people's days and his generous heart spread love around. Besides his dance moves like Mick Jagger, he was a prolific reader and writer, yet his greatest

passion was for his children.

Mr. Power is survived by his former wife Elizabeth and their four children: Luke, Anthony and wife Katie, Joseph, and Lizzy, and Hugh's s siblings Johnny, Bobby and wife Mary, Maureen, Tommy and wife Susan, Danny and his beloved parents Mary and John Power. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Gerhard Isop

Gerhard J. Isop, a resident of Croton Falls, died October 22. He was 85.

Born in Lokau, Germany, he immigrated to the U.S. on Halloween 1958. He worked as a carpenter for contractor Mike Furio until 1970. He then co-founded Scope Builders, Inc. and acted as President until 1974. At that time, he founded Gerhard Isop, Inc., Contractors and Builders. He retired in 1996, leaving his sons to continue the business, although he continued to work part-time for many years.

He was a charter member of the North Salem Ambulance Corps and served as a member for years. He also belonged to the North Salem Chamber of Commerce where he served on the Board of Directors for one term.

He loved the outdoors, hiking, fishing and was a lifelong camper. He made several road trips across the US with various members of his family, fulfilling his fascination with the Alaskan Highway. He loved America's National Park System and visited many of them. He was also a history buff and enjoyed

studying the financial markets.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Waltraud, aka "Lucky," three children, Roland, Gerhard and Diane, their spouses, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Loretta Bauer

Loretta E. Bauer (Lorie), a resident of Mahopac, died October 19 after a brief illness. She was 81.

She was born September 29, 1938 in New York City to Paul and Elisabeth (Voglmayr) Neumayr. She was a graduate of Hunter College, and on May 7, 1960 she married Robert Bauer. They were later blessed with three children.

She enjoyed playing golf and along with her husband Robert, was a member of the Mahopac Golf Club for more than 30 years. She also loved tending to her flowers and watching, feeding, and identifying birds.

She is survived by her children Robert Bauer, Jr. and his wife Susan, Carolyn Bauer and her husband Chris, Lisa Ellingham and her husband Craig; grandchildren Brianna, Noelle, Kristen, Eric, Max, and Sophia; great grandchildren Julia, Thomas, and Maggie; and her nephew Ed Neumayr and his wife Tracy.

She lost her husband of 58 years, Robert, earlier this year. She was also predeceased by her brother Paul Neumayr and his wife Frances.

continued on page 22

**MAUREEN FLEMING SAYS SHE
DIDN'T RAISE TAXES IN KENT.
SHE'S LYING.**

Her own budgets show taxes have gone up year-over-year in the parks, sewer, and fire districts, **while essential services have gone down.**¹

- ✘ And Kent is the **HIGHEST** taxed town in Putnam County!²
- ✘ Worse, Maureen **CUT FUNDING** for the Highway Department, reducing local road repaving and local infrastructure projects³
- ✘ And after **IGNORING** Economic Development, resulting in vacancies on the Route 52 corridor, Maureen and her hand picked Planning Board Chairman Phil Tolmach, tried to ram through the Kent Truck Stop – which would have been only 1500 feet away from the Kent Elementary School!

**MAUREEN FLEMING.
DISHONEST AND IRRESPONSIBLE.**



**On November 5th,
VOTE NO ON
MAUREEN FLEMING.**

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF RICHARD KREPS

(SOURCES: 1. 2014-2019 Town of Kent Budget Documents; 2. 2017 NYS Comptroller Report on Real Property Taxes for Local Governments; 3. 2014-2019 Town of Kent Budget Documents)

Four Vie for Two Seats on Southeast Town Board

continued from page 12
Architectural Review board and the Zoning Board of Appeals. For the last 29 years, he has worked as a hospital administrator and is currently responsible for a \$22 million clinic renovation project. Alvarez says that, like many Southeast residents, he and his wife moved to the area years ago to raise their family and have enjoyed a wonderful experience. He hopes to continue to “pay it forward.”
Eckardt said her “hard work and straight talk” are two of the reasons residents should return her to the Town Council. Currently the liaison to the Historic Sites Commission,

the Brewster Library, the Planning Board and the Highway Department, Eckhardt is also a proponent in environmental issues facing the town. A 41-year resident of Southeast, she names the success of keeping the property taxes at or below the tax cap as a major achievement.
Early voting has already begun in New York State. Residents of Southeast will be able to cast their votes for two of these candidates at the Putnam County Board of Elections in Carmel each day through Sunday, November 3 and then at their usual polling locations on Tuesday, November 5.

Three Candidates Jockey for Two Seats on Carmel Town Board

continued from page 11
“The roadways, people see it. There’s a problem, they fix it,” he said. “But they don’t really think about what’s under the ground. I think that’s an important issue.”
After two terms on the Carmel Town Board, Lombardi lost in 2017 to two fellow Republicans, Suzi McDonough and Mike Barile. In January, Councilmen John Lupinacci and Jonathan Schneider, both Republicans, announced they would not seek re-election. The Putnam County Republican Committee nominated Lombardi and Schanil to run for the two seats.
Lombardi dismissed Hopper’s comments about one-party rule.
“I believe the Republicans who have been on the town board have done a great job in keeping the town financially solvent, keeping crime down, and keeping quality-of-life issues at the forefront,” he said.
Lombardi noted that he was on the board

during the last recession. “Because of the tough decisions that we made, we are one of the few local municipalities that have an Aa1 (Moody’s) bond rating,” he said, “which is a great thing for the people of Carmel.”
“We basically tripled the reserve fund, which is the town’s savings account,” he said. “It was barely \$1 million when I took office. When I left in 2017 it was over \$3 million.”
Lombardi agreed about the importance of updating the town’s master plan. “The master plan will determine what we want this town to look like in the future,” he said.
Since Carmel is in the New York City watershed, overseen by the city’s Department of Environmental Protection, Lombardi said the town board must work with the DEP to try to get a sewer extension down Route 6 for economic development.
“That would be a significant game changer,” he said.

Mike BURDICK

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I am asking for your vote Tuesday, Nov. 5.

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for Carmel Town Councilman



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Neal L. Sullivan
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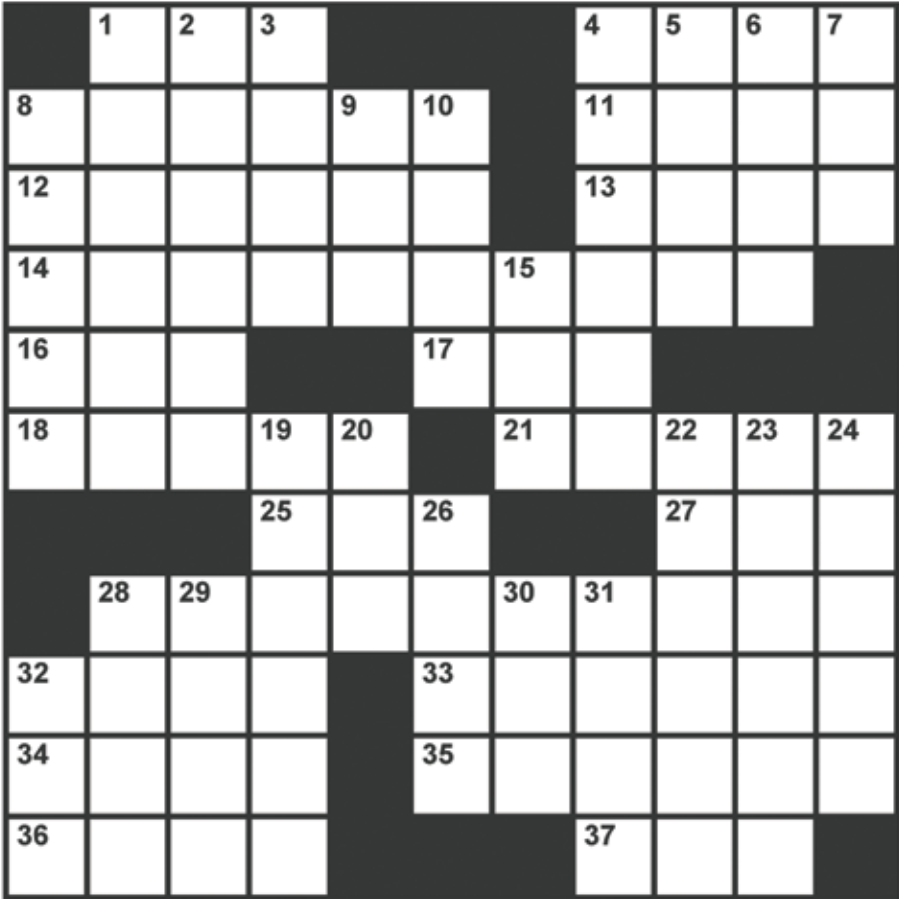
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Crossword Puzzle



Crossword by Myles Mellor

Answers on page 22

- Across**
- 1. “Rocky Balboa” studio
 - 4. Med. care providers
 - 8. As in this document
 - 11. Listeners
 - 12. Demagogue
 - 13. Opposite of aweather
 - 14. Children’s party center at the JV Mall
 - 16. Compass heading, abbr.
 - 17. Granola bit
 - 18. College rooms
 - 21. Lake Volta locale
 - 25. Negative Chinese principle
 - 27. ___ favor (please, in Spanish)
 - 28. Nonconformist
 - 32. Roller coaster feature
 - 33. Chinese martial art
 - 34. Katie’s baby
 - 35. Podiatric concern
 - 36. Letters at Camp Lejeune
 - 37. Ballad’s end?
- Down**
- 1. Sheep breed
 - 2. Cow, for one
 - 3. City on the Moselle
 - 4. Patient’s concern
 - 5. Drone, e.g.
 - 6. Mine’s output
 - 7. Pilot’s hdg.
 - 8. Crossed one’s fingers
 - 9. ___ fault
- 10. Pasta grains
 - 15. Veer suddenly
 - 19. Short-sighted
 - 20. Transgression
 - 22. Geronimo, e.g.
 - 23. Between-meal nibbler
 - 24. Briarcliff memory care facility
 - 26. “___ chance”
 - 28. Markers
 - 29. Base of a crocus stem
 - 30. Employee perk, sometimes
 - 31. Pet parasites
 - 32. Home of the Fighting Tigers





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TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEM ENGINEER
Annual Salary Range: \$97,131 - \$124,584

POSITION: The City of Stamford is seeking a Traffic Signal Engineer to undertake all aspects of traffic signals, from inception through to operation. The successful candidate should have extensive experience in the field of traffic signal design, implementation and/or operation and will have achieved engineer status or significant experience.

The successful candidate will be expected to demonstrate excellent written and oral communication skills and a strong awareness of signal design, construction, and management. The candidate will work as part of a traffic signal team, overseeing three field technicians and will be expected to demonstrate an ability to use their own initiative to deliver excellence on projects. An efficient and accurate working style with attention to detail is required, and flexibility in order to meet project requirements is expected.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES: In depth experience with traffic signal operation, design, and configuration. • Good knowledge of GridSmart design and operation • Ability to engage with the public and the ability to communicate and influence effectively. • Thorough knowledge of a wide range of ITS technologies, including GridSmart, Fiber Optic communication, VMS, and CCTV • Ability to apply management techniques and prioritize responsibilities to ensure work is accomplished by project deadlines • Proven ability to learn new skills and understand complex technical projects rapidly • Excellent problem solving skills and the ability to develop new and innovative ideas. • Ability to work as part of a team and to supervise, coach and mentor subordinates. • Familiarity with State and Federal design processes with respect to signal design.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science; Computer, Civil, Traffic or Transportation Engineering; or a closely related field and three (3) years of progressively responsible experience in the field of traffic engineering, one (1) year of which must have been in computerized traffic signal systems and control. NOTE: A Master’s degree in one of the above noted fields may substitute for one (1) year of the general traffic engineering experience. Valid Driver’s License.

Interested applicants are advised to submit a fully completed application form along with their resume, listing all related degrees, training and work experience. Incomplete applications or those submitted without a resume will be rejected. Applications of candidates who do not meet the stated position requirements will not be considered. **Position is open until filled.** Applications can be obtained at the:

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888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, Connecticut
or at
www.stamfordct.gov

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CIVIL ENGINEER
Annual Salary Range: \$97,131 - \$124,584

POSITION: Under the general direction of the City Engineer or designee, performs supervisory and administrative work in inspection and permit issuance as well as performs plan reviews ensuring the compliance of local and state codes, regulations and practice concerning site engineering and site construction development and inspection in connection with the construction of capital, departmental, residential and/or commercial development projects requested of the department; does related work as required.

QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor’s Degree in Civil Engineering or a closely related field and seven (7) years of progressively responsible engineering experience in the field of site engineering, construction, and inspection.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: At time of application, possession of a valid motor vehicle operator’s license and possession of a valid Connecticut Professional Engineer’s license. **Applicants must attach a copy of their license to the application.**

SCOPE OF EXAMINATION: Qualified applicants will be evaluated, scored and ranked on their level and quality of related experience, education and training documented on the application and application supplement. Incomplete applications will be rejected.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Interested candidates should submit a completed Employment Application and Application Supplement “19-40”. Please note: only properly completed and submitted applications will be considered. Applications of candidates who do not meet the stated position requirements will not be considered. **Position is open until filled.** Application and application supplement can be obtained at the

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The City of Stamford is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and strongly encourages the applications of women, minorities and persons with disabilities.

The Necessary but Overlooked Importance of Doorknobs

As a realtor who has shown many homes in my 17 years in the business, I've opened a lot of doors and clutched a lot of doorknobs.

Except for those dastardly swinging doors which I never liked and think are one of the world's most dangerous inventions, every door needs something to grab on to in order to be opened and closed. It's that round or oval device that you rarely think about, even though you wrap your hand around it 100 times or more a day.

But especially after I read recently that there are about two million germs per square inch attached to the average doorknob and the experience of showing a buyer client too many houses during flu season, I became aware of every doorknob I touched and really started to scrub my hands down many times during the day.

Readers of this column know that I'm a movie buff and much of what I learned about home life started from make-believe home life in old movies. One of these was a Judy Garland film called "Presenting Lily Mars," which was an adaptation of a Booth Tarkington novel by the same name. It was a silly enough storyline with a subplot that really galled me involving Garland's



By Bill Primavera

younger brother who had a strange hobby of collecting doorknobs that he would steal from people's homes.

Where was the moral compass of that Midwestern family, I thought, in dismissing the criminal behavior of that rascal as something cute, especially since it involved stealing an essential item in providing access and egress around the house?

The doorknob is an ingenious little device actually. The traditional knob itself has a bolt or spindle running through it that sits just above a cylinder, to which the spindle is connected. Turning the knob pulls the cylinder in the direction of the

turn. The end of the cylinder is a latch that protrudes into a space that is carved out of the doorframe and prevents the door from being opened if the knob is not turned.

The mechanism is a little more complex than I'm describing here, but I'll leave further understanding to the technicians among us.

Interestingly, America didn't produce doorknobs or any hardware at all until after the American Revolution because of England's stranglehold on manufacturing and restrictive trade practices. The colonies were permitted only to supply the

motherland with the raw materials needed to produce the finished manufactured products that would be sold back to us, including doorlatches, doorknobs and all other hardware used in this country.

After the Revolution, America's ingenuity came into play and its agrarian society was soon to be balanced with rising industrialization. The first major invention influencing the production of doorknobs in America was the invention of the glass pressing machine, patented in 1826. It permitted the first truly decorative and mass-produced pressed glass doorknob made in America.

By Victorian times, the popularity of glass doorknobs was overtaken by the use of metals – iron, brass and bronze. But in 1917, during World War I, glass became wildly popular once more since all metals were allocated for the manufacture of planes and other wartime materials. Glass knobs remained popular through World War II, but by the 1950s, preference reverted back to metals.

Today, the choices are all but limitless in the styles and shapes of knobs and levers, as well as finishes to suit every décor. There's satin nickel, aged bronze, bright brass, antique brass, bright chrome, brushed chrome, antique pewter, distressed nickel, matte black, oil-rubbed bronze and satin stainless steel.

And how's this for a look into the future? The doorknob may disappear

altogether. In Vancouver, businesses and residents must now install only lever-style door handles on new buildings. While all existing homes, offices and businesses will be grandfathered, all new construction will require levers instead of doorknobs to accommodate those with physical disabilities who find doorknobs difficult to manipulate.

I am reminded of a personal story that relates to the fact that my wife Margaret's native language is Lithuanian. Within that ancient language are some quaint expressions that don't translate very well into English, but Margaret still unconsciously uses some of them on occasion.

For instance, if one were expecting to visit a friend but found no one home, the Lithuanian expression would be that you were able only to "kiss the doorknob."

Considering that there are two million germs per square inch attached to the average doorknob, that might be considered germ warfare.

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www.Gerosa4Kent.com

Paid for by Kent NY Democrats

Business Owner Outlines Challenges of Running a Successful Preschool

continued from page 5

for either full or half day care. All staff is CPR trained and the facility has a closed-circuit monitor system and a keyless entry system for security. The staff has a working knowledge of Spanish and Italian and they offer services in both Portuguese and Sign Language.

“And we don’t have any entertainment screens, no TV or other types screens in any of the spaces. I tell all the parents that right up front,” said Montalto, whose programs include outdoor play and hikes. For older children there is a math and science curricula. Meals are served family style where students dine together to encourage conversation and socialization.

Starting Once Upon a Time and keeping it going presented opportunities for Montalto to reach out to different groups, such as the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce. “Your best. reputation is put out there by word of mouth. It’s about establishing your business as a community resource,” she said.

Montalto started to hold educational workshops for parents every month, which are free and open to the public.

“Being a business owner means you have to be cut-throat while being compassionate. While I care for my staff, my first responsibility is to every child,” Montalto stressed.

Four Candidates Run for Two Kent Town Board Seats

continued from page 7

Gerosa reserved judgement on the polemic issue of building a truck stop at the Route 52 proposed development, claiming that any prospective board member should keep an open mind. She does believe that Kent zoning laws should be upheld, and a spot zoning change should not be allowed if the Route 52 developer seeks to alter the zoning code for building height limits. “Spot zoning changes should not be allowed except under circumstances that would be very clearly beneficial to the Town both in the short and the long term. This is obviously a very volatile issue, and I think the public should be fully informed by all of the town boards of the process this request is going through and of the right to be heard.”

The Kent Arsenic Mine has to be watched, said Gerosa, who doesn’t see it as a town issue but one for the EPA to deal with. “I

don’t know why the federal government has taken so long to respond to it. I was glad to see our Supervisor bring Senator Schumer’s attention to this matter.”

Gerosa wants to attract new businesses to Kent and plans to consult the local Chamber of Commerce for local business feedback. “We could offer tax breaks as an incentive to bring in new businesses, but I think that we need to affirmatively identify the type of businesses that we want in Kent. I would be interested in exploring having a community college or a vocational educational facility in Kent.” Gerosa would like to see businesses in Kent that pay higher than minimum wage, offer full-time jobs, and provide health insurance.

Gerosa said she has enjoyed meeting Kent residents from all walks of life. “I love this town and would consider it an honor to represent the people of Kent.”



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Obituaries

continued from page 17

Elaine Wrede

Elaine S. Wrede, a resident of Brewster, died October 25. She was 90.

She was born in Mt. Vernon, New York on June 20, 1929 to Stephen and Mary (Riordan) Stevenson, the youngest of 10 children. She retired from Exxon Co., USA and also from Citibank Corp.

She is survived by her loving son, Edward of Brewster, her brother George Stevenson and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by six sisters and two brothers.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday October 30, at St. Lawrence O’Toole Church in Brewster at 10 a.m. Interment will follow.

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Crossword Answers

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

Three Competitive Races on Ballot in Putnam Valley

continued from page 16

she would seek money from the state and federal governments for infrastructure and other projects.

Villanova said she was instrumental in helping establish the Lake Oswegaw Aquatic Weed Control District which is the taxing authority for the lake. The district has its own budget which is used for improvements and remediation of the lake, she said.

"My opponents do not even acknowledge that our town has problems. How can they possibly hope to solve them?" Villanova said.

Anthony Williams

Williams, 51, is making his first run for the Town Board. He ran unsuccessfully for the District Two seat on the Putnam County Legislature in 2017.

"I am running because the current Town Board is inefficient and ineffective and it's time for a positive change, strong work



Anthony Williams

ethic, and fresh ideas," Williams said. "Our taxes are growing at an unsustainable rate which is pricing out our seniors, veterans, families and long-time residents. The town budget is continually over the tax cap, which is completely unacceptable. The town's Master Plan has not been updated in 12 plus years. Our business district is in desperate need of revitalization, as we have no true commercial base or infrastructure to support one. The current incumbents do not seek or apply for federal, state or private Grants and have no plans to bring in programs or create partnerships to foster relief. There is no viable plan in place to address the many needs and concerns of our town and no true support for or collaboration with our essential institutions such as the Putnam Valley Library, Putnam Valley School System, Putnam Valley Historical Society, Tompkins Corners Cultural Center, etc."

"I have the work ethic and energy to make Putnam Valley my full-time priority," Williams said. "I have the knowledge, connections and temperament to develop key strategic partnerships and alliances with our neighboring communities to enhance our chances to become the 'Jewel of the County' once again."

If elected, Williams said he would seek to find innovative ways to ease and offset the tax burden on residents; to address the town's health and safety issues, including

"the opioid and mental health crisis," road safety and repair, frequent power outages, lake health, drinking water impurities and infrastructure deficiencies." He said he would make the town "Climate Smart" by instituting "common-sense" programs that save taxpayers money while creating revenue streams and protecting the environment.

Williams said there are several programs for the town he was developing, such as creating a Local Development Corporation to promote opportunities for not-for-profit and small business owners; working towards streetscaping the Oregon Corners Business area and changing town law that would no longer allow "Zombie" business building to remain vacant.

Williams, who will be on the Democratic and Working Families Party lines, is a real estate Investor who restores historic homes and a landlord with properties throughout the state.

Williams is a member of the Putnam Valley Planning Board and the town library's Board of Trustees. He is secretary of the Advisory Council to the Westchester - Putnam Salvation Army, a member of the Putnam Valley Democratic Committee, the Lake Peekskill Civic Association, the Putnam Valley Business Network, the Putnam Valley Historical Society, the Putnam Valley PTA/PTSA and the Facilities Advisory Council for the Putnam Valley School District.

Supervisor

Oliverio, 66, is completing his fourth year as supervisor. "I am very pleased and appreciative that the community has this level of faith in my governance and is allowing me to run unopposed," he said, noting he was a Putnam County legislator for 18 years.

Oliverio laid out his top three goals for his next term as supervisor. Oliverio said he wanted to start "construction on the desperately needed new Volunteer Fire House, assisting the Hudson Highlands Land Trust in acquiring more land to keep forever green and having our newly acquired 161-acre camp be made usable throughout the year."

Highway Superintendent

Larry Cobb

Cobb has been highway superintendent for the past eight years. "I feel that I have the experience and dedication to get the job done," he said. "I have given my best to the Town of Putnam Valley as highway superintendent and I have been an employee in the highway department for 32 years."

If reelected, Cobb said his top three priorities would be "to continue working hard to improve and maintain the roads in Putnam Valley, maintain and update our fleet and to continue coming in under budget while still providing the best services to our community."

Shawn Keeler

Keeler, 43, is making his first run for highway superintendent, though he has worked in the Highway Department since 2009 and has been shop steward since 2015.

"I have a passion for Christmas and spent countless hours as the local Santa for various town events," Keeler said. Over the past 27 years he has volunteered with the Putnam Valley Fire Department and is a member of its Board of Directors. He has also served on many other committees.

Keeler said if elected, "I would like to open communication about various town projects. I would like to create a live calendar on the town web site or social media, such as Facebook. Blacktopping, tree cutting, and road closures can be a huge inconvenience to our working families. I believe the Highway should communicate the plan to the town residents."

Town Justice

Terry Raskyn

Raskyn said she was running for town justice "because I am dedicated to public service, the law, justice, and Putnam Valley. A resident for nearly 29 years, I am an attorney practicing guardianship law and other matters in State Supreme Court and a New York State Unified Courts System-certified mediator, mediating privately and in the town courts throughout the lower Hudson Valley."

"My qualifications and involvement with Putnam Valley make me the voters' choice," Raskyn said. "My time with the Bronx District Attorney's Office exposed me to some of the best practices in criminal law, especially when it came to alternatives to sentencing, specialty courts, and parolee

and re-entry programs."

Raskyn said her priorities as town justice would include working effectively the Putnam Drug Treatment and other specialty courts; working with schools to establish programs like Moot Court and Youth Court to encourage children to interact with the legal system and restore night court, which has not been in operation in town for several years

Clem Van Ross

Van Ross explained why he was running for town justice. "The Town of Putnam Valley has given me the opportunity to receive many aspects for my background," he said. "I am a lifelong resident of this town and have been active in the affairs of the town. As a teenager I attended many Town Board meetings."

Van Ross was town attorney and was on the Board of Ethics for more than 15 years. Van Ross was council to the Putnam County Legislature for nearly 30 years and New York State Senate Council and Assembly Council for almost 18 years. He is a past president of the Putnam County Bar Association and a member of the Community Serviced Board.

"Having a private law practice for almost 50 years, 25 of which I represented clients in the justice courts of this area had given me a good prospective for serving as a town justice," Van Ross said. "Being 79 years old and retired I believe that it would be proper to give back to the town the experience and qualifications that have been afforded to me from the town."



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NOTE: A Master's Degree in Business or Public Administration or a closely related field may substitute for one year of administrative experience.

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My Adventures at a 14th Century Winery Deep in Campania



By Nick Antonaccio

I've offered my research and opinions on the wines of the Campania region in several previous columns. My goal was to imbue in you the excitement and appreciation I've gained for these

wines.

I've also selfishly regaled you with my enthusiasm for Cantine Ciani, an ancient winery 62 miles east of Naples, in which I have recently invested.

My ardor culminated a few weeks ago in a long-planned visit to the area and Cantine Ciani with my wife and our dear friends, the Russells. As I sit here at my keyboard, I feel rather ebullient, filled with a building sense of unabashed enthusiasm and a groundswell of irrational verbosity.

I encourage you to revisit my columns penned earlier this year as a backdrop to our visit. (E-mail me for copies.)

Here are several highlights of our visit to Cantine Ciani.

--Enjoying the

facilities, including the aforementioned state-of-the-art winery and the modern event space and guest rooms built over it. This winery dates back to 1378; to see it transformed left an indelible memory for me to cherish. I was able to capture, in a small fashion, the life of those before us.

--Arriving on the first day of harvest of the Fiano grapes, an engaging time at every winery operation.

--Meeting owner and winemaker Armando Ciani, his wife Rosita and their winemaking team, all immersed in the hubbub of harvesting grapes in the field into the wee hours of the morning, then transporting them to the winery for the crush. Although Armando was unable to share much time with us as he was flitting about his property, it was quite clear that he cherished the nine-generation family heritage at Cantine Ciani.

The annual harvest is a ritual he has carried on since childhood, first under the tutelage of his grandfather and

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

father, then taking over the helm, first alongside his siblings, then on his own. His dedication, enthusiasm and pride were captured in each conversation with him and in watching him engaged in the rigors of his winery.

--Standing in awe in the modern cellar housing dozens of stainless-steel tanks and oak barrels. A number of barrels contain aging Aglianico wine, resting while developing the trademark fruit and tannins of the wine.

Other barrels, many brand new, are waiting patiently for the fermented juice of the current harvest of grapes. Today, Ciani produces about 2,500 cases of seven different wines, from Fiano, Greco and Aglianico grapes.

--Gazing at the glass-enclosed vestiges of the ancient structural walls of the original subterranean winery, preserved as a tribute to the many generations of winemakers who toiled and plied their trade in this hallowed space.

--Jogging on the winding ancient roads of the hilly terrain surrounding the winery and then in the Ciani vineyard, plucking a few clusters of ripening Aglianico grapes. I enjoyed their flavor as a new experience, knowing I most likely won't be drinking the fruit of these vines until the wines are

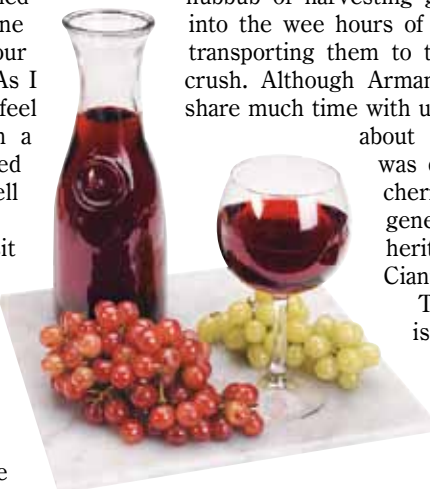
released a decade from harvest.

--The weather. The weather? We woke up on our last day at the winery to clear blue skies and crisp, invigorating air. As the day progressed the weather was stable, with temperatures rising nearly 20 degrees, typical of this area of the Apennine Mountains (and critical for the maturation of the Aglianico grapes).

As the afternoon progressed, I noticed a few dark clouds in the distance. Not to worry, I thought; the air was calm and the clouds were well off to the north. Wrong. In the next few minutes the dark clouds advanced to sit on top of us for 45 minutes, unleashing a torrent of driving rain, gale-force winds and a burst of hail. And just as suddenly as the storm had advanced, it moved on. Armando assured us the hail had not damaged the ripening grapes.

We left Cantine Ciani with a deep understanding of the rigors of managing a winery and the deep-rooted pride felt by those who laid the groundwork for this 21st century successor.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. 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.



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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

Tuesday, October 29

Celebrate Halloween with Willy Wonka's Wonkaville (grades K-5) at Mahopac Library: 5:30 p.m. Wear your Halloween costume and meet Willy Wonka. He will lead you through silly challenges, fun-loving mayhem and a chance to prove yourself worthy of a Golden Ticket! Registration is required; register online at www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845-628-2009, ext 139.

Wednesday, October 30

Autumn Wreath Workshop: Cornell Cooperative Extension is offering a workshop on how to make a holiday wreath using local sourced, natural materials. All supplies are provided, including wreaths, dried plants, ribbons and holiday accents to help produce a festive decoration for your home. Mahopac Library, 668 Route 6 Mahopac. 10 a.m. to Noon. Registration is required and a \$25 fee will cover all materials. Please register at Putnam.cce.

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corell.edu or call 845-278-6738

A Younger Matisse Armchair Art Tour: 11 a.m., Reed Library, 845-225-2439. Visit our calendar at www.carmellibrary.org to register.

The Eight-Week Freedom From Smoking (FFS) Program: Every Wednesday, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the health department's main office at 1 Geneva Road, Brewster. The last class is on December 18. Pre-registration is required, as group size is limited. More information on the program can be found online at www.freedomfromsmoking.org. For more information or to pre-register, contact the Putnam County Department of Health at (845) 808-1390, ext. 43155.

Friday, November 1

Book Sale: Kent Library on Nov. 1, 2, and 9. Hosted by The Friends of Kent Library. Volunteers for both the Book Nook and Book Cellar sales are always needed. Please contact the Kent Public Library at 845-225-8585. For more information, visit www.KentLibrary.org.

Monthly Potluck: Join us for food, fellowship. The menu is soups and stews. Bring a dish and make new friends. RSVP 845-279-5181.

Mystery Night: There's been a crime in

the library! Through cue cards and clues, kids will have to determine which one of them is the victim of a heinous crime and who is the perpetrator! 6 p.m. Detectives, criminals and witnesses are all welcome in this fast-paced crime solving mystery night! For ages nine – 13 years. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.

Hebrew Congregation of Somers Shabbat Service and Dinner: Please join us for a Shabbat service at 6:30 p.m., followed by a potluck dinner. The service will be led by Rabbi Shoshana Leis and Hebrew School Director Jill Liflander. Email info@hebrewcongregationofsomers.org or call 914-248-9532 for more information.

Saturday, November 2

Carmel Fire Dept/ Auxiliary Annual Holiday Penny Social: Carmel Fire House, Doors Open at 5 p.m. Refreshments will be served, lots of prizes to be won.

FREE Rabies Vaccination Clinic. 2 to 4 p.m, sponsored by the Putnam County Department of Health, the clinic is being held at Brook Farm Veterinary Center, 2371 Route 22. For more information and directions, please call the Putnam County

Department of Health at (845) 808-1390 ext. 43160.

Monday, November 4

The Lake Mahopac Rotary Club host annual pre-election night dinner at the Firehouse on Route 6 at 6 p.m., Tickets are available for \$30 at the door. RSVP or ask for more information at LakeMahopacRotaryClub@gmail.com

Tuesday, November 5

The Reads at Reed Book Club: 7 p.m., "How it all Began" by Penelope Lively. The meeting will be held at Reed Memorial Library, 1733 Route 6, Carmel. Contact 845-225-2439 with any questions.

Wednesday, November 6

Holiday Baking: 7 p.m. Volunteer to bring dessert when getting together with friends and family this holiday season. Chef Thierry Danvin of the Brewster Pastry Shop will share his secrets for baking holiday treats so your dessert will be the star of any party! For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to www.pattersonlibrary.org and click Calendar.



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LEGALS

Please be advised that the next meeting of the Planning Board will be held at **Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road on Monday November 4, 2019** for the purpose of considering the following applications: **Regular Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm AGENDA PUBLIC HEARING** The following public hearings have been scheduled for November 4, 2019 at 6:00PM (or as soon thereafter as agenda conditions permit) at the Putnam Valley Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York, 10579. All interested parties are invited to attend and will be heard. A copy of the application

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materials and plans may be inspected during normal business hours at the office of the Planning Board Clerk, Town of Putnam Valley Town Hall. 1. **Gjonaj, Chris- White Rock Road (TM#73.-2-30.1/File2019-0203)** The subject property is comprised of +/- 3.9 acres and is located on White Rock Road within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a single family residence, driveway, septic system and well. **DECISION 2. Putnam Valley Fire Station- Oscawana Lake Road (TM#72.20-1-7.12& 7.11/File2019-0199)** The subject property consist of +/- 10.3 acres of land and is located on Oscawana Lake Road and within the R-2 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing soil remediation of contaminated Fire Department and the Ambulance Corps. Properties. The remedial design project includes re-grading the unstable slopes and construction of a clean soil cover over the top of the contaminated fill. **SKETCH 3. Filho Residence, - 135 Bell Hollow Road (TM# 51.-1-4/File: 2019-0190)** The subject property consists of + 19.2 acres of land and is located on 135 Bell Hollow Road and within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a swimming pool, terrace and outdoor kitchen. A Site Development Plan, Major Grading and Wetland Permit is required. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES 3.** Approve Minutes of October 21, 2019

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Putnam Valley has received a wetlands application from the following applicant: **WT 22/19 Rodman Patton 77 south Highland Road TM# 61.-2-25 WT23/19 Noah Levy**

280 West Shore Drive TM# 62.6-1-3
WT24/19 Charles Hunter 381 Peekskill
Hollow Road TM# 73.-1-66

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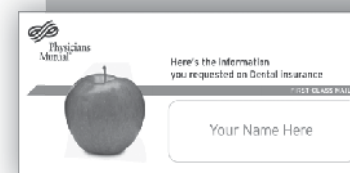
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6 Bridey Lane Brewster

Nestled on almost 10 acres, this sprawling home is perfect for entertaining, with a separate wing large enough for Au Pair or guests. Some of the finer features include the wall of windows and a two-story stone fireplace in the family room. The new dine-in kitchen boasts new cabinets, tile backsplash, quartz countertops, stainless appliances and a wet bar. This home also features a first floor master en-suite, new wall-to-wall carpet, and a new renovated spa-like bath, complete with a soaking tub. Perfect as a weekend retreat or as a full-time residence.

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Sleepy Hollow | WEB# PEI582551 | \$629,000



103 Dykeman Road
3 BEDROOMS • 2.1 BATHS • 2,634 SF • 1.04 ACRES
Carmel | WEB# PEI582732 | \$510,000



19 Lacona Drive
4 BEDROOMS • 2 BATHS • 2,244 SF • 0.47 ACRES
Patterson | WEB# PEI578540 | \$365,000



49 Panorama Drive
3 BEDROOMS • 2 BATHS • 1,748 SF • 0.71 ACRES
Patterson | WEB# PEI560890 | \$358,000



112 Wilmont Court
4 BEDROOMS • 2.1 BATHS • 2,710 SF • 1.18 ACRES
Hopewell Junction | WEB# PEI579233 | \$350,000