



## ProSwing's Land Swap Proposal Under Fire in Southeast

By Holly Crocco

ProSwing Sports of South Salem is looking to construct a recreational and training facility in Southeast, but the possibility of a land swap with the town that involves open space has some residents unhappy.

Richard O'Rourke of Keane & Beane, P.C., explained that the owners of ProSwing purchased about 95 acres of property on Starr Ridge Road to construct a baseball and softball training facility. However, that property is zoned "residential."

"After a discussion at a town planning staff meeting, there seemed to be a receptivity to the addition of recreational activity for youth in the town, but clearly not at this location," said O'Rourke at the Feb. 6 Southeast Town Board meeting, where the matter was discussed.

So the property owners are seeking to

"swap" the Starr Ridge Road property with about 82 acres of land that the town owns on Pugsley Road, which is commercially zoned and will allow both passive and active recreational use. While ProSwing would develop about 10 acres of the Pugsley Road property, the remaining 72 acres would continue to be dedicated open space, said O'Rourke.

"So we came up with this concept of property whereby there would be 94.9 acres from the Starr Ridge property that we could convey to town, which would become permanent open space, in exchange for there being a portion of the property now owned by the town (on Pugsley Road) that could be used and developed for baseball recreational facility," he said.

However, the land on Pugsley Road was originally purchased by the town for the

*continued on page 2*

## After Three Years of Negotiations, County & CSEA Reach Agreement

By Holly Crocco

Putnam County government and employees have settled on a new CSEA agreement, pending approval of the full County Legislature next month.

The county's Personnel Committee unanimously approved the ratification of the six-year contract, which spans from 2017 to 2022, at its Feb. 11 meeting, moving it forward to the full Legislature. The prior agreement expired in 2016.

"It's a very fair and equitable contract," said Legislator Ginny Nacerino, R-Patterson, chairwoman of the county's Personnel Committee.

Under the new contract, employees will receive a 1.25 percent salary increase for 2017 and a 1.5 percent increase for 2018, with no retroactive payments for those years. They will receive a 1.75 percent

increase for 2019, with retroactive payment.

In lieu of retroactive payment for 2017 and 2018, there will be a \$1,500 signing bonus for employees hired prior to 2017, and \$500 for those hired after 2018.

In 2020, 2021 and 2022, each step will see a salary increase of 2 percent.

County Attorney Jennifer Bumgarner pointed out that the approval of the contract requires no budgetary amendment, because the finance department has been anticipating and planning for the salary increases throughout negotiations.

According to Personnel Director Paul Eldridge, one of the biggest obstacles for both parties during negotiations was incorporating 911 dispatchers who wanted to be covered under the Civil Service Employees Association contract, instead of the Putnam County Sheriff's Employee

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## Celebrating an Unofficial MVP Carmel Football Players Surprise Teammate With Varsity Jacket



TWITTER PHOTOS

Carmel High School varsity football team member Caleb Cleary, center, with teammates.

By Holly Crocco

Being part of a team transcends beyond athletic ability. Sometimes, it means simply showing up every day and encouraging your teammates.

And that's exactly what Caleb Cleary has done as a member of the Carmel High School varsity football team this year. As a student with special needs, Caleb doesn't play on the field – his energy is put to use supporting and cheering on his teammates.

In the beginning of the season, head coach Todd Cayea saw Cleary's passion and asked him to join the team. Cleary gladly accepted, and traveled with the Carmel Rams all season.

To thank this special member of the team, other teammates pooled their money together at the end of the season and purchased a varsity jacket that they presented to Caleb last week.

"On behalf of the football team, we loved having you at every game this year, we enjoyed your presence, and we



Caleb Cleary shows off his new varsity jacket.

thought we'd give you a little gift for being a member of our team," said Team Captain Will Boalt when presenting the jacket. "We appreciate you a lot."

If Caleb's smile is any indication of his feelings, it's safe to say he appreciates his teammates, as well.

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# ProSwing's Land Swap Proposal Under Fire in Southeast

*continued from page 1*

purpose of preserving open space, and both the State Legislature – the Senate and Assembly – as well as the governor, would need to approve the swap.

In addition to the town ending up with about 14 more acres of open space as a result of the swap, O'Rourke claims the Starr Ridge Road property is more valuable than the property on Pugsley Road.

"The preliminary information from the appraiser is that the fair market value of the property on Starr Ridge is far more than what Pugsley is," he said.

However, resident Ann Fanizzi vehemently disagrees.

"When you cut up open space, then you take away the value of that open space – for habitat, for wildlife, for protection of wetlands, for protection of the reservoir," she said.

During a Feb. 13 public hearing on the matter, other residents also voiced their concerns.

Samantha Woodgate brought up the fact that there is currently a proposal for a large-scale distribution facility to be constructed along Pugsley Road in the works, which is expected to increase tractor-trailer traffic coming off Interstate 84.

"Can Pugsley Road hold all of this?" she asked. "We're mixing families (using the recreation facility) with trucks. It seems like a very poor mix to me."

Other residents spoke of the hunting, horseback riding, camping and other activities that currently take place in the open space on Pugsley Road. "I'm sad that we are ignoring the other sports that are available and being used," said one woman.

Barbara Mundy pointed out that ProSwing is only desirable to families with athletes, and families that can afford to use the facility.

"It's not just an open area where people are going to come and frolic," she said. "There is a cost to this, and it's not inexpensive to have your children coached."

Craig Cole, who lives on Starr Ridge Road, said that if the swap doesn't get approved, the Starr Ridge Road property is not appropriate for such a project.

"From a Starr Ridge standpoint, this (the swap) makes perfect sense," he said. "But I can't speak to the development of the other land."

Other residents, however, welcome the addition of a recreational facility where their children can receive athletic training and practice during the on- and off-season.

"Coaching baseball is by far the most gratifying part of my day, in-season," said Alex Mazzotta. "The essence of it really is providing for children – giving them an outlet."

Another parent of athletes said she used to have to travel far distances to get quality training for her kids when they were in

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# After Three Years of Negotiations, County & CSEA Reach Agreement

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Association contract.

"As a result of that, a lot of the time that was spent in this process was incorporating a 24/7, 365 operation into an agreement that didn't have any others that operated like that," said Eldridge.

He explained that dispatchers did not automatically get everything that was in the CSEA agreement. "The reality is that you have to actually negotiate everything," he said.

Eldridge also noted that only the dispatchers at the county 911 center, which fall under the supervision of the county's Bureau of Emergency Services, are covered under the new CSEA contract. Sheriff's dispatchers, which are under the supervision of the sheriff, are still under the Putnam County Sheriff's Employee Association.

Bumgarner also noted an important point in the new memorandum of agreement: "Probably the most important thing that we should point out, which was very important to the union and is something that wound up in the agreement, was the fact that all existing 911 employees will be covered by the longevity agreement in the CSEA agreement," she said.

"One of the major issues that we faced was longevity," added Eldridge.

He explained that the original contract approved by the county Board of Supervisors prior to the state's 1967 Taylor Law

implemented a 5 percent salary increase for employees after 10 years, then again after every five years.

"It's always been a very, very difficult thing for us because there is no cap on it," said Eldridge, who noted that there are many employees with decades of service to the county under their belts – and even one with 50 years.

The new agreement rolls back the salary increase for current employees after 25 years from 5 percent to 3 percent, with a cap at 35 years. For new employees, it's a flat dollar amount capped at \$3,500 after 30 years.

Nacerino said she's happy to see this item addressed in the contract.

"As we evolve and change with our contracts, we have to look forward, and still honor the existing employees, which was what was demonstrated here with longevity," she said. "So that's a very important point, but it's just not sustainable to keep going down the path we (were). And that's commonplace with contracts."

Other items addressed in the contract include meal compensation for "highway blue collar" employees; if an employee uses sick time after the earning of overtime, it could affect their overtime; direct deposit for all employees; the incorporation of a domestic partner for bereavement and family illness leave; as well as a number of policies related

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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.



## Proposed Chicken Regulations May Ruffle Feathers in Kent

By Examiner Media Staff

A proposed law in Kent would require homeowners to adhere to a new set of guidelines prior to sheltering domestic chickens in their backyard.

As the desire grows for local homeowners to harbor chickens for their own personal food source, Kent lawmakers are looking to amend a section of the town code to place

regulations on chicken and hen upkeep in residential neighborhoods. Officials assert that improper maintenance can result in unsafe and unsanitary conditions that would ultimately become a nuisance to nearby properties.

"I certainly don't want to discourage people from having backyard chickens," said Councilman Chris Ruthven at the Feb.

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## Sheriff Identifies Bones Found in Patterson

By Holly Crocco

Dental records have confirmed that the human remains found recently in Patterson belong to Laelcira DeLima, 45, of Danbury, who went missing in 2017, according to Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr.

At about 11:30 a.m. Feb. 1, deputies were dispatched to the Putnam Diner on Route 22 in Patterson after it was reported that a human skull had been found in the woods behind the restaurant.

When deputies arrived, a 35-year-old Carmel man informed them that he was walking through the woods when he saw what he believed to be a human skull, and

that he immediately called 911 and waited for the deputies to arrive.

Additional members of the sheriff's department responded, including investigators from the Forensic ID Unit. With the assistance of New York State Police, deputies canvassed the area and recovered additional human bones, a sneaker and other articles of clothing, said Langley.

DeLima was last seen Oct. 20, 2017 leaving her residence in her 2016 Honda Accord. On Nov. 7, 2017, her vehicle was found, seemingly abandoned, in front of the Putnam Diner.

The cause of death is still under investigation.

## Firefighters Graduate With State Certification



BILL GOULDMAN PHOTO

The Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services' firefighter graduation was held Feb. 7 at the Training & Operations Building in Carmel. Many firefighters from throughout Putnam – and even Westchester County – completed various Firefighter 1 courses throughout the year. At the graduation, friends and family celebrate the many weekends and nights sacrificed by these volunteers to obtain certification as a New York State interior firefighter.

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# When Danger Strikes, Putnam's Emergency Response Team Answers the Call

By Holly Crocco

When crisis strikes in Putnam, there is a group of specially-trained individuals ready to spring into action.

The Putnam County Emergency Response Team is made up of 25 law enforcement members hailing from the sheriff's department and Carmel and Kent police departments, plus negotiators.

"We don't really know a lot about the ERT team, but lately in the last couple of months, thank God you guys are there to help with specific dangerous situations," said Legislator Neal Sullivan, R-Mahopac, during the county's Feb. 11 Protective Services Committee meeting.

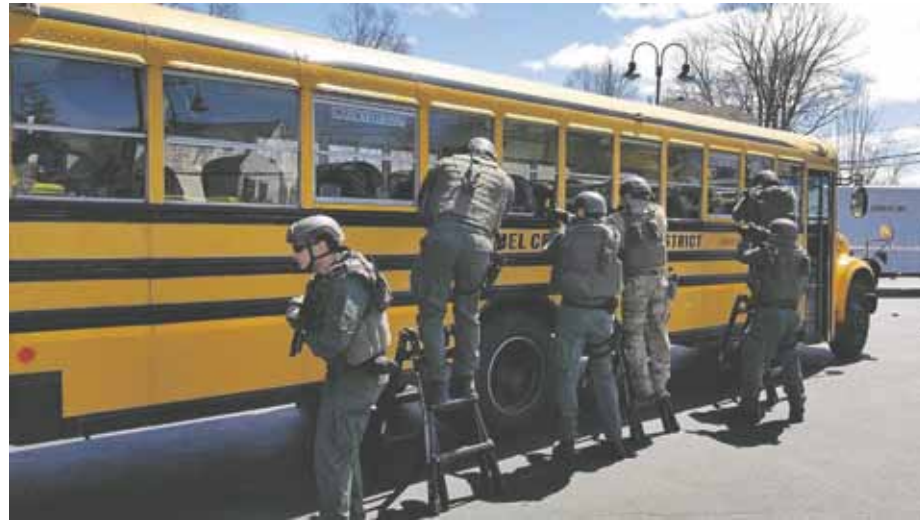
Sheriff's Department Lt. Kevin McManus leads the team, with Carmel Police Lt. John Dearman as assistant team commander.

"The team is primarily funded through a grant from Homeland Security, which covers roughly half of our training," explained McManus.

Dearman added that the county allocates another \$35,000 for equipment, and \$10,000 to reimburse the towns of Carmel and Kent for callouts from those police departments to cover crises in other jurisdictions.

The team is called out, on average, four times per year, according to McManus. "A request for the team can be made by anyone through any of the departments," he explained.

He said once a request is made and ERT leaders are brought up to speed on a developing situation, the decision is made



PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PHOTO

Members of the Putnam County Emergency Response Team train at a local school.

as to whether a response from the team is warranted.

"If there's an armed, barricaded subject, if there's a barricaded EDP (emotionally disturbed person) in the house who wants to hurt himself or someone else, that certainly would constitute a response from the team," said McManus. "Of course, any hostage situation or any bomb threat – anything where there's an imminent threat of violence against the people."

Depending on the type threat, a request is sent out to all team members and, similar to volunteer firefighters, anyone who is

available may spring into action. However, since not all members have "take-home" vehicles and may first need to stop at the station, and because they're all on different schedules, not every team member responds to every event.

"You could have four or five guys there quick, and four or five guys who get there in a half an hour," explained Dearman.

And when ERT members arrive at the scene of an incident, they work alongside whichever law enforcement department is in charge.

"We're a tool to be utilized by the

department that calls us out," said Dearman. "So if the incident was in Carmel, either the chief or one of his designees would be incident commander. We don't just get to go off and do what we want. We have to work within the jurisdiction we're in."

This collaboration began about 15 years ago, when the team was formed.

"We were sharing services before it was politically cool to say 'sharing services,'" said Dearman. "Because we know no one department could man and equip one team together. We all got together and did it together."

ERT members train once a month for eight hours, either at the Paladin Center or the county's fire training center, at shooting ranges in East Fishkill and Westchester County, and even at local temples and schools to practice movement.

"The temples are really happy," said McManus. "They specifically asked us to go up there, and in light of everything that's going on nationally and internationally, it's good practice for us and hopefully that makes them feel better that we have a little better understanding of the inside of their structures."

Legislator Ginny Nacerino, R-Patterson, found last week's discussion enlightening.

"These are little pockets of things that are done under the radar that people are not aware of, to keep us safe and protect us," she said. "The training and expertise that go into this are not things that people are widely aware of."

## Police Blotter

### Fugitive Arrested

Feb. 8: A traffic stop in Patterson lead to the arrest of a Connecticut man wanted for his suspected involvement in a hit-and-run accident.

According to Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr., Marcellus Farrell, 32, was pulled over for a traffic violation near the intersection of Route 292 and Harmony Road, when was determined that he was wanted in Connecticut for a hit-and-run accident involving serious injury or death.

Ferrell was taken to Carmel Town Court where he was arraigned as a fugitive from justice and remanded to the Putnam County Correctional Facility to await a County Court extradition hearing.

On Feb. 10, he was formally arraigned in Putnam County Court by Judge James Rooney. At that time, he waived the extradition hearing and agreed to be extradited to Connecticut. Ferrell was remanded back to PCCF to await pick up by the Connecticut State Police.

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## Democrat Launches Campaign for Assembly Byrne's Seat

Stephanie Keegan of Somers, a former educator, a mother and veteran's advocate, has launched a campaign to unseat Republican Kevin Byrne in the 94th Assembly District, which represents the Putnam County towns of Putnam Valley, Mahopac, Southeast and Patterson, as well as parts of northern Westchester.

In a campaign video, Keegan explains that she was spurred to activism after her son passed away four years ago from an infection from IV drug use.

Her son, Daniel, served two tours of duty in Iraq over 26 months. When he returned home, he was suffering from PTSD and was unable to get the treatment he needed from the VA hospital. Daniel passed away before receiving his first appointment.

"For the last three years I have fought for people like Daniel, for families like mine," she said. "I have been to Washington, I have spoken to lawmakers and advocated for the changes our families need. But we can't wait for Washington. We need to invest in health care right here in New York – in mental health, in addiction treatment. We need to fight for our public health. We need to protect our natural resources. And we need to invest in our communities, because families who are struggling deserve access to the support they need."

Through her advocacy, Keegan has worked on three bills that have passed



Stephanie Keegan

the U.S. House of Representatives with bipartisan support to benefit veterans. She said she plans on taking this track record of success to Albany in order to enrich the lives of families in the 94th District and around New York.

At her campaign kickoff event, Keegan was endorsed by local Democrats.

"We are excited and honored to support Stephanie Keegan for Assembly in the 94th," said Putnam County Democratic Chairman Scott Reing. "I know Stephanie and I know the work she has done to make lives better for our veterans. I look forward to her continuing that work on our behalf in Albany."

For more information about Stephanie Keegan, visit [keeganfornewyork.com](http://keeganfornewyork.com).

## Putnam DA's Office Helps Lock Up Convicted Murderer

A Poughkeepsie woman who was convicted of murder last year may spend her life in prison, after the Putnam County District Attorney's Office helped prosecute the case.

Nicole Addimando was sentenced to 19 years to life in prison for the murder of Christopher Grover, with a concurrent sentence of 15 years and five years post-release supervision.

Addimando was convicted by a jury April 12, 2019, of second-degree murder and second-degree criminal possession of a weapon.

According to Putnam County D.A. Robert Tendy, Addimando claimed that she had been abused for years by Grover and that she shot him in self-defense during an altercation. However, photos of Grover after the shooting showed him lying on a couch in a sleeping position with his hands folded.

"The defendant's allegations of abuse and self-defense were exhaustively investigated for two years by many detectives and law enforcement agencies," said Tendy. "We took the defendant's claims of abuse very seriously. In the end, everything pointed to the fact that Christopher Grover was asleep when the defendant executed him, and there was no evidence that he had ever abused her."

In fact, Tendy said there was evidence that

Addimando was "extremely verbally abusive to him and planned the murder in advance."

"Fortunately, she didn't get away with it," he said. "The jury reviewed the extensive forensic evidence and trial testimony and unanimously rejected the defendant's claims."

The Putnam County D.A.'s office was named special prosecutor on the case due to a conflict with the Dutchess County District Attorney's Office.

Tendy thanked the "incredible teamwork" of Poughkeepsie detectives Richard Sisilli, Darrell Honkala and Jason Guy; the New York State Police Crime Lab; and Putnam County sheriff's investigator Matthew Tunney, crime analyst Jessica Cundari, and investigator Michael Benvie.

The trial team was Chief Assistant Chana Krauss and First Assistant Larry Glasser.

"I want to thank the Grover family and friends for their incredible support and trust that the justice system would work," said Krauss. "Their strength is a testament to who they are as a family and who Chris was as a son, father, friend and coach."

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# The Music Cottage Brewster

By Holly Crocco

Kids and adults alike are rocking out at The Music Cottage in Brewster.

"When we started there was no other music school in Brewster, and no other music store," said Lauren Krzyzewski, who runs the business with her husband, George.

George studied music and played music professionally in his younger years, and after the couple had children, he returned to teaching his craft. "That's his true passion," said Lauren.

George had been teaching in the area for many years before they decided to open The Music Cottage in 2011. According to Lauren, George had about 40 students he was teaching either at his home or his students', under the name Open Door Studio, and they thought that having one central location would better serve everyone.

The Krzyzewskis, who live in Pawling, sought out the Brewster area because George had students from Brewster, North Salem, Patterson, Mahopac, Carmel, Pawling, Somers, Danbury, Katonah and beyond.

"It's a really good area because you get people from Putnam, you get people from Westchester, you get people from Connecticut," said Lauren. "So when that location came up, it was just perfect."

The Music Cottage takes students



PROVIDED PHOTO

Students at The Music Cottage in Brewster take a break from rehearsing.

from age 6 to adult, offering lessons on all instruments, as well as vocal studies, singing groups, ensembles and bands, and music camp. In addition, the business sells Yamaha instruments, as well as accessories, and even offers instrument rentals.

"About 5 to 6 percent of our students are adults," explained Lauren. "We have some mother-daughter and father-son learners.

We also have some retirees who always wanted to play an instrument, or who did it before and came back to music."

The Music Cottage currently has nine teachers, including Lauren and George's son, Joe.

"Probably our most popular offering is our introductory package," she said. With this \$99 package, a new student gets four

30-minute private lessons, and can try up to four different instruments.

"It gives kids an opportunity to try different things," said Lauren. "We try to make it really easy for anyone to try and explore what they want to do, musically."

She said the private lessons are individualized, and allow the students to explore their interests and goals, learn how to read music and play chords, and delve into method books and music theory.

"In our rock group we let the kids choose the music," she added.

Students and parents can rent instruments from The Music Cottage until they or their children decide they have chosen something they are going to stick with, to avoid purchasing an expensive instrument that will only end up collecting dust, or one that is not the right size, or of poor quality.

"We have very strong opinions about the type of instruments we would like our students to play – good quality, affordable instruments that will hold up," said Lauren.

She also explained that if someone rents an instrument for a month or a few months and then ends up buying one from The Music Cottage, they can deduct the cost of the rental from the purchase price.

The Music Cottage encourages its students to get before an audience. "We like to showcase our students, and we like to put

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# Carmel Grad Inducted into BOCES Tech Center Hall of Fame

Laura Spallina, a clinical coordinator/surgical hospitalist-nurse practitioner at Northern Westchester Hospital, was named the first inductee into the Hall of Fame for the Career and Technical Education Center at Putnam | Northern Westchester BOCES.

Spallina, a former New Visions Health student and Carmel High School alum, credits her studies at Tech for her career success.

"My time as a New Vision Student helped me learn that my true passion was to be a nurse at Northern Westchester Hospital," said Spallina, who lives in Mahopac.

New Visions Health students intern at area hospitals and do rotations with different specialists, learning about the various areas of medicine before they even begin college.

Spallina, who graduated from Hunter-Bellevue's School of Nursing in 2010, went on to receive her master's degree as a family nurse practitioner from Pace University.

She worked in labor and delivery at NWH, advanced to patient care manager and became a surgical nurse practitioner in 2014.

In addition to her work at the hospital, Spallina also teaches New Visions Health students, who she welcomes into the hospital.

"Laura is so deserving of this honor," said Caroline Murphy, a teacher in the New Visions Health program and a registered nurse. "She has been an amazing resource and inspiration, caring about and teaching our students."

"Teaching the New Visions students is really rewarding," said Spallina, who said she is happy to spread the word about the joys of her career. "I hope to help others realize how great this profession is."

Spallina said she also enjoys helping students in the program realize their potential.

"It is great being part of their journey

to find out who they really want to be," she said. "And it is always a success when New Visions students go to nursing school because this profession is a great stepping stone to so many different opportunities. Nurses can change their specialty multiple times and get to help people every day."

Lois Demaio, director of Advanced Clinical Practitioners-Surgery at NWH, said Spallina is most deserving of this recognition. "I'm so

glad she's on our team," said Demaio. "She's such an important piece of the hospital and how we function here."

Spallina said the best part of her job is meeting new people and learning something new every day.

"I enjoy being with patients and advocating for them and comforting them," she said. "In health care, there is always room for further education and growth."



PROVIDED PHOTO

Laura Spallina

## BOW: The Music Cottage

*continued from previous page*  
them together," said Lauren.

She explained that the business has held smaller recitals for beginners at the Studio Around the Corner in Brewster, as well as larger showcases for intermediate and advanced students at the Towne Crier Café in Beacon. "It's a real show," said Lauren.

In addition, students from The Music Cottage perform regularly at the monthly open mic night at Moonlight Café & Caterers in Brewster.

Sometimes the teachers even perform with their students.

"We love to see our students play together and have the teachers back them up," said Lauren. "Our philosophy is to get them used to doing shows. Even professional are nervous doing shows, but the more they perform the more confident they get."

*The Music Cottage is located at 177 Main St., Brewster, near the corner of Route 22. For more information, call 845-363-1456 or visit [www.musiccottage.com](http://www.musiccottage.com).*

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We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to Editor-in-Chief hcrocco@theexaminernews.com. The Putnam Examiner requires all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.

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# Putnam Heart Walk to Honor Judge Reitz

This year's American Heart Association's Putnam County Heart Walk will honor a beloved member of the community who passed away unexpectedly last year.

"It is our privilege to honor Judge James Reitz," said Patrick Thomas, a board member of the Eastern Region of the American Heart Association and cardiologist at New York-Presbyterian Medical Group Hudson Valley Cardiology. "This is a great way to honor a man who made Putnam County a better place to live."

Reitz, who passed away in June from a heart attack, was fair-minded and strong in his performance as a Putnam County Court judge, according to Thomas. In this role, he was known as a "multi-hat" judge, presiding over criminal, family and surrogate courts. Reitz visited and welcomed the youngest to the eldest into his heart and life, and celebrated all aspects of his life with compassion and kindness.

The Putnam County Heart Walk is scheduled Sunday, April 26 at Brewster High School. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the walk is scheduled to start at 10 a.m.

The event has been instrumental in



FILE PHOTO

The late Judge James Reitz

innovative breakthroughs over the last 25 years. Since its inception, mortality rates from cardiovascular disease and stroke have plummeted by 45 percent, according to the AHA. Each walker and each donation

have helped transform health statistics into lives saved, but there is more work to be done.

"I am so pleased that the American Heart Association has decided to honor James," said Barbara Reitz, the judge's widow. "Jim believed we could all make a difference with just one hug, handshake or smile, and to know that he is still making a difference in the lives of people in Putnam County is very heartwarming."

The Heart Walk is open to the community, and all are welcome to participate and change the story of heart disease and stroke in Putnam County. Those who walk are committed to funding research that keeps hearts beating.

"The American Heart Association has carved a place in the history of health by saying 'yes' to funding lifesaving science for the last several generations," said Thomas. "The science of how we respond to heart disease and stroke has advanced tremendously over the last few years."

For more information or to register for the Putnam County Heart Walk, visit <http://putnamheartwalk.org>.

## Letters to the Editor

### Drag Queen Story Hour is Inappropriate for Youth

The Feb. 4 article about Drag Queen Story Hour at the Putnam Valley Library failed to impart any rational basis for why such an event is in the interest of a civil society.

The salient question is: Why would a grown man want to cross-dress, apply grotesque makeup, a garish wig, and then seek access to children? And why would parents of small children permit access? Would they consider allowing a stripper or a pole dancer or a Playboy Bunny to perform for their kids and then call it "love, acceptance, tolerance and diversity?"

The DQSH website states the obvious

intent of deconstructing relational boundaries and biological reality via "queer role models" and replacing it with a notion of "gender fluidity." The target age group is incapable of comprehending that they are being inculcated into the LGBTQ spectrum while the (supposed) adults in the room are blithely unaware or irresponsibly unconcerned that normalizing pedophilia has been in the crosshairs of homoerotic activism for some time.

This is why it's pathetic and cowardly for Putnam Valley Town Supervisor Sam Oliverio to hide behind the First Amendment

as an excuse for this assault on the minds of impressionable children. He, along with the Putnam Valley Library staff, are being complicit in creating the perfect storm for future exploitation. I doubt they are cognizant that in Texas, there were DQSH events that were actually hosted by known sex offenders.

But now, they're on notice...

**Linda Cebrian  
Rhinebeck**

### Thanks for Making Kent Winter Festival a Success

On Saturday, Feb. 8, the Town of Kent held its sixth annual Winter Festival. It was an absolutely terrific day, and though we didn't have snow, we had hikes, activities, snacks, games, s'mores, the Nimham Mountain Singers, a bonfire, Bingo, a tremendous birds of prey show, and hours and hours of good fun!

I would like to thank our volunteers, Kelly Griffin, Tyler Badger, Madeline LoPriore, Shane RiveraRuane, Owen RiveraRuane, Steve Wolfe, Nate Wolfe, Evan Lalak, Pam Lalak, Cora Hedman, Andy Cooke and Gabby Pardee, for all their hard work in putting it together.

I would also like to thank the following organizations for their contributions to this amazing day: Kent Public Library for their fun activities; Arts on the Lake for designing and printing the flyers; Kent Police Department,

especially Officers Knapp and Piekarski for manning a table, and always keeping us safe; Carmel Cinema 8 for giving out popcorn and sponsoring Bingo prizes;

Lake Carmel Fire Department for keeping the bonfire going and for all you do for our town; Carmel Pack One Cub Scouts for bringing information about Scouting and Andy Cook for leading the hikes; Putnam County Land Trust, which shared its mission with the public; Carmel-Kent Chamber of Commerce, whose members always come and serve snacks and beverages to festival-goers at no cost;

Nimham Mountain Singers, whose inclusive drum circle entertains, educates and allows children to participate; and ShopRite of Carmel, who not only ran a booth helping children make bird feeders, but stepped in at the 11th hour to fully cover

the cost and sponsor the magnificent birds of prey show by Brian Bradley, which served as the grand finale to another stupendous day!

Thank you, too, to Town Clerk Yolanda Cappelli for her artistic tattoo work, and our facilities man Adam Pavelka for keeping the building and grounds humming.

I also want to thank our amazing staff of the Kent Recreation and Parks Department – our Crew Chief Chris Kehoe, Ryan Anderes, Edwin Swanson, Chris Heller, John Fenty, Nikki Santos and the town's remarkable Director of Recreation and Parks Jared Kuczinski – whose boundless enthusiasm, excitement and dedication make the Winter Festival more successful every year!

Let's do it again in 2021!

**Maureen Fleming  
Kent Town Supervisor**

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# Obituaries

## Ursula C. Albanese

Ursula C. Albanese, 99, died Feb. 10.

Ursula was born July 15, 1920 in Carmel to Salvatore and Rose (Munzi) Napolitano. On Sept. 17, 1950, she married Frank Albanese (1973) at St. James the Apostle Church in Carmel. They had two children.

Ursula is survived by her children Joseph Albanese and Mamie Galazin; grandchildren Jason, Meghan and Tina Rose; sister Vi Moffa of Danbury; great-granddaughter Magalina Rose; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Visitation was Feb. 15 at Cargain Funeral Homes, Inc., in Carmel, followed by a funeral service at the funeral home. Ursula was brought to her final resting place at St. Lawrence O'Toole Cemetery in Brewster.

## Ettore Annunziata

Ettore "Eddie" Annunziata, a resident of Mahopac since 1970, passed away Feb. 11 at the age of 85. He was born in Sarno, Italy, on Nov. 26, 1934, the son of Claudio and Maria (Francesca) Annunziata.

Eddie emigrated to the United States by himself in 1950 at the age of 15. After settling in the Bronx, he sent for his mother, sister and grandmother to join him in the U.S. He was a horse trainer at Circle A Farm in Mahopac.

He married Dolores Dionisio in 1962. She predeceased him July 8, 2009.

Eddie is survived by his sons Michael, Edward, Richard and Anthony; grandchildren Sophia, Michael, Vincent, Cassie, Justine and Tanya; and great-granddaughter Olivia. He was predeceased by his daughter Angela Rella and his sister Theresa Annunziata.

Visitation was Feb. 14 at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home in Mahopac, with a service the following day at the funeral home. Interment followed at First Presbyterian Cemetery in Mahopac Falls.

## Melissa Antunes

Melissa Antunes died Feb. 9.

Melissa was born July 14, 1973 to Patricia (Adams) Antunes and Andrew Antunes, the youngest of four children. Melissa spent her childhood growing up in Putnam Valley.

She graduated from Lakeland High School in 1991 and became fluent in Spanish while pursuing her bachelor's degree in education. She graduated from Arizona State University and completed her master's degree shortly after.

Melissa became a Spanish teacher at a private school before becoming part of the Foreign Language Department at Lakeland High School.

Melissa was predeceased by her mother Patricia in 1985. She is survived by her children Noah and Maggie; her father Andrew and stepmother Ada Ereno; sister Maxine Antunes-Reiff; brother and sister-in-law Andrew and Angela (Graci) Antunes; brother Steven Antunes; and several nieces, nephews and grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

Visitation was Feb. 13 followed by a funeral service at Yorktown Funeral Home in Shrub Oak.

## Margaret Mary Bohren

Margaret Mary Bohren of Danbury died Feb. 9. She was 72 years old.

Daughter of the late Edwin and Mary (nee Keegan) Bohren, Margaret was born in New York City on Dec. 1, 1947. She was a certified nursing assistant at Hancock Hall Nursing Home in Danbury for more than 20 years before retiring.

Margaret will be missed by her siblings Thomas (Valerie), Joan Ford (Ken) and James (MaryEllen); as well as nieces and nephews and grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

Margaret thoroughly enjoyed spending time with family and friends at Peach Lake, the summer home where she grew up.

Viewing and funeral services were Feb. 15 at Beecher Funeral Home in Brewster. Interment was at Peach Pond Cemetery.

## Santino Crecco

Santino Crecco of Mahopac passed away Feb. 10 at the age of 85.

He was born Nov. 1, 1934 in Ripi, Italy, the son of Armando and Eleanora (Conciatore) Crecco. On March 17, 1956 he married Virginia Murphy at St. Angela Merici Church in the Bronx. They had seven children.

Santino immigrated to the U.S. in 1946. As he grew up, he became a builder and local contractor, erecting many of the homes in the Mahopac area.

Santino is survived by his wife Virginia; his children Dolores Watson (James), Vincent, Stephen (Lisa), James (Patricia), John (Kim), Sandra Soto (Anthony) and Mary Heady (Wayne); 19 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his sister Rosa Crecco and granddaughter Kayla Crecco.

Visitation was Feb. 13 at Joseph J. Smith

voting "no."

Legislator Paul Jonke, R-Brewster, congratulated all parties for reaching an agreement.

"I give you a lot of credit for getting out from under the schedule of longevity," he told Eldridge. "It's not going to penalize those that are entitled now, and it will set a different bar for new employees, and I think it's a great thing and I think you guys did a great job on this."

Funeral Home in Mahopac. A Mass of Christian Burial was Feb. 14 at St. John The Evangelist Church, also in Mahopac. Interment followed at Raymond Hill Cemetery in Carmel.

## Louise R. DiLeo

Louise R. DiLeo of Pawling died Feb. 9. She was 92.

Born Nov. 13, 1927 in Madison, N.J., she was the daughter of the late Leon and Theresa (DeSena) Martino, and resided in Brooklyn.

On Sept. 13, 1947, Louise married Alfred DiLeo at St. Frances Church in Brooklyn.

Louise and her family later moved to Carmel and opened Fred's Market, which they ran for 13 years. In 1971, she joined the Columbiettes Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus Council 6318 in Carmel. She served as president for three terms and was a member for 25 years. In 1983, she and her husband retired and moved to Pawling and became members of St. John's Church.

Louise was predeceased by her husband Alfred of 67 years. She is survived by her daughter Janet Hanrahan and her husband Michael of Poughkeepsie, son Alfred and wife Jean of Stormville, son Michael and his wife Danuta of Poughquag, and grandsons Brandon DiLeo, and Jonathan DiLeo and his wife Jackie of Boston.

Visitation was Feb. 16 at Horn & Thomes, Inc., Funeral Home in Pawling, with a Mass of Christian Burial on Feb. 17 at St. John's Church in Pawling.

## Edward Geary

Edward Geary, 78, of Brewster, formerly of Yorktown Heights, passed away Feb. 10.

Edward was born in Tarrytown on May 25, 1941, son of the late Maurice and Mary (Quinn) Geary.

Edward served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Vigil, then went into law enforcement.

In addition to his wife Maureen (Elliott) Geary, Edward is survived by his children and their spouses, Kelly Geary of Brewster, Michael (Mary Jane) Geary of Mahopac, Christine (Jerry) Kenney of Arlington, Va., and Edward (Brienne) Geary of Somers; his brother Maurice Geary of Port Saint Lucie, Fla.; sister Kathleen Pearson of Federal Way, Wash.; and grandchildren Candace, Nicholas, Erin, Tara, Ryleigh and Keegan.

He was preceded by his brother Michael Geary.

Visitation was Feb. 16 at Cargain Funeral Homes, Inc., in Mahopac, with a Mass of Christian Burial on Feb. 17 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. Edward was then brought to his final resting place in an entombment at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Putnam Valley.

## Sanka R. Massey

Sanka R. Massey of Carmel died Feb. 10. She was 72 years old.

Born May 23, 1947 in Zablace, Croatia, she was the daughter of the late Frane and Anka (Antolos) Rossini. On July 15, 1972, she and her two daughters Marica and Natasha immigrated to America.

On July 18, 1999 she married Raymond

Massey in Kent. Together they resided in Brewster until three years ago, when they moved to Carmel.

Sanka was a proud survivor of breast cancer for the last 24 years, participating in 19 Susan G. Komen Orange County Race for the Cure events.

Sanka is survived by her husband Ray of 20 years; her daughters Marica Pendjer and her husband John Miller of Orange, Calif., and Natasha Restrepo and her husband Jorge of North Salem; granddaughters Bianka and Tatiana Restrepo; as well as nieces, nephews, godchildren and cousins.

A Mass of Christian Burial was Feb. 17 at St. James the Apostle Church in Carmel, followed by interment at Raymond Hill Cemetery in Carmel. Visitation was Feb. 16 at Beecher Funeral Home in Brewster.

## Michael P. McMahon

Michael P. McMahon, 65 formerly of Yonkers, passed away Feb. 12.

He married his high school sweetheart Mary (nee Himick) in 1976. In 1984, Michael built a house and moved his family to Carmel. Michael was a member of Teamsters local 456, retiring from Waste Management.

He was predeceased by his wife Mary, and sisters Margaret Berry and Susan Ellis. He is survived by his brother John (Joan), children Kristan DeGrazio (Frank) and Lauren Fitzgerald (Eddie), and grandchildren Frankie and Trevor, as well as his many nieces and nephews.

The family received visitors at Balsamo-Cordovano Funeral Home in Carmel on Feb. 15 and 16.

## Dean Reynolds

Dean Reynolds of Naples, Fla., formerly of Mahopac, passed away Feb. 10 at the age of 50. He was born in Mt. Kisco on April 2, 1969, the son of Richard and Ramona (Wilcox) Reynolds.

Dean is survived by his father Richard; daughter Casey Knapp and her husband Tyler; sons Matthew, Kyle, Dylan and Brendan; brothers Richard (Lora) and Scott; and great-grandsons Colton and Grayson. He was predeceased by his mother Ramona.

Visitation was Feb. 16 at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home in Mahopac, followed by words or remembrance.



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# After Three Years of Negotiations, County & CSEA Reach Agreement

*continued from page 2*

to IT, vehicle, safety and health, and more.

Janet Canaday, president of CSEA Unit 8150 in Putnam County, thanked the Personnel Committee for moving the new contract to the full Legislature for approval. "I am very happy that the county and the CSEA have come to this agreement," she said. "This has been a long time coming."

Canady explained that on Feb. 6, the agreement was also approved by Unit 8150 members, with 256 voting "yes" and 42

# Counties Concerned About Medicaid Funding Changes

Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell recently voiced her concern about the impact communities will feel if the governor's proposed Medicaid funding changes are enacted.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo said he wants the state's 62 counties to contribute an additional \$150 million to pay for Medicaid's skyrocketing costs. The counties enroll Medicaid recipients, but because they don't set the eligibility guidelines, they are not responsible for the increase.

"Here in Putnam we take care of our most vulnerable citizens, and will always make sure they get the services they need," said Odell. "But if the state shifts the cost of that care to the counties, we will have to make other cuts that will devastate our budget and hurt our communities."

Putnam is not the only county on the brink of hardship if the funding change is enacted. Odell said she has been in contact with Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, who sits on the governor's Medicaid Redesign Team and who has heard concerns from many other counties.

In 2012, to help counties and local governments adhere to the state-mandated 2 percent property tax cap, Cuomo and state lawmakers enacted a zero growth Medicaid cap. The cap helped counties stabilize and, in several cases, reduce county property tax rate levies.

Counties are now asking the governor and State Legislature to keep the zero growth Medicaid cap.

"As we have always done, counties stand united behind lowering the cost of Medicaid and improving the quality of care for those in need," said New York State Association of Counties President John Marren. "However, any state Medicaid proposal must protect local taxpayers and services by keeping the current cost control caps in place."

State Sen. Pete Harckham, D-Peekskill, who represents parts of Putnam County as well as parts of Westchester and Dutchess, said the state should look for more reasonable approaches to closing the budget gap before turning to already overburdened taxpayers.

"With the share of Medicaid costs in New York State making up about half of every county's tax bill, no one should expect our hardworking property owners to foot an even larger share in order to close the state's budget deficit," said Harckham, a member of the Senate's Local Government Committee. "Not when New York's local government already pay the highest share of Medicaid costs in the country."

New York is one of the few states in the nation to require county funds to cover the cost of Medicaid, and the only one that required county taxpayers to fund a full half of the state's share when it was implemented in 1966. Today, counties and New York City fund \$7.6 billion of the state's more than \$70 billion Medicaid program.

It's undeniable that Medicaid costs have increased. In Putnam alone, the costs have risen by \$4 million from 2018 to 2019, according to Odell.

Before 2015 in Putnam County, about 5,000 residents were enrolled in Medicaid, she said. By July 2019, the county had 13,114 Medicaid recipients.

None of these cost or enrollment increases are the result of Putnam County policy, however the governor has suggested the counties can find the extra funds by ferreting out waste, according to Odell.

"Putnam County has already done that," she said. "A few years back, the county brought in consultants who worked with the Department of Social Services to flag suspected fraud. Upon inspection, some well-to-do residents did, in fact, seem to be abusing the system. By taking reverse mortgages on expensive homes, writing off investments as losses and hiding assets in untouchable retirement accounts, they qualified for Medicaid. But here's the surprising thing: That's all legal. If the state closed its gaping loopholes, it could save some money."

Odell said that during her tenure, the county has adopted eight budgets below the property tax cap.

"Putnam officials are not spendthrifts," she said. "We look after our taxpayers' interests by spending conservatively."

To stay below the state's 2 percent property tax cap, Putnam can only raise its spending by \$1.2 million this fiscal year. But if the state shifts its Medicaid costs onto the counties' backs, it will eat up a significant portion of their spending, explained Odell.

"The bottom line is, if this shift in

Medicaid costs goes through, Putnam's outside agencies will see funding cuts and our aging infrastructure will continue to crumble," she said. "We ask the governor and the State Legislature to keep the zero Medicaid growth cap and work with the counties to find a way to solve the problem."



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# Always An Angel Homecare Shares Love on Valentine's Day

By Roberta Velichko

Love was in the air and embraced all 25 guests who attended a Valentine's Day party at Always An Angel Homecare in Putnam Valley on Feb. 14.

Red heart-shaped balloons outside blowing in the chilly breeze greeted guests as they arrived. Inside, clients and their caregivers were welcomed by owners Roberta and Steve Velichko and their staff.

Guests participated in a festive and creative photo booth holding wooden hearts, while others noshed on crudité, cheese and crackers, specialty cupcakes, heart-shaped cookies and chocolate-covered strawberries. Teams of two competed in a rousing game of matching famous couples.

Vintage cupid angel postcards from the early 1900s hung from red ribbons, many with messages from years ago about how they've been too busy write, to wishing well

in endeavors of school and love. Most were addressed with only name, town and state – without a street address – for 1 cent postage.

As a faith-based business, Always An Angel Homecare teaches and trains caregivers to “bring their fruit basket” to each shift – and they don't mean apples and oranges. They mean the fruits of the Holy Spirit, including love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal 5:22).

The party ended with a reading of “The Father's Love Letter” by the Velichkos' son, Stephen Velichko, who works with her remotely from Spain.

Always An Angel Homecare offers non-medical services to seniors in Westchester and Putnam Counties. It has been around for almost eight years, having serviced more than 500 clients in the area. For more information, call 845-526-1132 or visit [www.alwaysanangelhomecare.com](http://www.alwaysanangelhomecare.com).



PROVIDED PHOTOS

Seniors and staff celebrate Valentine's Day at Always An Angel Home Care in Putnam Valley.

## ProSwing's Land Swap Proposal Under Fire in Southeast

*continued from page 2*

school, and would have loved to see this facility come to town sooner.

“To have a place like this come to Brewster is huge,” she said.

Supervisor Tony Hay spoke favorably of the proposed development. “This project would become a destination in the summertime,” he said.

In addition, Hay noted that it would bring in tax revenue. “They will pay their fair share of taxes, just like anybody else,” he said.

But Fanizzi implored the board not to make a move on the matter without more consideration. “This discussion should not end,” she said. “We need a lot of thought and input from residents. One meeting is not

enough.”

However, the Southeast Town Board is scheduled to vote next week on whether to ask the State Legislature for approval for the swap. If the state denies the request, then the proposal to complete the project on Pugsley Road is dead in the water. If the state approves it, then the town and ProSwing will begin negotiations. If the swap is successfully carried out, ProSwing will then begin the process of site plan approvals for the recreational facility.

There are no details available regarding the project, as a site plan will not be submitted until the land swap is approved and finalized.

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# Center for Healthy Living: Five Tips For a Healthier Heart

By Amy Rosenfeld

Registered dietitian at the Center for Healthy Living at Northern Westchester Hospital

Heart disease is the number-one killer of both men and women in the United States. Your diet, in addition to regular exercise, can help you prevent and even reverse heart disease. Here are five simple steps you can take to lower your blood pressure, cholesterol, and risk for heart disease by eating well. Don't forget to check out heart-healthy events at the Center for Healthy Living all February long!

Visit [NWHCenterForHealthyLiving.eventbrite.com](http://NWHCenterForHealthyLiving.eventbrite.com) for a list of all upcoming events.

1. Choose whole grains and add legumes.

Whole grains, fruits, vegetables, nuts, and seeds all contain healthy doses of fiber, which also have been associated with decreased heart disease risk. In particular,

legumes (including beans and lentils), as well as oatmeal, oat bran, barley, nuts, seeds, and some fruits contain soluble fiber, which attracts water and turns to gel during digestion, helping to reduce LDL (bad) cholesterol.

2. Focus on healthy fats.

Oils (such as olive oil), nuts, and seeds all contain healthy doses of monounsaturated fat, the type of fat that can protect you against heart disease. Choose monounsaturated fats in place of foods high in saturated fats, such as cheese, butter, fatty red meats, and avoid trans fats (partially or fully hydrogenated oils) as these fats in high doses can increase LDL cholesterol.

3. Add fish into your diet twice per week.

Fish, such as salmon, contain a healthy dose of omega-3 fatty acids. Research shows that adding fish into your diet two times per week can help reduce triglyceride levels. Limit red meats and



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processed meats and opt for fish and vegetarian proteins (like legumes) more often.

4. Limit salt and sugar.

Put down the salt and sugar shakers. Instead, season your food with fresh herbs, make sauces and marinades from scratch, and limit processed foods. Limit total added sugar (such as sweet treats) to 24g of sugar or less per day – be sure to check ingredients lists on labels for hidden sources of sugar.

5. Eat the Rainbow.

Fill your plate with colorful fruits and vegetables at each meal and snack. A plant-based diet has been shown to reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke.

*Don't forget to check out heart-healthy events at the Center for Healthy Living all February long! Visit [NWHCenterForHealthyLiving.eventbrite.com](http://NWHCenterForHealthyLiving.eventbrite.com) for a list of all upcoming events.*

## Proposed Chicken Regulations May Ruffle Feathers in Kent

*continued from page 3*

4 Kent Town Board meeting. "They're personally not for me, but I understand that people want them and they're a nice hobby to have."

Since the Feb. 4 meeting, changes have been made to the proposed law that will be discussed at the board's Feb. 18 meeting, including allowing guinea fowl on residential properties.

People do have guinea fowl and they have them for multiple reasons, said Ruthven. "It's one of the ways of controlling ticks; people get them just for that reason," he said. "They lay eggs and people eat the eggs from them, too."

Additional changes include permitting six hens per half-acre property, and maxing out at 24 hens per household, opposed to the original 15 proposed. Also, no hens would be allowed on properties smaller than one-half-acre.

If the law goes into effect, hens must be kept in a fully enclosed coop or run that provides a minimum of 2 square feet per hen. Hens would be required to stay in the coop or run if not located in a yard with an at least 5-foot fence surrounding the property, prohibiting hens from running at large.

If the yard is fenced in, hens would be authorized to "supervised exercise" in the rear of the property.

Homeowners would also be limited to no more than one coop or run on a parcel with a design that provides ventilation and shade for hens and protection from inclement

weather, predators, wild birds and rodents. Additionally, a coop and run could be located at least 25 feet from the property line.

Furthermore, all feed would need to be kept in rodent-proof containers. Coops and runs would also have to be kept clean, dry and in sanitary conditions, with animal waste, uneaten and discarded food, and feathers removed at least once a week, according to the proposal.

Roosters are also prohibited.

"There are some who have chickens in the park district," Building Inspector Bill Waters told lawmakers. "Nobody really cares about the chickens until you get a rooster, then people get real concerned about it."

Waters expressed concern about the proposed law, alluding that complaints could arise in the Lake Carmel area with houses in close proximity to one another.

Prior to breeding, raising, harboring or maintaining hens within town limits, a permit must be issued by the Code Enforcement Office and renewed every three years. Violators could have their permits revoked and face an up to \$250 fine or jail time.

However, any coops or runs existing prior to the law's passage would have one year to comply with the required rules and regulations. The current provision would not apply to properties located within a state-certified agricultural district.

The proposed law is scheduled to be discussed as a workshop item during the Tuesday, Feb. 18 Kent Town Board meeting at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

## 'Shark Tank' Contestant Featured at Women in Biz Conference

Forty percent of U.S. businesses are women-owned, and last year, women started more than 1,800 net new businesses every day.

The Women's Enterprise Development Center and Putnam County SCORE invite women entrepreneurs and business professionals to attend "Our New World Conference – Create Your Destiny Achieve Your Dream" on Saturday, April 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Putnam County Golf Club, 187 Hill St., Mahopac.

Precious Williams, also known as the #KillerPitchMaster, is the featured keynote speaker for the event. As a 13-time national business elevator pitch champion, Williams has been on top television shows and publications for her pitching, branding and

professional speaking skills. She has been featured on season eight of ABC's "Shark Tank," on CNN, MSNBC and in the Wall Street Journal; in the movie "LEAP;" and more.

The registration fee of \$59.95 includes the keynote presentation, thought-provoking workshops, a topical Social Media Panel with industry professionals, breakfast, lunch, and network opportunities with fellow attendees.

For more information, contact Cynthia Marsh Croll at WEDC at [cmash-croll@wedcbiz.org](mailto:cmash-croll@wedcbiz.org) or 845-363-6432; or George Joiner at Putnam SCORE at [george.joiner@scorevolunteer.com](mailto:george.joiner@scorevolunteer.com) or 845-225-6030.

For registration, workshop and speaker information, and details about the event, visit [www.ONWConference.com](http://www.ONWConference.com).



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Precious Williams, also known as the #KillerPitchMaster, will be the keynote speaker at the 2020 New World Conference in Mahopac.



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# I Think I May Know Where to Find Jimmy Hoffa

After almost a half-century of living with my wife Margaret, we frequently like to reminisce about experiences we've shared and keepsakes we've gathered together. That included collectibles of all varieties, whether antiques, such as the 19th century end-of-day glass playing marbles I collected for some years, or new items such as Battersby porcelain boxes that my wife favors.

Sometimes when we sit together, reading or watching television, I'll recall an item that seems to have gone missing and will ask, "Where is that item?" Margaret will reply, "Oh, it's in 'my box,'" referring to a moving box she says was filled with collectibles and important papers in our last move when we downsized from a six-bedroom colonial home to a two-bedroom condo.

But where is that box, labeled "Margaret's box," that may or may not exist? She swears by it, but it hasn't yet turned up anywhere in our condo or in our storage room after we've been in our new location for more than five years. It's even become somewhat of a joke. I'll think of something that's gone missing, and just as I'm about to ask Margaret if she knows where it might be, I stop short and



By Bill Primavera

say, "Oh, wait a minute, it's in Margaret's box, right?"

Maybe we all have a Margaret's box for all things that once graced our lives and now are mysteriously missing. It can happen over time when the memory of where things are stored slowly fades.

There is one memory box I've had since I was a teenager. It's a sturdy box originally containing oranges from Florida that was sent to my family as a Christmas gift. After the oranges were consumed, I appropriated the box for my memorabilia that I've held on to since I was six years old. Only the most important papers are stored there: my Holy Communion certificate, my confirmation certificate, my Selective Service card, my high school and college diplomas, etc.

As I think about these important papers, I wonder whether that's the best system for filing them. It's doubtful.

That brings me to my basic point: Where should we place important papers to save?

One online source suggests:

1. Wallet. You are, obviously, very limited in what you can keep in such a small space.
2. Safe deposit box. You can rent one at

your bank or credit union for a small annual fee.

3. Home safe.
4. An attorney's office.
5. Out-of-area friend or relative. (This suggestion begs the question, where would they place the papers?)
6. Online or digital storage.

If the home option is chosen, where at home should money or important papers be placed? The suggestions I find are:

1. Again, a home safe.
2. Plastic page slips filed in a fireproof filing cabinet.
3. Under the mattress, as many people do with their money.

And speaking of that...

When we lived in a single-family home in Brooklyn Heights, we were once burglarized in the middle of the night by an intruder who had taken our back door from its hinges. It was the most frightening experience of our lives when we woke and Margaret told me that she had a strange dream that a man was standing in our bedroom, looking at us in bed. Thank goodness she stayed in a half-sleep state, or who knows what might have happened.

At any rate, the experience taught me something. For some years, I've maintained a library of rare books that I inherited from an aunt, which have always graced built-in

bookshelves in our living room. When I went downstairs the morning after the burglary, I found that each and every book had been rifled through, obviously looking for cash. So is that where people keep their cash at home, I thought? I was also told by the police the next morning that thieves also look in the freezer. Who knew?

What that thief didn't know was that, young as we were, we were living far beyond our means in a home that we could barely afford. We really had no money, certainly none to hide around the house. The one item the thief stole was my then-three-year-old daughter's piggy bank that probably had less than a few dollars in change.

As I ponder these questions and memories, I marvel at the claim that our most important documents are safely stored in Margaret's box. All I have to do now is find that box. I joke with her that if I ever do find our important documents in it, I'm sure to find Jimmy Hoffa as well.

*Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.*

## Brewster Student Awarded Putnam Children's Committee Scholarship

Brewster High School senior Brianna Sayegh has been awarded a scholarship from the Putnam County Children's Committee.

"Ms. Sayegh is a hard-working, deserving student, and the \$2,000 gift will be of benefit as she heads off to SUNY Oneonta in the fall," said a committee member.

The PCCC, which celebrated its 100th anniversary last year, is a local non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to Putnam County's children in need of aid for health, education and/or welfare.

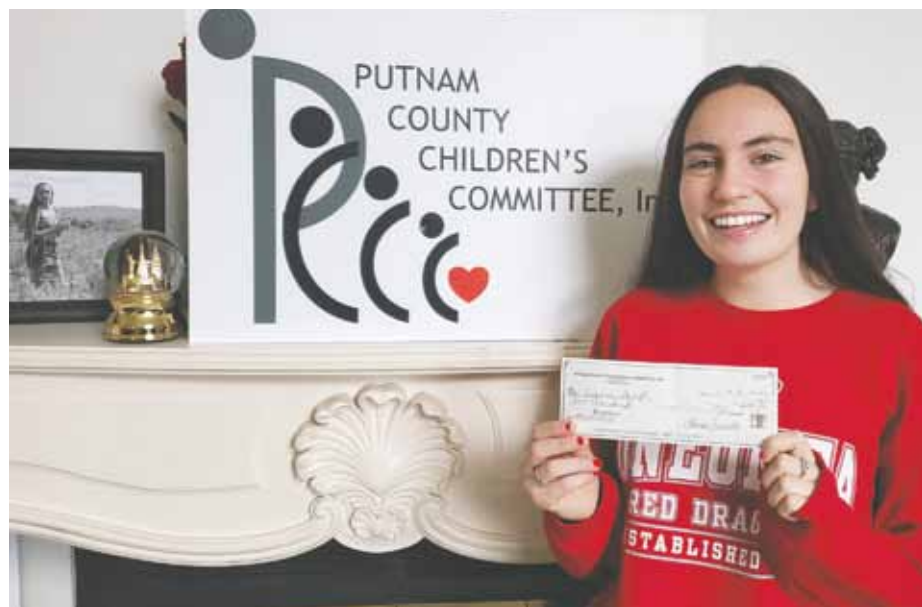
The committee uses the monies it raises to contribute to scholarships, as well as various programs and activities such as caring for victims of poverty, abuse, family hardships and emergencies, as well as

children in foster care.

PCCC also contributes throughout the year to causes that provide school supplies, foster children's care and holiday gifts. Requests are made by social workers, school personnel, recreation directors and pastors. Upon examination and approval, the committee will fund as many of these requests as possible.

One hundred percent of all donations go toward these programs. Committee members are all volunteers and pay for the cost of all fundraising and operational expenses.

*To donate to the Putnam County Children's Committee, mail a check or gift card donation to: PCCC, P.O. Box 187, Carmel, NY 10512.*



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Brianna Sayegh

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# The Latest on the Tariff Wars Threatening Wine Imports



By Nick Antonaccio

Whether we are proponents or opponents of the entwined economic, social, technological and political new order of the 21st century, one thing is clear. Each waking day brings new discoveries, economic change and political upheaval around the world.

One of the areas I tend to focus on, perhaps more than others, is the changing world of wine. And recent European Union (EU) political skirmishes have created an uncertain future for the United States wine market over tariffs.

“Who cares about European wines? Buy American,” might seem a reasonable response.

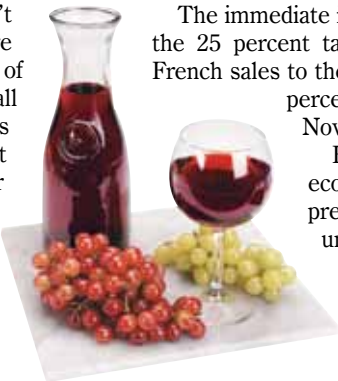
If the prices of Italian, French, Spanish, English and German wines increase significantly, won't American wines, typically more expensive than a number of European wines, gain a windfall profit? Won't American wineries benefit from greater profit margins at the expense of their European rivals?

All politics aside (as difficult as that may be in today's hotbed of opposing ideologies around the globe), the economic impact of the

recent wine tariffs imposed and/or threatened by the United States is casting a doomsday spell over a wide swath of the domestic wine industry. From producers, to importers, to distributors, to restaurants, to retail shops and to consumers, the financial impacts threaten the livelihoods of business owners and the wallets of consumers. The magnitude and breadth of the latest round of tariff threats has the potential of causing grievous economic and financial damage to the wine industry in the United States.

The backdrop: In November 2019, the United States imposed 25 percent tariffs on select products, principally wine, exported from select EU countries that historically have been subsidizing Airbus. Affected wines include those under 14 percent alcohol by volume from France, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom.

The immediate impact: In the first month the 25 percent tariffs were implemented, French sales to the United States fell by 42 percent compared to the prior November.



Fighting for their economic lives, and to preserve their otherwise unsold wines, French producers turned to new markets. French wine sales to China last November surged

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

35 percent. Wily French winemakers have found a way to deflect the intended punishment of United States tariffs. Is this a portent of a long-term loss of access to French wine in favor of China, our arch-tariff war adversary?

The economic and financial impact of the November drop in French imports was exponential.

It is estimated the ultimate cost up and down the import, distribution and retail chain was as much as \$148 million in lost cash profit and taxes. This loss of volume is not readily compensated for by increased sales of United States wines. The supply chain disruption will affect sales by reducing the channels available to American wineries.

In December, the United States tentatively set new tariffs on select goods imported from all 28 EU countries. Unless otherwise withdrawn before a Feb. 17 deadline (after this column was penned), a 100 percent tax will be imposed on all wines, cheeses, olive oil, whiskey and other consumer products.

Enactment of the threatened 100 percent tariffs would further reduce EU imports. Increased costs and reduced imports would cause employee layoffs and even small business closings at each of the layers of American support chains. Restaurants and retail stores would not have American substitutes for a number of their best-selling wines, thereby losing a significant portion of the profit margins that sustain their overall

*‘The world we live in is changing. The old order is transitioning; welcome to the new reality.’*

success.

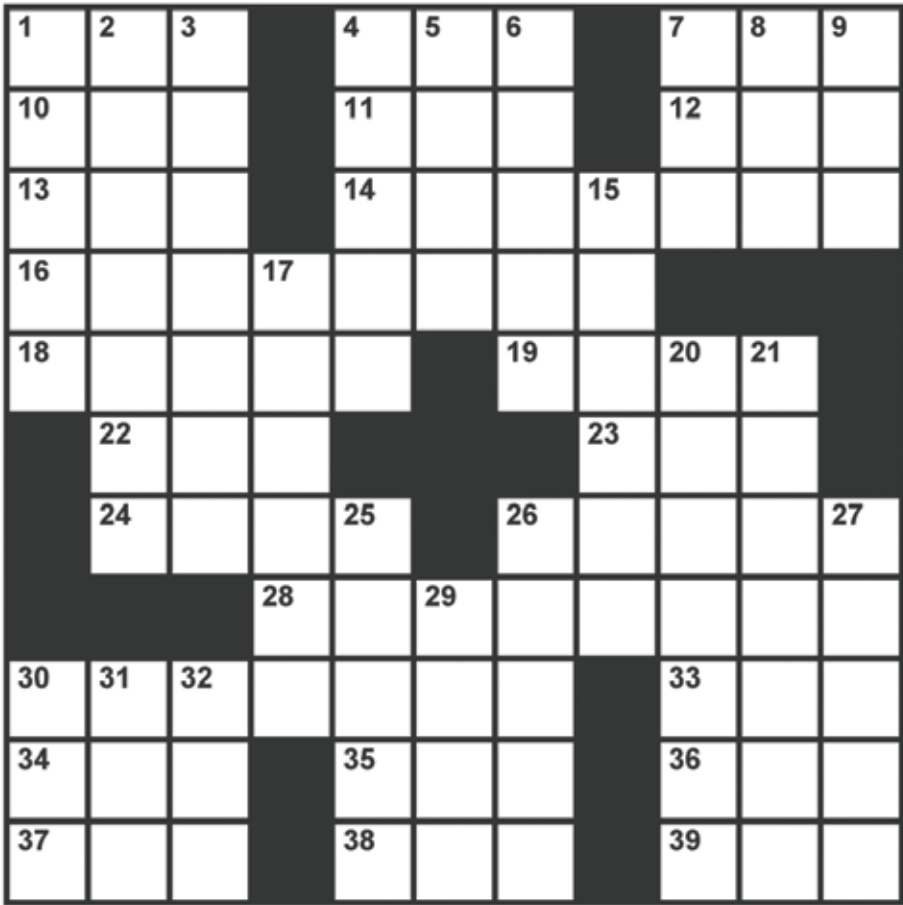
Overall, it is estimated that the wine industry could lose 11,000 to 80,000 jobs as a result of 100 percent tariffs.

The United States has won the World Trade Organization court case, entitling it to \$7.5 billion in tariffs from Airbus and EU countries. It would seem reasonable to collect such tariffs to the minimal detriment of the American economy.

Will the current tariff wars have a short-term effect on the domestic wine industry, or will the fallout of these tariffs have a more lasting, permanent impact? The ability to fully assess this seems to change every hour, day, week and month, as battle lines become clearer and conflict resolution more cogent.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 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.

## Crossword Puzzle



### Across

- 1. Clock std.
- 4. Bit of humor
- 7. Put two and two together, say
- 10. GPS recommendation
- 11. Government security agency, abbr.
- 12. Understand
- 13. “Nice!”
- 14. Place for rolls
- 16. Nothing can be finer, than to eat at this mid Westchester diner, goes with 26 across
- 18. Mean
- 19. Tees off
- 22. Young lady
- 23. Ivanovic of tennis
- 24. Smooch in London
- 26. See 16 across
- 28. Like some damages
- 30. Relaxed and tranquil
- 33. Title of respect
- 34. Almond, cashew, etc.
- 35. Uncooked
- 36. Skater, Babilonia
- 37. Atlanta-based channel
- 38. They prosecute perps
- 39. Compass point

### Down

- 1. Excel feature
- 2. German POW camps
- 3. Iran's capital
- 4. Grind together, as teeth
- 5. Java is in it

- 6. Bouquet \_\_\_\_
- 7. Carolina \_\_\_\_
- 8. In excelsis \_\_\_\_
- 9. Watery film
- 15. Gibraltar
- 17. Slanting
- 20. Enters the service
- 21. Plants of the mint family
- 25. Mobile lock, garage and safe installers located in Somers, All \_\_\_\_ Lock Inc
- 26. Horizons
- 27. Spooky
- 29. School sports org.
- 30. Colonial insect
- 31. Rubber ducky's place
- 32. Liq. measures



# Happenings

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

**Art on Display:** Brewster resident Bryan Shea has installed three paintings depicting Tilly Foster Farm on the 1st floor of Mahopac Public Library.

## Tuesday, Feb. 18

**Colonial Kids:** Runs 2/18 – 2/21. 10:00 a.m., - 11:00 a.m., In this weeklong camp children ages 7-11 can make a different educational craft each day that teaches them about life during the colonial times. Register online at: [brewsterlibrary.org](http://brewsterlibrary.org) or give us a call at 845-279-6421

**Soul Painting:** Led by Jeanette Rodriguez. Also 2/25 @ 1:00 pm: Soul Painting is a powerful, intuitive, creative practice. In this 2-part workshop participants will use water base inks to unlock intuition and explore from within. Think of it as meditating with a paint brush in your hand - eyes wide open! \$5/person; pay fee to instructor at class. Registration is required. Register at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext. 100.

## Wednesday, Feb. 19

**Founding Era History:** 10 - 11:00 a.m., For youths ages 11-14 this history program will explore the creation of the United States and our founding fathers and mothers. This is a joint program with the Southeast Museum but will take place at the Brewster

Library. Register online at: [brewsterlibrary.org](http://brewsterlibrary.org) or give us a call at 845-279-6421

**Exercise Your Brain:** 1:00 p.m., Don't forget to exercise your brain as part of your healthy living routines. Experts from MVP Healthcare will be here with tips for improving your memory, focus, and concentration to keep your brain fit. For more information or to register, contact the Patterson Library at 845-878-6121 x10 or go to [www.pattersonlibrary.org](http://www.pattersonlibrary.org) and click Calendar.

**Cancer Support Group:** 7:00 p.m., Hosted by Support Connection, Inc., a not-for profit organization that provides free, confidential support services for people affected by breast and ovarian cancer, offers a wide range of free support groups women with breast and ovarian cancer. Groups focus on topics pertaining to living with cancer through all stages of diagnosis, treatment and post-treatment. For a complete calendar of groups at all locations, visit [www.supportconnection.org](http://www.supportconnection.org). Advance registration is required for all groups; call 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290

## Thursday, Feb. 20

**Take Your Child to the Library:** 11:00 a.m., - 12:00 p.m., National Take your Child to the Library day was February 1st, but Brewster Public Library will be hosting a special Take your Child to the Library

program during the schools winter recess on Thursday February 20th. We will be opening up the library early for families to come in and see all the changes that are happening here. Special guests will talk about the process involved in getting the library construction started as well as what the next steps are. Afterwards, there will be a special Storytime and fun activities for children.

**Foreign Film:** 6:30 p.m., RED, a film from Switzerland. Part-time model Valentine (Irène Jacob) meets a retired judge (Jean-Louis Trintignant) who lives in her neighborhood after she runs over his dog. At first the judge gifts Valentine with the dog, but her possessive boyfriend won't allow her to keep it. When she returns with the dog to the judge's house, she discovers him listening in on his neighbors' phone conversations. Valentine is outraged but her debates with the judge over his behavior soon leads them to form a strange bond. Rated R, running time 99 minutes. Screened in French with English subtitles. Registration is requested, popcorn provided. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

## Friday, Feb. 21

**Harriet:** Harriet is rated PG-13 - Genres: Action, Biography, Drama The extraordinary tale of Harriet Tubman's escape from slavery and transformation into one of America's greatest heroes, whose courage, ingenuity, and tenacity freed hundreds of slaves and changed the course of history. 7:00 p.m., Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040

## Saturday, Feb. 22

**Sweat for Vets:** 10:00 a.m., -12:00 p.m., depending on how many people show up, we may repeat the workout 2 or three times. Everyone who buys a ticket will receive an event T-shirt and 100% of the profits will be donated to the Joseph P. Dwyer Vet2Vet

Program. Crossfit Carmel 1961 route 6 Carmel Hamlet. 845-859-0501 <https://crossfitcarmelny.com/sweat-for-vets-event/>

**Putnam County Land Trust:** Two upcoming meetings designed to provide new and veteran stewards and trail volunteers with information to help them in their tasks: Saturday, Feb. 22 from 10 a.m. to noon, and Sunday, Feb. 23 from 2 to 4 p.m., at the PCLT offices at 63 Cobb Road, Brewster. To register, email [volunteer@pclt.net](mailto:volunteer@pclt.net) or call 914-621-8466.

## Wednesday, Feb. 26

**1970: Reed Library.** 11:00 a.m., Revisit 1970 - Nixon meets hippies and Elvis. Kent State, Cambodia, Apollo13. Register at [www.carmellibrary.org/calendar](http://www.carmellibrary.org/calendar).

**Empowered Health Care Consumers:** The LWV of Putnam County, in cooperation with the Mahopac Public Library, will be hosting a workshop. During this 1+1/2hour presentation, both 'We the People and 'Say Ah!', will help attendees develop tactical skills for enhancing their doctor, ER, inpatient hospital visits and follow-up experiences. Participants will receive an Advocacy 101, on how they can lend their voices to changing the current health care environment. 1:00 p.m., -2:30 p.m., Mahopac Public Library. Registration for this free presentation can be made online at: [WWW.MAHOPACLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.MAHOPACLIBRARY.ORG) or by calling 845-628-2009 EXT 100.

## Thursday, Feb. 27

**Tri-State IBM Retirees:** United Methodist Church Hall, E Main St, Shrub Oak, NY. Tama Goodstein, NYP/Hudson Valley Hospital Physical Therapist, will speak on Fall Prevention: How to Increase Strength & Tips for Exercise. Social and coffee at 1pm, meeting at 1:30pm. Club 2020 dues will be collected. Contact info: Peg Ryan (914) 528-5916.

## 'Four Chaplains' Remembered in Brewster



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Brewster American Legion Post 71 hosted a Four Chaplains memorial service Feb. 1, with VFW Post 672 and Girl Scout Troop 1067 also participating in the remembrance of this historic event, which took place on board the Dorchester during World War II (Feb. 3, 1943), when four chaplains sacrificed their lives to save others.

## Crossword Answers

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G | S | T |   | G | A | G |   | A | D | D |
| R | T | E |   | N | S | A |   | S | E | E |
| A | A | H |   | A | I | R | S | H | O | W |
| P | L | E | A | S | A | N | T |   |   |   |
| H | A | R | S | H |   | I | R | E | S |   |
|   |   | G | A | L |   |   |   | A | N | A |
|   |   | S | N | O | G |   | V | I | L | L |
|   |   |   |   | P | U | N | I | T | I | V |
| A | T | P | E | A | C | E |   | S | I | R |
| N | U | T |   | R | A | W |   | T | A | I |
| T | B | S |   | D | A | S |   | S | S | E |



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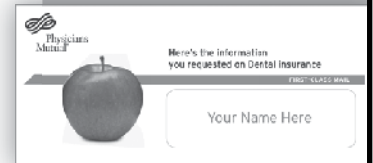
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## STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF PUTNAM SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS Index No. 500006/2018

**U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST, Plaintiff, v. DEBRA A. SARICH A/K/A DEBRA ANN SARICH, NEW YORK COMMUNITY BANK, BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HIGH RIDGE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, FIA CARD SERVICES, NA, DISCOVER BANK, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, Defendants.** To the above named Defendants:

You are hereby summoned to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of ap-

pearance on the Plaintiff's attorneys within thirty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

### NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action.

**YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE**

### COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of Honorable Victor G. Grossman, Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, signed the 29th day of January, 2020 at Carmel, New York. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage on the following property: **Tax I.D. No. 92-1-28 & 51** ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Putnam Valley, County of Putnam and State of New York known and designated as Lot Nos. 37 and 83 as shown on a certain map entitled, "Amended Phase Two Subdivision Map known as Highfields", filed in the Office of the Putnam County Clerk on January 5, 1995 as Map No. 2597-B bounded and described as follows:

**BEGINNING** in the most easterly corner of parcel described herein, where the parcel herein intersects with the westerly side of Lot 38, and

running the following courses and distances:

(1) South 71 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West 53.50 feet;  
(2) North 18 degrees 59 minutes 10 seconds West 32.50 feet;  
(3) THENCE Along a party wall parallel to the course in Item# 1 herein for a distance of 53.50 feet;  
(4) THENCE along a party wall parallel to the course in Item# 2 herein, for a distance of 32.50 feet, back to the point or place of BEGINNING. TOGETHER with a right of way in common with others for ingress and egress by foot and/or by vehicle over Pembroke Court to the nearest public highway. Subject to easements, covenants, and restriction of record.

These premises are also known as **35 Pembroke Court, Putnam Valley, NY 10579.**

**WOODS OVIATT GILMAN LLP**  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
500 Bausch & Lomb Place  
Rochester, NY 14604

### Legal Notice



# Grand Marshal Installed for Putnam St. Patrick's Day Parade



A previous St. Patrick's Day parade drew a crowd to Mahopac.



PROVIDED PHOTOS



Grand Marshal Elizabeth Flannery was sashed at the recent Northern Westchester-Putnam St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee installation dinner.



Grand Marshal Elizabeth Flannery, center, with chairpersons of the Northern Westchester-Putnam St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee at the recent installation dinner at Centennial Golf Club in Carmel.



## This Year's Event is March 8

The Northern Westchester-Putnam St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee inducted Yorktown resident Elizabeth Flannery as grand marshal of the 44th annual St. Patrick's Day parade during its Feb. 7 installation dinner at Centennial Golf Club in Carmel.

Flannery has a love of – and passion for – Irish history, music and traditions. She is an active member of the Irish-American Social Club and has marched with the club in countless St. Patrick's Day parades in Mahopac, New York City and Mt. Kisco, alongside her children and grandchildren.

Flannery was born in New York City to Mary O'Flaherty and Robert Frankenberry. Her mother is from the County of Limerick, and before she left for America, her mother voted in the first election of the Free Ireland for Eamon De Valera.

Flannery lived in New York City until she graduated the eighth grade from Lady of Good Council at 91st Street. Her family then moved to Shrub Oak. In 1957, she graduated from Lakeland High School, where she excelled in track, winning medals in the 100- and 220-yard dash. She later used her love of sports, her strong competitive nature, and love of children to help form and run a track team at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School.

She married Frank Flannery in November 1960. After 49 years of marriage, Frank passed away in 2009. They were blessed with six children, 16 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Flannery entered the workforce as a teenager working at Grant's department

store in Peekskill as a credit manager. After her youngest started school, she went to college to take accounting and business classes. In 1982, she began working for Joe Foley Sr., then Joe Foley Jr., at Foley Graphics in Yorktown Heights as a bookkeeper and human resources manager. She retired from Foley Graphics in May 2018.

Flannery is an active member in her parish and its organizations, including the Altar and Rosary Society, St. Ignatius study group and the Seton book club. She helped fund and organize the creation of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, and has volunteered as a gym teacher, Girl Scout leader and fund-raiser, and also helped organize a youth group trip to Denver, Dunwoodie, and Central Park for the visit of Pope John Paul II.

Flannery was also president of the Respect Life Society and has worked tirelessly over the years as an active member of the Irish-American Social Club of Northern Westchester and Putnam Counties.

She said she is looking forward to marching down Route 6 with her family on parade day, Sunday, March 8 (rain or shine) in the hamlet of Mahopac. Step off time is 2 p.m. The parade will begin at Mount Hope Road and head east, ending at the Lake Plaza Shopping Center.

The Pledge of Allegiance will be recited at 1:30 p.m. outside the Mahopac firehouse at the corner of Route 6 and Croton Falls Road.

For more information, visit [www.saintpatricksdaysparade.net](http://www.saintpatricksdaysparade.net). The deadline to register to march in the parade is Friday, Feb. 28.