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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date; Friday, October 7, 2011
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**SEASONAL FLU VACCINE CLINICS FOR RESIDENTS 18 YEARS OF AGE
AND OLDER**

Brewster - The Putnam County Department of Health will be holding public seasonal flu clinics for **Putnam County residents 18 years of age and older** at the following locations:

| <u>DAY/DATE</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>TIME</u> |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Thursday, October 13 | Garrison Fire Department 1616 Route 9, Garrison | 2:00pm - 6:30pm |
| Thursday, October 20 | Carmel Fire Department Route 52 & Vink Drive, Carmel | 2:00pm - 6:30pm |

The cost of the flu vaccination is \$20.00. Vaccine is free for those age 60 and older or for anyone with a Medicare card. Persons will be asked to provide proof of age and Putnam County residency (Driver's License).

The influenza vaccine for this year contains three strains, including the H1N1 strain.

The Putnam County Department of Health will also be offering *High Dose Flu Vaccine* for seniors age 65 and older. Studies have shown this high dose vaccine appears to be more effective in fighting flu for seniors. For more information on this vaccine, speak to your primary care physician or speak to a nurse at one of the public clinics.

Please call the Putnam County Department of Health's Flu Vaccine Hotline at (845) 808-1390 for updates including future clinics.

In order to move people through the clinic more quickly, the required vaccine consent forms will be posted at www.putnamcountyny.com. Download the forms, complete them and bring them with you to the clinic.

For any person younger than age 18, the Putnam County Department of Health recommends flu vaccination to be administered by the child's healthcare provider. However, eligible children 6 months through 18 years old can receive seasonal flu vaccine through the Department's pediatric immunization clinics. Please call 808-1332 for more information.

Additional flu clinics may be scheduled as flu vaccine shipments arrive. Please continue to check the **Putnam County Department of Health Flu Vaccine Hotline at 808-1390** for further updates or visit www.putnamcountyny.com.

Pneumonia vaccine will also be available **free** to those residents **over** 65 years of age or with a Medicare Card. For residents under 65 years, with certain health conditions, a \$45.00 fee will be charged.

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