

# 2014 State of the County Address

*Putnam County  
New York*



**March 13, 2014**

# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature

## *Agenda*

- Call To Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- National Anthem
- Roll Call
- State Of The County Address
- Adjournment

# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature

Call To Order

Carl L. Albano, Chairman  
*Putnam County Legislature*

# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature

- Color Guard
  - Putnam County Sheriff's Department
  - Civil Air Patrol
- Pledge of Allegiance
  - Dennis Sant  
*Putnam County Clerk*
- National Anthem
  - Leah Silidjian
  - Alena Becker  
*Mahopac High School Chorus*

# Special Meeting Of The Putnam County Legislature

## Roll Call

Carl L. Albano, Chairman  
*District 5*

Barbara J. Scuccimarra  
*District 1*

Roger S. Gross  
*District 6*

Sam Oliverio, Jr.  
*District 2*

Joseph F. Castellano  
*District 7*

Lou Tartaro  
*District 3*

Dini LoBue  
*District 8*

Ginny Nacerino, *Deputy Chair*  
*District 4*

Kevin Wright  
*District 9*

# 2014 State Of The County

MaryEllen Odell

*County Executive*

Bruce J. Walker

*Deputy County Executive*



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



2014

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# PUTNAM COUNTY

Where the Country Begins



Welcome to the 2014 State of the County Address



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



2014

STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

March 13, 2014

# 2014 State Of The County

MaryEllen Odell  
*County Executive*



Introducing our County Executive, MaryEllen Odell

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David Duncan Bruen

*Putnam County Executive 1978 – 1986*

August 14, 1929 – February 1, 2014



## Robert McMahon

*Commissioner, Bureau of Emergency Services 2000 – 2012*

April 8, 1946– October 12, 2013



# *Putnam Remembers Other Dedicated Public Servants That Have Recently Departed*

Philip M. Campbell

Charles Johansen

Robert Myers

Edward Pinyan

Anne M. Ruland

John Simmons

Walter Swarm

Wilfred Watts

Debra L. Giordonello

Paul Mancari

John O'Hara

William Reilly

James See

Patricia Sunday

Robert E. Warnken

Sandra Williams



An American flag is shown waving on a silver flagpole against a clear blue sky. The flag is the 50-star version, with the stars arranged in a grid. The text is overlaid on the flag.

Putnam County was honored  
to have been served by  
those who have passed.

Rest In Peace

# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

- PATHWAYS – HOW WE ARRIVED AT WHERE WE ARE TODAY





Putnam County Knows History Well. Lets follow the paths that brought us here and through this address, we will explore the **PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE**



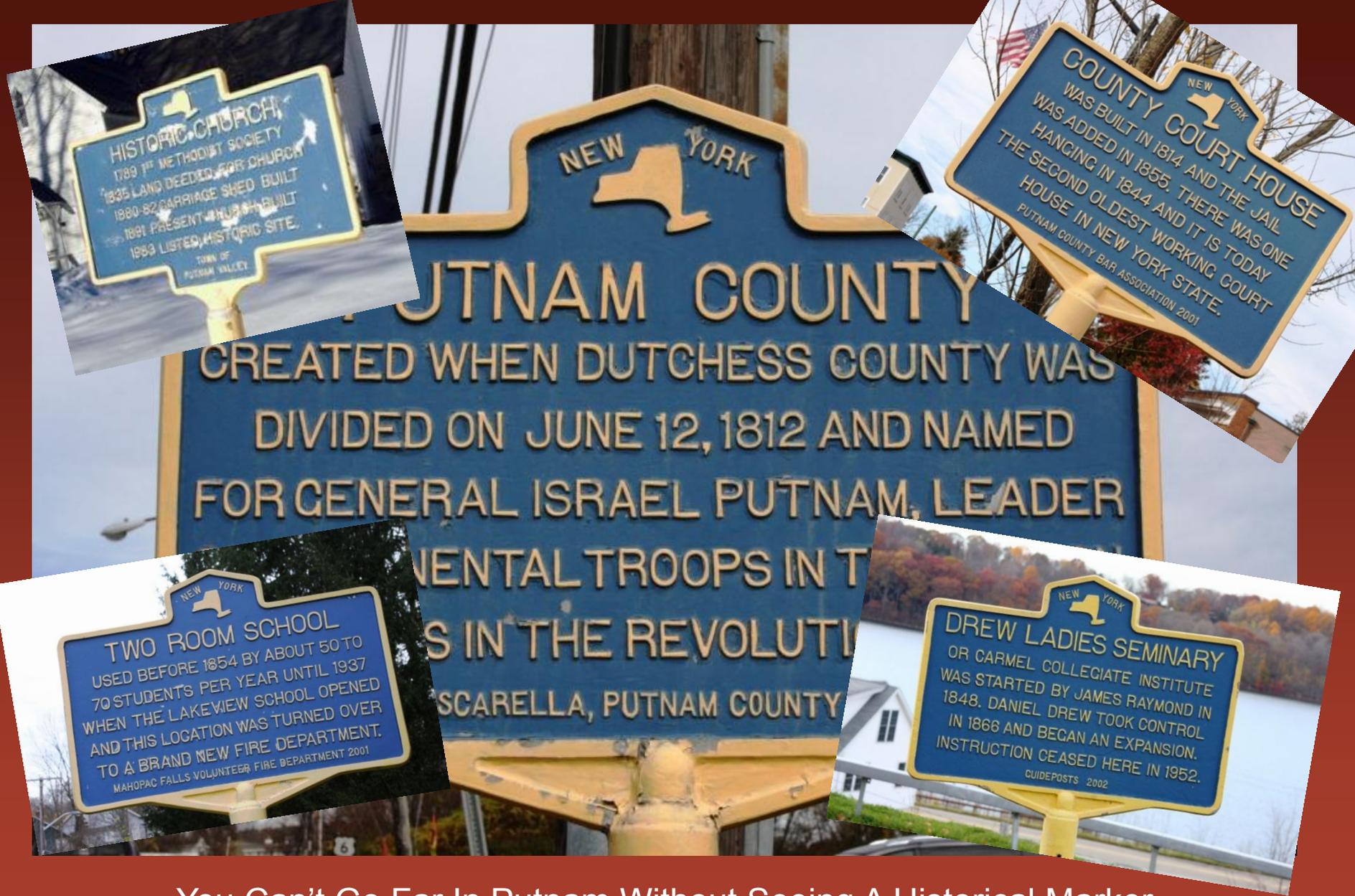
PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



**2014**

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You Can't Go Far In Putnam Without Seeing A Historical Marker

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

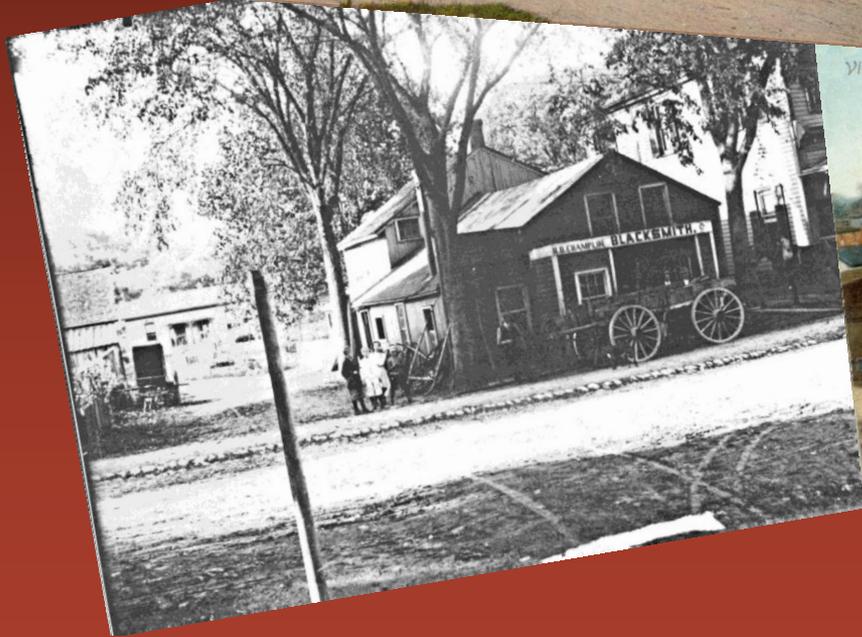
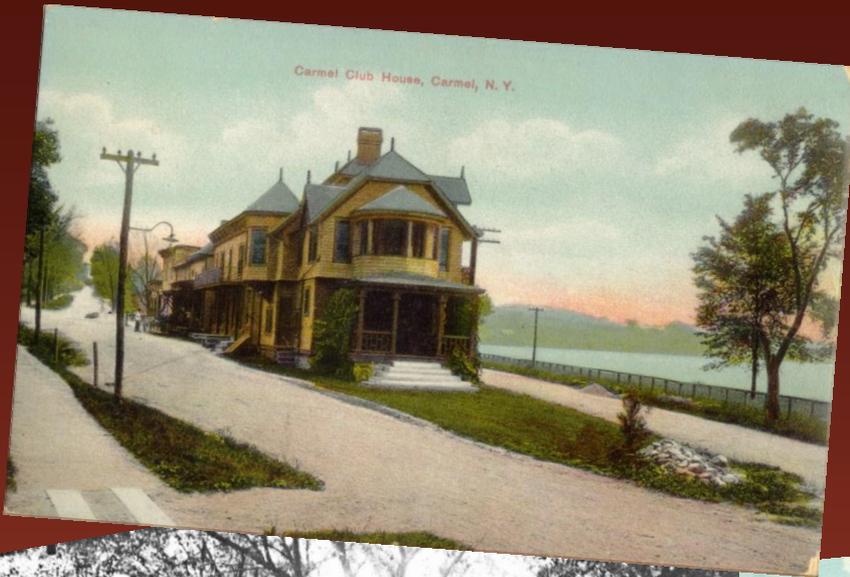


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All around us are other reminders of how we got here



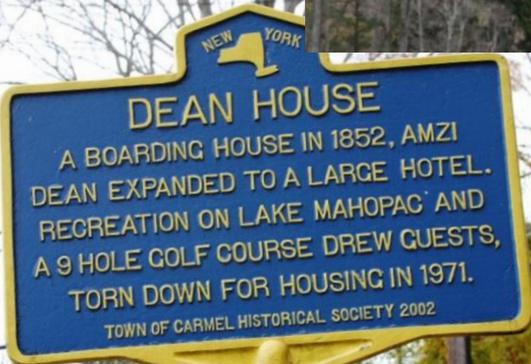
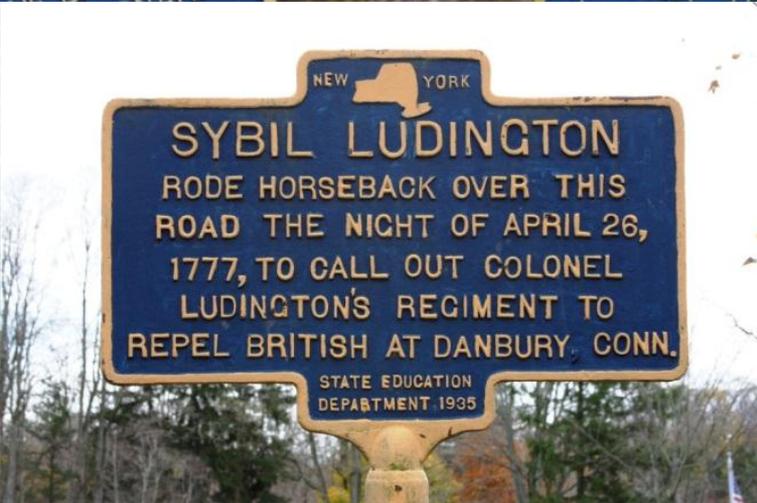
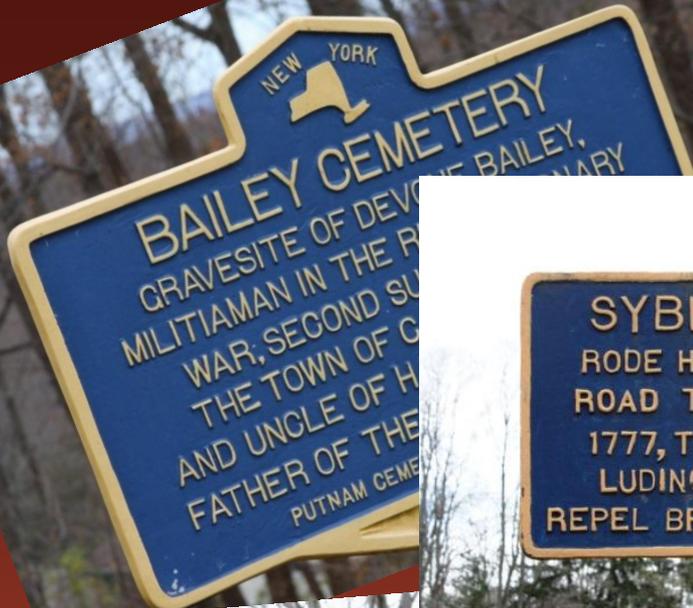
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From famous family names



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

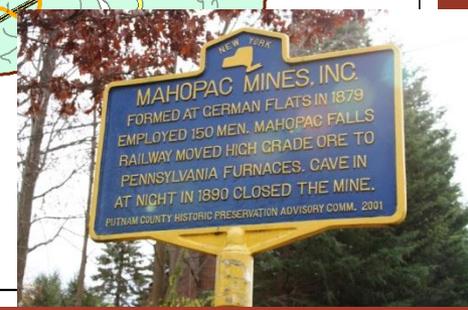
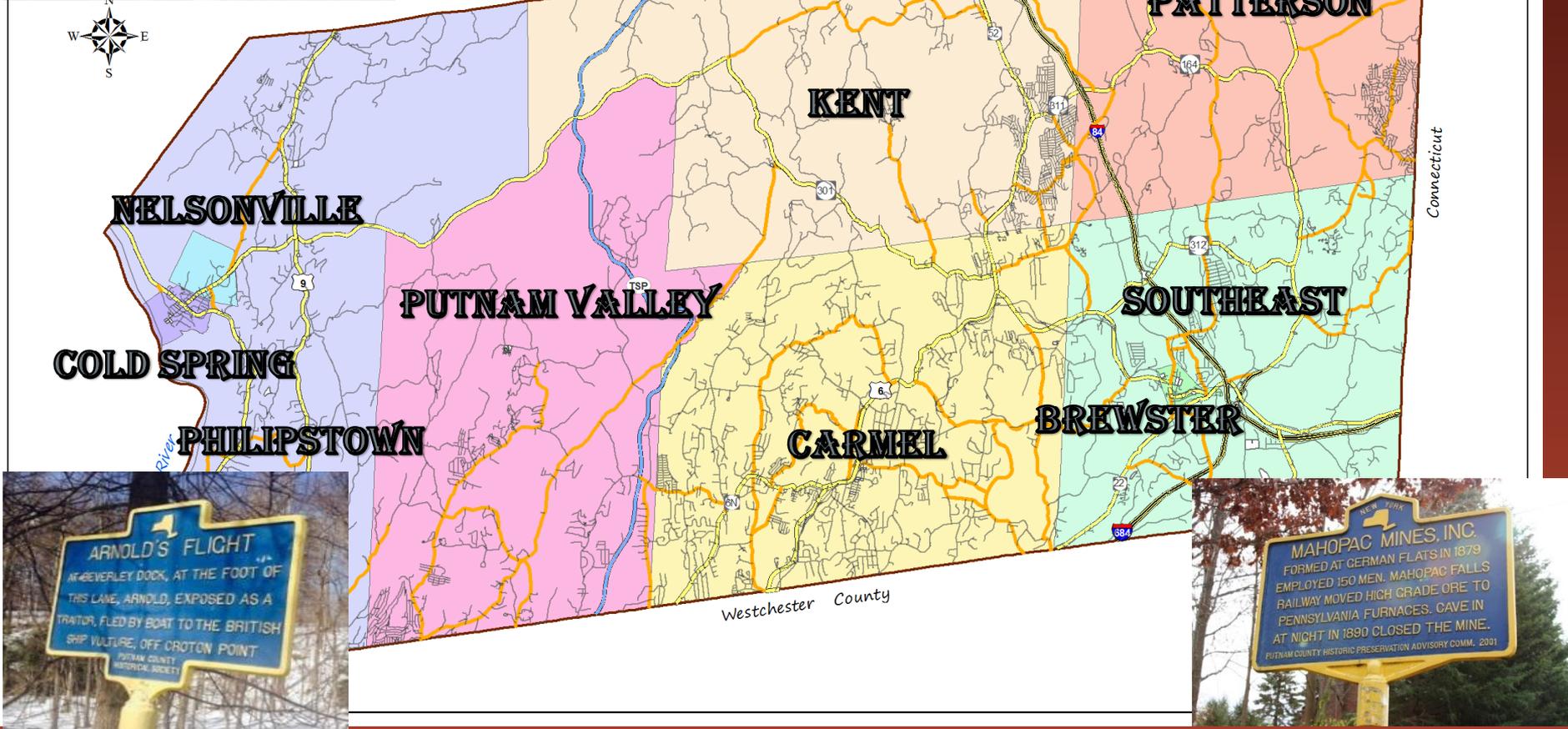


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STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

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# Putnam County NY



To the Towns and Villages and areas that just always seemed to be called the right name

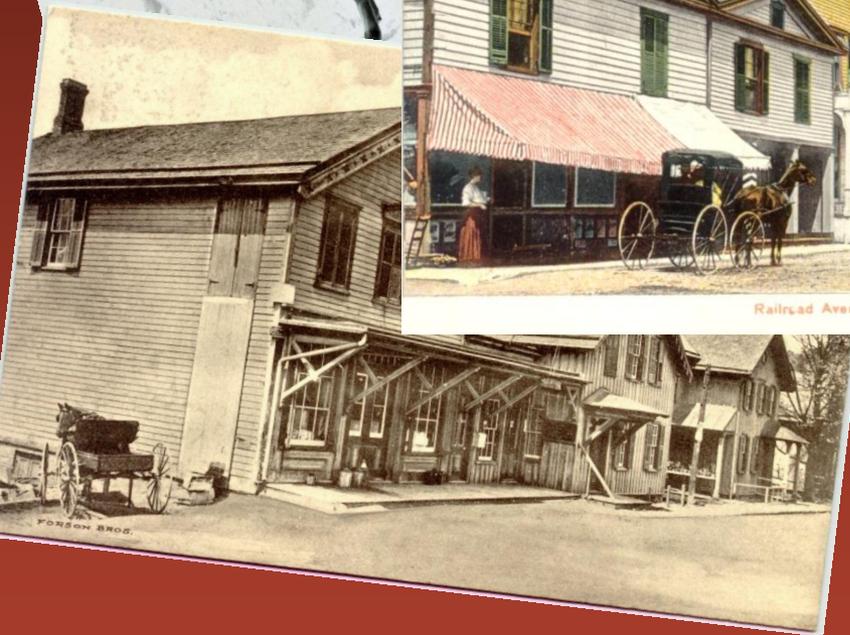
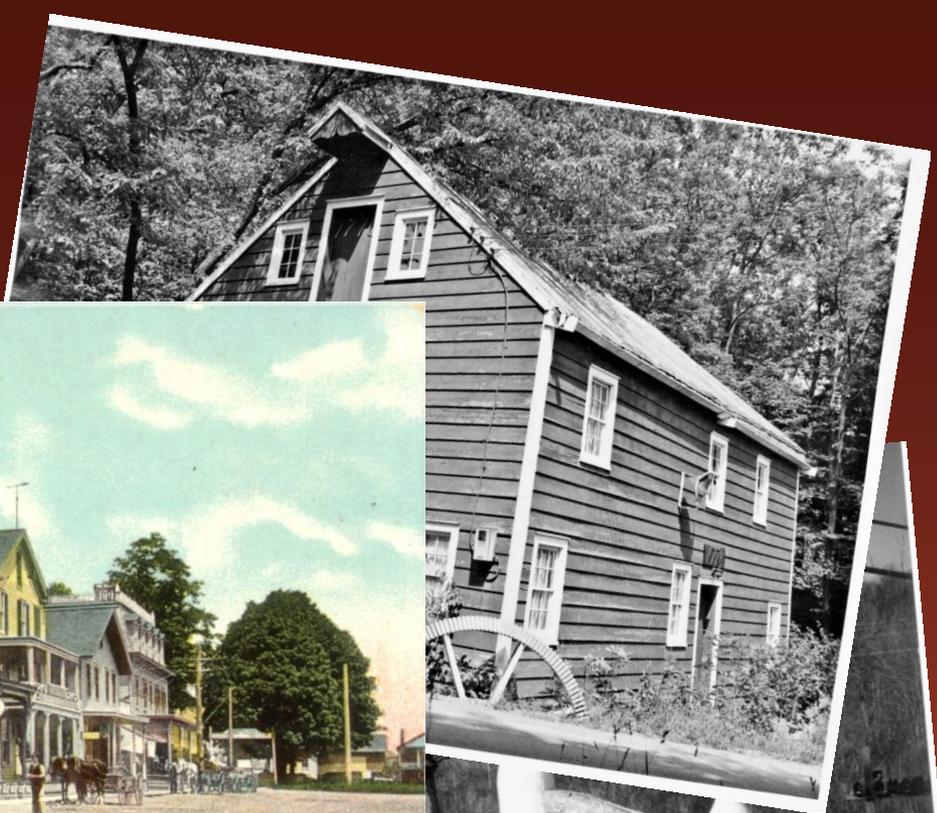
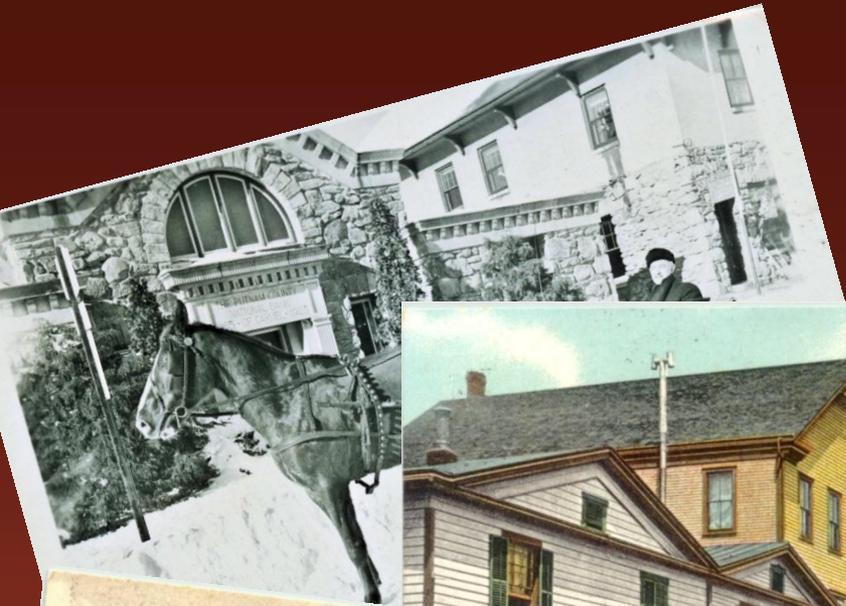
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History is really our future as we use what we've learned to leave our legacy



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

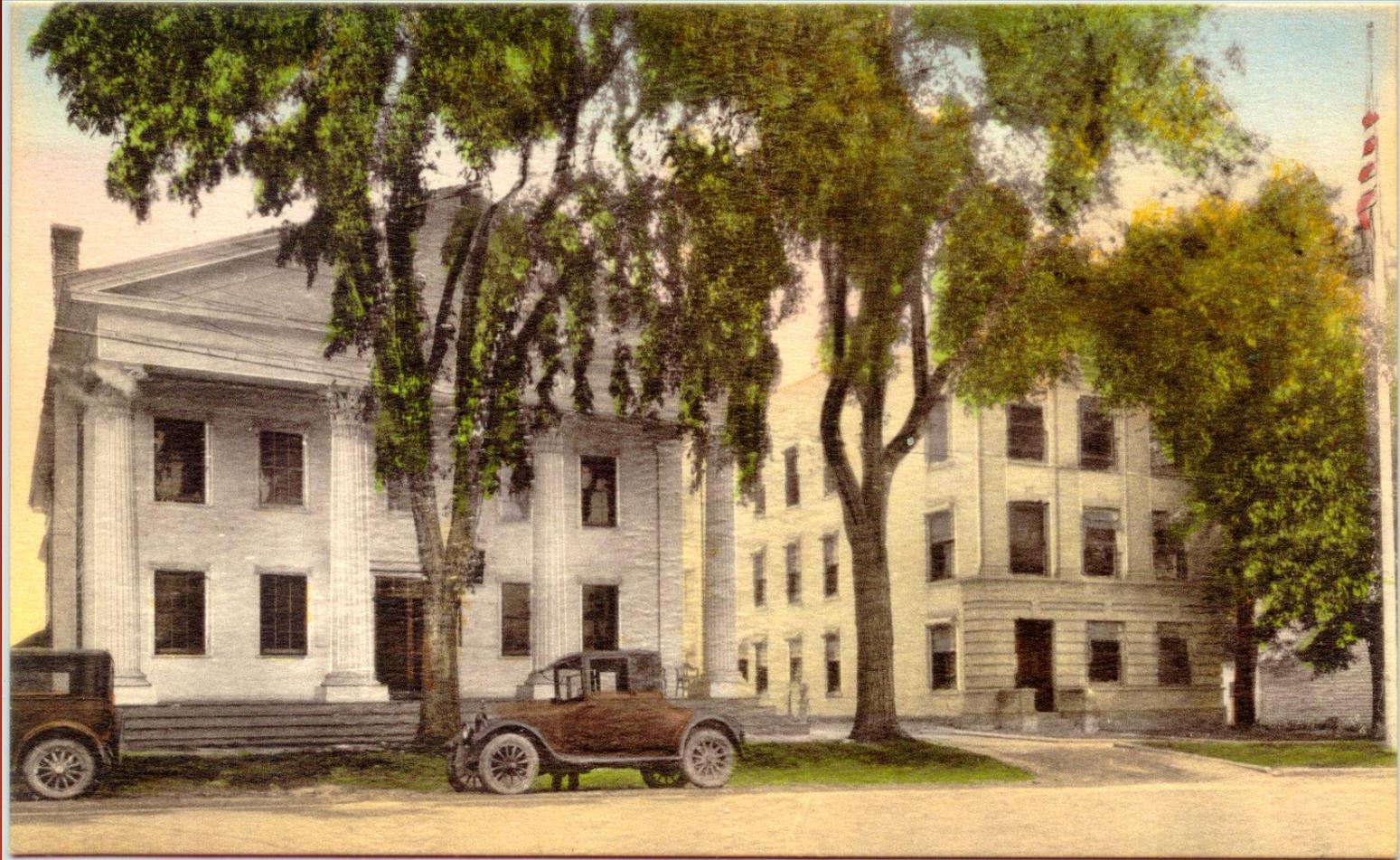


2014

STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

March 13, 2014

This beautiful building began serving Putnam County in 1814 and has been part of our history ever since!



Our History Once Again Becomes Our Future As Our Historic Courthouse Celebrates 200 Years!



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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The Bicentennial Celebration Of The Putnam County Historic Courthouse Begins June 12, 2014, where best selling NY Times author Allison Pataki will be the Key-Note Speaker



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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We will also be unveiling beautiful exterior lighting that was graciously donated by Entergy. Now a grand building is even grander!



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

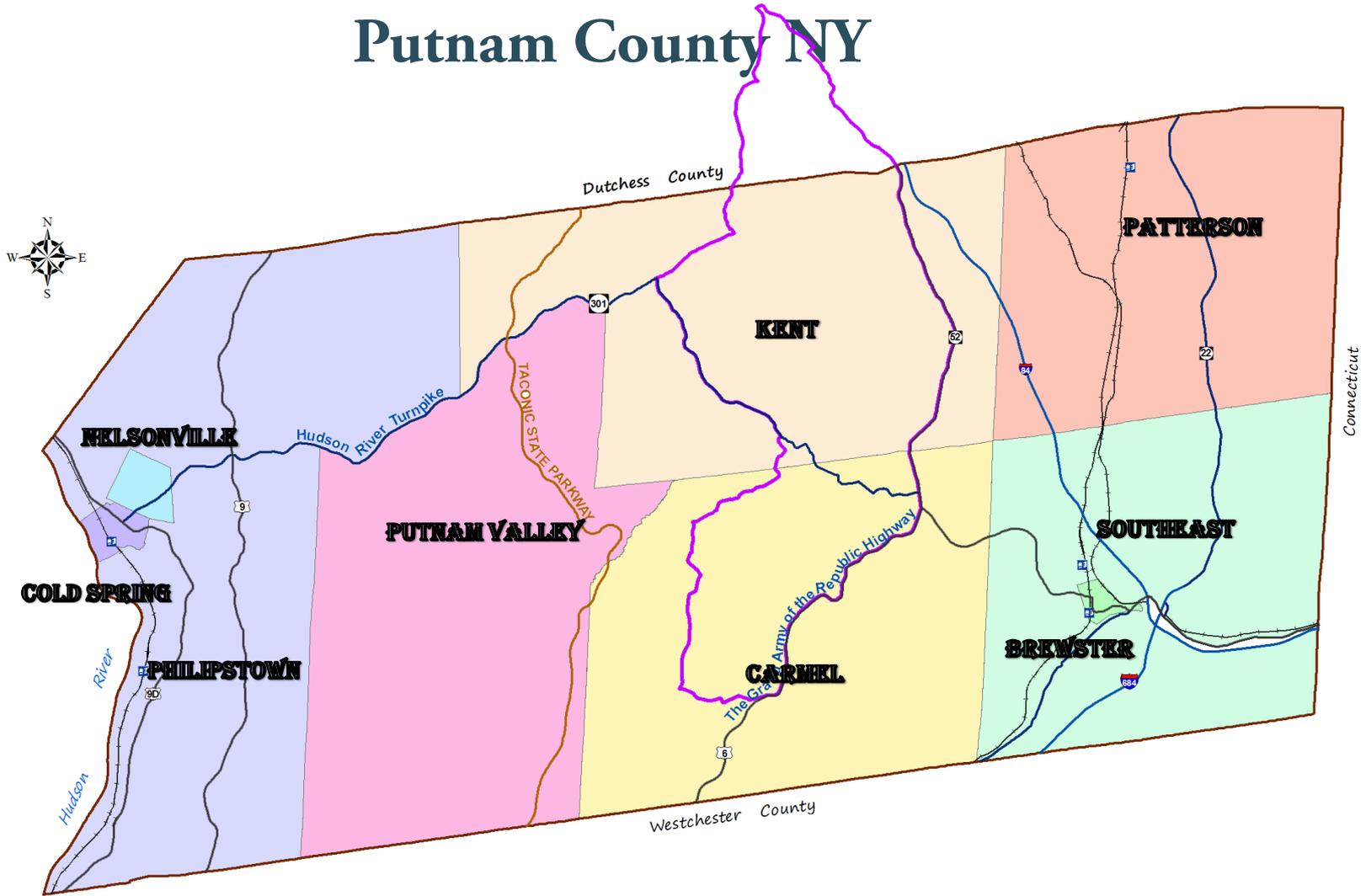


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# Putnam County NY



Putnam County can trace much of it's history to paths

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



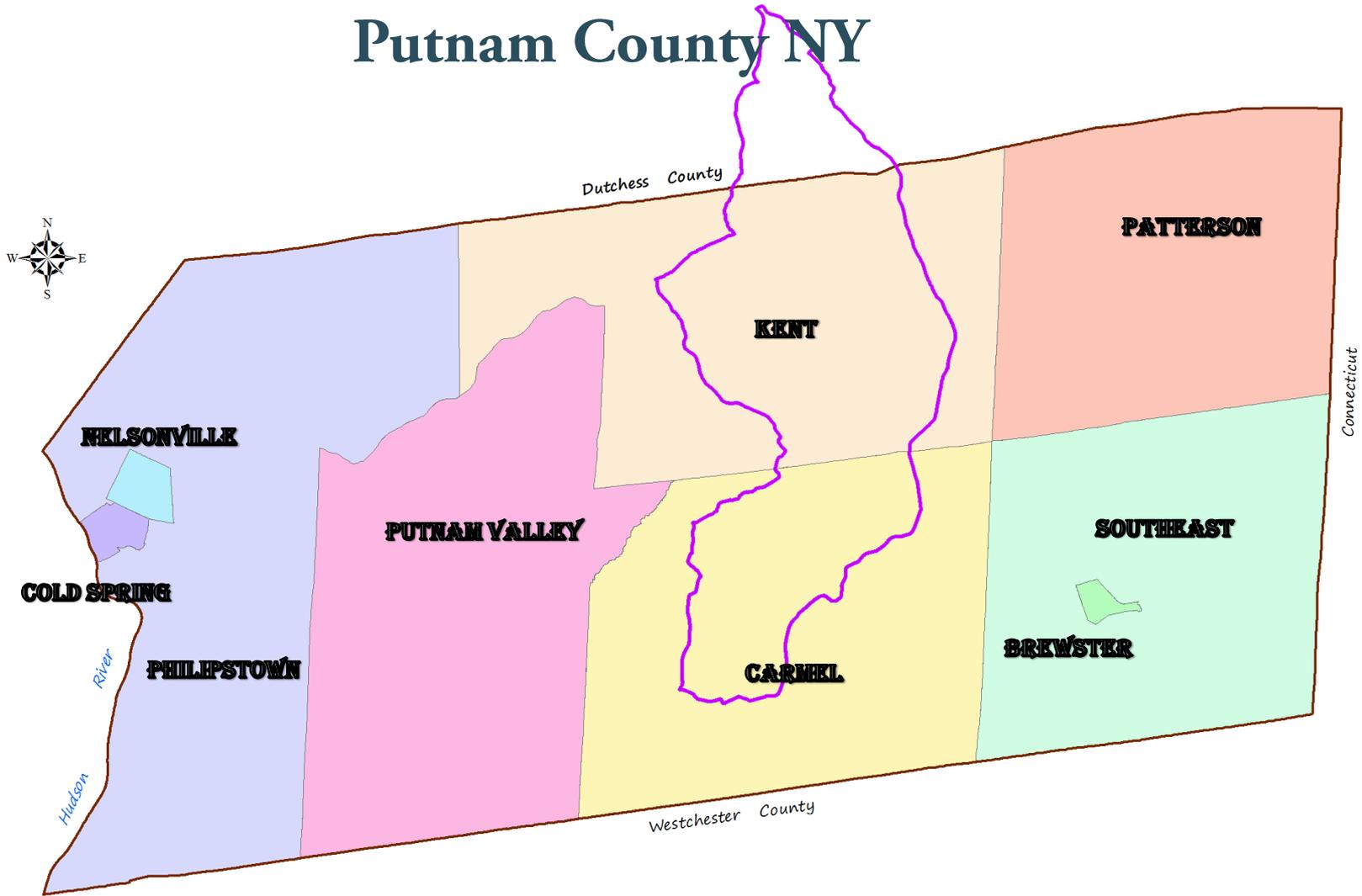
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# Putnam County NY



From Sybil's Famous Ride

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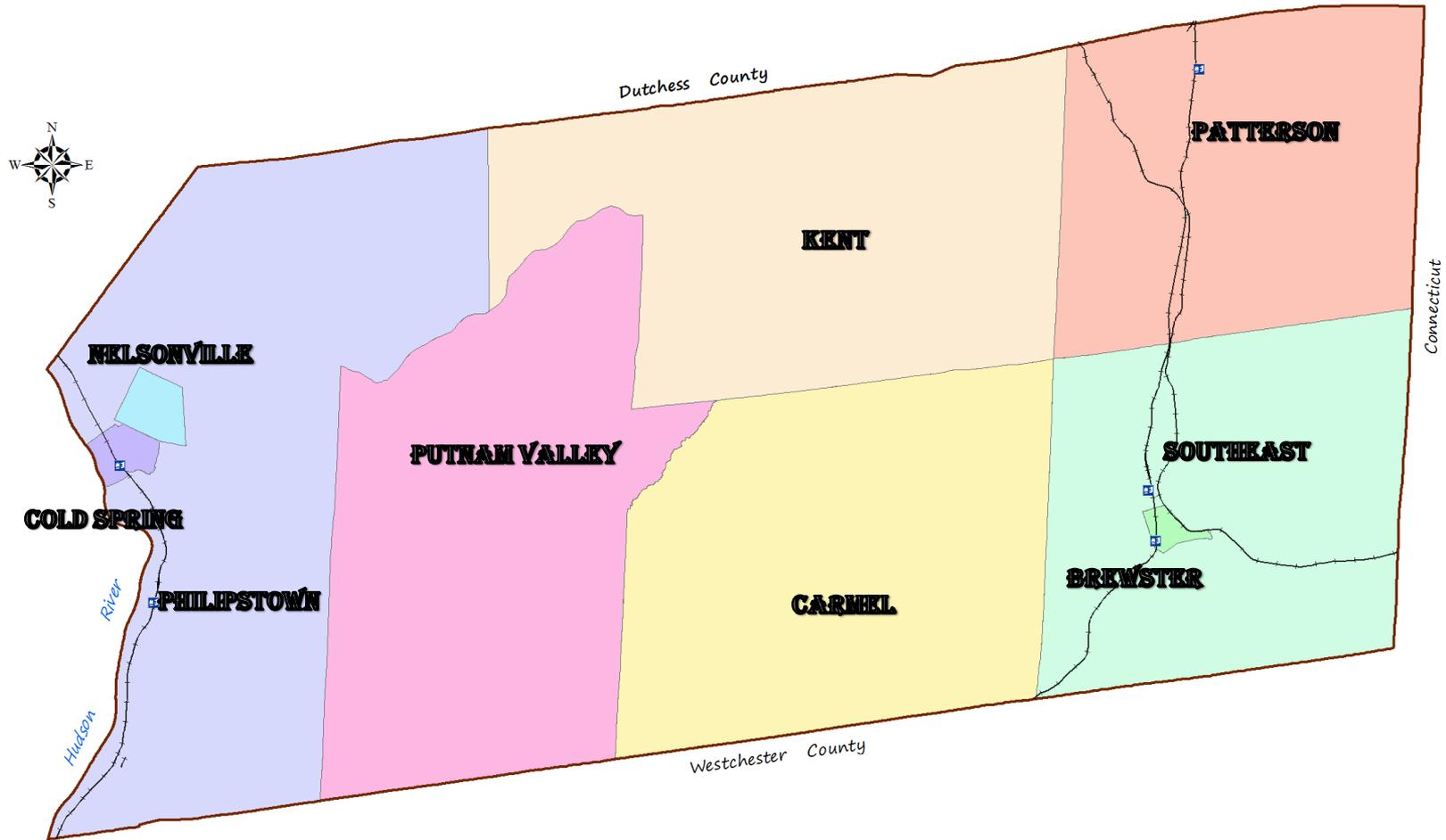
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# Putnam County NY



To the rail lines on the west and east side of the county



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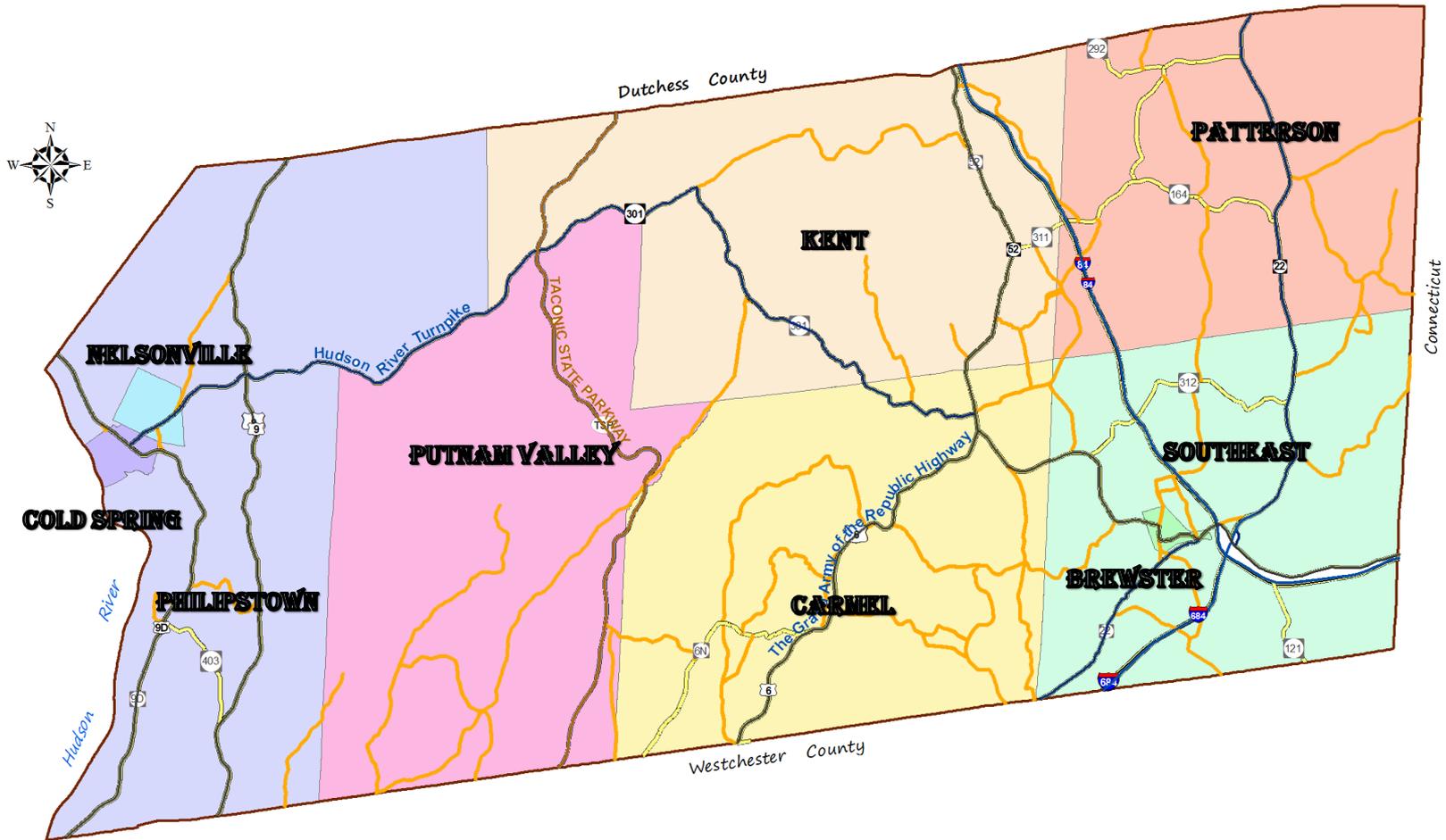


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# Putnam County NY



the highways that blazed their trails and defined Putnam

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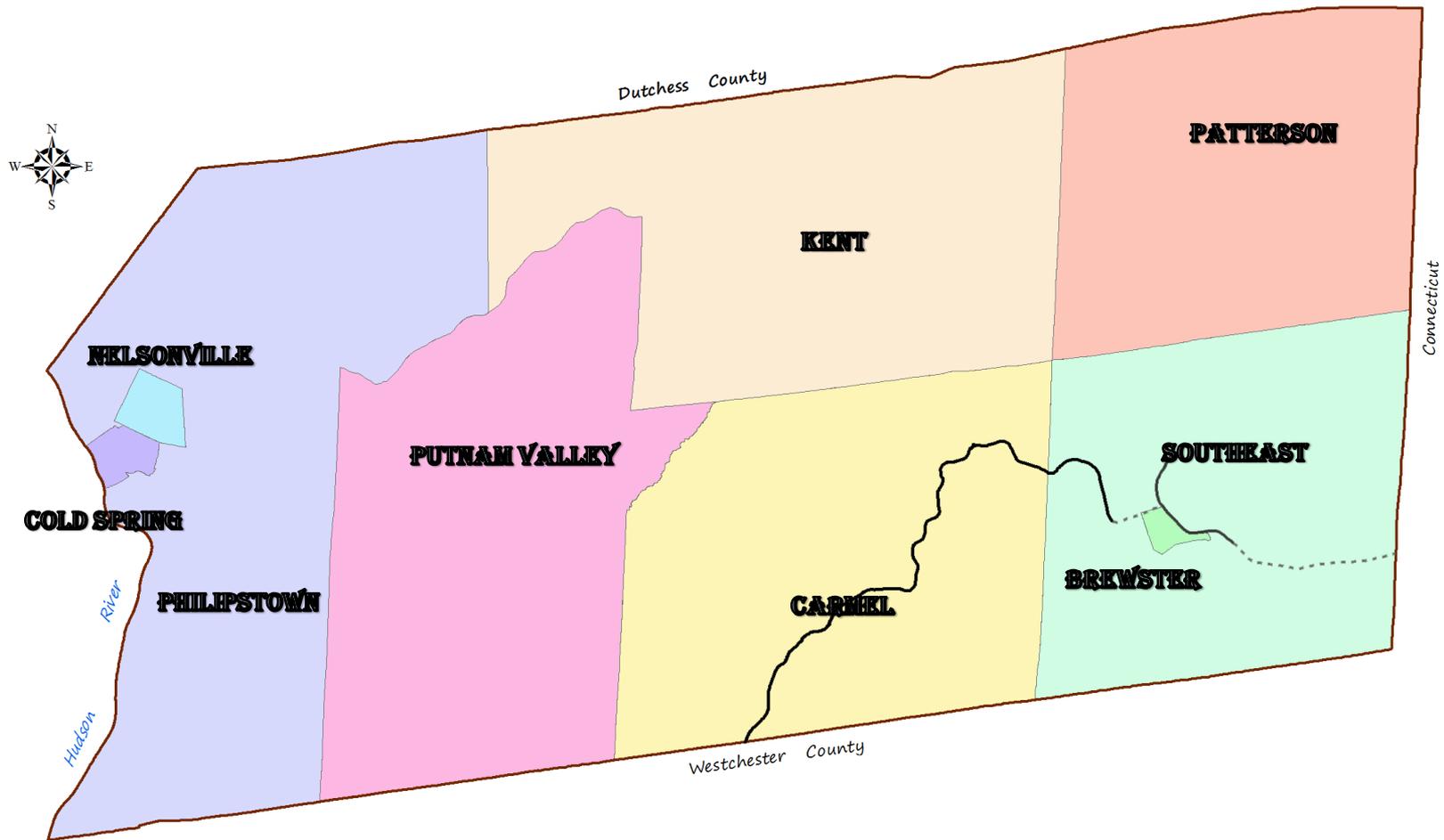


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# Putnam County NY



To our newest "path" the Putnam County Bike/Pedestrian Path

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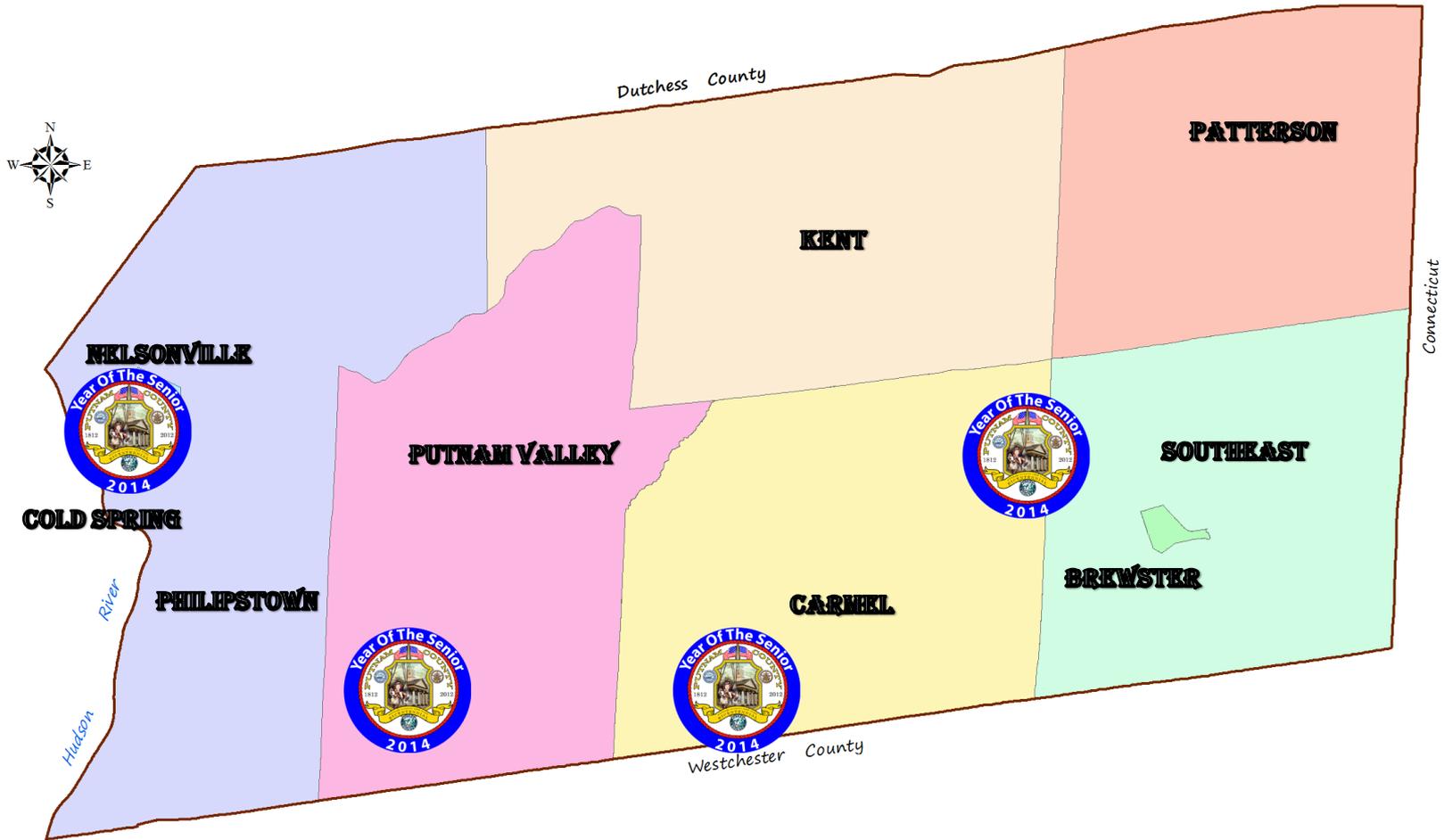
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Even our Senior Centers,

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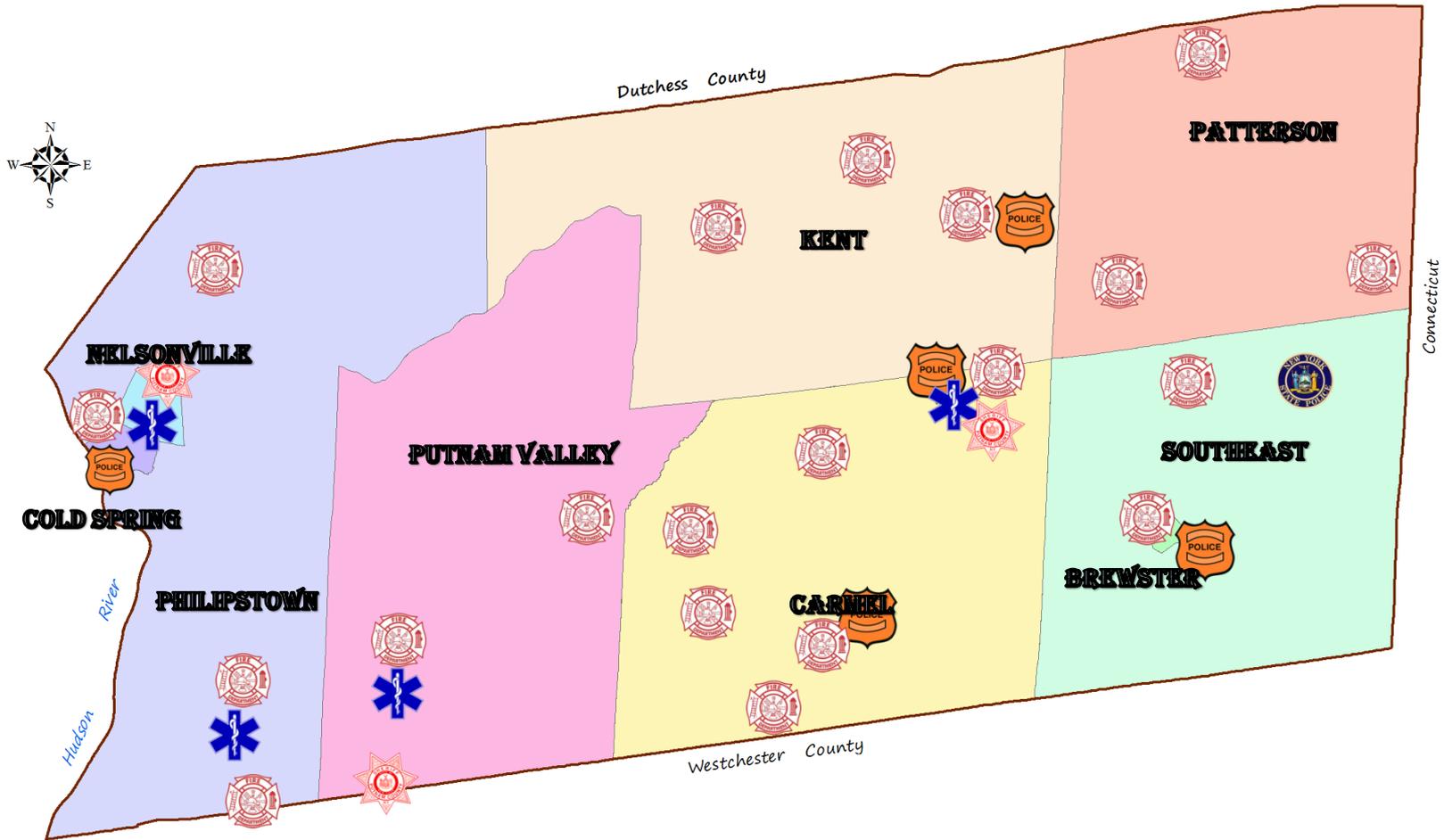
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# Putnam County NY



Fire Stations, Ambulance Quarters, Sheriff's Offices and Local and State Police



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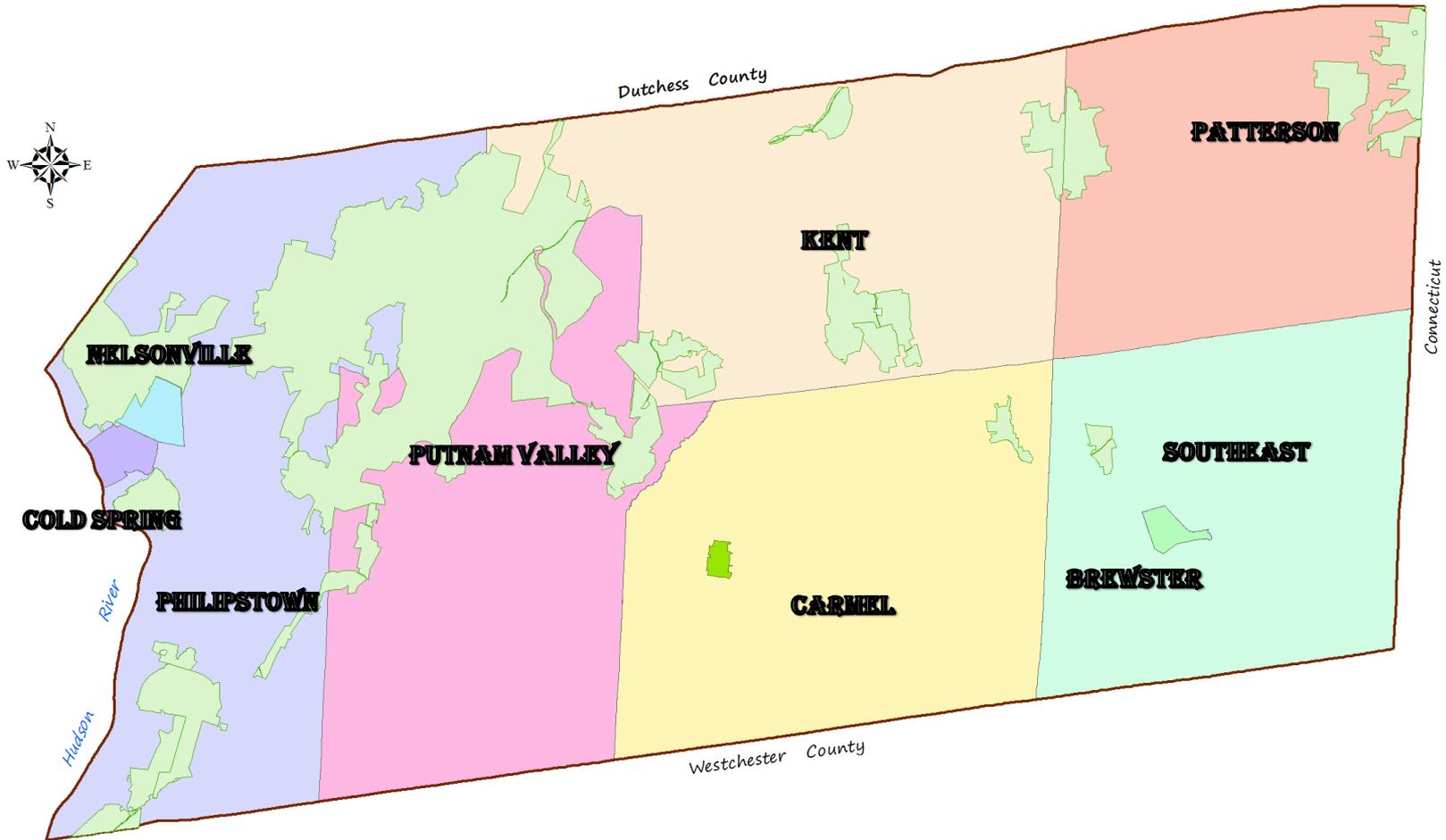


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# Putnam County NY



County and State Parks



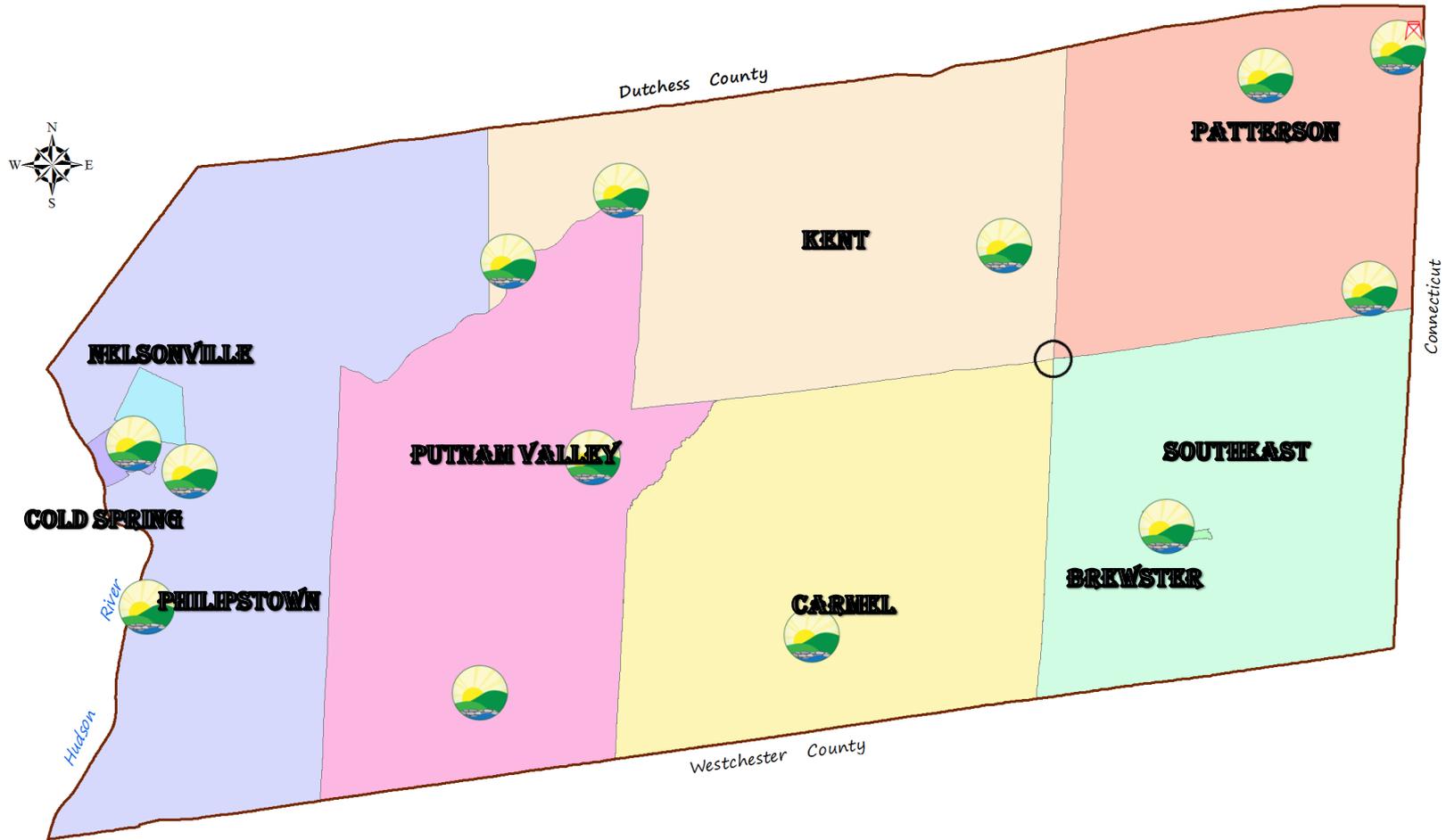
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# Putnam County NY



and our amazing tourist destinations create “Paths”



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- PUTNAM'S ECONOMY



# Putnam's Economy



Putnam's economic picture has many paths but our Commissioner of Finance, Bill Carlin always keeps us on the right path



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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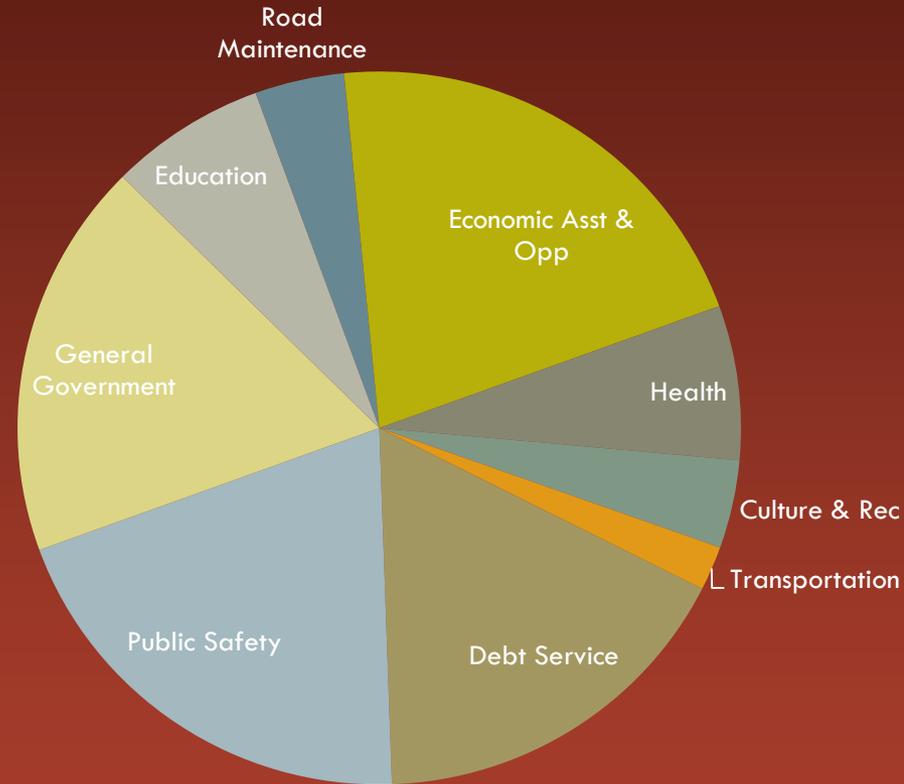
*March 13, 2014*



# Putnam's Economy

Where did the MONEY GO in 2013?

- Economic Assistance and Opportunity
  - Includes Social Service Programs, Medicaid, Programs for the Aging, Consumer Affairs
  - \$32.3 Million or 21%
- Public Safety
  - Includes Sheriff's Department, Jail, Emergency Services and Probation
  - \$31.5 Million or 20%
- Health
  - Includes Health Department and Mental Health Programs
  - \$11.6 Million or 7%
- Debt Service
  - \$26.7 Million or 17%

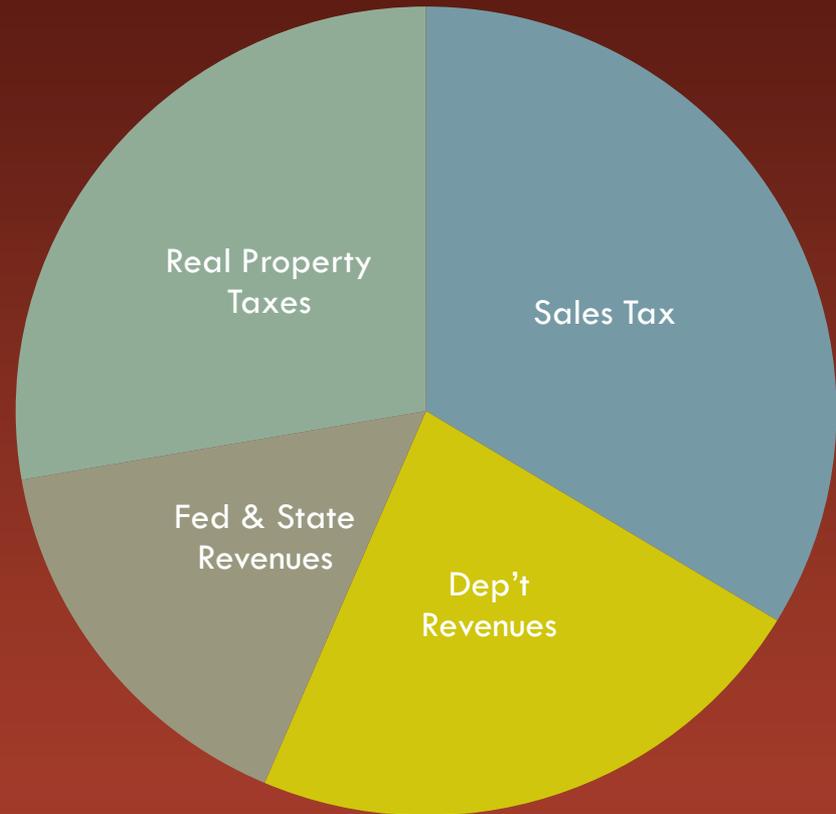




# Putnam's Economy

Where did the MONEY COME FROM in 2013?

- Sales Tax
  - \$54.3 Million or 34%
- Real Property Taxes
  - \$44.1 Million or 28%
- Department Revenues
  - \$36.1 Million or 22%
- State and Federal Aid
  - \$24.6 Million or 16%





# Putnam's Economy



The Government Finance Officers Association  
of the United States and Canada

*presents this*

## AWARD OF FINANCIAL REPORTING ACHIEVEMENT

*to*

**Department of Finance**  
County of Putnam, New York



*The award of Financial Reporting Achievement is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association to the individual(s) designated as instrumental in their government unit achieving a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. A Certificate of Achievement is presented to those government units whose annual financial reports are judged to adhere to program standards and represents the highest award in government financial reporting.*

Executive Director

Date March 3, 2014

We are also pleased to report that we once again received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting!



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# Putnam's Economy

PUTNAM COUNTY ONLINE

Home Legislature Officials Health/Safety Careers Discover Putnam Departments

PUTNAM COUNTY  
Where the Country Begins

LATEST NEWS IN PUTNAM COUNTY

**WHERE YOUR 2014 PUTNAM COUNTY PROPERTY TAX DOLLAR GOES**  
March 7, 2014

**2014 State of the County Address: Pathways to the Future!** Thursday March 13th, 7pm @ PC Golf Course  
March 7, 2014

**Search for Outstanding Putnam Seniors Is On**  
February 28, 2014  
Read more →

**2014 Tree & Shrub Seedling Program**  
February 19, 2014  
Read more →

Mandates continue to drive the County Budget. To keep the public informed of where their tax dollars go, we took to the web.



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# Putnam's Economy

The screenshot shows the Putnam County website with a navigation bar at the top containing links for Home, Legislature, Officials, Health/Safety, Careers, Discover Putnam, and Departments. The main content area features the Putnam County seal and a news article titled "Odell Itemizes Property Tax Expenditures for Residents" dated January 10, 2014. The article is attributed to MaryEllen Odell, Putnam County Executive. The article text discusses the county's commitment to transparency and provides details on property tax expenditures, noting that 73.31% of every \$100 of property taxes goes to federal and state programs, while the remaining 26.69% is used for local services. It also mentions that Medicaid and the Putnam County Correctional Facility are the top dollar-draining unfunded mandates.

**RECENT POSTS**

- Free Rabies Vaccine Clinic: Saturday, March 22nd, 2pm-5pm @ South Putnam Animal Hospital
- Putnam Reads for 10th Annual Hudson Valley Restaurant Week: March 10th-24th
- FREE Rabies Vaccination Clinic Scheduled for March 22
- Citizen Preparedness Training Program: Saturday, March 8th, 11am @ The Paladin Center Tactical Training Facility. Must Register in Advance
- Congratulations on the 50th Anniversary of the Buddhist Association of the United States
- Putnam Transit Route Schedule 5 (RED)
- Putnam Transit Route Schedule 3 (YELLOW)
- Putnam Transit Route Schedule 2 (ORANGE)
- Putnam Transit Route Schedule 1 (BLUE)
- Cold Spring Trolley Service Schedule

**NEWS CATEGORIES**

- ARCHIVISTORMRESPONSE (2)
- Bureau of Emergency Services (15)
- PCBES Sunday Announcements (1)
- Careers (3)
- Click Tips (3)
- County Executive (140)
- Press Releases for County Executive (120)

You can find "Where Your 2014 Property Tax Dollars Go" on our website [www.putnamcountyny.gov](http://www.putnamcountyny.gov)



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# Putnam's Economy

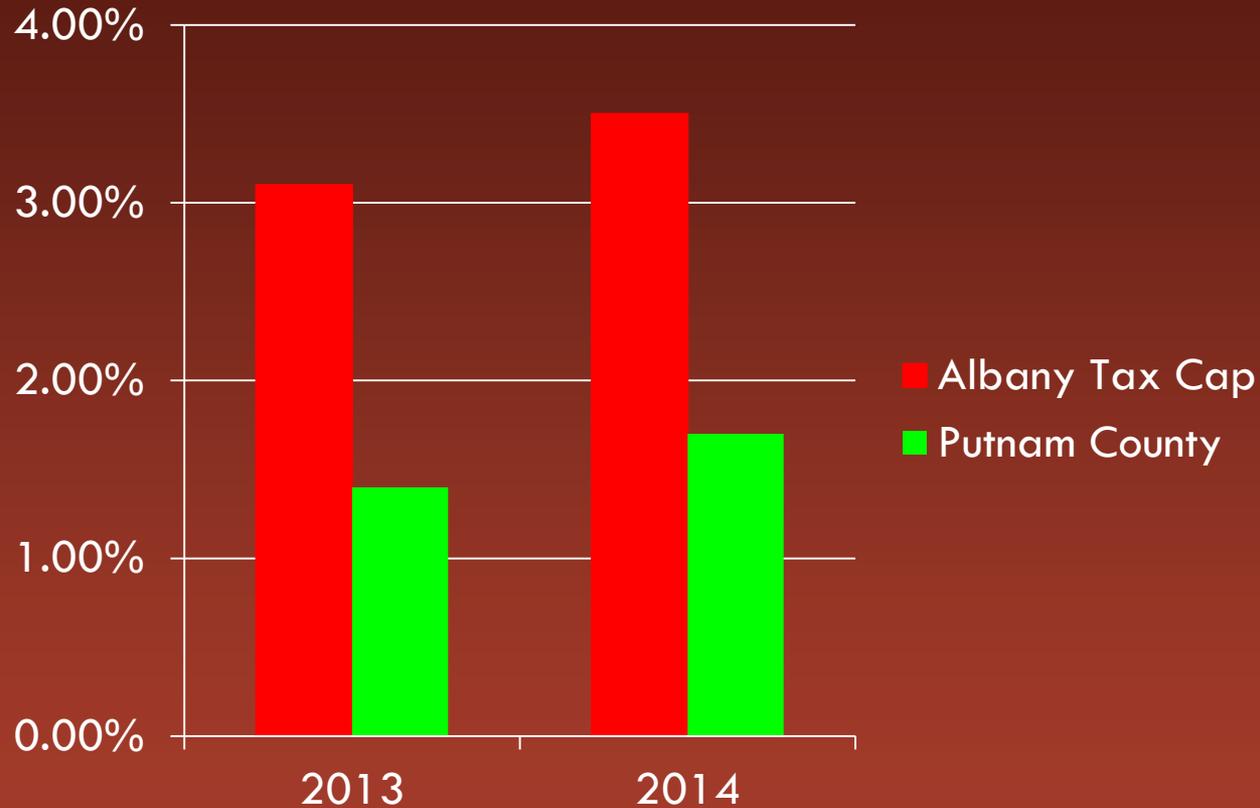
WHERE YOUR 2014 PUTNAM COUNTY PROPERTY TAX DOLLAR GOES

COUNTY BUDGET EXPENSES NET OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT REVENUES	PER EACH \$100 OF COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES		
	MANDATED TAX \$	NON-MANDATED TAX \$	TOTAL TAX \$
MEDICAID	9.72	-	9.72
JAIL	9.56	-	9.56
SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS	5.81	-	5.81
DEBT SERVICE	5.23	-	5.23
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS	4.72	-	4.72
COUNTY ROAD MAINTENANCE	4.45	-	4.45
SHERIFF	4.04	10.39	14.43
COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2.96	-	2.96
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	2.85	(0.03)	2.82
FACILITY MAINTENANCE	2.64	-	2.64
DISTRICT ATTORNEY	1.80	-	1.80
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	1.77	-	1.77
PROBATION DEPARTMENT	1.74	0.07	1.81
HIGHWAY & FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION	1.72	-	1.72
BOARD OF ELECTIONS	1.66	-	1.66
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY	1.47	-	1.47
DEPARTMENT OF LAW	1.27	-	1.27
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	1.18	-	1.18
INDIGENT LEGAL DEFENSE	0.99	-	0.99
LEGISLATIVE BOARD	0.97	-	0.97
PERSONNEL DEPT	0.96	0.01	0.97
INSURANCE	0.64	-	0.64
COUNTY PLANNING/ SOIL & WATER	0.56	0.08	0.64
CORONERS	0.40	-	0.40
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE INTEREST	0.35	-	0.35
COUNTY CLERK	0.33	(0.99)	(0.66)
JUDGEMENT AND CLAIMS	0.25	-	0.25
REAL PROPERTY	0.24	-	0.24
AUDIT DEPT	0.08	0.39	0.46
JUDICIAL EXPENSE	0.07	-	0.07
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	0.04	-	0.04

This informative chart reveals that for every \$100 in property taxes raised, \$70 goes to support Federal & State mandated programs



# Putnam's Economy



Every year that I have been in office I have submitted a budget by the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline that is under the Albany Tax Cap



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# Putnam's Economy

- In addition to being under the Albany tax cap by more than 50%, we have also under spent our budget in the years 2012 and 2013
- We also anticipate under-spending the 2014 budget
- We are committed to submitting a 2015 budget that will come in under the Albany tax cap



# Putnam's Economy

- This fiscal responsibility has allowed us to use \$1M to strengthen the Insurance Reserve Fund and \$3.5M to pay down debt owed to the NYS Retirement System, the County has a general fund balance of \$18.4 M as of December 31, 2013, exceeding recommended standards
- Our strong fund balance and high bond rating enabled the County to save \$2M in bond interest costs over the last 2 years
- AND.....





# Putnam's Economy

## County Bond Ratings for 2013



Westchester County

*Downgraded*



Rockland County

*Downgraded*



Dutchess County

*Downgraded*



Putnam County

*AFFIRMED!*

Aa2 Rating

So how is Putnam doing? I'll let Moody's answer that.



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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- PUTNAM COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PROPERTY DISPUTE



# On-going Litigation

- With the unanimous approval by the Putnam County Legislature and support from Sheriff Smith, we are continuing our effort to return property located along Stoneleigh Avenue back to the taxpayer
- This would allow us to return 35+ acres of sewerred and watered property overlooking the reservoir that is presently in violation of its intended use back onto the tax rolls and provide jobs



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- FEDERAL AND STATE UNDER-FUNDED PROGRAMS





# Putnam's Economy

## State & Federal Under-Funded Programs

Dept. of Social Services

Highways & Facilities

**Medicaid**

Pre-School

Early Intervention

Debt Service

Health

Mental Health

Sheriff

Jail

Probation

Community Colleges

Board of Elections

MTA Programs

Mandates – These are just some of the many mandates that Putnam County is required to fund



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# Putnam's Economy

## State & Federal Under-Funded Programs

- Dept. of Social Services
- Highways & Facilities
- Medicaid**
- Pre-School
- Early Intervention
- Debt Service
- Health
- Mental Health
- Sheriff
- Jail
- Probation
- Community Colleges
- Board of Elections
- MTA Programs

Department of Social Services  
Cost \$17,679,314

Among other services, The Department of Social Services provides Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Child Welfare Services & Child Support Enforcement



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# Putnam's Economy

## State & Federal Under-Funded Programs

Dept. of Social Services  
Highways & Facilities  
**Medicaid**  
Pre-School  
Early Intervention  
Debt Service  
Health  
Mental Health  
Sheriff  
Jail  
Probation  
Community Colleges  
Board of Elections  
MTA Programs

Highways & Facilities  
Cost \$10,152,645

Along with our responsibilities to maintain our roads & bridges and keep them safe for our residents, we have additional unfunded mandates such as inspecting & maintaining our dams and complying with storm water management regulations (MS4)



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# Putnam's Economy

## State & Federal Under-Funded Programs

Dept. of Social Services

Highways & Facilities

**Medicaid**

Pre-School

Early Intervention

Debt Service

Health

Mental Health

Sheriff

Jail

Probation

Community Colleges

Board of Elections

MTA Programs

## Medicaid

Cost **\$9,859,681**



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# Putnam's Economy

## Eligibility Review Program – Healthcare Edition

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Putnam County  
Office of the County Executive  
Department of Social Services

**THE BONADIO GROUP**  
CPAs, Consultants & More

One of our largest mandates at almost \$10M, Medicaid, was spiraling out of control. Seeking help we contacted the Bonadio Group for help managing Medicaid applications



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# Putnam's Economy

As reported in the Journal News  
by the Government Watchdog on  
February 23, 2014  
"Putnam Tackles Medicaid Abuse"

The Journal News

Print Sunday, February 23, 2014

## Government Watchdog

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

### Putnam tackles Medicaid abuse

By Cara Matthews  
cmatth@journalnews.com

Putnam County has 6,231 residents who are enrolled in Medicaid, a health-care program for the poor and disabled. The county's portion of the bill is about \$10 million a year, with the remainder covered by federal and state funding, for a total about \$97 million. New York is one of the only states that requires counties to pay a portion of Medicaid. County officials have been asking the state to take over the local portion, saying the cost drains their budgets. With the high cost of Medicaid in mind, Putnam last year contracted with the Bonadio Group, a consulting firm with offices throughout New York, to work with its employees who review complicated Medicaid cases in terms of eligibility.

The contract is capped at \$25,000, and the county so far has spent \$16,425, according to William Carlin, finance commissioner. The cost is covered by a combination of state and federal funding, he said.

#### Saving the county money

As of Dec. 31, 2013, the Bonadio Group and county employees either discovered abuse or the applicant withdrew the application in 22 cases involving 67 applicants for Medicaid and a subsidized health program for people whose incomes were too high for regular Medicaid. In another four cases involving 14 applicants, income was recalculated in the county's favor. The 26 cases represented 72.2 percent of the 36 cases that were reviewed. The cost avoidance as a result of those findings is \$636,218 a year.

#### A befuddling case

The Bonadio Group reviewed the case of a family of five that is eligible for Medicaid, despite owning a \$1 million house and a condominium they get rental income from, Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell said. The parents are self-employed and have a \$500,000 line of credit on their home. They have retirement accounts, but they would be penalized for making early withdrawals. They appear to have overseas savings

accounts, she said. "Obviously they have resources. Medicaid is supposed to be health insurance for the poor. It's supposed to be health insurance for those who don't have means," she said.

#### Lessons learned

The county government takes seriously its responsibility for accountability and cracking down on Medicaid fraud, Odell said. "There's a lot of 'gamers' in this society," she said. "Everybody likes to game the system, and it's almost like a legacy of gamers. They're taught how to do it." The county executive said she's well aware times are tough and some people genuinely need services like those Medicaid provides. Ridding the system of "gamers" protects the needy by making sure their benefits continue, she said.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

Results of Medicaid cases reviewed from July 16 to Dec. 31, 2013:

38 cases referred to contractor

36 cases were completed

In 22 cases involving 67 people, abuse was discovered or the applicant withdrew

In 4 cases involving 14 people, income was recalculated, resulting in savings for the Medicaid program

In 7 cases involving 24 people, income was recalculated but the results didn't lead to any cost avoidance in Medicaid

In 2 cases involving three people, income was verified

In 1 case the contractor got all the information it needed from documents and didn't need to meet with the applicant

Source: The Bonadio Group

#### MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY

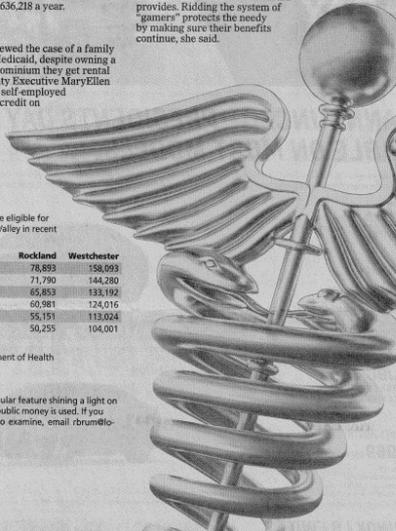
These are the numbers of people eligible for Medicaid in the Lower Hudson Valley in recent calendar years:

	Putnam	Rockland	Westchester
August 2013*	6,729	78,893	158,093
2012	5,733	71,790	144,280
2011	5,699	65,853	133,192
2010	5,573	60,981	124,016
2009	5,226	55,151	113,024
2008	4,671	50,255	104,001

\* Most recent data available  
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PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



2014

STATE OF  
THE COUNTY  
ADDRESS

March 13, 2014

# Putnam's Economy

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As of Dec. 31, 2013, the Bonadio Group and county employees either discovered abuse or the applicant withdrew the application in 22 cases involving 67 applicants for Medicaid and a subsidized health program for people whose incomes were too high for regular Medicaid. In another four cases involving 14 applicants, income was recalculated in the county's favor. The 26 cases represented 72.2 percent of the 36 cases that were reviewed. The cost avoidance as a result of those findings is \$636,218 a year.

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## Government Watchdog

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

### Putnam tackles Medicaid abuse

By Cara Martindale  
[cmartind@journalnews.com](mailto:cmartind@journalnews.com)

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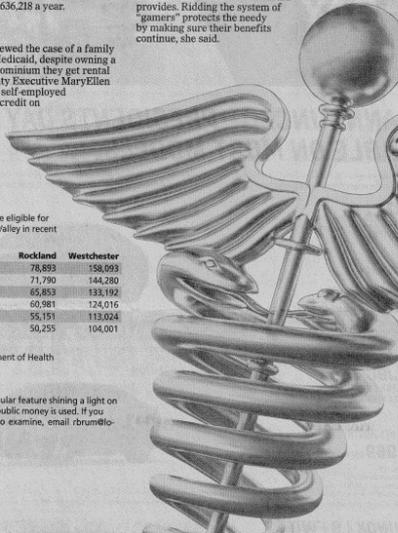
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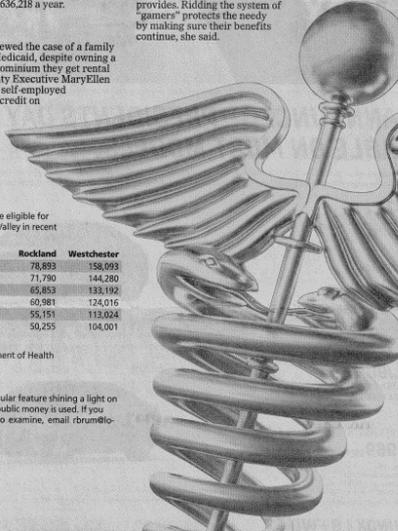
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The Journal News

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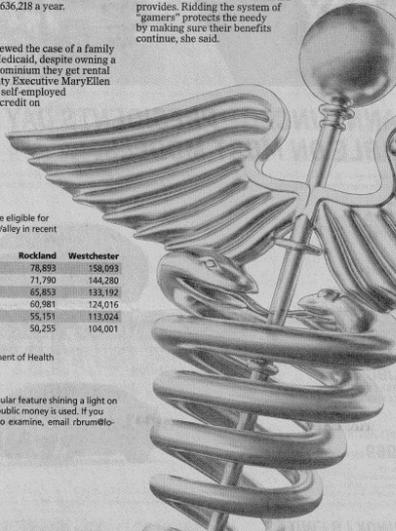
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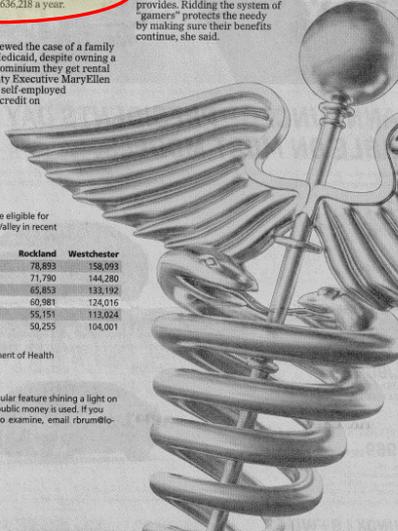
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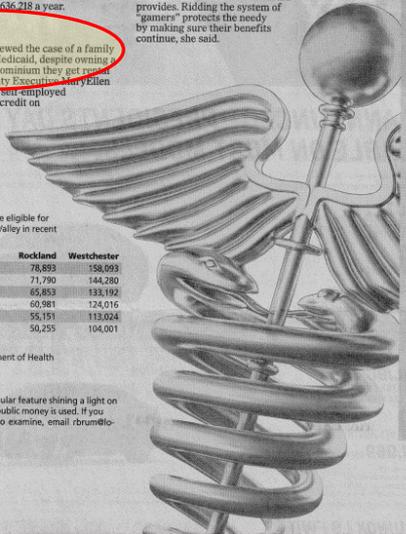
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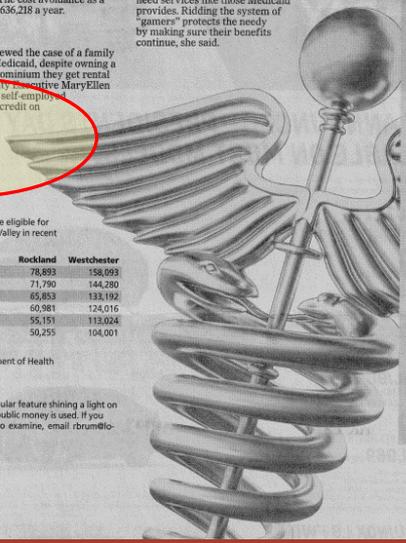
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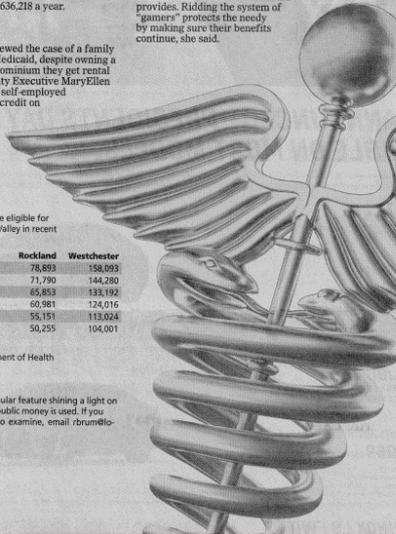
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2010	5,573	60,981	124,016
2009	5,226	55,151	113,024
2008	4,671	50,255	104,001

\* Most recent data available  
Source: New York State Department of Health

#### ABOUT THIS FEATURE

Your Tax Dollars at Work is a regular feature shining a light on unusual, under-the-radar ways public money is used. If you have something you'd like us to examine, email [brumfi@ohud.com](mailto:brumfi@ohud.com)



# Putnam's Economy

The county government takes seriously its responsibility for accountability and cracking down on Medicaid fraud, Odell said

Ridding the system of "gamers" protects the needy by making sure their benefits continue, she said.

## Government Watchdog

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

### Putnam tackles Medicaid abuse

By Cara Matthews  
cmatth@njohud.com

Putnam County has 6,231 residents who are enrolled in Medicaid, a health-care program for the poor and disabled. The county's portion of the bill is about \$10 million a year, with the remainder covered by federal and state funding, for a total about \$97 million. New York is one of the only states that requires counties to pay a portion of Medicaid. County officials have been asking the state to take over the local portion, saying the cost drains their budgets. With the high cost of Medicaid in mind, Putnam last year contracted with the Bonadio Group, a consulting firm with offices throughout New York, to work with its employees who review complicated Medicaid cases in terms of eligibility.

The contract is capped at \$25,000, and the county so far has spent \$16,425, according to William Carlin, finance commissioner. The cost is covered by a combination of state and federal funding, he said.

#### Saving the county money

As of Dec. 31, 2013, the Bonadio Group and county employees either discovered abuse or the applicant withdrew the application in 22 cases involving 67 applicants for Medicaid and a subsidized health program for people whose incomes were too high for regular Medicaid. In another four cases involving 14 applicants, income was recalculated in the county's favor. The 26 cases represented 72.2 percent of the cases that were reviewed. The cost avoidance as a result of those findings is \$636,218 a year.

#### A befuddling case

The Bonadio Group reviewed the case of a family of five that is eligible for Medicaid, despite owning a \$1 million house and a condominium they get rental income from, Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell said. The parents are self-employed and have a \$50,000 line of credit on their home. They have retirement accounts, but they would be penalized for making early withdrawals. They appear to have overseas savings

accounts, she said. "Obviously they have resources. Medicaid is supposed to be health insurance for the poor. It's supposed to be health insurance for those who don't have means," she said.

#### Lessons learned

The county government takes seriously its responsibility for accountability and cracking down on Medicaid fraud, Odell said. "There's a lot of 'gamers' in this society," she said. "Everybody likes to game the system, and it's almost like a legacy of gamers. They're taught how to do it." The county assessors said she's well aware times are tough and some people need services like those Medicaid provides. Ridding the system of "gamers" protects the needy by making sure their benefits continue, she said.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

Results of Medicaid cases reviewed from July 16 to Dec. 31, 2013:

38 cases referred to contractor

36 cases were completed

In 22 cases involving 67 people, abuse was discovered or the applicant withdrew

In 4 cases involving 14 people, income was recalculated, resulting in savings for the Medicaid program

In 7 cases involving 24 people, income was recalculated but the results didn't lead to any cost avoidance in Medicaid

In 2 cases involving three people, income was verified

In 1 case the contractor got all the information it needed from documents and didn't need to meet with the applicant

Source: The Bonadio Group

#### MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY

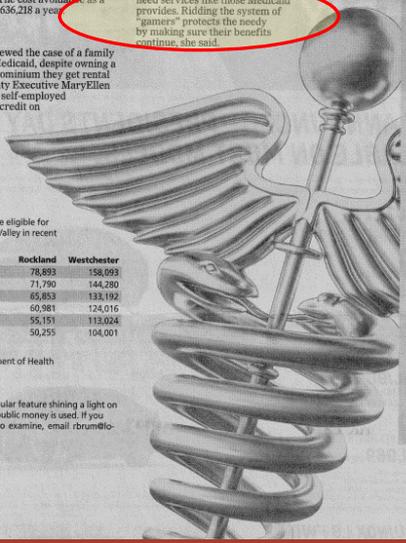
These are the numbers of people eligible for Medicaid in the Lower Hudson Valley in recent calendar years:

	Putnam	Rockland	Westchester
August 2013*	6,729	78,893	158,093
2012	5,733	71,790	144,280
2011	5,699	65,853	133,192
2010	5,573	60,981	124,016
2009	5,226	55,151	113,024
2008	4,671	50,255	104,001

\* Most recent data available  
Source: New York State Department of Health

#### ABOUT THIS FEATURE

Your Tax Dollars at Work is a regular feature shining a light on unusual, under-the-radar ways public money is used. If you have something you'd like us to examine, email rbrumfi@ohud.com



# Putnam's Economy



Tonight, I am calling on our Federal & State Legislators to close this loophole with legislation that would require all assets to be calculated when determining eligibility.



And while we wait for that, we are expanding our contract with Bonadio to include a review of long term care applications as well.



# Anti-Fraud Initiatives

## Worker's Compensation and Unemployment Insurance

- In 2014 alone, we face \$700,000 in expenses to pay for the alleged injuries sustained by employees over the last 10+ years
- Upon identifying potential “gaming” in our Worker's Compensation program, we have initiated a program to investigate and continually scrutinize all claims
- Accordingly, we have engaged a new service provider (POMCO) to help us ensure that benefits continue for those who are truly injured and unable to work
- Additional effort is being placed upon reviewing unemployment claims for similar “gaming” – already we have saved \$40,000





# Putnam's Economy

## State & Federal Under-Funded Programs

Dept. of Social Services

Highways & Facilities

**Medicaid**

Pre-School

Early Intervention

Debt Service

Health

Mental Health

Sheriff

Jail

Probation

Community Colleges

Board of Elections

MTA Programs

Pre-School & Early Intervention  
Cost \$9,447,023



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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# Putnam's Economy

- The County held to its responsibility and funded \$7 M to the programs
- This program provides services to 422 special needs children
- Transportation costs for 72 children are \$2.3 M alone
- Putnam County Cares and therefore supported PARC with an additional \$300,000 to keep their doors open





# Putnam's Economy

- In total, all of our mandates consume 70% of our local property tax dollars and our sales tax revenue
- There is no local control with how the programs are administered
- NY State mandates are inflexible and inefficient
- And we are not alone, just ask our Sheriff or any Town Supervisor, Town Board, Village Mayor, Village Board, School Superintendent and Boards of Education how mandates effect their budgets year after year





# Putnam's Economy

Once again, I call on our Federal & State Legislators to be accountable for how they mandate these programs without adequate support or funding



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- RE-NEGOTIATING / ISSUING NEW CONTRACTS



# Putnam's Economy

We Anticipate Saving \$5M As A Result Of Re-negotiating  
Or Issuing New Contracts For Major Services



My administration issued RFP's (Request For Proposals) for three of the largest service contracts and as a result we anticipate saving \$5M over the life of these contracts while enhancing our services



# Putnam's Economy

We Anticipate Saving \$5M As A Result Of Re-negotiating Or Issuing New Contracts For Major Services

- ALS Contract - Transcare



- Transcare provides 4 paramedics 24 hours per day, 7 days a week
- New contract resulted in equipment upgrades including new fly cars



This administration was able to successfully negotiate a contract with a premier ALS Provider resulting in a savings to the taxpayer of almost \$100,000 over the life of the contract



# Putnam's Economy

We Anticipate Saving \$5M As A Result Of Re-negotiating Or Issuing New Contracts For Major Services

- ALS Contract – Transcare
- Jail Medical Contract



- CMC provides required health services to our inmates
- CMC's only business is correctional health care

Our administration, in collaboration with the Sheriff, was able to save the taxpayers over \$250,000 over the life of the contract at a time when the costs for medical services are escalating



# Putnam's Economy

We Anticipate Saving \$5M As A Result Of Re-negotiating Or Issuing New Contracts For Major Services

- ALS Contract – Transcare
- Jail Medical Contract
- Transportation Contract

After careful review of the 5 respondents, the RFP was awarded to MV Transportation



The MV Transportation contract alone has the potential to save the taxpayers more than \$4 M over the life of the contract while enhancing the program in its entirety.



# Putnam's Economy

We Anticipate Saving \$5M As A Result Of Re-negotiating Or Issuing New Contracts For Major Services

- ALS Contract – Transcare
- Jail Medical Contract
- Transportation Contract

My Administration's Vision Will:

- Save \$1M in 2014
- Keep current employees working
- Enhance transportation services countywide
- Improve technology



Keeping workers employed and providing a better, more efficient transportation system has always been and will continue to be my priority



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

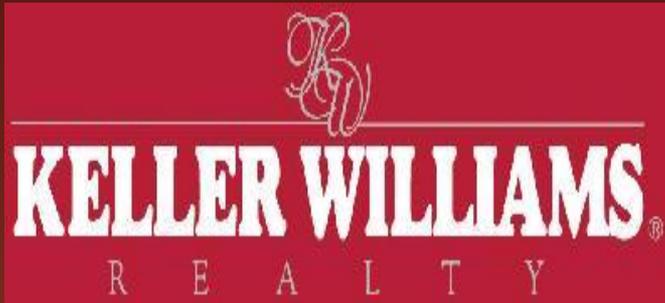


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# Putnam's Economy



Chapter 31 works. Together with our realty partners we have listed 19 properties. Of those 19 properties we have already entered into a contract for sale for 7.



152 Churchill Road, Kent



By placing the properties back on the tax rolls and in providing the neighbors of these properties with new owners that care, an overall increase in property values will be realized!



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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- PUTNAM MOVES



# PUTNAM MOVES LOGO CONTEST

**Winner's Design To Be Displayed On All Buses, Bus  
Shelters & Communications Throughout The County**

**Winner Will Also Receive A \$500 Scholarship**

Students living in Putnam County in grades K through 12 are invited to submit their best original logo designs to represent "Putnam Moves," the redesigned public transportation system.

The design should represent four tenets of:

- Community
- Commerce
- Nature
- Recreation

**ENTRY DEADLINE  
IS MARCH 5, 2014**



Artwork should be presented in a GIF, JPEG or PNG file.

The winning entry will be selected by the Putnam County Transportation Advisory Council with the final approval of the County Executive.

Winners will be notified via email; entrants under 18 must be approved and submitted by a parent.

The winner will be announced by County Executive, MaryEllen Odell at the State of the County address on March 13th.

**LIKE US TO ENTER!**



Putnam County  
**Chambers**  
of Commerce



With a renewed emphasis on transportation we thought this was the year to design a new transportation logo.



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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# Putnam Moves



**Putnam Moves Advertising Plan**

Putnam County Chambers of Commerce | rev DESIGN | PROSPER COMMUNICATIONS

**Fixed Route Buses** (10 buses)

**Interior Plan** (12 available plans):

- Includes 1 16" X 7" advertisement on 6 buses
- Cost: \$350.00 per month = **\$4,200.00 Annually**

**Interior Plus:**

- Includes 1 16" X 7" advertisement on 6 buses
- Includes 1 22" X 12" advertisement in a select bus shelter
- Cost: \$450 per month = **\$5,400.00 Annually**

**Interior Jumbo & Super Jumbo Plans** - (2 sizes available)

- Super Jumbo (4 available) includes 1 24" X 36" advertisement
- Cost: \$150 per month = **\$1,800.00 Annually**
- Jumbo (6 available) includes 1 36" X 14" advertisement
- Cost: \$130 per month = **\$1,560.00 Annually**

**Exterior Bus Plan** (10 available plans)

- Includes 1 36" X 8" advertisement on one of 10 buses
- Cost: \$200 per month = **\$2,400.00 Annually**



Working with Jennifer Maher and The Putnam County Chambers of Commerce we have developed a plan to add additional revenue by promoting advertising on our buses and shelters



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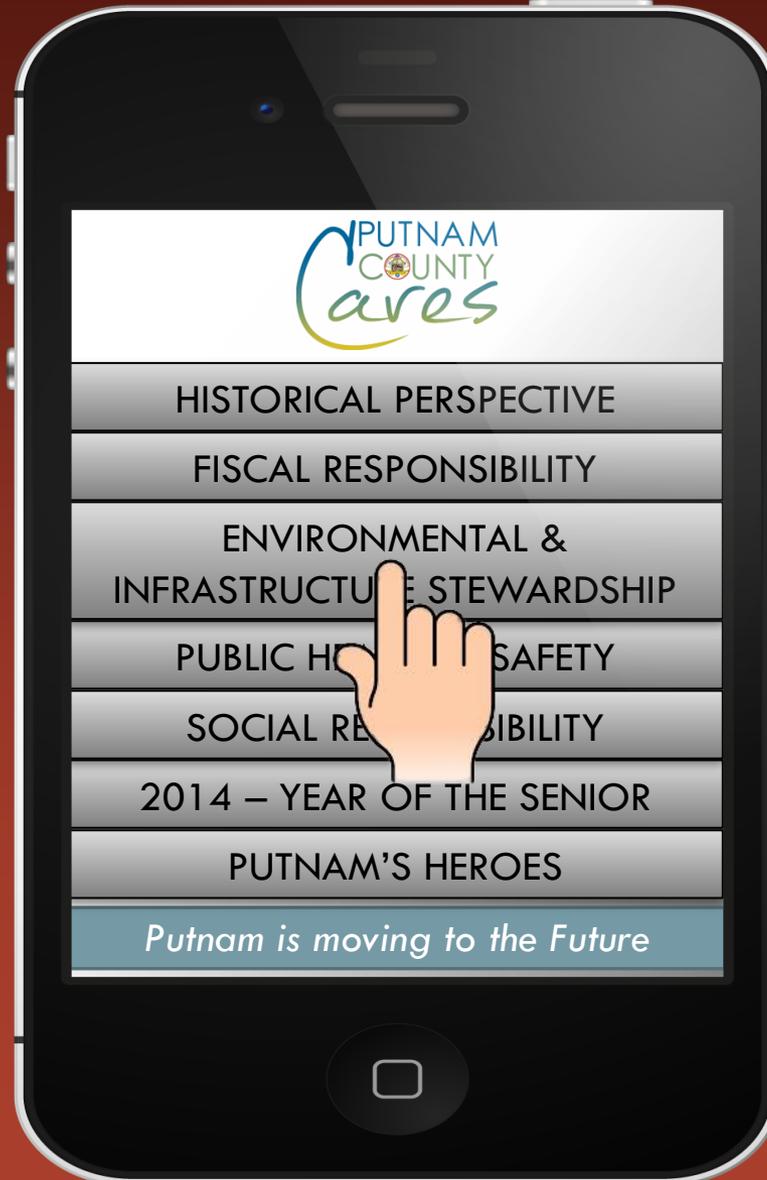
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STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

ENVIRONMENTAL &  
INFRASTRUCTURE STEWARDSHIP

- PROJECTS AROUND PUTNAM





2013 was certainly a busy year for us



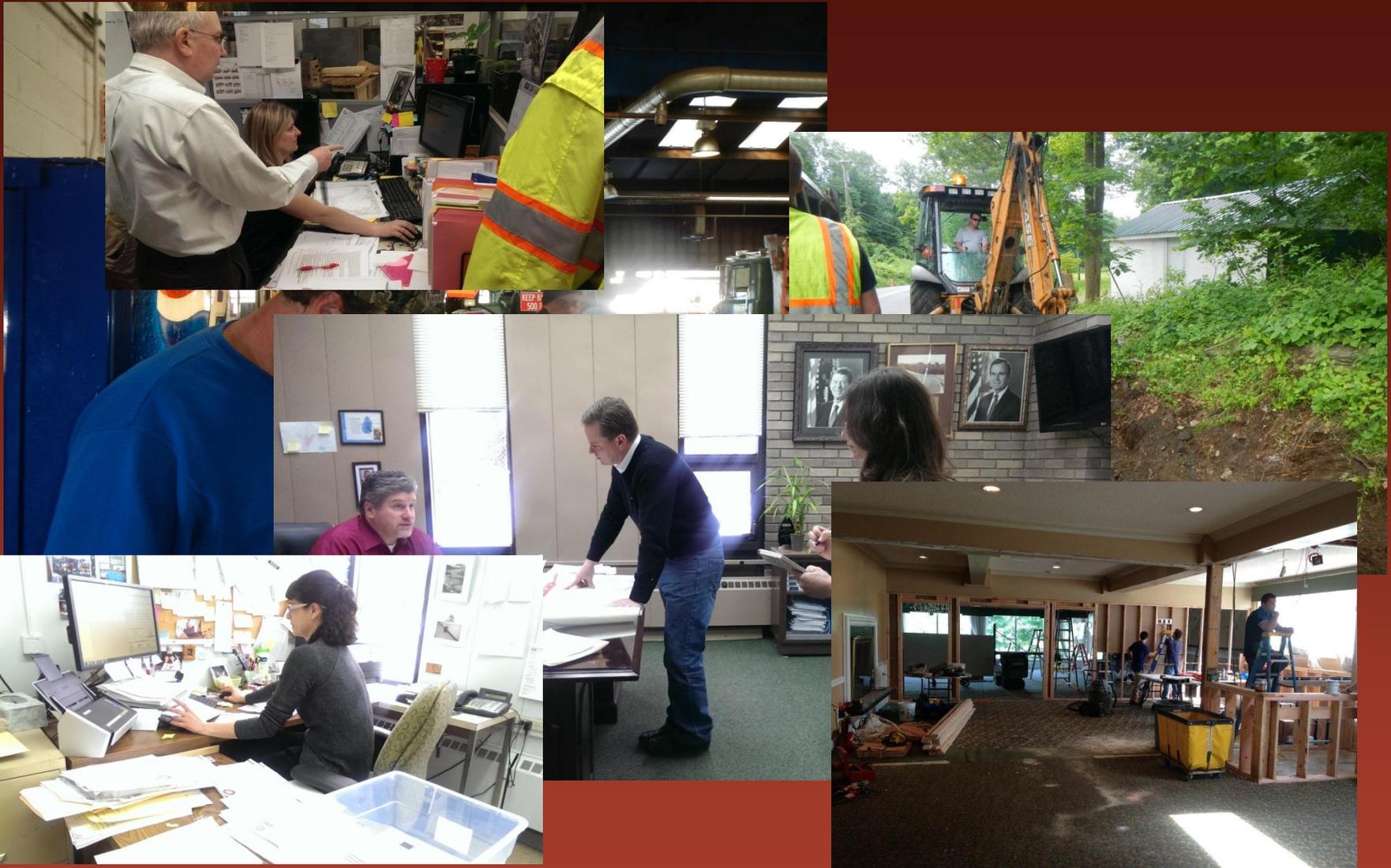
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And our Highways & Facilities Department was there to push through all the many projects



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# Projects Around Putnam



When I became County Executive, I made it my mission to make, what was then the Putnam National Golf Course, a gem for the County



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# Projects Around Putnam



## Mike McCall

General Manager

- Owner's Representative
- Former General Manager & Golf Course Superintendent Casperkill Golf Club
- Former Lieutenant United States Navy

We issued an RFP for all operational phases of the club and through that process we hired a new General Manager, Mike McCall



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# Projects Around Putnam



*Homestyle Catering and Food Service*

We also contracted with **appliedgolf** for general operations and **Homestyle Catering** for food services. With those changes came a new name; **Putnam County Golf Course**



# Projects Around Putnam



*Homestyle Catering and Food Service*

My commitment didn't end there. Working with Mike, Al from **Homestyle Catering** and **appliedgolf** we set on a mission to make **Putnam County Golf Course** THE golf-entertainment-event destination in the Hudson Valley Region



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# Projects Around Putnam



We improved drainage, play areas and pathways around the course. We renovated the building from 1970's drab to 2014 modern with a nod to our past



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# Projects Around Putnam



We partnered with the DEP and DEC to develop a state of the art filtration system that improves water quality and facilitated paving the parking lot – which in addition helped the 19 municipalities in the EOH meet their phosphorus reduction goals.



# Projects Around Putnam



## Jim Woods, PGA

Head Golf Professional

- Professional since 1992
- Class A Golf Professional since 1998
- Has given over 10,000 golf lessons
- Former owner Jim Woods Golf School in Farmingdale, NJ
- Teaching Professional Forsgate Country Club
- Head Golf Professional at the IBM at Heritage Country Club

We also welcomed our new Golf Pro, Jim Woods, and renovated the Golf Shop. I would also like to congratulate Jim on his recent engagement



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# Projects Around Putnam




**Do Your Golf Clubs FIT You?**  
Find Out at Our Club Repair and Fitting Center

Jim Woods, PGA and Golf Equipment Specialist will analyze and evaluate your clubs to make sure they properly fit your game. His program includes a thorough review of:

- Choosing a Right Grip
- Choosing the Correct Shaft
- Choosing the Right Club Head
- Determining the Proper Lie Angle
- Determining the Proper Loft Angle

**Are Your Clubs In Need of Repair and Some TLC?**  
The Repair Center Provides All of These Services:

- Re-gripping
- Re-shafting
- Loft Lie Adjustments
- Frequency Analysis on Golf Shafts
- Swing Weighting and Adjustments
- Club Shortening and Lengthening

**Take Care of Your Clubs...And They Will Take Care of You!**

For More Information, Contact Jim Woods at [jimw@putnamcountycg.com](mailto:jimw@putnamcountycg.com)  
187 Hill Street, Mahopac, NY 10541 Phone: (845) 808-1880 [www.putnamcountycg.com](http://www.putnamcountycg.com)

**Do Your Golf Clubs FIT You?**  
Did you know that 80%-90% of all golfers play with clubs that don't fit them? Many people don't realize that many poor shots are caused by equipment that doesn't fit. Here are a few things to consider whether you are just starting out or an accomplished player.

**Choosing a Grip**  
Did you know that too small of a grip can make the ball go to the left and too large of a grip can make the ball go to the right? This can be fixed by custom fitting the grip size to your hand so you can grip the club properly which will produce straighter more solid shots. There are many styles of grips to choose from. You should choose one that feels good in your hands when you hold it. Your grips should be replaced every year to ensure a good hold on the club.

**Choosing a Shaft**  
There are many varieties of golf shafts to choose from graphite, steel, titanium, and many other new materials that technology is offering. There are many things to take into consideration when choosing the right golf shaft. Some of these are: material, length, flexes, flex point, butt and tip diameter. If the shaft flex is too strong or too weak, it can produce wild erratic shots with even a good swing. If the tip flex is too high, your ball flight will be low. If the tip flex is too low, your ball flight may be too high. If the shaft is too long or too short, it can affect your posture during your setup giving you almost no chance at hitting a solid straight shot.

**Choosing a Club Head**  
There are many different styles of clubs to choose from. Choose whatever club looks the best to you, and make sure it has enough weight to feel the club head. Many knock off clubs have extremely light heads that will not perform consistently. There are two types of clubs to choose from, blades or perimeter-weighted clubs. Either will produce the desired ball flight if hit properly. There are also many woods to choose from. Woods are mainly made out of steel, titanium and graphite; however you can still find real wooden clubs in the bags of even the best players. Woods come in all shapes and sizes. It is important that you pick a design that looks good to you. If you are not confident with the club, you will not be confident when it is time to make a shot with that club.

**Proper Lie Angle**  
Did you know that the lie angle of the club could cause shots to go off line? A club that is too flat can cause the toe of the club dig into the ground causing the shot to go left. A club that is too upright will cause the heel of the club to dig into the ground causing the shot to go right. There are several ways to check this; however the best way is to have your clubs checked by a professional. Then, using a loft lie machine bend them to the proper lie angle. By bending them, we will get the center of the club to hit the ground, which will produce a square divot that is the same depth from heel to toe. Lie angle is measured in degrees in relationship to the ground. There is no right or wrong lie angle, only the one that fits your swing.

**Proper Loft Angle**  
The loft of the club is simply how many degrees the face angle is in relationship to the ground. A driver will have approximately 7 to 14 degrees of loft while a wedge will have 50 to 60 degrees of loft. Loft is important because it will allow you to control the distance of your shots. You must be careful when adjusting the loft of a club because it can create a dig or bounce sole that can ruin the characteristics of your clubs design. If you plan to change the loft of a club, consult a professional.




Jim's passion is mastering the swing and he says you can't do that without a properly fitted club. We now have a state of the art Club Repair & Fitting Center



# Projects Around Putnam



The good news is, it's working! Once the majority of work was completed and word spread we saw a dramatic increase in the number of rounds played



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# Projects Around Putnam

The Putnam Arts Council  
Putnam County Golf Course &  
Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell  
PROUDLY PRESENT

An Evening of  
**Big Band**  
Music & Dance

Featuring  
The Sonny Carroll Orchestra

Free Admission  
Optional Buffet Dinner \$20.00  
Cash Bar

Sunday, October 20, 2013  
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

At Putnam County Golf Course  
187 Hill Street, Mahopac, NY 10541

## COMEDY NIGHT



Tommy Gaech



Featuring  
**Vic DiBietto**  
"The Boss & MEK Guy"  
The YouTube Viral Sensation - 1 Million Views



Fred Rubino

### FRIDAY DECEMBER 27, 2013

7:00pm - Dinner Starts • 8:00pm - Show Starts  
\$40 per ticket - Buffet Dinner Included

For more information: **845-808-1880**  
Putnam County Golf Course  
187 Hill Street • Mahopac, NY 10541  
(reserved tables available)

## Halloween Hauntings on Hill Street

at Putnam County Golf Course

Friday, October 25th

### BOOKTACULAR

at Fairways at Putnam

g @ 7:00pm  
cludes Buffet and  
by Rumor. Hazz It.

throughout the night  
**BEST COSTUME!**

10541 • (845) 808-1880

187 Hill Street, Mahopac, NY 10541  
(845) 808-1880 www.putnamcountygolfcourse.com

It doesn't stop with golf. Thanks to Al from *Homestyle Catering* the events at the *Putnam County Golf Course* have become the place to be.



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# Projects Around Putnam



Catered celebrations, shows and meetings, **Putnam County Golf Course** is more than just golf and in the end that positively impacts our bottom line.



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# Projects Around Putnam



The ground work has been laid, 2014 is going to be a great year at the **Putnam County Golf Course**. The business model of the private/public partnership has gotten out of the **rough** and put us on the **cart path** for success .



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# Projects Around Putnam



I can't think of a better year to have purchased new snow removal equipment. They really got a workout this year, and my heartfelt thanks to our Highway crew for their work



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# Projects Around Putnam



The work at the County Office Building has paid off. The County Clerk now has all of his Carmel staff in one building and overall we are 100% occupied



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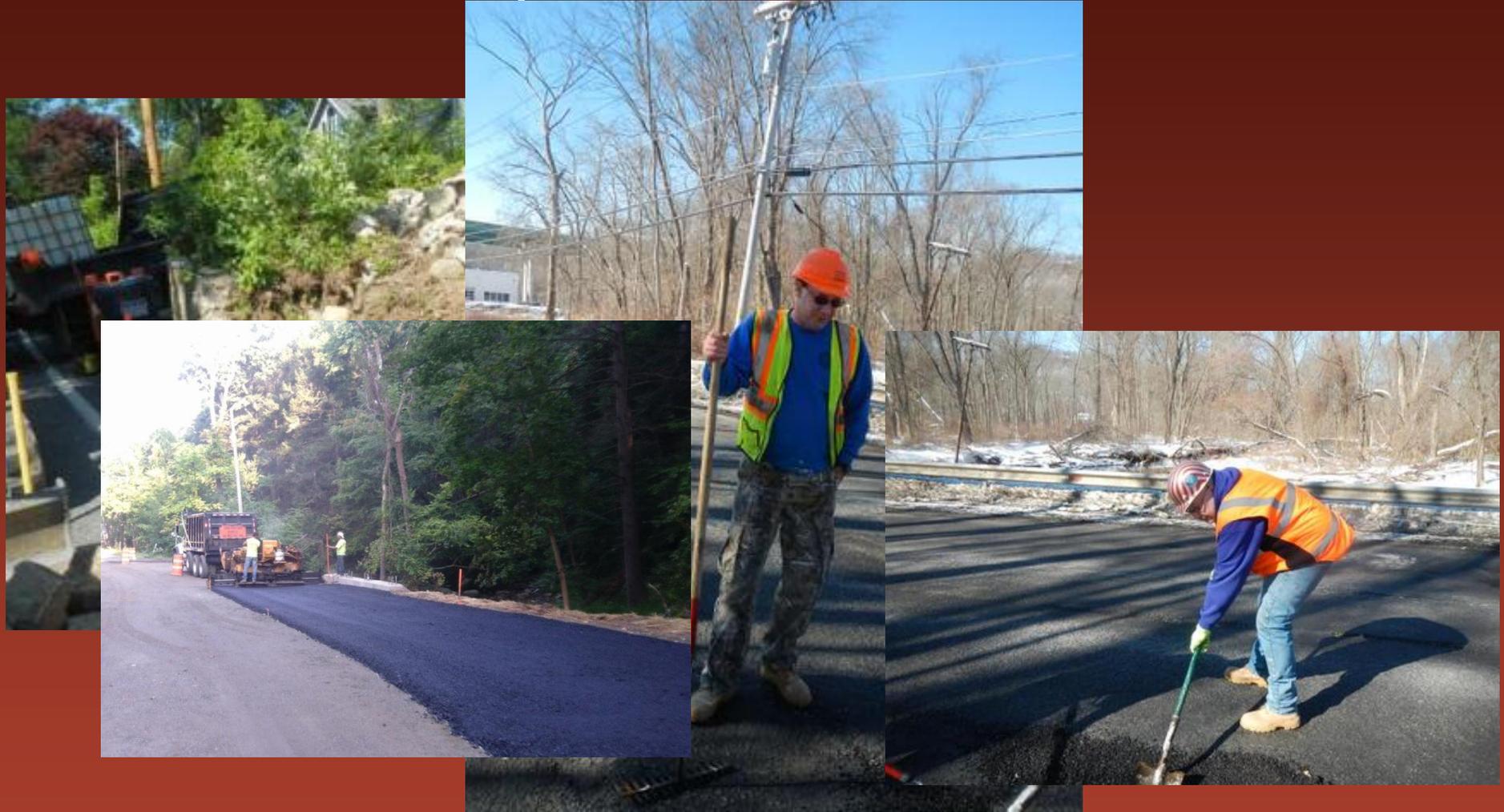


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# Projects Around Putnam



The county infrastructure is always a top priority with many of our County roads receiving major facelifts from drainage mitigation to complete resurfacing



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# Ongoing & Completed Projects By Town

## Carmel

Putnam County Golf Course

UST Removal

Long Pond Paving

Long Pond Lateral Restoration

Park Entrance

Koehler Center Sidewalk

Lake Gleneida Vegetation Management

Lake McGregor Dam

Landfill Closure

Rte 6 Sidewalk Project

Seminary Hill Road Sidewalk

Foreclosed Property Maintenance

Here's a partial list, by town, of current projects this Administration has or is completing for our residents



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# Ongoing & Completed Projects By Town

## Kent

Upper and Middle South Lake Dam Maintenance

Sewer Contribution

Farmers Mill Road Paving

Horsepound Road Paving

Upper Park Stage and Paving

New Roof 4H barn

Various roof repairs

Foreclosed Property Maintenance



# Ongoing & Completed Projects By Town

## Patterson

Cornwall Hill Road Paving

Michael Ciaiola Park improvements (memorial etc.)

East Branch Road Paving

Water Quality Basins

Railway fence maintenance and restoration

Highway Support IMA

Camp Herrlich Entrance enhancements

Camp Herrlich Dam

Green Chimney's parking support

Gage Road Boat Ramp Maintenance (Donald B. Smith Conservation Area)



# Ongoing & Completed Projects By Town

## Philipstown

Mill Road Bridge

Hudson Fjord Trail

Little Stony Point

Cold Spring Nutrition Center (Handicap Entrance. Parking, Patio)

Snake Hill Road Culvert

Snake Hill Road Paving

Manitou Station Road

Foreclosed Property Maintenance



# Ongoing & Completed Projects By Town

## Putnam Valley

Gas Station Clean up (Georges Super serve)

Water Supply Study

Peekskill Hollow Road Project

Peekskill Hollow Road Paving

Oregon Corners Sidewalk

Oregon Corners Stream Cleanup

Tree Removal Utility Partnership Oregon Corners

Foreclosed Property Maintenance



# Ongoing & Completed Projects By Town

## Southeast

North Brewster Hill Road Paving

Deans Corner Road Paving

Farm To Market Road resurfacing

Minor Road Bridge support

Morningthorpe Bridge and Sidewalk project

Brewster Comprehensive Plan Support

Tilly Foster Farm (Well, Barn, Culvert, bio retention pond)

Foreclosed Property Maintenance

Putnam II Stage IV Bikeway

Maybrook II Bikeway

New Freedom Sidewalk Project

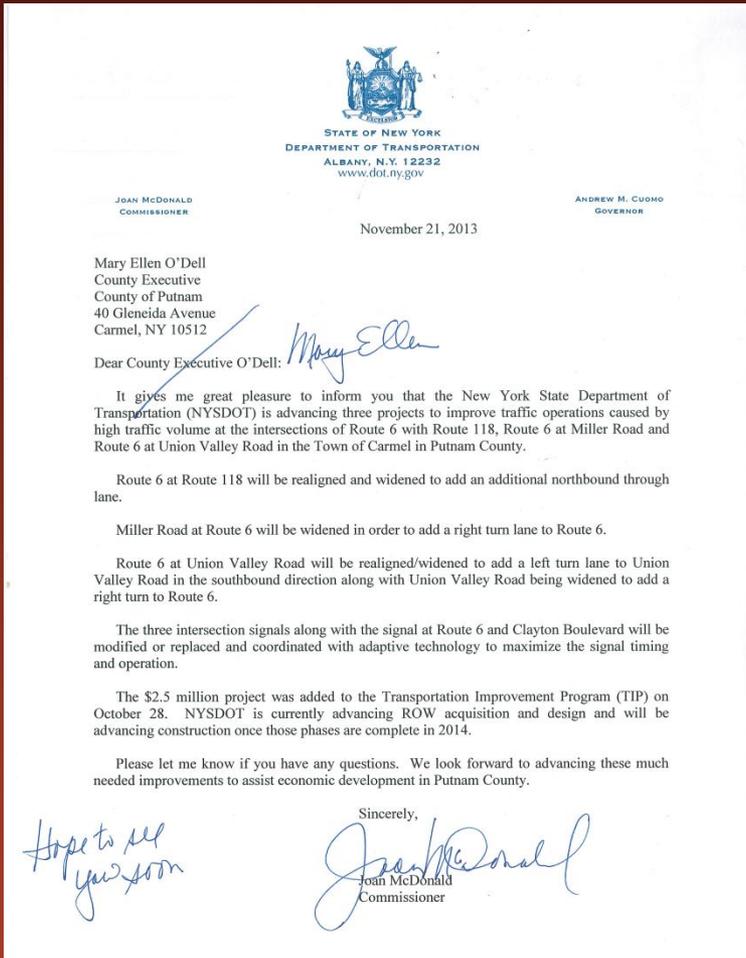


# Initiative to Utilize State-of-the-Art Planning for County Roads

- Working with Cornell University the County is developing an overall strategy that evaluates and prioritizes each of the 62 County roads
- This strategy identifies specific remediation and maintenance opportunities for each of the roads that make up the total of 117 Miles
- This new strategy is designed to extend the life-span of each of our roads to 15 years, so that we can avoid unnecessary bonding and expenses
- Historically, the planning for roads has been designed around a 10 year life-span; and, many of our roads have not met that goal



# Projects Around Putnam



- Route 6 & Route 118, Carmel
- Route 6 & Miller Rd, Carmel
- Route 6 & Union Valley Rd, Carmel

Working with the NYS DOT we were able to get their commitment to begin work on three large projects to improve the infrastructure within the County



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*New York State Society of Professional Engineers Westchester/Putnam Chapter*

# OUTSTANDING ENGINEER IN GOVERNMENT

I was also honored to learn that the glue that holds it together, Commissioner Fred Pena, was named Outstanding Engineer in Government



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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### ENVIRONMENTAL & INFRASTRUCTURE STEWARDSHIP

- EAST OF HUDSON CORPORATION – MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MS4)



# EOH Corporation - DEC Compliance

- As part of the Board of Directors of the East of Hudson Corporation we have, in partnership with the other 18 municipalities in the NYC watershed, continued to meet our DEC requirements to reduce the amount of phosphorus in water
- Through the EOH we are continuing to pursue developing a comprehensive plan to maximize the utilization of financial and human resources while simultaneously ensuring the maximum benefit to the environment



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### ENVIRONMENTAL & INFRASTRUCTURE STEWARDSHIP

- ENHANCEMENTS OF FUNCTIONS AND FACILITIES



# Enhancements of Functions & Facilities



The Coroner's Office saw dramatic changes

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# Enhancements of Functions & Facilities

## 2013

- No Physical Office
- 4 Elected Coroners
- No Centralization of reports and office work

## 2014

- Permanent Coroner's Office located at the TOPS Building
- 3 Coroner positions and a Confidential Secretary
- Consolidated all documents and reports for ease of use and access



# Enhancements of Functions & Facilities



Under the direction of Dr. Nesheiwat the Coroner's Office has modernized and now generates reports regarding vital statistics and trends that will enable us to secure future grants and study trends from one year to another to be used as a planning tool



# Enhancements of Functions & Facilities



Nobody can drive down Route 312 and not comment on the beauty of Tilly Foster

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# Enhancements of Functions & Facilities



Open space, beautiful scenery, a great location. We must now develop a plan to use this in a way that benefits the residents of Putnam County



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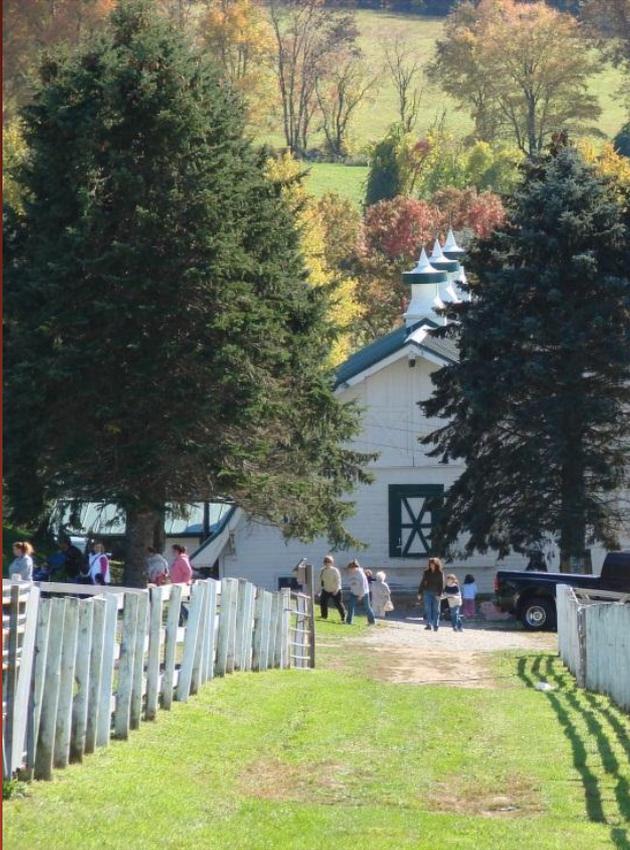


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# Enhancements of Functions & Facilities



We have formed the Tilly Foster Task Force which will develop a plan that allows the people of Putnam to once again enjoy the beauty of Tilly Foster



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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# Enhancements of Functions & Facilities



- **March 19, 2014** Public Workshop
  - *Location: TBA*
- **April 2, 2014** Public Workshop
  - *Location: TBA*
- **April 16, 2014** Public Workshop: Discussion of Draft Comprehensive Plan
  - *Location: TBA*
- **May 1, 2014** Completion of Comprehensive Plan
- **May Physical Services Committee Meeting:** Final Recommendations

The process has already begun with our first Public Meeting taking place in late February. An aggressive schedule was outlined, a website established and future public workshops defined. We will have a recommendation to the Legislature by May 2014



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### ENVIRONMENTAL & INFRASTRUCTURE STEWARDSHIP

- PUTNAM'S FUTURE



# Putnam's Future



# PUTNAM COUNTY

Where the Country Begins

Putnam County Tourism has been spreading the word about all that Putnam has to offer and now we've gone mainstream with a brand new commercial highlighting Putnam County



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# Putnam's Future

## Tourism Commercial



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



**2014**

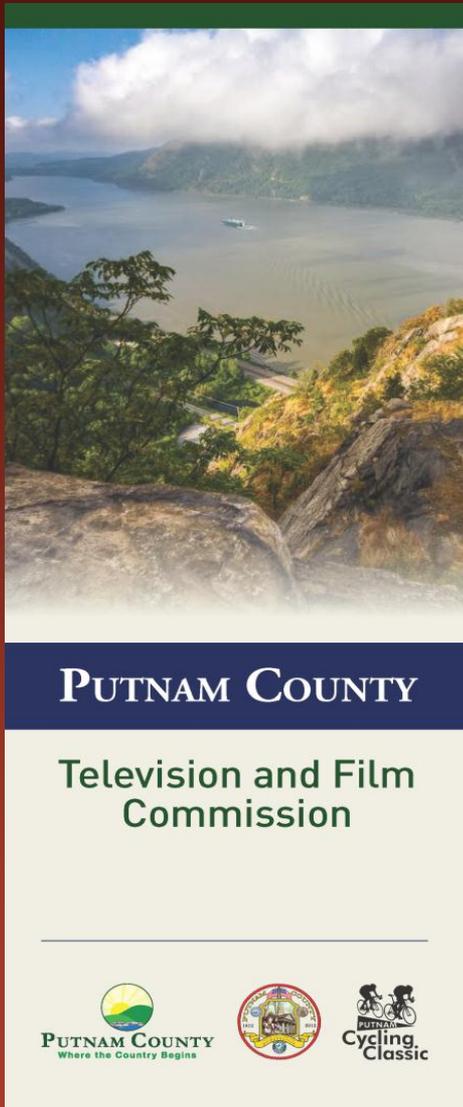
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# Putnam's Future

Believe me, the word about Putnam is spreading! We now have a Television and Film Commission in the works. Libby & I have been working on this with Putnam resident Bill Frake III who is a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts and Sciences. Anyone interested in participating in this exciting new initiative should contact Libby Pataki.

Imagine Putnam County as the backdrop for the next Leonardo DiCaprio film!



# Putnam's Future



*Putnam County Tourism Presents*  
**The Putnam Cycling Classic**  
**Saturday May 10th 2014**  
*Main Street - Brewster NY*



After great success last year in Cold Spring, the Cycling Classic is coming to the East Side! The Putnam Cycling Classic, May 10<sup>th</sup> in Brewster



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# Putnam's Future



Speaking of the Cycling Classic and the Village of Brewster, the entire Village is benefiting from the Opportunity Area Grant obtained through the Mid-Hudson Regional Council. The Village is considered the Hub of the Harlem Valley, This is an opportunity to make it the Gem Of The Harlem Valley



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# Putnam's Future



This long neglected eyesore will now become a focal point in the revitalization of the Village of Brewster



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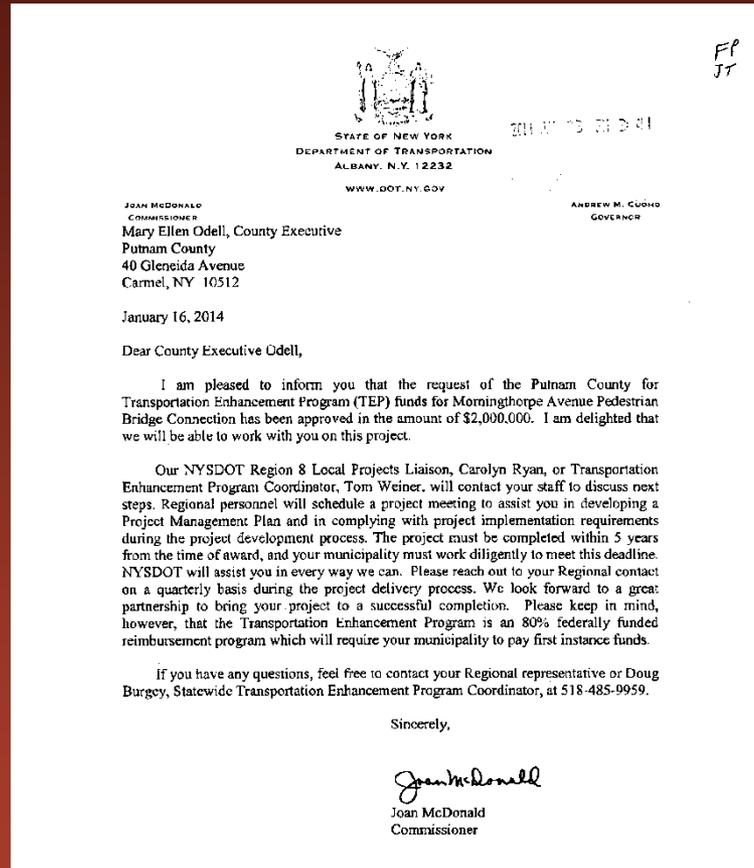


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# Putnam's Future



Working with our government partners we were able to secure \$2 M to rehabilitate the Morningthorpe Bridge in the Village of Brewster



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# Putnam's Future



It doesn't stop there, the EDC was able to facilitate a deal to re-purpose the former Sciortino's Restaurant into Putnam County's first craft brewery, the Bull & Barrel Brew Pub.



# Putnam's Future



80 jobs created  
\$1,000,000 in capital  
investment



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### ENVIRONMENTAL & INFRASTRUCTURE STEWARDSHIP

- GRANT FUNDING INITIATIVES



# Grant Funding Initiatives

- As Putnam County Executive I have actively participated in the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC)
- NYMTC has access to **BILLIONS** of federal dollars that have previously been under-accessed by Putnam County – despite consensus voting rights
- This active participation was instrumental in acquiring the Morningthorpe Avenue Bridge Grant (\$2M) – even though on first pass it was not originally funded; but, through active collaboration by our team – we ultimately prevailed!
- To further our ability to maintain visibility and actively participate, I have secured the **2014 Co-Chair position for this regions NYMTC Council**

# Grant Funding Initiatives

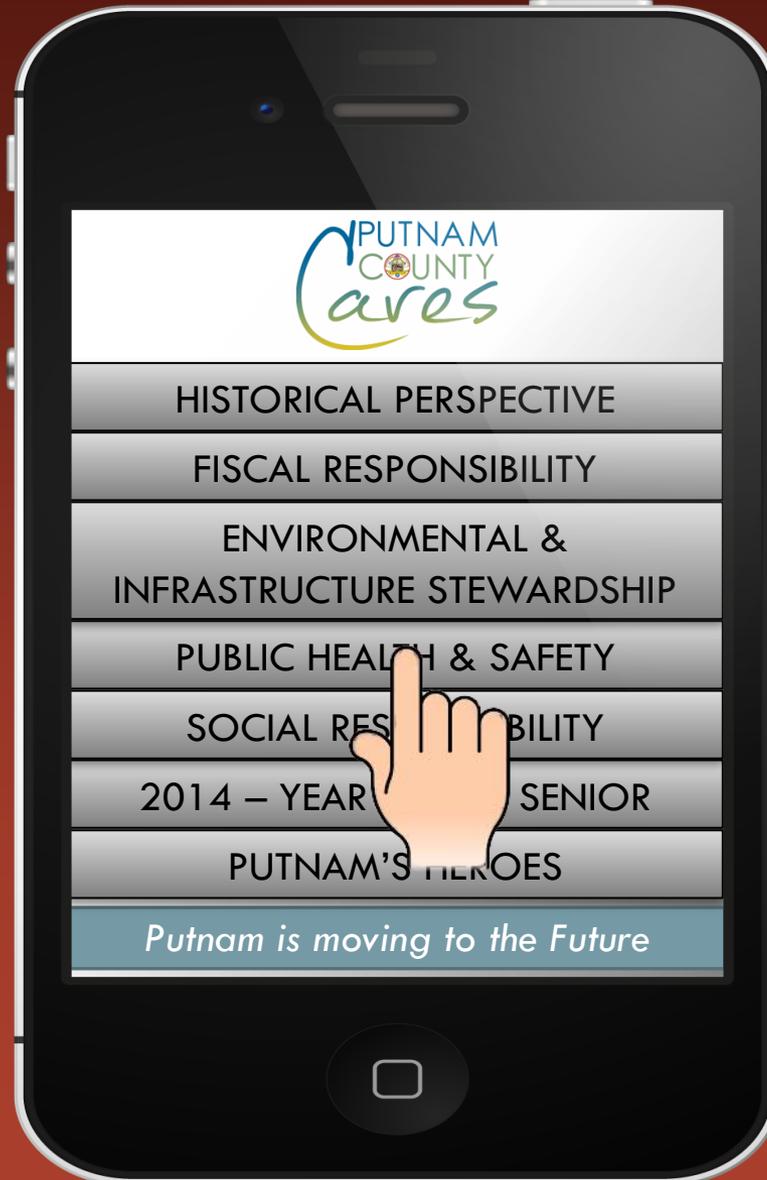
- In 2014 we have taken a very aggressive approach to acquiring grants to help alleviate the burden to taxpayers to address many items that have been ignored for years
- We presently have more than \$30M in grant applications filed with various state and federal agencies
- These grants include funding opportunities for:
  - Fire Training Center – Emergency Preparedness Capabilities
  - Communication focusing on Emergency Responders Safety
  - Animal Emergency Response Site
  - Retrofits for critical infrastructure
  - Underground Storage Tank Continuity of Service and Hardening
  - Utility upgrades for critical infrastructure

# Grant Funding Initiatives

- These grants include, cont'd:
  - Hazard Tree mitigation to minimize impact during weather events
  - Critical Network infrastructure
  - Transportation Hardening and Evacuation upgrades
  - Tools for Disaster Damage Assessment
  - Incident Command System Training
  - Electric Live Conductor training capabilities and preparedness
  - Emergency Operations Center Incident and Resource Management
  - Homeland Security for preparedness
  - Storm Water Sewer improvements

# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

- NYS SAFE ACT





# New York State SAFE ACT?



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# There Is Nothing More Important Than Your Privacy and Safety

“We believe the release of this information would create an unprecedented public safety risk.”

*Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell*

"I follow the rule of law; but, I also have a conscience and heart. I do what is right for the safety and privacy of the citizens of Putnam County whom I serve."

*Putnam County Clerk Dennis Sant*

Last year we opened the State of the County with this critical issue.



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## Sant Pledges to Protect Privacy of Gun Owners *Putnam Refuses to Give up Names and Addresses for Publication*



Putnam County Clerk Dennis Sant addresses questions, along with County Executive MaryEllen Odell, during a Jan. 3 press conference in Carmel. Photo by Holly Toal.

**By Holly Toal**

Lawmakers in Putnam County say the Journal News can have the county's list of 11,000 registered gun owners to print publicly – when it prides the list from their cold, dead hands.

“There will no retreat, and there will be no surrender,” said Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell of the county's decision not to release the information.

Putnam County Clerk Dennis Sant received a written request in December from the Journal News of Westchester, seeking the names and addresses of all registered gun owners in the county, which, according to the Freedom of Information Law, is public information.

Sant, who has been the county clerk for 35 years, had 20 days to answer the FOIL the request.

However, during that time, Sant learned that the names and addresses of gun owners in Westchester and Rockland counties that were obtained by the newspaper were used to create a Google map on the Internet that identifies where each legal gun owner lives. He also received numerous phone calls

from residents of those counties, as well as Putnam, urging him not to give up the information.

So Sant denied the request.

During a Jan. 3 press conference at the Historic Courthouse in Carmel, Sant told reporters that his position on the FOIL request has not been an easy one to take, but that he is thankful for the support he's received from local and state leaders.

“I'm a man who follows the rule of law,” he said. “I've never denied a FOIL request in my 28 years as a FOIL officer ... But it's not about the rule of law anymore, we're talking about the safety of citizens.”

Odell told reporters she wanted to make Putnam's message clear, not only to the Journal News, but to all media outlets that the county stands firm in its response.

“We will not be complying with the FOIL request from the Journal News,” she said. “This issue is strictly, strictly about providing safety to our law-abiding citizens.”

She added that the county is  
*Continued on Page 16*

Our commitment to protecting your privacy & safety was challenged in a lawsuit brought against the County in late 2013, but my administration did not back down from this fight.



# Appellate Division

*Second Judicial Department*



We recently learned, however, that the State Supreme Court ruled against the County's stand to protect privacy & safety. This Decision will not deter my commitment to preserve a person's right to privacy & safety in Putnam, which is why I intend to file an Appeal.



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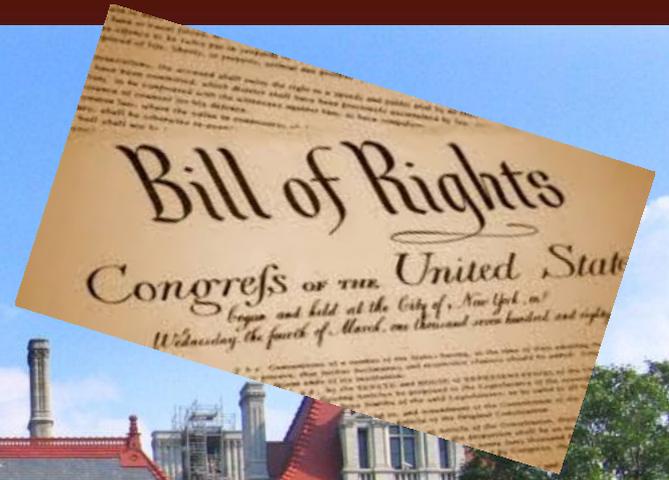
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# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment

*A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.*



It is also time for Albany to recognize that the NY SAFE Act is impossibly flawed, and I will continue to urge lawmakers to take our taxpayer's privacy rights as seriously as we do here in Putnam.



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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

- PUBLIC SAFETY RESOURCES





The Sheriff continually strives to keep Putnam the safest County in the Hudson Valley.  
It's great to know they're there when you need them.



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- Road patrol
- Crime scene investigation
- Accident reconstruction
- Boat Patrol
- County Jail
- Security for public events
- School Resource Officers
- Training for municipal employees safety
- Operation Safe Putnam, keeping our schools, businesses and places of public gathering safe



We must also remember that the Sheriff's Department is a County agency and as such delivers services to all of Putnam County



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The ERT is SWAT Team made up of deputies from the Sheriff's Department, and officers from Carmel & Kent police departments



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While some of the team's operating budget is funded by grants, the Sheriff in partnership with the Legislature and my office have also stepped up and provided funding necessary to keep this valuable team operating



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

- DWI AVOIDANCE INITIATIVE



# DWI Initiatives



- Putnam County government and we as citizens would be remiss if we ignored the significant increase in DWI incidents
- And we cannot ignore the irreparable damage a DWI incident causes to the perpetrator and unfortunately many of the innocent victims
- Accordingly, in an effort to significantly decrease the number of people who “get behind the wheel” of a car while they are intoxicated we will be providing a tool to help people self-identify their inability to responsibly operate a motor vehicle



# DWI Initiatives

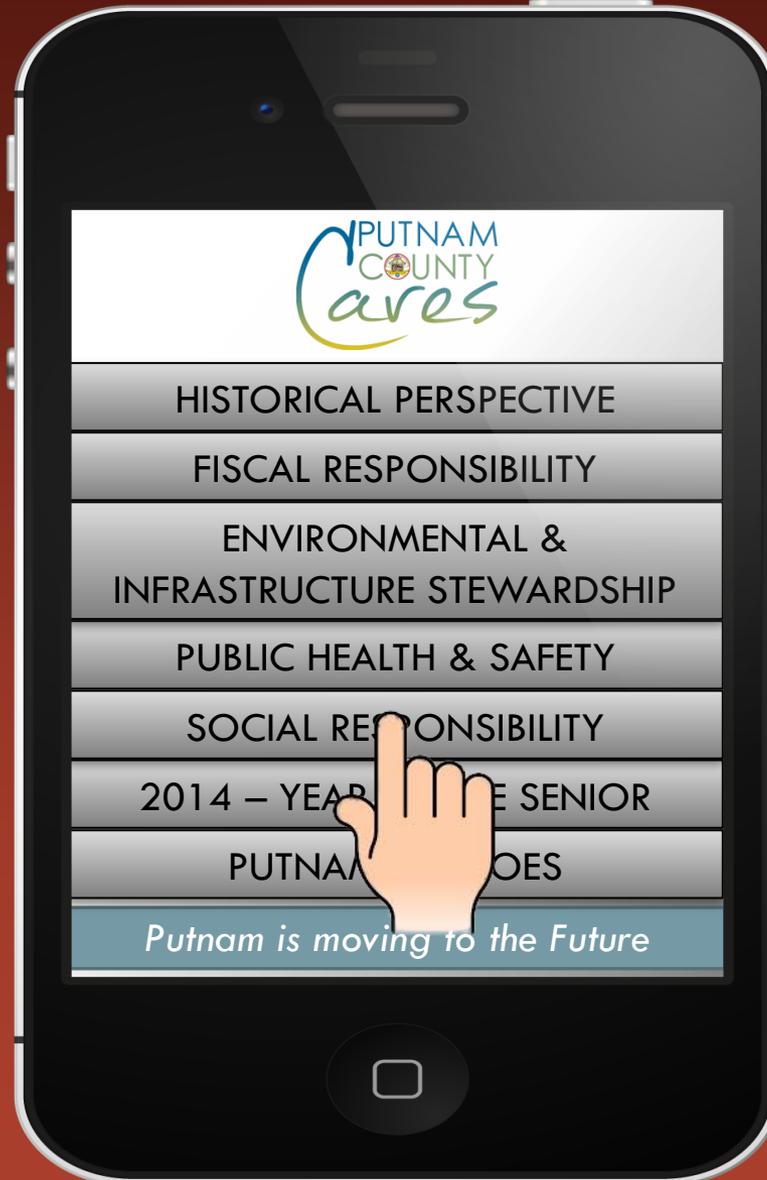


- The Sheriff and I will be partnering with local community organizations and businesses to distribute Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) testers that will enable users to self-identify their inability to drive
- Each BAC will have taxi services phone numbers on the back that will enable impaired users to avoid “getting behind the wheel”
- We will be seeking donations to alleviate the cost to the taxpayer and I am hereby committing to donate the first \$1000 to kick this program off
- The County will be publishing additional information for those that wish to donate to the cause or you can contact me at [PutnamCountyExecutive@Putnamcountyny.gov](mailto:PutnamCountyExecutive@Putnamcountyny.gov)



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*



# 2014 State Of The County

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SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- SOCIAL AWARENESS





Putnam from the days of Sybil Ludington has always stood for the principles of what made our county great: tolerance and respect, freedom and values. The recent statements expressed in social media are not a reflection of the values of Putnam County.



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With the great power of social media comes great responsibility, and with its misuse comes consequences. The Putnam County Youth Bureau continues to stand ready to assist any group or organization in our community by providing education and information on a wide variety of social issues.



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- SUICIDE PREVENTION EDUCATION & AWARENESS KIT





The information super highway and how we communicate are critical pathways to our future.



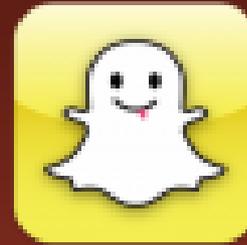
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The World Wide Web, YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, Snapchat, Kik, Instagram, Texting, Apps. People expect, and deserve, information at the speed of life



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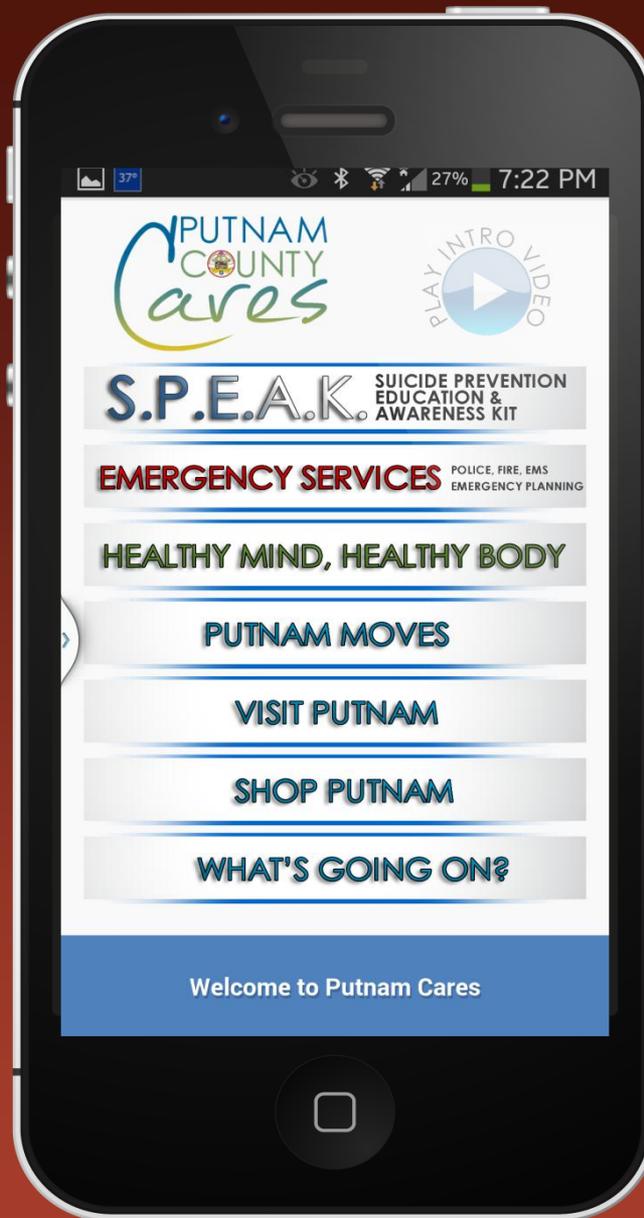
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**Putnam  
County Cares**  
and it's our job  
to help those  
that need help  
before it's too  
late



**We've  
Designed A  
New App  
That Gets  
Information  
To The  
Public At  
The Speed  
Of Life!**



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# Free Download For:



iOS

iPhone, iPad

Download at the iTunes App Store

**Coming Soon**



Android

Download at Google Play

## *Search for Putnam County Cares*

Because Putnam County Cares, I want you to be the first to learn how to download our new mobile app. The app is available now for Android and very shortly for Apple devices.



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- S.P.E.A.K.
  - Suicide prevention advise
- Contact information for our local police, fire and EMS
- Safety tips including a checklist for a Emergency Go Kit
- Tips on living a healthy life
  - Essential services for Veterans
  - Help on alcohol & substance abuse
  - Eating healthy
  - Where to find additional resources

This new app will not only provide critical advice to those in need using our SPEAK button but also links to police, fire, EMS, tips on staying safe and living a healthy life.





- Information on our transportation system
  - Individual route schedules
  - Map of entire system
- Tourism
- Shopping in Putnam County
- Stay informed

We'll help you get around Putnam and while you're there we'll let you know about the latest hot spots and where to shop!



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Our Administration's commitment to social responsibility, and concern for our at risk population has always been a priority



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Our seniors, children, veterans, emergency responders. All our citizens!



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There are many forces that can negatively impact us, our friends and loved ones. Often times we struggle with how to handle these issues



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Some turn to drugs and alcohol and some make the saddest choice and take their life.  
We must be there to help with these struggles



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While the loss of our residents to drug overdose is at a critical level, so too is the alarming increase in the rate of suicide



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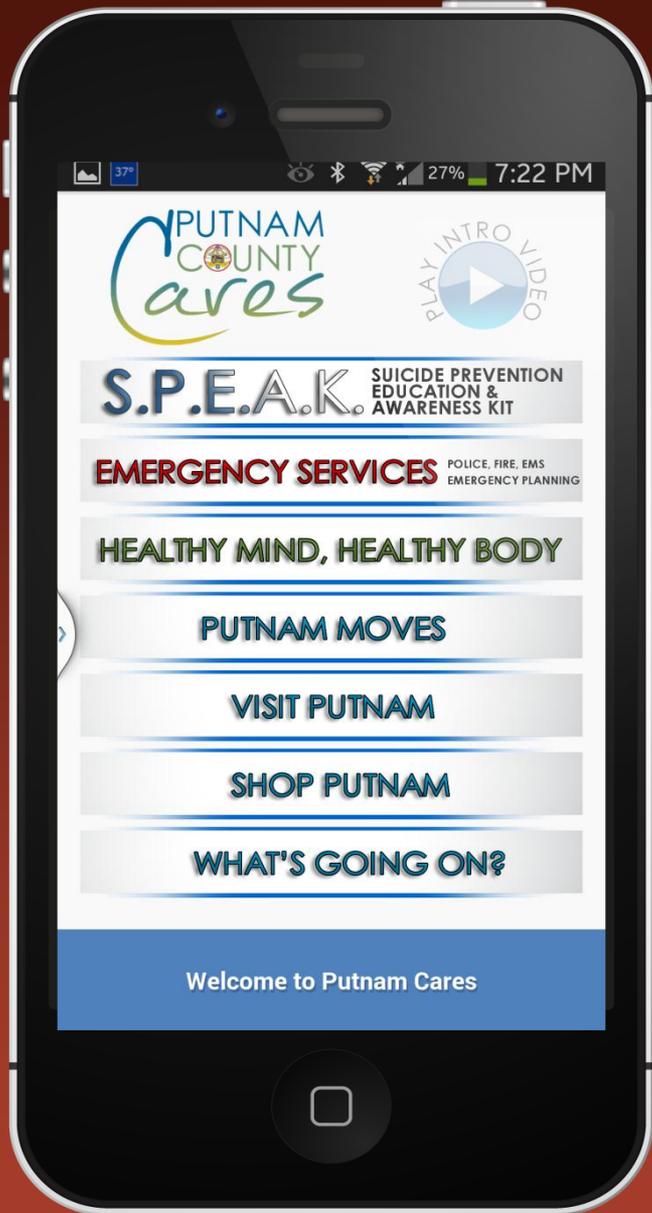
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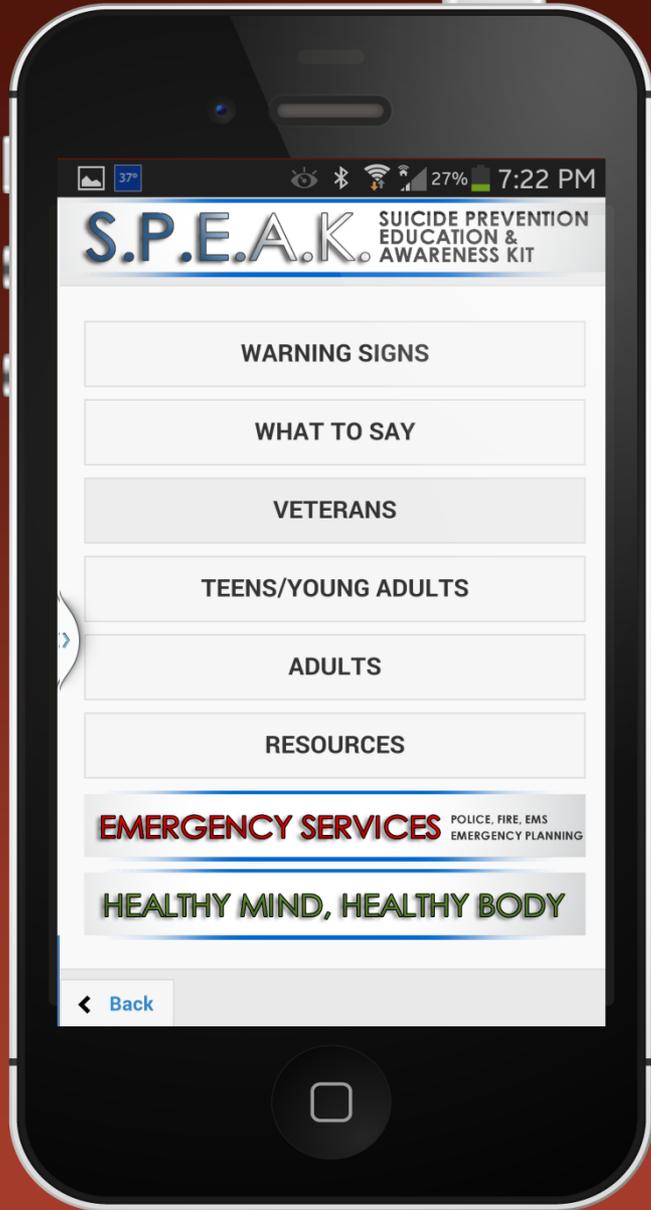
# S.P.E.A.K.

## Suicide Prevention Education & Awareness Kit



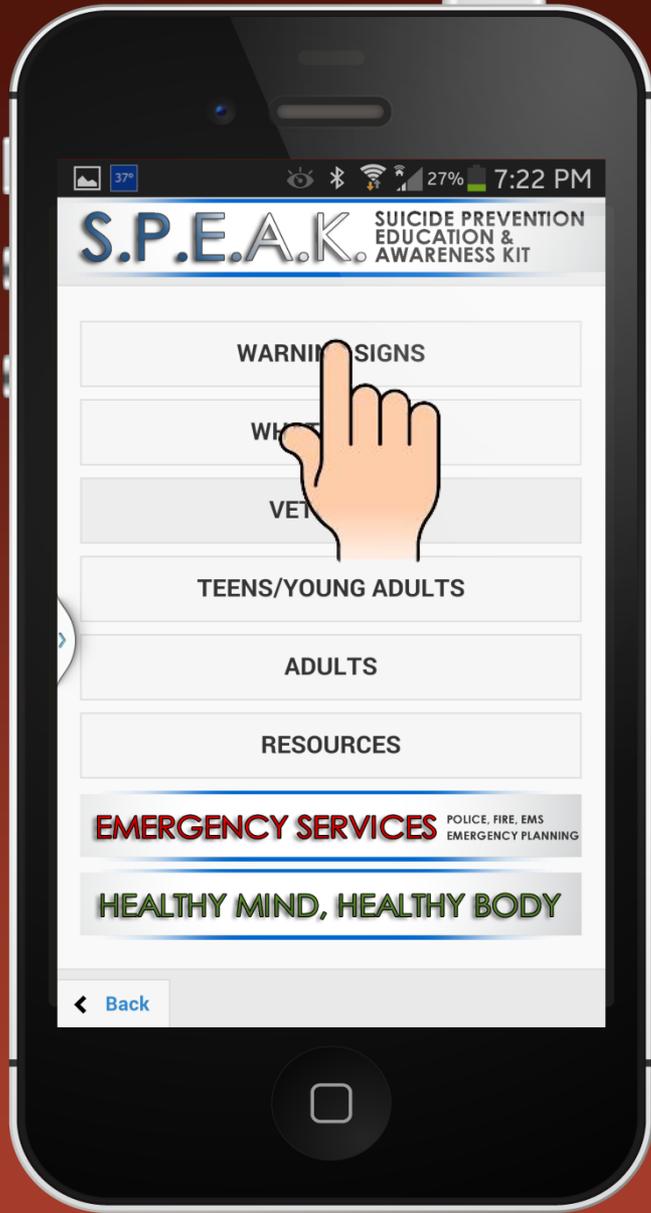
How do we reach someone when they are in crisis? Now there's an app for that! Within Putnam County Cares is one button that CAN save a life! SPEAK. Lets take a look





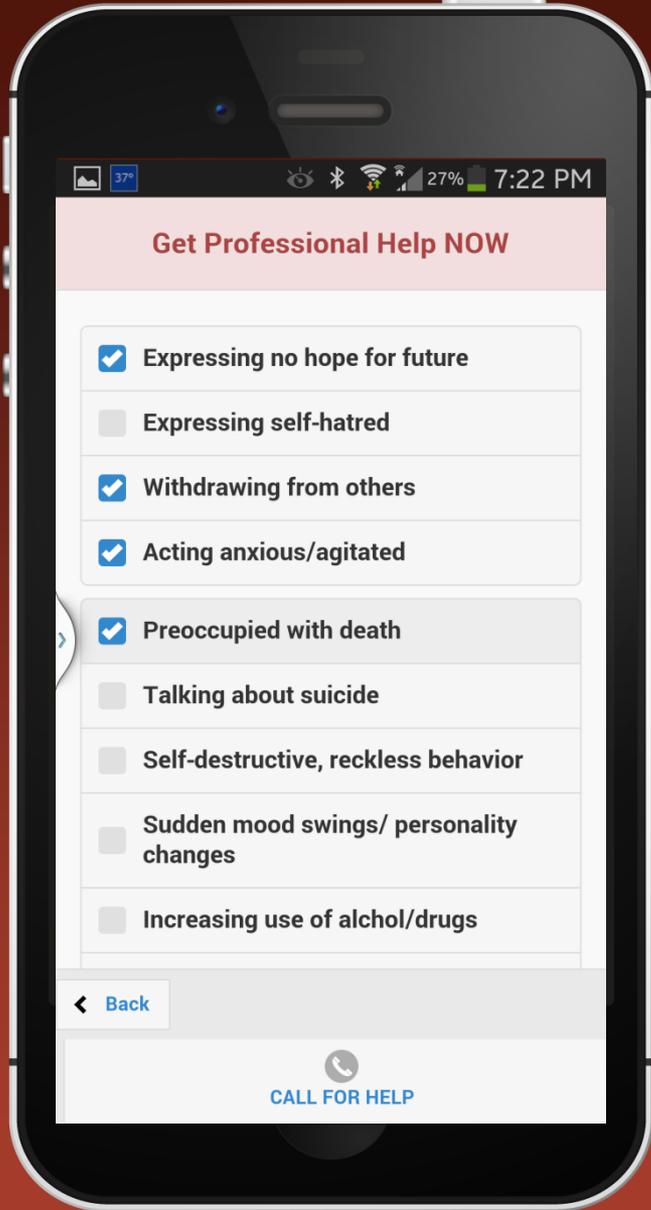
Clicking the SPEAK Button allows you to pick the category that best fits the situation





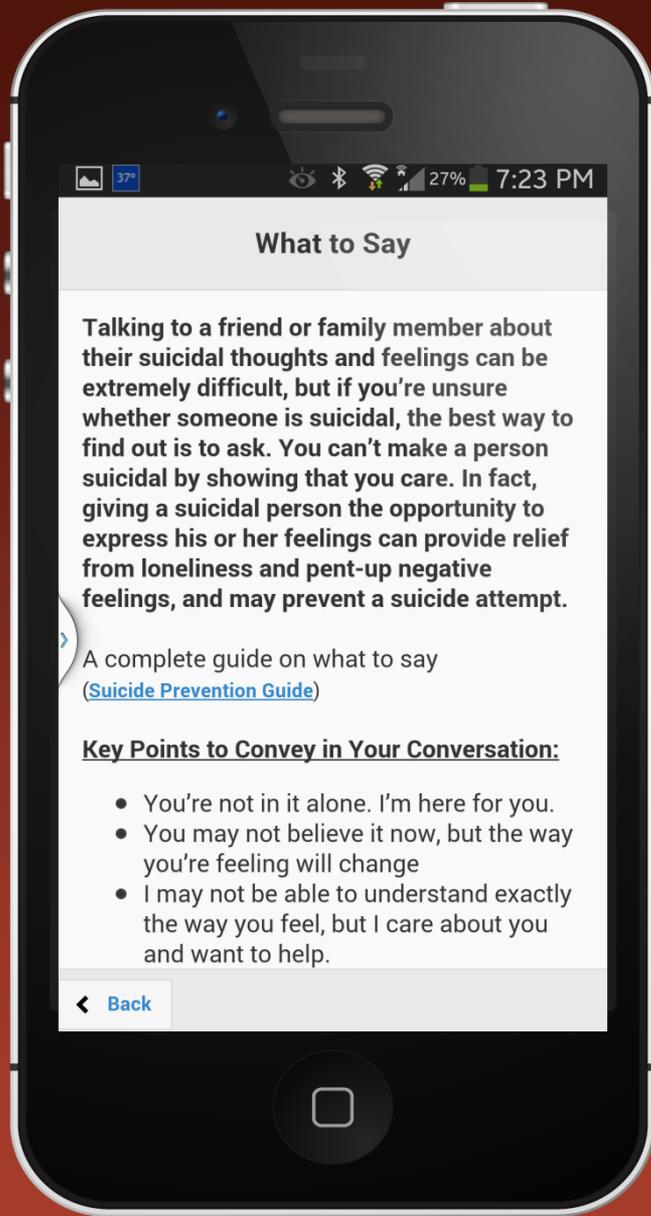
You pick what you need, Warning Signs, either for you or a loved one, What To Say when someone is in crisis. Veterans, teens, adults, each one has its own special nuances and this app covers them





For example, if you picked Warning Signs you would be guided through several choices and based on your answers, the top of the app gives you instant guidance





Sometimes, it's hard to know what to say. This app provides guidance and support.

## What to Say

Talking to a friend or family member about their suicidal thoughts and feelings can be extremely difficult, but if you're unsure whether someone is suicidal, the best way to find out is to ask. You can't make a person suicidal by showing that you care. In fact, giving a suicidal person the opportunity to express his or her feelings can provide relief from loneliness and pent-up negative feelings, and may prevent a suicide attempt.

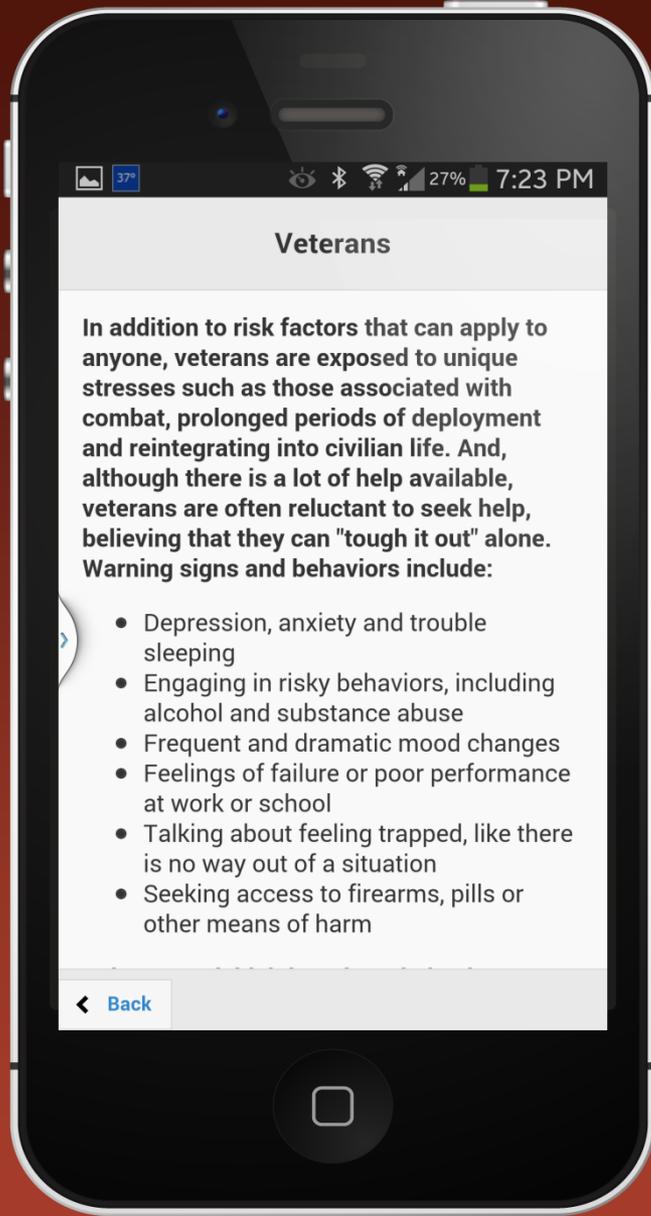
> A complete guide on what to say  
([Suicide Prevention Guide](#))

### Key Points to Convey in Your Conversation:

- You're not in it alone. I'm here for you.
- You may not believe it now, but the way you're feeling will change
- I may not be able to understand exactly the way you feel, but I care about you and want to help.

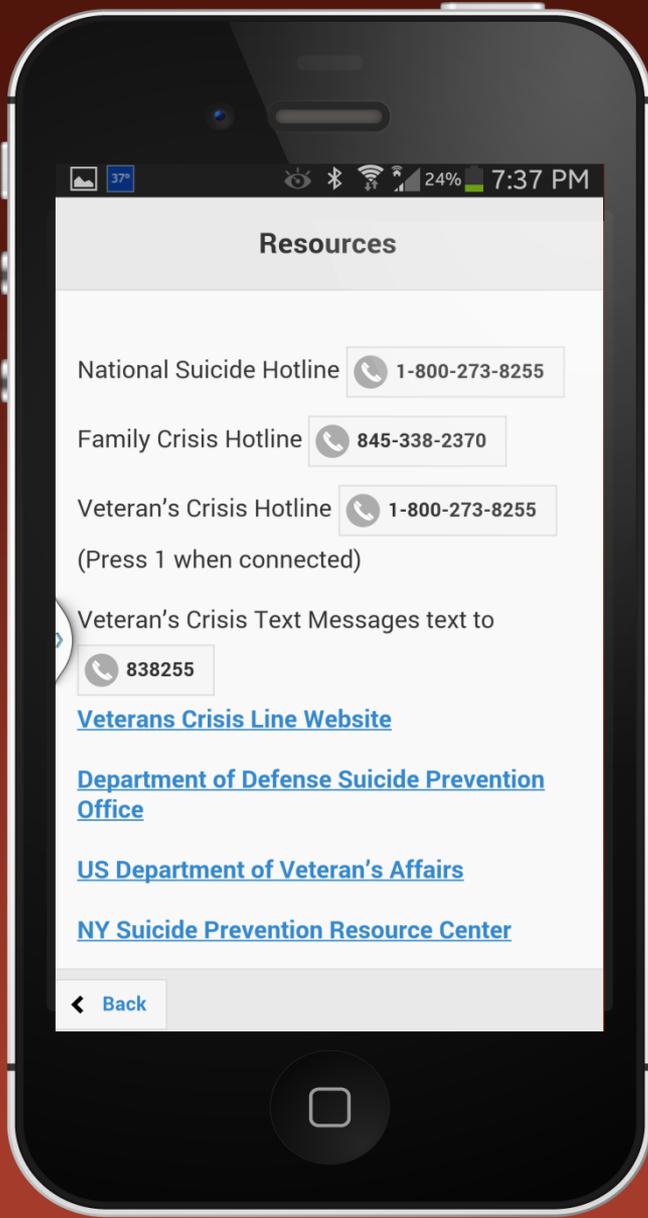
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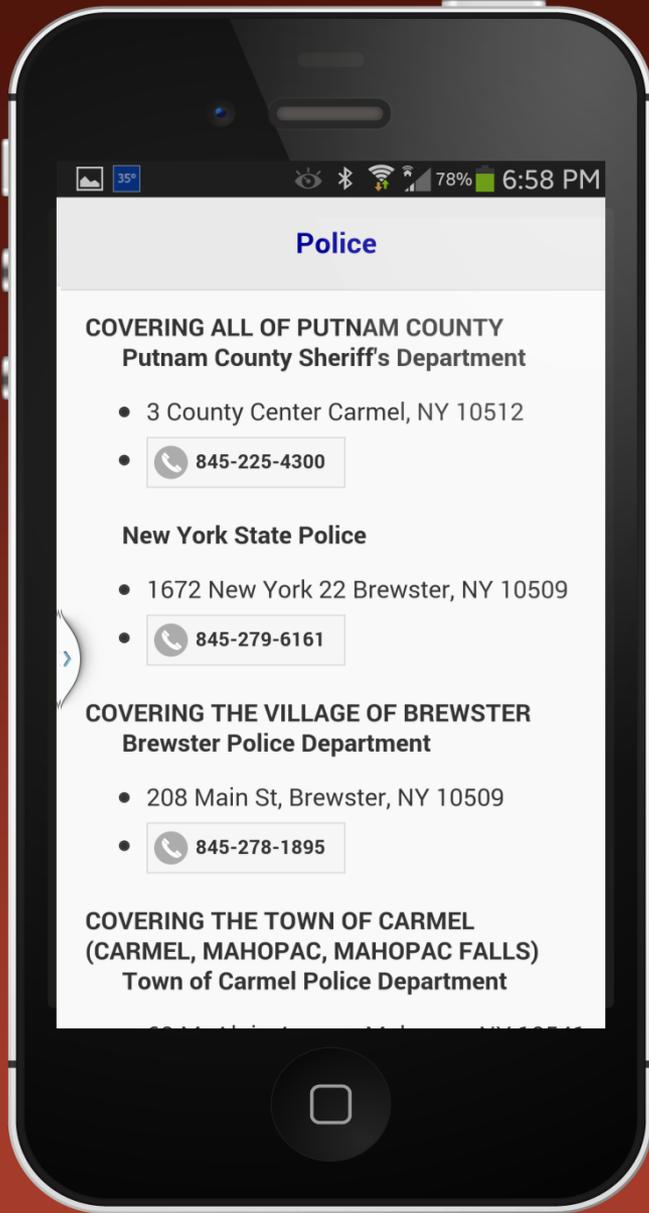
Our Veterans have a  
unique set of  
circumstances most of us  
struggle to comprehend.  
This app is your tool.





Resources are available and are meant as an immediate tool to assist someone in crisis.





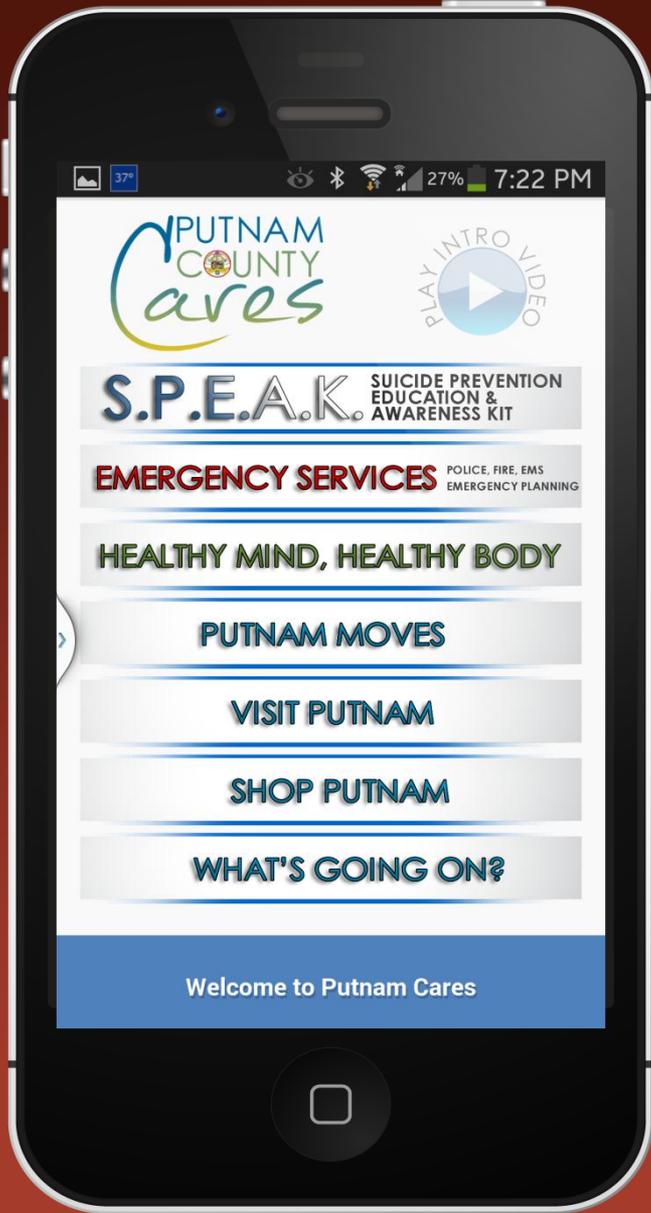
This App has more than just SPEAK. Clicking on the Emergency Services button will give you information on creating an Emergency Go Kit or will allow you to search for contact information for our Police, Fire or EMS providers





- Putnam Moves will give you transit information
- Visit Putnam is up to the minute things to do
- Shop Putnam showcases our Chambers of Commerce
- What's going on is our calendar of events

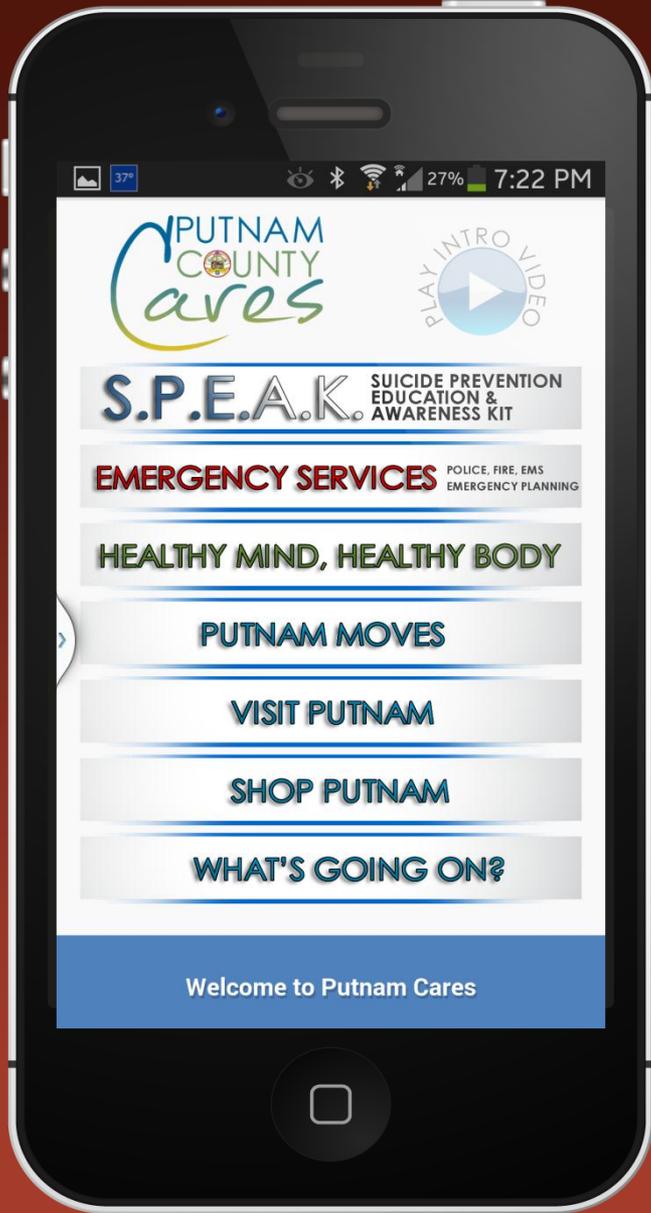




We'll be updating this app regularly and we would love to hear from you. Your comments will help us to provide the information you want.

Send your thoughts about the app to:  
[putnamcountycares@putnamcountyny.gov](mailto:putnamcountycares@putnamcountyny.gov)





Visit our website at:

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

*Site optimized for mobile use*



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# 2014 State Of The County

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### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- HEROIN CRISIS

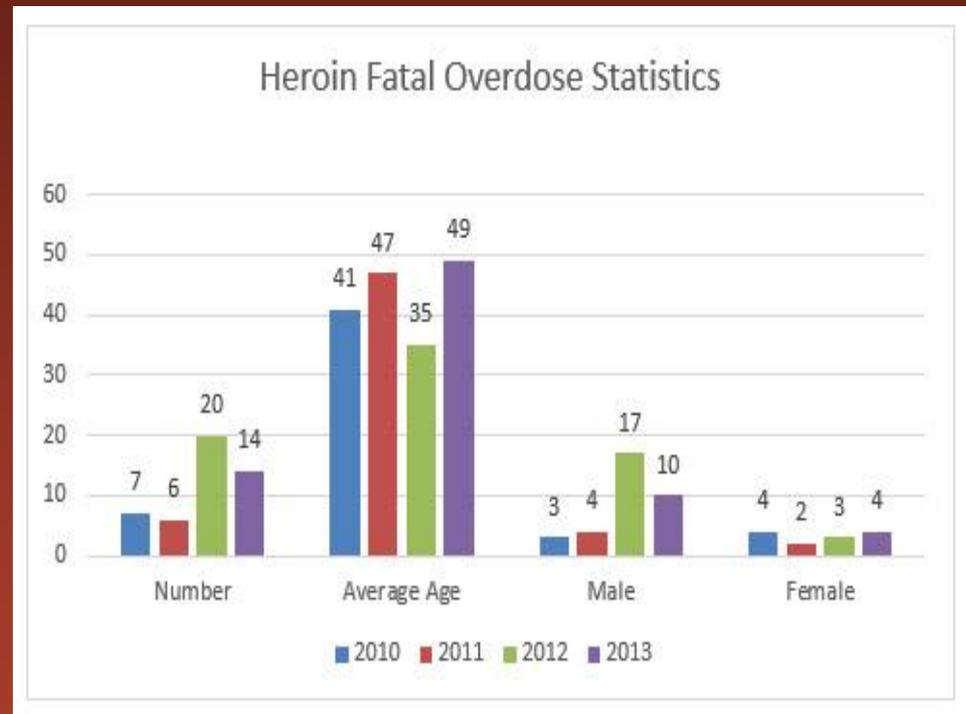




# Putnam's Heroin Crisis

**2012:  
20 overdose deaths**

**2013:  
13 overdose deaths**



Putnam County District Attorney Adam Levy continues to take a strong stand on the war against drugs.





# Putnam's Heroin Crisis

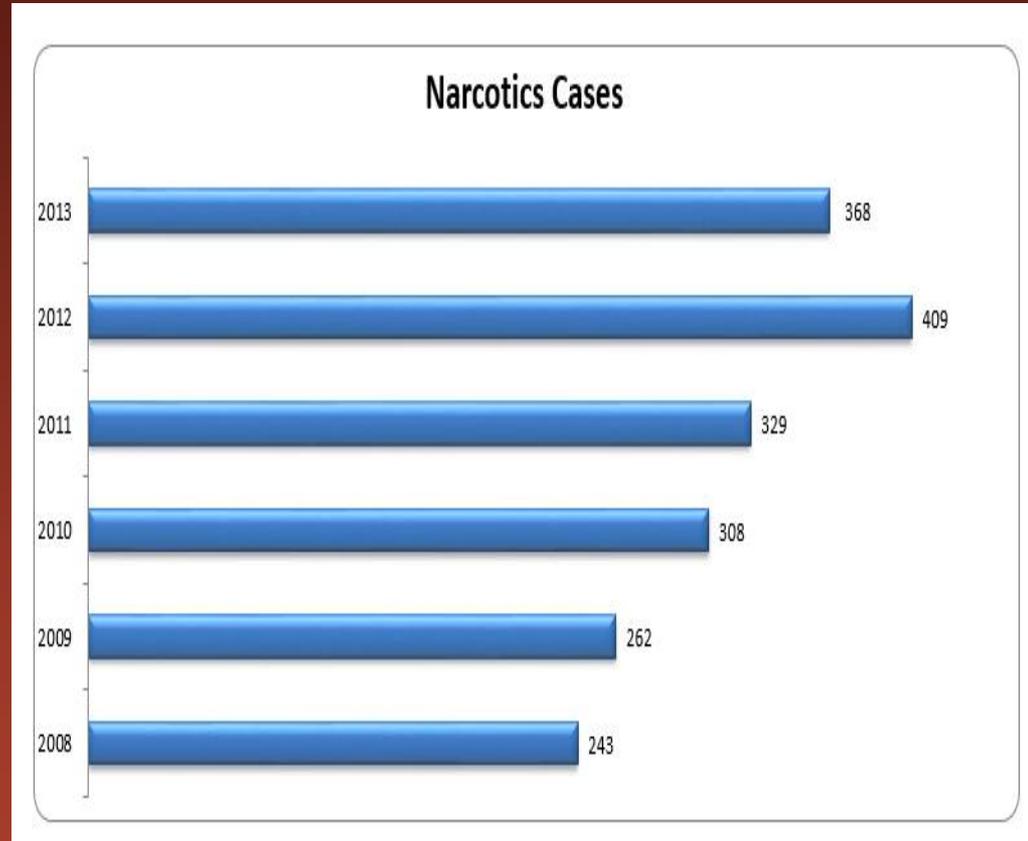
- 4 out of 5 heroin users begin with prescription drug addiction. *-US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration*
- Many of Putnam's drug "dealers" are friends and classmates who only supply a handful of people.  
*-PCSD Senior Investigator Mark Gilmore, at the District Attorney's Drug Forum at Haldane High School*
- Since 2008, Americans have been more likely to die of drug overdoses than car crashes.  
*-National Center for Health Statistics*
- The "bad batch" of heroin is a myth: it's a deadly drug regardless of what it's mixed with  
*-New York Times, February 5, 2014*



# Putnam's Heroin Crisis

Public officials in Putnam are working together to offer solutions and services to reduce the rate of recidivism of drug offenders.

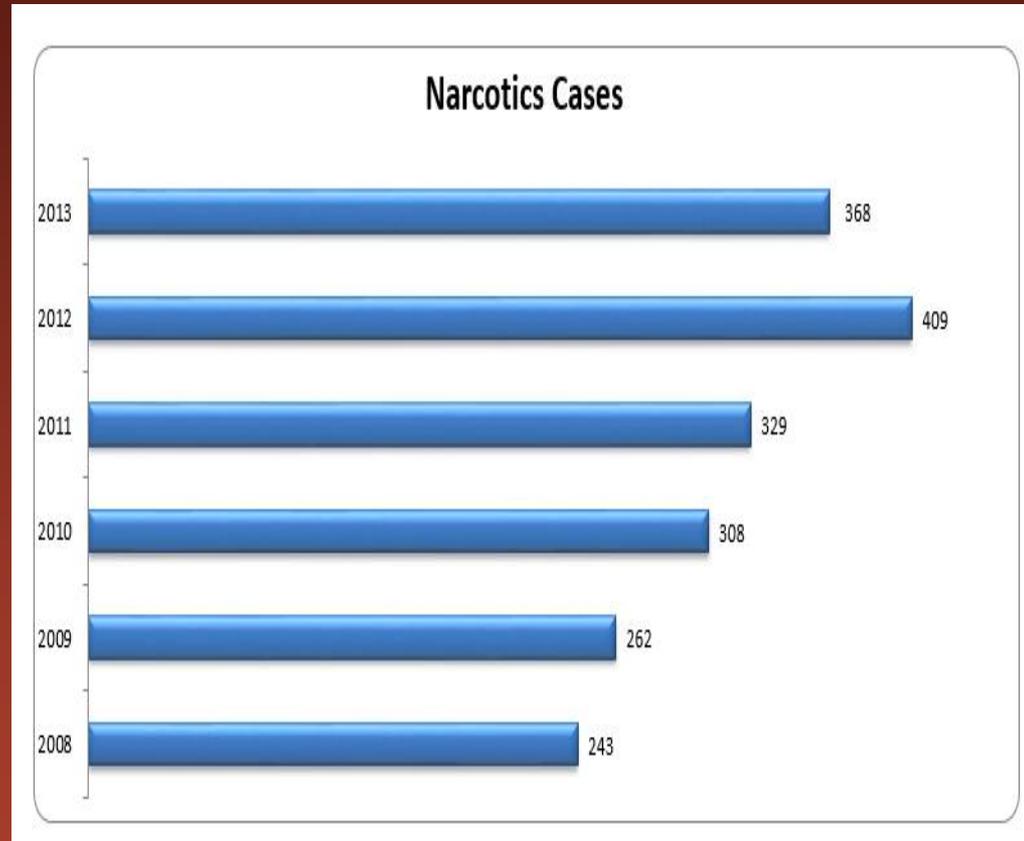
Putnam County's Drug Court offers non-violent offenders the opportunity to avoid jail by seeking treatment and staying sober.



# Putnam's Heroin Crisis

The number of cases heard in Drug Court has increased from an average of 20 per week in 2008 to 120+ in 2014

With community-based supervision and the drug court paradigm, Putnam avoids the need to spend tax dollars on increasing the size of the Putnam County Jail.



# Putnam's Heroin Crisis



The increase in the use of opiates including heroin is alarming and we must combat that with increased education and awareness



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# Putnam's Heroin Crisis



In 2004, 3% of all admissions for substance abuse was for heroin or other opiates. Today it is 25% of all admissions and demands our immediate attention.



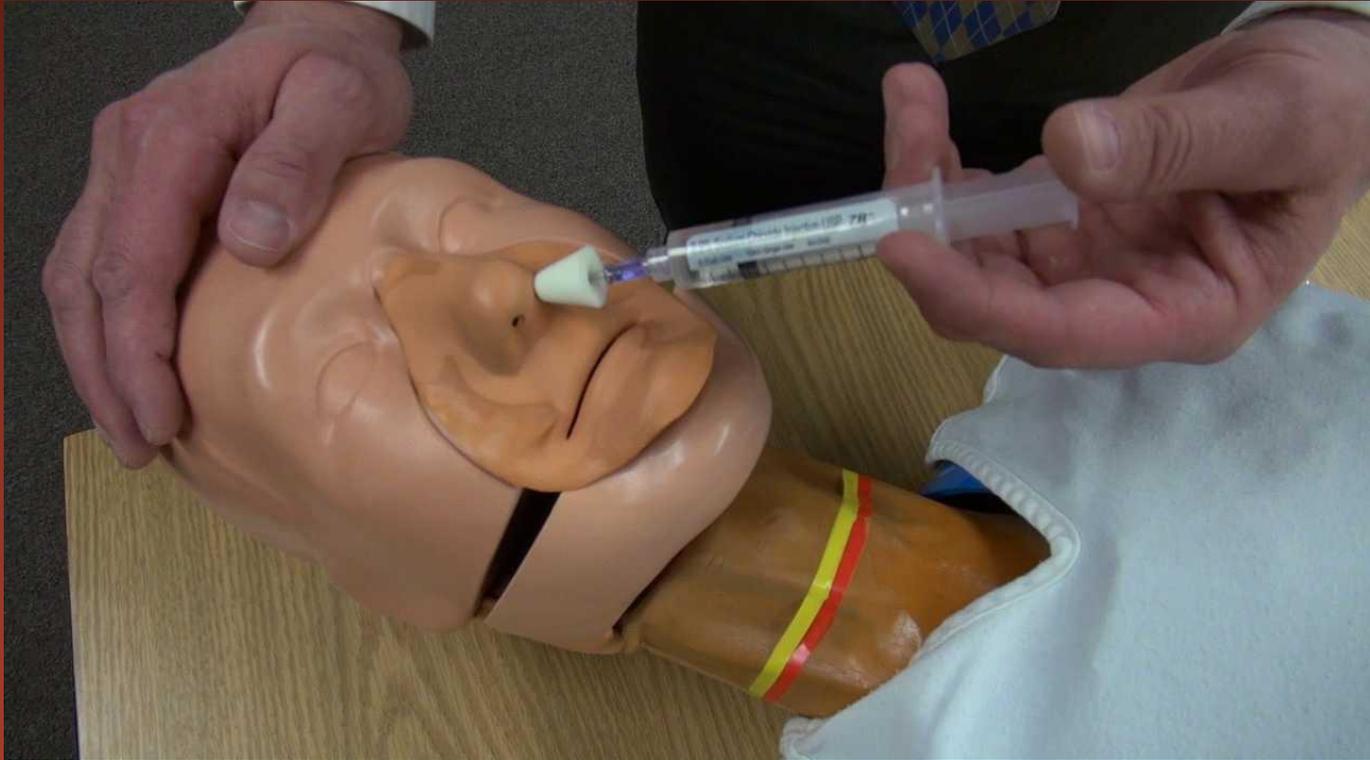
# Putnam's Heroin Crisis



Opiates take a lifetime to kick and a minute to kill. During an overdose, Narcan, a simple anti-opiate, if administered can save a life.



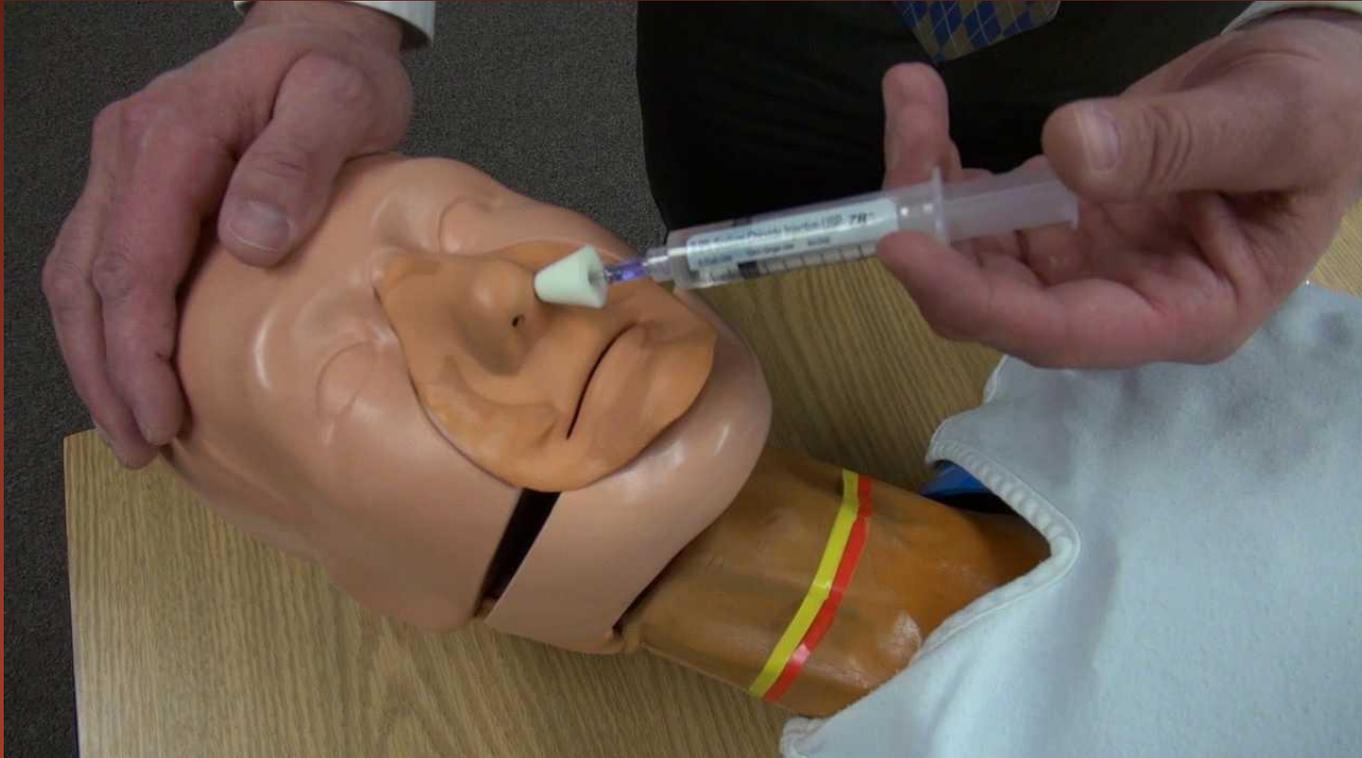
# Putnam's Heroin Crisis



Through the efforts of community organizations in Putnam County, Narcan training is allowing family members of those that are at risk to be able to deliver nasal Narcan



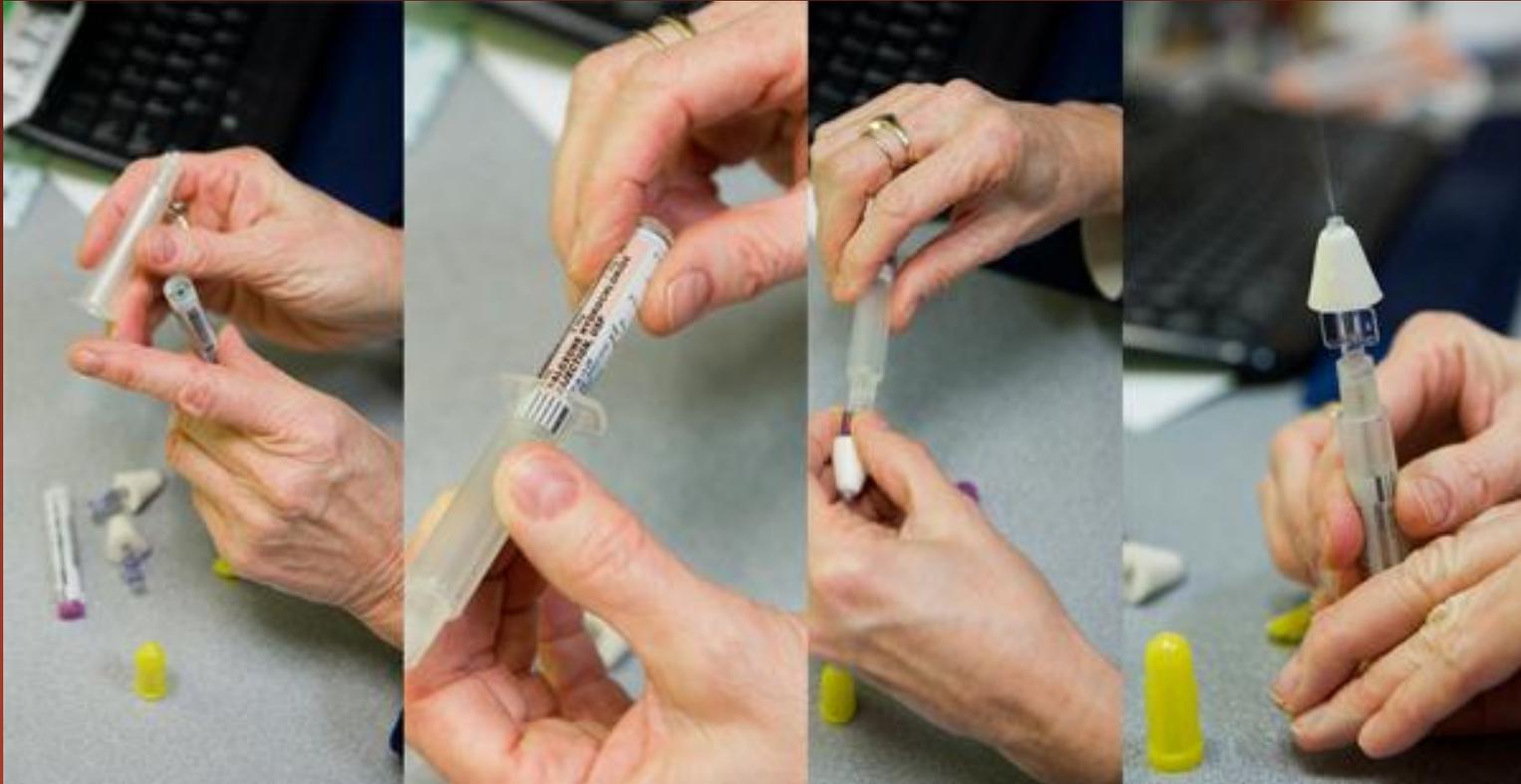
# Putnam's Heroin Crisis



This simple life saving measure has already had a positive impact when a local family was able to save their loved one by administering Narcan



# Putnam's Heroin Crisis



In our effort to do more, Sheriff Smith and the Putnam County Sheriff's Department are being trained to administer Narcan.



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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- MEDICATION TAKE BACK DAY





# Medication Take Back Day is a collaborative effort between the Putnam County Communities That Care Coalition, The Putnam County Health Department, Putnam Hospital Center and the Putnam County Sheriff's Department



Since its inception in 2010 approximately 800,000 units have been collected which would have equaled 3,550 pounds of unwanted medications. These meds were safely destroyed keeping them out of our environment and off the streets!



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- DRUG TREATMENT COURT



# Drug Treatment Court



<b>\$86,176.50</b>	<b>Cost to taxpayers for 1 year of incarceration</b>
<b>75</b>	<b>Average yearly cases in entire program</b> <i>(includes DWI)</i>

Drug Treatment Court, under the leadership of the Honorable James F. Reitz, remains a solid choice in the war on drugs



# Drug Treatment Court



Treatment Court provides a supervised alternative to incarceration that not only provides the offender with the tools they need to succeed but saves the taxpayers money



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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- **P**utnam **I**nvests In **L**eaders **O**f **T**omorrow



# Putnam Invests In Leaders Of Tomorrow

## 2013 PILOT Program

- 46 Applications Submitted
- 33 Were Eligible
- 29 Students Participated
  - 20 Were College Students
  - 9 Were High School Students
  - All had a GPA 3.0 or above

In 2013 we ushered in our P.I.L.O.T. program and what a success it was!



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# Putnam Invests In Leaders Of Tomorrow



## 2013 PILOT Program

- 18 Colleges or Universities were represented
- 3 Local High Schools were represented



The intern's evaluations of the program were extremely positive and the department feedback was overwhelmingly in favor of repeating the opportunity



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# Putnam Invests In Leaders Of Tomorrow

## The 2014 Program Will Be Open To

- Applicants must be over the age of 16
  - *High School Juniors/Seniors*
  - *Undergraduate/Graduate Students*
- College Level Students must have a grade point average of at least 3.0
- Paid & Unpaid Internships Are Available
- Children of Putnam County Employees are excluded from paid internships but may apply for unpaid positions

*Apply at [www.putnamcountyny.gov/internapply](http://www.putnamcountyny.gov/internapply)*

We are pleased to report that for 2014 the P.I.L.O.T. program will once again be offered



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- MENTORING DAY OCTOBER 17, 2014



# Mentoring Day



Putnam County once again hosted Mentoring Day which provided an opportunity for people with disabilities to work throughout our government facilities.



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# Mentoring Day



Mentoring Day proves that all people can learn something, from our guests to our employees, everyone took away something valuable and we look forward to participating again on October 17, 2014



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# 2014 State Of The County

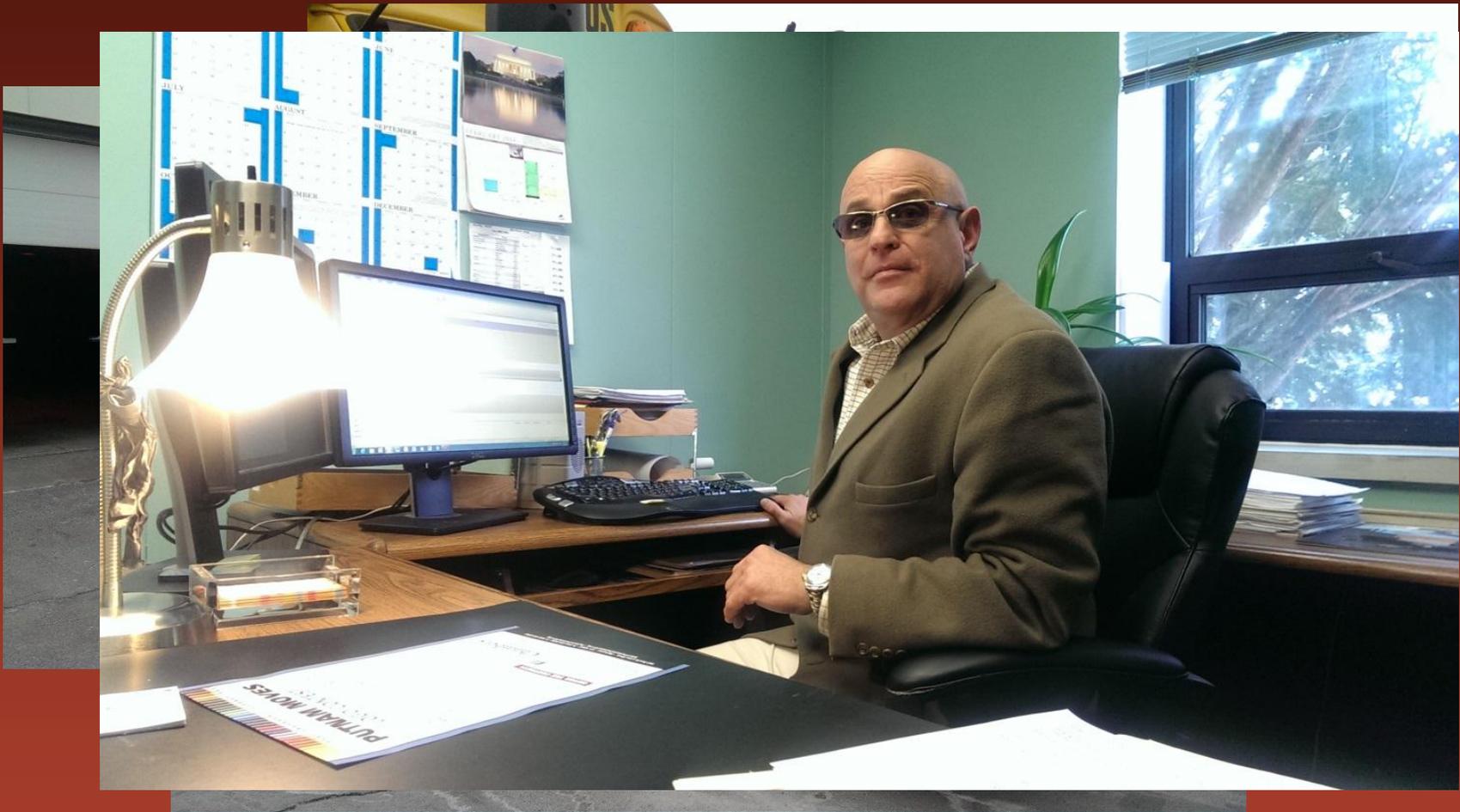
## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- PUTNAM MOVES



# Putnam Moves



Transportation in the County remains a high priority. Cost effectively and efficiently moving our residents around the County requires careful planning.



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# Putnam Moves



The Transportation Task Force being led by Chairman Vincent Tamagna has been meeting regularly to evaluate the system and provide direction



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# Putnam Moves



Our transportation system is a vital link for many Putnam residents. One group, our veterans, use our dedicated transportation van for necessary appointments



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# Putnam Moves

## Veteran's Transport Video



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



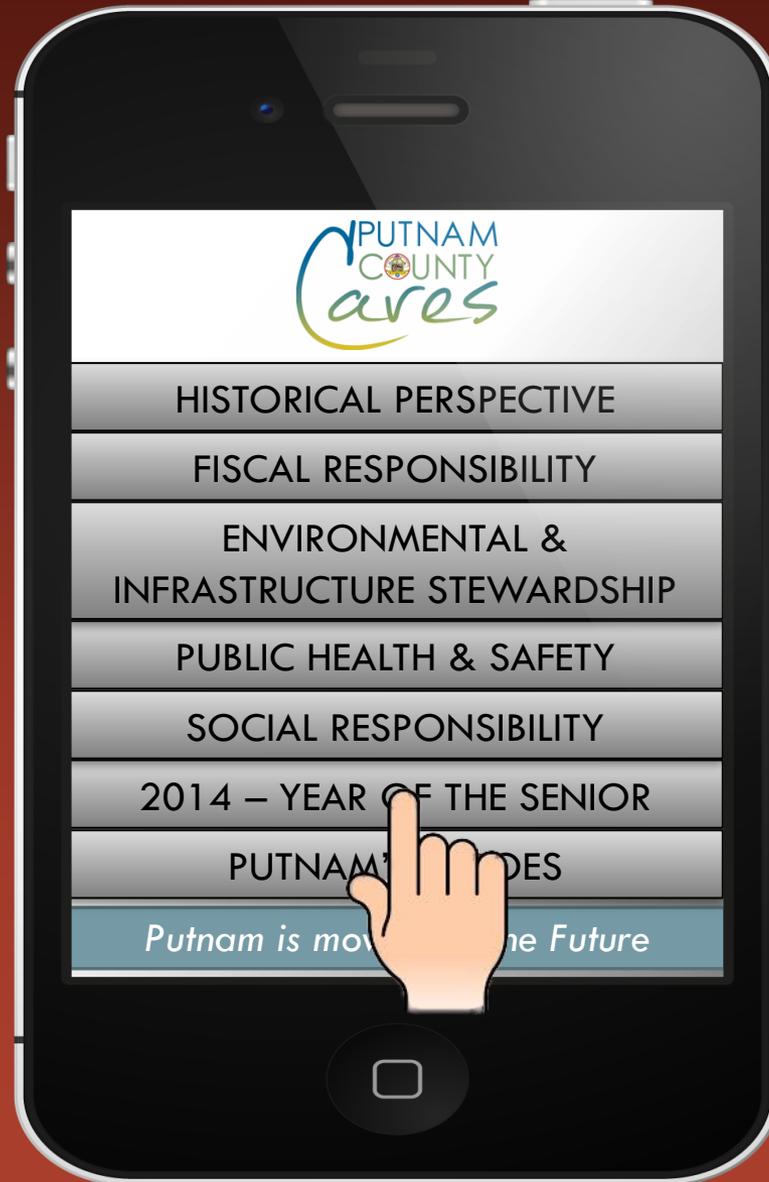
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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*



# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

2014 – YEAR OF THE SENIOR



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PUTNAM COUNTY  
Where the Country Begins

# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM



With all that seniors have to offer to Putnam County I wanted to show them how honored we are to have them here and that is why I have named 2014 The Year of the Senior



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PUTNAM COUNTY  
Where the Country Begins

# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM



Putnam County has the fastest growing over 60 population in New York State and I am committed to providing the resources needed to provide them with services they need.



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PUTNAM COUNTY  
Where the Country Begins

# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM



## Butterfield Project

- Smart economic growth project, including new state of the art Senior Center
- Putting people back to work
- Saving the Village post office
- Satellite County Services (i.e. Tourism, Sheriff's Dept., County Clerk, Personnel)
- \$431,000 increased property and sales tax revenue



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Where the Country Begins

# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM



Roger & Beth Ailes graciously provided Putnam County with a donation of \$500,000 to bring a new Senior Center to the Butterfield Project



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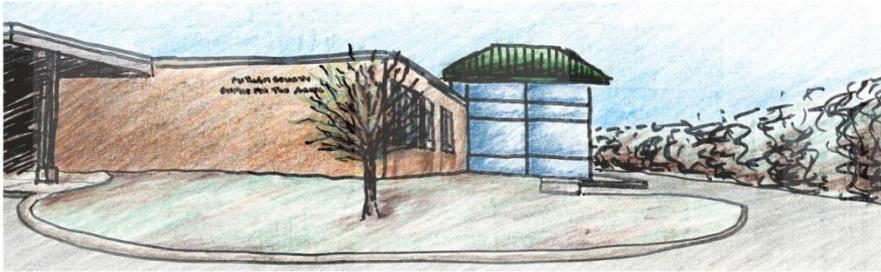
March 13, 2014



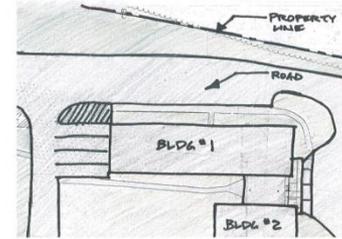
**PUTNAM COUNTY**  
Where the Country Begins

# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

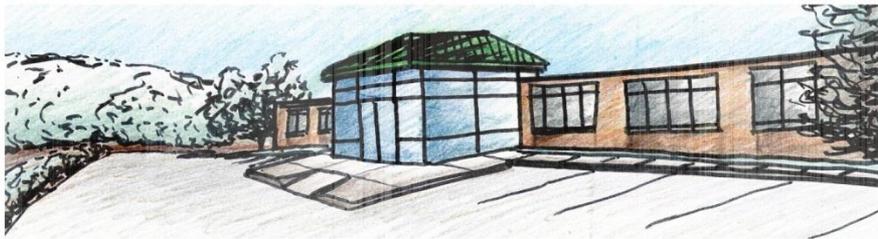
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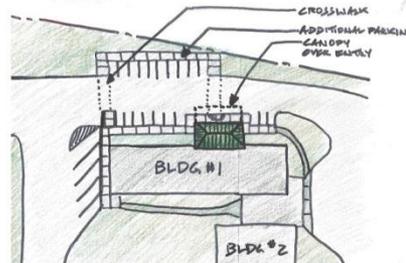
BUILDING #1 AT SMITH CAMPUS  
PRELIMINARY RENDERING FOR THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING (OFA)  
COMING INTO THE CAMPUS - LOOKING TOWARD THE SOUTH



BUILDING #1 AT SMITH CAMPUS  
EXISTING SITE LAYOUT  
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE



BUILDING #1 AT SMITH CAMPUS  
PRELIMINARY RENDERING FOR THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING (OFA)  
LOOKING TOWARD THE NORTH



BUILDING #1 AT SMITH CAMPUS  
PRELIMINARY SITE LAYOUT  
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

PUTNAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT  
OF HIGHWAYS & FACILITIES  
COMMISSIONER: FRED PERA  
SOPHIE COMMISSIONER: JOHN C. TULLY  
842 Fair Street, Carmel, New York 10512  
(845) 878-8331



PRELIMINARY PRESENTATION FOR SMITH CAMPUS WITH FOCUS ON THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING (OFA)  
AT BUILDING #1 AND BUILDING #3

PROJ NO: 2013-OFA-01 | DATE: MARCH 10, 2014 | SCALE: VARIES  
DRAWING NO:

PRELIM-04.2

**Redesign And Expansion of The Donald B Smith Senior Center which will result in an increase of approximately 2,800 SF of dedicated senior use space**



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PUTNAM COUNTY  
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WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM



**Keeping Seniors Independent and Families Together.** We've funded 3 new home health aide positions and in 2013 we delivered 30,000 homebound meals



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**PUTNAM COUNTY**  
Where the Country Begins

# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

[WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM](http://WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM)



**Mobility and Transportation Initiatives.** We've increased senior medical transportation fleet by 5 vehicles; We're redesigning the public transportation routes to meet the needs of our seniors, connecting to senior residential communities and providing Senior Shopping Days to shopping districts, Main Street and other requested locations, transportation hubs i.e. rail, tourist and recreation destinations and appointments at health care providers



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PUTNAM COUNTY  
Where the Country Begins

# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM



## Putnam Valley Senior Center Kitchen

Photos Taken 3/12/2014



**Enhanced Nutrition Programs at All Centers.** With the input of our seniors we have created menus that are more appealing yet still focus on nutrition.



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PUTNAM COUNTY  
Where the Country Begins

# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM



**Enhanced Recreational Opportunities.** We're getting seniors to our tourist destinations and enhancing recreational programs such as Yoga, Zumba to stay current with today's recreational trends as well as providing a schedule of holiday events



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# 2014 YEAR OF THE SENIOR

WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.COM



## Putnam County

PUTNAM COUNTY SENIORS

# Living For The Future

# Main



**Rebranding Our Senior Centers.** We will be working with Putnam County Chamber of Commerce to host an open house with our local businesses to showcase our facilities and to encourage more seniors to participate at our centers. Strong feedback indicates that our seniors no longer wish to be referred to as “aging” and we are working with them to change our name and logo to more accurately reflect the vibrancy of our senior population. “Living for the Future” is one such idea



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**Established Advisory Committees at All Centers.** A priority of this administration was to hear from our seniors what was important to keep them healthy and active. These boards meet regularly with the staff at each location



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Our Seniors deserve our respect and I for one will continue to show them why Putnam County will always be there for them.



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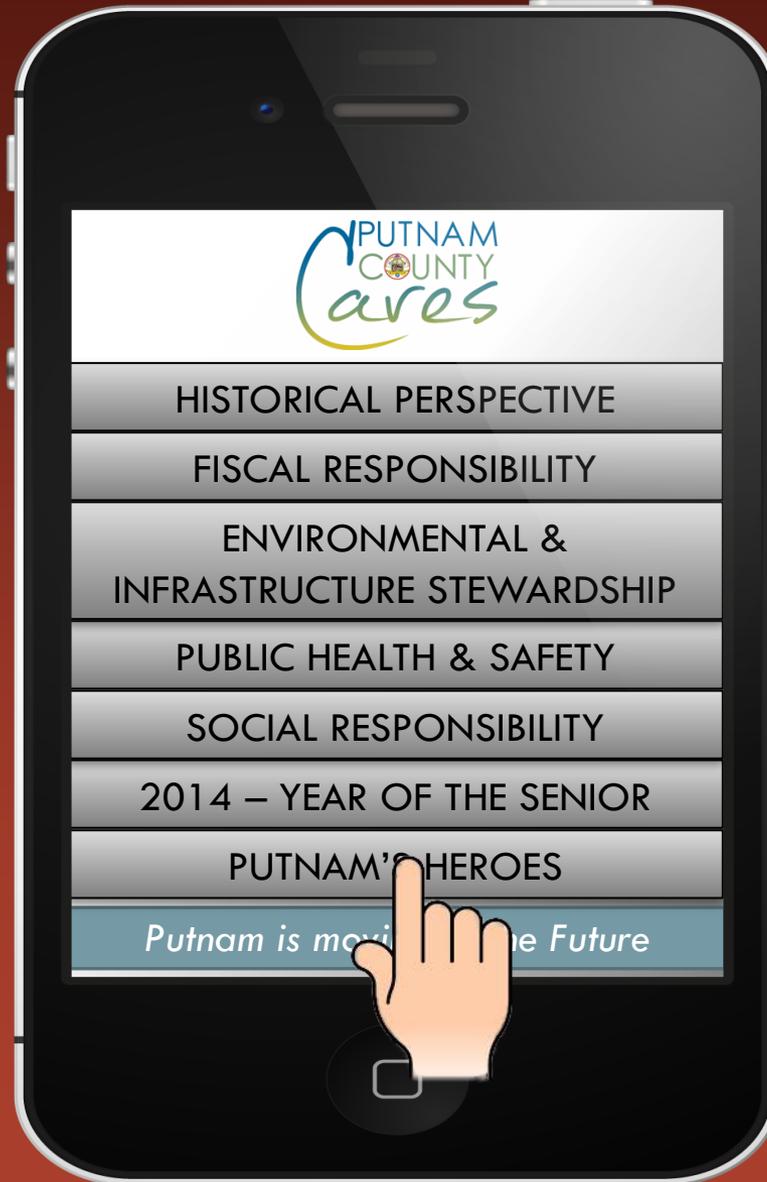
★ 2014

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# 2014 State Of The County

## *PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE*

PUTNAM'S HEROES



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# Putnam's Heroes



Our heroes are all around us, our veterans, police officers, firefighters, EMS workers, people serving in the Armed Forces and our community volunteers



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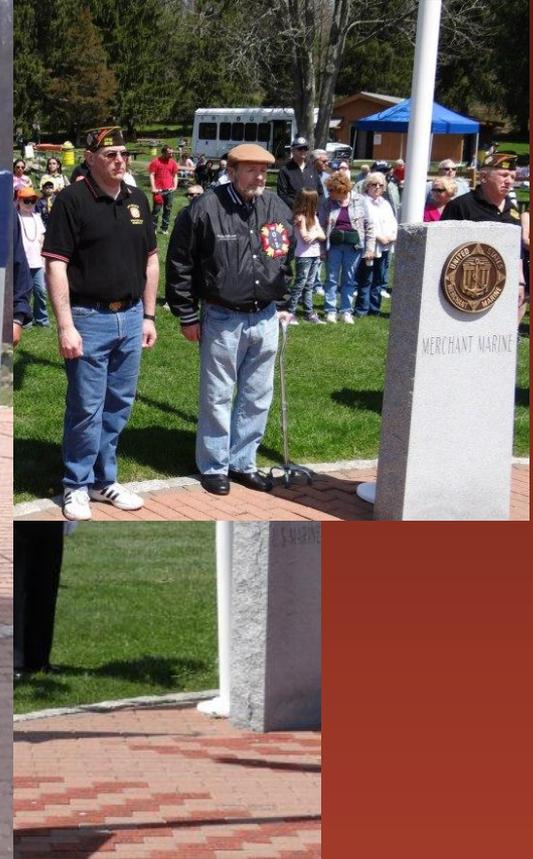


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# Putnam's Heroes



In Putnam County we will be forever grateful and will never forget the Veterans that served our Country



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# Putnam's Heroes

Volume 4, Issue 1  
Extra Holiday Issue

## PUTNAM VETERAN'S NEWSLETTER

An E-mail Newsletter of the Putnam County Veterans Service Agency

**NOW HEAR THIS!**

Carmel Board of Education  
Public Hearing Tues. Feb 11, 2014 7:30 PM  
Carmel High School Library  
30 Fair Street, Carmel  
**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE  
PROPOSED ADOPTION OF  
THE VETERANS TAX EXEMPTION**

Brewster Board of Education  
Public Hearing Tues. Feb 11, 2014 6:30 PM  
Regular Meeting to follow

Brewster HS Performing Arts Center  
50 Fogglotown Rd. Brewster  
**APPROVAL OF VETERANS  
EXEMPTION ALTERNATIVE TAX**

A new state law authorizes School Districts to determine if they want to give Veterans a partial exemption on their School Taxes, exactly like Veterans receive from their town property taxes. Each School Board has to hold a public hearing to determine the feasibility of such a change. After the public hearing they vote on the issue. This is not a mandatory tax reduction, each School Board decides if they want to give this to the Veterans. The fiscal impact will be one of the deciding factors. We will be helping the local Veterans in each school district with what they may need to say to at the public hearings. The more Veterans and their supporters who attended the better. Please try to attend one of these meetings. The Veterans Board of education unanimously approved the Veterans Exemption at their February 4, 2014 meeting. This makes them one of the first school boards to approve this exemption.

The following will be my remarks at the Carmel Public Hearing:  
Dear Members of the School Board and the Taxpayers of the School District,



**Karl**  
DONALD R. SMITH GOVERNMENT CARES  
110 OLD WHITE C. BLDG. 2  
CARMEL, NY 12017  
PHONE (518) 338-1620  
FAX (518) 338-1940  
**KARL ROHDE, DIRECTOR**  
**ART HANLEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

Issue 1  
County Executive Odell:  
bravary!  
I went to see "Lone Survivor," a noble movie - true story of a Navy sniper who Operation Home to high-  
of the "Lone Survivor" the fair- and raw also and us show.



Luttrell was the lone survivor of this particular operation and while I won't give away any more of the movie's plot, it is amazing to me that following his physical

recovery, Luttrell returned to Afghanistan completed another tour before He then wrote the book, "Lone to share not only his story to honor his brothers-in-arms ultimate sacrifice.  
I highly recommend you movie or read the book. I disappointed.

Happy Valentine's Day  
Stay warm and sta  
MaryEllen C'dell

2014 Northern We:  
Saint Patrick's  
Sunday,  
Mahc  
Step

**2014 Saint Patrick's Day Parade is Dedicated to the American Flag \*\***

Volume 4, Issue 2  
Read All About It Issue!!!!

## PUTNAM VETERAN'S NEWSLETTER

An E-mail Newsletter of the Putnam County Veterans Service Agency

SINGORAIBHMAITHAGA  
ZIEPALDIESGRATIAST  
AKASIHNIRRINGRAZZJ  
RIGADOTTHANKYOU TAKKI  
MUCHASCORLATA



Thanks and a salute to the Board of Education of Brewster and to the Board of Education of Carmel. Each held a Public Hearing this past Tuesday regarding the property tax exemptions for Veterans on school

the resolution granting the Veterans Exemption at the Brewster Public hearing. Art reported that everything was about the same. Both Veterans and non-Veterans property owners spoke in favor of the exemption. With one non-Veteran saying that Veterans have not gotten their what they deserve since 1775. It was a unanimous vote with one abstention in favor of the exemption. Both boards have to work out the details of the exemptions in their respective districts. The information needed by qualifying Veterans will be available soon at the Carmel School Brewster and from your local District offices and from your local assessor.



It was my pleasure to be at the Carmel BOE meeting and to see Art was at the Brewster BOE as a speaker. Sadly this is another in a long line of unfunded mandates that spill out of Albany. The only thing that was different from the other mandates was that it was optional. The school board could reject the exemption. At the Carmel Public Hearing several Veterans spoke and each had a slightly different take on why this exemption should be given. However the core theme for several was the same: "...it is the right thing to do". This was what resonated the most with the Carmel BOE. They voted unanimously to pass

We hope the other School Districts in Putnam County will follow the lead of Brewster and Carmel.



**Karl**  
DONALD R. SMITH GOVERNMENT CARES  
110 OLD WHITE C. BLDG. 2  
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PHONE (518) 338-1620  
FAX (518) 338-1940  
**KARL ROHDE, DIRECTOR**  
**ART HANLEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR**



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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# Putnam's Heroes



My administration will always be there for our Veterans. Our Veterans Home in Carmel is now at 100% capacity. That's 12 Veterans that were homeless and now have a place to call home



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# Putnam's Heroes



PFC  
**JOSEPH DWYER**  
*Peer To Peer Program*

*of*  
**Putnam County NY**

Helping to get our Veterans back on their feet is the goal of our PFC Joseph Dwyer Veterans Peer To Peer Program of Putnam.



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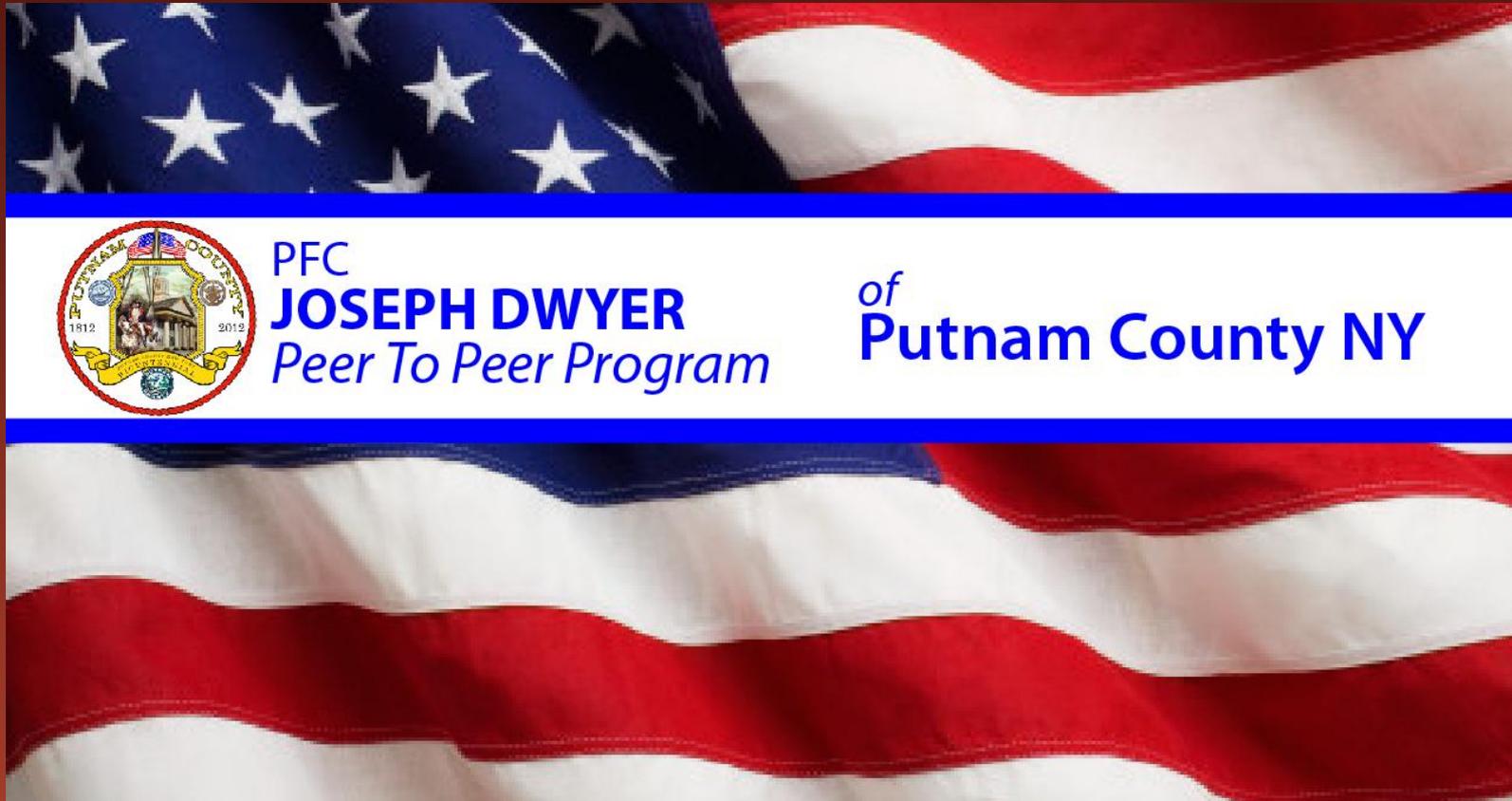


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# Putnam's Heroes



This important program provides phone support to our Veterans with the eventual goal of face to face visits.



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# Putnam's Heroes

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



**A GRATEFUL NATION THANKS AND HONORS YOU**

The Putnam County Veterans Service Agency is also a Commemorative Partner with the US Department of Defense for the Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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# Putnam's Heroes



★Proudly Made in the USA★

What better way to honor our Veterans than to respect them with a Row of Honor flag. This Memorial Day and again on Veteran's Day we will show our gratitude by gracing the shores of Lake Gleneida with the very symbol that they protected.



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE



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# Putnam's Heroes



Our pride continued when we honored our wounded Veterans by becoming New York's First Purple Heart County



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# Putnam's



Where would Putnam County be without our volunteers? The cornerstone of community, volunteers give back everyday and so do our employees at Putnam County! Each organization represented on the screen is just a small sampling of those organizations where our employees volunteer their time.



# Putnam's Heroes

## Volunteer Fire Departments and Year Established

1870 - Brewster Volunteer Fire Department

1899 - Cold Spring Fire Co. No 1

**1914 – Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department 100 Years of Service in 2014!**

1915 - Carmel Fire Department 100 Years in 2015!

1921 – Patterson Fire Department

1929 – Garrison Volunteer Fire Department

1937 – Mahopac Falls Volunteer Fire Department

1945 – Lake Carmel Volunteer Fire Department

1946 - Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Department

1946 – Putnam Lake Fire Department

1950 – Continental Village Fire Department

1969 – North Highlands Engine Co. 1

1971 – Kent Volunteer Fire Department



In Putnam County our volunteer Fire & EMS Providers have been giving for a long time. The oldest established fire department, Brewster Volunteer Fire Department started 144 Years ago!



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# Putnam's Heroes

## Congratulations to the

# Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department

*Celebrating 100 Years of Service to our community!*



The year 2014 will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department. Established in 1914, they have been providing VOLUNTEER service ever since!



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# Putnam's Heroes

## Volunteer Ambulance Corps and Year Established

1961 – Putnam Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corps

1965 – Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance

1968 – Carmel Volunteer Ambulance Corp

1974 – Garrison Volunteer Ambulance & First Aid Squad



## Thank You To



Some of our volunteer fire departments also provide emergency ambulance service but there are also 4 independent volunteer ambulance corps that are always there when we need them, and a special thanks to our volunteers of the Medical Reserve Corps, REACT, PEARL and RACES



# Putnam County Cares

- Fiscal Responsibility
  - Sound Fiscal Condition
- Environmental and Infrastructure Stewardship
  - Completing Projects On Time & On Budget
- Public Health & Safety
  - While We Remain The Safest In NYS We're Focused On Continuous Improvement
- Social Responsibility

