

## Food Operators Expo Educates Those Who Feed Us

By ERIC GROSS

Owners and representatives of one hundred fifty food establishments were on hand last Tuesday at the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac Falls when the Putnam Health Department conducted its 13th annual Food Operator's Expo.

Chefs, caterers and proprietors of the county's restaurants and delicatessens, food shops and institutional food services were honored for their achievements while learning about the latest trends in the food industry.

Commissioner of Health Dr. Michael Nesheiwat told the gathering that food safety was one of his department's "major public health priorities. To ensure our residents health and safety, the health department takes a proactive approach to educating those who feed us."

Topics discussed during the day long seminar included Basic Food Protection, Food Waste Reduction, Food Allergies, Legal Issues and Latest Dining Trends.

A series of Breakout topics also was of great interest to many of the restaurateurs. Discussions centered around Liquor Legal Liability, Avoiding Common Insurance

Claims, Sodium in Food, Food Allergies, Rodents, Roaches and Restaurants, Dining Trends, First Aid, CPR and Fire Safety.

Shawn Rogan, who organized the program, recalled how former Putnam Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler, currently Westchester's Commissioner of Health, initiated the Food Operators' get-together in 2007: "Our fair has grown over the years by providing quality education and a culture of partnership."

Awards were also presented to restaurants and organizations which went above and beyond the call of safety.

Nicola's Italian Restaurant in Cold Spring received the Lifetime Achievement Award for its 30 years of excellence.

Receiving the Commissioner's Gold Award were the Ice Cream Studio, Carmel School District, Henry Wells Middle School and John F. Kennedy Elementary School both in Brewster and Mahopac High School.

The Arch Restaurant and Wandering Dave's Fork in the Road each received a special Health Inspector's Commendation Award.

## Hundreds Participate in Soggy Putnam Heart Walk

By ERIC GROSS

The weatherman failed to cooperate yet despite dark and damp conditions, some 500 men, women and children along with the occasional dog participated Sunday in Putnam's annual Heart Walk on the Brewster School District campus.

Lifelong Putnam resident Barbara Scuccimarra of Garrison was recognized as the 2019 Putnam Heart Walk Committee Honoree for her work on the Tobacco 21 Law approved last fall across the county.

Three local "Survivor Honorees" were also lauded at the event for helping to raise awareness and funds to fight heart disease.

Six-year-old Landon Perez from Brewster, Jennifer Garcia from Lake Peekskill and Pawling's Patrick Barrett all received ovations from the enthusiastic crowd that stood in the rain.

Following opening ceremonies led by Barry Haitoff, who thanked the Brewster School District for again hosting the event, the ribbon was cut by the honorees and walkers began their journey to raise money for heart research.

PHOTOS BY ERIC GROSS

Top, walkers are all smiles despite the steady rainfall. Bottom, three local "Survivor Honorees" were lauded at the event for helping to raise awareness and funds to fight heart disease.

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PHOTO BY ERIC GROSS  
At left, Chris Devine, a product specialist at Ace Endico in Southeast and the former personal chef for President Trump, offers several tidbits to fair goers.

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**MAY 21, 6 a.m. – 9 p.m. AT MAHOPAC HIGH SCHOOL**

The Mahopac Central School District is proposing a tax-neutral Capital Project Plan that calls for:

- Safety & Security Improvements
- Infrastructure & Energy Efficiency Upgrades
- STEAM & Science Instruction Upgrades
- Music & Performance Space Enhancements
- Library Modernization
- Athletic Fields & Facilities Upgrades (including a new synthetic turf field)
- A New Water Treatment Plant
- Technology Improvements



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**The Community VOTE is May 21, 2019**

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