

Putnam

The Journal News

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Sunday Briefing

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LIFESTYLE



Westchester's Tanglewood.

Grammy International Music Festival's 56th season has something for everyone. 1E

PUTNAM

Age to the future. Experts offer options for the aging, including Tappan Zee — all with high flags and political problems. 1B

SPORTS



With the birdies. Tom Watson won the last five holes to share a playoff tie after the third round of the PGA. 1C

BUSINESS

Wanted. This year's crop of graduates is finding few job opportunities. 1D

ESTATE



Housing squeeze. Market makes less-expensive housing an unrealistic reality for most home buyers. 1H

TRAVEL

Coast B&Bs. From New York to North Carolina, places to put your hat and get fed in the South. 1G

REGION & WORLD

For play. Senate Republicans are ready to cede complete power to Democrats. 4A

Peace-making plea. Secretary of State Colin Powell stresses U.S. support for peace in Sudan. 10A

For news from your community? See local index on Page 2B.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

Today: Chance of rain. High in mid- to upper 60s.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy, chance of rain. Low in upper 50s.
Tomorrow: Partly sunny, chance

Teen denies troopers' account of

Lake Tonetta man did not menace officers, witness says

Jeffrey Scott Shapiro
The Journal News

SOUTHEAST — A woman who said she watched a state trooper kill a Lake Tonetta man in his driveway disputed police

accounts that the trooper acted in self-defense.

Police said Alfred Woelfle, 43, of 158 Shore Drive ran out of the house just after midnight Friday, charged and struck Trooper Erik Sudigala with a 32-inch black metal rod and then rushed toward a second officer, Trooper Phillip Hurst.

When Woelfle failed to heed Hurst's warning to stop, the trooper shot Woelfle twice in the

chest and once in the right shoulder with a 9 mm pistol, police said.

Woelfle died at Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel shortly afterward. An autopsy was performed Friday night, but a toxicology report was not available yesterday.

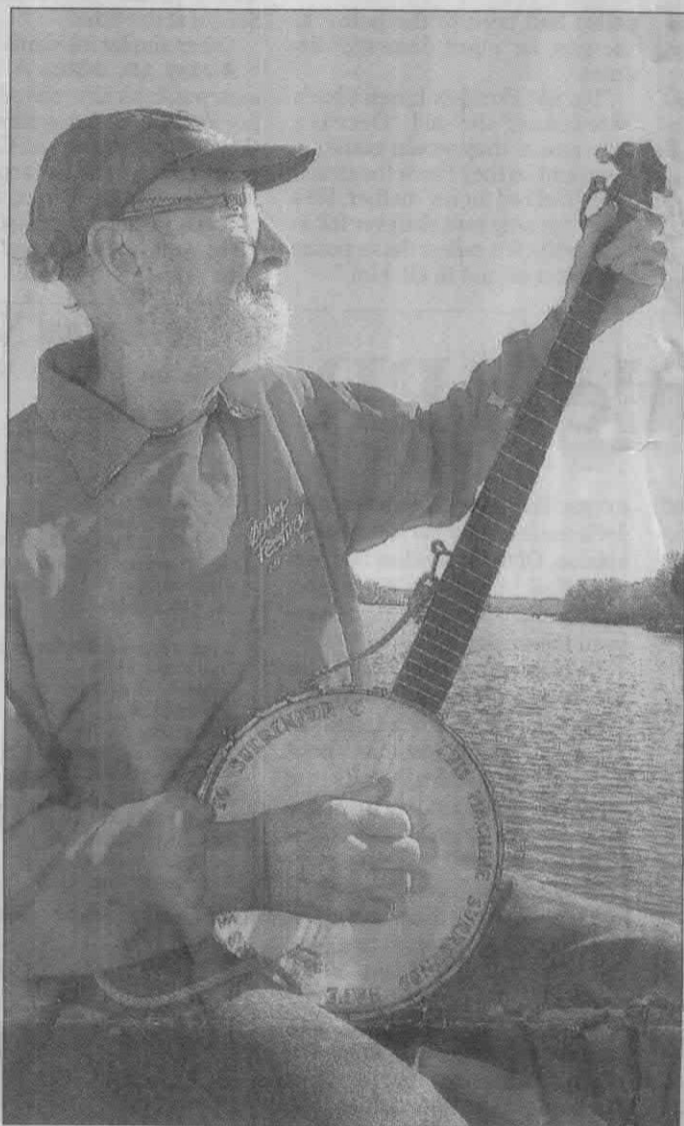
State police said a preliminary indication was that it was "a justifiable use of force." The Putnam County District Attorney's

Office is investigating, along with the state police internal affairs unit from Albany, police said.

A witness who watched the shooting said she believes that Woelfle never saw the police and that he accidentally collided with the first officer while running frantically in the midst of a heated domestic argument.

"It's ridiculous," said a woman who identified herself as Leah

PCBs split Hudson groups



Pete Seeger plays aboard the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater while docked in Rondout Creek, a tributary in Kingston. Seeger was one of the founders of the sloop organization in 1966.



Sharon Ruggi, a town councilwoman in Fort Edward, with her 96-year-old mother-in-law, Amelia Ruggi, on the family farm in Fort Edward. Amelia Ruggi has lived on the farm since 1931.

Advocates want toxin out of river

Roger Witherspoon
The Journal News

KINGSTON — The rhythm of the river wouldn't leave Pete Seeger alone.

The legendary folk singer responded by creating the environmental group Clearwater and launching a movement to love, understand and protect the Hudson River.

"I used to swim off Hook Mountain when I was a kid seventy-five years ago on the west side of the river, north of Nyack," Seeger recalled from his solar-powered home on Mount Beacon.

"A hundred years ago, New York City had floating swimming pools in the Hudson. But it was discontinued in the 1930s — the river was too dirty and people had too much to worry about to clean up a river."

Clearwater and other environmental groups — notably Scenic Hudson and Riverkeeper — have dominated the effort to get PCB deposits dredged from the river. The probable carcinogens have accumulated in fish throughout the river, forcing a ban on commercial fishing off the shores of Westchester and Rockland.

Even if the cleanup takes more than the five years estimated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and even if it disrupts the farm

Please see ENVIRONMENT, 6A



Rescuing the River

Part 4 of a continuing series that looks at the controversy surrounding a proposal to dredge the Hudson River for PCBs.

For more than 30 years, the General Electric Co. dumped the toxins in the river at two upstate plants.

In August, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is expected to decide whether to force GE to dredge some 4 million tons of PCB-laden sediment from Troy to Hudson Falls.

The debate pits upstate farming communities against environmentalists from the lower Hudson Valley. Here's why.

Tomorrow: How the EPA views the river.

Farmers fight poison landfills

Roger Witherspoon
The Journal News

FORT EDWARD — Sharon Ruggi doesn't remember the exact day in 1985 when the men from the state Department of Environmental Conservation came to take her land.

"I was fixing dinner and the two men said they were representatives of the DEC," she said. "They simply sat down in our kitchen and announced to us that they were going to take the 100 acres for a PCB landfill. There were no preliminaries."

"We were pretty awestruck," Ruggi said while sitting with her husband, Ennio, on the porch of the family farmhouse in this community about 40 miles north of Albany. "We let them finish telling us whatever they were going to say, and they left."

Ruggi promptly called Merrilyn Pulver, a founder of Citizen Environmentalists Against Sludge Encapsulation (CEASE), a farmers group that had successfully fought earlier state efforts to put a PCB landfill in the region.

"They're back," she told Pulver. Together, Ruggi and Pulver became part of a farmers campaign to oppose dredging that later helped mobilize many upstate communities against the plan.

The grassroots movement grew out of DEC visits like the one to Ruggi's home.

Please see FARMERS, 6A

On the Web: Today's articles, background reports and other information are available at www.thejournalnews.com/pcb

