A Trip to Remember

Vets make emotional visit to war memorials
By Michael Turton

When nine veterans from Cold Spring traveled to Washington, D.C. in late September, it was a chance to reflect on their military service and to honor their brothers-in-arms. The veterans and their guests had time to relax and socialize and there were even educational moments at the National Museum of the United States Navy and the National Air and Space Museum.

But it was also an emotional journey that included stops at Arlington National Cemetery and intense memories brought on by monuments dedicated to those who served and the many who died in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

The three-day excursion was sponsored by members of the George A. Casey Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 275 and American Legion James Harvey Hustis Post 2362.

Ed Murphy, one of the organizers, spent 45 years in the Army, including in the infantry, airborne and Special Forces. He achieved the rank of command sergeant major, the highest attainable for enlisted personnel. His last mission was to Saudi Arabia in 1990-91. “Basically we felt it was time for the older vets to see the war monuments,” he said. “We had talked about it for a long time. It was time to do it.”

D-Day

Joe Etta enlisted in the Army in 1941. By war’s end, he had survived the allied invasions in North Africa, Sicily and Normandy on D-Day. He had visited the National World War II Memorial twice before but said this trip was no less rewarding. “Before, I walked around the entire monument area,” said Etta, who is 98. “Now I’m here in a wheelchair and thankful I can come here again. I just can’t talk enough about it.”

Etta’s memories of the invasions remain vivid, especially from North Africa. “A lot of my friends died there,” he said. “I jumped into water up to my neck. I didn’t know if I was going to live or die. I was terrified.” Sitting near the monument he said: “It’s wonderful to come here. I’m glad I lived long enough to see this again.”

Terry Lahey, 86, served in the Korean War in 1953-52 with the Army Combat Engineers. “I lost my lieutenant, my platoon leader,” he said during a stop at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. “That was pretty rough. He was a nice guy — a good leader,” he recalled. The memorial, with its depictions of bundled soldiers, also brought back memories of the bitter cold. On one occasion, “It was so cold we’d take turns sitting in (Continued on Page 16)
Tarte Tatin: Not your Mom's apple pie

By Joe Dizney

A s Pamela Doan reported in the Sept. 9 issue (“Where’s the Fruit?”), it’s been a tough year for local tree fruit. The apple crop suffered severely from an early bloom followed by a killing frost, and the summer drought didn’t help at all.

Popular early varieties were a no-show and the fruit we’re seeing on the farms and in the markets is noticeably smaller than usual. And while this may make moms with small children happy, it’s a bit of a letdown.

There is, however, an upside to the drought: the apples that make it, though smaller, tend to be crisper and sweeter than usual. Less water in the fruit means that the sugars are more concentrated, a bonus that is sure to make cider fans happy.

But while yield may still be a problem and pick-your-own an iffy proposition, we should celebrate this Empire-free season regardless. And while an unceremonious chomp on a perfectly ripe available specimen is the way to go, this upended harvest suggests a bottoms-up solution.

Tarte Tatin is, despite its exotic name, nothing but a homely upside-down tart of apples caramelized in butter and sugar, baked with a crust on top and — when done — inverted onto a serving plate. The genesis legend of this sublime dessert is tangled in typically Gallic culinary myth-making. Although obviously not as American as apple pie, your basic tarte Tatin will certainly give mother’s finest a run for its money in ease of preparation and pure gustatory enjoyment.

Traditionally sugar and butter are layered on the bottom of a dedicated tarte Tatin pan with apples arranged artfully on top and cooked on the stovetop low and slow (as all the best things are). The process bears little watching or danger. When the apples are done, a single sheet of (usually puff) pastry crowns the works and is baked until golden, barely cooled and flipped for serving.

Keeping the accent Français, a dollop of crème fraîche finishes it. (Vanilla ice cream might be overkill, but sometimes it’s never done ‘til it’s overdone.)

This Yankee version suggests a well-seasoned cast iron skillet instead of the dedicated tarte Tatin pan with apples arranged artfully on top, and cooked on the stovetop or oven spillover. I have seen recommendations to dry the apples out a bit before cooking, accomplished by keeping the peeled and halved apples in the refrigerator for a day or two, but that seems unnecessary given this year’s crop of recommended Galas, Jonamacos, Jonagolds and my preferred Honeycrisps.

I’ve opted for Patricia Wells’ simple pâte brisée versus a puff pastry but you can simplify this recipe further by using a sheet of prepared puff pastry, available at most supermarkets. Follow package directions for use.

The lavender is a subtle but unnecessary variation suggested by food-pairing science. The effect is subtle and another option might be a few star anise pods but you can’t perfect perfection.

For the apples: Melt butter in a small pan over medium low heat until just melted. No sizzling, please! Remove from heat and whisk in the lavender. Cover and let steep off heat for 30 minutes. Now is a good time to peel and prepare the apples if you haven’t done so already.) After mashing the butter, warm it briefly and strain into a heatproof container through a fine mesh strainer, pressing down to extract as much as possible.

For the pastry: Up to a day ahead, combine flour and salt in a food processor; mix for 10 seconds. Add cubed butter and pulse for 10 seconds until mixture forms a small crumb. Add water and mix just until dough forms a ball. On a clean surface, smear the dough away from you, folding it back on itself and repeating until smooth. Form into a flat disc, cover in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least an hour, up to 24.

For the apples: Remove skillet from the heat. Sluice off excess liquid without disturbing the apples (a turkey baster is great for this chore) and gently place the pastry on top, tucking the edges down around the inside edge of the pan. Place skillet in the preheated oven and bake 25 to 30 minutes, until pastry is golden brown.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool 5 to 10 minutes. Place an inverted, rimmed serving platter over the skillet and quickly but carefully invert it so that the pastry is on the bottom of the platter with the caramelized apples on top. Serve while still warm or at room temperature with a generous spoonful of crème fraîche or vanilla ice cream.

Tarte Tatin

Adapted from Benoit Guichard via Patricia Wells; serves 8

For the pastry
1 cup all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon salt
8 tablespoons cold unsalted butter, cubed
3 tablespoons ice water

For the apples
1 12 tablespoons unsalted butter
½ cup dried lavender blossoms
3 lbs. large, firm, crisp apples (about 8), peeled, cored and halved lengthwise (Suggested varieties: Honeycrisp, Jonagold, Jonamac, Gala)
¾ cup sugar
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

1. For the pastry: Place flour and salt in a food processor; mix for 10 seconds. Add cubed butter and pulse for 10 seconds until mixture forms a small crumb. Add water and mix just until dough forms a ball. On a clean surface, smear the dough away from you, folding it back on itself and repeating until smooth. Form into a flat disc, cover in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least an hour, up to 24.

2. For the apples: Melt butter in a small pan over medium low heat until just melted. No sizzling, please! Remove from heat and whisk in the lavender. Cover and let steep off heat for 30 minutes. Now is a good time to peel and prepare the apples if you haven’t done so already.) After mashing the butter, warm it briefly and strain into a heatproof container through a fine mesh strainer, pressing down to extract as much as possible.

3. Pour lavender butter into a 10-inch cast iron skillet and sprinkle sugar evenly over it, drizzling vanilla over all. Beginning at the outside, lay the halved apples in a tight circle, rounded side down, concentrically around the skillet. Repeat for another inner circle and fill in any remaining space as necessary.

4. Put skillet on low heat and cook uncovered; as the butter and sugar combine, maintain gentle bubble. Keep the apples covered in an attractive tart as they cook down and baste occasionally with the syrup. The idea is for the syrup to caramelize and the apples to soften but not break apart. Cook for at least 1 to 1½ hour in order to achieve a golden caramel coloring.

5. While apples cook, remove dough from the refrigerator and roll it out to an 11- to 12-inch circle. Place it on a piece of waxed paper; using the rim of a bowl or plate a bit larger than the skillet as a guide, cut a clean circle from the dough while apples cook. Remove dough rest again in the refrigerator as the apples finish cooking. Heat the oven to 425 degrees.

6. When the apples are cooked, remove the skillet from the heat. Slice off excess liquid without disturbing the apples (a turkey baster is great for this chore) and gently place the pastry on top, tucking the edges down around the inside edge of the pan. Place skillet in the preheated oven and bake 25 to 30 minutes, until pastry is golden brown.

7. Remove from the oven and allow to cool 5 to 10 minutes. Place an inverted, rimmed serving platter over the skillet and quickly but carefully invert it so that the pastry is on the bottom of the platter with the caramelized apples on top. Serve while still warm or at room temperature with a generous spoonful of crème fraîche or vanilla ice cream.

Tarte Tatin: Not your Mom’s apple pie

Photo by J. Dizney

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Historic Village Wall Collapses

St. Mary’s Church may face costly repairs

By Michael Turton

The historic stone wall owned by St. Mary-in-the-Highlands along Wall Street in Cold Spring is collapsing, potentially creating a financial challenge for the Episcopal church.

Mark Forlow, a church warden, said the granite wall along the north side of Wall Street from Main to Furnace Street dates to the 1860s. “It has collapsed in two places,” he said. “Insurance will cover some of the repair costs, but more funding is needed to restore the wall and make it safe for years to come.”

Father Shane Scott-Hamblen said the cost of the project is not yet known but the repairs could be extensive. In addition to two areas that have already failed, other parts of the wall appear unstable. The problem is serious enough that the village has postponed paving Wall Street, a project originally scheduled for this fall.

A similar situation occurred in 2013 at St. Philip’s-in-the-Highlands Episcopal Church in Garrison when a stone wall there collapsed. But that structure over the years had become a retaining wall for Route 9D, a state highway, and posed an immediate safety hazard because of heavy traffic that included buses from the Garrison School across the street. The Rev. Frank Geer said the New York state Department of Transportation covered the cost of repairs and also paid for the use of church property as a staging area during construction.

There are no similar safety issues at St. Mary’s — the failing wall is on church property adjacent to Wall Street but does not support it, leaving the responsibility for repairs to the church rather than the village. Whether the project involves minimal repairs or a restoration, fixing the wall will be no easy task. Most of its granite pieces weigh hundreds of pounds each.

The church plans to raise funds to cover the cost of work not covered by insurance. Forlow, who is the village historian of Cold Spring and the town historian for Philipstown, tried to put a silver lining on a problem that any church could do with.

County Releases Butterfield Lease

Putnam County released the most recent version of its lease agreement with Butterfield Realty for a senior center in Philipstown, which has been signed by County Executive MaryEllen Odell and sent to developer Paul Guillaro for his approval. The county provided the document to The Highlands Current Oct. 12 in response to a Freedom of Information Law request.

The major elements of the lease remain unchanged from a version dated May 3 that was leaked to the press. Both versions are posted at highlandscurrent.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May 3 draft</th>
<th>Undated lease signed by Odell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commences July 1, 2016</td>
<td>Date left blank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease term: 15 years</td>
<td>unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space can only be used for senior center</td>
<td>unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$77,700 base rent ($12.95/sq. ft.)</td>
<td>unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,691.56 first-year common charge</td>
<td>unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.1176 percent share of development’s common area charges and insurance</td>
<td>unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“52.0833 percent of the total [property] tax amount applicable”</td>
<td>“52.0833 percent of the total tax amount for the Lahey Pavilion”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landlord will spend up to $50,000 to isolate utility/mechanical services for senior center.</td>
<td>Developer will provide $25,000 toward purchase and installation of rooftop units and installation for HVAC system. County will provide underground propane tanks to feed system. Landlord will dig holes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“During the entire term of this Lease, Tenant, by and through its Office for Senior Resources, shall provide round trip transportation services to any senior citizen resident of Philipstown who wishes to participate in on-site programs provided by the Putnam County Senior Community Center Facility.” [Change suggested by Cold Spring Planning Board]</td>
<td>Adds “ducts work and entire HVAC system, sewer system (including the system under the slab), fire alarm, telecommunications system, security, cable”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy costs for Lahey HVAC split on square-footage basis.</td>
<td>Energy costs for senior center HVAC system paid by county</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pruning is an art

If you are looking for a “natural finish” and do not want to see your ornamentals cut back severely to dead wood, choose artful pruning. Artful pruning allows your ornamentals to keep looking good. Artful pruning gracefully brings your ornamentals back to a more appropriate smaller size.

For an artful, natural finish, call the artful pruner.

Call Gregory, with over 10 years as a career gardener specializing in natural and restorative gardening.

845.446.7465
Start the Fjord at Dockside

It’s Brian Nice here, the guy in the wheelchair. My childhood friend, Julie, is typing this for me. I don’t really have use of my fine motor skills for typing. Thank you for taking public opinion about the Fjord Trail. Being a handicapped person, you know, a guy in a wheelchair, is a real drag, let me tell you. I would like therefore to suggest you start the Fjord Trail at Dockside Park where there could be plenty of handicapped parking.

It’s funny we’re talking about this, because the other day I was envisioning Dockside Park with a playground like Peekskill, plenty of benches and trees, parking, handicapped parking and a concession stand with café-style seating to take in the great view. It would be a great place to start a trail, like the Fjord Trail. I envision a walking, starting at Dockside and hugging the coast of the Hudson River. I don’t think it would be wise to start the trail at Fair Street. Parking would be a drag for someone like me and it would be bad for the residents as well. Makes more sense to start where there could be plenty of parking, getting all those dangerous hikers/cars off Route 9D.

My daughter often comes up from Texas to visit me. I take her down to the playground where we can interact and play. The playground setup is great because it doesn’t look like a handicapped setup, and it allows me to interact with my child. It’s pretty cool. The walking is also great too because I can go on walks with her.

It would be great for the town and everyone to start the walkway at Dockside Park. It would bring lots of business to merchants without inconveniencing residents. If you have any questions, I’m more than happy to help out. It seems I have some time on my hands. You know, seven years ago I was much like you, but all that’s changed and now I’m stuck in this stupid chair, but who would ever think I’d be an advocate for the handicapped? So, any input, I’m happy to contribute.

P.S. You might be able to get federal funding because the path and playground would be set up for the handicapped. Just a thought.

Brian Nice, Garrison

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taking it to the Street
Who has it easier, women or men?

By Anita Peltonon

“Men. In corporate America, it’s much harder for women to establish themselves in a business environment, in equal pay and equal recognition.”
- Linda Williams, Cold Spring

“It’s hard to make that judgment. There were more men working and supporting families before, but now women are working.
And raising a family is not easy.”
- Emelio Marquino, Wappingers Falls

“It’s men. But we are moving up. And we are making more strides than our parents ever did.”
- Ginny Nobile, Cold Spring

(Continued on next page)
Selling city land

The City of Beacon plans to sell a million-dollar view at cost for yet another towering development project, the third in this quadrant (“Beacon Sells Land for New Affordable Housing,” Oct. 7). How will this impact the linkage district, the historic overlay and the scenic vistas?

If we allow development of this parcel it will become just another nondescript section of roadway along the Route 9D corridor versus the majestic beauty we know — the same vistas that inspired the Hudson River school artists more than a century ago.

How will it fit into Beacon’s comprehensive plan update? Affordable housing for artist and creatives should be developed but not at this location. How tall will these buildings be? How large will the setbacks and footage be from the neighboring historic church designed by Frederick Clarke Withers and built in 1859? The church and its cemetery were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

Which brings up another good point, the other construction project on Beekman Street on the other side of City Hall should be brought to a halt because it’s undermining the same burial grounds, exposing vaults and graves.

If Beacon sells this property, residents should have more say on how it’s developed and how the building will fit in with our city when completed. We need to be partners in these plans. Just because the city can sell of its vacant properties doesn’t mean it should. We need to be proactive and keep the integrity of this historic city intact.

Theresa Kraft, Beacon

Senior center costs

Carl Albano, chair of the Putnam County Legislature’s Physical Services Committee, wrote on Sept. 16 about the senior center proposed for the Butterfield senior center produced between July 2016 and the date this request is processed.” I have received no confirmation that it will be provided. I wrote Legislature Chair Ginny Nacerino with the same request; she has not bothered to respond. Nor has our representative, Barbara Scuccimarra, a member of the Physical Services Committee, made any attempt to provide this information.

The appearance is that the Legislature forged ahead with bonding about $800,000 for the project and signing a lease based on the Ailes-defined scope, budget and design for the Senior Center. Albano has provided no evidence to the contrary, and there is no public record of meetings in which re-scoping was undertaken.

In this open letter, I ask the Legislature to provide the re-scoped plans and budget for public scrutiny, if they even exist. If they do not, they need to be prepared with the participation of local stakeholders (including the programming staff who actually run our senior programs) and with the full transparency required by the Open Meetings Law.

It is budget season for the county. Surely now — as the Legislature establishes spending targets for the coming year — the Physical Services Committee will trim back the senior center’s bloated and wasteful scope. Our seniors deserve an affordable facility that delivers the services they were promised.

Kathleen E. Foley, Cold Spring

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Town of Philipstown Highway Department

Sealed proposals will be received by the undersigned Town Clerk of the Town of Philipstown at her office in the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516 until 2 p.m. on October 26, 2016 when the same will be publicly opened and read aloud for the sale to the Town of Philipstown of:

- Bituminous concrete – Furnished, delivered & laid in place
- Bituminous concrete – FOB
- Calcium chloride – Delivered
- Liquid melting agent – Soil stabilizer – Delivered
- #2 Fuel oil – Delivered
- Diesel fuel – Delivered
- Bank run, fil, tailings – Delivered and FOB
- Installation of guide rail and furnishing of guide rail material
- Washed crushed stone – Delivered & FOB
- Manufactured crushed Item 4 – Delivered & FOB
- Screened Item 4 – Delivered & FOB
- Stone fillings – Delivered & FOB
- Sand for snow and ice control – FOB & Delivered
- Curb mix with RAP
- Stone screenings – Delivered & FOB
- Smooth bore corrugated polyethylene solid pipe – Delivered
- Tree felling, trimming, removal & stump grinding

Meeting the specifications of the Town of Philipstown Highway Department. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the office of said Town Clerk at the above address. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. All purchase contracts awarded pursuant to this notice shall be subject to the provisions of Section 103-A, 103-B and 103-D of the General Municipal Law.

DATED: October 12, 2016
Tina Merando, Town Clerk, Town of Philipstown
Local Republicans Stick To Trump (from Page 1)

Trump “is not an easy decision for some, but it’s the right decision,” she said, adding that her own support reflects “my love for my county and my country” and concerns “for those of us in the middle class and the future of our children [and] their education, their opportunities.” It is also “about the Second Amendment,” she said. “And it’s about the next 25 years of the Supreme Court.”

“Irrelevant” concerns “for those of us in the middle class don’t want anyone in my America, in your America, that does not get screened. We don’t want them here.”

Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown in the Putnam County Legislature, was far less enamored. “Jesus ... Oh, God,” she responded during a phone interview when asked if she would vote for Trump. “It’s a hard one. I’m a conservative Republican. Do I condone his behavior? Hell, no! It’s a very difficult time for me ... tough. It’s very troubling, but I’ll stand by my party.”

She also said that “there’s a lot coming out about Hillary that’s really troubling, too.” After expressing her dismay about the presidential choices, Scuccimarra said she finds Indiana Gov. Mike Pence refreshing. “I like what I’m hearing from his running mate,” she said.

Barbara Scuccimarra

State Sen. Sue Serino, who represents Philipstown and Beacon, did not respond to a message, sent via her campaign, asking whether Trump has her vote. However, the Southwest Dutchess Daily Voice quoted her as saying that “as a woman,” she found Trump’s 2005 comments “particularly troubling. This type of behavior does not belong in politics, in business or in our society and it most certainly is not representative of my own values.” She also said she would not endorse Trump — or anyone — for president. “We have two terrible candidates,” she told the Poughkeepsie Journal.

Beacon Republican Committee Chairman Justin Riccobone said his committee “does not endorse presidential candidates.” He said that he had supported Ohio Gov. John Kasich in the New York primary “but Donald Trump prevailed. I, along with most of the GOP in Beacon, will be supporting Trump.” He said they “feel that our country needs to change the path we’re currently on.”

Meanwhile, the New York State Republican Party remains unashamedly pro-Trump. “We are proud to have our fellow New Yorker Donald J. Trump as our Republican nominee for president,” it states on its website.
Activists say it would protect children, save lives

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board agreed Oct. 6 to consider a local law that would require gun owners to store their weapons with locks or in safes, after residents pleading for action filled Town Hall.

Alex Dubroff, a Philipstown resident and the Hudson Valley coordinator for New Yorkers Against Gun Violence, backed a similar measure in remarks in September to the Beacon City Council (“Gun Storage Debate Comes to Beacon,” Sept. 24). She organized a petition drive in Philipstown that gathered 435 signatures.

She told the Town Board that, according to a U.S. Department of Justice study, a third of handguns are kept loaded and unlocked and that two children are killed every day in accidents. “This is the law about protecting our loved ones…especially our kids” and about our responsibility as members of a community,” she said.

Carolyn Llewellyn said that an average of 92 gun deaths occur daily in the U.S. and that more than 200 school shootings have occurred since 2013. “There’s not a sensible gun owner who does not want this,” Llewellyn said.

The Rev. Frank Geer, pastor of St. Philip’s Episcopal Church in Garrison, observed that after a tragedy people tend to proclaim, “Never again,” but that the words ring hollow when nothing happens to prevent further gun violence. He encouraged the board “to put a little emphasis behind the phrase ‘Never again.’”

The proponents predicted that if the Town Board drafts a law, it will face fierce opposition. “You’re going to get push-back,” Kathleen Foley of Cold Spring warned. “I ask you to be brave.”

Llewellyn said “the reason we do not have safe-storage laws” is the National Rifle Association. “I pray you guys have the guts not to bow down to the lobbyists.”

(The NRA has long opposed safe-storage laws, countering that such “feel-good” measures are an invasion of privacy, would have low compliance and may leave those who comply defenseless, among other objections. It argues that gun-safety education is a better solution.)

Following comments by about 10 proponents of the law, Supervisor Richard Shea cut off remarks. “Obviously, people are very concerned,” he said. Board Member Nancy Montgomery said: “We’ve been talking about this for four years. I apologize that government on all levels has failed you and I’m happy to take a stand and move this forward.”

Gun incidents

At the meeting, Stan Freilich of Garrison shared a report of incidents involving guns in Putnam County that he obtained with a Freedom of Information Law request from the Putnam County Sheriff. (Freilich also filed FOIL requests with the Cold Spring Police, which said it did not compile such data, and the New York State Police, which did not provide data.)

The 62-page report listed 476 incidents from 2011 through early 2016, including six suicides, one attempted suicide, three deaths, two assaults, one murder, 108 firearms taken as evidence and 355 cases in which a gun was taken by police for “safe-keeping.” In one case involving an early morning domestic dispute on a road, deputies confiscated 25 weapons. In other cases they seized 10 or more — including 35 firearms taken Dec. 31 in an incident of alleged assault and menacing.

Earlier controversies

While discussing the proposed law, Town Board members recalled a 2011 incident in which a resident at a board forum disparaged the board and mentioned he was “packing,” which many took to mean he was armed. When the board drafted legislation to prohibit guns at such meetings, demonstrators gathered outside Town Hall. Threatened with lawsuits, the board shelved that effort, but in 2012, under its employee-protection policy, it banned guns on town-owned property such as Town Hall and town parks.

Gun Storage Laws

- Federal law requires manufacturers and licensed gun dealers to provide a storage or safety device with every gun sold, although the buyer does not have to use it and the law does not apply to private sales.
- Eleven states have laws about locking devices, according to the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, but only Massachusetts requires them on all firearms. New York City also requires guns to be secured.
- New York state law requires a gun owner to keep a firearm locked if he or she lives with a felon, a convicted domestic abuser or a person who cannot legally buy a gun due to his or her mental health history.
- The New York State Police require that locking devices be secured by a combination or key and that they be strong enough not to be pried open with “common household tools.”

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 2016 GALA a rousing success!

General Israel Putnam Trailblazer Award
William Hicks

Historic Family Award
Bell Family of Garrison

Gala Co-Chairs
Dorothy & Jim Klein

Benefit Committee Vice-Chairs
Hara Schwartz & Christopher E. Buck, Patricia Cloherty, Anne Impellizzeri, Leslie Jacobson, William Sadler, Stephanie Wheeler & Christopher Walker, Heather & Neal Zuckerman

Benefit Committee

Auction Co-Chairs
Luz Bailey, Christine Foertsch

Photography
Christine Ashburn

Calligraphy
Kelly House

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Food Trucks and River Pool

Plan to expand Long Dock faces a few sticking points

By Jeff Simms

An Oct. 12 public hearing on Scenic Hudson's proposal to enlarge Long Dock Park showed ample support for its expansion, but the environmental group is still facing questions about food trucks, commercialization along Beacon's waterfront and swimming in the Hudson River.

Scenic Hudson representatives have appeared before the Beacon Planning Board several times this year to discuss their plans, which include building a boardwalk, riverside path and adding pavilion seating in the restored brownfield site adjacent to the park. The nonprofit has said it hopes adding picnic tables, a secluded amphitheater and food trucks will remake Long Dock into a casual outdoors destination.

The group's plans for the 15-acre park have changed significantly in the past decade. Its original proposal for the site, which opened in 2011, included construction of an environmentally friendly hotel and conference center, but those plans were abandoned after the economic downturn of 2008 and severe flooding caused by Hurricane Sandy. Scenic Hudson park planner Meg Rasmussen told the Planning Board that building even a moderately sized restaurant on the flood-prone site would cost upward of $4.5 million.

In the meantime, Long Dock has become popular for its kayak pavilion, walking and running paths, outdoor yoga and annual "Pumpkins in the Park" festival. The on-site Scenic Hudson River Center ("the red barn") is also slated to become the home of the American Center for Folk Music (see Page 15).

But the idea of bringing food trucks to the waterfront was a sticking point for some public officials, retailers and residents. "I'm not in favor of anything that takes away from the health and vitality of Main Street. Food trucks can bring trash and detract tourists from going on to Main Street to eat," said Antony Tseng, a Beacon school board member who is also on the board of the River Pool at Beacon.

"If Scenic Hudson can have food trucks [at the waterfront], are the next food trucks going to be at the base of Mount Beacon?" asked John Gilvey, the owner of Hudson Beach Glass on Main Street.

Joan Unterweger of Beacon told the board she feels "our whole world is being sold for commercial purposes. I would hate to see Beacon become another commercial tourist area."

But Jessica Reisman, who owns the Homespun Foods café on Main Street, said she doesn't believe food trucks at Long Dock would hurt businesses on Main. "Main Street is thriving," she said. "I don't think any restaurant can complain any more. A few food trucks down by the riverfront would be a great idea."

Scenic Hudson also faced criticism for what its expansion plans don't include — namely, swimming in the Hudson. The group had been in discussions for several years with the Beacon River Pool about opening a larger site at Long Dock but dropped the idea, citing liability risks.

"At this point we're kind of stuck," said Nancy Yambem, who is on the River Pool board with Tseng. "We don't want to leave Beacon. We want to continue ... and that would mean collaborating with Scenic Hudson."

The River Pool opened at Pete and Toshi Seeger Riverside Park in 2007. Pool organizers say the 17-foot-diameter fiberglass pool is nearing the end of its design life, which is why they approached Scenic Hudson about moving to Long Dock.

Rasmussen of Scenic Hudson said the organization lacks the capacity to safely manage a swimming pool. And as the owner of the property, "responsibility rests with us, no matter what," she said.

But Planning Board member J. Randall Williams noted people will almost surely swim in the river at Long Dock, with or without a pool. "You've got an opportunity to work with an established nonprofit with a great track record," he said. "Your liability is going to be greater" by not working with River Pool.

Planning board members also made a number of technical recommendations regarding parking and other elements of the site plan. The public hearing will continue at the board's Nov. 8 meeting.
Putnam County Spelling Bee Finally Comes to (Our) Putnam County

Philipstown Depot Theatre will present hit musical comedy

By Alison Rooney

Could it be the first? The first-ever production of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee actually taking place in Putnam County? Well, maybe—if you eliminate all those other pesky Putnam counties. There are 10 in the U.S., including ours, and odds are that the Tony award-winning musical, which was conceived by the founder of a New York City improv group and first performed on Broadway in 2005, has been mounted in one of them. But certainly it has never been presented at the Philipstown Depot Theatre, despite its setting at a generic Putnam Valley Middle School.

That will be remedied Oct. 21, when the production opens at the Depot for a three-weekend run, with adults (and one high-school student) playing the children’s roles.

Here are the contestants, parents and school administrators, all of whom have tics and quirks, each seeking to avoid the ding of the bell at an incorrect vowel choice or the inaccurate doubling of a consonant. We asked for the students to avoid the ding of the bell at an incorrect vowel choice or the inaccurate doubling of a consonant. We asked for the students to "I am the punctuation."" to say something about their country of origin and what part of speech and revised his answer to "I am the punctuation."" to say something about their country of origin and what part of speech and revised his answer to "I am the punctuation.""

Meg Mahony (Cat Guthrie) says her country of origin is Poland, while his grandfather’s is Michigan. After first declaring himself to be a proverb, Carl’s Dad realized that was not a part of speech and revised his answer to “I am the punctuation.”

Meg’s favorite word is awesomeon.

Carlito Tolentino, a/k/a Chip (Bobby Convertino) mentioned several times during the interview that he won the bee last year. Spoiler alert: this year, he has what he calls “an unfortunate incident” during the competition, which creates a “big problem” for him.

Rona Lisa Peretti (Lisa Sabin) began by instructing, “That’s a space between Rona and Lisa and one ‘r,’ two ‘t’s in Peretti.” When asked to describe her job at the bee, she waxed poetic, “Rona Lisa Peretti shines like a star as she spells the bejesus out of everything. Oops, the bejimmy.”

Logainne SchwartzandGrubenierre (Fay Gerbes), more commonly known as Schwartzy, believes she “comes from Czechs.” Asked to use her name in a sentence, Logainne did not hesitate, although she did lisp. “Leaf was acting kind of Schwartzy when he answered the question correctly.” Her favorite word is belligerent. Her least favorite word is “anything that has ‘s’ in it.”

Leaf Conybear (Asher Pacht) was a little murky on his country of origin. “I wanna say North Dakota?” As for what part of sentence he is, Leaf noted. “I’m probably the end of a speech; the part where everybody claps.”

Doug Panch (John Lane), when asked what part of a sentence he would be, replied, “I am probably a footnote to life because I’m a vice principal and will always be a vice principal.” After prodding, Doug admitted to “very much admiring Rona.” Something to keep an eye on.

William Barfé / Barfée (André Herzegovich) was unsure of the spelling of his last name. “Maybe there’s two ‘o’s. I never thought about it,” he says. William cites his country of origin as “the Austro-Hungarian Empire” and calls himself a “direct object because I’m the object of ridicule.” After declaring sponge to be his least favorite word, moments later he says sponge is actually his favorite word.

Olive Ostrovsky (Maia Guest) says she would describe herself as an adjective because she loves to clarify and further explore the meaning of words. Olive, optimistic explorer of the oversized dictionary, sets out to discover love and glory at the bee. She excitedly declares that onomatopoeia is her favorite word!

Jesus (“J”) (Chris Whipple) says his country of origin is Israel and that “although people tend to think of me as a proper noun, I like to think of myself as an unassuming article.” Reflecting on his role in the proceedings, Jesus shares that “it was at the spelling bee that Jesus was once again called upon to divinely intervene in matters of misguided intentions.”

Spelling Bee is directed by Christine Bokhour with musical direction by Nathan Perry. The musicians are Gareth Guest (woodwinds) and Mike LaRocco (percussion). Showtimes are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m., with the exception of Saturday, Oct. 29. The show contains some adult humor and language but there will be G-rated performances on Oct. 29 at 2 p.m. and Nov. 6 at 4 p.m. Tickets cost $25 for adults and $20 for seniors and students and can be purchased at brownpapertickets.com/event/2597230.
Calendar Highlights
For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com. Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

**FRIDAY, OCT. 14**

**Haldane School Foundation Fall Ball**
7 p.m. Pamela’s Bird & Bottle Inn
1123 Old Albany Post Road, Garrison
845-424-2333 | haldaneschoolfoundation.org

**Army Sports**
Noon. Football vs. Lafayette
7 p.m. Women’s Soccer vs. Loyola
845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

**Garrison School Harvest Festival**
12 – 3 p.m. 1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gsppta.org

**The Met Live in HD: Wagner’s Tristan und Isolde**
1 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

**East End Walking Tour**
1 & 2 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-0514 | beaconhistorical.org

**Zine Club (First Meeting)**
3 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlib.org

**Hoots & Hard Cider**
5 p.m. Hudson Highlands Nature Museum
25 Boulevard, Cornwall
845-534-7781 | hhnaturemuseum.org

**Beacon Sukkah Project**
5 p.m. Decorate the Sukkah
5:30 p.m. Community Potluck
Polhill Park, Beacon | beaconhebrewalliance.org

**Monday, Oct. 17**

**Beacon Sukkah Project**
10 a.m. At the Belly Button of the World
Noon. Mind, Body, Self – Who Are We?
4 p.m. Office Hours with Mayor Randy Casade
7 p.m. Poetry Reading
Polhill Park, Beacon | beaconhebrewalliance.org

**Beacon vs. Cornwall (Girls’ Swimming)**
4:30 p.m. Beacon High School
See details under Saturday.

**Haldane vs. Putnam Valley (Boys’ Soccer)**
4:30 p.m. Haldane High School
See details under Saturday.

**Beacon City Council**
7 p.m. City Hall (Courtroom)
1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

**Garrison Fire Company**
4:30 p.m. Beacon High School
See details under Friday.

**Haldane School Board**
7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)
845-808-1390 | putnamcountyny.gov/health

**Beacon Sukkah Project**
4 p.m. Threading My Prayer Rug
6 p.m. Community Potluck
7 p.m. Sisterhood for Peace and Justice
Polhill Park, Beacon | beaconhebrewalliance.org

**Thursday, Oct. 20**

**Haldane PTA**
3:30 p.m. Haldane School (Library)
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

**Farm Dinner**
6:30 p.m. Glenwood Farm
362 Glenwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldanepta.org

**Muslim Journeys Talk by Jim Al-Khalili**
6:30 p.m. Desmonds Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondsfishlibrary.org

**Science Café: On (Mock) Trial: Groundwater vs. Corporation X (Talk)**
7 p.m. The Hop
554 Main St., Beacon | bire.org/events

**Friday, Oct. 21**

**Beacon Sukkah Project**
10 a.m. Get Your Portrait Drawn
4 p.m. Memorializing Jewish Berlin
7 p.m. Community Sing-a-long
Polhill Park, Beacon | beaconhebrewalliance.org

**Friday Night Enlight**
7 p.m. Living Yoga
3182 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-809-5900 | livingyogastudios.com

**Open-Mic Night**
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Support Groups
For a full list of area support groups, visit: highlandscurrent.com/sg

**Saturday, Oct. 15**

**2016 Walk to End Alzheimer’s**
9 a.m. Walkway Over the Hudson
Park Ave., Poughkeepsie
845-394-4952 | alz.org

**Breast Cancer Screening for Uninsured Women**
9 a.m. ~ Noon. Putnam Hospital Center
670 Stoneleigh Ave., Carmel
855-277-4482 | healthquest.org

**Haldane Homecoming**
10 a.m. Main Street Parade
Noon. Girls’ Soccer vs. Putnam Valley
2:30 p.m. Boys’ Soccer vs. Pawling
6:30 p.m. Football vs. Roscoe
15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

**Tag Sale**
10 a.m. ~ 4 p.m. St. Mary’s Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

**Howland Public Library**
11 a.m. Button Making for Tweens and Teens
11 a.m. ~ 1 p.m. Understanding Medicare
1 – 2:30 p.m. Office Hours with Assemblyman Frank Skartados
313 Main St., Beacon
845-631-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

**HVSPF: The Tempest and The Sword in the Stone**
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1006 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

**Mid-Hudson Orchid Society Show and Sale**
11 a.m. ~ 3 p.m. Union Presbyterian Church
44 Balmville Road, Newburgh
mhos.us.com/calendar.html

**Fall Fragrance Bowls now in stock**
Made in the USA

The Gift Hut
Open Friday - Sunday
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
86 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516
GiftHut06@aim.com
Phone 845.297.3786

**TUESDAY, OCT. 18**

**John Adams Speaks on Thomas Jefferson**
6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Saturday.

**Soul Stroll: A Shabbat Walk**
10 a.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-831-0212 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

**Beacon Sukkah Project**
Noon. Dar Williams on Music in Social Movements
7 p.m. Introduction to Magical Realism
Polhill Park, Beacon | beaconhebrewalliance.org

**Center for Digital Arts**
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Nandita Raman: If I Had a Hammer (Opening)
7 p.m. 3D Printing and the Design Process
27 N. Division St., Peekskill | 914-606-7300
westchestergallery.wordpress.com

**Haldane School Board**
7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)
See details under Saturday.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19**

**Putnam County Flu Clinic**
2 – 6:30 p.m. Garrison Fire Department
1016 Route 9, Garrison
845-808-1390 | putnamcountyny.gov/health

**Beacon Sukkah Project**
4 p.m. Threading My Prayer Rug
6 p.m. Community Potluck
7 p.m. Sisterhood for Peace and Justice
Polhill Park, Beacon | beaconhebrewalliance.org

**THURSDAY, OCT. 20**

**Beacon Sukkah Project**
10 a.m. Bicycle Maintenance Workshop
Noon. Gentle Adult Yoga
4 p.m. The State of Policing in Beacon
Polhill Park, Beacon | beaconhebrewalliance.org
A Few Thoughts on Dying

Eve Ensler – of Vagina Monologues fame – to visit Garrison for performance of her play about the end of life

By Alison Rooney

On Saturday, Nov. 5, the Garrison Institute will present Extraordinary Measures – the play Eve Ensler wrote the year before her 1996 hit The Vagina Monologues. The performance tells the story a man dying of AIDS and his hospital visitors during his last week, with every character played by James Lecesne. It will be followed by a discussion with the playwright.

The play and Ensler’s visit is the centerpiece of the third Buddhist Contemplative Care Symposium, “Awake at the Bedside,” hosted by the institute and the New York Zen Center for Contemplative Care. The symposium, which runs from Nov. 3 to 6, is designed for people involved with end-of-life care, including doctors, nurses, family members, chaplains, social workers, counselors and volunteers. “The door is open” to anyone, says John Sirabella, the institute’s marketing and communications director. “The dialogue is large, and our goal is that contemplative care helps empower change for good.”

The focus of the symposium is “radical compassion,” which also is a theme of Ensler’s play. It is based on the encounters one of her friends, actor and director Paul Walker, had with family and friends during his last days in the hospital and how such interactions are more often about the visitor than the person being visited.

Extraordinary Measures was first performed in 1995, at the height of the AIDS epidemic. “It’s very much ‘of a time’ and we’re excited to do it again in a whole new context,” Ensler says. “It’s beautiful to do it in a community which works with the dying.”

Since the writing of the play, Ensler has faced her own mortality, through a cancer diagnosis, and seen the reactions of those around her. It was different from Walker’s experience, she says, “because people didn’t think I was dying. With Paul there was an urgency and intensity; with me the drama was not as present.”

On the page, the dying character’s visitors appear not to comprehend what he needs. “The piece is not at all judgmental, though often the dying person disappears and, for the visitor, although they wouldn’t admit it, it’s rarely about the person dying,” Ensler says. But Walker’s family loved the play, she says. “It served as a communal commiseration, a forum which allowed them to grieve,” she says. “Grief is a river; if you enter it, it brings you to another shore. We have funerals for that purpose. Now people feel ashamed and have to burrow into their aloneness.”

Ensler has strong feelings about the Western framework of death and grieving. “We live in a culture terrified of death,” she says. And yet, “it’s probably the biggest moment of our lives. In this country there’s such fear because there is no security. We have a culture obsessed with youth, constantly removing itself from feelings. When people are dying they don’t get a chance to die. If that changed it would change the basis of how we operate as a society.”

So, what does a dying person need to hear? “You can feel from the person dying how much they want to know” about their condition, she says. “Some want truth, some don’t. Some cling to the hospital room because they think they will get better there, some definitely do not. Everyone should have a choice where they want to die.”

The goal of the symposium is to improve the well-being of not only the patients but caregivers and administrators by exploring the “harder, often uncomfortable discussions within the challenges in the current health care system, in order to address where unnecessary suffering can be alleviated,” says Sirabella. “Participants will share contemplative best practices and experiential teachings” with the goal of establishing standards.

Tickets for Extraordinary Measures, which is directed by Tony Speziale, including the talkback with Ensler, are $35 and can be purchased at garrisoninstitute.org/eveensler or by calling 845-424-4800. The institute site also has more information about registration for the retreat.
Music of the Streets

A conversation with Jonathan F. P. Rose about ‘the well-tempered city’

By Brian PJ Cronin

In the late 1960s, when Jonathan F. P. Rose was 16 years old, his father took him out to the deceptively landscape that was New York City’s Roosevelt Island. He pointed to the ruins of the asylum wards and smallpox hospitals and asked his son “What would you do with this?”

Rose built his career around attempting to answer that question. He earned degrees in psychology, philosophy and regional planning; and founded or co-founded a real-estate development planning firm, a record label specializing in jazz, and the Garrison Institute. Now he’s welded these disparate interests and influences together in a book published in September by Harper, The Well-Tempered City: What Modern Science, Ancient Civilizations, and Human Nature Teach Us About the Future of Urban Life.

Rose says he was inspired by Bach’s Well-Tempered Clavier compositions, which utilize a renegade system of tuning notes known as “tempering” that allowed composers to transition between keys without going out of tune. As Rose writes, Bach composed the pieces “to align our highest human aspirations with the sublime harmony of nature. It is a model of the task we have today in designing and reshaping our cities.”

Rose will discuss the book with New York Times journalist Andrew Revkin at a free event at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 17 at the Garrison Institute. The Current spoke with Rose about the Hudson Valley, East Harlem and what Wynton Marsalis can teach us about resilience. His responses have been edited for brevity.

Given the stress of urban living, why would anyone live in a city rather than the countryside?

Cities are much more ecologically efficient than living in nature. Imagine a block in New York City with 10,000 people, and the equivalent amount of land you need here in the Hudson Valley with that many people. For every mile of road, water pipes or sewage pipes, you get much greater efficiency with the density of cities. The world population, which is now about 7.4 billion, is expected to hit 10 billion this century. Those people are becoming more prosperous and consuming more. The earth can’t absorb all that consumption. But by concentrating cities, we use materials much more efficiently and that makes it much easier to recycle and to create circular economies in order to reuse things.

The other thing is that people are moving to cities because they want to. That’s where the action is and the kinds of jobs people want. The job growth in America was primarily in the suburbs from the late 1970s to the late 1990s, but since then it’s primarily been urban. Even though Google’s original headquarters are in the suburbs, every office they’ve opened since then has been in cities and college towns. The reason is because they know that their workers want to be in places that are walkable, that have diversity and culture. But also older people, who used to retire to gated golf course communities in the South to get away from cold weather,
Music of the Streets (from previous page)

are moving back to cities. Those retirees want to be in walkable, interesting cities instead and be near their grandchildren. So it’s not that the planners of the world are telling people to move to cities, it’s that people want to move to cities, and now the planners have to figure out how to deal with it.

What we’re beginning to see now are models of how cities can increase their density while simultaneously, through careful planning, their parks and open spaces. So people have more access to nature in cities than they’ve had in the past. And we’re seeing that this has multiple benefits. A neighborhood that has a lot of trees is 6 degrees cooler during the summer, the trees absorb storm water, the trees remove pollution from the air, blocks with lots of trees on them have higher real estate values, and the people in these neighborhoods are much healthier, mentally. Le Corbusier designed cities of order, but many of his ideas — the sameness, of these towers in the park, sameness, and the huge space within the zones. You go back to when everyone lived in towns that were trading with one another. If every town is making the same things, then there’s nothing to trade. The zone of difference between different places is what leads to trade and interactions. If there’s something different happening two blocks over, you go. So the sameness, and the huge space within the sameness, of these towers in the park, created disconnection.

But they were also all rented only to low-income people. In the 1930s, when the federal government began to think about building public housing, they looked to the German model, which was mixed-income housing with a very middle-income character to it. And groups of realtors and mortgage brokers got together and said “If we allow the government to build public housing for middle class people, they won’t want to buy suburban homes, and they’ll reduce our market.” So they lobbied aggressively for almost 20 years to make sure that only the lowest-income people were served by public housing. That created a really unhealthy monoculture.

projects were built in East Harlem, in an area of 10 square blocks, they displaced 1,500 small businesses. So that wiped out not only the middle class of East Harlem, but also businesses that hired young people, gave them their first jobs as assistant shopkeepers and so forth.

Public housing developments also tend to be much less connected. Cities thrive when they can create an interaction zone. You go back to when everyone lived in towns that were trading with one another. If every town is making the same things, then there’s nothing to trade. The zone of difference between different places is what leads to trade and interactions. If there’s something different happening two blocks over, you go. So the sameness, and the huge space within the sameness, of these towers in the park, created disconnection.

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A Trip to Remember (from Page 1)
the truck,” he said. “I remember saying the easiest way to die would be to freeze to death — you’d just go to sleep.”

Lahey said the war was frustrating because even though the allies pushed the North Koreans well north of the 38th Parallel, that line became the demilitarized zone. Still, he takes pride in the fact that his unit built a bridge used for peace talks.

“Now you’ve got that nut [Kim Jong-un] in North Korea, but South Korea is doing really well,” he said. “At least we helped South Korea out, that’s for sure.”

The Wall
Three of the veterans served in Vietnam. Their visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, which is inscribed with the names of more than 58,000 Americans who died, was profoundly moving.

Steve Merando served with the Navy Seabees from 1969 to 1973, including duty in the Mekong Delta where his unit built tactical bases for swift boats. He found the name of Keith Warren F. Livermore, a Garrison resident killed in 1968 at age 19. “I played Little League with him,” Merando said. He remembered “the whole town was saddened” upon learning of Livermore’s death. “It’s a great honor to be here,” Merando said, clearly emotional. “It’s a shame that so many people had to die. And there are still people missing.”

Tom Kivel served in the Navy from 1966 to 1970, including in Vietnam aboard the aircraft carrier USS Constellation, primarily in the Gulf of Tonkin. “This place is special,” Kivel said of the memorial. “It’s sad — all these guys lost. Most people consider it a lost cause. I will never consider it a lost cause.” For Kivel, visiting the wall was humbling. “I have a hard time coming back — but I always do.”

It was an especially difficult visit for Mike Mastrolia. “I have eight friends on the wall,” he explained. Mastrolia was in the Army from 1967 to 1970, including a tour in Vietnam where he served as a helicopter door gunner. “I flew every day,” he recalled. He rubbed the name of Roy B. Parsons. “He was one crazy helicopter pilot. I wasn’t with him the day he was killed — they got trapped in fog and crashed into the side of a mountain” on Feb. 20, 1968. Ten other soldiers died as well. Sobbing, Mastrolia added: “He had a real thick Oklahoma accent. I miss him.”

Mastrolia described the abrupt end to his time in Vietnam. With two weeks left in his tour, a buddy was “freaking out” about flying a mission. Mastrolia volunteered to take his place. “It was a bad decision,” he said. “An emergency landing didn’t go well. I awoke five days later in a hospital in Germany.”

Camaraderie
Three other veterans made the trip. Ed Englebride entered the Army in 1956 and served as a specialist 3rd class as part of a machinist battalion. He also spent more than six years in the Army Reserves. Phil Schatzle served two years as a sergeant in the Army, also beginning in 1956. Ray Jones was a specialist 4 in the Army from 1961 to 1964. All three were stationed in Germany. Mastrolia said the trip had a distinctly different feel from his previous visits to the monuments. “Going there with a group of other veterans — that was great,” he said. “There was a lot of camaraderie.”

A nine-veteran Cold Spring salute. “The Wall,” the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial, is in the background.

Trip Video Online
Michael Turton was accompanied to Washington, D.C. for this story by videographer Gregory Gunder, whose report can be viewed at highlandscurrent.com.

Cold Spring Sidewalk Sale
Saturday & Sunday, October 15 & 16
Discounts up to 70%
18 shops participating
Rise Up Singing
American Center for Folk Music celebrates its new home

By Brian PJ Cronin

Shortly after Pete Seeger died in 2014, a request came to the Beacon City Council to commission a statue of the folk icon. Someone even offered to put up the money. It was a heartfelt gesture, but there was one problem. “The last thing Pete ever would have wanted was a statue,” said David Ross, who knew the musician well. “He would have risen up from the grave and pulled that statue down himself. He was remarkably free of ego entanglements.”

So a statue was out. But the question remained: How would Beacon celebrate its native son? About the same time, Scenic Hudson approached Phil Ciganer, owner of the Towne Crier Café on Main Street, about organizing concerts at the group’s River Center at Long Dock Park.

He turned them down. “I didn’t want to go into competition with myself,” he said. “But I thought about it, and I wondered why there wasn’t some sort of folk music hall of fame. And what better place for it than Beacon?”

And so Ciganer and Ross, along with nine other musicians, consultants and Seeger collaborators such as Main Street Music’s David Bernz and journalist Andrew Revkin, founded The American Center for Folk Music and serve as its board. On Sunday, Oct. 16, at 4 p.m., the nonprofit will celebrate its new home at the River Center with a free concert with Tom Chapin, John McCutcheon and Joe Louis Walker. (In the event of bad weather, it will move to the Towne Crier.)

The ACFM offices will occupy the top floor of the River Center; the two lower floors will continue to be used by Scenic Hudson but will also be open for ACFM and other community events. Ross said the ACFM board sees the River Center as a temporary home that it hopes to eventually outgrow.

In the meantime, the ACFM’s organizers and supporters need to figure out what it wants to be and do, said Ross, who is no stranger to the process of hashing out an institutional philosophy. He’s served as director of Boston’s Institute of Contemporary Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art and at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. He’s seen firsthand what happens when institutions have identity crises because they lacked a strong founding philosophy. “We want to build an institution from the ground up that reflects our shared values, and our shared understanding of the world, and what the world needs in relation to an institution like ours,” he said.

The ACFM plans to hold meetings and discussions about its purpose and mission and to host exhibits on the history of the genre. And Ross said the Oct. 16 concert will be the first of many. The center also plans to put together a hall of fame, although no one wants to call it that. “That seems antithetical to the [egalitarian] idea of folk music,” Ross said. However, that can’t be accomplished “until we build up the kind of authority to do those kinds of inclusions. All of that will start in the River Center.”

For more information about ACFM, visit centerforfolkmusic.org.

Joe Louis Walker
Tom Chapin
John McCutcheon

Autumn Jazz
Saturday, October 15, at 5:30PM

The House Band
Tom McCoy/piano, Rob Scheps/sax, Mike LaRocco/drums, Dave Winograd/bass

At First Presbyterian Church
10 Academy Street, Cold Spring
(Walk up Main Street, take a right at first street after light)

Wine and Cheese Reception to Follow
Donations to Support Jazz Vespers Gratefully Accepted

★ VOTE FOR ★

Camille Linson
for Philipstown Town Justice

Experience. Integrity. Commitment.

Be informed before you vote!
Did you know that Camille Linson:

• Was born and raised here in the Hudson Valley.
• Has been an attorney in Philipstown for nearly two decades.
• Has been an active volunteer on the Board of the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce.
• Is a Haldane mom, who jointly led the effort to design, install and finance the Haldane Elementary playground, at no cost to taxpayers.
• Has served low-income Philipstown residents with pro bono legal services.
• Was educated at Harvard University, Oxford University and other respected institutions.
• Is experienced in a broad array of legal subject areas that are tried before the Town Justice Court.

For more details of my professional experience and local volunteerism, please find me on Facebook @ “Camille Linson for Town Justice”

Please VOTE in the General Election
Tuesday, November 8th
Bring Your ‘A’ Game

Gather your smartest eight friends and family members and form a team for Trivia Night to benefit the Haldane Soccer Association on Saturday, Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the parish hall of Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring. The $20 ticket for adults and $5 for students includes food and beverages. RSVP to Mary Dwyer at 845-548-0664 by text or email dwyer204main@optimum.net.

Pets that go BZZZZZZ

Future beekeepers can learn from a lifelong beekeeper about bee populations, how to start and maintain a hive and how to prevent a swarm at a beekeeping class held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22 at the Cornell Cooperative Extension, 1 Geneva Road, in Brewster. Register at putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events or call 845-278-6738. The cost is $15.

Who Dunnit?

The Hudson House Inn at 2 Main St. in Cold Spring will host a comedy murder-mystery dinner on Friday, Oct. 28. The premise is a haunted Halloween Beauty Pageant, with witches, vampires, ghosts and zombies competing to be named Queen of the Crypt. When someone dies, guests have to figure out who did it. Tickets are $75 with a cash bar. Call 845-265-9355 for reservations.

HVSF Retells Hamlet

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival will take over the grand entry hall of the Boscobel Mansion in Garrison from Oct. 26 until Halloween for seven performances of The Gravedigger’s Tale. The interactive production will include live music, audience participation and humor. It is appropriate for all ages. Tickets start at $35 each, with discounts for children, students, seniors and military personnel. See hvsshakespeare.org for details.

Leaf-Peeping for a Prize

Central Hudson has launched its Fourth Annual Fall Foliage Photo Contest. To enter, customers can send unpublished scenic images showing the beauty of the season to communications@cenhud.com by noon on Nov. 2. A selection of images will be posted on the utility’s Facebook page for voting. The photo that generates the most “likes” by Nov. 2 will win $250. For contest rules, visit central-hudson.com/photocontest.

Cold Spring Resident Honored

Cold Spring resident Joe Plummer will be honored Thursday, Oct. 20 for his volunteer work with the San Miguel Academy of Newburgh, an independent, faith-based, tuition-free boys’ school established 10 years ago. Plummer created a weekend film series to provide a safe activity for the students. Plummer, who is a member of the Highlands Current Inc. board, is one of four people to be recognized at the school’s annual Scholarship Dinner.

Mingle and Make Friends

The joint Haldane/Garrison School PTA Learning Differences Committee will begin its Inclusive Playgroup on Oct. 27 at the Philipstown Community Center in Garrison. Designed for children in kindergarten through fifth grades, it will meet Thursday afternoons from 5 to 6 through early December. Philipstown residents pay $108 and nonresidents $123. Each week instructors will focus on activities to foster teamwork and embrace diversity. Register by calling 845-424-4618.

Beacon

Pennies Add Up

Try your luck at a Penny Social to support the Animal Rescue Foundation on Sunday, Oct. 23 at the St. Rocco Society on Chestnut Street. Doors open at 1 p.m. and items will be raffled at 3 p.m. Buy tickets at the door, then use your ticket to “bid” on an item you want. Winners will be drawn from all tickets. The prizes include gift baskets, toys, books, pet supplies and gift certificates. For more information, call 845-831-5161.

Beacon Gets Ready for the Dark Parade

Halloween will arrive early on Saturday, Oct. 22 at the Beacon Chamber of Commerce’s annual Dark Parade. Line up begins at 6:15 p.m. for a 7 p.m. start at the intersection of Herbert and Main streets on the East End. The route goes up to Teller Avenue and then to Vine Street and Fulton Street, ending at the Elks’ Lodge at 900 WoCott Avenue.

Participants are encouraged to create a float. It must be registered, lighted and in the spirit of Halloween. Marchers must also carry flashlights. At the end of the parade, everyone is invited to a party at the Elks’ Lodge, which will feature a DJ, refreshments and a cash bar. Tickets are $13. For more information, visit beaconchamberofcommerce.com.

Get Your Fright On

Children ages 7 to 10 are invited to a Thrills and Chills Story Hour at the Howland Public Library on Wednesday, Oct. 26. With the lights off and only the glow of a jack o’lantern for atmosphere, they can enjoy spooky stories and creepy refreshments from 4:15 to 6:30 p.m.
Award for Incline Exhibit

The Mount Beacon Incline exhibit at the Beacon Institute on Main Street, which continues through Nov. 6, has been awarded a 2016 Award for Excellence by the Greater Hudson Heritage Network. The award will be presented Oct. 28 in Poughkeepsie to the Incline Society, a nonprofit dedicated to restoring the historic Incline Railway up Mount Beacon.

Haircuts and Goblins

Little Beacon Blog and stylists from Your Presence Salon are holding a pop-up event for children’s haircuts and face painting at 291 Main St. on Sunday, Oct. 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Organizers will hand out candy to children during a goblins’ parade. Haircuts are $12 when booked in advance through the blog or $16 for walk-ins. Face painting is $1 with proceeds benefiting Beacon elementary schools. For details, visit alittlebeaconblog.com.

Prosecuting Polluters

As part of its ongoing Science Café series, the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries is holding a mock trial on Thursday, Oct. 20 at The Hop on Main Street with Michelle Crimi, an environmental science professor at Clarkson University playing the role of prosecuting attorney. In the case of Groundwater vs. Corporation X, the audience will act as the jury while Crimi cites research on soil and groundwater contamination to present her case to the judge. Visit bire.org for details.
Drafting a Beacon Blueprint (from Page 1)

contemporary art and a new generation of ex-Manhattan and Brooklynites to the city. In 2007, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority announced plans to create a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) on 18 acres at its Metro-North station. The development would have promoted regional transit and, according to the agency, created a “gateway” that linked the river to Main Street.

But a number of residents, some organized as a group called Beacon Deserves Better, opposed the idea, saying it was hastily planned and would have had a negative environmental impact. In addition, the group argued, without a comprehensive planning process, the development would isolate Main Street businesses rather than connect them to the waterfront. The MTA put the project on hold in 2010, citing the lack of TOD-friendly zoning and the “right timing and economic conditions.”

Today, public parks and recreational spaces, along with Dia, surround the train station, yet many residents say additional spaces, along with Dia, surround the group argued, without a comprehensive environmental impact. In addition, the group argued, without a comprehensive planning process, the development would isolate Main Street businesses rather than connect them to the waterfront.

The MTA put the project on hold in 2010, citing the lack of TOD-friendly zoning and the “right timing and economic conditions.”

Today, public parks and recreational spaces, along with Dia, surround the train station, yet many residents say additional development in the area will benefit Beacon.

The comprehensive plan review is not a complete rewrite of the city’s 2007 plan, nor is it a proposal for specific development. Rather, it’s an opportunity, after reviewing how the city has changed over the past decade, to tweak the plan so the city has guidelines that reflect residents’ desires as it considers future projects, explained Noah Levine, an associate with BFJ Planning, the firm hired to facilitate the update. The city previously hired the firm to help create the Main Street-to-riverfront linkage zone that was adopted by the City Council in 2013.

The 2007 comprehensive plan encourages mixed-use commercial development with designated areas, “with attention to architectural design and pedestrian amenities.” Further, it states that development at the waterfront should be related to its unique location and “should not unduly compete” with Main Street businesses.

While that language provided what Pasti calls “broad brush stroke” guidance, it was adopted just months before the 2008 economic downturn. Any plans for riverfront development were set aside.

But now, she said, with the economy recovering and residential growth in Beacon on the uptick, it’s the ideal time to fine-tune the guidelines. “It helps you get more of what you want and less of what you don’t want, so people who develop what we want to see there will come to us.” She added: “We want to maintain the special value of our waterfront lands, and in light of all the changes that have taken place on Main Street, how do we want to structure it? This is the ideal time for us to take a look at what we want.”

The feedback from residents so far has been consistent in opposing “stand-alone” development at the waterfront, said Levine of BFJ. Rather, they want to see “something that’s harmonious with the existing scale, and that’s complementary to the retail along Main Street.”

Mayor Randy Casale said he typically keeps his personal preference to himself so it doesn’t appear that he’s leading the city’s agenda. But from an economic development perspective, he said, “if there’s one thing we’re lacking, it’s a daytime workforce that would subsidize businesses on Main Street during the week.”

Casale said a mixed-use development might attract tech-based and other businesses, creating a “reverse commute” from Westchester and New York City. That would strengthen the tax base and stimulate the economy while adding critical diversity from the arts and tourism “so we don’t have our eggs all in one basket.”

City Council member George Mansfield has also spoken about the development of commercial office space at the waterfront. He, too, believes a reverse commute is possible and could support the local economy without adding an undue burden on schools, police and emergency responders.

The next step in the process will take place Nov. 17, when the city hosts a second public forum on the comprehensive plan update. The location has not been determined, but residents will be invited to share their opinions on all elements of the plan, including the waterfront. For those who can’t make the meeting, comments can be emailed to comprehensiveplan@cityofbeacon.org.

Following the second public session, Noah Levine said he expects the updated plan to be sent in late November or early December to the Planning Board for review. The City Council will then hold a public hearing and could vote on the plan early in 2017.
**Kid Scoop**

**Germ Patrol**

**Disgusting germs don’t stand a chance against my powerful SECRET WEAPON!**

**You can stop the spread of germs that cause illness. But you need two important pieces of equipment to get the job done – SOAP and WARM, RUNNING WATER.**

Proper hand washing requires vigorous rubbing for at least 20 seconds – about as long as it takes to sing the ABC song.

Use whatever soap gets you semblishing.

Regular soap works well!

**Open Friday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

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**Hand Washing in Three Easy Steps!**

1. Lather up both sides of your hands, around your wrist, between your fingers and around your nails.
2. Rinse well to remove all the soap.
3. Dry hands with paper towels. Tip: use a paper towel to turn off the faucet after washing hands.

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**Catch the Reading Bug – NOT a flu bug!**

At the library, I talk with kids about washing their hands both before and after they read our books. They should wash before to help keep the books nice and clean. That helps the library. Then they should wash after they remove reading to remove germs they picked up from the books. And that helps kids stay healthy.

---

**How often do you wash YOUR hands?**

Keep track of how many times a day you wash your hands for one full week. Every time you wash your hands, make a check in that day’s bubble. Take a guess before you begin, then fill out the actual number after the week is over. Did you wash your hands more or less often than you thought?

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**Double Word Search**

**GERM**

**WASH**

**WEAPON**

**VIRUSES**

**BACTERIA**

**HEALTHY**

**VAMPIRE**

**COUGH**

**FLOW**

**EQUAL**

**CAUSE**

**HUNDREDS**

**SOAP**

**HANDS**

**BUG**

**BECHCDSNAH**

**BGSAGEAYNS**

**AUAENUHDE**

**WSCGSTORLE**

**ERFULTUCBR**

**AMFAPRUD**

**PGERMRGIWN**

**OHPAOSIVU**

**NVEEQualh**

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**Write On!**

Germ Make Me Sick! Write tips for kids on how to avoid getting sick. How can you stop germs before they get you down?
Putting the finishing touches on Haldane’s new concession stand

**High School Scoreboard**

**Cross Country**
Beacon at Manhattan HS Invitational Bronx (4000m)
- 91 Jean Pena 14:42.8
- 142 Richard Kish 15:32.9
- 143 Bud Rutkoske 15:35.0
- 172 Ethan Burgess 17:05.3
- 184 Stevie Hulse 18:39.5
Team finish: 25 of 27

- 128 Jamiyah Reed 19:39.0
- 173 Jenna Maffei 24:37.9
- 174 Tiara Boone 24:42.0

**Football**
Team Finish: 7 of 19
- 121 Meghan Ferri 25:25.70
- 56 Olivia McDermott 23:06.20
- 47 Heather Winne 22:41.60
- 45 Taylor Farrell 22:40.10

**Byram Hills (5000m)**
Haldane at Bobcat Run
- 174 Tiara Boone 24:42.0
- 128 Jamilyah Reed 19:39.0
Team finish: 25 of 27

- 184 Stevie Hulse 18:39.0
- 172 Ethan Burgos 17:05.3
- 91 Jean Pena 17:40.60

**Cross Country**
Byran Hills Little League
- 42 Shannon Ferri 22:29.30
- 40 Ruby McEwen 22:23.70
Team Finish: 16 of 31

- 81 Jonas Petkus 18:57.70
- 54 Adam Silhavy 18:30.10

**Girls’ Tennis**
Haldane 3, Westlake 0
- Katie Cunningham (9)

**Girls’ Swimming**
Haldane 3, Pawling 0
- Amanda Spadafino, Cassandra Ruffy, Adrianna Bonnes and Claire Hernandez, Ruffy, Adrianna Bonnes and Claire Hernandez
- Woodland 40, Haldane 14
- Bulldogs, Alex Bensin ran for a score and threw a 50-yard TD pass to Jaden Navarro. Manny Garner closed out the scoring with a 45-yard TD run. With the win, the Bulldogs (3-3) grabbed the No. 14 seed in the Section 1, Class A playoffs and will travel to No. 3 Somers (5-1) on Oct. 15.

**Boys’ Soccer**
Arlington 1, Haldane 0
Beacon 6, Hendrick Hudson 0
Albertus Magnus 2, Haldane 1 (OT)
Goal: Andrew Platt on Seth Warren assist

**Girls’ Soccer**
Haldane 4, Pawling 0
Haldane 3, Westlake 0

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Arlington 1, Haldane 0
Beacon 6, Hendrick Hudson 0
Albertus Magnus 2, Haldane 1 (OT)
Goal: Andrew Platt on Seth Warren assist

**Girls’ Swimming**
Beacon 88, Ketcham 79
The Bulldogs won their first meet of the season at Ketcham, coming from behind with strong finishes in the final five events. Lauren Hernandez won the 500 freestyle in 6:50.47, Amanda Spadafino, Cassandra Ruffy, Adrianna Bonnes and Claire Wood won the 200 freestyle relay in 2:08.63, Spadafino was second in the 100 breaststroke in 1:21.19, and Hernandez, Ruffy, Dior Gillins and Jessica Hookler finished second in the 400 freestyle relay in 5:02.85.

**Girls’ Tennis**
Beacon 4, Brewster 1

**Volleyball**
Lourdes 3, Beacon 1
Putnam Valley 3, Haldane 1
Beacon 3, Carmel 0
Arlington 3, Haldane 2

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Philipstown Little League
U12 Team Crushes Hyde Park

**Wins 15-3 on two five-run rallies**

*By Coach Mike Meeropol*

The Philipstown 12U Little League team had to wait two weeks for its most recent game, but it was worth it. Five pitchers — Kevin Van Tassel, Johnathan and William Bradley, Dylan Gunther and Julian Ambrose — held visiting Hyde Park to three runs while the Philipstown bats came alive in the fourth inning.

After spotting Hyde Park two runs in the top of the first, Philipstown came roaring back, sparked by Van Tassel’s three-run homer to right for a 4-2 lead. That was the score when Van Tassel came to bat in the bottom of the third and hit his second home run, a screaming liner to left center that never got more than 5 feet off the ground before it cleared the fence.

The home team broke the game open with two five-run rallies in the fourth and fifth innings sparked by a Blake Bolte triple, two-run singles by Ryan Merritt and Ambrose and a two-run sacrifice fly from Bradley.

Fielding was particularly important when the game was close. In the first inning, catcher Johnathan Bradley threw out a runner attempting to steal second. At third base, Bolte had two put-outs on runners attempting to take extra bases. In the third inning, first baseman Jordan Albertson made the play of the game by coolly digging a low throw out of the dirt. The final was 15-3.

The 12U team (2-1) plays their final home game Saturday, Oct. 15, at 1 p.m. The 10U team plays at 11 a.m.

Katie Cunningham Named Player of Week

Katie Cunningham of Nelsonville, a junior setter for the Keene State College volleyball team in New Hampshire, was named Oct. 10 as the Little East Conference’s Offensive Player of the Week. In a 3-2 victory over the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Cunningham had 43 assists and 12 digs. In league wins, she had 44 assists against Western Connecticut State and 36 assists and 11 digs against Bridgewater State. She also had 11 assists in a 3-0 nonconference win Oct. 11 over Lyndon State. The Division III Owls are 14-7 overall and 4-0 in league play. Cunningham was a member of Haldane High School’s 2013 state championship team.

Haldane Homecoming

The final exterior touches were put on the new Haldane field concession stand and press box in preparation for homecoming Saturday, Oct. 15. The day begins with a parade up Main Street at 10 a.m., followed by girls’ soccer against Putnam Valley at noon, boys’ soccer against Pawling at 2:30 p.m. and football against Roscoe at 6:30 p.m.

**Position available:**
The Highlands Current is looking for a freelance sportswriter to cover Haldane and/or Beacon varsity sports. Previous newspaper experience preferred. Send resume and clips to editor@highlandscurrent.com.