

The HIGHLANDS Current



Oh, Sweet Pea
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JUNE 2, 2017

161 MAIN ST., COLD SPRING, N.Y. | highlandscurrent.com



OUT AT HOME — Despite a plea from a Pawling runner, the umpire calls her out after the tag by Haldane pitcher Shianne Twoguns (right) late in the Blue Devils' 3-2 victory that made them Section 1, Class C softball champs. The run would have tied the game. For more photos, see page 19. The Blue Devils played Section 9 champion Pine Plains on June 1 in the Class C sub-regional.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Read This Story. Then Go Outside

Loads of Beacon routes to explore for National Trails Day, and more afoot

By Jeff Simms

Since being created by the American Hiking Society in 1993, National Trails Day, on the first Saturday in June, has encouraged hiking, biking, walking and every other muscle-powered, trail-based activity that gets people outdoors.

There is no shortage of places to stretch your legs in and around Beacon, and a number of interconnected and far-reaching routes are in progress. Here is a roundup:

The most notable of Beacon's already sizeable network of walking and hiking paths is **Mount Beacon**, the region's highest peak and one-time Revolutionary War lookout post, with a mile-long trail to its summit.

Located just outside city limits, Mount Beacon Park is maintained by Scenic Hudson and the Mount Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society. Its trail is rocky and steep, with a number of switchbacks, but the challenge is worth it for the incredible Highlands views. From the peak, you can explore the ruins of the Beacon Incline Railway's powerhouse or, for seasoned hikers, continue to Fishkill Ridge

and the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve.

Four and a half miles away, on the other side of the city, rests **Dennings Point**, home of a 1.2-mile loop that closes each winter to become a bald eagle sanctuary. From the trail, hikers and runners can visit abandoned brick factories along the river as well as nearby Dia:Beacon before connecting to the mile-long **Klara Sauer Trail**, which leads to Scenic Hudson's **Long Dock Park**, or, in the other direction, to **Madam Brett Park**, another Scenic Hudson park.

The most high profile of the trails in the works is the **Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail** that will connect Cold Spring to Beacon — another endeavor spearheaded by Scenic Hudson, this time with more than a dozen partners. The master plan was completed two years ago and Scenic Hudson is conducting environmental reviews of the preliminary route for a public meeting this fall.

The plan is for the trail to have about seven sections: 1) the Cold Spring Metro-North station to Little Stony Point; 2) Little Stony Point to Breakneck Ridge, possibly between the tracks and the river; 3) a half-mile connector from the Route 9D Breakneck tunnel at the Dutchess County line to the pedestrian bridge at the Breakneck train stop; 4) from the bridge, running along Route 9D

(Continued on Page 6)

Philipstown, Cold Spring Merge Building Departments

Deal finalized after years of discussion; Nelsonville uncertain

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Cold Spring and Philipstown agreed in votes on May 23 and 24 to consolidate their building departments, at least for a year, with the town's full-time building department taking over the functions of the village's part-time department. The village will pay the town \$20,000 annually to cover costs.

The Village Board and Town Board approved the merger by 5-0 votes. The contract provides that the town and village equally divide any fees collected above \$20,000 annually for Cold Spring properties.

Building departments are typically responsible for reviewing plans, approving and monitoring construction projects for violations, issuing certificates of occupancy for new structures and enforcing zoning laws.

The merger, which began at the start of the village's fiscal year on June 1, evolved from several years of sporadic discussions

that at times included the Village of Nelsonville. It dovetails with a push by Gov. Andrew Cuomo for local jurisdictions and counties to streamline.

The Cold Spring Building Department continues to exist, if only on paper, because the village will outsource its work to the town. Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea said that provides some flexibility as the village does not have to dissolve its department, which would involve a lengthy legal process, and move everything to Town Hall.

An inter-municipal agreement also "allows us to sort of wade into it," Shea said. The village and town tested the waters in September 2015 when Philipstown began handling inspections for the Butterfield redevelopment in Cold Spring.

Under the agreement, Cold Spring residents will file building applications at Village Hall, where officials will review them before sending them to Philipstown. Cold Spring will retain its records.

The Village Board approved the merger with little comment.

However, at the Town Board meeting, Cold Spring resident Lillian Moser objected. "I'm going to

(Continued on Page 5)



The Megalithic Trail Crew, which welcomes volunteers five days a week from June to October on the Appalachian Trail in Bear Mountain State Park, this year will continue work on a 5-foot-wide stairway to the top of the mountain. Over the past decade, more than 1,000 stone steps have been built.

Photo provided

Emergency Services Officials Discuss Mutual Problems

Focus on hiking, biking and traffic

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Highlands residents often note the distance, literally and figuratively, between Philipstown and Carmel, the Putnam County seat.

But when county emergency services officials attended a May 24 Town Board workshop, a meeting of the minds occurred on issues that know no geographic or other limits — hazardous traffic and bicyclist and hiker safety.

Led by Bureau of Emergency Services Commissioner Anthony Sutton, the county delegation included members of the Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board, among them new recruit Amber Stickle, director of recreation and parks for the Philipstown Recreation Department.

The board, which includes community members and firefighting, emergency medical and law enforcement personnel, identifies and studies safety problems and recommends solutions.

Cycling

Many topics the group discussed are familiar to Highlands residents. But another may be less so: the growing number of bicyclists and the threats they face from cars.

Sutton mentioned a 2016 accident on Route 301 in which a driver who was texting hit a cyclist and left him severely brain-damaged. Other cyclists are now campaigning for enhanced road safety, Sutton said, although they “didn’t get a real warm welcoming” at the state Department of Transportation. But they did get the attention of the county safety advisory board.



Putnam County Emergency Services Commissioner Anthony Sutton



Philipstown Town Board members, backs to camera, joined by Amber Stickle, town recreation director, far left at table, confer with the Putnam County Emergency Services Safety Advisory Board at Town Hall.

Photos by L.S. Armstrong

“We have bicyclists along 301 getting hurt, so we’re trying to help them and reduce the need for responses by our firefighters and EMS,” said Robert Lipton, deputy commissioner of emergency services for the county.

Sutton said the conversations produced a simple idea: keep roadside brush cut so it does not force cyclists into the center of narrow roads.

“That’s something that will have a big impact right away,” said Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea, who often rides along Route 9D. Shea also advised cyclists to ride in groups.

Stickle suggested that local governments work with Metro-North to create tip sheets for visitors who bring their bikes aboard trains.

Hiking

Inevitably, the talk turned to hiking — “always an issue here,” Councilor John Van Tassel commented. “There’s just no way of stopping the people” crowding the steep trails, and, sometimes, suffering mishaps.

Sutton pointed to an emergency services dilemma: which rescuers to dispatch. “It seems a lot of times we get sucked into sending the fire departments up the mountain” instead of park rangers and police, he said. Typically this is because

firefighters are closer than park rangers, who may be up to an hour away, he said.

Shea mentioned another problem: graffiti on the rocks. “The toll on the mountain with people defacing the place is awful,” he said.

Route 9D

The town and county group likewise discussed the Route 9D speed limit, which for a stretch north of Cold Spring is 55 mph (despite the many pedestrians who use the road to reach trails), although it is 45 mph going south from Beacon and is also lower in Garrison.

“This discussion has been going on and on for years,” Shea observed. He said the state apparently won’t change the 55-mph sign until work concludes on the Fjord Trail, a planned path between Cold Spring and Beacon.

Councilor Nancy Montgomery suggested the county help pressure the state to act sooner. Sutton agreed. “Collectively we should all have our voices heard,” he said.

In Cold Spring, too, cars endanger pedestrians, even around the Haldane school campus, Shea added. Some drivers don’t stop for a crosswalk even when a crossing guard is present, he said.

Sutton and Lipton proposed measures such as flashing signs that inform drivers of their speed and remind them of the limit.

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Village Employees to Pay More for Health Insurance

Board says retirees must contribute

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Village Board on May 30 passed a resolution to have village employees, retirees and surviving spouses contribute 12 percent of the cost of their health insurance. Employees had been paying 7 percent, but retirees were not required to contribute.

The resolution, which passed unanimously, noted that the cost of health insurance has risen 25 to 50 percent over the past eight years, an amount that "can no longer be sustained," said Mayor Dave Merandy.

He noted that for a recently retired employee in his or her mid-50s, the village would have had to pay \$23,000 or more annually for insurance until the person reached full retirement age. The amended policy requires retirees to make the same contribution as employees, which will be adjusted when they become eligible for Medicare.

The benefit package also was amended to include changes to employee leave, overtime and retirement medical option plan benefits, and to combine vacation days and sick days into "paid time-off days."

In other business...

- A proposal to increase the salaries of village employees by 2 percent was put aside for more research.

- Trustees approved a salary of \$25 per hour plus benefits for newly appointed Village Clerk and Treasurer Jeff Vidakovich, who succeeds Mary Saari, who retired on May 31. Vidakovich will also receive an annual stipend, yet to be determined, for duties required as part of the merger of the village and Town of Philipstown building departments.
- The board approved the sale off a village-owned stoop at 66 Main St., at the rate of \$4 per square foot.
- Trustees approved the purchase of a \$10,315 "zero-turn" riding mower.
- Zachary Langer was hired as a full-

time laborer with the Highway Department for \$15 per hour plus benefits. Colin Downey and Max Hadden were hired as summer help in the Highway Department and village office, respectively.

In business on May 23 ...

- The Cold Spring Planning Board will act as lead agency for the state environmental review of a proposed expansion of the Rincon Argentino café at 21 Main St.
- After complaints from neighbors, the village will plant a vegetative buffer and make exterior alterations to reduce noise from the wastewater treatment plant on Fair Street.



Illustration by Dana Wigdor

Maloney's Office to Hire Veteran

Part of Wounded Warrior Fellow program

U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, who represents Philipstown and Beacon, has a two-year position in his Newburgh office for a veteran with a service-connected disability. The job, part of the Wounded Warrior Fellow Program, is open to veterans who were on active duty after Sept. 11, 2001, and have at least a 30 percent service-connected disability rating from the Veterans Administration.

"Veterans understand each other's needs and experiences better than anyone else, and our new Wounded Warrior fellow will have an essential role working on behalf of Hudson Valley veterans who need help," said Maloney.

Interested veterans should submit a resume, a copy of the last DD214 issued and letter from the VA indicating a 30 percent or greater rating (unless medically retired) to housewoundedwarriors@mail.house.gov.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What has changed?

Sam Harrell didn't have a chance when he was surrounded by corrections officers at the medium-security Fishkill Correctional Facility in April 2015. He was handcuffed, beaten and thrown down a staircase.

In the two years since his death, which the coroner ruled to be a homicide, no one has been disciplined. The Dutchess County district attorney, William Grady, was investigating, but apparently has dropped the ball. Alphonso David, counsel to Gov. Andrew Cuomo, has also sat on his hands.

Harrell, who was 30 and suffering from bipolar disorder, was serving time for a non-violent drug crime. Were he white, the chances are strong he would not have been charged with a crime or imprisoned.

Once he was incarcerated at Fishkill, he was immersed in a perfect storm for exacerbating his mental illness and suffering totally out of proportion to the actions which led to him being sent there. The storm of criminalizing non-violent drug use, severe sentencing, solitary confinement, inadequate psychiatric treatment and devaluing of rehabilitation is perfect for enslaving people who are vulnerable.

Add to this deficient therapy and support for the pressures burdening corrections officers and the tendency for stress to boil over into violence becomes a living hell.

Since Harrell's death, his wife, sister, father and friends have spoken eloquently, ardently and lovingly about him and given him the dignity he could not receive during his tortured last weeks of life. But, the

storm which destroyed Harrell has been and still is being passed on to generations, even to those with strong family support.

With no action being taken by the Department of Corrections in response to this tragedy, it makes the violent killing of a prisoner by the hands of state employees appear normal.

Beacon Prison Action organized a vigil in April to mark the second anniversary of Harrell's death. As Beacon benefits economically from Fishkill Correctional Facility, our responsibility as a community extends to the prisoners in our midst. The prison property where this tragedy occurred is part of our community — it abuts the playing fields of Beacon High School.

There is compelling need to hear the voices of D.A. Grady, Alphonso David and Robert Cunningham, superintendent of the Fishkill Correctional Facility, on the matter of justice for Sam Harrell.

Dan Doniger, *Beacon*

Doniger is a member of Beacon Prison Action.



Serino and education

I received a taxpayer-funded mailer from state Sen. Sue Serino, who represents Beacon and Philipstown, with the deliberately misleading claim that she "fought to deliver a record" amount of aid for education.

In fact, she is part of the Republican senate majority that votes — along with Senate Democrats who largely support Republican initiatives — to force school districts to spend state aid on tuition payments to privately run charter schools.

The Foundation Aid formula was designed in 2007 to ensure that our public schools receive the funding necessary to provide all students, including those with special needs or who hail from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, with a sound, basic education. Soon after the formula was approved, the state began to shortchange Foundation Aid, now amounting to billions of dollars across the state.

In February, despite the pleas of her constituents, Sen. Serino voted to approve a budget that ignores the \$4.3 billion New York State continues to owe schools. If Sen. Serino is interested in "delivering for schools," and not just siphoning taxpayer dollars to New York City private charter schools (and deceptive mailers), she must truly commit herself to getting our schools the full amount of Foundation Aid they are owed.

Julie Shiroishi, *Beacon*

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information.

Taking it to the Street By Anita Peltonen

What's your favorite hangout in the U.S.?



"Driving the Kancamagus Highway in New Hampshire in the fall."
~ Melanie Leonard, Beacon



"San Diego. No one is from there, so you get a great cross-section of people."
~ Robbie Cissney, Cold Spring



"Lake Tahoe, because there's sun above and snow below."
~ Sunny Quailer, Cold Spring

Philipstown, Cold Spring Merge Building Departments *(from Page 1)*



Former Cold Spring Building Inspector Bill Bujarski
File photo by L.S. Armstrong

be paying double” because of the merger, said Moser, who owns a storefront and adjacent residence in the village and attended the Town Board meeting because she said she missed the Village Board meeting the night before. “I’m going to be paying the village to pay you guys to have your building inspector do the work.”

She said that even if she does not pay the town inspector directly, she will pay in her Philipstown tax bill. (Village residents pay taxes to both the village and town.) Furthermore, Moser maintained, although village officials frequently insist Cold Spring is “cash strapped,” they now will pay Philipstown \$20,000. She likewise asked why “there wasn’t more public information about this,” although she added, “I’m not blaming you guys.”

Shea responded that the merger gives Cold Spring residents access to a building inspector 40 hours a week, rather than the 16 hours that the village’s part-time inspector, Bill Bujarski, was on duty. The village building department was open on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by appointment on Monday and Friday. Inspections took place only in the afternoon. The Philipstown building department, at 238 Main St., is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and has three full-time employees and a part-time secre-

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Forms can be downloaded at philipstown.com or coldspringny.gov. Applications

for Cold Spring properties should be dropped at Village Hall, 85 Main St.

The building department handles permits for new construction and additions, blasting, demolition, excavation, filling, grading, fuel storage tanks, signs, tents and canopies, electrical work, fuel gas, additions, decks and porches, fireplaces, wood stoves, garages and sheds, heating equipment, manufactured homes, outdoor wood furnaces and boilers, swimming pools and wind turbines and solar panels.

Cold Spring building department had collected \$35,039 in fees from June 1, 2016 through March 31, more than its projection of \$28,000. It budgeted for \$23,335 in expenses, including \$16,810 for Bujarski’s salary.

Shea noted that Cold Spring requested

the merger. “We’re just trying to accommodate them and also consolidate services, a major thrust from Albany right now,” he said. “If we don’t start showing some initiatives, we’re going to lose our state aid.”

Councilor Nancy Montgomery noted that without a merger the community would continue to have three building departments – for Cold Spring, Philipstown and Nelsonville – along a half-mile stretch of Main Street.

Nelsonville talked about merging its department two years ago but withdrew. At its Village Board’s May 15 meeting, Mayor Bill O’Neill said that joining Cold Spring and Philipstown “theoretically looks perfectly acceptable. But the devil is in the details.” Trustee Thomas Robertson said the three-member board (expanding to five in 2018) is not against a merger. But, he asked, “how much is it going to cost? It’s a good idea, but I like to walk slowly toward consolidation.”

Highlands Current Inc. Adds Board Member

Also creates advisory board

Mel Laytner, a former longtime foreign correspondent for United Press International and NBC News and retired principal of Laytner’s Linen & Home in New York City, has joined the board of the nonprofit Highlands Current Inc., publisher of *The Highlands Current* and highlandscurrent.com.

The other board members are Christine Bockelmann (chair), Joseph Plummer (vice chair), Irvine Flinn (secretary), Nicholas Groombridge (treasurer), Ralph Arditi, Stacey Farley, Bevis Longstreth, Frederick Osborn III and Rudolph S. Rauch.

The corporation also created an advisory board, with five initial members: Suzanne Baker, Christopher Buck, Jason McManus, Judith Mogul and Andrew C. Revkin.



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Read This Story. Then Go Outside *(from Page 1)*



to Dutchess Junction Park; 5) on state-owned land through woodlands leading to the edge of Fishkill Creek; 6) crossing Fishkill Creek; 7) and connecting to the Klara Sauer Trail (named for a former Scenic Hudson president) and toward Long Dock Park and the Beacon train station.

In all, the Fjord Trail will run between 7 and 9 miles, with some construction near Breakneck Ridge expected to begin later this year, said Scenic Hudson planner Amy Kacala.

Coupled with the vision for the trail are plans to expand and pave the Breakneck Ridge parking lot, to create parallel-parking spaces along 9D and to enhance pedestrian crossings. The state Department of Transportation has been asked to reduce the speed limit near Breakneck from 55 to 40 mph and to institute additional traffic-control measures, she said.

While no timeline has been established for a proposed **North Hudson Trail**, Beacon officials are finishing a feasibility study to have it extend from the north end of the Beacon Metro-North station (nearly connecting with the Fjord/Klara Sauer) and run to the Town of Fishkill line near the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge.

In 2013 the Beacon City Council adopted a master plan for the **Fishkill Creek Greenway & Heritage Trail**, another continuous trail proposed to run from the Beacon train station to Fishkill Creek at Madam Brett Park. From there it would continue, stretching just over four miles



The Fishkill Creek Greenway & Heritage Trail is being opened in segments around Beacon.

Photo by J. Simms

in all, along the western shoreline of the creek and following it to the Fishkill line on Beacon's east side.

At 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 3, the Beacon Greenway Trails Committee will celebrate National Trails Day with a ribbon cutting to mark the two most recent segments to be added to the Greenway — which is being created section-by-section with help from developers building in the Fishkill Creek corridor.

The first new segment extends from the

cast-iron bridge at Bridge Street to the rear parking lot at the Lofts at Beacon development. The second picks up at the parking lot and connects to the Beacon Gorge near Route 52.

"This is a chance for the city to set aside something that's already there, in the creek and the structures there along it, and to elevate it together into a key component of the city's character," said Thomas Wright, a member of the Greenway Trails Committee, which first approached the City Council in 2009 with the idea of a creekside trail.

Although no official agreement is in place, Fishkill officials have said they plan to extend the North Hudson Trail and the Fishkill Creek Greenway & Heritage Trail north.

Finally, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority issued a "request for expressions of interest" last fall for the utilization of the almost 28-mile dormant rail line from the Dutchess-Putnam county line to Beacon.

Although it received eight proposals, the MTA said it plans to instead focus on Gov. Cuomo's proposal to improve and expand a multi-use trail network known as the **Empire State Trail** across New York state. According to the agency, Metro-North therefore has no immediate plan to take action on any of the proposals for the Beacon Line, but the Empire State Trail could preserve the rail corridor along the route.

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Cornish Estate Hike with Rob Yasinsac and Thom Johnson

Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Join Rob Yasinsac and Thom Johnson for a hike to the Northgate Ruins, known locally as the Cornish Estate, on Saturday, June 10 at 10 a.m. Rob & Thom will guide us through the Northgate Ruins and discuss the property's history. Please be sure to bring water, tick repellent, and wear hiking boots or sneakers. We will meet in the parking lot opposite Little Stony Point on Route 9D North in Cold Spring.



The hike is \$5 for the general public and free for members.

To guarantee a spot, please register at
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I Am Beacon

Community group grows with city

By Jeff Simms

When Reuben Simmons received his college diploma in 2007, the financial crisis was months away and jobs in criminal justice and sociology, the fields he'd studied, were soon to be scarce.

Opting to head home, Simmons returned to Beacon from Washington, D.C., where he attended the Catholic University of America, and found a summer job with the Highway Department that led to a full-time position. In 2009, he was elected Beacon president of the Civil Service Employees Association, the Dutchess County labor union. It was an opportunity, he felt, to improve relations between city workers and the community. Soon after, the

floodgates opened and Brooklyn-to-Beacon became a thing. The city was filling with newcomers, and Simmons, his sister, Brooke, and a half-dozen friends felt the timing was perfect to get even more involved.

They began meeting weekly to brainstorm ideas about how to contribute to the community. The name We Are Beacon was suggested but dismissed as sounding too exclusive.

"We chose I Am Beacon because every individual has something to contribute to their community," says Reuben Simmons, who this year was named highway superintendent following the retirement of longtime chief Anthony "Zep" Thomaselli. "What we're losing in this country is discipline and self-accountability."

Six years after its founding, Simmons still gets many of the same questions about I Am Beacon. Is it a club? Is it only for peo-



Reuben Simmons and Brandon Lillard

Photo by J. Simms

Candace Bergen Honored by Library



Hamilton Fish, director of the Board of Trustees of the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison, speaks with actor and author Candace Bergen at the library's annual associates dinner on May 19. Bergen was presented with the library's Hamilton Fish Award for her contributions to film, television and literature.

Photo by Lori Moss

ple who have always lived in Beacon?

"It's for everyone," he explains. "It's about building people up. There's enough people tearing each other down."

In 2012, the group established a scholarship that is awarded each year to a community-minded Beacon High School senior. Called Making a Difference, it is funded largely by sales of "I Am Beacon" T-shirts and a 5K run each September.

The first recipient was Pamela Gadsden, who created Class in a Bag, a program for distributing backpacks to lower-income elementary school students that last year gave out 56 backpacks in the district.

"The students see [winning the scholarship] as a challenge," says Frank Lofaro, a Beacon High School teacher who coached Simmons in football and is a member of the scholarship selection committee. "It gives them the responsibility of coming up with novel ways of serving the community. Not only will they get a monetary

award, but they see it as a legacy."

When Beacon turned 100 in May 2013, I Am Beacon helped organize and promote a four-day event to celebrate the centennial. Simmons calls it a turning point for the nonprofit, which now sponsors the St. Patrick's Day Parade of Green, throws an annual back-to-school block party, and hosts a Turkey on Every Table food drive in November.

The group's latest project is a podcast, "This is Beacon," that will share the stories of residents and business owners. Seven episodes have been recorded, and the show will debut in July.

"The goal is to create an oral history" of the community, explains Brandon Lillard, a founding member of I Am Beacon who serves on its seven-member board and co-hosts two other podcasts. "I'm looking for the good stories and the bad ones. We want to provide the city's voice. I would love to talk to every person in Beacon."

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The Books of Love

Three authors to share readings on mysterious force

By Brian PJ Cronin

Joselin Linder had never thought to write about her family, although her history is compelling. Her father died of a disease caused by a genetic mutation that appears to be so rare it only appears in her family.

That was 10 years ago. Six other relatives had succumbed and Linder and her sister were showing early symptoms. She was working with Harvard researchers to understand it and other genetic diseases.

Yet when a friend suggested she should write about her experience, she was not convinced. "How is that interesting?" she said. "It's just my life."

Meanwhile, in Ireland, David Hicks was trying to turn years of published short stories into a collection. After hanging a synopsis of each story on the wall to look for connections, he realized those with autobiographical elements could form the arc of a novel.

The challenge was to make it interesting. "I'm a safe, nice guy who tries to do things for others," he said. "Nobody



Joselin Linder



David Hicks



Lauree Ostrofsky

wants to read that book."

As it happened, one of his former students, Lauree Ostrofsky, herself the author of a memoir and self-help book, was at the same time contemplating why her friends always ended up dating not-nice guys. "We all have those friends," she said. "It's shocking when you realize you're doing the same thing." Her forthcoming memoir will address the conflict.

All three authors will gather at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7, at the Oak Vino Wine Bar, 389 Main St., in Beacon, to read from their work in a program called Love Stories.

For Hicks, the breakthrough came

when he saw that, although his stories seemed part of a larger, familiar tale (a man leaving New York and his family to move west, then trying to reconnect with his children), there were gaps. He decided to write new stories to fill them, narrated in the first person by other characters. That allowed him to step outside the story of his own life.

"It wasn't pretty, attractive or reassuring," said Hicks. "It showed me that the disruption I caused in my life didn't just affect me, or even just me and my ex-wife and my kids. You see the ripple effect that divorce has."

Linder's book takes readers to the


cutting edge of genomic medicine as she and her family attempt to understand what is known as Linder's Disease. Its first symptom is a heart murmur, followed by lymphatic fluid leaking into the lungs, swelling and organ failure. *The Family Gene* is a personal window into what may be the next scientific revolution: Medicine tailored to our personal genetics.

"We're almost at the point where they're going to hand you your baby and your baby's genome," Linder says. "How we use that information, how we treat illness, is all about to change."

At the heart of the book is a touching story of afflicted family members who do all they can to save future generations. As Linder writes of her father, he was fighting for his own life, and hers.

The love that Linder's family shows for each other, the love that Hicks' protagonist has for his distant children, and Ostrofsky's memoir of looking for love in the wrong places is what fit the books together.

"All of our stories are about the many permutations of love in our lives, and how love can be both beautiful and brutal," Ostrofsky says. "And sometimes it can be both beautiful and brutal with the same people."



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Captain Underpants (PG)
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8:30, SUN 1:00 4:15 7:30
MON 7:30, TUE 1:00 4:15 7:30
WED & THU 7:30

Wonder Woman (PG13)
FRI 2:45 6:00 9:15, SAT 1:45 5:00
8:15, SUN 12:45 4:00 7:15
MON 7:15, TUE 12:45 4:00 7:15
WED & THU 7:15

**Pirates of the Caribbean:
Dead Men Tell No Tales (PG13)**
FRI 2:30 5:45 9:00, SAT 1:30 4:45
8:00, SUN 12:30 3:45 7:00
MON 7:00, TUE 12:30 3:45 7:00
WED & THU 7:00

His Girl Friday (1940, NR)
TUE 2:00 (Studio 6)


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The Calendar

Betting on the Classics

Prompted by a wager, playwright scores with Jane Austen

By Alison Rooney

It's almost like a scene from a Kate Hamill play, replete with one of her trademark sort-of-sure-of-herself heroines: a creative young woman wagers more than she can afford that, although she has no prior experience, she can write a theatrical adaptation of a much-admired literary classic written some two centuries earlier.

The wager was won. Hamill not only wrote an adaptation of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*, but a few years later finds herself much lauded and frequently produced in the genre of "new classic works."

Her latest, a retelling of Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, will be performed with Hamill in the lead at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, which has nurtured all of Hamill's full-length plays. Her adaptation of Thackeray's *Vanity Fair* recently concluded an extended run at the Pearl Theater in Manhattan.

The frustration behind the wager stemmed from Hamill's experience as an actress. Trained at Ithaca College, Hamill was dissatisfied with the roles available for young female actors, such (Continued on Page 12)



Kate Hamill (center) discusses her adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* at the first rehearsal in April for the HVSF production.

Photo by Ashley Garrett

Chasing Lumberjacks and their Songs

Deep in the woods, they sang nearly forgotten ballads

By Alison Rooney

In August 1919, a professor and "song-catcher" named Franz Rickaby set out to preserve the ballads sung by lumberjacks in the deep pine forests of northern Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. In 1926, months after he died at age 35, Rickaby's book *Pinery Boys: Songs and Songcatching in the Lumberjack Era*, was published by Harvard University Press.

Nearly a century later, the book has been reissued with a biographical essay by Gretchen Dykstra, a Cold Spring resident who is the founding president of the National 9/11 Memorial Foundation. She also happens to be Rickaby's granddaughter.

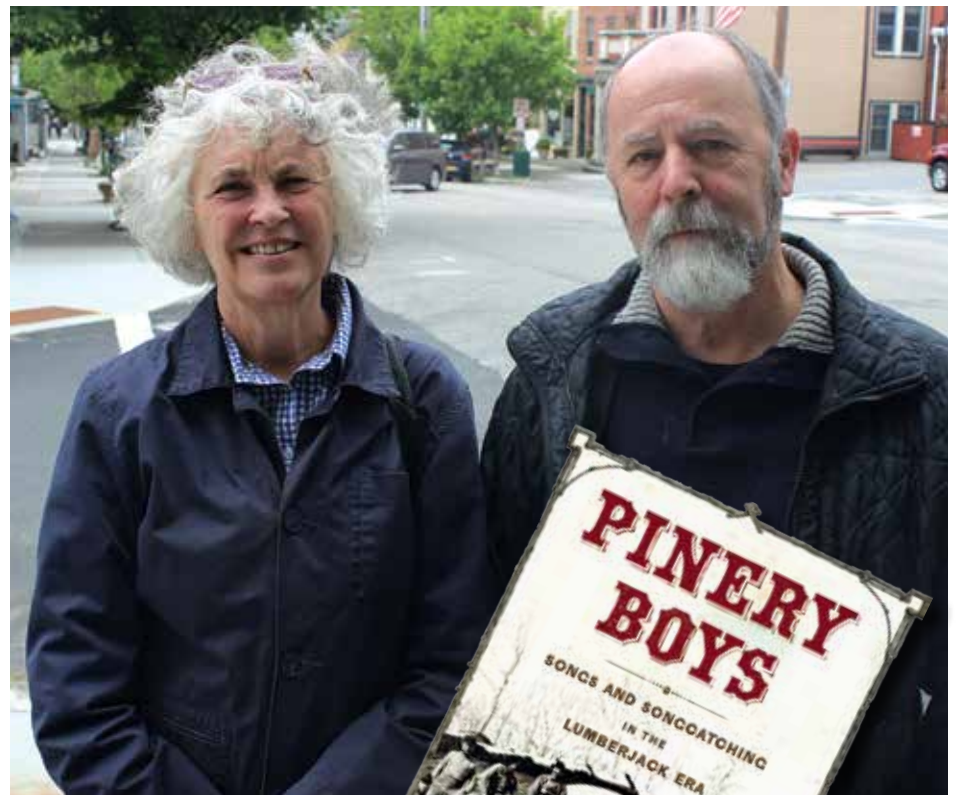
On Thursday, June 15, Dykstra will present a free program on American work songs at 7 p.m. at the Towne Crier Café in Beacon. She will be joined by



Franz Rickaby

historian and writer Steve Blamires of Beacon. Both are board members of the American Center for Folk Music, which is sponsoring the event. Reservations can be made at townecrier.com, and copies of *Pinery Boys* will be available for sale.

When he died, Dykstra's grandfather left behind a wife and 4-year-old son — her father. As a child, she knew her grandfather's history and had a copy of *Pinery Boys* "but never read it and certainly never read until recently the



Gretchen Dykstra and Steve Blamires

Photo by A. Rooney

many letters, poems, journals and articles he wrote that my grandmother kept in her old brown trunk," Dykstra writes in her essay. "They show his restless curiosity, something I saw in my father, which I inherited too."

The discovery of those papers inspired Dykstra to retrace his steps. "He was one of a handful of academics, amateur

(To Page 16)

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Carla Goldbert and Richard Cutrona (Opening)
6 – 9 p.m. Gallery 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

Lucille Tortora (Opening)
6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
121 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com

Phil Haber: *Two Medieval European Towns* (Opening)
6 – 9 p.m. Robert McCaffrey Real Estate
140 Main St., Cold Spring
845-249-2751 | mccaffreyrealty.com

Racing Dreams (2009) with Q&A (grades 6-8)
6:30 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaonlibrary.org

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court
7 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Dr., Cold Spring
haldaneschool.org

Anne of Green Gables
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

Brandon Ross and Stomu Takeishi (Acoustic)
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Towne Crier Café
7 p.m. Open Book Duo
8:30 p.m. Richard Barone and Elvis Perkins
379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

Snapping Turtle Walk
7:30 a.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Starlab Portable Planetarium
9 a.m. & 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. Boscobel
See details above.

Trough Workshop (First Session)
9 a.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

Soul Stroll: A Shabbat Walk in the Woods
9:30 a.m. Little Stony Point (Railroad Bridge)
3011 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-831-2012 | beaonhebrewalliance.org

Country Living Fair
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Dutchess County Fairgrounds
6550 Spring Brook Ave., Rhinebeck
countryliving.com

Grand Opening of Tilly's Table
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tilly Foster Farm
Route 312, Brewster
845-808-1840 | putnamtillyfoster.com

HHLT Take-A-Hike
10 a.m. Manitoga
584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3358 | hhl.org

Introduction to Babysitting (ages 10+)
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Reptiles and Amphibians Program for Kids
10 a.m. Beacon Institute
199 Main St., Beacon
845-838-1600 | bire.org

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com.

Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

Revolutionary-Era Blacksmithing
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com

Newburgh Illuminated Festival
Noon – 10 p.m. Broadway and Liberty
newburghilluminatedfestival.com

Peekskill Open Studios
Noon – 5 p.m. Various locations
peekskillartists.org/openstudios2017

Spring into Scouting
Noon – 4 p.m. South Avenue Park, Beacon

Backyard Pond and Lake Management
2 p.m. Putnam Valley Grange
128 Mill St. Putnam Valley
845-528-2565 | putnamvalleygrange.org

Ballet Arts Studio: *The Wonderful Dances of Oz*
2 & 6:30 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
845-473-2072 | balletartsstudio.com

Dinner and Conversation with Susan B. Anthony
4:30 p.m. Mount Gulian Historic Site
145 Sterling St., Beacon
845-831-8172 | mountgulian.org

HVSF Summer Gala
5 – 8 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | hvshakespeare.org

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court
7 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigside Dr., Cold Spring
haldaneschool.org

Judith Tulloch Band
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Mike DelGuidice & Big Shot: The Music of Billy Joel
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

The Britemores
9 p.m. Quinn's
330 Main St., Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinnnsbeacon.com

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

Country Living Fair
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Dutchess County Fairgrounds
See details under Saturday.

Big Truck Day
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Grand Opening of Tilly's Table
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Tilly Foster Farm
Route 312, Brewster
845-808-1840 | putnamtillyfoster.com

Peekskill Open Studios
Noon – 5 p.m. Various locations
peekskillartists.org/openstudios2017

Hervé Tullet Massive Workshop
1 – 4 p.m. Storm King Art Center
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

MONDAY, JUNE 5

Philipstown Soccer Club Tryouts
4 p.m. Philipstown Park, Garrison
Email daniellepackmccarthy@gmail.com

Yoga with a View
6 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Saturday.

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

Beacon School Board
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-838-6900 | beaoncityk12.org

TUESDAY, JUNE 6

Morning at the Museum (ages 2-5)
10 a.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

New Moms & Infants Group
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com for info.

Haldane School Board
6 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)
15 Craigside Dr., Cold Spring
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

Putnam County Legislature
7 p.m. Historic Courthouse
44 Gleneida Ave., Carmel
845-208-7800 | putnamcountyny.com

Board of Trustees
7:30 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Howland Library closes at 1 p.m. for carpet cleaning

8th Annual Juneteenth
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Garrison School Board
7 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Summer Movie Series: *Grease*
8 p.m. Visitors' Center
South Avenue and Main Street, Beacon
beaonchamberofcommerce.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

CCS Dutchess County Spirit of Service Awards
7 p.m. Villa Borghese | 70 Widmer Road,
Wappingers Falls | 845-452-1400
tcatholiccharities-dutchesscounty.org

HVSF: *Twelfth Night* (Preview)
7:30 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-265-3638 | hvshakespeare.org

Pianist Tomer Gewirtzman
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Jewish Pop Art
7:30 p.m. Center for Creative Arts
464 Main St., Beacon | mypardess.org/popart

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

Golf Outing to Benefit Haldane Football
10 a.m. Beekman Golf
11 Country Club Road, Hopewell Junction
Email coachmcconville@gmail.com

Putnam County Day
10 a.m. Historic Courthouse
44 Gleneida Ave., Carmel
845-808-1420 | putnamcountyny.gov

Family Campout
6 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
174 Muser Dr., Cornwall
845-534-5506 | hhn.org

Putnam Highlands Audubon Annual Meeting and Picnic
6 p.m. Hubbard Lodge, 2920 Route 9, Cold Spring
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Dragonfly Story Hour: A Story Siam for Adults
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Hear & Now: Artist Melissa McGill
7 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison | gufspta.org

Boomer Comedy Unlimited
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Saturday.

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Building Bridges

River camp has new director

By Michael Turton

Matt Kane hopes to direct a brisk new breeze into the sails of Building Bridges Building Boats this summer. The nonprofit camp, in its 16th year, provides Philipstown-area teenagers with a hands-on Hudson River experience while teaching life and water skills.

Kane, 42, will take the helm in July. The camp's founder and longtime executive director, David Hardy, will assist but is scaling back.

Although the camp until several years ago involved building boats – hence its name – it now focuses on getting students on the water. At the heart of each camp are two 26-foot “gig boats,” which have been part of the program since its inception and . Their history dates back at least 200 years.

“Gigs used to row out to ships coming into a harbor,” Kane explains. “The first boat to get there got the contract to unload.”

Today gigs are well suited to the camp because they offer stability whether being rowed or sailed. “They’re a floating classroom,” Kane says, where campers learn basic seamanship from navigation and knots to reading the weather, tides, currents and rescue. The camp also teaches judgment and leadership skills, he says.

The 12 campers in each of three week-long sessions are given the tools and assigned to solve problems. “That’s where the learning happens, by letting them do, touch and feel,” Kane says. This year participants will plan an overnight trip on the river, likely as part of the third and final camp, and Kane plans to introduce outrigger canoes, also known as “dragon boats,” to the program. He hopes to spread the camp’s influence up and down the river.

Kane has plenty of experience on the river. He spent eight years sailing at Shelter Island on Long Island, launched the Rye Nature Center’s Paddle Adventure Camp and is certified as an advanced kayaking instructor and Wilder-

ness Emergency Medical Technician. He also assists with the West Point Ski Patrol and is a member of the Cold Spring Fire Company and trained in rope rescues.

The camps, which take place the weeks of July 10, July 17 and July 24 and are based at Dockside Park in Cold Spring, are open to students entering sixth through 12th grades. The fee is

\$325 per week, and the registration deadline is July 1. See buildingboats.org or call 845-265-4290.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.



David Hardy and Matt Kane at Dockside Park in Cold Spring with a gig boat used during the camp

Photo by M. Turton

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Betting on the Classics (from Page 9)

as Bikini Girl No. 2 or the non-speaking girlfriend of a male artist.

"I loved the classics, but even in Shakespeare there are 16 male roles to every female," she says.

"Most contemporary playwrights are male and they tend to write from their perspective. I was seeing so many incredible female artists dropping out because there was no work.

"I decided I wanted to create new classic work, but not just for me — I wanted women-centered stories. So I bet a friend I could write an adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility*." The adaptation, produced by the Bedlam Theater Company, was a smash in Manhattan last year and is becoming a staple at regional theaters.

Until now, Hamill's plays have been presented by HVSF as staged readings, which the playwright says are an essential part of the process.

"Plays don't exist on the page for me, they exist on the stage," she says. "To have it put in front of people and see the reactions: laughing, coughing, where are they restless? — is integral to figuring out what works. I'm someone who likes to overwrite and cut down." Between a reading of *Pride and Prejudice* as part of

"Most contemporary playwrights are male and they tend to write from their perspective. I was seeing so many incredible female artists dropping out because there was no work."

the HVSF2 series in August and later at Seattle Rep, about 20 pages have been shed.

Later this summer, Hamill will again debut a work at HVSF2. She's leaving the drawing rooms and venturing out into the great wide world with an adaptation of

Homer's *The Odyssey*.

"It's crazy to take it on maybe, but it's important to hurl yourself against the



Kate Hamill

Photo provided



Kate Hamill in her adaptation of *Vanity Fair*

Photo by Russ Rowland

wall sometimes," she says. She particularly enjoys writing the exchanges of boatloads of sailors who sound like Americans. "It's an American play using American speech patterns," she explains. On the side, she's adapting *Little Women*.

Hamill considers her adaptations "a collaboration between me and the author. I'm determined to make it my own and put my own spin on it, because there's no reason for adaptations without a point of view."

With source material such as *Pride and Prejudice*, "people come in with an emotional attachment to the characters," she says. "That can be to your benefit, but you can also desecrate their idols. I try not to worry about it too much. I hope people will be pleasantly surprised and be willing to engage, realizing that the bones that we all love in the story are still there."

Growing up in a dairy farming town in the Finger Lakes, Hamill was a "sensitive, high energy child who didn't do well under normal schooling condi-

tions — I chafed," she recalls. Theater became an outlet, but her writing talent did not surface until after college.

"I read a lot but never thought of making my own work outside of skits, probably because I didn't see any examples around me," she says. "When I graduated, they told me 'Be prepared — you won't work until you're 30' because I wasn't the type of person who, when she walks into an audition, they just know what she's right for. I was little and character actress-y, and as a result I played a lot of animals and weirdos."

Though the time devoted to crafting plays has cut into her acting, Hamill says it's been well worth it. "It's rare enough as a woman to be produced, let alone to appear in your own work," she says.

Pride and Prejudice opens at Boscobel on June 10 and runs through Aug. 31. *The Odyssey* will be performed at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison on Friday, Aug. 11. For tickets, visit hvshakespeare.org.

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Sat., 6/3 8:30 p.m.
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Sun., 6/4 11:30 a.m.
East Coast Jazz - Free

Sun., 6/4 7:00 p.m.
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Wed., 6/7 7:00 p.m.
Terrapin Flyer
featuring Melvin Seals
Skeleton Keys

Thurs., 6/8 7:00 p.m.
Mike Hamel - Free

Fri., 6/9 7:00 p.m.
Jamie Hamburg - Free

Fri., 6/9 8:30 p.m.
Solar Sound - 4SM

Sat., 6/10 6:00 p.m.
The Costellos - Free

Sat., 6/10 8:30 p.m.
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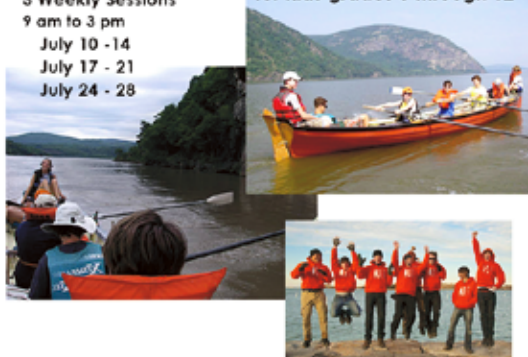
philipstowndepottheatre.org • Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com
Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)

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Moving Pictures

Beacon gallery creates eclectic connections

By Alison Rooney

A sign in the window of the Marion Royael Gallery on Main Street in Beacon promises “Directed Migrating Installations.”

Steve Riddle, who co-owns the gallery with his wife, Barbara, explains: “It’s *directed* because we determine the theme of the exhibit, *migrating* because some of the work changes during the exhibit — things go in and go out — and *installation*, well, that’s obvious.”

While a typical gallery might display an artist’s work for a month, Marion Royael (named for Barbara Riddle’s late mother) organizes shows quarterly. The couple has operated the gallery for eight years, first on one end of Main and now at the other. Working with a stable of about 25 artists, they fix on a broad theme — currently it’s *Human Kind, Inside Out* — and present it to contributors as a blank slate. Each artist submits a piece or pieces that usually are not seen by the gallery owners until they arrive



Steve and Barbara Riddle

Photo provided

and are unpacked.

The results are apparent. Here is a sculpture hanging from the ceiling, there is a slide projection encased in a light box, and everywhere there is art, much of it colorful, each piece distinct but under the same, slightly off-kilter, umbrella. Yet, taken together, the disparate works do seem to create a whole.

“We love it when artists take a chance. Sometimes they’re apologetic about it, but for us that’s always more important than making a sale. A sale is not your validation.”

“We consider the gallery one piece,” says Steve Riddle. “All of the artworks are players in the piece.” His wife adds that while some abstract pieces may not “look” like they fit, “we always talk to the artist about their connection to the theme so that we can explain it to our clients.”

The current exhibition, which has contributions from about a dozen artists,



Human Kind, Inside Out brings together disparate art to form “one piece.” Photo by A. Rooney

includes works by the gallery owners, who met in Medford, Oregon, while working for a service company which had clients with developmental disabilities for whom they began an art therapy program. Later, the Riddles hit the road, landing in St. Petersburg, Florida, where they rented space in what had been a supermarket and turned it into an art center.

They later moved to Warwick, New York, and were helping friends run a gallery in Port Jervis when they decided to strike out on their own. They scouted New Paltz, Kingston and Rhinebeck before discovering Beacon. When their first lease expired, the couple toyed with relocating to Manhattan, but instead headed west down Main. The new space includes a backyard garden used for outdoor installations.

Although there is, of course, a bottom line, the Riddles say they are more interested in having artists stretch their visions. “We love it when artists take a chance,” says Barbara. “Sometimes they’re apologetic about it, but for us that’s always more important than making a sale. A sale is not your validation.” No matter their individual styles, artists come together during shows. “We’re connected by this tiny critical mass of thinking,” she says. “Artists can be very much loners and this is a mass of thought, a connection.”

Marion Royael Gallery is located at 159 Main St. It is open Monday and Thursday from noon to 5 p.m. and Friday, Saturday and Sunday from noon to 7 p.m. See marionroyaalgallery.com.



Sculptures and paintings, among them the Tin Man and his heart, in *Human Kind, Inside Out*

Photos by A. Rooney

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Jazz vocalist Margaret McDuffie will perform on June 10. *Photo provided*

Jazz in June

Margaret McDuffie to perform in P.V.

Vocalist Margaret McDuffie and her band will perform a jazz concert at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, at the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley.

McDuffie will be joined by Steve Raleigh on guitar, T. Xiques on drums and Jim Curtin on bass. Tickets are \$15 at brownpapertickets.com/event/2969615. The cultural center is located at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road.

Large-Scale Painting

Illustrator to lead project at Storm King

Author and illustrator Hervé Tullet will lead a collaborative, large-scale painting project in the fields at the Storm King Art Center in New Windsor at 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 4. He will also read from his books and lead an interactive workshop. Tickets are required and include admission to Storm King. Schedule time for parking as the event begins promptly. See stormking.org.

Saved by a Child

Musical stars 150 children

Arts 10566, based in Peekskill, will present *Saved by a Child*, by Amos Smith, at the Paramount Hudson Valley at 7 p.m. on June 8. The performance features more than 150 of its students as well as 20 students from Peekskill High School who served as tech crew.

The show is free, but donations are welcome. See arts10566.org.

Blue Bags at Bear Mountain

Volunteers needed for recycling program

Bear Mountain State Park is recruiting volunteers to distribute blue bags to park visitors to collect recyclables on weekends and holidays. The program continues through September. For information, contact Matthew Shook at shookm@pipc.org or 845-786-2701, ext. 252.

Camp Under a Full Moon

Museum to hold annual family event

At 6 p.m. on Friday, June 9, the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum in Cornwall will host its annual Family Campout at the Outdoor Discovery Center on Muser Drive across from 174 Angola Road. Bring a tent and sleeping bags and museum staff will share all you need to know to camp on your own, from making reservations to starting a fire.

A light breakfast will be provided on Saturday morning. Paid reservations are required. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$12 per children ages 3 and older. (Museum members are \$18 and \$9.) See hnhm.org or call 845-534-5506, ext. 204. The rain date is June 10.

Beacon

Summer Sports

Beacon Rec organizes camps for kids

The Beacon Recreation Department is accepting registrations until July 7 for its summer sports camps. Its multi-sport camp, which takes place the weeks of July 10 and July 31 at Memorial Park and Rombout Middle School, runs from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and is open to students entering grades four to eight. The cost is \$100 per week for Beacon residents and \$125 per week for non-residents. Students should bring snacks and water jugs each day.

The rec department's tennis clinic will run the weeks of June 26 and July 10. High school players participate from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. each day, while students ages 8 and older have the courts from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Registration is \$60 per week for Beacon residents and \$75 per week for



BANNERMAN BRIDGE — Beacon Mayor Randy Casale, at left, is shown with other officials and West Point cadets on May 25 at the opening of a new trail bridge on Bannerman's Island. It was built by the United States Military Academy's Class of 2017 engineers. Tours take place on Bannerman on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through October. See bannermancastle.org.

Photo provided

non-residents. The deadline is June 23. To register, visit cityofbeacon.org.

Scrap Metal Drive

Boy Scouts collecting in Fishkill

Boy Scout Troop 65 of Fishkill will be collecting scrap metal from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, and Sunday, June 11, at the Hudson Valley Towne Center parking lot at the intersection of West Merritt Boulevard and Route 9 in Fishkill.

The troop will accept copper, aluminum, steel tubs, sinks, cast-iron, siding, gutters, metal furniture, tools, gas grills, swing sets, screening, electrical wire, bicycles, car batteries and appliances. For larger items such as cars and boats, call Ted Sziklas at 845-264-1096.

Motorcycle Museum Passes

Free admission to Newburgh museum

The Howland Library in Beacon has passes to the Motorcyclepedia Museum in Newburgh available for check-out by any adult with a library card. The passes provide free admission for two adults or one adult and one child (children ages 3 or younger are free). The museum has more than 450 motorcycles on display, along with photographs, posters, memo-

rabia and machinery. For details see beaconlibrary.org.

Free Summer Movies

Will be shown each Wednesday

The Beacon Chamber of Commerce will again present free movies each Wednesday at dusk (about 8 p.m.) over the summer outside the Visitors' Center at South Avenue and Main Street.

The first film, *Grease*, with John Travolta, will be screened on June 7, followed by *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, with Gene Wilder (June 14), *Sherlock Holmes*, with Robert Downey Jr. (June 21), *Cheaper by the Dozen*, with Steve Martin (June 28), *The Time of Our Lives*, with Abbott and Costello (July 5), *Asphalt Jungle* (July 12), *Despicable Me* (July 19), *Clue* (July 26), *Blind Side* (Aug. 2), *The Princess Bride* (Aug. 9), *Spiderman* (Aug. 16), *The Intern* (Aug. 23) and *The Phantom of the Opera*, the musical (Aug. 30).

Abstract Exhibit at Cultural Center

Metamorphosis opens June 3

The Howland Cultural Center will open *Metamorphosis*, an exhibit of abstract work by Basha Maryanska and Kathryn Hart, with a reception from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 3. The show will remain on view from 1 to 5 p.m. from Friday to Monday through July 30.

Following the reception, Judith Tulloch and her band will play jazz and rock music as part of the center's cabaret series. Tickets may be purchased at the door. The cultural center is located at 477 Main St.



The Motorcyclepedia's collection of Indian motorcycles in Newburgh may be the world's largest.

File photo by Michael Turton

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



With a Friend on the Water, by Tom Conroy, left, and *Man on Bear Mountain*, by Carl Gutowski, are two of the photos that will be on display at the Howland Library beginning June 10.

Images provided



The Detroit band The Britemores will perform at Quinn's in Beacon on June 3.

Beacon Photographers on Earth

Annual exhibit opens at library June 10

The Howland Library will open *Here on Planet Earth*, the fifth annual exhibit of works by members of the Beacon Photography Group, with a reception on Second Saturday, June 10, from 5 to 7 p.m. It will remain on view through July 2.

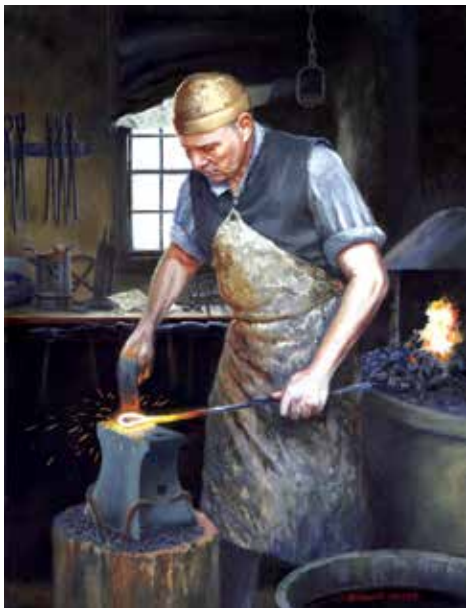
Curated by Tom Conroy, Jean Noack and Jon Slackman, the show explores photographers' visions of humans' relationship with earth. The Beacon Photography Group was created in 2013 by Conroy and Michael Bogdanffy-Kriegh and has more than 300 members (see facebook.com/groups/beaconphotogroup). The Howland Library is located at 313 Main St.

Ready! Aim! Fire!

Revolutionary history on display

Re-enactors from the 4th Connecticut Regiment will be at Washington's Headquarters in Newburgh from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 3, to perform musket drills, military demonstrations, and answer questions about a soldier's life in the Continental army. (The site will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

At the Fort Montgomery Historic Site in Fort Montgomery, demonstrations of



Master blacksmiths will forge nails and hooks at Fort Montgomery on June 3.

Image provided

Revolutionary-era blacksmithing will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 3. Master blacksmiths will forge nails and hooks and explain the role of the craft in the war effort.

Fort Montgomery will also host a program on Saturday, June 10, at 8:30 a.m. on "birding by ear" in which field biologist Kirstie Fanning will explain how to identify common birds by their calls.

Walkway Fireworks Tickets on Sale

Available online for \$12.50 each

Tickets to watch the City of Poughkeepsie fireworks on July 4 from the Walkway Over the Hudson are on sale for \$12.50 each at walkway.org. Children ages 10 and younger are admitted free but tickets are still required. The event typically sells out. No dogs or bicycles are allowed.



NEW DIGS — The Beacon Recreation Department last month opened a new playground outside its 23 W. Center St. offices.

Photo provided

Gallery 66NY Opens Exhibits



Works by Richard Cutrona, left, and Carla Goldberg, above, will be on display at Gallery 66 NY in Cold Spring beginning June 2.

Images provided

Beacon Third-Graders to Perform

Calico Ball scheduled for June 8

Third-grade students from Beacon's elementary schools will perform their annual Calico Ball at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 8, at Beacon High School.

This 28th annual performance is a multicultural celebration of dance and music. Each third-grade class performs a dance routine from a different country and culture. As in past years, the students have been taught by musicians and dancers

from the nonprofit Vanaver Caravan, based in New Paltz. This year students will close the program by performing with folksinger and songwriter Tom Chapin.

RSVP to Karen Kellogg at 845-838-6900 or kellogg.k@beaconk12.org.

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Chasing Lumberjacks and their Songs *(from Page 9)*



Michigan lumberjacks prepare to move a load.

Library of Congress

folklorists and adventurers intent on preserving the ballads that told in music and words the stories of the people who shaped America," she writes. By retracing his journey, "I was able to piece together what motivated him — including, I believe, his own poor health and his desire to preserve the lives of other people who were dying, too."

She adds: "My grandfather knew time

was short and the lumberjacks were disappearing rapidly. He spent four years chasing and trying to find people who remembered the songs. I had phones and internet to guide me — he had postage and branch rail lines and, in the end, rheumatic fever."

Some of Blamire's work involves taking people to hear music in the places it was created, frequently the northern

Scottish isles, where he grew up. "I speak Gaelic so I knew what the songs meant and am familiar with many of the places mentioned, going back to 12th-century ballads about people who actually existed," he says. "With work songs, generally they've been created by people to maintain a rhythm or to sing about their work." Often they were sung by people who were isolated: cowboys, slaves, miners, textile workers, sailors. They were a challenge to preserve because the people who sung them "were

not living in communities where songs could be easily passed down."

"With work songs, generally they've been created by people to maintain a rhythm or to sing about their work."

Lumberjacks were an embodiment of this, Dykstra explains. "They were not a racially diverse group, but they were ethnically diverse," she says. "Working in the forest, with cold winters, inspired camaraderie, and lumberjacks looked for those who had strong voices to join them. Cooks and singers were treasured because they could keep them warm. These are the stories of a particular place."

M. Kelly Painting Returns Home

Purchased at auction for history museum

On May 21, Christopher Radko and Seamus Carroll purchased at auction for \$1,850 a painting by the late Hudson River painter Michael Kelly. It depicts a community gathering outside the building that is now the Putnam History Museum: a tag sale at the former West Point Foundry School on Memorial Day 1961 (note the U.S. flag at half-mast). The sale was held to raise money for renovations after the historical society bought the building.

Kelly studied at The Art Students League of New York in the 1930s, and he and his wife, Rosa, opened the first antique shop in Cold Spring in 1950. "It was the prettiest village that ever was," Rosa Kelly once told *The New York Times*. "My husband could stand on any corner and paint a picture."

Preston Pittman and the museum also contributed funds for the painting, which Radko and Carroll presented to the museum's executive director, Mindy Krazmien, on May 24. It had been in a private collection.



Christopher Radko, Mindy Krazmien and Seamus Carroll with the Kelly painting outside the Putnam History Museum in Cold Spring

Photo provided

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Small, Good Things

Oh, Sweet Pea

By Joe Dizney

There are some recipes that just hit you like you've known them your whole life. This week's is one of those.

Its author, Ronni Lundy, is a national treasure. Her most recent cookbook is *Victuals: An Appalachian Journey, with Recipes*. Please pronounce it correctly: *vidls, viddles* or *vittles*. (Despite its hillbilly connotations, this is the Queen's English.) Lundy makes the case for the Appalachian South's rightful claim to spiritual and historical archetype of the farm-to-table movement.

After spending months staring in wonder at this particular recipe in *Victuals*, waiting for spring peas to appear, I finally prepared it — as Lundy suggests — with frozen peas. Now I'm kicking myself for waiting so long.

Ronni Lundy's English Pea Salad with Radishes and Cream Dressing

Serves 4

¼ cup heavy cream

½ teaspoon apple cider vinegar

¼ teaspoon honey

2 cups fresh or frozen peas

½ cup thinly sliced radishes

¼ cup minced green onions

1. About an hour before assembling the salad, combine the cream, vinegar, honey and a couple pinches of salt in a small lidded jar and shake for about a minute. Let stand at room temperature.
2. Bring 3 cups of water to a boil in a saucepan large enough to hold the peas. Boil peas uncovered for 1-to-2 minutes, drain and rinse immediately with cold water. Drain thoroughly and pat dry.
3. Toss the peas, sliced radishes and chopped green onions in a medium-sized bowl. Add the by now-thickened dressing (using a rubber spatula to get it all from the jar) and toss or stir lightly to coat. Add a healthy grinding of black or white pepper and more salt if desired. Chill for a half hour before serving.

Fresh English peas (also known as garden peas, green peas or shell peas) have a short season and must be consumed quickly as their sugars are rapidly converted to starch soon after picking. As a result, only 5 percent of the market crop is consumed fresh, with the rest canned, dried or frozen.

The English moniker likely dates from the 17th century and Thomas Jefferson grew at least 15 cultivars on his Monticello estate. At Jefferson's prodding, George Washington planted peas at Mount Vernon and developed such a taste for them that one Tory assassination plot involved poisoning his new favorite food.

There is another charming anecdote concerning an annual contest Jefferson held with neighboring farmers to honor the earliest sprouted peas. The winner would host a celebratory dinner for the group. Jefferson's grandson recalled that

"a wealthy neighbor, George Divers, without children, and fond of horticulture, generally triumphed." Yet,



Ronni Lundy's English Pea Salad

Photo by J. Dizney

on one occasion, Jefferson produced first, and when his family reminded him it was his right to invite the company, he replied, "No, say nothing about it, it will be more agreeable to our friend to think that he never fails." Ever the statesman.

Given that history, it's no surprise that the Scots-Irish (or Ulster Scots) who comprised 90 percent of the earliest Appalachian settlers also embraced the English pea.

The photo in *Victuals* that accompanies this week's recipe shows a bowl of peas tossed with sliced radishes and a sprinkling of sliced green onions dressed in a

dressing of heavy cream, apple cider vinegar and honey. There's a strange, Harold McGeeish, kitchen-science thing that happens when you shake three simple ingredients in a jar for a minute and let them sit, unrefrigerated, for an hour. The result is closer to crème fraîche, with a hint of sweetness.

By all means, wait for freshly picked peas if you must, but made with quality organic peas frozen at the peak of freshness, the result is beyond easy and honestly just as good — maybe better, because you can make it year-round.

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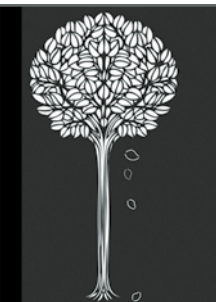


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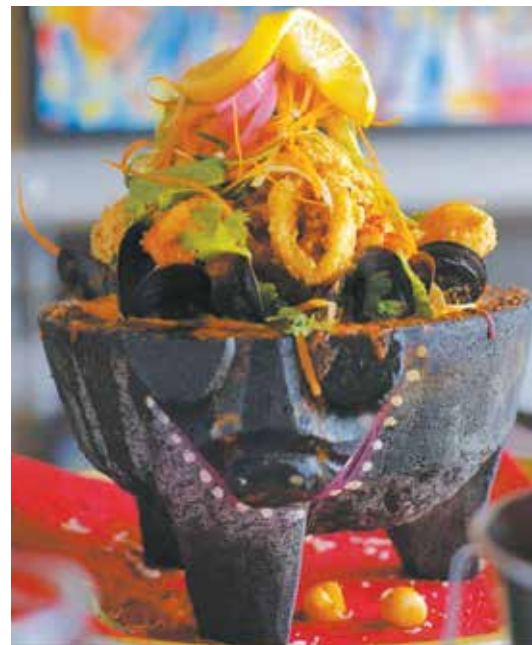
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Sports



TEAM OF THE WEEK — Sophomore Ashley Haines, sophomore Maura Kane-Seitz, freshman Taylor Farrell and seventh-grader Ella Ashburn won second place in the 4x800-meter relay at the Section 1, Class C Championships on May 26, finishing in 10:45.55. Haines, Kane-Seitz, Farrell and Heather Winne set a school record in the event at the Northern County Championships on May 19 in 10:14.93. *Photo by Michael Haines*

Coaches and Parents

We welcome your contributions of scores, highlights and photos.

Email sports@highlandscurrent.com

Varsity Track Results

Haldane @ Section 1, Class C Championships: Top three finishers

Girls
100-meter hurdles
3. Abbey Stowell (16.51)
4x800-meter relay
2. Haldane (10:45.55)
Long jump
1. Abbey Stowell (16-06.25)
3. Michaela Khadabux (14-11.00)

Shotput
2. Abbey Stowell (31-00.00)
3. Catherine Parr (26-07.25)

Boys
800-meter run
2. Adam Silhavy (2:01.88)
1,600-meter run
3. Nicholas Farrell (4:33.80)

3,000-meter steeplechase
2. Adam Silhavy (10:14.00)
3. Nicholas Farrell (10:18.00)

Beacon @ Section 1, Class B Championships: Top three finishers

Girls
High jump
1. Jummie Akinwunmi (5-02.00)

Long jump
3. Jummie Akinwunmi (16-01.00)

Triple jump
1. Jummie Akinwunmi (36-11.50)

Pole vault
1. Anna Manente (9-00.00)

Boys
110-meter hurdles
1. Ethan Burgos (16.28)

Triple jump
2. Richard Kish (40-03.00)

Shotput
3. Xavier Collins (26-08.00)

Fast Time Relays @ Warwick Top 10 finishers

High jump
1. Jummie Akinwunmi, Beacon (5-04.00)
Shotput
7. Catherine Parr, Haldane (25-05.75)

James O'Neill @ Section 9, Class C Championships

Garrison residents
Girls' 400-meter hurdles
3. Anna Northup (1:10.19)

Boys' 100-meter dash
4. Ethan Penner (11.84)

Boys' 200-meter dash
6. Ethan Penner (24.16)

Boys' 1,500-meter run
2. Shawn Sharifi (4:57.51)

High jump
5. Hudson Heckert (5-7.75)

Pentathlon
4. Hudson Heckert (2,121)

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Sports

Haldane Softball Wins Sectional Title *Upsets Pawling, 3-2; faced Pine Plains June 1*

The Haldane varsity softball squad, seeded No. 3 among Section 1, Class C teams, upset top-seeded Pawling, 3-2, on May 26, in the state tournament. The Blue Devils (15-8) were scheduled to play Section 9 champion Pine Plains on June 1 at North Rockland High School. If victorious, they were to play at 4 p.m. on June 3, again at North Rockland, against either Southold or East Rockaway.

Photos by Scott Warren



Hannah Monteleone prepares to catch a pop-up for the final out in Haldane's win.



The Blue Devils varsity softball team and past players with the Section 1, Class C plaque



Catcher Mollie Siegel tags out a Pawling runner at the plate.



Rightfielder Morgan Hotaling races for a catch.



A Pawling runner is a half step behind the throw to Haldane's Jasmine Odell at first.



Abigail Platt snags a line drive while shortstop Hannah Monteleone motions for her to throw to first, where a Pawling runner had jumped off base. She did and threw the runner out.



Coach Nick Lisikatos waits with his team to receive their Section 1, Class C medals.

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Marco Bagnoli
Domenico Bianchi
Alighiero Boetti
Pier Paolo Calzolari
Luciano Fabro
Jannis Kounellis
Mario Merz
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