

The HIGHLANDS Current



Back from the Dead
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SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

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

Wappingers Falls Disbands Police

Consolidation with sheriff could save \$582K

By Chip Rowe



The Wappingers Falls Village Board of Trustees voted 5 to 1 on Aug. 30 to disband its police department and enter into a shared-services plan with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office.

The move is part of a larger initiative, ordered by the state of New York, compelling counties to consolidate services. County executives have a Sept. 15 deadline to submit their plans.

A draft of the Dutchess County plan outlines 37 projects, including the Wappingers Falls-Sheriff's Office deal, that it projects would save taxpayers an estimated \$15 million in 2018 and \$12.5 million annually thereafter, saving each homeowner about \$118 annually in property taxes.

Disbanding the Wappingers Falls department and creating a smaller force of full-time officers is expected to save the village \$582,000 annually, with the police budget dropping from \$1.49 million to \$906,000. The *(Continued on Page 3)*



Main Street, Cold Spring

Photo by June Marie Sobrito

Too Many Visitors, or Not Enough?

Main Street merchants share concerns with county

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Shortly before the busy Labor Day weekend, consultants dispatched by Putnam County asked Main Street merchants to describe the positives and negatives of doing business in Cold Spring

and Nelsonville.

The event, held at the Cold Spring firehouse on Aug. 30 and organized by Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress, a nonprofit think tank based in Newburgh, drew about 40 attendees, including Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy.

Pattern for Progress is surveying businesses in nine commercial corridors as part of a study commissioned to inform county initiatives and grant applications.

"Let's think about all the good stuff and bad stuff," Joseph Czajka, senior vice president for Pattern for Progress, asked participants. Everyone obliged.

The challenge of tourism

Much of the discussion involved tourism. Comments ranged from "tourism consumes our infrastructure well beyond our ability and sales to pay for it" to "tourism is not a problem, it's a solution" to "we need to embrace it" to "Beacon is killing us; they welcome people with open arms."

Greg Miller, co-owner of Go Go Pops in Cold Spring, said "for us on Main Street, tourism is a great thing" because it provides a living. But he said some residents contend the number of visitors makes it difficult to stroll down Main Street.

Besides tourism, other positives cited by participants, in random order, included:

- The Hudson River, mountains and scenery;
- Strong property values;
- Talent and creativity in the arts, entrepreneurship and services;
- A strong sense *(Continued on Page 7)*

Two Primaries in Beacon

Results won't change who's on ballot, only where

By Jeff Simms

Beacon residents who are registered Democrats will vote in two primaries on Tuesday, Sept. 12, although the results will not keep anyone running for the Beacon City Council off the November ballot.

In the race for two at-large council seats, voters will choose between three Democratic candidates — Lee Kyriacou, George Mansfield and Ali Muhammad — to determine which two will appear on the Democratic line in the Nov. 7 election. But all three have also filed petitions to appear on other lines, either as independents or representing other parties.

In the 16th district of the Dutchess County Legislature, which includes parts of Beacon, Ved Shrivah and Frits Zernike are vying for the Democratic candidacy.

Zernike is a Beacon resident who served on Transit Oriented Development committees under Mayors Steve Gold and Randy Casale. Regardless of the outcome, he will appear on the November ballot on the Women's Equality and Working Families party lines. Shrivah, a Fishkill resident and the former president of the Wappingers Board of Education, filed only as a Democrat.

(Placing a candidate on multiple lines on the ballot, representing various parties or as an independent, is known as "fusion voting." The belief is that this will translate into more votes, because while one may never vote for a Democrat or Republican, who can be against women's equality or working families? Some have called for a law that would require candidates to choose one party, to reduce confusion at the ballot box.)

Paul Yeaple, the Green Party candidate for the Ward 1 council seat in Beacon, will also be on the primary ballot, but he is uncontested for his party's line. Other than the Democrats and Green Party, no other party has a primary in Beacon.

Kyriacou and Mansfield are the incumbent at-large council members, while Muhammad represents Ward 4 but is leaving that seat to run for an at-large position. Kyriacou and Mansfield both filed petitions for the Working Families and Beacon United parties, and Muhammad filed as an independent candidate, so all three will appear on the November ballot to face Republican newcomer Amando Downer.

(Continued on Page 3)



TEST RUN — Members of the Class of 2030 practiced riding the bus during kindergarten orientation at Haldane Elementary School on Sept. 1. The 35 students also enjoyed frozen treats donated by Go Go Pops.

Photo provided

5 Five Questions: CHRISTINE KAUFMANN AND EILEEN LAHEY

By Alison Rooney

Christine Kaufmann and Eileen Lahey have worked together behind the counter at The Main Course in Cold Spring for the past decade.

Can you tell in advance what someone is going to order?

Eileen: Most of our customers come in here all the time, so we don't even bother to ask.

Christine: If we don't know, I know the questions to ask to help them figure it out. We have a lady who arranged for her physical therapy to be done in Cold Spring just so she could stop here.

What scone do you wish more people would try?

Eileen and Christine (in unison): Key lime ginger!

Christine: Also, the raisin pecan. People don't know it because we don't have it that often. Those two, definitely.

What's the longest anyone has taken to order?

Eileen: It can go 10 minutes.

Christine: It's because our entrées and sides change each day. We hear a lot of "You gotta give me a minute."



Eileen Lahey (at left) and Christine Kaufman

Photo by A. Rooney

How do you stay sane, working so closely and on your feet all day?

Christine: You learn the dance.

Eileen: You come to know each other. And we have good shoes: I wear Keens and she wears Columbia. Plus, we have padded mats.

What's the oddest question you've been asked?

Eileen: I use the word *hence* a lot, as in, "Yes, there's chicken in it, hence the name Chicken Caesar."

Christine: Some of the questions are ... [trails off]. But we don't shame people. We just bring things to their attention.

Hudson Valley Job Stats

Report finds stability since 2011

The Hudson Valley, Albany region and Long Island have the highest "labor participation" rates in the state, all over 60 percent, according to a report released on Sept. 4 by the state comptroller.

The rate measures the percentage of people age 16 and older who are employed among those who potentially could be in the labor force. The other 40 percent includes, for example, students, retirees, stay-at-home parents or caregivers, people with disabilities and the long-term unemployed.

The unemployment rate dropped in all 10 regions of the state over the past five years. But only four — the Hudson Valley, Long Island, New York City and the Albany region — saw increases of more than 2 percent in the number of people employed.

By contrast, in much of upstate New York, noted Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, the lower unemployment rate has not translated to more people working because the size of the labor force fell at the same time. This happens, he said, when people move to other parts of the state, leave the state or drop out of the workforce because of retirement, school or family reasons.

The Southern Tier, for example, which includes the counties west of the Catskills along the northern border of Pennsylvania, lost nearly 27,000 workers in the past five years, or more than 8 percent of its labor force. The size of the labor force in the Hudson Valley has remained essentially unchanged.

The report also notes that the number of workers in New York aged 65 and older rose by 26 percent over the past five years, and that nearly 24 percent of workers in the state are members of unions, more than double the national figure.

**Primary Sept. 12
Vote:**

**City Council
At Large:**
Lee Kyriacou
George Mansfield

**County Legislature
Dist. 16**
Frits Zernike

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Committee & Working Families
Party

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Wappingers Falls Disbands Police *(from Page 1)*

move would take place in January, although opponents have until Sept. 29 to gather enough signatures from registered voters in the village to put the issue on the November ballot.

To encourage counties to consolidate services, the state has promised to match, with grants, any savings achieved through consolidation. In the case of Wappingers Falls, for example, Dutchess County could receive a matching grant of \$582,000.

Wappingers Falls has 27 part-time and one full-time officer, as well as dispatchers and a part-time commissioner. As part of the shared-services agreement, the sheriff's office would provide two fulltime patrol officers from 8 a.m. to midnight and one officer from midnight to 8 a.m. It also would relocate its Zone 4 office from the Hudson Valley Regional Airport to the village.

As the Aug. 30 board meeting ended, an

officer yelled: "Thanks for laying us off!" Members of the Wappingers Falls force have established a website to gather support to save the department, arguing the board wants to hand control to "outsiders."

If the plan takes effect, Wappinger Falls would join a list of 12 towns and three villages that have contracted with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office to provide police services, including Pawling, Rhinebeck and Wappinger.

Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress, based in Newburgh, recently completed a study for Dutchess County that evaluated whether Beacon and the village and town of Fishkill could consolidate their police departments. A plan to consolidate Beacon's three firehouses is included among the 37 projects proposed by the county, with a projected annual savings of \$135,000 beginning in 2019.



The Wappingers Falls Police Department could be disbanded in January unless opponents can get the measure on the November ballot.

Photo provided

Proposed Consolidations

Dutchess County has proposed 37 projects to consolidate services. This list includes those that would involve Beacon, and the projected total savings in 2018 for the county and municipalities involved.

- Road salt bulk order (\$608,132)
- Street paving materials bulk order (\$200,121)
- Highway equipment rental (\$27,685)
- Electronic communications and outreach (\$229,071)
- Microsoft 365 administration (\$9,887)
- Website administration (\$83,465)
- Public safety software (\$98,700)
- Worker's compensation insurance pool (\$3.74 million)
- Police drug task force (\$3.5 million)
- Police crisis intervention training (\$106,500)
- Sports field infield mix bulk order (\$14,500)
- Sports field permanent lines (\$168,240)

Two Primaries in Beacon *(from Page 1)*

As happened with his Democratic petitions, members of the Beacon Democratic Committee (Kyriacou, Mary Gault and Prue Posner) filed general challenges to independent petitions gathered by Muhammad for himself, Yeaple, incumbent Omar Harper in Ward 2, Darrell Williams in Ward 4 and incumbent county legislators Jerry Landisi and John Forman.

Pam Wetherbee, a current council member and chair of the Democratic Committee, also filed initial objections to independent petitions filed by Ward 3 candidate Andrew Gauzza III for himself, Landisi and Downer, claiming they did not include enough signatures.

However, none of the objectors followed up with specifics for the Dutchess County Board of Elections to review.

Development positions

The three City Council at-large candidates were asked to identify the city's

most pressing issue.

Kyriacou, an eight-term council veteran, says that "Beacon's popularity puts us in the driver's seat for controlling development — if we're willing to do the homework."

"The huge range of quality among the first major development projects makes it clear that Beacon needs not just a development moratorium, but more importantly specific changes in the details and execution of our zoning," he said. "To jump-start the community discussion, I have made an extensive, detailed set of proposals — to limit Main Street maximum height/size, to encourage job creation, to expand historic protections and Greenway trails, and to support our planning/zoning boards to insist on what we want. The council has already begun deliberating on these proposals even before a moratorium is in place."

Mansfield, a *(Continued on Page 8)*

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cell tower proposal

I would say "well done" to Chairman William Rice and each member of the Nelsonville Zoning Board of Appeals for their work on the cell phone tower proposed for a location near the Cold Spring Cemetery ("Nelsonville Residents Object to Cell Tower Plan," Sept. 1).

The board members came to the hearing prepared, they asked good questions and were respectful to members of the public as well as the applicant's representatives. In short, I saw volunteers acting as true professionals in a low-key, neighborly manner.

Donald MacDonald, *Cold Spring*

I cannot stand the thought of an unsightly ugly cell tower within eyeshot of our cemetery. The Church on the Hill would be very open to housing the tower in our steeple if it would not compromise the structure itself. There is plenty

of room up there and if our neighbors are agreeable to this idea it's fine with us. Anything to help our community. Please help get the word out.

The Rev. Tim Greco, *Garrison*

Anyone interested in supporting efforts to find an alternative location for the proposed cell tower should join us at facebook.com/groups/SaveCSCemetery.

Jeff Rossi, *Philipstown*

Erasing Lee

What is the point of the request by U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney to only rename Lee Barracks at West Point because it honors Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee? ("Maloney Asks Army to Rename Lee Barracks," Sept. 1). As the story notes, there are two portraits of Lee on campus, but there is also Lee Road and Lee Gate and a Lee Award for the graduating cadet with the highest grade in the core math curriculum.



Should those be removed or renamed? There are also nine Army posts named for Confederate generals, including Fort Lee in Virginia.

Chris Jenks, *Dallas*

The writer is a law professor and West Point graduate.

People are going to lose their health-care, and *this* is important?

Timothy Doherty, *Highlands Falls*

Editor's note: Maloney and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) are not alone in their desire to remove Lee's name from public buildings. The Diversity and Inclusion Council at SUNY New Paltz is reviewing whether to rename residence halls named for Huguenot families who settled the area but who owned slaves. Four state lawmakers also asked that Lee and Jackson streets at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn be renamed, but the Army refused, saying the names honor the Confederate generals as individuals "in the spirit of reconciliation," and not "any particular cause or ideology."

Managing growth

Councilmen-at-Large Lee Kyriacou and George Mansfield have proposed the most sound, informed and sensible outline to manage growth in Beacon.

Their draft proposals for zoning and planning changes outline six development goals which will help steer development in a positive way. The awareness that Beacon's desirability as a real-estate investment destination should be leveraged to assure that community development is given equal weight when negotiating with developers is an important strategy in developing zoning policy.

After seeing what it looks like firsthand, I especially agree with the elimination of five-story zoning in the downtown area. The view of Mount Beacon is obscured for
(Continued on next page)

Taking it to the Street By Sheila Williams

How many times a day do you check your phone?



"Probably 30 to 50 times. I think it annoys my friends that I don't check it more, but it feels good to focus on other things."

~ Brian Tormey, *Garrison*



"I try to check only three to four times, but it's always more."

~ Lily Zal, *Cold Spring*



"24/7. I use it for everything."

~ Shazeek Smith, *Beacon*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (from previous page)

two blocks west of the new building going up on Eliza Street. Why do people move to Beacon if not for the views of our beautiful Hudson Valley?

More important is the observation by Kyriacou and Mansfield that the building moratorium should address more than the water issue. A city growing as fast as Beacon should have a long-range plan with a strong zoning board and regulations. Additionally, they recognize that redevelopment should focus on job creation as well as residential development.

Beacon's economic future will be much stronger if there is a mixed economy with readily available jobs other than those in the service industry, which seems to be the engine of growth at the moment. We can't depend solely on tourism.

William Sciambi, *Beacon*

As a Main Street property and business owner who served on the Main Street Linkage Committee to rezone our business district, I feel the need to weigh in on the Democratic primary.

First, a little history: When we began the process of rezoning, the world was barely recovering from the great recession. Beacon development was moving slowly in the right direction but we felt we needed a one-year moratorium to rezone properly. Our goals were to craft laws that would encourage

density in the middle of Main Street and the train station while enhancing walkability of our city, increasing housing availability and discouraging sprawl.

What we did not foresee is that all this development would happen at once. Right now we have many good and some not-so-good projects in the construction phase and more awaiting approval from planning and zoning. I believe it is time to pause, reflect on what we did right and what we did wrong, and to respond intelligently. Mansfield and Kyriacou are the candidates for the Beacon City Council whom I believe can work to craft that intelligent response. Please vote for them on Sept. 12.

John Gilvey, *Beacon*

Gilvey is a co-owner of Hudson Beach Glass.

Is there an electricity shortage?

There is a misconception/myth/lie about our electricity.

New York State is part of a vast power region that extends from Ontario to Virginia and from Maine to Ohio. Electricity generated anywhere in the region is available to virtually any user in the region. Blackouts have been caused by transmission difficulties, not by lack of power.

The Indian Point nuclear plant generates 2,000 megawatts of electricity, which is a quarter of the electricity needed by

Photo OF THE WEEK

By Anita Peltonen



Henry Driscoll and George and Archie Stubbs, all from Garrison, try their luck at Lake Canopus in Fahnestock State Park.

High-resolution submissions welcome. Email photos@highlandscurrent.com.



the New York City area. When Indian Point has been temporarily shut down for maintenance, the area got its electricity from other facilities in the region.

Facing a massive buildup of natural-gas pipelines in New England, the Massachusetts Attorney General conducted a study of electric need and concluded that "under business-as-usual circumstances, the region can maintain electric reliability through 2030, even without additional new gas pipelines."

Since electricity flows freely throughout the region, the above statement would be true

for the rest of the region, including New York.

In a free market, if a shortage of a commodity existed, the price of that commodity would go up. This is not happening in the electricity market. The price is low, and nuclear generating plants in upstate New York need an \$7.6 billion taxpayer subsidy to stay in operation.

New electric plants are built and old plants are subsidized by taxpayers for the sake of investors, plant operators, jobs and the tax base — not because of any need for, or shortage of, electric power.

Charles Davenport, *Wappingers Falls*



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PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

Public Hearing – September 21, 2017

The Philipstown Planning Board for the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 21, 2017 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Old VFW Hall, 34 Kemble Ave. in Cold Spring, New York, to consider the following application:

Martin McHugh – The application represents a subdivision between the applicant and Martin McHugh, John McHugh, Patricia McHugh, Mary McHugh and Hiroshi Miwa. The property is located on Lake Surprise Road. The property is situated in a "RR" (Rural Residential) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown. TM# 27-1-29.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Philipstown Town Hall.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 30th day of August, 2017.
Anthony Merante, Chairman

An advertisement for Southern Dutchess Eye Care. It features a photograph of three children (two boys and one girl) wearing safety goggles and lab coats, appearing to be in a science or medical setting. The text "The eyes of tomorrow" is overlaid on the image. Below the image, it says "deserve Southern Dutchess Eye Care today. Thorough, comfortable back-to-school eye exams. Schedule now." At the bottom, there is a logo for Southern Dutchess EYE CARE with the tagline "discover the clear difference" and contact information: 969 MAIN ST. FISHKILL (845) 896-6700 sdec2020.com, Brian D. Peralta, OD, Dr. Gary M. Weiner, OD, Dr. Brian Powell, OD.

Beacon Building Freeze Vote Expected Soon

Council will hold public hearing on Sept. 18

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, Sept. 18, to discuss the city's proposed building moratorium. The soonest it could vote on the proposal is at its meeting scheduled for Oct. 2.

If adopted, the six-month moratorium would be effective immediately, so if passed in October it would run into April. Projects involving single-family homes would be exempted, while commercial building is expected to be part of the freeze.

New projects that have moved forward (there are three) while the council considers the moratorium have done so at their own risk, City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero said.

The moratorium will be tied to the city's water supply. Beacon's 2007 comprehensive plan suggested that existing sources could sustain a population of 17,800, which was not projected to arrive until 2050. But with hundreds of housing units under construction or in development, the city's population — estimated at just over 14,000 — may approach that ceiling much sooner.

Because moratoriums are typically tied to a specific issue, such as water, the city must make demonstrable efforts to address the shortage during the six-month building break. The first step is to locate new water

sources, and the city has hired an engineering firm to test several sand and gravel aquifers at a site outside city limits.

A second line of water-related measures includes more precisely calculating the capacity of the city's three reservoirs, correcting leaks in the system and working with Hudson Val-



On Labor Day (Sept. 4), the Beacon Fire Department tested Ladder Truck 45 at a number of locations, including the development at 344 Main St. (lower photo). "We can reach [the top of] all our buildings," it reported on Facebook.

Beacon FD

ley Pattern for Progress to create a comprehensive Community Development Plan.

While the proposed moratorium is principally about water, the City Council has also committed to tackling a number of corollary issues. The council reviewed a series of detailed proposals made by Councilperson Lee Kyriacou at its Aug. 28 workshop and assigned consultant John Clarke to draft revisions to the Central Main Street and Fishkill Creek Develop-

ment Corridor zoning districts.

Kyriacou has championed zoning as the primary means of managing development and attracting jobs. He also suggested the council study other longer-term initiatives related to growth, such as expanding the city's greenway trail and restoring the Tioronda bridge, strengthening protection of Beacon's historic properties, and providing more support for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Development and Schools

Beacon residents may see a modest decrease in their school taxes this fall due to the increased number of households in the district, but the long-term effect of increased growth on the schools is tougher to pin down.

District finance chief Ann Marie Quartironi said during the school board's Aug. 28 meeting that the tax levy — the total amount the district collects from taxpayers in Beacon, Fishkill and Wappinger — will be spread across more homes. That's a short-term positive for taxpayers. But in the long run development could boost property values, and if the district becomes "wealthier" by that measure, state aid is likely to decrease — which could bring school taxes back up or lead to programming cuts.

The district's 2017-18 levy will be just over \$37 million, a 1.54 percent increase. For the median Beacon home assessed at \$290,500, this year's bill should drop by about \$75, Quartironi said.

In July, the board adopted a resolution asking that it be given time to review building plans presented to the city Planning Board.

Since then, board members have suggested an influx of students from developments could crowd schools and increase transportation and other costs. Asked to elaborate, school board President Anthony White said on Aug. 30 that "sudden increases or decreases in student population make it difficult to plan" in allocating resources and hiring staff.

"The board has made it a priority to keep class sizes low, especially at the primary level," White said.

HIGH HOLY DAYS 2017/5778

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Thursday, September 21st • 10:00 am

Rosh Hashanah Morning services

followed by Tashlich Ceremony at Cold Spring Pier

Friday, September 29th • 8:00 pm

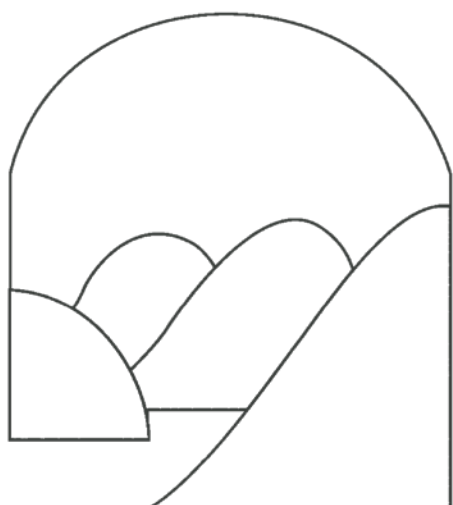
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Saturday, September 30th 12th

10:00 am • Yom Kippur Morning services; Break at 1:30 pm

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Too Many Visitors, or Not Enough? *(from Page 1)*

of community;

- Local heritage, including American Revolution and Civil War history;
- A variety of alluring businesses;
- Cold Spring's ban on chain stores;
- "Walkability," or ease in getting around;
- The desirability of Cold Spring and Nelsonville as places to live and work.

Along with tourism, negatives included:

- Lack of signage, both in Cold Spring to give directions and inform visitors of services and amenities (such as parking places, including the availability of free parking at the Metro-North station on weekends), and on Route 9 to guide visitors to the villages;
- Poor information about the trolley and confusion about its purpose and routes;
- Broken sidewalks;
- Too little street lighting;
- Lack of support from Putnam County, particularly the fact it does not share sales tax revenue with the municipalities that collect it, as well as from New York state and the federal government, and a perception that village government is unwilling to deal with certain issues such as parking;
- Inadequate public restrooms;
- High Main Street rents and absentee



Sunday breakfast at the Foundry Cafe on Main Street in Cold Spring

Photo by John W. "Miles" Cary

landlords;

- Steep school taxes and a small tax base.

Staying overnight

Alison Anthoine, immediate past president of the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, expressed concerns about the low number of bed-and-breakfasts.

Lynn Miller, a Cold Spring trustee who co-owns Go Go Pops, noted that lack of

"All I hear is complaints, complaints, complaints," typically from those "who want to live like 40 years ago."

B&Bs has led to both the positives and negatives of Airbnb rentals proliferating in the villages.

Cathryn Fadde, owner of Cathryn's Tus-

can Grill and a former Cold Spring trustee, urged the Village Board to update the zoning code to address Airbnb rentals, warning that too much housing could become solely Airbnb establishments, reducing the availability of homes and apartments for long-term housing.

Hostility toward 'outsiders'

Ray DiFrancesco, who runs Whistling Willie's tavern, *(Continued on Page 8)*



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Too Many Visitors, or Not Enough? *(from previous page)*



Joseph Czajka of Pattern for Progress takes notes as Main Street business owners from Cold Spring and Nelsonville offer their thoughts. *Photo by L.S. Armstrong*

observed that often “a lot of people don’t like outsiders” and that “all I hear is complaints, complaints, complaints,” typically from those “who want to live like 40 years ago.”

“It’s more like 60 years ago!” someone interjected.

But Jack Goldstein, a member of the Chamber of Commerce board who was involved in the revitalization of Times Square, advised against portraying the conflict as outsiders vs. old-timers. Some people who arrived in Cold Spring more recently are wary of newcomers while some lifelong residents welcome everyone, observed Goldstein, who owns JLG Antiques.

Goldstein proposed that communications must improve among various sec-

tors of the community. “We’re not looking at the layers of potential buy-in” to community development, he said, including newcomers, long-time residents and Main Street businesses. “The village can’t survive unless we understand all these” perspectives, he said. “I get concerned the conversation just looks at pieces” rather than the overall picture.

Pattern for Progress distributed a survey asking participants about ongoing plans for their businesses, how much they pay in rent, their views of local regulations and similar questions.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Two Primaries in Beacon *(from Page 3)*

four-term council member and former Planning Board member, agreed that Beacon is “in an enviable position as a community,” and that although the city has become a destination for people moving to the Highlands, “we are witnessing an acceleration of development which threatens the very character of our community that so many of us have fought for in the past.”

He, too, suggested re-examining zoning language, building codes and the city’s development approval processes: “Our planning should not simply stay in step with accelerated development but must chart a clear and sustainable path forward.”

Muhammad, who is serving his second

term as the Ward 4 representative, is a community organizer who also serves on the board of the Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County. He calls development in Beacon “only the tip of the iceberg,” instead pointing to “a lack of community development” as “the biggest issue facing our neighborhoods.”

For Beacon to succeed, he said, “a focus on job creation, education, health and safety, business improvement, and our recreational infrastructure is needed now more than ever. With public participation and municipal support we can become the village that helps to raise the child and supports one another.”



Beacon Council at-large candidates Lee Kyriacou, Ali Muhammad and George Mansfield *Photo by J. Simms*

- By appointment at
magazzino.art
2700 Route 9
Cold Spring, NY 10516
@magazzino
- Giovanni Anselmo
Marco Bagnoli
Domenico Bianchi
Alighiero Boetti
Pier Paolo Calzolari
- Luciano Fabro
Jannis Kounellis
Mario Merz
Marisa Merz
Giulio Paolini
- Pino Pascali
Giuseppe Penone
Michelangelo Pistoletto
Remo Salvadori
Gilberto Zorio

MAGAZZINO

ITALIAN ART

The Calendar

Shot in 2008, New Film Tackles Urban Change

Local director's work will screen at Beacon festival

By Alison Rooney

This year's Beacon Independent Film Festival will open with the Hudson Valley premiere of a new documentary by director Rachel Shuman, who moved to Beacon in 2014. Titled *One*



Rachel Shuman

Photo by A. Rooney

October, it was filmed in October 2008 but, in part because it ruminates on change and time, Shuman let it marinate for eight years.

The result, which will open the annual festival at University Settlement Camp on Friday, Sept. 15, is a celluloid time capsule of the period just before President Barack Obama's first election victory and a particularly active period in New York City's ever-changing landscape.

The 56-minute film translates easily to 2017, quietly raising touchpoints about development that many cities, including Beacon, are facing.

The Sept. 15 screening will be followed by a panel discussion of urban planners, developers and activists moderated by Cassim Shepherd, who teaches architecture, planning and preservation at Columbia University. As the founding editor-in-chief of *Urban Omnibus*, a publication of the Architectural League of New York, he spent six years working with hundreds of architects, designers, artists, writers, and public servants on urban innovation.

Shuman's documentary follows a WFMU radio reporter known as Clay Pigeon, who has hosted *The Dusty Show*, which features interviews and eclectic music, on the freeform station since 2005. In *One October* he meanders around New York City engaging people in off-the-cuff, sometimes highly personal conversations about their lives, their relationship to the city and how they see



New towers rise over the Lower East Side in 2008.

Photo provided

the city's future. Although the impending 2008 election is frequently invoked, the focus is on the state of flux that every city is always, to some extent, going through.

"The timing is important in as much as politics informs your daily life," Shuman explains, "but not necessarily more than that."

Waiting eight years to release her documentary was not Shuman's plan. But after the filming was completed, she realized it needed more distance.

"I started to think of it as a time capsule," she says. "I thought it should come out at the end of Obama's term and ask, 'Was it all what we thought it would be? Where are we now?'"

Finding people to interview was a spontaneous process. For the most part,

it involved trailing Clay Pigeon. Shuman, who lived in New York City for 18 years before moving to Beacon, knew to train her cameras on particular events such as the Columbus Day Parade and a Blessing of the Animals service. But other shots were obtained by happenstance, such as the street-theater protests on Wall Street following the 2008 bailout.

After growing up in a Boston suburb, Shuman lived in San Francisco while an undergraduate at the California College of the Arts, where she studied drawing, sculpture and photography. She also had a love for books, which led her to a publishing program at NYU and to the art books division of the Guggenheim. While obtaining a master's degree from the School of Visual Arts, she drifted from photography

(Continued on Page 11)

Unleashing the Creative Child

Compass Arts offers variety of unusual classes

By Alison Rooney

In a past life, Gina Samardge was an accordion-playing mermaid.

She was a member of The Soon-To-Be-World-Famous Female Clown Troupe and the all-female Main Squeeze Orchestra, and the experience working in the circus and vaudeville showed her, she says, "how various art forms intersect."

She has brought that lesson to Compass Arts, which she moved in January 2016 from its home inside the Howland Cultural Center to a space at Beacon Soundworks at 395 Main St., accessible through the Yankee Clipper parking lot.

Compass Arts offers a variety of unusual daytime and afterschool classes and workshops, including metal fabrica-

tion, cartooning, Afro-Modern dance fusion, Spanish language and culture for toddlers and a percussion-based orchestra.

Samardge, who teaches music at the Randolph School and Hudson Hills Academy, says the courses focus on giving students a skillset to explore their own creativity, including through final projects.

"It's like giving children a prompt, from which they create," she says. "For instance, our Afro-Fusion class teaches kids basic elements, then takes in their ideas in composing the dance."

In Rompatom, an orchestra that uses drums, xylophones, recorders, ukuleles, clarinets and other instruments, students create their own 20-minute piece featuring World Music, pop and blues.

In another class, Imagination Playhouse, a fable, fairy tale or other story is altered by the children. For instance, barnyard animals become mermaids and tooth fairies. "We're giving them an example, a story" (Continued on Page 12)



Compass Arts owner and director Gina Samardge poses with a group of students at the grand opening of the Compass Arts Enrichment Center last year.

Photo by Meredith Heuer

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8

Get On Up, Get On Down Dance

7 p.m. Elks Lodge
900 Wolcott Ave., Beacon | 845-765-0667

Horror Film Night at Bannerman Island:
Dracula (1931)

7 p.m. Boat leaves Beacon dock
855-256-4007 | bannermancastle.org

Schwervon

8 p.m. Beacon Music Factory | 333 Fishkill Ave.,
Beacon | 845-765-0472 | beaconmusicfactory.com

The Drifters

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

Bring the Kids (Ages 4+)

9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Hebrew School Open House

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Reform Temple of Putnam
Valley | 362 Church Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-4774 | rtpv.org

Family Music Hootenanny

10 a.m. Beacon Music Factory
See details under Friday.

Woman on a Wheel History and Cycling Event

10 a.m. Walkway Over the Hudson
61 Parker Ave., Poughkeepsie
845-834-2867 | walkway.org

Keys to the City: Collaborative Drawing

11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St., Beacon
facebook.com/keystobeacon

Hudson Valley Pizza and Meatball Fest

1 – 5 p.m. Ice Time Sports Complex
21 Lakeside Road, Newburgh
845-454-5800

Chef's Farm Fresh Dinner at Bannerman

3 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. Boat leaves Beacon dock
See details under Friday.

Classics for Kids: Instrument Petting Zoo

3 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St.,
Beacon | 845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Oktoberfest

3 – 10 p.m. German American Club
11 Kramers Pond Road, Putnam Valley
gac1936.com

Farm Dance Gala

4 – 9 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Calendar Highlights

For upcoming events visit highlandscurrent.com.
Send event listings to calendar@highlandscurrent.com

Live Music

5 – 7 p.m. Beacon Visitors' Center
Main Street at 9D, Beacon | cityofbeacon.org

Laura Kaufman: Borrowed Scenery

Mike Bayne: *Curated Paintings* (Openings)
5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

SECOND SATURDAY OPENINGS

DM Weil: *Let's Have Some Color in Our Lives...*

5 – 8 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery
172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Group Show: *Cross Pollination*

6 – 9 p.m. The Catalyst Gallery
137 Main St., Beacon
845-204-3844 | catalystgallery.com

Ky Anderson: *Small Stories*

6 – 9 p.m. Matteawan Gallery | 436 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7901 | matteawan.com

Melissa Schlobohm: *The Woman Upstairs*

Brad Teasdale: *Mermaid Tokens*

6 – 9 p.m. bau Gallery | 506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10

Comic Book Trade Show & Expo

10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center
14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie
845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

Oktoberfest

Noon – 7 p.m. German American Club
See details under Saturday.

Annual Hootenanny

1 – 6 p.m. Little Stony Point Park, Cold Spring
littlestonypoint.org

Children and Families: The Roof Over Our Heads

1 p.m. Storm King Art Center | 1 Museum Road,
New Windsor | 845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Members' Annual Garden Party

1 – 5 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

Women: Their Rights and Nothing Less

1 – 4 p.m. Mount Gulian Historic Site
145 Sterling St., Beacon
845-831-8172 | mountgulian.org

Conversation on Visual Arts: Art and Beauty

2 – 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Tradition and Chaos (Panel Discussion)

2 – 5 p.m. Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art
1701 Main St., Peekskill
914-788-0100 | hvcca.org

Public Canoe Trip

2:30 p.m. Constitution Marsh
Warren Landing, Garrison
hudsonrivervalleyramble.com

Pianist Toshiko Akyoshi (Jazz)

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

Big Band Concert & Sunset Picnic

5 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Saturday.

Samantha Hunt and Adrian Shirk (Reading)

6 p.m. Binnacle Books | 321 Main St., Beacon
845-838-6191 | binnaclebooks.com

MONDAY, SEPT. 11

Patriot Day 9/11

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 | beaconcitky12.org

Tom Rainey Trio

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St.,
Beacon | brownpapertickets.com/event/3071139

TUESDAY, SEPT. 12

Primary Election Day in Beacon

Polls open noon – 9 p.m.

Boscobel Open for Artists

9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org.
Closed to public

New Moms & Infants Group

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Email whiteside.ks@gmail.com.

Basics of Drawing for Kids (First Session)

4 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Cold Spring Board of Trustees

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13

Guided Tour: The Flower Garden

5:30 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
See details under Sunday.

Professional Networking Powerhouse

6 – 8 p.m. Towne Crier Café
379 Main St., Beacon | pnphv.com

Garrison School Board

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

Good Bugs, Bad Bugs and Healthy Gardens
(Talk)

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Saturday.

The Dream Choir with Cat Guthrie (First Session)

7:15 p.m. 27 Travis Corners Road, Garrison
914-420-4515 | harmonyandco.com

Willie Nelson

7:30 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center
See details under Sunday.

Andrew Dice Clay (Comedy)

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Friday.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 14

Housing Forum

8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Anthony's Pier 9
2975 Route 9W, New Windsor
845-565-4900 | pattern-for-progress.org

Backyard Family Farm Skills

3:45 p.m. Glynwood Farm
See details under Saturday.

Romance Writers Publishing Workshop

7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Sunday.

Tim Berne's Snakeoil (Jazz)

8 p.m. Atlas Studios | 11 Spring St., Newburgh
845-391-8855 | atlasnewburgh.com

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15

Car Wash Fundraiser for Texas Flood Victims

9 – 11:30 a.m. Serendipity
25 Lady Blue Devils Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-3539

Black Table and Hexis (Music)

3 – 8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-401-3677 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Dutchess Community Action Partnership
Fundraiser

5:30 p.m. DC Sports
1630 Route 9, Wappingers Falls
845-452-5104 ext. 122 | puttforeaction.org

Beacon Independent Film Festival

7 p.m. *One October*
10 p.m. Gala at Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon | 845-418-3992
beaconindiefilmfest.org | See page 11.

Horror Film Night at Bannerman: *Bride of
Frankenstein* (1935)

7 p.m. Bannerman Island
See details under Sept. 8.

Tibetan Singing Bowls Sound Bath

7:30 p.m. SkyBaby Yoga
75 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-4444 | skybabyyoga.com

Tim Eriksen Trio

7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

Aery Theatre 20/20 Play Festival


8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

Don McLean

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Sept. 8.


CROSS POLLINATION

"Birdfeeder" by Anita Jacobson



Cindy Booth
Cali Gorevic
Anita Jacobson
Jane Soodalter

"Chrysalis" by Cindy Booth



Catalyst Gallery, 137 Main St Beacon, NY 914-486-1575

Sept 8 - Oct 1, 12 to 6, Fri - Sun

Opening Reception, Sept 9, 6 to 9

Shot in 2008, New Film Tackles Urban Change (from Page 9)

to film and video.

"The bells went off, it clicked and I felt at home," she says. "I particularly fell in love with film editing. I found it creative and analytical at the same time."

Schuman's first film, *Negotiations*, premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2005. It chronicles the relationship of an interfaith couple during the ninth months they are expecting their first child. Shuman's husband, David Sampliner, is also a filmmaker and was the cinematographer for *One October*.

Shuman is excited to show the film in her new hometown.

"Even in the seven years I've been familiar with Beacon [since her first visit],

there's such a difference between now and what it was when we first saw it," she says. "There's accelerated development, including a huge building on Main, that reminds me of something similar on the Lower East Side when it felt like a spaceship had landed. So much hasn't been considered about the history of the place."

She says she isn't against development but feels it's a loss whenever gentrification displaces a population. "In order for a city to thrive it needs the same diversity as a wildlife eco-system," she says. "When you don't get to know people outside your sphere, you don't learn from each other and repercussions trickle down."



A campaign sign filmed in 2008 in New York City for *One October*

Photo provided



Clay Pigeon, left, talks to a resident in the West Village in 2008.

Photo provided

BIFF Highlights

The fifth annual Beacon Independent Film Festival runs Sept. 15 to 17. For a complete schedule, visit beaconindiefilmfest.org. Movie blocks start at \$12, or a three-day pass is \$35. See brownpapertickets.com/event/3061828. All screenings are at the University Settlement Camp, 724 Wolcott Ave., unless indicated.

Friday, Sept. 15

One October and panel discussion (7 p.m.)
Opening Night Gala at Dogwood (10 p.m.)

Saturday, Sept. 16

Filmmaker breakfast and Access and Ethics panel (9 a.m.)

Failed Institutions (1 p.m.), including *That Way Madness Lies*, in which a woman and her family attempt to save her brother as he descends into untreated schizophrenia.

Comedy (4:45 p.m.), including *Black Cat*, in which Duke Moody decides to make a true-

crime documentary financed by his mother.

Fighting for Family (7:30 p.m.), including *Quest*, a documentary portrait of a family living in North Philadelphia and the creative sanctuary offered by their home music studio.

Fright Night at Cinehub, 20 W. Main St. (10:15 p.m.), featuring five shorts

Sunday, Sept. 17

Young Filmmakers (10 a.m., free), including *Sunrise Storyteller*, in which Kasha Sequoia Slavner sets out on her 16th birthday in search of stories of hope and resilience.

Art (12:45 p.m.), with art created from start to finish, a profile of artist Donna Mikkelsen, and five short films.

Family Dynamics (3:30 p.m.), including *Supergirl*, a documentary about a 9-year-old Orthodox Jewish girl who is a competitive weightlifter.

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Standing Fold, Laura Kaufman

Sept 9–Oct 1, 2017 Opening Reception Sept 9, 5–7pm



Mike Bayne

Pictures

Oil paintings
curated by Katherine Mulherin

A Frame, Mike Bayne

The Riverside Galleries at Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison, NY 10524
Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10am–5pm
garrisonartcenter.org 845-424-3960

Garrison Art Center
THE RIVERSIDE GALLERIES

Unleashing the Creative Child (from Page 9)



Garabatos (Spanish exploration) teacher Lisa Marie Martinez assists students in dressing up while teaching them the Spanish vocabulary for their clothing.

Photo provided

structure they can understand, and then encouraging them to explore character development, costumes, the works," Samardge says. "We go beyond imitation and aim for interpretation."

Compass Arts employs the Orff-Schulwerk Approach, which is common in public school music education. It combines music, movement, drama and speech into lessons that are similar to the world of play.

"I love the idea of having a space where so many different forms of creativity are going on that they can inspire each other and resonate," Samardge explains. "The key is giving kids the tools early so they can express their creative voices. Nowadays, when there are so many restrictions on creativity in public schools, it's so important that other resources reach children."

The teachers at Compass include painter Kathy Moss; graphic novelist/cartoonist Deb Lucke; Marvel

"Nowadays, when there are so many restrictions on creativity in public schools, it's so important that other resources reach children."

comic book and story board illustrator Ed Murr; Lisa Marie Martinez, who holds a bachelor's degree in anthropology and Latin American studies; Michelledana Shafran, who has a master's degree in creative arts therapy and teaches yoga; and jeweler and metalsmith Kit Burke-Smith.

Compass Arts also has launched classes for adults, including a women's chorus and a family chocolate-making workshop.

Samardge was introduced to Beacon after coming to the city on a weekend visit with her husband. Soon after moving from Brooklyn, she attended a Beacon Sloop Club sing-a-long, where she joined in with Pete Seeger. A music teacher who was leaving the Randolph School heard her voice and urged Samardge to apply to succeed her. At the same time, she had taught creative classes for children in Brooklyn and thought Beacon was ripe for the same approach. Her first venture here was a toddler movement class at Ballet Arts Studio.

To register for Compass Arts classes, most of which begin during the last two weeks of September, see compassarts.org or call 917-648-4454. Samardge will have an information table at the Cold Spring Farmers' Market on Saturday, Sept. 9, and at the Beacon Farmers' Market on Sunday, Sept. 10. Courses for children and teens typically range from \$50 to \$375.




Imagination Playhouse students design their own costumes for their production of *A Story, A Story*.

Photo by Cappy Hotchkiss



Cartooning teacher Ed Murr guides students through a group drawing experience in which they're creating an imaginary city.

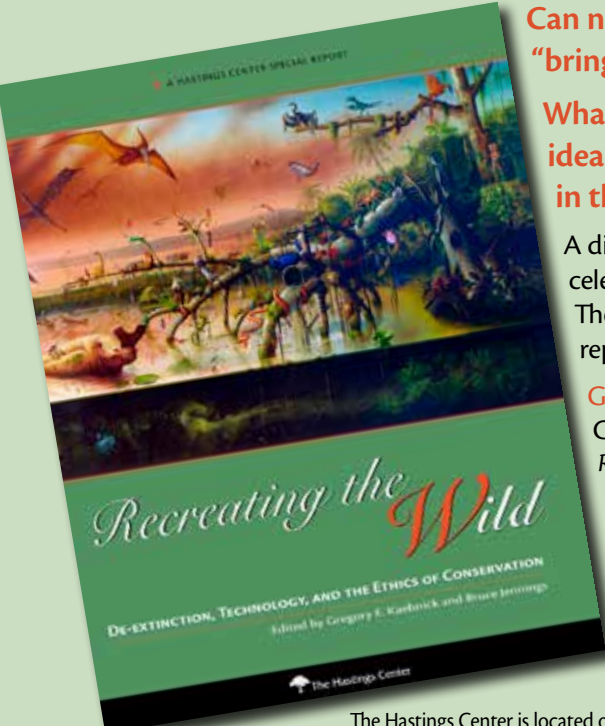
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The Hastings Center

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Moderator:
Mildred Solomon
Hastings Center President

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State Money for Senior Center?

Renovation grants far from assured

By Holly Crocco

In 2015 state Sen. Sue Serino and Assemblywoman Sandy Galef pledged to back efforts by Putnam County to obtain \$500,000 in state grants to renovate the Cold Spring Senior Center now under construction at the Butterfield redevelopment.

But the county still needed to apply.

When presenting a draft county budget in 2015, Putnam County Executive Mary-Ellen Odell noted Serino and Galef were pursuing state funds for the senior center. But that same month, Galef said the assembly and Dormitory Authority, which would provide the grants, would need more details.

By August 2016, after a \$500,000 pledge from Roger and Elizabeth Ailes for the \$1.3 million center evaporated, legislators passed a \$800,000 bond and said the remainder would come from the \$500,000 in state grants.

A year later, at its Sept. 5 meeting, the county Legislature approved sending two grant requests to the Dormitory Authority. One \$250,000 grant has been endorsed by Serino (R-Hyde Park), and the other \$250,000 grant by Galef (D-Ossining).

Specifics about how the money would be spent will be provided if the applications

advance, Deputy Planning Commissioner Sandra Fusco told the legislature. In August, at a meeting of its Physical Services Committee, she said the request for now was simply for "renovations and repairs to existing structures."

"I have yet to see a single SAM [State and Municipal] grant come to completion. It does not happen quickly; it's a very slow process."

While lawmakers approved the applications, Fusco expressed doubt about whether the county would see the funds any time soon, if ever.

"I have yet to see a single SAM [State and Municipal] grant come to completion," said Fusco. "It does not happen quickly; it's a very slow process."

She explained that while Serino and Galef had pledged support, the funds are tied to the state budget. As priorities change in Albany, so does the availability of funds for projects such as the senior center.

Legislator Carl Albano (R-Carmel) said it was still worth pursuing. "If we get half, or some, or a third, that's all we can do," he said.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Marchers on the Move



MARCH THROUGH COLD SPRING — Soffiyah Elijah (at right), executive director of the Alliance of Families for Justice, spurs on supporters during a 143-mile march from Harlem to Albany designed to protest abuses in state prisons and jails. The marchers stayed at St. Mary's Church during a stop in Cold Spring on Aug. 15. The marchers expect to arrive in Albany on Sept. 13.

Photo by Michael Turton



beBhakti
yoga center

First Birthday Celebration & Kirtan
Saturday, September 30th, 7pm
89 Dewindt in Beacon, bebhaktiyoga.com

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Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m. brunch/dinner
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Mike Heaphy - Free

Fri., 9/15 7:00 p.m.
Tony DePaolo & Art Labriola - Free

Fri., 9/8 8:30 p.m.
Cash Is King
Music of Johnny Cash & The Highwaymen

Fri., 9/15 8:30 p.m.
Yarn

Sat., 9/9 6:00 p.m.
Nellybombs - Free

Sat., 9/16 6:00 p.m.
Jerry Kitzrow - Free

Sat., 9/9 8:30 p.m.
David Wilcox

Sat., 9/16 8:30 p.m.
Popa Chubby

Sun., 9/10 11:30 a.m.
Dead End Beverly - Free

Sun., 9/7 7:30 p.m.
Gratefully Yours

Sun., 9/10 7:30 p.m.
Milton
Carla Springer

Thurs., 9/21 7:00 p.m.
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Roots and Shoots

Plant It and They Will Come

Lessons on coexisting

By Pamela Doan

Creating habitat doesn't end with homes for just pollinators and birds. Success means attracting other wildlife that will enjoy the lovely plants, berry bushes, and seedling trees I carefully planted.

Inevitably there will be losses, unrealized visions and imperfections, I'm realizing. While I didn't intend to attract all these other creatures, I want to see it as a good sign that I'm contributing something to the ecosystem of the forest. The woods around me are covered in invasive species like Japanese barberry, garlic mustard, mugwort and Japanese stiltgrass. In fact, I need to see it as a positive sign because otherwise I'm just left frustrated at the way my plants keep getting eaten.

I've seen more critters in my landscape

this year than ever before. As I've written previously, many of them buzz, while others nibble and munch. There's a groundhog I'm certain is the same resident I've watched grow for the past seven years. At least I hope it's the same one, because it's bigger than any groundhog I've ever seen and deserves royalty status in the ground squirrel family. Is 50 pounds unusual? It's more similar to a medium-sized, short dog than its own species.

This summer there's been a bunny invasion, as well. I never see rabbits in this part of East Mountain. There just isn't any food in the woods. Though we usually don't see deer hanging around, this summer there's been a doe and two fawns in the yard at all times of day. Our trail camera has photographed foxes, raccoons, opossums, coyotes and, once, a bobcat. Bears have been spotted by nearby neighbors and once in our yard. I've seen hawks in the yard recently, turkeys making their



So cute — and hungry

Photo by Ross Corsair

rounds, and a blue heron has been visiting our unused pool daily for a couple of months. All the sightings are more numerous than any previous year.

My main line of protection is repellent sprays. I probably don't use them as often as I should. It's hard to remember and the weather conditions have to be right — not too windy, no impending rain. As a result, a flowerbed I've been working on for two years has big gaps where the dahlias, liatris, and ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*) never make it more than 4 inches high before being munched down to the ground.

The Echinacea flowers must have been irresistible and were bitten off right be-


fore blooming and the phlox only has flowers that are above the groundhog's reach. I'm guarding the turtlehead (*Chelone lyoni*) because I don't have a lot left to bloom in the yard and it will be the last spot of color on one side. So far so good, but I haven't checked today.

Fencing is the most secure option, but it changes the look and feel of the landscaping. The size, shape and slope of my property would make it arduous and costly. I don't like the look of spot fencing around a small area and don't want to bisect the landscape that way. The vegetables have to be fenced and that works, for now.

A lot of gardeners encourage trapping and removal as a humane way to deal with groundhogs or rabbits. From what I understand about the practice, I would need to find somewhere to transfer the animal and let it loose. Not only is that prohibited by the state Department of Environmental Conservation, it doesn't seem humane. The animal's chances of survival in a foreign environment aren't high. And won't another one just take its place?

Other gardeners say to shoot them. I can't choose the life of a flower over the life of an animal.

That leads to coexistence and accepting imperfections and losses as part of the plan. As I learn what seems less palatable to my growing community of wildlife — my milkweed and monarda have been untouched — I'll work with those plants and give up on dahlias.



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Bringing Back the Dead

*Scholar will discuss
“de-extinction” of species*

Gregory Kaebnick, a research scholar at The Hastings Center, a bioethics think tank based in Garrison, will speak there at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 17, on “de-extinction,” or the hypothetical process of using DNA to bring back extinct species such as the woolly mammoth or dodo. (The talk is free but reservations are required by emailing vizzis@thehastingscenter.org or calling 845-424-4040, ext. 202.) Reporter Alison Rooney asked Kaebnick about what has been called “resurrection biology.” His responses have been edited for space.

Is reviving a species that humans helped drive to extinction a better proposition ethically than restoring one that disappeared naturally?

The main reason that’s been offered for recreating extinct species is that if humans drove the species into extinction, then recreating the species might be a way of preserving nature, maybe even of making amends. Conservationists don’t have anything against extinction [as a force of nature]. If a species has died out from natural causes, they’d be inclined not to recreate it.

What extinct creature would you love to see?

A woolly mammoth would be cool, no



A dodo reconstruction by the Natural History Museum in London

question about it. Although if coolness is the sole consideration, I’d try for an imperial mammoth, which was much bigger. (No one’s talking about the imperial mammoth, by the way, which is very distressing.) But if there was one thing I’d vote for actually trying it would be the American chestnut, which is practically extinct. You can find examples of it, but they’re almost all little, doomed sprouts. Creating something that can get past that stage would be a kind of de-extinction. A recreated American chestnut would reclaim an important role in Eastern forests.

How do you evaluate a technology that could alter genetics?

The values of conservation include costs and benefits but also questions that tend to fall out of consideration if we’re looking at costs and benefits. They include questions, for example, about the kind of relationship to nature we want to have. De-extinction is usually thought of as part of the larger field of synthetic biology, and synthetic biology is rife with values questions. Synthetic biology might allow you not only to re-create extinct species but also to create new ones, to modify existing ones or to drive existing species into extinction.

What else are you working on?

Gene drives, which are tools for altering populations of organisms. That is, a genetic change made to one organism will be passed along to most or all of its progeny, and so on, until a whole population — maybe a species — is changed. For example, a drive is being developed for the mosquitoes that transmit malaria, with the goal of eliminating malaria, which is very compelling. At the same time, how can we be sure it will not have some other effect on mosquitoes, or even on another species into which it might somehow find its way?

How are your degrees in religion and philosophy connected to your work?

Philosophy encourages one to think about logic and conceptual clarity and it



Gregory Kaebnick

Photo provided

often describes morality in terms of rules or principles. Religion opens me up to less systematic, more intuitive and more diverse ways of thinking about values.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

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Tickets begin at \$275 per person. To purchase tickets or join the benefit committee, please call Rachel at 845-265-4010 or visit www.putnamhistorymuseum.org.

The Putnam History Museum is located at 63 Chestnut Street in Cold Spring.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

St. Mary's Fundraiser

St. Mary's to host carnival

St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Cold Spring will host a free carnival on Sunday, Sept. 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with food and drinks for sale, music, bounce houses, face painting and pony rides, among other attractions. Donations are welcome.

See gofundme.com/SaveStMarys.

Pig Roast

Annual Lions event Sept. 16

The Cold Spring Lions Club will hold its annual pig roast from 3 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16, to raise money for community projects and the victims of Hurricane Harvey. It takes place at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center at 75 Mountain Laurel Lane in Philipstown. Tickets are \$50 per person and include one drink. See coldspringslions.org.

One-Act is a Winner

Depot to present 20 short plays

See 20 short plays over two weekends at the Aery Theatre Company's annual 20/20 One-Act Festival at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison from Sept. 15 to 17 and Sept. 22 to 24. Some content is for mature audiences. Popular vote deter-



The Pacifica Quartet will perform at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon on Sept. 17.

Photo provided

mines the finalists and winner. See philipstowndepottheatre.org for tickets, which are \$17 and \$20.

Kids' Safety Day

County will host in Carmel

On Saturday, Sept. 16, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Putnam County will hold a Kids' Safety Day at the Smith Campus at 112 Old Route 6 in Carmel. The event will include photo and fingerprint identification cards

for children, car seat checks, information on county services for families and safety demonstrations.

Beacon

Good Bugs and Bad

Garden club to host talk

The Tioronda Garden Club will present a program on Good Bugs, Bad Bugs and Healthy Gardens on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m., at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. The presentation will be given by Master Gardener Johanna Tomik from the Dutchess County Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Chamber Season Opens Sept. 17

Pacifica Quartet to perform

The first concert of the Howland Chamber Music Series will take place on Sunday, Sept. 17, at 4 p.m., at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon with a performance by the Pacifica Quartet.

The quartet, which is Simin Ganatra and Sibbi Bernhardsson on violins, Masumi Per Rostad on viola and Brandon Vamos on cello, will play *Quartet in G Major, Op. 76* by Haydn, *Quartet No. 3* by Dimitri Shostacovich and Beethoven's *Quartet in F Minor, Op. 95*. Tickets are \$30 each, \$110 for four concerts or \$195 for all eight concerts. See howlandmusic.org.

Craft Beer Festival

More than 150 varieties

On Saturday, Sept. 16, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m., sample more than 150 varieties of craft beers at the fifth annual Hudson River Craft Beer Festival at Riverfront Park in Beacon. Attendees must be 21 years or older. Tickets are \$45 for general admission or \$75 for early access at 12:30 p.m. See americaontap.com/event/hudson-river-craft-beer-festival. The park is located at 1 Flynn Dr.

NY Alert

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CHAMPION READERS — The Beacon Buzzers from the Howland Public Library won first place in the Mid-Hudson Library System's Battle of the Books, defeating teams from 10 other libraries in a five-county area. The teens answered questions about assigned books read over the summer. Front row: Manny Gonzalez, Maggie McGeary, Angelina Finateri, Marisa Mourgues and Michelle Rivas (coach). Back row: Manny Arubuike, Ezekiel Arubuike, Patrick Lewis, Roswell Wendel, Will Dambra and Harry Thorne (coach).

Photo provided



AT THE ZOO — This work by DM Weil is among those that will be on exhibit as part of *Let's Have Some Color in Our Lives ...* at the RiverWinds Gallery in Beacon. The solo show opens on Second Saturday, Sept. 9, with a reception from 5 to 8 p.m.

Image provided

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

War of the Worlds at Bannerman

Infamous radio play to be performed

The script of the infamous radio drama by Orson Welles, *The War of the Worlds*, will be staged on Bannerman Island on Saturday, Sept. 16. The boat leaves the Beacon dock at 3:15 and 4:15 p.m. and the return trip is at 7:30 p.m. See banner-mancastle.org. Tickets are \$65.



John Adair will portray Orson Welles in *The War of the Worlds* on Bannerman Island on Sept. 16. Photo provided

On Sunday, Sept. 10, at 6 p.m., **Samantha Hunt** and **Adrian Shirk** will read from their works at Binnacle Books in Beacon. Hunt is the author of the short story collection *The Dark Dark* and the novels *The Invention of Everything Else*, *The Seas* and *Mr. Splitfoot*. Shirk is the author of *And Your Daughters Shall Prophesy*, a hybrid-memoir exploring American women prophets and spiritual celebrities.

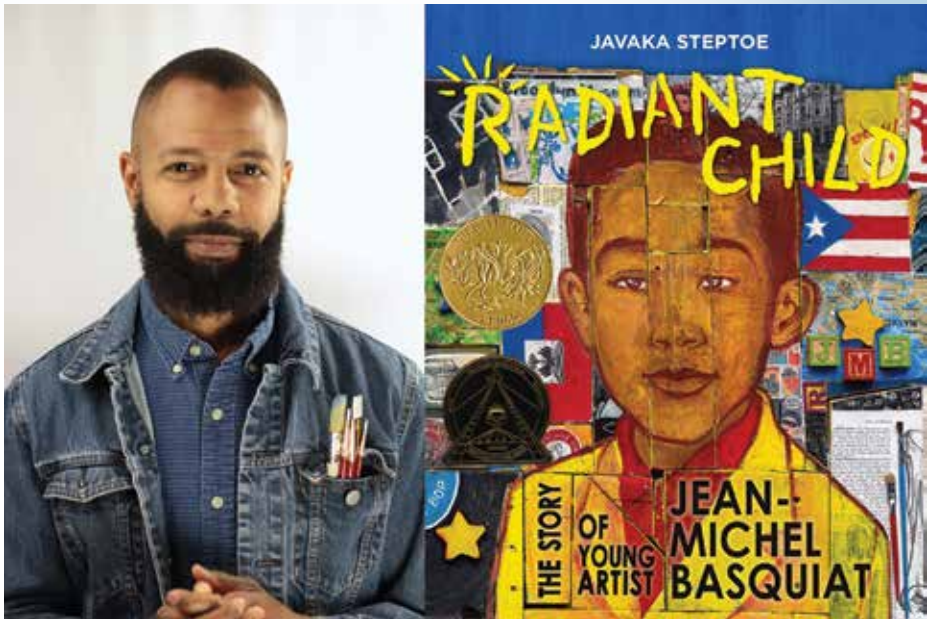
On Sunday, Sept. 10, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., the Mid-Hudson Civic Center in Poughkeepsie will host a **Comic Book Trade Show and Expo**, with many writers and artists present to sign their work. See midhudsonciviccenter.org.

On Thursday, Sept. 14, at 6:30 p.m., **Patricia Horvath** will read from her memoir *All the Difference* at the Howland Public Library in Beacon. The book tells of her struggle with severe scoliosis and how it affected her self-identity. See beaconlibrary.org.

On Thursday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m., the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison will host a panel discussion with members of the **Hudson Valley Chapter of Romance Writers of America**. The panelists will speak about the paranormal, historical, erotic, fantasy, medical romance and suspense genres. See desmondfishlibrary.org.

On Saturday, Sept. 16, at 2 p.m., poet **Irene O'Garden** will read at the

Author and Literary Events



Javaka Steptoe will read from his Caldecott Award winner, *Radiant Child*, at Binnacle Books in Beacon on Sept. 17. Photos provided

Desmond-Fish Library from her latest collection, *Fulcrum*, and **John Pielmeier** will read from his novel *Hook's Tale*, the story of Captain Hook from *Peter Pan*. See desmondfishlibrary.org

On Saturday, Sept. 16, at 4 p.m., **Margarita Meyendorf** will read from her memoir *D.P.* at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring. Born in a Russian displaced person's camp in Germany during World War II, Meyendorf, the

daughter of a Russian baron, fled with her parents through Nazi Germany. See butterfieldlibrary.org.

On Sunday, Sept. 17, at 10:30 a.m., at Binnacle Books, **Javaka Steptoe**, the author and illustrator of *Radiant Child*, a picture book telling the story of artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, will read from his work. The book won the 2017 Caldecott Award and the 2017 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award.

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The Stadium Closes

Known for sports memorabilia collection

The Stadium, a restaurant, sports bar and museum on Route 9 in Garrison, closed on Aug. 25 after nearly 19 years in business.

The impressive collection of memorabilia that adorned its walls and ceiling was started in 1953 by Joseph Walsh, the father of owner James Walsh.

Lacking money and space in his family's one-bedroom apartment in the Bronx, Joseph Walsh began by collecting newspaper clippings, sometimes taking them from the paper before it had been read. When Joseph and his



A baseball signed by Mickey Mantle

Photo provided



The Stadium

Photo by Michael Turton



Inside The Stadium

Photo provided

wife, Terri, moved into their own home in 1972, he began collecting the signed memorabilia later displayed at the restaurant, which opened in 1999.

Highlights include Mickey Mantle's 1956 Triple Crown trophy; Larry Kelley's 1936 Heisman (the first awarded); Paul Hornung's 1956 Heisman; Babe Ruth's 1934 Yankees contract for his final season in New York; a 14K gold necklace with the Yankees' World Series ring pendant customized by Joe DiMaggio for Marilyn Monroe; and a third base from the 2000 World Series (Yankees vs. Mets) signed by MVP Derek Jeter.

There are also the World Series rings won by Don

Zimmer (Brooklyn, 1955) and Ed Lopat (Yankees, 1949 and 1953); the 1960-61 MVP trophy of NHL great "Boom Boom" Geoffrion; Larry Regan's 1957 NHL Rookie of the Year trophy; and jerseys signed by greats such as Gretzky, Lemieux, Messier, Marino, Montana, Elway, Namath, Jordan, Abdul Jabbar, Chamberlain and Clemens.

In addition, it contains the autographs of hundreds of baseball Hall of Famers, including Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth and Honus Wagner; baseballs signed by every member of the 1948, 1957 and 1960 Yankees and 1925 and 1955 Dodgers; and baseballs autographed by every president from Eisenhower to Obama.

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Sports

Beacon Falls to Lakeland

The Bulldogs girls' soccer team lost to Lakeland High School on Sept. 2, 1-0.

Photos by Richard Kuperberg Sr.



Left, Junior Anna Manente (18);
above, Sophomore Katelyn Rosa
(21)



Goalie Meagan Meeuwisse (1) and Anna Manente (18)



Senior Brianna DerBoghossian (16)



Sophomore Analiese Compagnone (23)

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Sports

Can Beacon Soccer Teams Repeat as League Champs?

By Leigh Alan Klein

For the first time in 20 years last season, the Beacon girls' soccer team won the league title with an overall 11-6 record.

While replacing Gabby Lucas, who is now playing for Pace University, will be a challenge, eight other starters return for third-year head coach Hugo Alzate.

"Our goals are to repeat as league champions, host a sectional game and win a sectional game, which Beacon has not done for 29 years," Alzate said. (Last year's girls lost in the first round of the tournament in a game decided by penalty kicks.)

The Bulldogs will look to possess the ball, dictate the pace and as the season and team progresses, press opponents with aggressive defense.

The team's three seniors are co-captains: Reanna Cader, an honorable mention All-Section selection last season; defender Brianna DerBoghossian; and Chloe Antalek, an All-League selection who leads the Bulldogs in scoring with 34 career goals. (Scoring runs in the family; her mother, Stacey McKeon Antalek, a 1989 graduate, had 90 career goals for the Bulldogs.)

"What makes Antalek so good is that she can finish," says Alzate. "She has a knack to get her foot or head on the ball."

The juniors include forward Victoria Banks, who, Alzate says, takes some of the offensive pressure off Antalek; goalkeeper Meagan Meeuwisse ("the most important person on the team"), and midfielder Eliza



Sophomore Katelyn Rosa (21) and senior Brianna DerBoghossian (16) battle a Lakeland striker on Sept. 2. The Bulldogs fell, 1-0.

Ericson ("the game goes through her").

Sophomore Analiese Compagnone, he says, is a "smart and athletic" player who could be All-Section this year.

The boys' team

The boys' soccer team, which finished 12-6 last season, also hopes to repeat as league champions and advance further into the state tournament after being upset in the first round last season.

It won't be easy: the league has improved and the Bulldogs' schedule includes some of the best teams in the region, including Pearl River, Lakeland, Ketcham and Arlington.

The Bulldogs will be looking for balance, said Coach Craig Seaman, leaning on a number of players who are comfort-

able playing a short passing game or taking players off the dribble.

Four players to watch, he says, are junior Devin Lambe, a two-time All-Section attacker; senior Matt Wyant, the team's assist leader and All-Section midfielder; senior Mason Burch, an All-Section center-back, and senior goalkeeper Kellen Sela.

Seaman noted that high school soccer has benefited from the growth of Major League Soccer, which has raised the sport's profile. Today's high school players have grown up watching professional soccer on television.

On the flip side, he said, the sport has a "pay-to-play" system that excludes a number of players who can't afford to join club teams that provide a higher level of competition and coaching.



Sam Giachinta rushing around the end against Rye Neck Photo provided

This Week's Games

Saturday, Sept. 9

Haldane and Beacon Cross Country at Warwick, 9 a.m.
Beacon Boys' Soccer vs. Gorton, 11 a.m.
Haldane Football vs. Woodlands, 1:30 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 11

Beacon Girls' Tennis vs. Lakeland, 4:15 p.m.
Beacon Volleyball vs. Pearl River, 4:30 p.m.
Haldane Girls' Soccer vs. Briarcliff, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 12

Beacon Cross Country at Croton Point, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 13

Haldane Cross Country at North Salem, 4:30 p.m.
Beacon Boys' Soccer vs. Henry Hudson, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 14

Haldane Boys' Soccer vs. North Salem, 4:30 p.m.
Haldane Volleyball vs. Keio, 6 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 15

Beacon Girls' Swimming vs. Woodlands, 4:30 p.m.
Beacon Girls' Tennis vs. Panas, 4:30 p.m.

Coaches and Parents

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The HIGHLANDS
Current

Varsity Scoreboard

Boys' Soccer

Beacon 1, Lakeland 1
James Patino scored on assist from Devin Lambe.
Haldane 2, Pawling 0
Andre van Dommele scored two late goals on assists from Kyle Zimmerman.
Beacon 4, Carmel 0
Beacon 4, Pearl River 2

Girls' Soccer

Byram Hills 1, Beacon 0
Goalie Meagan Meeuwisse had nine saves.
Lakeland 1, Beacon 0

Football

Haldane 20, Rye Neck 7
John Jay 42, Beacon 0

Volleyball

Haldane 3, Dobbs Ferry 1
John Jay-East Fishkill 3, Beacon 2