

The HIGHLANDS Current



Uncomplicated
Page 15

SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

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

Lots of Green

Beacon firm transforms empty parcels into parks

By Brian PJ Cronin

Bryan Quinn could be called an artist, but not one who works in a gallery — or even indoors.

Quinn is the principal and founder of One Nature, an environmental design firm whose main office is down an alley off the west end of Main Street in Beacon. Its native-plant nursery is down another alley nearby. No matter which alley you go down, the mission is the same: Creating spaces in which nature and culture can interact in a way that benefits both.

“Often in conservation we hear about minimizing our impact on the planet,” says Quinn. “I’m a full supporter of that, but my professional interest is how humans can be beneficial to the planet.”

If you’ve walked down Main Street, you have seen One Nature’s work. For the past few years, the firm has stewarded a pop-up park it designed on the corner of Main and Cross on what had been a vacant lot.

There are more public projects to come in Beacon; The firm has been collaborating with the Wee Play Community Project to build a woodland playground in Memorial Park amongst the grove of Black Locust trees. It will be designed for children who have outgrown the tot lot at the bottom of the hill.

One Nature’s most ambitious public project so far is (Continued on Page 8)

Fighting Back the opioid Crisis

a special report

We Know There’s a Problem. What Can Be Done About it?

That’s the question *The Current* hoped to answer for the Highlands. Last year, drug overdoses — the most visible marker of the epidemic — killed 64,000 Americans, a 22 percent increase over the year before. About 15,400 of those deaths involved heroin, 20,000 involved fentanyl (a synthetic that is 50 to 100 times more powerful than morphine) and 14,400 involved prescription painkillers, according to preliminary federal data.

On July 31 a commission assembled by President Donald Trump to address the crisis made an urgent recommendation that he declare a national emergency, noting that the overdose death rate in the U.S. has reached the equivalent of 142 people per day.

The problem is not far away. Dutchess and Putnam counties together have an overdose death, on average, about every four days. Statewide, about seven people die each day. From 2013 to

2015, Dutchess had the second highest rate of overdose deaths per capita in the state (trailing nearby Sullivan County); Putnam was in the middle of the pack, but the rates in both counties were higher than those of New York City or the state.

On Aug. 18, Forrest Rzyz-Ryski, a 2011 graduate of Haldane High School in Cold Spring and a talented artist, writer and martial arts fighter, became the latest casualty when he died of a heroin overdose

in Georgia, where he was attending Kennesaw State University. He was 23.

A memorial service was held in Garrison on Sept. 10. The day after his death, on Facebook, his grandmother posted an anguished plea: “I wish I could go with him and take care of him, tell him that I love him and try to understand the big why.” In frustration, she warned others who, perhaps, think they do not need help:

(Continued on Page 10)



At a vigil held in Cold Spring on Aug. 31 to raise awareness of overdose deaths, a participant adds Matt Herring’s name to painted rocks. Herring, 24, of Wappingers Falls, died on Aug. 25.

Photo by Ross Corsair



ROAR OF APPROVAL — After sitting patiently while her face was painted, a young visitor to the carnival held at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Cold Spring on Sept. 17 delights in the results. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.com. Photo by Ross Corsair

As the Towers Turn

Discussions continue in Nelsonville, Philipstown

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Philipstown’s ongoing debate over placement of new cell phone towers this month generated:

- Pledges from Philipstown to help Nelsonville oppose a proposed tower above the Cold Spring Cemetery,
- Differences over whether town officials rebuffed attempts to put a tower at the highway garage,
- Agreement between town officials and tower developers to reconsider the old landfill as a site,
- Criticism by a lawyer from Homeland Towers, the tower developer, that demands by the fire department were “an insult.”

Nelsonville tower

The Philipstown Town Board became entangled in the Nelsonville tower debate at its Sept. 7 meeting when Frances O’Neill asked that board members “act quickly to support opposition to the desecration of our historic and beautiful cemetery.” The spouse of Nelsonville Mayor Bill O’Neill, she chairs a grassroots group called the Save the Cold Spring Cemetery Committee.

The 110-foot tower, proposed for Rockledge Road, overlooking the cemetery, is being reviewed by Nelsonville village committees.

Although the tower does not fall under the Philipstown board’s direct jurisdiction, O’Neill asked board members to contact Homeland Towers about installing the structure at the Philipstown highway garage at 50 Fishkill Road in Nelsonville.

In her presentation, O’Neill cited Homeland Towers’ (Continued on Page 3)

5 Five Questions: GEORGE LINDSEY

By Michael Turton

George Lindsey, of Cold Spring, has been a flight attendant for 27 years. His wife, Candace, is also a flight attendant.

What has been your scariest moment in the air?

It was my first year. It was like something out of a movie. I was called to the cockpit. For a moment it was like, "Y'all know I'm not a pilot, right?" We had lost hydraulics and I had to help crank down the landing gear.

Do you have a favorite destination?

I've never grown tired of Paris. There's always some spot I'm curious about, whether it's a restaurant, a museum or a cemetery. If you're bored in Paris, you have a problem. London is equally fascinating.

Have you met many celebrities?

Oh, yes: politicians, actors, scientists,

captains of industry, diplomats, sports heroes, princes. I prepared a meal for chef Gordon Ramsay. When he tried to eat his steak, the plastic cutlery snapped. Buzz Aldrin was on the plane a while back. You think, my goodness, this man has been to the moon! And I planned our wedding music with Jose Feliciano. I was going to use his version of *Sunny*, but Candace doesn't like the song.

Can you recall an especially funny incident?

Passengers sometimes overmedicate to get to sleep and do goofy things they don't remember. One woman was putting duty-free chocolates into sleeping people's mouths.

How did you prepare for this career?

I attended East Carolina University, but



George Lindsey

Photo by M. Turton

my father, a railroad worker, pushed me to do things like study French at the Sorbonne. That helped me get hired. Knowing history, and watching the news, are important. I was in England on the day of the Brexit vote. During Haiti's earthquake I helped shuttle relief workers. I read about banking issues in Buenos Aires and all of a sudden I'm there — and can't get any cash. The job hasn't made me rich, but I have been enriched.

NEWS BRIEFS

Constitutional Convention —Yea or Nay?

On Nov. 7, New York residents will consider a ballot proposition to hold a constitutional convention to amend the state's founding document, which can be done once every 20 years if voters approve.

On Monday, Sept. 25, at 6 p.m. at the Mahopac Library, the League of Women Voters of Putnam County will host a non-partisan panel discussion of the pros and cons of the proposal. See mahopaclibrary.org.

Service Academy Nominations

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney is accepting applications from high school seniors who would like to attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, or U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point.

Students applying to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London do not need a Congressional nomination.

Any senior who resides in the 18th Congressional District, which includes Philipstown and Beacon, may submit an application, which is due by Oct. 31. Visit seanmaloney.house.gov or call 845-561-1259.



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As the Towers Turn *(from Page 1)*

claims it pursued use of the garage property for a cell tower but was ignored by town officials.

"That is patently untrue," Supervisor Richard Shea responded.

Shea said that he had met with Homeland Towers this past summer about placement of a tower at the town's former landfill on Lane Gate Road.

At the time, he said, neither the Nelsonville tower nor the highway garage were mentioned, which he termed "curious" and "peculiar." Councilors John Van Tassel and Nancy Montgomery also said the Town Board and tower representatives never discussed the garage as a location.

The dispute may be the result of mistaken identity.

In 2014, negotiations between the Town Board and Homeland Towers to locate a tower at the former landfill ended when neighbors objected. This summer, Vincent Xavier, Homeland Towers regional manager, told Nelsonville officials he had contacted Shea in late 2014 and early 2015



The proposed cell tower would go a tract of land roughly in the area off to the left, on Rockledge Road.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

about using the "town DPW [Department of Public Works, a.k.a. the highway department] at 50 Fishkill Road" for a tower but met with "unresponsiveness."

On Sept. 11, addressing the Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals, Robert Gaudioso, a Homeland Towers attorney, said he had spoken several weeks earlier with

town officials about the landfill site and, "on a very preliminary basis," about the highway department headquarters on Fishkill Road.

Shea attended the ZBA meeting and when Robert Dee, the chairperson, asked if the Town Board was interested in using the landfill, he replied, "Yes."

However, Gaudioso said the landfill would not work "from a coverage standpoint."

"I can't believe some accommodation couldn't be made there," Shea said.

"It doesn't work from an engineering standpoint," Gaudioso said.

Nevertheless, he and Shea agreed engineers should evaluate the landfill to see if it contains a suitable tract — not necessarily the one considered in 2014.

Income and legal action

In her Sept. 7 remarks to the Philipstown Town Board, Frances O'Neill said that putting a tower on town-owned property could produce \$60,000 in annual rent.

Shea recalled that in 2014, the revenue from leasing land for a tower was said to *(Continued on Page 6)*



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Senior Center funding

As the state Senate and Assembly sponsors of individual State and Municipal Facilities (SAM) grants for the county Senior Center at the Butterfield site, we enthusiastically offer our support for the project, as it fulfills a critical need in the community ("State Money for Senior Center?" Sept. 8).

However, as was shared with Putnam County officials from the outset, the state and municipal grant process is a lengthy procedure in which the Dormitory Authority performs many checks to ensure that taxpayer money is being spent correctly by the grant recipient. The process is designed to prevent misuse of state funds, and is incredibly thorough.

We expect the county will meet its fiduciary responsibilities to qualify for these grants and as such, the Senior Center will ultimately receive SAM funding. To further clarify, these grants are not tied to the

state's budget proceedings, and are to be dispersed upon receipt and approval by the Dormitory Authority, Senate and Assembly.

We look forward to the completion of the Senior Center, which will provide a wonderful new opportunity for Philipstown seniors. As always, if you have any questions, please contact Assemblywoman Galef at 914-941-1111 or Sen. Serino at 845-229-0106.

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef
Sen. Sue Serino, *Albany*

Tioronda funding

I wanted to clarify the role of Assemblyman Frank Skartados in securing funding for the restoration of the Tioronda Bridge ("\$500K for Tioronda Bridge," Sept. 15). In my experience, I've seen a number of elected officials take credit for grants they did very little to make happen. In this case, it was the opposite. The Assemblyman did not just communicate a grant from the

state Department of Transportation, as was reported. He allocated the funds.

The Tioronda Bridge award originated from a funding stream called "multi-modal," which received its funding in the 2017 budget for both the Assembly and the Senate. It is limited to bridge and road construction. In the Assembly, Speaker Carl Heastie allocated a part to Assemblyman Skartados to be used for his district at his discretion.

Assemblyman Skartados chose the Tioronda Bridge because it is the focal point of several nature trails, parks, and economic development — all reasons he gave before the City Council in September for the bridge to be a single vehicular lane with pedestrian walkways. The Department of Transportation will have to approve the project and oversee the funds, which is why the Assemblyman made certain DOT wouldn't object to its mixed vehicular and pedestrian design. The city will have to find additional funding sources to complete the project.

In other examples, Assemblyman Skartados assigned \$250,000 in 2016 to Beacon for two dump trucks with plows and upgrades to the water treatment plant.

SAM and Capital Projects grants follow a similar path as the multi-modal but are broader and can be allocated to municipal and not-for-profit organizations.

Over the past five years, Skartados has awarded many of these grants, which range from \$125,000 to \$500,000, to such projects as building a library, purchasing fire trucks, new school buses, workforce housing construction, park and trail development, and municipal infrastructure projects, to name a few.

Steve Gold, *Beacon*

Editor's note: Gold is Skartados' chief of staff. The SAM program, which was created in 2013 and is funded by state bonds, has been derided by critics as a "slush fund" (Continued on next page)



Taking it to the Street By Anita Peltonen

What documentary would you recommend?



"An episode on CNN of *This is Life with Lisa Ling* about the opioid epidemic in Utah. We need to address it."
~Robert Langley Jr., Garrison



"*Video Diary of a Grieving Father*, by Albert Rzyz-Ryski [whose son, Forrest, died of an overdose], on YouTube. He talks about what it feels like to lose a child."
~Lydia JA Langley, Garrison



"*Microcosms*, which is look at the lives of insects and other tiny creatures. The music is awesome."
~Bo Bell, Cold Spring

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (from previous page)

or “pork” because it allows members of the state Assembly to allocate money at their discretion for local projects. (Because the Assembly is controlled by Democrats, fewer Republicans receive these earmarked funds.) The requests for SAM money come from the governor or legislative leaders and are approved by the Division of Budget and Dormitory Authority, which administers the grants. One man’s pork, of course, is another man’s progress.

Police in Beacon schools

This concept of having a police officer in the Beacon schools was brought up during the 1990s and should have been implemented then (“Beacon Schools Consider Police Presence,” Sept. 15). A school resource officer is a great idea and would benefit the school district, the community and the police department.

Carmela Cervone Walden-Lail, *Beacon*

I have worked in schools for years where there was a school resource officer. Several questions should be addressed and discussed including: Should the officer be in uniform? Should the officer carry a weapon? Is there a well-developed job description? Will the officer only interact with students when there is difficulty? Will the officer be available to mentor students who have struggled in the past? Whom in the schools will the officer report to? Will the resource officer have an office or will he or she be floating around the various schools? Has the candidate for

this position had experience in schools? What training did the candidate receive?

Although I have my opinions about these questions, an open dialogue is the best way to decide an issue as important as this.

Barry Nelson, *Beacon*

I’m surprised it has taken this long to have this conversation. Lawmakers have taken the active-shooter threat so seriously that schools have been required to upgrade their passive security features to include access control and response drills. While those policies will provide a higher level of readiness and safety, they often rely on personnel who specialize in education, not security.

The high school I graduated from 20 years ago had a sheriff’s deputy as the security resource officer. He was dedicated to the high school, which educated over 2,000 students annually, and was able to deter or mitigate many threats not only due to his presence but because of his familiarity with the students, the staff, and the issues they faced.

While Beacon school district staff are amazing, it would provide me with an extra level of comfort to know that my two daughters (one in high school, one in elementary) are protected by the measures that only a school resource officer can bring.

Michael Stevens, *Beacon*

Editor’s note: In a letter to the community dated Sept. 15, newly hired Superin-

tendent Matt Landahl, who had proposed a school resource officer to the school board, said that, in his experience, “an SRO brings a higher level of problem-solving, collaboration and outreach.” He noted that “one piece of feedback that rang true was from a community member who suggested that I spend more time in the schools in my duties as superintendent before I make a recommendation like this to the board. That is a valid point. At the time of this writing, it is only my eighth school day. With that in mind, I will complete a more thorough assessment of our safety practices and administrative work.”

Breakneck and mergers

I always find it very odd that people leave the city to come hike in an area that is also jammed with other people (“Breakneck to Close for Repairs,” Sept. 15). Isn’t part of the lure of hiking to get away from other people? They may as well walk around Central Park.

Mary Fris, *Beacon*

Thank you for reminding readers of the village’s Comprehensive Plan [as part of discussion of a potential merger between the Cold Spring and Philipstown highway departments]. The issue of potential uses for the village garage site on Fair Street was discussed by residents at multiple public meetings organized and moderated by the Special Board for the Comprehensive Plan.

The recommendations from those meetings can be found in the Comprehensive Plan at coldspringny.gov. See page 69, Objective 7.3.

Karen Doyle, *Cold Spring*

Merging the police

In response to the letter from Michael Bowman in the Sept. 15 issue, in which he suggested Cold Spring should consider consolidation of its police force, the \$906,000 shared services agreement between Wappingers Falls and Dutchess County will include eight full-time officers to provide the village with 24-hour police protection (“Wappingers Falls Disbands Police,” Sept. 8). For the fiscal year ending in 2018, Cold Spring has budgeted less than half that amount (\$387,000) to staff part-time police officers to provide Cold Spring with 24-hour protection.

Stephanie Hawkins, *Cold Spring*

The Village of Wappingers Falls has a population of 5,522 and a budget of \$5 million, of which \$906,000 (18 percent) will fund police services. Cold Spring has a population of 1,948 and a budget of \$1.6 million, of which \$387,000 (24 percent) goes for police services.

The Cold Spring Police Department does not provide service 24/7/365. Try calling after hours and on weekends. Sometimes you get no answer, and sometimes you get the Sheriff’s Department.

Patty Villanova, *Putnam Valley*



Andrew DeStefano
Captain, NYPD (ret.)
 JLDeStefano@aol.com
 www.andrewdestefano.net

“Team Smith” at the Putnam County Board of Elections may have succeeded in unlawfully preventing a Republican primary in order to protect a badly failing 16-year perennial incumbent. But they can’t prevent progress. And they can’t force an incumbent down your throat. DON’T LET THEM!

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WRITE IN

ANDREW DESTEFANO
For Putnam County Sheriff

November 7th

As the Towers Turn *(from Page 3)*

be \$1,600 a month, or \$19,200 annually. But he added that even \$60,000 a month would be insufficient if a tower placement was unsuitable, adding that the town was willing to go to court, if necessary, to block construction of an objectionable tower.

He also questioned the need for more towers. “One of the failings of these tower companies when they approach us is to give documentation that proves there’s a need,” he said. “These are huge money-makers. This is just a for-profit enterprise they bring into the community; they mar the landscape and move on.”

Besides, he said, other technological options exist. Board members suggested the latter include signal repeaters, which, Councilor Bob Flaherty noted, “they have all over Manhattan,” as well as antennas in church spires.

The Rev. Tim Greco, pastor of the Church on the Hill, told the Town Board he “would be more than happy” to put an antenna in its steeple but that Homeland

Towers lawyers had not responded to his inquiries.

In any case, Shea said, placing a tower above the cemetery “is a non-starter. It’s abhorrent, a terrible idea. We would support fully the effort to block this.”

Bill O’Neill, Nelsonville’s mayor, said on Sept. 9 that he and Shea had agreed to work together “to find a more suitable site.”

“These are huge moneymakers. This is just a for-profit enterprise they bring into the community; they mar the landscape and move on.”

Fire safety

At the same time, a second tower, proposed by Homeland Towers for Vineyard Road, off Route 9, is under review by the Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals and its Conservation Board.

During scrutiny of the company’s plans by the Zoning Board, questions arose

about safety. As part of its voluminous application, Homeland Towers submitted assurances from an engineer, James Caris, that the tower, a hollow “monopole,” would not likely catch fire, except perhaps in unusual cases of a construction incident, such as a welding mishap, or a lightning strike. He wrote that Homeland Towers would construct a 260-foot-long driveway wide enough for emergency vehicles.

Dee, the ZBA chair, said the North Highlands Fire Department, which would respond to calls, wanted a wider driveway, a surface strong enough to support equipment that weighs at least 75,000 pounds, a shed at the site to store equipment, and radio equipment for first responders provided on the tower at no cost.

If Homeland Towers meets those criteria, the fire department said, it would not oppose the tower, although it believes the landfill site is the better option.

“We have no problem working with emergency services, but, quite frankly,

this letter is an insult,” Gaudioso said.

The ZBA nonetheless voted 4-1 to add the fire department demands to the criteria Homeland Towers must meet to obtain a special-use permit.

Homeland Towers also must have the approval of the Conservation Board, which met on Sept. 12, because a small portion of the site involves wetlands. At that meeting, neighbors raised questions about pipes protruding from the soil at the site and the effect of high winds.

“We are known to live in a high-velocity wind area,” Roger Gorevic, who lives near the site, told the board. “Hurricane Irma has shown us that tall structures can be brought down.” He warned that if the tower fell it would block access to the mountain, or escape by residents.

The ZBA and Conservation Board plan to hold a joint public hearing on the proposal on Nov. 13.

*Visit **highlandscurrent.com** for news updates and latest information.*

THE VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING WANTS You

Are you interested in public service? If so, the Village of Cold Spring has opportunities for you to get involved. We are seeking village residents to serve on the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Recreation Commission.

If you are interested, please forward letters of interest accompanied by a brief resume to the Village Clerk at 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516. All submissions must be received by September 29, 2017.

MEETING CHANGE

The Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals

has changed the date of their regular monthly meeting to October 2, 2017. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY.

MEETING NOTICE

The Town Board will hold a workshop on:

**October 4, 2017, 7:30 p.m.,
Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring**

The Board will discuss the Climate Smart Communities Program. Europa McGovern, Planner and Clean Energy Communities Coordinator of the Hudson Valley Regional Council, will be in attendance to outline the next steps and plans for certification.

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Philipstown on

**Monday, October 2, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York**

to hear the following appeal:

1657, LLC (Christopher Buck), 1657 Route 9d, Cold Spring, New York. Tax Map # 49.-1-24.1. This application is a Planning Board referral to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The applicant seeks to obtain an area variance to erect an accessory garage which will exceed the 1,000sf maximum of the Town Code Section 175-10(D)(5). The property is in the RC Zoning District.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map and other related materials may be reviewed in the office of the Building Department at Philipstown Town Hall.

Dated 9/13/17
Robert Dee, Chairman, Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals.

POSITION AVAILABLE

School Crossing Guard

The Town of Philipstown is offering a part-time position as a School Crossing Guard. Any persons interested should submit their resume to:

Richard Shea, Supervisor
Town of Philipstown
238 Main Street, P.O. Box 155, Cold Spring, New York 10516

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**Monday, October 2, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York**

to hear the following appeal:

New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, 22 Sky Lane, Philipstown New York. Tax Map # 83.18-1-22 & 23. The applicant seeks a Special Permit Amendment and front yard setback area variance (150 feet required, 50 feet proposed) pursuant to Sections 175-64 and 175-46(G) (3)(c) of the Zoning Code to permit a temporary communications tower until existing communications tower is replaced. The property is in the SR Zoning District.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map and other related materials may be reviewed in the office of the Building Department at Philipstown Town Hall.

Dated 9/13/17
Robert Dee, Chairman, Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Philipstown on

**Monday, October 2, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York**

to hear the following appeal:

Essex Green, Inc., Douglas Lane, Cold Spring, New York. Tax Map # 49.6-2-14. The applicant seeks to obtain an area variance for front and rear yard setbacks due to the failure to comply with the Dimensional Table of Chapter 175 of the Town Code. The property is in the RC Zoning District.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map and other related materials may be reviewed in the office of the Building Department at Philipstown Town Hall.

Dated 9/13/17
Robert Dee, Chairman, Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals

Beacon Adopts Building Freeze

No new construction for six months

By Jeff Simms

After months of discussion, the Beacon City Council on Monday (Sept. 18) adopted a moratorium that halts nearly all residential and commercial construction in the city for six months.

The council voted unanimously to enact the moratorium just after 11 p.m., drawing applause from the handful of spectators who remained at the meeting. The ban will be in place until March.

The cut-off for exemption from the freeze was July 25; any projects in progress or under Planning Board review before that date are not impacted. Applications submitted after July 25 may be heard and reviewed but not approved.

Single-family homes and other low-impact projects are also exempt.

Earlier this year, residents concerned about the pace of growth formed the grassroots Beacon People's Committee on Development and began petitioning the council and Planning Board to slow construction.

"The moratorium is a step in the right direction but it's the beginning of a longer process," said Dan Aymar-Blair, one of the organizers. "Development isn't just putting buildings up; it can create jobs or attract tourists. It's part of an ecosystem that we create for ourselves. The moratorium buys

us some time to look at these things — but we have to actually look at them."

In July, Mayor Randy Casale asked the council to consider a moratorium after being told the city could strain its water supply if building continued at its current pace. With more than 1,000 apartments and condominiums either in construction or under review, Beacon was growing much faster than expected, Casale said, and could quickly outpace its existing water supply.

In the weeks following, the discussion expanded beyond water. On Sept. 18, the council adopted the moratorium with two amendments — the first allows the city to review and revise zoning codes along Main Street and the Fishkill Creek corridor while searching for water, and the second removes a clause that would have ended the moratorium automatically if the city finds more water.

"I'm trying to broaden it out a little bit," said Council Member Lee Kyriacou, who proposed the amendments and has pushed for a zoning review to accompany the moratorium.

The council has already begun to review the zoning codes. John Clarke, a planning consultant hired by the city, on Sept. 11 presented draft revisions for the Main Street and Fishkill Creek districts.

In addition, engineering consultants are drilling for water at several test sites in and near Beacon, and the water department plans to more accurately calculate the capacity of its three reservoirs while also addressing leaks in the system.

Craig House Sold to Investment Group

The historic Tioronda Estate on the outskirts of Beacon, which includes the former Craig House psychiatric center, was sold on Sept. 18, just hours before the City Council enacted a six-month building moratorium.

Daniel Aubry, the Beacon real estate agent who brokered the deal, said on Sept. 20 that he could not reveal the name of the buyer or the purchase price without the permission of the buyer, who he said is traveling outside the country. Aubry confirmed that the buyer is the same "investment group" that he referred to in an interview with *The Current* in July.

The details of the sale have not yet been filed with Dutchess County.

The investment group, which purchased the property from the estate of the late philanthropist Robert Wilson, plans to develop the parcel, and Aubry said he is in discussions with "hospitality groups" about bringing in a spa, boutique hotel or similar venture.

The property's 14,000-square-foot, neo-gothic mansion, built in 1859, will be "at the heart" of any project, Aubry said. The balance of the 64-acre property will "very likely" be developed for housing, he said. Current zoning would allow about 22 single-family homes on the property.

The contract was signed in May but Aubry said the deal would not have happened if the moratorium had been in place.

"The moratorium creates a considerable amount of uncertainty, and the markets don't like uncertainty," he said. "I suspect that this could be the last land deal to happen in Beacon for a while — but I understand the community's concern, and the people spoke."

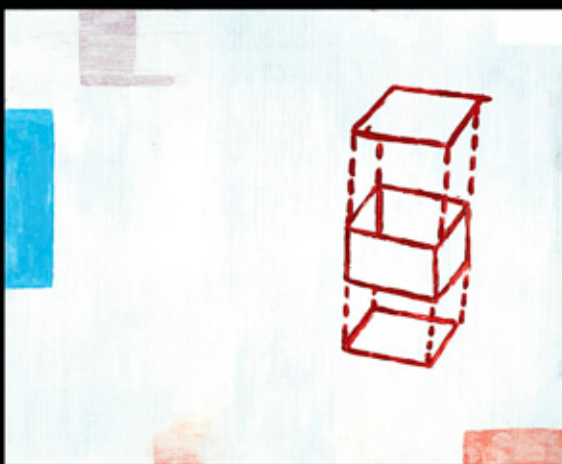
Regarding the possibility of zoning changes while the moratorium is in place, Aubry said, "I expect [the new owners] will use the six months to explore their options."



Craig House

Photo by Kathy Steinberg

Eric Erickson PAINTINGS DIAGRAMS



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Safe Harbors Green in Newburgh, at the corner of Broadway and Liberty Streets

Photos by B. Cronin

Lots of Green *(from Page 1)*

across the river in downtown Newburgh, where last year the firm helped Safe Harbors on the Hudson, a nonprofit housing and arts group, transform a long-abandoned lot into the area's most innovative park.

"I don't think we've ever done anything that has gotten so much immediate universal support," says Lisa Silverstone, the executive director of Safe Harbors. "Even though so much of our programming is accessible, it's all behind a door. But this isn't behind a door. It's a barrier-free space for everybody."

In an area of downtown Newburgh that was sorely lacking public space, Safe Harbors Green provides an oasis. "People feel safe and welcome here," says Silverstone.

Although the park was designed to create several of what Quinn refers to as "exterior rooms" that differentiate sections of the park, its sightlines allow visitors to also keep the entire park in view. This allows for a feeling of being secluded but not hidden, visible without feeling on display, he says.

Since the park's opening it has hosted performances, camps and spontaneous rallies and vigils.

"The great thing about working with public parks is that they're for anybody," says Quinn. "When we were

working on it, people walking by would always ask us, 'What are you building?' And we'd say, 'A park!' 'For who?' 'For you!' "



One Nature's Bryan Quinn and Blair Patterson in the firm's pop-up park on the corner of Main and Cross Streets in Beacon.

As with all of its projects, One Nature planted only native species at Safe Harbors Green after touring adjacent blocks and taking note of what plants were growing wild. Pollinators such as milkweed and goldenrod supply food for butterflies and bees, clover and bluestem grasses aerate the soil, and in the years to come the magnolias, elms and the pin oak in the center of the park will create a canopy.

"In environmental design, when you're working with plants, you have to remember it's a slow process and think long term," Quinn explains. "As these trees grow, the character of the park will change."

Thanks to the plant selection and the construction of infiltration basins known as swales, the park absorbs all rainwater. "Not a single drop leaves this park," says Quinn. One Nature even took into account the increasing severity of storms expected because of climate change and installed a swale of last resort, deeper than the rest, to manage the flow of floodwaters into grates that will wind the water into the streets at a controlled flow.

"I hope they never have to run, but if they do, it'll work," Quinn says. "If we ever get another hurricane up here, I'm going to pull my truck up to the park and wait out the storm to see if it fills up."

By appointment at
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The Calendar

Window Opens to See Historic Home

Garrison site welcomes visitors over two weekends

By Alison Rooney

If you haven't been inside Mandeville House, now's the time. The foundation that owns the historic home in Garrison, which was built between 1735 and 1737, opens it to the public only a few times each year, and its fall hours are 1 to 4 p.m. on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 and again on Oct. 7 and 8. There is no charge.

The home, at the northwest corner of Route 9D and Lower Station Road, served as headquarters during the Revolutionary War for Gen. Israel Putnam and other Fort Arnold (West Point) commanders. Its acreage was part of the 1697 land grant to Adolphe Philipse by King William III.

It is believed that Jacob Mandeville, a New Yorker of Dutch descent who was born in 1709, built the home. Following his marriage in 1735 to Sarah Davenport of Philipstown, he leased 400 acres in the Philipse Patent for £5 a year and constructed the original house on a hill that provided a clear view across the Hudson. George Washington probably did sleep there; his expense account contains an



Robert Perry in front of Mandeville House in 2006

Photo by Susan Stava

entry dated July 26, 1779, that reads "To cash paid at Mandeville for house, rooms, etc."

A Revolutionary-era road leads to the house, the exterior of which has undergone several transformations. It retains its gabled, shingled roof, replete with two chimneys. Underneath, placed among its eight bays, are dormer windows. The

entrance is decorative, with a stoop and fluted pilasters surrounding the door. Across Lower Station Road, on what is now the Highlands Country Club, was a grist mill and dam.

Before the war, the 4.75 acres was part of a larger parcel owned by Beverly Robinson that he acquired through his marriage to Susanna Philipse, who

inherited a third of the Philipse lands. A Loyalist, Robinson later was a principal player in the Benedict Arnold/John André affair. Some believe André was kept at Mandeville House, and not at West Point, after his capture near Tarrytown.

After the British lost the war, Robinson's land was seized by New York authorities and, in 1785, auctioned off. The winning bidder was Joshua Nelson, who happened to be Mandeville's son-in-law.

The Upjohn years

In 1852 the Mandeville home and land was sold to architect Richard Upjohn, who had retired from his New York City practice and moved to the more bucolic Highlands. Upjohn did what architects tend to do — he renovated, adding wings and a library, partitioning the attic into rooms, and altering the façade from its Colonial style to the then-popular Gothic Revival with peaks on the dormers and scroll work on the eaves.

Along with several Garrison homes, Upjohn designed nearby St. Philip's Church. Prior to its construction, worshippers met at Mandeville house. Upjohn lived in the house until his death in 1878.

In the 1920s, Col. Julian Benjamin, who had purchased the property from Upjohn's

(Continued on Page 14)

Having Faith in Nature

Garrison native makes film about monks who live close to land — their own

By Alison Rooney

Where do ecology and theology cross paths?

One answer to that question plays out in the documentary, *Saving Place, Saving Grace*, co-produced by Deidra Dain, who grew up in Garrison. It will be screened at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 1, at the Desmond-Fish Library, with a Q&A with Dain to follow.

The hour-long film, which Dain made with George Patterson, documents a liturgical year at a Cistercian monastery in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, Holy Cross Abbey, which has been home to a community of Trappist Monks since 1950.

Only 11 of the original 68

monks remained, and the film documents their struggles with how to best honor one of their four vows, stewardship of their 1,200-acre farm. (The others are poverty, chastity and obedience.) The answer, it turns out, is an extensive application of sustainable practices. "Stewardship is a welcome burden," says one monk.

Dain says the screening in her



The monks prepare their well-known fruitcakes.

Photo provided



Deidra Dain

Photo provided

hometown is special because growing up in Garrison taught her to value the outdoors and the beauty of nature. "The Shenandoah Valley and the Hudson River Valley have huge parallels," she says.

Dain lives in the Shenandoah Valley near the monastery and first became aware of it when she visited for a weekend spiritual retreat about 15 years ago. She found the time "very powerful; I was thrilled to discover this place."

Ten years later, friends told her about

an initiative at the abbey in which six graduate students from the University of Michigan spent a year collecting data on every aspect of the monastery: its energy uses, building construction, business practices and daily practices.

"They thought given my organizational background [she holds an MBA in organizational behavior and development from George Washington University], I'd find what was being done there interesting. The place was undergoing changes, yet they didn't know what these changes would bring. I went over and started talking to Father James [Orthmann], who was the liaison with the students."

She became fascinated by the structure behind the cloistered setting: The monks rise at 3:30 a.m. for prayers, then spend most of the day communicating without words while practicing agrarian practices and baking to sustain the community.

"I learned about their infrastructure, and the hierarchy in relation to the diocese, and the pope," Dain explains. "I asked them, 'You're going to get this big report, but what about implementation?'"

The youngest monk at the time of filming was 57, and with dwindling numbers the men questioned why they were so concerned about sustaining their

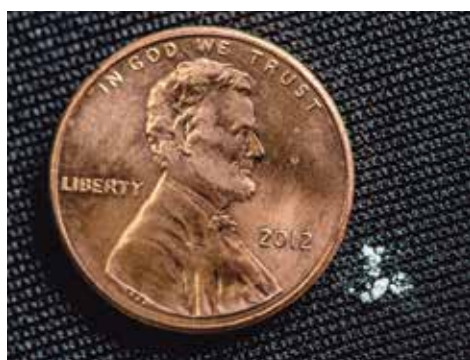
(Continued on Page 18)

We Know There's a Problem. What Can Be Done About it? (from Page 1)

"There is no answer, you also will die, it is a matter of time. Your grandmother will shed tears to no end, too."

We saw some of that pain on Aug. 31 at the Cold Spring bandstand, when those struggling with addiction and their families and supporters came together to observe International Overdose Awareness Day and call for more resources to fight the expanding shadows. We saw it in graffiti near the Metro-North station: "Cold Spring Kills Kids & Breaks Hearts."

Overdoses have become the leading cause of death for Americans under 50, outpacing assault and suicide. They kill more Americans each year than die in auto crashes or gun violence. They are killing people faster than H.I.V. ever did. And the addition of fentanyl to the mix with heroin has made the epidemic even deadlier.



A lethal dose of the synthetic opioid fentanyl.

DEA

Fighting Back the opioid Crisis

a special report



Participants at an Aug. 31 vigil at the bandstand in Cold Spring added names to painted rocks that were placed around the bandstand among the flowers.

Photo by Ross Corsair

When fentanyl showed up in the Hudson Valley in late 2013, there were 68 heroin overdoses in Poughkeepsie in less than two months. Fentanyl is widely used in medicine; much of what is found on the street is manufactured in illicit labs in China and Mexico. Why wait for a poppy to grow? A lethal dose is about 2 milligrams, which looks like a few grains of salt. It is so potent that police officers can be sickened during drug busts. And dealers are now importing the even more deadly carfentanil, an elephant tranquilizer that is 10,000 times more powerful than



Forrest Ryzyski

morphine, to mix with heroin. Chinese suppliers sell 2 pounds of the drug – enough for 50 million doses – for about \$2,750.

According to a federal report released last month, nearly 600,000 teenagers and adults in the U.S. are addicted to heroin, and more than 2 million to prescription painkillers. Doctors in Putnam County write 50,000 annually for opioids; in Dutchess, it's 165,000, both at per-capita rates higher than New York City or the state at large. Most states, including New York, have cracked down on doctors who overprescribe, but that forces many addicts to turn to street drugs, whose potency is harder to measure.

To find out more about the fight against opioid addiction in the Highlands, *The Current* created an enterprise journalism fund with initial contributions

from members of our board of directors. Their support allowed our writers, photographers and designers — Chip Rowe, Scott Veale, Michael Turton, Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong, Jeff Simms, Anita Peltonen, Kate Vikstrom, Lynn Carano, Ross Corsair and Brian PJ Cronin — to spend more time on this project than they would for a typical news story. We hope to address other national issues of local importance in the near future.

This series will have four parts.

In **Part 1**, reporters Michael Turton and Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong spoke with the parents of young men who struggled with opioid addiction. One died, one survived, but they faced many of the same obstacles in getting treatment. We asked them to share their experiences, hoping it would provide a road map.

In **Part 2**, we will examine the role of law enforcement and the courts in battling the epidemic. Turton will examine the work of the Putnam County Drug Court, while Jeff Simms spent time with Beacon and Dutchess County police officers who are at the front lines. In Butler County, Ohio, the sheriff doesn't allow his deputies to carry an overdose antidote, while Laconia, New Hampshire, a city the size of Beacon, has assigned an officer to focus on preventing deaths. Where is law enforcement in the Highlands on the continuum between those two extremes?

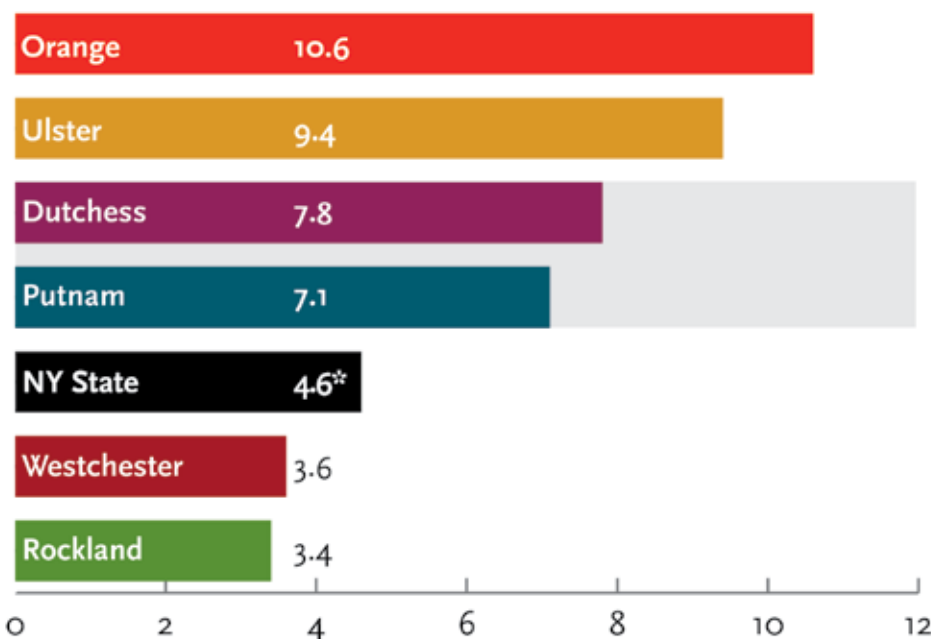
In **Part 3**, we will look more closely at treatment options. Brian PJ Cronin will profile the Dutchess County Stabilization Center, an innovative first stop for those in crisis, while Anita Peltonen and Armstrong visited treatment centers at Graymoor in Garrison, Arms Acres in Carmel and CoveCare Center (formerly Putnam Family & Community Services) in Carmel.

Finally, in **Part 4**, we will share the thoughts of specialists, counselors, doctors and those struggling with addiction about what they feel should take priority in addressing the problem. And we will close with a dose of hope — the stories of people who have survived in what is a lifelong battle.

We appreciate your feedback about the series and thoughts about how best to address the epidemic. Email editor@highlandscurrent.com. If you have missed an installment, each will be posted at highlandscurrent.com, where comments are welcome. We also have posted additional material and resources.

HEROIN OVERDOSE DEATHS (2016)

(# per 100,000 residents)



* New York State figures exclude New York City

Source: NYS Department of Health (health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid), County Opioid Quarterly Report, July 2017

Chart by Lynn Carano

Sasha's Story

*'So much pain;
so many questions'*

By Michael Turton

Alexander "Sasha" Matero, of Garrison, died in 2014 of an overdose after struggling with an opioid addiction since before he graduated from Haldane High School in 2007. He was buried on what would have been his 25th birthday.

Jim and Melanie Matero adopted Sasha from Russia in 1999, when he was 9. They remember their son as a curious, intelligent and personable young man with a smile that lit up a room. "He really had a *joie de vivre*," Melanie says.

In 2005, when he was a sophomore in high school, Sasha had surgery to repair his ACL, a knee ligament, which he had injured in an accident. During his recovery, he took opioid painkillers. "It wasn't a big topic of conversation at the time," Jim recalls. "The doctor prescribed it. You have to trust the doctor."

Becoming addicted

The pills "flipped the switch," Melanie says. "The painkillers worked. They made the pain go away."

She believes the ACL injury led her son to experience a loss of self-esteem that contributed to what quickly became an addiction. "He lost his entire social group because he could no longer play soccer," she said. "He lost his identity and the painkillers helped him deal with that."

The Materos think the painkillers were overprescribed initially but say other factors quickly followed. "I'm sure he'd go to a party and take whatever kids had, take a lot of Dimetapp [cough syrup], smoke some pot, as long as it killed the pain," Melanie says.

She said that at the time Sasha's addiction began parents took two basic approaches: (1) "Just say no to drugs," or (2) take good care of the user in hopes that it is a phase. "Those were the two camps," Melanie says. "You were either tough love or an enabler."

Help hard to come by

Denial was not an issue in the Matero household.

"We tried to attack it head on as best we could, given the limited knowledge we had and the outside help we could find," Jim says.

Fighting Back the opioid Crisis

a special report

The first time they found Sasha badly impaired, they knew it was not from smoking a little marijuana. But it wasn't heroin, either. They took him to the emergency room, where Melanie said they were told: "That's nothing that needs detox. There's no need to admit him. You can take him home."

Jim argued, telling the doctors, "No! Something is seriously wrong here."

The next afternoon, they took Sasha to their family doctor. Melanie believes the ER visit had frightened her son. "He let the doctor tell us that he thought he had a drug problem," she said. The problem was the opioid pain pills.

The Materos asked how to get Sasha admitted to a residential drug treatment program, but were told he would first have to fail at an outpatient program (a policy that has since changed).

Because Sasha was adopted and had scant medical history regarding his mental health or genetic predisposition to addiction, the doctor suggested he be taken to a psychiatric hospital for evaluation.

All he needs

Just before his 18th birthday and after nearly two weeks in the psychiatric ward, Sasha entered an inpatient rehab program.

The Materos, who own Jaymark Jewelers on Route 9, had medical insurance that entitled their son to 30 days of rehab.

Four days after he was admitted, they say the insurer told them that Sasha would be released in two days. "How can that can be?" Jim



Sasha Matero

recalls asking. The response: "It's his first time. That's all he needs."

The six-day stint was the only time during Sasha's illness that their insurance covered the cost of rehab.

After paying for another week on their own, they appealed the insurance company's decision to the New York State attorney general. The AG's office sided with the insurer. Because Sasha was not a danger to himself or others, and because there was no other history of drug abuse in the home, they found no reason to keep him in the program.

Sasha was eligible for outpatient peer-to-peer counseling in which young adults talk to other young adults about their addiction. The problem: according to Sasha, the main topic of conversation was how to beat drug tests and which dealers had the best prices.

"We were fortunate," Jim says. "Sasha was open with us about what was going on. We were mortified."

The couple approached the program's director. "He said he thought Sasha was exaggerating," she says. They decided to leave the program.

Never gave up

Sasha's battle with his addiction would last for more than seven years, until his death. "It was like two steps forward and three steps back," Melanie recalls. "We tried four or five times to get him into rehab."

They paid for a 30-day program but felt they had to lie to Sasha, telling him it was covered by insurance. "He felt terrible about it, that he had this disease," Melanie says. "He didn't want us to be burdened financially."

After he turned 18, Sasha also didn't want to live at home. "There are many behavioral symptoms of addiction — it's a disease of the brain," Melanie says. "He didn't want to expose us to that."

Sasha was always independent, she says, and he found jobs, lived with roommates and worked hard. "He was smart; he could get jobs easily," his mother says. He graduated from high school a year early by taking classes at Dutchess County Community College and was certified in HVAC. "He was functioning through all this, yet his brain needed drugs more and more."

Unbelievable frustration

The family's journey through addiction was arduous and incredibly frustrating.

"There were times he'd get very tired of it and reach out for help and we'd do our best — but there were no resources," Jim says. "He'd come to us on a Friday night and say, 'I can't do this anymore; I can't live like this; I need your help.'"

"They'd give us the number for Arms Acres [in Carmel] or St. Christopher's [in Garrison], and they'd say, 'We open at 9 a.m. Monday, give us a call then,'" Jim says. "For most of this time Sasha was not using heroin, so there was nothing for him to detox out of. He wasn't physically impaired. There's no treatment for that."

The Materos were advised that if they felt Sasha's life was in danger they should take him to the psychiatric ward at Putnam Hospital

(Continued on next page)



Jim and Melanie Matero

Photo by M. Turton

Sasha's Story *(from previous page)*

Center in Carmel. During one crisis, Melanie remembers Sasha saying, "I'm not going to kill myself, but if I go back out on the street tonight, I might use so much that I die."

They took him for a 72-hour observation, and the treatment center advised them to take their son off their insurance.

"They told us he'd get much better, quicker access if on Medicaid," she says.

After taking that step, they were told that there were no beds available. In the meantime, Sasha could go to a supervised homeless shelter. The shelter turned him away because he had just spent time in a psychiatric hospital.

Next, someone advised them to have Sasha arrested so the Putnam County Drug Treatment Court could send him to rehab.

"He wasn't breaking the law; he was coming to us saying that he wants help!" Melanie says. "You

Fighting Back the opioid Crisis

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feel like you're Alice in Wonderland and things aren't as they should be."

"The toll it took on him, on the family, and all your friends was just unbelievable," Jim adds. "I don't know if words can adequately describe the frustration."

Cheap and easy

The Materos are unsure when Sasha turned to heroin, but his behavior and moods became more erratic. "It was more toward the end," Jim says. "You could tell by his personality when he was involved with drugs and when he wasn't."

Unlike the prescription pain pills, heroin was inexpensive and relatively easy to find. "Cheap and easy is a recipe for disaster," Jim says. "It's what you're seeing in the community constantly now."

In March 2014 Sasha found a Salvation Army rehab program in upstate New York. He made arrangements to enroll. But that day he was found dead in a hotel room in Newburgh from an overdose of heroin laced with fentanyl.

Unanswered questions

"I often feel a pang of jealousy when I read the classic obituary line, 'died surrounded by loved ones,'" Melanie says, because it sounds so peaceful and dignified.

"So much pain, so many questions," says Melanie of her son's death. Why did he overdose just as he was about to enter treatment? "My guess is that it was a last hurrah," Melanie says. "If you're going in for bariatric surgery, you're going to have steak and potatoes and all the butter and sour cream you can eat."

It's unclear if Sasha knew there was fentanyl in the mix. "It was just coming onto the scene then," causing a spike in overdoses, Melanie says.

After Sasha's death, a friend offered the Materos, who have three adult children, what they feel is wise advice: don't spend much time on the "why," but on what lies ahead. Their experience has made them painfully aware of the seriousness of the opioid epidemic, but they say they are not allowing it to overwhelm them.

"I feel like our family lost a son to addiction," Melanie says. "I don't want our other children to lose their mother to fighting addiction."

Following Sasha's death, the Materos chose to be open about what happened. "We put the cause of death in the obituary," Melanie says. "People were shocked, but there is nothing to be ashamed of."

"I'm happy that people are talking," Jim says. "It's coming out of its deep, dark hole."

Max's Story

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

When Teri Barr discovered in 2009 that her son, Max, was using drugs, she was well aware of the challenges she faced. She had been an addict herself, years before, but had survived.

It took four years, but Max also survived. His mother, who at the time owned Hudson Valley Outfitters on Main Street in Cold Spring, led him through a whirlwind of treatment programs, withdrawals and relapses, court appearances and incarceration and, finally, immersion in a program in California.

Max, who now lives in Florida,

still receives therapy but is no longer struggling with drug addiction, his mother says. Getting to that point was not easy.

A prescription

Barr says her son became addicted when he was 14. His feet had been badly sunburned while boating, and a doctor prescribed an opioid painkiller. After exhausting the first prescription, "we went back to the doctor and asked for more, because he was in pain," Barr said. "As a mom, I didn't want him to be in pain."

She believes the stage was set for Max's struggles even before his injury. "All of a sudden, a kid doesn't just turn into an addict," she says. "Kids who are vulnerable to using drugs have a need to feel accepted" but never quite feel they fit in, she says.

Around the same time, Max began smoking marijuana. His mother packed him off to a wilderness camp, and "it worked," she says. "It was good."

What happened next was not so good.

A safe place

On the suggestion of the camp staff, Barr enrolled Max in a pri-



Teri Barr with her son, Max

Photo provided

vate school in New England but soon discovered that there was widespread drug use among its students.

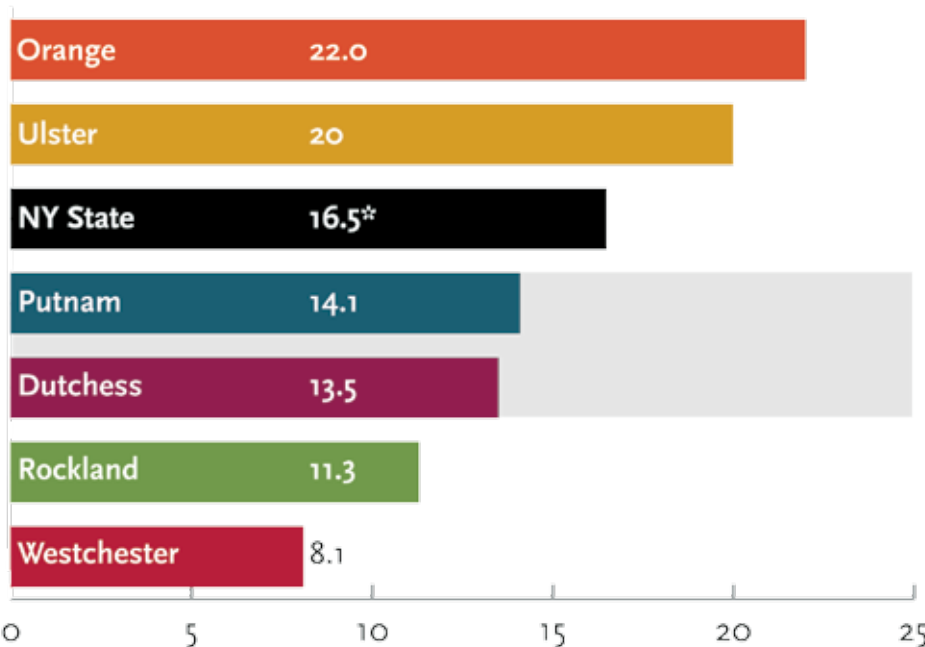
So Max came home to Cold Spring to live with his mother. (Barr and Max's father were divorced.) Before long, money began to disappear from the house and she found drug paraphernalia.

Interventions ensued: counseling, psychiatrists, a hospital in Kingston, stints in Arms Acres treatment center in Carmel. There were so many rehabs she lost count. "Probably 15 to 20" in four years, she says.

Story continues at
highlandscurrent.com.

OPIOID-RELATED HOSPITALIZATIONS (2016)

(# per 100,000 residents)



* New York State figures exclude New York City

Source: NYS Department of Health (health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid), County Opioid Quarterly Report, July 2017

Chart by Lynn Carano

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

Fall begins
The Art of Inventive Repair
6:30 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-9575 | boscobel.org

Windows on Main (Opening)
7 p.m. Oak Vino Wine Bar
389 Main St., Beacon
windowsbeacon.com

Aery Theatre 20/20 Play Festival
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3900 | philipstowndepottheatre.org

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

Volunteer Landscape Day
9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Manitoga
584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org

8th Annual Prostate Cancer Walk
9 a.m. Walkway Over the Hudson
61 Parker Ave., Poughkeepsie

Hudson Valley Vegan Fest
10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Gold's Gym
258 Titusville Road, Poughkeepsie | hvvegfest.org

Family Day
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Constitution Island
Shuttle from Cold Spring train station
constitutionisland.org

Monarch Butterfly Tagging
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 x204 | hhnrm.org

Infant CPR Workshop
11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
Call 845-424-3020 to register.

Walter De Maria: Truck Trilogy (Opening)
11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Dia:Beacon
3 Beekman St., Beacon
845-440-0100 | diabeacon.org

Knights of Columbus Oktoberfest
Noon – 9 p.m. Mayor's Park
61 Fair St., Cold Spring
oktoberfestincoldspring.eventbrite.com

FriendRaiser
1 – 5 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Ageless Wonders: When Did I Become a Senior? (Talk)
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

UFOs in the Hudson Valley (Talk)
5 p.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

Middle School Teen Night
7 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe Dr., Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Calendar Highlights

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

Silent Film Series: Cosmic Journey (1936)
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Aery Theatre 20/20 Play Festival
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Friday.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 24

I Run Beacon 5K Run/Walk
8 a.m. Memorial Park
Search runsignup.com for "Run Beacon"

Clearwater Annual Meeting
9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. River Center
23 Long Dock Road, Beacon
845-765-3012 | clearwater.org

Hudson Valley Vegan Fest
10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Gold's Gym
See details under Saturday.

Garden Conservancy Open Day
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

Knights of Columbus Oktoberfest
Noon – 6 p.m. Mayor's Park
See details under Saturday.

Spirit of Beacon Day
Noon – 4 p.m. Main Street

One River, Many Streams Festival
2 – 4 p.m. Main and Cedar, Beacon

Jersey Boys
2 p.m. Ike Hall
655 Ruger Road, West Point
845-938-4159 | ikehall.com

Philipstown Community Congress
2 p.m. North Highlands Fire Department
504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring
ecologicalcitizens.org/
philipstowncommunitycongress

Closing Reception
3 – 6 p.m. Gallery 66 NY
66 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5838 | gallery66ny.com

Aery Theatre 20/20 Play Festival
4 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Friday.

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

Snehasish Mozumder on Double-neck Mandolin
8 p.m. Quinn's
330 Main St., Beacon
845-831-8065 | quinnssbeacon.com

MONDAY, SEPT. 25

Putnam County Flu Clinic
2 – 6:30 p.m. Carmel Fire Department
Route 52 and Vink Drive, Carmel
845-808-1332 | putnamcountyny.com

State Constitutional Convention Discussion
6 p.m. Mahopac Library
686 Route 6, Mahopac
845-628-2009 | lwvny.org

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 | beaonk12.org

Garrison Fire District Meeting
7 p.m. Garrison Fire House
1616 Route 9, Garrison
845-424-4406 | garrisonfd.org

TUESDAY, SEPT. 26

Silent Studio
8:30 – 10 a.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

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

Main Street Summit
6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Beahive Beacon
291 Main St., Beacon
mainstreetsummitbeacon.com

Beacon Historical Society
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-0514 | beaconhistorical.org

Tomorrow (Documentary, 2015)
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Saturday.

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27

Mah Jongg Open Play
10 – 11 a.m. Old VFW Hall
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

BeaconArts Member Meet Up
7 p.m. Center for Creative Education
464 Main St., Beacon | beaonarts.org

Highland Photographers' Salon
7 p.m. Garrison Art Center | Details under Tuesday.

Mother Courage (Reading)
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Friday.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 28

Senior Luncheon
1 p.m. Church on the Hill
245 Main St., Cold Spring | 845-265-2022

Veterans' Group of Putnam County
6 p.m. Cornerstone Building
Route 52 and Fair, Carmel
845-278-8387 | mhaputnam.org

New Wave Dance Party
7 – 10 p.m. University Settlement Camp
724 Wolcott Ave., Beacon
845-765-0472 | beaonmusicfactory.com

Years of Living Dangerously (Documentary)
7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Saturday.

The Chain that Saved the Colonies (Talk)
7 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

Kol Nidre Service
6 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
845-831-2012 | beaonhebrewalliance.org

Sing Your Song (Documentary)
7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St., Beacon
moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

Depot Docs: Cutie and the Boxer
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Sept. 22.

The Rippingtons with Russ Freeman
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

Yom Kippur Eve / Kol Nidre Services
8 p.m. St. Mary's Parish House
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-8011 | philipstownreformsynagogue.org



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Window Opens to See Historic Home (from Page 9)

descendants, worked with Nancy Allan to restore the exterior to an approximation of a Dutch-English farmhouse, as it appears today. The house has a fine collection of Hudson Valley and original 18th century furniture. The interior of the house has low beam ceilings and paneling.

Nancy Allan eventually became an owner of the property and left it to her daughter, Margaret Allan Gething. When Gething died in 1975, she left the home, and another she owned in San Antonio, to a trust to maintain as historic sites. The home is now owned and maintained by the Perry-Gething Foundation, which is overseen by Robert Perry, a Texas lawyer and friend of the family.

Infrequent tours

The fact that the home is open infrequently has led critics to charge that Gething's wishes that it be a historic site are not being honored.

The trustees also have been accused of using the home as a part-time residence but not paying property taxes. But Perry says the IRS does not require that the foundation open the home at all, only that it be maintained, and notes that the foundation has for years paid property taxes voluntarily, so that the home is not a burden on Philipstown.

(According to the Philipstown tax rolls, the property has an assessed full-market value of just under \$1 million. The foundation's most recent IRS filing says the nonprofit paid \$32,867 in property taxes in 2015, on both the New York and Texas homes.)

The kerfuffle came to a head in 2006, when an article in *The New York Times* detailed a series of charges and countercharges between Perry and Robert Bickford of Philipstown over public access to the site.

In an email, foundation board member Katherine Perry said the *Times* article was "apparently the result of misinformation and misunderstanding. The house has been open every spring (June) and fall (October) for tours and cultural events for New York state and local communities." She added, "There have been no further developments as the 'controversy' was groundless and without merit."

Bickford, an attorney, had at the time of the *Times* article filed two complaints with the New York State attorney general. He didn't pursue the matter, he wrote in an email, but still believes Perry has not honored the wishes of his client, which was to give the home to the community. He added, however, that "through the foundation he created, he has maintained it beautifully."

Bickford said his concern now is what will happen to the property. The foundation has only three trustees, "all of whom are aging, and none of whom is part of the Garrison community (except that Mr. Perry shows up from time to time)."



A state historic marker outside the Mandeville House

Photo by Susan Stava



Aery Theatre Co. 20/20 One Act Play Festival Through Sept. 24

See website for details

Excellent Creatures Dialogues with Drama play reading:

Mother Courage by Bertolt Brecht

Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Depot Docs:

Cutie and the Boxer

Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m.

Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.)
philipstowndepottheatre.org • Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com

Can't Make It?

Mandeville House is sometimes open by appointment. Email Katherine Perry at p2kath@aol.com or call 845-424-3626 to inquire.

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Sun., 9/24 5:00 p.m. Concert Across America to End Gun Violence	Sun., 10/1 7:30 p.m. Joni & James: music of Joni Mitchell & James Taylor by Anne Carpenter & Peter Calo
Thurs., 9/28 7:00 p.m. Calling All Poets	Thurs., 10/5 7:00 p.m. Youth Open Mic
Fri., 9/29 7:00 p.m. Boom Kat - Free	Fri., 10/6 8:30 p.m. The Push Stars Alana Sweetwater
Fri., 9/29 8:30 p.m. Professor Louie & The Crowmatix	

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Small, Good Things

Easy Does It

By Joe Dizney

Just as simplicity is not always easy, complexity isn't necessarily daunting.

Simplicity can imply an elegance — a beauty or clarity only achievable through a thoughtful and resolute paring away of the inessential. It's a constant dialectic: how simple can you make it versus how complex does it *have* to be.

And complexity, far from being a Rubik's Cube of disparate elements, can just as easily be appreciated as an accumulation of relationships manifest in a unity greater than the sum of its parts.

There is something further to be said for exploring the tension between the two, in taming and consolidating these supposed opposites.

Scalloped Sweet Potatoes with Chipotle Cream

Adapted from Bobby Flay, 4 to 6 servings

2 cups heavy cream (or full-fat coconut milk)
2 tablespoons (or more) chipotle peppers in adobo

3 to 4 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and sliced thin (about 1/8-inch)
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. In a blender, puree cream (or coconut milk) and chipotles until smooth.
2. In a 9-by-9-inch casserole, arrange potatoes in an even layer. Drizzle with 2 to 3 tablespoons of the chipotle cream. (Note: Do not overdo this part or the final result will be soupy.) Season with salt and pepper and repeat the process, pressing down each layer with your hands or a spatula. Repeat until the casserole is just barely topped off. Press down once more and drizzle with a bit more of the chipotle cream (remembering the note above).
3. Cover in foil and bake for 30 minutes. Remove the foil and continue baking 45 minutes to 1 hour longer, until the cream has been absorbed and the potatoes are cooked through and browned on top. Allow to sit for a bit to absorb the loose cream and serve hot.

What does this have to do with food and cooking? How much time have you got? Admittedly, I love to cook and have produced that classic French marathon recipe, the *cassoulet*, which was, admittedly, worth it, but nothing to consider when you're hungry on a Tuesday night. Likewise, Diana Kennedy's 25-ingredient *mole poblano* was worth every drop.

Sweet, hot, smoky and assertive, the potatoes satisfy the promise of the best comfort food.

But avant-garde extremes like Thomas Keller's high-end food porn in *The French Laundry Cookbook*, Ferran Adrià's experiments at elBulli and Nathan Myhrvold's scientific investigations (requiring equipment such as rotor-stator homogenizers and a centrifuge) just make me feel inadequate.



Scalloped Sweet Potatoes with Chipotle Cream

Photo by J. Dizney

Much more to my opening point is a recipe like this, adapted from Bobby Flay, who I've known since 1988 when he was making a name for himself at the Miracle Grill in the East Village.

Bobby always had a way of combining big flavors with earthier elements. This classic recipe with its three ingredients — sweet potatoes, chipotle peppers and cream — is representative of his simple artistry.

The preparation couldn't be simpler, either. If you have one, a mandolin makes short work of slicing the potatoes; a quick whirl in a blender accomplishes the rest. A

slow roasting unites it all.

Sweet, hot, smoky and assertive, the potatoes satisfy the promise of the best comfort food. They are an excellent accompaniment to roasted or grilled beef, pork or chicken and would undoubtedly make a surprising replacement for your Thanksgiving sweet potato purée.

Before preparing the dish for a potluck, I was told that a couple of guests were avoiding dairy, so I made an alternate version substituting coconut cream, which provided an unexpected Asian inflection.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Haldane Verse

Works appear on poetry trail

The Poetry Trail organized by the River of Words program at the Hudson Highlands Land Trust opened on Sept. 17. Poems written by eight students from



River of Words judge Irene O'Garden with Haldane Elementary poets Saminah Scherer, Violeta Edwards-Salas and Allie Cairns

Photo provided

three schools are reprinted on cloth and attached to driftwood along the trails at the Outdoor Discovery Center at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum in Cornwall.

The Haldane Elementary students whose poems were selected are Saminah Scherer (teacher Jennifer Windels), Violeta Edwards-Salas (Windels) and Allie Cairns (Lisa Pray).

Culture with a Card

Butterfield offers streaming service

The Butterfield Library in Cold Spring has subscribed to Hoopla, a digital media service that allows library cardholders to stream or download movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and television shows on the web or mobile devices. See hoopladigital.com.

Fifth-Grade Poster Contest

Theme is 'Trees for Bees'

Students in the fifth grade are invited to submit artwork for the annual Arbor Day poster contest organized by the state Department of Environmental Conservation. The theme is "Trees for Bees." See www.dec.ny.gov/education/25420.html. The deadline is Jan. 5.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Reading Series Returns

First event scheduled for Oct. 1

The Sunset Reading Series at Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring returns at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 1, with Jenny Offill. She will read from her novel, *Dept. of Speculation*, which tells the tale of a failing marriage as a suspenseful love story and was called one of the 10 best books



Jenny Offill will read from her novel at the Sunset Music Series on Oct. 1.

Photo by Michael Lionstar

of the year by *The New York Times Book Review*. The series is supported by a grant from the Putnam Arts Council.

Manitoga Benefit

Performance set for Sept. 30

Composer Suzanne Thorpe will present *Resonance & Resemblance* at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 30, at Manitoga in Garrison as a benefit for the site. The work, which was created for and inspired by Manitoga, is part sonic and part meditation. Tickets start at \$20. See visitmanitoga.org.

School Forest Clean-up

Volunteers will clear trails

The Garrison School will host a School Forest workday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 30, to clear existing trails and create new ones, including one that will allow students to walk from the school to the forest.

Volunteers can bring tools, water, gloves, hammers, long-handled lopping shears, saws and pruning shears. Call 845-424-4733, ext. 230, or email jgriffiths@gufs.org.

Innovation Center

Library raising funds for new space

An anonymous donor to the Desmond-Fish Library in (To next page)

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Visual Artists: John Allen, Inez Andruyc, Roger Bauman, Michael Bernstein, Cristina Biaggi, Jo-Ann Brody, Susan Buroker, Jodi Carlson, Regina Corritore, Ada Cruz, Auggie DellaVecchia, Robert Friedman, Erica Hauser/Jon Reichert, Sarah Haviland, Barney Hodes, Eric Jacobson, Jake Joyce, Simone Kestelman, Larissa Killough, Bernard Klevickas, Conrad Levenson, David Link, Jim Lloyd, Bibiana Matheis, Alison McNulty, Michael Natiello, Page Ogden, Chris Plaisted, Hildy Potts, Herman Roggeman, Stevphn Rose, Cassandra Saulter, Peter Schlemowitz, Fred Schlitzer, Herrat Sommerhoff, Heinrich Spillman, Storm King School, Jim Thomson, Alex Uribe, RAndre Voumard, Chuck von Schmidt, Eva Worley, Max Yawney

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

(from previous page) Garrison has offered \$25,000 in matching funds toward an Innovation and Learning Center scheduled to open in the library's lower level in 2018.

The project is expected to cost \$175,000. To donate toward the match, contact Library Director Jen McCreery at 845-424-3020.



A Putnam County Sheriff's deputy shows off his patrol car to Haldane kindergarten students on Sept. 13.

Photo provided



HURRICANE HELP — The group Friends of Ben performs at the Cold Spring Lions Club's annual pig roast fundraiser on Sept. 16, which raised more than \$5,300 to benefit victims of Hurricane Harvey. The music was sponsored by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

Photo by Clayton Livingston

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

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Beacon

Beacon Artists Honored

Receive Dutchess County arts award

The 31st annual Dutchess County Executive's Arts Awards will be presented on Thursday, Oct. 5, at the Villa Borghese in Wappingers Falls.

Among the 11 honorees are Michelle Rivas, coordinator of Young Adult programs at the Howland Public Library in Beacon, for her contributions to arts in education, and Kelly Ellenwood, for her work as president of BeaconArts. See artsmidhudson.org.

Newburgh Open Studios

Annual event begins Sept. 30

Newburgh Open Studios, a self-guided tour of creator spaces, galleries and installations, will take place from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 30, and Sunday, Oct. 1. Maps are available at Newburgh Art & Supply, 5 Grand St. More than 80 artists are participating. In addition, the Glen-Lily Grounds will be open at 532 Grand Ave. in Balmville with sculptures and installations from 30 artists. See newburghopenstudios.org.

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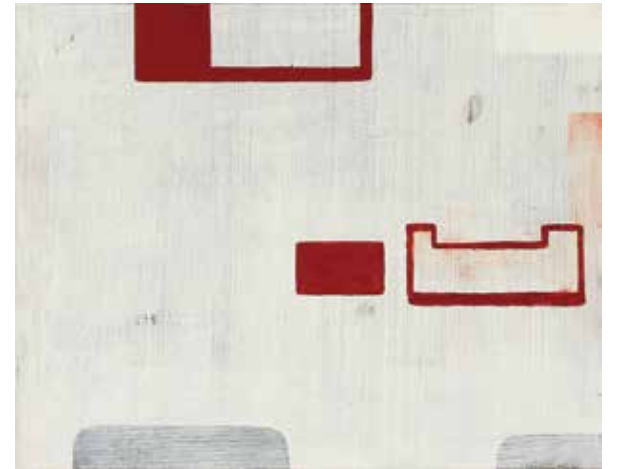


Artwork by Crystal Wagner, who will be taking part in Newburgh Open Studios on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1

Image provided

NY Alert

For public safety and transportation alerts by text or email, visit nyalert.gov



DIAGRAMS — Eric Erickson's work will be on display at the Buster Levi Gallery in Cold Spring through Oct. 1.

Image provided

Thank You!

Angelina's Pizza
Ann Bouchard
Anita Merando
Archipelago at Home
B & L Deli
Barber and Brew
Bijou Galleries
Blue Olive
Burkeman
Cold Spring Depot
Cold Spring Fire Company
Cold Spring Florist
Cold Spring Pizza

Cup-O-Ccino
Doug's Pretty Good Pub
Drug World
Foodtown
Ellen Hayden Gallery
Excellent Creature
Gallery 66
Garden Café
Gloria McVey
Go-Go Pops
Grano Focaccia
Hudson Hill's Cafe
Hudson House

The Cold Spring Mayor and Board of Trustees thank all the businesses and individuals who contributed their time, food, beverages and gifts to the Annual Cold Spring Senior Citizens' Picnic. Your donations made the day a huge success. Over sixty area senior citizens enjoyed the beautiful, breezy day and the door prize drawings highlighted the week for many.

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival
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Le Bouchon
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The Highlands Current
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Vintage Violet
Whistling Willie's
Yanitelli's Wine and Spirits

Having Faith in Nature *(from Page 9)*

land and handling the constant repairs needed throughout the property and the encroachment of surrounding developments. Conservation easements proved to be part of the solution. So did reorganizing the volunteers who assisted the monks.

"Father James told me that all the volunteers were disparate and uncoordinated, so I asked if they had ever had groups talk to each other, because it's a lot of work bringing stakeholders together," she says. "As a result, I conducted a group meeting, discussing strengths and issues, and prioritizing them."

Patterson, a former network news

cameraman, had done a piece for HGTV on foods of the Shenandoah Valley that included fruitcakes made at the monastery. He was among the stakeholders. "It was his idea to do a documentary, because it was such a special place," Dain says.

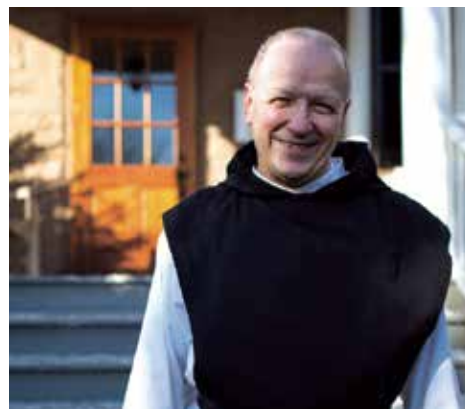
"It was a provocative subject: how the men are making choices about the land and each other, as well as other spiritual choices. It's a universal need, shown locally."

Dain and Patterson didn't want to make a promotional film. "We were clear



The cemetery chapel at Holy Cross Abbey, which is on a farm known in the 18th century as "Cool Spring"

Photo provided



Father James Orthmann

Photo provided

that we would maintain editorial control," she says. "We wanted to focus on how the monastery brought people together who would not normally find common ground, with the main theme being the intersection of ecology and theology.

"The monks live by the Rule of St. Benedict, which mandates that they be stewards of the land," she continues. "Traditionally they have always lived on land they've worked on replenishing and restoring. A lot of people are into conservation, but this small group of monks made it their mission statement.

"It was a provocative subject: how the men are making choices about the land and each other, as well as other spiritual choices. It's a universal need, shown locally."

Saving Place, Saving Grace was completed in January and aired by a PBS station in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Earlier this month, the documentary, which is narrated by CBS News correspondent

The Dain Family

Deidra Dain is a member of the Dain family that owns the Peekskill lumber business founded in 1848. Her parents, Sue and Henry "Tip" Dain, moved after World War II to Peekskill, then learned from a bread delivery man about Garrison. They bought land on Old Albany Post Road and built a small home there in 1951.

They had four girls and a boy, in that order. Deidra is the fourth; the baby brother Jeff, now runs the lumberyard. "We all went to Garrison Union Free School, and to church at St. Philip's, and we all still go back to visit," says Deidra, who lives in Winchester, Virginia. "My father was very active on the school board and active on the local Republican committee up to the era of Nixon, when he lost interest. He was also involved with the Fish and Game Club, was a vestryman at church and won a lot of golf tournaments at Highlands Country Club. All this while commuting for 42 years to the city, long before there was a big parking lot at the station."

Martha Teichner, was placed on a roster of films available to PBS stations across the country.

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Sports

Renegades Win Third Championship

Sweep Lake Monsters in title series

The Hudson Valley Renegades, the minor league baseball club that plays at Dutchess County Stadium, won the New York-Penn League Championship on Sept. 14 by sweeping the Vermont Lake Monsters in a best-of-three series.

The Class A Short Season team also won the title in 1999 and 2012.

The Renegades held the Lake Monsters to one hit in Burlington to win, 6-0. On Sept. 13, they took the first game in the series, 3-2, at home in 13 innings.



Coach Michael Impellittere Photo provided

Haldane Grad Named Hood College Head Coach

Michael Impellittere, a 2009 Haldane High School grad, has been named the head baseball coach at Division III Hood College in Frederick, Maryland.

Twice selected to the all-county and all-section teams for the Blue Devils, Impellittere went on to play four seasons for Misericordia University in Pennsylvania. He coached at SUNY New Paltz before joining the Hood College baseball staff two years ago. The sport was added by the school in 2015.

Impellittere succeeds Cory Beddick, who left to become head coach at Washington College, another Division III program in Maryland.



In the Renegades first playoff game, against the Staten Island Yankees on Sept. 9, Zacrey Law hit a solo homer to win it in the 13th inning.

Photo by Nick Musial/H.V. Renegades

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Sports

Growing Pains for Haldane Volleyball

But with seven seniors, all eyes on state tournament

By Leigh Alan Klein

After a win at Croton on Sept. 20, the Haldane girls' volleyball team stands at 5-3 in its second season after moving up from Class D to C. The program had dominated at the smaller Class D level, winning 13 consecutive regional titles, but it lost in the Section 1, Class C final last year to undefeated Pawling.

The Blue Devils play at Class A Beacon tonight (Sept. 22). Their next home game is Monday, (Sept. 25), against Class A Yorktown.



Senior Mackenzie Patinella (12)

Members of the Haldane girls' volleyball team

Photo provided

Seven of the 12 players on the 2017 roster are seniors, and they have one goal in mind, says second-year head coach Kelsey Flaherty: a state championship.

(An immediate goal for the Blue Devils will be to play on Sunday, Nov. 5. For the first time this year in Section 1, the regional finals for all four classes will be held on the same day at Pace University. In past seasons they have taken place at two locations on separate days.)

Coach Flaherty, a 2012 Haldane grad, was a five-year starter for the Blue Devils, who won the state Class D championship during her senior year. She then excelled at Division II Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vermont, where she had more than 500 career kills.

"For as long as I can remember Haldane has always had an amazing volleyball program, and that still stands true today," Flaherty says. "This season I see a new light in my team. We are motivated in every practice and, of course, at every game."

Volleyball participation continues to grow nationally and has eclipsed basketball as the second most popular sport for female high school students, behind outdoor track and field.

Flaherty credits club volleyball for the sport's growing strength; she was a member of the Downstate Juniors Volleyball Club in Peekskill for seven years. "I always encourage the girls to stay involved with volleyball during the off season," she says. "It makes all the difference."

Flaherty: Some players to watch

- Senior Mackenzie Tokarz: "Co-captain, libero and key defensive player." She has 110 digs on the season.
- Senior Mackenzie Patinella: "Another co-captain who plays offense and defense."
- Senior Sophia Azznara: "A co-captain and defensive specialist."
- Junior Willa Fitzgerald: "A key to the front row on offense."
- Sophomores Olivia Monteleone and Melissa Rodino: "They are the quar-

This Week's Games

Saturday, Sept. 23

Haldane Cross Country
at Adirondack XC
Beacon Cross Country
at Bowdoin XC
Beacon Boys' Soccer
vs. Putnam Valley, 1 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 25

Beacon Boys' Soccer
vs. Poughkeepsie, 4:30 p.m.
Haldane Boys' Soccer
vs. Croton, 4:30 p.m.
Haldane Volleyball
vs. Yorktown, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 26

Haldane Girls' Tennis
vs. North Salem, 4:15 p.m.
Beacon Cross Country
Pre-League meet, 4:15 p.m.
Beacon Volleyball
vs. Arlington, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 27

Beacon Girls' Tennis
vs. Ardsley, 4:15 p.m.
Haldane Cross Country
at Pawling, 4:30 p.m.
Beacon Boys' Soccer
vs. Peekskill, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 28

Haldane Girls' Tennis
vs. Pleasantville, 4:15 p.m.
Haldane Boys' Soccer
vs. Putnam Valley, 4:30 p.m.

terbacks for the team," Flaherty says. "They call the plays, and they run the offense." Monteleone leads the team with 37 kills, while Rodino has 18 serving aces.

- Sophomore Grace Tomann: "One of our go-to hitters," she has 35 kills so far this year.

Varsity Scoreboard

Football

Haldane 40, Onteora 18
Brandon Twoguns (143 yards rushing,
3 TDs, 90 yards passing, 1 TD)
Nyack 35, Beacon 6

Boys Soccer

North Salem 7, Haldane 0
Croton 4, Haldane 0
Pleasantville 3, Haldane 2
Beacon 4, Lourdes 1
Beacon 3, Peekskill 1
Chaminade 5, Beacon 1
Beacon 4, Ketcham 0

Girls Soccer

Albertus Magnus 1, Beacon 0
Haldane 3, Henry Hudson 2 (OT)
Jade Villella (2), Maura Kane-Seitz (1)
Pleasantville 1, Haldane 0
Haldane 2, Pawling 1
Villella (1), Robin Ben-Adi (1)

Arlington 6, Haldane 0
Beacon 7, Poughkeepsie 1
Beacon 2, Lourdes 1 (OT)

Volleyball

Haldane 3, Keio 0
Briarcliff 3, Haldane 2
Haldane 3, Irvington 0
Rye Neck 3, Haldane 1
Haldane 3, Croton 1
Beacon 3, Roosevelt 0
Daisy Okoye (5 kills), Bri Dembo (19 aces)
Beacon 3, Carmel 1
Beacon 3, Henry Hudson 0

Tennis

Henry Hudson 4, Haldane 3
Haldane 4, Pawling 1
Haldane 7, Beacon 0
Beacon 7, Panas 0
Beacon 5, Poughkeepsie 0

See highlandscurrent.com
for more scores.

Highlands Current Athlete of the Week

Meagan Meeuwisse, Beacon

The junior goalkeeper has been a bright spot for the Beacon varsity girls' soccer team, with 42 saves, including two in the Bulldogs' first win of the season, a 7-1 victory at Poughkeepsie on Sept. 18.

"She has made some incredible saves against the top competition in Section 1," said Coach Hugo Alzate. "Last season she was susceptible to high shots, but she now has the height and athleticism to get to balls that most keepers can't."



Meagan Meeuwisse Photo by Richard Kuperberg Sr.