The HIGHLANDS THE HIGHLANDS



Newburgh's Sweet Sounds
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October 20, 2017 161 Main St., Cold Spring, N.Y. | highlandscurrent.com

Beacon Council Candidates Say Hello

And a few say goodbye

By Brian PJ Cronin and Jeff Simms

pair of "meet the candidates" forums on Oct. 17 and 18 at the Howland Cultural Center gave voters a chance to hear from the multitude of residents who would like to serve on the Beacon City Council.

At the same time, two incumbents — Omar Harper and Ali Muhammad — are no longer in the race.

Harper, the Ward 2 Democrat who was running for re-election on the Republican slate, has withdrawn for what he said are personal reasons. Muhammad, the Ward 4 representative, was running for one of the council's two at-large posts, but he lost the Democratic primary and his subsequent nominating petition to run as an independent was thrown out.

That all but guarantees that on Nov. 7 voters will elect a City Council with at least four newcomers, or relative newcomers (Chris Bopp, the Republican candidate for Ward 4, served on the council in the late 1970s.)

Harper, who was elected in 2015, announced his withdrawal at the Oct. 17 forum for Republican candidates. The decision had weighed on him for some time, he said, but he determined that "with my personal stuff, I can't keep up right now."

Although Harper's name will appear on the ballot, he endorsed his opponent, Democrat John Rembert, saying he "couldn't think of a better person" for the seat.



Aviv Lant, Grayson Wik and Liam Hussung put some bounce in their step on Oct. 14 at the annual fall festival organized by the Garrison School PTA.

Photo by Sheila Williams

Muhammad off ballot

Besides Harper, the only incumbents on the Nov. 7 ballot will be Lee Kyriacou and George Mansfield, both Democratic atlarge council members.

The independent campaign of a fourth incumbent, Muhammad, was upended after a member of the Beacon Democratic Committee filed an objection with the Dutchess County Board (Continued on Page 7)



Beacon Democratic and Green Party candidates spoke on Oct. 18. From left: Terry Nelson, John Rembert, Jodi McCredo, Amber Grant, George Mansfield, Lee Kyriacou, Frits Zernike, Nick Page and Paul Yeaple

Photo by B. Cronin

Putnam Legislators Expected to Approve Their Own Raises

Last increase was in 2007; would make \$40K annually

By Holly Crocco

Putnam County legislators are expected to approve a 2018 budget that gives each of the nine part-time lawmakers a 14 percent raise, to \$40,000 approach.

Legislature Chairwoman Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson) noted that, aside from a \$700 cost-of-living increase in 2016, the pay for legislators has not changed in 10

At a meeting on Oct. 16 of the Legislature's Personnel Committee, Nacerino said the \$5,000 increase is the equivalent of 1 percent annually, if amortized to 2007. She said she believed the raise to be well-deserved, considering the "time that is spent and the amount of dedication to public service" that is required, and given that the position is not a "Monday-

through-Friday" job but includes evenings and weekends.

"I certainly have no reservation about advocating for an increase," she said. "We undermine our own value when we stay with zero, zero, zero... So, this is a fair assessment and it is well-deserved after a decade."

Lynne Eckardt, a Democratic councilwoman in Southeast who said she was speaking as a private citizen, observed that the increase will make Putnam legislators the second-highest paid county law-makers in the region, second only to Westchester, where the base salary is \$49,200. (Dutchess legislators make \$15,450 annually.)

"It's a really high increase," she said.

She also pointed out that part-time elected officials, such as the legislators, are entitled to health benefits.

Nacerino countered that legislative salaries cannot fairly be compared between counties because each job is different. For example, (Continued on Page 2)

Five Questions: Shirley Maloney

hirley Maloney, a Beacon resident who worked for 30 years as a custodian and bus driver for the Haldane Central School District, opened Dawg-Gone-Good two years ago near Breakneck Ridge. Weather permitting, her stand is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Did you have a lemonade stand when you were a kid?

I did, in Buchanan. It was quite successful. I dreamed of owning a hot dog stand for a long time. I started out here with just an umbrella, but thanks to my husband it blossomed into this trailer. He wanted to keep me working!

Why did you get into this after working at Haldane for so long?

I hurt my shoulder at work. They wanted me to go back, but I could no longer move furniture, clean and everything. When I retire we'll move to Old Forge. We like to snowmobile there.

How would you describe your customers?

They're smart people who want to see something new. They come up from New York City mainly, but you'd be surprised. I get customers from all over the world — France, Australia, Germany, Ireland. And truckers. I also get kids I knew from Hal-



Shirley Maloney offers a dog.

Photo by M. Turton

dane, although many of them aren't kids anymore. I want to put photos of my regulars in the trailer.

Are you worried about Breakneck closing at the end of the year?

I'm moving to Little Stony Point during the closure. When Breakneck opens, I'm coming back here. So I may end up with two spots. I'm growing!

What's the secret to a great hot dog?

I'm told it's a "dirty dog" - a hot dog and a beer. But I don't think I could do that legally! Personally I like sauerkraut and onions; it's the all-American hot dog. One customer asked me for mayonnaise. Can you imagine mayonnaise on a hot dog? I carry mayonnaise now, though.



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Putnam Legislators

(from Page 1)

Westchester lawmakers get stipends for serving on various committees and performing other duties, she said, which is not the case in Putnam.

"I stand, with conviction, that this proposed raise is deserving for the job that we do and will continue to do," she said. "This position has wanted for one raise, in a decade, and I anticipate we will not be revisiting this for another decade."

A public hearing on the county's 2018 budget is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse in Carmel. The Legislature is expected to vote on the budget on Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. at the same location.

Legislative Pay

	Base	Last
	<u>annual</u>	<u>raised</u>
Counties		
Dutchess	\$15,450	2006
Putnam	\$35,000	2007
Westchester	\$49,200	
Philipstown		
Supervisor/CBO	\$36,000	2016
Council member	\$18,000	2012
Cold Spring		
Mayor/CBO	\$15,162	2012
Board member	\$7,221	
Nelsonville		
Mayor	\$4,500	2017
Council member	\$2,650	2017
Beacon		
Mayor	\$25,000	2006
Council member	\$9,000	2006
State Legislature		
(Full-time)		
Sandy Galef	\$79,500*	1999
Frank Skartados	\$79,500	1999
Sue Serino	\$79,500	1999

*State legislators also receive a per diem of \$175 for each overnight stay in Albany, or \$59 if they don't stay overnight. In 2016, Galef received \$12,472. Skartados and Serino do not collect the per diem.



We'll be showcasing the three breweries that we recently completed. Stop in for a cold glass of beer. Special thanks to Cold Spring M&TBank, SBA, our contractors and suppliers for making this possible.



~ FEATURING ~







Villages Still at Odds Over Fire **Protection**

Cold Spring may simply change how it bills

By Michael Turton

There may be light at the end of the tunnel in the protracted dispute between Cold Spring and Nelsonville over the cost of fire protection - a squabble that the Cold Spring Fire Company says has left it short of funds.

Nelsonville has purchased fire protection from Cold Spring since 2001, when it disbanded its own fire department. The conflict centers on an invoice sent in October 2016 by Cold Spring to Nelsonville for \$21,679 for its twice-yearly billing. Nelsonville responded with a check that withheld \$1,004 it identified as a contribution to the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP), a pension for the volunteer firefighters.

Nelsonville Mayor Bill O'Neill said the village felt a referendum was necessary before it paid into the fund. Cold Spring has said it will not cash the check until Nelsonville acknowledges it is a partial

Adding to the tension has been the fire company's refusal to respond to the Cold Spring board's request for a detailed accounting of its operating expenses as part of the annual budget process.

After calling the board's request "intrusive," Fire Company President Matt Steltz said he would discuss the issue with the company leadership. At a village board meeting on Oct. 10, Merandy and Village Attorney John Furst emphasized that the



CSFC President Matt Steltz (left) discusses fire department funding with Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy (center right). Photo by M. Turton

board was simply meeting its fiduciary responsibilities.

At the suggestion of CSFC member Dan Valentine, the board will review how it bills for fire protection, including removing reference to LOSAP. Instead, the invoice might only indicate the total owed, a practice that Furst said is typical throughout the state.

In addition, Cold Spring has not billed Nelsonville or Philipstown, which also uses CSFC services, for the cost of operating and maintaining the Main Street firehouse, which the village owns. That also may change.

In other business...

- The village received a \$215,000 grant from the New York State Clean Water Fund for the Market Street Pumping Station Replacement Project.
- The Cold Spring Police Department answered 59 calls in September and issued tickets for 41 parking and 19 traffic

violations. It also made one arrest.

Nick Groombridge and Kim Connor, coowners of Groombridge Games, said it will again sponsor the July 4 fireworks in 2018.

- · Deputy Mayor Marie Early has negotiated increased fees from Seastreak to cover the cost of having an additional police officer on foot patrol when its cruise ships dock at Cold Spring.
- Tectonic Engineering has completed the schematic design report for proposed repairs to the upper dam.
- Superintendent of Water and Waste Water Greg Phillips reported that a meeting was held with Gov. Andrew Cuomo's regional representative in an attempt to move toward an agreement with the New York City Dept. of Environmental Protection that will enable the village to tap into the Catskill Aqueduct. The connection will provide water to Cold Spring and Nelsonville during repairs to the village dams. Negotiations with DEP began in 2011.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Beacon election

Residents of Beacon have an important election for City Council representatives on Nov. 7. As a resident of Ward 4, my vote goes to Amber Grant.

I met Amber when she volunteered for Wee Play Community Project to run sprinklers at the Green Street Park, and I found her to be smart, honest and responsible. She is hardworking and has the drive and dedication to work for us. Amber is very accessible and I know she will be readily available to her constituents.

Amber has the vision and drive to help move Beacon forward. She is dedicated to both environmental and economic sustainability for our city. With her 10-plus years of professional experience in digital technology, project and budget management and strategic planning, she brings critical skills and a proactive approach to the council.

I know Amber will be a great asset to our city — please join me in voting for her on Nov. 7.

Raquel Verdesi, Beacon

Something is fishy in Dutchess County. Over the past six years, leading elected officials have awarded tens of millions of dollars in county contracts to private companies that helped fund those officials' campaigns for office.

While it may be impossible to prove that a particular contract was awarded as compensation for a business's investment in a politician's career, the pattern fits a well-understood form of corruption known as "pay-to-play" politics, and the lack of accountability that enables it has led some Dutchess County residents to suspect that our elected leaders have helped their donors profit at the expense of their constituents.

Four years ago, Orange County passed a law limiting opportunities for such corruption. Thanks to the work of a minority of legislators, a similar bipartisan resolution sits before the Dutchess County legislature, but leading officials refuse to seriously consider it. Residents deserve for pay-to-play and other corruption-enabling loopholes to be legally closed.

Fortunately, a number of people who promise to work to enact reforms that would end pay-to-play politics in our county, cities and towns have offered themselves as candidates for public office in the November election. Among them are Dutchess County legislative candidates Frits Zernike and Nick Page, who seek to represent Districts 16 and 18. respectively. Zernike and Page and their peers pledge neither to seek nor accept campaign contributions from businesses that seek or hold contracts with local government, and to actively work to pass legislation to end pay-to-play politics and make local government transparent and accountable to all.

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21, voters will have an opportunity to hear from some of the pledged candidates at a Rally for Public Integrity in front of the Dutchess County Building at 22 Market St. in Poughkeepsie. All who care for the integrity of government are invited to attend. See grassrootsintegrity.org.

> Carolyn Guyer, New Hamburg Alexander Reed Kelly, Beacon Guyer and Kelly are co-founders of Grassroots Integrity.

The Philipstown election

On Oct. 16 my campaign spent valuable time and money placing signs along Route 9D in Garrison and Cold Spring. Sadly, the next day about 10 of my campaign signs for the Philipstown Town Board, along with those for Sheriff Don Smith, were stolen. We are both running as Republicans. I did not notice any signs placed by Democratic candidates missing.

I encourage anyone who observes the theft of campaign signs to report it, because it is against the law. The sheriff's office told me it would be diligent in patrolling the areas where the crime happened.

As a community, we can do better.

Tim Greco, Garrison

Our town is run with integrity. Our county sheriff's department is not. That's why I want to re-elect Richard Shea as Philipstown supervisor and Michael Leonard and John Van Tassel to the Town

Ned Rauch, Garrison I am writing in support for Tim Greco for Philipstown Town Board.

Board and elect Robert Langley as sheriff.

worked tirelessly on behalf of Philipstown

residents, ably taking on challenges and

admirably avoiding political rancor.

Langley is an experienced lawman with

deep ties to the community. Unlike his

opponent, he is not embroiled in a costly

controversy of his own making. On Nov.

7, I'll choose integrity and vote for Shea,

Leonard, Van Tassel and Langley.

Shea, Leonard and Van Tassel have

There are many reasons why Tim would make a great board member. The one that stands out the most is all the time and effort he has already invested in our neighborhoods. Tim's long record of giving back to the community is second to none, with no personal agenda. From reporting the news, to his participation in local organizations and helping others with compassionate spiritual healing and substance-abuse counseling, he has given of himself for years for the betterment of

I also see Tim as a moderate who exercises good common sense and reason. In



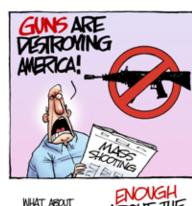
Campaign signs along Route 9D in

this era of extremes, candidates like Tim are refreshing. As pastor of the Church on the Hill, Tim's church had been attacked by a few disgruntled individuals who tried to stop the church bells from ringing and Tim stood fast and successfully defended his church. He shows that same level of passion in any endeavor and he is just the person we need to fight for our town.

Tim's level of patriotism in supporting our Pledge of Allegiance is honorable and his sensible approach to state and federal funding of our town and the Second Amendment is sound. Tim is also the director of media for the Walter Hoving Home, a non-profit organization serving women who have been involved in drug addiction, alcoholism, prostitution and other life-controlling problems. Among the charities to which I have donated, the Walter Hoving Home has always been my favorite.

In addition to Tim's service, loyalty and dedication to our town, he is a very likable guy. He is extremely approachable and always has an ear for you. He possesses a rare combination of peacefulness and passion, and has a great sense of humor.

If you don't know Tim, or haven't had a chance to meet him yet, I highly recom-(Continued on next page)







LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



The Garrison Fire District commissioners, from left, are Stan Freilich, Nat Prentice, Dave Brower, Linda Lomonaco and Sandy Bohl. Photo by Michael Turton

To know Tim is to like Tim. I hope you will join those of us supporting him on Nov. 7. There is no doubt in any of our minds that Tim Greco will serve us well.

Cindy Trimble, Cold Spring

Garrison fire budget

Prior to 2016, fire protection in Garrison was provided by the Garrison Volunteer Fire Company with oversight from the Philipstown Town Board. At the end of 2015, the board established a fire district. It appointed five commissioners, four of whom were fire company members.

The commissioners were charged with contracting with the fire company to provide fire protection and set subsequent budgets and raise the taxes necessary while balancing the fire protection and financial needs of the taxpavers.

Because 2017 was the first year for the new commissioners to set a budget, state law allowed them to ignore a state-mandated 2 percent tax cap and approve a 27 percent budget increase. At the December 2016 election, three of the five fire-company members who ran were defeated. I was

one of the new commissioners elected. I am not a member of the fire company.

I voted no on the proposed 2018 budget and wanted to explain why. (The commissioners approve the budget each year; it is not put to a public vote.)

The 2017 budget, totaling nearly \$800,000, will include a surplus of at least 10 percent due to overstatements in pension, workers' compensation, insurance and legal costs, even if all of the firematic, Station 1 and Station 2 budget lines are spent. This reduction will continue in 2018 and into the foreseeable future.

In addition, the last installment of the second mortgage on the Route 9 firehouse was paid off this year, providing a savings of about \$22,000 annually into the future.

That 10 percent surplus comes even after the commission set aside \$40,000 for reserves and paid \$25,000 in annual rent to the fire company as part of a five-year lease agreement for an office in the firehouse, although the Fire District (i.e., the taxpayers) pay the mortgage, insurance, repairs, maintenance and all other expenses for the facility.

zation which is bound to spend its income for the good of the community, has stated that it will not spend any of the \$50,000 rent it has received for 2016 and 2017 until the "public evidences trust in the company," according to company President Steve Rosario. I am not sure what that means, but it goes to the heart of the matter. The public's trust in its Fire Company and vice versa is jeopardized by lack of transparency, particularly with respect to its finances and membership. There are two hopeful signs. First, the

The Fire Company, a nonprofit organi-

commission agreed to publish a statement of purposes and intended size of the reserve funds. Second, a working group will be established to work on a five-year strategic plan.

Both of these efforts should be opened to the community. Then we can begin to have an atmosphere in which our firefighters will have what they need to protect the community and taxpayers will be enthusiastic partners.

The 2018 budget has a decrease of less than 1 percent over 2017. The remainder of the 10 percent savings will be used to add to the reserves and fund budget lines for deferred maintenance and major repairs. which are basically new reserves but notably do not have to be approved by voters.

Stan Freilich, Garrison

Say thanks to a Friend

The Howland Public Library gets by with a little help from our Friends - actu-

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters to the editor, which can be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.com or mailed to 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. As with online comments, we ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks. All letters are subject to editing for length, accuracy and clarity. The writer's full name, email and phone number must be included, although only the writer's name and village or city are published. We do not print anonymous letters or those written under pseudonyms.

ally, we get by with a lot of help from our Friends! Our Friends of the Library group run the Beacon Reads used bookstore next to the library. Volunteers staff the store seven days a week - they take in donations, price and categorize the donations, keep the store open and in many ways act as ambassadors for the library and the city.

All the income generated supports library programs and services. Have you noticed our new end panels, checked out our museum passes, downloaded music through Freegal, participated in our programs? You can thank the Friends. The Friends has generously given funds to support the library and by extension the community for many years.

I'd like to specifically thank the Beacon Reads volunteers for their commitment and dedication to ensuring that Beacon has the best (Continued on Page 6)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Sealed proposals will be received by the undersigned Town Clerk of the Town of Philipstown at her office in the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516 until 2:00 pm on October 25, 2016 when the same will be publicly opened and read aloud for the sale to the Town of Philipstown of:

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- WASHED CRUSHED STONE DELIVERED & FOB
- MANUFACTURED CRUSHED ITEM 4 DELIVERED & FOB
- SCREENED ITEM 4 DELIVERED & FOB
- STONE FILLINGS DELIVERED & FOB
- SAND FOR SNOW AND ICE CONTROL FOB & DELIVERED
- CURB MIX WITH RAP
- STONE SCREENINGS DELIVERED & FOB
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Meeting the specifications of the Town of Philipstown Highway Department. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the office of said Town Clerk at the above address. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. All purchase contracts awarded pursuant to this notice shall be subject to the provisions of Section 103-A, 103-B and 103-D of the General Municipal Law.

DATED: October 11, 2017

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The Philipstown Depot Theatre is seeking a Development Associate to work with the Executive Director and members of the Board of Directors on various aspects of its fundraising program. The consultant will work 20 hours a month, reporting to the Executive Director. For a detailed job descripton, please visit philipstowndepottheatre.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 5) library possible. Many thanks to Ann Baumgartner, Maureen Cotter, Marisa Del Pozo Slick, Nady Domenico, Tony Frisian, Carman Johnson, Charlie Moser, Gwen Nerrie, Anne Sewing, Michael Schoenberg and co-managers Vicki Blucher and Marcia Frahman.

National Friends of Libraries Week continues through Oct. 21, making it a perfect time to for the staff and trustees of the Howland Public Library to give our Friends a big shout-out for all they do to make a difference for us every single day.

Amy Raff, Beacon Raff is the Howland Library director.

Planned Parenthood

Where would women who cannot afford health insurance go if Planned Parenthood were defunded, as Dick Murphy suggested should be done in his Oct. 13 letter to the editor? I have never personally known anyone who has gone there for an abortion, but I have had many friends and acquaintances go for other services such as cancer and STD screenings, birth control (used for many things aside from preventing unwanted pregnancies) and vaccinations.

Katie Halpin, Cold Spring

I certainly see many places to take a "step toward a less-violent nation," as the letter-writer stated, but we could start by providing good health care for everyone

(including birth control) and maybe some gun control.

Kristine Logan, New Paltz

In an era of deteriorating journalistic standards and rampant partisanship, I expected our local paper to do better.

I value Mr. Murphy's right to speak his mind, although I strongly disagree with his message and wish he understood facts and/or reality, but I don't think *The Current* provides value to our community when it simply hands the microphone to an anti-abortion, misogynistic zealot without a factcheck. Why was this letter published?

Melissa Beck, Fishkill

Planned Parenthood has long been the subject of a smear campaign by the right meant to take away healthcare from those who need it. I support Planned Parenthood and I do not support the efforts of people to come between a woman and her healthcare providers as well as to dictate to women about their bodies. The last time I checked, the public overwhelmingly supports Planned Parenthood. We should not defund this vital healthcare provider.

Tom Conroy, Beacon

Editor's note: For more responses, see highlandscurrent.com.

Unpleasant welcome

The letter from the Cold Spring resident who said she and her husband had been denied a rental unit because he is bisexual was shocking (Oct. 13). This does not represent the values of Cold Spring or Philipstown. This landlord should be ashamed, and the federal housing law that would seem to protect their bigotry must be overturned.

Sean Conway, Cold Spring

When I lived in Cold Spring, I knew racism and bigotry ran deep, but it was rarely spoken out loud. It was a weird place to live. I loved it, but there was a lot I didn't love about it. And from the moment I got here, I felt more at home in Beacon than anywhere else I've lived.

Jennifer Blakeslee, Beacon

I have been burned in the past believing that a letter to the editor amounts to truth-saying. Are we sure about the accuracy of this account? I am not. I have over-reacted in the past, usually out of some sense of moral outrage. In this political climate, it is easy to respond in such a way. But in this case, I doubt we know the whole story.

James Hoch, Garrison

If the writer can prove the landlord had them evicted because of her husband's bisexuality, they should take the landlord to court, as it violates state housing law. As for being shocked that this happened in Cold Spring, you shouldn't be. It's a much more conservative place than you may think. Much like Beacon, Cold Spring has old and new.

 ${\it Christopher\ Clay}, {\it Beacon}$

Clean power

The Trump administration on Oct. 9 repealed the Clean Power Plan, rolling back the Obama administration's efforts to address climate change through federal regulations. Under the Clean Power Plan, the federal government provided states with targets for reducing power-plant emissions to help them shift away from coal toward cleaner energy sources such as offshore wind that contribute less to global warming.

The repeal could not be more poorly timed, coming as it does on the heels of hurricanes and major storms that experts say were exacerbated by climate change.

It's yet another piece of bad news, but we do not have to feel powerless. Our family will shortly have solar panels — all made in the U.S. — on our rooftop. Subsidies available for solar energy will cover much of the cost. Subscribing to a renewable energy-sourced company through Central Hudson will ensure the rest of our electrical use comes from renewable sources, including wind.

Of course, in the bigger picture, it is essential to contact our elected officials. We call on U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney and U.S. Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand and Charles Schumer to take all possible steps to fight the administration's attack on reason and science and act quickly to ensure that responsible policies are enacted to confront climate change instead of ignoring it.

Heidi Wendel, Nelsonville

News Match

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Beacon Candidates Say Hello (from Page 1)

of Elections to his nominating petition.

Members of the committee had earlier challenged Muhammad's petition to run as a Democrat, but a Dutchess County judge overruled the findings of the Board of Elections and put him on the ballot for the Sept. 12 primary. That vote was won by Kyriacou and Mansfield.

As many candidates do if they lose a party primary, Muhammad also filed to run as an independent. But Mary Gault, the corresponding secretary for the Democratic Committee, objected, citing unregistered voters, illegible signatures and signatures that had already appeared on Muhammad's Democratic petition.

The Board of Election commissioners agreed and tossed Muhammad's petition for having too few valid signatures. Kyriacou and Mansfield will now face Republican challenger Amando Downer on Nov. 7 for the two at-large seats.

In Ward 4, Darrell Williams, whose Democratic petition was disqualified in August, did not collect enough signatures to run as an independent. With Harper withdrawing, the only candidate from the "Stand with Ali" slate who remains is Paul Yeaple, who is running on the Green Party line for the Ward 1 seat.

Republican candidates

At both forums this week — one for Republican candidates and the other for Democrats — the main topic of discussion was the scale and pace of development in Beacon.

Wayne Theiss, an HVAC business owner and volunteer firefighter who is running as a Republican for the Ward 1 seat, said of the city's comprehensive plan, which was updated this year: "Some of the numbers I don't think really add up. The average rent is listed around \$1,061 [per month], and I don't know where we're finding those rates. I'd like to look back into those numbers.

"It's important to start incorporating light commercial, job-oriented [development] into the mix," he added. Solely focusing on residential development "isn't feeding back into the economy."

Andrew Gauzza, the Republican candidate in Ward 3 and a Manhattan College student, said the city should cut back on residential zoning and add commercial and office space. It also should add provisions in the comprehensive plan to update the water and sewer systems, he said, with a "sensible plan" that doesn't "burden the taxpayer."

Gauzza argued that the city needs a more diversified tax base: "The more jobs, the more sustainable the tax base," he said. About 10 percent of Beacon's residents work in the city, Gauzza said, but he would rather see that figure at 20 to 25 percent.

Bopp, a real estate agent and accountant who is the Republican candidate for Ward 4, also advocated more light industry, such as plants that employ machinists and carpenters. "Light industry doesn't mean stuffing little bean bags with stuff," he said. "It's got to be something that gen-

erates real jobs. We may actually have to spend some money to get these businesses to Beacon."

Downer, the at-large candidate, was ill and could not attend the forum.

Democratic candidates

The Democratic candidates at the Oct. 18 forum also addressed numerous concerns about the direction of development in Beacon. Rembert, a minister at the Star of Bethlehem Baptist church, summed up the thoughts of many of the candidates when he remarked that "Beacon used to be underdeveloped, but now it's becoming overdeveloped.

At both forums this week — one for Republican candidates and the other for Democrats — the main topic of discussion was the scale and pace of development in Beacon.

"We can keep developing, but we've got to take it slow, watch where we're doing it, and we need to bring jobs into Beacon," he said.

With Kyriacou and Mansfield in attendance, questions were also posed about unpopular council decisions, such as the scale of the building under construction at 344 Main St. Mansfield referred to the project as "a mistake," but noted that it was approved during a time when the city was desperately trying to attract developers to that part of Main Street.

"Visitors would come to either the east or west end of Main Street, then look down the street and think, 'Well there's nothing down that way, better turn around,' " Mansfield said. The additional story on the four-story building was presented as a way to make the project financially viable, he said, "but we've learned a lot from that."

Jodi McCredo, who co-owns a printing business and is running as the Democratic candidate for Ward 3, said that lowering the allowed height of buildings in that zone is only part of the solution.

"We also need to make very specific requirements on the height allowances of those stories, so that you don't have a 20-foot-tall vaulted ceiling on the top floor and end up with a huge building anyway," she said. "But we're the place to be now, and if developers want to be there, they have to give us what we demand of them."

Kyriacou suggested that the issue isn't so much the zoning as what developers do within the city's requirements, noting that the Inn and Spa at Beacon at 155 Main St. is in the same district as 344 Main and also includes a fourth floor. "But they did such a beautiful job with it that you don't even notice it," he said.

Mansfield and Kyriacou both added that the volunteer Zoning Board of Appeals now has an attorney at its meetings and that its members are required to undergo continuous training.

"We need people who know how to say 'No,' " said Kyriacou. The incumbents also pointed to a new development near City Hall in which 75 percent of the units

will qualify as affordable housing, and a recently enacted law that requires new residential projects to include at least 10 percent affordable housing.

Paul Yeaple, the former owner of Poppy's Burgers and the Green Party Candidate for Ward 1, said that 10 percent isn't enough.

"Any economist will tell you, the No. 1 person you want in your town is a middle-class homeowner," he said. "They spend money in the community, they live in the community, and they participate. We're distributing the wealth of the poor into a silo because the only development right now is for high-end people. But middle-class people created Beacon. They didn't go away. They've always been here. Rich people came in because they saw the gem, and now they're here to take it. But they don't participate like you do."

Environmental concerns

Terry Nelson, founder of the Beacon Independent Film Festival and the Democratic candidate for Ward 1, and Amber Grant, a senior vice president at Bank of America and the Democratic candidate for Ward 4, addressed environmental concerns throughout the evening by outlining a plan to achieve Climate Smart Community certification for the city.

"There's a false claim out there that green is expensive," Nelson said. "If we all chip in and get the business community to chip in, you'll see energy rates lowered."

Grant explained that taking part in the program provides a framework for tackling several challenges. "It means things like

Election Coverage

The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 7. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is Tuesday, Oct. 31. For information, or to find your polling place, see putnamboe.com or dutchesselections.com.

Over the next two weeks, *The Current* will pose questions to each candidate in the races for Philipstown Town Board, Beacon City Council, Putnam County sheriff and Dutchess County Legislature (Beacon representatives) and share their responses. On Nov. 3, we also will provide a guide to the candidates and referendums that will appear on the ballot.

Oct. 27

Beacon City Council Putnam County sheriff Philipstown Town Board

Nov. 3

Dutchess County Legislature Election Guide

figuring out how much greenhouse gases the city is emitting and coming up with a plan to address that," she said. "What gets attended to, gets done. If we just sit around talking about how great it would be to have solar panels and green roofs, it's never going to happen. And the financial benefits of green energy are well-proven at this point."

"Beacon should lead the way on this," Nelson added, "because climate change is real and if we don't address it, we're going to be in trouble."



PHILIPSTOWN BUSINESSES TO RAFFLE OFF BASKETS TO HELP ST. MARY'S CHURCH

The Fourth Raffle Basket to help raise money for St. Mary's Church will be raffled off on Monday, November 20th, just in time for Thanksgiving.

Over 30 businesses in Philipstown have donated gift cards, merchandise and services. This basket is worth over \$700.

Tickets, at \$2 each, may be purchased at the following businesses:

C & E Paint
The Country Goose

The Country Touch Cupoccino

Drug World Go Go Pops

The winners of the first three baskets were Judy Meyer, Martha Scott and Zachary Lantroop. Our thanks go to Jack Goldstein for picking the first winner and to Kacey Morabito of WHUD and Father Shane for picking the second and third winner.

If you'd like to make a tax deductible monetary donation, checks payable to St. Mary's Church may be dropped off at one of the above Main Street businesses.

Stonecrop in Autumn

By Alison Rooney

utumn wasn't in full show-off mode during Stonecrop Garden's final organized walk of the season on Wednesday, Oct. 18. With colors not reaching their usual peaks by this time of the year, the culprit, said Stonecrop horticulturalist Robin Young, who led the late afternoon to early evening stroll, was the lack of cool nights thus far.

Though there's been ample moisture and lots of warm sunny days, both components in the color spectrum equation, the lack of a cold snap means things are running a bit later than usual, and that this may just not be an incredible year for color. "In a couple of weeks they'll be peaking and amazing," Young said, "and tonight, well, I'll be telling you just how amazing they'll be."

Regardless, the garden was in a muted splendor, the flower gardens still vivid, the rest of the property displaying the full array of leaf pigments in shades of green, orange, yellow, red and purple — or, as was explained: chlorophyll, carotenoids, xanthophylls and anthocyanins. Accompanied throughout most of the 90-minute walk by Timmy, one of Stonecrop's two resident cats (his sister Tammy wasn't feeling social), an interested group soaked up information from Young, who stopped

at different shrubs, trees, grasses and more, offering details on each. The tour concluded with sundown casting its own orange spell over the beautiful grounds.

Stonecrop, located on Route 301 east of Cold Spring, closes for the season on Oct. 31. It will reopen in April.



Stonecrop horticulturalist Robin Young led the informative walk.

Photos by



Scenes from Stonecrop; for more, see highlandscurrent.com.





MICHELANGELO PISTOLETTO WALKING SCULPTURE

November 4, 2017 Cold Spring, NY

MAGAZZINO ITALIAN ART

The Calendar

Tickling the **Ivories**

Trained as dentist, schooled in jazz

By Alison Rooney

ert Rechtschaffer became a dentist in part because he had a lot of cavities as a child. ("My mom was big on baking," he explains.) He also had an uncle who had a dental lab in his home in Brooklyn, and one day Bert's mother took him there with an infected baby tooth.

"He looked at my mouth, my mother standing behind him, and he gave her a look as if there was a person dying," Rechtschaffer, who lives in Garrison, recalls. "He shook his head and came at me with a needle which seemed at least 2 feet long. I wouldn't open my mouth. 'We can give you gas,' my uncle said. My association with gas was the two huge, green oxygen tanks hooked up to another uncle who was dying. I ripped the chain bib off and ran down the street."

What happened?

"Another dentist had more aplomb with a recalcitrant juvenile."

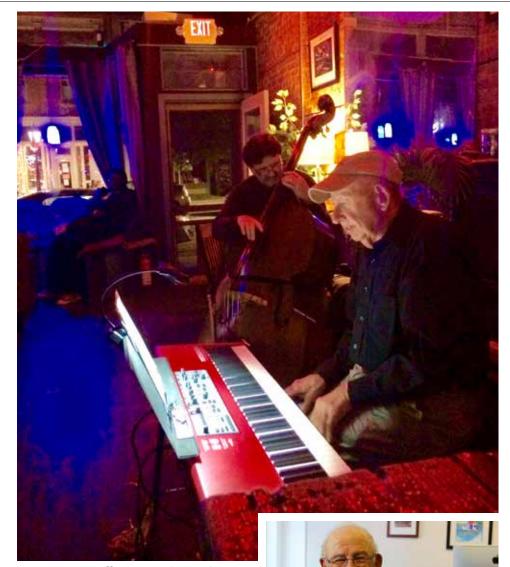
Despite that early trauma, the magic touch of the second dentist and a cousin who became one, as well, inspired Rechtschaffer to give up his dream of becoming an airline pilot. That, and his poor eyesight.

Rechtschaffer had another interest that began when he was a child in Brooklyn: the piano. The family had an upright and "from the beginning I wanted to play jazz piano, but got told 'You have to play classical,' " he recalls. "I took lessons from a church organist. She would say, 'You've been playing that jazz music — it's immoral. It leads young people to go to the puppy dogs.' There were monthly recitals — it was awful."

He kept playing, however, and these days is best known as the leader of the Bert Rechtschaffer Trio, which has become a jazz fixture in the Highlands. It next plays on Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Chill Wine Bar, 173 Main St., in Beacon, with Mike Dipazo on sax and Stephanie Lovina on bass. The music will start about 8:30 p.m.

Asked what dentistry and jazz piano have in common, Rechtschaffer quickly responds: "Dexterity. They both take a certain amount of dexterity."

Rechtschaffer, 82, had a dental practice in Croton for more than 30years. After raising two children and retiring, Rechtschaffer and his wife,



Bert Rechtschaffer at the piano, with Lou Pappas on bass, at Chill Wine Bar

Photo provided

Sheilah, headed off around the world, including stays in St. Lucia, Brazil and Vietnam. He volunteered as a dentist, and she taught painting. When they returned, they relocated to Garrison.

Rechtschaffer got serious about jazz piano during his final semester at the University of Buffalo School of Dentistry, when he went to the head of the music department and told him he wanted to learn how to play the genre correctly.

"He said they'd take me on, but we'd be starting with Bach, Brahms and Beethoven," he says. "He said if I wanted to play jazz, I'd need to learn this stuff. He was right."

He met Sheilah in New York City in 1961, when they worked on different floors of an advertising agency. Bert had enlisted in the Air Force as a dentist and had taken a temporary job there while waiting for his certification.

"I sat next to the Verifax machine," he recalls. "She'd come down, come off the elevator.... I invited her to dinner, but she was already preparing hers, and invited me to join her. We went to the Pioneer Supermarket below where she lived and got a few things, including

(Continued on Page 11)

Symphony Next Door

Music lovers are discovering Newburgh orchestra

by Alison Rooney

s regional symphonies across the country struggle for survival, the Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra plays to ever-growing audiences. Its average attendance has doubled to 700 people in the past two years, and its July 29 concert at Mount St. Mary College drew more than 1,000.

The nonprofit orchestra is constantly looking for ways of providing "great music performed by skilled musicians who are also your neighbors," its mission since its founding in 1995, says John Bliss, president of its board.

There are some 1,800 orchestras in the U.S., but about 80 percent, like Newburgh's, do not include professional musicians, according to the League of American Orchestras. Yet many of the 55 to 70 volunteer players in Newburgh have vast experience. (The conductor, Russell Ger, is paid.)

"Our orchestra members range in age, ability and day jobs," says Bliss. "They're anywhere from their 20s to 70s. We have lots of music teachers, and a flutist who was with the West Point band for 25 years. They come from an area (Continued on Page 12)

Bert Rechtschaffer

Photo by A. Rooney



Russell Ger, conductor of the Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra

FRIDAY, OCT. 20

6th Annual Catoberfest Benefit

6 - 10 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery 2 Churchill St., Beacon catoberfest.brownpapertickets.com

David Freund: Gas Stop (Reception)

6 - 9 p.m. Antipodean Books 29 Garrison's Landing, Garrison 845-424-3867 | antipodean.com

Fellowship Supper

6 p.m. St. Mary's Church 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring 845-265-2539 | stmaryscoldspring.org

Reel Life Film Club: Hamilton's America

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

The Streamlined Antiquarian (Design Talk)

6:30 p.m. Boscobel 1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring 845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Haunted House

7 - 10 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison 845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Cries from Syria (Documentary)

7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church 50 Liberty St., Beacon moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

Howard Jones

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



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SAT 2:15 4:30 6:45, SUN 1:15 3:30 5:45, MON 4:00 6:45, TUE 6:45 WED 1:15 3:30 5:45, THU 6:45

Geostorm (PG13)

FRI 3:45 6:15 9:00 SAT 2:45 5:15 8:00, SUN 1:45 4:15 7:00, MON 4:15 7:00, TUE 7:00 WED 1:45 4:15 7:00, THU 7:00

The Mountain Between Us

(PG13) FRI 3:30 6:00 8:45 SAT 2:30 5:00 7:45, SUN 1:30 4:00 6:45, MON 4:30 7:15, TUE 7:15 WED 1:30 4:00 6:45, THU 7:15

Calendar Highlights

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

SATURDAY, OCT. 21

Meadows and Trails 5K and Kid's Dash

9 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center 100 Muser Drive, Cornwall 845-534-5506 | hhnm.org

Trough Workshop (Day 1 of 2)

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

10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Trailside 700 3006 Seven Lakes Drive, Bear Mountain 845-786-2701 | trailsidezoo.org

Army vs. Temple (Football)

Noon, Michie Stadium, West Point 845-938-2526 | goarmysports.com

How to Assemble Day of Dead Altar

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

5 p.m. Manitoga, 584 Route 9D, Garrison 845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org

Loyalist Cause & the Revolution (Talk)

5 p.m. Putnam History Museum 63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring 845-265-4010 | putnamhistorymuseum.org

Pink Kiss Breast Cancer Awareness

6 p.m. Atlas Studios

11 Spring St., Newburgh

Search eventbrite.com for "Pink Kiss 2017"

Haldane School Foundation Country Gala

6 - 10 p.m. Topfield Equestrian Center 115 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring haldaneschoolfoundation.org

Haunted House

7 - 10 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center See details under Friday.

Silent Film Series: The Golem (1920)

7 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Totally '80s Concert with Tiffany

7 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie 845-454-5800 I midhudsonciviccenter.org



Baba Andrew Lamb Trio

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

SUNDAY, OCT. 22

Walk for a Cure

8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Haldane Field, Cold Spring csbcwalk.weeblv.com

Children and Families: Building with Balloons

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

Oktoberfest

1 - 5 p.m. Hudson House River Inn 2 Main St., Cold Spring 845-265-9355 I hudsonhouseinn.com

Paul Beston: The Boxing Kings (Reading)

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Friday

Diana Henriques: The Lessons Unlearned from the 1987 Crash (Talk)

3 pm. St. Mary's Parish House 1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring lessons.brownpapertickets.com Benefits The Highlands Current

Momenta Quartet

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

5 - 8 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center See details under Friday

Steve Solomon (Comedy)

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

Horror Film Series: Child's Play (1988)

7:30 p.m. Ouinn's 330 Main St., Beacon 845-831-8065 | quinnsbeacon.com

MONDAY, OCT. 23

Pumpkins in the Park

3 - 6 p.m. Scenic Hudson Red Barn Long Dock Park, Beacon 845-473-4440 | scenichudson.org

Meet the Putnam County Candidates

6 p.m. Mahopac Public Library 668 Route 6. Mahopac Sponsored by League of Women Voters

Beacon School Board

7 p.m. Beacon High School 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon 845-838-6900 | beaconk12.org

TUESDAY, OCT. 24

New Moms & Infants Group

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

Pumpkins in the Park

3 - 6 p.m. Long Dock Park See details under Monday.

World War II Hero Dixie Kiefer (Talk)

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

Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ)

7:30 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance 331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon Email beaconsurj@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25

Home Sustainability with Garrison Concierge

1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Friday.

Pumpkins in the Park

3 - 6 p.m. Long Dock Park See details under Monday.

Podcast Workshop (ages 11+)

3:30 - 5 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Highland Photographers Salon

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

Garrison School Board

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

THURSDAY, OCT. 26

Pumpkins in the Park

3 - 6 p.m. Long Dock Park See details under Monday.

International Observe the Moon Night

5 - 7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library See details under Friday.

Farm Dinner

6:30 p.m. Glynwood Farm 362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring 845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Faculty vs. Students Volleyball 5:30 p.m. Dinner | 7 p.m. Game

Haldane School, Cold Spring

Joseph Ayers: Dark Times (Opening) 7 - 9 p.m. Theo Ganz Studio 149 Main St., Beacon

917-318-2239 | theoganzstudio.com **Halloween Dance Jam**

7 p.m. Towne Crier 379 Main St., Beacon 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

FRIDAY, OCT. 27

Crop Shop Farm Stand

4:45 - 6 p.m. Sargent Elementary citvofbeacon.org

Ladies' Auxiliary Halloween Movie Night

6 p.m. North Highlands Firehouse 504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring

Pumpkins in the Park Jack-o'-Lantern Lighting

6 - 8 p.m. Long Dock Park, Beacon See details under Monday.

Haunted House

7 - 10 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center See details under Oct. 20.

Depot Docs: Long, Strange Trip

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

Ultimate Eagles Tribute

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley See details under Oct. 20.

Bert Rechtschaffer (from Page 9)

their best dollar wine. She had her childhood piano in the apartment. Dinner was perfect. I didn't make a pass at her, because it was too hot and she had no A/C."

They kept up a long-distance relationship after Bert was assigned by the Air Force to a base in Goose Bay in Labrador, Newfoundland.

"It was a ham-radio romance, like a movie," he says.

Who would play you in the movie? "George Clooney."

Sheilah has always been active politically; Bert initially far less so.

"I ticked her off a lot," he says. "She was all for unilateral disarmament. We had 'discussions' about that."

While they were dating, "she visited me at the Air Force base," he recalls. "I was in the middle of making my famous martini for her when the phone rings and it's my commanding officer, who says 'There's a retired general here, I want you to come over.' When we got there, Sheilah started preaching to the guy about disarmament. I was kicking her under the table."



Bert Rechtschaffer during his time volunteering as a dentist in Vietnam

Photo provided



The Highlands Current presents

THE LESSONS UNLEARNED Diana B. Henriques, author of A First-Class Catastrophe: The Road to Black Monday, the Worst Day in Wall Street

A First-Class Catastrophe: The Road to Black Monday, the Worst Day in Wall Street History, discusses the 30 years since that day, Oct. 19, 1987,

With Floyd Norris

Garrison resident, former New York Times financial columnist

Sunday, Oct. 22, 2017, at 3 p.m. St. Mary's Parish House 1 Chestnut Street, Cold Spring, NY

\$50/person • Reception to follow. Order tickets at <u>lessons.brownpapertickets.com</u>.

Diana Henriques, a former New York Times reporter, also wrote The Wizard of Lies: Bernie Madoff and the Death of Trust and appeared as herself in the Emmy-nominated HBO film of that name. See <u>DianaBHenriques.com</u>.









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Newburgh Symphony

(from Page 9)

that extends from Dobbs Ferry to northern Dutchess County."

The current season, which runs through June, includes five performances in Aquinas Hall at Mount Saint Mary College. The orchestra also plays with regional choirs and at the Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center and local high schools such as Newburgh Free Academy. In addition, there is an annual concert in which its members play alongside students.

When there are major positions to fill, the orchestra holds auditions, but it also relies on a pool of around 100 musicians. The orchestra has no paid support staff, so the conductor serves as its music director and personnel manager while board members and other volunteers handle everything from publicity to contracts to ticketing and information technology.

They are motivated, in part, by "the enthusiasm felt from the people of Newburgh," Bliss says. "You can feel that they feel the orchestra is part of the renaissance of the city and they're very proud of it."

The organization's roots, oddly enough, lie in South Korea. Its founder, Dr. Woomyung Choe, came to the U.S. to complete his medical training as an oncologist and, after also earning a bachelor's degree in music at Skidmore College and studying at the Pierre

Monteux School in Hancock, Maine, decided that Orange County needed a symphony. (He had first been exposed to Western music listening to Gregorian chants sung by priests who were part of a French Catholic delegation to Korea.) Today the orchestra survives largely through donations.

Its conductor and director, Ger, is an Australian whose repertoire spans orchestral, operatic and choral music. He was hired in 2016 after a two-year search that saw 100 candidates whittled to four



The woodwinds at work during a **Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra** performance Photo by Mimi Estes

finalists, each of whom led one performance during the 2015-16 season as a guest conductor.

Ger also conducts at a synagogue in Manhattan and for a youth orchestra in Connecticut and travels the world as a guest conductor and for speaking engagements.

"Most of the candidates [for conducting jobs] have this kind of resumé," Bliss

How's Your Voice?

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra also supports a chorale with 30 to 35 members that performs twice a year. It rehearses each Tuesday at 7 p.m. at St. George's Episcopal Church in Newburgh. An audition is not required. Contact Peter Sipple at sipplemp@gmail.com or 845-534-2864.

Performances

Tickets for concerts at Aquinas Hall at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh are \$22 to \$45 each, and season tickets are also available. Students are admitted free. See newburghsymphony.org. With the exception of Dec. 16, musicologist (and cellist) Gordon Shacklett will lead a discussion at 6:30 p.m. about the music to be performed.

Bohemian Rhapsody

Saturday, Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m. Brahms - Hungarian Dance No. 5 Brahms - Violin Concerto in D Major Dvořák - Symphony No. 8

The First Noel (Seasonal Classics) The Roaring '20s

Saturday, Dec. 16, 4 p.m., Aquinas Hall Saturday, June 23, 7:30 p.m.

Forbidden Fruit

Saturday, Jan. 20, 7:30 p.m. Mozart - Don Giovanni Overture Tchaikovsky - Romeo & Juliet Fantasy Berlioz - Symphonie Fantastique

Restive Reverie

Saturday, May 5, 7:30 p.m. Rachmaninoff - Piano Concerto No. 3 in D Tchaikovsky - Symphony No. 6, 'Pathétique'

Mozart - Symphony No. 25 in G Minor Ravel - Piano Concerto in G Major Stravinsky – Pulcinella Suite

TOWNE CRIER CAFE

Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m. brunch/dinner Mon. - Fri. 4 p.m., Closed Tuesday

> Fri., 10/20 7:00 p.m. Boom Kat - Free

Fri., 10/20 8:30 p.m. The Bobs Farewell Tour

Sat., 10/21 6:00 p.m. Christopher Brown - Free

Sat., 10/21 8:30 p.m. Back to the Garden 1969

Sun., 10/22 11:30 a.m. Edukated Fleas - Free

Sun., 10/22 7:30 p.m. **Uncle Bonsai Cliff Eberhardt**

Thurs., 10/26 7:00 p.m. Calling All Poets

"A gem ... They take their food seriously."~ NY Times

Thurs., 10/26 7:00 p.m. **Dance Jam**

Fri., 10/27 7:00 p.m. Whispering Tree - Free

Fri., 10/27 8:30 p.m. **Molsky's Mountain Drifters**

Sat., 10/28 6:00 p.m. Nellybombs - Free

Sat., 10/28 8:30 p.m. The Prezence

Led Zeppelin Tribute

Sun., 10/29 7:30 p.m. **Songwriters Showcase** Peter Calo, KJ Denhert, Simi Stone



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Genealogy Day Trips in Putnam

By Valerie LaRobardier

ou might be surprised at the wealth of family history information available offline yet still within reach. My next several columns will cover repositories within driving range, including preparation for your visit and tips on how to maximize your results. Let's start with Putnam County.

Before you drive anywhere, prepare for your visit. Check the repository's website to learn the hours, location, extent of collection and parking, and call to confirm. Some research libraries will want a brief idea of your query so they can have files ready. Some require an appointment.

Ask what you may bring in. Often it is only a few sheets of paper, a pencil, laptop and cell phone. Find out what they charge for copies, and whether you need change to pay for them. Once you have scheduled a visit, put together a summary of known data for the family you are researching. Make it concise, only the most significant points — travel light! If you feel insecure leaving detailed files behind, bring them along but leave them in the car. It is easier to find the details you need with fewer papers to shuffle.

Familiarize yourself first with the fam-



Corinne Guinta, a volunteer at the Putnam History Museum, searches for a family record.

Photo by V. LaRobardier

ily and local history collections at your local library. The Dutchess County Genealogical Society (of which I am president) has an excellent survey of the collections in the Mid-Hudson Library System compiled by Beverly Kane. Many of the items in their collections are not listed in the online catalog. Some local history books have been digitized and are available

online, such as at the Desmond-Fish Library's Livingston-Svirsky Archive (LiSA) at desmondfishlibrary.org/ lisa/lisa.html.

The Putnam County historian's archives. at 68 Marvin Ave. in Brewster, has an excellent collection of maps. church records, surname folders, court records, ledgers and more. See putnamcountyny. com/countyhistorian/ historians-collection. where you can download a table of contents for the collection. The county historian also has a useful Handbook for Putnam County History and Genealogy, compiled by Deputy Historian Sallie Sypher, for \$8. The table listing records for each church with record type and time-period alone

makes the handbook a good buy.

County Historian Sarah Johnson and her staff provide enthusiastic assistance. The atmosphere of studious concentration is often punctuated by lively discussions as researchers share their mysteries and successes. Familiarity with all aspects of the collection helps the historians ferret out valuable clues in unexpected places.

As one would expect, the focus of their collection is on the period from the 1812 separation from Dutchess County forward. However, you will also find microfilms of Dutchess County deeds from 1718 to 1793, selected town record books, South Precinct poor records 1764 to 1812, books on early settlers, Dutchess County tax lists 1718 to 1787, Dutchess County probate records 1787 to 1865 (abstracts compiled by Arthur Kelly), abstracts of deeds 1787 to 1812, list of Putnam County wills prior to 1788 and much more.

Wills and probate records before 1931 are kept at the county historian archives; later dates are held at the Surrogate's Office in the historic courthouse in Carmel. Deeds from 1812 to 1937 are kept at the ar-

chives and more recent ones at the county clerk's office in Carmel. The county historian's office is creating an every-name index that is now complete to 1863, greatly simplifying land record searches.

The handbook previously mentioned also contains a directory of Putnam County's municipal historians, churches, records management officers, libraries, genealogists, historical societies and museums, including the Putnam History Museum, at 63 Chestnut St. in Cold Spring.

This museum has an incredible number of surname files capturing every name its volunteers have corresponded on or researched. Its focus is on the West Point Foundry, the local historic district and families that have long-established history in the area. There are boxes of photos for large families and homes in the historic district. Volunteers are busy digitizing sections of the collection. Its map collection includes some of the Sanborn Fire Insurance Atlases, valuable for locating neighboring properties. *The Putnam*

County Historian Sarah Johnson and her staff provide enthusiastic assistance. The atmosphere of studious concentration is often punctuated by lively discussions as researchers share their mysteries and successes.

County News and Recorder is available on a searchable disc from 1866 to 1935, on microfilm from 1866 to 2006 and on paper from 2007 to present. Its library contains local history books and biographies of famous locals such as the Warner sisters, Benedict Arnold and John Andre.

See putnamhistorymuseum.org/home for library hours and links for researching Putnam County genealogy. Visitors must submit the research request form provided and make an appointment in advance so that staff can be prepared.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.



Excellent Creatures Dialogues with Drama reading: The Cake

by Bekah Brunstetter Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.

Depot Docs:

Long Strange Trip, The Untold Story of the Grateful Dead

Oct 27, 7:30 p.m. includes reception with director Amir Bar-Lev Oct 28, 7:30 p.m. Part II

Youth Players: Willy Wonka, Jr.

My Queer Youth

By Phil Geoffrey Bond Nov 18, 8:00 p.m.

Garrison Landing, Garrison, NY (Theatre is adjacent to train station.) philipstowndepottheatre.org





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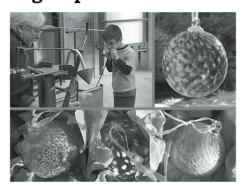
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This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Shown here are Gypsy and James, the granddog and grandson of Rick and Michele Gedney, *The Current's* advertising director. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.com.





ROBERT L. LANGLEY FOR SHERIFF Vote November 7th

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF LANGLEY

And they're off. Photo by Sheila Williams

Fall Fun

Garrison School PTA held its annual fall festival on Oct. 14, with a dunk tank, bounce house, face painting, hay maze, potato sack race, cake walk, fire extinguisher training from the Garrison Fire Company and live music by Stephen Clair and the Pushbacks. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.com.



One of these delights could be yours.

Photo by Sheila Williams



Learning to use the extinguisher

Carl Nelson offers helpful advice from inside the dunk tank.

Photos by Ross Corsair

Photo by Ross Corsair



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Fiction from Real Life

Next Depot reading on Oct. 25

The Philipstown Depot Theatre's *Dialogues with Drama* series continues on Wednesday, Oct. 25, at 7:30 p.m. with a reading of *The Cake* by Bekah Brunstetter, a fictionalized account of the headline story of a baker's refusal to service a gay couple's wedding.

Christine Bokhour directs performers Sally Mayes, Marla McReynolds, Kullan Edberg, Greg Miller, Donald Kimmel and Jenn Lee. Admission is free, but donations are encouraged to continue funding the series. A discussion with the cast will follow the reading.



Ted Conover will read from his immersive non-fiction at the Chapel Restoration on Oct. 29. Photo by Emma Oravecz

Up Close with the Moon

Library will provide telescopes

The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison will have telescopes set up for moon viewing on its lawn on Thursday, Oct. 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. to mark International Observe the Moon Day. Ken Bailey of the Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association will speak about Earth's nearest neighbor and provide a lesson on using telescopes.

Pulitzer Finalist at Chapel

 ${\it Ted\ Conover\ to\ read\ from\ his\ nonfiction}$

Ted Conover, whose book, Newjack, about his immersive experience as a guard at Sing Sing, was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Non-Fiction, will read on Sunday, Oct. 29, at 4 p.m. at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring. Conover will discuss his process of immersing himself in the culture he's writing about to uncover stories. Parking is free at the Metro-North train lot.

Beacon

Environmental Beacon

Citizen Soapbox set for Oct. 23

The Green Beacon Coalition will host a Citizen Soapbox on Monday, Oct. 23, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church to hear from residents about their environmental concerns. See greenbeaconcoalition.org.

5K for Cancer Society

Mike Archer Memorial on Oct. 28

In the sixth annual Mike Archer Memorial 5K on Saturday, Oct. 28, organizers hope to raise more than \$30,000 for the American Cancer Society. The run takes place in Memorial Park in Beacon. Registration starts at 9 a.m., and the race at 10 a.m.

The event honors Beacon native and police officer Mike Archer, who died of esophageal cancer in 2002. Registration is \$20, or \$15 for students. See mikearcher5k. eventbrite.com.



Get up close and personal with the moon on Oct. 26 at the Desmond-Fish Library.

NASA

Tax Preparers Needed

Volunteers help low-income residents

The Hudson Valley CA\$H Coalition and the AARP Tax Aide are looking for volunteers to assist low- to moderate-income residents of Orange and Dutchess counties with their income taxes, beginning in February. Free training and IRS certification is offered and bilingual people are especially needed. The training begins in January. See bit.ly/HVCASH17.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

A Hero's Story

Speaker to discuss Commodore Kiefer avid Rocco will speak at the Howland Cultural Center on Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. about Commodore Dixie Kiefer, the "indestructible man" who died in a plane crash in Mount Beacon in 1945. Rocco is the coauthor of The Indestructible Man: The True Story of World War II Hero "Captain Dixie." Kiefer was captain of the carrier Ticonderoga.

HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS

Classics for Kids

Pop-up concert for children on Oct. 28

The Howland Chamber Circle continues its series of free pop-up concerts for children at the Center for Creative Education on Saturday, Oct. 28, at 4 p.m. with a program of haunting music and eerie sounds by Prokofiev, Britten and Xenokis.

The concert is free and refreshments will be served. The performers are Sam Ross on clarinet, Natalie Wren on oboe, Uli Speth on violin, Yumi Oshima on viola and Ian Murdoch on double bass.

Candy Donations for Parrott

The Haldane PTA is collecting candy to donate to homeowners on Parrott Street, the most popular trick-or-treating area in Cold Spring. Drop off bags of individually wrapped candy at the entrance of Haldane Middle School, Foodtown or the Butterfield Library.

Teal Pumpkin Project

↑irl Scout Troop 1565 is collecting Gnon-candy donations for children who have food allergies. To participate, display a teal-colored pumpkin on your doorstep to let children know that you have non-food treats such as toys available. See tealpumpkinproject.org. Email gstroop1565@hotmail.com if you have items to donate.

Boo at the Zoo

ake Halloween treats for the bears at the Trailside Zoo in Bear Mountain State Park on Saturday, Oct. 21, at 10:30 a.m. and watch the bears enjoy their decorated den at 11 a.m. Family activities include pumpkin decorating, face painting and crafts. The event ends at 3 p.m. A donation of \$1 per person is suggested.

I Spy Trail

The Hudson Highlands Nature Mu-seum's Outdoor Discovery Center in Cornwall will open its Halloween Trail on Saturday, Oct. 28, and Sunday, Oct. 29, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Drop in to search for items hidden along the trail and earn prizes. Children also can play games, make spooky crafts and visit the animals. Tickets are \$4 to \$8.



A teal pumpkin indicates your treats are safe for children with food allergies

FARF

Haunted House

The Philipstown Recreation Center in Garrison will host its annual Haunted House on Oct. 20 to 22 and Oct. 27 to 29. Admission is \$6, or \$4 for children younger than 12 and for seniors. The spookfest is open from 7 to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 5 to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

Halloween Dance Jam

Nome in costume (or not) and dance the ✓night away at the Towne Crier Café in Beacon at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 26. Admission is \$10.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

Cold Spring Parade

The annual children's parade in Cold ■ Spring begins at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, on the lawn at St. Mary's Church and continues down Main Street to the gazebo at the riverfront. The rain date is Oct. 29.

Beacon Parade

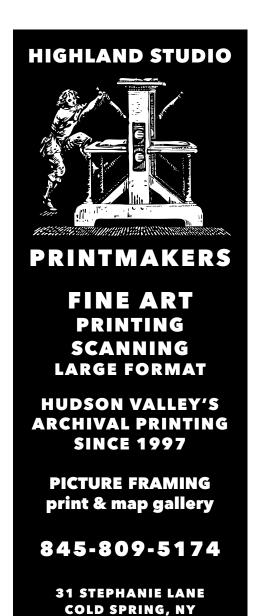
The annual parade, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, begins on Oct. 29 at 1 p.m., with line-up at noon. Search for "A Very Beacon Halloween" at facebook.com.

Not-So-Haunted Barn

Ctony Kill Farm in Wappingers Falls Will host a family fun festival on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 4 to 7 p.m. with crafts and a "not too spooky" haunted barn. See stonvkill.org.



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Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

100 Years Ago (October 1917)

W. Harkness was struck by an automobile while crossing Main Street at Orchard. He suffered a deep cut under his right eye. There was general alarm, for Harkness in his 20 odd years as cashier of the bank and founder of the fire company has many friends.

The completion of the Catskill Aqueduct water system will be commemorated by a three day's celebration at City Hall Park in New York City.

Edward Quirk, 46, died of pulmonary tuberculosis at the home of his sister, Mrs. Frank Early, on Main Street.

An innovation at the fall grand opening of Berger's Big Department Store in Peekskill will be the presence of living models who will display the newest styles, showing the figures for which they are best adapted.

Miss Judith Verplank, a graduate of Columbia University, will give one of her delightful talks at St. Mary's. It is entitled "Why the Germans Want Peace Now."

Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the Navy and a former state senator who represented Putnam County, endorsed Henry C. deRham of Cold Spring for the state Assembly.

There will be a patriotic minstrel show at Loretto Hall on Thanksgiving Eve.

While Thomas Impel was cutting bananas from the stalk at his store on Main Street, he noticed something clinging to the fruit. With the aid of two sticks, he removed what proved to be a fair-sized tarantula.

Neighbors saved the home of Mr. Palumbo on Church Street after his son started a bonfire in a hallway.

75 Years Ago (October 1942)

Of the 34 graduates of the Haldane Class of 1942, eight are attending college and 23 have found jobs, including 10 at



Scows drill borings for the Catskill Aqueduct to cross the Hudson River. The scene was photographed in 1907 on Breakneck Ridge looking toward Storm King. It would take another decade for the aqueduct to reach New York City.

Library of Congress

(Continued on next page)

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(From previous page)

factories, four in retail stores and three as hospital attendants.

The Haldane Central School was emptied and the students escorted home in 14 minutes during an air-raid drill.

The enemy airplane lookout post in Garrison, which has been operating 24 hours a day since Dec. 8, 1941, has about 100 volunteer observers.

New Hudson Theatre on Main Street will present a weekend matinee in which the price of admission is a piece of scrap metal for the war effort.

John Patrick Arthur, 22, of New Haven, Connecticut, who killed George Whidby near Garrison on June 1, was sentenced to 25 years to life at Sing Sing.

50 Years Ago (October 1967)

William H. Osborn, the president of the Hudson River Conservation Society, wrote Central Hudson to congratulate the company on its decision to abandon Breakneck Ridge as a site for a hydroelectric plant.

The village completed negotiations to purchase the waterfront parcel owned by Cold Spring Lumber.

Thirteen Cold Spring residents traveled to Manhattan for a rally organized by Citizens for Educational Freedom to oppose an amendment added to the state constitution in 1894 that bans state aid to religious schools.

Fire destroyed a threestory barn, and the new truck parked inside it, at the Gordon Todd property on Lane Gate Road.

New York State had purchased the 29-acre Little Stony Point more than two months earlier for \$225,000 but kept the sale secret, according to Philipstown Supervisor Jeremiah Downey. Georgia-Pacific had planned to turn the site into a wallboard plant before Gov. Nelson Rockefeller stepped in. Local officials complained the governor had cost the area thousands of dollars in tax revenue.

25 Years Ago (October 1992)

Ronald Restko, 49, who owned Restko Collision Center on Route 9, died when the Jeep he was driving went off the road near Perk's Plaza and struck a utility pole.

Mario Salvadori, a structural engineer who lives on East Mountain Road, discussed his latest book, *Why Buildings Fall Down*, a follow-up to his 1980 book *Why Buildings Stand Up*, at Salmagundi Books in Cold Spring. Joanne Russell, a former Philipstown resident, also had a signing for her children's book, *Ralphie the Roach*, which she co-authored with her best friend, supermodel Paulina Porizkova.

Scenic Hudson purchased 850 acres along Fishkill Ridge and Mount Beacon to preserve as open space.

The Depot Restaurant in Cold Spring

was burglarized overnight on Oct. 19. Owner Tom Rolston said he lost \$4,000.

10 Years Ago (October 2007)

Barbara Scuccimarra announced her candidacy for the Town Board. She said she would fight overdevelopment and advocate open and transparent government.

Cardinal Edward Egan, the archbishop of New York, visited Our Lady of Loretto in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the church on Fair Street.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.



Franklin Roosevelt won a seat in the state Senate in 1910 at age 28. Library of Congress







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Sports

Beacon, Haldane Soccer Teams **Head to State Tournament**

Bulldogs play today; Blue Devils next week

By Leigh Alan Klein

There has been a soccer renaissance at Beacon High School, with both the boys' and girls' programs playing at high levels headed into the Section 1 playoffs. The Haldane programs, meanwhile, have had disappointing seasons compared to years past but are looking to peak at the right time.

Beacon boys

Coach Craig Seaman came into the season looking to surpass the Bulldogs' 12-6 campaign last season, which included the league title and a tournament victory. At 14-1-1, he wasn't disappointed. Beacon, the fourth seed in Section 1, Class A, will host the winner of Poughkeepsie vs. Nanuet in the first round of the tournament on Oct. 20. The other top seeds are defending state champion Somers, Tappan Zee and Byram Hills.

The Bulldogs are led by junior Devin Lambe, a two-time All-Section attacker, senior All-Section midfielder Matt Wyant, senior Mason Burch, who plays centerback, and senior goalkeeper Kellen Sela.

Beacon girls

In 2016 the girls' varsity program broke through, winning the league title for the first time in 20 years. This year they began the season with four straight losses but turned it around under Coach Hugo Alzate to repeat as league champs with a

7-0-1 record, 9-5-2 overall.

Beacon is the No. 12 seed for the Section 1, Class A playoffs as it attempts to become the first girls' soccer squad at the school in 29 years to win a sectional tournament game. The Bulldogs host No. 21 Sleepy Hollow on Oct. 20: the winner will travel to play No. 5 Tappan Zee the next

Reanna Cader and Chloe Antalek led Beacon with 11 goals each on the season. Eliza Ericson had nine goals and six assists, Analiese Compagnone had six goals and three assists and goalie Meagan Meeuwisse made 120 saves.

The top Class A seeds in Section 1 are No. 4 Somers, which edged Beacon, 1-0, on Oct. 16; No. 3 John Jay-Cross River; No. 2 Pearl River; and No. 1 Rye, which defeated the Bulldogs, 2-0, on Sept. 8.

Haldane boys

The Haldane boys, who finished 4-12, drew the lowest seed in the Section 1, Class C tournament. They travel to No. 1 Solomon Schechter on Wednesday, Oct. 25, while No. 2 Tuckahoe hosts No. 3 Hamilton. If Haldane upsets Schechter, the boys will play in the sectional finals on Oct. 28 at Lakeland High School.

Haldane girls

First-year coach Ed Crowe will lead the girls' varsity (4-10-2) into the Section 1, Class C tournament on Thursday, Oct. 26, when the No. 2 Blue Devils host No.



Photo by Ross Corsain

"She has been doing a great job on both defense and offense," said Coach Kelsey Flaherty. "She is a go-to hitter on the team and she keeps her teammates up with her energy and encouraging leadership."



Bela Monteleone (3) advances the ball at home against Putnam Valley on Oct. 17. The Blue Devils, who lost, 2-1, on a late goal, host Hamilton on Oct. 26 in their first game of the state tournament. Photo by Scott Warren

3 Hamilton. Solomon Schechter, the top seed, will play Pawling. The winners will meet on Oct. 29 at Arlington High School for the sectional championship.

The Journal News pegs Haldane to repeat as the Section 1, Class C champions, noting the team "pretty much played a Class B schedule this season."

Varsity Scoreboard

Football

Haldane 53, Millbrook 25 Sam Giachinta (183 yards, 3 TDs); Brandon Twoguns (82 yards passing, 2 TDs, 120 yards rushing, 3 TDs); Luke Junjulas and Liam Irwin (receiving TDs)

Beacon 28, Lincoln 8 Jaden Navarro (2 TDs), Joe Decandia (2 TD passes)

Boys' Soccer

Putnam Valley 3, Haldane 1 Irvington 3, Haldane 0 Haldane 3, Pawling 0 Beacon 4, Arlington 1 Warren Banks (first varsity goal) Beacon 3, Poughkeepsie 0 Devin Lambe (2), Vincent Compagnone

Girls' Soccer

Putnam Valley 2, Haldane 1 Allison Chiera (1) North Salem 2, Haldane 1 Jade Villella (1) Somers 1, Beacon 0

Beacon 2, Henry Hudson 0 Eliza Ericson (1), Emelie Lenaburg (1) Beacon 3, Lourdes 0

Volleyball Beacon 3, Haldane 2

Bri Dembo (23 kills) Henry Hudson 3, Beacon 0 Beacon 3, Arlington 0 Enita Rodriguez (14 aces), DaVonia Lamar (3 kills) Peekskill 3, Beacon 0 Ossining 3, Haldane 0 Haldane 3, Putnam Valley 0 Mackenzie Patinella (14 digs, 8 kills), Melissa Rodino (6 assists), Willa Fitzgerald (7 kills), Mackenzie Tokarz (5 assists, 12 digs) Haldane 3, Pawling 1

Girls' Swimming

Harrison 90, Beacon 78 Nyack 97, Beacon 71 Beacon 86, Yonkers 82

Current Athlete of the Week Mackenzie Patinella,

Highlands

Haldane The senior co-captain of the

girls' volleyball team has been a steady producer for the Blue Mackenzie Patinella Devils. For the season, Patinella has 81 kills and 51 serving

points (including 36 aces) and 99 digs.

In 3-2 loss against Beacon, she had nine kills, nine aces and 12 digs. In a previous win over North Salem, she had 14 kills on 20 attempts and five aces.