# The HIGHLANDS CILITIE The HIGHLANDS

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, Nov. 5.

Set clocks back one hour.

NOVEMBER 3, 2017 161 Main St., Cold Spring, N.Y. | highlandscurrent.com



BLOWN AWAY — A nor'easter that hit the Highlands overnight on Oct. 29-30 destroyed three weeping willow trees at the Cold Spring riverfront. The North Highlands weather station reported more than 3 inches of rain, along with wind gusts of up to 22 mph.

Photo by Michael Turton

## Ex-DA Says Putnam Sheriff Owes Him \$50K

Both sides invoke politics in latest dispute

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Ithough former Putnam County District Attorney Adam Levy settled his defamation lawsuit in June against Sheriff Donald Smith for \$150,000, their dispute bounced back into court on Oct. 26 over an allegation that Smith owes Levy another \$50,000 for violating the agreement.

Levy's attorney, Michael Sussman, asserted that Smith backpedaled on a public apology delivered as part of the settlement. Sussman filed his motion in Putnam County Supreme Court less than two weeks before the Nov. 7 election in which Smith, a Republican, is seeking a fifth term

Both sides raised the specter of politics. Sussman claimed that though Smith apologized for disseminating falsehoods about Levy, he recently again belittled the former DA despite a provision in their settlement that prohibits Smith "from making public comments denigrating or deprecating to Mr. Levv."

Consequently, according to the settlement agreement, Smith owes Levy an additional \$50,000, Sussman stated. He

asked the court for a Nov. 16 hearing.

Adam Kleinberg, who represents Smith, said he planned to file a counter-motion. "There was no violation of the settlement agreement," he wrote in an email, suggesting the filing was a ploy to hurt Smith in the upcoming vote.

Although Levy sued Smith as an individual rather than in his capacity as sheriff, the Putnam County Legislature chose to pay \$125,000 of the settlement. Smith agreed to pay \$25,000.

In 2013, Smith issued two news releases alleging that Alexandru Hossu, a man accused of rape, lived in Levy's house; that Levy interfered with the case; and that Levy should be investigated for harboring an "illegal alien" (Continued on Page 2)



KAPOW! — A reveler shows off the jacket and tie he likely wears once a year during the Cold Spring Halloween parade on Oct. 28. Due to rain, the Beacon parade was postponed to Sunday, Nov. 5. For more photos, see Page 23.

Photo by Michael Turton

# Anyone Want a Cell Tower?

Discussion in Nelsonville expands to new site

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

elsonville's cell tower debate expanded onto new ground — literally — in late October when village officials informally suggested putting it on a relatively flat site in the Nelsonville woods, rather than the mountainous parcel officially under review.

Homeland Towers, which represents cell phone companies such as Verizon, has asked the village for approval to construct a tower on a 9.6-acre site on a steep hill-side above the Cold Spring Cemetery. That project, near Rockledge Drive and Moffatt Road, is being considered by the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board, which scheduled a joint public hearing for Wednesday, Nov. 15.

The Rockledge plans provoked strong opposition led by the grassroots Save the Cold Spring Cemetery Committee organized by Fran O'Neill, wife of Nelsonville Mayor Bill O'Neill. The O'Neills live on Moffatt Road, although whether the cell tower would affect their view is unclear. Doug Logan, owner of the proposed tower site, runs the Cold Spring Cemetery.

Given the ongoing debate, the Village Board proposed an alternative location: a roughly hexagonal, 4-acre, wooded tract owned by the village behind the Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps head-quarters and American Legion building on Cedar Street. The board scheduled a public meeting for Wednesday, Nov. 8, to discuss the idea.

#### A tale of two sites

If the vision of a 110-foot tower overlooking an historic cemetery proved contentious, so too could a plan to put it in the Nelsonville woods.

 $(Continued\ on\ Page\ 9)$ 

#### What the Candidates Say

In anticipation of the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 7, *The Current* asked each candidate running for Putnam County sheriff and seats on the Dutchess County Legislature that represent Beacon to respond in writing to questions posed by reporters Michael Turton (for Putnam) or Jeff Simms (for Dutchess). See Page 17.

## Five Questions: Katy Behney

By Brian PJ Cronin

aty Behney and her husband, Buddy, in September opened Trax Espresso Bar & Coffee Roasters at 1 East Main in Beacon. The couple also owns Bank Square Coffeehouse and Mountain Top Outfitters.

#### Why open a second coffee shop?

Buddy is always thinking about what's next. He can't sit still. But the timing was never right. Once we saw the space we thought, this is nice, it's new, there's a lot going on at this end of town, and we've been wanting to get into roasting more. That keeps the costs down, since it's kind of risky competing with yourself in the same town.

#### How is it different from Bank Square?

We never expected another location to be as busy as Bank Square. We wanted to make the place simpler and focus on the drinks and the roasting. Our manager at Trax has years of roasting experience. We're working with him to come up with coffees and blends different from Bank Square and teach people more about the coffee from start to finish.

#### Will your roasted coffee end up at Bank Square?

Eventually, but now it's mostly what's bagged and on the shelf for sale. We don't want to mess with the espresso at Bank Square because we like the espresso that Coffee Labs Roasters in Tarrytown makes for us. But we might rotate some of the offerings in terms of the drips and the iced coffees.

#### What's your favorite coffee?

I'm a cortado girl. I like the espresso, but I don't like it straight. Little bit of milk, not too much. Buddy's favorite is straight-up espresso. He wasn't a coffee drinker before we opened Bank Square. That's what Coffee Labs did. They showed us how to treat the beans to get the best results. A lot of places don't understand the complexity of the beans and the steaming of the milk. If you do it right, you don't need sugar or syrup because it releases the sugars in the milk.

## What do you feel is the biggest change in Beacon in the past five years?

The food scene has really changed. When we started serving beer at Bank Square, there wasn't any place between here and Max's on Main that served beer. Now craft beer is all over the place. Locally sourced food is huge, which is great. We're not competing with the places on Route 9. We've become a destination. There are places opening all the time that I don't even know about.



Katy and Buddy Behney

Photo provided



Sheriff Don Smith speaks at a Putnam Stands Up for America rally on Oct. 1 in Carmel.

Photo provided

#### Ex-DA Says Putnam Sheriff Owes Him \$50K (from Page 1)

 Hossu, an immigrant. (After being found not guilty, Hossu sued Smith and others for \$45 million for false arrest and prosecution. That case is pending.)

Smith issued an apology retracting the 2013 news releases "unequivocally" and admitting the statements in them were

"untrue; and I should not have made them."

However, Sussman asserts, Smith and Kleinberg have both since told reporters that Smith issued the releases based on the facts as he knew them at the time, a crucial distinction that Sussman said implies Smith had evidence against Levy. "This besmirches Levy and leaves the public wondering," and denigrated his client, triggering the \$50,000 payment, Sussman stated.

To buttress his arguments, Sussman pointed to Smith's war of words

with Robert Langley Jr., his Democratic opponent for sheriff.

During an Oct. 5 news conference outside the Sheriff's Department, Langley said that "Smith admitted that in 2013 he lied in order to target a political opponent," meaning Levy. Moreover, Lang-



Then-DA Adam Levy (right) and his attorney, Michael
Sussman, during a 2013 press conference in Carmel to
discuss his lawsuit against the sheriff
File photo by Holly Crocco

ley said, Smith had contacted the governor, FBI, U.S. attorney and other agencies and officials demanding they arrest Levy and/or remove him from office and that in court depositions or testimony Smith had "lied under oath" about his behavior. "Smith has abused the power of his of-

fice," Langley contended. "We paid for Smith's lies."

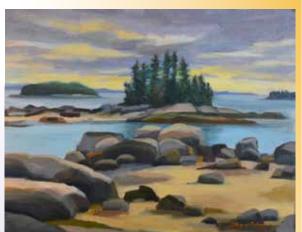
In response, Smith blasted Langley for dealing in "assumptions" and "innuendo," adding that as sheriff he strives daily "to provide the truth." And if he does "later learn new information," he insisted, "I make the correction."

Separately, Kleinberg was quoted as saying his client had "apologized to Levy for certain statements made [in 2013] based on what was known to him at the time," which Sussman argued implied Smith had evidence suggesting misdeeds by Levy. That, he said, contradicts the sheriff's public apology.



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## Hamilton Fish Takes Leave at New Republic, Library

Fallout from 'me too' reaches Highlands

By Chip Rowe

The fallout from the "me too" movement sparked by the resignation of film producer Harvey Weinstein amid allegations of sexual misconduct has reached the Highlands.

On Oct. 30, the owner of *The New Republic* announced that Hamilton Fish, who has a home in Garrison and whose family has been prominent in Philipstown for more than a century, was taking a leave of absence following complaints by female employees at the left-leaning political magazine, where Fish has been president and publisher since February 2016.

Fish, 65, known as "Ham," is the longtime chair of the Board of Trustees of the Alice Curtis Desmond and Hamilton Fish Library in Garrison, which was founded by his grandparents. He also serves on the board of Riverkeeper.

On Nov. 2, after a meeting held the day before, the Desmond-Fish board announced in a statement that Fish would step down there, as well.

"The Board of Trustees of the Desmond-Fish Library, with regret, has accepted the request of Ham Fish for a leave of absence from his duties as president and trustee, following 24 years of distinguished service to



Hamilton Fish interviewed actor and author Candace Bergen at the Desmond-Fish

Library's annual fundraising dinner in May.

Photo by Lori Moss

the library and the community it serves," it read. "The library will continue to be governed in accordance with its bylaws and mission of service. The Desmond-Fish Library is an equal opportunity employer and has long maintained a strong policy against discrimination or harassment."

A Riverkeeper spokesman, Cliff Weathers, said: "We will follow the inquiry being undertaken by *The New Republic*. As always, Riverkeeper will honor its commitments and obligations to our staff, volunteers and external partners."

Reached by email, Fish said he had

been asked not to comment while *The New Republic* reviewed his status. A reporter for *Deadline Hollywood* wrote that Fish emailed him on Oct. 30: "Classic takedown underway. We'll see."

A number of prominent media executives have lost their jobs after being accused of misconduct, including the late Fox News chief Roger Ailes, a former Garrison resident; Bill O'Reilly of Fox News; former *New Republic* literary editor Leon Wieseltier; Mark Halperin of MSNBC; and, most recently, Michael Oreskes, a former top editor at *The New York Times*.

Fish was appointed president and publisher of *The New Republic* after Facebook co-founder Chris Hughes, who also has a home in Garrison, sold the magazine to Win McCormack, owner of the literary journal *Tin House*.

In a letter to the staff of the magazine, McCormack wrote: "I have been made aware that a number of employees have come forward in the last few days to express concern about certain workplace interactions that have created an uncomfortable environment for them. As I understand them, these concerns relate specifically to interactions between Ham Fish and a number of women employees."

Fish had long been associated with *The Nation*, working to rescue it in 1977, and serving as publisher until 1987. From 1995 to 2009, he was president of the Nation Institute. He also produces documentary films.

His father, Hamilton Fish Jr., served as a Republican in the U.S. House from 1969 to 1994. His grandfather, who was born in Garrison in 1888 and lived to be 102, was a Republican congressman from 1920 to 1944. The first, and best known, Hamilton Fish was elected as a Whig to Congress in 1842 and then served as governor of New York and in the U.S. Senate before being appointed secretary of State under President Ulysses S. Grant.

Ham Fish ran for Congress in 1988 and 1994 as a Democrat in Westchester County but lost. In the 1988 race, his grandfather famously supported his grandson's Republican opponent.

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Thank you to walkers

Sunday, Oct. 22, was a beautiful day and an even better one to support BreastCancer.org ("5Q: Ashley Haines," Oct. 6). At the Cold Spring Breast Cancer Walk, we had more than 80 walkers and 30 volunteers on the Haldane track helping us raise nearly \$9,000 — and we are still counting as the pledges continue to come in!

Nearly 1,600 laps were walked, or about 320 miles, the equivalent of walking from Cold Spring to Wilmington, Delaware, and back. We had one centurion (100 laps) and at least three who reached the half-century (50 laps), along with walkers of all ages. We also know of five survivors who were walking, and there may have been more.

It was a great turnout overall. My parents and I, who helped me organize the walk, want to thank everyone. There are too many people to name everyone, but we had great participation from Haldane students led by teacher Kristen Peparo, who walked with her 3-year-old daughter.

We also had tremendous support from our sponsors. You know who you are, and thank you! You helped us get on our feet (pun intended). And of course, none of this could have been possible with the support of Haldane High School and particularly our athletic director, Chris Salumn, as well as its athletic trainer, Megan Crowe, who provided medical support. We also thank the Blue Devil Booster Club, which manned the concession stand.

Again, thank you to everyone who came out to support the fight against breast cancer. We will be back next year to raise more money than we did this year. If you still would like to help the fight, please contribute at csbcwalk.weebly.com or Breastcancer.org.

Ashley Haines, Cold Spring Haines is a junior at Haldane.

#### Reading the signs

TIME was just protecting its trademark when it contacted Philipstown Board candidate Tim Greco about its logo being incorporated into his campaign signs, which it must do ("Signs of the Time?," Oct. 27).

As to how TIME became aware of the similarity of the campaign sign to its logo, that could have happened in a number of ways: Some people who live here work in New York City and possibly even at TIME. Tourists come for the weekend.

Any of these residents or visitors could have called TIME and reported the similarity or asked about it. We don't know. But TIME is absolutely entitled to protect its mark.

Ann Beddingfield, Garrison

It would be wonderful if there was an ordinance barring all campaign yard signs until a week or so prior to the election. It is a most beautiful time of year with the fall foliage, and these signs are nothing short of visual pollution. Do residents learn anything of value from the proliferation of these signs? I don't think so, and they certainly are unsightly and a source of trouble.

Suzanne Willis, Garrison

Below, Haldane junior Ashley Haines with her mother, Lauren, whose battle with cancer inspired her daughter to organize the Walk for a

Cure Photos by Michael Haines



Walkers at the event on Oct. 22

This news outlet might take time out to review its editorial practices. In "Signs of the Time?," you devoted 11 of 19 paragraphs to the Greco campaign. Online, the story had three photos, all of which contained Greco yard signs. And two of the three photos were Greco signs exclusively. What's more, one of the Greco signs was smack dab in the middle of a section devoted to stolen signs. Nowhere did it advise on Greeks bearing gifts.

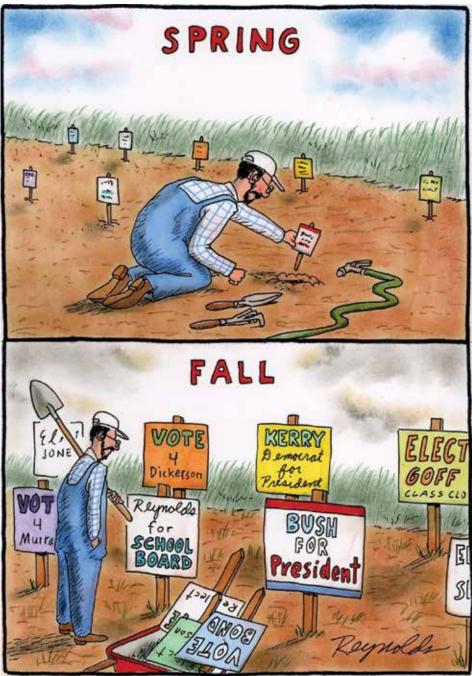
This editorial practice seems reminis-

cent of this past mayoral election when a very one-sided story emerged on the Butterfield builder suing the current Cold Spring mayor. And his wife. Just before the election.

Former Managing Editor Kevin Foley would never have let this happen.

Dick Weissbrod, Cold Spring

As a lifelong Republican who worked on the campaigns of former Sen. Jim Buckley in 1976 (he lost) and the 1994 (Continued on next page)



#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

campaign of Gov. George Pataki (he won, thankfully), I am grossly offended by the toxicity of politics in not only our community but nationwide.

My sign supporting Putnam County Sheriff candidate Robert Langley Jr., was torn down in the middle of the night. I got another one and it will stay up, hell or high water, until the elections are complete! Shame on those who resort to these tactics. I'm quite sure I know who you are.

Why can people of all races, religions, ethnicities, political persuasions or other things get together and help and respect one another in times of tragedy (such as after hurricanes, as we've seen), but when it comes to relatively small stuff like local politics — or even congressional politics, not so small — we act like barbarians? This is not right; this is not what America is about.

Leave any other party's signs alone — or just leave.

Carolyn Bachan, Cold Spring

#### The Putnam election

Anyone jaded, disillusioned or just disappointed by the state of national affairs must remember this: We have the power to insist on change here in our own backyard. Putnam County deserves a sheriff who puts the safety of our communities above petty politics, and whose only focus is on public service. On Nov. 7, please join me in voting for Robert Langley Jr.

Sean Conway, Cold Spring

Here's what we have in Putnam County: a sheriff who lied under oath, put an innocent person in jail to advance his own political career and relied on taxpayers to bail him out of a mess he made all by himself. That sounds like rural Alabama 50 years ago, not Putnam County in 2017.

David Gelber, Garrison

The Democratic candidate for sheriff, Robert Langley Jr., has been extremely vociferous regarding Sheriff Donald Smith's decision to agree to former DA Adam Levy's condition that he make a public statement to settle Levy's suit out-of-court (and save the taxpayers the cost of a trial). Langley held press conferences and organized demonstrations with his supporters holding signs insulting Smith at the entrance of the Sheriff's Department, which I feel was an embarrassment to Putnam residents.

Langley was a county deputy for 23 years, from 1984 to 2007, 15 of which were served under Sheriff Robert Thouborron, who was unseated by Smith after Gov. George Pataki ordered an investigation into alleged corruption within the department because of at least 10 complaints and lawsuits against the sheriff and county between 1995 and 2000.

Langley was a named defendant in a 2003 action in which the plaintiff claimed his accuser had sexual relations with members of the Sheriff's Department and a history of substance abuse and making

frivolous complaints with the department against persons with whom she had had relationships (*Thomas v. County of Putnam*, 262 F. Supp. 2d 241 [S.D.N.Y. 2003])

In another suit brought against the department, a federal jury awarded an employee \$645,000 after concluding Thoubboron had used deputies to harass employees who disagreed with him.

How could someone from that kind of culture work cohesively with today's professional law-enforcement personnel and our new DA?

Appalled by the fact that certain persons have used their clout and personal financial power to attract negative media attention to Putnam County from coast to coast these past few years, it would absolutely sicken me to see those same people use Langley to destroy our county's lawenforcement community and decimate the culture which the deputies are accustomed to working, as well as the department's ability to work with our DA's office.

The voters in this county have worked too hard to ensure that we have a functioning and professional law enforcement and criminal prosecutor office that works as a cohesive team to have this destroyed.

If you care about Putnam County as the home of your family, please vote on Nov. 7 to keep Donald B. Smith as our sheriff.

Andy Powers, Mahopac

Editor's note: Langley was one of seven defendants in the 2003 lawsuit. The others

were another deputy, the county, the Sheriff's Department, the district attorney, the plaintiff's court-appointed attorney and a special prosecutor. It stemmed from a case in which a woman walked into the Sheriff's Office in November 2000 to report her boyfriend had assaulted her. According to the decision, Langley processed her complaint and, noting her injuries, called an ambulance. When a grand jury declined to indict the boyfriend, he claimed false arrest and malicious prosecution. The judge ruled the plaintiff had no case and threw the case out.

Because this letter was received close to Election Day, we asked Langley for a response. He wrote: "The federal judge in the case found that in my service as deputy I acted lawfully, and that I had probable cause to arrest a man accused of domestic violence. Since I acted properly, the case against me was dismissed even before any trial. The federal court found that I acted professionally and honestly in the discharge of my duties. Don Smith's behavior as sheriff, on the other hand, has been unlawful. In the Levy and Hossu cases, Smith admitted that he lied. He lied to the media in his press releases, to the governor, the state attorney general, the U.S. Attorney, the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security. We the taxpayers are paying for those lies. As I have said so many times, it is not the rank and file of the Sheriff's Office who have failed the people of Put-(Continued on Page 6)



## ATTENTION: NELSONVILLE CITIZENS

AND NEIGHBORS

On Saturday, November 4th, Homeland Towers will be conducting a "Balloon Test" between 8 and 10 a.m. on the site of their proposed cellphone tower on Rockledge Road, Nelsonville, overlooking the Cold Spring Cemetery.

The purpose of this test is to simulate the height of the proposed tower so that the visual impact of the tower can be evaluated.

Please note that the Cold Spring Cemetery is private property and Rockledge Road is a private road. Please respect the property-owners' rights.

The test will be weather-permitting. Alternate dates are every day thereafter until completed.

We encourage our citizens and neighbors to observe and photograph this test from their homes and neighborhoods.

Respectfully, Mayor and Trustees of Nelsonville



# ATTENTION: NELSONVILLE CITIZENS AND NEIGHBORS

## **Important Public Meetings Addressing Cellphone Towers in Our Community**

**November 1: Nelsonville Zoning Board of Appeals** 

Where: Nelsonville Village Hall

Time: 8 p.m.

**November 8: Nelsonville Public Workshop** 

Where: Nelsonville Village Hall

Time: 7 p.m.

**November 15: Nelsonville Joint Zoning Board of Appeals/** 

Planning Board Public Hearing Where: Philipstown Town Hall

Time: 8 p.m.

If you want to learn the facts regarding the proposal for cellphone towers, please attend these meetings.

Respectfully,
Mayor Bill O'Neill
Trustee Alan Potts
Trustee Tom Robertson

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

nam County. It is the sheriff's leadership that has failed us. I will be a sheriff you can trust."

#### The Philipstown election

Sadly, there was no apparent "culture of hate and intolerance" in Philipstown, as Town Board candidate Tim Greco, in his Oct. 27 letter to the editor, now claims exists, before the sojourn of Roger and Elizabeth Ailes in town. Greco's reporting for their *Putnam County News and Recorder* only served to polarize what was once a loving and peaceful community. As with his reporting, his tone and its menacing intention is unbecoming a minister or a political candidate.

Rian Keating, Cold Spring

Why is it "time for a change," let alone "Tim?" We benefit greatly from having an experienced Town Board. This board works diligently to find ways to decrease property taxes and energy costs. Its members are hard-working and approachable. If you want something changed, tell our Town Board. Its members listen and get things done.

Jonathan Kruk, Cold Spring

The opposition to my candidacy for Philipstown Town Board likes to link me to the late Roger Ailes. It's true he was instrumental in getting me a job on a handshake at his wife Elizabeth Ailes' newspaper, the *Putnam County News and Recorder*. But, in fact, I worked for Elizabeth, who was the owner and publisher.

For years while covering Cold Spring, I watched its various boards block, stall and throw road blocks up against very decent property owners who legally had the right to develop their land within the confines of the law.

I witnessed the Democrats cannibalize themselves after then-Mayor Seth Galla-

gher decided the Butterfield project was, in fact, good for the Village of Cold Spring. I was the first to report that Mayor Dave Merandy wanted to end the Cold Spring Independence Day parade. At the time he denied it, but he could not deny the videotape. Where are we today? Yes, indeed, the parade has been canceled.

Let's not forget this fact: Those in open opposition to the *PCNR* gladly used the paper when they needed to. This was the paper that they turned to when they needed to help themselves or whenever they wanted to express an opinion. Is it just me, or do you see the hypocrisy?

Of course, they absolutely did not want me to cover them as they obstructed and dragged out due process to good people like Kenny Elmes and Paul Guillaro. That goes without saying. But as a reporter I had to do my job, which I did with integrity and pride, but in the end it was just a job.

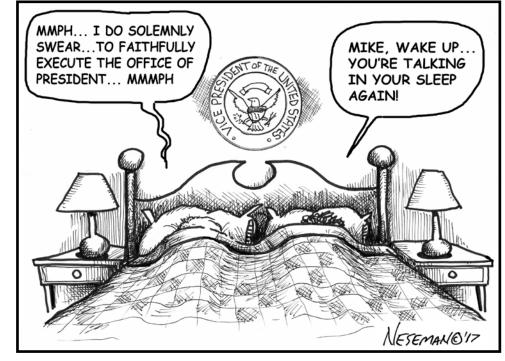
People would often wonder where I got my "scoops" and "inside information." Believe it or not, it was the various Democratic board memberships who, with a promise of confidentiality, spilled their guts many, many times.

My relationship to the Ailes family is my business and I don't care to talk about them. I resigned over a year ago when I took another media position. I saw myself as a faithful employee who was an OK writer but an excellent reporter who shined a light on the good and bad.

Let's not forget these morsels of fact as we head to Election Day! The simple solution is: If you don't like me, don't vote for me.

But my hunch is there are going to be plenty of people who will stand with me and put me over the top at the polls just based on the negative comments being posted online.

 ${\bf Tim~Greco}, {\it Garrison}$ 



Editor's note: A longer version of this letter, along with responses to it, appears at highlandscurrent.com.

#### The Beacon election

I am writing to offer my whole-hearted endorsement of Amber Grant for Beacon's Ward 4. Grant is a passionate, smart and principled individual who will bring experience in project and budget management, long-term strategic planning, and a fresh perspective that will benefit our city government. From the day I met her, I knew that she would be a good fit for Beacon.

In addition to her professional skills, Amber will be responsive and compassionate, and will serve Ward 4 and our beloved City of Beacon with integrity and follow-through.

Amber is endorsed by the Beacon Democratic Committee, the Working Families Party, the Women's Equality Party, the Dutchess Democratic Women's Caucus and Eleanor's Legacy. You can find her on the Democratic, Women's Equality and Beacon United ballot lines. Please vote on Nov. 7!

Kelly Ellenwood, Beacon

It's rare to find someone as compassionate as Jodi McCredo, the Democratic candidate for Ward 3, but she's the real deal.

I have had the pleasure of working with Jodi on the Beacon Human Relations Com-

mission for the past couple of years. Her compassion for the community and others has been a great asset to the commission and is exactly what makes her a great candidate for the City Council. She has a go-getter attitude when it comes to solving community issues/concerns and has no problem standing up for what is right.

I believe Jodi McCredo is the best candidate for our thriving community.

Yvonne McNair, Beacon

After following through on commitments made more than eight years ago to the Beacon community to serve our neighbors through organizing, coaching, mentoring and building relationships in efforts to grow kinder together, I'm blessed to know many of our neighbors. I know that we are the reason why Beacon is one of the most brilliant gems in New York State. Like climate change, it is a fact that quality of life means something different for every person questioning whether theirs needs to be improved.

However, this doesn't register with our local Democratic leadership, their committee or candidates. Similar to the Democratic National Committee, they focus on messaging, which leads to pandering and a lack of results, rather than connecting and forming relationships with those they

 $(Continued\ on\ next\ page)$ 

#### 11 11 11

JOIN US AS WE HONOR OUR VETERANS AND DEDICATE OUR NEW MEMORIAL WALL SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

11:00 AM CEREMONY AT VETERANS' MEMORIAL ON ST. MARY'S LAWN

11:30 AM DEDICATION OF OUR NEW MEMORIAL WALL

AMERICAN LEGION HALL, CEDAR STREET, COLD SPRING REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW

If you're a Veteran, or know a Veteran who's not a member, come talk with us about joining the American Legion and VFW.

#### **MEETING LOCATION CHANGE**

The Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals has changed the location of their regular monthly meeting. The meeting will be held:

Monday, November 13, 2017, 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Recreation Department 107 Glenclyffe Drive, Garrison, New York

#### PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a joint public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Conservation Board of the Town of Philipstown on Monday November 13, 2017, 7:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Department, 107 Glenclyffe Drive Garrison, New York, to hear the following appeal:

Homeland Towers, LLC and New York SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, 50 Vineyard Road, Cold Spring, NY Tax Map # 38.-3-24.21. The Applicant is seeking a special use permit to erect a wireless telecommunication services facility consisting of a 180-foot monopole with antennas, together with related equipment at the base thereof within a multi-carrier equipment compound. The applicant is also seeking to obtain a wetlands permit. The property is located in an OC 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 seen in the Office of the Building Department at the Philipstown Town Hall.

Dated 10/26/2017

Robert Dee, Chairman, Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

claim to be fighting for.

Since President Trump's inauguration, more people have been active in politics and government than I have witnessed throughout my tenure on the Beacon City Council. I've always believed participation in government is a civic responsibility. The ugliness of politics has shown me to be wary of the people claiming to be helping "our people."

Gentrification is a euphemism for colonization. Our local Democratic leadership, committee and candidates have demonstrated that they are not committed to serving all of the residents of our city, only those who fall in line with their politics. They believe that speaking about our history is a form of litigating the past. Like many politicians on both sides of the aisle, they give lip service to the efforts it takes to build relationships with the generations of people living in the marginalized communities.

This is not something that happens over an election cycle or through campaign literature and messaging. These politicians speak of mass incarceration, school-to-prison pipelines, public education and transportation in a city and county they know very little about. They have failed to educate themselves by getting to know, work with or communicate with residents entrenched in these issues.

Listening to the Democratic candidates for the Dutchess County Legislature at a forum speak about public transit and our county's jail expansion was underwhelming. Not only do they not ride public

#### **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.

transportation, they don't and haven't attempted to relate with formerly incarcerated residents or any of us at higher risk of becoming an epidemic statistic.

Further, the local Democratic leadership, committee and candidates aren't actually concerned about the affordability of housing in Beacon. They are not working toward assimilating and building an inclusive community. Instead these "advocates, allies and activists" are dividing Beacon so they can be the stakeholders who reimagine and develop our city.

Actions speak louder than words. With the shared 24 years' experience that Women's Equality and Working Families Party candidates George Mansfield and Lee Kyriakou have, especially with their focuses on zoning and planning, why are we only now fixing the problems? Why hasn't their hindsight been our foresight? We deserve thoughtful planning, honest organizing and real participation by our elected officials and community leaders. We deserve better.

Presidents come, and they go. I've yet to see one that has solved the problems in our marginalized communities. The Democratic leadership, committee and candidates for elected office hope you will vote for their hand-selected candidates. But regardless of party enrollment, don't let your anger with the president or politics keep you from seeing the truth: too many local Democratic candidates don't know our city or the issues that face our residents. Vote independent of party politics and vote your conscience on Nov. 7.

Ali T. Muhammad, Beacon Muhammad represents Ward 4 on the Beacon City Council.

#### Please Vote For ...

For more letters about the Philipstown, Beacon, Dutchess County and Putnam County races, see highlandscurrent.com.

 $\label{linear_vision} Visit \ \mbox{\bf highlandscurrent.com} \ \ for \ news \\ updates \ and \ latest \ information.$ 

#### **Putnam raises**

To ask for an increase in salary when factoring a) it's a part-time job and b) they are given benefits? ("Putnam Legislators Expected to Approve Own Raises," Oct. 20). Outrageous! How many Putnam residents are working for less than what these greedy "legislators" are milking the county for? Just another example of lawmakers throwing money out the window, but right into their own pockets. Remember this when you head to the polls.

Robert Barclay

The voters should have the power to give them raises.

Peter Richter, Garrison

There is no reason for the Putnam County Legislature to exist and I believe that the charter form of government should be abolished. We should return to the Board of Supervisors. There is not one legislator who stands up for the taxpayer. They don't respond to letters, emails or phone calls. The position is basically a no-show job and now they have the audacity to raise their salaries at a time when the cost-of-living adjustment is under 1.5 percent and Social Security increases are under 1 percent. In the real world, none of these people would be able to hold a job. And yet, thanks to public apathy, the incumbents keep getting re-elected, year after year, most likely including the sheriff.

Patty Villanova, Putnam Valley

## **Andrew DeStefano**

Captain, NYPD (ret)

#### JLDeStefano@aol.com · www.andrewdestefano.net

- With "Team Smith" at the Board of Elections unlawfully invalidating legal Republican signatures to protect their 16-year perennial incumbent
- And our schools infested with drugs, our roads THE most dangerous in NY, and YOU the taxpayer footing the bill for multiple misconduct lawsuits....

Why is the incumbent being rammed down your throat by the Board of Elections? Why???

#### **WRITE IN ANDREW DESTEFANO for Sheriff November 7th**

- Commanded an NYPD Precinct
- PhD candidate in Advanced Crime Analysis
- The experience to develop a modern, data-driven, comprehensive crime control model

(no more silly, baseless slogans like "Safest County")

 Eliminate drugs in schools, reduce car accidents, reduce response time, greatly reduce unnecessary tickets, accountable for results

FOR THE FIRST TIME

• Running on my name, not a political party line

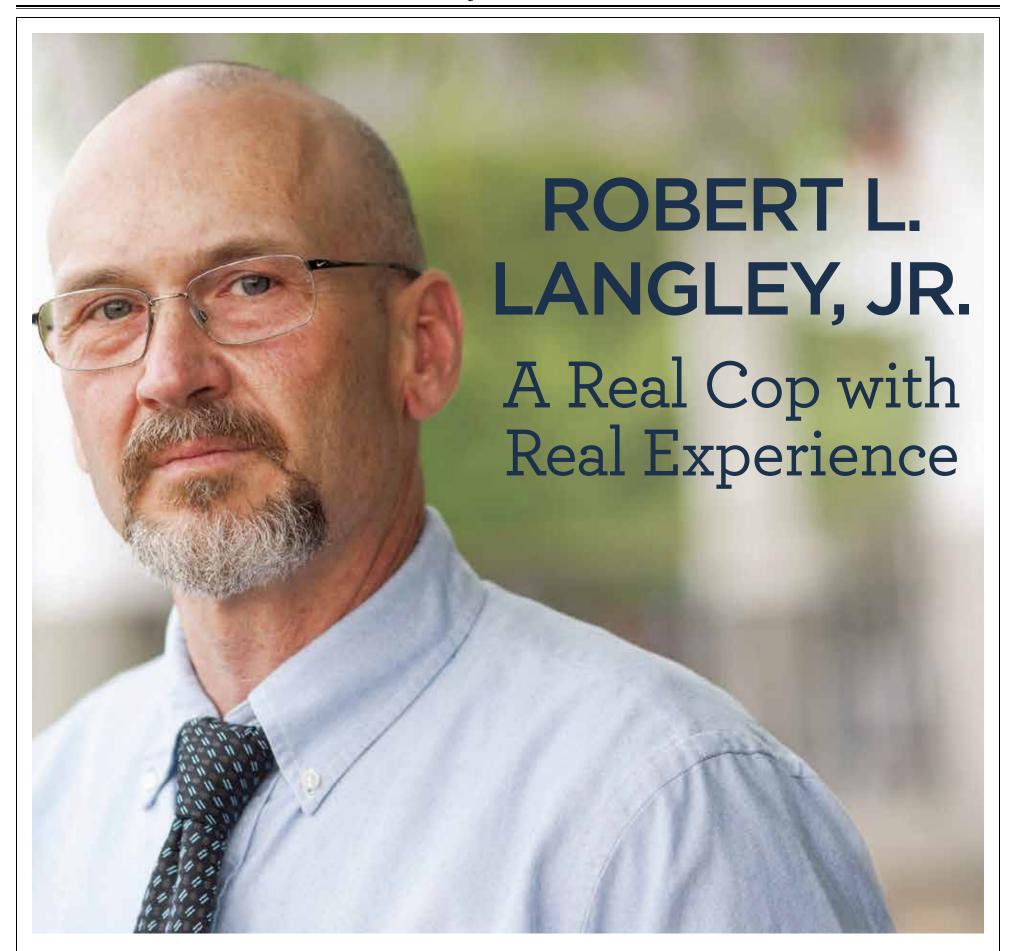
#### WRITE IN ANDREW DESTEFANO FOR PUTNAM SHERIFF

There are so many political lines, you can't tell one from the next. Because they're all the same. Except a "WRITE-IN". No political sponsorships, no favors owed, no politicians to be controlled by. The time for CHANGE is NOW. Vote for the person, not the political party.

#### WRITE IN "ANDREW DESTEFANO" for Sheriff.

OFFICE	STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE	SHERIFF		SUPERVISOR	COUNCILMAN
DEMOCRATIC F	ACKER				MIRRA
REPUBLICAN F	MURRAY			SCHMIDTT	BARILE
CONSERVATIVE (F	MURRAY			SCHMIDTT	BARILE
WORKING Families	ACKER				
INDEPENDENCE	MURRAY			SCHMIDTT	BARILE
WOMENS EQUALITY					
REFORM				SCHMIDTT	
WRITE IN ANDREW ANDREW					

DESTEFANO



# VOTE LANGLEY FOR SHERIFF Tuesday November 7th

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF LANGLEY

#### Anyone Want a Cell Tower? (from Page 1)

In an e-mail, Dave McCarthy, who lives on Main Street near the proposed site, called the suggestion "troubling for a few reasons: It's close to two cemeteries, it floods and is part of an aquifer; it's next to the Nelsonville Nature Preserve; and, worst of all, it's as close as you can get in Nelsonville to the Haldane Elementary School."

Well-traveled footpaths wind through the woods, which get boggy in spots, and two graveyards, one dating from the latter 1700s and the other from the mid-1800s, are nearby.

"I fully expect there's going to be substantial opposition, which is fine," Mayor O'Neill said on Tuesday (Oct. 31).

The Village Board gave Homeland Towers permission to evaluate the Cedar Street parcel because it wants "to make available a site which from an aesthetic perspective is more acceptable to this community than the Rockledge site," he said. At the Nov. 8 forum, the board intends "to present the facts, answer questions and give people the opportunity to express their views," O'Neill added.

Homeland Towers looked at a number of alternatives in Philipstown and Nelson-ville but found them unsuitable, Homeland Towers attorney Robert Gaudioso told the Nelsonville Planning Board on Oct. 25. The Secor property, however, "is a feasible alternative" to the Rockledge site, he said. "It is promising."

Gaudioso elaborated Wednesday night (Nov. 1) at a Nelsonville Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. The Secor tract "works from a technical standpoint ... quite well,



this area, off Cedar Street, as a cell tower site. The property is bordered by Secor Street.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

actually," he said. He mentioned the Nov. 8 forum and said that if the Secor site is "a reasonable alternative from a village standpoint," if the village agrees to a lease, and if the project passes environmental and related reviews and gets approved, "we would be happy to go to that as an alternative and drop this [Rockledge] ap-

Unlike the Rockledge parcel, the Nelsonville woods can be reached by village streets. Questions of access to the Rockledge Drive site came up at the Planning

Board meeting. As designed, the tower would be approached over what Bill Bujarski, the village's building inspector and code enforcer, described as about 75 feet of

unimproved surface off the main road. For fire department vehicles, "getting to the site is the problem," Bujarski said.

Gaudioso responded that the tower would be monitored from afar continuously but only checked in person occasionally. Moreover, he said, compared to the potential difficulties encountered in reaching private homes, "the issue of emergency services access is minimal." Homeland Towers representatives also said they might reconfigure their initial design to minimize accessibility concerns.

#### **Philipstown Tower**

A second cell tower proposed by Homeland Towers for Vineyard Road, near the intersection of Route 9 and Route 301, is being scrutinized by the Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals and its Conservation Board. The two panels have scheduled a joint public hearing for Monday, Nov. 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Recreation Center. Garrison.

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#### PHILIPSTOWN VOTES TUESDAY NOV 7th

# On NOV 7th let's re-elect reliable leaders we know

we can

trust.

## SUPERVISOR

plication."



- Town Supervisor, 2010 present
- 5 years of under 2% cap budgets & cut taxes in 2016
- Created budget surpluses, permitting renovation of Town Hall, Town Annex & Highway Offices w/no tax increase
- Guided town through 2 natural disasters
- · Passed comprehensive zoning law
- Led coalition in major progress on bringing Hudson Fjord Trail to Philipstown
- Led comprehensive review of emergency services funding
- Created new recreation programs for seniors

## JOHN VAN TASSEL TOWN COUNCILMAN



- Town Councilman, 2010 present
- 35 years volunteer firefighter, North Highlands Fire Dept., Chief & Assistant Chief, 1998 - 2003
- Initiated Narcan training & access program for all Town Fire Chiefs
- Overseeing Town Hall Annex construction
- Town Emergency Coordination Center co-director for Hurricanes Sandy & Irene
- Board of Fire Commissioners, 2005 - 2009
- County Transportation Safety Board 2009 - present
- Coach, Little League & Pop Warner Football, 2010 - present

## MICHAEL LEONARD TOWN COUNCILMAN



- Town Councilman, 2014 present
- Philipstown Planning Board, Member 2010 - 2012, Chair 2012 - 2013
- Philipstown Conservation Advisory Council & Board, 2008 - 2013, Liaison 2013 - present
- Philipstown Board of Assessment Review, 2008 - 2013
- Philipstown Cemetery Committee Liaison, 2013 - present
- Environmental Coordinator: Stormwater Management
- 30+ years at New York Power Authority, including work as Supervisor, Instructor, Fire Brigade Leader and Compliance Manager

## Beacon Schools Unveil Capital Plan

District officials say they won't need to raise taxes

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City School District is planning a series of public meetings in November to introduce a nearly \$9 million capital improvement plan that includes the installation of an artificialturf field at Beacon High School and air conditioning in a particularly stifling wing at Rombout Middle School.

Officials say the plan can be implemented without raising taxes.

Registered voters in Beacon, as well as in parts of Fishkill and Wappinger served by Glenham Elementary, will vote on the proposal on Dec. 5.

If adopted, the multi-use turf field will be the most visible component of the plan, with construction expected to begin in the summer of 2019. It would replace the boys' varsity soccer field at Beacon High School and be equipped with lights for night play.

The field will also be designed to drain rainwater faster than Hammond Field, the flood-prone site on Matteawan Road where the high school plays football.

"The new field will be right behind the high school, where there are no houses, so lighting should not be an issue," said school board member  $\stackrel{-}{\mathsf{Landahl}}$ 

Mike Rutkoske, who chairs its Facilities and Operations Committee. "Everything really played out with that being a better location."

Most other schools in the region already play on turf, Rutkoske added. The Haldane school district installed an artificialturf field in 2013.

The capital plan also includes air conditioning on the second floor of Rombout Middle School and a state-of-the-art science wing and improvements to its home-andcareers classroom. In addition, there would be repairs to the Hammond Field track and maintenance, safety and accessibility upgrades throughout the district.

The \$8.995 million project plan would be financed largely with state aid, which will reimburse 67 percent of the construction costs. In addition, the district still





Rutkoske

File photos

has \$342,000 from a state program that supports school construction and renovation projects. Its reserves and a decrease in debt when several existing projects come off the books round out the financing plan - all of which adds up to no increase in the district's tax levy.

"We're excited to be able to put this plan out for the voters without it having an impact on taxes beyond what we would propose as part of the regular school budget process that the public votes on every May," said first-year Superintendent Matt Landahl.

Public school districts in New York are required to conduct a survey of their buildings every five years. Completed in late 2015, Beacon's assessment listed more than 100 items that needed upgrades, from carpets and cubbies in the four elementary schools

to fire-rated doors and frames and other safety improvements, to higher-profile projects such as the turf field.

The items were submitted to the state for a priority ranking, and the school board facilities committee then whittled the \$18 million wish list to the approximately \$9 million plan it will present to voters.

"Our goals were to do everything that was health and safety-related," Rutkoske said. "Then we went through major projects that will help preserve our buildings. Then, we wanted to have something in every building that people could get excited for," which

#### The Garrison Plan

The Garrison school district also has a capital improvement plan to upgrade classrooms, hallways and the roof; renovate the cafeteria, improve security and make bathrooms and entrances compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

District officials will host guided walkthroughs of the facility and public forums at 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 13, and Wednesday, Dec. 6. The district said because of debt falling off its books in June 2021, the plan would also not involve tax increases. It will be refined and finalized in the spring, after which it would be put before

ranged from the carpets in kindergarten classrooms to the air conditioning at Rombout, and the science and career labs.

The plan was presented at the Rombout PTO meeting on Nov. 1, and presentations are scheduled for PTO and PTA meetings at the other five schools this month. Community meetings will be held at the Beacon Recreation Department on Nov. 16 and at Beacon High School on Nov. 30.

The polls will be open for voters from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Dec. 5 at Glenham for Fishkill and Wappinger residents and at Beacon High School for Beacon residents.

The district expects to have more debt come off its books in 2022 and 2023, which should line up with the next phase of capital improvements, Rutkoske noted.



## MICHELANGELO PISTOLETTO WALKING SCULPTURE

Michelangelo Pistoletto's performance will begin at 12.30pm by the Gazebo at the end of Main Street on the Hudson River Waterfront.

**November 4, 2017** Cold Spring, NY

MAGAZZINO ΙΤΔΙΙΔΝ ΔRΤ

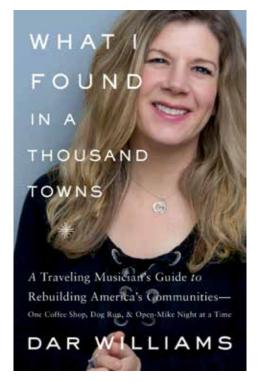
# The Calendar

## Dar Williams: Thinking in Bridges

Lessons singer learned in 1,000 towns

By Alison Rooney

fter touring countless towns to perform, singer and songwriter Dar Williams will roost at her own, Cold Spring, on Nov. 19 at the Chapel Restoration. She'll sing but also read from her new book, *What I Found in a Thousand Towns*.



The book, whose subtitle is "a traveling musician's guide to rebuilding America's communities — one coffee shop, dog run and openmic night at a time," describes what Williams says she has learned from visiting so many places across the country and around the world.

At its core is a concept she calls "positive proximity." She explains: "When people transcend the myth that proximity means conflict and invasion of privacy, they gravitate toward finding ways to integrate the talents and skills of their community members."

Williams begins the book with a rolling account of a mash-up of talents who contribute to creating a sledding hill in an unnamed town. There's the person who has the idea, who mentions it to an acquaintance who tamps the earth on a suitable hill, who gets his "guy with a plow" friend to make a track when snow appears.

An arborist clears some trees. Kids begin using it, accompanied by a parent



Dar Williams performing in 2015 in Charleston, West Virginia

Photo by Brian Blauser

who sells hot chocolate to fund PTA afterschool programs; volunteers gravitate back to the school; the library joins in.

Williams goes on to chapter-length anecdotal descriptions of nine locales where variants of this community-building have occurred. The first chapter details Beacon's transformation over the past 15 years.

Yet, as the country appears to fracture and divide, at least politically, and personal animosity rages on social media, how is such linkage possible?

"Communities thrive when there is a general sense of accessibility, and a center," Williams says. "What helps us to get out of our own homes, find ourselves in the commons, and become committed to it? How do we give the most people access to it, physically, economically?

"I looked at communities where people had hometown pride and worldly welcomes. They had identified roots, whether it was a food culture, an arts or history culture, who welcomed the world in, either as residents or travelers," she says. "You'll grapple, but it's a good thing."

At the same time, Williams says she doesn't look at villages such as Cold Spring with rose-colored glasses. "My post-Aquarian theory for community building is we (Continued on Page 13)

## Caught in the Metal

Jewelry artist finds two halves make more than a hole

**Bv Alison Roonev** 

s a self-described stubborn teenager, Kit Burke-Smith was anti-jewelry. Or at least anti jewelry-making. Intrigued by working with metals, something she was exposed to at Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan, she was more interested in making cups and bowls than adornments.

However, at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), where she enrolled as an undergraduate, the focus of the metalsmithing program was jewelry.

"Maybe that's where my work was meant to go, and they saw it first," says Burke-Smith, who lives in Beacon and is the newly appointed education coordinator at the Garrison Art Center.

At RISD, where she received a bachelor of fine arts in jewelry and light metals, Burke-Smith found the work more conceptual than practical.

"It was wearable, but you wouldn't want to," she says. "I try to make things that are thoughtfully made but accessible. It's important to me that there's thought behind how shapes are made, that it's not just random."

When Burke-Smith designs paired objects such as earrings, though they may look the same, they are not identical. "Earrings begin from a strip of metal which looks like a piece of linguini, sawed in half," she says. "Seeing how the halves come out gives them a relationship. My wedding rings may have the same texture inside both, and only the couple wearing them knows. There's a relationship not just between you and the



Earrings by Kit Burke-Smith made by pushing chunky sand into the wax, creating the texture. Photo provided

jewelry; there's another person in the conversation."

Forgoing graduate school, Burke-Smith opted to learn by doing. "After RISD you could design for a commercial company," she says. "Design, but not make. Or, the reverse, you (Continued on Page 14)



Kit Burke-Smith

Garrison Art Center

#### FRIDAY, NOV. 3

#### Tim D'Acquisto and Grace Kennedy (Opening)

6 - 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery 121 Main St., Cold Spring 845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com

#### Willy Wonka Jr.

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

#### **Acoustic Harvest**

7 p.m. Graymoor 1350 Route 9. Garrison 845-424-3549 | atonementfriars.org

#### Legend of Sleepy Hollow (Film) with Jonathan Kruk

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

#### **NY Kings Comedy Tour**

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

#### Wait Until Dark

8 p.m. County Players Theater 2681 W. Main St., Wappingers Falls 845-298-1491 | countyplayers.org

#### SATURDAY, NOV. 4

#### All About Bulbs Workshop

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

#### **Family Workday and Bonfire**

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Manitoga 584 Route 9D. Garrison 845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org



#### www.downingfilmcenter.com N ow Showing

#### Loving Vincent (PG13)

FRI 7:30, SAT 2:30 5:00 7:30 SUN 2:30 5:00, TUE 7:30, WED 7:30 THU 2:00 7:30

NT Live Presents: Salomé (NR) MON (11/6) 7:15

## MONROE CINEMA @ TMACC 34 Millpond Parkway Monroe, NY 10950 • 845.395.9055 www.monroecinema.com

#### A Bad Moms Christmas (R) FRI 3:00 6:00 9:00

SAT 2:00 5:00 8:00 SUN 1:00 4:00 7:00, MON 4:30 7:15 TUE 7:15, WED 1:00 4:00 7:00 THU 7:15

#### Thor Ragnarok (PG13)

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

#### Jigsaw (R)

FRI 3:30 6:30 9:30 SAT 2:30 5:30 8:30 SUN 1:30 4:30 7:30, MON 4:45 7:30 TUE 7:30, WED 1:30 4:30 7:30 THU 7:30

## Calendar Highlights

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

#### Take-A-Hike: Granite Mountain Preserve

10 a.m. Putnam Valley 845-424-3358 | hhlt.org | RSVP for meeting place

#### **Free Guided History Tour**

11 a.m. West Point Foundry Preserve 80 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring 845-473-4440 x238 | scenichudson.org

#### **Kindness Rocks Project**

11 a.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St., Beacon

RSVP to community@beaconlibrary.org.

#### Michelangelo Pistoletto: Walking Sculpture

12:30 p.m. Cold Spring waterfront 845-666-7202 | magazzino.art

#### **International Artists Residency Show** (Opening)

3 - 6 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center Long Dock Park, Beacon | beaconarts.org

#### Roots: From Berlin to Beacon (Opening)

3 - 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St., Beacon 845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

#### Willy Wonka Jr.

4 & 7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre See details under Friday.

#### The Lost Community of Nitgedaiget (Talk)

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

#### **Full Moon Hike**

6:30 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center 100 Muser Dr., Cornwall 845-534-5506 x204 | hhnm.org

#### **Sloan Wainwright**

7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center See details under Friday.

#### Wait Until Dark

8 p.m. County Players Theater See details under Friday.

#### **SUNDAY, NOV. 5**

#### **Daylight Saving Time Ends**

Turn clocks back one hour

#### **Life Drawing**

11:15 a.m. - 2:15 p.m. Create Community 11 Peekskill Road, Cold Spring info@createcommunityspace.com

#### **Beacon Hocus-Pocus Halloween Parade**

12:30 p.m. Line-up

1 p.m. Parade | Starts at Wolcott and Main

1 Museum Road, New Windsor 845-534-3115 | stormking.org

#### Stacy Bass: Gardens at First Light (Talk)

2 p.m. Winter Hill | 20 Nazareth Way, Garrison RSVP to Imoss@gardenconservancy.org

2 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre See details under Friday

#### Björn Meyer-Ebrecht (Artist's Talk)

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

#### MONDAY, NOV. 6

#### Watercolor Art Show (Opening)

2 - 4 p.m. St. Francis Convent, Graymoor 41 Old Highland Turnpike, Garrison | 845-424-3625

#### **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 | beaconk12.org

#### Beatrix Farrand, Landscape Designer (Talk)

7:30 p.m. Cornwall Presbyterian Church 222 Hudson St., Cornwall 845-534-5506 | hhnm.org

#### **TUESDAY, NOV. 7**

#### Election Day

6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Polls open

#### Fun Day (ages 5-10)

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Beacon Recreation Center 23 West Center St., Beacon | cityofbeacon.org

#### **New Moms & Infants Group**

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

Rescheduled from Oct. 29

#### **Children and Families: Biomorphic Sculptures**

1 p.m. Storm King Art Center

#### Willy Wonka Jr.

#### FRIDAY, NOV. 10

**Beacon Chamber Meeting** 

**Haldane School Board** 

15 Craigside Dr., Cold Spring

**Putnam County Legislature** 

7 p.m. Historic Courthouse

44 Gleneida Ave., Carmel

Veteran's Day Assembly

845-424-3689 | gufs.org

5:30 p.m. The Roundhouse

2 East Main St., Beacon

**Beacons of History Awards** 

5:30 p.m. Clove Creek Dinner Theater 18 Westage Business Center Dr., Fishkill

7 p.m. Haldane School (Music Room)

845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 8** 

845-208-7800 | putnamcountyny.com

9 a.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D, Garrison

**THURSDAY, NOV. 9** 

845-202-7778 | clovecreekdinnertheater.com

#### **Salute to Veterans Ceremony**

11 a.m. All Sport Health & Fitness 17 Old Main St., Fishkill 845-896-5678 | allsportfishkill.com

845-831-0514 | beaconhistorical.org

#### Sing-a-Long with Beacon Players (ages 3+)

11 a.m. Howland Public Library See details under Saturday.

#### Made & Given Pop-Up Shop

4 - 7 p.m. A Little Beacon Space 291 Main St., Beacon facebook.com/madeandgivenny

#### After the Spill (Documentary)

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

#### Meek Mill & Fabolous

7 p.m. Mid-Hudson Civic Center 14 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeensie 845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

#### Willy Wonka Jr.

7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre See details under Nov. 3.

#### **Zeppelin Complete**

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley See details under Nov. 3.

#### Wait Until Dark

8 p.m. County Players Theater See details under Nov. 3.





#### Dar Williams: Thinking in Bridges (from Page 11)

don't start by hugging strangers or assuming we want the same thing," she says. "We dig into the identity of our towns. You can get in a car and go to Route 9 and live your life without going to a downtown. I've seen places where people have a center to their towns, and they thrive." Towns that thrive, she observes, usually have an "ethos in the air of collaboration."

Though, like many folk singers Williams is perceived as ardently liberal, she's emphatic that what she's discussing is non-partisan. "The assumption is that only liberal people are willing to pour their time and tax dollars into downtowns," she says. "This is not the case, and in checking out the towns I love so much, many lean Republican. The truth is, towns that succeed are more than partisan, which doesn't mean hiding your politics. Coming out of this process, my motto is, 'Think in bridges.' Find them, cross them; it always expands who you are. I don't see a lot of lines anymore, because I've met so many people."

"'Think in bridges.' Find them, cross them; it always expands who you are. I don't see a lot of lines anymore, because I've met so many people."

In Philipstown, Williams feels engaging each sector of the populace is crucial, beginning with retirees. "They have so much expertise," she says. "They hold the history of the town, and are often very patient with children."

Also important is finding the right blend of commerce that caters to both locals and tourists. "The only way to keep the pulse of downtown is to have the whole layer of fancy stuff that the visitors will buy," she says. "Without some of this, you can't have the parades and all the great things that bring life into downtown.

It won't all flow naturally, she says. "Effort has to be made, because so many things are pulling us out of downtown. In Franklin, Tennessee, I couldn't find an aspirin. It has history, fantastic jewelry, a gorgeous theater, but no aspirin. The

challenge to the old guard is not new residents, it's the big box stores, malls and the deterioration of pedestrian culture. Having a downtown that sells shovels and Scotch tape and milk that's somewhat affordable is essential."

Whatever its fissures and growing pains, Philipstown is home sweet home to Williams, who spends much of the year touring. "I appreciate how much I feel like I belong in this town," she says. "I can be my real self here. I see people wearing their pajama bottoms as they walk their kids to school. I can invite friends in without clearing the breakfast dishes.

"I went to a town out West which had

many similar things to this one, but it was uptight and unfriendly. People weren't smiling and you could feel the unease. Our town has a bulletin board full of fliers for weird events, and lots of cross-pollination: the library trying out a zombie night, the outdoor films shown by the river, the firefighter academy for kids. There is so much vitality here."

Her free program, which begins at 4 p.m., is part of the Chapel Restoration's Sunset Reading Series. A wine and cheese reception will follow. The chapel is located next to the Metro-North train station in Cold Spring, where parking is free on weekends.



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#### Caught in the Metal (from Page 11)

could work in the production end of someone else's designs."

She moved to Brooklyn and freelanced for five years. "It was almost like being an apprentice," she says. "I learned to work faster. I was meticulous but needed a faster pace in the real world. Eventually I felt like I had lost touch with the 'mind' side of things, and that's when I decided to go to grad school" at SUNY New Paltz.

Burke-Smith's designs combine what she learned at school with metalworking basics. "Sawing and piercing are two of the first skills learned in metalsmithing," she says. "I like refining it using methods that are unique to me. It's very low-tech, all cut by hand. I also do a lot of casting and fabrication, soldering with acetylene torches or oxypropane mini-torches.

"I also work with sheets of thin wax, filing, cutting and carving, creating a mold which is then put in a kiln. You force molten wax into the negative space





Kit Burke-Smith at work in her home studio Photo by A. Rooney

in the mold, then crack the mold. It's sent to the city, and it's kind of like magic: I send them waxes and they send back silver and gold."

While attending SUNY New Paltz, she moved to Cold Spring and then, six years ago, to Beacon. There she has met many other women involved in the arts, including jewelers and metalsmiths. "We developed a kind of jeweler version of borrowing a cup of sugar: 'I need to borrow a cup of flux,'" she says. (Flux is a paste for soldering.)

Burke-Smith also teaches metalsmithing, drawing, color theory and fiber design at New Paltz ("I get inspired by my students and by millennials in general. I think they get a bad rap. They have so

#### Three O'Clock Shadow

make my 'Me and My Shadow' earrings the same way each time, but on different days," says Kit Burke-Smith. "They are asymmetric sterling silver loops paired with black neoprene loops made from the distorted shadow of the silver loops. At exactly 3 p.m. in the afternoon, the sun comes in at a right angle. I trace the shadow, then cut it out in metal and neoprene.

"I intentionally put them together so that the shapes are flipped in some way. They never line up perfectly and so the neoprene becomes the shadow of the metal. This way the shapes relate to each other but aren't identical. Sisters but not twins! I like the fact that they're related but don't line up. Someone told me, 'You should make jewelry that can only be worn on a rainy Thursday!'"



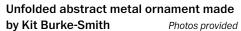
Kit Burke-Smith's "Me and My Shadow" earrings Photo by Liam Goodman

much knowledge about what concerns them"), sells her work online and in a few galleries and stores, and does commission work such as wedding rings.

"I mainly design necklaces, earrings and rings," she says. "Fewer rings,

because they're harder to sell because of the sizing requirement, but I love making them. I work mostly in sterling silver and 18K gold, and occasionally in neoprene rubber, Peruvian opal and Tahitian pearls."







Dangling earrings with triple folding cups cast in silver, by Kit Burke-Smith.

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#### **Mouths to Feed**

## **Core Beliefs**

#### **By Celia Barbour**

ne year, when I was in college, I lived in an off-campus house with my three best friends. We had not yet learned how to be OK with our differences, so while we loved each other dearly, we also fought in ways that confused and distressed us.

One recurring fight was about apples. Stephanie, an artist, wanted to keep them in a bowl on the kitchen table. Laura, a pre-med, thought they belonged in the refrigerator because apples get mushy if you leave them out.

At heart, I sided with the pragmatic Laura. No one likes a mushy apple. But, as a philosophy major, I felt it was my job to see both sides. Apples *are* pretty, I conceded, and by leaving them out, one arguably benefits from them in two ways — aesthetically as well as gustatorily — thereby increasing the total good derived from them. In short, I was useless.

All fall, whenever Laura passed through the kitchen, she would place the bowl of apples in the refrigerator, and whenever Stephanie came by, she'd take it out again.

I like to think I have grown more sensible in the years since college. Apples are for eating, not viewing, and thus belong in the fridge. But lately I've come to suspect that my storage habit may have a darker side.

Last Saturday, as I was leaving for the Cold Spring Farmer's Market, I decided to grab an apple for breakfast. When I opened the refrigerator, I noticed that we still had more than a dozen apples — some from a friend's trees, others from the previous week's market. No need to buy apples, I thought to myself. My brain actually formed the words: If there's one thing I definitely do not need to buy, it's apples. Nonetheless, I came home an hour later with seven apples. They'd looked so pretty, taut and rosy-green, I couldn't help myself.

As I put them away, I wondered if parts of my refrigerator function like buried areas of my subconscious: The shelf of denial. The dissociative drawer.

The next day, my husband, Peter, returned from New Hampshire with eight



A bowl laden with sliced apples



**Curried Cheddar Melt with Apple Slaw** 

Photos by C. Barbour

apples. He had gone up there with his brothers to shut down the old farmhouse for the winter, and the tree by the well had been "laden" with them.

"Thank you," I said, thinking: *Laden?* And you brought back only eight?

As is surely clear by now, this is all just a setup for a third-grade word problem: "If you have 14 apples in the refrigerator, eat one apple, buy seven more apples, and then your husband comes home with eight apples, what do you have?" By my calculation, the only right answer is applesauce.

Of course, there are many other excellent things to do with apples, from salads to pies. But most of these use five apples, tops, and I needed to go nuclear. So I began playing around — apples, cardamom, and lime; apples, lime, and jalapeno; apples, ginger, and raspberry — slicing and simmering, and, frankly, feeling a bit defeated. Applesauce makes all those weeks of refrigeration irrelevant; it's an art major's solution.

Meanwhile, as I was busy coring, slicing, simmering, lamenting and pureeing, lunchtime came and went. Suddenly I was starving. I remembered a certain grilled

You know the saying: "Life is what happens when you're making other plans"? Sometimes, for me, good recipes are what happen when I'm making other recipes.

curried-cheddar sandwich with tart apple slaw I'd had years ago at Saltie, a fantastic Brooklyn joint. I didn't have half the ingredients on hand, but craving makes fine improvisers of us all. I sliced a Pink Lady into matchsticks, tossed it with lemon, parsley, celery and olive oil, then made myself a bubbly, open-face sandwich. It was sublime. Or perhaps I was too hungry to judge? When Peter came home, I tested it on him, then later repeated it for George and Henry. They all agreed: Delicious.

You know the saying: "Life is what happens when you're making other plans"? Sometimes, for me, good recipes are what happen when I'm making other recipes. It's like I throw open my crowded mental refrigerator to grab something else, and there it sits: the perfect idea, perfectly crisp, waiting.

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## Curried Cheddar Melt with Apple Slaw

You can add a pinch of cayenne, turmeric, ginger and/or paprika to the curry to pop the flavor. The original recipe calls for focaccia, but I used sliced ciabatta. Plain bread would also be fine.

#### Makes two sandwiches

- 1 crisp, tart apple
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
- 1 tablespoon minced celery (optional)
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- sea salt

- 2 ciabatta rolls, sliced open
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon curry powder, or to taste (see note above)
- 4 ounces sharp cheddar cheese, grated
- chutney, for serving
- 1. Preheat your broiler.
- 2. Thinly slice the apple, then stack the slices and cut into matchsticks. Toss with the parsley, celery, lemon, oil and salt, and set aside.
- 3. Lightly toast the roll. Meanwhile, combine the mayonnaise and curry powder. Mix in the grated cheddar. Spread the cheese mixture onto the toasted roll (you may need to press it into place). Place under the preheated broiler and broil until bubbly and golden brown on top.
- 4. Serve with chutney and apple slaw.

## What the Candidates Say

n anticipation of the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 7, The Current asked each candidate for the two seats on the Dutchess Legislature that represent Beacon, as well as three candidates for a four-year term as Putnam County sheriff, to respond in writing to questions posed by reporters Jeff Simms (for Dutchess) or Michael Turton (for Putnam). The candidates are presented in alphabetical order. Responses from candidates for the Philipstown Town Board and Beacon City Council can be found at highlandscurrent.com.

#### **DUTCHESS LEGISLATURE** (DISTRICT 16)

There are 25 part-time representatives in the Dutchess Legislature who each serve two-year terms. In Beacon, District 16 includes Ward 4 and part of Ward 3.

#### Explain the importance of the Legislature, particularly for Beacon

Forman (Independence): John Dutchess County government has a county executive and 25 members that make up the county Legislature. The Legislature is the policy-making body in county government, and the single most important job of the Legislature is the final adoption of the county budget. County laws can be created, adjusted or eliminated by the county Legislature. All bonding for large construction projects and large purchases can only be approved by the county Leg-





islature. As far as sales tax is concerned, the two cities (Beacon and Poughkeepsie) have the ability to charge and collect their own sales tax and break apart from their partnership with the county. But the numbers prove the two cities collect a significantly larger share of the sales tax by partnering with Dutchess County.

Frits Zernike (D): There's a pretty big difference between what the Legislature does and what it could do. The Republicans and their allies in the Independence Party hold a supermajority -18 of the 25seats. The county executive is also a Republican. That amounts, basically, to oneparty rule. Most of the legislative initiative comes from executive offices, and the Legislature acts on, as one incumbent put it. "what comes across our desk." But the legislature is supposed to be an equal branch of government, acting as a check on the executive, challenging his initiatives not necessarily to defeat them so much as to ensure that the best version of them emerges from vigorous debate and proposing new and innovative leg-

Where the rubber hits the road is that the county levies taxes. Dutchess gets more of its revenue from sales tax than from property tax. Since the reformulation of the county tax in 2013, 15 percent of the sales tax collected in Beacon goes into a discretionary fund right now it contains \$60 million to be doled out by the executive. That's undemocratic and unfair, particularly

#### If you are a new candidate, what do you bring to the table? If you're an incumbent, why should you be reelected?

Forman: As an incumbent, I run on my track record. Several years ago, I authored a resolution to require that all elected officials at the county level contribute toward their monthly health insurance premiums. This obviously did not sit well with my colleagues in the legislature. However, after much debate, all elected officials at the county level now contribute toward their taxpayer-funded health insurance premiums. That was extended to all of the management and confidential employees who are employed by the county of Dutchess. This resolution is saving the

taxpayers more than \$200,000 per year! And in 2017, I again authored a resolution extending the polling hours in Dutchess County on Primary Day from noon to 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. to 9 p.m, the same hours  $\,$ as the general election in November. We need to give the voters every opportunity to cast a vote. This was not happening in Dutchess County. The new polling hours will begin in 2018.

Zernike: I have been involved in Beacon politics through Beacon Deserves Better. I also have 10 years of experience running a small business, and I hold a law degree, both of which will allow me to bring relevant experience and perspective to the job. The incumbent has served in the Legislature for 12 years. When he introduced himself to me early in the summer, he promised an issue-oriented, clean campaign, and he has honored that commitment, for which he has my respect and gratitude. As I see it, I am not running against my opponent, I am running for his seat. I'll leave it to the voters to decide which of us they'd like to see represent them.

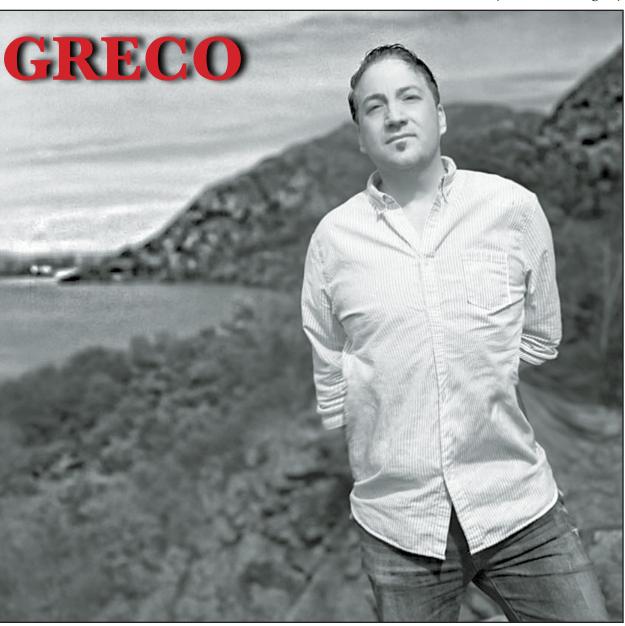
#### What should be priorities for the Legislature?

Forman: Addiction and mental health initiatives are priorities in the budget. Prevention education, accessible drugdrop boxes, Narcan training and 24/7 crisis and support services will continue to be budgeted for and supported. Second, continued investment for improvements (Continued on Page 18)



in Philipstown

TIMe for a Change!



The Highlands Current **18** November 3, 2017 highlandscurrent.com

#### What the Candidates Say (from Page 17)

to our infrastructure. If Dutchess County is going to be a player in attracting new businesses, then we have to continue to fix, repair and replace our bridges and roads and make sure there is enough water. Third, criminal justice reform.

Zernike: Dutchess is losing jobs and we're facing increasing costs. Whatever agenda the Legislature sets, it will have to address those two brute facts. By enacting legislation that fosters more locally rooted businesses and development, we can work toward an economy that better sustains the county. One thing I am committed to is a push for a law prohibiting candidates and elected officials from taking contributions from companies that do business with the county. The Republican-dominated Legislature will not bring a vote on ending "pay-to-play" to the floor, but we

#### **DUTCHESS LEGISLATURE** (DISTRICT 18)

In Beacon, District 18 includes Wards 1 and 2 and part of 3.

#### Explain the importance of the Legislature, particularly for Beacon residents.

Jerry Landisi (Independence): County government provides a wide array of services, including sheriff's patrols, road maintenance, public parks and social services. It also is in a unique position to assist municipalities such as Beacon by awarding grant money, including the Community Development Block Grants and shared services grants. In 2017, I helped to secure \$160,000 in CDBG funding that will pay for the installation of new sidewalks on Main Street.

Nick Page (D): As per the county charter, the Legislature handles appropriations, legislation and policy creation. In order for a measure to be passed, it must be agreed upon by a majority of legislators and signed by the county executive. Should the county executive refuse to sign, that can be overridden by a twothirds vote of the Legislature. Currently, there is an 18 to 7 Republican supermajority, including the two Independence Party legislators who represent Beacon, who caucus with and nearly exclusively vote in concert with their Republican colleagues. As a result, there is little to no counterpoint to the Republican county executive's agenda. What are the implications? The recent sales tax reformulation has seen Beacon hand the county \$4.58 million in revenue since 2013. A strong and independent Legislature would be ready and able to stand up for the needs of its respective communities.

#### If you are a new candidate, what do you bring to the table? If you're an incumbent, why should you be reelected?

Landisi: My record speaks for itself. In just under two years in office I have delivered real results for my constituents. I supported a budget that reduced the property tax levy and tax rate while continuing to provide robust services. We also





continued to increase our investment in key growth industries such as tourism, arts, agriculture and economic development. I voted in favor of expanding the home-delivered meal program for seniors to five days a week. I championed a resolution that re-established the Human Rights Commission and helped secure funding to assist in its outreach mission. I have also been a strong supporter of the new Crisis Stabilization Center as we seek to revamp the way in which we address addiction and treatment in our community. I am an independent, and as such I am beholden only to my constituents, not to a partisan agenda. I have listened to the people who elected me and have been willing to work with anyone regardless of party and have been successful in bringing Beacon's voice to county government and delivered real results for residents.

Page: A fresh eye and terrier-like en-

#### What should be priorities for the Legislature?

Landisi: In the coming years, we must continue to be vigilant in making sure that we protect taxpavers so people can afford to stay here. I will build on my strong record of curbing tax increases while continuing to find ways to provide smarter, more streamlined and efficient services to

my constituents. We must continue to make smart investments in our budget that will help grow the economy and provide career opportunities for the 21st century so that our children and grandchildren can make their lives here. The opioid crisis is also one of the top issues that must be addressed. If re-elected, I will continue my work as a strong advocate for the Stabilization Center and will assure

that this facility has all of the resources it needs. I will continue to support and work to expand our educational programming to make sure people understand the magnitude of this problem. It is time we recognize this issue for what it is, a publichealth crisis. I will also work to make sure that Beacon is adequately represented at the county level and will continue to advocate for our fair share of grant dollars

DeStefano

Page: 1) Environmental action: The vigorous exploration of local production of, and investment in, renewable energy via

wind, solar, hydroelectric, geothermal and any other means available or to be discovered. A county-wide adoption of the Community Choice Aggregation program that allows citizens to act as a buying unit and secure affordable green energy, while establishing the market for the same. Encouragement of increased recycling and composting initiatives. 2) Holistic alternatives to incarceration: We must shout a firm "No!" to a record investment in incarceration via the proposed \$250-plus million county jail project, while singing a joyful "Yes!" to pro $grams\ that\ support\ young\ families\ such\ as$ universal pre-kindergarten, summer job and educational programming for teenagers (such programming has been subject to recent county cuts), and compassionate support for people suffering from mental health and addiction problems. 3) Cut county sales tax and return sales tax revenue to municipalities. Our sales tax in Dutchess is higher than that of Westchester County (8.125 percent to 7.375 percent). This regressive tax especially harms lowto middle-income households that spend a greater portion of their incomes on essential goods. This tax must be reduced and a good starting point would be the elimination of sales tax on non-luxury clothing items that are less than \$100. We must also return sales tax revenue to our communities. As mentioned above, the recent reformulation of the sales tax has seen more than \$4.5 million redirected from the city of Beacon to county coffers since 2013. While an estimated \$850,000 has been returned via grants, this money should be spent within our community and at our discretion. The county is sitting on a \$59 million fund balance, due in no small part to the countywide sales-tax grab, and is in a fine position to do right by its citizenry.



#### **PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF**

The sheriff serves a four-year term. The Republican incumbent, Donald Smith, is seeking his fifth term against challengers Robert Langley Jr., the Democratic candidate, and Andrew DeStefano, who is campaigning as a write-in.

#### What do you see as the priorities for the sheriff's office?

**DeStefano:** The office has had a 16-year run of being mismanaged by a sheriff with no law-enforcement experience or training. That has directly led to Putnam County

unnecessarily being included in this outof-control opioid epidemic, drug-infested schools, skyrocketing traffic accidents, unchecked domestic violence, criminals with outstanding warrants that are years old, multiple misconduct lawsuits and, worst of all, a real disconnect between the sheriff and large parts of the county, including the forgotten western side. Many parts of the county have not seen the sheriff in years. Putnam needs the command experience, command training and command law enforcement background of a police leader who's had a career being held accountable for results and has excelled under such a system of tight accountability. As a Ph.D. candidate studying advanced crime analysis and a retired New York City police captain, in this election I alone have the exclusive ability to bring that department into the 21st century utilizing concepts found to be successful in any size police department, big and small.

Langley: The priorities are opioids, community policing, and returning integrity. I will disrupt the supply of opioids coming into Putnam County and decrease demand by addressing addiction. I will fight for misdemeanor-level alternative courts that help people sooner and reduce crime quicker. Violent and property crimes were up in Putnam in 2016 — crimes often attributable to drug-related activity. Don Smith is not telling you the whole truth about crime in Putnam. I will be tough on crime. Period. I will enhance the effectiveness of our deputies by re-emphasizing community policing. I am a career lawenforcement officer. I'm honest and lawabiding. I will be a sheriff you can trust.

**Smith:** The top priority for the office is to protect the people of Putnam County and keep everyone safe from crime, especially amidst the drug and opioid crisis. It's our priority to have all first responders

> work together to keep Putnam a great and safe place to live, work and raise a family. We work at every level to fight the opioid crisis by every means: prevention, education awareness, treatment programs and enforcing drug laws. We know that the U.S. cannot "arrest its way" out of the crisis. We support the Putnam County Drug Treatment Court and encourage the courts to expand this program at the local level. Our priority is to protect everyone, especially our most vulnerable populations — chil-

dren, senior citizens and people with dis-

#### What are your views on consolidation of police services in the county?

**DeStefano:** As sheriff, I will carry out the mandate of residents as it relates to any consolidation, as it is their tax money. and I will do so to the best of my ability, whatever their decision may be. In any event, as sheriff I will see to it that every part of the county has access to department resources.

(Continued on next page)

#### What the Candidates Say (from Page 18)

Langley: Consolidation can't be a topdown decision — the discussion needs to engage the people we serve. There are many questions to consider. How would consolidation affect the level and quality of police protection in individual communities? What are the financial ramifications? How would infrastructure be organized? Would town and village police stations become substations or would all patrols be deployed from Carmel? How would that impact response times? How would our officers and support staff be redeployed to maintain jobs? The sheriff must control taxpayers' costs but never at the sacrifice of community protection.

Smith: Our democratic system of government is based on the separation of powers; government is empowered by the people at various levels. In that spirit, the Sheriff's Office partners with local, town and village departments providing needed support such as narcotics enforcement, investigation, canine, road patrol and marine support. We work closely with all police agencies in our county and our district attorney. We provide support to our schools through the School Resource Officer Program. We do our part to keep our county safe through communication, coordination, cooperation and support of our emergency service first responders. Any consolidation initiatives are a "home-rule" issue.

## Integrity has been raised as an issue during the campaign. How does your record qualify in that regard?

DeStefano: In law enforcement, integrity has several meanings. Under this sheriff, the systems are corrupted, much like a computer. There exists no system of quality assurance to ensure the integrity, or accuracy, of crime reporting. Therefore, there is virtually zero credibility in the "safest county" slogan. With road supervision, there exists no meaningful "nochase" policy under this sheriff, which has led to many unsupervised, unnecessary, high-speed car chases. In 2016 alone, one unsupervised high-speed chase for a relatively low-level offense led to a crash and the deaths of three people and five lawsuits filed against taxpayers. And there is no integrity of investigations. The Alexandru Hossu case, in which a politicallymotivated arrest resulted in a \$45 million lawsuit against you, the taxpayers, never would have occurred had this department instituted a crime-control model which relies upon comprehensive and timely data analysis. That wrongful arrest would have been shut down immediately. In modern policing, *integrity* is not simply a word to stick on a political sign but rather a system designed to manage police operations to keep everything running the way it's supposed to. Only years of major-league experience can make integrity happen.

**Langley:** I will return integrity to the office of sheriff. I'm a real cop with real policing experience, having served 23 years in the Putnam County Sheriff's Department. I've worked in corrections, patrol duty and forensics. I was cited for outstanding service in 2002 and 2003, and

#### **Putnam Sheriff's Race**

Revenue and expenses, as of Nov. 1

#### Friends of Langley

Raised: \$23,776 Largest donors: Zaklad Rafael (\$2,500), Putnam Democratic Committee (\$1,000), Philipstown Democrats (\$500); in-kind donation of \$1,000 from James Borkowski for lawn signs Expenditures: \$15.613

#### Friends of Don Smith

Previous balance: \$13,882 Raised: \$12,065 Largest donors: William Butt (\$2,000), George Wipple (\$1,309), Teamsters

Expenditures: \$13,470

Source: New York State Board of Elections

As a write-in candidate, DeStefano has not filed campaign expenditures and revenues with the state.

twice in both 2004 and 2005. I received commendations for my service to the mentally ill, my exemplary performance in narcotics investigations and arrests, for criminal apprehensions and for giving life-saving assistance to a fellow deputy. In my service as a volunteer firefighter I received the 2012 Meritorious Service Award and the Medal of Honor from the Garrison Fire Company.

**Smith:** I have dedicated my life to serving in two of our most noble and honored professions — the U.S. military and law enforcement. I stand behind my 16-year record serving as sheriff for all the people in Putnam County in providing leadership for the law enforcement and emergency services team that keeps Putnam County the safest county in New York and one of the safest counties in the U.S. Each and every day we serve with integrity, dignity and respect. The people of Putnam County know me and what I stand for.

### Should the sheriff be an elected position?

**DeStefano:** A benefit to having an elected sheriff is having one chosen by the people. A negative to having an elected sheriff is what we see right now in Putnam County, a politically powerful politician who has the money and friends to stay in office while running the department into the ground. This election is a perfect example: I collected more than enough legal signatures, yet the sheriff's protector at the Board of Elections unlawfully invalidated my petitions anyway, deliberately preventing a Republican primary the incumbent clearly would have lost.

Langley: I believe the office of the sheriff should be an elected position because the people's vote maintains a check and balance on power. The people should choose who they feel is the most qualified individual to protect the residents of Putnam County and our Constitutional rights. The election process enables the people an opportunity to make necessary changes to the system when our interests

and assets need better protection. After 16 years and four terms under Smith, now is the opportunity for the people to bring change for the better.

**Smith:** The office of sheriff should be an elected position directly accountable to the people. Historically, those elected to serve in that office have been defenders of the principles of our founding documents, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, protecting our civil liberties and freedom. The proud history of the office of sheriff as the chief law enforcement of the county has served us well and today most of the 3,080 sheriffs serving across the U.S. continue to be elected.

#### What additional resources does the department need to do its job effectively?

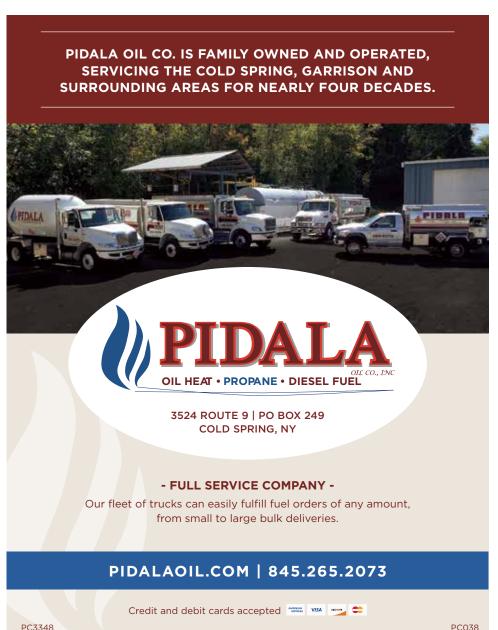
**DeStefano:** None. This department already has the blocks and people in place to succeed in the 21st century. What they need is a sheriff with the command experience and training to implement a crime-control model. Nothing in this Sheriff's Department is measured, and what gets measured gets done. And no one is held accountable for results. There is no more faking his way through this. In this race I'm the only candidate with the knowledge and background to accomplish what needs to be accomplished.

**Langley:** All of our officers should wear body cameras, so both our deputies and the public are held accountable. I'd like to deploy the resources we already have more

strategically. I've patrolled every mile of Putnam County. I know our communities, and I understand the capacity of existing police forces. I know where deputies need a strong presence and where they serve best as backup. I will match protection to needs, deploying services for optimal safety and cost efficiency. I will emphasize community policing and get our deputies into communities. Distance between deputies and the people they work for is not strategically advantageous. We all need to trust each other and work together.

**Smith:** We continue to have a positive relationship with our county executive and the Legislature and work to submit a responsible budget that provides the programs we need to help keep the county safe. We strive to limit the burden on our taxpayers and keep Putnam with one of the lowest county-level taxes in the state. Our low and declining crime rate is indicative that we are getting the needed resources. We may need more resources as we continue to fight the war on drugs and opioid abuse.





#### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### **Get Things Rolling**

Italian artist to recreate walking sculpture

Ttalian artist Michelangelo Pis-Ltoletto, whose works are in the collection at Magazzino, the art space in Philipstown, will re-enact his 1967 performance, Scultura da Passeggio (Walking Sculpture), at the Cold Spring waterfront at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4.

Working with local publications, including *The Current*, sent to him in Italy, Pistoletto created a sfera di gionali, or "sphere of newspapers."

Pistoletto will invite the public to help roll the sphere along a portion of Main Street, then circle back to the bandstand where the artist, along with Magazzino founders Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu, will share remarks.

The artist, who has donated the work to Magazzino, earned acclaim in the early 1960s for his Mirror Paintings and produced a set of works, Minus Objects, that are considered fundamental to

the birth of Arte Povera, the movement predominantly featured at Magazzino. To visit the art space, see magazzino.art.

**HIGHLAND STUDIO** 



Michelangelo Pistoletto with an example of his "sphere of newspapers."

Beatrix Farrand will be discussed

Karen Smythe, executive director of the Beatrix Farrand Garden Associa-

tion, will discuss the landscape designer's

work at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 6, at

Farrand was known in the early 1900s

for her advocacy of landscaping with native plants and creating complex flower

beds. One of Farrand's designs, at a gar-

den in Hyde Park, was recently restored.

Admission is \$5 for members of the Hud-

son Highlands Nature Museum, or \$8 oth-

the Cornwall Presbyterian Church.

Garden Talk

the Hudson Valley Veterans Alliance, All Sport in Fishkill will hold a ceremony at the club at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 10. Sponsor a flag to display at All Sport or join an outdoor cycle class as a sponsor or rider from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11 at Adams Fairacre Farms in Wappingers Falls. See all sporthealth andfitness.com/veterans.

#### Variety Show in Nelsonville

Pop-up performance on Nov. II

community variety show Awill be held at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11, at Create Community in Nelsonville. The performance, hosted by Suzanne Schatzle, will feature music by Jacob Bernz, Mary and Jim Mechalakos, William Speziale and Justin Roffman,

and comedy with Narinder Singh and Pete Smith. The suggested donation at the door is \$8 and light refreshments will be offered.

## **Claremont Trio at Chapel**

Latest in classical music series

The Claremont Trio will return to the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 12. Emily Bruskin (violin), Julia Bruskin (cello) and Andrea Lam (piano) will perform Mozart's Trio in B-flat Major, K. 502 and Mendelssohn's Trio in D Minor, Op. 39. Admission is free but donations are welcome.



The Claremont Trio will perform in Cold Spring on Nov. 12.

#### **Local Poets to Share Work**

Reading at Butterfield on Nov. 11

Jo Pitkin and Irene O'Garden will read from their recent poetry collections and discuss their work at the Butterfield Library on Saturday, Nov. 11. The event begins at 4 p.m. and will be followed by a reception. Pitkin's most recent collection is Rendering and O'Garden's is Fulcrum.

#### Virtual Job Fair

Continues through November

The Putnam-Westchester Workforce ■ Development Board has created an online job fair where employers can post open jobs and job seekers can post resumes, review postings and receive assistance from career coaches. See westchesterputnamonestop.com.

#### **NY Alert**

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

Jacob Bernz is among the musicians who will perform at Create Community in Nelsonville on Nov. 11. Photo provided

#### Veterans Salute All Sport to hold fundraiser

erwise

As part of its third annual Salute to Our Veterans fundraiser to benefit



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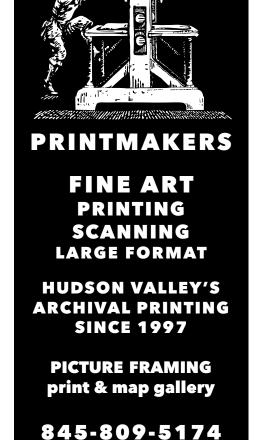
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#### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### **Beacon**

#### Paint a Kindness Rock

Positive messages can make a day

Anyone ages 10 and older is invited to join the Kindness Rocks Project at the Howland Public Library in Beacon and paint a positive message on a rock from 11 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 4. The project is designed to spread good will to anyone who happens upon the rocks. RSVP to community@beaconlibrary.org.

#### Veteran's Day Hike

Group will ascend to flag

On Saturday, Nov. 11, join a hike to the Veteran's Flag on the Beacon-Fishkill ridge. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Pocket Road Trail Head in Beacon for a 3-mile moderate-to-strenuous guided hike. At 11 a.m., there will be a moment of silence and taps will be played. Bring water and snacks. RSVP to christopher.cring@gmail.com or 845-249-5305.

#### **Beacon Artists Recognized**

Recognized as 'under-recognized'

Two Beacon artists, Antonella Piemontese and Andrea Moreau, were among the five recipients of the Arts Mid-Hudson Under-Recognized Artist Awards Program funded by the Pollock-Krasner Foundation. The award includes exhibits and cash. They will receive their awards at a reception on Friday, Nov. 17, at 5:30 p.m., at the Mount Gulian Historic Site in Beacon.

#### **Chamber Music Recital**

Cello and piano concert on Nov. 12

The Howland Chamber Music Circle will present a cello-and-piano concert on Sunday, Nov. 12, at 4 p.m. at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. Cellist Narek Hakhnazaryan and pianist Noreen Polera will perform music by Schumann, Brahms, Ligeti, Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich. Tickets are \$30, or \$10 for students, and can be reserved by calling 845-765-3012 or visiting howlandmusic.org.



Cellist Narek Hakhnazaryan will perform with pianist Noreen Polera on Nov. 12 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon.

Photo provided

#### A Look at a Devastating Oil Spill

Movies That Matter to present documentary

Movies That Matter Beacon will screen the 2015 documentary *After the Spill* on Friday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Beacon. The film examines the damage to the coast of Louisiana after it was hit by Hurricane Katrina and then flooded with 200 million gallons of oil five years later, following the Deepwater Horizon explosion. Admission is free and a discussion will follow. See moviesthatmatterbeacon.org.

#### **Pop-Up Holiday Shopping**

Open from Nov. 10 to 12

Made & Given has gathered 10 New York-based independent brands for a pop-up shop at A Little Beacon Space that will be open from Friday, Nov. 10 to Sunday, Nov. 12. The artisans create jewelry, soaps and candles, bow ties and headscarves, leather goods, ceramics and holiday cards.

See facebook.com/madeandgivenny.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.

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his 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 a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Kate Vikstrom, *The Current's* layout editor, shared this Halloween photo of her grandson Elliot and his beagle, Lena. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.com.



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## Election Day, Nov. 7

olls are open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. To find your polling place, visit the Putnam (putnamboe.com) or Dutchess (dutchesselections.com) board of elections.

For a list of candidates for the Philipstown Town Board, Beacon City Council, Putnam County sheriff and Dutchess Legislature District 16 and 18 races, as well as their responses to questions posed by *The Current*, see other pages in this issue and highlandscurrent.com.

Below are other items you will see on the ballot. The three statewide proposals will appear on the back of the ballot.

#### **PROPOSAL 1**

Every 20 years, voters are asked if they would like to amend or rewrite the state constitution, which hasn't been revised since 1938. This is done through a constitutional convention. If approved, delegates would be elected in November 2018 and the convention would convene in April 2019. In November 2019, voters would consider every amendment proposed by the convention.

Proponents argue that the constitution could be updated and revised more easily with a convention and vote than through the legislative process. For instance, the New York State Bar Association says a convention could help streamline New York's convoluted court system. Opponents argue it would open the door for intense lobbying by special interests and political insiders that could threaten labor rights, pension benefits and environmental protections. It also would be expensive, they argue, costing tens of millions of dollars.

#### **PROPOSAL 2**

This proposal would allow judges to reduce or revoke the state pension of any public officer convicted of a felony related to his or her duties.

#### **PROPOSAL 3**

This proposal would create a 250-acre "land bank" that would allow towns, villages and counties to request state Forest Preserve land for projects where they have no other option. For example, a town may want to eliminate a dangerous road curve. In exchange, the state Legislature would need to add 250 acres to the Forest Preserve. Only municipalities located in 16 rural counties west or upstate of the Highlands would be allowed to use the land bank, including Ulster, Greene, Sullivan and Delaware. The proposal also would allow bike

paths, sewer lines and utility lines along highways on preserve land.

#### **State Supreme Court Justice, 9th District** (14-year term)

The 9th District (of 13) covers Dutchess, Putnam, Orange, Rockland and Westchester counties.

Christi Acker (D) - principal court attorney, New York Office of Court Administration: town justice. Pine Plains; Villanova Law 1992

Linda Murray (R) - associate court attorney, Poughkeepsie City Court; Albany Law 1997

#### **Dutchess County Comptroller (4-year term)**

The comptroller is the chief accounting and auditing officer for the county.

**Jim Coughlan (R)** – incumbent, first elected 2009

**Robin Lois** (**D**) - co-owner and controller of a commercial property management group and Taconic Sport & Racquet Club in Hopewell Junction



Acker

Coughlan



landscurrent.com

Murray





Lois

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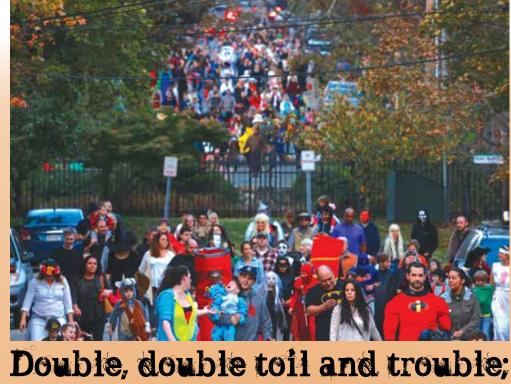
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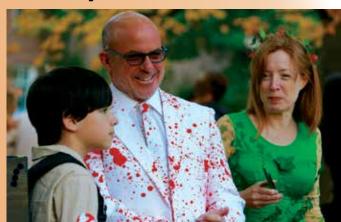




Fire burn and caldron bubble.
Fillet of a fenny snake,
In the caldron boil and bake;
Eye of newt and toe of frog,
Wool of bat and tongue of dog,
Adder's fork and blind-worm's sting,
Lizard's leg and howlet's wing,
For a charm of powerful trouble,
Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.

Double, double toil and trouble; Fire burn and caldron bubble. Cool it with a baboon's blood, Then the charm is firm and good.

~William Shakespeare (Macbeth)
Photos by Ross Corsair
at Cold Spring's Halloween parade, Oct. 28















**24** November 3, 2017

For mail delivery, see highlandscurrent.com/delivery

## **Sports**

## Three Teams Still Alive in Tourney

Haldane soccer, volleyball, football play today to advance in playoffs

By Leigh Alan Klein

Class C Regional Final

#### Girls' soccer

Friday, Nov. 3, 4 p.m.

Diamond in the Pines Park, Coram

Against: Section 11 champ Southhold/

Greenport (13-4)

Next up: State semi-finals, Nov. 11

Last year's Long Island champ, Port Jefferson, knocked the Blue Devils out of the playoffs with a 3-0 regional final victory before repeating as Class C state champions. This year Southhold/Greenport emerged from Section 11 as the team to beat, taking its first Suffolk County title in 30 years with a 3-1 win over Stony Brook.

Haldane (7-10-2) has been playing its

best soccer at the right time. On Oct. 31, the Blue Devils defeated Millbrook 2-1 in overtime on a game-winner by senior Allison Chiera in the 87th minute. Saoirse Maguire had tied the game with a goal in the 44th minute.

On Oct. 29, Haldane won its seventh consecutive Section 1, Class C title with a 2-0 victory over Pawling. Jade Villella scored both goals. Haldane last won the Class C state championship in 2014.

#### Girls' volleyball

Section 1, Class C Semi-Final Friday, Nov. 3, 4:30 p.m. Haldane High School Against: Keio Academy (Purchase)

Next up: Final at Pace University, Nov. 5 In September, Haldane defeated Keio 3-0. The Blue Devils (14-7) won their last three matches of the season and enter the

playoffs as the No. 2 seed in Section 1.

The other bracket has top-seeded Rye
Neck against No. 4 Pawling. Rye Neck is



Jade Villella (1) prepares to split two Millbrook defenders during Haldane's 2-1 overtime victory in the state tournament on Oct. 31. Photo by Scott Warren

7-0 against the field and only lost one set to its Class C opponents. It defeated Haldane in September, 3-1.

#### Football

Section 1, Class C Final Friday, Nov. 3, 4:30 p.m. Mahopac High School Against: Tuckahoe

Next up: Regional vs. Section 9 winner,

Nov. 10

The only two Class D schools in Section 1, Haldane and Tuckahoe, play every year for the title. Haldane upset the Tigers in last year's championship game but the Eastchester school defeated the Blue Devils earlier this season, 22-12.

#### **Cross country**

Haldane and Beacon will be among the teams competing at the Section 1 Championship at Bowdoin Park in Wappingers Falls on Saturday, Nov. 4.

#### Girls' swimming

The Beacon girls' swim team (6-4) competed in three relay events on Nov. 1 during the qualifying round of the Section 1 Championship. In the 400-yard freestyle, Chloe Tomlins, Claire Wood, Dania Gillins and Adrianna Bonnes finished 36th in 4:49.43; in the 200-yard freestyle, Jolene Lagunda, Thandiwe Knox, Natalie Negron and Cassandra Ruffy finished 36th in 1:58.48; and in the 200-yard medley, Wood, Ruffy, Negron and Knox finished 32nd in 2:15.08.

#### **Coaches and Parents**

We welcome your contributions of scores, highlights and photos.
Email sports@highlandscurrent.com

## Highlands Current Athlete of the Week

#### Jade Villella, Haldane

Villella has been on a scoring tear. Her two goals against Pawling sealed Haldane's seventh consecutive Section 1, Class C girls' soccer title. She earlier had two goals in the 5-0 semifinal win against Hamilton. Yet her biggest contribution is on the defensive end. "As center defender, Villella plays one of the most important positions on the field," said Coach Ed Crowe. "She does a great job positioning, running down balls and clearing. Her composure is impressive."

#### Cross Country Results

Northern Counties Championship Wappingers Falls, Oct. 27

#### Girls

20. Shannon Ferri, Haldane (21:56.40)

24. Taylor Farrell, Haldane (22:18.70) 71. Anita Martin, Beacon (27:20.20)

81. Marisa Mourgues, Beacon (28:21.60)

#### Bovs

15. Nick Farrell, Haldane (18:00.30) 17. Adam Silhavy, Haldane (18:02.20)

25. Jonas Petkus, Haldane

(18:29.80) 31. Ryan Cory, Beacon (18:37)

64. lan Kidd, Beacon (19:44.10)

# News Match

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