Two Years of Contraband
Putnam County Jail guards find drugs about 12 times a year
By Chip Rowe

H
ow do you keep someone from smuggling a tiny strip of the synthetic opioid Suboxone into the Putnam County Jail?

It’s not easy.

In response to a Freedom of Information Law request, jail officials provided The Current with 24 disciplinary reports for contraband seized from prisoners between January 2016 and January 2018, or an average of about 12 annually. Westchester County Jail, by contrast, made about 140 seizures per year of weapons and drugs, according to records obtained by The Journal News in a similar FOIL request. Rockland County Jail had about 30, but it has a drug-sniffing K-9 on duty.

In New York’s 54 prisons, the number of contraband seizures rose from 2,540 in 2008 to 5,231 in 2017, according to the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision. It credits more vigilance by guards and technology that helps detect items such as hidden cellphones. A bill introduced in the state Assembly would allow guards to search any vehicle once it enters prison grounds and have a K-9 deployed at the entrance of every state prison.

A third of the incidents in Putnam involved Suboxone, a film placed on the tongue that is used in opioid-addiction treatment. The remainder involved heroin, cocaine or prescription pills. There were no reports of shanks, or homemade weapons.

Capt. Kevin Cheverko, who supervised the Westchester County Jail before being appointed to oversee the Putnam County Jail earlier this year by newly elected Sheriff Robert Langley Jr., declined to comment on the procedures used to keep drugs out of the jails. But inmates are sometime strip-searched if they are suspected of hiding drugs and guards periodically conduct sweeps using dogs.

Inmates who are caught with anything forbidden, including disposable pens (which can be used as weapons) and cigarette lighters, face a disciplinary hearing on charges of “Promoting Prison Contraband” and/or “Hoarding,” which is accumulating items

(Continued on Page 6)
Five Questions: Tom Herring

By Michael Turton

Kids’ Kayak Classes
July 9-13 and July 23-27
Week-long series of classes get your kids outdoors and on the water.

Nonprofit Donates K-9 Vest

Vested Interest in K9s, a nonprofit based in Massachusetts, donated a bullet- and stab-proof protective vest to Lex, a K-9 officer with the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department.
Since 2009, Vested Interest has provided more than 2,700 vests to police dogs. The vest for Lex was sponsored by a Girl Scout troop in New Hampshire. The vests, which weigh 5 pounds, cost about $2,000. For information, see vik9s.org.

Carmel Police Officer Killed

Gary Pietropaolo, 29, of Fishkill, a Carmel police officer, died June 7 after a crash on Route 301. He was off-duty riding a motorcycle and was struck by a mail truck, according to police.

Pietropaolo was to be married today (June 15) to Jacqueline (Jaci) Krampitz. A graduate of Carmel High School, he studied criminal justice at Marist and in 2011 graduated from the Westchester County Police Academy. He was an officer at SUNY New Paltz before joining the Carmel department in 2016. Besides his fiancée, he is survived by his parents, two sisters and his grandmothers. A funeral service was held in Carmel on June 12. Memorial donations may be made to the Carmel Police Benevolent Association, P.O. Box 101, Mahopac, NY 10541.

Land Trust to Sponsor Trail Stewards

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust will provide funds and training during the 2018 season for a New York-New Jersey Trail Conference program that places stewards at the trailheads of Breakneck Ridge to advise hikers.

More than 100,000 people visit Breakneck Ridge, which is part of the Hudson Highlands State Park, each year. The 2017 season saw the most visitors in a single day (2,087) and a single hour (525).

The Trail Steward Program, launched in 2013, runs on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day weekend through Thanksgiving. Stewards advise hikers on park regulations and safety precautions and sometimes direct them elsewhere.

The land trust also recently arranged for the state to purchase 40 acres of private land to expand Fahnestock State Park on its northern edge.

Tom Herring

Tom Herring has been a Haldane crossing guard in Cold Spring for nearly 20 years. He is on duty on Route 9D at Craigside Drive from 7 to 9 a.m., 10 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m.

What weather do you dread the most?
The winter. In the beginning, it didn’t bother me. But I’m going to be 49 soon. My back is bothering me and the colder it gets, the more it hurts. But then we get a day like today: warm with blue skies. You take the good with the bad.

What are the students like who cross at your post?
Ninety-nine percent are amazing. It’s a small town; people care about their kids and it shows in the way they behave. There’s always a couple who think they’re a little smarter than I am and don’t listen to me. That hasn’t changed a lot over the years. Most kids thank me.

Has traffic changed over the years?
When I started, I didn’t have a stop sign or a vest. I’d walk to edge of the road, put up my hand, and cars stopped. It was a cakewalk. Drivers have changed. Nobody pays attention anymore; they’re in a rush. I see so many close calls. We have that orange barrel on the sidewalk for a reason. If I have traffic stopped, some fool will whip down the shoulder to pass four cars, thinking they’re all waiting to turn. God forbid there’s a kid crossing the road. They slow down because they don’t want to hit the barrel.

Do you help adults cross as well?
I can. We don’t stop the traffic for the kids; we stop the kids for the traffic and cross when there’s an opening. It’s not as easy with adults. They tend to do their own thing. I don’t mess with them unless they appear to need help.

Why do you pace so much on the job?
I started doing that a couple of years ago and I’ve walked off close to 65 pounds. It’s the crossing-guard diet. I should have figured that out 20 years ago. I walk six to 10 miles a day, basically standing still. I get paid to lose weight.

Kids’ Kayak Classes
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Week-long series of classes get your kids outdoors and on the water.

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3-Time Winner: Best of Hudson Valley Magazine
Ross Corsair’s award-winning photo of a visitor to Magazzino Italian Art in Philipstown published Aug. 18.

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong won first place in newspapers with circulations of 6,000 or less for her article, “Airbnb Bookings Jump 75 Percent in Philipstown,” or less for her article, “Airbnb Bookings Jump 75 Percent in Philipstown,” published Aug. 18.

In the feature story category for non-dailies with circulations of 3,000 to 5,999, Michael Turton and videographer Greg Gunder won first place for “A Day in Drug Printing” from the Nov. 17 issue.

Rooney was third for “Off the Wall at Grey Court,” published on Sept. 29, and Alison Turton won first place for “A Day in Drug Printing.” The awards will be presented on Sept. 29.

Finally, Kate Westrom took third place among non-dailies with circulations of 3,000 to 5,999 or less for a small advertisement she created for the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum that appeared in the March 3 issue.

The awards will be presented in September at the National Newspaper Association’s annual conference in Norfolk, Virginia. The entries were judged by community newspaper editors and publishers, retired university journalism professors and retired or former newspaper professionals. The Current has won 15 NNA awards since 2017.

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5G Cell Units Coming to Beacon

‘Small cell’ antennas placed on poles and roofs

The Beacon City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday (June 18) on a proposal to regulate “small-cell wireless facilities,” or low-powered radio antennas that are typically placed on top of buildings or on utility poles.

The deployment of small-cell units has skyrocketed in recent years as the wireless industry tries to meet growing demand with faster broadband coverage. The 40-pound units, which are about 2 feet high, are meant to be less intrusive than traditional cell towers while filling in gaps in coverage of up to 1,000 feet.

Advocates tout the stations as critical infrastructure that will help power the impending expansion of 5G networks — the next step in significantly increasing the speed and capacity of wireless communications.

Opponents say the radio frequencies emitted by the units represent a serious health concern, and argue that, in time, small cells will create a blight on the landscape as they pop up in every imaginable space.

The city has received applications from Verizon Wireless to install small cells on utility poles at 2 Red Flynn Drive and 7 Cross St. But City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis predicts more will come, and from other providers, too, as 5G is rolled out.

Only a handful of municipalities in New York have laws regulating small-cell installation, so there’s little precedent, and Beacon officials have deferred acting on Verizon’s applications until the council regulates the units.

Ward-Willis told the council several weeks ago that, under federal law, Beacon cannot ban small-cell units or regulate them because of health concerns. But it could, to some extent, regulate their aesthetics.

“We know they’re coming and we know there’s going to be a lot of them,” he said. “We want to look at this comprehensively so we knew where they’re coming.”

A law drafted for the council would require wireless companies to get approval from the Planning Board to install small cells on most poles or buildings. For new towers or installations in more visible locations, the companies would need special-use permits from the City Council.

The proposal also establishes a priority list for where small cells should be installed, with the roof of city or government-owned buildings the first priority and privately owned utility poles last on the list. They would be banned from the city’s historic districts, and wireless companies would pay a registration fee of $500 per unit and annual fees of $1,000 to $2,000.

Verizon lawyers have argued that permitting should be handled by the Building Department, and that coverage needs, not aesthetics alone, should determine the placement of small cells.

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Climate change

Thank you for your series, How Hot? How Soon? Climate Change in the Highlands. Far too many of the media and our political leaders are silent when it comes to addressing climate change, one of our most pressing issues.

You are right to say this is a legacy issue. We are leaving this earth in much worse shape for our children and grandchildren. That is why I am urging local school boards to speak out and declare climate change a children’s issue.

Schools are public institutions charged with the welfare of children. They can help break the silence and deepen their impact by promoting a variety of mitigation actions. This can include creating a committee of stakeholders to develop a climate-action plan; reducing greenhouse-gas emissions through buildings and grounds, low- or zero-emissions bus fleets, recycling, composting and purchasing clean energy; and incorporating climate science, climate justice and climate action into the curriculum.

I ask local school districts to consider what legacy we are leaving for the children. If not them, who?

Krystal Ford, Garrison

I wish to commend The Current for publishing such valuable, insightful articles concerning Climate Smart impacts and adaptation and mitigation strategies (“Climate Smart,” June 8). A large part of our Climate Smart and stormwater protection programs involves public education. Private property accounts for a sizable portion of the town’s land and having both residential and commercial environmental stewards is key to reducing greenhouse-gas emissions and the carbon footprint.

The green-energy-efficient renovation of the Town Hall Complex (the 1897 Town Hall and its annex, the former Dahlia home) is an essential part of our program. While not large from an overall impact, it provides a role model that we hope others in town will follow.

While your article mentioned a number of steps we are taking to account for and protect our drinking water, we will also look into ways to improve air quality through emission reductions and trees and plantings known for high-oxygen output. One idea here is to encourage plant sales and nurseries to offer them.

We have begun and will continue to monitor development not just along the riverfront but also near inland waterways to ensure flood mitigation practices are achieved to reduce damage from storm surges. We can also develop educational strategies to provide ways to mitigate damage to structures and contents already below the flood-base-level elevation established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through Army Corps of Engineers evaluations and recommendations.

Our Climate Smart program has more than 70 volunteers, not to mention the 10 workers who are assisting in water-quality inspections and improvements. This is a good start toward a large task force capable of tackling multiple projects at once.

Philipstown can be an example of a town united over and understanding of our changing environment and the need to face it now. If we wait, we end up with fewer choices later.

Michael Leonard, Philipstown

I find it amusing to have to declare an emergency on the increase of global temperatures 11 degrees over 15,000 years. I was a potato and corn farmer for close to 60 years in Maine and can remember all kinds of variations in weather. In the 1950s we were told by LIFE, Time, Look, The New York Times and The Saturday Evening Post that a “new ice age” was coming. The magazines had sketches of the northern hemi-

(continued on next page)
Remembering Dan

a day, every day.

totally under salt water at high tide once
by the year 2100. That puts the Everglades
age daily high tide is elevation 3. The local
average elevation is 6.0 NAVD. The aver-
Glades. The National Park Service says the
to prepare for the worst, double that rate.

century; expect it to continue. If you want
of sea level rise is about 7 to 8 inches per
is unfounded and irresponsible. The rate
Hudson River drowning local waterfronts
years, and the rate of rise has not signifi-
data set. No modeling is required.

gual rise is reliably measured for more than 100 years
at dozens of locations. When data from all
these stations are averaged, it provides the most reliable long-term sea-level rise
data set. No modeling is required.

Sea level has been rising since the end of the last ice age. The rate of rise has been
essentially constant for the past 100 years, and the rate of rise has not signifi-
cantly increased in the past 50 years.

This basic fact invalidates the man-
made global warming theory. Fears of the
Hudson River drowning local waterfronts
is unfounded and irresponsible. The rate
of sea level rise is about 7 to 8 inches per
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Steve Laifer, Cold Spring

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global temperature. Sea level has been re-
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Steve Laifer, Cold Spring

I live on the western edge of the Ever-
glades. The National Park Service says the
elevation is 6.0 NAVD. The aver-
age daily high tide is elevation 3. The local
estimates for sea-level rise are 4 to 6 feet by the year 2100. That puts the Everglades
totally under salt water at high tide once
day, every day.

How big is Constitution Marsh? You think
the roommates were underpaid
known then as the Clearwater House,
Garrison’s Landing in the red house with
boon companion and close friend for the
ican sail in 1989. He was a music buddy,
a music buddy, boon companion and close friend for the
ican sail in 1989. He was a music buddy,
michael Bender great success. We need to do
everything possible to encourage reading in
this day of total electronic communications.

Patty Villanova, Putnam Valley

These guys haven’t opened yet, but we
already love them! Can’t wait.

Erin Bell, Cold Spring

Opioid abuse

The series in your paper last fall on the
opioid abuse crisis in our midst (Fighting
Back: The Opioid Crisis) was an important
step in helping to destigmatize addiction
and provide information and resources.

A month ago, at a workshop about the
opioid crisis, the Philipstown Town Board
introduced its newly hired, very part-time
substance abuse prevention and treat-
ment coordinator, Danielle Pack McCar-
thy. She can be reached at 845-570-5183
or dpackmccarthy@philipstown.com. All
contacts are confidential.

It is noteworthy that the U.S. surgeon
generals office last month created its first
advisory in 13 years, recommending that
more Americans be trained and carry
the opiate antidote Narcan (naloxone).
Two Years of Contraband
such as cigarettes or their own prescription medication in excess of what is allowed.

Discipline is dished out with confinement for weeks or months in the Alternative Housing Unit, where an inmate must remain in his or her cell 23 hours a day without privileges such as television, cigarettes, personal calls, or books beyond those with religious or educational themes.

Inmates occasionally appeal their detentions; a few handwritten letters were included with the documents released. The appeals were all denied. Patrick O’Malley, then captain of the jail, replied to one prisoner, “I encourage you to continue to follow facility rules.”

Here are summaries of selected disciplinary reports released by the county:

March 25, 2016
An officer reported that while monitoring a telephone call for an investigation “based on the overabundance of drugs within the jail,” he heard an inmate admit to possessing narcotics.

March 28, 2016
Officers with drug-sniffing dogs swept the jail. A search of one cell turned up a piece of paper with what appeared to be Suboxone in the lunchroom trash.

A cell search turned up a torn piece of Suboxone strip, about the size of a quarter, hidden inside a cigarette pack. A strip search of another inmate revealed two pieces of Suboxone in her bra. A cell search uncovered a sock with two pills identified as Gabapentin, which is used to treat nerve pain. A strip search of an inmate revealed 15 torn pieces of Suboxone and seven Gabapentin pills in a Ziploc bag tucked into her bra. A subsequent search of her cell uncovered three Clonazepam pills, a sedative.

Oct. 20, 2017
During a search, an officer found an opened peanut M&M bag in a cell with two fingers of a latex glove stuffed with substances suspected to be baker’s yeast (used to make hooch) and tobacco.

Dec. 22, 2017
An officer thought he observed an inmate in a holding cell remove something from his buttocks and swallow it. (The inmate later became sick.) A search of his cell turned up the finger of a blue rubber glove, paper with powder residue and a piece of clear plastic stained brown. An officer noted: “These items are consistent with methods of smuggling contraband into or out of a correctional facility.”

Jan. 5, 2018
A pat-down of a 39-year-old suspect with two fingers of a latex glove stuffed with substances suspected to be baker’s yeast (used to make hooch) and tobacco.

Oct. 12, 2017
Under a table in the visitation room, an officer found an orange pellet that turned out to be a strip of Suboxone folded into a tight triangle. A surveillance video showed the woman take something from her bra and hand it to the inmate, who put it in his lap. Both the inmate and his female visitor sitting at the table were strip-searched. According to a guard the inmate said: “You don’t have any proof of anything, and I am going into drug court, so it does not matter, they give people so many chances.”

An inmate who served her time on weekends told an officer she had been asked by another inmate to smuggle in heroin and had been paid in advance with Xanax.

June 15, 2017
Inmates were instructed to sit outside their cells while officers conducted a sweep with drug-sniffing dogs. In one cell, a dog alerted officers to three labels stuck atop a mattress with a glue-like residue. In another, a dog led officers to a Suboxone strip concealed in the lid of a pack of cigarettes.

June 16, 2017
After receiving a tip from an inmate, officers found a cigarette pack containing Suboxone in the lunchroom trash.

June 25, 2017
An officer discovered a plastic bag of “fermented liquid” under a cell bed.

Aug. 31, 2017
A cell search turned up a torn piece of Suboxone strip in the lunchroom trash.

Oct. 16, 2016
An inmate who served her time on weekends told an officer she had been asked by another inmate to smuggle in heroin and had been paid in advance with Xanax.

Oct. 27, 2016
During a search of a cell, an officer found a plastic bag of cigarettes.

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An inmate who served her time on weekends told an officer she had been asked by another inmate to smuggle in heroin and had been paid in advance with Xanax.
Galef Speaks with Putnam Sheriff, Peekskill Chief

Officers discuss body cameras, mentally ill, domestic violence

In a wide-ranging conversation for her public-access television program, Sandy Galef, who represents the Highlands in the state Assembly, on May 4 spoke with newly elected Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. and newly appointed Peekskill Police Chief Don Halmy. The 30-minute exchange can be viewed at bit.ly/putnam-peekskill or at 8:30 p.m. on June 15, 22 and 29 on Cablevision Channel 21. The excerpts below, prepared by The Current, have been edited for clarity and brevity.

Galef: You have both been in the policing business for a long time. How has it changed over the years?

Langley: The foundation of law enforcement has remained the same, and that's community policing. You need that connection to not only get information out there but to get information back to keep your community safe. Technology, however, progresses so rapidly. We try to keep pace but it moves faster than our budgets do.

Galef: Don, what changes have you seen?

Halmy: There's a fear of technology among a lot of police officers, but you have to embrace the change. Our officers now have body cameras. Many officers were vehemently against it. They didn't like having to feel that Big Brother was watching. But in almost every, if not every, case where we've had to review body-camera footage because of a complaint, it's vindicated the police officer. The young officers that come out, they don't think twice about it.

The other big thing with technology is that, when I started 20 years ago, if something was happening and you needed a photo, you had to run into your house and grab your Instamatic from a shelf. Today, everyone carries a camera. And everyone has access to social media, where things are posted immediately. If you're doing the right thing, you have nothing to be concerned about.

Galef: Robert, do Putnam County deputies have body cameras?

Langley: We don't. But we have dash cameras in all our [squad] cars and, much as in Peekskill, they exonerate the officers from false accusations. Cameras truly are the friends of police officers. Every single time, I can honestly say, the officer has been conducting himself properly, professionally and courteously, and it's the person who made the complaint who was very aggressive.

Halmy: The day will come when everyone will have them. It is expensive. It's a budget commitment, but once you start it, there's no turning back.

Galef: Robert, are there new areas you are covering in Putnam County?

Langley: There are bike trails through the county that you can take from Connecticut to Westchester. Much of that area gets pretty desolate. So, much like Peekskill, we have bicycle patrols on the trails. Sometimes we will come across a small homeless community that has found these desolate areas and set up camp, so we want to ensure those areas are kept clear and also assist the homeless in finding adequate shelter.

Galef: How engaged do you get with the mental-health issues?

Langley: If someone poses a risk to their own safety or public safety, they are transported to a facility and either committed or released. It's up to the medical professionals to make that determination. But if they come to our jail, they get the treatment they need, they get the medication, but now the problem arises with the transition when they are released. It's quite frightening for them. They've been in a situation that's quite comfortable, and they have a relationship with a counselor and now you're putting them out on the street. They usually, repeat offend and wind up back in our custody. We're starting to implement a release program with [the nonprofit counseling center] CoveCARE so they continue their care. The big problem is the aid for mental-health transition all goes to state prisons. All county jails have to bear the expense.

Halmy: The unfortunate thing is that there are a lot of people who need full-time treatment. They don't need a half-day interview and a lunch and an opportunity to take a shower and change clothes. That is a budget concern in every field in the public sector.

Galef: We could always do more, if we had the money. As police officers, you're also social workers, mental-health providers, health care ....

Halmy: Marriage counselors.

Galef: Have you seen more domestic violence over the past 20 years?

Langley: I think it's more only because it's being recognized. The wake-up call was an incident in Torrington, Connecticut (in 1983, when police ignored a woman's calls when her husband repeatedly violated a restraining order. They arrived 25 minutes after one call to find her with 13 stab wounds). The zero tolerance [aspect] came in with O.J. Simpson.

Galef: After the O.J. Simpson case, all these domestic-violence bills that were going nowhere in Albany suddenly popped up again and were implemented. For a while it was hard, because how can police go into a home and determine how people are relating to one another?

Langley: The state Legislature has helped by giving us more authority to remove someone from a home. If there are children in the home, that escalates to a whole other category. Without that legislation, we don't have as much power to de-scatter those situations.

Galef: How about the epidemic of opioid abuse? How do you handle that?

Halmy: Our officers all carry [the opioid antidote] Narcan, and I have administered it myself. One of the most important things for police officers is to try not to de-humanize people who are addicted. They come from all walks of life. Someone may have become addicted after a back injury, or a car accident, or the obvious way of just hooking up with the wrong person. When people are deeply into addiction, they tend to become involved in thefts and problems in their homes, because they are difficult for parents and grandparents to deal with. I have felt the crisis; my sister's son passed away two years ago from an overdose.

Langley: It is everywhere. It doesn't discriminate.
Townhouse Proposal Draws Fire  

"Most of the value of my home is in that view. It would be really disheartening to have a four-story building come up."

“trees, flowers, benches [or] a fountain” and hoped the proposal would be “nipped in the bud.”

Residents of Bayview Street, which overlooks the property, objected to the possible obstruction of their Hudson River vista.

“Most of the value of my home is in that view,” said Bradley Dillon. “It would be really disheartening to have a four-story building come up.”

The final speaker, James Pantano, suggested the site was more appropriate for “trees, flowers, benches [or] a fountain” and hoped the proposal would be “nipped in the bud.”

Hudson Hills Academy

The Planning Board on June 12 granted environmental approval for a request from St. Luke’s Episcopal Church to subdivide its Route 9D property and allow the Hudson Hills Academy to expand into the church’s school building.

The proposal drew considerable feedback from residents, many of whom expressed concern that it would bring too much traffic to Rector Street, a narrow residential road adjacent to the church.

The nonprofit Hudson Hills, a Montessori school, has about 50 students in preschool through third grade at its Hanna Lane location in Beacon. A second location in Newburgh, has students in preschool through eighth grade. The Newburgh campus would be closed if the Beacon expansion is approved.

School officials seemed to address most of the traffic concerns by agreeing to use entrances and exits on Phillips Street and 9D while avoiding Rector. The school also agreed to cap enrollment at the site at 100 students.

Hudson Hills must next obtain a special-use permit for the expansion from the City Council. Its lease with St. Luke’s is expected to run for 10 to 15 years.
Walking into the Past

Library director will lead Cold Spring history tour

By Alison Rooney

When Gillian Thorpe was appointed 18 years ago as director of the Julia L. Butterfield Library, she says it seemed like the culmination of her decades-long obsession with the wealthy Cold Spring woman who in 1913 provided the funds to build and stock the structure.

When Thorpe was a child growing up in Cold Spring, “Mrs. Rathjen, who gave us kids cookies from her porch on Mountain Avenue, told us of seeing Julia Butterfield going by in her carriage.” When Julia Butterfield’s summer home, Cragside, burned down in 1979 on the site of what is now Haldane High School, Thorpe remembers standing in a nightgown, watching.

“I’ve been a bit obsessed with Mrs. Butterfield since I was a child,” admits Thorpe. “She is forgotten among our local history. Whenever students visit our library, I tell them about her.”

Butterfield and her realm will be the focus of a tour that Thorpe will lead on Saturday, June 23, in what she hopes will be the first of monthly walks on various historical themes. Digital, self-guided audio versions will be posted online.

The tour will begin at 9 a.m. at the library, then head up Craigside Drive (Thorpe will explain the change in spelling) to the site of the former home, with several stops on the Haldane campus, including the Mabel Merritt administrative building, once the property’s stables.

From there the group will advance to James Pond, which Thorpe describes as the Butterfield watering hole; to Cold Spring Cemetery, which holds the family tombs; and to the site of Butterfield Hospital, now redeveloped but with a prominent street named Julia Lane. Born in 1823, at age 18 Julia Lorillard Safford married Frederick James, a broker and banker in New York City. They lived on Fifth Avenue and in 1852 in Cold Spring built a magnificent stone village house that was named Cragside because it had been constructed on a hillside strewn with rocks. It was surrounded by elaborate gardens, lawns, orchards and fields, according to Trudie Grace, author of Around Cold Spring. A gatehouse built in 1866 still stands at the foot of Craigside Drive as a private residence. An expansive terrace still remains, as well, although “you have to peer into the woods to see it,” says Thorpe.

Frederick James died in 1884. Two years later, Julia married Daniel Butterfield, a Civil War general who is credited with composing “Taps” and whose father co-founded American Express. He lived until 1901. When Julia died in 1913, her estate estimated to be worth $3 million, or about $75 million today.

Although most of her wealth was left to the Young Men’s Christian Association, Butterfield bequeathed $150,000 for the construction of a hospital and $60,000 for a public library to be located in the village and include a stage.

The Georgian Revival building was constructed on the foundation of the old Dutch Reformed Church and dedicated in 1925. The hospital, finished the same year, was built, many believed, because one of Julia’s sons had died after a fall from a horse and she felt he might have survived if a hospital had been closer.

To reserve a spot on the tour, visit butterfieldlibrary.org and click on “Calendar.” For the online maps, click on “History Tours.”

Cragside, which fell into ruin and burned down in 1979

Putnam History Museum

Haldane High School now occupies the site of Cragside.

Butterfield Memorial Hospital was built in 1925 and torn down in 2015.

Gillian Thorpe outside the former Butterfield carriage house, now a private residence

Photo by A. Rooney

Where the Money Went

Bequests by Julia Butterfield in her 1913 will, with current values

- YMCA - $2.32 million ($59m)
- Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Hospital - $150K ($3.8m)
- Union College, Schenectady - $100K ($2.5m)
- Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library - $60K ($1.5m)
- Home for the Relief of Respectable Aged Indigent Females - $20K ($500K)
- Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - $10K ($250K)
- St. Mary’s Episcopal Church (for parsonage) - $10K ($250K)
- Association of New York Day Nurseries - $5K ($125K)
### FRIDAY, JUNE 15

**HVSF: The Taming of the Shrew**
6:15 p.m. Friday Night Prologue
7 p.m. Opening Night Toast
7:30 p.m. Performance | Boscobel
1601 Route 90, Cold Spring
845-831-0951  |  boscobel.org

**Open Mic**
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988  |  howlandculturalcenter.org

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### SATURDAY, JUNE 16

**Audubon Society Bird Hike**
8 a.m. Fahnestock State Park
Meet at Sunken Mine Road parking putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

**Household Hazardous Waste Disposal & Electronics Recycling**
8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Department of Public Works
626 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie
845-463-6020  |  dutchessny.us/HWR/Register

**Clearwater Festival**
845-473-4440  |  scenichudson.org
10 a.m. 80 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
Guided West Point Foundry Tour
3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
Clearwater Music Festival
11 a.m. – 9 p.m. Croton Point Park
clearwaterfestival.org

**HVSF Community Playwriting Bake-Off**
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
845-424-3020  |  desmondfishlibrary.org

**The Art of Balance: Meet the Artists**
2 - 4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
howlandculturalcenter.org

**The Circular Letter: Washington’s Legacy (Talk)**
2 p.m. Washington’s Headquarters
84 Liberty St., Newburgh
store.commongroundfarm.org

**Public Canoe Trip**
2:30 p.m. Constitution Marsh
27 Warren Landing, Garrison  |  845-265-2601 x15
constitutionmarsh.audubon.org

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### MONDAY, JUNE 18

**Art Show in the School Garden**
3 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 90, Garrison | gufs.org

**Libraries Rock Summer Party**
4 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040  |  butterfieldlibrary.org

**Beacon City Council**
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-839-5011  |  cityofbeacon.org

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### TUESDAY, JUNE 19

**Petting Zoo Visit**
4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Saturday.

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

**HVSF: The Taming of the Shrew**
7:30 p.m. Boscobel  |  See details under Friday.

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### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

**Cold Spring Yard Debris Pick-Up**
Philpstown Communities That Care
3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison | philpstowncctc.org

**Public Hearing on Vape Shop Ban**
7 p.m. Philipstown Town Hall
238 Main St., Cold Spring
philpstown.com

**HVSF: The Heart of Robin Hood**
7:30 p.m. Boscobel  |  See details under Friday.

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### THURSDAY, JUNE 21

**Summer Solstice Celebration**
8 a.m. – 10 p.m. Dockside Park, Cold Spring
ascendfestival.com

**Creative Completion Workshop**
6 p.m. Butterfield Library  |  Details under Monday.
7:30 p.m. Kitchen Sink | 157 Main St., Beacon
store.commongroundfarm.org

**H.V. Renegades vs. Vermont**
7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 90, Wappingers Falls
845-838-0094  |  hvrenegades.com

**HVSF: Richard II (Preview)**
7:30 p.m. Boscobel  |  See details under Friday.

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### FRIDAY, JUNE 22

**Summer Reading Kickoff**
2:15 p.m. Butterfield Library  |  Details under Monday.

**Moana (2016) (ages 10+)**
3:30 p.m. Howland Public Library | 313 Main St., Beacon  |  845-831-1134  |  beaconlibrary.org

**Dutchess Cruisers Car Show**
5 – 8 p.m. Elk’s Lodge | 900 Wolcott Ave., Beacon
845-242-0951  |  dutchesscruisers.com

**Reel Life Film Club: No Impact Man (2009)**
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020  |  desmondfishlibrary.org

**HVSF: Richard II**
6:15 Friday Night Prologue
7 p.m. Opening Night Toast | 7:30 p.m. Performance
Boscobel  |  See details under June 15.

**International Film Night: Spare Parts (2015)**
7 p.m. Howland Public Library | See details above.

**Silent Movie Series: The Kid (1921)**
7 p.m. Butterfield Library  |  Details under Monday.

**H.V. Renegades vs. Vermont**
7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
See details under Thursday.

**Bill and the Belles (Music)**
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peeksskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
845-828-7280  |  tomkinscorners.org

**Amphitry Kiah (Music)**
7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration  |  Details under Sunday.

**The Buddy Rich Band**
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Sunday.
Haldane High School Graduates
Cold Spring, June 16, 10:30 a.m.
Matthew Adams
Selena Ayala
Emily Azznara
Sophia Azznara
Gabriele Baumann
Michael Champlin
Michael Chefalo
Allison Chiera
Alian Cimino
Jack Cinino
Mario Cofani
Keifer Conventino
Alyssa Covelli
Joseph DiGregorio
Nicholas DiPallo
George Leiter
John Lazo
Luke Junjulas
Amelia Hall
Kara Giachinta
Hudson Gell
Nicholas Farrell
Victor Fina
Hudson Gell
Kara Giachinta
Amelia Hall
Liam Irwin
Luke Junjulas
John Lazo
Georges Leiter
Anthony Lombardo
Soisir Maguire
William Martin
Christel Maurice
Richard Mitchell
Samantha Monroe
Max Moomar
Miranda Musso
Elaaf Najam
Jazmyn O’Dell
William Ormiston
Joseph Orza
Cameron Palkuca
Makenzie Patnelli
Jonas Petkus
Daniel Pignatelli
Tara Pidalà
Amanda Rodino
Daniel Rotando
Valerie Scanga
Brett Schwartz
Chloe Schwartz
Alexandra Sharpley
Sidney Siegel
Lidia Slobensker
Courtney Smith
Olivia Sterling
Abbey Stowell
Lucinda Strol
Michael Taccuri
Isabel Taffe
Wilson Thorpe
Ronan Tinsley
MacKenzie Tokarz
Brandon Twoguns
Julian van Dommele
Justin Villa
Dylan Waller
Julio Van Dommele
Dominick Vinals
Dylan Walker
Louis Weber
Jared Wider
Heather Winne
Victoria Wyka
Kyle Zimmermann

2018 Highlands Graduates

O’Neill High School Graduates
West Point, June 21, 7 p.m.
Alexandra Angelopoulos
Bridge Batigian
Derek Champi
Alexa Colosurdo
Alexa Gagnon
Hudson Heckert
David Highb
Brian Kelly
Alex Mancuso
Christian Mayo
Kristin Serrand
Nicholett Thompson
Joshua Wimer

Beacon High School Graduates
Dutchess Stadium, June 23, 9 a.m.
Philip Abongo
Jordan Acedillo
Sophia Aquisto
Oluwatounumi Akintonimi
Alexa Alexander
Lauren Anderson
Jennifer Andrews
Arriana Amiciariacho
Chloe Antalok
Juan Arce
Shayan Ashley
Grace Baisley
Jethro Banks
Jhalil Beckett
Tami Benekin
Kaitlyn Bierce
Nicole Blanding
Adrianna Bonnes
A-Jay Borromeo
Christian Brosa
Jayden Buckley
Karen Burch
Miakela Burch
Ethan Burgos
Reanna Cader
Jamal Carter
Alexandra Cusco
Aaliyah Christiansen
Xavier Collins
Rolando Colon
Vincent Compagnone
Justin Conklin
James Cordero
Shannon Cordoni
Juan Carlos Cruz Jr.
Elizabeth Cuccia
Dakai Cummings
Alexis Cutinella
Andre’ Daniels
Bianna Dembo
Bianna Der Boghossian
Anthony Diaz
Joseph Diaz
Annalise DiGiovanni
Brian Kim Dittenhoefer
Harleigh Ebling
Destiny Edwards
Christian Farley
Justin Fiduccia
Raven Ford
Siobhan French
Jemond Galloway
Kira Garris
Kyle Giamportone
Benjamin Gilleo
Jacob Gonzalez
Sarah Goodhill
Jayson Graham
Kindu Green Jr.
Kindeya Green
Jamie Griesing
Julia Griesing
Ruth Grippo
Nicholas Hallock
Cornell Hammonds III
Ellery Harvey
Russell Hecker
Jerome Hendler-Flendt
Jade Herring
Emily Himes
Andrew Hitt
Kyra Husbands
Che Intagazione
Elyse Ivstwan

CIRCUS! @ The Howland: “The Art of Balance”

For two intensive months this summer, The Howland Cultural Center will produce a diverse panorama of multi-media events celebrating “The Art of Balance” and the joy of circus.


Oliver greets art exhibit visitors

June 22, 8 p.m.: World Circus, award-winning documentary film. Circus performers compete in Monte Carlo Circus Festival. Filmmaker Angela Snow joins us for a talk. $5.

June 24, 1-4 p.m.: Family Fun Balancing Day, Parents & children have fun in a workshop of circus skills. Drop in $5. Also July 8.

June 29, 8 p.m.: Cirque de la Lune, a circus musical production in two acts (with popcorn!), pianist and singers unveil a story full of engaging tunes about life and love in the circus, $30.

July 1, 2 p.m.: Piccolo Circus, a one-ring show in the Howland Center for all ages, where professional circus performers dazzle with juggling, hand-balancing acrobats, comedy, magic. Kids free with adults; adults, $15.

The Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main Street, Beacon, NY • 845-831-9983 • www.howlandculturalcenter.org
facebook.com/howlandcenterbeacon

This project is supported by the Ann and Abe Effron Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley. This project is made possible in part with funds from the Decentralization Fund of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and administered by Arts Mid-Hudson. We thank our sponsors: Amber Grant, Beacon Falls Café, Beacon Creamery, Gate House Realty, Luxe Optique, Rudy’s Jewelry and Tanaella School of Dance.

The Howland Cultural Center, 477 Main Street, Beacon, NY • 845-831-9983 • www.howlandculturalcenter.org
facebook.com/howlandcenterbeacon

Walk the wire at Family Fun Balancing Day

(To next page)
Top of the Class

Oluwatofunmi ‘Jummie’ Akinwunmi
Valedictorian, Beacon High School
Akinwunmi will attend Yale in the fall to study biology on a pre-med track. She was a member of yearbook and creative writing clubs, class treasurer and a standout volleyball player and jumper in indoor and outdoor track.

Amelia Hall
Valedictorian, Haldane High School
Hall will attend Tulane in the fall to study neuroscience. Last summer, she interned at the National Institute of Health and earlier attended an aquatic ecosystem camp at the Acadia Institute of Oceanography. She sang with the Blue Notes and chorus and played trumpet in the jazz band and French horn in the band. She also played soccer and was treasurer for the student council.

Nicole Mitchell
Salutatorian, Haldane High School
Mitchell will attend Colgate and is interested in the field of mental health. An Advanced Placement Scholar, she was co-editor of the literary magazine, co-president of the Identity Club, and vice president of the History Club. Last summer she attended the Harvard pre-college program.

Rayna Thompson
Valedictorian, Career and Technical Institute, Dutchess BOCES
Thompson will attend the Culinary Institute of America to pursue a food and business management degree in baking and pastry. The Beacon resident is a member of the National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society and SkillsUSA.

Juliet Trautman
Salutatorian, Beacon High School
Trautman will attend Northeastern University in Boston in the fall to study biomedical engineering with a concentration in cell and tissues, with the hope she can one day contribute to solving the shortage of organs for transplants. She was a member of the Beacon Players drama club.
College Graduates

Allegheny College (Pennsylvania)
John Hughes, Cold Spring (Mathematics)

Colgate University (Hamilton)
Noah Campbell, Cold Spring (Mathematics and Environmental Studies)

Dutchess Community College
Carlos Delgado, Beacon (Architectural and Construction Technologies)
Andy Duran, Beacon (Architectural and Construction Technologies)
Rebecca Ambrosini, Beacon (Art)
Khalidah Carrington, Beacon (Art)
Somayah Cook, Beacon (Art)
Benedicta Geithner, Cold Spring (Art)

Dutchess Community College (Nursing)

Dutchess Community College (Business Administration)

Dutchess Community College (Accounting)

Dutchess Community College (Psychology)

Dutchess Community College (Public Relations)

Dutchess Community College (Information Technology)

Dutchess Community College (Environmental Science & Policy)

Dutchess Community College (Information Technology)

Dutchess Community College (Business Management)

Dutchess Community College (Nursing)

Dutchess Community College (Accounting)

Dutchess Community College (Information Technology)

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Stalking the Long-lost Celery

By Celia Barbour

There were several summers when I ate cold celery soup all the time. All the time. I kept a quart jar of it in the fridge from mid-June through August, sipped it for lunch or snack, and carried a Thermos of it with me whenever I set off for a long, busy day in the hot city.

I’d first tasted this particular soup on a photo shoot in the Hollywood Hills, at the swank house of an A-list actress whose dinner party we were featuring in a magazine. Her personal chefs, a couple of lovely and down-to-earth sisters, explained to me that the actress had been subsisting on powdered diet shakes and protein bars before they came along and introduced her to the idea that food could be fresh, clean and nourishing, as well as paparazzi-friendly.

I have never had to worry that paparazzi lurking at the end of my driveway or helicoptering over my infinity pool might catch me looking less-than-perfect. None of it with me whenever I set off tomorrow. Oh help, I thought. Then: Well, OK, what’s in the fridge? The answer, of course, was celery, along with random handfuls of other vegetables. I realized I had everything I needed for this formerly beloved soup. Moreover, I knew I was ready to open my heart to it again.

It tasted wonderful. One of my guests, a highly regarded gourmet, even requested the recipe. I put the leftovers in a Thermos, and took them into the city with me the next day.

As I passed by a newsstand in Grand Central, I noticed a familiar face on the cover of People. The celebrity, too, was once again in the news.

My affection for celery soup followed a similar trajectory. After a slew of summers when I couldn’t get enough of it, one day I suddenly could. The last time I made it, about five years ago, I found its flavor had grown almost off-putting. I was over it.

Why do we humans do this to ourselves? We fall hard for something — song, TV show, person, food — then binge on it until we’ve drained all the magic from it. Fortunately, the aversion is seldom permanent. A couple weeks back, I found myself hosting a lunch with barely 24 hours’ notice (in trying to find a mutually agreeable day, we’d realized that the only possibility was tomorrow). Oh help, I thought. Then: Well, OK, what’s in the fridge? The answer, of course, was celery, along with random handfuls of other vegetables. I realized I had everything I needed for this formerly beloved soup. Moreover, I knew I was ready to open my heart to it again.

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As I passed by a newsstand in Grand Central, I noticed a familiar face on the cover of People. The celebrity, too, was once again in the news.

The secret is in the stalk.

Cool Celery Soup

Adapted from The Family Chef, by Jewels and Jill Elmore and Ann Marsh

A splash of olive oil
1 onion, roughly chopped
1 leek, white part only, roughly chopped (optional)
1/2 fennel bulb, roughly chopped
6 cups chicken or vegetable stock
1 potato, chopped into medium pieces
Salt and pepper to taste
1 to 2 handfuls frozen peas
1 bunch Italian parsley, leaves reserved, roughly chopped
1 bunch celery, root removed and leaves reserved, roughly chopped
1 to 2 handfuls frozen peas

1. Heat a soup pot over medium high. When hot, add a splash of olive oil, then throw in the onions, leeks and fennel. Reduce heat and cook until translucent (do not brown).
2. Add stock and tomatoes, bring to a simmer, and cook until potatoes are tender. Meanwhile, remove and discard coarsest stems from parsley.
3. Add celery to onion mixture and cover pot; cook until celery is just tender. Remove pot from stove and allow to cool slightly.
4. Working one batch at a time, transfer vegetable mixture to blender (never fill blender more than 1/3 full with hot liquid). Add frozen peas and parsley to final batch, and blend until incorporated.
5. Strain blended vegetable mixture over a fine-mesh strainer into a bowl (see note, below); allow to cool and then transfer to containers and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Note: Straining the well-blended soup might seem like an unnecessary step, but it not only vastly improves the texture, it also removes bitterness, making the soup sweeter and milder.
The Beacon Sloop Club hosted its annual Strawberry Fest on Sunday (June 10) at Seeger Riverfront Park in Beacon. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.com. Next up for the Sloop Club at the park is the Corn Festival on Aug. 12.

Photos by Michael Turton

Clockwise from top, left: Painted face; waiting for the barbecue; a Pete Seeger fan; folk singers; simple pleasures; sampling the strawberry shortcake; the Woody Guthrie

Sweet Spot

Lambs Hill
Bridal Boutique
1 East Main St., Retail 3, Beacon, NY
845-766-2900
lambshillbridalboutique.com

Now Showing
First Reformed (R)
FRI 7:30, SAT 4:45 7:30, SUN 4:45
TUE & WED 7:30, THU 2:00
Exhibition on Screen
Vincent Van Gogh: A New Way of Seeing (NR)
SAT 2:30, MON 7:15
TUE 2:00, THU 7:30

MONROE THEATER
34 Millpond Parkway, Monroe NY 10950
845-395-9055
www.themonroetheater.com

Ocean’s 8 (PG13)
FRI & SAT 2:00 5:00 8:00
SUN 1:00 4:00 7:00, MON & TUE 7:00
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THU 6:45
Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (PG13)
THU 7:00
Music on the Hudson
Beethoven, Strauss at Chapel
The Chapel Restoration Music Series continues on Sunday, June 17, with a performance at 4 p.m. by violinist Rolf Schulte and pianist James Winn. The program will include Beethoven’s Sonata No. 18, Op. 12, Schumann’s Adagio and Allegro and Richard Strauss’s Sonata Op. 16.

On Friday, June 22, singer and songwriter Amythyst Kiah will perform at the Chapel at 7:30 p.m. as part of the Restoration Roadhouse Concert Series. Tickets are $25 at eventbrite.com (search for the artist’s name). The Chapel Restoration is located across from the Metro-North station in Cold Spring.

Aubudon Bird Hikes
First is June 16 at Fahnestock
The Putnam Highlands Audubon Society will begin its Third Saturdays series on June 16 with a 90-minute bird-watching hike at Fahnestock State Park. Meet at 8 a.m. at the Sunken Mine Road parking lot off Deynontown Road. Target birds include the yellow warbler, scarlet tanager and American redstart. The society also plans hikes on July 21 at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center and Aug. 18 at the West Point Foundry Preserve. See putnamhighlandsaudubon.org.

Here Comes the Summer Sun
Two solstice events planned
Two events are scheduled in the Highlands to mark the summer solstice, when the sun reaches its highest point in the sky, which occurs on Thursday, June 21.

The Ascend Festival will take place at Mayor’s Park from 8 a.m. into the evening. See ascendfestival.com to purchase tickets for the yoga, music and art celebration. nOMad will host its fourth annual summer solstice yoga mala at Long Dock Park in Beacon from 6 to 8 p.m. See bit.ly/nOMadSummerSolstice2018. Register to reserve a mat space, which is $15.

Conservation K-9
Trail Conference raising funds for invasives detection dog
The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is raising $10,500 to add a conservation detection dog on its Invasives Strike Force. Willow, a year-old Labrador retriever being trained in Philadelphia, will be able to sniff out Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius). See nynjtc.org/donate.

Tour of Putnam
Bike tour set for July 1
Registration is open for The Tour of Putnam, a bicycle ride on Sunday, July 1, that begins and ends at Vetans’ Park in Carmel. There are routes of 14, 26 and 62 miles. Riders are required to wear helmets, and the ride will occur rain or shine. Registration is $40 online or $45 on the day of the ride. See bikereg.com/38520.

Community Choice Forums
Group to offer info at two events
The Hudson Valley Community Choice Aggregation will host two public forums to explain the renewable-energy program and provide updates. On Saturday, June 23, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., its representatives will be at the Howland Public Library in Beacon and on Tuesday, June 26, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Cold Spring. For more information see renewablehighlands.com or call 845-592-2120.

Beacon
River of Words Has New Home
Program will expand to Beacon
The Hudson Highlands Land Trust has handed off oversight of its Hudson Highlands River of Words environmental education program to the Beacon Institute, effective July 1. The institute hopes to expand the 10-year-old project to the Beacon and Newburgh school districts.

The Beacon Institute has launched a website and gallery at bire.org/row with student art and poetry, photos and videos, and more information.

Newburgh Symphony to Perform
Concert scheduled for June 23
The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra will perform a Roaring ‘20s concert at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 23, at Aquinas Hall on the Mount Saint Mary College campus in Newburgh.

Under the direction of Russell Ger, the orchestra will perform Mozart’s Symphony No. 25, Ravel’s Piano Concerto in G Major and Stravinsky’s Pulcinella Suite. Tickets start at $30, or $22 for seniors, with no charge for students. Call 845-913-7157 or visit newburghsymphony.org.

Sleeping Bee
Band will perform June 23
Sleeping Bee will perform at 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 23, at the Howland Cultural Center as part of the ongoing Equinox Series. The band is comprised of bassist Lindsey Horner, multi-instrumentalist Andy Gossling, percussionist Randy Crafton and singer Timothy Hill. It just recorded its second album, Come Down in Thunder. Tickets are $10 at the door.

Elks Offer Assistance
Program for deployed service members
The Elks Lodge in Beacon has created a program to assist deployed military personnel and their families. Call Carl Koen at 914-474-1891.

Soccer Shoot
Set for June 16 at Sargent
The Elks are also hosting a soccer shoot at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 16, at Sargent Elementary School in Beacon for children who were ages 5 to 14 as of Jan. 1. The winners will advance to district competition. Call 845-702-1064 with questions.
COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Dia:Beacon Plans Expansion

Will create new gallery space

Dia:Beacon plans to upgrade and expand its lower-level galleries, adding 11,000 square feet of exhibition space within the footprint of the museum and improving the lighting and HVAC systems. The project will also restore the façade and the landscaping at the back of the building.

The improvements are part of a $78 million campaign by the Dia Art Foundation to increase its endowment and renovate its three sites. The nonprofit has raised $60 million so far.

People in the News

Giovio Spanu of Garrison was named a knight in the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic on June 2 by the Italian ambassador to the U.S., Armando Varrichio, in a ceremony aboard the frigate Alpino at Pier 88 in New York City. Spanu is the co-founder of Magazzino Italian Art in Philipstown. The Order of Merit was established in 1951 by the then-president of Italy to honor contributions to the arts and philanthropy, among other activities.

The Putnam County Chamber of Commerce recognized 36 women with Trailblazer Awards in a ceremony on June 12, including Tara Carroll, co-owner of Old Souls and Barber & Brew in Cold Spring; Katie Liberman, managing director of the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival; and Jennifer Zwarich of BlackDashStudio.

John Lipscomb, patrol boat captain for Riverkeeper, was honored by the nonprofit Mohonk Consultations on June 10 with its Distinguished Achievement Award. For the last 17 years, Lipscomb has patrolled the Hudson River from April to December between New York Harbor and Troy to monitor tributary streams, waterfront facilities and pollution levels.

Boscobel’s board of directors has appointed Jennifer Carlquist as the site’s executive director. She succeeds Steven Miller. Carlquist joined Boscobel as curator in 2015.

Erik Schauffler, a Garrison student who is a junior at Putnam-Westchester BOCES’ Environmental Science Career Academy, won the climbing competition and a $1,500 scholarship during a four-day class camping trip to Paul Smith’s College in the Adirondacks. The event included 54 students from 18 high schools. The trip was paid for by firewood sales.

An arrangement by composer Joseph Bertolozzi of Beacon of his Tower Music for percussion quintet has been awarded a New Music USA Project Grant. The work features 82 percussion instruments played by five performers. The grant covers expenses in the extraction of parts from the full score so each member of the ensemble will be able to read his or her part on a tablet computer.

The New York Army National Guard promoted Andrew Ransom of Beacon, who is assigned to Company C, 1-69th Infantry, to Staff Sergeant, and Alessandro Serradas of Cold Spring, who is assigned to the Company C, 2-108th Infantry, to Private 1st Class.

Visit highlandscurrent.com for news updates and latest information.
County Hires Firm to Draft Shared-Services Plan

Plan to have completed by October
By Holly Crocco

The Putnam County Legislature has approved spending $31,000 to hire a consultant to develop a shared-services plan as part of an initiative created last year by Gov. Andrew Cuomo. The plan is expected to be finished by October.

As part of the state budget process, Cuomo asked counties to join a Shared Services Initiative to reduce property taxes by pushing municipalities to work together. To encourage participation, he dangled the possibility of funding from the state that would be equivalent to what was saved.

While County Executive MaryEllen Odell was hesitant in 2017 about creating a shared-services plan, saying the cooperation already existed, in January she said discussions were taking place to put something into effect this year.

Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra (R-Philipstown) cautioned during the June 5 Legislature meeting in Carmel that the creation of a shared-services plan would not be easy. “It’s a huge initiative,” she said. “You’re talking about the towns and the villages and the whole county — 100,000 people — so it’s a lot to do.”

Scuccimarra noted that some people questioned why a request for proposals was not issued before the county decided to spend $31,000 to hire Laberge Group, a planning and grant consultant based in Albany. She said that because the county will be spending less than $50,000, it falls below the threshold for an RFP to be required.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson) said the $31,000 is “a very modest fee” for the scope of work. “This is mandated; this is something that we have to do and we will get it done,” she said.

Legislator Neal Sullivan (R-Mahopac) said that he and his colleagues on the Fiscal Vision and Accountability Commission have been working to find ways to reduce redundancy in government for quite some time.

“It’s something that I know Legislator Nacerino, Legislator Scuccimarra, myself and the county executive have been working on for many years, which is consolidation, shared services, trying to find ways to reduce the cost of government for taxpayers,” he said. “We are finally going to see some real progress over the next couple of months.”

Philipstown Proposes Ban on Vape Shops

Public hearing scheduled for June 20
By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board on June 7 called for a moratorium on shops that sell e-cigarettes and scheduled a public hearing for Wednesday.

The board proposed a six-month moratorium on applications for “vape” shops, which sell devices that allow a user to inhale vapor from liquids that contain nicotine and are sold in hundreds of flavors, including cotton candy, watermelon, blueberry, peanut butter and chocolate.

Public hearing will take place at 7 p.m. on June 20 at Town Hall, 238 Main St., in Cold Spring.

Vape shops are “something we really don’t want to see,” said Supervisor Richard Shea. “It is obviously being marketed to children. It’s just not acceptable. We’re not going to have that in Philipstown.”

Councilor Mike Leonard said vaping liquids contain “a lot of harmful chemicals” that spread in the air and threaten others.

The draft moratorium cites the board’s legal and constitutional obligation “to protect and preserve the public health, welfare and safety of the citizens of the town as well as to protect the value, use and enjoyment of property.” It asserts that permitting vape shops “may have a permanent, significant and substantial impact on the nature and quality of life” of Philipstown.

Pruning is an art

If you are looking for a “natural finish” and do not want to see your ornamentals cut back severely to dead wood, choose artful pruning. Artful pruning allows your ornamentals to keep looking good. Artful Pruning gracefully brings your ornamentals back to a more appropriate smaller size.

For an artful, natural finish, call Gregory, the artful pruner, with over 10 years as a career gardener specializing in natural and restorative gardening.

845.446.7465

Cold Spring Prospeses Ban on Vape Shops

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Planning Board Wants Review of Horton Road Project

The Philipstown Planning Board said on June 5 that the developer of the planned Horton Road development project must prepare a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The seven-member board scheduled a hearing for 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 21, to hear from the public before the EIS work begins. It will take place at the Old VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue in Cold Spring.

For more details on the meeting, see highlandscurrent.com.

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Sports

Track & Field: Catching Up with Highlands Grads

Grey an All-American; Hughes finishes distance career

At the NCAA track and field championships on June 6 at the University of Oregon, a former Beacon High School athlete, Rayvon Grey, who is now a sophomore at Louisiana State University, made a wind-aided leap of 26-1.5, finishing fourth and qualifying him as a first team All-American in the event.

Closer to home, John Hughes, a 2014 Haldane grad who this year finished his degree in mathematics at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania, placed 78th among 280 competitors for the Gaels in November in the NCAA Division III cross-country national championships.

On March 3, at the North Coast Athletic Conference indoor championships, he was named the men’s distance runner of the year for the second time after winning the mile (4:14.53) and 3,000 meters (8:40.99).

In May, his 3.9 grade-point average earned him a spot on the Google Cloud/CoSIDA All-Academic team for Division III track competitors in Pennsylvania. The national team will be named June 19.

Haldane’s Stowell Third in Pentathlon

But disappointment for Beacon jumper

Abbey Stowell, the Haldane senior who has made three trips to the state championships to compete for the pentathlon title, finished third among small-school competitors in her final meet on Saturday (June 9).

She scored 2,999 points, her best finish. She was fourth with 2,714 points in 2016 as a sophomore and seventh in 2017 with 2,559. Logan Bruce of Delhi (Delaware County) won the Division II title with 3,165 points, followed by Molly Baker of Newark Valley (Tioga County) with 3,081.

All three athletes are seniors.

In the pentathlon events on Friday, Stowell was fourth in the 100-meter hurdles (15.87) and second in the shot put (9.97 meters) but was stymied by a 12th-place finish in the high jump (1.39 meters). On Saturday, she was seventh in the 800-meter run (2:23.70) and won the long jump (5.08 meters). She had scored a Haldane record 3,160 points in the sectional qualifier.

Ethan Burgos of Beacon High School also finished with a medal, running seventh among Division 1 schools in the 400-meter hurdles in 55.52. He qualified for the state meet with a personal best of 55.03. The state champ was Ryler Gould of Newburgh Free Academy, in 53.04.

Jummie Akinwunmi, the standout Beacon jumper (and class valedictorian), was presented with the Section 1 Sportsmanship Award but otherwise had a disappointing weekend.

On a gusty Friday, the senior faulted four times in the long jump after achieving 17-11 in her final leap of the sectional qualifier. (The state champ among Division 1 schools was Nadia Saunders of North Rockland, who jumped 19-2.25.)

The next day Akinwumni and three other competitors in the high jump failed to clear 5 feet in three attempts to advance past the initial round. Akinwumni had cleared 5-1 to win the Section 1 qualifier; the state champion would clear 5-6.

7 Little Words

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES SOLUTIONS
1 “Ice Age” woolly mammoth (5) ____________________
2 like a TV Tribal Council (8) ____________________
3 what Nestle calls its chips (7) ____________________
4 gifts for dad, often (8) ____________________
5 hydrated bouillon cube (5) ____________________
6 pulled down, like a shade (8) ____________________
7 canine’s domed home (6) ____________________

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# 2018 Hudson Valley Renegades Schedule

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**For More Information, Please Call 845-838-0094**

**Or Visit Us Online at HVrenegades.com**

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