

The HIGHLANDS Current



Taming of the Shrew
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JUNE 22, 2018

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

Finally: A New Cold Spring Post Office

Sorting remains in Garrison, upsetting neighbors

By Michael Turton

The long wait is over. Cold Spring's new post office opened its doors at 8:30 a.m. on Monday (June 18). The 1,330-square-foot facility is located at the south end of the Lahey Pavilion on Route 9D in space leased from Butterfield Realty Inc. as part of the redevelopment of the former hospital site.

The retail counter and post-office boxes had been in a trailer adjacent to Foodtown

since 2014, when the post office lease in the building ended and the supermarket expanded. The sorting operation was moved at the time to the Garrison post office and will remain there, despite protests by neighbors.

The new Cold Spring location "provides a great place for our customers to do business and a positive work environment for the three employees," said George Flood, the regional manager for the U.S. Postal Service. He said the new space includes 368 boxes and 14 parcel lockers, all with 24-hour access. A grand opening is scheduled for Monday, June 25.

Cold Spring also has a new postmaster, Karen Zappala. (Continued on Page 6)



Allison Shea was the first customer at Cold Spring's new post office when it opened at 8:30 a.m. on Monday (June 18). She is assisted by clerk Nydia Pachanco.

Photo by M. Turton



DOLLY RETURNS — Dancer and actor Tommy Tune (center), one of the stars of the 1969 film *Hello, Dolly!*, returned to Garrison's Landing on Saturday (June 16) to lead a parade marking the 50th anniversary of the filming of scenes there. For more photos, see Page 20.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Beacon Solar Farm Ready to Shine

Former landfill will save city \$100,000 annually

By Jeff Simms

A solar power farm at the former Beacon landfill near Dennings Point should be operational next month, saving the city as much as \$100,000 annually in electricity costs.

The 20-acre site, used first illegally and then as a municipal dump before the state Department of Environmental Conservation closed it in 1977, is now home to 8,500 solar panels stationed on steel girders and tilted 25 degrees toward the south, where they'll get the most sun throughout the year. It is expected to produce 2 megawatts of energy annually, the equivalent of what is used by about 1,600 homes.

"This is no different than what you might install on your home — there's just a lot more of it. It's a good use of this land, to generate renewable energy for city use. There's really no downside," said Paul Curran,

"In simple terms, we'll generate a negative power bill at the landfill. The credits can be used by the city to offset other power bills, such as for street lights."

the managing director of BQ Energy, a Wappingers Falls firm selected by the city in 2016 to build and operate the array.

The power produced by the panels will be routed through some 80 inverters to Central Hudson. BQ Energy, which has a 25-year lease on the site, will then sell the credits earned from the utility to the city at a discount.

"In simple terms, we'll generate a negative power bill at the landfill," explained Curran. "The credits can be used by the city to offset other power bills, such as for street lights."

That could be a big savings. Lighting is often the largest portion of a city's electricity costs, and according to the state Public Service Commission, Beacon's 1,500 streetlights account for about 40 percent of its annual electricity bill.

"Where that will translate to residents will be in their taxes," said City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero. "Residents won't see it on (Continued on Page 19)

An aerial view of the solar farm at the former Beacon landfill, which should be up and running next month

BQ Energy





Five Questions: PATRICIA WARD KELLY

By Alison Rooney

Film historian Patricia Ward Kelly is the widow of the dancer and actor Gene Kelly, who directed *Hello, Dolly!* (1969), including scenes filmed in Philipstown 50 years ago this summer. They were married in 1990, six years before his death.

Did Gene share any memories with you from the filming?

He was brought in late in the process. It rained for the whole time they were there [in Philipstown] and it was all shot out of order to avoid the rain. It was miserable and oppressive and there was lots of overtime. But Gene spoke about how spectacular the setting was, especially the overhead view from the chapel at West Point. He always wanted to direct *The Matchmaker*, the intimate Thornton Wilder play that *Dolly* is based on. Instead, he was handed a 70-millimeter extravaganza.

When you talk about Gene, what surprises people the most?

His mind. He spoke multiple languages, wrote poetry, read Latin and studied all forms of dance.

You've said the Depression was at the root of his style. How so?

Gene was studying economics, intending to become a lawyer, when he watched

his father, his idol, get destroyed by the Depression. It made Gene champion the common man. He would say, "I don't want to dance like rich people." He combined that with his background in sports — ice hockey and baseball, mainly — developing movements. He rejected the European-like tails and instead wore clothing that didn't obscure the movement lines.

He grew up in Pittsburgh. How did he end up in New York City?

He ran a dance studio in Pittsburgh. He went to New York intending to be a choreographer, but he got laughed at and returned home. When he went back, it was to choreograph and dance on Broadway. The producer David O. Selznick saw him and brought him to Hollywood.

How would Gene react to the dancing on film today?

He was always looking for new things, through young people. He would say, "If I were younger, that's what I would be doing." He knew what had come before him, from



Patricia Ward Kelly

Photo provided

vaudeville and from black performers; he took movements he recalled from their work and incorporated them. He knew Michael Jackson borrowed from him. It was a long chain. What would trouble him is how dance is being shot. His focus was on changing the look of dance on film. He'd be upset over the amount of cutting away to close-ups of body parts. He'd say you have to stay full-figure. The assumption is that everything should be hyperkinetic. Yet when I show clips of his dances to children, they're glued to the screen. They love that there are no cuts.

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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's the one thing you really want to do this summer?



"I want to sit in the Beacon Creamery, work my way down the counter, tasting every flavor of ice cream!"

~Carman Johnson, Beacon



"I want to travel; to see as many places as possible, places I've never been before."

~Jack Gordineer, Cold Spring



"I just want to spend time with my family, and next week we're off to Ireland for two weeks."

~Emily Burke, Beacon

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Philipstown Board: No Vape Shops for 6 Months

Few attendees but strong sentiments at public hearing

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Philipstown's Town Board on Wednesday (June 20) unanimously adopted a six-month moratorium on vape shops.

The vote followed a public hearing that drew few attendees but strong anti-vaping comments from those who came. It also occurred two weeks after board members proposed the moratorium, which halts submission of vape shop applications.

The moratorium took effect immediately. Board members plan to use the half-year hiatus to write a permanent law.

Councilor Nancy Montgomery said children and teenagers are increasingly using vaping devices or electronic cigarettes, which can contain nicotine or other harmful substances along with alluring flavors.

"There's no regulation" of the ingredients, she said. "Prohibiting businesses is not something we're in the business of doing, but we would like to limit harmful things" that might be sold in town.

"Prohibiting businesses is not something we're in the business of doing, but we would like to limit harmful things" that might be sold in town.

Nonetheless, she cautioned that "we have to be very careful as we look at this, to see what we're allowed to do," such as possibly "limiting where vape shops can be."

Supervisor Richard Shea expressed hopes that with the right law, vape shops "can essentially be zoned out of existence."

Councilor Robert Flaherty raised the issue of e-cig and vape product sales by gas

stations and convenience stores. Board members informally agreed they must explore that aspect of the issue, too.

Marianne Sullivan, a Garrison resident and professor of public health at William Paterson University, encouraged the board to adopt the moratorium. "I hope we have a permanent moratorium," she said. "It's our responsibility to keep vape products out of the hands of youth."

The federal government seems unlikely to act, she said, because the Trump administration "has signaled friendliness to the vaping industry."

Sullivan said one risk of vaping by young people is that it can lead to the use of traditional cigarettes. "Tobacco is the No. 1 public health problem" and a leading cause of death, she said. Teenagers who unwittingly consume nicotine while vaping "can develop an addiction very quickly," she said.

Although smoking of traditional cigarettes has declined, Philipstown resident Priscilla Goldfarb wondered if "people are stopping smoking and moving over to vaping. How would having a vape shop in town improve the quality of our life here?"



18 → 21?

Putnam County considers raising age to buy cigarettes. See Page 18.

John Cronin, a Cold Spring resident and senior fellow for environmental affairs at Pace University, urged the board to also focus on access to tobacco by minors. "I'm more concerned about kids buying tobacco than alcohol," he said.

New York and three other states allow minors to legally purchase and/or possess tobacco; it is only illegal for merchants to sell it to them. That means that "only one-half of the transaction is illegal," he said, and that a 10-year-old can smoke a cigar without violating any law.

He called on municipalities to take action. "The revolution in controlling tobacco is town by town."

Montgomery agreed. "We can't wait for other levels of government to do what we need to do," she said.

Robertson Resigns as Nelsonville Trustee

Mayor will appoint replacement

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nelsonville Mayor Bill O'Neill on Monday (June 18) announced plans to soon appoint a replacement for Trustee Thomas Robertson, who advocated a five-member board but whose June 5 resignation leaves it one trustee short, only two months into its tenure.

Robertson "feels he can't bring the energy he once had to the job and felt, to his credit, that if he can't bring the energy — he didn't think he should have the job," O'Neill said. Robertson did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Elected to a two-year term in 2016, Robertson, 81, won re-election to a one-year term earlier this year. Voters in 2017 approved the expansion of the board from three to five members, who include the mayor. Robertson had championed the change, which returned the board to its original, mid-19th century size.

The mayor said that before picking a new trustee, who will complete the remainder of Robertson's term, which ends in April, he wanted to consult with Trustees Alan Potts, Mike Bowman and Dave Moroney.

The mayor described Robertson's resignation as a chance to bring a new perspective to the board. "My objective is to add some balance, though that's not my sole criterion," he said. He explained that he wants "diversity, not in the usual sense of race or whatever, but in age, point of view, a different take on things. I'd like to get somebody that challenges us, frankly."

He said he expects to select someone before the board's next meeting, scheduled for July 16. With unanimous support



Mayor Bill O'Neill with Trustee Thomas Robertson at an April meeting of the Nelsonville board. File photo by L.S. Armstrong

from the trustees, O'Neill named Potts to succeed Robertson as deputy mayor.

Woods cleanup

Bowman reported the reconstitution of the Trail Committee and noted that a Facebook group, Friends of the Nelsonville Trail, has formed. He also mentioned a cleanup of the Nelsonville woods, scheduled for Saturday, June 23. Volunteers will meet at the Wood Street parking area, near Gatehouse Road, at 9 a.m.

Biking Philipstown

Jason Angell, a leader of the Philipstown Community Congress, told the board that plans are underway for a one-day "loop" bicycle ride through Cold Spring and Nelsonville, with some streets closed. O'Neill said the village "would be delighted to cooperate" and Bowman and Potts agreed to act as liaisons.

Appreciation

The board unanimously approved proclamations honoring Robertson and Peggy Clements for their efforts on behalf of the village. Clements, a member of the Haldane school board, had served on the Zoning Board of Appeals. She said the amount of work that can be required, demonstrated by the months the ZBA spent considering the Rockledge Road cell tower application, made it impossible for her to continue, given her obligations as an elected school board member.

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Highlands Current Inc.
161 Main St.
Cold Spring NY 10516-2818
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FOUNDER

Gordon Stewart (1939 - 2014)

MANAGING EDITOR

Chip Rowe
editor@highlandscurrent.com

ARTS/FEATURE EDITOR

Alison Rooney
arts@highlandscurrent.com

SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

Michael Turton

REPORTERS

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong
Celia Barbour
Brian PJ Cronin
Joe Dizney
Pamela Doan
Jeff Simms

LAYOUT EDITOR

Kate Vikstrom

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney
For information on advertising:
845-809-5584
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor

The Current welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length. We ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.com or mailed to Editor, The Highlands Current, 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published.

Vaping ban

While well meaning (I think), your recent articles about vaping offer no facts about this issue while saying outright it's harmful and quoting people who say it's harmful ("Rise in 'Vaping' Causes Alarm," May 11; "Philipstown Proposes Ban on Vape Shops," June 15). Facts supporting that claim do not exist because there are few credible studies on vaping. I suspect there will be in the future, which is undoubtedly a good thing.

Many vape because it is much safer than smoking tobacco, which has been known to be a deadly habit for decades, backed by hard science. For that reason, many health professionals support vaping as an alternative for anyone, while conceding it needs more study.

Your articles are borderline irresponsible without presenting at least another point of view, one that probably has a lot more merit.

Andrew Johnson, *Beacon*

5G in Beacon

Beacon should allow Verizon to install the 5G wireless antennas anywhere the company has installed its Fios network in the city — which is nowhere ("5G Cell Units Coming to Beacon," June 15). Install Fios first so we have some competition for Cablevision.

Charles Symon, *Beacon*

Climate-change stories

Your series on climate change in the Highlands (*How Hot? How Soon?*) reminded me of an event in April when the Philipstown Climate Smart Communities Task Force invited people to the Desmond-Fish

Library to tell "climate-change stories."

Severe storms and the unpredictability of the weather were a common thread. One woman spoke of her fear while driving her car under a tree which was lying on top of a power line. For many other people in the audience, there was the fear of not knowing what to expect.

After 31 years living in Philipstown, it was surprising to me how easily it all seemed to boil down to one nasty word: Ticks! I lived at the Taconic Outdoor Education Center for two years in the late 1980s and spent a lot of time in the woods, and I only recall two or three ticks in that entire time, and they were dog ticks, not deer. The awful scourge that has blossomed is likely due to a warming climate.

The questions asked during the discussion were largely formulated by an organization called Climate Change Stories. The local organizer, Krystal Ford, played audio clips recorded by visitors to the group's website. One observer who lived in the Adirondack North Country spoke sadly of the variability of good ice for pond hockey and ice-fishing.

We would like to hear from others in the Philipstown area as to what changes they've seen and what their emotional

responses have been, as well as how they imagine the future, and what they think can be done to mitigate the situation. Visit climatestoriesproject.org to participate.

Pete Salmansohn, *Garrison*

Renewable energy

Beacon is making great strides toward sustainability. In addition to a solar farm coming online this summer, its Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program is getting closer to launch. CCA programs empower municipalities by allowing them, rather than the state, to select the default energy supply for residents and small businesses. This provides consumers and businesses with greater control over energy bills and choices. CCA can facilitate cost savings, price stability and renewable energy development, among other benefits.

Beacon is one of the flagship communities in this program, along with our neighbors in Fishkill, Cold Spring and Philipstown. I am proud of the work done by our city to support this forward-thinking approach. It's easy for residents to take part, and you can learn more at two upcoming forums. The first is Saturday, June 23, at the Howland Public Library from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., and the second is Tuesday, June 26, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Cold Spring, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Amber Grant, *Beacon*
Grant is a member of the Beacon City Council.

School crossing

In *5 Questions* (June 15), Haldane crossing guard Tom Herring talks about how fewer drivers than in the past seem to exercise caution near the school. I wonder if the signage or the crosswalk indicators could be improved. Although signs indicate a reduced speed limit during school hours, the location of the Haldane buildings, entrances and crossings are less than evident from Route 9D (as well as Route 301) if you are not familiar with the layout.

Sargent Elementary in Beacon is another example of a school not readily visible, although it at least has modest signage on Route 9D. Haldane has no signage when you are traveling northbound and nothing southbound other than on the press box at the football field, which you have to turn your head to see.

Frank Haggerty, *Cold Spring*



For more comments, visit
highlandscurrent.com

Opponents, and Campaign, React to Charge Odell Got Discounts

Report claims Putnam executive paid less for club catering

By Chip Rowe

Two candidates who hope to unseat Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell in November had strong words for the incumbent following a *Journal News* report on June 13 that alleged her re-election campaign received catering discounts at the county-owned golf course.

The report, by David McKay Wilson, relied on contracts for 282 catered events held at the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac in 2016 and 2017 that the newspaper obtained through a Freedom of Information Law request. They appeared to show that Odell's campaign and a nonprofit founded by newly elected Legislator Amy Sayegh and directed by an Odell assistant were charged less than other groups for events at the facility.

In a statement, Paul Denbaum, a member of the Kent Town Board who is challenging Odell in the Republican primary, called on the county Legislature to investigate, demanding that all documents be released "to determine what, if any, criminal behavior occurred."

Maureen Fleming, the Kent supervisor who is the Democratic candidate for county executive, accused Odell in a statement of using a public facility "to dispense favors to her political cronies, and, even worse, to give discounts to herself and her campaign.... If you or I were to rent the facility, we would pay full price, just like the organizations that are not on Odell's list of favorites. Taxpayers are subsidizing Odell's campaign."



MaryEllen Odell

Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown in the county Legislature, did not respond to emailed requests for comment.

Nick Fannin, Odell's campaign manager, said the accusation that the campaign received special treatment was "absolutely not true."

"The Odell campaign is a regular and repeat client, yet everything is still done at arm's length," he said. "We do not negotiate rates or terms. We simply request dates for outings or events and give an estimate of the number of people attending. Then we pay the invoice when it comes in. We believe to be paid up to date and have not heard otherwise. Should there be any outstanding bills, the campaign will pay them promptly."

Applied Golf LLC runs the golf course, and Homestyle Caterers provides the food, both under contract with the county. While Fannin said Homestyle sets the prices, *The Journal News* and Odell's political opponents emphasized the potential conflict of interest because her administration oversees the county's contract with the caterer.



Amy Sayegh

Homestyle Caterers has been on a month-to-month contract since February 2017, and on May 27 the county issued a call for bids for the club's catering business.

For seven of the 15 events held at the club by the Committee to Elect MaryEllen Odell over two years, the campaign did not pay the standard 18 percent service charge, according to *The Journal News*. In another case, it didn't pay sales tax on a \$3,960 food tab. It also appeared to receive meals and drinks at less than the rate charged others, Wilson wrote.

Fannin told *The Current* he had researched the bills in question, and that six of the seven events were held in a small space downstairs at the club and did not involve wait staff. They were meet-and-greets or gatherings such as one after Odell's State of the County address in which managers put out the food or worked the bar. In the other case, a retirement party for a longtime county employee who is a veteran, the golf course waived the service fee, he said.

Fannin said the golf course is reviewing its invoices to the campaign to make sure nothing was overlooked. He said he expects to receive a bill for the sales tax on the \$3,960 food bill.

Odell's campaign has been the club's largest customer, spending about \$77,000 in the past three years, *The Journal News* reported. (The names of 96 catering clients were redacted by the county in the documents.) The county receives 30 percent of gross catering sales at the club, plus 4 percent of the sales tax collected.

The nonprofit Putnam Community Cares, whose founder and board president is Sayegh and whose newly appointed executive director is Odell's public relations assistant, Faith Ann Butcher, held three fundraisers at the club and was charged only the proceeds from the cash bar, an unusual arrangement, according to *The Journal News*. Based in Mahopac, the organization provides household assistance to families in which a parent is dealing with cancer or other major illness.

Odell told Wilson that "nothing can be said that's negative when you are trying to do something nice for people and trying to raise money and awareness. There is no burden on the taxpayers. Actually, if you look at it in the way I look at it, we are helping people, we are helping taxpayers."

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Finally: A New Cold Spring Post Office *(from Page 1)*

She succeeds Walter Klietz, who had taken the position in December.

USPS officials declined to say how much they are paying to lease the facility. A call to Unicorn Contracting, the construction arm of Butterfield Realty whose office is adjacent to the new post office, was not returned by press time.

After the sorting for Cold Spring addresses moved to the Garrison facility in January 2014, the post office's neighbors there quickly expressed concern about the increased delivery truck traffic, early morning noise, bright lights and overflow

employee parking. At a special meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board a month later, held at the Haldane school auditorium to accommodate the crowd, USPS representatives were peppered with questions and complaints.

The concerns remain. Last October, more than 20 Garrison residents wrote the Philipstown Town Board, USPS officials and Putnam County Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra to complain that "the continuing nuisance of nighttime deliveries has now gone from bad to worse." The residents said that Amazon trucks arrive as early as 3:30 a.m., even before sorting operations begin at 5 a.m.

Wally Schaefer, who lives on Grassy Lane behind the post office, wrote

in an email to *The Current* that "our primary concern is to have the distribution operations, and their associated noise and lighting annoyances, moved to a more appropriate area and facility. We appreciate having the retail operations here, but this is essentially a residential neighborhood, and we would like to sleep at night."

The neighbors argued in October that the increased activity in Garrison "clearly violates our town zoning laws," but, as a federal agency, USPS is not subject to local zoning.

Flood declined to comment on the complaints, saying only that "we strive to be a good neighbor and remain open to suggestions from the community to improve the way we do business."



The new Cold Spring post office

Photo by M. Turton

Letters and Numbers

Residents of the Lower Hudson Valley receive an average of 337 pieces of first-class mail annually (down 9 percent from 2010) and 459 pieces of marketing ("junk") mail (down 8 percent).

USPS processes 409 million pieces of first-class mail annually in the Lower Hudson Valley and 556 million pieces of marketing mail.

Source: USPS Inspector General (2017), based on 2015 figures

Moving the Mail

An early history of the Cold Spring post office

1820 – By some accounts, the post office around this time was located at a stagecoach stop inside what is now a private home at 43 Main St.

1828 – The *New York American* lamented that "much delay, and not unfrequently serious inconvenience" arises with the mail from towns having similar names such as Cold Spring, Cold Spring Harbor on Long Island and West Cold Spring in Cattaraugus County (now Coldspring).

1867 – The post office had moved to the building on Main Street now occupied by Archipelago and the Country Goose.

1893 – The Cold Spring post office stopped delivering mail on Sundays.

1896 – Free delivery to rural addresses began.

1897 – The *Cold Spring Recorder* noted that the change in the Central-Hudson railroad timetable "has necessarily caused a change in the arrival and departure of mails."

1905 – Using a drill and two charges of nitroglycerine, five masked men blew up the 1,500-pound safe inside the post office, located in the VanDoren building on Main Street (now Antique Alley), at about 2 a.m. on a Thursday. The gang made off with \$350 in stamps, \$40 in cash and 40 blank money orders. The only witness was Jim Lee, who operated a nearby laundry, but he reportedly ran back into his store in fear. Neighbors who heard the explosion said they didn't realize it was so close.

1937 – A new post office opened in the Edward L. Post Sr. building at the corner of Main and Stone streets (now the Houlihan Lawrence offices).

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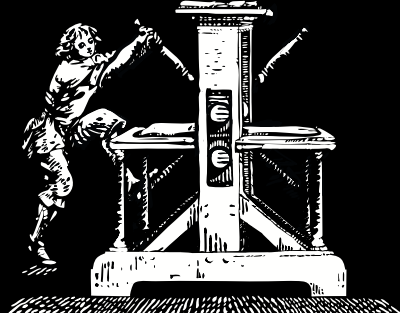
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Bridge to Honor Purple Heart Recipients

Bear Mountain will get ceremonial name

A proposal to attach a ceremonial name honoring Purple Heart recipients to the Bear Mountain Bridge passed both the New York State Assembly and Senate and awaits the governor’s signature.

Introduced in the Assembly by Sandy Galef, a Democrat who represents Philipstown, and in the Senate by Bill Larkin, a Republican from Orange County, the bill designates the span on signs as the Purple Heart Veterans Memorial Bridge but will not change its official name.

Galef said she and Larkin chose the Bear Mountain Bridge for the designation “because it connected our districts, and is the main route from the east and west where important landmarks associated with our military are located such as Camp Smith, West Point and the National Purple Heart Hall of Honors” in New Windsor.

Sheriff Issues Safety Reminders

Explains laws for bicycles, boats

Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr., chairman of the county’s Traffic Safety Board, has issued a reminder of the rules of the road for drivers and bicyclists.

A law passed in 2010 requires motorists to pass “at a safe distance” when overtaking a bicyclist on the same side of the road. It is commonly referred to as Merrill’s Law because it passed following the death of Merrill Cassell, a cyclist who was struck and killed by a passing bus.

When riding along a road, bicyclists must use a dedicated bike lane if provided or ride near the right-hand curb or edge of the road or upon a usable shoulder. Under the law, bikes must not impede the flow of traffic except when turning left and cannot ride two abreast except on a shoulder or in a bike lane or path if there is enough room. They must ride single file when passing a vehicle, another bicyclist or a pedestrian.

Bicyclists must come to a full stop when entering a roadway. Those age 13 and

younger must wear helmets.

Langley also issued reminders about watercraft. Each motorized boat needs to have at least one life jacket that is U.S. Coast Guard-approved and the right size for each person on board. Children under 12 are required to wear them on boats smaller than 65 feet.

Each boat also must have a Type 4, USCG-approved throwable device, a sounding device (horn or whistle), an anchor with line, a mounted fire extinguisher, at least three day/night flares and a navigation and stern light. Consuming alcohol while operating a boat is against the law.

For a free boat safety inspection, call Sgt. Michael Szabo at 845-225-4300.

Cemetery Committee Reorganizes

Able to accept donations from public

The Putnam County Historic Cemetery Committee, which for the past 21 years has worked to restore and maintain burial grounds, has reorganized as the nonprofit Society for the Preservation of Historical Cemeteries.

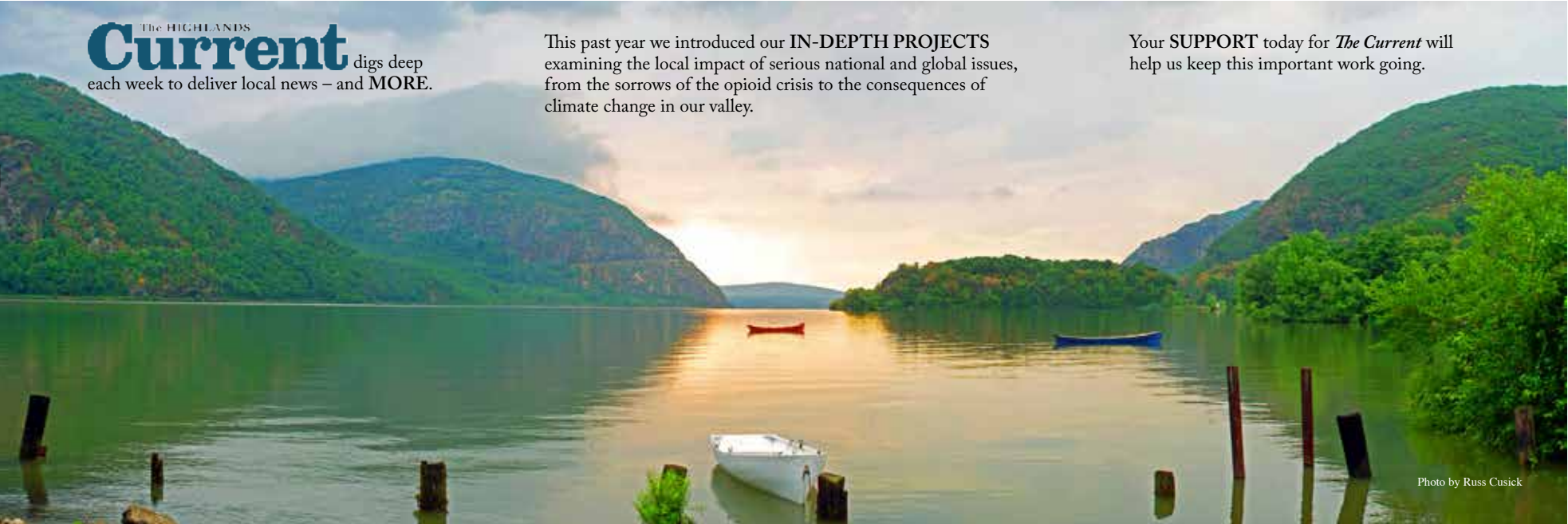
Society members met on May 24 at Philipstown Town Hall and selected a board of directors, which includes Dr. Larry Maxwell of Patterson and Alan Warnacke of Mahopac, who founded the committee; Catherine Wargas, Priscilla Keresey, Mike Troy, Elaine Otto and Michael Leonard, who is a member of the Philipstown Town Board. The society website at putnamgraveyards.com has information about historic cemeteries throughout the county.

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What People are Saying About the Opioid Project . . .

“The in-depth coverage from *The Highlands Current* in its ‘Opioid Crisis’ series provided the Philipstown community with greater insight into the realities of addiction and the challenges we face in preventing and treating this illness. This deep dive into the topic allowed a better understanding of the facts, which is essential for community members to help address the many facets of this complex issue. *The Current’s* series will assist me in my newly established position of substance abuse resource coordinator as I work to educate residents on the support and resources available to them in the Town of Philipstown.”

Danielle Pack McCarthy
Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Coordinator

“We thank the national and local media, including *The Highlands Current*, for shining a spotlight on the opioid epidemic – the public health crisis of our lifetime. Knowledge is a key component in the battle against addiction, and communicating the impact of this epidemic brings us closer to a solution.”

Marcus J. Molinaro
Dutchess County Executive

“I would be remiss in not commending *The Current* for your four-part series ‘Fighting Back: The Opioid Crisis.’ These four lengthy reports were informative, educational, in-depth, well-written and riveting. The final installment accomplished something very important: It informed the public that this is not a crisis of despair and dissolution. It can be one of *hope and solution*. This message must be preached over and over again. It is never hopeless; it is never too late; it is never over.”

Robert Tandy
Putnam County District Attorney

“I wanted you to know how terrific the opioid series is. As someone who has spent her career in behavioral health services, I was pleased and encouraged to see the recognition that innovative local providers and programs such as CoveCare, the Dutchess County Stabilization Center and Arms Acres received. The helpfulness of the series is demonstrated in the statewide dissemination of the article on the Dutchess County center.”

Peg Moran
Former Behavioral Health Administrator

The New York Press Association
awarded
“Fighting Back: The Opioid Crisis”
The Thomas G. Butson Award for In-Depth Reporting
First Place (Division 1)

“As demonstrated in *The Highlands Current’s* in-depth series, the opioid crisis has to be the most devastating thing affecting our youth right now. This is one of the reasons I am proposing the creation of a Teen Center in Philipstown. The teen space would be a safe environment for kids to socialize without social pressures.”

Sandy McKelvey, Cold Spring

“This is a useful and moving report. It can be used as a springboard for conversation with family and friends. Thank you for writing about such an important issue.”

Jan Mowder Hughes, Garrison

To support our next in-depth project with a tax-deductible contribution, visit highlandscurrent.com/donate or write us at 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

Signs of Change

Beacon to rewrite law after conflict over banners

By Jeff Simms

Beacon's jousting match with a business owner over signs hanging from his warehouse may soon end, as city officials have begun crafting a law to replace one that they concede is likely unconstitutional.

Jason Hughes, who co-owns LNJ Tech Services at 4 Hanna Lane, has sparred with the city for more than a year over political banners hung on the side of the warehouse, which faces Route 52.

In March, Hughes hung an 8-by-34-foot vinyl sign that read "Resist White Supremacy; Vote on November 6, 2018." City building officials, citing its size and the lack of a permit, ordered him to remove it or face fines of \$1,000 per day.

Hughes, who also co-owns Ella's Bel-las at 418 Main St., argued that the sign was protected free speech and he was being singled out. He took down the banner in April but hung a new one the same day that reads, "You have the right to free speech (*as long as you're not crazy enough to use it). School board & budget vote on May 15." An earlier banner — "No Hate! No Fear! Everyone is welcome here" — had been affixed to the warehouse for nearly a year before Hughes removed it in January.

On June 11, the Beacon City Council discussed amending its regulation of signs after City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis explained that the existing language is likely unconstitutional. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 2015 that municipal sign restrictions must be content-neutral.

Calling the decision "a bane for municipal attorneys," Ward-Willis pointed out that cities can only regulate signs with regard to the time, place and the manner by which they are hung. He argued

"You have a sign ordinance that is unconstitutional and has problems with it. How you want to address it is certainly up to you."

that a city should have the right to consider content — "You'd want to regulate a house for-let [sign] differently than a carnival sign" — but that the Supreme Court



This banner is still hanging on the side of Jason Hughes' Hanna Lane warehouse.

Photo by J. Simms

Cold Spring Village Board

For highlights from the board's June 5 and June 12 meetings, see highlandscurrent.com.

viewed it differently.

Although the city has dropped its charges against Hughes, the draft of the new law would appear to restrict the banners he can hang from the Hanna Lane warehouse. It defines banners as temporary signs that must receive permits, fit size requirements (smaller than Hughes' banners have been) and be removed within 60 days.

The current Beacon code is nebulous in its definition of what constitutes a temporary sign as well as in the length of time one can be hung. The revised law would distinguish more clearly between prohibited signs and ones that could be placed in certain zoning districts.

The council discussed the proposal briefly during its June 11 meeting, although members Amber Grant and Jodi McCredo objected, saying the council had more important issues to address, such as its ongoing zoning review. "I don't know why we're talking about this before those things," Grant said.

Ward-Willis responded that "you have a sign ordinance that is unconstitutional and has problems with it. How you want to address it is certainly up to you."

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The Calendar



A print by Takuji Hamanaka



'Promise,' by Yoonmi Nam



'Cesky Krumlov,' by Amy Fleischer

Woodblock Wonders

Gallery hosts show of Japanese-style prints

By Alison Rooney

Mokuhanga is making a comeback. The Japanese wood-carving process, developed in the 17th century, was rarely taught in the U.S. and a few decades ago was even faltering in Japan as techniques imported from the West — etching, lithography, silkscreen — became popular.

But the internet has helped introduce mokuhanga to “people with an interest in printmaking, Japanese culture and the interplay of historic and contemporary

ideas,” explains April Vollmer, the author of *Japanese Woodblock Print Workshop* and one of the artists who contributed to a show, *Mokuhanga Wood Prints*, that runs through Sunday, July 1, at the Buster Levi Gallery in Cold Spring.

Traditional woodblock printing, of the type developed in Japan during the Edo period (1603-1868), is a not picked up quickly. It takes years for artists to achieve the balance of technique and temperament. Besides Vollmer, 10 other artists who craft their works using variations on the elements of carved wooden blocks — a flat disc, hand printing and cutting — contributed to the show.

Mokuhanga is the Japanese word for the process, which actually originated in China and Korea before reaching its heights in Japan with the creation of the Ukiyo-e prints, the multi-color depictions of life and landscape described as “pictures of the floating world.”

Most mokuhanga prints are produced with water-based ink and watercolor brushed onto blocks (rather than rolled), then printed with a circular, flat “baren” disc (instead of a rubbing tool or press) onto washi (handmade paper).

Traditionally, an artist would first prepare a sketch, then a detailed drawing, then a block carving made transparent with oil, then outline it with a knife, then carve and chisel. Each color was printed separately, and the colors aligned through devices called kento, which kept corners fitted.

Pigments were ground and given the right consistency, then applied to the block, with paper laid on top, and the rubbing done with the baren. The process is repeated for each color, in a fixed sequence. Shading was done with brushes or by wiping or rubbing with cloth.



'Raft,' by Katie Baldwin

What Inspires Them

The artists who contributed to the Buster Levi Show express a variety of motivations for working with the method.

Yoonmi Nam, raised in South Korea, says, “I am interested in beauty, irony, impermanence and the common and extraordinary way we structure our surroundings.”

For Ralph Kiggell, who lives in Thailand, “there is something compelling about carving a design on one material and transferring it to another.”

Melissa Schulenberg, living in upstate New York, thinks of her work as “a process of building my own ‘alphabet,’ forming visual vocabularies into new compositions.”

And the focus for Katie Baldwin, of Huntsville, Alabama, is the “relationship between drawing and print. When I am drawing, I am working much more spontaneously. I generate images in response to the things I see. I work quickly, generating lots of work, most of which isn’t particularly resolved. But out of the work, there are small moments or lovely images or surprising seeds of ideas that lead into ideas for prints.”

Ursula Schneider, who curated the Buster Levi show with Lucille Tortora, has been making woodcut prints since the late 1980s, drawn by the colors, their luminescence and transparency. The Hudson River is a favorite subject.

“Printing is like a meditation,” she says, “You have to be so focused.”

Schneider says she wanted to see in one place the work of the many artists who make mokuhanga prints. “There are so many different approaches to it,” she says. “One artist

weaves them together, another uses a log.” The artists who contributed live around the world, including in Japan, Thailand, Argentina and the U.S.

The Buster Levi Gallery is located at 121 Main St. See busterlevigallery.com.



'Dark Fern II,' by Ralph Kiggell



A print by April Vollmer

LOVE IN THE TIME
OF MISOGYNY.

By Deb
Lucky

How is a woman
to behave in a
world where
she can be
auctioned off?

Director Shana Cooper
finds pertinent social
commentary in the tangled
knot of love and conflict in
"The Taming of the Shrew."

It feels
as if it
could've
been
written
yesterday.

Once again,
I play the
oppressing
patriarchy.

I would
not wed...

I've been to war
and these guys
want me to be
afraid of a woman's
tongue?

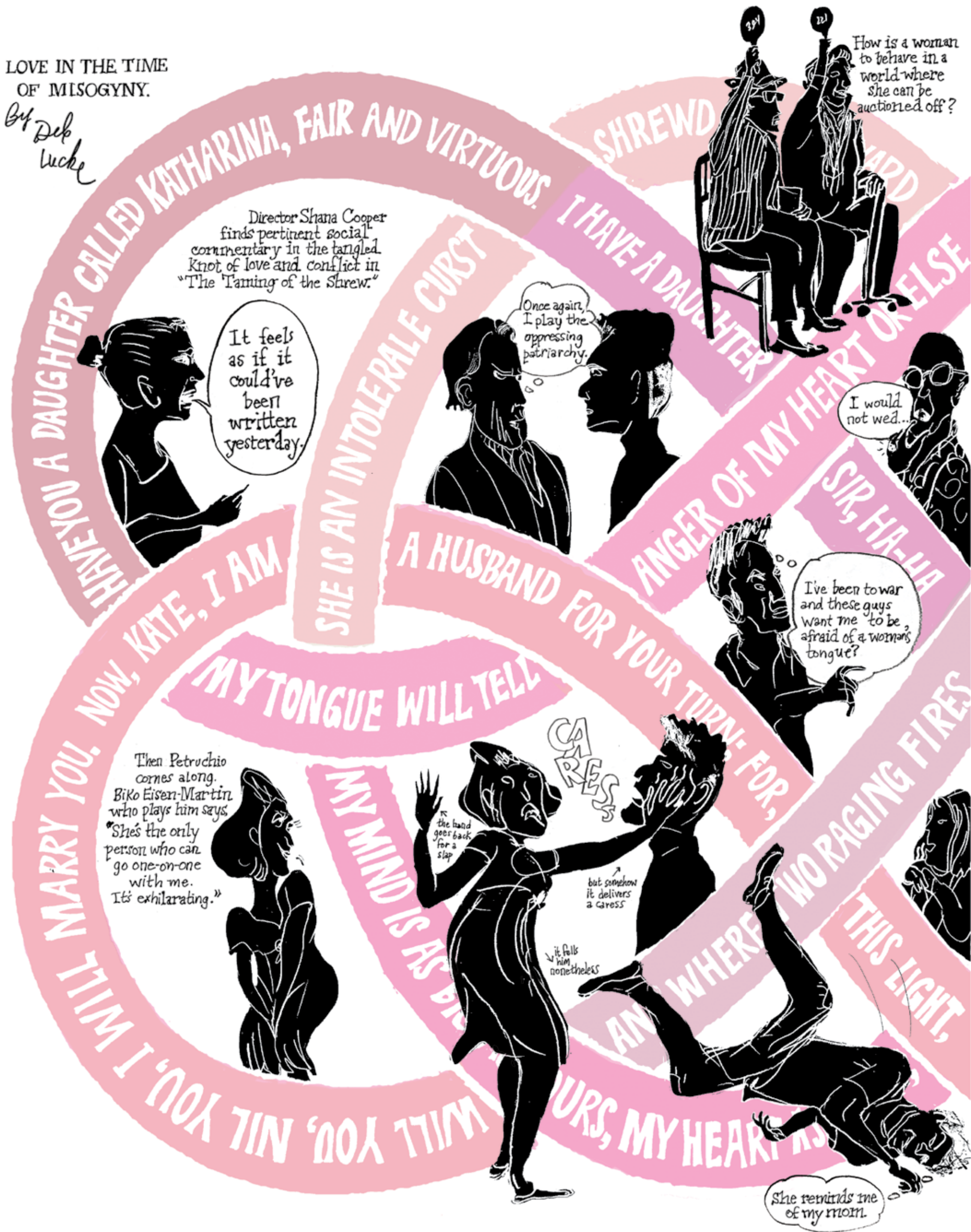
Then Petruchio
comes along.
Biko Eisen-Martin
who plays him says,
"She's the only
person who can
go one-on-one
with me.
It's exhilarating."

the hand
goes back
for a
slap

but somehow
it delivers
a caress

it feels
him
nonetheless

She reminds me
of my mom.





MY HEART CONCEALING IT

NO MATES

MEET TOGETHER

STRAMS

MY REASON HAPPLY MORE

WHERE

CONSUME THE THING THAT FEEDS THEIR FURY,

LIKE THERE

TO BANDY WORD FOR WORD

WERE A

THY BEAUTY, THAT DOTH MAKE ME

SEE THY BEAUTY, THY BEAUTY, THAT DOTH MAKE ME

FEEDS THEIR FURY,

AND FROWN FOR FROWN

GENTLER, Milder

AND FROWN FOR FROWN

BUT NOW I SEE OUR

SEE THY BEAUTY, THY BEAUTY, THAT DOTH MAKE ME

Liz Wisan says, "I didn't have to do a lot of research to play the role."

Liz continues, "Those guys [Hortensio, Gramio, even Lucentio—her younger sister's suitors] are gross."

Bianca is fine with being objectified while Kate is not, though to be frank no one has really tried.

We're not on the same page.

ARG

By this reckoning he is more shrew than she.

Why does she make the choice to let her defenses down? Why does she say the sun is the moon?

To let the possibility of love in.

↑ just a theory

audience relating

A servant turns it up.

June 15-Aug. 24
"The Taming of the Shrew"
Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

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

International Film Night: *Spare Parts* (USA)
7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | [beaconlibrary.org](#)

Silent Movie Series: *The Kid* (1921)
7 p.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | [butterfieldlibrary.org](#)

H.V. Renegades vs. Vermont
7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls
845-838-0094 | [hvrenegades.com](#)

Amythyst Kiah
7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-5537 | [chapelrestoration.org](#)

Bill and the Belles
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-7280 | [tompkinscorners.org](#)

HVSF: *Richard II*
6:15 p.m. Friday Night Prologue
7 p.m. Opening Night Toast
7:30 p.m. Performance
Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D, Cold Spring
845-809-5750 x12 | [hvshakespeare.org](#)

***World Circus* (Documentary)**
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | [howlandculturalcenter.org](#)

Buddy Rich Band
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley | 1008 Brown St., Peekskill | [paramounthudsonvalley.com](#)

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Beacon High School Graduation
9 a.m. Dutchess Stadium

Nelsonville Woods Cleanup
9 a.m. Wood Street and Gatehouse Road

Beacon Volunteer Ambulance
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Car seat inspections / bicycle safety
11 a.m. Stop the Bleed class | 1 Arquilla Dr., Beacon

Walking Tour: Butterfield Estate
9 a.m. Butterfield Library
Registration required. | See details under Friday.

Native Ladybug Release
10 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
Muser Drive, Cornwall
845-534-5506 x204 | [hnnm.org](#)

18th Century Children's Games
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Fort Montgomery
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | [nysparks.com](#)

Renewable Highlands Public Forum
1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-592-2120 | [renewablehighlands.com](#)

Behind the Scenes of *Hello, Dolly!* Filming
5 p.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-265-4010 | [helloagaindolly.com](#)

A Revolutionary Camp at Night
7 – 9:30 p.m. New Windsor Cantonment
374 Temple Hill Rd, New Windsor
845-561-1765 x22 | [nysparks.com](#)

***Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (1971) at Bannerman Island**
7 p.m. Boat departs from Beacon Dock
845-831-6346 | [bannermancastle.org](#)

Calendar Highlights

Submit to calendar@highlandscurrent.com
For complete listings, see [highlandscurrent.com](#)

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

Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra: The Roaring '20s
7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh
845-913-7157 | [newburghsymphony.org](#)

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

West Point Concert Band: American Soundscapes
7:30 p.m. Trophy Point, West Point
[westpointband.com](#)

Simply Streisand
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
[philipstowndepottheatre.org](#)

Sleeping Bee (Music)
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Friday.

Cold Spring Film Society: *Pirates of the Caribbean* (2003)
8:30 p.m. Dockside Park, Cold Spring
[coldspringfilm.org](#)

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Free Admission for Dutchess, Putnam Residents
11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Dia:Beacon | 3 Beekman St., Beacon | 845-440-0100 | [diaart.org](#)

Circus! Family Fun Balancing Day
1 – 4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Friday.

Cassim Shepard: Citymakers (Talk)
4 p.m. The Fullerton Center
297 Grand St., Newburgh

Sunset Reading Series: Benjamin Taylor
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
[facebook.com/Sunset-Reading-Series](#)

H.V. Renegades vs. Connecticut
5:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
See details under Friday.

Summer Music Series: Tilly Foster
6 p.m. Cold Spring Bandstand
[explorecoldspringny.com](#)

Open Mic Invitational
7 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe | 379 Main St., Beacon
845-855-1300 | [townecrier.com](#)

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

***The Sandlot* (1993)**
8:30 p.m. The Shed | 45 Beekman St., Beacon
[storyscreenbeacon.com](#)

MONDAY, JUNE 25

Work from Home Coffee Hour
Noon – 2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

Beacon City Council
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5011 | [cityofbeacon.org](#)

H.V. Renegades vs. Connecticut
7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
See details under Friday.

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Free Computer Help
1 – 3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

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

Socrates Cafe
4 p.m. Howland Library | 313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | [beaconlibrary.org](#)

Renewable Highlands Public Forum
5:30 – 7:30 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-592-2120 | [renewablehighlands.com](#)

Internet Employment Resources
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library | Details under Friday

New York Liberty vs. Phoenix Mercury (WNBA)
7 p.m. Westchester County Center
198 Central Ave., White Plains
914-995-4050 | [countycenter.biz](#)

H.V. Renegades vs. Connecticut
7:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
See details under Friday.



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Cold Spring Board of Trustees
7:30 p.m. Village Hall
85 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3611 | [coldspringny.gov](#)

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

Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ)
7:30 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
Email beaconsurj@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Free Walk-In HIV Testing
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Putnam County Health
1 Geneva Road, Brewster | 845-808-1390

Native Americans of Putnam County (Talk)
Noon. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

Butterfield Library Community Conversations
6:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | [butterfieldlibrary.org](#)

Highland Photographers Salon
7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | [garrisonartcenter.org](#)

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

OffTheCuff-NY: The Power Plays (Readings)
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon | [offthecuffny.com](#)

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Free Computer Help
1 – 3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

Cyclical Living Workshop for Women
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Friday.

Green Beacon Coalition: Sustainable Cities
7 p.m. Beahive Beacon
291 Main St., Beacon
[greenbeaconcoalition.org](#)

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

Rearranged (Music)
8:30 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St., Beacon | [dogwoodbar.com](#)

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Dutchess Cruisers Car Show
5 – 8 p.m. Elks Lodge
900 Wolcott Ave., Beacon
845-242-0951 | [dutchesscruisers.com](#)

Fellowship Supper BBQ Fundraiser
6 – 8 p.m. St. Mary's Episcopal Church
1 Chestnut St., Cold Spring

HVSF: *The Heart of Robin Hood*
6:15 p.m. Friday Night Prologue
7:30 p.m. Performance
Boscobel | See details under June 22.

New York Liberty vs. Chicago Sky (WNBA)
7:30 p.m. Westchester County Center
See details under Tuesday.

***With Love and Light* (Benefit for Robin Testerman)**
7:30 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
[beaconperformingartscenter.com](#)

Cirque de la Lune
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under June 22.

Piano Confessional

Beacon teacher has learned to read her music students

By Alison Rooney

There is always a chance of victory, just around the corner, when learning the piano.

That's why Sarah Terrell decided to call her Beacon studio Piano Adventures.

"A victory can be a technical skill, but it can also be reaching inside to find an emotional depth," she explains. "It's about finding the stories in the piece, making them come alive, and finding the adventure behind the music, not just seeing those black and white keys. It's about coming to understand what it's like to be more human and also to be in control of the sound."

Because her students come for weekly lessons, Terrell gets to know them well. She calls their time together "piano confessional."

"From the moment they open their mouths to say 'Hi,' I can figure out what mood they're in," she says. "For nine out of 10 of them, if a kid comes in grumpy, they leave in a different headspace." She reminds them they are not at school: "There's no testing and grading here, and it's all for them, not for me, not for their parents."

Terrell's students range in age from preschool to adult. Most are at what she

calls the optimal age for starting: kindergarten through second grade.

Among older students who have started playing video games, she says the practice required to master the piano can be frustrating.

"They generally can move to the next level [of a video game] quickly," she says. "That's how the games are designed. In piano, it doesn't happen that fast. But frustration is part of learning. I emphasize to them that a bad week doesn't mean it's over." She may have them work on a different piece, or break down the one the student is struggling with. She says her message is: "It's hard right now, but if we stick with it, the payoff will be great."

Terrell grew up in Kansas as the granddaughter of a piano teacher. She learned to play as a child, switched to dance, and realized she missed the piano. She majored in voice and minored in piano at the University of Kansas. After moving to New York City, she earned a master's degree in educational theater from New York University.

Tired of hauling a stroller up to a fourth-floor walk-up, Terrell and her husband and young daughter moved to Beacon in 2006. When her marriage ended and her job as education director of the Paramount in Peekskill was eliminated, she found herself at a crossroads.

"I thought of piano and how much I like to teach, but I was concerned about how I



Sarah Terrell working with one of her students, August Wright

Photo by Meredith Heuer

was going to run a business," she recalls. But her reputation as a music teacher spread and "eight years later, here I am."

Lessons range from 30 minutes for younger students to an hour for young adults and adults. A minimum of four 30-minute lessons is required over the summer, "in order not to backslide," she says.

By middle school, most students have figured out "if they want to go the jazz or classical route," says Terrell, who refers to those who prefer jazz to other teachers. "It's wonderful when middle schoolers play on their own. It's all part of waiting to get students to the point where they don't need us. My hope is that they play

for the rest of their lives, and that they eventually play for themselves."

At the June recital each year, held at Atlas Studios in Newburgh, students play on an 1888 Steinway Grand Piano. "Recitals are important," Terrell says. "If you're not gearing up toward sharing with family and friends, you don't get to that next level."

Summer is a good time to start lessons, she adds, because there are fewer distractions such as school and sports to compete with practice time. She also holds two camps over the summer, one focused on composing and the other on duets. Students must have a piano or keyboard at home for practice. See pianoadventuresbeacon.com.



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Searching for a Kind Heart, with a Spare Kidney

Thousands of people on waiting lists

By Michael Turton

Leesa Thompson's ongoing appeal is nothing like a typical GoFundme campaign that seeks as many donations as possible. She needs just one contribution: a kidney.

Thompson, 61, who has been a member of the Beacon Sloop Club for more than 35 years, has chronic kidney disease that has left her with only 15 percent function. That's not low enough to require dialysis,



Leesa Thompson at the Strawberry Festival in Beacon

Photo by M. Turton

but she says her doctor has told her to prepare to start later this year as her kidneys continue to fail. With dialysis, her life expectancy will be about five years, she says.

A human has two kidneys, each about the size of a computer mouse, which together filter the body's entire blood supply about every 30 minutes to remove waste and toxins. They also help control blood pressure, stimulate red blood cell production and keep the bones healthy.

In early May, Thompson signed on to

the transplant list through NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. She joins 95,000 other Americans on the national list, which includes 7,822 patients in New York.

Thompson, a speech pathologist who lives in Cortlandt Manor, has had kidney problems since birth, when an infection went undiagnosed. She says she has tried to stay focused on the present. "I have no pain, I'm able to work, able to drive and able to enjoy the day," she says. "In the

Donate Life

To register to donate your organs, cornea or tissue, see donatelife.net. (Living donors can provide a kidney or part of the liver, lung, intestine, blood or bone marrow.) According to Donate Life America, the nonprofit that operates the site, about 7,000 people die each year while waiting for an organ.

moment I feel good."

Because a person can live with only one kidney, the pool of people who can donate includes the living. Thompson has Type A blood, so she can be matched with donors who have A- or O-type blood. Her son has Type A blood but their antibodies were not compatible and she has no other family members who are potential donors.

She is now looking for what is known as an "altruistic donor" who will direct a kidney to her — which she concedes is a "tall order. It's a big ask." A paired exchange is also possible, in which two recipients with willing but incompatible donors swap donated kidneys.

Kidneys can be transplanted from a newly deceased donor, but they are expected to last only 10 years compared to 15 to 20 years when a living person is the provider. And the wait for a deceased donor's kidney can be as long as 10 years. On the New York transplant list, 1,400 people have been waiting for more than five years.

With the help of Renewal.org, which assists people in finding donors, Thompson created a webpage at kidney4leesa.com. Her site has received 27,000 hits, but like so many others, she needs just one.

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Small, Good Things

Strange Bedfellows

By Joe Dizney

The *composed* summer salad (as opposed to the more familiar tossed) is a great medium for inventiveness and improvisation but offers an equal opportunity for disaster. I am thinking here of that legendary marshmallow, apple and celery-laden abomination, the Waldorf. Who was thinking *what*?

Granted, a combination of beets and strawberries could seem equally fraught with danger unless we deconstruct a bit before reassembly.

While we usually think of beets as winter fare, they are fresh and sweet right about now. A quick toss with olive oil and roasting accentuates both qualities.

With our extended British spring this year there's a better chance than usual that the green tops — a peppery and underused relative of the spinach family — might just be fresh enough for use as a base. But as beet greens tend to bitterness, a more likely combination would be arugula or watercress or even a more benign lettuce.

Likely flavor companions are balsamic vinegar and citrus zest. Oranges, in particular, are a common companion. Likewise, something creamy will smooth out the proceedings. The crunch of roasted

nuts adds contrasting texture.

But strawberries? Beets call for bright and sweet companions. Although they are not the traditional citrus combination, strawberries — also at their peak now — offer a distinctive acidity coupled with flowery finish.

Strawberries also pair well with the balsamic vinegar, and a dollop of strawberry jam added to the shallot-balsamic dressing seals the combination. (Blueberries offer the same citrusy brightness for a late-summer composition.)

Regarding the vinaigrette, it is worth noting that the walnuts, hazelnuts and pistachios are each individually simpatico companions to both beets and straw-



Beet & Berry Salad

Photo by J. Dizney

Beet & Berry Salad

Serves four

1½ pound beets, peeled and cut into inch cubes

2 cups strawberries (quartered if large; halved if small)

3 cups cleaned watercress (or fresh beet greens, arugula or a combination)

½ shallot, minced

¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil (or 2 tablespoons olive oil plus 2 tablespoons walnut, hazelnut or pistachio oil)

2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

1 teaspoon strawberry jam

Salt and black pepper to taste

1 tablespoon chopped mint

1 tablespoon tarragon leaves

1 tablespoon orange zest

4 ounces gorgonzola (or goat cheese)

¼ cup lightly toasted and chopped walnuts, hazelnuts or pistachios

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Toss cubed beets with 1 tablespoon olive oil and salt and pepper to taste. Put the beets in loosely tented tinfoil packet and roast for at least an hour, until tender. Remove beets from foil and allow to cool in the refrigerator in a medium-sized mixing bowl covered with cling wrap.
2. For the dressing, whisk and macerate the shallots in the vinegar and jam with a pinch of salt and pepper for 10 minutes or so. Then drizzle in the oil(s) and whisk until emulsified.
3. Add the strawberries to the chilled beets. Add enough of the dressing to coat and toss to combine.
4. To serve, prepare a bed of watercress on four individual plates and mound some of the beets and berries over each. Add a drizzle more of the dressing and garnish each with some of the mint, tarragon and orange zest. Crumble the cheese over each plate and sprinkle the nuts evenly over all.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Movies in the Park

Film society season starts June 23

The Cold Spring Film Society will begin its 2018 season on Saturday, June 23, with a free screening at Dockside Park of *Pirates of the Caribbean* (2003). The film begins at sundown and popcorn will be available for purchase.

The series will continue every other

Saturday with *Notorious* (July 7), *Raising Arizona* (July 21), *Some Like It Hot* (Aug. 4), *The Thing* (Aug. 18) and *The Sound of Music* (Sept. 1). See coldspringfilm.com.

A Life-Changing Moment

Benjamin Taylor at Sunset Readings

Benjamin Taylor will read from his memoir, *The Hue and Cry at Our*



KINDERGARTEN BOUND — St. Philip's Nursery School in Garrison held its annual graduation on June 13. Camping it up for the camera are Ori Spector, Juliana Kaiser, Cyrus Henricksen, Jordyn Shafran, Liam Hussung, Samantha Greulich and Ethan Taylor.

Photo provided

House: A Year Remembered, at 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 24, at the Chapel Restoration as part of the Sunset Reading Series. Taylor's book recounts the year of his life after, as an 11-year-old, he met John F. Kennedy hours before the president was assassinated in Dallas. See sunsetreadings.org for details.

Music Appreciation Service

Church will recognize its role

Tom McCoy, the music director at the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown, will be honored at a music appreciation service on Sunday, June 24, at 10:30 a.m. Soloists and instrumentalists, including baritone John Cimino, will perform. The church is at 10 Academy St. in Cold Spring.

Students in the Garden

Tree advisory board partners with PTA

The Cold Spring Tree Advisory Board partnered with the Haldane PTA Garden Committee to teach eighth-grade biology students how to graft fruit trees and propagate plants. Charles Day, an orchardist who serves on the board, and Kory Riesterer, a member of Growing Haldane, demonstrated techniques and a grafted pear tree is now growing in the school garden. See growinghaldane.com and coldspringtree.weebly.com.

Ladybugs on the Loose

Nature museum plans release

The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum plans to release native nine-spotted ladybugs (*Coccinella novemnotata*) on Saturday, June 23, at 10 a.m. at its Outdoor Discovery Center in Cornwall. The official state insect has been on the decline and the program is part of an effort to re-establish local populations. After a short program, adults, families and children ages 5 and older can help distribute the bugs. See hhn.org.

(To next page)



NEVER TOO LATE — Angelina Fiordelissi (right) of Garrison stars in *First Love* with Michael O'Keefe at the Cherry Lane Theatre in New York City through July 8. See cherrylanetheatre.org.

Photo provided



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Independence Day Events



Contestants in last year's bicycle decorating contest

File photo by Michael Turton

Cold Spring, June 30

Philipstown residents can show off their skills in a pie-baking contest. Drop-off entries at the bandstand between 2 to 3 p.m., when judging begins. Winners will be announced at 5:30 p.m. Zanne Early Stewart, Kevin Lahey and Lori Ely will judge on taste, appearance and creativity.

A parade begins at 4 p.m. on Main Street and will include decorated bicycles and a patriotic pet brigade. Cyclists should gather at 2:30 p.m. in front of the Chestnut Ridge apartments and will compete for prizes of \$20 to \$50. Pets and their owners should assemble at 3:15 p.m. at Cedar Street and Mountain Avenue.

Starting at 5 p.m., there will be music and food at Dockside Park, followed by fireworks.

Beacon, July 1

The city's fireworks celebration will be held at Memorial Park starting at 8 p.m.

Bannerman Island, July 3

A boat will leave the Beacon dock at

7 p.m. for a tour of the island before departing at 8:30 p.m. so visitors can watch the Newburgh fireworks from the river. The boat will return to Beacon at about 10 p.m. Seating is limited to 44 people; tickets are available at bannermancastle.org.

Philipstown, July 4

The McKeel's Corners Chapel Association at the intersection of Route 9 and 301 will host its annual non-denominational service at 10 a.m.

Fort Montgomery, July 4

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the historic site will host camp activities and military drills.

Poughkeepsie, July 4

The Walkway Over the Hudson will be open to ticketholders to watch the City of Poughkeepsie fireworks, which take place about 9 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at walkway.org/event/4th-of-july-spectacular.

West Point, July 7

The West Point Concert Band will perform its annual Independence Day concert at Trophy Point at 7:30 p.m.

Theater at Beacon High School will include songs from Broadway hits as well as a performance by illusionist Ryan Dutcher. Admission is \$10 at the door.

Fellowship Award

Gwen Laster recognized

Violinist Gwen Laster of Beacon, the founder of the Creative Strings Improvisers Orchestra, has been awarded a Jubilation Foundation Fellowship in recognition of her work with young people in music and dance. Her summer program begins at Compass Arts on June 26. Email gwenlaster@gmail.com for information.

Movies Under the Bridge

Walkway shows begin June 30

Walkway Over the Hudson in Poughkeepsie will show free movies at Upper Landing Park, beginning Saturday, June 30, with *Wonder Woman*. There will

Wag of the Week

Helen

Every so often, reporter Mark Westin visits the Animal Rescue Foundation shelter in Beacon for *The Current* to meet a dog or cat available for adoption. The latest installment stars Helen, a 2-year-old, high-energy Lab mix. To watch, see highlandscurrent.com/wag. Plus, good news: Jack, whom we featured in the May 25 issue, has been adopted.



Share Your News With Our Readers

To submit your upcoming events and announcements for consideration in our Community Briefs section (in print and online) submit a text-only press release (250 words or less) along with a separately attached high-resolution photograph to calendar@highlandscurrent.com.

be live music and children's activities at 7 p.m., followed by the film. The series will also include *Jumanji* (July 14), *The Last Jedi* (July 21), *Coco* (Aug. 4) and *The Black Panther* (Aug. 18). See walkway.org.

Beacon Bandits Win Title

Soccer travel team prevails, 3-1

The Beacon Bandits, who play in the East Hudson Youth Soccer League, on June 9 dethroned the defending U12 champs, the Plainedge Roughnecks of the Long Island Junior Soccer League, 3-1, to win the Arch Cup Gold.

"We moved the ball pretty well and played possession," said Beacon coach Mike Lenten. "Defensively, Chris Craw-

ford and Stephen McDowell did a really good job in the back." Avery Davis, Brody Timm and Derek Vibrock scored Beacon's goals.

The team was also selected by game officials to receive the Rocco Amoroso Sportsmanship Award.

Fishkill Farms Expands

Land trusts help preserve 105 acres

Fishkill Farms has added 105 acres for sustainable farming and orchards with the help of Scenic Hudson, the Hudson Highlands Land Trust and the Dutchess Land Conservancy. The deal also preserved 240 acres of woods and wetlands and part of Wicoppee Creek.

Beacon

Community Safety Day

Car-seat inspections and bike tips

Stop by the Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps at 1 Arquilla Dr. on Saturday, June 23, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. for free car-seat safety inspections and bicycle tips, including free helmets and fittings. In addition, at 11 a.m., BVAC will offer a Stop the Bleed class; email dcortes@beaconvac.org to register.

Song and Dance

Benefit for Robin Testerman

In a performance at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, June 29, members of the Beacon Players, Beacon Performing Arts of the Hudson Valley and performers from John Jay and Spackenkill High School will pool their talent to benefit Robin Testerman, who has cancer. The evening at the Seeger

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Putnam Lawmakers Discuss Public Health Issues

Air quality, synthetic drugs and tobacco on agenda

By Holly Crocco

The Health Committee of the Putnam County Legislature tackled a number of issues during its June 12 meeting.

Tobacco 21

Lawmakers are considering raising the minimum age to purchase tobacco from 18 to 21. Seventeen New York counties, five municipalities and New York City have raised the age.

According to Kristin McConnell of the Prevention Council of Putnam, 19- and 20-year-olds represent about 2 percent of tobacco customers.

She noted that studies on alcohol suggest delaying the age when a person first drinks decreases the likelihood of later abuse. "You're five times more likely [to have a problem] if you start drinking before 21," she said.

Tobacco is no different, she said. "If we delay the onset, where it's even harder to obtain it in the first place, there's a much less chance that they will even ever try tobacco in the first place" she said. "This would potentially save a lot of people's lives."

Since 2016, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties have passed Tobacco 21 legislation. In Dutchess County, where the bill included an exemption for military personnel, legislators voted it down earlier this year.

Legislators said they would continue to consider the proposal.

Synthetic drug ban

After more than 18 months of discussion, the Legisla-



A nonprofit retailer industry group distributes window decals to stores that sell tobacco products. Five states have raised the minimum age to 21.

ture may soon ban synthetic drugs that are sold over the counter to produce a high.

"I feel the need is there," said Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra (R-Philipstown), who chairs the Health Committee.

The challenge is how to identify the chemicals in the drugs that will be outlawed. Once a chemical is banned, the drug's makers simply substitute one that is not illegal.

"There is no problem with writing the law, except to get it right," said Gloria Tressler, deputy county attorney. She noted that Carmel, Saugerties and Westchester County have passed bans that each identify different compounds.

Lawmakers also wondered how the law would be enforced. The Westchester law, which makes the sale or possession of synthetic drugs a misdemeanor, is enforced by the health department and police. The Westchester law names some specific drugs, such as K2 and Spice, plus generic descriptions of products.

Scuccimarra said she would like to see Putnam draft a law and worry about enforcement later.

"I'm tired of waiting for the state to do these things," she said. "Putnam should take the lead and pass some of these laws to protect our residents and our children. We can iron out the problems. It's important we get the message out."

Tressler said the law department will have a draft resolution ready for next month's Health Committee meeting.

Gas pipeline emissions

Some residents are urging the Legislature to ask the state Department of Environmental Conservation to sponsor legislation requiring that energy companies install protective equipment and take other safety measures to prevent emissions from gas pipelines, compressor stations, regulating and metering stations and other infrastructure.


Because of its size, the Turk Hill metering station in Southeast, located along the Algonquin Pipeline, is of particular concern, said Paula Clair of Garrison. "We have an air problem in Putnam County," she said. "We have a 'D' rating from the American Lung Association for air quality."

Clair noted that the DEC issued air-quality health advisories for the region on four days in May because of the levels of ground-level ozone and/or fine particles.

Legislator Paul Jonke (R-Southeast), who represents the district where the Turk Hill compressor station is located, said he would like to hear from its owners.

"This is very complex legislation in front of us. I'm in favor of it at face value, but I still think now is our chance to bring them in and ask our questions," he said.

The committee sent the resolution to the full Legislature and plans to invite the owners of the pipeline to attend the July committee meeting.



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The Beacon panels are set at a 25-degree angle to maximize their year-round exposure to the sun.

Photo by J. Simms

Beacon Solar Farm Ready to Shine *(from Page 1)*

their utility bills, but the savings will be in our energy costs, and we can pass that on.”

After BQ Energy was awarded the project, called Sunlight Beacon, it took the company about a year to construct the facility. It took another year for the state Public Service Commission, which regulates utilities, to approve the request by the company and Beacon to use the credits toward the cost of streetlights.

The project is the first of its kind in Dutchess County. In 2014, BQ Energy, which has constructed similar facilities throughout the Northeast and as far away as the Netherlands, built a solar farm at a former landfill in Patterson. Its credits are

Former landfills are ideal for solar farms because they are difficult to adapt to other uses. “It’s not exactly a tourist area.”

sold to the private Trinity-Pawling School.

Curran says former landfills are ideal for solar farms because they are difficult to adapt to other uses. At the Beacon site, dozens of pipes still protrude from the ground in and around the solar array to release methane created by rotting garbage below the surface.

“It’s not exactly a tourist area,” he quipped.

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 took off the edge (7)	_____
2 colorful brand of dishes (10)	_____
3 lubrication contraption (5)	_____
4 kidnapped folks (9)	_____
5 transporting on “Star Trek” (7)	_____
6 Roman name for Scotland (9)	_____
7 add bling to (9)	_____

BL	BE	ARE	ED	LER
STAW	CAL	ISH	AMI	EMB
NG	NIA	UCT	OI	FIE
ABD	ELL	UNT	EDO	EES

See answers: Page 5

6/22

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ALWAYS A GOOD DAY FOR A PARADE

Dancer and actor Tommy Tune led a parade at Garrison's Landing for the second time on Saturday (June 16). The first was 50 years ago, during the filming in the summer of 1968 of a scene for *Hello, Dolly!* in which Tune strolled with Barbra Streisand as they sang "Put on Your Sunday Clothes."

The 2018 parade was followed by an ice cream social, a Q&A with Tune, a riverboat cruise and an outdoor screening of the film by the Cold Spring Lions.

The *Hello Again, Dolly!* festival, organized by Christopher Radko, continues on Saturday, June 23, with a presentation by Radko at 5 p.m. at the Putnam History Museum in Cold Spring (free for members, or \$10 otherwise), followed by a sold-out evening of songs at the Philipstown Depot Theatre called *Simply Streisand*.

Photos by Ross Corsair



Tommy Tune, Joni Lanza as Dolly, and festival organizer Christopher Radko on the balcony of what was transformed in the film into Vanderghelder's.



Jasmine Wallis



Tommy Tune (right) with Christopher Radko during a Q&A following the parade



Joni Lanza, Tommy Tune and Madeleine DeNitto



The band



From left:
Christopher
Radko, Justin
Wingenroth,
Kimberly Hiss,
Joni Lanza and
Tommy Tune