

The HIGHLANDS Current



Have You Heard?
Page 9

AUGUST 10, 2018

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



EARLY RISERS — Erin Detrick, a baker based in Cold Spring, loads loaves onto a rack for overnight proofing before being baked the next day. For her story, see Page 12.

Photo by Kevin Goggin



CAREFUL, THERE — Although he has donated 62 pints over the past 33 years, David Lilburne of Garrison seems the tiniest bit concerned during a blood drive on Aug. 3 at the North Highlands Firehouse. For more photos, see Page 11.

Photo by Ross Corsair



Frank Bugg

File photo by Michael Turton

Beacon Schools Taking Steps to Diversify Staff

54 percent of students minorities; 87 percent of teachers white

By Jeff Simms

Several years ago, Frank Bugg was on a crusade to align the staff and students of the Beacon City School District.

The Beacon resident was a fixture at school board meetings, repeatedly asking district officials to hire more minority teachers and staff to reflect the racial and cultural diversity of the student body.

The district in June announced several administrative hires, two of which advance that goal: Elisa Soto, a Hispanic woman who was most recently an assistant principal at Monroe-Woodbury High School in Orange County, is the new principal of Beacon High School; and Crystal Sessoms, a black woman who was an assistant principal at Ithaca High School, begins her first year as principal at J.V. Forrestal Elementary.

The hires are part of an effort implemented over the last two years to diversify by widening the district's search for qualified candidates, said Superintendent Matt Landahl.

(Continued on Page 6)

Freak Storm Batters Glynwood

Winds topple several hardwoods

By Michael Turton

An intense, isolated storm swept through Glynwood on Friday, Aug. 3, bringing down 22 trees and causing other property damage. The non-profit, located about 6 miles east of Cold Spring on Route 301, includes a working farm of nearly 200 acres.

Sure enough, here it comes, from the west, Neal Tomann, Glynwood's director of facilities, recalled thinking as he



Trees were snapped by the high winds.

Photo by M. Turton

watched the disturbance develop on his computer screen — and out his office window. Radar depicted the incoming weather as greyish-yellow, he recalled, “except for a tiny, bright red dot.”

That dot was the most intense part of the storm and

(Continued on Page 3)

Cell Tower Firm Offers to Settle Philipstown Lawsuit

But Town Board ‘not inclined’ to accept, says supervisor

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea on Aug. 2 confirmed that the town had received an offer from Homeland Towers and Verizon to settle a lawsuit the firms brought against the town for rejecting their plans to construct a cell tower near the intersection of Routes 9 and 301.

Residents who oppose the tower mentioned the settlement offer in a four-page letter presented to the board at its formal

monthly meeting. They called the proposal “vaguely worded” and noted it “still includes building a cell tower” on a site proposed off Vineyard Road.

Shea verified the news of an offer but said the board had taken no action. He said a straw poll of the five members showed that “we weren’t inclined” to accept it.

Shea characterized the offer as “confused.” He said it appeared to conflate Philipstown with Nelsonville, which Homeland Towers and Verizon have also sued for rejecting a cell tower, on Rockledge Road. The offer to the Town Board reiterated the companies’ arguments for the tower, Shea said, and “seemed somewhat sloppily thrown

(Continued on Page 8)

Five Questions: PAULINE MINNERS

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Pauline Minners retired in May after 13 years as Nelsonville village clerk.

What does the village clerk do?

It's a diverse job. The clerk is the village clerk, the justice court clerk, the treasurer, the Zoning Board of Appeals secretary, the Planning Board secretary and the building inspector's secretary. I love Nelsonville. The people are really nice and very friendly. And all the mayors and trustees have been very nice. I haven't had one I wanted to kick out the door.

I liked being the registrar. You get to look at all the old records and see the names of families that have been here forever, like the Hustises, the Van Tassels and the Nelsons. People would come in to do their genealogy searches. We have books that go way back. One, I call the big book of deaths. When anybody dies in the village, not in the hospital, we have to issue the death certificate. When someone is born at home, we have to issue the birth certificate. We don't do marriage licenses. For those, you still go to Philipstown Town Hall.

What didn't you like?

The night meetings. It used to be two or three nights a month but it got worse last year because of the cell tower issue — Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, Village Board workshops. For years I had somebody helping me. Then she was only coming once a month, and things started piling up. You need someone to help part-time.

Have you always lived in Philipstown?

I was living in White Plains and my parents lived in Nelsonville. I moved here when Ashley was born, 23 years ago. She's my grand-niece, actually, but I've had custody of her since she was born, so she's my daughter. She goes back to school, to Salem State University, in Massachusetts, in September.

What have you been doing since you retired?

Playing taxi cab driver for Ashley. She's taking a summer course at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie. I hang out in the library while she's in class. I like to read. Also, I want to start some trips with my sister; she lives next door to me.

What's best about retirement — and any downsides?

Not having anything to worry about. Downside? I haven't found one yet.



Pauline Minners on the porch of the Nelsonville village office

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

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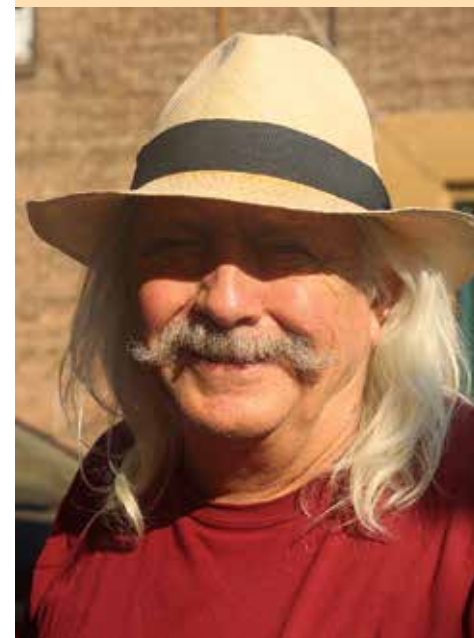
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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Have you had a brush with fame?



"I met Robert F. Kennedy in 1964. I shook his hand. I was just a kid."

~ John Gilvey, Beacon



"I was in an Atlantic City casino near the stage. Frank Sinatra reached down and asked, 'Can I borrow a cigarette?'"

~ Deb MacLeod, Constitution Island



"I met Philippe Petit, the Twin Towers cable walker, when he walked a high wire in Grand Central Station."

~ Walter Cinquanta, Cold Spring

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Freak Storm Batters Glynwood *(from Page 1)*

"went right over us," striking at 3:30 p.m. "It was raining hard, but then it just really took off," Tomann said. At one point the rain sounded "like someone blasting the building with a fire hose."

The storm lasted 15 minutes, battering the property with wind, rain and lightning strikes. Glynwood lost oaks, maples and hickories.

"I've been here a long time and have never seen anything like that," said Tomann. While thunderstorms are common, this one "was on top of us very quickly."

Two towering red oaks fell close to the main house but did no damage to the building. The roof of a chicken coop flew off, and a small wood shed was destroyed.

But the biggest disappointment, Tomann said, was losing a nearly 100-foot-long, portable greenhouse that had just been skinned earlier in the week.

"No one could get anywhere for a while, there were so many trees down," Tomann said. Those stranded included some CSA customers who had to wait for the staff to clear the roads.

Tomann said he spoke to a neighbor just east of Glynwood who knew nothing of the storm. "It appears it just hit us," he said. "We have to clean this up, and in a hurry." Glynwood will host its annual gala the second week in September.

Crews are harvesting as much hardwood from the downed trees as possible. "That would make the best of a bad situation," he said, adding that it was fortunate that no animals or people were injured, especially considering how busy the farm was at the time.



Neal Tomann, director of facilities at Glynwood, stands between two oaks destroyed in the Aug. 3 storm. The main house is in the background.

Photo by M. Turton

HELP WANTED: BOOKKEEPER

The Highlands Current, a nonprofit media company based in Cold Spring, New York, is seeking a part-time bookkeeper who is familiar with Quickbooks and accrual accounting. The position involves creating advertising invoices, inputting contractor invoices, and recording deposits, as well as monthly reconciling. It requires about 10 to 15 hours per month.

Send resume and hourly rate to editor@highlandscurrent.org.

HELP WANTED: LAYOUT EDITOR

The Highlands Current, a nonprofit weekly newspaper based in Cold Spring, New York, about 50 miles north of New York City, is seeking a part-time layout editor.

The paper, a 10"x13" tabloid, is published each Friday on Adobe InDesign, so familiarity with Adobe products is essential. Experience in newspaper or magazine layout preferred. Experience in designing advertisements and other print materials also a plus.

The layout editor works closely with the advertising director and managing editor on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. There is potential for some remote work. Position is salaried with vacation.

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PUBLISHER

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Cold Spring NY 10516-2818
291 Main St., Beacon NY 12508

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**Institute for
Nonprofit News**

The Highlands Current is a 501c3 nonprofit funded by grants, advertising and the generous support of our readers. Thank you.

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,
Vol. 7, Issue 32 (ISSN 2475-3785)
is published weekly by
Highlands Current Inc.,
161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2818.
Nonprofit postage paid at Newburgh, NY.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Highlands Current, 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2818. Mail delivery \$20 per year.
highlandscurrent.org/delivery
delivery@highlandscurrent.org

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Beacon IDs

The proposal to create identification cards for Beacon residents is another feel-good law that will end up proving nothing because Gov. Andrew Cuomo is installing facial recognition software on everything so the state will be able to “recover” back taxes, child support and keep track of everything that we are doing (“Beacon to Consider Municipal IDs,” Aug. 3).

In the meantime, we are supposed to look the other way for non-citizens who technically do not have the rights of natural or naturalized citizens. The argument that we are a nation of immigrants is getting old. Do it the right way and then you can expect the rights of citizenship, along with its responsibilities.

As for the idea these IDs would prevent “employment discrimination”: You are asking us to help people break the law, while we have to follow the letter of the law? Isn’t that a double standard?

I am not racist — I just have a hard time with people fighting to have the same rights as U.S. citizens but without reason to fear the rule of law.

Joe Zukowski, *Beacon*

Municipal IDs are a bad idea. I already have a state driver’s license, a U.S. passport and a birth certificate. How many more IDs do we need?

My biggest beef is that you will have to pay another fee. A passport is more than \$100. If you should misplace your driver’s license, that’s \$17.50. Plus, soon we will need an Enhanced Driver’s License to fly within the 50 states. For those who don’t have the required documents, a non-driver ID should suffice.

Susan MacDonald, *Beacon*

Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson, which is pushing municipal IDs, is a typical radical, leftist non-government organization posing as a benevolent community organization when its true mandate is the aiding and abetting of illegal aliens. It supports a municipal ID you can qualify for with nothing more than a foreign passport. Let me guess, it also opposes anything that would prove a person’s citizenship, such as federally issued voter ID cards.

Lee Filson, *Philipstown*

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Letters and Comments

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.org 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.

Why is Beacon following Poughkeepsie’s lead to dumb down identification? Why even have an ID if you can use any piece of paper to prove who you are?

Charles Symon, *Beacon*

Valhalla purchase

Scenic Hudson says it knows what’s best for homeowners near Lake Valhalla (“Scenic Hudson Buys 1,178 Acres at Lake Valhalla,” Aug. 3). Be prepared to lose your rights to use the lake that you have enjoyed for years. Get ready for a long list of rules. But don’t worry: it’s for your own good.

This purchase by Scenic Hudson is a “land-banking” investment. Later, it will have no problem selling off prime parcels at a substantial profit. The organization has a history of this. In Cold Spring, it got land from Archie Campbell that he thought and was told would never be developed. Then, in 2015, Scenic Hudson subdivided it and sold a portion. For years, the property was a protected area and off the tax rolls. Then, after it appreciated in value, it was time to subdivide.

The village lost years of revenue in taxes. Beware of wolves in sheep’s clothing that are doing “what’s best” for the little people. Scenic Hudson does some really good things. But there is a dark side, as well. Follow the money.

Tony Bardes, *Cold Spring*

Church sign

It’s a shame that some people think it is OK to deface our church sign board by changing its message to read “God is Dead” (“Unneighborly,” Aug. 3). If you don’t like the message, move on. We will be watching from now on. By the way, God is not dead. He’s very much alive at Church on the Hill. Come visit. We’d love to have you.

Donna Anderson, *Cold Spring*

Hate laws apply to everyone, and if a repetition of this event is perceived as a form of intimidation toward our church, the perpetrator should be treated as if he or she drew a swastika on synagogue property, drew a racial slur on someone’s home or placed bacon on the door handles of a mosque.

Greg Harnett, *Garrison*

“Prankster or vandal”? Once someone gets arrested, it will become clear which it was.

Michael Bowman, *Nelsonville*

So sad. I love to read these signs as I make my way in and out of town.

Laurie Yodice, *Philipstown*

The Church on the Hill loves to cram its political views down everyone’s throat. What’s the big deal if someone rearranged the letters on a sign? It’s been happening at hardware stores and theaters for decades.

Nick Poholchuk, *Cold Spring*

This is downright hateful to do this to private property and I’m sure highly offensive to the parishioners of Church on the Hill, or anyone of faith.

Tom Campanile, *Cold Spring*

Absentee ballots

Voting by absentee ballot is a great option for those who are unable to get to their polling sites on Election Day. Whether you are away at college, living with a disability or traveling on Election Day, voting absentee is a good choice to make sure your vote is counted.

There is a two-step process to vote by absentee ballot in New York State. First, fill out an application to get a ballot; it can be downloaded at elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html. Once you receive the ballot in the mail, fill it out and mail it to the Putnam or Dutchess county board of elections.

The deadline for mail requests for the primary election is Sept. 6 (or Sept. 12 if brought to your county board of elections office), and for the general election, it’s Oct. 30 or Nov. 5.

It is important for all citizens to participate in every election. In 2016, only 57 percent of eligible voters in New York State voted. Please make sure your voice is heard by voting this fall.

Sandy Galef, *Albany*

Galef represents Philipstown in the state Assembly.

For more comments, visit
highlandscurrent.org



Cold Spring Declines to Support Vape Shop Ban

Trustees say they see no reason to prohibit sales

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Village Board last month declined to support a proposal being considered by the Putnam County Legislature to ban vape shops.

"I see no reason for a moratorium" when vaping products are readily available at other shops in the village, said Trustee Fran Murphy during the board's July 24 meeting.

Cold Spring Trustee Lynn Miller said she had researched a number of vape shops and found "you can't even walk in if you aren't over 18." While vaping, like smoking cigarettes, "is not good for you," she said she knows three young adults who quit smoking "by gradually tapering down using a vaporizer."

Miller said she has seen no evidence linking vaping to drug use. "Maybe we don't like the way they [vape shops] look," she said, but asked if would be right to ban other businesses, such as tattoo shops, based on their appearance. "I'm just not in favor of banning a business because we might not like it," she said. "These are legal businesses."

A vape and smoke shop that opened on Main Street earlier this year closed quickly, and a member of the audience claimed it was in part because of an outcry over

paintings of children on the windows. "That is really bad messaging," she said.

The proposal was suggested to the County Legislature by Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown. On Aug. 2, the Philipstown Town Board unanimously endorsed the idea. (See Page 8.)

Geese vs. coyotes

Coyotes hold the upper hand over Canada Geese at Mayor's Park. Miller reported at the Aug. 7 board meeting that seven coyote cutouts, created by teenagers as part of a Butterfield Library summer program and placed in the outfield grass on Aug.

4, have so far helped keep the troublesome birds away.

"It's nothing like the dozens of geese we've seen previously," Miller said. On Aug 8, Greg Phillips, the superintendent of water and wastewater, said he had not seen geese in the park for several days.

Canada geese, and their droppings, have posed a problem at the park for many years, as they have across the country in areas that feature fertilized, manicured lawns.

In other business ...

Roberto Muller, the coordinator for the town's Climate Smart Communities initiative, asked the board on July 24 to provide a list of potential locations that could serve as recharging stations for electric and hybrid vehicles. The stations, which include a minimum of two outlets, cost \$350 each, but the state would pay 80 percent, he said.

Residents of Church Street and Furnace Street each agreed to change the dates of block parties they had planned to hold on Labor Day after trustees raised traffic concerns.

Trustees declined a request on July 24 from a Garden Street resident to change the local law to restrict demolition and construction at 126 Main St., the former site of Carolyn's Flower Shoppe. Village code restricts excessive noise between



Coyote cutouts have been placed at Mayor's Park in an attempt to keep geese at bay. It seems to be working.

7 a.m. and 10 p.m. "If you're working in construction as [Trustee] Steve [Voloto] and I have when it's 100 degrees out, you have to get started before 7 o'clock," said Mayor Dave Merandy. Murphy said there is no heavy construction in the village as late as 10 p.m.

Former Trustee Bruce Campbell has been hired as a park maintenance worker for the Recreation Department. Campbell had been chairing the Recreation Commission but resigned to take the position. He will work 24 hours a week through Oct. 26.

The board awarded Sal Pidala and Sons Excavating of Cold Spring the contract to pave Market Street after it submitted a low bid of \$14,110.

The annual picnic for senior citizens and the appreciation dinner for village employees and volunteers will be combined as a barbecue scheduled for Sept. 15 at Mayor's Park.



Roberto Muller asked the board to suggest locations for an electric-car charging station.

Photos by M. Turton

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THE RIVERSIDE GALLERIES

Beacon Schools Taking Steps to Diversify Staff (from Page 1)

“We’ve talked as a district about the potential for a student to go through our system and never have a teacher of color, and that’s unacceptable,” said Landahl, who will begin his second school year in Beacon next month.

In 2015 and early 2016, when Bugg was a regular at Beacon school board meetings, the district did not release a breakdown of the races of its teachers and staff. But those statistics have been posted online since 2016-17, and those for last year show that while 54 percent of the district’s students are Hispanic, black, Asian or multiracial, 87 percent of the teachers and administrators are white.

“We have shifted our conversation internally to ‘We have to be student-centered,’” says Cecilia Dansereau-Rumley, the assistant superintendent for instructional services. “We have to think about who they are and what they need — at all levels, whether it’s teacher’s aides, instructors or assistants.”

Antony Tseng was one of three newcomers — along with Meredith Heuer and Michael Rutkoske — who spoke out about diversity before being elected to the school board in 2016. Today, Tseng chairs the board’s newly formed diversity committee, which, after a year of discussion, was charged with studying ways to increase instructional staff diversity.

“Putting staff demographics on the district website and drafting a uniform hiring plan have been good steps,” said

“We’ve talked as a district about the potential for a student to go through our system and never have a teacher of color, and that’s unacceptable.”

Tseng, who would like to eventually see the diversity of the staff better reflect that of the student body.

“I’m optimistic, but we should always remain open to new ideas, both short-term and long-term,” he said, including possibly hosting a teacher’s job fair.

Dansereau-Rumley points to a few factors when discussing changes in district hiring practices.

A decade ago, job openings were only advertised in local newspapers and through the Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). After a districtwide hiring policy was drafted in 2010, school system officials began advertising on the Online Application System for Educators (OLAS), which reaches a larger audience.

Dansereau-Rumley says OLAS uses a filtering system that scans resumes for grade-point averages and other qualifiers to eliminate candidates before their applications reach district officials. So Beacon decided to go old school.

“Now we’re looking at every single application by hand, no matter what, for every opening,” Landahl says.

This year, the district had four open-

Beacon School Diversity

	Students	Staff ¹
White	46%	81%
Hispanic/Latino	28%	11%
African-American/Black	17%	7%
Multiracial	6%	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	3%	1%

1. Includes teachers, administrators and staff

Source: Beacon City School District

“We do want the most highly qualified teachers. It’s important for all of our students that we’re building toward a global society.”

ings for elementary teachers, the position that usually brings in the most applications. Two years ago, Dansereau-Rumley says, “we would have had maybe 100 applicants,” after running resumes through OLAS.

Instead, this year district officials reviewed 560 resumes. (The four hires are all women, and three are white and one is black.)

In addition to expanding its searches to reach more minority candidates, the district says it looks for instructors with a diverse “mindset.” That could mean a teacher who has experience working in schools with diverse student populations and with experience in “culturally responsive practices” that address race, gender, language and other factors.

“We do want the most highly qualified teachers,” Dansereau-Rumley says, noting that the district has worked to identify the skills and experience needed to support its students. “It’s important for all of our students that we’re building toward a global society.”

Landahl held a series of community meetings after he joined the district before the 2017-18 school year and says he heard from parents and residents that they did not feel they were involved

enough in the hiring process. For the latest principal hires, parents were included on interview committees and given surveys to determine what they wanted to see in candidates.

For Bugg, unfortunately, the changes may be too little, too late. While he acknowledges the progress Landahl and others have made, he says he can’t commit any more energy to the cause.

More than anything, he says he’s grown dismayed by apathy among the minority parents he tried to galvanize. He recalled hearing from one parent whose son had trouble reading while filling out college applications.

“There is such a malaise in the minority community about this,” Bugg says. “If the parents of these kids are not interested...” he trailed off. “I was so disgusted with the whole thing.”

Terry Nelson, a member of the Beacon City Council who is black, said he’s had trouble getting minority community members to attend its meetings.

“It’s difficult to hold people accountable without knowing what everyone’s situation is,” such as work schedules, he says. “But it breaks my heart. I wish there was a way for other portions of our community to be heard.”

Landahl and Dansereau-Rumley say they know there is more work to be done. But, says Dansereau-Rumley, “the clearer we get about what we value and begin to demonstrate that,” the more easily the district can present to “candidates something that they want to be a part of.”

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NEWS BRIEFS



A nymph and female adult longhorned tick atop a dime

James Gathany/CDC

New Tick in NY

Native to eastern Asia

A new tick species has been spotted in New York, according to the state Departments of Health and Agriculture & Markets.

The longhorned tick (*Haemaphysalis longicornis*) has been found in several locations in Westchester County. Although it can transmit disease to humans, no cases have been documented in the U.S. The tick is common in Australia, New Zealand and eastern Asia.

Corrections Officers Sentenced

Convicted of 2013 inmate assault

Two former guards at the maximum-security Downstate Correctional Facility in Fishkill were sentenced July 23 for their role in a 2013 attack on a prisoner and attempts to cover up the crime.

A federal judge in White Plains sentenced Kathy Scott to eight years and four months in prison and George Santiago Jr. to seven years and three months for their role in the beating of Kevin Moore, 54, who spent 17 days in the hospital.

The former officers were convicted, after a nine-day jury trial, of violating Moore's civil rights and falsifying documents to make it appear he had attacked the guards. Three other former guards were also charged and pleaded guilty. Santiago hit one of the officers on the back with his baton to create bruises.

Police Investigate Death at Bear Mountain Bridge

Man apparently jumped Aug. 3

The New York State Police are investigating an apparent suicide on Friday (Aug. 3) on the Bear Mountain bridge.

After investigating a vehicle on Aug. 4 that had been abandoned near midspan,

police apparently reviewed surveillance video that revealed a man jumping from the bridge the previous morning at 7:23 a.m.

A body was recovered from the Hudson River on Aug. 5 north of the bridge. The victim's identity is not being released pending confirmation of his identity.

Anyone who witnessed anything suspicious or unusual on the bridge on the morning of Aug. 3 is asked at contact the state police at 914-737-7171.

If you or someone you know is in crisis or needs to talk, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-8255.

Metro-North Fares to Rise

Two 4 percent jumps expected

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority has proposed two 4 percent fare hikes, one in 2019 and the second in 2021. The agency blames budget deficits and declining ridership.

Metro-North, which includes the Hudson Line that runs through the Highlands, has said that without fare hikes it will have a \$1.5 billion shortfall by 2021.

The Hudson Line provides about 1.4 million rides each month, according to the MTA. From January through May, 93 percent of Hudson Line trains arrived within six minutes of schedule at Grand Central or Poughkeepsie, compared to 96 percent in the same period last year.

Fishkill Farms Receives \$250K Grant

Will spend funds to market products

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded a \$250,000 grant to Fishkill Farms to improve its marketing of new products such as its Treasury Cider, which is made with the farm's apples.

The farm, located in Hopewell Junction, will create two marketing positions with the funds.

Tilly Foster Has Harvest

Produce for restaurant, seniors

The garden at Tilly Foster Farm in Brewster, which is owned by Putnam County, had its first harvest, with more than two dozen crops.

The produce from the garden, which is a third of an acre, is used by Tilly's Table, a restaurant at the farm that pays fair-market



Sandy Galef with Kevin Sabet

Photo provided

price, and the Office for Senior Resources, which uses any excess for its meal programs.

Among other crops, the garden produces pumpkins, melons, squash, beets, peppers, tomatoes and zucchinis. The garden will continue to operate through mid-November and the county may increase its size in 2019.



Legal Marijuana

Galef discusses proposal

On the most recent episode of her *Speak with Sandy* program, Sandy Galef, who represents Philipstown in the State Assembly, discussed the potential impacts of legalizing the recreational use of marijuana in New York. Her guest was Kevin Sabet, director of the Drug Policy Institute.

The show airs at 8:30 p.m. on Aug. 15 and 22 on cable channel 15 in Garrison and south Philipstown and channel 21 in Cold Spring and north Philipstown. It is also posted on Youtube (bit.ly/sandy-sabet).

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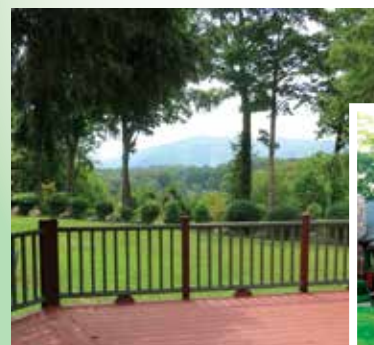
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Cold Spring/Nelsonville

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In the village but not in village limelight!

In a private setting on almost 2 acres of scenic land with distant mountain views is sited a log-style home with 4 BRs, 3.5 baths. Cathedral and vaulted ceilings abound this open plan home. A large LR with stone fireplace and access to large deck through glass doors enhances the mountain view. A large EIK also with counter eating is adjacent to the dining area that also has access to side deck, has double ovens, S/S appliances, 5 gas burner stove. A half-bath plus laundry is at side entryway. There are 2 BRs and full bath on ground floor and MBR suite, bath & library plus bonus room on upper level. There is a M/D apartment on lower level or for special guests or tenant. A 3-car attached garage is another bonus. There are 2 driveways to home and an unfinished 3rd access to property. The home has CAC, propane heat & exterior wood furnace for heating. Wood floors and tile are throughout. Room enough for an inground pool and leisure areas.



Questions? Call Pat: 845.222.5820
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7 LITTLE WORDS

1. ICECAP, 2. SENIORITIS, 3. PINNIPEDS, 4. REITERATES
5. GLOSSINESS, 6. HYGIENE, 7. SPIES

Cell Tower Firm Offers to Settle Lawsuit *(from Page 1)*

together. We're asking for some clarity."

A conference between the two parties has been scheduled for Aug. 30 in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, where the suit was filed in February. It names the Town Board; the Zoning Board of Appeals; the Conservation Board; Greg Wunner, the code enforcement officer; and Max Garfinkle, the wetlands inspector. The ZBA and Conservation Board had each denied permits for the project.

The proposal generated intense opposition from those living near the site as well as from others skeptical of the need for another wireless tower in Philipstown, which has several.

In their letter, the residents pleaded for the town to include an attorney they have retained, Andrew Campanelli, in the defense of the lawsuit. (The town's insurance company assigned Terry Rice, a lawyer based in Suffern, to the case.)

"We believe the town's interests are entirely consistent with our group's," said a spokesperson for the residents, Roger Gorevic.

Gorevic told the board that Campanelli, who specializes in telecommunications law, had filed a court motion to be allowed to intervene in the case. However, he said, as of Aug. 2, Rice had not responded to Campanelli's efforts to reach him, or to their offer to provide technical assistance. (Before the ZBA and Conservation Board

decisions, the group compiled extensive data to underpin its arguments.)

Shea promised to urge Rice to collaborate with Campanelli. "It's good to pool our resources" and the group definitely "could support the town's position, which is everybody's position," he said.

In an update on Monday (Aug. 6), Shea said he spoke with Rice on Aug. 3 and that he, Rice and Campanelli planned to have a conference call before the end of the week.

Tobacco and vaping

In other business Aug. 2, the Town Board unanimously endorsed proposals being considered by Putnam County to raise the legal age to buy tobacco products to 21 from 18 and to ban "vape shops" that sell e-cigarettes, which turn liquid containing nicotine into inhalable vapor. Both initiatives have been championed by Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown in the County Legislature and chairs its health committee.

In June the Town Board unanimously passed a six-month moratorium on vape shops to give it time to write a law banning them. However, the Cold Spring Village Board declined to endorse the county proposal. (See story, Page 5.)

The Town Board resolution declares that Philipstown recognizes that preventing tobacco use and vaping by young people "must be a priority."

Beacon Regulates 'Small' Cell Units

High-speed wireless antennas affix to buildings or poles

By Jeff Simms

Lower-powered radio antennas that wireless companies affix to buildings or poles can fill gaps in broadband coverage and improve speed, but Beacon officials want to make sure they are not installed without oversight.

At its Aug. 6 meeting, the Beacon City Council adopted regulations to dictate where the units can be placed by requiring that permits be issued before they can be installed.

Most applications will go through the Planning Board, but for small cells in more visible locations, companies would need a special-use permit from the City Council. For instance, requests to install units on poles more than 50 feet high, within 20 feet of a home, or with equipment less than 15 feet from the ground would all go to the council, explained City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis during a council meeting on July 30.

Companies can install as many as three small cells on a utility pole

unless the Planning Board deems that unsafe or unsightly.

Wireless companies regard the stations as critical infrastructure that will help power the expansion of high-speed, high-capacity 5G networks. The city has received applications from Verizon Wireless to install them on utility poles at 2 Red Flynn Dr. and 7 Cross St., which will go to the Planning Board.

The law also dictates that units can only be placed in the city's historic district if a company proves that a significant gap in coverage exists. In addition, it requires wireless companies to use "stealth technology designs" everywhere in the city to blend the units with the landscape as much as possible.

Several residents voiced concerns during public hearings that the units will alter scenic views while emitting harmful radio frequencies in highly populated areas. There is no scientific evidence that cell towers increase the risk of cancer, according to the American Cancer Society, and federal law restricts municipalities from regulating the technology based on health concerns.

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The Calendar

Happy to be Heard

Beacon couple releases third album

By Alison Rooney

Eleanor Kleiner and Elie Brangbour met in London while studying at what is now the London College of Creative Media. Kleiner, an American with English parents, had left a conservatory in New York where she was studying classical music. Kleiner, who is French, had given up a website development job to pursue a career in music.

After a circuitous journey that included living and working in a trailer and six months as singing gondoliers at a casino in Macao called The Venetian, the couple settled in Beacon in 2012 and perform as The Whispering Tree. They will celebrate the release of their latest album, *Invisible Forces*, with a show at the Howland Cultural Center on Saturday, Aug. 18.

The duo's name came about "because we've both had almost mystical experiences where we've felt the natural world communicating with us," explains Kleiner. "Something similar happens when a song touches you, like there's some truth being communicated that is beyond words."

After becoming romantically involved, the couple was surprised at the ease with which they also meshed musically. "It was like, OK, we can do this," recalls Kleiner. Then, as now, the songs begin with her. "I see how far I can get," she says. "I get a chorus or a chord progression and I know that something else

needs to happen."

After their studies ended, Brangbour wanted to experience New York City.

Despite uncertainty about what they would do, the two came across the pond and put together a band by recruiting musicians on Craig's List. "We weren't even paying them!" says Brangbour.

"... when a song touches you, like there's some truth being communicated that is beyond words."

The couple released their first recording on an independent label. "It was hard to get people to listen to it, so we said 'yes' to a lot of weird gigs," Brangbour recalls, such as in Macao. Kleiner interjects: "It was often bills of seven artists. You'd maybe get a half-hour."

When they returned from Macao, the rest of the band had moved on. "That's when we decided to strip it down, re-arrange earlier songs and work as a duo," says Kleiner. "We found our music was best received in the folk-music world."

They recorded *Go Call the Captain* in 2010. "We had this idea in our minds that we would release this album and everything would fall into place for us," Kleiner says. "Needless to say, it didn't happen that way."

Their move to

Beacon in 2012 came after a footloose period during which they lived and worked out of a vintage Airstream. "It was falling apart from the beginning," says Kleiner. "Elie was allergic to the trailer."

"The trailer was going to be my office, but I couldn't stay in there," Brangbour says.

"We realized quickly that it's not much fun living in a trailer," says Kleiner. "But we had nowhere to go. The city burned me out. We started looking at places on the train lines. We had never heard of Beacon. I wanted trees, scenic beauty."

"I liked the coffee shops," says Brangbour.

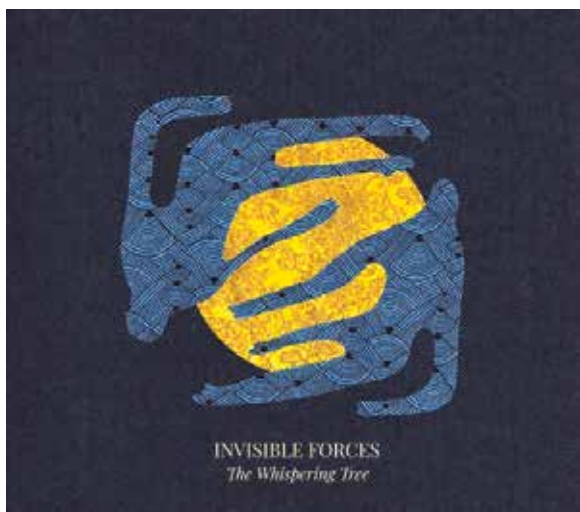
After they struggled to get attention for their third release, *The Escape*, they became discouraged.

"It felt like we weren't going anywhere," says Kleiner.

"Wasn't it more like a period

You'll like The Whispering Tree if you like ...

Aimee Mann
Cowboy Junkies
Over the Rhine



The latest album by The Whispering Tree, *Invisible Forces*, will be released on Aug. 10.



Elie Brangbour and Eleanor Kleiner

Photo by Monica Simoes

"I realized that even if our career never progresses beyond where it is now, I would still want to do this. It is fulfilling, despite not always being economically viable."

of wondering?" asks Brangbour.

"I can't say what pulled us out of it," says Kleiner, "but we had a discussion and asked each other, 'Are we ever going to do anything else?'"

"We decided we would give it a final push," Brangbour says.

"I realized that even if our career never progresses beyond where it is now, I would still want to do this" says Kleiner. "It is fulfilling, despite not always being economically viable."

Beacon has proven to be an antidote. The Whispering Tree plays regionally but

Music + Video

"Fat Cat" (from *Invisible Forces*)
bit.ly/WT-fat-cat

"Where Have You Gone?"
(from *The Escape*)
bit.ly/WT-where

"Mother" by Pink Floyd
bit.ly/WT-mother

also in Europe and recently returned from a series of folk club performances and house concerts in France, Austria, Germany and Switzerland.

Tickets for the Aug. 18 show are \$10 in advance at thewhisperingtree.brownpapertickets.com or \$15 at the door. *Invisible Forces* will be released online today (Aug. 10) at store.cdbaby.com/artist/thewhisperingtree.

FRIDAY, AUG. 10

Hudson Valley Jazz Festival
hudsonvalleyjazzfest.org

Okira (Jazz)
6:30 p.m. Newburgh Waterfront
ferrygodmother.com/jazz.html

HVSF: *The Heart of Robin Hood*
6:15 p.m. Friday Night Prologue
7:30 p.m. Performance
Boscobel, 1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-809-5750 | hvshakespeare.org

SATURDAY, AUG. 11

Hudson Valley Jazz Festival
hudsonvalleyjazzfest.org

Bring the Kids (ages 5+)
9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

American Legion Auxiliary Breakfast
10 a.m. Silver Spoon
124 Main St., Cold Spring | alaforveterans.org

Beacons of History (grades 2-3)
11 a.m. Beacon Historical Society | 17 South Ave., Beacon | 845-831-0514 | beaconhistorical.org

Signature Farm Tour
11 a.m. Glynwood Farm | 362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring | 845-265-3338 | glynwood.org

Great Hudson River Estuary Fish Count
2 p.m. Long Dock Park, Beacon
scenichudson.org/events

Guided Landscape Hike: Quarry to Quarry
2 p.m. Manitoga | 584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org

#QueenE (Musical)
3 & 8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

John Metaxas: Life of a Journalist & Obligations of a Citizen (Talk)
3 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance
331 Verplanck Ave., Beacon
845-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

Broadway on Bannerman Island
4 & 5 p.m. Boat leaves Beacon dock.
Call 855-256-4007.

The Drifters
5 p.m. Bowdoin Park
85 Sheafe Road, Wappingers Falls

Melinda Stickney-Gibson: *Some Stories*

Victoria Thorson: *Basswood Bodies* (Openings)
5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Calendar Highlights

Submit to calendar@highlandscurrent.org

For complete listings, see highlandscurrent.org

One Nature Garden Party
5 – 7 p.m. 321 Main St., Beacon
onenaturellc.com/events

H.V. Renegades vs. Brooklyn
6:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 9D, Wappingers Falls
845-838-0094 | hvrenegades.com

Pop, Rock, DooWop Series
6:30 p.m. Newburgh Waterfront
See details under Friday.

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

West Point Concert Band: *Hello, Dolly! at 50*
7:30 p.m. Trophy Point, West Point
westpointband.com

BEACON SECOND SATURDAY

Thursday Painters: *Memories*
5 – 7 p.m. Howland Public Library | 313 Main St., Beacon | 845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Canace: *From the Corners of My Mind*
5 – 8 p.m. RiverWinds Gallery | 172 Main St., Beacon
845-838-2880 | riverwindsgallery.com

Carin Jean White (Opening)
6 – 9 p.m. Catalyst Gallery | 137 Main St., Beacon
845-204-3844 | catalystgallery.com

Chris Sanders: *Step Right Up*
6 – 9 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass | 162 Main St., Beacon | 845-440-0068 | hudsonbeachglass.com

ConstrucTOYvism! / *Colus*
6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery | 163 Main St., Beacon
212-255-2505 | cluttermagazine.com

Eileen Sackman / Dan Sabau
6 – 9 p.m. bau Gallery | 506 Main St., Beacon
845-440-7584 | baugallery.com

Windows on Main Street
6 – 9 p.m. Oak Vino | 389 Main St., Beacon
windowsonmainstreet.com

SUNDAY, AUG. 12

Hudson Valley Jazz Festival
hudsonvalleyjazzfest.org

Day of the Bird
8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Storm King Art Center
1 Museum Road, New Windsor
845-534-3115 | stormking.org

Nature App Walk
10 a.m. Audubon Center
127 Warren Landing Road, Garrison
845-265-2601 | constitutionmarsh.audubon.org

Corn Festival
Noon – 5 p.m. Seeger Riverfront Park, Beacon
beaconsloopclub.org

Preserving and Canning Workshop
1 – 4 p.m. Glynwood Farm | Details under Saturday.

Revolutionary War Day
1 – 5 p.m. Mount Gulian | 145 Sterling St., Beacon
845-831-8172 | mountgulian.org

Military Burial Practices (Talk)
2 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com

#QueenE (Musical)
3 & 8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Saturday.

Broadway on Bannerman
4 p.m. See details under Saturday.

H.V. Renegades vs. Brooklyn
5:05 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
See details under Saturday.

Jewish Music Series
6:30 p.m. Newburgh Waterfront
See details under Friday.

Gordon Lightfoot
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com

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

MONDAY, AUG. 13

Ballet Intensive (First Session)
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Ballet Arts Studio
107 Teller Ave., Beacon | balletartsstudio.com

Beacon City Council
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

HVSF: *The Sea-Maid's Music*
7:30 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

TUESDAY, AUG. 14

Animal Embassy: Summer Reading Finale
10 a.m. Butterfield Library | 10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring | 845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

HVSF: *The Sea-Maid's Music*
2 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Josh Fox: *The Truth Has Changed*
7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church | 50 Liberty St., Beacon | moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

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

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

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15

Butterfield Library Pub Trivia
6 p.m. Barber and Brew
69 Main St., Cold Spring | butterfieldlibrary.org

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

THURSDAY, AUG. 16

Performers Rock! (Elementary School)
2 p.m. Howland Public Library
See details under Saturday.

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

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

H.V. Renegades vs. Staten Island
7 p.m. Dutchess Stadium | Details under Saturday.

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

FRIDAY, AUG. 17

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

Annual Book & Media Sale (Members' Preview)
6 – 8:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Rick Altman Quartet (Jazz)
6:30 p.m. Newburgh Waterfront
See details under Aug. 10.

H.V. Renegades vs. Brooklyn
7 p.m. Dutchess Stadium | Details under Saturday.

Open Mic
7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Saturday.

HVSF: *The Heart of Robin Hood*
7:30 p.m. Boscobel
See details under Aug. 10.



Call to Arms

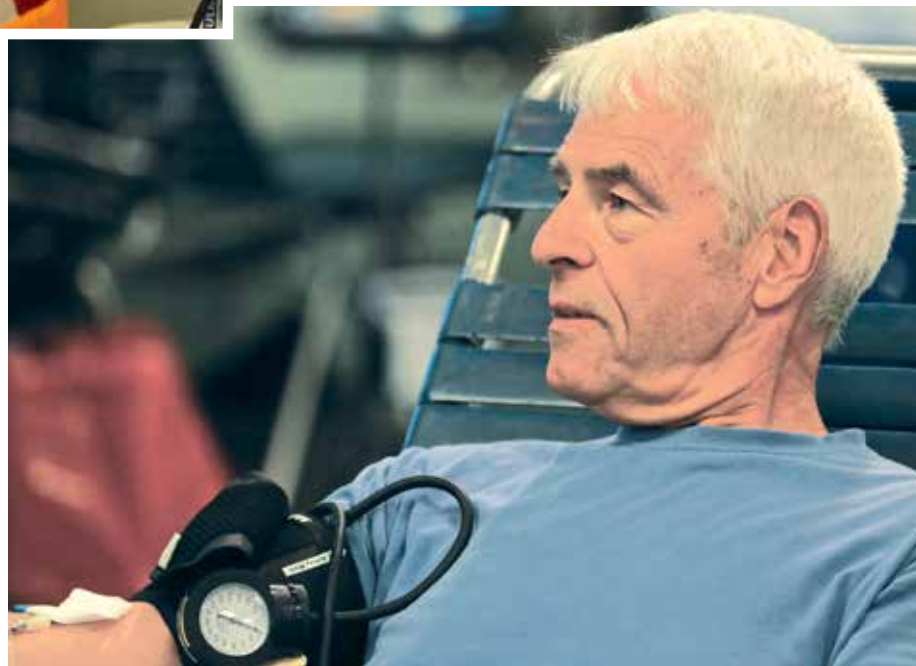
A blood drive held at the North Highlands Firehouse on Aug. 3 brought in 75 people to donate. Thirteen were deferred for various reasons, such as high-blood pressure, piercings or tattoos, low hemoglobin, recent vaccinations or travel to restricted locations, but the remaining 62 provided blood that will benefit 168 patients.

The turnout was better than expected,

said organizer Dottie Gilman; the New York Blood Center, which runs the drives, had set a goal of 57 people. The donors included 11 counselors and staff members from the Lake Surprise camp.

The next local drive will take place Aug. 31 at the Beacon Elks. See nybloodcenter.org. The next Philipstown drive is Nov. 8 at Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring.

Photos by Ross Corsair



People Are Fired Up About Her Bread

Cold Spring baker develops a following

By Alison Rooney

You've heard of Community-Supported Agriculture, or CSAs, where residents purchase a "share" of the crops from a nearby farm, which they pick up each week.

But have you heard of CSBs?

That's Community-Supported Bread, and Erin Detrick, a baker in Cold Spring, has experimented with the format since moving to the village this past January.

Her bread business has grown — or risen — exponentially since she began selling shares of her wood-fired, hand-made, fermented-by-flour loaves. She plans to restart her subscription service in September after a summer break but in the meantime bakes about 110 loaves a week at Sparrowbush Bakery in Hudson that have sold out during the past two Saturdays at her booth at the Cold Spring Farmers' Market at Boscobel.

Her staples include East Mountain



Erin Detrick holds a loaf of spelt and currant just out of the oven.

Photos by Kevin Goggin

levain, which Detrick describes as a "classic sourdough table loaf," sesame levain, corn-grits sourdough, and a roster of rotating loaves, among them a spelt and currents, a flax with sunflower seeds and dense rye loaves. Most loaves are \$7. Her goal is "a good chew, inside and out, coaxing out the character of the grains."

Detrick, who grew up in Louisville, said her bread moment came during a ninth-grade science fair project about the ef-

fects of different ingredients such as salt, milk and water on the outcome of a loaf. After college, she moved to New York City, where she'd relax on weekends by baking bread.

While working at a nonprofit, she pestered Peter Endriss, the baker for Runner & Stone in Brooklyn, to let her become an intern. "He had changed careers, too, and understood," she recalls. "I worked full shifts on weekends, for no pay, while working in my other job, fulltime, during the week. I felt so happy walking into that kitchen."

She left her job to work fulltime at the bakery of chef Daniel Boulud's restaurant group. "I worked harder there than I ever had, failed constantly, and slowly started to learn how to move in a kitchen, how to touch dough, how to shape it, mix it, cut it, bake it," she says. "I knew I'd found my thing."

Detrick went on to work for She Wolf Bakery as sous chef for three years before moving out of the city. She and her husband, an attorney, were introduced to Cold Spring because her sister worked at Stonecrop Gardens.

After the move north, Detrick sold bread to neighbors, calling her opera-



Signal Fire's spelt and currant loaf

tion Signal Fire Bread, which she chose "to evoke a sense of place. I was reading about the area and found that Mount Beacon had signal fires to communicate with George Washington about troop advancements. I also liked the idea of a light, a beacon. And all bread is fired, so the name unites bread and the region, and I use it to keep me honest in my work, sourcing my grain carefully, and being a form of positive change."

Detrick began her CSB after meeting Liz Rauch, (Continued on next page)

RIVERSIDE CRAFTS FAIR

August 18 & 19, 2018

10am to 5pm Rain or Shine



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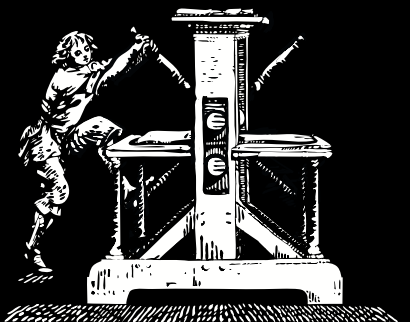
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People Are Fired Up About Her Bread *(from previous page)*

a Garrison bread baker who had been running a service but needed to take a breather after the birth of her second child. "Liz had a whole network of people who were into bread, which she generously shared with me," Detrick says.

There was so much interest that Detrick, hemmed in by the capacity of her home kitchen, almost immediately had a waitlist and found herself driving to Hudson, where Antoine Guerlain at Sparrowfish had offered her space. Members were guaranteed one loaf a week, with pickups at Marbled Meats and Hudson Valley General Store. (See signalfirebread.com.)

At the Farmers' Market, she says, customers are excited to talk about how the bread is naturally leavened with sour dough, rather than with factory-manufactured yeast. "They're curious about the baking process; the wood-fired component, especially, fascinates people," she says. "Everyone knows about pizza ovens, but it's rare to work with a retained-heat masonry oven in which you build a fire the day before to let it saturate the masonry.

"The next morning you rake out the coals and clean the oven. At that point you have a really hot oven, ready to bake multiple rounds of bread. It presents logistical challenges and special needs, but it's a great way to bake — not necessarily the only way to make good bread, but a unique one."



Erin Detrick, stationed at her Cold Spring Farmer's Market stand

Photo by Brent Tomer



Signal Fire's sesame levain and corn grits loaves cooling

Photo by Kevin Goggin

Marbled Meat to Expand

Having outgrown their space adjacent to Vera's Marketplace & Garden Center on Route 9 in Philipstown, Chris and Lisa Pascarella of Marbled Meats were reluctantly considering where to move the business.

As the couple recounts on the butcher shop's website, they approached their landlords, the Giordano family (Vera, Joanne and Dominic), who own Vera's, "to see if there was something we could do; a building addition, an annex, maybe?"

"As has been the case since Day 1, the Giordano family immediately began thinking of creative solutions to our dilemma," they wrote.

"Dominic stood in the center of Vera's and said, 'You're not going anywhere. We will make this work.'"

As a result, Marbled Meats will expand in the next few months into Vera's space, which will be reconfigured. The Cold Spring Coffee Pantry will remain where it is, although on Aug. 15 it plans to expand, as well, opening its second outpost, at Peekskill Brewery. The first is at Cold Spring Apothecary on Main Street.

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Teen Center Still Looking for Home

Haldane could be interim solution

By Michael Turton

Sandy McKelvey and Joe Plummer head a group of residents who hope to create a teen center in Philipstown, a proposal that had wide support in a vote conducted last year by the Philipstown Community Congress. We spoke with McKelvey soon after she gave an update on the project to the Cold Spring Village Board. Her remarks have been condensed.

Why does Philipstown need a teen center?

There are outlets for middle school students but not many activities for older teens. We surveyed high school students and they want a place of their own, unstructured, where they can socialize or work on school projects. It'd be an alternative to hanging out on the street, at a pizza shop or in the woods. Teens don't have a safe place to socialize. The need came out of the opioid crisis.

Is this an adult idea aimed at teens?

The community at large supports a center, but we needed to be sure teens agreed. Ninety percent of the students said it was needed. Many said teens are getting into trouble because there's nothing to do and no safe, fun places to hang out.



Sandy McKelvey

Photo by M. Turton

What is the biggest challenge?

Finding a space. The American Legion Hall would be a great location, within walking distance of the high school, and it would be available after the senior center that shares the space moves to the Butterfield site. The Legion members understandably want to reclaim their hall. It wasn't about having a teen center as much as they don't want to host another organization.

Are there other spaces?

The Cold Spring Methodist Church and St. Mary's Episcopal Church said they would love to offer space but only for certain hours and days. We want a center that teens can take ownership of, design them-

selves. We haven't found a place that could offer a daily, dedicated space.

How about the Philipstown Recreation Center?

If the center is not within walking distance of Haldane, teens won't go. They won't go at a set time, for specific activities. They need a spot where they can hang out for 15 minutes or two hours. Haldane High Principal Julia Sniffen has suggested the alternative high school on the second floor of the Mable Merritt Building as an interim space because it isn't used after school.

Have you looked at other teen center as models?

Joe Plummer established a teen center in Greenwich, Connecticut, 25 years ago and it's still going strong. They have no trouble finding volunteers. It has all sorts of evening events: battle of the bands, open mic nights and art shows.

How much space do you need?

Probably at least 1,000 square feet, and additional outdoor space would be nice. We think for Friday or Saturday evening films or open mics we'd have about 50 kids.

When would teens likely use the center?



The second floor of the Mabel Merritt Building has been suggested as an interim site for a teen center.

File photo by M. Turton

In our survey, 63 percent said they would go from 3 to 5 p.m. on weekdays; 52 percent said Friday evenings. Teens are fickle. They won't go somewhere immediately and say it's a cool place to hang out. They need a consistent space that's always there so they can test the waters, see if their friends are there.

How would it be funded?

We need to figure that out, whether it comes from the county, town or villages. We've looked at being nonprofit but then it can't be supported by local government. We've also considered an online fundraising campaign. We hope people will donate furniture, supplies and construction skills.

Are teens involved in the planning?

A couple want to be part of the organizing, but it's slow going. They are still enthusiastic but without a space it's hard for them to get others on board.

Has thought been given to a name?

The idea of a "teen center" sounds really lame to kids and they would never go there; it sounds like something adults are pushing on them. Someone came up with "The Blue Lounge." Blue is Haldane's color and teens like the idea of a lounge.

How would the center operate?

Teens and adults would organize it and be present during operating hours. Events would be student-driven with some supervision. Teens said it won't be difficult to find help because students do community service for credits and the honor society. There's talk of having a paid, adult staff member there at all times. Many community members have said they would volunteer.

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Mouths to Feed

Dressing for the Heat

By Celia Barbour

Throughout most of the year, a cook faces one primary dilemma per meal: What to make. But the recent heat waves brought with them an undertow of destabilizing culinary questions. In addition to *what*, I also found myself wondering *when*, *where* and *how*. And as for *why*, the very thought made me dizzy.

Suddenly, serving cold cereal for breakfast at 4 a.m., before the sun rose, and frozen peas straight from the bag for dinner on the porch after midnight seemed like sensible options. And the basement became a perfectly nice setting for lunch.

Anything to avoid the sun.

As the summer wore on, I reassured myself that we'd eaten enough kale in February to cover any nutritional deficits we might accrue by subsisting on Popsicles until the weather returned to its senses.

But no matter how loopy or listless any heat wave makes me feel, there comes a moment when I am overtaken by the urge to gather everyone at the table for a meal. And for that, what I want is a perfect salad.

You might reasonably assume that a perfect salad depends on perfect components: wedges of flagrantly ripe local tomatoes, for example; a handful of blanched green beans; soft, buttery lettuce; fresh herbs; perhaps a scattering of paper-thin carrot coins or small wedges of cucumber. (The latter should be de-seeded both so they are less bitter and to avoid making the salad watery. Cut a cucumber in half lengthwise and drag a teaspoon along the channel holding the seeds.)

My current salad obsession also includes pieces of seared tenderloin, a craving that was ignited by a beef-tip salad I ate at The Red Rooster, one of a handful of restaurants at the Woodstock Inn in Vermont. (Though I suspect the air conditioning might have contributed to my enjoyment of that meal.)

I like to think that I have the wherewithal to sear a piece of beef and blanch the aforementioned beans first thing in the morning, so that I won't need to turn on the stove once that godforsaken sun comes up.

But the truth is, it doesn't matter. Because the key to salad bliss is the dressing. A bad dressing will disgrace the most righteous components and a good one will turn scraps of iceberg into a magnificent meal.



The other day, I was talking with a group of fellow cooks when one described a personal victory. He had created a salad dressing so good, he said, that his children (all 55 of them; he heads the kitchen at a summer camp) lapped it up like kittens at a bowl of cream, after they'd devoured the voluminous bowl of greens he'd tossed it with. The cook, Sam Arfer, has been cooking at the same camp every summer since 1991, so he speaks from vast experience.

In 1864, author and gastronome Andrew Valentine Kirwan wrote, in *Host and Guest: A Book About Dinners, Dinner-giving, Wines and Desserts*, that the making of salad dressing requires a "patient and discreet man." Sam qualifies.

NY Alert

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Sam-Inspired Dressing over salad with tenderloin

Photos by H. Weed

I asked what was in his dressing. "Feta, sour cream, garlic, dill and mayonnaise," he said. "Plus a little milk, to thin it."

Oh yum, I thought. Creamy, fresh,

slightly sour, a little salty: the very idea was a cool breeze to my sweltering brain. I vowed on the spot that I would make it right away ... just as soon as the heat broke.

Sam-Inspired Dressing

3 to 4 ounces feta cheese
2 tablespoons sour cream
2 tablespoons mayonnaise
1 clove garlic, crushed or to taste
1 handful dill

1 handful mint, optional
Sea salt and pepper
Juice and zest of ½ lemon
Milk to thin, if needed

Combine all ingredients in a blender. Whisk until smooth. Taste, and adjust seasonings.



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



The winner of best in show for 3D works in the 2016 smallWORKs exhibit was "A Lot on Her Plate," by Ruth Geneslaw. Entries are due by Sept. 14 for the 2018 show.

Photo by George Potanovic Jr.

Call for Artists

Small Works submissions due Sept. 14

The Garrison Art Center is accepting submissions through Sept. 14 for smallWORKS, which opens Dec. 8. The biennial show will be called 2 ½ because artists are asked to bridge the gap between 2D and 3D. It will be juried by Christina Kee, an artist, writer and curator working with the William Louis-Dreyfus Foundation. For guidelines, see garri-sonartcenter.org.

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Day of the Bird

Storm King plans for Aug. 12

The Storm King Art Center in New Windsor plans on Sunday, Aug. 12, to present a public program called Day of the Bird from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is centered around "Birds Watching," a piece by Jenny Kendler that is part of the *Indicators: Artists on Climate Change* exhibit.

The programs will include bird watching, falconry, a drawing session, a reading by J. Drew Lanham and conversations about art and advocacy for conservation. The events are free with admission but require registration. See stormking.org.

Book Sale Opens Aug. 17

Desmond-Fish annual fundraiser

The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison will open its annual book, DVD and CD sale from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 17, with a preview for members of the Friends of the Desmond-Fish (shoppers can join at the door).

The sale will open to the public on Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and continue daily through Aug. 27. See bit.ly/dfi-book-sale. The library is located at the intersection of Routes 9D and 403.

Traditional Folk

Band to play Tompkins Corners

The Limited Liability String Band, which specializes in traditional Irish, Scottish, British and Appalachian folk, will perform at the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center in Putnam Valley at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 18. Tickets are \$18 at tompkinscorners.org or \$20 at the door.

4 Hands, 2 Pianos

Duet will perform at Chapel

Steven Beck and Yalin Chi, known as the At Once Piano Duo, will perform at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 19, at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring. Their program will include Mozart's *Sonata in B-flat major*; *Jeux d'enfants*, a suite of 12



The Day of the Bird at Storm King on Aug. 12 will center on Jenny Kendler's "Birds Watching."

Photo provided



Pianists Yalin Chi and Steven Beck will perform at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring on Aug. 19.

Photo provided

miniatures by Georges Bizet; *Sonata for Piano Four-hands*, by Paul Hindemith; and *Gazebo Dances* by John Corigliano. The concert is free but donations are welcome. The chapel is adjacent to the train station.

Piermont Photos

Four local artists part of group show

Work by Cali Gorevic, Jane Soodalter, Lori Adams and Joseph Squillante will be part a group show, *Equivalence: The Art of the Photograph*, at the Piermont Fine Arts Gallery in Rockland County. It opens with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 18, and continues through Sept. 3. See piermontfinearts.com.

Beacon

Windows on Main

Annual show opens Aug. 11

Windows on Main Street, which this year includes 26 storefront installations, opens in Beacon on Saturday, Aug. 11. The monthlong show, curated by Diana Currie, kicks off with a party at Oak Vino Wine Bar at 6 p.m. and an exhibit called *Tiny Windows*. See windowsonmain-street.com for a map and list of contributing artists.

Veterans Picnic

Dutchess County will host

Dutchess County will host a picnic from noon to 4 p.m. at (To next page)

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

(from previous page) VFW Post 170 in Poughkeepsie on Saturday, Aug. 18, to honor veterans. The event is free for any Dutchess County veteran and his or her guest. RSVP by calling 845-473-2500, ext. 1307. The VFW is located at 1 Violet Ave.

Breastfeeding Support

Meeting set for Aug. 18

The La Leche League will hold a support meeting from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 18, for mothers nursing children ages 1 and older. Email alexandradevin@optimum.net to RSVP and receive the address.

Defeating the British

Event will focus on battle tactics

Mount Gulian in Beacon will host a Revolutionary War Day from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 12, focused on "how we beat the British." It will include re-enactors demonstrating battle tactics, tours of the historic house, presentations and a visit from an American Historical Theater actor playing Baron von Steuben, a general in the Continental Army who was stationed at Mount Gulian at the end of the war.



On Aug. 12, an actor at Mount Gulian in Beacon will portray General Baron Von Steuben, shown here, who lived in the house at the end of the Revolutionary War.



NOW SHOWING — RiverWinds Gallery in Beacon will open *From the Corners of My Mind*, an exhibit of works by Canace, with a reception from 5 to 8 p.m. on Second Saturday (Aug. 11).



ELK OF YEAR — On July 29, the Beacon Elks named Douglas Miller Jr. (left) as its 2017-18 Elk of the Year for his volunteer contributions to the city's 9/11 memorial. Doug excavated the area and set in place the 3,000-pound steel beam from the World Trade Center. He is shown with Adam Martin, past exalted ruler.

Photo provided

Then & Now

Main Street, Beacon, looking east, in the 1950s and today

Photos: Top, Beacon Historical Society; below, Michael Turton



Share Your News With Our Readers

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Obituaries



Donna Peterson

Donna Peterson (1946-2018)

Donna Peterson, 71, of Cold Spring, died Aug. 3, 2018, of cancer.

She was born Dec. 13, 1946, in the Bronx, the daughter of Rose and Eugene Spencer. She graduated from Hunter College with a degree in English and elementary education in 1968 and taught at Public School 63 in the Bronx.

Donna married Richard Peterson in 1969 and left teaching to start their family in 1970. The Petersons moved to Cold Spring in 1971, where Donna became a parishioner at Our Lady of Loretto, as well as an active and supportive parent in the Haldane school district. From 1994 to 1997 she worked with children at the Philipstown Recreation Department's afterschool program.

Donna devoted her life to the care of her family. Her passions included cooking, gardening, music, the arts and animals, both pets and wildlife. Those who knew her say that her faith in God is what truly inspired her life and gave her strength to get through the difficult

times after her cancer diagnosis in 2015.

Besides her husband of 49 years, she is survived by her daughters, Laura Peterson, Jennifer Hackney, Christine Peterson and Amy Sherlock; five grandchildren: Mackenzie, Samuel, Robbie, Savannah and Michael; and her siblings Gene Spencer, Warren Spencer and Karen Major.

A funeral Mass was celebrated on Aug. 7 at Our Lady of Loretto, with interment following at Cold Spring Cemetery.

Nunzio Ricottilli (1928-2018)

Nunzio Ricottilli, 89, a longtime resident of Beacon who was known to friends and family as "Joe," died Aug. 2, 2018, at his home.

Born Aug. 25, 1928, in Cliffside Park, New Jersey, Nunzio was the son of Panfilo and Emily Ricottilli. On Aug. 13, 1958, he married Suzanne Keenan at St. John's Church in Beacon.

Nunzio served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and later retired from the Carpenter's Union Local 323. He was a lifetime member of St. Rocco's and a member of the Mase Hook & Ladder Co. for more than 50 years.

He had many interests, including going to the race track and making an annual trip to the Boxing Hall of Fame. He also loved spending time with family and friends.

Nunzio is survived by his children, Gregory Ricottilli (Marilyn), Anthony Ricottilli, Suzette Ricottilli, Joseph Ricottilli (Wendy), Tara Ricottilli (Nick), and



Nunzio Ricottilli

Thomas Ricottilli; 15 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He also is survived by a sister, Theresa (Dolly) Slinsky.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Aug. 7 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Beacon, followed by burial with military honors at St. Joachim Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (stjude.org).



Gwen Stevens

Gwen Stevens (1928-2018)

Gwendolyn Lucille Stevens, 89, died of heart failure on July 30, 2018, in Atlanta, where she was living with her daughter. She and her late husband, Bill, founded and were benefactors of the Howland Chamber Music Circle.

The Juilliard String Quartet performance on Sept. 16 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon will be dedicated to the memory of Gwen and Bill, who died in January.

Born Dec. 4, 1928, in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, Gwen was the daughter of Milton and Margaret Hamilton. The family soon moved to Reading, where her father was chairman of the history department

at Albright College. Gwen started piano lessons when she was 6.

Gwen graduated from Reading High School in 1946 and from Swarthmore College in 1950 with a history degree. She then enrolled at the Yale School of Music, completing a bachelor's degree in 1952 and a master's degree in 1955, after teaching music for two years at the Emma Willard School in Troy.

After earning her master's degree, she spent a year in France studying piano with Nadia Boulanger in Paris and Fontainebleau. Upon her return, Gwen became an assistant professor of music at Vassar College, starting in 1956.

On June 18, 1966, in Pleasant Valley, Gwen married William Stevens, an IBM engineer. Gwen left Vassar to raise a family and teach piano privately. Over the years, she had many excellent students. The most prominent of these is Keith Lockhart, conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra.

In 1985 it came to Gwen's attention that young professional musicians lacked opportunities to perform in intimate venues. This caused her to organize Patrons for Young Artists to sponsor house concerts.

A few years later, in 1993, after discovering the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon and its fine acoustics, she and Bill organized the Howland Chamber Music Circle. She served as music director and her husband as concert manager for 23 years before their retirement in 2016.

Gwen is survived by her children, Emily Stevens of Atlanta and Guy Stevens of Washington, D.C., as well as her grandson, Oliver Stevens, also of Washington, D.C. She also is survived by a sister, Mary McLaughlin of Huntington Bay.

Memorial donations may be made to the Gwen and Bill Stevens Memorial Fund to fund the Sept. 16 concert (howlandmusic.org), Hudson River Housing (hudsonriverhousing.org) or the American Friends Service Committee (afsc.org).

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To place an ad, see highlandscurrent.org/classified.

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 frozen mountain peak feature (6)	_____
2 end-of-school "sickness" (10)	_____
3 seals, to a marine biologist (9)	_____
4 states a second time (10)	_____
5 desirable hair quality (10)	_____
6 cleanliness (7)	_____
7 catches sight of (5)	_____

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See answers: Page 7

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8/10

So, You Want to Be a Zookeeper?

Garrison resident curates 'living collection' in Queens

By Alison Rooney

Scott Silver likes to joke that he met his wife in the monkey house.

He's only half kidding. He got to know Linde Ostro while they both were employed at the Bronx Zoo, and they later worked together in Belize studying howler monkeys and jaguars.

Today, the couple lives in Garrison; Silver is director of the Queens Zoo, and Ostro is vice president of development for Riverkeeper. Besides his work as a zoologist, Silver is also a board member of the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society and often presents talks on wildlife or leads bird walks.

The 18-acre Queens Zoo this year celebrates its 50th anniversary. It is managed by the Wildlife Conservation Society in partnership with New York City, along with the Bronx Zoo, Central Park Zoo, Prospect Park Zoo and New York Aquarium.

Raised in Yonkers, Silver took a career test in high school that pegged him as a zoologist. And that's what he became, after majoring in zoology and anthropology at SUNY Oswego. He interned at the Bronx Zoo and was hired as an assistant elephant trainer, followed by five years in the mammal department while pursuing advanced degrees at Fordham.

"I was committed to working in the field," he says. "I wanted to wake up every morning and have my office be a jungle."

Silver left the Bronx Zoo for Queens in 1998 to become an animal curator, managing not art or artifacts, he says, but "a living collection." In 2008 he was named the zoo's director.

In that position, he says, "you're responsible for making sure that every species is properly cared for and will continue to be in good condition in perpetuity. It's not all about acquiring animals; it's how to keep them in the way that's best for them."

He sees his job as saving animals in the wild by faci-

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Scott Silver, director of the Queens Zoo, feeds pronghorn antelope.

Photo by Julie Larsen Maher



Bison at the Queens Zoo

Photo by Julie Larsen Maher



Scott Silver, in Ecuador, feeds a pair of puff-legged hummers.

Photo by Tom Sharpe

tating human encounters with those in the zoo. "It's not about animals as a curiosity but about connecting people to wildlife, which makes them appreciate the value of this connection on this planet," he says. "My job is to convey and foster those feelings. You may be able to see an animal on your computer, but you don't smell it, or get the nuances of how it moves. I remember as a boy hearing an elephant breathing and flapping its ears. People become invested when they experience it in person."

Most animals are brought to the zoo through exchanges or purchases arranged through the Association of Zoos and Aquariums while considering a collective Species Survival Plan.

"When there's an offer to breed, there's a plan in place," Silver explains. The association keeps records of the ancestry of each animal and how well it has reproduced. "This allows us to maintain high levels of genetic diversity, so we don't wind up with too-close relations."

Silver notes that while Queens is a relatively small zoo, it works within a larger framework of the Wildlife Con-

How to Get There

The Queens Zoo is located at 53-51 111th St. in Corona and easily reached on the No. 7 subway from Grand Central Station. It is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (5:30 p.m. on weekends). Tickets are \$9.95 for adults, \$6.95 for children and \$7.95 for seniors and can be purchased in advance at queenszoo.com.

servation Society. It has the largest children's zoo in the city and species not found elsewhere in the five boroughs, including Andean bear, mountain lion, coyote, Roosevelt elk, mule-footed hog, Texas Longhorn cattle and Canada lynx.

When the zoo was built in 1968 on the grounds of the 1964 World's Fair, it included only North American mammals and birds. After the city struggled to manage the facility, it was closed, then reopened in 1992 in partnership with WCS. The society renovated and added South American animals such as the Andean bear.

"We're connecting with a lot of people from around Queens," says Silver. "The population is so diverse here, and people from parts of South America enjoy talking to their kids about having these bears where they originally came from."



A Burrowing owl and owllet at the Queens Zoo

Photo by Julie Larsen Maher