Two Races, One Candidate

What happens if Maloney wins the AG primary?

By Brian PJ Cronin

Election Day is two months away, and the Democrat candidate for New York's 18th Congressional District, which includes the Highlands, remains TBD.

The picture will become clearer after Thursday's Democratic primary for state attorney general, a position that opened in May when Eric Schneiderman resigned in the wake of a sexual-abuse scandal near the end of his second, three-year term.

Among the four Democrats on the primary ballot is Sean Patrick Maloney, a Philipstown resident who is running simultaneously for his fourth, two-year term representing the 18th District in Congress.

The other three Democrats are Letitia "Tish" James, the New York City public advocate who has been endorsed by the Democratic Party and Gov. Andrew Cuomo; Leecia Eve, a former aide to Cuomo; and Zephyr Teachout, a Fordham law school professor and author of Corruption in America.

A Quinnipiac University poll conducted in July found 42 percent of a sample of 415 registered Democrats remained undecided, while James had 26 percent support, Maloney, 15; Teachout, 12; and Eve, 3. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus 6.2 percent.

Maloney's campaign has survived two court cases that challenged the legality of running for a state and federal position at the same time, provided he drops out of the congressional race if he wins.

(Continued on Page 5)

Who Will Succeed Skartados?

Five Democrats in primary to face Republican candidate

By Jeff Simms

Five Democrats will square off in a primary on Thursday, Sept. 13, to determine who will face Republican and Conservative Party candidate Scott Manley in November to succeed the late Assemblyman Frank Skartados.

The state seat, which Skartados held from 2012 until he died of pancreatic cancer in April, represents the 104th District, which includes Beacon and Newburgh.

Manley is a retired police officer and current member of the Newburgh Town Council. Sakima McClinton, a West Point graduate and former president of the Poughkeepsie school board, also filed to run on the Republican and Conservative Party lines but her nominating petitions were ruled invalid by the state Board of Elections.

The Current asked each Democratic candidate to provide biographical information and explain why he or she is running. Manley and his Democratic challenger will be asked more detailed questions before the general election. The candidates are presented in alphabetical order. Their responses have been edited for brevity and clarity.

Ralph Coates

Coates, a lifelong resident of Poughkeepsie, holds a bachelor's degree in organizational management from Nyack College and is pursuing a master's degree in public administration at Marist. He is director of Liberty Partnerships at SUNY Orange in Newburgh, a state-funded program to prevent Newburgh public school students from dropping out. Coates also served on Poughkeepsie's city council, served two terms on its Board of Education and is a trustee of the Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

“At a resident of an inner city, I want what is best for cities like Beacon, Poughkeepsie and Newburgh, to see us grow and prosper,” he wrote. “I have spent a lot of time walking our communities’ streets, visiting churches and talking to its people. Beneath our feet lies a well of untapped potential that can be harnessed only with the reins of dedicated leadership and visionary talent from someone who has been working in the heart of our community. I do my homework and I ask the tough questions. I am equipped to represent our cities and towns from Day One in Albany.”

Jonathan Jacobson

Jacobson served as an assistant counsel to the speaker of the state Assembly on its Labor Committee, where he researched and wrote legislation. He also served as an assistant state attorney general in charge of the Consumer Frauds Bureau in Poughkeepsie and as a Workers’ Compensation judge. Currently a member of the Newburgh City Council, Jacobson chaired the Orange County Democratic Committee for 22 years. His law practice focuses on workers’ comp and Social Security disability cases.

“The three top issues are, first, ending corruption in America; second, legislation to protect us from the excesses of the Trump administration and the Trump Supreme Court, from reproductive rights...”

(Continued on Page 8)
Five Questions: Alice Matthews

By Alison Rooney

Alice Matthews, a native of Hot Springs, Arkansas, who now lives in Beacon, won multiple ribbons last month at the Dutchess County Fair for her knitting.

When did you start knitting?
In 1995, after a friend opened a knitting shop. Nobody starts out good. Even Yo-Yo Ma has to practice. It becomes a combination of aptitude and attitude. I’m a craft freak. My grandfather called me “dorky,” and not the admiring kind of dorky. I’ve become one of those old ladies who knits and cusses.

Do you enjoy the Knit Together group?
Oh, yes! It’s amazing. We meet at Howland Library every Tuesday morning at 10. Sometimes there are three people and other times there aren’t enough chairs. There are men and women; we love our men, when they come. Some people bring babies. We often do work for charities. Recently we knitted for Syrian refugees.

How does the fair judging work?
There are so many categories, and probably 300 to 400 entries. I’d never entered before. I never even knew it existed, but I have gardener friends who have won ribbons, and I wanted ribbons, too! I won Best Knitted Scarf/Cowl; Judge’s Choice; and a Blue Ribbon. My goal now is to compete at the Sheep and Wool Festival; that’s like the Nobel Prize or the MacArthur grant of knitting. Something like 60,000 people participate, people crazier than I am. But crazy is OK — it’s a victimless crime.

What is a cowl?
One continuous piece, doubled, and deceptively easy. I knitted a different piece I think is better, but I gave it away as a wedding present. The one that won is called Fair Isle, or “charted” knitting. Typically, they are historic patterns. This one had 19 charts, which look like graph paper. There are white and black sections and it’s simple, as long as you’re not drinking. I separate patterns by the “What you can watch on TV while you’re doing it” method. With the hardest things, I can’t watch anything. With the easiest one, I can watch a Japanese movie — and drink.

Did your professional life have anything to do with crafts?
Nope, although I’ve had a million jobs. My last job in Arkansas was at a newspaper called The Trucker. My worst job was as a car hop at Shoney’s, although they did have chocolate cake with ice cream and hot fudge that made it almost worth it. Now I’m retired and spending time in the yard and doing crafts. My husband and I wanted to get out of New York City. The first time we visited Cold Spring, we got two parking tickets and felt so welcomed we moved nearby.

My room. It’s my temple, my fortress, my safe place, my happy place, my everything.
~ Keije Walser, Beacon

I used to go to Hudson Highlands State Park, but it has become too crowded. Now I just go to my backyard.
~ Chris Roweley, North Highlands

Long Dock Park. The river is so beautiful and relaxing, in every season.
~ Tricia Rivers, Beacon
Once You’re In, You’re In

Schools scolded for “re-registering” students

By Christine Sparta

When parents in Brewster expressed concern that some students did not live in the district — one claimed as many as 40 to 50 students should not be enrolled there — the district did something unusual: It required every student to re-register over the summer, compelling families to provide proof of residency as they had done when the student was first enrolled.

“We do realize that this procedure may be an inconvenience, but hope that you understand that with increasing property taxes and tighter school budgets, it is essential that every dollar spent in our schools goes toward the education of our students,” administrators told parents and guardians in a letter. At least three districts in Westchester County — Mount Vernon, Mamaroneck and New Rochelle — have done the same.

 Registrars for the Beacon, Haldane and Garrison districts said they follow state guidelines and have no plans to re-register students.

At the same time, “it’s pretty hard for someone to look me in the face and say I live there when I damn well know they don’t,” said Gail Morgan, registrar for the Beacon City School District, who has lived in the city for more than 60 years. Morgan said that while school officials cannot legally question a child about where he or she lives, many times students will divulge a recent move because they are excited about the new home.

Even though she considers the Beacon district tough with its standards, Morgan says administrators will give a family that leaves the district a bit of time to make the transition. For instance, if a non-resident student were discovered in October, the family might have until the holidays to make arrangements, she said.

Laura Mitchell, who has been the superintendent of schools in Garrison since 2014, said non-resident students haven’t been an issue for the district. Officials at Haldane said the same.

In other Haldane business…

The board accepted the resignation of Anthony Showah, the district’s student support specialist, who took a job closer to his home in Ridgefield, Connecticut. A search is underway to find his successor. Guidance counselor Carol Storey also informed the board she plans to retire in December.

Patricia O’Rourke was appointed as a special education teacher in the middle school, and the board voted to establish the position of arts coordinator to serve as a liaison with the Arts Alliance.

Superintendent Philip Benante suspended a plan to redirect the traffic flow on campus. “I am concerned with the manner in how this decision was made,” he wrote in a letter to parents. He also noted that students should not be dropped off on Mountain Avenue and that Locust Ridge is one-way from 7 to 9 a.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m. on school days.

**NOTICE OF TAX COLLECTION**

The Warrant for the Collection of Taxes for the City School District of the City of Beacon, New York, for the School Fiscal Year 2018 - 2019 has been delivered to me.

PLEASE NOTE: Noncash Payments only for taxes are to be made at the M & T Bank, 200 Main Street, Beacon, New York 12508 during their regular Banking hours.

Noncash Tax Payments can be mailed:
- Beacon City School District
- School Tax Collection
- P.O. Box 1330,
- Buffalo, New York 14240-1330.

Please make all Checks payable to: BEACON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT.

**COLLECTION PERIOD:**
- September 06, 2018 - October 05, 2018 Penalty Free
- October 06, 2018 - November 05, 2018 Add 2% Penalty

**Note:** PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 06, 2018 OR AFTER NOVEMBER 05, 2018.

**SIGNED:** Florence Zopf
BCSD School Tax Collector

Tax Bills/Receipts are available online at: www.infotaxonline.com
Development for the people

In the past year, The Highlands Current has covered the mounting concern in Beacon over the rapid addition of mostly high-end residential units into the cityscape, a concern that led to a moratorium and a revamping of some of the city’s zoning codes. Meanwhile, the opportunity to create a powerful antidote to this development is languishing.

In 2013, New York State closed the Beacon Correctional Facility, a minimum security prison for women. A little over a year later, Empire State Development issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 39-acre site, situated near the northeast border with Fishkill, down Matteawan Road, just past Beacon High School.

In the interim, a small working group of citizens had met nearly every week, trying to form a coalition of nonprofits, small businesses and educational programs that could respond to the RFP with a viable, dynamic proposal. Our vision included jobs, training and education, centered around community-based, sustainable agriculture. We had a local farm, established small businesses and several well-respect ed educational programs on board, as well as blueprints for a textile mill and a composting operation.

In fact, the RFP that included these plans was accepted by New York State. Unfortunately, a letter to Gov. Andrew Cuomo by a number of local politicians asked him to rescind the agreement. This caused the organization acting as lead for the project to withdraw. Whether this was due to delays in funding or political maneuvering or some combination is now unimportant.

This past fall, Empire State Development issued a Request for Expression of Interest (RFEI), as a precursor to issuing another RFP. The Matteawan Group, which consisted of several of us from the original winning proposal, submitted to this RFEI and spoke with representatives directly about our plans. Since then, radio silence. I believe the state and Dutchess County need to hand this property back over to the city and let us decide (along with Fish kill, where some of the land resides) how to best use it. There are plenty of examples of other communities taking on projects like this successfully, and these can be used for ideas and blueprints — no need to completely reinvent the wheel.

The city could appoint a board to help manage the property. Perhaps some kind of homesteading program could be set up in addition to the commercial uses — we seem to be good at giving land to big developers on the cheap, why not give some to ordinary citizens? Whatever happens, I believe the community should resist at all cost this land being turned over to a developer or any large, outside private entity.

We’ve done enough of that for now.

The city has already managed to construct a $10 million highway garage on this property. Let’s put our not insignificant energy and ideas together and create something truly wonderful that brings jobs and opportunities, along with agency, directly to the citizens of Beacon.

Mark Roland, Beacon

What is a primary?

Last month, the League of Women Voters of Putnam County held a candidate forum for the Democratic primary candidates for the state Senate race for District 40 (which includes eastern Putnam). We were asked by some folks why we didn’t invite any Republican candidates. To be clear: If there are not two candidates in the same party running for a particular office, you cannot have a primary. Primaries come in two basic forms: open and closed. In an open primary, all registered voters can vote for any candidate. Registered independents can participate in either party’s primary. In a closed primary, as we have in New York state, voters may vote only for candidates of the party with which they are registered. In order for the state to change to an open primary, the Legislature would need to amend the state constitution.

The date for the New York primary election is Thursday, Sept. 13. For information on the candidates, visit the New York State League Election Voter Guide at lwvny.civicengine.com or votingnewyork.org and enter your ZIP code.

Phyllis Hoenig, Mahopac
Hoenig is vice president of the League of Women Voters of Putnam County.

McCredo for Assembly

Thomas Jefferson wrote, “Every government degenerates when trusted to the rulers of the people alone. The people themselves, therefore, are its only safe de positaries.”

Democracy is based on the proposition that the best way to safeguard our constitutional rights and civil liberties, and build safe and productive communities, is to solicit and carefully weigh disparate voices across all levels of society. Inclusivity provides the checks and balances needed to ensure that no sector of society experiences disenfranchisement by design or unintended circumstance. Inclusivity is good citizenship; it cultivates the sense of belonging, well-being and worth needed to thrive in all our communities.

This is why I plan to vote for Jodi McCredo for the New York State Assembly in the Democratic primary on Sept. 13. She is an empathetic and socially competent member of the Beacon City Council. Years of advocacy help her comfortably engage with people from all walks of life. She is not content to rest on yesterday’s laurels but regularly seeks input from across the cultural spectrum to ensure that her representation is authentic and relevant.

McCredo clearly remembers that her decisions deeply impact our community and she strives to promote an inclusive society where every perspective bears weight. In my opinion, as a member of the state Assembly, Jodi McCredo will bring my voice to Albany and make it count.

Lorraine Hextall, Beacon
Maloney (from Page 1)

The AG primary. He has said he will do so. Maloney previously ran for the Democrat-ic nod for attorney general in 2006 only to finish third in a four-man primary won by Cuomo, who went on to win.

(As The Current was going to press, Teachout filed a lawsuit claiming that Ma-loney’s transfer of more than $1.4 million from his federal campaign fund to his state coffers was a violation of campaign finance law. Malo-ney’s transfer was prohibited because it took place without campaign committee approval. The lawsuit argues that if Maloney had used his federal campaign funds to pay for legal costs related to the lawsuit, it would have been a violation of campaign finance law.)

The congressman did not respond to a request for comment on the AG race but told City & State last month that he was running because “I think what people are looking for is something different, and somebody who can get this job done at a critical time when you need somebody with public and private sector experience, particularly the experi-ence of standing up to Donald Trump in Washington, who understands the federal issues. Who understands the Russia inves-tigation. Who has real experience running investigations. That’s the skill set that is needed in this office at this moment.”

He also said: “I’m the only one in this race who’s actually beat Republicans. It’s one thing to win races when you run against other Democrats in New York City. I beat a Republican in three congressional races in a row, in some of the toughest campaigns in the country. I won in a Trump district as a gay guy with an interracial family. So we’re proud of that and we think it demonstrates an ability to win tough fights.”

If Maloney wins the AG primary, a Va-cancy Committee made up of the chairs of the Democratic parties in Dutchess, Or-ange, Putnam and Westchester counties would select a replacement for the con-gressional race.

James Borkowski, chair of the Putnam County Democrats, said he and his three colleagues have not met, “but there have been a lot of telephone conversations be-tween us, Sean’s office and other people.”

Borkowski declined to say who the com-mittee was considering if Maloney is the AG candidate. “I’m not at liberty to discuss who’s out there,” he said. “It would be rath-er presumptuous, and might not be fair to the people who are interested. But we do have several excellent candidates, if Sean wins. And I think he’s going to pull it off.”

Not every local Democrat has taken a rosy view of Maloney’s run for state office, grumbling that abandoning his congres-sional seat so late in the race could tip the election to his Republican challenger, Or-ange County legislator James O’Donnell. The Democratic candidate-in-waiting would also be starting with zero campaign funds, which means that he or she would need to raise money quickly. Although Ma-loyy won his 2016 campaign by a comfort-able margin, President Donald Trump took the district by 2 percentage points.

Borkowski believes this is what makes Maloney a formidable candidate. “That’s an extraordinary achievement,” he said. “Sean has done a wonderful job serving his constituents whether they’re Democrats or Republicans. He’s done an extraordinary job with veterans, bringing services to his constituents, and now fighting Donald Trump.”

Borkowski noted that should Maloney win the AG primary, he has said he will work to keep his former seat blue. Malo-ney told City & State: “Nobody cares about keeping this district blue more than I do, I can assure you. It has been the focus of my life for six years. We turned it blue, we kept it blue and we’ve done such a good job at that, they couldn’t find anybody to run against me. So I’ve got the weakest [congressional] opponent I’ve ever had, and for that reason, we are in very good shape in this district one way or the other.”

That may not assuage Elisa Sumner, the chair of the Dutchess County Democrats and another member of the Vacancy Com-mittee. She too did not respond to a request from The Current for comment but was quoted in The Intercept saying she found Maloney’s dual candidacy to be an insult to the people in his congressional district. He’s basically saying to them, “If I can’t be attorney general, then I’ll still be your rep-representative, but if I can, I’m leaving.”

Along with the attorney general, Demo-crats on Sept. 13 will select candidates for governor and lieutenant governor. Actor and activist Cynthia Nixon is challenging incumbent Andrew Cuomo in the gover-nor’s race, and Jumaane Williams, a New York City councilman, is taking on Lieu-tenant Governor Kathy Hochul.
Beacon Man Charged with 2014 Murder
Allegedly killed woman in Brooklyn

A Beacon man walked into a Manhattan police station on Aug. 28 and confessed to killing his girlfriend in their Brooklyn apartment in 2014, according to the New York Police Department. He was charged with murder the next day.

Ricky Gonzalez, 34, whose last known address was 153 Tompkins Terrace, allegedly told officers he stabbed Maria Quinones, 58, in March 2014, dismembered her body and put it out with the trash. Quinones was reported missing later that year by her sister. Gonzalez is being held without bail.

First Seastreak to Arrive Oct. 6
Cruises will continue into November

Seastreak, which runs cruise boats from Manhattan and New Jersey to Cold Spring, will arrive for the first time this fall on Oct. 6 and continue their weekend runs through Nov. 3. The ships will arrive at 11 a.m. and leave the village at 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

The firm has a new, larger ship that can hold as many as 600 passengers but will run only one per day, rather than two, according to the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

WELCOME BACK — The Manitou School in Cold Spring, celebrating its fifth year, welcomed more than 100 students back to class on Sept. 4. It expanded its classrooms over the summer and plans in 2019 to add a gym.  

“The arrival of up to 600 visitors on Main Street at one time will put a strain on restaurants, shops and public facilities,” Chamber officials said in a statement, adding that they were “working with the village and the marketing staff of Seastreak to ensure the most positive experience for Seastreak visitors and to help businesses serve them.”

Rosh Hashanah Services Scheduled in Cold Spring and Beacon

The Philipstown Reform Synagogue, led by Paul Kaye and the PRS Holy Days Choir, will hold a Rosh Hashanah service at the parish hall of St. Mary’s Church at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 9, followed by apples and honey kiddush. A service at 10 a.m. on Sept. 10 will be followed by Tashlich at the Cold Spring pier. See philipstowntownreformsynagogue.org. The synagogue will also celebrate Kol Nidre at St. Mary’s on Sept. 18 and Yom Kippor on Sept. 19.

The Beacon Hebrew Alliance, at 331 Verplanck Ave., will celebrate Rosh Hashanah at 7 p.m. on Sept. 9, followed by a 10 a.m. service the next morning and a Tashlich service at Long Dock Park at 4 p.m. There will also be a Rosh Hashanah service at 9 a.m. on Sept. 11. Kol Nidre takes place at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 18 and Yom Kippor from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sept. 19, followed at 4:30 p.m. by the Mincha, Ne’illah, Ma’ariv and a Break Fast and Dance Party.

Passport Day in Putnam
Clerk will extend hours

Putnam County Clerk Michael Bartolotti will host his third annual Putnam County Passport Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sept. 22 at his office at 40 Glebeida Ave., Room 100, in Carmel.

The clerk’s office will provide passport information and accept applications. Call 845-808-1142, ext. 49301, with questions.

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Cold Spring Says ‘No’ to Green Mountain Energy

Trustee questions ties to big energy

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Board of Trustees denied a request at its Sept. 4 meeting by Green Mountain Energy to promote its services on Main Street.

A Green Mountain representative, David Baumann, had asked the board to allow the company to set up a table in front of Kismet at Caryn’s at 72 Main St. through Thanksgiving to pitch residents and visitors on its renewable energy plans. The company often sets up a table on Main Street in Beacon.

Trustees turned down the request by a 4-1 vote after Mayor Dave Merandy expressed concern over precedent and Trustee Steve Voloto questioned the company’s ties to NRG Energy, which last year had operating revenues of $10.6 billion.

“If we allow this to happen, that opens the door to other people who want to do the same exact thing,” Merandy said, noting that village code requires merchants to keep sidewalk merchandise within 3 feet of buildings. “I don’t know if we really want to have tables. It’s a narrow area.”

Voloto opposed the request mainly on environmental grounds. Most people interested in green energy “wouldn’t want to buy if they knew that your company is actually owned by one of the largest coal, oil and natural-gas energy companies,” he said.

“We are owned by NRG,” Baumann responded, noting that 100 percent of the energy offered by Green Mountain is generated from renewable sources. He also said the company has 600,000 customers nationwide and acknowledges its ownership by NRG when asked.

But Voloto suggested Green Mountain was “hoodwinking” customers by not saying up front where its revenue ends up. “The company that’s going to profit is as far from green energy as you can get,” he said, using an expletive. “Pardon my French!”

Merandy asked the audience to “forgive Steve’s little outburst; he’s passionate about energy and doing it right,” but questioned whether the village could lawfully deny Green Mountain’s request simply because the trustees didn’t like that the firm works with “big oil.”

On another front, Trustee Fran Murphy expressed concern that Green Mountain’s presence could confuse residents as the village contemplates the bulk purchase of electricity through the Community Choice Aggregate program.

Lynn Miller was the lone trustee to vote in favor of allowing Green Mountain to set up a table.

In other business …

Trustees approved a photo shoot in the village today (Sept. 7) by 519 Productions, which will take photos for the electronics firm LG in the area of Depot Square, Rock Street and the riverfront.

The Philipstown Community Congress Trails Committee will host Philipstown Bikes Day on Sunday, Sept. 30, to show support for building a more bikeable and walkable community. Bikers, walkers and non-motorized movers will be invited to use a closed 1.7-mile loop east of Morris Avenue and Chestnut Street. Email philipstowntrails@gmail.com for information.

Tobacco 21 Bill Back to Committee

The Putnam County Legislature tabled a proposal to raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco products and accessories from 18 to 21, with most lawmakers saying it needed fine-tuning. See story at highlandscurrent.org.
Assembly (from Page 1)
to health insurance to environmental laws; and, third, expanding free college tuition at state colleges to part-time students and vocational training,” he wrote. “I also favor developing a single-payer health plan, rebuilding our infrastructure and ending the culture of corruption in Albany. It is not enough to be on the right side of the issues — you need the experience, energy and ideas to be an effective Assembly member.”

Alex Kelly
Kelly, a journalist who lives in Beacon, was Skartados’ director of policy development and holds the same position with the New York State Assembly Majority Conference. According to his campaign website, he wrote many of the bills that Skartados introduced, including those designed to block pipelines, create public banks, end gun violence, restore public education and prevent overdose deaths.

Kelly says his eight years as a journalist, including for Truthdig, The Nation and Harper’s, will provide free connections with experts who can inform his policies. He is also a community organizer who led the production of Skartados’ forum on opioid abuse and co-organized the Citizen Soapbox, where Beacon residents presented visions for the future of the community.

“The truth of this campaign is that we need each other,” he writes on his website. “We must combine our strengths and privileges — patiently, carefully and rapidly. People are committed to this work throughout the district, and I am running to support them. Skartados’ death left a hole in our leadership. In his absence, we need courage, ideas, experience and unequivocal recognition of the unnecessary hardship that most New Yorkers suffer.”

Kevidaryán Luján
Luján was elected last year to the Orange County Legislature, representing Newburgh’s 4th District. A first-generation Colombian-American, he holds a bachelor’s degree in international relations from Florida International University in Miami and a master’s degree in international relations and European studies from Central European University in Budapest. He is fluent in English, French and Spanish.

“My priorities are increased funds for our public schools, improved public transportation, affordable housing, affordable child care, sustainable economic development and livable-wage jobs.”

“In the Assembly I will fight to bring the funds and support our region needs while also taking a firm position against the corruption in Albany.”

Jodi McCredo
McCredo, who represents Ward 3 on the Beacon City Council, owns and operates a printing company she started with her husband and last year was a recipient of the 40 under 40 Rising Star Award from the Business Council of Westchester County. A longtime public school advocate, McCredo helped form the grassroots organization Advocates for Beacon Schools and also served on the Beacon Commission on Human Relations.

“I want to work to improve our public education system, enact single-payer health care, bring grants into the district to help improve infrastructure and economic development and protect the Hudson River,” she wrote. “I also want to help bring tourism dollars to our beautiful riverfront communities, protect our farms and farmers, help small businesses get started and grow, and protect the rights of everyone.

“I am proud of the legislation I have passed since winning a seat on the Beacon City Council. I am willing to listen and learn, but also unafraid to stand up for what I believe is right for our families, communities and our environment. Together, we can build a safe, fair and healthy New York.”

Other races
In other local races, candidates are battling to win lines on the ballot that represent only a small number of voters, under the hypothesis that the more times your name appears, the more likely you will win.

Maureen Fleming, the Democratic candidate for the county of the Reform (42) and Women’s Equality (71) parties will decide which of two candidates receive their lines for Dutchess County Surrogate Court and Family Court judgeships.

For Surrogate Court, which handles trust and guardianship issues, the candidates for both lines are Thomas Mansfield, an attorney in Red Hook, and Michael Hayes, the town judge of LaGrange. Mansfield already has the Democratic and Working Families lines and Hayes the Republican, Conservative, Green and Independence lines.

For Family Court, Karen Hagstrom, a county district attorney, is challenging Jeffrey Martin, a lawyer and town justice from Red Hook, for both lines. Hagstrom has the Republican, Conservative, Green and Independence lines and Martin the Democratic and Working Families lines.

The polls are open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Results will be posted at highlandscurrent.org.
Paper Dreams
Cold Spring artist on the cutting edge

By Alison Rooney

During her commute by train between Cold Spring and her job at Columbia University, Summer Hart says she often gazes out the window, taking in the landscape.

“I’m writing things down, taking off from what I’m seeing,” she says. “The world I’m envisioning might have invasive plants taking over a post-human landscape, or it could be a fairytale forest, or something else which moves between biology and storytelling. I keep a running list of phrases and titles.”

One of those phrases, further evidence of invasion, triggered by water chestnuts washing ashore along the Hudson, became the title for Hart’s cut-paper installation at Nelsonville’s Create Community space that opens today (Sept. 7) with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. and continues through Wednesday, Sept. 12.

Hart says it’s her way of introducing herself, and her art, to the community. She and her husband and their son moved to Cold Spring a year ago.

Hart calls herself “fascinated by organic geometry. The kind found in nature, fracturing, patterning, plant defense mechanisms.” She ascribes some of this to growing up in Maine. “My work always has an element of forest and sea. There are sometimes feathery structures, barnacles. Moving to the Hudson Valley has heightened things. I take my dog for a long walk every day, and notice things: wineberries, snapping turtles — a tangible wild nature does affect what I’m doing.”

Her installations take the form of cascading “living walls” of Tyvek, a material which simulates paper but is hardier. Hung from high and draped on the floor, the walls express a “vision of a ghostly nature, creeping in through any breach, fissure, or opportunity,” Hart writes.

She says her work is a lot about obsession — and that she creates it obsessively. “When I’m doing the actual cuts, I lose time, in my head. It becomes meditative. I do no sketching; it’s action/reaction and if I make a mistake, it becomes something else.”

In her earlier illustrative work, she used “dots, patterning, swarms, clusters, murmurations and repetitive pinwheels” to create images. In one series, Songbirds, Hart painted large works using tiny brushes that she used to make “obsessive markings.

“They combined 19th-century botanicals with Victorian children and zoological images, creating two factions: animals like the songbirds who nest and the raiders in raspberry brambles,” she explains. “All were figures out of their own time which occupied interstitial spaces, in between sleeping and waking, joy and grief.”

When she did an installation at the Vermont Studio Center, “the reactions were all over the place, from ‘Fairytale forest dreamland’ to ‘Dangerous, but not dark.’”

The cut-paper works stem from the same ideas. Hart says she began working in this form when she was asked, in 2016, to collaborate with a Berlin-based DJ, to investigate “synesthesia” of the senses, in this instance, sound and visual.

“I closed my eyes and heard the sounds, and got very detailed visuals,” Hart recalls. “He did electronic, startling sounds which I translated into cutting rolls of paper using an X-Acto knife, dropping the figurative, focusing on the swarm, the cluster.” In future projects, she hopes to incorporate the sound of cutting paper into her installations.

Hart, who trained in book arts and printmaking, received a bachelor’s degree in fine arts from the Hartford Art School and a master’s in fine arts from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. In February she’ll be doing a solo installation at a Philadelphia gallery called The Art Dept., and some of that work is included here. She works in the University Seminars Division at Columbia, taking care of its archives, website and design; her husband is a professor there of English and comparative literature.

Create Community is located at 11 Peekskill Road in Nelsonville. The gallery will be open Saturday and Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m. and Monday through Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
What reflects Beacon’s spirit? That question was put to the community over the summer by the Howland Public Library, with answers expected in photographs.

The results can be seen in *The Spirit of Beacon*, which opens at the library on Saturday, Sept. 8, with a reception from 5 to 9 p.m., and runs through Oct. 7.

The exhibit, a collaboration between the library and the Spirit of Beacon Day Committee, includes more than 50 photos by 36 contributors. The most popular subjects were the waterfall, the dummy light, and Pete Seeger, says Michelle Rivas, who curated the show with Jennifer Blakeslee. “One of my favorite photos is by lifelong resident Jean Noack,” says Rivas. “The image is a silhouette of three girls just hanging out and enjoying each other’s company at Pete and Toshi Seeger Park. It’s just such a joyful image, and it perfectly celebrates the beauty of our city and the community. Another that stood out is by 15-year-old Alex Turk,” she adds. “It’s a simple but expressive photo of the shadow of a sculpture at Dia:Beacon. Besides being such a beautiful photo, I appreciate it as a unique and unexpected take on the idea of the Spirit of Beacon.”
“Riverside Chat,” by Jean Noack

“Town 2017,” by Stacey Kaufman

“Sunset on Main,” by Susannah Pugsley

“Beacon in Bloom,” by Larry Fitzpatrick

“Crooked,” by Alex Turk

“Winter Sledding,” by Kenny Kirsch

“Main Street Rooftop Show,” by Tom Conroy
Calendar Highlights
Submit to calendar@highlandscurrent.org
For complete listings, see highlandscurrent.org

FRIDAY, SEPT. 7

Octoberfest
5 – 10 p.m. Germania Festival Grounds
61 Old DeGarmo Road, Poughkeepsie
germaniapok.com

Ice Cream Social and Magic Show
6 – 9 p.m. Methodist Church
216 Main St., Cold Spring
coldspringny.gov/events

Island of Lost Souls (Film) on Bannerman Island
6 & 7 p.m. Boat leaves Beacon dock
bannermancastle.org

Jane Schneider: Sculptures (Opening)
6 – 8:30 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
121 Main St., Cold Spring
845-809-5145 | busterlevigallery.com

Summer J. Hart: further evidence of invasion (Opening)
Create Community | 11 Peakskill Road, Nelsonville
summerhart.com

Aery Theatre 20/20 Play Festival
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
4 & 8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
Aery Theatre 20/20 Play Festival
3 p.m. Bannerman Island | See details under Friday.
mccaffreyrealty.com

Chefs’ Farm-Fresh Dinner
 Noon. Desmond-Fish Library
99 Moseman Road, Yorktown Heights
46 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie

Hudson Valley Rise for Climate Day of Action
See details under Friday.
Hudson Valley Rise for Climate Day of Action
11 a.m. – 10 p.m. Germania | See details under Friday.
845-831-2012 | beaconhebrewalliance.org

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WINE and CHEESE reception
Saturday, September 8, 4 - 6 p.m.
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SUNDAY SEPT. 9

SUNDAY SEPT. 9

Wildflower Walk
10 a.m. Audubon Center
127 Warren Landing Road, Garrison
845-265-2801 | constitutionmarsh.audubon.org

Hoot on the Hudson
1 – 6 p.m. Little Stony Point Road 9D, Cold Spring
facebook.com/littlestonypointpark

Art Reception / Film Screening for Steam Punk Camp – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
See details under Saturday.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12

Cover Cropping Workshop
6 p.m. Glenmere Mansion
See details under Saturday.

Garrison School Board
7 p.m. Garrison School
1104 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

County and State Primary Election
6 a.m. – 9 p.m. elections.ny.gov

Volleyball vs. Albertus Magnus
4:30 p.m. Haldane High School
See details under Saturday.

Cold Spring Chamber Mixer
5:30 p.m. Magazine Italian Art
2700 Route 9, Philipstown
exploreoldspringny.com

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Dracula (Performance) on Bannerman
5:30 & 6:30 p.m. Boat leaves Beacon dock
bannermancastle.org

Aery Theatre 20/20 Play Festival
8 & 10 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
See details under Sept. 7.
Spontaneous Symmetry

Donna Mikkelsen

Saturday, Sept 8
291 Main St, Beacon

Celebrate the opening of a series of original works by Beacon-based artist Donna Mikkelsen. Donna has been exploring ambidextrous drawing for 25-plus years and has developed her own unique style.

Collaborative Symmetry: Community Drawing
3 – 5 PM
Free, drop-in spontaneous drawing sessions with Donna.

Spontaneous Symmetry Opening + Performance
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Sunday, September 9th · 8:00 pm
Rosh Hashanah Eve services followed by Apples & Honey Kiddush

Monday, September 10th · 10:00 am
Rosh Hashanah Morning Services followed by Tashlich at Cold Spring Pier

Tuesday, September 18th · 8:00 pm
Yom Kippur Eve / Kol Nidre services

Wednesday, September 19th
10:00 am - noon: Yom Kippur Morning Services

*NEW* 1:00 - 2 pm: Children’s Yom Kippur Experience
4:30 pm: Yom Kippur Afternoon & Yizkor Services followed by Havdalah & light break fast

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www.philipstownreformsynagogue.org
Kid Friendly

Going Back to School, and Work

By Katie Hellmuth Martin

As a business owner, I find September to be a glorious month. It’s back-to-business season. September is also back-to-school season, which, in theory, is also exciting. School supplies! Fall wardrobes! Kids are occupied! Cheaper than camp!

But, for young parents who are business owners, September is tricky. Just as you’re revving back into work, there are last-minute soccer cleats to buy, overscheduling of ballet/swimming/soccer, and Monday holidays. And dinner? Ha. I laugh in the face of dinner!

For fellow parents who are diving back into school and work life, and home life in general: Peace be with you. Staying grounded and focused is going to be our first line of defense. It’s actually going to be our offense, because we are going to step in front of September and own it.

Addressing business owners who are parents out there is important for me, because, like me, you’ve either struggled with justifying child care costs in order to keep working 9 to 5 in a career you love, or you’re justifying child care costs so you can start your business that may or may not be paying you a living wage (yet).

The ads and articles that promise people they can “work from home with the baby” are totally misleading. Hence the photograph illustrating this article. See his hands smashing the laptop? That’s why he has his own toy laptop when I’m on mine. And this is just a picture — we are not colleagues, and we don’t “work” together. One can’t even clear the decks long enough to pay bills with a baby around.

My job as a writer and publisher is designed to be kid-friendly and work with a malleable schedule (which can be self-sabotaging). But for someone who needs to go to a physical space every day and make things, I have little insight. So I turned to two business owners: Carley Hughes, owner of Ella’s Bellas in Beacon, and Dawn Scanga, who owns Cold Spring Fitness on Route 9.

Carley’s business is named after her daughter. Before she had a shop, Carley delivered her baked goods to coffee shops. “I started delivering almost 10 years ago to Bank Square when Ella was around 14 months old,” she recalls. “It was a family affair. I would bake when Ella napped or was down for the night. My husband would do dishes and late-night deliveries and Ella and I would walk the rest over in the stroller.”

Parents who have family living in town can benefit from extended (and often free) child care. Carley has her mother-in-law who can help when their schedules align, and a bonus: “We were lucky to have a wonderful former bakery employee turn into child care help off-and-on over the years. She and Ella are still great friends and she’s now a successful business woman and mother, too!”

Dawn worked with private clients as a fitness trainer but now has a boutique studio where she also manages several teachers, members, classes, and her four children and husband.

“Managing the business location, school, and activity schedules has to include a plan of attack,” she says. “I learned early on that I don’t have to do it all myself. My husband and I tag-team the schedule. We have joint calendars so we can divide and conquer. I have older children to help with driving and drop-offs, which is a life saver.”

For those of us who don’t have family in town or partners with available schedules, building relationships with neighbors and friends can be an option. It’s why I got a ginormous car — so that I could help other families who have helped me when I’ve needed it.

(Continued on Page 19)
**COM m unity Briefs**

**If It’s Broke, Fix It**
*Repair Cafe set for Boscobel*

The Desmond-Fish Library, Boscobel, and the Cold Spring Farmers’ Market have lined up volunteers with technical expertise who will attempt to fix broken items at no charge during a Repair Cafe.

Bring damaged goods to Boscobel on Saturday, Sept. 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for evaluation. Fans, lamps, and fabrics have been popular at past events, but anything is welcome. Repairs are done on a first-come, first-served basis. Volunteer repair coaches are also welcome. Email karen@desmondfishlibrary.org for details.

**Pig Roast Fundraiser**
*Lions Club will host on Sept. 15*

The Cold Spring Lions Club will host its annual pig roast and chicken barbecue fundraiser at Glymwod on Saturday, Sept. 15, starting at 3 p.m. The event includes food, live music and drinks. Tickets are $60 at coldspringlions.org or The Country Goose on Main Street in Cold Spring. Proceeds support the Philipstown Food Pantry, the Frank Milkovich Scholarship Fund, Guiding Eyes for the Blind and the Philipstown Little League.

**Music for Flute and Guitar**
*Concert takes place Sept. 15 at Chapel*

Ben Yarmolinsky, a Cold Spring-based composer and guitarist, and Margaret Swinchoski, a flutist, will perform new music for flute and classical guitar at the Chapel Restoration at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15. The program will include a variety of original pieces inspired by folk, world, jazz, classical and other influences. The concert is free but a donation of $20 is suggested.

**Art Center Color**
*Two exhibits open Sept. 15*

The Garrison Art Center will open two exhibits with a reception from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15. Color Compositions is a group show curated by Marilyn Duntenfass that pairs five visual artists with artists from another discipline such as poetry, music and dance. Each pair interpreted “color” in their own medium. The reception includes performances with jazz saxophonist and composer Lena Hovanesian and a dance choreographed by Andrea Miller. The second gallery features an installation by textile artist Pat Hickman called Streaming: Wind and Water.

**Korean Cooking**
*Learn five traditional dishes*

The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison will host a seminar, Taste of Korea, that combines food, culture and history at noon on Saturday, Sept. 8. The cooking demonstration includes five traditional foods served with Bangjja bronzeeware. The event is free but a $6 donation is suggested.

**Silent Screen** — A lobby card for *Chicago* (1929), which will be shown with live music at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15.
Celebrate Diversity
Zoo will explain habitats
The Trailside Zoo at Bear Mountain Park will host a celebration of biodiversity from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15. Learn about local habitats, visit exhibits and see live animal presentations with the Habitat Passport. Parking is $10 and a donation of $1 per person is suggested for the zoo.

Roscoe & Etta
Singers to perform at Depot
Roscoe & Etta, which consists of singer-songwriters Maia Sharp and Anna Schulze, will perform at the Philipstown Depot Theatre on Garrison’s Landing at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 13, as part of a tour to promote their newly released self-titled album.

Flea Market
St. Andrew’s and St. Luke’s churches will hold a flea market at 850 Wolcott Ave. in Beacon from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15. There will be entertainment throughout the day, including the Yanarella School of Dance, Goldee Greene and the Howland Wolves, Last Minute Soulmates and United Martial Arts Center. The rain date is Sept. 16.

Dutchess and the Constitution
Exchange Club to host talk
The Exchange Club of Southern Dutchess will host a talk on Tuesday, Sept. 11, by Albert Rosenblatt, a retired New York State judge, on Dutchess County’s role in the ratification of the Constitution. Cocktails will be served at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. at the Heritage Restaurant in Wappingers Falls. Tickets are $40. Email sdexchangeclub@gmail.com for reservations.

Dracuila at the Castle
Bannerman to host performances
Theatre on the Road returns for two weekends of performances of Dracula at Bannerman Island, beginning Sept. 14. Boats leave the Beacon dock at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. for the 7 p.m. performance. See bannermancastle.org for tickets.

Grannies on a Mission
Protestors to discuss Texas trip
After news broke of immigrant children being separated from their parents at the U.S. border, a group of grandmothers and other women from the Highlands responded by organizing a caravan to McAllen, Texas. Hear about their protest and get updates on U.S. immigration policies at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 16, at Beahive in Beacon.

Second Show Added
Benefit for American Center for Folk Music
The American Center for Folk Music has added a second night to its benefit at the Towne Crier Cafe in Beacon. The Rhiannon Giddens Trio will perform on Wednesday, Sept. 12, and Thursday, Sept. 13. See townecrrier.com.

Bird Walk at Long Dock
Audubon guides to lead
Join the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society for a bird walk at Long Dock Park at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15, to look for neotropical birds migrating to boreal breeding grounds. Meet in the parking area. Three guides will lead the walk and donations are welcome. See putnam-highlandsaudubon.org to register.

Bird Walk at Long Dock
Audubon guides to lead
Join the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society for a bird walk at Long Dock Park at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15, to look for neotropical birds migrating to boreal breeding grounds. Meet in the parking area. Three guides will lead the walk and donations are welcome. See putnam-highlandsaudubon.org to register.

The Highlands Current
September 7, 2018
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Jeff Lutz
(1952-2018)

Jeffrey V. Lutz, 65, of Carmel, died suddenly on Sept. 1, 2018, at his home. Born Nov. 4, 1952, in Yonkers, he was the son of Frank and Carmella (Sardo) Lutz. Jeff was a talented composer, arranger, pianist and organist. He spent the last 14 years as music director at Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring, where his music touched many people. Jeff also conducted the adult and children’s choirs. He spent much of his career composing various pieces, ranging from television commercials, contemporary and jazz to liturgical pieces.

Jeff enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandson Shea, bicycle riding, and spending time in nature. On Sept. 4, 1993, he married Maureen Dorman at Sacred Heart Church in Yonkers. Besides his wife and musical partner, Maureen, he is survived by his daughter Jessica Christel (Douglas) of Salem, Massachusetts, from his first marriage to Frances Murray of Yonkers; and his grandson Shea Christel. He also leaves behind his brother, Frank Lutz (Livietta) of Rock Tavern.

A Mass of Christian Burial was scheduled to take place this morning (Sept. 7) at Our Lady of Loretto, with interment following at Cold Spring Cemetery.

Katie Hellmuth Martin is the Beacon mother of three children (ages 1 to 8), wife to one man and owner of — at last count — three businesses. Email her at kidfriendly@highlandscurrent.org.
Football Preview: Haldane Blue Devils

Twoguns gone, but team has strong core

By Skip Pearlman

With a clear path to the Class D final, it’s no surprise that the Haldane High School football team has plans on winning a sectional championship this season, as well.

Haldane’s last sectional title was in 2016, and the Blue Devils nearly won another last fall, falling 36-33 to perennial rival Tuckahoe to finish 6-3.

Haldane is scheduled to open its season with two home games — tonight (Sept. 7) at 7 p.m. against Tuckahoe, and at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15, versus Croton-Harmon.

The Blue Devils will line up with a new quarterback, sophomore Dan Santos, who succeeds Brandon Twoguns, an honorable mention on the Class D All-State team.

“With a good number of returning starters back, and we have some guys who are stepping into roles, guys we’re super-excited to get in.”

Haldane will rely on Sam Giachinta, a senior running back and linebacker who was third team All-State last season, senior receiver Thomas Percacciolo, junior receiver Matt Champlin, senior offensive lineman Will Westerhuis, senior running back and linebacker Brad Dowd, and senior linebacker and offensive tackle Craig Dowd.

McConville says Santos has been doing a great job behind the ball. “He has a strong arm, very accurate, and the last few weeks he’s started to mentally understand the game and the responsibilities of being quarterback,” the coach says. “He’s taken a bunch of good steps in the last few weeks.”

The coach also said he has been impressed with the team’s defense. “We have a lot of returning seniors who are hungry, and we have a great defensive line, with guys like John Hankel, Matt Ortiz, the Dowd brothers. These guys have a lot of experience under their belts, and are very physical players.”

The Blue Devils also add sophomores Doug Donaghy at linebacker, Christian Dowd brothers. These guys have a lot of experience under their belts, and are very physical players.

Haldane football team leaders Thomas Percacciolo, Sam Giachinta, Darrin Santos, Matt Champlin and Will Westerhuis

Pezzullo at center, Andrew Aiston on special teams and defense, and Josh Reyes.

“They all look good, and we’re hoping to build these guys up by the end of the year, see how they develop,” McConville said.

McConville said the team will look to be unpredictable on offense. “We know teams will key in on Sam [Giachinta], so there will be some pressure on Dan to complete some passes, move the chains.”

Beacon Soccer Starts with Win
Will this be year girls make a playoff run?

By Skip Pearlman

The Beacon High School girls’ soccer team, in the first game defending last season’s league championship, looked impressive at Brewster on Aug. 31 with a 3-1 win over the Bears.

The heat index wreaked havoc on practices and games this week, and Beacon’s Sept. 4 game against Sleepy Hollow was postponed. The Bulldogs are next scheduled to host Horace Greeley at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 8.

Coach Hugo Alzate said he liked what he saw against Brewster. “That was probably the best first game we’ve had in any of my four years here,” he said. “We moved the ball well and worked together well.”

The team plays defending Class A state champion Pearl River on Sept. 11 and top-ranked Rye on Sept. 12, the coach noted, “so we’ll find out pretty quickly where we stand.”

Against Brewster, Anisa Alzate, Emilie Lenaburg and Maddie Bobnick each scored, and Eliza Ericson assisted on Lenaburg’s goal. Goalie Meagan Meeuwisse had four saves.

The Bulldogs return eight starters from the many years we’ve been in Class A, we’ve never won a playoff game.”

Beacon is led by senior All-Section fullback Anna Manente. The team will also look for leadership from captains Meuwisse (a senior and All-Section keeper), Eliza Erickson (a senior and All-League center/mid) and Analiese Compagnone (a junior and All-League center/mid).

“They really stepped up in our opener, helped dictate pace and fed the forwards well,” Alzate said of his captains. “Anisa battled good defenders and scored with her left foot, and I love the speed and skill that [freshman] Bobnick brings — she’s physical and composed and she scored her first varsity goal.”

The team’s other returning players are senior Jordana Caputo; juniors Katelyn Rosa (All-League defender) and Samantha McDowell; and sophomores Jessica Spadaforo, Gabriella Del Castillo and Ashley Cassery. Junior Sierra Gianportone rejoin the team after being injured.