

The HIGHLANDS Current

SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

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



Beacon, After Dark
Page 9



A LITTLE HELP FROM HER FRIENDS — Older students helped younger ones navigate a new climbing structure dedicated on Sept. 22 at the Garrison School. For more photos, see Page 13.

Photo by Brian Tormey

Silver Spoon May Become Hotel

If approved, seven rooms would replace restaurant

By Michael Turton

Plans are underway to close the Silver Spoon Cafe on Main Street in Cold Spring and convert the space to seven hotel rooms.

The Cold Spring Planning Board was expected at its Thursday (Sept. 27) meeting to begin review of a plan by Hussein “Jimmy” Abdelhady, who owns the restaurant and building at 124 Main St., to convert the space. If approved, it would expand the bed and breakfast he operates on the second floor from five to 12 rooms.

Abdelhady, who opened Cold Spring Bed & Breakfast earlier this year, told *The Current* he would keep a small kitchen on the premises to prepare breakfasts.

“I get calls for rooms every day,” he said. While many calls are from the New York

(Continued on Page 5)

Cat Shelter in Dire Straits



Atop the whirring dryer is the preferred spot for this resident. Photo by A. Rooney

Beacon facility no longer taking new animals

By Alison Rooney

Mid Hudson Animal Aid, a no-kill cat shelter that opened in Beacon in 1990, says it likely will close early next year due to lack of funds.

The shelter continues to raise money but fundraisers and individual donations haven’t brought in nearly enough to cover the \$300,000 it needs annually to run the facility, about a third of which goes to medical expenses for the animals, said Mary Petruncola, the board secretary for the nonprofit.

As a result, the shelter has stopped accepting new animals, said Petruncola, who, with her husband, Don, the board president, have been volunteering at the shelter for 27 years. The Simmons Lane

(Continued on Page 14)

Tompkins Terrace, Beacon Affordable Housing Complex, Sold

Council member expresses concern over ‘neglect’ at development

By Jeff Simms

The 193-unit Tompkins Terrace apartment complex near the Beacon train station was sold as part of a mega-housing deal this summer and, as a result, the 16-acre development will likely be in line for rehabilitation in the next few years, as state funding and other resources become available.

Related Companies, one of the largest owners of affordable housing in the country, purchased the complex in July from the Denver-based Apartment Investment and Management Co. (Aimco) as part of a \$590 million deal that included 51 other below-market-rate housing developments in 16 states.

Tompkins Terrace accepts federal subsi-

dies, known as Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, for rent payments on its apartments, which range from studios to four-bedroom units. Created in 1978, the pro-

“Someone needs to show [the property] a little care.”

gram offers rental assistance to low-income families and individuals who meet eligibility requirements. Local public housing agencies administer the program, but may

(Continued on Page 8)



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Five Questions: Rhonda Magee

By Alison Rooney

Rhonda Magee, a law professor at the University of San Francisco, will be speaking at the Garrison Institute on Friday, Oct. 5, on mindfulness and social justice. To register for the free event, email events@garrisoninstitute.org.

What is “mindfulness”?

It's a way of being in contact with the sensation of being alive. When you are in that place, you can say, “This is the best way to respond.” There's no suppressing of emotion, as that leads to injury. Mindfulness encourages you to figure out the most effective way to respond when you recognize that anger is present, so you avoid denigrating or shaming someone. It allows you to pause, note the temptation to be reactive, and deal with it.

Do people confuse mindfulness with passivity?

Sometimes. That's why it's best for people to experience mindfulness, because they will see how it leads to feeling more awake, more alive. The Western image of mindfulness is of a person sitting on a cushion. But most of the teachings emphasize that it's important that it show up in everything you do, on and off the cushion — there's a line between the two.

Lawyers often need to be adversarial. How does that work with mindfulness?

The usual model for lawyering is knowledge, skills and values. Good lawyers may not need to be adversarial to serve their client; there are many ways to resolve conflicts. Just because you know how to fight doesn't mean it has to be a battle. Sometimes you can resolve conflicts with a conversation, mediation, space, listening.

Is mindfulness solely a Buddhist concept?

Practices of mindfulness owe something to the broadly conceived Buddhist teachings that help us know our minds more effectively. But, there's nothing specifically Buddhist in developing a practice of paying attention to oneself. Some of my most inspired and inspiring teachers have been secular practitioners. They've helped adapt Buddhist teachings after recognizing they were available to any human wishing to engage. Some people appreciate the science that shows the benefits of mindfulness, particularly in relation to immune systems, and in basic healing. Perceiving the positive, the possible, opens up opportunities for new ways of being.



Rhonda Magee

Photo provided

How do you persuade someone to try it out?

Help create spaces to engage with particular problems in the community. It's a delicate and challenging practice, with people all entering through different doors, attending to the spaces between them. It helps to be in a supportive community, because it is stressful on the front lines. A heart-based commitment to caring then becomes a commitment to justice.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's your take on fall, as a season?



“The foliage makes it the best time to hike. I love the cool weather and a nice glass of Argentinian Malbec.”

~Christine Alicea, Beacon



“It's about the drama of the mountains and color in the Hudson Valley, especially the view of Constitution Marsh from Boscobel and Storm King from Cold Spring.”

~Frank Billingsley, Beacon



“For me, it ranks behind winter as the worst season. The weather gets cold; kids get sick. Everything is dying, and you know you're going into the horribly long winter.”

~Zoe Antitch, Cold Spring

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New Homes on Old Lanes

Neighbors complain about plans for long-empty lots

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Attempts to erect houses on lots that neighbors consider “unbuildable” put some Garrison residents at odds with newcomers on two rustic, private roads prone to potholes or other maintenance challenges.

Critics want the Philipstown Planning Board to stop both projects. It appears the objections came too late for one, on Upland Drive, at Philipstown’s southern end. A proposal for Lake Celeste Drive, off Old Albany Post Road, awaits further scrutiny.

Upland Drive

Alex Campbell, a New York City resident, intends to build a 1,080-square-foot, eco-friendly “passive house” and 485-square-foot garage on a parcel on Upland Drive, with access from Cliffside Court.

Upland twists up and down hills between Old Albany Post Road and Winston Lane. Cliffside Court, also private, intersects Upland near its midpoint.

By law, some projects along private roads must only obtain Planning Board access approval, not a sign-off on the site plan. Campbell needed access approval.

He launched the project in 2016 and subsequently sought confirmation from the Continental Village Fire Department (CVFD) that Upland and Cliffside would

provide appropriate access.

In August 2017, the CVFD replied that it is up to the Planning Board, not firefighters, to declare a road safe. It noted that “often the fire department responds when the roads are clearly unsafe [and] sometimes goes where there are no roads”; it pledged to answer calls on Upland or Cliffside “even if they are not safe and suitable.”

From that, Campbell told the Planning Board in April, “it can be inferred” that the roads offer sufficient access.

However, in May, the CVFD told Campbell that to aid emergency vehicles, Upland required upgrades, including widening the entrance to Cliffside Court; removing trees and brush; and broadening the mouth of the planned driveway. Having the potholes filled also wouldn’t hurt, it said.

Campbell agreed to fund the work and the Planning Board made its approval contingent upon fulfillment of that promise.

Then neighbors learned of the access approval and objected.

On Sept. 9, in an eight-page letter to the Planning Board, Abraham Wachsman, who owns three parcels on Cliffside Court, alleged that Campbell had made “misleading” statements about Upland. The road “is inherently unstable and continuously self-destructs” because of defects such as the lack of a proper roadbed



East of the intersection with Cliffside Court, a sign warns of deteriorated road conditions on Upland Drive.

Photos by L.S. Armstrong

and drainage, Wachsman wrote. One section has been “completely washed out and impassable” for years, he said.

Wachsman mentioned telling Campbell in 2016 that his parcel was unbuildable because of road conditions. He said that he and other neighbors urge the Planning Board to uphold what he called a long-standing policy of prohibiting development unless Upland Drive is improved.

The Planning Board put Wachsman’s letter on its Sept. 20 agenda and Upland Road residents turned out for the meeting. But the board entertained no comments, and, heeding counsel from its lawyer, Stephen Gaba, did not rescind its approval.

Gaba warned that the board could be sued for changing its mind and said the neighbors’ logical recourse would be to file their own lawsuit. He said that Wachsman presented no engineering analysis to support his claims and that a board should only overturn an approval if compelling evidence turns up. Even then, “it needs to be proof, not just allegations, that there were misrepresentations made — material misrepresentations,” he said; otherwise, a judge likely “would find it arbitrary and capricious.”

Lake Celeste Drive

Barbara Peck-Eyler, of Sherman, Connecticut, wants to build a 2,500-square-foot home, plus a garage, on a 20-acre site bordering Lake Celeste Drive and Old Albany Post Road.

Town engineer Ron Gainer termed the parcel “landlocked,” with access only via an easement across a neighbor’s property. He referred to Lake Celeste Drive, a private lane already serving 14 homes, as “substandard and narrow.”

At a public hearing on Sept. 20, surveyor Jim Clearwater argued that Peck-Eyler “has deeded access through Lake Celeste



Lake Celeste Drive looking back toward Old Albany Post Road

Drive [and] the right to make improvements to the road to exercise that right.” Ben Fiering, the project contractor, suggested reducing a stone wall by 2 feet to accommodate Peck-Eyler’s plans and give emergency vehicles better access to all homes on the drive.

Neighbors wanted none of it.

One, Ann Regan, called the proposal “alarming. We take care of our lake. We take care of our road. Lake Celeste is a very special place, kind of a paradise.”

Another, Al Braverman, said that he once thought of buying the parcel now owned by Peck-Eyler but found it unbuildable because of its inaccessibility. “Why, all of a sudden, with no improvements to the road,” would anyone regard it as suitable for construction, he asked.

Bill Florence, attorney for the Lake Celeste Association, discounted the idea that the stone wall could be downsized without damaging it and said the fact the road varies from 7.5 to 19 feet wide further complicate matters. “There’s unusual unanimity against this” project, he said.

Perhaps with the allure of such havens comes attention from afar.

“There’s not much land left in Garrison to get hold of,” observed Paul Bonnar, president of the Lake Celeste Association. He added that his organization is prepared to go to court to stop Peck-Eyler’s home-building.

The Planning Board closed the hearing, but its review continues.

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PUBLISHER

Highlands Current Inc.
161 Main St.
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291 Main St., Beacon NY 12508

FOUNDER

Gordon Stewart (1939 - 2014)

MANAGING EDITOR

Chip Rowe
editor@highlandscurrent.org

ARTS/FEATURE EDITOR

Alison Rooney
arts@highlandscurrent.org

SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

Michael Turton

REPORTERS

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong
Brian PJ Cronin • Joe Dizney
Pamela Doan • Deb Lucke
Skip Pearlman • Jeff Simms

LAYOUT EDITOR

Pierce Strudler

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney
For information on advertising:
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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Tell us what you think

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.

Sewer lines

Before considering hooking up to the Cold Spring sewage treatment plant, it may be wise for Nelsonville to look at the impact of projected sea-level rise on the continued performance of that plant over the next century ("Nelsonville to Study Adding Sewers," Sept. 21).

Using Scenic Hudson's Sea Level Rise Mapper (scenichudson.org/slr/mapper), I find that a potential Rapid Ice Melt situation could cause storm surge to reach the current treatment plant within this century.

This may be worth considering before making a massive capital investment in infrastructure for the residents of Nelsonville. I have experience in decentralized wastewater solutions (living machines, bio-filtration, reverse-osmosis, district treatment, etc.) and would be happy to help find more cost-effective, less capital-intensive solutions. One of the many things Nelsonville has going for it is its elevation above sea level.

Ethan Timm, *Cold Spring*

Backpacks

At Haldane High School, the students don't have enough time between classes to go to their lockers, so they carry them all day ("What's in That Backpack?" Sept. 21).

Maria Leiter, *Cold Spring*

Maloney and Congress

Good to see that Sean Patrick Maloney, after finishing third in the Democratic primary for state attorney general, is back to running for his second-choice job as our representative in Congress (Sept. 21).

Daniel Pagano, *via Facebook*

I wonder who would have taken his place if he'd won the AG primary? Maybe we should trot out that person for Congress.

Kendra Parker, *via Facebook*

Perhaps his nonstop negative ads turned people off?

Robin Flannery, *via Facebook*

For some reason, Maloney thought he was running against Donald Trump. He did himself in by not focusing on New York.

Christopher Pelaia, *via Instagram*

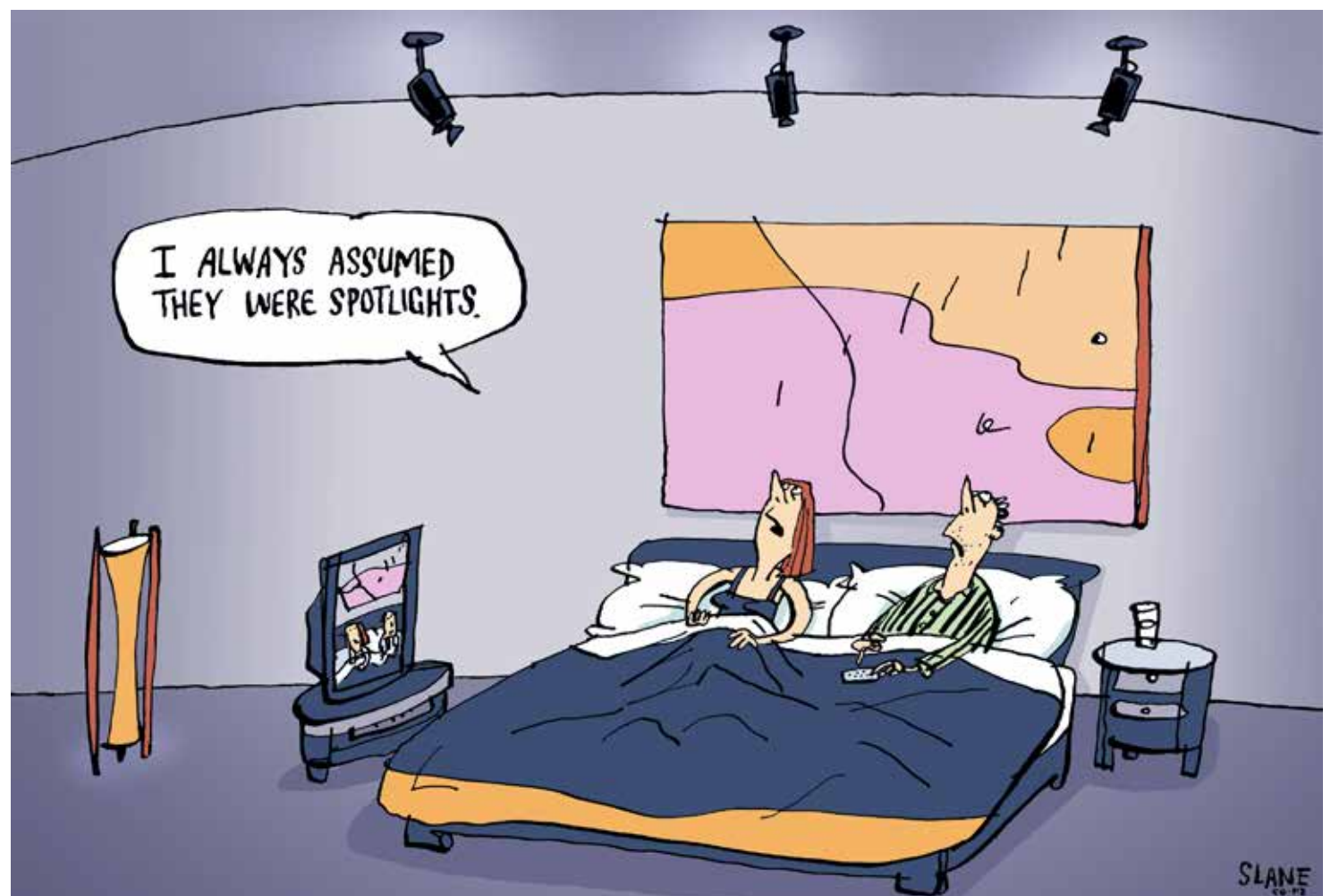
Prison garden

In response to the letter from Mark Roland in the Sept. 7 issue regarding developing the former Beacon Correctional Facility as a farm, textile mill and composting facility, I can support that idea as long as The Matteawan Group can afford to pay taxes on the land and not look to the homeowners of Beacon to subsidize any part of it.

We are already stuck with two city-subsidized properties (the Hiddenbrooke Open Space Preserve and University Settlement Camp) that have limited use (if any, with Hiddenbrooke) but were supposedly developed for all of Beacon to use. In reality, they are there for the special interests that demanded the city buy them. Let's not take on additional "good causes" unless they are paid for by the groups that want them.

Charles Symon, *Beacon*

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Silver Spoon *(from Page 1)*

City area, he said some have been from visitors coming from England, Germany and Turkey.

The project is in line with recommendations in the village's 2012 comprehensive plan to increase overnight accommodations in the village. Matt Francisco, chair of the Planning Board, said at the Sept. 25 meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board that his board had received the application from Abdelhardy the day before.

In other business ...

During the Village Board's Sept. 25 meeting, Mayor Dave Merandy said the village planned to organize a workshop to discuss permitted uses, rental fees, parking, liability insurance, restrooms, staffing and other issues at the state-owned Dockside Park, which the village now manages.

Trustees agreed to seek \$20,444 in docking fees from Seastreak, which plans to again bring cruise ships to Cold Spring on weekends beginning Oct. 6 aboard a \$25 million, 700-passenger ship.

The village needs volunteers to serve on the Recreation Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

At the Village Board meeting on Sept. 11, Merandy said he would contact the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to urge the agency to finish up an agreement that will allow the village to tap into the Catskill Aqueduct during repairs to the village reservoirs. Negotiations with New York City began seven years ago and



The Silver Spoon Cafe plans to close and merge with Cold Spring Bed & Breakfast.

Photo by M. Turton

Greg Phillips, the superintendent of water and wastewater, has repeatedly expressed frustration with the lack of progress.

The Cold Spring Police Department responded to 91 calls in August and issued 116 parking and traffic tickets. One arrest was made under the state's Mental Hygiene Law, which allows officers to detain anyone who appears to suffer from mental illness and may harm himself or herself or

others. Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke also reported that he and Merandy met with Haldane officials to discuss safety related to traffic and student drop-offs.

Ruthanne Cullinan Barr, chair of the Recreation Commission, reported that soil testing will be done for a skate park proposed for Mayor's Park.

The board approved the completion of probationary periods for Highway Depart-

ment Crew Chief Robert Downey Jr. and laborers Zach Markey and Corey Thomas, along with a wage increase to \$16 an hour.

Trustee Marie Early reported that the cost of disposal of recyclables continues to rise and is now just \$13 per ton less than trash disposal.

Extensive repairs to the Cold Spring firehouse roof are complete, and the siren was also repaired.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Coffee with Cops

Meet officers for conversation, questions

As part of a national Coffee with a Cop initiative, Deputy Anthony Tolve of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office will be at the B&L Deli, 3176 Route 9, in Philipstown, on Wednesday, Oct. 3, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke of the Cold Spring Police Department will be at the Cupoccino Cafe at 92 Main St. in Cold Spring from 9 to 10 a.m. that same day.

Beacon Cited for Clean Energy Progress

Among 200 communities recognized

Beacon is among 200 communities that have earned the Clean Energy Community designation from New York State. The program provides grants to municipalities to implement energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable development projects. More than 450 communities are participating in the initiative and have completed at least one "high-impact action."

According to the state, Beacon has finished four: increasing the number of solarized rooftops; converting streetlights to energy-efficient LEDs; offering financing to businesses and nonprofits for energy upgrades; and adopting a policy to report the energy use of its buildings.

Tilly's Table Makes More Than Expected

County says restaurant has \$70K profit

Putnam County officials say Tilly's Table, the restaurant and event venue at the Putnam County-owned Tilly Foster Farm and Educational Institute in Brewster, has generated nearly \$70,000 in profit for the county in the first six months of the year.

The county expects Tilly's Table to generate \$660,000 in annual revenue for 2018, which is \$380,000 more than officials say was expected. The restaurant and venue is run in partnership with Homestyle Caterers. It hosted its first wedding in July, county officials said.

The restaurant, is located at 100 Route 312 in Brewster. Call 845-808-1840 or visit tillystablerestaurant.com for reservations.

Sheriff to Provide Active-Shooter Defense Training

Free course will be offered once each month

The Putnam County Sheriff's Office will provide free active-shooter defense training beginning next month. The course will be presented by deputies who have been certified as instructors in Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events, a curricu-



HONORING FIRST RESPONDERS — The Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison hosted a barbecue on Sept. 23 to honor Philipstown first responders, including Putnam County Sheriff's cadets. Marbled Meats supplied the hamburgers, hot dogs and bratwurst (below) and residents provided homemade desserts.



lum developed by Texas State University that has become a national standard.

Since January, Putnam deputies have trained more than 1,000 people at schools, businesses and civic organizations. Beginning Oct. 11, the three-hour course will be offered to the public at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services, 112 Old Route 6, Carmel.

Long Dock Park Expands

Scenic Hudson completes \$16 million renovation

Scenic Hudson has opened 4 acres of Long Dock Park in Beacon that had long been closed to the public. The move came as Scenic Hudson put finishing touches on the \$16 million transformation that took place over the past decade on the 19-acre, former industrial site. Scenic Hud-



son bought the land in 1996.

Located along the park's north shore, the new acreage contains shade pavilions, lawns and a native-plant meadow; a boardwalk and river overlook deck; plug-ins for food trucks; and a civic plaza with benches and picnic tables for informal dining. The nonprofit has invited food-truck vendors to submit proposals for operating at the park. See scenichudson.org/foodtruckRFP.

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Airbnb Thrives in New York

Rental platform says it generated almost \$300 million over summer

By Jeff Simms

The hosts of short-term Airbnb rentals in New York State earned nearly \$296 million this summer, an increase of more than \$60 million over 2017, according to statistics released by the company.

The company said 1.2 million guests used Airbnb for stays in New York from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The typical host — Airbnb says there are more than 39,000 in the state — earned \$4,100 over the summer, up \$700 from a year ago.

Those numbers, Airbnb says, represent rentals statewide, so they may (or may not)

include any earnings in Beacon, where in May, after several public hearings, the Beacon City Council voted 4-3 to reject a proposal to regulate short-term rentals, in essence making them illegal because no city law specifically says otherwise.

(Short-term rentals also could be interpreted to be illegal in Cold Spring, Nelsonville and Philipstown based on local regulations on “tourist homes” and “lodging facilities,” but authorities in those municipalities have not addressed the issue.)

While dozens of listings that appear to be in or around Beacon remain on the Airbnb website, the company said it could

not confirm how many of them are actually in the city, citing privacy rules. But earlier this year, it said 110 hosts in Beacon in 2017 rented space to 9,100 guests.

Because New York State doesn’t address the relatively new short-term rental industry in its building code, municipalities must interpret the rules on their own. Officials in Beacon said that, had the council passed regulations, anyone sharing their home as a short-term rental would be required to meet New York fire safety requirements, including adequately marked exits from each bedroom and, in some cases, sprinkler systems.

George Mansfield, a member of the Beacon City Council, says he believes regulation of short-term rentals will only be resolved in Albany. “People need to pressure their state legislators because they’ve

have been kicking the can down the road for years because it’s so thorny,” he said. “We need legislation to address it.”

Airbnb continues to push for guidance at the state level as well, arguing that it would generate \$100 million in local hotel and tourist taxes if the company were allowed to collect fees on behalf of its nearly 60,000 hosts and 3 million guests in New York.

Bills introduced last year in the state Assembly and Senate would establish standards for short-term rentals, such as requiring owners to post a diagram showing all exits and a list of emergency phone numbers; to have insurance of at least \$250,000; to have only one short-term unit unless the owners are at the same address; and to register the unit every two years with the state. The bills were referred to housing committees in both the Senate and Assembly.



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Tompkins Terrace *(from Page 1)*

not be responsible for day-to-day upkeep. A spokesperson at the Beacon Housing Authority confirmed that it does not monitor maintenance at Tompkins Terrace.

Related Companies will soon begin developing rehabilitation plans for each of the properties it acquired, including Tompkins Terrace, said Jessica Scaperotti, a company representative, who noted that “we’re aware the building has some main-tenance issues.” She said the company has no plans to convert the property to market-rate apartments.

Beacon City Council member Terry Nelson, who represents Ward 1, which includes the Tompkins complex, says when he was canvassing there before his election last year, residents told him a community room had been closed for months.

Nelson said he also has seen apartments in need of paint, windows that won’t open and vestibules filled with trash. “There are a lot of things that could be done to spruce it up, but it seems like the issues don’t get addressed in a timely fashion,” he said.

When he asked about access to the community room earlier this year, Hudson River Property Management, which managed the property at the time, “basically told me it was none of my business,” he said. “Someone needs to show it a little care.”

When We All Vote, a nonpartisan group that organizes voter registration drives, had planned an event at Tompkins Terrace this fall. But Nelson said after he and other organizers couldn’t get a



Beacon City Council member Terry Nelson outside of the Tompkins Terrace apartment complex

Photo by J. Simms



Map of Beacon showing Tompkins Terrace

Google Maps

call back from management, they moved the event to the Hamilton Fish Plaza development, instead.

Connecting with the hundreds of residents at Tompkins Terrace is important, Nelson said. “We want to show them that someone in Beacon is looking out for their interests.” Some residents there, he explained, have told him “they felt their vote doesn’t count.”

Scaperotti said she planned to

reach out to Nelson about the planned voter registration drive. And with the sale complete, maintenance will now be managed through Related’s Manhattan office.

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The Calendar



Some of the actors who participated in the Beacon Historical Society's ghost tours last fall

BHS

Beacon History, After Dark

Historical Society will again lead popular ghost tours

By Alison Rooney

Mix in some gentle scares with Beacon's rich history and you've concocted an in-demand potion. Ghost walking tours by the Beacon Historical Society were a hot ticket in 2017, the

first year, and they are in 2018 as well.

Held over a single October weekend, the six tours offered in 2017 filled up rapidly and, though each tour was limited to 20 participants, 40 people turned up for the final one, pleading for a spot.

In response, the society this year ex-

panded its "The Ghost in the Mist" tours to six on each of four consecutive Saturday nights, beginning Oct. 6. (Three of the 24 tours have already sold out.) The tours depart every half-hour beginning at 7 p.m.

The hour-long tour, which departs from the lawn of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post at 413 Main St., covers about a half-mile, and lantern lights are provided. The guides will lead each group through the dark streets of Beacon, sharing local lore and legends from the days before the American Revolution through the Victorians.

Costumed actors will tell a tale at many

of the stops. The characters include Catheryna Rombout Brett (aka Madam Brett), who will speak from the homestead which her family owned for hundreds of years, and Nancy Lamont, a turn-of-the-century librarian at the Howland.

Robin Lucas, the BHS board member who came up with the idea of leading ghost tours, says the actors will share information that is, as much as possible, based on primary sources. "I love ghost stories," she says, "and I had been on many haunted tours. I thought this would

(Continued on Page 11)

That Strange and Wonderful Balkan Sound

A jazz musician embraces the region's rhythms

By Alison Rooney

Jordan Shapiro admits he has no idea who might sign up for his three-hour workshop on Balkan music on Oct. 14 at the Beacon Music Factory.

"Obviously most people, especially in a small place like Beacon, have no experience with it," he says. "But the music lends itself to people who have different musical backgrounds."

Balkan music, which includes village music often used for dancing and more urban sounds, has rhythms that will sound "foreign" to the Western ear, he says, with odd time signatures. "Some have standard 4/4 rhythms but still sound exotic. The scales are different, too." During the workshop, which is open to children and adults, Shapiro will instruct participants in traditional melodies

and rhythms from various regions and ethnic groups. Register at beaconmusicfactory.com/classes.

Shapiro says he became intrigued by Balkan music about 10 years ago. After graduating from the University of Michigan with a degree in jazz performance and improvisation, he moved to New York City, where he lived for 17 years before decamping to Beacon in 2016. (He and his wife, who works as an early intervention specialist, have two sons, ages 1 and 5.) He toured as a keyboardist and vocalist for Project/Object, a Frank Zappa tribute band, and also led the progressive bluegrass band Astrograss, which has recorded two CDs, including one for children.

Along the way, Shapiro added guitar and accordion to his musical arsenal, and the latter became his passport to the Balkans. He started a jam group with other musicians, and five years ago they formed Choban Elektrik and released an

(Continued on Page 12)



Jordan Shapiro

Photo by A. Rooney

Calendar Highlights

Submit to calendar@highlandscurrent.org
For complete listings, see highlandscurrent.org

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

Kimiko Hahn: *Brood* (Reading)

6 p.m. Antipodean Books
29-31 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3867

Lego Family Night

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

***Phantom of the Opera* (1925)**

6 p.m. Bannerman Island
Boats leave Beacon dock at 6 and 7 p.m.
855-256-4007 | bannermancastle.org

Football vs. Hastings (Homecoming)

7 p.m. Haldane High School
15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring | haldaneschool.org

L. Nichols: *Flocks* (Reading)

7 p.m. Binnacle Books
321 Main St., Beacon | binnaclebooks.com

International Film Night: *My Brother is an Only Child* (Italy)

7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon | beaconlibrary.org

Open Mic Night

7:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-765-3012 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Depot Docs: *United Skates*

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
philipstowndepottheatre.org

***Fifty Miles from Times Square* (Film)**

7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corner Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Haldane Varsity Sports (Homecoming)

9 a.m. Boys' Soccer vs. Lourdes
9 a.m. Volleyball vs. John Jay
10 a.m. Girls' Tennis vs. Pawling
11 a.m. Girls' Soccer vs. Irvington
See details under Friday.

Invasive Plant and Trash Clean-up

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Bear Mountain State Park
nynjtc.org | Registration required.

Dances of Universal Peace

10 a.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Friday.

Hudson Valley Garlic Festival

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Cantine Field, Saugerties | hvfg.org

Wine, Cider and Food Truck Festival

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stormville Airport
428 Route 216, Stormville
stormvilleairportfleamarket.com

Knights of Columbus Oktoberfest

11:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. Mayor's Park, Cold Spring
oktoberfestincoldspring.eventbrite.com

Fall Harvest Festival: Seth Kessel

Noon – 4 p.m. Fishkill Farms
9 Fishkill Farm Road, Hopewell Junction
845-897-4377 | fishkillfarms.com

Open Studios

Noon – 6 p.m. Newburgh
See newburghopenstudios.org.

Mandeville House Tours

1 – 4 p.m. 122 Lower Station Road, Garrison
845-424-3626

History of NYC Water System (Talk)

4 p.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Friday.

United by Nature featuring Jeff Haynes (Music)

4 p.m. Manitoga
584 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3812 | visitmanitoga.org

***Phantom of the Opera* (1925)**

6 p.m. Bannerman Island
See details under Friday.

Haldane Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner

6 p.m. Dutchess Manor
263 Route 9D, Beacon
haldaneschool.org

Teen Movie Night: *The Avengers – Infinity War*

7 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe Dr., Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Chowderhead (Music)

8 p.m. Elks Lodge
900 Wolcott Ave., Beacon | 845-765-0667

Fred Zeppelin (Tribute Band)

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Friday.

Jerry Herman Tribute

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

Matt Lavelle and The 12 Houses Orchestra

8 p.m. Atlas Studios
11 Spring St., Newburgh
845-391-8855 | atlasnewburgh.com

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

Philipstown Bikes Day

9 a.m. Haldane High School (Cedar Street lot)
Email philipstowntrails@gmail.com.

Bird Walk

9 a.m. Bear Mountain State Park
Email emily.enoch@parks.ny.gov.

Hudson Valley Garlic Festival

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saugerties
See details under Saturday.

Storytime

10:15 a.m. Split Rock Books
97 Main St., Cold Spring | splitrockbks.com

Free Admission

11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Dia:Beacon
3 Beekman St., Beacon
Dutchess and Putnam residents

Knights of Columbus Oktoberfest

11:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. Cold Spring
See details under Saturday.

Fall Harvest Festival: Partly Cloudy – Cloud NYne

Noon – 4 p.m. Fishkill Farms
See details under Saturday.

Open Studios

Noon – 6 p.m. Newburgh
See details under Saturday.

Spirit of Beacon Day

Noon – 4 p.m. Festival | 1 p.m. Parade
Main Street, Beacon | spiritofbeacon.org

Mandeville House Tours

1 – 4 p.m. 122 Lower Station Road, Garrison
845-424-3626

Year of the Veteran Parade

1 p.m. Poughkeepsie
845-486-2060 | dutchessny.gov

Telegraph Quartet with James Austin Smith

4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Friday.

MONDAY, OCT. 1

Beacon Varsity Sports

4:15 p.m. Girls' Soccer vs. Lourdes
4:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. Arlington
5 p.m. Girls' Swimming vs. Keio
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-838-6900 | beaconk12.org

Beacon City Council

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

PTA Learning Differences Committee

7 p.m. Haldane Music Room
15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring
facebook.com/PTALearnDiff

TUESDAY, OCT. 2

Senior Trip to Callicoon Oktoberfest

9 a.m. Philipstown Recreation Department
107 Glenclyffe Dr., Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

New Moms & Infants Group

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

Beacon Varsity Sports

4:15 p.m. Girls' Soccer vs. Peekskill
4:30 p.m. Girls' Tennis vs. Mahopac
See details under Monday.

Haldane Varsity Sports

4:30 p.m. Boys' Soccer vs. Putnam Valley
4:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. North Salem
See details under Friday.

Haldane Class of 2019 Fundraiser

4 – 10 p.m. Five Guys | 10 Westage Dr., Fishkill

Putnam County Legislature

7 p.m. Historic Courthouse
44 Gleneida Ave., Carmel
845-208-7800 | putnamcountyny.com

Haldane School Board

7 p.m. Haldane School Music Room
See details under Friday.

Cold Spring Board of Trustees

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

Club/Draw

8 p.m. Quinn's
330 Main St., Beacon | clubdraw.tumblr.com

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3

Coffee with a Cop: Cold Spring

9 – 10 a.m. Cupoccino Cafe
92 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-3407 | coldspringny.gov

Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia (Talk)

11 a.m. Butterfield Library
See details under Friday.

Coffee with a Cop: Putnam County

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. B&L Deli
3176 Route 9, Cold Spring
845-225-4300 | putnamcountysheriff.com

Haldane Varsity Sports

4:15 p.m. Girls' Tennis vs. Croton
See details under Friday.

Beacon High School Sports

4:30 p.m. Boys' Varsity Soccer vs. Peekskill
4:30 p.m. Girls' Varsity Swim vs. Woodlands
See details under Monday.

Putnam 2019 Budget Presentation

7 p.m. Putnam County Golf Course
187 Hill St., Mahopac
putnamcountyny.com/budget2019

Budget Workshop

7 p.m. Garrison Firehouse
1616 Route 9, Garrison
845-424-4406 | garrisonfd.org

THURSDAY, OCT. 4

Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall

All day. Veterans Memorial Park
201 Gipsy Trail Road, Carmel
putnamcountyny.com

Yarn Salon

5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Two Men of the Revolutionary War: A Personal Perspective

7 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com/historic-site

Philipstown Town Board

7:30 p.m. Town Hall
238 Main St., Cold Spring
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com

FRIDAY, OCT. 5

Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall

See details under Thursday.

Beacon Varsity Sports

3:45 p.m. Boys' Soccer vs. Hendrick Hudson
6:30 p.m. Football vs. Pearl River (Homecoming)
See details under Monday.

Putnam County Talent Night

5 p.m. Ages 8-12 | 6:30 p.m. Ages 13+
Patterson Public Library
1167 Route 311, Patterson
butterfieldlibrary.org

Barbara Smith Gioia: *Fragments in Time* (Opening)

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

Annual Catoberfest Benefit

6 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery
2 Churchill St., Beacon
catoberfest.brownpapertickets.com.

***The Unsilent Picture* (Film)**

6:15 & 7:15 & 8:15 & 9:15 p.m. Philipsburg Manor
381 North Broadway (Route 9), Sleepy Hollow
914-366-6900 | hudsonvalley.org

The Enduring Appeal of Campaign Furniture (Panel)

6:30 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Why Mindfulness for Social Justice?

7 p.m. Garrison Institute
14 Mary's Way, Garrison
845-424-4800 | garrisoninstitute.org

Paul Reiser (Comedy)

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., Peekskill
paramounthudsonvalley.com



Fairview Cemetery in Beacon

Photo by Mark Lucas/BHS

Ghost Tour *(from Page 9)*

be a good way for the historical society to educate the community in a fun way, and raise funds, too."

Emily Murnane, a BHS trustee, who researched and wrote the monologue for Madam Brett and portrays her, says she gets a kick out of occasionally being recognized when working at her mother's Main Street store, Beacon Bath & Bubble.

"I love it when someone asks, 'Aren't you Madam Brett?'" she says. "There's not a single kid who grew up in Beacon who hasn't been on a school trip to the Madam Brett Homestead, so representing her is an honor."

A corps of volunteers, including students from Beacon High School, Mount

Saint Mary College and afterschool acting programs, pulls the event together, beginning in January. Some costumes are borrowed from the Madam Brett Homestead; others are donated by a collector of Victorian clothing or purchased.

"There are so many talented people who contribute in some way," says Lucas. "It's a great opportunity for people in the community to connect."

Murnane, who is in her 20s and grew up in Beacon, says the tours are a way of making history attractive to younger adults. "This is a more accessible platform for them to discover local history," she explains. "The word 'story' is in history for a reason."

"And these stories are very inspiring," Lucas adds.

How to Scare Up Tickets

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for seniors, BHS members and children ages 8 to 15. (Organizers say the tours may not be suitable for younger children, because they take place after dark.) Order online at beaconhistorical.org/ghosttour2018-tickets.html.

Participants are advised to wear comfortable shoes and rain gear; the tour will proceed in light rain. Strollers and pets are not allowed. Email ghosttour@beaconhistorical.org or call 845-765-9500 for information.



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Not sure where to start on your bathroom remodel? Here are some of today's hottest trends:

Bold Metal Fixtures
Budget: *Low*
Forget those old handles, faucets and drawer pulls that blend in. Today's designers are making these small details stand out. Think bold brass, matte black or even rose gold.


Modern Wallpaper
Budget: *Low*
Wallpaper is back -- especially intricately illustrated designs and bright, bold patterns. It's low-cost, easy to DIY and makes an immediate impression.

Smart Tech
Budget: *Low to Medium*
Savvy consumers are using smart tech in their powder rooms for a touch of luxury. Some of the most popular features include autofilling bathtubs, voice-activated mirrors and sound systems, and LED-enhanced showerheads.

Exposed Concrete
Budget: *Medium*
Concrete floors, walls, counters and sinks are popular with celebrity designers and new homebuilders. They offer a minimalist, contemporary look that goes with any color palette.

Freestanding Tubs
Budget: *Medium to High*
Freestanding tubs may date to the Roman Empire, but they're making a stylish comeback. Tuck one into a corner or under a skylight to create a beautiful focal point to relax in.

If you're interested in remodeling your home or if you want to learn more about the latest trends and how your home compares, get in touch for a local market report.



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ADVERTISEMENT

Balkan Music

(from Page 9)


album that has been described as “psychedelic jazz fusion adaptations of Albanian and Macedonia folk tunes.” Of course! Choban ElektriK is scheduled to play Quinn’s in Beacon on Nov. 16.

Wanting to immerse himself even further in the Balkan sound, Shapiro attended a weeklong annual Balkan music camp in the Catskills offered by the nonprofit East European Folklife Center. “It was interesting to meet people who related to the music, many of whom had that ‘I don’t know what this is, but I’ve been waiting my whole life for it’ moment,” he recalls. “It immediately becomes their passion.”

Shapiro subsequently began attending the Golden Festival, which takes place in Brooklyn each year over Martin Luther King Jr. Day weekend, with 60 or 70 bands performing music from the region.

At Beacon Music Factory, he has led several “band camps” for adults, including those devoted to the music of U2, the Grateful Dead and Paul McCartney. “We work on rhythms and vocal harmonies; I assign parts,” he says. “People come in with things they’ve pulled from the internet, which are usually highly inaccurate. We figure it out together.”

He said some of his private students at Beacon Music Factory have surprised him by how receptive they are to Balkan music. “I have a piano student who is working at a fast pace and can play melodies by ear —



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Esma Redžepova performing in 2016
Photo by BockPix/Flickr

BEST OF THE BALKANS

For an introduction to the music of the region, Shapiro recommends listening to songs by these artists:

Esma Redžepova	Kocani Orkestar
Ivo Papasov	Boban Markovic Orkestar
Romano Dives	Šaban Bajramovic
Ferus Mustafov	

she just gets it, with no other exposure to Balkan music. The music can be very accessible. We work on it piece by piece, week by week. That’s the best way to pass music on.”


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www.philipstowndepottheatre.org

READY, SET ... CLIMB!



With a ribbon-cutting and barbecue, students, parents, teachers and staff celebrated the opening on Saturday (Sept. 22) of a new play structure at the Garrison School. The equipment was purchased for \$50,000 with funds raised by the Garrison Children's Education Fund, with assistance from the Garrison School PTA.

Photos by Brian Tormey



Cat Sanctuary *(from Page 1)*

facility, which can accommodate up to 170 adult cats, currently houses 88. (Kittens are sent to foster homes.)

Petruncola, who is a music teacher, spends so much time at the shelter that she knows most of the residents by name. During a recent visit, she gave a running commentary, including the history of most of the cats. "Here's Willie," she says. Because of a serious eye injury, a local shelter couldn't take him. "He had an eye removed and spent weeks in a cone," she said. "He was feral, and now he sits and interacts. He's the epitome of what this shelter is all about."

She noted it's difficult for a shelter to be self-sustaining when it's not attached to a municipality or a larger organization such as the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Many of the grants it could receive are by invitation only or directed to groups that trap, neuter and release wild cats. She said the shelter also has high costs because it is one of the few in the state that accepts cats with leukemia or immunodeficiency virus.

"Most shelters don't have the facilities to handle these cats separately, and they wind up being euthanized," she said.

Despite cost-cutting measures such as reducing visiting hours, offering discounts on adoption fees for cats older than a year, sending some blood tests to labs directly instead of through veterinarians and asking more of volunteers, she said the shelter's accounts have been slowly draining.

"A number of vets help us, and they are very generous with discounting their services, but when we have an intake of a cat, we don't know what will be in store, medically, or if they will ever be socialized enough to be adopted," she explained. "We have a small paid staff, who don't earn a competitive wage, because we can't pay them more."

"Our manager does morning and evening rounds administering medication. We have a live-in caretaker who gets paid in room and board and who happens to be a vet tech with the ability to triage and determine whether there's a need to go immediately to an emergency clinic."

The shelter needs help every day, including when it's not open to the public. "We especially need people to come between 9 a.m. and noon to clean," Petruncola said. "Some people think volunteering is sitting around, interacting with the cats, but we don't need that — we need help with the less pleasant but essential jobs which go along with taking care of so many cats."

Mid Hudson Animal Aid was founded in 1979 in Newburgh by Essie Dabrusin and Ruth Valenti, who rescued dogs and cats that they cared for in their basements. In the late 1980s, the City of Beacon gave land to the Animal Rescue Foundation, an unaffiliated shelter for dogs and cats that offered MHAA space to build a structure. It opened in May 1990 with 15 cats.

Inside the facility, the Great Room is filled with beds, feeding stations, catwalks, baskets and toys. There are no

MHAA FUNDRAISERS

Catoberfest (Oct. 5)

6 – 10 p.m. The Hudson Brewery, Beacon
catoberfest.brownpapertickets.com

2-Penny Social (Oct. 7)

St Rocco's, Beacon
Viewing: 12:30 p.m., calling: 1:30 p.m.

Trivia Night (Oct. 24)

4 – 9 p.m. Newburgh Brewery
For every cat food donation, \$1 off drink

Goods and Services Auction (Nov. 4)

Wappingers Elks Club
3 p.m. Silent, 4:30 p.m. Live
mhaaauction2018.brownpapertickets.com

RESCUE CENTERS

Animal Rescue Foundation, Beacon
arfbeacon.org | 845-831-5161

Dutchess County SPCA, Hyde Park
dcspca.org | 845-452-7722

Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary, Poughkeepsie
hvvars.org | 845-392-4849

Hudson Valley SPCA, New Windsor
hudsonvalleyspca.com | 845-564-6810

Mid Hudson Animal Aid, Beacon
midhudsonanimalaid.org | 845-831-4321

Putnam Humane Society, Carmel
puthumane.org | 845-225-7777



Cats nap and relax on their sleeping platforms.

Photos by A. Rooney



A volunteer prepares to dole out dinner to the cats living in the Great Room. Each cat has a bed (no cages) and lots of shared toys.

cages. There is also an enclosed porch, an area for cats with leukemia or other medical needs, a room for cats who don't function well in groups and a visitor's room.

While some wild cats at the shelter will never be ready for human companionship, Petruncola said, the volunteers and staff do all they can to socialize them through a program called Feral Friends in which someone is assigned to regularly devote time with the animal to build trust. "People often misunderstand what a feral cat is. It doesn't imply aggression, just that they're unused to people," she said. "We've turned around a number of them" that have been adopted.

She said the focus of the six-member board is to keep the place running for as long as possible. It has raised \$19,000 through an online Go Fund Me campaign, "which is fantastic, but doesn't even cover a month" of expenses, she said. Its cash reserves have been liquidated. "We're pulling out all the stops, but it's hard because social media is saturating people with requests for donations for all sorts of causes. If we can manage to get six months' worth of funding for expenses, it will give us more planning time."

"People say, 'Get grants or find a famous,



Tux and Eliana are adopted. MHAA photo

wealthy person," she added. "I don't know any famous people, because I'm always here! We have a restructuring plan, and we are trying to stay optimistic. If we're going down, we going down kicking and screaming."

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Family Trails

The Gift of Family

By Valerie LaRobardier

Genetics have changed the face of genealogy, with firms offering DNA tests for less than \$100 that can confirm (or shoot down) hypotheses about relationships in the present or distant past. In the present, there is a downside: a number of people have discovered they, or their relatives, are not connected in the way they thought. A brother's genetics, for example, may not resemble those of his siblings.

But there are also plenty of inspiring stories. Amy Kenny, 56, of Cold Spring, was adopted as an infant and raised on Long Island by Miriam and Arnold Goldberg. They provided their daughter with a good education and instilled in her a love of the arts and music. She has one Goldberg brother, but her parents and aunts and uncles have all died and she and her husband, Kevin, have no children.

Amy's cousin, Emilie Epstein, has been working on the family history, making some exciting discoveries, but Amy doesn't share the ancestors. Emilie, who is almost a generation older, says she was concerned about leaving Amy with an in-

creasingly smaller family and determined to do something about it.

Emilie proposed that Amy submit a saliva sample to 23andMe, a genetic genealogy testing company. Perhaps, she suggested, there would be a match to someone from Amy's biological family who also had submitted a sample.

Amy recalls being ambivalent about the idea. What if she disrupted the lives of people who had moved on and built a solid family? What if the couple who gave her up rejected her for some reason that would be better not to know? She had always been happy with her lot in life and felt fortunate that Miriam and Arnold had raised her. Unlike many adoptees, she had never yearned to know more.

But Emilie persisted, saying they might at least discover some new cousins. So the test was submitted and ... revealed Amy's biological father.

Her father was surprised, as well. He hadn't known Amy existed.

Amy's biological mother remains a mystery. Amy was born at Flower Fifth Avenue Hospital in Manhattan; her birth certificate says her mother's surname was Walcott but had no information about her father.

Her biological father's reaction to being told he had a daughter was disbelief — how could it be? A test with another genetic genealogy firm, Ancestry.com, confirmed the connection, but he says he cannot recall anything that would fit with Amy's story. He grew up in California and never lived or worked in or near New York City. After graduating from college in Ari-

zona, he returned to California and reconnected with his high school sweetheart. They married and have two sons, now 49 and 46. He submitted his DNA to 23andMe at the urging of his wife to learn more about the Scandinavian side of his family.

He agreed to meet Amy. One of her childhood friends, Beth Hansen, who lives in California, offered to host her and provide moral support.

"This connection was providence," Amy says. "I met my Pops and surrogate mom Linda, whom I love so much. There are my brothers and extended family." She plans to visit again in November and bring her husband.

We asked 23andMe if these results are common. The company doesn't track how many adopted people have found biological family members, but anecdotally they are hearing more stories as more people submit DNA, said a spokesperson, Scott Hadly. "This week a brother and sister abandoned in Korea more than 34 years ago were reunited for the first time, and last week we heard from a 48-year-old man who found his biological father," he said.

Many questions remain concerning Amy's mother. One hypothesis is that she also was attending college in Arizona in the early 1960s but returned home to New York when she learned she was pregnant. What was her life like? Did her family know about the baby? Is she still living? Did she grow up in New York or did some other factor take her there before Amy's birth?

Amy's DNA may someday answer those questions. In the meantime, she says she



Amy Kenny of Cold Spring with her biological father, whom she met after both submitted DNA samples to a genealogy testing company Photo provided

is happy with what she has learned, after the amazing gift of family given to her by cousin Emilie.

LaRobardier is a professional genealogist and president of the Dutchess County Genealogical Society. Every other month, she will discuss strategy and resources for research in Dutchess and Putnam counties and answer queries from readers. She can be reached at genealogy@highlandscurrent.org.

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See spiritofbeacon.org for the day's schedule.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Learning Differences

PTA committee to meet Oct. 1

The Learning Differences Committee, a group organized by the Haldane and Garrison PTAs, will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 1, in the Haldane Music Room to discuss the changes seen in inclusivity at the schools since the committee formed seven years ago. It also will hear from parents about issues that need to be addressed, areas for growth and what types of workshops would be helpful.

New Work by Local Artist

Buster Levi gallery has new exhibit

The Buster Levi Gallery in Cold Spring will open an exhibition of new paintings by Barbara Smith Gioia, *Fragments in Time*, with a reception on Friday, Oct. 5, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Traveling Wall

Vietnam memorial to stop in Carmel

The traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall will stop in Putnam County from Oct. 4 to 7 at Veterans Memorial Park in Carmel. Volunteers will read the names on the wall continuously, 24 hours a day, and also assist visitors in locating names. For the schedule and to sign up as a volunteer, see pejvc.org/the-traveling-wall.



A Vietnam veteran in St. Louis looks at the Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, which will stop in Carmel on Oct. 4 to 7. Photo by Megan Friedl/U.S. Air Force

Hungry Birds in Winter

Seed sale orders due Oct. 10

Orders for the annual Putnam Highlands Audubon Society bird seed sale must be placed by Oct. 10, with pickup scheduled at Hubbard Lodge in Philipstown on Saturday, Oct. 13. See putnam-highlandsaudubon.org.

Putnam Talent Contest

Open to ages 8-12 and 13 and older

Putnam County students can share their talents at a countywide Talent Night that will be held at the Patterson Library on Friday, Oct. 5. Performers between the ages of 8 and 12 will begin at 5 p.m. with those ages 13 and older at 6:30 p.m. To register, see butterfieldlibrary.org.

Oklahoma City in Detail

Author to discuss book, Boom Town

Sam Anderson will read from his book about Oklahoma City, *Boom Town*, at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 7, at the Chapel Restoration as part of the Sunset Reading Series. His book covers the history of Oklahoma City from the land rush in 1889 to its present. Split Rock Books will have copies of the book for sale and a reception will follow the reading.

Apple Fest

Boscobel to host Oct. 6

Boscobel will host a Heritage Applefest from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 6 with pay-what-you-wish admission. The festival celebrates the Hudson Valley's history of apple growing with cider sampling, a cider press and apple-based treats from local vendors. There will also be live music and family activities. The rain date is Oct. 13.

Household Hazard Disposal

Putnam County to accept on Oct. 5

The Putnam County Department of Health will accept household hazardous waste for disposal from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Smith Government

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Christopher Brown

Sunday, Sept. 30, 7 p.m.
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Thursday, Oct. 4, 7 p.m.
David Ross and
Jeremy Shonfeld - Free

Friday, Oct. 5, 8:30 p.m.
The Revelers

Saturday, Oct. 6, 6 p.m.
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Saturday, Oct. 6, 8:30 p.m.
Paper Sun
Traffic tribute

Sunday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m.
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Peter Calo - Free

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Campus parking lot in Carmel. Registration is required by emailing putnamhealth@putnamcountyny.com or calling 845-808-1390, ext. 43150. For a list of accepted materials, visit putnamcountyny.com/green-putnam.

Alzheimer's Awareness

Butterfield schedules October events

The Butterfield Library in Cold Spring has scheduled free programs on every Wednesday in October as part of Alzheimer's Awareness Month. They will be presented by Joan Carl of the Hudson Valley chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

On Oct. 3, the discussion will focus on understanding Alzheimer's and dementia. On Oct. 10, attendees can learn about 10 common signs of the disease. On Oct. 17, a speaker will address healthy living for brain and body. Finally, on Oct. 24, the focus will be on communicating with someone struggling with the illness. Each session begins at 11 a.m. Register at butterfieldlibrary.org.

Beacon

Prepare for a Scare

Beacon Horrorshow begins Oct. 1

Story Screen's fourth annual Beacon Horrorshow will begin Monday, Oct. 1, with a screening of *Night of the Living*

Dead at the Bank Square Coffeehouse on Main Street. The monthlong festival includes 10 free screenings of horror films at various venues, concluding with *Hal-loween* to celebrate the 40th anniversary of its release. See storyscreenbeacon.com.

Long Dock Exhibit

Paintings by Hiro Ichikawa

An exhibit of paintings by Hiro Ichikawa, who died last year, will open at the River Center at Long Dock Park in Beacon on Saturday, Oct. 6, with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Called *Mountains and Rivers Without End / Paintings from a Trail*, and curated by Eleni Smolen, it will on view on weekends from noon to 5 p.m. through Oct. 22.

'Spiral Jetty' Talk

Scheduled for Oct. 6 at Dia:Beacon

A series of discussions at Dia:Beacon continues on Saturday, Oct. 6, when Bonnie Baxter and Jaimi Butler discuss the work of Robert Smithson, who is known for "Spiral Jetty," a land work in the Great Salt Lake that is part of the Dia collection. Baxter and Butler work at the Great Salt Lake Institute at Westminster College in Utah. The talk is free with museum admission.



Baby and Dog

This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Ellen and Paul Dulberger of Mahopac shared this photo of their granddaughter, Ona, with the family dog, Sergeant. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.org.



Engagement

Rubino-Vigar

Christine and Jerome Rubino of Cold Spring announced the engagement of their daughter, Lily Marie Rubino, to Robert James Vigar, son of Sharon Guthrie and Richard Vigar of Portsmouth, England.

Lily, who graduated from Haldane High School in 2008, works in Manhattan for WaterAid, a nonprofit that helps communities around the world gain access to water, sanitation and hygiene. Robert is a doctoral candidate in anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania, focusing on the archaeology of ancient Egypt.

The couple met in England in 2014 while working toward master's degrees at University College London. They plan



Lily Marie Rubino and Robert James Vigar

to wed in September 2019 at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring, where Lily's parents were married 32 years ago.



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Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (September 1868)

The residents of Paulding Avenue complained that their street has not received any gravel in 18 years, and that the gutter is only paved to the corner of Colin Tolmie's fence. "The inhabitants are good citizens and deserving of better treatment," said the *Cold Spring Recorder*. "Other streets have been paved that were less deserving."

The stained-glass windows of the Presbyterian Lecture Room on Academy Street were put into place.

A poodle belonging to Mr. Butterfass met an untimely fate while trying to fight the engine of the 7:20 a.m. train.

125 Years Ago (September 1893)

The town clerk reported there were six births, two deaths and two marriages in Philipstown last month.

On the same day, the Daniel Boone Wild West Company and Circus gave a performance in the vacant lot at the foot of Fair Street in Cold Spring, followed by a show by Howorth's Irish Comedians in the evening at Town Hall.

of Green Crookston and carried away 10 choice fowls. Green said that if the rooster were returned, they could keep the chickens and he would forgive them.

100 Years Ago (September 1918)

The American Children's Dress Co. in Cold Spring advertised for two female pressers and promised a "good chance of advancement."

Putnam County enrolled 1,455 men in the draft, from ages 18 to 21, and 32 to 45, including 410 in Philipstown.

The Methodist Church in Cold Spring had a party at the church to celebrate the installation of its new electric lights. However, although a 110-kilowatt system was installed by a Peekskill firm, the current was only able to produce about three-fifths of full brightness. The Cold Spring Light, Heat & Power Co. said it would provide the required voltage.

Ten local Boy Scouts were honored for collectively selling \$28,000 [\$500,000 in today's dollars] worth of war bonds.

75 Years Ago (September 1943)

Sgt. John Fitzgerald of Pine Street was wounded in action in Sicily when the ve-

cis Dale for 30 British soldiers from the British Naval Camp at Tompkins Corners. Several local girls later accompanied the men to a showing of the film *Forever and a Day*.

Lt. Aaron Lazerson, a flight navigator, was reported missing in action. Before joining the war effort, he was the assistant director at the Surprise Lake Winter Camp at Cold Spring.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union of Putnam County held its 58th annual convention at the South Highlands Methodist Church in Garrison.

50 Years Ago (September 1968)

The Garrison School announced that it had hired George Mehit as its new principal. He previously worked in Albany with the state Department of Education as supervisor of its Elementary School Bureau.

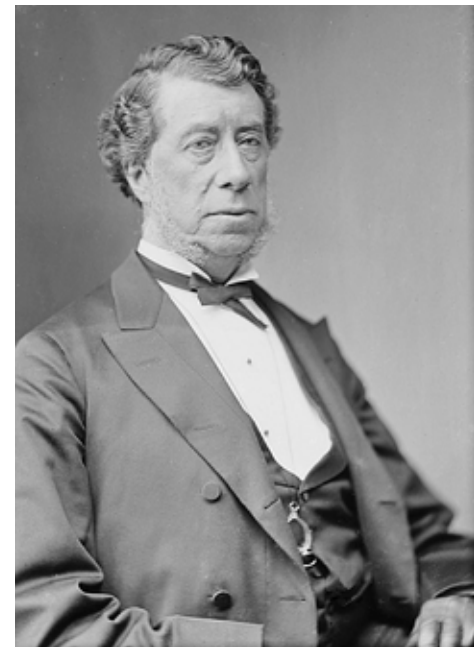
The New York Times wrote about an indoor swimming pool in a \$67,000 [\$500,000] Garrison home that becomes an outdoor swimming pool with "the press of a button" when a Plexiglass roof over the water is retracted by an electric motor. The pool was built by Kenneth Gilbert, 28, who has installed them in three of the 22 homes he has completed.

David DeCaro, a 17-year-old Marine from Cold Spring who was home on leave from boot camp, died when a car in which he was riding with five other teenagers crashed into a bridge abutment on Route 9D. The driver was charged with DWI.

A 37-year-old Utica man was stopped by a sheriff's deputy as he walked along Route 301 in Philipstown at 2:50 a.m. "When the suspect failed to give a good account of himself or what he was doing," according to police, the deputy arrested him, and a judge sentenced him to 10 days in jail for loitering.

25 Years Ago (September 1993)

About 50 people filled the Philipstown Town Hall to debate the pros and cons of dirt roads. A petition was presented to the Town Board in favor of paving, with most of the 65 signatures coming from residents of unpaved portions of East Mountain Road North and South, Esselborne Road



Hamilton Fish, who had a summer home in Philipstown and was U.S. secretary of state from 1869 to 1877, died 125 years ago this month.

and the Virginia Hills Estates.

After nearly two years of construction, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement scheduled a dedication ceremony for its new St. Christopher's Inn. The expansion and renovation project cost \$6 million.

Two brothers were arrested after a bar fight at Pauly's Place on Route 9 in Philipstown. Police said one broke a plate-glass window and other became abusive toward the deputy and business owner when his brother was arrested.

After getting off the northbound Metro-North train at 2 a.m. on his way home from work, NYPD Officer John Schwartz was startled to see a man lying next to the tracks. The 44-year-old man had fallen from the train platform and fractured his hip.

Sam Japan, a Cold Spring band made up of Rick Muscat on drums, Vince Muscat on lead guitar and Greg Phillips on acoustics, has been playing gigs in New York City as part of the "alternative music" wave. It had previously been known as the Barking Spiders.

"The inhabitants are good citizens and deserving of better treatment."

According to *News of the Highlands*, after being bitten by a dog, John Donohue, proprietor of the Garrison Hotel, took the animal to the river's edge and shot it.

Hamilton Fish, 85, who was secretary of state for eight years under President Grant, died on Sept. 7 at his summer home, Glenclyffe, in Philipstown. Fish also was a former governor of the state and U.S. senator. In 1862 he was sent by the secretary of war to visit Union soldiers imprisoned at Richmond, Virginia.

Chicken thieves visited the hennery

hicle he was riding in with three other soldiers was bombed by an enemy plane. He was the only survivor of the attack.

Hundreds of residents attended the funeral service for Bill Brown, 69, at Our Lady of Loretto. A former member of the New York State Athletic Commission, he was a noted boxing referee. For the past 35 years he had operated Brownsdale, a health farm on the Albany Post Road in Garrison. He didn't drink or smoke and said his favorite drink was hot water.

A picnic was held at the home of Mrs. Fran-

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Sports

GOAL! —The O'Neill High School girls' soccer team defeated Haldane, 4-1, under the lights in Highland Falls on Sept. 15, but the lone Blue Devils goal was a thing of beauty when junior Jade Villella sent a free kick from the far left side of the field sailing just over the outstretched arms of the Raider goalie.

Photos by Scott Warren

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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 catching forty winks (8)	_____
2 Elgar's "Variations" (6)	_____
3 0.00000001 bitcoin (7)	_____
4 related to the past (10)	_____
5 attention-focusing technique (11)	_____
6 promising financial support (8)	_____
7 with serious countenance (7)	_____

SN	AL	IGMA	ZI	SHI
EN	ESS	LY	MIND	ST
FULN	GING	STO	SATO	NG
HI	ERN	OO	PLED	RIC

See answers: Page 7

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Sports

Haldane Volleyball Tops Beacon, Keio

Dominant Blue Devils improve to 8-3

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane High School volleyball team has dominated opponents over the past two weeks, losing only five games while blanking opponents in every victory. Their wins include two shut-outs over rival Beacon.

In the second Blue Devils-Bulldogs match-up, on Tuesday (Sept. 25), Haldane won the first two games, 25-17 and 25-16, and closed it out in convincing fashion, 25-9.

"We had a slow start, but we turned it on midway through the second game," said Coach Kelsey Flaherty, a 2012 Haldane grad. "We got the job done thanks to our defense."

Willa Fitzgerald had 10 kills for Haldane, and Grace Tomann added 10 kills and five digs. Olivia Monteleone added 12 digs and Melissa Rodino had 17 assists.

"Grace got us some important points,"



Haldane's Grace Tamann (4) fires over the defense of Beacon's Grace Affeldt (15) and Lejdina Gecaj (18) in a match on Sept. 25.

Photo by S. Pearlman

said Flaherty. "She's a key player for us on offense. Olivia had eight aces, which was key as far as keeping possession. And Fitzgerald also played well when the ball was set to her."

On Saturday (Sept. 22), the Blue Devils defeated Keio Academy on the road in straight sets, 25-22, 25-10, 25-13. Fitzgerald

led Haldane with 15 kills, Tomann added seven, and Rodino had 23 assists and eight aces.

Haldane's three losses include two to the much larger Scarsdale and one to Ardsley. It is scheduled to host North Salem at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 2, before traveling to Pawling on Thursday, Oct. 4.

Bulldogs Can't Find Traction at Mount Vernon

Beacon falls 7-3 on second-half touchdown

By Skip Pearlman

The Beacon High School football team held a tenuous 3-0 lead at halftime Saturday (Sept. 22) against Mount Vernon, but the visiting Knights spoiled the day by scoring a second-half touchdown for a 7-3 win at Hammond Field.

It was the first time this season Beacon (1-3) was held without a touchdown.

"We made three trips to the red zone [inside the opponent's 20-yard line], but we had some costly penalties that hurt us," said first-year Coach Jim Phelan. "We have got to learn to finish drives, make big plays when they're there."

Phelan said that with three freshman starters (quarterback Jason Komisar, tackle Tyler Haydt and center Ahmir Bell), "it can be a little tough on the seniors to go through a learning-and-growing phase."

Manny Garner led the Bulldogs with 122 yards rushing. "He's been a workhorse, along with Willy Rivera Jr. and Santino Negron," the coach said. "Komisar also ran well for us [37 yards on four carries] and Trey Dinio [at defensive end] and Joe DeCandia [at safety] had great games."

Beacon travels to Gorton (2-2) tomorrow (Sept. 29) for a 1:30 p.m. kickoff. "They're a physical and athletic team," Phelan said. "It's an opportunity for our guys to play some good competition, which will only make us better."

Blue Devils Take to Road, Shut Down Onteora

Take on Hastings tonight for homecoming

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane High School football team took a road trip last Saturday (Sept. 22) — what coach Ryan McConville called "a business trip" — and took care of business by dominating Onteora, 43-13.

Haldane set the tone on the opening kick-

off, forcing a fumble, which Sam Giachinta recovered. The Blue Devils struck moments later on a 39-yard touchdown pass from Dan Santos to Brad Dowd for the receiver's first touchdown of the season.

Haldane put three touchdowns on the board in the first quarter, and led 31-0 at halftime after Matt Ortiz forced a safety. By the game's end, Giachinta had rushed for 130 yards and four touchdowns on 14 carries, and also returned a punt 65 yards for a TD.

"When they fumbled at the beginning of the game, that got us going," said McConville. "We knew we needed to make them chase us."

McConville praised another strong performance by Giachinta and his offensive line but said the team needs to work on its pass defense.

The Blue Devils (2-1) celebrate homecoming tonight (Sept. 28), hosting Hastings (0-3) at 7 p.m.

Varsity Scoreboard

Boys' Soccer

Haldane 2, Woodlands 1
Saunders 9, Haldane 2
North Salem 6, Haldane 0
Byram Hills 1, Beacon 0
Tappan Zee 2, Beacon 1
Beacon 2, Yorktown 1
Devin Lambe (2)
Beacon 4, Hendrick Hudson 2
Lambe (3) Alec Drunkenmiller
Beacon 4, Pougkeepsie 0

Girls' Soccer

Panas 2, Haldane 0
O'Neill 4, Haldane 1
Pleasantville 6, Haldane 0
Haldane 6, Tuckahoe 0
Vilella (2), Anna Rowe (2), Lili Westerhuis, Julia Rotando
Briarcliff 7, Haldane 2
Haldane 3, Pawling 0
Beacon 4, Yonkers 2 OT
Pearl River 9, Beacon 2
Beacon 3, Hendrick Hudson 2
Analiene Compagnone, Anisa Alzate, Ashley Casserly
Beacon 0, Lourdes 0 (OT)

Girls' Tennis

Beacon 7, Poughkeepsie 0
Beacon 7, Lakeland 0
Beacon 5, Lakeland 2
Beacon 5, Ketcham 2
Brewster 4, Beacon 3

Volleyball

Haldane 3, Albertus Magnus 0
Ardsley 3, Haldane 1
Haldane 3, Beacon 0
Haldane 3, Blind Brook 0
Haldane 3, Keio 0
Haldane 3, Beacon 0
Beacon 3, Saunders 0
DaVonja LaMar (12 kills, 4 aces), Tessa Nilsen (10 kills, 5 aces, 18 digs)
Rye 3, Beacon 1
Neyleeann Ortiz (14 kills, 2 blocks), Grace Affeldt (24 assists, 4 aces)
Nanuet 3, Beacon 0
Hendrick Hudson 3, Beacon 0
Nilsen (2 aces, 9 digs)

Cross Country

Haldane @ Queensbury Invitational
Boys' 5,000 meters
9. Adam Silhavy (17:32)
Girls' 5,000 meters
102. Elizabeth Nelson (27:07)
Beacon @ Suffern Invitational
Boys' 3-mile
21. Zachary Cader, Beacon (17:06)
35. Ryan Cory, Beacon (17:47)
Girls' 3-mile
103. Deborah Boyd (28:05)
106. Anita Martin (28:27)
Beacon @ Bowdoin XC Classic
Boys 5K
72. Jayen Lare (18:29)
97. Ryan Cory (18:52)
Girls 5K
137. Deborah Boyd (30:11)
138. Anita Martin (30:15)

Girls' Swimming

Beacon 88, Ketcham 82
Beacon 102, Port Chester 60