

The HIGHLANDS Current

OCTOBER 5, 2018

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



Beacon's Spirit
Page 11



DOING THE WAVE — A Sargent Elementary student practices her wave while marching in the Spirit of Beacon Day parade on Sunday (Sept. 30). For more photos, see Page 11.

Photo by Ross Corsair

For Sale: Beacon Prison

*Must provide jobs,
economic boost*

By Jeff Simms

New York State is dangling \$6 million in grant money as an incentive, again, as it tries to unload the empty Beacon Correctional Facility.

The 39-acre former women's prison, tucked behind Beacon High School and adjacent to the city's Highway Department, comes with a "strong transit infra-

structure and an economic environment friendly to a wide variety of industries," according to a Request for Proposals (RFP) issued last month.

Before the prison opened in 1981, the site, about two-thirds of which sits inside Beacon's city limits, was home to the Matteawan State Hospital. The RFP suggests that the property, which also includes 22 vacant buildings, could be repurposed for commercial or mixed-use development that generates jobs and economic activity. The state said it would consider residential development as a component of a mixed-use project but its preference is to not have housing dominate the site.

A separate application is required to apply for the \$6 million.

(Continued on Page 3)



The former Beacon Correctional Facility

NYS

Pivot Point

*Garrison School debates
whether to commit to oil*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The final plans for a \$7 million capital project at the Garrison School collided last week with global warming as school board members pressed for consideration of a geothermal system as an alternative to new oil-based heating.

The board had been poised to schedule a referendum for Dec. 4 to ask voters to approve \$7,047,620 in spending for infrastructure upgrades, including the heating system in the elementary school (the biggest-ticket item).

Instead, the board informally agreed to continue deliberations after some members urged a review of geothermal and other heating methods not reliant on fossil fuels, which feed climate change. Geothermal systems tap into energy naturally generated underground.

The protracted discussion began after Garrett Hamlin, vice president of Tetra Tech, an architectural and engineering consulting firm, recommended the district purchase a new, oil-based system.

(Continued on Page 8)

Ailes Biopic Stops in Philipstown

*Film examines influence of
former Fox News chief on
local politics*

By Chip Rowe

A documentary called *Divide and Conquer: The Story of Roger Ailes*, the first of three productions about the triumphs and travails of the former Fox News chief and Garrison resident, premiered in New York City on Monday (Oct. 1). Unlike a forthcoming feature film with John Lithgow and a Showtime miniseries with Russell Crowe, this project co-stars Philipstown.

Director Alexis Bloom and a producer visited the area six times for research and to record interviews with residents, including Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea, about their interactions with Ailes, who moved to Garrison in 2007 and soon after bought the 142-year-old local weekly, *The Putnam County News & Recorder*.

The film covers the career of the Warren, Ohio, native through archival footage and interviews with friends and former co-workers, from his beginnings as a producer on *The Mike Douglas Show*, to advising Republican candidates from Richard Nixon to Donald Trump on campaign media strategy, to his role

(Continued on Page 14)



FORCE OF NATURE — More than 100 bicyclists, including Linda Lange (shown here), pedaled on Sunday (Sept. 30) as part of Philipstown Bikes Day. The 1.7-mile loop wound through Cold Spring and Nelsonville. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org. Photo by Michael Turton

Five Questions: ERIC STARR

By Alison Rooney

Twelve Pieces for Solo Piano, by composer Eric Starr of Cold Spring, will be performed at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall on Saturday, Oct. 13, by pianist Michelle Alvarado. See ericstarr-music.com/concerts.

How do you work with the first pianist to perform a piece you've written?

Twelve Pieces for Solo Piano was essentially done by the time Michelle Alvarado and I met in 2017. She'd make recommendations, such as: "This passage is too fast, so it's not communicating the idea clearly at that tempo." We worked through the nuances, the shading, making a section more percussive, in a "Let's really hit that" kind of way, or "The notation says pianissimo, but I think it's too soft." Michelle felt part of the creation of the music.

What's it like to hear your work played by someone else?

Michelle's a virtuoso. When she plays it, it comes to life in a different way. I write, I hate to admit, on a digital keyboard, so hearing her play it on a mighty Steinway D, when the notes hurl up to the rafters, makes you realize things like where the tempo needs to be adjusted. Michelle recorded it at the National Opera Center on Placido Do-

mingo's piano, which set the standard.

How do you book Carnegie Hall?

Twelve Pieces for Solo Piano is fiendishly difficult to play. I was worried about it, and when I started working with Michelle on it, she said she thought it was doable but that she would need to practice it a lot. She was working so hard, I decided I needed to set up concerts. I arranged one at Kleinhans Music Hall, in Buffalo, where I'm from, then wrote the director of bookings at Carnegie Hall. She asked me to send the recordings and called with a date.

How are the 12 pieces connected?

The work was a commission. It was daunting to write, and I don't think I would have done it otherwise. It's 82 pages and 50 minutes long and each piece has a story. The pieces are meant to be performed in a specific order, although each can be played alone. I was frightened at the beginning, but writing "Elegy" after attending the funeral of the wife of a close friend of mine got me inside the project, and my confidence started to build. I humbly hope to add something new to the emerging canon of

21st-century classical music.

The concert will feature Alvarado and cellist Hannah Holman playing the first movement of your *Between the Sandhills and the Sea*. What inspired it?

It's the only movement I've written, so far, of three or four, so consider it a sneak preview. I always wanted to write a piece for cello and piano. I came across a Rainer Maria Rilke poem, "Two Solitudes," which intrigued me, and another poem, "Perhaps," by Vera Brittain, that gave me the shivers. I felt much sorrow but also a sense of courage and resiliency, and suddenly, the piece was born from it. The creative process is mysterious and I accept that.



Eric Starr Photo by Jeffrey Starr

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's the next big thing on your calendar?



"Celebrating all the fall activities with my daughters, especially apple picking and getting ready for Halloween."
~Polo Rivera, Beacon



"My parents are coming from Northern Ireland to celebrate our daughter Orla's second birthday on Oct. 14."
~Carolyn Peters, Cold Spring



"I'm going to Seaside Heights, New Jersey. Getting away for six days!"
~Chicky Chiarella, Cold Spring



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Beacon Officials Propose \$21 Million Budget

Also, longtime building inspector to retire

By Jeff Simms

Beacon Mayor Randy Casale introduced the city's proposed budget for 2019 during the City Council meeting on Monday (Oct. 1), and it includes \$20.7 million in spending, an increase of 2.74 percent over this year. The council and city staff will discuss the details over the next two months, with a public hearing scheduled for Dec. 3.

The council must approve the budget by Dec. 31.

As part of its spending, the city proposes pulling \$326,000 from its reserves, a \$153,000 increase over the savings spent this year. The proposal stays within the state's maximum 2 percent tax cap by in-

creasing the tax levy — the total amount that the city can raise via property taxes — by \$371,000 to nearly \$11 million.

The city's water and sewer funds, which are separate from the day-to-day general fund, would see rate increases of 5 percent and 10 percent, respectively, to pay for continuing infrastructure upgrades.

Home values in Beacon, while still \$100 million less than the high-water mark of 2009, increased by 3.5 percent. Commercial property values increased by nearly 10 percent, and are above the 2009 mark for the second year in a row.

As assessments rise, property tax rates can decrease, and the 2019 proposal recommends just that — by 1.65 percent for homes and 1.81 percent for commercial properties.

It would be the third straight year that the tax rate for homes fell and the fourth for businesses. However, that doesn't mean that a resident will pay less; individual assessments determine whether bills go up.

Other budget highlights include significant increases in Beacon's contribution to the county workers' compensation plan (9 percent), municipal employees' health insurance (15 percent of general fund expenditures) and garbage and recycling costs (\$100,000 more than a year ago).

Conversely, the city's streetlights, which have all been converted to energy-efficient LED bulbs, will cost \$55,000 to operate in 2019, a third less than a year ago and \$263,000 less than in 2016. The newly opened solar power farm at the former Beacon landfill site should save the city \$100,000 in energy costs, as well.

In the proposed budget, the largest expense is the police department (\$5.2 million), followed by health insurance premiums (\$3.2 million); interest payments on the city's bonds (\$2.8 million); fire

(\$1.7 million); highway (\$1.6 million) and sanitation (\$1.2 million). Other expenses include \$433,000 for insurance payments, \$299,000 for snow removal, \$279,000 for building maintenance and repairs, and \$641,000 for parks and recreation.

Dexter to retire

Tim Dexter, the longtime building inspector, has said he plans to retire after 36 years with the city, which Casale said on Monday made 2019 "a tough budget for me." After serving as a volunteer and then career firefighter for the city, Dexter joined the Building Department in 1989. He was named chief building inspector in 1996 and served as interim city administrator on two occasions, most recently before Anthony Ruggiero was hired in 2015.

The city will hire his successor from the Dutchess County civil service list of candidates.

"He was one of the main reasons this city had the resurgence that it did have," Casale said on Monday. "There was no one more professional than Tim Dexter."

Beacon Prison *(from Page 1)*

The City of Beacon is not likely to submit a proposal, said Mayor Randy Casale, although he said he'd personally like to see a vocational school at the location. "Kids who are out of high school need somewhere to go for job training," he said.

State officials will lead prospective bidders on a tour of the former correctional facility on Oct. 11. Proposals are due by Dec. 20.

New York first asked for proposals for the property in 2014, a year after the prison was decommissioned. That campaign ended with only one submission, from the New York City-based Doe Fund, which wanted to create a farming and job-training center to serve homeless and impoverished people.

The Doe Fund withdrew its proposal in 2017 after a coalition of local officials — including Casale, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro and state Sen. Sue

Serino — wrote a letter asking Gov. Andrew Cuomo to reject it.

Bob LaColla, the Town of Fishkill supervisor, who also signed the letter, said the officials opposed the Doe Fund proposal because it had evolved from an economic development plan to a social-services one. The coalition was also concerned that the state would not receive any money from the sale of the site, while the Doe Fund would receive a disproportionate amount

of state and federal funding for its project, according to the letter. The \$6 million in grant funding was available then, as well.

LaColla said he expects there will be more proposals related to jobs and economic growth this time around. For the 12-month period ending in August, private sector jobs in Dutchess and Putnam counties grew less than 1 percent, although job growth was significantly higher elsewhere in the region, according to the state Department of Labor.



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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.



One the buildings at the 193-unit Tompkins Terrace

TompkinsTerrace.com

Tompkins Terrace sale

I have lived at Tompkins Terrace for 11 years and, even with the repairs needed, I find it to be a clean, quiet and safe environment ("Tompkins Terrace, Beacon Affordable Housing Complex, Sold," Sept. 28). The community room needs repairs and the laundry rooms are in need of updated machines, but I don't see myself leaving.

I know, like and get along with my neighbors, who are more like family or friends. I know all of the staff who work here by name and they do complete repairs in a timely manner once a work order has been submitted. There may be problems with some of the other buildings, but I have no complaints or concerns regarding the building that I am in.

Raymond Fryar, *Beacon*

I miss the historical, well-maintained home that was torn down to build Tompkins Terrace. I remember the fireplace in the kitchen that you could stand in, the floor-to-ceiling gilt mirrors in the ballroom and other details.

So much for progress and giving everyone a decent place to reside. This home was just one of the historical homes destroyed to regain river views for others under the guise of urban renewal.

Beverly Bryer-McLean, *Beacon*

For more comments, visit
highlandscurrent.org



REGISTER TO VOTE BY OCT. 12

To register to vote, you must:

- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Be 18 years old by Dec. 31 of the year in which you register, and 18 years old by the date of the election in which you plan to vote.
- Live at your present address at least 30 days before an election.
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- Not claim the right to vote elsewhere.

You can register to vote:

- By calling 845-808-1300 (in Putnam County) or 845-486-2473 (in Dutchess County) to request a registration form, or
- By downloading the form at putnamboe.com (for Putnam) or dutchesselections.com (for Dutchess).
- You can also use the form to change your name or address, enroll in a political party or change your party enrollment. The latter must be filed at least 25 days before the general election and will go into effect seven days after the election.
- The deadline is Friday, Oct. 12, to register for the general election, which takes place on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Q What is Section 8?

A: In the Sept. 28 issue, Jeff Simms reported on the sale of the Tompkins Terrace housing complex in Beacon. Rents for the apartments in the development are subsidized by the federal government through a voucher program known as Section 8, after the part of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 that authorizes assistance to low-income renters, including senior citizens and disabled people on fixed incomes and homeless families.

The program is administered locally by the Beacon Public Housing Authority (beaconhousingauthority.org). According to figures compiled by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, the local agency oversees 309 units in Beacon, and a total of 458 people.

The average family pays \$449 per month in rent, and the federal government contributes \$805. About 60 percent of households also receive subsidies for utilities that average \$136 monthly.

The average annual household income for renters who have vouchers is \$8,461 for individuals and \$19,472 for families. In Beacon, the average wait time to receive a voucher is nearly five years.

In Putnam County there are 883 people and 587 units, with families paying an average of \$400 monthly and HUD picking up \$926. Eighty-six percent receive utility allowances that average \$127. The average annual income of renters is \$10,100 for individuals and \$16,640 for households. The average wait time is just under three years.

Have a question we can answer?

Email: question@highlandscurrent.org

Putnam Raises Tobacco Buy to 21

First initiative of anti-addiction task force

By Holly Crocco

The Putnam County Legislature, by a 6-3 vote, on Tuesday (Oct. 2) made it illegal for anyone younger than 21 to buy tobacco products or related “accessories.” The minimum age to purchase cigarettes and other tobacco had been 18, although it is not illegal for teenagers or young adults to smoke.

Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra (R-Philipstown), who is chair of the Legislature’s Health Committee, has been pushing for the Tobacco 21 legislation since it came up as a suggestion by the One Army Against the War on Addiction Task Force.

“This was the first initiative to come out of the task force,” she said. “They believe, and I believe, this is a measure we must take not only to stop tobacco, but to stop vaping, as well,” which is a process in which flavored vapor with nicotine is inhaled through a battery-powered device.

The legislation was volleyed back and forth between the Health Committee and the full Legislature over the past several months as lawmakers debated the intent, and execution, of the law. It will now go to the county executive’s desk for her signature and take effect 60 days after it is filed with the New York secretary of State.

Legislator Amy Sayegh (R-Mahopac Falls) said she supports the county doing anything it can to get tobacco products out of the hands of minors. “We want to be proactive here; we don’t want to wait for the state to act,” she said.

However, Legislator Paul Jonke (R-Southeast), who vot-

ed against the measure, dismissed the law as “feel-good legislation” that penalizes retailers. He said the way to combat teen smoking and vaping is through education.

“I compliment the American Cancer Society, the Health Department, the school districts and the Department of Social Services for educating our teenagers,” he said. “The rate of teen smoking has certainly declined since I was a teenager.”

Legislator Toni Addonizio (R-Kent), who also voted no, said an adult is someone who is regarded as independent, self-sufficient and responsible, and that generally happens at 18, when individuals can marry, vote, enter legal contracts, buy firearms and enlist in the military. By increasing the age to purchase tobacco to 21, it is implied that young adults cannot make their own decisions, she said.

“We are sending a message to an entire generation of young adults that we need the government to tell us how to live,” said Addonizio.

Legislator Joseph Castellano (R-Brewster) said it was a difficult decision for him to support Tobacco 21, but that at the end of the day, “if we can save one person from smoking and one person from vaping,” the law will have served its purpose.

Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson) was the third legislator to vote no.

Following the passage of the law, Julie Hart, a representative from the American Cancer Society, praised the legislature.

“Tobacco 21 just makes sense, given nearly 96 percent of smokers begin this deadly addiction before turning 21,” she said. “It is a win for health and our pocketbooks. We are thrilled Putnam County has put health before the profits of Big Tobacco and the vaping industry. We look forward to County Executive [MaryEllen] Odell signing this crucial legislation. We also look forward to this law being enacted statewide.”

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NEWS BRIEFS



A Beacon man died on Oct. 1 when his car collided with an overturned tractor-trailer on I-84 near Kent.

NYSP

Beacon Man Killed in I-84 Crash

Struck overturned tractor-trailer

A 52-year-old Beacon man died early on Monday (Oct. 1) after his vehicle struck an overturned tractor-trailer on Interstate 84 near Kent.

Thomas W. Cipolla was pulled from his 1994 Toyota Camry by passersby and the truck's driver after the 3:45 a.m. collision and taken to Putnam Hospital Center in

Carmel, where he was pronounced dead.

The New York State Police reported that the tractor-trailer, driven by Sergio Khundiashvili, 36, of Brooklyn, was traveling east-bound in the left lane when it struck the median guardrail, causing the rig to overturn. Cipolla, who was also in the left lane, collided with the truck and both vehicles caught fire.

According to the state police, Khundiashvili and his passenger were taken to Danbury Hospital and treated for minor injuries. I-84 traffic was detoured to Routes 52 and 311 until about 2:45 p.m.



MOUNTAIN RESCUE — Cold Spring firefighters carried a 54-year-old hiker off Breakneck on Sept. 22 after he experienced chest pains.

Photo by Michael Bowman

Putnam Sheriff to Hold Town Hall

Scheduled for Oct. 11 in Cold Spring

Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. will host a town hall on Thursday, Oct. 11, at 6 p.m. at the Old VFW Hall in Cold Spring.

He will be joined by Undersheriff Michael Corrigan and Captains James Babcock (Operations), Kevin Cherverko (Corrections), Jon Jennings (Criminal Investigations), Lisa Ortolano (Civil) and Harry Tompkins (Patrol).

Three Hikers Struck on 9D

Vehicle left road near Fair Street

Three pedestrians were struck by a vehicle on Saturday, Sept. 22, after the car left Route 9D in Cold Spring about 500 feet north of Fair Street, according to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department.

The incident occurred at about 2:30 p.m. The driver and two of the pedestrians, who were walking on the shoulder, were injured, but there was no arrest made, the sheriff said.



**ST. PHILIP'S MEMORIAL GARDEN
COLUMBARIUM DEDICATION**
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2018

St. Philip's Church has completed construction of a columbarium for its membership on the Church campus.

*The St. Philip's Memorial Garden will be dedicated in honor of the ministry of the **Reverend Francis H. Geer** at a ceremony following the 10:30 Church Service on Sunday, October 14th.*

The Garden was designed by landscape architect, Sam Geer, who is the son of Reverend Geer. There will be a reception in the Parish House with the Geer family following the dedication ceremony.

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AROUND TOWN



HONORED FOR SERVICE — Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (right), who represents the Highlands in the U.S. House, on Sept. 15 presented the Congressional Gold Medal to Irma Turner Estis for her service in the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) during World War II. Turner Estis joined CAP at age 14 and served from 1943 to 1945, before moving to Newburgh, where she worked as a physical education teacher for decades. CAP volunteers trained high school students to watch the skies and coastal areas for enemy attack.

Photo provided



TIRE DUMPER STRIKES AGAIN — Six weeks after as many as 100 tires were dumped in Indian Brook in Garrison, another 18 were found on Oct. 1 along Indian Brook Road, about three quarters of a mile from the Bird & Bottle.

Photo by Christopher Radko



ARE YOU PROTECTED? — Beacon Fire Chief Gary Van Voorhis and firefighter Ron Arrigo install a fire detector in a Beacon home. The department offers free detectors and installation to qualified residents. Email gvanvoorhis@beaconfd.org or call 845-765-0899.

Photo provided

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Celebrating the Cornell Family with the Historic Family of Philipstown Award

Benefit Committee Vice-Chair:
Jeremy Crandall

Benefit Committee:
Mary Ann Coleman Stephen Saikin
Priscilla Goldfarb & Frank E. Lucente
Thomas Hayden Preston Pittman
Anne Impellizzeri Michelle Smith

Pivot Point *(from Page 1)*

“A lot of us are uncomfortable about the idea of locking ourselves into a fossil-fuel system for the next 30 years,” said Board Member David Gelber, co-creator of *Years of Living Dangerously*, a documentary series on the effects of climate change. Gelber reminded his colleagues that in July the board unanimously passed a resolution pledging to fight global warming, including when making purchasing decisions.

The district began work on the capital project in 2015. Funding the project (without a geothermal component) would require “a slight tax increase,” said Jason Schwartz, an accountant with Bernard Donagan, a municipal consulting company. His firm projected an average marginal tax rate increase from 2022 to 2037 of 6 cents for every \$1,000 of a property’s full value.

According to Hamlin, a traditional hot-water heating system would cost \$1.6 million, while a geothermal system would cost \$2.1 million to \$2.6 million. He said an upgraded, oil-based system would be better for the environment than the current one, although not as beneficial as geothermal. Along with heating, the oil-based system could provide air conditioning, if the district wants it.

The heating system for the middle school does not need replacement, according to school officials.

“We’re proponents of reducing carbon footprints,” but cannot recommend geothermal energy for the Garrison School, Hamlin explained. “We don’t see that as

the best solution, the most cost-effective.” Outfitting older buildings can also be challenging and each geothermal installation is unique, making it hard to assemble data and compute typical savings, he said.

He added, however, that his firm would endorse geothermal if Garrison could achieve a payback in 10 years. He also noted that an elementary school geothermal system could be configured to allow expansion to the middle school.

Gelber argued it should not be difficult to compile data from other schools, such as Putnam Valley. “I’d be more confident in your opinions if you were able to present us with more facts,” he told Hamlin. He also noted that oil prices could fluctuate, complicating assumptions about the long-term costs of fossil-fuel systems. Nonetheless, he also said that “we’re not saying that no matter what the cost is, we want to do it.”

School officials said the district spends about \$60,000 annually on oil, with about half going for the elementary school.

Board Member James Hoch observed that climate change “is already happening; my guess is it’s going to get worse,” with heavier, more frequent storms, severe flooding, and other weather conditions that could shut the school down and require make-up classes on hot summer days. He recommended they prepare now.

O’Rourke responded that a new, more efficient oil-based heating system would still be “entirely consistent” with the board’s climate-change resolution.

Some audience members endorsed further investigation of geothermal. Krystal

How Putnam Valley Did It



All three schools in the Putnam Valley School District have geothermal, and the middle and high schools have no oil bills. For more, see highlandscurrent.org.

Ford, who pushed the board to adopt its climate-change resolution, said that the state offered grants for clean-energy projects, while Madeline Julian, an architect who supervises heating and cooling projects in hospitals, said “we would never make a decision [based] on the information” given the district so far.

Julian proposed the district evaluate a number of alternative systems. “This is the only time we’re going to have to do this project” and the district should choose wisely, she said.

O’Rourke recalled that the last time the district undertook a major capital project — the middle school, finished in 2002 — a fierce dispute broke out. He expressed skepticism whether the pending

project “would get a slam-dunk approval” from voters, especially if it included the expense of a geothermal system. “That’s not to argue against doing this,” only to recognize the challenges, he said.

O’Rourke observed that voters who do not have children in school — the vast majority of Garrison’s electorate — tend to reject spending projects. Asked if residents might rally around something seen as fighting global warming, he said: “Maybe. I just don’t know. We can be hopeful.”

A day later, O’Rourke added that a new federal tax law that limits the federal-tax deductibility of state and local taxes to \$10,000 might also affect voter enthusiasm “for what some could view as non-essential elements of the project.”

MAGAZZINO ITALIAN ART

Giovanni Anselmo
Alighiero Boetti
Pier Paolo Calzolari
Luciano Fabro
Jannis Kounellis
Mario Merz

Marisa Merz
Giulio Paolini
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Giuseppe Penone
Michelangelo Pistoletto
Gilberto Zorio

Thursday through Monday,
11am to 5pm

Admission is free to
the public

2700 Route 9
Cold Spring, NY 10516
magazzino.art

The Calendar



Little Sammy Davis

Photo by John Rocklin



Joe Callicott and his wife, Newbit, in Mississippi

Photo by George Mitchell



A New Orleans street festival in 2017

Photo by Frank Matheis

Back to Basics

Photos capture performers of 'roots' music

By Alison Rooney

Frank Matheis hopes that visitors to the Howland Cultural Center, when viewing the photos in a show he curated that begins Saturday, Oct. 6, will hear music. The 130 images document the lives of musicians who played acoustic blues and other traditional genres, including folk, Cajun, and country.

The exhibit, *American Roots Music*, opens with a reception from 3 to 5 p.m. with music performed by Lowry Hamner. The show, which runs through Oct. 28, includes a tribute to the late Little Sammy Davis, a blues harmonica player who retired to the Hudson Valley after spending much of his career in Chicago.

Roots music predates electronics, synthesizers and modern recording methods. "It was the folk music that people played at home, in their own communities," Matheis explains. "The roots of rock 'n' roll were acoustic blues, country and hillbilly music. Before there was rap, hip-hop, soul and funk, there was the rural down-home blues.

"The significance and the power of these photos shouldn't be underestimated," says Matheis, a longtime contributor to *Living Blues* magazine. "They document an oft-forgotten art form, much of which is of African-American heritage. It's an art form predominantly made by poor people who were culturally powerless, yet it was significant for world culture. It emerged long ago as an international form."

Matheis initially hoped to mount the exhibit using photos from his personal collection but realized they didn't reflect the breadth of the subject. So he put the word out. Many of the thousands of images that came back have never been published. "I requested black-and-white images, and we stayed away from shots of the musicians playing electric instruments," he explains.

"All of these photographers got close to the lives of these musicians; they had intimate access," he adds. "Many shots were taken in the South, in the musicians' homes, the places where they lived. You can see people on their porches, in their community, with their neighbors. In some cases, the photographers made field recordings as a way of documenting everything."

The Howland Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon. Gallery hours are 1 to 5 p.m., Friday through Monday, with the exception of Oct. 14, when it closes at 2 p.m., and Oct. 21, when it will be closed.



Otha Turner in Memphis, 2002

Photo by Bibiana Huang Matheis



Jessie Mae Hemphill on her porch in Senatobia, Mississippi, in 1967

Photo by George Mitchell



Rosetta Patton Brown in Duncan, Mississippi, 1966

Photo by Bill Steber

Calendar Highlights

Submit to calendar@highlandscurrent.org

For complete listings, see highlandscurrent.org

FRIDAY, OCT. 5

Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall
Veterans Memorial Park, Carmel
pcjvc.org/the-traveling-wall

Catoberfest Benefit
6 – 10 p.m. Hudson Valley Brewery
2 Churchill St., Beacon
catoberfest.brownpapertickets.com

Barbara Smith Gioia: *Fragments in Time* (Opening)
6 – 8:30 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
121 Main St., Cold Spring
busterlevigallery.com

Football vs. Pearl River (Homecoming)
6:30 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-838-6900 | beaconk12.org

Campaign Furniture (Panel Discussion)
6:30 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D, Garrison
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Why Mindfulness for Social Justice? (Talk)
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

***The Improvised Dream* (Theater)**
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., Beacon
845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall
Veterans Memorial Park, Carmel
pcjvc.org/the-traveling-wall

Craft Sale
9 a.m. -- 3:30 p.m. Cold Spring Methodist Church
216 Main St., Cold Spring

Hazardous Household Waste Collection
9 a.m. – Noon. Smith Campus
110 Old Route 6, Carmel
845-808-1390, x43150 | putnamcountyny.gov
Registration required.

Heritage AppleFest
9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Boscobel | See details under Friday.

Twin Forts Day
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fort Montgomery
690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery
845-446-2134 | nysparks.com

Chapel Restoration
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Open House
5 p.m. The Fabrication of Cannon at W.P. Foundry
35 Market St., Cold Spring
chapelrestoration.org

Plein Air Painting Group
1:30 – 4:30 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road, Cold Spring
garrisonartcenter.org

Bonnie Baxter and Jaimi Butler on Robert Smithson (Talk)
2 p.m. Dia:Beacon
3 Beekman St., Beacon | diaart.org

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

Hiro Ichikawa Exhibit (Opening)
2 – 4 p.m. Scenic Hudson River Center
Long Dock Park, Beacon
scenichudson.org

***American Roots Music* (Opening)**
3 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Friday.

Beacon Historical Society Ghost Tours
7 – 10 p.m. Veterans Memorial Hall
413 Main St., Beacon
Tickets at beaconhistorical.org.

Pissi Myles Drag!
7 p.m. Denning's Point Distillery
10 N. Chestnut St., Beacon
denningspointdistillery.com

Story Slam
7 p.m. Beacon Sukkah
Polhill Park, Beacon
beaconhebrewalliance.org

***The Arsonists* (Reading)**
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
philipstowndepottheatre.org

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

Tani Tabbal Trio
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
See details under Friday.

Bert Rechtschaffer Jazz Trio
8:30 p.m. Chill Wine Bar
173 Main St., Beacon
chillwinebarbeacon.com

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall
Veterans Memorial Park, Carmel
pcjvc.org/the-traveling-wall

Support Connection Support-a-Walk
9 a.m. FDR State Park
2957 Crompond Road, Yorktown Heights
914-962-6402 | supportconnection.org

PHILIPSTOWN

DEPOT

THEATRE

EXCELLENT CREATURES
PRESENT:

• *Dialogues with
Drama Play Reading*

• *The Arsonists by
Max Firsch*

OCT 6 AT 7:30PM

www.philipstowndepottheatre.org

Garden Conservancy Open Day
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane, Cold Spring
845-265-2000 | stonecrop.org

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

Fall Harvest Festival: Green Mountain Playboys
Noon – 4 p.m. Fishkill Farms
9 Fishkill Farm Road, Hopewell Junction
845-897-4377 | fishkillfarms.com

Sunset Reading Series: Sam Anderson
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St., Cold Spring
facebook.com/Sunset-Reading-Series

Used Clothing Sale / Meet the Candidates
5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Old VFW Hall
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring

MONDAY OCT. 8

Columbus Day
Local libraries open.

Fall Harvest Festival: Stax of Soul USA
Noon – 4 p.m. Fishkill Farms
See details under Sunday.

TUESDAY, OCT. 9

Cold Spring Chamber Meeting
9 a.m. Dolly's Cafe
7 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
explorecoldspringny.com

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Chestnut Ridge
62 Chestnut St., Cold Spring
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Haldane Sports
4:15 p.m. Girls' Soccer vs. Beacon
4:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. Poughkeepsie
Haldane High School, Cold Spring
haldaneschool.org

Beacon School Board
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road, Beacon
845-838-6900 | beaconk12.org

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

DOWNING FILM
CENTER

19 Front Street
Newburgh, New York 12550
845-561-3686

www.downingfilmcenter.com

FRI OCT 5–THU OCT 11

THE CHILDREN ACT

Rated R

Starring Emma Thompson & Stanley Tucci

FRI 5:00, SAT 2:00 7:30, SUN 5:00
TUE & WED 7:30, THU 2:00

BLACKKLANSMAN

Rated R

Directed by Spike Lee
Starring John David Washington & Adam Driver

FRI 2:00 7:30, SAT 4:30, SUN 2:00
TUE 2:00, THU 7:30

Support Groups

For a full list of area support groups,
visit: highlandscurrent.org/sg

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 10

Putnam County Flu Shot Clinic
2 – 6:30 p.m. Garrison Firehouse
1616 Route 9, Garrison
putnamcountyny.com

Alzheimer's: Know the 10 Signs (Talk)
11 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Senior Luncheon
Noon. Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Dr., Garrison
845-424-4618 | philipstownrecreation.com

Nelsonville Village Board
6:30 p.m. Village Hall
258 Main St., Nelsonville
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

Garrison School Board
7 p.m. Garrison School
1100 Route 9D, Garrison
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

Beacon Horrorshow: *The Cabin in the Woods* (2012)
7:30 p.m. Big Mouth
387 Main St., Beacon
storyscreenbeacon.com

THURSDAY, OCT. 11

Haldane Sports
4:30 p.m. Girls' Soccer vs. Putnam Valley
4:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. Putnam Valley
See details under Tuesday.

Active-Shooter Defense Course
6 – 9 p.m. Bureau of Emergency Services
112 Old Route 6, Carmel
putnamsheriff.com

Putnam County Sheriff Town Hall
6 p.m. Old VFW Hall
34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring
845-225-4300 x42203 | putnamsheriff.com

Print Club
6 – 9 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Citizen's Climate Lobby
7 p.m. Beahive
291 Main St., Beacon
facebook.com/cclny18

Tioronda Garden Club Annual Fall Wine Festival
7 – 10 p.m. St. Rocco Society
26 S. Chestnut St., Beacon
845-831-4300

Kathleen Madigan (Comedy)
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Friday.

FRIDAY, OCT. 12

Deadline to Register to Vote on Nov. 6
elections.ny.gov/votingregister.html

Halloween Costume Exchange
4 – 6 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St., Beacon
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.com

Reel Life Film Club: *On the Way to School*
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, Garrison
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
See details under Oct. 5.



Photo by Ross Corsair



Photo by Michael Turton



Photo by Ross Corsair



Photo by Michael Turton



Photo by Ross Corsair



Photo by Cindy Gould

Spirit of Beacon Day

Version 41

The annual Spirit of Beacon Day on Sunday (Sept. 30) drew throngs of residents and visitors to Main Street for a street festival and parade that included two pipe bands, six marching bands and an appearance by Belgian artist Joëlle Tuerlinckx, who had just ended her weeklong performance, *THAT'S IT!* at Dia:Beacon.

Along the street, visitors could sample empanadas made by members of St. Joachim St. John's church, hamburgers from Springfield Baptist and vegetarian offerings from Masjid Ar-Rashid. Gwen Laster, Solar Sound, Los Caribeños, Goldee Green, the Howland Wolves, the Beacon Performing Arts Center and the Beacon Rising Women's Choir each performed on the main stage.

The Salvation Army hosted children's activities; Sam's Realty provided face painting; Small Tribe Hoops shared hula hoops; and Miss Vickie, Compass Arts, and Creative Strings performed.

The day's organizing committee presented the Volunteer Spirit Award to the previous Spirit of Beacon Committee, which had run the event for nearly 20 years; the Community Spirit Award to Key Food for its sponsorship of volunteer events; and the Best Float Award to Glenham Elementary.



Photo by Ross Corsair



Photo by Michael Turton



Photo by Ross Corsair

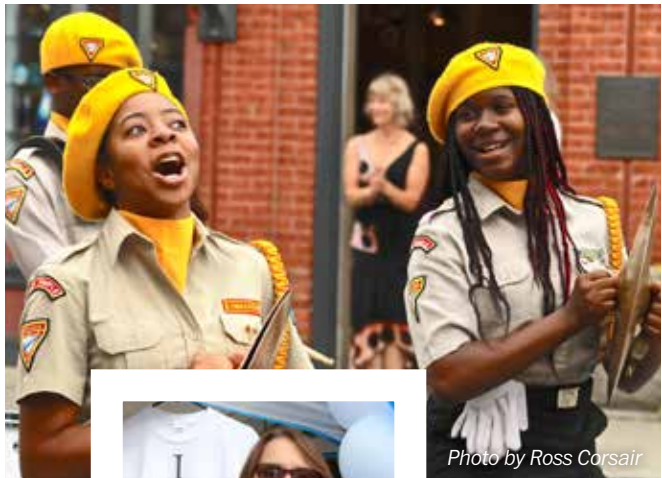


Photo by Ross Corsair



Photo by Ross Corsair



Photo by Gwenno James



Photo by Michael Turton



Photo by Michael Turton



Three SUNY grads launch company in Beacon

Sienna Blaw, Erin Landers and Claire Deane

Photo by Umi Akiyoshi

By Alison Rooney

If the three co-founders of the Beacon-based A-Y/dancers had been born 60 or 70 years earlier, they would have had no difficulties finding jobs in modern dance companies. As graduates of the conservatory program at SUNY Purchase, they probably would have easily transitioned into a company led by choreographers such as José Limon, Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham or Paul Taylor.

For 2017 graduates, however, things are much different. Few companies employ full-time dancers, so most graduates string together freelance work. Or they

can do what Sienna Blaw, Claire Deane and Erin Landers have done: Start their own company.

On Saturday, Oct. 13, at 8 p.m. and on Sunday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m., A-Y/dancers will perform at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. The program will include a foundational work by Merce Cunningham that is being presented to mark the 100th anniversary of his birth, a piece from contemporary choreographer Doug Varone (who teaches at SUNY Purchase), and a work from emerging choreographer Hannah Garner.

Craig Wolf, president of the Howland board, said the center is happy to “debut a new modern dance troupe that focuses

on the Hudson Valley. This fills in a gap in our offerings and uses the Howland space in a different and creative way.”

The history of modern dance extends back more than a century, when dancers such as Isadora Duncan chafed at ballet’s rigid rules. They

Claire Deane, A-Y/dancers co-founder

Photo by A. Rooney

began to dance more freely, borrowing from the ancient Greeks, and elevated expression over technique.

The form made its way to the U.S. during the World War I era and, in the decades that followed, many choreographers formed companies that developed international followings. Today, most of these companies still exist, but many are struggling to stay afloat.

“There was no commercial model” to start a company, says Deane. “Because it seemed like an unattainable dream, that fired us up. When resources are so limited, it weirdly becomes easier to say, ‘I’ll make my own work.’ Then comes figuring out how to do that.”

They are heeding the advice of a choreographer they work with, Deborah Lohse, which she credits to Carol Burnett: Be dumb enough to think you can do anything. “We say it to each other every week!” says Deane.

Deane, who grew up in Westchester

County, discovered Beacon when she attended dance performances at Dia. She moved to Beacon after graduation, finding work as a gallery attendant at the museum. She found Beacon appealing as a location for a dance company in part because it wouldn’t have to compete with the many similar ventures in New York City, where her two co-founders live. “Everyone is so interested in bringing dance to where it hasn’t been accessed,” she says.

The troupe hopes to mix classics with contemporary. “We want to present programs which show the scope and continuity of modern dance,” Deane says. It also wants to create programs that are accessible. “You don’t need to have a degree in dance history to hook in to these works,” she says. “We’ve had people out strolling on a Sunday afternoon peek in on our open rehearsals and stay to watch.”

Getting the company off the ground has been the expected challenge. “What we’re doing is so different that there is no one to ask for advice,” Deane says. “The licensing, in particular, has been difficult, as has finding rehearsal space and funding.” The troupe received a grant for its Howland performances from the New York State Council of the Arts, which Deane says “feels like a vote of confidence.”

For tickets to the Oct. 13 and 14 performances, which are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students, see aydancers.brownpapertickets.com. Tickets at the door are \$18 and \$15. There will be a free dress rehearsal at noon on Friday, Oct. 12.



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Saturday, October 6 (Raindate October 13)

9:00am - 4:00pm

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INTERVIEW WITH A PILLAR OF THE COMMUNITY*

*Gwen refutes that.

Briton to Beaconite Gwen Nerrie

In response
to an interview
request:

Ah, jeez!
I'm going to get
grief from my
friends for this,
but what the
heck!

How she got to Beacon:

I was born in Kent, U.K.,
in 1919, a date that the girl
in my doctor's office
doesn't think is possible.

During the war, I worked for
the Western Military Command
as a secretary to General Alltiff.
The American medical unit arrived
with doctors and a pharmacist
named Travers Nerrie.

It took nearly two
years to get a passage
on a ship to join him
in the states with so
many people displaced.
Finally, I got a boat.

When I reached
New York, I
didn't recognize
my fiancé!

Nonetheless,
it seems to have
worked out
with the man
who was waiting
on the dock.

Nerrie Pharmacy was on
Main Street where the
county office's parking lot is
now. I waited on customers
and got to know everyone.



Although, some
times when I'd
walk down the
street...

...folks would say,
"Hi, Mrs. Vogel."

I got a charge out of
that because Vogel was the
other drugstore in town.



Supporting the community:

Someone asked me and I said yes. I
taught Sunday School, ran the lunch counter
at St. Francis, served soup at the Salvation
Army. Now I do the Welcome Table at
First Presbyterian Church...



...and Beacon Reads. That one
is a conversational job.

On cue, a customer reading a book on
Churchill comes in, notes Gwen's age and accent

I'll bet in your
lifetime, you've
seen Winston
Churchill face
to face.

Yes, I have... with my
father. Churchill was
standing on a soap box,
talking in Hyde Park.

hooked
↓

He'd spit out
the ends of his
cigars...

Who says
pillars have
to be stiff
and boring?

His trousers
needed pressing.

By
Deb Fuchs

© 2018

Divide and Conquer (from Page 1)

in 1996 launching Fox News. The latter made him a multimillionaire and national figure both deeply admired and despised.

The documentary, which was shown this week at the New York Film Festival, will open in select theaters and on streaming platforms on Dec. 7.

Bloom also interviewed Leonora Burton, the owner of The Country Goose in Cold Spring and a longtime critic of Ailes, but that material did not make the final cut. Bloom says Ailes did not respond to requests for interviews before his death in May 2017 at age 77. The producers also

"I'm sure he wanted to retire there [in Philipstown], but he just didn't do his research on the character of the town."

tried to reach his wife, Beth Ailes, through multiple avenues, she said.

"Philipstown was obviously very important to Roger," Bloom said in a phone interview before the Oct. 3 screening, which she said Shea planned to attend. "It must have reminded him in some way of growing up in Warren. I'm sure he wanted to retire there [in Philipstown], but he just didn't do his research on the character of the town." She paused to reconsider. "Although — maybe he did. Maybe he knew exactly and relished the challenge."

After its visit to Putnam County, the film concludes by recounting Ailes' downfall at

Fox News after he was accused of sexual harassment by former anchor Gretchen Carlson, a tale recounted in part by two crisis consultants who were summoned to Ailes' Garrison home to advise him. (They claim that when they suggested settling the case, Beth Ailes said in a steely voice: "We will never settle this case. You have to understand something: Roger is more important than America.")

In the film, two former PCNR staff members, Alison Rooney and Michael Turton (who since 2010 have been writing for *The Current*), recalled their reaction in 2008 to the new ownership of the paper.

"The community was shocked that this media mogul, this political kingpin, would have any interest in coming to Cold Spring and buying this little paper," Turton recalled. "We thought: Is he going to do with this local paper what he does at Fox News?" Turton says in the film that, in fact, the PCNR went from being a sleepy community paper to a political tool.

Richard Shea told the filmmakers he met Ailes for the first time in the Haldane school cafeteria after a public forum.

"The first impression I had was, you know, this guy is a bully," he recalled. Early on, Shea said, Ailes "let me know he owned the newspaper. Essentially, he said, 'If I'm not happy, you're not going to be happy.' I was like, 'OK, fine, you own the newspaper, great.' In hindsight, that was a little naïve."

The film includes footage of Ailes, at a 2010 meeting on proposed zoning law changes, taking the microphone to intone about property rights.

Shea recalled that meeting as "surreal," saying Ailes showed up "locked and loaded.... He was worried we were going to tell him he couldn't cut trees down, that he couldn't keep his view, so he got people riled up. He was sort of a master at that."

When Shea ran for re-election in 2011, Ailes backed his opponent. "Roger told me he had never lost any election campaign he'd gotten involved with," Shea recalled. "He was going to see me out of office. At one point, he said, 'I'll park a goddamn Fox News truck at the end of your driveway, and I'll have them follow you as long as I want.' That's not the kind of thing you're expecting in small-town politics."

Shea, who won easily, told the filmmakers that after the election he and Ailes developed a rapport and that he spent many hours in the Ailes' office at the PCNR.

"He would call me on a lot of Fridays and say, 'Come on down, I want to talk to you,'" Shea recalled. "It would be about lo-

Other Ailes Projects

John Lithgow will play Ailes in *Fair and Balanced*, a feature film about the scandal that led to his departure from Fox News. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, the film will star Nicole Kidman as Gretchen Carlson and Charlize Theron as anchor Megyn Kelly.

Russell Crowe will play Ailes in a seven-part series adapted from Gabriel Sherman's 2014 biography, *The Loudest Voice in the Room*, which includes a chapter about Philipstown. According to *Variety*, its title is *Secure and Hold: The Last Days of Roger Ailes*.



Russell Crowe



John Lithgow

cal issues and morph into him telling me about himself, trying to impress me, always telling me how much money he had made. It was sad, in a way. Here's a guy — all the money in the world, could be anywhere, do anything, and we're sitting in the offices of the *Putnam County News* having a chat. I always wondered: Does this guy have actual friends? Don't you have somewhere you'd rather be?"

Once Ailes lost his job at Fox, Roger and Beth "were gone; they were done," Shea told the filmmakers. "I don't think he wanted to show his face around town. He must have cared

about his reputation, obviously, and that sort of thing is not good for your reputation."

In Shea's assessment, Ailes "tried to take [the town] over but never really became part of it. He may have been a genius on the national scene but he really did not get what the local community was."



Rolling Baby! Mobile Baby!
Friday, October 19, 26
November 2, 9, 16
10:40am - 11:30am
Cold Spring, New York

Suzi Tortora, Ed.D., BCDMT, LCAT, LMHC, CMA



Dancing Dialogue



Busy Bodies! Dancing Friends!
Friday, October 19, 26
November 2, 9, 16
9:40am - 10:30am
Cold Spring, New York

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Out There

Nice Guys Finish Last

How to win by losing

By Brian PJ Cronin

The crowd roared as I come bounding out of the woods, barreling downhill on the last tenth-of-a-mile of the 26.2-mile course.

As I crossed the finish line, they rushed over to me with amazement and wonder, congratulating me.

I had finished ... *last*.

The crowd was people who organized the race. The other runners had left long ago. Beyond the finish line was a field converted into a parking lot; the only car left was mine.

The course record for this race, the notorious Breakneck Ridge Trail Marathon — which consists of nearly 9,000 feet of elevation, a climb up Breakneck Ridge, a few scrambles up and down the steep trail near the Mount Beacon Fire Tower (aka the Devil's Ladder), three trips to the summit of Mount Beacon, and an ascent of Mount Taurus — is 5 hours and 4 minutes, which I missed by 6 hours, 21 minutes and 30 seconds. Had I finished four-and-a-half min-



utes slower, I would have been disqualified.

In my defense, I used the race as my final "long run" before the Vermont 50 Mile three weeks later, so my only goals were a nice, easy pace, to finish before the final cut-off and to not die. I also made a wrong turn and didn't realize it until a few miles later, which turned the marathon into 30 miles. I found out later that many people got lost during the race; they just got lost faster.

It was not the first time I've finished last. Fifteen months ago, for my first ultramarathon, I ran 31 miles at a ski resort that involved 12,000 feet of elevation running up and down the mountain's Black Diamond trails. The year I ran it, only 12 people finished — I came in 12th, seven minutes before the cut-off.

And yet, as with Breakneck, I was greeted with thunderous cheers at the finish line. The guy who won the race shook my hand and told me I was amazing. He had finished several hours ahead of me but had stuck around to congratulate whoever came in last. The race photographer told me that, after his wife, I was his hero.

I smiled weakly. I thought they were making fun of me. But a few weeks later, I heard a podcast on which accomplished athletes discussed their admiration for long-distance runners who finished last. "I don't think I'll ever be as tough or as gritty as them," said a man who had recently run a 200-mile desert race.

Why that admiration? I've been thinking about this for a while — one benefit of running 50 miles at a time is that you have plenty of time to think. The answer also



Mile 7.5 of last month's Breakneck Ridge Trail Marathon

Photo by B. Cronin

clarifies the two questions I get asked most frequently about ultra-running: Why would anyone want to run 30 miles through the mountains, and why would *you specifically* want to run 30 miles through the mountains when you're clearly not very good at it?

Marathoners are familiar with "the wall," the moment about 20 miles in when your legs become rubber. In ultras, we have "the pain cave," a long dark night of the soul in which your entire body surrenders, your spirit breaks, and your brain screams at you to stop. This continues for several miles.

But if you keep running, you slowly emerge from the cave. Everything stops hurting. Your mood soars. You feel as if your body, mind, and spirit are united and you're achieving your potential. The glow lasts long after the race. To learn, with your whole body, that you can push yourself beyond your perceived limit when

things are bleak is incredibly empowering.

It's hard, and it hurts, no matter when you cross the line: first, middle or last. Ultras are about suffering, and overcoming that suffering. And if you finish last, you've overcome more than anyone else on the mountain that day. No one suffered more than you.

My next race is the Orcas Island 50K in the Pacific Northwest in February. I'll be training in the Highlands, running on the roads and through the mountains as the leaves fall and the light gets softer. But I'm going to push myself harder than usual because it's time to set some bigger goals. With a little more speed work and increased weekly mileage, I might just come in second-to-last.

When he's not writing for The Current or teaching journalism at Marist College, Brian PJ Cronin can usually be found outside doing something questionable. You can reach him at bcronin@highlandscurrent.org.



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Evil Comes Easy

Play reading at Depot Theatre

Raymond Bokhour will play the lead on Saturday, Oct. 6, in a reading of *The Arsonists*, a comedy by Max Frisch about how easily evil can overcome a family or nation. The cast at the Philipstown Depot Theatre also will include Tim Harbolic, Andre Herzegovitch, Liz Kiefer, Kalista Sale Parish, John Christian Plummer and Megan Shea. Tickets are free (see brown-papertickets.com/event/3627075), but a \$20 donation is suggested at the door to support the *Dialogues with Drama* series.

Masquerade Through History

Annual history museum gala is Oct. 13

The Putnam History Museum will hold its annual Ball of the Fall Gala on Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Highlands Country Club in Garrison, beginning at 5 p.m. Attendees are invited to dress for a masquerade theme. The museum will present Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu of Magazzino Italian Art with its Trailblazers' Award and the Cornells with its Historic Family Award. See putnamhistorymuseum.com.

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PREPARING FOR BATTLE — The Flights of Fancy Vintage Aviation Steampunk Day at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome in Red Hook on Sept. 29 attracted an eclectic mix of costumed fans of Steampunk (a sci-fi genre that uses steam-powered machinery) and enthusiasts of vintage planes and cars.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Trustee Reception

Butterfield to honor Alice Reilley Schatzle

The Butterfield Library in Cold Spring will honor former Trustee Alice Reilley Schatzle with a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13. The former Haldane business teacher served as a trustee between 1976 and 1998, including 10 years as president.

Piano and Cello at Chapel

Concert scheduled for Oct. 14

Soo Bae (cello) and Tanya Bannister (piano) will perform Rachmaninoff's *Sonata in G minor, Op. 19* and other works at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14. The concert is free but donations are welcome.

St. Mary's Tag Sale

St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Cold Spring will hold a fundraiser tag sale on Saturday, Oct. 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with household goods, furniture, clothing, books and toys.

Terror in the Woods

School foundations to screen 'Blair Witch'



Mike Williams

The Garrison and Haldane school foundations, in a joint fundraiser, will screen *The Blair Witch Project* at St. Philip's parish house at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13. Former Garrison School guidance counselor Mike Williams, who starred in the 1999 film, will discuss his experiences. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for teenagers. The film is rated R and not suitable for children. See haldaneschoolfoundation.org.

Climate Smart

Fundraiser set for Oct. 13

The Ecological Citizen's Project will host a fundraiser for the Philipstown Climate Smart Community project on Saturday, Oct. 13, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Longhaul Farm in Garrison. Admission is pay-what-you-wish; donations will sup-

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

port the compilation of a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for Philipstown and other mitigation and adaptation strategies. Register at ecologicalcitizens.org/climate-smart-community.

Winning with Style

Meet the candidates at clothing swap

Women Across Putnam will host a used clothing fundraiser and meet-the-candidates event at the Old VFW Hall, 34 Kemble Ave., in Cold Spring from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 7. The candidates invited are Karen Smythe (state Senate), Maureen Fleming (county executive) and Nancy Montgomery (county legislature), all Democrats, and Cold Spring Village Trustee Lynn Miller. To donate clean, gently used clothes, email darsnowden88@gmail.com.

Beacon

Pumpkin Fest

Bread will be judged

The Beacon Sloop Club will host its annual Pumpkin Festival from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14, at Seeger Park in Beacon. There will be pumpkins and pumpkin pie for sale, along with chili and other food. Pumpkin-bread judging begins at 2:15 p.m. and winners will be announced at 3 p.m.

Garden Club Festival

Will honor Clara Lou Gould

The Tioronda Garden Club will honor Clara Lou Gould at its annual Fall Wine Festival, which will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 11, at St. Rocco's Hall. A former Beacon mayor, Gould served twice as president of the club and led the planning for the Patriot's Garden that recognizes first responders. Tickets are \$25 at Antalek & Moore, 340 Main St., in Beacon, or by calling 845-831-4300.



Clara Lou Gould

Sexuality and Swagger

Women over 50 invited to seminar

Women older than 50 are the focus of Sistas, Sexuality and Swagger, a workshop on how to be comfortable with your body led by nurse practitioner Bernice Moeller-Bloom. It will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Howland Public Library in Beacon.

Indian Musician at Quinn's

Plays double-neck mandolin

Snehasish Mozumder, an Indian musician who plays the double-neck mandolin, will perform with his band SOM at Quinn's in Beacon at 8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14. The concert will combine Hindustani Indian classical music with jazz and rock. A \$10 donation for the band is requested.

Chefs for Clearwater

Fundraiser will take place Oct. 14

Terrance Brennan and Waldy Malouf will co-host Chefs for Clearwater, an annual fundraiser to raise awareness about sustainability, food and ethics in the Hudson Valley watershed. John Ubaldo of John Boy's Farm is the honoree and speaker.

The event, which will feature a five-course tasting menu, live and silent auctions and bluegrass music by New Breaks, will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14, at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park. See chefsforclearwater.org.

Call for Artists

Sixth annual Small Works Show

The Catalyst Gallery in Beacon has issued a call for artists for its annual Small Works Show, which opens Dec. 8. Submissions of paintings, drawings, prints, photos, sculptures or mixed media of many kinds are due by Nov. 17. The entry fee is \$30 for four images, which can be no larger than 16 inches in any direction, or 20 inches for three-dimensional works. See squareup.com/store/catalyst-gallery.

Then & Now

Nelsonville Fish & Fur Club / Village Hall



Photo by Michael Turton



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Haldane Adds 11 to Athletic Hall of Fame

1963 baseball team among those inducted

By Michael Turton

The Haldane Athletic Hall of Fame inducted 11 members — the 1963 baseball team and 10 individuals — in ceremonies at Dutchess Manor on Sept. 29.

It was the second class inducted by the nine-person selection committee, and the last that will be as large. According to the hall bylaws, the committee could select as many as 10 individuals and one team in the first two years; that number will now drop to five individuals and one team.

The 1963 baseball squad went the distance in an era that did not include a state championship. In a remarkable season in which the 11-2 Blue Devils played all its home games in Beacon because its own field was unplayable, the team won the Harlem Valley Championship and the Dutchess County Small School Championship before claiming the Dutchess County Scholastic League Championship with a 1-0 victory over Saugerties.

In that game, Dan Dillon led off the sixth inning with a single and pitcher Jerry Downer followed suit, sending Dillon to third. They would be the Blue Devils' only hits: Bob Byrnes' sacrifice fly to right allowed Dillon to score.

Other team members included Bill Mazuca, Howard Howell, George Stevenson, Bill Merante, Gary Maddox, Leigh MacKenzie, Wayne Robinson, Mike Boulanger, Pierre Laurence, Mike Daniels, Roger Owen and Steve Tompkins. The team was coached by Frank Milkovich.

Ten former Haldane athletes and coaches were also inducted:

- George Ellis was Haldane's first athletic director. He joined the faculty in 1945 and coached football, basketball and track before retiring in 1972.
- Ray Champlin played basketball and football, graduating in 1948. He returned as a teacher and retired in 1989 after coaching football and tennis. Haldane's tennis courts are named in his honor.
- George Hustis attended Haldane from 1947 to 1951 and excelled in football, basketball and track.
- Wayne Stellefson set a state record in 1972 in the shot put with a toss of 58 feet, 1 inch. His discus throw of 150 feet, 3 inches remains a Haldane record.
- Christine Helbock set a state record of 41 feet, 10 1/2 inches in the shot put in 1969. She also played basketball and was a member of the school's first volleyball team.
- Mike Kiefer was Haldane's first 1,000-point scorer in basketball. A 1988 graduate, he was named to the sectional all-tournament team three times.
- Kristin DeMarco, who graduated in 1989, led Haldane to its first state basketball championship and was the first female player to score more than 1,000 career points.
- Joe DeMarco was a soccer standout, scoring 59 goals, including 23 during his senior season. The 1995 grad also scored more than 1,000 points in basketball and had more than 300 career assists.
- Aaron Nastasi played in nine state final fours in volleyball and basketball, including Haldane's first state volleyball title in 1998.
- Greg Anderson was a standout in football, basketball and baseball. In 2000, as quarterback, he led the football team to its first sectional championship and state final four.



I RUN BEACON RESULTS — Kerri Tracy of Beacon (left) was the first woman across the finish line in 22:24 during the I Run Beacon 5K at Memorial Park on Sunday (Sept. 30), and Mike Slinksey (right) of Hopewell Junction was the overall winner in 18:35. They are shown with Reuben Simmons of I Am Beacon, which organized the race and walk, its seventh annual. The event raises money for the community group's Making a Difference Scholarship, which is given each year to a graduating Beacon High School senior. For the complete results, see highlandscurrent.org. Photo provided



PUTNAM PRO LEAVING — Jim Woods, the PGA pro at the Putnam County Golf Course, has resigned to become the pro at a course in Bedford Spring, Pennsylvania. In a statement, the Endicott native recalled pulling into the golf course when he took the job seven years ago to find a dirt parking lot, a clubhouse that needed a facelift and the fairways and greens "in pretty rough shape." He said he was proud to have been part of the transformation of the facility. Woods is shown (left) with Sean O'Gara, the 2018 Putnam County Amateur Champion. Photo provided

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Obituary

Jean L. (Clune) Hoffman



Jean L. (Clune) Hoffman, 89, died peacefully at her home in Manitou on Sept. 22, 2018. She was surrounded by many members of her family and accompanied by the prayers of friends & family — near and far.

Born at Peekskill Hospital on Feb. 6, 1929, she was raised in Manitou, a hamlet of Garrison, and attended the local one-room school house. She completed her secondary and college/masters education in New York City with degrees in Secondary English Education and Guidance Counseling. Although she spent her weekdays in NYC, part of her heart always remained on Manitou Station Road.

It was not until 2012 that Jean learned Manitou means “Great Spirit” in the local Native American language. Jean carried that “Great Spirit” wherever she went.

She married Thomas Hoffman in 1951. As the family story goes, they met on a blind dinner date while they were in night school. He forgot his wallet, so Jean picked up the bill and would joke she has been awaiting repayment since then.

She spent 50 plus years in Forest Hills, Queens, creating a full and active life focused on faith, family, friends and fun. After a stroke in 2011, she returned to Manitou to live in her childhood home.

She and Tom raised a family of 13 children, 2 nieces, 3 Airedales, and an assortment of other pets. Her family continues to blossom - it currently includes 24 grandchildren, 4 great-grands, cousins, spouses, and a golden lab, Jack!

After a 20-year maternity leave from

teaching, Jean returned to work at Thomas Edison High School. One of her colleagues said Jean was “irreplaceable” — she always went the extra mile to assist a student, a co-worker or a parent.

After returning to Manitou, she became an active member of the Mother Lurana Senior group, sang with the “Hotsie Totsies,” attended Our Lady of Loretto church, and befriended the sisters at Graymoor. Each Friday would find her at SoHo Salon (formerly Robert’s) sipping her coffee. She filled the Manitou home with her “Great Spirit” at family dinners, parties and other gatherings.

Whether you called her mom, Jean, aunt, “Jeanie Beanie”, or Mrs. Hoffman, Jean brought out the best in everyone she met, making each person felt heard and special. She carried herself with grace and composure unless watching Notre Dame football. Then she might break out in song with her unique version of the Notre Dame fight song!

Jean loved her morning cup of coffee while reading *The New York Times*, a good movie, Broadway show tunes, a challenging cross-word puzzle, coffee ice cream, and sunning on the beach. She delighted in gathering family and friends for her signature Sunday dinners. There was ALWAYS room for one more at her table!

She is pre-deceased by her parents, Thomas (“Til”) Clune and Kathryn (Keck) Clune; Tom, her husband of 54 years (2011); and two sons, Thomas (1955) and Stephen (2001).

She is survived by her children: Louise, Gregory, Paul, Dorothy, Joseph, Helen, Francis, Jim, Mary, John and Kathy; her loving nieces, Carol and Robin; and all the spouses, grandchildren, great-grands and other family members.

Over the past few years, mom’s abilities were slowly declining. With each blow knocking her down, she rose higher with her ready smile, bright eyes, and a quick wit. As her hospice chaplain was leaving one day, he said, “God bless you, Jean,” and without missing a beat, she replied, “He did!” That was Jean Hoffman!!

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to: The Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, 41 Old Highland Turnpike, Garrison, NY 10524.

Services were held in Forest Hills, Oct. 4 and Oct. 5.

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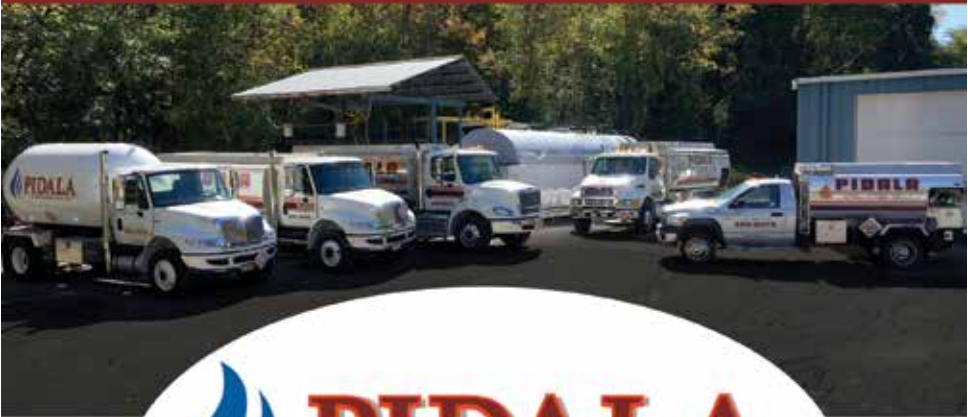
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1 Hans Lippershey invention (9)	_____
2 shortened, as a sentence (8)	_____
3 made untrue statements in (9)	_____
4 Paddington Bear’s homeland (4)	_____
5 Grand Ole Opry star Minnie (5)	_____
6 light outerwear (7)	_____
7 Schulz, Larson or Hergé (10)	_____

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SEE ANSWERS: PAGE 7

SPORTS



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By Skip Pearlman

Soccer

Haldane Girls:

Solid Wins after Slow Start

The Haldane girls were locked in a 1-1 tie at the half in their game Monday (Oct. 1) against visiting Westlake, but the Wildcats put it away in the second half, scoring four times on their way to a 5-2 victory.

"It was a fairly evenly matched game," said Haldane Coach Ed Crowe. "But in the second half they got a penalty kick, a deflection off a corner, and we had a few defensive breakdowns."

"It was a tough game, but hopefully we took something away," he added. "Maura Kane-Seitz played great on both sides of the ball, and [leading scorer] Jade Villella also played well. Abigail Platt keeps us in games with her play in goal."

The Blue Devils were coming off a three-game winning streak, with victories over Irvington (5-2), Putnam Valley (2-1 in overtime) and Pawling (3-0), who will visit Haldane for a rematch today (Oct. 5) at 4:30 p.m.

The Blue Devils "played fantastic" in the three wins, Crowe said. At rival Putnam Valley, Haldane tied it with 11 minutes to go and won it four minutes into overtime. Irvington advanced last year to the Class B state championship game.

After taking on Pawling, the Blue Devils will host Beacon on Tuesday, Oct. 9, at 4:15 p.m.

Beacon Girls:

Three Wins That Got Away

The Beacon girls battled to a pair of ties last week before falling 1-0 to Lourdes on Monday (Oct. 1). Coach Hugo Alzate expressed disappointment at three potential wins that got away.

In Monday's game at Beacon, Kayleigh



Haldane's Maura Kane-Seitz (6) moves the ball around a Westlake defender.

Goebelbecker scored the game winner for the Warriors on a free kick in the 66th minute. Meagan Meeuwisse had five saves for Beacon, which fell to 3-4-2.

"That was a disappointing loss," Alzate said. "We didn't execute in the final third to create shots." It was Lourdes' first win of the season, and Beacon had not lost to the Warriors in four years.

On Saturday (Sept. 29), the Bulldogs tied North Salem, 2-2, behind goals by senior captain Eliza Ericson. Analiese Compagnone, who usually is center midfielder, filled in as goalie for Meeuwisse, who was ill, and made eight saves. Alzate said he felt his team outplayed North Salem in the second half.

On Sept. 26, the Bulldogs played to a scoreless tie against Lourdes. "We resorted to playing kickball, and that fit into Lourdes' strategy," Alzate said. "We did have the better of the opportunities; we just didn't score."

Meeuwisse had five saves for Beacon, which is scheduled to travel to Hendrick Hudson on Saturday, Oct. 6, with a 2 p.m. start, and to Haldane on Tuesday, Oct. 9, for a 4:15 p.m. game.

Beacon Boys:

Strong Win on Unfamiliar Field

The Beacon boys scored twice in the second half Wednesday (Oct. 3) to secure a 4-2 league victory over Peekskill in a game played at Rom-bout Middle School.

John Mesnick scored on a penalty kick midway through the second half to give the Bulldogs a 3-2 advantage, and senior Devin Lambe scored his third goal of the game in

For Varsity Scoreboard,
see highlandscurrent.org.

the 76th minute. Alec Druckenmiller had two assists for the Bulldogs, who improved to 8-4 overall and 4-0 in League 2E.

Lambe, who has 16 goals this season, has scored three hat tricks in the last five games, noted Coach Craig Seaman. "We go as he goes." He said he was pleased with the 8-4 record, considering that the Bulldogs have so far only played once on their home field, which has been under water for much of the season.

Seaman said he felt his team was sloppy during the first half against Peekskill but recovered in the second on an unfamiliar, narrow field. "In the second half we settled in, passed and possessed better," he said. "We attacked the wide areas, and that created space in the middle."

On Thursday (Sept. 27), the Bulldogs dominated Lourdes, 5-0, and on Saturday (Sept. 29), fell at Arlington, 1-0. The team was scheduled to host Hendrick Hudson today (Oct. 5) at 3:45 p.m. for homecoming.

Football

Beacon:

Bulldogs Fall in Final Minute

Beacon came up short, 20-14, on Saturday (Sept. 29) against the Yonkers Force in a game played at Gorton High school.

Yonkers led 14-0 at halftime before the Bulldogs (1-4) came storming back, tying the game in the fourth. But the Force won the game on a 7-yard touchdown run with less than a minute left.

Quarterback Jason Komisar completed 10 of 15 pass attempts and scored a touchdown. Dakota Salter had three receptions

for 129 yards, and Manny Garner had 67 yards rushing on five attempts.

"It was a great job by both teams, a hard battle from beginning to end," said Beacon Coach Jim Phelan. The Bulldogs host Pearl River today (Oct. 5) at 6 p.m. for homecoming.

Haldane:

Blue Devils Keep Rolling

The Blue Devils continued their dominating football on Friday (Sept. 28), rolling to a 35-0 victory over visiting Hastings on homecoming weekend.

Senior Sam Giachinta led Haldane with 94 yards rushing and three touchdowns on 11 carries. Quarterback Dan Santos completed all five of his attempts for 78 yards and two touchdowns — an 18-yard throw to Jagger Beachak and another for 11 yards to Thomas Percacciolo.

Haldane came out of the gate on fire, scoring all 35 points in the first quarter. Giachinta opened the scoring with a 16-yard run, and Percacciolo's catch made it 16-0. Giachinta then ripped off touchdown runs of 9 and 7 yards before Beachak's catch.

"Once again it starts with our offensive and defensive lines," said Coach Ryan McConville. "We controlled the line and got our ground game going, and Dan got hot." On defense, Giachinta had three sacks and Will Westerhuis one.

Haldane (3-1) was scheduled to travel to Irvington on Saturday (Oct. 6) for a 7 p.m. game.

Volleyball

Haldane:

Volleyball Improves to 10-4

The Haldane volleyball team upped its record to 10-4 after defeating Irvington and North Salem, both in straight sets.

Haldane recovered from a slow start against North Salem on Tuesday (Oct. 2) to win 25-17, 25-15, 25-14. "A couple of quick kills from Willa [Fitzgerald] turned the game around," said Coach Kelsey Flaherty. "We did a nice job on serve receiving."

Fitzgerald had seven kills for Haldane, and Melissa Rodino added 13 assists and a pair of aces.

"Sophia Viggiano and Olivia Montelone had some great passes, which led to our offense being successful," Flaherty said. "Maria Barry did an excellent job placing the ball to open spots across the net."

On Sept. 27 against Irvington, Fitzgerald had seven kills and three aces; Montelone had 12 digs, and Rodino ended with 17 assists and four aces. "We played outstanding," said Flaherty. "We rarely let balls hit the floor."

Haldane was scheduled to visit Ossining today (Oct. 5) and will host Poughkeepsie at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 9.



Beacon's Devin Lambe (19) scored a hat trick against Peekskill.

Photos by S. Pearlman

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