

# The HIGHLANDS Current

OCTOBER 26, 2018

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Can Baseball Be Saved?  
Page 23

## Putnam County, State Candidates Meet Voters at Forum

*Debate over taxes,  
infrastructure and  
public comment*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

A standing-room-only crowd filled the Kent firehouse on Oct. 18 to question Putnam County and state Assembly District 95 candidates during a three-hour League of Women Voters forum. The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 6.

### County Executive

Republican MaryEllen Odell, the incumbent Putnam County executive, and her challenger, Democrat Maureen Fleming, clashed over the county's retention of sales tax income as well as over restriction of public comments at legislative meetings. But they agreed on the need to expand water and sewer lines, a subject of potential interest in Nelsonville, whose Village Board has begun discussing installing a sewer to replace private disposal pits and septic systems. (see Page 6.)

Odell became county executive in 2011 in a special election to complete the term



Lawrence Chiulli and Sandy Galef, candidates for the state State Assembly seat for District 95, which includes Philipstown, appeared at a forum on Oct. 18 sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Putnam County.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

of Vincent Leibell, who went to prison instead of Carmel after being caught in tax evasion shortly after winning the election. Odell was re-elected in 2014. At the forum, she urged voters to keep her in office "for the next, last four years." By law, county executives are limited to two, regular four-year terms. "We do things

big, we do them bold" and are "good in solving problems," she asserted.

Fleming, Kent's supervisor since 2014, said its board consists of four Republicans plus herself, but that "we get things done," correctly and cooperatively, "because it's not about the Democrats or the

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## Leesa Has a New Kidney

*A 'big ask' pays off*

By Michael Turton

When *The Current* chronicled Leesa Thompson's search for a kidney last summer, the 61-year-

old speech pathologist conceded her plea for an altruistic donor was "a big ask."

But the "ask" paid off. On Oct. 10, Thompson, who lives in Cortlandt Manor and has been an active member of the Beacon Sloop Club for more than 35 years, received a new kidney at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center in Manhattan.

She was fortunate. More than 120,000 people in the U.S. are waiting for a transplant, according to the National Kidney Foundation.

Thompson set up a website and Facebook page to find a donor, a search also supported by renewal.org, an organization that assists people suffering from kidney disease. But it was a mass email sent by her significant other, Jeff Fruithandler, that brought results.

When Ed Holowinko read Fruithandler's plea at his home in Norwalk, Connecticut, he thought, *I can do that for her*. He had never met Thompson.

As it worked out, Thompson could not receive Holowinko's kidney because their blood types did not match. Instead, he agreed to what is known as a "paired exchange" in which two recipients, both with willing but incompatible donors, "swap" donated kidneys.

That was another stroke of good fortune, as only about 500 of these exchanges can be arranged each year.

On Oct. 9, a kidney donated by a woman

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## Dutchess Schools to Ask Voters for \$37 Million

*Capital project would be first in 50 years*

By Jeff Simms

The Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), which offers vocational services and runs an alternative high school and special education programs for its 13 member districts, including Beacon, will ask voters on Dec. 11 to approve a \$36.8 million proposal to renovate and relocate its facilities.

The funds would be used to upgrade the BOCES Career and Technical Institute (CTI) in Poughkeepsie for high school students and the adjacent Salt Point Center for elementary and middle school students receiving special education services. They also would fund moving the Alternative High School, which is now in a Poughkeepsie industrial park, to the CTI site.

The agency said the plan is its first capital undertaking since the 1960s. Dutchess voters defeated a similar \$29.7 million proposal in 2009.

The BOCES system was created in New York in 1948 to offer career and technical training, as well as specialized educational environments, and the Dutchess BOCES was organized in 1957. Its budget is about \$46 million annually, with districts paying tuition. BOCES also provides training for teachers and staff, as well as an Adult Learning Institute.

"It would be prohibitively expensive for districts to offer these programs on their own, especially upstate, where there are so many small school districts," explained Matt Landahl, superintendent of the Beacon City School District. "BOCES is a way of joining forces to offer high-quality programming."

Putnam and Westchester County share a BOCES agency that serves the Haldane and Garrison school districts. There are 37 of the agencies statewide.

The cost of the Dutchess proposal, if approved, would be spread among the 13 districts. Beacon, which accounts for about 7

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Ed Holowinko, Leesa Thompson and Dr. Anthony Watkins on Oct. 22 at Weill Cornell Medical Center

Photo by M. Turton



# 5 Five Questions: DANIEL KIBBLESMITH

By Brian PJ Cronin

**D**aniel Kibblesmith is the author of the new Marvel Comics series *Black Panther vs. Deadpool*. He'll be signing copies of the first issue at The Underground Beacon at 462 Main St., on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 2 to 4 p.m.

## Aren't Black Panther and Deadpool both good guys?

Getting into fights with other superheroes is the kind of thing that Deadpool gets up to. It happens every few months. With Black Panther, Deadpool started this off when ... I don't want to spoil it, but he created an incident in which he desperately needs a piece of vibranium [Black Panther's power source] about the size of, let's say, a bullet. That, of course, makes Black Panther suspicious. Deadpool, to his credit, warns him, "Look, I've been in a million of these superhero versus superhero crossovers. You could save us both a lot of trouble if you give me what I want." Black Panther does not, and superhero action abounds.

## Is there anything you are told the characters can't do or say?

The characters are so iconic, any comic-book writer will have a good feel for their personalities. When you imagine them in a room together, you know exactly how

the conversation is going to play out. Black Panther is the straight man, the pinnacle of human achievement, the richest man in the world. Deadpool comes in and he's like Bugs Bunny with guns. I work closely with an editor to keep everybody behaving in character.

## You're also a writer for *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, where much of the humor is political. Do you feel like you're on a roller coaster lately?

It's a roller coaster that hasn't stopped for three years, and sometimes the roller coaster is upside down or underwater. Occasionally it will repeatedly slam into a brick wall. Things are obviously fraught, but there are people on TV who want to make you think you're the crazy one. Our job is to say, "Nope, you're not crazy! This is what's really happening!"



Daniel Kibblesmith

## Which other two Marvel characters would you pit against each other?

There's a famous storyline from the 1970s where Luke Cage goes to Liberia to collect money from Dr. Doom. The characters have evolved so much, I think it's time for a rematch: Dr. Doom, with all the resources and genius and magic in the world, against Luke Cage, an unbreakable man who represents the essence of simplicity.

## That's the story in which Luke Cage says, "Where's my money, honey?"

That's the one. This time we'll have Dr. Doom say that line.



# ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

## What is your favorite Halloween costume?

“

I want to be Tinker Bell and carry a bedazzled rope so I can fly.

”

Kate Horan, Beacon



“

I was The Dude from *The Big Lebowski*. I wore a bathrobe, slippers and held a White Russian. It was perfect, and so convenient.

”

Clayton Smith, Cold Spring



“

I wondered if I'd ever be a bride, so I dressed as the Corpse Bride [from the 2005 film]. My mom spent more than an hour on my makeup.

”

Cat Leist, Cold Spring



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# Jacobson, Manley Vie for Assembly Seat

*Winner will assume post held by late Frank Skartados*



Jonathan Jacobson Scott Manley

*Photos provided*

By Jeff Simms

Jonathan Jacobson, a member of the Newburgh City Council, and Scott Manley, a member of the Town of Newburgh Council, will face off on Tuesday, Nov. 6, to represent District 104, which includes Beacon and Newburgh, in the state Assembly.

The seat has been vacant since April, when incumbent Frank Skartados died at age 62 of pancreatic cancer. He had held the position since 2012. The winner on Nov. 6 will be sworn in after the results

are confirmed, said Christopher Whitson, Skartados' former community outreach coordinator, who is manning the district office in Newburgh. Usually the winner is sworn in on Jan. 1.

*The Current* asked Jacobson, the Democratic candidate, and Manley, the Republican, to discuss their reasons for running and priorities for the district. Their emailed responses have been edited for brevity.

## What best qualifies you for the Assembly?

**JACOBSON:** After the untimely and tragic death of Frank Skartados, it is more important than ever to have someone in the Assembly who can be effective on Day One. I have served as an assistant counsel to the speaker of the Assembly and was assigned to the Labor Committee, where I researched and wrote legislation. I also served as an assistant state attorney general in charge of the Consumer Frauds Bureau at its Poughkeepsie office and was a workers' compensation judge. Besides being on the Newburgh City Council, I have a law practice focused on workers' comp

and Social Security disability cases.

**MANLEY:** For most of my life I have been in civil service, from police officer to deputy supervisor of the Town of Newburgh. While a police officer, I was president of my union for 12 years. I traveled to Albany monthly and got involved with legislative issues from protecting the rights of workers to protecting the public. Once he realized I have experience, my opponent changed his logo from "Experience Counts" to "The Right Experience Counts." He says he can walk into the job. But we don't need business as usual; we need a person who can work with all parties and get things done. I remember what John F. Kennedy said and always work that way: "Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer. Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future."

## What are priority issues, both statewide and for the district?

**JACOBSON:** The reliance on funding schools through property taxes is unfair to students because the quality of education is based on the wealth of the district. It is unfair to the taxpayer since it has nothing to do with one's ability to pay. Funding should come through the statewide income tax and statewide sales tax, including sales tax from the internet.

We need to codify *Roe v. Wade* and pass the Women's Reproductive Health Act. We must enact strong air and water standards in anticipation of the lowering of federal

standards, and we should mandate that no health insurance company can discriminate against those with pre-existing conditions. The Excelsior Program [to pay tuition at SUNY] is a good first step, but it does not cover many students. A two- or four-year degree is not necessary for some careers, but specialized training is.

Finally, we must end the LLC loophole that allows wealthy donors to evade campaign contribution limits. We must increase the transparency of state economic development projects with provisions to recover tax breaks from companies that don't produce jobs as promised.

**MANLEY:** No. 1 is taxes, No. 2 is taxes and No. 3 is taxes and quality of life. We need to work on an alternate way to finance our schools, but an income tax that my opponent wants is not the answer. We go from burdening the homeowner to burdening the working people. How about a combination, including a small sales tax, so everyone is paying a portion, which includes all residents and people from out of state and country spending money in New York?

Estimates show between \$8 billion and \$15 billion would come into New York through an internet sales tax. Use a portion of that to ease the burden of the homeowner before it gets earmarked into the general fund. For three years the Town of Newburgh has adopted a resolution to go to Albany for an alternate school tax. This year I sponsored the newest one that added the internet sales tax to it.

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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.

that was dumped into a midcentury building should have provided our seniors with more than four hours of use per day and lunches cooked on the other side of the county, trucked over and reheated.

If you want honest representation by honest residents with integrity and proven track records, vote for Maureen Fleming for county executive and Nancy Montgomery for Philipstown legislator. Both Maureen and Nancy have the best interests of our seniors and our taxpayers at heart and will work tirelessly to improve the lives of residents in Philipstown, Putnam Valley and all of Putnam County. Join me in voting for real change on Nov. 6.

Dave Merandy, *Cold Spring*  
*Merandy is the mayor of Cold Spring.*

While I do not object in principle to a county-funded senior center in Cold Spring, and I do not begrudge seniors in our community having a fine place to congregate and have meals and activities together, I do object to rent being paid for unfinished space. I also object to the use of the space by only one group.

With respect to the second point, it seems that the seniors using this space (it appears well fewer than 100 people) will have exclusive use five days a week and only about five hours per day. We taxpayers will be paying for vacant space, most of the time, to be used by no one. How dumb is that?

Meanwhile, many parents and school administrators are crying out for a decent space for teens, a cause well-documented in this publication and elsewhere. The senior space has facilities that would be appropriate to either age group. In addition, I can think of several other county or local government initiatives that could use the space in the off hours, such as making it a handicap-accessible voting site.

I'm a senior, too, have never had any children or other relatives in any school in Putnam County, and I have no involvement whatsoever in any of the current election campaigns. So I don't have any dog in this hunt. But I am a county taxpayer who is in favor of the productive, and not wasteful, use of my taxes.

Carolyn Bachan, *Cold Spring*

### Marc Molinaro

While reading your story about Marc Molinaro, the Republican candidate for governor ("Gov. Candidate Raised in Beacon," Oct. 19), the word *irony* jumped right off the page. He says he grew up poor in a single-parent household, that food stamps helped put bread on the table, that he waited in lines for social services with his demoralized mother, and that, in 1992, as a high school junior, he spent a week in Washington, D.C., in a program founded by John F. Kennedy for students interested in history and government.

These were all benefits provided to him by Democrats. Nowhere does Molinaro tell us why he is running as a Republican and not as a Democrat.

I was born between the time of the Great Depression and our entry into World War II. It was a time when many Americans grew up poor. It was a time when President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Democratic Party created sensible safety nets for all Americans. It was a time when members of Molinaro's Republican Party vehemently fought against Social Security. I wonder what Molinaro learned in 1992 at that weeklong program?

There are those of us who wonder if we are living in the United States of Amnesia. The family of Mario Cuomo remembers our history and his son Andrew will have my vote for governor on Nov. 6.

Bill Whipp, *Cold Spring*

### County Executive

Why vote for Maureen Fleming for county executive? For starters, I work hard for a living and hope that our county government will work at least as hard when it comes to spending my tax dollars. Living in Kent, I have witnessed the fiscal conservatism that Maureen demonstrates daily while managing our town. Her decisions are thoughtful and clearly articulated, and she has never forgotten that she works for us, and therefore, encourages our voices to be heard.

Unfortunately, Putnam County has become a place where spending goes unchallenged, voices are silenced and partisan politics are not just present but encouraged. It is ironic to me that Maureen had to expose how the current administration's spending has reached new heights and remains both cloaked in secrecy and

(continued on next page)

### Senior center

Seniors have been manipulated, elected officials have been bullied, harassed and vilified, and residents ignored by County Executive MaryEllen Odell and county Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra as the two pushed the Butterfield development through for their friend and campaign contributor, developer Paul Guillaro ("Senior Center 'Soft' Opening," Oct. 12). The senior center has been the leverage the developer relied on to push his project forward; Odell and Scuccimarra have been more than happy to deliver.

Who doesn't like seniors? What kind of person would deny them a new space? Through that lens, the senior center became the entire Butterfield project. If you had concerns about its mass and scale, you were vilified as anti-senior. If you questioned the proposed traffic patterns, you were anti-senior. If you questioned whether there would be enough parking, you were anti-senior.

Although still incomplete, the senior center's "soft opening" on Oct. 26 will provide the incumbents with a photo-op as they fight for re-election. Come hell or high water, the senior center will be open in some way, shape or form before Election Day. Odell and Scuccimarra will surround themselves with the usual suspects, take center stage with jumbo scissors and cut the ribbon which will, kind of, sort of, open the center. There will be great fanfare and the duo will trumpet the opening as evidence of why they should be re-elected.

Sadly, the mismanagement of taxpayers' money and resources, and the lack of respect given to local officials and residents with regard to the Butterfield project, would demand the opposite. When you see the press release with the grand photo on the front pages of our local papers, think about how your hard-earned tax dollars have been and will be spent for many years to come. Think about how the promise of a "state-of-the-art" center in a new building morphed into a renovation. Think of what was done to improve the lives of our seniors over the past seven years during Odell's and Scuccimarra's tenures and ask yourself if all the money



LETTERS AND COMMENTS (from previous page)

unchecked. When faced with these revelations, our county executive has all but dug in her heels and shut down the questions.

A vote for Maureen is not going to create a “sanctuary city.” She never supported that as supervisor. Maureen is keenly aware that these are state and federal issues. A vote for Maureen is not going to impact our Second Amendment rights. A vote for Maureen is not an endorsement of a personal, or for that matter, an outside party’s agenda. Her only agenda is to do what is best for the people of Putnam County. Unfortunately, our county executive has divided us with these issues for far too long, and used them to distract us from her own failed management.

If you are still undecided, do your own research: attend candidates’ forums or watch them online, read up on democracy, understand the limits of power that the county executive position holds and know that on the county level, politics do not have to be partisan. No one knows this better than Maureen.

Catherine O’Connor, *Kent*

I have known Maureen Fleming since I moved up to Putnam nearly 20 years ago. I am impressed with her character. She is intelligent, a mother, an attorney, and a skilled supervisor of Kent. Throughout her three terms she has reduced debt service by 38 percent and added \$1.4 million to the general fund.

On the other hand, during MaryEllen

Odell’s terms of office, there have been lots of questions raised, including about Tilly Foster Farm, the Butterfield project and the use of the Putnam Golf Course. No clear answers have been provided. Instead, we get lots of talk about other things.

Odell has trumpeted that we “only” have a 2 percent increase in taxes, which is the state-mandated tax cap. The problem is that she’s using \$4 million of the general fund to pay for her budget. To make matters worse, this is the seventh tax increase in a row. She blames it on spending mandates, but spending choices to meet mandates are fully within the executive’s control.

The other major item that doesn’t make sense is the financial picture at Putnam County Golf Course. While Odell says it’s on solid financial ground, expenses in October exceeded income by \$223,055. See for yourself on Page 187 of the budget.

Join me in changing the leadership in Putnam County.

Challen Armstrong, *Brewster*

**Putnam County Legislature**

I plan to vote for Barbara Scuccimarra for Putnam County legislator to represent Philipstown.

When democracy comes to its very local expression, we expect for it to work the best. Barbara has exhibited determination and skill to transform community aspirations into accomplishments. The Philipstown senior center and the Cold

Spring post office are examples. In addition, she is a shining example of civility in politics, something that is a rare attribute of politicians of both sides of the aisle.

J. Carlos Salcedo, *Philipstown*

**State Senate**

As a longtime resident of the Hudson Valley, I will vote for Karen Smythe for state Senate and hope others will do the same.

Karen knows what’s right, and she will fight for us. She understands we need middle-class jobs that pay a decent wage, and she will fight to bring good jobs and economic growth that will benefit Hudson Valley families. She appreciates that our magnificent river is one of our region’s most precious resources, and she will fight to protect the valley’s natural heritage.

Karen recognizes that women’s rights are human rights, and she will fight to protect reproductive health and the right to earn equal pay for equal work. She believes that every child in our state deserves a high-quality education, and she will fight to ensure that all our schools are fully funded. She knows that families are overburdened by high taxes, and she will fight for middle-class tax relief.

Karen comprehends that people need high-quality, affordable health care in order for our region to thrive, and she will fight for universal health care for all New Yorkers. She knows our children deserve to be safe, and she will fight for common-sense gun laws.

Karen Smythe will stand up for Hudson Valley families.

Peter Ullian, *Beacon*

On Oct. 18, the League of Women’s Voters of Putnam County arranged for a candidates’ forum in Kent. An overflow crowd gathered to hear candidates for local and state offices address questions from the audience. The ensuing dialogue was both informative and cordial, a welcome but unfortunately rare occurrence in this election cycle.

The League’s rules require that each candidate’s opponent must be present for any candidate to be granted the right to address the forum. It was therefore doubly consequential that Sue Serino, our state senator, chose to be absent. This choice not only deprived the audience of the ability to address Serino, and to compare her responses to those of her opponent, Karen Smythe, it also precluded Smythe from addressing the gathering.

There are precious few opportunities to hear directly from candidates in a debate format, a situation that belies the importance of those offices in our everyday lives. Even though she could not address the voters from the podium on Oct. 18, Karen Smythe showed us that she would be the better choice. Her willingness to engage the public during the campaign speaks well of her availability once in office.

Dan Nobel, *Cold Spring*

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Scaled proposals will be received by the undersigned Town Clerk of the Town of Philipstown at her office in the Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516 until 2:00 pm on October 31, 2018 when the same will be publicly opened and read aloud for the sale to the Town of Philipstown of:

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Meeting the specifications of the Town of Philipstown Highway Department. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the office of said Town Clerk at the above address. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. All purchase contracts awarded pursuant to this notice shall be subject to the provisions of Section 103-A, 103-B and 103-D of the General Municipal Law.

DATED: October 17, 2018

TINA MERANDO  
TOWN CLERK  
TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN

TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Philipstown on Monday November 5, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York to hear the following appeal:

Betsy Haddad, 19 Lake Celeste Drive, Garrison, NY TM# 72.17-1-14. The applicant is seeking approval for a renovation/addition to an existing 1,021 square foot single family residence. The project consists of a 1 story addition approximately 8’ x 10.5’ (heated) requiring a front yard variance where 60’ is required and 23.17’ is proposed (currently 24.4’). The proposed covered porch (unheated) requires a front yard variance where 60’ is required and 36.45’ is proposed and also requires a rear yard variance where 50’ is required and 39.94’ is proposed. A proposed open wood deck and steps require a rear yard variance where 50’ is required and 39.39’ is proposed (currently 44.7’). The project will also increase impervious surface coverage from 22.24% to 25.07% where 10% or less is required. The property is approximately 0.463 acres and is located in the RC Zoning District.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Building Department, 2 Cedar Street (behind the Town Hall), Cold Spring, New York.

Dated 10/19/18

TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals has changed the date of their regular monthly meeting to November 5, 2018. The meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York. All submissions are due by October 25th at 4 pm.

HALDANE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the fiscal affairs of Haldane Central School District for the period beginning on July 1, 2017, and ending on June 30, 2018, have been examined by The Bonadio Group, independent public accountants, and that the report prepared in conjunction with the external audit by the independent public accountant has been filed in my office where it is available as a public record for inspection by all interested persons. Pursuant to §35 of the General Municipal Law, the governing board of Haldane Central School District may, in its discretion, prepare a written response to the report of the external audit and file any such response in my office as a public record for inspection by all interested persons.

Julia Famularo, District Clerk | Haldane Central School District



# Nelsonville Continues to Look at Sewers

*Mayor updates Cold Spring board on proposal*

By Michael Turton

The Village of Nelsonville is getting serious about adding sewers that would serve most of its 700 residents.

Addressing the Cold Spring Village Board at its Oct. 23 meeting, Nelsonville Mayor Bill O'Neill was careful to point out that his village is in "the early stages" of exploring the possibility but left little doubt that he supports the project. He said Nelsonville's economic development needs "are impeded by the lack of a sewer system," and that the reliance on septic systems decreases property values.

O'Neill was in Cold Spring because, if the project moves forward, Nelsonville sewers would connect with the existing Cold Spring system.

The mayor said a study in 1969 estimated the cost of installing sewers in Nelsonville would be about \$800,000, or about \$5.6 million in today's dollars. O'Neill said that a review of that plan by an engineering firm put the present-day cost at about \$7 million. Such a system would serve the

core of Nelsonville; homes on the outer edges of the village would continue to use septic systems.

O'Neill said a detailed engineering analysis is needed, including confirmation that the Cold Spring sewer system has the capacity to handle Nelsonville's waste. Two engineering firms are being interviewed.

The timing may be right for funding, according to O'Neill, who pointed to a recent \$18 million sewer project in Hyde Park that was largely paid for by state and federal grants. He added that if improvements are needed in the Cold Spring system, the municipalities could consider a joint application for funding.

"I'm a realist," O'Neill said, acknowledging the potential for backlash from Nelsonville residents who prefer their septic systems. But, he said, the village needs to explore the possibilities. He added that the Nelsonville Village Board is supportive of the project and hinted at the possibility of a public referendum.

## In other business...

Lauren Drummond, who is organizing a wine and food festival proposed for Mayor's Park on Aug. 10 and 11, told trustees the event could draw more than 1,000 people. Drummond said local restaurants would be invited to participate at discounted rates if they offer cooking demonstrations. The trustees and Ruthanne Cullinan Barr, chair of the Recreation Commission, agreed to pencil in the dates, subject to Drummond completing a



Nelsonville Mayor Bill O'Neill at the Oct. 23 Cold Spring meeting

Photo by M. Turton

newly revised application for park rentals. One issue to be resolved is the role of local police and security companies.

At the same time, the board declined a request by John Sherer, the organizer of Oktoberfest held at Mayor's Park, to reduce the fee charged for the services of the Cold Spring police. The village provided two officers at a rate of \$38 per hour and a total cost of \$1,140.

Deputy Mayor Marie Early was authorized to sign an agreement with Wheelabrator, the Peekskill facility that processes Cold Spring's trash. The three-year

contract will see costs rise from \$84.50 per ton to \$89.50 by 2020. Last month, the village shipped 46.3 tons to the firm, which incinerates it to produce electricity.

The village will soon place ads to find a new superintendent of water and waste water to succeed Greg Phillips, who plans to retire next summer.

Winter parking rules will take effect Thursday, Nov. 15, and continue through April 15. On-street regulations for the dead-end portion of Marion Avenue south of Benedict Road will be suspended to facilitate snow removal.

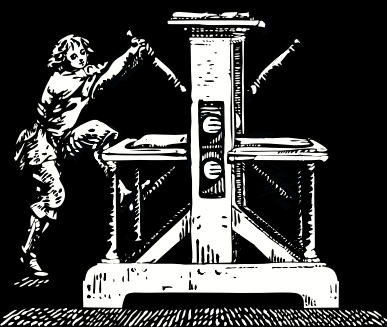


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## NEWS BRIEFS

## Electrical Fire Damages Art at Dia

*Visitors evacuated on Oct. 20*

An electrical fire at Dia:Beacon on Saturday (Oct. 20) damaged artwork by Mary Corse in an exhibit on the first floor, the museum said.

Employees and visitors were evacuated after the fire was discovered just before 6 p.m. and were able to return to the building after about a half-hour. The museum said in a statement the fire appeared to have been caused by an electrical element attached to the artwork that overheated.

## Garrison Man Arrested on Weapon Charges

*Charged with three felony counts*

A Garrison man was arrested on Oct. 12 by Putnam County sheriff's deputies and charged with possession of an illegal weapon and narcotics.



Reiniger

After receiving a tip, deputies obtained a warrant to search the residence and vehicle of Brian C. Reiniger, 48, of 1627 Route 9. Narcotics officers said they recovered an unlicensed .357 Sig pistol, three magazines, other ammo and a quantity of what appeared to be cocaine.

Reiniger was charged with three felony counts of criminal possession of a weapon, a misdemeanor count of possession of a controlled substance, and a misdemeanor count of unsafe storage of a firearm.

He was arraigned in the Town of Putnam Valley Justice Court and remanded to the Putnam County jail without bail.

## New Paving, Light on Route 9

The Putnam County Highway Department has repaired a dip in Fishkill Road at the intersection with Route 9 and installed a traffic signal that directs drivers exiting the Gulf service station.

According to Barbara Scuccimarra, who represents Philipstown in the county Legislature, the highway crew filled and paved the dip, realigned the sensor for the traffic signal and upgraded the light from three to four sides. She said the state Department of Transportation (DOT) had declined to make the fixes.

"I want to thank [Commissioner] Fred Pena and his crew," Scuccimarra said. "This wasn't the county's responsibility, yet he didn't hesitate to step in, and now we have DOT's attention on other upgrades this intersection needs."



A Putnam County crew raised and repaved Route 9 at its intersection with Fishkill Road in Philipstown. *Photo provided*

## Cold Spring Police Receive Computers

Using funds from its asset forfeiture fund, the Putnam County district attorney's office has purchased two laptop computers that were installed in Cold Spring Police Department squad cars.

"These computers brought us from the 18th to the 21st century," Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke said in a statement. "They enable us to access information very quickly. It could be a routine traffic stop, an accident scene, a need to run a quick background check on a license or vehicle or driver."

Putnam County District Attorney Robert Tendy said asset-forfeiture funds typically come from vehicles seized after a person is convicted of multiple DWIs, or from proceeds seized during arrests for narcotic sales.



**BUS TRAINING** — The Beacon Fire Department on Oct. 16 hosted a training session for firefighters from Beacon, Glenham, Chelsea and Dutchess Junction on handling accidents involving school buses. Using a surplus bus donated by the Leonard Bus Co., the 36 firefighters practiced stabilization, scene safety and hand and power equipment extrication techniques.

*Photos provided*



## Dutchess Gives, Receives Grants

The federal Department of Justice has awarded \$1 million to the Dutchess County Health Department to combat opioid abuse, according to Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, whose district in Congress includes the Highlands.

The funds will be used to improve the sharing of information between local and state agencies on substance-abuse issues, his office said.

Dutchess County, meanwhile, awarded more than \$2 million in funding to 14 projects through its Municipal Innovation Grant program, including four that benefit Beacon.

The state agreed to spend \$75,000 to evaluate human resources management practices in Beacon and three other nearby cities; \$75,000 to add a detective to the county Child Advocacy Center; \$257,000 for crisis intervention training for officers in municipalities that include Beacon; and \$825,000 for the Dutchess County Drug Task Force.

## New York Gave More Than It Got

*Comptroller says state sent \$24 billion to feds*

New York state sent \$24 billion more in tax payments to the federal government than it received in federal spending in fiscal year 2017, getting back 90 cents for every dollar, according to a report by state Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli. New York was one of 11 states that sent more to Washington than it received, he said, and only New Jersey, Massachusetts and Connecticut fared worse.

"The state relies on the federal government for a third of its annual budget, but the imbalance of tax dollars remains," DiNapoli said. Federal spending in 2017 in New York totaled \$225.7 billion, including for Social Security, Medicare, grants, procurements and wages and salaries, he said, while the state and its residents sent nearly \$250 billion to Washington in taxes.



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## Putnam Candidates *(from Page 1)*

Republicans.” She pledged to bring the same spirit to county government.

(The candidates have battled through press releases over the pending senior center in Cold Spring and over their records on taxes and debt. See Page 9.)

### Sales tax

Unlike most counties in New York state, Putnam does not return a portion of sales tax to the municipalities where it is collected, a sore point in Philipstown, whose local governments must deal with the costs of burgeoning tourism. Sales tax revenue accounts for \$60.5 million, or about 38 percent, of Odell’s proposed \$159.8 million 2019 budget, compared to \$43.4 million (27 percent) collected through property taxes, \$26.9 million (17 percent) from income generated by county departments; and \$29 million (18 percent) in state and federal reimbursements.

Sharing sales tax revenue “is not even possible for discussion,” Odell argued. “We’d have to quadruple property tax bills. We could never waive sales tax.”

Fleming said the county should consider sharing it. “If we cut some of the fat out of the budget, if we spend more wisely,” perhaps Putnam can “give back to the towns and share some sales tax revenue,” she said.

### Public comment

The county Legislature restricts public remarks to the end of its meetings — after legislators have voted on policy measures. It also discourages or bans questions and forbids comments not involving items on

the agenda. When asked, Odell said she supported the limits.

“A majority of the work is done in committee meetings,” she explained. “That’s where the community and stakeholders have an opportunity to share ideas. To have a back-and-forth at a meeting — we’ve never seen it be successful. All you’re doing is creating a discussion that doesn’t have anything to do with the work that night.”

Odell singled out a forum attendee, Richard Othmer, a former county legislator who is now the Kent highway superintendent, recalling a 2013 meeting when the Legislature was expected to approve her plan to place signs with advertising on the hike-bike path in eastern Putnam. Othmer, who chaired the Legislature, allowed public comment before the vote.

“It became an incredible blow-up,” Odell said. “And not a lot gets done” under those conditions. (At the 2013 meeting, after residents denounced the proposal and legislators expressed misgivings about Odell’s approach, the Legislature voted 8-1 to postpone action and the proposal later died.)

Fleming said as county executive she “would encourage the Legislature to open all meetings to public comment” and not limit them to topics on the agenda. Kent’s Town Board permits comments at meetings “so we can hear what residents have to say, what their concerns are, [things] important for us to hear. We’ve never had a problem,” she said.

Reached on Tuesday (Oct. 23), Othmer said that “I’d rather stay quiet” in the latest go-round.

## Infrastructure

Fleming criticized Odell for what she said were questionable priorities. Putnam County “kept some highway department employees working on other projects while our roads could have been repaired,” she said. She said she would provide a well-crafted infrastructure plan. “Many of our roads are failing,” she said, and the county needs more sewer and water lines.

Odell replied that Putnam has an infrastructure plan. Like Fleming, she supported the expansion of water and sewer services, which, she said, are “extremely critical” and can encourage development along busy roads such as Route 6 in Mahopac. “You look at storage units, dry cleaners, nail salons” on Route 6, Odell said. “You don’t see anything that brings any value to the community or to the tax base. Sewers in that corridor would be helpful.”

### Philipstown Legislator

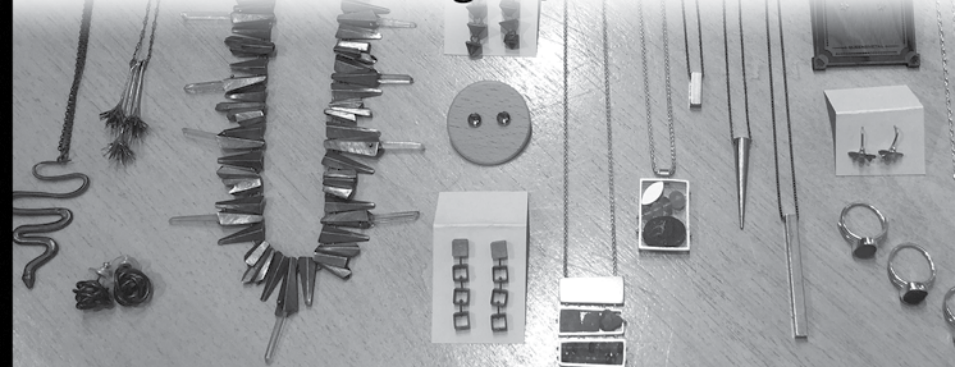
Nancy Montgomery, a Democrat who serves on the Philipstown Town Board, hopes to unseat incumbent Republican Barbara Scuccimarra in representing District 1 on the county Legislature. The district covers Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley. Scuccimarra was elected to her first three-year term in 2012.

In response to a question from an audience member, the candidates both said they do not think water supplies in the county are overregulated. Putnam is in the watershed that supplies New York City and some local communities; the county also

*(Continued on Page 10)*

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# Putnam Executive Candidates Spar Over Senior Center, Taxes, Debt

*Trade charges and countercharges as Election Day nears*

By Holly Crocco

As the race for Putnam County executive enters its final 12 days, the county's handling of the senior center at the Butterfield complex in Cold Spring has prompted claims and counterclaims between MaryEllen Odell, the two-term Republican incumbent, and her Democratic challenger, Kent Supervisor Maureen Fleming, over who is more fiscally responsible.

The county is leasing 6,000 square feet inside the Lahey Pavilion for the Philipstown Friendship Center for 15 years for about \$4.5 million, including rent, taxes, common-area charges and renovation.

"It is incredible to see how far the building's transformation into the senior center has come," said Odell, who recently toured the unfinished space and is scheduled to appear today (Oct. 26) at a ribbon-cutting. "The seniors on the western side of the county are finally getting what they have asked for and deserve."

Fleming visited the Butterfield site on Oct. 12 for a news conference to denounce the center as a "boondoggle." According to Fleming, as of Sept. 1, Putnam County had paid more than \$200,000 in rent for the unoccupied space.

"We certainly want to provide the services and facilities our seniors need and deserve," she said. "Unfortunately, this senior center has been dumping taxpayer dollars into the pockets of a leading Odell campaign donor," developer Paul Guillaro. (According to state campaign records, Guillaro has given \$250 to Odell's campaign through Unicorn Contracting, \$1,000 through Butterfield Realty, \$2,000 through Hudson Valley Medical Building LLC and \$1,000 through Lex Holding Co. The largest individual contribution Odell



County executive candidate Maureen Fleming held a news conference on Oct. 12 outside the Butterfield re-development to criticize spending on the Philipstown senior center.

Campaign photo

has received from a Philipstown resident is \$1,000 from Diane Ferris, Unicorn's general manager. The Odell campaign has collected about \$120,000 in contributions from all donors.)

Odell responded that Guillaro donates to many Republican candidates and "supports people who he must think make great leaders."

She further praised Guillaro for his commitment to local seniors, saying he wanted to walk away at many points when the project stalled but remained committed. "He's been a real trouper, a great partner and man of great patience," she said.

Fleming further charged that the lease price does not include any of the build-out or the furnishings of the center.

"Odell and the county Legislature have bonded — that is, borrowed — \$800,000, and taken another \$300,000 from the capital project reserve account to pay the general contractor and purchase kitchen equipment, furniture and fixtures," she said. "This brings the out-of-pocket taxpayer cost for the build-out to over \$1.5 million. Between the lease and the build-out, taxpayers of Putnam will pay more

than \$4 million for a 6,000-square-foot rental — a rental — and have no asset at the end of the lease. This is mismanagement of public funds."

Odell, however, said the amount of money being spent on the project pales in comparison to sums spent elsewhere.

"The senior centers that provide nutrition and other services in Mahopac and

Putnam Valley were \$8 million and \$10 million," she said. "We can't afford to build \$10 million structures anymore."

While the American Legion in Cold Spring allowed the county to rent about 250 square feet for senior services, the Mahopac senior center has 18,766 square feet, Odell said.

## Tax hikes

Fleming says that, during her two terms as Kent town supervisor, she has never raised taxes.

In response, Odell accuses Fleming of "willfully misleading the public, making false statements and promoting false advertising," because her claim of zero tax increases "is a lie."

**"As government officials, we cannot pick and choose which line items we get to include in our budgets and which we don't. We have a responsibility to tell the people the truth."**

- MaryEllen Odell

According to Odell, citing Town of Kent figures, the amount raised from taxes in Kent has increased more than \$209,000 from 2015, from \$15,057,729 to \$15,267,210, as the result of increases in the fire, sewer and park district tax rates.

"As government officials, we cannot pick and choose which line items we get to include in our budgets and which we don't," Odell said. "We have a responsibility to tell the people the truth."

Fleming responded that Odell's accusations reveal "a shocking ignorance of basic municipal budgeting. She either fails to understand the difference between town taxes, which are levied to all town property owners, and special-district taxes levied only on properties within smaller districts such as sewer or fire districts — or she is willfully conflating the two in an attempt to distract voters from her own significant county tax increases."

Odell said that under her leadership, Putnam County has stayed below the tax cap every year, reduced its short- and long-term debt by \$40 million, and has the lowest county share of property tax bills in the state.

Fleming said her record in Kent proves year after year that "disciplined budgeting and honest leadership will deliver

(Continued on Page 16)

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## Putnam Candidates *(from Page 8)*

contains many acres of parkland where lakes and ponds are controlled by the state.

"We do have a lot of restrictions, but we drink the water as well," Scuccimarra said. She cited the importance of protecting water from threats, including faulty septs and pesticides applied to lawns. "There's a lot we can do," she said.

"We don't regulate our water enough," Montgomery said. Advising continued vigilance, she pointed out that in 2017 the county itself applied herbicides near a reservoir in the Cold Spring water system.

Scuccimarra said that herbicide application "was stopped immediately" once discovered.

### Emergency services

Montgomery said the county fails to coordinate with municipalities in emergencies. After 10 years of overtures to the county government as a Town Board member, she said, "I've found there's absolutely no communication in regard to preparation for storms. You can't manage a storm in the Hudson Highlands from an office in Carmel." She promised that one of her priorities as county legislator would be better emergency management.

Scuccimarra replied that during the March storm, the county opened both an emergency operations center in Carmel and a shelter in Philipstown, though "it wasn't the one my opponent wanted open." The county hauled equipment to the Garrison Fire District firehouse instead of using

the Philipstown Recreation Center, an established shelter for weather emergencies.

### County services

Scuccimarra heralded the senior center being finished at the Butterfield redevelopment in Cold Spring. "I want to bring [other] county services over to this" site, too, and so far at least one county agency wants space there, she said.

Montgomery observed that the Town Board, not the county, set up a senior exercise program and other initiatives. She contended that county officials didn't have to wait for the Butterfield development to bring more services to Philipstown. "We've waited too long," she said. "We've had space available for years in town."

### State Assembly

Experience confronted youth when 78-year-old Sandy Galef, the veteran Democrat who represents the Highlands and other Hudson Valley communities in the state Assembly, faced off against Republican Lawrence Chiulli, a 21-year-old Westchester Community College student who graduated from Croton High School and lives in Cortlandt Manor.

Galef, initially elected to the Assembly in 1992, five years before Chiulli was born, said "the federal government has

really done us in" through the Trump administration's tax changes, which restrict the amount of local and state taxes that can be deducted on itemized federal tax returns to \$10,000 annually.

Galef chairs the Assembly's Real Property Tax Committee, which, she said, is working on responses to the federal action and also to reduce property taxes. Toward that end, "combining some school districts would be very helpful," she said.

Chiulli replied that "everybody should have lower taxes, but it has to be sustainable." He expressed fears that residents are leaving the area because of economic strains.

### Cell towers

Galef observed that federal, not state law, governs the placement of cell towers. She noted that no one wants a tower nearby, yet everyone, including businesses considering a Hudson Valley base, wants reliable wireless service. "We're going to have to start saying 'yes' to some things," she said. At the same time, she added, "there are places for cell towers and places not for towers."

Admitting he was unfamiliar with cell tower issues, Chiulli pledged to bone up and to be approachable on any subject if elected. "I want to break the mystique

of public office" and be available "at any time," he said.

### Bipartisanship

Galef said that she has to collaborate with Republicans as well as fellow Democrats on her Assembly committee and with county, village and town officials from both parties. "We all work together," she said.

"To say you'll work with everybody is really nice," Chiulli said. "What we need is to stay motivated on improving our community." He said he wanted to "be a trailblazer in that." He also said he is running for the Assembly because "there's a lot of hatred right now in politics" and he hopes to "unite us as people," including the young and old.

### State Senate

Karen Smythe, a Democrat challenging state Sen. Sue Serino, whose district includes the Highlands, attended the forum as an audience member after Serino, a Republican, declined to participate. League of Women Voters rules do not allow "empty chair" debates if one candidate is absent.

In a letter to *The Current*, Phyllis Hoenig, the vice president of the League of Women Voters of Putnam County, said the organization was "very sorry" that Serino had not attended any of its forums since she first ran for the office in 2014. Hoenig said the league sent out its invitations six weeks in advance but that the senator told the league she had prior commitment. Smythe and Serino debated this fall in forums sponsored by the *Poughkeepsie Journal* and by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

**Chiulli, 21, said he is running for the Assembly because "there's a lot of hatred right now in politics" and he hopes to "unite us as people," including the young and old.**

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# The Calendar

## A Giant Peach of a Show

*Youth players to present zany musical*

By Alison Rooney

If there are subversive aunties and nursemaids, the children are saner than the adults, magical oversized food appears and there are lots of weird and scary bits, it must be a theatrical adaptation of a Roald Dahl book.

If there's singing and dancing, it must be a musical adaptation of one.

*James and the Giant Peach*, presented by the Youth Players at the Philipstown Depot Theatre, will be performed over two weekends starting Nov. 2 on Fridays at 7 p.m.; Saturdays at 4:30 and 7 p.m.; and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12 at [brownpapertickets.com/event/3634193](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/3634193). It is directed by Christine Bokhour, with musical direction by Paul Heckert of music and lyrics by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, the pair behind *Dear Evan Hansen*.

*The Current* visited the theater on Garrison's Landing during a rehearsal and found many of the young hams had plenty to say about their characters.

### Which one of you is the most interesting insect?

**JASMINE WALLIS:** I am! I'm used as bait, and I have to sing an 11-page song.

**EMBER MAHONEY:** I'm a good insect. I'm kind of motherly and protective of James.

**JAKE POWERS:** The grasshopper is one of the best insects. He is calm, so being the actor of him is a lot of acting for me.

### Is this show funny or scary, or what?

**JASMINE:** It's a good amount of scary. It's emotional, too.

**JAKE:** It's intense.

**JASMINE:** The audience is going to be on the edge of their seats.

**JAKE:** The dialogue is not a 'Oh, hi Bob' sort of thing. If you get bored, there's always a song around the corner.

### Were you excited to be cast as the narrator?

**SOFIA KELLY:** I was, because I have to act kooky and creepy. I'm going to freak you out!

### Are you good policemen, or not so good?

**LUCKY BELL:** We get to yell at people for doing stuff. Also, I was in *Spamalot*.

**IVAN SICILIANO:** We bribe people, so we're not so good.

**LUCKY:** They deserve our yelling, because they steal everyone's stuff.

### What has playing James taught you about life?

**ZOHRA KAPOOR:** I learned that you always have to go with the flow because chances are things will turn out good.

### You play eight roles? How do you keep track of things?

**GIGI HORTON:** Entering and exiting is the hardest. Sometimes I rely on the piano, at points in the music.

### What's your favorite of the parts you play?

**MAKAIYA JOHNSON:** The matron nurse. I'm evil and I get to lay down the law and yell. This show is a fantasy and it's mysterious. It leaves you wondering what's going to happen next.

### What's it like having your mom as the director?

**PHOEBE BOKHOUR:** It's the third time she's directed me. I have gotten used to it, but whenever my mom sends out emails to the cast and parents she doesn't put me on the list. So, last year there were some things I didn't know about.

### How do you like playing a rhino?

Good. We're made of folded pieces of paper. We kind of eat James' parents, but there are no moving mouths.

### So, you're not vegan?

We're definitely not vegan.

### How many parts are you playing, and what's your favorite, and why?

**MAGGIE HALL:** Actually, I have no idea how many parts I'm playing. My favorite is Violet Funkschmeller.

### Could you spell that?

Um, I'm not sure. She's a singing vagrant. She's a poor lady who needs money. I like her name.

### You two are the aunties, Spiker and Sponge. Are you evil or misunderstood?

**HELEN HUTCHISON:** We're actually evil.

**ELAINE LLEWELYN:** I am more evil than you.

**HELEN:** That's true. I don't know what's happening at the time.

### What's your favorite line in the show?

**ELAINE:** "I'm a friend to money, pigeon-brain."

**HELEN:** "And bring me some nuts — I'm nibbly."



Mahoney, Wallis, Powers



Kelly



Bell, Siciliano



Kapoor



Horton



Johnson



Bokhour



Hall



Hutchison, Llewelyn

## The Cast(s)

The first group of actors, who will appear Nov. 2 to 4, is Amelia Alayon, Charlotte Bowen, Melanie Delabie, Frances Donahue, Kira Drury, Robert Freimark, Ellery Gordon, Grace Gordon, Gwen Gordon, Ethan Hall, Lachlan Koch, Sophie Koch, Rain Lee, Catherine Leiter and Delia Starr.

The second group, performing Nov. 9 to 11, is Lucky Bell, Phoebe Bokhour, Edwin Dubroff, Maggie Hall, Gigi Horton, Helen Hutchison, Makaiya Johnson, Zohra Kapoor, Sofia Kelly, Elaine June Llewellyn, Ember Mahoney, Jake Powers, Gemma Sabin, Lila Sawyer, Ivan Siciliano and Jasmine Wallis.



A very large peach indeed Photos by A. Rooney



# Get Lit Announces Winner

*Nurse wins fall  
writing contest*

**Editor's note:** Get Lit Beacon, a monthly gathering of writers at the Oak Vino Wine Bar, in September held a writing contest for pieces of fiction or non-fiction of 1,000 words or less about Beacon or the Hudson Valley.

Local writers and editors selected as the winner a story by Deb Higgins, a nurse from Wappingers Falls. Besides having her work published in *The Current*, Higgins received a gift card from Split Rock Books in Cold Spring. The second-place winner, Jennifer Rossa, a journalist in Beacon, received a gift card from Binnacle Books for her entry, "Symphony of Beacon," which is posted at [getlitbeacon.com](http://getlitbeacon.com).

The next Get Lit Beacon gathering takes place at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 11.

## Remembering Ben

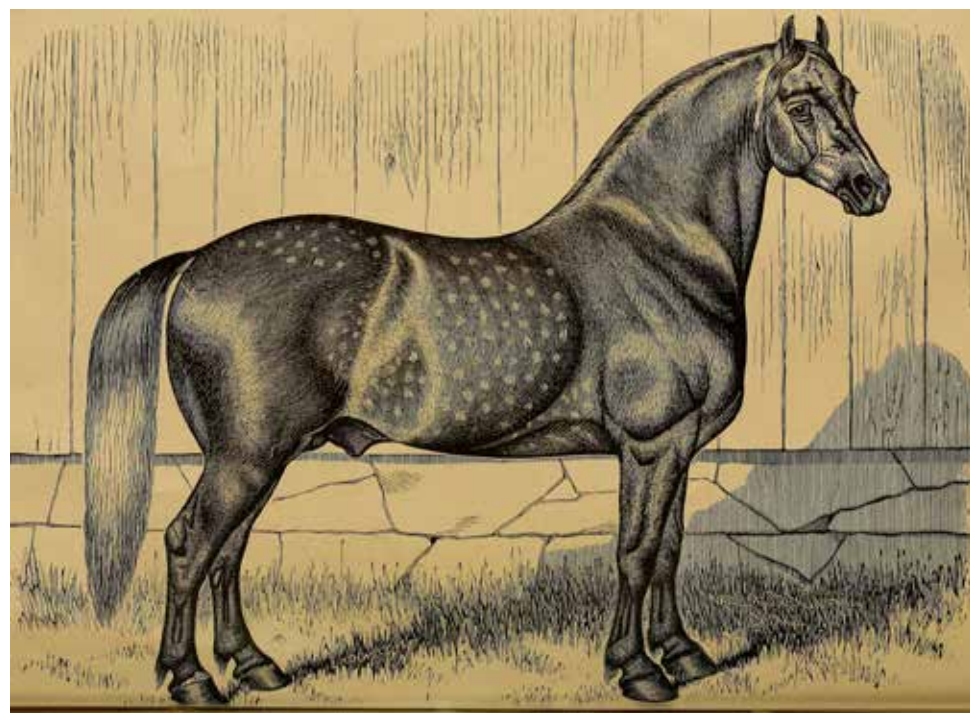
By Deb Higgins

The mist blew up from the river enveloping everything in a shroud, broken only by a periodic light shower. And this was only right, for it was a sad day for the Lewis Tompkins Hose Company No. 1. They had lost one of their own. For 15 years Ben had turned out for every fire, protecting the city before it even was a city.

A Percheron 16 hands high, Ben was a 3-year-old when he joined Tompkins. While the other fire companies had to send someone running to the livery stable to fetch a horse, Ben was stabled at the hose house at Main and Cross; and when the bell rang and the traces dropped, he was prancing to go. In the early days, not all the Landing's roads were paved. It mattered little to Ben; he hauled the hose wagon at top speed through mud, ruts, ice and deep snow.

And then there were the parades. Beacon was a parade town and Tompkins would travel from Peekskill to Glens Falls for firemen's parades. The company could field a contingent of 150 marching firefighters and often took the prize for the largest company, although the mayor suspected that more members turned out for parades than ever showed up at fires.

They were led by the gleaming hand-drawn Gleason & Bailey parade carriage, donated by Mr. Lewis Tompkins himself; followed by Ben and Marty Grady in the



hose wagon. Marty was the driver and therefore primary handler for Ben's entire career. At the reviewing stand, a touch of the reins and Ben would rear up powerfully on his hind legs in salute. When people dropped by afterward, Ben had a habit of nipping Marty's cap off in the presence of the ladies.

Eventually, the fire company acquired a new, shiny red Ahrens-Fox fire engine and Ben was retired. It wouldn't do to send him to the Department of Public Works as he would surely tear off to a fire if he heard the bell; and the people wouldn't hear of him being sold to a local carter, so Ben was sent to spend his days at John Gantvoort's farm in Glenham, although he continued to make occasional appearances at parades.

Ben belonged as much to the city as the fire company. Clearly, his passing could not go unmarked, so the firemen decided to hold a wake. But how do you go about waking a horse?

The firetruck was relocated outside and the house hung with black bunting. Ben's former stall was swept clean and hung with photographs of him racing to a fire.

When word spread, Mase Hook and Ladder sent an appropriately funereal floral arrangement. There were Dundee cakes from Huelsmans' Bakery, and platters of food from Mr. Townsend at Cummings Grocery, courtesy of Beacon Engine.

"Is it true Ben was born in a circus?" asked young O'Brien.

"That's as I heard it," said Ed Strong. "Percherons start out dapple gray and turn white as they get older. He was bought by the New York Fire Department, but his color didn't match the other horses in the team, so we got him."

"He was always gentle with kids who stopped by after school. Not a skittish bone in his body," said Kearney. "Smoke and noise and flying embers didn't faze him in the least. Do you mark how canny he took a corner coming down a hill?"

"Marty had a hand in that," said Strong. "He'd say the fastest way isn't the fastest if you wind up in a wreck."

"Most fire horses serve but five to eight years, and here was Ben still going strong after 15," someone observed.

"Marty had a hand in that as well. No one ever took better care of a horse," a statement greeted with heartfelt agreement.

"Where is Marty?"

"He and some lads are down in Glenham helping prepare the spot."

Father O'Reilly, the curate at St. John's, stopped by, unofficially of course, and made some brief, suitable remarks that God made the beasts of the earth and saw that it was good. The consensus being that these were fine sentiments, the good father was prevailed upon to take a pint from the keg donated by the neighbors from the candy company next door. Visitors stopped by to pay their respects and the reminiscing continued 'til well into the evening.

Early the next day, those that could, went over to Gantvoort's farm, although not in the fire engine that replaced Ben as that would have seemed disrespectful. There they saw Ben, wrapped in blankets, carefully laid to rest on a hill above the pasture. Gantvoort, who owned the National Oven Co. down on the Long Dock, expressed his intention to have a fence installed around the grave and a fitting stone erected. Satisfied that they had done right by Ben, they returned to the firehouse.

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Cassidy and The Music

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Tony DePaolo - Free

**Sunday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.**  
Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas

**Thursday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m.**  
Heather Pierson Trio  
Whispering Tree

**Friday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m.**  
Marc Von Em - Free

**Friday, Nov. 2, 8:30 p.m.**  
Cause for Paws  
Benefit for animals affected  
by Hurricanes Florence & Michael

**Saturday, Nov. 3, 6 p.m.**  
Sharkey & The Sparks - Free

**Saturday, Nov. 3, 8:30 p.m.**  
Terrance Simien &  
the Zydeco Experience

**Sunday, Nov. 4, 11:30 a.m.**  
East Coast Jazz Trio - Free

**Sunday, Nov. 4, 6 p.m.**  
Mulebone - Free

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# Hip-Hop + Bluegrass = Gangstagrass

*Band with unique sound  
to perform at Chapel*

By Alison Rooney

The band scheduled to perform Friday, Nov. 2, at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring is called Gangstagrass, which sounds odd until you hear what it plays.

Hip-hop. And bluegrass. At the same time.

Gangstagrass, which leaves in January to tour the U.K., includes two MCs who drop beats that interact with a dobro, banjo and guitar. The group was formed in 2006 by a Brooklyn producer who goes by the stage name Rench. He describes his youth as “breakdancing on cardboard to RUN-DMC during recess, then going home and listening to my parents’ favorite country artists, Johnny Cash and Willie Nelson, on the stereo.”

Later, after Rench began producing hip-hop artists, he combined their tracks with samples from bluegrass, blues and electronic beats. “There are a lot more people out there with Jay-Z and Johnny Cash on their iPod playlists than you think,” he says.

Gangstagrass released its first album in 2010 with T.O.N.E.-Z, *Lightning on the Strings, Thunder on the Mic*. The band began to gain a national following when producers of the Elmore Leonard-inspired crime drama *Justified* used one of the band’s singles, “Long Hard Times to Come,” as the opening theme. That led to an Emmy nomination for Rench and T.O.N.E.-Z for best original title song.



Gangstagrass, with Rench (third from left)

Photo provided

Gangstagrass’ next album, *Rappalachia*, released in 2012, features rappers such as Kool Keith, Dead Prez, R-SON the Voice of Reason and Dolio the Sleuth. And its third, *American Music*, in 2015, reached No. 5 on the Billboard bluegrass charts.

The band’s current tour features a lot of new material, Rench says. He hopes on the next album to have tracks each recorded live at a different venue. “It’s bittersweet when we

play to an audience with such a connection,” he says. “It makes me wish we could have shared that with everyone.”

Gangstagrass will appear as part of the Chapel Restoration’s ongoing Roadhouse series, with food by Pappi’s Mediterranean and beer by Industrial Arts available for sale. The Chapel is located at 45 Market St., in Cold Spring. Tickets are \$25 at [bit.ly/gg-tix](http://bit.ly/gg-tix). Paid parking is usually available in the adjacent Metro-North lot.



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## ELECT MAUREEN FLEMING COUNTY EXECUTIVE

### TOWN OF KENT SUPERVISOR

#### As a resident and taxpayer,

**My deep frustration** with my town's mismanagement and unchecked spending led me to run for Town Supervisor in 2013. As a Democrat, I faced tough odds in a largely Republican town, but my experience and common sense approach earned 62% of the vote, and the support of neighbors of all political parties.

**Now in my third term**, I have held Town taxes at 0% for 5 years straight and reduced our debt service by one-third. For years before I took office, the general fund was drawn down to simply balance the budget, and that's not sustainable. I have used the general fund for capital projects like rebuilding our aging highway fleet, replacing recreation department vehicles, and making needed upgrades in our parks.

**As a collaborative leader**, I welcome all residents to participate in their government. I have brought our unions to the table and successfully negotiated contracts with them. I declared Kent open for business, creating an environment in which sensible, low-impact commercial and industrial projects, now in the approvals process, will offset the tax burden of our residents.

### MOTHER AND WIFE

#### I've been married for 31 years.

**My Husband Jim** voluntarily enlisted in the Army during the Vietnam War. He recently retired from a career in investigations, specializing in financial fraud. We chose Putnam as the best place to raise our family, for its scenic beauty, safe communities and strong schools.

**We sent our three children** to Carmel public schools, and I too moved into education so I could be more available to my family. I earned teaching certifications in biology and elementary education and taught in Catholic and public schools.

### EXPERIENCED ATTORNEY

#### My career in public service

**Was inspired early on** from my experiences working with families struggling with poverty in a clinical program at Antioch Law School, now UDC. I also interned and was then hired by the National Labor Relations Board, which provided greater insight into the power of serving my community. Before earning my law degree, I graduated NYU with a bachelor's degree in biology and a minor in philosophy.

**My time as an attorney** in the 80s & 90s was spent in the New York City Departments of Health and Sanitation, investigating employee fraud and corruption. Then, for the Department of Correction, I headed the inmate disciplinary system at Rikers Island and other city jails when they were at their highest population and their most violent.

**While working in these complex governmental systems**, I gained extensive management and policy development experience, and I became expert at identifying and administratively prosecuting malfeasance.

### COMMUNITY LEADER

#### As with all families,

**Our children's needs** and relationships helped us build strong ties in our community. Our family has set down deep roots in Putnam, and we have dedicated ourselves to public service of one sort or another. My son has been a volunteer firefighter in the Carmel Fire Department. I'm an active member of the Lake Carmel Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and I am a Eucharistic minister. I also have been a Homeowners' Association board member and the founding chairperson of the Town of Kent Stormwater Management Committee. **I know how volunteering and participation** make our communities stronger. I want our county to run professionally and effectively, so our tax money works harder **FOR ALL OF PUTNAM.**



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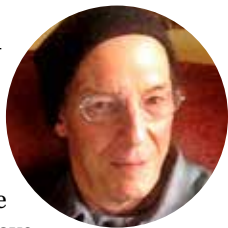


## Small, Good Things

## Scary Good

By Joe Dizney

The most recognizable of autumn squashes, the pumpkin is a defining feature of the harvest season: you have your giant pumpkins, your pumpkin toss, pumpkin carvings and, of course, your pumpkin pie. You also have your questionably-flavored candy-coffee drinks.



All overshadow the fact that pumpkin is relatively nutritious and flexible enough to be enjoyed in savory comfort foods such as the creamy Pumpkin Risotto offered at right.

Rather than the traditional and overly fussy version, which requires rendered fat, a sautéed soffritto (usually just onion or shallots), toasted rice kernels followed by a quick reduction of white wine and constant addition of slow-simmering broth and endless and vigorous stirring, I opted for a version brought back from Milan by food writer J.M. Hirsch.

The soffritto is omitted at the insistence on a quality vegetable stock. The rice is sautéed in butter long enough to break down the starches in each kernel, at which point nearly all of the stock is added — at once — brought to a boil, reduced to a simmer and stirred, vigorously and regularly, but only enough to promote fully cooked rice that doesn't stick to itself or the pot.

The pumpkin is added in a pureed form and finished with a mantecatura — the vigorous inclusion of butter and Parmesan off-heat — resulting in risotto that is truly all'onda. That is, it's neither too loose nor too thick, an earmark of perfect risotto.

Caveat emptor: A recipe as simple as this begs for the freshest, purest ingredients. Here they include a quick homemade vegetable stock and a puree of roasted pumpkin (below right). Truth be told, I believe this version is as much or more about the toppings, so if you use quality canned vegetable stock and/or pumpkin puree I'm reasonably sure no one will be the wiser.

This version is finished off with toasted pumpkin seeds and crumbled bacon for texture and a black pepper-balsamic reduction to add a little bright sweetness. If you can find it, a drizzle of toasted pumpkin seed oil adds even more depth.

*Joe Dizney is a designer, art director and unrepentant sensualist. When the Cold Spring resident is not thinking about food, he is foraging for, cooking or eating it. Email him at [jdizney@highlandscurrent.org](mailto:jdizney@highlandscurrent.org).*

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Pumpkin Risotto with Bacon, Roasted Pumpkin Seeds and Balsamic Drizzle

Serves 4

**FOR THE BALSAMIC DRIZZLE**

Makes about ½ cup, can be made in advance; save excess for other uses.

2 cups balsamic vinegar  
2 teaspoons honey  
½ teaspoon fresh ground black pepper

**FOR THE RISOTTO**

1 cup carnaroli or Arborio rice  
6 tablespoons unsalted butter  
4 cups vegetable broth  
(canned, or homemade as below)  
1½ cups pumpkin puree  
(canned, or homemade as below)  
½ cup or more  
Parmesan cheese, grated fine

**FOR SERVING**

¼ to ½ cup toasted pumpkin seeds  
2 to 4 strips quality bacon, cooked, drained and crumbled  
(Balsamic drizzle from above, at room temperature)  
(Optional: Toasted pumpkin seed oil for additional drizzling)

## Vegetable Broth

2 medium carrots, peeled and chopped  
2 stalks celery, chopped  
1 medium yellow onion, chopped  
1 to 2 cloves garlic, peeled and smashed  
1 medium tomato, chopped (about ½ cup)  
2 to 3 bay leaves  
5 cups water

**For the broth:** Bring the broth ingredients to a boil in a small saucepan. Reduce to a lively simmer and cover partially. Cook over medium-low heat for 20 minutes. Strain with a fine mesh strainer into a bowl and return broth to the saucepan, keeping it warm for immediate use.

Makes 1 quart. Can be made in advance and refrigerated up to five days.

**1. For the balsamic drizzle:** In a small saucepan, bring vinegar to a boil over high heat and immediately lower to a medium-low simmer to reduce to ½ cup, about 30 minutes. When reduced remove from heat, whisk in honey and black pepper. Reserve at room temperature.

**2. For the risotto:** In a small covered saucepan, bring broth to a simmer, reduce heat to lowest setting to keep warm. In a large saucepan on medium high heat, melt two tablespoons of the butter, when completely melted add rice and cook, stirring constantly until the grains are translucent at the edges, about 2 minutes.

**3.** Add 2½ cups of the broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat immediately to medium and cook, stirring frequently and briskly for about 8 minutes. The pot will still be soupy. Reduce the heat to maintain a simmer.

**4.** Add the pumpkin puree and another ¼ cup of the broth, stirring as before for three to five minutes to incorporate. The risotto should ultimately be creamy and slightly wet and the rice tender but not mushy. Add more broth as needed in ¼ cup increments to retain the consistency.

**5.** When done, remove from heat, stir in the butter in pieces and ½ cup of Parmesan to incorporate. Adjust the salt and place in low bowls. Garnish each with a sprinkling of the pumpkin seeds, some bacon and a generous drizzle of the balsamic sauce and a drizzle or two of the toasted pumpkin seed oil if you have it. Serve with an extra grating of Parmesan.

## Pumpkin Puree

1 4-to-6-pound baking pumpkin (Sugar Pie, Kabocha or Carnival), split and seeds removed

**For the pumpkin puree:** Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Sprinkle pumpkin flesh with salt and lay halves, cut side down, on parchment paper-lined sheet pan. Roast 45 minutes; remove pan to cool. When cool enough to handle, scoop the roasted flesh from the skin to the bowl of a food processor and process until smooth, 3 to 4 minutes.

Store in the fridge for up to a week or freeze up to three months. Or consider Pasta with Pumpkin Ragù (see [highlandscurrent.org/pumpkin-ragu](http://highlandscurrent.org/pumpkin-ragu)).

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MARKET TIPSFrequently Asked  
Mortgage Questions

**D**oes the term "amortization" leave you perplexed? Are you unsure how preapproval differs from prequalification? If so, you're not alone. Here are some mortgage basics to help you become more familiar with the process.

## What's the difference between prequalification and preapproval?

Getting prequalified is often the first step when searching for a home. You supply basic financial information, such as your income, assets and debts, and the lender then provides a preliminary estimate of the amount for which you may qualify.

Preapproval involves an in-depth look at your finances and usually requires an application fee, but this process brings you closer to determining your potential interest rate and monthly payment. Being preapproved also puts you in a better position in a competitive market because it shows you have your finances in order.

## What is amortization?

Amortization is the process of paying off a home loan's principal and interest over time within a consistent, planned repayment schedule. In the beginning, a large portion of each payment goes toward interest, but as the loan matures, larger amounts go toward paying down the principal.

## What types of loans are there?

Fixed and adjustable rate mortgages operate as their respective names imply. The former has a rate that stays the same for the life of the loan. The latter's rate may start low, but it can increase after a predetermined period or depending on market conditions.

Government-guaranteed mortgages include FHA and VA loans. These are usually easier to qualify for and typically require lower down payments than other types of loans.

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## New Kidney *(from Page 1)*

in California which was compatible with Thompson was shipped overnight to Weill Cornell. At the same time, one of Holowinko's kidneys was removed and shipped to Boston, where it was transplanted into a male patient who matched with him. Thompson and Holowinko may never know the identity of the California donor or the Boston recipient.

Thompson learned in February that her kidney function had deteriorated so badly that she had two choices: dialysis or a transplant. Things moved quickly after she and Holowinko were listed on the paired exchange in August. She received the call on Sept. 10 from Weill Cornell that a matched donor had come forward and that her surgery would take place in October.

"I was ecstatic that I wouldn't need dialysis," Thompson recalled. "Ed saved my life." Asked how she could thank him, she said, "We're going on a cruise to Montreal and Boston" as soon as she is cleared to travel. "I have a new family," she said. "I'm

very happy, very grateful."

Holowinko said that he didn't hesitate to donate because, at age 64, he has a healthy lifestyle and follows a vegan diet. An avid cyclist, he has resumed workouts on a stationary bicycle. "I feel like nothing happened," he said. "What's the big deal?" The postoperative recovery took about five days, he said.

His decision to donate a kidney wasn't as easy for his wife. "It was very scary to me," admits Beth Siegerbaum. "But it's hard to argue against helping someone else live."

Thompson's surgery was performed by Dr. Anthony Watkins, a transplant specialist who estimates he has done more than 500 kidney transplants. He said that while some cases can present difficulties, Thompson's three-hour operation was straightforward. "Her kidney function is good; her prognosis is good," he said.

Watkins said that Holowinko should also do well. For healthy donors, "studies show there is no decrease in survival, and no increased risk of kidney failure," Watkins said.

The number of kidney donors in the U.S. has remained steady in recent years, but Watkins said the number of paired

exchanges has been increasing. While a hopeful sign, he said, "they are still a small percentage in the grand scheme of things."

Alvin Roth and Lloyd Shapley won a Nobel Prize for economics in 2012 for work that included the creation of the kidney exchange. They noted that while dialysis costs about \$70,000 per year, a kidney transplant costs about \$260,000, making it cost effective in fewer than four years.

Thompson said her goal now "is to have the best quality of life possible." She quips she may write a book and call it *Kidney Transplants for Dummies*. Discharged from the hospital on Oct. 24, she has more challenges ahead: She will need surgery for a postoperative hernia, and she remains weak. Her medical bills are paid but she is not working (she cannot return to working with children because they carry too many germs for her compromised immune system) and faces expenses not covered by insurance. These include an extended stay in a hotel near the hospital for the next six weeks. A GoFundMe page at [gofundme.com/kidney-for-leesa](http://gofundme.com/kidney-for-leesa) has been established to help.

## Pairing Up

There are four types of kidney donations that involve living donors, according to the National Kidney Registry ([kidneyregistry.org](http://kidneyregistry.org)): Direct donation, paired exchange, good Samaritan and advanced.

A direct donation is when a person offers to donate to a specific person. However, the kidney must be compatible with the recipient. In a paired exchange, the donor gives his or her kidney to another recipient in exchange for one that is compatible.

With advanced donation, the exchange takes place but not at the same time. Finally, a good Samaritan donor gives a kidney to a stranger and sets off a chain of paired exchanges that typically involve from two to 30 patients. Dr. Anthony Watkins noted that the largest of these chains occurred in 2008 and involved more than 50 transplants, all "triggered by one man coming forward."

## Assembly Seat *(from Page 3)*

### While campaigning, what have you heard from Beacon residents?

**JACOBSON:** Not surprisingly, they are concerned about Washington and how the Trump Administration and U.S. Supreme Court will affect basic rights, from reproduc-

tive rights to health care and the environment. They are also concerned with how Washington will affect civil rights, given the demagoguery on race and LGBTQ rights. These are all issues that we can address on the state level. People are concerned about the cost of schools and their property taxes as well as the costs of going to college. Beacon residents want to make sure that the next As-

sembly member will not forget Beacon, and I have pledged that Beacon is not forgotten.

**MANLEY:** Beacon is a great city that has come a long way. I remember when my mother was a reporter at the *Evening News* on Main Street in the late 1970s and early 1980s — the way it was and the way it is now. But even with prosperity, there are repercussions. Many residents who

have owned real estate over the years are doing well on their investments, but the locals who have rented are slowly getting priced out. We need to find the fine line between keeping our longtime residents while bringing new people into Beacon. I very much look forward to working for and representing everyone in Albany.

## A Hudson Valley Business Leader Who'll Stand Up For Our Values in Albany



## Executive Candidates

*(from Page 9)*

services without increasing taxes. I have never raised town taxes."

### County debt

Fleming has taken issue with Odell's claim that she has reduced the county debt by \$40 million. She cited annual financial reports that show \$60.6 million in bond debt at the end of 2011, when Odell took office, and \$60.5 million in 2017. The county has paid about \$35 million in interest on its bonds since 2011, Fleming noted, and another \$6.9 million has been budgeted for 2019.

Odell issued a response on Oct. 25, charging that Fleming had not accounted for a reduction in interest paid on Putnam loans. She said the county had reduced its outstanding long-term principal and interest payments since 2011 by 15 percent, to \$75 million from \$88 million, and principal and interest payments on short-term debt from \$17.2 million to zero.

The \$40 million figure, Odell said, comes from that \$17.2 million savings plus a reduction of \$13.2 million in long-term debt payments and \$9.4 million in pension amortization debt.

*Chip Rowe contributed reporting.*



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# When Harassment Goes Online

*Documentary examines its effect on three women*

By Alison Rooney

In 2011, Cynthia Lowen wrote and co-produced a documentary called *Bully*, which followed five children who were viciously tormented by their peers. It was nominated for an Emmy.

Her follow-up, which she directed, is also about bullies. In *Netizens*, which will be screened at Beahive in Beacon at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 28, she follows three women who are harassed online, and documents the devastating consequences. The film will be followed by a Q&A with Lowen.

Lowen says she spent a year filming women who had endured online threats of violence, stalking, nonconsensual pornography and attacks on their reputations. With 180 hours of footage, she decided in the editing room to tell the stories of three women: Anita Sarkeesian, a feminist media critic, blogger and speaker; Carrie Goldberg, a Brooklyn attorney who specializes in cyber assault-related crimes; and Tina Reine, a businesswoman attacked online by an ex-boyfriend.

The director says she was “struck by how they took this experience and let it become a catalyst for personal action.” The women’s stories are interspersed with interviews with representatives from organizations such as the Women’s Media Center and with a former U.S. attorney who investigated cybercrimes.



Cynthia Lowen

Photo by Joseph Michael Lopez

“The internet today is a battleground, and online harassment is silencing women,” says Lowen. While the web has become an important public space, she observed, the policing of it has lagged.

Even with all but seven states having

passed laws against posting explicit videos without the consent of all participants (known as “revenge porn”), “you often have to show [in court] intent to cause harm. You get someone saying ‘But I was just doing it for fun,’ and it’s hard to prove otherwise.”

For Sarkeesian, the creator of the web series *Feminist Frequency*, the harassment takes the form of violent and degrading threats, requiring her, at times, to have armed escorts. The threats are in response largely to her critique of how women are represented in video games, particularly *Tropes Versus Women*, a YouTube series examining gender stereotypes in gaming, which is dominated by men.

“You become de-sensitized to abuse” and the “cesspools of hate,” Sarkeesian says in the film. “It takes away your humanity. You have to be hyper-vigilant; you can’t exist like everyone else.”

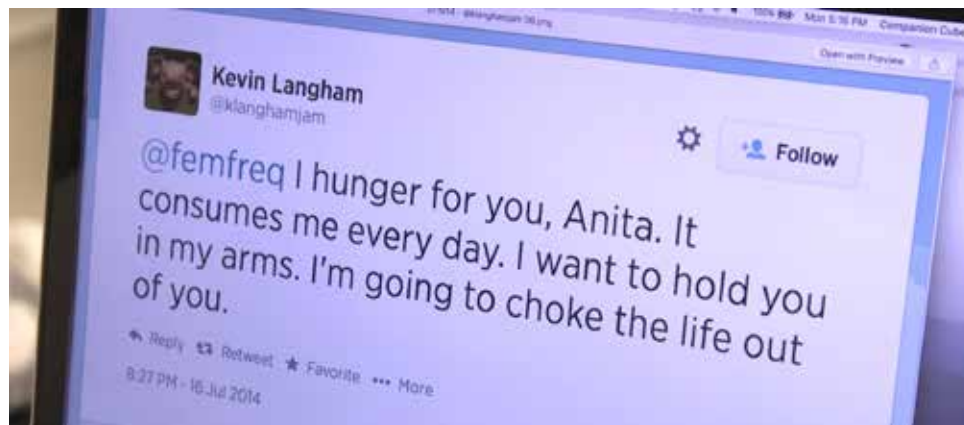
Goldberg, a pioneer in the field of legal advocacy against online threats, sexual harassment and revenge porn, was victimized herself, which compelled her to represent other women who have been traumatized. She is shown speaking to a client who asks, “What’s the point in continuing living if I can’t show my face to the world?”

Reine’s story unfolds more slowly in the film, and is perhaps the most devastating. A Florida businesswoman, she sees her career come to a dead halt when an ex-boyfriend creates hundreds of websites that disparaged her.

“Gossip used to be contained within a town,” Reine tells Lowen. “Now it’s a global village and it stays there forever. It changes the entire course of your life in practically seconds.”

There’s no singular definition of digital abuse. But there are four common strategies of harassment, says Danielle Keats Citron, author of *Hate Crimes in Cyberspace*, in the film.

“First, [victims] are terrorized, with their home address and other private things posted,” she says. “Then the abusers hijack their online reputation, manipulating search engines. Then they expose



A Twitter message received by Anita Sarkeesian, who hosts a web series called *Feminist Frequency* Photo provided

and humiliate. Finally, they use technology to shove their victims offline.”

Yet because “only their reputations are destroyed,” the harassment is not considered a crime as serious as other types of assault, she says.

In one telling scene, after hearing Reine speak of what happened to her, a young man says to her: “I’m a guy, and yes, it’s hurtful, but doesn’t it depend on how much weight you give it?” Reine can offer only a slightly apologetic response.

Lowen says the cavalier attitude toward cyber assault is less prevalent among young people because “they don’t have the ‘internet isn’t real’ issue. They get it.”

Beahive is located at 291 Main St. Tickets are \$10. See [beahivebuzz.com/events/beacon-film-society-presents-netizens](http://beahivebuzz.com/events/beacon-film-society-presents-netizens).

## Coming Up

On Sunday, Nov. 18, the Beacon Film Society will present *A Bread Factory*, which examines Time & Space Limited in Hudson, New York, and its co-directors, Linda Mussmann and Claudia Bruce. It will be shown in two parts, at 1:30 and 3:45 p.m., to be followed at 5:45 p.m. by a Q&A with its writer, director and producer Patrick Wang and Mussmann. Admission is \$10 for one film, or \$15 for both.

On Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m., the society will screen *Sacred*, a film by Academy Award-winner Thomas Lennon that was shot by more than 40 filmmaking teams around the world to immerse viewers in the daily practice of faith. A Q&A with executive producer Bill Baker will follow.

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A rendering of the proposed upgrades to the Dutchess BOCES campus in Poughkeepsie, with additions in white

BOCES

BOCES *(from Page 1)*

percent of the students in Dutchess County, would be responsible for \$2.6 million, 53 percent of which would be eligible for reimbursement by the state.

The cost absorbed by the school system would be roughly the same as if the district added a second school bus proposition (last year's increased the schools' tax levy by \$75,000) to its annual budget proposal, said Beacon's deputy superintendent, Ann Marie Quartironi. The added cost would come out of the district's overall tax levy, not as an addition to it, she said.

A Beacon homeowner whose property is valued at \$275,000 (the county average) would likely see a \$6 to \$8 increase in annual property taxes, Richard Hooley, superintendent of the Dutchess BOCES, told the Beacon school board on Monday (Oct. 22). Elsewhere in the county, taxes could increase up to \$14 annually for the average homeowner, he said.

Hooley said he expects the upgrades to

pay for themselves over the next 20 years by reducing rent, maintenance, transportation and utility costs.

The proposal would create a 60,000-square-foot annex onto the CTI site that would include the Alternative High School as well as a newly constructed conference center for staff training and community use. The proposal differs from the 2009 plan because it's an addition to the CTI rather than a standalone building, said Russ Davidson, a project architect.

The Alternative High School has been located for the past 29 years in a leased warehouse in a Poughkeepsie industrial park about 4 miles from the CTI. The site has been plagued in recent years with flooding and maintenance and safety issues, Hooley said.

"None of those people in the [nearby] warehouses are fingerprinted," he noted. "It's just not the place you would want kids to be if you had any control over it."

The expanded facility would allow the technical programs and the Alternative High School to share a secure entrance while re-



MAKE SOME NOISE! — Eric Cha-Beach of the Sō Percussion group instructs the audience to make sounds as he and a colleague conduct during a performance at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon on Oct. 21. One section of the audience was told to slap their legs, another to cluck their tongues and a third to snap their fingers. The members of Sō Percussion also played flower pots and wine glasses. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org.

Photo by Ross Corsair

ducing student travel time and encouraging interaction between disciplines, Hooley said.

"The next big thing in career and tech is for students who have expertise in a particular field to work with students in different backgrounds to solve problems," he said. "It's project-based learning at its best."

Additionally, capacity would be increased at the Salt Point Center to meet a growing demand for instruction for Dutchess students with disabilities, and classroom and lab space at the CTI would be renovated.

The Beacon district has 59 students who attend the CTI, plus five who are students at the Alternative High School and seven who attend Salt Point Center.

The number of Beacon students using the CTI has increased over the last five years while enrollment at the Salt Point Center and Alternative High School has dropped by about half. That could be due to more specialized classes being offered at the students' home schools, Hooley said.

Polls will be open from noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 11, with the closest site for Beacon area residents at the school district office at 10 Education Drive. The vote will be on paper ballots placed into secure boxes built by CTI students. If approved, construction would begin in 2020 and take about two years.



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PRESENTS

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Dear Fellow Residents,

It has been my pleasure to meet and work with many of you, over the years, the ideas, suggestions and advice have been welcomed and heartfelt. We all care very much about this beautiful place we call home. Putnam, like many counties across NYS is facing tough challenges now more than ever.

From our aging population to our young people at risk, taxes, and our environment, these are just some of the issues before us. I believe it's ineffective to be combative and close-minded. As always I'll continue to listen, build consensus, and work with officials and residents to achieve real solutions to the problems facing our community.

This approach isn't revolutionary, although sadly it may seem so these days! The difference is my proven ability to reach across the table with representatives of all sides, and achieve solutions together. Because those I've worked with, know **"People before Politics"** is what I live by. The proof is my record of public service over 20 years, the last few as your County Legislator.

I look forward to your continued support, and to delivering the results that benefit our community!

**Barbara Scuccimarra**

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# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)  
For a complete listing of events, see [highlandscurrent.org/calendar](http://highlandscurrent.org/calendar)

## COMMUNITY

SAT 27

### 14th Annual Haunted House

GARRISON

7 – 10 p.m.  
Philipstown Recreation Center  
107 Glencllyffe Dr. | 845-424-4618 | [philipstownrecreation.com](http://philipstownrecreation.com)

The Foot in Mouth Players again present their annual scarefest. Also SUN 28. *Cost: \$6 (seniors and children under 12, \$4)*

SAT 27

### Halloween ComicFest

BEACON

11 a.m. – 10 p.m.  
The Underground Beacon  
462 Main St. | 845-440-8345  
[theundergroundbeacon.com](http://theundergroundbeacon.com)

The all-day event includes free face painting from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; a children's costume contest at 1:30 p.m.; Daniel Kibblesmith signing *Black Panther vs. Deadpool* from 2 to 4 p.m. (see Page 2); an adult costume contest at 6:30 p.m. and a screening of the animated *Constantine: City of Demons* at 8 p.m. *Free*

SUN 28

### Ham Radio Oktoberfest

FISHKILL

8 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Employee's Recreation Center  
83 Red Schoolhouse Lane  
845-849-3666 | [wr2abb.org](http://wr2abb.org)

The Mount Beacon Amateur Radio Club hosts this event, which includes licensing classes, food and beverages and, of course, ham radios. *Cost: \$5 (non-ham spouses and children free)*

MON 29

### Restaurant Week

HUDSON VALLEY

[valleytable.com/hvrw](http://valleytable.com/hvrw)

Enjoy three-course lunches for \$22.95 and dinners for \$32.95 at seven Highlands restaurants (Cafe Amarcord, The Pandorica and The Roundhouse in Beacon; Cathryn's Tuscan Grill, the Hudson House River Inn and Riverview in Cold Spring and the Valley in Garrison) and hundreds of others in the region. Through Nov. 11.

THURS 1

### Storm Spotter Training

POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. Department of Emergency Response | 392 Creek Road  
[weather.gov/aly/skywarn](http://weather.gov/aly/skywarn)

Instruction from the National Weather Service. Registration required. *Free*

THURS 1

### One Beacon: Light in the Darkness of Racism and Anti-Semitism

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. Salem Tabernacle  
7 Delavan Ave.  
[beaconhebrewalliance.org](http://beaconhebrewalliance.org)

In response to the recent posting of anti-Semitic fliers, the Beacon Hebrew Alliance and First Presbyterian Church are co-hosting this gathering of “all people of faith and good conscience ... for an evening of breaking bread and singing together.”

SAT 3

### All About Bulbs

COLD SPRING

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens  
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000  
[stonecrop.org](http://stonecrop.org)

Learn how to naturalize bulbs in a landscape and pot paperwhites to bloom for the holidays. *Cost: \$60 (\$40 members)*

SAT 3

### Volunteer Landscape Work Day and Bonfire

GARRISON

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Manitoga  
584 Route 9D | 845-424-3812  
[visitmanitoga.org](http://visitmanitoga.org)

SAT 3

### Pet Rabies Clinic

PATTERSON

2 – 4 p.m. Brook Farm Clinic  
2371 Route 22 | 845-808-1390, x43160 | [putnamcountyny.com](http://putnamcountyny.com)

Cats, dogs and ferrets welcome in carriers or leashed. Bring proof of Putnam County residency and prior rabies vaccination certificate. *Free*

SAT 3

### The Get Down

COLD SPRING

7 – 10 p.m. Chalet on the Hudson  
3250 Route 9D | [haldaneschoolfoundation.org](http://haldaneschoolfoundation.org)

This fundraiser for the Haldane School Foundation will feature dancing to hip and funky music and a silent auction of items and services. *Cost: \$110*

## MUSIC

SUN 28

### Broadway for Bannerman Island

BEACON

2 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-1001  
[bannermancastle.org](http://bannermancastle.org)

This benefit for the Bannerman Castle Trust will repeat a performance that took place over the summer on the island by Nancy

Johnston, Denise Summerford and Nancy Auffarth, under the direction of Elaine Miller. Reservations required. *Cost: \$25 (\$35 at door)*

SUN 28

### Celtic Halloween Party

PUTNAM VALLEY

2 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
845-528-7280 | [tompkinscorners.org](http://tompkinscorners.org)

Join a variety of musicians, including a new folk ensemble, Panache, for jigs, reels and party favorites. Costumes are welcome. *Cost: \$10 donation*

THURS 1

### Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio

BEACON

8 p.m. Towne Crier Cafe  
379 Main St. | 845-855-1300  
[townecrier.com](http://townecrier.com)

The New Hampshire band includes Davy Sturtevant and Shawn Nadeau playing original New Orleans jazz, folk and blues-style songs. *Cost: \$15*

FRI 2

### Restoration Roadhouse: Gangstagrass

COLD SPRING

7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration  
45 Market St. | 845-265-5537  
[bit.ly/gg-tix](http://bit.ly/gg-tix)

Hip-hop and bluegrass merge, with two MCs accompanied by banjo, dobro and guitar. See story on Page 13. *Cost: \$25*

FRI 2

### Salsa Dance Social

BEACON

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[salsadance.brownpapertickets.com](http://salsadance.brownpapertickets.com)

Christine Alicea will lead an hour-long lesson followed by dancing. No partner needed. *Cost: \$10 (\$15 at door)*

SAT 3

### Dark Desert Eagles

PEEKSKILL

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)

This Eagles tribute band will cover classics such as “Take It Easy” and “Desperado.” *Cost: \$36 to \$57*



SAT 3

### Honey Drop Sessions

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[honeydropsessions.com](http://honeydropsessions.com)  
[brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)

A night of sweetness and song with Lara Herscovitch, Amy Soucy and Lindsey Wilson. *Cost: \$10 (\$15 at door)*

SUN 4

### Catalyst Quartet

NEWBURGH

3 p.m. St. George's Church  
105 Grand St. | 845-561-5355  
[newburghchambermusic.org](http://newburghchambermusic.org)

In *Hemispheres: South America*, the ensemble will perform works by Heitor Villa-Lobos (Brazil), Diego Vega (Colombia-America), Astor Piazzolla (Argentina) and Alberto Ginastera (Argentina). *Cost: \$25 (students \$5)*



SUN 4

### Tribute to Gladys Knight and The Temptations

PEEKSKILL

7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
[paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com)

Get down with the Motown tribute band, Shadows of the 1960s, featuring Tanesha Gary as Knight. *Cost: \$37 to \$71.50*

## VISUAL ARTS

SAT 27

### Painting and Sculpture in the Hudson River Valley

GARRISON

9:30 a.m. Boscobel  
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638  
[boscobel.org](http://boscobel.org)

Curators from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian and others will discuss the history of creating art in the Hudson Valley. *Cost: Pay what you wish*

SAT 27

### Marbling Workshop

BEACON

10 a.m. RiverWinds Gallery  
172 Main St. | 845-838-2880  
[riverwindsgallery.com](http://riverwindsgallery.com)

Carol Mainardi will explain how to use inks and water to

make patterns on paper, shells and rocks. Supplies included. Registration required. *Cost: \$50*



SAT 27

### Holiday Plate Workshop

BEACON

Noon. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org)

Join Christine Mowbray, owner of Earthly Treasures Decoupage, in a workshop to create a glass plate for fall or the holidays. Registration required. *Free*

SUN 4

### Hudson Valley Artist Mentors (Opening)

BEACON

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
[howlandculturalcenter.org](http://howlandculturalcenter.org)

This group show, curated by Mary Mugele Sealfo, includes work by Garin Baker, Clayton Buchanan, Susan Hope Fogel, Cynthia Harris-Pagano, Andrew Lattimore, John Philip Osborne, Joseph Sundwall, George Van Hook, Lois Woolley, Honigan Zhang and Lisa Zukowski. *Free*

## TALKS & TOURS

SAT 27

### Frankenstein in the Age of Gene Editing

GARRISON

4 p.m. Hastings Center  
21 Malcolm Gordon Road  
845-424-4040 | [thehastingscenter.org](http://thehastingscenter.org)

On the 200th anniversary of the publication of Mary Shelley's novel, Victor LaValle, Charlotte Gordon and Josephine Johnston will explore the classic tale from the perspectives of bioethics, literary criticism and science fiction. RSVP to [events@hastingscenter.org](mailto:events@hastingscenter.org). *Free*

TUES 30

### Everything I Never Told You

BEACON

2 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org)

James Colter, an English professor at Mount Saint Mary College, will lead a discussion of Celeste Ng's *Everything I Never Told You* as part of the Big Read program organized by the National Endowment for the Arts. *Free*



# [ THE WEEK AHEAD ]

THURS 1  
**Native Voices**

**GARRISON**  
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org

The reading group will be discussing Joseph Bruchac's *Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two*. *Free*

SAT 3  
**The U.S. Supreme Court as a Political Institution**

**GARRISON**  
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org

Will Hellerstein, a professor emeritus at the Brooklyn Law School and former director of the Legal Aid Society, will discuss his experience arguing cases before the Supreme Court. *Free*

**HALLOWEEN**

SAT 27  
**Boo at the Zoo**

**BEAR MOUNTAIN**  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Trailside Zoo  
3006 Seven Lakes Drive  
845-786-2701 | trailsidezoo.org

Make treats for the bears at 10:30 a.m. and watch them enjoy them at 11 a.m. The zoo will also have crafts and activities. *Cost: \$1 donation*

SAT 27  
**Not-So-Haunted Barn and Hay Ride**

**WAPPINGERS FALLS**  
4 – 7 p.m. Stony Kill Farm  
79 Farmstead Lane  
845-831-3800 | stonykill.org

The farm promises a night of howls and hoots with livestock visits, spooky stories, ghost searches in the pasture and scary treats. Brian Robinson will also discuss birds of prey. *Cost: \$5 donation (ages 2 and younger free)*

SAT 27  
**25th Annual Halloween Costume Parade**

**COLD SPRING**  
5:30 p.m. St. Mary's Lawn  
facebook.com/coldspringhalloweenparade

Children, adults and pets are invited to come in costume and parade down Main Street to the riverfront bandstand. Rain date: SUN 28

SAT 27  
**Edgar Allan Poe: The Tell-Tale Heart and Other Stories**

**COLD SPRING**  
7 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Composer and pianist Daniel Kelly will accompany actor Lenard Petit. Register online. *Free*

SAT 27  
**Above All Things**

**GARRISON**  
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org

The library will screen this newly released thriller, filmed in part at Lake Valhalla, about a man who retreats to his family cottage after the death of his wife only to have her come back to haunt him. A Q&A with writer and director Monica Brady will follow. Rated PG-13. *Free*

SUN 28  
**Hocus Pocus Parade**

**BEACON**  
Noon. Visitor Center  
South Avenue and Main  
facebook.com/A-Very-Beacon-Halloween

After the parade, which continues to Verplanck Street, businesses will offer trick-or-treating. No rain date.

SUN 28  
**Pumpkin Glow**

**GARRISON**  
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org

Bring a carved pumpkin and watch them all light up the night outside the library. Music with Stacey Labriola, plus apples, cider doughnuts and cider. Costumes encouraged. *Free*

SUN 28  
**Horrorshow 4: Nosferatu**

**BEACON**  
8 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.  
storyscreenbeacon.com

The classic 1922 tale of a vampire looking for love will be accompanied by a live score and “filmbarkers” creating sound effects. *Free*

TUES 30  
**Horrorshow 4: Halloween (1978) and Halloween 2 (1981)**

**BEACON**  
8 p.m. The Shed | 45 Beekman St.  
storyscreenbeacon.com

Watch the two classic horror films back-to-back and play trivia, carve pumpkins and compete in a costume contest. Both rated R. *Free*

WED 31  
**The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)**

**PEEKSKILL**  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
paramounthudsonvalley.com

The Apoca-Lips cast will lead the audience participation. Costumes are encouraged and prop bags are available at the theater. Rated R. *Cost: \$10*



SAT 3  
**Halloween Party**

**BEACON**  
6 p.m. Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps | 1 Arquilla Dr. | 845-831-4540  
facebook.com/BeaconVAC

Children should bring sleeping bags, pillows and blankets to watch *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. There will also be a parade, costume contest and pumpkin decorating. *Free*

**KIDS & FAMILY**

SAT 27  
**Colonial Soapmaking**

**FORT MONTGOMERY**  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Historic Site  
690 Route 9W | 845-446-2134  
nyparks.com/historic-sites

Discover how early Americans made soap out of wood ash and animal fat.

SAT 3  
**Introduction to Babysitting**

**COLD SPRING**  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Aspiring babysitters ages 10 and older can learn how to care for younger children. Registration required. *Free*

SAT 3  
**Music Together**

**PUTNAM VALLEY**  
10:30 a.m.  
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

A program of music and movement with Gerry Dignan for infants to second-graders and their caregivers. *Cost: \$15 (\$5 for children)*

SUN 4  
**Attitude of Gratitude**

**COLD SPRING**  
1 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Robin Hutchinson will read from a book she wrote and illustrated about giving thanks every day. *Free*

**STAGE & SCREEN**

SAT 27  
**Robert Klein**

**PEEKSKILL**  
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley  
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039  
paramounthudsonvalley.com

The comedian and Westchester resident was the first, in 1975, to appear in a live concert on HBO, and went on to do eight more. He appeared more than 100 times on *The Tonight Show* and *The Late Show with David Letterman*. Kirsten Maxwell, a singer and songwriter based on Long Island, will open. *Cost: \$30 to \$55*



Our Town

SUN 28  
**Netizens**

**BEACON**  
7 p.m. Beahive  
291 Main St. | beaconfilmsociety.org

The Beacon Film Society screens this new documentary that follows three women whose lives have been transformed by online harassment. A Q&A with director Cynthia Lowen will follow. See story on Page 17. *Cost: \$10*

TUES 30  
**Dark Money**

**BEACON**  
7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church  
50 Liberty St.  
moviesthatmatterbeacon.org

This documentary, directed by Kimberly Reed, explores the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2010 decision, *Citizens United v. FEC*, which allowed untraceable contributions and spending designed to influence elections. *Free*

FRI 2  
**James and the Giant Peach**

**GARRISON**  
7 pm. Philipstown Depot Theatre  
10 Garrison's Landing  
845-424-3900 | brownpapertickets.com/event/3634193

The Youth Players present Roald Dahl's tale of a boy who travels across the ocean on a piece of fruit. Also: SAT 3, SUN 4. *Cost: \$12*

FRI 2  
**Our Town**

**WAPPINGERS FALLS**  
8 p.m. County Players Theater  
2681 Main St. | 845-298-1491  
countyplayers.org

The players present Thornton Wilder's 1938 drama that explores community bonds. Also SAT 3 (with American Sign Language). *Cost: \$20 (\$15 for seniors and children age 12 and younger)*

SAT 3  
**Beauty and Tragedy**

**NEWBURGH**  
6 p.m. Atlas Studios  
11 Spring St. | 845-391-8855  
newburghbeautyandtragedy.com

A new documentary by photographer Dmitri Kasterine of Garrison about the residents

of downtown Newburgh. “After listening to stories of imprisonment, teenage parenthood, drug addiction, unemployment, poverty, violence and corruption, I began to record encounters with citizens in the street,” Kasterine says. “The film offers no conclusions, no tales of redemption or magic solutions to unemployment, and Newburgh's future is left hanging. No one in authority, either the police or the government, is given a speaking part in this film. This was deliberate, I wanted to hear and see only the people I was drawn to.” *Free*

SAT 3  
**The Sweet Spot**

**PUTNAM VALLEY**  
7:30 p.m.  
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center  
729 Peekskill Hollow Road  
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

Mary Beth Hurt and Paul Savior will read Alice Jankell's play about how a couple married for decades will handle life in a senior community. *Cost: \$10 donation*

**HEALTH & FITNESS**

SAT 27  
**20 Ways to Reduce Toxins and Waste at Home**

**GARRISON**  
1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org

Madeline DeNitto, a lifestyle coach, and Christine Dimmick, author of *Detox Your Home*, will offer practical strategies. Sponsored by the Philipstown Garden Club. *Free*

**CIVIC**

MON 29  
**City Council**

**BEACON**  
7 p.m. City Hall  
1 Municipal Plaza | cityofbeacon.org

THURS 1  
**Philipstown Board**

**COLD SPRING**  
7:30 p.m. Town Hall  
238 Main St. | philipstown.com





# PHILIPSTOWN WINTER PROGRAMMING at Philipstown Recreation Center



Registration opens October 29th for Residents & November 5th for Non-Residents

Book is available at [www.philipstownrecreation.com/booklets](http://www.philipstownrecreation.com/booklets)

Call 845-424-4618 or 845-424-4662 to register

R = Resident / NR = Non-Resident



## EARLY EDUCATION

### Indoor Tot Park

T, TH 9-11am & M-F 12-1:30pm  
\$1 per session

### Pre-Ballet (ages 3-5)

Starts January 8 & 10  
\$85 R / \$100 NR

### The Learning Center Preschool (ages 3-5)

Call for more information

## YOUTH/TEEN PROGRAMS

### After Care & Before Care Programs

Call for more information!

### Arts & Crafts Around the World (Grades K-6)

Starts January 7  
\$55 R / \$70 NR

### Animal Sketches (Grades K-6)

Starts January 2  
\$75 R / \$90 NR

### Board? Games! (Grades K-6)

Starts January 3  
\$75 R / \$90 NR

### Holiday Crafts (Grades K-6)

Starts November 5  
\$40 R / \$55 NR

### Holiday Treats ABCS (Grades K-6)

Starts November 6  
\$50 R / \$65 NR

### Holiday Tree (Grades K-6)

Starts November 7  
\$40 R / \$55 NR

### Mini Munchies (Grades K-6)

Starts January 8  
\$55 R / \$70 NR

### Musical Revue (Grades K-6)

Starts November 9  
\$30 R / \$45 NR

### Spa Kids (Grades K-6)

Starts November 8  
\$40 R / \$55 NR

### Youth Theatre Production

*Mary Poppins*

Starts January 4  
\$225 R / \$240 NR

## SPORTS AND MOVEMENT

### Beginning Ballet (Grades K-1)

Starts January 8 & 10  
\$85 R / \$100 NR

### Beginning Ballet (Grades 2-3)

Starts January 8  
\$85 R / \$100 NR

### Baseball Skills & Drills (Grades 2-7)

Starts January 24  
\$1 per night

### Basketball Skills & Drills (Grades 3-8)

Ongoing  
\$1 per night

### Box Lacrosse (Grades 1-12)

Starts November 13  
\$38 R / \$53 NR

### Contemporary Dance Workshop (Grade 4)

Starts January 10  
\$85 R / \$100 NR

### Co-Ed Basketball (Grades 1-6)

Starts January 5  
\$75 R / \$90 NR

### Indoor Boys Lacrosse (Grades 1-6)

Starts January 8  
\$50 R / \$65 NR

### Indoor Girls Lacrosse (Grades K & up)

Starts January 13  
\$50 R / \$65 NR

### Knock Around Floor Hockey (Grades K-6)

Starts November 7  
\$335 R / \$50 NR

### Lacrosse Skills and Drills (Grades 3 & up)

Starts January 9  
\$1 per night

### Sports Sampler (Grades K-6)

Starts January 2  
\$65 R / \$80 NR

### Winter Boys Lacrosse Team (Grades 5-8)

Starts November 30  
\$190 R / \$205 NR

## TEEN

### Teen Night (Grades 6-8)

November 17 & January 12  
Residents only!  
\$5

## Teen Movie Nights (Grades 6-8)

*ELF*

December 8

Pre-Registration is required

## FAMILY

### Day Out at the Movies!

*The Grinch*

Regal Cinemas, Fishkill

\$3 per person

November 21

## CERAMICS

### Adults

Starts November 27

\$135 R / \$150 NR

Starts January 8

\$360 R / \$365 NR

### Afterschool (Grades K-3)

Starts November 27 or 28

\$90 R / \$105 NR

Starts January 8 or 9

\$240 R / \$255 NR

### Afterschool (Grades 4-6)

Starts November 29

\$90 R / \$105 NR

Starts January 10

\$240 R / \$255 NR

### Teens (Grades 7 & up)

Starts November 29

\$90 R / \$105 NR

Starts January 10

\$240 R / \$255 NR

### Mudbunnies (ages 3-5)

Start November 28

\$70 R / \$85 NR

Starts January 9

\$180 R / \$195 NR

### Saturday Workshop (Grades 2 & up)

Starts December 1

\$70 R / \$85 NR

## DEPOT THEATRE

### Grades 1-3 Theatre Workshop

Starts January 8

\$265 R / \$280 NR

## SENIORS

### Chair Stretch

Continental Village Clubhouse

Session I: Starts November 8

Session II: Starts January 10

Chestnut Ridge

Session I: Starts November 2

## Core Strength & Balance

Chestnut Ridge

Session I: Starts October 31

Friendship Center of Philipstown

Session II: Starts January 9

## Fit for Life

Continental Village Clubhouse

Session I: Starts November 5

Session II: Starts January 7

## Zumba Gold

Chestnut Ridge

Session I: Starts October 30

Friendship Center of Philipstown

Session II: Starts January 8

Continental Village

Session I: Starts November 8

Session II: Starts January 10

## Color Your World

December 11 or 13: Gift of Time

January 8 or 10: Wooded Paths

February 5 or 7: Fruit

## Draw your World

Continental Village

Dec. 5, 12, Jan 2, 9, 23, Feb 6

Knit & Crochet Group

Starts November 13

## Line Dancing

Continental Village

Nov. 28, Dec. 12,

Jan 9, 23, Feb. 13, 27

## Mah Jongg Open Play

Old VFW Hall, Cold Spring

Ongoing Wednesdays

## Senior Luncheons

November 14

Senior Bus Trip to Fishkill

Nov. 7, 21, Dec 5, 19,

Jan 2, 16, 30, Feb 13, 27

## Trip "A Christmas Carol"

Westchester Broadway Theater

December 7

\$56 R / \$71 NR

## ADULTS - EDUCATION

### Write Your World

Starts January 9

\$95 R / \$110 NR

## ADULTS - EXERCISE

### Ballet for Adults

Starts January 8 & 10

\$130 R / \$145 NR

### Basic Pilates/Buffer Bones

Session I: Starts November 9

\$55 R / \$70 NR

Session II: Starts January 11

\$85 R / \$100 NR

### Cize Live

Starts January 10

\$85 R / \$100 NR

### Intermediate Pilates

Session I: Starts November 26

\$35 R / \$50 NR

Session II: Starts January 7

\$65 R / \$180 NR

### Power Hour for Women

Session I:

Starts November 5 & 28

Session II:

Starts January 7 & 9

### Yamuna Body Rolling

Session I: Starts November 19

Session II: Starts January 7

\$45 R / \$60 NR

### Yoga with Kathy Barnes

Session I: Starts November 26

\$35 R / \$50 NR

Session II: Starts January 7

\$85 R / \$100 NR

### Yoga with Kathie Scanlon

Session I: Starts November 20

\$45 R / \$60 NR

Session II: Starts January 8

\$85 R / \$100 NR

### Zumba

Session I: Starts November 8

\$55 R / \$70 NR

Session II: Starts January 10

\$85 R / \$100 NR

## SPORTS (18+)

### Co-Ed Volleyball

Thursdays, 7:30-9:30

Sundays 6:00-8:00

\$3 R / \$5 NR

### Men's Basketball (18+)

Residents Only

Mondays, 7:30-9:30pm

\$30 for 10 night punch card



## SPORTS

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# Three Soccer Teams Fall in State Tournament

*Beacon boys and girls and Haldane boys end seasons*

By Skip Pearlman

The Beacon High School girls' soccer team, seeded No. 8 in the Section 1, Class A playoffs, got off to a good start in its first-round playoff game on Oct. 21 against No. 9 Horace Greeley, from Chappaqua. But a defensive mistake cost the Bulldogs an early goal and set the tone for what turned out to be a 2-0 loss and an end to the season.

"It was disappointing," said Coach Hugo Alzate. "We came out playing with confidence, moving the ball well, and we hit the crossbar in the first minute. But then they came down and we had an unforced error, we fouled, and they got a penalty kick in the first five minutes. That changed the game.

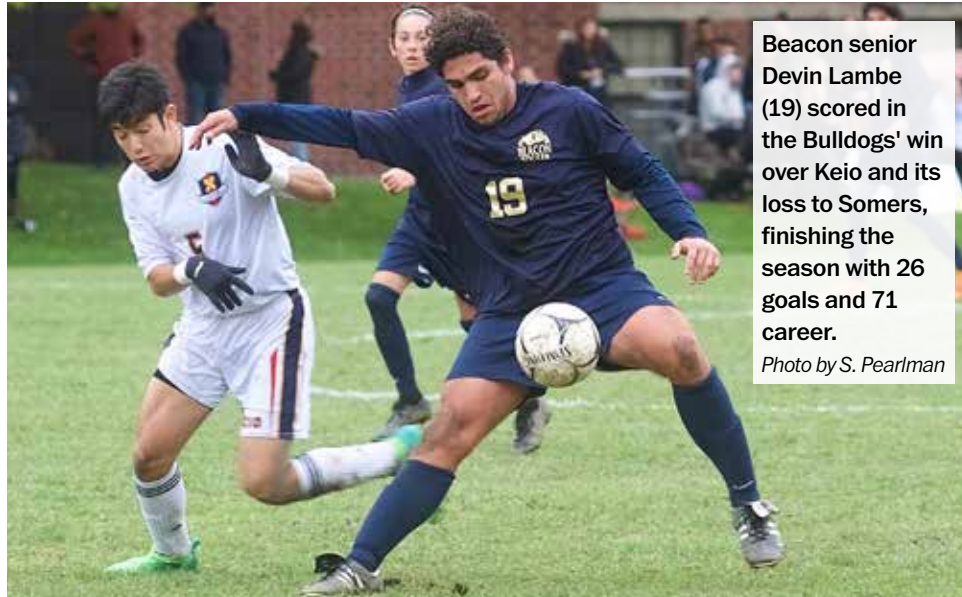
"I'm still very proud of the girls," he said. "They worked through it, kept on fighting. We had other opportunities, we just couldn't finish. It was somewhat satisfying in that we saw that we can play with them."

Meagan Meeuwisse made seven saves in goal for the Bulldogs, who finished the season 9-5-2.

Alzate said his team had a plan to slow down the Quakers' top scorer, Allie Forster, and executed it well. "Analiese Compagnone had a very good game, as did freshman Maddie Bobnick, and Katelyn Rosa had two shots hit the crossbar."

## Somers Defeats Beacon Boys

The Beacon boys' season came to an end



Beacon senior Devin Lambe (19) scored in the Bulldogs' win over Keio and its loss to Somers, finishing the season with 26 goals and 71 career.

Photo by S. Pearlman

Wednesday (Oct. 24) in the Section 1, Class A semifinals when the seventh-seeded Bulldogs fell, 3-1, at No. 6 Somers.

The score was tied, 0-0, at half before Somers scored on a header off a free kick. It scored twice more to take a 3-0 lead. The Tuskers (16-5) advance to Saturday's championship game at Lakeland High School, while Beacon finished its season at 15-6.

The Bulldogs won their first two games of the tournament, defeating No. 10 Nyack, 1-0, on Oct. 19 on a Devin Lambe goal, and taking care of business on Oct. 22 against a disciplined No. 15 Keio Academy team, 3-0. The Unicorns (10-9) controlled the ball well, so the Bulldogs knew that when they had possession, they needed to make the most of it.

Coach Craig Seaman said that Keio's focus on possession made it susceptible to counterattacks. "We knew we'd concede a number of possessions in the middle," Seaman said. "But in the attacking the final third I thought we were better."

Seaman complimented his defense, as well. "Our back four have been brilliant all year," he said. "Carter Pederson, John

Mesnick, Aaron Davis and Carter Hull and our keeper, AJ Lucas, who is a freshman, gave up very few goals, and they don't get much credit. Our front four are dangerous, and our middle is kind of by committee, some young guys."

Against Keio, Dillon Kelly, Noah Montrose and Lambe all scored in the final 25 minutes for the Bulldogs. Lambe, a senior, had the score against Somers to finish with 26 goals for the season, plus nine assists, and 71 career goals.

## Haldane Boys End Tough Season

The Haldane High School boys' team ran into a strong Alexander Hamilton squad Wednesday (Oct. 24) on the road in the Section 1, Class C semifinal, losing, 6-1.

Jesse Sherman scored for the fourth-seeded Blue Devils, who finished 2-15. Haldane goalkeeper Ben McPherson had five saves.

Hamilton, the No. 1 seed, scored three minutes into the game and put it away soon after, finding the net three times in a five-minute span.

"They were the better team, undoubtedly," said Coach Craig Canavan. "We didn't

## Varsity Scoreboard

### Football

Suffern 27, Beacon 18  
Haldane 26, Valhalla 10

### Volleyball

Haldane 3, Pawling 1  
Haldane 3, Putnam Valley 0  
Peekskill 3, Beacon 2

### Girls' Swimming

Beacon @ Section 1, League 4  
Championship  
50-Yard Freestyle  
5. Thandiwe Knox (28.03)  
100-Yard Freestyle  
4. Thandiwe Knox (1:01.84)  
200-Yard Freestyle Relay  
4. Negron, Ruffy, Gillins, Knox (1:56.63)  
100-Yard Breaststroke  
4. Cassandra Ruffy (1:18.49)

start with the energy and enthusiasm we had hoped for. Luke Hammond and Jesse, both juniors, played well."

Despite the team's record, Canavan said the Blue Devils had improved over the season. "It was disappointing to lose this way," he said. "The kids were enthusiastic, and the feeling has been, in the next game, we'll be better. But now that there is no next game, I do feel bad for the seniors. Our record is not indicative of this group."

## Haldane Girls Beat Hamilton

The Haldane girls' team (6-8-1), seeded No. 2 in Section 1, Class C, defeated visiting No. 3 Hamilton, 4-1, in its first-round game on Thursday (Oct. 25). The Blue Devils advanced to the championship game on Sunday, Oct. 28, against No. 1 Solomon Schechter at Arlington High School at 1:30p.m.

Against Hamilton, Sophia Scanga scored twice for Haldane, and Jade Villella and Julia Rotando each had a goal.

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# Baseball’s Continued Demise

Will the game ever recover?

By Michael Turton

With half-hearted apologies to fans of the 2018 New York Yankees, this is the best time of year to watch baseball: stress-filled, winner-take-all wild-card games; excruciatingly short division series where every pitch, and every hit, counts; nail-biting league championships; and baseball’s ultimate annual showdown — The World Series, which began Tuesday (Oct. 23).

Unfortunately, even the excitement of October baseball can’t disguise the downward spiral of the game that was once undisputed as “America’s pastime.”

Mid-way through the 2016 season, I commented in *The Current* on some of the symptoms of big-league baseball’s decades-long skid:

- Grossly inflated salaries;
- The designated hitter and the ever-increasing obsession with the home run;
- The death of “small ball” and managerial strategy;
- Inter-league play and the loss of the National versus American League mystique;
- Embarrassing corporate stadium names such as Petco Park;
- Uniform pant legs that drag to the ground like ill-fitting pajamas;
- Players who wear necklaces on the field;
- Time-consuming video reviews and, last but not least;
- The contrived and all-too-orchestrated

ninth-inning celebrations at home plate, when a win in a half-empty stadium lifts a team not into the World Series but out of last place.

It turns out that there are even more manifestations of baseball’s malaise. They are more subtle than the ugly, roofed stadiums with their living-room-carpet artificial turf but just as troubling:

- Players who point to the heavens after a home run — but not after a strike-out. If the baseball gods are to be revered, shouldn’t a whiff also be celebrated as part of their master plan?
- The “idiot’s rectangle” that defines the strike zone for TV viewers. Like official reviews, it removes the time-honored tradition of hating the ump.
- Being told after a relief pitcher comes in that his pitch count stands at two. At least wait until it hits three.
- Baseball is a statistician’s feast, and rightfully so. But does the exit velocity of a home run matter? If it does, perhaps a 120-mph round-tripper should put an extra run on the board compared to a mere 100-mph blast. Better yet, measure hang time. A home run that takes a full minute to come down from orbit could count as a grand slam, regardless of how many men are on base. A line-drive homer with no arc would chalk up only half a run.
- Teams now have so many different uniforms they are no longer ... uniform. A poorly veiled ploy to sell more merchandise.
- Military camouflage jerseys, admittedly a sensitive topic. When men and women don camouflage in wartime, they risk their lives for their country. Baseball players ... play baseball. Camouflage as part of a baseball uniform demeans

- military service.
- Goggles now seem to be mandatory during post-game champagne celebrations. Players who shake off being hit by a 100-mph fastball apparently worry about being beamed by an errant cork. Or are the bubbles the problem?
  - What ever happened to announcers with personality and good baseball stories? Is “See ya!” the best we can do?
  - The MLB.TV channel uses a miniature baseball diamond to illustrate aspects of the game. Brilliant, and much more authentic than the garish, brass-glass-digital sets used on most sports programs. But the commentators on the mini-diamond wear three-piece suits, dress shoes and a glove that has never fielded a ball. Suits are perfect — for undertakers and accountants. Put these guys in a Major League Baseball golf shirt and khakis, wearing a glove that has actually been used. They probably all own one.
  - Baseball played when the temperature dips below 60 degrees, spring or fall, is no fun for players, umpers or fans. It takes away from the game. It should be illegal. But shortening the season would mean lost revenue. So let them suffer.
  - The atmosphere at many major league parks — the excessive, non-stop advertising; the constant, blaringly bad music that is only silenced a split second before the pitch; the larger-than-life, mind-numbing videos — is no longer a distraction. The game itself has become the distraction. Progress is not always progress.



David Ortiz of the Red Sox points to the sky in 2007 after hitting a home run.  
Photo by Aaron Donovan | Flickr

Despite it all, October baseball is still great, one of the best things in all of sport, including curling. And I know the Detroit Tigers will be better next year. In the meantime, go Red Sox!

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**PART-TIME NANNY** — Garrison family needs a non-smoking, PT nanny/driver for 5-year-old twin boys, T-F 2:30-6 p.m. Pickup at Garrison home, drive our car to Beacon (great driving record and experience a must) for pick-up, take children to afternoon activity and home. Email [catherineA@pcwmanagement.com](mailto:catherineA@pcwmanagement.com).

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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 “1984” protagonist Smith (7)	_____
2 orrery object (6)	_____
3 Statue of Liberty accessory (5)	_____
4 hose attachment (6)	_____
5 desert region of the US (9)	_____
6 nonsense (8)	_____
7 impurities (5)	_____

WI	SOU	ET	ON	RCH
AN	FA	OSS	THW	AL
EST	ER	ZZ	TO	PL
NO	DR	NST	LD	LE

SEE ANSWERS: PAGE 6

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