



Hollywood Does Philipstown  
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# The HIGHLANDS Current

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## Putnam Visitors' Bureau Disappears

*County considers hiring its own tourism director*

By Chip Rowe

The Putnam County Visitors' Bureau unexpectedly shut down earlier this month after the county placed an ad for a new executive director — allegedly without telling the bureau it was looking for one.

County Attorney Jennifer Bumgarner on July 10 told legislators that she had been notified by the state that the Visitors' Bureau had attempted to return \$68,000 in grant money and said in its cover letter it was closing shop.

Further, Bumgarner said, the website at [visitputnam.org](http://visitputnam.org) was taken offline (the

bureau's social media accounts remain, with a post to Facebook as recently as July 3); an email sent to Executive Director Bruce Conklin bounced; and, when she walked over to the agency's office on the third floor of the county office building in Carmel, she found it had been cleared out and the keys left on a desk.

"There's been no formal notification to anyone that this is what they were doing," she said.

On Monday (July 15), Kevin Callahan, the chair of the board that oversaw the nonprofit agency, issued a statement on

(Continued on Page 20)



**FREEDOM FIGHTERS** — More than 350 Revolutionary War re-enactors descended on the Stony Point battlefield on July 13 and 14 to commemorate the July 16, 1779, taking of the garrison from the British by colonial troops armed only with bayonets. For more photos, see Page 19. Photo by Ross Corsair

## A Tight Squeeze

*Beacon council to address parking, congestion on Main*

By Jeff Simms

With success often come challenges and, in Beacon, that may be evident on Main Street more than anywhere else.

It's on Main — the city's mile-long major artery — that business is thriving,

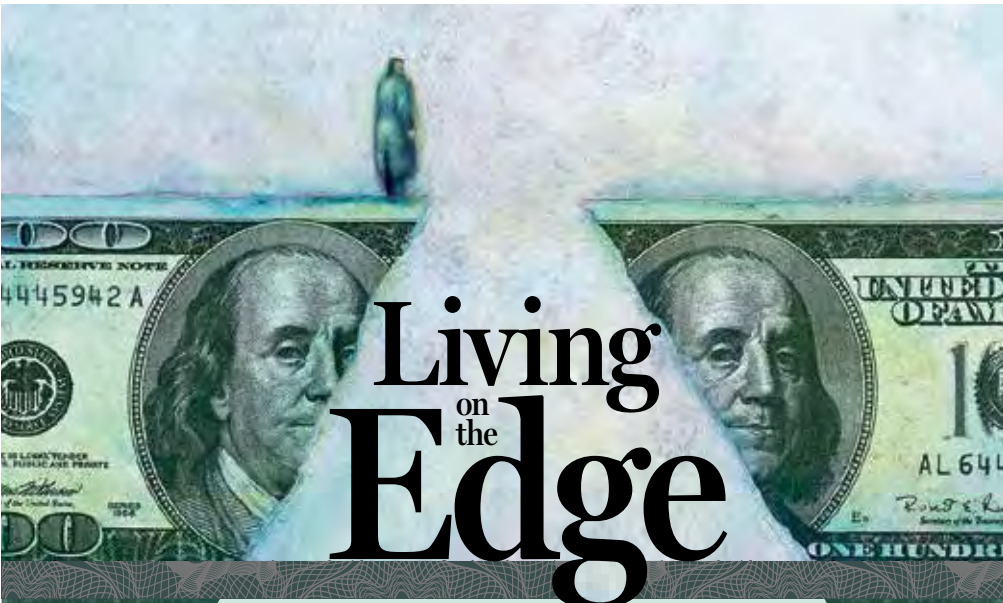
for the most part, although some shops have closed in recent months and the owners of some that remain open say rents are becoming unsustainable.

But on most weekends, and increasingly during the week, customer traffic is up considerably from a few years ago. That, too, has led to challenges.

Parking can be scarce and, with cars on both sides of the street, there's not a lot of room — 32 to 34 feet — for two lanes of traffic, bikers, pedestrians, city buses and delivery trucks.

The City Council has Main Street on its

(Continued on Page 6)



Your car broke down.  
You're short on rent.  
You need \$400.  
Do you have it?  
In Beacon and Cold Spring,  
2 of every 5 people don't.

By Victoria Shannon

"Maggie," who has lived in Cold Spring and Garrison for more than two decades, was a well-paid health care professional until a disability struck and left her unable to work.

She now rents a house, sharing the cost with a roommate, and says she struggles to afford to stay in the area.

"I never, ever, thought I would see the day that where I couldn't go into Foodtown and purchase what I needed, as opposed to only what I have budgeted and saved for," she said

during a Saturday morning visit to the Philipstown Food Pantry at the First Presbyterian Church in Cold Spring.

Maggie agreed to share details of her financial struggles only if her real name was not used. However, she is far from alone. According to calculations by the United Way, more than 40 percent of the households in Beacon and Cold Spring live in poverty or on a "survival" budget that does not allow them to save for emergencies or goals such as college or retirement. In Nelsonville, the figure is about 35 percent, and in Philipstown, 30 percent.

(Continued on Page 11)

First in a series





## FIVE QUESTIONS: BEVIS LONGSTRETH

By Brian PJ Cronin

**B**evis Longstreth, a Garrison resident who is a former commissioner of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (and a current board member of Highlands Current Inc.), was appointed last year to a six-member panel assigned to consider the effect of climate change on the state's \$209 billion pension fund.

### The Decarbonization Advisory Panel has wrapped up its work. What did it recommend?

The major recommendation is to treat the financial impact of climate change as a matter of urgent risk, to be addressed at the earliest possible time and with a high degree of seriousness and expertise.

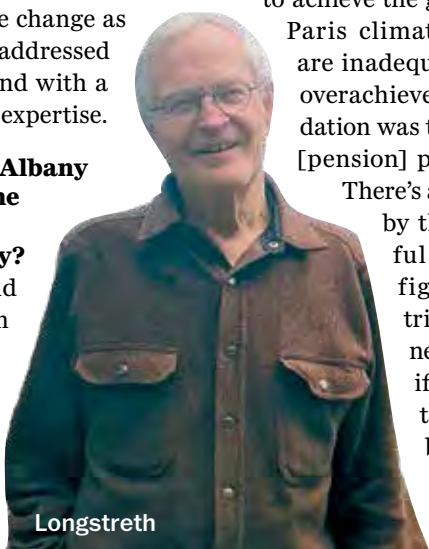
### There's a bill on the floor in Albany to force the state to follow the panel's recommendations. You testified against it. Why?

If a fiduciary has to be told by a legislature to divest [from industries that produce emissions that contribute to global warming], a lot of people would assume that the fiduciary duty by itself wouldn't bring you to that conclusion. If New York State mandates

it by law, it doesn't have an impact on any other state. But if the comptroller, in the exercise of his fiduciary duty, says, "Hey, I have to decarbonize this portfolio because of the reasons advanced by the panel and my own good common sense" — that kind of leadership would have an impact across the country.

### How does the work of the panel fit into the newly approved state climate bill?

It reinforces it. It's all of a piece, with the urgency of doing all that can be done by the states and by courts and by citizens to achieve the goals of the [2015] Paris climate accord, which are inadequate, so you try to overachieve. Our recommendation was to decarbonize the [pension] portfolio by 2030.



Longstreth

There's a global consensus by the most thoughtful and responsible figures that countries become carbon-neutral by 2050. But if that's going to be the case, investors better get out a lot earlier than that.

### The report urges the state to "start where it can and grow ambition swiftly." Why is that?

You don't start writing a novel by imagining what happens on every page. You start at the beginning. It's like driving from New York to Boston in the dark. You go along the road as far as your headlights project, and sooner or later you get there. The risks of climate change, and the opportunities, are all there but you have to accept the science and understand the implications. Pacific Gas & Electric didn't understand the impacts that climate change would have on its business until California burned up and it went into bankruptcy.

### What's next?

I'd love to help wherever I can. Governments will not lead; they need to be driven to this, and it's hard to convince people they ought to worry. If they have grandchildren, it helps. But things are starting to change. A recent Gallup Poll asked: "Is the seriousness of global warming generally exaggerated or underestimated?" In 2010, you had "exaggerated" at 48 percent and "underestimated" at 25 percent. By 2018, "exaggerated" had dropped to 33 percent and "underestimated" had risen to 41 percent. Those lines have crossed, and they're moving away from each other at an increasing rate.

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## ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What do you remember about Neil Armstrong's walk on the moon on July 20, 1969?

“

We had just moved to Frankfurt, Germany. I was 11 and watched in the hotel bar — the liftoff, then, days later, Armstrong kind of skipping along.

”



~ Grey Zeien, Cold Spring

“

I was 3½, wearing my pink, one-piece, footed PJs. I have a picture of me watching it on TV.

”



~ Liz Travis Heitmann, Garrison

“

I was 35, working the night shift at IBM. We watched at a restaurant; it was incredible.

”



~ Tony Musacchio, Beacon



# Conflict with NYC Over Water Continues

*Cold Spring hoping to connect to city system*

By Michael Turton

Greg Phillips will likely end his 22-year tenure as Cold Spring's superintendent of water and wastewater on July 26 without the satisfaction of having resolved a protracted standoff with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Since 2010, the village has negotiated with DEP to secure a temporary connection to the Catskill Aqueduct, part of the New York City water system, which passes by the village of Nelsonville. The connection would supply Cold Spring with water during repairs to the dams at its reservoirs located above the village and could also be used during water emergencies.

The stumbling block is that the Cold Spring system also supplies water to Nelsonville and about a dozen homes in Philipstown. Phillips said in an email that the village has told DEP that when connected to the Catskill Aqueduct it would continue to sell water to Nelsonville and Philipstown as it always has. DEP, he said, counters that such an arrangement is not allowed under the New York City code, which permits the agency to sell water only to municipal corporations or water districts.

As a result, before the aqueduct connection can be made, DEP has called for Philipstown to establish its own, separately metered water district, a move the town has rejected. Phillips said DEP is also asking that a separate, metered water supply system be set up for Nelsonville.

It would cost millions of dollars to do that, Phillips said at the July 9 meeting of the Village Board: "It's ridiculous. It's not reasonable."

In his email, Phillips, who is retiring, said there were at least two other options, both also expensive: (1) Cold Spring, Philipstown and Nelsonville could form a common



Matt Kroog (left) will succeed Greg Phillips (right) on July 26 as the village's water and wastewater superintendent — and inherit negotiations with New York City.

Photo by M. Turton

water district, or (2) litigation.

"The [legal] argument can be made that DEP's position is unreasonable," Phillips wrote. "But how long would it take and how much would it cost?"

DEP plans to shut down the aqueduct later this year and into 2020 as part of a \$158 million rehabilitation project. Constructed between 1907 and 1916, it provides 350 million to 400 million gallons of water per day to New York City.

In an email a DEP representative, Adam Bosch, said that during the shutdown "we plan to install a tap that Cold Spring can eventually connect to." The village will be required to submit plans for the connection and will be responsible for infrastructure costs of the tie-in, he added.

## In other business ...

■ The village received notice that the Philipstown Town Board had exempted the town from Cold Spring zoning code during upcoming renovations to Town Hall. The exemption is allowed under New York State law and will allow the town to make changes to the 1867 building without approval of the village's Historic District Review Board. Merandy said he will ask for a "courtesy peak" at Philipstown's bid specifications for construction materials such as doors, windows and siding.

■ Merandy thanked those who helped plan

the Independence Day celebration, including the Old VFW Hall, which sponsored the fireworks at a cost of \$10,500. The mayor said weather and a shortage of volunteers combined to make it a difficult year. Severe weather forecasts on July 6 led to the festivities being postponed for a day and many people who had planned to participate had other commitments. Merandy said he'd heard criticism that the village had not allowed veterans to march in the parade but said invitations were sent months ago to the VFW and American Legion and that members showed little interest in taking part.

■ Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke reported that the Cold Spring Police Department responded to 59 calls for service in June. Four arrests were made, one for suspended insurance and three for suspended drivers' licenses. Officers also issued 109 parking and 54 moving violations. Burke asked the board to consider a number of changes to street signage because permitted parking times are inconsistent, ranging from two to five hours. He also cited illegal signs, such as those for handicapped parking, that have been installed by residents.

■ The owners of 21 Parsonage St. have withdrawn their application to the Zoning Board of Appeals to convert a small barn into a residence.

# Philipstown Criticizes County Secrecy Act

*Also delays discussion of cell-tower settlement*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board on July 11 criticized the Putnam County Legislature for passing a law that would allow legislators, county employees and consultants and contractors to mark any document "confidential."

The board discussed the issue after Nancy Montgomery, a former board member who represents Philipstown on the Legislature, raised it during her periodic report.

Montgomery cast the sole "no" vote on July 2 when the Legislature decided, 7-1, to

adopt the measure, which will take effect if County Executive MaryEllen Odell signs it. She first must hold a public hearing — set to occur at the county office building in Carmel in two sessions — at 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. — on Wednesday, July 24. Montgomery said that the hearing is scheduled for a small conference room, which is "not conducive to democracy," and that she wants it moved to a larger chamber.

"It's just a shame the county is busy passing a secrecy law that's in search of an issue," said Supervisor Richard Shea. "They're depriving the public of information. That seems to be the only intent." He predicted the law "is never going to stand up" in court. "The first challenge, it will go down."

In a letter to Odell dated July 17, legal

counsel for the New York News Publishers Association, of which *The Current* is a member, asked her not to sign the law, which, it argued, "violates both the letter and spirit" of the state Freedom of Information Law. It also noted that the state's highest court "has consistently rejected attempts by local governments to create legislative loopholes" to open-records laws.

## Cell-tower settlement

The board delayed until its July 24 meeting further discussion of a proposed settlement with Verizon Wireless and Homeland Towers that would end a federal lawsuit that began after the town denied an application to construct a cell tower on Vineyard Road, off Route 9.

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Green Results in Beacon

*Party-endorsed candidate knocked off ballot*

In the primary election for Beacon Mayor held June 25, Lee Kyriacou, the Beacon City Council member who is the Democratic candidate, also won the Green Party ballot line on the November ballot with nine write-in votes. The party-endorsed candidate, Terry Hockler, whose name appeared on the primary ballot, received only seven votes despite a campaign by Green Party officials to prevent the Democrats from "stealing" their line.

There were no Green Party candidates in Beacon's wards, but voters registered with the party could write in candidates to appear on the party's line in November. In Ward 1 there were eight write-in votes for Terry Nelson, who is also the Democratic incumbent; in Ward 2 there were three votes for Air Rhodes, who is also the Democratic candidate; and in Ward 4 there were two votes for Dan Aymar-Blair, who is also the Democratic candidate. There was one write-in vote cast in Ward 3 but the ballot was ruled ineligible.

In county Legislative District 18, which includes part of Beacon, there were 10 write-in votes for incumbent Nick Page for the Green Party line. He also will appear on the Democratic line.



Joseph Spofford Jr.

## Judge Announces Candidacy

*Carmel justice will seek Reitz seat*

Joseph Spofford Jr., a justice for the Town of Carmel, announced on July 17 that he will seek the Putnam County Court seat of James Reitz, who died of a heart attack in June at age 57.

Spofford, who lives in Mahopac, submitted nominating petitions on July 11 to appear on the Republican and Conservative lines on the Nov. 5 ballot. He was appointed to the Carmel Town Court in 1999 and elected in 2000 to the first of five terms.

Visit [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org) for news updates and latest information.



# The HIGHLANDS Current

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## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

### Cell-tower settlement

Apparently, the Philipstown Town Board is committed to accepting a settlement agreement from Homeland Towers and Verizon to build a cell tower on Vineyard Road ("Proposed Cell Tower Lawsuit Settlement Draws More Attacks," July 12). We have been to every hearing and meeting on this issue, and we wish to sum up what we have learned.

After in-depth investigation and a multitude of hearings, the Zoning Board and the Conservation Board both said no to this tower. Their decisions are being ignored. We were under the impression their conclusions would be respected and adhered to.

There is no evidence of need for this tower. Philipstown already has 11 towers, and gaps in service are extremely rare.

For almost a year, the Town Board was represented by a lawyer who would not support our motion to intervene in the case.

The most recent balloon test was conducted during full summer foliage that covers up most of the tower. In winter, without leaves, it would be much more visible.

On a personal note, three local real-estate agents have warned us to expect a 30 percent drop in home values for the neighbors of this tower.

The builders and operators of the tower will not accept responsibility for damage done to our road by their construction and maintenance vehicles.

All of this is due to the selfishness of one man who will be leasing his land for the tower, selling out neighbors and (former) friends.

The Town Board says the tower is for the good of the town, but why? Who benefits? Everyone who cared enough to attend meetings was opposed to the tower.

### 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.

Philipstown has the right to take this issue before a judge and there is little to lose by doing so. We have devoted almost two years to this issue — why stop now, before we finally have a chance to make our case?

Neighbors to the proposed tower can be accused of practicing NIMBY (Not in My Backyard). But the cell-tower companies are trying to make big bucks on many new towers with 5G technology, which requires smaller towers, right around the corner. Vineyard Road will not be the last tower in Philipstown. This decision will affect all of us soon, if not now.

If residents are at all concerned about the outcome, or about the way this issue has been handled, the Philipstown Town Board is planning to approve the settlement agreement on Wednesday, July 24, during a meeting at Town Hall, 238 Main St., in Cold Spring, that begins at 7:30 p.m.

Cali and Roger Gorevic, *Philipstown*

mini-towers in every sight line in Beacon. I will see this new one from everywhere in my front yard and my front porches. At 50 feet, it will be bigger than you think.

Alan Flynn, *via Facebook*

### Missing post office

You're not missing anything when looking for the U.S. Post office at the Butterfield redevelopment — it's buried away from any real village center and the lack of street signage makes finding it a game of hide-and-seek ("Missing Sign?" *Letters and Comments*, June 28).

Once you find the post office, you will see the developer's offices are next door. Maybe if enough people stop in and complain, as I did, the situation will change.

Donald MacDonald, *Cold Spring*

### Trolley struggles

Visitors to all the areas in the Highlands that the Cold Spring trolley serves need to be aware of this service ("Trolley Struggles to Get on Track," July 12). Perhaps stores could post a flyer with the times and stops — there could be a contest for children to create them each year.

Since the trolley driver is not allowed to handle fares, why don't we have retailers sell tickets? This would encourage people to go inside stores.

Since many people come up from New York City, maybe county transportation manager Vinny Tamagna could reach out to Metro-North to have an advertisement posted in the train, promoting areas of interest and how they can be reached with the trolley. I'm hoping that the trolley catches on and that ridership expands.

Patricia Saweikis, *Garrison*

The trolley should be free as a perk to the thousands of people who travel on Metro-North to Cold Spring to experience and fall in love with our quaint little river town. Riders could get around to the attractions and boost local business. Exact change and paying to get back on the trolley on the return trip seems burdensome. A free trolley would attract more riders.

Kathie Kourie, *Cold Spring*

The trolley should meet incoming trains and take visitors where they need to go. Pretty simple!

Kathleen Kittleman, *via Facebook*

### Danskammer plant

I attended Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney's town hall in Carmel on July 14 to ask a simple question: Will you renounce your support of

(Continued on Page 5)





## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

plans to convert the Danskammer power plant in Newburgh to burn fracked gas?

Maloney was determined to defend his support, despite the fact that when fracked gas is burned, it releases methane. While methane has a shorter half-life than carbon dioxide, it is 30 times worse than CO<sub>2</sub> in contributing to global warming.

We are on the precipice of the climate crisis and needed to act yesterday. Although Maloney co-sponsored the Green New Deal — legislation that would make up for 30 years of inaction — he seems to fundamentally misunderstand it. He spoke on being practical, but there is no practical solution to the climate crisis. We need to be ever-more bold and ambitious.

At his town hall, Maloney said that “what we disagree on right now is a single natural gas power plant being modernized.” But the gas comes from a process that leeches poison into the earth and, when burned, the gas leeches poison into the air, and slowly and silently the gas will suffocate our atmosphere. Danskammer represents plants like Cricket Valley in Dover Plains, CVP in Middletown and all the other plants in development. Supporting one means supporting them all.

Conner Brennan, *Cold Spring*

## Step forward

You shared a photo in the July 5 issue of two Haldane Middle School students who collected shoes to donate to people in need. How can I contribute?

Karen O'Connor, *via Facebook*

See [soles4souls.org](http://soles4souls.org) for information on how to donate new and gently worn shoes. They can be dropped at DSW stores or mailed free through Zappos.com or by purchasing a shipping label from Soles 4 Souls for \$10 or \$25.

## Clarification

A photograph that appeared in the July 12 issue showing the winners of the bicycle-decorating contest at the Cold Spring Fourth of July celebration, taken from the village's Facebook page, was shot by Mary-Margaret Dwyer of the *Putnam County News & Recorder*.

## POLICE BLOTTER

## Two Women Charged with Thefts

*Allegedly stole items from hikers' cars*

Putnam County sheriff's deputies on July 10 arrested two Fishkill women on felony charges of grand larceny following an investigation into a string of burglaries in Philipstown, Putnam Valley and Kent.

Megan M. Gonzalez, 25, and Kimberly B. Greer, 24, were released pending court appearances.

Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. said in a statement that police received complaints over the course of about three weeks from hikers who, upon returning to their parked cars, discovered items such as loose change, pocketbooks and wallets containing credit cards, money and identifications were missing. The thefts took place along Route 9D from Little Stony Point to Breakneck Mountain and along Route 301 in Fahnestock State Park.

The stolen credit cards were used for purchases in Dutchess, Orange and Westchester counties, as well as in Danbury, Connecticut. Using security footage, sheriff's investigators identified two women

as suspects and obtained a description of their vehicle.

A sheriff's investigator driving on Route 301 saw the suspects' vehicle in a parking area of Canopus Lake in Putnam Valley. The women were arrested when they emerged from a trail.

## Beacon Man Cleared in Stabbing Death

*Grand jury concludes self-defense*

A Dutchess County grand jury ruled earlier this month that a Beacon resident charged in May with first-degree manslaughter for stabbing a 55-year-old man acted in self-defense, according to his attorney, Anthony DeFazio.

Keano D. Munoz, 22, stabbed Richard Viera in a parking lot on South Davies Terrace on May 11. Viera was taken to St. Luke's Hospital in Newburgh and then to Westchester Medical Center, where he died on May 17. Munoz was arrested the next day.

DeFazio said the victim had an issue with his client's father “from years back” and had threatened to stab Munoz. Security cameras captured most of the encounter,

he said, and there were also witnesses to the fight. He said Munoz stepped in only after Viera attacked someone else.

## Deputy Credited with Saving Man

*Apparently planned to jump from bridge*

Deputy Benjamin Levine of the Putnam County Sheriff's Department was credited with saving a man on July 14 who apparently planned to jump from the Bear Mountain Bridge.

The department said that emergency responders answered a distress call at about 4 p.m. that a man was threatening to jump from the bridge. Levine observed the man looking over the railing and said heard him say multiple times that he wanted to die. After speaking with the man for about 25 minutes, Levine convinced him to step away from the railing.

The man was transported to a hospital for observation.

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

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Beacon Member Elected DAR President

*Joined Melzingah chapter in 1988*

Denise Doring VanBuren, who has been a member of the Melzingah (Beacon) chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution since 1988, was elected on July 1 to a three-year term as president general of the national organization.

VanBuren is a former state regent, organizing secretary-general and first



Denise Doring VanBuren

vice president general of the organization, which has 185,000 members worldwide. Her patriot ancestors are Jacob and Marcus Plattner of New York. Eighteen members of the Beacon chapter, which was organized in 1895, traveled to Washington, D.C., for the vote.

## The Current Wins Four State Awards

*Recognized for business, investigative reporting*

The *Highlands Current* won four citations in the annual Awards for Excellence competition sponsored by the

New York News Publishers Association, bringing its total to eight since 2017. The winners were announced on July 17 at the Hearst Media Center in Albany.

The *Current* staff was recognized for business reporting among member papers with circulations of less than 10,000 for its series *A Growing Challenge: Farms and Food in the Hudson Valley*, and for investigative reporting for its series *How Hot? How Soon? Climate Change in the Highlands*.

Managing Editor Chip Rowe won for headline writing among small papers for the second year for the entry “Were You Just Thinking We Should do a Story on Coincidences?” and layout editor Pierce Strudler was recognized for his design of *A Growing Challenge*.

## POSITION AVAILABLE

## School Crossing Guard

The Town of Philipstown has a part-time position available as a school crossing guard for the Garrison Union Free School District. If interested please send resume to:

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Town Clerk  
P.O. Box 155  
238 Main Street Cold Spring, NY 10516  
or e-mail [townclerk@philipstown.com](mailto:townclerk@philipstown.com)

## NOTICE

The Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Special Meeting on August 5, 2019 to conduct the required review of completeness for the appeal of Ricky & Mark Ventura, 1 Lane Gate Rd, TM# 38-3-28. The meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY.

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## Beacon Squeeze *(from Page 1)*

agenda for a July 29 workshop and Council Member Jodi McCredo has proposed some fairly radical changes to address congestion. She's asked the council to discuss removing parking from one side of Main to widen the driving lanes and add a dedicated bike lane. Alternatively, Main Street could become one-way.

The state Department of Transportation recommends 5-foot-wide bike lanes on streets with parking, but in places like Beacon where the road is narrow, "shared-lane markings" are required to indicate that bikers and motorists should travel in the same lane, rather than side by side.

"Main Street is just too narrow," McCredo said in an interview. "If a bus or a truck is driving [in one direction] and the cars aren't parked right against the curb on the other side, you can't get past them. I've heard so many stories of people getting their side mirrors taken off that they don't park on Main Street anymore."

"As a parent, I'm terrified to have my kids riding their bikes down Main," she added. "It's not working for the drivers or the bikers. It's not working for anyone."

While wider lanes might solve some problems, Mayor Randy Casale said he believes they would just create others.

"People will go faster down Main Street because it's not as narrow," he predicted, "so it becomes a speeding problem." And if parking is removed from one side of the street, "where are all those people going to



The driver of a westbound car waits for eastbound traffic to pass on Saturday (July 13) before going around a delivery truck parked on Main Street.

Photo by J. Simms

go to park?" he asked.

Casale said he'd rather see designated hours for delivery trucks to stop on Main and enforcement of a 12-inch-from-the-curb parking regulation as well as a campaign encouraging people to park elsewhere.

By comparison, Main Street in Cold Spring is 38 to 40 feet wide, Highway Crew Chief Robert Downey said, with parking spaces 8 to 10 feet wide. Beacon's spaces on Main are about 8 feet wide. "Older towns have narrower streets because they were built for smaller cars," Downey explained.

(In its *Urban Street Design Guide*, the National Association of City Transportation Officials recommends driving lanes be 10 feet wide and parking lanes be 7 to 9 feet and notes that "narrower streets help promote slower driving speeds which, in turn, reduces the severity of crashes.")

During a public hearing on a proposed building moratorium during the City Council's July 15 meeting, resident Elaine Ciaccio urged the council to do something about Main Street because "it's becoming unpassable." She also described driving on Main when a city bus approached in the opposite direction.

"With the way people park, I'm lucky I didn't lose half my car," she said. "Then you come around the bend by Howland [Avenue] and if somebody's getting a delivery, you have to drive blind around the truck that's double-parked on the corner."

McCredo said that since much of the evidence for congestion is anecdotal — the county's most recent traffic data for the street, from 2015, was virtually unchanged from 2014, and Beacon Police report 64 accidents on Main so far this year compared to 75 during the same period in 2018 — she hopes residents will attend council meetings and provide feedback on her ideas.

"If there's support, I'm willing to fight for it," she said.

## BEACON BRIEFS



County Executive Marc Molinaro and Beacon Mayor Randy Casale

## Dutchess Executive Tours Grant Sites

*Surveys results of county funding*

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro joined Beacon Mayor Randy Casale this week to tour city projects funded with county grants.

Based on recommendations from a county committee, Molinaro has directed more than \$2 million in government funding to Beacon since 2013.

The most recent projects included the repair of sidewalks on and the installation of decorative lighting on the east end of Main Street; a new entranceway and playground equipment at Green Street Park; drainage and sewer improvements on Mackin and Talbot Avenues; new sidewalks on Blackburn Avenue; repairs to Rombout Avenue; sidewalk repairs on South Avenue; and new playground equipment, basketball and tennis courts at South Avenue Park.

## Verizon Wins Approval

*City to issue permit for 50-foot pole*

The Beacon City Council on July 15 approved a request from Verizon Wireless to erect a 50-foot utility pole on private property on Howland Avenue.

The company will install a "small-cell" wireless antenna, the first of a half-dozen or more it has planned for the city. The less powerful but higher-frequency facilities are expected to replace Verizon's aging cell tower atop Mount Beacon.

The council debated the plan with Verizon for months but under federal law that regulates utilities was only able to consider limited aesthetic regulations.



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# Turton Takes the Trolley

By Michael Turton

Before reporting on the challenges facing the Cold Spring trolley (July 12), I rode along on two of its five, one-hour routes.



On Saturday, July 6, I traveled the route from Cold Spring with stops at Manitoa on Route 9D, the Garrison train station and Magazzino Italian Art on Route 9. Four other riders joined me.

On Sunday, July 7, I rode from Cold Spring with stops at Magazzino, Beacon and at Breakneck Ridge. Fourteen others boarded along the way.

The weather was good on both days and the village was busy with visitors.

Here are some observations and thoughts on possible improvements:

The trolley outdid Metro-North, arriving consistently on time at its stops. It was also squeaky clean, inside and out. The air conditioning was a welcome feature.

When the trolley pulled up to the Cold Spring bandstand, I watched people's reactions on the dock. They often smiled; the trolley is appealing. But many people appeared puzzled. More than once along the route, someone stepped

onboard, asked the driver to explain what the trolley was, and got off. Signage at key stops could help. No one boards a bus or train without knowing where it's going.

Signs at key stops could also include QR codes that would allow smartphone users to access information about routes, times, attractions and dining.

When I boarded on Saturday, I handed the driver a \$5 bill for my \$1 senior fare but was told the drivers aren't allowed to make change (bills or change must be inserted in a fare box). Fortunately, the driver bent the rules and broke my five with dollar bills from his wallet. There has been talk of developing an app that would enable riders to pay via their phone, a smart idea that should be pursued.

The trolley's exterior is another missed opportunity. It's a mobile billboard waiting to happen. Why not list stops and include a website address?

I expected to find the recently issued trolley brochure, map and schedule on board but it was nowhere to be found. It would be helpful, especially for visitors. A rack with brochures on attractions, events and eateries could also improve the experience.

Unlike trains, subways and city buses, there is no advertising inside the trolley. Ads would inform riders, boost businesses — and generate revenue. In addition, photos



The view from inside the Cold Spring trolley

Photo by M. Turton

of attractions and their websites would be a simple add.

Along the route, a local radio station plays over the sound system. It adds nothing to the experience. Tour guides explaining local history and sights would make more sense. Volunteer guides have been discussed, but in a community already dependent on hard-to-find volunteers, why not have a recorded audio guide delivered on board or through phones?

A lack of marketing, promotion and features as basic as signage have all contributed to significantly decreased ridership. The Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is now lending its support, but in the end, the trolley is a Putnam County project. Since 2007, operating it has been the responsibility

of the county Department of Planning, Development and Public Transportation. The Putnam County Visitors' Bureau, which recently dissolved (see Page 1), was involved, despite the trolley being one of the tourism industry's most visible assets.

A large majority of the county's tourist attractions are located west of the Taconic; most are along the trolley's routes. As Putnam County sorts out its tourism dilemma, its leaders should ensure that any new entity is required to work with the transportation department to increase trolley ridership.

Better yet, the county ought to establish its tourism office on Main Street in Cold Spring, making it the last stop on every trolley run. The trolley, and tourism, might then get the attention they deserve.

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Up & Away

The 28th annual Hudson Valley Hot Air Balloon Festival took place in Rhinebeck on July 13 and 14. For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).

*Photos by Ross Corsair*

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# The Calendar



Roger Ailes



Beth Ailes



Joe Lindsley



Richard Shea



Russell Crowe as Roger Ailes

Showtime



Sienna Miller as Beth Ailes

Showtime



Emory Cohen as Joe Lindsley

Showtime



Mark Lotito as Richard Shea

Showtime

## Who Will Play You in the Mini-Series?

By Chip Rowe

The seven-part Showtime series on the last days of Roger Ailes, who ran Fox News and the *Putnam County News & Recorder* until shortly before his death in 2017, finally reaches his life in Philipstown in episodes that air on Sunday,

July 21, and Sunday, July 28. (Showtime provided *The Current* with a preview.)

*The Loudest Voice* is based on a 2014 biography, *The Loudest Voice in the Room*, by Gabriel Sherman, which includes a chapter on the time Ailes (played by Russell Crowe) and his wife, Beth (Sienna Miller), lived in Garrison and published the *PCNR*. Cold

Spring is portrayed by Sea Cliff, Long Island.

The episodes include a subplot that focuses on the relationship between the Aileses and Joe Lindsley (Emory Cohen), a young conservative reporter hired to run the *PCNR* who is depicted as being deeply troubled by a lack of fair and balanced journalism. Phil-

(Continued on Page 10)

“It’s beautiful here, but there needs to be a strong conservative voice in this town. Roger and I have high hopes that you and the paper can be that voice.”

~Beth Ailes (Miller) to Lindsley (Cohen)



A promotional image for *Sea Level Rise*

## Sea-Level Rise: The Comedy

*Cold Spring playwright takes madcap approach*

By Alison Rooney

Henry Feldman has chosen humor as his (clean-energy) vehicle.

The new Cold Spring resident is an engineer and software coder by trade. He’s also a playwright, and in *Sea Level Rise: A Dystopian Comedy*, he uses humor to address the dire outlook for the climate. It will be presented at the Lion Theatre in New York City on July 31, Aug. 2 and Aug. 3 as part of the Broadway Bound Theatre Festival.

Set in South Florida in the not-so-distant future (2048), the play depicts a world “where the citizens are so deep in denial they’ll boil like the proverbial frog before giving up their Maseratis,” Feldman says. “Enter an alcoholic climate researcher, absentee Russian condo owners and a homeless wandering gun nut.”

Feldman says he thought madcap humor would work well as a conduit for a message about a more serious topic.

“Engineers are bad at communicating, yet there were very important things to convey,” he says. “I started thinking about a way to get theaters invested in the transmission of information about climate change, and I thought that comedy was the best way to do it.”

Feldman says he was inspired to write *Sea Level Rise* while watching *An Inconvenient Sequel*, the follow-up to Al Gore’s 2006 documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*. The film included a discussion of the fragile infrastructure of Miami’s Biscayne aquifer.

(Continued on Page 10)



Henry Feldman



## Sea-Level Rise (from Page 9)

fer, without which the city would have no potable water.

"A month later, *The Miami Herald* ran a big article on the problem of [failing] septic tanks" because of sea-level rise, Feldman says. He decided to combine the two issues.

Feldman, who has a degree in electrical engineering from Rice University, says he blames his parents for his dual-brain interests. "My parents both went to Cooper Union [the arts and engineering college in New York City] in the 1950s," he says. "My father was in the engineering program and my mother in the arts. Evidently those two sides got together a lot. I always harbored this theater thing, but I had to put food on the table."

While living in Houston, Feldman took acting classes at the University of Houston and became involved in local productions. After their children graduated from college, he and his wife started traveling and he found he couldn't commit to rehearsals. So he decided to write, beginning with short comedies with small casts.

In 2015 Feldman and his wife left Houston for Port Townsend, Washington, but both found it too remote and decided to relocate to the Hudson Valley. They bought a home in the village and moved in September.

The producers of the Broadway Bound Festival choose plays from submissions and coach the playwrights on how to produce them. "It's an opportunity to put the play up on its feet," Feldman says. "We've had a



Rebecca Smith (as Maria) and John Torres (as Bill) rehearse a scene from *Sea Level Rise*. Photo by Henry Feldman

couple of table reads with different actors. At the end of each one, new things come up [for revisions]. As a writer, you have to be willing to give yourself over to it. We have a great director. I love the collaborative process of it. Writing computer programs is solitary."

Feldman says that for him "the festival is a stepping-stone to a stand-alone, multi-work run." He hopes to demonstrate that the play, and the topic, have an audience. "The world is going to sort of fall into chaos," he says. "Climate change is an existential crisis. In fact, I'm not sure why every play isn't about climate change."

*Sea Level Rise* will be presented at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31; at 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 2 (with a Q&A following); and at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 3. Tickets are \$27 at [sealevelriseplay.com](http://sealevelriseplay.com) or by calling 212-239-6200. The Lion Theatre is located at 410 W. 42nd St.



The PCNR building (at right)



The PCNR building in the series (at left)

## The Loudest Voice (from Page 9)

ipstown Town Supervisor Richard Shea (Mark Lotito) also makes an appearance to push back against Ailes' campaign to shoot down a proposed change to town zoning laws.

### Memorable dialogue

"That's Our Lady of Loretto. I play organ there on Sundays. It's a wonderful congregation. You'll have to come to Mass with us." ~Beth Ailes (Miller), to Lindsley (Cohen)

"It's beautiful here, but there needs to be a strong conservative voice in this town. Roger and I have high hopes that you and the paper can be that voice." ~Beth Ailes, to Lindsley

"The [PCNR] staff work for you, Joe, not with you." ~Beth Ailes, to Lindsley

"Proud of yourself? You're tearing this town apart!" ~woman to Lindsley in a coffee shop, after he wrote an

editorial denouncing rezoning plans "Maybe the kid is right. Who is Shea to tell us what we can do with our land?" ~another patron, in Lindsley's defense

"That's Shea, such a drama queen." ~Roger Ailes (Crowe), after Lindsley reports encountering Shea "He seemed like a nice guy." ~Lindsley "Yeah, a nice guy, like Stalin was a nice guy." ~Ailes

"The Democrats have nominated an African socialist who wants to redistribute the country's wealth and the biggest news around here? Pot lucks and yard sales." ~Ailes, at dinner in his Garrison home during the 2008 campaign

"I'd like him to know that his employees are making blatant political statements with their bumper stickers. It's a breach of journalistic integrity. It shows bias, and it's wrong." ~Beth Ailes, new to town, lecturing a PCNR receptionist after spotting an Obama-Biden sticker in the parking lot



## Summer Youth Playwrights Festival

July 19-20

### Teen Players present Matilda, the Musical

July 25-28

### Youth Players present Matilda, the Musical

August 1-4

### Natalie Arneson in Concert

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### Roscoe and Etta (Maia Sharp and Anna Shultze)

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Friday, July 19, 7 p.m.  
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Friday, July 19, 8:30 p.m.  
Lara Hope & The Ark-Tones  
The Flurries

Saturday, July 20, 6 p.m.  
Tony DePaolo & Friends - Free

Saturday, July 20, 8:30 p.m.  
Johnny A: Just Me and My Guitars  
Summer Corrie

Sunday, July 21, 11:30 a.m.  
The Educated Fleas - Free

Sunday, July 21, 7 p.m.  
The Quebe Sisters

Thursday, July 25, 7 p.m.  
Dance Jam

Friday, July 26, 7 p.m.  
Last Minute Soulmates - Free

Friday, July 26, 8:30 p.m.  
Gratefully Yours  
Grateful Dead Tribute

Saturday, July 27, 6 p.m.  
Bobby Fonesca - Free

Saturday, July 27, 8:30 p.m.  
Réalta from Ireland

Sunday, July 28, 11:30 a.m.  
Tony DePaolo - Free

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# TOP 20 NEW YORK STATE OCCUPATIONS BY WAGE

Only three of the top 20 occupations — general and operations managers, accountants and auditors, and registered nurses — pay enough to support a household survival budget for a family of four, a minimum of \$34.40 per hour.

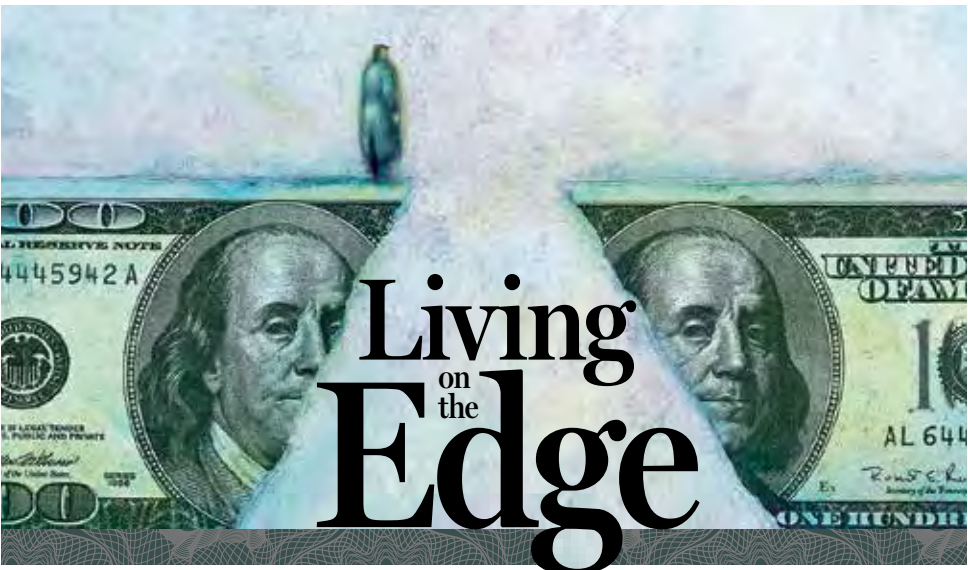
Occupation	Number of Jobs	Median Hourly Wage
Retail Salesperson	301,670	\$11.94
Personal Care Aides	199,060	\$12.49
Cashiers	197,490	\$11.46
Home Health Aides	191,820	\$11.98
Janitors and Cleaners	190,600	\$15.01
Food Prep and Service (Inc. Fast Food)	189,740	\$11.71
Office Clerks, General	189,360	\$15.70
Registered Nurses	182,490	\$41.01
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	178,520	\$19.28
Waiters and Waitresses	167,250	\$13.66
General and Operations Managers	163,250	\$62.35
Customer Service Representatives	159,010	\$18.02
Laborers and Movers, Hand	130,850	\$14.12
Teacher Assistants	123,960	\$21.76
Security Guards	118,760	\$15.40
First-Line Supervisors of Administrative Support Workers	112,510	\$31.76
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	110,880	\$12.13
Accountants and Auditors	110,780	\$40.02
Maintenance and Repair Workers	108,050	\$20.88
Bookkeeping and Auditing Clerks	104,580	\$21.23

Source: United Way, citing Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics Wage Survey, May 2018

## HOUSEHOLD SURVIVAL BUDGETS

	PUTNAM		DUTCHESS	
	Adult	Family	Adult	Family
Monthly Costs				
Housing	\$1,293	\$1,571	\$842	\$1,271
Child Care	\$ —	\$2,375	\$ —	\$1,771
Food	\$182	\$603	\$182	\$603
Transportation	\$116	\$186	\$314	\$627
Health Care	\$196	\$727	\$196	\$727
Technology	\$55	\$75	\$55	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$231	\$671	\$195	\$606
Taxes	\$463	\$1,169	\$363	\$998
Monthly Total	\$2,536	\$7,377	\$2,147	\$6,668
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$30,432	\$88,524	\$25,764	\$80,016
Hourly Wage	\$15.22	\$44.26	\$12.88	\$40.01

Source: United Way, Alice: A Study of Financial Hardship in New York, based on 2016 data from state and federal sources. A “family” here is two adults, a toddler and an infant. For calculations for other situations, see [unitedforalice.org/new-york](#).



(Continued from Page 1)

These households earn more than the federal poverty level but less than the basic costs of living. “These are people who if they got a sudden bill for some repair couldn’t [easily] pay it,” said Melissa Clark, director of community impact at the United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region in Poughkeepsie.

The local figures reflect those in surveys done nationally. A study released in May by the Federal Reserve, for example, found that 27 percent of respondents would need to borrow or sell something to pay an unexpected \$400 expense, and 12 percent said they would have no way to pay.

In Cold Spring, Maggie said her life is a “constant push-and-pull over what is going to be paid each month. It’s not having the extra income for meat or fish, to eat in a healthy manner. That’s what had to be cut out immediately to economize.”

She said she began to visit the food pantry in October. “It’s helped considerably, but you have to have a thick skin.” She said it feels like she is admitting failure.

For people who are living week to week, simple pleasures — HBO, a new car, a family vacation, an espresso machine, a laptop — are beyond reach. And in many cases, life’s necessities are also unaffordable: child care, dental visits, college tuition, retirement savings.

In Dutchess County, Lorianne Mann, 56, works for minimum wage (\$11.10 an hour in New York) as a cashier at a Stop&Shop. Her husband works at AutoZone. They rent an apartment and share a car, which he usually drives to work. She takes the bus.

The couple have about \$30 in savings, she said, adding: “I’m glad we’re both working, and I’m grateful to have this job.”

When the couple were raising their three grandchildren, she didn’t work outside the home. “We struggled, but we never went on food stamps.”

Those living on the financial edge make too much to qualify for government aid but not enough to save. It’s a group that the United Way has dubbed “asset-limited, income-constrained, employed,” or ALICE. It’s not poverty, but it’s not painless.

### The cost of living

In a relatively high-cost area such as the Highlands, it takes a lot of income to get by. For a couple raising an infant and a preschooler, a “survival budget” (with no

“I can make it through the month if nothing goes wrong.”

~Participant in a focus group organized by the National Endowment for Financial Education

money saved) requires an annual salary of \$88,524 in Putnam County and \$80,016 in Dutchess, according to the United Way (see chart bottom left).

The United Way noted that only three of the top 20 occupations in New York State — general and operations managers, accountants and auditors, and registered nurses — earn enough to support a survival budget for a family of four, which requires a worker to make at least \$34.40 per hour (top left).

Compare that to the median salary for someone working in the tourism industry in Putnam: A male food service or hotel worker here makes less than \$30,000 a year, or \$14.42 per hour, according to the U.S. Census bureau. For women, the median is \$20,000.

In recreation, entertainment and the arts, which also support the Hudson Valley economy, the figure is even lower. A full-time, minimum-wage job in that category pays around \$23,000 a year here.

Most people in retail work, as well as people like mechanics, security guards, bus drivers, nurse’s aides, warehouse workers, bartenders and school teachers, if early in their careers or a single parent, find themselves in this situation. They are our clerks, cashiers and cleaners.

“It’s the people that we count on every day,” noted Joseph Czajka, senior vice president of Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress, a Newburgh-based nonprofit that promotes stable growth in the region. “They’re our neighbors.”

(Continued on Page 12)



# WHAT CAUSES FRAGILITY?

## LACK OF ASSETS

Financially fragile households tend to lack assets that non-fragile households take for granted.

### HOUSE

Renting means no equity is being gained and the family is at the mercy of the rental market.

### CAR

Reliable transportation is crucial to getting and keeping a job, as well as for daily activities such as grocery shopping and doctor appointments.

### INSURANCE

Inadequate health insurance means higher out-of-pocket costs. Lack of car and home insurance can mean huge bills for repairs and maintenance.

### BANK ACCOUNTS

Lack of access to traditional financial products can lead to use of services that charge higher interest, fees and penalties.

### RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

Without a 401(k) or IRA in which to grow it, cash that could have been invested loses buying power, thanks to inflation.

### CREDIT CARDS

Low borrowing capacity means fewer options to pay for large unexpected expenses. There is no credit safety net.

## DEBT

### MEDICAL DEBT

Unpaid bills make respondents more likely to be financially fragile.

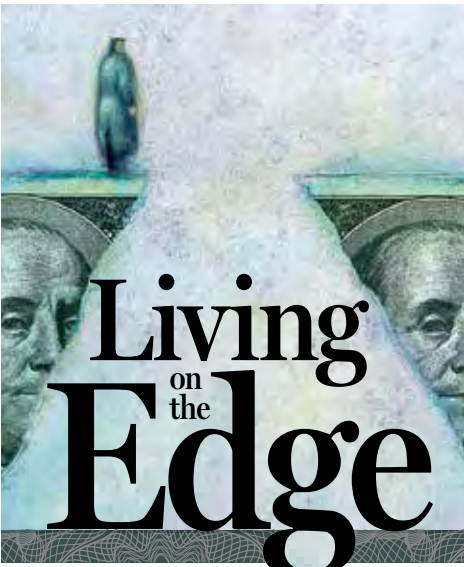
### EDUCATION DEBT

Nearly 50 percent of people with education debt have difficulty dealing with a \$400 emergency expense, versus 39 percent of those without education debt.

### CREDIT CARD DEBT

Financially fragile people tend to have limited access to credit. They are more likely to be denied credit or to receive less than they ask for.

Source: National Endowment for Financial Education (nefe.org)



(Continued from Page 11)

### Raising the children

Affordable housing in Beacon and Cold Spring has been a hot-button policy. But child care can cost a family even more, according to Clark at the United Way, “and

we’re not talking about five-star care.”

In Putnam County, the average monthly cost of day care for two children comes to \$2,375 a month, which is far more than housing (\$1,571) and more than federal and state income taxes (\$1,169), according to the United Way calculations. In Dutchess, the top expenses for a family of four are child care (\$1,771), housing (\$1,271) and taxes (\$988).

By contrast, the monthly median income at a retail job in Putnam is \$1,267 for a woman and \$2,853 for a man.

As with Lorianne Mann, the cost of child care could make a parent or guardian decide that it’s cheaper to stay home than to take a minimum-wage job.

### Medical expenses

For others, unexpected medical problems break the bank.

A couple living in eastern Dutchess County say they were blindsided by the mental health issues of their two sons.

“We were just kind of going along through life, and then, boom,” said “Leslie,” 55, who asked that her name not be used for privacy

reasons. “It paralyzes an entire family.”

She works several part-time jobs, and her husband is self-employed. Last year, they made \$54,000, she said. The major expenses include mortgage payments plus \$900 a month for health insurance with a \$6,000 deductible.

“The way we survive is we live a very simple life and don’t have any debt,” she said. “We’re workers.”

### Housing

In Putnam County, a resident needs an annual salary of at least \$125,000 to afford a home priced at the median of \$336,000, assuming a 5 percent down payment, said Czajka at Pattern for Progress.

That’s partially based on a rule of thumb that no more than 30 percent of gross income should go toward housing. If applied to a person working full time at a minimum wage of \$11.10 per hour, he or she should pay no more than \$577 a month for housing; for a couple, that would be \$1,154.

Yet the fair market rent for a one-bedroom (Continued on Page 13)

## COMING UP SHORT



A study by researchers at George Washington University funded by the National Endowment for Financial Education calculated that 41 percent of American working adults ages 25 to 60 could not come up with \$400 immediately for an unexpected expense and 36 percent could not find \$2,000 within 30 days.

“A broad cross-section of Americans of all ages are financially fragile, but middle-aged and middle-income families are surprisingly vulnerable,” it noted.

The study found that women are more vulnerable than men, that it becomes less common as incomes rise (e.g., only 20 percent of households that earn at least \$75,000 annually are considered fragile, versus 43 percent of those making less than \$50,000) and that fragility is spread equally among age groups.

It also found financial fragility to be more likely among people whose formal education ended with a high school degree or some college, those who are not married, and families with three or more children.

The researchers organized focus groups in Baltimore, Cincinnati and Austin, Texas, asking participants how they would cope with an unexpected expense (below):

Coping Mechanism	Potential Effect	Potential Secondary Effect
<b>Work more</b> , particularly if they are self-employed or control their own hours, for example, as a ride-booker driver.	Working longer hours leads to needing more child care. If free care isn’t available, this could mean paying for a babysitter, which cuts into earnings.	Working leads to fatigue and declining health. For ride-booker drivers, it also means more wear and tear on their vehicles.
<b>Use alternative financial services</b> , such as payday lenders, pawnshops and check-cashing services.	Borrowing at up to 300 percent interest triggers a cycle of loans to pay for other loans, putting the family into deeper and deeper debt.	More debt lowers credit scores, making it harder for family members to get better credit terms from traditional lenders.
<b>Borrow from family and friends.</b>	To help their adult children, aging parents borrow against their home equity at terms they can’t afford, jeopardizing the family’s only major asset.	As they approach their own retirement, the parents are forced to sell the house for a loss. They move in with their adult children, putting even more strain on the household.
<b>Sell something or cash-in assets.</b>	Taking a lump-sum payout of a 401(k) when leaving a job before age 59½ leads to paying the 10 percent early withdrawal penalty and taxes, reducing the net amount significantly.	The family has little left after paying immediate bills and is quickly back in debt — only now it does not have money growing for the future, either.



(Continued from Page 12)

apartment is \$1,057 in the area that includes Beacon and \$1,558 in the area that includes Philipstown, according to figures from the National Low-Income Housing Coalition, which advocates affordable housing.

In fact, more than 30 percent of renters in the 18th Congressional District, which includes the Highlands, are paying more than 50 percent of their income on housing and utilities, the coalition calculates, putting them in the category of what it calls “severely burdened.”

Spiral effect

When a working family is strapped, it’s not just the household that suffers. It has a spiraling effect that can strain public resources and boost tax rates.

A family that’s working most of the time trying to make ends meet may be shopping at the nearest grocery to the bus route, for instance, even if it’s more expensive, because they have no car and little free time. Or they’re making processed foods at home or stopping for fast food. Longer term, that has an effect on health.

People living on the edge “can’t afford to take care of themselves,” Czajka said, which leads to greater public health costs.

This population is also living in the cheapest rental housing, which may not get a lot of care from the property owner, so they may have old, broken or missing appliances, for instance. Or, if they own a home, expenses such as painting, landscaping and upgrading are unlikely to be priorities, potentially affecting their own and neighbors’ home values.

“The more you have to work, the less time you have for family, friends, community,” Czajka said.

The situation also has an effect on the labor market. Jodi McCredo, a Beacon City Council member, has focused recently on the amount of affordable housing in the city. But she is also a boss.

“As a small-business owner, I know it’s diffi-

“The mental energy that goes into figuring out how to make it all work is incredible. There’s so much stress involved in looking at every dollar.”

~Melissa Clark, director of community impact at United Way

cult to be able to pay the rent [for her business] and pay a fair wage to my employees,” McCredo said.

Yet if people can’t afford to live here on a minimum-wage job, businesses with low-paying jobs may find it harder to find reliable employees. At the same time, the area’s population is flat or declining, meaning a smaller workforce bears more of the tax burden, Czajka noted.

In 2017, New York had the third-highest number of people leaving the state, according to U.S. Census figures.

It’s a problem without an obvious solution. “It’s tough to say what the role of local government is,” McCredo said. Affordable housing — including redefining what “affordable” means here — is one way. “We could do more on the state level, like rent stabilization, both residential and commercial,” she added.

Maggie, the once well-paid Cold Spring resident who frequents the Philipstown Food Pantry, says she hasn’t given up. But she also struggles to stay optimistic.

She has added her name to lists for subsidized housing, though her disability payments price her out of lower-income categories. She also has applied for various housing lotteries in the region.

She knows there is more affordable housing in eastern Putnam. But she has built her life in the Highlands. “It would help if developments in Philipstown included affordable housing for artists and government employees

like they’re doing in Beacon and Peekskill,” she said.

“It’s about the community deciding not only to keep senior citizens here, but to provide a base for younger people to afford it. We need affordable housing that’s not Section 8,” a federal government program for impoverished households.

She keeps looking, although many apartments she sees “are shoddy for the money they’re asking. We’re not talking about granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Level floors and windows that open and close would be nice.”

She also believes that more bartering services and resources like the Philipstown Freecycle group on Facebook can help people like her.

“I work out a payment plan for car service locally because I’ve been going there so many years,” Maggie said. “You do what you can. Sometimes if you pay cash, you’ll get a lower rate.”

Czajka sees an educated public as the first step. “Individuals need to make time to understand the issues, educate their neighbors, be part of the community,” he said.

“If you want to build a community where people want to live and work and grow and build something, you have to find a way for them to afford it,” McCredo said. “It’s tricky because developers aren’t going to come if they’re not making money.”

In the meantime, three out of every 10 households are straining just to keep up with the cost of living in Putnam and Dutchess.

“The mental energy that goes into figuring out how to make it all work is incredible,” Clark said. “There’s so much stress involved in looking at every dollar.”

This series was made possible by donors to our Special Projects Fund (highlandscurrent.org/spf). Thank you.

WHERE IS ‘THE EDGE’?



SINGLE ADULT INCOME

\$12,490

This is what a person needs to earn annually to make more than the federal poverty level. It equates to \$6 per hour.

\$25,764

This is what a person in Dutchess County needs to earn to survive, according to the United Way. It equates to \$13.88 per hour.

\$30,432

This is what a person in Putnam County needs to survive, according to the United Way. It equates to \$15.22 per hour.

FAMILY OF FOUR INCOME

\$25,750

This is what a household of four needs to earn annually to make more than the federal poverty level.

\$80,016

This is what a family of four in Dutchess needs to survive, according to the United Way.

\$88,524

This is what a family of four in Putnam County needs to survive.

NEXT WEEK

Beacon is experiencing rapid growth, with new development expected to bring up to 2,000 new residents to the city by 2022. Will it be possible for these people to reside where they work without living on the edge? What steps can a municipality take to attract businesses that pay at least a survival wage? Jeff Simms will speak with local and regional officials and economic development professionals to investigate the nuts and bolts of job creation.

THAT SINKING FEELING

	# of households	% poverty/survival
Putnam County	34,762	33
Cold Spring	822	42
Nelsonville	230	36
Philipstown	3,599	29
Dutchess County	108,200	36
Beacon	5,203	43

Source: United Way, Alice: A Study of Financial Hardship in New York, based on 2016 data from state and federal sources. See Page 11 for survival budgets.



# THE WEEK AHEAD

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



Putnam County 4-H Fair, July 26-28

## COMMUNITY

SAT 20

### Putnam Kennel Club Dog Show

CARMEL

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Veterans Park  
225 Gypsy Trail Road  
[putkennelclub.com](http://putkennelclub.com)

Watch breeds compete and perform. *Cost: \$5 per car*

SAT 20

### Community BBQ

COLD SPRING

6:15 p.m. St. Mary's Church  
1 Chestnut Dr. | 845-265-2539  
[stmaryscoldspring.org](http://stmaryscoldspring.org)

The Episcopal church will hold a Mass at 5 p.m. followed by a public barbecue to welcome Father Steve Schunk, its new priest-in-charge.

TUES 23

### Special Needs Picnic

PLEASANT VALLEY

11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Cady Field  
1554 Main St. | [thinkdifferently.net](http://thinkdifferently.net)

Westchester Circus Arts will create an interactive midway with jugglers, stilt walkers and carnival games for Dutchess County children of all ages and abilities. Registration required. *Free*

TUES 23

### Complete Streets

GARRISON

6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

The Philipstown Comprehensive Plan Update Committee will host this forum with a Dutchess County transportation planner to discuss how to add biking, walking and accessibility options.

FRI 26

### Putnam County 4-H Fair

CARMEL

Noon – 6 p.m. Veterans Park  
225 Gypsy Trail Road  
[putnam.cce.cornell.edu/putnam-county-fair](http://putnam.cce.cornell.edu/putnam-county-fair)

The annual fair, sponsored by the Cornell Cooperative Extension, includes livestock, crafts, games, a pig roast, a plant sale, music and theater, magic shows, and re-enactments. Also SAT 27, SUN 28. *Free*

SAT 27

### Never Say No 5K

BEACON

8 a.m. Long Dock Park | [runsignup.com/Race/NY/Beacon/NeverSayNo](http://runsignup.com/Race/NY/Beacon/NeverSayNo)

This third annual one-mile family run and 5K race will support the Ryan McElroy Children's Cancer Foundation. The course loops into Madam Brett Park. *Cost: \$15 (fun run); \$25 (5K)*

SAT 27

### Pet Rabies Vaccination Clinic

PHILIPSTOWN

10 a.m. – Noon. Hubbard Lodge  
2880 Route 9 | 845-808-1390 ext. 43160  
[putnamcountyny.com/health](http://putnamcountyny.com/health)

Bring dogs, cats and ferrets with proof of prior rabies vaccination and Putnam County residency. *Free*

SAT 27

### Butterfly Festival

WAPPINGERS FALLS

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Stony Kill Farm  
79 Farmstead Lane | 845-831-3800  
[stonykill.org](http://stonykill.org)

Learn about butterflies in the Verplanck perennial garden and visit the butterfly tent for a one-on-one experience. *Free*

SAT 28

### Ice Cream Social

GARRISON

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Boscobel  
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638  
[boscobel.org](http://boscobel.org)

Sample modern and 19th-century flavors. Violinist Gwen Laster and her quartet will perform. The rain date is Aug. 4. *Cost: \$22 (\$13 children; members \$18/\$12; ages 5 and younger free)*

## KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 20

### YOU Picasso

COLD SPRING

10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
[butterfieldlibrary.org](http://butterfieldlibrary.org)

Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to create building projects during this hour of architectural adventures.

WED 24

### Magic Show

GARRISON

3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

The illusionist Scott Jameson returns. *Free*



THURS 25

### Portable Planetarium

BEACON

2 & 3 p.m. Howland Public Library  
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134  
[beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org)

Children are invited to step inside an inflatable planetarium to find constellations and learn about Greek mythology and Native American folklore. *Free*

THURS 25

### Scooby Doo Moon Monster Madness

GARRISON

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

The gang blasts off into space to solve an alien mystery in this 2015 animated film. Rated PG. *Free*

## STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 20

### Big Night

GARRISON

1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
[desmondfishlibrary.org](http://desmondfishlibrary.org)

Bring an Italian appetizer or dessert to share at this screening of the 1996 foodie film hosted by the library's Edible Book Club. *Free*

SAT 20

### Summer Playwrights Festival

GARRISON

4:30 and 7 p.m.  
Philipstown Depot Theatre  
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900  
[philipstowndepottheatre.org](http://philipstowndepottheatre.org)

Fifteen young playwrights (ages 8 to 12) — Nadine Alayon, Dylan Ambrose, Dahlia Beck, Alexandra Cairns, Emerson Campbell-O'Donnell, Ruby Dyson-Dias, Rita Edwards, Scotia Hartford, Helen Hutchison, Jane Hutchison, Cadhla Maguire, Ember Mahoney, Sydney Merriman, Keira Shanahan and Eamon Wall — will direct and act in their original works. *Cost: \$8*

SAT 20

### Tranquility Base

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. bau Gallery | 506 Main St.  
845-440-7584 | [baugallery.org](http://baugallery.org)

Hosted by Matt Clifton and Larry Sansone, this evening of poetry will include readings by Eva Deitch, Tania Steele, Glenn Werner and Phoebe Zinman. There will also be a display of memorabilia to mark the 50th anniversary of the Apollo moon landing.

SAT 20

### Heathers The Musical

BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Ave. | 845-350-2722  
[beaconperformingartscenter.com](http://beaconperformingartscenter.com)

A dark story of a high school clique gone wrong will be performed by two casts of teens. Suitable for ages 14 and older. *Cost: \$12 (\$5 students, seniors)*

TUES 23

### Julius Caesar

GARRISON

2 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D  
845-265-9575 | [hvshakespeare.org](http://hvshakespeare.org)

A war hero is celebrated by the Roman people but mistrusted by some of his closest friends in this family performance by the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival's touring company. The tickets have all been distributed, but the festival notes it has never had to turn anyone away and suggests calling the box office for availability. *Cost: Free*

THURS 25

### Arsenic & Old Lace

BEACON

6 & 7 p.m. Boats leave dock  
[bannermancastle.org](http://bannermancastle.org)

The classic play starred Boris Karloff on Broadway. Expect plot twists. Also FRI 26, SAT 27, SUN 28. Following the FRI 26 and SAT 27 performances, Sarah Karloff will speak on what the play meant to her father. *Cost: \$65 (\$70 with lecture)*

THURS 25

### Matilda The Musical

GARRISON

7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre  
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900  
[philipstowndepottheatre.org](http://philipstowndepottheatre.org)

In the Roald Dahl favorite, presented by the Depot Theatre's teen players, an extraordinary girl with imagination and smarts takes a stand. With Amelia Alayon, Samuel Bates, Alexandra Cairns, Alex Danilov, Violeta Edwards, Maya Gelber, Kristjan Holmbo, Helen Hutchison, Elaine Llewellyn, Lorelei McCarthy, Percy Parker, Eloise Pearsall, Oliver Petkus, Laurel Sassano and Ivan Siciliano. Also FRI 26, SAT 27, SUN 28. *Cost: \$12*

FRI 26

### Peekskill Film Festival

PEEKSKILL

[peekskillfilmfestival.org](http://peekskillfilmfestival.org)

More than 50 films will be shown over three days during the fourth annual weekend festival, which also includes panel discussions and parties. See website for schedule and locations. Also SAT 27, SUN 28. *Cost: \$15 per block of films*



**SAT 27**  
**Thelma and Louise**

**COLD SPRING**

8:30 p.m. Dockside Park  
coldspringfilm.org

Geena Davis and Susan Sarandon star as two friends fleeing for freedom in this 1991 film, which won an Academy Award for best screenplay and is presented as part of the Cold Spring Film Society's summer series. Bring blankets, chairs and bug spray. *Free*



**SUN 28**  
**Summer Showcase of Modern Dance**

**COLD SPRING**

4 p.m. Dancing Dialogue  
26 Main St. | 646-327-4332  
facebook.com/putnamcountydanceproject

Local and regional dancers will perform early and contemporary modern dance pieces. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 children, seniors, veterans)*

**MUSIC**

**SAT 20**  
**Last Minute Soulmates**

**BEACON**

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
howlandculturalcenter.org

Russell St. George (vocals/guitar), Carla Springer (vocals), Glenn Sacchi (vocals/drums), Francisco Mena (guitar) and Seth Masten (bass) will play rock with folk-style storytelling. *Cost: \$10 (\$15 door)*

**SAT 20**  
**Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes**

**WAPPINGERS FALLS**

7 p.m. Bowdoin Park | 85 Sheafe Road  
dutchessny.gov/concert

Dutchess County and Dutchess Tourism are sponsoring this summer concert; the band, which was founded in 1976 on the Jersey Shore and is known for its collaborations with Bruce Springsteen, will perform hits such as “The Fever” and “Fade Away.” Registration required. *Free*

**SAT 20**  
**Peter Yarrow**

**PUTNAM VALLEY**

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

In a benefit to preserve the 130-year-old historic building that houses the cultural center, Yarrow, best known as the Peter of Peter, Paul and Mary, will perform. *Cost: \$35*

**SAT 20**  
**Tiny Rhino**

**BEACON**

9 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St.  
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbeacon.com

Steve Giordano, Mighty George Schaefer and Mark Westin play rock ‘n’ roll blues.

**SUN 21**  
**Ambient Soundscapes**

**BEACON**

2 – 4 p.m. bau Gallery | 506 Main St.  
845-440-7584 | baugallery.org

Browse the exhibits while Craig Chin of Errant Space performs.

**SUN 21**  
**Sax and Taps**

**COLD SPRING**

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration | 45 Market St.  
845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

Erica von Kleist will perform on saxophone accompanied by tap dancer DeWitt Fleming Jr. *Cost: Free (donations suggested)*

**SUN 21**  
**The Quebe Sisters**

**BEACON**

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier  
379 Main St. | 845-855-1300  
townecrier.com

Grace, Sophia and Hulda Quebe will perform their progressive western swing in three-part harmony. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

**SAT 27**  
**Broadway in Your Backyard**

**NEWBURGH**

7 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College  
Aquinas Hall | 845-913-7157  
newburghsymphony.org

This Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra performance will include four soloists singing the works of Gilbert & Sullivan, George Gershwin, Rodgers & Hammerstein and Andrew Lloyd Webber. *Cost: \$25 to \$50*

**SAT 27**  
**David Amram Quintet**

**PUTNAM VALLEY**

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

Kevin Twigg (drums), Rene Hart (bass) and Adam Amram and Elliot Peper (percussionists) will join Amram for an evening of jazz, classical, blues and world music. *Cost: \$20 donation (\$15 students and seniors)*



True Dreams, July 27

**SAT 27**  
**Darius Jones Shades of Black**

**NEWBURGH**

8 p.m. Atlas Studios  
11 Spring St. | 845-391-8855  
dariusjones.brownpapertickets.com

The jazz saxophonist and composer will be joined by Sam Newsome (soprano sax), Cooper-Moore (organ) and Michael Wimberly (drums). *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

**SAT 27**  
**Jon-Erik Kellso Quartet**

**COLD SPRING**

8 p.m. Chapel Restoration  
45 Market St. | 845-265-5537  
chapelrestoration.org

Kellso (trumpet) will be joined by Scott Robinson (winds), Joe Cohn (guitar) and Pat O’Leary (bass) for an evening of jazz. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

**SAT 27**  
**True Dreams / M Roosevelt**

**BEACON**

9 p.m. Quinn’s  
330 Main St. | 845-202-7447  
facebook.com/quinnbeacon

True Dreams is a feminist punk guitar and drums duo from Brooklyn; M. Roosevelt is a feminist post-rock guitar bass and drums quadro from Beacon. “If you don’t come to this awesome show, it will be your fault when music dies,” says Quinn’s. *Free*

**SUN 28**  
**Neal Francis**

**COLD SPRING**

5 – 7 p.m. Bandstand  
Cold Spring waterfront

As part of the ongoing summer music series sponsored by the Cold

Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Francis will perform New Orleans-style rhythms and Chicago-style blues. *Free*

**TALKS & TOURS**

**SAT 20**  
**Sarah Copeland**

**COLD SPRING**

11 – 3 p.m. Pink Olive  
80 Main St. | 845-666-7177  
poeverydayissaturday.eventbrite.com

The former food director at *Real Simple* will sign her latest cookbook, *Every Day is Saturday: Recipes + Strategies for Easy Cooking, Every Day of the Week*.

**SAT 20**  
**Spring Street Reading Series**

**NEWBURGH**

7 p.m. Atlas Studios  
11 Spring St. | 845-391-8855

The theme will be “unusual and unpredictable bonds between women” with fiction writers Idra Novey and Laura Catherine Brown. *Free*

**SUN 21**  
**Taste of Summer Walk**

**PHILIPSTOWN**

11 a.m. Glynwood Center  
362 Glynwood Road | 845-265-3338  
glynwood.org

Come see the farm at the peak of the season and learn about Glynwood’s work and how it is addressing climate change. *Free*

**WED 24**  
**Hidden Treasures of the Hudson Valley**

**BEACON**

7 p.m. St. Andrew’s Church  
15 South Ave. | 845-831-0514  
beaconhistorical.org

Tony Musso will discuss historic sites included in the third volume of his book series in this program sponsored by the Beacon Historical Society. *Free*

**THURS 25**  
**The History of Leopard Print**

**GARRISON**

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

Jo Weldon, the author of *Fierce*,

will trace the leopard print’s path through modern fashion and celebrate some of its fiercest wearers.

**FRI 26**  
**Invasive Species Workshop**

**BEACON**

5 p.m. One Nature | 321 Main St.  
845-202-3468 | onenaturellc.com

Learn how to manage common invasive species. *Free*

**SAT 27**  
**It’s Not Your Shame**

**GARRISON**

10:30 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020  
desmondfishlibrary.org

Susan Peehl will lead a reading and discussion for women who have experienced violence. *Free*

**SUN 28**  
**Memoir Writing Workshop**

**BEACON**

2 – 5 p.m. Private residence  
donnaminkowitz.com

Donna Minkowitz, who has taught memoir writing for 20 years, and who has written two of her own, will lead this three-hour seminar. To register, email [minkowitz46@gmail.com](mailto:minkowitz46@gmail.com). *Cost: \$75 (\$60 local)*

**CIVIC**

**MON 22**  
**School Board**

**BEACON**

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

**MON 22**  
**Village Board**

**NELSONVILLE**

7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.  
845-265-2500 | nelsonvillenyny.gov

**TUES 23**  
**Board of Trustees**

**COLD SPRING**

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

**WED 24**  
**Philipstown Town Board**

**COLD SPRING**

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

The board is scheduled to discuss a proposed settlement that would allow a cell-phone tower to be built off Route 9.

**WED 24**  
**Putnam County Hearing**

**CARMEL**

3:30 & 6:30 p.m. County Office Building  
40 Gleneida Ave. | 845-208-7800  
putnamcountynyny.com

County Executive MaryEllen Odell will hold a public hearing before she decides whether to sign a law that would allow legislators and county employees to mark documents as “confidential.” See Page 3.



Showcase of Modern Dance, July 28



AROUND TOWN



▲ SEMPER FI — Jared Wigdor, 18, of Cold Spring, graduated from the U.S. Marine Corps boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina, on July 12, and will report to Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, for combat training before becoming an aviation support reservist at Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh. The 2018 Haldane graduate is the son of Jeff Wigdor and Mitzy Folster.

Photo provided



▼ DEATH-DEFYING FEAT — Mark Jaster (as the lion) and Sarah Thomas (as the lion tamer) were among a traveling troupe of clowns that performed on July 8 at the Howland Cultural Center in a show they called *Preposterous!* For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).

Photos by Ross Corsair

▲ PLANE PULL — Teams of 20 volunteers competed on June 29 to record the fastest time pulling a FedEx jet 12 feet on a taxiway at New York Stewart International Airport while raising nearly \$60,000 for the United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region. Team Poughmentum took first place, pulling the Boeing 757 across the finish line in 8.626 seconds.

Photo provided



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We are pleased to announce Dr. Weixun Wang has joined Southern Dutchess Eye Care.

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- ✓ Patient-focused optometric care.
- ✓ Passionate about his profession.
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Accepting new patients, including Saturday appointments.

Welcome Dr. Weixun Wang



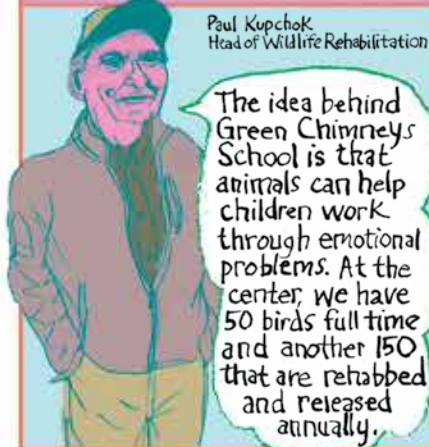
969 MAIN ST. FISHKILL (845) 896-6700 [sdec2020.com](http://sdec2020.com)  
Optometrists Dr. Brian Peralta | Dr. Gary Weiner | Dr. Brian Powell | Dr. Weixun Wang



## HUMANS FLOCK TO "BIRDS OF PREY" DAY

By Arlo Gucke

"Birds of Prey Day" raises money for Green Chimneys Farm & Wildlife Center.



The students care for the birds daily.



On June 2nd, nearly 3,000 people turned out to see over 100 raptors up close and to find out from the experts about birds of prey.



When a Screech Owl doesn't feel safe, he squints his eyes and turns sideways to look like a branch.



Master Falconer James Eyring and his Gyr-Saker Falcon, Elvis, added some drama to the flying demo when Elvis turned it into a flying-away demo.



Which was totally fine...



Nature Nick demonstrated how talented Toucans are...



Jonathan Wood  
Master Falconer,  
Raptor Project



Lastly, student Nick P, who is returning to his home school district, got to release a rehabbed Red-tailed Hawk...





## Kid Friendly

Journaling  
Off the Grid

By Katie Hellmuth Martin

Last month's column invoked the importance of writing down your life in a journal so that you could look back to see what you thought, what you did, what dreams you pursued. Another benefit — whether you write in cursive, print or doodles — is the impact it has on your brain and spirit.

You are writing now — but where? Usually you are typing into Instagram, Facebook, texts and emails. When you type your prolific, heartfelt, funny or profound statements on Instagram, where do they go?



They go nowhere. All of this beauty we are creating for photo streams is going down-stream, perhaps never to be seen again. Think about the photo library on your computer. A scary place, right? Where are you going to find that trip to your cousins or out west if you didn't print the photos right away?

## Digital disappears

All of those amazing photos of your amazing children that you shared on Instagram — have you printed them? Have you written down your thrilling captions? Have you created vacation photo albums?

If not, this needs to change. Applications for instant photo printing need to be on your phone *immediatelies* (this is a word my son uses — the plural of “immediately” — that's how important it is).

## Writing by hand

There is this belief that writing letters with your hand connects to your brain in ways we may never understand. This is emphasized by Julia Cameron, who created *The Artist's Way*, a book that enforces that we are all artists. Tapping into that artistry,

she believes, can be done through writing anything, even “I don't know what to write.” Thoughts will start coming.

If you do this in the morning, for some reason, your day goes a little better. You might even write something upsetting. But if you write it, the day shifts in a different direction.

## Your assignment

You are going to start a journal. And so are your kids. You'll do it together, or in-between Device Time. There are journals of all kinds available, plus gel-ink pens if you want fancy, scented gel-ink pens, pencils, chalk pencils, highlighters, stickers, all of it.

I have baby journals for all of my babies. The first is filled with details. The next two are ... a little sparse, due to a lack of time. My son, who is now 7, likes to watch me write in his journal, and he likes to contribute to what I am remembering, and what makes him laugh.

I gave up on my own journal about nine years ago. My journalizing time was put into those baby journals. For your assignment, you could start one for your child or children where you write memories or things you notice about them. But you also

must keep one for yourself, to tap back into one you started but left.

Photos are just as important. You must print them.

Choose a photo-printer-by-mail, such as Snapfish, Apple's print option from the computer, and/or Chatbooks (for instantly bound photo books). Install the app on your phone and send-to-print individual photos or “mini-books” after an adventure.

I've tried the print-at-home options, and it's just not happening with these printers that need endless refills of ink or toner or ribbon ink. Alternatively, skip the mail and use Accu-print's easy computer machine in Beacon.

Print out anything you published at Instagram or texted to someone.

Get a journal and paste in the photos, and write next to them what you wrote online.

At the very least, write on the back of the photo what you typed into your digital medium.

Let me know how this journaling goes for you. Take pictures and tag @katiejamesinc. Or wait — is that counterproductive to all the advice I just gave?

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# The Storming of **STONY POINT**

The charge led by Gen. “Mad” Anthony Wayne on July 16, 1779, at Stony Point ended British control of the Hudson. More than 350 Revolutionary War re-enactors from 16 states and Canada descended on the battlefield site on July 13 and 14 to commemorate the event. The re-enactment is held only once every five years. For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).





## Tourism *(from Page 1)*

Visitors' Bureau letterhead in which he said that the board was taken aback when the county in late May placed a help-wanted ad for a new executive director. Callahan said the Visitors' Bureau board had been more than happy with Conklin.

Although the board selects the director, the hiring and salary must be approved by the county Legislature, according to the bureau's federal tax filings. The bureau, which operates under contract with the county and has an annual budget of about \$270,000, is funded almost entirely by county and state grants.

The Visitors' Bureau has been the subject of drama throughout the tenure of County Executive MaryEllen Odell. Odell took office in November 2011 and not long after that long-time Visitors' Bureau Director Valerie Hickman stepped down. Odell quickly tapped Libby Pataki of Garrison, a former first lady of New York, to lead the bureau.

In early 2016, the state attorney general opened an inquiry after *The Journal News* reported that Pataki had in 2012 quietly created a charity, Putnam Tourism Corp., that was soliciting donations and paying her a \$50,000 salary — in addition to her \$70,000 salary from the Visitors' Bureau — without active oversight from a board of directors, as required by state law.

Pataki resigned in March 2016, and former intern Frank Smith was named acting director. A new volunteer board of directors was created with guidance from the attorney



Kevin Callahan, chair of the county tourism board

general's office; the board hired Conklin, a native of Putnam Valley, in March 2017.

Tourism generates \$63 million annually in spending in Putnam County, according to the most recent report compiled for New York State by a firm called Tourism Economics. That includes \$5.3 million on lodging, \$8.8 million on recreation, \$23 million on food and beverages, \$10.8 million on retail, and \$3.2 million on transportation.

In Putnam, the industry employs about 1,400 people and generates \$4.6 million in sales tax annually, the report said. Tourism revenue grew 6 percent between 2015 and 2016 but only 1 percent the following year. The latest data, for 2018, is expected in August.

Although the Legislature approved



Bruce Conklin shortly after he was hired in 2017

File photos

\$227,000 in funding for the bureau for 2019, Callahan said in his statement that the board and county had not finalized a contract.

He said that in March, two unnamed legislators and Bumgarner asked to speak with the board. (Callahan asked that questions about his statement, such as the identity of the legislators, be sent by email, but he did not respond further.)

"It was clear from this meeting that the Legislature was not satisfied with the performance of the executive director," he wrote. The board asked the county for a "performance improvement plan" so it could "meet the objectives expected by the Legislature. This was never received."

Instead, he wrote, board members saw the county's help-wanted ad, which promised a salary of \$75,000 to \$85,000 annually. It was published in local newspapers designated for public notices on May 29, June 5 and June 12, but included a June 7 deadline for applications.

Callahan said board members concluded that the county planned to bring the tourism agency "in-house" rather than operating it under contract. "In anticipation of this change, and in deference to the executive director," the board dissolved the nonprofit, he wrote.

He said the board sent a check to the state for the matching funds it had received but was told that returning the money would make it impossible for the county to reapply in 2019. The check was returned and voided, he wrote, so that a check made payable to Putnam County could be issued and the county could operate as a state-approved tourism promotion agency.

Callahan said the Visitors' Bureau planned to pay its outstanding bills, file its final tax returns and return any unspent funds to the county.

The tourism board was chaired from its formation in 2016 until March of this year by Barney Molloy, a former Cold Spring resident who said in an email that he left in March when he moved out of the county. The most recent board members listed on the website before it disappeared included Callahan (of Brewster) and two other original members, Elizabeth Carson-Tompkins (Carmel) and Victoria Causa (Carmel), along with newcomers Kim Boenheim (Patterson), Rhonda Jacobius (Carmel), Joann Mailman (Carmel) and Mary Cay Nilsen (Brewster).

Callahan wrote there had been informal discussions in 2017 with Deputy County

## Getting the Word Out

The members of the board of the Putnam County Visitors' Center "are proud of the work accomplished during the short-lived tenure of the board and are grateful to and sincerely thank their executive director [Bruce Conklin] for all his hard work and immeasurable improvements made under his auspices," board chair Kevin Callahan wrote in his July 15 statement. "A quiet, competent man, Bruce hit the ground running."

In his statement, Callahan listed what he said Conklin had accomplished:

- Thirty thousand copies of a redesigned travel guide were distributed at rest stops on I-87, Metro-North stations, 119 locations in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, travel agencies, Amtrak, hotels and motels and AAA offices.
- The bureau ramped up its use of social media.
- Television commercials aired 1,324 times in New York City, Westchester County and the Hudson Valley on 69 cable channels. Streaming services yielded 375,164 "impressions" (views) to an audience of 1.5 million subscribers. In addition, radio ads aired on a number of FM stations.
- Print ads in 15 publications had 3.6 million impressions, he said, and digital ads on four sites yielded 1.54 million impressions.

Executive Bruce Walker about combining the bureau with two similar entities, the Economic Development Corporation and the Industrial Development Agency, to create a county department. A merger could save money because each agency had its own attorney and accounting firm and two employed executive directors, he said, but the idea died after Walker resigned to take a federal job.

Bumgarner told legislators on July 10 that the county's negotiations with the Visitors' Bureau over the 2019 contract stalled because the county wanted a provision that would require the tourism board to provide more information about its spending and audits. "Their counsel sent me an email indicating that they wanted all those new provisions stricken," she reported.

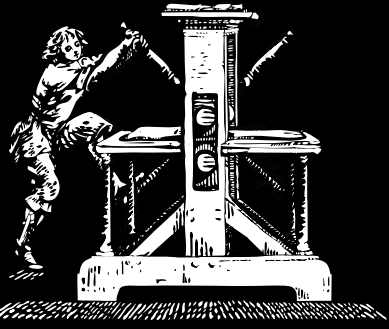
Bumgarner said the county is considering whether to look for another outside agency or hire its own tourism director. Conklin is under contract with the bureau, not the county. She told legislators the county had received 21 applications in response to the ad.

Putnam County Commissioner of Finance Bill Carlin told legislators he would ask the bureau for an accounting of the money it has spent this year. "You're not allowed to just turn your lights out and say you're out of business," he said. "That's not the way it works."

Legislator Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson)

(Continued on Page 21)

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## Real Estate

# History on the Market

By Chip Rowe

## 1123 OLD ALBANY POST ROAD —

This centuries-old structure off Route 9 in Philipstown is once again on the market, with an asking price of \$1.47 million. Built by John Warren, the home was converted in 1761 by his son, Samuel, into a stage-coach stop and seized by the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War as a regional headquarters for Gen. George Washington. In the mid-19th century, Justus Nelson, who had built a grist and lumber mill on the banks of Indian Brook, converted it into a family home. It remained in the family until his grandson, James H. Nelson, decided to become a minister. Rhinelander Waldo, the former police commissioner of New York City, purchased it in 1916 but it was abandoned until 1940, when George Perkins and Charles and Constance Stearns restored the building and named it the Bird & Bottle. It became a hot spot, visited by Hollywood elite such as Joan Crawford, Constance Talmadge, Greer Garson and Veronica Lake; in 1954, it earned a “superb



11 Parrott St.

dining distinction” award from *Holiday* magazine. Most recently, the inn was closed from 2010 to 2015 before a caterer, Pamela Resch, purchased it to host special events such as weddings.

**40 UPPER STATION ROAD —** This 6,300-square-foot Garrison home on 5.4 acres was the summer estate, called Kleiner, at the turn of the 20th century for James A. Glover, a real estate and insurance mogul. With seven bedrooms and 5.5 baths, it’s listed for \$2.3 million. In 1899 Glover had all the trees cut down on the hill in front of the house to create its sweeping view of the river and West Point. A 1939 newspaper profile of his widow, Franny Livingston Glover, then

90 and described as “the oldest woman in Garrison,” said her father, William S. Livingston, had purchased the home about 1860. The home was occupied in 1968 by Gene Kelly, who rented it while directing scenes shot at Garrison’s Landing and in Philipstown for *Hello, Dolly!* Catherine Portman-Laux, who owned the home with her husband, Burton, until her death in 2016, once said that when she first saw the house and grounds, she “made a vow to God if he would allow us to own this house, we would use it to make people happy.”

**11 PARROTT ST. —** Built around 1840 and known as Cascabella, this 5,000-square-foot Cold Spring home was purchased about 1893 by Capt. Henry Metcalfe, the Army’s chief of ordnance. It’s



40 Upper Station Road

listed for \$1.8 million. Metcalfe, an 1868 West Point graduate, usually wintered with his family in Thomasville, Georgia, but for several years served as the “military professor” at Haldane. He also was president of the village and of the Haldane Board of Education, a charter member of the Cold Spring Fire Co. No. 1 and an inventor. In 1873 he designed the first detachable magazine for small guns, and he held patents for a “road-map exhibitor” for automobiles (1907) and a “pocket memo case” (1919). In 1926, shortly before Metcalfe’s death, the estate was sold to Jacob Glick, an immigrant from Austria-Hungary who had opened a dry goods and clothing store in 1906 that operated until 1975. Glick lived in the home for 41 years, until 1967, when it was sold to a couple from Long Island.



1123 Old Albany Post Road

(Continued from Page 20)

said she supported bringing the position in-house. “We’ve been struggling for the last several years for tourism to reach its full potential,” she said.

Paul Jonke (R-Southeast) said the county needs a director who will report to the Legislature on a regular basis.

“Part of the issues we had with this Visitors’ Bureau was that they were not transparent; they were not accountable to us,” he said. “They were unwilling to provide documentation to us; to the public. And that’s when things started to go downhill.”

(*The Current* also had trouble getting information from the bureau, which the county said as recently as July 17 was not one of its “agencies” subject to Freedom of Information Laws, although the county provided office space, most of its funding and had final say over the hiring of its executive director.)

Neal Sullivan (R-Mahopac) said he is disappointed in the way the bureau “unwound itself” without notifying the Legislature.

“Tourism is so critical to Putnam County,” he said. “Over the last couple of years and beyond, that has sort of been floundering — the direction of tourism — and we need to get hold of that. It makes a lot of sense that we bring that position inside the county, like a department head, under the control of the administration and us, so that we have real accountability.”

“It’s just very disheartening how this all went down and it was all totally unnecessary to do it in that way,” added Nacerino. “But maybe it’s an opportunity for us to move this forward in the direction that we’ve been wanting it to move forward for a very long time.”

Holly Crocco contributed reporting.

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**The Country Goose**

A big thanks to all the Cold Spring businesses that contributed to the gifts for the Patriotic Pets and Kids Parade held July 7th.

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Kismet at Caryn's  
Hudson House Inn and Restaurant  
Poor George  
Meraki  
The Gift Hut  
Chickadee Gallery  
Cold Spring Cheese Shop  
Once Upon A Time  
Garden Cafe  
C & E Paint  
Joseph's Fine Jewelry  
Supplies for Creative Living  
Cold Spring Florist  
Romeo & Juliet Salon and Verona Spa  
Sophia Rose Antik  
The Blue Olive  
Buster Levi Gallery  
Archipelago At Home  
The Country Goose  
Split Rock Books  
Old Souls  
Hudson River Expeditions  
Rincon Argentino  
Animal Hospital of Cold Spring  
Drug World of Cold Spring



## SPORTS



Beacon Hoops rolls into its 24th year of basketball, providing instruction and competition.



Photos by S. Pearlman

## Summer Moves

By Skip Pearlman

The sounds of basketball — dribbling, squeaking sneakers and court chatter — filled the air at the South

Avenue court last week as Beacon Hoops began its 24th season providing instruction and competition.

The summer program hosts games at this and other city courts for four divisions: Pee Wee (ages 6-7), Intermediate (8-9), Rookie (10-12) and Junior (13-16). Before the season,

players are evaluated during tryouts and assigned to teams in an effort to keep the games competitive.

The instructors include former players and coaches, along with parents. Each team plays a nine or 10-game schedule, plus a tournament.

Truck Williamson, a 1983 Beacon High School grad who runs the program, which was founded in 1996 by his classmates Wayne Griffin and Leaman Anderson,

noted the league attracts many players from outside Beacon. “For many years we had a waiting list — but it’s still good, people are still coming,” he said.

Williamson says the city doesn’t offer much else for children and teens by way of competitive sports in the summer, except baseball, and that with many sports the cost of equipment can be prohibitive. “Here it’s 50 bucks [for registration], and everyone is guaranteed to play,” he said.

## Current Classifieds

## WANTED

**BLOOD DONORS** — Friday, Aug. 2, 2-8 p.m. North Highlands F.D., 504 Fishkill Road. Mark your calendar. Bring donor card or other ID. Walk-ins welcome. Feb. 3 goal was

55, we saw 52. May 2 goal was 45, we saw 32. Aug. 2 goal is 56!

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The HIGHLANDS

Current

7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

Saturday

97/77

HOT

Mostly sunny, very hot and very humid

POP: 25%

W 4-8 mph

RealFeel 110/86

Sunday

98/71

HOT

Very hot; a thunderstorm in spots in the afternoon

POP: 40%

WSW 6-12 mph

RealFeel 108/74

Monday

80/64

Mostly cloudy and cooler but humid

POP: 25%

NNE 4-8 mph

RealFeel 88/63

Tuesday

82/61

Times of clouds and sun

POP: 25%

NNE 4-8 mph

RealFeel 85/63

Wednesday

80/59

Sunny

POP: 25%

S 4-8 mph

RealFeel 85/60

Thursday

81/62

Sunshine and patchy clouds

POP: 0%

NW 2-4 mph

RealFeel 88/63

Friday

84/64

Mostly sunny

POP: 0%

WNW 2-4 mph

RealFeel 90/65

Pollen

High

Moderate

Low

Absent

N.A.

Grass Weeds Trees Molds

Source: National Allergy Bureau

SUN & MOON

Sunrise Sat., 7/20 5:39 AM

Sunset Sat. night, 7/20 8:25 PM

Moonrise Sat., 7/20 10:48 PM

Moonset Sat., 7/20 9:02 AM

Last New First Full

Jul 24 Jul 31 Aug 7 Aug 15

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# CROSSCURRENT

By  
Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

**ACROSS**

- Wildly popular trend
- Appropriate
- Hammering god
- Assist, perhaps in criminal way
- Female deer
- Update; rehabilitate
- What Columbus "found" (2 words)
- West Side Story* character
- Gone without military permission, initially
- Load
- Wee mythical being
- End of "Old MacDonald" refrain
- Neighbor state to NC
- Brutal dictator \_\_\_\_ Amin
- Extol
- Name of book
- \_\_\_\_ gin fizz
- Lid or lip application
- Change, as a clock
- Befuddle
- "\_\_\_\_ the season ..."
- Requirements
- La Bohème*, for one
- English shire
- Airport sign categories, initially
- Hangers-on at Hudson Riverfront
- Television host Jay
- Swedish for "costly"
- Dialect shorthand for old
- Aye
- Stitch
- Goal of Putnam confidentiality law?
- Hats
- Resident of gulf nation
- Colleagues of Assembly members
- Seasons or preserves

69. Director Jean-\_\_\_\_ Godard

70. Informal form of 55-across

71. Opening; slit

72. Church founded for African-Americans, initially

73. 9, 9D, or 301, initially

10. Not wholesale

12. International airline initials

15.

17. Be indebted

20. Bits of land amid water

21. Prevarication

22. Beacon shop \_\_\_\_\_'s Bellas

23. Put down

24. Money account

29. Greek example of a 20-down

31. Courtroom event

32. Iron and carbon product

34. Sean Patrick Maloney, i.e.

36. Final stage

38. Absolutely

40. Nights before holidays

41. Completed

42. Falling flakes

44. One obsessed with self

46. Tokyo, formerly

47. Keystroke errors

48. Plays

50. Place where Aristotle taught

51. Ghost-calling session

56. Swank fitness facility

59. Ring up

60. Common preposition

62. Piggish quarters

64. IT term for service pact

65. Poetically over

66. Laboratory subject

67. He equivalent

# SUDOCURRENT

Answers for July 12 Puzzles

SETS AFT ESSE  
LURE LOY UPON  
ARIA SERA GLIO  
VOODOO ONEILL  
OGRE TNT  
SERGEANT EPEE  
PRE ENDOW EAR  
ARCH SERENATA  
HAP DELI  
PHAROS ATMOST  
SERVICED BRAY  
SAGE AGO LANK  
TREY NOR ELSE

8 9 3 2 1 6 4 5 7

6 1 7 5 4 8 2 3 9

2 5 4 7 3 9 8 6 1

1 7 2 9 6 3 5 4 8

9 4 6 1 8 5 3 7 2

5 3 8 4 7 2 9 1 6

7 6 9 3 2 4 1 8 5

4 8 5 6 9 1 7 2 3

3 2 1 8 5 7 6 9 4

Answers will be published next week.  
See [highlandscurrent.org/puzzle](http://highlandscurrent.org/puzzle) for interactive versions.



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## Weather

Cloudy with occasional rain today, clearing tonight thru Tuesday; warm.

(See details on Page 1A)

Vol. 9, No. 141

# THE EVENING NEWS

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BEACON, N.Y., MONDAY, JULY 21, 1969

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# U.S. FLAG ON MOON

## For America, Shining Hour

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

They were shining hours. Americans landed on the moon and walked its rocky surface while millions of their countrymen locked their attention on television and radio sets on a July Sunday that will live in history.

It was also a Sunday on which hippies romped made in a California stream, American GIs fought on in Vietnam, babies were born, highways took their toll, cheers rose from excited crowds, a Wyoming woman laughed uncontrollably, Indians broke into a victory dance.

For others, there were periods of reflection and prayer.

In her home at Worcester, Mass., the widow of rocket pioneer Robert H. Goddard sat alone and watched television as man stepped on the moon for the first time.

When a newsmen phoned she said, "I'm sorry . . . I'd rather be by myself . . . you understand."

A soft rain fell at Auburn, Mass., where Goddard fired his first liquid fueled rocket in 1926.

In New York, some 3,000 people watched the moon landing at a huge television screen at Kennedy International Airport. Hundreds crowded in front of another big screen at the Time-Life Building across from Radio City Music Hall. An estimated 4,000 watched the three huge TV screens erected in Central Park.

Across the nation, in Anaheim, Calif., 80 members of the Soviet Union's track and field team saw the moon landing on Disneyland TV screen.

In Burbank, Calif., an ice cream company, moments after Neil A. Armstrong first stepped on the moon, started dishing out a new flavor called Lunar Cheese Cake.

In the Nevada gaming cities of Las Vegas and Reno, gamblers were asked to halt the action briefly. In Las Vegas, a stripper at the Silver Slipper Casino peeled a simulated space suit, and at Reno's Harrah's Club, they pushed a new drink, the Moonshot Cocktail.

At Farragut State Park in northern Idaho, Boy Scouts were gathered for their 7th annual jamboree. They huddled around radios and a few television sets for news of the exploits of two former scouts, Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr.

In Philadelphia, a huge crowd gathered in front of historic Independence Hall and cheered when Eagle reached the moon's surface.

In Seattle, pregame ceremonies before an American League baseball game between the hometown Pilots and the Minnesota Twins were interrupted by an announcement of the moon landing. The fans cheered, stood up and sang "America the Beautiful."

At Meriden, Conn., a man called the Morning Record and complained he couldn't find a single baseball game on radio or television, ending a five-minute harangue that the moon landing was "a lot of nonsense."

In San Quentin Prison, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the convicted slayer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, watched the televised account of the moon landing in his death row cell. In the Tennessee State Prison at Nashville, James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., did not see the moon landing. There is no television in his maximum security cell.

Only 4,000 persons took the Kennedy Space Center tour at Cape Kennedy, Fla., where an estimated crowd of one million were on hand when the Apollo 11 blasted off last Wednesday.

Barbara Guilford, a 39-year-old Cheyenne, Wyo., schoolteacher, laughed and laughed.

"I was exhilarated and started laughing," she said. "I couldn't understand exactly what had transpired technically, but I was excited over the fact that man had stepped on the moon."

## 2 in Lunar Walk, Get Nixon Call

By HOWARD BENEDICT  
AP Aerospace Writer

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Two Americans, who strode the moon's surface for the first time and raised their nation's banner above it, held the world in suspense again today with a perilous blastoff for the long journey home.

A successful liftoff and rendezvous with their orbiting command ship would climax an epic expedition in which Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. fulfilled a centuries-old dream of man everywhere.

There is only one liftoff engine on the landing craft they call Eagle. It must work, or the astronauts would be stranded with only 15 hours of oxygen left and no hope of rescue.

They are confident it will perform flawlessly as have millions of other parts of Apollo 11 hardware during the incredible journey that carried man's quest for the unknown to his first landing on another celestial body.

The launching from the moon was scheduled for 2:55 p.m. EDT.

A successful liftoff would shoot them into lunar orbit to chase down Michael Collins, orbiting some 65 miles overhead in the Apollo 11 command ship.

Once linked up, they plan to fire themselves back toward earth early Tuesday, ending a space odyssey in which they etched their names beside those of history's great explorers, Columbus, Balboa, Magellan, da Gama and Byrd.

Through the magic of television, an estimated 300 million people around the world had a ringside seat to man's greatest adventure.

It was unforgettable.

Armstrong climbed through the LM hatch and started backing down a nine-rung ladder. On the second rung from the bottom, he opened a compartment, exposing a television camera.

The picture was black and white and somewhat jerky, but it recorded history.

Among scientists, there was elation that the crew had landed in an area with a variety of rocks, a treasure that held at least the hope of a rich payoff in the search to learn more about moon and earth.

As Armstrong planted his size 9½ left boot on the powdery surface at 10:56 p.m. Sunday, he spoke words that will be remembered for all time: "That's one small step for man, a giant leap for mankind."

The camera trained on Aldrin as he stepped on the far shore 20 minutes later and exclaimed: "Beautiful! Beautiful! Magnificent desolation."

There were other memorable utterances during the day of high adventure.

There were Armstrong's words when Eagle separated from the command ship to start the dangerous descent: "The Eagle is flying."

There were Armstrong's—and man's—first words from the moon's surface after touchdown at 4:18 p.m.: "Houston . . . Tranquility base here. The Ea-



MAN'S FIRST MOON STEP — Astronaut Neil Armstrong prepares to take man's first step on the moon's surface Sunday, ushering in a new era. He is climbing down the ladder of the lunar module, which landed on the moon's surface earlier in the day.



HISTORIC PHONE CALL — President Richard M. Nixon talks to U.S. astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin after they landed on the moon's surface. The President called it "the most historic phone call ever made."

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