Many people can’t afford to live and also work in Beacon.
What does it take to bring jobs to workers instead of workers to jobs?

By Jeff Simms

One of the criticisms leveled against Beacon as the city has grown in recent years is that its development has been laser-focused on creating housing, a good chunk of it high-dollar, with not enough focus on job creation.

The perception has been that jobs, aside from retail and customer-service, are scarce, that you must commute to New York City to earn a decent living, and that, with the rising cost of housing, it’s becoming harder to live in Beacon and work here, too.

Studies such as those by the United Way described in Part 1 of this series (July 19) that calculate the wage needed for more than a “survival budget” in the Highlands and other locations in New York point to a need for jobs that pay a living wage. According to calculations based on 2016 data, a person needs to earn $25,754 annually, or at least $13.88 an hour, just to get by in Dutchess County. A family of four needs $80,016 annually. In Beacon, about 43 percent of residents are in poverty or just getting by.

(Continued on Page 12)
**FIVE QUESTIONS: GREG WILLIAMS**

By Brian PJ Cronin

Greg Williams, who lives in Cold Spring, is the executive director of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater.

You’ve been director for a year. What accomplishments stand out?

Stabilizing our financial position and removing a lot of the conflict and inefficiency from the way we operated. We recently managed to vote on two critical measures at a full board meeting and have those two measures pass unanimously within 10 minutes. That’s a huge improvement over meetings when we’d discuss issues for hours and not get to a vote.

This year marked the 50th anniversary of the launching of the sloop. What do you think the next 50 years will hold?

We’re going to continue doing the things we do well. The experience of sailing with us — whether you’re a volunteer, a crew member or a guest — is one that you can’t find anywhere else. We have this 3,000-pound sailing rig, and we tell you that you’re going to lift it. Immediately you see how, if you work together with people, even if they’re people you’ve never met before, you can get that rig up and do something that you, just minutes before, thought was impossible. And then, for the next hour or two, you get to be among an incredibly diverse crew, young and old, who come from all kinds of backgrounds yet manage to live peacefully, happily and productively on this tiny boat with no air conditioning.

You grew up in Croton but moved from Seattle to take the job. What drew you back?

I grew up hearing songs by Pete Seeger [who founded Clearwater] and with the [Great Hudson River Revival] festival held every year at Croton Point Park, but I had other ideas of what kinds of public interest work I wanted to do. I did them, and also worked in the private sector. But then I saw Pete on the David Letterman show. He said he loved being an activist, but if younger people didn’t take on his causes, they would not progress beyond the end of his life. A few years later, when the position opened at Clearwater, I couldn’t believe my good fortune at being able to apply.

To an outsider, it seems that environmental organizations in the Hudson Valley work well together. Do you agree?

I do. There’s a lot of overlap in our areas of expertise. Scenic Hudson acquires and manages beautiful and environmentally significant properties, which is something others don’t have the financial resources to do. Riverkeeper monitors pollution and other conditions on the river, and at Clearwater, we don’t have the logistical capacity for that. What we have is this unusual social ecosystem between the paid crew and volunteers on the boat, our environmental action organization, and our relationships with the artistic community. We can get someone onto a citizens’ action committee for the Indian Point decommissioning, for instance, because we’re known as a cooperative reason- and research-based organization. We get those invitations whereas other organizations might not.

Are you hopeful about the future?

Every day I have a new experience with a new crew member or a new volunteer who is motivated to devote his or her life to better society. We’re surrounded by so much hate and discord and blaming that it’s hard not to worry about our ability to solve problems. But when you see volunteers and staff and students working together to accomplish difficult things, it restores your hope that forces can be marshalled to solve problems like climate change.
Catching Up With the Cold Spring Village Board

By Michael Turton

Food trucks

At its July 23 meeting, the Cold Spring Village Board began addressing the question of whether food trucks should be allowed to set up on village-owned properties, and if so, to what extent.

The village recently permitted Michelle’s Roadside Kitchen to set up at Mayor’s Park on July 20 and 21. The truck will be there again this weekend to help the board assess its operation and related issues.

The Village Code, now being updated, requires that food truck operators pay the municipality $25 per day. Trustees agreed that, if allowed, the fee should increase.

Two restaurant owners told The Current they oppose allowing food trucks because of the potential impact they have on brick-and-mortar eateries. The Village Board will likely discuss the matter again at its Aug. 6 meeting.

Code update

The ongoing update of the Village Code is nearly complete. Deputy Mayor Marie Early said a public hearing to review the recommended changes will be held by the end of September.

Early said making the revised code readily accessible is “a challenge.” The 500-page document includes 134 chapters, some of which had not been reviewed in 40 years, she said.

Trustees favored producing “redline” copies showing both the original and revised text. Residents will be able to submit comments for up to 30 days after the hearing.

To increase public awareness, McBride-Alayon designed a logo (at left) and the Chamber printed a schedule and map (see coldspringsychamber.com/trolley). It also created a survey at bit.ly/trolley-survey to gather input from residents and recommended that signs on the trolley indicate it is public transportation.

McBride-Alayon, who owns Hudson River Line Realty, joined the Chamber board this month, along with Linda Kagan of Kagan Law Group. The other board members are Eliza Starbuck, Nat Prentice, Jack Goldstein, Cathryn Fadde, Kate Liberman, Yurie Herhel and Tina Sherwood.

Lincoln Will Run for County Judge

Camille Linson, an attorney in private practice who serves as a Philipstown town justice, on July 23 filed a nominating petition to appear on the Democratic line on the November ballot for the Putnam County Court seat of Judge James Reitz, who died in June at age 57.

The Putnam County Democratic Committee endorsed Linson. County judges preside over family court, surrogates’ court and drug-treatment court.

Joseph Spofford Jr., a justice for the Town of Carmel, filed petitions on July 11 to appear on the Republican and Conservative party lines of the ballot.

Putnam Economic Corp. Names President

Southeast resident takes helm of agency

The Putnam County Economic Development Corp., a nonprofit created in 1996 to promote the county to businesses, has named Kathleen Dennehy Abels as its new president.

Abels recently left the New York State Electric and Gas Corp., where she was the manager of community outreach and development. She lives in Southeast, where she is on the board of its cultural arts coalition.

Relatives Injured in Dutchess Plane Crash

Four members of a family injured in a small-plane crash in Wappinger near the Hudson Valley Airport on July 19 are members of the extended family of Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Philipstown resident whose House district includes the Highlands.

The single-engine plane was flying from Ohio to Rhode Island when it ran low on fuel, according to news accounts. The pilot, David Scott, 50, was reported to be in critical condition. His wife, Tara, 50, and children, Jocelyn, 20, and Ryan, 17, were also injured.

A representative for Maloney said the family members are relatives of the congressman’s husband, Randy Florker.

“Randy and I want to extend our appreciation to the first responders and local authorities who were on the scene, as well as the medical teams working to treat our family’s injuries,” Maloney said in a statement.

In other business...

• The board approved the purchase of a boiler for the water treatment plant on Fishkill Road. Pidala Oil submitted the successful bid of $9,875.

• Early and Trustee Fran Murphy completed the annual audit of Cold Spring Justice Court records for the fiscal year ending May 31, as required by state law, and found no irregularities.

• Six docking requests from the sloop Clearwater for dates through early October were approved, along with an Aug. 6 campout at Dockside Park. The Clearwater’s request to dock from Oct. 3 to 7 was shortened by two days because SeaStreak cruise boats will be docked on Oct 6 and 7. Docking fees were waived because Clearwater is a nonprofit educational organization. The River Rose was also granted permission to dock at Cold Spring on Oct. 18.

• The third annual Church Street block party will be held on Aug. 31, and trustees approved closing the street for the event.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.
LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Tell us what you think

The Current welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length. We ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to Editor, The Highlands Current, 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer’s full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published.

Living on the Edge

Thank you for the excellent, detailed reporting on a complex national problem (“Living on the Edge,” July 19). I’ve always felt that the divide between those lucky enough to earn an annual salary with benefits and those working for an hourly wage is as important, if not more so, as the one dividing red and blue states.

I’ve surmised that the living wage is about $40/hour — a guess roughly borne out by the United Way’s calculation of $34.40 as a survival wage for a family of four. And yet the U.S. House just passed a bill raising the minimum wage to $15 per hour to be phased in over six years. We are miles from where we need to be to solve our hourly wage crisis, as monthly costs go up and as automation and globalization of the labor market provide no incentive whatsoever for low- and semi-skilled wage increases.

If we ever get to that happy day when everyone can feed his or her family working one job, how will we control the astronomical rates of inflation likely to be triggered by such a boom in national wealth? These are complicated, tenacious, if not intractable problems that this country has never thought seriously about how to fix.

Thanks again to The Current for the serious thinking on this matter — I’m a proud supporter of your Special Projects initiative, and I urge everyone who enjoys this terrific weekly publication to support it, as well.

Jacqueline Foertsch, Cold Spring

Editor’s note: Thank you and everyone who contributed. We’ve raised more than $12,000 so far to fund this and future projects. See highlandscurrent.org/spf to contribute.

Cell-tower settlement

The Town of Philipstown has defended the suit brought by Verizon and Homeland Towers (after the town denied a permit to build a cell tower on Vineyard Road, off Route 9) for the past 15 months (Letters and Comments, July 19). During that time, we have been told in no uncertain terms by both a federal magistrate and a federal judge that we should seek a solution to the issue; hint hint.

This does not mean that we raced to a decision nor does it mean that we gave up. The Town Board has never said the tower is for the good of the town. We do not think that. Further, to assert that there is little to lose is also false. We have lots to lose; money and our ability to maintain insurance are two potential downsides.

We have negotiated the best outcome possible. The tower was lowered from 180 feet to 120 feet; its height can never be raised and Verizon must maintain the road. At the balloon test the tower could not be seen from any resident’s house. Sometimes tough and unpopular decisions have to be made. The Town Board did not invite the cell-tower company to Vineyard Road; the landowner, Chris Padden, did.

These cases are hard to defend and after attending four hearings at the federal court in White Plains, spending countless hours in attorney meetings and sitting through a six-hour deposition, I have concluded it would be in the best interest of the town to come to a settlement that protects the viewedshed and the entire town from financial hardship.

I realize some residents of Vineyard Road will not be happy but in the interest of all the residents of Philipstown, this is the best decision.

Richard Shea, Philipstown

Shea is the Philipstown supervisor. The Philipstown Town Board voted on July 24, 4-0, to accept the settlement agreement. See Page 1.

Putnam tourism

I’m dismayed that the Putnam Visitors’ Bureau closed up shop, shut down visitputnam.org, and didn’t even leave digital copies of the Putnam Tourism Guide housed on the websites of the county government, Hudson Valley Tourism, the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, or the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce.

Airbnb just listed the Hudson Valley and the Catskills among a list of 19 destinations to visit in the world in 2019, and in 2013 National Geographic Traveler named the Hudson Valley one of the 20 best destinations in the world. This is a big deal.

Putnam is one of 10 Hudson Valley counties that offer visitors world-class arts and culture; outdoor recreation, ecotourism and summer camps; farm-to-table experiences; history, opportunities to learn and spiritual development; scenic spaces for weddings, conferences and special events; and unique locations for film and television productions.

(Continued on Page 5)
LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

We need a Tourism Promotion Agency for the county led by someone who understands that marketing is an act of teaching. The TPA must provide context for potential visitors and act as a curator — an impresario of experiences. And, the TPA must create a film office. The TPA can spur economic growth by identifying small audience segments and weaving together narratives about specific experiences that Putnam offers for each of them. And, the TPA must work with Putnam sites, organizations, chambers of commerce and businesses across the entire county to find, educate and dance with those people who want to be served.

We can boost economic development and housing sales in Putnam through the promotion of tourism and film with an ethos of sustainability. Sustainable tourism management involves partnering with New York State parks and law enforcement to teach hikers of Breakneck Ridge and the Appalachian Trail how to prepare themselves. And how do you do this? Through smart, targeted use of Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and the TPA’s website. It also involves consistent Leave No Trace messaging.

I learned from Kelly Baquerizo, director of the state matching funds program for tourism organizations, that Putnam plans to bring its tourism office in-house as a county agency [see Page 7]. I look forward to hearing more about the search for a new tourism director.

Jill Corson Lake, Putnam Valley

I can’t wait to see which former Republi-
can Party operative adds the tourism director position to the county’s roster of no-show jobs.
Andrew Moss, via Facebook

Water tie-in

Although New York City says Cold Spring must create a water district with Philip-
town and Nelsonville to tie into its aqueduct during repairs to the Cold Spring reservoir dams, if I’m reading the story right, there’s significant good news in that the city plans to install a connection when it makes aqueduct repairs — so we’re at least on track to have the capacity to tie in (“Conflict with NYC Over Water Continues,” July 19).
Andrew Revkin, Nelsonville

Tight squeeze

Removing a lane of parking on Main Street in Beacon to make room for wider lanes and a bike lane is a fantastic idea that should have happened long ago (“A Tight Squeeze,” July 19). Biking on Main is a dangerous game and dedicated space would be a godsend.

I’m guessing Robert Downey of the Cold Spring Highway Department has his facts wrong when he said that “older towns have narrower streets because they were built for smaller cars,” because older towns like Beacon were designed and built before cars were invented. Beacon streets were designed for pedestrians and trolleys. The streets were never designed to be used for the private storage of cars; they were designed to be used by the people.
Brandon Smith, Beacon

I’ve lived in Beacon for 35 years, and Main Street has always been too narrow for two-way traffic. You always have to be aware of people opening doors and other cars stop-
ing to park. It’s a slow go. Any changes that are made, such as bike lanes, will just bring up other issues that need to be addressed.
Steven Petrucchini, via Facebook

No way to one-way on Main Street. Verplanck Avenue would get way too much traffic. A bike lane and one-side parking sounds like a better idea.
Deb Ashton, via Facebook

Most of the congestion is on the weekends due to tourists. What could we do to encourage more visitors to park at the station, take the Beacon Free Loop (or trol-
ley on Sundays) and walk on Saturday and Sunday? Throwing that out there. It’s an option. Plenty of parking at the station.
Kelly Ellenwood, via Facebook

Even though Main Street in Cold Spring is wider than its counterpart in Beacon, some of the same issues are still encoun-
tered. When multiple delivery trucks are in the area, it is difficult getting up or down. Visibility from the side streets is horrendous. You have to carefully nose yourself out. Visibility is also an issue with pedestrian crosswalks. Because of cars being parked too close to the crosswalk both the pedes-
trians and the drivers have difficulty seeing each other.
Lillian Moser, Cold Spring

Bikes should not be on Main Street. Getting down Main is no big deal on week-
days. I drive in Manhattan every couple of weeks. That’s a zoo!
Chris Bopp, via Facebook

Yeah, great — remove spaces so people will have to drive around aimlessly looking for the few that are left. Then there will be more people pulling U-turns on Main, further tying up traffic. Pretty soon we will have a five-

Chris Ungaro, via Facebook

This idea comes up every couple of years. It would look pretty and certainly make the street safer, but it would be a disaster for the businesses that rely on people finding parking and for residents and others trying to find parking along or near Main Street. If Beacon officials are going to remove parking from one side of Main, they had better build two parking garages to pick up the slack. They also better speak with the people who live on the side streets, which will become parking streets. It will also require an overhaul of the zoning laws concerning parking requirements for Main Street buildings. The mayor has it right. Limit delivery trucks to specific times, enforce the park-
ing rules, especially around the bend and near Rite-Aid, and potentially make the buses use the cross streets instead of going up and down Main.

This is not entirely true that most of Beacon was designed and built before cars were invented. Central Main Street was developed much later than the east end (Matteawan) or the west end (Fishkill Landing). Almost all of the west end is gone, torn down for urban renewal in the 1960s and 1970s. Most of the central buildings are from the 1920s through the 1960s, with a few exceptions.
Tom Cerchiara, Beacon

CORRECTION

Due to an editing error, in “Conflict with NYC Over Water Continues” (July 19), we stated that “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 revisited.” In fact, the town has resisted the move.

HELP WANTED

PRINCIPAL OFFICE ASSISTANT WANTED

GARRISON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 193, GARRISON, NY 10524

Part time Principal Office Assistant needed to provide administrative support to Garrison School Principal. 175 hrs/wk, 12 month position, includes vacation/sick day benefits. Does not include health benefits. Position subject to Putnam County Civil Service rules/regulations. Candidate must hold title of Principal Office Assistant (School) or be eligible to take civil service exam. Call 845-424-3699 x 227 for additional information.

Please send resume to:
Alex Levine, Principal or email to mail@gufs.org by August 2, 2019

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:

Please send resumes to:
Town Clerk
P.O. Box 155
238 Main Street Cold Spring, NY 10516

or e-mail 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 PM at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY.
Riding the Cold Spring trolley, I was amazed at how extraordinary the scenery was (you miss that behind the wheel of a car) and the number of people with whom I chatted, including visitors from England and Los Angeles.

Carbon divestment
Of course the five questions and answers with Bevis Longstreth, who served on the state’s Decarbonization Advisory Panel, are not the whole story (“5 Questions,” July 19), but taking them for what they are:

Longstreth says he opposed a bill designed to force the state to enact the panel’s recommendations. His response is essentially that “governments need to lead.”

We should all ignore the advice that the likes of a “smarter” Pacific Gas & Electric or Central Hudson will eventually save us and keep working.

Aaron Wolfe, Cold Spring
We asked Longstreth if he would like to respond; he directed readers to the panel’s report, which can be downloaded at bit.ly/decarbonization.

Trolley woes
It is critical that riders have absolute trust that the Cold Spring Trolley will be available to get them back from their destination (“Turton Takes the Trolley,” July 19). The lack of information onboard and online — as well as a lack of marked stops — decreases confidence. No one wants to get stranded, so it is absolutely critical that riders have the information they need: The trolley schedule posted on the county website is from 2016.

Further, while I understand the desire to connect to Beacon buses, why is this Putnam County bus spending so much time up in Dutchess County? Rather than trying to make such an attenuated trip all the way to Dutchess County? Rather than trying to make such a trip? The trolley needs to be front and center on the county’s transportation system. It never was intended to be a prop.

Riding the Cold Spring trolley, I was amazed at how extraordinary the scenery was (you miss that behind the wheel of a car) and the number of people with whom I chatted, including visitors from England and Los Angeles.

Ethann Timm, Cold Spring
Near the beginning of July, the Chestnut Ridge Neighborhood Watch distributed more than 60 maps and schedules to our residents. We were hoping to open an avenue of travel for our senior and/or disabled members as one of the trolley stops is across the street at the Putnam History Museum.

Never having taken the trolley myself, I climbed aboard on July 13 to be a tourist in my own village. Setting out at about 10:30 a.m., I spent the next seven hours visiting Magazine Italian Art, lunching on the porch at Le Bouchon and doing a bit of shopping. In between, we popped in and out of Boscobel, Manitou, etc., as the trolley followed its route.

I was amazed at how extraordinary the scenery was (you miss that behind the wheel of a car) and the number of people with whom I chatted, including visitors from England and Los Angeles. One of the passengers lived at Forge Gate and takes the trolley every weekend.

This is a wonderful resource but it is clutched by a number of things. Within moments of boarding, the driver advised I had an out-of-date schedule even though it was the June to November 2019 document culled from the internet. Information on both schedules about Metro-North train times was incorrect.

The schedule is so tortuous to comprehend. Out-of-towners said they were confused as to where the trolley stopped because there are no signs, and information on websites like Boscobel’s was unclear. (Although I have heard complaints that the trolley ties up traffic, I never saw that in my day of travel.)

The trolley needs to be front and center on many business websites. Trolley stop signs must be placed so the public knows where to board. Get our seniors and kids involved. I loved visiting my own town and applaud those who are trying to make such travel well-used, efficient and fun.

Rena Corey, Cold Spring
The trolley is not a component of any serious transportation system. It never was intended to be. It’s a prop.

The trolley is an advertising vehicle to suggest to tourists the archaic and nostalgic charm of Cold Spring. The sales tax they generate goes back to the county, in part to fund the trolley. This keeps money in motion. And that’s how governments and economies work — in the modern era, it’s the only way they can work.

Were this trolley any more user-friendly, reliable, sturdy looking or safe that would detract from its appeal. The number of riders is irrelevant. For all I know, the trolley serves its purpose admirably.

Frank Haggerty, Cold Spring

House history
The home at 11 Parrott St. is decidedly not an 1840s structure, nor was Capt. Henry Metcalfe’s original owner (“Real Estate History on the Market,” July 19). The 1867 Beers map and the 1876 Reed map show the name William I. Paulding as its resident. Stylistically, it probably dates from the mid-1860s, with possible later alterations in a more Colonial Revival style, such as its porticos. In the 1870s Paulding was briefly in a business partnership with George Edward Harney, the architect of St. Mary’s Church and its parish house and the Presbyterian Church, among other landmarks (although Paulding himself was not an architect). The main body of the house, with its gables indicative of Harney’s works, so he likely may have been its designer.

Carolyn Bachan, Cold Spring

More on Danskammer
After the closure of Indian Point was announced, studies showed there would be no impact on energy delivery in New York state if clean-energy production and energy efficiency rose. They have and continue to be, soon to be helped by a 1,000-megawatt clean-energy corridor from Montreal to New York City and a new 1,700-megawatt offshore wind farm.

So it comes as a surprise that there are plans to build a fracked-gas-burning power plant on the Hudson River at Newburgh, pending Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s approval. Conceived by the Wall Street private equity firm, Danskam-lerr LLC, the plant will be fired up around the clock for 30 years and needlessly threaten our health, our economy and our planet.

Dark plumes will extend from the west bank of the Hudson River. Those plumes will continuously pollute our air with sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ground-level ozone (smog), radon and particulate matter. This toxic mix will increase rates of various cancers, chronic bronchitis, asthma, emphysema and other life-threatening illnesses.

Danskammer would pose a risk to the beleaguered Hudson River. Up to 1 million gallons of diesel and 30,000 gallons of ammonia would be stored at the plant, which would sit in a flood prone area. A deadly leak or spill would become another ecological anxiety for our region.

Not unexpectedly, this private equity firm is selling the plant as a clean energy project and natural gas as a “bridge fuel.” We don’t have to buy these lies any longer. The greenhouse-gas footprint of burning fracked gas is worse than coal because its fugitive methane traps more heat in our atmosphere.

Along with two other new fracked gas plants (CPV and Cricket Valley) and one of the dirtiest waste incinerators in the nation, the Hudson Valley is becoming a pollution capital — an inverse of the vision many of us share for our region.

The governor just signed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act into law. Approving the Danskammer fracked gas plant would be inconsistent with what is now the nation’s strongest climate-change law. Please write to Cuomo and tell him that the Hudson Valley and the Earth can’t afford another fracked-gas power plant.

Dan Aymar-Blair, Beacon
Aymar-Blair is a candidate for the Ward 4 seat on the Beacon City Council.

Let’s save our Hudson Valley!
Putnam Will Consider Tourism Agency

Committee approves concept after bureau disbands

By Holly Crocco

Facing a deadline to receive $68,000 in state funding, Putnam County is acting quickly to create its own tourism agency and bring the position of tourism director under its authority.

The decision comes after the nonprofit Putnam County Visitors’ Bureau abruptly shut down, and without informing the county, ceased operations last month. The county had placed a help-wanted ad to hire a new tourism director, which board members said in a statement had blindsided them.

During a meeting on July 23 of the Legislature’s Economic Development Committee, lawmakers voted to designate the county as the Putnam County Tourist Promotion Agency so it can receive matching funds for 2019 from the state’s I Love New York program and apply next month for funding for 2020. The Visitors’ Bureau had attempted to return the $68,000 to the state but was told that the county would not be able to retrieve the money if it did so.

Until a director is hired, said County Attorney Jennifer Bumgarner, the law department will handle the application process for the 2020 money.

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. The industry employs about 1,400 people and generates $4.6 million in sales tax annually. 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.

The Legislature contributed $227,000 in funding for the Visitors’ Bureau in 2019, which included the state money, made up nearly the entire budget for the nonprofit, which used county office space and resources.

Bumgarner explained that the candidate list for the tourism director position has been narrowed down from about 20 applicants to four finalists who were interviewed last week by a committee that includes Legislator Ginny Nacerino, Putnam County Finance Commissioner Bill Carlin Jr., Deputy Commissioner of Highways and Facilities John Tully, and Putnam County Golf Course General Manager Mike McColl.

During an Audit Committee meeting held on July 24, legislators approved budgeting $85,000 for the tourism director’s salary, plus benefits. The job was advertised by the county at a salary of $75,000 to $85,000 annually.

Whomever is hired to fill the seat will need to act quickly, Bumgarner said, because the 2019 state matching funds need to be spent by Dec. 31.

Legislator Nancy Montgomery (D-Philipstown) said she was not comfortable moving so quickly to hire a tourism director under the direction of County Executive MaryEllen Odell, citing the “failings” of the past three directors.

“This has been a failing organization since this administration has been overseeing it,” said Montgomery. “I don’t know enough about it right now to, again, hand it over to this administration, which is what we’re doing.”

Longtime director Valerie Hickman stepped down in 2012 shortly after Odell took office. That year, Odell tapped Libby Pataki, a Garrison resident who is 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 general’s office; the board hired Bruce Conklin, a native of Putnam Valley, in March 2017.

Legislators say they were unhappy with Conklin’s performance, but the Visitors’ Bureau board said in a statement that he had “hit the ground running” and done great work.

Montgomery pointed out that as recently as earlier this month lawmakers were talking about their options for the direction of tourism, and now they were being told a new director is about to be hired.

“We’ve seen very poor oversight for this agency on this government’s level, and I’m not ready to see this government take this over,” she said.

Bumgarner, however, said it was not Odell who hired the prior directors, but the Putnam County Visitors’ Bureau.

“From a legal perspective, she [Odell] had no authority to hire or appoint anybody on behalf of a separate, private, not-for-profit corporation,” said Bumgarner. “So she didn’t hire those people; they were hired specifically by the board.”

(According to the Visitors’ Bureau tax filings, while the board selected its executive director, he or she must be approved by the Legislature.)

Bumgarner said that was at the heart of the frustration for the county, because the Legislature had no legal authority to dictate any changes to the Visitors’ Bureau except when it was time to renew its annual contract.

Legislator Carl Alban (R-Carmel) said moving forward with an in-house tourism department was the right decision.

“We should act on this,” he said. “There’s monies that need to be spent by the end of the year. And tourism does benefit everyone in the county. This isn’t ideally for one town or one specific area — it’s the whole county,” Nacerino (R-Patterson) added: “It’s time for us to have some control. It’s time for us to have some accountability.”

The matter will go to the full Legislature for a vote at its Aug. 6 meeting.
Nelsonville Appoints New Trustee

Also, questions arise about short-term rentals

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Nelsonville got a new trustee on Monday (July 22) when its Village Board appointed Chris Winward to fill the vacancy created by Michael Bowman’s move from trustee to mayor. Bowman succeeded Chris Caccamise, who resigned in March, two months after being elected. Under state law, the board can select one of its members to complete the term. In turn, the newly appointed mayor can select his successor as trustee and may ask the incumbent trustees to approve the choice.

Trustees Dove Pedlosky and Lisa Mechaley voted to appoint Winward on Bowman’s recommendation. Trustee Dave Moroney abstained. Former Trustee Alan Potts, who lost his re-election bid in March, submitted a letter seeking the appointment but was rebuffed. Bowman also named Pedlosky as deputy mayor.

Winward is the vice president of administrative support services for Saint Dominic’s Family Services, a social services agency with offices in Orange and Rockland counties and New York City. She holds a master’s degree in public and nonprofit management and policy from New York University and an undergraduate degree from Siena College, has expertise in overseeing grants, and worked earlier in her career on the staff of the New York City Council.

“We have some big issues and challenges,” Winward said. “I look forward to serving everybody” and to “working with all of you and the community to address the needs.” Winward’s husband, Chris Keeley, serves on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The seats held by Winward and Moroney will be on the ballot in the spring, when the two-year terms expire. Whoever is elected mayor in March will serve one year, until spring 2021, to complete what would have been Caccamise’s two-year term. Nelsonville has about 380 registered voters.

Short-term rentals

At the meeting, two audience members raised the issue of short-term rentals such as those made through Airbnb.

A resident of Main Street, where many homes stand close together, said the house next to hers contains a one-bedroom apartment that rents on Airbnb for $180 a night.

On the Airbnb website, the listing, which promotes the unit as being “steps to the trailhead” at Hudson Highlands State Park, has only rave reviews and notes that parties are not allowed and that the space is not suitable for children. The owner says on the site that he lives in New York City. Airbnb also lists a three-bedroom Nelsonville home owned by a Nashville couple that rents for $300 to $350 per night.

The short-term rental question “has been on our radar for a while,” Bowman said. He remarked that such rentals have “become a supplemental income that’s very important” to some residents and add to the local economy when weekend guests patronize local establishments. Moreover, he said, “I have a hard time telling people what they can do with their private property.”

However, he promised to consult the building inspector and said that rental practices might be regulated through enforcement of safety standards and other requirements.

Nelsonville’s village code allows “the letting of rooms” to up to two guests at a time if the owner lives in the house. It prohibits cooking facilities in guest rooms, although an owner can offer breakfast or other board and allow guest access to the kitchen.

Secor parcel

The board voted unanimously to spend an estimated $750 to $1,000 for an appraisal of the village-owned parcel on Secor Street that is being considered for a conservation easement with the Open Space Institute. After completion of the appraisal, the board plans to schedule a public hearing and possibly a referendum.

Peggy Clements, a Nelsonville resident who is a member of the Haldane school board, suggested that the 4-acre Secor site could be used by the school district.

“That’s the only place I can think of where we could maybe build something,” she said, explaining that she spoke as an individual, not as a representative of Haldane. “I’m reluctant about handing over any control of that property to anybody besides the village.”

Clements said the district has no plans for construction, but she also cited a lack of space at Haldane and within both Nelsonville and Cold Spring for new facilities.

The proposed agreement with OSI would allow the village to add a building to the site for “public use.”
Putnam Wants State to Void Green Light Bill

By Holly Crocco

Putnam County lawmakers plan to ask the governor and state Legislature to put the brakes on a new law that allows undocumented immigrants to obtain driver's licenses.

“The law as is, to me, is just riddled with concern,” said County Clerk Michael Bartolotti, who is the commissioner of the Putnam County Department of Motor Vehicles, during the Legislature’s July 22 Rules Committee meeting in Carmel.

“It’s directly on us and on our staff to deal with this on a daily basis,” he said.

Officially called the Driver’s License Access and Privacy Act, the measure is informally known as the “Green Light Bill.”

Bartolotti said the law, signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo on June 18, puts DMV staff in a bind because it allows the issuance of “not for federal purposes” licenses without requiring the demonstration of lawful presence in the United States or Social Security number verification. However, he said, federal law states that should a person not have lawful presence, they may not be afforded certain privileges.

“And the question is, would this be one of them?” he said.

Bartolotti expressed concerns that undocumented immigrants could erroneously be placed on voter registration rolls because of the DMV’s automatic voter-registration system.

“You look beyond the potential of somebody being registered and going and voting, but besides that, you have names on voter registration rolls that shouldn’t be there,” he said. “Tons of things are driven by registration rolls. Those rolls should be as pristine as they possibly can be.”

Bartolotti said that in most states that issue driver’s licenses to undocumented immigrants, there are solid processes in place. In Illinois, he said, a non-renewable, temporary visitor’s license may be issued that is valid only five years.

“The concerns are outweighing the merits,” he said of the law. “But for me, right now, the concerns are outweighing the merits.”

Vanessa Agudelo, manager of member engagement for the Hudson Valley at the New York Immigration Coalition, asked county lawmakers to reconsider their opposition.

“A lot of the concerns that are being raised here are concerns that I do believe were actually addressed in the legislation,” she said. “There are some misconceptions as to how this legislation has been drafted.”

According to Agudelo, her coalition spearheaded the effort to get the Green Light Bill passed and helped draft it. She said it has the support of insurance companies, chambers of commerce and corporations who feel the legislation will help their employees get to work on time and increase productivity.

Agudelo claimed that the resolution county lawmakers were voting on contains statements that are not accurate — a charge also leveled by critics against a previous resolution passed by county lawmakers asking the state to repeal the Reproductive Health Act, which made changes to the regulation of abortion.

“There are errors in the legislation that you all are going to vote on today that I want to make sure you are aware of,” Agudelo said.

She referred to a resolution paragraph that states: “While the Driver’s License Access and Privacy Act requires that standard driver’s licenses may state ‘not for federal purposes’ somewhere on the card, such marketing is not mandatory.”

“This is actually false,” she said. “It is federal law that any identification that is being issued by the government, if it is for federal purposes, it has to be marked accordingly.”

Legislative Counsel Robert Firriolo disagreed.

“The resolution speaks to what the Driver’s License Access and Privacy Act requires, and it does not require that it be marked,” he said. “Whether it’s in the federal law is a separate issue. So I will submit that, as drafted, the resolution is correct.”

Agudelo also took issue with a paragraph that reads: “The Driver’s License Access and Privacy Act secures driving privileges for undocumented immigrants and protects the data of those applying for such privileges from access by any third party, including any law enforcement agency.”

“We made sure that law enforcement was very, very much a part of this process,” she said. “In fact, we spent about two months going back and forth with them on certain language that they felt wasn’t clear enough, delineating exactly what access they had to this information.”

According to Agudelo, the law states that an individual’s application information can be disclosed in response to a court order, judicial warrant or subpoena, but not an administrative warrant under the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency.

In addition, Agudelo stated that $57 million annually has been allocated at the state and county level to assist local DMVs in processing the new licenses.

“This legislation is a huge revenue generator,” she said. “So, surely, there is enough funding coming down from the state to provide training.”

Legislator Carl Albano (R-Carmel) said he’ll believe that when he sees it.

“I’m not that hopeful that we’ll see a lot of that,” he said of the state funding, adding, “I think it would be a big expense for a small county.”

Albano noted that he can support the concept of undocumented immigrants having to go through the proper channels to become licensed drivers, but that the law needs revision. “It would be nice if we had something in place that made sense, but this isn’t it,” he said.

Neal Sullivan (R-Mahopac) expressed disappointment that county clerks were not invited to be involved in drafting the bill.

“In classic New York fashion, it’s the cart before the horse,” he said. “To me, it is clear this is not ready for some time, yet.”

At the end of the discussion, the committee unanimously voted to approve the resolution, which will now be sent to the full Legislature at its Aug. 6 meeting.

“We do want to send a message to the legislators in Albany that we want more information” before the law is implemented, said Sullivan.

Garrison School (from Page 1)

Swinburne, who was elected to the board in 2004, resigned on July 15, saying in a letter to the district that she “needed to move on to other ventures, experiences and interests.”

She added: “Being a part of the education for all those children and seeing many of them grow up from kindergarten to high school and college to become fine young men and women gives me hope for the future. They show that GUFS (Garrison Union Free School) truly is a school of excellence.”

“My wish you the remaining board members the best of luck in all future endeavors, plans and hopes for the future of the Garrison School. Remember, it is all about the children.”

Contacted by email, both O’Rourke and Swinburne declined to elaborate beyond the text of their resignation letters.

O’Rourke’s current three-year term ends in 2021 and Swinburne’s in 2020. The two people appointed to the seats will serve through June, and both seats will appear on the May ballot.

The person elected to fill Swinburne’s seat will serve a full, three-year term, and the person elected to fill O’Rourke’s seat will serve the remaining year of his term. Courtney McCarthy’s seat also will be on the ballot in May.

The board discussed at its July 10 and July 17 meetings the option of reducing its size to five members. But the consensus was to appoint two members and make any reduction in size a separate discussion.

Several board members expressed concern that, although the Haldane school board has only five members, reducing the number would leave the Garrison board short of enough members to fill its committees. (The Beacon school board has nine members.)

The board also discussed adding the two open seats to the September vote on capital improvements financing but decided that did not give potential candidates enough time to gather the signatures necessary to appear on the ballot and to campaign.

Capital improvements

The board decided unanimously on July 10 to set a vote for Tuesday, Sept. 24, for district residents to consider a “preservation, innovation, security and accessibility project,” or PISA, that could cost up to $9.9 million.

About $900,000 of the money would come from district savings, another $1 million from state aid and the remainder from a tax levy. The average increase for a taxpayer in a home assessed at $500,000, the district said, would about $110 to $140 annually, depending on the project’s cost.

The district said the capital project is the first to be presented to voters in 20 years.

“It’s been a long time since we’ve made a major investment in our school,” said Hoch in a statement. “The time has come to address some important issues in both the elementary and middle school, to protect the investment the community has made.”

The district said the bonding of the project, which was first proposed in September 2017, will coincide with the retirement of other debt.

The project would pay for HVAC upgrades, the replacement of asbestos floor tiles and classroom and hallway improvements, as well as upgrades to security and disability accessibility, the district said. If approved, construction would begin in the summer following the 2020-21 school year.
The Highlands Current

Cell Tower (from Page 1)

zoning code and also threatened Philipstown’s scenic and rural character and nearby property values. In their lawsuit, the companies alleged the decision violated federal law.

The Wednesday vote by Supervisor Richard Shea and Councilors Mike Leonard, John Van Tassel and Judith Farrell (Councilor Robert Flaherty was absent) occurred at a workshop where residents, especially neighbors of the Vineyard Road site, again questioned the merits of the proposed settlement. “I don’t feel the Town Board has been our friend or our representative,” one said.

Another asked whether the tower companies would remove the structure if it becomes obsolete.

“It’s their responsibility to take it down,” Shea replied. “They can’t shirk that responsibility.”

Opponents also spoke out at meetings on June 26 and July 3, and the Town Board twice delayed action to consider that input and revise the document.

Now, Shea said on Wednesday night, “barring the tower not going up, everything that’s been requested by the residents has been put in” the settlement.

Shea called the agreement “the best outcome. It’s not a great outcome. No one on this board has ever said this is good for the town.” However, he explained, if it did not agree to the settlement, Philipstown could lose at trial and its insurance might not cover costs of extended litigation. “There are rumblings” already, he said.

In a letter to The Current, Shea wrote that the town had been told “in no uncertain terms by both a federal magistrate and a federal judge that we should seek a solution to the issue; hint hint.”

He added: “Sometimes tough and unpopular decisions have to be made. The Town Board did not invite the cell-tower company to Vineyard Road; the landowner, Chris Fadden, did. These cases are hard to defend and after attending four hearings at the federal court in White Plains, counting countless hours in attorney meetings and sitting through a six-hour deposition, I have concluded it would be in the best interest of the town to come to a settlement that protects the viewshed and the entire town from financial hardship.”

“I realize some residents of Vineyard Road will not be happy but in the interest of all the residents of Philipstown, this is the best decision.”

Van Tassel said the town’s persistent efforts after Homeland and Verizon presented their plans in 2017 had influenced the tower design, so that “it’s not as obscene as it was at 180 feet.” He recalled allegations that Town Board members were “cowards, afraid of” cell tower companies. “That is not the case,” he said. “We sat here with the NRA [National Rifle Association, over firearm-related measures] and with Roger Ailes opposed to us [over a zoning law] without backing down,” he said. “And that [backing down] is not what we’re doing here.”

“I don’t believe we would have prevailed in court,” Farrell remarked.

Leonard said federal telecommunication laws severely limit local governments’ abilities to control cell-tower placement. (They are considered utilities such as the gas and electric company.) “We’re not an anti-cell tower town,” but need more leeway in determining where they go, he said.

The Terms

- The settlement worked out between Philipstown and Homeland and Verizon stipulates that:
  - The tower, disguised to resemble a pine tree, will be 60 feet shorter than originally requested and 20 feet shorter than a compromise that Homeland and Verizon at one point had proposed. Further, the companies waived the right to ever increase the height, or to even ask to raise it.
  - An 8-foot cedar privacy fence will surround the tower and vegetation will help screen it.
  - The companies will provide $20,000 to help neighbors landscape their yards but anyone accepting the funds will waive the right to make claims against the tower.
  - Lights at the tower will be fixed to project downward and use motion detectors and an automatic shut-off.
  - Emergency services can install three antennas on the tower at no charge.
  - Homeland Towers and Verizon will keep the 2,000-foot stretch of Vineyard Road from Route 9 to the tower’s driveway, plus the driveway itself, “in good order and repair and free of impediments to access.”
  - The companies will provide a $40,000 bond to Philipstown “to guarantee against any damage” to Vineyard Road from tower construction.
  - The cell companies will submit an application for a building permit for the tower within 60 days of the court’s acceptance of the settlement. After receiving the application, the town will issue a permit within 15 days.

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The Calendar

The Hudson Valley Sound

By Michael Turton

“Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery” isn’t an adage that sits well with Jason Gisser, at least when it comes to bands. Gisser grew up in Westchester County, where he says he witnessed the slow demise of original bands, something he hopes to reverse.

He plans to soon launch Soul Mouth, an online radio station and digital magazine (and eventually a record label) to support original bands in and beyond the Hudson Valley.

The musical road to Soul Mouth was long and winding.

“In my teens and 20s there were a lot of original bands playing in Westchester,” including big names such as Twisted Sister, says Gisser, 47. Bars were packed, with lines out the door, he recalls.

But that changed when bar owners didn’t have time to preview all the bands and started booking almost any act that came along. “Some were great,” Gisser says. “Some were not.”

The not-so-great music led to an exodus of customers and bar owners began asking bands to play hit songs, which pleased audiences. As a result, Gisser says, cover bands proliferated. “They all started to sound the same and many owners moved to DJs.”

Lately there has been a surge in tribute bands. “It’s weird,” he says, citing a Fleetwood Mac cover band that played locally four nights in a row while the real Fleetwood Mac was touring the region. “People who couldn’t afford Fleetwood Mac would see the tribute band instead of saving up to see the real thing.”

Gisser says the situation improved when he moved to Wappingers Falls a few years ago. His group, The Jason Gisser Band, began playing regional music festivals. He realized that, outside Westchester, original writing. After every six sessions or so, participants show or share their work. (At the next gathering, on July 31, participants will read a play by Danilov called *Ouija*.)

“Part of the reason we wanted to hold the workshops in Philipstown again was because it seemed to lend itself to the accessibility that is at our core,” Laifer says. “This is all about coming when you can to a place nearby. Come for a few weeks, miss a few, it’s all fine.”

Adds Vamos: “Being able to do this for free takes off the layer of stress for many people. I was excited about having space to explore acting, to have fun in an open-spirit environment that encourages experimenting.”

The acting sessions begin with warm-ups followed by ensemble exercises and, at times, improvisations. “Theater games are all about dropping that wall we walk around in and connecting with others,” Danilov explains.

The writing workshops “start by sharing: how we did over the past couple of weeks, our goals, our inspiration,” Laifer explains. “We use timed prompts, and there’s an opportunity to share what you’ve written. If you just want time and space outside of your home to write, that’s fine, too. And you can opt to have your stuff read by others,

(Continued on Page 18)
Three Companies Bringing Jobs to Beacon

By Jeff Simms

CAFÉ SPICE makes all-natural prepared meals with a focus on Indian and Thai recipes. After 10 years in New Windsor, it has outgrown its facility and will move production to the former Mechtronics building on Route 52. Payal Malhotra is the company’s vice president.

How many employees will you bring?

We expect to have 180 to 200 employees but we’re not at that number now. We’ll probably add 30 jobs. We’ll definitely be hiring.

How have your interactions with the city been so far?

Great. If we run into an issue with contractors or anything like that while we’re in construction, we know there’s someone we can reach to mitigate the problems. It’s wonderful to have a friendly municipality. We love that Beacon is on a train line and new things are happening there, too.

What’s your timeline?

We need to retrofit the site so it’s up to standard and meets U.S. Department of Agriculture specifications for food production. We haven’t gone into any of that work but we’d like to be in there by May.

DOCUWARE is a German software company with its U.S. headquarters in New Windsor. It is in negotiations to move to the 23-28 Creek Drive development off Main Street. Thomas Schnuck is one of the company’s presidents.

How many employees will you bring?

We have 70 employees in New Windsor but anticipate growing to 120 to 130. If our negotiations are successful, it will take about a year to build the facility, so we could potentially move in early in 2022.

What attracted you to Beacon?

It checks a lot of boxes. If you want to attract people between the ages of 20 and 35, many times they want the ability to walk to work. That’s an important aspect we saw in Beacon, with the Beacon Free Loop and Metro-North — having that public transportation option, or being able to take a walk or ride a bike.

The site you’re looking at would be an easy walk to Main Street.

Yes. In a couple of minutes, I can go to an interesting place for lunch, or I can go shopping if I need to run errands. Instead of jumping into a car, it’s all close by. It all plays into this idea that in today’s office world, there’s office time and there’s play time, but it kind of bleeds in and out — so you need to have options. That’s what young people are looking for in an employer.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS BREWING CO. was recently approved by the Beacon Planning Board to open a second location on Route 52. (It’s based in Garnerville.) Jeff O’Neill, who lives in Cold Spring, is the founder.

What are your hiring plans?

We have 30 employees and we’re expecting to double and triple that over the next few years. Ultimately it will be 30 to 50 new jobs [in Beacon]. We’re hoping to open as soon as possible; we’ve had a tremendous response. It seems like there’s a very active and engaged labor pool that’s well-indoctrinated into craft beer.

Will these jobs pay retail-type salaries?

We have made a point from the beginning to be generous with compensation and benefits packages. We think of ourselves as leaders not just in our industry but in the local employment sector. We’ve lost only one out of 30 people in three years.

How did the move into Beacon come about?

I originally wanted to locate in Beacon but a deal didn’t work out, so we found a space down here in 2016. We outgrew it faster than we expected. We were looking for Main Street locations for a small taproom expansion and this building came up on Route 52. We figured out a way to phase it so it starts as a smaller satellite location and will grow into something bigger.

Was the city helpful in bringing you here?

The city went out of its way to change its laws. One of our tenants is going to be an arcade, maybe with a small bowling alley, but that was illegal [in Beacon]. The city has been pro-project from the beginning. They’ve been appreciative not just of the jobs but of the tourism component that we’ll bring.

How was the Planning Board process?

That was the real black box. Because the zoning did not allow for the arcade usage and because we’re going to be an event space, there wasn’t a tidy way to calculate the parking spaces that we would need. We devised a parking-sharing proposal for the manufacturing day shift, which transitions into a recreational space in the evening. There was a lot of calculation about how the site could handle the traffic that we hope will be there, and I think we came to a good compromise.

Jeff O’Neill, Sofia Barbaresco and Mike McManus at Industrial Arts’ Garnerville facility. It plans an expansion into Beacon. Photo by Matt Furman

(Continued from Page 1)
hotel, along with a network of public trails, at the former Beacon Correctional Facility. Organizers say it could bring up to 250 jobs. “They’re all here because their employees were living here,” says Anthony Ruggiero, Beacon’s city administrator. “This is the type of culture they were looking for.”

A century ago, work in Beacon was dominated by its factories. By the 1930s and 1940s, and then later, in the 1980s, Texaco and IBM, respectively, provided jobs in neighboring communities. With many people working reasonably close to home, there were ripple effects within the community. Volunteerism flourished. Today, with commuting much more common, Beacon’s volunteer fire corps — one casualty of that change — is about a quarter of what it was 40 years ago.

Mayor Randy Casale says people struggled to make ends meet years ago, as well. “In the old days could people live here and work? My mother worked in the sweatshops and she had trouble paying her rent here,” the mayor recalls. “It’s not a novelty that people struggle to pay their bills. When I started with Public Works [in 1970], I had to live at home with my mother. I couldn’t afford to pay rent.”

As Beacon has grown in the last four to five years, zoning regulations have been put in place to ensure some continued commercial development. The City Council voted in 2017 that new projects in the Fishkill Creek development district, for example — have either hired a dedicated economic development officer or launched departments designed to create an environment friendly to businesses (see below).

“Somebody says they want to start a business,” he says, “the municipality needs to be able to help walk that person through all the necessary steps. They’ve got a road map ready to get that person up and running as quickly as possible.”

Casale says he’s not sure Beacon is ready for a full-time person in that position. “If they ever decide to build a transit-oriented development at the train station and they continue to address economic growth through its planning. “The onus is on zoning and the City Council. We have a paucity of commercial space. The next conversation is going to be how we can balance that out.”

Drapkin points out that some municipalities in the region — New Rochelle and Kingston, for example — have either hired a dedicated economic development officer or launched departments designed to create an environment friendly to businesses (see below).

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Aragon, who was hired in 2013 as New Rochelle’s development commissioner, says the city began to attract meaningful job growth in 2015 after it created a partnership between the local government and developers.

“Feeling Lost About Money?”

The National Endowment for Financial Education (nefe.org), founded in 1984 and funded by an endowment from the proceeds of the sale of the College of Financial Planning in 1997, argues that teaching people how to handle money can help every group that is financially fragile. It provides free courses at smartaboutmoney.org on financial basics such as saving and spending, credit and debt and employment strategies. It also has a site for younger adults at anyourown.org.

Those additions may indeed be the future of job growth in Beacon. Docuware, if it reaches an agreement with Weber, could eventually add around 60 jobs to its existing workforce. Café Spice and Industrial Arts both say they have plans to expand once here, too (See Page 12).

At just under 5 square miles, and with much of it developed, the city probably doesn’t have room for an “anchor institution” like a hospital or a university. But even if Beacon can’t attract a 300-acre college, Ruggiero says, it could get a satellite campus. Flexibility, he believes, is the key. Fewer major hospitals are in expansion mode now, too, “but they’re all looking for urgent care centers. That’s where we could do something, and we’re working on that.”

This series was made possible by donors to our Special Projects Fund (highlandscurrent.org/spf). Thank you.
Putnam County 4-H Fair
CARMEL
Noon – 6 p.m. Veterans Park
225 Gipsy Trail Road
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 SUN 28. Free

Annual Cookout
BEACON
10 a.m. – 8 p.m. South Avenue Park
“Everyone come out for a day of love, unity, community, family, food, music, games, basketball and dancing!”

Rabies Pet Vaccination
PHILIPSTOWN
10 a.m. – Noon. Hubbard Lodge
2880 Route 9 | 845-808-1390 ext. 43560

#SolidarityCages
COLD SPRING
2 – 3:30 p.m. St. Mary’s Lawn
14 Main St. | 845-265-2080
Split Rock Books
3 – 8 p.m. Common Ground Farm
3 – 8 p.m. Common Ground Farm
This event will focus on creating art that supports the freeing of our government not to separate families or hold asylum-seekers in inhumane conditions,” according to organizers.

Ice Cream Social
GARRISON
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org
Free

Night Sky Watch
GARRISON
7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
This event will feature burgers and hot dogs from Barb’s Butchery, music and a dance party. Free

Bird Festival
BEAR MOUNTAIN
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Trailside Zoo
3006 Seven Lakes Drive
845-786-2701 | trailsidezoo.org
Free

The Week Ahead
Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)
For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.
SAT 27
Peeksill Film Festival
PEEKSILL
peeksillfilmfestival.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 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.

Mon, July 29
Summer Showcase of Modern Dance
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. Dancing Dialogue
626 Main St., 845-327-4332
facebook.com/putnamcountydanceproject

Local and regional dancers will perform early and contemporary modern pieces. Cost: $25 (80 children, seniors, veterans)

Wed 31
Artifishal
BEACON
7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
50 Liberty St., 845-265-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

The 2019 documentary, screened as part of the ongoing Movies That Matter series, explores wild salmon’s slide toward extinction, threats posed by fish hatcheries and fish farms, and our continued loss of faith in nature. Free

Thurs 1
Into the Woods
GARRISON
7:30 p.m. Boscobello | 1601 Route 9
845-265-9575 | twincitiespeon.com

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival presents its first musical, the Broadway hit and Tony Award winner that weaves together fractured-fairy-tale favorites. This preview and another on FRI 2 are followed by opening night on SAT 3. Director Jenn Thompson will discuss the show at 6:15 p.m. before the Friday performance. Cost: $10 to $100

FRI 2
Blinky and Me
PUTNAM VALLEY
7:30 p.m.

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peeksill Hollow Road
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org
Kevin Twigg (drums), Rene Hart (bass) and Adam Amram (percussionist) will join Amram for an evening of jazz, classical blues and world music. Cost: $25 donation ($15 students, seniors)

SAT 27
Broadway in Your Backyard
NEWBURGH
7 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College
845-913-7157 | newburghshymp.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 Peeksill 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, seniors)

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 Winberg (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
The Fred Zeppelin Band
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., 845-765-3012
downtownbeacon.com
The band, with Alan Paul on bass, Andreas Humpert on guitar, Bill Pascall on drums, Eric Nies on keys and Zeppelin on ukulele, cover classic rock songs, including by Led Zeppelin. Cost: $30 ($35 door)

SAT 27
True Dreams / M Roosevelt
BEACON
9 p.m. Quinn’s
330 Main St. | 845-202-7447
facebook.com/quinnsbeacon
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.

FRI 2
Sound/Peace Concert
BEACON
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., 845-765-3012
howlandculturalcenter.org
The immersive sonic experience “accompanied by the changing light of the setting sun” was created by musicians Katie Down, Mark Trecka, Thom Uliasz and Craig Chin to seek harmony in dissonant times. Bring your own pillow or mat. Cost: $10

FRI 2
Dark Desert Eagles
PEEKSILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St., 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
This Eagles tribute band features Pat Badger of Extreme. Cost: $30 to $45

FRI 2
MaMuse
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Sarah Nutting and Karisha Longaker create uplifting folk music and will play a variety of acoustic instruments with Walter Strauss on guitar. Cost: $20 ($25 at door)

FRI 2
Introduction to Plant ID
BEACON
5 p.m. One Nature Garden Center
321 Main St., 845-202-3468
onenaturellc.com
Learn the basics of how to identify a plant and the guides that can be helpful.

TUES 30
Cut the Cord
BEACON
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403, 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Learn how to access streaming services and which smart devices are best for your needs, budget and home.

FRI 2
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. Cost: $75 ($60 local)
Now Showing:
Member Exhibits

Not everyone can submit, but anyone can enjoy

- Hudson Beach Glass Gallery at 162 Main St. in Beacon is hosting the first BeaconArts Member Show through Aug. 4. Curated by co-president Karlyn Benson and former president Theresa Gooby, it has contributions from 70 artists, including paintings, drawings, photos, sculptures, ceramics and jewelry. Hudson Beach Glass is open Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- Atlas Studios at 11 Spring St. in Newburgh has the annual Dia Art Staff Show, with works by employees of the Dia Art Foundation (including Dia:Beacon) on display through Aug. 18. The show is open from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays or, for an appointment, email diastaffart@gmail.com. A music show-case will take place on Aug. 3 and a film screening on Aug. 9.

- This is the last weekend of the annual Beacon Photography Group Membership Show at the Howland Cultural Center at 477 Main St. It will be open Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. and features work by 20 photographers.

"A View from Walkway Over the Hudson," by Sarah Boyd, from the BeaconArts show

"Shekhinah Spreads Her Wings," by Bekah Starr, from the BeaconArts show

"Retread," by Matt Kinney, from the Dia staff show at Atlas Studios
**Small, Good Things**

**Nice and Easy**

**By Joe Dizney**

There’s something so simple about high summer eating. And it’s no wonder that we use the term **al fresco** (“fresh”) to describe dining outdoors — the big, bright flavors of the season are best prepared and consumed en plein air. When life is proceeding at such an unhurried momentum, life should be a picnic.

This easygoing approach to living and eating reached its zenith in the Mediterranean, and its epicenter can almost be pinpointed in Nice, on the French Riviera. Nestled in that sweet spot between Spain and Italy directly across the sea from Morocco, northern Africa and the Levant, it’s where these cultures of the sun converge. Nice enjoys a climate that allows the cultivation of just about anything; the cuisine is a celebration of the height of summer markets — from farmers’ to fisherman’s — soaked in fruity olive oil and pungent with garlic and fresh herbs.

Ratatouille, pissaladière, salade Niçoise — the names are as evocative of their preparation and flavors as they are of the pure joy and carefree, sun-drenched style of eating, living and being.

Salade Niçoise exemplifies the sensibility: oil-cured anchovies, tuna and olives, onions, capers, tomatoes, radishes, a hard-cooked egg, greens, perhaps a boiled potato or handful of crisp green beans — this is the quintessentially informal, all-in-one meal on a plate.

Better still is the pan bagnat, or pan bagna (pronounced “pan ban-yah”), a particularly Nissartian sandwich and common street food. Pan bagnat is basically a salade Niçoise between bread. The name means “bathed bread,” and when properly prepared is a juicy, sloppy mess.

A crusty loaf, scooped clean of excess crumb, becomes the delivery device for an overabundance of Provençal ingredients. The whole is saturated in the same garlicky vinaigrette that dresses the individual parts, summermly compressed and transformed into something extraordinary.

Light but substantial, pan bagnat also travels well. It’s a great choice for picnics, seaside or mountaintop, and requires only beverages and napkins. Lunch for a crowd can be easily assembled the night before.

Kitchen caveats: Since most of the “innards” of the bread get tossed, and what’s left is “tenderized” by the dressing, the bagnat was likely a means to utilize day-old bread. But it pays to start with good materials: the Niçoise bagnat calls for a classic white baguette or country wheat cannonball or boule. I personally prefer a broad, crusty ciabatta; while maybe not strictly authentic, it works just fine.

As most of the other raw materials are fresh (tomatoes, radishes, eggs) and salt-or oil-cured (anchovies, olives, capers), aim for quality, particularly as regards the tuna, olive oil and balsamic. Lots of fresh basil completes the formula, although food writer and Nice native Mireille Johnston suggests fresh mint.

Above all, don’t overcomplicate it or get too precious. It’s about keeping things nice and easy.

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**Pan Bagnat**

Makes about four portions

1 unsliced baguette or ciabatta (about 12 to 14 inches long); or a rustic boule, 7 to 8 inches in diameter
3 tablespoons Balsamic vinegar
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
2 cloves garlic, finely grated
½ cup minced shallots (or red onion)
¾ cup extra-virgin olive oil
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
Freshly ground black pepper to taste

Drizzle more dressing over all and top generously with basil leaves.

18 to 20 large basil leaves

9. Slice bread in half lengthwise. Roughly remove excess soft interior of the loaf to leave about a ¾- to 1-inch shell. Spoon and spread enough of the dressing on each of the cut sides of the loaf to moisten. On the bottom half, layer on the onion-olive mixture. Layer on the tuna with a drizzle of any leftover dressing from the olives or tuna. Layer first the tomatoes, then the sliced eggs, followed by the radishes. Drizzle more dressing over all and top generously with basil leaves.

4. Place the top half of the loaf over the filled bottom and wrap tightly with plastic wrap. On a half-sheet pan or large plate, weigh the whole down with another pan topped with enough weight to compress the whole (or use a cast-iron skillet). Refrigerate for at least two hours, up to overnight, turning occasionally. To serve, cut into quarters and allow to rest a bit at room temperature.
Soul Mouth (from Page 11)

music was thriving. At festivals, he says, it would be all original music by “amazing bands” with “4,500 people showing up, from all over the country” to listen.

Gisser wants to tap that talent. He envisioned a record label that eschews the short cuts he had experienced. “Our band was signed by an independent label; they did nothing for us,” he says. “They took the music we already had recorded, put it up for distribution, and we gave them 50 percent of everything.” The label provided no marketing, merchandise, studio time or tour support, he says.

A major label also offered Gisser a contract, based only on “the numbers” — audience size and air time his band was getting on the radio. “I asked the guy what his favorite song was on our album; he said he liked them all,” Gisser recalls. When pressed, the label rep said he didn’t need to listen to the music: the numbers were enough.

Gisser was amazed that the “unbelievable” original bands he was hearing at festivals were largely unknown. He imagined a radio station featuring their music, with advertising revenue going toward a recording label. He also envisioned a digital music magazine to highlight the bands and generate more ad revenue.

Soul Mouth Radio made its debut online in April. (The official launch is Aug. 12.) It broadcasts 461 songs by 70 bands, with another 71 songs ready to go, Gisser says.

While mainstream radio has become segmented by genre and even subgenre, he says Soul Mouth Radio will continue to be eclectic. “I don’t care what genre the music is; it’s got to have feeling,” Gisser explains. He also insists on high production values. “We want to be sure it’s the full package,” he says.

His concept for a magazine, scheduled to debut in September, is just as demanding. In the 1970s and 1980s, publications such as Rolling Stone, Creem and The San Diego Door were “brutally honest,” Gisser says, while some music magazines now have the bands write about their own music. “We want to be the brutally honest magazine,” he says.

Initially, Gisser planned to focus on Hudson Valley bands but word has spread and groups from Boston to Russia are now part of the radio mix. He says his immediate challenge is to build a listener base to produce more ad revenue. Supporting a record label will take a while, but “slow and steady wins the race.”

For now, operations are funded from his pocket and revenues go back into operations. Bands pay nothing to have their music broadcast, although he says they often donate to support Soul Mouth’s growth. Cold Spring resident Lauren Simonetti assists with marketing that includes a website at soulmouthrecords.com, social media and QR-coded stickers. Bands and advertisers can email soulmouthrecords@gmail.com for information.

An Expansive Theater writing workshop

Expansive Theater (from Page 11)

informally or at a table read.”

Other participants can provide feedback, although criticism is not allowed, she says. “People can share what struck them, what stood out. The ‘audience’ can ask questions, but the author is not allowed to answer. This yields information for the author. And the author can ask questions of the audience.”

The three founders have varied backgrounds in the arts. Danilov received a bachelor’s degree in theater from UCLA before moving to New York City and then Cold Spring to raise her family.

Laifer was a model and actor in New York City before motherhood and a move, 10 years ago, to Cold Spring. “I made a conscious decision to be a full-time mom,” she recalls. “Now I feel so grateful to be able to participate locally, though it took me a while to even consider auditioning; it was terrifying.”

Vamos did performance-art pieces and non-traditional theater, including improv, before she had a child and became a practitioner of Feldenkrais, an exercise therapy. “I went to see The Middle Company’s production of Antigone,” she recalls. “I like the idea of working on the nuts and bolts of acting, and I like being with other people, period.”

The Expansive sessions, which began a few months ago, have attracted as few as four and as many as 16 people. “Our name means to be able to grow and have a space to become more free,” Vamos says. Adds Laifer: “Part of it is so much of our life is about the roles we play. For me, the expansiveness is the freedom to take a break from that.”

Create Community is located at 11 Peckskill Road, with the entrance and parking on Pine Street. Email expansivetheater@gmail.com for more information.
Looking for Work? Heed This Advice

A guide to creating a winning resume

By Alison Rooney

Creating a resume isn’t what it used to be.

In a recent presentation at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison for job seekers, Ryan Biracree, its digital services coordinator, focused on crossing the digital divide to stand out from the crowd.

“You don’t get a chance to get across your real personality, to use your charm,” he said. On the other hand, “doing things digitally gives you the opportunity to get across what you need in a calculated way: you don’t have to worry about how you dress, you’re not hindered by prejudice against race and/or gender. You have control of the whole way you present yourself.”

A resume “should take inventory of what you have,” he said. “The information it contains will change with each job submission.”

To begin with, he said, applicants should “take stock of your skills, certifications, recommendations. Have a list of references ready, with every form of contact covered; both email and phone. Not everyone will ask for letters of reference, but be ready for them if they do.” And, though it may seem obvious, “make sure that they’re going to give you a good one. Some are surprisingly tepid.”

For the resume, “assemble a list of everything you’ve done, then pare it down. Don’t try to make it fit on one page right off the bat. If you had a project that turned out well, if you led a team, mention it. We may want to minimize something if we think the achievement wasn’t that noteworthy, but you never know what the value may be.”

Summary lines, working a bit like headings, are popular, but tricky. “You need to use concrete language,” Biracree said. “Innovative achiever with bold ideas is nice but it doesn’t mean anything.”

Instead, fine-tune the language to the industry, and be specific. “Avoid things like ‘award-winning’ because there are plenty of awards you can buy, and employers know this,” he said. “Think of the qualities needed for specific jobs. There’s always a drive to energize and make things sound exciting, but that’s not necessarily appropriate to every field. Sometimes competence is exciting. Do I want to hire an exciting accountant? No, for accounting, competence is sexy.”

People are on both sides of the fence about narrative resume writing, according to Biracree. “It works for things like teaching, where you can spell out what and how you taught, rather than just listing jobs, but often bullet points are better,” he said. “To some extent it also depends on how long the resume is. If it entails lots of reading, some employers will throw it out because it makes them do too much work. Because the vast number of resumes are submitted electronically, it can be overwhelming to read all that text. Know your industry and adapt — have both, and choose between them on a case-by-case basis.”

Showing you can write a good cover letter is crucial, he said. “Every formatting error, even meaningless capitalizing of letters, can come across as careless. If you’re not a very good writer, ask for help. Being conscious that your skills are weaker in this area indicates that you’re not overly proud, which can be a positive.”

He acknowledged that cover letters can be challenging. “They will inevitably have parts which come across as artificial. They can feel smarmy, so avoid the peacock and focus on what you’ve done, then support it with evidence.”

That will also serve to make your interview, should you get one, “a lot less awkward. Cover letters often serve as a road map for applicants will approach the interview. The most important thing is to read the job listing carefully and to respond specifically to what they are looking for. Try to determine what’s most important about this job and stress that. You can leave things out. Have multiple versions of cover letters, too.”

He also advised that if you’re a high school grad with little or no working experience, “stress your dedication; at the other end of the spectrum, older people shouldn’t be overly concerned about trimming their resumes.”

“The prevailing wisdom is a one-page resume,” Biracree observed. “With older people, employers know that trimming was done. They understand you’re not going to give them everything you’ve ever done. There’s no need to include all of your working history, but remember, people of older generations — if you get called in to an interview, they’ll see you!”

“Many places are ageist, but, like other things, if you wind up getting hired, there is greater harm in hiding part of yourself than being upfront and honest. Lengthy experience in your field can be your ‘thing.’ Higher turnover means experience is valued. Just be sure to let it come across that having experience doesn’t make you immune to new things. Don’t say ‘I can’t’ mention instead: ‘Are there professional opportunities to learn new skills?”

For stay-at-home parents, it can be a real challenge, and “it’s a bigger challenge for women, who are all too often seen as prioritizing family over job,” Biracree said. “If you’re coming back after a long absence emphasize that the gap in your resume is not a gap in your knowledge. You’ve engaged with the industry, your faculties have not been compromised. If you have a big gap for other reasons, including illness or incarceration, don’t lie, don’t make up fake jobs. Show them you’re not coming back with a handicap; that time has made you more capable.”

Always remember, Biracree said, that a job search is a two-way street. “Being upfront about your needs is important, if you have the privilege to do that.”

“Avoid the peacock and focus on what you’ve done; then support it with evidence.”

~ Ryan Biracree

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Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (July 1869)

Professor John Charlouis announced that, if he could get enough pupils, he would open a private boarding school in the village for local and foreign students, with a $10 fee per term for English, $8 for piano, and $6 for French, drawing, painting and students ages 9 and younger.

The roof of the old yellow house by the cemetery bridge burned off after it was hit by an errant firework that fell on the side nearest the brook. Addison Merrick reported he had harvested eight bushels of strawberries from his patch, which measures 47 by 30 feet.

On a Monday at noon, Barney Clinton showed up at the Cold Spring train depot and attacked the baggage master, James McAndrew, over a longstanding grudge. At court the next day, Clinton made so many threats that he was sentenced to 60 days in the county jail.

A drawing of the Caiman from an 1893 issue of Illustrated American

125 Years Ago (July 1894)

A party of 152 people disembarked at the Cold Spring dock from the Magenta on a Sunday afternoon, brought to what the boat's owners hyped as "the new Iona Island." After two hours of wandering around, apparently disappointed, the visitors packed up their lunches and returned to the dock. The next week, however, 175 passengers disembarked, made their way to Kemble's grove for a picnic and seemed to enjoy themselves.

A snake measuring 5 feet and 8 inches was discovered in David Hustis' hen house. After removing it, it disgorged an egg. Meanwhile, E.A. Pelton reported that one of his hens laid an egg that had another egg, with its own shell, inside.

A tramp who snuck into the carriage painter's shop after dark looking for a place to sleep chose a freshly varnished coach and was easy to spot the next day. William Fuller & Co., under contract with the village, began curbing Garden and Pine streets and paving Main Street between Stone and Fair.

On a 10:46 a.m. train caught the mail bag but for some reason dropped it near Breakneck. It was returned and set aside for the evening train.

Residents complained that young boys and men were bathing in Foundry Pond.

(Continued on Page 21)
A line of clothing hanging to dry was consumed by a fire from the cook stove that was heating the water for washing.

A horse and wagon stolen in Newark was recovered in Garrison.

**100 Years Ago (July 1919)**

The late Sgt. George A. Casey was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism by Gen. John Pershing.

Clarence Fahnestock

The estate of Clarence Fahnestock, who died in 1918 of pneumonia while serving in France, was valued at $4.5 million [about $66 million]. He was thought to be the wealthiest American to give his life during the war. His 6,000-acre property in Putnam Valley went to his brother and later became Fahnestock State Park.

Willet Selleck was killed on the state road while returning from Peekskill when his auto overturned. His passenger, Isaac Welch, was pinned on his back with both arms beneath him but survived and managed to call out in the dark to the driver of a passing truck. Selleck was survived by his wife and three children.

Duncan Phyfe contributed a lengthy memoir to *The Cold Spring Recorder* of his time as an ambulance driver in France during the war.

The 6-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Brewer died of lockjaw after stepping on a thorn.

**75 Years Ago (July 1944)**

Lt. Gertrude Nolan of the U.S. Army Nursing Corps, the daughter of Bernard Nolan of Church Street, was shown in a photo in the *New York Daily Mirror* caring for wounded soldiers somewhere in France.

The Cold Spring Fire Co. was called to the Odell residence on Main Street at 8:30 a.m. on a Sunday morning when an oil stove exploded.

The Haldane school board chose Kenneth Logan as its president and adopted a budget of $119,793 [about $1.7 million].

**50 Years Ago (July 1969)**

The Philipstown Council announced it would give a $200 prize to the local, civic or church organization “that has done the most effective job of developing the character of young people” during the previous school year.

The schedule of Sunday summer performances at the Cold Spring bandstand was announced: German band, German band, one-act plays by Thornton Wilder and Edward Albee, German band, folk rock band, German band, madrigals, Gilbert & Sullivan selections, German band.

Four Cold Spring boys — John Fitzgerald, Arthur Sutton, Timothy Fitzgerald and Kevin McConville — were credited with rescuing some boys from Surprise Lake Camp who cried for help after becoming lost in the woods.

After voters defeated a proposed budget, 231-225, for the third time, the Garrison school district announced it would operate under an austerity budget. In a later vote in which the district asked residents to decide on each of 12 “non-austerity” items such as textbooks, cafeteria service, library books and sports, all were defeated except funding for transportation.

The Haldane school budget was defeated, 152-122, although voters approved the purchase of two buses and two station wagons, 89-51. The school board decided to put the same budget to a vote again in August. In a letter to the editor of the Record, a writer said: “Landowners have been taxed unfairly for years, but have finally begun a rebellion,” suggesting that residents who didn’t have school-aged children should pay less.

Eoin (John) McKiernan, a former Cold Spring resident and the founder of the Irish American Cultural Institute, was awarded an honorary doctorate by St. Paul Catholic liberal arts college in Dublin, along with the prime minister of Ireland.

Late on a Sunday evening, someone threw rocks through 50 panes of glass at the Omega Chemical Co. plant on Kemble Avenue.

**25 Years Ago (July 1994)**

Friends of Bill Farrell threw him a farewell party at First Presbyterian Church before he moved to Connecticut to live with his son. Farrell moved to Cold Spring in 1968 as the national sales manager for Marathon Battery, then took over The Country Store on Main Street in Nelsonville.

More than 130 golfers took part in the second annual Graymoor St. Christopher’s Inn Golf Classic in New Rochelle, raising $100,000. A Marlboro man was charged with stealing urns from the Cold Spring Cemetery. The man apparently took the urns to Newburgh, where the police department questioned why he had them and notified the Putnam County sheriff.

Margie Holderman, the principal of Haldane Elementary, said she would resign to take a job as the interim principal of Putnam Valley Junior High. Superintendent Joanne Marien and High School Principal Geraldine Paige had told the district earlier that they, too, were leaving for jobs in Somers and Croton, respectively.
Daniel Callahan
(1930-2019)

Obituary

Daniel J. Callahan, 88, of Hastings, died July 16, 2019, from complications of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. A pioneer in bioethics, he was a co-founder of The Hastings Center, a biotech research institute now located in Garrison.

Born in Washington, D.C., on July 19, 1930, to Roman Catholic parents, he received his bachelor’s from Yale University (where he also was on the swim team), a master's degree in philosophy from Georgetown and a doctorate in philosophy from Harvard. During the Korean conflict, he served in the U.S. Army and was assigned to a counterintelligence post with the Pentagon.

In 1961, Callahan became an editor of Commonweal, the liberal Catholic magazine, but lost his Catholic faith and left the magazine in 1969. That same year he co-founded The Institute of Society, Ethics and the Life Sciences in Hastings (later The Hastings Center) with Willard Gaylin and became its director. He served in that position until 1983, when he became president. He retired in 1996 but was active with the center until his death.

Callahan was the author of 17 books and the co-author or editor of 30 others, as well as numerous articles. His book, Setting Limits: Medical Goals in an Aging Society, in which he argued for limiting life-prolonging medical care based on a patient’s age, was a finalist for the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction.

“The topics of his research and writing were wide-ranging,” The Hastings Center said in an obituary, “beginning with the morality of abortion, the nature of the doctor-patient relationship, the promise and peril of new technologies, the scourge of high health care costs, the goals of medicine, the medical and social challenges of aging, dilemmas raised by decision-making near the end of life, and the meaning of death.”

“Callahan was motivated by a fundamental wariness of human power,” noted Mildred Solomon, the president of The Hastings Center, in a memorial. “He was deeply struck by the human proclivity for self-deception, especially concerning the potential for irresponsible use of such power in the life sciences and in the realm of biomedical technology. His work demonstrates a deep sense of how fundamental moral sensibility is to our humanness and how vulnerable and naked we would be — and are — in a society of merely self-interested stakeholders engaged in merely instrumental cooperation.”

Besides his wife of 65 years, Callahan is survived by his children Mark, Stephen, John, Peter, Sarah and David, as well as five grandchildren.

Other Recent Deaths

For obituaries, see highlandscurrent.org/obits.

Philipstown
Jim Reed, 93, Garrison
Robert Rutigliano, 82, Fishkill
(Octavioe 1955)

Beacon
Margaret Belusar, 71
Audrey Brill, 83
Donald Dell, 96
Annelore Kiernan, 77
Christopher Kiernan, 78
Edward Koslowska, 73
Ed Mowen Jr., 88
Larry Natoli, 74
Pedro Pacheco, 40
Lee Anna Powell, 90
Pete Sylvestre, 63
Angelina Weyant, 87
7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

<table>
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<th>Low</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>80/69</td>
<td></td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Some sun with a thundersrorm possible; humid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>84/70</td>
<td></td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Humid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUN & MOON
- Sunrise Sat., 7/27: 5:46 AM
- Sunset Sat. night, 7/27: 8:19 PM
- Moonrise Sat., 7/27: 1:31 AM
- Moonset Sat., 7/27: 4:06 PM

POP: Probability of Precipitation; The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature® is an exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine intensity, cloudiness, precipitation, pressure and elevation on the human body. Shown are the highest and lowest values for each day.

Pollen
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Absent

Grass Weeds Trees Molds

SudoCurrent

ACROSS
1. Taxi
4. A-E connection
7. Showroom sample
8. Sag
10. Sound portion
11. Peter of Peter, Paul and Mary
13. Fairy tale footwear
16. "— the ramparts ..."
17. Frogs' kin
18. Also
19. Flowerless plant
20. Perches
21. Worship
23. Nothing
25. Elbow counterpart
26. Hardly brawny
27. And so on (Abbr.)
28. Limint targets
30. Second person
33. Lawn-trimming tools
36. Blazing
37. Cheer up
38. Cobbler's supply
39. A rate or tax
40. Type squares
41. Tit for —

DOWN
1. Fragrant wood
2. Writer Kingsley
3. Rocket stage
4. Make pigtails
5. Military group
6. Dutch village
7. Psych actor Hill
8. "The Times They Are A-Changin" singer
9. Beautifully imaginative
10. Way back when
12. Very angry
14. Peeved
15. "Help!"
19. Adversary
20. Crafty
21. Bone cavities
22. Coffee shop orders
23. New Mexico tribe
24. Scrutinize
25. Small barrel
26. Heaps
28. Song of David
29. Pinnacles
30. Leavening agent
31. Table scraps
32. Employ
34. — gin fizz
35. Entreaty

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Answers will be published next week. See highlandscurrent.org/puzzle for interactive versions.
SPORTS

Around the Horn

A team of Little League players ages 12 and younger from Philipstown and Fishkill, above, won the District 17 title but came up short in the double-elimination sectional tournament. The “Fishtown” squad lost its first game, won its second over Rondout Valley, but fell against Saugerties on July 16.

Haldane High School has named Steve Schweikhart as its varsity girls’ soccer coach. Schweikhart, a former boys’ and girls’ coach at the school, succeeds Eddie Crowe, who led the Blue Devils to sectional and regional titles last fall. The school also hired Mary Callaghan and Cali Schweikhart, two Haldane graduates who were members of the 2013 squad that went to the state finals, as assistants. The team’s home opener is Sept. 11 against Briarcliff.

Haldane’s Shianne Twoguns was selected to the all-section team for softball, while her teammate Bella Monteleone received honorable mention. Beacon softball players Kamryn Haran and Lia Muscat also received honorable mentions. In girls’ lacrosse, Tessa Nilsen of Beacon was named all-section honorable mention. For a list of spring athletes named all-league, see highlandscurrent.org.

Beacon Junior Baseball’s “bash brothers” held their own at the home-run derby for players ages 11 and younger that was part of the Cal Ripken league’s Middle Atlantic Regional All Star Tournament in Poughkeepsie. Christopher Carton took second place and AC McKay tied for third in a field of 18 players from four states. Carton and McKay are shown below with Coach Allen McKay.

Sunday Ball

**Beacon league provides competition for teens and adults**

By Skip Pearlman

A broad smile crossed the face of Ali Muhammad, who was coaching a team in the Beacon summer adult basketball league, each time a friend stopped by to play this past Sunday night (July 21) at the South Avenue basketball court.

Muhammad, a 2006 Beacon High school grad and former City Council member who now lives in Newburgh, is the longtime commissioner of the league. He said he loves everything it offers — not only the competition (although the players’ skills vary) but the way it brings friends and family together, and makes introductions.

The adult league, which accepts players who are 16 and older, began eight years ago and this year has eight teams and about 80 players. Each team plays eight games plus a tournament that leads to a title game at the end of August. The league also has an All-Star game.

“When I came back from college, my friends were complaining about not having an organized men’s league,” Muhammad said. “So we started one.”

The league is named for Terrence Wright, a classmate who died when Muhammad was a freshman in high school. “He was a hell of a basketball player,” Muhammad recalled. “I’m an organizer, not a basketball player, so we organized. And it’s still running, and it’s still growing.

“I do it for Terrence, and for the culture,” Muhammad said. “We deserve to have something. And sometimes it takes a bit of organization. But seeing the smiles on faces, my friends who grew up with Terrence ... It’s positive youth development.”

Trey Hering, 20, who graduated from Beacon High in 2016, said the league “gives everybody a chance to be competitive. If you’re from Beacon, it’s a pretty big deal because Beacon doesn’t have that many things outside of the high school summer league [Beacon Hoops]. My friends all love it, and we’ve been doing it for four or five years.”

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The Beacon Adult League features eight teams playing on Sundays, with a regular season and playoffs. Below, Ali Muhammad, and a player lines up a shot. Photos by S. Pearlman

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