Philipstown May Sue Over Secrecy Law

Also, hears plea about CBD candy, gets paving updates

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Philipstown is considering a lawsuit against Putnam County to kill a secrecy law enacted last week. Supervisor Richard Shea said during the monthly Town Board meeting on Aug. 1 that he is consulting the town attorney about filing an Article 78 lawsuit, which refers to the part of state civil law that allows appeals of decisions by municipal governments. He noted in an email on Thursday (Aug. 8) that the town has about four months to act, which allows enough “time to do this properly.”

Among other provisions, the new law authorizes “any county officer or employee, outside legal counsel or consultant” to slap “confidential” on documents; it adds that communications by, to, or from the county Law Department, the Legislature’s attorney or a county “outside legal counsel or consultant shall be presumed to be confidential material even if not explicitly designated ‘confidential.’”

Critics say the law violates the spirit, if not the letter, of the state Freedom of Information Law. Earlier rulings from state (Continued on Page 3)

Putnam Names Tourism Director

Former nonprofit executive and Carmel native lands job

By Chip Rowe

Tracey Walsh, a lifelong Carmel resident and former executive with the American Cancer Society, is the latest director of tourism for Putnam County. She is the fifth person to hold the job since County Executive MaryEllen Odell took office, following the departure of Valerie Hickman in 2012, the resignation of Libby Pataki in 2016 after an investigation by the state attorney general, and the departures of Frank Smith in 2017 and, most recently, Bruce Conklin in June when the nonprofit Putnam County Visitors’ Bureau unexpectedly disbanded.

The county Legislature on Tuesday (Aug. 6) voted unanimously to establish its own Department of Tourism rather than fund another nonprofit. The Visitors’ Bureau board said its decision to close came after its members saw a help-wanted ad placed by the county looking for a new tourism director. Although Legislator Nancy Montgomery (Continued on Page 5)
What's Your WOODSTOCK Story?

If you were at Woodstock in 1969, or lived or worked near there, The Current would like to include your story in our Aug. 16 edition to mark the 50th anniversary of the iconic festival. Send us 200 words describing your experience. PHOTOS WELCOME!

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ON THE SPOT

What's the scariest movie you've seen?

Shutter Island. For 15 minutes at the end, I thought I was crazy.

~John Menzie, Beacon

Poltergeist. I was way too young. It was my introduction to horror movies.

~Gina Giordano, Cold Spring

The original Night of the Living Dead

~Michael Mell, Philipstown

What's the scariest movie you've seen?

By Michael Turton

Eleanor Owen Seeland, 87, lived on Bannerman's Island as a child in the 1930s and early 1940s. She took time out from mowing her lawn to answer a few questions and will do the same during tours of the island on Aug. 17 and Sept. 21, as well as sign copies of My Name Is Eleanor: A Bannerman Island Adventure, a children's book by Wes and Barbara Gottlock.

How did you come to live on Bannerman's Island?

My parents were the caretakers; we lived there until I was 10 or 11. We had our own house but when the arsenal was built around it, we lost the windows on two sides. It made it look like our house was part of the arsenal! Dad avoided the draft during World War II by joining the Merchant Marine. We moved to Wappingers Falls while he was in the service but my mom continued working on the island.

Where did you go to school?

We went to the Dutchess Junction School on Route 9D. The building is still there, but I think it's a house. We went ashore by boat every day, which could be frightening in winter. The island's harbor would freeze over. My dad had a flat-bottom boat and he'd pole it onto the ice until the boat fell through. Then he'd pole it farther out until it fell through again. Eventually we'd get to open water.

Was it a harsh life?

Ignorance was bliss; I had nothing to compare it to. The electricity didn't always work. The winter was very cold, and the furnace never got above 60 degrees. Mom piled coats on top of us in bed, and the water on my end table would be frozen in the morning. My brother and I would sit by the fireplace, toasting one side, then the other. The wind would howl, especially in winter. I'd sometimes be scared at night.

What do you remember about the river?

We spent hours and hours fishing for sunfish that we threw back. I was a little lonely at times; my brother often did his own thing. But we'd boat and swim. We weren't supposed to take the boat out of the harbor but sometimes we'd get brave. We also weren't to go into the turrets on the island but we'd climb in through the windows. I liked lying on the rocks in the sun. And it was always an event when the day-liner cruises came up from the city, although passengers would throw their debris into the water. The cruise boats made big waves that caused an undertow, and I was caught in it swimming once but grabbed hold of my brother.

What else did you do for fun?

In the summer we had lots of company. We liked watching the speed-boat races. Once, one of the boats burned up and my dad and another caretaker had to rescue the driver at the lighthouse. Sometimes we'd have picnics over at Plum Point; there was a great sandy beach there. In winter, Dad would take his motorcycle on the frozen river. We'd skate on the ice. In spring, the ice would pile up on shore in big, high stacks. They were pretty. It took them a long time to melt and float away.

Eleanor Owen Seeland
Photo provided
Secrecy (from Page 1)
courts appear to make it unenforceable.

At the Aug. 1 meeting, Shea described the law, which the county Legislature approved on July 2 on a 7-1 vote, as “absurd.” The sole “no” vote was cast by Legislator Nancy Montgomery, who represents Phillipstown and part of Putnam Valley and is the only Democrat on the nine-member Legislature.

“The whole idea of local government, county government, is to move toward transparency,” Shea said. “And this ship of fools over there is moving in the opposite direction. What are they trying to hide?”

He said the town could argue in court that the confidentiality law harms town officials’ and residents’ “ability to access information” and hinders Montgomery’s efforts to assist constituents, an argument the legislator herself made at a public hearing in Carmel on July 24.

“If somebody doesn’t challenge it, this will just go through,” Shea said. “If they want to try this, we have to do something about it.”

Councilor Michael Leonard questioned how the law could comply with state “sunshine laws” that regulate government openness.

“It’s of great concern,” said Montgomery, who was at the meeting for her monthly report to the board on county activities. “It’s not good government.”

Odell criticized Montgomery in writing after the legislator tried, at the July 24 public hearing, to read a memo that had been stamped “confidential.” She had received it after seeking help from the Highway Department in responding to a Philipstown group’s question about highway signs.

“I assure you, there is nothing confidential in this memo,” Montgomery said. In a letter accompanying her signature on the law, Odell suggested that legislators who shared confidential material could be censured by their colleagues and that anyone who reveals “confidential” information could face an ethics board hearing.

CBD candy
Kathleen Foley, a Cold Spring resident, urged the Town Board on Aug. 1 to explore ways to prevent children from buying CBD oil-laced candy, which often resembles gummy candies, from local gas stations and shops.

“It’s everywhere,” Foley said. She said she does “not care if an adult over age 18 accesses it,” but fears its effects on children.

Shea agreed to look into whether the sales could be regulated. “Candy is candy and gummy worms with CBD are not for kids,” he said.

CBD, which stands for cannabidiol, is a chemical compound found in both hemp and marijuana. The 2018 Federal Farm Bill legalized CBD extracted from hemp, which has very little THC, the ingredient that produces the high. CBD derived from marijuana remains illegal. The federal Food and Drug Administration has banned the sale if any food that has CBD unless it’s produced and sold in the same state. CBD products also cannot be marketed as dietary supplements.

Cell tower lawsuit
Leonard joined Shea and Councilors John Van Tassel and Judith Farrell on Thursday (Aug. 8) at a special meeting to approve updated text in a settlement agreement with Homeland Towers LLC and Verizon Wireless to end their lawsuit against the town for rejecting their application for a cellphone/wireless tower.

The settlement will allow the project to proceed on a parcel along Vineyard Road near the intersection of Routes 9 and 301.

The revision restored a provision on the appearance of the tower, which will be designed to resemble a fir tree. It states that the height of the branches will be consistent with the drawings in an appendix to accompany the agreement. A draft from early July had mentioned the length and height of the branches but the clause did not appear in the version the board approved on July 24.

“It was just a minor thing,” Shea said, but “if that wasn’t in there, we’re out of luck” should the tower developers want to change the look of the structure.

Other business
Shea said the Highway Department plans to pave sections of four roads soon: East Mountain Road North, from the dam to No. 43; East Mountain Road South, from No. 260 to Route 9; and Mountain Drive and the remainder of Aqueduct Road in Continental Village.

The board presented Jamie Calimano, who graduated from Haldane High School in June, with a resolution commending her attainment of the Girl Scouts’ Gold Award, the organization’s highest honor.
Garrison gas

I live near the Garrison Gulf station and nearby properties, and the entire stretch of Route 9D is going downhill (“Garrison Gas Station Wants Canopy,” Aug. 2).

People may notice as they drive by that the post office has white tubes coming out of its windows, presumably because the air conditioning doesn’t work; its back lot is filled with trash and a tree downed in a storm a year ago; and mail trucks come in and out at 4 a.m. The paint is peeling on the Garrison Cafe and the tacky signs keep multiplying. Now the gas station wants to sell used cars next to a school. Test drives when school lets out, anyone?

We wish Philipstown officials would look at this stretch and see what we’re forced to see every day. Do Garrison residents want this in the heart of their area? We have tried to make this case but keep being told it’s a matter of building codes.

The gas station owner may have great intentions, but the question is: Why do we need a used-car lot next to the Garrison School and historic St. Philip’s church? Can people not go to Fiskhill or points north? We'd love it if concerned local people came to the Planning Board hearing on Thursday, Aug. 15, to show support for a fellow neighborhood. Barbara Tierney, Garrison

Danskammer

The same people who oppose Danskammer in Newburgh and other electric power plants are the first to complain when there is a blackout or brownout during high demand for air conditioning or heat, or when their Central Hudson bill is too high (“An Electric Response,” Aug. 2).

Where do you think electrical power will come from that is dependable and some what lower-cost? It won’t be solar or wind. There is not enough land to build solar farms to meet the demand and wind has its issues, as well. I keep hearing that these gas and oil plants pollute the air (God forbid we build nuclear) and yet in the winter I see many homes burning “wet” wood, polluting Beacon neighborhoods with stinky smoke, and nobody seems to care.

Charles Symon, Beacon

TDI plans to start construction of a 1,000-megawatt power line in 2020. It will take about three-and-a-half years, so operations could commence in 2024. The 1,700-megawatt wind farms are expected to be operational by 2024. Indian Point will cease operations in 2021, removing more than 2,000 megawatts. My guess is New York State is scrambling to find replacement power for 2021 through 2024 and considering the success rates of large projects.

Robert Hansler, Garrison

They have polluting beasts such as Danskammer in western Pennsylvania, where my family lives. My eyes burn and my sinuses inflame every time I visit. There are lots of stories in the press about the adverse effects on people’s health, and I swear the sky even has a slightly yellowish tinge.

This is unacceptable and must be stopped.

Joni Lindquist, via Facebook

The Arctic is on fire. Greenland lost 12.5 billion tons of ice in a day. I could go on and list every single disaster made worse by climate change, but if you don’t believe it’s happening now, there is nothing I can do to convince you.

If you’re still with me, we cannot afford to put one more drop of carbon into our atmosphere. We cannot build new fossil-fuel infrastructure. It’s completely incompatible with the new state Climate Leader and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) that mandates 70 percent of electric power demand be met by renewables.

It is highly likely all natural-gas-fired plants will need to close by 2040 to meet the CLCPA’s ambitious (and highly necessary) goals. How will we get there, especially with Indian Point closing? We need to increase our energy-storage capacity, which helps provide power when the sun doesn’t shine and the wind doesn’t blow. We can get more hydro from Canada if we build the transmission lines.

I’m not an energy expert, but why can’t we build solar on every rooftop of every school, big box store, mall and factory? Do we need good-paying jobs? Absolutely. There will be no shortage of jobs in trying to meet the CLCPA goals. We need HVAC installers, electricians, solar installers, people to conduct energy audits on homes and commercial buildings and then weatherize them so they aren’t wasting energy. That is what we need. Another gas-powered plant? Absolutely not.

Krystal Ford, Garrison

SECRET PUTNAM

I’d like to clarify for members of the Putnam County Firearm Owners’ Association that the new county confidentiality law does not give them any additional protection for gun-related documents (“Odell Signs Putnam Secrecy Law,” Aug. 2).

If the gun owner files an opt-out request with the state, and if the request is approved, the affected documents will be kept confidential — but that was already true before this law passed. On the other hand, in the absence of an approved opt-out request, the docu-
Clariification

A story that appeared in the Aug. 2 issue on Putnam County’s administration of a program called the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, or WIC, described the county as having “discontinued and defunded” the program. In fact, WIC is federally funded and the county discontinued only the administration of the program by employees of its Health Department. Their salaries and benefits and other expenses were funded in large part by an annual state grant of $437,000 but the county said its costs typically exceeded the grant by $100,000 or more. The WIC program will now be administered by the nonprofit Open Door Family Medical Centers from its health center in Brewster.

Tourism Director (from Page 1)

(D-Philipstown) voted on Aug. 6 with her colleagues to create the Tourism Department, she said on July 23 she was not comfortable moving so quickly to hire a director who would answer to Odell.

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

Odell and other county officials said Conklin, a Putnam Valley native, was ineffective. The Visitors’ Bureau board said it was more than happy with his performance. The Legislature also complained that the board was not responsive to its questions about the organization’s finances.

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 Dedman.

Bill Dedman,
Confidential Corner.

Dartnach Arthur, Mahopac

What is confidential? Who may deem a document confidential? Are the avenues of communication between legislator and constituent being deliberately closed? Is the mechanism of the legal system being used and abused?

Ann Fanizzi, Carmel

This is a fine example of cooperation between the press and public officials ("Editor’s Notebook: Why I Flipped on Seccy," Aug. 2).

It’s funny how if you pay a man to look after your horse, after a while he’ll start to think of it as his horse. And if you pay a public official to look after your public records, he’ll start to think of them as his records. I’m looking forward to visiting your new feature, Confidential Corner.

Bill Dedman, via highlandscurrent.org

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Receipt of Bids: Separate sealed bids on forms prepared by the Engineer will be received by the Village of Cold Spring until 11:00 a.m. on August 29, 2019 for the Village of Cold Spring Garden Street Repaving Project in accordance with Drawings, Specifications, and other Contract Documents prepared by Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers P.C.

The project consists of the following:
• Coordinate with the Village of Cold Spring Mayor and/or his designate.
• Milling and Repaving of Garden Street
• Curb Replacement
• Sidewalk Replacement
• Drainage Structure/Piping Repair
• Landscape Restoration

Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 11:00 a.m. on August 15, 2019 at the Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 11:00 a.m. on August 29, 2019 at the Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516.

The information for Bidders, Drawings, Specifications and other Contract Documents may be reviewed and/or obtained at the Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516 OR at the Office of Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers P.C., 15 Industrial Drive, Suite 2, Middletown, NY 10941 upon a non-refundable payment of $75.00 per set in favor of Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers P.C. If documents are requested by mail, provide your Federal Express/UPS number or add $45.00 per set. The check shall be drawn payable to Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers P.C. and mailed via first class mail to 15 Industrial Drive, Suite 2, Middletown, NY, 10941. Electronic copies are also available for a non-refundable fee of $75.00.

Each bid shall be accompanied by an acceptable form of Bid Guarantee in an amount equal to at least 5% of the amount of the Bid, payable to the Village of Cold Spring as a guarantee that if the Bid is accepted, the Bidder will execute the Contract and file acceptable Performance and Payment Bonds within ten (10) days after the award of the Contract.

OWNERS RIGHTS RESERVED

The Village of Cold Spring hereinafter called the Owner, reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive any formality or technicality in any Bid in the interest of the Owner.

STATEMENT OF NON-COLLUSION

Bidders are required to execute a non-collusion bidding certificate pursuant to Section 103d of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements relating to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the contract, Segregated Facilities, Section 109, and Executive Order 11246. Bidders are also required to comply with the provisions of Sections 291-299 of the Executive Law of the State of New York and all other applicable laws and regulations.

The Village of Cold Spring hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in regard to any Contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex or national origin in consideration for an award.

BY ORDER OF THE VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING

By: Dave Merandy, Mayor
Date: August 2, 2019

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What Is Going on With the Indian Brook Bridge?

Q: Traffic will be limited to a single lane over the Route 9D structure on weekdays until late October, according to the state Department of Transportation. As part of the $2.2 million project between Cold Spring and Garrison, workers are replacing joints, adding a drainage system, repairing piers and abutments, sealing the deck and paving the approaches.

A: Have a question we can answer? Email: question@highlandscurrent.org

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BEACON OPPOSES PLANT — Opponents of a proposal to expand the Danskammer power plant on the Hudson River in the Town of Newburgh gathered outside Beacon City Hall on Monday (Aug. 5), shortly before the City Council approved a resolution asking the state to reject the $450 million plan. The company has applied to the state’s Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment to build the plant, which would be fueled by fracked natural gas.

Photo by Jeff Simms

Pruning is an art
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How They Voted

After passage by state legislators, governor signs more laws

By Chip Rowe

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has been busy signing legislation passed by the state Senate and Assembly before both went on summer hiatus in late June. According to a tally by the state Senate, he has enacted 147 bills so far this year, with another 12 waiting for his signature. None has been vetoed.

Last week The Current shared summaries of 19 newly enacted laws, along with the votes cast by Republican Sue Serino (whose Senate district includes the Highlands), Democrat Sandy Galef (whose Assembly district includes Philipstown), and Democrat Jonathan Jacobson (whose Assembly district includes Beacon). Here are six more enacted since July 27.

Mammogram coverage

This legislation, known as “Shannon’s Law,” requires large group insurers to cover annual mammograms ordered by doctors for women ages 35 to 39. It is named for Shannon Saturno, a Long Island woman whose son (whose Assembly district includes Beacon).

Passed Senate 59-3
Serino  Jacobson
Passed Assembly 104-42
Galef  Jacobson

Ceramic knives

On Aug. 6, Cuomo signed legislation banning the manufacture, transport, shipment and possession of knives that are made of materials such as ceramics or nylon that cannot be detected by metal detectors. It mirrored legislation he signed on July 30 banning guns that cannot be detected, such as those made with 3D printers.

When the law goes into effect on Nov. 1, possession of the knives by anyone other than members of the military or police officers, who use them for covert operations, will be a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail.

Passed Senate 44-19
Serino  Jacobson
Passed Assembly 137-11
Galef  Jacobson  Jacobson

School bus cameras

Cuomo on Aug. 6 enacted a law allowing school districts to install cameras on the stop-sign arms of buses to record the license plates of drivers who illegally pass while students are getting on or off.

The governor cited a one-day enforcement program in April 2018 in which police observed and ticketed 850 people ignoring the stop sign and flashing lights of a school bus, which would equate to 150,000 violations statewide during a school year.

Passed Senate 58-0
Serino
Passed Assembly 143-0
Galef  Jacobson

Powerboat safety

On Aug. 6, Cuomo enacted what is known as Brianna’s Law, which by 2025 will require anyone operating a powerboat in the state to have completed a safety course. It is named for Brianna Lieneck, an 11-year-old Long Island girl who was killed in a 2005 accident.

Boaters can take the safety course at parks, ny.gov/recreation/boating or in a classroom.

An earlier law required boaters born after May 1, 1996, to receive safety certification; Brianna’s Law adds a phase-in schedule by birthdate. Boaters who don’t take the course will face a fine of $100 to $250.

Passed Senate 43-18
Serino
Passed Assembly 145-2
Galef  Jacobson

Staged accidents

Cuomo signed legislation on Aug. 8 making it a felony punishable by 1 to 5 years in prison to stage an automobile crash to commit insurance fraud. The measure also created a separate felony offense punishable by 5 to 25 years when the staged accident causes serious injury to someone who was not involved.

The legislation, known as Alice’s Law, was named for Alice Ross, 71, a Queens woman who was killed in 2003 when her car was intentionally struck by a driver who hoped to collect an insurance payout on his vehicle. He was convicted in 2006 of manslaughter and released in 2012.

Passed Senate 62-0
Serino
Passed Assembly 139-2
Galef  Jacobson

Putnam Passes Resolution Opposing ‘Green Light’ Law

Argues that it places burden on DMV staff

By Holly Crocco

The Putnam County Legislature approved a resolution on Tuesday (Aug. 6) asking Gov. Andrew Cuomo to repeal a newly enacted state law that allows undocumented immigrants to obtain driver’s licenses.

The Driver’s License Access and Privacy Act, known commonly as the Green Light Bill, was enacted on June 17. Twelve other states have similar laws.

The resolution passed by a 6-1 vote, with Nancy Montgomery (D-Philipstown) voting “no.” Two lawmakers were absent.

County Clerk Michael Bartolotti, who oversees the Department of Motor Vehicles in Putnam, earlier expressed concern to the Legislature that the agency would be issuing licenses without requiring evidence of lawful presence in the U.S. or a Social Security number. He also worried that undocumented immigrants may erroneously be placed on voter registration rolls.

Legislator Carl Albano (R-Carmel) said he is in favor of non-citizens obtaining a driver’s license, if it is “done correctly.”

“You should be documented,” he said. “We should know where you live, we should know your background. We need to have some indication of who we’re dealing with when we give out licenses.”

Legislator Paul Jonke (R-Southeast) said he is concerned that the law will increase voter fraud, and Toni Addonizio (R-Kent) alleged the bill was “pushed through” the state Assembly and Senate.

“There needs to be more information,” she added. “Polling has shown that most New York State residents oppose this law.” A Siena College poll released Aug. 6 of registered voters found that 53 percent opposed the law; it found far greater support among Democrats than Republicans and independents.
SPACE SPECTACULAR

Erik Maldonado of Mad Science of the Mid-Hudson, based in Goshen, visited the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring on Aug. 1 to lead a workshop. In one demonstration, he asked a student to hold a model of Earth (at left); the relative diameter of the sun, he explained, would be the width of the room. In another exercise, students represented the solar system: those bunched in the center (below) were Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars, the boy in the blue shirt is Jupiter and the boy in the red shirt is Saturn. The next closet planet, Uranus, would not be in the room. In another demo (below left), Maldonado balanced tennis balls on volunteers’ heads to illustrate that an object at rest will stay at rest.

Photos by Ross Corsair

PAPER MEDIA: BOETTI, CALZOLARI, KOUNELLIS

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Opening: September 7, 2019, 5-7pm
The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art,
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Curated by Francesco Guzzetti

In collaboration with Magazzino Italian Art Foundation
**The Calendar**

**There's a Bee in My Tea**

*Artist adds bugs where least expected*

*By Alison Rooney*

Faith Adams' face lights up when she spies window shoppers, drawn to a display of her delicate teacups, peering inside the rims and finding her drawings of a bee, beetle or dragonfly.

“There needs to be something subversive going on,” Adams says of her art.

Adams adds her creatures — all native to North America and most threatened or endangered — to other ceramics, including saucers, bowls, plates and teapots. But her favorites are the bees.

The artist's work, which includes wall plates and other objects, will be on display during *Swarm*, a month-long solo exhibit at the Bau Gallery in Beacon that opens with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10.

Adams grew up in Stormville, where she painted and drew in high school but balked at attending art school, in part, she says, because a teacher consistently criticized her work.

“There was so much pressure on me to be an artist,” she recalls. “I got to my senior year and kind of choked. I just didn’t know if I wanted to do it. I went to Dutchess Community College, where I studied philosophy, literature and art history. I also studied in Italy, learning how to write and do research. I learned about art instead of making it. I was great at dinner parties talking about art!”

As part of her art history requirements, Adams had to take two studio classes. She chose ceramics and wound up signing up for every ceramics course the school offered. “I had never gotten on a wheel before,” she says. “But I was able to center a one-pound piece of clay in about a half-hour, which is pretty good.”

While still enrolled, Adams was hired as a technician in the ceramics studio, where she “learned to run a kiln, mix glazes, keep the studio clean.” She was also double majoring in business and learning accounting. “My brain was exploding from the There's a Bee in My Tea

*Prison Paperwork*

*Beacon inmates fold cranes for exhibit*

*By Alison Rooney*

For the last week, Hudson Beach Glass in Beacon has been home to 1,000 cranes.

They are origami cranes, constructed by inmates at the Fishkill Correctional Facility in Beacon as part of a visual arts program. The cranes will remain in flight until Sept. 29, but a reception will take place on Saturday, Aug. 17, from 5 to 7 p.m. A representative from Rehabilitation Through the Arts (rta-arts.org) will speak briefly about its prison projects, which also include theater, music and dance.

As with other RTA programs, the visual art classes are run by volunteers. Michael Dwyer, who specializes in putting art into public places, launched the class at the medium-security prison about a year ago. He travels to Beacon each Monday from his home in White Plains, co-teaching with an inmate whom he discovered was a “super-talented” artist.

The program has provided prisoners with instruction on topics such as landscapes, self-portraits, logos, storyboard and fashion design. Many projects culminate in an exhibit such as the one at Hudson Beach Glass.

Knowing that many people find Japanese paper-folding to be meditative, Dwyer suggested the form to his students. “We started with cups, boats and animals,” he recalls, “Then I told them the story of the cranes.”

According to Japanese legend, anyone who folds 1,000 origami cranes will be granted a wish by the gods. It was popularized by Sadako Sasaki, a girl from Hiroshima who died of leukemia linked to the dropping of the atomic bomb and who, while hospitalized, folded cranes after her father told her the story. A statue of Sasaki holding a golden crane is in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

“I told the guys: ‘If you do 1,000, my job will be to find a place to exhibit them.’ My goal was always to do it in Beacon, for proximity and as an acknowledgement that they are part of the community, yet probably not thought about that much,” Dwyer says.

With the visual arts, Dwyer explains, many students want to do traditional drawing. Some struggled with origami but “the guys teach each other, and pitch in if someone has missed a class. They even taught guys outside class. The atmosphere is supportive. It’s different from what people think prison
**THE WEEK AHEAD**

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

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**COMMUNITY**

**SAT 10**

**Putnam County Wine & Food Fest**

**COLD SPRING**

11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Mayor’s Park
61 Fair St. | 800-557-4185 x3
putnamcountywinefest.com

The two-day festival, in its ninth year and its first in Cold Spring, will include wine tastings, a beer garden, cider, spirits and vineyards from the Hudson Valley and around New York. There will also be food, music, arts and crafts vendors, and cooking demos. The Current will have a booth, so say hello. Also Sun 11. Rain or shine. Use code TFTFP20 to have 45 percent of ticket cost donated to the Philipstown Food Pantry. Cost: $20 ($30 gate; $10 designated driver)

**SAT 10**

**Great Hudson River Fish Count**

**COLD SPRING**

2 – 3:30 p.m. Little Stony Point
dec.ny.gov/lands/97891.html

The state Department of Environmental Conservation will conduct its eighth annual inventory of aquatic life up and down the Hudson River. Volunteers are welcome. See website for other locations.

**SAT 10**

**Farm Dinner**

**PHILIPSTOWN**

6:30 p.m. Glywood | 362 Glywood Road
845-265-3338 | glywood.org

The team from Juanita’s Kitchen in Nelsenville will take over the monthly dinner series at the peak of the season. Share a meal and meet the farmers. Cost: Pay what you can

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**SUN 11**

**Garden Conservancy Open Day**

**PHILIPSTOWN**

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000
stonecrop.org

Tea and cake will be available for purchase from noon to 4 p.m. Cost: $10 ($5 seniors, students, children, members free)

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**KIDS & FAMILY**

**SAT 10**

**Beacon Xtreme**

**BEACON**

3:30 p.m. Memorial Park
deaconxtreme.com

This travel fastpitch girls’ softball squad will hold tryouts at 3:30 p.m. for players 12 and younger (12U), at 10:30 a.m. for 14U, and at 1 p.m. for 16U and 18U. Register online. Also SUN 11.

**MON 12**

**Community Mural Project**

**BEACON**

8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Memorial Park
198 Robert Cahill Drive
whelplayproject.org

Register online for a half-hour slot to help paint a mural with Joe Pimentel on the sides of the park’s restroom building. Also TUES 13, WED 15, THURS 15, FRI 16. Ages 7 and older. Free

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**THURS 15**

**Animal Embassy**

**COLD SPRING**

10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Learn about butterflies and tap-and-release monarchs as part of the citizen-science project from Monarch Watch. Cost: $10 ($7 children; $8/$5 members)

**THURS 15**

**Instrument Petting Zoo**

**COLD SPRING**

Noon. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Discover (and touch) string instruments and see a demonstration. Free

**THURS 15**

**Jedi Academy**

**BEACON**

2 p.m. Howland Public Library
513 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Learn the ways of mind tricks, light saber lessons and how to defeat the Dark Side. Free

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**SAT 10**

**Two From Brooklyn**

**BEACON**

4 – 8 p.m. Catalyst Gallery
137 Main St. | 845-204-3844
catalystgallery.com

See works by fabric artist MC Kirtion and photographer Collette Fournier.

**SAT 17**

**1,000 Cranes**

**BEACON**

5 – 7 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St. | 845-440-0068
hudsonbeachglass.com

This origami installation consists of hanging paper cranes made by inmates at Fishkill Correctional Facility who are members of Rehabilitation Through the Arts. See Page 9.

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**SECOND SATURDAY**

**SAT 10**

**Sam Gilliam**

**BEACON**

11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Dia:Beacon
3 Beekman St. | 845-440-0100
dia.org

The exhibition includes a large-scale painting from Gilliam’s Beveled-Edge series and other work from the 1960s and 1970s. Cost: $25 ($12 students and seniors, free for members and children under 12)

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**SUN 11**

**Corn Festival**

**BEACON**

3:30 p.m. Riverfront Park
2 Red Flynn Drive | 845-463-4660
beaconloopyouclub.org

At this annual harvest event hosted by the Beacon Sloop Club, enjoy your fill of corn, live music, craft and food vendors and, until 4 p.m., a school bus converted into a mobile gym for children ages 18 months to 9 years. The slop Woody Guthrie will also provide free public sails. New this year: a contest for corn muffins made from scratch. Drop off entries at the Contest Tent before 2 p.m. The festival takes place rain or shine. Free

**FRI 16**

**Book and Media Sale**

**GARRISON**

6 – 8:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3960
desmondfishlibrary.org

At this annual fundraiser organized by the Friends of the Library, browse a selection of 18 tons of donated books, CDs and records priced from 25 cents to $2 (rare and signed books are priced separately). This preview is open to members of the Friends, but you can join at the door for $25. Shop early for the best selection or wait for reduced prices during the second weekend. Runs daily through Aug. 25.

**SAT 17**

**Butterfly Weekend**

**CORNWALL**

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
120 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506
odcnature.org

Learn about butterflies and tag-and-release monarchs as part of the citizen-science project from Monarch Watch. Cost: $10 ($7 children; $8/$5 members)

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**SAT 10**

**Zae Skinner and Susan Walsh**

**GARRISON**

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

Skinner’s paintings and sculptures in Anthropocene Drifter depict a nomaad’s life after ecosystem destruction. Walsh’s exhibit, Vibrant Traces, features works on paper marking time with changes in nature.

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**SAT 17**

**Riverside Crafts Fair**

**GARRISON**

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Garrison’s Landing
6 – 8:30 p.m. Garrison Art Center
1,000 Cranes

The Garrison Art Center’s 50th annual crafts fair will feature more than 60 artists and artisans selling fine art, ceramics, wooden utensils and tableware. Parking is free at the Metro-North station or at the Garrison School, where a shuttle will run to and from the site. Also SUN 18. Cost: $8 (children free)

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**THE WEEK AHEAD**

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in its 10th year, the festival will also have performances at other nearby locales, including Newburgh (the Robert Kopec Project at the Wharehouse at 9 p.m. on SAT 10). See the website for details. Also SUN 11.

SAT 10
Art with Flavor
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
howlandpubliclibrary.org
The Thursday Painters, a group of seniors instructed by Jan Dolan, will share their artwork depicting favorite dishes, including the recipes.

SAT 10
Swarm
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. dsu Gallery | 506 Main St.
845-440-7584 | dsgallery.org
Ceramics artist Faith Adams will exhibit hand-thrown plates and tea sets adorned with screen-printed endangered and threatened insects. See Page 9. Cali Gorevic will show her work in Arbre Noir in the Beacon Room and Gallery 2 will have works by a variety of Beacon Artist Union members.

SAT 10
Lost & Found
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St. | 845-840-0068
hudsonbeachglass.com
Deborah Davidovits and Andrea Moreau start with found materials (stamps and book pages) and “through acts of removal, expansion, replication of style and invention of "through acts of removal, expansion, replication of style and invention of..." according to the artists, “transform these cultural artifacts into works that seek to make visible that which is hidden or implied.”

SAT 10
Mark Darnobil and Keely Sheehan
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Catalyst Gallery
137 Main St. | 845-204-3844
catalystgallery.com
This is the closing reception for the exhibit, which ends MON 12.

SAT 10
Devil Robots / Art Junkie / Mr Mitote
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery
163 Main St. | 212-295-2505
shop.cluttermagazine.com/gallery

MUSIC
SAT 10
Shannon Early
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Chill Wine Bar | 173 Main St.
hudsonvalleyjazzfest.org
Early will perform with Tom Depris and Lou Pappas as part of the Hudson Valley Jazz Fest. Now in its 10th year, the festival will also have performances at other nearby locales, including Newburgh (the Robert Kopec Project at the Wharehouse at 9 p.m. on SAT 10). See the website for details. Also SUN 11.

SAT 10
Joe Louis Walker
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Walker, who is member of the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame and whose 2015 album, Everybody Wants a Piece, was nominated for a Grammy, has recorded with B.B. King, James Cotton, Bonnie Raitt, Taj Mahal, Branford Marsalis and Ike Turner. Cost: $33 ($30 door)

SAT 10
Get Lit Beacon
BEACON
5 p.m. Oak Vine Wine Bar
389 Main St. | getlitbeacon.com
This month’s guest in the group’s reading series will be poet Catherine Arra, whose latest collection is Writing in the Ether.

TUES 13
By the Time I Got to Woodstock
BEACON
6:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Sharon Watts, a resident of Beacon and self-described “reluctant hippie chick,” will read from her newly released, illustrated memoir of the Woodstock era.

WED 14
Intro to Permaculture
COLD SPRING
6 p.m. Split Rock Books | 97 Main St.
845-265-2080 | splitrockbooks.com
The Permaculture Arts Collective will cover the basics of designing ecologically sound, sustainable and regenerative environments. Cost: $20

THURS 15
The Burning of Peakskill
FORT MONTGOMERY
7 p.m. Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W | 845-446-2134
parksys.gov
On March 23, 1777, the British set out to destroy the American post at Peakskill. Michael Sheehan will present an illustrated lecture about this little-known raid.

SAT 17
Aikiko Kobayashi and Eric Siepkes
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | 845-265-5537
chapelrestoration.org
Kobayashi, a violinist, will be accompanied on piano by Siepkes in a program that includes pieces by Bach, Beethoven and Stravinsky. Donations welcome. Free

SAT 17
Songwriters’ Showcase
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Jacob and David Beruz, Andy Stack and Steve Kirkman will perform. Free

TALKS & TOURS
SAT 10
Cork and Knife
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Utensil
389 Main St. | 845-265-7181
utensilbeacon.com
Beacon residents Emily and Matt Clifton, founders of the blog Nerds with Knives, will be signing books and talking about their boozy recipes such as Ultra-Crispy Fish with Vodka and Beer Batter.

SAT 10
Evan Moe
GARRISON
6:30 p.m. Gدارinson Opera House
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org
Meet the Democratic candidates for city and county offices and kick off the election season. Hosted by Beacon Democrats. Cost: $20 donation

SAT 10
Rosemary’s Baby
COLD SPRING
8 p.m. Dockside Park | coldspringfilm.org
In director Roman Polanski’s 1969 film, which will be screened by the Cold Spring Film Society as part of its summer movie series, Mia Farrow and John Cassavetes move into a building with an ominous reputation, and Farrow’s character becomes pregnant. Is she paranoid or is the devil in the details? Bring bug spray and blankets. Free

SUN 11
Canning and Preserving
PHILIPSTOWN
6 – 9 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
stonesthrowtheatre.org
In director Roman Polanski’s 1969 film, which will be screened by the Cold Spring Film Society as part of its summer movie series, Mia Farrow and John Cassavetes move into a building with an ominous reputation, and Farrow’s character becomes pregnant. Is she paranoid or is the devil in the details? Bring bug spray and blankets. Free

SUN 11
Storyhouse Documentary Theater
GARRISON
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-265-9575
hvhshaespeare.org
The project, led by Mary Stuart Masterson and Jeremy Davidson, tells stories inspired by transcribed conversations with members of local communities, historical documents and other sources on the social, political, environmental and medical issues we face. It will be presented as part of the HVSSF2 series. Cost: $20

MON 12
Young Frankenstein Auditions
GARRISON
6 – 9:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
stonesthrowtheatre.org
Director Nancy Swann is looking for actors from their early 20s through 60s+ for November performances of Mel Brooks’ 1974 musical comedy based on the 1974 hit film. Sign up by emailing nancywsynn@aol.com or call 914-522-8937. Include your full name, cell number, email address and role. See website for details. Also TUES 13.

WED 14
Bewilderness
GARRISON
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
stonesthrowtheatre.org
Before he wrote Hildmen, Henry David Thoreau penned an epic flop. In this new work, Zachary Fine offers a celebration of the “catastrophic failures we all must face on the road to our biggest creative revelations.” It will be presented as part of the HVSSF2 series. Cost: $20

SAT 17
Songs for a New Season
GARRISON
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
stonesthrowtheatre.org
Members of the newly formed Stones Throw Theatre Co. will perform songs from Next To Normal, Smokey Joe’s Cafe, Urinetown, Once and Godspell. Cost: $25 ($30 door)

SUN 11
Drinks for Democracy
BEACON
7 – 9 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St.
beacondemocrats.com
Meet the Democratic candidates for city and county offices and kick off the election season. Hosted by Beacon Democrats. Cost: $20 donation

MON 12
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

MON 12
School Board
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900
beckonschool.org

TUES 13
Board of Trustees
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-9611 | coldspringny.gov

THURS 15
Philipstown Planning Board
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Old VFW Hall
34 Kenbkle Ave. | phillipstonplanning.com
The board will hold a public hearing on a request by the owner of the Garrison Golf on Route 9D to build a canopy over the pumps and also sell used cars.
The Gallup report also distinguishes between independent and “contingent” workers, with the former better suited for the flexibility and freedom often associated with the gig economy. Across all categories, Gallup found that gig workers scored higher than people in traditional jobs when polled for a half-dozen metrics, including creativity, autonomy and being paid fairly.

Gig workers aren’t just artists, either. Some researchers include short-term rentals, made through sites such as Airbnb, as yet another “gig.” It’s a lucrative one, too; revenues from home rentals are expected to reach $107 billion by 2025. How do gig workers in the Highlands make ends meet? In this follow-up to our series, we asked two freelancers to share their stories.

**Joseph Ayers**

Joseph Ayers grew up on the west coast of Florida, learning carpentry skills from his father, a handyman and commercial fisherman who bought and sold houses on the side to supplement the family’s income. Ayers was artistically inclined, but before studying digital media at the University of New Orleans, he served five years as an electrician in the U.S. Air Force at Elmendorf Base in Alaska, a stone’s throw from Fort Richardson, where his father had served in the Army 25 years earlier.

After school and the military, Ayers moved to New York City, where he cobbled a living together waiting tables, teaching and apprenticing for established artists. He and his wife, Aya, who is also an artist, moved to Beacon in 2009, and Ayers began teaching at community colleges.

He recalls a grueling schedule of teaching seven courses at three schools, but as he gained experience, his opportunities expanded. He teaches exclusively now at the Parsons School of Design in New York City two to four days each week, and that stability affords him the freedom to pick and choose side gigs while spending time at home with his wife and daughter, who is 8.

“There was always this option to get into a 9-to-5 job so we had some security,” Ayers explains. “I was thinking that way for a while but eventually I decided I didn’t want to do it. I had the skills to make enough money by piecing together side jobs that were more meaningful to me.”

Recent gigs have included managing a two-month-long, 100-artist video and still image exhibition in the Oculus building at the World Trade Center, a contracting project helping Manhattanites renovate private apartments and, in Beacon, a nonpaying gig helping to create the video component of a production by the A-Y dancers company.

“If I was doing a 9-to-5 job, there’s no way I would have been able to think of [the A-Y gig],” Ayers says. “As an artist, I want to have as much flexibility as possible. Working a 9-to-5 job is like purgatory to me.”

The summer months are leaner for Ayers without his teaching income, but he supplements his earnings with other projects while spending more time at home. This year he’s taken on a project helping a couple build a home on Mount Beacon, while another gig editing a documentary film is on the table for the fall.

For him, the choice to work gigs is clearly a philosophical one. But it’s also harder these days, Ayers says, to put much stock in the “one-company, one-career” model that may have worked for his parents’ generation.

“Now that seems vividly impossible because so many things have been in flux,” he says. “The perception of quality of life is shifting. People prefer freedom over prison, and a lot of those jobs feel like prison.”

**Alix Winsby**

Prop and set designer Alix Winsby, who lives in Wappingers Falls, became a gig worker less deliberately, when a handful of external circumstances — namely rent, small children and tax incentives — made buying a house outside of New York City an attractive option.

Living first in Brooklyn and then Queens, Winsby and her husband moved to the Highlands in 2017. They looked in Beacon, where properties either sold quickly or needed too much work, before landing nearby.

While her husband, Myles, still commutes to the city daily, Winsby takes Metro-North down a handful of times each month, caring for her children, 6 and 2, and working from her home studio the rest of the time.

“We make it work with day care and school plus an on-call baby sitter when...”

(Continued on Page 13)
You Can’t Be Fired When You’re the Boss
Half of workers won’t have “jobs” by 2030

By Jeff Simms

Within the next decade, predicts Scott Tillitt, the founder of Beahive, half of all workers won’t have salaried jobs. He may be right on the money. By 2027, according to one projection, 58 percent of Americans will be freelancers or have worked as an independent contractor.

Beahive offers what is known as “coworking” space that is typically rented by freelancers, consultants and telecommuters.

Opened in 2009, Beahive was innovative. A study commissioned by GCUC, which organizes coworking conferences, estimated there were fewer than 1,000 coworking spaces worldwide at the time; today, there are more than 21,000, with 3.1 million members. It projected that, with a growth rate of about 24 percent annually, those figures should jump to 30,000 and 5.1 million by 2022.

Like many similar ventures, Beahive was designed from the start as more than a work space. It regularly hosts community meetings, film screenings and, twice last year, a forum to help residents understand Beacon’s changing zoning laws.

“The mission is much larger than just coworking,” says Tillitt, whose background is in marketing and communications. “It’s about community engagement. The events and forums I do are much bigger. They have nothing to do with work but they have everything to do with a vibrant community.”

While traditional economic development may focus on creating the right combination of incentives to bring businesses into a municipality, Tillitt says he’s “much more interested in micro-entreprises and individuals.”

But that doesn’t mean he’s averse to expansion. Membership numbers have doubled at Beahive in the last three years. An Albany location opened in 2012 and, in May, Tillitt launched a Beacon annex at 134 Main St. (The original space, at 291 Main St., remains open, although the building is for sale.) He has also just implemented “big-company” benefits, including healthcare and a 401(k) retirement savings plan through an association of coworking spaces.

Losing his job as a communications manager for a digital firm in late 2000 led Tillitt to a “social and spiritual awakening” that eventually gave birth to Beahive. “I realized I didn’t want to work for a company again,” he says. “I didn’t want to do corporate work; I wanted to do something more meaningful and community-oriented. Beahive was meant to be a platform and a lab to try to do that.”

Similar spaces have opened all over the region, including Create Community in Nelsonville and facilities in New Paltz, Hudson and Rhinebeck.

“There’s something about coming to a space and working around other people,” says Tillitt. “Coworking isn’t work and it isn’t home. These are places where people convene and feel a sense of belonging.”

(Continued from Page 12)

I’m on set, but it’s a juggling act,” she says. “I’m able to work when they’re at school, and then I usually do a second shift after bedtime to get in all the hours.”

For her, the move from the city has been disruptive at times. It’s difficult, for instance, because the studios she normally contracts with have meetings all day and reach out to freelancers in the evenings, “and those are my witching hours, when I’m not available.”

In a fast-paced field, she juggles multiple responsibilities, as well.

“There’s the job of finding the work and maintaining those connections. There’s the job of doing the work, and then there’s the bookkeeping and overhead aspects,” Winsby says. “It’s essentially three jobs, all of which should be full-time. Plus, I’m in an oversaturated field competing with people with no children or overhead expenses.”

Winsby concedes that there’s a delicate balance between personal satisfaction and risky finances.

Her dog was hit by car when she and her family first arrived in the Highlands. Winsby had to miss a job, which impacted her relationship with one of her largest clients. Then, six months later, when her mother died, she had to call out of work with the same client.

“As for benefits: Her husband is insured through his work and the rest of the family is covered out-of-pocket through the New York State of Health marketplace.

“From a job satisfaction perspective,” she says, “this work can be incredible. Sometimes I’m involved all the way from conception to the end product and for that, I feel privileged. What I learned in art school and still use are not necessarily the art or craft, but the visual language. Every day I see the importance of being able to clearly communicate visual ideas, especially as they manifest into a physical reality. In that aspect, it’s a very satisfying career.”

On the other hand, savings and retirement can feel unattainable. “I’ll work a 13- or 16-hour day and make good money, but when you’re not working, you’re not making any money,” she says. “It takes away your social life and any semblance of normal business hours. It is destabilizing.”

Winsby says she thinks often about an exit strategy from gig work. Many in her field, she says, can tolerate the ups and downs when they’re younger, “but most people, especially women, get to a certain point where they open a store or do something else.”

She, too, may one day open a small business, but until then, “this is what’s working for us as a family. It’s a struggle, but it seems like the only option that allows me to have a flexible schedule and do what I love to do.”
Prison Paperwork (from Page 9)

would be. Not everyone there can do this— they have to apply, they’re appreciative. There are no discipline issues.”

Dwyer says a goal of his class is to “be able to treat these guys like human beings, even though they’ve made mistakes. The goal is to restore some of their humanity. We can’t let them be defined just by what they did, or they’d have no future. The space is supportive and recognizes them as individuals, and creative beings. Through the art they can work through some of their personal challenges and develop perseverance and commitment.”

One participant, Hector Lopez, who has been released and lives in the Bronx, plans to attend the Aug. 17 reception, Dwyer says, and family members of the prisoners have been invited. Although the inmates can’t attend, Dwyer plans to put out a guest book so he can “communicate the reactions to their art back to them.”

The space is supportive and recognizes them as individuals, and creative beings. Through the art they can work through some of their personal challenges and develop perseverance and commitment.”

The Beacon Artist Union gallery, at 506 Main St., is open from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, or by appointment. Call 845-440-8089. Swarm continues through Sept. 8. The gallery also will open a show on Aug. 10 called Arborealis by Cali Gorevic of Philipstown of her black-and-white photos of trees.

“Clay is always teaching you. It never lets you get high and mighty.”
~ Faith Adams

Bee Tea (from Page 9)

numbers, so I’d go into the studio. I still find it a good balance.”

She recalls that at the time she was not “working on an aesthetic” but focused on technique. “Clay is always teaching you,” she says. “It never lets you get high and mighty.” After graduating from DCC, Adams moved to Beacon.

“I hung out a lot at Chthonic Cafe, became a bookkeeper, had quite a few clients,” she says. She also worked on her artwork and eventually rented a studio.

“For the first six months I didn’t make anything,” she says. “I knew what I had to do but not how to do it.”

Adams says she has always felt a connection to bees. Her favorite explanation for this is “the Greek belief that bees transported the soul to the other side. At the time, I had lost a couple of family members, so it resonated. Also, of course, their significance to the environment.”

While Adams has sold hundreds of her five-ounce teacups through Etsy to buyers around the world, the process can be repetitive and she was eager to create gallery pieces. “There were some great victories and some horrible, horrible disasters,” she recalls with a laugh. “I was going to do 30 wall-hanging plates. I’ve made them before but infrequently. Lost eight plates in one firing cycle.”

She took it in stride. “Your pottery can’t be precious; you can’t invest everything in one piece because it might have a defect,” she explains. “The thing about pottery is making it, not the finished result. Making works for this show brought me back to that. After 15 years, you become precious about it because you have less fails.

“I never lose work in the luster cycle normally. I lost three bowls this time. The form is schooling me in its weaknesses. Rushing and not thinking led to most of the mistakes. Ceramicists are stubborn, in a good way. They’re determined people; I certainly am. We make messes, clean them up, go back in and figure it out.”

The Beacon Artist Union gallery, at 506 Main St., is open from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, or by appointment. Call 845-440-8089. Swarm continues through Sept. 8. The gallery also will open a show on Aug. 10 called Arborealis by Cali Gorevic of Philipstown of her black-and-white photos of trees.
**Summer Art Intensive**

*Students finish three weeks at institute*

By Alison Rooney

Now in its 21st year, the Summer Art Institute at the Garrison Art Center offers teenagers a chance to dip into art, including disciplines not typically offered at their high schools.

The three-week institute, which concludes today (Aug. 9) included an exhibit last weekend of work created during the first two weeks. The final week included instruction in shibori dying, mixed media and collage, paper arts, felting and photographing artwork. Other workshops covered modern necessities such as building a digital portfolio.

Foundations of Drawing and Painting, taught by Lori Merhige, was a cornerstone class. “The idea was to practice and develop those foundational skills that apply to so much in art,” explained Kit Burke-Smith, who coordinates the institute. Electives included ceramics and pottery led by Lisa Knaus, abstract painting with Martee Levi, printmaking with Melissa Scholbohn and sculpture with Merhige.

Bridget Goldberg, a rising senior at Haldane High School, said she took a number of lessons from the three weeks at the art center, including how to draw the human figure, how to create print textures and that “the point of making abstract art is not to tell a story but to convey emotion.” Besides Goldberg, students from the Highlands included Erika Bauer, Kyle Frommer, Elliott Goldberg, Nate McPherson, Luke Parrella, Honolulu Romer, Fiona Shanahan, Mason Sharpley and Minori Shiga.

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The Basics

In **abstract painting**, students were encouraged to study how well-known artists used lines, colors and shapes, before creating their own.

In **pottery**, most of the students studied throwing on the wheel. Students created objects over three days, then spent the fourth day trimming and working on details and the fifth day decorating with stains and underglazes before firing.

In **drawing and painting**, students spent the first week drawing from life with pencil, charcoal and ink, then moved onto watercolors and acrylics to paint objects, landscapes and figures.

In **printmaking**, students studied carving, mixing inks, printing on a press, tearing paper and editing. They also practiced printing on fabric, collaging prints and chine collé, which allows printing on delicate surfaces. While using marking tools, students were encouraged to “show the light” with techniques other than simple lines.

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**Upcoming events in August**

- **Garden Conservancy Open Day**
  - Sunday, August 11, 10am - 5pm
  - Featuring Tea in the Garden (tea & cake available for purchase from 12-4pm)

- **Guided Garden Walk - Native Plants**
  - Wednesday, August 14, 6:00pm
  - Admission $10 / Members no charge

- **Guided Garden Walk - Systematic Order Beds**
  - Wednesday, August 28, 5:30pm

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Bits of Beacon History

By Robert Murphy

Beacon City Planner John Clarke is assembling a list of houses and buildings for consideration by the City Council to include in the Historic District and Landmark Overlay zone.

Among the candidates is 17 Church St., which from 1897 to 1903 was the General Hospital of Fishkill Landing. It filled a void for village residents; for 25 years before it opened, residents had to travel to Highland Hospital in Matteawan. In the five years of its existence, the General Hospital cared for nearly 1,000 patients. It closed in 1903, after the opening of the Highland Hospital on Verplanck Ave.

Another possibility is 139 Rombout Ave., which is today a nondescript apartment building. From 1885 to about 1920, it housed four private schools. In the early 1920s, the building was reconfigured into the Genuine Panama Hat Co. to produce straw hats. (The building was reconfigured into the Genuine Panama Hat Co. to produce straw hats. (The third story burned in a 1924 fire.)

In 1885, James Frederick Smith moved his boarding school for young men who planned to go into higher education from Fishkill Landing to the third story burned in a 1924 fire.)

In 1885, James Frederick Smith moved his boarding school for young men who planned to go into higher education from Fishkill Landing to the building in what was then the undeveloped Main Street in Fishkill Landing to the planned to go into higher education from his boarding school for young men who specialized in the backstroke and ran physical education at the academy. Thomas, the superintendent, hired his two sisters, Lotta and Robin Kennedy, as teachers.

Among the alumni was Percy Helton, a Broadway child star who later appeared in dozens of movies. Rupert Hughes, a novelist and screenwriter and brother of Howard Hughes, was friends with the Kennedys and stayed at the school several summers to write when the boarding students were on vacation.

Ben the fire horse

Good horse sense prevailed on June 18, 1903, when the Lewis Tompkins Hose Co. obtained Ben, a horse that remains to this day a legend in Beacon firefighting.

Ben was in service as one member of a three-horse “hitch” for only three months with the New York City fire department when he was called to Beacon to pull solo duty for Tompkins Hose. In his 15 years of service, Ben provided not only the horsepower needed to transport firefighters but performed the role of unofficial goodwill ambassador for Beacon.

With his white hide and almost human-like personality, Ben was a natural performer. At parades he could dazzle the crowds with his proud bearing and his considerable showmanship skills — on command, while pulling a wagon, he could raise up his hind legs in salute.

When, in the winter of 1910, Ben slipped on the ice careening down Ferry Street to a power needed to transport firefighters but service, Ben provided not only the horse power needed to transport firefighters but performed the role of unofficial goodwill ambassador for Beacon.

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(Continued on Page 17)
Class of 1925

Beacon High School in 1925 had 36 graduates — 14 boys and 22 girls — including two notables: a man far beyond his teen years and the first black graduate.

The year before, Benjamin Hammond had retired after serving for 30 years as the school board president. The class was the first to graduate, thanks in part to Hammond’s efforts, in the school’s new auditorium. In gratitude, Mayor Earnest Macumber presented Hammond with an honorary diploma.

The audience applauded, according to newspaper accounts, for five minutes in “a great demonstration of love and affection.” Hammond in turn presented the first diploma to Edward Todd, 14, the youngest graduate.

The second historical moment of the night was the presentation of a diploma to William Howes, the high school’s first African-American graduate. Howes “was accorded an impressive demonstration,” a local paper noted. “None in that audience could fail to be impressed by this beautiful exemplification of the ideal upon which the American nation was founded.”

Cottage Colony

In its heyday from the early 1900s through the 1920s, the cottage colony on Mount Beacon was a bustling seasonal community of 20 families.

The Incline Railway made cottage life on the mountains possible, with its trolley cars delivering everything from the lumber to build the cabins to the summer guests themselves. Some owners gave their mountain retreats whimsical names such as Kamp Upanuff and Up-Hi-Er.

In 1911, life in the colony became more bearable (and popular) with the building of a water-delivery system, linking by a pipeline the cottages to the Mount Beacon Reservoir and ending the laborious chore of lugging pails of water up to remote cabins. A number of cottagers that summer were Newburgh residents such as Dr. W.V. Randall, a dentist.

In a comment left at beaconhistorical.org, Tom Manuccia, 72, recalled that his parents owned one of the cottages from the late 1940s until a ski area bought the lodges in the late 1940s until a ski area bought the lodges. In another, Terry O’Neil, a Navy veteran, said this:

“It seems only a short time ago that we assembled here to dedicate the Memorial building after a war which we thought marked the end of all wars. It didn’t seem as though it could happen again. But it did. I hope God in his infinite wisdom will see that it doesn’t happen again.”

One of the more poignant moments of Memorial Day services is when the names of the war dead are read aloud, with a bell sounding for each name. As the years have rolled by, it becomes harder to associate faces and memories with those names.

Written in stone

The first monument in Beacon’s history to be dedicated to all of its war dead was unveiled in front of Memorial Hall during the Memorial Day services of 1947. The monument was donated by Beacon Post 203 of the American Legion to replace the wooden Honor Roll that also stood in front of the hall painted with the names of city residents who served during World War II. J. Gordon Flannery, a Navy veteran who was a justice on the Dutchess County Supreme Court, was the master of ceremonies. He said this:

“It seems only a short time ago that we assembled here to dedicate the Memorial building after a war which we thought marked the end of all wars. It didn’t seem as though it could happen again. But it did. I hope God in his infinite wisdom will see that it doesn’t happen again.”

One of the more poignant moments of Memorial Day services is when the names of the war dead are read aloud, with a bell sounding for each name. As the years have rolled by, it becomes harder to associate faces and memories with those names.

One name for me that is a reminder of that great sacrifice and loss is Terry O’Neil. Terry was a year ahead of me at Beacon High School but we shared a gym class under Coach Jim Gauriloff and had many laughs trying to avoid the inane drills and games. After high school he joined the Army and was deployed to Vietnam in November 1967. He was killed there on May 23, 1968. Terry’s is one of scores of names etched onto another stone near the 1947 War Monument.

Robert Murphy was president of the Beacon Historical Society for 20 years, from 1998 to 2018. These items were excerpted from his blog at beaconhistorical.org.
Simms (from Page 20)

...ing on the stationary bikes at The Studio @ Beacon on Main Street. In May, my wife and a friend and I completed the Harriman Triathlon as a relay team at Harriman State Park. I was routinely knocking out 50- and 60-mile training rides and even pulled off a 100-miler, climbing Bear Mountain twice in a day.

After all that, it was heartbreakingly to realize I was still out of my league, although, in my defense, some of the Park-in-a-day miles to ride.

When I caught up with Casey a few minutes later, all I could muster was, “I’m done.” Mentally, I was. Realistically, I had 75 more miles to ride.

We finished the next day at the Parkway’s northern terminus in Front Royal, Virginia, although, after 286 miles, I felt deflated rather than inspired. It bothered me for weeks.

Since I’ve been home, thankfully, my focus has shifted to new challenges, such as my 7-year-old, who is learning to balance on two wheels. There’s no secret to learning to ride a bike, I told him, other than practicing. You’re going to fall, because everyone does, but it won’t hurt for long and if you get back up, you’ll be that much closer to riding. As I prepare to leave for another ride next week (three more days in the Adirondacks), I realize I would do well to heed my own advice: Keep pedaling.

Back onto the saddle I climb.

Cronin (from Page 20)

Outreach and serves on Poughkeepsie’s city council, said organizers were inspired by a “gerrymandering race” in North Carolina in which participants ran the convoluted lines that separate congressional districts in Asheville. In Poughkeepsie, they decided to follow the boundaries of the red and yellow zones from the 1930s map, with some detours into the green zone.

“We hope that people start to think about neighborhood decline and the reasons for it,” Salem said. “It was not a naturally occurring event.”

It’s one thing to learn about redlining in a history book. It’s another thing to learn with your body: To discover which neighborhoods have wide, smooth sidewalks and which are torn up and pot-holed; which have tall shade trees and which ones leave pedestrians and runners exposed; which neighborhood has a lush tennis club and which has a shuttered YMCA.

“If the public and lawmakers can come together and acknowledge that local governments segregated our metropolitan areas deliberately, we can open our minds and consider how those same federal, state, and local governments might adopt equally aggressive policies to desegregate,” said Brown.

I thought about that as a group of us ran out of the green zone to the part of the course that required crossing the arterial. As we waited for the light, a runner from Poughkeepsie caught up with us and bounded across.

“This is Poughkeepsie — y’all can’t just stand there and wait for things to change,” he yelled over his shoulder with a laugh. “You have to keep running.”

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7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

**Saturday**
- Weather: Mostly sunny and pleasant
- Temperature: 80/55°F
- Precipitation: POP: 15%
- Wind: WNW 7-14 mph
- RealFeel: 83/54°F

**Sunday**
- Weather: Mostly sunny and pleasant
- Temperature: 80/59°F
- Precipitation: POP: 5%
- Wind: W 4-8 mph
- RealFeel: 84/59°F

**Monday**
- Weather: Partly sunny and pleasant
- Temperature: 85/60°F
- Precipitation: POP: 5%
- Wind: W 6-12 mph
- RealFeel: 88/65°F

**Tuesday**
- Weather: Sunny
- Temperature: 81/64°F
- Precipitation: POP: 25%
- Wind: NNE 6-12 mph
- RealFeel: 87/61°F

**Wednesday**
- Weather: Mostly sunny with a thunderstorm possible
- Temperature: 77/61°F
- Precipitation: POP: 30%
- Wind: SW 4-8 mph
- RealFeel: 82/61°F

**Thursday**
- Weather: Mostly sunny with a thunderstorm possible
- Temperature: 80/63°F
- Precipitation: POP: 30%
- Wind: N 4-8 mph
- RealFeel: 85/62°F

**Friday**
- Weather: Partial sunshine
- Temperature: 80/63°F
- Precipitation: POP: 5%
- Wind: NW 4-8 mph
- RealFeel: 84/63°F

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**CROSSCURRENT**

By King Features

**ACROSS**
1. Moment, for short
4. Nevada neighbor
8. Detergent brand
12. Savings plan acronym
13. Actor LaBeouf
14. Moby Dick’s pursuer
15. Insect repellents
17. „_____ Lisa“
18. Harbor structure
19. Asian nation
20. Not intoxicated
22. Actor Newman
24. On in years
25. San Francisco carriage
29. Under the weather
30. Divine
31. „... and seven years —“
32. 1776 crossing site
34. Porn
35. Sampras of tennis
36. Vatican heads
37. “Caribbean Queen” singer Billy
40. Sleeve end
41. Bedframe piece
42. Stump
46. Drunkard
47. On
48. Carnival city
49. Do as you’re told
50. Say it isn’t so

**DOWN**
1. [Uncorrected]
2. Geological period
3. “Wichita Lineman” singer
4. Leading man in the theater?
5. Norse hammer thrower
6. Melody
7. Owns
8. Mexican entree
9. Breakfast chain acronym
10. Carvey or Delany
11. Abba of Israel
16. Piper’s adjective
19. Seventh of a series
20. Put into words
21. Leer at
22. Chaplain
23. Competent
24. Lightweight boxer?
25. Layer
26. Marshmallow toaster
27. Chills and fever
28. Decays
29. Verdon or Stefani
30. Carelessness?
31. Couch
32. Lightweight boxer?
33. Norway’s capital
37. Organization
38. Relaxation
39. “Be a sport”
40. Scoundrel
41. Martini ingredient
42. Corroded
43. Affirmative action?

**Answers for Aug. 2 Puzzles**

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When Finishing Isn’t Enough  

By Jeff Simms

It was mid-morning on the fourth day of the week-long biking trip when I knew I had been defeated.

Until then I’d maintained a reasonably positive attitude. The June trip — 275 miles along the Blue Ridge Parkway through my home state of North Carolina and into Virginia — had been harder than any I’d done before.

I had expected that. For the last five years I’ve gone out each summer to challenge myself on two wheels. The first ride was in 2015, when a friend and I traveled the length of the Hudson River, from Battery Park in Lower Manhattan to its origin deep in the Adirondacks.

I started doing the rides because it felt like the wheels had fallen off my life. My wife had been battling cancer, which had consumed the preceding four years of our lives. (She’s healthy now.) I also needed space to get away from a dead-end job — not this one — and all the other noise of the world to think about what was important and how I want to spend my time on Earth.

This year, everything about the Parkway was challenging. There were lots of hills and it was hot and my bike was heavy with the weight of my camping gear on the back. But on Day Four, something set one grueling incline apart.

“We are completely free up here,” my riding partner, Casey Kaufman, one of my oldest friends, said to me early in the week. A seasoned cyclist, he was right at home on the Parkway’s up-and-down terrain, but with a day and a half to go, free wasn’t what I was feeling.

The expansive views that had motivated me to climb into the clouds (the elevations can top 5,000 feet) were missing. Instead, I was riding in a tunnel of dense, green vegetation. As I pedaled, my thighs burning, I felt trapped.

The Parkway is hard on long-distance bikers because there’s little food and drink if you’re not prepared. It’s not uncommon to ride for 30 miles or more without seeing an exit, so I had planned refueling stops carefully.

But — news flash! — the internet can be wrong. By the second day we’d coined a term — “Parkway’d” — for each time a restaurant closed when the internet said it would be open. One time, the place didn’t even exist.

That morning we’d been Parkway’d out of breakfast, so we had 40 miles to ride before lunch. That was half my problem.

The other half was the hills. The Parkway, which weaves for 469 miles through the Appalachian Mountains, is infamous with bikers, at least — for its lack of flat surfaces. No matter where you are on the route, you’re either going up or you’re going down.

I’d anticipated that, too, and trained hard. I spent hours over the winter sweat.

(Continued on Page 18)