Putnam to Consider Revised Secrecy Law
Also wants to amend legislative handbook to ban leaks

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Two weeks after Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell signed a confidentiality law, a legislative panel approved a revised version and sent it to the full Legislature. On Tuesday (April 13), the three-member Rules Committee also endorsed a separate draft law to amend the legislative manual to “prohibit the unauthorized disclosure of confidential material” and allow lawmakers to censure colleagues who violate the provision.

Legislator Nancy Montgomery (D-Philipstown) asked that the committee postpone action on both measures until absent legislators return, but Neal Sullivan (R-Mahopac), who chairs the Rules Committee, said they “can still say ‘no’ ” when the full Legislature votes.

The Legislature passed the secrecy law on July 2 and Odell signed it on July 30. When the full Legislature votes.

The proposed revision removes a line allowing legislators, employees and consultants to designate materials as confidential — a provision that Odell had consulted to private consultants, vendors and officials.

In addition, the revision permits county officials and employees to share records “conspicuously marked ‘CONFIDENTIAL’ with private consultants, vendors or contractors, for official purposes,” as well as with local, state or federal officials.

The proposed revision removes a line allowing legislators, employees and consultants to designate materials as confidential — a provision that Odell had recommended be dropped. The draft also...

(Continued on Page 6)

A CLOSE EYE — Juanita Rincon of Juanita’s Kitchen in Nelsonville supervises one of her daughters during preparations for a sold-out Glynwood farm dinner on Saturday (Aug. 10). For more photos, see Page 14. Photo by Ross Corsair

Reporters Notebook
Would You Survive a Mass Shooting?

County offers training for the unthinkable

By Michael Turton

A recent assignment has me thinking about the places I frequent. You’re a fool if you don’t do the same.

I’m not supposed to get emotionally involved with what I write. I try to remain objective about each story, put it behind me, and move on to the next assignment.

That detachment came to a halt last week when I attended Citizen Response to Active Shooter Events, a monthly course presented by a deputy from the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department.

I’ve written about highly charged topics such as suicide, murder, addiction and lethal accidents. I felt sympathy, but I did not happen to be connected to the victims. The stories were not about me. This was different.

(Continued on Page 20)

How Much Is the Pain Worth?

Proposal would split opioid settlement 33,000 ways

By Chip Rowe

A battle is taking place before a federal judge in Cleveland over who should receive the money that the manufacturers, distributors and sellers of prescription opioids are expected to pay to settle hundreds of lawsuits — including litigation by Putnam and Dutchess counties — alleging they contributed to an epidemic by pushing opioid pain pills that they knew were highly addictive.

Counties and cities are wary because, the last time this happened — in 1998, when five tobacco companies agreed to pay more than $246 billion over 25 years to 46 states to settle lawsuits over the medical costs of smoking — most of the payouts ended up in the general funds of state legislatures rather than being spent on public health.

This time around, hundreds of municipalities filed their own lawsuits. That led to the standoff last week in Cleveland, where a judge considered a plea from the attorneys general of 38 states to let them receive the money, while a group of lawyers representing cities and counties argued that any payout should be split among all 33,000 municipalities in the U.S., because all have been affected by the opioid epidemic.

Under a proposed settlement agreement that would exclude the states, 75 percent of the local governments would have to approve the deal. A group of law professors developed a formula for what I write. I try to remain objective about each story, put it behind me, and move on to the next assignment.

That detachment came to a halt last week when I attended Citizen Response to Active Shooter Events, a monthly course presented by a deputy from the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department.

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(Continued on Page 21)
ANNA SCHULZE

What’s the most impressive concert you’ve attended?

By Michael Turton

The No Nukes concert in 1979 at Madison Square Garden with Jackson Brown, Bonnie Raitt, Graham Nash and Bruce Springsteen, who rocked the house for the last hour.

The Sea.Hear.Now Festival in Asbury Park, New Jersey, in September. The salty atmosphere and music was incredible.

Seeing Brand New at the Coca-Cola Roxy in Atlanta. A friend surprised us with front-row seats.

~Lou Ponessi, New Paltz
~Jake Ponessi, Beacon
~Cadah Goulet, Cold Spring

What’s the most impressive concert you’ve attended?

~Lou Ponessi, New Paltz

Anna Schulze

Anna Schulze performs with Maia Sharp as Roscoe & Etta. The duo returns to the Phillipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison on Wednesday, Aug. 21, after a sold-out show last year. Their latest album, Blessings, Curses, Anchors and Wings, will be released next month.

You’re 20 years younger than Maia. How does that play out?

I’m more in the box, working on the computer. But we have similar influences. We’re both used to working in home studios, which enable you to be a less rigid and under the gun. Inevitably when Maia sends me stuff she likes, I know that I’ll like it, too.

You have said you didn’t go with Maia & Anna because you “didn’t want to sound like two folk singers wearing dresses in a meadow.” Who are Roscoe and Etta?

They’re two of Maia’s guitars. The running joke is that Roscoe is the cranky old one and Etta is more of diva electric. For better or for worse we have taken on these personas on and off stage. It was important to not be precious. Our first record [in 2018] was raw, celebrating the imperfection. We went with what felt real rather than perfection.

You live in Los Angeles, but Maia has moved to Nashville. Has that made the collaboration more difficult?

It forced us to be more deliberate about the time we have.

Are there advantages in touring as a duo?

Having someone to lean on is great. From a practical standpoint, we get to split the driving. Performing together forces us to make sure we are meeting each other half way. With recording, Maia is good at audio, getting a strong signal, cleaning up audio files. I love visualizing the tracks, and manipulating with plug-ins, from an organic audio file. For instance, with “Play On,” it began as a jangly recording, but I heard a conga part I wanted to put on top. It became the impetus for rest of the [debut] album.

How do you complement each other?

We enable each other to get out of our heads and write in creative ways. I enjoy starting something by playing and letting the energy of the room take it. Maia is good at taking the pieces and lining them up.
Haldane Updates Safety Plan
Also, adopts ‘meal-shaming’ policy

By Chip Rowe

The Haldane Board of Education will hold two public hearings at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 22, in Room 211 of the high school, to hear feedback on revisions to the district’s safety plan and its code of conduct.

Many details in the safety plan are kept confidential except for staff and police. But its public provisions — which include requirements that staff members wear photo IDs, that each school have a single, secure point of entry and that the district conduct eight evacuation and four lockdown drills each year — can be reviewed at bit.ly/haldane-safety.

The district also established a form at highlandschool.org for anonymous reports of violence or threats.

A security audit of the campus earlier this year by Altaris, a consulting firm, found “high compliance” among teachers in keeping their doors locked during class and recommended more window film in keeping their doors locked during class.

The code of conduct was reviewed by a committee led by High School Principal Julia Sniffen and a parent, Siobhan Monteleone. The draft can be seen at bit.ly/haldane-conduct. Among the changes:

- It adds the right of students to have access to “relevant and objective information concerning drug and alcohol abuse, sexual abuse or general abusive behavior, as well as access to individuals or agencies capable of providing direct assistance to students.”

- It adds a provision that bans students from recording classroom activity with their phones without permission, or posting approved recordings online without the written OK from the teacher. The draft also adds a provision allowing teachers to confiscate phones for the day for using them in class without approval.

- It adds skipping detention and missing or leaving class or school to the list of “insubordinate” behaviors that can result in discipline.

- It removes a section outlining proper behavior on the bus, including a prohibition against large musical instruments, live animals, pottery, glass and pointy objects. “Some of this language was likely the vestiges of issues from long ago,” said Superintendent Philip Benante.

- It eliminates minimum mandatory suspensions such as one year for bringing a weapon to school, or five days for a violent act or continually disrupting class, to give administrators more discretion, said Benante. “Every situation has context, and context matters when dealing with discipline,” he said.

- It eliminates a provision that school officials may “search a student or the student’s belongings based upon information received from a reliable informant,” defined as someone who has given “accurate and verified” information in the past.

- It adds a provision allowing a principal to have anyone who refuses to stop engaging in a prohibited conduct removed from campus or a school function.

In other business...

- To comply with a new state law, the district adopted a “meal-shaming” policy to guide interactions with families who have cafeteria debts. It prohibits the district from identifying students who have debts (other schools have made students wear wristbands or do chores) and forbids the cafeteria from throwing out a meal if a student cannot pay, or hiring debt collectors to hound parents.

- After hiring Elizabeth Ledkovsky, an attorney who specializes in investigating harassment claims for school districts, and meeting with her in private before its June 18 meeting, the board voted to immediately terminate Nabil Botros, its director of facilities and transportation, nine months after he was hired.

- High School Principal Julia Sniffen and Athletic Director Chris Salumn were awarded tenure, along with five teachers. Five teacher aides, two cleaners, a mechanic and a bus driver also retired, and the district hired an elementary teacher, Christine Spinelli.

- The president of the Haldane Elementary student council, Lincoln McCarthy, a rising fifth-grader, told the board that it planned to plant three apple trees on campus as a memorial to longtime teacher Lori Isler, who died in December. “Anyone who knew her knew she loved apples,” he explained.

- The board voted to extend Benante’s contract by two years, to June 30, 2023. It also signed an agreement with the Haldane Civil Service Employees’ Association through June 30, 2022.

NOTICE

Public Notice August 5, 2019
GARRISON BOARD OF EDUCATION SEeks TWO (2) TRUSTEE CANDIDATES

At the July 17, 2019 meeting Garrison School Board President, James Hoch, announced the Board seeks two trustee candidates to fill vacancies. The Board agreed to accept applications for the two vacancies as per NYS Education Law. The appointed positions will be in place until the Annual Meeting on May 19, 2019. The Board prefers candidates with financial expertise, specifically in the areas of school/government, and who will seek re-election in 2020.

Mr. Hoch indicated that qualified residents of the School District who are interested in serving on the Board of Education should contact the Board in writing. Letters of interest and a bio should be addressed to Ms. Beth Murphy, District Clerk, Garrison Union Free School District, P.O. Box 193, Garrison, New York 10524 or bmurphy@gufs.org. The deadline for submission is Friday, August 16, 2019 at 5:00 pm.

In accordance with NYS Education Law and Board Policy, a Board of Education member must meet certain qualifications. He/she must:

- Be a citizen of the United States;
- Be eighteen (18) years of age or older;
- Be able to read and write;
- Be a legal District resident one (1) year prior to the election;
- Not be an employee of the Garrison Union Free School District;
- Not be a relative of the resigning Trustee;
- Not be a candidate for any other office at the time of the election;
- Not have been removed from a school district office within a one-year period preceding the date of election to the Board.

The Board reserves the rights to conduct formal public interviews of the applicants and it is our intent to appoint new members in September 2019. School board service can be an amazing opportunity to truly make a difference in your community. Qualified candidates are encouraged to review the following websites:

- NYS School Board Association (NYSSBA) https://www.nyssba.org/
- Westchester/Putnam School Boards Association (WPSBA) https://www.wpsba.org/

Questions may be addressed to the Board President directly at jhoch@gufs.org.
Tourism director

One might think that under the circumstances, the powers that be would want a director with a tourism or travel background, who’s familiar with the existing state of affairs, and who could hit the ground running as we approach peak tourist season in September and October. (Full disclosure: that someone could have been me, since I applied for the job and was one of the finalists.)

It will be interesting to find out what political forces were at work behind the scenes. Since there was no written test or other metric that would measure merit, it is not clear how Tracey Walsh was chosen for this plum position (“Putnam Names Tourism Director,” Aug. 9). Magic 8 Ball? Tarot cards? Tea leaves? Your guess is as good as mine.

This situation is especially unfair to Cold Spring, which is the only real tourist attraction in the county. We are owed services in lieu of a share of sales tax, which the county keeps, but I don’t see one of our elected officials going to bat for us.

Now we will be supporting another $80,000-a-year position in a department that will be managed by a bunch of legislators who are clueless when it comes to promoting tourism and Main Street businesses. Example: We’ve been trying to get a billboard back on Route 9 that says “Shop Cold Spring” and it would be great if the county could pay for it out of the tourism budget.

Patty Villanova, Putnam Valley

Secrecy suit

I was glad to read that Philipstown is considering legal action against Putnam County over its newly passed confidentially law (“Philipstown May Sue Over Secrecy Law,” Aug. 9). I wish we could secede and create a new county out of the western portion of what is now Putnam. There’s nothing the county does for us that we could not do for ourselves, only better and more in line with our area’s interests.

Donald MacDonald, Cold Spring

The episode reported in which Legislator Nancy Montgomery was shouted down and criticized for attempting to read from “confidential” material about road signs is reason enough to challenge the broad interpretation of what constitutes confidential material. This is the stuff of failed states, not of mature democracies.

Ann Fanizzi, Carmel

Although I find the law ridiculous at best, I can’t support spending town tax money to sue the county, which would be using tax money to defend the suit. Once again, taxpayers lose!

Ralph Falloon, Cold Spring

Rewilding

Rewilding with mini-meadows seems like a great idea (Letters and Comments, Aug. 2). As I look around during the summer drought and see well-groomed, dry, brown lawns, or short lawns that are green only because of daily watering, I cannot help but think that there is something lacking in the approach.

I have let my lawn grow undisturbed during much of the drought, and it is green and healthy and lush without watering or fertilizer. I neaten it up once in a while, and it looks OK. As a result, I see more leopard frogs, skinks and garter snakes, and the bees and butterflies are thriving. Philipstown could benefit from a little rewilding.

David Limburg, Nelsonville

As I left the Putnam County DMV in Brewster, I noticed peach trees beside the building. They are part of a wonderful pollinator garden of native plants, complete with small hives, bees of all types and monarch butterflies.

Eileen Reilly, via Facebook

‘No’ votes

I am happy to see Sue Serino serving, as a woman, in government. Unfortunately, in reviewing her recent voting record in the state Senate (“How They Voted on Weed, Guns, Trump Taxes,” Aug. 2), I ponder whether she is capable of thinking for herself or needs to follow a list of marching orders from party honchos.

Serino voted against a number of items that passed in the Senate and Assembly. Among these votes was a puzzling nay to cannabis decriminalization while voting nay to raising the tobacco age from 18 to 21. Concern for citizen health? Dubious, if not confused. She voted against climate action; farm workers’ rights; and salary history, meant to prevent wage discrimination, which usually impacts women in the workplace.

She voted nay on data protections. And, again, confusing concern for citizen health, she went negative on ceramic knives (safe air travel) and powerboat operation courses (safety on the recreational waters).
**Editor’s Notebook**

**My Code of Conduct**

I’ve been feeling a bit lost lately, which may be an early-life crisis, or an early-life crisis but most likely is the general crisis that began when I hit puberty. Regardless, I found solace this week in an unlikely place: Haldane’s code of conduct. Although I will have two children at the high school beginning next month, I had never bothered to read closely what is expected of them. I figured that with my advanced parenting skills, they know better.

The Haldane code, at 53 pages, is comprehensive and details the rules for students, teachers and administrators. It has been revised slightly and the changes will be open for public comment next week (see Page 3).

Reading through the current code, I was struck by two things: (1) how much work it must take to contemplate every possible way a school day can go wrong (thank you, code committee), and (2) the amount of wisdom the manual contains that comes from experience, not book learning.

That’s understandable, if you consider how a manual like this evolves. Typically, I imagine, an administrator sees something that should not be happening and fires off a memo: “Add to code: No fireworks.” After many years of that, you have a document without many loopholes.

Here are some of the simple truths gleaned from the code that inspired me (in most cases, paraphrased):

1. A parent’s job is to get a child ready to participate and learn.
2. Do not judge others by their race, skin color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religious practices, disabilities, sexual orientation or gender. If you can’t do that because it’s the best way to live, do it to avoid getting sued.
3. Regularly review your educational progress and career plans.
4. Do not wear clothing that is see-through from the mid-thigh to the top of the chest, make sure your clothing covers your underwear, and always wear shoes for safety.
5. Do not record anyone on your phone without permission.
6. The best discipline is self-imposed.
7. Only one person should be in a bathroom stall at one time.
8. Don’t drive with people on the hood of your car, or hanging out the window.
9. No one wants to watch you make out, but handholding is OK.
10. Burn rubber on your own time.
11. It’s unfair, if you receive detention for skipping something, to also skip the detention.
12. No loitering, but also, no running.
13. The best way to learn is to show up.

**Corrections**

In the Aug. 9 issue, we stated that Indian Brook Bridge in Garrison would be one lane due to construction on weekdays through October. In fact, while the work on the bridge will only be done on weekdays, one lane will also be blocked on weekends by heavy equipment.

In the Aug. 9 issue, in The Week Ahead, we listed the free concert by violinist Akiko Kobayashi at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring taking place on Saturday, Aug. 17. In fact, it is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 18.
Secrecy (Continued from Page 1)

includes new language protecting whistle-blowers from running afoul of confidentiality rules.

The preamble to the revised version said the legislators drafted it in part because of perceptions that the July 2 law “would allow the county to withhold from public disclosure more information than previously.”

“We were not trying to eliminate what the public could see through FOIL [the state Freedom of Information Law],” said Sullivan.

“We never limited FOIL,” Legislature Joseph Castellano (R-Brewster) emphasized. “FOIL remains the same. We’re not marking anything ‘secrets’.”

Tampering with the state FOI Law “is something we could not do, in any event,” said Governor Nacerino (R-Patterson). “We don’t have the ability as a Legislature to exercise anything that’s not dictated by state or federal law. We can’t make up our own rules as we go along.”

In adopting the law in July, she said, the Legislature wanted to “protect confidential information” and “shed some clarification” of its own rules as we go along.”

In adopting the law in July, she said, the Legislature wanted to “protect confidential information” and “shed some clarity, so those that misinterpret the intent would have verbiage that is clearer and more concise.”

Montgomery voted against passage of the law in July and maintained on Tuesday that understanding its origin is important.

Sullivan, Nacerino and Castellano concurred the law was prompted in part by Montgomery’s request, after the Legislature voted 8-1 to adopt a resolution opposing a new state law regulating abortion, to provide The Current with an 11-page memo from Robert Firriolo, the legislative counsel, in which he responds to Montgomery’s public critique of the resolution.

Both the July 2 secrecy law and the new draft prevent disclosure of any legislative document covered by attorney-client privilege unless all nine legislators agree to release it.

“What was in that 11-page memo that requires protection?” Montgomery asked.

“Sometimes we’re protecting attorney-client privilege at the expense of the public.”

Firriolo referred to his 11-page memo as “a piece of attorney advice. It’s not a question of whether there are facts in it that in and of themselves would not be privileged. The entire document constitutes legal advice and analysis” and is confidential, he argued.

Nacerino scolded Montgomery for bringing up the 11-page memo. “It’s sort of a travesty how you go on and on about this,” she said.

Montgomery said she encountered another obstacle in July when Garrison constituents asked about signage and highway laws. She sought assistance from the Highway Department to answer their questions but received a response, slugged confidential, from a county attorney.

When Montgomery began to read from the response at a July 24 public hearing on the confidentiality law, some members of the audience attempted to shut her down. In a July 30 memo to legislators, Odell contended that Montgomery’s publicizing of the “confidential” response underscored the need to safeguard attorney-client privilege and for the Legislature to censure any member who leaks confidential information and for Ethics Board reviews and penalties.

Montgomery called the confidential response a question about road signs “a very important example of why this law fails the public.”

Defending the law, Castellano and Nacerino recalled occasions on which unnamed legislators had released, to a disgruntled resident, Peekskill Hollow Road-related information given to the Legislature in an executive session with a county attorney and divulged details of a pending lawsuit settlement.

Consequently, “it was made clear to me that once we get something from either the county attorney’s office or the legislative counsel’s office, it’s attorney-client privileged,” Castellano said. “And it’s marked ‘confidential.’ Regardless of what it says, it is confidential.” He noted that the public can file a FOIL request and go to court to seek a document’s release.

“If our attorney tells us something in a confidential manner, we’re not supposed to go out and blab it on the street,” Nacerino asserted. She likened the Legislature’s attorney-client privilege to that enjoyed by a private citizen receiving advice from a lawyer.

But Lynne Eckardt, a Southeast Town Board member who said she spoke for herself, not as a town official, called Nacerno’s comparison “a false equivalency. You’re doing the people’s business and that is profoundly different.”

Firriolo disagreed. “Whether the public’s business is at issue is irrelevant to the protection of attorney-client privilege, because legislators have an equal right to a free flow of legal advice and communication as any individual citizen has,” he said.

“While ultimately I would agree that the public has a right to know and see transparency in the operations of government, when it comes to providing legal advice, that confidentiality protection is just as strong for public officials and elected officials as it is for members of the public.”

Kristin O’Neill, assistant director of the state’s Committee on Open Government, noted in an email to The Current that according to a number of court rulings, attorney-client privilege “only applies to communications from an attorney in which the attorney is providing legal advice based on the attorney’s legal training and specialized skills. The fact that it is from an attorney is not enough.”
to Donald Trump’s re-election campaign, the president’s son alleged that Castro had “shared personal information” about them and compared the tweet to a hit list.

In fact, information on how much individuals give to federal candidates and/or political action committees (PACs) is easy to find — it’s posted online by the Federal Election Commission and can be searched by name, city, zip code, candidate or employer. Even people who gave $1 — presumably to help their candidates qualify for the Democratic debates — are included.

Individuals may give up to $2,800 per federal candidate per election (primary and general), as well as annual contributions of up to $5,000 to PACs, $10,000 to state party committees and $35,000 to national party committees. (So-called “Super PACs” can accept unlimited money.)

In the first six months of 2019, a Philipstwon resident gave $100,000 to the Super PAC American Bridge 21st Century, which calls itself “the opposition research engine of the Democratic Party,” and another $15,500 to Democratic candidates and PACs.

Another Philipstwon resident gave $60,900 to Democratic candidates, including $25,000 to a fundraising committee called the Nancy Pelosi Victory Fund ($21,500 went to the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) and $3,500 to Pelosi, a California Democrat who is the speaker of the House).

In Garrison, the largest individual donor gave $27,150 to Democratic candidates, including $13,400 to Adam Schiff, a California representative who chairs the House Intelligence Committee, and his PAC.

In Beacon, by contrast, the two largest contributions were $1,200 to the DCCC and $1,000 to Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, whose district includes the Highlands.

The largest contribution to a Republican candidate was $10,000 from a Garrison resident to the president’s Great America Super PAC. He also gave $1,000 to the re-election campaign of Lindsay Graham, the senator from South Carolina.

The chart below includes candidates and PACs that received at least $75 in donations from Highlands residents in the first six months of 2019, according to the FEC. The number of donors is in parentheses following each total.

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<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>CANDIDATE</th>
<th>OFFICE</th>
<th>COLD SPRING/ PHILIPSTOWN</th>
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PACS

- American Bridge 21st Century: Liberal Super PAC: $100,000 (1)
- American College of Engineering: Bipartisan: $1,100 (1)
- Congressional Hispanic Caucus Bold: Democratic candidates: $100 (1)
- Democracy for America: Founded by Howard Dean (D): $200 (1)
- Emily’s List: Pro-choice Democratic women: $150 (1) | $35 (1)
- End Citizens United: Democratic candidates: $300 (1)
- Fair Fight: Found by Stacey Abrams (D): $6,000 (1)
- It Starts Today: Democratic candidates: $150 (3) | $19 (1) | $19 (1)
- Moveon.org: Progressive candidates: $100 (1)
- Seal PAC for Supporting American Leaders: Conservative veterans: $200 (1)

PARTY COMMITTEES

- Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee: $1,017 (1) | $1,370 (4)
- Democratic National Committee: $8,588 (4) | $600 (2)
- Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee: $5,250 (2) | $640 (2) | $300 (1)
- National Republican Senate Committee: $85 (1)
- NY Republican Federal Campaign Committee: $1,000 (1) | $500 (1)
- Republican National Committee: $122 (2) | $1,474 (3)

* $21,500 to the DCCC, $3,500 to Pelosi campaign ** $5,600 to Schiff campaign, $5,000 to United for a Strong America PAC
Stabbing in Beacon
Police say they have made arrest
Beacon police say they have made an arrest in a stabbing that took place on the east end of Main Street at about 1 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 4. Police said officers were called to 455 Main St., where they found a male victim with a stab wound to the leg who told them he had been assaulted farther east on Main. The man was taken by Beacon Volunteer Ambulance to a hospital for treatment of the wound, which was not life-threatening, said Detective Sgt. Jason Johnson. Johnson said on Aug. 14 an arrest had been made but could not provide further information.

Norwegian Air Abandons Stewart
Airline says 737 woes doomed service
Norwegian Air announced it would end its flights as of Sept. 15 from Stewart International to Dublin — the last service it offered from the New Windsor airport — because of financial losses attributed to the 737 Max jetliner following two crashes. The discount airline also canceled four weekly transcontinental flights out of Providence and three flights from Hamilton, Ontario. Last year the airline suspended flights from Stewart to Edinburgh and Belfast, and earlier this year dropped flights to other locations in Ireland. Construction of a customs facility will continue at the airport, according to the Orange County executive.

Canopy Hearing Rescheduled
Philipstown board to hear feedback
An Aug. 15 hearing before the Philipstown Planning Board to obtain public comment on a proposal to add a canopy over the pumps at the Garrison Gulf on Route 9D was rescheduled to Sept. 19 at the Old VFW Hall in Cold Spring. The station owner also has asked for approval to sell used cars.

Dousing Incidents
Teens allegedly threw water
Several people on Facebook this month each recounted how a group of teenagers in Beacon threw water on them from a vehicle. Detective Sgt. Jason Johnson of the Beacon Police Department said a complaint was filed on Aug. 1 but that the victim declined to prosecute because the suspect was a minor. It was not clear what prompted the incidents, but in July, videos posted online showed people dousing New York City police officers who responded to gatherings on hot days around open fire hydrants. A bill introduced in the state Assembly on July 24 would make it a felony to throw or spray any substance, including water, on a police officer.

Peekskill to Receive $10 Million Grant
Funds awarded to revitalize downtown
Peekskill will receive $10 million from the state to revitalize its downtown after being named the Mid-Hudson winner of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. The city plans to spend as much as $300,000 of the award to develop a strategic investment plan to increase foot traffic and expand tourism, the arts, media and light manufacturing, according to the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council. Middletown, Kingston and New Rochelle have also won the Mid-Hudson award.

Galef Seeking Interns
Assemblymember filling spots for fall
Sandy Galef, whose district in the state Assembly includes Philipstown, is accepting applications from high school and college students for unpaid internships in the fall at her field offices. In addition, interns can travel with Galef to Albany during the Assembly session. For information, email Jennifer Fields-Tawil at fieldstawilj@assembly.state.ny.us or call 914-941-1111.

Foundation Honors Cold Spring Resident
Recognized for work fighting Hep B
Cold Spring resident Alan Brownstein was honored on July 23 with a lifetime achievement award from the Hepatitis B Foundation and Hep B United, a coalition led by the foundation and the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations.

Pruning is an art
If you are looking for a "natural finish" and do not want to see your ornamentals cut back severely to dead wood, choose artful pruning. Artful pruning allows you to keep your ornaments looking good. Artful Pruning gracefully brings your ornamentals back to a more appropriate smaller size. For an artful, natural finish, call Gregory, the artful pruner, with over 10 years as a career gardener specializing in natural and restorative gardening. 845.446.7465

BOOK & MEDIA SALE
August 17th - 25th
Saturdays & Sundays 10-5pm
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 1-5pm
Tuesday/Thursday 1-8pm
- Opening Night -
Friends Members Only Preview and Sale
Friday
August 16
6-8:30 pm

Over 15,000
• Books for all ages
• DVDs
• CDs music & audio books
• Vinyl
• Plus a special section of rare & collectible books including first editions and autographed books!

Join the Friends at the door
or online at http://desmondfishlibrary.org/friends.htm
472 Route 403, Garrison, NY 10524
- at the corner of Route 9D and 403 -
845-424-3020 • desmondfishlibrary.org

Phantasmagoria: A Haunted Sound and Light Experience
Friday, Aug. 16, 8:30 pm
An evening of stunning sound and light effects with eerie ghosts and supernatural creatures!

SILENT PROTEST — A memorial appeared at the end of Main Street in Cold Spring on Aug. 9, a week after a gunman in El Paso, Texas, killed 22 people, and another in Dayton, Ohio, killed nine.

Photo provided
Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

Food truck redux and a busy October weekend

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Village Board, at its Tuesday (Aug. 13) meeting, again discussed whether to allow food trucks but trustees said they would make no decision until Michelle McGuire’s Country Kitchen has completed a second weekend “trial run.” McGuire set up her food truck in Mayor’s Park on the weekend of July 20 but mechanical problems and park events have so far prevented a return visit.

Doug Price, owner of Doug’s Pretty Good Pub on Main Street, attended the meeting and voiced his opposition to food trucks.

“It’s not fair,” Price said. Restaurants on Main Street “pay all our bills, property taxes, pay for water and donate to nonprofits.” Food trucks, he said, don’t have those expenses but can come in during the busiest seasons and “pick off business.”

The Village Code, which is being updated, requires food trucks and other moveable businesses to pay a fee of $25 per day, an amount Mayor Dave Merandy has said needs to be increased.

Merandy suggested that if food trucks are allowed it only be at Mayor’s Park and be limited to a single vehicle. There also has been discussion of allowing a truck at Dockside Park when Seastreak cruise boats visit on fall weekends and restaurants have a hard time keeping up with the influx of visitors.

Deputy Mayor Marie Early pointed out that food trucks can operate on private property in Cold Spring without a permit.

In other business …

¢ Saturday, Oct. 26, will be a busy day in the village. At least one Seastreak cruise boat will bring hundreds of visitors from New Jersey and New York City to town from noon to 4 p.m.; a second Hops on the Hudson beer fest will occupy Mayor’s Park from noon to 5 p.m.; and the annual Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Halloween Parade will kick off at 4:30 p.m. (a half-hour earlier than its usual start to ease traffic congestion).

¢ In his first report, newly hired Superintendent of Water and Wastewater Matt Koop said there was no effect on the quality of the village water supply as a result of a vehicle driving into the coffer dam on July 18 just upstream of the water treatment plant on Fishkill Road. Koop said booms put in place by emergency personnel prevented any fluids leaking from the vehicle from flowing downstream. He said he would look into placing a barrier at the site.

¢ The Cold Spring Police Department responded to 73 calls for service in July. Officers also issued 46 moving and 134 parking tickets. Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke urged residents to lock their cars as the county has had thieves “looking for easy grabs.” Burke also reported that while he received no complaints about last week’s Wine & Food Fest at Mayor’s Park, there were parking problems that should be resolved before other events there.

¢ The board authorized the sale of 59 square feet of village-owned property at 15 Main St. A cafe and one-room tourist home will be established there.

¢ The Town of Philipstown offices will operate out of the Old VFW Hall on Kemble Avenue and the American Legion on Cedar Street during renovations to Town Hall scheduled to begin later this year.

(hh)
WINE WEEKEND — Kyle Good, a board member of Highlands Current Inc., which publishes this newspaper, volunteered at our booth at last weekend’s Wine & Food Fest at Mayor’s Park in Cold Spring.

Photo by Chip Rowe

CAUGHT WITH THE CURRENT

In a scene from Cyrano, which has five performances remaining at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival at Boscobel in Garrison, Nance Williamson (as La Bret) informs Jason O’Connell (Cyrano) that his amazing sword and verbal skills are headline news after he humbled a feckless rival.

Photo by T. Charles Erickson/HVSF

LOST BUDGIE — A budgerigar (or parakeet) flitted between Cold Spring and Garrison for at least two days last week before being nabbed on a rainy night in a village backyard on Aug. 6 by The Current’s Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong. The bird’s owner, or anyone who knows the owner, can email her at lsarmstrong@highlandscurrent.org.

PAPER MEDIA: BOETTI, CALZOLARI, KOUNELLIS

August 28 - December 8, 2019
Opening: September 7, 2019, 5-7pm
The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, SUNY New Paltz, NY
Curated by Francesco Guzzetti

In collaboration with Magazzino Italian Art Foundation
Woodstock 1969

Legendary music fest – an hour away – was 50 years ago this weekend

By Michael Turton

Fifty years ago this weekend, a music and arts festival took place on Max Yasgur’s farm southwest of Woodstock that drew as many as 500,000 people and more than 30 performers, from Richie Havens’ opening set on Friday afternoon to Jimi Hendrix’ iconic take on “The Star-Spangled Banner” on Monday morning.

We asked 10 Highlands residents who attended Woodstock — which took place in Bethel, about an hour’s drive due west of Beacon, on Route 17B — to share their recollections.

JOHN TIMMONS

I was 22. The size of the crowd was overwhelming. I got a spot about 100 feet from center stage and started using substances, like everyone else.

I had a tent site but didn’t want to lose my spot. I stayed there for three days and don’t remember sleeping, eating or going to the bathroom. I had a 3-inch reel-to-reel and recorded everything.

After Hendrix, I needed to crash for the day and headed for my tent, walking through thick mud. A station wagon passed by and ran over my foot. The passenger window rolled down — it was Hendrix. He said, “I’m so sorry man! Are you OK? Can we help?” They drove me to my campsite.

I didn’t ask permission but recorded the conversation. I got Hendrix’ autograph, which years later was stolen by a junkie.

When I played the tape in my tent I realized I had erased the day’s music. I still have a bunch of the tapes in my garage. They’re pretty poor quality.

I didn’t even know my brother Tom was there until a week later. I had an extra ticket but didn’t want to ask him. I wanted to take a lady, but that didn’t happen.

The Who pretty much destroyed my hearing at Woodstock.

Timmons is a Cold Spring native who lives in Colorado.

TOM TIMMONS

My most vivid memory is of Hendrix playing “The Star-Spangled Banner.” That, and Canned Heat.

We brought food and also got a lot from The Hog Farm [a hippie commune founded by Wavy Gravy]. We slept in a tent, stayed all four days. The mud was a hassle but also fun to slide in. Finding a decent portable toilet was not easy.

I saw no fights, no arguments, no unpleasantness. We shared everything. I saw a guy give away his shoes. There was no end to the generosity. There was pot everywhere. Some stands sold it, others gave it away.

My brother Jerry drove a bunch of us there in a blue 1965 Ford van we called “the barn bus.” Anyone from Cold Spring knew the barn bus. He dropped us off and went home and picked up another bunch of kids and somehow found his way back to us on back roads — every main road was shut down. He rolled up to our tent in the middle of this sea of hippies, like Moses leading the tribes to the Promised Land.

Gary Arceri

We were among the last people to get in before the highway was shut down. People were sitting on the roofs and hoods of cars, hitching rides. The tent city went for miles. Our friend stayed with his car and, like many people, he never saw the concert. Jefferson Airplane drove past us in a station wagon; Grace Slick was sitting on the tail gate.

The first night we ran into friends from Long Island who had built a house out of hay bales. They also had a 10-man army tent. We brought whole-wheat bread, big jars of peanut butter and jam, a gallon of Gallo wine, and a half pound of Vietnamese marijuana that soldier friends had brought back.

On Saturday night we sat by the stage and fell asleep in the mud. At 6 a.m., Jefferson Airplane came out; they were apparently tripping. Grace Slick said: “We’ve had our sunshine this morning. Have you?” They sang “Volunteers,” a protest song, and put on a tight set for people who were probably high.

It may be passé now but at night when they asked everyone to light a match or their lighter, it illuminated the whole area. It might have been the start of that.

There were no problems. No one was hustling anyone. People didn’t even barter. The police were congenial; they saw how well-behaved the hippies were.

People slid in the mud like they were 10 years old. My girlfriend and I swam naked in the lake; people handed us soap and shampoo. Farmers went by in speed boats, gawking. Their kids were already there!

There was a free kitchen. Farmers donated hundreds of pounds of hamburger. A local store handed out peanut butter and jam sandwiches.

They’d make announcements from the stage: “A baby was just born,” “If you took the brown acid it’s not poison — but it’s crap.” They had a detox tent.

Woodstock was like coming home in a sense. If you were a hippie like I was at the time, living on Long Island, you were ostracized, picked on and hunted by narcs based solely on your looks. At Woodstock everyone looked like me.

Arceri is co-owner of the Ellen Hayden Gallery in Cold Spring.

TERRY LAHEY

I drove my son Patrick there. We went to a bar not far from the site. The bartender was a former state trooper who offered to take Patrick into the festival. He said it was calmer inside than outside the gates. My son Terry went up too, with Jerry Timmons. My sons stayed until it was over and came back to Cold Spring with Jerry in his barn bus.

Lahey lives in Cold Spring.

(Continued on Page 12)
The Woodstock Whisperer

By Chip Rowe

On Friday, Aug. 15, 1969, Jim Shelley and a high school friend, Tony Tufano, began their drive from New Jersey to the Woodstock Music and Art Fair.

They brought sleeping bags; a 35mm camera loaded with a roll of Kodachrome slide film; and meal money. When they reached Route 17B on Friday, they found themselves at the end of a 12-mile line of cars, he recalled. They parked at a closed restaurant and slept in the car.

At 6 a.m. the next day, the road had become a parking lot four lanes wide — the road and shoulders — pointed toward the festival, he said. The men began to walk. Farmers posted signs along their fields: “Cattle corn, do not eat.” The state police said, “Just ahead.”

When they reached the festival, “we found a spot 100 yards from the stage toward the left,” Shelley recalled. “The music began about 2 p.m. but the evening had bigger names and the music got stronger. The scent of grass overpowered the smell of hay and Tony and I likely got a contact high.”

During the Incredible String Band’s set, the men searched for food. Someone gave them oranges.

We arrived in White Lake just before dawn on Friday. We found a place to park and started walking the mile to the festival. Just before we reached the site, we were approached by a young man in a Mad Hatter hat. He told us: “The gates are down! They pulled down the gates!”

No tickets would be collected. I held on to my three-day pass, which had cost $18.

I was 17; there were just so many people, I couldn’t believe it. Back then there wasn’t technology to get the word out. I thought I was going to a small concert! People were pouring in, riding on top of cars. As we entered, someone came out and a guy asked him what it was like inside. He said, “It’s a real bummer — no one showed up!”

We stayed at my brother’s in Middletown. He knew Max Yasgur and was busy working at The Hog Farm. I never did find him.

It was blazing hot that first day and we had brought nothing. People offered us water. When Richie Havens opened, singing “Freedom,” it was remarkable, beautiful. I remember looking at all those people and thinking this really is freedom. It was a unique event that cannot be recreated. I’m glad the anniversary concert fell through.

Vitale lives in Garrison.

JIM PLATZ

I have a very vague memory of the event and I didn’t even take any drugs! I drove there in my new 1968 VW convertible, traveling with a carton of Lucky Strikes, a few six-packs of beer, and a soon-to-be ex-wife.

We stayed for three days, camping in the backyard of a gracious senior citizen. We shared the yard with a few Hell’s Angels without any issues at all. I vividly remember the announcements that this person or that person needed to take their meds. That was scary. I recall how much fun everyone had in the cow pasture mud, and the scent of pot and patchouli oil. Patchouli oil seemed to help define that era.

What pleases me most now are folks’ expressions when I tell them I was there.

This year I was near the Coachella Festival in the California desert, mixing with some concert goers. I told them I was at Woodstock and I’m not sure they knew what it was. Another geezer moment!

Platz, a former Garrison resident, lives in Colorado.

TOBI VITALE

(Continued from Page 11)

MARRY KULIS RAPP

I was 16, living in Queens. My older sister, her boyfriend, my best friend and I stayed in a tent on someone’s lawn. We got water from the spigot on the house. I remember eating Cheez Whiz from a can and crackers.

And I didn’t even take any drugs! I drove there in my new 1968 VW convertible, traveling with a carton of Lucky Strikes, a few six-packs of beer, and a soon-to-be ex-wife.

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Platz, a former Garrison resident, lives in Colorado.

CASSANDRA SAULTER

The roads leading to Yasgur’s farm were where the magic began. Cars were crawling, some were stopped, so all shared, adapted and made it festive. That was Friday. We arrived after sundown. Trees were backlit by the illuminated stage. The voice of Joan Baez was an unforgettable welcome. She sang “Joe Hill,” a cappella, and it rang through the night sky.

Our exit was equally memorable. We were still there on Monday when the masses were minimized. “The Star-Spangled Banner” by Hendrix created a warm glow in the late-morning rain. In my memory, the promise was complete, three days of peace, music and, especially, cooperation.

Later, I painted “Post Woodstock” (left) a 4-foot by 4-foot acrylic on canvas that captures many of the events of the tumultuous 1960s.

Saulter lives in Cold Spring.
LEONORA BURTON

I was in my 20s, working in New York City for Fred Weintraub, director of creative services at Warner Brothers. Because Fred owned The Bitter End in Greenwich Village, where many musicians, including Joan Baez, got their start, independent film producer Mike Wadleigh came to us wanting to do a documentary about Woodstock.

Wadleigh had no money and asked Warner Brothers to fund it, which they did in exchange for the distribution rights. When the film came out, we started getting letters from people who were in it, saying they were suing because they had not given permission. Warner Brothers’ lawyers would reply, pointing out that because the film was a documentary, a release was not required. Woodstock won the 1970 Academy Award for best documentary.

Burton owns The Country Goose in Cold Spring.

RICH KAPLAN

It’s the spirit of Woodstock that matters most — peace, love and music. I was 16 and remember it being cold and wet, a lot of chaos, eating peanut butter without bread. The guy I went with drove his mother’s car and she needed it back. We waited at least two hours in line to use a pay phone; we called her but there was no answer. We didn’t call again. We were supposed to stay for one day but we knew we weren’t going to leave.

After we got home, a friend called who was still at the site and said he needed a ride. We picked him up somewhere on the highway and all he had were his pants.

I went back 30 years later and bought a peace-sign pendant made from the fence. I believe it really is from that fence.

Kaplan owns Max’s on Main in Beacon.

Got your own Woodstock memories?

Post them at highlandscurrent.org/woodstock.
Juanita Rincon of Juanita’s Kitchen in Nelsonville and her family visited Glynwood on Aug. 10 to prepare the sold-out farm dinner. Juanita’s daughters served as sous chefs, and the Mexican cuisine included only Hudson Valley produce and meat. The next morning, the Rincons left for a long-awaited vacation.
When Grace Lo finally made the move to Cold Spring in 2018 — after considering it for some time — she was struck by how many people she met who had a side project. “It gave me permission to do that, too,” she says. The landscape architect, who grew up in Queens, had a good job but a hankering to live more of her life in a place where the outdoors is front and center — a place like Cold Spring, where she often came to hike.

A year later, fueled by meeting people in creative fields, particularly visual artists, she opened an arts way station on Main Street called Supplies for Creative Living. It will have its grand opening on Friday, Sept. 6.

The storefront, next door to The Current’s office, is filled with supplies, books and products related to creative fulfillment.

“Here everyone seems invested in making a nice life for themselves and their families,” Lo says. “Though the last job I had was for an awesome, woman-owned firm, I had reached the point where I no longer wanted to expend energy working on something else for someone else. “After moving from the city, you’re always waiting for ‘the catch,’ but there hasn’t been any, for me,” she adds. “I love the outdoors — there are, like, birds that I’m suddenly interested in identifying — and it’s also great being able to take the train into the city so easily.”

Lo continued working full time in New York City after her move, then “dropped it, taking time to figure out what to do next,” she recalls. “I did a lot of photography when I was younger, but I got into landscape architecture because you I thought you get to do creative things and be outside. In reality, you stare at a computer a lot. I missed the darkroom process, wondering what will show up. I stopped doing photography because of the digital switchover, and over time my other art fell by the wayside.”

After relocating to the Highlands, Lo found she had more time for her art and discovered “so many people talking about creativity, and cultivating it. I began trying to figure out how to make that imprint into a store. I’m still sorting it out, but actually since I decided to open, it’s all been evolving quickly. I thought it would take the whole summer to figure out, but people are excited and it’s moving along.”

With limited space, and a mandate to stick to “the components around creativity: how to start and how to keep yourself inspired,” Lo has focused on “having one great version of something, rather than...” (Continued from Page 16)
Creative Center (from Page 15)

overlapping too many versions of it.” Her store emphasizes drawing and watercolors, with a selection of pad, papers, pencils and brushes, along with pure pigments. For children and their parents there are art crayons “that blend nicely and clean off easily,” plus sewing and pencil and paper kits handmade in Woodstock.

Lo says she has been looking for products that are less widely distributed, “unique, sometimes handmade or vintage, touched and cared-for by others, rather than plastic.” She says she “started with my preferences for things, especially with watercolors. If you don’t have quality supplies, things get blotchy and weird and you think, I’m terrible at this, and it ends.”

The store offers workshops for children and for adults. “Living with such accessibility to nature makes for such a great environment to explore creativity and sense perception,” Lo says. “There’ll be seasonal themes, like looking for patterns that show up in leaves and flowers, with a late summer hike to gather flowers, then imprinting them on paper. Plus, we’re going to coordinate with Split Rock Books for an afternoon story time.”

Lo also hopes to have drop-in, informal, life drawing classes, some tailored to when commuters can make it and shift gears, such as weekend mornings. Inspired by The Endless Skein, another new store in town, Lo offers free, open-table sessions from 3 to 6 p.m. on Monday, Thursday and Friday designed to be a “hang out for those working on any creative endeavor, seeking company or just a change of scenery.”

She has been surprised by how many of her initial customers are locals. “I get hikers looking for sketchbooks, but I’m also getting lots of people in town who know what they want and need,” she says. “Others are interested but don’t know how to start. Children have come in and have paid me with their allowance money; lots of quarters. It’s adorable.”

Supplies for Creative Living is located at 165 Main St. Call 845-809-5900 or visit suppliesforcreativeliving.com. It is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, Thursday, Friday and weekends.

Sanctuary (from Page 15)

counseling, helped develop a business plan so the group could get a mortgage. “We went back and forth with the Methodist Conference over cost and affordability, but ultimately, they knew us as locals and that helped complete the deal,” Allen says.

The group purchased the building in April 2015 and, a month later, held its first event, a screening of local resident John Cohen’s film, 50 Miles from Times Square. Because work still needed to be done to get the church up to code, the early events were held outside.

The center, which can seat 125 people, has since hosted a variety of programs, including live music, visual arts classes and exhibits, poetry and play readings, open mics, film screenings, school performances, harvest festivals, St. Patrick’s Day and annual Pete Seeger celebrations and tai chi sessions. There’s also a weekly summer farmers market. A newly-remodeled arts shed, once a carriage house, hosts crafts fairs, and an exhibition gallery is scheduled to open soon.

Weiss, who was a New York City high school principal for 20 years, says he was recruited as a volunteer by another board member, Thornton, a music teacher, met Allen while singing in the Garrison-based Dream Choir, which performed at the cultural center. Everyone pitches in everywhere. “People do many cross-hatched jobs here,” Weiss says. “Our sound guy is on the board now.”

The center is funded by donations and grants, particularly from the Abrons Foundation, the Anastasi Foundation and the Putnam Arts Council. Last year it received money from Preserve New York to complete a building-condition report. The most recent capital project was upgrading the stage and renovating a bathroom; the next will be to install air conditioning.

The Tompkins Corners Cultural Center is located at 729 Peekskill Hollow Road in Putnam Valley. Call 845-526-7280. For a schedule of events, see tompkin-scorners.org.
Bestselling Books

**Kid Friendly**

**Say Yes**
By Katie Hellmuth Martin

I’m a pretty optimistic person. As a business owner, I have to keep on the sunny side of life. In fact, I’m listening to a song called “Keep on the Sunny Side” right now from the O Brother, Where Art Thou? soundtrack, a compilation about dying.

My job at Tin Shingle, my business about teaching businesses how to get the word out about their business, is to empower people to move forward, and go for big dreams they don’t think are possible. I have a webinar series called “Give Yourself Permission” where I list a string of ideas together of what people should give themselves permission to do, like throwing themselves a ribbon-cutting party or pitching a big magazine a story. That’s why I surprise myself — again and again — when I instinctively say to my children: “No, that can’t happen.” My daughter is getting taller, and she outgrew her from-the-scrap-yard bike that came out of our neighbor’s truck, headed for the smelter.

For her birthday, I said yes to a brand-new bike. At her request, we headed off to People’s Bicycle in Beacon. As she peeped on her too-small bike, she shouted to me: “Maybe he will buy my old bike!”

“No way,” I said. “He sells good bikes.” Nevertheless, she persisted. I pushed them backwards behind the big car. You’ll have to drive him.”

So you see, blocks are just excuses not to do something, for whatever reason. If there is something you want to do, or you think is a great idea, and is too unbelievable for your mind to accept, go for it. And keep going for it. Because sometimes big dreams take months (maybe years) of tiny steps.

Let your children be your guide. Say yes to them, even when it makes no sense and is hardly worth it. The more you practice saying yes, the more you will bust through mental blocks and start to move forward.

---

**Problems in the Garden?**

We can help! For the next installment of Roots and Shoots, in the Aug. 30 issue, gardening columnist Pamela Doan will answer reader questions. Drop her a line at rootsandshoots@highlandscurrent.org.
THE WEEK AHEAD

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 17

Book and Media Sale
GARRISON
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
The annual fair, hosted by the Dutchess County Agricultural Society and held nearly every year since 1842, is the second largest in the state, covering 147 acres. It features live music, carnival rides, performing pets, 12 bars of livestock, shows and activities for children, horse rings, horticulture, a museum of antiques, an arts & crafts competition, a wildlife exhibit, a marketplace and a lumberjack competition. Unlimited rides for $25 on WED 21 and THURS 22. Gate admission is $10 on TUES 20 and $7 after 5 p.m. on THURS 22. Continues through SUN 25.

SAT 24

New York International Air Show
NEW WINDSOR
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stewart Airport
1180 1st St. | 321-395-3110
airshowny.com
The Navy Blue Angels and Royal Air Force Red Arrows will headline the annual show that features aircraft on display as well as aerial performances. Also SUN 25. Cost: $18.75 to $214

KIDS & FAMILY

TUES 20

The Hate U Give
BEACON
5 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Teens are invited to watch the 2018 adaptation of Angie Thomas’ bestseller. Rated PG-13. Free

TUES 20

Space Buddies
GARRISON
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
The lovable dogs and their friends have to get to the moon and back in this 2009 film. Rated G. Free

THURS 22

Summer Reading Ice Cream Party
GARRISON
4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
DesmondFishLibrary.org
Celebrate summer and the finale of the reading program. Free

SAT 24

Back-to-School Block Party
BEACON
Noon – 2 p.m. South Avenue Park
Learn about the many organizations that help students in and out the classroom. The first 150 participants will receive a starter school supply kit. Sponsored by 1 Am Beacon and Key Food.

VISUAL ART

SAT 17

Riverside Crafts Fair
GARRISON
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Garrison’s Landing
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
The Garrison Arts Center’s 50th annual fair will feature more than 60 artists and artisans selling furniture, photography, jewelry, gourmet food, glass items, textiles, 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)

SAT 17

Two From Brooklyn
BEACON
4 – 8 p.m. Catalyst Gallery
137 Main St. | 845-204-3844
catalystgallery.com
See works by fabric artist MC Kirton 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.

WED 21

Arts & Culture Funding Info Session
BEACON
3 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
artsmidhudson.org
All applicants for an individual artist commission, project or arts-learning grant from Arts Mid-Hudson must attend an info session, such as this one to be held in Beacon.

MUSIC

SAT 17

Benny Havens Band
WEST POINT
7:30 p.m. Trophy Point
westpointband.com
Dance under the stars to swing, disco, Latin, country, funk, hip-hop and Motown hits. Free

SAT 17

The Benny Gun Band
PUTNAM VALLEY
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corner Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org
See this six-piece group from Great Barrington, Massachusetts, blends swing with gypsy jazz. Cost: $20 ($15 seniors, students)

WED 21

Dylan Scott
RHINEBECK
7:30 p.m. Dutchess Fairgrounds
6636 Route 9 | dutchessfair.com
The country singer and Louisiana native had hits with “My Girl” and “Hooked,” and his most recent album, Nothing To Do Town, reached No. 3 on the country charts. Cadillac Three will also perform. Cost: $35
WED 21
Roscoe & Etta
GARRISON
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org
Maia Sharp and Anna Schulze return to the Depot to play songs from their forthcoming album. See Page 2. Cost: $25

THURS 22
LoCash
RHINEBECK
7:30 p.m. Fairgrounds
6636 Route 9 | dutchessfair.com
The rock band, fronted by Chris Daughtry, who was a finalist on the fifth season of American Idol, has sold more than 8 million albums since its first in 2006. Cost: $35

Fri 23
Daughtry
RHINEBECK
7:30 p.m. Fairgrounds
6636 Route 9 | dutchessfair.com
The punk band will perform songs from its latest release, Leveling the Ground. Cost: $25 ($30 door)

Sat 24
Field of Dreams
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Dockside Park
coldspringfilm.org
In this screening of Ewald André Dupont’s 1923 silent film, Das alte Gesetz, which was digitally restored in 2017, will be accompanied with music composed and performed by klezmer violinist Alicia Svigals and pianist Donald Sostin. Cost: $20 ($15 seniors, students)

Sat 24
The Ancient Law
PUTNAM VALLEY
7:30 p.m. Tompkins Corner Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
845-628-7280 | tomptkscorners.org
This screening of Ewald André Dupont’s 1923 silent film, Das alte Gesetz, which was digitally restored in 2017, will be accompanied with music composed and performed by klezmer violinist Alicia Svigals and pianist Donald Sostin. Cost: $20 ($15 seniors, students)

Sun 25
The Battle of Stony Point
GARRISON
10 a.m. Boscober | 1601 Route 90 | boscober.org
The event will include a reenactment of the battle, which took place on Aug. 24, 1779. Cost: $20 ($15 seniors, $5 children, free for children under 6, members)

Sun 25
Broken Wings
BEACON
7 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
This 2002 Israeli film, screened as part of the library’s international film series, examines how family members cope with a tragedy.

Sun 25
Footloose
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Ave. | 845-350-2722
beaconperformingartscenter.com
In this show by members of the Beacon Performing Arts Center, a high school boy from the city comes up against a ban on dancing in a conservative small town. Also SAT 24. Cost: $30 ($25 ages 18 and under)

Sun 25
Above All Things
GARRISON
8 p.m. Desmondfish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
The PG-13 film, filmed locally and released in 2018, will be shown outside on the side of the library. It follows Bobby Larsen, who retreats to the family cottage to deal with the death of his wife, who comes back to haunt him. The rain date is Fri 30.

Sun 25
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10 a.m. Boscober | 1601 Route 90 | boscober.org
The reenactment of the battle, which took place on Aug. 24, 1779. Cost: $20 ($15 seniors, $5 children, free for children under 6, members)

Mon 19
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-6191 | binnaclebooks.com
Learn about small-scale farming and other local topics at this monthly meeting.

Mon 19
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov
Haldane High School (Room 211)
845-438-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

Wed 21
School Board
GARRISON
7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D
845-424-3900 | gafs.org
Haldane High School (Room 211)
15 Craigside Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

Thu 22
School Board
COLD SPRING
2:30 p.m.
Haldane High School (Room 211)
15 Craigside Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

SAT 24
New World Jazz Orchestra
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | 845-265-5537
chapelrestoration.org
This ensemble of Hudson Valley musicians will present a fresh take on standards and contemporary jazz. Cost: $20

Sat 24
Luiz Simas and Wesley Amorim
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-631-4988
imasamorin.bpt.me
The duo will perform original Brazilian music on piano and guitar as well as standards by composers such as Jobim and Caetano Veloso. Cost: $20 ($25 door)

Sat 24
Story Slam Open Mic
BEACON
6 p.m. Oak Vino | 389 Main St.
Share a 5-minute true, personal story or just listen. Free

Sat 24
Stage & Screen
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 Stories Throw Theatre Co. will perform songs from Next To Normal, Smokey Joe’s Cafe, Urinetown, Once and Godspell. Cost: $25 ($30 door)
Active Shooter (from Page 1)

The three-hour course, designed in 2004 by a team at Texas State University and adopted as a national standard in 2013 by the FBI, teaches participants to prepare for the unthinkable as if it is inevitable, and to always assume a worst-case scenario. It took place on a Thursday night at the Bureau of Emergency Services in Carmel. I was one of nine people in attendance.

Since January, more than 1,200 people in Putnam County have taken the free training, which is funded by a federal grant. Another 900 are registered to participate by the end of the year. Private classes have been held for 14 businesses and organizations, said Sergeant of Operations Matthew Monroe, who led our class. (Ninety percent of mass shootings have taken place in commercial, educational and outdoor settings.)

To start the session, Monroe pointed out the emergency exits. If a shooter appeared, he asked, who would help with first aid and the emergency exits. If a shooter appeared, Monroe said the need to be aware of your surroundings at all times, to have a plan, and to execute it immediately. "Taking immediate action has proven to be the most successful strategy," Monroe later wrote me in an email. "Any plan executed immediately is better than no plan."

The program urges people to adopt three strategies: avoid, deny or defend, in that order. Avoid by being aware of exits and leaving immediately. If that can't be done, deny by locking or barricading doors, turning off lights and getting out of sight. And if you must, defend by getting into a position that allows you to attack and subdue the attacker, fight or grab the gun.

I was surprised how the course affected me. It started me thinking, observing and planning. I've since noted the emergency exits in Foodtown. Last Sunday, while sitting at The Current's booth at the Wine & Food Fest in Mayor's Park, I planned what I'd do if I heard gunshots. I determined three escape routes, depending on the shooter's location. I did the same on the Cold Spring riverfront. What would my options be if it became a shooting ground?

Citizen Response to Active Shooter Events is held on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in Carmel, although Monroe said he hopes to soon alternate them with a Philipstown location. To register, see putnamsheriff.com/crase-signup. Organizations can email Monroe at Matthew.Monroe@putnamcountyny.gov.

In the second room, where the windowed door could not be locked, students stayed low, out of sight, and used their feet to hold the door. Others flattened themselves along the wall parallel to the door, also out of the shooter's sight. All survived.

Denial is a natural reaction when gunshots ring out, Monroe said. But he emphasized that you don't want to lose precious seconds because you don't have a plan. When a motorcycle backfired in Times Square recently and the sound was mistaken for gunshots, Monroe said pedestrians made the right decision to immediately flee. There were a few minor injuries, but had it been gunfire, denial would have had tragic consequences.

What the hell would I do if someone burst into the room firing an assault rifle? The killings in El Paso and Dayton reminded us how quickly people can die when automatic weapons are involved. It occurred to me that if a shooter turned up in Cold Spring, I would, without a doubt, know some of the victims. And my name could as easily appear on a casualty list in this newspaper as anyone else's.

Monroe and his colleagues emphasized the program urges people to adopt three strategies: avoid, deny or defend, in that order. Avoid by being aware of exits and leaving immediately. If that can't be done, deny by locking or barricading doors, turning off lights and getting out of sight. And if you must, defend by getting into a position that allows you to attack and subdue the attacker, fight or grab the gun.

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Opioids (from Page 1)

that would rival what the tobacco companies agreed to pay 20 years ago, adjusted for inflation.

<table>
<thead>
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Meanwhile, after a lengthy battle, The Washington Post obtained Drug Enforcement Agency records for 2006 to 2012 that “tracked the path of every single pain pill sold in the U.S.” — more than 380 million — and showed the largest manufacturers, distributors and sellers in each county.

In Dutchess County during that seven-year period, there were 60 million pain pills sold, or the equivalent of 29 pills per resident each year, and in Putnam, 15 million, or 21 per resident each year.

Manufacturers
Putnam: SpecGx LLC: 6.8 million pills
Dutchess: SpecGx LLC: 26.7 million pills

Distributors
Putnam: Kinray Inc.: 3.3 million pills
Dutchess: Cardinal Health: 15 million pills

Pharmacies
Putnam: (1) CVS, Mahopac: 1.6 million pills; (2) Shoprite, Carmel: 1.5 million; (3) Putnam Valley Pharmacy: 1.1 million; (4) Community Pharmacy, Brewster: 1.1 million; (5) Rite-Aid, Carmel: 971,000; (6) Rite-Aid, Brewster: 960,000; (7) Drug World, Cold Spring: 778,000.

Dutchess: (1) CVS, Fishkill: 3.4 million pills; Molloy’s, Poughkeepsie: 3.3 million; William C. Irwin, Hyde Park: 2.6 million; CVS, Dover Plains, 1.94 million; Wal-Mart, Fishkill: 1.91 million; … (22) Vogel Pharmacy, Beacon: 966,000; … (24) Rite-Aid, Beacon: 925,000

Back from the Dead

The number of times first responders or community programs administered naloxone in 2018 to reverse an overdose.

PUTNAM: 49
DUTCHESS: 534
NYS (EXCL. NYC): 9,831

Source: New York State – County Opioid Quarterly Report, July 2019
Market Report (July)

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Current Classifieds

**EDUCATION**

JOIN BHA’S PRESCHOOL! — Beacon Hebrew Alliance’s progressive, garden-based, Jewish preschool for ages 2 to 4 has space in our half-day program beginning Sept. See beaconhebrewalliance.org/head/formal-learning/bha-preschool and facebook.com/BHApreschool. Register soon! There are only a few slots left.

**TAG SALE**

GARRISON — 593 Route 9D. Furniture, household items, collectibles, priced to go! Saturday, Aug. 17, and Sunday, Aug. 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**FOR SALE**

16-FOOT CANOE — Restored by Carl Williams of Lakeville, CT. Canvas over cedar with new canvas, new frames, as needed, built in 1920 in Quebec for use at Triton Club, possibly a “manuan,” “quiet on the water,” original paddles and wicker seat! In storage in Garrison. $3,500. Email benjaminjohn52@gmail.com.

**HELP WANTED**

SEEKING JAZZ GUITAR OR KEYBOARD PLAYER — Good amateur jazz clarinetist seeking guitar or keyboard player, bass player and drummer to start a jazz band. Call Daniel at 646-544-3558.

**HELP WANTED**

GOT RUBBISH?
10-YARD DUMPSTER RENTAL
RUBBISH REMOVAL SERVICES
SERVICE TOW SERVICES
37A Albany Post Rd, Ossining, NY 10562
MrCheapeeInc@aol.com
914-737-0823

MrCheapeeInc.com

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Monday – Thursday 8 - 5:30
Friday & Saturday 8 - 5
Tel. 845.265.3126
158 Main Street • Cold Spring, NY 10516

**HELP WANTED**

SEEKING JAZZ GUITAR OR KEYBOARD PLAYER — Good amateur jazz clarinetist seeking guitar or keyboard player, bass player and drummer to start a jazz band. Call Daniel at 646-544-3558.

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The Highlands Current

7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

Saturday 83/69
Partly sunny and humid; a t-storm in the afternoon

Sunday 88/69
Some sun with a shower or t-storm; warm and humid

Monday 91/71
Very warm and humid with variable cloudiness

Tuesday 90/71
Partly sunny and humid

Wednesday 85/66
Some sun with a thunderstorm possible; humid

Thursday 84/65
Variable clouds with a thunderstorm possible

Friday 84/65
A blend of sun and clouds

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.

SUN & MOON
Sunrise Sat., 8/17 6:06 AM
Sunset Sat. night, 8/17 7:53 PM
Moonrise Sat., 8/17 9:17 PM
Moonset Sat., 8/17 7:53 AM

Pollen Source: National Allergy Bureau
Grass Weeds Trees Molds
Moderate
High
Absent
Low

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

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Mind Games

On Aug 5 at the Desmond-Fish Library in Garrison, a Jedi master from Star Wars (David Engel) instructed children and adults in how to use the force, handle a light saber and play telepathy tricks on your friends.

Photos by Ross Corsair