Welcome to Glenham
A Beacon neighbor with a ‘small is good’ vibe

By Michael Turton

Glenham is one of hundreds of hamlets, from Accord to Zoar, that dot the New York state map — small, unincorporated settlements with unmarked boundaries and often nebulous identities. Residents of Glenham would likely argue their identity is anything but vague. They clearly see their hamlet, nestled up against Beacon’s eastern boundary, as a good place to live and do business, more akin to a neighborhood than a village or town.

In the hierarchy of communities, hamlets are an enigma. You’ll find no elected municipal board, school board, police department, library, recreation or highway department in Glenham. But you will find a post office, complete with its own ZIP code (12527), a fire department and a small collection of commercial and institutional buildings at the corner of Old Glenham Road and Maple Street that might loosely be considered “downtown.” Although Glenham is part of the Town of Fishkill, which provides most of its municipal services, its students are in the Beacon City School District. Why? Because school district boundaries and municipal boundaries don’t always coincide. Glenham had its own district until the 1960s, when it merged with Beacon.

The hamlet’s exact population is a bit of a mystery, which is not surprising since there are no signs to indicate where it begins or ends. Mail is delivered to about 100 houses, but there are about 500 post office boxes. If Glenham reflects the U.S.

How They Voted on Religious Attire, Sexual Harassment, River Billboards
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 June. According to a tally by the state Senate, he has enacted 182 bills so far this year, with another 53 waiting for his signature. None has been vetoed.

Below are summaries of select laws enacted since Aug. 8 and 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). We asked Serino to comment on her votes in the minority, but she did not respond by press deadline.

Religious attire
Cuomo, a Democrat, on Aug. 9 signed legislation that prohibits workplace discrimination based on religious attire, clothing or facial hair. Lawmakers cited the case of a follower of the Sikh religion who works for (Continued on Page 15)
FIVE QUESTIONS: JENNY BROWN

By Alison Rooney

Jenny Brown is the author of Birth Strike: The Hidden Fight Over Women’s Work. She will discuss it at Binnacle Books in Beacon at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 13.

The title of your book refers to the idea that declining birthrates in the U.S. — which reached an all-time low in 2017 — represent the equivalent of a “strike” by women. How so?

My group, National Women’s Liberation, noticed in our discussion groups that many women said they had one child and stopped because of financial burdens such as insecure health care, very short paid leave, expensive child care and lack of affordable after-school and summer programs. We realized our society is relying on women’s unpaid labor to raise future generations without putting into the resources to make it tenable.

You note that corporations are concerned. Why is that?

Population growth has been the underlying factor for economic growth since the dawn of capitalism. Stagnant growth is a recent trend, and not just here. For instance, Japan’s is usually blamed on low — lower than ours — birthrates. In earlier times, governments wanted more workers, more soldiers. During the Teddy Roosevelt era, they were quite open about it: We need more population to be able to expand and invade. Social Security is a big area of concern, with worries there won’t be enough children earning money to support their parents, so the costs of retirement might end up being borne by employers. It turns out there’s plenty of production and resources to allow a comfortable retirement for all, but it’s concentrated in the top one-tenth of 1 percent of earners, where nearly all income is not taxed for Social Security. That money represents production, yet it is not going into Social Security programs.

So can women gain bargaining power by threatening not to have children?

It’s happened. In France, the low birthrate prompted robust paid leave and child care so people could afford to have children. Sweden’s welfare state, created in the 1930s when there was a panic over birthrates, still provides for families. In the U.S. we’ve been able to win some short, paid leaves, but we haven’t united around the idea. Women blame themselves when we can’t balance family and work. But individuals did not create the problem; it’s part of a system and requires a political solution.

What needs to be done?

Universal health care is what it comes down to. This should be combined with well-paid parental leave and shorter working hours. But it’s also about housing costs and student debt. People sometimes don’t see how their own lives can be affected. If people understood the stakes, they would unite around it.

What have the politicians said?

Sen. Bernie Sanders has cited examples of his constituents in Vermont who tell him they want to have a second child but their work hours, wages and conditions make it impossible. Sen. Elizabeth Warren proposed a big child care program. There’s a hardcore part of the extreme right that believes Western civilization is on the decline because of low birthrates and wants to outlaw abortion for that reason. On the progressive side, it’s clear that the child-production cycle is broken. We need to make this less onerous.

Jenny Brown
Photo by Pete Self
Catching Up With the Putnam Legislature

By Holly Crocco

MTA Rep.: ‘We Are Forgotten’

As the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which operates Metro-North commuter trains, works on a service and facilities plan for 2020 to 2024, Putnam legislators said they want to make sure the county’s needs are being heard.

One challenge is that Neal Zuckerman, a Garrison resident who represents Putnam on the 17-member MTA board, shares a single vote with the representatives from Dutchess, Orange and Rockland counties.

“We are forgotten,” Zuckerman told legislators on Aug. 20 during a meeting of the Physical Services Committee. “We are not attended to by the MTA the way that I would like us to be.”

He added that “even if we had four votes, it is about how throaty we are. It’s about how much we yell and demand things.”

Zuckerman said there are four issues the MTA “desperately needs to work on”: safety, price, service and sustainability of the system.

One legislator knows more than anyone about the importance of safety for Metro-North riders. Nancy Montgomery (D-Philipstown) lost her husband, James Lovell, 58, in a derailment on the Hudson Line on Dec. 1, 2013.

“Nancy suffered more than anybody I know from the MTA’s lack of attention to safety,” said Zuckerman. “If positive train control (an automatic braking system) had been implemented early in its day — the original deadline was certainly before December 2013. Jim would be alive today.”

According to Zuckerman, although the MTA missed its 2018 deadline for installing PTC, progress is being made toward a new deadline in 2020.

“When you actually do other things, you think the real federal deadline they have in front of them, it will get done,” he said. “But it has not been a pleasant experience.”

When it comes to pricing, Zuckerman pointed out that Putnam commuters pay some of the highest fares across the MTA, at $437 to $475 per month, or $5,000 to $6,000 annually without accounting for parking fees.

At the same time, he said, three of Putnam’s five stations — including Garrison — need repairs and the service is infrequent and with limited options for New York City destinations. He described it as “those paying the most getting the least.”

The Hudson Line has seen a surge in popularity, with ridership growing exceeding both the Harlem and New Haven lines, he said.

“If Long Islanders can access Grand Central Station after an $11 billion investment in East Side access, a small investment through existing tracks should be worthy of exploration for Metro-North riders,” he said.

“We must start to increase service to our region as it grows in population.”

Zuckerman encouraged Putnam lawmakers to lobby for repair of the 125th Street/Harlem viaduct, which he called “a bottleneck” that leads to system-wide delays.

“It is making Putnam County not an easy place to commute from,” he said. “The last thing we want to be is a vacation home.”

The Legislature agreed to draft a letter to the MTA outlining the county’s needs.

Sheriff: Outlaw CBD in Food

Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. on Aug. 20 asked legislators to outlaw edibles that contain cannabidiol, or CBD, 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.

“We are all aware that CBD oil is legal — you can buy it anywhere in New York state,” said Langley at the Legislature’s Health Committee meeting. “The problem is they’re putting CBD oil into food products” such as gummy bears, lollipops and cookies.

The Food and Drug Administration has banned the sale of food with CBD, but only if it’s produced in one state and sold in another. CBD products also cannot be marketed as dietary supplements.

Langley said the biggest problem is that people who consume food products containing CBD cannot be certain of its ingredients, which in some cases contain synthetic chemicals. As of July 31, poison control centers around the country have reported 781 calls related to CBD products, compared to 118 in 2017.

After hearing Langley’s request, Legislative Carl Alban (R-Carmel) said that “it seems like a logical approach to put something on the books.” The sheriff said he was not targeting CBD oil sold as a health product.

Montgomery suggested the county find out where state legislators stand on the matter. “They’re going to pass something eventually, I would imagine,” she said.

Why double the work?”

In fact, both the Senate and Assembly passed a bill in June to regulate CBD products but it has not been delivered to the governor.

Drug-Abuse Prevention

With two federal grants to prevent opioid overdoses expiring in September, the Communities That Care Coalition/Prevention Council of Putnam told the Health Committee on Aug. 20 it hoped to receive state grants to replace the funds.

“We are the constant that the community relies on and we know, right now, more than ever, prevention needs to be a priority for our youth,” said CTC Director Kirstin McConnell. “We’re in a little bit of a pickle” as the group waits for funding.

“We need to sustain infrastructure,” she said. “We’ve built an empire in prevention that I’m proud of, but we can’t do it alone anymore. We’ve relied on federal funds for a long time and those funds are either running out or they just aren’t available anymore.”

Mike Piazza, the commissioner of the county’s Department of Social Services and Mental Health, said that while the state has put prevention “on the back burner,” a meeting he and McConnell had with representatives from Montefiore Medical Center and Columbia University left him hopeful about funding.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse is earmarking $86 million to study ways to get resources to 16 counties in New York, including Putnam, that in 2017 reported per-capita overdose deaths nearly double the national average.

Piazza said $4 million will go to the Montefiore Health System and Albert Einstein College of Medicine, which, along with Columbia, will participate in a National Institutes of Health initiative to reduce overdose deaths by 40 percent over three years.

Piazza said he hopes to have good news to report in September, before the county executive presents her tentative 2020 budget in October.

McConnell said a survey that CTC has conducted since 2008 to measure teen drug use has seen the reported use of alcohol in the past 30 days drop 32 percent, tobacco down 86 percent, marijuana drop 2 percent, and binge drinking down 50 percent.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.
Grateful for mural

I am writing to share my gratitude to the Wee Play Community Project and its leaders — Raquel Moller Verdesi, Heidi Kitlas, Lori Merhige, Kristen VanCott, Margaux Lange, Lauren McEvoy and Michelle Feehily — for their work and vision in bringing art and joy to our community these past two weeks (“Painting the Town,” Aug. 23).

By now many people have driven by Memorial Park in Beacon and noticed the astonishing transformation of the public facility sited next to the parking lot into a magnificent work of art, thanks to the extraordinary talent of muralist and teaching artist Joe Pimentel.

In addition to conceiving the design and preparing the building, Joe worked alongside children, parents, grandparents, sisters, brothers and even the mayor of Beacon to create the mural depicting colorful and beautifully rendered animals of the Hudson Valley.

This holiday weekend, consider bringing your loved ones to visit Memorial Park, the Wee Play Tot Park, the incredible new Wee Woods and view this addition to our vibrant community landscape, presented to the public at very little cost to taxpayers. Art truly has the ability to transform and transcend.

Kelly Ellenwood, Beacon

Big rigs on back roads

I need to bring to your attention an incident involving a Walmart tractor trailer that became stuck on Canopus Hill Road on Aug. 21.

The truck blocked traffic for about four hours, jeopardized power lines and the people responding to remove it, and damaged a sign post.

More needs to be done to prohibit tractor trailers on our back roads, especially in light of the disaster on Tinker Hill Road in Putnam Valley on Aug. 19 when a tanker crashed and spilled 3,300 gallons of liquid asphalt into a stream [above, right].

In recent years, the Town of Philipstown responded well to the problem of tractor trailers on Old Albany Post and Canopus Hill roads with clear signage. Perhaps these measures have averted a catastrophe such as the one in Putnam Valley.

Ideally, law enforcement and local governments need to work with GPS navigation providers to red flag, if not remove, trailers on our back roads, especially in Putnam Valley.

— for their work and vision in bringing art and joy to our community these past two weeks.”

Tell us what you think

The Current welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length. We ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks.

Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to Editor, The Highlands Current, 161 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer’s full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published.

Big rigs on back roads

The truck blocked traffic for about four hours, jeopardized power lines and the people responding to remove it, and damaged a sign post.

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Ideally, law enforcement and local governments need to work with GPS navigation providers to red flag, if not remove, our back roads from their maps so truckers won’t go there.


— for their work and vision in bringing art and joy to our community these past two weeks.”

Food trucks

Food trucks, which pay fees to the Village of Cold Spring, should be allowed (“Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board,” Aug. 16). There is limited space for entrepreneurs to open food venues on Main Street, and all businesses benefit by having more diverse food options. It also helps keep retail customers in Cold Spring, rather than have them become frustrated and head to Beacon.

Tom O’Quinn, Cold Spring
Parade (from Page 1)

is “Protest Bike,” a bicycle outfitted with a banana-shaped seat, four megaphones and a bulb horn.

Magazzino staged an earlier public art performance in Cold Spring when, in November 2017, it invited Michelangelo Pistelatto to re-enact his 1967 performance piece, Scultura di Passeggio (Walking Sculpture). The artist and residents pushed a sphere of newspapers through the streets near the waterfront. In early September, community groups and individuals will be invited to participate in the parade alongside performers recruited by Senatore. Described as a “creative procession,” the parade will conclude with a finale at the riverfront. The procession will pause for performances along the route.

While the event is scheduled to last two hours, the time spent on Main Street will likely be less than an hour, said Thomas Huber, a representative of Magazzino, which operates an art museum in Philipstown.

The proposal brought back unpleasant memories for Trustee Lynn Miller, who recalled during the meeting that the village hosted a county bicycle event in 2012 and 2013 that hurt local businesses when race participants filled Main Street parking spaces. She said steps should be taken to ensure merchants are not similarly affected by the parade.

But Eliza Starbuck, president of the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and co-owner of Flowercup Wines, said she felt the parade “will be fun for residents and visitors” and a great addition to the community. Mayor Dave Merandy was generally supportive of the event. “The idea is that the performance is the parade,” he said, adding that Magazzino is well-organized and has the resources to put the event together. “I’m willing to take a chance,” he said.

Traffic issues were on Deputy Mayor Marie Early’s mind. She suggested the parade include only “mini-performances,” with major performances being held at Dockside Park.

The mayor said Magazzino would be responsible for the cost of extra policing. He asked Huber to provide a more accurate estimate of the number of participants, a factor he said would help determine the number of officers required. Huber had earlier said he expected anywhere from 40 to 100 people to take part.

In other business ...

■ Cold Spring’s annual picnic honoring senior citizens, village employees and volunteers will be held at noon on Saturday, Sept. 21, at Mayor’s Park.

■ The board agreed to waive the $200 setup fee for a water meter installed at the American Legion Hall on Cedar Street as part of a village-wide upgrade. A $60 overpayment by the Legion was also corrected. Several Legion members appeared before the board to ask for reduced fees.

■ An application by the organizers of the Putnam Wine & Food Fest to return to Mayor’s Park in August was put aside. The board and the Recreation Commission are reviewing rental terms for use of village parks for larger events.

NOTICE

TAX COLLECTION

I, Jessie DesMarais (tax collector), Collector of Taxes for the Haldane Central School District, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes. Such taxes may be paid in person at M&T Bank located at Oak & Chestnut Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516, during regular banking hours, or by mail to Haldane Central School District, P.O. Box 1305, Buffalo, New York 14240-1305.

Taxes may be paid on or before September 30, 2019 without penalty. On all taxes received from October 1 through November 1, 2019 a 2% penalty be added. No taxes will be received after November 1, 2019. Unpaid school taxes will be received with your Town and County taxes in January 2020 with an increased rate of interest.

Jessie DesMarais, School Tax Collector
Dated: August 23, 2019

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Philipstown on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 7:30 P.M. at the Philipstown Recreation Department, 107 Glenclyffe, Garrison, New York to hear the following appeal:

Ricky & Mark Ventura, 1 Lane Gate Road, Cold Spring, NY TM# 38-3-28. The applicants are seeking interpretation of Town Code Section 175-23 that the existing uses on the premises are pre-existing legally non-conforming uses permitted pursuant to the Code. Applicants are also seeking an appeal of the April 23, 2019 Stop Work Order issued by the Code Enforcement Officer. The property is approximately 9.542 acres situated in a “Highway Commercial” (HC) Zoning District in the Town of Philipstown.

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

Dated 8/25/2019

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Philipstown on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 7:30 P.M. at the Philipstown Recreation Department, 107 Glenclyffe, Garrison, New York to hear the following appeal:

Daniel Schaublin & Mimi Fortunato, 359 East Mountain Rd S, Cold Spring, NY TM# 17-3-28. The applicants are proposing a 4-bedroom single story residential structure with a detached garage and seek relief to construct within the rear setback area of their parcel. The applicants proposed rear-yard setback is 34 feet 7 inches where 50 feet is required and therefore are seeking a variance of 15 feet 5 inches. The property is approximately 1.67 acres situated in a “Rural Residential” (RR) Zoning District.

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

Dated 8/25/2019

HELP WANTED

CUSITDIAL WORKER/ BUS DRIVER WANTED

Garrison Union Free School District seeks Custodial Worker/Bus Driver (anticipated vacancy November 4, 2019). Must hold a CDL with (p) and (s) endorsements. Full time with benefits. Experience a plus.


HELP WANTED

CLEANER WANTED


Nelsonville Cell Tower Case Moves Ahead, Slowly

Village given new lawyer; proceedings to extend to 2020

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Nelsonville cell tower lawsuit creeps forward.

A federal court on Monday set a timetable that stretches into next year; the village last week acquired a new attorney; and the judge earlier this month quashed preliminary competing requests for a summary judgment, or victory without a trial.

Homeland Towers LLC and its partner, Verizon Wireless, sued the village in June 2018 after the village Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals rejected applications for a 110-foot cell tower overlooking the Cold Spring Cemetery.

The same day, AT&T Mobility, which planned to rent space on the tower for its equipment, separately sued the village, calling the tower denial an “arbitrary and capricious” abuse of power. The two cases were bundled before Judge Vincent Briccetti in U.S. District Court in White Plains.

Nelsonville’s lawyer, Terry Rice, informed Briccetti on Tuesday (Aug. 27) that due to a heavy caseload, he had transferred the lawsuit to another attorney, Adam Rodriguez, with the village’s consent.

Rodriguez represented Philipstown in the similar lawsuit filed by Homeland Towers and Verizon after the town refused to allow a 140-to-180-foot cell tower near the intersection of Routes 9 and 301. In July, under Briccetti’s supervision, the two sides settled, clearing the way for installation of a 120-foot tower.

According to Rodriguez, Briccetti on Aug. 26 instructed the cell tower companies to re-submit their summary judgment motion by Oct. 11; directed the village to file its cross-motion, or response, by Dec. 11; and set a deadline of Feb. 18 for any ensuing arguments.

Before turning the case over to Rodriguez, Rice prepared the village’s request for summary judgment, noting that the Philipstown settlement changed the equation because the impact of the new tower on the service gaps claimed by Homeland and Verizon “has not been analyzed” and “significantly affects the claims.”

Briccetti “terminated” both summary motion requests on Aug. 12 and ordered the litigants to attend Monday’s conference to organize the calendar. Each side’s summary motion request addressed questions on prohibiting wireless services and regulating visual impacts, as well as other issues, any of which could resurface in re-submitted motions.

Rockledge Road — the site of a proposed cell tower — intersects with Moffatt Road (foreground) on a hillside at the southern end of Nelsonville.

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Prohibiting service

In the request for summary judgment by Homeland Towers and Verizon, Robert Gaudioso, Homeland's attorney, claimed that although federal law says local governments “shall not prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the provision of personal wireless services” or the “ability of any entity to provide any interstate or intrastate telecommunications service,” Nelsonville “forced” Homeland and Verizon “to comply with the village’s unlawful exercise of discriminatory, multi-tiered, discretionary requirements,” resulting in “substantial, unreasonable, and unjustified delay and denial” of the cell tower applications.

Conversely, Nelsonville argued that “the prohibition-of-service claim is baseless”; that cell “towers remain subject to local zoning laws”; and that Nelsonville’s laws contain “nothing unusual or discriminatory toward telecommunications.”

Visual impact

Homeland Towers and Verizon also contended that the developers “considered several alternatives and offered mitigation for the [tower’s] visual effect and complied with the Village Code to the extent it was technically feasible, thus making the facility at the proposed location,” 15 Rockledge Road, on a ridge above the cemetery, “the least intrusive to the village.” Yet, they added, “there was nothing [they] could have done or offered that was technically viable and would receive approval” from Nelsonville.

Nelsonville said it rejected the application because the tower violated local code requirements that a cell tower “not have a significant adverse impact on scenic or historic resources.” The village likewise maintained that, as federal courts have recognized, “aesthetics are a permissible basis for denial if there is ‘more than a scintilla of evidence’ of a negative visual impact.”
Beacon to Decide on Another Moratorium

**Historic homes also up for hearing**

*By Jeff Simms*

The Beacon City Council is expected to vote on Tuesday, Sept. 3, on a commercial and residential building moratorium, likely six months in length, that would be the city’s second in two years if it’s adopted.

Each member of the City Council has indicated in recent weeks that he or she favors the move.

As with the six-month freeze in 2017, the council says the moratorium will be based on water issues, not development. The previous moratorium expired in March 2018 after hydrologists projected that Beacon’s water supply would be sufficient for the city through at least 2035.

Earlier this year, city officials deactivated Beacon’s most abundant water source — Well No. 2, which can provide up to 1.15 million gallons per day — after it began producing “cloudy” water following the installation of a new pump. In June, hydrologist Tom Cusack, whose firm produced the water study last year, said that Beacon still has more than enough water to meet its existing and immediate future needs with the well out of service.

In addition to two wells, Beacon draws water from three reservoirs that combine to provide up to about 1.5 million gallons per day. Well No. 1 can provide more than half a million gallons per day, and the city also has an agreement to buy up to 1.2 million gallons per day from Fishkill, if needed.

Beacon currently uses about 2.5 million gallons each day, with peak usage climbing over 3 million.

Despite an aggressive program that hydrologists have described as similar to plunging a toilet, Well No. 2 has continued to produce water mixed with silt when pumped at higher volumes, said City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero.

On Monday, Ward-Willis said those concerns don’t justify a building stoppage. “You’ve done a significant amount of zoning and rezoning work” over the last two years to address those concerns, he said, but “the areas that you’re looking at don’t rise, in my opinion, to the level” of the water issues.

Council Member Amber Grant said she still thinks the city should take advantage of the break to analyze statistics on traffic, school enrollment and housing vacancy rates, along with other metrics. “I don’t think this is something that requires years of work and it will help us with our policy decisions,” she said. “It will help us with, ‘Where do we go from here?’”

If approved, the building freeze would be backdated to June 11, the day after Mayor Randy Casale proposed it. That means no building applications submitted after that date have been voted on by the city’s planning or zoning boards. (Proposals that create jobs while staying under a water-consumption threshold are exempt.)

The moratorium, if for six months, would expire in early March of next year, but if it’s based solely on water, it could end even earlier, Ward-Willis said, once the well is operational.

Each of the half dozen residents who spoke at an Aug. 19 public hearing on the moratorium were in favor, with several asking the council to consider a year-long break to study the effects of development.

**Historic district**

Although the measure has not been finalized, the City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, Sept. 3, on a proposal to add 35 homes to the Historic District and Landmark Overlay Zone. The homeowners have been notified by mail.

While the owners of properties in the district can apply for tax breaks on exterior maintenance and restoration of a home’s historic features, they also are obligated to get approval from the Planning Board before making changes. Planning Board approval also could be required for interior work if the home is open to the public, such as with a bed-and-breakfast.

In addition, the district allows homeowners, if granted a permit, to incorporate non-residential uses — an artist’s studio, antique shop, a restaurant or bed-and-breakfast, or small office, for example — into the home if they’re judged to be compatible with the neighborhood.

Homeowners may object to being added to the historic district but the council can overrule with a super-majority (five votes). The council is expected to keep the hearing open after Tuesday’s meeting while it continues to discuss the specifics of the law.

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by September 13, 2019

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Tens of thousands of aviation enthusiasts flocked to Stewart airport in New Windsor on Aug. 24 and 25 for the annual New York International Air Show. The program included the Royal Air Force Red Arrows from the U.K. (below, left) in their first U.S. appearance in 11 years, as well as the U.S. Navy’s Blue Angels (left) and F-35 Lightning II demonstration team, a P-51 Mustang, B-25 Mitchell Bomber, Czechoslovakian-built L-39 Albatross and the Geico Skytypers. Spectators also caught a glimpse of a 757 jet owned by Donald Trump (below) that was moved in April from LaGuardia to Stewart. The president has used Air Force One to travel since his election.

Photos by Michael Turton

TRICKS, DIPS AND FLIPS

PAPER MEDIA: 
BOETTI, CALZOLARI, 
KOUNELLIS

August 28 - December 8, 2019
Opening: September 7, 2019, 5-7pm
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SUNY New Paltz, NY
Curated by Francesco Guzzetti

In collaboration with 
Magazzino Italian Art Foundation
The Calendar

Seriously Funny

New Beacon firm teaches improv, stand-up
By Alison Rooney

“Improv is its own beast and you have to put the work in,” says Chris Fontakis, the artistic director of Serious Comedy Theatre, which launched in Beacon last year. “You’re trying to recreate life off the top of your head as a different person in an absurd situation.”

Serious Comedy Theatre hosts weekly instruction and “jam sessions” in improv, stand-up and sketch comedy at its studio in the former Beacon High School; its next classes begin during the last week of September.

Fontakis, who grew up in Queens and on Long Island, enrolled at Pace University in September.

Performers at a Serious Comedy Theatre improv workshop

Big Heart, Big Voice

Blues singer: ‘I believed in me’
By Alison Rooney

Sarah Potenza’s voice has been compared by music writers over the past five years to Janis Joplin, Aretha Franklin and Adele. Her songwriting has been compared to that of Bonnie Raitt and Lucinda Williams.

But Potenza prefers, she says, to be compared to only one artist; Sarah Potenza. Potenza, who will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 5, at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring as part of the ongoing Restoration Roadhouse series, is an Italian-American native of Providence, Rhode Island. Her music falls somewhere in the blues-soul-funk stew, with vocals of the raspy, hard-driving barroom vein.

Potenza first exposed her voice nationally earlier this year.

In the years before The Voice, Potenza dropped out of college and moved to Chicago, where she formed a band, Sarah & the Tall Boys. Although popular, the band failed to get a recording deal, something Potenza says she partly attributes to her size and the feedback she constantly got about it.

She’d been hearing variations on that theme for years, as she told Rolling Stone earlier this year: “I had to choose between being me, or trying to disguise that and making myself smaller in every way: physically, emotionally, spiritually.”

It wasn’t just her physical size but her oversized personality. “I’ve always been the kind of person who was too much,” she told the magazine. “I was too loud, I had too much fun, I laughed too much, I was living too hard. And there was all this shame associated with that.”

“Shame is a drug; I was a user,” goes a recent Potenza lyric.

In a recent Instagram post, one of many related to the topic, she shared a 1995 photo of herself as a teenager and wrote: “Look at this beautiful girl. It’s crazy to me now that she thought she was fat and unworthy. Be the change! Moms, don’t say negative things about your bodies in front of your girls. They are watching. Loving yourself is loving them.”

Recorded in Nashville, where she moved before her appearances on The Voice, Road to Rome saw Potenza shift her songwriting and singing away from its Americana bent to, as she described it to Billboard, “a more R&B, big diva, vocal sound.”

She views the album, released on International Women’s Day, as an expression of hard-earned confidence. The first single, “I Work for Me,” is “a braggy, fun song, sort of a ‘Look at me now — I believed in me, even when you didn’t, and I’m on top of my game, on top of the world. I call the shots.’”

The Chapel Restoration is located at 45 Market St. in Cold Spring; paid parking is available at the adjacent Metro-North Station. Tickets are $25 at bit.ly/sarah-chapel, or at the door. All proceeds benefit the Chapel Restoration. Beer from Industrial Arts, along with wine, will be available for purchase, and Octavio’s Food Truck will be on hand.
Farm Dance Gala, Sept. 7

Ascend will host a workshop, Flowercup Wine and the Cold Spring Cheese Shop will have tastings, Supplies for Creative Living plans an opening celebration and The Highlands Current will have office hours. Look for the orange flags.

THURS 5
Lyme and Tick-Borne Diseases
PUTNAM VALLEY
6:30 p.m. Town Hall
205 Oceana Lake Road | 845-229-0006
State Sen. Sue Serino, whose district includes the Highlands, and Putnam Valley Supervisor Sam Oliverio will host this event to provide residents with the latest information regarding prevention and tick removal. Free

FRI 6
First Friday
COLD SPRING
5 – 8 p.m. Main Street
coldspringnychamber.com
Many shops will have extended hours and Hudson Hill’s (fried chicken and biscuits) and Hudson House (burgers with Boomkat) are serving special meals. In addition, Putnam County and Jeff Domanski, director of Hudson Valley Energy, who will discuss Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). Free

SAT 31
3rd New Jersey Garrison Day
FORT MONTGOMERY
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W | 845-446-2134
nysparks.com/historic-sites
Witness a day of Revolutionary War tactical demonstrations, drills, camp life and cooking presented by re-enactors from Capt. Bloomfield’s company of Jersey Greens. Free

SAT 31
Vegan Food Festival
NEWBURGH
1 – 7 p.m.
People’s Park
Washington and Remwick
hvveganfoodfest.com
Sample food from more than 30 Hudson Valley vegan and vegetarian restaurants at this fourth annual event. There will also be live music, yoga workshops, nutrition clinics and artisan vendors, as well as activities for children. Cost: $5

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

Saturday
3rd New Jersey Garrison Day
FORT MONTGOMERY
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Fort Montgomery Historic Site
690 Route 9W | 845-446-2134
nysparks.com/historic-sites
Witness a day of Revolutionary War tactical demonstrations, drills, camp life and cooking presented by re-enactors from Capt. Bloomfield’s company of Jersey Greens. Free

New vegan food festival
NEWBURGH
COLD SPRING
FRI 6
Free
July 6 – 8 p.m.
Main Street
coldspringnychamber.com
Many shops will have extended hours and Hudson Hill’s (fried chicken and biscuits) and Hudson House (burgers with Boomkat) are serving special meals. In addition, Putnam County and Jeff Domanski, director of Hudson Valley Energy, who will discuss Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). Free

Sunday
Get Lit Literary Salon
BEACON
SUN 8
Free
July 8 – 6:30 p.m.
Tots Park
4 High St.
facebook.com/mtwithalexia
Parents are invited to bring a blanket and children are invited to sing and dance with Music Together with Alexia. Free

Theater: House of Wax
PHILIPSTOWN
FRI 6
4:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Glynwood Center
362 Glynwood Road | 845-265-3338
glynwood.org
4:30 – 9:30 p.m. Glynwood Center
362 Glynwood Road | 845-265-3338
glynwood.org
3 & 4 p.m. Boats leave Beacon dock
bannermancastle.org
3 & 4 p.m. Boats leave Beacon dock
bannermancastle.org
12:30 p.m. Boat leaves Beacon dock
bannermancastle.org
12:30 p.m. Boat leaves Beacon dock
bannermancastle.org
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org
2 – 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3343
philipstowngardenclubny.org
2 – 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3343
philipstowngardenclubny.org
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org
8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org
This annual festival, now in its 13th year, will feature 21 original
plays by 19 writers performed five or six at a time over two weekends. It opens on FRI 6 with Plays the Thing, by Rich Landers, Kousa Mahshi, by Debbie Broshi, Viable, by Stephen Hersh, ZutaOmegazipo, by Pat O'Neill and Coming to Town, by Keith Whalen. Also SAT 7, SUN 8. Cost: $23 ($18 students, seniors)

**HEALTH & FITNESS**

**SUN 8**

**Breastfeeding Basics**

Beacon

Noon, Wyld Womyn | 378C Main St.
845-440-8300 | wyldwomynbeacon.com

Cindy Flynn from Best Beginnings will cover the basics of breastfeeding and answer questions in this two-hour class. Cost: $50

**SUN 8**

**CPR for Families**

Beacon

3 p.m., Wyld Womyn | 378C Main St.
845-440-8300 | wyldwomynbeacon.com

Flynn will help participants become certified by the American Red Cross in CPR, first aid and automated external defibrillator (AED) for infants, children and adults. Cost: $100

**VISUAL ART**

**SAT 31**

**The Things Between Us**

Beacon

6 – 8 p.m., Catalyst Gallery
137 Main St. | 845-204-3844

catalystgallery.com

Samantha Palmeri presents an exhibit of her latest paintings.

**SUN 8**

**Fine Arts & Craft Fair**

Fishkill

10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Main Street between Bedford and Cary
fishkillbusinessassociation.com

The Fishkill Business Association will host its 26th annual curated show. There will also be shopping, food and entertainment. Rain or shine. Free

**TUES 3**

**Putnam County Legislature**

Carmel

7 p.m., Historic Courthouse
44 Glenidea Ave. | 845-208-7800
putnamcountyny.com

**TUES 3**

**School Board**

Cold Spring

7 p.m., Garrison School (Room 211)
15 Crossgade Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

**CIVIC**

**TUES 3**

**City Council**

Beacon

7 p.m., City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

**TUES 3**

**Board of Trustees**

Cold Spring

10:15 a.m., Garrison School
1100 Route 90 | 845-424-3689
 gfus.org

**WED 4**

**PISA Capital Project Presentation**

Garrison

10:15 a.m., Garrison School
1100 Route 90 | 845-424-3689
 gfus.org

**WED 4**

**School Board**

Garrison

7 p.m., Garrison School | 1100 Route 90
845-424-3689 | gfus.org

**THURS 5**

**Anthony Geraci and the Boston Blues All-Stars**

Beacon

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

The pianist, organist and composer, an original member of Sugar Ray and the Bluetones, as well as Ronnie Earl and the Broadcasters, topped the blues and roots charts with his latest recording, Why Did You Have To Go. Fishkill George will also perform. Cost: $20 ($25 door)
Start Reading Now
September book club selections

Helen Savoit Book Club
TUES 10, 1:30 p.m.
The Moonstone, by Wilkie Collins
Howland Library, Beacon

Fiction Book Club
THURS 12, 7 p.m.
A Heart So White, by Javier Marias
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring

Kids’ Book Club
THURS 19, 4 p.m.
The Rescuers, by Margery Sharp
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring

Butterfield Book Club
MOR 23, 7 p.m.
Lab Girl, by Hope Jahren
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring

Graphic Novel Book Club
(for Adults)
TUES 24, 7 p.m.
Kingdom, by Jon McNaught
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring

History Book Club
THURS 26, 7 p.m.
The Face of War, by Martha Galilhorne
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring

Beacon Book Club
THURS 26, 7:15 p.m.
Lolita, by Vladimir Nabokov
Location available to members
meetup.com/Beacon-BookClub

Edible Book Club
SAT 28, NOON
Topic: Pickling
Desmond-Fish Library, Garrison

This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Mark and Alexis Fry of Philipstown sent this photo of their grandson, Benjamin, sharing his snack with Bentley. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.org.
and settled in Beacon. He began teaching improv at the Beacon Performing Arts Center but because the center is focused on children and not adults, moved to the Story Screen Theater before getting his own space — and a new name — in a former classroom at the old Beacon High.

He offers a six-week course called Improv Comedy 101 that begins on Sept. 24, as well as advanced classes that address theory and “what makes good improv scenes great.” Fontakis only teaches “long-form” improv, which involves taking a single word from the audience and doing a 30-minute riff.

Gabriel Pages, a Beacon filmmaker and production artist — and now a sketch comedy writer and improviser — has taken a number of Serious Comedy Theatre classes. “It’s a scrappy upstart with huge potential led by a young master who needs performers, which means the learning is accelerated,” he says. “You don’t have to wait years and take endless classes to start performing.”

In addition, a four-session introduction to stand-up comedy begins on Oct. 7. “A lot of people show up at open mics and start doing it themselves, without any shaping or advice, and it’s sometimes super-weird,” Fontakis says. “Exercises will help generate new material. I will almost always find a way to give them the right tools to find something that is true to them and their own specifics.”

The sketch-writing class, which begins Sept. 25, is about “getting a handle on what the game is and how to write the sketches,” he says. “People watch Saturday Night Live and think, ‘Oh, the writers just must be funny people,’ but actually there is an intense structure, like the rhythm in a pop song. Once you learn the structure, you break down the fog.”

Fontakis says he soon hopes to be joined by his sister, Stephanie Ray, who is planning an all-female class. “We offered drop-in classes for a while, and almost everyone who came was a woman, which surprised me,” he says. “That’s very different from the way L.A. used to be, which was predominantly white males — not enough different voices in the scene.”

Fontakis hopes to add a musical improv class, storytelling and business presentation sessions designed to build confidence. He’s also toying with the idea of helping people write speeches, such as for the best man at a wedding, noting ruefully, “We all know those can go horribly awry.”

Serious Comedy Theatre is located in Room 110 at 20 Kent St. in Beacon. See seriouscomedytheatre.com.

Performers improvise a scene during a Serious Comedy Theatre improv workshop. Photo provided
Roots and Shoots

Your Questions Answered

By Pamela Doan

When I asked Current readers recently to share their gardening questions, I received so many responses I won’t be able to answer them all in one column. So I decided to group them by theme. This month we’ll discuss landscape pests.

Q: We’ve had aphids in our squash plants two years in a row. Is there something to be done to the soil during the fall and winter months to kill their eggs? They don’t seem to affect the tomato.

A: Assuming you have a correct ID on the pest (if unsure, contact a resource such as the county Cornell Cooperative Extension office), aphid eggs are more commonly found in the winter on stone fruit and roses, depending on the species.

To prevent pathogens or other pests, don’t leave the damaged plants in the garden. Next spring, there are strategies that may help you manage. First, plant the squash in a different area. Apply row covers to protect plants from insects. Check frequently for signs of infestations and ants, which usually signal aphids. Use a heavy spray of water to knock aphids off or prune out infested sections.

Another great defense is ladybug beetles. They love to eat aphids. Projects like LostLadybug.org will mail you New York-native, nine-spotted ladybug larva to set loose. While they protect your harvest, you’ll help repopulate an insect that nearly went extinct.

Q: Who ate that plant in the photo that The Current posted on Instagram [right]? The same thing happened to my gooseberry, but every other plant is fine.

A: The photo shows a kale plant after it was eaten by a deer. But the gooseberry sawfly can defoliate a gooseberry plant very quickly.

Q: Have you heard anything about organic mulch contributing to the Asian jumping worm problem?

A: I haven’t seen any research focused on a link. While all earthworms found in Northeast forests were introduced (the native ones died off in an ice age), the Asian jumping worm has been troublesome because it reproduces faster than others and is a voracious eater of leaf litter. If you notice your mulch disappearing faster than usual or spot soil that looks like coffee grounds, it could indicate Asian jumping worms.

The good news is that earthworms don’t move quickly, and you can prevent their spread by not sharing soil. While many gardeners love to trade plants, wash off the soil before transfer and transplant to avoid spreading worms or eggs. The same goes for plants purchased at sales and landscape centers.

The Asian jumping worm is distinctive for its wild movement. It wriggles like a snake and adult worms have a white band. They can be drowned to dispose of them or collected in a black plastic bag and left in the sun. Never use Asian jumping worms for vermicomposting or fishing bait.

Q: There is a deer-fencing epidemic as a quick solution for gardeners and property owners who want to protect ornamentals or who think it helps with tick management. But it also messes with wildlife corridors. What should be considered before installing one?

A: There isn’t much in the way of studies looking at the impact of fencing in our area on raccoons, possums, rabbits, coyotes and other forest animals. Much more attention has been focused on the damage caused by deer to the point that native flora can’t regenerate.

Deer fences can be constructed with openings for smaller wildlife to pass through, or they can be installed to protect specific plants. For example, fence around your vegetable garden but leave other areas accessible. Tree tubes can protect young trees until they grow large enough to withstand some deer browsing.

Repellent sprays formulated with putrescent eggs are an alternative but need to be applied regularly. No matter what course of action, we have to balance the goals of land management with environmental stewardship. Hopefully they aren’t dissimilar.

Pamela Doan, a garden coach with One Nature, has grown ferns in Seattle, corn on a Brooklyn rooftop and is now trying to cultivate shitake mushrooms on logs. Email her at rootsandshoots@highlandscurrent.org.

An ant guards its aphids. Photo by Stuart Williams

An Asian jumping worm. Wisconsin DNR

A kale plant after being eaten by a deer. Photo by Brian PJ Cronin

Photo by Stuart Williams

Photo by Brian PJ Cronin
How They Voted (from Page 1)

The MTA and was told he had to replace his turban with an MTA cap. When he objected, the MTA said he could wear the turban if he affixed his badge to the front, which the employee said would be improper. The law takes effect on Oct. 8.

Passed Senate 60-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 140-2  
Galef  Jacobson

Domestic violence

On Aug. 8, the governor signed three bills designed to assist victims of domestic violence. The first expanded the definition of the crime to include forms of “economic abuse” such as identity theft, grand larceny and coercion; the second allows victims to vote by mail with a special ballot; and the third allows victims to report abuse to any law enforcement agency in the state regardless of where the violence took place.

Passed Senate 61-1  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 141-0  
Galef  Jacobson

Passed Senate 59-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 141-0  
Galef  Jacobson

Passed Senate 61-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 147-0  
Galef  Jacobson

On Aug. 28, the governor enacted a law that requires companies to allow victims of domestic violence who are fleeing and have an order of protection, a police report or a signed affidavit to terminate multi-year or bundled telephone, cable or satellite TV contracts without fees.

Passed Senate 59-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 134-7  
Galef  Jacobson

Pet dealers

Cuomo on Aug. 8 enacted a law that sets standards for pet dealers and breeders that includes the cleaning of enclosures daily and sanitization every two weeks, annual vet exams, regular grooming and maintaining separate spaces for pregnant dogs.

Passed Senate 61-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 139-1  
Galef  Jacobson

Infant safety

On Aug. 13, the governor enacted three laws related to infant safety. The first requires furniture retailers to sell tip-restraint devices for furniture that doesn’t already have safeguards and takes effect on Nov. 11; the second requires child care facilities to anchor heavy dressers and tube-style televisions and takes effect on Feb. 9; and the third bans the sale of non-mesh crib bumper pads and takes effect on Oct. 12.

Passed Senate 52-6  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 142-1  
Galef  Jacobson

Passed Senate 49-12  
Serino

A floating billboard on the New York waterfront

Passed Assembly 143-0  
Galef  Jacobson

Passed Senate 61-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 129-13  
Galef  Jacobson

Child abuse

Cuomo signed legislation on Aug. 22 making it illegal for a court to place a child in the custody of or have unsupervised visits with a person convicted of felony sexual assault against a minor. Known as Marie’s Law, it arose from case in which a grandchild of a Long Island man convicted of molesting a 12-year-old girl was allowed to live with him.

Passed Senate 62-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 144-0  
Galef  Jacobson

On Aug. 29, Cuomo enacted a law requiring public schools to teach age-appropriate sex education to students in kindergarten through 8th grade. It takes effect on July 1.

Passed Senate 62-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 143-1  
Galef  Jacobson

Sexual harassment

On Aug. 12, Cuomo signed a bill that eliminates the requirement that workplace sexual harassment be “severe or pervasive” for legal action; requires all nondisclosure clauses in employment agreements to allow workers to file complaints and prohibits mandatory arbitration; extends the statute of limitations for claims for one to three years; and extends protection to contractors, subcontractors, vendors, consultants or others providing services.

Passed Senate 62-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 128-20  
Galef  Jacobson

Protections for victims

Cuomo on Aug. 21 signed legislation that (1) allows victims of domestic violence to sue individuals who violate an order of protection (it takes effect on Oct. 20); (2) expands the crimes eligible for victim compensation to include “unlawful surveillance,” in which a person is recorded without his or her knowledge; and (3) expands the definition of “child victim” eligible for compensation to include minors who witness a crime. The latter two laws take effect on Feb. 17.

Passed Senate 42-17  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 129-12  
Galef  Jacobson

Passed Senate 62-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 146-0  
Galef  Jacobson

Passer Senate 62-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 146-0  
Galef  Jacobson

Homeowner protection

On Aug. 14, the governor signed three measures related to the ownership of homes. The first closes what legislators described as loopholes to prevent “deed theft and mortgage scams” and to more easily return a home to its owner; the second requires banks to continue paying homeowner association fees on vacant or abandoned properties during foreclosure; and the third adds requirements for banks if a loan is sold or transferred while being modified to prevent a foreclosure.

Passed Senate 61-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 134-0  
Galef  Jacobson

Passed Senate 43-18  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 104-44  
Galef  Jacobson

Passed Senate 62-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 142-0  
Galef  Jacobson

River billboards

Cuomo on Aug. 20 enacted a law that bans vessels from operating digital billboards or other advertisements that use flashing, intermittent or moving lights. “Billboards belong in Times Square, not in the middle of the Hudson and East Rivers,” said state Sen. Brad Hoymann, the Manhattan Democrat who introduced the bill.

Passed Senate 42-20  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 143-1  
Galef  Jacobson

Scamming vets

Cuomo on Aug. 23 signed legislation to protect veterans from “pension poaching” in which scammers “repossession” assets while claiming it will help the vet qualify for federal benefits. In fact, in many cases the veterans lose their eligibility for Medicaid while paying high fees for services provided at no charge by the state. The law takes effect on Dec. 21.

Passed Senate 61-0  
Serino  
Passed Assembly 133-0  
Galef  Jacobson

226 MAIN STREET LUXURY CONDOS FOR SALE

Inspired by the historic Holland Hotel that used to welcome travelers to Beacon, this new construction building offers luxurious residential and commercial condominiums in the heart of our vibrant downtown. 226 Main Street boasts high ceilings, polished concrete floors, high-end appliances and breathtaking Hudson Valley views. Condos start at $799,900.

GATE HOUSE REALTY 492 Main Street, Beacon 914-931-9500 gatehouserealty.com
Glenham (from Page 1)

The population is roughly 1,500.

Phyllis Malon has worked at the Glenham Town Deli for 20 years. “This is a community of nice people,” she said. “I feel I know the whole town, and everybody knows me.”

A colleague behind the counter, James Allieri, 22, grew up in Glenham and also likes its diminutive nature. “It’s a tiny place, quiet, not much traffic,” he said.

The Slater Chemical Fire Co. sits across from the deli. Established in 1921, it was named for Private Jesse E. Slater, the only Glenham resident killed in World War I. Chemica was added to the name after Texaco donated a Ford Model T fire engine to the hamlet’s biggest annual event, Slater-Palooza, a day of music and food that is the company’s main fundraiser.

Like the firehouse, Waves by Dianna, the hair salon next to the deli, is a meeting place among its 55 active members, he said.

The firehouse is also a community meeting place. On Sept. 21, it will host the hair salon next to the deli, is a meeting day evenings and Sunday mornings. “You could not pick a better place,” he said of Glenham. “There are no problems; the people are good, and if the people are good, it’s a good place to have a business.”

Texaco’s research operations moved to Beacon in 1956, and in 2003, after the company merged with Chevron, the Glenham facility closed. Most of its many buildings have since been bulldozed.

A community panel has been meeting with Chevron since 2011 over the environmental cleanup of the site, now known as Glenham Mills, and possible future uses.

“Chevron doesn’t seem to be moving forward with any development plans, and until the site cleanup is complete its future will remain on hold,” said Bob LaColla, who is the Town of Fishkill supervisor. “Whatever is decided, there will have to be community buy in.”

Chubb Baxter, whose grandfather worked at Texaco from the beginning, has lived in Glenham for 40 years. “They want to put restaurants, houses and apartments along the creek,” he said. “But people here don’t want that.”

Dross, the fire chief, said the community is split between wanting development and leaving the Texaco site as open space. He noted if it is developed, the increased tax revenue would benefit the fire district. (It also could bring more families to the area, which would impact Beacon’s schools.)

It’s a big issue for a community so comfortable with its smallness. The most recent meeting of the advisory panel was scheduled for Thursday (Aug. 29) at the firehouse.

GOT QUESTIONS?
WE’VE GOT ANSWERS!

RECYCLING IN PUTNAM COUNTY
Presenter - Victoria DiLonardo
Putnam County Recycling Educator
www.putnamcountyny.com/health

Victoria will answer questions and guide us through the best practice strategies for recycling in Putnam County.

• Is it worth it to RECYCLE?
• How do I Recycle?
• What can be Recycled?
• Where can I Recycle?

What’s a CCA?
Presenter - Jeff Domanski
Director, Hudson Valley Energy - CCA
CCA@HudsonValleyEnergy.org

Jeff will explain the status and opportunities of the Philipstown CCA.

• What is a Community Choice Aggregation?
• What are my choices?
• How will these changes effect me?
• What should I do if I want to join but have a contract with another company?

Presented by the
PHILIPSTOWN GARDEN CLUB
Sunday, September 8, 2019
Desmond Fish Library
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Free and open to the public
Light refreshments served after presentations
Haldane Volleyball Wants Trophy Back

Will move from Class C to D in playoffs

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane High School volleyball team has a mission: reclaim the Section 1 trophy the squad lost last year to Valhalla after claiming the title in 2016 and 2017.

This year the team will be chasing the Class D prize, rather than Class C; the state athletic association occasionally shifts teams based on enrollment and Haldane teams have played in both classes.

The Blue Devils return virtually their entire line-up, including seven starters, although they lost two stalwarts to graduation: four-year middle-hitter Morgan Etta and two-time All-Section selection and team captain Willa Fitzgerald.

Seniors and captains Melissa Rodino, Olivia Monteleone and Grace Tomann (who will play next year at the University of New Hampshire) head the list. Starters Sophia Immorlica, Sofia Viggiano, Maria Barry and Ashley Hotaling also return, along with senior Taylor Farrell, junior Zoe Silverman and sophomore Meghan Tomann. Juniors Desirea Hyatt and Rachel Lavocci are new to the squad.

“Our three captains lead by example, which is all a coach can ask for,” said Kelsey Flaherty, a 2012 Haldane grad who is in her fourth season at the helm. “They can all play three positions, so they can also mentor other girls.

“With such a veteran team, we have a lot of confidence that this group can take it all the way” and reclaim the title, Flaherty said. “We’ve learned from our mistakes last year, and they’ve been to the sectional final. They know what to expect.”

Although the team will move to Class D, and “there is great competition in both classes,” Flaherty said the smaller class “could be more schools like us. It could possibly give us a better chance to reach our goal.”

Haldane is scheduled to open its season on Friday, Sept. 6, hosting Rye Neck at 6 p.m. The Blue Devils will compete in a 15-team tournament at Hendrick Hudson High School the following day that will raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research.
**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.

**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.

TEACHERS, PERFORMERS, PRESENTERS — Do you have a super skill to share? Would you like to teach kids, teens, adults, seniors? Looking for a comfy space to teach yoga, dance, music, meditation, astrology or any other esoteric or practical skill? Are you a performer looking for an audience and a friendly venue? Call us at 845-723-1314 or see cheerfulstrength.net, or sign up for Monday friendly venues? Call us at 845-723-1314 or see cheerfulstrength.net, or sign up for Monday

**FOR RENT**

COLD SPRING — Furnished, private 2BR, 2-bath cottage with backyard and garden; short walk to Metro-North; walk to parks, hiking, riverfront; close to shops, supermarket, drugstore, restaurants; on-street parking; fully furnished; full, clean basement with laundry, storage and utility use. $2,750 monthly includes utilities and WiFi. Email ben.F@thirdfloorllc.com.

**FOR SALE**

ADOBE INDESIGN CS5.5 FOR MAC — The Current has upgraded to Creative Cloud so has this previous retail version available for $300. The license will be transferred to new owner through Adobe. May not work with High Sierra. Email Managing Editor Chip Rowe at tech@highlandscurrent.org.

**SERVICES**

A PLACE FOR MOM — The nation’s largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today. Our service is free/no obligation. Call 1-844-887-7006.

**SPONSORED CONTENT**

**EDUCATION**

THE KAGAN LAW GROUP, P.C.

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**SPORTS**

Blue Devils Forever

Peter Hoffmann, a Garrison resident and 2015 Haldane graduate who this year finished his career at Hamilton College with 1,488 points, was one of 22 student-athletes from 19 colleges selected for the Sport Changes Life Foundation’s annual Victory Scholar Program. The program allows NCAA student-athletes to play for universities in Ireland while pursuing postgraduate studies and working with children and teens in the community. Hoffmann will attend the Cork Institute of Technology.

The Haldane Blue Devil Booster Club has announced the 2019 class for the high school’s Athletic Hall of Fame: Richard Kiesbye (Class of 1967, baseball), Russell Miller (1978, track), David Milkovich (1982, football), Chelea Lisikatos (2011, softball) and the 1998 volleyball team (Coach Toni Woody, Aaron Nastasi, Courtney Lyons, Denise Hunt, Dina DelVecchio, Emily Perpich, Kristen DeMino, Kristen Lindner, Megan Varricchio, Melissa Jamin, Rebecca Sabshin and Tony Susi), which won the first of the school’s four Class D state championships.

The inductees will be honored at a luncheon on Sunday, Sept. 22, at Dutchess Manor in Beacon. Register at haldaneschool.org/athletics/hall-of-fame-booster-club or by calling 845-265-9254, ext. 160.

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7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

**Saturday**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>High/low</th>
<th>Wind</th>
<th>RealFeel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79/56</td>
<td>NNE 4-8 mph</td>
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**Sunday**

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**Wednesday**

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**Thursday**

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<tr>
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**Friday**

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<tbody>
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**POP**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>0%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**RealFeel Temperature**

- **NNE 4-8 mph**: RealFeel 84/56
- **SE 4-8 mph**: RealFeel 74/57
- **SW 4-8 mph**: RealFeel 81/64
- **WSW 4-8 mph**: RealFeel 89/68
- **WSW 6-12 mph**: RealFeel 93/64
- **ENE 4-8 mph**: RealFeel 84/56
- **SE 6-12 mph**: RealFeel 78/57

**SUN & MOON**

- **Sunrise Sat., 8/31**: 6:21 AM
- **Sunset Sat. night, 8/31**: 7:31 PM
- **Moonrise Sat., 8/31**: 7:33 AM
- **Moonset Sat., 8/31**: 8:41 PM

**Pollen**

- **Grass**: Moderate
- **Weeds**: Absent
- **Trees**: Absent
- **Molds**: Absent

Answers will be published next week. See highlandscurrent.org/puzzle for interactive versions.
Leading Scorer Gone, But Beacon Regroups

By Skip Pearlman

Last year’s Beacon High School squad finished 9-5-2 and earned the No. 8 seed in the Class A sectional tournament but fell to Horace Greeley in the opening round.

Beacon this year will play without its leading scorer, All-Section center-mid Eliza Erickson, who graduated. The Bulldogs also lost All-Section keeper Meagan Meeuwisse and defender Anna Manente to graduation.

However, the squad has eight starters returning, including three All-League selections: Analiese Compagnone, Maddie Bobnick and Kaitlyn Rosa. The others are junior fullback Gabby Del Castillo, junior midfielder Ashley Casserly, senior midfielder Emelie Lenaburg, junior midfielder Jessica Spadafino and senior defender Samantha McDowell.

“I’m looking for a lot of senior leadership,” said Coach Hugo Alzate, in his fifth season leading the Bulldogs. “We’ll go as far as they take us.”

He noted that the team would be (Continued on Page 17)

Haldane Set to Defend Regional Title

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane High School team is coming off a season in which it finished at 9-10-1 but still reached the Final Four of the state Class C tournament before falling to eventual champion Stillwater.

With six starters back on the field, Coach Steve Schweikhart — who returns to the role this year after coaching both the boys’ and girls’ teams at Haldane in the past — believes the team has potential.

“The returning starters will all play a huge role,” said Schweikhart, who is assisted by Cali Schweikhart and Mary Callaghan, who both played on the Haldane team that reached the state title game in 2013. “They have proven themselves as quality players and great examples for the younger players. I couldn’t ask for a better group.”

The returning starters are senior goalkeeper Abigail Platt, senior All-State midfielder Jade Villella (who plans to play next year for the University of Massachusetts Boston), senior defender Ella Ashburn (19) battles a Stillwater player for control in the state Class C semifinal game last fall.

File photos by Scott Warren

(Continued on Page 17)