# The HIGHLANDS THE HIGHLANDS THE HIGHLANDS



September 27, 2019

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## Haldane Cancels Football Fundraiser

Expresses concern about Chick-fil-A

By Chip Rowe

he superintendent of the Haldane Central School District canceled a Chick-fil-A fundraiser planned for the homecoming football game on Sept. 20 because of concerns about commercial activity on school grounds and the restaurant chain's history of supporting organizations that oppose same-sex marriage or disparage homosexuality as sinful.

In response, a parent purchased more than \$300 worth of Chick-fil-A sandwiches that she and another parent distributed to Haldane student-athletes and spectators.

In a letter to parents on Monday (Sept. 23), Superintendent Philip Benante wrote that he had been notified two days before the Friday night game that employees from Chick-fil-A had been invited to sell donated sandwiches at the game to benefit the football booster club. Benante said Haldane Coach Ryan McConville, with the approval of athletic director Chris Salumn, had arranged the fundraiser.

(Continued on Page 9)



DEMANDING ACTION — About 200 students and adults gathered in Cold Spring on the St. Mary's lawn at the corner of Main and Chestnut streets on Sept. 20 as part of a global strike to demand more action to slow climate change. The effort was organized by Fridays for Future, a movement founded by a Swedish teenager, Greta Thunberg, who on Sept. 20 attended a rally in New York City. For more photos, see Page 15.

Photo by Ross Corsair

## Appointment on Hold After Tax Mix-Up

Calculation error led to incorrect school bills

By Holly Crocco

fter a calculation error earlier this month in school tax bills sent by Putnam County, the collection process was suspended, the deadlines extended and new bills printed and mailed.

In response, legislators last week voted to nullify the otherwise routine re-appointment of the longtime county tax director, Lisa Johnson, to a new six-year term, pending the outcome of an inquiry by the state. Legislators said the snafu cost nearly \$100,000 to correct, although Finance Commissioner Bill Carlin said it was too early to put a figure on the error.

On Sept. 9, Carlin informed the county's six school districts — Brewster, Carmel, Garrison, Haldane, Mahopac and Putnam Valley — that a software glitch caused the exemptions given to veterans to exceed the maximum, which affected other bills, as well. The county mailed corrected bills during the week of Sept. 16.

The Finance Department said the vast (Continued on Page 8)



A seaplane flies past fires atop Sugarloaf.

Photo by Brian Wolfe

## Sugarloaf Fire 'Contained'

State says flames have burned at least 50 acres

By Michael Turton

smoky blaze that was discovered on Friday (Sept. 20) atop Sugarloaf between Cold Spring and Beacon has been contained but continues to burn, according to the state parks department.

The fire has burned at least 50 acres on the mountain, which is north of Breakneck

Ridge and part of Hudson Highlands State Park, officials said. The Wilkinson Trail, which runs from Route 9D to the summit, remains closed above the Breakneck Bypass Trail. All other trails are open.

On Wednesday (Sept. 25), a representative of the state parks department said "the fire is contained but not out; it continues to smolder," and that firefighters remained on the mountain. There have been no reports of injuries or structure damage.

Officials said they were hoping for rain,

(Continued on Page 21)



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## FIVE QUESTIONS: NATHANIEL RAMOS

#### **By Alison Rooney**

athaniel Ramos, 14, is a freshman at Beacon High School. He has studied ballet since he was 7 years old, including for the last three years at Ballet Arts Studio in Beacon.

#### Did you wake up one day saying, "I want to study ballet"?

I got into tap first. I always wanted to dance, but I wasn't sure where to start. I watched movie musicals, especially ones with Gene Kelly, because he's a tapper who also does ballet and jazz — he's just everything. I kept being told that everything in dance comes from ballet. I enjoyed the leaping and the turning; I felt powerful. It's a good way to express yourself. But I also take jazz and tap. I don't enjoy one over the others.

#### Were there other boys in your early classes?

Never. As the only boy you get treated differently in class, which I never disliked. Sometimes the dance would be changed slightly. Now we have a boys-only class, so the steps

are more focused on the moves you would see men doing in a professional company.

#### What about ballet, physically, would surprise people?

The amount of arm strength it takes. You can do beautiful stuff with your feet, but if your arms aren't a part of it, it's worthless. Partnering is hard, too. Someone has to catch the girls. It's not easy.

#### Do you get teased?

No. I've never hidden that I study ballet. Everyone always knew I was doing theater, so the dance was part of that. Everybody should find a place for dance in their life. Your body is meant to move. Few people are able to do ballet easily, so anyone who chooses ballet should be applauded.

#### Has ballet helped your acting and singing?

I don't think I would be a good performer without dance. Sometimes you get to combine dance and drama. like at our recital last year

when I played Dracula. I hadn't done something dark and crazy like that. Everything was very sharp, in unison. We have started als at school for Rock of Ages, rehears-

which is our musical this year. There are crazy things like jumping from my knees back to my feet that I know my body wouldn't have been able to do except for ballet. And everyone loves a good kick line!

> **Nathaniel Ramos** Photo by A. Rooney

By Michael Turton

How do you feel about the shorter fall days?

I love the fall -Halloween is my favorite. But I do miss the long days of summer.



Quinn Chandler, Philipstown

The change in light hinders what I can do after work, and that makes me sad.



~Lauren Holland, Beacon

It's imperceptible at first. I feel rushed at the end of my day, then I get annoyed.



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## **Tourism Director Visits Cold Spring**

Mayor: 'We're pretty much overwhelmed'

By Michael Turton

racey Walsh, the new director of the Putnam County Tourism Department, visited Cold Spring on Tuesday (Sept. 24) to introduce herself to the Village Board.

The Legislature created the Department of Tourism after the Putnam County Visitors' Bureau — a nonprofit that operated under contract with the county — abruptly shut down in July.

Neither of the Visitor Bureau's two most recent directors, Bruce Conklin or Frank Smith, appeared before the Village Board.

"I'm into my third week" on the job, Walsh said, adding she has been touring the county, "getting to know people and listening."

Walsh acknowledged that the distance between Cold Spring and Carmel often seems greater than 19 miles, noting she was aware of concerns about whether the economic benefits of tourism are distributed equally across the county. "If I do my job right, which I intend to, the whole county will become robust," she said.

Walsh said she also has met with representatives from the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Magazzino Italian Art and Metro-North. "There seems to be

a feeling of being overrun when the [fall cruise] boats come in," she said. "It sounds like you need tourism management."

"We're pretty much overwhelmed," said Mayor Dave Merandy. "We don't need any advertising." He said although the village is a destination it isn't treated like one by the county. "We receive hardly any money," he said, although the village must absorb costs such as extra policing when its population surges in the summer.

The mayor repeated his frequent criticism that the \$7,500 Cold Spring receives annually from the county to assist with tourism-related garbage collection hasn't increased in "forever."

When Merandy acknowledged that such funding isn't part of her department's mandate, Walsh responded with a smile: "I'm glad you said that aloud. I'm not the magic money lady!"

Trustee Lynn Miller emphasized that with tourism comes the need for improved infrastructure. "We can't just keep pouring money into repairing and building bathrooms," she said. "That cost falls on 800 households."

Walsh said she has heard "loud and clear" that the village needs help in providing restrooms for visitors.



Tracey Walsh, the new director of the Putnam Tourism Department, visited the Village Board on Sept. 24.

Photo by M. Turton

She said Putnam Tourism has to rebuild "from scratch," including reestablishing state funding and relaunching visitputnam. org, which the Visitors' Bureau took down when its board dissolved the nonprofit.

Five days earlier, on Sept. 19, Walsh met with county legislators in Carmel during a meeting of their Economic Development Committee.

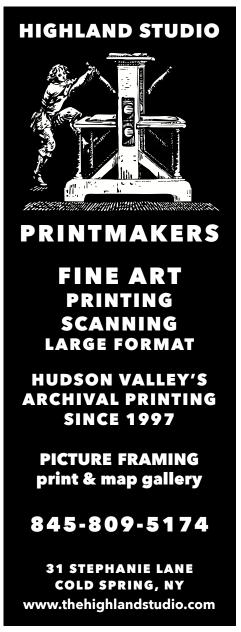
Walsh said she was working with a Pennsylvania marketing firm, Jill Duffy Designs,

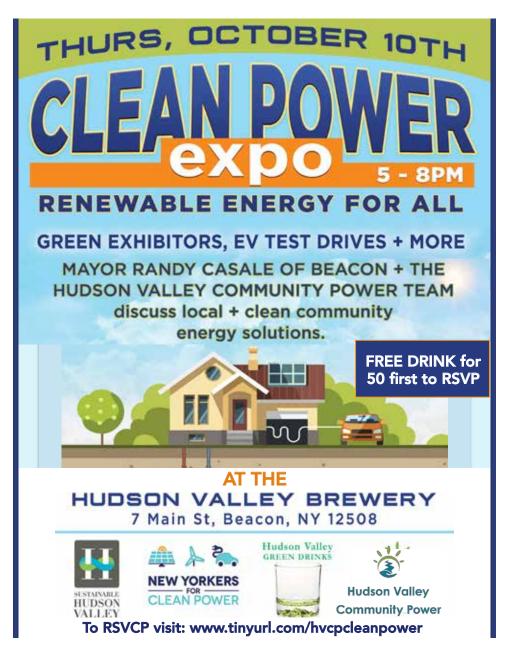
on print and radio ads with the theme "so much to offer so close to home." The agency's new tagline, she said, will be "Perfectly Putnam" and a logo is being created.

She said the department's target audience includes residents from nearby Fairfield County in Connecticut and Westchester and Dutchess counties, as well as up and down the Hudson to New York City.

Holly Crocco contributed reporting.







## Current

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#### LETTERS AND COMMENTS

#### Airbnb regulations

The issue of Airbnb in Cold Spring should have been discussed several years ago, before those who saw our village as a cash cow moved to town and started buying homes to run their businesses ("No Vacancy at Airbnb Meeting," Sept. 20).

The question is how these illegal enterprises were allowed to take root. It is not difficult to go on Airbnb and other sites and quickly pull up local short-term rental properties, most of them in residential areas. The owners are pulling in between \$175 to \$500 a night.

Some justify these illegal rentals by saying we need to provide places for the tourists who will spend money in our businesses. However, this is not a justification for breaking the law, and the rentals are slowly changing the complexity of our beautiful village.

One entrepreneur, who has been a village resident for a few years, lives in one property and bought two others on the street to rent — so the block now has a family home and two "zombie" houses that may be lived in but not by people who will assimilate into village life. They will not send their children to our schools, they will not volunteer for our fire department or ambulance corps, they will not join our churches, PTA, Little League, Boy or Girl Scouts, Masons, Knights of Columbus or Lions Club.

This is about closing your door at night knowing your neighbor is there and feeling a part of the neighborhood.

The Village Board has ignored this activity and is now being pressured by the cash-cow owners to change the zoning laws. Those who want to operate short-term rentals should have purchased homes in a business district. The members of the board, including one who runs an Airbnb, should

#### 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.

have been doing their jobs.

There are many individuals who are not comfortable speaking in public forums. I urge them to contact members of the board to express your feelings on this issue.

Betty Monroe, Cold Spring

#### Code changes

I urge all Cold Springers to attend the Code Update Committee public meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 2, at the firehouse. The future of our village should not be determined by a few who would put their own financial gain over the law, their neighbors' best interests and the integrity of our village.

Joan Di Vico, Cold Spring

#### Looming over Beacon

The impact this project would have on the environment and the Beacon schools is tremendous ("Huge Fishkill Development Looms Over Beacon," Sept. 20). These complexes are turning Beacon from a quaint and friendly city into the type of congested and unsafe environment you might find in New York City. Our seniors will be grievously

#### Clarification

An item in the Sept. 21 issue about a new gallery at Manitoga to display items from its permanent collection should have been clearer. The gallery will be installed within the house, not as a separate structure, and the \$300,000 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation will cover most but not all of the cost. The lead architect is Wendy Evans Joseph, with support from James Hartford of River Architects in Cold Spring.

effected and become unable to stay in their

Coleen Cook, via highlandscurrent.org

Packing them in. The Newburgh-Beacon bridge traffic will be even worse. When is enough enough?

Lena Bell, via Facebook

Sooner or later we will wish we were a rural, country town like Yonkers or the Bronx.

Chris Ungaro, via Facebook

What road upgrades are coming? What can go wrong with even more traffic at the Interstate 84 and Route 9D interchange, which needs a massive overhaul?

Steven Saltzman, via Facebook

Why can't we just get a halfway decent grocery store instead of all these apartments?

Stella Denton, *Beacon* 

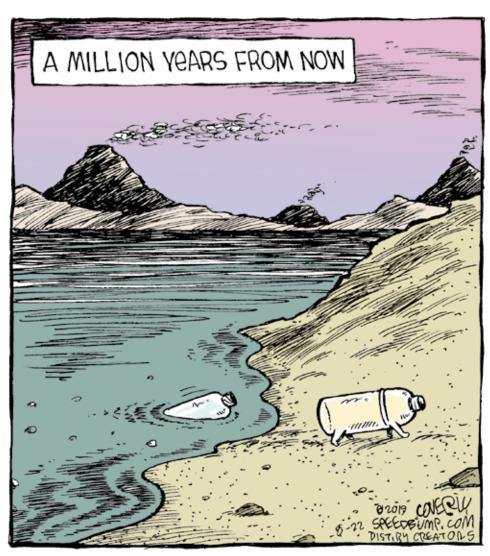
#### Gender policy

On Sept. 4, the Garrison school district adopted a policy which states, among other provisions, that a student may use the restroom and locker room that corresponds to "the student's consistently expressed gender identity at school" ("Garrison Adopts Gender Policy," Sept. 13). The following are responses posted on The Current's Facebook page, some of which have been edited for brevity.

Patricia Burruano: I'm glad my kids are grown. The liberals are ruining the school.

Lauren Comizio: What if a student feels targeted because they are not comfortable

(Continued on Page 5)



#### LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

sharing the bathroom? If a child says he or she isn't comfortable, it becomes discrimination.

Amy McIlwaine: It's easy for all of us to pontificate on dictionary definitions, our personal ideas of God, and what we learned in some classroom 40 years ago. Does no one remember when separate bathrooms for separate races was the norm because "God made separate races to be separate"? Times change, and we must learn to accept what was once hidden and made shameful. You would be singing a different tune if it was your child who was born different, or maybe you would be sending them to "conversion therapy." Shame on those who take issue with whatever a child in our community needs to feel safe.

John Flynn: I don't care what bathroom anyone uses as long as you wash your hands.

Ann Fanizzi: Education and children being used to enforce dubious norms cause confusion and possible unnecessary conflict.

Sherry Marino: Stop the nonsense! You are what your DNA states you are. Next a kid will say, "I'm a cow" and we will have to provide a milking machine. The liberals have carried it too far. Boys use boys' bathrooms and girls use girls' bathrooms.

Erin Giunta: Good for Garrison. And shame on all of the hateful comments. We

are talking about *children*. Have you no heart or compassion?

Andrea Hudson: The only silver lining [here] is that the bigots reveal themselves, and I know who to avoid.

#### Hard news

I find the sourcing of this article ("Garrison Man Dies in Crash," Sept. 20) to a devastated family member's post on her personal Facebook page to be invasive, insensitive and unprofessional. It is lazy journalism. LoHud. com had the decency and ethical standard to contact the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

Kathleen Foley, Cold Spring

I have read the story three times and it gets more offensive with each reading. In a paper that has otherwise been on a real upswing, this is unprofessional "journalism," particularly in such a small community. I'm disappointed.

Lori Moss,  $via\ Facebook$ 

This story is absolutely insensitive to the family, but journalism doesn't seem concerned with sensitivity. We have a job here to protect each other and lift each other up in moments of tremendous challenge. They should have reached out to her [the victim's wife] first.

Michelle McCoy, via Facebook

For a small local news outlet to engage

in one-upsmanship [by naming the victim] before an agency [the Sheriff's Office] has officially released the information is insensitive. In this day and age with social media, access to information sometimes can be easy to find and repeat, but it's also important to look at the overall picture. There's a child involved here. As a small community we need to look out for one another, not engage in sensationalism.

Is it a news item? Perhaps, but it's more of an issue of rising to the occasion to support someone when they are at one of the most challenging times of her or his life, not looking for a scoop.

Lydia Langley, Philipstown

The editor responds: Nothing we reported was taken from a private Facebook post. The Sheriff's Office did not respond before our print deadline to a request for information. When it did, the story was updated online.

The intersection in Garrison where Joseph Mercurio died has a long record of accidents due to poor design. Route 9 narrows from two passing lanes both north and south with little shoulder where Snake Hill Road and Travis Corners Road intersect at an oblique angle.

The passing lanes encourage drivers to accelerate from both directions just as they approach the intersection where drivers are not perpendicular to the highway and have difficulty seeing clearly in both directions.

This intersection desperately needs a caution light and perhaps a lower speed limit. It is a travesty that nothing has been done.

Charlie Dupree, Garrison

#### Room tax

It's limiting to use only the term *tax* ("Editor's Notebook: Why No Room Tax?," Sept. 13). That is a specific term of art and has specific legislative mechanisms to be enacted. In this case, the state needs to authorize the county, town or village to enact it. There are likely other methods, and terms, like a "per-stay fee" or "surcharge," that the town or village could enact to capture its rightful share of incoming revenue in order to supply adequate services to tourists.

It's not a question of anyone being enamored with taxes, as one reader charged. It's a question of being able to support economic growth, opportunity and delivery of shared services to residents and guests alike. That's not a charity operation, that's basic math.

Christopher Daly, Cold Spring

This issue has nothing to do with a room or hotel tax. It has nothing to do with shortage of rental homes, either. It is squarely about getting a cut of other people's Airbnb income. And the pretext for the argument is this: If your neighbor is making money Airbnb-ing, why shouldn't you get a piece of the action?

Mahmoud Shahbodaghi, Garrison

## **NOTICE**

## THE HALDANE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT INVITES COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO SHARE THEIR INPUT VIA THOUGHTEXCHANGE

Dr. Philip Benante, Superintendent of the Haldane Central School District, has announced that a representative team of educators and community members have met recently to begin a long-range planning process for the district that will result in a focused and aligned community vision of student success for life, learning and work beyond school.

The district is inviting members of the community to contribute their thoughts to a conversation on this topic. Using a platform called Thoughtexchange, community members will have the opportunity to share their thoughts and add more comments throughout the planning process. The results of this Thoughtexchange will be used to inform a refining of how the district's foundational documents define our working model of student success.

Community members may participate in the Profile of a Graduate Thoughtexchange by using the following link: https://my.thoughtexchange.com/#957971989. The Thoughtexchange process takes only 5-10 minutes to complete.

We look forward to hearing from community members about what is important to them. Please plan to reply by Friday, October 4, 2019.

The Haldane School District will prepare all students to succeed in an ever-changing global society.

Philip Benante, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

## **NOTICE**

#### **CLEAN-UP FOR NELSONVILLE RESIDENTS**

WILL BE HELD ON:

FRIDAY, October 4, 2019

#### ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- 1. Couches
- Mattresses
   Box Springs
- 4. Stuffed chairs
- 5. Sleepers
- 6. Recliners
- 7. Toys
- 8. Small Appliances
- 9. "Empty" Water base Paint Cans
- 10. One (1) large appliance per household (with no Freon)
- 11. Wooden Furniture (i.e. tables, chairs, desks, etc.)

#### UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- 1. Tires
- 2. Oil, fuel and chemical tanks (propane, butane, etc.)
- 3. Motor Vehicle parts or their components (i.e. fenders, doors, hoods, body sections, interiors, engine blocks, radiators, transmissions, drive shafts, axles, muffler systems, filter, gas tanks, etc.)
- 4. Hazardous materials such as, but not limited to drain oils, antifreeze coolants, pesticides, chemicals, lead paints, asbestos materials (i.e. insulation, shingles, pipewrap, etc.)
- 5. Explosives (i.e. ammunition, etc.)
- 6. Lead batteries and household batteries (except small batteries used in a normal household)
- 7. Metal drums (i.e. 55 gallon drums, etc.)
- 8. Building Materials
- 9. Yard Waste (i.e. leaves, trees, limbs and branches, grass clippings, etc.
- 10. Lawn Mowers
- 11. No Appliances with CFCC (Freon) i.e., air conditioners, dehumidifiers
- 12. Computers and computer monitors
- 13. No TV's

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## Residents Criticize Plans for Garrison Gulf

Philipstown Planning Board seeks ZBA input

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

he debate over the Gulf station on Route 9D in Garrison took a new turn Sept. 19 when the Philipstown Planning Board voted to ask the Zoning Board of Appeals to rule on whether local law allows used-car sales there.

The station's owner, Arafat Ibrahim, wants to install a lighted canopy over its pumps and to sell used cars. The station is in a hamlet-mixed use zoning district. Station proprietors acknowledged to the Planning Board in February that used-car sales had already occurred and that the town had issued a violation notice. Ibrahim bought the property in 2014.

While the ZBA determines the legality of used-car sales at the site, the Planning Board review of the entire project is on hold, said Stephen Gaba, the town attorney.

Bart Lansky, Ibrahim's lawyer, said his client planned to have a three-vehicle lot that fits with its surroundings. "It's not like we're going to have cars right alongside the road with big stickers on them," he told the Planning Board.

During a public hearing, one resident supported the gas station plans but more than a dozen others expressed opposition. Some also objected to a lighted canopy.

"A commercial-sized canopy as well as a used-car lot inserted on scenic Route 9D can hardly be considered" acceptable under zoning strictures, said Joan Turner, a former ZBA member. She said a small, simple gas station operated on the site in 1942, predating local zoning laws. She argued that the current station, as a "pre-existing, nonconforming" business, cannot deviate much in character from the original.

She also said that in 1973 the then-owners of the station asked to sell used cars but the ZBA declined and it also refused in 1995 to allow a canopy. She suggested the current owner would need a variance or special-use permit. She also suggested alternatives to a canopy exist, such as having employees pump gas in bad weather.

Wally Schaefer, who lives on Grassi Lane, which intersects 9D near the Gulf, said that although Ibrahim proposed selling three cars at any time, he later increased the number to five and that now there are eight "littering my neighborhood. The accumulation of vehicles is an eyesore."

Shahla Jannetta, who lives on Alfalfa Lane, off Grassi Lane, has two children attending



The pumps at Garrison Gulf

the Garrison School. She referred to herself as "pro-business" but also expressed concern because school buses stop in front of the station and "everybody speeds" through the area. "It's not safe enough already — let alone [for someone] to start a new business that could cause more accidents."

Daniel Potts, a member of the vestry (parish council) of St. Philip's Church, across the street from the station, said the idea of a used-car business "has caused great disquiet among the vestry," which fears negative impacts on its nursery school and church. He said the vestry does not oppose the canopy.

NEWS BRIEFS

### Bridge Tolls Expected to Rise

Agency will spend \$90 million on Newburgh-Beacon span

Tolls on the five spans operated by the state Bridge Authority, including those at Newburgh-Beacon and Bear Mountain, are expected to increase soon.

The agency needs to raise \$90 million to re-deck the westbound span of the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge next year. The authority also plans to convert its bridges to electronic tolling.

Tolls are \$1.50 eastbound, or \$1.25 for E-ZPass users. In 2018, the authority collected an average of \$2.6 million each month at Newburgh-Beacon and \$473,000 at Bear Mountain.

#### Garrison Voters Approve Capital Spending

Improvements will cost up to \$9.9 million

**B** y a 152-91 vote, residents of the Garrison school district approved a "preservation, innovation, security and accessibility project" that will cost up to \$9.9 million. The vote represented a 12 percent turnout among the district's 2,042 registered voters.

(Continued on Page 7)

## **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, October 7, 2019 at 7:30 P.M. at the Philipstown Recreation Department, 107 Glenclyffe Dr., Garrison, New York to hear the following appeal: Robert & Susan Freeman, 29 Travis Corners Road, Garrison, New York. Tax Map # 61.-3-27.

The applicant is seeking relief to construct within the side yard setback for the proposed addition of a 20' x 25' family room with a 25' x 12.5' deck. The applicants proposed side-yard setback is 21 feet where 30 feet is required and therefore is seeking a variance of 9 feet. The property is approximately 0.9 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 reviewed in the office of the Building Department at Philipstown Town Hall.

Robert Dee, Chairman of the Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals Dated 9/20/2019

## **NOTICE**

The Town of Philipstown
Zoning Board of Appeals has
changed the date of their
regular monthly meeting to
October 7, 2019. The meeting
will be held at 7:30 P.M. at the
Claudio Marzollo Community
Center, 107 Glenclyffe
Drive, Garrison, New York.
All submissions are due by
September 27th at 4 pm.

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George Lansbury, 267-269 Avery Road, Garrison, New York. Tax Map # 49.1-1-71.1. The applicant is seeking relief to construct within the side yard setback for the proposed addition of a 356-sf screened porch addition. The applicants proposed side-yard setback is 15.3 feet where 30 feet is required and therefore is seeking a variance of 14.7 feet. The property is approximately 5.18 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 reviewed in the office of the Building Department at Philipstown Town Hall.

Robert Dee, Chairman of the Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals

Dated 9/20/2019

## **NOTICE**

#### VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING CODE UPDATE COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING

**DATE:** Wednesday, October 2 | **TIME:** 7:00 PM **LOCATION:** Cold Spring Fire House Meeting Room (side entrance)

The Village of Cold Spring Code Update Committee will hold the 5th public meeting to review the major proposed changes to the Village of Cold Spring Village Code which have been developed by the Committee over the last 5 years.

At the meeting, the Code Update Committee will hear all comments from the public having to do with the proposed changes. The meeting will be held open for 30 days to provide the public with additional time to review the proposed changes and submit feedback. All proposed changes to the Code are available on the Village's website at https://www.coldspringny.gov/code-update-committee/pages/phase-v.

#### NEWS BRIEFS

About \$900,000 for the upgrades will come from district savings, \$1 million from state aid and the remainder from a tax levy. The district said the average increase for a taxpayer in a home assessed at \$500,000 should be \$110 to \$140 annually, depending on the project's cost. Construction is expected to begin after the 2020-21 school year.

#### Counties Receive Police, **EMS Grants**

State provides funds for 911, plate readers

Tew York State earlier this month awarded grants to Putnam and Dutchess law enforcement and emergency response offices.

The state on Sept. 6 gave \$10 million in grants for 911 response and emergency service dispatch operations, including \$168,000 to Dutchess County and \$100,000 to Putnam. Counties can use the money for operating expenses or technology upgrades, including text-to-911, which is already available in Dutchess.

On Sept. 5, State Sen. Pete Harckham, whose district includes eastern Putnam and southeastern Dutchess, said he directed \$221,000 to local law enforcement through the State Aid to Municipality program.

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office

received \$86,000 to purchase a licenseplate reader pole camera system to help detect the flow of illegal narcotics between New York City and Albany.

In Putnam County, the district attorney's office received \$60,000 for pre-trial preparation technology and a system to present multimedia evidence to juries, and the sheriff's office was given \$75,000 for six license-plate readers.

#### **Cold Spring Resident Joins** Peace Corps

Begins service next month in Samoa

iam Barry, 21. ⊿of Cold Spring, will leave next month for the island of Samoa, where he will be a volunteer teacher in the Peace Corps for 27 months.



Barry is the son of Marypat and Kevin Barry and a graduate of Archbishop

Stepinac in White Plains and Ithaca College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in English earlier this year.

Applications for spring 2020 are due Oct. 1. See peacecorps.gov.

#### **Voluntary Water Restrictions**

Cold Spring wants to replenish reservoirs

↑ old Spring is asking residents to volun-✓ tarily reduce their water use to help replenish the reservoirs.

Water and Sewer Supervisor Matt Kroog told the Village Board on Sept. 17 that a lack of rainfall in the past month has decreased reservoir levels by 5.75 percent. The reservoirs were at 79.75 percent capacity in August.

The board asked that anyone in the water district restrict use, at least before 7 a.m. and after 7 p.m. Kroog said that because of the low levels, drinking water in the village may have a slight "earthy taste" but is safe to drink.

#### New York Gets \$1.25 Million for Dams

Earmarked for structures with 'high hazard potential'

The Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded \$1.25 million to the state Department of Environmental Conservation to help rehabilitate "high hazard-potential" dams under a program established in a 2016 bill introduced by Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat whose district includes the Highlands.

The Hudson Valley has nearly 100 dams

considered to be high hazard, which measures not their condition but the fact that their failure could cause deaths. The list include dams at the former Texaco Research Center on Fishkill Creek, the Mount Beacon reservoir, the Cargill reservoir in North Highlands and on Foundry Brook.

#### **Tourism Spending Up in Dutchess County**

Report: Nearly 7 percent jump

isitors to Dutchess County spent more than \$642 million last year, a jump of 6.8 percent from 2017, according to a report by Tourism Economics.

The firm is commissioned each year by New York State to study the impact of tourism. This is the ninth consecutive year that spending has increased in Dutchess; the county has seen revenue grow by 26 percent since 2014.

More than 4.75 million people visited in 2018, contributing \$45 million in local and \$35 million in state taxes, the report said. If not for that revenue, it calculated, the average Dutchess household would pay an additional \$743 to maintain the same level of services.

Tourism supports more than 11,000 jobs in the county, the report found, and wages increased 8 percent in the sector over 2017.

(Continued on Page 8)



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### **Happy Days**

by Samuel Beckett

Sept. 28-29

**Produced by Excellent Creature, Directed by Carin Jean White** With Sterling Swann and Christine Bokhour

66 99

Beckett pursues his relentless search for the meaning of existence, probing the tenuous relationships that bind one person to another, and each to the universe, to time past and time present.

#### YOUNG **FRANKENSTEIN**

Oct. 31-Nov. 17

TICKETS AT www.philipstowndepottheatre.org









**GATED ENTRY** 

Cold Spring • Contemporary style home. Stone fireplaces. Gourmet kitchen. Deck, pool and two-story barn. WEB# POI526490 | \$925,000



TRANQUILITY

Carrison Fully repoyeded English

Garrison Fully renovated English Cottage on nine acres offers a magical setting. Minutes to train. WEB# POI548801 | \$845,000



AMAZING VIEWS

 $\label{local_condition} Cold \mbox{ Spring $\cdot$ Unique home on almost two acres on the edge of the village. Cathedral ceilings/walls of glass. WEB# POI562108 | $749,000$ 



GARDENERS PARADISE

Cold Spring · 19th century charmer offers modern conveniences for a tranquil lifestyle. Easy commute. WEB# POI559507 | \$675,000



COMMUTERS DREAM

Cold Spring  $\cdot$  Fully renovated. Oversized kitchen, fireplace, master suite with loft. Deck/stone patio. WEB# POI551789 | \$499,000



SPRINGBROOK CONDO

Cold Spring • Renovated first floor unit from floors to windows. New appliances. Glass doors to balcony. WEB# POI579854 | \$285,000

COLD SPRING BROKERAGE 845.265.5500 HOULIHANLAWRENCE.COM NEWS BRIEFS

#### **Hudson Valley Winners**

Magazine announces local awards

The winners of the annual Best of Hudson Valley awards selected by the editors and readers of *Hudson Valley Magazine* will be honored on Oct. 10 in Poughkeepsie.

Winners recognized by the editors include Hudson House in Cold Spring (best bed-and-breakfast with a river view), Sukhothai in Beacon (Thai lunch special), Magazzino Italian Art in Philipstown (new art space), Cold Spring Apothecary (apothecary), Society of Lash in Beacon (lash studio) and Loopy Mango in Beacon (place for crafts and knitting).

Among the reader picks in Beacon were the city for best Main Street, Brian Arnoff of Kitchen Sink (chef), Max's on Main (chili), Second Saturday (girls' night out), and Lambs Hill (bridal shop). Readers also chose Riverview in Cold Spring as the best Putnam County restaurant.

#### Scenic Hudson Gets \$790K

Funds will preserve Dutchess farm

A s part of a program to preserve farmland, New York State has awarded the Scenic Hudson Land Trust \$790,000 to protect 96 acres of the Scholldorf farm in Rhinebeck with a conservation easement.

It was part of \$18.6 million in grants awarded to protect more than 10,000 acres at 25 dairy farms. The state has spent nearly \$31 million to preserve 15,102 acres for agriculture.

The state's nearly 4,000 dairy farms account for half of its farm production. The state ranks fourth in the nation in the production of milk and first in the production of other products such as yogurt and cottage cheese.

#### Tax Bill Error (from Page 1)

majority of taxpayers would see a small reduction in their corrected bills, while 3,300 will be about the same. The deadlines were extended for partial payments to Oct. 7 and for full payments to Oct. 21. Property owners who had already paid will receive a refund for any overpayment.

Johnson, who has been with the county for 23 years, was re-appointed by County Executive MaryEllen Odell earlier this year. As it routinely does, the Legislature confirmed the appointment, and Johnson's term would have started Oct. 1.

But last week seven of the nine lawmakers voted to rescind the confirmation, with Nancy Montgomery (D-Philipstown) and Carl Albano (R-Carmel) in dissent. In the meantime, Johnson will continue overseeing property tax services.

Legislator Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson) said during a Personnel Committee meeting on Sept. 24 that she was not assigning blame but that "the Legislature takes this matter very seriously. We feel we owe an explanation to the taxpayers and to do anything less would be irresponsible on our part."

According to Johnson, who attended the meeting, state tax officials were able to reproduce the error but could not pinpoint whether it was caused by the software or

the assessment data provided by each town that the county merges before generating the bills. The amount of each bill is determined by the assessments and the levy set by each school district.

Carlin said he was focused less on the glitch and more on establishing standards, or best practices, so that similar mistakes will be recognized before bills are mailed. He said Johnson has done a great job and that both he and Odell are "very comfortable in her appointment."

Legislator Paul Jonke (R-Southeast) said that if the error had occurred next year, the legislators would simply be talking about installing controls. "The only reason we're here tonight is because of the timing" of the re-appointment, he said.

Montgomery, the Legislature's sole Democrat, expressed her "total support" for re-appointing Johnson.

"Even if the findings show that the director made a mistake, there's always room for a second chance," she said. "We don't know what happened, and until we do, this is way too harsh"

Montgomery said that town supervisors, assessors and elected officials who work with Johnson have said they do not want to see her replaced. "What I hear is, 'Mistakes happen,'" she said.

### Beacon School Taxes Due Oct. 9

Assessments up, tax rate down (again)

By Jeff Simms

Residents living in the Beacon City School District — which includes parts of Fishkill and Wappinger — have until Oct. 9 to pay their 2019-2020 school taxes before a 2 percent penalty is imposed.

The district's levy — the overall amount it is allowed to collect through taxes — increased this year by 4.64 percent, to \$40.3 million. That includes New York's 2 percent allowable growth increase (the "tax cap") plus \$634,000 due to increased property assessments, which indicates that there are both more taxable properties in the district and that property values largely increased.

Along with more modest (4.4 percent

and 2.6 percent) increases in Fishkill and Wappinger, property assessments in Beacon increased by 12.3 percent from a year ago. With more money coming in through assessments, the district's tax rate — the rate at which properties are charged taxes — decreased for the fourth straight year, from \$15.78 per \$1,000 of value in 2018-2019 to \$15.42.

Four years ago, the tax rate was \$16.51. Individual property owners' tax bills could go up or down, depending on their

could go up or down, depending on their assessments. If an assessed value stays the same or decreases, taxes could go down, but if a parcel is worth more than it was last year, the owner's tax bill could still increase, even with the lower tax rate.

The district will spend \$2.5 million from its fund balance on the 2019-2020 budget, another effort to keep the tax levy as low as possible, Deputy Superintendent Ann Marie Quartironi said.





#### Chick-fil-A (from Page 1)

Benante said he was alerted to the plan after a parent complained that foundations funded by Chick-fil-A support organizations criticized as being anti-gay. The founders of the chain are evangelical Christians; besides its sandwiches, the restaurant is known for being closed on Sundays.

Benante told Salumn to cancel the fundraiser and, in his email to parents, outlined his objections. He said Chick-fil-A had promoted its products for fundraisers in February at a meeting of football coaches from Section 1, which includes schools in Putnam and Dutchess counties. Benante said he felt that pitch was "outside the scope of acceptable activity at such coaches' meetings."

Further, he wrote, state education law prohibits commercial promotional activity on school grounds except when a business sponsors an event. He later noted that Haldane also prohibits commercial advertising on campus.

As for the gay-rights issue, he told parents, "it is well-documented that the company's CEO has been outspoken on social issues which impact the LGBTQ community. Given such, additional policies and procedures must be reviewed prior to entering into any arrangement for the sale of the company's product on school grounds in order to maintain an appropriate educational environment."

Benante clarified in an email to *The Current* that those additional Haldane policies would include one that prohibits discrimination against students or faculty members based on sexual orientation or gender "at all school-sponsored activities, programs and events." He also wrote that he "was concerned about the potential disruption to the school community" given the strong feelings about the company.

Benante told parents that he planned to share his concerns with the executive board of Section 1 Athletics while also reviewing Haldane's fundraising policies.

After the fundraiser was canceled, several parents upset with the decision made their own arrangements. Melissa Santos of Cold Spring, whose twin sons play on the football team and whose daughter is on the junior varsity volleyball squad, said she drove the 45 minutes to the Danbury Fair Mall in Connecticut with a friend to purchase 75 sandwiches for \$312.

Santos delivered 25 sandwiches to the J.V. volleyball team, which also played Friday, while Mary Ellen Yannitelli of Garrison, whose late son Anthony played for Haldane, handed out the remainder during the game while standing next to the concession stand in an area behind a table operated by the Blue Devil Booster Club.

Yannitelli said she had started to make a sign that read "Eat Mor Chikin" — the Chickfil-A slogan — but had only completed the E and A before 30 people were in line.

"We could have sold 500," she said, although she asked only for donations "since this was unofficial. It was all kind of sneaky." Yannitelli later drove to Danbury to buy 25 more sandwiches because none had been set aside for the football players.

Santos said she was upset with Benante's decision because she felt the district had "allowed an adult issue into a children's game" and "allowed someone to infiltrate our school system to hurt our children. Nobody cared about the LGBTQ connection. Chick-fil-A wanted to give our kids sandwiches, and I don't think there was any ulterior motive on its part.

"My son Darrin came home so excited when he learned they planned to have Chick-fil-A," she said. "He told me, 'Guess what I heard?' I didn't want my kids to be disappointed."

On Facebook, Yannitelli posted that "a few intolerant locals took offense" and "a fundraiser got squashed. I'm crushed. I loathe intolerance."

Later, in an interview, Yannitelli said that "the parent who complained and anyone else has the option to not buy a chicken sandwich. Frankly, I could go to the school tomorrow and say, 'I want you to get rid of Facebook and Chrome and Google because they support causes I don't believe in.' If people want to buy products from companies that support gay issues, nobody is stopping them. Where does it end?"

Many of the residents and parents who congratulated Yannitelli on Facebook after she quipped that she was a "rebel" who was "bucking the system" dismissed the complaint about Chick-fil-A as having come from "bullies," "the perpetually triggered" and a small group "who felt the need to bring their agenda to a nice, small community." One person praised Yannitelli for her stand against "political correctness."



## Is Chick-fil-A Anti-Gay?

Chick-fil-A, which is the third largest restaurant chain in the nation behind McDonald's and Starbucks (it has 27 outlets in New York state, including in New York City), has drawn criticism because its founders have supported organizations that oppose same-sex marriage or denounce homosexuality as sinful.

In 2012, an executive, Dan Cathy, claimed same-sex marriage was "inviting God's judgment on our nation." He added that his company was "very much supportive of the family," which he defined as the "biblical definition of the family unit."

In response to criticism, Chick-fil-A said it would "leave the policy debate over same-sex marriage to the government and political arena." The family's Marriage & Family Legacy Fund, which was created to fight same-sex marriage, was dissolved in 2013, and the firm says its foundations no longer support strident groups such as the Family Research Council.

In 2017, according to its most recent available IRS filing, the Chick-fil-A Foundation gave nearly \$10 million to 300 causes, mostly charities that serve low-income children. But the list included two organizations that have been accused of being anti-gay: The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), which received \$1.65 million in 2017, and the Salvation Army, which was given \$150,000.

The FCA requires members to agree to a Sexual Purity Statement that describes homosexuality as not "acceptable to God"; the Salvation Army has long been criticized for its stance that homosexuality is sinful.

The Chick-fil-A Foundation said the money given to the FCA was only used for summer camps and that campers "were not required to be a member of FCA and did not have to sign any FCA pledges."

The funds given to the Salvation Army, it said, was also for camps as well as Christmas gifts for low-income children. The Salvation Army has in recent years removed assertions about homosexuality from its website and emphasizes that its services are provided to anyone who needs them, including gays and lesbians.

Chick-fil-A still faces occasional backlash. Earlier this year, officials in Buffalo and San Antonio, Texas, prevented the company from opening outlets in airport food courts. A few universities also have turned down proposals to bring the restaurant to campus, including Fordham and Rider University in New Jersey.

In response, Chick-fil-A said in a statement that it does "not have a political or social agenda" and that "we embrace all people, regardless of religion, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation or gender identity."



## firstFRIDAY -

The Current will be open from 6 – 8 p.m. on First Friday, Oct. 4

Drop by to say hello and share your thoughts about coverage.

161 Main Steet, Cold Spring

#### AROUND TOWN





▲ NEW RESIDENT —
The Sardinian
donkeys that live
outside Magazzino
Italian Art on Route
9 in Philipstown
— Dino, Dina,
Donotello and
Donatella — on
Sept. 9 welcomed
a newborn that the
museum named
Destiny.

Photo by Michele Gedney



◆ OFFSCREEN — Using funds provided by the district, a number of Beacon teachers chose to outfit their classes this year with "flexible seating" to encourage reading, such as these two bean bags at J.V. Forrestal Elementary. "In our own lives when we're curling up with a book, we're not sitting in a straight-backed chair," explained Superintendent Matt Landahl. Photo provided

▲ MUSICAL BEGINNINGS —
After a concert at the
Howland Cultural Center
in Beacon on Sept. 21,
children were invited to
touch and play a number
of instruments, including
violins, cellos, guitars,
brass, woodwinds and a
piano. The performance
was part of the Classics
for Kids series sponsored
by the Howland Chamber
Music Circle.

Photo by Ross Corsair

## **MARCO BAGNOLI**

Saturday, September 28, 2019, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Book presentation of the monograph *Marco Bagnoli* by Germano Celant, Skira, 2018

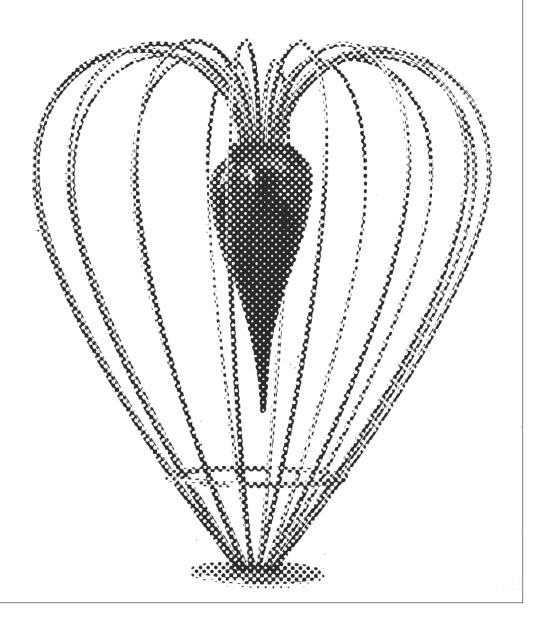
Readings by artist Marco Bagnoli and poet Sara Fruner accompanied by the John Arrucci Trio

Introduction by Antonella Soldaini, Co-editor of the monograph and Pier Luigi Tazzi, Curator of Atelier Bagnoli

Tickets available on magazzino.eventbrite.com







## The Calendar



A sculpture formed by draping kelp over an embroidery hoop

Photos by Ada Pilar Cruz



A kelp sculpture in the form of a heart



Ada Pilar Cruz

Photo by A. Rooney

# Into the Weeds

Artist discovers the joy of kelp

#### **By Alison Rooney**

da Pilar Cruz is a sculptor, printmaker and installation artist with a studio in Lake Peekskill. Her most recent residencies took her to Iceland and Maine, where she made sculptures and prints using kelp and seaweed.

Some of that work will be exhibited in a solo show, *Low Tide*, that opens on Friday, Oct. 4, at the Buster Levi Gallery in Cold Spring.

#### What led you to begin working with kelp?

My residency in Skagaströnd, Iceland,

was for two months, and I ran out of clay, which is what I usually use for sculpture. I found myself drawn to these huge bundles of kelp, a superfood. I started grinding it up, mixing it with pulp, looking to preserve the amazingness of it.

There was a fjord outside the studio, and there was a shore where the kelp washed in. I dried it and rolled it and made paper, made a Viking helmet. It dries with a translucent look, but it is ephemeral. It rots if there's no oxygen, but if there's air flowing around it retains the salty sweet smell of the sea.

#### What was Skagaströnd like?

It is on the north coast and had been a fishing village, but all the herring left. I worked in what had been a giant freezer with 11 other artists, no walls, no privacy. I felt tireless; I was in the studio early, left late. People would come, photograph, ask questions.

#### How did you move the huge pieces of kelp?

I had to keep folding it. I had vats in my car and put them in carefully. I wanted to collect the long pieces and keep them in perfect

(Continued on Page 14)



Stephen Clair Photo by Tom Moore

## **Outside Voice**

#### Stephen Clair heads back to the woods

#### By Brian PJ Cronin

It's hard to schedule a tour when you're also a business owner with two children. So when Stephen Clair began promoting his new album with a show in Minneapolis and a few dates in Texas, his manager asked him an obvious question: Don't you want to do a show where you live?

Which is Beacon. Clair said he let out a weary sigh.

"I didn't want to do 'just another show' there, there or there," he said, pointing up and down Main Street.

Not that there's anything wrong with Beacon's venues, where Clair has played before and will play again. But he says he was feeling nostalgic for the Beacon of yore — say, 10 years ago — when there wasn't any place for live music. Clair put on shows

anywhere that had an electrical outlet, and some that didn't, including public parks, parking lots and abandoned summer camps in the woods.

The latter is University Settlement Camp on the outskirts of town, which at the time had been acquired by the City of Beacon but didn't yet have a Frisbee golf course, a working pool or weekend weddings. It was here that Clair organized a series of outdoor concerts he called In The Pines with an "Are we allowed to do this?" vibe that Clair says he missed.

These days, the camp is booked nearly a year in advance for events, but thanks to a well-timed call to the Recreation Department and a late cancellation, In The Pines will return on Saturday, Oct. 5. Clair will be joined by the Beacon bands Dirt Bikes and

(Continued on Page 16)

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

#### CLIMATE WEEK

#### **Philipstown Bikes Day**

9 a.m. Haldane High School 15 Craigside Drive

Show your support for creating a bikeable and walkable community on a 1.7-mile loop that will be closed to motorized traffic. Join at any time until noon. Last year 107 riders and walkers covered the loop 196 times, clocking 333 miles; this year's goal is 500 miles. The event is sponsored by the Philipstown Trails Committee, and check-in will take place in the upper parking lot. The rain date is SUN 29. Free

#### **Electric Car Day**

GARRISON

2 - 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

Check out vehicles owned by area residents and learn about the technology. Anyone with an electric car is invited to show it off.



#### **Climate Art Exhibit**

**NELSONVILLE** 

5 - 7 p.m. Create Community 11 Peekskill Road

Thirteen local artists will explore the theme in this juried exhibit.

#### COMMUNITY

**SAT 28** 

#### **Craft Beer Festival**

1 - 5 p.m. Seeger Riverfront Park 2 Red Flynn Drive

hopculture.com/hudsonvalley19 Hop Culture will host this festival with pours from dozens of craft breweries, including Hudson Valley Brewery and Industrial Arts. Cost: \$60 (\$20 designated driver)

**SUN 29** 

#### I Run Beacon 5K

8 a.m. Memorial Park | bit.lv/run-beacon

This annual run and walk raises money for college scholarships awarded to Beacon High School seniors. Register online; packet pickup begins at 8 a.m. and the run or walk on an easy, flat course is at 9 a.m. Cost: \$35

#### **Spirit of Beacon**

Noon - 4 p.m. Main Street spiritofbeacon.org

The festival and parade has been held since 1977. The parade steps off at 1 p.m. Stop by The Current table at 329 Main St. to tell us what's good or what's missing from our coverage. The rain date is SUN 6.

**SUN 29** 

#### New Year 5780

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Hall 1 Chestnut St.

philipstownreformsynagogue.org

The Philipstown Reform Synagogue will welcome New Year 5780 with a service and shofar blast at about 7:15 p.m. by Helmut Hoess and his son, Walter, to mark the beginning of the Jewish High Holidays.

#### **Community Garden Info**

**COLD SPRING** 

6:30 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org

Learn about the New Leaf Community Garden that has been proposed for a parcel at the intersection of Route 9D and Route 403, near the Desmond-Fish Library. Speakers will include a professional gardener, a beekeeper and representatives from the Audubon Society.

#### Coffee with a Cop

9 - 11 a.m. Bank Square | 129 Main St. Stop by for a free cup of coffee and chat with a Beacon police officer

#### Coffee with a Cop

**COLD SPRING** 

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. B&L Deli 3182 Route 9 | 845-225-4300

Deputy Anthony Tolve of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office and Larry Burke of the Cold Spring Police Department will answer questions



#### **Prom Do-Over**

PHILIPSTOWN

7 p.m. Chalet on the Hudson 3250 Route 9D haldaneschoolfoundation.org

For its annual fall fundraiser, the Haldane School Foundation will be re-creating your prom, although your prom probably did not have a silent auction. Cost: \$110

#### **Community Tag Sale**

COLD SPRING

8:30 - 11:30 a.m. St. Mary's Church 1 Chestnut St. | 845-265-2539 stmaryscoldspring.org

Search for bargains among the furniture, household items, books and clothes donated for this annual benefit for St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Donation drop: FRI 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### **Community BBQ**

1 - 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

Bring picnic blankets and desserts to share in this celebration of firefighters, ambulance crews and sheriff's cadets. Also learn how to get involved. The rain date is SUN 6.

Coffee with a Cop, Oct. 2

#### **Troop 437 Clothing Collection**

**COLD SPRING** 

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Donate clothing, shoes, textiles and accessories such as backpacks and bags in clean, good condition to the Boy Scouts at either of two locations: the Foodtown parking lot or Perks Plaza on Route 9 in Philipstown. Donated items will be resold, recycled or redistributed to benefit a scholarship fund.

#### **Heritage Apple Fest**

**GARRISON** 

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Boscobel 1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638 boscobel.org

Enjoy the fall harvest with cider pressing, apple preserving and cider samples. Mark Rust will share stories and music, and the historic mansion will be open to visitors. The rain date is SUN 13. Cost: \$22 (\$13 children,  $$18/$12\ members,\ under\ 5\ free)$ 

#### **Sustainable Textiles** Workshop

**BEACON** 

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Farmers' Market Veterans' Place commongroundfarm.org

Bring anything that needs

to be patched, darned or felted. Participants will learn how to use Japanese Sashiko and improvisational stitching techniques as well as needle-felting to give new life to old clothes. Cost: \$10 donation per item

12:30 - 4:30 p.m. St. Rocco's 15 S. Chestnut St. midhudsonanimalaid.org

stuff, tools, pet accessories, baskets and gift cards at this benefit for Mid Hudson Animal Aid. The calling begins at 1:30 p.m.

#### **MUSIC**

#### Lyon-Sasaki Duo

COLD SPRING

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

Cellist Mitchell Lyon and pianist Mika Sasaki will perform Landscapes: Music for a Changing Climate, including works by Fauré, Debussy, Poulenc, Adés and Britten and a commissioned piece by Andrew Hsu. Cost: \$20

#### **Charley Krachy Quintet**

BEACON

3 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 charleykrachyquintet.bpt.me

Krachy, who plays tenor sax, will be joined by Gary Levy on alto sax, Kazzrie Jaxen on piano, Don Messina on double bass and Skip Scott on drums to perform jazz standards and original compositions. Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)

THURS 3

#### **Bridges Not Walls**

**BEACON** 

7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Proceeds from this concert, which will feature Bruce Molsky, Guthries Ghost and Chihoe Hahn, David and Jacob Bernz, and David Amram, will benefit the American Civil Liberties Union and other groups assisting immigrants at the southern U.S. border. Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)

#### **Benedicte Maurseth /** Iva Bittova

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Cold Spring Coffeehouse 92 Main St. | 845-591-2073

Maurseth will read from her book, To Be Nothing, and perform folk music from Norway on the Hardanger fiddle, which resembles a cross between a fiddle and a sitar. Bittova will sing and play violin accompanied by David Rothenberg on clarinet.



#### **Two-Penny Social**

**BEACON** 

Take home holiday items, kitchen

CATE

#### In the Pines

#### BEACON

5 - 11:30 p.m.

University Settlement Camp 724 Wolcott Ave. | inthepinesbeacon.com

Stephen Clair will share songs from his latest album, and Knock Yourself Out and the Dirt Bikes will also perform. See Page 11. Cost: \$15 (\$25 door, children 12 and younger free)

SAT 5

#### Tesla String Quartet

#### **COLD SPRING**

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

The Tesla String Quartet with Inessa Zaretsky and Lenore Davis on piano will perform Gesualdo's *Suite of Madrigals*, Zaretsky's *Muted Gestures* for string quartet and piano four hands, and Beethoven's *String Quartet in E minor*, *Op. 59 No. 2 "Razumovsky." Cost: \$20* 

SAT 5

#### Karen Borca Quartet

#### NEWBURGH

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

As part of the Jazz at Atlas series, the bassoonist will lead an ensemble including Warren Smith on vibes, Hilliard Greene on bass and Jackson Krall on drums. *Cost:* \$20 (\$25 door)



SAT 5

#### **Rock of Ages**

PEEKSKILL

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039 paramounthudsonvalley.com

The band and singers from the hit Broadway show will perform monster 1980s hits by Bon Jovi, Foreigner and REO Speedwagon, among others. *Cost: \$30 to \$60* 

SUN (

#### Les Filles de Illighadad

#### BEACON

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 clubdraw.brownpapertickets.com

Club Draw presents a group of musicians from Niger who use guitars to "re-contextualize" traditional "tende" music. The songwriter MSL opens and there will be painting and art during the performances. Cost: \$17 (\$20 door)

#### STAGE & SCREEN

**SAT 28** 

#### **Happy Days**

#### GARRISON

4 & 8 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre 10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900 philipstowndepottheatre.org

In this Samuel Beckett play



directed by Carin Jean White, Christine Bokhour (as Winnie) and Sterling Swann (as Willie) star as outlets for Beckett's search for the meaning of existence. Winnie begins the first act buried up to her waist in a hole and the second buried up to her neck. Also SUN 29. Cost: \$28 (\$22 seniors, teens)

**TUES 1** 

#### **Story Screen 101**

#### BEACON

6 p.m. Story Screen Beacon 445 Main St. | storyscreenbeacon.com

This film education series focuses on various aspects of filmmaking and film as an art form. This month, Mike Burdge and Robert Anderson will discuss the mechanics of genre use and tropes with James Cameron's *The Terminator* (1984) as their guide. *Cost: \$15* 

#### **VISUAL ART**

SAT 28

#### **Open Studios**

#### NEWBURGH

Noon - 6 p.m. | newburghopenstudios.org

The ninth annual event will feature the works of more than 100 artists in a walkable, self-guided tour through their studios and other spaces seldom open to the public. Pick up a map at Newburgh Art Supply, 5 Grand St., or download online. Also on view will be the sixth annual GlenLily Grounds exhibit with site-specific sculptures by 26 artists and the Terrain Biennial Newburgh, which includes the work of 12 artists on porches around the city. A solar-paneled boat will run hourly from the Beacon dock for \$2 per ride. Also SUN 29. Free

SAT 28

#### An Evening with Marco Bagnoli

#### COLD SPRING

6 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art 2700 Route 9 | 845-666-7202 magazzino.art

The evening will feature a reading by Marco Bagnoli and remarks by Antonella Soldaini, who co-edited a monograph about the artist. The event includes aperitivi, live jazz and an opportunity to see "L'anello mancante alla catena che non c'è," a seldom-exhibited work from the Olnick Spanu Collection. Online reservations requested. *Free* 

FRI 4

#### Low Tide

#### **COLD SPRING**

6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery 121 Main St. | 914-433-2900 busterlevigallery.com

This solo show by Ada Pilar Cruz features artwork she made from seawood and kemp during residencies in Iceland and Maine. See Page 11. Through Oct. 27.

SAT 5

### **Re-Nature Environmental Exhibit**

#### BEACON

2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 howlandculturalcenter.org

The exhibit will feature work by Alexis Siroc, Marjorie Morrow, Gail Tuchman and Naomi Teppich celebrating nature and art. Through Oct. 28.

#### KIDS & FAMILY

THURS 3

#### Halloween Children's Costume Exchange

#### BEACON

2 – 5 p.m. Howland Public Library 313 Main St. | 845-831-1134 beaconlibrary.org

Stop by to donate, swap or pick up costumes, which must be clean and unstained with no holes or runs. Also FRI 4, SAT 5.

SAI 5

#### **Family Nature Activities**

#### COLD SPRING

10 a.m. Hubbard Lodge | 2880 Route 9 putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Pete Salmansohn will lead sensory-awareness activities to help people ages 6 and older connect with nature. Online registration required. *Free* 

#### **TALKS & TOURS**

**SAT 28** 

#### Playwriting Workshop Bake-off

#### GARRISON

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

In this two-hour workshop organized by the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, Christine Scarfuto, acting director of the master of fine arts playwriting program at Hunter College, will help participants turn their ideas into short plays on the theme of "Hudson Valley harvest." Selected works will be read by actors on Nov. 24 at the Philipstown Depot Theatre. Registration required. The event will be repeated at 2 p.m. at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring and at 1 p.m. on SUN 6 at the Howland Library in Beacon. *Free* 

SAT 28

#### **Mandeville House Tours**

#### **GARRISON**

1 – 4 p.m. Mandeville House 1005 Lower Station Road

Built in 1737 by Joseph Mandeville, the oldest house in Garrison was a headquarters for Gen. Israel Putnam and other notable Revolutionary commanders. Many war heroes were quartered at the home, including George Washington. It is open to the public only a few days each year. Also SUN 29. Free

SAT 28

#### A Hiroshima Survivor's Story

#### BEACON

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

Tomiko West, who survived the bombing of Hiroshima in 1945, when she was 13 years old, will share her experience as part of the closing reception for 1,000 Cranes. Free

**SUN 29** 

#### Cook Like a Farmer

#### **PHILIPSTOWN**

1 - 4 p.m. Glynwood Center 362 Glynwood Road | 845-265-333 glynwood.org

Leon Vehaba and Jessica Clark will demonstrate how to use whatever ingredients you have on hand to make delicious meals. Cost: pay what you can

**SUN 29** 

#### Women in Leadership

#### GARRISON

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

Gretchen Dykstra will share the stories of four creative women taken from her book, Civic Pioneers: Local Stories from a Changing America, 1895-1915, and lead a discussion about whether their leadership traits remain relevant.

#### CIVIC

MON 30

#### **City Council**

#### BEACON

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

THES 1

#### Putnam County Legislature

#### CARMEL

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

TUES 1

#### **School Board**

#### COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Haldane High School (Room 211) 15 Craigside Drive | 845-265-9254 haldaneschool.org

**TUES 1** 

#### **Board of Trustees**

#### **COLD SPRING**

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

WED 2

#### **School Board**

#### O A D DICON

7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D 845-424-3689 | gufs.org

WED 2

#### **Code Update Committee**

**COLD SPRING** 

7 p.m. Firehouse

154 Main St. | coldspringny.gov

At its fifth public meeting, the committee will hear feedback on proposed changes to the village code.

THURS 3

## Putnam Budget Address MAHOPAC

5:30 p.m. Putnam Golf Course 187 Hill St. | putnamcountyny.com

In her annual presentation, County Executive MaryEllen Odell will discuss the 2020 county budget.

THIIDS

### Philipstown Town Board

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center 107 Glenclyffe Dr. | 845-265-5200 philipstown.com





Seaweed and kelp leaf combined into sculpture

#### Into the Weeds (from Page 11)

condition, but it's hard because they tear like ribbons. I also collected decomposing kelp that was full of holes. If you catch what's called the "hold," which is shaped like a bowl, it can hold 20 pounds or more. But when it dries, it gets brittle. When you put it back in the water, it rehydrates. It became like a science project.

#### You also collected seaweed in Maine.

One piece was 17 feet long. I laid it on a long table to wash it, then hung it from the ceiling. I rolled one piece like a scroll, but it started to rot. I made weaved strips. As it

dried, it started to shrink by about 70 percent, because it's mostly water. It looks like skin.

#### How did you end up in Maine?

After my experience in Iceland, I started researching kelp in the U.S. and found there are kelp farms in Maine. Lo and behold, I found an artist-in-residence program at StudioWorks in Eastport. The studio was solitary. I had a whole building made from what had been storefronts. One had a printing studio, with tables and an etching press, and I had an app which told me when low tide was. Going out was spooky; everything is covered with bladder-rock



Scroll sculptures made from Icelandic kelp

Photos by Ada Pilar Cruz

seaweed that you're stepping on. You feel like you're on another planet.

When wet, the kelp prints blur, so they look like the kelp just beneath the water. As the kelp dried, it would become solid, and I'd peel it off and print it on a piece of paper and the pattern would look like an island or a satellite image. The second floor of the building had a bookbinding studio. At night, I cut board and canvas and bound portfolios. I made nine huge prints.

We held a talk. I didn't think people would come because people there harvest the kelp, so why would they be interested? One teacher told me her son had started a kelp farm. She said, "This is fabulous, I never thought of using kelp like this. I could bring it to my high school kids as a project." I had 100 embroidery hoops on a wall, filled with kelp.

I wound up returning to Iceland for a month this past June. It was like fitting into your favorite pair of shoes. I never left the studio. It's not important that viewers of the work know this [background], but my experience with the material was deep.

The Buster Levi Gallery, at 121 Main St., is open Friday through Sunday from noon to 6 p.m., or by appointment. Low Tide continues through Oct. 27.







Photos by Ross Corsair

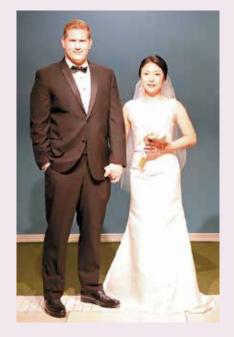
#### **Wedding Announcement**

#### **Chang-Prentice**

Hyun Kyong Chang and Michael Morgan Prentice were married on July 27 in Seoul, Korea. The bride's brother-in-law, Daniel Pak, officiated the ceremony, which combined traditional and modern elements reflecting the couple's shared passion for Korean history, language

The bride, a historian and musicologist, is the daughter of Sungkyun and Sookee Chang, of Seoul. Her father is a retired textile executive, and the family lived for many years in Guatemala City, Guatemala. Hyun is a lecturer in Korean Studies at the University of Sheffield. She graduated from Cornell University and received her doctoral degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Michael is the son of Nathaniel and Anita Prentice of Garrison, and his paternal grandparents, Anne O. and Ezra P. Prentice, resided in Garrison and Cold Spring. His grandmother's family first came to Garrison in 1857. His father is the principal of Prentice Investment Management, LLC; he serves on many local nonprofit boards and is a Garrison



Fire District commissioner. His mother, a retired teacher, is the board president of the Desmond-Fish Public Library. The groom is a cybersecurity research fellow at the University of Manchester. He received his undergraduate degree from Brown University and his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Michigan.

The couple reside in Sheffield, England.





Stephen Clair

Photo by Tom Moore

#### Outside Voice (from Page 11)

Knock Yourself Out, and Hudson Valley Brewery and the Spicy Restaurant will provide beer and food.

For Clair, reviving In The Pines is a way to not only celebrate his latest album but how far Beacon has come in 10 years.

"We got here before the amenities arrived and we pulled up our bootstraps and brought the amenities that we wanted to have," said Clair, who owns the Beacon Music Factory. "That was exhilarating. I wonder what it's like to move here now. You have your choice of macchiatos and music venues." And the vibe, he says, remains. "As Beacon has grown and bloomed, it feels like it's stayed true to this loosely shared ideal of what this town is and isn't," he said. "It all seems to fit. The personality is still there."

The increasing number of residents interested in watching live music has led to an increasing number of residents interested in playing live music, which has allowed Clair to expand his music school from a church basement to its own building on Fishkill Avenue.

"We serve all ages, but seeing this contingent of people, middle-aged and beyond, form strong friendships — that is powerful," he said. The enthusiasm is contagious. Clair admitted he bought a banjo for the sole purpose of sitting in on classes centered around the music of the Irish folkpunk band The Pogues.



The cover of Stephen Clair's new album, Strange Perfume, with an illustration by MC Wolfman

There are no banjos on Clair's new album, however, nor any acoustic instruments. After a few years as a troubadour, Clair assembled a full band for *Strange Perfume* and, somewhat to his surprise, managed to recruit Grammy-winning producer Malcolm Burn, who has a studio in Kingston. "Even on my meager budget, he was willing to give me as many days as he thinks it takes to make a good sounding record," he said.

University Settlement Camp is located at 250 Howland Ave. (Route 9D). Tickets are \$15 at inthepinesbeacon.com or \$25 at the (pine) door. Children will be admitted free. The gates open at 5 p.m.





## Last-Chance Tomato Pasta with Pangrattato

Serves four

#### For the pangrattato:

1 cup unseasoned panko breadcrumbs

3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

2 cloves garlic, minced

Finely grated zest of one lemon

1/4 to 1/2 cup chopped basil, parsley, mint or another herb

Salt and pepper

Optional: 1/4 cup or more grated Parmesan cheese

#### For the pasta:

4 ripe tomatoes, cored of stem ends, chopped in a rough dice

½ cup extra-virgin olive oil

4 cloves garlic, minced

12 ounces pasta (preferably spaghetti, bucatini or perciatelli)

Salt and pepper

- 1. Prepare the pangrattato: Heat olive oil over medium-low heat in a small skillet. Add minced garlic and sauté for 1 to 2 minutes. Before the garlic starts to color, add the panko crumbs until they just begin to brown. Transfer to a bowl, cool slightly and add herbs and lemon zest (and Parmesan, if using); mix well. Season to taste with salt and pepper; reserve.
- 2. Heat ample water in large pasta pot and salt generously. While the water is heating, place the diced tomato flesh in a wire strainer over a large bowl and sprinkle a teaspoon or so of salt over all. Heat the  $^{1}\!/_{2}$ -cup olive oil in a heavy skillet until hot but not smoking. When pasta water boils, cook pasta as per package directions.
- 3. While pasta cooks, prepare the "sauce" in the heated skillet, quickly sauté garlic in the hot oil for 1 to minutes. Before it starts to color, add the drained tomatoes and cook until softened and bubbling. Add just enough of the drained tomato juices to moisten if needed, lower the heat and cook a couple of minutes more while you quickly drain the cooked pasta. Return pasta to the warm pot (with an extra glug of olive oil) and toss with the cooked tomatoes. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve in individual bowls, dusted with pangrattato, as well as cheese if desired.

#### **Small, Good Things**

## Last Chance, for Now...

By Joe Dizney

empus fugit.
There's no denying it this time of year. As I write these words, it's still officially summer, even though there's an occasional chill. As you read this, fall will be upon us. Days are growing shorter, leaves are turning and now—and I mean now!—is the time for tomatoes.

While not a crop for the history books, this year's has been good. Let's take the moment we have left before they are gone to revel in the heirloom crop before it's succeeded by the dense, flavor-free supermarket simulacra.

I'll cop to a fondness for the sandwich of perfect, fat, berry-sweet slices with just a schmear of olive oil-whipped ricotta, or slices topped with creamy burrata or drizzled with the best fruity oil I can find, garnished with garden basil and a sprinkling of crunchy salt to amplify the sweetness.

But at least once a year I indulge in the barely cooked pasta dish recipe shared at left. It's so simple it barely qualifies as a recipe: While the pasta boils, the sauce (such as it is) is quickly prepared and tossed with pasta. The garnish is typically basil and a dusting of cheese — anything else is overkill. The glory is in the freshness and absolute quality of the few ingredients required.

As I prepared this year's edition, the lingering chill and drought had blackened the basil in the field. While flat-leaf parsley or mint would be my substitutes, all I had was oregano. Rather than add that to the tomatoes, which would have been overpowering, I substituted a humbler pangrattato for the grated cheese.

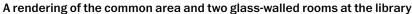
Far from being complicated, pangrattato is a sauté of olive oil, garlic and breadcrumbs. Tossed with lemon zest and herbs, the mix can top or be tossed with pasta for a dish known as *pasta con la mollica*. For the version here, unseasoned panko replaces the breadcrumbs for a more pronounced textural crunch.

The accepted history of pangrattato is that it was a poor man's substitute for Parmesan or other cheese, but it sometimes includes grated cheeses, so feel free to add some. Other traditional ingredients include nuts (or anchovies). Use it to add texture and flavor to roast or sautéed vegetables (particularly brassicas or greens). There's always something coming around to celebrate in some small way.

Joe Dizney is a designer, art director and unrepentant sensualist. When the Cold Spring resident is not thinking about food, he is foraging for, cooking or eating it. Email him at jdizney@highlandscurrent.org.









A rendering of the "story-hour" room and circulation desk

Donald MacDonald (3)

## **Library Prepares for Cramped Quarters**

#### Lower level at Butterfield to be closed for five months

**By Alison Rooney** 

he long-anticipated renovation of the Jean Marzollo Children's Room at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, Oct. 1, and continue through February. During those five months, the lower level will be closed.

The wait will be worth it, said Library Director Gillian Thorpe. "For a long time a bunch of people of different ages, with different needs, were using the same space," she explained. "We needed to define it [the children's area], and, most of all, we needed to find a solution for sound."

The renovations will add two rooms with glass walls that can be opened to expand the space. One will be "a story-hour room," Thorpe said, and the other will be a space for older children and teenagers called The Lab. "It will be a media lab, science lab, art lab, computer lab," she said, with computers, 3D printers and art supplies. The Lab will be open to the public at times by reservation.

The level will also contain a common area, circulation desk and "quiet booth," and the 1980s block furniture will be replaced, she said.

The renovations are part of the second

phase of a three-step plan that also includes new computers, more electrical outlets, enlarging a bathroom to make it handicap-accessible and with a changing table, two new handicapped-parking spots, a new library sign and 22 adult reading chairs, which are already in place.

The second phase was funded by state grants of \$150,000 and private donations of \$62,000. Another \$90,000 is still to be raised, Thorpe said.

The first phase, which cost \$100,000, paid for behind-the-scenes improvements such as a new boiler room, electrical panel, shelving, lighting and carpet, she said. The third phase will cost about \$100,000 and include a 15-person lower-level conference room with a kitchenette and better wheel-chair access at street level.

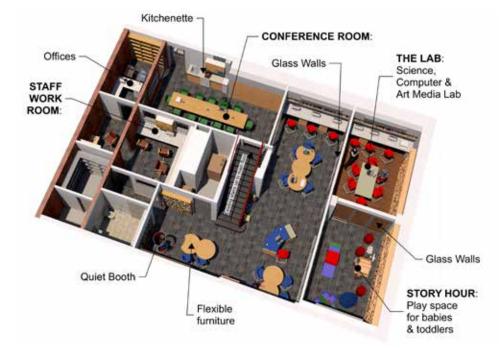
Planning for the improvements began in 2011 with a committee that included Pete Downey (plumbing), Al Zgolinski (architect), Pam Markano and later Catherine Platt (interior design) and Dennis Gagnon (construction). Architect Donald MacDonald of Cold Spring was hired to design the space.

In preparation for the closure of the lower level, Maureen McGrath, the head of youth services, has been pulling select books to place in the main reading room near the stage, which will be outfitted with a table and stools. Acknowledging the inevitable chatter of childhood, the library will move two computers to the front room, "mainly for adults escaping from the kids," Thorpe said.

The staff is looking at alternative venues

for its afternoon and weekend workshops and classes for children, such as the nearby St. Mary's Parish Hall, she said.

The children's room was named in 2017 for Marzollo, a longtime Philipstown resident best known for creating the *I Spy* series of picture riddle books. She died in 2018 at age 75. On Oct. 19, a children's event at the library will celebrate the reissue of *I SPY: Spooky Night* with additional riddles by Dave and Dan Marzollo.



The plan for the lower level of Butterfield Library, designed by architect Donald MacDonald.



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Tony's is located at 348 Broadway in Newburgh.

## Hot Dogs, Heat and Heart

Newburgh eatery a hit with locals

#### By Michael Turton

t would be a gross injustice to write off Tony's Newburgh Lunch as a greasy spoon or hole-in-the-wall. It has too much character, and too much history, along with food that customers love, a "spicy" mystery and prices that are a throwback to a bygone era, from \$2.50 hamburgers to \$1 coffee.

The most expensive item on the menu is a \$5.45 omelet.

Owner Tony Tsangarakis has been working the front-window grill since 1995 when he left his job as a computer programmer at St. Luke's Hospital in Cornwall to help his 82-year-old father, Steve, run the restaurant.

After operating his Texas Wieners grill farther down Broadway for 25 years, Steve Tsangarakis moved the lunch spot to 348 Broadway in 1969. That's 75 years of hotdogs, and counting.

Burgers and dogs are the mainstays, but it's Tony's Texas Sauce that provides the mystery. It finds its way onto nearly every menu item and enjoys brisk sales by the jar. "Nobody knows where it came from," insists Tony. He would only reveal that the recipe, which his dad modified years ago, has no beans.

The long, narrow restaurant includes 12 old stools at the counter and four small tables. The décor is in the "quirky-and-nothing fancy" motif. Photos cover one wall and provide glimpses of old Newburgh, from a pre-presidential Dwight D. Eisenhower arriving at Stewart Airport and the Ritz Theatre marquee announcing the film *Carousel*, starring Gordon MacRae and Shirley Jones, to a 1961 Dutchess ferry fire and Broadway packed with spectators watching a parade.

"A customer brought in the first photo years ago," Tony says. "And they just keep bringing them in."

A small bulletin board features a flyer from a long-ago visit to Newburgh by Buffalo Bill Cody, a customer's painting of the restaurant's exterior and a paper star indicating that Tony's participates in the Star Project. When a customer contributes the cost of a hot dog, Tony puts a star on the board. If a homeless person in need of a meal comes in, he or she can exchange a star for a dog.

Marshall Robinson is among Tony's many regulars. "I've been coming here since I was a kid; I went to school with Tony," Robinson said. "I don't like him — just his food!" he quipped.

Another regular, Felicia Papatsos, said she loves to visit because "they're never down here. Everyone's always joking, laughing, picking on each other," she said. She recommended the hot dog omelet.





Tony Tsangarakis and Amanda Smith

Photos by M. Turton

Amanda Smith works the counter and tables. "Our regulars keep us going, and we have our share of characters," she said, including Papatsos, who happened to be within earshot. "Felicia is against pretty much everything," Smith said with a laugh. "But I love her!"

Smith pointed to the wall behind her where three other characters are immortalized for the records they hold for most food consumed within an hour: 21 hot dogs, 15 cheeseburgers and eight Tom Toms (grilled cheese with chopped hamburger, bacon, onion and sauce).

Tony is a fixture at the grill, flipping burgers and hot dogs while fielding calls for takeout orders. He works Monday through Saturday; Tony's is closed on Sunday. "I take one week's vacation, plus five holidays a year," he said. "I gotta stay healthy."



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The Highlands Current **20** September 27, 2019 highlandscurrent.org

## Still Electric

Open Space closes, but creative work continues

By Brian PJ Cronin

arlier this month, Beacon said goodbye to Open Space Gallery, the art space created by Dan Weise and Kalene Rivers on the east end of Main

As with everything Open Space did, it was hard to categorize the closing: All at once, it was a gallery show, an art sale, a party, a memorial, a reunion, a retrospective of event photos and a pop-up cafe run by the couple's 5-year-old daughter.

"There were some people watching the slideshow seeing pictures of themselves at our first shows with their kids when they were 5, and now they're 17," said Weise. "Twelve years is a long time, especially for children."

Though Open Space is closed, Weise said the couple will continue to live and work in Beacon.

The city "has tons of energy, and you can still do cool stuff here," he explained. "There are still people who are working hard. So the people who are new should be collaborating with the people who are working hard. Getting involved is how you meet people and create community. That's what this town can still be about as it grows."



Artwork being installed during Electric Windows in 2008

Photo provided

When the couple came to Beacon from New York City by way of Mahopac in 2007, Main Street's east end was quiet. They started hosting shows of street art when it was still under the radar and you could buy a Banksy from Banksy for \$400, as they did.

"You could go to the website and click 'buy' and they'd ship it to you in a tube," recalled Weise. Paintings by the artist have recently sold for more than \$1 million.

The couple hadn't planned to show Beacon artists because, at the time, they didn't know any. "But we met them very quickly!" said Rivers. "We opened the gallery and they all came in."

"Kalene is way more organized than I am," Weise said, "which is why some of the shows had 100 artists. People will do stuff for Kalene because she's amazing. I have to convince people."

Soon the couple were putting on latenight dance parties. "The cops would always come by, not because anyone called them but because they were bored" while working the third shift, said Weise.

The dance parties helped fund Electric Windows, in which the cavernous windows at a vacant warehouse across the street on 1 East Main — now filled with \$1 million condos - became an outdoor gallery. With the street closed to traffic, artists painted murals in giant canvases in the middle of the road, and the paintings hung in the windows, where they remained for years.

There were also the totems that appeared all over Beacon, made by different artists. to celebrate the Two Row Wampum Renewal festival at the waterfront. Two of the totems stand and double as stops in the mobile-phone game Pokemon Go.

There were the Welcome to Beacon signs made with politicians and artists to greet visitors as they leave the train station. There's the monthly Club Draw at Quinn's and the annual Club Draw picnic. And all the while the couple provide branding and graphic



Kalene Rivers and Dan Weise Photo by B. Cronir

design for businesses such as the Beacon Music Factory and Zero to Go and the Beacon Department of Recreation, which resulted in a specific and identifiable "look" for Beacon.

Then there was Electric Projected in 2011, an event that may live forever in the hearts of Beaconites, as well as on YouTube. Hundreds of people turned out one autumn night to see original animated films inspired by the Electric Windows murals projected onto the warehouse. Each film made a painting "come to life," as balls appeared to pour out of the building, a bear crawled over the face of the building to chase a firefly ducking inside the windows, and an owl seemed to swoop down over the screaming crowd.

The event was initially rained out, but Weise and Rivers raised \$20,000 in donations in a month to rent the equipment again.

Five years ago, a fire next door to Open Space took some wind out of their sails. Smoke poured into the gallery, damaging the hanging art. Many of Rivers' pieces, which she makes from raw wood, still smell of smoke.

After the fire, the couple found themselves using the space less as a gallery and more of an office. "It's too big a space if we're just going to use it as a nice storage unit," said Rivers. "Now it can be utilized for someone else who needs it."

The couple have settled into a studio a few blocks away in the old high school. "We have big windows, north light and a hardwood floor," said Weise. "It feels like an upgrade."

What's next? "We've got some things percolating," said Rivers. Added Weise: "When it happens, you'll know."



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#### Sugarloaf Fire (from Page 1)

which arrived on Thursday afternoon.

Hank Osborn, the senior program coordinator with the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, reported the fire at 4 p.m. on Sept. 20 after spotting smoke while crossing the Newburgh-Beacon bridge. Independently, park manager Evan Thompson also reported smoke.

Osborn said the flames destroyed mostly ground cover and that "most of the trees will survive." In fact, pitch pines on Sugarloaf depend on occasional fires to reproduce, he said, adding that this was the first

fire in the park in decades.

Firefighters and police officers from the state parks department and the Department of Environmental Conservation spent days fighting the fire, and state police deployed a helicopter to draw water from the Hudson River to drop on the blaze. Crews also dug trenches as fire breaks. Osborn said the area's steep slopes made that work particularly difficult.

Osborn said Trail Conference volunteers will need to make repairs, including replacing trail markers, before the Wilkinson Trail can be reopened.



The summit of Sugarloaf at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 20.

Photo by David Rocco



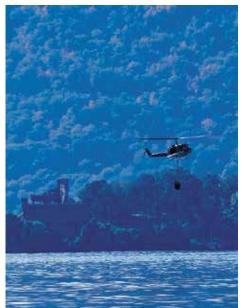
A crew digs a firebreak to contain the blaze on Sugarloaf. NYDFC



Photo by Brian Wolfe

75 Main Street

Cold Spring, NY 10516



A state police helicopter returns to Sugarloaf after filling a bucket with water from the Hudson. Photo by Hank Osborn

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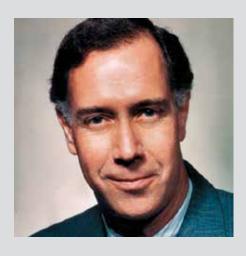
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#### **Obituaries**



Jason McManus (1934-2019)

Jason Donald McManus, 85, of Garrison and New York City, a former editor-in-chief of Time Inc. and board member of Highlands Current Inc., died Sept. 19, 2019.

Born March 3, 1934, in Kansas, he was the son of John and Stella (Gosney) McManus. He grew up in St. Louis after his father, a certified public accountant, was transferred there.

In 1959 McManus married Patricia Ann Paulson; the couple divorced in 1966. He next married Jill Coxhead; they also divorced. In 1973 he married Deborah Murphy, whom he met at *Time*, where she was a researcher. The couple purchased a home in Garrison in the early 1990s.

McManus graduated in 1956 from Davidson College with a degree in philosophy and religion, planning to become a Presbyterian minister, and from Princeton University in 1958 with a master's in public administration. That same year, he was named a Rhodes scholar and studied in England at Oxford.

He began working for Time Inc. in 1957 as a summer intern with *Sports Illustrated* and joined *Time* in 1959 as a writer. He later

served as the magazine's first Common Market bureau chief in Paris and "had a love for anything French" for the remainder of his life, Deborah McManus said.

He returned to New York in 1964 as a writer and, during his time as world editor, directed coverage of the Vietnam War. Later, as national editor, he oversaw the magazine's reporting on the Watergate scandal.

In 1985, he became managing editor and in 1987 succeeded Henry Grunwald to become the fourth editor-in-chief of Time Inc., overseeing its 24 magazines. (In 1990 the company merged with Warner Communications to become Time Warner.)

In a profile of Time Inc. published in 1989, *The New York Times* described McManus as "a talented journalist with a gift for dealing with people and for corporate clubbiness" who had an "easy style" with colleagues. He retired from Time Warner in 1994.

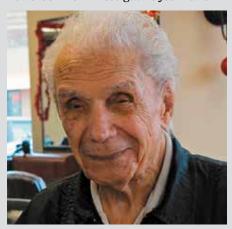
In 2015, McManus joined the board of directors of the nonprofit newspaper now known as *The Highlands Current*. He stepped down in 2017 but remained as an adviser and supporter until his death.

"Jason brought to our community enterprise the insight, energy and high standards that made him for decades an outstanding figure in American journalism, as a reporter, editor and corporate executive," the board said in a statement.

McManus was a lifelong fan of the St. Louis Cardinals and would listen to games with his mother on the radio while they washed the dishes together, said Deborah McManus. She recalled that he also would get up in the middle of the night when living in France to watch games. At Time Inc., when he couldn't find a place to play baseball, he formed a league with colleagues. "If something wasn't there, he made it," said his daughter, Mage.

Besides his wife, McManus is survived by a son John McManus (by his first wife) and two daughters, Sophie McManus (Jay Mones) and Mage McManus (Rick Schock), with Deborah. He also is survived by a granddaughter, Vivien Mones; a sister, Linda O'Callahan (Jay); and his former wives, Patricia Gold and Jill McManus.

The family will hold a private service. Memorial donations may be made to ProPublica (propublica.org), a nonprofit newsroom for investigative journalism.



## Anthony Mancinelli (1911-2019)

Anthony Mancinelli, 108, who earned a place in *Guinness World Records* as "the oldest working barber," died at his home in Newburgh on Sept. 19. He worked until July at Fantastic Cuts at the New Windsor Mall.

Mancinelli was born March 2, 1911, in Montemilone, Italy, the son of John and Savino (Madrisi) Mancinelli. He came to the U.S. with his family in September 1919, at age 8, on the Caserta to join his father, who had established himself in Newburgh. Woodrow Wilson was the president; there have been 17 others since.

Life was not easy for the new Americans. "There were eight kids in the family and my father only earned \$25 a week" at a local factory, Mancinelli told *The Current* in 2017. "We ate a lot of bread, I can tell you that."

At 11, Mancinelli decided to get a job to help out the family. "What can you do?"

his father asked. "I'm going to deliver papers in the morning and afternoon, then go to the barber shop and learn the barber business," his son replied. His father was his first customer.

For 40 years of his 97-year career, Mancinelli owned his own shop on Liberty Street in Newburgh. He also served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

He was married to his late wife, Carmella, for 69 years.

In 2017, Mancinelli said thoughts of retirement never entered his mind.

"You get old fast doing that, so I might just as well work," he said, adding he told his son that when he dies he wants scissors and a comb placed in his coffin. "I might find a customer up there who needs a haircut!" he said.

Mancinelli was a life member of the New Windsor chapter of the American Legion and a member of the Barbers Museum and Hall of Fame.

He is survived by his son, Robert Mancinelli, four grandchildren and several great- and great-great grandchildren. He outlived a second son, Anthony Jr., along with a sister and six brothers. "Anthony wishes a long, healthy and happy life for all of his family and friends that he leaves behind," his family said.

A funeral service was held Sept. 24 at St. Francis Church in Newburgh, followed by interment at Woodlawn Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Orange and Sullivan Counties, 800 Stony Brook Court, Newburgh, NY 12550 (hospiceoforange.com) or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 (stjude.org).

#### **Other Recent Deaths**

Suzen Drogin, 74, Cold Spring Ronnie Miller, 62, Beacon Bill Penn, 84, Beacon Tom Hayden, 67, Putnam Valley Steve Leardi, 66, Garrison

For obituaries, see highlandscurrent.org

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The Highlands Current highlandscurrent.org September 27, 2019 23

## The HIGHLANDS 7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

©2019; forecasts and graphics provided by @ AccuWeather **Pollen** 

Saturday

81/61



Partly sunny; very warm

POP: 20% SSW 6-12 mph RealFeel 86/62 **Sunday** 75/49

Sunny to partly Partly sunny; nice cloudy; pleasant, less humid

N 6-12 mph RealFeel 77/50 **Monday 72/54** 

POP: 15%

S 4-8 mph

RealFeel 74/54



Tuesday

A blend of sun and clouds; very warm

**POP: 20%** SW 6-12 mph RealFeel 82/64 Wednesday 84/53



Partly sunny, chance for a couple of showers; warm

W 6-12 mph RealFeel 85/58 **Thursday** 71/50



A couple of showers possible; cooler

E 3-6 mph RealFeel 74/46

10

11

**Friday** 65/45



Partly sunny

POP: 0% NNW 8-16 mph RealFeel 64/40

**SUN & MOON** Sunrise Sat., 9/28 Sunset Sat. night, 9/28 Moonrise Sat., 9/28

First Full

Oct 21

6:49 AM

6:43 PM

6:20 AM 7:07 PM

Last

Sep 28

**SUDOCURRENT** 

Oct 5

Absent Absent Grass

Source: National Allergy Bureau

Oct 13

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.

## CROSSCURRENT

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$ **King Features** 

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Bread choice
- 4. Ignore
- 8. Platter
- 12. "— the fields we go"
- 13. Watergate evidence
- 14. "Do others ..."
- 15. Succumb to gravity
- 16. Bloodhound's clue
- 17. Poker variety
- 18. Half an aphorism
- 21. Atmosphere
- 22. Spring time
- 23. Counterfeit
- 26. Festive 27. Kreskin's claim
- 30. "- Lang Syne"
- 31. Tenor Peerce
- 32. Tolerate
- 33. Spelldown
- 34. Follow relentlessly
- 35. Linger
- 36. Old French coin
- 37. Scale member
- 38. 18-Across' other half
- 45. PC operator
- 46. Requisite
- 47. Martini ingredient
- 48. Stead
- 49. Figure-skating jump
- 50. Genetic stuff
- 51. Mary's follower
- 52. Muse's music maker
- 53. Early bird?

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Parks or Bonheur
- 2. Calendar quota

- 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 47 46 48 49 50 52 53 51
- 3. Therefore
- 4. Impassive
- 5. Bottom
- 6. Once a Mattress
- 7. The Seventh Seal director
- 8. Failing the white glove test
- 9. Grooving on
- 10. Phaser setting

- 26. Joke
- 28. "Erie Canal" mule 29. Use a crowbar
- 11. The Da Vinci -
- 19. Praise highly

20. Put into words

36. Bush

37. Villain's look

39. Largest of the seven

38. Sea flier

40. Abound

41. Alluring

43. Croon

42. Shrek, e.g.

44. Hosiery mishap

- 23. "Terrif"
- 24. Wish otherwise
- 25. Hearty quaff
- 27. Wet wriggler
- 31. Blog
- 32. Ointment
- 34. Fawn's mom
- 35. Random drawing?

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**24** September 27, 2019

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## **SPORTS**



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**Girls' Soccer** 

## Second-Half Goals Lift Haldane over Beacon

By Skip Pearlman

he Haldane High School girls' soccer team racked up three victories last week, including a 3-1 homecoming win over visiting Beacon.

The Blue Devils (4-1-2) shut out Putnam Valley, 5-0, on Sept. 19 and defeated Peekskill, 4-1, on Sept. 24. The next day, the squad suffered its first loss, falling 2-0 at home to North Salem.

The New York State Sportswriters Association on Sept. 22 ranked the Blue Devils the third-best Class C team in the state, behind Stillwater and Little Falls.

Beacon is 1-8 after dropping a 4-0 decision at Hendrick Hudson the day before its loss in Cold Spring.

In the Sept. 21 game at Haldane, the Bulldogs took the early lead when Claire Derrenbacher scored in the eighth minute, assisted by Maddie Bobnick.

But the Blue Devils tied the score just under two minutes into the second half when a shot by Anna Rowe took an odd bounce over the goalie.

With Haldane controlling play, the Blue Devils struck again in the 50th minute, when Jade Villella scored off a pass from Sophia Scanga. Villella added a solo insurance goal in the 68th minute.

Goalie Abigail Platt had six saves for the Blue Devils, while Beacon's Shianne Canada stopped 10 shots.

"Beacon came out strong," said Haldane Coach Steve Schweikhart. "We got a fortunate bounce on Anna's goal, and that seemed to put us over the top.

"Jade once again showed how valuable she is to our team," he added. "She is a threat to score from just about anywhere."

Beacon Coach Hugo Alzate said his team "just ran out of gas. Haldane did a great job of turning up the pressure."

But the Bulldogs also have been ravaged by injuries. Last week the team lost captain Katelyn Rosa (knee) and defender Brielle Travis (shoulder). The injured list already included



Haldane's Liv Villella (9) and Beacon's Gabby Del Castillo (6)

Photos by S. Pearlman

both starting forwards — Chelsea DerBoghossian (ankle) and Devyn Kelly (ribs) — as well as senior Sierra Giamportone (knee).

"It's not easy having to develop a new lineup and new strategy every game," Alzate said. "But the girls have stepped up."

In Haldane's win at Peekskill, Villella had three goals and an assist, Scanga had a goal and an assist, Chloe Rowe had an assist, and Platt had two saves. "It was not the most artistic of games," Schweikhart said. "We need to be better at matching our opponent's work rate and physicality."

Villella had three goals in the first 14 minutes against Putnam Valley. Bela Monteleone had a goal and an assist, Chloe Rowe had two assists and Scanga had one. The Haldane defense did not allow a shot on net.

Haldane is scheduled to visit Pleasantville on Saturday, Sept. 28, and Beacon next plays Tuesday, Oct. 1, at Lourdes.

#### **Football**

#### Irvington 36, Haldane 6

Haldane got roughed up under the lights at home on Sept. 20 as Irvington dominated from start to finish.

Blue Devils quarterback Dan Santos hooked up with receiver Doug Donaghy on a 79-yard touchdown strike for Haldane's only highlight of the evening, 15 seconds before halftime, making the score 22-6.

But Haldane (1-2) allowed Irvington to score again — on a 59-yard pass, four seconds before halftime — pushing the cushion back to at least three scores (29-6).

"They made some explosive plays, and we played catch up," said Coach Ryan McConville. "We have a lot of youth and inexperience, but we'll see what we need to do and get after it."

Haldane travels to rival Tuckahoe (1-1) today (Sept. 27) for a 7:15 p.m. kickoff.

#### Lakeland 42, Beacon 20

Beacon (2-1) couldn't keep up with Lakeland on Sept. 20, dropping a decision at home.

Santino Negron scored on a 32-yard touchdown run and Quazir Hayes caught a pass from Jason Komisar just before half-time for Beacon's second TD. Angel Feliz also scored on a 5-yard carry.

Beacon visits Hendrick Hudson today (Sept. 27) for a 7 p.m. game.



ROUNDUP

Haldane players watch from the sideline during the Sept. 20 homecoming game.

#### **Girls' Tennis**

Beacon had wins over two teams that defeated the Bulldogs earlier in the season (5-2 over Ketcham and 4-3 over Brewster) but lost 4-3 to Carmel.

Against Ketcham, Beacon got wins in No. 1 singles (Maura Lane) and No. 2 doubles

(Lindsay Darcy and Emma Sandison). Against Brewster, the turnaround match was a victory by Farah Jaafar in No. 3 singles.

Coach David Ryley said his squad, which is 5-5, has already shown great improvement, especially since he had only three of 11 starters return from last season and the team has only three seniors. In addition, the

junior varsity team, which was winless last season, has won three straight matches.

-----

Haldane also had a good week, defeating Croton (3-2) and O'Neill (4-1), as well as winning two matches against Pleasantville.

Against Croton in No. 3 singles, Julie Geller lost the first set, won the second and then won the tie breaker, 10-8. Tuesday was senior night against O'Neill, and Haldane posted a 4-1 victory.

In two matches at Pleasantville, Anna Brief won twice in No. 2 singles and Mairead O'Hara and Caroline Nelson continued to roll in No. 1 doubles, improving to 9-1.

#### **Cross-Country**

Walter Hoess of Haldane was the first runner across the line in a meet against Yorktown and Hendrick Hudson in 18 minutes, followed by Everett Campanile at 18:05. Shannon Ferri won the girls' race in 19:45, and Eloise Pearsol was eighth in 24:34.

#### Volleyball

Haldane (6-3) fell to Ardsley (3-0) but defeated Tuckahoe (3-1). Beacon is 4-4 after losses to Pine Bush and Hendrick Hudson.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.