How They Voted
Governor enacts another round of bills passed by state legislators
By Chip Rowe
Gov. Andrew Cuomo has enacted 379 bills so far this year passed by the state Senate and Assembly, with another 45 waiting for his signature. None has been vetoed.

Below are summaries of select laws enacted since Sept. 1 and the votes cast by Republican Sue Serino (whose Senate district includes the Highlands), Democrat Sandy Galef (whose Assembly district includes Philipstown) and Democrat Jonathan Jacobson (whose Assembly district includes Beacon).

Gun rights
On Sept. 3, Cuomo signed a law that requires legal residents of other states who reside in New York (such as those who own vacation homes here) to waive the confidentiality of their mental-health records from their home states when they apply for a county-issued gun permit. Before the

Getting the Boot
With new device, Cold Spring police lock down offenders
By Michael Turton
To help recoup unpaid traffic and parking tickets, Cold Spring police have been applying “the boot,” a tire-locking device that renders a vehicle inoperable. Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke said the court periodically releases a list of the plate numbers of drivers who owe more than $200 in fines. If officers spot a plate on a car parked in the village, they apply the boot and leave a notice advising the driver to visit the Justice Court office at Village Hall during business hours.

Officer Ed Boulanger of the Cold Spring Police Department removes a boot from a vehicle on Main Street after its owner paid outstanding fines.

FALL COLORS — The Howland Library in Beacon hosted an evening of paint, pumpkins and pizza on Oct. 17. Photo by Ross Corsair

Beacon Mayor Seeks Third Term; Two Others Want Job
Casale faces challenge from council member, write-in
By Jeff Simms
Beacon Mayor Randy Casale may be many things but afraid to speak his mind isn’t one of them. Spend a few minutes in his office — the door’s always open — and it becomes abundantly clear.

Overdevelopment of Beacon? “We’re not developing, we’re re-developing, because urban renewal took a lot of properties off the tax rolls in the 1970s.”

His name on the Republican line on the general election ballot? “The only reason I’m on their ballot is because they don’t have anybody else. I’m a member of the Independence Party.”

His philosophy as mayor? “I want to be the mayor for all of Beacon. I pride myself on returning every phone call and email. I can’t always tell people what they want to hear, but if I can’t do something, I’ll be honest with them.”

Casale would like a third, 4-year term but he must defeat a strong challenger, longtime council member and Democrat Lee Kyriacou, along with Terry Hockler, who is campaigning as a write-in candidate after being defeated by Kyriacou in the primary for the Green Party line.

If elected, Casale would become the city’s second-longest serving mayor behind Clara Lou Gould, who was in office from 1990 to 2007.

A lifelong Beacon resident, Casale, 68, has worked for the city most of his adult life. He was its highway superintendent for more than 20 years before retiring in 2002 and served two terms on the City Council, from 2008 to 2011. He was elected mayor in 2011 and four years ago defeated Ronald Ray, a Democrat, with nearly 70 percent of the vote.

As mayor, Casale will tell you that residential property values have gone up every year since 2014 while tax rates have decreased each of the last three years, with

(Continued on Page 3)
By Michael Turton

Timothy Haskell, of Cold Spring, is a member of Psycho Clan, the creative team behind I Can’t See, an immersive “horror theater” experience in Manhattan that runs through Nov. 3. Haskell, who also co-owns the Cold Spring Cheese Shop, has created theatrical haunted houses for 15 years.

Why do so many people love haunted houses at Halloween?

We’ve come to accept this as the spooky season. Being scared is part of the holiday spirit. People like to be frightened because it’s cathartic; the pathos of it all, the screaming, the anxiety — the same reasons they go on roller coasters. There’s a sense of accomplishment when you’re done. It allows you to have an adrenaline rush while not genuinely fearing for your life. You fool yourself into thinking it’s dangerous.

Is there something fundamental that drives people’s fear?

It encapsulates a lot of things: the anticipation, the unknown. When you go into a haunted house, you know someone is going to try to scare you. The unknown is how and what. Just before you enter a haunted house, as the doors open and you’re at the front of the line, that’s one of the most terrifying moments.

Is music a big part of your repertoire?

Yes, and sometimes people don’t appreciate it. They want it to be nonstop, “Hit me, hit me!” I create stories that read like a play. If you want to create good characters, there have to be moments of levity, but those moments can also be disarming. One haunted house trope is having a cheesy-looking animatronic lunge out. It looks fake; you know people will make fun of it. Then a person comes out from the other side and it gets them. That’s Haunted House 101.

Do you ever use humor to give people a break?

Absolutely. The expression on their faces is great, before they realize they’ve been pranked!

By Michael Turton

TIMOTHY HASKELL

Is it OK to scare the dickens out of children at Halloween?

Absolutely. The expression on their faces is great, before they realize they’ve been pranked!

It’s OK to scare them slightly, but not too much. Only with ghosts and things like that, nothing violent or gory.

~Brendan Barry, Beacon

~Jennifer Schoemaker, Beacon

~Bob Duffy, Beacon

FRIDAY, OCT. 25

Film Night - Older than Ireland
Live Irish Music before and after the movie!

SATURDAY, OCT. 26

Andes Manta
Andes Mountain Music

SATURDAY, NOV. 2

Cedric Watson
Louisiana’s Own

SUNDAY, NOV. 3

A Full House (with One Up the Sleeve) 6 One-Act Comedies

SUNDAY, NOV. 10

Poet’s Corner with Chris Kingsley

SUNDAY, NOV. 24

Art Exhibit and Crafts Sale

SUNDAY, DEC. 1

“It’s a Wonderful Life” A Live Radio Play

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

“A Christmas Carol” Performed by Jonathan Kruk

SUNDAY, DEC. 8

Poet’s Corner with Margaret Fox

729 Peekskill Hollow Road
Putnam Valley, NY 10579 | 845 528-7280
Visit: www.tompkinscorners.org
Beacon Mayor Randy Casale

Beacon Mayor (from Page 1)

a fourth decrease proposed in next year’s budget. He hired the city’s first full-time, paid fire chief in 2014 and, using federal grant funds, will add four full-time firefighters between this year and next. Some $60 million has been invested in restoring Beacon’s aging infrastructure in the past eight years while the city’s bond rating and healthy fund balance show fiscal responsibility, he says. But more than anything else, this election will be about development. Depending on who you ask and what gets counted, between 900 and 1,000 residential units have been approved for construction in Beacon in recent years. Critics say development — punctuated by the three new four-story buildings on Main Street (another application to add a fourth floor to an existing building is under review by the Planning Board) — has gone unchecked on Casale’s watch.

As Beacon builds, some say, the city’s charm and affordability slips away. The mayor, however, argues that a high percentage — 313 of the new units — will be “affordable,” based on the city’s income-to-rent ratio.

“The word gentrification is out there,” he acknowledges, “but that comes because your city’s doing better. People want to come here. I’m a firm believer that we want our people [who have been here] to stay in Beacon, too, but it’s not easy.”

Without development adding new properties to Beacon’s tax base, he explains, “we wouldn’t be able to sustain the city without raising taxes so high that people would be run out of here.”

When asked about his vision for the next four years, Casale talks about a lot more than development. Small tech businesses, walkability and open space protection — keeping density closer to the city’s center and protecting its outer edges — are all on his list.

If he were selfish, Casale says, “I’d walk out on top and not run for re-election, because the next four years are going to be the toughest.” He’s referring to the possibility that the economy could regress and property assessments could go back down. If either were to happen, city leaders could be faced with hard choices in cutting costs or raising taxes.

But right now, Beacon is thriving, Casale says. Main Street is vibrant like it was half a century ago and, as mayor, he’s in the thick of things. It’s his favorite part of the job.

“I’m a face in the community, and that’s important for the mayor to do,” he says. “And I enjoy what I do. I’ve met so many good people.”

“I want to be the mayor for all of Beacon. I pride myself on returning every phone call and email. I can’t always tell people what they want to hear, but if I can’t do something, I’ll be honest with them.”

— Randy Casale

The challenger

Kyriacou, who has served nine terms as a City Council member, says there’s a world of difference between him and the mayor.

The differences, he says, are zoning expertise, planning and vision. Kyriacou, 63, calls himself the council’s “zoning geek,” pointing to his lead role in crafting last year’s revisions of the Fishkill Creek and Main Street zones, as well as the “steep slopes” law, which restricts development on environmentally sensitive land.

The steep slopes law brought the Edgewater development down from 307 apartments to 246, although some residents have pointed out its overall footprint never changed.

“Over-the-top development is ruining a lot of the things that people love about Beacon,” he says, “and threatening our quality of life. There’s a stark difference between the two candidates, and that’s why I’m running.”

He cites the long-discussed restoration of the Tioronda Bridge as another example. “My vision has always been the restoration of a federal historic site in the stewardship of the city. The vision from others has been ‘what a lousy old bridge.’ I see what it can be again as opposed to ‘it’s gone, let’s move on.’”

Kyriacou, who works for a financial network in New York City, moved with his wife to Beacon in 1992. Eager to get involved in their new community, his wife joined local boards and a year later Kyriacou ran for City Council to represent Ward 2.

Main Street’s zoning at the time called for 13-story high-rise buildings on either end with storefront apartments along the length of the street. “It didn’t work,” he recalls.

Kyriacou pivoted later to an at-large seat, where he’s served, with two breaks, since. A run for mayor wasn’t always the plan, he says. “I was on the council for 18 years to try to make changes from the sidelines,” but the mayoral campaign is happening “because we need it right now.”

Kyriacou says zoning will determine what Beacon becomes as it’s developed, and there’s still plenty of space to work with. He sees buildings on Main Street that could expand vertically, plus parcels in the Fishkill Creek zone south of Route 9D that lie undeveloped.

In addition, there’s the former Beacon Correctional Facility and the Metro-North station — sites that either have revitalization plans attached to them (the former) or likely will again in the future (the latter).

“We need a vision for how it will all fit,” he says, “and you need to look comprehensively at what the community’s needs are going to be and plan for that. You need to look at every single parcel before you enact zoning. I spend my time reading [policy] to get every word right.”

Kyriacou also talks about creating a dedicated fund to address parking in Beacon without raising taxes. Businesses that can’t provide adequate parking would contribute to the fund instead.

State legislators would be called on to help address traffic in the heavily congested Route 9D/Interstate 84 corridor, and zoning codes would be revised to require publicly accessible green space as part of new developments in Beacon.

“Development should improve the community, not degrade it,” Kyriacou says. “You don’t get away with it without contributing to municipal needs such as green space or parking.”

The thought leads him again to the now-familiar refrain: zoning.

“You need to be able to say ‘this is what we’d like,’” he explains. “But you have to build it into your zoning to get it.”

Kyriacou says his vision for the next four years is to keep Beacon special. “My vision has always been a diverse community with a sense of community,” he says. “I want both of those.”

“We need a vision for how it will all fit, and you need to look comprehensively at what the community’s needs are going to be and plan for that. You need to look at every single parcel before you enact zoning. I spend my time reading [policy] to get every word right.”

— Lee Kyriacou

The write-in

As a write-in mayoral candidate facing a two-term incumbent and a challenger who’s been on the City Council for 18 years, lifelong Beacon resident Terry Hockler knows she’s got a challenge ahead of her.

But considerable odds or not, she says she’s doing it for the love of her city.

“I love Beacon but I don’t like the direction it’s been heading,” Hockler says, citing affordability and accountability as two of her chief concerns. “It’s a pivotal time for us to have the right elected officials.”

She’d like to see Beacon take on munici-
Missing candidates

I am a longtime member and supporter of the League of Women Voters. It is important to me that citizens not only vote but become informed voters, both about those who run for office and about the functions their government performs. LWV is a highly respected, nonpartisan organization that works to empower and educate voters and expand access to voting. One way it does this is through candidate forums which are designed to be informative, even-handed and fair.

On Oct. 16, I attended a candidate forum at the Haldane school sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Putnam County. I was disappointed that, of all the candidates running for town or county office, only the Democrats showed up to participate (“Few Challengers at Candidates’ Forum,” Oct. 18). My understanding is that this refusal by Republican candidates to appear at LWV forums occurred throughout Putnam County.

The voters in attendance, who made it to the forum in spite of a heavy rain, were denied the opportunity to hear even a short statement from candidates (all Democrats) who attended because LWV has a rule that if only one of two candidates running against each other show up, the candidate that attends is not allowed to speak. Fortunately, we were able to hear two candidates for the Philipstown Town Board, Judy Farrell and Bob Flaherty, answer questions.

I am a strong supporter of the Democratic/Team Philipstown ticket — its candidates are each highly qualified, honest, hard-working and dedicated to the betterment of Philipstown. But that doesn’t mean I am not interested in hearing what other candidates have to say. And there were many people in the audience who would have benefited from an open discussion by all the candidates.

As we all go to the polls, we each should ask ourselves: “Do I want an elected representative who is unafraid to stand before me, present his or her views and listen to my concerns? Or do I want a representative who avoids contact with the broad range of constituents who they are running to serve?”

Margaret Yonco-Haines, Garrison Yonco-Haines is a vice-chair of the Putnam County Democratic Committee.

Philistown.com

Why is it that whenever somebody runs against Tina Merando for Philipstown clerk, their first priority is to revamp the town website (“Questions for Candidates,” Oct. 18)? Do they think that is the clerk’s main function? Tina handles the website professionally, along with many other, far more important duties.

Pauline Minners, Nelsonville Minners is the former Nelsonville village clerk.

I have always found the town website to be a cut above most government sites. The minutes and the agendas are posted in a timely manner and are easy to find, as well as other documents. I have found that Tina, as well as Joan and Theresa, have always been most helpful.

Tina deserves to be re-elected and has done an outstanding job. I thank her for seeking the position again and wish her success.

Cheryl Allen, Cold Spring

Suspended campaign

I applaud Catherine Parr for her honesty and integrity in suspending her campaign for a seat on the Cold Spring Village Board because of her pending move out of the village (“Candidate Pivot,” Letters and Comments, Oct. 11). Her action shows the quality of her character. I could not help but notice that one of the “related stories” at highlandscurrent.org under her letter was about the debacle surrounding the most recent Nelsonville election (in which the newly elected mayor resigned because he planned to move out of the village). The connection made me smile, and groan.

Alan Potts, Nelsonville

Potts is a former Nelsonville trustee.

That was a classy message from Ms. Parr. I hope the unity vision of her ONE Cold Spring party will help in the effort to find (Continued on Page 5)
common ground at the local level, where we all live, after all.

Rob Abbott, Croton

Candidate endorsements
“Good, solid answers.” That is what I heard mentioned after Philipstown Town Board Members Judy Farrell and Robert Flaherty spoke at the LWV forum on Oct. 16. I couldn’t agree more. Hearing their answers and reading their responses in the Oct. 18 issue of The Current, I feel one comes away realizing the depth of their experience and their passion to help improve the quality of life for the citizens and businesses of Philipstown.

It was unfortunate that town clerk candidate Tara Perciaccio was not allowed to address the audience (because her opponent, Tina Merando, did not attend) but one needs only read her written responses and to talk to Tara to know she has a great command of the town operations and the dedication to see effective changes are made to benefit everyone. It is a pleasure working with them and I encourage all to support them this election season.

Michael Leonard, Philipstown

Leonard is a member of the Philipstown Town Board.

I have had some interaction with the Hustis family since moving to Cold Spring in 1983. Harry Hustis became a treasured customer at my shop on Main Street; dear Charlie was a lunchtime mainstay; Don assisted me with cemetery research and information; Jamie is now a neighbor.

Throughout the week, I run into Chuck Hustis at Foodtown or on Chestnut Street. He and all the Hustises are an integral part of Cold Spring. I believe in his sincerity and desire to do the best for this village, and I support him in his candidacy for mayor.

Rena Corey, Cold Spring

As we select the holders of critical local offices, I want to note how apt the slogan “Good Neighbors” is to characterize Team Philipstown: incumbents Richard Shea (supervisor), Robert Flaherty (town council), Judy Farrell (town council), and Carl Friesenda (highway superintendent), and candidate Tara Perciaccio (town clerk).

Richard, Bob, Judy and Carl have been tireless in their dedication and have done consistently excellent work. And Tara would extend the Good Neighbors vision to the position of town clerk, which is not merely a job but an opportunity to bring a new vision to an important role in town government.

I urge my fellow voters to join in my support by voting for all of Team Philipstown:

Camille Linson, Cold Spring

In 2016 I had the pleasure of meeting Camille Linson during her successful run for town justice in Philipstown. Since then, we have developed not only a professional relationship, but I am proud to call her my friend. She is a remarkable individual and if I didn’t know her personally, I would still be writing this, just with about 30 fewer words. Camille is a breath of fresh air and always happy to meet anyone who has the openness to make her acquaintance; she is wonderfully humble. As Justice Linson, she is a credit to her profession, prepares diligently, and no one has more integrity.

Camille has tremendous respect for the law, the Constitution, and the rights of the individual. She is an intelligent attorney who was educated at Harvard and Oxford. Her law background is highly diversified and she is more than qualified for the job of county judge.

Two of her best qualities go hand in hand. First, she always listens intently to what people have to say! This is a lost art. She is not waiting to interrupt, and when she reveals her thoughts, they are backed with facts. I am impressed by her open-mindedness and seem to treat every interaction as an opportunity to learn something new.

The second dovetails with the first, and that is her desire to do her best in whatever she is involved with. This is the fuel that makes her such a great judge. Judge Reitz’s handling of the drug court rightly earned him national acclaim and compassion. Judge Reitz’s handling of the drug court rightly earned him national acclaim and compassion. Judge Reitz’s handling of the drug court rightly earned him national acclaim and compassion. Judge Reitz’s handling of the drug court rightly earned him national acclaim and compassion.

The most notable example of this has been during her tenure as town justice. She followed the lead of Judge James Reitz to implement drug treatment court practices in Philipstown. Camille would talk to me about her research and why the drug court model works, the experience she gained with Judge Reitz, and the countless hours spent researching treatment court and spending time in Reitz’s courtroom. This is something her opponent says he cares about but it seems he never found time to get around to it before he started running.

People may attempt to label Camille based on her party affiliation, but they would be so mistaken to think she will be an activist or soft on crime. Justice Linson is for justice, that’s it! If one of my loved ones had the unfortunate circumstance of being a defendant, I would want them to be treated fairly. I would want someone like Justice Linson hearing the case; someone who will be there to guarantee individual rights are retained; someone who will not be affected by outside political influences, and someone who has the guts to allow nothing but the law to point the way to justice.

I am a conservative who will be voting for Camille Linson for Putnam County judge.

Keith Anderson, Philipstown

Until his tragic passing earlier this year, we were fortunate in Putnam County to have a judge of the highest moral character, intellect and compassion. Judge Reitz’s handling of the drug court rightly earned him national praise and recognition and his commitment to help those struggling with addiction earned him admiration from residents.

It is critical that we replace him with someone who has the right experience and judicial temperament. Judge Joe Spofford is the right person for the job. Having

(Continued on Page 6)
served as Carmel Town Justice for the last 20 years, he has a demonstrated record of being fair, impartial and for treating everyone who has come before him with respect.

Now is not the time for on-the-job training. We need a judge who will hit the ground running and follow through on the important work of Judge Reitz. I can think of no better than Judge Spofford to do that job. Cindy Trimble, Cold Spring

I know from personal experience that Camille Linson approaches issues in a careful and balanced manner and applies thoughtful judgment to solve problems. She has been doing terrific work as Philipstwon justice for the past three years and I believe that she will be a worthy successor to Judge Reitz.

Robert Bickford, Philipstwon

For more endorsement letters for candidates in Cold Spring, Philipstwon and Putnam County, see highlandscurrent.org. Letters supporting candidates in Beacon and Dutchess County are also posted online and a selection will appear in print next week.

Rent limits
As we are all aware, economic booms don’t last forever and there will be a correction, sooner or later, which will cause a corresponding drop in rents (“New Law Allows Rent Limits,” Oct. 11). While stabilizing rents is a good start, we can’t rely on the vagaries of the economy. If Beacon is to remain a welcoming and interesting city, we need to consider the real, lived experiences of your neighbors.

Mary Fris, Beacon

The discussion of rent controls is too little, too late.

David Eberle, Beacon

Cold Spring trolley
Turn the trolley into public transportation for everyone (“Little Traction for Trolley with Cold Spring Board,” Oct. 11). We would have buses all around our little corner of Putnam to carry people to useful places.

Sara Gilbert, via Facebook

Gender-neutral
A letter that appeared in the Oct. 11 issue, signed by Tracy Prout Bunye and eight other mental-health professionals, expressed disappointment at comments that appeared on The Current’s Facebook page in response to a new policy at the Garrison School. The policy 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.” The letter elicited many comments of its own on Facebook, some of which are reprinted here, with occasional edits for brevity.

I hope the letter helps more people understand, empathize and support policies like the Garrison School’s bathroom policy. Allowing people to use the facilities that match their gender identity is such an easy, painless step to make a child or adolescent’s life a little bit easier.

Tara Vamos

Utter nonsense. There are two sexes. End of story.

Ned Farley

Interset is a lot more common than I realized — I was surprised when I learned more about it. About 1 in 2,000 babies is born intersex, about 1 in 100 babies is born intersex, i.e., not a binary male or female.

If you add up the variations in sex chromosomes, hormones, internal structures, etc., about 1 in 2,000 babies is born intersex, i.e., not a binary male or female. If you have a penis, you pee in the boys’ room, even if you feel like a girl. Children are fluid; stop weighing them down. If you have a penis, you pee in the boys’ room, even if you feel like a girl.

Melinda Moyer

These poor kids, loaded with adult issues. Let them be who they want, but don’t make it a label. My daughter (now grown) used to identify as a unicorn. Then she wanted to be a boy. Kids are fluid; stop weighing them down. If you have a penis, you pee in the boys’ room, even if you feel like a girl.

Janet Moon

I have young kids and work as a child psychologist, and I agree that kids do change their identities frequently. That said, kids struggling with gender identity are not the same as kids who say they are a unicorn one day and a boy the next. The children I have worked with have felt conflict with their gender identity for years. When you have a 6-year-old in your office who has tried to mutilate his genitalia or been disowned by his family because of her gender identity or sexual orientation, the simplicity of “let them be who they want” isn’t enough.

Tracy Prout Bunye

Thank you for such a thoughtful, well-informed and well-written letter. I am grateful that the Garrison School has enacted this inclusive policy. Much appreciation to all who extend compassion to individuals whose experience is different from their own.

Cindy Hutchison

It is not “unkind” to not want a biological boy to use a girls’ restroom. Why should a girl be subject to a boy in her bathroom? To be responsible — and, yes, it’s kind too — have a single bathroom for use by anyone. Anything else is not just irresponsible but pure leftist madness. LGBT kids and adults should be encouraged to understand this is not an issue against them. It is OK to want separate bathrooms and still accept everyone as they are. Stop making them feel like victims and empower them in the right way. Everyone be yourselves, and everyone be kind.

Judy McLaughlin

The term “gender-neutral” in this case is misleading. The school board passed a policy allowing kids who identify by the other gender to use locker rooms and go on overnight trips as that gender, as well as be called by another name. The letter is trying to group homosexuals and gender-identity issues in the same category. You cannot decide to be another gender. It is physically impossible. You cannot change a person’s chromosomes. Trying to make everyone get on the acceptance train is wrong. These kids have issues that need to be dealt with.

Emily Raitt

You’re right, gender and sexuality aren’t the same thing, though they are often related and inform one another. Sex is based on genes and anatomy. Gender is subjective. All of us have our own gender identity — it is not only trans and gender-fluid folks. What does it mean to be a “woman”? It is likely different for you than for others. It is influenced by many factors but is often rigid in our minds because of sociocultural factors. This is a great topic to learn about if you are open to considering the real, lived experiences of your neighbors.

Tracy Prout Bunye

SPOOKY SPIDER
I took some photographs of a spider outside my window, and I was wondering if you would like to use one at Halloween. Owen Sullivan-Hoch, Garrison

Owen is a sixth-grader at the Manitou School in Philipstwon.

If you add up the variations in sex chromosomes, hormones, internal structures, etc., about 1 in 100 babies is born intersex, i.e., not a binary male or female.

If you add up the variations in sex chromosomes, hormones, internal structures, etc., about 1 in 100 babies is born intersex, i.e., not a binary male or female.
Questions for Candidates

By Jeff Simms and Brian PJ Cronin

In anticipation of the Nov. 5 election, we asked candidates for the Beacon City Council, as well as for the two seats on the Dutchess County Legislature that represent parts of the city, a series of questions by email. Their written responses appear below, presented in alphabetical order by last name.

Beacon City Council

Beacon Ward 1 and 2

Terry Nelson, the incumbent Democrat in Ward 1, and Air Rhodes, the Democratic candidate for the Ward 2 seat, are both running unopposed. Their responses are posted at highlandscurrent.org. Rhodes will succeed John Rembert, a Democrat who did not seek re-election to a second term.

Beacon Ward 3

The first-term Democrat, Jodi McCredo, is being challenged by Republican Andrew Gauzza, a Manhattan College student who lost to McCredo in 2017.

Aside from development, what's the biggest issue facing Beacon in 2020 and what can the City Council do to address it?

Gauzza: Infrastructure. Our council has been content with simply repaving roads, which is a start, but we must do more. I would propose a plan for our sewage and water systems to be overhauled, as well. An equally pressing issue is the production of jobs. We export large numbers of jobs to New York City and the surrounding areas. The council has a responsibility to work on fixing these issues in a bipartisan manner and to create solutions which will boost the living conditions of every person who lives in Beacon.

McCredo: I have seen Beacon, like the rest of the country, become more divided. Social media has played a major role, and it's something we need to change. When my husband and I chose Beacon as the place to purchase our home and raise our children, it was because of the warmth and sense of community we felt. Over the past two years, many of us have held events, such as ward meetings and meet and greets, that were poorly attended. I am determined to work harder to not only schedule events for members of this community to get together, but to make sure that everyone knows about it, everyone who needs a ride gets one, and everyone feels welcome. Our commonalities are stronger than our differences, and we need to get out from behind our screens to remember that.

Tell us what makes you a better candidate.

Gauzza: I am young, I know how to work through problems and I am a person who can take initiative on issues. I am 21 and have lived in Beacon the majority of my life and I have seen Beacon at its finest and at its not-so-finest. I believe there can be solutions to the issues we face, especially development, but if nobody takes the initiative, we will continue to see the status quo. I have seen numerous projects come to fruition, namely the reformation of the Manhattan College Knights of Columbus Council and the formation of the Manhattan College Young Americans for Liberty Chapter. I have also shown leadership as an assistant coach for the Our Lady of Lourdes fencing team. All of these things have taught me to be a leader and how to interact with people who have legitimate concerns. If I am elected, I will not only work for the solutions that the people of Beacon deserve, but I will answer any question honestly and I will always be accessible.

McCredo: My most important role is representing all of the people in this community. Soon after I was sworn in, I was asked to vote on a new chief of police, and while I feel confident that we made the right decision, I later received some negative feedback about the process. Community members told me they felt their voices should have been heard on such an important decision, and I agree. I then put forth a resolution, which passed unanimously, that all key appointments, hires and promotions would be made public a week prior to our vote, giving the public an opportunity to weigh in. With development being such a huge issue, I voted against the Edgewater project and for the “steep slopes” law put forth by Lee Kyriacou that prohibited maximum build-out on properties containing steep slopes and wetlands. I have a deep respect for my fellow council members, but we don’t always agree. I have and will always vote for what I believe is in the best interest of my constituents.

Beacon’s second building moratorium in two years is due to expire in March. What should be the city’s next step in managing ongoing development?

Gauzza: The moratorium was a great start but further actions should be taken. One such issue is zoning and planning reform. We should have a quota for how much residential housing is allowed in its not-so-finest. I believe there can be solutions to the issues we face, especially development, but if nobody takes the initiative, we will continue to see the status quo. I have seen numerous projects come to fruition, namely the reformation of the Manhattan College Knights of Columbus Council and the formation of the Manhattan College Young Americans for Liberty Chapter. I have also shown leadership as an assistant coach for the Our Lady of Lourdes fencing team. All of these things have taught me to be a leader and how to interact with people who have legitimate concerns. If I am elected, I will not only work for the solutions that the people of Beacon deserve, but I will answer any question honestly and I will always be accessible.
Candidates (from Page 7)

the city, and we should be increasing our commercial zoning numbers. Residential zoning is not as tax-effective and will not bring jobs to the city. The second issue is parking. We need to find a solution, because there is not enough parking on Main Street for businesses to succeed. I would like to have an open discussion with city officials as well as residents to see what a cost-effective and pragmatic solution to this problem would be. The third issue is infrastructure. Our sewage and water systems are outdated and overworked. We need a cost-effective solution, which in my mind would be through federal and state grants as well as partnerships with developers in Beacon, along with city spending, to fix large sections of our sewage and water systems, while not burdening taxpayers any more than they are already burdened.

McCredo: It’s important to get our zoning right because the projects that get approved will affect this community for generations. Earlier this year the council had a meeting with members of the Planning and Zoning Boards which I found extremely helpful with members of the Planning and Zoning Board.

Aymar-Blair Ellenwood, the former president of Beacon-arts and one of the founders of the Wee Play organization, but Ellenwood qualified for the Independence Party line, so both will appear on the ballot. The winner will succeed Amber Grant, who is running for an at-large seat.

Aside from development, what’s the biggest issue facing Beacon in 2020 and what can the City Council do to address it?

Aymar-Blair: The cascading effects of growth have to be addressed to protect our quality of life. Parking, traffic, road quality, water and sewer — these aren’t sexy topics but I view their improvement as core to the job of a council member. We are already witnessing the stress on our vulnerable water system and I can’t count how many neighbors have told me they’ve stopped going to Main Street because of the lack of parking. Even if growth continues in a managed way that puts the public’s interest first, these systems we all depend on could still be overwhelmed. As part of a strategic infrastructure initiative, we need to conduct a comprehensive study of our critical infrastructure and use that information to lay out a multi-year capital plan. Because of the pace of growth, we should establish key performance indicators and stress measures for our infrastructure and share the annual results with the public. This plan must also be forward-looking. It must accommodate infrastructure such as biking corridors, concealed parking structures and public amenities. This is just one way to ensure that Beacon’s growth and new development work for everyone, from working-class families to small businesses.

Ellenwood: By 2021, the Fishkill Creek Development Zone will likely have 30,000 square feet of commercial space built, with more on the way at Camp Beacon and on Route 52. The potential for good-paying jobs in Beacon is within our grasp, but it can’t just be “build it and they will come” — we must be proactive in finding the right fit for our hardworking, diverse, creative and compassionate community. The mayor and the City Council should hire, or tap into what is available through Dutchess County, someone to really go after those great employers that will help bring equity among our diverse population. Service jobs are plentiful but they don’t pay enough. The mayor and council also need to find ways to incentivize these desirable employers. After economic development, infrastructure upgrades are another ongoing priority.

Tell us what makes you a better candidate.

Aymar-Blair: Over these last eight months of campaigning, I’ve asked neighbors what they expect of their City Council member. They tell me they want someone who gets things done, puts the public’s interest first and is responsive. My love for Beacon compels me to serve effectively. That requires well-laid plans and a lot of elbow grease. Whether it’s founding an international human rights organization or leading a nationwide caravan to the border, I’ve shown how hard I’m willing to work when I think I can make a difference in people’s lives. I will encourage civic participation, improve community outreach, respond to every email, and visit with neighbors throughout the year. I’ll do this not just because it’s my duty, but because I enjoy it. It’s why I stepped up. I approach problems with curiosity. I have an inquisitive, data-driven leadership style; I like to know what I’m talking about. If there’s a
Ellenwood: On Day One I will be able to hit the ground running. I will be a full-time and responsive City Council person, available and ready to help constituents navigate the often-complex municipal and quality-of-life issues that affect our daily lives. After 17 years as a full-time resident, with 15 of those (and counting) in the public schools, in the arts community, on the street, and in the halls of government, I have come to know and understand our city, its people, its needs, its vulnerabilities and its potential. In 2018 I conceived, coordinated and implemented the popular Beacon Free Loop bus. My ability to see around corners and find creative, elegant and, above all, low-cost solutions to some of Beacon’s most difficult issues is something the people I will represent can count on. They can also count on me to get the job done — it has always been my reputation to not give up and to follow through.

Beacon’s second building moratorium in two years is due to expire in March. What should be the city’s next step in managing ongoing development?

Aymar-Blair: In a city just 5 miles wide and with so many projects in the pipeline, getting development right is a matter of urgency. Our city is being transformed. The first step is to predicate the end of an extended building moratorium on a study of the impacts of different kinds of zoning. Concurrently, we need to undertake a community planning process, even reopening the comprehensive plan for revision. We should also suspend the sale of public land until we have a long-term strategy.

Beacon At-Large

The two at-large seats are occupied by Lee Kyriacou, who is running for mayor, and George Mansfield, who is seeking re-election. The other candidates are Amber Grant, a Democrat who represents Ward 4, and Estefano Rendon, a Republican who Michael Justice, chair of the Beacon Republican Committee, said had suspended his campaign. Grant and Mansfield’s responses are posted at highlandscurrent.org.

You’re about to hire a Putnam County Judge for 10 years.

I have the tools to do the job right.

To serve Putnam County’s criminal, family and surrogate courts, a judge needs to use a full toolkit of proven and innovative judicial techniques.

I have the full and necessary range of expertise. I know that each case is unique, and I know when and how to apply the right tools:

- incentives, treatment & incarceration
- negotiation, facilitation & persuasion
- active listening, analysis & interpretation

vote early oct 26 - nov 3rd
www.putnamboe.com
or election day nov 5th
camille linson
for putnam county judge
voteLINSON.com
Dutchess County Legislature

District 16 (Beacon Ward 4)

Privilts Zernike, a first-term Democrat, is being challenged by Republican Theoni Salotto, an attorney in private practice. Salotto declined to respond to three questions that she didn’t believe “fall within the purview of a county legislator,” and Zernike expressed similar reluctance, saying that “while I do have opinions on them, the second, third and fourth questions have no real bearing on my job as county legislator.”

Salotto

Zernike

Please share your qualifications for the position.

■ Salotto: I am a wife, mother and attorney who has been a resident of the Town of Fishkill for more than 18 years. I have a bachelor’s degree in business, am a trained mediator and have been practicing law for 20 years. In my solo practice, I represent children and adults at no cost to them, and have done so for the past 13 years, because I believe in the dignity of every human. Also, having raised three children, I understand that everyone needs help now and then to cope with the complicated world in which we live, and I enjoy helping others.

In addition to my work with families and children in Dutchess County, including 13 years as a Girl Scout leader in Fishkill, I have been a member of the PTA, Fishkill Business Association, Mid-Hudson Women’s Bar Association, Dutchess County Bar Association, New York State Bar Association and the Dutchess County Pro Bono Local Action Committee’s Volunteer Attorney Program. I am admitted to practice in New York and Connecticut, the federal courts for the southern and eastern districts of New York, the U.S. Tax Court and the U.S. Supreme Court.

One of my goals is to safeguard the hard-earned money that taxpayers entrust to us so that those funds are not wasted on unnecessary or inefficient programs. I will endeavor to watch over taxpayer dollars the way family lies watch over their own household budgets.

I also believe that government can and should help people when people cannot help themselves. I will fight for services for children, seniors and veterans. I will seek innovative solutions to the opioid epidemic and for improved mental-health services. I would like to help make Dutchess County affordable for middle-class families and seniors on a fixed income. But if we are to prosper as a community, we must also work to maintain a healthy business environment within which honest commerce can thrive free of over-regulation and over-taxation. Maintaining this balance of public need and healthy commerce is also my goal.

Finally, government should always represent the interests of the people over special or outside interests. My goal is to always have an open door to my constituents.

■ Zernike: In the two years I have served on the Dutchess County Legislature, I have worked across the aisle to pass legislation I wrote expanding hours of sale for wine and alcohol. As a member of the Democratic Caucus, I have been part of a team that, while in the minority, has driven the agenda for county government. We’ve seen a reduction in the size of the proposed jail, resulting in a savings of $8 million in construction costs and $2.5 million in operating costs annually after 2022.

Thanks in large part to our prodding, we’ve seen the adoption of an independent commission on redistricting, ensuring that voters will choose their representatives, not the other way around. The county will now make fuller use of its designation as a Climate Smart Community to get grant money and apply it toward making Dutchess greener. We’ve also advocated a shift toward treating the opioid epidemic as a public health issue, rather than a strictly criminal one. The list goes on. What most qualifies me to continue as county legislator is my appetite to keep fighting for measures to improve the quality of life for all our residents.

What is the best strategy to attract quality jobs to Beacon?

■ Zernike: One that works for everybody. Defining what we mean by “quality” jobs is important. Tourism and service jobs have fueled Beacon’s resurgence, but we need to find and establish a more sustainable economy. Beacon, and the Hudson Valley in general, need jobs that can employ and sustain residents at all levels. In Beacon, bringing more Main Street office space online would help, too.

What can be done to make sure that the rapid development doesn’t price people out of the city?

■ Zernike: Most of the fight to keep Beacon affordable will be waged at the City Council level. Regulating short-term rentals to require owner occupancy can help prevent renters being priced out. Zoning requirements providing for affordable housing and allowing multi-family dwellings in residential neighborhoods help, too. At the county level, returning [more] sales tax revenue to Beacon would mean an extra $800,000 in the city’s coffers annually, money that would not need to be levied as property taxes, reducing the tax burden on residents and with it the pressures that price people out.

Does Beacon have a responsibility to cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)? If so, in what way?

■ Zernike: Beacon has a responsibility to ensure that all its residents feel safe and welcome, and are comfortable in their relations with law enforcement. As a county legislator, that’s not something I can have a direct impact on. But I am proud to live in a city where the council passed a resolution declaring Beacon to be a “welcoming, safe and inclusive community.”

District 18 (Beacon Wards 1, 2, 3)

Nick Page, a first-term Democrat, is being challenged by Michael Justice, a software developer who is chair of the Beacon Republican Committee. The Independence Party candidate, Sandra Moneymaker, said that while her name will appear the ballot, it is there because of a single write-in vote during the primary and that she is not campaigning for the seat.

Justice

Page

Please share your qualifications for the position.

■ Justice: I’m the CEO of Empire State Consulting Group, a computer programming agency that has served businesses and nonprofits for more than 20 years. I work with businesses and organizations to maximize productivity and lower costs by using smarter software and technology. Solving most business problems requires you to dig deeper into an agency’s practices to eliminate waste, discover efficiencies and create opportunities for growth.

I’m ready to do this for our community in Beacon and the Town of Fishkill. I’m also chair of the Beacon Republican Committee and served as chair from 2007 to 2009. It’s no secret that getting the things we want from government requires us to elect representatives from the community who are prepared to do what is in our best interest, regardless of political affiliation. I am prepared to work with anyone, regardless of political affiliation, to do what is best for Beacon and Fishkill.

■ Page: It’s been an honor to serve the people of Beacon and Fishkill, and I’ve enjoyed a steep learning curve over the past two years as a member of a Democratic Caucus that has led the conversation despite our minority position in the Legislature. Successes have included certification as a Climate Smart county (a designation necessary for state funding that the county had neglected for almost a decade), a plastic bag ban, a transparency resolution that mandates public posting of all county boards and committees and their membership, an independent redistricting law that would do away with local gerrymandering (a similar, though weaker, law was overturned by the majority in 2011, thereby allowing legislators to draw their own districts after the 2010 census), an anti-dog-tethering law and establishment of an animal abuse registry, and the expansion of local hours for wine and liquor stores (allowing stores to be open until 9 p.m. should they so choose).

Thanks to our caucus’ energy and competence, a 2019 change in the county-wide balance of the Legislature would see the body move closer toward its intended role as a coequal branch of county government that holds the executive branch accountable, regardless of party affiliation.

(Continued on Page 11)
(Continued from Page 10)

Currently our committee meetings are nearly gavel-in, gavel-out formalities, and many of us are eager to open the conversation so that we can better address the issues facing our communities.

What is the best strategy to attract quality jobs to Beacon?

- Justice: The city, county and state need to work together to reduce red tape and provide real economic incentives for employers to bring their businesses to Beacon. When you add the cost, in time and money, of the bureaucracy, and the risk of moving or starting any business, it’s a daunting proposition — assuming the business is successful. Incentives that are tied to actual jobs created, not simply promised, would go a long way to lowering the risk of moving a business to Beacon. We have the talent and we have the capacity — we just need to make the process easier.

- Page: We need adequate infrastructure, accessibility and proactive planning and recruitment. We need to ensure water, sewer, road and parking infrastructure is adequate. Internet options must be upgraded, comprehensive fiber in the short-to mid-run and/or we hold our breath and await the allocated funds that can be developed for commercial use and provide meaningful incentives for companies that pay good salaries to start in or relocate to those areas.

- Page: We should seriously consider local implementation of the state Emergency Tenant Protection Act. That said, it’s not a cure-all and does not apply to the large majority of local housing stock. It’s time to give single-family homeowners more flexibility in terms of how they use their property. We should further incentivize/encourage accessory dwelling units and implement a floating two-, three-, and possibly four-family overlay on significant portions of existing single-family zones to increase stock of more reasonably priced housing options. The city should explicitly legalize owner- and renter-occupied short-term rentals to help people make ends meet and to feed local businesses.

Our taxes are too high and our sales tax is unfairly distributed. The 2013 reallocation of county sales tax revenue has cost Beacon almost $8 million in the years since. With new faces in city and county-wide offices, this could be fixed as soon as 2020. Beacon, as a city, has the prerogative to remove itself from under the county’s sales tax umbrella and should explore doing so. Nobody is fooled by election-season mailers that tout superficial property tax cuts — we all feel the burden of high housing costs and we’re all seeking substantive relief.

Does Beacon have a responsibility to cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)? If so, in what way?

- Justice: The city has an obligation to follow the law — to the extent that it’s obligated to comply, it’s important that it does. Government doesn’t work when it can pick and choose the laws it wants to enforce. If Beacon or any municipality can find legal fault with a law, they’re well-served to challenge it in court to seek relief from enforcement. Alternatively, they can lobby legislators to modify or eliminate the law. Immigration is a national issue: Any change in or relocation to those areas.

- Page: I am against ICE interference in the lives of Beacon residents.
November 16, 2019

Marinella Senatore and The School of Narrative Dance arrive in Cold Spring, New York

We are looking for non-professional dancers to participate in a public performance down Main Street in Cold Spring, N.Y.

Free and voluntary.
To participate contact performance@magazzino.art

Organized by Magazzino Italian Art Foundation

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RECTOR + FOUR — The Rev. Amanda Eiman and her family, including her newborn twins, on Oct. 10 visited St. Philip’s Church in Garrison, where she will become rector in January, succeeding Frank Geer.

Photo by Ross Corsair

NEW PRIEST — The Rev. Thomas Lutz (center) was installed at Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring on Sept. 29 by Bishop Peter Byrne (right). The pastors are shown with state Sen. Sue Serino, whose district includes the Highlands. Priests in the Archdiocese of New York serve six-year terms; Lutz, whose assignments have included churches in Highland and Patterson, succeeded the Rev. Thomas Kiely, who is now in Woodstock.

Photo courtesy Sue Serino

HEAVENLY SOUNDS — Harpist Kathryn Andrews (above), who partners with fellow harpist Kristi Shade (right) as Duo Scorpio — a name chosen after the musicians discovered they were born on the same day — performed on Oct. 20 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon as part of the Howland Chamber Music Circle’s series of concerts for children.

Photos by Ross Corsair
In a book such as Before She Was Harriet, about Harriet Tubman, there’s a cadence in your language that is especially noticeable when read aloud. Is that always the case?

Lesa Cline-Ransome: Harriet is lyrical. I’m drawn to language and all the books have a certain lyricism. I’m inspired by writers like Toni Morrison. I love to read and am inspired by the power of words to be transformative. That’s what I’m looking to convey.

I noticed you sometimes use unusual or challenging words. Is that intended to help children expand their vocabulary?

LCR: It’s never a good idea to talk down to kids. I want them to come away with a good handle on the language, and sometimes you can’t do that if you’re oversimplifying.

When planning a book, how do you determine how much space the text will take versus the art?

LCR: I’m thinking only from the writer’s perspective. James has to figure out the best way to tell it visually.

James Ransome: After doing a few rough layouts, I make a dummy book, or two or three, and it comes into focus.

James, you’ve written that your drawing took root without formal instruction. Is that unusual?

JR: I tend to believe those who have the desire find a way to make it happen. It’s one of the reasons I like going to schools to talk to children. Unfortunately, there are way too many kids who don’t have that ‘aha’ moment and lose themselves in the maze of figuring it out. I was fortunate; a lot of things came my way and made me float forward. I hope that still happens. There was a lack of access [to art instruction], but there are more distractions today. In the South, when I was growing up in the 1960s, it was just myself and my grandmother, in a very rural area.

(Continued on Page 16)
THE WEEK AHEAD

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

HALLOWEEN
SAT 26
Boo at the Zoo
BEAR MOUNTAIN
10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Trailside Zoo
3006 Seven Lakes Drive
trailsidezoo.org
Come to the Bear Den at 10:30 a.m. to make snacks for the black bears, who will receive them at 11 a.m. There will also be pumpkin decorating, face painting, games and crafts. The rain date is SUN 27. Allow 20 minutes to walk from the parking lot.

SAT 26
ComicFest
BEACON
11 a.m. – 10 p.m. Underground Beacon
462 Main St.
facebook.com/theundergroundbeacon
Get in a spooky mood with face-painting from noon to 3 p.m. and a costume contest for kids (3 p.m.) and adults (5 p.m.). Then return to watch a scary movie at 8 p.m.

SAT 26
I Spy Scavenger Hunt
CORNWALL
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
120 Muser Drive
413 Main St.
facebook.com/coldspringhalloweenparade
Come to watch or join in the 26th annual parade of costumed pets and people.

SAT 26
Halloween Parade
COLD SPRING
4:30 p.m. St. Mary’s Lawn
7 – 10 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Center
107 Glencliffy Drive
Phillipstownrecreation.com
The Foot in Mouth Players stage their traditional chills-and-thrills experience. Also SUN 27. Cost: $10 ($8 children; $25/$60 members)

SAT 26
15th Annual Haunted House
GARRISON
7 – 10 p.m. Phipstown Recreation Center
107 Glencliffy Drive
| 845-424-4618
| phillipstownrecreation.com
The party will include a costume contest (first prize: $500) and music by Decora, 4AM, Christine Dominguez, Tony E, Big Mont and Melzina the X Pat, along with DJ H20 and DJ Mizz. Cost: $25

SAT 26
Haunted House Party
GARRISON
9 p.m. Denning’s Point Distillery
10 N. Chestnut St.
| janedecora.com
The party will include a costume contest and music by Decora, 4AM, Christine Dominguez, Tony E, Big Mont and Melzina the X Pat, along with DJ H20 and DJ Mizz. Cost: $25

SAT 26
Hocus Pocus Parade
BEACON
1 – 5 p.m. Main Street
Children can trick-or-treat at Main Street shops from 1 to 3 p.m.

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SAT 26
Hocus Pocus Parade
BEACON
1 – 5 p.m. Main Street
Children can trick-or-treat at Main Street shops from 1 to 3 p.m.

and then line up at the Visitor’s Center for the 4 p.m. parade.

SUN 27
Monster March
CONTINENTIAL VILLAGE
3 p.m. Putnam Road & Highland Drive
The annual parade organized by the Continental Village Property Owners’ Association will end at the clubhouse.

SUN 27
Pumpkin Glow
GARRISON
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403
| 845-424-3020
| desmondfishlibrary.org
Bring your carved pumpkin or just enjoy the glow during a sing-a-long with Stacy Librada. Cider and donuts will be served.

SUN 27
Dementia 13
BEACON
7 p.m. StoryScreen
445 Main St.
| storyscreenbeacon.com
The 1959 dark comedy A Bucket of Blood at 7 p.m. on WED 30 and the 1968 classic Night of the Living Dead at 8 p.m. on THURS 31. Free

TUES 29
Adult Halloween Party
COLD SPRING
7 – 9 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave.
| 845-265-3040
| butterfieldlibrary.org
Anita Petonen will lead the fun with monster Mad Libs and twisted charades.

WED 30
Day of the Dead Mask
BEACON
3:30 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St.
| 845-831-1134
| beaconlibrary.org
Middle and high school students are invited to decorate a paper maché sugar skull. Supplies will be provided.

THURS 31
SPOOKYTOWN
COLD SPRING
4 – 5:30 p.m. Chestnut Ridge
Children ages 5 and younger are invited to trick-or-treat in the senior housing complex and at the Putnam History Museum.

COMMUNITY
SAT 26
Harvest Beer & Cider Fest
COLD SPRING
Noon – 5 p.m. Mayor’s Park
15 Mary’s Way
| csfarmmarket.org
From local produce and Fresh Food Company specialties. Come in costume and you could win dinner for two at Dolly’s. Cost: $90

SAT 26
Trailblazer Awards
MAHOPAC
11:30 a.m. Vila Barone
466 Route 6
| pcctrailblazers.com
The Putnam County Business Council will present its annual awards to “the best and brightest” businesses and nonprofits, including a number from Philipstown, in the areas of promotion, economic development and leadership. Cost: $55

SAT 2
Free Dinner for Veterans
BEACON
2 – 5 p.m. VFV Hall
413 Main St.
State Sen. Sue Serino and the Mental Health America of Dutchess County Vet2Vet Program will offer a free dinner and program about resources for veterans. RSVP to 845-229-0066 by WED 30.

SAT 26
Smartphone Filmmaking
BEACON
10:30 a.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St.
| 845-831-1134
| beaconlibrary.org
In this workshop, children and teens ages 12 and older will learn how to use a smartphone to create high-quality short films. Registration required.

WED 30
New Parent Basics
BEACON
1 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St.
| 845-831-1134
| beaconlibrary.org
Madeleine DeNitto of Garrison Concierge will discuss the importance of being organized and keeping a daily routine. Free

SAT 2
Sights and Sounds of Beacon
BEACON
10:30 a.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St.
| 845-831-1134
| beaconlibrary.org
Using story prompts from the National Endowment for the

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

Art, Books and Chocolate
GARRISON
2 – 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Children’s book author Lesa Cline-Ransome and Illustrator James Ransome will lead families in collaborative storytelling. See Page 13. Cost: Pay what you can ($25 suggested; children free)

Talks & Tours
SAT 26
Hudson Highlands Poetry
GARRISON
1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Garrison's poet laureate Ron Sopyla will share original poems. Tom Chapin will perform to benefit the nonprofit AfterLead, which assists victims of gun violence. Cost: $25 ($5 students)

Sun

Sun 3

Pete Souza
POUGHKEEPSIE
7 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

The former White House photographer will talk about his book, Shade: A Tale of Two Presidents, that juxtaposes the Obama and Trump presidencies. Cost: $18 to $60

Art

Sat 26
Ghent Altarpiece
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Robert Shaw will discuss six centuries of the early 15th-century altarpiece, also known as the “Adoration of the Mystic Lamb,” which may be the most often stolen artwork of all time. It hangs at St. Bavo’s Cathedral in Ghent, Belgium, and has been attributed to the brothers Hubert and Jan van Eyck.

FRI 1
Lucille Tortora and Nancy Steinson
COLD SPRING
6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
121 Main St. | 845-809-5145
butterfieldlibrary.org

Students of Andrew Lattimore, a contemporary realist artist with a studio in Cornwall, will exhibit their work.

Stage & Screen
Sun 27
Compassion and Mercy: Tales for Our Times
BEACON
2 p.m. St. John’s Church
35 Willow St. | 845-831-7700
lorrainehartin@gmail.com

Lorraine Hartin-Gelardi, Jonathan Heiles, Muriel Horowitz, Karen Pillsworth, Mary Platt and Ron Sopla will share original and traditional stories.

Thu 31
Young Frankenstein
GARRISON
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org

This 2007 Broadway musical version of the 1974 Mel Brooks film will be directed by Nancy Swann. Also Fri 1, SAT 2, SUN 3. See Page 13. Cost: $25 ($20 Thursdays, $22 seniors, students)

Thu 31
The Rocky Horror Picture Show
GARRISON
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
465 Route 9D | 845-424-5537
chapelrestoration.org

The former White House photographer will talk about his book, Shade: A Tale of Two Presidents, that juxtaposes the Obama and Trump presidencies. Cost: $18 to $60

Sat 26
Blame It On the Bossa Nova
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-809-5145
howlandculturalcenter.org

A group of musicians led by Tom Chapin will perform to benefit the nonprofit AfterLead, which assists victims of gun violence. Cost: $20 ($25 door)

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Sun 27
Stop Gun Violence Concert
BEACON
5 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

A group of musicians led by Tom Chapin will perform to benefit the nonprofit AfterLead, which assists victims of gun violence. Cost: $20 ($25 door)

Sun 3
Pete Souza
POUGHKEEPSIE
7 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

The former White House photographer will talk about his book, Shade: A Tale of Two Presidents, that juxtaposes the Obama and Trump presidencies. Cost: $18 to $60

Talks & Tours
SAT 26
Hudson Highlands Poetry
GARRISON
1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Poets and writers Ann Cefola, Beth Lattimore and Beth Danon will read from their most recent collections.

Sat 26
Ghent Altarpiece
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Robert Shaw will discuss six centuries of the early 15th-century altarpiece, also known as the “Adoration of the Mystic Lamb,” which may be the most often stolen artwork of all time. It hangs at St. Bavos’s Cathedral in Ghent, Belgium, and has been attributed to the brothers Hubert and Jan van Eyck.

FRI 1
Lucille Tortora and Nancy Steinson
COLD SPRING
6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
121 Main St. | 845-809-5145
butterfieldlibrary.org

Students of Andrew Lattimore, a contemporary realist artist with a studio in Cornwall, will exhibit their work.

Stage & Screen
Sun 27
Compassion and Mercy: Tales for Our Times
BEACON
2 p.m. St. John’s Church
35 Willow St. | 845-831-7700
lorrainehartin@gmail.com

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Sat 26
Lucy Kaplanskays
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The folk and Americana chart-topper blends country, folk and pop in her melodies. Cost: $25 ($30 door)

Sun 27
Stop Gun Violence Concert
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5 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

A group of musicians led by Tom Chapin will perform to benefit the nonprofit AfterLead, which assists victims of gun violence. Cost: $20 ($25 door)

Sat 2
Who’s Who
PEEKSKILL
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

Rock violinist Daisy Jopling and her band will play her arrangements of his songs by The Who to support her latest release of an album by the same title. Cost: $25 to $50

Sun 3
Rolston String Quartet
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-655-1300
howlandculturalcenter.org

A group of musicians led by Tom Chapin will perform to benefit the nonprofit AfterLead, which assists victims of gun violence. Cost: $20 ($25 door)
Ransome (from Page 13)

You've written: "I had always been given the impression that there were virtually no African-American artists." How did that make you feel?

JR: My grandmother grew up in a different world — she was born in 1899 — and feared I wouldn't have these opportunities. Because I wasn't exposed to artists who looked like I did, she wasn't sure it would happen. But by the time I studied at the Pratt Institute in the 1980s, a lot had changed. There were still not a lot of books being written about African-Americans, but I was prepared to do stories about anyone. I admired the white artists who did African-American characters. I never presumed anything.

Did you imagine you'd be doing what you are doing?

JR: I thought I would do a book every three or four years, that I would be busy for six months out of the year, and during the rest of the time I would work in galleries. I would exist between galleries and illustrating, and I would have long periods where I wasn't busy. It's the opposite — I'm busy all the time. I have tons of ideas and lots of projects. When I think about my childhood and the books I wanted to read, I couldn't be happier creating books for today's young people.

Do you write each book with an age in mind, or does the publisher decide?

LCR: I just tell the best story that I can, then the marketing group determines the age group. I don't know how they make those determinations. There are many different levels and ways that children can engage with a book.

You've said that research is one of your favorite things about writing. Is it challenging?

LCR: You have to be accurate — the librarians and editors will hold you close to the fire if you're not! Some publishers don't allow invented dialogue; I don't use quotes that can't be attributed. The research can be tricky, especially the farther back you go. There have been cases where I wanted to do a biography but because of lack of documentation, particularly during the period of slavery, I've had to make it make it historical fiction, such as with Light in the Darkness: A Story About How Slaves Learned in Secret.

When you research a historical figure, what are you looking for besides the basic facts of his or her life?

LCR: Something that connects me to the subject, or that connects children to the subject. For instance, I've always loved Helen Keller. I found it fascinating that she experienced the world through a heightened sense of touch and smell. With many of the subjects, I look for a small piece of their childhood that made them who they were, or a turning point in their lives.

You wrote a book called Germs. What inspired that?

LCR: We have four children. When they were five to 11, I was constantly trying to get them to understand the importance of handwashing. I thought, I'm going to write a book about germs. During the research, I started to become a germ-o-aphobe: toilet seats, taxis — I was terrified. I had to get all the amazing info into a book and thought, What better way than to have germs as characters? James had fun with it, as well.

How do you handle, when writing a biography for children, events in the subject's life that are not behaviors you want to endorse?

LCR: That was a question I had when I started writing the book about Pelé (who would skip school to play soccer), and also with Satchel Paige (who spent time in jail as a teenager). There are many ways to success. When I was young I hated fictional biographies because generally they profiled people as having perfect lives and perfect families. That's not the lives of most children. Children need to see all sorts of lives. There's not always that perfect path — and that's OK.

Art, Books and Chocolate will begin at 2 p.m. on Nov. 3 at the library, which is located at 472 Route 301. Admission is “pay what you can” for adults ($25 suggested) and free for children. Reservations are requested by Oct. 30 by visiting desmondfishlibrary.org/libc.

Young Frankenstein (from Page 13)

Though Swann has “encouraged everyone to go big,” stylistically, they “still have to be honest in their character; it can’t be a caricature. The tender moments are still there — it’s not all razzmatazz. You have to believe these people would exist. If it gets too broad, you lose the empathy of the audience. You can’t give them time to think, Oh, is it funny?”

The set was designed by Chris Novak. “It has all sorts of tricks — I can’t give them away,” Swann says. “He’s also created projections, which help with quick transitions. There are electric doors designed by Jim Polk, too.”

Young Frankenstein was choreographed by Christine Bokhour and the music director is Todd Hulet. The cast includes John Hartzell (Dr. Frankenstein), Bokhour (Elizabeth), Bobby Convertino (Igor), Emma Morcone (Inga), Cat Guthrie (Frau Blucher), Sterling Swann (Victor/Hermit), Craig Patrick Browne (Kemp), Conor Austin (Ziggy) and Trevor Swann (Monster).

The ensemble consists of Debbie Broshi, Karen Burghart, Gretchen Craig, Laura Danilov, Lee Robin Gebhardt, Selby Kiffer, Artemisia LeFay, Dave Llewellyn, Kevin Spath, Sarah Terrell and Ben Whipple.

Young Frankenstein opens on Halloween, Oct. 31, and runs Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays plus a Sunday matinee through Nov. 17. Tickets are $25 ($20 for seniors and students), or $20 for Thursday shows. See brownpapertickets.com/event/4381588.

Paid Advertisement
Spinning a Few Yarns

Text and photos by Alison Rooney

On a spectacular Saturday this month, thousands of people spilled into the barns and byways of the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck to gaze and touch and compete and learn about wool and the wooly creatures that provide it.

Over two days, the 39th annual New York State Sheep and Wool festival had something for novices and experts alike, including a drop-spin-dle spinning contest, a Northeast Angora goat show (with the contestants judged “still wearing their mohair”), a llama parade, an auction of farm implements and sheep dog herding demonstrations.

Equally alluring were the hundreds of stalls displaying knitwear, fiber arts and everything one could imagine relating to wool-producing animals. Loopy Mango of Beacon was on hand, along with sellers from as far away as Montana.

Overheard

MAN: “What’s his name?”
ALPACA HANDLER: “Prince Caspian.”
MAN: “He’s so handsome.”
ALPACA HANDLER: “I know.”

WOMAN, ABOUT HER BORDER COLLIE:
“I could dangle a steak bone in front of her and get no response. She’s got nothing but the sheep on her mind.”

FIRST WOMAN: “Did you buy a lot?”
SECOND WOMAN: “I went over budget, and my budget wasn’t small.”

From a crossword in the program:
4 DOWN: The other name for Walliser Schwarznasenschaf
9 ACROSS: Mechanical process that disentangles, cleans and intermixes fibers to produce a continuous web for further processing.
Tandoori cooking takes its name from the tandoor, a centuries-old unfired clay oven common to the Indus Valley, one of the earliest sites of human civilization. These wood- or charcoal-fired vessels might be considered “primitive” but are also the basis for some very cultivated cooking. The fire contained within its walls—which heated and evenly radiated and reflected the heat—combined roasting, grilling, smoking and convection-cooking in one reasonably compact unit. It was the earliest transitional development between earth and brick ovens, a design process that led to that metal-clad gas or electric thing we think of as an oven.

Tandoori cooking—particularly Indian-inflected meat dishes such as tandoori chicken—also describes a specific preparation: a yogurt-based marinade, heavily seasoned with cayenne, tikka or tandoori masala. Their prevalent distinctive red-orange color comes from generous use of ground red pepper and turmeric among other spices. (A shopping note: Saraswati on Route 9 in Wappingers Falls is a great source for Indian spices.)

The use of yogurt as the base for a marinade is a sophisticated technique, particularly for meats. Unlike aggressively assertive acidic citrus- or vinegar-based marinades, yogurt-based tandoori preparations slowly and gently tenderize the proteins in meat. And because tandoori chicken traditionally uses skinless chicken, as the milk proteins and sugars in the marinade roast they create a creamy, caramelized crust over tender, exceptionally juicy meat.

Small, bone-in pieces of tandoori chicken can be served as an appetizer or a main course, along with traditional flatbreads (also tandoor cooked) and chutneys. But the more refined preparation, chicken tikka, is prepared with boneless meat and is the basis for even more sophisticated preparations such as butter chicken (tikka in a cream-based curry), chicken tikka biryani (a fragrant rice dish) or chicken tikka masala (in a tomato and pureed nut-based sauce).

Granted, this Hudson Valley kitchen version of tandoori lacks the high heat—sometimes upward of 900 degrees in a traditional tandoor—or the direct exposure to fire or charcoal and smokiness. This marinade is great on the grill, but for this home version, a final blast under the broiler will provide a bit of the char that is a feature of “real” tandoori.

The only other non-traditional modification I’ve made to the marinade is the addition of a bit of cornstarch to replicate a crunchy crust, an effect that may be more necessary or obvious on vegetables. Although chicken is traditional in this dish, the cauliflower can stand on its own if you prefer the vegetarian option.

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.

### Oven-Roasted Tandoori Chicken & Cauliflower

**Serves 4**

#### For the marinade:
- 2 to 3-inch pieces of ginger, peeled and cut into small coins, smashed and roughly chopped
- 8 to 10 cloves garlic, peeled, smashed and roughly chopped
- ½ cups plain Greek whole-milk yogurt (or strained plain whole-milk yogurt)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1½ teaspoons ground white pepper
- 3 tablespoons garam masala
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 2 teaspoons coriander
- 1 tablespoon ground white (or black) pepper
- 1 tablespoon salt
- Zest of one lemon
- 4 boneless chicken pieces (boneless or bone-in, enough for 4 adults) and/or 2 cups cauliflower, cut into large florets
- 1½ cups plain Greek whole-milk yogurt

1. Prepare the marinade: In the bowl of a food processor large enough to hold at least 2 cups, pulse ginger and garlic until fine. Add the remainder of the marinade ingredients and pulse until blended.

2. Place the chicken and/or cauliflower in a large bowl and cover with the processed marinade, working it in with your fingers, particularly the cauliflower florets. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour (up to 8).

3. Prepare the raita: Combine all ingredients in a small bowl, cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Preheat oven to 425 degrees; place rack in top third of oven. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper or foil. If using foil, lightly oil or apply a light coating of nonstick spray (spray coconut oil is perfect). If handy, cooking on the sheet pan on lightly greased wire baking racks for circulation will more closely approximate the effect of a tandoori oven.

4. Remove chicken and cauliflower from marinade, removing excess marinade. Place pieces on prepared sheet pan or racks in a single layer leaving as much space as possible between pieces. Roast for 20 minutes, then flip pieces and roast for another 20 minutes. At the end of cooking, switch oven to broil and cook for another 3 to 5 minutes to produce a bit of classic tandoor char. Serve topped with dollops of raita and garnished with cilantro leaves.

#### For the raita:
- 1 cup plain Greek whole milk yogurt
- 1 small, peeled and seeded cucumber
- 1 tablespoon fresh squeezed lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons minced cilantro or mint (plus more leaves for garnish)
- Salt and pepper to taste

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The Tin Men float appeared in the Halloween parade on Main Street in the 1950s.

The Tin Men were the whimsical creations of Dave Mohurter, who made them with empty Gulf motor oil cans. His 130 tin men, women and animals entertained generations of parade-goers.

Another memory from that era was the window-painting contest organized in 1951 by Frances Schipbanker, the art teacher at Beacon High School, and the Lions Club. Students from the junior high and the South Avenue and Spring Street schools were invited to compose works on retailers' windows with removable craft paint. The Lions Club signed up merchants, provided materials and arranged for prizes.

The adults may have had a selfish motive in backing this idea. The thinking was, if the children were busy decorating windows, they will be less likely to use soap and eggs on the glass or take part in other mischief. Phillip Baxter, 12, and William Clark, 14, won first prize for their witch riding a broomstick silhouetted against a harvest moon painted on Shield's Bakery at 317 Main. Second place went to John Roberts for a genie emerging from a bottle on the window at Dee-Dee Toyland.

Charles Stover

A sign above the entry to the garden at University Settlement Camp near the foot of Mount Beacon once read: "One's Self Must Garden and Gardener Be." The man who made that sign knew something about the avocation. His name was Charles Stover and he was the commissioner of parks for Manhattan from 1910 to 1914 and the man most responsible for the design and layout of the camp. Each summer the camp served nearly 1,000 children, most of them underprivileged residents of the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Stover proved the perfect steward. He believed that outdoor activity was a key to a child's well-being, and the camp suited him perfectly. He lived there in Mountain Rest, which had been a summer residence of abolitionist preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

Stover left his mark everywhere on the 51 acres of the camp, serving as a mason, gardener and landscape architect. He planted trees, walked the grounds with a "divining twig" to find a water source for the Olympic-sized pool, and made an everlasting impression on the children. After his death in 1929, the place was known as Camp Stover in his honor.

Dedication of St. Joachim's

Imagine the stirrings among the Irish-American community as it prepared for Mass on Sunday, Aug. 18, 1861, when "Dagger John" Hughes, the archbishop of New York, would officiate at the dedication of the St. Joachim's Church in Matteawan.

By that time, Dagger John (nicknamed "Bits of Beacon History"

By Robert Murphy

Halloweens past

A Masquerade March down Main Street on Halloween night, held between 1935 and the 1960s, sometimes drew as many as 1,500 costumed revelers. A highlight in the 1950s was the Tin Can Symphony, with "robots" made with tin cans clinking and clanking along, arms and legs swinging in unison.

Paid for by Friends of Terry Hockler
The Irish at the time were considered a criminal class of alcoholics and moral degenerates overruning the country after the potato famines drove them to the U.S. The new Roman Catholic church would be an edifice of hope and pride for these immigrants and others who followed, built with contributions from the small wages of laborers and house servants.

In its Aug. 31 issue, the Catholic weekly newspaper, The New York Tablet, reported: “The Matteawan parish has not 100 families; it has no rich patrons. Its members are almost exclusively Irish, and when the fact that their establishment is now worth over $1,600 is viewed impartially, it proclaims the value of what is sometimes appropriately termed name and for his battling temperament on behalf of his Irish kinsmen) was a national figure revered for his moral stands against slavery and against the pervasive nativist sentiment toward immigrants.

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How They Voted (from Page 1)

The law passed, police had no way to obtain the records when doing a background check. The law takes effect on Dec. 2.

Passed Senate 62-1
Serino ☑

Passed Assembly 145-1
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

That same day, Cuomo enacted a law allowing local police officers to access handgun licenses and applications even if the gun owner opted out of public disclosure. Officers could obtain this information from the state police, but only between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., and they could only make one request at a time, according to the bill’s sponsor. This created a challenge when responding to late-night domestic violence calls because officers could not determine if a gun was likely on the premises, the bill stated. A statewide database, yet to be established, will allow officers to check gun records instantly before arriving at the scene.

Passed Senate 41-21
Serino ☑
Passed Assembly 101-46
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● Double Jeopardy

New York’s criminal code states that a person cannot be prosecuted by the state if he or she has been prosecuted by another state or the federal government for the same crime, with some exceptions. On Oct. 16, amid concerns that President Donald Trump would pardon those in his administration convicted of crimes, Cuomo added another exception. He signed a law that allows New York to prosecute individuals who have been pardoned by the president for federal crimes. The reasoning is that such prosecutions wouldn’t create “double jeopardy”—being tried for the same crime twice—because the president would have nullified the federal prosecution when granting clemency.

Passed Senate 38-23
Serino ☑
Passed Assembly 91-54
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● Food allergies

As of Sept. 12, day care centers are required to follow guidelines already in place at school districts when they respond to severe food allergies. The law is named for Elijah Silvers, a 5-year-old who died in New York City in 2017 after being given a grilled-cheese sandwich despite having a known dairy allergy. According to lawmakers, after Elijah went into anaphylaxis, the day care did not tell his mother what he had eaten and did not call 911.

Passed Senate 61-0
Serino ☑
Passed Assembly 148-0
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● Changing parties

On Sept. 26, Cuomo signed a law that allows voters to more quickly change their party affiliations. Under the previous law, if a voter asked to change parties, enroll in a party or leave a party, the request took effect on the first Tuesday after the general election. The new deadline is Feb. 14, which allows voters to take part in their new party’s presidential primary in April and congressional and state primaries in June. If a voter misses the deadline, the change is made seven days after the June primary. Jacobson, who is chair of the Subcommittee on Election Day Operations, was the bill’s primary sponsor in the Assembly.

Passed Senate 40-22
Serino ☑
Passed Assembly 106-41
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● Petty offenses

 Arrest and prosecution records involving infractions and violations — aka petty crimes — are typically sealed by courts so they do not appear on a person’s record. But, according to lawmakers, some local police departments don’t seal records if a person was arrested on a more serious charge (i.e., a misdemeanor) that was reduced in court. On Oct. 7, Cuomo signed a law that requires that legal records be sealed based on the disposition of the case, not the initial charge. It takes effect on Jan. 5.

Passed Senate 62-0
Serino ☑
Passed Assembly 140-0
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● Pelvic exams

Some teaching hospitals allow medical students to practice pelvic exams on immobile patients immediately after gynecological surgery. On Oct. 7, Cuomo signed legislation that made New York the ninth state to ban pelvic exams on anesthetized or unconscious patients without their prior consent. Lawmakers cited a study that found nearly 100 percent of patients said they would provide consent for student exams if asked. The law takes effect on April 4.

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

● Church endorsements

On Oct. 23, Cuomo signed legislation restricting nonprofits, including churches, from endorsing candidates for elected office or donating to their campaigns. Tax-exempt organizations are already restricted from participating in political campaigns under a 1954 amendment to IRS regulations. President Trump has vowed to repeal the amendment, and in 2018 the New York attorney general filed a complaint alleging his nonprofit Donald J. Trump Foundation had illegally provided donations to political candidates. Cuomo said that the new law will prohibit nonprofits in New York from engaging in political activity even if the federal amendment is repealed.

Passed Senate 43-18
Serino ☑
Passed Assembly 145-3
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● Drug recalls

On Oct. 18, Cuomo enacted a law that requires pharmacies to make “reasonable attempts” to contact customers by phone or mail if the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issues a Class I recall, which involves “a dangerous or defective product that could cause serious health problems or death.”

Passed Senate 61-0
Serino did not vote
Passed Assembly 141-1
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● End of lease

On Sept. 5, Cuomo signed legislation that prohibits companies from charging early-termination fees on auto leases if a customer dies before the end of the contract. Similar laws are already in place for phone, television, internet, energy and water delivery services. The law applies to auto leases created, renewed or modified after Dec. 3.

Passed Senate 62-0
Serino ☑
Passed Assembly 136-10
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● Breastfeeding

On Oct. 21, Cuomo signed a law allowing women to postpone jury duty for up to two years if they are breastfeeding.

Passed Senate 62-0
Serino ☑
Passed Assembly 146-1
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

● Remembering 9/11

On Sept. 9, Cuomo established September 11th Remembrance Day and mandated that public schools observe a moment of silence each year.

Passed Senate 62-0
Serino ☑

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Saturday, November 2
9:00am - 1pm, $60 / $40 - Stonecrop members
Space is limited, registration required. Online registration available.
Missing West Point Cadet Found Dead
Body discovered after four-day search

A West Point cadet who went missing last week was found dead four days later after an intensive search.

The body of Kade Kurita, 20, of Gardena, California, was located just before 10 p.m. on Tuesday (Oct. 22). He was last seen at about 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 18 but did not report for a scheduled march.

The cause of death is under investigation, but foul play was not suspected, the academy said.

Kurita was a member of the Class of 2021. Cadets and military and area police officers searched through the weekend and a group of 130 soldiers from Fort Drum arrived on Monday to assist.

Police Arrest Man for 'Topless' Sign
Allegedly displayed near Carmel courthouse

Putnam County sheriff’s deputies arrested a Hopewell Junction man on Oct. 15 after he allegedly displayed a billboard outside the county courthouse in Carmel with photos of a topless woman. Douglas D. Demasi, 66, was charged with one count of “public display of offensive sexual material,” a misdemeanor.

The Sheriff’s Department said in a statement that the billboard contained “three large photos of a woman with no shirt, no bra and both breasts entirely exposed.” It said Demasi had attached the billboard to the top of his Dodge SUV after driving to the courthouse at about 9:45 a.m.

Demasi told police he displayed the billboard because of a dispute with a Carmel attorney. He said the two men had appeared on The People’s Court to resolve it, but that TV judge Marilyn Milian ruled against him, and the photos were of her. (Topless photos of Milian taken by paparazzi in 2013 are posted online.) Demasi was given a ticket to appear at the Town of Carmel Court to answer the charge.

Brewster Teen Arrested
Charged with rape and sexual abuse

New York State Police troopers on Oct. 18 arrested a Brewster teenager on charges of felony rape and sexual abuse. The 16-year-old was arraigned in Putnam County Family Court and remanded to a juvenile detention facility.

The police said the alleged crime had been recorded and posted to social media and suggested that anyone who distributed the video could also be guilty of a crime.

Pudding Street Project Underway
$28.9M upgrade in Putnam Valley

The state will soon begin work on a long-awaited $28.9 million bridge over the Taconic State Parkway and ramp upgrade at the Pudding Street intersection in Putnam Valley.

The project will eliminate the at-grade crossing that compels vehicles, including school buses, to cross four lanes of the Taconic, the governor’s office said. Assembly Member Kevin Byrne, whose district includes parts of Putnam Valley, called the intersection “one of the most dangerous” on the parkway.

The Pudding Street crossing will be closed for about five months beginning next summer and work is expected to be completed by mid-2021.

Prevention Council Honors Drobach
Recognized for work in substance-abuse recovery

The Prevention Council of Putnam honored Father Bill Drobach of St. Christopher’s Inn in Garrison at its 13th annual fundraiser on Oct. 2 in Mahopac, citing his work in substance-disorder prevention, treatment and recovery.

Barbara Reitz co-presented Drobach with the James Reitz Making a Difference—Outstanding Community Service Award, which was renamed in memory of her late husband, a Putnam County judge who died earlier this year.

John Bourges, program coordinator for the Dwyer Veterans Outreach Program, received the Peter Convery Community Champion Award for his support of Putnam County veterans and their families.
OBITUARIES

Tom Baldino
(1935-2019)

Thomas A. Baldino, 84, a Beacon resident for more than 30 years, died Oct. 15, 2019, at his home. Thomas was born on June 12, 1935, in Bridgeport, Connecticut, the son of Dominick and Sophie (Szarek) Baldino. An alumnus of the University of Connecticut and New York University, he retired in 2000 after 20 years as a teacher at the Greenburgh Eleven school district in Dobbs Ferry. On July 18, 2002, he married Marcia Frahan.

Tom was an accomplished guitarist and sailor. He was a band leader of Nostalgia, a swing group, and also played in jazz groups throughout Dutchess County and New York City, including the duo T’N’T.

He was also active in the community. He was a member of the Beacon Democratic Committee and worked with then-Mayor Steve Gold to have solar panels installed at Municipal Plaza. He was the past chair of the Conservation Advisory Committee for the City of Beacon. Tom was a long-time member of the Beacon Sloop Club, where he received a captain’s certificate of achievement. He was a captain on the Woody Guthrie sloop for 20 years. He also received a President’s Volunteer Service Award and letter from President Obama. Besides his wife, Tom is survived by relatives in Italy.

A celebration of Tom’s life will be held at the Beacon Sloop Club, 2 Red Flynn Drive, on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Memorial donations may be made to the Beacon Sloop Club, P.O. Box 527, Beacon, NY 12508 for the Woody Guthrie.

Marvin Needelman
(1926-2019)

Marvin J. Needelman, 93, of Cold Spring, and formerly of Crestwood, died Oct. 17, 2019, at the state veterans’ home in Montrose.

Born May 12, 1926, in New York City, he was the son of Rubin and Ida (Leibowitz) Needelman. A World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Army from 1944 to 1946, Marvin worked in the liquor industry for many years. He was best known locally for running the concessions at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison until he was 90.

Marvin is survived by his wife, Rhoda, and his children, Gayle Needelman and Mindy Jesek (John), both of Cold Spring. He also is survived by his grandchildren, Kaitlin Needelman and A.J. Needelman; and a daughter-in-law, Michele Needelman of Sullivans Island.

A graveside service with military honors was held Oct. 23 at Sharon Gardens in Valhalla. Memorial donations may be made to the Philipstown Ambulance Corps, 14 Cedar St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

Bob Travis
(1926-2019)

Robert F. Travis, 92, a lifelong resident of Beacon and Wappingers Falls, died Oct. 11, 2019, at the veterans’ home in Montrose.

Bob was born Nov. 28, 1926, the son of Fredrick and Emma (Dinges) Travis. He was married to Dorothy Mohr for 36 years until her death in 1989.

Robert graduated from Beacon High School in 1944 and, at age 17, enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He was trained in radar naval operations and served on the destroyer USS Tuscon, where he witnessed the signing of the peace treaty signifying the surrender of Japan. Following the war, Bob earned a degree from Simmons College in Syracuse.

He was a senior design draftsman for Texaco Research Center for more than 37 years until his retirement in 1985. While living in Beacon, he served on the Babe Ruth League formation committee, the Beacon School Advisory Committee, led the Beacon Recreation Committee which started an ice skating program and also worked with local police to establish a Bicycle Rodeo and Safety Program. He was president of the Forestal PTA and Past Noble Grand of the International Order of Odd Fellows.

Bob dedicated 60 years of his life to the Boy Scouts, both in the Hudson Valley and Florida. He was proud of the fact that he once had seven scouts attain Eagle ranking at the same time.

He is survived by his children: Robert Travis (Terri) of Tucson, Arizona, and Dawn Fitzpatrick (Kevin) of Darien, Connecticut, as well as four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and his sister, Inez Brown of Beacon.

A private graveside service was held at Fishkill Rural Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Boy Scouts of America, 1325 W. Walnut Hill Lane, Irving, TX 75038 (scouting.org) or the New Hackensack Reformed Church, 1580 Route 376, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 (nhrc-church.org).

For more obituaries, see highlandscurrent.org/obits.
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* Jean Ludden, journalist, best-selling author, former host of Good Morning America and senior living advocate.
Beacon Mayor (from Page 3)

Hockler, 57, retired in 2014 after 15 years as a secretary in the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision and later in the Office of Mental Health. Since then she’s cared for her grandmother, who will turn 100 next month.

She says she decided in the spring of 2018 to run for City Council, but “the Beacon Democrats never returned my phone calls.” Instead, Hockler turned to the Hudson Valley Green Party, which endorsed her run for mayor.

Before this year’s June primary, Kyriacou filed what is known as an “opportunity to ballot” petition for the Green Party line. That meant if more registered Green Party voters (there are only about three dozen in Beacon) wrote in his name (or that of someone else) than voted for Hockler, the write-in votes would appear on the Green Party line on the November ballot.

Kyriacou got nine write-in votes in the primary; Hockler received seven.

Hockler turned to the Hudson Valley Green Party, which endorsed her run for mayor.

Green party lines on Nov. 5, while Casale, a member of the Independence Party, will also appear on the Republican party line.

Green Party officials cried foul, saying Kyriacou had “stolen” the ballot line. He responded, writing in an email that “the Green Party changed a long-standing policy, without announcement, and endorsed a non-Green registered voter. Beacon Democrats asked to interview for the Green endorsement and never received a response. So, as usual, we filed an opportunity to ballot petition to give voters a choice.”

Hockler says she’s more eager to talk about her ideas for Beacon than to revisit the primary.

The City Council’s recent rezoning efforts — along the Fishkill Creek zone and on Main Street — have “paved the way for reckless development,” she says, opening the door for large franchise hotels, offices and apartment complexes. Hockler believes city residents should have a greater say in revising those policies, which is why she advocates electing planning officials.

She also says she’d like to recreate elements of the Beacon she knew growing up. “There was housing for people who really needed it,” she recalls. “Retail was booming in Beacon. There were side streets [off-Main] that had shops, and the businesses stayed here for years. Today, even if a business is successful, they can’t pay the high rent.”

She favors legalizing short-term rentals, saying they will help maintain “the charm and ambiance of the city,” and proposes expanded open space protection and a more powerful architectural review board to help developers plan buildings in sync with Beacon’s traditional character. While she knows her write-in campaign is a long shot, she’s hopeful voters will take time to consider her ideas.

“I’m not going to allow anyone to push me out of the way,” Hockler says. “I’m running my campaign the best I can and I feel like I’ve got a good chance. I’ve lived here all my life and I love the city so much. I want to see what I can do for it.”

The Highlands Current
FOR RENT

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COLD SPRING — Fully furnished village cottage 2 bedroom 2 bath 2 story with private yard and well-kept garden. Located within lower historic district, easy walk to shops, Metro-North, trails and riverfront. All utilities and wi-fi included. Laundry dishwasher and other amenities. Clean basement for storage or small workshop. Email ben.f.fitthirdfloorlic.com.

NOTICES

DONOR ALERT — Save the Date / Save a Life. Philipstown Community Blood Drive for Cold Spring, Garrison, Manitou, North Highlands and Continental Village, Thursday, Nov. 7, 2 to 8 p.m. at Loretto Parish Hall, 24 Fair St., Cold Spring. Walk-ins welcome. Bring photo ID. Eat well and drink fluids before you donate.

SERVICE

HOUSECLEANING & OTHER JOBS — Available in Cold Spring, Fishkill and Philipstown for cleaning services, housekeeping, laundry, ironing, running errands, housesitting or elderly care, whether for an hour, or more; whatever your needs may be. Please contact Sandi at 845-245-5976 or sandiafonso70@gmail.com.

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SPORTS

Soccer Stars

The Philipstown Soccer Club played a full slate of games last weekend, including a Friday night showdown between the club’s two boys’ U11 teams, the Vikings and the Diamonds. The Vikings pulled out a victory over their hometown rivals, and then, on Sunday (Oct. 20), mounted a dramatic comeback to force a 3-3 tie against the undefeated Cortlandt Eagles at Sprout Brook Park.

In other action on Sunday, the boys’ U12 Force avenged their lone loss of the season by trouncing the Cortlandt Nationals, 6-1, bringing their record to 5-1. Meanwhile, on a rain-soaked field in Carmel, breakaway goals from Dean Moyer and Tyler Powers led a second-half comeback for the boys’ U9 Fusion that fell short despite heroics from keeper Hudson Schacht.

The boys’ U9 Wildcats of the Beacon Soccer Club fell to the Yorktown Galaxy, 4-1. Noah Sampliner scored the Wildcats’ lone goal on a beautiful play that began with defender Angelo Martino and ended with a pass from midfielder Evan Todd. The Wildcats face the Wappingers Raptors on Sunday, Oct. 27.

The undefeated girls’ U11 Fire blanked the New Paltz Flash, 6-0. Drew Kelly scored twice, Claire Morgan had a goal and two assists and Fabiola Vogrincic recorded her first goal of the season. Avery Truet had an assist from midfield, as well. The back line of Julie Whitemore, Lily Mack, Sarah Ramkallawen and Victoria Mecay did not give up a shot attempt, and keepers Hayden Wilson and Victoria Maruggi recorded the shutout.

The Fire face Orange County on Sunday.
7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

**Saturday**
- 60/50
- Partly sunny with a couple of showers possible
- RealFeel: 63/43

**Sunday**
- 65/52
- RealFeel: 61/50

**Monday**
- 65/49
- Rather cloudy and comfortable
- RealFeel: 65/49

**Tuesday**
- 62/42
- Cooler with partial sunshine
- RealFeel: 54/39

**Wednesday**
- 56/43
- Cloudy with a chance of rain
- RealFeel: 51/27

**Thursday**
- 55/40
- SSE 7-14 mph
- RealFeel: 44/33

**Friday**
- 49/36
- Sunny
- WSW 8-16 mph
- RealFeel: 44/44

**POP**
- Probability of Precipitation

**SUN & MOON**
- Sunrise Sat., 10/26: 7:20 AM
- Sunset Sat. night, 10/26: 5:59 PM
- Moonrise Sat., 10/26: 5:09 AM
- Moonset Sat., 10/26: 5:35 PM

- New First Full Last
  - New: Oct 27
  - First: Nov 4
  - Full: Nov 12
  - Last: Nov 19

**POLLEN**
- Source: National Allergy Bureau

**CROSSCurrent**

**ACROSS**
1. Lily variety
5. Homer’s outcry
8. Wax-coated cheese
12. Bivouac
13. Individual
14. Field mouse
15. Memo acronym
16. Series of battles
17. Actor McGregor
18. Fame
20. Easter hat
22. Stitch
23. Beast of burden
24. Commanded
27. Human-like robots
32. In olden days
33. "No seats" sign
34. Pizzazz
35. Detective
38. Say it isn’t so
39. Actor Beatty
40. Neither mate
42. Falling-blocks game
45. Wedding-related
49. Ms. Brockovich

**DOWN**
1. Cicatrix
2. Facility
3. Fed
4. Go up against
5. Earthward airstream
6. — budget
7. KFC additive
8. Nevertheless
9. Fire some folks
10. Wings
11. Common noun suffix
19. 1927 Lindbergh book
21. Rowing need
24. "Humbug!"
25. Khan title
26. Period of inactivity
29. Pessimistic
30. Noise
31. Agent
36. Bit of grain
37. Star Wars inits.
38. Raining somewhat
39. On the other hand
40. Office part-timer
42. Great Lake
44. 1940 Laurel & Hardy film, — at Sea
46. Tragic
47. Unsigned (Abbr.)
48. NASCAR circuits
51. Teenys

**SudoCurrent**
Playoff Picture

By Skip Pearlman

VOLLEYBALL

In a grueling qualifier on Wednesday (Oct. 23) that decided which team advanced to the first round of the Section 1, Class A playoffs, the Beacon squad needed five sets to defeat No. 18 Harrison, 3-2. Now comes a true challenge: The Bulldogs (7-11) are scheduled to travel today (Oct. 25) to undefeated Hendrick Hudson, which is the second seed.

Against Harrison (2-16), the Bulldogs took a close first set, 26-24, and Beacon evened it up by winning the second, 25-19. Harrison went up 2-1 after taking the third, 25-18, but the Bulldogs rallied and won the next two sets, 25-23 and 25-14. Senior Tessa Nilson led Beacon with 23 kills and 25 digs, and Lejdina Gecaj added 11 kills.

Meanwhile, top-seeded Haldane (36-4) has an easier road: The Blue Devils will play in the Section 1, Class D title game on Nov. 8 at Mahopac High School. The Tigers nial rival — for the Class D sectional title on Nov. 9 for the Section 1, Class D race.

FOOTBALL

Beacon took a 33-6 thumping last weekend in a Class A playoff qualifier versus undefeated John Jay of Cross River, which is ranked sixth in the state by the New York State Sportswriters Association. The Bull is ranked sixth in the state by the New York State Sportswriters Association. The Bull
dogs rallied and won the next two sets, 25-19, 25-18, but the Bulldogs rallied and won the next two sets, 25-23 and 25-14. Senior Tessa Nilson led Beacon with 23 kills and 25 digs, and Lejdina Gecaj added 11 kills.

Beacon (4-12) just missed the playoffs, ranking No. 22 in a qualifying field of 20 teams. “We had so many inju ries this season, we had a different lineup in almost every game,” said Coach Hugo Alzate. “I feel bad for our seniors — they were hoping for an out-bracket [qualifying] game.” He noted that the younger players picked up a lot of experience this year, and that “things look promising for next season.”

Beacon closed its regular season with three straight victories, including the finale over league rival Poughkeepsie, 2-0. Seeded No. 7, the Bulldogs (9-3-3) were scheduled to open the Section 1, Class A tournament on Oct. 24, hosting No. 10 seed Naugatuck (8-5-2). Beacon picked up its second win on Oct. 18, defeating Putnam Valley, 1-0. The Blue Devils closed the season on Oct. 19 with a 2-1 loss to Yonkers Montessori to finish 2-12-1. Haldane is scheduled to play Hamilton (12-4) on Oct. 30 in the first round of the Section 1, Class C tournament.

Haldane wrapped up its season on Oct. 19 with a 2-0 win over Peekskill on goals by Essie Florke and Jade Villella, closing the season at 8-5-3. The Blue Devils will host Hamilton in a Section 1, Class C playoff game on Oct. 31 at 3 p.m.

BOYS’ SOCCER

Beacon closed its regular season with a 2-1 loss to Yonkers Montessori to finish 2-12-1. Haldane is scheduled to play Hamilton (12-4) on Oct. 30 in the first round of the Section 1, Class C tournament.

GIRLS’ SWIMMING

Beacon finished its season at 9-2 with a win over Keio Academy on Oct. 23 and will host the 11-team league championship on Saturday, Oct. 26.

CROSS-COUNTRY

At the Section 1 Coaches Invitational on Oct. 19 in Poughkeepsie, with runners from 74 schools competing, sophomore Ava Muscat of Beacon finished 72nd in 29:24 and sophomore Kayla Lare was 74th in 29:39.70 for the girls and junior Zachary Coder ran a personal best 17:23.7 to finish 10th and sophomore Salvatore Migliore was 61st in 18:48.2 for the boys. On Oct. 7, the boys edged Lourdes by nine points to win their second straight league championship.

The Haldane team will travel to Pawling on Saturday, Oct. 26, for the Northern County championships and to Poughkeepsie on Nov. 9 for the Section 1, Class D race.

The Next Level

Devin Heanue of Garrison (Haldane ’19) has played in six games for SUNY Binghamton men’s soccer team (4-7-2), including 110 minutes against Bucknell; Devin Lambe (Beacon ’19) has six goals and two assists for the Plattsburgh State men’s soccer team (9-6); Declan Costello (Beacon ’16), a goalie for the SUNY New Paltz men’s soccer team (8-7), started and had a save in a 2-0 win over Morrisville State; Colleen Battersby (Beacon ’16) finished 11th in 28:45.9 for the SUNY New Paltz cross-country team in its first home meet in four years; Willa Fitzgerald (Haldane ’19) has played in five matches for the York College women’s volleyball team (14-12) and recorded two kills and a dig; linebacker Brad Dowd (Haldane ’19) has two solo tackles for the St. Thomas Aquinas College sprint football team (2-3); his brother, Craig Dowd (Haldane ’19), is an offensive linemen for the Spartans.