



The HIGHLANDS Current

DECEMBER 27, 2019

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State Park Wants Cold Spring's Water

*Also: village costs lower
than expected for 2019-20*

By Michael Turton

Ev van Thompson, the manager of the Hudson Highlands State Park, told the Cold Spring Village Board on Dec. 17 that he needs “one last piece of the puzzle” to complete improvements at Little Stony Point.

“We don’t have water,” he said.

Little Stony Point, located just north of Cold Spring, is a key entrance to the 8,000-acre state park.

Thompson asked that the state be permitted to tap into the village water and sewer systems about 700 feet from Little Stony Point.

Mayor Dave Merandy was supportive — but cautious. “I’d love to just say ‘yes,’” he said. “But I can’t put residents’ water supply in jeopardy.”

The mayor said he is not giving a “hard no” to the proposed project but needs details on how much water new facilities at Little Stony Point would use. When the Cold Spring-to-Beacon Fjord Trail is completed, hikers on it would also use water at Little Stony Point, he noted.

Volume could be a problem he said, especially in light of the Butterfield redevelopment.

(Continued on Page 6)



After four decades, Mary Jane Guinan's last mail run was on Christmas Eve.

Photo by M. Turton

The Mail Got Through — Always

*Rural carrier retires after
41 years on the route*

By Michael Turton

If Mary Jane Guinan had a vanity license plate, it would have to read: USPS 10524-10516.

For six days a week since the summer of 1978, she ensured the mail was delivered

on her routes in Philipstown, despite severe weather, snowy and icy roads and territorial dogs.

Guinan, who lives in Philipstown, retired on Christmas Eve.

The final deliveries did not go unnoticed. Along her 44-mile, 500-customer rural route, mail boxes were festooned with balloons and signs that read “Thank you, Mary Jane!” “We’ll miss you!” and “Congratulations!” Customers waited by

the road to offer her a hug or a handshake.

“It was so nice,” she said. “They made my last day really good.”

Over 41 years, it was a rare instance when Guinan was not driving her route because of snow or rain or heat or gloom of night — she stayed home two days over the years when the Postal Service told carriers it was too dangerous to be on the roads, and “I may have missed one or two days on top of that.”

Guinan, who is also well known in town as a member of the family that ran Guinan’s

(Continued on Page 7)



Beacon Mayor Randy Casale in his City Hall office on Dec. 18

Photo by Meredith Heuer

Beacon’s Mayor Reflects

*As he leaves office, Randy
Casale looks back, and
ahead*

By Jeff Simms

Beacon Mayor Randy Casale, 68, who will leave office on Jan. 1 after being defeated in the November election by City Council member Lee Kyriacou, spoke with *The Current* on Dec. 18 at City Hall about his eight years on the job, and what comes next.

Did you always want to become Beacon’s mayor?

My uncle was the commissioner of public works for 16 years here, and when I was

a young boy, he was running for office. I watched him run. Bob Cahill was also a mentor of mine. My father left home when I was 4 years old and Bob, who had been a prisoner of war during World War II and was living with his sister, was our neighbor on Main Street. He was a great basketball and baseball coach. I played for him and then he became mayor [in 1970].

There were two things I wanted to do — to coach basketball and become mayor — and I did both. [Casale is a coach at Beacon High School.] I watched him go through the process and I said, “I’d like to be the mayor someday.” After I graduated from high school, I’d hang out in the local taverns and say that and they’d all laugh.

(Continued on Page 7)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: GLENN WATSON

By Michael Turton

Glenn Watson, who in 1973 co-founded Bادهy & Watson, a Philipstown-based surveying and engineering firm, plans next month to sell his equity and become a part-time employee.

You've been a surveyor for nearly 50 years. What projects stood out?

Surveying the tops of Mount Beacon, Bull Hill and all the local mountains. And the [proposed] Fjord Trail, a narrow strip of land along Route 9D, which seemed like it would be easy. But it included older state parkland surveys that were not so good; the railroad, which required [being accompanied by] guards to get access to it; the Meltingah reservoir; private property; and dealing with the state Public Service Commission, which manages the Catskill Aqueduct, and the state Department of Transportation for Route 9D, some of which was built on land the state didn't own.

How has surveying technology evolved?

There was essentially no change in surveying equipment — transit and steel tape — from 1860 to 1960. Now, using GPS, we can pinpoint a position to within the size of a quarter. In 1974, it took two nights to do a series of lines from Anthony's Nose

to Ninham Mountain to Brewster. With GPS it takes an hour.

How far back have you gone with survey markers?

After the Revolutionary War, the Commission of Forfeiture confiscated land from British loyalists and redistributed it. Surveys were done. We've used those field notes from the state archives to find survey markers, which sometimes were a specific tree or pile of rocks.

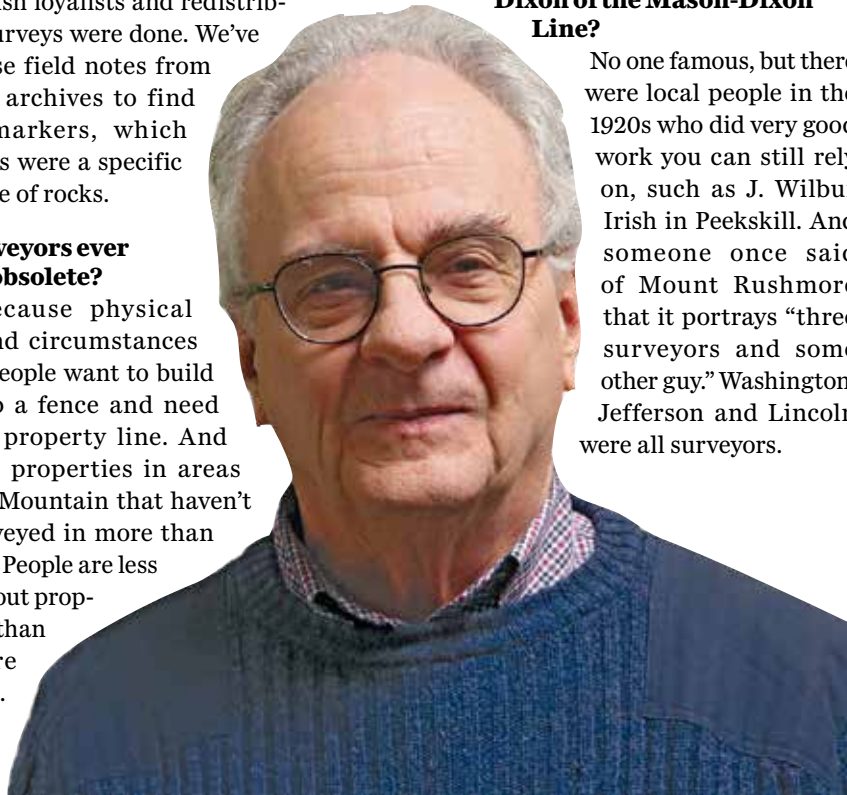
Will surveyors ever become obsolete?

No, because physical things and circumstances change. People want to build or put up a fence and need an exact property line. And there are properties in areas like East Mountain that haven't been surveyed in more than 100 years. People are less casual about property lines than they were years ago. I was at a land-

title seminar where the speaker said people are often more concerned about an encroachment on their property than an encroachment on their spouse!

Do you have any surveying heroes? Maybe Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon of the Mason-Dixon Line?

No one famous, but there were local people in the 1920s who did very good work you can still rely on, such as J. Wilbur Irish in Peekskill. And someone once said of Mount Rushmore that it portrays "three surveyors and some other guy." Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln were all surveyors.



ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What are you hoping for in 2020?

“

I have a lot of good things going on in my life; I hope my health continues to match that.

”



~ James Blaney, Beacon

“

Bipartisanship, open hearts and minds, and curiosity that allows for shades of gray.

”

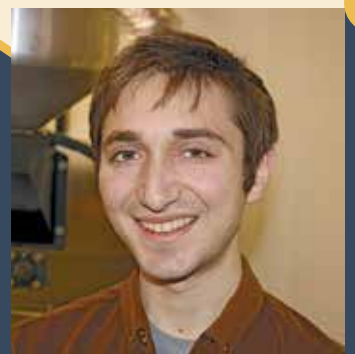


~ Rebecca Pearsall, Cold Spring

“

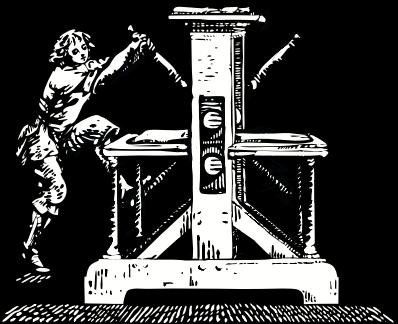
I hope to complete my Q-grader [training] as a certified coffee taster!

”



~ Ben Weinstein, Beacon

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Chris Piacente (right) led the installation team.

Photos by M. Turton

A Warm Welcome to the New Year

Disabled widow given new heating system

By Michael Turton

This year, few residents of the Highlands will appreciate the warmth of the holidays — and her home — more than Vicki Calder.

Two days before Christmas, technicians from T.Webber Plumbing, Heating, Air & Electric installed a new heating system for the Cold Spring resident free of charge.

The gift, made in partnership with RAL Supply, was part of a program called Heat for the Holidays that Tommy Webber, president of the 30-year-old Philipstown firm, says he plans to make an annual tradition.

For years, Calder was employed by the New York City Board of Education, working with drug-addicted teenagers. Now a widow, and disabled with serious back problems, she lives on a fixed income. Calder said the furnace will allow her to focus on

healing.

“I can’t believe it; this is such a gift,” she said. “It’s a Christmas miracle.”

Calder’s aging boiler began malfunctioning last spring. Friends reported that at times, she went without heat. T.Webber solicited nominations for the Heat for the Holidays giveaway, and a friend sent in her name and details.

Chris Piacente headed the three-man crew that removed Calder’s 35-year-old steel boiler, replacing it with a modern, oil-fired cast-iron model. The new system, including installation, retails for about \$10,000, he said.

“Family and community have always been important to our company culture,” Webber said. “Our hope is this will be as much of a blessing to our neighbors as they’ve been to us throughout the years.”



Vicki Calder at her home

NEWS BRIEFS

Bridge Authority to Raise Tolls

Crossing fee will reach \$2.15 by 2023

The board of commissioners of the New York State Bridge Authority at its December meeting unanimously approved raising tolls on the five Hudson Valley bridges it controls.

The 40-cent increase will be phased in over four years, the authority said, and the proceeds will help finance repairs of the Bear Mountain and Rip Van Winkle bridges, replacement of the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge’s north span deck and painting and paving projects, as well as the transition to all-electronic tolling.

In 2023, the cash rate for each crossing will reach \$2.15 and the EZPass rate will be \$1.65, the authority said, which it said “will still be lower in inflation-adjusted dollars than tolls were when the authority began in the 1930s.” The first incremental 10-cent increase will take place on May 1.

The authority receives no tax funding; 97 percent of its money is from tolls and the other 3 percent from advertising, investments and other sources, it said.

House Passes SALT Reform

Must still be approved by Senate

With support from Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, whose district includes the Highlands, the U.S. House on Dec. 19 passed legislation, 218-206, that would raise the \$10,000 cap on the state and local tax deduction implemented by a change in federal tax law in late 2017.

The Restoring Tax Fairness for States and Localities Act, which must be taken up and passed by the Senate and signed by the president to become law, would increase the SALT deduction limit to \$20,000 for those filing a joint tax return for 2019 and eliminate the cap on the deduction in 2020 and 2021.

Critics say the cap unfairly affects residents of New York and other high-tax states. The Tax Foundation estimates that removing the cap would reduce federal tax revenue by \$177 billion over two years.

More Briefs on Page 17

The HIGHLANDS
Current

New Donors Mean New Funds For our Newsroom

Dear Readers,

Last year, **more than 100 brand-new donors** gave to *The Highlands Current* during our year-end appeal, and that success helped our news operation earn an **extra \$5,000!** That was a bonus from NewsMatch, a national program that supports the fundraising efforts of its nonprofit journalism members by matching donations — up to \$20,000 in total contributions during this campaign — and honoring extraordinary achievements — like adding so many new donors.

This year we’re very close to another 100 new donors, which would qualify us for another bonus!

As a nonprofit, we rely on readers and foundation support, like that of NewsMatch, for nearly 80 percent of the costs to publish our paper and website (the rest coming from advertising). It is that support that allows *The Current* to produce **a full and free paper** each week covering your many interests and concerns.

Your gift now through the Membership Program we are introducing during this year-end appeal will help **sustain our nonprofit enterprise** as we plan coverage that is broader, deeper and longer-term. This program will also help *The Current* engage more directly with you in print, online and in person through conversations with our staff and opportunities to get the news sooner and with greater perspective.

So, if you are a reader who would like to **add your support** to that of the many who recognize *The Current* as a valuable part of the communities of Philipstown and Beacon, please do so now by becoming a member of *The Current*. You can enjoy a variety of benefits by becoming a Friend, Partner or Patron — details are on Page 16. Or your gift of any amount — \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20! — will help us reach **our 100-new-donor goal!**

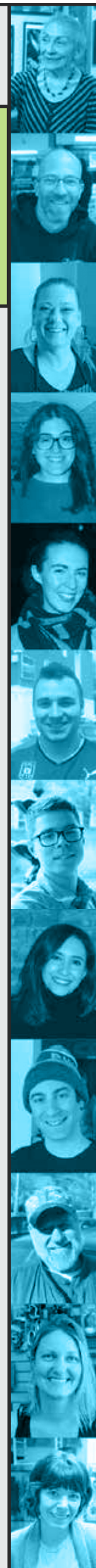
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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Sheriff overtime

The Putnam County Legislature's refusal to cover overtime for sheriff's deputies is a dangerous, politically motivated action ("Putnam Legislators Deny Request from Sheriff to Shift Funds," Dec. 13). It started the year by refusing to hire new deputies and was warned straight out that it would result in a shortfall. The refusal to approve more deputies put Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. in an impossible position and intentionally created a condition that would result in the existing staff of deputies having to work overtime.

Anyone who knows Sheriff Langley can attest to his even temperament and straightforward approach to law enforcement in Putnam County. He has used excellent judgment in appointing his captains and staffed the force with seasoned professionals. Under Sheriff Langley's leadership, Putnam County remains among the safest counties in New York.

Sheriff Langley is an honest and open-minded man who puts the safety of the residents of our county first and refuses to play politics where the public welfare is concerned. There were no questions from the legislative members except from Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown, when it came to budget transfers for the Highway Department. Why is Sheriff Langley being held to a different standard while being asked to do so much more with a limited staff?

Maybe the Legislature should approve the release of some of our sales tax overage for use in law enforcement, rather than playing politics in an upcoming election year. The public doesn't want to take a page from the national political scene; they want efficient, fair and transparent law enforce-

ment. With Sheriff Langley, that's just what we have.

Richard Shea, *Philipstown*
Shea is the Philipstown supervisor.

Indian Point transfer

Of course Holtec is going to try to do the decommissioning of the Indian Point nuclear plant for less than what is in the decommissioning fund ("Changing Hands at Indian Point?," Dec. 20). They want (and need) to make a profit. Do you think they are in business for altruistic reasons?

The first mistakes were made by political hacks and non-scientific spokespeople who created a hostile operating environment for Indian Point. Despite the plant's sterling safety and operating record, hysteria and politics, hand-in-hand, doomed the plant. Endless lawsuits against Entergy, many of which the company actually prevailed in, cut into their bottom line. Two hundred million dollars per year in legal fees?

Tell us what you think

The Current welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length. We ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to Editor, The Highlands Current, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published.

Clarification

A story in the Dec. 20 issue reported that Nabril Botros, the former facilities director for the Haldane school district, had been "terminated by the school board in August following an investigation into harassment claims." While an attorney hired by the district at the time specializes in harassment claims, the district has given no reason for Botros' termination, and the board's discussions were conducted in executive sessions that were closed to the public.

Death by a thousand cuts has been Gov. Andrew Cuomo's modus operandi for years. He used taxpayer dollars to fund an endless legal challenge against a legitimate business until he got his way. This is why New York state will die a slow economic death. No for-profit corporation wants to do business in a state that is fundamentally anti-business. Forget nuclear safety, it was never an issue. This is big donor dollars for Cuomo and other Democrats who thrive on contributions, or at least press coverage, from well-funded celebrity organizations like Riverkeeper, the Natural Resources Defense Council, et al.

Notice how Cuomo fought to keep the upstate nuclear plants open? Without them, there would be no well-paying jobs or tax revenue in those parts of the state that have been eviscerated by regulations and taxes.

Steve McGuire

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission admits every Holtec canister downloaded at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station [near San Clemente, California] was gouged the entire length of the canister. These stainless steel canisters are only 5/8-inch thick. NRC material engineers admit that once cracks start, they can grow through the wall in 16 years. The NRC admits carbon particles are embedded in the canister walls in this process, triggering galvanic corrosion. The NRC is ignoring these issues.

The above-ground Holtec systems have similar problems. Canisters unavoidably scrape against vertical carbon steel guide channels as they are downloaded into the concrete storage casks. The concrete casks have air vents, so the only protection is the half-inch thick canisters.



(Continued on Page 5)

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

The NRC refuses to require Holtec to have a canister-downloading system that doesn't scrape and gouge the walls of the thin-wall canisters. The only solution is to require thick-wall casks (10- to 19.75-inches thick) that have ASME N3 Nuclear Pressure Vessel storage certification. Thick casks are the international standard. Thick casks at Fukushima survived the 2011 tsunami and 9.0 earthquake. Partially cracked thin canisters have no seismic earthquake rating.

Donna Gilmore, *San Clemente, California*
Gilmore is the founder of SanOnofre-Safety.org.

Flea-market future

Regarding the future of the Dutchess Marketplace, which is leaving the building at the northern end of Dutchess Mall ("Dutchess Marketplace to Close," Dec. 20). Why not move the market to the [abandoned] southern end of Dutchess Mall?

Martin Byster, *Beacon*

FBI arrest

I am dismayed that a paper of so much concern for civility and community enlightenment could print a long, detailed front-page article about Chuck Hustis ("Former Cold Spring Trustee Arrested by FBI," Dec. 20). So he was arrested; that would be enough. There has been no trial, no conviction, no prison sentence. It was cruel to both parties, but

apparently you needed the attention. I prefer not to be a member of your organization.

Betsy Calhoun, *Garrison*

The National Enquirer has apparently established a local edition in the Highlands. Who knew? You tarred and feathered the accused.

Shame on you and whomever on your advisory board supports your reckless behavior. Professional? Ha! Good taste? Ha! Journalistic integrity? I think not.

There is no doubt in my mind the Trump re-election efforts consider you in their pocket for 2020.

William Hicks, *Pittsboro, North Carolina*
Hicks is a former longtime resident of Garrison.

I was recently at a gathering where the subject of your Page 1 article on the arrest of Chuck Hustis III came up for discussion. We were also uniformly dismayed, disgusted and very disappointed as there was far more graphic detail than was necessary, constructive or needed.

Suzanne Willis, *Garrison*

The editor responds: Our story was reserved compared to the complaint. An update: In a post on Facebook on Dec. 21, Noah Katz, co-president of Foodtown, where Hustis was a manager, said Hustis had been fired and banned from the premises.

NOTICE

TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN TAX COLLECTION LEGAL NOTICE IS

HEREBY GIVEN THAT I, Tina M. Merando, the undersigned Collector of Taxes of the Town of Philipstown, County of Putnam and State of New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes within the Town of Philipstown for the year 2020 and that I will receive the same at the 34 Kemble Avenue, Cold Spring, New York from January 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. In January ONLY the Tax Collector will be at the Town Hall, 34 Kemble Avenue, Cold Spring, at 7:30 a.m. Taxes will be collected without penalty if paid on or before January 31, 2020. On all taxes paid after January 31, 2020 an additional 1% penalty will be assessed for each month or fraction thereof thereafter until such taxes are paid or until the return of unpaid taxes to the County Treasurer pursuant to law. Partial tax payment (50% of total tax) will ONLY be accepted during the month of January 2020. The second partial payment will be assessed a 1% penalty charge each month until July 31, 2020 when all unpaid second partial payments will be turned over to the County Treasurer. Full payment of taxes will be accepted without penalty during the month of January 2020. After the month of January, a 1% interest penalty will be assessed each month until May 1, 2019 when all "fully unpaid" taxes will be turned over to the County Treasurer for collection.

DATED: December 20, 2019

Tina M. Merando
 Tax Collector, Town of Philipstown

Q: The Department of Motor Vehicles is an agency of the State of New York, so how is it that the Dutchess County government has the authority to deny Philipstown its services by restricting license services to Dutchess residents ("Dutchess DMV Restricts Services," Dec. 20)?

~Steve Laifer, *Cold Spring*



A: Under state law, the clerks of 51 counties operate local DMV offices under a fee-sharing arrangement that has not changed since 1999: The counties keep 12.7 percent of any fees collected and send the rest to the state's general fund. (The state keeps 97.5 percent of fees collected online.)

That has put a strain on county DMV offices, according to the New York State Association of Counties. A bill passed in the state Senate in 2016 by a 59-2 vote (but never taken up in the Assembly) would have increased the county share of fees to 25 percent and the online portion from 2.5 to 8 percent. A similar Senate bill introduced in 2017 and 2019 would increase the rate to 60 percent on non-driver IDs and 25 percent on everything else.

That is all context for a letter sent by Dutchess County Clerk Brad Kendall, a Republican, on Dec. 16 to Legislator Rebecca Edwards, a Democrat from Poughkeepsie, who had raised concerns about a number of issues related to DMV service.

"The Dutchess County DMV offers more access to more services for more hours in more locations than any of our neighboring counties and beyond," Kendall wrote. "With the enactment of the Green Light Law [GLL, which allows undocumented immigrants to obtain driver's licenses], Orange County has chosen to limit those transactions to its Goshen office. Putnam offers GLL transactions by appointment only. Ulster provides services in Kingston and mobile services in Marlboro on Monday and New Paltz on Thursday for 4.5 hours each. It has been reported that on Monday (Dec. 16) state DMV officials in Peekskill were directing clients to our Beacon office because of the extremely long lines there.

"The GLL requires applicants who do not have a valid or expired (for less than 2 years) license to apply for the learner's permit test. By 10:30 or so, we had 87 applicants for permits waiting on line.

Based on our experience, we decided to accept no further permit applications for the day....

"Based on the current demand and the relative accessibility of Dutchess County testing sites, we have chosen to prioritize Dutchess County residents, regardless of their immigration status. As the initial demand subsides, we will continue to monitor and re-evaluate this option."

Edwards also had mentioned wait times at Dutchess offices. Kendall responded:

"Wait times in Dutchess peaked in mid-October. We were fortunate to hire six new clerks in September, half of whom are fluent in Spanish. As they received training and became integrated in our work flow, wait times diminished dramatically. Clearly, when New York State decides to make 900,000 residents eligible for licensing, processing and wait times across the state will increase. It is my hope that as initial demand is met and as the REAL ID requirement [which requires an update to licenses for use as ID on domestic flights] is met on Oct. 1, 2020, wait times will diminish."

Kendall noted the 12.7 percent share of fees "does not fully fund Dutchess County DMV operations" and that in 2018 it cost the county \$241,000 more to run the DMV than it collected in revenue from fees, not including costs for "in-kind services such as building space, heat, and electric in Beacon and Poughkeepsie. In 2019 we expect the deficit to be approximately \$250,000." [In Putnam, the county spent \$313,000 more than it collected in fees in 2018 and \$326,000 more in 2019.]

He added that "one of our high-performing clerks processed 17 fee transactions netting the county \$100. Her pay rate is \$159 per day plus benefits and office overhead. Prior to GLL she averaged 40 transactions per day. The math simply doesn't work."

Have a question we can answer?

Email: editor@highlandscurrent.org

2019 Beacon Grad Sues School District

Claims teachers, administrators ignored bullying

By Chip Rowe

A 2019 Beacon High School graduate has sued the city school district in federal court, alleging that three administrators, a teacher and a guidance counselor failed to intervene during months-long harassment by classmates because he is gay.

The student, who was 17 when the lawsuit was filed over the summer, is seeking unspecified monetary damages.

The complaint, which was filed with the federal court for the Southern District of New York, names Superintendent Matt

Landahl, the high school's principal, and assistant principal, a gym teacher and a guidance counselor, claiming the adults "idly stood by" during the harassment, which emboldened the student's bullies.

The district was served with the complaint in August, Landahl wrote in an email. "The Beacon City School District takes all issues of bullying seriously," he wrote. "We dispute the allegations in this lawsuit and will defend against them."

Landahl said he could not comment further but in a response filed with the court on Sept. 27, the district denied the claims that any of the defendants witnessed the bullying or failed to protect the student.

The student, who lived in Fishkill, attended Beacon schools from kindergarten until his graduation in June, according

to the lawsuit. He took art, gym and health classes at Beacon High School for part of the day and other classes at the BOCES Dutchess campus in Poughkeepsie. Most of the bullying took place in gym class at the high school, the lawsuit said.

The student is represented by Hillary Nappi, a New York City attorney who describes herself online as a "zealous advocate for survivors of sexual abuse and assault."

According to the complaint, during the first three weeks of gym class in September 2018, some classmates began bullying the student, who has recently "come out" as gay. It claims the teacher did nothing as students loudly taunted him as a "homo," "queer" and "faggot."

In late September, the student alleges, he confided in a BOCES teacher, who reported the bullying to the Beacon High School guidance counselor. A fellow student also reported the bullying to a principal, the suit

alleges, suggesting her friend be moved to another gym class. The principal replied that she "doesn't do schedules," according to the lawsuit, an allegation the administrator has denied.

The student alleges that on Oct. 12, he was assaulted after gym class and kicked in the face, and that as a result of the fight, both the assailant and the student were suspended for three days.

On Nov. 14, after a hearing, the district transferred the student to a new gym class, according to the complaint. On Nov. 30, a classmate "shoulder-checked" the student in the hall and threatened him. After a verbal altercation with the same classmate on Dec. 7, the student was suspended through the end of the school year.

He completed enough credits to graduate but alleges that at the ceremony two school security guards, aware of his allegations of mistreatment, loudly booed him.

Cold Spring Board *(from Page 1)*

ment project, which, when complete, will use significant amounts of water.

Trustee Steve Voloto pointed out that drought conditions in recent years have lowered water levels in the village reservoirs.

Thompson estimates that up 1,500 people enter the park at Little Stony Point on peak days. He hopes to add two restrooms, one with two urinals and two toilets, the other with four toilets.

He said additional restrooms could take

some of the pressure off Cold Spring shops, many of which limit use of the restroom to customers because of the many requests.

Little Stony Point has a well, Thompson said, but the water isn't potable. Trustees discussed the possibility of using well water for the toilets, reducing the amount of village water that would be needed.

If the park is allowed to hook into both village systems, the state would pay the costs, Thompson said.

Merandy asked Thompson to return with more details, such as estimates of how

much water Little Stony Point would use.

Improvements at Little Stony Point over the past two years have included paving the Washburn Trail parking lot, converting the caretaker's house into a park office and the construction of a volunteer center by the Friends of Little Stony Point that will have its grand opening on Jan. 1.

In other business ...

■ Village Accountant Michelle Ascolillo reported that projected expenditures for fiscal year 2019-20 will be about

\$100,000 less than expected because costs have been lower than budgeted in areas such as medical insurance, pension contributions, attorney fees, worker's compensation and shared services.

■ Trustees approved hiring part-time help to organize and digitize files at Village Hall through mid-January. Cold Spring Police Department Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke also requested authorization to hire a temporary administrative assistant to organize older evidence files.

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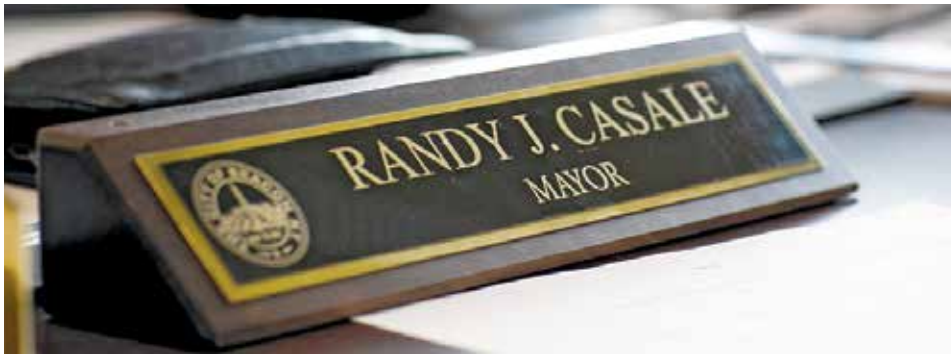
• CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Confidential Secretary to the School Superintendent wanted. Full time, competitive salary & benefits. Five years responsible clerical experience & excellent computer skills required.

• SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK – PART TIME

School District Clerk to be appointed by and report to Garrison Board of Education. Stipend position calls for mature judgement in independently carrying out School Board policies and legally required procedures. Minimum three years responsible clerical experience required.

Both positions beginning 3/2/20. Send letter(s) of interest & resume to Superintendent of Garrison Union Free School District via email to mail@gufs.org by January 10, 2020.



Casale's nameplate in his City Hall office

Beacon Mayor *(from Page 1)*

What was Beacon like when you were elected in 2011?

It had started turning around when I came on because Clara Lou [Gould] decided to put a full code department together to start enforcing building codes. People who were using buildings for single-room occupancies had to put money into them. As that started happening, they started selling buildings to people like Ron and Ronnie Beth Sauers and Gary Wood — people who wanted to rehab them. Then Dia came and it started snowballing.

In 2008 I was on the City Council and the economy went bad. Things slowed down but the city had done a comprehensive plan in 2007, the first one since the 1970s, and that was going to be the model by setting up the Fishkill Creek zone, Main Street and the waterfront district.

The Main Street and waterfront zones never got finished, so when I became mayor, I disbanded both committees and put one together for both districts, which became the Central Main Street and Linkage districts. I left out the MTA property because nobody wanted transit-oriented development [TOD] at the time. I thought if we could get those done, we could talk about a TOD plan at the train station, because by then we'd be built back up to the river, which is how it was when I was a kid. Once we got all that done, people became interested in building in Beacon.

Could you have ever predicted Beacon's popularity?

No. When the [Newburgh-Beacon] bridge went in, the ferry went away, the malls opened and industry went away, that's when the cities — Beacon, Newburgh, Poughkeepsie — went down. Did I ever envision Beacon coming back the way it has? No way in hell. That's why when I hear people complain about a little congestion — and I'm talking about old-time Beacon people — they're out of their minds, because this is the only savings for these cities, to have tourism through the arts. You hope to have businesses come in and create some jobs, but it's not going to be like when we had all the industries.

I embrace it. People say "I don't know anybody here anymore," but that's not a bad thing. I saw Beacon [thriving] as a kid and I saw many years when there wasn't much happening on Main Street. To see it back where it is, and to know that every community around us would love to be us, it makes me feel good to say I'm from Beacon.

What's the state of the city as you

leave office?

The city is financially in real good shape, but the next group that's coming in will have to face the same things I did. We have an aging infrastructure, and they're going to have to keep throwing money at it to upgrade, whether we develop or not.

We have an asset-management plan that will give them something to go by but you never fully catch up. Everybody in New York state is in the same situation. When you're talking about spending millions and millions of dollars to replace water lines and then you have to raise water rates to pay for it, people won't be happy about that, because they don't see the benefit. But eventually it will all have to be replaced.

That's the biggest thing facing the city. The second biggest is emergency services, but that's [true] throughout the country. Volunteerism is dying and fire and ambulance services need to be county-run, strategically located and paid for over a broader tax base. It's coming to a crucial point where something's going to have to happen.

What are you proudest of?

The first time I ran for mayor, there were a lot of people here who didn't want me to win. They made signs and put them at every entrance to the city saying "We love Randy, but not for mayor." I won them over because I had an open-door policy. Anyone could come in here and ask me anything, and I always gave the best answer that I could.

What will you miss?

Interacting with people. The fun part was dealing with people and trying to come up with solutions. I enjoyed every minute of it.

Any funny memories?

I married a lot of people. I didn't realize that people get a license today and they



Randy Casale served two, 4-year terms as Beacon's mayor. Photos by Meredith Heuer

want to get married tomorrow. But if I was here, I'd say yes. I did more than 100 weddings, I think.

Lessons learned?

To be in this business you need to be connected to a political party. [Casale is a member of the Independence Party and also appeared on the Republican line.] When a party gets behind you, you have a better chance of moving forward. But that wasn't my style; I wanted to make my decisions based on the information, not what my party thought I should be doing.

I hear people say, "We voted you in — you need to listen to us." But the people saying that might just be a small group that doesn't like what you're doing. You can't play to that game. You have to believe you're doing the right thing to move the city forward, and sometimes those are not the most popular decisions. I knew from coaching you can never tell everyone what they want to hear. But I probably should have tried to be more of a politician.

What's next for you?

I've put a couple of applications in for part-time jobs, but I don't know. I know I've got to do something, though. I can't sit at home. Hopefully I'll continue to coach basketball. That's my other love.

Mail Carrier *(from Page 1)*

at Garrison's Landing for 50 years — her husband, John Guinan, died of cancer in 2008 at age 56; their three children are Kelly Preusser, Sean Guinan and Casey Guinan — has seen a number of changes over the decades. When she began, Cold Spring's post office was located on Main Street. And while carriers use boxy postal-service vehicles with right-side steering wheels, for the first 14 years she drove her own car.

"I had to sit in the middle of the bench seat and use my left foot on the brake and gas," she recalled. After that experience, she said, driving USPS vehicles was easy.

She also had to deal with dogs — so many dogs. "It can be intimidating," she said. "I've been attacked and bitten." Carriers quickly learn where the aggressive dogs live and develop a healthy skepticism when owners assure them how friendly their pets are. "When dogs are on their own property, you have to be cautious," she said. That meant honking and having the owner come to her vehicle to get any mail that didn't fit in the roadside mailbox.

The biggest continual challenge, she said, was bad weather, snow and ice in particular. "We drive on the shoulder of



In 1978, when Mary Jane Guinan began delivering mail, a first-class stamp rose in price from 13 to 15 cents (or 59 cents in 2019 dollars).

the road," Guinan said. "And when there's 3 feet of snow piled up there, it's hard." When the winding, steep East Mountain Road turns icy, "that's difficult!" she said.

The best part of the job? "I like being outside," Guinan said. "Once you got out there, it was all about doing the route; I did love the job."

She isn't sure about her plans for retirement. "I've never not worked — even as a kid," she said. "I'm going to see what each day brings."

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AROUND TOWN



▲ **STOCKING GIVEAWAY** — For the 39th year, a student from each of the Beacon district's four elementary schools was presented with a Firemen's Christmas Stocking. The winners were, from left: Mason McNair, Jayden Harrison, Breannah Brace and Brianna Martinez. Shown with the children are Bobby Simmonds, Denny Lahey Sr., Val Muriqi and Bob Simmonds of the Lewis Tompkins Hose Co., which organizes the event with members of the Beacon Engine, Mase Hook & Ladder, Dutchess Junction and Slater Chemical fire companies.



► **REMEMBERING VETERANS** — The Libby Funeral Home in Beacon donated holiday wreaths to local cemeteries to be placed in their veterans' sections. Director Joe Schuka (right) is shown at St. Joachim's Cemetery with Deacon Marty Mayeski of the St. Joachim-St. John parish. Schuka on Dec. 7 also hosted a lesson for Scout Troop 41 from Glenham on the flag-folding and etiquette used during military funerals while Michelle Murray-Poczobut, who plays "Taps" at many of them locally, gave a brief history of the song.



◀ **SENIOR VISIT** — Preschool students from the Hudson Hills Montessori School in Beacon took a walking trip on Dec. 18 to share holiday cheer with residents of the Highland Meadows Senior Residence.

Photos provided

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SATURDAY, DEC. 28
6 pm Lucky Luna - No Music Cover
8:30 pm **Roomful of Blues**

SUNDAY, DEC. 29
11:30 am - 2:30 pm Dead End Beverly - No Music Cover
7 pm **California Dreamin'**

TUESDAY, DEC. 31
7 pm Judith Tulloch New Year's Eve Salon - No Music Cover
9:30 pm **New Year's Eve Celebration**
Slam Allen Band, Dan Brother Band
+ William Sadler

FRIDAY, JAN. 3
7 pm Peter Calo - No Music Cover
8:30 pm **Adam Ezra Group**

SATURDAY, JAN. 4
6 pm Robert Tellefsen - No Music Cover
8:30 pm **Rick Danko Tribute**
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11:30 am East Coast Jazz - No Music Cover
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The Calendar

Handmade and Heartfelt

Beacon writer explores the power of personal craft

By Alison Rooney

Melanie Falick was attending a professional workshop — she directed a crafting imprint for the Abrams book publisher — when the speaker's concluding remark upended her.

"He held up a simple wooden boat that he had carved for his grandson," recalls Falick, who lives with her family in Beacon. "With that small handmade object, he reminded us to never let the lure of technology or business overshadow the value we place on working with our own hands."

Three years later, Falick left her job after two decades in the book industry. She had no plan, but was certain it was the right move. "Although I was making a good living, I was no longer making a good life," she says. "I knew that if I didn't make a change, I would come to regret it."

She began to write a book, *Making a Life: Working by Hand and Discovering the Life You Are Meant to Live*, which was published in October by Artisan and received starred reviews in *Publishers Weekly* and *Booklist*. In 30 chapters, Falick profiles people who make things. The theme is the inspiration of a "maker film festival" Falick is helping to organize for February at Story Screen Beacon.

"The meaning of life for thousands of years was to stay alive. Now we have machines and it's like, 'What do we do?'" she explains. "Your hands are the most extraordinary tool

we have. There's so much within our own reach. This book is a call to action to stand up to this idea that what we are doing is not crucial to our wellness."

To find her subjects, Falick followed leads around the U.S., India, Mexico and Europe from "one person and place to the next." She "explored, listened intently, took notes, made things." She visited farms, factories, traditional craft-making villages and home studios, all with the goal of "honing my perspective on what it means to make by hand and start to comprehend how it relates to economic development and globalization." Photographer Rinne Allen often accompanied her.

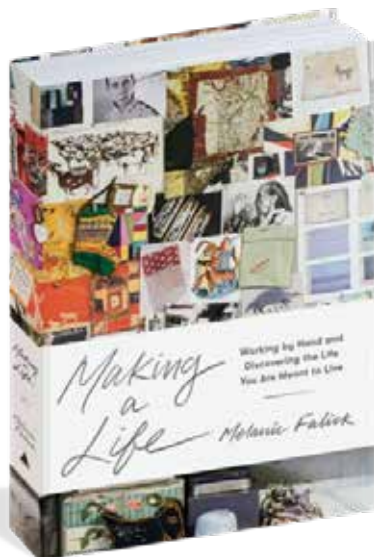
Falick says she felt validated about some of her own life choices while putting *Making a Life* together.

"These were all ideas that I've been thinking about, but the more time I was able to investigate, the more grounded and clear I felt about my desires," she says. "It's confusing because you're pursuing this life you've been told you want and a lot of times you feel out of sync and you can't put your finger on it."

"When I was at Abrams, and thinking about leaving, I was fixated on things like retirement accounts. When you're in a culture that instills this fear that if you don't have all these things you're not going to be happy, you forsake your own wellness in the present. Time is our most precious commodity and we're actually pretty frivolous about it."



Melanie Falick
Photo by Christine Ashburn



“As makers what we do is often regarded as ‘other,’ a hobby, a little frivolous, artsy, as if it’s not serious because you don’t necessarily make a lot of money, or have a fancy title, but using our hands to make things is part of our humanity. Even if what you’re making is not necessary for physical survival, it is essential for our spiritual survival.”

~Melanie Falick, in *Making a Life*



A two-level studio features the work of Nathalie Lété, maker of fabrics, puzzles, dolls, lunch boxes, wallpaper and much more. Located in a suburb of Paris, it is a former iron factory.



Participants practice at a welding camp. When the hood is pulled down, everything goes dark except the spot where the weld is happening and the sparks are bouncing all around.



Basket maker Annemarie O'Sullivan works with rods made from dried willow. The base is made by cutting rods to desired lengths, then laying sticks out in a slath (grid) underfoot, then tying them in with a pair of weavers.



Using a back-and-forth rocking motion on a sharpening stone, Falick hones the blade on a chisel to create the sharpest edge possible.
Photos by Rinne Allen

Last-Minute Giving Guide

While charitable donations will help keep critically important community resources in operation year-round, you have until Dec. 31 to contribute to your favorite nonprofits and receive a deduction on your 2019 taxes. By one estimate, 30 percent of donations in the U.S. are made in December, and 10 percent in the last 48 hours of the year. The deadline for 2019 is 5 p.m. on Tuesday if you are mailing a check and midnight if you use a credit card. For a clickable guide to the organizations below, visit highlandscurrent.org/giving-guide.

Animals

Animal Rescue Foundation

54 Simmons Lane, Beacon, NY 12508
arfbeacon.org

Dutchess County SPCA

636 Violet Ave., Hyde Park, NY 12538
dcsPCA.org

Friends of Beacon Dog Park

beacondogpark.org

Guiding Eyes for the Blind

611 Granite Springs Road, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598
guidingeyes.org



Curt Landtroop of Cold Spring with his latest dog (his seventh), Quincy, provided by Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

Photo provided

Mid Hudson Animal Aid (Cat Sanctuary)

54 Simmons Lane, Beacon, NY 12508
midhudsonanimalaid.org

Putnam County SPCA

P.O. Box 850, Brewster, NY 10509
spcaputnam.org

Putnam Humane Society

P.O. Box 297, Carmel, NY 10512
puthumane.org

Putnam Service Dogs

P.O. Box 573, Brewster, NY 10509
putnamservicedogs.org

Arts, Music & Theater

Beacon Arts Community Association

P.O. Box 727, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconarts.org

Chapel Restoration

P.O. Box 43, Cold Spring, NY 10516
chapelrestoration.org

Cold Spring Film Society

192 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
coldspringfilm.org

Collaborative Concepts at Saunders Farm

collaborativeconcepts.org

Dia:Beacon

3 Beekman St., Beacon, NY 12508
diaart.org

Downing Film Center

19 Front St., Newburgh, NY 12550
downingfilmcenter.com

Garrison Art Center

23 Garrison's Landing, Garrison, NY 10524
garrisonartcenter.org

Howland Chamber Music Circle

P.O. Box 224, Chelsea, NY 12512
howlandmusic.org

Howland Cultural Center

477 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
howlandculturalcenter.org

Hudson Valley MOCA

1701 Main St., Peekskill, NY 10566
hudsonvalleymoca.org

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

143 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
hvshakespeare.org

Manitoga / Russel Wright Design Center

P.O. Box 249, Garrison, NY 10524
visitmanitoga.org

Philipstown Depot Theatre

P.O. Box 221, Garrison, NY 10524
philipstowndepottheatre.org

Sunset Reading Series

33 Parrott St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
sunsetreadings.org

Education

Beacon Advocates for Music

P.O. Box 727, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconartsandeducation.org
Checks: BeaconArts. Memo: BAM

Beacon Arts & Education Foundation

P.O. Box 727, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconartsandeducation.org
Checks: BeaconArts. Memo: BAEF

Beacon High School PTSO

101 Matteawan Road, Beacon, NY 12508

Garrison Children's Education Fund

P.O. Box 262, Garrison, NY 10524
gcef.net



Kurt Rhoads (right) will play Richard III next summer in a Hudson Valley Shakespeare production. *Photo by T. Charles Erickson/HVSF*

Garrison School PTA

1100 Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10524
gufspta.org

Glenham Elementary PTO

20 Chase Drive, Fishkill, NY 12524

Haldane Arts Alliance

15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring, NY 10516
haldanearts.org

Haldane Blue Devil Booster Club

15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring, NY 10516
haldaneschool.org/athletics/hall-of-fame-booster-club

Haldane PTA

15 Craigsides Dr., Cold Spring, NY 10516
haldanepta.org

Haldane School Foundation

P.O. Box 364, Cold Spring, NY 10516
haldaneschoolfoundation.org

JV Forrestal Elementary PTSO

125 Liberty St., Beacon, NY 12508
jvfptso.com

Rombout Middle School PTO

84 Matteawan Road, Beacon, NY 12508
romboutpto.org

Sargent Elementary PTO

29 Education Drive, Beacon, NY 12508
sargentpto.org

South Avenue Elementary PTA

60 South Ave., Beacon, NY 12508
southavenuepta.com

Children & Teens

Beacon Performing Arts Center
327B Main St., Beacon, NY 12508

Denniston International

256 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
dennistoninternational.org

Friends of Philipstown Recreation

P.O. Box 155, Cold Spring, NY 10516
www.friendsofphilipstownrecreation.org

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson

girlscoutshh.org

Hudson Valley Seed

P.O. Box 223, Beacon, NY 12508
hudsonvalleyseed.org

Philipstown Little League

P.O. Box 347, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Philipstown Soccer Club

P.O. Box 231, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Putnam County Children's Committee

P.O. Box 187, Carmel, NY 10512
pccchildren.org

Saint Basil Academy

79 Saint Basil Road, Garrison, NY 10524
stbasil.goarch.org

SHRED Foundation

94 Prospect St., Beacon, NY 12508
shredfoundation.org

Surprise Lake Camp (Philipstown)

520 Eighth Ave., 4th Floor
New York, NY 10018
surpriselake.org

The Ramps at Memorial Park

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Members of Philipstown Cub Scouts Pack 137 receive their awards after a Pinewood Derby race this year. *Photo by Ross Corsair*



Community

Beacon Community Advancement Corp.

1 Forrestal Heights, Beacon, NY 12508

Beacon Community Lions Club

P.O. Box 83, Beacon, NY 12508

Cold Spring Farmers' Market

P.O. Box 325, Cold Spring, NY 10516
csfarmmarket.org



The crops are bountiful at the Cold Spring Farmers' Market.

Photo provided

Cold Spring Lions Club

P.O. Box 308, Cold Spring, NY 10516
coldspringlions.org

Community Foundation of Dutchess County

80 Washington St., Suite 201,
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
communityfoundationshv.org

Community Foundation of Putnam County

80 Washington St., Suite 201,
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
communityfoundationshv.org

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County

2715 Route 44, Suite 1, Millbrook, NY 12545
ccedutches.org

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County

1 Geneva Road, Brewster, NY 10509
putnam.cce.cornell.edu

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh

125 Washington St., Newburgh, NY 12550
habitatnewburgh.org

Highlands Current Inc.

142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
highlandscurrent.org

I Am Beacon

P.O. Box 265, Beacon, NY 12508
bit.ly/beacon-give

River Pool at Beacon

P.O. Box 173, Beacon, NY 12508
riverpool.org

Spirit of Beacon Day

P.O. Box 821, Beacon, NY 12508
spiritofbeacon.org

United Way of Dutchess-Orange Region

75 Market St., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
uwdor.org

United Way of Westchester and Putnam

336 Central Park Ave.,
White Plains, NY 10606
uwwp.org

Emergency Services

Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corps

P.O. Box 54, Beacon, NY 12508

Cold Spring Fire Co. No. 1

154 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

Continental Village Volunteer Fire Department

12 Spy Pond Road, Garrison, NY 10524

Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corps

P.O. Box 121, Garrison, NY 10524

Garrison Volunteer Fire Company

1616 Route 9, Garrison, NY 10524

North Highlands Engine Co. No. 1

504 Fishkill Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps

14 Cedar St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

Historical

Bannerman Castle Trust

P.O. Box 843, Glenham, NY 12527
bannermancastle.org

Beacon Historical Society

P.O. Box 89, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconhistorical.org

Boscobel Restoration

1601 Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10524
boscobel.org

Constitution Island Association

P.O. Box 126, Cold Spring, NY 10516
constitutionisland.org

Dutchess County Historical Society

P.O. Box 88, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602
dchsny.org

Garrison's Landing Association

P.O. Box 205, Garrison, NY 10524
garrisonslanding.org

Mount Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society

P.O. Box 1248, Beacon, NY 12508
inclinerrailway.org

Mount Gulian Society

145 Sterling St., Beacon, NY 12508

Putnam History Museum

63 Chestnut St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
putnamhistorymuseum.com



The Philipstown Hub opened in Cold Spring in October.

Photo by Alison Rooney

Society for the Preservation of Historical Cemeteries

167 Tanglewyld Road, Lake Peekskill, NY 10537

Hunger

Beacon Community Kitchen

c/o Multi-Services, Inc., P.O. Box 1285,
Beacon, NY 12508
Check: Multi-Services. Memo: BCK

Fareground Community Kitchen

P.O. Box 615, Beacon, NY 12508
fareground.org

Philipstown Food Pantry

10 Academy St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
presbychurchcoldspring.org/food-pantry.html

St. Andrew & St. Luke Food Pantry

15 South Ave., Beacon, NY 12508
beacon-episcopal.org/food-pantry

Libraries

Butterfield Library

10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring, NY 10516
butterfieldlibrary.org

Desmond-Fish Library

P.O. Box 265, Garrison, NY 10524
desmondfishlibrary.org

Howland Public Library

313 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
beaconlibrary.org



Veterans salute during a ceremony at the Cold Spring war memorial on Veterans Day.

Photo by Michael Turton



The Little Stony Point Citizens Association celebrates Maple Syrup Day in the spring.

File photo

Natural Resources

Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries

199 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508
bire.org

Beacon Sloop Club

P.O. Box 527, Beacon, NY 12508
beaconsloop.org

Common Ground Farm

P.O. Box 148, Beacon, NY 12508
commongroundfarm.org

Constitution Marsh Audubon Center

P.O. Box 174, Cold Spring, NY 10516
constitutionmarsh.audubon.org

Ecological Citizen's Project

69 South Mountain Pass, Garrison, NY 10524 | ecologicalcitizens.org

Friends of Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Parks

P.O. Box 194, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Glynwood Center

P.O. Box 157, Cold Spring, NY 10516
glynwood.org

Hudson Highlands Land Trust

P.O. Box 226, Garrison, NY 10524
hhlt.org

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater

724 Wolcott Ave., Beacon, NY 12508
clearwater.org

Little Stony Point Citizens Association

P.O. Box 319, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Putnam Highlands Audubon Society

P.O. Box 292, Cold Spring, NY 10516
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Riverkeeper

20 Secor Road, Ossining, NY 10562
riverkeeper.org

Scenic Hudson

One Civic Center Plaza, Suite 200,
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
scenichudson.org

Stoncrop Gardens

81 Stoncrop Lane, Cold Spring, NY 10516
stoncrop.org

Rehabilitation Services

CoveCare Center

1808 Route 6, Carmel, NY 10512
covecarecenter.org

In My Mother's House Resource Center For Women

15 South Ave., Beacon, NY 12508

Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub

P.O. Box 317, Cold Spring, NY 10516
philipstownhub.org

Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center

935 South Lake Blvd., Mahopac, NY 10541
pnwwrc.org

Support Connection

40 Triangle Center, Suite 100, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598 | supportconnection.org

Topfield Equestrian Center

P.O. Box 367, Cold Spring, NY 10516
topfeldequestriancenter.com

Veterans

American Legion Post 203

413 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508

American Legion Post 275

275 Cedar St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

Hudson Valley Veterans Alliance

P.O. Box 1048, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
hudsonvalleyveteransalliance.org

Marine Corps League

P.O. Box 96, Beacon, NY 12508

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 666

413 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2362

P.O. Box 283, Cold Spring, NY 10516

THE WEEK AHEAD

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



New Year's Celebration for Children, Dec. 31



Children's Holiday Tea, Dec. 30

COMMUNITY

SAT 28 Illumin8: Bicycle Menorah Lighting

BEACON
6 p.m. Polhill Park
Main Street at Route 9D
beaconhebrewalliance.org
Also SUN 29.

SAT 28 Holiday Open House

FISHKILL
6:30 – 9 p.m. Van Wyck Homestead
504 Route 9 | 845-896-9560
fishkillhistoricalsociety.org

Enjoy 18th-century music by Clara Schuman and contemporary music on guitar and mandolin by Steve Kelman, with mulled cider and snacks, a poem-reading and activities for children. Hosted by the Fishkill Historical Society. *Free*

WED 1 First Day Hike

PHILIPSTOWN
11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D | 845-225-7207
littlestonypoint.org

The Volunteer Center will have its ribbon-cutting at 11 a.m. with hot chocolate and snacks, and park staff and volunteers will lead a 1-mile hike around Little Stony Point and a 3-mile hike on the Cornish Estate trail. The hikes are among dozens taking place in the state, including at the Walkway Over the Hudson in Poughkeepsie at 2 p.m. See bit.ly/NY-first-day-hikes. *Free*

FRI 3 Civil Service Job Recruitment

GARRISON
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Bring your resume and learn about job opportunities with the state Department of Corrections.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 28 Cirque de la Lune

BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
cirquedelalune.bpt.me

Hayden Wayne's original musical will feature Kelly Ellenwood, Rhiannon and Rowan Parsaca, Leah Siegel and Michael Bonanno. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door, \$10 students)*

SAT 4 Life is Amazing

BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
brownpapertickets.com/event/4476264

Abby Feldman's one-woman stand-up show includes original songs about her trials and failures. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)*



KIDS & FAMILY

MON 30 School Break Mini-Camp

CORNWALL
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Outdoor Discovery Center
100 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506
hnm.org

Children ages 6 to 9 can meet an animal each day and learn about its winter survival tricks. In addition, there will be hiking, games and crafts. Also THURS 2, FRI 3. *Cost: \$50 per day (\$45 members)*

MON 30 Children's Holiday Tea

BEACON
Noon – 2 p.m. Mount Gulian
145 Sterling St. | 845-831-8172
mountgulian.org

Children will be served tea with dainty sandwiches and homemade desserts in 18th-century style. *Cost: \$22 (\$17 children)*

TUES 31 New Year's Celebration for Children

POUGHKEEPSIE
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Mid-Hudson Children's Museum
75 North Water St. | 845-471-0589
mhcm.org

A DJ will spin tunes for the young ones and every hour will feature a different New Year's Eve countdown event and activity. *Cost: \$14 (\$10 members)*

MUSIC

SAT 28 Roomful of Blues

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

The five-time Grammy nominees will perform their signature rock, blues and R&B blend. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

SUN 29 California Dreamin'

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

The band will cover music popular in Southern California in the 1960s and 1970s. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

TUES 31 Shadows of the 60's

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

In this tribute to Motown super groups, the band will perform the music of the Supremes, the Four Tops, the Temptations and others. *Cost: \$40 to \$80*



TUES 31 Black Coffee Blues Band

BEACON
9 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St.
845-202-7500 | dogwoodbeacon.com

The band will play until 11:30 p.m. and then revelers can enjoy a laser-light show and ball drop.

TUES 31 Slam Allen Band

BEACON
9:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Allen's group will be joined by the Dan Brother Band and the singer William Sadler to ring in the New Year. *Cost: \$55 (\$125 with dinner and champagne)*

TUES 31 Milo Z

PEEKSKILL
10:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

Welcome the New Year with the energetic performer and his band playing their original "razzamofunk" sound. *Cost: \$25 to \$30*

SUN 5 Open Mic Finals

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

This invitational round will bring together some of the best from the open-mic community. *Cost: \$8*



Motown Tribute, Dec. 31



Slam Allen Band, Dec. 31

VISUAL ART**SUN 29****Inclusion****BEACON**

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

This is the closing reception of an exhibit of works by Latino-American artists who live in the Hudson Valley.

FRI 3**Artists Invite I****COLD SPRING**

6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
121 Main St. | 845-809-5145
busterlevigallery.com

Six members of the gallery have

chosen artists to pair their work in the first of two exhibitions. The exhibit includes art by John Allen, Jesseca Ferguson, Elena Goren, Polly King, Matt Kinney, Bill Kooistra, Martee Levi, Liz Rudnick, Ursula Schneider, Eleni Smolen, Lucille Tortora and Paul Tschinkel.

FRI 3**Drawing with Summer Pierre****COLD SPRING**

6 – 8 p.m. Split Rock Books | 97 Main St.
845-265-2080 | splitrockbks.com

The Eisner-nominated cartoonist will host an informal drawing party for all ages. *Free*

SAT 4**The Sympathetic Eye****BEACON**

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

The portrait photography of Jo Ann Chaus, Janet Holmes, Susan Rosenberg Jones and Paul Kessel will be displayed in this show curated by Susan Keiser.



Photo by Susan Rosenberg Jones

CIVIC**WED 1****Swearing-in Ceremony****BEACON**

3 p.m. Courthouse | 413 Main St.
845-838-5000 | cityofbeacon.org

The new mayor, Lee Kyriacou, and City Council members elected in November will be sworn into office.

THURS 2**Philipstown Town Board****GARRISON**

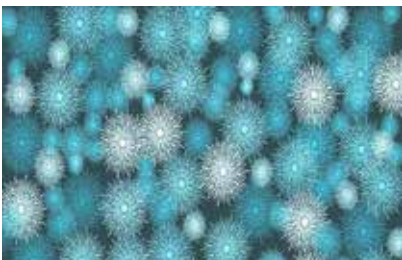
7:30 p.m.
Philipstown Community Center
107 Glenclyffe Dr. | 845-265-5200
philipstown.com



By Eleni Smolen

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HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

Sat. Dec. 28 – 8 pm *
CIRQUE DE LA LUNE

Hayden Wayne's engaging circus-themed musical

Sun. Dec. 29 – 2:30 to 4:30 pm
RECEPTION for "INCLUSION" SHOW ARTISTS
Join the party; meet the artists

Sat. Jan 4 – 2:30 to 4:30 pm
OPENING RECEPTION "THE SYMPATHETIC EYE"
January show: Four photographers

Sat. Jan. 4 – 8 pm
"LIFE IS AMAZING" with ABBY FELDMAN



Stand-up
comedy
+
songs
on
meditation,
Latin men
and
potato chips

Fri. Jan. 10 – 7 pm
HUDSON VALLEY POETS
Your chance to read, or just enjoy

Thom Joyce's Open Mic returns Jan 17th

AND MORE

Sat. Jan. 11, Classics for Kids concert, Fei-Fei, pianist
Sat. Jan. 11, "The Artichoke," storytellers par excellence
Sun. Jan. 12, Howland Chamber Music Circle presents Fei-Fei

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Start Reading Now

January book club selections

Fiction Book Club

THURS 9, 7 P.M.

The Mars Room, by Rachel Kushner
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring

Helen Savoit Book Club

TUES 14, 1:30 P.M.

Five short stories (see bit.ly/book-club-stories)
Howland Public Library, Beacon

Kids' Book Club

THURS 16, 4 P.M.

Weird Little Robots, by Carolyn Crimi
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring

History Book Club

THURS 16, 7 P.M.

Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945
by Tony Judt
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring

Butterfield Book Club

MON 20, 7 P.M.

Educated: A Memoir
by Tara Westover
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring

Graphic Novel Book Club (for Adults)

TUES 21, 7 P.M.

*Today is the Last Day of the Rest
of Your Life*, by Ulli Lust
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring

Beacon Book Club

THURS 23, 7:15 P.M.

The Club Dumas
by Arturo Perez-Reverte
Location available to members
meetup.com/Beacon-BookClub

Listen Up! We Missed One

Last week we promised you six local podcasts but provided five. Here is the one that was excised due to an editing error.

Professional Confessionals

Hosts: Steve Laifer and Lourdes Sabio, Cold Spring

Why do it?

"We didn't set out to make a podcast. Our goal was to find the best medium to build and make accessible an extensive library of interviews that could be used as a resource. We chose podcasting because guests are more at ease without cameras and the portability allows listening while engaged in other activities."

What is it?

"People share their professional life stories; shedding light on what it's like to work in their field, what led them to it, what they find interesting, satisfying, distasteful, what surprised them, what they wished they'd known beforehand, and what they might do differently. It's geared toward helping teens, young adults or anyone faced with the daunting dilemma of what to do with their lives. We've seen so many young folks struggle with this decision and try to make sense of our world and their place in



it. The goal is to provide the unvarnished, honest truth of what it takes to work in a multitude of professions.

"Among others, we've interviewed a surgeon (Robert Raniolo), a singer/songwriter (Dar Williams), a teacher (Joe Patrick), an artist (Carla Goldberg), an investigative reporter (David McKay Wilson), a climate scientist (Timothy Hall), an architect (Juhee Lee-Hartford), a sheriff (Robert Langley) and a medical technologist (Ribhia Abdelhady)."

Where is it?

professionalconfessionals.com

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Roots and Shoots

What We See

By Pamela Doan

Staring out my dining room window at the 7-foot tall brown stalks of Joe pye weed where the birds hang out next to the feeder, I wonder about all the ways people interpret this view and activity.



What I see is a native plant in a working landscape serving a purpose in every season.

Someone else will see a dead plant that should have been cut down after it bloomed. Another person will see birds making a mess on the patio. Yet another will see a weed disrupting the lawn.

Our way of seeing the landscape around us influences what we plant, what we call "beautiful" and ultimately the ecosystems that thrive and survive as the climate emergency becomes more urgent.

On that note, here are some ways that my way of seeing was represented in *Roots and Shoots* in 2019.

Most frequently asked question

Readers whom I spoke with or who emailed about issues had the most questions related to lawn care. The questions covered the gamut of weed management to fertilizers and bare patches. While we plant acres of grass, we don't know much about it.

Lawn care starts with healthy soil and a species of turfgrass well-adapted to the site conditions. Studies repeatedly show that more chemical fertilizers are used on residential lawns than on commercial agriculture and water pollution is the result. Algal blooms make headlines around the country as increased nutrient pollution comes from the phosphorus and nitrogen we put on our lawns and fields.

Most discussed topic

Climate change and what gardeners can do it about it has usually been the underlying theme of these columns from the first printing nearly 6 years ago. My conviction



Joe pye weed makes lovely shadows and patterns in the snow.

Photo by P. Doan

TOP 5
Things to Do in Your
Yard in 2020

- Create a pollinator island of native plants that bloom in spring, summer, and fall.
- Reduce your lawn by 20 percent.
- Make a rain garden to hold stormwater on your property and reduce run-off.
- Plant a tree.
- Make a compost pile for your kitchen scraps and other organic waste to use as a natural fertilizer on your garden.

tion that our personal landscape choices make a difference in the climate emergency has only grown stronger as more studies demonstrate the connections.

While there's no doubt that urgent large-scale action is necessary, there's a whole movement about using our yards as havens for pollinators, birds and wildlife. The three main takeaways here are to stop using chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides; work with native plants to support ecosystems and wildlife; and reduce your carbon footprint by using electric tools.

Most important resource to respect

Water — when, where, how much — will define our experience of the increasing climate threat. In a purely provincial sense, even though New York's weather predictions within climate change show increased precipitation, it's coming in more extreme forms, like heavier downpours, and less frequently, meaning that drought periods are more frequent and longer.

Designing landscapes for greater water retention and less runoff can replenish the groundwater table and build community resilience against both flooding and water shortages. Successful gardening practices will be less water reliant, drought-tolerant and rely on plants that can handle extremes of both temperature and precipitation.

Most misunderstood resource

Soil. It's not just the dirt beneath your feet but a living, breathing, nutrition and mineral filled, carbon-capturing, ecosystem that supports all plant life which supports all human life. We're losing our top soil, which took hundreds of years to form, 10 to 40 times faster than it is being replenished. A single rainstorm can wash away a millimeter of bare soil. It doesn't sound like a lot, but it adds up quickly, especially for a farmer.

We can protect and improve soil through plant choice and practices like mulching. Plants can actually build up soil health through their root systems and during decomposition.

NOTICE

The Garrison School: Superintendent Search

The Trustees of the Garrison Union Free School District Board of Education would like to invite residents of the Garrison School District to attend a Community Forum led by our search consultants, District Wise Search Consultants. Your input will be valuable to us while we create a profile for our next Superintendent. The Community Forum will be held on **Thursday, January 16th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Garrison School Library. Our community members' participation is very important during this process. All information gathered by District Wise will be included anonymously in a report that will be prepared for the Board. We hope you can make it on January 16th. For those unable to attend the meeting, or who prefer to provide their suggestions and opinions privately, a confidential email address has been established by the consultants: gufssuptsearch@districtwisearch.com

This address will accept emails until February 16th for inclusion in the report. Any emails received after this date will be forwarded anonymously to the Board of Education.

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Tai Chi Ch'uan

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What members are saying...



“

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Carinda Swann, Beacon **New PARTNER Member**

”

Become a member today!

Help The Current engage and inform The Highlands . . .

TO INTRODUCE OUR MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM, we are planning two community forums next year on issues of the moment, and we will invite all on our email list at the time of the event.

TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, we are offering our members these benefits:

MEMBER BENEFITS	Friend \$24 to \$119	Partner \$120 to \$599	Patron \$600+
<i>The Highlands Current</i> tote bag	●	●	●
<i>CurrentPlus</i> : A weekly newsletter featuring insights, calendar highlights and other exclusives	●	●	●
Priority invitation and reception before annual community forums		●	●
Priority early digital delivery of Friday's print paper		●	●
Annual patrons' lunch with <i>The Current</i> editor and members of the Board of Directors			●

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Donations up to \$1,000 made Nov. 1 to Dec. 31 this year will be matched, to a total of \$20,000.

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will mean
\$60,000
for our newsroom!

It's Easy!

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- OR
- Send a check to *The Highlands Current* at our new address, **142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.**

NEWS BRIEFS

Teen Charged after Beacon Hit-and-Run

Accused of hitting three pedestrians

A 17-year-old was charged with leaving the scene of an accident that caused personal injuries after he allegedly struck three pedestrians in Beacon on Monday (Dec. 23).

Police and emergency medical workers were dispatched to the intersection of Route 9D and Main Street at about 4 p.m. following a report that three pedestrians had been struck by a vehicle that left the scene. The victims were transported to a local hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

An investigation led to the arrest a short time later of a male teenager, whom police did not identify because he is a minor. He was released to his parents on an appearance ticket.

Deputy Struck by Car

Injured in Mahopac while directing traffic

An investigator with the Putnam County Sheriff's Department was struck and injured by an SUV in Mahopac on Dec. 14 while directing traffic.

The officer, who was directing traffic on Route 6, was struck at about 7:40 p.m. and taken to Danbury Hospital by the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department ambulance. The Sheriff's Department said the driver of an SUV was issued three summons for disobeying a police officer, failing to exercise due care when approaching an emergency vehicle, and speeding.

MTA Drops Parking Increase

Proposal met with opposition

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which in November postponed a vote on a proposal that would increase Metro-North parking rates, including those at the Beacon, Cold Spring and Garrison stations, has withdrawn the proposal.

The board was scheduled to consider the proposal at its December meeting but it was pulled from the agenda after opposition



ELECTRIC FILL-UP — Tesla plans this spring to install 12 charging stations — seen here in an architect's rendering — at the Hudson Valley Towne Center on Route 9 in Fishkill.

Image provided

from state lawmakers and some MTA board members, including Neal Zuckerman, a Garrison resident who represents Putnam County.

In addition to rate increases, the proposal would have eliminated free Saturday parking. The MTA hoped to raise nearly \$1 million in annual revenue from the hikes, which would have been the first since 2013. In Cold Spring and Garrison, the daily rate would have risen 50 cents, to \$4, and annual resident passes by \$36, to \$394, effective Jan. 1. In Beacon, the proposed increase would raise daily rates by 75 cents, to \$4.25, and annual resident passes by \$30, to \$328.

Book Benefits

Libraries announce programs

The Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison says it will eliminate overdue fees for materials it owns as of Jan. 2, citing studies that have found fines disproportionately impact low-income households. Fees will still be assessed for lost items.

Citing revenue from a tax increase approved by Garrison residents earlier this year, the library also said it will extend its hours each week beginning Jan. 5 and open at 10 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday instead of 1 p.m. Its hours will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday; 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

In addition, the library will begin offering mobile hotspots and laptops available for checkout and expand its digital collections.

In Beacon, the Howland Public Library will launch its annual "Food for Fines" program on Jan. 2 in which patrons can reduce or eliminate outstanding late fees by donating items for local food pantries.

Donated items must be non-perishable, labeled, undamaged and unexpired, including low-sodium canned items, as well as peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken and Parmalat milk. The library will also be accepting personal-care products such as toothpaste, soap, feminine hygiene products and shampoo.

Food for Fines does not apply to fees for items that have been lost, damaged or checked out from other libraries.

State Awards Regional Development Grants

Includes \$600,000 for Fahnestock trail

The state Regional Economic Development Council for the Mid-Hudson Valley last week announced \$65.8 million in annual grants.

In Putnam, the Open Space Institute was awarded \$600,000 to restore the Hubbard

Perkins Loop Trail in Fahnestock State Park, including fixing pedestrian bridges, adding signage and installing a kiosk at the Hubbard Lodge trailhead; the Glynwood Center received \$95,000 toward a planned, 3,000-square-foot poultry processing facility and meat processing training center that will serve six counties; and the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival received \$37,500 to support its ongoing training of early-career actors, designers, technicians and managers.

In Dutchess County, the New York Juice Co. received \$800,000 to construct a 50,000-square-foot manufacturing facility; the Climate Action Planning Institute was given \$100,000 to work with the county and nine municipalities to create greenhouse-gas inventories and climate-action plans; and Arts Mid-Hudson received \$18,750 to hire an arts education coordinator.

In Orange County, Graft Cider received \$264,000 to adapt an old factory in Newburgh into a 14,000-square-foot production and distribution facility and tasting room, and the Hudson Valley Agribusiness Development Corp. got \$50,000 to conduct a market analysis of growing broccoli in the region.

Statewide, regional development councils awarded \$761 million in competitive economic and community development aid for 8,300 projects.

Sheriff Announces Promotions

Putnam undersheriff will retire

Putnam County Undersheriff Michael Corrigan will retire on Dec. 31 after 36 years in law enforcement, the Sheriff's Department announced. Capt. Kevin Cheverko, the commissioner of corrections, will succeed him.

Cheverko worked for 32 years for the Westchester County Department of Corrections, most recently as its commissioner, before moving to the Putnam County department under Sheriff Robert Langley Jr.

In addition, Langley promoted Lt. James Greenough to captain, Sgt. Michael Villani to lieutenant and corrections officers Richard Bartley and Travis Bjorkander to sergeants.

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FOR SALE

ITEMS FOR SALE — *The Current* moved to our new offices and have some items available for sale. (1) Philips VIC WK1016A5B large-screen television stand with assorted screws \$20. (2) Danby 3.2 Cu. Ft. Compact Refrigerator – Black \$100. (3) Walker Edison Glass Solo Computer Desk with keyboard tray \$50 19.75" by 32", 29" high. Email tech@highlandscurrent.org with interest.

TAG SALE? Car for sale? Space for rent? Help wanted?
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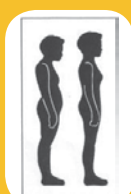
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The HIGHLANDS

Current

7-Day Forecast for the Highlands

Saturday

46/26

Sunny much of the time and mild

POP: 0%

NNW 4-8 mph

RealFeel 48/30

Sunday

45/38

Partly sunny, then clouds, a little rain

POP: 65%

SSE 3-6 mph

RealFeel 42/38

Monday

44/33

Showers around in the a.m.; cloudy; rain at night

POP: 80%

SW 4-8 mph

RealFeel 48/22

Tuesday

41/28

Intervals of clouds and sun

POP: 25%

W 7-14 mph

RealFeel 35/20

Wednesday

38/25

Periods of clouds and sun

POP: 15%

WNW 8-16 mph

RealFeel 34/17

Thursday

39/33

Cloudy

POP: 25%

SE 3-6 mph

RealFeel 39/24

Friday

45/36

Chance of a little morning rain; otherwise, cloudy

POP: 30%

WSW 7-14 mph

RealFeel 37/34

Snowfall

Past weekTrace

Month to date10.9"

Normal month to date3.8"

Season to date10.9"

Normal season to date5.7"

Last season to date5.2"

Record for 12/270.0" (0)

SUN & MOON

Sunrise Sat., 12/287:21 AM

Sunset Sat. night, 12/284:33 PM

Moonrise Sat., 12/289:21 AM

Moonset Sat., 12/287:02 PM

First

Full

Last

New

Jan 2Jan 10Jan 17Jan 24

POP: Probability of Precipitation; The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature® is an exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine intensity, cloudiness, precipitation, pressure and elevation on the human body. Shown are the highest and lowest values for each day.

CROSSCURRENT

By
King Features

ACROSS

1. Variety of lettuce

5. "Eureka!"

8. Book of prophecies

12. Lotion additive

13. Chaps

14. Toothpaste container

15. Anger

16. Conventional

18. One up?

20. Western occurrence

21. Leopold's codefendant

23. Four qts.

24. One of Monopoly's light-blue avenues

28. Speech impediment

31. Great noise

32. Disrobe

34. Female deer

35. Bird of peace

37. Decoration

39. Finish

41. Ireland

42. Secular

45. Servile

49. Form a union

51. Top

52. Isn't well

53. Calendar abbr.

54. Prolonged sleep

55. Run away

56. Automaton, for short

57. Slaughter of baseball

DOWN

1. Zinger

2. Pelvic bones

3. Nut partner

4. Pvt. Bailey

5. Cherub, in art

6. The girl

7. Picnic invaders

8. Musically keyless

9. Flood aftermath, perhaps

10. Reed instrument

11. Send a naughty

17. Embrace

19. Billions of years

22. Wilkes- —, Pa.

24. Peculiar

25. Brazilian tourist mecca

26. Lure

27. Ache aid

29. Junior

30. Teacher's —

33. Rid of rind

36. Put in a box

38. Threaten

40. Novelist Brown

42. Unsliced bread

43. Seed coat

44. Owl's perch

46. PC picture

47. Magazine contents

48. Meadows

50. Menagerie

SUDOCURRENT

			3				8	
2								1
			2	6	4		5	
		1						6
		4		8				
			9				2	8
	3		7				1	
	1	5				9		
	8	7			5			3

Answers for Dec. 20 Puzzles

C	O	A	L	S	S	C	H	I	S	T		
S	U	B	M	I	T	P	A	U	N	C	H	
P	R	O	P	E	R	A	R	T	H	U	R	
A	B	E	L	A	M	M	O	A	D	O		
		E	L	I	A	M	O	B				
A	I	L	A	G	R	A	A	I	N	T		
F	R	E	N	C	H	Q	U	A	R	T	E	R
T	E	S	T	T	U	G	S	S	O	Y		
		S	H	E	E	M	I	T				
O	R	E	A	L	E	E	I	S	L	E		
G	E	N	E	V	A	N	A	T	I	O	N	
R	E	E	V	E	S	T	W	A	N	G	S	
E	L	D	E	S	T	S	E	N	S	E		

6	9	3	2	4	5	7	1	8
7	8	4	3	9	1	6	2	5
5	1	2	6	7	8	3	9	4
8	7	5	4	1	6	2	3	9
3	6	9	7	5	2	8	4	1
2	4	1	8	3	9	5	6	7
1	3	7	5	2	4	9	8	6
9	5	8	1	6	3	4	7	2
4	2	6	9	8	7	1	5	3

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

SPORTS



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Fall Athletic Honors

The following athletes were selected for honors by a vote of league, conference and section coaches. In addition, the girls' tennis, volleyball, boys' and girls' soccer, and boys' and girls' cross-country teams at Haldane and Beacon, and the girls' swimming team at Beacon, were each recognized for having 75 percent of team members achieve a grade-point average of 90 or better.

HALDANE

Cross-Country

All Northern Counties: Shannon Ferri (second team)
All-League: Everett Campanile, Ferri, Walter Hoess, Alison Nichols, Luke Parrella, Eloise Pearsall

Football

All-Conference: Dan Santos
All-League: Doug Donaghy, Will Etta, Dan Santos, Darrin Santos

Girls' Tennis

All-League: Caroline Nelson, Mairead O'Hara

Volleyball

All-Section: Grace Tomann, Melissa Rodino
All-Conference: Olivia Monteleone, Rodino, Tomann, Sofia Viggiano (honorable mention)
All-League: Maria Barry, Monteleone, Rodino, Tomann, Viggiano



BEACON

Football

All-Conference: Jason Komisar, Santino Negrón

Volleyball

All-Conference: Tessa Nilsen (honorable mention)

Cross-Country

All Northern Counties: Zachary Cader (second team)



FAST START — The Haldane boys' basketball team defeated Tuckahoe, 80-65, on Dec. 20, to improve to 4-1. Shown are the Blue Devils' four seniors: Mame Diba, Alex Kubik, Jagger Beachak and Matt Champlin.

Photo by Amy Kubik



Shianne Canada (left), a senior who played goalie for the girls' varsity soccer squad, is in her first season with the Beacon wrestling team.

Photos by S. Pearlman

Preview: Beacon Wrestling

By Skip Pearlman

With a blend of experienced and young wrestlers who have one big thing in common — talent — the Beacon High School wrestling team is hoping for a strong winter season.

The Bulldogs are 3-3 in dual meets after taking a loss on the road on Dec. 19 to Brewster, 48-36. The squad will compete at a tournament at Somers High School on Jan. 4.

Coach Ron Tompkins welcomed back a core from last year's team that includes senior captains Javon Dortch (All-Section, 152 pounds), George Pinkhardt (All-League, 285) and Sean Cooper (152), along with freshman Chris Crawford (106) and sophomore Ryan Plimley (132).

Tompkins said he likes the experience his captains, and the entire group — Plimley and Crawford each had big seasons last year — bring to the team.

"They're all 30-plus match winners, they've all been here for years, and they bring a lot of leadership," Tompkins said. "Dortch, Crawford and Pinkhardt all have the potential to be successful in sectionals."

Senior Angel Feliz joins the team this winter, and Tompkins said he "could make some noise. He has confidence, and his work ethic is second to none. He picks up fast."

Also joining the team this season is senior Shianne Canada, who at 126 pounds is looking for her first win. "She's tough," Tompkins said of Canada, who was the starting goalie for the girls' varsity soccer squad. "She's doing well."

(When a school does not offer a team for a particular gender, such as basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer or wrestling, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association allows girls to compete with boys. And many excel. On Dec. 23, Isabella Garcia of Horace Greeley High School went 5-0 at a tournament in Pawling, including four pins, and won her 106-pound division.)

Picking up wins against Brewster were Dortch at 160 pounds, Feliz at 220, freshman Aaron Pegues at 182, sophomore Dan Way at 113, sophomore Ray Robles at 152, Plimley in overtime at 132, Crawford with a pin at 120 and Pinkhardt, who won due to an injury default.

"We had some kids out, so we gave up 18 points, and we were still right in the match," Tompkins said. "Javon has been looking strong, and Crawford [who is 9-1] keeps getting better."

Beacon freshman Chris Crawford (R) picked up a win for the Bulldogs at 120 pounds last week at Brewster.

