1,115 Acres
State to create additional parkland in Highlands

By Brian PJ Cronin

New York State plans to add 965 acres to the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve and 150 acres to Fahnestock State Park as part of a proposal to preserve 4,000 acres in the Hudson Valley.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo endorsed the move earlier this month, saying in a statement that “these investments will allow us to add ecologically significant lands and new trails to seven state parks across the region, further promoting tourism and building on our efforts to strengthen this world-class outdoor destination.”

Under the plan, the state would spend $20.6 million of its Environmental Protection Fund to acquire the 4,000 acres. That will include $11.4 million from the fund and Hudson Highlands Conservation Act grants to expand six parks that include Hudson Highlands and Fahnestock.

In Dutchess County, the plan would add the 945-acre Scofield Ridge, which (Continued on Page 17)

She Packed a Punch
Cold Spring resident was top female boxer

By Michael Turton

When asked if it’s hard to punch someone in the face, Denise Friedly has a ready answer: “No — it’s hard getting punched in the face.”

Friedly, 52, who lives in Cold Spring, was a boxer for six years, first as an amateur (she went 14-1) and then as a professional (10-2). She retired from the ring in 2000 after a crushing loss in a title fight.

Over her career, it’s safe to say Friedly punched opponents more often than they punched her. Her amateur wins included two New York Golden Gloves titles (she is a member of the New York Daily News Boxing Hall of Fame) and two national amateur championships.

Friedly attributes her pursuit of “the sweet science” to family squabbles. Her father gave her and her younger brothers boxing gloves. “If we had a big disagreement, we’d move the furniture and go at it,” she said. “I held my own.”

In 1995, the Golden Gloves added a women’s division. Friedly said she naively assumed she’d be facing “a bunch of barroom brawlers.”

She was wrong. The 60 women who registered included doctors, lawyers, nurses and teachers — “everyone under the sun.” Friedly recalls. (Friedly at the time was a 28-year-old teacher from Westchester County; she still teaches at a Westchester high school.)

Friedly says boxing provided her with a challenge after having already excelled in (Continued on Page 18)

Denise Friedly posed in 1996 before a Golden Gloves fight at Madison Square Garden. Photo by Richard Haro

Lawsuit: Inmates Punished Unjustly

‘False positives’ may have affected 300 at Fishkill Correctional Facility

By Jeff Simms

Jermaine Timmons has been incarcerated since he was a teenager, with the last year-plus spent at the Fishkill Correctional Facility, which straddles Beacon. He was convicted in 2009 at age 15 of second-degree murder in the shooting of a bystander, 10-year-old Kathina Thomas, in Albany.

Now 27, he participates in the state’s Family Reunion Program, which allows inmates who maintain good behavior to visit with family members in private for an extended period of time.

Beginning early last year, prison officials allowed Timmons’ wife, Sandra, a Bronx resident who works on weekends in the hospitality industry, to visit him for 48 hours each month. Arriving on a Monday, Sandra stays on-site, where she’s allowed to bring food from home — all inspected by corrections officers — to cook for her husband. She stays until Wednesday.

The privilege was revoked for three months last year when Timmons, along with hundreds of inmates statewide and up to 300 at the Fishkill facility, was punished because of what Prisoners’ Legal Services of New York, an Albany-based nonprofit, alleges were botched drug tests.

According to a federal lawsuit filed by the organization in November, hundreds of prisoners were falsely accused of taking an opioid called buprenorphine. The group blames Microgenics, a California company hired in 2018 by the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) to ensure that urinalysis analyzers provide accurate results.

New York Public Radio also reported in November that a leaked DOCCS memo said that 2,000 inmates statewide, including about 300 at the Fishkill prison, had been unjustly punished because of test results provided by Microgenics.

Besides losing visitation, the lawsuit alleges inmates who falsely tested positive spent weeks or months in solitary confinement and were denied privileges such as recreation time, access to the commissary, mail (Continued on Page 17)
FIVE QUESTIONS: ALEX PRIZGINTAS

By Brian PJ Cronin

Alex Prizgintas, a sophomore at Marist College, is president of the Hudson Valley Bottle Club, which meets each month in Marlboro.

Why bottles?

It’s not necessarily the bottle but the history behind it. I love to hunt for who owned the bottles and how their business operated. It lends perspective to the amount of industry we had in the Hudson Valley, whether it was sodaworks or beerworks or even glass houses. There were many glassworks; Newburgh, Ellenville and Poughkeepsie were probably the biggest three [locations]. The industries here created a wide variety of bottles that have attracted national interest.

You restore bottles. How does that work?

I restore pyro-glazed milk bottles, which have ink-silk screening on them. The technique was invented in the 1930s but was used primarily from the ’40s through the ’70s. It’s still fascinating to see the colors and advertisements. I use oil-based paint markers to create an example of a rare bottle that will do until I can find a nicer one.

How do you find bottles?

Mostly online, but also at bottle shows. Our club has a show every August in Poughkeepsie. The last few years we’ve set records in both the number of visitors and vendors. There are also shows throughout New England.

How often does someone who found a bottle contact you?

A few times each month. I’m on my way right now to meet a lady in Poughkeepsie who found a bottle she wants to know more about.

What else do you collect?

Bricks, local railroad memorabilia and items from the Borscht Belt hotels of Sullivan County, such as Grossinger’s or The Concord. Bricks are the easiest things to find; they’re often right on the side of the road. I found most of mine near my house in Central Valley, but I’ve also found them in antique stores, walking along old railroad beds and around abandoned and forlorn structures. Bricks can be anywhere because they were such a commodity in the Hudson Valley. I also have a section of a wooden mold from the Dennings Point brickyard in Beacon.

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Is good radio dead?

It is dead. They just keep throwing mainstream hip-hop onto stations where it doesn’t belong.

~ Zach Pappas, Garrison

My aux cord broke so I have to listen to radio in my car, but I can’t find anything I like!

~ Tatiana Matkin, Garrison

Yes, but you have to search for it, like everything in life.

~ David Amram, Beacon

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ZBA Rules Against Rock-Crushing Firm

Also opens hearing on disputed home conversion

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals on Monday (Jan. 13) rejected a plea to revoke a stop-work order imposed on a rock-crushing enterprise that the town says has consistently violated local laws.

The ZBA also denied a request to declare rock-crushing and debris-processing a legitimate pursuit that merely fails to conform to more recent zoning laws.

Supervisor Richard Shea praised the decisions and said Wednesday that the town would enforce a temporary restraining order, if necessary, to prevent further crushing and processing as the property transitions to other activities.

The latest round in the lengthy dispute began in March, with a state appellate court ruling that Ricky and Mark Ventura had not demonstrated that their site plan, approved in 1983, or the zoning law in effect at the time, permitted their rock-crushing and debris-processing. Moreover, the court found that Philipstown had “established beyond a reasonable doubt” that the activity was illegal.

In April, the town code enforcement officer and building inspector, Greg Wunner, issued a stop-work order on the business, RNV Green Processing and Supply Corp., at the corner of Lane Gate Road and Route 9. The Ventura business is in a highway-commercial district, although Lane Gate Road contains historic estates and residences.

After their setback at the appellate court, which followed a series of lower-court defeats, and after receiving the stop-work order, the Venturas asked the ZBA to intervene. At a public hearing in September, neighbors objected to the Venturas’ operations. But the Venturas’ lawyer described their work on the site as both decades-old and legitimate.

When the ZBA considered the matter again on Monday during its meeting at the Philipstown Recreation Center, neither the Venturas nor their lawyer were present. The board voted unanimously that the rock-crushing and debris-processing operation was illegal.

“During this time they will be shut down,” Shea said. “We do have a temporary restraining order and will be enforcing it.”

The Venturas’ lawyer did not respond to a request for comment and Ricky Ventura, RNV’s executive, could not be reached.

Route 9D house

During its Jan. 13 meeting, the board also opened a public hearing on a contested house transformation on Route 9D in Garrison. The issue attracted a large audience and the ZBA extended the hearing into February.

The ZBA heard opposing views of the transformation by architect Timothy Rasic and his family of a small, circa-1960 ranch-style home at 520 Route 9D into a taller — and critics contend, inappropriately larger — structure.

Sidney Babcock and Jose Romeu, who live next to the property, claimed that the demolition of the original house required not only the permit that the building inspector provided but a special-use permit from the town code in such conversions.

The pending Rasic house “is three stories of living space,” plus a lower-level porch, Romeu said. He and Babcock said attempts to talk to the building inspector were rebuffed so they hired a lawyer, Luke Hilpert, who filed a lawsuit.

ZBA Chairperson Robert Dee said that when he learned of the quarrel, he advised Babcock and Romeu of the process involved in challenging building-permit decisions. Once the ZBA got involved, Hilpert withdrew the court case.

At the meeting, Wunner stated that “there’s no increase in floor area” in the Rasic house compared to its predecessor.

Frank Smith III, the Rasic family’s lawyer, agreed. “The footprint is exactly the same,” he said. “We do go up” in height, “but we do not go closer to the property line.” In essence, Smith said, the new house takes space from the previous home’s basement and adds it to the upper floor.

Further, the lower level of the pending Rasic home is not a finished basement, added Tom Ptacek, the contractor, but a “multi-purpose” space for the boiler and yard tools usually stored in a garage (which the Rasic property lacks). Likewise, he said, in the upper part of the house the ceiling height varies and the part that’s more than 7 feet is less than the minimum necessary for a room.

Smith, the Rasic lawyer, also argued that the neighbors did not formally challenge the project within 60 days, as the law demands, and so their appeal to the ZBA “should be summarily dismissed because of timeliness.”

Few audience members commented. One who did, Rachel Evans, of 522 Route 9D, termed the Rasic project “a beautiful home.”

Another attendee, Stephen Wallis, of Philipsebrook Road, said images of the old house and the Rasic design show “a one-story, average shack or cabin” compared to “a really nice house.” The Rasics “have the right to build this and are making the community better for what is going to be built,” he said.

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Letters and Comments

Hoops correction

I did more research on the history of Haldane versus Beacon boys’ basketball, and the only game I could find where they played each other was on Jan. 25, 2012, when Beacon won at home, 68-50 (“Battle of the Tunnel,” Jan. 10). Somehow I missed this one when looking back over the records from the past 50 years. So the match-up tonight (Jan. 17) will be the second Haldane-Beacon boys’ game.

Joe Virgadamo, Cold Spring

Virgadamo coaches the Haldane boys’ varsity team.

Bonus pay

At its reorganizational meeting on Jan. 9, the Putnam County Legislature voted to award a $15,000 stipend to the Planning Department’s full-time transportation program manager, who already earns upward of $80,000. [See Page 6.] The stipend was for his “additional” work as a project manager for the Southeast/Danbury Rail Link Feasibility Study/Planning Study.

As I read the job description for the position, feasibility study project management is already required of the incumbent. I’m not aware that any other county employees are awarded stipends for attending evening meetings and working with project stakeholders.

The potential for the Southeast/Danbury rail project is tremendous — reducing car trips and expanding access to public transportation are good things, both sorely needed in Putnam. Our current transportation manager is neither a planner nor an engineer and was given the position after term-limiting out of a legislative seat, a patronage hire. Our current commissioner of planning also is neither a planner nor an engineer. She practiced family and public health law before her appointment. How are either of them qualified to manage the scope of this important public project?

The awarding of this stipend comes on the heels of all but one legislator raking the rewards of office and mayor during the past term-limiting out of a legislative seat, a patronage hire. Our current commissioner of planning also is neither a planner nor an engineer. She practiced family and public health law before her appointment. How are either of them qualified to manage the scope of this important public project?

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Let’s just call this stipend what it is: A raise for a loyal member of Club Putnam.

New year. Same waste, same corruption.

Kathleen Foley, Phillipstown

Earthquake in PR

On Jan. 7, the south-central coast of Puerto Rico, around Ponce, suffered a 6.4-magnitude earthquake. One death was reported, along with massive property damage. The capital, San Juan, lost power for 36 hours, as did Rincon, where my husband and I have a vacation home.

Today there are still areas without electricity, especially in the south and central highlands. Many friends and family from the Hudson Valley have contacted us to inquire about our well-being, area and property, and we appreciate your concern. Contact your favorite charity to make a donation. Many islanders are only just recovering from Hurricane Maria in September 2017.

Wilma Feliciano, Beacon

Indian Point

I was interested to read the observations made by Tom McGuire in a letter to the editor in the Dec. 27 issue concerning the decommissioning of the Indian Point nuclear plant.

He is quite right that the closing is a result of scaremongering and politics. It’s nuts for a community to throw away a facility capable of producing large amounts of steady power with a sterling safety record and place ourselves at the mercy of the market, where power will have to be bought and transported from nobody-knows-where at costs that nobody can predict.

Indian Point provides more than 25 percent of the power for New York City. That is a heavy load to replace. In the future, this decision will be shown to be one of the dumbest decisions ever made in a state noted for dumb decisions.

The closing was pushed hard for several years by a relatively small group of anti-nuclear activists and politicians. But when it came down to actually implementing the decommissioning, was there an open and transparent public discussion? No chance. Welcome to the People’s Republic of New York.

Randy Will, Garrison

Promises, promises

Regarding local politicians taking their oaths of office in the new year (“Solemnly Sworn,” Jan. 10): I hope these individuals, in particular the members of the Putnam County Legislature, reflect on their oath, which is to represent the constituents who elected them.

Before the holidays, the Legislature busied itself with presenting party over county, a shady facsimile of party over country that we see played out in Washington, D.C. Putnam is
not DC, so the Legislature should put away ill-focused aspirations and focus on service. The Legislature concentrated on demeaning the budget requests and efforts of Sheriff Robert Langley Jr., who inherited a rehab necessity from the previous sheriff and has energized a first-rate Sheriff’s Department despite not-so-subtle attempts to cloud his visions. Legislator Neal Sullivan barked: “The sheriff is using budget lines just to spend money.” Legislator Paul Jonke belched about “runaway-train requests.” And Legislator Amy Sayegh chirped: “There is a pattern here.”

Indeed, there is a pattern. The pattern is to promote the idea that in Republican Putnam, a Democrat cannot do a good job. The pattern is to put party over public safety. Perhaps the Legislature would be satisfied with dictating to the sheriff that he instruct his deputies, upon pulling over a motorist, to ask: “Are you a Republican, or a Democrat?” The pattern is to mumble concern over taxpayer burdens, making quality law enforcement more difficult while mismanaging so many other aspects of county business.

Phil Bayer, Carmel

Bail reform

The new bail-reform law needs to be adjusted to exclude some crimes, but without a doubt this is a great step for thousands of people in New York who are punished while awaiting trial just because they can’t afford bail (“Putnam Sheriff Releases Three Defendants Under Bail Law,” Jan. 10).

Bail is a racket that for the most part only serves the well-off and well-connected and the private-prison and bail-bondsmen industry. You’re supposed to be innocent until proven guilty, but being put in jail for days, weeks or months because you can’t afford bail is itself a crime.

Judges should have some say. I know because an overzealous, incompetent, vindictive assistant district attorney thought it funny to try and set a ridiculously high bail on me for a misdemeanor that caused the judge to ask me how many felonies I had been convicted of. (I was never arrested for any of the seven felonies, however, the judge to wait 48 hours before issuing a warrant for his or her arrest to allow the defense attorney to get his or her client to court. However, if the defendant continually misses court dates, the judge can revoke the conditions of the release and set bail or order detention. This also can happen if a defendant is accused of violating an order of protection, intimidating a witness or charged with a new felony after being released on a felony charge.

Apart from the bail-policy question, and the immigrant-status question of the driver, why the smug complacency in regard to the pedestrian fatality on Route 9 in October? Clearly this was an accident.

Why are there no sidewalks along the heavily traveled, uneven grade of Route 9? People live and work in the Clow Creek valley. Do we expect every one of them, to travel safely, to use a vehicle? Does anyone wonder why the traffic is so heavy and so hazardous there, requiring significant sheriff’s patrols? The route is not properly managed by the state.

Similar concerns about Route 9 in Philipstown drew public outcry and a significant (though still inadequate) response from the state. Why ignore the inadequacies of Route 9? Is it that the “wrong kind of people” live and travel along it? There should be a sidewalk from Jaycox Road north to the county line, although this would not absolve pedestrians from their responsibilities, including the need to remain alert to the traffic and to wear bright or reflective clothing from dusk to dawn.

Dennis Moroney, Beacon

The editor responds: If the defendant fails to appear for a court date, the law requires the judge to wait 48 hours before issuing a warrant for his or her arrest to allow the defense attorney to get his or her client to court. However, if the defendant continually misses court dates, the judge can revoke the conditions of the release and set bail or order detention. This also can happen if a defendant is accused of violating an order of protection, intimidating a witness or charged with a new felony after being released on a felony charge.

I’m glad to see that Cold Spring will be installing public charging stations. I switched to an electric car last summer and could not be happier. More bicycles and better public transit would also have a big impact on our carbon output, but electric (and hopefully, eventually, fuel-cell) cars are a great step in the right direction, as well as being fun to drive, stylish and affordable. This is a welcome development.

David Limburg, Nelsonville

Chuck Hustis

I applaud The Current’s handling of the Chuck Hustis case (“Former Cold Spring Trustee Arrested by FBI,” Dec. 20). A local paper fulfills its mandate to public safety information by reporting on criminal activity — even alleged murderers (e.g., the kayak case) — often before suspects have gone to trial or are convicted.

So far as I know from reading the complaint, neither the student nor the FBI agent who soon took over the Facebook account ever declined the advances. What if the first reply had been “Step off,” and Hustis had immediately ceased his inquiries? Would we be calling him a predator? (In my book, an FBI agent posing as an interested participant is a clear case of entrapment.)

Chuck Hustis may be guilty of egregiously bad judgment — allegedly proposing illegal activity with a total stranger who might not even share his sexual orientation, a willingness to flout the law, etc. It would be a damn shame if he did 10 years for what appears to be a boneheaded move, since in many other spheres of activity he has acquitted himself as an extraordinarily decent guy.

Jacqueline Foertsch, Cold Spring

Cell tower

It seems like since this whole thing started, cell service has been getting worse in areas where it used to be good (“Cell Tower Settlement Draws Crowds,” Jan. 10). I wonder if that’s a ploy to get this pushed through.

I contacted Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney’s office about this. They do not seem interested and never got back to us. It seems strange since the site is near his property. Too bad no one wants to help on the federal end. It seems like if you have a boatload of lawyers and funds you can do what you want.

Tony Bardes, Cold Spring

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Jacqueline Foertsch, Cold Spring
Putnam Legislature Awards $15,000 Bonus

Transportation director cited for extra work

By Leonard Sparks

Putnam County legislators on Jan. 7 voted to provide Transportation Director Vinny Tamagna with a $15,000 bonus for his work on a feasibility study.

Tamagna, a former Republican county legislator who represented Philipstown, earns about $80,000 annually overseeing four bus routes in Carmel, a commuter shuttle to the Croton Falls Metro-North station in Westchester County, and a summer trolley in Philipstown.

The funds, which came from a grant, had been earmarked to hire a secretary in the Planning Department but were moved by the Legislature to pay Tamagna. Only Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown on the Legislature and is its sole Democrat, voted against the move.

The Republican legislators said Tamagna deserved the bonus for his work as project manager for a study to determine the feasibility of a rail line connecting Southeast and Philipstown.

In other business ...

At the Jan. 7 meeting, Legislator Joseph Castellano nominated Toni Addonizio, who represents Kent, to succeed him as chair. Addonizio has served as vice chair for the past two years.

“I have no doubt that Legislator Addonizio will be up for the challenge in 2020 and will make an outstanding chairwoman,” he said.

The board voted unanimously to approve the nomination, although Montgomery said she wanted to “clarify” that the decision to elect Addonizio had been made by her eight Republican colleagues in caucus, without public input.

“1’m pointing out that these decisions are made amongst legislators behind closed doors,” said Montgomery, who added, “I like working with Legislator Addonizio, and I look forward to voting for her.”

Legislator Neal Sullivan was elected deputy chair.

Holly Crocco contributed reporting.

Drinking-Water Wells Still Under Repair in Beacon

Council to discuss extending building moratorium

By Jeff Simms

The six-month moratorium on new development in Beacon that expires on March 3 could be extended for at least three months while the city continues to make repairs to its drinking water wells and tests a new well.

Hydrogeologist Tom Cusack laid out a “bad news, good news” scenario for the City Council on Monday (Jan. 13) when he explained that pumps installed on two Beacon wells are not sufficient for a crowded underground intersection near Interstate 84, outside the city limit. That’s where the wells, another owned by the Village of Fishkill, and the Cargill Reservoir all meet.

Beacon officials last year deactivated Well No. 2, which can provide up to 1.15 million gallons per day, after it began producing “cloudy” water following the installation of a new pump. That led the council in September to adopt a building freeze, its second in two years, while attempting a number of repairs to the well.

In addition to its two wells, which can provide up to 1.65 million gallons per day, Beacon draws water from three reservoirs, including Cargill, that combine for about 1.5 million gallons per day. The city also has an agreement to buy up to 1.2 million gallons per day from Fishkill.

The city’s previous moratorium expired in March 2018 after Cusack’s firm, WSP, projected that Beacon’s water supply would be sufficient through at least 2035, even with the recent rapid growth in housing units from new development.

Cusack said Monday that the city could know by early next month what it will cost to install a new pump at Well No. 2. Once approved, it could be up and running within a few weeks, he said.

However, he added, Well No. 1 is also underperforming, producing 565 gallons per minute rather than its anticipated yield of 800 per minute. It, too, could be deactivated for two to six weeks for WSP to determine whether its pump should be repaired or replaced, but only after Well No. 2 is back online.

The good news is that WSP in 2017 discovered a third, previously untrapped, drinking-water well that’s now producing 235 gallons per minute. Once deepened and approved by the state for the municipal system, Cusack said it could yield 400 gallons per minute, or 576,000 gallons per day.

If Well No. 2 doesn’t rebound as anticipated, the new well would likely make up that loss. If No. 2 is corrected, the new water would be surplus.

Even with Well 2 out of service, there is a surplus of approximately 170,000 gallons a day for every development project that has been approved and is in front of the Planning Board,” Cusack said. “So I look at [the new well] as being surplus on top of 170, or even higher if I bring Well 2 back.”

City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero said he expects the council on Jan. 27 to discuss whether to extend the moratorium for at least three months to give the city time to complete all the water-related work.
Murky Waters in Cold Spring

Also: Dockside festival still unresolved

By Michael Turton

Cold Spring has had its share of discolored drinking water but nothing recently like the murkiness of the weekend of Jan. 10.

At the Tuesday (Jan. 14) meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board, Mayor Dave Merandy said the village had received as many as 40 complaints about water color.

Superintendent of Water and Waste Water Matt Kroog said sampling confirmed it was the scope of the event that became the sticking point, especially the number of vendors and tents, the effect on traffic, and adequate parking.

Scherer identified a number of potential parking areas that could be used, including churches, the village Highway Department yard, Haldane school and the Metro-North lot, but conceded none has been reserved.

“It looks like too much for us to take on,” Merandy said. He suggested the event be held in Mayor's Park, which he said is more accessible and has more parking.

Scherer described Dockside as “a beautiful location for crafts,” and pointed out that the July 4 fireworks draw a huge crowd to the park.

Larry Burke, the officer-in-charge for the Cold Spring Police Department, expressed concern about the size of the event at a location with limited access. He noted that lower Main Street is closed for the fireworks.

Scherer said he would return in two weeks with a revised plan with fewer vendors and alternate parking.

In other business ...

Trustee Lynn Miller noted that in 2019, Putnam County received $6 million more than it had expected from retail sales tax. “If they shared 10 percent of that, we would get $44,000,” she said.

“It would go a long way toward dealing with tourism challenges.”

Burke reported that officers in December made three arrests, two for driving without a license and one for violating an order of protection. Officers also responded to 43 calls for service and wrote 26 traffic and 63 parking tickets.

Merandy will sign a memorandum of understanding in which the village will pay the Cold Spring Fire Co. $121,718 for fire protection services in 2020. Part of that payment is funded by Philipstown and Nelsonville.

During the public comment period, a resident noted that the “walk” sign at Cold Spring’s traffic light only illuminates when pedestrians push the button located on poles at the intersection. She said children often forget to push the button, creating a dangerous situation, especially when vehicles are turning. Merandy said he would contact the state Department of Transportation, which has jurisdiction.

GARRISON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
GARRISON, NEW YORK 10524

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION DATES SET IN GARRISON

Garrison Free School will hold its Kindergarten Registration for the 2020-2021 school year on Tuesday, February 4 and Wednesday, February 5 from 9 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. on both days in the hallway outside of the Main Office. The child does not need to accompany the parent/guardian for registration.

Parents/guardians are required to bring the following:

• Original birth certificate - child must be age 5 by December 31, 2020
• Immunization records/Recent physical
• Proof of residency
  O Owners
    • Signed contract of sale or deed, and Telephone, utility, cable bill, etc. (2 required)
  O Renters
    • Notarized affidavit of landlord, and Rent receipt (within 30 days) indicating address, and
    • Telephone, utility, cable bill, etc. (2 required)

Information about the Tuesday, April 28th orientation for parents/guardians at 10:00 am will be given out at registration.

For additional information, call 424-3689 ext. 221
Remembering FDR
Society looking for recollections

The Dutchess County Historical Society is looking for personal recollections, diary entries, letters or photos about the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in April 1945 to help with a talk scheduled for its annual meeting.

Any family photographs related to these events, such as crowds waiting for the funeral train, the train itself and local services, are also of interest, the society said. The items can be loaned to be photographed or copied.

The society’s Michael Dolan will be speaking at the annual meeting, set for April 16, on local reactions to the passing of FDR, who lived in Hyde Park and is buried there. Contact Bill Jeffway at bill.jeffway@dchsny.org or 845-293-7711.

Summer in Winter
Weekend past brings record highs

A record high temperature for Jan. 11 was recorded in Poughkeepsie on Saturday when the mercury hit 68 degrees, according to the National Weather Service office in Albany. It broke the previous record of 63 set in 1975.

Another record was recorded on Sunday—67 degrees—breaking a record of 62 set in 2018. Records for Poughkeepsie date to 1931.

State Awards Hudson Grants
Highlands groups receive $130K

The state Department of Environmental Conservation last month awarded $957,000 in grants to communities along the Hudson River, including three to organizations in the Highlands. The grants were funded by the $300 million Environmental Protection Fund administered by the agency’s Hudson River Estuary Program.

Clarkson University received $39,459 for river-ecology displays and equipment at its Beacon Institute and Hudson River Sloop Clearwater was given $40,000 for an interactive traveling exhibit called “The Mighty Hudson.”

In Philipstown, the Hudson Highlands Land Trust received $50,000 for its East Highlands Green Corridors Plan, through which it will partner with the town and Putnam Valley to build green corridors.

Four Arrested for Graffiti
Men allegedly tagged Beacon buildings

Four men were arrested and charged with “tagging” buildings on Main Street in Beacon during the early morning hours of Dec. 23, police said.

John Skivington, 24, Bryan Nava, 22, and Niko Beckles, 24, of New Windsor, and Carlos Reyes, 21, of Newburgh, were each charged with felony criminal mischief, misdemeanor making graffiti, and misdemeanor possession of graffiti instruments.

Surveillance cameras recorded four men spraying paint on property on and near Main Street. Beacon police announced the arrests on Jan. 10.

Maloney Endorses Biden
Candidate has ‘leadership we need’

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat whose U.S. House district includes the Highlands, on Jan. 13 endorsed Joe Biden for president.

“We live in dangerous times, and Donald Trump’s actions have made us less safe and more isolated,” Maloney said in a statement. “Joe Biden’s unmatched record, command of domestic and foreign affairs, and progressive vision for America’s future is the leadership we need at this critical moment.”
After taking an interest in the Middle East in college, Adriana Curto wanted to improve her shaky Arabic language skills. She thought a two-year assignment in the Peace Corps would help, but its programs in Jordan and Tunisia had been discontinued for security reasons. That left her with one Arabic-speaking option: Morocco.

“I clumped it in with the Middle East, not realizing how North African it is,” says Curto, who was known as “AJ” while growing up in Cold Spring. “I don’t think I’d ever met a Moroccan.”

Curto’s interest in the region was sparked during her freshman year at Syracuse University, where she lived in a “learning community” with a number of international students. She also took a class called Representations of the Middle East and, as a senior, spent a semester in Istanbul and later worked as a volunteer for five weeks at a refugee camp in southern Lebanon. “People were living at minimal standards,” she recalls. “I became enraged and confused over the situation. You watch the news and so much is displayed as negative and traumatic and a place of war and sadness. I knew going forward I wanted to be an advocate.”

After returning to Cold Spring, she applied for the Peace Corps, which sent her to Rabat, Morocco’s capital, for training, which included eight hours of daily lessons in Arabic. “We had a Moroccan facilitator who helped with anything and everything — how to eat with our hands, or how to use a public bathhouse where you’re scrubbed down for four hours by a group of women! It was incredibly structured, and exhausting. I never felt comfortable, but being comfortable in the Peace Corps doesn’t exist,” she says.

The next step was more challenging. Curto was assigned to Talmest, a town about an hour from the coastal city of Essaouira, where she moved in with a family with three children.

(Continued on Page 12)
THE WEEK AHEAD

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

**SAT 18**

**Top Brass**
WEST POINT
7 p.m. Cadet Chapel | 722 Deansusy Road | 845-938-2308 | westpoint.edu
The Concert Band Brass and Percussion, led by guest conductor Robert Ponto, will perform works by Bach, Brahms and Holst. 

**FRI 24**

**Buffalo Stack**
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. | 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The bluesy roots rockers are reminiscent of their heroes, The Band. Cost: $25 ($20 door)

**SAT 18**

**R.J. Storm and Old School Bluegrass Band**
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center | 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 | rjstorm.bpt.me
The band is known for its energetic and engaging performances. Cost: $10 ($15 door)

**SAT 18**

**Back to the Garden 1969**
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. | 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Music from the Woodstock era. Cost: $30 ($35 door)

**SUN 19**

**From Senegal to Seeger**
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. | 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Michael Miles will perform his one-man tribute to Pete Seeger with a narrative concert that includes protest songs and banjo. Proceeds will benefit the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater. Cost: $15 ($20 door)

**FRI 24**

**Blind Tiger Improv**
BEACON
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley | 1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com
The comedy troupe includes Brian Bagot, Jillian Kermani, Carrie Loveland, Elisabeth Preisinger, Jeff O’Leary, Tim Trehella and Michael Short. Cost: $25

**FRI 24**

**John Pizzi**
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley | 1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039 | paramounthudsonvalley.com
The Friday Night Joker’s series will feature Pizzi in a one-man show of comedy, magic and ventriloquism. Cost: $10 ($15 door)

**Civic**

**TUES 21**

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

**TUES 21**

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

**TUES 21**

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

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Matt Friebrughs
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845-835-0001
Peace Corps (from Page 9)

“The dad was working in Mauritania and not in the house,” she says. “My host mom was illiterate because she never got to go to school, and she worked hard. She took it as her mission to make me feel comfortable in her home. If you looked at her, you would think we had nothing in common, yet she's one of the most incredible people I've ever met.”

Curto said her presence in the rural village initially caused a stir. “One day this 23-year-old American girl shows up,” she says. “People were curious. You cannot jump right into work. People in that culture strongly emphasize their relationships. It was so important to become respected and trusted, and to explain why I was there. This meant going to houses six times a day, invite after invite.”

During that first year, volunteers are instructed to “find out what the community needs, not what you think it needs.” The second year is for a project. “I put pressure on myself, thinking ‘I’ve been here six months and I’m not working,’ but I learned that my concept of work was not the Moroccan way,” Curto says. “It’s more about sitting down at a family meal, eating couscous, telling them about America. That’s work.”

During that first year, volunteers are instructed to “find out what the community needs, not what you think it needs.” The second year is for a project. “I put pressure on myself, thinking ‘I’ve been here six months and I’m not working,’ but I learned that my concept of work was not the Moroccan way,” Curto says. “It’s more about sitting down at a family meal, eating couscous, telling them about America. That’s work.”

Curto says she fell into a funk at the start of her second year, when faced with finding a project. She found strength in an unusual place: an aerobics class at a local gym. She found her second year, when faced with finding a project. “I put pressure on myself, thinking ‘I’ve been here six months and I’m not working,’ but I learned that my concept of work was not the Moroccan way,” Curto says. “It’s more about sitting down at a family meal, eating couscous, telling them about America. That’s work.”

Curto says she feels the Peace Corps, which was founded by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, “is so important to show that American people are kind and generous and intelligent. That’s not being shown in the news, so now more than ever there’s a need for person-to-person cultural exchanges, question-asking, and opening our minds and eyes to the rest of the world.”

See highlandscurrent.org for videos that Curto created — and narrated in Arabic (with English subtitles) — during her assignment in Morocco.
Women Helping Women

Group to hold clothing sale fundraiser

By Alison Rooney

The Highland Women’s Collaborative is a loosely knit group that supports one another, learns from one another and tries to do some good in the community, according to Diana Polack of Garrison, who organized it in 2018.

From Jan. 31 to Feb. 2, it will host its second annual clothing swap and sale, with proceeds directed to a program in Malawi, Africa, through the nonprofit Women Together Global.

The sale, at Create Community in Nelsonville, will include clothing donated by members and their friends, including designer pieces, priced from $5 to $40. Bargain items will be $20 for a bag.

Polack says she created the collaborative because, after moving to the area several years ago, with her children grown and her business having only a few employees, she felt isolated.

“Helping women connect is my thing,” she explains. “When I lived in New Jersey for eight years, I facilitated a chapter of a women’s entrepreneurial group and I met so many amazing women. I loved being able to bounce ideas off them. I don’t think women are always good at asking for things, but when it becomes collaborative, that’s a different story.”

In Garrison, Polack connected with Jen McCreery, director of the Desmond-Fish Public Library. While talking “about the idea” at Barber & Brew in Cold Spring, they realized they were sitting in a perfect spot to host the meetings. Co-owner Tara Carroll not only liked the idea but said she wanted to attend.

“Our space was relatively new, and it had turned out to be a great place for the community to gather,” Caroli recalls. “It had started to feel like our living room! The group has become very special to me. Not only have I connected with many other women in our community in a professional way, but also on a personal level that provides a strong network of support in everyday life. Even when we are not gathered together, we are still together.”

The group meets for two hours once a month, on a Monday night. There is often a speaker or activity, plus time for “networking, philanthropy and just having a safe space,” Polack explains. (At the next meeting, at 6 p.m. on Feb. 3 at Barber & Brew, Gail Kreitzer will share practical ways to manage, prioritize and distill the relentless onslaught of tasks and demands.)

The women who attend the gatherings run the gamut. “We have store owners, nonprofit leaders, health and wellness coaches and other professionals, plus a retired woman and a divorced woman who comes with her daughter,” says Polack.

“The age range is early 30s through 70s, and most of the women come from Beacon, Cold Spring and Garrison, with a few from Wappingers and some from across the river. This group is not about handing business cards to each other right away. Women like to do business with those they trust.”

Dani Locastro of Cold Spring says she found the group invaluable as she transitioned from a New York City job as a textile designer into opening her own business, Heartful Yoga. “It is an amazing resource of intelligent, supportive women who want to empower other women,” she says.

Philanthropy is a component, too. Women Together Global, which will benefit from the clothing sale, was founded by Dr. Natasha Anushri Anandaraja, a pediatrician at New York City’s Mount Sinai Hospital, to aid girls and women in developing countries. The clothing sale last year raised $1,000, Polack says, and this year the goal is $5,000.

“One of the best medicines for me is to make a new connection — not a business one, but a human one,” Polack says. “To be able to do this with the amazing women of Malawi, and to feel that we are able to help — with real and direct impact, has been deeply gratifying.”

Create Community is located at 11 Peekskill Road in Nelsonville. The cash-only sale will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 31; noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 1; and noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 2.
Family Trails

Finding Thomas
By Valerie LaRobardier

Q: Many family historians believe my fifth great-grandfather, Thomas Galloway (born 1735, son of John), followed his older sister, Elizabeth (who married Henry Deyer of Fishkill), from Orange County to Philipstown around 1748. There is census and tax evidence of a Thomas Galloway living in Philipstown from 1799 to about 1810. There was also a George Galloway nearby. The last record I can find of a Thomas Galloway in Dutchess or Putnam County is the 1810 census, but George Galloway became a longtime resident of Philipstown. I am hoping to learn more about Thomas Galloway (born 1735), because family legend and an obscure entry in a long-lost family bible is the only evidence I have that he was the genesis of the Philipstown line.

A: The best way to approach this type of puzzle is step-by-step, and the easiest way to do that is to first formulate a single question to answer. “Who was Thomas Galloway?” isn’t specific enough, but “Was Thomas Galloway of Philipstown the grandson of John Galloway?” might work. (As I understand your search, establishing that Thomas and George Galloway were brothers is part of the puzzle but not the main objective.)

If you haven’t done so already, I would verify the dates and information you have with specific citations to census and tax records, especially since checking the citations may reveal other clues. I also would learn as much as I could about the Elizabeth Galloway and Henry Deyer family.

Next, list the gaps in the narrative. The first item that stands out is that Thomas Galloway supposedly left his parents’ home at age 13 to live with his older sister. She did not move far away, and 13 was an age at that time that many children left home to go into apprenticeships. So this is not a startling development but also not quite what you would expect. We need to rule out candidates who may exist in other Galloway families, possibly by looking at John Galloway’s siblings to see if any of them had sons named Thomas or George. The two men in Philipstown could have been cousins, and not brothers, or they could even be unrelated.

The list of questions and challenges informs the next list — that of resources and repositories that might hold answers. Atop the list will be the Orange County Genealogical Society in Goshen. A quick online search of The New York Genealogical & Biographical Record returned several hits for John Galloway and Thomas Galloway, such as the baptism, on Jan. 29, 1735, at the Reformed Dutch Church in New York, of Thomas, son of John Galloway and Annaje Lam.

Further, you will want to search land records for Dutchess, Putnam (which was formed out of Dutchess in 1812) and Orange counties, where you may find mention of names that strengthen the link between these Galloways who stayed in Orange County and those found in Dutchess and later Putnam. (Keep in mind that in 1806 the northwest corner of Philipstown became part of Fishkill.)

Elizabeth Galloway’s marriage is found in the register of the Reformed Dutch Church of Fishkill — May 30, 1748: Henry Deyer & Elizabeth Galloway — but adds a potential fly to the ointment: Elizabeth was said to be a resident of Haverstraw, and Henry a resident of the Highlands. Haverstraw is in Rockland County, so this detail needs to be resolved.

Among transcriptions made by the Robert Billard site (homepages.rootsweb.com/~rbillard/vital_statistics.htm), we find a baptism for Elizabet, daughter of John Galowaij & Annaatje Lamb, on Nov. 28, 1731, at the New Amsterdam Dutch Reformed Church in New York City. I would look there for more siblings.

As you go through the research process, you should assemble your data in family group-sheet format so it will be easy to see which individuals lack documentation. Enlist a partner who shares your interest in solving the mystery as a helper and sounding board. As you get deep into your research, you will become so familiar with the people and places that it will not always be easy to see what needs more description.

The last step, writing up the findings, should be done with a fair amount of formality. Sometimes you will not be aware that you have skipped an important step in the narrative until you attempt to write. You should be able to clearly explain to your helper what you think you know.

Think about it through the eyes of the protagonist of a detective story. There is a difference between “We know he did it because we found x, y and z,” and “We’ve assembled a strong-enough collection of hard evidence for the district attorney.” The first option is too often where the genealogist stops, which creates the potential for major errors. Keep looking until you find enough to make a strong analysis-of-data argument, even if you do not locate a smoking gun.

LaRobardier is a professional genealogist and president of the Dutchess County Genealogical Society. Hit a brick wall? Email genealogy@highlandscurrent.org.
A New Bride’s View of Cold Spring, 1906-1909

When Claire Goldstein and her husband, Abbey, purchased a home in Cold Spring about 10 years ago, she showed photos of their new house to her elderly father, Ralph Greenlaw Jr. That prompted him to recollect that after his parents, Ralph and Georgianna Greenlaw, were married in October 1907, they rented a home in the village, on Parsonage Street.

“This was a total coincidence, which I knew nothing about,” Claire recalls.

About a year before their marriage, Ralph, a Harvard-educated civil engineer, had relocated to Cold Spring from Manhattan to work on the New York City aqueduct, then being built through Garrison. He had met Georgianna Hallock, who grew up in Milton, in Ulster County, at Columbia University, where she was a librarian.

Their eldest child, Frances, was baptized at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in 1909, and Ralph contributed $5 to help pay for a new boiler. In the early 1920s, the family — now including three children — moved to Teaneck, New Jersey, and Ralph commuted to his engineering jobs in Manhattan.

After her father’s death, Claire inherited her grandmother’s diaries, including some in which Georgianna recorded her impressions of Cold Spring. Below are excerpts. (There were no entries in 1908.)

May 6, 1906

Off with Ruth H. and Maude T. at 11:29 for Cold Spring, jolly trip and Ralph with a Mr. Stone met us. Went to R’s house [where he rented a room] and after he had collected lunch started for our climb. Ate lunch by a lovely brook side and it was no end jolly.

About three we started up [Mount] Taurus [aka Bull Hill] and for two hours we climbed or walked for the road was excellent. Such beautiful sweeps of country — east up a lovely valley; west over Storm King and Crow’s Nest, south and north the river twisted among the hills. It rained somewhat, but it only softened the dainty greens, such exquisite greens they were. It helps to make life livable.

Back to such a merry supper in Ralph’s room, which is so pleasant. 7:30 came all too soon and we turned our faces southward.

June 10, 1906

Another glorious day at Cold Spring! Ruth and I went up on the 7:54, arrive much earlier. We started without delay for Taurus and after a very warm climb arrived at the brook at 12:00. There we had lunch, the usual jolly affair.

We reached the top of the mountain about 1:00 and sat on the rocks and lay in the grass until a thunderstorm drove us down. The view was as beautiful as ever and the storm looking north over a truly Storm King one of the grandest sights ever. Had a very romantic trip down the hill in the rain, lovely laurel. Dandy feed in R’s house and back on the 7:30.

July 26, 1907

Such a glorious day and so delightfully spent! After my usual rush for the 12:34, Mother and I arrived in Cold Spring for “my first official visit.” The house is a dear little place that will be so cozy when we get it furnished and the dilapidated garden though some of it is OK, has great possibilities.

Later went for such a beautiful drive — that Highland country is so lovely! There were one or two magnificent views of the river and mountains. Had a tiresome wait at N [Newburgh] for the [steamer Mary] Powell and then such a nice evening together.

Dec. 31, 1907

It’s been such a joyful year and I am entering on a bigger and fuller life. Probably there will be just as hard places as in the old but I have Ralph to help me out now, and he does such a lot.

May 19, 1909

A grand day and in the afternoon I donned my best clothes and went over to call on Mrs. Haldane. She had gone to Fort Monroe so Mr. H entertained me. They certainly have a very pleasant house over there. Such a lovely walk through the Morris Estate, saw an indigo bird.

May 20, 1909

I smoked the upstairs good and proper [because of inadequate ventilation for the fireplace] so it took all a.m. to clean up, it was about the worst mess I ever got into. In afternoon I went down to Constitution Island. It is perfectly beautiful down there and we got a lot of azaleas and lady slippers. It’s a lovely walk down there.

Aug. 15, 1909

In a.m. walked with Dad and Ralph up the Bull Hill portal. Such a contrast to the time I was there in April — it’s all torn up and looks awful.

Sept. 18, 1909

A grand day & I did have such a good time. The a.m. was busy as usual but in the afternoon Ralph and I went to the horse show down at Garrison. It was fine, such beautiful horses and so well ridden and driven — it was certainly enough to make me envious. Some of the beasts were perfect beauties. Always makes me wish to be rich when I see them. Lovely drive home in the gloaming [twilight].

Oct. 16, 1909

A beautiful day but I didn’t enjoy it much for I was in such a temper with Ralph for flatly refusing to go to the dance tonight which was very selfish of him, I think. In the afternoon Eula and I went for a lovely drive by Lake Surprise and down Breakneck. The foliage was lovely and the whole drive great but such a hill. Sat home all p.m. and cursed my luck!

Nov. 4, 1909

Spent most of the a.m. mending… I settled down to sew but there seemed to be a lot of do. Anyhow, it was very late when I started downtown… Frances was with me and I had to push her up the [Main Street] hill alone, which was no fun.
FOR RENT

COLD SPRING — Private bedroom in 2-bedroom, 2-bath village house. Share house with one other person. Full amenities. All utilities provided. Garden, Living Room, Laundry, Basement Storage. Email replyto@thirdfloorconstruction.com.

GARRISON — Sunny studio apartment 24’ x 27’ plus a sleeping alcove with a kitchen, bathroom, and a deck. $1,300. Just off 9D, borders a stream and state forest. Woodburning stove and propane heater. 12 minutes to Garrison station, tranquil atmosphere. Email Mary Newell at mnewell4@gmail.com.

FOR SALE

ITEMS FOR SALE — The Current moved to its new offices and has some items available for sale. (1) Philips V5D WK101645SB 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.

SERVICES

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HOUSEKEEPING & SUPPORT SERVICES — Housekeeping, cleaning, laundry, ironing, housesitting, running errands, accompanying patients to hospital appointments and procedures, elderly care-support, experienced executive assistant to HNW individuals and businesses-international experience. Available in Cold Spring, Philipstown, Fishkill, Garrison & Beacon. Whether you require support for an hour or more, email me at sandiafonso70@gmail.com or text 845-245-5976.

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Lawsuit

packages and phone use. Some also lost time earned for good behavior and preferred work assignments.

In some cases, the lawsuit charges, individuals had parole dates rescinded and were held for months beyond their scheduled release dates.

Sandra says her husband’s discipline came as a shock.

“If I had just come home from a visit,” she recalled. “He called and said, ‘Guess what? I got a Tier 3 ticket [for the most serious offenses].’ I didn’t believe it.”

Confused, Sandra said the only information she could find on buprenorphine came from the internet. Prison officials wouldn’t speak to her on the phone, she said.

“I felt my husband hadn’t told me about this [the discipline], I would be obvious to the situation,” said Sandra, who married Timmons in January 2018. “We relied a lot on the program to bond.” She said her daughter’s birthdays together.

“People make mistakes,” Murtagh said.

“We are not the worst thing we have ever done; none of us are. We have a system that believes in rehabilitation and reintegration. The last thing we want to do is make [inmates] worse in prison. The goal is to make them better.”

Because of Microgenics’ “unlawful conduct,” the suit alleges, the affected inmates suffered “emotional distress, embarrassment and [loss of] liberty.” It asks the court to award “reasonable and just” damages.

“We need to treat them fairly,” Murtagh said, “even while we’re punishing them.”

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January 17, 2020
The Highlands Current

Boxer (from Page 1)

basketball, soccer and volleyball. “I was looking for a way to shine,” she says.

In her first Golden Gloves bout, she defeated Taneasha Harris at Mount St. Michael Academy in the Bronx. “We went toe-to-toe,” recalls Friedly. She advanced to the final at Madison Square Garden, where, at 137 pounds, she became the junior welterweight champion.

People noticed. Susan Orlean profiled Friedly in a New Yorker article titled, “Girl, You Got Power.”

Friedly remembers how focused she and the other female boxers were that first year. “We wanted to learn the art of boxing,” she says. “It was not a novelty.”

She recalls being nervous as she watched the first women’s bout at Madison Square Garden. “I was fearful they’d stop the fight for all the wrong reasons, like a bloody nose,” says Friedly. Both boxers got bloody noses, but the fight went on; women were being taken seriously. “The crowd was completely supportive — of boxing,” Friedly says.

Friedly in the ring in 1999 against Sumya Anani.

As she got more deeply involved with the sport, managing her time became a challenge. She was teaching full-time, coaching varsity soccer and training.

In 1996 Friedly wanted to fight at 132 pounds in the Golden Gloves but weighed 137. On the day of the weigh-in, she donned long pants and two winter coats and ran up and down stairs until she lost 5 pounds. “I made my weight,” she says. “Luckily I didn’t also have to go down stairs.”

Friedly regained her championship form the following year, winning the 1997 title at 139 pounds. She was also the U.S. National Amateur Boxing Champion that year and in 1998 before turning pro. Professional female boxers were paid little compared to their male counterparts. Friedly says her biggest payday was $15,000.

Asked if being aggressive is always the best strategy in the ring, Friedly says: “Sometimes, but generally it’s more like a chess match — but a very fast one,” adding that missing when trying to land a punch “is more tiring than anything.”

Friedly says she often cried at the end of a bout, win or lose, from exhaustion. “I ran in seven marathons and I’m still not sure which was tougher,” she says. “When I fought, I left it all in the ring, I loved boxing, and my opponents.”

As a professional, Friedly says the toughest boxer she faced was Sumya Anani, who had defeated Christy Martin, who was managed by Don King and finished her pro career at 49-7-3, with 31 knockouts. “He didn’t want Christy to fight me,” Friedly says. “So, I wanted to fight the girl who had beaten Martin.”

Friedly, undefeated in four professional matches, and Anani, undefeated in 12, were the undercard at the Roseland Ballroom in New York City on March 12, 1999. After 10 rounds, Anani won a unanimous decision. The lowest moment in the ring for Friedly came in what would be her last fight, on May 12, 2000, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, when she battled Kathy Collins for the women’s vacant International Boxing junior welterweight title. Friedly was confident, having defeated Collins in the 1995 Golden Gloves.

It was a black-tie event. “Everyone was there,” Friedly recalls, including former heavyweight champion Ken Norton and former middleweight champion Jake “Raging Bull” LaMotta. The bout, televised on ESPN, went the full 10 rounds. Collins won, but the split decision (96-94, 94-96, 96-94) was not without controversy. The three judges had been hired by the fight promoter, but at the last minute the state boxing commission replaced two of them with twin brothers who were locals, Friedly recalls. The brothers gave the fight to Collins; Friedly says they had no experience judging boxing.

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“I was devastated,” she says. “I never fought again.”
CROSSCURRENT

By
King Features

ACROSS
1. Cleans the floors
5. Pouch
8. One of the Three Bears
12. Admitting customers
13. Time of your life?
14. Change for a five
15. Draped dress
16. Sailor
17. Western state
18. Deceptive
20. Melody
22. Lengthwise, to 16-Across
26. In spades
29. Actress Farrow
30. Mai—(cocktail)
31. Exceptional
32. Corral
33. Check
34. Film trickery, for short
35. One of the Brady Bunch
36. Cartoonist Trudeau
37. Everywhere
40. Surround
41. Attachments
45. Blunder
47. Rowing need
49. Help in crime
50. Padlock fastener
51. Oilfield structure
52. Fourth dimension
53. Vocal comeback
54. Hearty brew
55. Surmounting

DOWN
1. Rolling stone’s lack
2. Colorful fish
3. Graceful woman
4. Cold symptom
5. Attendant of Bacchus
6. — Khan
7. Foolproof
8. 100 pence
9. Enemy of an “army”? 10. Shade of green
11. Shade of blond
12. Admitting customers
13. Time of your life?
14. Change for a five
15. Draped dress
16. Sailor
17. Western state
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Answers will be published next week. See highlandscurrent.org/puzzle for interactive versions.
BOYS’ BASKETBALL

Beacon picked up win No. 4 on Monday (Jan. 13) with a 61-57 decision over visiting Hendrick Hudson. Shane Green had 13 points and Quizar Hayes added 12, while Adrian Davis had 11 and Tristan Reid scored 10 to lead the Bulldogs (4-10).

“The game was a total battle,” said Coach Scott Timpano. “Every time we play them, it’s back and forth. We made enough plays in the fourth to overcome some early mistakes, and we didn’t have any turnovers in the fourth. That ended up being the difference.”

The team’s scheduled game on Jan. 15 against Lourdes was postponed; tonight (Jan. 17) the Bulldogs travel to Haldane for the Battle of the Tunnel. The schools, who last played during the 2011-12 season, with Beacon posting a 68-50 win, hope to make it an annual event. Tipoff is set for 6:15 p.m.

Haldane improved its season mark to 8-2 on Tuesday (Jan. 14) with a 73-40 road win over Pawling. Sophomore Soren Holmo led the way with 22 points, senior Mame Diba added 14 and freshman Matteo Cervone had 11.

“It was great to have Soren and Matteo play the way they did off the bench,” Coach Joe Virgadamo said. “That was Soren’s best game and he played the fourth quarter like he had for any of the fourth quarters in the fourth quarter.”

“I’m taking it over as soon as he came in. He was 7-for-7 from the field, with three 3s.”

After playing Beacon, the Blue Devils will host Yonkers Montessori Academy on Tuesday (Jan. 21) at 5 p.m.

GIRLS’ BASKETBALL

Beacon (6-6), which had a 10-day break, will travel to Hendrick Hudson tonight (Jan. 17) and host Kennedy on Wednesday (Jan. 22).

BOYS’ SWIMMING

Beacon improved to 8-1 with a victory over Nyack (94-72) but fell to 8-3 with losses to Yorktown-Somers (95-81) and Pelham, 96-74. It travels to Lourdes today (Jan. 17) and finishes the season hosting Mount Vernon on Jan. 21.

BOWLING

The Beacon boys’ team fell to Arlington, 5-2, while the girls’ team defeated Arlington, 7-10, behind a strong performance by Allison Bierce.

Beacon senior Javon Dortch (left) took a close loss to Hendrick Hudson junior Kerann Belvu at 160 pounds.

Beacon senior Angel Feliz (right) competes at 220 pounds.

Haldane Girls Lose Two to Fall to 6-5

"A sophomore stepping up in a game like that is impressive," Perrone said of Chiera. “She’s hitting big shots when we need them. And Liv was a defensive force, did great rebounding, and does a lot to motivate the girls.”

Against Ardsley (4-7), Liv Monteleone led the way with 17 points, seven rebounds and three steals, and her sister added nine points and three assists. Shianne Twoguns had five points and four assists, and Chiera scored nine points.

“We played awesome again,” Perrone said. “We came out ready, and we’re getting good offensive looks and meshing well. But we dug ourselves a hole in the first half, then we had foul trouble. Overall, we fought until the end. Even down 20, they kept fighting.”

Haklane was set to play today (Jan. 17) in a tournament at Peekskill against White Plains. The winner will advance to the championship game on Saturday at 4 p.m., and the loser to the consolation game at 11 a.m."

Beacon Wrestlers Slowed by Injuries

Short-handed squad falls to Hendrick Hudson

By Skip Pearlman

Beacon High School’s wrestlers hit the road on Tuesday (Jan. 14), traveling to Montrose to take on Hendrick Hudson. The Bulldogs, who were missing some grapplers due to illness, had to forfeit a number of weight classes and dropped a 59-18 decision.

Beacon (2-5) did pick up three victories, all by pins. Aaron Pegues won at 170 pounds, Lou DelBianco won at 285 and Chris Crawford won at 106. Crawford, a freshman who has already earned All-Section recognition, improved his season record to 23-3.

Beacon senior captain Javon Dortch, another All-Section wrestler, took a close loss in a tough bout at 160, falling to Hendrick Hudson’s junior captain, Kerann Belvu.

“We’re dealing with some injuries right now, so we had to put some guys out there,” said Coach Ron Tompkins. “I didn’t expect to win the match, but we wrestled OK. We had a couple of close matches that we could have won.”

Tompkins liked what he saw from DelBianco, a sophomore. “Lou is my 220-pounder, and I pushed him up to super heavyweight since my super is coming back from an injury this week,” the coach said. “He wrestled one of our best matches. He got his points and stayed in control to improve to 10-2.”

Dortch fell to 9-3 but also wrestled up from his usual weight. “He had a great second and third period, but he gave up too many points in the first,” Tompkins said. “We’ll work on that.”

Beacon will host its own tournament today (Jan. 17) and Saturday before traveling to Somers on Tuesday (Jan. 21).

Beacon senior Javon Dortch (left) took a close loss to Hendrick Hudson junior Kerann Belvu at 160 pounds.

Beacon senior Angel Feliz (right) competes at 220 pounds.

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GIRLS’ BASKETBALL

Beacon (6-6), which had a 10-day break, will travel to Hendrick Hudson tonight (Jan. 17) and host Kennedy on Wednesday (Jan. 22).

Beacon senior Orlando Pimentela (center) scored 15 against Lourdes.

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Girls’ Basketball

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