

# The HIGHLANDS Current



Strawberry Delight  
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MAY 22, 2020

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## Carbon-Neutral Philipstown?

*Greenhouse-gas inventory lays groundwork*

By Brian PJ Cronin

**A**mong the surprising discoveries in a report released today (May 22) by the Climate Smart Philipstown task force is how much the town will have to reduce its greenhouse-gas emissions to achieve the blissful state of “carbon neutrality” in which it creates less carbon dioxide than it removes through mitigation.

The amount? 60 percent.

The report was created by the task force, the Ecological Citizen’s Project, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability and volunteers who included scientists, researchers and Haldane middle school students who waded into knee-deep mud to measure how much carbon local wetlands were storing.

Although wetlands make up only 5 percent of Philipstown, their ability to sink carbon means that they hold the equivalent of 20 years’ worth of community emissions. Philipstown’s abundance of green space means that 40 percent of the town’s emis-

*(Continued on Page 3)*



**CONSTITUTION MARSH AT 50** — This week in 1970, New York State purchased a 267-acre salt marsh on the Hudson River in Garrison to create a wildlife sanctuary maintained by the National Audubon Society. See Page 18.

*Photo by Barry Rosen*

## Counties Expecting Huge Losses

*Dutchess could cut up to 200 positions*

By Leonard Sparks

**D**utchess could be forced to cut as many as 200 positions unless President Donald Trump and Congress can strike a deal to help local governments faced with rising COVID-19 expenses, declining revenues and cuts in state aid, County Executive Marc Molinaro said on Thursday (May 21).

Molinaro and the county executives from Westchester and Orange each called for federal aid during a news conference organized by Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, whose district includes the Highlands, and conducted by videoconference.

Maloney and other Democrats in the

*(Continued on Page 9)*



**READY TO REMEMBER** — Andy Scicluna, 17, an Eagle Scout candidate from Philipstown Troop 437, this year sanded and repainted the more than 530 markers in the Garden of Remembrance installed for Memorial Day each year on the lawn of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Cold Spring. “I thought it might take a couple of weeks, but it ended up taking a couple of months,” Scicluna said. With Scouting suspended because of the COVID-19 shutdown, several troop families installed the memorials, working in shifts.

*Photo by Michael Turton*

## Odell Seeks to Fill Deputy Role

*Position has been vacant since 2017*

By Holly Crocco

**P**utnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell would like to hire a deputy county executive — a position that has been vacant since Bruce Walker resigned in October 2017 to take a job at the U.S. Department of Energy.

Not filling the position since Walker’s departure has saved the county \$485,000, according to Odell.

The position would be part-time initially and then become full-time in 2021, with an annual salary of \$116,200. Odell said she wants to hire Thomas Feighery, a project manager in the Highway Department, a job he would continue.

“Mr. Feighery has been a local business owner in Carmel for the past 30 years and

*(Continued on Page 7)*



# 5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: CARYN CANNOVA

By Michael Turton

On May 20, 2020, Caryn Cannova marked the 20th anniversary of Kismet at Caryn's, her shop on Main Street in Cold Spring.

## What have been the best aspects of doing business in Cold Spring?

The support of the community, and the easy commute — I live in Nelsonville! My landlords have been fantastic, giving me the freedom I've needed, allowing me to change and grow. And having my own business has given me the flexibility I need as a single mom.

## What have been some of the challenges?

The changes in weather from season to season and in customer preferences. I've needed to reinvent the business to stay relevant. I've had to change my way of thinking. It's not about me and what I like. It's about what other people like because they're the ones you need to satisfy.

## Has there been any silver lining to the pandemic pause?

It's given me the gift of time, to sit and redesign the store the way I've always



wanted it to be. And I've done it through gifts. A store owner from Monroe who closed her shop gave me glass display shelves I could never have afforded. A friend did a video for free. I've been able to focus. I've always wanted to sell balloons. I used my stimulus check to buy a helium

tank and high-quality balloons. Sales have been insane. It's probably the most fun I've had in here.

## Your shop has reopened. Is it considered essential?

I had questions about that and didn't open until I clarified what is "essential" through the Reopen Putnam County Safely Task Force [of which Cannova is a member]. I didn't just start selling toilet paper and open my door! I have always carried essentials. Any cleaning agent or disinfectant is an essential. I carry Lampe Berger, a disinfectant that's been around for 120 years and is used in hospitals to purify the air; it uses 90 percent isopropyl alcohol and 10 percent water. I also sell hand sanitizer, men's and women's soap, bath and body products, and masks.

## Does it seem like 20 years?

It seems like yesterday. I had no clue what I was doing when I opened, but Timothy Chevtakin from Archipelago at Home took me under his wing. He taught me how to merchandise, how to buy, who to buy from. There was no competition — it was just "Let's help each other out." It's been such a journey. I'd absolutely do it all over again, without a doubt.

# ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

## What will you do to relax on Memorial Day?

I'm going to hang out in the backyard, work in the garden, plant some veggies.



~ Jared Henderson, Cold Spring

I'm going to go for a run, play some chess and listen to feel-good music.



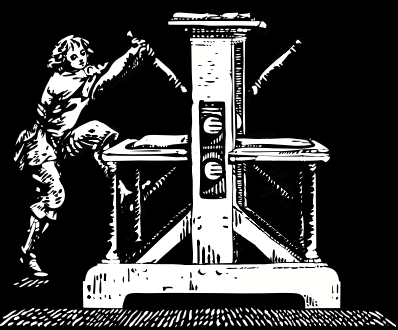
~ Jayne Henderson, Cold Spring

My wife, kids and I will have a watermelon-eating contest.



~ Stafan Danicich, Cold Spring

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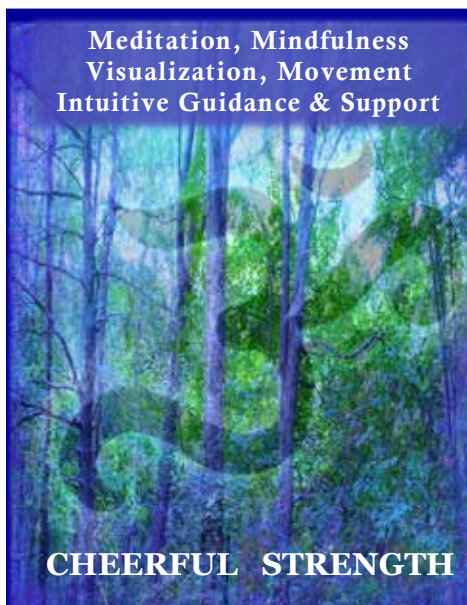
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## Carbon Neutral *(from Page 1)*

sions are being sequestered by its natural resources, said the 116-page report.

As to whether that 40 percent will “count” toward achieving local carbon neutrality is unclear. Jason Angell of the Ecological Citizen’s Project (who is also a member of the board of Highlands Current Inc., which publishes this newspaper) said that the task force even discussed the topic with one of the United Nations’ negotiators of the Paris Climate Accord. “It’s an undefined area on local policy, so it’s a debate for Philipstown to have,” Angell said.

The report looks at the totality of Philipstown’s emissions, in contrast with other local greenhouse-gas inventories that focus only on emissions made within the municipal boundaries. That means measuring everything from emissions caused by shipping goods and services to Philipstown to how individual diets contribute. The report noted that consumption of beef accounts for half of local food-based emissions.

The report also differs from other inventories in that its consumption-based data was informed by local reporting and surveys, the first effort of its kind in New York State, according to the task force. “Other reports were using national averages and estimating that that’s a good representation of their community,” explained Jocelyn Apicello, also of the Ecological Citizen’s Project. “But what we know is that each community is so distinct and has different behaviors. So we did household surveys, which gave us real data from local folks.”

Even taking into account the limits of self-reporting surveys, the report paints a clear picture of where the town’s emissions are coming from and what steps each individual can take to lower them.

Roberto Muller, the coordinator of Philipstown Climate Smart Communities, said he was surprised how high goods and services ranked in terms of the town’s emissions. The top five categories of emissions are, in order: services, food, home-heating, transportation and goods. Air travel comes in at a distant sixth.

“Now that I understand the life-cycle analysis, it makes a lot of sense, because there’s so much that goes into manufacturing a couch or clothing, especially because of the way our production system is global-

ized,” he said. “Materials have to move so far before they finally turn into the final product, and then they generally get shipped very far as well. I didn’t realize how large that is on a household scale. The good news is, for a lot of those services and goods, there’s a lot of control in each household in terms of where to spend their money.”

“One of the most important findings is that fighting climate change means building and supporting local economies,” added Angell. “In the past there’s been this idea that doing something good for the environment is bad for business. But this report reveals that doing something good for the environment is good for the local economy. It unifies the idea that we need to build local economies in order to fight climate change.”

Muller said he hopes the report will empower residents by demonstrating the impact of their individual actions. “So many people say: ‘I would like to be responsible for my own behavior,’ ” he said. “A lot of ideals that are packaged in with the American dream are about taking responsibility for our own actions and this report shows us the benefit of doing that. We don’t have to wait for big-picture solutions from large businesses and the government.”

Next up is for Philipstown to consider the report’s findings and to, among other recommendations, consider whether to adopt the idea of consumption and sequestered carbon in its plans. If it does, it could pave the way for compensation from development projects for the removal of natural resources. “You could say, ‘OK, how is it going to affect our reduction goals to remove 20 acres of trees?’ ” he said. “We’re now valuing that within our municipal targets. Maybe it doesn’t matter as much in Philipstown because we don’t have as much development, but it sure as hell would matter in Beacon and Fishkill.”

Apicello said that she hoped the report would have an impact outside of Philipstown as other communities take stock of their emissions.

“It would be great if other municipalities didn’t have to reinvent the wheel of data collection and instead they could use some of the things we spent a lot of time pulling together,” she said. “We hope it gets shared and other communities use it as a resource as to how they can conduct their own inventories.”



The Putnam route

## Dutchess, Putnam Plan Memorial Day ‘Convoys’

Dutchess and Putnam are each planning to organize a “convoy” of vehicles to travel around the counties on Memorial Day (Monday, May 25).

In Dutchess, a convoy escorted by sheriff’s deputies will leave Poughkeepsie at 11 a.m. and travel a route south, east and north (at right) that bypasses a number of communities around the county, including Beacon. Each municipality will have official vehicles join the convoy as it passes.

Residents are asked to gather in small groups and show their support along the route by hanging U.S. flags or painting and drawing flags in their windows or on driveways.

The Putnam convoy, organized by the Joint Veterans Council, will depart at 1 p.m. from Carmel and pass by each town and village hall (above). Residents are invited to stand on their front lawns as the convoy passes, or to join with vehicles decorated with flags and other patriotic paraphernalia.

See [highlandscurrent.org/memorial-convoy](http://highlandscurrent.org/memorial-convoy) for route details.



The Dutchess route

### CURRENT CONVERSATIONS

## Marc Molinaro

The Dutchess County Executive will discuss the Covid-19 crisis and the path forward.

**TUESDAY MAY 26TH 5:00 - 5:30 P.M.**  
Register to attend the live Zoom event:  
[highlandscurrent.org/current-conversations](http://highlandscurrent.org/current-conversations)



## NOTICE



## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE CANCELLED

Unfortunately, due to the current pandemic and the necessary social distancing, the 2020 Philipstown Memorial Day Parade will not be held.

As you go about your day on Memorial Day, we ask that you please remember all our Veterans, both deceased and living. In another time and in other places, they were our front line heroes, they were the ones who sacrificed their lives, they were the ones who left their homes, their families and their friends to protect us.



# The HIGHLANDS Current

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## Tell us what you think

**T**he *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.

## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

### COVID-19 update

Every day I watch Gov. Andrew Cuomo's news conference and I think of him as the captain of the Titanic assuring the passengers that everything will be OK if they help rearrange the deck chairs.

I am 73 and smoked two packs of cigarettes a day for more than 50 years. I am who the governor considers a "vulnerable person" and, while I am flattered about his concern for my well-being, I do have some concerns about the cost of all this to my grandkids.

The average life span of a male in the U.S. is around 78.5 years, so I question how much it will cost the state and the country to keep me alive for another five years. My grandchildren, who are being home-schooled, looked forward to playing baseball and softball in high school this year. The country is spending enormous amounts of money, which we don't have, during this pandemic, which I believe 80 percent of the population would survive without a shutdown of society.

I am old enough to remember when the local bar offered a "free lunch," but there is no longer any free lunch. Next year all the schools will be on austerity budgets and there will be no sports, band or clubs. The malls will be shuttered and the movie theaters will be closed, and our towns will have many empty storefronts and God knows what the unemployment and quality of life will be going forward.

If you asked me to make a choice between taking my chances of living another five years or having my grandkids have the kind of life I have had for the past 73, I would step on that ice floe like the Eskimos of the past. I

also believe many of my fellow seniors would make that choice to prevent a bleak future for our children and grandchildren.

Barry Goggin, *Cold Spring*

There is a statewide stay-at-home order in place. More than 23,000 people have died in New York, including 132 in Dutchess County and 58 in Putnam, and several here in Cold Spring — people we care about, people we love.

And yet many people want to ignore this. They want us to be friendly and welcoming to visitors, for the sake of local businesses.

Gov. Cuomo made this decision because there is a pandemic still happening. That means a highly communicable disease can make you sick and, in some instances, kill you.

The Mid-Hudson region must meet specific criteria in order to reopen, including a 14-day decline in total hospitalizations, a 14-day decline in deaths, fewer than two new hospitalizations per 100,000 residents on a three-day rolling average, at least 30 percent of hospital beds available, at least 30 percent of ICU beds available, average daily diagnostic testing over the previous seven days must be sufficient to conduct 30 tests per 1,000 residents per month; and contact tracing capacity of 30 per 100,000 residents.

The region has not met that criteria. So why am I hearing that we should be catering to commerce right now? Why should we encourage visitors to disobey the stay-at-home order and put themselves and others at risk?

We can certainly plan for the future, once the criteria have been met, but right now it is every citizen's responsibility to protect one another and to try not to spread this

disease. Sometimes that means reminding people that they are living through a deadly pandemic, even if they'd prefer to ignore it.

Heidi and Michael Bender, *Cold Spring*

Have all employees wear gloves and masks and everyone else wear masks. Have hand sanitizer available in all stores and businesses. This is not rocket science. Get us back to work and life before they kill the business economy for good.

What I see is that politicians got power hungry and now don't want to give it up. They've trampled all over our constitutional rights, and they don't have that power, but we seem to be just letting them get away with it. You already see uprisings in some states. Do we want that to come here? I don't want us to get to a place of 1776 revisited. I'm too old and I've been to war, and for those who think it's a joke, think again. They think we're children who must be taken by the hand and led.

Eberhard Becker, *Mahopac*

I understand everyone is frustrated, but I popped by Cold Spring a few weeks ago and it was overrun despite most everything being shut down. No one was maintaining distance and hardly anyone had masks.

If everyone complied for just two weeks, we could get past this phase and reopen some things. But hospitalizations are going up again. So here we are: Status quo. Other countries don't have this red-versus-blue animosity and name-calling, and their people are complying and now they are reopening things.

It is a selfless act to sacrifice for someone

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

# Counting the Highlands

Response rates to the 2020 U.S. census, as of May 21, along with historical data, at right. If a household doesn't respond online, the agency sends a paper questionnaire. If there is still no response, a census taker will be dispatched to knock on the door, although those operations are now uncertain due to the coronavirus.

	2020	2010	2000	1990
Cold Spring	65.7	69.1	71	72
Putnam County	63.5	66.8	67	56
Philipstown	62.4	66.2	67	64
National	59.8	66.5	67	65
18th District	59.7	66.0	-	-
Nelsonville	59.2	67.2	65	61
Beacon	58.9	65.8	54	66
Dutchess County	58.3	65.7	68	64
New York State	54.6	64.6	67	62
New York City	49.6	64.0	55	53
Newburgh	36.4	50.2	45	44

Source: 2020census.gov

(Continued from Page 4)

else's life. Start sentences with, "What do you need?" instead of "What do I want?"

Carolyn Torella, *via Facebook*

There needs to be more of a middle ground. We can still accept the virus as dangerous but have fewer restrictions. COVID-19 will not disappear from the world anytime soon, but adults need to accept some risk for their own mental health and sanity and be allowed to make their own choices. The health care system isn't on the cusp of collapse.

Everyone is turning this into political nonsense. Instead of calling people out for being too far to the right or too far to the left, meet in the middle. A lot more will get done. It may not be 100 percent how you want it, but what in life is? I thought being American meant you had certain freedoms and rights — one being your right to think for yourself.

Andy Fast, *via Facebook*

## Loud cycles

I was a bit surprised to see so many comments addressing the excessive loud noise of many motorcycles of local

bikers during the weekdays (*Letters and Comments*, May 15).

As a former longtime rider of vintage BMW bikes, I have more than a passing interest in the topic. While loud motorcycles wake babies, as a resident of senior housing, I can tell you it's no fun on the other end, either. There are a litany of laws governing decibel levels, but they are not enforced. The laws are not there because loud pipes are a tad bothersome; they are detrimental to human hearing. It is vanity that pushes one to modify pipes to produce the loudest results.

I have yet to witness a citation being given to a rider with loud pipes. These regulations have been ignored for so long that nobody seems to be willing to be the person who enforces them. Ignoring a restriction does not all of a sudden make it legal. I tried that defense in court on several traffic topics and not once have I been successful.

Gregory Bochow, *Cold Spring*

## Beacon market

Oh, my goddess, Towne Crier, which has complained the Beacon Farmers' Market blocks one of its loading entrances ("Beacon Farmers' Market Set — For One Year," May 15). A quick check of its online calendar shows zero concerts on a Sunday for the next six months.

Forcing the market to an earlier 8 a.m. opening and an earlier closing is cruel.

Local farmers sustain us in ways that are immeasurably valuable to life, particularly during a pandemic. How can the Towne Crier be a part of any action that makes it more difficult for them? As our governor says regarding compassion toward each other, "If not now, when?"

I stand with Beacon City Council Members Amber Grant and Dan Aymar-Blair. The Farmers' Market needs to be respected and given an extremely long-term deal, for as long as it is willing to come to Beacon. Our city must open her arms and give every vendor a huge welcome and many thanks!

Marlene Mordas-Voight, *Beacon*

Did a city council member really just compare a farmers' market to a volunteer ambulance corps?

Kevin McGarry, *Beacon*

It's so sad that, even during this bizarre time, this conflict reared its ugly head again. If our city can recover from this economic, social and health disaster, we need to come together, not continue fighting the same old battles.

The issue is not whether to have a farmers' market. It's about location and compromise with the only business directly impacted by the Veteran's Place location. All brick-and-mortar Main Street businesses are suffering. A mobile, weekly market is in a position to be flexible. Why attack a struggling Main Street

(Continued on Page 6)

# Thank You to Our Members

As a nonprofit that provides quality journalism free to our community, The Highlands Current depends on its members for support. Today we welcome the following new names to our membership ranks. We are grateful for their recognition of the important role journalism plays in our community and in our democratic society.

Our membership program, introduced at the end of last year, is now the primary means of support for our newspaper and website. The full list of our members is on our website at [highlandscurrent.org/members](http://highlandscurrent.org/members).

To become a member with your tax-deductible donation and help us continue to improve and expand our coverage of the Hudson Highlands, especially in this difficult time, visit [highlandscurrent.org/join](http://highlandscurrent.org/join), or write to *The Highlands Current* at 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

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# NOTICE

## CLEAN-UP FOR NELSONVILLE RESIDENTS

Will Be Held On: **FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2020**

### ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

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

### UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

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

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Board of Trustees





# COPING WITH STRESS

BY MICHAEL MCKEE, PHD

So much division in our political, social, cultural life. You may find this to be true in your family life as you’ve been living it recently. How do we make decisions for a group larger than two people? In common practice, we typically use majority rule. What movie the group sees, what to have for dinner — that decision can be arrived at by a vote. Decisions get made, but the process can lead to factionalism, promoting identity with a subgroup rather than the whole.

Consensus decision-making is an alternative to majority rule. Members of the group come together with a collaborative process that seeks the input of all members with the goal of finding a solution that meets the needs of the community. On the local level: what color to paint the house. On the national level: immigration policy, environmental policy, you name it.

Consensus does not mean unanimity. The individual makes a commitment to honor the best interests of the group through careful listening and talking. Each person’s contribution is acknowledged and considered. Everyone agrees to honor the wisdom of the group, whether or not they agree with every decision, so there are no disgruntled factions. People learn over time to balance their needs and interests with those of the community.

It’s important to work toward consensus with behavior that is respectful of all the participants. Add a level of endorsement for a decision by writing it down and sharing it with the group so everyone can see what they’re agreeing to in black and white.

Michael McKee is a licensed psychologist with offices in Garrison who specializes in Cognitive Behavioral Psychotherapy (CBT). He can be reached at 914-584-9352 or [info@mckeetherapy.com](mailto:info@mckeetherapy.com). For more information, visit [mckeetherapy.com](http://mckeetherapy.com).

ADVERTISEMENT



## In Memoriam

The men remembered here died during their wartime service, either during combat or from disease or accidents.

### Beacon

The list was compiled by Robert William Phillips for the Beacon Historical Society, with additional names from state records and newspaper accounts.

#### WORLD WAR I

John Bump  
H. Gordon Deicke  
George Delahay  
George E. Deveson  
Frederick A. Garrison  
Frederick Harris  
Frank Incarnati  
Francis J. Murphy  
Austin T. Robinson  
Pasquale Salese  
George Stafford  
James J. Tomlins  
Frank H. VanHouten Jr.  
William Wilson

#### WORLD WAR II

Arthur J. Baxter  
John H. Beattie  
Robert A. Bennett

Luigi F. Bettina  
William J. Brennan  
John W. Briggs  
Frederick H. Brewer  
Thomas B. Carrol  
Calvin Clensay  
John Collins  
Nicholas T. Coppola  
Raymond W. Detweiler  
Andrew B. Eichorn  
George J. Eichorn  
Paul L. Facticeau  
Robert M. Faris  
Ralph L. Fleming  
David Fontaine  
George P. Frederick  
Saul Gerlich  
Alexander J. Grudzina  
Michael J. Groza  
Joseph Halbosky  
Gordon E. Hughes  
Henry I. Idema  
Edwin J. Johnson  
John Keto  
Albert A. Knight  
Orville Kranz

Ernest H. LaChance  
George LaChance  
Arnold E. Lasko  
Robinson C. Lent  
Walter M. Lewis  
Judah H. Lewittes  
James J. Lockwood  
Michael E. Maskewicz  
Joseph McGaughan  
Peter Menger  
Howard G. Mitchell  
John F. Mignault  
George S. Mitchell  
William T. Morrison  
Patrick J. O’Brien  
Francis G. Peattie  
Guy D. Pendleton  
George Perrault  
Kenneth G. Perry  
Dominick J. Phillippo  
Carmen A. Ramputi  
Robert V. Resek  
Lester F. Roberts  
Peter J. Seranto  
Francis T. Splain Jr.  
Burton Stevens

Stuart F. Stripple  
Richard E. Sutton  
William J. Tallman  
Rody J. Tighe  
Francis J. Toth  
George P. Turiga  
Andrew Urbanak  
Joseph C. Usifer  
Rosco L. Vaughn Jr.  
James J. Walker  
John P. Wasnorowicz  
Louis J. Westerhuis  
Rene’ Zahner

#### KOREA

Anthony N. Scalzo

#### VIETNAM

John J. Bennett  
Thomas E. Devine  
Everett Foster  
Philip R. Mattracion  
Terrence E. O’Neil  
William R. Phillips  
James S. Pittman  
Emilio Rivera  
Joseph T. Slinsky

### Philipstown

The list is taken from the war memorial at Main and Chestnut streets in Cold Spring, with the addition of Walter Croft.

#### WORLD WAR I

Percy W. Arnold  
Edward J. Burns  
George A. Casey  
Charles N. Clainos  
Walter H. Croft  
Charles DeRham Jr.  
John R. Fisher  
Clarence Fahnestock  
James Harvey Hustis  
J. Paulding Murdock

#### WORLD WAR II

Martin E. Adams  
H. Ellis Bowden  
Edward Budney  
Gerald Dale  
Warren Eitner  
W. Russel Farrell  
Ralph Fleming  
Arthur Gilman  
Walter Glanville  
Thomas Lutz  
Stanley Matthews  
Anthony Nastasi  
Allen W. Olsen  
Joseph V. Richardson  
Lester B. Roberts  
Arthur Warren

#### VIETNAM

Aldon Asherman  
John Bennett  
Keith Livermore

## LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

business, especially now? Why mock the loss of Sunday concert dates that are the result of an unprecedented crisis? Why not support a business that in our better times brings life and music and community to this small city?

We can both support a thriving farmers’ market and be sensitive to Main Street businesses who pay rent 12 months a year and are in the most precarious financial situation of our lifetimes. Even if it’s only one business that suffers under the arrangement with the farmers’ market, that business deserves to be heard and respected.

Mai Jacobs, *Beacon*

### Antique shop

I have been coming to Ellen Hayden and Gary Arceri’s antique shops and gallery for more than 20 years and often come up with a find. Both have been very friendly and we often end up chatting away. Whenever I was in town I always came by to say hello and browse the expanse, with the certainty that something would get my attention. They will be missed.

Bob Mayer, *Putnam Valley*

I couldn’t believe it when I saw the “going-out-of-business” sign on one of my all-time favorite Cold Spring venues. Even before I opened my own shop on Main Street, I was an avid customer at what many called “The Garage.” It breaks my heart to see Gary and Ellen close their doors but I completely

understand where they’re coming from and why they had to do it.

Even before the COVID-19 crisis, village merchants have been having trouble, mainly because of increased online competition from Amazon, eBay, etc. Also, the younger shoppers are not so interested in antique and vintage merchandise as maybe their parents were. Boomers are mostly cleaning out and downsizing, so they’re not interested, either.

This crisis will be the final nail in the coffin for many of us shopkeepers who have been struggling, and I include myself in that category. As I walk around Cold Spring and see what’s happened to our once-amazing village, I find it hard to believe that it will ever get to the point where shoppers will be coming back unless the current level of fear subsides.

Public officials, including the mayor, the village board, county legislators and the county tourism agency have never been particularly helpful to the business owners. Now that it’s too late for many of us, they are finally coming out of the woodwork. Maybe when they see the hit they’re going to take in tax money, they will realize what they lost.

Until then, I wish Gary and Ellen the best in their new journey. No doubt it will be the same journey that many of us will be embarking on.

Patty Villanova, *Putnam Valley*

### Nursing homes

Nursing homes are the new prisons (“25 Percent of State COVID-19 Deaths at Nurs-

ing Homes,” May 15). This will end up being the biggest tragedy of the pandemic in this country. The neglect will be unearthed. Does anyone know why a nursing home wouldn’t call the hospital and have someone picked up and cared for if they were too sick with COVID-19 for the home to handle?

Samantha Jones, *via Facebook*

### Business booster

I watched the Virgadamo boys as they grew up and there’s nothing but a good comment that can be made as to anything they have done or accomplished (5 *Questions*, May 15). Good job, Tommy!

Bruce Campbell, *Cold Spring*

### Tribute to chowder

My mother, who is in isolation in Vermont, wrote a poem that I felt I needed to share. She wrote: “I am a picky New Englander, and this chowder works.”

Think of a very light “oyster stew” cream  
Boated with bits of potatoes and corn  
kernels

Some green islands of fluffy parsley  
A few solid brown volcanic pieces of  
bacon

Also, chicken whales floating —  
Kissed by the tastes of bacon, chicken,  
cream, corn, potatoes

Voila! The Main Course corn chowder!  
Victoria Jones, *Cold Spring*



# Beacon School Board Adopts \$76 Million Budget

*Voters will have final say, by mail, on June 9*

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon school board on Wednesday (May 20) approved the district's nearly \$76 million budget for the 2020-21 school year. The next step is a June 1 virtual public hearing before district residents will vote by mail on or before June 9 on the budget and three board members seeking reelection.

The public hearing following the board's adoption of the budget is standard procedure, but little following it will be.

Because of social-distancing requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the state required school and library district to conduct their elections by absentee ballot; the Beacon school district is mailing postcards to residents with instructions.

The state has said that all "qualified" residents are eligible to vote by mail, which includes U.S. citizens who are at least 18 years old and have lived in the district for at least 30 days before the election. Absentee ballots will be mailed with a postage-paid return envelope; there is no need to apply. Voters who do not receive one can make a request at [beaconk12.org/domain/418](http://beaconk12.org/domain/418) by 5 p.m. on June 2.

The ballot will include board incumbents Anthony White, Kristan Flynn and Craig Wolf, and, also per the governor's order, candidates for the Howland Public Library district board and the library's \$1.24 million proposed budget. The Howland budget includes a 5.5 percent increase in the tax levy after the board voted in January to exceed the 2 percent tax cap.

The school district's budget has been fraught with even more uncertainty than the voting process. It includes \$41.6 million in revenue to be collected through property taxes — a 3.23 percent, or \$1.3 million, increase over last year, as well as \$30.4 million in state aid, about \$1 million more than last year. It does not include the standard proposition for buses and other equipment.

Cuomo, however, has warned schools statewide that he may have to pull aid later this year to address shortfalls in the state budget.

The state already subtracted a nearly \$725,000 "pandemic adjustment" from Beacon's allocation. While federal aid in the same amount balanced it out, there are no guarantees going forward, district officials say.

The Beacon school board, particularly Board Member Michael Rutkoske, has debated during its recent meetings whether to seek the maximum allowable tax levy, which this year is more than the

2 percent state-imposed cap because of growth factors tied to the state's consumer price index and the addition of new households to Beacon's tax base. Rutkoske said again before the vote Wednesday that he's concerned district residents may already be struggling to make ends meet.

Using the most recent property assessment figures, the average Beacon home would pay \$126 more in school taxes if voters approve the budget. Increases would be roughly \$156 for district residents living in Fishkill and Wappingers.

But other board members said the district cannot afford to cut costs any further, especially with the possibility of significant state cuts still looming.

"Sometimes the first expectation is that schools and their kids should fall on their swords," said Board Member Kristan Flynn. But with some people leaving New York City because of the pandemic, Beacon could soon see an influx of new residents "that won't have a problem paying some of these taxes," she said.

If voters do not approve the district's budget proposal, there will be no opportunity for a revote, as there has been in years past. The district would instead shift to a contingency budget, which would not include the \$1.3 million in added tax revenue for this year. That would force the district to make cuts to its athletic, music and elective programs, and some class sizes would increase, Deputy Superintendent Ann Marie Quartironi explained during the board's May 20 meeting, which was held by videoconference.

Local clubs, many of which use school

## Other Votes

Residents of the Haldane and Garrison school districts will also vote by absentee ballot. There is one candidate for one open seat on the Haldane board and three for three open seats at Garrison; all are incumbents.

Haldane's proposed \$25.3 million budget includes a \$20.6 million tax levy (nearly \$700,000 more than a year ago) and anticipates nearly \$3 million in state aid. Ballots will be mailed to registered voters next week and must be received by mail or at the school by 5 p.m. on June 9. Email [cplatt@haldaneschool.org](mailto:cplatt@haldaneschool.org) with questions.

Garrison's proposed \$11.5 million budget (\$430,000 over last year) relies on a \$9.5 million levy and \$917,000 in state aid. Voter registration will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on May 26, and the board will hold a budget hearing by videoconference on May 27. Absentee ballots will be mailed on May 28. Email [dcallo@guhs.org](mailto:dcallo@guhs.org) with questions.

**“Sometimes the first expectation is that schools and their kids should fall on their swords.**

~ Board Member Kristan Flynn

## Putnam Job *(from Page 1)*

is uniquely qualified to interface with our Economic Development Corporation and local business community during these very uncertain times, in order to provide information, assistance and assurances from the county's perspective," Odell wrote.

On Monday (May 18), the Legislature's Personnel Committee approved a budget transfer of \$20,500 to fund the position by a 2-1 vote, with Legislators Ginny Nacerino (R-Patterson) and Paul Jonke (R-Brewster) voting yes and Nancy Montgomery (D-Philpstown) voting no. The expenditure will be considered by the full Legislature at its June meeting.

"We must realize that having the position vacant is an exception and not the norm throughout the state," said Nacerino. "It is in the same vein that this part-time position be considered imperative. We need to get in front of the issues facing this county due to the fallout of the pandemic as we try to get the economy and our local businesses back on their feet."

She also called Feighery "an excellent choice," citing his help in bringing various projects to fruition, including transformation of a building at the former Butterfield Hospital site in Cold Spring into a senior center, development of the Tilly Foster Farm and Educa-

## Judge Declines to Release Inmates

A state judge on Wednesday (May 20) rejected a petition by the Putnam Legal Aid Society to release eight county jail inmates who it argued are at risk of being infected with COVID-19.

Judge Victor Grossman said that while "there can be no doubt that the presence of a communicable disease in a prison can constitute a serious, medically threatening condition," the jail's "reduced population" and measures taken to limit the risk of transmission give the inmates "no basis" for release.

See story at [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org)

tional Institute in Brewster, and updates to the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac.

Montgomery, however, questioned the need for such a position and Feighery's qualifications for the job.

"I understand he was the project manager for Butterfield — a project that was really

challenging, cost us a lot of money and still costs us \$11,000 a month for a facility we don't own," she said. "And he's also the project manager for Tilly Foster, and that's what we're approving for someone to move to the position of deputy county executive?"

Nacerino noted that the Legislature is not tasked with approving the candidate, but only the budget transfer that will allow for the position to be paid.

Putnam County Personnel Director Paul Eldridge explained that the county executive may appoint a deputy at her pleasure.

"The deputy county executive is an exempt classified position and by definition the qualifications of the individual are set by the appointing authority," in this case, the county executive, he said.

The position of undersheriff, selected by the sheriff, also fits that category, he said.

Montgomery further claimed that "the county executive boasted, bragged how great it was that she didn't have a deputy county executive and made it clear during her approval for her raise and that of other high-paid administrators in the county that we don't need this — and that justified the salary that she was getting and that, also, other very highly paid administrators were getting in the county."

Further, she said that with the Putnam County Business Council, Industrial Development Agency and Economic Development

district buildings free of charge for after-hours events, would have to pay full price, as well.

"Not only would we have to cut the \$1.3 million; we're still not sure about state aid," Quartironi said.

Committee, there is no demonstrated need for another liaison to the business community. Rather, money and energy should be shifted toward the Health Department, said Montgomery.

"I don't see the need for this position right now," she said. "We need contact tracers, we need an epidemiologist, we need somebody in the Health Department to address this COVID crisis. This isn't the position to address this COVID crisis and your reasoning for approving this — because of the need because of the COVID crisis — is absurd."

Jonke disagreed.

"I want to commend the county executive for keeping this position vacant since October 2017," he said. "She did save the taxpayers a significant amount of money over that time. I can only imagine that due to the unusual times we're in she felt the need to fill this position on a part-time basis. I couldn't think of a better candidate selected to this job. He's got the skills to help the administration."

Odell's past decision not to hire a deputy county executive, Nacerino said, occurred before an unprecedented pandemic swept the nation.

"There is no way she could have ever imagined that a turn of events could happen like this," said Nacerino. "Our small businesses desperately need to get help and assurances as we move forward."

# COVID-19 by the Numbers

## ■ PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases

1,175 (+60)

Philipstown 114, Putnam Valley 168

Tests administered

7,017 (+994)

Percent positive

16.7 (-1.8)

Number of deaths

58 (+1)

## ■ DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases

3,745 (+271)

Beacon 113, Fishkill 105\*

Tests administered

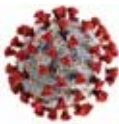
24,304 (+3,930)

Percent positive

15.4 (-1.7)

Number of deaths

132 (+15)



# Coronavirus Update

■ State health officials said that, as of Thursday (May 21), 1,175 people have tested positive for COVID-19 in Putnam County, 3,745 in Dutchess, 32,673 in Westchester, 12,877 in Rockland, 1,584 in Ulster and 10,092 in Orange. Statewide, there were 356,458 positives.

■ Statewide, 23,083 people had died as of May 21, including 58 residents of Putnam County and 132 from Dutchess.

■ Dashboards released by Dutchess and Putnam showed that, as of May 21, Beacon had 113 active cases and Philipstown had 114 confirmed cases.

■ Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that the Capital and Western New York regions joined the Finger Lakes, Mohawk Valley, North Country, Central New York and Southern Tier regions in meeting the seven criteria to allow for the reopening of non-essential construction, manufacturing, agriculture, forestry and fishing industries. The Mid-Hudson region, which includes Dutchess and Putnam counties, continues to fall short on two of seven metrics (decline in hospital deaths and number of contact tracers). See chart below.

■ The state said that as of May 21, it would allow, with social distancing and masks, religious gatherings of no more than 10 people, along with drive-in and parking-lot services. It also said Memorial Day ceremonies can be

held with no more than 10 people.

■ Empire State Development created a tool at [businessexpress.ny.gov/app/nyforward](https://businessexpress.ny.gov/app/nyforward) to help businesses determine when they will be able to reopen.

■ The state said this week that libraries are permitted to operate if they are “government facilities” or if the local government determines that it operates the library or that the library district is a “political subdivision.” Staff must be reduced by 50 percent and libraries are “encouraged, but not required, to reference and employ the state’s curbside and in-store pickup retail guidance.”

■ The state also allowed the opening of hunting and fishing clubs; single-student horseback riding; occupational and physical therapy when prescribed by a medical professional; and dog walking, animal boarding and pet grooming “to the extent necessary to ensure animal health.”

■ On May 20, the governor said antibody testing surveys at churches in lower-income New York City neighborhoods and communities of color show 27 percent of individuals tested positive for COVID-19 antibodies, compared with 19.9 percent of the city’s overall population. The data was collected from 8,000 individuals.

■ Cuomo announced on May 19 that the state would begin a pilot program at 16 hospitals, including Westchester Medical Center but no hospitals in Dutchess or Putnam, to allow visitors.

(Continued on Page 9)

# Step by Step

There is a 14-day period between phases once the criteria for each is met, which is based on the incubation period of COVID-19.

## PHASE ONE

- Construction
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
- Retail (curbside or in-store pickup/drop-off)
- Manufacturing
- Wholesale Trade

## PHASE TWO

- Professional Services
- Retail
- Administrative Support
- Real Estate / Rental & Leasing

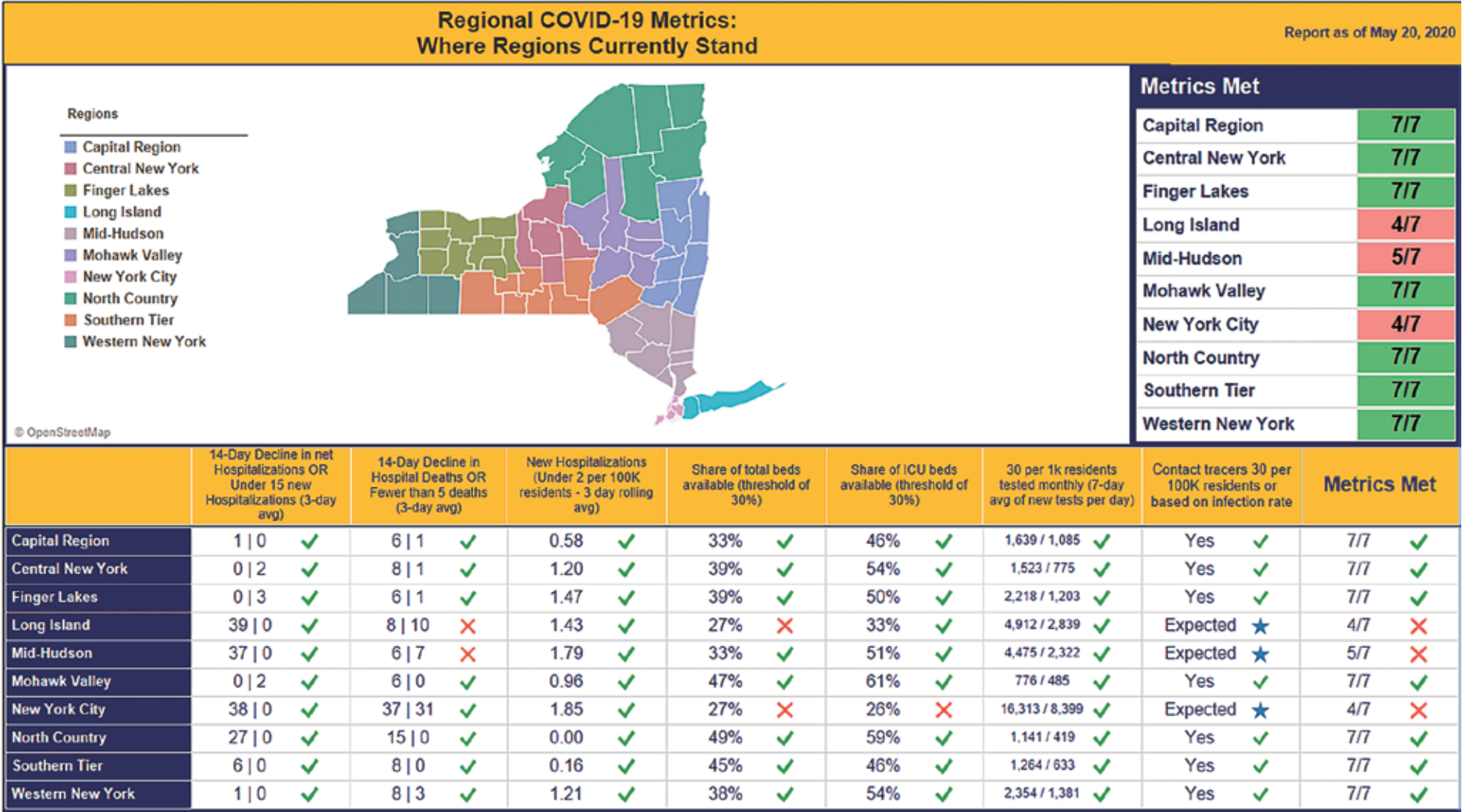
## PHASE THREE

- Restaurants / Food Services

## PHASE FOUR

- Arts / Entertainment / Recreation
- Education

Source: [forward.ny.gov](https://forward.ny.gov)



COVID-19 by the Numbers Source: New York State Department of Health, with weekly changes. Data current as of May 21. | Regional COVID-19 Metrics Source: Governor’s Office



## Losses *(from Page 1)*

House on May 15 approved a \$3 trillion bill that includes \$32 billion in aid over two years for local governments in New York. However, just one Republican voted for it, and Mitch McConnell, the Republican majority leader of the Senate, which must also approve the measure, lampooned it as “an 1,800-page seasonal catalog of left-wing oddities.”

If the bill as written does get through the Senate and is signed by the president, Dutchess County would receive \$165 million over two years and Putnam \$55 million, according to Maloney’s office.

Maloney said one local official told him that, without federal aid, the official could be forced to thank someone for “their front-line heroism and then hand them a pink slip.”

For many counties, a big hit is the drastic loss in sales-tax revenue during the shutdown that began in March. Dutchess’ could lose between \$18 million and \$46 million this year, according to an analysis by the New York State Association of Counties, and Putnam, \$5.4 to \$13 million.

Absent federal aid, that could mean

furloughs or layoffs, William Carlin, the Putnam County finance commissioner, told *The Current*.

Dutchess’ COVID-19 expenses include several million dollars spent on personal protective equipment like face masks, overtime by county employees and spending for staff and meals at the testing site at Dutchess Stadium, said Molinaro.

Federal aid is needed “if this country wants to grapple and claw its way back onto its feet,” he said. “There would be no greater mistake than, as we start to restart the economy and see small businesses begin to open, to have governments like ours have to engage in massive layoffs.”

The deployment of personnel and equipment has been “open-ended” in Westchester, said County Executive George Latimer during the news conference. Orange County Executive Steve Neuhaus said his county has not just spent millions on protective equipment.

“Besides masks and gloves, I had to buy body bags; I had to buy coffins,” he said.

In addition to falling sales-tax revenue, Dutchess could lose between \$2.1 million and \$3.3 million in hotel occupancy and

“There would be no greater mistake than, as we start to restart the economy and see small businesses begin to open, to have governments like ours have to engage in massive layoffs.”

casino taxes, according to NYSAC. Molinaro estimates that the county will see its total revenue fall by between \$50 million and \$75 million.

“We are looking at significant revenue loss,” he said. “Yet we will have increasing costs.”

Putnam’s sales tax revenue was about \$1.5 million over projections in April before dropping by \$1.1 million in May, said Carlin. June will be “a very bad month,” he said.

County officials, along with school districts, also are bracing for a significant reduction in aid from the state.

An assessment of COVID-19’s impact on the state budget, released in April, estimates that the state faces a tax-revenue shortfall of \$13.1 billion for this fiscal year and \$61 billion over four years.

A plan released on April 25 by the state Budget Office calls for \$10 billion in cuts

this year, including \$8.2 billion to schools, local governments, health care, colleges and other traditional beneficiaries of state aid.

Dutchess would lose between \$17.4 million and \$43.5 million in state aid, and Putnam between \$4.4 million and \$11.1 million, according to the NYSAC.

“Our expenditures are mostly mandates, so we’ll have to go to the un-mandated programs, and that could involve layoffs, furloughs — everything will be on the table,” said Carlin.

Both Dutchess and Putnam have taken steps to pare expenses from their 2020 budgets. Vacant positions are going unfilled and spending on travel is suspended. Putnam is delaying equipment purchases and limiting overtime, and Dutchess is considering requests to fill essential positions on a case-by-case basis.

*(Continued from Page 8)*

■ The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley announced the third round of grants from its Dutchess Responds fund, for \$59,000, distributed to Friends of Historic Hyde Park, Hudson River Housing, Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, Mediation Center of Dutchess County, Holy Light Pentecostal Church, Jayne Brooks Food Pantry at the Episcopal Church of the Messiah, Poughkeepsie Farm Project, Rhinebeck Reformed Church Food Pantry, Unshattered and the Wassaic Project.

■ The state on May 17 launched a website to allow residents to find testing sites. See [coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-testing](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-testing).

■ Cuomo added Westchester and Rockland to the list of counties that can resume elective surgeries.

■ On May 15, Cuomo said the Mid-Hudson Region would continue on pause until May 28. He also extended the state’s stay-at-home order through June 13. He also added hair-stylists to the list of businesses that will be able to open in Phase 2.

■ The state budget director said on May 15 that if New York does not receive funds from the federal government by the end of May, it would begin implementing 20 percent cuts in aid to schools, hospitals and local governments.

■ The governor announced on May 15 that state beaches will be open, with restrictions in place, beginning today (May 22). The restrictions are (1) no more than 50 percent capacity by ensuring controlled exits/entrances and limiting parking; (2) no group contact activities, including sports



A familiar face in Beacon recently received a mask, and flowers.

Photo by Ross Corsair

(e.g., volleyball, football); (3) areas of social gathering closed (e.g., picnic areas, playgrounds, pavilions, arcades, amusement rides); (4) social distancing measures for both employees and visitors; (5) masks worn by all employees and visitors when social distancing is not possible; (6) no concessions; and (7) ensuring staff levels are adequate to achieve these measures

and enforce crowd control. City, town and county beaches can open under the same conditions, he said.

■ Questions? Dutchess County posts updates at [dutchessny.gov/coronavirus](https://dutchessny.gov/coronavirus) and has a hotline at 845-486-3555. Putnam County posts info at [putnamcountyny.com/health](https://putnamcountyny.com/health). New York State has a hotline

at 888-364-3065 and a webpage at [ny.gov/coronavirus](https://ny.gov/coronavirus). The state also created an email list to provide updates. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention posts updates at [cdc.gov](https://cdc.gov).

For more coverage, see [highlandscurrent.org](https://highlandscurrent.org).



## AROUND TOWN



◀ **CLEARWATER RETURNS** — On the 51st anniversary of its initial launch, the Clearwater on Sunday (May 17) left port in Kingston for a trip to Rhinecliff and back with about half its usual 18-person crew to maintain social distancing. The sloop typically launches in late April. *Photo by Ross Corsair*

**HOP, SKIP AND SPRING** — ▶ Pam Gunther, using spray chalk and stencils provided by her company, Fit & Fun Playscapes, and assisted by Mindy Jesek, Johnna Mancari and Dove Pedlosky, on Wednesday (May 13) created a temporary playground on Main Street in Nelsonville near Village Hall. *Photo by Ross Corsair*

◀ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** — Members of the congregation at First Presbyterian Church in Beacon organized a drive-by birthday parade on Sunday (May 17) for Leslie Robinson (far left), 58, who is developmentally disabled and has found the pandemic to be particularly stressful. Her mother, Anny (right), immigrated to the U.S. from Belgium during World War II. *Photo by Brian PJ Cronin*



## MURANO GLASS

Film release on May 21, 2020

Live Q+A with Nancy Olnick, Giorgio Spanu, Sara Blumberg, and Jim Oliveira on Instagram Live on May 23, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. EST

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# The Calendar

## Can't Stop the Music

*SongSmith, which celebrates local performers, continues online*

By Alison Rooney

John Kelly, a longtime recording engineer, lighting designer and technical production director, in 2018 had a vision for his first, post-retirement project: He would showcase Hudson Valley musicians in a more intimate setting than a typical concert where the audience listens, claps and leaves.

He planned a video series that captured “the art in the craft of songwriting” — performers would be interviewed and play for a studio audience.

He asked three friends — events manager Reeya Banerjee, photographer Zoë Markwalter and videographer Mark Westin — if they wanted to help.

“John is quite a fine musician himself,” says Westin. “And, of course, he’s highly skilled technically. He started having this conversation with me: ‘I have this idea that we could interview songwriters on why they write, what they write, how they come to that.’ I said, ‘You’ll need a host. Who were you thinking of?’ ‘You,’ which sounded great to me.”

The project debuted a few months later, in January 2019, with a discussion and performance by Stephen Clair at the Beacon Music Factory. It continued as SongSmith

and shifted to a more spacious loft inside the warehouse of LNJ Tech Services, a lighting-and-event company in Beacon.

“People started turning up to help and soon we had a volunteer crew,” Westin says. The response to the series was enthusiastic, and SongSmith became a nonprofit corporation with a board of directors and began asking for donations so it could buy equipment (which now comes from Kelly’s studio) and pay the musicians for their performances and the volunteers for their expertise.

Then came COVID-19.

To help fill the void for both audiences and artists, SongSmith morphed into *Quarantine Stream*, in which three times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 p.m.) a songwriter or songwriters share a new song at [songsmith.org](http://songsmith.org). Westin provides an introduction and Kelly films the performers outside, with everyone keeping a safe distance.

When the lockdown began, “we contacted every performer we knew to ask, ‘Do you want to come do one song?’ Everyone said yes.”

The performers who have participated so far include Liz Kelly, Stephen Clair, Jeremy Schonfeld, Sara Milonovich, Jonathan Frith, Todd Giudice, Mike Rasimas, Rik Mercaldi, Josh Stark, Jeff Wilkinson, Jen Clapp, Annalyse and Ryan, Judith Tulloch and Steve Franchino, Open Book (Michele and Rick Gedney), Mimi Sun Longo, Jay Nicholas, Jake Holmes, George Spafford and The Costellos.

Next up are Vibeke Saugestad, accompanied by Ken Fox, who plays bass for The Fleshtones, on Friday (May 22), followed by a special episode with AudraSonic (Audra Kizina and Matt Harle) and video artist Jeff Crouse on Saturday (May 23) and a recorded highlights edition on Memorial Day (May 25). “The intent is to keep doing this until the restrictions [for live shows] are relaxed,” Westin says.

He notes that the musicians who participate “are providing a service. It’s not just strumming guitars and singing pretty words — these artists are providing soul satisfaction. They help people maintain sanity and clarity, and offer a respite from the craziness.

“Also, and not the least of it, artists have been hard hit by this. They’re out of work and down to zero income,” he adds. “We have a rich music community in the Highlands, so if someone hears a song and decides to buy a CD or contributes to the artist through Venmo or other ways, everything helps.”



John Kelly films Annalyse and Ryan for an episode of *Quarantine Stream*



John Kelly recording Mike Rasimas



John Kelly recording Todd Giudice

Photos by Mark Westin



# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

## MEMORIAL DAY

MON 25

### Dutchess County Convoy

POUGHKEEPSIE

The convoy will leave Poughkeepsie at 11 a.m. and travel south, east and north around the county. See Page 3.

MON 25

### Putnam County Convoy

CARMEL

The convoy will depart at 1 p.m. and pass by each town and village hall. See Page 3.

## COMMUNITY

SAT 23

### HVSF Playwriting Workshop

GARRISON

11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
hvshakespeare.org

Led by Christine Scarfuto, this free two-hour seminar focuses on writing a short play with the theme Mahicantuck, The River That Flows Both Ways. A selection of works submitted will be read by actors in a performance scheduled for July 18. Additional workshops will take place on SUN 24 (in cooperation with the Field Library in Peekskill), SAT 30 (Poughkeepsie Library and Butterfield Library) and SUN 31 (Newburgh Library). Register at hvshakespeare.org/production/community-bake-off.

SAT 23

### Living Room Trivia

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Butterfield Library  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Register online to join this monthly session to test your smarts.

SAT 23

### 5K Run & Walk With the Dogs

BEACON

Animal Rescue Foundation  
bit.ly/arf-run-2020

Register by June 10 to run or walk a 5K and log the activity for ARF's annual fundraiser. Submit times online with a photo of your watch, GPS or other fitness tracker. *Cost: \$30*

FRI 29

### Virtual Friday Soiree

GARRISON

5:30 p.m. Antipodean Books

Email lilburne@highlands.com for Zoom details. Continues weekly.

## KIDS & FAMILY

WED 27

### Story Time

GARRISON

1:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
instagram.com/desmondfishpubliclibrary  
facebook.com/desmondfishlibrary

Lucille Merry and other members of the staff read children's books aloud. Also FRI 29.

TUES 26

### New Parents' Support Group

GARRISON

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
desmondfishlibrary.org

Via Zoom. Email beautifulmamas123@gmail.com for registration information. Continues weekly.

TUES 26

### Kitchen Sink Science

GARRISON

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
instagram.com/desmondfishpubliclibrary  
facebook.com/desmondfishlibrary

Digital Services Coordinator Ryan Biracree conducts science experiments. Continues weekly.

THURS 28

### Trendy Stitching Workshop

BEACON

3:30 p.m. Howland Public Library  
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Email youth@beaconlibrary.org to register for this virtual workshop for middle and high school students to learn one-straight-stitch embroidery to accessorize and fix clothing.

THURS 28

### Stay Put Bookmark Workshop

BEACON

5 p.m. Howland Public Library  
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org

Email youth@beaconlibrary.org to register for this virtual workshop for students in grades 5 and up to learn how to handstitch material to make a bookmark.

THURS 28

### Paper Crafts Workshop

GARRISON

6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
facebook.com/desmondfishlibrary

The workshop takes place each week via YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.

FRI 29

### JBL Kids Garden Lab

COLD SPRING

4 p.m. Butterfield Library  
facebook.com/jblkid

Children can join a live event on Facebook to read garden- and nature-related stories and participate in crafts and activities.

## VISUAL ARTS

SAT 23

### Social Saturday

GARRISON

4 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
instagram.com/garrisonartcenter

Join a virtual open studio to stay connected with the arts community and artists. The Zoom ID is 996 412 237.

WED 27

### Artist of the Week

BEACON

baugallery.org

Each week the gallery interviews a local artist and spotlights his or her work.

## TALKS

TUES 26

### Growing Calm

GARRISON

3 p.m. Garrison Institute  
garrisoninstitute.org

Register online for this Zoom workshop, which will discuss finding strength in turbulent times.

TUES 26

### Adult Study Group

PHILIPSTOWN

5 p.m. Philipstown Reform Synagogue  
philipstownreformsynagogue.org

For an invitation to these biweekly Zoom sessions, email cathye95@aol.com. The discussion

will focus on *Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality and Deeper Connection to Life – In Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There)*, by Sarah Hurwitz.

TUES 26

### Current Conversation

BEACON

5 p.m. Zoom  
highlandscurrent.org

Join us for a discussion of the COVID-19 crisis and reopening with Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro. For an invite, visit highlandscurrent.org/current-conversations.

TUES 26

### Graphic Novel Book Club

COLD SPRING

7 p.m.  
Split Rock Books  
845-265-2080  
splitrockbks.com

Summer Pierre will lead the discussion on Zoom of *Hot Comb*, by Ebony Flowers.



THURS 28

### History Book Club

COLD SPRING

7 p.m.  
Split Rock Books  
845-265-2080  
splitrockbks.com

Join a discussion on Zoom about *The British are Coming* by Rick Atkinson.



THURS 28

### Resiliency Meditation

BEACON

8:30 p.m. bit.ly/resiliency-meditation

Register to join Amy Soucy via Zoom for a weekly 30-minute meditation about turning fear into resilience.

SUN 31

### Unflappable

GARRISON

4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
845-424-3020 | gufs.org

Suzie Gilbert, the author of *Flyaway: How a Wild Bird Rehabber Sought Adventure and Found Her Wings*, will discuss her new novel with actor Nance

Williamson. To register, see bit.ly/unflappable-reading.

## MUSIC

SAT 23

### Mark Rust

GARRISON

2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Register at bit.ly/mark-rust for this virtual show, with sing-alongs on guitar, banjo, fiddle and hammered dulcimer, and lessons on playing the spoons. Rust starred in the touring production of the Broadway musical *Hit Pump Boys & Dinettes*; his most recent album is *Sea of Silver Sand*.

SAT 23

### Quarantine Stream

BEACON

6 p.m. facebook.com/songsmithlive

This special episode will feature AudraSonic (Audra Kizina and Matt Harle) and video artist Jeff Crouse. The regular MON 25 edition will be highlights from past episodes. See Page 11. Also WED 27, FRI 29.

THURS 28

### Open Mic

BEACON

7 p.m. Towne Crier

Walker May will host via Zoom with 12 performers. To perform or listen, email walker@townecrier.com by 3 p.m. Continues weekly.

## CIVIC

Meetings are closed to the public but streamed or posted as videos. See highlandscurrent.org/meeting-videos.

MON 25

### Gov. Cuomo Briefing

10:45 a.m. twitter.com/nygovcuomo

TUES 26

### Voter Registration

GARRISON

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Garrison School  
1100 Route 9D | 845-424-3689  
gufs.org

Any qualified voter who has not yet registered must do so to receive an absentee ballot. Or call the Putnam County Board of Elections at 845-808-1300.

TUES 26

### Budget Public Hearing

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Haldane  
haldaneschool.org

TUES 26

### Board of Trustees

COLD SPRING

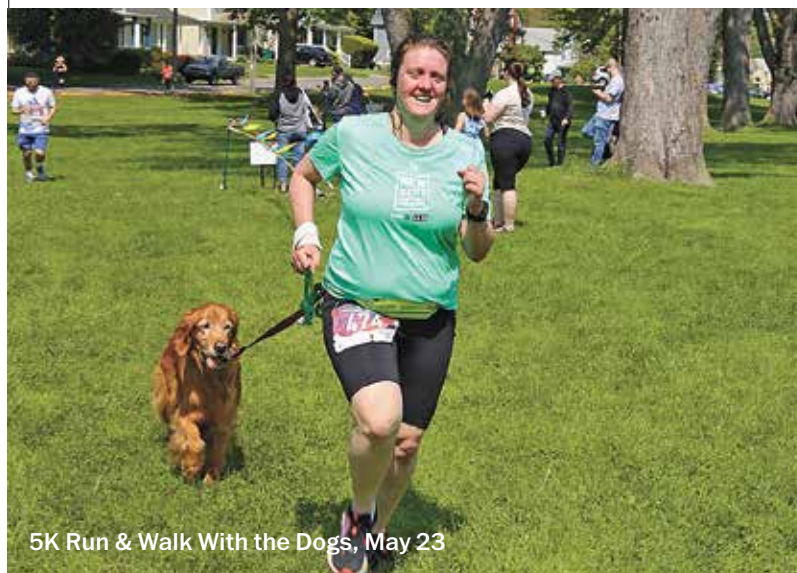
7:30 p.m. Village Hall  
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 27

### Budget Public Hearing

GARRISON

7 p.m. Garrison School  
845-424-3689 | gufs.org



5K Run & Walk With the Dogs, May 23





"Wreath with Flora"



"Duet"



"Adrift"

### The Artist Next Door

## Kristen Clancy

By Alison Rooney

Though galleries remain closed due to the COVID-19 shutdown, Kristen Lynn Clancy, a young Beacon artist who recently completed her master of fine arts degree, has been able to show her collages through the initiative of a Cold Spring retailer.

Ethan Timm, who owns 44MAIN, which usually is a rental space for weekend pop-up shops, put out a call on Instagram for artists who might like to transform his display windows into an art gallery for passersby. He says he was pleased to be able to showcase Clancy's collages, many of which incorporate elements from the natural world. The show continues through Sunday (May 24).

Clancy, who grew up Kent Cliffs, near what she describes as marshland, chooses those elements in her collages deliberately. "I'm extremely careful," she says. "I always choose fallen, dead things because it's critical for natural things to continue growing and not be sabotaged."

She says she was thrilled at the unexpected opportunity to display her work, especially because it was difficult to do over the past two years while she studied at the New York State School of Ceramics and Art and Design at Alfred University.

"The workload made it difficult to get my personal artwork moving," says Clancy, who teaches art at Goshen High School, covering for a teacher on leave.

Besides collage, Clancy works in assemblage, drawing and ceramics, although her Beacon apartment is too small for the latter. Her collages "started from a combination of things in my life, especially card-making. My parents encouraged us to make cards sending out gratitude and love, things which I found it difficult to express in words."

"The card itself would express it as intricately as my 8-year-old hand could create. At a certain point, I realized they were art and began framing them, using velvet and Florentine paper. I started with a rectangle, then cut and soldered it into more organic

shapes. My mom is a glass artist and helped me figure out how to make these beautiful. I have a passion for paper because of the cards."

During college, she spent a semester in Florence and happened to live near "a beautiful stationery store." She returned home with her suitcase half full of paper.

Her collage work comes intuitively, Clancy says. "My favorite part is telling a story of space, of moments in time." She was inspired by a vintage illustration book to cut apart its images of furniture, utensils and hats, and combine them with elements from the natural world, with furniture nestled into sylvan realms. Right now, the works are small, but Clancy is interested "in working bigger, having them float across walls, anywhere."



Kristen Clancy



"Entwine"

Photos provided

## Sidewalk Shows

Ethan Timm, who owns 44MAIN, envisions his window gallery, which he dubbed A Gift to Main Street, as "a positive space of solace, support and creativity" during the pandemic. He prefers to showcase artists and conservationists who use non-toxic materials and salvaged and vintage artifacts to tell "stories of connection and restorative power of nature." Email [info@44main.net](mailto:info@44main.net) for details, or see [instagram.com/44main](https://www.instagram.com/44main).

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## Roots and Shoots

# You Planted a Victory Garden. Now What?

By Pamela Doan

The kale and tomatoes are settled into their new homes in your garden. You planned, prepared, purchased and researched, and the weather turned warmer. Maybe you're even eating peas and greens already. Other than waiting for the tomatoes to ripen, what comes next over the months ahead? Here are the essentials.



### Water

Check soil moisture daily for transplanted plants and assume that seeds need daily watering unless it rains. If it works with your schedule, water the garden in the morning. The plants go into the day with ample resources and leaves dry out in the sun. In general, wet foliage and cool overnight temperatures can make plants more susceptible to fungus problems but evening watering is not the end of the garden if



The 2013 garden from which I didn't get a single ear of corn but had the best green peppers I've ever grown

Photo by P. Doan

that's what you can schedule.

I've tried many methods. Hand watering, sprinkler watering, drip irrigation and dragging the hose around the yard. I prefer the control of hand watering, which is the least wasteful but the most time-consuming. A hose with a low spray nozzle

is faster than using a watering can and you can customize the flow and spray for efficiency, but it also requires dragging a hose around the yard, which I don't enjoy.

Drip irrigation or a soaker hose are water efficient and once the setup is complete it functions without you. Set a timer and use the flow calculations for your system to determine how long to run it.

A sprinkler on a timer also functions solo but it's the least water-efficient system and you'll need to measure how much water is reaching the plants to determine how long to run it. Also make sure it reaches all the plants. Since the water flow won't be directed at the soil but will come from overhead, observe throughout the summer as plants fill in and grow together to make sure enough water is reaching the roots.

Don't forget mulch. I like straw because it's easy to acquire, easy to spread and it works into the soil for next year as more organic matter. Mulch holds moisture in the soil, which is helpful during a heat wave and it reduces weeds. Wood chips are another option for natural mulch. Make sure to keep the mulch away from the base of plants.

### Weed

Your garden setup, the seedbed of weeds in your location and the soil preparation will impact how much weeding will be necessary for your garden. Weeds will compete with your plants for survival. They want the soil nutrients, water, and sunlight and they aren't bothered by aphids, squash vine borers, blight, powdery mildew or stink bugs.

It's much easier to hand pull small weeds than rip out larger ones and it creates less soil disturbance. Weeds set seeds early in

the season, so staying on top of weeding in May theoretically makes for fewer weeds in August. Try not to let any weed set seed and you can disrupt the life cycle of the plant. For more ideas, see [highlandscurrent.org/keep-weeding](http://highlandscurrent.org/keep-weeding).

Other resources are *Weeds of the Northeast* by Richard Uva, Joseph Neal and Joseph DiTomaso and *Weedless Gardening* by Lee Reich.

It's inevitable that weeds will not cooperate. The peppers might be small. The carrot seeds might not all germinate. The squash might take over the garden. Don't get discouraged. It's all a learning experience and one great tomato on a hot summer day makes it worth it.

### Watch

There are many things that want to destroy your garden. It's not personal, it's just nature. Observing plants for changes and diagnosing the problem quickly is the most effective route to management. Look for any changes to the plant like leaf damage, spots, insects, abnormal growth and failure to grow or develop blooms that will become the fruit or vegetable.

Pests and pathogens damage the plant, but lack of water, too much or too little sun, poor soil nutrition and soil pH (acidic or alkaline) impact growth and harvest, too. Figuring out the problem accurately is the key to solving it. The Cornell Cooperative Extension master gardeners and staff at [putnam.cce.cornell.edu/gardening](http://putnam.cce.cornell.edu/gardening) or [ccedutchess.org/gardening](http://ccedutchess.org/gardening) are a useful source for identifying issues and treatment plans. Herbicides, pesticides and chemical fertilizers can have unintended consequences to the garden and the environment.



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## Something You Don't Know About Me

# Amy Murray

By Alison Rooney

Amy Murray lives in Cold Spring with her husband, Robert, and their 3-year-old daughter, Lucy. The couple moved to the village in 2017 from Connecticut when Robert was hired to teach at Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry.

### How did a girl from Florida wind up in the wintry northeast?

I never liked the heat. I wanted to see snow, although I swerved to avoid it the first time I did see it. After getting a bachelor's degree in Early American history from the University of South Florida, I followed my husband, who was getting his doctorate in history, to Virginia Tech. People will tell you history is a dead degree. They ask, "Don't you want to make money?" I say, history is not a death sentence. My career has been no more or less stable or fraught with issues than any other profession. But watching him navigate academia brought it home for me that I wanted nothing to do with that, so I went into museum work.

### You earned a master's degree at Virginia Tech. What was your focus?

The historical understanding of death in America. I was going to 18th- and 19th-century cemeteries, documenting how people were buried and commemorated. You're looking at people's diaries and reading about the worst days of their lives — you're seeing a desire for remembrance, a feeling that "this is my loss, and I want it to be remembered."

### What did you learn from the research?

In early part of the 18th century, bodies were treated in a mobile way. If you read tombstones from that period, you see that Person A died in 1782 and Person B died in 1783, when Person A's body was raised [unearthed] and added to Person B's grave and [their name to the] tombstone.



Amy Murray (right) and a colleague harvest satisfy at Sturbridge Outdoor Village.

By the early 1800s there was a slight dip in the rate of mortality among children, so parents began to expect that more of them would survive. This was accompanied in the culture by an explosion of items such as toys that were dedicated for children's use and entertainment. There was a similar push in commemoration when a child died. It's a very human impulse to want to retain a tangible thing.

While in Virginia I interned doing collections work at the Christiansburg Institute, which was transitioning into a museum after having been an African American school — it had operated from 1865 to 1965, from the Civil War to the civil rights movement.

### You next moved to Kentucky. What took you there?

My husband is a Kentuckian. We moved to Lexington, where I worked at the Mary Todd Lincoln House as the guide and education program director. So many

ments? When people make vast assumptions, I find they're often trying to sell you a book — *their* book.

At the same time, I was doing horticulture work at the children's garden at the University of Kentucky Arboretum. My parents did a lot of gardening when I was growing up. As with a lot of museum jobs, it was part-time. I applied for full-time jobs and was hired as coordinator of horticulture at Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts. So we moved to [nearby] Connecticut.

It has seven gardens. We could rototill, but that's not what people wanted to see, so we did everything by hand or assisted by animal power. Three of us would dig a 50-foot row of beets, for example. It was a perfect setting for me, in many ways. I'm a kinesthetic learner — they showed me how to make a specific style of 19th-century shoe once, and I was able to crank them out.

### How did the horticulture programs tie into the rest of Old Sturbridge Village?

The village tries to demonstrate the diversity of society in rural New England in the 1830s. There were lots of tie-ins with the crops. For instance, we grew beets the size of footballs because they stored well and could feed a family through winter and well into spring. All this, of course, presumed visitors knew what beets are, which was not always the case. We also made cider, which was the main beverage of the period, because unlike water at the time it didn't make you ill. All these gracious New England apple orchards? They were cultivated for cider.

### Did you see a lot of student groups?

Yes, but also a great number of adults interested in homesteading. We tried to show that self-sufficiency is a myth, at least during that time period. You can grow your own vegetables, but not your own flour — you need a community behind you for that, and a supply chain.

*Is there something about you most people in the community aren't aware of? It can be job-related, a hidden talent — basically anything, serious or funny. If you'd like to share your story, email arts@highlandscurrent.org and we'll get in touch.*



Amy Murray

Photos provided

falsehoods have been spread about the president's wife. She had four children and buried three sons. She's often retroactively diagnosed [as mentally ill]. You can't apply a modern understanding to a person from history. Why should we make those judg-



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## Mouths to Feed

## The Short of It

By Celia Barbour

Every spring when I was a young woman living alone in Manhattan, I would buy strawberries to slice into my breakfast cereal in the mornings. It felt almost scandalously indulgent to add something as sublime as fresh strawberries to something as prosaic as Total with milk. After the cereal was finished, I'd lift the bowl to my lips and drink the fragrant pink dregs. The sense that I was living a fine life would carry me through the morning, as I selected a padded-shoulder suit from my tiny closet, descended the stairs of my fifth-floor walk-up and rode the crammed subway to my editorial assistant job, where I spent the day photocopying.

But that's part of the magic of strawberries: Not merely their knack for elevating plain foods, but the way they actually shine brightest against a plain background, including the background of a plain life.

As I write this, it is very nearly strawberry season here in the Highlands. Local strawberries are still a couple weeks away, but in far-off California, where upwards of 80 percent of our country's strawberries are grown, peak harvest runs from March through June. If all goes well, the price of supermarket strawberries should soon be less than half of what it was in winter. (Not that price is the point when it comes to strawberries. The flavor of a cottony winter one is hardly worth a nickel in my book.)

"If all goes well" is a strange phrase to be writing under present circumstances. All is not going terribly well on so many levels. Even for the luckiest among us, life has been made much plainer by the shut-

down. We are not gathering with friends to cheer on the lax bros or sip rosé beneath the lilacs, etc. A certain awkward cautiousness has descended on even the most casual attempt to invite a neighbor to join us for an afternoon walk. Our social muscles are atrophying just as surely as the ones we used to polish at the gym.

All of which is to say, we have never been in such dire need of — yes, that's right — strawberries. Back on Mother's Day, I got a head start conveying this urgency to my family, who, having slept through breakfast, had been guilted into making me dinner. Around noon, George, my oldest, wanted to walk me through his proposed menu, which included brownies for dessert.

"How about strawberry shortcakes?" I said.

"We could do brownies with strawberries."

"How about strawberry shortcakes?" I repeated more slowly, as troubled by his slipping filial deference as I should have been at my lack of maternal gratitude. Lucky me, I sat down that evening to a delicious dinner topped off by the most perfect strawberry shortcakes I've ever eaten.

I've developed a simpler recipe for this column. The biscuits take about half an hour, start to finish, and include oat flour, both because I love the gentle, nutty flavor of oats and because all-purpose flour is so scarce right now. Do not skip the step of macerating the strawberries ahead of time, so you can drizzle the shortcakes with the juices that accumulate in the bowl. And do not say the word *macerate* at the dinner table if you have kids of any age, including, as it happens, 20.

You may, however, take a moment to appreciate that, if all goes well, your snarky kids will soon have apartments of their own with their own prosaic breakfasts to deal with. For now, simply call attention to the fact that shortcakes are a glammed-up version of cereal with milk: plain carbohydrates and plain dairy, made marvelous by springtime strawberries.

“Strawberries shine brightest against a plain background, including the background of a plain life.”



## Oaty Strawberry Shortcakes

Don't forgo the sugar on the strawberries; it intensifies their flavor and brings out juices. The amount of it and the lemon will depend on the fruit's ripeness. If you can't find oat flour, you can make it by grinding quick (not instant) oats in a blender.

## FOR THE STRAWBERRIES

1 quart strawberries  
1 to 4 tablespoons sugar, to taste  
2 to 3 teaspoons lemon juice, to taste

## FOR THE WHIPPED CREAM

1 cup heavy cream  
½ teaspoon vanilla  
2 to 4 teaspoons agave or maple syrup or sugar, or to taste

## FOR THE BISCUITS

1 cup all-purpose flour  
⅓ cup oat flour (see headnote)  
¼ cup sugar  
¼ teaspoon salt  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1 cup heavy cream  
2 tablespoons butter, optional

Heat oven to 425 degrees. Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone liner.

Prepare strawberries: Hull and slice berries. In a small bowl, combine with the sugar and lemon juice. Set aside until ready to serve (but no more than two hours or they'll get soggy), mixing every 30 minutes to distribute juices.

Make biscuits: In a medium bowl, thoroughly whisk together the first five (dry) ingredients. Pour in the cream (don't clean the cup measure) and, using a rubber spatula, gently fold it into the dry ingredients just until combined. Do not overmix.

Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured work surface. Pat it into a 4-by-6-inch rectangle (the size of a large postcard). Using a long, sharp knife dipped into the flour, cut the dough into six equal pieces, using a swift motion so as not to compress the dough.

Transfer each piece onto the prepared pan, brush the tops with a little of the cream in the cup measure, and bake until golden, 12 to 15 minutes. Allow to cool slightly, then slice open horizontally and spread each cut half with butter.

Make the whipped cream: In a small bowl, whip the heavy cream until soft peaks form. Add the vanilla and sweetener, and continue mixing just until fluffy.

To serve, spoon strawberries over the bottom half of each shortcake. Drizzle with accumulated juices, allowing some to saturate the biscuit. Dollop with whipped cream and top with other biscuit halves.

Photo by Henry Weed

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# 50 Years of Constitution Marsh

*A wildlife refuge in the heart of Philipstown*



Fifty years ago this week, the Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary was born after the State of New York purchased the 267-acre salt marsh from St. Basil's Academy for \$100,000 and entrusted it to the National Audubon Society.

The marsh, which sits at the meeting point of the Hudson River and Indian Brook, is home to more than 200 bird species, including at least 50 that use it for breeding.

"There's something special about the place," said the Audubon Center's director, Scott Silver. "You go down to the marsh on a warm morning this time of year, the wind is blowing and all you hear are the rushes on the boardwalk, rustling in the breeze. It has an almost mystical quality."

"There's a real recognition of how special it is now," he added. "It's always been of value, but I think people realize that if it's not taken care of, it will disappear. All the places around here that have not already been protected are gone."

*Text by Brian PJ Cronin  
Photos by Barry Rosen*







## Moments at the Marsh

Barry Rosen of Cold Spring has been photographing the wildlife at Constitution Marsh for more than 20 years. "I go for a sunrise kayaking and photography expedition every chance I get," he says. "It's heaven. There are herons, osprey, eagles, egrets, cormorants, shore and song birds, peregrine falcons, beavers, deer. Somedays I'll watch a heron feeding or an osprey perched in a tree and wait 30 minutes hoping to catch them taking flight. Sometimes I sit for an hour waiting for 'Justin Beaver' to pop up." For more photos, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).



## Beer, Public Health and the Pandemic of 1918

By Diane Lapis

The 1918 influenza pandemic had a stronghold in Beacon as it did everywhere across the globe.

John Cronin, the city's commissioner of public safety, lost his brother, William, who lived in New York City, to the disease on Oct. 8. Three days later, a record 95 cases were reported in Beacon, with no end in sight.

In response, Cronin issued two health orders. The first closed the schools, moving-picture houses, theaters, churches and Sunday schools and canceled all public meetings and other public assemblies. The second closed saloons, hotel barrooms, pool and billiard rooms and ice cream and soda water parlors. Goods were allowed to be sold, but only for takeout.

Eight saloon owners who defied the order were promptly arraigned before a city judge and released without bail. They immediately reopened their saloons and were again arraigned, but this time bail was set at \$1,000 each (about \$18,000 today). Their attorney advised them to "punch the nose" of any man who attempted to interfere with their businesses, beginning with Cronin.

Cronin ordered the police chief to send his officers to disperse any gatherings, but the chief refused and appealed to the mayor (who was also a liquor dealer), who backed him. Cronin then sent a 200-word telegram to the governor.

On Oct. 23, a hearing was held at the Mase Hook & Ladder Co. Cronin testified that he had observed 50 men at the Conway Cafe bar and that the bartenders were cleaning beer glasses by dipping them in cold water. Six doctors affirmed that they were treating hundreds of cases and that there were several deaths daily. They noted that disease spread when people congregated and that cold water did not remove germs from drinking glasses.

The case then went to a Dutchess County court. On Nov. 4, Judge C.W.H. Arnold declared that Cronin, under the power vested in him by the City Charter, had the legal authority to close saloons during a pandemic. Each of the eight proprietors was arrested for disorderly conduct, tried and convicted. A reporter described these proceedings as enough "to rival in intensity the liveliest action on the western front."

It is not known how many city residents contracted influenza during the pandemic. But the resolve of Commissioner Cronin probably saved many lives.

*Lapis is president of the Beacon Historical Society (beaconhistorical.org).*



JOHN T. CRONIN, COMMISSIONER OF SAFETY.

## Looking Back in Beacon

By Chip Rowe

*Editor's note: Beacon was created in 1913 from Matteawan and Fishkill Landing.*

### 150 Years Ago (May 1870)

Charles Bates, who worked at the Seamless Clothing Co. in Matteawan, walked to work 5 miles each way from his home in Canterbury, south of Newburgh. He later moved to Low Point [Chelsea], 4 miles north of Matteawan, and complained that it didn't give him as much exercise.

Ellen McCarty, who had saved \$800 [about \$15,000 today] over a number of years working for Mrs. Dubois near Glenham, began to obsess so fervently over the safety of her savings that Mrs. Dubois became alarmed and fired her. When McCarty began stopping at random houses in Matteawan, a county judge ordered her sent to the lunatic asylum at Utica.

### 125 Years Ago (May 1895)

Minnie Schatzle sued the village of Matteawan for \$20,000 for injuries she said she sustained when she slipped on an icy sidewalk on Fountain Square in March.

Matteawan police filed a warrant with the Brooklyn district attorney asking for a prisoner named Frank H. Sutton to be extradited for trial on charges that he was part of a gang that broke into the village post office in February, blew up a safe and shot a constable who responded to the explosion.

Fanny Korn, who had been convicted of killing one of her children, had tried to escape from the state asylum for the criminally insane at Matteawan eight times when she was taken to a court appearance in Newburgh. The female officer who accompanied her, Mary Osborn, stopped at the post office on their return to the ferryboat to mail a letter. When she turned around, Korn was gone.

About the same time, a judge ordered the release of James Haughey from the Matteawan asylum. Doctors from the hospital testified that the inmate was still insane, but two doctors not from the hospital said he just needed some fresh air.

Two employees were seriously burned and suffered broken legs when the cylinder of the centrifugal machine at the Matteawan Manufacturing Co. burst while making 3,000 revolutions a minute and sent fragments of iron in all directions.

The employees of C. Clayton Bourne's brickyard, near Fishkill Landing, went on strike. Bourne called the sheriff, saying he had been threatened.

### 100 Years Ago (May 1920)

Union painters adopted a pay schedule of \$6 a day, an increase of \$1.50. They argued that \$6 was the equivalent of \$3 before the war.

K.O. Smith, described as the "cigarette fiend from the State Hospital," was the favorite in a main bout at the Beacon Athletic Club against Kid Sheldon of Hopewell Junction but threw in the sponge against the upstart at the end of the third round.

The hotel at the top of Mount Beacon

opened for the season with a new steel cable on the incline road. More than 1,000 people went up the first day.

Jack Moaks, who lost the spot for his lunch wagon in Poughkeepsie and attempted to relocate to Beacon, said he was misled by John Cronin, the commissioner of public safety, about whether he could operate there. After shipping his wagon to Beacon and setting up, Moaks said he was told by the building inspector that he was violating an ordinance that prohibited operating within 25 feet of any frame structure on Main Street.

The remains of Corp. George Delahay, who was wounded in combat in France and died at a hospital there of pneumonia, were brought back after burial in England. He was the first Dutchess County casualty whose body was brought home for re-interment. A service was held at St. Andrew's Church.

In an unusual move, the prosecutor in the trial of a man accused of assault asked the judge to direct the jury to acquit the defendant. The defense attorneys for James Galvin produced multiple witnesses who said that the culprit who hit a Newburgh junk dealer over the head with a milk bottle was actually Joseph Skelly.

### 75 Years Ago (May 1945)

Charles Nagle retired as chair of the Beacon Republican Committee after 10 years in which he oversaw every city office except commissioner of public works claimed by a Republican. The Beacon Democrats said they were determined to offer a full slate of candidates in the next election.

Corp. Jay J. Newcomb Jr. was listed as a German prisoner of war.

The three sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Bride were each serving in the Armed Forces: Pvt. 1st Class Walter Bride was with the infantry in Italy; Seaman John Bride was training in San Diego; and Sgt. William Bride was in Burma.

Thirty-two people, including two young women from Beacon, were arrested when police raided a speakeasy in Newburgh. Each was fined \$10.

Two brothers, ages 16 and 28, were arrested for stealing tires from automobiles parked near the Beacon theater. The elder brother was given 60 days in jail.

Philip Walter, 53, also known as Boob Geeters, was sentenced to three months in jail for assault.

Carol Wheeler of Beacon wrote to President Truman to ask that her husband, who was serving in the Navy in the Pacific, be furloughed to see their 3-year-old daughter, whom doctors said might not live much longer due to a heart condition.

Nine men were arrested by police officers who broke up a game of "skin" in the basement of a Ferry Street home at 4:15 a.m. The officers confiscated \$19.

An 18-year-old Beacon man drowned after the canoe he was paddling with two friends overturned in high waves in the Hudson River south of Long Dock. A patrol officer grappled from shore for five hours

*(Continued on Page 21)*

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The Schoonmaker's building was purchased in 1970 by the Beacon Furniture Co.

Beacon Historical Society

(Continued from Page 20)

before he could hook the body; the water was too rough for boats to recover it.

Herbert C. Pell, a former minister to Portugal and Hungary and most recently a member of the Allied War Crimes Commission, spoke at a Memorial Day service in Beacon. "We can honor the dead in no better way than by considering the survivors," he said. "We must see to it that we are a nation and not a mere fortuitous agglomeration of self-seeking individuals."

#### 50 Years Ago (May 1970)

The Schoonmaker's Department Store building, sitting empty at the corner of Main and Chestnut, was purchased by the Beacon Furniture Co., which planned to move its operations there from 165 Main St. The furniture firm was founded 1937 by Philip Isaacs at 155 Main St. and in 1940 moved to 165 Main. When Philip retired, his son Marvin took over the business.

Corinne Pine, 17, a senior at Beacon High School, was named the 1970 Dutchess County Loyalty Day Queen.

The chairman of the Beacon Republican Committee said a "small clique of miscontents" was trying to destroy the local party by

protesting its decision to find a member guilty of disloyalty because he ran on the Conservative Party line for commissioner of finance.

After a group called People Against Pollution asked the Beacon council to ban pesticides such as DDT, which was used to kill mosquitoes, the city's health officer said "there is no basis or foundation to any claim that cancer may be the result of such spray." [The federal government banned DDT in 1972.]

Curt Stewart, who had moved to Beacon with his family from South Carolina at age 11, appeared in a television series, *A Town Without Shame*, that was unusual in that it had no script; the actors improvised the dialogue. His film credits included *Putney Swope*, *Cotton Comes to Harlem* and *The Landlord*.

The 2,500-acre Hudson Highlands State Park was dedicated by Gov. Nelson Rockefeller on Breakneck Ridge. The preserve had been purchased with \$1.5 million from the state and \$1.5 million from the Rockefeller family. Conservationists first called for the area to be preserved as a state park in 1931, when a stone quarry began eating away the face of Mount Taurus. In 1963 Central Hudson said it planned to build a power plant near Breakneck Ridge and in 1967 Georgia-Pacific said it would construct



Diplomat Herbert C. Pell spoke at a Memorial Day service in Beacon in 1945.

a wall-board plant on Little Stony Point. Both plans were dropped. About 100 state corrections officers were among the 250 people who hiked with the governor to the foot of Breakneck for the ceremony; they were there to protest their stalled contract negotiations.

A woman was charged with shooting her husband dead with a single shot to the chest from a .22 caliber pistol. Four of their five children, who ranged in age from 22 months to 10 years, were home at the time, police said.

Two patrolmen who responded to a call about a crowd gathered at 294 Main St. helped deliver a baby boy.

#### 25 Years Ago (May 1995)

Serial killer Ricardo Caputo went on trial

for the 1974 death of his court-appointed psychologist at the Matteawan Hospital for the Criminally Insane. He had been sent to the Beacon facility after being found incompetent to stand trial for a 1971 killing. The psychologist had him transferred to a minimum-security facility on Wards Island, and, while on a weekend furlough, he strangled her in Yonkers. Caputo fled to San Francisco, where he killed a third woman in 1975, and to Mexico, where he killed a fourth in 1977. (He also was a suspect in two other U.S. murders.) He returned to his native Argentina, married and had four children, but in 1994 turned himself in to U.S. authorities, saying he felt guilty. [Caputo changed his plea during the trial and was sent to Attica, where he died in 1997 of a heart attack.]



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### John Bump

John Bump, 24, of Beacon, a member of Company L of Newburgh, was killed in action on Sept. 29, 1918, in France. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bump.



His mother was officially informed of his death on Dec. 2 but had earlier received a letter from Raymond Lord and John Flynn, who said they had been with her son when he was mortally wounded by enemy fire.

John was a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Beacon. Before entering the service, he was employed at the Schrader Hat Works. Besides his parents, he was survived by his sisters, Marion, Anna, Mrs. Jay Tompkins and Mrs. Abraham Askert, and a brother, Andrew, all of Beacon.

### Pasquale Salese

Pvt. 1st Class Pasquale Salese of Beacon, who served with Company A of the 307th Infantry, died of pneumonia on March 19, 1919, at Camp Upton on Long Island. A few months into his European service, the West Center Street resident was badly gassed and sent home.

He was survived by his father and two sisters in Maschito, Italy, as well as three brothers and a sister in Beacon: Mrs. Oscar Astone, Joseph Salese, John Salese and Anthony Salese. About six weeks before his death, as he prepared to relocate to Palm Beach, Florida, for his recovery, he visited Beacon to see his siblings and friends.

### Henry Idema

1st Lt. Henry I. Idema, of Austin, Texas, and formerly of Beacon, died Sept. 16, 1943, the day after his 28th birthday,



during combat in the India-China theater. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Idema of Masters Place and the husband of the former Margaret Brokerson.

After enlisting in the Army Air Corps, Lt. Idema was trained at several fields, graduating as a pilot and receiving his commission at Ellingtown Field in Texas. In July he was ordered to India, where his family was told he was assigned to pilot transport planes over the Himalaya Mountains to China, carrying supplies to the Chinese army. Lt. and Mrs. Idema were married in June 1943 in Texas. Shortly afterward, they visited Beacon, which was Lt. Idema's last trip home before going overseas. He was widely known in sport circles, particularly as a swimmer.

### Martin Adams

Lt. Martin Adams, 25, who piloted a P-47 Thunderbolt, died on Aug. 27, 1944, in combat over France.

Born April 22, 1919, he was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Adams of Pearl Street in Nelsonville. A 1936 graduate of Haldane High School, where he played football, he attended Syracuse University for a year and was a member of the Philipstown Lodge of Masons and the Nelsonville Fire Department.

He entered the service on Dec. 5, 1942, and trained at Napier Field in Alabama before being sent overseas five months before his death.

Lt. Adams was survived by his wife, Glyn (Halveston) Adams, and two brothers, Staff Sgt. Ray Adams, who was serving in France, and Pvt. Robert Adams, in New Guinea. His family later erected a war memorial in Nelsonville at the corner of Adams Avenue and Division Street.

### Walter Glanville

Pfc. Walter Glanville, 20, of Main Street in Cold Spring, a paratrooper, died Sept. 12, 1944, during combat in Belgium. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Glanville.

The 1943 Haldane High School graduate was working as an auto mechanic in Beacon when he enlisted. He wrote his parents in December 1943 to say he had safely arrived in England. A funeral service organized by the Veterans' Organization of Philipstown was held nearly five years later, in April 1949, followed by interment at Cold Spring Cemetery.

### Paul Facticeau / Raymond Detweiler

Lt. Paul Facticeau and Staff Sgt. Raymond Detweiler, both Beacon residents and members of the same B-17 Flying Fortress crew, died on March 23, 1945, in the English Channel.

Facticeau, the navigator, was the son of Capt. and Mrs. Henry Facticeau of Castle Point and the husband of Joan Facticeau of South Walnut Street. Detweiler, the engineer-gunner, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Detweiler of Judson Street.

### Terrance O'Neill

Sgt. Terrance E. O'Neill, 21, of Beacon, died in combat in Vietnam on May 23, 1968. He was the son of Donald and Alicia (Callahan) O'Neill of North Cedar Street. Before entering the service on Sept. 13, 1966, he had been employed at IBM in East Fishkill.

Besides his mother, he was survived by his siblings, Nancy O'Neill and Donald J. O'Neill Jr. Services were held June 3 at the John J. Halvey Funeral Home and St. John's Church, followed by interment with military honors at St. Joachim's Cemetery.



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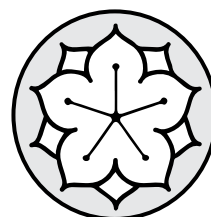
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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

**ACROSS**

1. Comes together

5. Sail support

9. Drenched

12. Met melody

13. From the beginning

14. Wall crawler

15. Voles

17. Back talk

18. Man's hat style

19. Confound

21. First word of "America"

22. Gotham City super-villain

24. Renown

27. Standard

28. Linger

31. Chicken-king link

32. Recede

33. Mongrel

34. Two-wheeler

36. Ph. bk. listings

37. Relinquish

38. Occurrence

40. Letter after lambda

41. Discussion group

43. Insect with pincers

47. Hawaiian neckpiece

48. Crockett and Tubbs' show

51. Tolkien ogre

52. Beige

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

21 22 23

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

31 32 33

34 35 36 37

38 39 40

41 42 43 44 45 46

47 48 49 50

51 52 53

54 55 56

53. North Sea feeder alterations

54. Buck's mate 9. Grain also called

55. Deli loaves water oats

56. Reps.' rivals 10. Satan's forte

11. Work at the keyboard

16. Parched

20. Society newbie

22. Frilly blouse accessory

23. Spheres

24. "Great!"

25. Clay, today

26. "Stop fighting"

27. Teller's partner

29. Flop

30. Before

35. Leading lady?

37. Not straight

39. "Wabbit" hunter

40. — tai

41. Walk wearily

42. Prefix re planes

43. Flightless flock

44. — E. Coyote

45. Warhead

46. *The Bee* — weapon, briefly

49. Unfriendly

50. Exist

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Answers for May 15 Puzzles

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

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

1. RICHNESS, 2. ETNA, 3. SALIVATE, 4. TWICE, 5. STARCHY, 6. TRUST, 7. MOTORBOATS

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

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

**CLUES**

1 what trains run on (9)

2 mystified (7)

3 Justin Timberlake's old band (5)

4 with a sense of urgency (7)

5 powerfully moving (10)

6 shaped like the Gateway Arch (6)

7 ticks on a clock (7)

**SOLUTIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CO	NSY	ADS	RAI	FL
LRO	IFT	SEC	NC	MPE
ED	LL	LY	BAF	CUR
ING	DS	VED	ON	SW

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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## SPORTS



Bela Monteleone



Mame Diba



Liv Monteleone



Matt Champlin

## Four Blue Devils Named All-State

*Scholar-athletes from Haldane and Beacon also recognized*

■ Matt Champlin and Mame Diba of the Haldane boys' basketball team and Bela Monteleone and Liv Monteleone of the girls' basketball team each received honorable mentions on the Class C All-State team assembled by the New York State Sportswriters Association. All four players are seniors.

■ The New York State Public High School Athletic Association named its scholar-athlete teams for the winter sports season. To be recognized, 75 percent of the team's members must have a grade-point average of 90 or higher. At Beacon, the boys' and girls' basketball and track teams qualified, as did the boys' swimming and girls' bowling teams. At Haldane, the boys' and girls' track team were honored, along with the girls' basketball team.

■ The association also recognizes individual players who maintain a 90 average. At Beacon, the boys' basketball team had six scholar-athletes, boys' bowling (3), boys' track (18), boys' swimming (7), girls' basketball (8), girls' bowling (4), girls' track (12)

and wrestling (4). At Haldane, boys' basketball had three scholar-athletes, boys' track (7), girls' basketball (9) and girls' track (6).

■ The National Federation of State High School Associations on Tuesday (May 19) released a 16-page set of guidelines to help its members plan for the return of high school sports "due to the near certainty of recurrent outbreaks this coming fall and winter in some locales." It recommended for Phase 1 that all athletes and coaches wear cloth masks; game schedules minimize time spent in buses or vans; workouts have no more than 10 people, with social distancing; locker rooms be closed; and that no athletes share equipment, including balls.

In examples, the association said that a basketball player could shoot a ball, but a team should not practice with a single ball; cross-country runners maintain 6 feet between them; and football players not conduct drills in which players share a ball (such as in a handoff or pass) or use tackling dummies. No spectators should be allowed at games during Phase 1, it said.

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