

# The HIGHLANDS Current



Garrison  
Ninja  
Warrior  
Page 12

SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

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## State IDs Fatal Deer Virus

*Highlands residents find  
dozens of carcasses*

By Brian PJ Cronin

The usual summertime smells of fresh-cut grass and grilling hamburgers have been replaced by the stench of rotting animals for the past two weeks around Cold Spring and Nelsonville, where residents have encountered dozens of dead white-tailed deer.

After conducting tests, the state's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) confirmed late last week that the deaths are the result of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease, a rare viral disease spread by the bites of midges — small, flying insects sometimes referred to as gnats or “no-see-ums.” It's the first known case of the virus in Putnam County.

As of Wednesday (Sept. 9), the DEC had confirmed 32 EHD fatalities in the Cold Spring area and 26 across the Hudson River near Goshen. Although confirmed cases have so far been confined to those two localities, officials warn that, depending on  
*(Continued on Page 7)*



**SOUND OF MUSIC** - Live music returned to the Tompkins Corners Cultural Center on Sept. 5 for the first time since March with an outdoor, socially distanced show of fiddle-driven tunes by the Mississippi Travelers.

Photo by Ross Corsair

## August Surge

*Deluge of visitors boosts  
Cold Spring eateries*

By Leonard Sparks

Hudson House River Inn has a good problem. August and a run of rainless days have brought crowds of day-trippers from New York City and New Jersey to Cold Spring, fueling for some eateries a better-than-expected summer season that began late following the three-month COVID-19 shutdown.

Owner Regina Bei cannot “recall the town being this busy — ever.” She also never needed to hire a full-time bartender.

“I had to hire four wait staff last week and I'm still bringing more people in,” said.

The unexpected demand is palpable.

On Sunday (Sept. 6), Labor Day weekend, long lines formed outside Moo Moo's Creamery and the Cold Spring Depot. Visitors waited to be seated outside Hudson Hills Cafe and diners filled sidewalk tables outside Hudson House.

*(Continued on Page 6)*



A surge in customers has the Hudson House River Inn looking for additional help.

Photo by L. Sparks

## Your Old Fridge Is Anything But Cool

*Local program disposes of  
refrigerants to ease global  
warming*

By Michael Turton

A new program offered by the Town of Philipstown is helping local residents properly dispose of old appliances whose refrigerants have the potential to contribute to global warming at an alarming rate.

Carbon dioxide, produced by the burning of fossil fuels and other activities, is a serious contributor to heat being trapped in the atmosphere, which in turn leads to global warming. But the warming potential of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), the refrigerant found in most home fridges, freezers, air conditioners and heat pumps, is up to 2,000 times greater than CO2.

*(Continued on Page 7)*



# 5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: LEANNE LAWSON

By Brian PJ Cronin

**L**eanne Lawson is the executive director of the Mediation Center of Dutchess County, whose mediators help people resolve conflicts without going to court.

## What makes an effective mediator?

An effective mediator has a commitment to both the process and the practice of mediation. A lot of people think that you have to be an attorney to be a mediator. You can be, but it's certainly not a prerequisite. One of our longest-serving mediators is a retired postal worker. He's been with us since the inception of the center, 36 years now. He takes on a lot of our small-claims cases and is motivated by a strong willingness to help his neighbors and the community through different disputes.

## What should someone going into mediation keep in mind in order to make it an effective process?

Be open to it and understand that it's their decision and their voice. What we find a lot is that people don't understand mediation at first, and they're looking for the mediator to make decisions for them or to tell them that they're right and the other person is wrong. That's not our role. Our



role is to help the parties get clear about their issues and to hear the other person, so that something shifts. Sometimes they realize, "Oh, that's actually not what I wanted at all." Through that process there very often is a resolution. It may not be a monetary settlement. It may be "I don't need to be in small-claims court; I'm just mad at you for all these other things."

## How has COVID-19 affected the work that you do?

We've taken everything online but we were very slow and careful with it and we're still tweaking. We're helping the courts with their backlog of cases that they have because of the pandemic, helping to save people from even having to go to court if they choose mediation.

## Is it harder to mediate online?

It's a little bit harder because you're not in the same space to sense that shift in things. But what's even harder is trying to mediate in person, from a distance, with a mask on, and being worried about transmission and that someone just touched your pen. It's different and interesting, but we're finding it's still effective. We did hear from a party who mediated virtually after mediating in-person in court, who said: "This was wonderful, I didn't have to go to court, pay for parking, spend all morning on this case. I was able to schedule it after work."

## How is the work that the center does in restorative justice being utilized now?

A lot of our restorative justice work had been focused on youth work and higher education. We've been training teachers how to use circles with their students, which is when everyone sits in a circle and everyone gets a chance to speak, or not speak. But now we've had a lot of positive feedback from our partners who are using these techniques in their online learning. They knew it was important to connect with their students, and the circle process helps navigate through that, to check in with the students and ask them if they're OK. There's a deep connection and a sense of community that is created through circles. And then the students are more engaged in the lesson.

So now we're offering free community dialog circles twice a month on Thursdays. We started it at the beginning of the pandemic because we were wondering what we could do to respond to the crisis. Everyone felt disconnected. So we started offering free community circles with self-selecting groups like parents or essential workers or business owners. Those were already popular, and then, after the killing of George Floyd, it shifted. People needed to talk about it. So we're working with a lot of anti-racist visioning and movements. It's labor intensive, but it's important in these moments for us to all ask ourselves what we can do collectively.



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# ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

**What's something from the past that you'd enjoy reliving?**

“Playing trombone in the Gothenburg Opera House orchestra pit for a performance of Puccini's *Turandot*.”



~ Jeff Green, Garrison

“My later days in the Marine Corps, the birth of my three daughters and the process of them growing up.”



~ Ron Piga, Beacon

“I'd love to redo our trip to Italy, together as a family.”



~ Bob Nobile, Cold Spring

# Town Board Renews Support for Paving Strip of Dirt Road

*Residents from East Mountain Road South again object*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Despite a chorus of opposition featuring old points raised anew, the Philipstown Town Board last week refused to abandon plans for paving 1,111 feet of East Mountain Road South.

The board took no formal vote because the paving was approved six years ago. But one by one, at their Sept. 3 session, Supervisor Richard Shea and the four other members, or councilors, reiterated their support.

On Tuesday (Sept. 8), the town Highway Department announced plans to begin work on Thursday (Sept. 10), but rain forced the department to reschedule it for today (Friday, Sept. 11). The project is designed to smoothly join the already-paved southwest-

ern length of East Mountain Road South with paved East Mountain Road North.

The two roads wind eastward from Route 9 and connect atop the mountain. Beyond the Y-shaped intersection with East Mountain Road North, a northeastern prong of East Mountain Road South continues, unpaved, toward Dutchess County and is not part of the project.

Paving opponents have asserted that dirt roads deter speeding and serve as handy venues for leisurely walking, meeting neighbors and similar pursuits. Some have also accused the Town Board of dismissing their concerns or ignoring democracy.

Shea said he understands their feelings but “I’ve not been swayed by the arguments.” Furthermore, he said, “democracy involves the entire community.” Over the last decade the board has only paved 1.5 miles of dirt roads, although it has “had many meetings with people who want us to pave further. We’ve resisted,” he explained.

“It’s not as if we are anti-dirt roads. We put a lot of money into preservation of dirt roads.” Moreover, he noted, “the majority of people in this town do not live on dirt roads but they do fund them with their taxes.”

Councilor John Van Tassel, who lives on East Mountain Road South, said paving opponents’ familiarity with Highway Superintendent Carl Frisenda indicates “our guys are spending way too much time on dirt roads.” He commended the paving foes because “you have a purpose and you fight for it,” but he rejected the argument that dirt roads serve as ready venues for outdoor pursuits. “Our roads are just that: roads,” he emphasized. “They’re not recreation areas. They’re not trails. The roads are for transportation.”

Because dirt roads create dust and can spill run-off into their surroundings, he expressed doubts that anyone can be both an environmentalist and a dirt-road fan. “I don’t want to offend anybody, but I’m 100 percent in favor of paving that section” of East Mountain Road South, Van Tassel concluded.

Councilor Mike Leonard likewise focused on the environmental impact of dirt roads that are “filling up our wetlands” and contributing to flooding. He, too, praised

the anti-paving contingent for speaking out but remained unconvinced that dirt roads decrease speeding. “I really don’t think that is a valid reason” for not paving, since other means of controlling speeding exist and because there appears to be little difference between speeding on paved versus dirt roads, he said.

Councilors Robert Flaherty and Judy Farrell made similar points.

If the board found some anti-paving advocacy unpersuasive, paving opponents said the same of Town Board views.

Speaking by a remote connection, Roy Rosenstein, of East Mountain Road South, said that “a mountain of people do not want to see” the 1,111 feet paved. “This is just another step in paving East Mountain Road South” in its entirety, he predicted.

Karl Dushin, a dirt-road supporter from the southern end of Philipstown, discounted references to pro-paving sentiment. “You claim there’s people in favor of paving, but we don’t see any evidence,” he said.

Evidence soon arose, however.

“Pave tomorrow,” Robert Jordan, of East Mountain Road North, told the board. “Pave more than 1,110 feet. Go farther. Please pave.”

## Shea: Cold Spring Exit From Joint Building Dept. Risks State Support

*Philipstown adopts energy-tracking policy*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The demise of the joint Philipstown-Cold Spring building department could complicate efforts to obtain state funding linked to shared services, Supervisor Richard Shea said last week, after the Town Board voted unanimously to end the 3-year-old arrangement.

The board acted on Sept. 3 during its formal monthly meeting, held at the town Recreation Center under social-distancing protocols, after Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy declared on Aug. 5 that Cold Spring was re-establishing its own building depart-

ment, with a part-time building inspector/code enforcement officer, instead of relying on the town’s fulltime department.

The intermunicipal agreement set a 60-day notification for severing the relationship, but Merandy, in an Aug. 18 letter to Shea, sought an immediate out, saying that Cold Spring officials believe their “residents and property owners will benefit by having a person dedicated solely to the needs of the village.”

The letter cited what the mayor portrayed as unhelpful attitudes on the part of Greg Wunner, the town code enforcement officer, including an alleged refusal by Wunner to meet with the new village building inspector, Charlotte Mountain. Merandy asserted that Wunner’s perceived unresponsiveness provided “clear indications of his unwill-

ingness to work with the village for one more day, let alone 60.”

But Shea said at the monthly meeting that Wunner “is completely willing to meet with the new [village] inspector. That may not have happened yet, but it will happen.” The supervisor also said that Wunner had organized and promptly returned all Cold Spring building department files to Village Hall, a statement Village Clerk Jeff Vidakovich confirmed on Tuesday (Sept. 8).

Councilor Robert Flaherty concurred that Wunner “just didn’t walk away from this” and “is more than happy to help out” the village during the transition, and Councilor John Van Tassel pointed out that the village will now have a building inspector available only two days a week, instead of five.

“I really don’t understand how it’s going to benefit the residents of the village,” he said.

For several years, Gov. Andrew Cuomo has been promoting municipal consolidation or at least sharing of services, functions and departments, with financial

bonuses for jurisdictions that team up.

Ending the Philipstown-Cold Spring cooperation “certainly won’t help us” in that regard, Shea said. He described the joint department as “one thing that we thought was working well.”

But Shea also promised that the town would find other ways, including highway department projects, to work with Cold Spring, as well as the Village of Nelsonville, and keep local sharing of services alive. “Any way we can continue to help the village we will continue to do so,” he said.

### Town to measure energy usage

In another unanimous vote, the Town Board adopted an “energy benchmarking policy,” reflecting its determination, under the Climate Smart Communities program, to reduce air pollution and the effects of climate change exacerbated by fuel emissions. The move commits the town to measuring the energy usage of each town government building, tracking it over time, comparing it to data from similar structures and reporting the findings yearly, starting with May 1, 2021.

Compiled by the town’s Climate Smart program coordinator, the information is to be submitted to the federal Environmental Protection Agency’s online database and made available to the public.

Buildings “account for 45 percent of total emissions from government operations,” according to a Town Board resolution launching the benchmarking policy.

In related business, Roberto Muller, the town’s Climate Smart program coordinator, said the task force he heads recommends that the town government strive to reduce its gross consumption-based emissions by 60 percent by 2030 and by 100 percent by 2040, and that it increase its local carbon removal by 10 percent by 2030 and 15 percent by 2040.

Muller also announced that he plans to marry and move away, so that town officials should appoint a successor to begin Jan. 1, if possible.

### NEWS BRIEFS

#### Dutchess Police Reform Committee Launches Site

*Also schedules community forum for Sept. 22*

Dutchess County’s Police Reform & Modernization Collaborative announced on Sept. 3 that it has launched a website at [DutchessNY.gov/PoliceReform](https://DutchessNY.gov/PoliceReform) and also plans to host six, 2-hour community forums via Zoom.

“Transparency is at the very heart of the work we are doing,” said Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro in a statement.

Residents of Beacon are invited to attend a forum scheduled for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 22. Registration is required at [DutchessNY.gov/PoliceForums](https://DutchessNY.gov/PoliceForums). A recording of the forum also will be posted online.

#### Beacon Extends Deadline for Police Survey

*Community input sought in search for new chief*

Beacon has extended to Sept. 15 its deadline for residents to complete a survey about their experiences with the Police Department and the qualities, experiences and skills they want the city’s next permanent police chief to have.

The survey is part of Beacon’s search to replace Kevin Junjulas, who retired in July after having led the department since 2018. Lt. Sands Frost is serving as interim chief until a successor is named.

Residents can find the survey at [survey-monkey.com/r/BeaconCommunity](https://survey-monkey.com/r/BeaconCommunity).

#### Child Advocacy Center Holding Virtual 5K Fundraiser

*Registration open until Sept. 15*

The Child Advocacy Center of Putnam County is holding its virtual One Too Many NY 5K Race/Walk fundraiser from Sept. 17 through Sept. 20.

Participants choose a day, a time and a route, and can run, walk, dance or use a treadmill. The \$35 entry fee comes with a T-shirt, a run/walk bib and a chance to win a dinner for two at the Iron & Wine Restaurant in Patterson and other prizes.

Participants can register by Sept. 15 at [bit.ly/328t4g0](https://bit.ly/328t4g0) and select the CAC of Putnam. More information about the center can be found at [putnamcac.org](https://putnamcac.org).



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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

### Storm response

With Tropical Storm Isaias in the rear-view mirror, it is time to ensure that we learn from this experience and avoid such prolonged power outages in the future ("Officials Fault Utilities for Isaias Response," Aug. 28).

While there are many reforms being discussed in our communities, I would like to highlight some of the obvious changes I am advocating.

First, we need to change the incentive structure for our utility and telecommunications companies. We need the Public Service Commission to issue larger fines for slow responses.

If passed and enacted by the governor, Assembly and Senate bills A10955/S8932 would create time-based goals for power restoration, such as the requirement that at least 80 percent of customers have service restored within 48 hours.

Assembly and Senate bills A10900/S8931 would direct the Public Service Commission to study the feasibility and costs of burying utility transmission lines. Many of our outages are related to falling trees and wind. While some areas are already underground, our area is susceptible. This bill is the first

step to undergrounding our system.

Assembly bill A4010 would require gas stations to have emergency generators that supply 48 hours of electricity ("Should Gas Stations Have Generators?" Aug. 28). We rely on gas stations for our cars and generators. Having gas stations remain open is in the public interest.

Finally, electric utilities should provide reimbursements for the foods and medicines of customers who are left without power for more than 24 hours. This is another way that companies cut corners to save a dime.

There is much left to do to improve our system. If you have ideas for legislation, email me at galefs@nyassembly.gov. These are necessary first steps, with more to come.

Sandy Galef, *Albany*

*Galef's district includes Philipstown.*

### Dirt roads

Attention all who use Philipstown roads: At recent Town Board meetings, a board member expressed his opinion of local road usage and monitoring ("Dirt-Road Fans Oppose East Mountain Paving," Aug. 28).

First, despite the fact that the Philip-

stown roads have a speed limit of 25 mph, he terminated the ticketing of speeding drivers as they turned out to be neighbors! Second, he opined that "roads are for cars and trucks. All those others have the trails, parks, whatever..."

"Those others" could be you: Stroller people, walkers (elderly and young), bikers, horsemen, those enjoying scenery, many of us. If you moved here recently, please be aware of the less-than-perfect long-term residents and keep your children close on the road.

Betsy Calhoun, *Garrison*

### No questions

It's time to vote some of these legislators out ("Question About Questions Stirs Debate," Sept. 4). If you can't be prepared to ask questions about what you are voting on, you should not be serving.

Mary Alice Boyle, *via Facebook*

If they're so fully prepared, why can't they answer the questions? Do they actually know what they're voting on?

Kathleen Foley, *via Facebook*

Thank you, Nancy Montgomery, for tirelessly representing the people of your district. You deserve recognition for your oversight of what for so many years has been an opaque government in Carmel. Keep up the good work.

Evan Hudson, *Cold Spring*

### Metro-North cuts

Such counter-logical thinking ("MTA Weighs Metro-North Service Cuts," Sept. 4). Fewer trains running will mean more crowded trains, which will discourage more people from using Metro-North. They should be letting prospective passengers know about the safety changes they have instituted for the pandemic.

Joe Carr, *via Facebook*

Just one more thing that makes absolutely no sense.

Marie-Louise Best, *via Facebook*

### Paul Newman in Beacon

I remember seeing Paul Newman going in to eat at The Velvet Feedbag on Main Street ("Looking Back In Beacon," Aug. 28). It was my favorite restaurant in town at the time. I also remember that was one of the snowiest winters we ever had. It's a great movie and it's fun pointing out all the local sites from 9D, Beacon and even Bedford Avenue in Fishkill, by the library.

Denise Loatman-Owens, *via Facebook*





## How to Vote by Mail

**1.** To vote by absentee ballot (aka voting by mail), you **request an application**. (If you are not yet registered to vote, you must first register, and the deadline for that is Oct. 9.) To receive a vote-by-mail application, you can do one of the following:

- a.** Request a form at [absenteeballot.elections.ny.gov](https://absenteeballot.elections.ny.gov).
- b.** Download the form at [elections.dutchessny.gov](https://elections.dutchessny.gov) or [putnamboe.com](https://putnamboe.com).
- c.** Call 845-486-2473 (Dutchess) or 845-808-1300 (Putnam).
- d.** Email [dutchesselections@dutchessny.gov](mailto:dutchesselections@dutchessny.gov) or [putnamcountyelections@putnamcountynyny.gov](mailto:putnamcountyelections@putnamcountynyny.gov).

**2.** Once you receive the application form, you can **select one of six reasons for your request**, such as that you will not be in the county on Election Day or that you have a "temporary illness." The definition of the latter now includes "being unable to appear due to risk of contracting or spreading a communicable disease like COVID-19."

**3. Mail the completed and signed form** to the Board of Elections. The address is on the form.

**4.** The **application deadline** is Oct. 27, although the U.S. Postal Service has said it **cannot guarantee delivery** of ballots for absentee applications received within 15 days before the election, so the prudent deadline is Oct. 19. You also can apply in-person at the Board of Elections up to the day before the election (Nov. 2). Absentee ballots will be mailed out beginning on or about Sept. 18.

**5.** To **check the status** of your ballot, visit [putnamboe.com/absentee-voting](https://putnamboe.com/absentee-voting) or [bit.ly/dutchess-status](https://bit.ly/dutchess-status).

# 'Angels' Offer Addicts Hope, Not Handcuffs

*Beacon joins pro-treatment effort*

By Jeff Simms

**B**eacon officials on Wednesday (Sept. 9) announced the city's partnership with Hope Not Handcuffs, a nonprofit formed to connect communities and law enforcement as a means of helping, rather than incarcerating, people struggling with addiction.

If someone comes into the Beacon Police Department any day between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. and asks to go to rehabilitation for substance addiction, "they will be treated with compassion and respect," Mayor Lee Kyriacou said during a press conference. A call will be made to an "angel" volunteer from the Hope Not Handcuffs network, who will come to assist with paperwork and seek out a treatment plan.

The program is designed to give addicts an "instant advocate" as well as access to a network of resources to assist in their treatment and recovery. In addition to the Beacon department's Narcan program, which the city said "has saved many lives already," Hope Not Handcuffs is meant to remove the criminal stigma associated with addiction.

"We should be making it easier, not harder, for those who suffer from harmful addictions to make positive changes in their lives," Kyriacou said. "I'd like to thank our Police Department and Hope Not Handcuffs for making the process to recovery a little less intimidating."

Hope Not Handcuffs was created by Families Against Narcotics, a Michigan-based group founded in 2007 following a series of teen overdoses.

The meetings it arranges between volunteers and those suffering from addiction always take place at a participating police station. Once a treatment option is found, transportation will be arranged, although individuals with outstanding felony or domestic violence warrants, with medical conditions that may require hospitalization, or people considered a danger to others may not be eligible.

The program is all-volunteer, and comes at no cost to participating municipalities. Eighty-three law-enforcement agencies in Michigan, along with 22 in New York, now participate.



Beacon officials, along with representatives from state and local agencies, announced the city's partnership with Hope Not Handcuffs on Wednesday. *Photo provided*

A Hudson Valley chapter, founded last year in Orange County, includes 25 police departments in five counties, incorporating 900 officers and a volunteer force of more than 500. Beacon becomes the second Dutchess County municipality to partner with the organization, joining Wappingers Falls.

"We're very enthusiastic about the program," said Acting Beacon Police Chief Sands Frost. "The nature of our profession puts us in contact with many people who are going through tough times in their lives.

It would bring us a great sense of satisfaction to know that we would be able to assist someone in not only bettering their lives but also the lives of loved ones around them and the community as a whole."

The Putnam County Sheriff's Department and Cold Spring police joined the Hudson Valley coalition last year, as well.

A similar project, the Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative, has a national network of more than 400 police departments in 32 states.



## City Seeks Developer for Historic Building

The City of Newburgh is seeking developers to redevelop an iconic, Downing/Vaux-designed City-owned property - commonly known as the 'City Club Building' - at 120 Grand Street.

The RFP is available for viewing at the Planning & Development's departmental page on the City of Newburgh's website:

**[www.cityofnewburgh-ny.gov/planning-development/pages/rfq-request-for-qualifications-rfps-request-for-proposals](https://www.cityofnewburgh-ny.gov/planning-development/pages/rfq-request-for-qualifications-rfps-request-for-proposals)**

## NOTICE

### Request for Proposals:

The Board of Education of the Beacon City School District hereby invites the submission of sealed Proposals for:

### COMPREHENSIVE SUPPLEMENTAL BUILDING SERVICES AND EMERGENCY REPAIRS

Proposals will be received until 11:00 AM on September 21, 2020 at the Business Office, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, N.Y. 12508 and at which time and place all proposals will be publicly opened. The services under this proposal consist generally of performing building services including blacktop patching, drain line cleaning, excavating, sewer line repair, and emergency snow removal. Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained at the same office. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Ann Marie Quartironi, Purchasing Agent



## August Surge *(from Page 1)*

At the Village Board meeting on Tuesday (Sept. 8), Deputy Mayor Marie Early reported that the municipal parking lot on Fair Street was filled to capacity from Sept. 4 to Sunday.

"That has never happened before," she said.

It was a far cry from March 22, the date Gov. Andrew Cuomo ordered all non-essential businesses shuttered to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and May, when retail shops, restaurants and other closed businesses began getting approval to reopen. In between, owners had to lay off employees and pivot to online-only sales and takeout.

Before the shutdown order, as customers hunkered down in fear of becoming infected, Greg Pagones, owner of the Cold Spring Depot, was weighing whether to stay open even for takeout. On the afternoon of St. Patrick's Day, March 17, he had received just five orders for corned beef and cabbage dinners.

Business is down 45 percent for July and August compared to last year, but the last three weeks "have been the best of the summer by far," Pagones said on Thursday (Sept. 10).

"I attribute it to lower temperatures and little rain," he said. "I'm hoping, with many working from home and schools still on remote learning, we will see a good turn-out between the weekends."

When shops and restaurants in Dutchess

and Putnam counties were allowed to begin reopening in phases starting in May, they faced myriad challenges: limits on capacity, hesitant customers and the widespread cancellation of crowd-drawing events like the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival.

In July, the Cold Spring Village Board

voted unanimously to cancel large-scale events through the end of the year, including the Putnam County Wine and Food Festival and the Hops on the Hudson beer fest. The board also canceled visits by the Seastreak cruise line, which brought hundreds of shoppers to the village each fall.

When Bei reopened on June 24, business "was building back at a steady pace but not normally where I would have been." Since the beginning of August, however, "it's just been crazy down there," she said.

Hudson House's restaurant is "beating" last year's sales, said Bei.

Cathryn Fadde had a "very low bar" for the summer, but on Sunday, Cathryn's Tuscan Grill did about the same amount of business that it did for all of May, when she could only serve food via takeout. Business has been "much better than expected," she said.

Eliza Starbuck, president of the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce and owner of Flowercup Wine on Main Street, has also seen the difference.

"In speaking with different business

owners, and from my own experience, I can report that customer traffic has been good in the past few weeks," said Starbuck.

It has also spurred a need for workers.

In addition to seeking a bartender, Bei, during the last week in August, posted on Facebook a need for other positions, including a dishwasher and line cook.

Higher up on Main Street, Fadde has been unsuccessful in her search, since July, for a waiter to take the pressure off her and the existing staff.

"I am one good waiter short," she said. "And I'm just not getting that person."

Some business owners believe that, despite the widespread layoffs of service workers during the shutdown, a \$600-a-week payment in extra unemployment benefits, approved by the federal government in March and offered until July 31, convinced some people to stay home rather than return to work when businesses reopened.

Some studies have concluded just the opposite. A study by Yale University researchers "found no evidence that recipients of more generous benefits were less likely to return to work."

Finding employees has been a "mixed bag," said Brian Arnoff, who owns both the Kitchen Sink and Meyers Old Dutch Food & Such restaurants in Beacon. Early on, as unemployed workers received the extra payment, there was difficulty, but "after the extra money expired, 'we had people who wanted to work again,'" he said.

The bigger challenge, he said, is keeping employees healthy.

"Our policy is, if you have any type of suspect cold, sneezing, basically anything, we tell you to stay home," he said. "To then have to find somebody to fill that position is difficult."

In Beacon, foot traffic has been down but still "pretty good," said Arnoff. Neither place is offering indoor dining, and Kitchen Sink is operating under limited hours.

While Meyers Olde Dutch is still behind the level it was at last summer, "we've dug ourselves out of the hole significantly in terms of how far down we are, so that's doing OK," said Arnoff.

"I always tell people, at this point, we're just kind of holding our breath and trying to survive until spring of 2021," he said.

## COVID-19 by the Numbers

### ■ PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

**1,541** (+23)

New Cases in Philipstown: **3**

Tests administered:

**40,170** (+2,052)

Percent positive:

**3.8** (-0.2)

Number of deaths:

**63** (+0)

### ■ DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

**4,962** (+70)

Active Cases in Beacon: **5**

Tests administered:

**146,641** (+8,213)

Percent positive:

**3.4** (-0.1)

Number of deaths:

**154** (+1)

*Source: New York State Department of Health, with weekly changes in parentheses, as of Sept. 9. New cases in Philipstown as of Sept. 3 (the most recent reported).*



### PHILIPSTOWN REFORM SYNAGOGUE

Invites you to celebrate  
the High Holidays via  
zoom led by Rabbi  
Helaine Ettinger

To receive your zoom  
invitation email us at

**prshighholidays@gmail.com**

with your name and phone  
number no later than

**SEPTEMBER 10.**

Check website for complete schedule  
of High Holy Day services:

**philipstownreformsynagogue.org**

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## Full-time Associate Program Director

Tri-County Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, is seeking the ideal candidate to be an Associate Program Director for our agency, working with residents in the long-term care setting, developing programmatic policies and volunteer management.

The primary quality for this position is leadership and fundamental respect for seniors residing in long term care facilities.

You will be the person to work directly with residents to help advocate for their rights and dignity, working together to resolve issues. Proficient with outreach to the community to promote the program, recruit volunteers and interact with families, residents and facility staff when needed.

This is an amazing opportunity to serve the senior community and be very proud of your work. Extensive training will be provided post-hire. Travel within three counties (Westchester, Putnam and Rockland) is required. The following skills are required: time management, written and verbal communication, experience with computers.

Please send cover letter and resume via email to: **judy@ltccc.org**



## Refrigerants *(from Page 1)*

The 8 ounces of refrigerant typically found in a standard dehumidifier has the same carbon footprint as 1.5 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. If refrigerants enter the atmosphere from older leaky appliances, or if the refrigerants are not properly recycled or destroyed, the potential environmental damage through global warming is severe.

That was part of Roberto Muller's message to the Cold Spring Village Board on Aug. 25, when Muller, Philipstown's Climate Smart program coordinator, announced a program that enables residents to dispose of appliances and the HFC refrigerants they contain.

Philipstown residents, including those in Cold Spring, can now take refrigerant-containing appliances to the Recycling Center on Lane Gate Road, free of charge, on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Muller said residents who have no way of transporting an appliance can call the town clerk at 845-265 3329, ext. 3, to arrange curbside pickup.

Interstate Refrigerant Recovery, a company based in Foxboro, Massachusetts,



Refrigerants in air conditioners, freezers and fridges are contributors to global warming.

will be hired to periodically extract refrigerant from appliances left at the recycling center.

The recycling center does not, however, accept auto air conditioning systems. In New York state, mechanics, dealerships and junkyards must be certified in the proper handling of refrigerants from air conditioning systems in cars and trucks. The captured refrigerant is then recycled or destroyed.

Philipstown's program is being funded

in part by \$7,550 the town raised through participation in the Hudson Valley Community Power Program. Municipalities receive \$50 for each resident who enrolls in that program's community solar power initiative.

The Village of Cold Spring has raised \$2,440 through the program but has not yet determined how the funds will be used.

Muller said Philipstown's Climate Smart Task Force also plans to work with local grocery stores, restaurants, cafes

and convenience stores, which use larger amounts of refrigeration, to encourage the use of alternative refrigerants and improved leak detection.

He also noted that Central Hudson picks up and recycles working refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners, and offers a \$100 cash rebate. Home Depot and Lowes will pick up old freezers and fridges for a \$20 fee if the owner purchases a new appliance.

An educational fact sheet describing the environmental risks posed by refrigerants and the town's efforts to properly dispose of them will be mailed to all households in Philipstown by the end of September.

Appliance manufacturers still use HFC refrigerants but began gradually phasing them out in early 2019 as part of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol. The U.S. has yet to ratify the agreement. Eliminating HFCs is expected to take up to three decades, Muller said.

The refrigerant of choice now in most appliances is R600a isobutane. It is non-toxic and has zero Ozone Depletion Potential and very low Global Warming Potential, a measure used to determine how much a gas will warm the Earth compared to CO<sub>2</sub>.

## Deer Virus *(from Page 1)*

the movement patterns of the local midge population, the disease could be spreading. On Wednesday, the DEC received a report of a deceased and rapidly decomposing deer found by Fishkill Creek in Beacon's Madam Brett Park.

The disease is not transmissible to humans and only affects white-tailed deer, mule deer and pronghorn antelope, the latter two of which do not live on the East Coast. But while humans, their pets and other local animals may be safe from the disease, its effect on deer is horrific, with a high mortality rate.

After a deer is bitten by a midge carrying the virus, it takes about seven days for symptoms to appear. Once they do, the end comes swiftly, usually 8 to 36 hours after being affected. Besides acting disoriented, appearing lame and losing their normal fear of humans, infected deer have high fevers that cause extreme thirst, which is why most deceased deer are found near

water sources (one of the first reported cases was a doe found in a Putnam County lake). Other visible symptoms include swelling of the head, neck, tongue and lips.

There is no known cure or effective management plan for the disease. The only remedy is to wait for the first hard frost of the season to kill the midges and end the outbreak, usually occurring around mid-October in the Highlands.

The disease first appeared in New York State in 2007 in Albany, Rensselaer and Niagara counties. Another outbreak occurred in Rockland County in 2011. The disease is most likely to occur in late summer and early fall, when the midge population is most active, and is usually confined to the American South, where decades of EHD have resulted in much milder outbreaks with low fatality rates.

The lack of previous exposure to the disease makes New York state deer especially vulnerable.

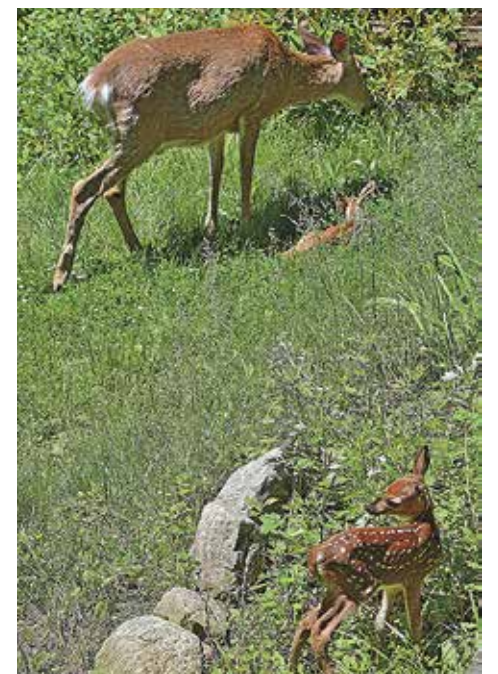
Officials from the DEC said that the leading theory on how infected southern

midges make their way to New York state is via hurricanes and tropical storms, such as Tropical Storm Isaias, which battered the Highlands in early August.

That theory would also explain a 2011 outbreak in Rockland County that occurred shortly after Tropical Storm Harvey passed through the area. Hurricane Irene ended that outbreak a few weeks later. It's expected that EDH will become more common in New York as climate change continues to alter existing weather patterns.

Despite EHD not being transmissible to humans, the DEC still urges precautions. Deer that succumb to EHD decompose at a much higher rate than normal as a result of weakened blood vessel walls and an elevated body temperature from fever. This leads to extremely rapid meat spoilage, so infected deer should not be eaten.

Residents should contact the wildlife department at the DEC's Region 3 office in New Paltz by calling 845-256-3098 to report sick or dead deer.



A doe tends to a young fawn while its sibling looks around a Cold Spring backyard earlier this summer.

*Photo by Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong*



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## NOTICE

## MOVING SALE

**SEP 19th & 20th  
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

18 Joann Place  
Cold Spring, NY 10516

## NOTICE

### Philipstown Planning Board

**Site Visit – September 13th, 2020**

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, September 13th, 2020 at 9:30 am to inspect the following sites:

**Andrew Kepler, 176 Moog Road,  
Garrison, New York  
TM#49-3-48**



# Village Board Police Hiring Questioned by Future Trustee

## Cold Spring to get better access to reservoirs

By Michael Turton

The hiring of a new Cold Spring Police Department officer touched off a debate at the Tuesday (Sept. 8) meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board.

The board approved hiring officer Scott Lombardo, a 22-year veteran who recently retired as a sergeant with the Putnam County Sheriff's Department. Lombardo was interviewed by the board in an executive session held earlier that day.

During the public comment period, village resident Heidi Bender asked why the hire was made without public input. Bender is running unopposed for a seat on the Village Board and will begin serving as a trustee in January.

She said that as part of the New York State-mandated review of municipal police departments, "in a lot of places, including Beacon, communities are embracing having citizens involved in these kinds of things."

She then asked, "Why was the interview done in private?"

"I don't know why a larger group of people would be needed," Mayor Dave Merandy responded. "What input would they have in looking at someone's resume?"

Bender then referred to the hiring of officer Scott Morris late last year. Morris resigned six months later after residents demanded he be fired because he was the supervisor at the scene of a fatal shooting of an unarmed black man in New York City in 2012.

"Is there something to be learned [from the hiring of Morris] when people found out after the fact?" Bender asked. "As elected officials, can we be more inclusive of the community we're representing?"

Trustee Lynn Miller commented that including the public in the hiring process would set a bad precedent. "The Labor Board is very protective of people in the hiring and interview process," she said. "There is an assumption of privacy when interviewing and we're elected to do that work."

Miller added that Lombardo will be on

probation for 40 months. "If there's a problem [with him] later it can be brought up later," she said.

Bender persisted in her argument for more public involvement. "A transparent process can avoid a lot of these misunderstandings and a lot of the reactions we saw" in the Morris case, she said. "I just don't see why there's a threat [by] being inclusive in the process."

"I don't feel it's a threat at all," Merandy replied. "I just don't see how involving more and more people, everyone with their own opinion, will make a better process and a better hire."

Bender then asked when public input will be sought as part of the review of Police Department policies.

Merandy said he has not yet read a document recently provided by Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke, which he said can serve "as a starting point" for the development of police policies.

"As soon as we have that base to work from, we will have a public meeting and

discuss what we feel is a decent policy," Merandy said.

## In other business...

Scenic Hudson will transfer ownership of a small property adjacent to the village reservoirs to the Village of Cold Spring. The parcel will help provide access for maintenance of the reservoir dams. The village will pay about \$2,700 for survey and legal costs associated with the transfer.

The village will seek the advice of Oneonta attorney David Mertzig in an attempt to improve the pace of negotiations with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

The village needs to tap into DEP's Catskill Aqueduct before making repairs to the village reservoir dams. Mertzig has assisted other municipalities that have experienced difficulties in dealing with DEP. Cold Spring's negotiations with the agency have been ongoing for more than a decade.

## Virtual & Safe-Distance

# Spirit of Beacon Day

**Sunday, Sept. 27th,  
12-4pm**

**spiritofbeacon.org**  

**Porch Celebrations : 12pm-4pm**

Join together with family @home

**Neighborhood Drive-Thru : 12pm-2pm**

Cheer our Community Orgs & First Responders

**Virtual Concert : 12pm-2pm**

Enjoy contributions from across the community

Cold Spring Soundtrack  
Marinella Senatore  
September 9 - November 7, 2020  
Organized by Magazzino Italian Art Foundation

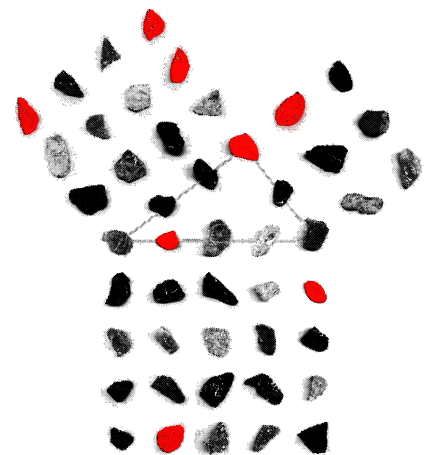
Community members are invited to share an audio recording capturing any sound reflective of their current moment. Each and every contribution will be incorporated into a symphony.

Volunteers can participate by leaving their recordings by calling +1 (845) 476-8409 and leaving a voicemail, or sending an audio recording via text message or email to [opencall@magazzino.art](mailto:opencall@magazzino.art).

For more information visit [www.magazzino.art](http://www.magazzino.art)



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Magazzino Italian Art, Gallery 8

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# A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR READERS

We reached 2,000 followers on Instagram and 7,000 followers on Facebook!

**The HIGHLANDS  
Current**



# The Calendar

## Robots, Light Shows, Chemistry

*'Mad scientist' Lukas Milanak's exhibit opens at BAU*

By Arvind Dilawar

Artist Lukas Milanak says he takes “a mad scientist approach” to glass- and furniture-making, and it isn’t difficult to see why.

One of his works, “Mobile Alchemy Research Station (M.A.R.S.),” resembles a microwave atop a rolling cart with a tin can attached. But during performances, he demonstrates that the setup is intended to mix and meld various elements in pursuit of the “philosopher’s stone,” a mythological substance that can turn mercury to gold.

The sculpture-turned-laboratory is part of *Allegory and Apparatus*, an exhibition of Milanak’s work opening alongside painter Daniel Berlin’s *Weightless* at Beacon Artist Union on Saturday (Sept. 12). Combining traditional techniques like glassblowing with do-it-yourself experiments in chemistry and engineering, the show seems likely to delight and amaze.

Milanak, who will be on hand each Sunday to discuss his artwork, said the show’s unifying theme is the combination of both custom-made and found objects, as well as the deceptive nature of the pieces, such as the question of whether something is a work of art or science experiment.

He describes his work as “taking elements from your environment and cobbling them together to make something useful.”

“A lot of times I’m using found objects to create whimsical sculptures and drawings,” said Milanak. “A lot of times there’s an element of an overlooked phenomenon taking place under the surface.”

Skill is evident in his ability to jerry-rig a glassmaking studio out of a microwave, rolling cart and tin can. But the provocation is that its ostensible “use” is to pursue a fairy tale like the philosopher’s stone.

Another sculpture in the exhibit is “Last Cicada.” The handblown bell jar combines a small robotic arm with guitar-string fingers and a tin can, and juxtaposes science and fantasy, engineering and art, and nature and technology.

At intervals, the arm rubs its fingers against the ridges of the tin can, producing a cicada-like song. The work’s title and construction suggest that the human detritus from which the piece is constructed will outlive the real cicadas that inspired it — perhaps even contributing to their extinction.

Milanak’s approach to art follows an equally unique journey. After studying glassmaking and sculpture at Temple University in Philadelphia, he worked aboard the GlassBarge. Launched by the

Corning Museum of Glass in the summer of 2018, the barge sailed the Hudson River and Erie Canal, demonstrating glassblowing during stops at riverside communities between Brooklyn and Buffalo.

“That’s how I got into the Hudson Valley,” said Milanak. “I was coming up the Hudson River on a barge and kind of just fell in love with the area and decided to bring my craft here.”

In September 2018, Milanak got a job as an assistant at Niche, the Beacon lighting and glassware company. After moving from Philadelphia, he also set up his own studio in Beacon.

Milanak describes his upcoming show as a kind of coincidental second-anniversary celebration of his move. The exhibit is all the more coincidental because he was unsure whether it would actually take place after being canceled multiple times because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The show will be BAU’s second since the state allowed museums to reopen in July. Considering Milanak’s “mad scientist” approach to art, the masks visitors are required to wear may have been in order even if there was no pandemic.

“If you come to my show, you can expect to see robots, light shows and a little bit of backyard chemistry all combined into this package,” he said.

*Allegory and Apparatus opens at BAU, 506 Main St., on Saturday (Sept. 12) from noon to 8 p.m. The show will run each Saturday and Sunday, from 12 to 6 p.m., through Oct. 4. An online Instagram performance will be broadcast at [instagram.com/lukaslabs](https://www.instagram.com/lukaslabs) on Sept. 20 at 6 p.m.*



“Last Cicada”



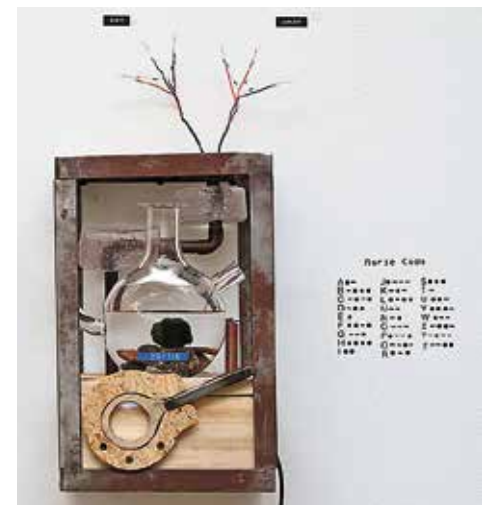
Lucas Milanak with “Mobile Alchemy Research Station (M.A.R.S.)”



“Observatory”



“Allegory of Perception”



“Interactions in the Electromagnetic Fields of Plants and Humans”



# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

## COMMUNITY

SAT 12

### Save the Dogwood Fundraiser

BEACON

4 – 11 p.m. Dogwood  
47 E. Main St. | eventbrite.com/save-dogwood-fundraiser-tickets

The popular bar, restaurant and music venue needs assistance with ventilation upgrades to reopen. Enjoy live and livestreamed music, food, drinks and a silent art auction. *Cost: \$100*

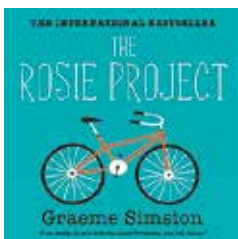
MON 14

### Book Club

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Meet outdoors in the garden to discuss *The Rosie Project: A Novel* by Graeme Simsiam, with masks and social distancing. The rain date is MON 21.



WED 16

### Fact-Check Happy Hour

GARRISON

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

Learn how to reliably vet information online with recent examples of misinformation that have been widely shared. Register for the Zoom event.

FRI 18

### Summer of 2020 Show and Tell

GARRISON

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

Share your summer highlights, like good books, garden and house projects, adventures or experiences in this online community event. Register for the Zoom event.

SAT 19

### Bird Walk

PHILIPSTOWN

7:30 a.m. Hubbard Lodge  
2880 Route 9  
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

The Putnam Highlands Audubon Society is leading 2 groups to look for migrating birds, raptors and songbirds. Advance registration required.

SAT 19

### Free Rabies Clinic

CARMEL

10 a.m. – Noon  
Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park  
201 Gypsy Trail Road  
845-808-1390 ext. 43160  
putnamcountyny.com/health

Bring your dogs, cats and ferrets, proof of prior vaccination, proof of residency and a mask.

## MUSIC

SAT 12

### Forest Sunset Concert

GARRISON

5 p.m. Manitoga  
584 Route 9D | 845-424-3812  
visitmanitoga.org

Experience Pete M. Wyer's immersive and multisensory sound installation in the forest. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 non-members)*

SAT 12

### Bees in the Barn

COLD SPRING

6 p.m. Little Stony Point  
3011 Route 9D  
facebook.com/BeesInTheBarn

The high-energy acoustic band includes August Eriksmoen, mandolin; Jordan Shapiro, guitar; Ryan Drickey, fiddle; and Nate Allen, bass.

SAT 12

### Cole Davidson

COLD SPRING

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

Cole Davidson, part of the alt-folk band Navytrain, performs a solo acoustic set as part of the Restoration Roadhouse series. *Cost: \$25*

SUN 13

### Wynona Wang

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Chamber Music Circle  
howlandmusic.org/ALIVEmusica.html

The pianist will perform Beethoven's *Sonata No. 26, Op. 81* and Rachmaninoff's *Sonata No. 1, Op. 28* as the first show in a series livestreamed from the Howland Cultural Center. *Cost: \$20 suggested donation*

FRI 18

### Musical Celebration of Women's Suffrage Centennial

POUGHKEEPSIE

6 p.m. Queen City 15 Gallery  
Facebook.com/WERISEpoughkeepsie

Pat Lamanna and Sharleen Leahey, aka The Herstorians, perform classic, contemporary and original songs about the Suffrage

movement. Register to watch online.

SAT 19

### Space Out, Outside

BEACON

5 p.m. Polhill Park  
facebook.com/events

Steve Davis, Matt Luczak and Craig Chin perform soundscapes for chilling out.

SAT 19

### The Valley Hour

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
onthestage.com/show/howland-cultural-center

Annalyse and Ryan are the hosts for the new series featuring Hudson Valley musicians livestreamed from the Howland. Civilization Viral, featuring Gwen Laster, Damon Banks and special guest Tim Regusis, will perform, as well as Jeremy Schonfeld and Tony DePaolo.

## KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 12

### Monarch Migration

WAPPINGERS FALLS

11 a.m. Stony Kill Farm  
79 Farmstead Lane  
stonykill.org

Participants ages 6 to 12 can help tag and record the farm-raised monarchs while learning about them before their trek to Mexico for the winter. *Cost: \$20 per family*



MON 14

### Crafternoon

COLD SPRING

4 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Register on the website for the Zoom event and pick up materials in advance.

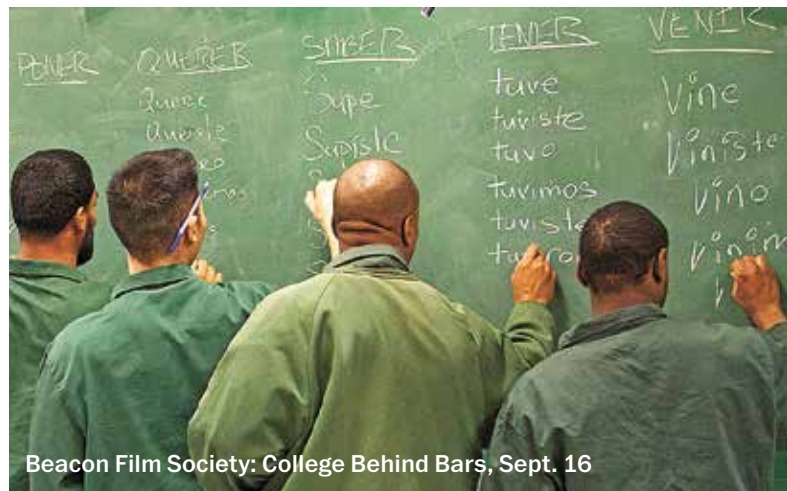
TUES 15

### Kids Craft

GARRISON

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

Register online for the Zoom event and pick up materials in advance.



Beacon Film Society: College Behind Bars, Sept. 16

WED 16

### Middle School Book Club

COLD SPRING

3 p.m. Butterfield Library  
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040  
butterfieldlibrary.org

Meet up outdoors to discuss *Ghost Boys* by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Register in advance and wear a mask.

WED 16

### Teens and Tweens Learn to Knit

GARRISON

4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
bit.ly/2ZkGQdx

Learn to knit with Teen Services Librarian Beth Vardy and Children's Librarian Lucille Merry by creating a simple project. Knitting needles and yarn are available to pick up at the library or you can use your own.

THURS 17

### Toddler Time in the Garden

COLD SPRING

10:30 a.m. Butterfield Library  
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

The garden-themed stories, songs and activities for young ones will feature gardens from around town. Register to join online.

THURS 17

### Mindfulness for Birth and Parenting

GARRISON

3 p.m. Garrison Institute  
Zoom (register in advance)  
garrisoninstitute.org

Mary Esther Malloy, founder of Mindful Parenting, NYC, presents this free, online program.

THURS 17

### Kids Book Club

COLD SPRING

4 p.m. Split Rock Books  
SplitRockBks.com

Kids ages 8 to 12 can discuss Nico Bravo and the Cellar Dwellers with author and illustrator Mike Cavallaro.

## STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 12

### Story Screen Drive-In

BEACON

8:30 p.m. University Settlement  
724 Wolcott Ave. | 845-440-7706  
storyscreendrivein.square.site

This pop-up drive-in theater will screen *Jumanji* (1995) and *Ghostbusters* (1984) this weekend

and *Jaws* (1975) and *Jurassic Park* (1993) next weekend. See website for show times and health protocols. Snacks will be available for purchase. Also SUN 13, THURS 17, FRI 18, SAT 19, SUN 20. *Cost: \$10 (\$8 children, seniors, military)*

SAT 12

### The Artichoke

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
artichokeshow.com

Storytellers who have appeared on *The Moth Radio Hour*, *This American Life*, *Risk!* and other programs will bring their tales to Beacon in this livestreamed event hosted by Drew Prochaska. Some material may be unsuitable for children. *Cost: \$18*



WED 16

### Beacon Film Society: College Behind Bars

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Story Screen Drive-In  
724 Wolcott Ave. | 845-440-7706  
storyscreendrivein.square.site

A one-hour condensed version of the four-part PBS documentary series directed by award-winning filmmaker Lynn Novick tells the story of a small group of incarcerated men and women struggling to earn college degrees and turn their lives around in one of the most rigorous and effective prison education programs in the United States — the Bard Prison Initiative. *Cost: \$12 after Sept. 12*

## SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 12

### finally Golden

BEACON

Noon – 6 p.m. Mother Gallery  
1154 North Ave.  
845-236-6039 | mothergallery.art

The gallery will host this opening for an exhibit of works by Brian Belott and Bridget Caramagna. Through Oct. 25. Following reception, by appointment.



SAT 12

**Weightless**

BEACON

Noon – 6 p.m. BAU Gallery  
506 Main St.  
845-440-7584 | baugallery.org

Daniel Berlin will showcase paintings, monotypes and sculpture that intend to embody an energetic connection which relieves the density of thinking. Through Oct. 4.

SAT 12

**Allegory and Apparatus**

BEACON

Noon – 6 p.m. BAU Gallery  
506 Main St.  
845-440-7584 | baugallery.org

Lukas Milanak will exhibit his playful sculptures and art-making machines created from found objects like wood and steel, and from hand-blown glass. Through Oct. 4.

SAT 12

**Creative Quarantine, a Czee13 Solo Show**

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery  
163 Main St. | 212-255-2505  
shop.cluttermagazine.com/gallery

**TALKS**

SAT 12

**Book Launch: Migrating Toward Happiness**

BEACON

4 p.m. Draught Industries  
396 Main St. |  
taraogradymusic.com

The singer, songwriter and author Tara O'Grady will share stories from her memoir, *Migrating toward Happiness: The Soundtrack to My Spiritual Awakening*, about replicating her Irish grandmother's 1957 road trip in a Chevy Bel Air from New York to Seattle.

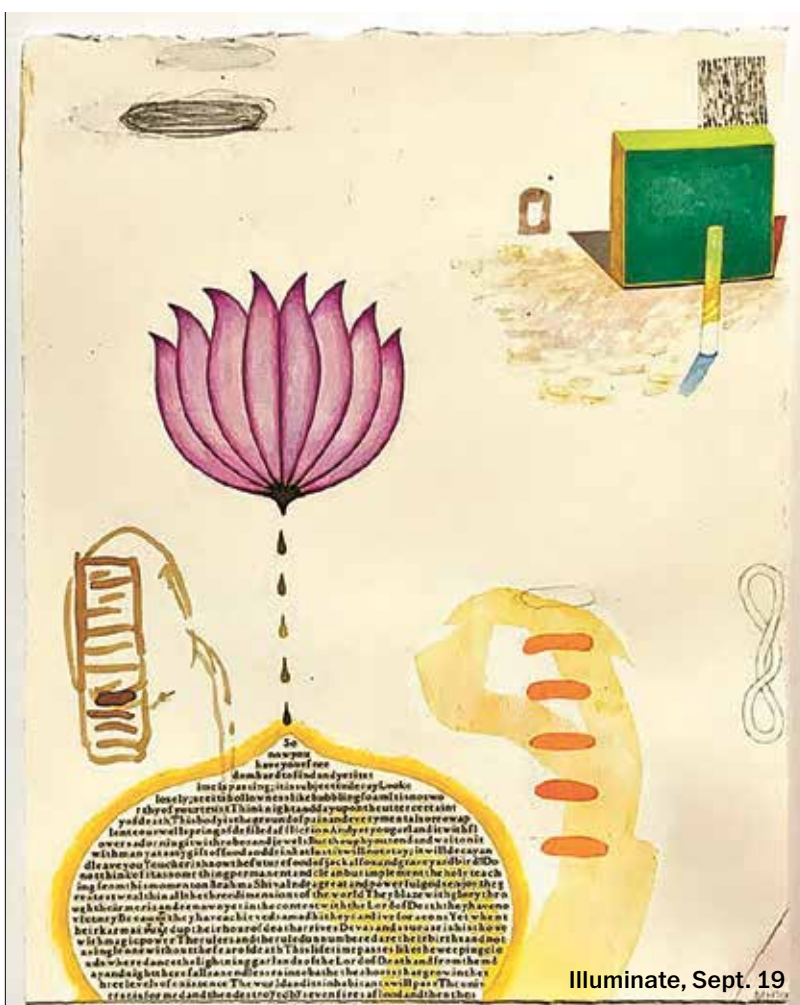
SUN 13

**Votes for Women**

POUGHKEEPSIE

3 p.m. Queen City 15 Gallery  
facebook.com/WERISEpoughkeepsie

Miriam Cohen, a history professor at Vassar, discusses the beginnings of the Suffrage movement at the college, along with its connections, factions and some troubling history. Watch online by registering.



Illuminare, Sept. 19

SUN 13

**George Pataki Book Reading**

GARRISON

4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library  
crowdcast.io/e/tacqbj4b/register

The former governor, who led the state during 9/11, talks about his latest book, *Beyond the Great Divide: How a Nation Became a Neighborhood*, and shares his perspective on the division he sees in the nation and the questions ahead.

TUES 15

**Strategies for Healthy Emotion Regulation**

GARRISON

3 p.m. Garrison Institute  
garrisoninstitute.org

Marc Brackett and Robin Stern, co-founders of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, discuss how to stay balanced emotionally.

TUES 15

**Preserving Family History**

BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon Historical Society  
845-831-0514 | beaconhistorical.org

Kate Jacus, a museum archivist and founder of The Photo Curator, discusses how to safely store photos and heirlooms. Register in advance for the online program.

TUES 15

**Architectural Sculpture from 10 Colleges**

BEACON

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

Photographer and author Mathew M. Duman documented collegiate gothic architecture and presents his work and the stories behind the images. Email adults@beaconlibrary.org to register and join the online event.



Wynona Wang, Sept. 13



Architectural Sculpture from 10 Colleges, Sept. 15

**VISUAL ARTS**

SAT 19

**The Feminine Agenda**

POUGHKEEPSIE

3 to 5 p.m. Womenswork.Art  
bit.ly/2Fgqgon

The virtual artists' talk features exhibitors in the current juried show of the same name on view at the gallery.

SAT 19

**Illuminate**

GARRISON

5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960  
garrisonartcenter.org

Meg Hitchcock's solo exhibit of works on paper from 2008 to the present examines eastern and western religions through sacred texts. Through Nov. 8.

**CIVIC**

Most meetings are being streamed or posted as videos. See [highlandscurrent.org/meeting-videos](http://highlandscurrent.org/meeting-videos).

MON 14

**City Council**

BEACON

7 p.m. Via Webcast  
845-838-5000 | cityofbeacon.org

MON 14

**School Board**

BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon High School  
101 Matteawan Road  
845-838-6900 | beaconk12.org

MON 14

**Dutchess County Legislature**

POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. Via Webcast  
countylegislature@dutchessny.gov

TUES 15

**School Board**

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Haldane High School, Room 211  
15 Craigsides Drive | 845-265-9254  
haldaneschool.org

TUES 15

**Village Board Election**

NELSONVILLE

Noon – 9 p.m. Village Hall  
258 Main St. | 845-265-2500  
nelsonvilleny.gov

WED 16

**School Board**

GARRISON

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



17 year old Nelsonville artist, Alex Turk, aka Dakotaxela, has released their debut album entitled "Through My Eyes" which, is now available on Spotify, Apple Music, iTunes, Amazon Music, Google Play and Bandcamp.

They write, record and produce all of their music in their room. Dakotaxela's music can be described as experimental electronic with influences of indie rock and rap. "Through My Eyes" includes 12 original songs all made by Dakotaxela, which talk about complex emotions, failing relationships and parts of ourselves that we hide.

Instagram: @dakotaxela  
[www.alexturk.com](http://www.alexturk.com)



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Garrison resident Sheila Williams fulfilled an eleven year old dream when she appeared this year on the twelfth season of the NBC show *American Ninja Warrior*

NBC

## Something You Don't Know About Me

# Sheila Williams

By Sheila Williams

I was living in New York City in 2009, and had just had my second child, when my husband, Brandon, and I discovered a new show called *American Ninja Warrior* on the little-known G4 network. I was immediately enthralled by the amazing abilities of the athletes as they competed on the show's crazy obstacle course, hitting a buzzer after finishing each stage.

It all seemed so familiar to me. As a young girl I was very active in sports: basketball, volleyball and baseball. My dad was often the coach. I was an extremely energetic little girl and would often jump around on the furniture, try flips or even put my feet against the

hallway walls and walk without touching the ground. I'm sure my parents were thrilled.

When I saw *American Ninja Warrior* I thought: "I found it, an obstacle course for grownups!" Even though there were no female competitors the first year, I still wanted to be on the show.

I realized that upper-body strength was extremely important, so I attempted pull-ups. I did a whopping two and then I realized I was no longer that muscular little kid climbing the walls. So I started training, but every time I made headway I discovered I was pregnant yet again.

Fast forward to 2017, with me now living in Garrison with five kids, and the show now on NBC. I decided to focus again on training for it, but this time I was not just training for myself. I was training for my kids — to teach them the importance of setting goals and working hard to achieve them. I also wanted them to learn that exercise could and should be fun.

Over the next two years my two pull-ups turned into six, then 10, then 20. I visited several ninja gyms in the area, where I learned how to tackle obstacles like the Devil Steps, the Wing Nuts, rock climbing and the dreaded 14.5-foot Warped Wall. It was during this time that I learned the most about myself. I learned to push forward through pain, blistered hands, callused fingers and sore muscles. I learned that, just like in childbirth, you have to use your breathing to control pain. I learned that only through failure do we learn.

My husband filmed my progress for my submission video. I got the call to be on the show in February. Out of 70,000 people, I was one of 150 selected. I had done it. I had accomplished my dream of being on *American Ninja Warrior*.

But then COVID-19 struck. Everything in our lives came to a screeching halt, including the show. In lockdown, with no gyms for training or obstacles to run, I did not think

it was ever going to happen. Thankfully, Brandon built a rock wall and installed a pegboard, salmon ladder and cliff-hanging obstacles in the yard so I could train for the upper-body strength the course required.

I got the call that we were going to be secretly competing in St. Louis in July, with strict social-distancing guidelines. My family wasn't able to come cheer me on, but I was part of a team of strong mothers, led by Sandy Zimmerman, a veteran ninja and first mom ever to hit the buzzer. These women became my new support group.

I met lifelong friends, fellow ninjas and teammates. Although my run on the course was far from what I had hoped for, it was an incredible experience. I am now more determined than ever to return and compete again. With gyms now opening and more options for training, I am looking forward to the future and the journey ahead. I have learned from failure and I have a new goal. I am going to hit that buzzer at the end of the course.



Williams made lifelong friends while appearing on *American Ninja Warrior*.



Williams began training for the show in 2017.

Photo by Tegan Roobol



## Roots and Shoots

# Fall Gardening – A Different, More Thoughtful Pace

By Pamela Doan

After a summer of sweating it out with more responsibilities than ever (no camp, a puppy), I'm honestly relieved that the growing season is winding down. I need to pare back and want to shift from time-consuming tasks like watering, harvesting and weeding into longer-term yard projects.

I like fall gardening. It's so different from the spring and summer, when my expectations and chores are more intense and full of promise, and anticipation and timing are urgent.

Fall gardening is a wind-down. It's about setting a vision for the next year, gathering the observations and lessons and making adjustments. It's also my last chance to finish out The List — projects I've had in mind for oh, shall we say, many years. The List never gets shorter. I bet most gardeners can relate.

Ideas for what to do this fall:

### Assess, stay on top of weeds and fill in bare spots

I have many perennial beds in my yard that I planted years ago and I appreciate the dynamic process of how the plants have shifted. Last year, though, I lost the battle with Japanese stiltgrass, an invasive weed. The annual grass, which is shallow-rooted, needs to be pulled or cut before it can set seed, and last fall I didn't handle it. So many regrets as I've spent much of my summer pulling it.

This year the stiltgrass grew back in thick mats, blocking the perennials from coming up. It's discouraging, but some plants have returned as I weeded.

Bare spots need to be planted before it comes back, and I get the chance to tweak the layouts. I'm including more warm-season native grasses now.



Setting garlic goals for next year while missing the annual Saugerties festival this fall where I usually stock up and buy seed garlic.

Photo by P. Doan

I started with a little blue stem in one planting area and love the way it hides the stalks of taller plants and its gracious coloring. In winter, the grasses shape the snow and it's picturesque to see birds perched on them. Fall is a perfect time for planting perennials. The plants get settled and then are ready to grow in spring. Given that native plants are on a 3-year cycle to reach their full development, even if I plant small plugs, the plants are essentially starting in Year 2 next spring.

### Improve soil

Vegetables, flowers and fruit trees benefit from well-prepared soil. Just about any site can be improved with wood chips and

compost left to settle over the winter. For tough-to-plant sites that have a lot of weed pressure or really tenacious weeds like mugwort or stiltgrass, a thick 6-to-12-inch covering of wood chips will become a planting site in spring, with fewer or no returning weeds.

Seeding with traditional cover crops improves soil health, too. I used winter rye in my vegetable garden last year and it added a layer of green mulch this spring. Tilling radish seeds can still be sown this fall and the 30-inch-long taproots break up compacted soil and the plants add organic matter. As a bonus, thickly growing crops like buckwheat cover bare soil to suppress weeds.

### Plant garlic, shallots and bulbs

Homegrown garlic is juicy, which isn't how I'd describe the cloves I get from the store. While I'm missing my annual stock-up on both seed and cooking garlic from the Saugerties festival that's been canceled, I've ordered favorite varieties and some new ones. Garlic is a simple pleasure to eat and grow and even the foliage scapes are edible.

Shallots, small and mild as they are, didn't seem high-priority for limited garden space, but I've been using them more frequently in dishes and will try it out now. Plant them in rows with garlic before the end of October.

Fall flower bulbs should be planted soon, too. While I've usually only considered spring blooming bulbs, there are some summer flowers like alliums and grape hyacinth. The frost date for our region is Oct. 15, but many bulbs can be planted up until the ground freezes.

### Take care of tools

I neglect this too often and then have to spend more time rehabbing and restoring my gardening tools. Wipe down, sharpen and repair pruning shears, shovels and blades before storing them for the winter.

### Don't prune anything

Unless something causes a hazard, avoid pruning woody plants and trees until late winter. If pruning a tree is unavoidable this fall, wait until it has gone into dormancy. Opening up a wound in bark before winter can cause a range of problems.

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## Mouths to Feed

## The Partial Enchilada

By Celia Barbour

Two of our boys went back to college last week. After dropping the second of them off in Vermont, I secluded myself up north for a quiet sojourn. The day I got back, I sat down at the kitchen table with our still-at-home youngest.

"You know what I've really missed?" said Dosi.

"What?" I asked, leaning forward. When a mother is gone for more than a few days — more than a few hours, to be honest — she hopes her loved ones will have missed her wisdom, compassion, kindness, humor, grace, et cetera, et cetera, as much as she has missed their lovely, particular selves.

"Your enchilada casserole."

"Huh," I said.

"You haven't made it since Henry became vegetarian."

True that. As it happens, our middle child, Henry, not only turned vegetarian but also developed a keen political and social conscience his first year at college, and brought it all home with him in March, when — well, we all know what happened in March.

The next conversational turn was therefore no surprise. I told Dosi that said dish confused me; that I had in fact mentioned enchilada casserole in this very column back in 2012, but had found it too challenging to write about even back then, in part because my friend Lily had deemed it inauthentic. "I can still hear her *aaaargh!* as she ran from the kitchen," I said. "Cultural appropriation and all that. And it would be even harder to write about now."

"Just put it in context," said Dosi. "Figure

out its history."

Six hours later, I emerged with enough material to fill Dosi's head during an hour-long car ride to Fishkill and back — and then some.

What I discovered is that the (known) history of the enchilada is quite remarkable, extending back through the Aztecs to at least 2000 B.C., when the Maya of the Yucatan Peninsula are known to have eaten a precursor of corn tortillas dipped in pumpkin seeds and served with eggs and tomato sauce. The familiar name "enchilada" is the past participle of the Spanish "encharlar," which means, basically, "to add chiles to"; the dish's Nahuatl name, "chillapizzali," translates to "chile-flute." Clearly, chiles are essential to the enchilada in all its forms — of which there are at least as many as there are regions in Mexico. Yet the history of this dish is also at times almost unbearably sad, as the history of colonialism typically is.

As we turned off of Route 52, we veered onto the topic of cultural appropriation. Debate still rages over whether or not the term should apply to foods, especially dishes that have evolved and changed for millennia, as cultures merged and ingredients and people traveled the globe. In fact, the particular dish in question is a bastardization of *enchiladas Suizas*, a creamy, cheesy version created by a Swiss cook in Mexico City in the 1950s.

"Heard enough?"

Dosi shrugged. School's back in session, offering enough pedantry for any young mind.

Some 80 years ago, author Thomas Wolfe wrote *You Can't Go Home Again*. My corollary, born of the past six months, goes like this: You Can't Stay Home and expect home to stay the same, especially when your kids keep challenging you to reconsider familiar routines and recipes.

Which is why tonight this favorite dish will be served with a new condiment: A piquant dose of historical context.



## Enchiladas Verdes Casserole

You can use leftover roast chicken in this dish, or poach about 1½ pounds boneless chicken thighs in chicken broth. When cool, shred chicken; save broth for sauce.

- 1 lb. tomatillos, husks removed, cut in halves
- 2 serrano chiles, stems and seeds removed, cut in strips
- 2 poblano chiles, stems and seeds removed, cut in strips
- 2 medium white or yellow onions, roughly chopped
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 bunch fresh cilantro
- 4 cloves garlic, roughly chopped
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- ½ cup chicken broth (see note) or hot water
- 2½ cups cooked, shredded chicken (see note)
- ¼ cup canola oil
- 12-16 masa or corn tortillas, depending on size
- 2 cups shredded queso Oaxaca, Monterey Jack or mozzarella

Heat oven to 400 F. Spread tomatillos, chiles and onions in a single layer on rimmed baking sheets. Drizzle with the olive oil. Roast 25 to 30 minutes, or until soft and blackening at edges, turning as needed. Let cool slightly. Transfer to a blender along with sour cream, cilantro, garlic, cumin and broth or water; season with salt and pepper, and purée until smooth.

Place shredded chicken in a bowl and toss with 2 cups enchilada sauce.

Heat canola oil in a skillet over medium-high heat. Working in batches, grasp tortillas with tongs and fry until pliable, about 30 seconds per side. Transfer tortillas to a plate and keep covered with a kitchen towel as you work.

Pour about 1 cup enchilada sauce in the bottom of a 9-by-13 inch baking dish. Lay softened tortillas in a single layer over sauce (you will need to tear some of them to fit). Top with a layer of the chicken mixture, then sprinkle with just a little of the cheese. Repeat layering the tortillas, chicken and cheese until you have at least 4 layers. Pour remaining enchilada sauce over top, and cover with remaining cheese.

Reduce oven heat to 375 F. Bake enchiladas until sauce is bubbling and cheese is melted on top, about 25 minutes. Allow to cool and set about 10 minutes before serving.

Clearly, chiles are essential to the enchilada in all its forms — of which there are at least as many as there are regions in Mexico.



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# Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

## 150 Years Ago (September 1870)

After John Gallagher and Jerry O'Neill, who had been drinking together, began to quarrel, O'Neill drew a revolver and shot Gallagher in the face. The bullet entered the lower part of his chin and came out the back of his neck but did not mortally wound him. The editor of *The Cold Spring Recorder* noted the assault had been reported in the Newburgh papers and suggested that "unless Cold Spring becomes a more orderly and temperate village, we must expect that business will flee away to better regulated places."

*The Recorder* declared Morris Avenue to be the village's "finest street" after an unnamed individual paid to have it top-dressed with gravel.

James Y. Dykeman opened a hat and shoe store in the former post office.

Professor King, who ascended in a hot-air balloon to 10,000 feet from Newburgh, reported looking down at Cold Spring and West Point but that "the great sensation comes when, with the naked eye, 60 miles away, I discerned the city of New York ... alone, bricks and mortar, a muddled mass with a smoky haze."

After returning from a quick errand, storeowner Sidney Patterson was informed that a young man named Willie Robinson

had taken money from behind the counter. Constable Travis found the culprit in Nelsonville with a large supply of fruit and candy. He was taken before Justice Ferris, found guilty and sent to the State Reform School on Randall's Island.

Constable Travis arrested Isaac Ryder of Highland Falls on an allegation of bastardy made by Mary Fitzgerald of Cold Spring. He was released after agreeing to pay child support.

An inquest was ordered in the death of Hiram Odell, 60, whose body was found by a passerby at about 2 p.m. after he saw Odell's hat in the street and then saw Odell's legs protruding from a well. When Odell's body was pulled out, his head was in the pail. Officials surmised that Odell, who had been drinking, became thirsty and leaned too far while lowering the pail.

## 125 Years Ago (September 1895)

William Southard found a carrier pigeon with the tag C23933 that had been killed by a hawk.

William Ladue Jr. won the Putnam County bicycle racing championship, taking home \$25 and a silver cup.

The Fish estate hosted a Labor Day baseball game in which each team was comprised of five women and four men. When the contest ended in a 7-7 tie, a rematch was



In 2014, Alexander Randall V, a descendant of the brothers who developed the Parrott gun, visited the replica on the Cold Spring waterfront. *File photo by Michael Turton*

scheduled for the next Labor Day.

Professor H.C. Wilson, who was traveling the Hudson River from Poughkeepsie to New York City on a pneumatic [inflatable] boat, passed by Cold Spring.

A New York Central train traveled from New York City to Buffalo in a record 407 minutes, at an average speed of 64 mph. It reached Cold Spring in 53 minutes.


While the keeper at Town Hall was out on an errand, his wife heard a knock on the door leading to the jail. Samuel Van Tassell, who had been arrested for being drunk and

disorderly, asked for a glass of water, but when she turned to fetch it, he knocked her down and escaped. Van Tassell turned himself in five days later and was fined \$10.

A horse pulling a wagon owned by Mrs. Edwards Pierrepont of Garrison ran away near Indian Brook. It broke the guard rail and tumbled down the embankment, breaking its neck, but the wagon became stuck on a tree at the edge of the precipice, saving the driver.

The Village Board approved the purchase of 70 street signs.

*(Continued on Page 16)*



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## Looking Back *(from Page 15)*

James Ruddiman, who came to the U.S. from Scotland around 1865 to work at the West Point Foundry and later opened a saloon, died at age 63.

Alice Moffat presented a framed portrait of George Washington to the Mekeel's Corner school.

The Haldane school announced its tuition rates for non-residents: \$15 annually for the academic department, \$10 for the grammar department, \$8 for intermediate grades and \$5 for primary grades.

Harry Lockwood, who had moved to Ohio six years earlier, returned to the village by horse and wagon. The trip took four weeks.

Although somewhat hard to believe, John Barrett, 25, of Putnam Valley, had never seen a steamboat or ridden on a train until a recent visit to Cold Spring. *The Recorder* assured readers that "the above is a fact; we know of people in the same town, now well along in years, who have never been 3 miles from home."

An 18-foot rowboat named Ethel and belonging to Anna Warner, author of the novel *The Wide, Wide World*, was stolen from her boathouse on Constitution Island. It was the fourth boat pilfered from Miss Warner in five years.

### 100 Years Ago (September 1920)

*The New York Times* noted that "more than 100 undersized, pale East Side boys" were preparing to attend Surprise Lake

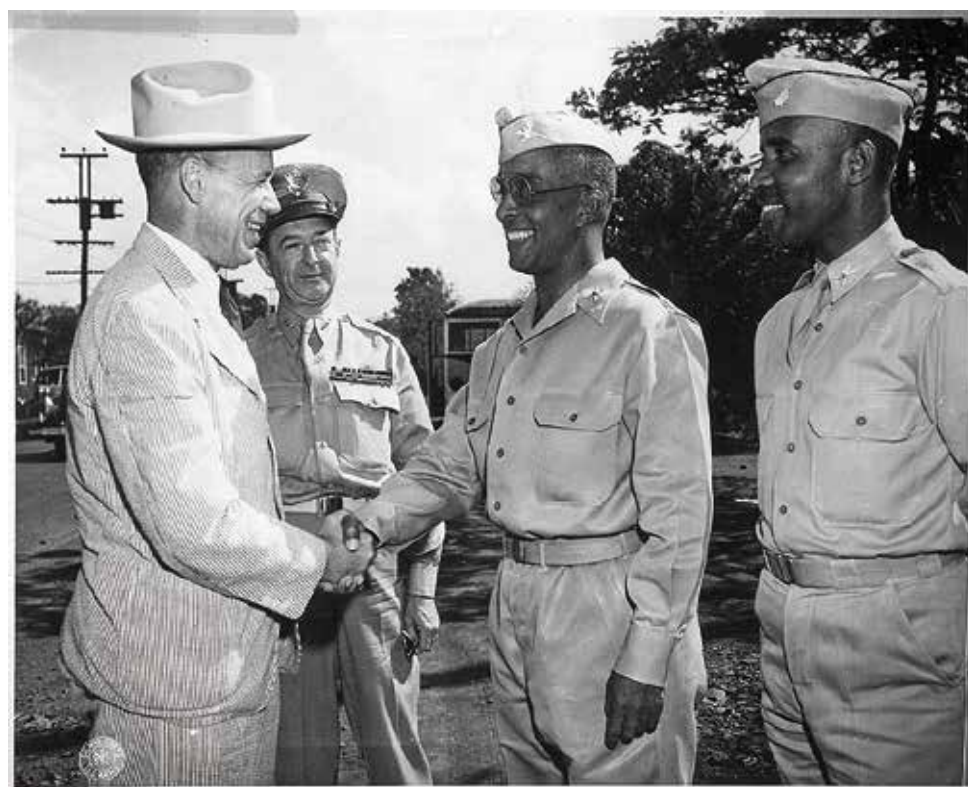
Camp, one of 92 institutions run by the Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies. The paper noted that Surprise Lake had been a summer camp but now also operated from October to June. The boys were instructed by three teachers provided by New York City.

### 75 Years Ago (September 1945)

The locomotive of a troop train derailed a short distance north of Cold Spring at 6:40 p.m. on a Saturday night. About 475 soldiers returning from Europe and headed to their homes in the West were aboard. The GIs had a long wait in Beacon, where Red Cross workers served coffee.

After the Japanese surrendered to end World War II, Pvt. 1st Class Douglas Knapp of Nelsonville, a former machinist at the Dutchess Tool Company in Beacon, revealed that he had been stationed since May at Los Alamos, New Mexico, where scientists developed the atomic bomb.

Joseph Costello of Graymoor Manor in Garrison, who had been the rear gunner on a B-29 that was shot down over Tokyo, began his trip home after being kept in solitary confinement for three months as a prisoner of war. He was freed on Aug. 15 when Japan surrendered. Writing from the hospital ship USS Benevolence, he told his family that the guards forced the prisoners to sit in small cells on hardwood floors from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. without moving or talking. "They were always jabbing at us and spitting," he wrote. Costello lost 40 of his 141 pounds during the



In 1943, during a visit to Hawaii, Robert Patterson (left), a Philipstown resident who was then undersecretary of the War Department, greeted a regiment of African American artillerymen.

ordeal. Once he reached San Francisco, he said he planned to fly home with his brother, Arthur Costello, a flight clerk on a B-54 transport in the Pacific.

Robert Patterson, of Garrison Road in Cold Spring, was appointed the secretary of war by President Harry Truman. Patterson succeeded Henry Stimson, who resigned. Patterson, a former judge on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals who had earned the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism during World War I, had worked under Stimson since July 1940 as an assistant and then deputy secretary. He moved to Philipstown in 1938 and resided on the 68-acre Fair Oaks Farm on Route 9D south of the village. That same year, Patterson's name also came up as a candidate to fill a U.S. Supreme Court vacancy created by the retirement of Owen Roberts. [In a bipartisan gesture, Truman instead nominated Harold Burton, a Republican senator from Ohio.]

The local Selective Service Board was instructed by state headquarters to send 12 men to Carmel for induction, but because the Army and Navy no longer took draftees older than 26, only four men went, including William Le Mon of Cold Spring.

1st Lt. Robert Grindrod of Cold Spring was among the military police officers who broke up a criminal ring in Belgium run by two deserters who sold rations on the black market. While making inquiries at the post exchange, Grindrod noticed a pile of PX ration cards on the counter. Thumbing through them, he found that a name was duplicated. Two officers were assigned to tail whoever picked up the rations, and an investigation revealed the men were receiving 130 cards each week by presenting false purchase orders for a fictitious unit.

Anton Chmela of Yonkers, the president of General Quartz Laboratories, which specialized in radio and television technology such as crystal oscillators, bought Dick's Castle on Route 9D, which had sat empty for 34 years. The Garrison house, which sat on 100 acres, was the unfinished dream of Mr. and Mrs.

Evans Dick, who began construction in 1908 on what would become the world's largest concrete structure. However, in 1911, after spending \$1.25 million [about \$34 million now], they abandoned the project with only the main walls (with 150 window openings) and roof complete. Mr. Dick, who was a member of the stock firm Dick Brothers, had died in 1934 at age 75. Chmela said he planned to use the home as the headquarters of his firm and suggested he might launch a TV station that would beam its signal to an 80-mile radius.

Edward O'Keefe of Parrott Street won 14 first prizes at the annual show in New York City of the American Dahlia Society.

Col. Jacob Ruppert, the owner of the New York Yankees, the Ruppert Brewing Co. and the 394-acre Garrison estate known as Eagle's Rest, left an estate worth about \$9.5 million [or about \$137 million now] when he died in 1939, according to a state tax appraisal. Earlier reports had estimated his estate would be worth \$50 million [\$720 million].

### 50 Years Ago (September 1970)

St. Philip's Church in Garrison held a service and dinner to celebrate its 200th anniversary. The organizing committee was Mort and Adele Williams, Mrs. Fred Polhemus, Dorothea Reeder, Nanette Gordon, Mrs. Alexander Saunders and the Rev. William Reisman.

Putnam County opened its first public park, on Gypsy Trail Road in Carmel.

John Dow held a champagne concert and art auction at Dick's Castle to raise funds for his campaign to reclaim a seat in Congress representing a sprawling district that included the Highlands. The Democrat was elected in 1964 and reelected in 1966 but lost his seat in 1968 to Republican Martin McKneally. [Dow defeated McKneally in 1970 but was voted out again in 1972 and never returned to the House, losing races in 1974, 1982 and 1990. He died in 2003 at age 97.]

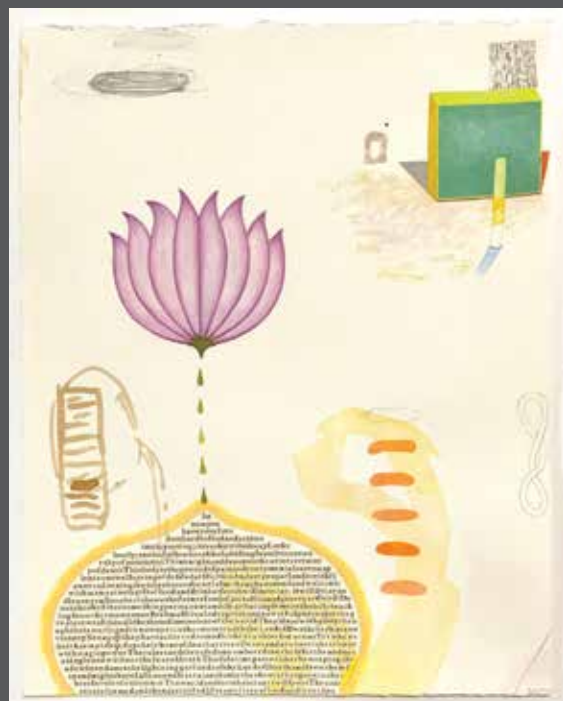
Early on a Sunday morning, fire

*(Continued on Page 17)*

# Meg Hitchcock

*Illuminate*, Works on Paper

September 19–November 8, 2020



*Impermanence I*

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An early print depicting the Chapel of Our Lady

(Continued from Page 16)

destroyed the Viking Village restaurant on the Albany Post Road. The 75 volunteer firefighters on the scene drew water from the Graymoor monastery with a hose relay.

James Bailey, a Cold Spring native who served as a state Supreme Court justice for 21 years, died at age 80. A Navy veteran, he served as Putnam County district attorney for eight years and a county judge for 15 years. He also was a charter member of the Cold Spring Lions Club and the village's American Legion post.

Herbert Johansen, a writer who lived in Nelsonville, died at age 64. Born in Sweden, he wrote a memoir about setting out at age 17 to find the headwaters of the Orinoco River in Venezuela. He also was a reporter for *The New York World*, the editor of several weekly newspapers and a staff member at *Popular Science* for 21 years. Johansen won a Peabody Award for his scripts for the Columbia School of the Air, an effort by the university to offer instruction by radio.

The Loretto parish agreed to sell Chapel of Our Lady, erected in 1833 overlooking the Hudson River, for \$10,000 to a group of residents who hoped to preserve what had been the first church built by the New York Archdiocese outside New York City. (Six earlier churches were all built below 14th Street.)

### 25 Years Ago (September 1995)

A replica of a Parrott gun built and donated by blacksmith Norm Champlin of Nelsonville was dedicated on the waterfront. Giachinta Brothers provided the base concrete and Jack Allen and Jim Erichson did the formwork.

A group called Philipstown Economic Progress, headed by John Zenz, asked the Town Board to throw out the recommendations of a three-year study of Route 9 from Annsville Circle to the Dutchess County line, saying they would hurt local businesses.

Vinny Tamagna, who represented Philipstown on the county Legislature and was chair of the Philipstown Republican Committee, asked the county Board of Elections to censure the Philipstown Conservative Party for "misleading or even fraudulent" advertising during the primary campaign for town judge. The conser-



The Chapel of Our Lady before its restoration

Chapel Restoration

vatives, whose candidate was Stephen Tomann, claimed in an advertisement that the Republican candidate, Lou Liotti, was not a member of the party.

Two Cold Spring residents were arrested and charged with selling and shipping marijuana by UPS from an apartment on Fair Street. Putnam sheriff deputies said they seized 10 pounds of weed, as well as cocaine and \$6,500 in cash.

T.C. Boyle, a Peekskill native, signed copies of his new novel, *Tortilla Curtain*, at Salmagundi Books on Main Street.

Tom Rolston, owner of the Cold Spring Depot restaurant, was named executive director of the newly formed Putnam County Visitors Bureau, and Maurie Webster of Cold Spring was also named to its six-member board. The county and state provided about half of the organization's \$207,000 budget.

Badey & Watson Surveying & Engineering, which was founded in 1973, waived the fee for its 10,000th project, which happened to be for work done on the residence of Herbert Cavanaugh at 30 Garden St. [In December 2019, the firm waived the fee for its 25,000th project, for Maria Ricapito of Cold Spring.]



This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Heather Davies and James Morhous of Beacon shared this photo of mom in the Hudson River with Sirius, age 8 months, and Obi (Wan Kenobi), age four months, who belongs to a friend. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to [editor@highlandscurrent.org](mailto:editor@highlandscurrent.org).



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## High-Risk *(from Page 20)*

Season II,” and teams will be allowed to schedule their first practice on March 1. Baseball, softball and other traditional spring sports will be pushed to April 19, with those teams allowed to begin practices on that date.

“This continues to be the most challenging situation educators have ever addressed,” said Julie Bergman, the NYSPHSAA president. “I, along with my fellow officers, believe the participation experiences for football, volleyball and competitive cheer athletes will be more

beneficial in the spring than in the fall.”

Low- and moderate-risk sports for most area high schools are still scheduled to begin practices on Sept. 29; games will follow after 10 practices.

Beacon football coach Jim Phelan said he agrees with the decision. “I’m a lot happier with this than the prospect of starting, practicing, and then possibly having to shut down without playing a game,” he said. “This way at least we’re guaranteed a chance for games. I think we have a better shot in the spring than in the fall, so this is best for the student-athletes. It gives the seniors an

opportunity for their senior-year games.”

Phelan said his coaching staff and players have stayed upbeat despite the uncertainty. “I stayed positive and the kids have stayed positive the whole time,” he said. “But the prospect of practicing without having games was not appealing to them, or to me. Being in limbo was the worst part. This is the best-case scenario as far as what could have been.”

Haldane football coach Ryan McConville was also pleased to see a defined plan in place.

“I think we’re excited to have a decision, to have some guidance,” he said. “We know the

process has been tough. Everyone is happy, and a little relieved. Football, volleyball and cheer have been in a holding pattern. At least now we have the information.

“There are still a lot of unanswered questions,” he added. “But our guys are excited, not disappointed. Now we know the goal. They’re excited to make the best of the situation. Yes, there will be challenges — possibly the weather, the timing, overlapping of another season. But those things are out of our control. Everyone is working hard and keeping the athletes in mind. Now we have a plan — a defined schedule and a chance for games.”

## Low-Risk *(from Page 20)*

down again. So, we need to do our due diligence. If we have to wear masks, we will do it. It will take some time to get used to.”

Although he worries about the start-stop potential of a resurgence in the pandemic,

Giametta said the payoff could be big if sports are allowed to continue. “It will be a really exciting time,” he said. “I think the protocols will be a small piece of it. As long as we can provide athletics in a safe environment, that’s essential. It’s so important for the young athletes to get back to some kind

of normal, to get out on the field. That’s our bread and butter — it’s what we love to do.”

First-year Haldane boys’ soccer coach Ahmed Dwidar agreed that wearing masks will challenge players. “The health of our athletes is the most important thing,” Dwidar said. “It will be different, for sure,

but we’ll do whatever we are told.

“It will be difficult to breathe (while running),” he explained. “It will slow the pace of the game. Not only that, but there will be no walls on set plays; on corners, it will be a direct kick, all to prevent crowding around the goal.”

## Girls’ Soccer *(from Page 20)*

of his captains. “I have confidence in all four of them, and they’re all well-respected by the team.

“We’re hoping our youth is a strength,” he added. “We are hoping to be a little bigger, faster and stronger. We want to score more goals this year; that’s been a tough thing the last few years. Our big threats offensively are Chelsea and Devyn, and they both missed

significant time last year. They’re both excellent skill players, and we feel they can do a lot of things. It’s huge for us to have them both on the field. Defense is a work in progress. We’ll try some different things, some different formations. We’re also looking for someone to win the starting goalie job.”

Alzate, along with every other Section 1 coach, is hoping the pieces come together for a season to happen.

“The hope is to get this season in during

the fall,” he said. “The girls are ready to play, they’ve been at camps, and we have a huge freshman class coming in. This season will be very important for them to get their feet wet.

“Right now we hope to hit the ground running on the 29th,” he added. “Oct. 12 would be the earliest we could possibly have a match. The goal for the team is to improve, get to .500, get in the playoffs. And we’re hoping for that first sectional win in Class A. It’s been over 15 years now. That

would be a big deal.”

Alzate admitted that COVID-19 protocols won’t make playing any easier. “The masks will be the biggest challenge,” he said, “but every team will have to deal with it. Now it might be who will play with it the best. We’ll try to find ways to improve the situation. I’m also curious to see how travel will be handled. I hope we can get enough games in, get the girls some real play, and get to a sectional tournament at the end.”

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

**ACROSS**

1. Drink heartily

5. Coffee, in slang

8. Snatch

12. Maze option

13. Possess

14. Elderly

15. Not all one kind

17. Clinton's Arkansas hometown

18. Delivery co.

19. Source

21. Song of praise

24. *East of Eden* character

25. Charged bits

26. Lit into

30. Explosive letters

31. External

32. Eisenhower

33. Lent a hand

35. Appear

36. Dud

37. Familiar form of address

38. 1954 doo-wop hit for The Crew-Cuts

41. Pirouette pivot

42. Deserve

43. Transferred, in law

48. List-ending abbr.

49. Mad Hatter's party drink

50. Continental coin

51. Say it isn't so

12

15

21

25

30

33

38

42

48

51

13

16

24

26

31

34

36

41

43

44

49

52

11. Paradise

16. Spinning stat

20. Bellow

21. Pocket bread

22. Half of the offspring

23. Picnic invaders

24. — in the right direction

26. Convert to computers

27. Told a tale

28. — out (supplemented)

29. Showroom sample

31. Norway's capital

34. "I wish"

35. Prolonged attacks

37. Japanese pond carp

38. Caraway, for one

39. Loathe

40. Cereal choice

41. Despot

44. Vast expanse

45. Sister

46. Mound stat

47. Pooch

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 "working on a product" (11)

2 made a path, perhaps (7)

3 in some other place (9)

4 provisional (9)

5 finger-pointers (8)

6 lamenting an absence (7)

7 place and time in a novel (7)

**SOLUTIONS**

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MUL

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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Answers for Sept. 4 Puzzles

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

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

1. KNOCK, 2. SURPLUS, 3. GRUELING, 4. GRACELAND, 5. JACKAL, 6. CONDUIT, 7. WEALTHIER





Haldane football players will be sidelined until March under new COVID-19 guidelines announced on Wednesday (Sept. 9).

*Photo provided*

## ‘High-Risk’ High School Sports Pushed To Spring

*Grid coaches relieved plan is in place*

By Skip Pearlman

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) announced on

Wednesday (Sept. 9) that the fall seasons for football, volleyball and competitive cheerleading will be postponed until March 1, 2021, as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to reverberate through the state's schools.

The season will be dubbed “Fall Sports”  
*(Continued on Page 18)*

## Low-Risk Teams Prep For Fall

*Masks, social distancing must be used, state says*

By Skip Pearlman

New York State's latest health guidelines allow Section 1 “low-risk” sports squads (boys’ and girls’ soccer, cross-country, swimming, field hockey, gymnastics, golf and tennis) to begin practices on Sept. 29. High-risk sports (football, volleyball and cheerleading) will be moved to the spring, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association announced Wednesday (Sept. 9).

State officials last week released detailed instructions for resuming the fall sports that have been given the go-ahead.

New protocols include social distancing and changes in formations, such as set plays in soccer, which will be changed to avoid crowding. Soccer goalies will not be allowed to spit on their gloves (if they do, the gloves will be removed) and sidelines will be spread apart. Perhaps the most challenging of the protocols — and there are many for each sport — will be the use of masks during all games.

Dave Goddard, Haldane High School's interim athletic director, said the challenges will be plenty, but the reward will be worth it.

“The challenges are certainly there,”

Goddard said. “Masks, distancing — and schools are very sensitive about groups getting together. Everyone has different opinions, which makes things more difficult. Some schools may not open until October in their hybrid situation, while others are opening already. There are lots of different plans, and opinions, and that's created some anxiety and difficulty behind the scenes. While some opinions may differ, everyone has the same goal — to make sure the kids compete safely.

“No doubt it will be a challenge, but it's certainly worth it,” he continued. “If we can provide kids with a positive experience, it doesn't matter how hard it is. That's our job as educators, coaches, teachers — to provide a positive experience to the kids. The structure helps guide them, helps them grow as individuals.”

The new guidelines will also restrict spectators to two per athlete. “Some schools may screen spectators,” Goddard said. “These are tough times, and we need to get this right. We need to think through decisions. Make sure the kids are safe.”

Beacon High School Athletic Director John Giametta said the school's athletes will do whatever they need to in order to play.

“The first priority is safety,” Giametta said. “Everyone is concerned about a [COVID-19] relapse. Then everything would be shut

*(Continued on Page 18)*

## Beacon 12U Baseball Wins Tournament

*Goes undefeated in five games over weekend*

The Beacon Bulldogs travel team for players ages 12 and younger went 5-0 in a weekend tournament in Poughkeepsie, winning the title game on Sunday (Sept. 6).

The Bulldogs defeated the Poughkeepsie Lightning, 11-7, for the championship. Beacon recorded 16 hits: Ryan Landisi (3), Alex Young (3, including a home run). Zachary Shetter (2), Brady Philipbar (2) and James Brouhard (2) also had multiple hits. On the mound, Young allowed three hits and three runs over four innings, striking out two.

In other games, Beacon defeated the Northern Dutchess Rebels, 9-8 and 9-2; the Poughkeepsie Vikings, 7-3; and the Lightning, 5-3.

## Beacon Girls' Soccer Looks to Take Step Forward This Fall

*Bulldogs have youth on their side*

By Skip Pearlman

If all goes according to plan, the Beacon High School girls' soccer team hopes to get its season going Sept. 29, joining other Section 1 teams allowed to start practices on that date, with competition scheduled to begin after 10 practices.

Beacon graduated six seniors from last year's 4-12 squad that did not make the play-offs. Key Bulldogs' losses include All-Section center-mid Analiese Compagnone, four-time All-League center-back Katelyn Rosa and All-League keeper Shianne Canada.

Returning starters include senior defender Gabriella Del Castillo, senior mid Ashley Casterly, junior mid and All-League pick Maddie Bobnick and junior mid-forward Claire Derrenbacher. Those four will serve as team captains, head

coach Hugo Alzate said.

Freshmen Devyn Kelly and Chelsea DerBoghossian are also returning start-

ers. Seniors Jessica Spadafino, Samantha DeLuise and Brielle Travis and sophomores Lindsay Otero, Gabriella Foret, Hope Cleveringa and Juliana Sulsona also return from last season. A group of incoming freshmen will join the team, as well.

“We have great leaders; each of them brings something different,” Alzate said  
*(Continued on Page 18)*



Senior defender Gabriella Del Castillo (6) is one of Beacon's returning stars.

*Photo by S. Pearlman*