

The HIGHLANDS Current

OCTOBER 2, 2020

Celebrating 10 Years!

Beacon
Studios
Are Open
Page 13



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FIRE IN THE SKY — Smoke from massive forest fires burning on the West Coast has made its way 3,000 miles across the U.S., creating hazy conditions. It also makes the moon appear red or orange because the two colors have the longest wavelengths and are not absorbed by the particles. Nevertheless, air quality remains “good” in the Highlands, according to the U.S. Air Quality Index at airnow.gov.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Candidates Decline League Debates

Group has trouble getting incumbents to agree

By Chip Rowe

The League of Women Voters of Putnam County will hold a virtual forum on Oct. 12 with the two candidates seeking to represent the 95th district in the state Assembly, which includes Philipstown.

But it hasn't had any success with other races in the Highlands.

Sandy Galef, a Democrat who has served 13 terms in the Assembly, is being challenged by Republican Lawrence Chiulli. He was also her opponent in the 2018 election, which she won with 65 percent of the vote.

The forum is being presented in partnership with two League chapters from Westchester County.

The three chapters this week canceled a forum for candidates for the U.S. House seat representing District 18, which includes the Highlands. Scheduled for Oct. 14, it would have included incumbent Sean

(Continued on Page 19)

Beacon School Board Adds One, But Not Two

Some audience members critical of decision

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon school board, meeting in person for the first time since March, on Tuesday (Sept. 29) appointed Jasmine Johnson to fill one of two vacancies.

Before appointing Johnson, and despite opposition from some members of the audience of about 50 spectators in a socially distanced Seeger Theater at Beacon High School, the board opted to restart the application process for the second vacancy on the nine-seat panel.

Johnson, a 2006 Beacon High graduate, was one of four candidates who applied

(Continued on Page 20)

High Demand for Flu Shots

COVID-19 raises stakes for avoiding illness

By Leonard Sparks

The number of children and teens getting flu shots so far this fall at Gergely Pediatrics in Garrison has been “close to double” what it would normally be this time of year, Dr. Peter Gergely said on Monday (Sept. 28).

Enrique Reynoso, the owner of Beacon Wellness Pharmacy, said on Wednesday (Sept. 30) that 10 to 15 people a day had been coming in for shots over the previous week.

At Drug World in Cold Spring, there is a waiting list of at least 50 people, said Mark Snyder, its chief operating officer. The pharmacy is still waiting for vaccines ordered in the spring.

“There’s a massive shortage; we can’t get



Many people are heeding the call to get vaccinated for influenza.

File photo

our hands on them,” he said.

It seems that Highlands residents are heeding the call from public health officials to get vaccinated against the flu, an annual appeal that has grown more urgent this year because of the lurking presence of another potentially deadly virus, COVID-19.

Influenza generally appears in October, with infections peeking between December and February and continuing into May, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A vaccination with a shot or nasal spray is recommended for anyone

(Continued on Page 7)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: GRACE LO

By Michael Turton

Grace Lo owns Supplies for Creative Living on Main Street in Cold Spring.

Does everyone have a creative streak?

I think people who come in the shop and say, "This store isn't for me!" are just super-blocked. They're waiting for someone to tell them they're creative. It comes out in different ways: through cooking or walking around in the woods or in the way you arrange your bulletin board. You just have to coax it out. More than anything, it's about listening to yourself over all the other voices in the world.

Has the pandemic been bad for your business?

It's actually been working



nicely. The pandemic has people staying home. They're thinking about their priorities and how they're spending their time. There's only so much TV you can watch without going bonkers. Tuning into yourself and doing something creative, whether you're drawing or just scribbling, is a way to find equilibrium. For small businesses, creativity is about how we survive. Part of that is liberating. Part of it is terrifying.

Do you ever leave your work behind by being uncreative?

Yes! You need to unplug sometimes. I'll get in my hammock with lots of reading, my coffee and my dog. It can be hard to force yourself to say, "I'm just going to sit here and do

nothing." It's a good skill. And in the end, it's creative. It's like rebuilding.

Do children and adults approach creativity differently?

Some kids like being given direction. But with others it's like, "We're going to make something up. We're going to paint something and then go a little crazy imagining what happens next." A lot of times, children want to be given license to be spontaneous and imaginative. With older customers, there is a lot of relearning. For some, it's about getting over a bad experience they had with art in high school or college. If they had bad experience with watercolors, they should try drawing with a pencil at breakfast.

Are people more creative working solo or in a team?

It has to be a little bit of both. You need time to experiment on your own, with no rules. But it's also good to have someone say, "What if you were to do it a different way?"



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OCT. 10	6:30 PM: Play Reading: My Name is Rachel Corrie
OCT. 17	6:30 PM: Night Train: Storytelling
OCT. 24	2:00 PM: Modern Dance Workshop 4:30 PM: All Aboard: Modern Dance Performance

All seating is socially distanced. All audience members must wear a mask. Rain date is the Sunday immediately after the scheduled Saturday.

TICKETS AT
www.philipstowndepottheatre.org

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What would you add to make your community a better place to live?

More public programs for those in need and more after-school programs for kids.



~ Max Smith, Beacon

Electric scooters that you can rent and ride around town.



~ Maya Osborn, Cold Spring

I'd love to have something like Dockside back, a nice waterfront restaurant.



~ Mike Gallagher, Cold Spring

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Can Cold Spring Stop Halloween?

Residents urged to scale back trick-or-treating

By Michael Turton

Halloween will be different in Cold Spring in 2020, thanks to COVID-19. The Village Board recently canceled the annual Halloween parade and at its Tuesday (Sept. 29) meeting considered other measures aimed at reducing crowds on the Oct. 31 holiday, which this year falls on a Saturday.

The Parrott and Parsonage Street neighborhoods, known for homeowners' elaborate decorations, dominated the discussion. Residents there said as many as 1,000 visitors come to their doors on Halloween, many from out of town.

"I don't think we can stop people from coming, but we should discourage people as much as we can," Mayor Dave Merandy said. "Many people have said they will not be trick-or-treating or giving candy out."

Merandy acknowledged that while "Halloween is another thing we are losing this year," residents should consider not decorating or giving out candy.

Trustee Lynn Miller said some Parrott

Street residents have told her they will leave their houses dark. "They respect the seriousness of coronavirus and that it is not under control yet," she said, especially in light of recent spikes in the lower Hudson Valley (see Page 8). "We have to avoid the crowds," she said.

Miller said in previous years there have been complaints that Halloween has been too concentrated on the Parrott-Parsonage corridor. "This is a great opportunity to spread it out and encourage people there to scale it back," she said.

Trustee Fran Murphy suggested Parrott and Parsonage and nearby streets not be blocked off by police this year, but Deputy Mayor Marie Early said that trick-or-treaters must otherwise be made aware to stick to the sidewalks. "Not closing the street endangers people," Early said.

Merandy said he will consult with Larry Burke, officer-in-charge of the Cold Spring Police Department, about assigning extra officers on Halloween and the use of sawhorses to block streets or other safety measures.

"Let's try to get the word out and dissuade as many people as possible," he said. "I personally hope people won't go out, but I know that's not going to happen."



The Cold Spring Halloween parade will not take place this year, and village officials are discouraging crowds.
File photo by Ross Corsair

The mayor suggested residents talk to their neighbors and consider taking their children to a select number of houses that aren't on Parrott Street.

Honoring Campbell

The board supported offers from the Cold Spring Lions Club and Cold Spring Police Benevolent Association to install plaques to honor former Village Board trustee and Deputy Mayor Bruce Campbell, who died Sept. 14. The PBA plaque will be placed on a

bench in front of Village Hall and the Lions Club plaque will be affixed to a bench on the riverfront.

Winter parking

Village residents will again be able to apply for permits to park during the winter in the municipal lot on Fair Street. Last year, 10 to 15 permits were issued using a lottery system. The \$40 fee allows those selected to park in the lot from Nov. 15 to April 15.

Street Talk in Nelsonville

Work should be completed within days

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Nelsonville Village Board engaged in street talk last week, from paving to parking.

During a meeting held on Sept. 21 by teleconference, Village Clerk Mindy Jesek and Village Board members announced that paving of Bank and Division streets would take place in early October.

As the plans gelled, the Village Board alerted residents by email on Sept. 24 that work is scheduled to begin today (Oct. 2) and finish on Monday (Oct. 5). The stretches involved are Division between Main and Pine streets and Bank from Peekskill Road to the

Cold Spring village line (approximately at the intersection with Parsonage Street). According to the board, both surfaces will be milled — or scraped — and then paved.

"All cars will need to be moved from these areas" on Sunday evening to allow crews to access the roads the following morning, the board stated. It added that residents lacking off-street spots for their cars can park on Adams Avenue near the lower part of Division Street or at the village's lot at North Pearl and Secor Streets.

"We don't want to cause too much of a disruption," Mayor Mike Bowman said.

Bowman said Nelsonville may create a winter-parking site along Adams Avenue. He and the trustees discussed protocols for winter parking in general, so that residents using village-designated areas — such as the

current Secor-North Pearl lot — do not leave their vehicles indefinitely. "If they would just move their cars like they're supposed to, [crews] could plow" and make winter operations easier, said Trustee Dave Moroney, who handles street matters for the board.

Resident Gloria Van Tassel expressed concerns about the look of streets as summer ended. They "have not been swept. They look like hell," she said. She also said street gutters are choked with weeds.

The street contractor "is responsible curb-to-curb," but property owners must tend to weed-whacking and related tasks in front their premises, Moroney said. However, he and Bowman pledged to confer with the street contractor about the concerns Van Tassel raised.

Moroney also noted that some property-owners consistently leave trash bins by the curb. He suggested reminding them "to get their garbage cans off the street." Jesek

promised to draft a letter.

Bowman added that "given what we've dealt with in the past three years" — the village became embroiled in a costly cell tower controversy in 2017 — "if it's some weeds in the gutter and some garbage cans, I'll take it any day. These are things we can fix."

Election results

Jesek reported that the uncontested Sept. 15 village election ran smoothly, after being postponed four times during the state COVID-19 lockdown. It drew 51 voters, who practiced social distancing and were spaced throughout the day, she told the board. No one complained about anything and "if this is the way elections can go, going forward, if this is the way it needs to be, it will be fine," she said.

"I have a feeling the November election might have a few more hoops to jump through than we did," Bowman commented.

NEWS BRIEFS

Land Trust Launches Challenge

Nature Time will explore open spaces

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust has launched a public challenge based on its *Nature Time* video series.

Through October, the land trust is inviting community members to visit their favorite public open spaces in the Highlands or their backyards and create nature videos. Contributions will be shared on the HHLT website and prizes will be awarded.

Everyone who submits a video will receive a ticket to the organization's winter benefit. See hhlt.org/nature-time-challenge. The deadline is Oct. 31.

Newburgh Woman Dies in Crash

Killed when deer thrown into windshield of car

A Newburgh woman was killed on Monday (Sept. 28) by a deer that was thrown airborne when hit by a vehicle going in the opposite direction and struck the car in which she was riding.

The New York State Police said the accident occurred at about 1:19 p.m. on Route 9W in Lloyd. According to officers, a truck traveling south on 9W struck a deer that entered the roadway from the west shoulder. The animal was thrown airborne into the opposite lane and struck a 2001 Subaru

Legacy traveling north.

The deer went through the windshield and back window of the Legacy. The driver of the Subaru, Sean Boles, 25, of Washington Township, New Jersey, and his passenger, Toni D'Angelo-Redner, 23, of Newburgh, were transported to Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital, where D'Angelo-Redner was pronounced dead. Boles, her boyfriend, was treated for non-life-threatening injuries, police said.

D'Angelo-Redner is survived by her parents, David and Susan (Christolon) D'Angelo, seven siblings and her maternal grandparents, according to an obituary posted online. She was a 2016 graduate of Wallkill High School.

Snooki Says She Will Open Beacon Shop

Reality TV star known for 'Jersey Shore'

Nicole Polizzi, best known as "Snooki," a star of the reality series *Jersey Shore* that aired on MTV from 2009 to 2012, said she plans to soon open a clothing store in Beacon.

It would be the second location for The Snooki Shop, which the Marlboro native launched in 2018 in Madison, New Jersey.

"I grew up in the Hudson Valley, so I'm super excited to go back to my roots," Polizzi, 32, said in a video posted on Instagram. "Get ready, because it's happening and I cannot wait."

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

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Beacon resignation

I have personally clashed with James Case-Leal a time or two, but I must admit I have the utmost respect for this action ("Second Beacon School Board Member Resigns," Sept. 25). Thank you for this type of bold leadership.

Critics online seem to assume that John Galloway and Jasmine Johnson are not qualified to be appointed to the school board because they are young and Black. White people are apparently forever going to be obsessed with the idea of reverse racism and deluded about the lack of representation in leadership. It's not racist to have a nearly all-white board but it is racist to intentionally select talented young people of color?

Byranne Figlia, *via Facebook*

It seems kind of racist having people resign and specifically choosing future candidates based on their race.

Billy Guilbault, *via Facebook*

The color of one's skin now qualifies someone for a seat on the school board?

Ann Fanizzi, *via Facebook*

The board could have left the spot open until the election in May. The other two candidates are ex-educators and more qualified than a 23-year-old.

Pedro Rivera, *via Facebook*

Beacon intersection

I had the opportunity to observe the intersection of Main Street, Tioronda Avenue and Churchill Street for more than 10 hours on two consecutive Sundays (Sept. 21 and 27).

During that time, I witnessed a number of near-accidents involving both cars and pedestrians. This intersection has been a problem for years, and multiple traffic studies have been done and recommendations made for traffic-calming measures, including a stop sign on the corner of Tioronda and Main in front of the Howland Cultural Center. Both residents and visitors to our city do not slow down at "the bend," and it is only a matter of time before a tragedy occurs.

Kelly Ellenwood, *Beacon*

Leonora's story

Leonora is such a hoot — we love seeing her at her wonderful store ("Something You Don't Know About Me: Leonora Burton,"

Sept. 25). As I am English, and Leonora has such a strong Welsh side to her, we have great fun shouting jabs at each other. Then my French wife chips in and we all scream with laughter and scare everyone else in the store! Sort of.

Leonora is someone you should meet. She is hilarious, kind, patient and very understanding. She also has a great store with all things British!

Jane Crossley, *Putnam Valley*

This is such a great feature! We all have stories, and when we share the stories we all feel better about our lives. Leonora is a prime example of putting all the past to rest and living just today!

Sara Dulaney, *Cold Spring*

Fishkill leaders

Although developer Domenico Broccoli may disagree, there is ample evidence in the historical record indicating that within the Fishkill Supply Depot site (which is on the National Register of Historic Places) and within the Continental Commons site, there could have been huts, barracks, storehouse, hospital and smith shops ("Developer Loses Skirmish Over Continental Commons," Sept. 25).

Advocates may be speculating when they call for a thorough examination, but they are not speculating any more than the developer that no such resources exist. A thorough examination of all the recorded and physical archeological evidence has not been completed to justify the disposition of the Continental Commons site.

Martin Byster, *Fishkill*

QAnon speaker

Who is this QAnon person who spoke at a Carmel rally who was applauded by Legislator Toni Addonizio (*Letters and Comments*, Sept. 25)? What proof do you have that this person is a QAnon supporter and that Addonizio would support that?

Jaya Flores

Eileen McDermott, who wrote the letter to the editor, responded: "You can view the video of the speaker and Toni cheering on Instagram (@bluelm_putnam) or Facebook (bluelmputnam). It's the video posted Sept. 6. If they get smart enough to take it down at any point, we have copies. I also have screenshots of the speaker's profile featuring a proud QAnon banner. And many others saw it and reported it, since QAnon is banned from Facebook as a hate group — she's changed it now, of course." We emailed Addonizio through the only email the Legislature provides to reach its members, but she has not yet responded.



Editor's Notebook

Behind the
(Blue) Veil

By Chip Rowe



Did anyone think this would be easy?

On June 12, New York State repealed a law that allowed police and fire departments to keep their disciplinary records secret. It was part of a package of reforms passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo to increase transparency at law-enforcement agencies following the deaths in police custody of Eric Garner in 2014 and George Floyd in 2020.

Naturally, being the nosy editor of a stubborn newspaper, I filed Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests with local departments to see their records. I chose 2010 as a starting point, reasoning that if there are any long-term “bad apples” (which I doubted), the records might show a pattern of complaints.

Although agencies are supposed to respond to FOIL requests within about a month, it rarely happens, especially with the pandemic. In this case, the records have to be located and personal information such as addresses, phone numbers and Social Security numbers must be redacted. Departments can also withhold reports of minor violations of administrative rules.

In New York City, the records of the Civilian Complaint Review Board (but not the Police Department, which have been kept under wraps pending a ruling in a federal lawsuit filed by the police union) have been released from 1985 to date and give a hint at the numbers. The New York Civil Liberties Union posted the database, and of the 323,911 formal complaints, about 8,700, or 2.7 percent, resulted in disciplinary action ranging from a letter of reprimand to 12 officers who were fired. The offenses included using profanity and racial slurs to hitting or choking suspects.

In our FOIL requests, which I filed during the week after the law went into

effect, I borrowed language from the law and asked for complaints, allegations and charges against any employee; the transcript and exhibits from any trial or hearing; the disposition of any proceeding; and the opinion or memorandum supporting the disposition and any discipline.

Here is a status report.

Dutchess County Sheriff's Office

On Sept. 19, the department denied our request to see its disciplinary records, saying the county attorney had determined the law only applies to records created on or after it was passed — that is, June 12.

The county cited a 1932 state court decision (*People v. Roper*, 259 NY 635) that has been summarized as declaring that, unless stated otherwise, “legislation is not to be given retroactive effect.” It also noted that under a state retention schedule, local and county agencies only have to save investigative records and disciplinary proceedings for three years.

I asked John Kaehny, executive director of Reinvent Albany, which advocates open records, for his take. Dutchess County is “playing games,” he said. “There’s no doubt about the legislation’s intent [that police disciplinary records be made public], and they wrote the law in an incredibly prescriptive way while the rest of FOIL is much broader. It’s essentially lawlessness by police agencies and, in this case, the county attorney is trying to ignore and avoid the intent of the repeal.”

Shoshanah Bewlay is the executive director of the state’s Committee on Open Government, which issues advisory opinions about FOIL disputes (but has no enforcement power, so agencies tend to ignore the opinions unless they can be used to justify a denial). When I asked Bewlay about the Dutchess response, she said that, in her opinion, the law applies to all records in the agency’s possession.

However, she also wrote in an opinion in July that agencies don’t have to reveal allegations or charges of misconduct in which discipline, if any, has not yet been determined or did not result in punishment because that release might violate the officer’s personal privacy. The same holds true of allegations that were found to be without merit, although the police department is

An update on our efforts to see police disciplinary records

often making those determinations.

I appealed the Dutchess denial and will let you know how it turns out. If denied, the only option would be to go to court, and agencies know that is an expensive proposition. I also filed a new request for records created on or after June 12 and was told that one disciplinary matter was in process but not yet completed. And I filed a request for any memos or emails from 2019 or 2020 that discussed the retention or destruction of disciplinary records. I’m curious if anyone, once the law was being discussed and then enacted, decided to clean house.

Dutchess County Jail

The agency said it had no records of “any disciplinary proceeding involving corrections officers or supervisors at the Dutchess County Jail” since 2010.

Putnam County Sheriff's Office / Jail

The sheriff’s office said on July 17 that it needed more time. I emailed last week for an update.

Fishkill and Downstate Correctional

On July 10, the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision denied our request, saying it was too “vague.” It said I could make a request for disciplinary records “for specific employee(s) providing name(s), location(s) and year(s) of employment, if known.”

Thankfully, the Empire Center (seethroughny.net) lists employees past and present at Fishkill Correctional. I extracted the names of 892 officers and supervisors and submitted that on July 11. I am not sure how this made the search easier, but the agency said it would reply by Oct. 15.

(The response echoes those received by reporters in Colorado after a law was enacted last year making police disciplinary reports subject to FOIL. The agencies said OK, but only if the requester could “identify a specific incident of alleged misconduct by an on-duty officer involving a member of the public,” including the names of everyone involved, accord-

ing to *The Coloradoan* in Fort Collins. If a reporter had all that information, there might not be a reason to ask for it.)

Beacon Fire Department

The department sent a single document from 2005, which was beyond the scope of my request but appreciated. A two-page settlement agreement cited a firefighter for failing to complete proper incident reports. “You are hereby reprimanded that your conduct was inappropriate and will not be tolerated in the future,” it read. “You are expected to follow orders and carry out your duties in a competent and professional manner.”

Beacon Police Department

Mayor Lee Kyriacou has vowed to put disciplinary records online. The city told me that it needs until at least Dec. 7 to pull them together “due to the voluminous nature of your request and the complexity/time-consuming nature of the review of such records to determine if they must be withheld, produced or redacted.”

Village of Cold Spring

On June 19, the village told me that it was “working with the village attorney to review the request and gather related materials.” I emailed last week for an update.

NOTICE**Philipstown Planning Board**

Site Visit – October 4th, 2020

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, October 4th, 2020 at 9:30 am to inspect the following sites:

**Roland Heitmann &
Jeanne-Marie Fleming,
Angel Hill Road, Garrison
TM#71-3-15**

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The HIGHLANDS
Current

How They Voted

State laws that went into effect in September

By Chip Rowe

Each of these laws, enacted by Gov. Andrew Cuomo after being passed by the Legislature, went into effect in September. Here are the votes by Republican Sue Serino (whose state Senate district includes the Highlands); Democrat Sandy Galef (whose Assembly district includes Philipstown) and Democrat Jonathan Jacobson (whose Assembly district includes Beacon).

Hunting while drunk

This law lowered the blood alcohol level at which a person is deemed to be hunting while intoxicated from 0.10 percent to 0.08 percent to conform to state laws on driving and boating while intoxicated.

Senate passed 55-6

Serino ☒

Assembly passed 147-1

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Parkway trucks / Altered arms

This law passed as part of a larger budget bill in which legislators could not vote on its individual provisions and which passed along party lines. It decreased the gross weight rating of commercial vehicles that are prohibited from operating on a highway or parkway



The new state arms; it had not been altered since 1882. On the left is Lady Liberty and on the right is Lady Justice. The masted ship and the sloop on the Hudson River at center are symbols of inland and foreign commerce.

from 26,000 pounds to 10,000 pounds.

Another law in the bill amended the arms of the state (which appear on the state flag) to add “E pluribus unum” (Latin for “out of many, one” — the motto of the U.S.) below the shield argent and “Excelsior” (Latin for “ever upward”). The current arms had been unchanged since 1882.

A third law prohibits businesses from charging a “pink tax,” or higher prices for “substantially similar” consumer goods or services marketed to one gender or another. For example, the bill’s sponsors said, pricing a child’s swimming pool at \$89.99 for

blue and \$69.99 for pink would be illegal, as would dry cleaning a woman’s suit jacket for \$12 and a man’s suit jacket for \$8. The law requires a business to provide a written price list upon request for any service.

Senate passed budget bill 39-22

Serino ☒

Assembly passed budget bill 81-60

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Shot fired

This law requires a police officer who discharges his or her weapon where a person could have been struck to immediately report the incident.

Senate passed 59-3

Serino ☒

Assembly passed 105-39

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Sick leave / State ID

This law passed as part of a larger budget bill in which legislators could not vote on its individual provisions and which passed along party lines. This law extends access to annual sick leave to all private-sector employees. Employees can begin accruing sick leave on Sept. 1 but cannot begin using it until Jan. 1, 2021.

A second law allows recipients of public assistance to receive a free identification card if they do not have a valid driver’s license.

Senate passed budget bill 35-26

Serino ☒

Assembly passed budget bill 76-66

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

How to Vote by Mail

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

- Request a form at absenteeballot.elections.ny.gov.
- Download the form at elections.dutchessny.gov or putnamboe.com.
- Call 845-486-2473 (Dutchess) or 845-808-1300 (Putnam).
- Email dutchesselections@dutchessny.gov or putnamcountyelections@putnamcountyny.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).

5. When you receive your **absentee ballot**, fill it out and slide it into the envelope provided. Seal and sign that envelope. Place it in the mailing envelope, seal it, apply a postage stamp and drop it in the mail. Ballots also can be dropped off at the Board of Elections, at any early voting site or at the polls on Election Day.

6. To **check the status** of your submitted ballot, visit putnamboe.com/absentee-voting or bit.ly/dutchess-status.

collaborative concepts

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Flu Shot *(from Page 1)*

aged 6 months and older, the agency said.

The CDC warns that a flu outbreak can strain a health care system already occupied battling COVID-19, which has infected more than 7 million and killed more than 206,000 people in the U.S. A record number of flu doses is being produced this year, according to the CDC.

"People are taking precautions, wisely, and we've had pretty good guidance here in the state of New York," said Gergely. "People are doing all they can to mitigate at least the flu part of the winter. Everybody's guard is way up this year."

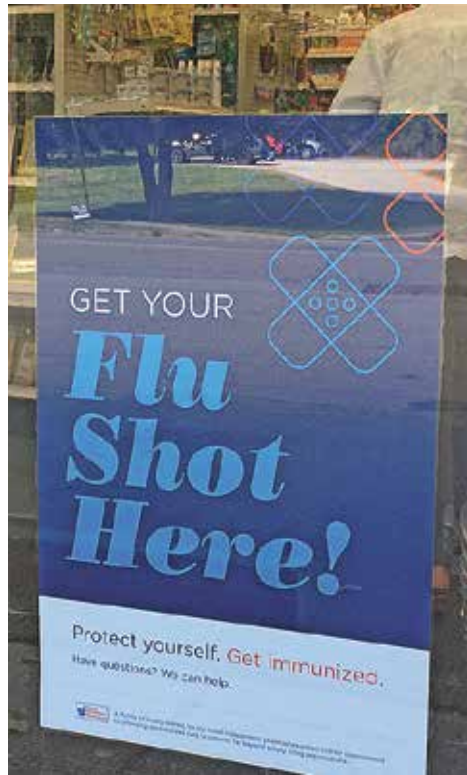
Reynoso said his pharmacy gave shots to 100 people during a recent flu clinic a local company organized for its employees. For employees without insurance, the company footed the bill, which "doesn't happen every day," he said.

Echoing Snyder, Reynoso said his pharmacy is beginning to have difficulty getting supplies of new shots.

"I have people getting flu shots who have never gotten shots before," he said.

Drug World usually begins its flu season in mid-October, said Snyder. Already, the pharmacy has been flooded with families and seniors seeking a flu vaccine, a level of demand he could not recall seeing in recent years.

"It's about staying as healthy as possible," said Snyder. "This is just the year you don't



A sign in the window at Drugworld in Cold Spring
Photo by L. Sparks

want to get sick."

An overwhelming majority of the COVID-19 deaths have occurred in people with the kinds of existing health problems that make their weakened bodies more susceptible to severe symptoms and death if infected with the virus.

Where to Get Your Shot

- From your doctor
- Beacon Wellness Pharmacy, 333 Main St.
- Cost: \$32 without insurance
- Rite Aid, 320 Main St., Beacon
- Cost: \$40 without insurance
- Drug World, 55 Chestnut St., Cold Spring.
- Cost: \$32 without insurance.
- Flu Clinic, Oct. 7, 1 to 6:30 p.m., at Garrison Fire Department, 1616 Route 9. Call 845-808-1390 for an appointment.
- Cost: \$25, or free for those 65 or older or with Medicare card. Putnam residents only.

For other locations, visit vaccinefinder.org.

uted to an estimated 34,000 deaths in the U.S. in 2018-19, according to the Centers for Disease Control. But the CDC also estimates that the 49 percent of people in the country who got a flu vaccine prevented 4.4 million illnesses, 58,000 hospitalizations and 3,500 deaths.

The key difference between the two is that COVID-19 is much more contagious than the flu, and more deadly. And there is not yet a vaccine for COVID-19.

Children are not immune, and COVID-19 symptoms such as cough, fatigue, fever, headache and sore throat mirror flu symptoms. Gergely said he is prepared for an increase in patient visits because he expects children's parents will receive a call from school for "every little snuffle, and every single little symptom" and will have to at least see a doctor or get their child tested.

"Parents should assume the worst and hope for the best," said Gergely. "Better to get a negative COVID test that you didn't need than not to have gotten it and create a super-spreader event."

There is one silver lining: The masks people wear to avoid getting or spreading COVID-19 may also save them from a bout with the flu. The state's mask mandate "is going to have also an impact on the flu," predicted Anil Vaidian, Dutchess County's health commissioner. "If people are diligent with the things that they're doing, locally, the flu season should not be as severe."

As of Tuesday (Sept. 29), about 90 percent of the 25,479 New York residents who have died from COVID-19 had an existing medical condition, with high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol and dementia the top four conditions.

The same is true of influenza: It contrib-

NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board

Public Hearing – October 15th, 2020

The Planning Board of the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 15th, 2020 starting at 7:30 p.m. via ZOOM to consider the following application:

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

(Applicants seek approval of a site, which includes the enlargement of an existing deck, construction of a 3-season room and a formal court yard on their 21.8-acre property at 176 Moog Road, Garrison, New York)

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Building Department office in the Dahlia House, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring (behind Town Hall).

If you would like to attend the ZOOM meeting, please email kmacintyre@philipstown.com to request login information before 7:00 pm on October 15th, 2020.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 17th day of September, 2020.
Neal Zuckerman, Chair

NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board

will hold their regular Monthly Meeting on Thursday October 15th, 2020 at 7:30 pm virtually via Zoom.

If you would like to attend, **please visit the following link:**

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8K4WmtOTR96rqQMwu3k_Cw

WEB ID: 830 7117 9945

PASSCODE: PLAN

Or join by phone: US: +1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 830 7117 9945

Passcode: 815731

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

OR, find the meeting through Zoom by searching the Meeting ID above and inserting the password below when prompted.

OR email KMACINTYRE@PHILIPSTOWN.COM or NZUCKERMAN@PHILIPSTOWN.COM to request login information before 7 pm on October 15th, 2020.

If you are unable to join, please send any written comments on the above two public hearings to the above email addresses.

Hudson Valley Clusters Raise Concerns

COVID-19 spikes in Orange and Rockland counties
By Leonard Sparks

What happens in Orange and Rockland does not just stay in Orange and Rockland — not when it comes to a highly transmissible virus and the five neighboring counties in the Mid-Hudson Region.

Recent clusters of COVID-19 cases in Orange and Rockland have raised fears of a spread to other counties and prompted the state to deploy rapid-testing resources.

The outbreaks also dramatically raised the Mid-Hudson Region’s positive rate, one of the measures used to determine if businesses, schools and other places can remain open not just in Orange and Rockland, but in Dutchess and Putnam.

Three of the four-highest rates of positive COVID-19 tests from Sunday (Sept. 27) were in Rockland County ZIP codes: 30 percent in Monsey, 25 percent in Spring Valley and 18 percent in Suffern. The 10950 ZIP code in Orange County, which includes the Town of Palm Tree, had a positive rate of 22 percent, the third-highest rate in the state.

Sunday’s positive rate for the Mid-Hudson Region, which also includes Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties, was 3.1 percent, nearly double the rate from a day earlier. Under the state’s guidelines for reopening businesses, schools and other places, each region’s “control room” — a team of local officials — can “slow or shut off reopening if indicators are problematic.”

The trend continued into Wednesday (Sept. 30), with positive rates of 17 percent in the ZIP code that includes Palm Tree, 14 percent in Monsey and 15 percent in Spring Valley. The rate for the region was 2.8 percent.

While Dutchess County’s daily positivity rate for September has averaged under 1 percent and Putnam’s 1.2 percent, Rockland has averaged 3.5 percent and Orange 2.2 percent.

“We’re not alarmed, but we’re clearly concerned about transmission increasing,” said Marc Molinaro, Dutchess’ county executive and a member of the Mid-Hudson Region’s control room, on Monday.

Residents in 10 ZIP codes comprising just 3 percent of the state’s population added up to 27 percent of Sunday’s positive tests, according to the state. In addition to the four ZIP codes in Orange and Rockland, the list included four areas in Brooklyn, one in Queens and one in Broome County, which is part of the Southern Tier Region.

On Wednesday, the areas in Orange and Rockland counties were among 20 ZIP codes representing 6 percent of the state’s population and 26 percent of all positive cases.

Steve Neuhaus, the county executive for Orange County, said on Monday that the increase in his county over the weekend was “by far” the largest since May. More than half those cases, 56 percent, were in the Hasidic-majority Town of Palm Tree, he said. Palm Tree and other Jewish communities have been celebrating the High Holidays, which began on Sept. 18.

Cuomo said the state was making available 200 rapid testing machines to Orange and Rockland counties, to Brooklyn and to Broome County. The machines are capable of delivering COVID-19 results in 15 minutes. He said he also spoke with leaders in the Orthodox communities on Wednesday (Sept. 30).

“I explained the situation frankly and candidly and we had a good exchange,” said Cuomo. “I think it’s fair to say that the leaders of the community understand and they’re going to take action and we’re going to come up with an action plan.”

For months, Cuomo has criticized local governments about enforcing compliance with masks and social-distancing laws. He reemphasized that during his briefing on Tuesday, saying the clusters can be kept from spreading if local governments “respond in a way they haven’t done up until now.”

Ed Day, the county executive for Rockland, said in a statement released on Monday that his administration is “continuing to work closely with municipal, community and religious leaders” to remind them of the state’s guidelines.

He also said he was “privately and publicly urging local municipalities” to use building and fire inspectors and police officers in “educational efforts” and that he expects “appropriate enforcement actions to be taken, as necessary.”

“We in government must focus all our energies on ensuring residents follow the common-sense precautions that limit the spread of this deadly disease,” said Day.

Neuhaus used part of his briefing on Tuesday to defend his county’s enforcement efforts. He said Palm Tree officials told him in March that they “don’t listen to my executive orders, they don’t listen to Ed Day’s executive orders and they don’t listen to New York City’s executive orders. They answer to two people: God and Gov. Cuomo.”

“As you can imagine, God is quite busy right now,” Neuhaus said, adding that “it’s been a frustrating effort on all of our parts.”

“The Orange County executive said that Palm Tree officials told him, with COVID-19, ‘They answer to two people: God and Gov. Cuomo.’”

How Others Are Doing

Here are how other U.S. counties are doing that are similar in both area and population to Dutchess and Putnam.

	CASES	DEATHS
DUTCHESS, NEW YORK	5,148	157
MARIN, CALIFORNIA	6,742	119
WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA	1,375	30
SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA	6,979	199
PUTNAM, NEW YORK	1,629	63
WHITFIELD, GEORGIA	4,625	60
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA	910	9
HOWARD, INDIANA	1,349	67

COVID-19 by the Numbers

■ PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

1,629 (+40)

New Cases in Philipstown: 0

Tests administered:

47,401 (+2,454)

Percent positive:

3.4 (-0.1)

Number of deaths:

63 (+0)

■ DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

5,148 (+43)

Active Cases in Beacon: 41

Tests administered:

172,404 (+8,118)

Percent positive:

3.9 (-0.1)

Number of deaths:

157 (+1)

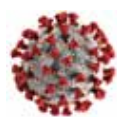
Source: New York State Department of Health, with weekly changes in parentheses, as of Sept. 30. New cases in Philipstown for the week ending Sept. 25.

Counting the Highlands

Self-response rates to the 2020 U.S. census, as of Sept. 30, along with historical data, are at right. Although a federal judge ordered the Census Bureau to continue its count until Oct. 31, Wilbur Ross, the secretary of the Commerce Department, which oversees the bureau, said the count would end Oct. 5.

	2020	2010	2000	1990
Cold Spring	73.5	69.1	71	72
Putnam County	71.3	66.8	67	56
Philipstown	71.0	66.2	67	64
18th District	68.2	66.0	-	-
Nelsonville	67.7	65.8	54	66
Beacon	66.9	67.2	65	61
National	66.6	66.5	67	65
Dutchess County	66.6	65.7	68	64
New York State	63.6	64.6	67	62
New York City	61.1	64.0	55	53
Newburgh	45.4	50.2	45	44

Source: 2020census.gov



Coronavirus Update

■ State health officials said that, as of Wednesday (Sept. 30), 1,629 (+12 from the day before) people had tested positive for COVID-19 in Putnam County; 5,148 (+11) in Dutchess; 38,300 (+61) in Westchester; 15,636 (+184) in Rockland; 2,282 (+2) in Ulster; and 12,199 (+56) in Orange. Statewide, there were 460,031 (+1,382) positives, including 244,574 (+533) in New York City.

■ Statewide, 25,490 people had died as of Sept. 30. No deaths have been reported among Putnam residents since the week ending July 3 and there were no deaths reported among Dutchess residents from July 17 to Sept. 9.

■ Beacon had 41 active cases as of Sept. 30 and Putnam had 20 for the week ending Sept. 24, with no new cases reported in Philipstown, which has had 133 since March.

■ The state on Sept. 29 announced it had suspended the liquor licenses of 217 bars and restaurants — including two in Poughkeepsie and, on Sept. 26, Quartchetti's Roadside Cafe at 387 Route 9 in Fishkill (which had received its license on Aug. 27) — for allowing violations of orders on social distancing.

■ On Sept. 28, Gov. Andrew Cuomo extended the moratorium on COVID-related commercial evictions and foreclosures to Jan. 1.

■ New York, New Jersey and Connecticut announced that anyone traveling from a state that has a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents over a 7-day rolling

average or a 10 percent or higher positivity rate over a 7-day rolling average must quarantine for 14 days. As of Sept. 30, the states were Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming, as well as Puerto Rico and Guam.

■ The governor issued an executive order on Sept. 28 reminding travelers to New York state from all but 31 countries or places (e.g., Cambodia, Greenland, Laos, New Zealand, St. Lucia, Taiwan, Thailand) that they are required to quarantine for 14 days.

■ The state extended the open enrollment

period in its Health Plan Marketplace to Dec. 31.

■ The state DMV said on Sept. 18 that it would launch a pilot program to offer online the written learner permit test for operating passenger cars and motorcycles. A parent or guardian must supervise the road test for anyone 16 or 17 years old.

■ Questions? Dutchess County posts updates at dutchessny.gov/coronavirus and has a hotline at 845-486-3555. Putnam County posts info at putnamcountyny.com/health. New York State has a hotline at 888-364-3065 and a webpage at ny.gov/coronavirus. The state also created an email list to provide updates. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention posts updates at cdc.gov. To find a test site, visit coronavirus.health.ny.gov.

Judge Dismisses Case Against Fishkill Supervisor

Developer had sued over canceled meeting

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

A state judge last week rejected complaints that “malicious prosecution” motivated Ozzy Albra, then Fishkill’s supervisor-elect, to pursue an injunction against water and sewer hookups for the proposed Continental Commons development.

William Giacomo, a state Supreme Court judge based in White Plains, on Sept. 24 dismissed allegations by GLD3, a firm owned by Domenico Broccoli, who wants to develop 10.5 acres on Route 9. At the site, once part of a vast Revolutionary War supply depot, Broccoli proposes to build Continental Commons, a colonial-inspired shopping-restaurant-inn complex.

The legal dispute, one of several involving Continental Commons, began in December when the Fishkill Town Board, which then

had a Republican majority, was prepared to approve the hookups. The Town Board opened a public hearing on the application on Dec. 4 and planned further action on Dec. 18. But on the latter date it lacked a quorum and Supervisor Robert LaColla moved the proceedings to Dec. 30, his next-to-last day in office after losing his seat to Albra.

Albra sued the town, contending that the sudden scheduling of the Dec. 30 session was unlawful. A few hours before the meeting was to begin, a state judge in Dutchess County

granted his request for an injunction.

Having thwarted an immediate vote, Albra later dropped his lawsuit. But Broccoli sued him on Jan. 22.

In his Sept. 24 ruling, Giacomo ruled that Broccoli had failed to “show fraud, perjury or the withholding of evidence” and that his arguments against Albra were insufficient to support claims of malicious prosecution.

Under Albra, the Town Board, with a Democratic majority, began its own review of the sewer and water hookups, held further public meetings and on Sept. 16 voted 3-0 to reject the Continental Commons application. Albra abstained from voting.

NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board

Public Hearing – October 15th, 2020

The Planning Board of the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 15th, 2020 starting at 7:30 p.m. via ZOOM to consider the following application:

CRS International, Inc., 2761 Route 9 – The applicant is seeking Site Plan approval for the construction of a 20,340 sf “warehouse/office” structure, in order to expand the applicant’s current apparel wholesale/distribution business currently located at 3027 Route 9 (at Jaycox Road). The property involved in the application concerns the former MHCP self-storage site along the west side of NYS Route 9, between Lane Gate Road and NYS Route 301, which was never developed.

An access driveway into the site from NYS Route 9 was previously constructed, as was a pre-cast concrete block retaining wall along the frontage and along a portion of the north side of the lot. The Route 9 access will be completely reconstructed in order to provide suitable access/egress for tractor-tractor maneuverability for the development of the site, and will require a Highway Work Permit from the New York State Department of Transportation. Further, Putnam County Department of Health approvals must be obtained for the on-site well and SSTs proposed to service the premises.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Building Department office in the Dahlia House, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring (behind Town Hall).

If you would like to attend the ZOOM meeting, please email kmacintyre@philipstown.com to request login information before 7:00 pm on October 15th, 2020.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 17th day of September, 2020.
Neal Zuckerman, Chair

NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board

Public Hearing – October 15th, 2020

The Planning Board of the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 15th, 2020 starting at 7:30 p.m. via ZOOM to consider the following application:

**Magazzino Italian Art Foundation, 2700 Route 9, Cold Spring
TM#38-3-24.1**

The Action is to approve a site plan and special use permit that will allow the expansion of existing museum and art foundation facility by constructing a new building, parking and related facilities on a recently acquired parcel to the south of the existing facility and the relocation of a planned employee residential structure and related facilities on a parcel to be acquired to the north of the existing facility. Approval of the northerly property addition is the subject of a subdivision application being processed simultaneously with this Site Plan and Special Use application

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Building Department office in the Dahlia House, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring (behind Town Hall).

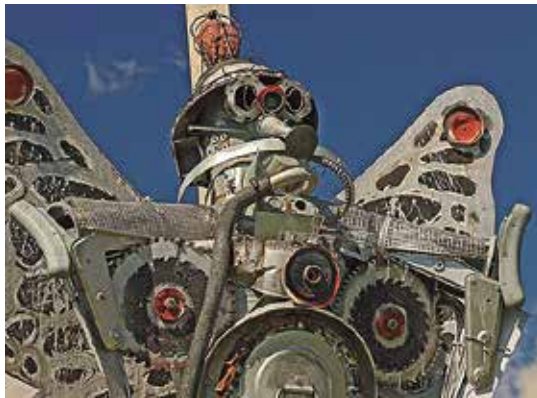
If you would like to attend the ZOOM meeting, please email kmacintyre@philipstown.com to request login information before 7:00 pm on October 15th, 2020.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 20th day of August, 2020.
Neal Zuckerman, Chair

AROUND TOWN



BIKE DAY – The Philipstown Trails Committee set up a 1.7-mile loop with cones, chalk arrows and crossing guards that began and ended on the Haldane campus in Cold Spring on Saturday (Sept. 26) for walkers, bicyclists and other non-motorized movers.



◀ **FARM SHOW** – Collaborative Concept’s Farm Show, which moved this year from Saunders’ Farm in Garrison to Tilly Foster Farm in Brewster, continues through Oct. 31. The hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. from Thursday to Sunday.

Photos by Ross Corsair

Hudson Beach Glass

Fine art gallery located on second floor

Beacon Open Studios

Group Show

Up thru Oct 4th, 2020



BEACON

open studios

162 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508 845 440-0068
Open daily 12AM - 6PM, Sunday 12AM - 5PM
www.hudsonbeachglass.com

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.

For more information visit www.magazzino.art



MAGAZZINO
ITALIAN ART



BOCHNER BOETTI FONTANA

Curated by Mel Bochner
In collaboration with
Magazzino Italian Art Foundation
October 3, 2020 - January 11, 2021
Magazzino Italian Art, Gallery 8

MAGAZZINO
ITALIAN ART

The Calendar



"USA (Soil Conservation)"



"Vietnam (The Gymnasts)"

By Alison Rooney

When she was a child, Andrea Moreau's father tried to foist his interest in stamp collecting on her, she says. He bought her an album, but his enthusiasm never took hold.

Yet some sort of "passive interest" emerged years later, the Beacon artist recalls, when she rediscovered postage stamps she had saved from a backpacking trip to Mexico during college.

"I felt wistful looking back at them and, purely for myself, I began doing these little drawings of the imagery in my journal sketchbook as a way to put myself back there, in that place," says Moreau, who contributed to a group show that is part of the annual Beacon Open Studios this weekend (see Page 13).

While pursuing an MFA in painting and drawing at The Ohio State University, Moreau showed her old sketches to a professor, who encouraged her. She has since used stamps as a jumping off point for "a dialogue between the printed and the drawn, the official and the personal, the real and the imaginary."

Moreau says each piece of art begins with a stamp that transfixed her in some way.

The Artist Next Door

Andrea Moreau

Then she draws around it.

"In almost all of them, the stamp is in there, untouched," she says. "Each is a drawing in response to an artifact, a piece of the world, and that piece of the world needs to be a part of the work itself. I'm able to put myself in places I've never been to by studying a tiny fragment of a huge place, in this half-inch.

"I don't use the beautiful stamps," she adds. "I use those which suggest something beyond the border. When I go to stamp conventions, I don't want the ones that are worth anything, I want the ones that tell a story. I like stamps with cancellation marks, not the pristine ones. Even if I do happen to know the background of a stamp, I try to just take it on face value, just work from the imagery.

"The stamps are often etched and precise. I work a lot with colored pencils and I like the labor of having to keep sharpening them. It's more about the effort than

the finished outcome. I never want a drawing to be about how good I am at drawing something. The clumsier they are, the stronger they are. I have a whole drawer of failures because there has to be that risk of not turning out in order for there to be any chance of success."

Moreau, who teaches at SUNY New Paltz and the Garrison Art Center and is a guide at Dia:Beacon, finds her stamps at conventions; through an online stamp club where stamps are offered by themes or countries of origin; or through friends and acquaintances. "It's amazing the people who come out of the woodwork with these beautiful old stamp collections, which they donate to me," she says. "It's wonderful."

Sometimes, Moreau does a series of drawings; she recently completed one on space travel. "You and I have never been to outer space but we have an image of what it looks like," she says. "We have photographs, but we still see it in our own way.

I'm intrigued that there are countries which put out stamps celebrating space travel even though they have no space program of their own."

Moreau says she prefers to know as little about a subject as possible. "When I pull a stamp, there has to be something that I don't quite understand, which looks like it could be the tip of an iceberg," she says. "Sometimes the jumping-off point might be a tiny bit of a pattern peeking out from a corner of the stamp.

"I've recently started working on a series of American senators, diplomats from the 1940s and 1950s. I don't know who they are, and it's not important that I know anything about them before I begin working, because I'm just trying to figure out this meeting of the official and the individual. I could do research, but in a way, not doing the research is part of it; I try to lose myself in the drawing.

"The stamps all have something about them that seems like it's presenting something that I feel I need to poke, to take it further."

The Beacon Open Studios group show at Hudson Beach Glass, 162 Main St., continues through Oct. 4.



"France (Four Dancers)"



"USSR (The Hypnotist)"



"USA (Brain Coral)"



"USA (Cancer)"

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 3

Food & School Supply Drive

COLD SPRING

9 a.m. – Noon. Our Lady of Loretto
24 Fair St.

The Knights of Columbus will accept donations for the Philipstown Food Pantry and school supplies for Our Lady of Loretto CCD. Dropoffs can be made without getting out of the car. See highlandscurrent.org/calendar for items that are needed.

SAT 3

Fall Craft Fair

COLD SPRING

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Methodist Church
216 Main St. | facebook.com/CSSHUMC

Find gifts, decor and other holiday treats at this annual event.

SAT 3

Voter Registration

GARRISON

4 – 6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Register during this drive organized by the League of Women Voters of Putnam County.

SAT 3

Women's Suffrage Centennial Read-In

GARRISON

4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Declaration of Sentiments. Honor the 1920 suffragettes by wearing white or vintage apparel.

SUN 4

Fairy Walk Week

BEACON

fairywalk.com

Check the website daily through SAT 10 for videos and online tutorials on making fairy houses, art and wands. A concert is planned for FRI 9 and fairy house and door displays will be exhibited at Memorial, Riverfront and Polhill parks.

SUN 4

Heal Ourselves, Heal the World

PHILIPSTOWN

9 a.m. Stonewall Stables
10 Pond Road | 845-224-6399
stonewallstables.info

This will be the first in a series of wellness events that combine conversation and meditation with horseback riding and a drum circle. Bring an instrument, comfortable clothes and a blanket. *Cost: \$25*

SUN 4

Blessing of the Animals

COLD SPRING

4 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St. | stmaryscoldspring.org

Following the Evensong service, Father Steve Schunk will bless animals in a remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and ecology. Bring friendly pets on a leash or in a cage.

WED 7

Flu Vaccine Clinic

GARRISON

1 – 6:30 p.m. Garrison Firehouse
1616 Route 9
putnamcountyny.com/health

Appointments are required. *Cost: \$25 (free for 65+ with Medicare cards)*

SAT 10

History Crawl

COLD SPRING

Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St. |
putnamhistorymuseum.org

Learn about the village with a self-guided tour covering about 2 miles. Booklets will be available at the museum. Enter to win prizes at finish.

TALKS

SUN 4

Walk & Talk: Invasive Species

BEACON

2 p.m. Denning's Point
199 Dennings Ave. | 845-838-1600
facebook.com/clarksonubire

Learn how to identify non-native species that threaten ecological systems in this event hosted by the

Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries. Registration required.

THURS 8

DIY Kimchi

BEACON

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

The Grounded Goodwife team will demonstrate how to ferment foods and make kimchi.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 3

Strings at the Park

BEACON

3 p.m. Seeger Riverfront Park
2 Red Flynn Drive | 845-765-3012
howlandmusic.org

Take a walk in the park and enjoy live music at various stops. Registration required to help maintain social distance. *Free*

TUES 6

Podcasts Info Session

BEACON

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

Learn about a six-week class on creating podcasts. Email community@beaconlibrary.org to participate.

MUSIC

SUN 11

Michael Brown

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
howlandmusic.org

In this livestreamed performance hosted by the Howland Chamber Music Circle, the pianist will play works by Haydn, Debussy, Ravel, Scriabin and Beethoven, as well as an original composition. *Cost: \$20*

VISUAL ART

SAT 3

Beacon Open Studios

BEACON

Noon – 6 p.m. | beaconopenstudios.org

More than 40 artists plan to open their studios, and there will also be a virtual show. See Page 13. Also SUN 4.



Fairy Walk Week, Oct. 4

SAT 3

Lattimore Studio & Students Art Exhibit

BEACON

1 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandculturalcenter.org

More than 20 artists will be on view in this annual exhibit. Open weekends through Nov. 15.

SAT 10

Splits and DOUBLE/exposure

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St.
845-440-7584 | baugallery.org

In two Second Saturday openings, Jebah Baum will share lithograph prints reflecting the pandemic and Melissa Schlobolm will exhibit her photos. Through Nov. 7.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 3

Story Screen Drive-In

BEACON

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

The pop-up drive-in theater will screen *The Addams Family* (1991) and *Evil Dead 2* (1987) this weekend and *Get Out* (2017) and *Candyman* (1992) next weekend. See website for showtimes and health protocols. Snacks will be available for purchase. Also SUN 4, THURS 8, FRI 9, SAT 10, SUN 11. *Cost: \$10 (\$8 children, seniors, military)*

SAT 3

Once Upon a Wintertide

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. Butterfield Library
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Irene Pieza will discuss her book in an event for students in the fifth grade and older.

SUN 4

Distinction

GARRISON

5:30 p.m. Garrison Institute
14 Mary's Way, Route 9D |
iamdecora.com

This interactive art piece by artist, poet and rapper Decora and artist Melissa McGill is set on the institute's grounds. Admission fees will be donated to the Black Lives Matter Foundation. Registration required. *Cost: \$50*

SAT 10

My Name Is Rachel Corrie

GARRISON

6:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org

Freya Wood-Gallagher, Tess Dul, Faith Jones, Anna Markowski and Phoebe Bokhour will bring to life this play based on the writings of Corrie, who was killed in Gaza helping to defend a Palestinian home from an Israeli military bulldozer. Directed by Christine Bokhour. *Cost: \$15*

CIVIC

MON 5

City Council

BEACON

7 p.m. Via Zoom
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

TUES 6

Village Board

COLD SPRING

6:30 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

TUES 6

Putnam County Legislature

CARMEL

7 p.m. Via audiostream
845-208-7800 | putnamcountyny.com

TUES 6

School Board

COLD SPRING

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

WED 7

School Board

GARRISON

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

THURS 8

Philipstown Town Board

GARRISON

7:30 p.m. Recreation Center
107 Glenclyffe Drive
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com



Michael Brown, Oct. 11



Jan Dolan

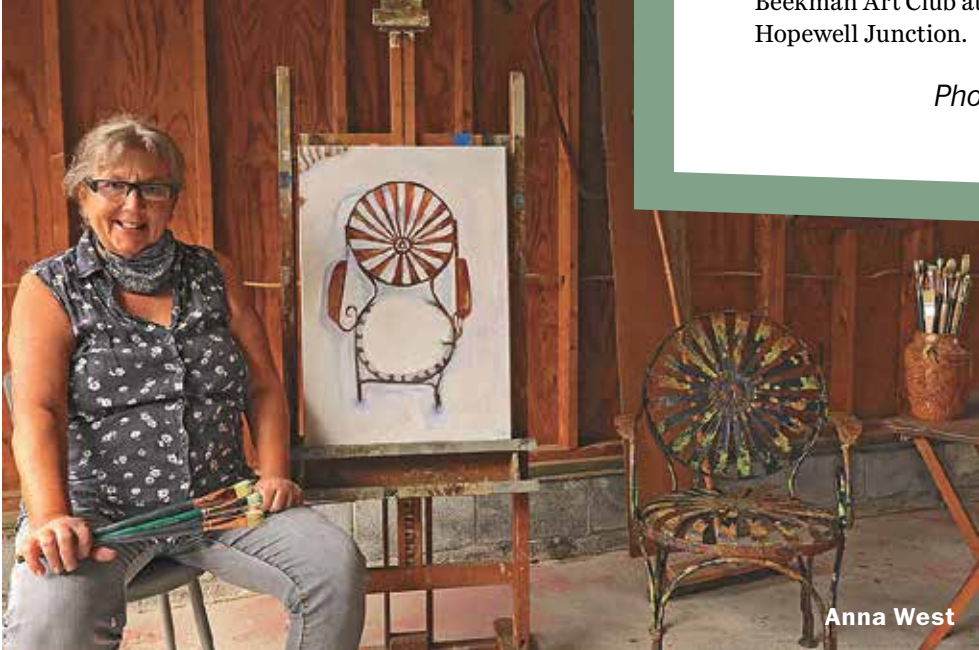
Beacon Open Studios

Because of the COVID-19 shutdown, organizers of the 12th annual Beacon Open Studios on Saturday (Oct. 3) and Sunday (Oct. 4) had to recalibrate. The event was pushed back from the spring, and there will be no opening party. In addition, only about a dozen artists will open their private spaces to visitors, with masks and social distancing in place. At the same time, organizers added a group show at Hudson Beach Glass, 162 Main St., from noon to 6 p.m. each day and an ongoing virtual show at beaconopenstudios.org. A map of the artist studios, with addresses, can be downloaded online. Participating galleries and art spaces include Compass Arts (724 Wolcott Ave.), Beacon Artists Union (506 Main St.), Beacon Sound Works (395 Main St.), the Howland Public Library (131 Main St.), The Lofts at Beacon (18 Front St.) and the Beekman Art Club at 171 Beekman Road in Hopewell Junction.

Photos by Ross Corsair



Oren Cohen



Anna West



Pamela Garfield



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AWARDS

Best Overall

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Best Pet

Best Family-themed

Funniest

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Best Throwback

This year, join the Parade in the Paper!

The parades may have been canceled this year, but we are determined to keep the Halloween spirit up high in Philipstown and Beacon. Through October 27, submit photos of yourself, your children, pets or the whole family in costume. We are also looking for Throwbacks—Grown-ups, we want your childhood Halloween photos! A panel of local judges will choose the winners for each category. Winners will receive gift-card prizes from our local sponsors.

ENTER HERE

Scan QR code or visit
highlandscurrent.org/halloween



Storyteller in the Woods

Stuck in an 'absurd time,' puppeteer gets back to basics

By Alison Rooney

The life of Vit Horejs — a storyteller, writer, director and founder of the Marionette Theatre — merits its own fable.

Horejs, who lives in New York City, has been visiting Philipstown regularly for decades, enjoying brief, restorative stays at a friend's place in the woods. He most recently journeyed to the Highlands in March for a two-week stay.

Six months later, he's still here, making good use of his enforced sabbatical by revisiting storytelling in a contemporary way: recorded via Zoom, and posted on YouTube.

Horejs is accustomed to unexpected changes in scenery. Born in Prague in 1950, he grew up under the communist Czech system and, by the time he was a young man, had grown disillusioned. With forged documents, he was able to travel briefly to Paris, and then England to attend school.

After graduating, he worked as an actor in Prague while hatching plans to leave the country for good. In 1978, sponsored by the American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees, Horejs landed in New York and found his way to a "black light" Czech-American theater company that paired UV lighting with fluorescent costumes.

Horejs's contributions were initially as a storyteller, aided by three marionettes he brought with him from Prague, one of them a devil. "I told the director of the Czech tradition of the marionettes, and — it was a very avant-garde production — she said, 'Oh, do a scene with puppets.' I did, but the devil needed more activities to do mischief with, so I worked in the other marionettes."

In 1990, Horejs launched his own touring marionette theater company. Working with other emigres, he wrote, adapted and directed more than 20 plays.

"The marionette tradition was developed all over Europe — there were some influences from England, Italy — there were Shakespeare touring companies," Horejs says. "The Czech and German versions are similar and both influenced by Marlowe's *Faust*. Somehow it all became rooted in Bohemia and elsewhere in Central Europe. It survived because it was usually the only theater to make it to small villages and towns, which live theater couldn't reach. Little wooden actors could make it there.

"For the Czechs, it became a political question related to their survival," he adds. "During the national revival period [in the early 19th century], they performed in the Czech language; it became part of the national narrative. They were flying under the radar. Later, all the theater was strongly controlled by the police under the Austro-Hungarian empire, but the puppet theater was too small to supervise closely so they were able to



Vit Horejs with puppets from the Czechoslovak-American Marionette Theatre

Photo by Orlando Mara

include topical and political jokes.

"This became important later on, during the Nazi occupation, when all the theaters were closed, but some children's performances survived. It happened again during the communist years."

In 2016, Czech and Slovak puppetry was declared an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Horejs received a Czechoslovak Society for Arts and Sciences award in recognition of his achievements.

Horejs remembers playing with marionettes as a child. "I had a collection and a little proscenium," he says. "When I started growing up and getting into 'theater' theater, I thought: 'Oh puppets, that's over. Doesn't have possibilities.' But then I saw this company combining live performers with marionettes or other types of puppets and it was a revelation; it offered so many possibilities and allowed for so many permutations at so many levels."

The productions staged by Horejs were inventive. One, *Golem*, incorporated 4-foot-tall puppets. "We had them sitting in cages on wheels, which allowed them to 'dance,'" he says. The repertoire included takes on classical and contemporary material, including Dvorak's opera *Rusalka*, itself based on fairy tale and legend, and *Hamlet*, which employed

a set that was a small carousel. The company also presented it in a site-specific performance at a restored carousel in Brooklyn.

Throughout these years, Horejs made regular forays to Philipstown, staying at his friend's house in the woods, availing himself of the peace and quiet and, on occasion, performing, including three shows at the Chapel Restoration in Cold Spring and another at the Butterfield Library. He has taken inspiration from the shapes in the North Highlands woods, which, he says,

invoke "monsters and goddesses — fairytale and legend shapes, a dragon cave. Now I have time to see them, spend time with them, and hope to use them in my next tale."

Without the option of public performances, Horejs has returned to storytelling. In Prague in the 1970s, he would "spring fairy tales on unsuspecting teenage audiences, with musicians just jamming with me," he says. "I continued in New York, performing them live in cafes, little theaters and galleries, often with musicians who were hearing the story for the first time."

With only a few puppets to work with, Horejs again is adapting. Since July, he has hosted a livestreamed session every Wednesday at 3 p.m. on Facebook. Titled *Naptime Stories for the Absurd Time*, Horejs has been joined by local musicians, including, recently, Lisa Alcott on banjo and Lisa Gutkin on violin.

His plans include mounting a rock-opera production of *The Birds*, adapted from Aristophanes and the Persian poet Attar, at La Mama in Manhattan, which, along with the Theater for the New City, has been a mainstay in presenting his work. Horejs is working with illustrator Peter Sis on the design of the show. He is also working with the Vaclav Havel Library Foundation on a piece for its annual festival.

Episodes of Naptime Stories for the Absurd Time can be viewed at bit.ly/naptime-stories.

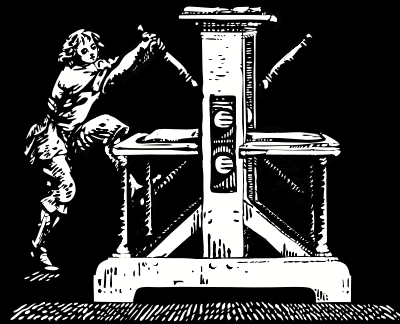
NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board

will hold their regular Monthly Meeting on October 15th, 2020 7:30 p.m. virtually via Zoom.

If you would like to attend, please email KMACINTYRE@PHILIPSTOWN.COM to request login information before 7 pm on October 15th, 2020.

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Spirit of Beacon Day

The 43rd annual Spirit of Beacon Day went off without a hitch on Sunday (Sept. 27) — except for the pandemic. Social-distancing regulations forced organizers to cancel the parade and street festival, but four caravans of vehicles led by the Highway Department and representing first responders, essential and health care

workers, schools and community organizations visited all local streets. Many residents decorated their homes and cheered as a caravan passed.

To view a collection of recorded performances submitted by community members, see spiritofbeacon.org.

Photos provided





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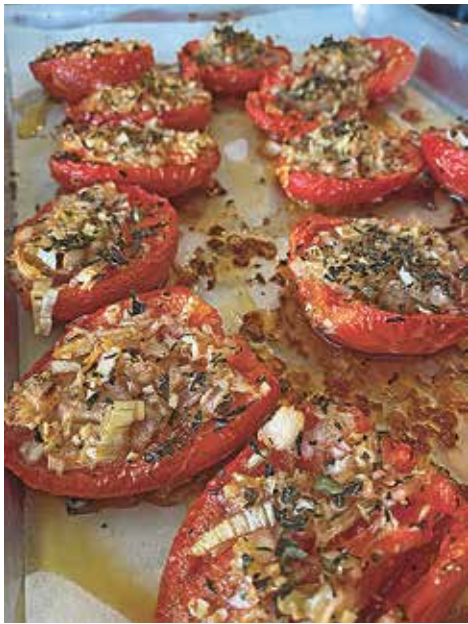
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Herb-roasted, open-face tomatoes



Turkey meatballs in Thai red curry sauce, kafir-lime green beans and jasmine rice



Lisa Caccamise, holding her shepherd's salad

Packaged meals labeled and ready to be delivered
Photos provided

Personal Chef Finds a New Home

Forced out of client kitchens, firm sets up shop

By Alison Rooney

In your dreams: end of a long day, the fridge is devoid of anything without a scary expiration date and you're ravenous. In walks your personal chef.

That dream is closer to reality — at least geographically — with the pandemic pivot of Simple Earth Cuisine. Lisa Caccamise, a Garrison resident who is its owner and executive chef, has been running the company since 2007 but only recently shifted its focus.

Before the pandemic, the chefs from Simple Earth cooked in their clients' kitchens. Working couples were the mainstay of the business. All that changed in March.

"It didn't come from my clients that they didn't want us in their homes [after the shutdown began], but I was feeling the trepidation from my chefs," says Caccamise. "Just going to the grocery store felt scary. The clients didn't have to say a word to me. I said to them, 'If you would like to have us deliver, we will.'"

Initially Caccamise thought her chefs could cook at their own homes and deliver. When that proved to be a logistical challenge, she began looking for a commercial kitchen. She found what she was looking for in Washingtonville, in Orange County, and moved the company there in July. She sells coffee and baked goods through a service window of the former breakfast spot.

Caccamise started her career as a theater stage manager but the late hours and lengthy commute wore her down, she says. She took some time to consider her options.

"I read an article about a woman who was a personal chef and took a seminar," she recalls. "I had no formal training, but I thought, 'I'll practice with a few clients, then go to school.' She cooked for clients in Rockland County and Bergen County, New Jersey, but gradually started hiring chefs and managing the business.

Simple Earth's menu was derived from Caccamise's own dietary needs.

"In 2005, as a chef, I self-diagnosed myself as gluten-intolerant before people knew what it was," she recalls. "I had a knowing feeling that healing is through

food. I started with gluten-free eating but, at that time, there was nothing. I didn't get my first gluten-free client until four years later. Now we have many requests for keto-genic, low-carb meals, and also a lot of gluten-free and lactose-intolerant options.

"My main clients are people running in 15 different directions who want more than 10 minutes with their partner or family at a meal," she says. "We also have empty nesters; they want someone else to take the reins. Lately we've been finding three meals for two people is the most popular.

"We have some families of four, but actually, young children are tough. I could make healthy chicken fingers, put veggies in their mash, but pretty much they want mommy's cooking. The only way to get them to eat is to make it with them. I usually suggest instead to get the children to bed, get a glass of wine and call it a date night, because force-feeding never works."

New clients fill out a dietary questionnaire which helps in personalized menu planning, Caccamise says. This is followed by a discussion over the phone.

"People want good food that's light and satisfying," she says. "They lean toward American, Mediterranean, Indian-fusion and Thai flavors. People always want boneless, skinless chicken breasts. But if we offered meatloaf with mashed potato and greens, everybody would take it — comfort meals are what everybody is looking for now."

After a long day at work in Washingtonville, what does Caccamise cook when she gets back to Garrison? Actually, she does her own takeout. "I'll look in the freezer, pull something out, cook it and transport it home," she says. "I'm kind of a personal chef for myself. Tonight I braised a beef brisket, made side veggies and salad. I've adopted my crockpot as my personal assistant — that's how we eat."

Simple Earth Cuisine's weekly meal-delivery plans range from \$90 for a two-meal plan for one person to \$600 for a five-meal plan for six people. Meals arrive in stainless-steel containers that can go from the fridge or freezer to the oven. See simplearthcuisine.com or call 646-902-4488.

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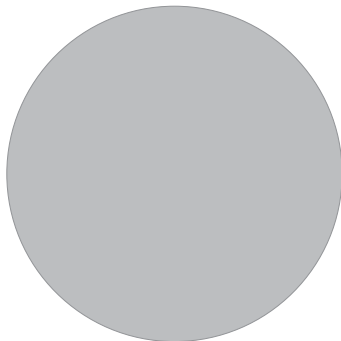
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Debates *(from Page 1)*

Patrick Maloney, a Democrat, and his two challengers: Chele Farley, a Republican, and Scott Smith, the Serve America Movement (SAM) candidate.

The leagues said in a statement that Maloney this week declined their invitation, and Farley said she would only participate if Maloney were there. The League does not hold forums unless more than one candidate is present. Smith was willing to take part in a two- or three-person forum, it said.

Maloney's office declined comment. But Maloney, Farley and Smith will debate on Oct. 19 in a forum sponsored by News12 and the USA Today Network, and Maloney and Farley will participate on Oct. 22 in a forum organized by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce. Both discussions will be held Via Zoom.

The League of Women Voters of Putnam County also this week canceled a forum scheduled for Oct. 8 for the state Senate seat that represents the Highlands. The incumbent, Sue Serino, a Republican, declined to participate, citing scheduling conflicts. She is being challenged by Democrat Karen Smythe, whom Serino defeated in 2018 by 688 votes of 103,000 cast.

Serino did not respond to an email requesting comment. The senator also declined the League's invitation in 2016 when running against Terry Gipson and in 2018 when first challenged by Smythe. The candidates will meet in a virtual forum on



Lawrence Chiulli and Sandy Galef at a forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters in October 2018.

File photo by Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Oct. 21 sponsored by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Putnam League also canceled a forum scheduled for the 94th District of the state Assembly, which includes all of Putnam County except Philipstown and Kent, when incumbent Kevin Byrne, a Republican, declined the invitation and did not respond to the offer of an alternative date, according to Eileen Reilly, president of the chapter. His Democratic challenger is Stephanie Keegan.

Reilly said League members were frustrated by the lack of participation.

"This year, because of COVID-19, we co-hosted the forums with Leagues in Westchester and Rockland," she said. "We had 43 candidates and 13 forums scheduled, and out of that, we managed to sched-

ule five. We were looking to see if there was a pattern — in the past it was one specific party — but for our group in Putnam this year it was the incumbents" who declined to participate.

"We schedule the forums because we feel it is important for people to know who they are voting for, but the candidates don't feel the same way," Reilly said. "We're disappointed."

In a statement, the three League chapters said, "We view the forum as if it were a job interview, so it is troubling that any candidate would not want to take this opportunity to communicate with the people they are seeking to represent." They asked residents "to communicate with these candidates via social media and email to express their desire for full participation in future League forums."

The Putnam chapter had trouble in October 2019 attracting some candidates even to a local forum. A challenger for the Philipstown Town Board, Corey Lyons, declined to participate, as did Tina Merando, the incumbent town clerk, and Joseph Spofford, the Republican candidate for Putnam County judge. Lyons and Merando lost the election, while Spofford was elected.

Founded in Chicago in 1920 six months before the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote, the League of Women Voters promotes voting with initiatives such as its site Vote411.org. While its election work is presented as nonpartisan, the national organization also lobbies elected officials



Sue Serino and Karen Smythe are competing for a state Senate seat.

Campaign photos

Virtual Forums

State Assembly, District 95 (Philipstown)

Galef (D), Chiulli (R)

League of Women Voters

Oct. 12, 7 p.m.

Register at bit.ly/LWVCFAD95Zoom.

State Senate, District 41 (Highlands)

Serino (R), Smythe (D)

Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce

Oct. 21, 7:30 a.m.

Register at bit.ly/dccoc-senate-41.

U.S. House, District 18 (Highlands)

Maloney (D), Farley (R), Smith (SAM)

News12/USA Today Network

Oct. 19, time to be announced

Maloney (D), Farley (R)

Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce

Oct. 22, 7:30 a.m.

Register at bit.ly/dccoc-house-18.

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Beacon Board *(from Page 1)*

after Michael Rutkoske resigned in July. Her appointment continues until the next district election, scheduled for May 18, when the seat will be on the ballot.

The second vacancy, created when James Case-Leal resigned last week, could be filled within a month. In a letter, Case-Leal said he was leaving to make way for Johnson and John Galloway Jr., “two well-qualified candidates of color, to both be appointed,” but board President Meredith Heuer said the district would accept applications until Oct. 9 for Case-Leal’s seat and the board would interview candidates during its Oct. 13 meeting.

The resignations add complexity to next year’s elections. In addition to the two seats that were vacated, the seats held by Flora Stadler and Elissa Betterbid will be on the ballot as they complete their three-year terms.

The top three vote-getters will serve three-year terms and the fourth-place finisher will complete Rutkoske’s term, which was to end in 2022.

The other three candidates for the seat filled by Johnson — Galloway, Barbara Fisher and Travis Fisher — will be considered for Case-Leal’s seat.



Jasmine Johnson is sworn in on Thursday (Oct. 1) as a new member of the Beacon school board. Photo by Meredith Heuer

That decision did little on Tuesday to pacify some spectators who wanted Johnson and Galloway appointed together. (A motion to appoint Galloway failed, 5-2, moments before Johnson was appointed unanimously.) Doing so would have diversified a nearly all-white board that audience members said sorely needs it.

“The people in charge do not represent the people in this community, and this needs to change,” said Justice McCray, an organizer of Beacon 4 Black Lives. “Look at the board and look at the people in this room. You don’t need one Black person; you don’t need two Black people. You need six Black people.”

The tension boiled over for a moment after the board agreed to re-advertise Case-Leal’s seat rather than fill it immediately. Ali Muhammad, a former Beacon City Council member who ran unsuccessfully for the school board in 2018, shouted from the audience: “You’re going to make us sit through this process again, no matter who you pick. You can appoint two people today, and that’s what we want. You’re disrespecting every single person who showed up here.”

Muhammad and Barbara Fisher, who was also in the audience, began shouting at each other, causing Heuer to call a brief recess until the arguing stopped.

Of the district’s 2,841 students in 2018-19, 31 percent were Latino, 16 percent were African American, 7 percent were multiracial and 3 percent were Asian. Of the staff, according to data on the district website, 81 percent are white, 11 percent Latino and

7 percent African American. Although the district still has a “long, long way to go,” it has made progress addressing racial inequities, Superintendent Matt Landahl said. About 10 teachers are typically hired each summer, and this year four of the 10 were Black, he said. The year before it had been two of 10.

In addition, the district has also implemented a number of “restorative practices,” including the creation of “talking circles” for students to discuss race and other issues; adding students to schools’ Equity Leadership Teams; and the ongoing work to adjust curriculum to make it more culturally relevant to all students.

“It feels incremental, and we need to do a lot more,” Landahl said. “We need to listen more, and we need to learn more.”

One of the speakers on Tuesday was Ed McNair, whose mother, Yvonne, ran unsuccessfully for the school board, once in the 1980s and again in 2014. “Some of you don’t know all of your community, and that’s not your fault,” he said. “But think how much you could learn and benefit by hearing about issues you never even knew existed.”

Referring to “blackballing” he said his mother faced when she ran, McNair said, “I would hope that today, in the climate we’re in, that those thoughts have changed. Let’s not make that same mistake. When it happened in the past, I was young and didn’t understand the seriousness and severity of the position. As I’ve grown older, I can’t accept that anymore.”

Later in the meeting, Heuer said the district’s growth, including its attempts to diversify, feels like “the very, very, very early stages of not even a marathon, but one of those crazy 100-mile runs.” However, she cautioned that hastily filling Case-Leal’s seat a week after his resignation could appear questionable.

She recalled a meeting in 2016, when at 11:30 p.m. a board member tried to fill a vacancy that had opened the same day with another board member who had just lost a bid for re-election.

“I really think process is important to remember here,” Heuer said. In 2016, “it did not look transparent. It felt very underhanded.”

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City Strikes Silver, Buys Water

And other news from the Beacon City Council

By Jeff Simms

Beacon last week was awarded silver certification in the Climate Smart Communities program, the state's effort to push municipalities to adopt long-term strategies to mitigate global warming.

It is only the second city in New York state to achieve the designation.

The villages of Croton-on-Hudson and Hastings-on-Hudson also reached silver status in the program, which is administered by the state Department of Environmental Conservation. Ten other communities were awarded bronze certification; Beacon earned bronze in March.

Dutchess County is at the bronze level. Putnam County (enrolled in 2019), Philipstown (2017) and Nelsonville (2018) are also participating in the program.

Beacon made the jump in part because of its adoption in April of the NYStretch Energy Code. The code, which applies to new construction and renovation projects, is designed to change incrementally, so that its standards stay one "cycle" ahead of the state's standard energy conservation construction code.

The state Energy Research and Develop-

ment Authority said that in 2020 the stretch code should provide participating municipalities with energy savings of around 11 percent.

Beacon was the second municipality in the state, after New York City, to adopt it.

The city was also recognized for its continued use of the solar farm at the former municipal landfill site, which offsets nearly all electricity used in city-owned buildings, and for residents' significant participation in a community choice aggregation green energy program.

Launched last year, the program, called Hudson Valley Community Power, is a coalition of six municipalities, also including Cold Spring and Philipstown, that purchases renewable energy at bulk rates.

Residents and businesses in the municipalities were enrolled automatically but given the opportunity to opt out. About 70 percent of Beacon residents stayed in the program and chose the all-renewable energy option. (A mix of renewable and fossil fuel-sourced energy is also available.)

Fishkill water

The City Council on Monday (Oct. 5) is expected to approve a new, 10-year agreement for Beacon to buy water from the Village of Fishkill.

The contract allows the city to buy up to 1.2 million gallons per day, and once

the village completes a water-well capital improvement project, it allows for 1.5 million gallons each day.

The cost, \$2.39 per 1,000 gallons, is good for five years, after which it will be reviewed for the remaining five years, City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero told the council during a Sept. 28 workshop.

The city does not need Fishkill's water every day of the year, noted Ed Balicki, Beacon's water and wastewater superintendent. During the winter and spring months the city typically provides all of its own water through its reservoir and well system, but the supplemental amount purchased from the village strengthens its ability to withstand drought in the summer, he said.

Police chief search

The committee overseeing the search for a new Beacon police chief has nearly finalized a brochure that will be used to solicit candidates for the position, which was vacated when Kevin Junjulas retired in July. It will include the civil service job description, plus language on desired skills and attributes crafted for Beacon and based on community surveys that residents filled out over the last two months.

From there, Public Sector Search & Consulting, the firm leading the search, has said it hopes to have six to eight candidates available for interviews in November. That pool would be reduced to three or four for a second round of interviews, including

with the mayor.

A public "meet the candidates" event for finalists, either in-person or virtually, could be organized, as well, the city said.

Home-rule legislation

The council next week will consider whether to ask the state Legislature to restore a "home-rule" provision that would allow Beacon to sell its excess sewer capacity to individuals or corporations.

If the council moves forward, it would need to adopt legislation reversing a 1993 decision that mistakenly removed the provision, City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis told council members on Sept. 28. Beacon's request would then have to be introduced by a state senator or Assembly member for legislative approval.

A commercial property owner on Route 52 has asked to connect to the city's system, which has capacity, Ward-Willis said, and if approved, the connection would generate revenue for the city.

"There's plenty of existing capacity in the sewage plant itself," he said. "When we talk about capacity [in this case], we mean within the individual lines, due to the age of the system or perhaps being undersized."

An independent review has confirmed that the lines in question have capacity, Ward-Will explained, "but we can't bring it to you or have any more discussions because the law says we can't. So we need to correct that first."



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SPORTS



Beacon pitcher Mike Fontaine

Photo by S. Pearlman

Beacon 13U Baseball Rolls to 7-2 Record

By Skip Pearlman

Beacon's travel baseball team for players 13 years old and younger is making noise in the A division of the Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League, and the Bulldogs flexed their muscles Monday (Sept. 28) night in a 14-1 romp over the Marlboro Expos (a B division team) at

Marlboro High School.

Mike Fontaine picked up the victory for Beacon, going three-plus innings with six strikeouts and allowing one hit. Derrick Heaton closed the game with one strikeout and no hits.

Heaton also chipped in with a pair of RBI, Fontaine went 2-for-3 with a triple and one RBI, John Antalek had an RBI and

Mercer Jordan drove in a run for the Bulldogs, who improved to 7-2 in the fall season.

Coach Bob Atwell (who also coaches the Beacon High School varsity squad) said his team played a solid all-around game, including on defense. "We got out of a jam early, we got walks and we got good base

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running," he said.

The team's members have been playing together for several years, Atwell noted. "They root for each other," he said.

The Bulldogs are scheduled to play a doubleheader Sunday (Oct. 4) in Danbury.

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Former freshmen

6. Squid squirt

9. Doctrine

12. Construction piece

13. Cattle call

14. IRS employee

15. 1492 ship

16. SAT takers' equipment

18. Pet rodent, often

20. Warmth

21. Second person

23. More, to Manuel

24. Portion of a repair bill

25. Great Lake

27. Amulet

29. *Where the Wild Things Are* author

31. "Nighthawks" painter

35. Edition

37. Genesis maker

38. Sings like Ella

41. Apprehend

43. Promptly

44. Sea eagle

45. Downy ducks

47. Necklace ornament

49. *Psycho* star

52. Commotion

53. Tall tale

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28

29 30 31 32 33 34

35 36 37

38 39 40 41 42 43

44 45 46

47 48 49 50 51

52 53 54

55 56 57

54. Rod of tennis lore

55. Actress Myrna

56. Toss in

57. Tools for duels

DOWN

1. Taste the tea

2. Japanese sash

3. Gotham City super-villain

4. Detest

5. Unctuous flattery

6. Mischievous

7. Yule refrain

8. — *Tiki* thoughtful

9. Less friendly

10. Pie-in-the-face sound

11. Sail supports

17. Winners

19. Supports

21. "Certainly"

22. Mined find

24. Expert

26. Rewrote, maybe

28. Winning

30. Fool

32. Musingly abbr.

33. Swelled head

34. Uncooked

36. One

38. Calyx component

39. Guiding principle

40. Bother

42. Ball VIP

45. Oklahoma city

46. Harvest

48. Carte lead-in

50. "Golly!"

51. Storefront sign

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 opportunity to launch, say (6)

2 "Les Miserables" structure (9)

3 took four balls (6)

4 get in the tub (5)

5 camel's back-breaker, maybe (5)

6 bouncing platforms (11)

7 flatten (7)

SOLUTIONS

1 opportunity to launch, say (6)

2 "Les Miserables" structure (9)

3 took four balls (6)

4 get in the tub (5)

5 camel's back-breaker, maybe (5)

6 bouncing platforms (11)

7 flatten (7)

WIN

AW

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BAT

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DOW

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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

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

1. SOWS, 2. GRACEFULLY, 3. HILLOCK, 4. POINTING, 5. FUDGE, 6. SEEKER, 7. AMPLIFY

SPORTS



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Out There

Setting the Bar

By Brian PJ Cronin

This weekend, Greg Buzulencia of Beacon and his running partner, Benno Rawlinson of Westfield, New Jersey, will attempt to set a record by covering all 88.4 miles of the New York section of the Appalachian Trail, nonstop.

It's a challenging, historic and inspiring undertaking — the men hope to raise awareness of domestic violence as well as to raise money for a victim — and it's in no way whatsoever what Buzulencia originally planned to be doing.

Instead, he had been training for a weeklong expedition with friends running through the wooded mountains and along the cliffs of the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec. But stuck in the U.S. by pandemic travel restrictions, Buzulencia was all worked up with no place to go.

"I had spent six months getting in shape," he says. "It felt like a waste to lose this fitness, so I thought, 'What else can I do?'" Like many ultrarunners who have had their schedules disrupted by COVID-19, Buzulencia discovered the wild world of Fastest-Known Times, or FKTs.

Popularized by the ultrarunner Buzz Burrell, FKTs are a way for anyone, anywhere, to turn the world around them into a race course. Runners have long pursued speed records on multi-day runs over iconic routes such as the John Muir Trail in California, the clump of 14,000-foot-or-higher Colorado mountains known as Nolan's 14, or the 2,190 miles of the Appalachian Trail.

But with FKTs (yes, there is a website), runners can set their sights on shorter, closer or weirder routes. (Earlier this week, a runner in Buffalo set an FKT by running the perimeter of the city in 8 hours, 19 minutes and 10 seconds.)

Buzulencia has chased other unconventional goals, including skiing an iceberg off the coast of Greenland and making "first descents" on skis down remote mountains in Mongolia. He considers himself in the top 10 percent of trail runners. But setting an FKT on a well-traversed route such as The Devil's Path in the Catskills or The Presidential Traverse in the White Mountains of New Hampshire (both of which he's run) is only now obtainable to the top 1 percent.

And yet ... when Buzulencia went online



Buzulencia during a practice run on the Appalachian Trail



Greg Buzulencia



Rawlinson running the Presidential Traverse Trail in New Hampshire

looking for potential trails for an FKT, he found that the New York portion of the Appalachian Trail was up for grabs. There had been only one previous attempt, but the runner stopped because of an injury.

The fact that the FKT hadn't been completed surprised Buzulencia until he and Rawlinson, who met a few years ago during a sunrise run on Mount Beacon, began running short sections of the 88.4 miles of trail.



Benno Rawlinson

Photos provided

The 17,000 feet of elevation gain ended up being the least of the challenges. "It's the rocks that never end," Buzulencia says. "It's not an easy trail to move quickly on. Not that any part of the Appalachian Trail is, but it wears on you."

The runners will begin their journey late in the day on Saturday (Oct. 3) at the New York-New Jersey border, running north to Harriman State Park and Bear Mountain to get the route's toughest section (and the first segment of the entire Appalachian Trail to be created) out of the way. They hope to finish in 24 hours or less, although whatever time it takes will become the FKT.

Buzulencia says he wanted the run to be about more than, as he put it, "my own ego," and wants to call attention to the fact that

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. He notes that data suggests domestic violence has grown worse with people stuck home during quarantine.

He also hopes to help a specific survivor, Nikki Addimando, a Poughkeepsie mother of two who is a childhood friend of Rachel Hawkes, with whom Buzulencia founded the online travel platform ViaHero.

After years of violent abuse from her partner, Addimando shot and killed him in 2017. Although she claimed self-defense, she was sentenced in February to 19-years-to-life for second-degree murder and 15 years for possessing her partner's legally registered gun. She is serving the sentences concurrently.

Buzulencia said that Addimando should have benefited from the state Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act, which was enacted last year and allows for lighter sentences in cases like hers. "There isn't a more perfect case for it to be applied," he says.

Buzulencia and Rawlinson have created a website at abigrun.com to raise money for Addimando's legal appeals and recruited more than 100 runners who organized into 18 teams to relay over the 88.4 miles.

With \$14,000 in donations in hand even before the attempt, Buzulencia's campaign has already been a success, whether he finishes or not. And there's no guarantee that he will: He's been battling injuries, including a nasty case of plantar fasciitis that flared up after his last long run on the trail, making the final few miles unbearable. On the other hand, he's used to dealing with adversity. Earlier this year, he fell during a run and broke two ribs. He went skiing the next day.

"I figured it was a low-impact way for me to keep training," he says.