Reader-Supported News for Philipstown and Beacon

The HIGHLANDS Current

ELECTION GUIDE

Page 9

October 23, 2020

Celebrating 10 Years!

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FOLLOW THE LEADER — Members of Girl Scout Troop 2032 and Brownie Troop 1091 helped collect and bag trash at Little Stony Point, just outside Cold Spring, on Saturday (Oct. 17) as part of the ninth annual Riverkeeper Sweep. The Scouts are shown here practicing their wilderness dexterity by crawling along a fallen tree trunk — or just having some fun. For more photos, see Page 20.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Nelsonville Residents Sue Over Cell Tower

Name village, Homeland, Verizon in federal suit

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Eighteen residents, most from Nelsonville, last week filed a federal lawsuit against the village and two telecommunications companies that plan to construct a cell tower off Rockledge Road, above the Cold Spring Cemetery.

They claim a litigation settlement reached between Nelsonville and the companies over the tower violates state and federal environmental laws and undermines local authority.

The lawsuit asks that a judge invalidate the agreement, which ended an expensive and complex 19-month legal battle between the village and Homeland Towers and its partner, Verizon Wireless, over the construction of the cell tower on a 9.6-acre wooded site. The Nelsonville Village Board ratified the settlement on Jan. 21.

The companies sued Nelsonville in

(Continued on Page 24)

Protestors Gather Outside Beacon Mayor's Home

But city says police funding increase not what it seems

By Jeff Simms

About 25 demonstrators gathered outside the home of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou on Monday (Oct. 19), while the mayor conducted a City Council meeting by videoconference inside, shouting and chanting their displeasure with a perceived increase to the Police Department budget.

The mayor's 2021 funding proposal, which was introduced to the City Council on Oct. 5, includes about $5.9 million for the department, which is $352,000 (6 percent) more than last year.

However, during the council meeting, City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero said the 2020 budget did not include current salary

(Continued on Page 24)

Protestors, including Justice McCray of Beacon 4 Black Lives, gathered outside the home of Mayor Lee Kyriacou on Monday (Oct. 19) to protest a perceived increase in police funding in the city's proposed 2021 budget.

Photo by Natasha Scully

Serino, Smythe Again Battle for State Senate

Race in 2018 decided by 688 votes of 118,000 cast

By Leonard Sparks

State Sen. Sue Serino, whose 41st district includes the Highlands, used overwhelming margins on the Conservative, Independence and Reform Party lines in 2018 to edge her Democratic challenger, Karen Smythe, by 688 votes of 118,180 cast.

Karen Smythe

On Nov. 3, they face each other again. Both candidates were contacted to discuss their positions; Serino's campaign did not respond to two emails or a phone message requesting an interview. Smythe's responses to questions posed by *The Current* follow. If Serino responds, we will post her answers online.

(Continued on Page 15)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: NICOLE POLIZZI

By Jeff Simms

Nicole Polizzi, best known as "Snooki" on the MTV reality show *Jersey Shore*, plans next month to open The Snooki Shop at 508 Main St. in Beacon.

Why Beacon?

I've always wanted to open a store in the area where I grew up [Marlboro]. I always went out with friends in Beacon, or at the waterfront in Newburgh, and we had cheerleading competitions at Beacon High School. For six summers I worked at Renegades Stadium at one of the concessions stands. That was one of my favorite jobs. I felt Beacon was such a beautiful place; we always went to the wine bar there. I was looking at New Paltz and Cold Spring, but I feel like Beacon is the more up-and-coming, more popular town in the area, with people coming in and out of the city. Beacon also reminds me of Madison [New Jersey], where I have my first store. Not only is my family nearby — so my dad can run over if we ever have an emergency — but I have a ton of friends in town and my best friend is going to run the shop. I'm excited that I could keep it tight-knit and family oriented.

What will you sell?

We have clothing for women, plus accessories like hats, slippers, bags. I try to have items for ages 16 to 65, because in Madison I have a wide range of customers. A ton of my mom's friends want to shop there, so I'll be catering to everyone.

How will you handle COVID restrictions?

No one will be able shop without a mask and we're going to disinfect constantly, including the dressing rooms. It may be a little crazy at the grand opening, because I know a lot of people are excited to come, but we may only be able to fit about 10 people at a time safely.

Will you be in the shop often?

I'm in the store [in New Jersey] all the time. I do VIP events where we're closed to the public and people buy tickets. I'm there for an hour-and-a-half with the fans, shopping with them, kind of like their personal shopper, and we have Champagne and hors d'oeuvres. It's like a girls' day out. But with COVID, I only pop in here and there, because I'm around a lot of older family members. So I'm being cautious when it comes to being around people.

How is your life different from 10 years ago, when you were on *Jersey Shore*?

I'm a totally different person. I was 21 — I wanted to party and I had no worries. Now I'm a mother of three and married. I still have my fun side, but it's not like how I was at 21 on the show.

Visit **highlandscurrent.org** *for news updates and latest information.*

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

How do you feel about turning back the clocks on Nov. 1?

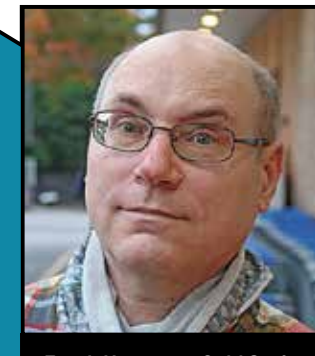
"I'd prefer the extra daylight in the afternoon. I hike and there's so little time."

~ Erin Livingston, Beacon

"There should be one standard time; no changing the clocks."

~ Dan Rayner, Cold Spring

"More information is needed re: the rationale. There's an argument either way."



~Frank Haggerty, Cold Spring

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My Cuppa Scilla Overfilla...My Scilla Will Thrilla...A Lilla Scilla Won't Killa
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The HIGHLANDS Current's

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

AWARDS

- Best Overall
- Best Baby
- Best Pet
- Best Family-themed
- Funniest
- Scariest
- 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.

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PUBLISHER
Highlands Current Inc.
142 Main St.
Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819
291 Main St., Beacon NY 12508

FOUNDER
Gordon Stewart (1939 - 2014)

EDITOR
Chip Rowe
editor@highlandscurrent.org

SENIOR EDITOR
Leonard Sparks

BEACON EDITOR
Jeff Simms

ARTS EDITOR
Alison Rooney
arts@highlandscurrent.org

SENIOR CORRESPONDENT
Michael Turton

REPORTERS
Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong
Brian PJ Cronin • Joe Dizney
Pamela Doan • Deb Lucke
Skip Pearlman

LAYOUT DESIGNER
Pierce Strudler

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Michele Gedney
For information on advertising:
845-809-5584
ads@highlandscurrent.org
highlandscurrent.org/ads

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* New York Press Association, 2013 -19

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Tell us what you think

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

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Police panel

Your article "Putnam Police Panel Invites Feedback" (Oct. 13) quotes a news release by Putnam County that said the county is seeking participation from various and diverse groups about the police reform plan it must create by April 1.

Representatives of several diverse groups submitted comments and offers of participation to the county executive well before this process started, and to the panel's email box over the past month. As far as I can tell, no one has received any response.

Meanwhile, the Police Policy Review Panel, an all-white, mostly male body, continues to hold closed meetings in a building that's closed to the public. Members of the public are able to listen to an audio feed but no provision has been made for any community members to ask questions or offer comments.

The panel was formed in response to the governor's Executive Order 203, which requires participation by diverse members of the community, and failure to comply may result in payments to the county of state or federal funds being held up. The county's news release sounds pretty good, but the county is not living up to its word. By locking out representatives of diverse communities, the county is putting much-needed funding in jeopardy.

Dwight Arthur, *Mahopac*

Editor's note: An emergency order by Gov. Andrew Cuomo in March — which he has extended seven times, and which now is in effect until at least Nov. 3 — allows government panels to hold meetings by conference call without public input.

Envelope snafu

My husband and I applied for absentee ballots, and I picked them up in person from the Putnam County Board of Elections. When we sat down to vote, we discovered that his ballot lacked the signature area on the outside of the envelope. Ballots without this signature are invalid.

I emailed the Board of Elections but did not receive a response. Fortunately, we had the ability to drive to Carmel to get this rectified in person, but it might have been a big problem if my husband were out of the country as he planned to be. Examine your voting materials carefully and consider voting early in case you need turnaround time as we did.

Irene O'Garden, *Garrison*

Indian Brook incident

Can you ask Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong to check her facts ("Fracas at Indian Brook Prompts Calls for Action," Oct. 16)? Shame on her and shame on Legislator Nancy Montgomery for being guilty of the same. Shame on Amanda Ricken Simonetta and The Felix Organization for not speaking with the residents involved. It sounds like another entirely divisive accusation.

What is worse about this one was including race bias, which was clearly not the case as you listen to not just one side of what actually occurred. Shame on you, *The Highlands Current*, for publishing such trash!

Clare Capossela, *Garrison*

The editor responds: Had we known the identity of the residents involved, we would have contacted them for comment. In a phone call, Capossela, who lives on Indian Brook Road, said she was not present at the incident but knows who was involved. She would not identify the residents, saying that was "not my place." But she said The Current should have gotten their side of the story or not printed the article.

We live in an incredible area and take for granted all the privileges that we enjoy. This clouds how we see the world and skews reality. The privilege that we take for granted is not the experience for so many people, especially people of color.

Having grown up here and lived much of my adult life in Philipstown, I have often wondered why our community is not more representative of the country in terms of racial diversity. I have lived in other areas but still, I suffer from inherent bias and am aware of this. I have always known that something was not right within myself and within this community.

When I was young, we would shop in Peekskill, Beacon and Newburgh and it struck me that those communities were much more diverse. I speak only for myself, but I did not have enough experience with people of other cultures and backgrounds and therefore felt unprepared to understand the world when I went off to college. That lack of understanding stays with me and weighs on me to this very day.

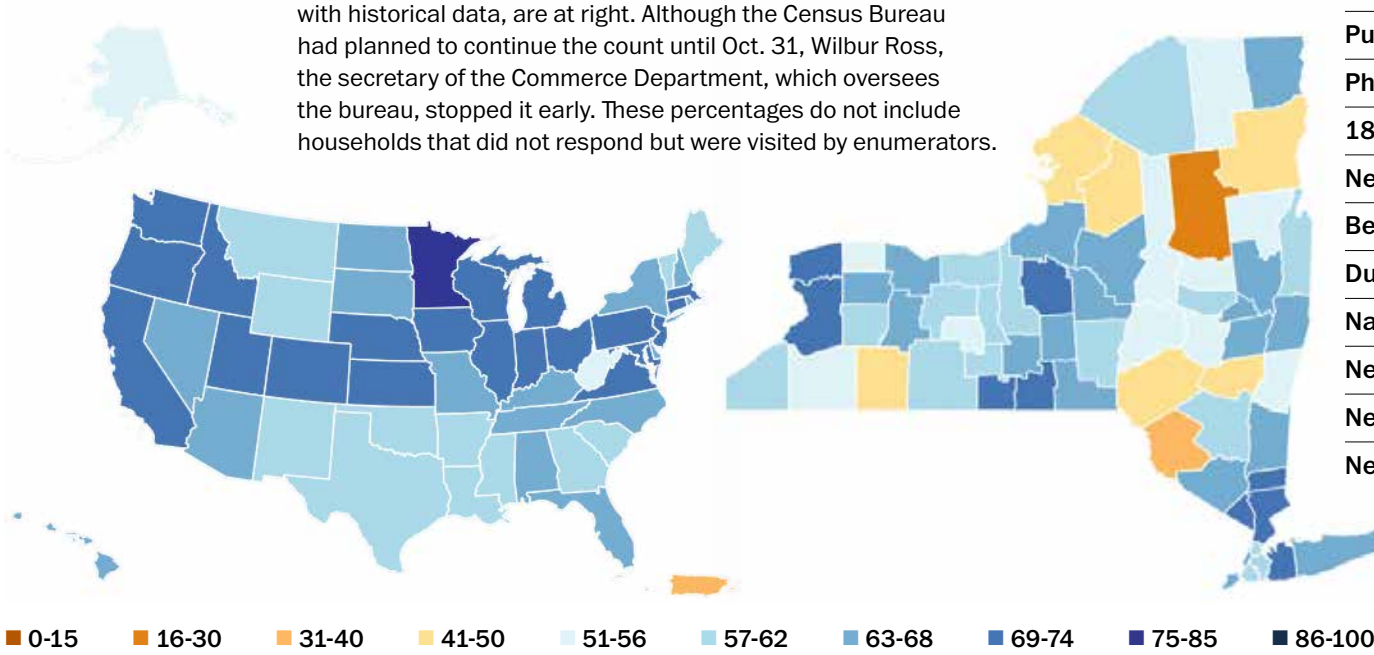
Discussions of race and privilege are not easy, but that discomfort can no longer be used as an excuse for not engaging in them. The very discomfort we feel can only be alleviated through the recognition that injustice exists all over this country and throughout the world. Taking the easy way out and continuing in our blissful ignorance is a tacit approval of the way things are.

If the televised killing of George Floyd is not enough to make us aware that there

(Continued on Page 5)

Counting the Highlands

Self-response rates to the 2020 U.S. census, as of Oct. 16, along with historical data, are at right. Although the Census Bureau had planned to continue the count until Oct. 31, Wilbur Ross, the secretary of the Commerce Department, which oversees the bureau, stopped it early. These percentages do not include households that did not respond but were visited by enumerators.



	2020	2010	2000	1990
Cold Spring	74.3	69.1	71	72
Putnam County	71.7	66.8	67	56
Philipstown	71.5	66.2	67	64
18th District	68.6	66.0	-	-
Nelsonville	68.1	65.8	54	66
Beacon	67.4	67.2	65	61
Dutchess County	67.0	65.7	68	64
National	66.6	66.5	67	65
New York State	64.2	64.6	67	62
New York City	61.8	64.0	55	53
Newburgh	45.9	50.2	45	44

Source: 2020census.gov

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

are serious problems, then I do not know what will. We need to acknowledge the horrors that Mr. Floyd and so many Black and brown people have endured and work to make a better society.

I realize that people have busy lives and that, by and large, it is not intentional that we ignore problems, especially a problem as big as racism. Raising families and getting to work during a global pandemic feels like enough and I understand that people are overwhelmed. This being the current state of affairs, recognizing and acknowledging the issues of race in America is a first step that all of us can take.

Richard Shea, *Philipstown*

Shea is the Philipstown supervisor.

It can't be all of them, but some residents on Indian Brook Road behave as if the road, the park and the marsh are their private property. The only solution is a real parking lot.

Ryan Harbage, *Philipstown*

The worst thing about this situation is that there are residents on Facebook disparaging these young girls long after the incident was reported. Racism, hate and a fear of change is quite prevalent in this town, even if you can't see it while walking down charming Main Street.

Tom O'Quinn, *Cold Spring*

The Current's headline on this story really missed the point.

Heidi Bender, *Cold Spring*

The Indian Brook Road residents who engaged in the primitive, cruel verbal abuse of youthful visitors bring major shame on themselves and on our town. They should be prosecuted for a hate crime.

Steve Laifer, *Cold Spring*

If it's true, shame on the residents.

Thomas Nastasi, *Cold Spring*

I understand that residents of Indian Brook Road are not happy about the number of people coming to visit Indian Brook Falls and Constitution Marsh but there is no excuse for what happened on Aug. 21.

I live in the Village of Cold Spring on one of the routes hikers take to get to the trailheads. In my 16 years of living here, I have never seen so many tourists and hikers as I saw this past weekend. There were people walking by all day and into the night as I was trying to go to sleep. Horns were honking and I had trouble driving out of the area earlier in the day because of the illegal parking.

I was not thrilled, but I did choose to live in a beautiful village that other people enjoy visiting. The residents of Indian Brook Road choose to live in a beautiful setting with a state park in their backyards. If I am outside and hikers come by asking how to get to the trailheads, I give them directions. I do not have an unnecessary and non-productive argument with them.

There is no excuse for what happened, and whomever these unknown residents are, did they think they would solve the problem by harassing, discriminating and using racial slurs against a group of young Black women?

Katy Cox, *Cold Spring*

We should all be furious about this. Cold Spring is still listed on online databases of sundown towns (places that are not safe for Black folks). I hope it sparks a real conversation about what we need to do to change our legacy and make this a safe place for everyone to visit and live.

Mina Elwell, *Cold Spring*

Correction

In a story on two vacancies on the Beacon school board ("Three Beacon School Board Candidates Withdraw," Oct. 16), we referred to former board member James Case-Leal as being white. In fact, he is Hispanic. We also stated that Case-Leal said "he should be replaced by a person of color." To clarify, in his letter of resignation, Case-Leal wrote that he was leaving "in order to open an additional space for John Galloway Jr. and Jasmine Johnson, two well-qualified candidates of color, to both be appointed" to his seat and the one vacated by Michael Rutkoske.

Cold Spring crowding

Thank you for this article ("Chaos in Cold Spring," Oct. 16). I am grateful for the Cold Spring leadership and its thoughtfulness in examining quality-of-life issues.

I also am concerned about the report of

(Continued on Page 6)

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The HIGHLANDS Current

NOTICE

ESTOPPEL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, on October 13, 2020, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which said School District is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.
Dated: October 13, 2020 | Beacon, New York Kelly Pologe,School District Clerk

SUMMARY OF REFUNDING BOND RESOLUTION DATED October 13, 2020.
SUMMARY OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 90.00 OF THE LOCAL FINANCE LAW OF REFUNDING BONDS OF THE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF BEACON, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO BE DESIGNATED SUBSTANTIALLY "SCHOOL DISTRICT REFUNDING (SERIAL) BONDS", AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN RELATION THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York (hereinafter, the "School District") heretofore issued School District (Serial) Bonds, 2012 (the "2012 Bonds"); and
WHEREAS, it would be in the public interest to refund all or a portion of the outstanding $3,275,000 principal balance of the 2012 Bonds maturing in 2021 and thereafter (the "Refunded Bonds"), by the issuance of refunding bonds pursuant to Section 90.00 of the Local Finance Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, as follows:

Section 1.For the object or purpose of refunding the $3,275,000 outstanding aggregate principal balance of the Refunded Bonds, including providing moneys which, together with the interest earned from the investment of certain of the proceeds of the refunding bonds herein authorized, shall be sufficient to pay (i) the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds, (ii) the aggregate amount of unmatured interest payable on the Refunded Bonds to and including the date on which the Refunded Bonds which are callable are to be called prior to their respective maturities in accordance with the refunding financial plan, as hereinafter defined, (iii) the costs and expenses incidental to the issuance of the refunding bonds herein authorized, (iv) the redemption premium payable on the Refunded Bonds, and (v) the premium or premiums for a policy or policies of municipal bond insurance or cost or costs of other credit enhancement facility or facilities, for the refunding bonds herein authorized, or any portion thereof, there are hereby authorized to be issued not exceeding $3,275,000 refunding serial bonds of the School District pursuant to the provisions of Section 90.00 of the Local Finance Law (the "School District Refunding Bonds" or the "Refunding Bonds"), it being anticipated that the amount of Refunding Bonds actually to be issued will be approximately $3,015,000, as provided in Section 4 hereof.

Section 2. The Refunding Bonds may be subject to redemption prior to maturity upon such terms as the President of the Board of Education shall prescribe, which terms shall be in compliance with the requirements of Section 53.00 (b) of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that:

(a) the maximum amount of the Refunding Bonds authorized to be issued pursuant to this resolution does not exceed the limitation imposed by subdivision 1 of paragraph b of Section 90.00 of the Local Finance Law;
(b) the maximum period of probable usefulness permitted by law at the time of the issuance of the Refunded Bonds, for the object or purpose financed therein is as provided in the Bond Determinations Certificate therefor, referenced in Exhibit A attached to the complete text of this resolution (the "Complete Resolution"), which Exhibit A is not published herewith;
(c) the last installment of the Refunding Bonds will mature not later than the expiration of the period of probable usefulness of the object or purpose for which said Refunded Bonds were issued in accordance with the provisions of subdivision 1 of paragraph a of Section 90.00 of the Local Finance Law; and
(d) the estimated present value of the total debt service savings anticipated as a result of the issuance of the Refunding Bonds, if any, computed in accordance with the provisions of subdivision 2 of paragraph b of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law, with regard to the Refunded Bonds, is $58,378.37 as shown in the Refunding Financial Plan described in Section 4 hereof.

Section 4. The financial plan for the refunding authorized by this resolution (the "Refunding Financial Plan"), showing the sources and amounts of all moneys required to accomplish such refunding are as provided in Exhibit B attached to the Complete Resolution. The Refunding Financial Plan has been prepared based upon the assumption that the Refunding Bonds will be issued, in one series to refund all of the Refunded Bonds, in the principal amount of $3,015,000, and that the Refunding Bonds will mature, be of such terms, and bear interest as set forth in said Exhibit B.

Section 5. The President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an escrow contract or contracts (collectively the "Escrow Contract") with a bank or trust company, or with banks or trust companies, located and authorized to do business in this State as said President of the Board of Education shall designate (collectively the "Escrow Holder") for the purpose of having the Escrow Holder act, in connection with the Refunding Bonds, as the escrow holder to perform the services described in the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. The faith and credit of said City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Refunding Bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall be annually levied on all the taxable real property in said School District a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such Refunding Bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 7. All of the proceeds from the sale of the Refunding Bonds, including the premium, if any, but excluding accrued interest thereon, shall immediately upon receipt thereof be placed in escrow with the Escrow Holder for the Refunded Bonds.

Section 8. The President of the Board of Education is delegated authority to sell said Refunding Bonds at public competitive sale or at private sale to Roosevelt & Cross Incorporated as underwriter as shall be hereafter determined by said President of the Board of Education and all details in connection therewith.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

A COPY OF THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THIS RESOLUTION TOGETHER WITH EXHIBITS IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK WHERE IT IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS.

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

people lining up at 4 a.m. for assistance from the Philipstown Food Pantry. If you drop off food on a Saturday morning, you will see all the bags neatly holding places down the walk, just blocks from where hundreds of tourists were showing up to shop and dine. This topic needs its own article. I encourage everyone to donate as they can to help our neighbors.

Judith Rose, *Cold Spring*

I think this is called "burying the lede." The shocking story here is that so many of our neighbors are struggling with food insecurity and rely on charity, not that they make too much noise while accessing it.

Teddy Nagel, *Philipstown*

We seriously need to waste policing on the food-pantry patrons? C'mon, Cold Spring. Have a heart!

Lloyd DesBrisay, *via Facebook*

The editor responds: Andrea Bach, coordinator at the Philipstown Food Pantry, told The Current she wasn't aware of people lining up at 4 a.m. until she called the Cold Spring Police Department on an unrelated matter. She has since spoken to all pantry clients to let them know they cannot arrive that early. Clients have lined up around 7:30 a.m. in the past for the 9 a.m. opening. She added that donations from Glynwood, local vendors, an anonymous donor of Foodtown gift cards and support from Foodtown itself have helped the pantry deal with a 150 percent increase in clients since the pandemic shutdown began.

The Village needs to establish what is parking versus storing a vehicle on a public street, i.e., storing a weekend car on the street during the week instead of in New York City. Academy Street cannot handle two-sided parking.

Irene Pieza, *via Facebook*

I understand the safety concerns and the frustration with the flood of tourists but a parking system does not exist in the village and the fines are not $45. I received a ticket in September and it was $175. There was no sign that parking was not permitted and more than 10 other cars were parked there, as well. The police officer did not even fill the ticket completely.

I have no problem paying for parking but when a village is just ripping off visitors with $150 to $200 fines, it sounds like corruption. It seems to be doing everything to keep tourists away: ridiculous fines, no traffic lights, no organized parking. I wonder if local businesses have the same state of mind and are not willing to welcome tourists.

Natalia Ogden, *Scarsdale*

When has Cold Spring ever been shy about giving out tickets? The revenue would be good for the budget.

Geraldine Fuller, *via Facebook*

Does anyone think the congestion will get better once the Fjord trail is constructed?

Robert Vargo, *via Facebook*

I drove down Route 9D at about 5 p.m. on Saturday and was amazed at how many cars were parked not only on the highway but on all the side roads. It must be difficult for residents to enjoy their village on weekends.

Doreen Evangelista, *via Facebook*

Is there no space for parking in all of Cold Spring? This is not a new issue. Implement a park-and-ride to and from a dedicated, income-producing site. There are so many ways to think outside the box.

Carmen Nieves, *via Facebook*

Why is it that if you park four blocks away from Main Street in the village lot, you have to pay, but anyplace else is free? The Village Board has ideas but zero true resolution. Change is drastically needed this November.

Craig Muraszewski, *via Facebook*

People should use the train station on weekends and whoever manages Dockside should have organized parking there.

Michael Jones, *via Facebook*

Slow down

I implore the Putnam County Sheriff's Department to more stringently patrol Route 9D between Bear Mountain Bridge and Route 403, especially on the weekends. Many vehicles — primarily motorcyclists with no mufflers — travel the corridor in excess of 65 mph, pass on the double-yellow line and honk at those who travel at the posted speed. They are noisy, dangerous, rude and breaking the law. They need to be ticketed and stopped from disrupting the beauty and relative tranquility of our roads.

Jim Semmelman, *Garrison*

A bit of fun

With all the sad news surrounding us every day it was such a joy to see the charming Shackelford family pictured over the years in their Halloween costumes ("Holiday Cards, Halloween Style," Oct. 16). It made me smile .

Joe Chapman, *Garrison*

Reader endorsements

Thank heavens that we have early voting in 2020. State Sen. Sue Serino opposed this positive development. Serino, who represents the Highlands, has consistently voted against early voting, citing costs. Yes, there are expenses, but voting is a distinguishing feature of a democracy.

Serino even voted against allowing COVID-19 to be an excuse for getting an absentee ballot. She also voted against expanding voter registration by allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to register, although they would not be allowed to vote until they turned 18.

Serino appears to be in lockstep with the Republicans, who are afraid to make it easier for citizens to vote because they think large turnouts don't help them. Her opponent, Karen Smythe, knows large turnouts in elections are a good thing for our

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued from Page 6)

democracy. Smythe welcomes making it easier for all eligible citizens to vote.

Early voting starts Saturday (Oct. 24). Vote!

Susan Anspach, *Cold Spring*

I'm concerned about Sue Serino's positions on reproductive choice at a time when the U.S. Supreme Court is approaching a majority of justices who are willing to overturn Roe v. Wade.

Serino recently voted against the Reproductive Choice Act, which would have made Roe v. Wade legal in New York state even if the Supreme Court overturns the federal precedent. As a woman, I want to make sure all women in New York have the ability to make their own choices about when, if and how to bear children. Serino is too conservative for our district, and I'm proud to support Karen Smythe, whose positions on choice, climate change, jobs and human rights are the ones we need in our state Legislature.

Donna Minkowitz, *Beacon*

I urge readers of *The Current* to vote for Jessica Segal in her challenge against Dutchess County Judge Peter Forman on Nov. 3. As a public-defense lawyer, I am most concerned with which candidate will be most fair as a judge and will uphold the rights of the accused. So I looked up the incumbent's record on criminal cases over his career and was troubled by what I found.

There were numerous appeals in the last couple of years alone in which a defendant challenged Judge Forman's sentences as excessive. While I only found one in which the appeals court agreed and reduced the man's sentence, I suspect that many of those sentences would shock the conscience of people who, like me, believe that mass incarceration is not the way forward to a safer, more equitable and productive society.

The cases that troubled me most were decisions by the appeals court finding that Judge Forman failed to uphold well-established rights held by the accused. In one case from 2019, Forman denied the defendant a hearing on whether the police had sufficient basis to search his home, and even withheld important police paperwork from the defense.

The appeals court overturned the defendant's conviction and ordered that the defendant be given the police papers and the hearing. In another case, Forman was rebuked for allowing the prosecutor to argue that the defendant, because he had been convicted of the crime previously, had a propensity to commit burglary.

The appeals court, citing well-established principles, found that such arguments denied the defendant a fair trial and ordered that a new trial be held. I even found two cases in which the appeals court concluded that Forman wrongly denied a party's application for a fee waiver based on financial hardship.

We need a judge who believes in full disclosure of the evidence, the rights of the accused to challenge the charges against them and, particularly, the rights of the indigent.

Laurie Dick, *Beacon*

I have known Judge Peter Forman for more than 30 years. He served as Beacon City Attorney while I sat on the City Council in the early 1990s. In 1999, Judge Forman was elected to the position of family court judge, and in 2010 he was elected to the county court.

He has served the residents of Dutchess County with distinction since 1999; he has been rated "highly qualified" by the nonpartisan screening panel of the Dutchess County Bar Association, and the *New York State Official Reporter* has selected 12 of his opinions to be published since 2010. Over the past 20 years, 93 percent of his decisions have been affirmed by the Appellate Courts. He knows the law.

Most importantly, he has presided over a drug treatment court for the past 15 years. In this non-adversarial court, those who suffer from drug addictions are given a second chance to obtain long-term sobriety without the stigma of a felony conviction.

Please join me in supporting lifelong Beacon resident and community leader Peter Forman as he seeks reelection on Nov. 3.

Joseph Guarneri, *Beacon*

With Election Day just around the corner, I wanted to talk about veterans' issues that have affected the 838,000 service veterans who reside in New York. More than half of them are over age 65 and need qualified care.

Career politician Sean Patrick Maloney has been representing the 18th U.S. House district since 2013 and campaigned on a message of helping veterans, yet within the veteran community we know all too well his office's history of failing to return phone calls or address the issues that affect us daily.

You can keep your Valentine's Day cards, Congressman. We need a real leader who is not controlled by the far left, someone who comes with vast real-world experience. That's why I am voting for Chele Farley, an engineer and business owner, to represent me in Congress.

Paul Harrington Sr., *Newburgh*

For more reader endorsements, see highlandscurrent.org. They can be submitted to editor@highlandscurrent.org.

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One of the Norway Maples on Parrott Street that has been marked for removal

Photo by Ross Corsair

Tree Removal

We would like to comment on the scheduled tree removal on Parrott Street in Cold Spring. The last of the five tall, mature trees has been marked. It seems a bit aggressive to me to remove all five at the same time.

We've lived on this street for 27 years. The first thing we noticed when we drove down the street were the beautiful old, tall trees that lined both sides. What's left of them gives Parrott Street a charm all its own.

Thinking back, several years ago a limb came down in front of our house and then-Mayor Seth Gallagher took the time to come and meet with us. He contacted an arborist, and several limbs were removed. It's still out front, although for now it's slated for removal.

Five trees that have survived the better part of a century all reaching a stage requiring removal at the same time seems unusual. We anticipate that on Halloween in 2021, when 800 to 1,000 children come to our door, their reaction will be, "What on earth happened?"

In the last couple of years several mature trees have been cut down, such as the monumental and unique tree on the corner of Bank and Parrott. This has already altered the look and the shade on the street.

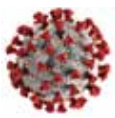
We would like to know if there is a plan moving forward. Shouldn't there be some consideration given to replacing at least some of the trees with one of the native species? Can this be phased over the next few years so that there is some variety of appearance? Parrott Street was here when Abraham Lincoln came to inspect the West Point Foundry and we suspect it wasn't lined with ornamental dwarf trees.

We hope they'll still be here for us to see the trees change color this year, because we have not been apprised of their scheduled removal.

Jeff Barrett and Diana Stenzel, *Cold Spring*

We asked Jennifer Zwarich, chair of the village Tree Advisory Board, to respond. She wrote: "As volunteers committed to protecting our village trees, the members of the Tree Advisory Board understand the sadness expressed here and agree that the removal of these aging Norway Maples and all the gifts they provide will be a deep loss for lower Parrott Street and for our community forest. This decision was not made lightly and not without years of trying other options with all of our heart and hope. With a commitment to conservation, we have had tree professionals monitor and advise on the care of these trees over the past many years and have used public funds to prune several and install cables on one, and have tried our best to keep them, even though they are clearly in decline, as long as we could reasonably ensure public safety.

"Unfortunately, their condition has deteriorated more rapidly in the last few years, and the village has received numerous complaints about the safety of these trees from other residents of the street. We have been advised by an arborist certified by the International Society of Arboriculture on each tree and cannot in good conscience continue to take our preferred graduated approach to their management. We have already planted five trees on this block over the past several years to help mitigate this loss and plan to plant more trees on Parrott Street as soon as enough funds are raised. We hope residents will consider donating to speed this effort. See coldspringtree.weebly.com."



Coronavirus Update

■ State health officials said that, as of Wednesday (Oct. 21), 1,768 people had tested positive for COVID-19 in Putnam County; 5,382 in Dutchess; 39,789 in Westchester; 17,524 in Rockland; 2,436 in Ulster; and 13,303 in Orange. Statewide, there have been 490,134 positives, including 256,576 in New York City.

■ Statewide, 25,694 people had died. No deaths have been reported among Putnam residents since the week ending July 3.

■ Beacon had 12 active cases as of Oct. 21. Philipstown had four new cases during the week ending Oct. 15 and has had 137 since March.

■ Statewide, there were 135,341 tests conducted on Oct. 21 and 1,628 positives, or 1.5 percent.

■ The number of people with COVID-19 who are currently hospitalized in New York state as of Oct. 21 stood at 986; the number in intensive care was 209; and the number of intubations was 106.

■ The state said on Oct. 17 that some theaters will be allowed to reopen, including in Dutchess and Putnam counties, as of today (Oct. 23). The theaters will be allowed to operate at 25 percent capacity with up to 50 people maximum per screen. Counties must be located outside of New York City and have a positive rate of 2 percent or less with no cluster zones. "We've said for months that theaters could mitigate the risk and reopen safely as they have in surrounding states without incident," said Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro in a statement.

■ The state said on Oct. 18 that ski resorts will be allowed to reopen at 50 percent indoor capacity as of Nov. 6. Masks will be required and outdoor capacity must be reduced by 25 percent during peak days or if multiple trails are closed due to unseasonable conditions, it said.

■ Molinaro said on Oct. 21 that the outbreak at the Hedgewood assisted living facility in Beacon that led to the deaths of at least seven residents is considered "resolved," with no new positive cases reported and no active cases within the facility.

■ Haldane Superintendent Philip Benante wrote in an email to parents on Oct. 21 that "a member of the Haldane community" was under quarantine because an immediate family member had tested positive. The Haldane community member tested negative, he said. "While such a situation would not typically provoke a notice to the community, we have become aware that the community member shared this information with students which, in turn, caused some concern among them and their parents," he wrote. "The district has established clear protocols in collaboration with the Department of Health and our district physician for working with our staff and families on COVID-related matters. In this particular case, I can assure you that each of our protocols was followed."

■ New York 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 Oct. 21, the only states not on the list were California, Hawaii, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Washington.

■ The state noted on Oct. 20 that while Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania meet the criteria for the travel advisory, a quarantine on these states is not practical. Instead, it discouraged non-essential travel to and from these states.

■ After allowing vehicle owners to put off getting their annual inspections done, the state said that the extension would end on Nov. 3. Under an earlier executive order, the governor said inspections that expired after March 1 would remain valid. The deadline also applies for driver's licenses and vehicle registrations that expired after March 1 and haven't yet been renewed.

■ The state Department of Health on Oct. 18 released a draft, six-phase COVID-19 Vaccination Administration Program. If a vaccine becomes available, it would be distributed to (1) high-risk populations and essential health care workers in areas with high COVID-19 prevalence; (2) those same groups in areas with low prevalence; (3) lower-risk populations/other essential workers in areas with high prevalence; (4) those same groups in areas with low prevalence; (5) the general population in areas with high prevalence; and, finally, (6) the general public in areas with low prevalence.

■ Within each phase, priorities would be given to: (1) health care workers in patient care, long-term-care facility workers who interact with patients and long-term-care patients at highest risk; (2) first responders, teachers, child care providers, public health workers, essential frontline workers, such as pharmacists, grocery store workers and transit employees, other long-term-care facility patients and higher-risk individuals; (3) individuals over 65 and those under 65 at higher risk; (4) all other essential workers.

■ 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.

COVID-19 by the Numbers

■ PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:
1,768 (+58)

New Cases in Philipstown: 4

Tests administered:
57,867 (+3,623)

Percent positive:
3.1 (-0.1)

Number of deaths:
63 (+0)

■ DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:
5,382 (+93)

Active Cases in Beacon: 12

Tests administered:
206,891 (+10,635)

Percent positive:
2.6 (-0.1)

Number of deaths:
164 (+1)

Source: New York State Department of Health, with weekly changes in parentheses, as of Oct. 21. New cases in Philipstown for the week ending Oct. 15

Where We Stand

STATE	Positivity (7-Day Avg)
Nevada	45.97%
South Dakota	37.19%
Idaho	28.69%
Wyoming	21.29%
Iowa	20.86%
Kansas	19.40%
Nebraska	18.18%
Mississippi	17.73%
Alabama	16.29%
Utah	15.12%
Wisconsin	12.61%
Florida	12.04%
Montana	10.18%
North Dakota	9.78%
Pennsylvania	9.16%
Indiana	9.00%
Arizona	8.92%
Arkansas	8.87%
Tennessee	8.38%
Oklahoma	8.31%
Texas	7.06%
New Mexico	6.62%
Minnesota	6.31%
Missouri	6.28%
North Carolina	6.26%
Georgia	6.16%
Delaware	6.15%
South Carolina	5.83%
Virginia	5.75%
Illinois	5.50%
Kentucky	5.47%
Oregon	5.38%
Colorado	5.30%
Ohio	4.81%
Michigan	4.64%
Alaska	4.41%
Louisiana	4.20%
West Virginia	4.14%
Washington	3.05%
New Jersey	2.89%
Hawaii	2.46%
California	2.44%
Maryland	2.29%
Rhode Island	1.94%
Connecticut	1.85%
New Hampshire	1.32%
District of Columbia	1.23%
Vermont	1.19%
New York	**1.17%**
Massachusetts	1.14%
Maine	0.36%

Source: Johns Hopkins University, as of Oct. 19.

NOTICE

HALDANE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Cold Spring, NY 10516

Miscellaneous Painting Services

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Haldane Central School District of Philipstown will receive sealed bids at 15 Craigside Drive, Colds Spring, NY 10516 until 11:30 AM on November 6, 2020 when same will be opened at the Business Office of the Haldane Central School, 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring, NY 10516 for the following:

Miscellaneous Painting Services

Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by contacting jdesmarais@haldaneschool.org, or by contacting 845-265-9254, ext 111, available on Monday, October 19th at 8:00 AM. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids. By Order of the Board of Education of Haldane Central School District of Philipstown, Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York By Anne M. Dinio, School Business Manager.

VOTER FAQ

Why are there so many political parties?

To qualify as a party in New York, an organization must have had a candidate for governor who received at least 50,000 votes in the preceding election. After the 2018 election, eight parties were recognized: Conservative, Democratic, Green, Independence, Libertarian, Republican, Serve America Movement (SAM) and Working Families.

Beginning with the 2020 presidential election, the rules will change and the number of parties will shrink. In order to qualify, a political organization will need to have had a candidate who received at least 130,000 votes or 2 percent of the total (whichever is greater) in the last gubernatorial election as well as the last presidential election. Using that criteria, the only parties that qualified in the 2018 gubernatorial election were the Republican, Democratic and Conservative; they will also need to achieve the same minimums in the 2020 election.

I received a call from a candidate saying she knew I had received my absentee ballot. How did she know?

Anyone can apply, using the Freedom of Information Law, for voter registration information, including who applied for an absentee ballot, when the person applied and the address where the ballot was sent.

Can I post a ballot selfie?

To prevent vote-buying and coercion, New York law has since 1890 prohibited showing a marked ballot to another person, and in 2017 a federal court upheld the state's interpretation that the restriction includes posting a photo online. A bill introduced in the state Legislature this year to legalize ballot selfies died in committee.

Do the same people run in every election?

It can seem that way. According to Ballotpedia, there are 339 state legislative races nationwide between the same two candidates who faced each other in the previous race. In New York, there are a dozen such races, including two in the Highlands, for the 41st Senate district (Sue Serino and Karen Smythe) and the 95th Assembly district (Sandy Galef and Lawrence Chiulli).

Why does Putnam have only one early-voting site?

Under state law, counties must have one polling site for every full increment of 50,000 registered voters, although they can choose to have more. Putnam has 69,409 registered voters so is only required to have one site, which it located at the Board of Elections in Carmel. Dutchess has 194,810 registered voters so it must have at least three. It created five, including one at Fishkill Town Hall.

Can I still vote in person if I submit an absentee ballot?

Yes. Absentee ballots aren't counted until after Election Day, so if you vote in person, election officials will void your mail vote. During the June 23 primary election, 22 voters in Putnam and 90 in Dutchess did that. However, it's still a crime to intentionally vote twice. According to a database compiled by the Heritage Foundation, there have been two convictions in the state since 1983 for doing that and three for forging absentee ballots.

15% JUMP IN VOTERS

Rather than turning people away from politics, the contentious battles of the past four years appear locally to have drawn many to the polls.

The number of people registered to vote has jumped 14 percent in Dutchess and 15 percent in Putnam since 2016, according to data released on Oct. 19 by the Board of Elections in each county.

Democrats led the charge, with an increase of 25 percent in Dutchess, 23 percent in Beacon, 22 percent in Putnam and 36 percent in Philipstown.

Republican registrations jumped 11 percent in Putnam and 7 percent in Dutchess. They were flat in Philipstown at 1 percent and fell by 7 percent in Beacon.

The percentage of independent voters, or those with no party registration, grew by 11 percent in Dutchess and 16 percent in Putnam but only 6 percent in Philipstown and 3 percent in Beacon.

The figures below do not include registered voters who have not cast a ballot in the last two federal elections.

	DUTCHESS			BEACON			PUTNAM			PHILIPSTOWN		
	2016	2020	% change	2016	2020	% change	2016	2020	% change	2016	2020	% change
Republican	50,841	54,409	7	1,330	1,241	-7	21,193	23,500	11	1,678	1,696	1
Democrat	58,020	72,250	25	4,264	5,259	23	17,758	21,697	22	2,762	3,746	36
Independent (no party)	47,061	52,427	11	2,239	2,307	3	15,419	17,931	16	1,744	1,842	6
Independence	10,171	10,259	1	435	442	2	3,586	3,662	2	334	321	-4
Conservative	3,637	3,744	3	114	99	-13	1,934	1,812	-6	163	141	-13
Working Families	765	723	-5	60	43	-28	208	188	-10	22	22	0
Green	473	459	-3	41	31	-24	137	138	0	18	20	11
Total	171,145	194,810	14	8,495	9,448	11	60,291	69,409	15	6,724	7,573	13

Whom Does the Highlands Support?

By Chip Rowe

In July we shared tables showing how much each federal candidate for elected office had received from local donors in the first half of 2020, as compiled by the Federal Election Commission (fec.gov). The chart below provides the same figures through Oct. 19.

Individuals may give up to $2,800 per federal candidate per election (primary and general), as well as annual contributions of up to $5,000 to political action committees (PACS), $10,000 to state party committees and $35,500 to national party committees. (So-called "Super PACs" can accept unlimited money.)

Our chart includes candidates and PACS that received at least $1,000 in contributions from residents of any ZIP code in the Highlands. The number of donors is in parentheses following each total. Money given to PACS that support specific candidates is included in the totals for that candidate.

CANDIDATE	PARTY	RACE	PHILIPSTOWN	GARRISON	BEACON
Joe Biden	(D)	President	$125,518 (39)	$22,858 (38)	$10,069 (36)
Amy Klobuchar	(D)	President	$650 (3)	$1,425 (4)	$650 (3)
Bernie Sanders	(D)	President	$3,363 (17)	$3,183 (11)	$11,094 (46)
Donald Trump	(R)	President	$4,286 (12)	$4,160 (10)	$10,857 (23)
Elizabeth Warren	(D)	President	$1,154 (9)	$1,826 (4)	$4,795 (26)
Josh Harder	(D)	U.S. House (CA-10)		$2,800 (1)	
J.D. Scholten	(D)	U.S. House (IA-4)	$2,800 (1)		
Elissa Slotkin	(D)	U.S. House (MI-8)	$2,800 (1)		
Haley Stevens	(D)	U.S. House (MI-11)	$2,800 (1)		
Brenda Lawrence	(D)	U.S. House (MI-14)	$2,800 (1)		
Sean Patrick Maloney	(D)	U.S. House (NY-18)	$1,025 (2)	$4,925 (6)	$150 (1)
Anthony Brindisi	(D)	U.S. House (NY-22)		$1,000 (1)	
Dana Balter	(D)	U.S. House (NY-24)		$2,000 (2)	
Nick Robando	(D)	U.S. House (OH-5)	$3,350 (3)		
Tim Ryan	(D)	U.S. House (OH-13)	$5,600 (2)		
Wendy Davis	(D)	U.S. House (TX-21)			$1,000 (1)
Doug Jones	(D)	U.S. Senate (AL)		$2,000 (2)	
Mark Kelly	(D)	U.S. Senate (AZ)	$6,605 (4)	$1,100 (2)	
John Hickenlooper	(D)	U.S. Senate (CO)	$7,025 (3)		
Theresa Greenfield	(D)	U.S. Senate (IA)		$1,000 (1)	
Barbara Bollier	(D)	U.S. Senate (KS)		$1,300 (3)	
Amy McGrath	(D)	U.S. Senate (KY)	$872 (3)	$2,150 (6)	$156 (3)
Mike Broihier	(D)	U.S. Senate (KY)		$2,800 (1)	
Joe Kennedy III	(D)	U.S. Senate (MA)	$4,100 (2)	$500 (1)	
Sara Gideon	(D)	U.S. Senate (ME)	$2,085 (5)	$2,619 (2)	$200 (1)
Gary Peters	(D)	U.S. Senate (MI)	$5,790 (3)	$1,000 (1)	
Steve Bullock	(D)	U.S. Senate (MT)	$8,400 (1)	$1,000 (1)	
Cal Cunningham	(D)	U.S. Senate (NC)		$1,000 (1)	
Cory Booker	(D)	U.S. Senate (NJ)	$5,600 (1)		
Ben Ray Luján	(D)	U.S. Senate (NM)	$3,800 (1)		
Bob Casey	(D)	U.S. Senate (PA)	$2,800 (1)		
Jaime Harrison	(D)	U.S. Senate (SC)	$321 (2)	$1,205 (4)	$100 (1)

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES (PACS)	PHILIPSTOWN	GARRISON	BEACON
ACT Blue	$88,135 (528)	$71,128 (350)	$119,128 (1,179)
American Bridge 21st Century (Super PAC)	$25,000 (1)		
American Express Co. PAC	$4,000 (1)		
Emily's List	$395 (3)	$2,810 (3)	$215 (4)
Fair Fight		$4,300 (2)	
Jerry's PAC	$5,000 (1)		
Michigan 2020	$11,200 (1)		
Movement Voter PAC	$2,000 (2)		$1,700 (3)
Progressive Turnout Project	$1,058 (3)	$135 (1)	$318 (2)
Senate Majority PAC	$100 (1)	$1,000 (2)	
Somos PAC	$1,000 (1)		
Stop Republicans	$328 (1)	$1,203 (4)	$1,287 (4)
Swing Left		$1,000 (1)	
The Lincoln Project	$25,600 (3)	$3,763 (5)	$225 (1)
Tri-State Maxed-Out Women	$1,100 (1)		
Win the Era	$5,111 (11)	$300 (2)	$155 (2)
Win the West	$11,200 (2)		
WinRed	$5,464 (39)	$7,158 (37)	$17,568 (81)

PARTY COMMITTEES (PACS)	PHILIPSTOWN	GARRISON	BEACON
Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee	$207 (2)	$225 (4)	$2,798 (4)
Democratic National Committee	$400 (2)	$13,680 (7)	$2,537 (4)
Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee	$1,420 (4)	$40,108 (7)	$558 (4)
Michigan Democratic State Central Committee	$7,150 (1)		
National Republican Congressional Committee		$1,067 (3)	$1,395 (4)
National Republican Senate Committee	$628 (1)	$120 (1)	$1,075 (4)
Republican National Committee	$1,753 (7)	$1,542 (3)	$2,564 (7)

Campaign Contributions

The National Institute on Money in Politics (followthemoney.org) tracks which groups and individuals give to candidates for state and federal offices. The top donors for elected officials and candidates in the Highlands are:

SUE SERINO (R) NYS Senate, Highlands, 4 campaigns

1. NYS Senate Republican Campaign Committee	$1.2 million
2. American Federation of State County & Municipal Employees	$31,300
3. Civil Service Employees Association	$23,580
4. Cathy Young Campaign Committee (NY Senate 57)	$21,000
5. Neighborhood Preservation PAC (Landlords)	$20,500
6. NYS Association of Realtors	$17,650
7. Real Estate Board of New York	$16,250
8. Rent Stabilization Association of New York (Landlords)	$15,250
9. Peckham Industries (Construction, White Plains)	$13,500
10. Friends of Betty Little (NY Senate 45)	$12,800

KAREN SMYTHE (D) NYS Senate, Highlands (challenger), 2 campaigns

1. Karen Smythe	$308,759
2. NYS Democratic Senate Campaign Committee	$193,172
3. Mason Tenders District Council of Greater NY	$32,000
4. NYS Democratic Party	$26,000
5. Communications Workers New Jersey District 1	$22,800
6. New York State United Teachers	$22,800
7. Michael Dupree (Hyde Park)	$16,000
8. Dutchess Democratic Women's Caucus	$14,000
9. Michael Fleischer (Hyde Park)	$13,000
10. Tenants PAC	$12,000
11. Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 21	$12,000

JONATHAN JACOBSON (D) NYS Assembly, Beacon (2020 campaign)

1. Jonathan Jacobson	$25,000
2. International Brotherhood of Teamsters	$4,700
3. Committee to Elect Jonathan Jacobson	$3,632
4. Laborers Local 17	$3,000
5. Buffalo AFL-CIO Council	$2,000
6. 1199SEIU United Health Care Workers	$2,000
7. Dario Fonseca (Spring Valley)	$1,500
8. Kenneth Kearney (Mahopac)	$1,250

ANDREW GAUZZA (R) NYS Assembly, Beacon (challenger) (2020)

1. Andrew E. Gauzza	$10,001
2. Town of Newburgh Republican Committee	$500

SANDY GALEF (D) NYS Assembly, Philipstown (2020)

1. 1199SEIU United Health Care Workers	$10,500
2. Steven and Sandy Galef	$8,784
3. NYS Association of Realtors	$7,953
4. Marie Carpentier (Ossining)	$6,200
5. Manhattan Beer Distributors	$6,000
6. Eleanor Roosevelt Legacy Committee	$5,500
7. Medical Society of the State of New York	$5,150
8. David Swope (Ossining)	$5,000

LAWRENCE CHIULLI (R) NYS Assembly, Philipstown (challenger) (2020)

No funds reported raised or spent.

REP. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY (D) District 18, 7 campaigns

1. Sean Patrick Maloney Campaign Committee	$2.45 million
2. Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee	$102,418
3. Jon L. Stryker (NYC/Garrison, philanthropist)	$97,600
4. Peter B. Lewis (Progressive Insurance, philanthropist)	$60,200
5. Ameripac / The Fund for a Greater America	$55,000
6. Tim E. Gill (software developer, philanthropist)	$52,500
7. JOE Pac (Jobs Opportunities & Education)	$51,770
8. Jonathan Lewis (venture capitalist, son of Peter)	$50,000
9. David Bohnett (tech entrepreneur, philanthropist)	$50,000
10. Adam J. Lewis (environmentalist, son of Peter)	$50,000

According to Opensecrets.org, which also tracks campaign finance, large individual contributions made up 58 percent of Maloney's contributions, PACs account for 26 percent, and donations of $200 or less are 13 percent. As of Oct. 19, Maloney had $1.15 million on hand.

CHELE FARLEY (R) District 18, challenger, 2 campaigns*

1. Chele Farley	$283,486
2. New York Republican Federal Campaign Committee	$20,000
3-21. 19 individuals each gave $10,000 to $11,000 each	
23. Congressional Majority Committee	$10,000
24. Value in Electing Women PAC	$10,000
25. Elise for Congress (Rep. Elise Stefanik, NY-21)	$10,000

**Farley challenged Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand in 2018. According to Opensecrets.org, large individual contributions made up 65 percent of Farley's contributions, PACs account for 9 percent, and donations of $200 or less are 15 percent. As of Oct. 19, Farley had $255,000 on hand. As of Oct. 19, the third candidate for the seat, Scott Smith, had raised $1,882 for his campaign and had $447 on hand.*

★ ELECTION GUIDE

Here Are Your Choices

Candidates are listed in alphabetical order. In the general election, you can vote for any candidate you wish, regardless of party registration.

FEDERAL

- ***President / Vice President***

  Joseph Biden/Kamala Harris (DEM/WF)
  Howie Hawkins /Angela Walker (GRE)
  Jo Jorgensen/Jeremy Cohen (LIB)
  Brock Pierce/Karla Ballard (IND)
  Donald Trump/Michael Pence (REP/CON)

- ***U.S. House (District 18)***

  Chele Farley (REP/CON)
  Sean Patrick Maloney (DEM/WF/IND)
  Scott Smith (LIB/SAM)

NEW YORK STATE

- ***State Senate (District 41)***

  Sue Serino (REP/CON/IND/ROS)
  Karen Smythe (DEM/WF/SAM)

- ***State Supreme Court, 9th District (Vote for 4)***

The 9th District (of 13) covers Dutchess, Putnam, Orange, Rockland and Westchester counties. Judges serve a 14-year term.

Richard Guertin (REP/CON) — Middletown judge
David Hasin (REP) – Woodbury town justice
Alexandra Murphy (DEM/CON) — former asst. Manhattan D.A.
Robert Ondrovic (DEM/CON) — trial attorney, White Plains
Mark Starkman (REP) – private practice, New Windsor
Sam Walker (DEM/REP/CON) — Mount Vernon judge
E. Loren Williams (DEM) — Newburgh judge

FOR VOTERS IN PHILIPSTOWN

- ***State Assembly (District 95)***

  Lawrence Chiulli (REP/CON)
  Sandy Galef (DEM)

- ***Putnam County Court Judge***

  Anthony Mole (REP/CON/LIB/IND)

- ***Putnam County Coroner***

  Wendy Erickson (REP/CON/IND)

- ***Philipstown Town Justice***

  Camille Linson (DEM/CON/LIB)

- ***Cold Spring Trustees (Vote for 2)***

  Heidi Bender (Onward!)
  Kathleen Foley (Forge Ahead)

FOR VOTERS IN BEACON

- ***State Assembly (District 104)***

  Andrew Gauzza IV (REP/CON)
  Jonathan Jacobson (DEM/WF)

- ***Dutchess County Court Judge***

  Peter Forman (REP/CON/LIB/IND)
  Jessica Segal (DEM/WF/GRE/SAM)

PARTY KEY:

DEM = Democratic | REP = Republican | CON = Conservative | GRE = Green
IND = Independence | LIB = Libertarian | ROS = Rebuild Our State
SAM = Serve America Movement | WF = Working Families

Polls will be open

Tuesday, Nov. 3
from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Election Results

Check highlandscurrent.org after 9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, for unofficial results.

The deadline to register to vote on Nov. 3 has passed. To verify you are registered and locate your polling place, visit voterlookup.elections.ny.gov.

How to Vote by Mail

(Procrastinator's Edition)

1. If you are registered to vote (the deadline to register for the Nov. 3 election has passed), download an application at elections.dutchessny.gov or putnamboe.com.

2. Complete the application. 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. Submit the signed form to the Board of Elections. In Dutchess, it can be faxed to 845-486-2483 or emailed to dutchesselections@dutchessny.gov. In Putnam, it must be mailed to the BOE at 25 Old Route 6, Carmel, NY 10512.

4. The application deadline is Tuesday (Oct. 27), although the U.S. Postal Service has said it cannot guarantee delivery of absentee ballots for applications received within 15 days of the election, so the prudent deadline was this past Monday (Oct. 19). However, you can apply for and receive an absentee ballot 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. Unless you sign and date the oath and the inner envelope (containing the ballot) is sealed inside the outer envelope, it will not be counted. If mailed, the ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 3. But it 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.

Where to Vote Early in Person

Putnam County	Dutchess County
Board of Elections	**Town Hall**
25 Old Route 6	807 Route 52
Carmel	Fishkill
SAT 24: 9a - 2p	**SAT 24:** 12 - 5p
SUN 25: 9a - 2p	**SUN 25:** 12 - 5p
MON 26: 9a - 5p	**MON 26:** 9a - 5p
TUES 27: 9a - 8p	**TUES 27:** 12 - 8p
WED 28: 9a - 5p	**WED 28:** 9a - 5p
THURS 29: 9a - 8p	**THURS 29:** 12 - 8p
FRI 30: 9a - 5p	**FRI 30:** 9a - 5p
SAT 31: 9a - 2p	**SAT 31:** 9a - 4p
SUN 1: 9a - 2p	**SUN 1:** 12 - 5p

Questions for Candidates: Cold Spring Village Board

Heidi Bender and Kathleen Foley are running unopposed for two open seats on the Cold Spring Village Board. Below are their written responses to questions posed by *The Current*.

Under a state mandate, the Village Board must complete a review of the Cold Spring Police Department's policies, procedures and practices by April 1. How significant is that review and what should it include?

■ **Bender:** Everything starts locally, so it's very significant. We won't know what must be included until we have all the information. The repeal of 50a [that made police disciplinary records available under the Freedom of Information Law] gives citizens the opportunity to know their police officers better. Making that information publicly available will be a big step in the right direction and offer the Village Board guidance.

Analyzing all available data is the other crucial step; that information should also be made public. Who is being stopped? Who is being ticketed? What kinds of crimes are being given time and attention and which ones are not? Who is being taken to court and who is being let off with a warning? The changes needed might be minor, but we won't know until we take an in-depth look. I know Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke has the best interests of the village in mind and I look forward to working with him on this process.

Kathleen Foley

Heidi Bender

■ **Foley:** Cold Spring has a skilled, professional police force under the leadership of Larry Burke. He has a strong moral compass and a deep commitment to community policing. And, as with any department, the CSPD can always be improved. The governor's executive order for police reform is significant because it provides a catalyst for examining our public-safety program, assessing needs and creating a local model for participatory policing.

We're lucky we have a police force that reports directly to the village and always is willing to be accountable. We need to agree what goals we're hoping to reach. Our process must be based on objective data. It must consider many voices in respectful ways and build and strengthen the community's relationship with our officers. This is a great opportunity for community-specific innovation. I've put forward a plan at forgeaheadwithfoley.com.

Aside from the police review, what do you consider two priority issues facing the village in 2021-22, and what steps are needed to address them?

■ **Bender:** How to stay safe and sane during this pandemic is a major issue. Even if a vaccine becomes available, the roll-out will take time, and it won't be 100 percent effective.

I'd like to examine available outdoor spaces, including Dockside, Mayor's Park and Tot's Park, creatively reimagining how we can make better use of them. We need to find ways to come together, while staying safe, and have a plan in place for spring.

Parking and crowd control are major issues. You can't go to a village meeting without the issue of parking coming up. The Village Board is already thinking about it and plans are in place to reestablish a parking committee. Parking would be an easy way to bring in revenue from tourists, but we also have to balance the needs of residents and Main Street businesses. Meters, residential parking permits and overflow lots are all possible solutions. I feel confident that the parking committee and the board can come up with a plan that will work well for everyone. And we really need the support of the state parks department to handle crowd control and preserve our beautiful trails. Both Mayor [Dave] Merandy and Town Supervisor [Richard] Shea are passionate about this issue.

■ **Foley:** Our village and town are popular tourist attractions. Residents have felt under siege, especially during COVID. New York State's lack of stewardship of Hudson Highlands State Park is spilling over into quality-of-life impacts for villagers, putting our already-strained first responders in danger and damaging our local landscape and ecosystem.

The tourists aren't going away, so we must secure better park management by the state to make visitor dollars work for Cold Spring. Revenue-sharing, created by designating appropriately-priced paid parking, limiting and requiring permits for trail access and establishing impact fees, will reduce and offset adverse consequences in the village. We need to ensure that the state protects our natural resources as if our local economy and community character depend on it — because they do.

We need to make urgent repairs to the village's dams. Work has been stalled for years by bullying by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. We need alternate access to clean drinking water so that we can lower dam levels and make critical fixes. Trustee [Steve] Voloto made headway identifying legal professionals who have negotiated with the DEP on behalf of other Hudson Valley communities. That firm is reviewing our position. I would like to retain their legal expertise to secure permissions the DEP has withheld, get an agreement on the books and get the job done.

What initiatives would you like to see the board or the community undertake? Are there projects you've seen in other places you've lived that the village ought to consider?

■ **Bender:** I'd like to see a real response to the incidents of hate in our village. I've lived in many places and have never had swastikas or "Death to Gays" graffiti in my neighborhood. Here in Cold Spring I have. I don't think it represents the majority of views and I also don't plan to ignore it and hope it will go away. There may not be an easy solution but I know there are others in our community who would be willing to work together to stop the spread of hate. I plan to propose an inclusive committee to work on this issue, to show how welcoming Cold Spring really is. Potential post-pandemic projects could include inviting back the Putnam Pride Parade and incorporating traditions from other religions during the holiday season.

■ **Foley:** We need to make space for more voices in village problem-solving. I'd like to form ad hoc working groups — think tanks, if you will — to look at particular challenges, consider options and recommend solutions. We have tremendous talent and expertise in this community, in areas as far-ranging and essential as climate change preparedness, public health, finance and marketing. More people thinking together brings fresh approaches and progress.

We must reduce what we send to the landfill and minimize disposal costs. There are at least 16 villages across the state with composting programs for food and yard waste. I'd like to find ways for Cold Spring to partner with residents, not-for-profits, businesses and institutions to reduce waste and recapture nutrients and energy for local/regional use.

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★ ELECTION GUIDE

Questions for Candidates: Dutchess County Judge

In the race for Dutchess County judge, Republican incumbent Peter Forman faces a challenge from Democrat Jessica Segal. Below are their written responses to questions posed by *The Current*.

Judges are meant to be impartial, so what distinguishes one candidate from another?

■ **Forman:** In this race, my judicial experience is the distinguishing factor. I have more than 20 years of judicial experience. In the last 10 years as County Court judge, I have presided over dozens of felony trials. During my judicial career, more than 200 of my legal decisions have been reviewed by appellate courts and I was affirmed 93 percent of the time. I am the only judge in Dutchess County who has served in all of our full-time courts: Family, Supreme, Surrogate and County. In addition to my criminal caseload, I have presided over numerous civil matters, including: negligence, medical malpractice, commercial disputes, divorce, and civil commitment of dangerous sex offenders, to name just a few. I have been rated highly qualified by the non-partisan judicial screening panel of the Dutchess County Bar Association.

I have also spent 15 years presiding over drug treatment courts in both Family and County Court. In drug court, an individual charged with a felony who also struggles with addiction is referred by the court to treatment programs to allow the individual to address his or her substance abuse. The individual is monitored over a period of 18 to 24 months by a treatment team that I chair. More than 90 people have graduated from our drug court program in the past five years and become sober and contributing members of society. Depending on the circumstances of each case, a graduate may have a felony conviction reduced to a misdemeanor and have the record of conviction sealed.

■ **Segal:** Voters should look at the candidate's experience, their record and their reputation. I have 20 years of hands-on experience as both a prosecutor and a defense attorney. I have handled thousands of cases. In that time, not one of my cases or trials has been reversed by an appellate court for misconduct, ineffective assistance of counsel or other error of law. This is important for voters to know because when a judge or an attorney has a case reversed, it means that an appellate court found, for example, that someone's rights were violated. It's traumatizing for the victims and wastes taxpayer money and court resources when cases have to be redone. Voters should also consider people's direct experience with the candidate. I am proud to be regarded in the community for my integrity, my balance of strength and compassion, and my commitment to treating all people with dignity and respect.

Peter Forman

Jessica Segal

Should a judicial election be as important to voters as an election for a more visible office, like a mayor? Why?

■ **Forman:** As a sitting judge campaigning for the fourth time on a county-wide basis, I strongly believe that decisions made by trial courts often affect people's daily lives more directly than decisions made by officials in the legislative and executive branches of government. Decisions made in a criminal matter, although made in the context of an individual defendant's case, have an impact on the safety of the community as a whole. Every individual that overcomes his or her addiction through drug court benefits not just the individual but the community as a whole.

■ **Segal:** Yes. County Court judges make decisions that have a direct impact on the safety of our community. They have the power to decide whether someone struggling with addiction or post-traumatic stress disorder gets jail time or the opportunity to get treatment. They decide if someone is granted a pistol permit and whether that permit is subsequently suspended or revoked. Judges are the embodiment of our Constitution in action, interpreting the rights and privileges it affords each and every citizen of the U.S. Judges are crucial to ensuring that our criminal justice system is fair and treats everyone equally under the law, without personal bias. That is the cornerstone of our justice system. County Court judges serve a 10-year term — every voter in this community should know who is making these decisions and make sure they have a voice in choosing that person.

Discuss, depending on your position, the merits of voters re-electing a candidate with experience serving at the County Court level, or of voters electing a new candidate who could offer a fresh perspective.

■ **Forman:** The criminal justice system is complicated, both procedurally and substantively. At this moment we are experiencing a major adjustment to the system due to the discovery and bail reform laws enacted by the state Legislature.

In advance of the implementation of these laws in January, I chaired several meetings that brought prosecutors, defense attorneys, probation officers and court personnel together to discuss the smooth implementation of these ground-breaking changes. I believe that my 20 years on the bench, as well my experience as prosecutor and law clerk to a County Court judge, helped all stakeholders in the system adapt to the new environment in an orderly manner. Just as the system was adjusting to these new laws, the court system and the nation were struck with the COVID-19 pandemic, from which the court system is just now starting to recover. In these uncertain and trying times, Dutchess County needs my experience and steady hand.

■ **Segal:** Every judge is elected for the first time at some point. Length of time on the bench should not be the only factor voters consider; the real question is whether that judge should continue serving. Voters should not fear change when the candidate possesses the qualifications required and the values needed to be an effective and fair judge. I have over 20 years of experience handling cases in County Court. I have received the highest rating — highly qualified — and am running because I have the experience, ethics, temperament and judgment to serve the people of Dutchess as their County Court judge. Throughout my career, I have demonstrated a deep understanding of the law and a dedicated commitment to fairness, for which I have been recognized and commended by judges, victims and defense attorneys alike. As someone who has sat on both sides — as a prosecutor and a defense attorney in County Court for 20 years — I have the experience and knowledge that Dutchess County needs and deserves.

CURRENT CONVERSATIONS

Voting Q&A

WEDNESDAY OCT. 28 | 7:00-7:30PM

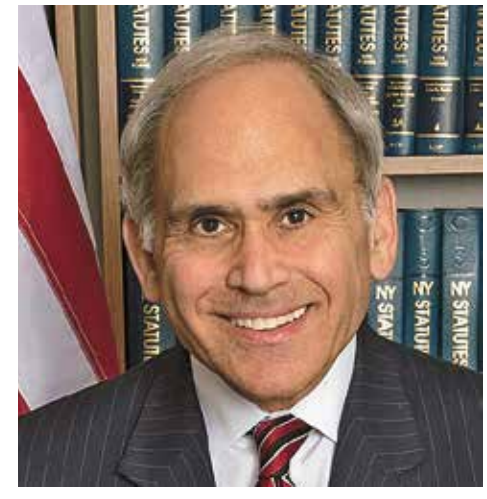
Join us in conversation with Cathy Croft, Democratic Commissioner at the Putnam Board of Elections.

REGISTER TO ATTEND:
highlandscurrent.org/current-conversations

Questions for Candidates: State Assembly, District 104

In the race for the state Assembly seat that represents the district that includes Beacon, Democratic incumbent Jonathan Jacobson faces a challenge from Republican Andrew Gauzza IV. Below are their written responses to questions posed by *The Current*.

Andrew Gauzza



Jonathan Jacobson

Why should voters choose you over your opponent?

■ **Gauzza:** I have leadership qualities which my opponent lacks. My current occupation is as a project manager, and I was the grand knight at my college's Knights of Columbus chapter. I am somebody who will lead from the front, and that is what this district needs in Albany.

■ **Jacobson:** When I ran for this office two years ago, I said I had the experience necessary to hit the ground running and get the job done, and I have done just that. I believe that my record reflects the values of our residents in the 104th District. I am proud of the many landmark pieces of legislations we passed which I supported, including the Reproductive Health Act which codified Roe v. Wade; the Comprehensive Contraception Act; the "Boss Bill"; the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act; early voting and other reforms to make voting simpler and easier; common-sense gun safety, including the Red Flag Bill, which establishes a process to remove guns from those who are deemed a threat to themselves or others; and GENDA [Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act], which protects LGBTQ+ rights.

I am also proud that I rallied community leaders and legislators in Albany to stop the New York State Thruway takeover of the New York State Bridge Authority, which would have detrimentally affected our quality of life and raised tolls on our local bridges, including the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge, Bear Mountain Bridge and the Mid-Hudson Bridge. I was one of the first legislators to stand up against the directive to force nursing homes to take COVID-infected patients. After writing to the Department of Health, this directive was reversed. I secured an additional $25,000 for the Beacon City School District for a soundboard for the theater at the high school. I was the prime sponsor of seven bills which have been signed into law, including a major change in the election law extending the time to change one's party enrollment.

Do police departments need reform and, if so, what should the Assembly do about it?

■ **Gauzza:** I believe that while police reform is necessary, defunding police departments is a dangerous idea which would do more harm than good. I believe that directing more funding toward de-escalation training and nonlethal options would be a more efficient remedy, and I would back this fully in the Assembly.

■ **Jacobson:** Police reform is necessary but each police department, and the municipality which it serves, has different needs and challenges. I agree with the approach by Gov. [Andrew] Cuomo to have each municipality come up with its own plan of reform after listening to the local citizens. During the session, I supported the police reform legislation, which passed. Once the legislation and the local reforms have been in effect for a while, we should evaluate the situation and see if any more legislation is necessary. I expect that the Legislature will hold public hearings and the governor will create a commission to study the issue.

Would you support or oppose term limits on state legislators? Why?

■ **Gauzza:** I would absolutely support term limits on state legislators. Career politicians do little good for our state and make it difficult for new ideas to get through. I would support term limits on not only the Legislature but the governor, as well.

■ **Jacobson:** I oppose term limits on state legislators. We have term limits — it is known as elections. I would keep the two-year term which gives great accountability to the voters. One problem with limiting the number of years a legislator can serve is that the unelected staff gains too much power since the elected legislators are frequently leaving. I believe in the elected official having the ultimate say since only the elected official is accountable to the voters.

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

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For more information visit www.magazzino.art

NOTICE

TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Sealed proposals will be received by the undersigned Town Clerk of the Town of Philipstown at her temporary office: ***if by Fed Ex: Town Offices, 34 Kemble Ave., Cold Spring, New York 10516, if by Mail: PO Box 155, Cold Spring, New York 10516*** until 2:00 pm. **October 29, 2020**. When the same will be publicly opened and read aloud for sale to the Town of Philipstown of:

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- #2 FUEL OIL – DELIVERED
- BANK RUN, FILL, TAILINGS – DELIVERED & FOB
- INSTALLATION OF GUIDE RAIL AND FURNISHING OF GUIDE RAIL MATERIAL
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- SCREENED ITEM 4 – DELIVERED & FOB
- NYSDOT ITEM 203.07 SELECT GRANULAR FILL FOB & DELIVERED
- STONE FILLINGS – DELIVERED & FOB
- SAND FOR SNOW AND ICE CONTROL FOB & DELIVERED
- CURB MIX WITH RAP
- STONE SCREENINGS- DELIVERED & FOB
- SMOOTH BORE CORRUGATED POLYETHYLENE SOLID PIPE- DELIVERED

Meeting the specifications of the Town of Philipstown Highway Department. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the office of said Town Clerk at the above address. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. All purchase contracts awarded pursuant to this notice shall be subject to the provisions of Section 103-A, 103-B and 103-D of the General Municipal Law.

DATED: October 14, 2020

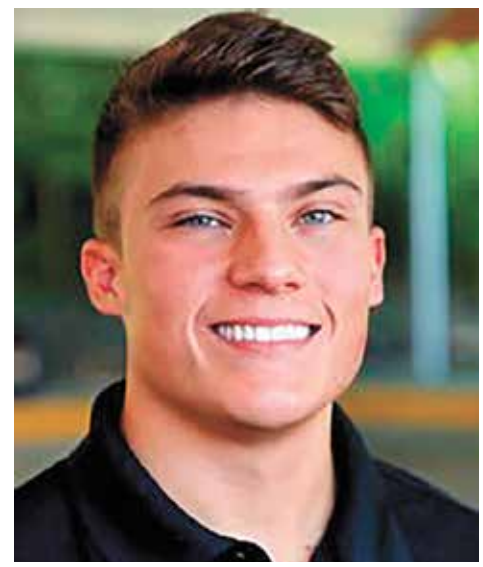
TARA PERCACCIOLO, TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN

★ ELECTION GUIDE

Questions for Candidates: State Assembly, District 95

In the race for the state Assembly seat that represents the district that includes Philipstown, Democratic incumbent Sandy Galef faces Republican Lawrence Chiulli, who also challenged her in 2018. Below are Galef's written responses to questions posed by *The Current*. If Chiulli responds, his answers will be posted at highlandscurrent.org.

Sandy Galef



Lawrence Chiulli

Why should voters choose you over your opponent?

■ **Galef:** During this pandemic and the economic and health uncertainties we face, I feel I would bring the most value to the position. I believe that my experience in government during these critical times really does matter. I can bring important knowledge to the decisions we make in the Legislature that impact residents.

Do police departments need reform and, if so, what should the Assembly do about it?

■ **Galef:** Given all the serious issues raised across our country and the rallies calling for change in the area of criminal justice, it is important that each community review the status of their police department and determine what can be done better to provide fairness in all actions and to all people no matter their race or ethnicity. We must then continue to take action to address ways we can assist our police forces, especially through more funding of policing programs. This summer, the Legislature passed a sweeping reform package to bring more accountability and transparency to the criminal justice system. We must continue to add to those reforms with community support as we go forward.

Would you support or oppose term limits on state legislators? Why?

■ **Galef:** Instead of term limits, which give more power to non-elected staff and erode experience in decision-making, I support public financing of campaigns so more people can run for office. Elected officials can now be term-limited if the public determines to vote them out. We recently passed legislation to start partial/public financing of statewide and legislative campaigns along the lines of what is done in New York City and Connecticut. The goal is to enable more candidates to get on the ballot by helping with campaign costs, limiting special-interest money and capping the costs of campaigns. This program is intended to provide the voters with many more choices on the ballot.

Smythe *(from Page 1)*

What do you see as the top statewide issues the Legislature has to tackle when it begins a new session in January?

First and foremost is going to be the pandemic. We need to make sure that we are continuing to keep the virus at bay. The underlying issue, the biggest one, is going to be the budget. It will be an important question as to whether federal aid is coming. That will make a big difference.

With the recession that we're in, revenues are down, costs are up and there's going to have to be a focus and a prioritization of where we need to put our resources. To me, the most important places are education, broadband, housing, mental-health services and investing in reigniting our economy — supporting our small businesses and investing in our infrastructure.

How about specific issues for Dutchess and Putnam counties, and Beacon and Philipstown?

Some of them are issues everywhere, such as broadband, but the solutions to those are not always going to be the same. I know that Beacon is looking at municipal broadband. I would imagine there are areas in Putnam County that don't even have the infrastructure, and that needs to be addressed.

Beacon is addressing their water system and those kinds of projects are ones that are expensive. One of the roles I see as a state senator is to support a project like that with funding and also connect it with federal resources. And in Putnam County, you have a series of lakes that have significant algae issues.

As we look to get people back to work, one of the things underlying that is education. We have an opportunity to highlight and focus and invest more in career and technical training. Beacon, in particular, is far away from the services and the programs that BOCES [Board of Cooperative Educational Services] offers, and so finding a way to bring BOCES to Beacon is something that I've spoken with a few people about — some folks have specific locations as to where that might happen.

There could be virtual programs in continuing to expand relationships with high schools to ensure that we are providing kids with all the options they have, and similarly with Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES.

Can the state avoid cuts to local municipalities and school districts?

The first part of that depends on what the federal government decides to do. Even with federal aid there will continue to be issues and I'm not sure that the state will be able to avoid cuts. The state needs to have the right priorities for spending. We need to make sure that we are funding the programs that are so desperately needed and I believe we need to look at increasing revenue — for example, having an increased tax rate for the highest income and ensuring that corporations are paying their fair share.

The MTA raised the idea of huge cuts to Metro-North's Hudson Line service because of the large-scale drop in ridership. [Daily ridership on all Metro-North lines is down an average of 83 percent since March 1.] Can the state stop or limit those cuts?

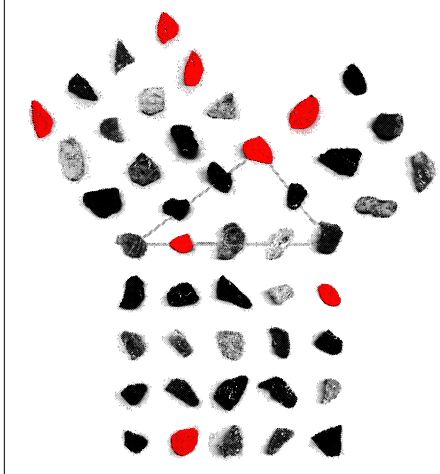
This is a big one. There's no simple answer here, either. Even if the federal government comes in with aid, it's not just, "OK, here's some money and now you're fine." The MTA had issues prior to this recession and COVID-19.

The number of people using the system is not going to change in the short-term. So it is not reasonable to assume we're going to have full service with a quarter of the ridership. They should be preparing for the best growth on the other side because I believe that we will come out of this.

Congestion continues to be a problem around Breakneck Ridge and Indian Brook Falls. Do you plan to work at the state level for solutions?

It's absolutely a state concern. It's not OK for the state to say you're on your own to manage it. What I'm hearing is there have been a lot of people who've talked about a lot of things but things don't get implemented. This touches why I'm running for office. My background is business. You need to work together with the people involved and focus on the goal and get it done. There are probably little solutions and big solutions. Let's get them done.

We don't want to tell people, "Don't come here," because tourism is part of the economy of Philipstown. But we also don't want to have the tourists have no sense of respect for the place or the residents, and we also want to have respect for the natural environment. We have so many beautiful places to go. Let's expand where we're encouraging people to go. Breakneck Ridge is fabulous, but there's also Fahnestock Park and there's beautiful places in Dutchess County, as well.



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

Women's MARCH

Southern Dutchess: Resist! organized a rally in Beacon on Saturday (Oct. 17) in support of women's rights.

Photos by Amy Kubik

Hudson Beach Glass
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162 Main St, Beacon, NY 12508 (845) 440-0068
Open daily 12PM - 6PM, Sunday 12PM - 5PM
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The Calendar

A water slide that ended with a loop

The wave pool at Action Park

A chair lift at Action Park *WarnerMedia*

The Most Dangerous Amusement Park in the World

Beacon filmmaker explores legacy of Jersey deathtrap

By Alison Rooney

As a child, Seth Porges visited Action Park several times — and lived to tell about it.

The amusement park, which opened in 1978 in Vernon, New Jersey, about an hour from Beacon, was well-known for what it lacked, which was basic safety protocols. This past August, a 90-minute documentary about the park, which the Beacon resident wrote, produced and co-directed, was released on HBO Max, where it immediately became the streaming service's top draw.

In the film, *Class Action Park*, one person summed up the park this way: "Imagine teenagers you know right now opening an amusement park — that's what it was." Another interviewee called it the "chaos summer park, with too much alcohol and too little oversight."

Judging from local response to the film on social media, Action Park looms large in the memories of many past and present Beacon residents who visited during the 1980s and early 1990s.

Porges, who was raised in Washington, D.C., brought his own memories to the project. "Action Park was a freewheeling chaotic experience, in the guise of a gated amusement park," he says. "The rides looked ripped from my 7-year-old imagination — a doodle a 6-year-old would draw in the margins of a notebook. As I got older, I wondered, could these memories possibly be real?"

"You might wonder how could people go to this deathtrap, but that's *why* they went," he says.

Porges first examined Action Park as the writer of a short 2013 documentary that went viral online. That response led Porges to more sources and stories, which, collectively, led to the feature-length film.

"In 2019, I got together with my friend Chris Scott, and he asked me why I hadn't done anything bigger," Porges says. "I said I needed a collaborator, and a month or two later we had cameras rolling."

The film intersperses vintage footage of the park with interviews. As they filmed, Porges says the arc of the story bent in ways that he had not foreseen. An interview with the members of the Larsson family, whose 19-year-old son and brother, George, died on an Action Park ride in 1980, shifted the content from its original rosy, nostalgic glow to cover-ups, criminality and tragedy.

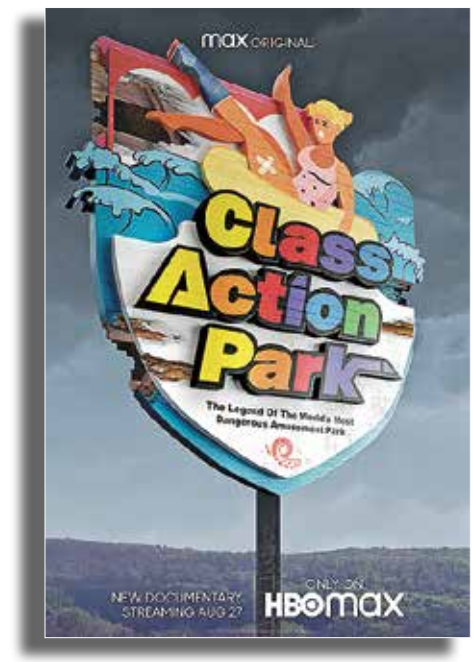
"Until that point, a lot of the danger and death felt very abstract," Porges recalls. "Once we heard them tell their story, I felt ashamed at having laughed about what happened at the park, and my perception changed quickly. That experience became immensely important when we began shaping the film."

Seth Porges, speaking on camera in *Class Action Park*

The teenagers who flocked to the park in the 1980s are now middle-aged. Their memories provide much of the film's dark humor, as do short animations. Most seesaw between fond remembrances and disbelief. One after another of the rides is pronounced — with a grin — "the most dangerous one."

Here's one person interviewed in the film, Chris Gethard, talking about the Colorado River Ride:

"Everybody talks about Tarzan Swings, Cliff Dive, Cannonball Falls, [but] Colorado River Ride may have been the most underrated dangerous ride. They would just let the laws of physics take over, which sometimes meant you would fly really fast, and sometimes meant that you would get stuck at certain points on the ride that they hadn't designed all that well. And then you would get punted by another tube. That thing was just a fucking whiplash machine. There was no rhyme or reason."



Along with the bemused looks back, the film dives into the story of Action Park's founder, Gene Mulvihill, who, in his enthusiasm for coming up with outrageous attractions, flouted such niceties as safety and insurance coverage. He also was accused of money-laundering and other crimes. That contributed to the demise of the park, which went bankrupt and closed in 1996. It is now a far-tamer water park called Mountain Creek.

Porges says he can't imagine another Action Park. "We live in an era where kids don't go outside as much," he says. "In the '80s they were running free, scraping their knees, going to Action Park. We look back at our childhoods as carefree. We didn't have jobs, we didn't have to answer to anybody. We look at Action Park and remember this heightened version of it where we could do whatever we wanted."

In the film, Porges offers a more tempered take: "Whether you grew up in the '80s or another decade, a lot of people's growing up was laced with darkness. In retrospect, there are a lot of 'How did I survive?' moments." He later added: "Back then, when parents opened their doors they were truly letting their kids out. You wonder why the latchkey kids then are today's helicopter parents? Action Park gives us a way of understanding it."

Porges says the Larsson family liked the film, despite their personal loss. "They trusted us; they told us nobody had ever reached out to them," he says. "Their story had been repeated in a fictitious manner, and when we called, they said, 'We have things to say.' "

Class Action Park can be streamed at hbomax.com, which is free for seven days and then $14.99 per month, or it's included in HBO subscriptions through providers such as Hulu and Optimum. The trailer and more information is online at classactionpark.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 24
Lions Club Shredder Day
COLD SPRING
9 a.m. – Noon. The Nest
44 Chestnut St.
coldspringlions.org/shredder

Materials to be shredded must be placed in the trunk in advance, with all paper clips and binders removed. Shredding of boxes or plastic bags is not allowed. Lions Club members will empty boxes and bags into the shredder and return containers to the vehicle's trunk. Patrons will not be allowed to leave their vehicle. Donations are encouraged to benefit local groups and the needy.

SAT 24
Prescription Drug Take-Back Day
FISHKILL
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Walmart
26 W. Merritt Boulevard

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office will accept medications for safe disposal.

SAT 24
Fall Craft Fair
WAPPINGERS FALLS
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 9D
milb.com/hudson-valley

Browse crafts by more than 30 artisans and enjoy treats from food trucks in the parking lot. Registration required. *Cost: $5 per car*

SAT 24
Harvest Fest
PUTNAM VALLEY
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

Lou Del Bianco will tell Hans Christian Andersen stories in a 45-minute program starting at 11 a.m., plus shop the Putnam Valley Resident's Coalition Farmer's Market and artisan fair. There will be musical performances and raffles throughout the day. *Cost: $10 donation*

TALKS

SAT 24
West Point Foundry Tour
COLD SPRING
10 a.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St. | bit.ly/34W9CTP

Mark Forlow, chair of the Putnam History Museum and the author of *West Point Foundry*, will lead a hike through the Preserve and discuss its history. *Free*

SAT 24
Year of the Sword
GARRISON
4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
bit.ly/YearOfTheSword

In this rescheduled event, the Philipstown Reform Synagogue will mark Holocaust Remembrance Day with Kathy Yacoe's presentation on the culture and history of the Assyrian people and the events that led to their genocide in World War 1. Register online. *Free*

SUN 25
Guided Hike: Mushrooms
GARRISON
10 a.m. Manitoga
584 Route 9D | 845-424-3812
visitmanitoga.org

Mycologist Taro Ietaka will showcase forest fungi. *Cost: $10*

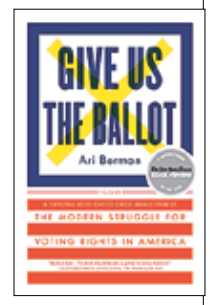
MON 26
How to Tell a Complete Story in 75 Words
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Register to join the Zoom event with *Current* reporter Mike Turton, who will explain how to write flash fiction.

TUES 27
Engine of Prosperity
COLD SPRING
2 p.m. Butterfield Library
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

The historian and curator of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Historical Society will discuss the creation, history and impact of the 108-mile canal.

THURS 29
History Book Club
COLD SPRING
7 p.m.
Split Rock Books
845-265-2080
splitrockbks.com



This month's discussion, via Zoom, will be on *Give Us the Ballot*, by Ari Berman.

SAT 31
Revolutionary War Redoubts Tour
GARRISON
1 p.m. North Redoubt Trail Head
332 Snake Hill Road | bit.ly/2HqYvKw

Putnam History Museum trustee Craig Watters will lead a 3-mile moderate-to-strenuous hike and discuss the chaining of the Hudson River and the role of the redoubts. *Cost: $10*

VISUAL ART

FRI 30
Collaborative Farm Project
BREWSTER
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tilly Foster Farm
100 NY-312 | collaborativeconcepts.org

Artworks by more than 30 artists are installed for self-guided tours. This is the show's closing weekend. Also SAT 31 and SUN 1.

Mask-Making Workshop, Oct. 28

HALLOWEEN

SAT 24
Great Haldane Pumpkin Hunt
COLD SPRING
11 a.m. – 5 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St.
haldaneschoolfoundation.org

Get a game card and search for pumpkins in the village. Cards also can be picked up at Paulette, 114 Main St., or Wynono & Co., 169 Main St. Continues through SAT 31. *Cost: $10*

SUN 25
Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat
WAPPINGERS FALLS
1 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 9D | bit.ly/3dJsCZY

Wear a costume for this event hosted by the Boy Scouts of America, Hudson Valley Council.

SUN 25
Pumpkin Glow
GARRISON
5:30 – 7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Wear a costume and take a stroll through the spooky pumpkin patch.

SAT 31
Halloween Story Walk and Candy Hunt
COLD SPRING
Noon – 1:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

The library lawn will transform into a Halloween story-walk with hidden treats to find at the end.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 17
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 finishes its annual horror movie fest with *The Cabin in the Woods* (2011) and *The Blair Witch Project* (1999) this weekend and *Beetlejuice* (1988) and *Nightmare on Elm Street 3: Dream Warriors* (1987) next weekend. See website for showtimes and health protocols. Snacks will be available for purchase. Also SUN 25, THURS 29, FRI 30, SAT 31, SUN 1. *Cost: $10 ($8 children, seniors, military)*

KIDS & FAMILY

WED 28
Mask-Making Workshop
GARRISON
4 p.m. Garrison Art Center
garrisonartcenter.org

Children ages 8 and older will study artist-made masks and learn how to construct their own inspired by tribal arts. *Cost: $30*

WED 28
Virtual Hour of Code
BREWSTER
6 p.m. Putnam County CCE
bit.ly/3m99mYD

Children ages 7 to 12 will get a taste of writing code using Scratch during this virtual event. An adult chaperone is required.

FRI 30
Virtual Bedtime Stories
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Butterfield Library
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Get cozy in your pajamas and listen to the weekly bedtime story. Registration required.

SAT 31
Saturday on the Farm
WAPPINGERS FALLS
10:30 a.m. Common Ground Farm
79 Farmstead Lane
diaart.org/program/program/saturday-studio

Artists will lead an outdoor workshop on making art in this Dia:Beacon program. *Free*

MUSIC

SAT 24
Loren Connors
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
845-831-4988
howlandculturalcentertix.com

The guitarist will perform via a livestream as part of the Elysium Furnace Works series. *Cost: $15*

(Continued on Page 19)

SUN 25
Jeremy Denk
KATONAH
3 p.m. Caramoor
914-232-1252 | caramoor.org

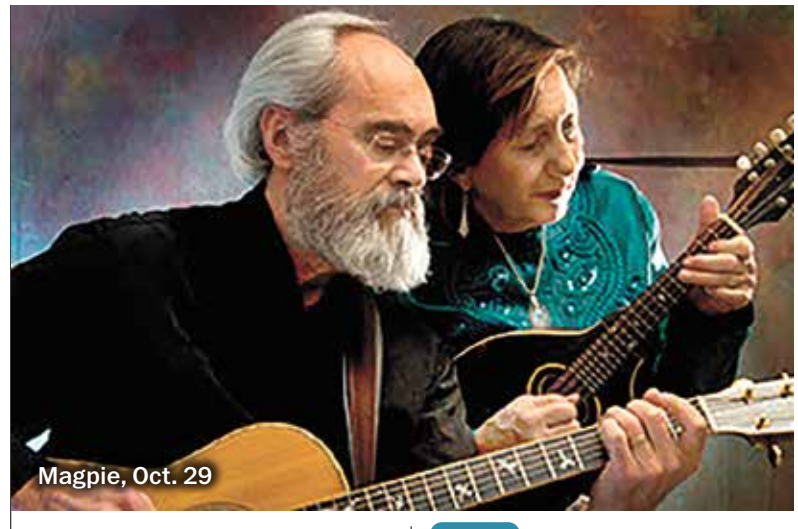
The pianist will play a program online that includes works by Thomas "Blind Tom" Wiggins, Scott Joplin, Tania León and Frederic Rzewski, bookended by Mozart's *Sonata in C minor* and Beethoven's *Piano No. 32 in C Minor, Op. 111. Cost: $10*

SUN 25
Colin and Eric Jacobsen
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Chamber Music Circle
howlandmusic.org/ALIVEmusica.html

AliveMusica presents the founders of the Brooklyn Rider string quartet in an online program that includes works by Heinrich Bilber, Reinhold Gliere, Colin Jacobsen and Maurice Ravel. The concert is co-sponsored by the Chapel Restoration and other arts organizations. Register online. *Cost: $20 donation*

THURS 29
Pumpkin Sail Concert
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Clearwater
facebook.com/sloopclearwater

Reggie Harris, Magpie, Dean Stevens and Thomasina Winslow will headline a livestream fundraiser to benefit Hudson River Sloop Clearwater.


Magpie, Oct. 29

FRI 30
Melomane
COLD SPRING
5 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D | bit.ly/34hbJCx

Guitarist Pierre de Gaillande will reunite original members of the band for socially distanced outdoor concert. *Free*

SUN 1
Callisto Quartet
KATONAH
3 p.m. Caramoor
914-232-1252 | caramoor.org

Violinists Paul Aguilar and Rachel Stenzel, violist Eva Kennedy and cellist Hannah Moses will present a livestreamed program that includes three pieces by composer Bela Bartok.

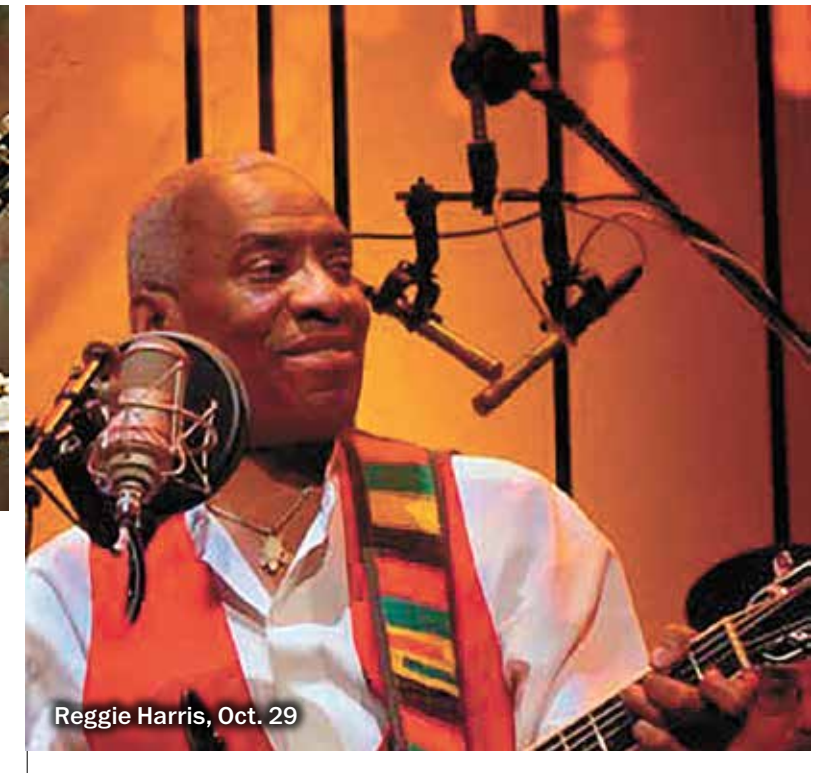
CIVIC

SAT 24
Putnam Early Voting
CARMEL
9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Board of Elections
25 Old Route 6 | putnamboe.com

Continues daily through SUN 1.
See Page 11 for times.

SAT 24
Dutchess Early Voting
FISHKILL
Noon – 5 p.m. Fishkill Town Hall
807 Route 52
elections.dutchessny.gov

Continues daily through SUN 1.
See Page 11 for times.


Reggie Harris, Oct. 29

MON 26
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

MON 26
School Board
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon High School
845-838-6900 | beaconk12.org

TUES 27
Board of Trustees
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

CHAIRS
re-created

Online Auction Benefit
Oct. 22 through Nov.14, 2020

Live viewing Nov.11-14, 10-5
Garrison Art Center Galleries

46 artists have re-created over 50 chairs as a gift to Garrison Art Center. This auction will support recovery from the difficulties of the pandemic and make it possible to continue to inspire future artists and to ensure the Art Center's acclaimed education and exhibition programs thrive.

Use phone camera here to see auction

Garrison Art Center
garrisonartcenter.org

James Murray

Emil Alzamora

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

John Allen
Justin Allen
Emil Alzamora
Marc Bernier
Emily Brown
Kit Burke-Smith
Chuck Burleigh
Peter Bynum
Diana Carulli
Renee Curci-Ivanoff
Tim D'Acquisto
Marylyn Dintenfass
Thomas Donahue
Susan English
Justin Feimer
Marcy B. Freedman
Barbara Smith Gioia
Kyra Hazou
Julie Heckert
Thomas Huber
Carla Rae Johnson
Irene Karlen
Grace Kennedy
Lisa Knaus
Martee Levi
Cecile Lindstedt
Sascha Mallon
Friedrike Merck
James Murray
Chantelle Norton
Irene O'Garden
Michael Piotrowski
Kim Pitt-Foster
Diana Polack
Hildreth Potts
Kelly Preusser
Sheila Rauch
Melissa Schlobohm
Ursula Schnieder
Patricia Schories
Betty Stafford
Tracy Strong
Carinda Swann
Peg Taylor
Diana Vidal
Coulter Young

Barbara Smith Gioia

Marylyn Dintenfass

Renee Curci-Ivanoff

Peter Bynum

Above detail: Hildreth Potts

Friends of the Hudson

Philipstown and Beacon residents picked up trash along the Hudson River on Saturday (Oct. 17) as part of the ninth annual Riverkeeper Sweep. The volunteers included, at Little Stony Point Park, members of Girl Scout Troop 2032 and Brownie Troop 1091 from Cold Spring. More than 259 tons of debris have been removed between Brooklyn and the Adirondacks since the first cleanup in 2012.

Photos by Ross Corsair

PHILIPSTOWN DEMOCRATS

Re-elect Congressman SEAN PATRICK MALONEY
Assemblywoman SANDY GALEF
Town Justice CAMILLE LINSON
ELECT KAREN SMYTHE as NY State Senator
Make JOE BIDEN the next President of the USA!

Make America Brave Again. Make America Honest Again.
Make America Scientific Again. Make America Innovative Again.
Make America Trustworthy Again. Make America Generous Again.
Make America Creative Again. Make America Compassionate Again.
Make it Just. Make it Fair. Make it Able. Make it Together.

MAKE AMERICA PROUD AGAIN.

For more information visit www.philipstowndemocrats.org

Making Connections

Beacon artist 'pulls threads' to pair works

By Alison Rooney

Code-switching is the practice of alternating in conversation between two or more languages or dialects.

It also has come to refer to when people who don't have power adopt the language or accent or presentation of those who do.

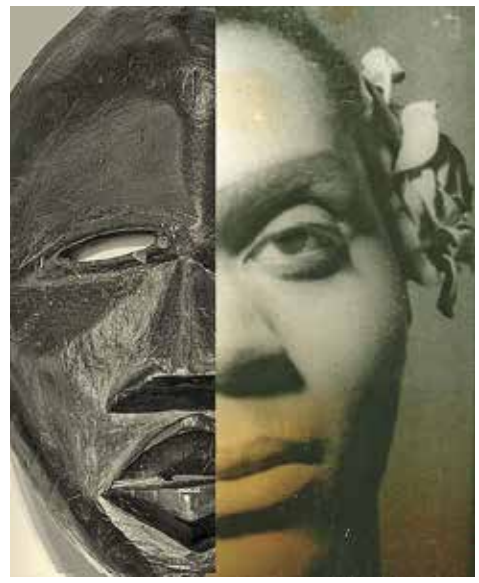
When Jean-Marc Superville Sovak was asked by the Samuel Dorsky Museum at SUNY New Paltz to put together an exhibit addressing the reckoning which has followed the killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, the Beacon artist began by considering what art institutions put on their walls. Whom, he asked, are museums meant to serve?

The resulting exhibit, *We Wear the Mask* — its title taken from a poem by Paul Laurence Dunbar — continues through Nov. 22. It consists of 19 works and artifacts selected from the more than 6,000 objects in the Dorsky's permanent collection, spanning nearly 3,000 years.

From the start, Sovak, who was born in Montreal to parents who are Trinidadian and Czech, had big questions to ponder. He says he recognized that the pieces in the Dorsky collection were likely not chosen by people of color. "We need to figure out how can we make space for everyone," he says. "This exhibit is a 'We see you, we get it' small action that the museum has taken."

Although the size of the Dorsky collection was daunting, Sovak says he "started pulling on some threads I found in the collection, and wove them into race and representation. Because there was such a range in terms of the age — from Egyptian funerary figures on up — it felt like a lot to get through." He says he came to see the curation as more of a discourse on how the museum can look at itself.

He notes that most of the works are not by Black artists. "Obviously institutions, not specifically the Dorsky, were not designed to address people of color because they were not administered by people of color," he says. "So, it became more about the kind of power dynamics visible in the work."



A pairing of a Deangle wood mask by an unknown Mande artist with a Carl Van Vechten photo of Claude Marchant

"Madonna and Child with Two Angels" by an unknown Ethiopian artist

Sovak says his job as curator was "finding ways for these objects to talk to each other." Early on, an engraving by African American artist Henry Ossawa Tanner of Christ walking on water caught his eye. As Sovak explains in a video that accompanies the exhibit, he had to ask himself what, if anything, it had to do with race and representation.

"Ladies and Gentlemen," by Andy Warhol

"Boy With Telephone," by James Van Der Zee

"But then, looking again, I realized what Tanner had done or, more precisely, what Tanner had not done," he says. "Since Jesus's face is never defined, it can shift depending on what viewers choose to project. It occurred to me: Was Tanner code-switching from one audience to another?

"Each dive into the collection's database became an opportunity to find ways in which each artist's object or each artist's subject was, in their own way, wearing the mask. The works in the collection are juxtaposed in the form of visual code-switching, exposing the power differentials that brought them into being."

Sovak said that during a discussion with a student group he was leading through the exhibit, when he asked if everyone were familiar with the term "code-switching," a Black student raised her hand and said, "I'm code-switching right now." Says Sovak: "That gave everything clarity."

As an example of his process, Sovak paired an African mask and a photo taken during the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s.

"Talking about race, you're talking about power, hierarchy, power dynamics, caste," he explains. "Most museums' collections of what we call 'African art' are problematic, because Africa's heritage is scattered. How do we address that, besides the obvious solution of repatriating it? I found a connection between the mask, with its idealized aspects of femininity, and the photo, which has something to say about black gay beauty."

Sovak also paired two sculptures. One, by an African American artist, Richard Howard Hunt, is a casting for a work called "Freedmen's Column," which "shows liberty coming always at the price of someone being compromised," Sovak says. "It's trying to spread its wings but is already compromised."

The other sculpture is a bit of a mystery. "Nobody [at Dorsky] knew what it was," he says. But his research revealed that "it bears an almost exact resemblance to objects from a traditional tribe, the Tuareg, in Mali. They would pitch their tents and hold down the corners using these objects."

The two sculptures have different functions: "One is very specific but removed from its specificity, and the other has the function of elevating the idea of compromised freedom and liberty. The way they talk to each other has something to say about the way that they came about. That's what I mean by there are threads — even though the objects might not seem to have any connection to each other. That was the task at hand."

The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, located at 75 Mainheim Blvd., in New Paltz, is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. See newpaltz.edu/museum or call 845-257-3844.

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Mouths to Feed

Witch Way

By Celia Barbour

No eye of newt, toe of frog or adder's fork spiced up the meals I cooked for the witches. In fact, their diets were notable mostly for their ordinariness. They ate chili with cornbread, pasta with red sauce, stir-fry over rice, mac and cheese and chicken curry during the two weeklong occasions that I helped cook for their annual regional gatherings many years ago. They also ate a lot of sweets. Hardly a day slipped into night without all 120 of them clamoring back into the cleaned-up kitchen for bedtime milk and cookies.

Not to say that everything about them was run-of-the-mill. Their outfits, for example. Both men and women wandered the woods in Druidian robes, earth-goddess getups featuring elaborate fruit-and-flower headdresses, gold lamé evening gowns, fairy wings and even, well, nothing (due to state health regulations, they had to restrict their nudity to non-food-service settings).

Even more striking was their gratitude. If they liked a meal, some jolly subset of them would appear in the kitchen to beat out their thanks on drums. Other times, they'd sing or dance, write the cooks a poem, present us with an herb salve or drawing, or offer a simple, solemn bow.

I had heard about this gathering of witches*, a kind of summer camp-meets-professional convention, through a network of fellow cooks, who promised that cooking for the group would be fun. That it was. But the witches were more than just entertaining. As I marveled at their almost palpable joy, I thought of early religious groups like the Quakers and Huguenots, who'd risked shame, censure and even imprisonment in the Old World for the sake of worshiping in ways that felt authentic to them. What relief and gratitude they must have felt when they could gather freely, in a place that tolerated their faith.

Research suggests that some contemporary witches practice "black" magic, working with dark forces toward dishonorable ends. But the ones I met during those weeks seemed more like Glinda's temperamental cohorts. They adhered to a belief system which prioritizes nature and women. They cast spells in hopes of saving the planet.

I think about them every October because, well: Witches. It's their season, after all, along with ghosts, goblins, skeletons and pumpkins. But I also think about them because of their outsize affection for sweets. There's something about October's velvety-dark and chilly nights that makes a bedtime snack of cookies and milk feel especially fitting. All the more so this year, with trick-or-treating on hold.

One of the recipes I learned during those weeks came from a lovely but scatterbrained kitchen colleague who was always late, always forgetful and always whipping things up on the fly. One evening she completely forgot it was her turn to make the bedtime snack. With a half hour to go, she threw together simple peanut butter cookies from memory that were remarkably delicious.

"How'd you do that?" I asked her.

"Easy-peasy," she said. "It's one cup peanut butter, one cup sugar, one egg. For a big group, you just multiply."

I was skeptical that such a barebones recipe could result in actual cookies. Nonetheless, I memorized it on the spot (not hard) and have tried it many times since. Indeed, it works! However, I've also tweaked and improved it, because that's the kind of magic I like to perform.

*They called themselves "witches" rather than Wiccans or Pagans as a way of reclaiming a term of opprobrium. Many marginalized groups have likewise adopted terms once used by others to insult them.

> "I was skeptical that such a barebones recipe could result in actual cookies.

Spookily Easy Peanut Butter Cookies

Makes 2 dozen 1½-inch cookies

Bob's Red Mill makes white rice flour as well as sweet rice flour; either works here. If you can't find rice flour, pulverize rice in your blender until very fine. These cookies are gluten-free, but not (obviously) allergen-free. Take extra care with all your cooking equipment and utensils if any peanut-allergic people use or visit your kitchen. Peanut butter is hard to wash off surfaces!

1 cup smooth or crunchy pure peanut butter (be sure to use the kind containing nothing other than peanuts and salt)

⅔ cup white sugar

2 tablespoons rice flour (see headnote)

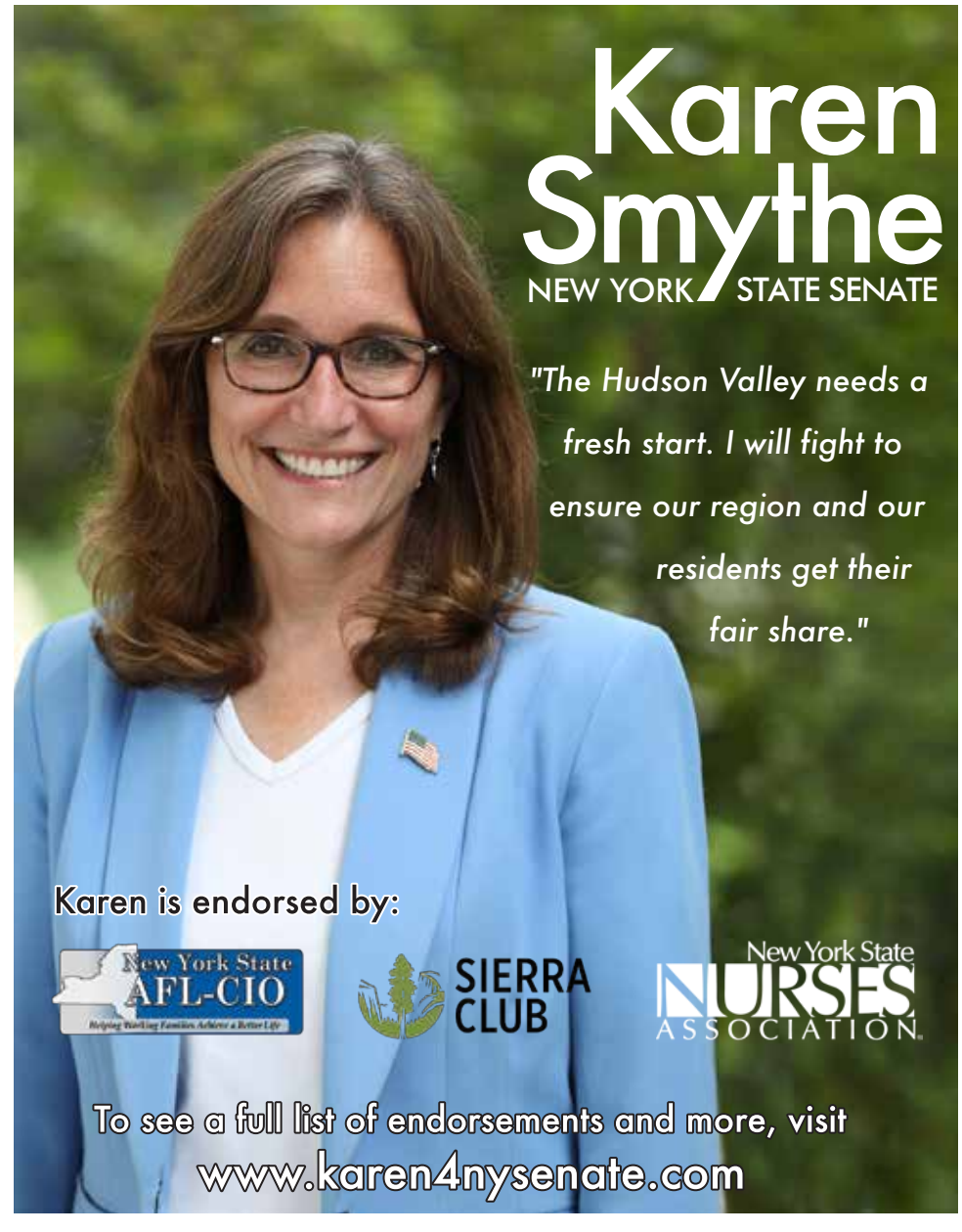
1 large egg

½ teaspoon sea salt, plus more for sprinkling (optional)

Heat oven to 325 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Combine the peanut butter, sugar and rice flour in a medium bowl. Mix thoroughly until no dry patches remain. Add the egg and salt (if using) and mix to combine. Scoop or roll the batter into balls and arrange on the baking sheet. Flatten gently using the tines of a fork.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes, turning the pan halfway through baking. If you like sweet-salty cookies (as I do), sprinkle the tops with a few grains of sea salt. Allow cookies to cool 5 minutes on sheet before transferring to a rack to cool completely.



Hara Schwartz, watering a pot containing corms.

The late afternoon sun shines on the greenhouse panes.

The large greenhouse is being given a clean-up, but otherwise will be left in its circa early 1950s original state.

An abundance of saffron corms

Photos by A. Rooney

Saffron Station

Philipstown doctor joins experiment to grow spice

By Alison Rooney

After closing her solo practice, dermatologist Hara Schwartz, who lives in Philipstown and is the mother of twin 7-year-old boys, says she craved a project — preferably a big one.

A friend, Hannah Milman, the former longtime craft editor for *Martha Stewart Living*, suggested Schwartz transform an abandoned greenhouse on the Route 9D property where Schwartz and her family recently bought a home, by growing saffron.

This is not as entirely out-of-left-field as it seems, because Milman is a steward of the New York Saffron Project, which is experimenting with the cultivation of saffron in New York City and across the state. Each location is named for its ZIP code, so once Milman had a look at the greenhouse — which was built in the early 1950s by Lord & Burnham — Experiment Station 10516 was born.

Schwartz and Milman will be selling saffron tea and plants at the Cold Spring Farmer's Market on Saturday, Oct. 31. They will be joined by Laura Sansone, founder of the New York Textile Lab, who sells products dyed with locally harvested saffron and other plants.

Saffron, or *crocus sativi*s, is a labor-intensive crop to harvest, which makes the spice expensive and limits its use in the kitchen. According to the North American Center for Saffron Research & Development, which is based at the University of Vermont, it is grown mostly in West and Central Asia and the Mediterranean region in places with low soil fertility and limited rainfall. (It's most commonly associated with Spanish paellas and Mediterranean and Middle Eastern cuisine.) Until recently, scientists assumed that saffron could only be grown in colder regions in high tunnels, but research has proved otherwise.

Schwartz, whose family moved to Continental Village when she was in elementary school, was intrigued by the idea of becoming a saffron farmer and, with help from horticulturalist Brian Bergen, she dug in.

"I wouldn't call myself a gardener, but I am a great student and enjoy learning," she says. "I am attracted to the hard, manual work this project requires and I love getting my hands dirty." After cleaning the greenhouse, she planted 2,000 saffron bulbs, which are known as corms. Most were planted in terracotta pots left behind in the greenhouse, and she and her sons also planted 300 in an outside garden.

"Unlike most crocus-type plants, saffron corms bloom sometime between October and November," she explains. "Sprouts appear in September and October, followed by flowering. The harvesting of the three filaments, called stigmas, and the drying of the spice occur around October or November."

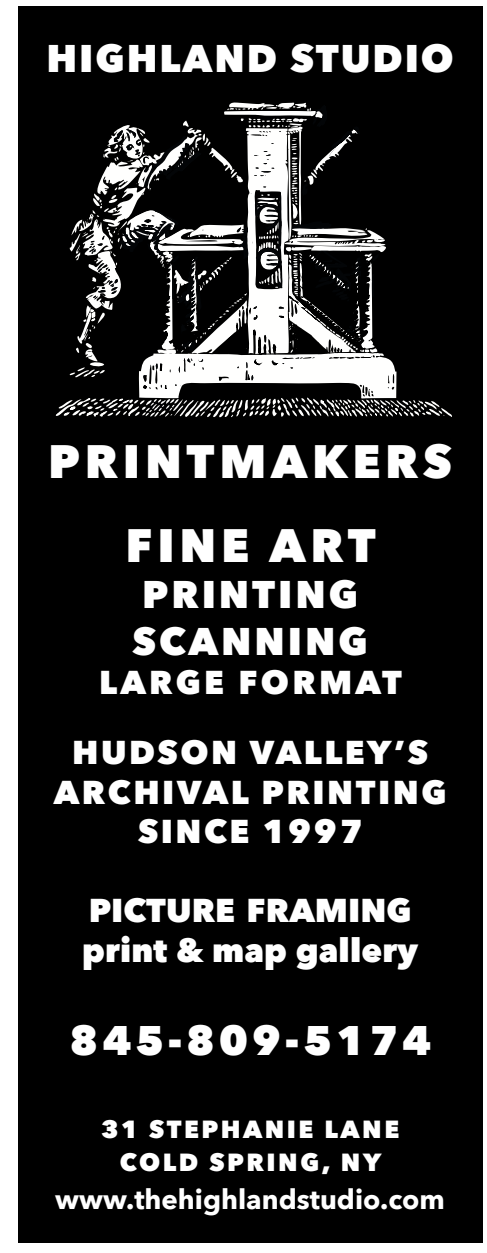
Saffron leaves remain green and continue to grow over the winter. "From April through June, baby corms cluster around the mother corm, which dies in the late spring when the leaves turn brown," Schwartz says. "The corms go dormant in July and August. My hope for the ones planted outside is that next year I'll have 1,000."

Schwartz says she wanted to restore the greenhouse for another reason: as a place for the community. "I love the idea of the community visiting the greenhouse, pulling on the long chain connected to the pulley system that opens all the windows and touching the old gardening tools that were uncovered in the cleanup," she says. In addition, "I want to bring corms to local restaurants to plant, and they can use their saffron in their cooking."

The greenhouse, which still has the original cypress holding the panes, has a long history. Two rear greenhouses and a potting shed were built by Henry Finck soon after his family purchased the home in 1932. Ron and Priscilla Richley bought the property in 1967 and ran H.G. Finck's Florist for a year before renaming it Richley's Country Florist for seven years and then changing the name to Everlastings Shop while shifting to dried flowers and antiques.

Schwartz says the Richleys have been sharing photos and stories, some of which were passed to them by the Fincks. She says many greenhouse treasures were left behind, including wooden crates, terracotta pots, tools and other artifacts.

"I'm enjoying every minute of this," she says.



Protest *(from Page 1)*

figures for police officers because the city was negotiating a contract with the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, the police officers' union. The budget was adopted in December, while the PBA contract was adopted in January and expires at the end of 2021.

Because of the negotiations, "when we put the [2020] budget together, it was based off 2018 salaries," Ruggiero said.

Susan Tucker, the city's finance director, said: "I'm not putting increases into the salary lines until a contract is settled," noting that the anticipated spending was included in the 2020 budget in a contingency fund.

If the proposed 2021 budget is adopted, spending on the Police Department would represent 26 percent of the city's general-fund spending. (The water and sewer funds, which would have 2 percent increases, are budgeted separately.)

The council for the next several weeks will meet virtually with department heads to discuss budget needs; police and fire are scheduled for Monday (Oct. 26).

Ruggiero said on Tuesday that he would bring figures to that meeting to show what the 2020 police budget would be had it used salary figures from the current PBA contract.

An hour before that discussion, several people called in to the meeting while standing outside the mayor's home, where the protestors were chanting and calling for Kyriacou to resign. During a 30-minute public comment period, 16 callers voiced their displeasure with the budget.

"Where have you been? Where is your mind at? Where is your heart at?" asked Ben Wills. "We're your community; we need a government that represents what we want, that represents our needs."

Callers said the proposal was a slap in the face after months of protesting following the death in May of George Floyd while in police custody in Minneapolis.

"It is almost beyond imagination at a time such as this that you would conceive of increasing the police budget," said Matt Casey. "It is the exact opposite of what the community is asking you to do."

Salaries aren't the only component of the police budget established by contract.

Kyriacou's 2021 proposal includes an increase of nearly $77,000 in police pension costs that are also negotiated with the city. In addition, the union contract calls for a minimum of four officers — a sergeant, front-desk officer and two patrol officers, along with the chief and a lieutenant — on duty for each shift, other than the overnight shift, which requires additional officers.

If the city were to downsize the Police Department, the contract's per-shift requirement would not change, and the remaining officers would have to work overtime to meet the requirement, Kyriacou explained.

"Our ability to affect staffing in the Police Department is affected by collective bargaining," he said. "Right now, if we are to reduce staffing, it will simply increase 150 percent in terms of overtime."

The proposed budget does eliminate the department's K-9 program — the officer will stay but the dog will not.

Several callers Monday night criticized Kyriacou for other elements of the budget, including the decision to not raise taxes to the maximum allowed under a state tax cap and a $25,000 reduction from last year in the Recreation Department's budget.

The recreation decrease, Ruggiero said, is due to the city not hiring as many after school counselors as it typically would because of the pandemic shutdown. There are no cuts in the department's services or programming, he said.

Kyriacou addressed taxation during the meeting, calling property tax "one of the most regressive taxes we have." Because buildings with more than three apartments are considered commercial properties, rather than residential, they are taxed at a 30 percent higher rate, he said.

"In the current real-estate market, with low vacancy rates, any tax increase is fully passed along to renters," the mayor said. "It's one of the reasons to be careful. Some people can say 'I'm happy to pay additional tax,' and I'm one of those people, but you meet people on fixed income, especially seniors. People of fixed income are hit in exactly the same way as people of substantial means. We end up losing people for that reason. It's not that straightforward."

After meeting with the fire and police departments on Monday, the City Council is scheduled to confer with the heads of the highway, water and sewer departments on Nov. 12. A public hearing on the budget will take place Nov. 16. The council must adopt the budget before Dec. 31, although the vote has historically been earlier in December.

On Monday, Council Member Terry Nelson asked residents for patience.

"I know there's a lot of frustration," he said. "This [budget] process is a very tedious one. Think of it as a family road trip. You're figuring out what to take with you, and along the way you're going to take things out and remove things that are not necessary. Be patient. This is going to take a while but we're going to get there."

FEATURE PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK

Automotive Restoration, and Storage Facility near Airport, 1.5 Hours from NYC

Location: NYS RT 376, Wappingers
Square Feet: 20,000 ± SF
Acreage: 5 ± Acres
Asking Price: $1,125,000

Hudson Valley; Live Stream Music Venue, former Vaudevillian Theater

Location: Crannel St, Poughkeepsie
Square Feet: 17,000 ± SF
Acreage: 0.23 ± Acres
Asking Price: $1,750,000

Garden Apartment Complex 39 Units Northern Dutchess County

Location: Northern Dutchess County
Square Feet: 39 Apartments
Acreage: 10.16 ± Acres
Asking Price: $4,200,000

Hudson Valley Area NYS former IBM Research Center, Poughkeepsie Day School

Location: Boardman Rd, Poughkeepsie
Square Feet: 80,635 ± SF
Acreage: 34.17 ± Acres
Asking Price: $9,250,000

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Lawsuit *(from Page 1)*

2018 after the Zoning Board of Appeals, in a decision backed by the Village Board, denied their application to construct the tower. AT&T Mobility, which also hopes to use the tower, sued the village separately.

The residents brought their own legal action "so that our village can follow the law without being bullied by the telecoms," David Eisenbach, a leader of the group, explained on Monday (Oct. 19). He said records from Village Board meetings, plus news articles quoting Mayor Michael Bowman and his predecessor, Bill O'Neill, "reveal the telecoms bullied and intimidated our elected officials, who felt they had no choice but to agree to the settlement."

He added that the residents want the village to allow more public input on changes to the cell tower plans made after the settlement and that the "ultimate goal is to find a sensible location" for the tower. On Thursday (Oct. 22) he suggested the Butterfield redevelopment complex in Cold Spring or the Philipstown Highway Department on Fishkill Road in Nelsonville as possible locations.

The settlement, according to the lawsuit, "is a fundamentally flawed, illegal and dangerous litigation tool."

The 33-page lawsuit accuses the cell-tower companies of employing a "sue-and-settle gambit" and wielding their resources with such a "hefty thud" that Nelsonville "caved" and failed to represent the interests of its citizens.

The lawsuit also charges that the settlement "bargains away" village zoning control and law-enforcement powers, represents "spot zoning," and "promotes private interests at the expense of the general welfare."

Village officials received the document on Wednesday (Oct. 21) and on Thursday Mayor Mike Bowman said they are working with the village lawyer and insurance company to meet a 21-day deadline to answer the claims. Homeland Towers' lawyer did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The lawsuit argues that the settlement failed to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and Endangered Species Act, as well as the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Neither the village and cell-tower companies nor the presiding judge "conducted any environmental review of the project before adopting" the settlement, the lawsuit states. "Without any study of the project's impact on threatened and endangered species, its environmental impacts might well be irreversible."

A Cold Spring homeowner who lives on Parsonage Street, which borders Nelsonville, and a couple who live on East Mountain Road South in northern Philipstown joined the Nelsonville residents as plaintiffs in bringing the legal action, which contends that the tower is "in such close proximity" to Nelsonville properties as "to generate adverse environmental impacts that are unique and fundamentally different from [those facing] the public at large." (East Mountain Road is about 2 miles from Nelsonville.)

Among likely threats to residents, the complaint lists "light and visual pollution," increased stormwater runoff, causing erosion; elimination of habitats for birds, mammals and native plants; and displacement of animals, including the endangered Indiana Bat and threatened Northern Long-Eared Bat.

OBITUARIES

Phil Schatzle (1934-2020)

Philip Louis Schatzle, 86, of Cold Spring, died Oct. 18, surrounded by family members.

He was born in Nelsonville on Sept. 20, 1934, the son of Francis and Mary (Nevins) Schatzle, and raised there. He settled in Cold Spring after his marriage to the former Margaret McKenna.

Phil graduated in 1952 from Haldane High School, where he excelled academically, musically and athletically. He held a bachelor's degree in science education from Albany State University, a master's degree from Teacher's College and an administration degree from SUNY New Paltz.

Phil taught chemistry for 38 years at Briarcliff High School. He was given the affectionate nickname "King Philip" by his students and was honored with a New York State Teacher of the Year Award. He also coached tennis and served on the Briarcliff Alumni Committee.

He joined the U.S. Army in 1956, at age 22, serving in Germany during the Korean War. He later joined the local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts, and served as VFW commander for more than 10 years.

In 2017 he was inducted into the New York State Senate's Veterans Hall of Fame on a nomination by state Sen. Sue Serino. In 2016 he was among a group of nine veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C., to see the national war memorials during a trip sponsored by the Legion and VFW.

His family said he always looked forward to visiting the veteran's hospital, selling poppies, planning the Cold Spring Memorial Day Parade and sending packages to soldiers and veterans during Christmas.

Phil was a parishioner of Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring, where he was baptized, served as an altar boy, usher, religious school teacher and member of the Knights of Columbus. He also was president of Philipstown Seniors for more than seven years, an AARP driver's education teacher and a Cub Scoutmaster.

Phil enjoyed tennis, gardening, swimming, church services and his pets. He loved to play the piano and would perform for patients at the Rosary Hill Home in Hawthorne. For Christmas parties and events, he would dress up as Santa. He had a great sense of humor, his family said, and often told funny stories about growing up in Nelsonville.

Besides his wife, Margaret ("Big Peg"), he is survived by his children, Suzanne Schatzle, Philip Schatzle (Claudia) and Margaret Mary Schatzle ("Little Peg"), as well as a granddaughter, Arielle Schatzle-Lhotan, who called him "Poppy."

He also is survived by his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Packy and Betty-Ann Shields; a cousin, Terry Lahey; and his childhood friends, Edward Englebride, Ray Champlin and Jimmy Cone. His four brothers died before him.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered today (Oct. 23) at Our Lady of Loretto. Memorial donations may be made to the American Legion/VFW, c/o Tom Kivel, 3501 Route 9, Apt. E, Cold Spring, NY 10516.

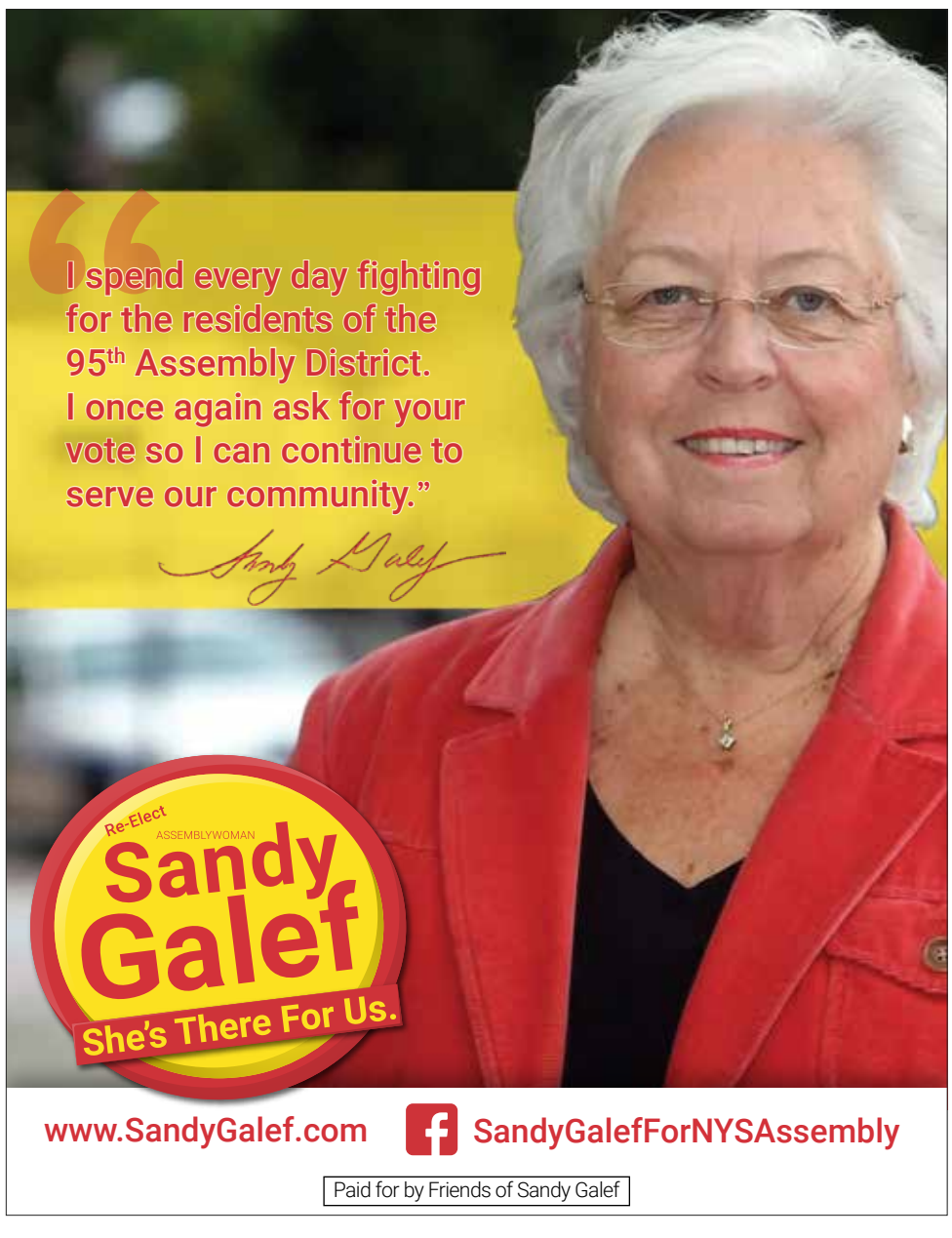
Jasmine Velez (1983-2020)

Jasmine Velez, 36, of Carmel, died Oct. 10 in a crash at the intersection of Route 9 and Route 301 in Philipstown.

Velez was the passenger on a motorcycle. Details about the accident were not immediately available from the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

Velez was born Nov. 5, 1983. A graduate of Carmel High School and Ithaca College, she was the program director at the Haverstraw clinic of the Lexington Center for Recovery, a nonprofit agency that provides services to those suffering from alcohol and substance abuse.

Velez is survived by her 9-year-old daughter, according to the center, which launched an online fundraiser for her benefit at bit.ly/velez-fund.



Important Nelsonville Alert!

The Village of Nelsonville Seeks Feedback About AIRBNB and Short Term Rentals

Nelsonville encourages its residents to complete a survey on this issue by November 11. This survey, in addition to feedback given at public meetings, will help the board as it debates the matter.

A link to the survey can be found on the Village website:

nelsonvilleny.gov

Nelsonville residents preferring to complete a printed copy of the survey can pick one up at Village Hall (258 Main Street).

Current Classifieds

FREE STUFF

OAK CHAIRS — Used for pews at the St. Andrew-St. Luke Episcopal Church, 15 South Ave. sanctuary in Beacon, free for the taking. Small donations welcomed. For information, call 845-831-1369.

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CARETAKER AVAILABLE — Caretaker with 20+ years' experience available to: manage operations of property; maintenance; repairs; gardening; landscaping; pool care; convenience services (errands); pet care, misc. Flexible to a variety of needs. Resume and references available. Contact Greg at 914-618-2779 or gproth24@gmail.com.

NEED HELP WITH COLLEGE ESSAYS? — My goal is to have you write college essays (common app and/or supplemental essays) that are well-written and offer insight into who you are. Students who have worked with me have been accepted to Yale, Brown, Vassar, SUNYs and other colleges. I can do virtual or email. Contact: Elise LaRocco at laroccoelise@gmail.com or 917-225-6618.

DONATE YOUR CAR — Your donation helps education, prevention and support programs for the United Breast Cancer Foundation. Fast, free pickup, 24-hour response, plus tax deduction. Call 855-821-1830.

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TIME FOR A GENERATOR? — The weather is increasingly unpredictable. Be prepared for power outages. Free 7-year extended warranty ($695 value) when you buy a Generac standby generator. Schedule a free in-home assessment today. Call 631-498-7851. Special financing for qualified customers.

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING — LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Get a free estimate and 15% off purchase. 10% senior and military discounts. Call 866-326-8936.

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SPORTS

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Cross-Country

Haldane Performs Well at Milton Invite

Both teams finish second in their groups

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane High School cross-country teams turned in solid performances on Oct. 17 at an invitational meet at the Hudson Valley Sports Complex in Milton.

The boys finished second in their group, which included Greeley, Yorktown, Pelham, Nyack and Ardsley. Walter Hoess paced the Blue Devils, finishing fifth in 18:01. Luke Parella was sixth in 18:04 and Everett Campanile was eighth in 18:09.

Among the other Haldane runners, John Kisslinger was 19th in 19:45 and Conrad White was 21st in 19:53. Newcomers Rowen Kuzminski finished in 20:02 and Julian Ambrose in 20:12.

"I'm thrilled beyond belief," Coach Tom Locascio said after he meet. "We haven't had three runners finish in the 18-minute range in several years. That really helps with team scoring. And our fourth and fifth runners also broke 20 minutes. Hoess turned in a solid performance and Luke and Kisslinger each had a fantastic last 200 meters."

The girls' team also placed second in their group, paced by Shannon Ferri, who won in 20:51. Newcomer Caroline Cates finished sixth in 23:02; the other finishers were Celia Drury, Helen Nichols and Erris Maguire.

"We had an injury to our No. 2 runner [Eloise Pearsall] on the course, so she did not finish," said Locascio. For that reason, "the girls didn't score as well as we thought, but Cates was great in only her second race and Celia also ran strong."

Haldane is scheduled to compete at a second Milton Invitational on Saturday (Oct. 24).

VARSITY SCOREBOARD

Boys' Soccer

Haldane 3, Croton-Harmon 0
Lourdes 4, Haldane 0
Putnam Valley 3, Haldane 0
Beacon 7, Arlington B 0
Chase Green (5), Derek Bilyeu (1), Warren Banks (1)
Beacon 6, Peekskill 1
Banks (5), Miguel Ruiz (1)

Girls' Tennis

Beacon 7, Brewster 0
Lourdes 6, Beacon 1
Lourdes 7, Beacon 0
Ketcham 4, Beacon 3
Briarcliff 5, Haldane 0
Pleasantville 3, Haldane 2
Briarcliff 4, Haldane 1

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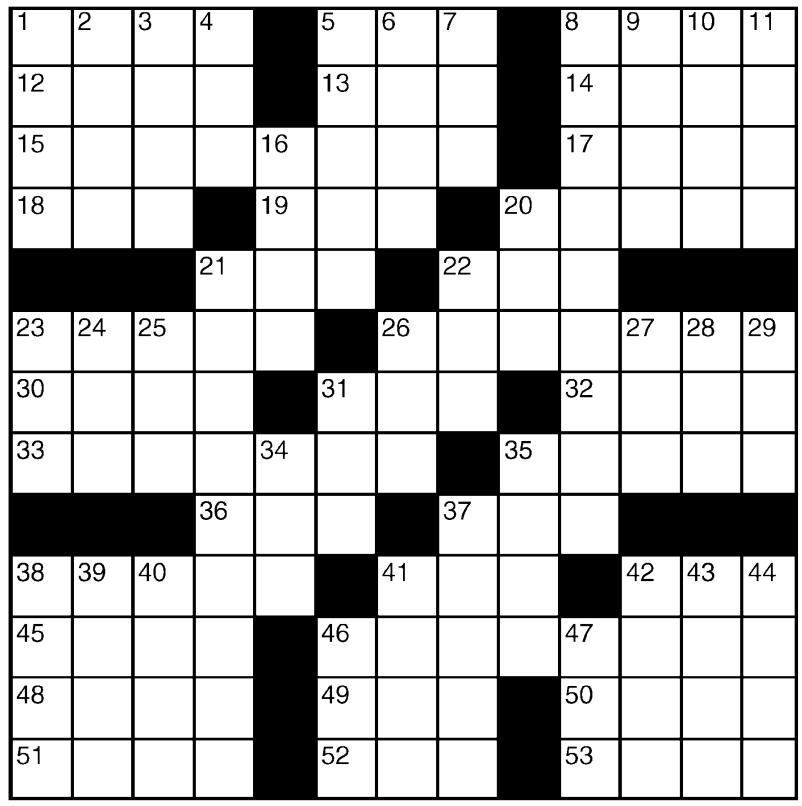
Puzzles

CrossCurrent



ACROSS

1. Manhandle
5. Kimono sash
8. Hollywood clashers
12. Otherwise
13. Paid athlete
14. Swindle
15. Glass made of lava
17. Small songbird
18. Series of battles
19. Individual
20. Too thin
21. Prompt
22. Evergreen type
23. Happen
26. Andean vultures
30. Courts
31. Email alternative
32. Pedestal occupant
33. Panacea
35. Golfer's aid
36. Rowing need
37. Junior
38. Suspicious
41. Pal
42. Hot tub
45. Stereo hookup
46. — bacon
48. Pod vegetable
49. Plant bristle
50. Fairy tale baddie
51. Lowly worker
52. Thickness
53. Chew like a chipmunk

DOWN

1. Cat call?
2. Actress Jessica
3. Cold War abbr.
4. Muumuu accessory
5. Put one's two cents in
6. Highland hillside
7. Charged bit
8. Early era in England's 20th century
9. Mentor
10. File command
11. Transmitted
16. Gloomy
20. Card player's call
21. Janitor
22. Hounds' prey
23. Possess
24. Bill's partner
25. Trig ratio
26. Rotating part
27. Peculiar
28. Scepter
29. Like 22-Down
31. Bear hair
34. Shaft of light
35. Last few notes
37. Optimistic
38. Buy stuff
39. Woodsy walk
40. Natural hairstyle
41. Cry loudly
42. Portent
43. Law firm aide, for short
44. From the beginning
46. Upper limit
47. Mutt

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	SOLUTIONS
1 acting sister of Kate Mara (6)	_____
2 capital of Scotland (9)	_____
3 longing (8)	_____
4 they help you to step up (5)	_____
5 putting on a new jacket, say (10)	_____
6 many artists in the 1800s (9)	_____
7 unplanned (10)	_____

ROO	VER	YEA	EDI	NG
RGH	ANT	TAL	ING	CI
ROM	AC	GS	RNI	NBU
RUN	DEN	NEY	ICS	RECO

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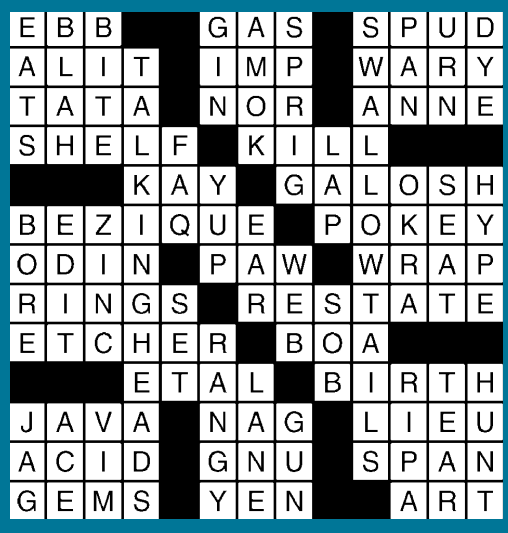
SudoCurrent

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

Answers for Oct. 16 Puzzles



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

1. DEFOE, 2. MARCHERS, 3. DESPERATE, 4. AUCKLAND, 5. FUNGIBLE, 6. LUMINOUS, 7. BEAT

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

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Girls' Soccer Roundup

By Skip Pearlman

Beacon's Claire Derrenbacher kicks a shot backward over the keeper's head; it barely missed, hitting the top of the goal.

Beacon 8, Peekskill 0

Lourdes 6, Beacon 1

Lourdes 5, Beacon 0

The Bulldogs fell twice last week, at home and away, to a tough Our Lady of Lourdes team.

At Beacon on Wednesday (Oct. 21), the Poughkeepsie squad scored two minutes into the game, although the rest of the first half was competitive. The Bulldogs had scoring opportunities, but an inability to finish has been a continuing problem.

The second half was a different story, as Lourdes hurt Beacon with its speed on the outside of the field.

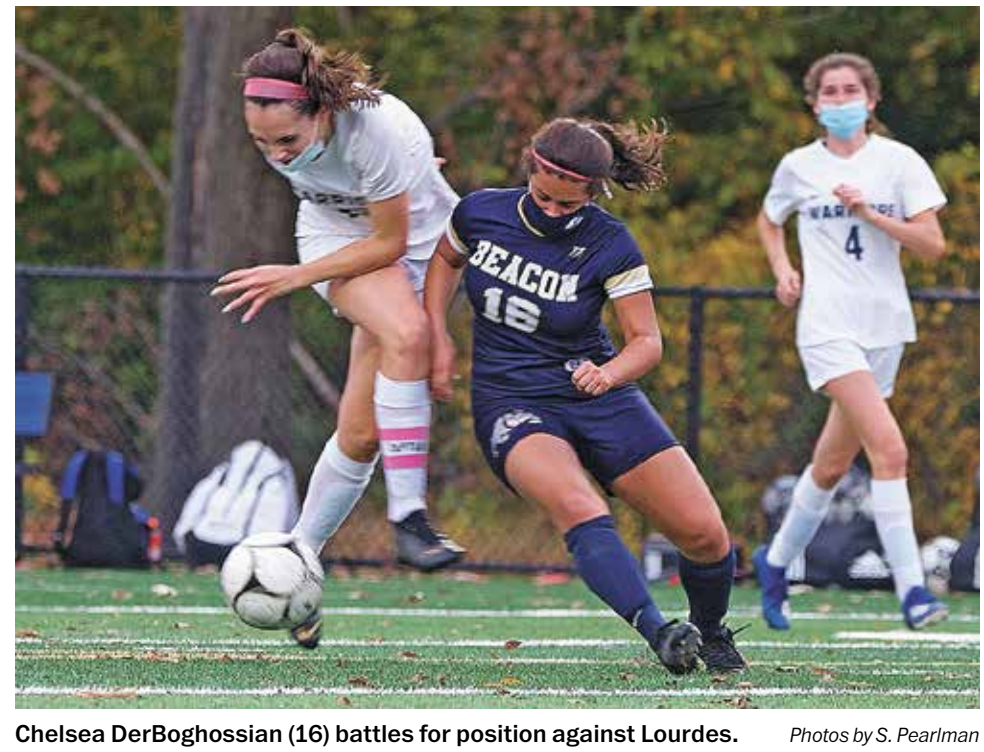
"We made some adjustments [after the first Lourdes goal], and the team played phenomenal with simplified roles," said Coach Hugo Alzate. "They followed the plan and it led to some effective counterattacks and built a lot of confidence. But in the second half, they broke us down on the flanks. Their speed makes them a dangerous team.

"We learned a lot against Lourdes in those two games," Alzate said. "And there were a lot of positives from our leaders, and our young group. We're really looking forward to the rest of the season."

Beacon's win on Oct. 15 over Peekskill came on Senior Day. Kasey Senior, a 12th grader, and Reilly Landisi, an eighth grader, each had two goals in the win, including their first varsity goals. Eighth grader Rory LaDue also scored her first varsity goal and Devyn Kelly and Chelsea DerBoghossian each scored.

The Bulldogs (1-2) are scheduled to host Poughkeepsie today (Oct. 23). Beacon will visit Haldane on Saturday (Oct. 24) and Ketcham on Monday.

Eighth-grader Reilly Landisi (24) scored her first two varsity goals for the Bulldogs against Peekskill.



Chelsea DerBoghossian (16) battles for position against Lourdes. *Photos by S. Pearlman*

North Salem 4, Haldane 0

Haldane knew it was in for a fight on Tuesday (Oct. 20) against North Salem, and the Tigers gave the Blue Devils all they could handle, going up 3-0 by halftime.

Coach Steve Schweikhart said each goal took a little more out of his team.

"We were solid the first 10 minutes," he said. "But when North Salem scored 12 minutes in, I thought we got back on our heels, and they took advantage."

That's when the Tigers started to control possession and the game, he said.

"They started coming in waves, because they knew we were not connecting passes and getting out of our defensive third with any success," the coach said. "It led to constant pressure on our defense. We were hoping to get out of the first half down 2-0 so we could regroup and maybe make a push in the second half, but when they made it 3-0 just before the half, that made things a lot more difficult."

The team played better in the second half, but it was too late.

"We challenged the girls at halftime to play with more confidence and heart," Schweikhart said. "I have no complaints there at all. It is difficult to play a quality team like North Salem without a true center midfielder. We had Sara Ferreira holding down the fort for the first two games, but she injured her knee and is out for at least two weeks.

"We had Sophia Scanga and Finola Kiter filling that role today, and they both did an admirable job. But it's tough to ask kids who have not really played that position to step in and deal with a team like North Salem."

Schweikhart said he's seen good signs in the team's first week. "Our defense has been unbelievable in the first three games," he said. "Mazzie Maxwell, Bianca Harmancin, Essie Florke and Ella Ashburn have far exceeded our expectations.

"Ruby Poses has done a great job in the net as well," he added. "Because we're not scoring right now, her efforts have kind of been lost in the shuffle."

Haldane lost at Croton-Harmon, 1-0, on Thursday (Oct. 22), to fall to 0-1-3. The team is scheduled to host Beacon on Saturday and Lourdes on Monday.