

# The HIGHLANDS Current



Talking  
Turkey  
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NOVEMBER 27, 2020

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Built in 1881, Castle Rock in Garrison has been empty for 45 years.

## This Home Could Be Your Castle

*Castle Rock, empty since 1975, is on the market*

By Michael Turton

Castle Rock, a 10,518-square-foot, seven-bedroom historic home in Garrison, is looking for its next owner — and a contractor.

The home, which towers on 16 acres over Route 9D, has been listed for \$3.45 million, but also hasn't been occupied since 1975.

Built in 1881, it was a summer residence for William Henry Osborn, who had been president of the Illinois Central and the Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans railroads, who lived there until his death in 1894.

His son, Henry, inherited the home and owned it until 1935, followed by William's granddaughter, Virginia Osborn, from 1935 to 1955 and his grandson, Alexander

Osborn, from 1955 to 1975.

Alexander was its last occupant. It has been owned for the past 45 years by a private company, Castle Rock LLC.

According to lore, the castle in *The Wizard of Oz* was patterned after Castle Rock because the author, L. Frank Baum, viewed it from across the Hudson River while he was a cadet at West Point. In fact, Baum attended the Peekskill Military Academy about 13 years before Castle Rock was built.

The home shouldn't be confused with nearby Cat Rock, which was built in 1919 for Frederick Henry Osborn, another grandson of William Henry Osborn, and sold in 2013 for \$6.95 million.

*The listing is with Melissa Carlton at Houlihan Lawrence in Cold Spring.*

(More photos on Page 12)



An excavator removes the Furnace Brook dam in Cortlandt earlier this month.

Photo by B. Cronin

## A Leg Up for River Fish

*Dam removals restore spawning habitat*

By Brian PJ Cronin

American eel and river herring that return to the Hudson River to spawn next spring are in for a welcome surprise: Access to two ancestral spawning grounds that have been blocked for nearly 300 years.

On Oct. 27, the New York State Department of Conservation (DEC), working with the nonprofit Riverkeeper, removed the Strooks Felt Dam on the Quassaick Creek in Newburgh.

Two weeks later, on Nov. 10, onlookers clapped and cheered as an excavator hammered through a 5-foot-high, 75-foot-wide colonial-era dam on Furnace Brook in Cortlandt's Oscanawana Park.

Over the following few days, the fieldstone from the dam was used to regrade the stream bed, the remnants of a collapsed bridge were removed, and aquatic life was again able to make its way upstream.

Also this month, the DEC awarded \$113,800 to the Open Space Institute to study the removal of the Sloan Dam on Arden Brook at the Highlands Country Club, which is part of the Garrison Grist Mill Historic Site that the nonprofit oversees. It is the only dam in Philipstown that is not on private property or owned by the town.

There are about 1,600 dams in the Hudson River Estuary watershed. Riverkeeper and the DEC in 2016 removed a dam in Troy and next year plan to remove a fourth dam upstream from Furnace Brook.

"In order to bring the fish back, we have to bring the habitat back," said George

(Continued on Page 6)

### Reporter's Notebook

## Does Beacon Need a Community Center?

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon City Council next month is expected to adopt a 2021 budget that includes \$22.2 million in general spending and keeps property taxes flat.

Much of the dialogue over the proposal has focused on police spending, which, at



\$5.9 million, accounts for about 26 percent of city costs but will not increase substantially over 2020.

During an hourlong public hearing on Nov. 16, most residents who spoke echoed a similar thought: Let's spend less on policing and more on recreation, food distribution, internet access and other programs that would create a more equitable distribution of municipal services. (Parks and recreation, at about \$762,000, accounts for

3 percent of general spending.)

Throughout 2020, I've heard many residents say at City Council and school board meetings and other forums that a city-run, central facility — a recreation or community center — is something Beacon has needed for years.

At the moment, a newly constructed facility would be a heavy lift for any municipality given the uncertainty over state aid because of the pandemic shutdown. But the city did

once have two facilities — the Martin Luther King Cultural Center on South Avenue, from 1969 to 2011, and the Beacon Community Center, which operated for decades from what is now the Recreation Department building on West Center Street.

However, neither facility was run by the city — the Martin Luther King center was a nonprofit and the Beacon Community Center leased space from the city, although the city at times supported both with grant funds, said Mark Price, the director of the Beacon Recreation Department.

John Galloway Jr., a 2015 Beacon High (Continued on Page 6)



# 5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: ELIZABETH KOLBERT

By Brian PJ Cronin

Elizabeth Kolbert is the author of *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History*, which won the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction, and the forthcoming *Under a White Sky: The Nature of the Future*. She will speak at 4 p.m. on Dec. 6 with David Gelber in a virtual event hosted by the Desmond-Fish Public Library.

**This week, General Motors said it would no longer support President Trump's attempts to nullify California's stricter fuel economy rules. Do you think other companies will signal that they're willing to be more aggressive in addressing climate change under the new administration?**

Yes. They see the writing on the wall. The Biden administration is going to try and reverse the Trump administration's California decision. These companies are faced with a new political reality, and I hope they respond wisely.



**Biden has unveiled a robust climate plan. What's missing from it?**

It's ambitious, but what it lacks — which is what most of these ambitious plans lack — is a clear roadmap from A to B.

**Are there lessons from the pandemic that could be used to address climate change?**

People have always questioned whether climate change is such a diffuse issue that people aren't willing to deal with it. They only deal with things that are staring them in the face. COVID is staring people in the face, killing their friends and relatives, and still people have found a way to deny reality. So the lessons we've learned are chilling, unfortunately.

**What issue with climate change isn't getting enough attention?**

How much warming is baked into the system at this point that we haven't yet experienced. That isn't getting enough attention among the general public but is well understood among those who study climate change. That is why scientists have always said that you have to act before you don't like the climate that you're seeing. We've already baked in a lot of damage because of the time lag in the system.

**What gives you hope?**

A lot of Americans are increasingly aware of the dangers of climate change and pushing on the political system to act, and that's what we need.

“ People have always questioned whether climate change is such a diffuse issue that people aren't willing to deal with it.

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## ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

How will you enjoy your Thanksgiving leftovers?

“

I'll heat up a bit of everything in the oven and watch holiday movies.

”



~ Kathleen Bowman, Beacon

“

I'll pay homage to Philly's Wawa Gobbler sandwich — no fixings left out!

”



~ Sam Lozoff, Beacon

“

A boozy brunch with turkey omelets or turkey eggs Benedict.

”



~ Kristy O'Neil, Cold Spring



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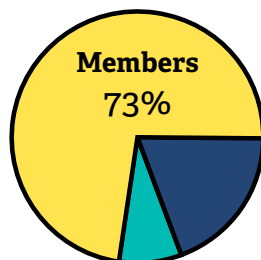
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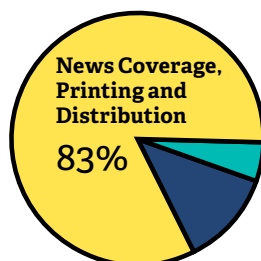
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**TODD HASKELL, BEACON**

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Media columnist Margaret Sullivan, *Ghosting the News: Local Journalism and the Crisis of American Democracy*



The HIGHLANDS  
**Current**



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## Tell us what you think

**T**he *Current* welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length. We ask that writers remain civil and avoid personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to [editor@highlandscurrent.org](mailto: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

### Stay safe

As we head into winter and the pandemic continues to take its toll on humanity, it is impossible to not feel an acute sense of fatigue. A year in a life holds many special moments, and to miss those has an effect that cannot be denied. Recognizing this, while also acknowledging the fact that we are likely to be dealing with the current crisis for the next six months, I am compelled to urge people to do all that they can to protect themselves and their loved ones.

The harsh reality is that without continued vigilance and a strong will to persevere we are likely to succumb to this fatigue and let down our guard at the very moment that the battle is almost won. A vaccine is on the way and I am confident that the U.S. will lead the way in recovering from all the devastation that the pandemic has wrought.

Please continue to take the actions that will not only preserve your own health but that of our entire community. Wear a mask, social distance and avoid indoor gatherings. I understand the longing to reconnect with family and friends. I recently became a grandfather and was unable to see my new granddaughter for several months. I know the desire to be with our loved ones. I also know that the last thing in this world I

would want was to cause anyone, especially a new baby, to become ill.

This crisis will end, and we will be more prepared because of it. We will also appreciate the simple things in our lives so much more. I believe that we are gaining a deeper understanding that material goods are meaningless when compared to relationships and the love of friends and family. We will all be together again. Until then, please stay safe and remain positive in the knowledge that we have met this crisis with resolve and will soon put it behind us.

Richard Shea, *Philipstown*  
*Shea is the Philipstown supervisor.*

On Nov. 11, Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that, effective Nov. 13, the state would limit nonessential indoor gatherings at a private residence to 10 people.

I am not encouraging people to have large gatherings in their homes, but rather asking everyone to use their own best judgment to remain safe. Would a gathering of 11 people be a greater danger than a gathering of 10, or would a gathering of nine people be substantially less dangerous? I'm not certain what the correct number for safety would be and doubt if anyone is.

There are a lot of factors that come into

play in determining how many people to have in your home. Are any of them at high-risk? From where are they traveling? Is it more or less likely that they have been recently exposed to the disease? Are they regularly in your circle of contacts anyway? Is your home large enough that you can safely accommodate a larger number of guests? These are questions that I believe each family needs to answer themselves.

Rather than issuing orders, which are, at best, impossible to enforce, and, at worst, unconstitutional, the governor would better serve the people of New York if he encouraged citizens to be cautious, use good judgment in weighing risk factors, protect the vulnerable, and enjoy our families and our great gathering traditions only in ways that are safe, until we can get back to normal.

As sheriff, I see a better use of our resources than to disrupt families celebrating this national holiday. I wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Robert Langley Jr., *Philipstown*  
*Langley is the Putnam County sheriff.*

My spouse and I were contacted by our personal trainer at All Sport Health & Fitness in Fishkill last week, who told us by email that he had tested positive for COVID-19 and was showing symptoms. We then had a virtual appointment with our health care provider, who put both of us on a quarantine. The doctor was surprised that we had heard from the symptomatic individual and not a contact tracer from the Dutchess County health department.

In this period of exponential virus growth and death toll, everyone who has had contact (club members and staff) needs to be advised as to whether they need to quarantine.

Many of the members of All Sport, and in particular those who use personal training, are of middle age or older. We are the vulnerable population insofar as virus mortality. We are doing our part by observing the quarantine. The county needs to do its part by contacting all affected parties.

William Kuehsel, *Philipstown*

### Thanks at Thanksgiving

Thank you, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, for continuing the Thanksgiving Day tradition of serving turkey and all the trimmings. We appreciate it. We would be remiss if we didn't also thank Tina Merando who, for many years before the pandemic, served the most wonderful Thanksgiving Day feast with her volunteers at Our Lady of Loretto. Thank you, Tina, for a great job. We, and all the other people who came or who had meals delivered, appreciate all that you did.

Jozef and Eileen Kuczak, *Cold Spring*

(Continued on Page 5)





LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

Metro-North pricing

Thank you, Metropolitan Transportation Authority Commissioner Neal Zuckerman and Putnam County Legislators Nancy Montgomery and Paul Jonke for your advocacy on this proposal to have flat-rate pricing for Metro-North commuters (“Metro-North: Should Everyone Pay the Same?” Nov. 20).

Not only are commuters in upper Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess paying higher fares, they are receiving less frequent and less reliable service compared

to stations closer to Grand Central Terminal. And let’s not get started on the varying quality and conditions of the cars.

How will this proposal affect station-to-station pricing along the line? Would prices between Beacon and Cold Spring, or Cold Spring and Irvington go up or down? While we want to make ridership costs as fair as possible, it shouldn’t be on the backs of commuters using only a portion of the line and who might not even get as far as the Bronx or Manhattan.

Sean Conway, *Cold Spring*



# Real Estate



Market Report (October)

	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
New Listings	9	8	9	22
Closed Sales	11	10	7	17
Days on Market	86	40	69	112
Median Price	\$360,000	\$388,000	\$375,000	\$590,000
% List Received	93.9	99.1	89.5	95.4
Inventory	37	19	103	68

Source: Hudson Gateway Association of Realtors (hgar.com). Excludes condos. Philipstown includes Cold Spring, Garrison and Nelsonville.

# Why No Yellow?

On Tuesday (Nov. 24), the Putnam County Department of Health said it was trying to get more guidance from the state about what restrictions might be put into place and where, if its COVID-19 infection rates continue to rise. The state could designate the entire county as “yellow” or “orange” or only place restrictions on certain areas or ZIP codes.

While Putnam has qualified for restrictions using two measures — the positivity rate on a seven-day rolling average and the number of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents — the state also considers metrics such as hospital admissions; population density; the age of those testing positive; the effectiveness of contact tracing; and whether outbreaks involve facilities such as nursing homes, colleges or prisons.

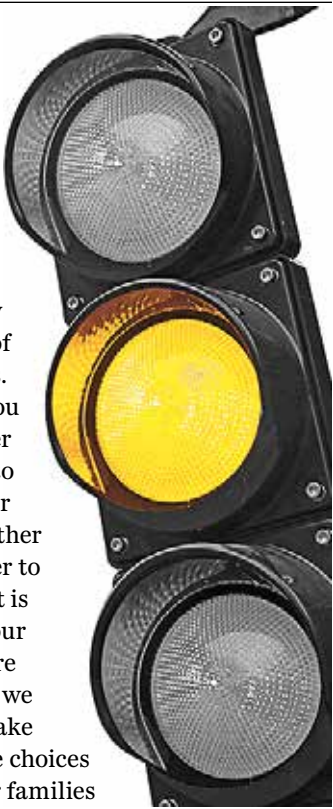
“The governor’s mention [on Nov. 23] of Brewster ‘nearing yellow-zone designation’ confirms that our request to view Putnam County on a hyper-local level is a necessity,” said County Executive MaryEllen Odell in a statement. “We continue to push for the state to provide us with a town or ZIP code breakdown of their metrics.”

Dr. Michael Nesheiwat, the county health commissioner, said Putnam “has seen a sharp rise in positive cases related

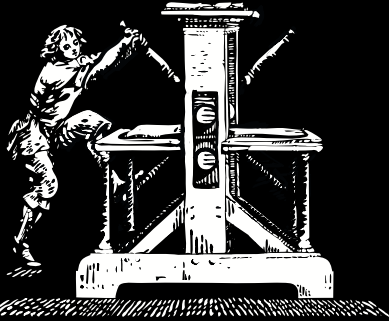
to social gatherings and parties. The spike that is occurring locally is a result of our actions. Whether you are in closer proximity to Brewster, or you are farther west, nearer to Peekskill, it is clear that our numbers are rising, and we all must make responsible choices to keep our families and our neighbors safe.”

On Nov. 18, the Garrison School went all-virtual in anticipation of Putnam being designated “yellow” and the district not having the capacity to test 20 percent of its students and staff, as that designation requires. Haldane remained open. Garrison Superintendent Carl Albano said this week that he hopes to re-open the school on Monday (Nov. 30).

For COVID-19 updates and more data, see [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org).



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## Dam Removal *(from Page 1)*

Jackman, a retired New York City police officer turned aquatic ecologist with Riverkeeper. The fish “are in bad shape. They’re getting hammered out in the ocean with bycatch [being caught unintentionally], so they’ve been overharvested.”

American eel and river herring such as American shad are diadromous fish, which means they can survive in saltwater and freshwater. They swim up the river where they were born in the spring to spawn, then return to the ocean.

Many diadromous species are in peril as a result of a recent development (industrial deep-water fishing for species such as Atlantic herring that indiscriminately scoop up eels and river herring) and a centuries-old one (small dams blocking the tributaries of the Hudson).

Jackman said that the dam removals will be a boon not only to diadromous fish, but freshwater fish and freshwater mussels.

“Freshwater fish are the most imperiled organisms in this country, if not the world,” he said. “And it’s because of dams,” which he noted also change the chemical and thermal properties of the water.

The history of the Furnace Brook dam is unknown, although Jackman said that its fieldstone composition points to the colonial era. The brook was known to Native Americans as Jamawissa Creek, meaning “Place of Small Beaver.”

In 1734 it was named Furnace Brook, perhaps because the dam was built around



Using a state grant, the Open Space Institute will study whether to remove the Sloan Dam in Garrison, a portion of which is shown here.

Photo by B. Cronin

that time to provide power to a nearby furnace that made cannonballs. “There was no Con Ed back in the day,” he explained. “You wanted power, this was your form of power.”

While the dams blocking tributaries up and down the Hudson are symbols of colonial industry, Jackman said it’s time for them to go. “This is not a low stone wall in

the forest,” he said.

In Garrison, the Sloan Dam on Arden Brook, as well as a succeeding spillway and culvert, are part of the Grist Mill Historic Site, which OSI restored in 2018 while also confirming that the dam was structurally sound. But when Riverkeeper asked the group if it would consider removing the dam to restore the stream, OSI agreed.

Kathy Moser, the chief conservation officer for OSI, and a former deputy commissioner for natural resources with the DEC, is more than familiar with the benefits of the move. But the Sloan Dam project highlights some of the obstacles that must be overcome. Besides the issue of a dam being on private or town property, there’s the fact the state considers the Sloan Dam to be historic — the grist mill is one of the oldest in Putnam County — which would usually make it untouchable. But the state also considers the dam to be damaging to the local environment.

Moser said the study will determine whether there are alternatives to removing the Sloan Dam, such as a “fish ladder” or eel passage. It also will examine the sediment behind the dam for toxins and consider the downstream consequences of removing it.

If the dam is taken out, the pond would give way to natural wetlands and restore about 4,660 feet of stream on Arden Brook.

It may seem hard to believe that fish that only live a few years will notice the restoration of spawning grounds that have been off-limits to them for centuries. But when the Wynants Kill dam was removed at the start of the 2016 spawning season, fish were pouring upstream just four days later.

Jackman is optimistic that the same thing will happen at Jamawissa Creek: Last spring, he noticed four herring that had squeezed through the ruins of the collapsed bridge in order to make their way to the Furnace Brook dam, where they hovered, waiting.

## Community *(from Page 1)*

School graduate who was appointed last month to fill a vacancy on the Beacon school board, has advocated a community center in part because he attended both facilities while growing up.

“It was like home, man,” he said about the Beacon Community Center. “It instilled that mentorship that kids in Beacon really need. I still talk to my [BCC] counselors today.”

Galloway said the center provided an after-school program where counselors helped children with homework and played basketball or other games with them. On weekends, the center had boys’ and girls’ nights.

“They touched every base,” he said. “Every Friday night you knew you were going to the BCC.”

Barbara McCaskill, who worked at the MLK center from 2003 to 2006, said she was recruited by Eleanor Thompson, the first African American woman to serve on the Beacon City Council. McCaskill described similar programming, with homework help after school and exercise, plays and other group activities. Both centers offered summer programs, as well.

Although the children and teens who visited the MLK center were mostly African American, McCaskill said the programming was all-inclusive. “We were adamant that it was for the entire community,” she said.

The city has tried to fill some of the gaps left when the centers closed by establishing an afterschool program that’s in three of the Beacon district’s elementary schools and assuming management of the

University Settlement site, now home of the summer Camp @ the Camp and the municipal pool, Price noted. All relatively recent, that represented a lot of growth for an agency that was barely a real city department when he started as a part-time employee in 2008. “It’s a long, slow slog uphill,” he said.

While discussing the 2021 budget, members of the council have talked about holding “listening sessions” or creating surveys to assess the community’s recreation needs. “It’s about asking the questions and evaluating the resources we have,” said City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero.

And while a new building would almost surely be cost-prohibitive, Mayor Lee Kyriacou has floated other options, such as expanded programming at the 50-acre University Settlement, the under-utilized Memorial Building on Main Street and even the Mase Hook and Ladder fire station (also on Main), a building that will one day be available as the city consolidates its firehouses.


For years, Beacon officials debated whether (and where) to build a new, central fire station. “Thinking ‘only new’ is understandable,” Kyriacou said, “but what we have found is we can facilitate all our needs” by improving the Tompkins Hose station on South Avenue for less than half the cost of a new building.

The same approach could be taken with a community center.

“We have lots of opportunities to figure out how to leverage that,” he said. “If we do it effectively, we can make those dollars go a lot farther.”

# Meet the Artists

## LIVE Zoom Reception



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# “Let’s Face It”

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*The Highlands Current* is initiating its Student Journalists Program to provide an opportunity for students who attend high school in Philipstown and Beacon to be mentored by professional journalists while they serve as correspondents for our nonprofit newspaper and website.

The reporting of correspondents selected for the program will appear at [highlandscurrent.org](http://highlandscurrent.org) and select stories will be printed. The staff, when editing stories by our student correspondents, will provide detailed feedback and suggestions to improve and refine their reporting.

Students will be expected to submit photos and video (when applicable) as part of their assignments. Due to the generous support of our *Highlands Current* members, correspondents will be compensated for the stories and photos that we publish online and/or in print. If you are interested in becoming a student correspondent, you can review the requirements and apply at

[highlandscurrent.org/  
student-journalists-program](http://highlandscurrent.org/student-journalists-program)

*Chip Rowe*

**Chip Rowe, Editor**  
*The Highlands Current*





# Talking Turkey with a Farmer

By Chip Rowe

Jason Angell is the owner, with his wife Jocelyn Apicello, of Long Haul Farm in Garrison and a board member of Highlands Current Inc.

## Long Haul sold 25 Thanksgiving turkeys this year. How does it work?

We buy hatchlings in May from a hatchery in Pennsylvania, which mails them to us; newborn turkeys can survive for 24 to 36 hours without food or water. I get a call from the Garrison post office and you hear the birds in the background. They're as cute as they'll ever be. People in our CSA reserve them for November.

## Do you get a mix of male and female hatchlings?

Yes, and we get a breed called Standard Bronze. When we started, we were getting a standard commercial turkey that is bred to be heavy in the body and breast. But they just sat around the feeder. Now we get a heritage breed that has enough of its natural sense and genetics that it hunts and pecks and forages.

## What do you feed the birds?

About two-thirds of their diet is organic grain, and the other third is compost scraps from the garden. When they get big enough, they can hop the electric fence into the garden and I have to chase them down before they destroy it.

## Did COVID affect your orders this year?

We did have people calling last week to ask if they could get a smaller bird, "because it's just us." But it's too late for that! [laughs]

## When do you harvest them?

We harvested this year on Sunday [Nov. 22]. It takes a few hours. We have seven or eight friends who help, and sometimes people who bought a turkey. The birds are in a coop and we bring them out one at a time. As the coop gets empty, they have more room to evade you, so they get harder to catch. We hold them upside down or we stroke their breast feathers. You're trying to get them into a calm state, you know? It should be done as humanely as possible. Most Americans eat meat without accepting that the animal had to die.

## So I assume you don't name them?

The first year we had turkeys, our daughter Seneca was 3 or 4 and she named one Old Gal. Those turkeys were a breed that was almost too "heritage" for us. During the slaughter, Old Gal escaped and flew 50 feet up into an ash tree. We were like, "OK, Old Gal gets a reprieve." Seneca was happy. But all winter, I was out there feeding Old Gal. Halfway through the winter, she disappeared and we thought an owl or coyote got her. But in the spring, this turkey trots out of the woods and it's Old Gal with 15 hatchlings. We fed her and the hatchlings for about 10 days before they disappeared back into the wild.

I was thinking about this with the pigs. Since we started doing the slaughtering ourselves, I try not to make too deep a connection with them. It's weird. Is it strange to teach yourself not to be empathetic? You're aware you're raising these animals for meat, so to balance that out, you give them as good a life as possible. With the turkeys, they are outside all the time, they eat grass, they eat bugs, they're taking dust baths, they're doing all the things they want to do. It doesn't mean that the end of the story is pleasant, but you also give them as good a death as possible.



Jason Angell at Long Haul Farm with an unnamed turkey

Photo provided

# Philipstown Adopts \$11.4 Million Budget

## Tax rate rises 6.4 percent for non-village residents

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board last week adopted a budget of about \$11.4 million for 2021, a decrease of 1 percent from this year.

The board voted to take \$1 million from its reserve accounts to make ends meet and increased property taxes by about 1.75 percent, although the rate will be 6.4 percent for residents who live outside the villages of Cold Spring and Nelsonville. Along with \$8.3 million raised from taxes, \$2 million will come from fees and other income.

Under the budget, the tax rate per \$1,000 of property value will decrease by about 1.7

percent within the villages, whose municipal budgets cover needs within their borders. At the same time, the rate for non-village residents who rely on the town government for services will rise by 6.4 percent.

The five-member board voted unanimously to approve the budget during a Nov. 18 meeting at the Recreation Center in Garrison. Its tax hike falls within the state mandated 2 percent cap.

Supervisor Richard Shea said on Tuesday (Nov. 24) that Highway Department costs of \$3.62 million drive much of the non-village increase. Although spending at the agency will drop 4 percent in 2021, Shea said the department has also seen cuts in state aid; retirement benefits for a departing employee; and a decrease in reserves to \$550,000 from \$835,000.

The budget anticipates snow removal

costs of \$368,000 for 2021, the same as for this year. As of Oct. 1, only \$81,000 had been used for snow removal in 2020.

Philipstown also lost \$20,000 in code enforcement income when Cold Spring pulled out over the summer from an agreement to share a building department with the town.

The budget includes \$606,060 for the Philipstown and Garrison ambulance corps, an increase of less than 1 percent; \$1.9 million for fire protection by the departments in Cold Spring, Continental Village, Garrison and North Highlands (the latter two have their own districts but funding is channeled through the town); and \$18,500 for upkeep of historic cemeteries.

While the town clerk and director of parks and recreation will each receive raises of \$1,000, to \$62,000 and \$71,500,

respectively, the annual pay for the supervisor (\$27,000), four board members (\$18,000 each) and highway superintendent (\$91,200) will remain unchanged.

Some town employees, but not all, will receive raises, which Councilor Robert Flaherty said may cause "a little dissension." At the same time, he said, no one has lost their job or had their pay reduced, despite the economic shutdown.

Shea and Councilor John Van Tassel suggested the board hire a consultant to oversee employee evaluations and establish a uniform policy on pay hikes. That way, Van Tassel said, "raises would be merit-based and based on the financial situation of the town. That's the only fair way to do it."

Councilor Judy Farrell remarked that some jobs are harder to fill than others and that the town must retain outstanding personnel. "This is a good budget, in a very difficult year," she said.

## NOTICE

Bagged leaves will be picked up in the Village of Nelsonville on

**Saturday,  
December 5th**

Leaves must be placed in paper bags and left at the curb by 7:00 a.m.

## NOTICE

### Road Closure Cedar Street

**Wednesday, December 2**

All day for Water Main Connection

Please make arrangements to allow for this all day activity

Town of Philipstown  
Town Hall

## NOTICE

### The Philipstown Conservation Board

will hold their regular Monthly Meeting on December 8th, 2020 virtually via Zoom. If you would like to attend, please visit the following link:

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_DU\\_59tQQQhuER21T-wIGXw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DU_59tQQQhuER21T-wIGXw)**

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

OR email **KMACINTYRE@PHILIPSTOWN.COM** to request login information before 7 pm on December 8th, 2020.



# The Calendar

## A House of Windows

*With portraits, artist attempts to capture immigrant experience*

By Alison Rooney

At a time when immigration is a national focus, photographer Jill Enfield's exhibit, *Glasshouse of New Americans*, invites viewers to recognize in recent immigrants the spirit of those who arrived on our shores a century or more ago.

The show opens at the Garrison Art Center on Saturday, Dec. 5, with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m.

There is a glass house at its core, although it wasn't part of Enfield's conception of the project. Instead, she had assembled an exhibit of portraits made using wet plate collodion, the same process used to take photos of newcomers to the U.S. in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Its steps include cutting a plate and coating it with syrupy collodion.

Enfield was invited to mount a display of her images — designed as a tribute to the “bravery and enduring inner strength” of her subjects, and also to “the significant contributions they have made toward the enrichment of American culture” — at Ellis Island but it was delayed by Hurricane Sandy.

In the meantime, the photographer moved from New York City to Newburgh.

“I saw old windows being thrown out all over the Hudson Valley, and I began collecting them, wondering what I would wind up doing with them,” she recalls. “It just came to me: construct a glass house to display the images in, and install it at Ellis Island. Two other photographers helped me figure out how to break up the images and put them on the windows correctly — it was a group project.”

When her Ellis Island show was rescheduled, it included not only her photos but the glass house. It has since been installed in Brooklyn and at the Annenberg Center for Photography in Los Angeles, Saunders Farm in Garrison, Newburgh Open Studios and, now at the Garrison Art Center.

Enfield is a first-generation American, the daughter of a Nazi escapee, whose family wound up opening a Miami camera store — “we always had cameras and the latest electronics in our house,” she recalls.

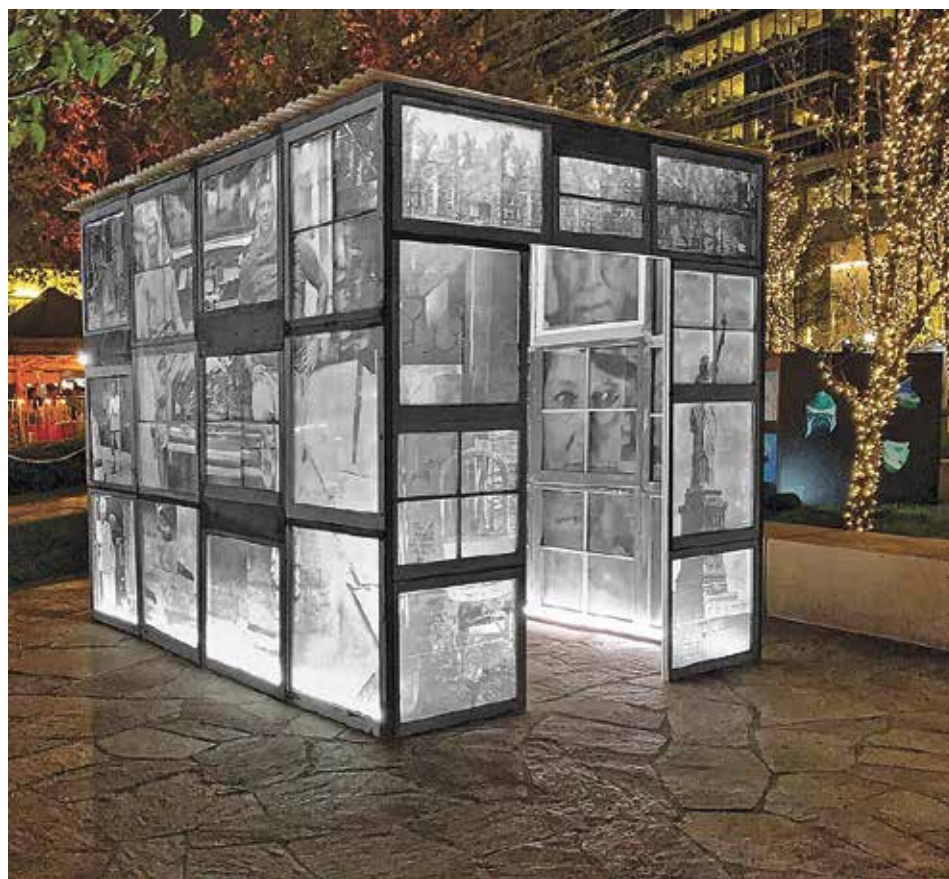
A challenge of using the antique process is that it requires a long exposure during which the subject must freeze — hence

(Continued on Page 11)



Jill Enfield works to replace clear windows with wet plate collodion transfers of her immigrant portraits.

Photo provided



Glasshouse of New Americans on display at the Annenberg Center for Photography in Los Angeles

Photo by Stephen Levey

## A Novel Set in Mormon Life

*Garrison writer draws on childhood in Utah*

By Alison Rooney

For her second novel, published last month, Charity Shumway took on a subject that brought up strong emotions: Growing up as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS).

“I had so much more trepidation with this book” than her first, *Ten Girls to Watch*, which was published by Simon & Schuster in 2012, she says. “I felt much more exposed.”

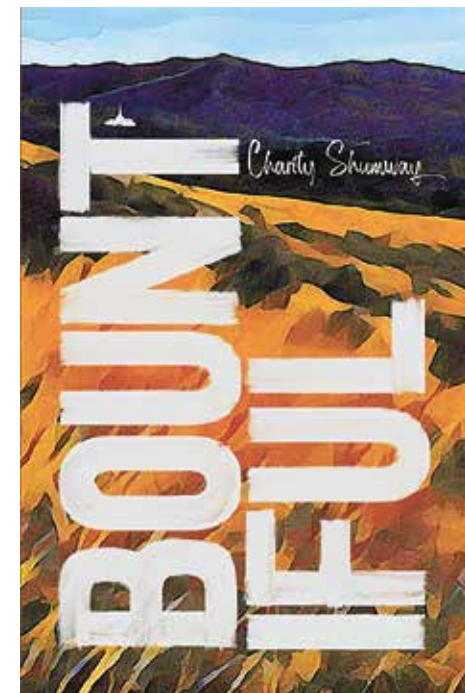
Shumway grew up in a Mormon household and community near Bountiful, Utah, which provided the name of her novel, *Bountiful*.

It was released in September by BCC Press, an indie publisher that specializes in books about Mormon life, although Shumway points out “there is no one typical LDS experience. There are a lot of practitioners in Utah but actually a ton more in Brazil. I wanted to get this very particular experience right. I grew up in the town and I wanted to be sure to be generous to everyone.

“It’s meant to be a loving portrait,” she says. “But, just naming it after a real place opens the door to things, and there’s a risk in doing that. I mean, my dad called me and told me I got the stoplights wrong!”

One of the protagonists is Nedra, 60, a conservative matriarch who decides to run for the state Legislature. A stay-at-home mom and piano teacher, she had five children early and is stepping out of a traditional role. “She’s finding edges to herself she hadn’t felt before,” Shumway says.

(Continued on Page 11)





# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

## HOLIDAY MARKETS

SAT 28

### Pottery Show & Sale

GARRISON

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Garrison Art Center  
23 Garrison's Landing  
garrisonartcenter.org

Visitors will find a range of sophisticated art objects as well as children's items created by more than 30 ceramicists, jewelers and artisans. Book a time online to browse. Also SUN 29.



SAT 28

### Small Gift Show

BEACON

1 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center  
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988  
howlandculturalcenter.org

Find handmade and artistic jewelry, ceramics and other gifts priced at \$100 or less. Also SUN 29, FRI 4, SAT 5, SUN 6. Continues through Dec. 23.

SAT 5

### Handmade Pop-Up Shop

POUGHKEEPSIE

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Trolley Barn  
489 Main St. | 845-454-3222  
artsmidhudson.org

Browse jewelry, decorations, prints, paintings, glasswork and textiles from more than 50 artisans. Also SUN 6.

## COMMUNITY

SAT 28

### Virtual Tree Lighting

BEACON

5 p.m. bit.ly/beacon-tree-lighting

Instead of an in-person event, the city will post a video that includes the tree lighting, a visit from Santa and performances by Joe Schuka, Stephen Gara, the Yanarella Dancers, Nicole Tori, Dick Murphy and Mary Kerr, Cub Scout Pack 3001, Girl Scout Troops 10293 and 10459, the Beacon School of Rock and the Beacon Music Factory. There will also be a raffle of donated prizes.

WED 2

### Forum on Managing the Popularity of the Highlands

PHILIPSTOWN

7 p.m. Hudson Highlands Land Trust  
845-424-3358 | hhlt.org

The pandemic has increased demand for trails, parks and real estate. Learn at this Zoom webinar how the land trust is responding. Register online.

## KIDS & FAMILY

SUN 29

### Bird Feeding 101

CORNWALL

10 a.m. Outdoor Discovery Center  
120 Muser Drive  
845-534-5506 x204 | hnm.org

Learn how to identify commonly seen birds and what to offer them at a home bird feeder. *Cost: \$8 to \$10 (members \$6 to \$8)*

WED 2

### Middle School Book Club

BEACON

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

Email community@beaconlibrary.org for details on how to get a copy of *An Elephant in the Garden*, by Michael Morpurgo, and sign up for the Zoom discussion.

WED 2

### Kids' Book Club

GARRISON

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

This month the group will discuss via Zoom the final chapters of *The Fourteenth Goldfish*, by Jennifer Holm.

## STAGE & SCREEN

SUN 6

### A Christmas Carol

POUGHKEEPSIE

3 p.m. Bardavon  
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

The Ulster Ballet will perform the holiday classic online. *Free*

## VISUAL ART

TUES 1

### Requiem for Ashokan

COLD SPRING

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

Kate McGoughlin will share a multimedia presentation of her work that centers on the Catskills and the Ashokan Reservoir. Register online to join the Zoom event.

SAT 5

### Glasshouse of New Americans

GARRISON

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

This is the opening reception for Jill Enfield's exhibit of wet plate collodion portraits of immigrants who came to the U.S. since the 1960s. See Page 9. Through Jan. 3.

SAT 5

### smallWORKS

GARRISON

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

This is the opening reception for a show of 70 works chosen by Pauline Lethen from more than 500 submissions. They are no larger than 12 inches long and high. Through Jan. 3.



SAT 5

### Let's Face It

PUTNAM VALLEY

7:30 p.m.  
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center  
tompkinscorners.org

Bring your own wine or cocktail for this virtual reception with artists who contributed portraits for the online show, which continues through Dec. 19. Each contributor will talk briefly about his or her work.



smallWORKS, Dec. 5

## MUSIC

THURS 3

### Lucinda Williams: A Night of '60s Country Classics

POUGHKEEPSIE

8 p.m. Bardavon  
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

In a series of streaming concerts, Williams is raising money for venues closed by the pandemic. This episode of Lu's Jukebox covers "every high and lonesome corner." *Cost: \$20*

SAT 5

### Love for the Holidays

BEACON

8 p.m. Towne Crier  
showclix.com/tickets/darlene-love-towne-crier

This streaming holiday concert by Grammy winner Darlene Love will feature classics and her hits. The concert benefits the venue. *Cost: \$35*

## TALKS & TOURS

MON 30

### Flash Writing

COLD SPRING

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

Current reporter Mike Turton will lead participants over Zoom as they write a complete story in 75 words or less.

TUES 1

### Nature in Winter

BEACON

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

Master Gardener Johanna Tomik will discuss via Zoom the trees and plants that can grab our attention in winter. Email adults@beaconlibrary.org to register.

THURS 3

### History Book Club

COLD SPRING

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

This month the group, which

meets via Zoom, will discuss *This Land is Their Land*, by David Silverman.

SUN 6

### Elizabeth Kolbert

GARRISON

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

The author of *The Sixth Extinction* will discuss climate change and the future of the planet with David Gelber, co-creator of *Years of Living Dangerously*, via Crowdcast. See Page 2.

## CIVIC

TUES 1

### Board of Trustees

COLD SPRING

6:30 p.m. Village Hall  
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

TUES 1

### School Board

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Haldane  
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

TUES 1

### Putnam County Legislature

CARMEL

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

WED 2

### School Board

GARRISON

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

THURS 3

### Town Board

PHILIPSTOWN

7:30 p.m. Community Center  
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com



# Magazzino to Expand

*Receives approval for new pavilion*

The Philipstown Planning Board last week approved plans for Magazzino Italian Art to add a 13,000-square-foot pavilion to its museum campus on Route 9.

Magazzino plans to purchase 3.5 acres adjacent to its present location for a facility

designed by Spanish architects Albert Campo Baeza and Miguel Quismondo, the latter of whom designed the museum's main building.

The expansion will include 3,500 square feet of exhibition and 1,500 square feet of lower-level programming space for film screenings, panels and lectures. There will also be a smaller gallery for a display of Murano glass and ceramics, the museum said, along with amenities such as a reading lounge and cafe.

Groundbreaking is expected to take place in the spring. Magazzino, which opened in June 2017, was founded by Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu and specializes in Arte Povera and postwar Italian art.



The pavilion to be built at Magazzino is shown at right in this rendering of the site.

## Bountiful *(from Page 9)*

Her daughter, Heather, 29 and single, “is trying to figure out if she’s going to find a Latter-day Saint spouse and make it work. She’s dating a nice Mormon guy but she’s also drawn to a non-LDS, worldly neighbor. She has a lot of difficulty with things in the church; she sees things with a harsher lens.”

Heather becomes her mother’s campaign manager. “A lot of the book is about Heather navigating the faith community’s general expectations for them as women,” Shumway says. “If you find discomfort in things, do you stick around?”

The book, she says, “is very much about the community I grew up in, and things I grappled with. It’s the place and people closest to my heart, and I wanted to invite readers into that world.”

Shumway feels that there are not enough depictions of Mormon life in fiction aimed at a general audience. “There are a lot of layers



Charity Shumway

*Photo provided*

of the culture,” she says. “LDS people have many subtleties. There are so many stripes.”

Shumway left Utah to attend Harvard, where she earned a bachelor’s degree, and

Oregon State, where she received a master’s of fine arts in creative writing. She and her husband and their three young sons usually live in Brooklyn and have a weekend place

in Garrison — but they came for a weeklong stay in March and haven’t left. Two of her boys now attend the Garrison School.

“It made much more sense to stay here,” she says. “We don’t know what the future will hold, but we’re here for now.”

Her only event so far to promote the book was at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison on Nov. 16. “With my first book, there was a whole West Coast tour, a big party, the works. This publishing has been much quieter.”

She has no regrets about going with a smaller, LDS-focused publisher. “I wanted to tell this story, and, who knows, maybe it’s a terrible move for my career,” she says. “I’ve been working on it for a long time and, along the way, your expectations change. I feel so good about it being out in the world.”

Shumway is currently writing nonfiction essays. “Probably more poor career choices,” she says, with a laugh. “It’s surprising where things take you.”

## Windows *(from Page 9)*

the hard-eyed stares of portraits from an earlier time. “It’s hard to hold a normal smile for 45 seconds,” Enfield notes. She said that images from a century ago tended to “render the subject almost invisible”; she hopes with her contemporary shots to create a connection “through looking into the eyes of the subject, rather than just seeing somebody staring back.”

There was no shortage of willing subjects. “I was living in New York City and most of my neighbors and friends were immigrants,” she says. “When you start taking pictures like that, someone will say, ‘A friend of mine is from Peru,’ and so on. I shot more than 100 people. At first I took the photos in my apartment, but after a while I would meet people at their places of work: restaurant owners, plumbers.”

The house has 45 windows and transporting it has its logistical challenges. “When we took it to Ellis Island, we put it on the back of a truck with pillows in between,” she says. “We had a crate built to truck it to L.A. At Saunders Farm, we put a fence around it — which reminded me of the internment camps — but the cows still got in and destroyed five windows. I consoled myself by knowing that over a three-year period, that story of immigrants had traveled the country, disassembled, reassembled. I thought its life was over.”



Szymon and Maciej in an image from Jill Enfield's glass house

*Photos provided*

At the Garrison Art Center, Katie Schmidt Feder and Barbara Smith Gioia “had their hearts quite set on showcasing it,” Enfield says. “I gave them the unfortunate news.” The installation was restored with help from the art center and James Murray, a sculptor, who visited Enfield’s studio.

Enfield was overjoyed. “It’s so important to keep remembering these things,”

she says of the immigrant experience. “I keep thinking that it’s going to go out of importance; instead it just keeps getting more important, depressing and gratifying at the same time. It’s always been like that.

“People who live in glass houses shouldn’t throw stones,” she says. “Everyone is an immigrant. If somebody looks different, or has an accent, when you walk into the glass house, you’re the one being stared at.



Inside the glass house

It is this understanding and awareness of heritage and personal history that is key to a more empathetic and compassionate future.”

*The Garrison Art Center is located at 23 Garrison’s Landing. Glasshouse of New Americans will be on display Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Jan. 3, except on holidays.*





# Inside Castle Rock

*Photos by Tim Lee*





# More Historic Homes



## Hurst-Pierrepont Estate

*\$4.95 million*

This home on Route 9D in Garrison was built in 1867 as a summer residence for Edwards Pierrepont, a lawyer who was the U.S. attorney general and the ambassador to England. Its architect, Alexander Jackson Davis, also designed Lyndhurst in Tarrytown. The home has nearly 6,000

square feet and includes five bedrooms, five bathrooms, two pools (one at the carriage house) and a three-car garage.

*The listing is with Craig Watters of Coldwell Banker Realty in Yorktown Heights.*



## Forest Farm

*\$4.9 million*

Built in 1892 as a summer residence for William Church Osborn, a son of William Henry Osborn, this Garrison home is located near Castle Rock. The 7,334-square-foot

structure, which was designed by architect and Garrison resident Charles Haight, has eight fireplaces and six bedrooms as well as an attached apartment. The 50-acre estate also includes a cedar barn with two apartments and horse stalls, plus a two-car garage.

*This listing is with Bill Hussung at Robert A. McCaffrey Realty in Cold Spring.*



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# Officer-in- Waiting

## Cold Spring resident completes candidate school

By Michael Turton

Tanya Needham of Cold Spring is 5'2" and weighs 125 pounds. Those aren't likely the first vitals that spring to mind when you think, "U.S. Marines' officer corps," but that's where she is headed.

In July and August, the 20-year-old attended a grueling 10-week program at the U.S. Marine Corps Officer Candidate School at Quantico, Virginia. (She weighed 115 when she arrived and added 10 pounds of muscle.) She is now eligible to join the Marines as a 2nd lieutenant.

Marine Corps officers must have a four-year college degree and Needham is on schedule to graduate from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in May with a double major in kinesiology and psychology.

If she accepts a commission, she hopes her fluency in Russian might lead to working in military intelligence, or she said she would be interested in recently created positions dealing with kinesiology, physical activity and nutrition training.

Choosing the Marines would mean returning to Quantico for six months of



Needham and her fellow Officer Candidate School graduates.

Photos provided

basic training.

Women make up about 8 percent of the Marine Corps, and "the female instructors were the hardest and scariest," Needham said. "They worked us harder than any [male] platoon. They did it to prove that we are just as capable." She said male instructors would sometimes "say things under their breath when we did things 'better than expected.'"

Needham, who attended Haldane elementary and middle schools before graduating from NYC iSchool in 2017, credits her dad,

former Air Force pilot Dan Needham, with her interest in serving her country.

Two years ago, while attending an air show with her father, she spoke with a Marine recruiter and last summer joined 65 other candidates at Quantico as part of Alpha Company's all-female 1st Platoon. Nearly 40 percent of the class did not complete the training, which included physical, academic and leadership training.

"It was very demanding, especially for a fairly small person," Needham said.

She said the obstacle and combat courses were difficult but it was the 9-mile "rucks," or hikes, while carrying an 80-pound pack that nearly broke her. "It was a brutal environment with that much weight, the exhaustion and humidity," Needham said. She sprained her ankle badly on the first hike, took a day of rest and then continued training — only learning she had torn ligaments after she returned to Cold Spring.

The biggest mental challenge was the lack of sleep, she said, "and the yelling!" Needham said the instructors' screaming "became just noise toward the end, except when you really did something wrong."

Even meals provided no relief. "We had



Needham tackles the obstacle course.

five to seven minutes to finish a full plate of food, while still getting screamed at," she said.

Needham also was isolated, with no mail or phone calls from home even on the tough days when she felt discouraged. Whatever path she takes, she said the experience was worth the effort and pain. "I learned so much about myself," she said, adding that she made lifelong friends and improved her mental toughness and work ethic.

After completing the training, Needham rewarded herself with a cup of coffee. "That was something I had craved the entire time!" she said. "I had it with a burger and a cold beer."



## Advent at The First Presbyterian Church

### *The Church of the Open Door*

#### **The Lighting of the Advent Wreath:**

Every Sunday Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 20 at 10:30.

#### **Christmas Pageant:**

via ZOOM at the Dec 20<sup>th</sup> service!

#### **The Longest Night Service:**

One of the greatest acts of pastoral care in the Advent season is to offer a service known as a Longest Night Service. It is a worship service scheduled around the winter solstice (the longest night of the calendar year), so it is on December 21 at 7:30pm. The long nights just before Christmas can be a hard time for some. For the struggle with darkness and grief faced by those living with loss of any kind, we offer this service.

#### **Christmas Eve**

A family oriented service with Rev. Rachel Thompson and Rev. Joseph Gilmore filling the pulpit. Music for the holiday featuring a mix of traditional and jazz themes by Tom McCoy.

Dec 24<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM

All services will be live on Zoom. Link information will be posted on our website: [presbychurchcoldspring.org](http://presbychurchcoldspring.org).







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# Looking Back in Philipstown

By Chip Rowe

## 150 Years Ago (November 1870)

Addison Merrick dug up a 29-pound, 32-inch-long beet with a circumference of 28 inches. Sylvanus McKeel also showed off his turnips that measured 15 inches or more around.

A participant's speech at the meeting of the Ministerial Association of Methodist clergymen "was an able and exhaustive Bible argument against the use of wine," according to *The Cold Spring Recorder*.

Bridget and Patrick Ward were fined \$5 each for stealing planks from a barge at Foundry wharf.

The Census Bureau announced that the population of Putnam County had dropped by 140 people in the previous decade, to 13,862.

Two cows and a heifer owned by Gilbert Baxter in the lower Highlands were killed by lightning.

The sewing school announced it was moving for the winter from the basement of St. Mary's Episcopal Church to the school building on Furnace Street.

Burglars who broke into the home of John Haldane on Morris Avenue apparently took their time, as his stereoscopic views were scattered around in one room.

*The Recorder* declared that the young men who stood in front of churches on Sunday

mornings to stare at young women as they left services were a "decided nuisance."

A group of drunken rowdies assailed the home of Thomas Mekeel at Mekeel's Corners, but when he kept them at bay by showing his gun, they proceeded to James Smiths' front fence, tearing off its pickets.

*The Recorder* threw cold water on a report by the "West Point correspondent" of *The New York Times* that a group of men had blown a hole into the side of Storm King and unearthed a treasure chest hidden by Capt. Kidd and filled with Spanish doubloons. The leader of the group, according to the *Times*, was David Briggs, a Spiritualist who had dreamed about a rusty chest submerged in the river and consulted a clairvoyant for its precise location. (For the *Times* account and the *Recorder's* skeptical response, see highlandscurrent.org.)

## 125 Years Ago (November 1895)

The first installment of Cold Spring water mains arrived by boat, followed by 100 Italians laborers to dig the trenches, beginning around the block bounded by Main, Market, West and New streets. The village's first fire hydrant was installed at the corner of Main and West.

Several of the Italians brawled on Rock Street on a Sunday evening and one or two were left with head wounds after being struck by empty bottles.



Hamilton Fish II of Garrison was elected as speaker of the state Assembly in 1895.

A former West Point cadet died of injuries received while playing in the Army-Navy football game two years earlier.

Hamilton Fish II of Garrison was reelected speaker of the state Assembly, which had 105 Republican and 44 Democratic members. (The state Senate had 36 Republicans and 14 Democrats.)

At a meeting of the Haldane Board of Education, the building committee reported that on dark days it was impossible for students in Miss Egan's and Miss Gallinger's rooms to see their books. The



William Ladue Jr. of Cold Spring was awarded a camera and a gun when he won a road race in Garrison in 1895.

committee suggested cutting holes in the partitions to allow light in from the hall.

Capt. Henry Metcalfe, president of the new Board of Water Commissioners, announced it had adopted a fee schedule. Residents would pay an annual charge that covered all the faucets, baths and water closets in a dwelling and was calculated by the frontage feet and number of stories.

(Continued on Page 17)

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(Continued from Page 16)

Alternatively, a homeowner could install a meter and pay 20 cents per 1,000 gallons. Farmers would be charged \$1 for the first cow and 50 cents for each additional. Bakeries, saloons, soda fountains, public baths, livery stables, private stables with hoses, factories and other business consumers would be required to install meters.

Metcalfe, who was also president of the Village Improvement Society, offered 5 cents for every metal and cardboard advertisement removed from trees and posts. Once the boys in town recovered all those signs, the *Recorder* reported, they stole grocery, drug and cigar signs and punched holes in the corners to make it appear they had been posted. In the end, Metcalfe paid for about 300 signs.

A scarf pin lost by a performer with Howorth's Hibernica and Comedy Co., which had performed at Town Hall, was recovered by Coleman Oakley of North Highlands. When Oakley refused to return it unless he received a \$5 reward, he was arrested on larceny charges.

William Ladue Jr., a clerk at the National Bank of Cold Spring, won a 10-mile bicycle road race in Garrison in 25:27 and was awarded a new camera and gun. Charles Post was second (despite a broken pedal and a pit stop to replace a wheel) and won a bicycle suit; Eugene Crawford was third and won a lantern; and John Homer was fourth and won a handsome sweater.

The *Recorder* published an accounting of Ladue's other winnings in bicycle races over the previous year: two silver watches, three gold watches, two diamond rings, a mantle clock, a silver cake basket, two bicycle suits and a silver cup.

The paper observed: "The complaint that bicycles frighten horses is slowly but surely giving away to a protest against horses and carriages getting in the way of bicycles."

William King installed street signs in Cold Spring made of iron with white enamel letters about 2.5 inches high on a blue background.

A rabid dog owned by Emerson Jaycox of Nelsonville bit at least 17 other dogs. In response, the Cold Spring Village Board ordered that all dogs be muzzled until at least Dec. 31. At the same time, it authorized James Mosher to kill any mad dogs. That led to further trouble when he shot a dog owned by Warren Merritt, who promptly sued for its value.

The Cold Spring clerk recommended the village purchase a safe to store important documents.

E.H. Timm, a member of the Board of Education, spoke at the Haldane Union School about his experiences serving in the Civil War.

A horseless carriage, or motor cycle, making a pilgrimage to Chicago from New York, was stymied by the grade at Nelson Hill and the occupants had to push.

The State Prison Commission asked Putnam and other counties to force convicts sentenced to less than a year in jail to work on fixing the roads.

John Woolcock and Edward Burbe visited a cave near the top of Crow's Nest opposite Cold Spring, which is located 800 feet

## COVID Finds

At a recent virtual roundtable hosted by the Putnam County Historian's Office, members of local historical societies and museums discussed how many current and former residents have donated ephemera and artifacts discovered in closets and attics while stuck at home by the pandemic over the past eight months.

In Cold Spring, the Putnam History Museum received material related to the ferry that operated between Garrison and West Point in the 19th century. It was contributed by Anthony and Taylor Mike Belcher, former longtime residents of Garrison and descendants of Henry White Belcher, who owned the ferry.

"One exceptional item is a seal stamp for the West Point Ferry Co., which operated from about 1854 to 1900," said John Duncan, the collections manager.

The Belchers also sent photos of Garrison Landing from the 1920s and 1930s, which filled a gap — most landing photos in the museum collection are from the late 19th century or the past 50 years.

"Donations documenting local history have been a silver lining during the



John Duncan at the Putnam History Museum with a ferry seal stamp and photos donated to its collection

Photo provided

pandemic," said Jennifer Cassidy of the Putnam County Historian's Office. To learn how to donate items, call

845-808-1420 or email [historian@putnamcountyny.gov](mailto:historian@putnamcountyny.gov).

## Attic Mystery Solved

Teresa Lagerman, our community engagement editor, posted this photo to the Facebook group Philipstown Locals, noting she had found a board with the name "Warren N. Merritt, Nelsonville, N.Y." in the attic of her Cold Spring village home.

Cheryl Allen responded that, according to her research, it referred to Warren Nelson Merritt, a contractor and former mayor of Nelsonville who was born in Cold Spring in 1875 and died in Nelsonville in 1958.



Alan DeMichael, Warren's grandson, said his grandfather had grown up in a home at the corner of Pearl and Secor streets and later built the home next to

it, where he lived until his death.

Finally, Pamela Gunther commented, "This is what Facebook was supposed to be about: connecting!"

above the river on a dangerous approach, to retrieve specimens of quartz they believed might contain silver.

### 100 Years Ago (November 1920)

Maj. Hamilton Fish Jr. of Garrison was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, defeating the Middletown mayor, Rosslyn Cox.

Fish's brother, Stuyvesant, the former president of the Illinois Central Railroad, bought 350 acres of land in Canopus Hollow — including the Croft, Odell and Scofield farms and two houses — to add to his Philipstown estate. He also had homes in New

York City and Newport, Rhode Island.

Nancy McNeal gave an address titled "The Value of a Hot Dish for the School Lunch" at the Garrison school to about 100 members of the Junior Extension. Mrs. William Church Osborn financed the lunch program at the school.

### 75 Years Ago (November 1945)

Joseph Lahey defeated Gilbert Forman by 70 votes of 1,920 cast to become the Philipstown supervisor. Forman had held the position for 16 years. Marion Jenkins defeated the incumbent superintendent of highways, Richard Harmon, by 82 votes of

1,884 cast and Norman Champlin won by nine votes to become assessor.

Jane Stevenson hosted a party for her son, Cpl. Kenneth Stevenson, who returned to the U.S. after spending 44 months in the Pacific, the longest record of service for any soldier from Cold Spring. Another son, Staff Sgt. Malcolm Stevenson, had completed 50 missions in Italy with the 15th Air Corps.

Adolf Peters of Lake Valhalla took delivery of the first 1946 model Ford registered in Putnam County, which he purchased from Cold Spring Motors.

James Bailey of Cold Spring, a former

(Continued on Page 18)



## Looking Back *(from Page 17)*

Putnam County district attorney, became the first Putnam County judge elected to the state Supreme Court.

The Haldane Central School Blue Devils (5-0-1) won the Putnam County football championship by defeating Carmel, 26-6.

More than 1,000 parents and relatives filled Haldane for Open House Night. The program began with a pageant, "Sing Out, Sweet Land of Liberty," written by the principal.

Arthur McKay of Garrison won a turkey in a raffle held by the Philipstown post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at the Cold Spring movie theater.

### 50 Years Ago (November 1970)

Dick Howser, the third-base coach for the New York Yankees, spoke at the Philipstown Little League's annual banquet.

The Nelsonville Village Board hired a firm to put its tax rolls on a computer.

Charley Ireland of Haldane High School won the Dutchess County Scholastic League cross-country title by running the 2.5-mile course in 14:01.

Charlotte Post, a third-grade teacher at Haldane, asked her students to respond to the question, "How can I help make my town a better place in which to live?" Most students mentioned picking up trash, while two suggested using lead-free gas and one wanted people to stop burning leaves.

John Burns, executive assistant to U.S. Attorney Whitney North Seymour Jr., spoke to members of the Philipstown Council about how to become a model community ecologically. He said that progress was being made to get the Hudson River clean enough to swim in.

The American Legion post in Peekskill honored Harold Mason of Garrison, who owned a tire store in the city, at its annual Veterans Day dinner. The keynote speaker,

Charles Galdabaugh, said that Americans "don't need the burden of trying to see things clearly through the confusion created by bombings, dope, flag desecrations, wars and other forms of turmoil."

Joe Giordenello of Avery Road defeated Richie "The Ogg" Monroe of Old West Point Road for the Garrison 8 Ball Pocket Billiard Championship at Duffy's Tavern in Cold Spring. Giordenello was the former Nassau County Cue Ball champ and had appeared on television playing billiards.

### 25 Years Ago (November 1995)

Three Philipstown Pop Warner players traveled to Poughkeepsie to compete in the NFL/Gatorade Punt, Pass & Kick. Vinny Millspaugh, 9, placed second in his age group; Chris Pilner was third among 12- and 13 year-olds; and Ryan McConville, 10, advanced to the state competition, to be held during halftime of a Giants-Redskins game.

Stephen Tomann was the only Republican to win a seat in Philipstown when he was reelected as town justice. Ed Engelbride, who lost his seat on the council, blamed a poison-pen letter circulated before the election in the North Highlands. Others blamed the local Conservative Party, which had endorsed the Democrats.

Route 301 in Nelsonville was closed between Fishkill and Peekskill roads for five hours after a van took out a utility pole, causing power lines to fall on the road.

About 35 Garrison school district parents and community members attended a forum titled, "Is There an Alternative to a Building Referendum?"

The state awarded a \$233,000 contract to a Pleasantville contractor to replace the 78-foot bridge removed a year before from over the Metro-North tracks at Little Stony Point. Park police issued more than 100 tickets and warnings over the summer to hikers who illegally crossed the tracks to reach the park.

## OBITUARIES

### Steve Gregorio (1978-2020)

Steve Anthony Gregorio, 42, a lifelong resident of Cold Spring, died unexpectedly on Nov. 22.

He was born June 15, 1978, in Tarrytown, the son of Mario and Maria (Conte) Gregorio. On Nov. 15, 2009, he married Tara Chauvin at Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring.

Steve attended Haldane and earned a degree in civil engineering from Manhattan College. He was employed by Cataldo Engineering on Long Island.

He enjoyed football on Sundays and skiing with his family. Anyone who ever met Steve knew he was a "hug-and-a-handshake" guy, his family said.

Along with his wife and parents, he is survived by his twins, Mario and Eva, and a brother, Chris Gregorio.

Friends may call today (Nov. 27) from 5 to 8 p.m. at Clinton Funeral Home, 21



Parrott St., in Cold Spring. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday (Nov. 28) at 9:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Loretto, with interment to follow at St. Augustine Cemetery in Ossining.

A campaign has been created at [gofundme.com/support-for-tara-gregorio](https://gofundme.com/support-for-tara-gregorio) to benefit the family.

## Recent Deaths

### Philipstown

Maureen Sheeran, 71  
Randy Will, 77

### Beacon

James Coogan, 55  
Maryann Gardner, 72  
June Henry  
John Lent, 62  
Sister Ellen Looby, 79  
Pauline Mendoza, 91  
Harry Palmer, 63  
Thomas Scianna, 25  
Kay Scofield, 86

For obituaries, see [highlandscurrent.org/obits](https://highlandscurrent.org/obits).

## Current Classifieds

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

**ACROSS**

1. Secondhand

5. Sphere

8. Halt

12. DVR alternative

13. Greek X

14. Authentic

15. Sheltered, at sea

16. Hare's defeater

18. Japan's main island

20. Comic Phyllis

21. California wine valley

23. Zero

24. Enchilada holder

28. Plate

31. — jiffy

32. Fix a stubborn shoelace

34. Rowing need

35. Sulk

37. Harasses

39. Male cat

41. Tater

42. Wall plaster

45. Warren Commission subject

49. Bullring VIP

51. Lotion additive

52. Yemeni city

53. Scrap

54. Anger

55. Got up

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

21 22 23

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

31 32 33 34

35 36 37 38

39 40 41

42 43 44 45 46 47 48

49 50 51

52 53 54

55 56 57

56. They're between dos and mis

57. Let fall

10. English river

11. Equal

17. Can metal

19. Locks

22. Chorus members

24. Quarterback

25. Yoko of music

26. States of ecstasy

27. LaGuardia and Logan, e.g.

29. Perched

30. Day fractions (Abbr.)

33. Ostriches' kin

36. Dawn-of-mammals epoch

38. Name of many English kings

40. Longtime record label

42. Celebrity

43. Big fuss

44. Smell

46. Winged symbol

47. Corporate

48. Profound

50. Raw rock

**DOWN**

1. Hexagonal state

2. Missile house

3. Divisible by two

4. Fails to

5. One of eight

6. Pi neighbor

7. Avian creature

8. Unemotional

9. 10 to the 12th power

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7 LITTLE WORDS

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

**CLUES**

1 Colts' hometown, in brief (4)

2 like an unsolved mystery (10)

3 Lego pieces (6)

4 spiky sort (9)

5 flies like a kite (5)

6 gazpacho ingredients (8)

7 key Mr. Bean quality (10)

**SOLUTIONS**

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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Answers for Nov. 20 Puzzles

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

1. TALLEST, 2. JUXTAPOSED, 3. MAHOMES, 4. SENIORS, 5. COLLARDS, 6. TRAFFIC, 7. FETA

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



## SPORTS



Follow us at [twitter.com/hcurrentsports](https://twitter.com/hcurrentsports)

## Cross-Country Teams Finish Second

By Skip Pearlman

The Haldane boys' and girls' cross-country teams each placed second last weekend at the Putnam-Northern Westchester small-schools title meet at Milton.

Briarcliff won the six-team boys' division and Hendrick Hudson was the three-team girls' champ.

"The boys' team out-performed any boys' team I've had so far," said Coach Tom Locascio. "They outdid themselves."

Everett Campanile placed fourth in 17:21, followed by Luke Parella at seventh (17:39) and Walter Hoess at 11th (18:06). John Kisslinger finished 16th (18:41, a personal best), Rowen Kuzminski was 17th (18:48), Julian Ambrose was 19th (18:54) and Ben Strol was 31st (20:38).

The girls' team "had underachieved a bit because of a series of injuries," Locascio said. "But as the season went on, they built confidence."

Shannon Ferri led the Blue Devils, finishing eighth in 20:23. Caroline Cates was 11th (22:49, a personal best), Celia Drury was 15th (23:55), Helen Nicholls was 18th (25:45), Allison Nichols was 20th (26:37) and Elizabeth Nelson was 22nd (27:43).

The teams will lose five seniors to graduation, including its best runners, Campanile, Hoess and Ferri. "They'll be tough to replace," Locascio said.

Locascio, who retired last year as a Haldane teacher and commuted from Albany to coach the team, said this may be his last season after 14 years — although he said that last year, as well, and was convinced by the runners to stay.

"When I started as coach, there was talk of the team folding," he recalled. "Early on, I discovered some runners were going for pizza or doing other things when they were supposed to be training. So from the second season on, I ran with them, and now I'm a marathoner and a 5K runner. I'm happier and healthier. I've benefited as much as the kids."

## Beacon Surprises John Jay to Win Title

*Bulldogs are Section 1 Dutchess County champs*

By Skip Pearlman

The Beacon High School boys' soccer team, seeded No. 2 in the Section 1 Dutchess County playoffs, pulled off one of the biggest wins in program history on Saturday (Nov. 21), upsetting top-seeded John Jay, 2-1.

John Jay, which had defeated Beacon, 1-0, during the regular season, dominated the first half of the championship game.

The Bulldogs, who are in Class A based on student-body size, would not usually face John Jay, which is in Class AA, in the annual tournament. But because of the pandemic, the regional and state playoffs will not be held and state athletic officials realigned teams geographically for the sectionals to minimize travel.

In the Saturday contest, Beacon broke through just over a minute into the fourth quarter when senior captain Warren Banks found space in front of the net for a 1-0 lead.

After Beacon was called for a handball in the box, Zach Rabadi of John Jay delivered a penalty kick with 15:18

remaining to tie the game.

But five minutes later, the Bulldogs were awarded their own penalty kick and Tommy Franks blasted a shot into the lower corner of the net.

"In the first half they had a lot of chances, but we survived the scoring melee and kept battling," said Dillon Kelly, another of the team's captains. "In the second half we knew it was a new game. It was such a crazy year, and to come together and win, it's insane how we had this sense of togetherness — something normal."

"We are thrilled to come out of 2020 with a championship and to beat an exceptional team like John Jay," said Coach Craig Seaman. "Jay came out with three center midfielders, and their pace was outstanding. Honestly, I was just hoping to survive the first half."

Beacon made adjustments, moving the alignment of its four defensive backs and, more importantly, switching to a 4-3-3 alignment to better match up with the Patriots. "After that, we played much better," Seaman said. "We had bodies in the right part of the field."

### Girls fall to Arlington

After outlasting Ketcham in a marathon match that included four overtimes and a penalty-kick shootout, the Beacon girls' soccer team ended its season Nov. 21 in the sectional semifinals with a lopsided 9-0 loss to AA power Arlington.

"Our strategy was to hold them down in seven-minute intervals and get a lot of girls experience," said Coach Hugo Alzate. "Arlington has a senior-heavy lineup, and we start five freshmen and an eighth grader. It was good for the girls to see how Arlington plays. We strung some passes together, gained some confidence. I'm proud of all of them and the effort they gave."

Beacon, which finished 7-6, will lose six seniors to graduation: Ashley Casserly, Gabby Del Castillo, Brielle Travis, Jessica Spadafino, Sam DeLuise and Elizabeth Reynolds.

Alzate said his team also did well dealing with the complications of COVID. "We got 12 games in," he said. "Considering it could have been zero — all of the athletes in Section 1 showed great resilience."



The Beacon boys' soccer team with its Section 1 plaque last week

Photo by S. Pearlman

## Section 1 Delays More Sports

Officials representing Section 1 of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association on Nov. 20 announced they would delay all winter sports until at least Jan. 4 because of pandemic restrictions.

Section 1 has 82 schools, including

Beacon and Haldane.

Athletic officials said on Nov. 17 they were delaying contact sports such as basketball and wrestling until Jan. 4. But three days later they added other sports such as bowling, boys' swimming and indoor track and field. Modified sports are scheduled to begin Jan. 19.

## Tighe Is Off to Mountain Bike School

Ev van Tighe, the Haldane High School junior and mountain-bike racer who was profiled in our Nov. 6 issue, has been accepted by the Killington Mountain School in Killington, Vermont.

The school offers college-preparatory academics as well as instruction in

cycling, skiing and snowboarding. Tighe has started virtual classes and will transfer to in-person courses in Vermont on Nov. 30.

Tighe will also compete as a member of the school's downhill mountain biking team during the Eastern States Cup 2021 season.