

The HIGHLANDS Current



Putnam at Play [Page 15](#)

MAY 21, 2021

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BACK UNDER THE HOOD — The owners of vintage, restored vehicles gathered on May 12 at the Beacon Elks Lodge for a car cruise for the first time since before the pandemic shutdown. For more photos, see [Page 16](#).

Photo by Ross Corsair

School Board Budgets Pass

*New trustees for Haldane,
Garrison districts*

By Chip Rowe

Voters on Tuesday (May 18) approved by wide margins the 2021-22 budgets proposed for the Garrison, Haldane and Beacon school districts and re-elected every incumbent board member who ran, along with two newcomers.

Garrison

Three incumbents on the nine-member board — Madeline Julian (191 votes), David Gelber (178) and Courtney McCarthy (178) — retained their seats and will serve 3-year terms, while Kent Schacht received 161 votes and was elected to a fourth open seat for a year to complete the term of Jill Lake, who resigned. (He was sworn in on Wednesday and will serve until June 2022.) The fifth candidate, Ned Rauch, received 117 votes but was not elected.

The 2021-22 budget, approved 185-61 by

voters, includes \$11.69 million in spending, or about \$322,000 more than this year, an increase of 2.83 percent. The district plans to raise \$9.7 million through property taxes, receive \$976,000 in state aid and use \$894,000 from its fund balance. The budget includes funding for two new positions: an environmental education/science teacher and a director of technology and instructional support, and eliminates three of eight full-time teacher aide positions.

Haldane

Three candidates ran for two open seats on the five-member Haldane school board. John Hedlund, an incumbent, held his seat with 368 votes. Maggie Valentine received 355 votes and won the seat vacated by Margaret Parr, who did not seek a third term. Valentine will join the board on July 1. Mark Daisley received 253 votes and was not elected.

The 2021-22 budget, approved by a 423-120 vote, includes \$25.95 million in spending, or about \$685,000 more than this year, an increase of 2.71 percent. The district plans to raise \$21 million through property taxes, \$3.1 million from state aid, and \$721,000 from non-resident tuition, and use \$645,000 from its fund balance and \$410,000 from reserves. *(Continued on page 3)*

Beacon Releases Police Records

*City is first in area to
comply with law*

By Jeff Simms

The Beacon Police Department has released detailed records of every arrest made by its officers since 2017 that required the use of force beyond “compliant handcuffing,” as well as about a dozen complaints lodged against officers dating to 2004.

The data dump of 1,536 pages of records, which the city posted online (see bit.ly/beacon-records), comes nearly a year after the state, in the wake of protests over the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer, repealed a law that kept them secret.

The Current submitted Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests to the Beacon and Cold Spring police and Dutchess and Putnam County sheriffs soon after the repeal was enacted on June 12. The Cold Spring and Putnam County requests are pending; Dutchess *(Continued on page 5)*

Mask Distrust

*New guidance spurs
concerns, pushback*

By Leonard Sparks

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance that fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear masks or socially distance has been adopted by New York and other states and cheered by local officials.

But it is also raising concerns from residents, business owners and some public health officials who believe that the move is premature because so many people are still unvaccinated and may not be honest about their status.

The CDC guidelines, which went into effect in New York state on Wednesday (May 19), require unvaccinated people to wear masks in public; allows businesses to mandate that customers wear face coverings; and keeps masks in place at K-12 schools, homeless shelters, prisons, nursing homes and health care settings, and on public transit such as Metro-North.

The easing of mask rules comes as COVID-19 cases in the state and in Dutchess and Putnam counties are plummeting as more people become vaccinated.

The same day it took effect in New York, Putnam County said that its employees who are vaccinated can return to work

(Continued on page 7)



Cadah Goulet, the owner of Poor George in Cold Spring, still requires masks inside her store.

Photo by L. Sparks

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: PAUL MARKWALTER

By Michael Turton

Paul Markwalter chairs the Beacon Tree Advisory Committee. An arborist, he has tended to trees for 58 years.

What does the committee do?

We were established about four years ago to advise the city on pruning the trees it owns. There are just three members right now; we could use more volunteers — people who care about trees. We've inventoried about 200 city-owned trees, including in Memorial Park and along Main Street and Route 9D. We were instrumental in helping the city get a \$36,000 state grant to prune 27 trees in Memorial Park and to remove 13 unhealthy trees. We also sometimes get calls from residents wanting advice.

Does Beacon need more trees?

Yes. I would like to increase the stock to 400 trees within five years. When I moved here in 2009, there was a 3-inch Norway maple sprouting out of the ground. It's now 20 feet tall. After five years, we could have 400 trees, 5 to 6 feet tall, that could be placed all over Beacon. People would take care of a young tree on their property with the understanding that at some point we'd transplant it to a park or along a street —

a foster-care program for trees. Saplings cost about a dollar each. We've planted 20 trees in the past few years, but they were purchased from a nursery for \$150 to \$250 apiece.

What are the main threats to Beacon's trees?

Die-off along Main Street is a concern. Many trees are root-bound; the sycamores push up the sidewalks. The roots will go where they want, even through a wall. And Beacon is no different from anywhere else, with the common blights such as debarking you see on silver maples; and the white ashes and hemlocks are taking a beating. Someone planted flowering plums and pears on Main Street. They have a lot of dieback and don't hold up to winter, so they're not sustainable as street trees. Construction is also a concern; land is often cleared willy-nilly, with no thought to saving a tree like a 200-year-old oak. I'd like to see a law requiring people to get a permit to take down [healthy] trees.

What is it about trees that affects you?

I'm a dendrophile; I love trees. A walk in the woods restores my soul. The trees know me and I know them. They welcome me into their midst. They can exist without us, but not the reverse. Without trees we wouldn't



be here. I love Dennings Point; the trees there speak to me. And I like wood and the things we can do with it.

Do you have a favorite tree somewhere in the world?

I have pruned a lot of trees since 1963, but my favorite was a red oak in Wayne, New Jersey. With nothing around it to hinder its growth, it was a true specimen, standing about 150 feet tall and with a spread of at least 100 feet. It took so long to prune I had my lunch sent up to me so I wouldn't have to climb it again. I'm 76 now; I climbed my last tree about five years ago.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

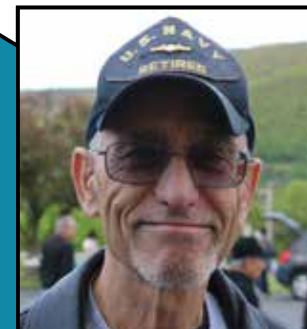
What celebrity would you love to have dinner with?

“ WNYC's Brian Lehrer. I'm an NPR junkie; we'd have a lot to talk about. ”



~ Shannon Keegan, Cold Spring

“ Jay Leno. He's the car collector; I only have four. ”



~ Geoff Schwartz, Beacon

“ Jimmy Fallon. I just think we'd be really good friends. ”



~ Danielle Pack McCarthy, Nelsonville

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School Board *(from page 1)*

Voters also approved, by a 410-131 vote, spending \$175,000 on buses.

"Each year's budget development brings unique challenges and this year was no different," said Superintendent Philip Benante in a statement. "We tried to strike the right balance in supporting our programs while being wary of increased costs. While the passing of the budget is great news, it comes with the reduction of several support staff positions and impacts our colleagues."

Beacon

Four incumbents on the nine-member board ran for four open seats. The top three vote-getters — John Galloway Jr. (733 votes), Jasmine Johnson (696) and Flora Stadler (688) — will serve three-year terms and the fourth-place finisher, Elissa Betterbid (658), will complete the final year of the term of Michael Rutkoske, who resigned in July. Galloway and Johnson were appointed last year to fill open seats.

The 2021-22 budget, which passed 701-184, includes \$76.9 million in spending. The district's state-mandated tax cap

SCHOOL VOTES			
	Garrison	Haldane	Beacon
% Budget Approved	75%	78%	79%
Total Registered Voters	2,150	4,226	16,160
Voter Turnout	11%	13%	5%

for 2021 is 2.35 percent, which translates to a \$42.6 million tax levy, or \$980,000 more than last year. It estimates a \$97 property tax increase on a \$300,000 home in Beacon that participates in the STAR tax-relief program. (The estimated increase will be \$121 in Fishkill and \$120 in Wappinger.)

Voters also approved, by a 703-180 vote, spending \$395,000 on buses and, by a 738-148 margin, selling 33 acres owned by the district underneath and around Dutchess Stadium. Proceeds from the \$627,000 sale to Dutchess County will go toward a \$22 million-plus capital project that the district plans to present to voters this fall.

NEWS BRIEFS

Putnam Deputy Seriously Injured in Crash

Squad car and truck collide on Route 301 at Fahnestock

A Putnam County sheriff's deputy was seriously injured in a crash on Route 301 near Canopus Lake in Fahnestock State Park on Monday (May 17), the Sheriff's Department reported.

The crash occurred at about 12:40 p.m. The deputy, who was not identified, was traveling west on Route 301 when his vehicle collided with a truck traveling east.

The deputy was extricated from his squad car with the Jaws of Life by the Kent Fire Department and airlifted to the Westchester Medical Center. The driver of the truck, who had been ejected from his vehicle, was transported by ambulance to the same medical facility, the Sheriff's Department said.

Sales Tax Revenue Jumps in Dutchess County

Up to \$10 million in first four months

Sales tax revenue in Dutchess County during the first four months of the year increased 21 percent over the same period in 2020 and 17.5 percent over 2019, the county comptroller said on May 13.

Sales taxes account for about 40 percent of county revenue. The \$47 million collected from Jan. 1 to April 30 is about \$10 million more than in 2020, said Comptroller Robin Lois. The county collected \$208 million in 2019 and \$200 million in 2020, a drop of about 5 percent. The budget for 2021 projected sales tax revenue of \$205 million.

The sales tax in Dutchess is 8.125 percent; 3.75 percent goes to the county, 4 percent to the state and 0.75 percent to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

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The HIGHLANDS
Current

The HIGHLANDS Current

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THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT
(USPS #22270) / ISSN 2475-3785

May 21, 2021
Volume 10, Issue 22

is published weekly by Highlands Current Inc., 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819. Periodicals Postage Paid at Cold Spring, NY, and at additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Highlands Current*, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819. Mail delivery \$30 per year. highlandscurrent.org/delivery delivery@highlandscurrent.org

Distribution audited by the Circulation Verification Council

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

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Short-term rentals

George Orwell sure was right about how language can change reality. To dredge up a few terms from yesteryear, those "short-term rentals" busting out like dandelions all over Cold Spring used to be called apartments, and "hosts" were what we called landladies and landlords ("*Residents Air Views About Airbnb*," May 14). One flip of phrasing, and it's as if we apartment-dwellers, another layer of stable, vibrant village life, who were also neighbors with our own pets and children, never existed.

In our dollar-chasing society, Cold Spring's hosts will surely be allowed to max out the wealth of their charming properties, while local governance will have no choice but to look the other way. Meanwhile, we renters can go to hell or Houston, whichever is cooler in the summer.

Jacqueline Foertsch,
(no longer renting in) Cold Spring

There are some misconceptions about Airbnb that, as a longtime Airbnb host and guest, I feel I should clarify.

Some unfamiliar with Airbnb believe that it is a cash cow. If you do the math, a space that rents for \$200 a night, even if it is occupied 52 weekends, brings in \$1,600

per month. It's supplemental income. Without it, many more homes in our area would have gone into foreclosure in the past decade, something that would've shrunk the tax base and put downward pressure on everybody's property values.

Some think that guests are transient strangers who come to party. But guests have been vetted and reviewed by other hosts. We have hosted nearly 300 guests in the past seven years. We haven't had any serious issues with any of them.

For us, the best part of renting is sharing the beauty of this place and hearing guests remind us what a unique and spectacular area we live in. We meet extraordinary people from all over the world. But mostly we meet stressed-out city dwellers who come here to enjoy nature and hike it. Some of these people are future residents of our town. They make our town more famous and more desirable. Aside from everything else, our properties will be worth more.

Airbnb hosts pay state and federal income taxes on Airbnb revenues. So now the local government wants a piece of the action, and they gladly let angry residents make the case for them. I can understand that. But why are some citizens so adamantly against it? The average resident

of Cold Spring has nothing to gain by trying to stop Airbnb.

Mahmoud Shahbodaghi, *Cold Spring*

New York Health Act

Twenty years ago, catalyzed by 9/11 and a social and spiritual awakening, I left the security of the corporate world to do work that I find meaningful, for myself and for others. But meaning only goes so far when it comes to health care.

What followed was years of on-again, off-again insurance coverage — as a freelancer and then as a small-business owner.

Politicians love to talk about small businesses being the backbone of our economy — but what if that backbone breaks and you can't afford to care for it? Or bleeds you dry just paying for coverage even if you don't get sick?

That's why we need the New York Health Act, a plan for comprehensive, universal health coverage for all New Yorkers. It passed the state Assembly the last four years in a row — this year the bill has cleared the Assembly health committee and a majority in both state houses support it.

The act isn't just good for independent workers and entrepreneurs. Calculations based on a RAND Corp. assessment of the act showed savings for Beacon of roughly \$6.5 million for the school district and \$2.5 million for the city (and a whopping \$70 million for Dutchess County), based on 2019 budget numbers.

Philipstown passed a resolution supporting the bill, as have municipalities and counties across the state. It'd be great if Beacon did the same.

Scott Tillitt, *Beacon*



Corrections

In a caption and story in the May 14 issue, we misidentified Tara O'Sullivan as the scoutmaster of Troop 137. In fact, she is the denmaster of Pack 137. We also stated that her Cub Scouts helped build a community garden at the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring. In fact, the boys planted flowers there to earn a badge. It was members of Boy Scout Troop 437 who assisted in the construction.

In a story in the May 14 issue, we stated that Tom O'Quinn operates a short-term rental in Palm Springs, Florida, where the city imposes stiff noise fines. In fact, his rental is located in Palm Springs, California.

Beacon Police *(Cont'd from Page 1)*

said it interpreted the law to mean that only records from the date the repeal took effect had to be released, a position also taken by other law enforcement agencies in the state.

(The law applies to fire departments and jails, as well. The Dutchess County jail said it has no records of any disciplinary proceedings from 2010 to present; records from the Fishkill and Downstate state prisons are pending; and the Beacon Fire Department released a document from 2005 citing the discipline of an officer for filing incomplete incident reports.)

Beacon officials said they planned to release the information in December but were delayed due to the volume of data that needed to be reviewed and redacted for privacy, such as blacking out the names of those arrested or who filed complaints.

Beacon Arrests		
	Arrests	Use of Force
2018	678	34
2019	545	24
2020	273	30

Some law enforcement agencies and the unions that represent officers have challenged the repeal in court or resisted releasing records. The Town of Fishkill and the Village of Wappingers Falls passed laws that allow officers to object to the release of their disciplinary records.

Mike Confield, the vice president of the Beacon police officers' union, said Wednesday (May 19) that he was not aware that the city had released the records. He noted,

however, that Beacon officers use force in only about 5 percent of arrests.

"It's time to stop looking for problems with good police officers here and across the country," Confield said. "It's time to work together, respect each other and continue the safety, stability and success of this city."

The Beacon records include use-of-force reports that, according to department policy, must be filed by officers while still on duty after each incident that involves anything beyond compliant handcuffing. As examples, Lt. Tom Figlia, the department's training coordinator, cited "pulling a person's arms behind their back as they try to keep the officer from doing so, or carrying a person to a police car who refuses to walk."

The files include a description of each use-of-force incident and a supervisor's report, which is filed after a review of body camera and in-car video footage, if available, and interviewing officers, suspects and, in some cases, witnesses.

The reports also indicate what type of force was used, such as a restraint hold, pushing a suspect or the use of a Taser, along with details from the officer providing context. Any medical treatment is noted, along with accounts of assisting officers and photographs.

One record, for example, describes a 2017 traffic stop during which a driver wrestled with officers over a pocketbook found to contain a loaded 9mm semi-automatic handgun. The officers described pushing the woman onto her car to gain control of her hands and taking her to the ground when she attempted to pull away before being handcuffed.


Another, from February 2020, recounts an incident that occurred after officers responded to a call for disorderly conduct. Finding three people acting erratically who said they had taken acid, the police tried to redirect one who was walking

Real Estate

Market Report (April)

	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
New Listings	6	15	11	20
Closed Sales	5	8	6	14
Days on Market	94	49	214	121
Median Price	\$330,500	\$445,000	\$383,750	\$665,000
% List Received	96.3	101.3	89.7	93.8
Inventory	24	17	65	39

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



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toward Wolcott Avenue. The woman, after attempting to get past the police several times, punched an officer in the face and shoved another.

As she resisted arrest, an officer placed his knee on top of the woman's knee, preventing her from rolling. The officer then secured the woman's ankle, placed it across her thigh and applied enough pressure to get her to stop rolling and resisting.

Figlia said that during the years he's been in charge of training, there has been no use of force ruled to be outside the department's guidelines and that the department has not been sued for any alleged excessive force. "I contend that this is not by accident," he said, "but because we train yearly on the use-of-force policy, laws and case law, physical applications of the use of force, and also have close supervision and stringent ways of monitoring our officers."

The city's data also includes complaints that have been lodged against Beacon officers over the past 15 years. Most involved callers who felt that officers had been rude

or police blotter entries that were incorrectly filed, or not filed.

In 2010, an officer was admonished for failing to file blotter entries promptly. He was also criticized for his grammar, abbreviations, sentence structure and not using capital letters.

Another officer in 2004 was reprimanded after parking in the mayor's parking space at City Hall and then asking Joseph Braun, the city administrator (who had recently received a ticket for having a headlight out), if he'd had his headlight repaired.

Braun, in a memo to the police chief, said he felt the officer was disrespectful.

The release of the disciplinary and use-of-force files came a few days after the Beacon City Council on May 10 discussed holding a series of community forums to solicit residents' views on implementing the police reform plan it submitted to the state in April. The meetings would be led by the Rev. John Perez and Mark Ungar, who together headed the committee that drafted the reform plan.

"We put the document out; this will give [community members] a chance to respond to that," said Perez, who called the meetings the first phase of implementing the reforms. "Without hearing from the community, we really don't know what direction to take."

But after three forums on policing held last year by Zoom, as well as public discussions organized by Beacon 4 Black Lives and other groups, "what did we not get out of those conversations that we're looking for now?" asked Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair.

"The idea is to go out to where people live, in their parks and neighborhoods and centers, to try to reach more people," said Ungar, who also suggested creating a one-page summary of the reform plan, "so people have something they can absorb quickly."



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NOTICE

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Philipstown Aging At Home is Recruiting Members

We're on a mission to create an inclusive, mutually supportive community for those of us who wish to remain in our own homes in Philipstown as we age. Sound interesting?

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Help Needed

Restaurants cut hours in face of staff shortages

By Leonard Sparks

During the worst of the pandemic, Beacon Pantry owner Stacey Penlon lost a full-time cook who opted for the stability of a job as an electrician and another cook who moved to a catering company.

Finding new help is proving difficult at a crucial time.

As the pandemic wanes and restaurants are again allowed to operate at something close to a pre-pandemic pace, some job applicants schedule interviews but don't show up, said Penlon. One person she interviewed never replied to her job offer. Ads at Indeed and Craigslist are posted, filled and soon posted again, she said. A sign on the door advertises positions for cooks, servers and dishwashers.

"This is not normal," said Penlon, who opened her cafe seven years ago. "I have never had this much trouble hiring people."

As vaccinations, warm weather and the thirst for day trips brings crowds to the Highlands, Penlon and other restaurants are finding that customers are returning in droves, but employees are not.

Penlon would love to open her cafe seven days a week instead of four. Last week, she said, she weighed closing temporarily, but a new hire changed her mind.

The Roundhouse in Beacon is facing the same challenges.

Last month was far busier than Aprils before the shutdown, but the company has struggled to fill shifts, according to general manager Katie Guerra. The Roundhouse's restaurant is closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to give existing staff time off, she said. To entice prospective employees, the company created a bonus program for new hires, depending on hours worked — up to \$500 for the first 10 weeks and the

same amount for those who stay to the end of the summer. Staff can also receive a \$250 bonus for helping recruit an employee, Guerra said.

The difficulty goes beyond hourly positions, which pay a minimum of \$15 per hour, she said. The restaurant is having trouble filling two salaried positions with benefits: a sous chef and a front-of-house manager. Next month, when The Roundhouse resumes hosting larger weddings, the demand for servers will "skyrocket," she said. For now, the restaurant is turning away request for private parties and baby and bridal showers, said Guerra.

"I have to say no because I can't add any more burden to my staff, and that's very frustrating," she said.

Some elected officials blame the extra unemployment benefits that have been in place since last year. Approved by the federal government, the benefits initially paid an extra \$600 a week before being scaled back to \$300. The payments are scheduled to end on Sept. 5.

Joe Caragine, the owner of Brothers Lawn and Landscape in Garrison, said his company is as busy as it's been in 20 years,

“I have never had this much trouble hiring people.

~Stacey Penlon

and "could easily use two or three more guys," even without experience. Several people who worked last summer said they are not returning, including one who said he was making more on unemployment, said Caragine.

"It's backbreaking work in the heat and



Beacon Pantry owner Stacey Penlon is struggling to find employees for her cafe.

Photo by L. Sparks

bad weather," he said. "Some guys' attitude is, why go out and bust my butt for the same amount of money [as unemployment]?"

But shortages may also exist because the pandemic shutdown inspired career changes. In a recent Pew Research Center survey of unemployed workers, two in three said they had seriously considered changing their occupation or field.

Kerry Soeller, who works for a trio of restaurants owned by the same family — the Beacon Bread Co., Tito Santana Taqueria and Ziatun — said food industry workers she knows have left the industry and the area for a variety of reasons, including the costs of renting in Beacon, customers complaining about having to wear masks when not seated or longer waits for tables because of capacity limits.

The most common reason, she said, is that workers already stung by being laid off fear being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 while serving diners who under state guidelines can remove their masks when eating and drinking. Some servers have told her they stopped working at multiple restaurants to reduce their chances of being exposed, she said.

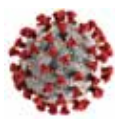
Restaurant workers "should feel protected and respected right now because there are not enough of us to handle the crowds, and we are all trying our best," said Soeller. "We are a special breed of humans trained to bend over backward to make customers leave with a smile, but this year was very difficult for us all and more people should understand why."

In New York state, the leisure and hospitality industry suffered the most job losses during the pandemic, according to the most recent monthly jobs report from the state Department of Labor, issued on April 15. The industry had roughly 277,000 fewer jobs this March than it did in March 2020, a drop of nearly a third.

Some of those jobs returned last summer, when the state began allowing businesses to reopen. Even more jobs are returning now while New York gradually ends restrictions on capacity and operating hours.

There just aren't enough people willing to fill them and, for now, the patio at the Beacon Pantry cafe will remain closed.

"If we had more people, I could be open more days, I could be open more hours and I would have more revenue," Penlon said.



Coronavirus Update

■ State health officials said that, as of Wednesday (May 19), 10,553 people had tested positive for COVID-19 in Putnam County; 29,275 in Dutchess; 129,018 in Westchester; 46,731 in Rockland; 13,813 in Ulster; and 47,966 in Orange. Statewide, there have been 2,074,457 positives, including 929,873 in New York City. Statewide, 42,542 people had died.

■ The number of people with COVID-19 who are hospitalized in New York state as of May 19 stood at 1,490; the number in intensive care was 339; and the number of intubations was 208. In the Mid-Hudson Valley, 48 percent of hospital beds were available and 41 percent of ICU beds.

■ The state said on Monday (May 17) it would allow county fairs and local festivals to return, and events with up to 5,000

attendees do not need approval from the state Department of Health. Fairs and festivals must limit attendees to allow for 6 feet of social distancing between people from different parties unless everyone provides proof of vaccination. They also may require masks.

■ Under legislation signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo on May 13, federal stimulus payments are protected from garnishment by creditors, except that claims can be brought against the funds for child and spousal support, or in cases of fraud.

■ Lower-income households are eligible for a \$50 per month discount on broadband internet service and a one-time discount of \$100 on the purchase of a laptop, desktop or tablet computer under a pandemic program being administered by the Federal Communications Commission. See fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit.

■ Beaches and pools can operate with 6 feet of social distancing, Cuomo said on

May 12. The state's goal is that they be allowed to operate at 100 percent capacity by July 4, he said. SplashDown Beach Water Park in Fishkill announced plans to open on May 29. See splashdownbeach.com. The park will have limited capacity and require reservations or season passes. It will also require visitors to wear masks except when in the water or on slides.

■ A pandemic-high 83,100 people rode Metro-North trains on May 7. While it was the highest one-day total since the pandemic began, it was still down 71 percent from the average weekday ridership total for 2019.

■ Free mobile rapid testing is available at Dutchess Stadium through a county partnership with ProPhase Labs. See bit.ly/dutchess-test.

■ The Small Business Administration is accepting applications for its Restaurant Revitalization Fund for COVID-19-related losses. The funds do not have to be repaid

as long as they are used for eligible expenses by March 11, 2023. See restaurants.sba.gov.

■ As of May 18, according to the State COVID Report Card, Haldane had reported 40 students and 15 teachers/staff who had tested positive; Garrison reported 13 students and seven teachers/staff; and Beacon reported 111 students and 45 teachers/staff.

■ Dutchess County had fully vaccinated 75 percent of its residents 65 and older and Putnam 73.7 percent as of May 20. The national rate is 73.2 percent.

■ The vaccination rate for nursing home residents in Putnam County was 95 percent as of May 20. The rate in Dutchess County stood at 86 percent. In both counties, vaccination rates for staff were much lower, 65 percent for Putnam and 57 percent for Dutchess.

Masks *(Continued from Page 1)*

unmasked. The county also said that its senior centers, including the Friendship Center at the Butterfield complex in Philipstown, will reopen on Monday (May 24) and that the Legislature, barring an extension of a state order that allows municipal boards to meet remotely, will resume in-person sessions when the order expires on June 9.

"It's been a very long road, but now we're back," Putnam Executive MaryEllen Odell said in a statement.

But Franklin Miller, a professor of medical ethics at Weill Cornell Medical School and a fellow with The Hastings Center, a bioethics research institute based in Garrison, said the CDC guidance is based on "the unrealistic assumption that those who are not vaccinated will continue to wear masks indoors in public settings" and may encourage unvaccinated people to forgo face masks, "especially those who have been politically opposed to mask mandates."

"This policy guidance risks endangering others who have not been vaccinated but are trying to protect themselves from becoming infected," Miller wrote on the Hastings website on Tuesday (May 16).

From the beginning, the pandemic has brought out the best in people, and the worst. Residents delivered food to over-stretched hospital workers and homebound seniors and volunteered to help health departments monitor infected people and vaccinate residents.

But alongside those heroics have been arrests of people accused of taking money for much-needed protective equipment that was never delivered and those caught lying to get vaccinated when they were not eligible. Now, a black market is operating for the paper cards given to people who receive the shots, which provides verification for entry to events and, in the fall, for students returning to SUNY and CUNY campuses.

On May 13, Nassau County police

announced the arrest of a CVS employee who was allegedly found with eight pre-filled vaccination cards and 54 blank ones stolen from the store. Last month, the National Association of Attorneys General wrote a letter to the heads of eBay, Twitter and Shopify asking them to crack down on fake vaccination cards with the CDC logo. In addition, the FBI has warned the public that it is illegal to create, purchase or sell the cards.

Cadah Goulet, who owns the Poor George boutique on Main Street in Cold Spring, put up signs reading "Masks Still Required" on Tuesday in response to the new guidance, which "felt a little too fast" and "feels like a free-for-all for masks," she said.

Businesses like Goulet's can operate without requiring masks or social distancing if their customers present paper or digital proof that they are fully vaccinated. But Goulet said she wants "nothing to do with that" because it would require asking customers for proof. "It feels really personal" to ask, she said.

In some indoor public settings, there are separate seating areas for people who have received the shots. More than half the seating at Madison Square Garden and the Barclays Center during NBA playoff games for the Knicks and Nets will be set aside for fully vaccinated fans, Cuomo said on Monday (May 17).

The Hudson Valley Renegades announced on May 13 that the club was ending its requirement that spectators at Dutchess Stadium, where the minor league baseball team plays its home games, provide proof of vaccination or a negative test.

The team is instead recommending that masks be worn, but with capacity limited to 33 percent there is enough space for people to social distance, said General Manager Steve Gliner.

"Being outdoors is key, and I think the people who are comfortable coming out to the games are doing that," he said.



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COVID-19 by the Numbers

■ PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

10,553 (+82)

Active Cases in Philipstown: 25

Tests administered:

226,145 (+3,784)

Percent positive:

4.7 (0)

Percent vaccinated:

55.8

Number of deaths:

91 (0)

■ DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of confirmed cases:

29,275 (+168)

Active Cases in Beacon: 11

Tests administered:

739,712 (+12,846)

Percent positive:

4.0 (0)

Percent vaccinated:

52

Number of deaths:

444 (+1)

Source: State and county health departments, as of May 19, with weekly change in parentheses.
Active cases in Philipstown as of May 13. Percent vaccinated reflects at least one dose.

Cold Spring Mayor Appoints New Board Member

Tweeps Woods will serve through 2021

By Michael Turton

Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy has appointed Tweeps Phillips Woods to the Village Board to fill a vacancy created by Trustee Heidi Bender's resignation in April, four months into her two-year term.

Merandy announced the appointment on May 11. Woods, who has lived in the village since 2017, served on the Recreation Commission for the past year. She has a master's degree in public administration from Columbia University and is a graduate of New York's Coro civic leadership training program.

"I wanted to do something [in the village]; serving on the Recreation Commission was a good start," she said when asked why she agreed to serve. "I like politics, love government, that's my background; when this opportunity arose it just felt like the right thing to do."

Until March, Woods was director of busi-



Tweeps Woods

Photo by M. Turton

ness development for the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants in New York City. She is also a former project manager for the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, policy adviser for the New York City Mayor's Office of Operations and director of external affairs for the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission.

Woods said she plans to be among the candidates in the Nov. 2 general election to serve the final year of Bender's term.

Police review

Cold Spring continues to work through

its plan to assess and reinvent its police force in response to Gov. Andrew Cuomo's executive order last year requiring reviews of all municipal law enforcement. The village plan for reviewing the Cold Spring Police Department was submitted to New York State on April 1.

At the May 11 meeting, Trustee Kathleen Foley reported that, in conjunction with Lexipol, a law enforcement consulting firm, she, Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke and Officer Vincent D'Amato have reviewed 43 chapters of CSPD policies.

The Village Board will now begin its review of the policies before asking for input from a yet-to-be-formed Community Stakeholders Group. Foley said she will recommend the group focus on chapters "directly relevant to the executive order."

Trustee Fran Murphy said she would provide a summary at the Tuesday (May 25) meeting of a survey of residents about the Police Department.

In other business ...

■ Royal Carting will collect garbage on May 25 and recyclables on May 28 while the village garbage truck undergoes repairs. A new truck has been ordered but will not be ready until 2022. Merandy and Early will also meet with Royal Carting to discuss a possible long-term contract. If Royal takes over collection, the village would reassess its vehicle needs, including possibly canceling the truck order.

■ Merandy noted that Metro-North Railway has approved signage to promote

free weekend parking in its Cold Spring lot. Metro-North has not allowed the village to publicize the free parking in the past but Merandy negotiated the change in conjunction with the Parking Committee's ongoing work.

■ Burke reported the CSPD responded to 73 calls for service in April. Officers issued 13 traffic and 18 parking tickets. The Cold Spring Fire Co. responded to seven alarms, including mutual aid to North Highlands Fire Co. on a brush fire.

■ Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce President Eliza Starbuck reported that, after corresponding with the county, "it sounds like they may be planning to start the trolley again this season."

■ At the Village Board's Tuesday (May 18) meeting, Merandy said he was open to allowing the Putnam County Wine and Food Fest to take place on Aug. 7 and 8 at Mayor's Park. "It's time to look toward opening things up," said Woods when Merandy polled the board. "But we have to be pretty nimble in how we respond if things get worse" regarding COVID-19.

■ The discussion of proposed regulations of short-term rentals will resume at the May 25 meeting. Board members rejected a suggestion to survey residents and property owners. A transcript of comments made during a May 6 public hearing won't be available until June 1.

■ Merandy advocated reinstating face-to-face meetings but at a larger venue than Village Hall, such as the Philipstown Recreation Center or Town Hall.



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panel paintings



Deb Lecce

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garrisonartcenter.org 845-424-3960

Garrison Art Center
THE RIVERSIDE GALLERIES

Putnam County Advances Police Advisory Board

Committee proposes independence for group

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Establishment of a police policy advisory board advanced in Putnam County on Tuesday (May 18) when a legislative committee granted it more freedom than previously proposed and nominated its first board members.

Unanimous approval of the Protective Services Committee sent the resolution creating the board to the full Legislature for action in June.

One nominee, Scott Rhodes, said the board's mission "is to support the equity and safety of all Putnam County residents by advocating police policy changes. We've envisioned a county where all feel included, protected, and fairly treated by law enforcement."

The board grew out of the New York State-mandated police policy review process and suggestions from the People of Color Committee of residents assisting in that review.

The Protective Service Committee resolution defines the advisory group's role as striving "to share concerns of the public; ensure transparency through the free flow of information; promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness and legitimacy; address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color; and offer recommendations to the sheriff regarding police policies and procedures."

In April, the Protective Service Committee's first attempt foundered after Legislator Ginny Nacerino, its chair, said that Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. would have "direct oversight" of the group, including choosing its members, although it would "remain independent."

Rhodes and others protested and the three legislators on the Protective Services Committee agreed to rethink their approach.

Last month "there were some profound misunderstandings and miscommunications," Nacerino said at Tuesday's meeting, held by audio connection. "Perhaps we were a bit overly zealous" in acting so quickly. But, she added, "I'm elated to move forward. This is a defining moment in Putnam County."

The resolution awaiting final approval says the nine-member Legislature will name the advisory group members, drawn from participants in the police review process, and that those individuals will elect a chair or co-chairs; stipulates that while the group will work with Langley, "the sheriff shall exercise no control over the officers, membership or business conducted"; and changes its name to the Community Engagement and Police Advisory Board.

"What a great name and what a monumental and epic time for Putnam County," Rhodes said after the vote. He said he and his colleagues "understand that the making of policy changes is an ongoing and evolving process."

As outlined in the resolution, the advisory board will be relatively short-lived, about 18 months, shutting down on Dec. 31, 2022. However, the resolution also permits its members to ask the Legislature to extend its tenure. In essence, Nacerino said, the board can "continue as long as they wish. I want to make that perfectly clear."

Along with Rhodes, as board members the Protective Services Committee chose Ronald Reid, Jenie Fu, Matinah Drew and Dennis Cohen.

Reid expressed gratitude to county officials as well as LGBTQ and Black activists and lauded legislators "for being patient and allowing us to express some of the sentiments that are coming from the community."

Legislator Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown, observed that "the level of tension and anxiety in this country" regarding police-community relations "is at an all-time high." In Putnam, "formation of this board will go a long way" in strengthening bonds and unity, she said. "Policing is most effective when government, community members, and police collaborate and share in the responsibility of public safety."

Nelsonville Lands \$55,500 in State Aid

Also, village revisits trouble-prone Pearl Street sewer

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Infrastructure items dominated a short agenda on Monday (May 17) when Nelsonville's trustees heard that the village's annual share of state aid for road repairs will exceed \$55,500 and discussed a new fix for an old problem: the private Pearl Street sewer.

The village will receive \$28,931 in Consolidated Highway Improvement Program funds; \$14,282 in Pave New York money; and \$12,289 in emergency winter relief.

Chris Winward, the deputy mayor, said the village will spend \$30,000 of the money to pave Secor Street, "which will leave us a nice chunk of change left over." She presided at the meeting, held via Zoom, in Mayor Mike Bowman's absence.

In March, the aging Pearl Street sewer line broke and the village made emergency

“The board reminded residents of the next debris-collection day on May 24.

repairs. The 6-inch pipe runs along Pearl, turns the corner onto Pine, and connects to the Cold Spring sewer system at Parsonage Street. Nelsonville officials anticipate installing a maintenance hole for easier access but await estimates and discussions with the homeowners who use the line and reimburse the village for the cost of repairs.

(In 2016, six residents sued Nelsonville and Cold Spring, saying the villages should take over responsibility for the line, but later dropped the case.)

Aside from the Pearl Street line and a few other exceptions, Nelsonville lacks a sanitary sewer network, although the Cold Spring sewage treatment plant has the capacity to process Nelsonville's wastewater. Nelsonville largely relies on home septic systems and, to a lesser extent, on cesspools.


In other business, Pauline Minners, who retired three years ago, returned as clerk temporarily while the Village Board searches for a successor to Mindy Jesek, who left for a job with the Putnam County District Attorney's Office.

The board reminded residents of two curbside debris-collection days: Monday (May 24) for grass clippings, twigs, bundled branches and similar lawn-garden discards; and June 11 for furniture and household goods.



Nelsonville plans further work on a temporarily repaired private sewer line under Pine Street.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong



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AROUND TOWN



▶ CAUGHT WITH THE CURRENT

— Lindsay Fastiggi of Spice Revolution in Cold Spring shared this photo of her daughter, Aurelia Roxanna Stavitz, catching up with the local sports.



▼ **NEW HANG-OUT** — Dogwood, which has been closed because of the pandemic shutdown, earlier this month opened an outdoor beer garden on East Main Street in Beacon and shared the news on Facebook.



▲ **WOODY SPOTTINGS** — Actor Woody Harrelson, who is in Beacon filming an HBO miniseries about the Watergate “plumbers” (he plays E. Howard Hunt), stopped by the Chocolate Studio and Vegetalien for “the vegan stuff.” Both businesses shared the news on Instagram.

◀ **FIRE TRUCK ON THE WAY** — Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson, whose district includes Beacon, secured \$125,000 in funding for a new pumper truck for the city fire department. He is shown at far left with Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair, Chief Gary VanVoorhis and Mayor Lee Kyriacou. *Photos provided*

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The Calendar



Image by Pamela Cook

The Artist Next Door

Pamela Cook

By Alison Rooney

Cold Spring photographer Pamela Cook describes her early academic life as “definitely disjointed.” After graduating from high school in Michigan without a clue what she wanted to do, she studied architecture for a year. She loved the design, but nothing else.

“The technical aspects of architecture didn’t make sense to me, even though I am, in many ways, technically oriented,” she says.

As it turned out, Cook did find a genre that she excels in and has a passion for: photography. Today she has a roster of design, editorial and fashion clients for still lifes, interiors and landscapes in New York City and the Hudson Valley.

“I never saw myself doing the kind of work I do now, but it does seem like a natural progression,” Cook says. “I never thought I’d largely be photographing homes, interiors and textiles. I find them to be works of art on their own.”

After dropping architecture, Cook worked a series of jobs, many in restaurants, before enrolling in a two-year course in photography at a Michigan community college. There, she struck gold, she explains, with a professor who taught the basics but also let her students experiment. “She’d tell us ‘figure out what interests you and then how to make that interesting to someone else,’” Cook says. “She was experimenting herself with light hitting paper and creating images. It was liberating.”

Cook transferred to the Rhode Island School of Design before, for financial reasons, transferring to SUNY Empire State. After graduating, Cook moved to New York City, where she assisted commercial photographers, including two who specialized in cosmetics and fragrances.

“I learned so much about the business of photography: how to estimate an invoice, figure out actual costs, and how not to lose money while budgeting,” Cook says. After five years, she ventured out on her own.

She began shooting fashion and finding work when stylists recommended her to designers. “I discovered I was most interested in bringing out the fabric and drapes of the clothing, making compositions,” she

says. She began working for Hearst magazines, including *Elle Décor*, which proved to be a catalyst.

“The design director, editor-in-chief and art director reached out saying they loved my lighting,” Cook recalls. “I was intimidated, but they pushed my career along.”

Cook’s range expanded more recently following a *Marie Claire* shoot when editors asked if she would be interested in shooting models. Cook says that surprised her, “because I like a calm and quiet set. My style is slower than most fashion shoots.”

Explaining her work, Cook says her focus is “to create beautiful light and shadows and surround the viewer with that. In my still-life work, I’m constantly trying new



Image by Pamela Cook

techniques. I take these when I shoot on location and translate them to natural light. Without it I feel like my work would become stagnant.”

Although Cook works mostly with repeat clients, she says she still feels “like I’m in a constant state of readjusting and recalibrating.” At the same time, “I feel more comfortable with my style and the way I work. I’m comfortable with the process.”

In her personal work, Cook has lately become more interested in the historic processes of photography. Along with the use of hand-built, antique and altered cameras, she loves wet plate collodion.

“Now everything is digital, but when



Image by Pamela Cook

composing an image with tintypes you take your time, think about it, come up with surprises,” she says. “It’s a way of slowing down. Life and photography these days is so fast.”

Seven years ago, Cook and her husband, Erik Brown, an industrial designer, slowed their lives down considerably, moving from Brooklyn to Cold Spring with their 2-year-old son. “The landscape and the light up here are absolutely incredible,” Cook says. “The trails that the light comes streaming through make you feel grateful.” The move also brought more work shooting landscapes. “It’s a magical experience seeing the landscapes before dawn and watching how the exterior of the home changes as the sun comes up and the light changes.”

For more of Cook’s work, see [prcphotos.com](#) or [@prcphotos](#).



Cook, at the tripod

Photo by Paula King



Image by Pamela Cook

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 22

Master Gardeners Plant Sale

CARMEL

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Veterans Memorial Park
201 Gypsy Trail Road
845-278-6738 x 220
putnam.cce.cornell.edu

Find annuals, perennials, native plants and shrubs, plus all the vegetables your garden needs, at this annual fundraiser.

SAT 22

Shredder Day

COLD SPRING

9 a.m. – Noon. The Nest
44 Chestnut St.
coldspringlions.org/shredder

Bring your papers sans staples and have the materials securely and safely shredded at this event to benefit Cold Spring Lions Club programs.

SAT 22

Annual Plant Sale

BREWSTER

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Ryder Farm
406 Starr Ridge Road | 646-833-8159
spaceonryderfarm.org

The organic farm SPACE is holding its annual sale of vegetable, herb and flower plants, including cosmos, Jack-O-Lantern pumpkins and lemon basil. Orders can be placed online for contactless pickup. Through May.

SAT 22

Modern Makers Market

BEACON

10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Riverfront Park
2 Red Flynn Drive
hopsonteHUDSON.com

Check out work by more than 100 artisans and artists as well as food trucks and entertainment. Because of pandemic restrictions, no more than 500 people will be admitted to each of two sessions (10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2 to 5:30 p.m.). Proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test is required. Also SUN 23. *Cost: \$17 (\$7 ages 6 to 16 and free under 5)*

SUN 23

Empanada Wars

BEACON

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. St. Rocco Society
26 S. Chestnut St.
bit.ly/empanada-wars

This fundraiser for the Beacon Community Kitchen will feature Tommy Que Empanadas and Empa-NANI. *Cost: \$15*

TUES 25

Solarize Putnam

MAHOPAC FALLS

7 p.m. Via Zoom
sustainableputnam.org

Joe Montouri, the president of Sustainable Putnam, will discuss community solar programs, which allow group buying of renewable energy. Also THURS 27.

FRI 28

Sunset Cider & Yoga

HOPEWELL JUNCTION

5:30 p.m. Fishkill Farms
9 Fishkill Farm Road | 845-897-4377 | fishkillfarms.com

Enjoy yoga on the porch followed by a glass of a cider while watching the sunset. *Cost: \$40*

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 22

Plein Air Basics

GARRISON

Noon. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Linda Barboni will lead a three-hour course for up to six students, weather permitting. Register online. *Cost: \$50*

SAT 22

Paper Arts Workshop

PUTNAM VALLEY

Noon. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center | 729 Peekskill Hollow Road | tompkinscorners.org

In this first of two, 3-hour outdoor sessions, Christina Di Marco will teach bookbinding techniques based on Japanese paper art traditions. Also SUN 23. *Cost: \$60*

SAT 22

Deborah Lecce | Holly Sumner

GARRISON

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

Guardians of the Land is an exhibit of Lecce's ceramic animals.



Grease, May 28

Sumner's show, *Saints and Samurai*, will feature her paintings of microscopic life on wood panels. Through June 20.

THURS 27

Robert Ryman

BEACON

Noon. Dia:Beacon
845-231-0811 | diaart.org

In this ongoing online series, Dia educators will discuss the artist's work. *Free*

SAT 29

Altered States

BEACON

Noon – 5 p.m. Mother Gallery
1154 North Ave. | 845-236-6039
mothergallery.art

Work by Adriana Farmiga and Yuri Masnyj will be on view through June 27.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 22

Ree Play Sale

BEACON

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. University Settlement Camp | 724 Wolcott Ave. | weeplayproject.org

Find gently used clothing, toys and gear for children at this annual sale to support recreation activities and improve play areas in local parks. Also SUN 23.

SAT 22

Colonial Flax Processing

FORT MONTGOMERY

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fort Montgomery
690 Route 9W | 845-446-2134
parks.ny.gov

Learn how tools such as the flax break and scutching knife were used to turn flax into linen thread during the colonial era.

SAT 29

A Walking Concert

BEACON

11 a.m. Riverfront Park
2 Red Flynn Drive | howlandmusic.org

In this Classics for Kids program, reserve a slot online to stroll around the park and enjoy live performances. *Free*

SAT 29

Colonial Blacksmithing

FORT MONTGOMERY

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fort Montgomery
690 Route 9W | 845-446-2134
parks.ny.gov

Watch craftspeople demonstrate

TALKS & TOURS

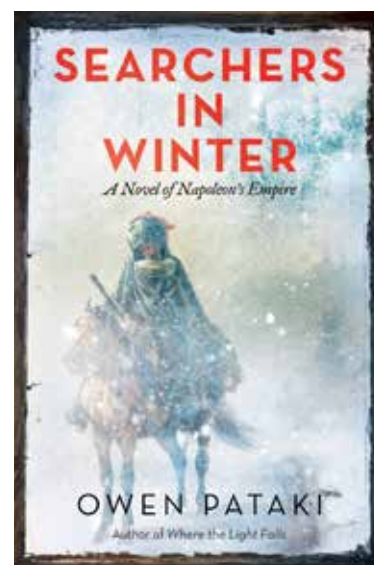
SUN 23

Searchers in Winter

GARRISON

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

Owen Pataki, a Garrison native and author of *Searchers in Winter: A Novel of Napoleon's Empire*, will discuss the book with his sister, bestselling author Alison Pataki, via Crowdcast.



TUES 25

Pictorial Tour of Beacon

BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon Historical Society
beaconhistorical.org

Dave Turner, a Beacon resident and collector and dealer of old photographs, will outline the city's transformation from colonial outpost to factory town to modern day. Register for Zoom link.

THURS 27

Racial Inequities in Bicycling

POUGHKEEPSIE

5 p.m. Scenic Hudson
scenichudson.org

Charles Brown, founder of Equitable Cities, will discuss ways to end racial injustice in the cycling community in this webinar.

(Continued on Page 13)



The Valley Hour, May 27

THURS 27

Supermoon Night Hike

WAPPINGERS FALLS

8:30 p.m. Stony Kill

79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org

Bring a flashlight and explore the Muller Pond Trail in this guided hike. *Cost: \$5*

SAT 29

France's Role in the American Revolution

NEWBURGH

2 p.m. Washington's Headquarters

facebook.com/washingtonsheadquarters

In this virtual program, learn why France came to our aid during the Revolution and how it provided assistance.

MUSIC

SAT 22

Deni Bonet with Chris Flynn

PUTNAM VALLEY

6:30 p.m.

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center

729 Peekskill Hollow Road

tompkinscorners.org

The singer/songwriter and violinist will perform quirky, melodic and fun folk-rock for all ages on the lawn with Flynn, a guitarist and singer. *Cost: \$20 donation*

SUN 23

Junction Trio

KATONAH

3 p.m. Caramoor | caramoor.org

Violinist Stefan Jackiw will perform in a livestream with pianist Conrad Tao and cellist Jay Campbell. The program includes work by Shostakovich and Beethoven. *Cost: \$15 to \$45*

SUN 23

Cassatt String Quartet and Ursula Oppens

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center

alivemusica.org

In this livestream, Oppens, a pianist, will perform with the quartet in an all-female program that includes Amy Beach's *Piano Quintet in F-sharp Minor* and the online premiere of *Blue and Green Music* for string quartet by composer Victoria Bond. *Cost: \$20 donation*

THURS 27

The Valley Hour

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center

477 Main St. | 845-831-4988

thevalleyhour.com

Hosts Annalyse and Ryan present the season finale of this livestream series with Bees in the Barn and Sarah Browne.

STAGE & SCREEN

FRI 28

Grease

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Story Screen Drive-In

724 Wolcott Ave. | 845-440-7706

storyscreendrivein.square.site

The drive-in returns for a second season with this classic 1978 musical romance starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John. Also SAT 29, SUN 30. *Cost: \$10 (\$8 children, seniors, military)*

CIVIC

SAT 22

Rep. Maloney Town Hall

NEWBURGH

11 a.m. Unico Park | 60 Front St.

Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat whose U.S. House district includes the Highlands, will "give constituents an opportunity to voice their concerns."

SUN 23

Rep. Maloney Town Hall

CARMEL

1:30 p.m. Memorial Park

201 Gipsy Trail Road

MON 24

City Council

BEACON

7 p.m. Via Zoom

845-838-5011 | beaconnny.gov

TUES 25

Board of Trustees

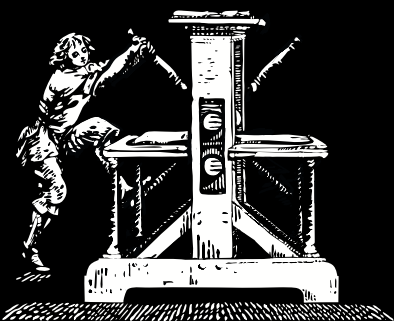
COLD SPRING

7:30 p.m. Via Zoom

845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov



Pictorial Tour of Beacon, May 25

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Out There

Into the (Local) Woods

By Brian PJ Cronin



My 9-year-old son has climbed some of the highest mountains in the Catskills. But if you gave him a choice of a one-hour local hike or a three-hour visit to the dentist, I'm pretty sure he'd pick the dentist.

As a master of efficiency, he manages to pack a week of complaining into the time it takes him to put on his hiking shoes. He will remind me several thousand times throughout the hike that walking down at Dennings Point or even around the neighborhood is the last thing in the world he would like to be doing and is taking away from valuable Minecraft-and-Hanging-Out-with-Cats time.

And yet there he was last weekend, bounding through the Highlands, yelling not that this was torture, but for me and my girlfriend to keep up. I would like to say that this sea change was the result of excellent parenting, but even for a column that *The Current* labels as opinion, that's a mighty stretch. I think it was mostly because we weren't just hiking, we were looking for clues.

We were on the Highlands Trail in Philipstown as part of what the Haldane School Foundation hopes will become an annual event: The Haldane Geocache Hike. As Ezra Clementson, one of its trustees, explained, the foundation usually raises money by having "big, killer parties" that were killed by the pandemic. HSF hopes the parties will return in the fall, but in the meantime it had to figure out how to have an event that people could take part in, on their own, outside, anytime they wanted.

A plan was hatched: First, a raffle that anyone can enter. Then, if you want to improve your odds, find clues in the woods. Participants spent last weekend searching across three local trails where HSF had hidden markers with QR codes. Every code

you scanned with your phone increased your chances and gave you a clue to find the next marker.

It was not quite "geocaching," which typically refers to following GPS coordinates to locate caches in which participants stash tokens and tchotchkes such as toys, coins or stamps. In March, when my son and girlfriend and I took a hike to find Putnam County's mysterious stone chambers, we accidentally found a geocache stash within a chamber wall. (My son located a particularly alluring pebble to leave for future explorers.)

But no one was picking nits, because the adventure was simple enough for kids to get excited about, as evidenced by my son bouncing ahead. He didn't even know about the prizes. He was just excited that instead of one of Dad's Dumb Boring Hikes, we were on a Secret Scavenger Hunt. He was excited about all the rocks, too. "It's like a rock playground," Clementson acknowledged. "I lose my kids bouldering there. Bonkers fun for kids."

Clementson said HSF hopes to expand the hike next year, including to some of Fahnestock's interior trails. Although the hike does raise money, it's also meant to introduce locals to trails in their own backyard. The hike we did, which started on Fishkill Road, comprised a mile-long section of the teal-blazed Highlands Trail, a

“I lose my kids bouldering there. It's bonkers fun.”

~Ezra Clementson

work-in-progress that will connect Pennsylvania to Connecticut through New Jersey and New York.

Clementson referred to the Highlands Trail as a "secret," which is true in the sense that nobody seems to use it. While Breakneck Ridge, Mount Taurus and Mount Beacon draw mobs of tourists on weekends, the rest of the trails remain sparsely populated. Sometimes it's easy to see why. The Highlands Trail hike offers no Instagrammable views, no braggable amount of vertical gain, and it's hard to imagine anyone traveling from far away for such a short hike. So there was simply the quiet joy



The writer's son learns the rocky, wooded pleasures of the teal trail in Philipstown.

Photo by B. Cronin

of being in the woods, climbing on rocks, looking for newts and examining plants. In other words, it was perfect.

The state has joined Clementson in urging hikers to look beyond the obvious. A campaign unveiled this week urges hikers to seek out "trails less traveled." Its timing may not be a coincidence after the announcement that the free permits visitors needed on summer weekends to visit the Blue Hole swimming hole in the Catskills will now be required on week-

days, will extend to hiking trailheads on that road and will cost \$10.

I'll have more to say about overcrowding and the outdoors in the months to come, but for now, it's worth remembering that however crazy Route 9D at Breakneck gets, there's still an embarrassment of great hikes in the Highlands, all blazed and marked on maps, waiting to be explored by families.

"Once you're off Breakneck or Bull Hill," said Clementson, "it's dynamite. It's all dynamite."



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A wide view of the exhibit

Photo by Cassie Ward

Putnam at Play

History museum looks back at leisure

By Alison Rooney

Few who move to this neck of the woods fail to appreciate the landscape and its opportunities for outdoor recreation. That has been a lure, in fact, for centuries.

The Putnam History Museum's latest exhibit, *Putnam at Play*, makes this clear in an overview of leisure and lifestyle in Putnam County from the mid-19th through the mid-20th centuries via everything from vintage postcards, tickets, receipts, advertising and early sports uniforms, to a 19th-century model of the Hudson River Dayline steamboat Mary Powell.

The museum notes that before the mid-1800s, "leisure activities were typically reserved for the wealthy, who had both the time and means for recreation." That began to change as incomes rose and workdays grew shorter. In addition, social constraints loosened and recreational activities opened up to women, though non-whites were still largely excluded.

A list of leisure activities enjoyed at that time sounds surprisingly similar to those of today: hiking, swimming, cycling, strolling, picnicking, ice skating, sleighing, hunting and fishing.

The exhibit is organized by activity,

rather than chronologically, and includes automobiles, railroads, steamboats, river ferries and other means of transportation; winter recreation, camps, resorts, clubs, estates and sports (recreational and spectator), such as baseball and cycling. There is also information about the Green Book travel guides, which provided information on hotels, restaurants and other facilities at which Black travelers were welcome during the Jim Crow era.

Nick Capicotto, the museum's temporary education and program manager, who assisted with research, artifact selection and installation, was struck by the present-day parallels. "In the late 19th and early 20th century, more people were doing office jobs, and they were made conscious of being cooped up all day inside and the effect on their health," he said. "Putnam County was promoted for its fresh, natural air, hiking trails and recreation on the river. We found a guide called *Health and Pleasure* published by the New York Central Railroad in 1893."

John Duncan, the museum's collection manager, said that until about World War II, Putnam had a "half tourist/half leisure economy" but then shifted to a bedroom community whose residents commuted into New York City. "All transportation and the initial activities started as elite, then became more affordable," he said. "The rise of the middle class created fewer working hours, an increase in income and more leisure time. The estates were still there, as were the traditional upper-class



The exhibit includes vintage uniforms and other memorabilia.

Photo by A. Rooney

leisure spots, but there was a growing middle class."

Duncan said the biggest surprise from his research was that "there was an extremely broad variety of specialized destinations and activities; every tiny subsection of every group you could think of was represented county-wise."

Research for *Putnam at Play* was done initially in person, then finished off from home by Duncan and Executive Director Cassie Ward over the winter. Selecting pieces to use was a challenge, according to Duncan, "because there was such an abundance of material. A lot of what you see is from the mid-to-late 1800s. We probably could have filled this room up again a second time."

Capicotto estimates that as much as 85 percent of what is on display came from the museum's collections, with the balance on loan from collectors. With the aid of several college interns, the staff pored through the collections, using dedicated archival aids to make the boxes of documents more easily searchable, until slowly the exhibit took shape.

"It's like writing a three-dimensional research paper: you find all these sources, then they dictate how the paper evolves, and finally the overarching themes become much more clear," Duncan explained.

Capicotto was hired with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Along with *Putnam at Play*, he has worked on a permanent outdoor exhibit on the West Point Foundry. There have been seven such exhibits on the lawn of the museum since October.

The museum also has a second exhibit,

HerStory: Putnam County Women and the Vote, which saw few visitors because of the pandemic shutdown and so has been extended.

Ward notes that, inadvertently, because of the pandemic, much of *Putnam at Play* has wound up being topical. "What's interesting," she said, "is how outdoor recreation and back-to-nature started to have its day in the sun again this past year, with everyone feeling cooped up and wanting to be in nature, so this showing of the origins of recreation here became timely."

The Putnam History Museum, at 63 Chestnut St. in Cold Spring, is open from noon to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Admission is free, although a \$5 donation is suggested. Pandemic safety precautions are in place. Groups should make reservations by calling 845-265-4010.



The exhibit features a collection of exercise clubs such as those used at Bill Brown's Physical Training Farm, a Garrison resort. They are swung in patterns.

Photo by A. Rooney



A local band poses outside Philipstown Town Hall during the 19th century.

Putnam History Museum

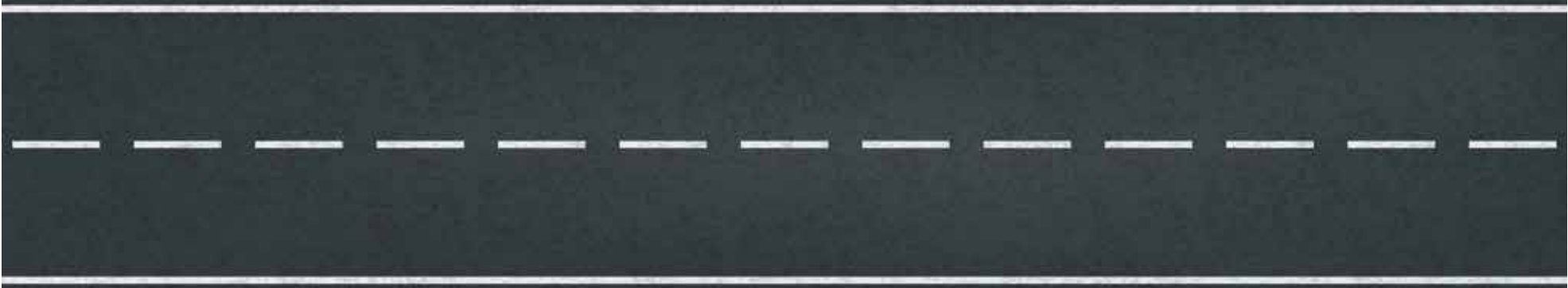


What's Old is New Again

Photos by Ross Corsair

The owners of vintage cars and trucks gathered on May 12 at the Beacon Elks Lodge for the first time since before the pandemic to admire engines, tail fins and perfect paint jobs. The car cruises will continue weekly on Wednesday (weather permitting) through Sept. 29 from 5 to 9 p.m. at 900 Wolcott Ave. Admission is free; registration for vehicle owners is \$5.





Does the Man Owe You Money?

\$5.8 million in unclaimed funds due Highlands residents

By Chip Rowe

Each year, we publish a list of some of the thousands of people and businesses in the Highlands who are owed money by New York State. The state comptroller maintains a database of checks — utility refunds, the balance of forgotten bank accounts, stock dividends, insurance payouts, security deposits, unused gift cards — that for whatever reason were returned to sender.

Companies are required by law to report dormant accounts to the state and, if the owner can’t be located, turn over the funds to the comptroller. The agency maintains a public database of these “unclaimed funds” to match lost money with lost people.

These are the contents of 2,396 dormant accounts owed to current and former Cold Spring and Philipstown residents and businesses, with a value of \$1.47 million; 1,579 accounts worth \$849,000 owed to Garrison residents; and 6,804 accounts worth \$3.52 million owed to Beacon residents, for a total of \$5.8 million.

You can search for your name or organization at ouf.osc.state.ny.us/ouf. If you are owed money, or you are the next-of-kin, you complete a form that can usually be submitted online but in some cases must be mailed. Call 800-221-9311 with questions.

The list below includes names from the Highlands added to the state database in 2020. For lists dating to 1985, see highlandscurrent.org.

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Looking Back in Beacon

By Chip Rowe

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

150 Years Ago (May 1871)

According to an account in the *Poughkeepsie Eagle*, two inmates at the Dutchess County poorhouse who fell in love — Jerry Morris, who was “well read in the history of nations and could translate French and German stories,” and Ella Cronine, “who showed proficiency in painting” and “knew much of embroidery” — escaped together when Morris was told he could not leave. The couple arranged through notes to meet “near the madhouse,” hid in the woods overnight and boarded an early-morning train to Fishkill Landing, where they caught a steamer to New York City. They apparently were not pursued by county officials.

125 Years Ago (May 1896)

Minnie Schatzle sued the Village of Matteawan for \$20,000, saying she had tripped on a defective Fountain Street sidewalk, spraining her hip.

Ernest Arnheim, the son of a millionaire cap manufacturer in New York City, was convicted of forgery but declared insane and sent to Matteawan asylum. According to one account, “a fast life is said to have caused his mental derangement.”

W. H. Dibble, who owned a hotel in Matteawan, was arrested and charged with violating a newly passed state liquor law by serving alcohol on Sunday. It was the first prosecution in Dutchess County under the law, which raised the drinking age from 16 to 18 and prohibited alcohol sales on Sunday except in hotels with at least 10 rooms if served with free meals. (Saloon owners began adding small, barely fur-

nished rooms and offering complimentary sandwiches.)

Three residents of Matteawan were driving a wagon to Poughkeepsie when a front wheel fell off and the team broke into a gallop. All three were thrown from the wagon and seriously injured; they were taken to a nearby hotel to recover.

100 Years Ago (April 1921)

Ambrose Monell, the former president of the International Nickel Co., died at age 48 of what *The New York Herald* described as “war strain” after coming to Beacon to take a “rest cure” at the Craig House sanitarium. Monell had served as president of the nickel company until 1917, when he resigned to become a colonel in the aviation service of the U.S. Army, organizing and training bombing squadrons in France, according to the Ambrose Monell Foundation, which his widow founded in 1956 to fund medical research. At his death, Monell's estate was valued at \$20 million (about \$300 million today).

The Poughkeepsie Eagle-News reported losses attributed to the rage for toy balloons: A Beacon woman lost a watch and a Vassar student lost a diamond ring when the items became entangled in the strings and floated away.

Following a burglary at Beacon High School, the school board took out an insurance policy to cover thefts. The board president argued it was unnecessary, noting the school had a 24-hour guard.

Clinton Gardner broke his arm while cranking his automobile. [Before the electric starter was invented, a driver had to connect the hand crank to the crankshaft and wind it to start the engine. But any kickback could break an arm, wrist or thumb.]

Alice Barker of Beacon received \$480,000 under the terms of the will of her father, George Hearn, a dry goods merchant in New York City. His estate was valued at \$7 million, of which \$1.4 million was invested in federal Liberty bonds to support the war effort.

Ten men, including the mayor and supervisor, traveled to New York City to hear an address by President Warren Harding, who arrived on the presidential yacht to attend a memorial service for the war dead. “We shall never be called upon to make war again so long as God and men rule together,” Harding said.

Jimmy Shields of Beacon faced Jimmy White of Hudson at a social club in Newburgh; the winner was promised a match against Johnny Martin, the lightweight champion of the Hudson Valley.

A road was under construction on Mount Beacon that would connect the Beaconcrest hotel and the DAR monument. It was hoped it could be extended to the Post Road to allow access by car.

A state appeals court agreed to hear an appeal in a lawsuit against the city that had gone on for five years. Veronica Meyers initially sued Beacon in 1916 for

\$10,000 after she said she tripped on an icy sidewalk on Main Street. A jury awarded her \$2,500, which was reversed on appeal; a second jury awarded her \$5,315.

Mary Toth, an employee of the Glenham Embroidery Co., was taken to Vassar Brothers Hospital after she accidentally swallowed a pin. An X-ray showed it in her stomach; doctors prescribed “natural methods” to remove it.

75 Years Ago (April 1946)

The state agreed to a five-year lease on a three-acre tract at Memorial Park to build 50 housing units in Army barracks for returning soldiers. At the same time, George Van Voorhis and Roy Ketcham broke ground on a 100-home development on a 40-acre tract on Route 52 just outside Beacon.

Beacon asked Dutchess to allow it to become part of the county welfare district. The city had been taking care of its own home relief, old-age assistance and hospitalizations, while the county administered child welfare and paid the cost of tuberculosis patients.

Pete Carter, the Beacon High basketball coach, said he would leave in September to become the athletic director of the 23 schools in York, Pennsylvania.

Floyd Callahan, executive officer of the Matteawan National Bank, was elected president of the school board. He succeeded Carl Gurnee, who retired after 15 years. [The mayor appointed board members, who elected their leaders.]

age. She had only a week's supply left.

A patrol officer spotted two Poughkeepsie runaways, both age 8, two days after a man said he had dropped them at Bank Square. The driver said he had seen the boys walking barefoot on the railroad tracks and, concerned, offered them a ride. The boys said they slept for two nights in an abandoned automobile. Family members spent hours searching the Hudson River, fearing the boys had drowned.

The general manager of Plant 2 of the Dennings Point Brickworks north of the city, the only brick manufacturer still operating in the area, said he could not address rumors that it was for sale. Plant 1, at Dennings Point, had shut down when its clay deposit was exhausted.

After four years of Army service, Melio Bettina was training for a chance at the World Light Heavyweight boxing title. “I was signed twice to fight [Joe] Louis, and twice the fight failed to come off,” he said. “The leading heavyweights seem afraid of me because of my ring style” as a leftie.

50 Years Ago (April 1971)

The school board made its case to voters to approve \$8.5 million for a new high school and swimming pool, noting that the current school was 10 percent over capacity and located on just 2.5 acres. Only two of the six candidates for the school board supported the plan, and voters turned it down by a 2 to 1 margin.

The school board approved a \$5.18 mil-



A road was under construction 100 years ago to connect the Beaconcrest hotel on Mount Beacon with the DAR monument.

Beacon Historical Society

A Beacon resident who worked at the Hopewell Junction railroad yard was killed and the driver of a Beacon laundry truck was seriously injured in a fiery head-on collision on the Hopewell-Beacon highway. The crash happened on the opening day of a county traffic-safety campaign.

Deputy Fire Chief Van Norstrand was seriously injured when he fell from the roof of a porch at 34 N. Hamilton St. while fighting a fire that killed a 41-year-old man.

Mrs. Valentine Gahnkin, who owned 200 hogs and pigs, said she was considering selling them because of a feed short-

lion budget that was 9.5 percent higher than the year before but still included the loss of nine jobs and cuts in the sports and driver's education programs.

Charles Kormondy, who operated his own mobile meat market in Beacon for more than 40 years, died at age 64.

Gov. Nelson Rockefeller announced plans to transform Stewart Airport into the state's fourth major jetport. Mayor Robert Cahill said he opposed the move, which he felt would bring only noise, pollution and congestion on the two-lane Beacon-Newburgh bridge. The governor “has never shown any concern for people



Ambrose Monell died in 1921 at the Craig House sanitarium as a result of “war strain.”



In 1946, the last operating plant of the Dennings Point Brickworks was said to be for sale.

File photo by Michael Turton

in other things he has done, so I didn't expect him to this time," Cahill said.

The Poughkeepsie Journal reported on a Pete Seeger concert at Vassar College: "Strumming his banjo, Seeger moved immediately into a song about pollution; in his lyrics, comic in style but tragic in implications, he was sitting on his porch in Beacon, looking down at the river, lamenting its condition while admiring the view."

Officials at Highland Hospital held an open house to show off its \$1.2 million, third-floor addition, which included 44 beds and a generator.

Beacon native Digger Phelps was named the basketball coach at Notre Dame after a single season at Fordham, where his team was 26-3. He hired Dick DiBiao, a former Beacon High School coach, as one of his assistants. [Phelps coached the Fighting Irish until 1991 and then was an ESPN analyst until 2014.]

Two corrections officers at the Mat-

teawan State Hospital, including one who lived in Cold Spring, were indicted on manslaughter charges for allegedly beating a 22-year-old inmate to death. The victim had pleaded guilty to a narcotics charge but was sent to Beacon after he was ruled mentally incompetent. [Nearly two years later, a jury acquitted both men.]

The Dutchess County Youth Board proposed testing a "no-bail" system in which four municipalities, including Beacon, would allow individuals accused of relatively minor crimes to be released until trial if they could not afford bail.

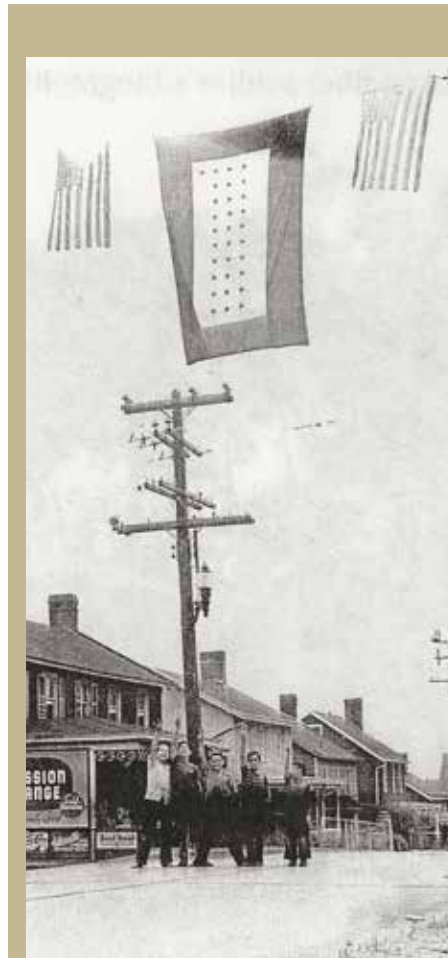
Rep. John Dow helped break ground for a 123-unit apartment building at Davies and South avenues for lower-income residents. Twenty percent of the units were set aside for people making \$4,600 to \$6,000 (about \$30,000 to \$40,000 today) and the remainder for families earning up to \$8,100 (about \$53,000).

Price Brothers Co. of Dayton, Ohio, said it planned to construct a concrete pressure pipe plant on 60 acres north of Beacon.

A 26-year-old Beacon man accused of sexual assault received a sentence of up to three years. "You had no business in that girl's room at 3 a.m. with two others," the county judge said. The defendant said he was innocent but "copped a plea" because of his criminal record. "Who would believe me?" he asked.

The superintendent of schools asked Beacon High School students to skip their annual "skip" day, calling it a "frankly immature student practice," especially with a war going on.

Steven Quill, 22, a former Beacon High School basketball star, drowned while swimming in Fishkill Creek. An 18-year-old Poughkeepsie man who attempted to rescue him also died.



25 Years Ago (April 1996)

The Beacon High School boys' track team defended its Class B title at the Somers Invitational despite missing John Robinson in the 100-meter dash because he was taking the SAT. Robinson showed up in time to win the 200 meters and the long jump.

At a raucous school board meeting attended by about 120 people, residents argued for and against a proposed 4.7 per-

Did You Fight in World War II?

With the approach of Memorial Day on May 31, the Beacon Historical Society is searching for World War II veterans. Hundreds of the city's men and women enlisted or were drafted during the war, and 67 Beacon men lost their lives. In this photograph, taken about 1944, five teenagers point to a victory sign flying near Serino's Grocery at Wolcott and Hudson avenues. The 31 stars represent the number of people from the predominantly Italian-American neighborhood then serving in the Armed Forces. If you know a Beacon resident who served in World War II, email Denise Doring VanBuren at dvb1776@gmail.com.



cent increase in the \$28 million budget. At one point, board president Deborah Sheers threatened to end the proceedings if audience members did not stop interrupting the speakers.

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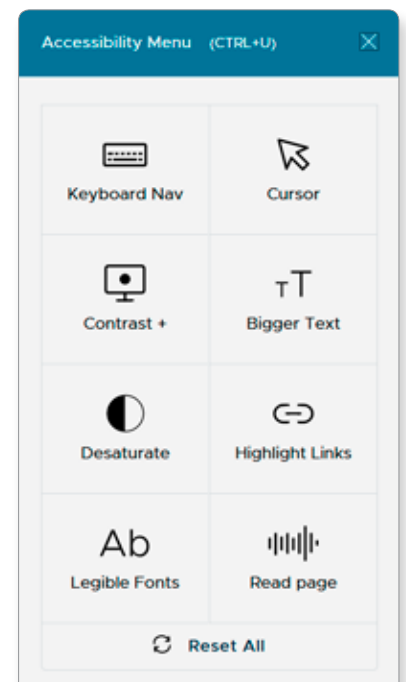
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OBITUARIES

Royal Ciancanelli (1999-2021)

Royal Charles Henry Ciancanelli, 21, a senior airman for the U.S. Air Force, died April 24 in Lenoir County, North Carolina, of injuries sustained in a motorcycle crash.

Royal was born in Poughkeepsie on May 28, 1999, the son of Royal and Jodi (Bradford) Ciancanelli. He graduated from Beacon High School in 2017. During high school, he worked for his family's business, Royalty Carpet in Fishkill, which his grandfather opened in 1978.

The summer after graduation, he worked at Mid-Hudson Sporting Clays in New Paltz before enlisting in the Air Force. Following basic and technical training, he served at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany until December, when he was transferred to Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in North Carolina. He was member of the Air Force civil engineering squadron known as the "Dirt Boyz," working as a heavy equipment operator to maintain Air Force runways, roadways and infrastructure.

An avid outdoorsman, Royal enjoyed fishing and target shooting, in addition to his passion for Jeeps and four-wheel adventures. He was also a member of the Beacon Jeep Club. He especially loved exploring Mount Beacon and taking excursions throughout the region. Royal loved sitting by campfires and listening to music with his family and friends. He was a member of the Faith Assembly of God Church in Poughkeepsie.

Along with his parents, Royal is survived by his sisters, Olivia Ciancanelli and Abbey Ciancanelli; his grandparents, Patricia Bradford, Patricia Nevins and Royal Ciancanelli (Maureen); and his great-grandmother, Sharon Nevins.



A funeral service was held on May 8 at Faith Assembly of God, followed by interment with military honors at Fishkill Rural Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to United Service Organizations (uso.org), a volunteer organization that assisted Royal's family.

Jim Klein (1931-2021)

James Austin Klein, 90, of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, and a former longtime resident of Garrison, died May 9.

Born in Queens on Feb. 11, 1931, the son of Sally and Bernard Klein, Jim was a lifelong adventurer. At age 16, he obtained his pilot's license before he could legally drive a car and flew well into his 80s. By 17, he'd set off for a semester at the University of Alaska, and then worked as a field hand for United Geo Physical. When his time in the Northern Frontier was done, he became one of the first Easy Riders, motorcycling cross-country back to New York on his Harley Davidson.

In 1950, Jim enlisted in the U.S. Navy and became one of the original Navy Seals, or Underwater Demolition Team (UDT) divers as they were called. After the Navy, Jim continued his passion for scuba diving all around the world, from the coral reefs of the Bahamas to hammerhead shark diving in the Galapagos.

In 1953 Jim married Helen Danilin, and they had three daughters: Wendy, Cindy and Dana. In 1956, Jim moved his family to Poughkeepsie to begin his career in construction and real estate. Many friends questioned his moving to the "boonies," where little building was going on, but Jim was a visionary and a risk-taker. That risk



paid off with the boom of IBM.

In 1968, after his first marriage ended, Jim married Dorothy Vogel and they had two daughters: Nicole and Kendell. Jim and Dorothy traveled to every continent and throughout most countries in the world. In 1971, they moved their family to Garrison, where they lived on the marsh of the Hudson River for more than 40 years.

Along with his wife, he is survived by his daughters, Wendy of Greenville, North Carolina; Cindy Saturno (Jim) of Silver Spring, Maryland; Dana Gisiano (Phil) of Kingston; Nicole Jandrucko (Scott) of Wakefield, Rhode Island; and Kendell Munzer (Peter) of Mount Pleasant.

He is also survived by 12 grandchildren: Jessie, Rachel (Will), Gregory (Jill), Bryan (Lindsey), Tony, Billy, Allyn, Danny, Austin, Kaitlyn, Hayden and Owen. Services will be held at a later date.

Bill Sussman (1957-2021)

William Sussman, of Pound Ridge, and formerly of Cold Spring, died April 22 of renal cell carcinoma.

Born in New York City in 1957, Bill was the son of Stuart and Suzanne Sussman. He grew up with two older siblings, Linda and Donald, in Great Neck, Long Island, and graduated from Great Neck North High School, where he was a talented student and athlete. The family also lived for four years in Frankfurt, Germany.

Bill held a degree in agricultural economics from Cornell University and an MBA from New York University. He put his sales skills to work at Xerox and Accenture before working in information technology, most recently for Palo Alto Networks and Cohesity.

He and his first wife, the former Arlene Orenstein, raised their sons, Harrison and Matthew, in Dix Hills. Bill was a dedicated, enthusiastic and hands-on dad at home and

on the athletic fields, traveling across the country and even abroad to cheer on his sons in competitive soccer, his family said.

He moved to Cold Spring in 2016 and became known for his daily walks with Goldie, his Golden Retriever. He was a regular at The Foundry Cafe, where he loved to update staff and customers on the restoration of his historic home on Furnace Street.

When the renovation was complete, the front porch became Bill's favorite spot for catching up with neighbors with his future wife, the former Jennifer Stahlkrantz.

During his years on Long Island, Bill enjoyed winemaking and passing that art on to others. When he settled in Cold Spring, he enrolled in cider-making courses at Cornell and established Cold Spring Ciderworks, producing small-batch dry cider.

Bill and Jennifer purchased a farmhouse in Pound Ridge in 2020 and reveled in their good fortune of finding such a beautiful setting in which to marry, build a life together and produce hard ciders.

Along with his wife and sons, Bill is survived by his brother, Donald Sussman (Karen), and an uncle, Robert Tobey (Gail).

Memorial gifts may be made to the Nurses' Education Fund or the Yablon Cancer Center at Northern Westchester Hospital (nwhconnect.org).



Other Recent Deaths

Beacon

Danny Beltran, 40
Don Scadura, 70

Joe Monroe, 69
Barbara Karaffa, 92

For more obituaries, see highlandscurrent.org/obits.

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Green shade

5. Police officer

8. Achy

12. Last writes?

13. Coach

Parseghian

14. Bard's river

15. Besides

17. Hatchling's home

18. Bagel choice

19. Aquarium favorites

21. Weir

22. Mediocre

23. Fan's cry.

26. '60s war zone

28. Entrap

31. Coup d' —

33. *The Voice* network

35. "My Way" composer

36. Event location

38. "Eureka!"

40. Speck

41. Zwei follower

43. Literary rep

45. Move fast

47. Wiped out

51. Teen fave

52. Oliver Twist's request

54. Margarita garnish

55. Leading lady?

56. Buffalo's lake

57. *A Room of — Own*

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 58 59

58. Sailor

59. Grit

DOWN

1. May honorees

2. Bassoon's kin

3. Round Table titles

4. Lieu

5. Neanderthal

6. Raw mineral

7. Medicare section

8. "Evil Ways" band

9. Type of volleyball serve

10. Activist Parks

11. Tolkien creatures

16. Muscat's land

20. Overhead trains

23. Speed (up)

24. Devoured

25. Good-looking

27. CEO's deg.

29. *Top Hat* studio

30. Chow down

32. Swimming reptiles

34. Smooth talker

37. Shoe width

39. Malaria symptom

42. Map within a map

44. London newspaper

45. Hawaiian city

46. Tennis score

48. Asta's feeder

49. Ireland

50. Monopoly card

53. Eggs

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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 cargo vessel (5)

2 transitory (8)

3 Trinidadian singer Minaj (5)

4 giving a hand to (10)

5 request made on bended knee (8)

6 quantity of unwanted advice (6)

7 where Isaac Newton studied (9)

SOLUTIONS

BAR PRO NIC FLE AP

ING EA DGE PO CAM

SAL UL UDI KI ET

PLA BRI GE RF NG

© 2021 Blue Ox Family Games, Inc., Dist. by Andrews McMeel

SUDO CURRENT

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

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



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Answers for May 14 Puzzles

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

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

1. ISAAC, 2. VACILLATE, 3. CRANBERRY, 4. CLENCHES, 5. PAPERING, 6. AVOIDING, 7. BARITONE

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

SPORTS



Follow us at twitter.com/hcurrentsports

Varsity Roundup

By Skip Pearlman

GIRLS' LACROSSE

Beacon High School girls' lacrosse has struggled so far this season but picked up its first victory on Monday (May 17), 9-3, on the road against Yonkers.

Anaya Camacho had a hat trick, Ashley Casserly added two goals and an assist, Kasey Senior scored twice, and Gaby Del Castillo and Beyoncé Otero each had a goal. Keeper Isabella Boswick made three saves.

"It was nice to get that win," said Coach Brian Lange. "But more importantly, the girls showed exceptional sportsmanship. They played good, clean lacrosse, and we were able to get all of our girls in the game."

The next day, the Bulldogs suffered a 17-2 loss at home to a combined team of players from Ketcham and John Jay. Senior had a goal and an assist, and Casserly had Beacon's other goal. Boswick was busy with 16 saves.

On May 14, Beacon lost to Putnam Valley, 11-3, with Senior scoring all three goals and Boswick recording 16 saves.

"We're playing a tough schedule, considering we haven't played in two years," Lange said. "The girls have been making adjustments."

Beacon is scheduled to host Lourdes on Monday (May 24) and James O'Neill on Wednesday.

SOFTBALL

The Beacon High School softball team played well late on Tuesday (May 18) against visiting Lourdes but ended up on the wrong end of a 16-5 decision.

Olivia Ciancanelli took the loss on the mound for the Bulldogs (1-8). At the plate, Olivia Spiak went 4-for-4 with two runs scored, Haleigh Zukowski was 4-for-4 with three RBI, and Leanna Rinaldi went 2-for-3.

"We dug ourselves a hole in the first three innings with a lack of energy and focus," said Coach Michael Carofano, "but we had a great last four innings defensively. We played like the team I know we are capable of being."

On May 14, Beacon lost, 7-2, to Wallkill. Ciancanelli took the loss on the mound but allowed only two earned runs. Spiak went 2-for-4 with a double and a run, Rinaldi was 2-for-3 and Bernadette Kish was 3-for-3 with one RBI.

"We were much more competitive this time around against a well-coached Wallkill team," Carofano said. "Untimely errors and



A Lourdes runner just beats the tag by Beacon shortstop Leanna Rinaldi.

Photos by S. Pearlman

quiet bats were where we struggled. I was proud of the job Olivia did pitching."

"The girls are continuing to work on the skills that we've been struggling with," he added. "We're trying to cut down on big innings by opponents."

Beacon was scheduled to visit John Jay East Fishkill today (May 21) and travel to Byram Hills on Saturday.

BASEBALL

The Beacon High School baseball team came from behind on Tuesday (May 18) in a game played at Dutchess Stadium to defeat Lourdes, 10-7.

Mike LePere went 3-for-3 with a double, a triple and four runs scored. Matt Manzoillo went 2-for-3 with a triple and two RBI, Tyler Haydt doubled and drove in three runs, and Mikey Fontaine had an RBI in the win.

Manzoillo picked up the decision on the mound, going four innings and striking out seven.

"When the going got tough, JJ Mazzacone slammed the door shut on the Warriors by striking out five in three scoreless innings to earn the save," said Coach Bob Atwell.

The week before, Beacon got no-hit by Yorktown in a 9-0 loss; the Bulldogs earlier had handed the Cornhuskers their first loss of the season. Owen Browne, JJ Mazzacone and Owen Bozsik pitched in the loss for the Bulldogs.

Haldane picked up a 12-0 win in five innings Monday at Peekskill, with Julian Ambrose earning the win. He allowed two hits and walked four. Ryan Merritt pitched a clean fifth.

Jeremy Hall and John Bradley each knocked in three runs for Haldane, and Jack Jordan, Trajan McCarthy and Ambrose each had an RBI.

On Wednesday, Haldane fell at Croton, 16-6. Ryan Eng-Wong had two RBI and McCarthy pitched. Eight errors killed the Blue Devils' chances.

"Eng-Wong came off the bench, and with the bases loaded got his first varsity hit, a two-run double," Coach Simon Dudar said. "John Kisslinger, Julian Ambrose, Jack Jordan, and John and Will Bradley continued to swing hot bats and kept us in the game with some timely hitting. But you can't win games with that many errors."

The Blue Devils face Croton again today (May 21).

BOYS' LACROSSE

Haldane won a thriller on Saturday (May 15) at O'Neill, 15-14, on a goal in overtime by Darrin Santos, who finished with six.

Evan Giachinta had a hat trick and three assists, Liam Gaugler, Rowen Kuzminski and Dan Santos each scored twice, and keeper Jordon Hankel had 25 saves.

Before the game, O'Neill dedicated and named its field for Debbi Crowe, a longtime



Darrin Santos scored the game-winner in overtime for Haldane in a 15-14 victory over O'Neill.

athletic director, teacher and coach, and the mother of Haldane Coach Ed Crowe.

On Tuesday (May 18), the Blue Devils fell to Croton-Harmon, 19-9, on the road. The team is scheduled to visit Sleepy Hollow on Monday and North Salem on Wednesday.