Shipping for a Small Planet

Outside: funding changes
outlook for district

The Vaccine, Reconsidered
pushed by caregivers — streamed through

Beacon, Garrison Schools
INDIAN POINT

Butch Anderson led agency
for 20 years

The Return of the Tree Army

Philipstown’s Lost Newspaper
Write most people who contract COVID-

Milkman Makes Last Delivery
‘It’s Up To Us’

Cold Spring Adopts Short-Term Rental Law

Challengers Arise in Cold Spring
Over the past few weeks, Drug World
of Cold Spring has taken the doses

How They Voted
Below are summaries of select laws and
the votes cast by Republican Sue Serino
(whose Senate district includes the High

Beacon’s Healthy Appetite for Local Farm Products

Whistling Willie’s Closes Its Doors

Beacon Prison

A Day with the Beacon Police

When Beacon Was King

Two Brothers, Three Sports, Twin Threat

Breakneck Burns

Keeping Our Community...
Dear Reader,

In just a few weeks — on the last day of this year — The Highlands Current will publish its 500th issue!

That’s a major milestone for our weekly nonprofit newspaper, and one we have achieved with your community support. In our next 500 issues, we seek to even more ambitiously pursue the stories that will inform, inspire and involve you and all in our communities.

The Current first hit the newsstands on June 1, 2012, with a front-page headline highlighting the Congressional race won later that year by Sean Patrick Maloney — who is still serving the 18th District. In nearly 500 issues since that June day, the paper has covered, in print and online, the stories that matter to you every day at home: from village, town and city hall controversies to school issues, business developments, arts and cultural activities and the accomplishments and viewpoints of so many neighbors in our communities of Philipstown and Beacon. And we have aspired to bring you more, looking at the ways that national issues like the opioid crisis, climate change, economic hardships, the pandemic and infrastructure hazards have played out in our midst.

Your support as a member of The Current will help our reporters continue to provide that broad and deep coverage. Our membership program is our primary means of support, providing nearly 70 percent of the funds needed to publish annually. With a tax-deductible gift of as little as $2 a month, you can become a member or renew your membership — at highlandscurrent.org/join — and the benefits you receive will enhance your involvement in community news. These benefits, plus details for making or renewing your membership donation online, are on the next page of this special four-page section of your Current. Note the bonus if you become a recurring member!

Once again this year The Current is fortunate to participate in the national NewsMatch program funded by major foundations to support nonprofit journalism. We will also receive a generous match from several local donors who believe strongly in the value of quality community journalism. With these matches, membership gifts totaling $50,000 will mean $100,000 for our newsroom operations.

With your support, The Current is able each week to bring you quality journalism — free, in print and online — covering your many interests and concerns. We look forward to welcoming you as a new or renewing member who will help us celebrate our 500th issue on New Year’s Eve.

With gratitude,

Christine Bockelmann
Chair of the Board

Joseph T. Plummer
Vice chair of the Board

How We Have Served This Year

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From the National Newspaper Association
FIRST PLACE General Excellence
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FIRST PLACE Sports Column

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McConville is New Putnam Sheriff

In Legislature, Montgomery easily wins reelection

By Chip Rowe

Kevin McConville unseated Robert Langley Jr. as the sheriff of Putnam County, according to unofficial results released by the Board of Elections on Tuesday (Nov. 2).

McConville, a former chief of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority police force, defeated Langley with 57 percent of the vote. Although absentee ballots have not yet been counted, McConville’s 3,148-vote lead was more than could be surmounted by the 1,853 mail-in ballots distributed by the BOE.

The turnout was 31 percent among 69,709 registered voters. The results are unofficial until the BOE tallies the absentees starting Nov. 16 and certifies the vote.

Langley, a Democrat, was attacked by both McConville, a Republican who asserted the sheriff had broken the law by discussing campaign politics while on duty and on his county-issued cellphone, and County Executive MaryEllen Odell, a Republican who endorsed McConville and accused Langley during the last week of the campaign of being released from U.S. Department of Justice oversight in 2016.

Mayor Lee Kyriacou in June appointed a nine-member committee to develop recommendations based on the city’s Police Reform and Modernization Collaborative Plan, which was released in March. It is led by the co-chairs of the group that drafted the plan: the Rev. John Perez of Faith Temple Church and Mark Ungar, a political science and criminal justice professor at City University of New York.

(Continued on Page 10)
Laura Lengnick is the newly hired director of agriculture at the Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming in Philipstown and the author of Resilient Agriculture: Cultivating Food Systems for a Changing Climate.

What is “resilient agriculture” and how is it different from “sustainable agriculture?”

The idea of “sustainable” agriculture is that it sustains land, people and community. But the piece missing is intentional design and management, specifically through the lens of: How do we adapt for climate change? We need principles and practices when preparing, designing and managing farming and food systems that recognize change and the potential for disturbance and shock. Resilience is much broader than sustainability because we can apply it to any kind of disturbance and shock.

What are some of the shocks and disturbances?

The big shock that’s still in our face is the global pandemic. But the last hundred years of American agriculture has been shock after shock. Our changes in policy in the first half of the last century transformed agriculture from more of a regional and diversified farming to what we have now, which is more industrial. That’s a shock! We’ve had market shock; we’ve had price-of-land shock. Here in the Hudson Valley, there’s been shock after shock to the dairy industry and that’s driven so many dairy farmers out of business.

Disturbances are not as severe as those cataclysmic, headline-generating shock events. They’re within our capacity to respond. Maybe it’s something we’ve encountered before, and we’ve learned and changed practices on the farm to make it easier to respond. It’s the learning piece that’s missing in agriculture. Agriculture policy for the last 50 years has been about paying disaster aid after a disturbance, instead of learning from it and changing. Then the next disturbance hits, and we’re paying disaster aid again. Our farming system is fragile, and the costs are exploding.

Let’s say you’re in charge of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a week. What do you do first?

Get all the department heads in a room and ask: “How can we remove barriers for farmers who are ready to adopt more resilient practices?” We need to identify what programs and practices are putting up barriers, such as the subsidized crop insurance program. If you adopt many of the best resiliency practices, you become ineligible for subsidized crop insurance. Imagine if by putting up smoke detectors in your house you were no longer eligible for homeowner’s insurance. It’s crazy.

Can a large-scale farm be resilient and productive?

Yes. Resilient practices can be applied at any scale. My book describes many resilient farms and ranches that are farming at scale or larger than what’s typical for their region. But we can’t have large-scale farms in California growing 90 percent or 100 percent of our fruits and vegetables and sending them across the country. That kind of scale doesn’t work. Our national food system needs to shift where we’re growing food and how we’re growing food.

An updated version of your book will be published in May. What will be different?

A scientist wrote the first edition and an activist wrote the second edition.
Beacon Planning Board Preview

Public hearings and greenway discussion on the agenda

By Jeff Simms

A handful of public hearings will be on the agenda for the Beacon Planning Board on Tuesday (Nov. 9).

364 Main St.

A hearing on a proposal to construct a three-story residential and commercial building will focus on potential environmental impacts of the project, including on schools and roads.

By Matt Landahl told the school board on Oct. 27. The spending was approved by district voters last month.

Building committees at all six schools will begin meeting again in January and will help design outdoor play spaces, new science and art facilities, and a new library at Sargent Elementary. Construction on those projects will begin in the summer of 2023. Minor HVAC and electrical work will take place at night and on weekends in the fall of 2022 and 2023, Landahl said.

Putnam Man Pleads Guilty in Capital Riot

Will be sentenced in January

A Mahopac man charged in connection with the Jan. 6 breach of the U.S. Capitol has pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor that has a maximum sentence of six months in prison and $5,000 fine.

Ferry Landing

The board will hold a second public hearing on minor amendments to the six-townhouse development being built at the former site of the “Welcome to Beacon” sign on Beekman Street, across from the Metro-North station.

The project was approved in 2018, but the developer is proposing changes to the site plan as part of a request to subdivide the townhomes into individual townhouse lots. The remainder of the land, nearly 19,000 square feet, will be a common lot owned by a homeowners’ association.

Putman Man Pleads Guilty in Capital Riot

Robert Ballesteros, 27, pleaded guilty on Oct. 28 to “parading, demonstrating or picketing” inside the Capitol. He will be sentenced in January and was ordered to pay $500 in restitution.

According to a statement by an FBI agent, Ballesteros posted a video on Instagram the day after the riot and later confirmed that he had entered the building. The FBI said he posted the message: “Put my foot in that door. Made my stand.”

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Tell us what you think

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

Scary politics
Around this time of year, I’m never sure what I find more hair-raising: Halloween goblins or local politics. I’ve been gratified to see how The Current has been covering both. I’ve come to count on this paper to illuminate the ins and outs of how our local government functions and how our candidates think. I’m particularly appreciative of the thoroughness of their reporting, which at times includes players from “both sides of the aisle” being held up for scrutiny.

While there are many gravely alarming aspects of our local, state and national politics, one of our most significant concerns should be any of us being locked in some self-validating echo chamber. If any news source routinely idealizes one side and diminishes or demonizes another, at some point, I’m going to ask: What’s being left out? But when I hear balanced reporting and even-handed analysis of the strengths and foibles of all the candidates, I have greater assurance that nothing is being left out, or that at least the publishers and reporters are striving for that mark. And it’s only on the basis of this unvarnished information that we can make our best decisions at the ballot box.

As I write this on Oct. 31, I have no idea who our next elected officials will be, but I’d like to state my gratitude to any and all who would sincerely offer to be voted into public service. I’m humbled by their work and the work of all of their teams of volunteers. And I am greatly appreciative for the work of this publication, for guiding my thinking and understanding of the many issues I care about, and for their pursuit of that most elusive of election-season spirits: truth.

Christine Foerttch, Garrison

Post-election
How about comparing those non-disclosures with demonstrable proof of campaign expenditures — ads, signs, palm cards, events (“Update: Campaign Finance,” Oct. 29)? The Current has done an extremely poor job this campaign season: publishing hearsay and opposing candidate accusations with no counterpoints or research into wild and unfounded accusations. The campaign expenses issue is by far the easiest to prove questionable, if not patently false. Do a better job, Current. Please.

Susan Kenny, Cold Spring

Putnam Legislature candidate Barbara Scuccimarra’s refusal to disclose her fund-raising throughout this campaign is just another example of the Republican Party’s disdain for the public. What an insult. The last thing our county needs is more of what she calls “sloppy bookkeeping.”

Sean Conway, Cold Spring

Scuccimarra knows, after “six successful years on the Legislature,” when her campaign spending disclosures are due. To delay filing them for the entire election season is straight out of Trump’s playbook. This is how we end up with “big government” and too many traffic lights.

Norah Hart, Cold Spring

Petitions
Just as it is any human’s right to sign a petition of their choosing, it is any human’s right to carry and solicit the signing of any petition of their choosing (“Merandy Endorses Tamagna for Cold Spring Mayor,” Oct. 22). It would be an even better practice for advocates of democracy to carry all viable petitions before an election and have each individual be able to decide which petition he or she might sign, without social pressure.

That being said, can we all please cut out the ad hominem attacks and focus on the various issues of vital importance to the twin villages?

Ethan Timm, Cold Spring

Closing Matteawan
Matteawan Road was never accessible before Beacon High School opened in September 2002, and everyone survived for eight or nine years with only one way in or out (“Access Denied,” Oct. 29).

The biggest problem is when cars try to turn onto Route 52 off Prospect Street. That’s a tough intersection — and it’s in the Town of Fishkill. Maybe during the morning and afternoon the school and city could get some help with traffic control at the major intersections to keep traffic moving.

Charlie Symon, Beacon
“One of the elephants in the room is the fact that my opponent continually asks everyone who comes into his courtroom whether they’re a U.S. citizen or not,” he said. “I want to be very clear in what’s going on. What he’s doing is not required by the law and is not handled this way in all the hundreds of courts I’ve appeared in front of, so by asking this question, he’s running into several issues: “First, there’s a Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. Second, there’s a tendency to get involved in the client-attorney relationship. Most importantly, it creates a chilling effect. So people who are here without status — or even lawful permanent residents or green card holders — they hear that question being asked and become scared and may not want to come back to court. And that’s exactly what we don’t want. We want a court system that can handle cases and that can adjudicate cases, and when people are afraid to come to court, it can get in the way of justice.”

“What the Supreme Court has said is: ‘It’s ineffective assistance, which means bad lawyering, and can be reversed if a lawyer doesn’t advise their client before they plead guilty that there could be immigration consequences.’

“Only when my client decides that they’re going to plead guilty does the judge say: ‘I am not asking you if you are a U.S. citizen, I am only telling you that if you are not, this plea could result in your deportation.’ That’s all you say. I’ve heard it hundreds of times from hundreds of judges. I don’t know why my opponent refuses to do the correct thing.”

Lisa Jessup, Beacon

Jessup is the chair of Beacon Democrats.

Holding party-organized elections for local judges strikes me as an incredibly bad idea — it pushes communities to view judges as strictly political positions, and creates incentives for these elections to be run on political lines beholden to local parties (whether the candidates want this), rather than on professional merits.

Over time, and especially in the current climate, the upshot will not be judges who are responsive to community values in the application of commonly agreed-upon law. It will be further political polarization, deepening differentiation in how the law is applied depending on the locality, and a general sense of the law as solely another partisan weapon.

We should have a system that rewards judges who strive — however imperfectly — for nonpartisan, professional application of the law, independently of party, with latitude for individual judgment but also a commitment to the parameters of accepted legal practice. To that end, judges should run for regular terms but on a strictly non-party basis, and be subject to recall elections with a high bar, as a democratic way to check instances of clear ethical or political overreach.

No independent judiciary has ever, in fact, been fully independent from the political views of its judges, of course, and this is not insignificant. But the only thing worse than this is a fully and openly politicized judiciary. The lesser of two evils is a wiser choice by far.

Rafi Youatt, Beacon

Short-term rentals

Today (Oct. 25) I said farewell to my last short-term guests, a couple from North Carolina visiting their freshman son, a cadet at West Point.

I want to announce that I will not be hosting any more Airbnb or other short-term rental guests. As a senior citizen, born and raised in Cold Spring, and with roots to the Philipstown founder Thomas Davenport, I feel forced into this decision by the draconian measures that the three members of the outgoing Village Board passed into law.

I agree that some regulations and some reimbursement be made to the town for me, a senior on a very limited income, trying to make ends meet to pay my taxes, hosting guests for two nights at a time in our town. However, the lottery, the giving up of my rights as a homeowner and being subject to random and unannounced control visits by the police are unacceptable. Fines of $2,000 and $5,000, and a loss of license are unreasonable.

I hope the incoming board can make some revisions in the regulations. Over-handling a community is an abuse of power, something citizens need to stand up against and something that should prick the conscience of all citizens. I might hope for a revised law, but most probably my age will prevent me from benefiting from it.

Nanci Sobier-Maier, Cold Spring

Beacon parking

Whenever progressive thinkers come up with another pie-in-the-sky plan, always ask them: “Then what?” In this case, the “what” is just where — assuming most new residents will have vehicles — will they park (“Beacon Council Struck on Affordability,” Oct. 22)? Parking needs to be addressed before attracting more residents into the city.

Ralph Pettorossi, Fishkill

Odel letter’

It’s interesting that Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odel, who last week issued a “letter to the editor” criticizing Democratic Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. (“County Executive Takes Last Shot at Sheriff,” Oct. 29), didn’t seem to have such concerns when Don Smith was sheriff and an inmate died at the county jail, or when Smith’s department tried to hide the beating of a handcuffed and shackled suspect, or framed an innocent man in order to attack a political enemy.

Somehow Dan Stephens is still on the county payroll, despite his role in the botched conviction of Jeff Deskovic, even though his actions resulted in a $40 million verdict against the county. Maybe, just maybe, this is about power and politics, not ethics.

Michelle Verna, via Facebook

Bird feeders

Up here in the North Highlands, the birdfeeder-seeking bears are still a threat (“A Green Light for Bird Feeders,” Oct. 29). We’re going to wait a couple of weeks to put them back out.

Jon Kiphart, via Facebook
How They Voted
Governor signs round of bills passed by state legislators

By Chip Rowe

Through this week, Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Kathy Hochul had signed 546 bills passed during the 2021-22 legislative session, which began in January. Another 60 await Hochul’s signature. Fourteen have been vetoed.

Below are summaries of select laws and the votes cast by Republican Sue Serino (whose Senate district includes the Highlands), Democrat Sandy Galef (whose Assembly district includes Philipstown) and Democrat Jonathan Jacobson (whose Assembly district includes Beacon).

**Ballot names**

On Oct. 22, Hochul enacted legislation that allows candidates to use nicknames on their nominating petitions or for the ballot. The bill was prompted by the removal of the names of two Muslim women, Mary Jobaida and Moumita Ahmed, from a ballot in Queens because the names on their petitions did not match their voter registrations. The bill’s sponsors noted that “many people in our communities, as long as they do not intend to mislead or confuse voters. This legislation helps candidates of color and immigrant candidates have equal access to the ballot as men with nicknames like Marty, Tony or Bill.”

Passed by Senate, 62-1
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 105-44
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

**Extortion threats**

On Oct. 9, Hochul enacted legislation that makes it illegal to attempt to extort or coerce someone by threatening to report them for illegal drug use. A second law requires the state correctional agency to create a medication-assisted treatment program for inmates at its prisons and local jails.

Passed by Senate, 49-14
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 133-16
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

On Oct. 22, Hochul enacted a series of laws that affect former inmates. The first allows a person who has been convicted of a felony and completed his or her sentence to be named the executor of a family estate, although a court can restrict the person’s powers if he or she has a conviction for fraud or embezzlement.

Passed by Senate, 43-20
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 146-1
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

**Opioid crisis**

On Oct. 7, Hochul signed a series of bills related to the opioid abuse epidemic. The first prohibits police or prosecutors from citing the possession of opioid antagonists — drugs such as naloxone (Narcan) and naltrexone that block opioids by attaching to opioid receptors without activating them — to justify an arrest or as evidence of illegal drug use.

Passed by Senate, 49-14
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 98-51
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

A second law requires the state correctional agency to create a medication-assisted treatment program for inmates at its prisons and local jails.

Passed by Senate, 49-14
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 98-51
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

A third law expands the number of felonies (e.g., auto stripping, identity theft) committed by a person with a substance-use disorder that may qualify him or her for diversion to treatment.

Passed by Senate, 48-15
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 100-49
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

Second chances

On Oct. 22, Hochul enacted a series of laws that affect former inmates. The first allows a person who has been convicted of a felony and completed his or her sentence to be named the executor of a family estate, although a court can restrict the person’s powers if he or she has a conviction for fraud or embezzlement.

Passed by Senate, 43-20
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 146-1
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

A second law allows former inmates to perform overtime or shifts during curfew without violating their parole or supervised release.

Passed by Senate, 52-11
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 139-9
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

A third law speeds up the process of obtaining a certificate from the state that certifies a former inmate has not committed a violation of the terms of his or her parole.

Passed by Senate, 51-16
Serino ☑
Passed by Assembly, 133-16
Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

(Continued on Page 7)
Red any crimes since being released and reestablishes the right to vote. Under the old law, the wait could be three to five years.

Passed by Senate, 44-19
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 102-47
Galef Jacobson

Private savings
On Oct. 21, Hochul enacted a law that requires private companies that do not provide retirement plans to automatically enroll their employees in the state’s Secure Choice Savings Plan, which is a payroll-deduction IRA. Once enrolled, employees can opt out.

Passed by Senate, 44-19
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 125-22
Galef Jacobson

Photo abuse
On Oct. 20, Hochul signed legislation that expands the definition of the crime of coercion to include the production or distribution of nude photos. “Many of the victims of ‘sextortion’ — disproportionately young women — are targeted online and coerced into creating and sending sexual images, which can be the start of a long, harmful cycle of abuse,” said Jennifer Becker, an attorney for Legal Momentum.

Passed by Senate, 63-0
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 149-0
Galef Jacobson

Family Leave Act

Passed by Senate, 43-20
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 113-35
Galef Jacobson

Shared work
On Oct. 23, Hochul enacted a law that allows a majority of employees facing layoffs to petition their employer to create a shared work program in which the employer reduces everyone’s hours but no one is dismissed. The state then provides unemployment assistance to cover the lost wages.

Passed by Senate, 50-12
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 147-2
Galef Jacobson

Gun restrictions
On Oct. 28, Hochul signed legislation related to guns. The first law bans the possession by anyone other than a licensed gunsmith or dealer of “unfinished receivers,” which can be combined with other pieces to make a semi-automatic weapon. “For too long, the unfinished receiver loophole let anyone get their hands on all the parts needed to build an untraceable, unregistered AR-15 without ever going through a background check,” said Sen. Anna Kaplan, who introduced the legislation.

Passed by Senate, 43-20
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 107-42
Galef Jacobson

New York has banned altering firearms to resemble toys, such as this handgun cover sold by a Utah company for Glocks.

The second law bars the manufacture and sale of firearms modified to look like toys. In March, deputies in North Carolina seized a Glock with a 50-round magazine that resembled a Nerf gun, and in July, a company in Utah introduced a kit to encase a Glock in Legos.

Passed by Senate, 47-16
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 116-33
Galef Jacobson

The third law prohibits the sale of “ghost guns,” which are unregistered and do not have serial numbers, making them difficult for law enforcement to trace.

Passed by Senate, 48-15
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 106-43
Galef Jacobson

Renter lawsuits
On Oct. 22, Hochul signed a law that allows tenants to sue in small-claims court for the return of their security deposits or other claims near where their rental unit is located. Under the old law, a tenant was required to file in the jurisdiction where the landlord’s business is located. The bill stems from a lawsuit in which a tenant in Binghamton wanted to sue to recover a $450 deposit but her landlords lived in California.

Passed by Senate, 51-12
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 104-44
Galef Jacobson

Whistleblowers
On Oct. 28, Hochul enacted a law that expands protections for whistleblowers in the private sector. The bill’s sponsors say that the former law said “that an employee is only protected if they disclose to a supervisor or public body an unlawful activity, policy or practice of the employer that creates and presents a substantial danger to the public health or safety, or that which constitutes health care fraud.” The new law adds protection for former employees; expands the definition of “retaliation”; extends the statute of limitations to two years; and states that employees need only prove that they reasonably believe there was a violation of the law or a danger, rather than provide evidence one occurred.

Passed by Senate, 44-19
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 110-38
Galef Jacobson

Animal welfare
On Oct. 30, Hochul enacted laws related to animal welfare. The first prohibits pet insurers from basing policies or premiums solely on the breed of dog.

Passed by Senate, 49-14
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 112-37
Galef Jacobson

The second requires veterinarians to report suspected animal cruelty.

Passed by Senate, 62-1
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 143-6
Galef Jacobson

Symbol of Hate
On Nov. 2, Hochul banned fire districts, volunteer fire departments, police departments and school districts “from selling or displaying symbols of hate.” The bill was introduced after incidents on Long Island in 2020 in which a Confederate battle flag was displayed on a firetruck during a parade and in the window of a fire department. A state law enacted last year bans symbols of hate, including Confederate flags and swastikas, on state property.

Passed by Senate, 56-7
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 138-10
Galef Jacobson

Youthful offender
On Nov. 2, Hochul signed legislation that allows individuals who were younger than 19 when convicted of a crime but did not receive “youthful offender” status to reapply. The designation allows the conviction to be replaced by a confidential, non-criminal adjudication and comes with a reduced sentence. To be considered, a person must not have been convicted of a crime for at least five years since his or her sentencing.

Passed by Senate, 56-7
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 147-1
Galef Jacobson

Noisy mufflers
On Oct. 29, Hochul signed legislation that raised the maximum fine from $150 to $1,000 for motorists and repair shops that illegally modify mufflers and exhaust systems to make them noisier. It also requires state inspection facilities to report if mufflers and exhausts have been illegally modified.

Passed by Senate, 48-15
Serino
Passed by Assembly, 143-6
Galef Jacobson

The Highlands Current
November 5, 2021
7

For more information & to register visit www.hvshakespeare.org.
Dutchess waived a $25 fee and recruited and Paloma Wake, who were both elected the change the future of the department through an officer retires, which means “you can really
department, with a sixth coming soon when

number in 2017; 249 as Latino, more than

of those who did, 119
report race or gender, of those who did, 119
on the proposal agreement during its Oct. 25 workshop. The deal would run through 2025 and includes 2 percent cost-of-
living salary increases for patrol officers and 3 percent for lieutenants, along with $1,000 annual stipends for bilingual officers. He said the document also clarifies that, at minimum, a sergeant and three patrol
officers must be on duty at all times; along with a proposal in the city’s 2022 budget, expands the use of civilian dispatchers to
all shifts, freeing officers for patrol duty; and extends health benefits for immediate family members of any officer killed on duty. Perhaps the greatest benefit of the proposed contract would be realized early next year, White said, when Dutchess County releases its new civil service list from which municipalities can hire new officers. It is based on an exam offered in September for the first time since 2017 — one that had a six-month waiting list, one of the most diverse candidate pools ever.

To encourage people to take the exam, Dutchess waived a $25 fee and recruited applicants on social media, at Hudson Valley Renegades games and at housing complexes. The county also gave applicants up to five
years after they are hired to complete the 60 college credits required for the exam.

Although applicants were not required to report race or gender, of those who did, 119 identified as Black, more than double the number in 2017; 249 as Latino, more than triple; 218 as women, nearly double; and 17 as Asian, compared to 9 in 2017. Overall, there were 1,380 applications, a 57 percent increase. In contrast, Beacon’s Police Department has four Latino, two Black and two female employees among its 30 officers and detectives, while the city’s population is nearly 20 percent Latino and 14 percent Black.

There are five vacancies in the Beacon department, two with a sixth coming when an officer retires, which means “you can really change the future of the department through those five or six hires,” White told the council.

On Monday (Nov. 1), however, more than a dozen residents, including Justice McCray and Paloma Wake, who were both elected the next day to the City Council, urged the coun-
cil to delay approving the agreement. As one resident who called in to the meeting noted, agreeing before the end of the year “would make it close to impossible for the next City Council to make many crucial deci-
dions about public safety in the city budget.” Along with McCray and Wake, Wren Longno and Molly Rhodes were elected, as were incumbents Dan Aymar-Blair and George Mansfield. The new council will be seated in January.

The resolution
Wake pointed out what she called “incon-
sistency” between a resolution approved by the council last year and “what this
resolution requires.” She said the proposed union contract fails to provide data backing up the depart-
ment’s personnel needs, nor does it deline-
eate “multi-year budget implications of any police reform, with the intention to redirect cost savings into community investment,” as the resolution requires.

“Through this, the city is not holding itself accountable to the resolution it made last year,” she said.

Perez called in to the meeting, saying: “As a man who is of Puerto Rican descent, we need more people who are bilingual on [the police] staff.” As far as the elements of the contract proposal, “none of these really contradict what we’ve been doing on the committee,” he said. “Our biggest focus has been mental health [services, as an alternat-
tive to traditional policing] and recruitment [of more diverse officers].” But “there’s more to it than that,” countered Aymar-Blair. “There’s a discussion to be had by the council,” which has the responsibility of supervising the citizen committee’s work and accepting its recommendations.

White, speaking later during Monday’s meeting, after the council candidates and other commenters had departed, warned there would be significant “real-world conse-
quences” if the proposed contract is not
approved before the county releases its next civil service list, which is expected in January. The last two contracts with Beacon officers were three years each, but four-year or longer agreements are typical for the region, White said. Having an agreement in place creates a “competitive advantage when you’re trying to retain and attract your talent,” while delaying the contract would “make it less attractive to come here to Beacon.”

“We’ve heard a lot about either/or,” he said, referring to the city embracing mental health workers and other policing alterna-
tives, but “we’re not doing [the contract] at the cost of everything else. We want all these public safety things to advance,” White explained, noting that the city has grown enough that it can afford to allocate $200,000 for the first time ever to ambu-
lance services.

Mike Confield, a sergeant and the vice president of the Beacon officers’ union, addressed the council at the end of the meet-
ing. “My phone’s been blowing up,” he said. “My membership is a little disappointed with pushing the vote back” two more weeks.

Officers in the department are waiting on the outcome of the contract negotiations before considering possible career moves, Confield added. “My officers are looking for some job stability. I don’t know how many more we can lose and still run smoothly.”
I was on the phone with my old Oregon roommate, gushing in a fit of nostalgia as I drove down Beacon’s bustling Main Street for the first time. I slowed to a stop and snapped a photo of Mount Beacon, triumphantly poking out at the end of the street as the city’s backdrop. I’d spent years living in Portland before moving back east (I am originally from Massachusetts) to New York City to move in with my long-distance boyfriend, whom I married in 2019. Living in the city for 2½ years became its own great adventure, but I couldn’t deny how much I was missing my West Coast home.

My husband and I were on the hunt for the perfect Hudson Valley spot to settle in, during the peak of the pandemic, no less. We both were unflinching in our need for access to the city and I wanted outdoor adventure. He wanted access to the city and I wanted outdoor adventure. We both were unflinching in our need for a buzzing food and drink scene — and, of course, a community of dog lovers. Deep down, I was simply in search of an East Coast version of my old stomping grounds.

Both cities boast small businesses which feature only local creations, so the business churn out all kinds of treasures and shops. Consignment stores chock full of second-hand clothes and tiny gallery are among the other novel art displays you can visit. Parking tickets are likely to hint at robust arts communities culminating in museums and galleries.

Sidewalk strolling evokes a playground-like excitement for adults interested in music, fashion, and music. Consignment stores chock full of second-hand clothes and tiny gallery are among the other novel art displays you can visit. Parking tickets are likely to hint at robust arts communities culminating in museums and galleries.

‘90s hipster culture.

Portland is now a major West Coast hub, and with Beacon’s uncanny similarities, this small Hudson Valley city may not be far behind.

Both cities boast small businesses which have mastered an unapologetic, unconventional charm, pouring creativity into their novel storefronts. Canned booze bars and dueling artisanal doughnut shops are packed with flannel-clad customers who brave the long lines to get a taste of authenticity on a Saturday morning, not to mention pairing the baked treat with a piece of customized merch or a free homemade dog treat, plucked from a cashier-side cookie jar.

PDX (Portland’s airport code, now a catch-all ID used by locals) and Beacon seem to capitalize on upgrading the little joys in life. Things like being able to pet a cat while enjoying an oat milk latte at Beans Cat Cafe in Beacon goes ditto for Portland’s Purrington Cat Lounge. Or sipping an IPA while hitting a high score on a Ms. Pac-Man machine at Ground Kontrol Arcade Bar in downtown PDX. Now you can add vegan nuggets to your pixelated, animated afternoon at Beacon’s Happy Valley Arcade Bar.

Choosing from four alternative milks for your latte is typical and brunch can quickly turn into a hike, with a trailhead steps from both city centers. Taking your dog to a Beacon Barks Dog Parade or the PDX Pug Crawl are highly anticipated events for Beaconites and Portlandians.

But there’s more to these cities than what you sip, bite or climb. Portland and Beacon’s streets are vivid eye candy, punctuated with brightly painted murals that hint at robust arts communities and culminate in museums and galleries.

Sidewalk strolling evokes a playground-like excitement for adults interested in music, fashion, too. Consignment stores chock full of second-hand clothes and tiny gallery are among the other novel art displays you can visit. Parking tickets are likely to hint at robust arts communities culminating in museums and galleries.

As we settled into Beacon, I realized that these two cities are leaving matching marks on opposite ends of the country.

Sure, some may dub the Portland and Beacon scenes too eccentric, or silly even. Beacon is not a perfect match for my beloved Portland, but as it continues to grow, so do the similarities.

The consistent sameness has been both cities’ devotion to lifting up local businesses and shaping their communities around creativity and novelty.

Not everyone is willing to wait in line for a vegan doughnut, a turn at Mortal Kombat or a lip-smacking sour beer. But those who do — who visit and indulge in the quirkiness, delight in the unconventional and embrace the weird — usually end up staying.

That’s exactly what I did.

“I feel like I’m back in Portland!”

November 5, 2021

By Kat Merry

TINY GALLERY

HIGHLANDSCURRENT.ORG

The Highlands Current
Cold Spring: Marijuana Vote Up in Air

Results could change with absentee count
By Chip Rowe

Residents in the Village of Cold Spring were asked on Tuesday (Nov. 2) to decide, in separate proposals, whether to allow licensed businesses where people can buy or smoke marijuana.

Proposal 6 asked residents: “Should the Village of Cold Spring prohibit state-licensed establishments that permit the on-site consumption of cannabis?” The vote was 457 (52 percent) in favor of a ban and 420 (48 percent) opposed.

Proposal 7 read: “Should the Village of Cold Spring prohibit state-licensed retail cannabis dispensaries?” The vote was 405 (48 percent) in favor of a ban and 441 (52 percent) opposed.

The votes were close enough that, because of up to 109 outstanding absentee ballots, the results won’t be known until mid-November. But if the results stand, sales will be allowed in the village but not on-site consumption, such as at smoking lounges.

Under state law, villages, towns and cities can “opt out” of allowing sales or consumption if they act by Dec. 31. While Cold Spring sent the issue to the Nov. 2 ballot, officials in Beacon and Nelsonville are still considering what to do; Philipstown’s Town Board had a vote scheduled for Thursday (Nov. 4).

If sales are allowed, Cold Spring would receive 75 percent of a 4 percent sales tax, with the rest going to Putnam County. (If the Philipstown Town Board votes to opt-in, the village would split its share with the town.)

The county Board of Elections said on Monday that on Nov. 16 it would begin counting absentee ballots received by Nov. 9. The results are unofficial until the BOE tallies them and certifies the count.

Cold Spring (from Page 1)

Late in the race, Merandy endorsed Tamagna, who is the county transportation manager, an unexpected move that the mayor said was due in part to the fact he felt betrayed by Foley, who gathered signatures to get him on the ballot but said she decided she would not run and entered the race herself.

Merandy dropped out soon after nominating petitions were filed, as did Marie Early, who had planned to run for her fourth, 2-year term, and Matt Francisco, the Planning Board chair who was to compete for the seat held by Trustee Fran Woods, who did not run for a fourth term.

One of those two seats will be filled by Eliza Starbuck, a former Chamber of Commerce president who owns Flower-cup Wine. Among three candidates, she received 586 votes, or 47 percent of the vote.

Cathryn Fadde, who served on the board from 2014 to 2016 and owns Cathryn’s Tuscan Grill, and Jeff Phillips, a construction manager, ran on the Better Together banner with Tamagna. Fadde received 353 votes (28 percent) and Phillips had 300 (24 percent) but the margin is small enough that the winner of the second seat was not immediately known. The BOE says it distributed 109 absentee ballots, which must be postmarked before or on Election Day and reach the BOE by Nov. 9.

In a second trustee race, Tweeps Phillips Woods won 36 percent of the vote against Yaslyn Daniels and will complete the second and final year of the term of Heidi Bender, who resigned in April. Woods had been appointed by Merandy to fill the seat until the election. It will be on the ballot again in 2022.

Angell, Cotter Win Town Board Seats

Van Tassel, running unopposed, is new supervisor
By Chip Rowe

Jason Angell and Megan Cotter, both Democrats, won two open seats on the Philipstown Town Board, according to unofficial results posted on Tuesday (Nov. 2) by the Putnam County Board of Elections.

They defeated Sarina Tamagna and Neal Tomann, who ran on the Republican and Conservative lines.

Turnout was 49 percent among the 7,528 registered voters in Philipstown. The BOE said on Monday it had distributed 324 absentee ballots to the town and will count those starting Nov. 16. The results are unofficial until the BOE tallies mail-in ballots and certifies the count.

Angell was appointed to the board in June to complete the last four months of a term vacated by Michael Leonard, who moved out of the area. Angell and Cotter will serve 4-year terms.

Cotter will take the seat held by John Van Tassel, a Democrat, who ran unopposed to succeed Richard Shea as supervisor. Shea

Angell, Cotter

Unofficial tally as of Nov. 2; does not include absentee ballots

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jason Angell (D)</td>
<td>2,226</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Cotter (D)</td>
<td>2,186</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neal Tomann (R)</td>
<td>1,326</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarina Tamagna (R)</td>
<td>1,232</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unofficial tally as of Nov. 2; does not include absentee ballots

Starbuck and Woods ran with Foley under the Forge Ahead banner. According to state election records, as of Oct. 22, they had raised $21,321 and spent $16,826 on their joint campaign.

Tamagna told state officials he would not raise or spend more than $1,000 and so was exempt from filing. Daniels, Fadde and Phillips also each filed exemptions.

In the final village race on the ballot, Justice Thomas Costello, who ran unopposed, was reelected.

Announce CD Release Party
Putnam (from Page 1) poor leadership because of two legal actions involving deputies. The eight Republican members of the Legislature also spent months grilling Langley about overtime spending and COVID-19 policies.

In 2018, Langley defeated Republican incumbent Don Smith by 324 votes of nearly 25,000 cast. Smith had been embroiled in a defamation lawsuit filed against him by a former Putnam County district attorney, Adam Levy. McConville had run unsuccessfully for sheriff twice before, in 2009 as a Democrat and in 2013 as a Republican. He began his career in law enforcement as a Cold Spring police officer.

Montgomery wins second term

Nancy Montgomery, a Democrat who represents Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley in the county Legislature, easily won a second, 3-year term by defeating Republican challenger Barbara Scuccimarra. Montgomery unseated Scuccimarra in 2018 with 58 percent of the vote and won reelection on Tuesday with 61 percent.

Unofficial tally as of Nov. 2: does not include absentee ballots

In other Putnam legislative races, Republican Ginny Nacerno kept her seat representing Patterson by defeating Stacy Dumont with 63 percent of the vote and Republican Joseph Castellano defeated challenger Scott Reing to represent Mahopac/Brewster with 62 percent of the vote.

Dutchess Voters Reject Smaller Legislature

Statewide voting reform, redistricting proposals voted down

By Leonard Sparks

Dutchess County voters overwhelmingly rejected on Tuesday (Nov. 2) a Republican-led bid to reduce the Legislature’s size to 21 seats from 25.

A majority of Dutchess and Putnam County residents also joined voters statewide in defeating ballot proposals designed to make voting easier, freeze state Senate seats at 63 and amend rules governing the commission created to redraw districts for the state Legislature and House of Representative seats.

Two-thirds of people casting ballots in Dutchess (37,095 to 17,724) endorsed maintaining the size of the county Legislature. The county’s 15 Republican legislators had voted unanimously in July to put the proposal on the ballot, arguing that the number of representatives was too large for the county’s population.

Democrats, who control 10 seats in the Legislature, voted against the proposal, with some citing fears that a smaller number of seats would dilute Democrat majorities in party strongholds like Beacon. But they also said they suspected the referendum was tied to Republicans’ dismantling of an independent commission that had been assigned to redraw district boundaries based on 2020 census data.

The Republican majority voted to dismantle the commission, citing a technical error by Democrats who selected a member who was a school board member (commission members cannot be elected officials). The Republicans argued that he could not be replaced and that the entire selection process had to be redone.

On Oct. 29, County Executive Molinaro announced that Dutchess has reopened the application process for the new commission; residents can apply at dutchessny.gov/drawthemlines. Democratic and Republican leaders in the Legislature will each appoint two members, and those four members will appoint the other three from a list of candidates.

Elsewhere on the back of the ballot, the results were not good for Democrats.

While voters statewide, and in Dutchess and Putnam counties, approved a referendum that amends the state Constitution to “establish the right of each person to clean air and water and a healthy environment,” Democrat-favored proposals to allow same-day voting and no-excuse voting by absentee ballot failed.

Proposal 3, which would have eliminated a requirement that people register to vote at least 10 days in advance, was rejected by 51 percent of voters statewide. In Dutchess, the vote was 59 percent against, and in Putnam, 61 percent.

Proposal 4, if approved, would have eliminated a requirement that absentee ballots only be allowed when voters will be away from their home county or they have an illness or physical disability that prevents them from in-person voting. Fifty percent of voters statewide voted against the change, along with 58 percent in Dutchess and 61 percent in Putnam.

Voters also defeated a Democratic proposal to freeze the number of state senators at 63; allow the members of the state Independent Redistricting Commission to appoint co-executive directors by majority vote; and eliminate the requirement that the directors be from different political parties.

The proposal would also have required that state Senate and Assembly districts be based on total population, including non-citizens and Native Americans; prohibit the division of census blocks in cities like Beacon from being divided into more than one district; and require that inmates be counted, for redistricting purposes, as residents of their place of last residence, not their place of incarceration.

Forty-eight percent of New York state voters cast ballots against the proposal, including 57 percent in Dutchess County and 60 percent in Putnam.

A fifth statewide proposal, to increase the New York City Court’s jurisdiction by allowing it to hear and decide claims for up to $50,000 instead of the current limit of $25,000, passed, including in Dutchess and Putnam counties.

9th Judicial

The 9th district of the state Supreme Court includes Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester counties. There were nine candidates for five seats.

According to unofficial results released this week that do not include absentee ballots, the five candidates leading the tally are Robert Berliner, an incumbent since 2008 from Rockland County; Thomas Davis, a private attorney for 29 years from Dutchess; Christie D’Alessio, the town justice in Greenburgh, Westchester; Thomas Quinones, a city court judge from Yonkers; and James Hyer, a private attorney for 15 years from Westchester. All ran on the Democratic line.

The Dutchess results mirrored the state results; in Putnam, Robert Guerin, a city court judge in Middletown who won on the Republican line, finished third.

Beacon: Johnston Wins City Judge Race

Democrat leads in race for Legislature seat

By Chip Rowe

Greg Johnston was elected on Tuesday (Nov. 2) as Beacon city judge, defeating incumbent Tim Pagones to win a 10-year term, according to unofficial results released on Tuesday (Nov. 2) by the Dutchess County Board of Elections.

Johnston defeated Pagones with 62 percent of the vote. While there are as many as 343 absentee ballots outstanding, Johnston had a margin of 750 votes.


During the campaign, Pagones touted his experience as a judge against Johnston, who is a public defender.

The turnout was 32 percent among the 10,184 registered voters in Beacon. The results are unofficial until the BOE tallies absentee ballots starting Nov. 9 and certifies the count.

City Council

Six candidates for the City Council, all Democrats, ran unopposed.

Four members of the council — Terry Nelson (Ward 1), Air Rhodes (Ward 2), Jodi McCreo (Ward 3) and Amber Grant (at-large) — did not seek reelection. Nelson, McCreo and Grant have all been on the council since 2013; Nelson in 2018 with 58 percent of the vote, Montgomery in 2018 with 58 percent of the vote and won reelection on Tuesday with 61 percent.

Unofficial tally as of Nov. 2; does not include absentee ballots

2018: Rhodes won a two-year term in 2019. Two incumbents, Dan Ayman-Blair (Ward 4), who was first elected in 2019, and longtime at-large member George Mansfield, kept their seats. They will be joined by newcomers Molly Rhodes (Ward 1), Justice McCray (Ward 2), Wren Longno (Ward 3) and Paloma Wake (at-large).

Dutchess County

Yvette Valdes Smith, a Democrat who is a public defender.

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The Dutchess results mirrored the state results; in Putnam, Robert Guerin, a city court judge in Middletown who won on the Republican line, finished third.
Lauren Danielle Felzani and Goodwyn Rhett Prentice were married on Sept. 17 in Beverly, Massachusetts, at a ceremony officiated by the groom’s father. The bride is the daughter of Donna and Joseph Felzani Jr. of Revere, Massachusetts. Her father is an administrative assistant for the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. Her mother is retired after 31 years of teaching in the Boston and Revere public school systems and now is the administrator of faith formation at St. Anthony of Padua Parish.

Lauren is a senior physical therapist in the neonatal and pediatric intensive care units in Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City. She graduated from Merrimack College in Andover, Massachusetts, with a degree in health science in 2011, received her doctoral degree from Long Island University in 2014 and became pediatric board-certified in 2021.

Rhett is the son of Nathaniel and Anita Prentice of Garrison; his paternal grandparents, Anne Osborn and Ezra P. Prentice, resided in Garrison and Cold Spring. The groom’s father is the principal of Prentice Investment Management; a board member of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce and the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival; and a Garrison fire commissioner. The groom’s mother, also a retired teacher, is the board president of the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison.

Rhett is a graduate of St. Paul’s School and Trinity College, where he majored in art history. He is vice-president/client strategy manager at Christie’s Auction House in New York City. The couple reside in Manhattan.
The Calendar

Judge This Book By Its Cover
Beacon Artist Union mounts 200th show

By Alison Rooney

The honor of showing work at the 200th exhibit hosted by the Beacon Artist Union (BAU) goes to Stephen Derrickson, one of the collective’s more recent members. Mendacity, Myopia, Amnesia, Atopia opens at the Main Street gallery on Nov. 13.

Derrickson’s work typically combines digital images with text. Accompanying the exhibit will be a book containing what he describes as a “dialogue between the word and the images that runs through my work.”

The artist arrived at college to study photography but shifted to painting and drawing. “I was cavalier — it was my youth and the images that runs through my work,” he says. “I was an image scavenger, which I continue to be, although once I had a digital camera I started taking many pictures instead — so many that I have an image bank.”

Derrickson says he lost interest in showing in galleries and left the city for the Hudson Valley (he lives in Woodstock). “At one point the book form took over,” he says. “At first the images were collage-like, because they were meant to support the work I was showing. Now the books are front and center.”

Derrickson became a BAU member not long before receiving an out-of-the-blue diagnosis of esophageal cancer. He is undergoing chemotherapy and has found the process taking more of a toll on his stamina than he expected.

Still, he has continued to work. “I have been a Buddhist for all the 21st century, so that gives me a perspective,” he says. “But when you have your mortality flash before your eyes, it changes you — if you let it. My book segues between politically charged critiques and meditative images and text that have to do with deep appreciation of the natural world and impermanence. They’re philosophical and reflective, both in the essays and photography.

“Cancer became a writing prompt for me. I had an epiphany when I was diagnosed. I was going to be honest, reflective and open about it — my best self. In the book, this is mingled with the politics of America.”

His latest book includes a 90-page chronicle: “Pandemic Cancer Insurrection.” In it, Derrickson says, are “reflections of being in lockdown with the pandemic but also in lockdown in a virtual paradise, overlooking the Catskills, with lots of time for meditative walks, hiking and swimming. It doesn’t focus only on the cancer.”

The book’s second piece “chronicles how I came to this place, as a student, teacher, (Continued on Page 23)

Thoughts on BAU

By Alison Rooney

The Beacon Artist Union was founded by Gary Jacketti in a small space on the west end of Main Street; it has been at 506 Main for nine years.

After moving to the area to take a job at West Point, Jacketti opened Bulldog Studios in the former Beacon High School building. It “never quite took flight,” he says, but he met many local artists and decided to create BAU “to promote art and the arts and to have a place for members to experiment and grow.”

It began with six members and today has 11. A majority must approve new applications. Once accepted, each member is given the gallery space for a month.

When those months are allocated, each artist suddenly has a deadline, Jacketti notes, which can be “conducive to creativity, and daunting.”

We asked a few BAU members, past and present, for their thoughts about the collective. Here are excerpts:

Ilse Schreiber-Noll: “BAU is a place where I can show my work even if still in the experimental stage. I also like the fact that we are members of all ages. This leads to a wonderful and fresh exchange of ideas and thoughts.”

Carla Goldberg: “I’m an experimenter at heart, which is what BAU is about. The task of taking on themed shows gave me permission to try one-off ideas, push boundaries and hear honesty from our visitors. The growth in my art and the materials I use today are a direct result of 13 years of once-a-year solos.”

Jebah Baum: “The process of making art is generally a rather solitary experience. For artists, presentation can sometimes be an afterthought, but it is in fact a vital part of supporting our studio practices. It is inspiring to witness this group of artists work together to run and maintain a successful gallery.”

Pamela Zaremba: “Each year you are given space for a solo show that takes me a year to complete. Without this deadline, I doubt I would complete anything. We are like a big family — dysfunctional at times, but still a family!”

Stephen Derrickson: “While it is a bit more work, and we rent our space, the artist collective is closer to controlling the means of distribution, thus stepping away from the dealer model, with its potential for control, indifference and even fraud. It calls upon artists to step away from ego and toward emotionally intelligent communication.”

Lukas Milanek: “Building a career as an artist is never easy, but being surrounded by others on a similar path motivates us to continue. Together, we help shape each other’s practice through exchanging ideas, opportunities and constructive critique. We’re grateful for the way the community has supported us, too.”
Continuing the tradition we started last year, we asked readers to submit photos of themselves or their children and pets in costume — and we corralled others before the Cold Spring parade on Oct. 30 — for a costume contest. Here we share some of the most memorable efforts, and there are many more shots at highlandscurrent.org. (You’ll also find a gallery of photos taken by Michael Turton at the Cold Spring parade.)

We selected winners in six categories who will receive gift cards and other treats from our sponsors. Thank you to everyone who entered, and to our judges: Maureen McGrath, head of youth services at Butterfield Library in Cold Spring, and Kristen Salierno, director at the Howland Public Library in Beacon.

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Lisa Schaefer

Philip D'Amato with Teddy

Karen and Dinesh Kapoor

Taya, Elaina and Max

Ollie, Connor, Cooper and Liv

Lisa Schaefer

Irene Pieza
Funniest
SARAH GURLAND AND THOMAS HUBER

Best Baby
RIVER (10 MONTHS)

Simon Groth

Nico Lagerman

Terry Fortier

Winslow Benjamin-Wilcox

Ben Girshengorn
WINNER

Best Family Themed

THE TAYLORSONS

The Taylor Family

The Shackelford Family

Alexander Clifton and Olga Burger with Zarja Zuzu and Ajax

Pamela Toland with husband Jon and Everett

The Haelen Family

Jenny, Josh, Avi & Neta Kaplan
Scariest
THOMASINA AND
HALCYON DARHANSOFF

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**Best Pet**

**WILLOW**

[submitted by Lawrence Wisbeski]
THE WEEK AHEAD
Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)
For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

COMMUNITY

SAT 6
Pet Rabies Vaccine Clinic
CARmEL
10 a.m. – Noon. Memorial Park
201 Gipsy Trail Road
845-808-1390 x43160
putnamcounty.ny.com/health
Dogs, cats and ferrets should be properly caged or leashed. Bring proof of Putnam County residency and a prior rabies vaccination certificate. Free

SAT 8
3-D Model of Proposed HVSF Site
GARRISON
1 – 4 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing
hvshakespeare.org
The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival will share a model of the changes it hopes to make on property donated to the company. Register at hvshakespeare.org/production/3dmodel. Also THURS 11 at Winter Hill in Garrison.

SAT 13
Electric Car Show
GARRISON
2 – 3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | bl.ly/garrison-car
Meet locals who drive electric cars, take a look at the variety of cars and get information about owning one.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 6
Czechoslovak Tales with Strings
COLD SPRING
3 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 90
facebook.com/littlestonypoint
The Czechoslovak-American Marionette Theatre will perform with storyteller/puppeteer Vit Horejs and musical accompaniment by Tine Kindermann and Frank London. Free

SAT 6
The Price
WAPPINgERS FALLS
8 p.m. County Players Theater
2681 W. Main St. | 845-298-1491
countyplayers.org
Jeff Batterby, Michael Frohnhoefer, Janet Narre and Douglas Woolley star in Arthur Miller’s play, which is ostensibly about the price of furniture. Also, FRI 12, SAT 6, SUN 14. Cost: $20 ($17 seniors, military and ages 12 and under)

SAT 13
The Circus (1928)
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Via Zoom
butterfieldlibrary.org
Starred in this silent film that will be presented by the Butterfield Library with live musical accompaniment by Cary Brown. Register online.

SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 13
Winter Holiday Exhibition
BEACON
3 – 5 p.m. Bannerman Island Gallery
150 Main St. | 845-831-6346
bannermancastle.org
Work by more than 25 artists will be on view through Jan. 30.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 3
Dia:Beacon Studio on the Farm
WAPPINgERS FALLS
10:30 a.m. Common Ground Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | diaaart.org
Children ages 5 and older can make art with a practicing artist outdoors in this workshop offered with Common Ground Farm.

SUN 14
Holiday Toy Swap
COLD SPRING
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org
Give a toy to get a toy. Drop-off gently used toys, puzzles, stuffies, games and books (1 bag limit) on FRI 12 and SAT 13 during library hours. New toy donations will be accepted for families in need.

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TUES 9
Genetic Counseling and Testing for Breast and Ovarian Cancer
CORTLANDT
8 p.m. Via Zoom | supportconnection.org
Learn about your options during this webinar sponsored by Support Connection. Registration required.

WED 10
Women Soldiers in the Civil War
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Via Zoom | putnamhistorymuseum.org
In this webinar organized by the Putnam History Museum, Tracey McIntire and Audrey Scanlan-Teller will discuss women who disguised themselves as men in order to join the fight. Cost: $10 (members free)

THURS 11
Human Rights and the Common Good
GARRISON
2 p.m. Via Zoom | garrisoninstitute.org
In this Pathways to Planetary Health Forum from the Garrison Institute, Kerry Kennedy will interview the climate activist who sounded the earliest alarms about global warming. McRibben's latest book, Falter, addresses the issues preventing us from moving ahead in the time we have left to stave off the worst impacts.

SAT 13
Basics of Bird Feeding
COLD SPRING
9 a.m. Little Stony Point | 3011 Route 9D | putnamhighlandsaudubon.org
Learn how to give birds a safe and healthy experience at your backyard bird feeder.

SUN 14
Bill McKibben
GARRISON
4 p.m. Via Crowdcast | desmondfishlibrary.org
In this program organized by the Desmond-Fish Public Library, David Gelber, co-creator of the Years of Living Dangerously series, will interview the climate activist who wrote the earliest alarmist book, Don't Throw Away the Gun.

THURS 11
Wolf Conservation
COLD SPRING
2 p.m. Via Zoom | butterfieldlibrary.org
In this program, Charles Canham, an ecologist with the Cary Institute, will discuss the ecology of wolves and meet Sephyr, our wolf ambassador.

SAT 13
Titans of '80s Rock
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley | 1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
This concert will include performances by CCC Pro Am Ensemble, Tony Jefferson 2 Guitar Quartet, Ray Blue Septet and the Kenny Barron Trio.

SAT 6
Titans of '80s Rock
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Beacon High School | 101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-3100
The concert will feature patriotic and inspiring music.

SAT 6
Jay Ungar and Molly Masso
BEACON
8 p.m. Toscana | 200 Main St. | 845-855-1300
Kozy Surfers and the Butthole Surfers.

SAT 6
Ate Bit
BEACON
9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St. | facebook.com/quinnsbeacon
The punk band will be joined by Social Standards.

MUSIC
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Human Rights and the Common Good
GARRISON
2 p.m. Via Zoom | garrisoninstitute.org
Kerry Kennedy will interview the climate activist who sounded the earliest alarms about global warming. McKibben's latest book, Falter, addresses the issues preventing us from moving ahead in the time we have left to stave off the worst impacts.

MUSIC
SAT 7
The Psychedelic Furs
TARRYTOWN
7 p.m. Tarrytown Music Hall | 13 Main St. | 914-840-2072
The concert will feature patriotic and inspiring music.

SAT 7
The Joni Project
BEACON
7 p.m. Tne Cwurie | 379 Main St. | 845-855-1300
Joni Mitchell, covering her music from its folk beginnings to funk, rock and modern jazz.

SAT 7
The Best of The Eagles
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley | 1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
The Eagles' hits. Cost: $29.50 to $42.50

MON 8
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza | 845-838-5011

MON 8
School Board
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon High School | 101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900

MON 8
Dutchess Legislature
POUGHKEEPSIE
7 p.m. Market St. | 845-486-2100

TUES 9
Dutchess Budget Town Hall
EAST FISHKILL
6 p.m. East Fishkill Town Hall | 330 Route 376 | dutchessny.gov

TUES 9
Board of Trustees
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St. | 845-265-3611

tcoldspringny.gov

WED 10
KYO Surfers
BEACON
9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St. | facebook.com/quinnsbeacon
Enjoy covers of songs originally performed by the Butthole Surfers.
Listening to Shells

Artist finds inspiration in surfaces, patterns, shapes

By Alison Rooney

Through his years of studying fine art at college (Ramapo) and in graduate school (Hunter), Bill Kooistra says the goal was “to see who I really was.”

“In college, I was into drawing rock stars and the teacher said: ‘This is junk,’” recalls Kooistra, a founding member of the Buster Levi Gallery in Cold Spring. “Then I got into [Edward] Hopper, then [Arshile] Gorky, and then I moved into abstractions.”

Kooistra took inspiration from plants, then shells. “One day, on a beach, I picked up a shell and thought: ‘Oh my God, I can do this. This is perfect for improvising.’ Shells are so varied, like snowflakes.”

Kooistra’s recent work has focused on creating abstract works that originate with the surface of shells or shell fragments. The series in his new exhibit at Buster Levi, aptly called Shells, began with small watercolor studies. It opens Saturday (Nov. 6) with a reception from 1 to 5 p.m.

Earlier paintings, made from 2016 to 2018, examined shells using geometry as the structural organization, he says. “In some ways, the ideas remain unchanged, but in the recent works the focus has been to explore individual surfaces, patterns, colors and shapes. While certain shells retain characteristics, others are barely recognizable.”

It’s important to Kooistra that his work not be perceived as derivative of geometry. “One of my friends told me I’m kind of formalist, but I also want these paintings to have feelings, because I have feelings,” he says. “They’re not cold and calculated; I want them read on a more emotional level.”

Kooistra, who lives in Goshen and taught art at Mahwah High School in New Jersey for 34 years, worked on his art in a small home studio and in the classroom. He points out that “working on art” doesn’t always mean creating a finished work. It might involve sensing what color to use — he says he chooses color based on how it expresses the experience he is trying to convey, rather than to recreate the shell.

Sometimes working means “just staring and taking notes. I lay five or six watercolors out and every time I go in, I do something to one of them. I have to digest the idea, live with it for a while, and then the paintings come. You get an idea, but doing the idea is not as easy as coming up with the idea. I shouldn’t have it ‘down; it shouldn’t be easy.”

Kooistra came upon what became the Buster Levi Gallery accidentally. Years ago, his family rented a house in Garrison. He and his father went into C&E Paints, where they noticed a group of people who appeared to be hanging art across the street at what was then the Marina Gallery. He went over to investigate and a year later was invited to join the collective, which evolved into Buster Levi in 2014.

As a member, “knowing you’re working, and then showing that work, ups your game,” he says. “I have to resolve the issues in my paintings and can’t just let things sit. Looking at other artists, seeing how they worked things out, a piece of that may be absorbed. When you’re around people, it’s naturally instructive.”

The Buster Levi Gallery, located at 121 Main St. in Cold Spring, is open from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. See busterlevigallery.com. “Shells” continues through Nov. 28.

DID YOU KNOW?

THAT IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SEVENTEEN BUT HAVE NOT FILED INCOME TAX RETURNS IN RECENT YEARS, YOU ARE STILL ELIGIBLE FOR THE CHILD TAX CREDIT (CTC) WHICH INVOLVES THE GOVERNMENT SENDING YOU MONEY.

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NOVEMBER 10th, 16th and 23rd
10AM – 12 NOON
AT ST. MARY’S CHURCH, 1 Chestnut St, Cold Spring

NOVEMBER 13th AND 20th
9:00 AM – 11:00AM
AT ST. ANDREW and ST. LUKE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 15 South Ave, Beacon

Volunteers will be there to guide people through the process of online filing with the IRS.

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*IMPORTANT NOTE*

THE CTC APPLIES TO MIXED IMMIGRATION STATUS FAMILIES. SO AS LONG AS THE CHILDREN INVOLVED ARE EITHER U.S. CITIZENS OR GREEN CARD HOLDERS YOUR FAMILY IS ELIGIBLE. THE CHILDREN MUST HAVE A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER. PARENTS NEED NOT – THEY ONLY NEED A TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER WHICH CAN BE APPLIED FOR WITH THE APPLICATION FOR THE CTC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MIKE MEEROPOL AT 413 244 2007.

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SI TIENE HIJOS MENORES DE DIECISIETE AÑOS PERO NO HA PRESENTADO DECLARACIONES DE IMPUESTOS EN LOS ÚLTIMOS AÑOS, SU FAMILIA AÚN PUEDE RECIBIR EL CRÉDITO TRIBUTARIO POR HIJOS (CTC EN INGLÉS), QUE IMPLICA QUE EL GOBIERNO LE ENVÍE DINERO NAVEGAR EL SITIO WEB DEL IRS PUEDE RESUL TAR ABRUMADOR, PERO ESTAMOS AQUÍ PARA AYUDAR.

EL 10, 16 y 23 DE NOVIEMBRE
DE 10 AM A 12 DEL MEDIODÍA
EN LA IGLESIA ST. MARY’S, 1 CHESTNUT STREET, COLD SPRING

EL 13 y 20 DE NOVIEMBRE
DE 9:00 AM A 11:00 AM
EN LA IGLESIA EPISCOPAL ST. ANDREW Y ST. LUKE, 15 SOUTH AVENUE, BEACON

Voluntarios estarán allí para asistirle con el proceso en línea con el IRS.

SI TIENE UNA CUENTA BANCARIA, EL IRS LE ENVIARÁ EL DINERO ELECTRÓNICAMENTE. SI NO, LE ENVIARÁN UN CHEQUE.

NO NECESITA TRAER UNA COMPUTADORA; LE FACILITAREMOS UNA PARA ACCEDER A LOS FORMULARIOS DE REGISTRO EN LÍNEA.

*nota IMPORTANTE*

EL CTC SE APLICA A FAMILIAS CON ESTATUS MIGRATORIO MIXTO, SIEMPRE QUE LOS NIÑOS INVOLUCRADOS SEAN CIUDADANOS ESTADOUNIDENSES O TITULARES DE UNA TARJETA VERDE. LOS NIÑOS DEBEN TENER UN NÚMERO DE SEGURIDAD SOCIAL. LOS PADRES SÓLO NECESITAN UN NÚMERO DE IDENTIFICACIÓN DE CONTRIBUYENTE QUE SE PUEDE ADJUNTAR CON LA SOLICITUD DEL CTC.

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN LLAME A MIKE MEEROPOL AL 413-244-2007
Voices of Veterans

Garrison filmmaker, Beacon vet part of new PBS series

By Leonard Sparks

Less than 90 seconds into the first episode of a new PBS series, American Veteran, a petite septuagenarian nurse from Beacon with a pronounced Midwestern accent appears on screen.

More than five decades have passed since Edie Meeks returned from Vietnam, her body intact but her psyche scarred in ways it would take years to recognize.

"Being a veteran is like speaking a different language," she said in an interview. "And when you’re around these people who have served, you feel understood."

The veterans themselves may change that.

American Veteran, which debuted on Oct. 26, explores the lives of several former members of the Armed Forces a platform to tell their stories to the nation — from enlistment and boot camp to deployment and the often-difficult readjustment when returning home.

The series was created by GBH, the public television station in Boston, and Insignia Films, which is co-owned by Stephen Ives, a Garrison resident and board president of the Philipstown Depot Theatre. He co-wrote each episode and directed two; installments 1 and 2 can be seen on PBS or at pbs.org/show/american-veteran, along with a podcast. The final episodes will air on PBS on Tuesday (Nov. 8) and Nov. 15.

The hour-long segments present a diversity of voices: male and female, Black, white, Latino, Native American and gay. The narrators include comedian and TV host Drew Carey, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, and Sen. Tammy Duckworth of Illinois, a former Army Reservist who lost both legs when her helicopter was attacked in Iraq.

The stories touch on the horrors of combat in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, and off-the-field battles within the service branches, where women, minorities and gays have fought for acceptance.

Some vets talk about the remorse they experienced after killing and others about segregation and sexual assaults by colleagues.

The BAU Gallery, at 506 Main St., in Beacon, is open from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Call 845-222-0777 or see baugallery.org. Derrickson’s exhibit runs through Dec. 3.

Two shows, Pamela Zarenba’s “Overcome” and Ilse Schreiber-Noll’s “I Don’t Know What I Am Doing” continue through Sunday (Nov. 7).

“...My job was to take care of these guys who were between the ages of 18 and 23, the majority of them,” she said. “They were all so young, and they were so bewildered as to what was going on.”

Along with witnessing death, Meeks had to worry about her own safety.

One day, she asked about a Vietnamese ward clerk who was absent and was told that he had been killed the night before fighting on the side of the Viet Cong. She was warned not to kick cans while walking down the street because they might be homemade bombs.

“One morning I came into work at 7 a.m. and we got the news that we were getting nine injured in. These were GIs standing waiting for a bus and somebody drove by on a scooter and threw a bomb,” she said. “It could be anywhere, at any time.”

After returning to the U.S., and convinced that America was wasting lives in the war, Meeks spent the final six months of her enlistment at Madigan Army Medical Center at Fort Lewis in Tacoma, Washington (now Joint Base Lewis McChord).

She returned to Minneapolis, married and moved to New York City. In 1972, she and her husband moved to Garrison, and Meeks worked in the operating room for Butterfield Hospital in Cold Spring until it closed. She left nursing to work for a company making implants for spinal fusions, then returned to nursing in 2009, taking a job at Northern Westchester Hospital in Mount Kisco. She still works there part-time.

About 25 years after leaving Vietnam, her scars emerged: flashbacks and depression.

“My big thing is, if you’re going to ask these people to go to war for you, you should give them what you promised them, and there shouldn’t be any questions asked,” she said. “To me, that is twice the injury to these people.”
Fifty years ago, Thom Johnson took a trip to the Hudson Highlands that changed his life.

He was a high school student in Dobbs Ferry when a friend showed him a photo of Bannerman Castle. Intrigued, they drove north, stared at the ruins and wondered what the story behind them was. After returning to the car, they noticed an un gated road. Curious, they made the turn and found a clump of ruined stone buildings.

“It was a similar experience as what we had just had at Bannerman,” he recalled. “We stood there and said, ‘It is the 27th.’”

The friends drove into Cold Spring, “People said, ‘Oh that’s the old Cornish Estate.’ I said, ‘What can you tell me about it?’ And they said, ‘We just told you everything we know.’”

Johnson became a high school art teacher and musician but maintained his interest in the Highlands. He would co-write a book about Bannerman Island but information about the Cornish Estate was harder to find. He ended up kindling an interest in the estate in one of his students, Rob Yasinsac, who went on to co-author *Hudson Valley Ruins*. Neither man, however, could find a photo of the estate from before it fell into disrepair.

Yasinsac’s book caught the attention of the descendants of the two families who had lived at the site: The Sterns, who bought the property and built a farm around 1804, and the Cornishes, who took over in 1916. The families were able to supply photos and more information.

Johnson, now retired, spoke to the New York State parks department, which owns the land, about organizing volunteers to clear the brush that had consumed the ruins and put up informational kiosks showing what the buildings looked like before a 1958 fire destroyed most of the woodwork.

New York State had been offered the site in 1938 as parkland but declined because it said the property was too rocky. Instead, it was sold to Central Hudson, which contemplated a power plant between Breakneck Ridge and Mount Taurus; the utility abandoned the plan after seeing the fierce resistance that Con Edison faced when it proposed a plant on the river at Storm King. The state eventually took the property and in the late 1960s folded it into the Hudson Highlands State Park.

The site is rocky, which makes it difficult to imagine that many small farms once flourished in what has been called “Breakneck Valley.” But Johnson points out that the ample water flowing from springs, brooks and cascades was a big draw. Goats were enlisted to keep the grass in check. Many of the towering trees weren’t there; Thomas Cole’s 1826 painting *Storm King on Hudson*, painted from the site, shows a clear view across the river.

Ten years ago, Johnson and a band of volunteers began clearing away the vines and poison ivy that nearly hid the ruins. Then they cleared the grounds. A grant from the nonprofit Parks & Trails New York paid for 16 kiosks that have been installed over the past few months, with more on the way. They are placed on spots where historic photos supplied by the families were taken.

Those photos show what once was: A beguiling mixture of rustic stonework that resembled a French chateau, topped off with English Tudor sections, pods to the prairie architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright, and a roof that was contoured to mimic the ridge line at Breakneck. “It’s almost too weird for words, but that’s what makes it interesting,” Johnson said.

He adds: “This is a work of art. I consider this sculpture.”

A ribbon-cutting is planned for the spring when a second batch of kiosks is installed, but in the meantime, there’s still more work to be done, and Johnson is always looking for volunteers and new photos or information. (The next cleanup of the site is Nov. 13; email Johnson at thomjohnson1@verizon.net.)

Johnson said he would like visitors to take away from the site not only a sense of what the estate once was, but what the site could be. On a more mundane level, if they could take away some of the garbage that has accumulated as more hikers have discovered the site, that would be great.

“It’s strange to think about this,” he said as we watched group after group of hikers amble by, “but I used to come up here to get away from people.”

---

**THANK YOU**

For the past six years and eight months I have had the distinct honor and privilege to work for the residents of the Village of Cold Spring. It has been an amazing experience. From start to finish I have worked with and learned from some of the most amazing people.

- A Village runs on the Village Clerk. From the day in 2014 when I walked into the village office and asked Mary Saari if she needed help, she patiently explained and taught. Mary answered my every question and laid the foundation for my interest to run for office. If you never had the pleasure of knowing Mary Saari you have missed knowing an amazing woman. When Mary retired, I couldn’t imagine who would fill her shoes. Little did I know that there was another “Mary” waiting in the wings. Jeff Vidakovich is phenomenal - hard working, knowledgeable and patient. With everything we throw at him, Jeff manages to get things done. His emails come to us, all hours of the day or night, and all days of the week. And yet, he manages to still smile. I’ll miss working with Jeff.

- We will be hard pressed to find two people who will work harder for the Village of Cold Spring than Dave Merandy and Marie Early. Working with them over the past almost 7 years has been truly amazing. Most have no idea of the time and the energy both Dave and Marie have given – for the Village of Cold Spring and for the residents of Cold Spring. Neither have a personal agenda – they have worked only to better the Village. It is truly an honor to have worked with them and to consider both Dave and Marie dear friends.

After almost 7 years it’s time for me to step aside. My campaigns have always been simple. My husband, Ed, and I walked the village and knocked on doors to ask for your signatures and to ask for your vote. You accepted me, wished me well, and always expressed your thanks. I promised to work hard. I hope you feel that I have done something to make the village a little better.

I have been truly enriched by this experience. Thank you for allowing me to work for you.

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

HALDANE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Cold Spring, NY 10516

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Haldane Central School District of Philipstown will receive sealed bids at 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring, NY 10516 until 3:00 PM on December 9th, 2021 when same will be opened at the Business Office of the Haldane Central School, 15 Craigside Drive, Cold Spring, NY 10516 for the following:

Main Building Site Work/Improvements

Specifications and bid forms may be obtained by contacting twalsh@haldareschool.org, or by contacting 845-265-9254, ext 176, available on Monday, November 8th at 8:00 AM. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids. By Order of the Board of Education of Haldane Central School District of Philipstown, Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York By Anne M. Dinio, School Business Manager.
HELP WANTED

BOOKKEEPER — Part-time, full-charge bookkeeper for Beacon nonprofit. Quickbooks specialist and fluent in Excel. Main Street Location. Call 845-831-6346 for an interview.

FOR RENT

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Anne T. Champlin
(1938-2021)

Anne T. Champlin, 83, passed away at the New York State Veterans Home in Montrose, NY on Sunday, October 31, 2021.

Anne was born in Beacon on October 2, 1938 to James Hopper and Lilian McGrath. She was predeceased by her husband of 59 years Raymond on November 4, 2020.

Anne graduated from Beacon High School and began her nursing career at Vassar College. Always excelling she enjoyed learning new things while working at Vassar Brothers Medical Center and doing home visits in the community. Anne’s quest to share her passion for nursing led her to become a professor of nursing at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh where she formed lifelong friendships with her colleagues.

Never satisfied with her quest for knowledge she continued her education at Columbia University’s Teacher’s College amazing her family on how she was able to balance the roles of wife, mother, professor and student all at the same time.

Seeking new opportunities Anne took a management position at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Montrose where she enjoyed getting back into the “hands on” aspect of nursing. During this time, she was able to complete her doctorate in nursing from Columbia to the surprise of no one who knew her drive. The urge to share her knowledge was too much and she finished her career as a nursing professor at SUNY New Paltz touching many more nurses.

Anne was a dedicated member of Our Lady of Loretto Catholic church and had a strong lifelong religious connection.

In addition to her husband Ray, Anne was predeceased by her sister Mary, brother Tom and his wife Barbara, sisters-in-law Claudia and Cathy Hopper, brother-in-law Norman Champlin Jr and his wife Rose and niece Karen (Champlin) Chiappini.

Anne is survived by her son Jonathan and his wife Jennifer, her twin grandchildren Michael and Matthew Champlin. She is also survived by her sisters Jim and John Hopper and sisters Betty Hopper and Tricia (Dave) Burke along with many nieces and nephews and loving friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, November 5, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Loretto Church, Cold Spring. Interment will follow in Cold Spring Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made in her name to Our Lady of Loretto church, 24 Fair St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

Penelope Smith
(1945-2021)

Penelope Marie Smith, née Wood, of Garrison, NY peacefully passed away on October 31, 2021.

Born on January 18, 1945 in London, England, Penelope came to the States at age 2 with her family aboard the Queen Elizabeth. She was raised in Ocean Grove, NJ by Dennis and Norma “Peaches” Wood (nee Westervelt). She attended Neptune High School and continued her studies at Newark School of the Arts, Kutztown State College and Parsons School of Fashion. Penelope spent her 20s in the Lower East Side of NYC as an aspiring designer and illustrator.

She married Allen Jay Smith in 1971. They moved to Brooklyn and Tarrytown before eventually settling in Garrison in 1976, where they raised their children, Jocelyn, Wyatt and Caroline.

Self-taught, Penelope was a skilled dressmaker specializing in heirloom bridal gowns. She was an active and passionate member of the Philipstown Garden Club. She is affectionately remembered as a lunch yard monitor at Garrison Union Free School in the ‘80s, tireless hostess of legendary Fourth of July parties and proprietor of Knittingsmith in Cold Spring. Penelope embraced an unshakable and joyful love of God.

She is survived by her husband Allen, children Wyatt, Jocelyn and Caroline and grandchildren Wiley, Maveric, Dodi and Scarlett. She was deeply loved, and will be dearly missed by her brothers and many adoring nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Friends may call on Saturday November 6, 2021 from 1 - 4pm at Clinton Funeral Home, 21 Parrott Street, Cold Spring.
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Historic District Review Board for the Village of Cold Spring will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, via Video Conference pursuant to Executive Order 202.1, to consider an application to adopt an updated District Map. The updated map calls for adjustments to the boundaries of the following:

14 Cedar Street (49.5-2-34)
10 Locust Ridge (49.5-2-26)
41-51 Chestnut Street (49.9-1-14)
27 Marion Avenue (49.9-1-58)
3 Benedict Road (49.9-1-37.1)
5 Benedict Road (49.9-1-37.2)
7 Benedict Road (49.9-1-37.3)
50 Kemble Avenue (49.9-1-9)
West Point Foundry Park Preserve (49.9-1-10)

Application materials are available to view on the Village website: https://www.coldspringny.gov/historic-district-review-board/pages/public-hearings.

Hard copies of the application materials are available for review in Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516. Please call the Village Clerk at 845-265-3611 to make an appointment to review the materials in person.

Written comment on the proposal can be delivered to Village Hall, or emailed to the Village Clerk, vcsclerk@coldspringny.gov. Written comment must be received by Tuesday, November 9th to be included in the record.

The Videoconference can be accessed as follows:

Meeting link: https://zoom.us/j/99615097769?pwd=MlFkVmhHNHloRGhORUJESS9UUUJ4QT09
Join by phone: +1 646-876-9923
Meeting ID: 996 1509 7769
Passcode: 363035

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The bond resolution, summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on September 8, 2021, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution. Such resolution was duly approved by a majority of the qualified voters of said School District voting at the Special City School District Meeting duly called, held and conducted on October 26, 2021.

A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the School District Clerk for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated: November 3, 2021
Beacon, New York
/s/ Kelly Pologe
School District Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 2021.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO VARIOUS SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES IN AND FOR THE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF BEACON, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF $26,000,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE USE OF $600,000 SURPLUS FUNDS, $1,000,000 CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS AND THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING $24,400,000 BONDS OF SAID SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.

Objects or purposes: Reconstruction of and construction of improvements to various School District facilities, including site improvements, as well as equipment, furnishings, machinery and apparatus

Maximum estimated cost: $26,000,000

Period of probable usefulness: Thirty years

Amount of obligations to be issued: $24,400,000 bonds/$600,000 surplus funds and $1,000,000 capital reserve funds

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Bill Kooistra
Shells
November 6th - 28th 2021
MEET THE ARTIST: November 6th Saturday, 1-5 pm

GALLERY HOURS: Sat. | Sun. 12:00 - 5:00 PM
BUSTERLEVIGALLERY.COM

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Puzzles

**CrossCurrent**

**ACROSS**
1. Landed
5. Gearwheel tooth
8. Slightly
12. Sultry Horn
13. “— you serious?”
14. Barn roof spinner
15. Strict disciplinarian
17. Noble Italian family
18. Swift
19. Sculpted trunks
21. Old Ods
22. Doctor Zhivago
23. Wye follower
26. Moreover
28. On edge
31. Sciences’ partner
33. Observe
35. Campus VIP
36. “Hogwash!”
38. Finale
40. Water tester
41. Love god
43. Inherited
45. Painter’s motion
47. Reduces
51. Nashville’s st.
52. Instrument in a Dixieland band
54. Couturier Cassini
55. Stannum

**DOWN**
1. Charitable gift
2. Bound
3. Concerning
4. Spud
5. Big gorges
6. Mine yield
7. Oil tycoon J. Paul —
8. Declared
9. Baby’s bed
10. Division word
11. Casual tops
16. Notion
20. Ump’s call
23. Hit with a ray gun
24. Triage ctrs.
25. System for linking computers
27. Ruby of films
29. — Paulo, Brazil

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

**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. Reference desk staff (10) __________________________________________
2. Ninth-inning pitcher (6) __________________________________________
3. Couldn’t remember (6) ____________________________________________
4. Secretary-treasurer, one (7) _______________________________________
5. Film director Lee (5) _____________________________________________
6. Downplay (8) ___________________________________________________
7. Regarding as true (9) _____________________________________________

**SudokuCurrent**

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

**Country Goose**

115 Main St.
Cold Spring, NY 10516
845-265-2122

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BOYS’ SOCCER
Two of the top-ranked Class A teams in New York state faced off in the first round of regionals Wednesday at Hendrick Hudson High School, and true to form it was No. 3 Somers who managed to score the game’s only goal, ending No. 4 Beacon’s season with a 1-0 loss.

Bulldogs keeper AJ Lucas was the star of the game, making more than a few brilliant saves (he finished with seven) to keep his team in the game, as Somers got the better of possession and scoring opportunities. Somers scored with just under 15 minutes to play. “AJ was just brilliant in goal,” said Coach Craig Seaman, adding that “Tommy Franks, Alex Wyant and Dillon Kelly were all fantastic.”

Beacon reached the game by winning the program’s first sectional championship on Oct. 28, dominating Roosevelt High School, 5-1, at Middletown in the Section IX title game. (Somers was the Section I champ.)
Kelly, Wyant, Chase Green, Kirk Dyer and Owen Lynch each had a goal for Beacon.

With a light rain falling throughout the game, the ball just wasn’t bouncing the right way for Haldane on Oct. 30 at Lake-land High School, where the Blue Devils dropped a 1-0 decision to Alexander Hamilton in the Section I, Class C title game.

Hamilton (17-3), ranked this week by the New York State Sportswriters Association (NYSSWA) as the top Class C team in the state, scored with 5:05 remaining on a throw-in. Keeper Ronan Kiter had four saves in net, and Haldane managed five shots on goal.

“We fell asleep on a throw-in, and they got off a quick shot,” said Coach Ahmed Dwidar. “It was our first trip to the sectional finals, and I think it was kind of nerve-wracking for our players.”

“Their keeper was phenomenal, but I don’t think we played our best game. The rain played a factor on the turf, and our inexperience was also a factor. But we watched their celebration and will use it for motivation for next year.”

The Blue Devils finished 9-8-1, including seven wins in a row before the Saturday loss.

FOOTBALL
Beacon never found a rhythm or consistency in its offensive game on Oct. 29 in its opening Section IX, Class A playoff game against Washingtonville at home.
After a scoreless first half, Washington-ville scored on a running touchdown in the third quarter and added another TD on the ground in the fourth to go up 14-0, before the Bulldogs got on the board with a 52-yard pass from quarterback Jason Komisar to Dan Urbanak.

“That was a tough loss because I’ve had this group from freshman year,” said Coach Jim Phelan. “They gave everything they had all year.”

Komisar finished 8 of 13 for 137 yards but was intercepted twice. He also ran seven times for 42 yards and picked off a pass on defense. Running back Isaac Hansen was injured in the first half and left the game, and the Bulldogs were never able to establish the run.

On defense, Tyler Haydt and Sam Lunsford each had two quarterback sacks, and Louis Del Bianco had one.
The team ended the season with a 5-3 record. The Bulldogs typically would play another game but will not, due to a shortage of players.

Haldane traveled to Dobbs Ferry on Oct. 30 and dropped a 57-12 decision to the 8-0 Eagles. It was not the way the Blue Devils hoped to end the regular season.

“We didn’t execute on offense, and we didn’t play well on defense,” said Coach Ryan McConville. “Two early turnovers put us behind quick, and we were down 20-0 after the first quarter.”

Haldane scored twice in the second quar-ter on passes from Ryan Van Tassel to Ryan Irwin but trailed 42-12 at halftime.
The Blue Devils (6-2) will play Tuckahoe (7-3) for the Section I, Class D championship game at 4 p.m. on Friday (Nov. 12) at Arlington High School. Tuckahoe was ranked No. 9 in Class D by the NYSSWA, while Haldane received an honorable mention.

GIRLS’ SOCCER
After knocking off top-seeded Tuckahoe, 3-1, in the first round of the Section I, Class C tournament but fell in Monday’s quarterfinals, 3-0, to top-seeded Dobbs Ferry, The Blue Devils, the No. 8 seed, finished the season at 9-11.
Emily Tomann had seven kills, and Megan Tomann had 14 assists and two aces in the loss. “That was a hard matchup for us,” said Coach Kristina Roling. “Dobbs Ferry is No. 1 for a reason. They have strong hitters and a tough defense.”

In the first round, Haldane defeated North Salem, 3-2, with Megan Tomann handing out 17 assists. Kate Jordan had six aces, and Megan Tomann had 14 assists and two aces in the loss. “That was a hard matchup for us,” said Coach Kristina Roling. “Dobbs Ferry is No. 1 for a reason. They have strong hitters and a tough defense.”

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GIRLS’ SWIMMING
Beacon finished 10th among 13 teams at the Orange County Interscholastic Athletic Association meet held Oct. 20 and 23 at Washingtonville High School.
Meara Kumar finished ninth in the 100-yard butterfly in 1:07.98 and Isabella Haydt was 10th in the 100 breaststroke in 1:39.28. They were also part of the 200 medley relay team (with Sanjy Wiltshire and Kalyn Sheffield) that finished 10th in 2:06.49.
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Membership is The Current’s primary means of support in our mission to provide a vital forum for your diverse interests, concerns and experiences. As a free and independent nonprofit news source, The Current seeks to ensure quality journalism for all in Philipstown and Beacon.

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From now through Dec. 31, membership gifts up to $1,000 will be matched to a total of $50,000 by a combination of funds from NewsMatch, a national campaign supporting nonprofit journalism, and a group of local community members dedicated to upholding quality community journalism.

GIFTS TOTALING $50,000 WILL MEAN $100,000 FOR OUR NEWSROOM!
When we talk about ghosting the news, what does that mean?
“Ghosting the news” means abandoning the news. Although news organizations and reporters and editors don’t mean to be abandoning the news, the business model these days is such that there’s much less revenue and a much less healthy environment for newspapers. So, if not abandoned, they’re moving away from full coverage. The Pew Research Institute documented a few years ago that most citizens thought that newspapers were doing great. I thought it was important to sound the alarm with Ghosting the News so that these valuable institutions can get the kind of attention that could help them thrive, or at least stay in business. In places all over the country there actually are no news organizations. They are news deserts. There’s an increasing number of them: more than 2,000 papers went out of business between 2004 and 2019. Then, of course, when the pandemic hit, papers took another hit. So it’s a bad situation.

What does it mean to be a good paper?
A good paper is one that holds public officials accountable, that has reporters attending local meetings and is the eyes and ears of the public. And that tells the truth, to the extent possible, and seeks the truth — not just tells it but actually seeks it, whether it’s through Freedom of Information Law requests or pounding on doors, or whatever it may be, to actively seek out what’s happening and report it fairly and accurately. We don’t do a perfect job of that; sometimes we make big mistakes. I can tell you that I have made big mistakes in my career, and I’m just happy that I’ve survived some of them.

I feel like sometimes we’re chasing Facebook. Is that good or bad?
Facebook can serve a purpose. As Mark Zuckerberg will tell you tonight and day, it’s there to connect people. It does that. But it also does a lot of other things that aren’t so good, like spread misinformation and play to people’s worst instincts. There’s no question that news stories will sometimes surface on Facebook, and I’ve found it a way to do research at times. So it’s a double-edged sword.

Do you think social media affects how people view local newspapers, that maybe people don’t think they are as necessary? This comes up more with younger people perhaps. How do we get them to read their local newspaper?
The idea of getting young people to read a printed newspaper is a heavy lift. But that’s not the only way newspapers get news out. We have an online presence, and we use social media. What we’re doing is trying to present things with some sense of priority, with fact-checking, with reporting. We try to get to the closest approximation of the truth that we can. And that’s worth supporting. When local news goes away, [studies have shown] some bad stuff happens in communities: People become more polarized. They vote more strictly according to party line. They’re much less civically engaged. They don’t join community organizations as much. And municipal costs go up. Why do municipal costs go up? Because there’s no one watching the store. It’s a hard argument to make to people who have found that they think they don’t need it. What they don’t know sometimes is that some of the news they’re getting [online] is coming from the newspaper or the public TV or radio station. That’s where it’s been generated. It’s like, “Oh, the news is on my phone.” Well, it doesn’t happen by fairies.

We have a question from a viewer here: How does a paper cultivate young readers?
That’s a good question. The most important way is not to treat them as some sort of bizarre subset who need a special section for their cool, weird interests. Treat them as the citizens that they are. Most importantly, come to them where they are. Are they well? They’re on their phones, right? How are we reaching people in that way? Do we have a good social media team? Are we doing good headlines? Are we updating the website on a regular basis? Or are we stuck in our old ways where we were able to say, “No, this is how we do it, and you need to come to us.” It has to be much more of a two-way street.

What happens in the future — who’s going to fund these local papers? As a nonprofit, we have great members who support us, but is that the model that will prevent another 2,000 papers from dying?
It’s a combination of things. It’s asking for support from readers and asking them to subscribe or join. Sometimes it’s philanthropy. There is an effort in Congress [the Local Journalism Sustainability Act] to give people tax credits for donating and/or subscribing to local papers, or to give small businesses incentives to advertise in local papers. Newer efforts are coming up all over the place — nonprofits, digital-only. What it isn’t is the old thing, which is two-thirds of your revenue coming from print advertising and a third coming from people subscribing.

I know you support the Local Journalism Sustainability Act. I’m more skeptical because I feel like newspapers shouldn’t have ties to the government they cover.
It would be set up so that you either qualify as a news organization, or you don’t. A particular politician, whether it’s the president or a congressman or county executive, can’t come along and undo that. So I think it has guardrails built into it. There’s another effort to give publishers the ability to get together and bypass antitrust legislation so that they can bargain against Facebook and Google to get an even playing field. But, meanwhile, newspapers continue to go out of business. There ought to be a sense of urgency about it. Your members, people out there listening, who say, “What can I do?” I would say to care about it, be engaged in whatever way you can with this news product. And that could mean telling their congressman that he or she should care about the Local Journalism Sustainability Act. Be actively engaged if you value local news.