

The HIGHLANDS Current



A New
Orchestra
Page 2

NOVEMBER 26, 2021

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An image from a video taken on Jan. 6 at the Capitol shows a man identified as Gregory R. Purdy Jr. pushing on a barricade erected by police.

Two Kent Men Arrested in Capitol Riot

*Former Carmel
school board candidate
among accused*

By Chip Rowe

Two residents of Kent, including one who was a candidate last year for the Carmel school board, were arrested on Nov. 10 and charged with federal crimes related to the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol.

Gregory R. Purdy Jr., 23, and Matthew Purdy, apparently brothers, surrendered to the FBI in New Windsor. A third man, Robert Turner, whom Purdy Jr. identified in an Instagram video as his uncle, was also charged. The criminal complaint was unsealed by a federal judge in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 12.

According to a LinkedIn profile, Purdy Jr. in 2016 managed a campaign by his father, Gregory Purdy-Schwartz, a Republican who hoped to unseat longtime state Assembly Member Sandy Galef, a Democrat whose district includes Philipstown and Kent. Galef won reelection that year with 65 percent of the vote.

Purdy-Schwartz, 50, who also resides in Kent, was recorded at the Capitol confronting police officers with his son, according to the FBI complaint, but has not been charged.

A 2016 Carmel High School graduate,

(Continued on Page 6)

HVSF Gets \$2 Million State Grant

*Also applies for
'special-events' permit
for next two seasons*

By Leonard Sparks

The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival has been awarded a \$2 million state grant for its planned new home at The Garrison in Philipstown after being named a "priority" project by the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council. The announcement was made Monday (Nov. 22).

At the same time, the festival has applied for a "special events" permit to stage its 2022 and 2023 seasons under a temporary tent at the former golf course. If the Town of Philipstown approves, HVSF plans to erect the tent used at its former home, Boscobel, on what used to be a tennis court and is now a gravel lot.

The grant for HVSF was part of \$81 million awarded to 97 "shovel-ready" projects around the state through the annual Regional Economic Development Council initiative. The money is distributed by the Empire State Development Corp., which provides grants, loans and tax credits based on recommendations from 10 regional councils. There is still \$150 million available.

The HVSF funds will come in the form of reimbursements for its project costs if it is approved by the town. Using an impact calculator created by the advocacy group Americans for the Arts, the festival projects it could double its annual local economic impact to \$7.6 million by 2024. It said that would include adding nearly 50 new seasonal hires and five year-round administrative jobs.

"Support for the arts like this contributes to a more interconnected and resilient Hudson Valley, a community we're very proud to be a part of and to serve," said Davis McCallum, HVSF's artistic director, in a statement.

The Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council represents Putnam, Dutchess and five other counties. HVSF was the only recipient in Putnam County; there were three in Dutchess, including one in Beacon (see Page 5).

HVSF said it hopes for construction of permanent structures to begin in Janu-

(Continued on Page 5)



HUNGER in the Highlands

By Brian PJ Cronin

It's 8:15 a.m. on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, 15 minutes before the Philipstown Food Pantry at the First Presbyterian Church in Cold Spring opens, and the line at the front door is already more than a dozen people long, their breath sending up tiny clouds in the November chill.

During the week, the large room on the other side of the door serves as a nursery school. But every Friday at noon, volunteers begin to transform the space into what resembles an indoor market — only one in which no money will be exchanged.

Tables are set up, and non-perishable goods such as canned food and boxes of cereal are stacked. The next morning, refrigerated goods are pulled out of cold storage: milk, butter, eggs, but also, because it's Thanksgiving week, frozen turkeys and chickens. One table is laden with pies, courtesy of the Girl Scouts. Bread from Trader Joe's that's too close to its expiration date to sell is spread out on

First in
a series

another table. And by the door is an assortment of fruits and vegetables that came from the Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming.

The early morning sunlight pours in from the expansive windows, casting a glow on the food that is minutes away from being distributed, giving the scene the air of a sacred ritual. Which, in a sense, it is.

"I do this because it's my Christian mission," says Amy Richter, a retired music teacher who has been volunteering here for four years. "Even though this isn't my church." There's a more secular reason as well for why she comes here every week. "I hate to see people go hungry," she says.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, which oversees federal food programs, has reported that more than 38 million Americans — 12 million of whom are children — are "food insecure," a term that refers to a lack of consistent access to food.

(Continued on Page 8)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: RUSSELL GER

By Alison Rooney

Russell Ger is the newly appointed music director for Orchestra 914, which will perform a holiday concert at the Paramount Hudson Valley Theater in Peekskill on Thursday (Dec. 2). Ger is also music director for the Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra.

Is it typical for conductors to work with more than one orchestra?

It's the norm for conductors of every stripe, because different ensembles give you different players and programs. For instance, Yannick Nézet-Séguin is the music director of the Metropolitan Opera and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Gustavo Dudamel leads the Los Angeles Philharmonic and also the Paris Opera. The orchestras are certainly not in competition with each other; they enrich each other.

What factors are involved in putting a program together?

Major orchestras have artistic committees that collaborate with the music director on putting together a season. With my orchestras, it's entirely my work. The old, inherited model of an overture, a concerto and a symphony is not illuminating or exciting. I



enjoy finding pieces that coalesce around a theme. For instance, Orchestra 914 is doing a program in March of music by Latin American composers. A good program should be like a menu in which everything should be satisfying for both the players and the audience at the end of a meal.

How do you establish trust when working with a new orchestra?

The best you can do is come prepared. A lot of conductors suffer from impostor syndrome. I worked with one who turned into a sweaty, hand-wringing mess before every concert, saying, "I shouldn't be doing this." By acknowledging you're working with great masterworks of human creation, and that you have respect for them, you're the composer's advocate. You have to convince both experts, the players and the audience that you have the right to dictate the direction of the experience. You're a conduit, a conductor, the vehicle in which to conduct the energy. Being open and honest with the ensemble — that's how you make

a successful relationship.

How did you morph from musician to conductor?

I played the tuba in my high school orchestra [in Australia]. The tuba provides a harmonic foundation but is not a particularly interesting part to play. I spent an enormous amount of time sitting and observing, engaged in the activity of watching the conductor rehearse. I was always jealous of not having something to play. I was also a pianist in the school jazz band and a vocalist in vocal ensemble. At home, I was a composer, writing string quartets and pop songs. The conductor of my high school orchestra noticed all these things when he was asked for recommendations by an American teacher who was launching an immersive conductor training program, and he recommended me. Conductors have all types of personalities; some are gregarious, some withdrawn. I'm on the gregarious side. My teacher recognized that in me, and encouraged me to apply it, refine it and develop all of these things.

Is there a typical career path for composers?

There's no linear progression. So, if you asked where I see myself in 10 years, I can't answer. I just turned 40, and for a conductor I'm still young. It takes an enormously long time to get good at this. I'm skeptical of wunderkinds: How much gravitas and life experience can they bring? Or is it just tons of energy? The longer I'm at it, I see an image of the aged maestro because of the number of skills you have to have, not just as a conductor but as a human being. For now, I'm looking forward to bringing Orchestra 914 into the public consciousness this year and, through that, bringing in a new group of people by stripping away some of the fussier and stuffy elements of attending an orchestral concert. I'm excited about introducing people to a new way of experiencing this music.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

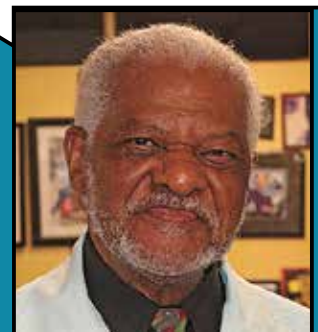
Are the leftovers better than the Thanksgiving dinner?

"Absolutely! Can't wait for that turkey sandwich with all the trimmings."



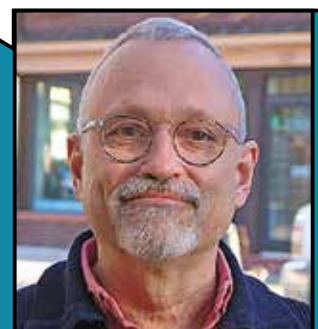
Andrea Downer, Cold Spring

"Definitely! Especially the sweet potato pie."



Alvin Bell, Beacon

"Yes! I always look forward to the stuffing and homemade cranberry sauce."



Gary Conroy, Garrison

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Sat. Dec 4 – 8 pm
 A Rockin' Retro Christmas
TARA O'GRADY & LARA HOPE TRIO
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Fri. Dec 10 Fridman Gallery presents:
SUSIE IBARRA + IMMANUEL WILKINS
Artist Talk - 6:30 pm & Performance - 8 pm
 Tix + Info: fridmanlive.com/susieibarra-immanuelwilkins

AND MORE
 Dec 12: Harry Bolick Concert + Book Signing
 Dec 15: A-Y Dancers presents Holiday Dance, Dance, Dance!
 Dec 18: A Christmas Memory - Reading w/Scott Ramsey
 Dec 19: Goldee Greene's Holiday Hoot @ Cafe Sizzle!

Vax: In-house concert seating for vaccinated persons w/proof
 In order to protect and safeguard our many friends, visitors and staff our Covid protocol is still in effect at the HCC

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"We think local journalism is essential to strengthening and supporting the local community."

Shelley Simmons-Bloom and Matt Bloom, Beacon

"Excellent reporting on local news."

Roger Rahtz and Laura Rubinstein, Garrison

"Local journalism is important now more than ever."

Steve Feyl and Sarah Burns Feyl, Beacon

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MEMBERS ON THIS THANKSGIVING WEEKEND!

Two Brothers, Three Sports, Twin Threat

Cold Spring Adopts Short-Term Rental Law

*Outside funding changes
outlook for district*

Spring Board
Says tone and priorities

The Vaccine, Reconsidered

Beacon, Garrison Schools

A Day with the Beacon Police



The HIGHLANDS Current

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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 (including from comments posted to our social media pages) to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length, and to remove personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to *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. For our complete editorial policies, see highlandscurrent.org/editorial-standards.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Beacon development

Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou and Planner John Clark, with the support of some members of the City Council and Planning Board, are determined to increase the density of Beacon by essentially transforming single-family zones into multi-family zones ("Reporter's Notebook: How High is Too Damn High?" Nov. 19).

The mayor's agenda is spelled out in an Aug. 2 manifesto that can be found in the agenda for a Sept. 13 City Council workshop.

The first phase relates to Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and how the single-family zoning laws will be twisted and manipulated to allow ADUs "as of right" in every residential district. (Currently, a special-use permit is required.) The proposal also would allow non-family members to reside in these residential dwelling units, which can be up to 50 percent of the square footage of the existing house and can be within the house, an addition to the house or a detached structure.

Allowing non-family members to occupy these premises is the definition of multi-family, so that alone wipes out the single-family zone. In addition, the proposal increases the square footage of these dwell-

ings, reduces setbacks and possibly eliminates parking requirements.

Here are a few ideas on the mayor's wish list: 1. Allow smaller lot sizes for new homes and increased clustering; 2. Allow two-family homes in single-family districts; and 3. Consider multifamily homes in more zoning districts.

In other words: Eliminate single-family zoning! The proposed changes to the zoning laws would be an open door to uncaring, greedy and parasitic landlords and developers. High density and overdevelopment would forever change the character and beauty of our city.

What are the consequences of increased density? Congestion, crime, safety concerns, reduced open space, reduced green space, degraded quality of life, decrease in privacy, viewsheds blocked. And for what?

This is not about affordability, as the mayor claims, since most agree that ADUs would not meet that criteria. So, what is the motive for wiping out single-family zoning?

Bob Kacur, *Beacon*

Seeger stamp

Pete Seeger was so much more than a proud American who fought for his coun-

try, both as a U.S. soldier in World War II and then for the rest of his life as a singer, activist, environmentalist and humanitarian ("Postal Service to Issue Pete Seeger Stamp," Nov. 12).

His or anyone's beliefs, opinions and political affiliations are exactly what our democracy and Constitution defends, and thus he would have been the first to forgive the letter writer who misstated the facts in the Nov. 19 issue. To wit, Seeger was a member of the American Communist Party for only eight years (1942-1950), not four decades, and in a 1997 autobiography called Josef Stalin a "supremely cruel misleader."

Seeger was not a perfect human being, but a mediocre musician? With all due respect, one does not rise to the very top of any profession by being mediocre. Pete Seeger was and is the quintessential American folk singer, and is an enduring American hero. He was also our neighbor, and I for one will be proud to have his U.S. stamp adorn my letters.

Steve Sherman, *Cold Spring*

Pandemic relief

I was really worried about the cash-strapped New York Yankees — thank goodness that our civic-minded legislators are willing to help out this billion-dollar corporation by spending \$12.5 million in federal pandemic relief funds to renovate Dutchess Stadium ("Dutchess Workers to Receive \$1K Bonus," Nov. 12). If we're lucky, they'll have some left to give to Amazon.

Dennis Moroney, *Beacon*

Village parking

The Fair Street municipal lot is teeming on a nice summer day and fall weekend ("Cold Spring Project Eyes Village Lot for Parking," Nov. 19). Regardless, it's been proposed to allow a business to take up half the lot while taxpayers are forced into metered parking or park far away from their dwelling.

Once again, Cold Spring residents are last on the list.

Lorraine Turner, *Cold Spring*

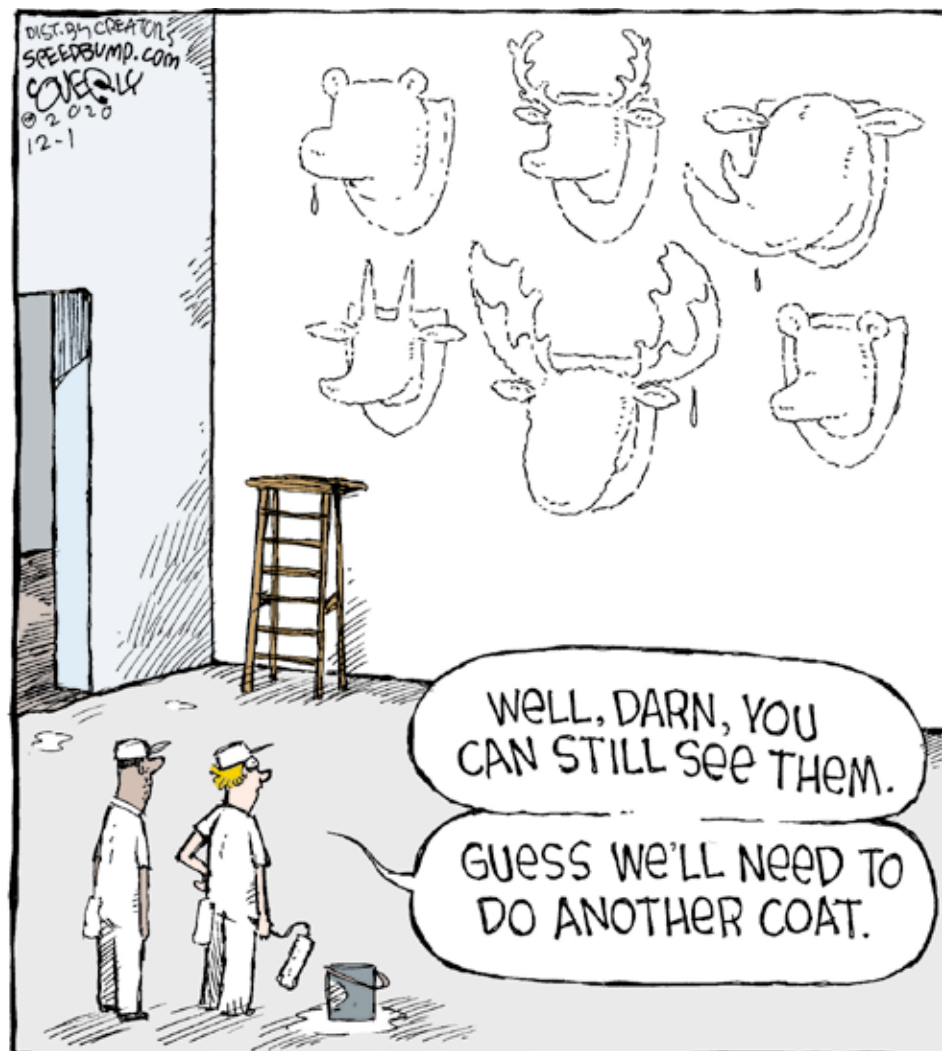
Secession?

Re: the letter from a reader in the Nov. 19 issue suggesting Philipstown "secede" from Putnam and join another county: The rich "blue" side of the county wants to separate from the middle/low income "red" side of the county? The whole thing sounds kind of classist.

Jay Steven, *via Facebook*

Join Westchester? Our taxes are high enough as it is.

Patricia Burruano, *via Facebook*





HVSF, which this week received a \$2 million state grant, is seeking a permit to install its seasonal tent, shown here at Boscobel, at The Garrison in 2022 and 2023.
File photo by Phil Bulla

HVSF *(from Page 1)*

ary 2023 and conclude by May 2024, and include a Snake Hill access road; meadow seeding; and 225 parking spaces. The initial changes would also likely include a traffic signal at Route 9 and Snake Hill Road, with state approval.

Christopher Davis, The Garrison’s owner, has donated 98 of the property’s 200 acres to HVSF. The festival concluded its final season at Boscobel, its summer home for 35 years, in August.

“After going dark [in 2020] due to COVID, we can’t bear to miss another summer of gathering under the theater tent,” said McCallum. “We are committed to sharing

the experience of professional theater and continuing our contribution to the rich cultural life of the Hudson Valley.”

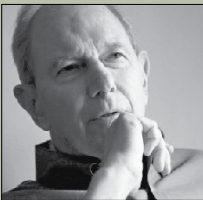
In addition to a permanent tent, HVSF wants to build a 225-seat indoor theater and housing for its seasonal performers. The festival would also take over The Garrison’s restaurant, opening it as a for-profit venture six nights a week when the theater is operating, as well as for lunch and on weekends. The Garrison banquet hall would continue to host 125 to 150 events a year.

In a three-hour meeting on Nov. 11 devoted to the HVSF plans, the Philipstown Planning Board continued its state-mandated review of whether the proposal

will have a “significant adverse impact on the environment.” If the board concludes it will not, HVSF would proceed to ask the Town Board to change the zoning to the property to allow for performances. With that approval, HVSF would return to the Planning Board to discuss its site plan.

Clarkson Gets \$150K for Dennings Point Campus

- The state approved 18 regional development grant requests for projects in the Mid-Hudson region, including these:
- Clarkson University will receive \$150,000 for a buildout of its Dennings Point campus in Beacon. The school is renovating a 40,000-square-foot former paperclip factory to hold science, technology, engineering and math courses for its students and the public.
 - Storm King Art Center in New Windsor will receive \$2 million to build as a welcome center and a conservation, fabrication and maintenance building.
 - Abilities First, which educates people with disabilities, will receive \$300,000 to expand its facilities in LaGrange (Dutchess) and New Windsor (Orange).
 - Harlem Valley Homestead, a 250-acre working farm in Wingdale (Dutchess) that feeds 150 families, will receive \$500,000 to add lodging and programming.
 - Historic Hudson Valley in Westchester County will receive \$600,000 to reconfigure its entrance on Route 9 to make it safer.
 - Dinosaur Country, in Orange County, will receive \$1.2 million for a 136-acre park it plans to build in Walkill with about 60 realistic, life-sized animatronic dinosaurs. The firm says it plans to invest \$12 million in the project and expects to create at least 100 jobs.



Gordon Stewart
(1939-2014)

Editor’s Note: Gordon Stewart, who founded Philipstown.Info in 2010, the beginning of what is now The Highlands Current, died seven years ago today, on Nov. 26, 2014. We thought we would share the “founder’s greeting” he wrote on July 4, 2010:

Hi and welcome to *Philipstown.info*, whose simple purpose is to live up to our name. We hope you’ll find what you want to know about things great and small in our wonderful town, whenever you need to know. Our hamlets and surrounds have so many breaking stories, ongoing issues, school events and concerns, things to do, places to go, stuff to find, pleasures to eat, people to see and hear — we almost feel like escaping to NYC for the quiet! Though why, when we inhabit one of the world’s most breath-giving peaceable kingdoms?

But simple does not equal easy. Information may want to be free, but only people can free it. Our editor/writers welcome learning from you. They are listed under Contact, so please do. And if you’d like to contribute, we’re open. If there’s something Philipstown and beyond needs to know, let everyone in on it.

One thing we will not impose are political views. No editorials. The only opinion pieces in *Philipstown.info* will be yours. As to our news policy, we believe it has never been stated better than this: without fear or favor.


We’re told every day that we all live in the information age, as though it were the secret destination of the Yellow Submarine all along. Maybe, maybe not. It’s just good to have you with all our friends aboard *Philipstown.info*.

The HIGHLANDS

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Capitol Arrest *(from Page 1)*

Purdy Jr. was one of six candidates in May 2020 for two seats on the Carmel school board. He finished fifth.

He was arraigned in U.S. District Court in White Plains on seven charges that accuse him of “assaulting, resisting or impeding” police officers and illegally entering the Capitol. Turner faces the same charges. Matthew Purdy was charged with four counts, including disorderly conduct and illegally entering the Capitol.

Purdy Jr. was released on a \$75,000 bond and Matthew Purdy on a \$50,000 bond; both agreed to surrender their passports and any firearms. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Dec. 8. Each man is being represented by a public defender.

Purdy Jr. has been on an FBI wanted list since soon after the riot, labeled Suspect No. 66 in what has grown to include hundreds of suspects that the agency is attempting to identify. Amateur “sedition hunters” online are careful about naming suspects until they are charged because of the risk of misidentification; Purdy was given the nickname #babyfaceinsider and tracked in videos taken at the Capitol by his distinctive red, white and blue winter coat. Turner, No. 376 on the FBI wanted list, was tagged as #DeepBlueSquader, a reference to his blue “Trump” hat.

Purdy Jr.’s LinkedIn profile says he studied briefly at Liberty University, a private evangelical university in Virginia, and in



Three men who appear in a video taken at the Capitol on Jan. 6 have been identified by the FBI as Matthew Purdy (in tan jacket), Robert Turner (blue hat) and Gregory R. Purdy Jr. (red, white and blue coat)

2018 founded a marketing firm, Once Upon a Time. According to state records, he also launched a firm called Monopoly Assets in 2019.

By one estimate, about 140 police officers were injured during the Jan. 6 assault on the Capitol that was an effort to prevent the certification of President Joe Biden’s election win. One protester was shot and killed by a Capitol police officer and the riot is believed to have contributed to the deaths of at least three police officers.

Purdy Jr. documented his trip to the Capitol, and his confrontations with officers and entry into the building, in a series of videos and statements posted to Instagram, according to the FBI. They reflected his conviction that President Donald Trump had not been reelected only because of a conspiracy of widespread voter fraud that was being ignored by Congress and the courts.

According to the FBI, Purdy Jr. wrote: “Our country is in major trouble! Our government doesn’t listen to its own laws. Today was about taking our democracy back. We have undisputed proof of major voter fraud ... yes, undisputable! And we have been denied the proper court proceeding and special counsel. When they don’t follow the rule of the land then we have to send them a message!”

His prosecution is similar to hundreds of others related to the riot in which the evidence being used against him was collected from social media. A review by the George Washington Program on Extremism of the criminal complaints against the 664 men and women who have been charged found that the FBI cited social media videos or posts in 80 percent of its filings.

About 20 percent of the Jan. 6 defendants have pleaded guilty, including Robert Ball-esteros, 27, a Mahopac man charged with entering the Capitol. He will be sentenced in January. Men from Carmel, Newburgh, Pawling and Beacon also have been charged, and two remain imprisoned. All have pleaded not guilty.

In its court filing, the FBI said that “a member of the public” shared video clips and statements taken from Instagram before Purdy Jr.’s social media accounts were taken down.

In one clip, Purdy Jr. is shown speaking into a microphone at the front of a chartered bus with a caption: “Will be in DC in 1 hour!” In a second clip, the FBI said, Purdy Jr. is walking in Washington, D.C. with an older man in a blue jacket he calls “dad,” whom the FBI identified as Purdy-Schwartz.

(According to a newsletter sent to its members on Jan. 4, the Putnam County

Firearm Owners Association organized a bus that left from Orange County at 5 a.m. on Jan. 6 for Washington, D.C., “as our President has requested.” An organizer for the group did not respond to an inquiry about whether Purdy Jr. had been aboard its bus.)

In its affidavit, the FBI cited footage retrieved from body cameras worn by two Metropolitan Police Department officers who were confronted outside the Capitol at 2 p.m. by Purdy Jr. and Purdy-Schwartz, about 20 minutes before the House and Senate chambers were evacuated. According to the FBI, Purdy Jr. told the officers, “You gotta let us by,” and his father said, “You’re going to make a decision...”

According to the FBI, “the crowd then appeared to push forward against the officers and Purdy-Schwartz can be seen making contact with an officer. Purdy [Jr.] made contact with an officer, as well.”

Later, Purdy Jr. posted a video and wrote: “This was just after we pushed the top level gates over. The cops were swinging their batons trying to keep us back (Like 30 of them.) But after talking to them telling them to ‘Uphold the Constitution’ that helped a lot because instead of fighting us super hard like the last ones on the previous slide we easily pushed through them and they all ran!”

Purdy Jr. and Matthew Purdy entered the Capitol through a door that had been kicked in and remained inside for about 15 minutes, according to the FBI.

Purdy Jr. also posted, according to the criminal complaint: “Inside the capital getting tear gassed! My eyes and skin still are irritated! Wasn’t as bad as I thought it would be.” He later promised to post more footage with Matthew Purdy and Turner from inside the Capitol and explain “how I got out of it with no charges and nothing on my record and got out of DC without being in a jail cell.”

At 3:30 p.m., Purdy Jr. was recorded outside the building yelling to the crowd: “Guys, we all gotta go at once!” after which he counted down from 10 to 1, then ran forward and pushed his way past the police line. Several officers chased Purdy Jr. and restrained him.

According to the FBI, Purdy Jr. later recounted on Instagram: “Today my group and I were key players in conducting peaceful pushes. The game plan was to talk [to] the officers and tell the[m] to stop following orders and uphold the Constitution... When they didn’t listen, we pushed through (without hitting them, of course) we did these peaceful pushes all the way into the capital building. Later in the day (after these videos were shot during the beginning of the pushes) was when I lead another peaceful push except I went to[o] far ahead of my group and then I got swarmed by 10 cops and got my ass kicked!”

The agency said it also obtained video footage Purdy Jr. posted that was taken during a nighttime drive with Turner and Matthew Purdy in which Purdy Jr. called the day “epic” and said: “We had enough people, they just weren’t scrunched up enough” during the assault to overwhelm the officers.

HOLIDAY POTTERY SHOW & SALE

November 19–28

OPEN DAILY
10AM–5PM

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Beacon Misses Out on State Award

\$10 million grants go to Haverstraw, Ossining

By Jeff Simms

The Dutchess County drought continues in the quest for big money for downtown redevelopment.

Gov. Kathy Hochul announced on Monday (Nov. 22) that Haverstraw, a Rockland County town of 37,000, and Ossining, a 25,000-person village in Westchester County, will each receive \$10 million as the Mid-Hudson region's winners of the state's Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI).

There have been four awards announced in the fifth round of the program, which is designed to transform downtowns into walkable, vibrant neighborhoods. Troy won to develop its Riverwalk district and New York City to develop Chinatown. The past winners from the Mid-Hudson were Peekskill, New Rochelle, Kingston and Middletown.

For the first time this year, the state expanded its grants to \$200 million, giving each of the 10 economic development regions the potential to receive \$20 million for distribution to one or two communities.

Beacon officials had hoped their application would earn the first award for a Dutchess County municipality since the program launched in 2016.

Drawing on recommendations from its Main Street Access Committee, Beacon's proposal included plans for a series of "pocket parks" surrounded by mixed-used buildings along Main Street; job creation and affordable housing in transformed public parking lots; green infrastructure, including solar canopies over parking decks; public transit connecting Main Street and the riverfront; and a bicycle boulevard linking residential areas with schools, parks and commerce.

Mayor Lee Kyriacou said on Tuesday that the city's plans remain the same; "we just pace it differently" without the state award. The first step is to bring forward a publicly owned property, such as a municipal parking lot, for redevelopment, he said.

Some of the factors that the Mid-Hudson

Economic Development Council said it used to judge submissions included a municipality's ability to capitalize on private and public investment; embrace modern zoning codes and parking standards; integrate "complete streets" plans, energy efficiency, and transit-oriented development, and bring jobs into downtown.

In addition, the state said that a downtown must be "an attractive and livable community for diverse populations of all ages, incomes, genders, identities, abilities, mobilities and cultural backgrounds," while the municipality should have conducted "an open and robust community engagement process."

The state called Haverstraw's downtown a "high-density neighborhood close to the Hudson riverfront" where town officials have committed to revitalization through multiple completed and ongoing projects, including mixed-use developments, a waterfront esplanade and streetscape improvements. With its DRI application, the town aims to create an "inclusive, 21st-century urban center" by redeveloping vacant space, expanding public space and increasing access and economic activity around the waterfront, while embracing the diverse history of the area.

Ossining's submission also focused on its waterfront district, the state said. The village's downtown is already listed on the state and national historic registers, with previous impactful projects including a mixed-use development with a waterfront park, promenade, beach and fishing pier on a former brownfield; the Sing Sing Kill Greenway; and the ongoing Sing Sing Prison Museum project. With DRI funding, the village said it plans to call on its business community to improve resident services, increase access to and the economic impact of its waterfront, expand public space and repurpose areas for development.

The winning communities will develop strategic plans through community input aided by state planners and technical support from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to integrate carbon-neutral principles.

Panel OKs \$102,500 for Legal Bills

Putnam also moves to settle case alleging racial prejudice and false arrest

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

A Putnam County legislative committee on Monday (Nov. 22) backed a \$102,500 transfer to cover legal costs following a surge in labor complaints this year, a separate need for independent counsel for Sheriff Robert Langley, and ongoing litigation.

The unanimous vote by the Rules Committee, meeting in Carmel, moves the transfer request by County Attorney Jennifer Bumgarner to the full, nine-member Legislature for consideration in December.

Committee members also forwarded a proposed agreement to pay \$125,000 to settle a lawsuit brought by a Poughkeepsie man against the Sheriff's Department. Louis Rosado alleged that deputies motivated by racial prejudice arrested and assaulted him during a 2019 traffic stop on the Taconic State Parkway.

Bumgarner told the committee that she needs the money to pay outstanding legal bills by Dec. 31. She blamed the predicament on unexpected developments, including on-the-job friction that followed the return of county employees to their departments after working remotely because of COVID-19.

"We were inundated with workplace violence complaints, harassment complaints," she said. "It was crazy. Nobody could get along with anyone."

She said she referred the complaints to outside lawyers for investigations. According to a memo she wrote, as of Nov. 10 the county had spent \$128,092 addressing the situations.

Moreover, she said Monday, about \$27,000 in expenses were incurred as the county handled questions involving County Executive MaryEllen Odell and legislators as well as Sheriff Robert Langley, with whom Odell and the Republican-majority Legislature often clashed.

(Langley, a Democrat, this month lost his reelection bid to the Republican candidate, Kevin McConville.)

On "several separate issues," Bumgarner said, legal ethics compelled her to supply an outside lawyer to advise Langley because she or her staff had already conferred with Odell or the Legislature and "there could have potentially been a conflict" if she had assisted Langley, too. She also acknowledged that, at least in part, the \$27,000 for legal help for Langley reflected "a failure of disclosure of documents by my office."

Other causes of the cash crunch include litigation over a county Highway Department project and a personal-injury claim, together accounting for about \$23,093, she reported.

The county's 2021 budget provided \$232,600 for the budget line now running short. The 2022 budget allocates \$300,000.

Discussing the Rosado case, Legislator Neal Sullivan of Carmel-Mahopac, who chairs the Rules Committee, said agreeing to a settlement "is not an easy decision for us to make" but they did so "to protect the taxpayers from any future liability. It's an economic decision. We in no way are saying that the behavior of the Sheriff's Department was something OK. We actually do not feel that way at all."

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WHAT MOVIE?
 HINT:
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How Much Do You Spend?

The United Way calculated in 2020 that a family of four, including two children in school, must earn \$89,784 in Putnam County and \$71,760 in Dutchess to survive with a bare minimum budget. To the right is the monthly food portion of that budget.

Hunger (from Page 1)

Another term that comes up when speaking with people who address hunger is ALICE, an acronym that the United Way has popularized that stands for “Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed.” About 1 in 3 residents of the Hudson Highlands falls into this category. These are working Americans living paycheck-to-paycheck, one hardship or disaster away from no longer being able to cover basic necessities such as food, perhaps just in the short-term, perhaps longer. Then came the worldwide disaster of COVID-19, and millions of Americans found themselves in line for free groceries or a meal at a soup kitchen.

At 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, the doors open at the Philipstown Food Pantry and three clients at a time are let in. They bring wheeled carts and reusable bags. Volunteers stand by to assist them with carrying their groceries. Another volunteer by the door asks if they would like a ham or turkey for Christmas, so the pantry can prepare. The people who come in are young and old, families with children, the disabled, the working poor.

MONTHLY FOOD SURVIVAL BUDGETS

	SINGLE ADULT	SINGLE SENIOR	COUPLE	SENIOR COUPLE	COUPLE +2 CHILDREN
Putnam	\$363	\$309	\$754	\$643	\$1,259
Dutchess	\$305	\$260	\$634	\$540	\$1,058

Source: ALICE Household Survival Budget for New York, based on 2018 figures

The mood is anything but somber. Volunteers and clients greet each other, sometimes with hugs. They trade recipes, discuss the holidays, make plans for caroling together on Christmas Eve. One volunteer, standing behind the Glynwood table, explains what to do with some of the more unfamiliar ingredients.

“This is a carnival squash,” she says, holding up a striped and spotted gourd. “You cook it just like you would an acorn squash.” The clients need little convincing; every one of them loads up on the fruits and vegetables. As the stacks of non-perishable goods start to dwindle, volunteers rush to restock them with more food, so that every client who comes in is greeted with abundance.

An hour later, the clients are gone. More than 50 families have been fed, including homebound clients who received deliveries courtesy of the Lions Club. That’s about twice as many people as the pantry was feeding before the pandemic began but down from its peak during the first few months in 2020 when more than 70 families were utilizing the service.

“We’ve just been pedaling, pedaling, pedaling, trying to keep up,” says Carolyn Rapalje, another regular volunteer. “So far we’ve been OK.”

She notes that in the past, donations and volunteers peaked around the holidays and tapered off the other 11 months. Since COVID-19, donations of time and money have been ample and consistent

throughout the year. For now, the increase in demand has been met by an increase in aid, in everything from the federal level to funds raised by the Town of Philipstown to home gardeners dropping off their backyard bounty.

When I ask Richter and Rapalje what it would take to solve the problem of food insecurity on a larger scale, they look at each other and laugh. It’s clear they’ve discussed this themselves many times.

Richter’s belief is that programs like the Philipstown Food Pantry exist because of holes in the social safety net. Volunteers and nonprofits are stepping up to do work that, in her opinion, the government should be doing. She’s seen the institutional failings that push people into food insecurity and the arms of the food pantry: Lack of health care, especially mental health care. Lack of paid maternity leave and child care.

“A minimum basic income, like they tried in Finland,” would help, she said, referring to a recently completed two-year pilot program in which that country randomly selected 2,000 unemployed individuals and gave them a monthly payment of about \$630 for the length of the program, payments that continued even after they found work.

Other European countries are now considering their own pilot programs and even Pope Francis suggested last year during his Easter address that “this may be the time to consider a universal basic wage.”

Rapalje’s solution is simpler. “For those who have to give to those who don’t,” she says. “It’s the only way I can think of.”

‘An eye-opener’

In September, the USDA reported that the overall rate of food insecurity in 2020 remained the same as it was in 2019 because many Americans who needed emergency meal services in the wake of the pandemic were able to get help. That increased aid has not been equitable, however: Among single parents and Black Americans, food insecurity increased last year. (Locally, numbers on food insecurity are harder to quantify, outside of measures such as food pantry or soup kitchen activity, or the percentage of people estimated to be living on bare-minimum budgets.)

Part of the reason that the overall rate didn’t grow more is that local groups stepped up their efforts and new initiatives formed in a flash. The lockdown of March 2020 was barely 24 hours old when Beacon Mutual Aid was created, and the group was soon handing out massive food donations in conjunction with the Beacon school district, Common Ground Farm in Wappingers Falls and Fareground in Beacon. In Philipstown, Supervisor Richard Shea was able to quickly raise \$170,000 from two anonymous donors to fund emergency food efforts.

Those gifts “opened the spigots,” he recalls, allowing the town to raise more than \$600,000. Some of those funds went to support groups such as Second Chance Foods in Putnam County and the food insecurity initiatives of Lodger in Newburgh.

Another reason is that some of the many barriers that usually prevent or complicate those seeking aid from getting help were no longer an issue. There were no piles of paperwork, offices to navigate or a system that, as Karen George from Fareground says, “makes people feel ashamed.” Instead, those who said they needed help were simply given food and money, instead of being made to prove they needed it.

“We wanted to make sure that there were no barriers and no source of potential for humiliation,” said Shea. “This was about: If you’re telling us you need help, then obviously you do need help and we’re going to make sure you get it. And the best way to do that was to get gift cards so people can get what they want.”

(Continued on Page 9)



A volunteer harvests tomatoes at the Second Chance Foods pantry garden.



Volunteers wash greens from the garden.

Photos by Lyna Skenkman



Sorting groceries at Second Chance: Peak-condition items such as eggs, milk, steak and salmon are passed on whole, while items near their sell-by dates are made into meals.

Photo by Martha Elder

(Continued from Page 8)

The majority of the money the town raised was used to purchase gift cards to Foodtown in Cold Spring and Key Food in Beacon in \$100 denominations that were given out week-to-week. The grocery stores also donated cards.

“We had some people say, ‘Well, you shouldn’t be giving those out, people are going to just buy beer and cigarettes,’ ” Shea said. “And I said, ‘Look, I’m going to trust people. You have to give people the benefit of the doubt.’ I believe if you give people the opportunities, they’ll take it and they’ll lift themselves up. But you can’t beat people down and put them at a disadvantage and then say: ‘Why can’t you do something about it yourself?’ ”

In the last 21 months, the Town of Philipstown has received hundreds of thank-you letters, cards and posters from gift-card recipients. Shea, who has been the supervisor for 14 years but did not run for reelection, called the work that the town is doing to address food insecurity during the pandemic the most gratifying he’s done. “It’s been an eye-opener,” he said.

‘We just choose not to’

Maggie Dickinson, a Beacon resident who is a professor at the City University of New York, says we may be living in a rare period of U.S. history in which we can make long overdue expansions to the social safety net.

“People are often more willing to agree that other people need help when they can see other people as blameless,” said Dickinson, the author of *Feeding the Crisis: Care and Abandonment in America’s Food Safety Net*. “It’s not their fault. There’s an understanding that the reason that people couldn’t go to work was because it was a pandemic.”

Her 2019 book came out of her work volunteering over the course of a year at a food bank and attempting to help its clients get federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, colloquially known as food stamps. Dickinson learned firsthand how complicated the process can be, and how, she said, the

system seemed to work against Black and Hispanic people and single parents.

“Why do we make it so hard?” she asked. “Why have we been discouraging, for 40 or 50 years, people from getting the benefits they need? There’s lots of room for improvement [in the system], but it’s also a political question.”

By one estimate, around 40 percent of the food produced in America is wasted, thrown away or left to rot in the fields because it could not be harvested — all before it reaches a dinner table. Preventing just a fraction of that waste would be enough to feed every person in America who is food insecure, advocates say.

“It’s not a matter of can we do this or can’t we do this,” says Dickinson. “We just choose not to.”

Yet the emergency assistance that families have received during the pandemic, and the ease with which many were able to receive it, has the potential of changing the narrative. Dickinson pointed to the monthly Child Tax Credit payments that started showing up in most parents’ bank accounts over the summer with little fanfare or fuss but that, according to researchers at Columbia University, have already lifted millions of children out of poverty.

“For so long, people have said, ‘Nothing will ever change, the government can’t do anything,’” Dickinson said. “Now we’re like, ‘Huh, they can! Look at that!’ ”

There have been other developments at the federal and state levels. In October, the U.S. government overhauled and recalculated the SNAP system, which led to many people’s benefits increasing by around 21 percent. Last week, Gov. Kathy Hochul announced that \$230 million in SNAP benefits would automatically be added to many accounts in time for Thanksgiving. And in January, a state law will go into effect that will require any institution that produces more than 2 tons of food waste a week to donate the excess if the food is still



Boxes of donated food are delivered to food pantries each week.

edible or send it to organic recycling facilities to be turned into compost. (Methane produced by food rotting in landfills is a leading contributor to climate change.)

Advocates say the Highlands is in a unique position to address hunger because, while there is income inequality, it also has pockets of deep wealth and generosity. There’s an enviable excess of volunteers and a high concentration of people who have been working in the food insecurity space for decades who, as the pandemic showed, know how to respond in times of crisis. When that infrastructure is not in place, it’s evident: Kara Marie Dean-Assael of Beacon’s Fareground says the organization found itself working in Wappingers Falls when the pandemic struck simply because no one there happened to be addressing hunger on a private or institutional level.

The Highlands is also well-positioned to fight hunger because it has long been part of a region that produces a vast agricultural bounty — local farmers are able to quickly provide food without getting bogged down by supply chain issues. Last week, Hochul announced that Nourish New York, a program introduced during the pandemic to purchase food from local farms for emergency feeding programs, would be made permanent.

Over the next few weeks, *The Current* will be taking a closer look at the people and the programs who are combating food insecurity and the once-in-a-generation opportunities that may lie ahead.

NEXT WEEK:
A second chance (in more ways than one)

HOW MANY ARE HUNGRY?

While statistics are hard to come by locally on who is suffering from food insecurity, estimates by the United Way give an idea of how many people are struggling.

Beacon (12508)
7,123 households
1,994 live paycheck-to-paycheck
784 live in poverty
39 percent below survival budget

Cold Spring/Philipstown (10516)
2,200 households
677 live paycheck-to-paycheck
79 live in poverty
35 percent below survival budget

Garrison (10524)
1,422 households
331 live paycheck-to-paycheck
41 live in poverty
26 percent below survival budget



A volunteer at Second Chance Foods portions out soup made of squash from Glynwood Farms.

Photo by John Kaprielian





Violinist Gwen Laster
Founder/Artistic Director
Bassist Damon Banks
Co-Founder

ENROLLMENT OPEN NOW

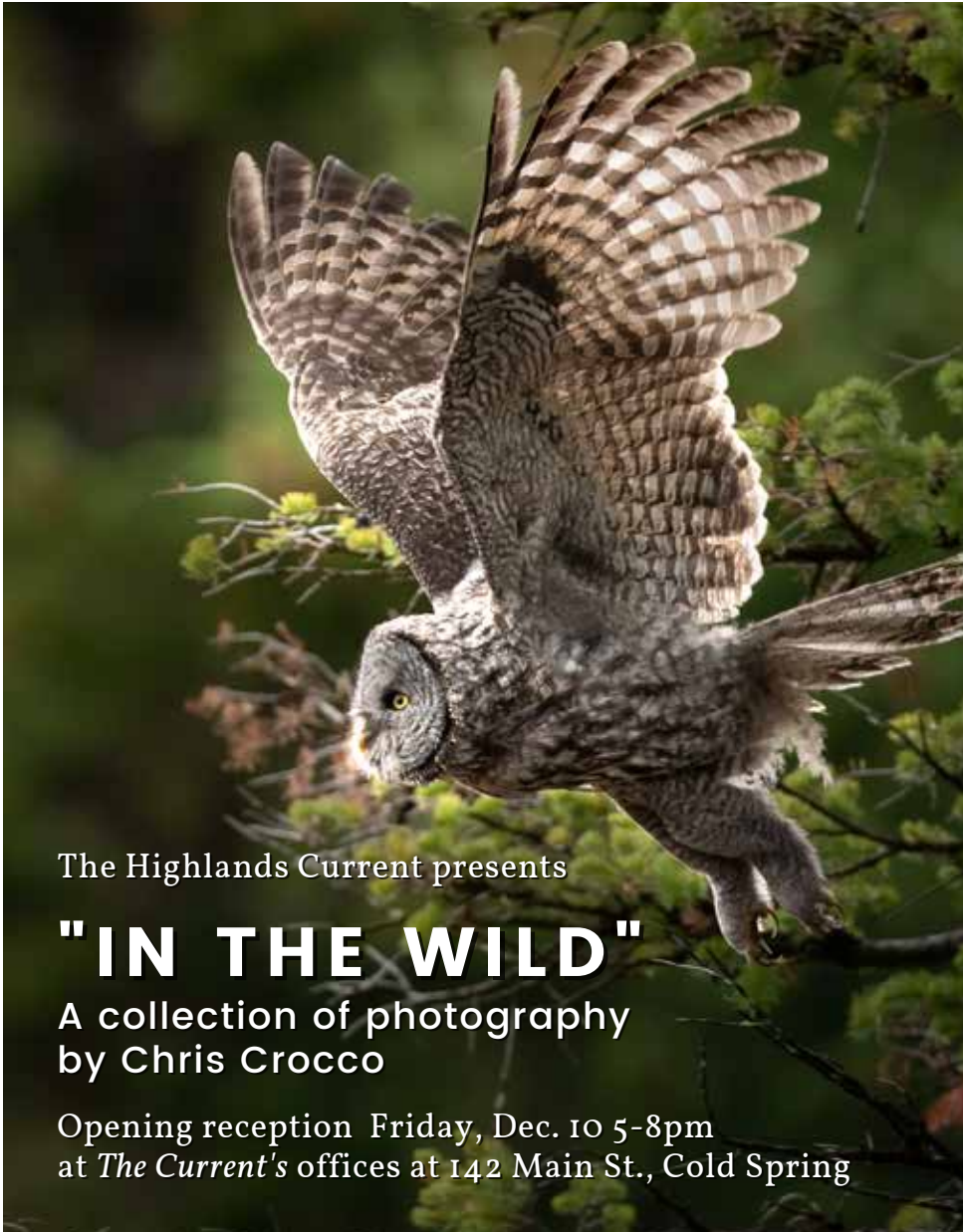
Classes meet January 3 - April 4 (12 Weeks) at the
Howland Cultural Center/Beacon and Chapel Restoration/Cold Spring

MONDAYS 4:30 - 5:30 P.M. <i>Ready, Set Up, Sound / Beginner Violin Group Class / Teaching Artist: Eva Gerrard</i>	MONDAYS 5:00 - 6:00 P.M. <i>Cello and Song / Beginner Cello Group Class / Teaching Artist: Patricia Santos</i>	MONDAYS 5:30 - 6:30 P.M. <i>Universal Rhythms / Intro to Frame Drumming / Teaching Artist: J.Why</i>
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MONDAYS 6:30 - 7:30 P.M.
*Stand up, Take a Solo / Creative Strings Improvisers Ensemble
Intermediate/2 years and beyond String Players / Teaching Artist: Gwen Laster.*

ROOTS AND RHYTHM
Electric and Upright Bass / Teaching Artist: Damon Banks / Email to schedule privately.

Email takeasolo2020@gmail.com



The Highlands Current presents

"IN THE WILD"

A collection of photography
by Chris Crocco

Opening reception Friday, Dec. 10 5-8pm
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An evening of community
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FRIDAY DEC. 10 | 5-9 PM

coldspringnychamber.com/aglow





It's Showtime at Beacon, Haldane

By Alison Rooney

Sense and Sensibility



Maya Gelber and Jaclyn Landolfi are Elinor and Marianne in one of the two Haldane casts that will perform *Sense and Sensibility*.

Photo by Jim Mechalakos

Asked how the 19th-century personality she portrays in the upcoming Haldane Drama production of *Sense and Sensibility* might fit in at Haldane High School if she were instead a modern-day student, Rose LaBarbera is quick to reply:

"She would fit in with the theater kids," says LaBarbera, who will portray Mrs. Jennings. "She would be a part of Drama Club, because she is a drama queen! I have a feeling she would also be president of the Chess Club."

That a 2021 teenager has no difficulty transposing someone from 1811, when Jane Austen's novel was published, speaks to the author's seemingly timeless grasp of human behavior.

Director Martha Mechalakos says she selected the Austen adaptation (by Kate Hamill in 2016) as the fall production — after presenting *Pride and Prejudice* five years ago — because "Ms. Austen was very forward-thinking. Her female protagonists are independent, smart, funny, fearless and at times make difficult choices. They routinely turn down proposals for lack of love and affection — something that in her time would rarely happen. Her characters, even minor ones, are genuine, portrayed with all of their

flaws. Through them, she addresses issues of morality, money, religion, class, snobbery, family dysfunction and especially women's independence or lack thereof."

The cast agrees, saying they have found much to connect with in this story of two sisters: Elinor, the older one, a master of tact and acceptance in the name of honor and duty, and Marianne, who wears her heart on her sleeve and hasn't figured out how to temper her emotional openness.

The production is double-cast to allow more students to participate. Maya Gelber, one of the two Elinors, was asked why she thought Austen keeps getting rediscovered, generation after generation. "It has all to do with the fundamental connections her work continues to have with the human experience," she says. "Elinor and Marianne, although somewhat opposites, have an undeniable sibling connection that endures through all the challenges of growing up. The human experience is making and maintaining the connections that matter to us the most while still having room to change and grow, and Jane Austen masters such dynamics."

(Continued on Page 14)

Holiday Inn



Audrey Lewis and Jonah Mensch are the leads in *Holiday Inn*

Photos provided



Capping off a tough year for teens, Anthony Scarrone wanted to contrast real-life hardship with something which would lift the spirits of his student actors, designers and technical crews at Beacon High School, along with the audience's.

"It was important to us that we do something that was happy and upbeat, that brought us joy and light," said Scarrone, who directs the Beacon Players. "What better than the music of Irving Berlin that celebrates holidays throughout the year?"

He said the students who lead the troupe suggested *Holiday Inn* as an antidote to the pandemic, and he agreed that "dance, comedy, big sets, costumes and lots of love make it special and appropriate."

Shepard Rodgers, a junior who has been part of the Beacon Players for seven years, dating to middle school, said the student actors and crew consider the festive musical to be "a recovery from the turmoil of the past year" and "a celebration of our return to theater."

Jonah Mensch, who is the president of the troupe, as well as one of the *Holiday Inn* leads with Audrey Lewis, says in an enter-

taining recruitment video (see bit.ly/beacon-players) that he loves the fact that Beacon Players is both rewarding and inclusive.

"You just want to try it out? I guarantee there's a place for you," he says. "Above all else, it is fun. The Beacon Players offers a community as you navigate your way through high school, wherever you may fit in."

The hard work to make the fun look effortless in *Holiday Inn* began with the auditions. The troupe encouraged students to "get out the tap shoes and the jazz shoes — sing and dance this school year!"

Simple as that, only not so simple if one is not a trained dancer. Enter Bonnie Lawrence, a professional dancer and choreographer, who recently returned to the area from Los Angeles.

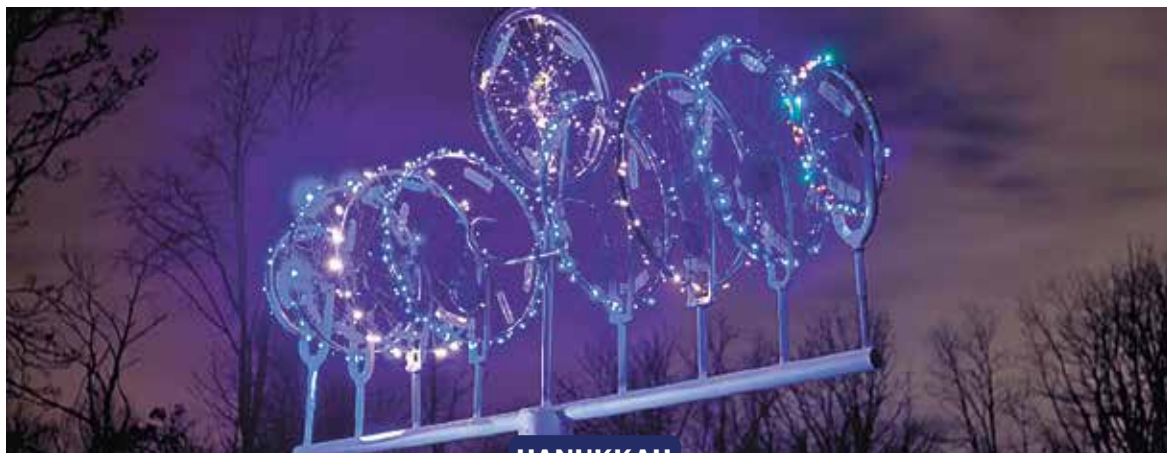
"We were fortunate that she was available and wanted to work with us on this very dance-heavy show," says Scarrone. "It features all kinds of dance, including tap, and it has been going well. We have a younger company, with our middle school students involved, too, and they, as well as our high school students, are finding a

(Continued on Page 14)

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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



HANUKKAH

COMMUNITY

SAT 27 Christmas Tree Lighting

BEACON
4 p.m. Polhill Park
Route 9D and Main

Ornament kits will be available to take home at this fourth annual event, and Girl and Boy Scout troops will sing carols. The lighting takes place at dusk.

SUN 28 Family Day Dinner and Lecture

BEACON
1 – 5 p.m. Masjid Ar Rashid
352 Main St.

Dinner will be served; bring your favorite dish. Wear a mask, bring your prayer rug and maintain social distancing.

SAT 4 Winter Holiday Event

COLD SPRING
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Mayor's Park
61 Fair St.

The Boy Scouts will host ornament and decoration making for Village Hall, Nerf targets, cone s'mores. Baked goods, crafts and birdseed mixes will be for sale.

SUN 5 New York Craft Beer/ Cider Try & Buy

COLD SPRING
11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
St. Mary's Church | 1 Chestnut St.
hopsonthudson.com

Sample sips from more than 20 breweries and cider makers and then take home your favorites. *Cost: \$25 to \$35*

TALKS & TOURS

SAT 27 Holiday House Tours

GARRISON
4 – 7 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D
845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Take a candlelight tour of the historic mansion decorated as it

SUN 28 Illumin8: Lighting the Bicycle Menorah

BEACON
6 p.m. Polhill Park
Main Street and South Avenue

Organized by the Beacon Hebrew Alliance, the event also will be broadcast via Facebook Live. The ceremony honors elders, followed by MON 29 (teachers), TUES 30 (first responders), WED 1 (artists and musicians), THURS 2 (public service); FRI 3 (children, at 4 p.m.), SAT 4 (founding members of BHA) and SUN 5 (all who serve the community).

TUES 30 Menorah Lighting

COLD SPRING
5 p.m. Foot of Main
putnamchabad.org

The festivities near the Cold Spring Depot will include hot latkes and cider.

SAT 4 Adult Hanukkah Celebration

COLD SPRING
4:30 – 6 p.m. St. Mary's Parish Hall
1 Chestnut St.
philipstownreformsynagogue.org

Enjoy latkes and donuts and hear Rabbi Helaine Ettinger's take on the holiday.

would have been in the 19th century and stroll the lit up and decorated grounds. Also SAT 4 and Saturdays through Dec. 18. *Cost: \$25 (\$15 ages 5 to 18, members \$20/\$12, ages 5 and younger free)*

TUES 30 A Look Inside It's a Wonderful Life

BEACON
1 p.m. Via Zoom | beaconlibrary.org
Brian Rose will discuss the beloved Christmas film and its context in post-war America in this event sponsored by the Howland Public Library.

WED 1 Senior Forum

ALBANY
10 a.m. Via Zoom | 646-558-8656
bit.ly/galef-senior-forum

Sandy Galef, whose Assembly district includes Philipstown, will host this discussion about services available to seniors.

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 27 Meet the Animals

CORNWALL
Noon – 4 p.m. Wildlife Education Center
25 Boulevard | hhn.org

Every hour there will be a presentation for children ages 3 and older with and about animals that live at the Nature Museum. Registration required. Also SUN 28. *Cost: \$5 (members free)*

SUN 28 Meet Santa at the East Gate

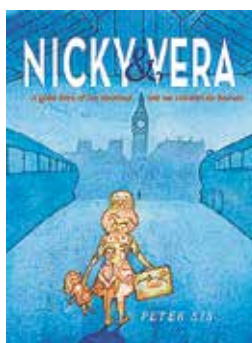
POUGHKEEPSIE
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Walkway Over the Hudson
61 Parker Ave. | walkway.org

Kris Kringle and characters from the movie *Frozen* will be available for photos and greetings.

WED 1 Peter Sis

POTNAM VALLEY
7 p.m. Via Zoom | putnamvalleylibrary.org

In this program organized by the Putnam Valley library, the author and illustrator of *Nicky & Vera: A Quiet Hero of the Holocaust and the Children He Rescued* will discuss his book.



THURS 2 Chess Meet-Up

GARRISON
3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Bring your own board or use one of the library's at this weekly event.

THURS 2 Elementary School Book Club

COLD SPRING
3:30 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave.
butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar

Students in grades 2 to 4 are invited to read and discuss *Beezus and Ramona*, by Beverly Cleary. Register online.

VISUAL ART

SAT 4 Faces/Graces

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

Photographs by Annette Solakoglu will be on view through Jan. 9.

STAGE & SCREEN

FRI 3 Comedy Night

BREWSTER
6:30 p.m. Tilly's Table
100 Route 312 | 845-808-1840
tillystablerestaurant.com

Catch stand-up sets from Julia Scotti (below), Gianmarco Soresi and Tim Hayes. Tickets include a dinner buffet. *Cost: \$45*



FRI 3 Sense and Sensibility

COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigsides Drive | haldaneschool.org

Haldane Drama will present an adaptation of Jane Austen's beloved novel. See Page 11. Also SAT 4, SUN 5. *Cost: \$12 (\$4 students and seniors)*

FRI 3 Holiday Inn

BEACON
7:30 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road
beaconplayers.com

The Beacon Players will perform Irving Berlin's classic musical. See Page 11. Also SAT 4, SUN 5. *Cost: \$15 (\$10 students and seniors)*

FRI 3 Mary's Wedding

WAPPINGERS FALLS
8 p.m. County Players Theater
2681 W. Main St. | 845-298-1491
countypayers.org

This play, a love story set against

the backdrop of World War II, will be presented as part of the CP2 Mini-Festival. Also SAT 4. Also on SAT 4 and SUN 5, the troupe will present *Molly Sweeney*, based on an essay by Oliver Sacks, with three points of view presented directly by characters to the audience. *Cost: \$10*

FRI 3 It's a Wonderful Life

POUGHKEEPSIE
8 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed star in Frank Capra's 1946 film about finding out what life in your town would be like if you'd never been born and the impact we have on others. *Cost: \$5*

SAT 4 Eco-Poetry Afternoon

GARRISON
4 p.m. Via Zoom | desmondfishlibrary.org
Laurel Anderson, A. Anupama, Stephanie Heit, Rebecca Durham, Petra Kuppers, Karen Neuberg, Mary Newell and Jennifer Spector will share their poems in this event organized by the Desmond-Fish Public Library.

SUN 5 MET HD: Eurydice

POUGHKEEPSIE
1 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org
Watch the Metropolitan Opera performance of Matthew Aucoin's take on the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice live in high definition. *Cost: \$28 (\$26 members; \$21 ages 12 and younger)*

MUSIC

MON 29 Joseph Vincent Tranchina

BEACON
8:30 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnbeacon

Tranchina will perform as part of Quinn's weekly jazz series.

SAT 27 Slam Allen Band

BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The New York Blues Hall of Fame inductee will perform blues, soul and R&B. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

THURS 2 Holiday Concert

PEEKSKILL
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

Orchestra 914 will perform holiday favorites and classics. See Page 2. *Cost: \$25, \$35 or \$50*

FRI 3 Handel's Messiah

BEACON
7:30 p.m. St. Andrew & St. Luke Episcopal Church
15 South Ave. | putnamchorale.org
The Putnam Chorale will perform the 1741 libretto with a 45-person chorale, a professional orchestra and local soloists. *Cost: \$20 (\$18 students and seniors)*



**West Point
Show, Dec. 4**

**FRI 3
Tim Berne and
Nasheet Waits**

BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

The alto saxophonist and drummer will perform music from their recent album, *The Coand Effect*. *Cost: \$25 (\$35 door)*

**FRI 3
Yellow Brick Road**

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

Gerald Brann and his band will perform a tribute to Elton John. *Cost: \$37.50, \$42.50 and \$47.50*

**FRI 3
Steve Forbert**

BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The rootsy rocker will perform music from his recent release, *Compromised*. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

**SAT 4
Holiday Show**

WEST POINT
2 p.m. Eisenhower Hall Theatre
westpointband.com

The West Point Band will perform seasonal hits and classic carols to celebrate the season. Also SUN 5. Registration required. *Free*

go up against Satisfaction, a Rolling Stones tribute band, to determine who did the British Invasion better. *Cost: \$30 to \$60*

**SAT 4
Roomful of Blues**

BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The Grammy Award nominees will perform their signature blend of swing, jump, blues and rock. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

**SUN 5
The Edwards Twins**

PEEKSKILL
3 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

This *Christmas with the Stars* variety show includes the Las Vegas-based brothers recreating performances from the 1970s and 1980s by Cher, Dolly Parton and Barbra Streisand, among many others. *Cost: \$30 to \$50*

**SUN 5
Shannon Friel**

GARRISON
7:30 p.m. Via Crowdcast
desmondfishlibrary.org

The harpist will perform music from various cultures in this event hosted by the Desmond-Fish Public Library.

CIVIC

**WED 1
School Board**

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

**THURS 2
Dutchess Legislature**

POUGHKEEPSIE
7 p.m. | 22 Market St.
845-486-2100 | dutchessny.gov

**THURS 2
Town Board**

COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St.
845-265-5200 | philipstown.com



Tim Berne, Dec. 3

**SAT 4
A Rockin' Retro Christmas**

BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

Tara O'Grady and the Lara Hope Trio will take you back with contemporary twists on classic hits. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

**SAT 4
Beatles vs. Stones**

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

The Abbey Road tribute band will

HOLIDAY MARKETS

**SAT 27
Holiday Pottery
Show & Sale**

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

Work by more than 30 regional ceramic artists will be on view and available for purchase, as well as jewelry. Also SUN 28.

**SAT 27
Made For You
Pop-Up Shop**

COLD SPRING
10 a.m. – 6 p.m. 50 Main St.
Shop for local handmade crafts, goods and art. Also SUN 28, MON 29.

**SAT 27
HVArtMarket Makers
Market**

POUGHKEEPSIE
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Locust Grove Estate
2683 South Road
hvartmarket.wixsite.com/hvartmarket

Look for fine art, handmade gifts, small-batch products and artisanal wares at the seventh annual market. Also SUN 28.

**SAT 27
Modern Makers
Holiday Market**

COLD SPRING
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St. | hopsonthehudson.com

Artisans and artists will present their crafts, arts and small-batch goods at this fundraiser for the church. Dogs welcome. Also SUN 28. *Cost: \$3 (children free)*

**SAT 27
Holiday Small Gift Show**

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

In this annual show, artisan and handmade crafts, prints, jewelry, ceramics, candles and toys will be available for purchase. Also SUN 28, FRI 3, SAT 4, SUN 5. Continues weekends through Dec. 19.

**THURS 2
Hop and Shop**

BEACON
hopandshopbeacon.com
Local businesses will offer specials and shopping until 9 p.m. See website for merchants. Also FRI 3.

**SAT 4
Annual Christmas Fair**

BEACON
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. St. Joachim's Church
51 Leonard St. | stjochim-stjohn.org
Find Christmas items and treats, explore the famous jewelry counter and enter raffles. Also SUN 5.

**SAT 4
Craft Fair and
Creche Display**

GARRISON
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Graymoor
1350 Route 9 | atonementfriars.org
Shop for Christmas gifts and visit the annual crèche display at the Retreat Center, which continues daily through Jan. 9.

**SAT 4
Dutchess Handmade
Pop-Up Shop**

POUGHKEEPSIE
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Trolley Barn
489 Main St. | 845-454-3222
artsmidhudson.org
Work by dozens of artists and artisans will be available for gifting. Also SUN 5.

**SAT 4
Holiday Market**

PHILIPSTOWN
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Parcel Flower Co.
3052 Route 9 | rivervalleyguild.com
Handmade crafts, art works and goods from more than 15 artisans will be on display. There will also be food, live music and drinks.

**SAT 4
Rascal's Holiday Bazaar**

WAPPINGERS FALLS
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Dutchess Stadium
1500 Route 9D
A variety of sellers will offer crafts and products. Parking is \$7.

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Sensibility *(from Page 11)*

For Chloe Rowe, the other Elinor, the challenge has been playing someone unlike herself. “I can be more of a ‘sensibility’ person because I can get easily led by my emotions,” she says. “This is something Elinor and I don’t have in common, so it’s been interesting to play a role from the ‘sense’ perspective.”

That’s emphatically not the case for either Marianne. Sophie Sabin, evidently a Marianne on and off stage, enthuses: “I am sensibility, all the way! I am Marianne, after all! I feel things so much; I see a lot of myself in Marianne and I love that I can play an animated version of myself onstage.”

Her fellow Marianne, Jacklyn Landolfi, concurs, saying she “would consider myself to be far more of a ‘sensibility’ person. Much like Marianne, my emotions consume me and my life is guided by them. I can relate to this part of her. I am often considered overly emotional and to be driven by my heart, not my head.”



Rose LaBarbera will perform in *Sense and Sensibility* beginning Dec. 3. Sophie Sabin and Chloe Rowe are Marianne and Elinor in one of two casts.

For those who presume the production might be drawing-room staid and stuffy, Gelber says that’s not the case. “It’s easy to get caught up in the idea that because the show is a period piece, it’ll be boring and hard to follow. But people of all ages are helping breathe life into this show, offering

different perspectives and creating a vivid — and funny — display of human emotion.”

Rowe says to expect some laughs courtesy of physical comedy: “There are a lot of awkward pauses and glances, which has been a fun thing to play around with as we work on the scenes.”



Photos by Jim Mechalakos

Sense and Sensibility will be performed at Haldane on Friday (Dec. 3) at 7 p.m., Saturday (Dec. 4) at 2 and 7 p.m. and Sunday (Dec. 5) at 2 p.m. Masks are required. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$5 for students at bit.ly/haldane-sense.

Holiday Inn *(from Page 11)*

whole new world of dance.”

Based on the classic 1942 film, *Holiday Inn* is pretty much a carefree musical — excluding a bit of drama here and there to move the story along. It’s the tale of Jim, who leaves show business to relocate to a farmhouse in Connecticut but finds life lacking without song and dance. He meets

Linda, a schoolteacher, and they turn the farmhouse into an inn and host performances to celebrate each holiday.

But then Jim’s best friend attempts to entice Linda to move to Hollywood as his dance partner. Can Jim save his chance at love?

The musical was a springboard for classic Berlin tunes, including “Listen Up for Blue Skies,” “Easter Parade,” “Steppin’ Out with My Baby,” “Heat Wave” and, of course, “White

Christmas.” The cast wasn’t familiar with any of those songs except the latter, says Scarrone. “They are learning a whole new genre.”

The design elements are always a core emphasis of Beacon Players productions. For this show, the sets — which Scarrone describes as “over the top” — will include animated projections provided by Jake Vander Linden of the Beacon Performing Arts Center. “There is one scene where two of

our leads are singing and walking in place as the road moves behind them,” says Scarrone.

Holiday Inn will be performed by the Beacon Players at the Seeger Theater at Beacon High School on Friday (Dec. 3) and Saturday (Dec. 4) at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday (Dec. 5) at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors and students at beaconplayers.com/holiday-inn. Masks are required.

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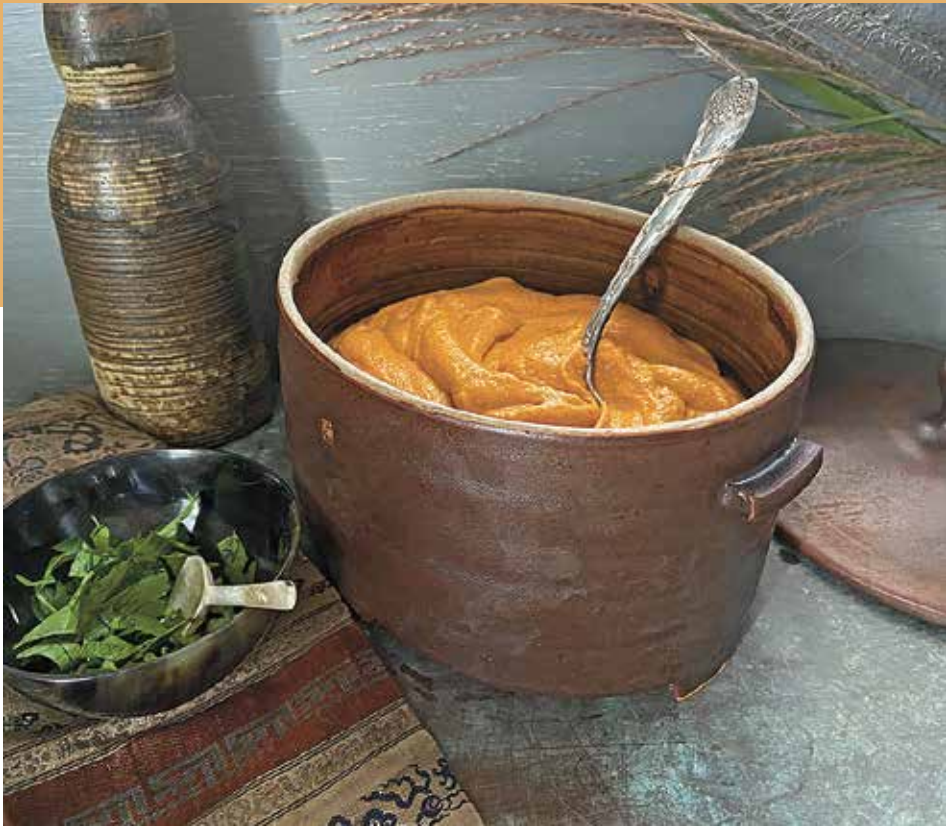


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Mouths to Feed

If Wishes Were Dishes

By Celia Barbour

“This isn’t a survey.” All last week, I kept thinking of this phrase, which I had uttered frequently during my pregnancy-and-early-parenting years, at least in my mind. It served as a buoying sort of mantra back then, handy whenever acquaintances or strangers used the opportunity of a friendly conversation to weigh in on my options. What were we going to name the bump? What sort of birth plan did we have? Where would we be sending him to preschool? I’m not taking a poll, thank you. Just reciting this phrase in my head would make me smile, which in turn could masquerade as friendliness while some random stranger enumerated his reasons for preferring “Alastair” to “George.” By contrast, a Thanksgiving menu *is* a survey of sorts, especially once those bumps and preschoolers grow up and develop their own opinions about food. Each has a favorite dish — or three — and each has good reason to believe that my primary role is to deliver on these wishes. Yet given the momentousness of the meal, their requests do not land as gentle suggestions. Rather, they tend to alight in my pre-TG brain like military brass landing in some remote airfield then strutting around expecting to be obeyed. “You’ve got to make the Brussels sprout salad,” says kid No. 3. “Definitely biscuits,” texts No. 1. “And mushroom tart.” “And mashed potatoes.”



“Deviled eggs absolutely.” “And that soup!” Last week, amid the din, I managed to make out a still, small voice within me saying, Maybe not. Because when I applied rational thought to the collective must-haves menu, I realized that many delicious and time-consuming dishes were simply getting lost in the mix. That Brussels sprout salad? Amazing. And best eaten by itself, or with a simple slice of leftover turkey on the side. I would make it Friday. Meanwhile, the mushroom tart, practically a meal in itself, would morph into the vegetarian main dish. With the cacophony stilled, I discovered I had a few small wishes of my own waiting to be heard. Chief among them was a hankering for a Butternut-and-Romesco puree. Romesco is a rich Spanish sauce traditionally made from charred peppers and tomatoes, almonds, spices and bread, and served alongside grilled vegetables or fish. It has an almost profound deliciousness, as well as a quality that cookbook author Simon Hopkinson refers to as “more-ish-ness”—once you taste it you want more. Many Thanksgivings ago, I made it as a condiment, and wound up slathering it on leftover sweet potatoes for most of the following week. This time, I wanted to try incorporating it into a mash. It came out terrific — a perfect foil for the meal’s rich and mellow flavors. Moreover, its smooth, velvety texture felt like a little, winking note to self, a throwback to the days when I was in charge of what went in my kids’ mouths. I don’t know yet if it will feature prominently forevermore on my offspring’s Thanksgiving wish lists. But it’s at the top of mine. In case anyone’s asking.

Serves 8 to 10	
1 or 2 butternut, acorn or kabocha squashes, about 4 pounds total	3 ounces sourdough bread
¼ cup olive oil, plus more for roasting	¾ cup hazelnuts (or substitute roasted almonds and skip Step 4)
Salt and pepper	1 teaspoon smoked paprika, or to taste
2 red peppers, quartered and seeded	2 tablespoons sherry vinegar
2 yellow onions, peeled and quartered	¼ cup chopped flat-leaf parsley
8 cloves garlic, peeled	

1. Heat the oven to 450 degrees. Cut the squash into quarters and scoop out the seeds. Toss with a little olive oil, sprinkle with salt and pepper, and arrange on a baking sheet. Roast about 40 minutes, until skin is starting to char and wrinkled all over. Set aside to cool.
2. Meanwhile, toss the pepper, onion and garlic in olive oil, salt and pepper, scatter on a baking sheet, and roast until the peppers and onions are charred, about 40 minutes. Set aside to cool. Reduce the oven to 350.
3. Cut or tear the bread into 1- to 2-inch pieces and toss with olive oil. Arrange on a baking sheet and toast in the oven (be sure that it has cooled down to 350) until golden and well-dried, about 10 to 12 minutes.
4. Roast the hazelnuts on a baking sheet, checking often and shaking the pan, until the skins begin to pull away and the nuts turn golden, about 10 minutes. Transfer the nuts to a dish towel and rub vigorously to release the nuts from the skins. You may need to return some nuts to the oven for a longer toasting. Discard skins.
5. Scoop squash flesh from skin. Peel roasted pepper and discard peels. In the bowl of a food processor, pulverize the roasted hazelnuts or almonds until finely ground. Add the squash flesh, pepper, onions, garlic, toasted bread, paprika and vinegar, and blend until smooth. With the motor running, drizzle in ¼ cup olive oil. Rewarm gently on the stove before serving, with chopped parsley on top.

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Roots and Shoots

Gardener Gift Guide

By Pamela Doan

Getting a gift for someone who has a strong interest in an activity or subject (beware of calling gardening a “hobby” with a gardener in hearing distance) may seem easy. Your gardener friend usually gets gloves, a sun hat, brightly colored pruning shears and/or a jar of hand balm for dry skin.

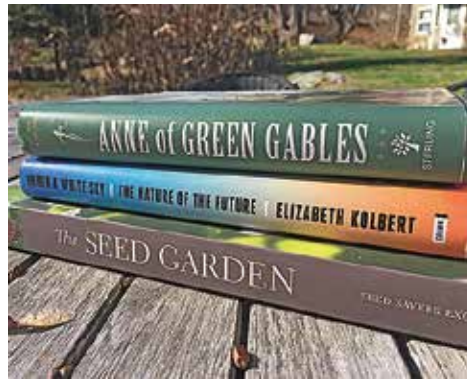
Each is generic enough to be inoffensive, and possibly useful. But if you want to *impress* a gardener, check out these ideas in our ninth annual gift guide.

Seed Saving Kit

hudsonvalleyseed.com/products/seed-saving-kit

Breed plants by selecting the vegetable or flower varieties that thrive in your garden and landscape, then collect the seeds. This kit from Hudson Valley Seed comes with instructions and the basic tools to get started. Seed saving leads to seed sharing and you can expect this gift to come back around next season.

Pair it with *The Seed Garden: The Art*



Books help gardeners get through the non-gardening season with something to keep the creative ideas moving.

Photo by P. Doan

and *Practice of Seed Saving* from the Seed Savers Exchange. Edited by Lee Buttala and Shanyn Siegel, it covers the botany of seeds and plants and detailed instructions for different crops. Your special gardener will become a master seed saver.

Kana Scraper

hudsonvalleyseed.com/products/kana-scraper

During a recent workshop, the presenter said he had cultivated native plants in his landscape without disturbing the soil. Over three decades on his land, he simply cut back the invasive plants and the undesirable plants. He never pulled weeds by hand or tilling. The Kana Scraper is the right tool to practice this in your own landscape. Use it to shear off the plant without damaging the plants around it or the soil microbes.

Fine Art

juliawhitneybarnes.com

I discovered Julia Whitney Barnes' art on Instagram and love watching her creative process and images of new work flow through. She uses native and cultivated flowers to compose cyanotype prints, originally used by botanic artists. The resulting images are richly colored, a little mysterious and gorgeously layered. Find prints, original works, textiles and paintings on her website and through Carrie Haddad Gallery.

Under a White Sky: The Nature of the Future

Elizabeth Kolbert, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sixth Extinction*, has been called “the best storyteller of climate change” by Bill McKibben. Her work on the Anthropocene has influenced my life and choices for decades and this book, published in 2021, looks at what people did to solve so-called problems with nature in the past that created other natural problems people are trying to solve now. She covers carbon-capture technologies, conservation, geoengineering and other approaches to stave off or adapt to the worst impacts of climate change.

Anne of Green Gables

While this is not exactly a gardening book, Anne's delight in her natural surroundings is the perfect follow-up to Kolbert's book. Published in 1908, Lucy Maud Montgomery's rich descriptions of the idyllic landscape of Avonlea and Anne's deep appreciation for the trees and flowers and the stream where

she imagines great adventures, all make up for the sense of despair that can hit me when reading about the challenges of climate change. Consider this your brain purifier.

Iwigara: The Kinship of Plants and People

This book by Enrique Salmón examines the relationships between Indigenous North Americans and plants, which they considered to be interconnected and sharing the same breath. The ethnobotanist includes 80 trees and plants and the ways that groups used them. This book expanded my perspective and knowledge about each of the species covered.

Plant Partners

Gardening involves a lot of observation, and while we can learn valuable things from this, I also appreciate a rigorous scientific study to inform my choices in the vegetable garden. Jessica Walliser's book examines the ways that plants influence and support each other, which is fascinating to understand. Go beyond the three sisters — corn, beans and squash — with techniques gleaned from this book.

Baby goats

Got a problem with multiflora rose? Japanese barberry? Poison ivy? Get your favorite gardener a small herd of Nigerian dwarf goats. These herbivores can clear a forest floor of the thorny invasive species that we all hate. As a bonus, you can visit the goats but not have to take care of them!

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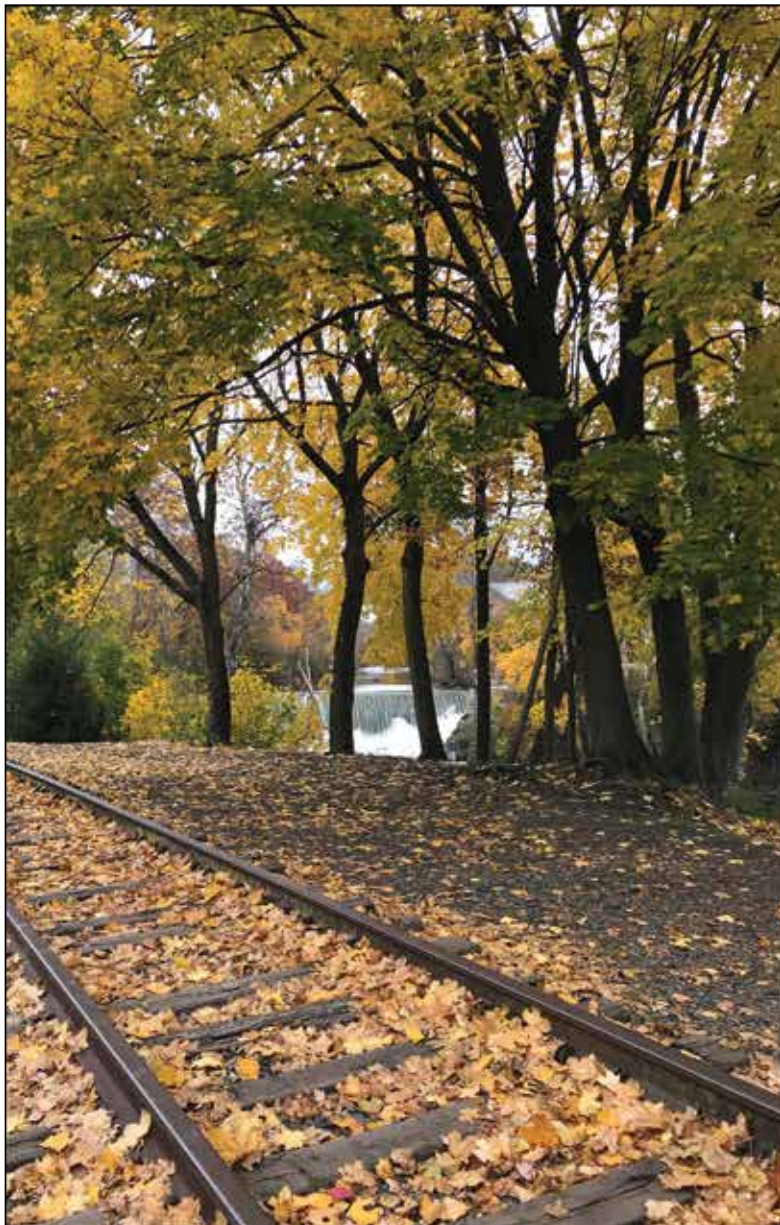
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How They Voted

Governor signs round of bills passed by state legislators

By Chip Rowe

Through this week, Govs. Andrew Cuomo and Kathy Hochul had signed 630 bills passed during the 2021-22 legislative session, which began in January. Another 23 await Hochul's signature. Twenty 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).

Gun violence research

On Nov. 8, Hochul signed a bill that creates the State Firearm Violence Research Institute, which will document "science-backed solutions to gun violence" such as has been done with other concerns such as motor vehicle accidents, cancer, heart disease and tobacco consumption.

Passed by Senate, 44-19

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 125-24

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Hochul also signed a law allowing residents to make contributions to the institute



Serino, Jacobson, Galef

on their state income tax returns.

Passed by Senate, 49-14

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 124-25

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Bans on Grade 6, coal tar

On Nov. 8, Hochul enacted legislation that bans the use of Grade 6 heating oil in building and facilities, based on studies that found its combustion forms soot that creates pollution and contributes to respiratory illnesses. The ban goes into effect July 1, 2023.

Passed by Senate, 61-2

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 147-1

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

The governor also signed a bill banning the use of pavement products that contain coal tar, which contains carcinogens and can injure wildlife exposed through runoff. Sales will be banned as of Nov. 8, 2022, and use will be prohibited as of Nov. 8, 2023.

Passed by Senate, 46-16

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 106-41

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Reassessments

On Nov. 10, Hochul enacted a law introduced by Galef in the Assembly that gives towns, cities, villages and counties the ability to adopt a two-year phase-in option for reassessment increases on certain residential properties. Galef noted that state law does not require municipalities to conduct regular property value assessments for tax purposes, and some have not done so in decades. (In Westchester County, she noted, 16 municipalities have not reassessed properties since 1974.) That means when they

get around to it, there can be "jarring and sudden" tax increases for homeowners. The law allows municipalities to phase these increases in over two years on properties that are eligible for the STAR exemption and do not owe any back taxes.

Passed by Senate, 63-0

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 145-0

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Debt collection

On Nov. 8, Hochul signed the Consumer Credit Fairness Act, which reduces the time that a creditor can begin legal action over consumer debt from six years to three years and requires more stringent notification and documentation, including the original contract and information about any sale or assignment of the debt.

Before a judge can issue a default judgment because the defendant doesn't appear in court, the creditor is now required to provide affidavits from each person who has owned the debt. The previous law allowed debt collectors to provide minimal information, according to the bill's sponsors.

Passed by Senate, 43-20

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 103-45

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Veteran benefits

On Veterans Day (Nov. 11), Hochul signed laws that were each supported by Serino, Galef and Jacobson to:

■ Change the official start of the Vietnam War from Feb. 28, 1961, to Nov. 1, 1955, to conform with the date used by the federal government in determining who qualifies as a veteran of the conflict.

■ Allow people to receive unemployment benefits if they quit a job because their military spouse was transferred.

■ Create a 12-member Women Veterans Advisory Committee to identify, educate and advocate for women veterans.

■ Require intake forms for nursing homes, assisted-living facilities and homeless shelters to ask whether the individual or his or her spouse ever served in the military, to assist in getting benefits.

■ Authorize counties to require ferries to provide free passage to members of the armed forces in uniform during their enlistment.

Robocalls

On Nov. 8, Hochul signed a law that requires telecommunication companies to proactively block "robocalls" from caller-ID numbers that are likely fake, e.g., they do not or cannot make outgoing calls.

Passed by Senate, 63-0

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 147-0

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Hochul also signed a bill that requires voice-service providers to use an authentic-

tion method called STIR/SHAKEN to validate that calls are coming from the number displayed. The technology also makes it much easier to trace robocalls to their source.

Passed by Senate, 63-0

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 147-2

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Used-car airbags

Hochul on Nov. 7 enacted a law that requires that used cars have functioning airbags when sold at retail. The act was named for Anthony Amoros, an 18-year-old resident of Rockland County who died in 2013 in a crash after he purchased a car without knowing it had no airbags. Under the law, buyers must be given written certification that a used vehicle has functioning airbags.

Passed by Senate, 47-16

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 147-2

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Public minutes

On Nov. 8, Hochul enacted a statute that requires public bodies such as town, village and city councils to post online within 14 days the minutes, a video recording, an audio recording and/or a transcript of each meeting. Under the previous law, minutes only had to be "available if requested" within 14 days. The New York Coalition for Open Government said it welcomed the law but that public bodies should be compelled to post written minutes, in part because many people are hearing impaired, and also to have a record of attendance, motions made and votes taken without requiring people to revisit the meeting on video or audio.

Passed by Senate, 63-0

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 150-0

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Trafficking victims

In 2010, a state law was enacted that allows victims of sex trafficking, labor trafficking and forced prostitution to request any prostitution-related convictions be removed from their records. On Nov. 16, Hochul signed legislation that expanded the law to include any crime tied to trafficking. The example cited by the bill's sponsors is a conviction for carrying false identification.

Passed by Senate, 43-20

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 150-0

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

Utility names

On Nov. 16, Hochul signed a law that requires utility companies, municipalities, waterworks corporations and telephone service providers to allow customers to use their preferred name and pronouns.

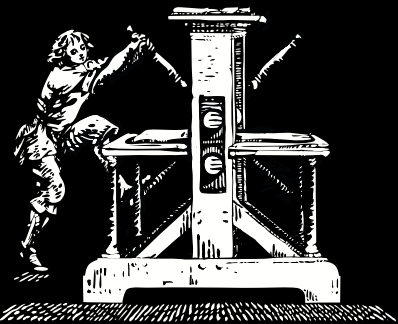
Passed by Senate, 46-17

Serino ☒

Passed by Assembly, 99-48

Galef ☒ Jacobson ☒

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NOTICE

Philipstown Planning Board Site Visit

Sunday, December 5th, 2021

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, December 5th, 2021 at 10:30am to inspect the following site:

**Adam Golinczak,
Crest Road, Cold Spring, NY
10516 TM#17-2-39**

Dutchess Woman Survived Hiroshima

Managed to escape atomic blast as teenager

By Michael Turton

It was about 8:15 on the morning of Aug. 6, 1945 — 76 years ago — when 13-year-old Tomiko Morimoto heard the sound of a plane flying over her hometown in Japan.

She has a memory of looking up in Hiroshima to see the Enola Gay, an American B-29, just as it dropped Little Boy, the first atomic bomb ever used in warfare.

As many as 80,000 people died instantly when the bomb exploded about 2,000 feet above the city (where it was calculated to cause maximum damage), with injuries, burns, radiation sickness and cancer claiming tens of thousands of more lives in the months and years that followed.

Somehow, Tomiko survived. Now nearly 90, she lives in Lagrangeville, in southcentral Dutchess County, and has often spoken of her experience.

When the bomb exploded, she said it reminded her of a red sunset over the ocean. “Maybe if I had looked longer, I would have seen the mushroom cloud,” she said. “But I was too busy trying to get away.”

Immediately after the explosion, “black rain” began to fall. “I thought it was oil and that the Americans were going to burn us all,” she recalled.

That morning, Tomiko was at a print shop; students were required to work in support of the Japanese war effort. “Some of the students I was with at the factory survived for a while,” she said. “But all died later from the radiation.”

She has no idea how or why she was spared, but her nephew, Tim West, said he “felt God had other plans for her.”

To escape the burning city, Tomiko headed into the mountains, returning to her home a couple of days later after the fires had subsided. “We had to walk over a railroad bridge,” she recalled. Looking down, she saw the river full of corpses. “I worried I would fall into them,” she said.

After crossing the bridge, she came upon a soldier sitting upright on his horse. He was dead. Further along, a group stood waiting at a streetcar stop. All were dead.

Inside the streetcar, people stood, holding onto the hanging straps. All were dead.

She found her badly damaged home. Her mother had not survived, but she learned her injured grandparents had fled to caves west of the city.

Tomiko said her biggest regret is slamming the door in anger as she left home on the morning of Aug. 6, after criticizing her mother. “I said, ‘I am working in the factory, what the heck are you doing?’” she recalled.

She found her grandparents and together they lived for several days in a cave, along with others. “People from the country brought us rice; they helped people in the city.”

An aunt and uncle found Tomiko and took her into their home. “I was grateful, but for a long time I was very upset to be



Tomiko Morimoto West being interviewed in 2017 for an oral history project



Hiroshima, after the bombing

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum



Tomiko Morimoto (center) with family members in the early 1940s

there,” she said. “Until I realized if they hadn’t taken me in, I would have been in an orphanage.”

“I was fortunate to have studied English,” Tomiko said, because it helped her land a job in a post office in Yokohama after the war. It was there, in 1950, that she met Melvin West, a U.S. soldier assigned to the post office who years later would become her husband. “He was the cutest one of the bunch,” she said with a laugh.

Two years later, Tomiko moved to Wisconsin to study U.S. history at the Stout Institute in Menomonie, eventually becoming an American citizen. She and West kept in touch, mostly by mail, and in 1957 they were married in Aikens, South Carolina.

West operated Mel’s Barber Shop in Poughkeepsie for 40 years. Tomiko retired in 1994 after teaching Japanese at Vassar College for 20 years.

The couple moved to Lagrangeville six years ago. They had been married for 60 years when Mel died in 2018.

Tim West said he had no idea his aunt had survived Hiroshima until he happened upon a newspaper article on her about 20 years ago. “I told her she had to talk about it, that she had a story to tell,” West recalled.

Tomiko now shares her story when invited to conferences and anti-nuclear events.

“People should talk about it, to know the hardship I went through,” she said.

At one seminar she served on a panel with Cannon Hersey, grandson of John Hersey, the author of *Hiroshima*, a book Tomiko called “remarkably accurate.” In 2015, she appeared with Pete Seeger, a longtime Beacon resident, in the documentary *Good Thinking, Those Who’ve Tried to Halt Nuclear Weapons*. “Pete and I were good friends,” she said. (The folk singer died in 2014.)

Tomiko said she has never had negative feelings toward the U.S. “I never thought I should hate the Americans” for dropping the bomb on Hiroshima, she said. “I think of it as a decision in a war; that’s what war does.”

However, she does not believe war is ever justified. “Some people make a lot of money from war,” she said.

Asked if any good came out of her horrific experience, Tomiko paused, then said: “It was war, but I met my husband; I have lived a very good life.”

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NOTICE

Philipstown Planning Board Site Visit

Sunday, December 5th, 2021

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, December 5th, 2021 at 9:30am to inspect the following site:

**Jena Girouard &
Jesse Husted Wildrick,
28 & 30 Hudson River Lane,
Garrison, NY
TM#89.7-1-8, 89.7-1-7**

Comp Plan Urges Town-Village Merger

Updated policy guide also proposes school consolidation

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Unanimously approved Nov. 17 by the five-member Town Board, the Philipstown Comprehensive Plan 2030 proposes merging the town, Nelsonville and Cold Spring, and combining the Haldane and Garrison schools into a single district that includes areas of Continental Village now in the Westchester-based Lakeland district.

The document, an update and expansion of the 2006 plan, is intended to guide policy for the next nine years, with reviews in between. Assisted by grant money and community input, a volunteer committee labored for four years to produce the 37-page report, available at bit.ly/comp-2030.

The plan encourages Philipstown and the two villages “to consider consolidation of jurisdictions to increase community cohesion and provide more equitable representation and distribution of services.”

Likewise, it endorses “further cooperation among school districts and/or the possibility of creating a unified Philipstown school district that serves residents in Garrison, Cold Spring, Nelsonville, North Highlands and Continental Village.”

The committee described the present

school tax situation as “complex” because rates vary significantly between districts, so that owners of properties with equal market values may pay widely divergent taxes.

The plan calls for increasing tax revenues “by attracting commercial development in locations with suitable infrastructure,” while balancing revenue from development against costs of extending services to new homes or businesses.

Along with local consolidation, the plan suggests “responsible regionalism” partnerships to deal with:

- Technical and “connectivity” problems;
- Climate-change mitigation;
- Transportation innovations, such as a possible boat service between Philipstown and West Point and Highlands Falls across the Hudson River; and
- Managing increased tourism.

It also promotes action to ensure that tourism and tourism-related businesses “do not threaten the character of the town or the safety and privacy of its residents.”

To sustain Philipstown’s rural and historic character and reduce pollution, it recommends:

- Preserving historic dirt roads and maintaining them with materials and methods that do not harm the environment;

■ The formation of a tree advisory committee;

■ Creating an inventory of historic structures and sites;

■ Setting up electric-car charging sites;

■ Establishing a solar energy policy;

■ Mandating use of renewable energy in construction or renovations; and

■ “Conservation development” in new complexes to cluster buildings together to preserve open space and avoid fragmentation, plus stricter regulations so developments billed as conservation subdivisions live up to the name.

Further, it advocates:

■ Identifying “critical land for preservation”

■ Safeguarding aquifers, streams and wetlands that “help mitigate the impact of climate change”; and

■ Protecting water resources from septic contamination” and road de-icing.

In addition, it champions small-scale food production, town-wide composting and farming.

Citing “a chronic need for a wide range of housing” as escalating costs threaten “small-town character,” the plan recommends, with appropriate controls:

■ Increasing the availability of rental and occupant-owned houses, accessory dwelling apartments, two- and three-family residences, and multifamily buildings;

■ Incentives for keeping units as affordable permanent housing; and

■ Policies to prevent short-term rentals — houses or apartments transformed into Airbnb and other vacation/weekend accommodations — from decreasing housing stocks.

It likewise favors adaptive re-use of structures and concentration of new commercial development in mixed-use or industrial areas and discourages “big-box architecture, strip commercial development and urban sprawl in general,” while welcoming home-based businesses; “small-scale, mixed-use, village-type centers,” and professional-office sites that fit “with the scale of Philipstown” and can “decrease commuting time” and

Top 5 Action Items for 2022

Proposed by comp plan committee

1. Amend the building code to mandate the use of renewable energy for primary heating sources on new construction or renovations.
2. Establish sites for electric-car charging and mandate car-charging stations for new developments based on the number of parking spaces.
3. Develop a solar energy policy along the lines recommended by Scenic Hudson’s How to Solar Now blueprint for communities.
4. Create a Community Preservation Plan to update the National Resources Protection Plan using the most recent Natural Resource Inventory and Open Space Index and appoint an advisory board to oversee the implementation of this plan.
5. Prevent overburdening of the town’s infrastructure by visitors. Provide alternative access to visitor attractions that does not infringe on residents’ safety and privacy.

“stimulate the daytime economy.”

Advocating transportation approaches that look beyond private cars, the plan calls for retaining existing horse trails and making new paths for bicycling and walking to link (for example) Cold Spring and Garrison Landing; the Cold Spring train station, Boscobel and Constitution Marsh; and libraries, schools and other civic/public places, and to connect to regional trails. It also suggests public-private partnerships to fund public transportation.

To help “ensure that residents enjoy good health” physically and mentally, the plan endorses restricting “youth access to tobacco, e-cigs/vape products, [and] alcohol”; prohibiting smoking and vaping in town government buildings and parks; addressing senior needs for housing, transportation, and social and medical services; encouraging more health care facilities to locate in town; and enhancement of recreational activities and facilities, possibly including a town swimming pool.

Town Board members praised the document.

“It paints a vision of a place I want to be. That’s what’s exciting” about it, Councilor Jason Angell declared.

Nat Prentice, who led the volunteer committee, thanked the Town Board “for putting up with it” for so long.

“Now that we’ve got it, let’s use it,” he said. The work continues, though. Even before the board approved the plan, he and other volunteers began circulating, and debating, a list of suggested priorities for 2022. It’s “our first crack; let’s just call it that,” Prentice told the Town Board.

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NOTICE

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF FINAL BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN FOR THE YEAR 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Final Budget for the Town of Philipstown, Putnam County, New York, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2022, has been completed and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk of said Town, where it is available for inspection by any interested party by appointment.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN

Tara K. Percacciolo, Town Clerk
DATED: November 24, 2021

Notes from the Cold Spring Village Board

Privatizing garbage collection looks likely

By Michael Turton

At the Tuesday (Nov. 23) meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board, Mayor Dave Merandy reviewed bids from these companies for collecting garbage and recyclables, a service now provided by the village Highway Department.

Royal Carting provided the low bid at \$191,119 for the first year of service and also bid significantly lower for subsequent years and other aspects of the service. AAA Carting bid \$650,000 and City Carting \$281,940 for year one of service.

The annual cost of the village doing its own trash collection is \$167,334, including employee wages, disposal fees and equipment maintenance.

Merandy said Royal's bid was much lower than anticipated, and that while a decision won't be made during his term, which ends Dec. 6, "it's well worth having the village contract this out."

Privatizing the service, Merandy said, would enable Highway Department crews to spend more time working on roads and eliminate the need to purchase a costly new garbage truck.

When Trustee Kathleen Foley suggested moving forward with privatization that night, Merandy said the process will require more work, including a public meeting and presentations by Royal.

"It's a big change," Merandy said. "People will have to understand all the implications," adding his recommendation that the new

COVID-19 by the Numbers

PUTNAM COUNTY				
Number of cases: 12,997 (+122) <small>Active Cases in Philipstown: ≤5</small>	Tests administered: 325,741 (+3,872)	Percent positive: 4.0 (0)	Percent vaccinated: 75.7 <small>Percent in 10516: 86.4 Percent in 10524: 81.1 Percent of hospital workers: 97.0</small>	Number of deaths: 101 (+1)

DUTCHESS COUNTY				
Number of cases: 37,547 (+447) <small>Active Cases in Beacon: 42</small>	Tests administered: 1,043,677 (+12,243)	Percent positive: 3.7 (0)	Percent vaccinated: 70.6 <small>Percent in 12508: 65.4 Percent of hospital workers: 97.0</small>	Number of deaths: 506 (+1)

Source: State and county health departments, as of Nov. 24, with change from previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those ages 5 and older who have received at least one dose. The percentage for hospital workers reflects those fully vaccinated.

board move forward with Royal's proposal.

Parking dilemma

The board continued to weigh parking options for 40 Main St. The 6,564 square-foot-space, formerly the Ellen Hayden Gallery, is being converted to storefront retail with offices in the rear. Village zoning requires seven parking spaces for the retail operation and 37 spaces for the offices.

In recent years, businesses have obtained "parking waivers" at a cost of \$250 for each space when adequate off-street parking is not available to meet zoning requirements. Planning Board Chair Matt Francisco has advised against issuing waivers because of the unprecedented scale of what is needed at 40 Main St.

Instead, the board is considering making space available for the 40 Main St. businesses in the metered municipal parking lot on Fair Street and the lot at Mayor's Park, which also will soon be metered. Together, the two lots, which are underutilized during

weekday business hours, have 68 spaces.

On Tuesday, James Gary, the owner of 40 Main St., pointed out that office staff will work part of the week from home, reducing the number of spaces needed.

Other factors being considered include winter parking permits issued for the Fair Street lot and the need to keep some paid parking spaces available to visitors.

Francisco told the Village Board that, in order to comply with village law, it must decide the parking question within 60 days of Nov. 11, the date the Planning Board closed its public hearing on the project.

"We need to work with the owners to see if we can find the spaces using Mayor's Park and the municipal lot," Merandy said.

No vote was taken, but when Merandy polled the board informally there was unanimous support for his suggested approach.

In other business ...

■ Because a new dump truck ordered by

the village can't be delivered for several months, the Highway Department and board are scrambling to ensure there is adequate equipment to sand and salt streets this winter. A number of options were discussed, including borrowing a truck from Philipstown, a scenario that set off a lengthy, acrimonious exchange between Merandy and Foley. The mayor expressed annoyance that Foley had not informed him that she had contacted Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea about the truck loan, describing it as a "deal" she had made. Foley responded that there was no "deal," that she had only gathered information, which she said is part of her duties as a trustee.

■ The board will hold a workshop on Nov. 30 that will be the last public meeting for Merandy and Trustees Marie Early and Fran Murphy before Foley takes office as mayor and Cathryn Fadde and Eliza Starbuck join the board as trustees.

Current Classifieds

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NOTICES

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at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Handmade, handcrafted, one-of-a-kind, small batch. 30+ artisans and artists for November and 20+ brewers and cider makers in December. See HopsontheHudson.com. Subscribe and receive discount promo codes. Save \$\$ Cheers!

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Market Report (October)

	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
New Listings	8	17	22	9
Closed Sales	10	10	17	8
Days on Market	40	41	112	81
Median Price	\$388,000	\$456,000	\$590,000	\$915,000
% List Received	99.1	97.0	95.4	99.5
Inventory	20	27	72	38

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



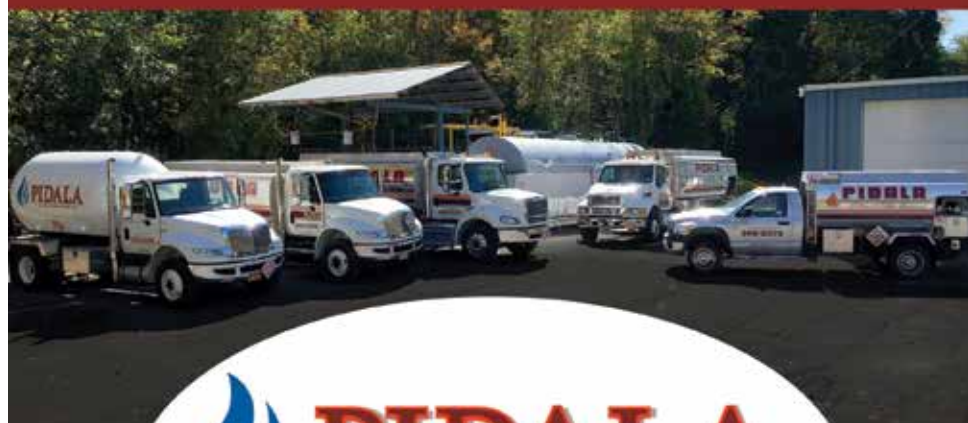
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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Paid (up)

6. Tennis star Graf

12. False

13. Sounded content

14. Warm, as leftovers

15. Not certain

16. Cruise stop

17. Farm unit

19. Garden of Food Network

20. Austen novel

22. Perched

24. Recede

27. Force

29. Pleasing

32. Symbolic first step toward getting hired

35. Cab

36. British noble

37. Eggy quaff

38. Existed

40. Squabble

42. Past

44. Furnace fuel

46. Volcanic flow

50. Cheered (for)

52. Ogled

54. Topical antiseptic

55. Builds

56. Strong points

57. *Midnight Cowboy* role

DOWN

1. Grieg's "— Death"

2. Actress Patricia

3. Private pupil

4. Sch. URL ender

5. "Feel-good" brain chemical

6. Incite

7. Jukebox picks

8. Hosp. areas

9. Fulfillment

10. Office plant

11. Notion

12. Greek consonant

18. Bach's "Coffee —"

21. 1501, in Roman numerals

23. Moreover

24. Newt

25. Large snake

26. Ornamental garden trees

28. Best-selling Michael Jackson album

30. Bill's partner

31. Work unit

33. Spanish aunt

34. Sprite

39. Potpourri output

41. Swift

42. Met melody

43. Sticky substances

45. Praiseful pieces

47. Curved lines

48. Presidential power

49. TV spots

51. Dead heat

53. Epoch

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 showing contempt for (8)

2 gave in under pressure (5)

3 think highly of (6)

4 1990s supermodel Jill (8)

5 largest American "flower" (11)

6 extremely critical people (10)

7 Anne of Green Gables was one (6)

SOLUTIONS

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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Country Goose

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Answers for Nov. 19 Puzzles

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

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

1. LAIR, 2. PIES, 3. CARSON, 4. ANTS, 5. EMITTING, 6. GROWERS, 7. LOUISIANA

SPORTS



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Soren Holmbo leaps to grab an interception for the Blue Devils.



Photos by Keith Lobdell/Sun Newspapers

The Blue Devils of Haldane High School had their chances to make some noise in the Class D regional opener on Nov. 19. But every time it looked like Haldane was about to make a move, Section VII champ Moriah came up with a big play to silence the threat.

Moriah wrestled away momentum early in the game, which was played at AuSable High School, about four hours north of Cold Spring, and never let go on the way to a 22-0 victory over Haldane, which finished the season 6-4.

A week earlier, the Blue Devils had lost in the Section I title game to Tuckahoe, 48-40, but received an at-large bid to continue in the state tournament. In a game on Nov. 20, Tuckahoe fell to Section II champ Greenwich, 41-20, which will now face Moriah on Nov. 26 with the winner advancing to the state championship game.

The Blue Devils' defense came up big twice in the first quarter, stopping Moriah on a fourth-and-12 from the Haldane 20 on the game's opening series, and later sacking the Vikings quarterback on a third-and-20, forcing a punt.

Haldane Season Ends in Loss to Moriah

10 Blue Devils earn postseason honors

By Skip Pearlman

But the offense never found a rhythm. Haldane had its best chance early, following the punt, which gave them possession at the Viking 40. But they fumbled the ball away immediately, and the Vikings cashed in with two runs that put them at the Haldane 6-yard line. Two plays later, with 7:42 left in the half, Moriah led 8-0.

In the next series, Haldane's Ryan Irwin appeared to run for a touchdown after catching a pass from Ryan Van Tassel, but the sideline official ruled he had stepped out of bounds at the 45, and the drive fizzled.

Haldane had another opportunity after an interception at its own 7-yard line, but the Blue Devils were forced to punt and the Moriah quarterback broke loose for a

50-yard touchdown run with 32 seconds left in the half. After a two-point conversion, the Vikings led 16-0.

Van Tassel was intercepted in the third quarter at midfield, which led to a 26-yard TD run for Moriah and a 22-0 lead with 2:30 remaining in the quarter.

Coach Ryan McConville said turnovers (his team had four, leading to two touchdowns for Moriah) and the loss of one of the team's best players (Giancarlo Carone, who suffered an elbow injury early in the second quarter) cost his team.

"Usually when teams make mistakes, we capitalize," he said. "But we didn't create turnovers. When you're playing the No. 8-ranked [Class D] team in the state,

every drive, every possession is important. Turnovers will cost you, and they cost us a chance to score or change the momentum."

There were bright spots to the season. Haldane won its first league championship since 1984, the Blue Devils were undefeated at home, and the team won four straight games to end its regular season.

Carone, a senior wide receiver and defensive back, earned All-Section and All-League honors, and was named the league's Defensive Back of the Year.

Irwin, a senior wide receiver and defensive back, and Evan Giachinta, a sophomore running back and linebacker, were named All-Conference and All-League, and Thomas Tucker, Van Tassel, Soleil Gaines, Dylan Rucker, Jake Mason, Jack Hartman and Will Etta received All-League honors. McConville was named the league's coach of the year.

The team graduates nine seniors, all of whom were starters on offense and/or defense. "I'm excited about next year," McConville said. "Right now we're excited for them to dominate in basketball, then baseball. But we'll have some young talent back, and the kids will keep getting better."



Somers gave Beacon's Chase Green (2) lots of attention whenever he touched the ball in the opening round of the regional tournament.



Beacon keeper AJ Lucas prepares to make a save against John Jay East Fishkill early in the season.

Files photo by S. Pearlman

Boys' Soccer Honors

Will Sniffen of the Haldane boys' soccer team was named league MVP and Ahmed Dwidar as the league coach of the year earlier this month. Haldane played in League D of Conference 3 in Section I, with Croton-Harmon, North Salem,

Pawling and Putnam Valley. Sniffen, a junior, was also named to the All-Section team; goalie Ronan Kiter received an honorable mention. The teams are selected by the coaches.

In Section IX, seniors Chase Green, Dillon Kelly and AJ Lucas of Beacon High School were named to the All-Section team and included among the section's best players in Class A, along with senior Alex Wyant.