# The HIGHLANDS COLUMN THE HIGHL



**A Poetic New Album** 

Page 15

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# Legislature Approves New Districts

Beacon, Philipstown may get new state senator

By Leonard Sparks

B eacon and Philipstown could be represented by a new state senator in January following the approval this week of district boundaries redrawn with data from the 2020 census.

The Highlands is located in the 41st Senate district, represented by Sue Serino, a Republican from Hyde Park. Under the changes, Hyde Park will become part of District 43, while the 41st will expand west to include territory currently represented by Sen. James Skoufis, a Democrat in his second term.

If the maps are approved by Gov. Kathy Hochul, as is expected, that would shift the Democratic majority vote of Philipstown and Beacon from a district reliably held by a Republican (Serino has been reelected three times and won most recently with 52.5 percent of the vote) to one in which a Democrat won the two most recent races with 54 and 57 percent of the vote. Skoufis lives in the Town of Woodbury in Orange County, which would move from District 39 to 41.

The changes for the Highlands in the Assembly and Congress would be less dramatic.

The revised district boundaries were approved this week by the Legislature's (Continued on Page 20)



Prompted by the shutdown, James Petty started his own architecture firm. Photo provided

# **Pandemic Pivot**

Highlands residents forge new careers

By Leonard Sparks

Por some Highlands residents, the decision to change careers or start their own business is rooted in the need to make money after being downsized or losing a job due to the pandemic.

Others have chosen the risk of leaving safe, stable jobs after discovering the joys of working from home or feeling the time was right to pursue long-deferred dreams. Some found themselves in unexpected fields.

Despite the trepidation of the unknown, and the challenges of working for yourself, the people we interviewed said they felt excited and reinvigorated. As Sarah Uzelac said: "Twice in the last week I woke up before my alarm, and I just had ideas

and excitement spinning around in my head, not stress."

000

James Petty always planned to start his own architecture firm, but the pandemic accelerated his timeline.

Before then-Gov. Andrew Cuomo ordered businesses to close their offices in March 2020 to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Petty and his wife worked long days in New York City — his office was on 127th Street and hers on 52nd.

"By the time we would see each other, on an average day, it would probably be around 10 p.m.," he said.

Six months before COVID-19 began

(Continued on Page 19)

# Against the Advice of Counsel

Beacon council to advance good-cause eviction law

By Jeff Simms

he Beacon City Council appears to be moving ahead in unprecedented fashion toward a good-cause eviction law that some of its members say will protect renters — but it is doing so against the advice of city attorneys and other municipal officials.

The council has devoted more time to good cause than any other topic in months. Advocates say the law, which has gained steam through passage in a number of municipalities after failing to advance as a state bill in 2020, would provide tenants with more protection than the Housing Security & Tenant Protection Act that then-Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed into law in 2019.

But City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis said in September that he believes the state law prevents municipalities from adopting additional local legislation. Ward-Willis said during the council's Monday (Jan. 31) workshop that for that reason he could not defend the city if it adopts a good-cause law and faces litigation, such as in Albany, where a group of landlords has sued the city, calling its good-cause law unconstitutional.

Mayor Lee Kyriacou also cautioned that a Beacon law would be indefensible.

(Continued on Page 8)



Jeff Consaga began working in 1990 at what became the Foundry Cafe and took it over in 1996.

Photo by Alexander Wilcox Cheek

# **Foundry Cafe Closes**

Latest longtime business shutters in Cold Spring

By Michael Turton

or Jeff Consaga, the owner and cheff of the Foundry Cafe, time in the restaurant business can be measured by the egg count.

A couple of years ago, a cafe regular posed a question: "Consaga, how many eggs have you cracked in your career?"

"We broke it down with the help of a calculator," Consaga recalls. He provided *The Current* this week with the final total — "I'd say at least 2½ million" — because

the Foundry closed last month, ending a 26-year run on Main Street in Cold Spring.

The loss of the cafe is the most recent of a series of departures by longtime Cold Spring businesses, including the Downtown Gallery, which closed in 2020 after 34 years; C&E Paint Supply, which closed in December after nearly 70 years; and The Country Goose, which will close in March after 37 years.

Consaga began working as a cook at the cafe 32 years ago, when it was known as Karen's Kitchen, and took over and renamed the business in 1996 in a nod to the West Point Foundry, which fueled Cold Spring's early history.

(Continued on Page 18)



## FIVE QUESTIONS: DAVID LILBURNE

#### **By Alison Rooney**

avid Lilburne, who owns Antipodean Books, Maps & Prints on Garrison's Landing with his wife, Cathy, is the newly appointed president of The Ephemera Society of America.

#### What is ephemera and why should it be more than ephemeral?

It's a small record of life at a specific time period. These pieces of paper tell the history of a time. If you're reading books, you're reading just a person's version of history. People don't understand ephemera. It's not necessarily expensive. We have a whole heap of postcards here that start at a dollar. It's not a place that has \$1,000 pieces and up, it's \$1 and up. If you want a Toulouse Lautrec poster, a real one, there are \$10,000 items, but you can always find something for a dollar.

#### Do you collect ephemera, or just sell it?

I have a 35-year-old collection of 4,500 pieces of paper related to tea, including packaging, invoices, photos, stereopticon views, trade cards, advertising, tokens, diaries, letters, pamphlets, postcards, posters and maps, all from before 1950. I have tried hard to stick to paper only, but every now and then something extraordinary turns up outside those parameters. The



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last time this occurred it was a Chinese tea chest that was shipped to New York in 1800. My other dedicated collection is of Hudson River ephemera, as well as maps.

I also collect current ephemera. For example, when COVID-19 disrupted our lives, I began collecting posters advertising events that were never going to occur.

#### How has the digital world altered collecting?

It's made it much more available. Until recently, it's been a backwater; people love ephemera but it takes time to go through. The internet opens everything up. For example, in front of me now is a woodcarved cover of an album, engraved down to the millimeter; someone stood there and carved the whole cover. If you put a photo online, people go: "Ooh, I want it." If I send you this photo, you'll start salivating, even as a non-specialist. It's completely different from just hearing about it.

#### How did you wind up doing what you do?

My dad, who was an obstetrician in Perth [Australia], was a collector. He had worked at an old bookshop, and he bought books at auction. I grew up in a house full of books.

# What Do People Collect?

Advertisements, airsickness bags, baseball cards, billheads, blotters, board and card games, bookmarks, bookplates, broadsides, business cards, calendars, cigar bands, cigarette cards, greeting cards, invitations, luggage labels, maps, menus, paper dolls, postcards, posters, puzzles, sheet music, stock certificates, tickets, timetables, valentines, watch papers, wrappers

Australians — we travel. After I graduated from university, I went to the U.K. and my dad said: "While you're in London, why don't you pick me up some books?" I met Cathy in London and we started looking for books together, then started Antipodean Books there, in 1976, when London was the center of books

We moved here in 1982, and have been buying and selling here since then, after finding that British customers wanted different books than American customers. We're now up to speed on both. Books led us to ephemera. When you start looking at these books you wonder: "Where is this?" Then: "What about pictures of the time?" Then prints, then: "Hey, this piece of paper was put out when this voyage took place."

#### Has the pandemic been good or bad for your business?

It's actually been very good, as everybody seems to be using the time at home to clear out their houses. Last year, we were caught in Australia, with travel restrictions keeping us there a lot longer than planned. But everybody was ordering online, so workwise it was as good as if we were here. We're heading back soon, coming back in March, in time for the Ephemera Society Fair [in Old Greenwich, Connecticut].

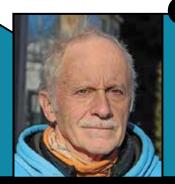
# ON THE SP&T

By Michael Turtor

What winter Olympic event would you most enjoy winning?

66

I'm a skier, so absolutely the downhill; it's exciting and dangerous.



Pierre Vittori, Cold Spring

3

Figure skating; artistry on ice.

Chelsea Padilla, Beacon

0

Bobsled; it's a team thing and fast, like NASCAR.



Brian Merritt, Cold Spring



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Play, an Icelandic carrier, will begin flights out of New Windsor in June

# **New Airline at Stewart**

Low-cost Icelandic carrier will give it a go

lay, an Icelandic airline, announced on Tuesday (Feb. 1) that it plans to begin service on June 9 from New York Stewart International Airport to 22 destinations in Europe.

Tickets went on sale on Tuesday at flyplay.com, with sale prices through Feb. 7 starting at \$109 each way for travel in September and October to 10 European

cities, including London, Dublin, Paris, Berlin and Copenhagen.

The airline will be the first international carrier at the New Windsor airport since Norwegian Air left in 2019. Allegiant and Frontier offer limited domestic flights from the airport; JetBlue flights to Florida are suspended.

Play was founded in Reykjavik in 2019. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates Stewart, recently completed a \$37 million international arrivals station that will be run by U.S. Customs.





#### **Market Report (December)**

	Bea	icon	Philips	town	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	
New Listings	6	3	7	2	
Closed Sales	13	9	15	9	
Days on Market	41	36	66	52	
Median Price	\$390,000	\$445,000	\$490,000	\$532,500	
% List Received	100.7	98.7	99.3	102.6	
Inventory	17	20	59	22	

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



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Institute for Nonprofit News

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

February 4, 2022 Volume 11, Issue 5

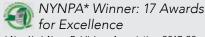
is published weekly by Highlands Current Inc., 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819. Periodicals Postage Paid at Cold Spring, NY, and at additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Highlands Current*, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819. Mail delivery \$30 per year. highlandscurrent.org/delivery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

Distribution audited by the Circulation Verification Council © Highlands Current Inc. 2021

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#### LETTERS AND COMMENTS

#### Golf course

This is one of the most disgraceful allocations of much-needed funds I've ever seen ("Putnam Proposes \$400,000 for Golf Course," Jan. 28). The Putnam County Golf Course turns a profit: Use that.

Craig Lucas, Putnam Valley

This seems like a huge misappropriation of funds. I wonder what the governor would say about it. Thank you to Cold Spring Mayor Kathleen Foley and Legislator Nancy Montgomery for speaking out. We need more Democrats representing us in Putnam County.

Kathleen Kourie, Garrison

This represents not only a poor use of our community's money but a misappropriation of American Rescue Plan Act funds. Few of us play golf. Few of us will ever benefit from this investment. ARPA money was not intended to invest in Old World recreational infrastructure that benefits the few. Rather, the idea was to learn from past mistakes, such as overbuilding golf courses, and build back better — including better recreational infrastructure for the community.

Golf is a massive board game that serves more as a status symbol than as a form of community recreation. There are nearly 40,000 courses in the world using 26 times the amount of space per player as a football or baseball field while providing far less value to the community.

Society has evolved past the need for so much golf. It's time for many courses to go and the land to be put to better use, such as affordable housing, a community farm, a public park or natural habitat.

Paul Thompson, Cold Spring

Are you kidding me? Using \$400,000 of relief money for a golf course? That's not infrastructure, that's recreation.

What about our pothole-ridden roads? Or the drains that don't channel water off the roads? Perhaps we could use the money for people who lost jobs, rent, and can't afford to buy food because of the pandemic? What about small businesses that are struggling?

The money should be used for rebuilding parks, dirt roads that have eroded, and maybe electric-vehicle charging stations. How about a parking garage? There's nowhere to park in Cold Spring, Mahopac or Carmel, ever.

Don't we need work done on our public beaches, lakes and waterways? How about guardrails? I'm sure the police, ambulance and fire departments could use equipment. There are hundreds of things that need to be done in Putnam before making sure that I can improve my golf game.

Keith Mitchell, Cold Spring

It's hard to believe the COVID-19 golf course is not a joke, but this is Putnam. Still, there's nothing to laugh about when one thinks of all the good things that this money could be used for.

Sara Dulaney, Cold Spring

#### **TikTok**

I want to compliment the reporting of Lily Zuckerman, your student correspondent who took such a meaningful look at overattachment to social media ("Reporter's Notebook: Drifting Away," Jan. 28).

It's interesting that she discussed the FOMO [fear of missing out] phenomenon of seeing images on TikTok or Snapchat of "gatherings without me, or other people having fun." In my experience, young people in groups look a lot more like the photo included with the story — a few or a group at a restaurant or coffeehouse, each one hunched over a phone, ignoring the others. What kind of fun is that?

Lily is right that the best thing to do is to leave the phones at the door. In the college classroom where I teach, all phones are silenced and out of sight — in a backpack on the floor, a coat pocket, etc. — and that works great. Young people are still perfectly capable of forgetting their phones for the duration of a class and engaging with each other and the course material in substantive, joyful ways.

There's hope yet, but we older folks have to join their efforts by putting our phones away, too.

Jacqueline Foertsch, *Philipstown* 

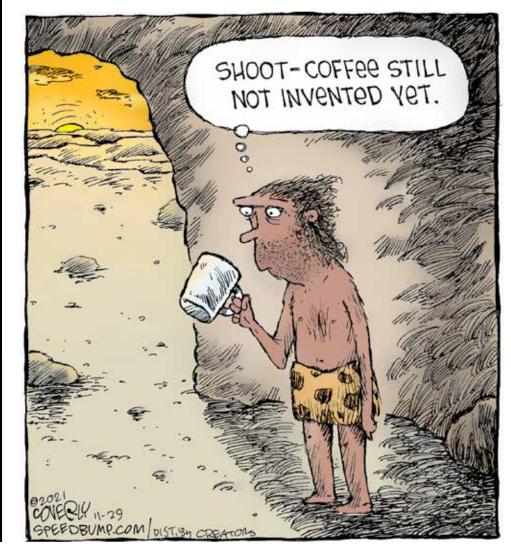
#### Committee assignments

Given the recent questionable response to mask mandates by the Putnam County Legislature, it would seem its Health, Social, Environmental and Educational Committee might benefit from all the appropriate input it could muster ("Putnam Again Snubs Montgomery," Jan. 28). The absence from the committee of Legislator Nancy Montgomery, who has experience in multiple facets of health care, signals to me that it intends to operate on a belief-based rather than data-based agenda.

Dr. David Watson, Cold Spring

We're being disenfranchised because our legislator disagrees with the eight other

 $(Continued\ on\ Page\ 5)$ 



#### LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

legislators. It's right out of the Trump playbook. The whole eastern part of the county is so different from the western side I believe we'd be better served seceding — establish a committee to investigate the ramifications and possibilities. If it was a serious committee that alone might get their attention.

Donald MacDonald, via Instagram

#### Nelsonville

I would like to ask for a correction in your article announcing my candidacy for Nelsonville mayor ("Nelsonville Has Two More Candidates," Jan. 28). I was asked by your reporter about some of the goals I would try to accomplish if elected. With regard to the 4.12-acre Secor Street parcel, I stated the following:

"Establish a committee to study the feasibility of creating a usable public space on the village-owned, 4.12-acre Secor Street parcel. Many residents have been critical of the conservation easement that was granted to OSI [Open Space Institute]. In fact, many believe that this property was given away.

"These 4.12 acres of wilderness and wetlands are now inaccessible to the public. I have a vision of a recreational area, maybe a field where kids can kick a ball or fly a kite. This may also be part of a bigger discussion with the CSFD [Cold Spring fire department] and the American Legion, whose property straddles the border between Cold Spring and Nelsonville, and what in my opinion would be an ideal location for a new firehouse and public services campus."

Contrary to how your editor interpreted my statement, I am not suggesting the construction of an athletic field in the woods. In fact, in 2004, together with some of our neighbors and other local residents, we sued the Haldane school district, preventing it from doing just that in the area around James Pond. This land was eventually sold, with two homes added to the tax rolls and a third site, including James Pond, retained by the school and used as an outdoor classroom. The proceeds were used to upgrade the existing Haldane athletics field.

The terms governing the conservation easement on the Secor Street parcel state that it may be used to the benefit of the community. What I was suggesting was to explore possibilities, and I envisaged more of a park-like setting, including a small field to be used for recreational activities.

Rudolf van Dommele, Nelsonville

I would like to make a factual clarification, as I have fielded many calls on Mr. van Dommele's statement. The terms governing the conservation easement on Secor Street state:

"The ability of grantor to place structures on the additional acreage shall be governed by the process indicated in Section 3.3 of the original easement; nevertheless, grantor and grantee acknowledge that one

non-commercial, community benefit structure (e.g., a youth center, public restroom, educational facility, playground, public drinking-water well or similar improvement) shall be presumed to be compatible with the scenic and recreational values protected by the original easement and this amendment, so long as such structure does not impair any wetlands regulated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and is located on the portion of the additional acreage shown as Tax Map Number 38.17-1-6 on Schedule B; notwithstanding the foregoing, noncommercial, community benefit structure shall not include a cellular communications tower or structure."

Contrary to his statement, I personally feel (and think many would agree) that the current parcel off Secor Street does benefit the community, as it is used by dozens of residents daily and by dozens more on weekends to access the Mount Taurus trail system. It is now officially a part of the Nelsonville Woods park system, after having existed as a de facto part of it for the past quarter-century.

The allowed structures and any proposed additions to the land were purposely detailed in the drafting of the easement extension and would not allow for a "small field." A small playground would be allowed, but again, any proposal would have to be agreed upon by the Village Board (not just a mayor) and the Open Space Institute.

Michael Bowman, Nelsonville Bowman is the Nelsonville mayor. He said last month he is not running for re-election.

#### Computer rehab

Thank you, Eamon, and reporter Violeta Edward Salas for showing kids that they have the power to change the world ("Eamon Wall Wants Your Computer," Jan. 28).

Dawn Miller, Putnam Valley

#### Shakespeare project

"Thy ambition / Thou scarlet sin, robb'd this bewailing land." ~Henry VIII

In their new role as land stewards, I had hoped the dramatic beauty of the land would take the lead in the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival's move to the former Garrison golf course ("Shakespeare Project Set for Public Hearing," Jan. 14). The property has spectacular river views and open space. When Chris Davis purchased it, he saved the rural and scenic character of the neighborhood. Then work by the community put protections in place via town codes and overlays to ensure that the fragile balance of conserving our natural and cultural character would be preserved.

Given this generous donation, HVSF seeks to have these protections waived. Their Environmental Application Form shows the placement of its tent plus back-of-house facilities on the highest hillside at The Garrison. The view north to Storm King Mountain is to the birthplace of the environmental movement and Scenic Hudson. It would be folly to impose manmade structures upon this ridge, especially with other river-view sites possible there.

HVSF is not simply moving its tent a few miles down the road. I find its larger plans out of sync with the community character and values of Philipstown. As stated in the comprehensive plan, the first goal is to sustain our rural and historic character. There is a fine balance between the natural and cultural in this remarkable town. The meadows and gardens are a good start, and the charming homegrown theater company of the past would be welcome. But the scale of the plans for the buildings and parking lots needs to be climate-smart and ecological as well, and to be more aligned with the rural nature here and respectful of the protections they are asking to have rolled back.

Marilyn Young, Garrison

How lucky are we to have HVSF in our town. I have carefully looked at its plans and believe that the company, which has always shown regard for conservation and the environment in its mission, is the perfect steward for this beautiful land. As a nonprofit that depends upon audience and community support, HVSF has a mission that is intrinsically tied to benefiting our community.

The plan makes a minor impact on the land while allowing the residents of Philipstown access to a variety of resources. HVSF offers career-building opportunities for our community. Many local teenagers and college students have found work at the festival, and the experiences gained there have led them to land jobs as they move on in their lives. Additionally, HVSF does a lot of community outreach. Personally, I have acted in their production of *Our Town* and have participated in playwriting workshops. Of course, I have also been an audience member.

I am excited that the plan allows HVSF to create housing for artists. At the moment, actors have to travel back and forth to Boscobel for rehearsals, which is taxing for them and for the environment. It seems like the move to the golf course and the proposed plan puts less of a traffic burden on Philipstown in this way. Also, moving the already minimal Shakespeare traffic from 9D to Route 9 detangles the performance traffic from the weekend tourist traffic in Cold Spring.

Thank you so much to the Planning Board for its time and careful attention to Philipstown's needs. I am so happy to support this project.

Megan Shea, Cold Spring

As a former director of the World Bank in Washington, D.C., and as an economist who has worked on economic and social development issues around the world for 50 years, I have been impressed by the impact of HVSF on local jobs and incomes.

That impact can sometimes be taken for granted. Or, as the songwriter Joni Mitchell put it in the 1970s: "You don't know what you've got till it's gone."

A recent letter to this newspaper suggested that Philipstown is already "overdeveloped." That the area attracts a large number of walkers should be something to celebrate rather than complain about, while reasonably insisting that park-

(Continued on Page 6)



# Sitting Bench

By Tara

I never thought I would come out of retirement, but seeing all the comments that have been made about the boss retiring has made me change my mind. I know from experience that it was a difficult decision for her to make, but after nearly 40 years of causing disruptions on Main Street, I agree with her that it is about time she moved to England and Wales to cause disruptions there.

Unlike me, she never had to beg for treats or wag her tail for attention. She just assumed that anyone entering her store would want to be entertained. And I think she succeeded. If she wasn't putting on her Welsh accent, she would be informing customers that someone once said that "the British are nothing but a nation of shopkeepers."

So I would just like to thank everyone who helped her manage the store – Ruth Eisenhower; the entire Valentine Family – Fran, Tom, Stephanie, Theresa and Toni; Diane Landtroop; Pat Campbell; and all the temps who filled in when needed. And many thanks must go to all the customers who were brave enough to shop at The Goose. The memories she will be taking back to England and Wales of the wonderful times she had with you all will keep her smiling for a long time.



ADVERTISEMENT

#### LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

ing and safety rules should be respected. Not everyone has moved here to enjoy a "quiet, rustic" setting. Many are long-term residents whose families depend on every dollar that the local economy can generate. And it would take a great deal of "bad" development to upset the balance of what will remain an idyllic combination of country and urban attractions.

Apart from being a sparkling jewel in its own right that other communities might envy, the HVSF is an important part of the local community. Concluding the planning process successfully will be good for the festival but also for Philipstown, which has demonstrated its ability in the past to build on its existing advantages rather than take them for granted.

Robert Calderisi, Cold Spring

No amount of benign environmental impact studies, rose-tinted revenue and traffic projections, promised jobs and community benefit statements can obscure the fact that taking a festival that for 30 years has been a transient, under the stars, open-air attraction of a brief but treasured Northeast summer and making it permanent is a good idea.

The festival's seasonal reappearance each year (its inherent transience) could be the one abiding characteristic that makes it successful, and year-round permanence may be its potentially flawed overreach — with empty winter seats and a slow but costly demise. It could fail, and fail spectacularly, leaving permanently widened roads, and how many unused structures?

Take away the open-air tent, the stars, the warm summer breezes and views up the slot, and for much of the year, you're merely hawking tickets to Elizabethan plays without the benefit of breathtaking river views and leafed-out rolling hillsides.

Joseph Papp knew enough not to put a cover on the theater in Central Park, and it's free. How does HVSF think they can do it in Garrison for a hefty sum and succeed? Hugh McCormack

Regarding HVSF's new home, we can

continue to debate and present arguments and data in support of our positions: tax benefit or tax loss (and to whom); reduced accidents (broadside collisions) or increased accidents (rear-end collisions) because of a traffic light; potable water versus surface water use; etc.

But most of us agree that HVSF is a cultural gift to the community, that it is managed by talented professionals and beloved by donors, audiences and performers alike

Chris Davis is an environmental steward who has been dedicated and generous to the Garrison community and to our nonprofits for many years. HVSF was asked to project its plans far into the future. This has benefits and drawbacks, for although their plan speaks to strategic, phased growth over time, the vision may loom large in the mind's eye today.

As a nonprofit leader in the community, my vote is to trust HVSF and its leadership to consider the land, the company and our concerns with great care and the benefit of all.

 ${\bf Allison\ Cross,}\ Garrison$   ${\bf Cross\ is\ the\ director\ of\ Manitoga}.$ 

How about HVSF stays where it has been for 30 years? Problem solved.

Eric Erickson, Garrison

We are extremely concerned that the huge scope of the HVSF development is going to give the state Department of Transportation the impetus to turn the Route 9 corridor into a four-lane highway all the way through Philipstown.

Back in the late 1970s, the DOT acquired a considerable amount of property along Route 9 to expand its right of way. These acquisitions were accomplished with the understanding that an eminent domain proceeding could be used if a minimal cash offering was not agreed upon by the property owners. Rights of way were acquired to expand various sections of the road for speed and "safety."

The three-lane hill south of the Bird and Bottle was thus enabled. Also, the properties on either side of the Philipse Brook Road Underpass were added, some "taken" from The Garrison golf club to create the third passing lane and the eventual widening of the bridge.

Additional land was taken at the junction of Frazier Road and Route 9; land now owned by Watergrass Sanctuary, aka Audubon; as well as the junction with Old Albany Post Road. A complete survey of the Route 9 corridor through Philipstown needs to be studied to discover other takings.

The HVSF campus and the tremendous traffic load at this development of regional consequence, and this epicenter for Shakespeare, plays right into the plans of the DOT engineers who are paid to build, build and build. The cumulative growth in traffic and the "mitigations": a traffic light at 403, traffic light at Perk's Plaza and the traffic light at the 301 intersection; the three-laning of four sections of Route 9 already built out, combined with the major permitted or proposed developments; the Magazzino museum; the development at Glassbury Court; the proposal for a development near Horton Road.

The huge added load from the Shakespeare regional development will most likely create the final impetus to build back bigger, faster and "safer." In other words, the Planning Board must consider the cumulative impacts of this development and the negative impacts on the quality of life in the community. The four-laning of Route 9 will be an unmitigated disaster for Philipstown, its wildlife and its way of life.

John and Tamara Benjamin, Garrison

#### **Short-term rentals**

Stephen Wallis, in the Jan. 28 issue, asked in a letter to the editor, in regards to short-term rentals: "Why should the [Nelsonville] Village Board be regulating a camper or trailer on private property when both owner and tenant have an agreement?" Because what you do on your property affects your neighbor's property value. It's why we have zoning laws.

Alan Flynn,  $via\ Facebook$ 

Airbnbs take away from affordable, longterm rentals. We are in a housing crisis in which people can't find a place to live.

Roger Brennan,  $via\ Facebook$ 

How does renting an apartment to an individual yearly, compared to renting to individuals weekly or daily, affect my neighbor's property value? Either way it's a rental.

Joe Hyatt, via Facebook

Because short-term rentals mean that there are always strangers in your neighborhood, and no one has vetted them. Airbnb "guests" of a neighbor, seeing me packing my car, asked: "How long will you be gone?"

It's a safety thing. It's a privacy thing. It's intrusive to have hundreds of strangers float through the converted garage next door.

Arabella Champaq, via Facebook

Wallis wrote: "The fact that the mayor voted against the legislation is telling." To clarify, I voted against the STR law because I felt it could have been achieved in a simpler manner, with less stress on village government and employees to administer and enforce it. I am for regulations of short-term rentals, just done differently.

I've said from the beginning, starting as a trustee, that the village needed a process in place to ensure proper fire and safety baselines were met (e.g., fire and carbon monoxide detectors, egress). There was also the issue of proof of insurance on these units, and whether insurers of these structures were aware of the intended use — much in the way car owners have to alert their carriers if they are using their vehicle as an Uber. When it became a debate about 100 days versus 150 days, proof of log books, lotteries, etc., that is when my vote was lost.

That being said, there are zoning laws that address specific issues such as campers or trailers. Issues such as these are at the core of why zoning was instituted in the first place. These uses are permitted in specifically zoned areas such as campgrounds and trailer parks where electrical, sewer and potable water connections can be provided by infrastructure — and even then I'm sure the park associations have rules about subletting.

Michael Bowman, via Facebook



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## What's Next With COVID?

More variants and a lot of uncertainty

By Leonard Sparks

efore she became Dutchess County's health commissioner in October, Livia Santiago-Rosado served as the director of emergency medicine at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie.

In both jobs, she has delivered the same mantra to employees.

"Pandemic rules apply, and the first rule of pandemic rules is there are no rules in a pandemic," said Santiago-Rosado.

As the current wave of infections, hospitalizations and deaths caused by the Omicron variant of the virus that causes COVID-19 recedes, it is that same level of uncertainty that blurs any prediction about what comes next, said Santiago-Rosado and David Esteban, an assistant professor of biology at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie.

There is only one certainty, both said: The coronavirus that launched a pandemic will continue to mutate into more variants, and the impact of those variants will depend on the vicissitudes of biology and the scale of protection through vaccines and public health measures.

"We can safely say that there will be other waves, but the scope and impact and severity of them is more difficult to predict," said Esteban.

Smallpox is the only virus ever to be eliminated, an outcome unlikely with the coronavirus, said Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, on Jan. 17. What's likely is that COVID-19 will become endemic, an everpresent fixture at such a low level that it doesn't disrupt normal social, economic and other interactions, he said.

Influenza, which killed an estimated 675,000 people in the U.S. during the 1918 pandemic, is often cited as an example of an endemic disease. Several flu pandemics have occurred since then, the most recent in 2009, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Maybe 10 or 15 years from now, "at least the hope would be that we kind of get it

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#### **PUTNAM COUNTY**

Number of cases:

**COVID-19** 

BY THE

NUMB

**22,878**(+297)

Tests administered: 397,342

Percent positive:

**5.8**<sub>(±0.1)</sub>

Percent vaccinated:

81.5

Percent in 10516: 95.1

Number of deaths:

**118**<sub>(+2)</sub>

#### **DUTCHESS COUNTY**

Number of cases:

**61,839** (+1,114)

Active Cases in Beacon: 38

1.231.538

Percent positive:

**5.0**<sub>(0)</sub>

Percent vaccinated:

Percent in 12508: 70.8

Number of deaths:

**615**<sub>(+18)</sub>

Source: State and county health departments, as of Feb. 1, with change over the previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those ages 5 and older who have received at least one dose. Local vaccination rates as of Jan. 26.

under control enough so that it does behave like the flu," said Santiago-Rosado. "We've all encountered it, our bodies are used to it, we've developed immunity from the vaccines."

Multiple variants have been detected in the U.S. since the start of the pandemic, with three of them — Alpha, Delta and Omicron - causing widespread infections, hospitalizations and deaths, and disruptions to the economy and people's social lives.

The science is simple. The DNA in human cells has an "extraordinarily low" error rate when it replicates, said Esteban. In contrast, the error rate when the RNA in coronaviruses replicates is much higher. Those errors are mutations, and one or more leads to a variant whose properties differ from previous versions of the virus.

The Delta variant was considered more infectious than Alpha, which inaugurated the worldwide pandemic, but less infectious than Omicron. In addition, there are reports that Omicron is less a threat to the lungs and spawns less-severe illness.

How easily a variant spreads, the level of disease it causes and its ability to overcome immunity from vaccines or previous infections will determine the impact, said Esteban. Omicron was able to overcome some of the protection from vaccines.

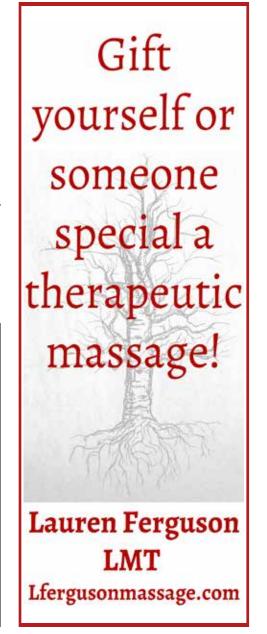
"It can mutate enough to evade immunity and have new properties that might make the disease more severe or less severe or transmit more easily," he said.

From a public health perspective, people's behavior will play a big role. About 95 percent of adults in New York state had received at least one vaccine dose and 85 percent were fully vaccinated as of Thursday (Feb. 3), according to CDC data. In Dutchess County, 84.5 percent of adults had received at least one dose and in Putnam County, 91.7 percent.

The rate of vaccinations for teenagers. adolescents and children is "our big gap at this point," said Santiago-Rosado. Statewide, 67.6 percent of children and teens between 12 and 17 years old were fully vaccinated as of Thursday, including 60.8 percent in Dutchess County and 63.6 in Putnam.

A larger concern, said Santiago-Rosado, are children between 5 and 11 years old. As of Thursday, 28.5 percent were fully vaccinated, including 25.7 percent in Dutchess and 26.1 percent in Putnam.

"Maybe some of them who've had COVID very recently will have some protection for a brief period of time," she said. "But come three or four months from now, when that protection may have waned — it's just a very vulnerable population when we haven't gotten these kids vaccinated."





# Fishkill Senior Project to Try Again

Proposal would bring 82 units to Main Street

**By Jeff Simms** 

Fishkill church is making a second attempt at developing a senior apartment complex that would add 82 units on Route 52, about 2½ miles east of Beacon.

The Church of the Nazarene, which sits on Route 52 (Main Street) in the Village of Fishkill, in 2019 attempted to build a 112-unit, three-story facility on its 6½ acres for renters ages 62 and older. It would have also included a 13,200-square-foot child care facility but stalled after the Fishkill Town Board signaled it would not grant variances for the portion of the project that spilled into the town.

The development, called the Wesley Residence, also violated zoning laws that regulated building height, but village officials amended those rules last year.

A grassroots group called Keep Fishkill Beautiful opposes the project and scheduled a virtual informational session for 8 p.m. tonight (Feb. 4). Opposition has also arisen in Beacon.

"A lot of people are concerned about it," Simone Williams, who owns the All You Knead bakery on Main Street, said this week. "The traffic [on Route 52] is terrible, and this is just going to add even more. As

a business owner, I walk a fine line. I don't like all the development that's going on, but these people shop from me. But 52 is like a parking lot at certain times of the day."

The revised proposal envisions a fourstory, L-shaped building next to the church that would be nearly entirely within village boundaries, just past the I-84 interchange. It would include 52 one-bedroom and 30 two-bedroom apartments; the child care center has been dropped from the plans. There would be 138 parking spaces.

Village officials would need to rezone the site from residential to business for the project to proceed. According to the project website, between 10 percent and 20 percent of the housing would be "affordable," although no details are given.

A 460-kilowatt fuel cell that project officials say has been vetted by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority would power the building.

During the Fishkill Town Board's Feb. 2 meeting, Board Member Louise Daniele submitted a letter she had signed opposing the project. Noting traffic issues on Route 52, the lack of regulations of fuel-cell power and the impact on nearby homes, Daniele wrote that "numerous constituents" had asked her to urge the village to kill the project.

After the meeting, the other four board members, including Supervisor Ozzy Albra, added their signatures to the letter.

#### Good-Cause (from Page 1)

"Someone is going to file a suit and say 'Read your own attorney's opinion. Read the opinion of NYCOM [the New York Conference of Mayors], whose job it is to advocate for municipal government.' I think we're done," he said.

Advocates, however, including Justice McCray and Paloma Wake, who were elected to City Council seats in November, have urged the city to enact a good-cause law. They maintain that tenants are particularly vulnerable since the state's moratorium on pandemic-related evictions expired Jan. 15.

The advocates point to the City University of New York's School of Law and the nonprofit Legal Aid Society, which have both said that a local law would not interfere with the state's legislation.

On Monday, Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair, who started the good-cause conversation last fall, stressed that developers or property owners may "threaten lawsuits to prevent cities from taking action," but "I'm not going to back away from protecting renters just because we're being threatened by the folks who perceive that they would be harmed by the law."

On the flip side, a NYCOM lawyer wrote to Kyriacou last month, noting that "while not exactly analogous, good-cause eviction local laws appear to be extremely similar to eviction restrictions" that have previously been struck down in court. Kyriacou on Monday argued that NYCOM's opinion should hold more weight than CUNY or the Legal Aid Society's because it comes from a 100-year-old association of cities and villages, not an advocacy group.

City Administrator Chris White likened the organization to the Congressional Budget Office, saying: "They're the ones that call balls and strikes."

While Kyriacou opposes the good-cause law, he wrote last month to Gov. Kathy Hochul, asking her to consider state laws that would provide incentives and, through rezoning, encourage the building of more affordable housing. The mayor also asked for state programs to supplement federal Section 8 subsidies and provide rental assistance and eviction prevention.

In addition, the city set aside \$25,000 in its 2022 budget for a program that will provide free legal assistance through Legal Services of the Hudson Valley to tenants facing eviction.

The council has asked state Attorney General Letitia James for a ruling on whether good-cause laws are permissible at the local level, but she has not responded. After announcing her candidacy for governor last year (she has since dropped out of the race), James said she supports a statewide bill, which has been introduced again in the New York Senate.

Despite the legal uncertainty, the council, with the exception of the mayor, appears ready to move forward with a public hearing on good-cause eviction and, possibly, a vote to enact the law.

#### **Status Report**

#### **Good-Cause Laws**

#### Albany

Adopted July 19 (Lawsuit filed)

#### Hudson

Adopted Oct. 7 (Vetoed by mayor)

#### Ithaca

Introduced Sept. 15

#### Kingston

Adopted Jan. 25

Newburgh

Adopted Oct. 25

New Paltz Introduced 2019

Poughkeepsie

Adopted Nov. 15

**Ulster County** 

Introduced Jan. 4

The hearing is expected to be set for Feb. 22. The council could vote on a law that night, although previous councils were criticized for gathering public input and voting on the same night. If it chooses not to enact its own law, the council could approve a resolution urging the state to do so.

The 2019 state law did away with "vacancy increases" in rent, established a 2 percent cap for increases due to capital improvements and crafted a new formula for calculating increases in rent-controlled apartments (but not all others), among many other measures.

Where the good-cause laws go further is in delineating the conditions, such as failure to pay rent or breaking the law, required as justification for evictions. The laws also limit rent increases and protect tenants from retaliatory landlords. Opponents suggest the laws in essence create unbreakable lifetime leases.

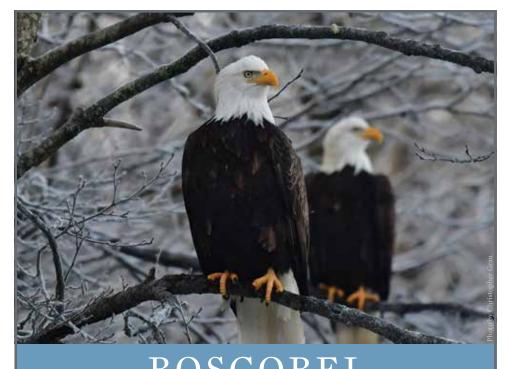
Beacon's draft caps rent increases at 5 percent, except in instances such as when a landlord makes capital improvements to a building or the market changes significantly. Only landlords owning fewer than four apartments who also live on-site would be exempted from the rules.

During more than 90 minutes of discussion Monday, attorney Drew Gamils, along with Ward-Willis, a member of the Keane & Beane firm that has represented the city since 2010, discussed a case in Ithaca in 2000 that saw the city adopt a law allowing landlords to evict tenants for illegal drug use.

The difference between that — which was viewed as an expansion on state law — and good-cause laws is "if you're going to impose any sort of restrictions on landlords [such as naming the conditions required for eviction], that's going to be viewed as a conflict" and would be struck down in court, she said.

Neither Kyriacou, who was first elected to the City Council in 1993, nor White, who served on the council in 1996 and 1997 before returning to Beacon at the beginning of 2021, said they knew of any other council that had adopted a law against the advice of its attorneys.

"It'll come down to a vote as to whether or not we pass the law and we decide to act against the advice of counsel," said Council Member George Mansfield on Monday.



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# Philipstown Residents Divided Over HVSF Plans

Some see environmental stewardship, others a threat

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Philipstown residents last week filled Town Hall and Zoom screens and debated a proposal by the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival to transform the former Garrison golf course into a theater and cultural campus.

They were participating in a public hearing convened Jan. 27 by the Philipstown Planning Board, which is conducting a state-mandated environmental review of the plan to create a permanent home on 97 donated acres bordered by Philipse Brook Road, Snake Hill Road and Route 9.

The Planning Board's job "is to balance community rights with property rights," said Neal Zuckerman, who chairs the panel. "I'm glad we're here. We're able to have the public weigh in. It's a core part of our democratic process."

Nearly 40 residents addressed the board. After three hours, two dozen still wanted to comment, so the board scheduled another session for Feb. 17.

If the board issues a "negative declaration," meaning it finds no potential harm to the environment, HVSF still must submit site plans and get approval from the Town Board to change the property's zoning to allow for performances.

Last month, Supervisor John Van Tassel said he would issue a permit for HVSF to erect its existing tent on the site for the 2022 season. The troupe previously used the tent for summer performances at Boscobel, its base for more than 30 years.

Along with installing a year-round tent, HVSF's long-term plans for the new site include an indoor theater; actors' housing; a visitor center-box office; outdoor pavilion; backstage structure; 20-room hotel (half the size of one permitted under the golf club's 2005 zoning); retention of a restaurant and banquet hall; paths; picnic lawns; a restored natural landscape; parking; and reconfigured entrances from Snake Hill Road and Route 9, with a possible traffic light at the intersection.

Chris Davis, who gave the golf course to HVSF, is also donating about 74 acres to the Hudson Highlands Land Trust (which has received 57 so far), while keeping a 27.5-acre private parcel. "We have the opportunity to substantially protect this land" through the HVSF and HHLT partnerships, he said Jan. 27.

The golf course was unlikely to continue



There was a full house at a public hearing on Jan. 27 concerning plans for the former Garrison golf course. Photo by Leonard Sparks



This rendering depicts HVSF's plans for part of the former course, looking north.

indefinitely, some residents observed. "Something is going to happen there, and this is the best of all possible" options, said Claudio Marzollo, of Lane Gate Road, near Nelsonville. (A century ago, an athletic training center for wealthy men occupied the site.)

"There's a reason we live in one of the most beautiful places in the world: The people, like those proposing this project, who have striven to conserve the natural beauty, to balance conservation with public access to recreation and the arts within these natural surroundings," said Fred Martin, of Garrison, who recalled joyful outings on the golf course. "The fact so much of this space will still be conserved, still be publicly accessible, albeit in different recreational and artistic circumstances, makes me grateful."

Alison Pataki of Garrison, too, praised HVSF and HHLT as organizations that "value the beauty of the town." She also termed a traffic light "essential" at the Route 9-Snake Hill Road intersection, where "horrific accidents" have occurred.

Nelsonville resident Erin Muir and Tara Vamos of Cold Spring lauded HVSF's plans for transforming golf greens into meadows. A landscape architect, Muir noted that typically "there's 4 to 7 pounds of pesticides and herbicides put on golf courses per acre. We need to do right by this piece of earth that we have really been hurting the whole time it's been a golf course."

A natural landscape "will be a huge improvement over what we have" now, Vamos concurred.

Jeff Mikkelson, a Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce leader and village resident, said the chamber — a group "very much against large-scale commercial development; very much in favor of land and water conservation" and preserving community character — concluded that "this is a great project for the environment, the community and the local economy."

Richard Butensky, of North Highlands, said HVSF's plans mesh with Philipstown's latest comprehensive plan, which he helped draft. "I can't see a more environmentally sensitive use of this property, and a better use for the community," he said. "The Shakespeare Festival has proven over the decades to be a good neighbor."

Retired actor Peter Maloney, who lives across from Boscobel, declared he "never

had a problem with noise, vandalism" or anything else from HVSF productions.

However, some Garrison residents expressed misgivings about what HVSF could do going forward.

"We're concerned this will bring great change to the whole neighborhood," said Jack Dickerhof, of Travis Corners Road, a golf course neighbor. "Too much is being planned for that relatively small place."

Patricia Berwald focused on use of Snake Hill Road, across from her house, for access. "Why does the entrance have to be there?" She also said that with a stoplight, trucks "will have to rev down and rev up" at the Snake Hill-Route 9 intersection. "It's just got to get a lot more noisy," she said. Berwald suggested the traffic light only function during HVSF performances.

"My biggest concern is what happens to

our neighborhood," said Stephen Wallis, of Philipse Brook Road. At present, his view consists of "just woods," he explained. But HVSF wants to construct actor housing. "All of a sudden, we're looking at having transient actors in front of us, not owning property, with no skin in the game," he said. "I fear that Garrison as we know it might be destroyed," with its residents "the forgotten ones. We'll be collateral damage to a huge commercial development." Thus, "the residents of Garrison are counting on" the Planning Board "to have our back," he emphasized.

Joe Regele predicted HVSF's project "is going to have a negative impact on the taxpayers of Garrison" and warned that a traffic light may only spur drivers to speed to get through the Snake Hill-Route 9 intersection to beat the red.



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The fact so much of this space will still be conserved, still be publicly accessible, albeit in different recreational and artistic circumstances, makes me grateful. **Fred Martin** 

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# **Cold Spring to Contract With Royal Carting**

Resolution on garbage pickup expected next week

By Michael Turton

he Cold Spring Village Board, at its Wednesday (Feb. 2) meeting, unanimously supported turning over the collection of garbage and recyclables to a private firm.

The job is currently handled by the village Highway Department.

Next week the board plans to pass a resolution, subject to prior review by the village attorney, accepting a bid from Royal Carting, said Mayor Kathleen Foley.

Privatizing trash collection has been discussed by village officials for more than 10 years but the cost of the switch was always deemed too high.

During the past two years, the administration of then-Mayor Dave Merandy held extensive talks with Royal Carting and found that the company's estimated fees made private collection more feasible.

Royal Carting submitted the lowest of three bids — \$190,000 for the first year. The next lowest, from AAA Carting, was \$91,940 more.

Village Accountant Michelle Ascolillo described as "a wash" the effect on the budget of Royal's bid compared to savings the village will realize by shifting away from using Highway Department employees.

The savings for the village, she said, will include \$101,180 in salaries and benefits, \$88,796 in disposal fees, \$18,258 in truck maintenance and repairs, and \$8,352 in Main Street trash pickup.

The saving in wages are possible because, by having Royal take over, a vacancy in the Highway Department will not be filled, a part-time commercial driver will no longer be needed and a part-time mechanic position that had been budgeted can be dropped.

Ascolillo said the village will save an additional \$125,000 by no longer having to purchase a new garbage truck.

Trustee Joe Curto pointed out that the proposed agreement is for one year. The village will have options to continue for a second and third year, or to opt out.

Curto said that in speaking to a number of municipalities who have made the same change he learned that "they're not going back to doing it [themselves] because they realize the benefit of all the other things [their workers] can be focusing on."

Curto said he recently asked Highway Department crew chief Robert Downey Jr. what he could accomplish "if we can get garbage off your back." Downey, who was present, told the board that garbage was "an absolute headache that's bogging the village down daily" and that his department devotes as many as three days

#### **Royal Highlights**

- One pickup for garbage and one for recyclables per week.
- Garbage pickup will shift to Thursday morning.
- Royal trucks will not enter the village before 6 a.m.
- Each tax parcel serviced by the village pickup will be eligible to receive a 35-, 65- or 95-gallon bin. Additional bins can be acquired for a fee.
- Each recycling bin is 35 gallons; each tax parcel serviced by the village is eligible. Detailed directions on what can and cannot be recycled will be fixed to the top of each bin. Sample bins can be viewed at Village Hall.
- If bins are damaged through normal wear and tear, Royal will replace them at no cost.
- Along with Main Street weekend pickup, Royal will offer Christmas tree collection, brush collection and one bulk collection per year for appliances, tires and electronics.
- Royal expects to receive bins to distribute about six weeks after it enters into the agreement with the village. It will deliver them on two successive Saturdays.

perweek to collection.

"That time could be better spent on infrastructure," Downey said, listing sidewalks, drainage, catch basins, building maintenance and village beautification as areas the department should focus on.

Most of the Wednesday meeting was filled by a detailed presentation by attorney Jim Constantino, who reviewed in detail the services Royal will provide. He said the transition should be "seamless," with only a few minor changes from the current pickup by village crews.

During the question-and-answer period, some residents pushed back against Royal's recommendation to use 95-gallon bins, emphasizing that the village should work toward reducing solid waste, not increasing it. Curto said that more needs to be done to educate residents regarding garbage and recycling.

In other business, the mayor was authorized to renew the contract with Andres Gil as prosecuting attorney for the traffic court. Putnam County used to provide prosecutors but withdrew its funding two years ago.

# The Calendar

# Playing the Bones

Beacon artist creates instruments with unexpected material

**By Alison Rooney** 

f nothing else, Kazumi Tanaka's sculptures prompt a double take.

The longtime Beacon resident creates musical instruments with animal skulls.

musical instruments with animal skulls. She also incorporates seashells, wood and her own hair.

Beyond Silence, an exhibit of Tanaka's instruments, along with paintings done with indigo ink, will open at Fridman Gallery Beacon on Feb. 19 with a reception from 4 to 8 p.m. An artist's talk will follow on March 12 with music played on one of the instruments by Sara Milonovich, who also lives in Beacon.

Tanaka, who was born in Osaka, Japan, began making the instruments after finding the skeletal remains of a groundhog in her backyard. She took the skull with her to a residency at an artists' retreat, McDowell, in Peterborough, New Hampshire.

"I was looking at the shape, and I started to see a guitar," she recalls. She plays piano and had been pondering how she could collaborate

"Buzzard Whistle"

with her many

friends

who were musicians. This seemed to fit.

The challenge was making a guitar from a skull. So she reached out through friends to two electronic music professors at Cornell University. "They told me to use certain materials and gave me a lot of other information," she says. "They also sent me a thin cable to insert into the object, which solved a huge technical problem."

Tanaka continued by making stringed instruments and "flutes out of bones, and a buzzard whistle," she says. That led to a small show in 2016.

In 2021, Tanaka was invited to do a residency in Salem, Germany, at L wie Materie, a space in the countryside near the Swiss border.

"I spent a month living in a beautiful cottage," she says. "The project [which she titled *Messenger Y*] started way before I got there, when the two

people who run it, Johanna Knöpfle and Matthias Schenkl, agreed to my idea of collecting animal skulls in the region and keeping a record of where each was found. Finally, they took photos, two of which are included in this show.

"While I was there we collected more and were heavily involved in cleaning the skulls so I could work with them," she says. "I wanted to get to know each species and animal. For me, in creating the instrument, I encounter each animal's remains, then I go home and study and learn about them, and slowly transform them into functional musical instruments.

"Over the course of years, as people have come to realize what I do, they've given me animal remains. I live with them, get to know them. The new sounds and meanings continue beyond the animal's death. If I'm having a hard time for some reason, it makes me feel better. I feel there's a healing power to this project."

roadkill, "we don't think twice of it, but it happens everywhere and can be transferred in a way to what we are going through in this pandemic.

We miss spending time together, lots of people have passed away.

We often have detachment,

She says that when drivers see



Kazumi Tanaka in her studio

Photo by Ronnie Farley

because we can't properly mourn. These days I pretty much stay home and work in my studio. It helps me to heal and I hope by sharing people will be regenerated, feel more positive about their lives."

The Fridman Gallery Beacon, at 475 Main St., is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Thursday to Sunday. See fridmangallery. com. Beyond Silence will continue through April 3.







Detail of "Harmony," featuring a two-string base

"Stork" (a work in progress)

"Visitor"

# THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

#### COMMUNITY

SAT 5

#### **Eagle Viewing**

**GARRISON** 

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Boscobel 1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638 boscobel.org

Constitution Marsh staff and local Audubon volunteers will help visitors spot south-migrating bald eagles that are roosting and feeding in the Hudson River Valley. Bring your own viewing equipment; it will not be shared. Also SAT 12. Masks required. Register for a time slot. Cost: \$12 (\$10 seniors; \$6 children; members, health care workers and ages 5 and younger free)

SAT 5

#### **Hudson Valley Wingfest 15**

**POUGHKEEPSIE** 

5 - 9 p.m. MJN Convention Center 14 Civic Center Plaza midhudsonciviccenter.org

Live music and chicken wings. *Cost:* \$30 to \$59

#### MUSIC

SAT 5

#### An Evening of Balkan Folk Music

REACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-431-4988 howlandculturalcenter.org

The group Dolunay and Choban Akoustik will perform music and dance from Albania, Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece. Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)

SAT 5

# Stephane Wrembel & The Django Experiment

BEACO

8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com The renowned gypsy-jazz



guitarist will perform music from his most recent release, *The Django Experiment VI.* Proof of vaccination required. *Cost:* \$30 (\$35 door)

SAT 5

#### Reeya Banerjee

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Dogwood 47 E. Main St. | 845-202-7500 dogwoodbeacon.com

The singer and bassist will perform songs from her EP, *The Way Up*.

SAT 5

#### Sun Voyager

BEACON

9 p.m. Quinn's 330 Main St. | 845-202-7447 facebook.com/QuinnsBeacon

The trio will perform, along with Will Brown as The Duke of Surl. *Cost: \$10* 

MON 7

#### **Jazz Night**

**BEACON** 

7 p.m. Quinn's

330 Main St. | 845-202-7447 facebook.com/QuinnsBeacon

The Aquarian Particle Acceleration Hootenanny will perform with Tim Berne, David Torn and Dean Sharp. *Cost: \$10* 

#### THURS 10

#### **Guy Davis**

**BEACON** 

7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club 2 Red Flynn Drive | 845-463-4660 beaconsloopclub.org

The blues icon, author and actor will share stories and music about his time with Pete Seeger and Clearwater.



#### THURS 10

#### **Rachael Sage**

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Dogwood 47 E. Main St. | 845-202-7500 dogwoodbeacon.com

The singer-songwriter and her band, The Sequins, will perform a new single and music from all her albums. See Page 15. *Free* 

#### FRI 1

#### **Mary Fahl**

#### BEACON

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

For her annual Valentine's Day weekend performance, the singer and songwriter will perform music from her solo career and time with The October Project. Proof of vaccination required. Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)

**FRI 11** 

#### The FABBA Show

PEEKSKILL

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

Marie-Claire Follet leads this ABBA tribute band. Proof of vaccination or recent negative test required. *Cost: \$30 to \$60* 

**FRI 11** 

#### **Eugene Tyler Band**

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Dogwood | 47 E. Main St. 845-202-7500 | dogwoodbeacon.com

The bluegrass trio will perform its original music.

**SAT 12** 

#### Willie Nile Band

BEACON

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

The rock band will perform songs from its latest release, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*. Proof of vaccination required. *Cost \$30 (\$35 door)* 

**SAT 12** 

#### **Double Shot**

BEACON

8 p.m. District Social | 511 Fishkill Ave. districtsocial.com/beacon

The band will play favorites from Steve Miller, Led Zeppelin and other classic rock acts.

SAT 12

#### Nellybombs

BEACON

8 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar 173 Main St. | reservabeacon.com

The neo-soul duo is Nelly Llano on vocals Francisco Mena on guitar.

#### **SAT 12**

#### **Art Thief**

BEACON

9 p.m. Quinn's 330 Main St. | 845-202-7447 facebook.com/QuinnsBeacon

Sam Smith, Andrew Jordan, Joe Spinelli and Bryan Ponton will play songs from their latest release, Tough Crowd. Cost: \$10

#### **VISUAL ART**

SAT 5

#### Janice La Motta | Patricia Zarate

**GARRISON** 

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

In A New Path to the Waterfall, La Motta's paintings and works were prompted by Mary Oliver's essay, "Of Power and Time." In All Together Now, Zarate uses abstract shapes in painting, drawing and installation to capture memory and sensation. Through March 6. There is no opening reception, but a closing reception is scheduled for March 5.

**SAT 12** 

#### Julie Ann Nagle | Eyedentity | Hanna Washburn

**BEACON** 

6 – 8 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St. 845-440-7584 | baugallery.org

Nagle's installations and mixed media work are on view in Gallery 1. Jahmane West and Duvian Montoya (artwork below) will show work in Gallery 2. In the Beacon Room, Washburn's textile and ceramic work will be on view. Through March 6.





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#### STAGE AND SCREEN

CATE

#### John Pizzi

BREWSTER

5 & 8:30 p.m. Tilly's Table 100 Route 312 | 845-808-1840 tillystablerestaurant.com

The ventriloquist has been seen on *America's Got Talent*. He will be joined by comedian Meghan Hanley. Price includes a buffet dinner. Ages 21 and older. Masks required if not vaccinated. *Cost: \$45* 

SAT 5

#### **Seven Keys to Baldpate**

#### WAPPINGERS FALLS

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

In this comedy thriller by George M. Cohan, a quirky cast tries to steal millions as a writer attempts to write a novel overnight to win a bet. Cost: \$20 (\$17 seniors, military and ages 12 and under)

#### **TALKS AND TOURS**

SAT 5

#### **Winter Seed Sowing**

BREWSTER

10 a.m. Via Zoom putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events

Learn how to sow native plant, shrub and tree seeds to add to your landscape in an inexpensive way and support nature in this workshop organized by the Cornell Cooperative Extension. Register by SUN 30. Cost: sliding scale

AT 5

#### **Hard Cider Talk & Taste**

**COLD SPRING** 

5 p.m. Via Zoom

putnamhistorymuseum.org

The authors of American Cider: A Modern Guide to a Historic Beverage will discuss the history and evolution of hard cider, while Kimberly Kae, co-owner of Metal House Cider, will share tasting notes in this seminar sponsored by the Putnam History Museum. Cost: \$20 (lecture only; \$15 members), \$65 (lecture and cider pairing; \$60 members), \$100 VIP

SUN 6

#### **Bird ID for Beginners**

**COLD SPRING** 

2 p.m. Hubbard Lodge

2800 Route 9 | bit.ly/bird-ID-hubbard

In this program co-sponsored by state parks, the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society and the Little Stony Point Citizens Association, learn how to use field guides, binoculars and field marks to become familiar with local birds. For ages 8 and older. Register online. *Free* 

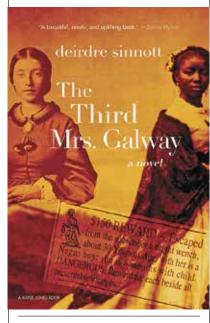
WED 9

#### The Third Mrs. Galway

**GARRISON** 

6:30 p.m. Putnam History Museum 63 Chestnut St. putnamhistorymuseum.org

Deirdre Sinnott will discuss her historical novel set in 1835 Utica centering on the discovery of runaway slaves as abolitionists are arriving for the founding meeting of the New York State Anti-Slavery Society. Attend in person or via Zoom. Co-sponsored with the Butterfield Library. *Cost: \$10* (members free)



THURS 10

#### **How to Declutter Your Life**

**BEACON** 

Noon. Via Zoom | beaconlibrary.org

The Howland Public Library will present Mike Ivankovich, host of the radio show *What's It Worth?*, who will share tips on throwing things away.

KIDS AND FAMILY

SAT 5

## Take Your Child to the Library Day

**COLD SPRING** 

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org

Children can join a scavenger hunt and receive free books.

SAT 5

#### **Introduction to Babysitting**

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. Butterfield Library 10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040 butterfieldlibrary.org

Amanda Lusk will teach the basics of child care to students ages 10 and older. *Free* 

MON 7

#### Kindergarten Registration

COLD SPRING

8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Haldane Elementary

15 Craigside Drive | haldaneschool.org 845-265-9254, x122

Call Sue Hylka to schedule an appointment for registration. Also TUES 8, WED 9, THURS 10, FRI 11.

THURS 10

#### **4-H Babysitting**

**BREWSTER** 

7 p.m. Via Zoom

putnam.cce.cornell.edu/events This bootcamp is the first of eight sessions hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension for students ages 11 and older.

**FRI 11** 

#### **Ukulele Club**

GARRISON

3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403

845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

The club invites tweens, teens and young adults of all skill levels to jam. The library has five ukuleles available or bring your own. (Call ahead to reserve an instrument.) The club meets on the second Friday of the month. Register online.

CIVIC

MON 7

#### **City Council**

BEACON

7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza 845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

MON 7

#### **School Board**

BEACON

7 p.m. Beacon High School 101 Matteawan Road 845-838-6900 | beaconk12.org

WED 9

#### Village Board

**NELSONVILLE** 

7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St. 845-265-2500 | nelsonvillenv.gov

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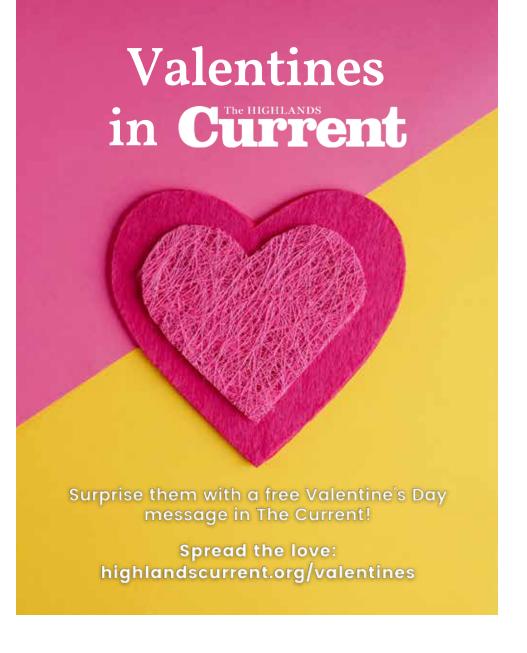
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#### **Mouths to Feed**

# Ciao Bello

By Celia Barbour

ortobellos are the shoulder pads of the mushroom world. For one thing, they take up too much space. They're also basi-

cally fraudulent as well as passé, having had their moment of fame in the 1980s and '90s.

I'm therefore less than proud to admit that I recently roasted up a baking sheet of portobello caps, smeared them with herby goat cheese, topped them with caramelized onions and served them for dinner. Moreover, they tasted quite great.

The recipe was something I'd first thrown together one afternoon while cooking at summer camp, after a case of portobellos showed up in place of the creminis that I'd ordered. This time around, I couldn't blame my suppliers. I was simply craving mushrooms' earthy, umami flavor and didn't feel like dealing with a lot of small fungi. Plus, they gave me an excuse to have the oven on for an extended spell, something I've been especially grateful for these past few weeks.

Thus I was predisposed to overlook portobellos' questionable attributes. Consider, for example, their origin story: Portobello mushrooms are actually nothing more than overgrown creminis. When, in the 1980s, mushroom growers realized they couldn't sell the meaty behemoths, they invented a new identity for them. The name "portobello" was dreamed up by American marketers to sound vaguely Italian.

Some people call them "portabellas" instead, and you can, too. The former, literally translated, means "handsome harbor,"

the latter "beautiful gate." Or you can use the names to differentiate between boy mushrooms and girl mushrooms, if you like to think of your vegetables as gendered. The American Mushroom Council, for its part, has decided to call them "portabellas" despite the fact that "portobello" is much more widely used across America.

But what's in a name, as the bella Juliet put it, especially one invented by a marketing team? At the end of the day, every food must succeed or fail on its own merits. Yet here, too, portobellos have struggled to maintain their dignity. I remember that the first ones Lencountered in New York City restaurants were beautifully cooked, with a tender, melting texture and a deeply concentrated flavor. Over the years, however, chefs must have grown impatient with these fungal slabs, or else confused diners got carried away with the idea that portobellos were the vegetarian equivalent to steak, as various slogans of the time suggested.

Whatever the reason, portobello mushrooms began to be served undercooked, often drenched in balsamic. To my mind, a rubbery, cold-hearted portobello has less in common with a rare steak than it does with a half-cooked potato or raw pie crust. The kindest thing you can say about it is that it has not lived up to its potential.

My recipe, therefore, gives these mushrooms the time they need. It's also versatile, as you can substitute bread crumbs or leftover rice or polenta for the potato puree. And while its most basic iteration is quite simple, as I mention above, even then it's not a dinneron-the-table-in-10-minutes snap. But what's the rush? Though my days of power suits and breakfast meetings are mercifully long gone, the past never really disappears from the kitchen. Rediscovering a forgotten ingredient is like switching on the radio to Dire Straits singing "when you gonna realize it was just that the time was wrong?" and discovering that it sounds better today than it ever did.

The name "portobello" was dreamed up Italian. Some people call them "portabellas" instead, and you can, too.

# by American marketers to sound vaguely

#### Portobellos with Spinach, Goat **Cheese and Caramelized Onions**

You can substitute leftover rice or polenta for the potatoes, or skip the starch altogether and just top the roasted mushroom caps with a smear of herb-and-garlic goat cheese, the onions and the parmesan.

#### **INGREDIENTS**

Olive oil

2 large onions, thinly sliced

Salt and pepper

2 tablespoons fresh thyme leaves

8 portobello mushrooms. brushed clean. stems removed

2 cloves garlic, skin on

3 Yukon gold potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks

2 tablespoons butter or cream

4 ounces fresh goat cheese

1 cup chopped spinach

1/4 cup grated parmesan

- 1. Heat the oven to 375 degrees. Caramelize the onions: Heat a large skillet over medium. Add a splash of olive oil, then the sliced onions; sprinkle with salt and pepper. Give it a stir, then spread the onions across the surface of the pan, patting them down gently. Cook about 30 minutes, stirring very occasionally at first, then a little more frequently as they brown, scraping the browned bits off the bottom of the pan. Cook until deep golden-brown. Stir in the fresh thyme and set aside.
- 2. Meanwhile, roast the mushrooms and garlic: Lay the mushroom caps, gill-side up, on a parchment-lined baking sheet along with the garlic cloves. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roast about 30 minutes, until quite soft, flipping the mushrooms over halfway through. (When flipping, I like to collect any juices that have gathered in the mushroom caps and add it to the goat cheese mixture.) Set aside, keeping the oven on.
- 3. In a medium saucepan, boil the peeled potatoes in salted water just until soft. Drain and pass through a ricer.
- 4. Return the saucepan to the stove. Over medium-low, warm the goat cheese and butter or cream until soft and blended. Mix in the potatoes and chopped spinach; season to taste with salt and pepper. When the garlic is roasted, squeeze it from its skin, mash it with a fork and add to the potato mixture.
- 5. Turn the mushrooms gill-side up. Place a scoop of the potato mixture on each and press flat. Top with the parmesan and a dollop of the onions. Return to the oven for about 7 to 9 minutes, or until golden.

#### **NOTICE**

The Philipstown Planning Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, February 17th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY AND virtually via Zoom.

If you would like to attend, please visit the following link:

Register in advance for this webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/  $WN\_riE4CHzQQ262\_G4nRq3Hpg$ 

**Webinar ID:** 879 1723 7024 **Passcode:** 840303

**One tap mobile:** 1-646-558-8656,,87917237024#,,,,\*840303# US (New York)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about

OR email crockett@philipstown.com or nzuckerman@philipstown.com to request login information before 7 pm on February 17th, 2022.

If you are unable to join in person, the meeting will be viewable on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Planning Board February 2022.

#### **NOTICE**

The Philipstown Zoning Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 14th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. virtually via Zoom.

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_LsmX\_26QxyZOsNWKiZsQQ

Webinar ID: 834 2655 3702 Passcode: 250580

One tap mobile: 1-646-558-8656,,83426553702#,,,,\*250580# US

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

OR email crockett@philipstown.com to request login information before 7 pm on February 14th, 2022.

If you are unable to join in person, the meeting will be viewable on youtube. com, search for Philipstown Zoning Board February.



**By Alison Rooney** 

A lthough Rachael Sage is a singer, her new album is not sung. It's collaborative, and it's poetry.

"I've been a singer-songwriter for so many years, so it's been exciting to reinvent oneself," the Beacon resident says of her collaboration with cellist Dave Eggar, a three-time Grammy nominee who happens to be the son of two poets.

"We had been on tour when the pandemic hit, and we parted to hunker down, but missed each other and stayed in touch," she says. "I was sending him some spoken word I had recorded, and soon we were experimenting. I would hum him melodies, he would play them back on the cello. I reached out to musicians I love, such as David Krakauer, who is a Klezmer clarinetist. Because he was at home and not going anywhere, he was available for the first time."

The result was *Poetica*, which has 18 spoken-word tracks. Sage will perform pieces from the album on Thursday (Feb. 10) at Dogwood in Beacon, along with her music, with a return date on March 4.

Sage, who moved to Beacon not long ago, also hits the road this month to open for singer Howard Jones in a 10-stop tour that includes Daryl's House in Pawling on Feb. 17.

The singer has done her share of touring since recording her first album (of 14) two decades ago. She was writing songs at age 6, she says. "There was no goal because I didn't know what I was doing," she recalls. "It just felt like magic, giving me an incredible sense of peace and satisfaction by



Singer Rachael Sage's new album is poetic

arranging puzzle pieces on an instrument, seeing how they made you feel emotion. Later, after making some observations on friendships, I wrote some radio-friendly pop-y songs."

While attending Stanford, she "had the bright idea to roll up my sleeves and teach myself everything I could about putting out an album. Every time I came home, I worked with an engineer and we distilled what would become my first album. I had no idea how complicated it would become — I was young and fearless."

After graduating, Sage spent a year touring with Ani Di Franco and learning how to manage her own burgeoning career. "I called my apartment an office, got a fax machine and figured it all out." Several years later she began signing other artists and created her own label, MPress Records.

During those early professional years, Sage says she "intentionally put myself on a bit of a treadmill to learn how to be a better live performer. I went from being a teenager with regular gigs at coffee houses to being on tour, and it was there that I evolved comedy and lightheartedness."

Opening for others brought challenge and clarity: "The more I tried to guess or suss out what audiences might want or need, it wasn't working," she recalls. "Early on, if I was opening for, say, Judy Collins, I would play my folkiest songs. Now I don't do that. Pandering is the enemy in all art. The best connections forged with any audience have come from being myself, as much as I could be."

With *Poetica*, Sage is diving into something new. "For me, poetry is a much more subconscious style of writing than songwriting. Probably all the material on the record,



from a lyrical standpoint, were pieces I was compelled to write emotionally. It's sort of a mental tightrope that I put myself on and can only do when I have something percolating that I need to express.

"The material wasn't just native to my body and my memory like a song where I memorize it and play it organically," she says. "For this I had to really learn it, like a script. It was a little more challenging, intellectually, not knowing in your ear what to play next."

At the height of the pandemic, while living in New York City, Sage felt a strong urge to leave, to find "a place to chill out in." She thought of friends who live in Beacon, such as photographer Tom Moore, and rented an Airbnb. "There are a lot of brilliant musicians unassumingly peppering the Beacon area," she says. "I'm blown away by the talent and creativity here."

Another reason for the move was Sage's recovery from endometrial cancer, which she wrote about on *Character*, her prior album. "There was a window where we all felt the tangible reprieve from the pandemic, and that's where I made the parallel to my cancer recovery: to exist from a place of moment-to-moment gratitude. In some ways I feel I carry a brighter torch. I'm carrying it partly in honor of some people I lost during the pandemic, and out of gratitude."

Dogwood is located at 47 E. Main St. in Beacon. Both shows begin at 8:30 p.m.; there is no cover charge. To stream or purchase Poetica or Sage's other albums, see poeticaproject.com or rachaelsage.com.

## **Current Classifieds**

#### **HELP WANTED**

**FARMER** — Position available beginning March 15. Looking for aspiring farmer to manage organic vegetable farm. Duties include planting, weeding, and harvesting. Must have own vehicle. Please send resume to davorenfarm@gmail.com.

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** — Philipstown Depot Theatre/Philipstown Recreation seeks part-time technical director for 20 hours a week. Duties: Supervise and/or run lights, sound and projections at Depot Theatre. Instruct/supervise interns. Supervise/assist with set

building / installation. Additional 5 hours/week possible for building maintenance. Contact: depotmembership@gmail.com. Send resume/ letter of interest to: Philipstown Depot Theatre, P.O. Box 221, Garrison, NY 10524.

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**Roots and Shoots** 

# Gardening in the Snow

By Pamela Doan

ardeners are ready to go even as the snow and ice pile up.
"After you've ordered

all the seeds, you're ready to get your hands

dirty and get moving," says Seamus Carroll, who, with other members of the Philipstown Garden Club, gathered recently for winter sowing using milk jugs as mini-greenhouses.

Many trees, shrubs and perennials need to be exposed to cold, damp conditions in order for the seeds to germinate. It can be accomplished in many ways, the simplest being to sow the seeds outdoors in the fall.

The Garden Club members were sowing seeds of native perennials and pollinator favorites for their own gardens and for their annual plant sale.

"Planting in the jug makes it more confined and controllable," Carroll explains. "The dome makes it warmer and accelerates seed growth. We place the jugs outdoors so the seeds are exposed to cold for several months."

While tossing seeds onto the soil seems easier, weeds will pop up and it can be hard to identify which are desirable when plants are only a few inches tall. Weeding is also time-consuming and, as the soil is disturbed when the weed is pulled out of the ground, can pull seeds to the surface. It's a long cycle when perennials can take a couple of seasons to reach their potential.

After the seedlings sprout, they can be thinned and transplanted to larger pots or into the soil. I learned about another method from *A Way to Garden*, Margaret Roach's blog and podcast, when she interviewed the founder of the nonprofit Wild Seed Project, Heather McCargo.

McCargo described a method in which seeds are planted in 4-inch or 8-inch pots, watered well, and put outdoors with a frame of weighted hardware cloth to protect them from wildlife.

Instead of dividing the seedlings in late spring, McCargo recommended moving the clump to a larger pot and letting the plants grow until fall before dividing and transplanting into the ground. Her point was that native perennials grow slowly in the first season and dividing them early damages the roots. The fall transplant timeline gives them more root growth and the plants go dormant soon after. The Wild Seed Project website at wildseedproject.net has instructions for growing dozens of native trees, shrubs, perennials, grasses and ferns, as well as seeds to order.

Lauren Carrigan of Cold Spring is in her second winter of growing in raised beds





Although surrounded by snow, the bok choy is cozy inside.

de. Priotos by Lauren Carrigan

with row covers to extend the season. When I spoke with her this week, she was happy to report that her bok choy was alive and well and ready to harvest. Even after the frigid temperatures and snow we've had, the row covers manage to stabilize the soil temperature for hardy greens.

After you've ordered all the seeds, you're ready to get your hands dirty and get moving.

#### ~Seamus Carroll

Carrigan's eagerness for an early start motivated her to find simple designs using PVC pipe to make tunnels in the winter of 2021. "I needed space to move the seedlings I had been growing indoors under lights and, by covering the raised beds, we were harvesting Swiss chard by April," she

said. When she ordered seeds this year, she looked for cold-hardy varieties that will thrive under the row covers.

Cold frames are another option for extending the growing season. They can be built on top of raised beds, placed directly on top of the soil, or dug into the ground. The basic construction relies on a transparent cover to let in sunlight and insulate the plants. Old windows and glass shower doors can have a second life in cold frames. Because it is a closed system without the airflow of a milk jug or permeable cloth cover, a cold frame needs to be opened on warmer days. Plants can overheat and humidity can build up without attention.

From least maintenance to most maintenance, there are many ways to grow food during the winter. As my paid work has become more intensive in spring, summer and fall, I've realized that winter vegetable gardening makes more sense because I have more time and attention. And as I've learned from year-round composting, the key is a close and convenient location. Trudging across the yard in snow or ice can be a big deterrent.

#### **NOTICE**

#### PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

#### Public Hearing - February 17th, 2022

The Planning Board of the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 17th, 2022 starting at 7:30 p.m. in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY and via Zoom to consider the following application:

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

Project: Minor Project: Development of a new single-family dwelling and in-ground swimming pool to be served by a new septic system and water well, and related site improvements including new access from private Crest Road.

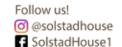
At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Planning Board at the Building Department, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring (behind Town Hall). Prior contact with Cheryl Rockett is required to arrange access to the documents, at (845) 265-5202.

The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. If you would like to attend the meeting, please email crockett@philipstown.com to request login information before 7:00 pm on February 17th, 2022.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 20th day of January, 2022 Neal Zuckerman, Chair



Visit our new location: 488 Main St in Beacon Also available: Curbside pick-up, free shipping, free delivery in Beacon



# **Putnam OKs COVID Funds for Golf Course**

Also discusses Cold Spring trash, limits on comment

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

he Putnam County Legislature voted 6-2 on Tuesday (Feb. 1) to spend \$400,000 in federal COVID-19 funds on asbestos removal and other upgrades at the Putnam County Golf Course, disregarding objections from two legislators and prompting an outcry from residents, who were barred from speaking until after the vote.

Legislators Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley, and William Gouldman, who represents most of Putnam Valley, cast the two "no" votes at the 1 hour, 41 minute session in Putnam's Old Courthouse in Carmel. Montgomery and Gouldman also were the only legislators Tuesday to wear masks. She is the Legislature's sole Democrat; he is a Republican, like their seven colleagues.

Sparking more friction, Legislator Neal Sullivan of Carmel-Mahopac, who chairs the Legislature, announced a rule restricting members to one comment each per agenda item.

Controversy also arose when Montgomery requested that Putnam help pay for such necessities as the pickup of tourism-related trash and upkeep of two public washrooms in Cold Spring, which draws large crowds of visitors.

The assignment of \$400,000 in American Rescue Plan Act money to the golf course was approved last week by the legislative Audit Committee, which sent the measure to the full Legislature for ratification.

Overall, Putnam expects \$19 million in federal ARPA assistance. It received the first \$9.5 million last summer

As she had during the Audit Committee review, Montgomery questioned why Putnam is using ARPA money for the golf course, which made a profit in 2021 and also can tap a special account into which the county puts \$250,000 yearly and whose balance remains obscure, though one county official estimated it at \$1 million. "We are ignoring that fund" and instead taking money meant for rescuing an economic sector hit hard by COVID-19, she said. "So, we're rescuing a golf course that's already flush with money."

Montgomery also noted that about three dozen residents wrote to legislators expressing concerns about the use of the \$400,000.

"We're not rescuing the golf course. We're improving and fixing it," Sullivan replied.

Gouldman argued that ARPA money could better go toward such projects as fixing three malfunctioning traffic lights in Putnam Valley and renovating the former Sheriff's Department substation there so it can house other county services.

But Legislator Carl Albano of Carmel said the golf course work "is good use of the money. We want to keep the facility healthy."

"We're doing nothing wrong," asserted Legislator Joe Castellano of Brewster.

"The golf course serves our community. It is not an elite course. It is the people's golf course," said Legislator Ginny Nacer-



In a screenshot from the Putnam County Legislature's Tuesday (Feb. 1) meeting in Carmel, Legislator Nancy Montgomery, far left, raises her hand in a request to be allowed to comment.

ino of Patterson. She and Legislator Paul Jonke of Southeast attributed much of the opposition from residents to allegations that Putnam is misapplying the \$400,000. "There was a campaign to spin it that way," said Nacerino, who described many letters as copied and pasted.

Stacy Dumont, who wrote a letter, contradicted Nacerino (who defeated her in the race in November to represent Patterson on the Legislature). "My letter was not copied and pasted," Dumont said. "I don't think it's the right place to spend the money."

Other residents (none from Philipstown) also blasted use of the \$400,000 for the golf course.

"The optics are terrible," said Judy Allen, of Putnam Valley.

"There are a lot of people in this county living very marginally," said a Putnam Valley man, proposing that Putnam use ARPA funds "to help people in need."

A Kent woman suggested the county "take a loan from people who use the golf course." By using ARPA money, "you're putting the needs of the few before those of the many. And that's what hurts."

Albano said allocation of the ARPA dollars would be discussed publicly. "And we'll spend it wisely."

In a Jan. 28 letter to Mayor Kathleen Foley of Cold Spring, County Executive MaryEllen Odell asked for "feedback regarding the possibility of partnering in ARPA-related projects ... to aid the people of Putnam County in the pandemic recovery." Nelson-ville received a similar letter, although Supervisor John Van Tassel said on Monday (Jan. 31) that Philipstown's version had not yet arrived. Odell instructed towns and villages to provide input by Feb. 28.

Montgomery said that although Odell's letter did not go out to some communities until Monday, the county has known about its ARPA share since March 2021.

The issue of restoring the aid that Putnam once provided Cold Spring to help with trash pickup in busy tourism periods surfaced when the Legislature voted 7-1, with Montgomery the dissenting "no," to transfer \$7,103 for the county tourism bureau to fund a "Film Putnam" initiative and similar activities.

Promotion of Putnam as a filming location is already supported by other programs, she said, while tourism-related issues have been ignored, including those that involve health and safety, such as collecting trash generated by heavy tourism and helping maintain of the public restrooms in Cold Spring.

"We generate the most tourism and the most sales tax from tourism," she said.

Unlike most counties in New York, Putnam does not return a portion of sales tax to the municipalities in which it originates.

"I don't think it's the tourism [bureau's] job to supply port-a-potties or remove trash in Cold Spring," Jonke told Montgomery.

"I'm not aware of the county taking care of bathrooms, anywhere, or garbage removal," Albano added.

In other business, Sullivan revealed a new legislative meeting policy. "Everybody is going to get one chance to speak on these issues" coming before the Legislature. "Then we're going to move on to the next item" on the agenda. "We're only going to have one comment each."

"We can't follow up on a false claim that another legislator made?" Montgomery asked.

"No," Sullivan answered.

"How is that democracy?" Montgomery questioned.

"There will be no crosstalk or commenting on other legislators' comments," Sullivan emphasized. "That has nothing to do with democracy."

"We're not here to debate the issues," which should occur in committee sessions, Nacerino stated.

Albano agreed. "It's amazing that when we're in front of a camera, these questions come up," he said, referring to the device that, with the legislators again convening in person, records formal monthly meetings (but not committee sessions). That monthly meeting "is the time to vote and make a simple comment" only — not to debate, he said.

The eight Republican legislators also gather before many meetings in a secret session as a caucus, where no publicly available minutes are kept and state law allows any topic to be discussed.



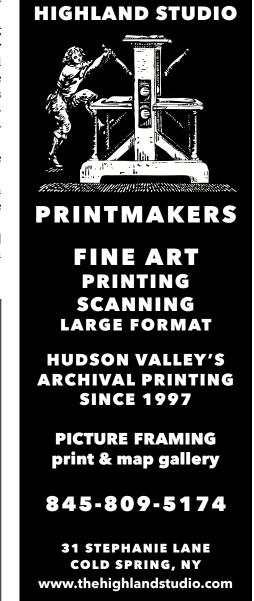
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#### Foundry (from Page 1)

He has a love for cooking that began in childhood. "If I had egg drop soup at a Chinese restaurant I'd go home, open a can of chicken noodle soup, add an egg and call it chicken noodle egg drop soup!" he recalls.

With Consaga at the helm, the Foundry quickly became known for its made-fromscratch menu, including soups, quiche, salads, pies, cakes, Linzer tarts, muffins and two-handed sandwiches.

But it was French toast that put the Foundry on the culinary map after a customer asked to have the dish topped with fruit. Never known for his stingy portions, Consaga added strawberries, blueberries, bananas and apple. The customer returned the next day and ordered it again. And again, the next day, with his son — a double order.

The customer took a photo and introduced the internet to Foundry French toast.

"Initially it wasn't bad," Consaga said.
"But then it took off." People came from miles around. "I'm very proud of it," he said.
"But it's also been the bane of my existence."

Consaga groans recalling the occasional customer who told him they would love to run a restaurant. "What they don't understand is that the restaurant runs you," Consaga said, adding it's different when you're the owner, chef, bookkeeper and, at times, dishwasher.

"It's all-consuming," he said. "People just don't imagine the amount of work."

The Foundry wasn't just a workplace. For many it was about community — from the





Haldane first graders quizzed Consaga (left) about his business in May 2019 for a class project.

File photo by Michael Turton

morning Scrabble games to potluck parties and live music.

About 20 years ago, Consaga decided it was too expensive to go to Manhattan for New Year's Eve, so he brought the festivities to the cafe. The first celebration drew only a handful of people. That changed in Year Two with the creation of The Foundry All Stars, a group of musicians who became the de facto Dec. 31 house band.

Its members shifted through the evening. "Ten to 15 people would play at different times," Consaga said. "Sometimes there were so many musicians, not everyone got to play."

The potluck, BYOB, live band and a shoulder-to-shoulder crowd became a tradition. "Those parties were true community," Consaga said.

In 2005, his affection for the community, and his beloved cafe, were captured on Hallmark TV's *The New Morning Show*. It starred Consaga, supported by a cast of die-hard customers. (It's online at bit.ly/foundry-video.)

In 2017, *The Current* published "Cafe Confidential" in which Consaga recounted some of the cafe's most bizarre moments and eccentric visitors (see highlandscurrent. org/cafe-confidential). It remains one of the most-read stories on the newspaper's site.

One woman still stands out, Consaga said. "She was hot!" he recalled. "High heels, white, see-through blouse, black leather miniskirt."

But it wasn't her attire he remembers most. On a previous visit, she had offered to buy a beautiful, antique doorknob on a door at the back of the cafe but Consaga said he wasn't interested in selling.

On her second visit she came prepared. "She replaced it with a cheap, glass knob," Consaga said with a laugh, adding that he's



The Foundry Cafe debuted in Cold Spring in 1996.

Photo by Alexander Wilcox Cheek

had nearly 200 music CDs stolen as well over the years.

But the bad memories are few and far between. For Consaga, the good ones are about the people, including celebrities he got to know and like, from Lou Reed and Bernie Williams to Diane Weiss, Pete Seeger, Rupert Holmes and Scarlett Johansson.

And the locals.

"There are some really, really good people in Cold Spring," Consaga said. "So many of my customers are friends, great and interesting people from so many fields of knowledge." He hesitated to name anyone but made two exceptions. "Sharon and Colleen," he said. "Between them they've been with me for more than years."

He also said he would take a few souve-

nirs. "I have important pictures of me with Guy Davis and Amanda Mosher, and a painting of the Foundry Cafe by Cheryl Johnson," he said. "And a thick stack of posters from every band that's ever played here."

So why is he giving it up?

"At 67, with herniated discs in my back and the arthritis, I'm well past ready for retirement," Consaga said. "It's just kind of the right time."

He said he has a few plans once the weather warms up, such as heading to the cliffs at Little Stony Point with his guitar and a beverage or two.

"And I'd like to go fishing," he said. "In the past five years I've gone maybe twice. I didn't catch anything, but it's nice just to sit there."

#### Pandemic Pivots (from Page 1)

sweeping the state, the couple decided to buy a weekend retreat and settled on Beacon. That became the place they set up home offices when their companies switched to remote work.

Suddenly, there were no commutes or separate offices. They bought office supplies, standing desks and a grill for the backyard.

"Now, every single day we have lunch together; every single day we have dinner together," said Petty.

He resisted giving that up when his company began pushing employees to come back full-time to the office. He tried working there intermittently but found it less productive.

Petty said he began seriously thinking of striking out on his own in January 2021, but decided to wait until the economy improved. He decided to go forward in July, starting his own architecture firm, Postscript Studio (postscriptstudio.com).

It was a frightening decision, he said, but as he began telling people he knew, it became "exciting really quickly" because some of them responded by telling him about projects for which they needed an architect.

"If this doesn't work out, if I suddenly can't make it and need an income stream again, or want to return, I can do that really, really easily right now," he said.

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A trained musician with a degree in jazz performance from the University of North Texas, **Kat Selman** daydreamed for years about owning a nutrition business.

She believes that would still be a daydream if not for the pandemic, which became the catalyst for Sun Flower Wellness (stoneflowerwellness.com), the Cold Spring business she recently launched.

Her services include one-on-one nutrition counseling that is a "deeper dive" than what a dietician or physician would offer, said Selman. Clients can expect an in-depth analysis of their diet and recommendations for improving energy and overall health, including managing weight and blood sugar.

"I am definitely happier now," said Selman.
"I feel like what I'm doing is helping more people, and that feels really good to me."

On the eve of the pandemic, both Kat and her husband, Stephen, were working at the Brooklyn Music Factory, a school for children and adults. Kat started out teaching voice and songwriting piano before moving into marketing.

Like other public and private schools, Brooklyn Music switched to virtual learning in March 2020, when the first COVID-19 cases appeared. Like many other people, Selman thought the disruption would be over within weeks.

"Then, everything just unraveled," said Selman, whose job status was reclassified from full-time to contractor and her benefits cut. "I watched my hours get decreased and dry up."

She decided to pursue her longtime interest in nutrition, enrolling in a one-year program that started in September 2020 and earning certification as a nutritional therapy practitioner.



Stephen Selman



Kat Selman

After graduating, Selman introduced herself by posting on the Philipstown Locals group on Facebook. She expected a handful of responses, but received a "tidal wave."

"That said to me there's a need for holistic nutrition in our community," she said.

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STEPHEN SELMAN taught music during the week, and on weekends recorded New York City artists who trekked to East Mountain Studio (eastmountainstudiony.com), the production space located behind his home in Philipstown.

He also gave private instrument lessons to a few students, but "it wasn't something I was trying to grow," said Selman.

The pandemic shutdown stopped the flow of musicians, and the Brooklyn Music Factory, the school where he taught guitar and bass, switched to virtual learning.

As the length of the shutdown grew, so did the uncertainty about when he would return to teaching in person. Then, the school canceled its summer camp, a big source of revenue, he said.

"Things started getting a little bit more dire week-by-week and month-by-month," said Selman. "All of us who were salaried employees saw our salaries significantly cut."

In June 2020, Selman decided to focus exclusively on private lessons for guitar, bass, piano, drums, ukulele or songwriting and production. A year and a half later, East Mountain Studio is "completely booked," he said. Most of the students are children, but



Tara O'Grady in Donegal, Ireland, 2019



Sarah Uzelac at Topfield

Selman also has adult students as old as 72.

Despite the challenges of running a business, especially when ongoing COVID-19 infection means often rescheduling lessons for students who have to quarantine, Selman said he doesn't feel "half the stress or burnout" as he did when teaching at previous jobs.

"What I've found myself telling other people is, at the end of the day, having taught for a long time now, this is the most positive teaching experience I've ever had, despite all the difficulties and hard circumstances," he said.

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**SARAH UZELAC** could have brushed off the text from a friend in early November about an executive director opening at Topfield Equestrian Center in Philipstown.

The Beacon resident also could have abandoned her interest in the job after seeing that the application deadline had passed, and returned to teach at Mount Saint Mary College when the spring semester started in January.

Instead, the longtime psychology professor said she is brimming with new energy and excitement over her role. She takes over as the center, which provides horse therapy to people with developmental, mental and physical disabilities, prepares to resume its riding programs after a pandemic-long hiatus.

Even before the pandemic, college faculty had been "under a lot of stress," particularly those working at small private colleges like Mount Saint Mary. Uzelac taught at the school for 15½ years, earning tenure, but the job "just became more stress than it was fun and fulfilling anymore," she said.

The pandemic brought more challenges. Schools and faculty faced the challenge of teaching remotely and then the pressure to bring students back to the classroom amid concerns about safety.

"There's a real pressure to get back in the classroom even though it may not be the best public health decision and that came to a head," she said.

As a lifelong rider who had just retired her horse in September 2019, Uzelac emailed the Topfield recruiter for permission to send her resume despite the expired deadline. After a series of interviews, she was offered the position.

She gave notice to Mount Saint Mary on Dec. 15 after making, a week earlier, the decision to give up a tenured professorship. Any fear she had about leaving "evaporated" when the decision was made, she said.

"There's so much for me to learn, and I feel so excited about learning it," she said.

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**TARA O'GRADY** remembers the date of her band's last gig: March 10, 2020.

Nine days earlier, New York had reported its first COVID-19 case. At the time, O'Grady was singing every night in jazz clubs in Manhattan, backed by a band that included Michael Howell, a former guitarist for Dizzy Gillespie.

"When I said goodbye to my band that night, I didn't know that I was not going to see them again," she said.

Within a week, said O'Grady, she was sick with a case of COVID-19 that left her feverish for 21 days. After sheltering in her Queens apartment for three months, she emerged to a dried-up music scene and a voice weakened by long-haul COVID, the term given to symptoms people experience for months or more after their infection has ended.

O'Grady decided to join the exodus from New York City. A friend suggested Beacon and, drawn to the mountains, river and the friendliness of residents, she moved to the city in August 2020.

That is where she launched, in February 2021, Butterflycoach.org, where she leads online wellness workshops, offers counseling and blogs about being positive.

"I figured, if I can't be out singing and entertaining audiences, I might as well be inspiring them with positive vibes online," said O'Grady.

She also decided to tweak something she had been doing before the pandemic — organizing group tours to coincide with her musical performances in France, Italy, Ireland and other countries in Europe.

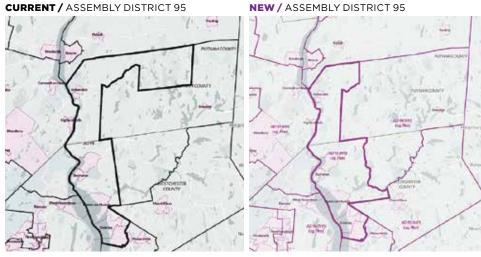
A tour scheduled for Ireland in September will focus on wellness, not music, with activities like hiking, writing and painting. O'Grady is planning another for an olive farm in Tuscany in the spring of 2023.

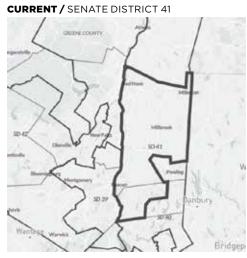
"People now, they're desperate to travel, they want to connect in a more meaningfully way," she said. "This pandemic has shifted our perspective; it's made us realize what's really important."

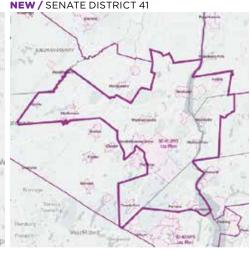
Have you made a pivot? Share your story at highlandscurrent.org.

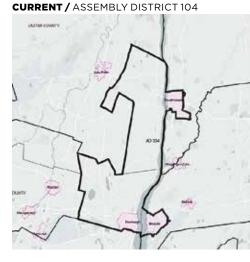
# CURRENT / CONGRESS DISTRICT 18

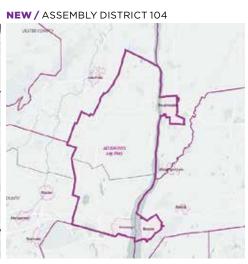












**ASSEMBLY** 

	SEN	IATE	CONG	RESS	
		New		New	
	41	41	18	18	
Population	306,452	321,027	748,442	776,971	
% Difference average*	-3.9	0.1	-3.7	0	
Voting age population	247,460	249,795	576,923	603,809	
% Black	9.3	13.4	9.4	10.1	
% Hispanic	14.4	28.7	19.4	19.8	
% Biden vote	55.4	57.4	52.5	54.2	
% Trump vote	44.6	42.6	47.5	45.8	

\*This figure is the percentage that the population is above or below the average district size Philipstown and Beacon are both in Senate District 41 and Congressional District 18.

#### New New 95 95 104 104 129,510 129,103 **Population** 126,751 137,192 % Difference average\* -2.9 -41 -6.4 1.9 Voting age population 102,609 102,120 99,122 107.411 8.5 % Black 8.6 20.7 19.5 % Hispanic 29 28.6 27 26.5 % Biden vote 65.8 67 64.7 62.9 % Trump vote 34.2 33 35.3 37.1

\*This figure is the percentage that the population is above or below the average district size Philipstown is part of Assembly District 95 and Beacon is part of District 104.

#### Redistricting (from Page 1)

Democratic majority after an independent commission, along party lines, failed to agree on a single plan to send to lawmakers.

Serino voted on Thursday (Feb. 3) against the state plan, which passed the Senate, 43-20, while Sandy Galef, a Democrat whose Assembly District 95 includes Philipstown, and Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat whose Assembly District 104 includes Beacon, were among the members who voted "yes" in a 118-29 vote.

If Hochul signs off on the maps, there is concern that legal challenges could push the date that they go into effect past March 1, when candidates can begin gathering signatures on nominating petitions for primaries. For instance, three Democratic candidates have declared that they hope to succeed Galef, who said she will not run for re-election in November after nearly 30 years in the Legislature.

Serino said in a statement on Thursday that the new boundaries represented "a sad day for democracy in New York."

"These maps have been blatantly gerry-

mandered to benefit the majority party at the state and federal levels, and as a result they completely disregard the will of the people of New York, who voted overwhelmingly in support of an independent redistricting process," she said.

Beacon would remain in the 104th Assembly district, which would expand to include a larger part of Ulster County to the northwest. Philipstown would stay in the 95th, which would lose part of Putnam County and take in more of Westchester.

The state Legislature also, on Wednesday (Feb. 2), approved maps for the state's congressional delegation. They passed the

Senate, 43-20, with a "no" vote from Serino and the Assembly, 103-45, with "yes" votes from Galef and Jacobson. Beacon and Philipstown would remain in the 18th Congressional District, a seat currently held by U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat in his fifth term.

At the federal level, the congressional district maps would give Democrats an advantage in 22 of 26 New York districts. Republicans hold eight of the current 27 seats, but New York lost one because of declining population since the last census in 2010.

In addition to Serino and other Republicans, some policy groups are criticizing

the revised boundaries as unfair. Michael Li, who focuses on redistricting and gerry-mandering at the Brennan Center for Justice, pointed out in *The Guardian* on Thursday that Democrats would control 85 percent of the new districts. "It's a very solidly blue state," he said of New York. "But it's not as blue as these maps have it."

The League of Women Voters of New York State was also not happy. In a statement released Tuesday (Feb. 1), it said Democrats in the Legislature had "steamrolled" the maps through the Assembly and Senate.

"The league believes voters should choose their representatives, not that representatives should choose their voters," it said. "Partisan gerrymandering is banned under the state constitutional amendment passed in 2014, yet the maps released on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 reflect a Legislature that appears to care more about favoring partisan interests than it does for fair maps."

For more detail on the boundary changes, enter your address at newyork.redistrictingandyou.org, a site created by the Center for Urban Research at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

These maps have been blatantly gerrymandered to benefit the majority party at the state and federal levels, and as a result they completely disregard the will of the people of New York, who voted overwhelmingly in support of an independent redistricting process

~ State Sen. Sue Serino

#### **BEACON**

#### Grade 9

Principal's List

Beckett Anderson, Anabelle Arginsky, Taryn Beardsley, Sally Betterbid, Isabel Bunker, Christine Chen, Parthib Das, Amadea Ferris, Justin Gerardes, AvaMaria Gianna, Sarah Jaafar, Charlie Klein, Ela Lyons, Josephine Mallon, Paige McCredo, Jada Medley, Emma Merola, Ryann Meyer, Addison Miller, David Quezada, Katherine Ruffy, Anastasia Santise, Chloe Sheffield, Jacob Signorelli, Nix Spodek, Serena Stampleman, Mika-Gisselle Tates, Amya Thompson, Sortia Tripaldi, Roque Vianna, Malcolm Wilson, Ava Zeoli, Francis Zezza

#### High Honor Roll

Riley Adnams, Nicholas Albra, Kendall Alston, Lila Burke, Shyla Camacho, Elizabeth Carbone, Evelina Diebboll, Tayler Finley, Tori Foster, Messiah Gardner, Mackenzie Harman, Bailey Hernandez, Jeannae' Jean-Francois, Rory LaDue, Reilly Landisi, Allen McKay, Ronan Moran, Zoe Moreno, Lance Morgan, Rory Mowen, Mackenzie Phillips, Josue Pintado, Christine Robinson, Daveya Rodriguez, Bethany Rudolph, Breanna Rudolph, Mehr Sagri, Gabriel Salcedo, Serenity Smith, Azryella Soto, Natalia Sulsona, Charles Zellinger

#### $Honor\,Roll$

Isabella Baffuto, Jude Betancourt, A'Jah Bradshaw-Washington, Daniel Bridges, Christopher Carton Jr., Aiden Claudio, Avery Davis, Sofia Diaz, William Echevarria, Aiden Farrell, Chiara Fedorchak, Lucas Foret, Willa Freedman, Aidon George, Antonio Gonzalez IV, Noelle Haase, Samuel Hutchison, Mercer Jordan, Luke Kozlik, Mark McCabe, Madison Mianti, Darryl Montgomery Jr., Megan Nicholson, Lindsay Pedersen, Albion Qelaj, Alexander Quinci, Matthew Reeves, Shilo Reynolds, Kayli Shand, Brody Timm, Sophia Tonyes, Justice Travis, Michael VanBuren, Cirsten Vaughan, Brayden Vlasaty, Sevana West, Holly Whittemore, Saniyah Wiltshire

#### Grade 10

Principal's List

Alejandra Calderon, Emma Campagiorni, Sophia Campagiorni, Douglas Capawana, Ella Cason, Rubio Castagna-Torres, Olivia Del Castillo, Marina Elias, Jayden Featherstone, Jacqueline Griesing, Harsh Gupta, Serena Jabar, Georgia Kane, Olivia Lapaz, Evan Lombardo, Bryce Manning, Stephen McDowell, Nico McKible, Isabella Migliore, Aryah Montefusco, Karimah Muhammad, Elisa Pahucki, Emilia Pastorello, Vanessa Piciacchio, Nahari Powell, Henry Reinke, Elizabeth Ruffy, Matthew Sandison, Kasey Senior, Rachel Thorne, Peter Vermeulen, Emily Wei, Wallace Wei, Isabella White, Jon-Paul Wood, August Wright

#### High Honor Roll

Abir Ahmed, Imroz Ali, Isabella Amundson, Daniel Benson, Anthony Borromeo, Vanessa Campanelli, Sean Cleary, Nicole Coliman, Grace Delgado, Damani Deloatch, Luke DeLuise, Chelsea DerBoghossian, Nora Folkes, Ariana Gallego, Christopher Gonzalez, Jessica Gonzalez, Sara Gonzalez, Sienna Gorev, Isabella Havdt, Cadence Heeter, Leslie Ilouga Wandji, Keira Istvan, Devyn Kelly, Gabrielle Kuka, Shy'anne Kush, Myasia Lewis, Tiannah Lindsay, Jonathan Lobato Colon, Leonides Lopez IV, Amerie Madigan, Anthony Marzovilla, Christopher Milewski, Twyla Nelson, Thomas Nocerino, Lillie O'Leary, Keira Robinson, Kiarra Rodriguez, Jackson Shrawder, Anisa Shtanaj,

# **High School Honor Rolls**

#### Students recognized for first-quarter grades

Owen Skorewicz, Andrew Spiconardi, Allison Thomas, Michael Varian, Xiomarys Williams, Ryan Zingone Redfield

Honor Roll

Caden Alvarez, Jack Antalek, Ronnie Anzovino, Aidan Cleveringa, Prabhbir Dhaliwal, Enis Dika, Gabriella Espinal, Sean Heath, Jaelynn Hernandez, Una Hoppe, Zuhir Kasem, Bryana Kelliher, Meara Kumar, Owen Lynch, William Martin, Alexandria McCollum, Gia Morgan, Liam Murphy, Vanessa Murphy, Mia Nelson-Cheyne, Aniyah Pearson, Jaden Polanco Feliciano, Jayden Quintana, Ricardo Ramirez Paredes, Merilyn Rinaldi, Nina Rivers, Jenna Rojas, JonAy Taylor, Alexsander Tice

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#### Honor Roll

Gil Banks, Daniel Barry, Angelina Berlingieri, Kaylee Broas, Cody Brooks, Scott Bunker, Anaya Camacho, Hope Cleveringa, Jason Derasmo, Journey Fleming, Gabriela Foret, Zakiyah Johnson, Jack Juhn, Alexander King, Campbell Kitzrow, Moa Lopez, Gabriella Manzoeillo, Abigale Martin, Brandon Maupin, Taylor Meeuwisse, Robert Principe Jr., Henry Quinn, Natalie Quintero, Mia Ramirez, Penelope Rigney, Liam Rumnit, Adam Sendelbach, Michael Serino, Mikayla Sheehan, Camryn Suppa, Jacob Tumidaj, Liam Verdesi, Jeffrey Wolfe III, Bing Zhu

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Caleb Ullian, John Urban-Quezada

High Honor Roll

Jayden Arroyo, Mya Bauer, Ahmir Bell, Lotus Blumenthal, Owen Browne, Christian Carvalho, Sulayman Ceesay, Ryan Chin, Amare Coakley, Olivia Corneyea, Lindsay Darcy, Louis DelBianco, Lucia Diebboll, Alexandria Faiella, Anthony Ferrone, Cleo Fiedler, Daniel Gilleo, Samuel Harle, Evan Johnson, Flynn Johnson, Synasia Johnson, Evan Kumar, Sydney Kurtz, Simrat Mann, Ava Muscat, Rosa Nunez, Avanda Nxumalo, Yahya Ouildane, Josalyn Pagan, David Perez-Cisneros, Austin Ray, Robin-Caleb Richards, Lulu Romer, Kenneth Rosa, Thomas Santoro, Mia Scarchilli, Braden Schetter, Keira Seaman, Stella Serpico, Kalyn Sheffield, Cody Shields, Benet Shtanaj, David Smith Jr., Hannah Smith, Samantha Sovik, Jake Titka, Tyler Underwood, Alexander Wyant

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#### **BOCES CTI**

 $Honor\,Roll$ 

Jonathan Montoya, Joseph Urbanowicz

#### **HALDANE**

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#### High Honor Roll

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Honor Roll

Brody Corless, Christian Ferreira, Sienna Fredricks, Tyler Hyatt, Wilson Robohm, Shania Vasconcelos

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#### High Honor Roll

Scott Bailey, Lily Benson, Grace Bradley, Alissa Buslovich, Liliana Cappello, Frankie DiGiglio, Luca DiLello, Oscar Donahue, Evan Giachinta, Sarah Jones, Mary Junjulas, Ronan Kiter, Lola Mahoney, Jacqueline Muth, Simon Pieza, Dylan Rucker, Isabella Tomizawa-Rincon

#### Honor Roll

Alexandra Busselle, William Busselle, James D'Abruzzo, Liam Flanagan, Zachary Harris, Jack Hartman, Colin Hopkins, John Mangan, Michael Murray, Henry O'Neil, Peter Ruggiero, Keira Russell, Dashiell Santelmann, Olivia Scanga, Emil Schweizer, Ivan Siciliano, Marlena Slokenbergs

#### Grade 11

Principal's List

Julian Ambrose, Samuel Bates, Zachary Cannova, Elizabeth Cates, Matteo Cervone, Carmela Cofini, Chase Coulson, Aleksander Danilov, Celia Drury, Ryan Eng-Wong, Sara Ferreira, Elliott Goldberg, Amanda Johanson, Matthew Junjulas, Rowen Kuzminski, Nathaniel McPherson, Mary Mikalsen, Mairead O'Hara, John Perricone, Daniel Phillips, Rhys Robbins, Aidan Sabatini, Sophie Sabin, Roy Smith, Sean Brennan Spruck, Aidan Sullivan-Hoch, Jackson Twoguns, Liv Villella, Lucas Vladimiroff, Conrad White

#### High Honor Roll

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#### Honor Rol

William Bradley, May Columb, Quentin Conrey, Dylan Horan, Kate Jordan, Sofia Salazar, Walker Tinsley, Jillian Weinpahl

#### Grade 12

Principal's List

Ella Ashburn, Robbie Baker, Ezra Beato, Maya Beck, Tim Ben Adi, Hannah Benson, Katrine Buslovich, Giancarlo Carone, Caroline Cates, Madison Chiera, Mia DiLello, Patrick DiNardo, William Etta, Kylie Falloon, Eden Feinstein, Kyle Frommer, Stefano Hammond, Bianca Harmancin, Rose LaBarbera, Jaclyn Landolfi, Betsy McBride, Matthew McCoy, Emma McGillicuddy, Elijah McKelvey, Emilia Osborn, Jesse Osterfeld, Luke Parrella, April Ransom, Stephen Robinson, Sophia Scanga, Felix Schmidt, Katie Shields, Molly Siegel, Meghan Tomann

#### $High\ Honor\ Roll$

Blake Bolte, Helen Chiera, Shea DeCaro, Jeremiah Gaines, Ryan Irwin, Camille Maglio, Mazzie Maxwell, Marisa Scanga, Robert Viggiano

#### Honor Roll

Ryan Buhre, Michael Covelli, Antoinette deMartine, Kimberly Edge, Ryan Gray, Zoe Harris, Jenna Irwin, Maya Osborn, Per Sandlund, Marcel Schwarz, Sharon Torres Nieves

#### **SPORTS**



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#### Roundup (from Page 24)

line and from the field but couldn't find the net in a 51-49 league loss.

Maddie Chiera led the Blue Devils with 20 points and five rebounds. Camilla McDaniel (four rebounds) and Ruby Poses (two assists, two steals) each had seven points, and Molly Siegel had six points and nine rebounds. Coach Jessica Perrone also cited Miread O'Hara's defense.

"It was a very tough loss," said Perrone. "Every time we play North Salem it's close, and aggressive. We feel like they're our biggest rival."

The Blue Devils will get a chance for revenge on Thursday (Feb. 10) at North Salem.

On Monday (Jan. 31) at home, Haldane dropped a 59-38 decision to Pleasantville. Chiera led the Blue Devils with 11 points and six rebounds; Marisa Scanga had nine points and two steals; and Amanda Johanson chipped in with six points, three rebounds and three steals.

"Pleasantville is a good team, but I feel like we should've been more competitive," Perrone said. "They got out to a big lead and we were chasing the whole game."

Haldane (7-8, 2-2) was scheduled to visit Valhalla on Thursday (Feb. 3) and host Putnam Valley at 4:30 p.m. today (Feb. 4) and Spackenkill at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday. Both home games will be streamed at events.locallive.tv/school/haldane-hs.

#### **BOYS' SWIMMING**

After falling at home on Jan. 24 to Kingston, 88-62, Beacon recorded its second victory of the season with a win over Franklin Roosevelt, 85-35, on Jan. 28 and honored its lone senior, captain Hunter Ingold, who won the 50 freestyle in 24.33 seconds and the 100 in 57.90.

Other first-place finishers included



Beacon swim coach Larry Collins thanked captain Hunter Ingold on senior night on Monday before a Bulldogs victory over FDR. Photo provided

the 200 medley team of Imroz Ali, Bryce Manning, Ronnie Anzovino and Ingold in 2:02.72; Manning in the 100 breaststroke in 1:15.32; Ali in the 100 backstroke in 1:15.25; and Anzovino, Fionn Fehilly, Manning and Ingold in the 200 freestyle relay in 1:49.21.

#### **BOWLING**

The Beacon boys' team (6-5, 3-2 league) fell to Kingston, 7-0, on Tuesday (Feb. 1) and the girls' team (4-7, 3-2) lost by the same score. The teams were scheduled to face Goshen (1-8-1) on Thursday (Feb. 3) and Newburgh Free Academy (8-1) on Tuesday.

#### **LITTLE LEAGUE**

Invitations Menus

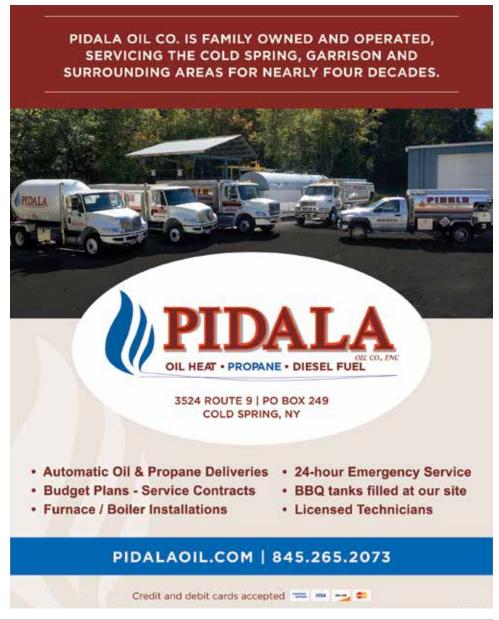
Announcements Logos

Personalized Art

Registration has opened for Philipstown Little League spring baseball and softball for players in kindergarten to seventh grade, up to age 13, including winter clinics. The deadline is Feb. 25. See philipstownlittleleague.com.

#### **WRESTLING**

Sander Miller, a former Cold Spring resident who is a senior at Edgemont High School, on Jan. 22 won the Westchester County wrestling title in the 145-pound weight class. As of Jan. 26, Miller had a season record of 26-3, with 22 wins by pin. He will wrestle next season for Columbia University.



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# Puzzles

30

54

55

29

41

58

61

# **CROSS CURRENT**

12

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Kitten's cry
- 4. Opera set in Egypt
- 8. Garden intruder
- 12. Eggs
- 13. Some deer
- 14. -bitty
- 15. Containers for laundering
- 17. Appease
- 18. "So there!"
- 19. Pittsburgh pro
- 21. Emphasize
- 24. Droop
- 25. Chop
- 26. Pirate's potation
- 28. Yokels
- 32. "I've Got in Kalamazoo"
- 34. Pinnacle
- 36. "- come back now. hear?"
- 37. Trifled (with)
- 39. PC alternative
- 41. Roman 151
- 42. "- the season ..."
- 44. NASA vehicle
- 46. Critic's essays
- 50. Part of DJIA
- 51. Send forth
- 52. Give a faded look 4. Tennis legend Ashe to, as jeans
- 56. Lettuce variety
- 57. Think (over)
- 58. HBO rival

- 15 18 22 21 32 37 56 59
  - 59. Sheltered
- 60. Between jobs

- 1. Trim the grass
- 3. Remove by
- 5. Debtor's note
- 7. Admin. aides

#### **DOWN**

- 2. Actress Longoria
- cleaning

- 6. Society newbies
- 8. Know-it-all

- 61. Layer

13

26

38

16

33

42

- - 22. Toy block name

9. And others (Lat.)

19

39

24

35

44

53

28

40

50

23

34

43

52

57

60

- 10. Diminutive suffix
- 11. Color worker
- 16. Dinner for Dobbin
- 20. Corn spike
- 21. Excellent, in slang

- 23. Place
- 27. May honoree
- 29. Aftermath
- 31. Thin cut
- 30. Voque rival

  - 33. Beatles classic
  - 35. Standard

38. Conk out

14

17

36

45

- 40. Pamper
- 43. Sage
- 45. Farm female
- 46. Country's McEntire
- 47. Actor Jannings
- 48. Unspoken feeling
- 49. Gulf War missile
- 53. Unwell
- 54. Yon maiden
- 55. Sweetie

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#### Answers for Jan. 28 Puzzles

Н	U	Е		О	Α	٧	Υ		Ρ	-	Τ	Α	3	5	9	2	6	4	7	8	1
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Α	S	Α	Ρ		В	0	L	0		Ρ	0	1									
D	Ι	Р	S		S	Ν	0	W		Α	Υ	N	5	7	2	6	3	1	9	4	8

1. AMALGAMATES, 2. GROUP, 3. CHUCKLED, 4. OUTMOVE, 5. BRASILIA, 6. AMBLE, 7. BOLOGNESE

# 7 LITTLE WORDS

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

#### **CLUES**

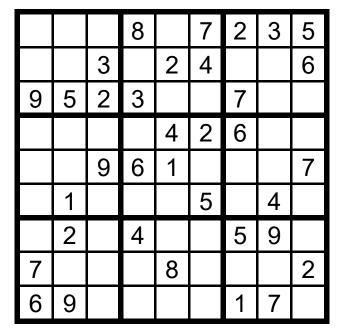
#### SOLUTIONS

- 1 sprint faster than (6)
- 2 those preserving key records (10)
- **3** C-3PO, for one (5)
- 4 most shrewd (7)
- 5 endured nevertheless (9)
- 6 barrel for holding liquids (4)
- **7** absolutely furious (8)

OUT	PER	TS	AR	ID
VIS	CA	ED	SIS	TR
TED	OU	IE	DRO	CHI
CAG	AG	RUN	SK	ST

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# Sudo Current



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# **VARSITY** ROUNDUP

**By Skip Pearlman** 

#### **BOYS' BASKETBALL**

After opening the season 1-1, Haldane had recorded 13 straight victories as of last

That streak came to an end on Monday (Jan. 31) at Bronxville, which defeated the Blue Devils, 63-45. It was Haldane's first loss since Dec. 4.

Soren Holmbo had 17 points and Matteo Cervone and Tristen Reid each scored eight.

"Bronxville played phenomenal defense," Coach Joe Virgadamo said. "They were more physical than us, and we had too many turnovers [22]. We were a step behind. It was a bit of a wake-up call for our guys. They were not happy about our streak being broken, but it was a great reflection on what we need to do to not be in that situation again."

Haldane, ranked fifth in the state by the New York State Sportswriters Association among Class C teams, started a new streak on Wednesday (Feb. 2) at North Salem with a dominant game of its own that resulted in a 74-52 league victory.

Cervone led the scoring for Haldane with 20 points, followed by Reid (12), Holmbo (11), Will Bradley (8) and Matt Nachamkin (8).

"We brought good energy," said Virgadamo. "The guys know playoff time is coming up, and they were still pretty mad about Monday night's loss."

Last week, Haldane won at Millbrook, 68-48. Ryan Irwin had 19, while Cervone added 16, Rob Viggiano had 12 and Holmbo had nine.

Haldane (15-2, 5-0 league) is scheduled to visit Putnam Valley today (Feb. 4), host North Salem at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday (Feb. 9) and visit Pawling on Thursday. For home games, Haldane has updated its COVID-19 policy and now allows visiting team spectators, although masks must be worn by everyone in the gym.

Beacon picked up a 61-50 victory over Washingtonville on Tuesday (Feb. 1) at home, led by Joseph Battle (15 points and eight rebounds). Chase Green also scored 15 points and Darien Gillins added 10. Adrian Beato recorded six rebounds, four assists, three steals and six points.

"We got off to a fast start and used that to fuel us the rest of the game," said Coach Scott Timpano. "They got within four points late, but we maintained control. Joseph was huge for us - he scored 13 of



Reilly Landisi fights through a double-team on Wednesday in a home win over Minisink.





Beacon's Rory Ladue looks for an opening against Minisink Valley.

Maddie Chiera drives past a North Salem defender on Wednesday.

his 15 points in the second half."

Beacon (9-5) was scheduled to visit Minisink on Thursday (Feb. 3) and Monticello on Saturday. The Bulldogs return home on Monday (Feb. 7) for a 6 p.m. tip against Goshen.

#### **GIRLS' BASKETBALL**

Beacon — a team of all freshman and



sophomores - turned in a strong performance on Wednesday (Feb. 2) at home, shooting well from long range early, and getting contributions from numerous sources (perhaps showing a glimpse of the team's bright future), in a 45-29 victory over Minisink Valley.

Daveya Rodriguez and Rayana Taylor each had eight points and 10 rebounds, Devyn Kelly scored eight, Reilly Landisi added seven points and seven rebounds, and Rory Ladue chipped in with six points.

"I was proud of the girls for getting a home win tonight, after dropping our last three games," said Coach Christina Dahl. "It was a great team win, with six players scoring five or more points. We're looking to carry the momentum forward, and go

In a loss on Monday at Washingtonville, Rodriguez led the scoring with 13 points and Landisi had 11.

"We started off the game strong," Dahl said. "We were hitting our shots and took a five-point lead into the second quarter. But in the second and third, we weren't able to capitalize on easy opportunities, or at the free throw line."

Beacon trailed by 15 going into the fourth, but managed to cut the deficit to five with "defensive pressure and timely shots by Daveya," Dahl said. "Give credit to Washingtonville; they earned that victory."

Beacon (7-7) is scheduled to visit Minisink Valley today (Feb. 4) and travel to Cornwall Central on Tuesday.

The Haldane girls had their chances against North Salem but the ball just wouldn't drop. The visitors scored with 54 seconds left to break a tie on Wednesday (Feb. 2) at Haldane and the Blue Devils had an opportunity to tie it at the free throw

(Continued on Page 22)