

The HIGHLANDS Current



Sass and Pie
with Peggy
Scott
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Natalia Garcia, 10, of Beacon, holds one of the messages she wrote in Ukrainian to be sent to refugees. Photo by J. Simms

Letters of Hope

Beacon family organizes messages to Ukrainian refugee children

By Jeff Simms

While the mass destruction and mounting casualties caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine have dominated the news, a Beacon family is trying to spread hope through handwritten letters, from one child to another. Their message to the more than 3 million people, half of them children, who have fled Ukraine? The same words they say they would want to hear if they were in danger.

After a dinnertime conversation with their parents about what their mom called "the horror of having to leave our home and not know where to go," 10-year-old Natalia Garcia and her brother, Leo, 12, decided to write letters to Ukrainian children displaced from their homes. The idea, which the family is calling "Letters of Hope," has grown exponentially from there, with friends from Beacon and surrounding communities, and the family's former neighborhood and school in Brooklyn, joining the campaign. During the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-21, Kelly and Dan Garcia home-schooled the children. "It was an opportunity to get connected with our kids," Kelly said this week. She said both children developed an interest in history and geography, which led to "interesting conversations

(Continued on Page 11)

Odell Backs Sales-Tax Sharing Idea

Says Philipstown proposal makes sense

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

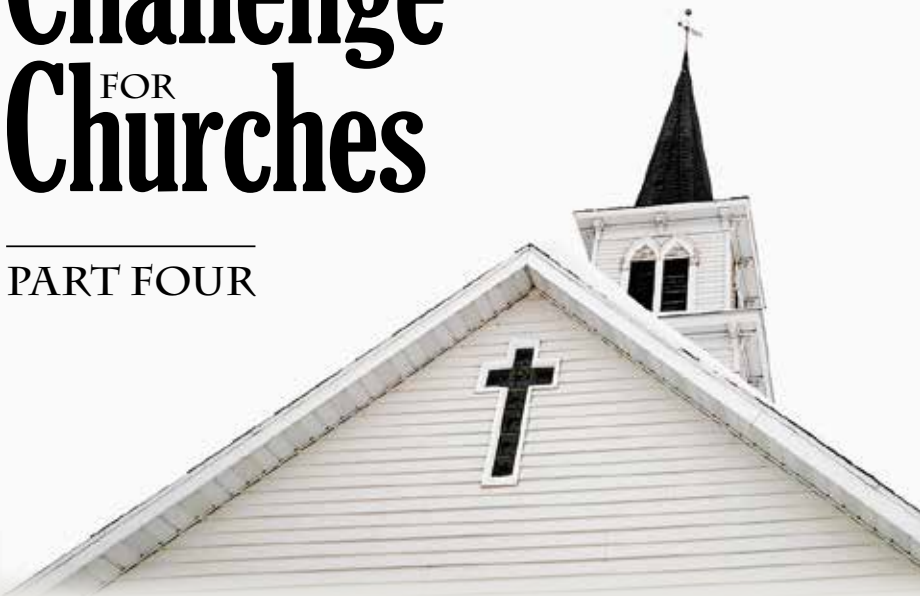
Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell last week advocated adoption of a sales-tax sharing model conceived in Philipstown. Delivering the last State of the County address of her term-limited tenure, Odell acknowledged that villages and towns for years asked Putnam to share sales-tax revenue. The county steadfastly refused. (Sales tax goes first to New York State, which

gives some of it back to each county. Unlike Putnam, most counties return a portion of their allotment to the towns and villages in which it originated.) Now, Odell told the county Legislature in a special session in Carmel on March 10, her administration has taken another look and collaborated with Philipstown Town Board Member Jason Angell and Cold Spring Trustee Eliza Starbuck on implementing their "share the growth" concept. Instead of automatically granting villages and towns a slice of sales-tax income, the model only provides it in a year

(Continued on Page 6)

THE Challenge FOR Churches

PART FOUR



By Brian PJ Cronin

On Tuesday (March 15), just hours after the Rev. Thomas Lutz was discharged from the hospital in the wake of a minor heart attack, the police called him. A cyclist, Kenn Sapeta, had been killed on Route 9 in an accident, and the first responders knew the Philipstown resident was an active member of Our Lady of Loretto, the Catholic parish in Cold Spring where Lutz serves as the 25th pastor in its 189-year history. There was little time to rest or grieve. Instead, Lutz headed to the Sapeta home to comfort Kenn's wife, Cathy, and his children and grandchildren. By Wednesday, Lutz was planning the funeral service, as well as a fundraiser in Sapeta's memory for The Order of Malta, a Catholic lay religious order that Sapeta had been a part of that is engaged in relief work for Ukrainian refugees.

This, said Lutz, is what serving as a pastor in a small town is all about: being involved in every significant event in a person's life. You baptize babies, officiate weddings, comfort those in hospice and usher them to eternal life with a funeral Mass. "It's like being a community doctor," he said. "We're physicians of the soul." Like doctors, religious leaders had to figure out how to care for people without being in the same room during the most devastating waves of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Lady of Loretto began recording and livestreaming its Sunday

services, as did many other churches. But as a Catholic church, it had to reckon with a clash between theology and technology. "In our sacramental theology, you receive Communion in person," said Lutz. "You can't do that over a computer monitor." Catholic churches compensated by offering "spiritual Communion," in which parishioners were encouraged to receive Christ in their hearts instead of partaking in the bread of life. The church also kept its doors open during the pandemic for those who wanted to pray. One man who came frequently turned out to be a COVID survivor. When he was hospitalized, stricken with the disease, doctors told him that he was going to die. But he survived, and began coming to the church as a way of thanking God, Lutz said. Others were not so fortunate. A parishioner from Our Lady of Loretto, Darrin Santos, was one of the first local residents to lose his life from the virus when he died at age 50 in April 2020. His wife, Melissa Castro-Santos, died of cancer three months later, orphaning their three teenage children. In-person services were not an option, and the church had to navigate comforting the grieving from a distance while raising money for the children. Now, with the pandemic waning — or in a lull — the church is tasked with helping a broken and battered community to heal. "We're picking up the pieces

(Continued on Page 8)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: TAYLOR PALMER

By Jeff Simms

Taylor Palmer is a land use and zoning lawyer and a partner in the Fishkill and White Plains offices of the Cuddy & Feder law firm.

How did you become the lawyer of choice for so many Beacon development projects?

It's likely because of my experience working for Rep. Nita Lowey and my legal work in other local communities, particularly as municipal counsel in communities like Philipstown and Cold Spring. I had the chance to work with a lot of the same folks that were doing development in Beacon. Within my firm, I think I'm the Beacon development guy because my colleagues had a lot of fun at my wedding at the Roundhouse and the after-party at Dogwood. Plus, I bring Glazed Over Donuts or Hudson Valley Brewery beers back after meetings in Beacon.

You've developed a friendly rapport with the Planning Board over the years.

Some of that levity comes from the trust and timing that's built into my years representing local projects. We work hard to put everything out in the open; it's all intended

to follow what the zoning prescribes. We work with our clients to break the impasse and create the best project possible that's in accordance with zoning and respects the developer's property rights. The board members are members of the community and do this voluntarily, often into the late hours of the night, so I try to provide a laugh or two for the time and effort they spend at a meeting.

You're not always the most popular guy in the room at Planning Board meetings. How do you deal with that?

We're all human, but I'm passionate about what I do and know it's not zoning by applause meter. I try to meet the client's goals and the city's zoning requirements, which, together with the public's input, hopefully results in development that's going to improve the community and provide a public benefit. I'd be lying if I said it doesn't affect me at times, but the way you react and respond is what's most important.

Are there projects you've worked on in Beacon that have stood out?

I don't know that I can play favorites, but to borrow a quote from Tom Brady, my favorite project would be the next project. All those former industrial properties — the Roundhouse, Hip Lofts, down to 555 South Ave. on the creek — present great opportunities. I love seeing them come to life, like the Creek Drive project that redeveloped the former

DPW [Department of Public Works] property along Fishkill Creek. It's a great example of a public-private partnership. The community gets a public park and greenway trail along with mixed-use residential, with a tech company also coming in. I am proud to know many of the people who enjoy living in these new units, as well.

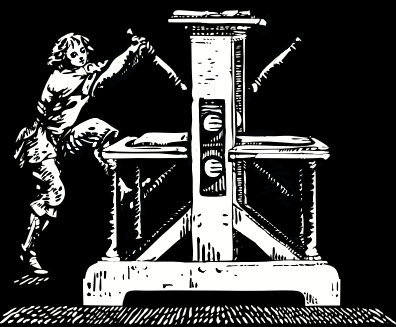
What's your first piece of advice to a developer planning a project in Beacon?

Know your community. Know you're in an impassioned city that has actively involved public boards that know every street corner, side street and then some. Understand the context of what you're proposing within the reality of what's been developed and what can be developed in the city. Context is always key. If you're downtown, it's one thing;

if you're by the former correctional facility or the river and train station, it's another conversation. There are very different frameworks that create the fabric of one awesome city. Beacon's Main Street and waterfront, its proximity to highways and the beauty of its parks make it a special place. Any developer that comes in should know they're in for a tough ride. But I'd like to think we can take a good idea and make it a great Beacon idea.



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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's the farthest you've run, hiked or biked?

“

I hiked up Mount Beacon. Never again; it was torture!

”



Tamara Williams, Beacon

“

I did a 50-mile hike at Boy Scout camp.

”



Evan Borkow, Cold Spring

“

We used to do a long bike loop on the Cape; I don't know how many miles.

”



Judy Walsh, Garrison

Cold Spring Punts on New York Health Act

Support for universal health care, but not proposed bill

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Village Board at its March 9 meeting passed a resolution in support of universal health care in New York — but it stopped short of endorsing the New York Health Act being considered by the state Legislature.

If passed, the bill, first introduced in 1992, would pay for health care for all New York residents through a combination of federal funds the state receives from Medicare and Medicaid and a progressively graduated tax on income from wages and investments.

When Cold Spring resident Jeff Mikkelsen, a co-founder of Hudson Valley Demands New York Health, addressed the Village Board in January, he asked trustees to adopt a resolution he provided, endorsing the bill which, he said, would save Cold Spring \$280,000 annually, Philipstown \$800,000, the Haldane school district \$1.6 million and Putnam County \$21 million.

The resolution passed by the Village Board on March 9 didn't include the potential savings and omitted other elements of Mikkelsen's proposed language.

Before the vote, Trustee Eliza Starbuck objected to the changes. "I don't feel this is what the public asked us to do," she said. "We were asked to support the enactment of the New York Health Act and we've said everything but that" in the revised resolution.

Starbuck added that the resolution doesn't "do anything to move the New York Health Act forward."

Trustee Joe Curto expressed doubt about the New York Health Act as written.

"I have concerns about New York State running something of that magnitude," he said. "I also have concerns about the costs, which are not defined as of yet."

Trustee Tweeps Woods also spoke in support of the revised resolution. "The fact that we are saying we support this [bill] being brought forward and worked on is very reasonable."

Mayor Kathleen Foley said the board had consulted with the village treasurer, who administers health care for employees and retirees, and who expressed doubts about how the bill would affect retirees.

Foley said she is "broadly in support of universal health care," which she said works well in Massachusetts.

However, the mayor had asked that references to the Haldane Central School District be removed. "We should not be making reference to Haldane in a village resolution," she said. She also felt the estimates of village savings, compiled by an advocacy organization, and not the village, were inappropriate and so asked that reference to the bill having value to all village residents be removed.

"I don't know that it has value to every resident," she said.

Regarding the revisions to Mikkelsen's proposed language, the mayor commented:

"Frankly, this is how the sausage gets made; we put forward an idea, we talk it through and we find something we can agree on."

"We are asking the state to enact a universal health care system as proposed," Foley said. "I think we've reached a good compromise."

The resolution passed, 4-1, with Starbuck casting the lone nay vote.

During the public comment period, Mikkelsen said that several residents had written letters to the board in support of his original resolution, 75 people had signed a petition and the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce board had voted unanimously in support of it.

Mikkelsen said it was wrong to remove the reference to the "substantial savings" to the village outlined in numerous studies over the years, "even if you weren't willing to commit to a [specific] number."

The approved resolution is essentially "an endorsement of the status quo," he said. "You might as well pass a resolution in support of the Hudson River continuing to flow."

He asked the board to consider passing an additional resolution in support of the New York Health Act, as Philipstown and other municipalities have.

Cold Spring resident and business owner Rebeca Ramirez expressed support for Mikkelsen and Starbuck.

"I'm disappointed [Trustee] Cathryn Fadde asked if the proposed New York Health Act is like the system used in Massachusetts," she said, "If one trustee doesn't know for sure what the bill is comparable to, maybe more [people] than her didn't have the time."

Ramirez echoed Mikkelsen's request for a resolution supporting the New York Health Act. "People in Cold Spring support this bill; it's revolutionary and practical," she said.

While Foley praised the amount of community support Ramirez and others had developed for the bill, she stuck to the decision to revise Mikkelsen's proposed resolution.

"This board approved a resolution that we felt we could approve," she said. "Now it goes to the state and that's where this decision gets made."

In other business ...

■ The tentative 2022-23 budget will be posted on the village website on Monday (March 21) and a public hearing is scheduled for April 13.

■ The village plans to issue residential parking permits in the spring and summer and introduce metered parking on Main Street in the fall.

■ The owner of the River Rose proposed docking the Newburgh-based cruise boat at Dockside Park from May through November for special events. Foley said she did not believe Cold Spring was an appropriate location.

■ Royal Carting will deliver trash and recycling containers to residents in early April and the village will announce a location for disposal of the current containers.

■ Code Enforcement Officer Charlotte Mountain resigned to take a full-time supervisory position with the City of Newburgh. The village will seek help from the Philipstown Building Department until the position can be filled.

■ Cold Spring Police Department officers responded to 48 calls for service in February and issued 19 parking and 14 traffic tickets. One arrest was made under the Mental Health Act, which enables emergency

hospitalization for observation and treatment. With the board, Officer-in-Charge Larry Burke discussed the need for security cameras in vandalism-prone areas, such as the dock, Mayor's Park and the pedestrian tunnel.

■ The Cold Spring Fire Co. answered 19 calls in February, including five activated fire alarms, two calls to assist emergency medical services, the pumping of a flooded home, a motor vehicle crash, an elevator rescue and an indoor smoke odor. CSFC also answered eight mutual-aid requests from the Garrison and North Highlands fire companies, including for chimney fires, motor vehicle crashes, smoke investigations and two hiker rescues.

■ The Recreation Commission's special events coordinator job description is posted at coldspringny.gov. The commission is working with Owen Carmicino on his Eagle Scout project to erect a sign at the Sept. 11 Memorial at McConville Park. The Boy Scouts will help with \$3,000 in fundraising for the project.

■ The board approved the sale of a 665-square-foot strip of village-owned land at 45 Main St. to the owners of the Riverview Restaurant at a cost of \$4.65 per square foot, a 65-cent increase over the amount charged in recent years for similar purchases.

■ It also approved the Putnam County Wine and Food Festival, to be held at Mayor's Park on Aug. 6 and 7.



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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Cost of policing

"Looking Back in Philipstown" in the Jan. 14 issue included two interesting tidbits from January 1972: "The teen center on Main Street was closed indefinitely" and "Cold Spring, for the first time, had 24-hour police protection."

We don't know whether the cost of 24-hour policing consumed funds that could have kept the teen center open. But we know that village policing costs Cold Spring more than \$500,000 a year, and the cost is about to grow.

Since 1972, violent and property crimes have fallen nationwide, a sheriff substation opened in Nelsonville and there are more services to help the mentally ill. Crimes more serious than vandalism are rare in the village. Yet the police wield great influence over Village Hall, and at their urging, the trustees are poised to approve the installation of more surveillance cameras in public areas and the purchase of bodycams for officers. These measures will cost taxpayers \$50,000 in the first year and \$10,000 every year after.

The Village Board's thinking on policing is formed by a one-sided stream of information. The trustees regularly hear from the police about the threat of crime. But because of an absence of public aware-

ness, the trustees seldom hear the other side: the quality-of-life investments (such as tree plantings) that must be sacrificed to pay for cameras and continuous policing in general, the replacement of trust by suspicion, the intimidating effect of constant patrols on minority groups and the lack of evidence justifying the expense of high policing in a low-crime setting.

When the mentality of safety-ism takes hold, each new enforcement power is an argument for the next one. Gradually the community is defined by fear and defense instead of creativity and growth. If this trend concerns you, speak out on the record by writing to the Village Board or commenting at meetings.

Eliza Starbuck, *Cold Spring*
Starbuck is a Cold Spring village trustee.

Keeping current

After reading in "Looking Back in Philipstown" (March 11) that the Cold Spring Village Board in 1897 named Peter Wood as lamplighter, I feel so disconnected — I don't even know who our current lamplighter is!

Brian Cookstra, *via Instagram*

Federal funds

Who else thinks the \$3.5 million allocated to the Garrison golf course cleanup

stinks ("Philipstown, HVSF in Funding Bill," March 11)? Why are taxpayers paying for a conversion from a golf course where pesticides and who knows what other chemicals were sprayed for years, to the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival?

I wrote Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney about creating a way to stop wrong-way drivers from entering parkways and killing innocent people, but not a dime for that, and I never got a response. This seems like rich guys taking care of other rich guys and we, the taxpayers, pay the bill. Don't even get me started on property taxes.

Kathleen Kourie, *Garrison*

NY Health Act

The Cold Spring Village Board missed an opportunity to show meaningful support for universal health care when it declined to endorse the New York Health Act, a bill that would guarantee comprehensive health care to all New Yorkers while lowering health care costs for the vast majority of us and saving the village hundreds of thousands every year ("Cold Spring Punts on New York Health," Page 3).

Dozens of local residents, including public officials, health care professionals, and community, faith and business leaders signed a petition in support of a resolution endorsing the bill. Several community members wrote letters to the village, and the board of the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce unanimously endorsed the resolution, apparently to no avail.

The village did pass a resolution, but one that was so watered-down that the one trustee who openly opposes the legislation (Joe Curto) voted for it, while the one trustee who has shown steadfast support (Eliza Starbuck) was unable to do so.

The village resolution merely asks the state Legislature to give the bill "further consideration." The NY Health Act has been under consideration for 30 years; it has undergone multiple rounds of amendments, public hearings and rigorous independent analysis. It recently gained majority co-sponsorship in both state houses and is under active consideration. Urging lawmakers to give the bill "further consideration" is to take no stand at all.

I respectfully disagree with Mayor Kathleen Foley's assertion that the fact that the bill has been around for so long means there must be something wrong with it. It's taken so long to get to this point because health insurance and pharmaceutical companies have enormous influence over our political and media ecosystem, perpetuating a dysfunctional and inhumane system that costs twice as much as any country in the world and produces much worse results.

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Clarification

The photos from the Haldane Drama production of *A Little Night Music* that appeared in the March 11 issue should have been credited to Jim Mechalakos.

(Continued from Page 4)

The only thing that will overcome this inertia is elected leaders having the moral courage to enact something better. Local resolutions do have an impact on state policy, which is why 10 municipalities in the Hudson Valley, including Philipstown, have already passed resolutions in support of the NY Health Act. I therefore urge the board to pass a second resolution that clearly endorses it.

Jeff Mikkelson, *Cold Spring*

Mikkelson is a co-founder of Hudson Valley Demands New York Health.

Fjord Trail

The Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is shaping up to be a whole lot more than a trail.

According to its website, online presentations and around-town scuttlebutt, plans now call for the building of an amphitheater, a visitors' center, a "forest-net destination" and lots else. This project will cost tens of millions of dollars, require years of construction and radically redefine our town.

Whether or not that prospect sounds appealing, the residents of Philipstown should be informed and get involved. To that end, the Philipstown Town Board will hold a workshop about the Fjord Trail on Wednesday (March 23) at 7:30 p.m. If you're interested in the future of this community, please consider attending.

Ned Rauch, *Garrison*

Rising waters

In her column, "Climate Anxiety" (March 11), Krystal Ford reports that Heather Zuckerman, a psychotherapist in private practice in Garrison, "has noticed that among people of her generation — with older children who are leaving the house — there is anxiety about where to retire," adding, "I had friends who moved inland in Florida because of climate change."

Zuckerman's friends should stop worrying, because many prominent, wealthy people such as Barack Obama (Martha's Vineyard and Hawaii), John Kerry (Martha's Vineyard) and Joe Biden (Rehoboth Beach), who regularly proclaim that climate change is an existential crisis, have, through their actions, demonstrated that there is little reason to be concerned that climate change will cause rising seas that will swamp property that is on or near a waterfront. How so? They themselves have each recently spent millions of dollars to buy such property.

So Zuckerman's friends, and others who share their concern, should simply relax and take comfort from the example set by these leaders.

Wilbur Foster, *Garrison*

NEWS BRIEFS

Bicyclist Killed on Route 9

Philipstown man struck by vehicle

A Philipstown man was killed on Tuesday (March 15) when he was hit by a vehicle on Route 9 near Glassbury Court.

Kenn Sapeta, 67, died at about 5:30 p.m. when he was struck by a car driven by a 26-year-old Wappingers Falls woman who had turned northbound out of a private driveway. She told police she hit Sapeta when he crossed into her lane from the shoulder, according to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department.

First responders from the North Highland Fire Co. and Putnam EMS attempted to revive Sapeta but he was pronounced dead at the scene. Sheriff's deputies also assisted, along with New York State troopers.

Friends may call on Thursday (March 24) from 4 to 7 p.m. at Clinton Funeral Home, 21 Parrott St., in Cold Spring. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on March 25 at 11 a.m. at St. Augustine's Church in Ossining, followed by interment at Cold Spring Cemetery.

School Boards Will Have Open Seats

Nominating petitions due in April

The Beacon, Haldane and Garrison school districts will each have trustee seats on the May 17 ballot, with nominating petitions due next month. The terms are three years and nominating petitions require signatures from adults who are U.S. citizens and have lived in the district for at least 30 days.

In Beacon, three seats on the nine-member board — held by Elissa Betterbid, Meredith Heuer and Antony Tseng — will be on the ballot. To receive a candidate packet, contact Kelly Pologe at 845-838-6900, ext. 2032, or by email at pologe.k@beaconk12.org. Petitions with at least 100 signatures are due by April 27.

At Haldane, two seats on the five-member board — held by Jen Daly and Sean McNall — will be on the ballot. A candidate packet can be obtained by emailing cplatt@haldaneschool.org. Petitions with at least 25 signatures are due by April 18.

In Garrison, two seats on the seven-member board — held by Kent Schacht and Sarah Tormey — will appear on the ballot. Visit gufs.org or call 845-424-3689, ext. 224, for a candidate packet. Petitions with at least 25 signatures are due by April 18.

Howland Library Seeking Trustees

Three vacancies with terms ranging from two to five years

The Howland Public Library in Beacon is accepting applications from candidates for three open seats on its nine-member board of trustees.

The positions have terms of two to five years. Candidates must submit notarized

petitions with the signatures of at least 25 adults who are U.S. citizens and have lived in the Beacon school district for at least 30 days before the vote.

The deadline is March 28, and the election is May 17. For more information, see beaconlibrary.org or email trustee9@beaconlibrary.org.

Climate Fund Awards Announced

Grants will pay for electric upgrades

The Philipstown Climate Fund, a project of Philipstown Fights Dirty, on March 13 announced the winners of its first two grants.

Ross Corsair of Garrison will receive \$3,500 to replace his oil-based heating system with an electric heat pump, and Sean McNall of Nelsonville will receive \$2,700 to upgrade his oil-based water heater to an electric one.

"We've been slowly phasing out our dependence on home heating oil for the past few years and an electric water heater will nearly complete that process," McNall wrote in his application.

The Climate Fund committee received 11 applications and drew the winners by lottery. The next draw will be April 23; see climatesmartphilipstown.org to apply or donate.

Winward Elected Mayor of Nelsonville

Moroney, Campanile take trustee seats

Voters in Nelsonville on Tuesday (March 15) chose a new mayor and two trustees for the five-member Village Board.

Chris Winward defeated Rudolf van Dommele, 152 to 46, to become mayor, according to results reported after the polls closed at 9 p.m. Mayor Michael Bowman did not run for a second term.

Dave Moroney (137 votes) won re-election, and newcomer Tom Campanile (120 votes) took the seat that had been held by Winward. Alan Potts, who served on the board from 2017 to 2019, received 94 votes.



Winward



Moroney



Campanile

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Feds Supply Millions for Philipstown Infrastructure, Environment

Town receives \$1.78 million; HVSF gets \$3.5 million

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The federal government this week supplied more than \$5 million for infrastructure and environmental projects in Philipstown: \$3.5 million for the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival's planned restoration of the former Garrison golf course and \$1.78 million for a town Highway Department garage topped by a solar roof.

President Joe Biden on Tuesday (March 15) signed the bill containing the funding, part of omnibus budget-finance legislation that passed the Senate on March 10, a day after its approval in the House of Representatives.

Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Philipstown resident, pushed both projects, plus others in

his Mid-Hudson Valley district, as earmarks, or projects incorporated in spending bills that benefit particular districts. The Democrat's other earmarks included \$3.12 million for sewers and roads in Newburgh and \$2 million for cancer-treatment equipment at Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital.

"Obviously, we're very excited about the grant" which "goes right in with [state] Climate Smart" initiatives, reflected in the eco-friendly design of the garage, under construction at the Highway Department site on Fishkill Road in Nelsonville, said Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel.

“The former Highway Department building leaked air and water and was just a mess. Just the energy savings alone in that [new] building will be tremendous.

~ Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel

Demolished in July, the former building "leaked air and water and was just a mess," he said. "Just the energy savings alone in that [new] building will be tremendous."

Although town officials in 2021 had expressed hopes of receiving \$2 million, the grant still offers "big assistance, to say the least" toward the estimated \$3.5 million cost, Van Tassel said. With the president's signature, the funding "is set in stone, so we're in good shape."

At the former Garrison golf course, HVSF intends to establish a cultural campus as its permanent home, with buildings surrounded

by undeveloped land. Putnam County will receive the HVSF share of the federal money and pass it along, and it must be used exclusively for environmental restoration, landscaping and related site work, said Davis McCallum, HVSF's artistic director.

McCallum said that the \$3.5 million "will permanently protect and conserve nearly 100 acres" by "remediating the damage from 60 years as a golf course and converting the mown fairways to native meadows," improving wildlife habitats and fighting pollution. Along with restoring the land, the funds will facilitate public access, he said.

According to McCallum, HVSF will not receive any funds until the Philipstown Planning Board approves its proposal; Van Tassel has said he will issue a permit in the meantime for the festival to erect its tent on the property for the 2022 summer season.

Sales Tax *(from Page 1)*

in which Putnam County's sales-tax revenue increases over the previous year. The overall portion going to towns and villages would be divvied up on a per-capita basis.

According to data given to the county Legislature's Audit Committee on Feb. 22, in most years from 2010 through 2021 Putnam's sales tax income exceeded that of the year before. In 2021, Putnam collected

\$78 million, compared to \$66.7 million in 2020 and \$66 million in 2019.

To start sharing, Odell wants to combine \$5 million in a municipal sales-tax allotment with \$5 million from the county's \$19 million in federal COVID-related American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money, creating a pool of \$10 million.

Under her formula, Nelsonville would get 1 percent of the pool, or \$63,890 in combined sales-tax and ARPA funds; Cold Spring 2 percent (\$203,342); and Philipstown 7 percent (\$739,341). The Town of Carmel, with the largest municipal population, would get 34 percent (\$3.44 million).

Odell asked county legislators to approve her proposal.

Angell told them that "it could really be a legacy accomplishment for Putnam to share some of the growth [in sales tax] in the good years, protect itself from unfunded mandates, but in growth years invest together and create a source of local revenues that could stabilize local taxes or decrease them and could build an economy where everybody benefits." He emphasized that "only in growth years would sales tax be shared. In other years, it would not."

The county executive claimed that "the fatal flaw" in earlier requests for county sales-tax sharing was they "failed to account for the fact" that 70 percent of the county's expenses are mandated by the state or federal government. Focusing solely on diminishing the county's major reve-

Putnam Sales Tax Collections

2016	\$59,055,082
2017	\$58,791,988
2018	\$63,145,092
2019	\$66,003,884
2020	\$66,761,192
2021	\$78,052,738

Figures are not adjusted for inflation.

nue source without considering mandates "could lead to the county having to increase debt and/or cut services," she said.

According to the county, 44 percent of its budget, or nearly \$80 million, comes from sales tax and user charges; property taxes account for 28 percent.

Odell did not include raising property taxes as an option for dealing with potential budget holes created by sales tax-sharing.

She cautioned that sales-tax sharing "cannot be counted on as a regular revenue stream for towns and villages, and that funds should be used for infrastructure improvements, not for general budget purposes."

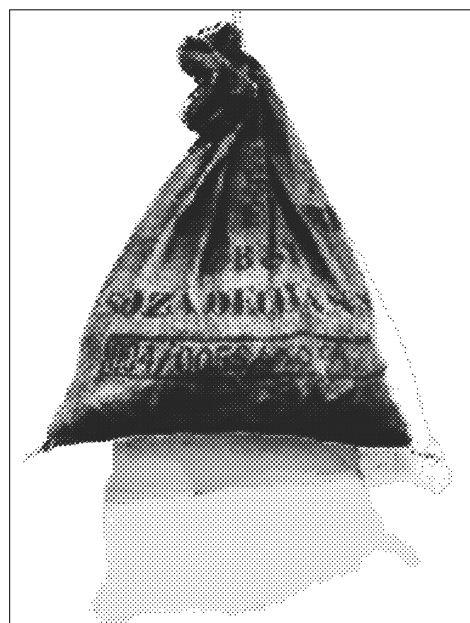
Philipstown Supervisor John Van

Sheriff Says Body Cameras Coming

Responding to a suggestion by MaryEllen Odell in her State of the County speech, Putnam County Sheriff Kevin McConville said he will order his "deputies, investigators and select personnel" to wear body cameras by the end of the year, joining 20 other counties in New York state that require them.

He predicted they would "improve enforcement, accountability; protect our personnel from false accusations; and provide and increase public trust and transparency." The cameras also have been linked to "a reduction in the use of force and subsequent civilian complaints" and using them "should result in reduced litigation for the county," he said.

Tassel on Tuesday (March 15) called Odell's endorsement "exciting. We're happy to be working with them, in coordination with our county Legislator Nancy Montgomery," whom he said deserves "a lot of credit" for pushing for more county-municipal cooperation. "We're thankful, very thankful."



THE POLITICS OF LABOR IN POSTWAR ITALIAN ART

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March 19, April 2, April 16, April 30, 2022
Magazzino Italian Art

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MAGAZZINO
ITALIAN ART

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of cases:

23,407
(+47)

Tests administered:

414,984
(+2,698)

Cases per 100K,
7-day average::

6.8 (+0.3)

Percent vaccinated:

82.2
Cold Spring (10516): **93.4**
Garrison (10524): **86.2**

Number of deaths:

121 (0)

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of cases:

63,478
(+121)

Tests administered:

1,286,912
(+7,738)

Cases per 100K,
7-day average::

5.9 (-1.3)

Percent vaccinated:

76.7
Beacon (12508): **71.5**

Number of deaths:

653 (+3)

Source: State and county health departments, as of March 16, with change over the previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those ages 5 and older who have received at least one dose.



Rain or Shine or Snow

The St. Patrick's Day Parade of Green took place in Beacon on Saturday (March 12) amid a snowstorm. It was the first parade in the city in more than two years because of the pandemic shutdown, but the persistence of organizers — “rain or snow or shine” — did not sit well with everyone. “Apparently Parade of Green doesn’t care there is a major snowstorm, endangering people,” said one resident on social media. “I saw the Glenham firetrucks drive past for the parade and my little guy is so bummed we can’t safely get there,” said a second commenter. “Did the parade really happen?” asked another. But a fourth resident concluded that “it was a great, fun day!”

Photos by Valerie Shively



Photo by Jeff Simms



Why This Series?

The number of people who attend or associate with Christian denominations has been falling steadily in the U.S. for decades. As a result, many churches have closed or merged or are struggling financially, including some in the Highlands. The pandemic shutdown did not help, although churches quickly adapted by broadcasting services online.

Repeated social surveys have found that, as the churchgoing populations age, younger generations are not replacing them in the pews. A growing segment of the population has been labeled “nones” — they are not atheists or even agnostics. They just don’t have religion in their lives. Sundays are the second day of the weekend.

This series is examining how this trend is affecting churches in Philipstown and Beacon, and how their leaders are attempting to grow their flocks. When Beacon, Cold Spring, Nelsonville and Garrison were founded, community life centered on the churches. What changed? What should change? What must change? If it survives, what will the church of the future look like?

Your thoughts and reactions are welcome. Email me at editor@highlandscurrent.org.

Chip Rowe, *Editor*

Going Digital

47% Christians who say they attended church at least once a month before the pandemic

37% Who say they currently attend at least once a month

18% Who say they attended online at least once a month before the pandemic

25% Who say they currently attend online at least once a month

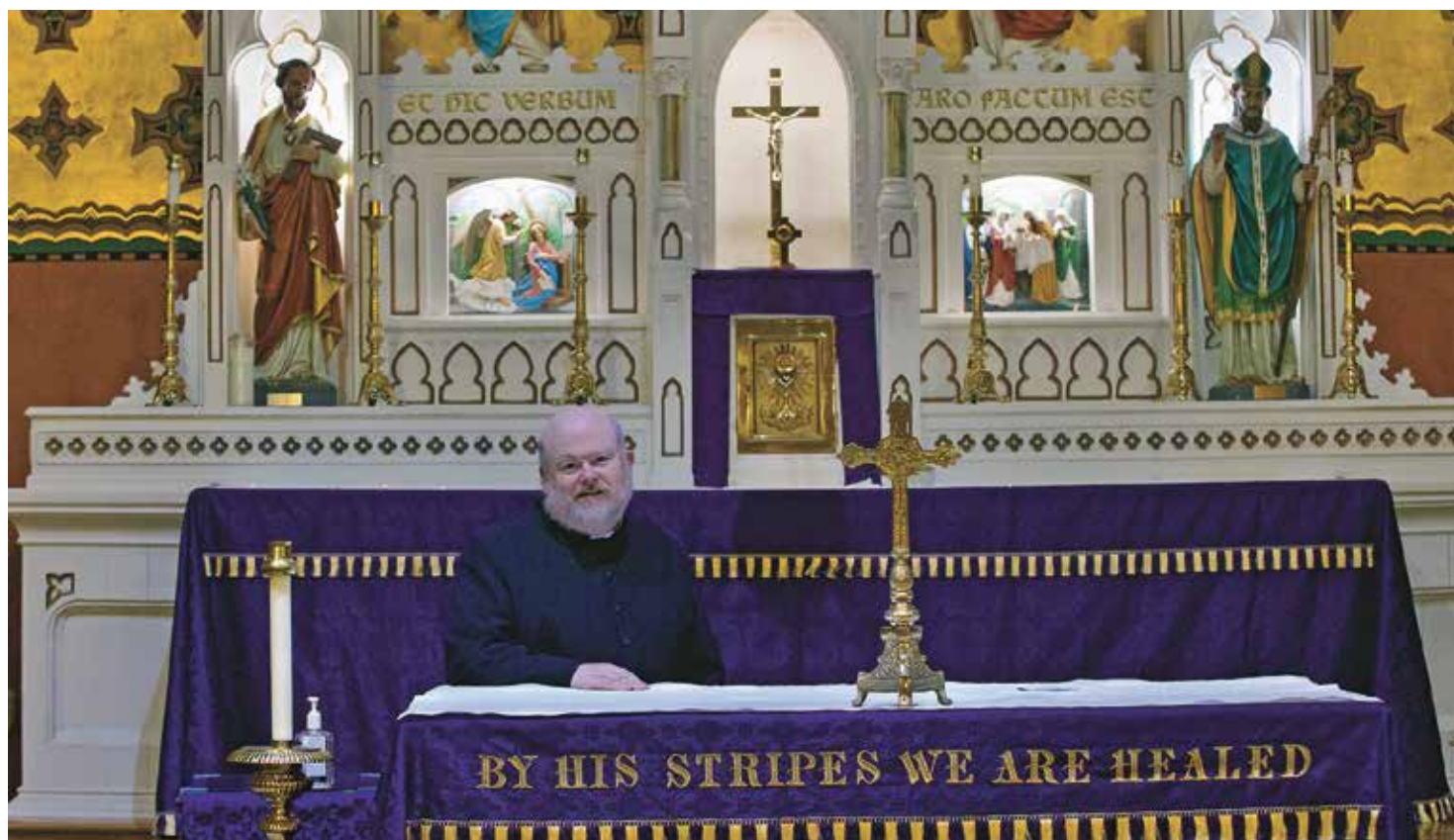
Connections

45% Americans who say being outdoors is the most spiritually fulfilling activity

42% Who say it's prayer

28% Who say it's giving to charity

Sources: “Jesus in America,” a survey of 3,119 Americans (including 2,113 Christians) conducted by Ipsos for The Episcopal Church, released March 9



The Rev. Thomas Lutz at Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring

Photo by Ross Corsair

Churches *(from Page 1)*

of people’s spiritual lives, emotional lives, the separation and the anxieties that everyone felt,” said Lutz. “That’s a new pastoral way in which we have to serve the community at this unique time.”

As the pandemic worsened, opportunities for public grieving and community building were few and far between. Funerals were limited to a few attendees, if they were allowed at all. Hugs could not be shared via livestream. People were and are grappling with existential questions about life, death and life after death. They don’t want to grapple with those questions in solitude and, as a result, some people are returning to the church after many years of absence, Lutz said.

“Not having that opportunity to be here, that gave them an opportunity to reflect on how meaningful it was to them,” he said. “Maybe the church was something from their childhood, or from later in life. But something was missing.”

Politics and public space

That has not been the trend for Christian churches over decades; every denomination has been losing congregants and struggled to put people in the pews, raise money, patch the walls of their aging buildings and figure out how to appeal to the spiritual and logistical needs of the community. What role does, or should, the church play during a time of polarization and pandemics? If fewer Americans define themselves as Christians — or religious at all — what does that mean for the church in general?

When we conceived this series before the pandemic, the working titles were *Are Churches Dying?* or *The Church in Crisis*. But in the process of reporting, it became clear that neither title was accurate. Churches do close. Congregations disperse. But on the whole, many churches are dealing with their challenges by changing what it means to be part of a church.

In the first three weeks of this series we looked at local churches that have closed or nearly closed, churches that split into two as a result of philosophical differences and churches that are building community by fighting for social justice. This week, to conclude the series, we look at the ways in which the pandemic has changed churches, and the opportunity it presents for religious organizations to provide solace and guidance to a nation in crisis.

“There’s a lot of grief that has not yet been expressed,” said the Rev. Brian Merritt, the interim pastor at the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown. “How do we move forward?”

In some ways, said Merritt, the problem of declining membership is not a problem unique to churches. Elks clubs, Lions clubs, veterans’ associations and other civic and charitable organizations are all losing members. Older participants die and there are not enough younger members to succeed them.

Some of that may be a result of organizations failing to make themselves relevant to new generations, but younger people generally don’t stay in one place as they might have done decades ago. The average American moves 11 times during a lifetime, according to census data. Job markets and housing costs fluctuate. Finding steady work and housing in your hometown is no longer as common.

“The more transient our society became, the harder it was for institutions that relied on long-term memberships,” Merritt said.

That’s been to the detriment of churches, but also, he suggests, to those who forgo organized religion, thinking that their personal relationship with God will be enough.

“There’s no such thing as individual salvation,” he said. “Even if someone does have some sort of faith that they want to believe is autonomous, it was relayed through other people. And the thing that I’ve learned over time is that you are not the person that is able to see yourself the best. It’s a certain amount of hubris to

believe that you can autonomously understand spirituality without the help of other people. Even hermits on mountains live by rules that were set up by others.”

The pandemic has brought that into stark relief, as Merritt points out that isolation can exacerbate mental illness and addiction. How many people on the margins, barely holding on, were pushed over the edge when churches and other gathering places were closed, cutting them off from community?

“You need support,” he said. “You need people to believe in you.”

That includes clergy members, many of whom, when attempting to enforce the public health mandates that kept houses of worship closed during COVID waves, found themselves as a target. Merritt said some of his friends in the clergy have walked away from their calling in the past two years as a result.

“COVID became so politicized,” he said. “Now everybody’s mad. People needed a place to take some of their fear and anger and unfortunately sometimes that was clergy. They aren’t used to that. That’s a lot of stress. They’re like, ‘I used to think people liked me.’ But it’s often a no-win situation when you’re in charge of a public space.

“I’m fortunate that I’m at a church now in which there’s unanimity, but at my last church, I would get some pretty long emails from people who sounded like they had been watching a certain news program for too long.”

Live services have returned at the First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown, and Merritt is using the opportunity to begin healing wounds. At a recent service, he asked congregants to bring in photos of anyone they had lost in the pandemic and were not able to have a funeral for, even if they didn’t die from COVID.

Merritt brought in a picture of his own father, who died of dementia. “People have real pain because of this,” he said.

Nevertheless, Zoom services are, he believes, never going away. For all that it lacks in terms of personal connection, the tech-

(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued from Page 8)

nology has too many advantages to ignore. Clergy members who have moved away, the sick, the disabled, or even the curious can now take part in worship in a way that they weren't able to before. Those who felt hesitant to speak out in church when making prayer requests have felt more comfortable typing requests or comments in chat. And there is the simple miracle that so many small churches that were previously lacking in technical savvy have adapted so quickly.

"Cold Spring didn't do Zoom services," Merritt said. "Now you have an 88-year-old man who runs it. That's a huge shift in culture."

That shift has been bigger in some churches than in others.

"For the last two years, I've been preaching to myself," said the Rev. Ronald Perry Sr., the pastor at Springfield Baptist Church in Beacon. "And as an old Baptist preacher, it's the weirdest thing."

An exodus

The building that houses the Springfield Baptist Church is one of the oldest in Beacon and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in recognition of it being a stop on the Underground Railroad for escaped slaves fleeing north.

The block the church stands on, Mattie Cooper Square, is named after the congregation's founder, and the rest of the street is Church Street. Its annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade and service have been two of the most significant and well-attended events in Beacon for years, as well as a necessary stop for local politicians.

But despite the church's rich history, membership has fallen throughout the years. Many congregants no longer live in Beacon; some travel from as far away as Hyde Park. The city has changed rapidly in the past 10 years, said Perry, but he thinks the changes keeping people away from church are being seen statewide. New York has become too expensive, and many members have moved.

Without the older generation to bring them into the fold, attracting younger members has proven difficult. "They're not as hungry for what we call the traditional church," he said. "When they do find church, they're more attracted to churches that have entertainment, and that's been very difficult for us."

Adapting to Facebook has also been difficult, he said, because it's hard to capture the energy of a choir and a traditional Baptist service on a screen. And while the technology will get some continued use at Springfield Baptist, such as doing Bible study or small prayer meetings over Zoom during inclement weather, he said the congregation is ready to return to the pews.

When we spoke this week, the church was about to gather for its first in-person service in two years, and the excitement and relief were palpable in Perry's voice. Some members have not attended online services, preferring to wait until they can gather in person. But Perry said they shouldn't expect a return to "normal," at church or in life.

"The church that we had is no longer," he said. "We're trying to develop a new normal."

The choir will likely be replaced by a



The Rev. Bill Dandreano at Salem Tabernacle church in Beacon

Photo by Ross Corsair

few singers, he said. There will be fewer services, and they will be shorter to make them more comfortable for those wearing masks. Even so, some congregants have told him, although they are vaccinated and boosted, they're still not ready to return.

"I got folks who want to come, but they are concerned because of all the ups and downs of the pandemic," he said. "People tell me, 'I want to come but I got to really be careful.' I encourage that."

As necessary as online services have been, Perry wonders if something about the solemnity of service has been lost in the ease of access. Maybe it's not such a good thing that people can attend church without getting out of bed, or can flip it off for a while if they don't like the music, as if they were listening to the radio.

Across town, Salem Tabernacle appears to be a church that is comfortable with embracing technology. The pulpit is on a stage decked out with a full band, rock-show lighting and an enormous screen that the Rev. Bill Dandreano wryly refers

music is dope!' And I'm like, 'I'm not coming. I know what you're trying to do.'"

He decided to attend for a few weeks, but only at night, and only to support his brother. He did not tell anyone else in his family. "I didn't want to get my mom gassed up," he said.

At the first service, the pastor asked everyone who was 20 years or younger to come to the stage. Dandreano knew what was about to happen, and did not want to get up. But he knew that if he didn't, his brother or sister-in-law would tell his mother that he wasn't taking church seriously.

The pastor asked those assembled who had a calling to join the ministry and Dandreano suddenly realized in that moment that maybe — *maybe* — it was he.

"But I'm not raising my hand because again, it'll get back to my mom and she will be so excited," he recalled. "And then this dude walks up to me, turns his microphone off and goes: 'Stop worrying about what your mom's gonna think. You know it's you.'"

Five years ago, Dandreano was ordained

“For the last two years, I’ve been preaching to myself. And as an old Baptist preacher, it’s the weirdest thing.”

- Rev. Ronald Perry Sr.

to as "The Jumbotron." But he agrees with Perry's assessment about online worship.

"It takes away from the sanctified nature of a place that's supposed to feel different from all the other places you go," he said. "You should walk in and be like, 'I'm not at a doctor's office, I'm not in a bowling alley.' It should feel different. The language should be different. The way we sing should be different. We need that. But what's happening is people are watching church on the same device they use to watch *Yellowstone* and *Euphoria*."

The turning season

No one is more surprised that Bill Dandreano became a pastor than Bill Dandreano.

Back in the late 1990s, his brother, who was in the band at the church, urged him to check it out. Dandreano was wary. The rest of his family was religious; he, less so. "He said, 'The

interpreting their mission.

"*Evangelicalism* has become a curse word," he said. "The worst of evangelicalism is: It's misogynistic and male-dominated leadership. It's judgmental, and preaches about what is wrong with you and who's not allowed here. And in America, it's got racist undertones. It's moved from being patriotic to almost nationalistic in ways that are terrifying. We shouldn't dog our country. But we worship God, not America."

Dandreano remains skeptical about the technology that his church has become adept at using. But he admits that it saved his church, as he was able to record or livestream services from the beginning. If the pandemic had happened two years earlier, before the church had gone through a technological upgrade, he's not sure what they would have done. And the large screen made the services more visually appealing to those at home.

Still, there were challenges. In April 2020, Dandreano decided to record his Good Friday sermon from his home. He set up blazingly hot stage lights in his study, hit record on his iPhone and preached for three sweaty hours. Afterward, he checked the footage and found that he had set the phone too low, cutting off his head. He had to record the three-hour service again.

"You can't get too mad though, because it's Good Friday," he said.

Not everything has been as easy to shrug off. He agrees with Brian Merritt at First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown that the past two years have taken a brutal toll on pastors. It's not helped by another aspect of the evangelical tradition that states that pastors' leadership is rooted in their ability to do things on their own.

"That kind of leadership needs to go away forever," he said. "We need to lead the church by showing that we also need help. I would want every pastor to hear me say: No matter what, you need spiritual direction or therapy right now. Because we are bearing such a heavy weight. The war, the racism, the COVID, the deaths, having your church, not having your church, having plans, losing your plans, it's so hard. It's an impossible burden to carry."

If, as Merritt says, there is no such thing as individual salvation, perhaps the pandemic's greatest lesson is that there is no such thing as individual healing, as well. If Christian churches are going to flourish during dark times in U.S. history, Dandreano believes it will be by moving from commands to invitations. It will come from making people feel welcome, giving them a place where they can relax, where they can feel comfortable opening up. For this, the art of conversation will need to come back. Not just in church, Dandreano thinks, but in the home.

"The whole Christian faith revolves around a guy giving his followers a meal on the worst night of their lives," he said. It's time, he thinks, for the church and even those who are unchurched, to hold tight to this lesson.

On Sunday (March 13), Dandreano preached about the difference between inviting people into healing versus trying to fix them.

"Trying to fix someone is not healthy," he said. "But if you just have people over to your house to eat, that event is more important than anything that will be said."

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42 North Cedar St.	Beacon	4	1/1	1,536	\$361,500
19 S. Cedar St.	Beacon	3	1/0	1,152	\$411,000
3 Rockwell Pl.	Fishkill	3	2/0	1,854	\$426,000
8 Sivers Pl.	Beacon	3	3/0	1,932	\$493,000
11 Cliff St.	Beacon	4	2/1	1,932	\$499,900
11 Schofield Pl.	Beacon	4	2/1	2,045	\$565,000
46 Judson St.	Beacon	5	2/0	1,946	\$575,000
21 Kent St.	Beacon	3	1/1	1,293	\$597,000
39 Wodenethe Dr.	Beacon	4	2/1	2,188	\$730,000

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PROPERTIES	CITY	BEDS	BATHS	SQ FT	SOLD!
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THE
GATE HOUSE
TEAM

COMPASS



During the trip, Pataki met in Budapest with the Ukrainian ambassador to Hungary.



Ukrainian refugees wait to enter Hungary.

Photos provided

Pataki Visits Hungary, Ukraine

Former governor says more U.S. aid needed

By Leonard Sparks

Former Gov. George Pataki remembers one conversation in particular from his trip to Hungary and Ukraine last week.

At one of the borders where Ukrainian refugees have been crossing into Hungary to escape Russia's invasion of their country, a young woman said she had driven seven hours alone in search of medicine for her two children. After finding the medicine, said Pataki, she would return to Ukraine.

"That type of thing just breaks your heart," he said.

Pataki, who lives in Garrison, and his son, Owen, landed in Hungary on March 10, traveling with delegations from the Governor George E. Pataki Leadership and Learning Center and the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, an interfaith organization.

Of the more than 3 million people who

have escaped Ukraine for neighboring countries since Russia launched its invasion of the country on Feb. 24, an estimated 272,000 have sought safety in Hungary, the U.N. Refugee Agency said on Tuesday (March 15).

Pataki, a Republican who served as governor from 1995 to 2006, said he felt compelled to find ways to help out while "watching on TV the horror unfold."

"The refugee crisis is just getting worse, and the United States has to do far more," he said on Tuesday, a day after returning to the U.S. "The big thing is to get the goods that they need into Ukraine."

The trip included meetings with officials from Hungary; conversations with aid groups providing food, medicine and transportation at the borders in Hungary, and a visit to a health care facility, said Pataki. The group helped sort out the logistics for the arrival of three cargo planes of medical supplies being sent by the Greater New York Hospital Association, and the distribution of the supplies in Ukraine, he said.

One March 11, he entered the war-torn country. One of the places Pataki said he visited was a Catholic school now being used to shelter women and children. While millions have left, millions more in the country of 41 million are unable or refuse to leave, he said.

"They're far more in need," said Pataki.

One refugee he talked with fled while her husband, a doctor, stayed behind to treat people in Mariupol, a city in southeast Ukraine under siege from Russian troops and heavy bombing. News organizations reported on Wednesday that Russia had bombed a theater where an estimated 1,000 Ukrainians were sheltering.

Another woman left behind her husband, a government official, said Pataki. "She doesn't know where he is in Ukraine, but he's doing his service as a volunteer soldier," he said.

Pataki returned to Philipstown convinced that while "no one wants war with Russia," the U.S. should be taking stronger steps to protect the airspace over Ukraine from Russian bombings and drone attacks. That includes equipping Ukrainians with fighter planes, he said.

There is also a great need for food, said

Ukraine: How to Help

The Governor George E. Pataki Leadership and Learning Center is collecting funds to support a Ukrainian refugee camp in Kisvárda, Hungary. See georgepatakicenter.com/ukraine. Here are other ways to help:

- The Afya Foundation, which is based in Yonkers, has temporarily halted collecting humanitarian supplies such as diapers and personal hygiene kits. Instead, it is focused on medical supplies. See afyafoundation.org/campaign/ukraine.
- The Fred Astaire Dance Studio at 3182 Route 9 in Philipstown is a collection point for medical and tactical supplies.
- Financial contributions can be made to groups such as the Ukrainian Red Cross (redcross.org.ua/en/donate); Razom for Ukraine (razomforukraine.org); United Help Ukraine (unitedhelpukraine.org); Voices of Children (voices.org.ua); and the World Central Kitchen (wck.org). The National Bank of Ukraine is also collecting donations for the armed forces at bank.gov.ua/en.

Pataki, a need that could be helped if the U.S. sent a shipment of the meals-ready-to-eat used by its military.

"It's heartbreaking to not be able to tell them [Ukrainians] why we're not doing this," he said.

Letters *(from Page 1)*

about life" around the dinner table, including, recently, about the war in Ukraine.

On the morning of Feb. 24, when Russian forces crossed the border into Ukraine, Leo asked his mother, "Oh my God, did they invade?"

"He could see it on my face," she recalled. Together, the siblings came up with the idea of writing letters, and Natalia suggested they would resonate more if written in Ukrainian.

"I thought about how they would feel knowing that people noticed them," Natalia explained. "I hope they would feel happy

and have hope realizing that we're here for them."

Natalia said she entered messages such as "We hope your family is safe," "We're praying for peace" and "Sending love from New York" into Google Translate (bit.ly/eng-to-ukr) and copied the Cyrillic letters by hand.

Kelly and Dan contacted Caritas, a Polish orphanage providing shelter to Ukrainians, and Kulturschoepfer e.V., a refugee organization in Berlin where volunteers teach children music, theater and dance "to bring some normalcy into their lives, to let them feel like children again," Kelly said.

The two organizations, which are collecting supplies for refugees, agreed to distribute the letters. The family plans to send the first shipments on March 31.

In addition to letters, the Garcia family has turned its home into a hub for collecting flashlights, batteries, medical supplies and other provisions to be sent overseas.

To raise money, Dan Garcia, who plays classical guitar, is organizing a benefit concert with other Beacon musicians

for late April or early May. The family is asking Main Street businesses to sponsor the event, which doesn't have a venue yet, so that all proceeds can go directly to Ukraine. Anyone interested can contact Kelly at kellyposadas@gmail.com or by calling 646-385-0337.

Dan says Leo and Natalia's letter-writing project stems from the sense of awareness that he and his wife have tried to instill in their children.

"We teach the kids not to take anything for granted," he said. "We have very privileged lives. It's awareness, and then acting — not just sitting, not just watching the news."

If the fighting in Ukraine persists, "we'll continue to send letters and hopefully create a movement around it," Kelly said. "These people are going to be displaced for a while."

Messages in Ukrainian for refugees can be dropped by March 30 at the circulation desk at the Howland Public Library, 313 Main St., in Beacon or in the mail slot at The Current's office at 142 Main St. in Cold Spring.

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AROUND TOWN



▲ **SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE** — Magazzino Italian Art in Philipstown recently installed 18 Ukrainian flags on its grounds while Cold Spring hung a flag in the window of Village Hall. On Sunday (March 13), four elementary students at the Manitou School in Philipstown — Willa Staempfli of Beacon, Sadie MacInnes of Cold Spring and Suri and Iona Stuart of Beacon — raised \$1,223 for the Save the Children Ukraine Crisis Relief Fund with a roadside bake sale.



▲ **VETERAN HONORED** — The Libby Funeral Home in Beacon on March 11 held a service for Luis Domingo Olivo-Paz, 83, a native of Puerto Rico who served two tours with the U.S. Marines in Vietnam but died without family. The Mass was led by the Rev. John Thawale of St. Joachim-St. John the Evangelist Church, and members of the Marine Corps League served as pallbearers. Members of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Knights of Columbus and Scout Troop 41 also took part, and the Beacon police, New York State Police and Patriot Guard Riders of New York provided escorts.



▲ **FRANCISCAN CELEBRATION** — A five-day Atonement Franciscan Assembly held at Graymoor in Garrison included a performance on March 10 by singer Amy Grant, who has won six Grammys and sold 30 million albums, shown here with Father Brian Terry. Bishop Gerardo Colacicco celebrated Mass for Cardinal Timothy Dolan, who was ill and couldn't attend.

Photos provided

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The Calendar

soft squares

Philipstown painter never sure where she'll end up

By Alison Rooney

When Ann Provan starts a painting, she doesn't know how it will turn out, and that's fine with her.

Provan, whose solo exhibit, *Inner Window*, opens at the Garrison Art Center on March 27, makes what she describes as "intuitive geometric paintings that can have multiple interpretations." They may include illusions of space, references to landscape or architecture, people or characters.

"There is uncertainty as to what it will look like and what the content will be," she adds. "The painting goes through many transformations."

Most of her paintings begin as drawings. Using colored pencils and sketchbooks, she draws while listening to music, often in the studio she and her husband, David, also an artist, built last year near their Philipstown home.

"The minute I start painting, it's a different feeling working on larger canvases," she says. "I try to work with it, tweak it, make adjustments, slowly, until it turns into what I think is an acceptable painting. Sometimes I get into a pickle and it just looks terrible, such as one recently in which I thought bold red and orange colors would be great together. I put a wash over it and

it became beautiful, with vaporous colors."

Raised in Berkeley, California, Provan earned bachelor's and master's degrees in fine arts from the San Francisco Art Institute. After her undergraduate years, she moved to France, ostensibly for a year. That turned into four years, first in Montpellier and then in Paris, where she studied French and other disciplines and worked as a model for designers such as Karl Lagerfeld and illustrator Antonio Lopez. It was Lopez who convinced Provan to pursue a graduate degree.

She wasn't painting geometrically back then. Far from it. "I did figurative painting," Provan recalls. "Little stories, kind of surreal imagery on paper, diary-like paintings about my life and dreams. They were kind of a fantasy, in a way. Then I moved to New York City in 1976 and I wanted to do abstract work right away, so I switched to sculpture.

"The buildings, the environment of New York is so overwhelming. It was fun to investigate, to make a change. I'd build 3-D pieces with wires based on shadows cast on the wall. They had a soft focus and felt ephemeral."

It was while doing this type of work that Provan unexpectedly landed a solo show at The New Museum in Manhattan. It turned out to be a mixed bag.

"These shadow installations were too much, too quickly, a kind of product that I couldn't sustain very well," she says. "They required so much control — of lighting, of walls. I'm not good with electrical stuff, so I kind of let that go. After a while I went back to painting."

Nevertheless, Provan found her work being increasingly recognized. She received a fellowship in sculpture and another in artist books, which went hand in hand, she says. "The book format is very sculp-



"Drifting"



"Breakthrough"

tural. I would cut out and cut the pages, so pages underneath would show through. You can work with it in a very 3D way. I came across a whole world of people who do artist books." The Museum of Modern Art bought some of her books for its collection.

Her work is also held at Franklin Furnace in Brooklyn, McGill University in Montreal, the Museum of the Art Institute of Chicago and the Cleveland Institute of Art.

Provan retired in 2018 from a day job she held for 30 years and built the studio soon after. "David does metalwork, and we really needed the space," she says. "In 2020 I made so much work, because I finally had the time. I'm 73 and this has been a wonderful thing."

Her work continues to evolve. "It's something that is not architecture anymore; it's more like weird visions or structures, more emotional," she says. "The paint-handling is airy and ephemeral and it's a lot about the sky, living in the pandemic, too, this feeling of isolation.

"I feel like I'm still learning how to be an artist," she says. "It's like having a hunch, the quietest voice speaking. I'm not a splash-the-paint in emotional ways type of painter. I wait until I hear that 'You've got to do that' voice. It's not always the right move, but it's a quiet inclination about what to do."



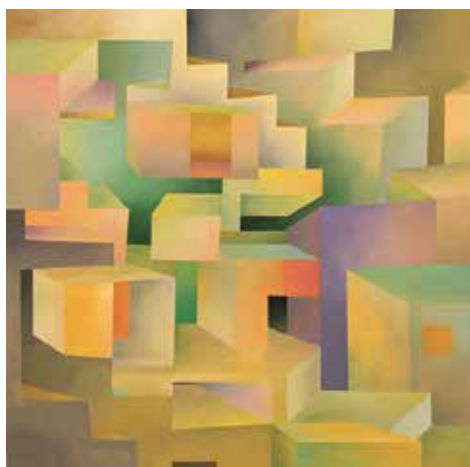
"Tango"



"Focus"



"Golden Hours"



"Sanctuary"



"Intervals"

*The Garrison Art Center, located at 23 Garrison's Landing, is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Tuesday to Sunday. See garrisonartcenter.org. An opening reception for *Inner Window* and an exhibit of sculpture and collage by Leslie Fandrich will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on March 24; both shows will run through April 24.*



Ann Provan

Photos provided

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 19

Build a Bluebird Box

GARRISON

10 a.m. & Noon. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | boscobel.org

Materials will be provided to create a nesting place for local bluebirds with help from Boscobel and Constitution Marsh Audubon. Learn about habitats and other ways to attract and care for feathered friends. *Cost: \$60 (\$30 members)*

SAT 19

Maple Sugar Tours

CORNWALL

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. | 120 Muser Drive
Outdoor Discovery Center
845-534-5506 x204 | hhnrm.org

Discover the process of making syrup during a Sugar Bush Tour (1-mile hike) or a Maple Lane Tour (short walk). Also SUN 20. Reservations required. *Cost: \$11 (\$9 members; ages 5 and younger free)*



SAT 19

Putnam Highlands Audubon Dinner

PHILIPSTOWN

5 – 8 p.m.
Taconic Outdoor Education Center
75 Mountain Laurel Lane
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

The annual benefit will include a silent auction. *Cost: \$75 (\$25 remote)*

SAT 19

Stories at Sunset

GARRISON

6 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | boscobel.org

Celebrate spring with a sunset, science and stories on the Great Lawn led by Lisa DiMarzo and featuring storyteller Jonathan Kruk. *Cost: \$12 (\$10 seniors, \$6 ages 5-18; children under 5, health care workers and members free)*

TUES 22

Blood Drive

PEEKSKILL

11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
redcrossblood.org

Schedule an appointment online.

SAT 26

Pet Rabies Vaccine Clinic

CARMEL

10 a.m. – Noon. Memorial Park
201 Gypsy Trail Road
845-808-1390 x43160
putnamcountyny.com/health

Bring a dog, cat or ferret along with proof of residency and prior rabies vaccination. Sponsored by the Putnam County Health Department.

SAT 26

HSF Trivia Night

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Industrial Arts Brewing Co.
511 Fishkill Ave.
haldaneschoolfoundation.org

Test your smarts as this annual fundraising event returns in person. Teams of up to 8 players can register. Food and beverages included and transportation from Cold Spring is available. *Cost: \$75*

SUN 27

Soup4Greens

BEACON

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. DMV Lot
223 Main St.
beaconfarmersmarket.org

This sixth annual fundraiser will benefit Greens4Greens, which increases the spending power of farmers' market customers using federal assistance. Soups donated by local businesses include gluten-free, vegan and vegetarian options in unique ceramic bowls or quarts. *Cost: \$5 (bowl), \$16 (quart), \$25 (handmade bowl), \$60 (all plus insulated bag)*

SUN 27

Maple Syrup Day

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D
facebook.com/littlestonypoint

Enjoy pancakes, local maple syrup and live music. There will be free parking and a shuttle from the former Dutchess Manor sponsored by the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail. The rain date is SUN 3. *Free*

STAGE AND SCREEN

SAT 19

A Little Night Music

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Haldane School
15 Craigsides Drive
showtix4u.com/event-details/62431

Haldane Drama will perform the Stephen Sondheim musical. Also SUN 20. *Cost: \$15 (\$8 students, seniors free)*

SAT 19

Little Annie Rooney

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org
The Butterfield Library's Silent

Film Series continues with this 1925 feature written by and starring Mary Pickford. Cary Brown provides live musical accompaniment. *Free*

SUN 20

Poet's Corner: Mary Newell

PUTNAM VALLEY

3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

The Garrison-based poet will read from her chapbooks, *Re-SURGE* and *Tilt/Hover/Veer*, followed by an open mic.

SUN 20

Writing With Fire

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Story Screen
445 Main St. | storyscreenbeacon.com

The 2021 documentary shares the experiences of the journalists at the only women-run newspaper and digital news outlet in India, *Khabar Lahariya*, who report on difficult issues and regions at high personal risk. *Cost: \$12 (\$10 military, senior, child)*

FRI 25

Zoo

GARRISON

7 p.m. Via Zoom | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

The Desmond-Fish library will screen this 2017 film set in Belfast about a group of children who work to save a baby elephant during World War II.

SAT 26

Don Carlos

POUGHKEEPSIE

Noon. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Watch a livestream of the Metropolitan Opera's French version of Verdi's opera with Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Élisabeth de Valois and Jamie Barton. *Cost: \$28 (\$26 members, \$21 ages 12 and younger)*



Writing With Fire, March 20



Pet Rabies Vaccine Clinic, March 26

SAT 26

Night Train Storytelling

GARRISON

6 & 8:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org

Hosted by Joe Charnitski, the storytellers will include Joe Stracci, Samantha Spoto and Sandi Marx, a seven-time *Moth StorySLAM* champ. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 26

Bert Kreischer

POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. MJN Convention Center
14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org

The comedian and author will perform as part of his Bert Boy Relapse Tour. Also SUN 27. *Cost: \$35*

TALKS AND TOURS

SAT 19

Amor Towles

POUGHKEEPSIE

2:30 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

The Philipstown resident and author of *A Gentleman in Moscow* will discuss his work and his most recent novel, *The Lincoln Highway*. *Free*

SUN 20

The General's Lady

NEWBURGH

2 p.m. Via YouTube
facebook.com/washingtonshead-quarters

In this annual program, presented by the Washington's Headquarters historic site, Jessie Serfilippi will

discuss Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton, the wife of Alexander Hamilton.

SUN 20

One Dime at a Time

GARRISON

4 p.m. Via Crowdcast
845-424-3020 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Susan Delson will discuss her book about the three-minute precursors to music videos known as "soundies," with a focus on Black performers. The films debuted in the 1940s and featured Dorothy Dandridge and Duke Ellington, among others. Gwen Laster of Beacon, a musician and scholar of Black musical heritage, will join the discussion hosted by the Desmond-Fish Public Library and Split Rock Books.

TUES 22

The Art of Bottle Detecting

BEACON

7 p.m. Via Zoom | beaconhistorical.org

Alex Prizgintas, a bottle collector and researcher, will discuss the stories in glass bottles and how to identify antiques in this program sponsored by the Beacon Historical Society. *Free*

WED 23

Climate Action for Everyone

PHILIPSTOWN

7 p.m. Via Crowdcast | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Community members will discuss the Philipstown Fights Dirty campaign and actions that can reduce the town's carbon footprint.

WED 23

Tree ID for Beginners

MILLBROOK

7 p.m. Via Zoom | bit.ly/cary-forest

Educators from the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies will explain how to identify common Northeast trees.

THURS 24

A Celebration of Remarkable Women

COLD SPRING

6:30 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

Sandy Galef, Nancy Montgomery, Kathleen Foley and Yaslyn Daniels will share stories of women who inspired them in this Butterfield Library program.

SAT 26
Guided Bird-Watching Walk
CROTON
7:30 a.m. Croton Point Park
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org
Look for early spring migrating birds and raptors during this Putnam Highlands Audubon hike. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 26
Backyard Beekeeping
PUTNAM VALLEY
2 p.m. Putnam Valley Grange
128 Mill St. | putnamvalleygrange.org
Abbot Fleur of Hudson Valley Beekeepers will discuss sustainable methods and bee biology, equipment and gear. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door, members free)*

VISUAL ART
FRI 18
Chris Crocco: In the Wild
COLD SPRING
6 – 8 p.m. Highlands Current
142 Main St. | highlandscurrent.org
Crocco, a partner in the Beacon Daily, is also a wildlife photographer. Some of his best shots will be on view at *The Current* offices.

SAT 19
Art, Labor and Language in Postwar Rome
PHILIPSTOWN
3 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | 845-666-7202
magazzino.art
In this lecture, the first in a series called “Notes on Making” that will explore artistic labor as defined by the Arte Povera movement, Katie Larson, an art history professor at Baylor University and the Magazzino scholar-in-residence, will discuss the themes in the works of five artists. *Free*

SAT 26
Leslie Fandrich | Ann Provan
GARRISON
5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org
Fandrich’s sculpture and collage will be on view in the Balter Gallery and Provan’s show, *Inner Window*, will feature her paintings using geometric forms. See Page 13. Through April 24.



Joe Louis Walker, March 26

KIDS AND FAMILY
SAT 18
Girl Power Story Time
GARRISON
11 a.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
The focus will be stories about women from history. For older preschool and elementary school students.
MON 21
Click and Seek
GARRISON
3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Enjoy a family nature walk and scavenger hunt using the Seek app to identify plants and animals along the library’s new walking path.

MUSIC
SAT 19
Rose Stoller
BEACON
8 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar
173 Main St. | reservabeacon.com
The theater artist and singer and songwriter will perform from her wide selection of jazz, fusion and Brazilian-influenced music.
SAT 19
Spyro Gyra
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The contemporary jazz band from Buffalo has been performing for nearly 50 years. *Cost: \$55 (\$60 door)*

TUES 22
Library + Farm Garden Club
WAPPINGERS FALLS
4 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
Farmstead Lane | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
In the first session of this program co-hosted by the Howland Library and Stony Kill Farm, students in grades 6 to 12 will learn about garden planting and design.
TUES 22
Let’s Draw Impossible Animal Cartoons
BEACON
6:30 p.m. Via Zoom
845-831-1134 | beaconlibrary.org
Students in grades 1 to 7 can

join cartoonist Jim Stromoski and learn to combine parts of different animals to draw new creations. Register online.

FRI 25
Story Walk
WAPPINGERS FALLS
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Bowdoin Park
85 Sheafe Road | 845-486-2555
dutchessny.gov
Take a self-guided reading tour of the children’s book, *Maple Syrup from the Sugarhouse* during Maple Syrup Weekend. Also SAT 26, SUN 27.

SAT 26
The Long Shadow
NEWBURGH
7:30 p.m. Newburgh Free Academy
201 Fullerton Ave.
newburghsymphony.org
The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra will perform a program of Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky works that were inspired by Beethoven. *Cost: \$35 to \$50 (\$25 seniors, students free)*

SAT 26
Popa Chubby
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The experienced blues player will perform his signature style of hard-rocking sets. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SAT 26
Century of the Blues Concert
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Accompanied by a visual

MON 21
Jazz Night
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Quinn’s | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnbeacon
The keyboardist Thollem will perform with violinist-vocalist Iva Bittova, bassist Michael Bisio and drummer Ryan Jewell.

FRI 25
Kevin Burt
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The blues vocalist, guitarist and harmonica player will perform music from his albums. Kenny Faranda and Soul Sacrifice will open. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 26
Mary Courtney
PUTNAM VALLEY
7 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
This season-opening concert will feature the Irish music of the singer, guitarist and bohdran player who will perform music from her latest album, *Love from the 33rd County*. *Cost: \$20*

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newburghsymphony.org
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SAT 26
Century of the Blues Concert
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Accompanied by a visual

retrospective by Joseph Rosen, Joe Louis Walker, Guy Davis and Professor Louie and the Crowmatix will perform. *Cost: \$25 to \$40*

SUN 27
Tannahill Weavers
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The traditional Scottish band will perform music from their 18th album, *Orach*. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

CIVIC
MON 21
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

MON 21
School Board
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road
845-838-6900 | beaconf12.org

MON 21
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7:30 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

WED 23
Budget Discussion
GARRISON
6 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

WED 23
Board of Trustees
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 23
Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Town Hall
238 Main St. | philipstown.com
The trail committee will give an update on the project during the Philipstown Town Board workshop.

EST. 2014

NEWBURGH

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Appointments suggested:
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Newburgh, NY 12550

CUSTOM

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We have a new home.

216 MAIN STREET, COLD SPRING, NY (COLD SPRING METHODIST CHURCH)

The Highlands Chapel is pleased to announce it's moving Sunday services to Cold Spring.

Beginning on April 3 at 11:00 AM, please join us for a program of music, worship, and reflection.

MUSIC · WORSHIP · SUNDAY SCHOOL · COFFEE HOUR



Highlands Choral Society
AT HIGHLANDS CHAPEL

The Highlands Choral Society is non-denominational and welcomes people of all faiths or none at all. Our Highlands Chapel services feature music, fellowship, reflection, and prayer. HighlandsChapel.org



For the Philipstown Food Pantry it's a New Year, but the generosity of our community never gets old. So, Thank You to all who have continued to support us during the past year and into 2022.

- Mr. & Mrs. Joe Maloney

David & Maggie Gordon-

in honor of Irene Kalen

Bev & Bruce Taylor in memory of

Karen K. Dunn

Dorothy S. Williams

Garrison Teachers Assoc. in honor of

Carl Albano-Supt.

Joe Jimik-Business

Mike Sammartano-Tech

Michael Fluardy - B& G

Carl Bon Tempo

Jon Kinnaird

Marilyn Schlosser

Delmar Karlen Jr.

Carolyn Peters

David Long

St. Philips Episcopal Church

Andrea

Owen & Zshawn Sullivan

Peter Meisler

Our Lady of Loretto-

Knights of Columbus #536

Kristen Celello

James Hedlund-

In appreciation of Kathleen Foley

being elected Mayor of Cold Spring

Sue Spratt and the students at

Haldane Grade School and Middle School

The Community Nursery School

Second Chance Foods

Firebread Company

St Basils Academy

Amy Chara

Chia-Jung Dion

Heidi Shira Bender
- The Valentine's Day Posse-

Cathy Greenough

Carly Arnold

Erica Kivel

Elizabeth Regele

Mylinh Nguyen Glover

Camille Papineau

Laura Kaufman

Kathy Thorpe Tomann

Abigail Mc Nall

Zshawn Sullivan

Kelly Linhardt

Manitou School

Katherine Smelter

David May

Friedrike Merck

South Highlands Choral Society

Leonora Burton & The Country Goose

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The Jeremiah Fund

in Memory of Dorothea T. Cotter

Elks Club of Beacon

Anne Cabot, The Topfield Foundation

Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce

Mrs. Berner

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Mary Jane Mullins

FJC-Foundation of Philanthropic Funds

Joan Crouch

Edith Schumacher

Lisa Quartin

Michael Williams

Heidi Shira Bender

Kelley Linhardt

Black Dash Studio

Leslie Hoellger



Tom Stephens as Harry Potter, Ron Weasley and Draco Malfoy

Three-Man Band

Tom Stephens, who lives in Cold Spring, has appeared in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* on Broadway since 2018. He is the first actor in the production, which is running in New York, London and Melbourne and opened in 2016, to portray Harry, Ron and Draco — “the Hogwarts holy trinity!” Before the pandemic shutdown, the show was presented in two parts; that has been condensed to one. At home, Stephens and his wife, Anna, have taken the opposite tact, expanding their family from four to five with the recent addition of a daughter, Sally.



Baby and Dog

This feature is designed as a counterweight to all the bad news in the world that weighs people down. We could share a photo of a baby, or a photo of a dog, but we are giving you both. How many newspapers can say that? Matt Fezza of Beacon submitted this shot of his grandson, Bryson, with Milo. If you have a photo of a baby and a dog, submit it for consideration to editor@highlandscurrent.org.

By Alison Rooney

Think you've seen Peggy J. Scott before? You probably have.

Scott is a Garrison resident who has been popping up seemingly everywhere as a guest and sometimes recurring character in series such as *Succession*, *The Americans*, *House of Cards*, *30 Rock*, *Bull* and *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* (she's in Seasons 1, 2, 3 and the forthcoming Season 5). Her recent roles include a corporate secretary; the impoverished, sawed-off shotgun-brandishing, protective mother of a son suspected of murder; and that old standby, a sassy waitress, pie in hand, quip in mouth.

Most recently, Scott has been filming *Mr. Harrigan's Phone*, a Netflix project based on a Stephen King novella, in which she plays the stern housekeeper of a character played by Donald Sutherland. "Ooh, I look so unattractive in it!" Scott says, gleefully.

This jumping from one juicy small-bite role to another, punctuated by leads in plays, is far from what she imagined at her career's inception. After graduating from Ithaca College with a bachelor of fine arts in theater, she presumed she'd be working mainly on the stage. In fact, her first jobs were at LaMama and other small New York City theaters before she spent two years with the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco.

At that point, Scott was ready to begin her working life anew in New York, but instead she spent a year touring with the National Theatre of the Deaf, singing and signing with the company in a production of *Four Saints in Three Acts*, an opera by Gertrude Stein and Virgil Thomson.

When she moved to New York, Scott studied with Uta Hagen and played roles off-Broadway and in regional theaters. An early highlight was touring with the Negro Ensemble Company — as one of its two white actors — in *The We Plays*, with a then-little-known Samuel L. Jackson. "I played Hannah, a schoolteacher from the North," she says. "It was a complete immersion in another world."

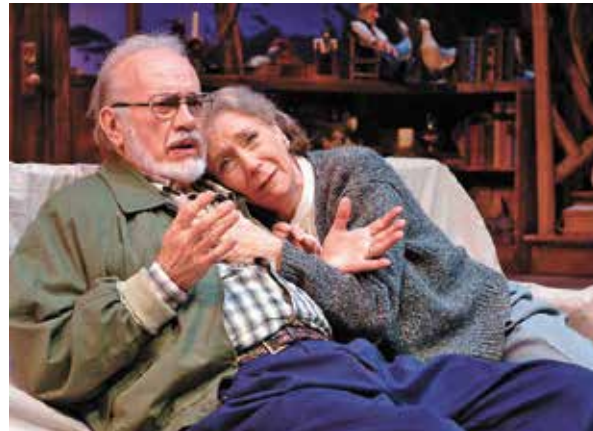
After spending two years at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, Scott moved to Los Angeles to pursue television work and theater, then earned a master of fine arts in

The Many Roles of Peggy Scott

Garrison actor has steady career as character actor



Scott serves up sass and pie in *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*.



Scott with Richard Kinter in *On Golden Pond* at the Utah Shakespeare Festival



Scott (left) with Craig Heidenreich and Jane Pfitsch in *Barefoot in the Park* at the Actors Theatre of Louisville



Scott with Daniel Petzold in *Switzerland* at 59E59 Theaters Photo by Rana Faure

Photos provided (3)

classical acting from the Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington, D.C.

At that point, becoming a character actor wasn't on Scott's mind. "I just wanted to be an actress, period," she says. "It always seemed interesting and magical. I first felt that way after seeing a production of *The Crucible*. It's why I ended up in the theater — we're all a little offbeat and I relish that.

"It was the case of, 'Join the theater, see the world' for me. I was young, but older actors and directors treated me like a peer. I never had grandiose aspirations of want-

ing to be a star. I still have a hard-baked, beginner's mind."

Now, Scott spends more time working in television than onstage — although she names *Switzerland*, in which she played author Patricia Highsmith in a Hudson Stage production that transferred to 59E59 Theaters in 2019, as a role she particularly loved.

She says she's called in for a "rather wide variety of parts, sympathetic and otherwise. I'm surprised that TV has given me so much." In looking at a part, Scott hopes to find "some-

thing with strong emotional content, laughs — I love comedy. It's the part, the people, the paycheck. The part is first unless the people are just terrible. I always want to see the whole project first, not just scenes, and the whole thing does come down to taste."

Scott has always had wanderlust, and she has found ways to connect it to her career. "Storytelling is an extraordinary art form," she says. "When I went to Greece, sitting in the amphitheaters, I felt a spiritual connection to the storytellers who went before. We have a primordial need, a hunger for stories. We dream and tell stories to sift through the chaos of our minds."

In early 2020 Scott decided to take several months off to see the world. A few weeks into her trip, she was on a ship about to head to Sri Lanka when a case of COVID-19 was reported there. Scott decided to head to Africa instead and rejoin the ship later.

"I went to Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe," she says. "By the time I was ready to leave Africa, I learned I might not be able to fly out. I didn't know what to do — I thought, 'If I'm stuck, I'll waitress in lodges, go back to my hippie roots.' I learned quickly not to take it lightly. I knew I had to get out of the camp in Zimbabwe, but the day I was due to fly out, it was drizzly and cloudy, very iffy."

"I decided to try everything I've ever learned about positive meditation — and the weather cleared. I was on the last international flight out of Cape Town. Meanwhile, my buddies on the ship circled on and on, because all the ports were closed."

Scott divides her time between an apartment in Manhattan and her home in Garrison. Over time she has found herself spending more and more time in the country, although she still feels the need to be in the middle of it all.

"In New York, when I'm not working I have lunch, see a show; here I'm kayaking or sailing," she says. "It's two halves of a whole. Part of me wants to stay cozy, but I know I have to push myself to do scary. I have a rich, interesting life in both places. I'm not a huge star, but I have a respectable career, and I enjoy it; it's forced me to grow. I have no intention of retiring. Why do I want to pull back? I want to jump in!"

Current Classifieds

FOR SALE

1973 SATOH TRACTOR — Runs very well with 4-cylinder Mazda engine. Tires have 2 or 3 hours on them. Replaced rims 4 years ago and the tires 3 years ago. Rear tires have a CAO liquid for weight and non-freezing. All hoses new. Front lift with a 1,200-pound capacity. Two ranges, high and low, three forward speeds and one reverse, each at both ranges. Over \$3,000 in tires, rims and hoses. Body needs TLC but doable. Left front ball-joint needs repair; if used at higher speeds, should be replaced. Parts and repair manuals included. \$4,500. Email leonard.lindrosjr@gmail.com.

SERVICES

READING TUTOR — Retired Garrison School teacher available to tutor students ages 5 through 12. Many references provided. Email pkclub65@gmail.com.

HEALING BODYWORK WITH VACCINATED JOY MATALON — Featured in New York magazine as "one of the best 15 massage therapists in NYC offering CranioSacral Therapy," with a specialty in SomatoEmotional Release. In addition, I offer Swedish Massage incorporating CranioSacral Therapy. Trained in Medical Massage, Process

Acupressure, Meditation and Foot Reflexology with over 30 years of experience. Garrison and Ossining locations. House calls available. Call 914-519-8138 or visit joymatalon.com.

HELP WANTED

HUDSON HIGHLANDS LAND TRUST — HHLT is hiring for two positions: a director of conservation and a conservation stewardship manager. HHLT is a community-based, accredited land conservation organization devoted to protecting and preserving the natural resources, rural character and scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands. To learn more and apply, visit hhl.org/about/employment-opportunities.

COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING — Garrison Art Center seeks an individual to increase

brand awareness, attract attendees & deepen engagement with key audiences. 20 hrs/week, flexible hrs. Qualifications: 2 to 4 years in a marketing or communications capacity. Knowledge of non-profits, digital fundraising & marketing. Experience w/ social media ad tools. Ability to analyze data. Basic graphic design skills photo/video editing skills are a plus. Email director@garrisonartcenter.org.

TURF CARE — Seasonal, full-time position open in Garrison. Primary focused on turf care; mowing, trimming, edging, weed whacking, hand weeding as needed, with additional non-turf maintenance and training. 3-4 seasons of experience, driver's license preferred. English-speaking, hardworking, thorough and precise work habits needed. Neat, able to take direction and work as a team member is a must. March to October schedule. Email tbielaczyc@gmail.com.

TAG SALE? Car for sale? Space for rent? Help wanted? Place your ad here for \$4.95. See highlandscurrent.org/classifieds.

Mouths to Feed

Sweet Sunshine

By Celia Barbour

Suddenly the afternoons fling open like little packages, releasing extra hours of bright daylight into our busy lives. Surely this warrants some kind of celebration — a welcoming ceremony?



Yet in my corner of the world, the successive appearances of daylight saving time and spring equinox align with the kids' spring breaks, so a certain young-adult lethargy pervades the household, counteracting nature's bounce. Perhaps that's why I found myself wanting to bake sugar cookies this past week: to inject a little pep into our days. Or maybe it's because the longer afternoons allow time for a meal between lunch and supper, an afternoon tea, perhaps, or a milk-and-cookies snack, depending on your predilection. Sugar cookies fit that bill, too.

Or maybe the real reason is this: I want to put on an apron and play stereotypical Mom for an afternoon. Because the truth is, as the kids' lives evolve, I sometimes find myself feeling off balance, and few things offer comfort and stability like clinging to an old cliché.

I remember when I was in college and would come home for vacation, I always felt as if I was being squeezed back into an identity that no longer fit. No matter how much I had changed (or thought I had), being with my family felt like reverting to an old, outdated self.

At the time, I had no idea that my mother and father might be going through a similar adjustment. But now I know that we parents also have evolving lives. We have work selves, social selves and private selves in addition to our family selves (to name just a few). And we, too, are different people when our kids are not around. And when any one of us changes, the whole interlocking puzzle shifts and shuffles and rearranges itself.

All of which makes me appreciate my own



mother, who has always kept an impeccable household — at 89, she still cooks and cleans with astonishing grace and ease — and who punctuates each day with her own personal ritual. Every afternoon, for as long as I can remember, she takes a post-lunch nap (because she is from Scandinavia, she doesn't call it a *siesta*, but that is what it is), after which she has a cup of tea accompanied by something sweet: a cookie, biscuit or small slice of cake. Often this is her only sweet treat of the day, and she brings to the moment a lovely sense of presence and relish — what we might these days call “mindfulness.”

My mother loves cardamom, a staple of Scandinavian baking. So when I got ready to bake sugar cookies, I thought I might try flavoring them with cardamom. No sooner had I latched onto that idea than I started imagining other complementary flavors: almond, sure, and why not a pinch of cinnamon? For that matter, how about a little orange zest? Before long, I'd come up with a kind of evolved snickerdoodle (structured on a recipe I found on the King Arthur website). It turned out to be the perfect treat for these restless, joy-filled days.

Sugar Cookies with Olive Oil, Orange, Almond and Cardamom

The ingredient list looks long, but the dough comes together quickly in one bowl. Note that the batter should chill 2 to 3 hours before baking.

- ½ cup (one stick) butter, melted and cooled (see note)

½ cup olive oil

½ cup powdered sugar, sifted

½ cup granulated sugar

Grated zest of one orange

1 large egg

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

¾ teaspoon almond extract

½ teaspoon ground cardamom

1 teaspoon cinnamon

2 cups all-purpose flour

¼ teaspoon baking soda

½ teaspoon baking powder

¾ teaspoon salt
1. In a medium bowl, gently mix together the melted butter, olive oil and both sugars. Stir in the orange zest, egg and extracts. Add the cardamom and cinnamon and mix until thoroughly blended. Add the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt, and mix just until combined.

2. Cover bowl and transfer to the refrigerator. Allow to chill for 2 to 3 hours; overnight is also fine.

3. When ready to bake, heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a baking sheet or line it with parchment or a silpat liner. Prepare the coating: In a shallow dish, mix together all the ingredients, using your fingertips to break up and integrate the zest if needed.

4. Using a tablespoon-size scoop or kitchen spoon, scoop out the batter, roll it into a ball, then roll it in the coating. Place on baking sheet, flattening slightly with the heel of your hand. To make a sunburst pattern (optional), press the tip of a small wire whisk into the surface of the cookie dough, rotating slightly. Repeat with remaining dough. Bake 12 to 14 minutes, or until just beginning to brown at edges.

For coating:

- ⅓ cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon cardamom
- Grated zest of one orange

Note: To quickly prepare melted, cooled butter, place cut butter pieces in a small pan over low heat until about half melted. Turn off heat and allow the remaining butter to soften in the warmth of the liquefied butter, stirring occasionally. The solid pieces will cool the mixture as they melt.

“ Perhaps that’s why I found myself wanting to bake sugar cookies this past week: to inject a little pep into our days.



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Roots and Shoots

Layer on the Legumes

By Pamela Doan

I've often thought about becoming a singly focused gardener and planting just one vegetable to try to become good at it. In a



vegetable garden planted with multiple varieties of lettuces, greens, squashes, peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, carrots and other root vegetables, it's constant work to diagnose and treat the pests and diseases, to manage the planting and picking schedule and the fertility requirements.

For eating purposes, a diversity of vegetables is necessary, too, especially if there is more than one person to feed. My family would not be thrilled about being fed only cucumbers, for example, and the growing season covers a distinct period in our zone, omitting a lot of growing time.

Beans, however, offer an exploration of flavor, expression in cooking and varieties for three seasons. As far as nutrition, the *Leguminosae* family brings high levels of protein and fiber to the table. Most beans, which includes types of peas, average 12 to 18 grams of protein per cup; edamame



A hyacinth bean vine growing on an arbor trellis

Photo by P. Doan

(soybeans) tops the list with about 31.

Grow beans from seed directly sown in the garden. They like regular garden soil with a pH of 6 to 7 and full sun. To maximize space, plant both bush beans and pole beans that will grow like vines on supports like a trellis or poles.

Beans are self-fertilizing but visiting pollinators will increase the yields. From a 10-foot row of beans, a gardener can harvest about 5 pounds of shelled beans or 4 pounds of snap beans. With some varieties you can eat both the shell and the bean; other types are grown solely for the beans inside. (The pods make great compost.)

Beans are part of a well-known companion plant combination, the Three Sisters. Indigenous tribes in the Northeast developed this system of planting corn, beans and squash together. The corn seeds are planted

in a circle with the bean seeds at the base of the stalks. Interplant the squash seeds. In this method, the beans use the corn stalks as their support and squash vines spread across the ground to suppress weeds. Each has a role in the success of the other.

The other superpower of beans is fixing nitrogen in the soil. Back to science class: The plants convert nitrogen in the air to ammonia nitrogen that can be used as a nutrient, improving the soil as the plant grows and reducing the need for soil additives.

Order an inoculant of rhizobia bacteria to ensure this process. Follow the directions on the package. Usually the seeds are soaked and allowed to dry before planting or the inoculant can be added to the planting hole with the seed. A general home garden inoculant is sufficient. Farmers and large-scale growers would use specialized inoculants for

different types of beans or peas.

Fava beans can be sown the earliest in spring and can go in the garden right about now, depending on your microclimate and soil moisture. Favas don't like hot days and the Windsor variety that I prefer will be ready to eat in 10 weeks. Then I can pull the vines out and make space for squash or another heat-loving summer vegetable.

Another must-have in the pole bean category is the scarlet runner bean. According to the Fedco Seeds catalog, this heirloom plant was grown by mid-18th century colonists and also appeared in Thomas Jefferson's famous garden at Monticello.

These beans will grow up to 12 feet tall and have lovely red flowers that hummingbirds enjoy, and produce beautiful purple and black beans for the table. Choose open pollinated seeds and dry and save beans as seed for next season.

Hyacinth bean vines make a landscape impact and are a must-have for edible gardening. They can prolifically produce purple flowers and purple bean pods that accent any area. I tried them on the same trellis as a honeysuckle but didn't think through how much shade was there from the bush and they didn't thrive. This year I'll do it right and give them their own space. The beans must be boiled well to be edible but the flowers can be eaten raw or cooked.

While there are too many wonderful legumes to cover in detail here, check out seed catalogs from Hudson Valley Seed, Fedco or other companies to peruse dozens of selections.

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GARBAGE & RECYCLING UPDATE

VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING

Royal Carting is now under contract to pick up garbage and recycling for the Village. Here are the most important things you need to know:

1. **Garbage pick-up day is now Thursday.** Put garbage curbside on Wednesday night.
2. Recycling will still be picked up on Fridays, so put that out Thursday night.
3. Each tax parcel that used to have pick up by the Village (and is not under a contract with another vendor) will now have pickup by Royal Carting Service.
4. In mid-April, Royal Carting will deliver to each of those tax parcels a single 95-gallon garbage cart and **a single 65-gallon recycling cart.** Delivery schedule will be posted to the Village website (coldspringny.gov) and on social media. If your tax parcel needs more than one cart, Royal can provide it at your cost. Additional carts can be ordered via the Village Clerk.
5. If you **periodically** have more garbage or recycling than can fit in your bin, place it on top of your cart. Please note that if you consistently put out more garbage or recycling than can fit in your cart, Royal will require you to buy additional carts to accommodate your usage. There is an annual fee for additional carts.

If you want to order a smaller cart(s) and/or additional carts, please fill out an order form available on the Village Website at https://www.coldspringny.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf416/f/uploads/carts_order_form.pdf

Order Forms to change the Cart Size must be received in the Village Office by March 26, 2022 for April delivery.

Contact the Village Clerk at vcclerk@coldspringny.gov or 845-265-3611 x1 if you have questions.



Looking Back in Beacon

By Chip Rowe

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

150 Years Ago (March 1872)

A man walking to Fishkill Landing from Matteawan was nearly struck in the head by a bullet fired from the direction of the planing mill.

A barn halfway between Fishkill Landing and Matteawan was destroyed by a midday fire, along with 2 tons of hay. It was owned by Patrick Murphy, proprietor of a liquor store on Front Street in Newburgh.

Charles Brewer of Cold Spring, the master builder of the Presbyterian Church in Matteawan, was climbing a ladder in the spire when it gave way and he fell 18 feet into the belfry, suffering serious injuries.

George Turner of Fishkill Landing was jailed for 30 days after he stole a calf's pluck [internal organs] hanging in the slaughterhouse of Harvey Week.

A detective from Albany traveled to Fishkill Landing to arrest William Murray, who was charged with obtaining 22 barrels of ale, valued at \$137, on credit against a house he said he owned in Fishkill, which authorities said was not the case.

The ferry Fanny Garner left the Newburgh dock for Dutchess Junction with 15 passengers but arrived long after the last

train of the day had departed. The women stretched out overnight on the hard settees with muffs, shawls and cloaks for pillows while the men slept on the floor.

William Wood, the Matteawan printer, was diagnosed with smallpox.

A bald eagle that measured 6 feet from tip to tip was shot at Newburgh for a New York collection of birds. Twenty-four other eagles were observed that day.

125 Years Ago (March 1897)

Business was slow at the hat factories in Fishkill Landing and Matteawan, with the Dutchess Hat Works open only one day in the previous week.

L.L. Inman opened a bicycle shop in Fountain Square; he sold two of his own brands, the Wiccopee and the Inman, and was the authorized local dealer for the Fowler, Liberty, Dayton and Demorest.

The employees of the Matteawan State Hospital held a ball for the benefit of Highland Hospital, netting \$40.

James McGuire, an attendant from the Hudson River State Hospital who came with a colleague from Poughkeepsie to retrieve a Fishkill Landing resident suffering from "homicidal mania," was slashed at the train station. "Old Man Stevens" had asked to use the restroom as they waited for the train and was accompanied there by McGuire. Inside, he pulled a pen knife and slashed

McGuire on the neck. McGuire and the other guard managed to overpower Stevens, but the passengers in the gentlemen's waiting room who saw the bloodied attendant ran in every direction, crying "Murder!"

William Timmerman, a grocer in Matteawan, was fined \$50 after he sold quinine pills to a detective during a sting operation. Timmerman said he would appeal.

100 Years Ago (March 1922)

Gov. Nathan Miller named former Mayor Samuel Beskin as the commissioner to represent New York State on the board of the National Good Roads Association.



Samuel Beskin

The Trinity Council of the Knights of Columbus hosted a "smoker" at Columbus Hall on a Monday night. Three 4-round boxing bouts were planned, along with a wrestling match and songs and recitations.

A grand jury declined to indict Dominic Palissi, whose home in Beacon had been raided a few weeks earlier by state police, who confiscated several barrels of wine they said violated temperance laws. Palissi's attorney said he would seek a court order for the return of the wine because it was taken from a private dwelling, which exempted it from regulation.

Michael Zeyakel saved a boy who had fallen into the icy Fishkill Creek by extending his fishing rod and pulling him to shore.

An investigation by the state Board of Health determined that the source of a recent epidemic of typhoid had been drinking water drawn from Fishkill Creek. It concluded that factories had discharged waste into the creek at a time when their filtration plants were not working.

Ernest Macomber of the Beacon Taxpayers' Association asked the City Council to explain why it had allegedly sold all the standing timber and cordwood surrounding the Melzingah reservoir for \$100 without seeking bids.

Stephen Jankura, who fought during the world war with the 27th Division in France, received a citation for bravery and heroic action when the division smashed the Hindenburg line, a defensive barrier erected by the Germans on the Western front. In one engagement, Jankura carried dispatches through the lines for several hours. He could present his citation at Tiffany's in New York City to receive his medal.

A Beacon man, Joseph Knapp, suffered burns to his head when gas fumes ignited at a Hopewell Junction filling station. Because the station did not have a gas hose, customers used small containers to bring gas to their vehicles. While Knapp was filling his truck, an acquaintance approached while lighting

a pipe. The match slipped from his hand and ignited the fumes from one of the cans, causing it to explode. Although Knapp was covered with flaming gas, he managed to climb into his truck and move it away from danger.

Henry Mully of Beacon and Paulette Spitzer of Switzerland were married aboard the French liner Rochambeau by its captain while it was docked in New York City. The couple had met at school in Zurich but parted when Henry returned to the U.S., where he took a job at the Glenham Embroidery Co.

The home of J. Bayard Verplanck, on his estate at Spook Field, was ransacked while he was on an extended trip to Europe.

Eighty boys were divided into three newly formed Boy Scout troops: Troop 1 at St. Joachim's under Scoutmaster Collins, Troop 2 at St. Joachim's under Scoutmaster Hayden and Troop 4 at St. John's under Scoutmaster Kearney.

Volunteers and Beacon Engine Co. firefighters saved the incline railroad on Mount Beacon from a forest fire that started near the Settlement Camp.

The Ursuline Novitiate purchased Hiddenbrooke, the 400-acre estate of J. Noah Slee, president of the Three-in-One Oil Co. (and the second husband of Margaret Sanger, the birth-control advocate), that included a mansion with 18 rooms and six baths. In partial payment, the nuns deeded to Slee 98 acres of land they owned on Van Wyck Lake, where they had resided at the Knickerbocker Lodge until it burned down. [The Hiddenbrooke mansion burned down in 1972.]



J. Noah Slee with his wife, Margaret Sanger, in 1927

"Gentleman" Jack Skelly, a Beacon resident and former featherweight boxer who owned a saloon in Yonkers, was fined for selling liquor over the bar. He was ticketed by liquor control agent Peter Reager, himself a former boxer. "You're Jack Skelly, the famous pugilist," Reager said, according to the *Poughkeepsie Eagle-News*. "I've seen you many a time." "Your face is familiar," replied Skelly, who was also a former sports editor at the *Yonkers Herald*. When Reager said he was thirsty, Skelly allegedly served him, violating temperance laws.

Police were looking for a man accused of peeping into the women's second-floor dressing room at the Beacon Theatre. He apparently used part of a fence from a neighboring home to create a makeshift ladder. A "bathing beauty" who was changing spotted him and began to scream, but he made his getaway before stagehands could get to the back of the building.

(Continued on Page 21)

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(Continued from Page 20)

75 Years Ago (March 1947)

Although a recent state census listed Beacon's population at 11,222, city officials said it was closer to 15,000. The federal census in 1940 recorded 12,572 residents.

The city and county health departments offered free X-rays at clinics to be held at health offices at 382 Main St., the National Biscuit Co. and Springfield Baptist Church.

Eight "maniacs" escaped from the Matteawan State Hospital prison by lowering ropes made from cocoa mats from the smoking porch on the third floor. All eight were recaptured separately, including one caught near the Beacon train station after a state trooper fired a shot at him. Three guards were accused of negligence and suspended.

A committee of residents said it would raise the money for uniforms and equipment if the school district restored football at the high school. Soon after, the district hired James Gauriloff, 26, as head football coach for the fall.

Members of the Men's Club at the First Presbyterian Church presented a minstrel show at the parish house.

Gov. Thomas Dewey appointed W. Vincent Grady, a 1924 Beacon High School graduate, as the Dutchess County district attorney to succeed John Schwartz, who resigned to accept an appointment as a county judge.

Members of the Jewish Dramatic Club presented a one-act play, *You Can't Go Dancing Anymore*, at the Beacon Hebrew Alliance.

A New Jersey man was charged with attempting to take a nightstick from a patrolman following a fight at Bank Square.

Melio Bettina, the Beacon boxer (or, more likely, his manager), wrote a letter to heavyweight champion Joe Louis challenging him to a bout. "What are you going to say when kids stop you on the street and ask: 'Say, Joe, why didn't you fight Melio Bettina, the fighter from Beacon, New York?'" Bettina said he was being told by promoters that the matchup would draw a \$1 million gate — "and maybe more, since the entire Hudson Valley would declare a holiday."

Roberta Rowland, 8, gave an organ recital at the Reformed Church of Beacon.

Joseph Baccamo of Poughkeepsie, a railroad track worker since 1916, was commended for saving a Beacon woman when she fell beneath a departing train as she attempted to jump to the platform.

The will of Harry Thaw, who 41 years earlier had shot and killed architect Stanford White, was filed for probate. The millionaire killed White in 1906 in the crowded rooftop garden of the former Madison Square Garden, which White had designed. He said he was angry over White's past relationship with Thaw's wife, Evelyn Nesbit. Thaw was acquitted by reason of insanity and sent to the Matteawan State Hospital but escaped a year later. A jury later declared him sane. Thaw and Nesbit divorced, but he left her \$10,000.

Dewey vetoed a plan that would have settled a lawsuit stemming from a claim by Beacon officials that the Fishkill Electric Railway Co. owed \$20,000 as its share of the cost of paving the streets. The firm said it



The New York Evening Tribune from Aug. 12, 1909, when killer Harry Thaw was sent to the Matteawan State Hospital, shown below

RareNewspapers.com



had not been given proper notice but agreed to pay \$1,000 annually against the 19-year-old debt. The governor said the agreement "conflicted with the principles of the Constitution which prohibit the granting of tax exemptions and immunities by special laws."

50 Years Ago (March 1972)

The state Department of Transportation denied a request from Mountain View Coach Lines to double its fares between Poughkeepsie and Beacon but suggested that it would approve a request for half that. The line had not raised its prices in 15 years.

The Cole All-Star TV Circus performed two shows at the Rombout Middle School.

A team of 70 officers from the state police, county sheriff and Beacon police executed 18 arrest warrants on Beacon residents accused of selling LSD or heroin to undercover agents.

Several meetings between members of the Neighborhood Service Organization, the Human Rights Commission and Beacon police resulted in a report that recommended officers "mix and mingle" more often with residents and that the department hire more minority officers. The report noted that 30 of the 32 officers were white.

Three Beacon elementary and middle school students presented a five-minute, 16-millimeter animated film they had made to members of the Kiwanis Club. Working with Patricia Hanna, the director of the

Howland library, the students used the method of Norman McLaren, who drew abstract designs directly on the film stock. The students also screened a 1947 McLaren short, *Fiddle Dee Dee*.

A 33-year-old Beacon man was hospitalized after he was pinned beneath his car as he tried to stop it from hitting a passing train. He had stopped at 3 a.m. on a slight incline on Main Street to wait when his car began to slide on the ice. He jumped out and tried to hold it back but fell and was pinned between a front tire and the oil pan.

While arresting a woman on charges of issuing a bad check and possessing heroin, police said they found a "grenade bomb" in her Ferry Street apartment.

The school board appointed Francis Sapusinky, 32, the principal of Rombout Middle School, as superintendent. He had joined the district five years earlier as an administrative intern.

Police arrested a 21-year-old man on charges that he shot and killed a resident of the Pomey Hotel at 246 Main St. during an early morning fight in the hotel bar.

Mahmood Ali, a representative of the Bangladesh mission to the United Nations, spoke at Beacon High School about his newly independent country as part of a series of student-led "rap" sessions.

Guards at the Matteawan State Hospital voted 245-1 during a meeting at St. Rocco's Hall to join a statewide strike if the corrections officers' union and New York State



A 10-pound Parrott shell was unearthed by archaeologists in Georgia.

Cobb County P.D.

A Parrott Shell in Georgia

During a dig at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield, near Marietta, Georgia, archaeologists discovered an unexploded, 10-pound Parrott gun shell that was manufactured at the West Point Foundry in Cold Spring during the Civil War. The gun was invented by Robert Parrott, the superintendent at the foundry, a former Army officer.

The Cobb County Police Department bomb squad moved the round to a bunker with plans to destroy it. History buffs cried foul online, offering methods to defuse the shell, such as soaking it in water since its black powder becomes inert when wet.

failed to agree on a new contract by March 31.

The Beacon Piece Dyeing & Finishing Co., which pleaded guilty to discharging waste into Fishkill Creek, applied for clemency from President Richard Nixon. It had been fined \$25,000 but claimed financial hardship.

Volunteers calling themselves the Beacon Environmental Recovery Group proposed to the City Council that an abandoned ferry dock be transformed into a waterfront park.

The Green Fuel Economizer Co., which opened in Beacon in 1892 and manufactured industrial fans, planned a \$1 million expansion.



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OBITUARIES

Donny Brown (1973-2022)

Donald R. Brown Jr., 48, a lifelong resident of the Beacon area, died March 7 at Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital in Newburgh.



He was born in Beacon on Nov. 30, 1973, the son of Donald and Sandra (Layton) Brown. He graduated from Beacon High School in 1991.

Donny was an avid bowler; he enjoyed spending time at Southern Dutchess Bowl in Beacon. He was also a professional wrestling fan and loved the Yankees.

Along with his mother, Donny is survived by his brothers, Christopher Brown (Jean-nine) and Michael Brown (Susan) and his nieces and nephews: Michael, Julian, Mason, Laci, Carmelo and Mia.

A funeral service was held on March 14 at Libby Funeral Home in Beacon, followed by interment at Fishkill Rural Cemetery.

Yvonne McNair (1953-2022)

Yvonne Madison-McNair, 68, of Beacon, died March 4.

She was born in the Bronx on Nov. 27, 1953, the daughter of Ruth Williams and Ishmael Madison. She spent much of her childhood and her early adult years in Harlem before moving to Beacon in 1977. That is where she met Edward McNair, and they were married on March 23, 1985. He died before her.



She is survived by her children: LaVonne McNair, LaKeshia McNair (Dwight); Edward McNair Jr. (Erika) and Darryl Randolph; her grandchildren: Mason, Cameron and Onyx; a brother, James Madison (Regina); her mother-in-law, Mary McNair; a sister-in-law, Theresa McNair-Burns; and a brother-in-law, Dr. Tracy McNair (Samantha).

She is also survived by her close friends, Carmen Randolph, Damecia (DeeDee) Burton and Kimberly Faison.

A service was held on March 11 at River-view Funeral Home by Halvey in Beacon. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital (stjude.org) or the Shriners Hospitals for Children (lovetoth-rescue.org).

George Weise Sr. (1928-2022)

George A. Weise Sr., 93, of Cold Spring, died March 8 at his home, surrounded by family members.

George was born Dec. 31, 1928, in Verplanck, the son of Frank and Lena Weise. He was working for New York Central Railroad when he was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he served from 1951 to 1953. After being discharged, he returned to the railroad, where he worked for 40 years until his retirement in 1993 as a foreman for Metro-North.

On June 13, 1954, George married Larenza (Florence) Frisenda at Our Lady of Loretto. She died in 1994.

George enjoyed fishing, model trains and being a craftsman of many things. He was a life member of the Garrison Yacht Club.

He is survived by his children, Frank Weise of Cold Spring, George Weise Jr. (Lisa) of Garrison and Myretta Trimble (Edward) of Cold Spring; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on March 12 at Our Lady of Loretto, followed by interment with military honors at Cold Spring Cemetery.

Other Recent Deaths

Philipstown

Ben Crane, 92 Lars Kulleseid, 86
Frank Colasurdo, 91 Danka Lambova, 91
Catherine Isler, 81 Alberta Nelson, 88

Beacon

Gloria Arroyo, 85
Deborah Bonnell, 70
Patricia Case, 30
Tanya Elmore, 66
Johanna Farber, 79
Fran Henry, 86
Connie Hogarth, 95
Der-Ron Holmes, 49
Barbara Lamb, 85
Patty Longenberger, 82
Jerry McCrudden, 76
Bob Murphy, 72
Janet Peratikos, 77
Kris Westerhuis, 53
Lonnie Wilkins, 80

For obituaries,
see highlandscurrent.org/obits.

NOTICE

The Philipstown Town Board will hold a Workshop Meeting on **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 7:30 pm** at the **Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York.**

Representatives from the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail will present on "Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail: Vision, Plan & What's Ahead", followed by a question-and-answer session.

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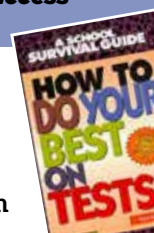
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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Soak up the sun

5. Joke

8. Sports figure?

12. Penne — vodka

13. Playwright Levin

14. “Oops!”

15. Picnic spoiler

16. Vacuum’s lack

17. Novelist Jaffe

18. Chinese food assortment

20. Some mixologists

22. Docs’ org.

23. “Uh-huh”

24. Touse

27. “Locksley Hall” poet

32. Year in Mexico

33. Sock part

34. Stop — dime

35. Short recital piece

38. Uppity one

39. Spike’s warning

40. Three, in Rome

42. JFK’s vessel

45. Brother’s son

49. Leveling wedge

50. Jurist Fortas

52. “I did it!”

53. Antitoxins

54. “— the season ...”

55. Ireland

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20 21

22 23

24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

32 33 34

35 36 37 38

39 40 41

42 43 44 45 46 47 48

49 50 51 52

53 54 55

56 57 58

56. Tiny amounts

57. Six-pack muscles

58. Head, to Henri

9. Oscar-winning actress Emma

10. Top-of-the-line

11. Compared to

19. Hesitant sound

21. Objectivist Rand

24. More (Sp.)

25. Popular card game

26. Lark, for one

28. Very long time

29. Fastidious trait

30. Yoko of music

31. Collar

36. Scents

37. La-la lead-in

38. Music for seven

41. Concerning

42. “Hey!”

43. Ellington’s “Take — Train”

44. “Toodle-oo!”

46. Aesopian also-ran

47. Tend texts

48. Fade away

51. Clothing protector

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Answers for March 11 Puzzles

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

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

1. SAGE, 2. PROVOKES, 3. RUBBLES, 4. HALIFAX, 5. SLUMPING, 6. BAMBINO, 7. HATCHCHECK

For interactive sudoku and crossword answers, see highlandscurrent.org/puzzles.

7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

1 animals with lustrous fur (5)

2 devious (6)

3 where the House sits (7)

4 without due consideration (6)

5 “more to the point” (7)

6 mushiness (8)

7 canceled (5)

SOLUTIONS


MI	SPI	CA	SN	TOL
KY	SC	XED	KI	TZ
ER	AL	SH	PI	EA
RA	NI	NKS	HM	LY

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SUDO CURRENT

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

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



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Haldane's first varsity girls' lacrosse team is set to open its season March 29 at home, facing Wappingers.



After bowing out two years in a row in the semifinals, the Haldane boys' team hopes to compete for a sectional title this spring.

Photos by S. Pearlman

Preview:

HALDANE LACROSSE

By Skip Pearlman

After spending the last two seasons with only a junior varsity team, Haldane High School's varsity girls' lacrosse squad is ready for its debut on March 29 when it hosts Wappingers.

Keri Dempsey, a 2011 John Jay East Fishkill grad who coached the JV team, will follow her team to the varsity level. She said the players are thrilled to be moving to the "big stage."

"I'm ready to see what the competition looks like, how we're going to hold up," she said this week. "I think we're going to do well, and it's going to be a great experience for everyone."

Dempsey said the time was right for a varsity program, especially since the team has many juniors who could not continue at the junior varsity level.

"We'll have a tough schedule, but it will be good for them," she said. "We're doing the same things we did last year. We've learned some new plays, and we have a little bit of a different defense. But overall, this is the same group of girls I've had, so I know how they play. They work great together, and they're great teammates."

At midfield/attack and controlling play will be junior captains Mairead O'Hara and Caroline Nelson, junior Amanda Johanson and sophomore Ellen O'Hara.

"They're all experienced, and we'll rely on them," Dempsey said. "They'll run the plays; they know where everyone needs to



Juniors Mairead O'Hara and Caroline Nelson are the girls' team captains.

be. They'll provide leadership, keep girls motivated. And they're great with the new girls, and being positive all the time. It's a good dynamic for our team."

Sophomore Lola Mahoney has impressed Dempsey in the cage. "She stepped up to the plate for us last year and did an awesome job," Dempsey said. "So she stayed in the position, went to goalie camp and has been working hard. She'll see some hard shots, but she can handle it."

The team's juniors include Carmela Colini (attack/mid), Helen Nicholls (attack) and Moretta Pezzullo (defense), and the sophomores are Ellen O'Hara (mid/attack), Marlina Slokenbergs (defense) and Ruby Poses (defense). The Blue Devils will also rely on ninth grade defenders Micah Morales, Martha McBride and Scotia Hartford, and eighth grade attacker Kayla Ruggiero.

Haldane's league schedule includes Keio Academy, Rye Neck, Edgemont and Blind Brook, and non-league opponents include Harrison, Eastchester, Briarcliff and Arlington.

With only a few pieces missing from last year, the Haldane boys' team returns talent and experience. But after losing in the semifinals of the Section I, Class D tour-

nament the last two seasons, the team is hungry for a title, said Coach Ed Crowe.

He said his team is young but prepared for its March 31 opener at home against Wappingers. "They've worked hard in the offseason," he said.

The Blue Devils, who finished 8-9 last season, will be without All-Section midfielder Darrin Santos, who graduated. But they return midfielders Soliel Gaines, Will Sniffen, Giancarlo Carone and Evan Giachinta; attacker Rhys Robbins; and defender PJ Ruggiero.

Other returning players include keeper Jordan Henkel; defenders Thomas Tucker and Nate Stickle; and midfielders Liam Gaugler, Frankie DiGiglio, Jesse Hagan, Ryan Van Tassel, and Rowan Kuzminski.

The newcomers are defender Brody Corless, attacker Jake Thomas and midfielder Dylan Rucker.

Crowe said he will look for Henkel, Ruggiero, Giachinta and Gaines to be leaders on and off the field. "Jordan did a great

job for us in goal last year; Soliel is a senior leader, and the others are young, but they have experience and know what to expect."

He said the team will need Giachinta, Gaugler, Ruggiero and Robbins to create offense. "I feel like we'll be much stronger this year," Crowe said of his front line. "We're a much more complete unit than we have been in a long time." The defensive leaders will be Tucker, Ruggiero, Stickle and Henkel.

Haldane's league schedule includes Croton, North Salem, Pawling and Putnam Valley. Non-league opponents include Arlington, Greeley, Pleasantville and Carmel.

"We do have a tough schedule, and there's always some mentality that we're the smallest program in the section. We always want to keep building," Crowe said. "We've been to the sectional semifinals the last two years for the first time in program history. Our goal is to win the league, get to the sectional championship game and win it. We have to play well and we have to play smart, but I do believe this group has the firepower to make a run."



The Haldane boys worked out this week in preparation for their March 31 opener.