

The HIGHLANDS Current



A Multi-
Layered
Cake
Page 11

APRIL 29, 2022

Support us at highlandscurrent.org/join

End of the Line

Beacon Incline Railway society shuts down

By Brian PJ Cronin

The world's steepest incline railway has encountered a hill that it couldn't climb.

This week, the nonprofit Mount Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society, which had worked since 1996 to reopen the attraction, announced its closure.

The railway, built in 1902, carried millions of passengers to the summit of Mount Beacon during its 76 years in operation. It was damaged by fire and rebuilt several times before finally closing in 1978.

After voting to dissolve, the society's board donated its remaining funds and archive to the Beacon Historical Society, said President Jeff McHugh. A selection of the material will be on display at BHS, 61 Leonard St., from May 14 to July 30.

The Mount Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society grew from a grass-roots group of volunteers who in 2009 created a board of directors and named a CEO. By 2014, it had \$250,000 in the bank, including a \$100,000 state grant, and an ambitious \$20 million capital plan to restore the railway with two 45-passenger carriages and build a 6,000-square-foot center at the summit and a visitor center at the lower park.

But McHugh said the project encountered numerous obstacles. It needed approvals from the state parks department and Scenic Hudson, which owns the land. McHugh said that the group also quickly realized that \$20 million would not be enough to provide for long-term maintenance.

The city was also changing. When the society formed, Dia:Beacon was still years

(Continued on Page 21)



HELLO AGAIN — Ailee Debberman gets a nuzzle from Duke, one of the therapy horses at the Topfield Center in Philipstown, which reopened on Saturday (April 23) after being closed for two years because of the pandemic. See Page 14.

Photo by Leonard Sparks



LIGHTS OUT — Beacon's iconic "dummy light" — one of only a handful still in use in the U.S. — was damaged Tuesday afternoon (April 26) when a city truck accidentally backed into it while a crew prepared Main Street for paving, which starts Monday. The city plans to restore the light as soon as it can get replacement parts, said City Administrator Chris White. Photo provided

Putnam Chair Withdraws From Race

Judge tosses nominating petitions for re-election

By Chip Rowe

Neal Sullivan, the chair of the Putnam County Legislature, has dropped out of the race for his seat after an error on his nominating petitions prevented him from appearing on the ballot as a Republican.

A state judge in Carmel ruled on Tuesday (April 26) that Sullivan had not submitted enough valid signatures on his nominating petitions. The decision precluded a primary against a Republican challenger, Erin Lee Crowley.

Sullivan, who was seeking his third term representing the Town



Sullivan

of Carmel and Mahopac, submitted valid petitions for the Conservative Party and would have appeared on that line on the November ballot but said in court he will not run for his seat or serve if elected. There is no Democratic candidate for the seat.

John Murtagh Jr., a White Plains attorney who represents the Crowley campaign, did not return phone messages but told *The Journal News* that allegations of fraud and other defects — such as a charge that signatures had been faked — were not addressed by the decision and that Sullivan had agreed not to run to avoid further litigation.

In a statement on Thursday (April 28), Sullivan said he was proud of his accomplishments in the Legislature "but issues involving the arduous and highly subject-

(Continued on Page 3)

Still Have Your Catalytic Converter?

Thieves target vehicle part for precious metals

By Leonard Sparks

April Fool's Day was no joke for Kelly and Jose Garcia of Beacon.

When Jose, heading to work, started his Honda Accord that morning, it sounded like a "race car," he said. He looked underneath the vehicle and discovered what

(Continued on Page 19)



Court Strikes Down Democrats' Maps

Congressional, state Senate districts to be redrawn

By Leonard Sparks

New York's highest court ruled on Wednesday (April 27) that congressional and state Senate districts created by Democrats violated the constitutional process for redrawing boundaries and a ban on gerrymandering, and must be redone.

The Court of Appeals sided with Repub-

lican voters who sued on Feb. 3, the day after Gov. Kathy Hochul signed into law redrawn maps for the U.S. House and the state Senate and Assembly based on population data from the 2020 census.

The court ruling invalidates changes that altered the boundaries for the 18th Congressional District seat held by Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat from Philipstown, and moved Philipstown and Beacon into a new state Senate district.

(Continued on Page 18)

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: JASON SCHETELICK

By Jeff Simms

Jason Schetelick, who lives in Beacon, is superintendent of the Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

What is BOCES?

They're a unique institution in New York that serves public school districts. Every county has a BOCES, although some serve more than one county [such as for Putnam and Northern Westchester]. On our campus in Poughkeepsie, we have pre-K through eighth grade disabled students; we have an alternative high school; we have a career technical institute and an adult learning institute. We're able to get districts in the county better rates and better quality services from vendors, and we also offer training around new standards or innovative teaching. A lot of what we offer would be fiscally impossible for districts to handle on their own.

What has been happening lately?

One of the first people I met here was Peter Jordan, the new president of Dutchess Community College. We've developed a partnership to create a continuum for BOCES students to transition to DCC and then to a high-paying industry career. For



example, the college is launching a mechatronics/advanced manufacturing center at its Fishkill campus and we're going to have similar programming and machinery and feed them qualified students. It also has a new program for aviation mechanics, so we plan on creating a pipeline there. We've been working with the Dutchess Chamber of Commerce and the county to fill industry needs around manufacturing. We're also planning a heavy equipment training program and will tie that to the federal program to produce drivers with commercial licenses, because there's a truck driver shortage around the country.

How has trade education evolved over the years?

Industry drives it. You're also seeing the high cost of college and universities causing families to think differently. People are rediscovering community colleges, which are hidden gems where kids can get a wonderful education at half the cost of a four-year university. We can predict, using data, what fields are going to need employees and what fields are going to provide students not just with jobs, but with fruitful careers. That's a big change. Four years of college isn't your only option — you can go to a community college and into a career or BOCES to community college and into a guaranteed industry job. I think you're going to see education continue to move in that direction.

How is BOCES funded?

We're supported by the school districts. We don't operate like a typical district, such as in Beacon, that sets a budget, people vote on it and the funding depends on property taxes and state grants. We don't carry over funding each year; we spend everything and start over. We do have industry funding for some programs. For example, local construction companies such as Amity loan and lease us equipment at friendly rates. In mechatronics, we've been getting equipment from companies as they upgrade through a partnership with Haas Automation. Many programs we can start at little to no cost.

How did you adapt during the pandemic?

It threw everybody for a loop, because the beauty of career and technical education is that it's experiential. We sent kits home to students in our carpentry program. We're working with a company called Z Space to allow students to explore careers virtually. So we had options, but we also had to get creative. We're trying to make our services more portable, where we're bringing training to people or schools, especially in districts like Beacon, that are 45 minutes away. Technology has been a godsend with virtual reality and artificial intelligence because it allows us to do so much with students in a portable space.



SUN., MAY 1ST, 2:00 - 5:00P

6th Annual Pete Seeger Fest

FREE!

Performers Include:

David and Jacob Bernz
Betty and the Baby Boomers
Reggie Harris with Diane Perry
The Neverlee Brothers
Rick and Donna Nestler
Sarah Underhill
The Trouble Sisters and Friends

Craft Artisans:

Kate Hoekstra
Robin Klein
Denise Leaden
Candace Winter

Visit TompkinsCorners.org for more info.

Highlands Choral Society
AT HIGHLANDS CHAPEL

SUNDAYS 11:00 AM
MUSIC WORSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL
COFFEE HOUR

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

HighlandsChapel.org

BEACON, NEW YORK

artisan wine shop

where food meets its match

www.artisanwineshop.com

845.440.6923 • 180 main street, beacon

your source for organic, biodynamic & low-intervention wines, ciders & spirits since 2006

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

If you changed your first name, what would it be?

“Bailey. It's elegant and pretty, especially with my middle name, Dawn.”



Kimberly Romine, Beacon

“Actually, I go by Tom; it saves a long conversation!”



Tunc Ozelli, Cold Spring

“I love my name; but if I changed it, I'd choose June.”



Olivia Wilk, Cold Spring

Sullivan *(from Page 1)*

tive petition process will unfortunately prevent me from pursuing another term in office.” He said he would continue to “be an active member of our community to keep Putnam County moving in a positive direction” and thanked his colleagues in the Legislature for “their hard work and collegiality.”

To appear on the primary ballot, candidates had to submit petitions by April 7 to the county Board of Elections with a specified number of signatures from registered voters in the district. For Sullivan’s seat, that number was 149. Each page has room for 15 signatures and a space at the bottom for the person who gathered them to sign and date it.

After Sullivan’s petitions were filed, they were challenged by the Crowley campaign. For a signature to be thrown out, both of the two county election commissioners must agree it is invalid. (The commissioners — one Democrat and one Republican — are county employees nominated by their party organizations and appointed by the Legislature.)

In an affidavit filed in Putnam Supreme Court on Monday (April 25), the Democratic commissioner, Catherine Croft, characterized most situations where she and her counterpart, Anthony Scannapieco Jr., diverge as “ordinary disagreements,” such as whether to allow a signature that has an incomplete address. During a review of

Sullivan’s petition on April 19, they agreed that 54 signatures should not be allowed, leaving Sullivan with 156, or seven more than required.

However, 15 signatures remained in dispute. They were among 30 gathered by Scannapieco, the longtime head of the Putnam County Republican Committee. One page was dated March 26 and the other April 26 — or 19 days after the deadline.

According to the minutes of the meeting, Croft ruled they should be invalidated based on the incorrect date, while Scannapieco recused himself. His deputy, Kelly Primavera, also recused herself, saying the matter should be decided in court, according to Croft’s affidavit. Because neither agreed with Croft, the signatures remained valid.

The Crowley campaign filed a legal challenge to Sullivan’s petition the next day, asking Judge Victor Grossman to invalidate the 15 signatures, which would drop Sullivan’s total to 141, below the required limit.

Scannapieco did not return emails seeking comment.

In a statement on Wednesday (April 27), Crowley thanked Sullivan for his service; offered her support for Kevin Byrne, the Republican candidate for county executive; and said she was “inspired to run for office by my concern for the safety and security of our first responders [her husband, Kevin Osika, is a Putnam County Sheriff’s deputy], and my conviction that our public servants must be dedicated to the best interests of every citizen guides me every day.”

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

As your independent nonprofit news source for Philipstown and Beacon, *The Highlands Current* relies on you, our readers, to help support quality coverage of all that matters to you.

Membership is the way you can help.

It is our primary means of support as we seek to provide a vital forum for your diverse interests, concerns and experiences.

Join today or renew your membership!

You’ll get a **digital copy of the paper** every week before it hits the newsstands!

Discover the benefits that will help us engage with you and you with us!

Just go to:

highlandscurrent.org/join

Questions? Email:

**membership@
highlandscurrent.org**

The HIGHLANDS
Current

Who’s On the Ballot, So Far

PUTNAM COUNTY

Legislative 5

This seat, which represents part of Lake Carmel, the hamlet of Carmel and part of Patterson, was held by Carl Albano, a Republican who cannot run because of term limits.

- Greg Ellner or Pat Sheehy (R)¹
- Pat Sheehy (CON)
- Maureen Fleming (D)

Legislative 6

This seat represents Southeast. Jonke is seeking his third, 3-year term.

- Paul Jonke (R/CON)

Legislative 9

This seat represents the Town of Carmel and Mahopac.

- Erin Crowley (R)

County Executive

- Kevin Byrne (REP/CON)

County Clerk

- Michael Bartolotti (REP/CON)

PHILIPSTOWN

Highway Superintendent

This seat is open because of the resignation on March 31 of Carl Frisenda for health reasons.

- Adam Hotaling (D)

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Sheriff

Imperati is the acting sheriff following the death in September of Butch Anderson. Hanlon is a retired deputy who, if elected, would be the first openly transgender sheriff in the country.

- Jillian Hanlon (D/WF)
- Kirk Imperati (R/CON)

STATE

Assembly 95 (Philipstown)

There are four Democratic candidates to succeed Sandy Galef, who will retire after 15 terms. She has endorsed Levenberg, her former chief of staff.

- Vanessa Agudelo, Dana Levenberg, Andre Rainey or Colin Smith (D)¹
- Vanessa Agudelo (WF)
- Stacy Halper (REP/CON)

Assembly 104 (Beacon)

- Jonathan Jacobson (D/WF)

Senate, District 41/43

Because of redistricting, Beacon and Philipstown may no longer be represented by the seat held by Sen. Sue Serino, a Republican. Instead, they could become part of a district in which the incumbent is Sen. James Skoufis. See Page 1.

- Sue Serino (R/CON)
- Jamie Cheney (D/WF)
- James Skoufis (D/WF)
- Ronny Diz (R/CON)

FEDERAL

U.S. House, District 18

- Sean Patrick Maloney (D/WF)
- Colin Schmitt (R/CON)

Senate

- Charles Schumer or Khaled Salem (D)^{1,2}
- Charles Schumer (WF)
- Joseph Pinion III (REP/CON)

¹ A primary on June 28 will determine who will appear on the line.

² Salem’s nominating petitions have been challenged.



WFH FATIGUE?

Coworking + Private Offices in Beacon + Cold Spring



845-418-3731
beahivebzzz.com

The HIGHLANDS Current

PUBLISHER

Highlands Current Inc.
142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819
291 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508-2899

FOUNDER

Gordon Stewart (1939 - 2014)

EDITOR

Chip Rowe
editor@highlandscurrent.org

SENIOR EDITOR

Leonard Sparks

BEACON EDITOR

Jeff Simms

ARTS EDITOR

Alison Rooney
arts@highlandscurrent.org

REPORTERS

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong
Celia Barbour • Brian PJ Cronin
Joe Dizney • Pamela Doan
Deb Lucke • Skip Pearlman
Michael Turton

STUDENT CORRESPONDENTS

Ezra Beato (*Haldane*)
Sam Harle (*Beacon*)
Violeta Edwards Salas (*Haldane*)
Nix Spodek (*Beacon*)
Lily Zuckerman (*Philpstown*)

LAYOUT DESIGNER

Pierce Strudler

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Michele Gedney
For information on advertising:
845-809-5584
ads@highlandscurrent.org
highlandscurrent.org/ads

MEMBERSHIP

Emily Hare
membership@highlandscurrent.org

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Teresa Lagerman
community@highlandscurrent.org



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

April 29, 2022
Volume 11, Issue 17

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

Distribution audited by the Circulation Verification Council
© Highlands Current Inc. 2022

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form, mechanical or electronic, without written permission of the publisher.

NYFA* Winner: 76 Better Newspaper Contest Awards
* New York Press Association, 2013-20

NNA* Winner: 71 Better Newspaper Contest Awards
* National Newspaper Association, 2016-20

NYNPA* Winner: 17 Awards for Excellence
* New York News Publishers Association, 2017-20

Tell us what you think

The *Current* welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor (including from comments posted to our social media pages) to provide a variety of opinions and voices, and all are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity and length, and to remove personal attacks. Letters may be emailed to editor@highlandscurrent.org or mailed to The Highlands Current, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516. The writer's full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published. For our complete editorial policies, see highlandscurrent.org/editorial-standards.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Removing books

As you reported, the Wappingers school board last month voted to remove *Gender Queer* from the library at John Jay High School ("Removing Books from Schools," April 22). The board of a neighboring district, Arlington, voted 7-1 to keep the book on its high school shelves. In both cases, the complaint was submitted by a woman named Pat Whalen, who has been jumping from district to district to challenge the book.

With the support of two other students in our district, I launched a petition at chng.it/BqWNYHYB asking the district to reconsider. It received more than 1,000 signatures in the first week from students, parents, peers, teachers and librarians, mental health professionals, authors, activists, Dutchess County Pride and Dutchess County Youth Council members, the New York Library League, the New York State English Council and the National Council of Teachers of English. The author, Maia Kobabe, offered her support on the Instagram page of Oblong Books in Rhinebeck.

While the book raises potential concern for some, we feel it is an important resource for students going through similar experiences in life. It also provides a unique opportunity for students who wish to learn about others and gain empathy. It is a

parental duty to determine what is suitable material for their children and to enforce those decisions, but it is not appropriate for one parent to determine what is suitable material for all other families and students. In other words, if you don't want to read the book, don't check it out. But don't take away that resource from other students, as it could be highly useful for them.

Mandy Zhang, *Wappingers Falls*
Zhang is a junior at Ketcham High School and a member of the Dutchess County Youth Council.

I wish you had spoken to LGBTQIA+ students or other LGBTQIA+ individuals about what the removal of *Gender Queer* means to them — means to us. The lack of openly queer voices in the article means we are only spoken about as something controversial or upsetting and never heard from directly.

When I was a 16-year-old lesbian, it meant the world to me to read openly gay poems in high school Latin class and to know they were talking about someone like me. It also felt terrible to read the numerous homophobic books in our school library that claimed that being gay was a mental illness or morally heinous, on par with being a murderer.

Finally, you mention that "a sex act" is depicted in *Gender Queer*, the book that was

removed. I thought you should have included, for context, whether there are any books in the school library depicting heterosexual, cisgender sex acts. Given what I know of English literature, including popular young adult graphic novels, I suspect there are.

Donna Minkowitz, *Beacon*

Thanks to our local librarians for fighting this censorship. Aren't these the same people screaming about "cancel culture"?

Brian Cookstra, *via Instagram*

Your story quoted Tom McMahon, president of the Mahopac Teachers Association, who said that "books in schools are not randomly chosen. They are chosen by trained professionals who have completed years of schooling and have even more years of experience in ensuring well-rounded libraries based on student need and interest. These professionals, our school librarians or library media specialists, should be trusted to do what they have been trained and hired to do."

The message conveyed to me by that statement is that taxpayers and parents have no business expressing their opinions about which books should be in schools — that is the domain of government employees, who are "trained professionals." Taxpayers and parents have no say in the matter but must instead trust those government employees, and accept whatever they decide. Or, more simply, shut up, and genuflect before the experts.

These government employees are not entitled to anyone's unquestioning trust. Taxpayers and parents should instead feel free to exercise their right to express their own judgments and opinions about which books should be in schools. No "trained professionals," even those with "years of schooling" and "even more years of experience" can preempt that right. That is how it goes in a democratic republic.

Wilbur Foster, *Garrison*

There is an insidious argument taking place in schools around Putnam County, the Hudson Valley and nationally. It is new in terms of its target and old in terms of its goal, which is to silence.

On the one side, parents ostensibly object to explicit sexual content being made available to children via school libraries. On the other, parents, students and community members make a number of arguments: No one is even checking the book in question out; the book is educational; LGBTQ+ teens deserve access to such books; parents and community members are misrepresenting the role of such books in education — they are not part of the curriculum, and to take one book off the shelves is a slippery slope that could lead to many others being under threat.

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

What is getting lost on both sides of the debate is the true value of the book itself, and, by extension, the many other books, past present and future, that have been, are being, or will be targeted for similar reasons.

Gender Queer is described by the publisher as a “journey of self-identity, which includes the mortification and confusion of adolescent crushes, grappling with how to come out to family and society, bonding with friends over erotic gay fan fiction, and facing the trauma and fundamental violation of pap smears.”

There are scenes in the book that deal with sex, and there are graphics that depict sexual acts. But the book is not about sex. In fact, the main character ultimately identifies as asexual. But like *The Color Purple*, *The Bluest Eye*, *Lolita*, *Lady Chatterley’s Lover*, *Tropic of Cancer*, *Sula* and on and on, the book includes sex and sexuality — and rape and incest and other sexual violence — because they are inextricable from life.

Children are thinking, wondering about and trying to figure out these topics from a very early age. Anyone who has ever had extensive conversations with a 5-year-old knows this. By the time they are middle- and high-school age, there is no number of books we could ever ban that would keep kids from actively engaging in a quest to learn more about sex and sexuality. To deprive them of access to well-intentioned and educational sexual content so that their sole source becomes the internet is ill-advised.

Trans and non-binary kids do not see broad representations of their sexual identities on TV, in movies, in books, etc. Cisgender kids — and even gay and lesbian kids — do. It is so pervasive, in fact, that parents barely even see it. Instead, they see this book not because of its graphic content but because its title made that first parent who brought that first challenge look inside the book in the first place.

How many other books in the school library include descriptions of sex acts that parents have never thought to worry about? *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*? *The Kite Runner*? Are we going to ban all books that include any reference to sexual acts? Our children will become wildly under-educated and myopic if so.

Teenagers are not the property of their parents. They are individuals, and schools are meant to be an outlet and safe haven for kids who may not be able to share their thoughts or desires at home. This is why there are mandatory reporting rules — parents’ rights over their children have limits. They cannot beat or abuse them, and they cannot chain them to a pole in a basement surrounded only by parentally sanctioned books. They can home-school them. But they cannot and should not be able to dictate what is available in school libraries.

Let schools do their job and, please, don’t fall for the faux outrage of these purportedly well-meaning parents who are making arguments that history has taught us time and time again are simply wrong. Because, like Judy Blume’s classic, in 30 years, we will all be looking back and laughing at the level of negative attention this award-winning and

arguably life-saving book has generated.

Eileen McDermott, *Brewster*
McDermott is the founder of Putnam Pride.

Traffic jam

On Saturday (April 23), I ventured from my Garrison home to do a few errands. One of those errands was to do some shopping at the Cold Spring Farmers’ Market. As it turned out, this was not a good idea. The market was packed, which is a good thing for all. However, entering and exiting was not a good thing.

As all of the homeowners in Philipstown know, Route 9D is considered by many to be a glorified walking/bike path or the Indy 500 track. This is particularly evident on weekends when many people come here to enjoy the beauty of our town. And then to see a farmers market at such a beautiful site is certainly a bonus. Would it be possible to station a traffic guard at the Boscobel entrance on the days of the market? It is difficult to both enter and exit on the Saturdays that are as beautiful and busy as they have been, and promise to be in the spring, summer and fall.

This is just a suggestion from a Philipstown resident for 40-plus years. It would make things safer for all.

Diane Travis, *Garrison*

Garrison school budget

We write to urge approval by voters on May 17 of the 2022-23 Garrison school district budget as proposed by the Board of Education (“Garrison School Lowers Tax Request to 9.2%,” April 22).

As past presidents of the Garrison school board, we have collectively served the district for nearly 50 years and overseen the development of more than 30 annual budgets, all of which passed with strong voter support. We recognize the challenges inherent in delivering an excellent education for our students while at the same time being careful stewards of taxpayer resources.

It is with that experience, and from that perspective, that we have studied the administration’s budget presentation, questioned its assumptions and projections, and listened to the concerns of our neighbors. As Garrison taxpayers, none of whom have children any longer at school in the district, we too would be reluctant to pay more in taxes were there not a compelling need or a manifest benefit.

However, this year the board confronts a “perfect storm” of reduced state aid and sharply increased costs over which they have little or no control. Among the biggest cost drivers: high school tuition, special education, health care insurance and transportation. The plain fact is these are all essentially vendor costs that must be paid out-of-district and they are almost entirely resistant to economizing.

Where economizing has been possible, we believe the board has been diligent in containing costs without sacrificing educational quality. Instruction, by far the biggest line item, is actually down 5 percent in the proposed budget, thanks to retirements and the resultant strategic staff realignments. Administrative costs are up slightly year-over-year, largely because one staff position has been moved over from the instruction line.

Moreover, we believe it is important that

voters maintain a proper perspective on the costs of running the district. Garrison school taxpayers have long enjoyed the lowest true tax rate in Putnam County, far lower than in surrounding counties, as well. To be specific, the average true tax rate for the five other Putnam school districts over the last six years has been \$23.44 per \$1,000 of full property value. Over the same period, the average in Garrison was \$9.56, some 60 percent lower.

We remind voters that while they enjoy a lower school tax burden than in neighboring districts, they also realize unrivaled educational value for their dollar. Garrison students consistently excel by every measure of academic performance. The relevant data on standardized tests and state Regents scores, as well as class size and student/teacher ratios, are carefully scrutinized by prospective homebuyers on the many online school-rating sites. Those buyers will pay a sizable premium for homes in a highly rated district like Garrison.

In sum, we believe the board and administration of the Garrison school district have addressed a uniquely difficult set of circumstances with a budget that is fair and responsible — one that maintains educational quality and preserves the substantial advantage taxpayers enjoy relative to other districts.

Raymond O’Rourke, *Garrison*

This letter was also signed by Marit Kulleseid, Stan Freilich, Cathy Lilburne, Anita Prentice and James Hoch.

Corrections

- In a story that appeared in the April 22 issue, we stated that Kent Schacht was appointed to the Garrison school board last year. In fact, he was elected to complete the final year of the term of a member who resigned.

- In a story in the April 22 issue on \$20 million being awarded by the state to the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, we reported Phase I of the project “will involve the construction of a vehicle lot that will allow hikers to park between the river and the train tracks and a pedestrian bridge to cross over the tracks to a trailhead that will not be accessible from Route 9D.” In fact, according to MJ Martin, director of development and community engagement for the Fjord Trail, Phase 1 will involve “the construction of more than 100 spaces adjacent to the Breakneck Ridge trailhead, along with bathrooms and other amenities, and a pedestrian bridge to cross over the tracks to the Shoreline segment of the trail, a 2-mile riverfront promenade heading south toward Little Stony Point, and ultimately Dockside Park. The Shoreline segment is planned as Phase 2 of the project.”

Garrison Art Center **ABLOOM** AT THE BOTHY



A Gala Benefit Auction for GAC
of artworks created on the
flowering grounds of
Stonecrop Gardens.

Saturday, June 4th
5 to 8 p.m.



RESERVATIONS AT:
www.GarrisonArtCenter.org

Main Street Beacon, Re-Envisioned

Committee proposes more green space while reclaiming parking

By Jeff Simms

Abbey Road crosswalks, like on the Beatles album. A “re-energized” tree-planting campaign, along with a network of biking routes and plenty of parking — but no new lots.

The volunteer Main Street Access Committee, created in 2020 by Mayor Lee Kyriacou, presented its final report to the City Council on Monday (April 25), outlining its vision of Beacon as a walkable, pedestrian- and bike-friendly city.

The committee chair, Stowe Boyd, and John Clarke, the city’s planning consul-

tant, who served as an adviser, detailed the report’s recommendations.

Some, such as redesigned signs that direct drivers to public parking lots, have been implemented. Others, like reclaiming parking spaces through more efficient restriping, are on deck or being done this week as part of the Main Street repaving.

City Administrator Chris White said that he expects another recommendation, to convert the Veteran’s Place block into a public park, to come before the City Council this year.

For longer-term proposals, “we’re going to identify what seems most important to the council members and see where we can match those proposals to available funding and staff capacity,” White said.

Notable recommendations are described below.



Map by Maria Rabinky

[11] Restripe crosswalks using bold, parallel bar stripes — the “Abbey Road” look — at all Main Street intersections. Discourage displays or tables that make sidewalks less than about 8 feet wide. The committee also recommended a “re-energized” planting program to improve tree cover along Main.

The committee recommends a 20 mph speed limit on Main Street so bikes can safely travel in the same lane as cars. Separate bike lanes are not feasible, it said, because too many on-street parking spaces, valuable to businesses, would be lost.

[2] Implement use of “lead pedestrian interval” stoplight systems at the Teller Avenue and Chestnut Street intersections with Main, which give pedestrians a 3- to 7-second head start before vehicles are given a green light.

[3] Open public bathrooms in at least two buildings, such as the Memorial Building or the Visitors Center at Polhill Park.

[4] This area is owned by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and The Roundhouse. The committee suggested the city work with both to create a public

park overlooking the Fishkill Creek waterfall. The space is in a federal floodway, so development isn’t an option.

[5] The height of streetlights should be reduced to a uniform 12 to 14 feet. Some lights should be removed from the west end of Main, where there’s too much lighting, and moved to the center stretch.

[6] Three-way stop signs should be installed near the dummy light, where Main Street is excessively wide and drivers often get confused. Trees should also be added.

[7] Clarke called the Fountain Square area “a nice urban place that has been lost to parking.” The committee’s plan would convert the parking spaces at the convenience store into green space with a fountain, while replacing the spots with new parallel street spaces.

[8] Churchill Street is the “most troublesome” intersection on Main, the committee said. It recommended curb extensions on both sides of the street to improve pedestrian visibility. That also would allow vehicles to turn right or left onto Main. (Right

turns are not permitted now.) The city should build a sidewalk with steps along the south side of Churchill, it said, with a pedestrian ramp leading to a pocket park.

[9] The committee suggested converting Cedar Street, which intersects Verplanck Avenue on the north side of Main and Rombout Avenue on the south side, into a bike boulevard with temporary barriers. “Bikes are an easy way to get around the city, if you feel safe,” Clarke said. Traffic would be allowed for residents living on Cedar, but the barriers would prevent use as a through-street. Afterward, the committee said, the council should hire a consulting firm to create a biking plan for the city. The committee also recommended adding more inverted U-shaped bike racks on Main Street.

[10] The city’s 2007 and 2017 comprehensive plans suggested creating seven pocket parks along Main, such as at the Dutchess County building, the Howland Public Library and the post office, that could double as entry points for public transportation. “I don’t know of anywhere in the country that has such an interesting way of integrating buses with land use in

the city center,” Clarke said.

[11] The committee offered a plan that could create more than 180 new parking spaces without constructing new lots, such as by striping side streets within two blocks of Main more efficiently. Priorities would be the north side of the first blocks of Herbert, along with Brett, Eliza, Cedar and Willow streets and Blackburn Avenue. Tioronda Avenue should be striped and signed to prevent parking on the east side, south of Van Nydeck Avenue, it said.

[12] Restriping could create about 12 new spaces on the west end of Henry Street.

[13] The city also could add 22 spaces on the east side of Fishkill Avenue; **[14]** reconfigure the rear lot at the Dutchess County building to add 37 spaces; **[15]** restripe the Eliza Street lot with 9-foot spaces; and **[16]** add 25 spaces on Wolcott Avenue (Route 9D) near City Hall.

If needed, the second phase of the committee’s parking plan would implement paid parking, which would create revenue to finance the third phase — parking structures — if paid parking does not sufficiently control the demand.



Sara Mikulsky
Wellness Physical
Therapy

18 W. MAIN ST., BEACON NY
INSIDE BEACON PILATES

www.saramikulsky.com
sara@saramikulsky.com
845-219-5210

The Garrison School PTA
proudly supports our kids, our
school, and our community.

On MAY 17
please join us in voting
YES on the school budget.

Cold Spring Considers Software to Manage Rentals

Would include a 24-hour hotline for complaints

By Michael Turton

A firm that makes software to manage short-term rental registrations, regulations and complaints assured the Cold Spring Village Board on Wednesday (April 27) that it was the solution to the challenges it faces.

A representative from Granicus said its product is used by many municipalities, including Dutchess County, to track short-term rental operations. The Village Board voted in July, 3-2, to begin regulating STRs.

Trustee Cathryn Fadde, who along with Trustee Eliza Starbuck researched the company's services, said it would cost \$4,300 for a one-year contract to identify all STR addresses, monitor operator compliance with regulations and operate a 24-hour hotline to handle complaints.

"STRs become problematic for a lot of communities when growth isn't met by regulation," said Kester Bonsu of Granicus. "Our data shows that about 10 percent of STR operators voluntarily comply with ordinances, which typically leads to friction in the community."

A preliminary scan of Cold Spring identified 35 active STRs, he said. The Cold Spring law allows the village to issue permits for up to 33 sites where the owner lives on the premises and 16 sites where the owner is not present.

Bonsu said that while the monitoring might feel intrusive to STR operators, "it would be completely unreasonable" for a hotel with 120 to 200 rooms to open in Cold Spring but refuse to get a permit or pay taxes.

"You're dealing with a commercial interest that is active in the community, generating revenue, but not necessarily complying with regulations," he said.

Bonsu said STR providers are often "less than excited" about helping municipalities manage compliance. "Most STR organizations, such as Airbnb and VRBO, won't even give you the address of units they have in your community."

Mayor Kathleen Foley said the village has identified more than 35 STRs operating in Cold Spring but that only four have applied for permits.

Trustee Tweeps Woods noted that the information gathered by Granicus is publicly available. "It's not a deep dive or FBI search into people's homes," she said. "It may seem a bit big-brotherly, but it's information that anyone could get if they did the work."

Heffernan asserted that the Granicus software was created for major metropolitan areas such as New York City, not small communities. "I'm not saying this is a bad product, but we have no real experience under an open-permitting program, as opposed to the draconian law proposed

by the previous board," he said. "That has never been tried; just tell everybody, get a permit if you want to do business."

Bonsu said that typically, only 10 percent of STR operators apply for permits if there is no enforcement — about what Cold Spring has seen. He also said that his firm works with communities that have as few as 10 to 20 STRs.

Foley said using the software would address one criticism of the STR law, which is that it is not based on data. "This is a data set to work from that is neutral and very helpful as we look to improve that local law," she said.

Foley said a draft of proposed revisions to the STR law should be ready for public review in the next few weeks. She voted against the law in July when she was a trustee on the board, as did Woods. The former mayor and two former trustees accounted for the "yes" votes.

On Thursday (April 28), the mayor said the village has earmarked funds that could go to a contract with Granicus. She said the software would "professionalize the regulation of STRs and greatly expand our capacity for assessing and mitigating their impacts."

In other business ...

■ The board approved the 2022-23 general fund budget, including spending of \$2.85 million and a tax increase of 1.89 percent.

The water and sewer budgets, which are funded through usage fees, were also approved, with spending of about \$836,000 and \$610,000, respectively.

■ The board passed a resolution asking Metro-North to postpone reopening the station at Breakneck Ridge until infrastructure for the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail "is at least partially functioning." Metro-North says it plans to open the platform in late May. A spokesperson for the railroad said as many as 600 people a day disembark at the station during peak periods.

■ The board authorized the mayor to sign a parking easement agreement with the owners of 40 Main St., the former Ellen Hayden Gallery, which is being converted to office space and storefront retail. The agreement was negotiated because parking required in the village code does not exist on Main Street. The owner will rent 20 spaces in the municipal lot on Fair Street at a cost of \$25,000 per year for use by office workers Monday through Thursday, a period when village metering data has shown the lot to be underutilized. The owner will also pay the standard \$250 waiver fee for seven spaces required for the retail space.

■ For health reasons, Ed Currelley resigned as chair of the ad hoc committee on police reform. Victor Burgos now chairs the group. The committee is expected to make recommendations to the Village Board by the end of June.

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS	PUTNAM COUNTY				
	Number of cases:	Tests administered:	Cases per 100K, 7-day average::	Percent vaccinated:	Number of deaths:
	24,224 (+197)	431,460 (+2,610)	7.7 (-0.1)	82.8 Cold Spring (10516): 94.2 Garrison (10524): 86.3	122 ⁽⁰⁾
	DUTCHESS COUNTY				
	Number of cases:	Tests administered:	Cases per 100K, 7-day average::	Percent vaccinated:	Number of deaths:
	65,335 (+562)	1,335,584 (+8,003)	7.4 (+2.7)	77.2 Beacon (12508): 72.0	657 ⁽⁺¹⁾
Source: State and county health departments, as of April 26, with change over the previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those ages 5 and older who have received at least one dose.					



GOT A PHOTO OF MOM?

For Mother's Day (May 8), we'd like to share your favorite photo of yourself with your mom.

Send the image to editor@highlandscurrent.org (the higher resolution, the better) with your mom's name, your name, names of anyone else in the shot, your city/town/village and approximately when the photo was taken.

The photo can be from present, immediate past or distant past; throwbacks welcome!

DEADLINE: 5 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

NEWS BRIEFS



Beacon Names High School Principal

Promotes assistant principal to job

The Beacon school board on Tuesday (April 26) named Corey Dwyer as the principal of Beacon High School, effective July 1.

The Beacon High School graduate began his career in 2012 with Teach for America at a charter school in Philadelphia. He became the principal there in 2016 until returning to Beacon in 2021 to become assistant principal.

Vanessa DeFonce, an interim principal appointed in August, will continue until the

end of the school year, the district said. She succeeded Elisa Soto, who left to become an assistant superintendent in the Newburgh district.

Four Candidates for Four Seats in Beacon

School board election will have no challenges

There will be four candidates for four open seats on the Beacon school board when voters go to the polls on May 17 to elect trustees and decide on a budget proposal for 2022-23 that includes \$76.9 million in spending.

Meredith Heuer and Antony Tseng will be unopposed for re-election, while Yunice Heath and Alena Kush are newcomers. The three candidates who receive the most votes will serve three-year terms (including the seat of Elissa Betterbid, who did not seek re-election) and the fourth candidate will serve two years and six weeks beginning May 17 to complete the term of Jasmine Johnson, who resigned on April 1.

Heuer and Tseng are seeking their third terms. Kush is director of parent engagement at Mount Saint Mary College and president of the Rombout Middle School PTO. Heath is an access/equity counselor for Dutchess Community College.

Voters also will consider a budget that is 2.2 percent higher than 2021-22. That is lower than projections from early April,

before the district received an additional \$466,000 in state aid. If the budget is approved, the tax levy would increase by 3.7 percent, short of the state-mandated 3.87 percent cap for the district.

In addition, the ballot will include measures to allow the district to spend up to \$546,000 on buses and to create a capital reserve fund of up to \$15 million.

Managing Director to Leave HVSF

Festival will begin search for successor

Kate Liberman, who has served as the managing director of the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival since 2015, plans to depart at the end of the 2022 season, the festival announced Tuesday (April 26).

Liberman will become executive director at the Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, Rhode Island, a move that she said will allow her to be closer to family. HVSF said it will begin a search for her successor on May 1.

“It is incredibly difficult to leave an organization and a community that means so much to me and in which I have built so many lasting relationships,” Liberman said in a statement.

Liberman also served as president of the Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce from 2016 to 2018.

State Provides \$10.7M for Warehouse

Will serve 400 regional food banks

New York State will provide \$10.7 million to construct a food distribution warehouse for the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley, Gov. Kathy Hochul announced on Monday (April 25).

The 40,000-square-foot warehouse will be located in Montgomery and provide space for cold storage and sorting for 400 food banks in six counties, including Putnam and Dutchess. It will serve about 179,000 residents in the region who receive food assistance, the state said.

The Food Bank of the Hudson Valley is contributing \$1.9 million to the project and \$800,000 will come from private donations.

Garrison School Explores Pre-K

Approved for state funding

The Garrison school district has been approved to receive state funding to create a pre-kindergarten program in September for 18 students and is gauging interest.

Parents are asked to complete a survey at tinyurl.com/gufts-pre-k. Children who will turn 4 by Dec. 1 would be eligible for the 2022 program, which would be five hours on school days.



paramounthudsonvalley.com

To Buy Tickets, Visit
paramounthudsonvalley.com
914-739-0039
1008 Brown Street
Peekskill, NY 10566

Don't Miss these Great Spring Shows!

EVENT	DATE	TIME
Leonid and Friends The Greatest Chicago Tribute Band in the World! Limited Meet and Greet Tickets Available	May 5	8:00pm
The Selena Experience Celebrate Selena's Life at The Paramount with Genessa & The Selena Experience	May 6	8:00pm
Chris Perondi's Stunt Dog Experience Back by Popular Demand Master Trainers Chris and Suhey Perondi	May 7	1:00pm
Nick Di Paolo Nick's Brutally Honest Performances Is Funny, Socially Relevant and a Little Bit Reckless	May 7	8:00pm
Orleans Still the One, Dance with Me, Love Takes Time, Dancin' in the Moonlight and much more!	May 13	8:00pm
Tom Petty Tribute-Damn the Torpedoes A Complete Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers Concert Experience	May 14	8:00pm
Lords of 52nd Street-Legends of The Billy Joel Band Featuring Billy Joel Band Members Richie Cannata, Liberty DeVitto, and Russell Javors	May 20	8:00pm
"Irradiance" Featuring Daisy Jopling Band With Orchestra 914 and Students A Unique, Full Orchestra Collaboration	May 22	8:00pm
NRBQ Over 50 Years of R&B, Country, and Rockabilly with the Improvisational Energy of Jazz	June 3	8:00pm



Coming soon to Peekskill's
Paramount Theater...



05/13
ORLEANS



05/14
TOM PETTY TRIBUTE
DAMN THE TORPEDOES



05/20
LEGENDS OF THE BILLY JOEL BAND
LORDS OF 52ND STREET



05/22
IRRADIANCE
FT. THE DAISY JOPLING BAND

Get your tickets now!
paramounthudsonvalley.com
914.739.0039 EXT. 2

Putnam Will Cut Gas Tax

Applies to first \$2 per gallon

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

At a special meeting in Carmel on Monday (April 25), members of the Putnam Legislature unanimously agreed to reduce the county sales tax on gasoline by limiting it to the first \$2 per gallon.

The rollback, which affects diesel, too, takes effect June 1 and ends Dec. 1. Putnam charges a 4 percent tax on gas sales.

New York State recently cut its gas tax by 16 cents a gallon from June 1 to Dec. 31, and Dutchess County dropped its tax from 3.75 percent of the sale to 8 cents per gallon from June 1 to Dec. 1.

At an Audit Committee session that preceded the meeting, Neal Sullivan, who represents Carmel-Mahopac and chairs the Putnam Legislature, said that Putnam's reduction amounts to about 10 cents a gallon. With the state rollback and a possible federal cut, he said that drivers could save 35 cents to 40 cents a gallon. "I'm glad we're all united on this," he said. "I think it will be a good thing."

As of Monday, according to federal records, the average price of a gallon of gas in New York was \$4.21 and the national average was \$4.10.

Finance Commissioner Bill Carlin said Putnam could see a decline of \$1 million to \$1.5 million in sales-tax revenue from the reduction. Moreover, "we're going to be short this year in just about everything, across the board, due to inflation."

Putnam's 2021 sales tax revenue exceeded expectations by \$17.6 million, according to information provided to the Audit Committee. The data also showed that the county received over \$2 million more sales tax than projected for the first quarter of 2022.

Because of rising fuel prices, the county is "collecting a lot more from the gas tax than we ever budgeted for, or even expected," Sullivan noted.



The Cake by Bekah Brunstetter

Directed by Christine Bokhour
with Sally Mayes, Gregory Porter Miller,
Kullan Edberg, and Evan Simone Frazier

May 6-22

The Depot's Great Cake Bake Off Benefit

Taste cakes from seven regional bakers
Join the celebrity judges and cast your vote!

May 22, 4:30-6:30

www.philipstowndepottheatre.org

Philipstown: Close Hiker Stop Until Fjord Trail Arrives

Board also OKs shared service pact with Cold Spring

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board last week asked Metro-North to keep the Breakneck Ridge train stop closed until the first stretch of the Fjord Trail debuts and gives hikers an alternative to the sometimes treacherous mountain.

In a resolution unanimously adopted at an April 20 workshop at Town Hall, the board declared that postponing resumption of train service would "greatly alleviate" the burden borne by emergency responders called to aid injured or lost hikers.

The station closed in 2020 when the COVID-19 shutdown began. Metro-North said it should reopen in late May.

The completion of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, "at least partially," the resolution says, should provide options to hikers beyond Breakneck. The Fjord Trail, a path for walking and bicycling along the Hudson River between Cold Spring and Beacon, recently received \$20 million from New York State. Construction is expected to begin this fall.

"If you take the train and get off at Breakneck, there's no place to go but up the mountain," which "is overwhelmed already," said Supervisor John Van Tassel.

Like the mountain itself, rescuers feel the impact. "It just seems that the more access people have to Breakneck, the more rescues they're going to have." He noted the Fjord Trail will also bring public restrooms, information sites and other resources.

Van Tassel downplayed suggestions that

“If you take the train and get off at Breakneck, there’s no place to go but up the mountain.”

~ Supervisor John Van Tassel

keeping the station closed would divert crowds to Cold Spring. He said people wanting to visit the village will do so anyway, while others intent on reaching Breakneck will stay away, deterred by the mile-long walk between the village and trailhead.

On a related matter, the board passed a resolution to back the New York-New Jersey Watershed Protection Act, a bill in the U.S. House that would allocate \$50 million to restore watersheds, including the Hudson River's, that contribute to the New York-New Jersey ocean harbor.

The board also voted 4-0 (one member missed the meeting) to share the town's full-time building and code enforcement department with Cold Spring, whose part-time building inspector recently left to take a full-time job with the City of Newburgh.

Under the agreement, the village will pay the town \$1,600 monthly (\$19,200 annually) to review building applications and plans; inspect construction; issue permits, notices of violations, stop-work orders and other documents; appear in court as required; enforce the village zoning code and related laws, state code and flood plain regulations, and report regularly to village officials. Village Hall would continue to maintain records pertinent to activity in Cold Spring.

From June 2018 until August 2020, the municipalities shared the town's Building Department, until Cold Spring opted to go its own way. Now, according to the Philipstown resolution, the two have decided that a reinstated merger makes sense in order to reduce expenses for both, offer the most efficient service and promote "the best interests of the public."

"It works well for the village, because it's eight hours a day, five days a week" of coverage, Van Tassel said. "And it works well for us because it brings in income."

At the same time, the board renewed agreements with Croton, Buchanan, Peekskill and Cortlandt to share trucks and other equipment.

HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER



Fri. Apr 29 – 8 PM
CONCERT EVENT - Jeremy Schonfeld & Friends
Music from: **THE FATHER WHO STAYED**
Tix: howlandculturalcenter.org



An evening of music from
The Father Who Stayed
A concert event
Songs by Jeremy Schonfeld
Featuring: Daniel Rowan
Jen Malenke, Christian Campbell
Kelly Ellenwood, Rinde Eckert, Ryan Dunn
Hannah Cornish and Annalyse McCoy

Special Live Performance Art
by Artist Donna Mikkelsen

Sat. Apr 30 – 1 to 5 PM
ART EXHIBIT "Farm to Table:
The Bounty of Beacon and Beyond"
View works by 22 artists - Free
Continues weekends through May 29

Sun. May 1 – 4 PM
THE ATTACCA QUARTET
Howland Chamber Music Circle
Tix: howlandmusic.org

Sat. May 7 – 8 PM
THE LAST OF THE MO'RICANS
Authentic Puerto Rican Jibaro Music
Tix: howlandculturalcenter.org

Follow our web media for more info and events

VAX: Gallery w/mask + Concerts for vaccinated persons w/proof

477 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508
www.howlandculturalcenter.org (845) 831-4988
facebook.com/howlandcenterbeacon
howlandculturalcenter.org

Hudson Beach Glass



162 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508 845-440-0068

www.hudsonbeachglass.com

The Calendar



German chocolate cake and lemon raspberry cake made by Lynn Miller

Photos provided

A Multi-Layered Cake

New Depot show examines our connections

By Alison Rooney

Cake is both a near-universal pleasure and a frequent subject of ritual. *The Cake*, a play that opens at the Philipstown Depot Theatre on Friday (May 6), is both.

The play, by Bekah Brunstetter, was presented at the Depot as a reading in 2019 but plans for a production were scuttled by the pandemic. With four actors, it seemed a good way to venture back into live performances inside the Garrison's Landing theater, says Executive Director Amy Dul. "It's relevant, funny and has a small cast which makes it doable in the age of COVID."

The Cake's storyline reflects the discussion around a 2018 legal case that reached the U.S. Supreme Court over the right of a Colorado baker to refuse to create a wedding cake for a gay couple, citing his religious beliefs and First Amendment rights. The court ruled, 7-2, in his favor.

The scaffolding to explore beyond the issue in the play is that one of the brides-to-be who are attempting to order a cake is the daughter of the female baker's deceased best friend. The fourth character is the baker's easygoing husband. Set in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the play doesn't trade in finger-pointing but instead centers on the emotional clashes of deep-seated moral beliefs.

For director Christine Bokhour, *The Cake* is "a story about connection and how we need that and work to make that happen. Post-pandemic, this has become even more important: how we work to stay connected to people we love. It has a gay-marriage central theme, plus a race issue [one bride is white and one Black]. It's careful about its politics, because people do care about each other; it doesn't make a criminal of anyone for their beliefs."

Della, the baker, will be played by Sally Mayes, an actor who has been nominated for Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle awards— and is a native of the South.



Greg Miller, Sally Mayes, Kullan Edberg and Evan Simone Frazier on the set of *The Cake*

Photo by Amy Dul

"With the divisiveness in our country, and with how politicized religion and gay rights have become, this is such an important piece, because it addresses all of that very personally," she says. "The problem with social media is people feel like they can say anything, when if they were actually having a conversation with you face to face, they would most likely not do that."

The brides are played by Evan Simone Frazier and Kullan Edberg.

"I got married last year so I more acutely understand the complicated emotional swirl of bringing your family and your partner and their family all together," Edberg says. "I'm from a small conservative Midwestern town but have spent my adult life in bigger, generally more liberal cities. Boy howdy! Can that clash of differences in beliefs get intense. And the default almost seems to be to only have relationships with people who agree with you."

"The gentleness of the play has become rather profound given the incendiary nature of most political conversation," she adds. "It's a love story about the romantic

The Bake Off

On May 22, the Philipstown Depot Theatre will host its annual benefit. To coincide with the production of *The Cake*, the theme will be a bake-off, with entries from seven bakeries and bakers recruited by Lynn Miller. The only stipulation was that the cake be two-tiered, with a 6- to 8-inch cake atop a 10-incher.

The three judges will be actor Sally Mayes, who plays Della in *The Cake*; chef and cookbook author Rick Rodgers; and Zanne Stewart, a Garrison resident who is a former longtime food editor of *Gourmet*.

Those in attendance will be able to taste the cakes, post-vote, and come to their own conclusions for a People's Choice Award. Benefit tickets start at \$125 at bit.ly/depot-bake-off.

love, familial love and the self-love that help these characters grow. It's a necessary story for many reasons but especially in light of the recent 'Don't Say Gay' bill passed in Florida" that restricted what educators can say to elementary school students.

Frazier, the only cast member new to the production, says that while homophobic issues are prominent, *The Cake* "does go beyond that by exploring the ways in which we bring the dreadful parts of ourselves into our romantic relationships. We learn how the world works from the lens of our parents and then must go on to learn our own way. How can we release our past while still holding onto the love it has offered to us? How we can love someone without hurting them the way we were hurt by our parents?"

Greg Miller, who plays the baker's husband, says that because the play was inspired by news headlines, "its immediacy seems diminished at first glance. But race and gender

(Continued on Page 14)

ON THE SPOT Cake Edition

What's your favorite?

All cakes are my favorite!



Sally Mayes



Evan Simone Frazier

Pineapple upside-down



Greg Miller

Coconut in all its myriad forms



Zanne Stewart, cake judge

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 30

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

KENT

9 a.m. – Noon. Fahnestock Park
1498 Route 301
845-808-1390, x43125
putnamcountyny.com/recycling

For Putnam residents;
registration required. See website
for accepted items.

SAT 30

Cherry Blossom Festival & Plant Sale

PEEKSKILL

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Riverfront Green
peekskillrotary.com

This annual event will feature
children's activities, food and
drinks for purchase, craft booths
and a silent auction. Bring a new or
gently used book to donate to the
Golden Bookshelf Project. *Free*

SAT 30

Used Book Sale

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

The Friends of the Butterfield
Library organized this sale to
benefit library programs.

SAT 30

Veterans' Town Hall

POUGHKEEPSIE

Noon. Elks Lodge
29 Overocker Road
facebook.com/DutchessCoGov

Dutchess County Executive
Marc Molinaro will host. Attend in
person or watch online.

SAT 30

Arbor Day Tree Planting

GARRISON

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

Jennifer Lerner, an educator from
Cornell Cooperative Extension,
will demonstrate how to plant and
prune a tree.

SAT 30

Taste of the Valley

PHILIPSTOWN

6:30 p.m. Glynwood Farm
362 Glynwood Road
haldaneschoolfoundation.org

This annual Haldane School
Foundation fundraiser will include
a silent auction and local food and
drinks. *Cost: \$100*

SUN 1

Marathon for Mental Health

COLD SPRING

bit.ly/hub-race

Walk, hike, run or bike 26.2 miles
throughout the month and share
your progress with the community
during this fundraiser for the
Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub.
Cost: \$26 (\$50 per family)

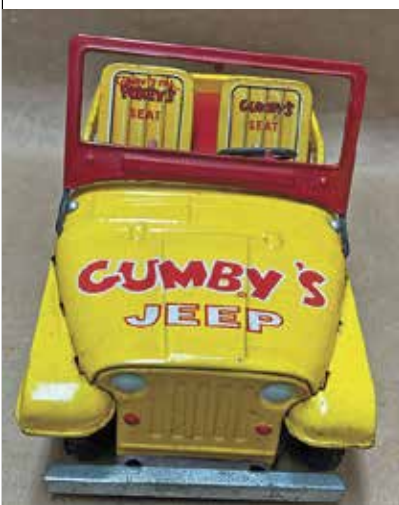
SUN 1

Toy & Comic Book Show

BEACON

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Veterans Building
413 Main St.
facebook.com/beacontoilandcomicshow

Dozens of vendors will have
comics, graphic novels and figures
for sale.



SUN 1

Grazing on the Grass

GARRISON

4 p.m. Garrison Institute
14 Mary's Way
csfarmmarket.org/dinner

Enjoy food and drinks from Fresh
Company while strolling the grounds
during this benefit for the Cold
Spring Farmers' Market. *Cost: \$100*

THURS 5

Blood Drive

BEACON

1 – 6 p.m. Veterans Building
413 Main St. | 800-733-2767
redcrossblood.org

Register in advance to donate.

FRI 6

Donations for Ukrainian Refugees

CARMEL

9 a.m. – 7 p.m. Paladin Center
39 Seminary Hill Road
putnamcountycare.com/ukraineaid

The local Polish community and
Putnam County will partner to send
aid to refugees sheltering in Poland.
See the website for a list of needed
supplies. Also SAT 7, SUN 8.

SAT 7

Riverkeeper Sweep

BEACON

7 – 10 a.m. Denning's Point
199 Dennings Ave. | riverkeeper.org

Bring work gloves, water and
a mask to help clean up the park
during New York's I Love My Park
Day. Meet at the loop trailhead.

SAT 7

Riverkeeper Sweep

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D | riverkeeper.org

Bring work gloves, water and a
mask to help clean up the park during
New York's I Love My Park Day.

SAT 7

Master Gardeners Plant Sale

CARMEL

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Memorial Park
201 Gypsy Trail Road
845-278-6738 x220
putnam.cce.cornell.edu

This annual sale will include
vegetables, perennials, native pollinator
plants, herbs and baskets and gifts.

SAT 7

Invasive Plant Sweep

GARRISON

9 a.m. – Noon. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org

Volunteers who help clean up the
Woodland Trail will receive free
admission to the grounds for the day.

SAT 7

Plant Sale

FISHKILL

9 a.m. – Noon. Town Hall | 807 Route 52
facebook.com/verplanckgardenclub

This sale, organized by the
Verplanck Garden Club, will include
perennials, herbs, annuals and gifts.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 30

Into the Woods

BEACON

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

The Beacon Players will perform
the Stephen Sondheim musical that
intertwines characters from multiple
stories by the Brothers Grimm,
including Cinderella, Rapunzel and
Little Red Riding Hood. Also SUN 1.
Cost: \$15 (\$10 students, seniors)

SAT 30

Off Peak

ARMONK

8 p.m. North Castle Library
914-271-2811 | hudsonstage.com
Kurt Rhoads and Nance Williamson



Francine Prose, May 1

of Garrison star in this premiere of a
new play by Brenda Withers about old
flames who connect on the evening
commute. Also SUN 1 (with Q&A), FRI
6, SAT 7. *Cost: \$40 (\$35 students and
seniors, \$10 student rush)*

FRI 6

The Cake

GARRISON

7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org

This Bekah Brunstetter play,
directed by Christine Bokhour,
is about a pastry chef's reaction
to a same-sex wedding in her
family. With Gregory Porter Miller,
Sally Mayes, Kullian Edberg and
Evan Simone Frazier. Continues
weekends through May 22. See Page
11. *Cost: \$25 (\$22 students, seniors)*

TALKS AND TOURS

SAT 30

Civil War Weekend

HOPEWELL JUNCTION

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Brinckerhoff House
68 N. Kensington Dr.
eastfishkillhistoricalsociety.org

Learn about the all-volunteer
150th Infantry Regiment that
formed in Poughkeepsie. There will
be demonstrations, presentations,
building tours and viewings of
period artifacts. Also SUN 1. *Cost: \$5*

SUN 1

Wildflower Walk

PHILIPSTOWN

2 p.m. Hubbard Lodge | 2920 Route 9
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Learn about spring wildflowers
and how to identify them.
Registration required.

SUN 1

Francine Prose

COLD SPRING

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org

The National Book Award finalist
will read from her latest novel,
The Vixen, as part of the ongoing
Sunset Reading Series. *Free*

WED 4

Quiet Investing in a Noisy World

BEACON

6:30 p.m. Beahive
291 Main St. | beahivebzzz.com

Lena Rizkallah will address
issues that impact markets and how
to maintain your focus.

WED 4

The Tick Project

MILLBROOK

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

Felicia Keesing of Bard College
and Rick Ostfeld of the Cary
Institute will discuss the findings
of the six-year study in Dutchess
County to test environmentally safe
methods to reduce tick populations
and tick-borne disease infections.

SAT 7

History Hike

PUTNAM VALLEY

10 a.m. Fahnestock State Park
putnamhistorymuseum.org

Cassie Ward, director of the
Putnam History Museum, and Dan
Ricci, the Putnam Valley historian,
will lead an 8.5-mile hike along
Sunken Mile Road and discuss
historical events that happened
along the way. Register online. *Cost:*
\$10 (\$8 members)

SAT 7

The Art of Flower Arranging

PHILIPSTOWN

4:30 – 7 p.m. Stonecrop Garden
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000
stonecrop.org

Frances Palmer will discuss
her new book, *Life in the Studio:*
Inspiration and Lessons on
Creativity, and lead a workshop.
An exhibit of her pottery and
photographs are on display through
May 30. *Cost: \$25 (\$15 members)*



KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 30
Fairy House Hunt

POUGHKEEPSIE
10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Locust Grove Estate
2683 South Road | lgny.org/calendar

Search for more than 30 fairy houses and other surprises on the grounds at this annual event open weekends through June 26. *Cost: \$10 (ages 4 and younger free)*

SAT 30
Compass Arts Showcase

BEACON
1 – 6 p.m. The Yard
4 Hanna Lane | compassarts.org
Watch student performances in improv and theater and hear the Rompatom Choir and the Beacon Rising Choir. There will also be an art show, food trucks and a dance scavenger hunt. Also SUN 1. *Cost: \$10*

SAT 30
Claribel Ortega

GARRISON
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
The author of *Ghost Squad* will read from her new young adult book, *Witchlings*. Co-hosted by Split Rock Books. Registration requested.



SUN 1
Kids’ Fishing Day

COLD SPRING
8 a.m. – Noon. Reservoir | Fishkill Road
The Nelsonville Fish and Fur Club is hosting this annual event, now in its 32nd year.

SAT 7
Mother’s Day Tea

GARRISON
11 a.m. & 2 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org
Enjoy live classical guitar, informal tea service and a brunch box in the gardens. Also SUN 8. *Cost: \$100 (table for 2)*



Stunt Dogs, May 6

SAT 7
Stunt Dog Experience

PEEKSKILL
1 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Watch tricks, challenges and athletic feats performed by dogs trained by Chris Perondi. *Cost: \$42*

SAT 7
Nick Di Paolo

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The comedian and talk-show radio host will perform stand-up. *Cost: \$25 to \$37.50*

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 30
Material Matters

PHILIPSTOWN
3 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | 845-666-7202
magazzino.art
Elizabeth Mangini of the California College of the Arts will discuss Giuseppe Penone’s sculptures in the context of aesthetics and the Italian social and intellectual trends of the 1960s and ‘70s. *Free*

SAT 30
Art | Beacon

BEACON
3 – 8 p.m. Procario Designs Studio
64b Maple St.
Work by local artists will be on display during this one-day exhibit hosted by John Procario.

FRI 6
Hudson Light

COLD SPRING
6 – 8 p.m. Buster Levi Gallery
123 Main St. | busterlevigallery.com
Cold Spring artist Rick Gedney’s

landscapes of the Hudson River Valley will be on display through May 29.

SAT 7
Piero Gilardi:
Tappeto-Natura

PHILIPSTOWN
11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | 845-666-7202
magazzino.art
The sculptor’s first solo exhibit in the U.S. of his “nature carpets” will continue through the end of the year. Dancers will perform at noon, 12:30 & 1 p.m. on both days of the opening weekend and then monthly. *Free*

MUSIC

SAT 30
David Wilcox

BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The folk singer, known for personal revelations in his music, will perform. Singer and songwriter Jesse Ruben opens. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 30
The Father Who Stayed

BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
The concert will feature a reading from the book by Rinde Eckert and Jeremy Schonfeld and songs written by Schonfeld and performed by Eckert, Daniel Rowan, Jen Malenke, Christian Campbell, Kelly Ellenwood, Ryan Dunn, Hannah Cornish and Annalyse McCoy. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 30
The Jersey Tenors

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
This opera and rock mash-up will perform classics by Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, Frank Sinatra, Bon Jovi and others. *Cost: \$30 to \$45*

SUN 1
6th Annual Seeger Festival

PUTNAM VALLEY
2 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org
Scheduled performers include David and Jacob Bernz, Betty and the Baby Boomers, Reggie Harris, the Neverlee Brothers, Rick Nestler, the Trouble Sisters and Sarah Underhill. Donations will benefit organizations that Pete Seeger started: Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, the Beacon Sloop Club

and River Pool. *Free*

SUN 1
Attacca Quartet

BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandmusic.org
The quartet, which won a Grammy for *Orange*, will perform as part of the Howland Chamber Music Circle series. *Cost: \$40 (\$10 students)*

MON 2
Two Sisters Inc.

BEACON
8:30 p.m. Quinn’s | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnbeacon
Dave Sewelson, Claire Daly, Dave Hofstra and Michael Sarin will perform as part of the weekly jazz series. *Cost: \$15*

THURS 5
Leonid and Friends

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
This tribute to the band Chicago will include its hits. *Cost: \$39.50 to \$49.50*

FRI 6
Adam Ezra Group

BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Ezra, along with his bandmates, fiddler Corinna Smith, drummer Alex Martin and bassist Poche Ponce, will perform music from *The Gathering Series* and *The Album Project*. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

FRI 6
Genessa and the
Selena Experience

PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Genessa Escobar will portray the singer in this tribute. *Cost: \$22.50 to \$35*



FRI 6
Eugene Tyler Band

BEACON
9 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St. | dogwoodbeacon.com
The local bluegrass trio will perform music from its latest album, *Thanks, Cats*.

SAT 7
Sixties Sing-A-Long

COLD SPRING
7 p.m. St. Mary’s Parish Hall
1 Chestnut St.
Bring the family and sing along to Beatles and Motown songs with a band led by Dar Williams. *Free*

SAT 7
The Little Things

NEWBURGH
7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College
330 Powell Ave. | 845-913-7157
newburghsymphony.org
The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra will perform an assortment of miniatures at Aquinas Hall with a program that includes Bach, Debussy, Copland and Liadov. *Cost: \$35 to \$50 (\$25 seniors, students free)*

SAT 7
Prognosis

BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The American Pink Floyd Show covers iconic songs from *The Wall*, *Dark Side of the Moon* and other albums. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 7
The Last of the Mo’Ricans

BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
The band will perform traditional Puerto Rican jibaro music. See Page 15. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

CIVIC

MON 2
City Council

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

TUES 3
Putnam Legislature

CARMEL
7 p.m. Historic Courthouse
44 Gleneida Ave. | 845-208-7800
putnamcountynyny.com

TUES 3
School Board

COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Haldane | 15 Craigside Drive
845-265-9254 | haldaneschool.org

WED 4
Village Board

COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 4
School Board

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

THURS 5
Town Board

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



Hudson Light, May 6

The Cake (from Page 11)

issues are more heated now than they have been in my memory. *The Cake* gives voice to both sides with compassion, humor and love. That is a positive. It is a redemptive love story, and funny as hell."

His wife, Lynn Miller, a baker and pastry chef, assisted with the production; the set is an old-fashioned shop with prop cakes and a couple of real ones. "Cake is just that kind of indulgence that's OK when it's really good: revelatory, wonderful," she says. "Even when it's not, it's good. Pie is home, cake is lust. It's versatile; there are so many different ways you can make one. It's one of the few indulgences anymore that are OK."

The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located at 10 Garrison's Landing. The Cake will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays through May 21. Tickets are \$25 (\$22 for seniors) at philipstowndepottheatre.org.

What Makes a Good Cake?

Because we had the opportunity, we asked Zanne Stewart, who spent 36 years at *Gourmet*, for her thoughts on cake.

- "A successful cake has a good crumb, light, moist and even, with no big holes to mar the texture. The cake should be flattered by its frosting, if it has one, not overwhelmed by it, and the ratio of icing to cake is crucial.
- "A good pound cake really doesn't need an icing, in my opinion, but a little drizzle or glaze may not be out of place. Pound cake is a perfect balance of its components, none bullying the others.
- "Cake is synonymous with 'occasion,' whether a birthday, a wedding, or a good report card."



Chocolate swirl cake and coconut cake by Lynn Miller Photos provided



Flint Reeves of Beacon is helped onto a horse at the Topfield Center in Philipstown.

Photos by L. Sparks



Wendy Suessenbach of Cold Spring enjoys a moment with Onyx, a horse at the Topfield Center.

Topfield Center Rides Again

Equestrian center ends pandemic shutdown

By Leonard Sparks

Carter Reeves' wait finally ended. Ever since a friend told Reeves that the Topfield Center in Philipstown offered horsemanship lessons for children, the Beacon resident kept checking for a reopening date for the center, which had closed when the pandemic shutdown began in March 2020.

That day arrived Saturday (April 23), when her 6-year-old son, Flint, became one of the first children to mount a horse at Topfield in more than two years.

"It's a beautiful space," said Reeves, as she and other parents watched children mount and dismount during rides around the indoor arena. "The views are amazing and everyone seems really nice."

That seemed to be the consensus on Saturday, when adults and children walked Topfield's grounds, stroked the ears of horses and rode ponies during an open house marking a return to programs for the equestrian center's core clientele:

people with physical, psychological and developmental disabilities.

The center reopens with a new director, Sarah Uzelac, who lives in Beacon, and a newly paved access road that was part of a \$5 million upgrade that included a parking lot at the Big Woods trailhead in Fahnestock State Park.

The turnout "exceeded my expectations," said Uzelac. "I knew people would be excited to be here, but the level of excitement, the level of people who not just want to get their kids involved but also volunteer, that is surprising."

The center will begin with Tuesday afternoon sessions on ground work: lessons on topics such as grooming, developing a relationship, leading a horse and learning about its behavior. Thursdays will be dedicated to therapeutic riding and the rest of the week to private and group lessons.

In addition to bringing back clients and welcoming new ones, Topfield would like to add programs that use its horses for occupational, physical and speech therapy, and to support people with mental illnesses, said Uzelac.

"How much we can offer is based on how

staffed we can be and how many volunteers we have," she said.

One of those volunteers is Ellen Egerter of Cold Spring, a certified "side walker" who strides alongside horses that have new riders. Because Egerter now uses a cane, she plans to return to help with fundraising or other needs. "I just love animals and horses, and helping charities and the emotionally and physically disabled," she said.

Saturday's opening drew many first-time visitors. Rosanne Visco, a retired U.S. Air Force major from Fishkill, volunteers at Hope Rising Farm in Millerton and was curious about the Topfield veterans' program, which is not yet restarting. Joy Debberman of New Paltz brought her son, Brayden, and daughter, Ailee, who spent time being nuzzled by Duke, a thoroughbred.

Kent Chadwick of Shrub Oak and his daughter, Wendy Suessenbach, and granddaughter, Carly, who live in Cold Spring, took turns stroking Onyx, a Tennessee walking horse. Suessenbach found Topfield when she began looking for therapeutic horse programs after her father watched a TV show about the use of horses to help veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder.

"We've been introduced to a couple of horses that are absolutely gorgeous," said Suessenbach.



A daily oasis for National Poetry Month

The Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison and *The Highlands Current* are back with another year of *One Poem a Day Won't Kill You!*

Each day in April, a podcast recording will be posted at bit.ly/hear-poem-2022 featuring a community

member reading a favorite published poem. Drop by to hear readings from Davis McCallum, Audrey Keller, Tania Steele, Maxwell Schoenstein, Caroline Eisner, Edie Giunta, and Lafayette Starner. The 2020 and 2021 selections are also archived at the site.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR HOME IS WORTH?

Contact me for a **Complimentary, In-Depth Home Analysis** today.

2021 Salute to Sales EXCELLENCE A CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

DIRECTOR'S CLUB



CARLIN FELDER

Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
973G Main Street, Fishkill, NY 12524

Cell: 845-554-7345
carlin-felder.weichert.com



Weichert
REALTORS

A Musical Taste of Puerto Rico

Beacon musician organizes jibaro band

By Alison Rooney

It took John Vergara eight years to feel confident enough on the cuatro, a stringed instrument similar to a Spanish guitar (but smaller), with a bit of viola thrown in, to play for an audience.

The cuatro is the national instrument of Puerto Rico and Vergara is Puerto Rican, so he'd been hearing it for a long time. "I'd seen these guys play, and it's scary and intimidating, but I decided I was going to learn," he recalls. "When I got good enough to play seriously, I convinced my friend Tony Velez, a salsa player, to start a band. But it was only after proving myself, because they're all professionals."

On Saturday (May 7), The Last of the Mo'ricans, with Vergara on cuatro, Velez on guitar, Sammy Dandrades on guiro (and providing vocals) and Pito Castillo on bongo, will perform an evening of jibaro music at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. *Jibaro* is a word from the Indigenous people of Puerto Rico, the Taino, that translates roughly as "of the mountains."

Vergara, who owns Lord of the Strings, a Beacon shop where he makes and repairs guitars, ouds, violins, cuatros and ukuleles, says jibaro is "a mixture of all the [musical] elements that came to Puerto Rico mixed with those that existed before, like the Taino, plus African rhythms and Spanish melodic themes."

He said cuatros are usually made of wood from the island. "Their main job is to play melodies and solos. It's always accompanied by the Spanish guitar. In Puerto Rico they developed a sophisticated way of playing. The guitar player had to be able to play bass and chords at the same time."

"In a typical group you'll need two percussionists — one plays a bongo, the other plays a guiro, which is a Taino instrument, a gourd with grooves. Then, of course, there's a singer."

"The cuatro players — I don't know what kind of

rice and beans they're feeding them on the island, but they're very capable musicians," he says. "The villages where the music developed were agrarian; once the workday was over there was not much to do — there wasn't even much radio, so they got really good with storytelling, which they combined with music."

He says the storytelling was related to what the farmers saw in front of them, such as a farmer's favorite bull, honored with a homage. "There is a lot of humor," Vergara says. "Sometimes they'll sing about how the hen is chasing the rooster, or how the dog followed the man to the party and is barking too much. They also sing about food, like, 'Tomorrow is Sunday and we're going to have bacalao [fish stew].' They sing about something to look forward to."

He says that while the music is performed in concerts, it's more often heard on a porch, by neighbors. "There's a huge tradition during Christmastime: If you're lucky, they show up to your house with a parranda, a Christmas group. You'll hear a knock on the door and music in front of your house. This is still practiced, even here in America."

While Vergara grew up in the Bronx, he says he "felt a great deal of pride being Puerto Rican, and for many that's embedded in jibaro: the lifestyle, the town, the people, love for the flag, the food."

He says pulling together the band was an accomplishment, because there aren't many performers in the U.S. who play traditional Puerto Rican music. "I'm fortunate that I have a great friend in Tony Velez — we took half of his band. We'll have the exact configuration of instruments; it has to be that way or it doesn't work well, musically."

The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon. Tickets for the performance, which begins at 8 p.m., are \$20 at howlandculturalcentertix.com, or \$25 at the door. For an introduction to jibaro, Vergara recommends the group Chuito el de Bayamon and the singer Ramito.



The Last of the Mo'ricans consists of Tony Velez, Sammy Dandrades, Pito Castillo and John Vergara (sitting).
Photo provided



The Real Estate Market is Booming!

Contact these top local agents to see the latest listings, or to sell your home



Abbie Carey

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE
ASSOCIATE REAL ESTATE BROKER

845-661-5438

acarey@houlihanlawrence.com

www.abbiecarey.houlihanlawrence.com



Ann McBride-Alayon

HUDSON RIVER LINE REALTY
REAL ESTATE BROKER

718-637-3143

ann@hudsonriverlinerealty.com

www.hudsonriverlinerealty.com



Kathyrine M. Tomann

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE
ASSOCIATE REAL ESTATE BROKER

914-204-0415

Ktomann@houlihanlawrence.com

www.houlihanlawrence.com



Linda Hoffmann

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE
LICENSED REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON

914-548-1843

LHoffmann@HoulihanLawrence.com

www.lindahoffmann.houlihanlawrence.com

Advertise your real estate business here.

CONTACT:

Michele Cedney

845-809-5584 | ads@highlandscurrent.org
highlandscurrent.org/ads

Roots and Shoots

Plant Shopping

By Pamela Doan

This morning I remembered to check the moisture on the wrapping of my newly acquired red-oak seedlings (10). Then I realized it hasn't rained recently and I should start watering the chokeberries (10), pussy willow (1), sweet pepperbush (2), swamp rose (8), raspberries (4) and, wait — what am I forgetting? All of these are from 2021 plant shopping and are waiting in containers on my patio for their forever homes in the yard.

It's easy to buy plants. There isn't any licensing, education or other credentials. You can even grow your own. Keeping them alive is another project and I hope the list below will help you make good investments with your money, time and energy.

Read the tag

It sounds silly, but it's easy to only focus on a lovely flower. The tag has all the growing conditions and a description. Note the height and width at maturity; visualize the plant in your yard and how that will work. If a woody plant that is 3 feet tall when you bring it home will become 15 feet tall and 8 feet wide, make sure you have the space it



Buy wisely whether at the garden center or one of the upcoming plant sales. Photo by P. Doan

needs without interfering with power lines, other trees and buildings.

Note the Latin name. If you're seeking a specific species, make sure that the Latin names match, since common names vary.

Note the sun requirements for the plant. Does your yard offer those conditions? If you're not sure, check again before you make a purchase. A plant with too much or too little sun for its needs will not thrive.

Not sure about the plant? Ask questions. People who work around plants usually

enjoy talking about them.

Root check

If you can remove the plant or tree from its container and view the roots, do it, especially with trees. Notice the tree or woody plant's root flare. It should be above the soil level, not buried, and the main root should be intact with a loose root system.

When the roots of the tree or plant circle around each other and hold the shape of the container, the condition is called pot-bound or root-bound. If you placed it in the soil without correction, it would stay in that shape and the roots wouldn't spread out. It won't grow.

I have a trowel with a serrated edge that works perfectly to cut circular roots. I swipe lightly with downward strokes and free the roots to move out in the hole. Even when plants aren't obviously root bound, I always massage the roots, shake off soil, and make it as bare-root as possible before placement.

Tree roots take more finessing and

knowledge. I've learned a lot about preparing tree roots from the blog at gardenprofessors.com. I can't cover everything here so I recommend that resource.

Green or not so green

Be on the lookout for leaves that are withered, spotted, misshapen or discolored. This could be evidence of too much or too little water, a pathogen or a nutrient imbalance.

Judge the plant by its cycle

It helps to understand the growth cycle of the plant, too. Many native perennials grown in containers won't show up in May looking chipper. Warm-season grasses, such as little blue stem, have barely begun growing but will look amazing in August. The popular orange milkweed, butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), will also be insignificant looking.

We're conditioned as shoppers to expect that "healthy plants" look like annuals, which are only meant to survive a single season. They are frequently in bloom in the garden center and already at maturity.

A first-year butterfly weed plant will be smaller than it will be in the second year of growth and may not bloom. That doesn't mean it's a bad purchase, it just has a different cycle. You can't compare the two. Yet we do, and that's a reason that native perennials can be less appealing.

Dump the soil?

Commercial nurseries have a strong self-interest in keeping their stock free of invasive species, including jumping worms. Volunteer plant sales may or may not have protocols to prevent the spread of plants like stiltgrass inadvertently. As a strong supporter of volunteer plant sales, I am pretty sure I brought home mugwort: it showed up in the flowerbed.

A good practice is to get as much of the soil off the roots as you can before planting. Put down newspaper to contain it, then throw it away. I'm not a fan of putting planting soil in the trash but I'm less fond of a new battle with an ecological threat.

“It's easy to buy plants. There isn't any licensing, education or other credentials. You can even grow your own. Keeping them alive is another project.”

PIDALA OIL CO. IS FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED, SERVICING THE COLD SPRING, GARRISON AND SURROUNDING AREAS FOR NEARLY FOUR DECADES.

PIDALA
OIL CO., INC.
OIL HEAT • PROPANE • DIESEL FUEL

3524 ROUTE 9 | PO BOX 249
COLD SPRING, NY

- Automatic Oil & Propane Deliveries
- Budget Plans - Service Contracts
- Furnace / Boiler Installations
- 24-hour Emergency Service
- BBQ tanks filled at our site
- Licensed Technicians

PIDALAOIL.COM | 845.265.2073

Credit and debit cards accepted

PC3348 PC038

Gergely Pediatrics

Dedicated to keeping your child healthy & thriving

Dr. Peter Gergely, MD
Janet Eisig, CFNP
Danielle Chiaravalloti, CFNP

- Collaborative practice for children & adolescents
- Board Certified Pediatricians & Licensed Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- Welcomes patients with developmental or behavior issues

Meet with us for a **FREE** first time consultation

34 Route 403, Garrison, N.Y. 10524
tel: (845) 424-4444 fax: (845) 424-4664
gergelypediatrics.com



Mouths to Feed

Home Made

By Celia Barbour

Last week, I came across the following entry on a coffee shop menu in Richmond, Indiana: “Soups of the Day.

Fresh every day! Select

from two homemade soups.” This pleased me, as I was very much in the mood for homemade soup just then. Yet I was puzzled by the red Campbell’s logo printed alongside the listing, so I asked the waitress to clarify what they served.

“It’s Campbell’s,” she said. “From a can.”

I grew up on Campbell’s soups, and loved them dearly. I credit them for painlessly introducing me to everything from mushrooms to clams. Campbell’s soups topped my favorite meatloaf, baked chicken and casseroles, and established forever my paradigm for the perfect potato cube. Thanks to their cold consommé, I remain a lifelong fan of savory gelatins and aspics. I do not, however, think of them as either “fresh” or “homemade.”

Among the many things I love/hate about Richmond, Indiana, where I grew up, is its complete lack of precision with regard to food, combined with its unstinting generosity.

That same coffee shop, for example, offers bottomless pots of coffee. You can park yourself in a booth for half a day, drinking cup after cup from a thermal pot that is continually refilled at no extra charge, and feel as welcome when you jitterbug out the door at midnight as you did when you first crossed the threshold at noon. My friends and I used to pass long evenings there in our late teens, chasing the caffeine with towering wedges of fresh, homemade pie, which in those days meant pie that was made from scratch, on premises.

The bottomless coffee is still served. The pie, alas, is not.

The world already contains enough pithy phrases about going home again, and does not need another from me. But I will say this: Revisiting my hometown after a quarter-century seemed to lay bare some underlying topography of my character. I experienced old haunts as a series of pushes and pulls — intense longings interspersed with equally intense urges to flee at warp speed.

The reason I was in the Midwest was that Dosi, our youngest, was visiting nearby colleges before making his final decision about where to go next year. Richmond was a detour, a distraction, and a chance for me to prattle on to him about random, weird things that had or hadn’t changed: “Oh my God, the Dairy Queen!”

But this side trip also nudged loose something deeper. For many of us, after all, college marks the first clear break in life’s trajectory. It’s a time when we peel our patterns and habits away from the grooves that shaped them, and realize that they’re now an inextricable part of us. It’s when



Pasta with Asparagus and Salmon ‘Carbonara’

2 tablespoons butter	Salt and pepper
3 tablespoons olive oil	1 pound pasta
2 to 3 cloves garlic, peeled and cut in half lengthwise	4 ounces smoked salmon, torn into pieces
3 very fresh, local eggs	¼ cup chervil, chopped; or substitute
One bunch asparagus, tough ends snapped off, cut into 1½ -inch pieces	¼ cup mixed dill, parsley and tarragon leaves, chopped
	Zest and juice of one lemon, or to taste

Bring a large pot of salted water to boil. Prepare an ice bath. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a large skillet over medium-low heat. Add the olive oil and garlic cloves, reduce the heat to low and cook, stirring occasionally, allowing the garlic to infuse the warm oil with flavor.

Break the eggs into the same bowl you will serve the pasta in, and beat them with a fork or whisk. Add a few grindings of pepper. Set aside.

Place the asparagus in a steamer basket and submerge in the boiling water for 2 to 3 minutes. Transfer to the ice bath to stop its cooking, then use the same pot of boiling water to cook the pasta according to package directions.

A few minutes before the pasta is done, transfer the asparagus to the oil-and-butter mixture and remove the garlic cloves. (You can smash one into the sauce if you like.)

When the pasta is done, reserve ½ cup of cooking water, drain in a colander, then transfer immediately to the bowl with the beaten eggs, tossing to combine; the heat of the pasta will cook the eggs.

Stir in the contents of the skillet and mix well, adding reserved pasta water as needed. Toss with the smoked salmon, herbs and lemon juice and zest.

we gather up our best memories and place them in our hearts to carry forward to the next phase.

One Midwestern custom that I have not opted to carry in my heart (or anywhere else) is the region’s tendency to equate “cheese” with “fancy.” For dinner that night, Dosi and I visited a new restaurant down by the old train station.

“That’s where I used to catch the Amtrak to New York!”

Among the menu’s offerings was wild-caught Alaskan sockeye salmon, “stuffed to the gills” with cream cheese and bacon, and covered in a smoked Gouda cheese sauce. I said, “That’s a very Indiana thing to do to a piece of wild-caught salmon.”

“Hmmm,” said Dosi.

Dosi ordered spaghetti carbonara, a favorite. I had chicken. We both had asparagus, which we love. Our meals were satisfying, fresh, generous and made from scratch on premises. They also, like so many things

from my childhood, compelled me to come up with my own, new version, which I hope might have some small impact on Dosi.

BEACON FINE ART PRINTING

Specializing in digital fine art, large format and display printing, mounting, scanning, retouching and framing for artists, photographers and all fine art professionals.

BEACONFINEARTPRINTING.COM | 914 522 4736

A HAHNEMÜHLE CERTIFIED STUDIO

Start READING

May book club selections



Helen Savoit Book Club

TUES 10, 1:30 P.M.

The Other Black Girl, by Zakiya Dalila Harris
Howland Public Library, Beacon
Email community@beaconlibrary.org.

Percy Jackson Book Club (Grades 5+)

FRI 13, 4 P.M.

The Titan’s Curse, by Rick Riordan
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring
Register at butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar.

Fiction Book Club

THURS 19, 7 P.M.

The Dangers of Smoking in Bed, by Mariana Enriquez
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring
Meeting outside (weather permitting)
Register at splitrockbks.com.

Butterfield Book Club

MON 23, 7 P.M.

Beautiful World, Where Are You, by Sally Rooney
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring
Register at butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar.

Middle School Book Club

WED 25, 3:30 P.M.

We Dream of Space, by Erin Entrada Kelly
Howland Public Library, Beacon
Meeting at Memorial Park
Email community@beaconlibrary.org.

Reading with Writers

WED 25, 7 P.M.

A Swim in a Pond in the Rain, by George Saunders
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring (via Zoom)
Register at splitrockbks.com.

Banned Book Club

THURS 26, 6:30 P.M.

Gender Queer, by Maia Kobabe
Desmond-Fish Library, Garrison
Register at desmondfishlibrary.org/event.

History Book Club

THURS 26, 7 P.M.

The Urge: Our History of Addiction, by Carl Erik Fisher
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring (via Zoom)
Register at splitrockbks.com.



Stephen Gould Rose
July 11, 1950 - April 23, 2022

Stephen loved Cold Spring since the day he got off the Metro-North train from Manhattan, early in 1993, having read a “Thinking of Moving to Cold Spring” article in The New York Times. He was undaunted by the Superfund site, and loved eating blueberries atop Bull Hill. He and his life partner and wife Judith moved there almost immediately after that first visit. He loved being able to walk to the train and the grocery store. He was dedicated to his gardens which have evolved over the years, featuring many native species in support of birds and pollinators. Recently he and Judith began thinking of downsizing to other places but every time Stephen considered moving elsewhere, he would come home, look at the river and Storm King and declare there was no place better to live.

Stephen was born in Bronxville, NY, after which his family moved to Allentown, PA. He attended Parkland High School where he participated in four different varsity sports every year, and also starred in Guys and Dolls as Nathan Detroit.

Stephen matriculated at Yale University in 1968, but the anti-war movement intervened so he left to dedicate his time to social justice causes, including editing an underground newspaper and traveling to Cuba as part of the Venceremos Brigades. After marrying Judith Kepner in 1982, he returned to Yale, graduating with a BA in Art in 1986. He later received an MA from Columbia University Teachers College which led to a long career as an art and art history educator at The Hewitt School in Manhattan. He loved teaching art as metaphor and taking the students to museums and gallery shows.

After retirement (a word he disliked because it sounded too much like inactivity) he was a member of Gallery 66 in Cold Spring, and showed his emotionally complex, colorful, and varied paintings in many venues. He also volunteered doing local trail repairs, and more recently, spent his time doing invasive species identification and removal. With others he planned and installed the new pollinator garden at West Point Foundry Park in 2021.

Stephen is predeceased by his parents Rosalie and R. William Rose and survived by his wife of 40 years Judith Kepner Rose, sisters Susan Rose Ackerman, and Barbara Rose Caldwell, and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Services will be private at a later date. If you knew Steve, please consider planting a native plant somewhere in his honor. The bees and birds will appreciate it.

Funeral Arrangements are under the direction of Clinton Funeral Home-Cold Spring

PAID NOTICE

Redistricting (from Page 1)

The high court ruling only concerned the congressional and senate maps, because the plaintiffs had not challenged the new Assembly districts.

Even under the new maps, Beacon would have remained in Assembly District 104, represented by Democrat Jonathan Jacobson, and Philipstown in Assembly District 95, which has been represented for nearly three decades by Sandy Galef, a Democrat. She is retiring this year and four Democrats and a Republican are campaigning to succeed her.

In the state Senate, Philipstown and Beacon are part of District 41, represented by Sue Serino, a Republican. The maps drawn by the Legislature moved the Highlands to District 43, where James Skoufis, a Democrat, would be the incumbent candidate.

The Court of Appeals decision on Wednesday returned the case to Steuben County Supreme Court, where Judge Patrick McAllister had ruled on March 31 that the maps violated the state constitution. They had been drawn by Democrats in the state Legislature after a bipartisan committee created following a 2014 referendum could not agree on new maps.

McAllister will appoint the special master to revise the maps, and any primaries scheduled for House or state Senate races on June 28 will likely be pushed into August.

Nick Langworthy, chair of the New York State Republican Committee, called the high court decision a “huge victory for free and fair elections in New York. This was an outrageous, brazen attempt to rig the election and violate the constitutional rights of every citizen in this state. Democrats suffered the defeat they deserved.”

The Court of Appeals ruled on two fronts: one procedural and the other substantive.

It concluded that in approving the maps, Democrats in the Legislature violated the voter-approved constitutional process for redistricting, which established the 10-person independent commission as an antidote to partisan gerrymandering.

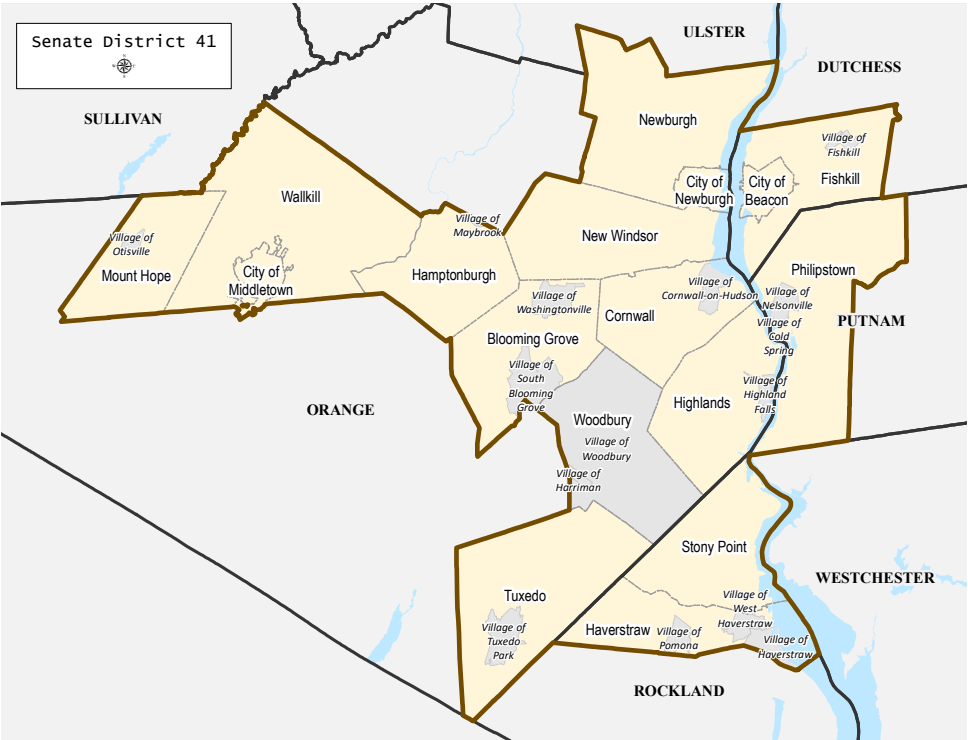
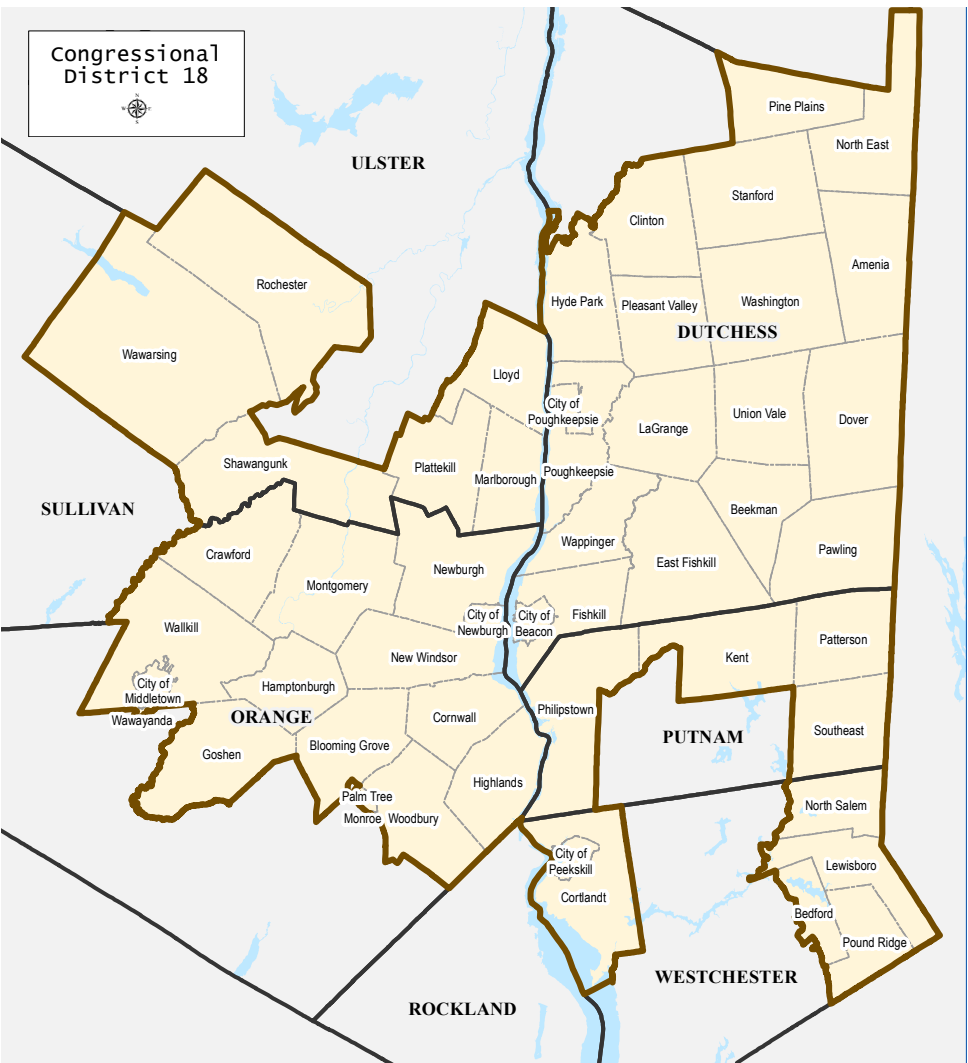
Comprised of four appointees from each party and two approved by those eight, the commission deadlocked along party lines. The committee’s Democrats and Republicans submitted competing sets of maps that were both rejected by the Legislature.

The redrawn districts introduced in the state Legislature were then approved along party lines — 43-20 in the state Senate and 103-45 in the Assembly. Galef and Jacobson, supported the maps, while Serino dismissed them as “blatantly gerrymandered.”

One of the examples of gerrymandering the Republican plaintiffs cited in their lawsuit was the redrawn 18th Congressional District, which has been represented since 2011 by Maloney.

The boundaries approved by the Legislature moved “strongly Republican areas” such as Putnam Valley, Carmel, Yorktown and Somers into District 16, which has Democratic strongholds such as Mount Vernon and Yonkers, according to the plaintiffs. The change, they argued, was intended to make the 18th a safer district for Maloney.

In its ruling, the Court of Appeals said that Democrats failed to adhere to the



These maps, of House District 18 and state Senate District 41, might be redrawn.

process for approving maps, which required that lawmakers must first reject two plans by the commission before being able to alter districts. (The commission did not produce any further maps after its first attempt.)

Even then, the court said, state lawmakers could only amend the commission’s second rejected plan, and any amendment could not affect more than 2 percent of the population in any district.

The court also found that the maps for the U.S. House violated another voter-approved election reform to the state constitution — that new districts “shall not be drawn to discourage competition or for the purpose of favoring or disfavoring incumbents or other particular candidates or political parties.”

A redistricting expert for the plaintiffs testified that the approved congressional map was an “extreme outlier” that would likely reduce Republican-held House seats in New York from eight to four by packing Republican voters into four districts and “cracking” Republican voter blocks in the remaining districts “to dilute the strength of their vote and render such districts noncompetitive.”

Democrats sought to convince the Court of Appeals to keep the maps for the 2022 elections but were rebuffed. “We reject this invitation to subject the people of this state to an election conducted pursuant to an unconstitutional reapportionment,” the court said.

Converters *(from Page 1)*

many other car owners have awakened to lately — that his catalytic converter, which reduces the toxicity of emissions from gas engines, had been stolen.

Security camera footage showed two men jacking up the car and removing the converter, said Kelly Garcia. “They were in and out of our driveway in not even four minutes,” she said.

The Garcias are among a growing fraternity of residents who have been victimized by a rise in catalytic converter thefts fueled by a spike in prices for the precious metals that can be mined from the small but crucial part.

The Beacon Police Department issued a warning on April 6 about a rash of stolen converters in the city. Residents, including the Garcias, have reported four thefts since April 1, all of the vehicles either Honda Accords or Honda Elements, said Det. Sgt. Jason Johnson. Hondas are a popular target because they can have high ground clearance and converters with a high concentration of precious metals.

On March 17, the Putnam County Sheriff's Department reported the arrest of a Connecticut man who was charged with grand larceny and vehicle stripping for allegedly using a battery-powered circular saw to steal a converter from two vehicles parked on and near Tilly Foster Road in Southeast.

Insurance claims for catalytic converter thefts rose from about 1,300 nationally in 2018 to about 3,400 in 2019 to nearly 14,500 in 2020, the most recent figures available, according to the nonprofit National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB). Because not all thefts are covered by insurance, and so may not be reported, the figures are likely conservative, it noted.

Thieves can unload converters at scrap metal recyclers for \$50 to \$250 each, said the NICB. A standard converter contains between 2 and 7 grams of palladium, 3 to 7 grams of platinum and 1 to 2 grams of rhodium, according to *Waste Advantage Magazine*.

That doesn't seem like much — you need 28 grams for an ounce — but as Wednesday (April 27), palladium was valued at \$2,130 an ounce and rhodium at \$16,800, according to Kitco, which tracks prices for precious metals. Five years ago, on April 28, 2017, palladium traded for \$827 and rhodium for \$935.

While thieves can enrich themselves, car owners without insured converters face big

What You Can Do

Although the odds of losing your converter are relatively low, given the number of cars on the road, park your vehicle in a garage, if possible. Otherwise, consider installing motion sensor security lights and setting the car alarm.

You can purchase anti-theft devices such as protection shield or have your vehicle identification number (VIN) painted or etched on your converter. Some police departments, mostly in and near Los Angeles, have organized “etch and catch” events and last year AAA Colorado gave away 10,000 devices that chemically etch a number onto the devices, although it's unclear how often that leads to arrests.

bills. The Garcias paid \$1,800 to replace their converter. Jose also decided to buy a car alarm for \$500.

“The man barely sleeps because he's so afraid of them coming back to do it again,” his wife said.

In addition to the police, state lawmakers have taken notice. A bill introduced on Tuesday (April 26) would require that anyone selling a converter have a permit or a title to ownership; another bill, introduced April 19, would mandate that any converter sold in New York after Jan. 1, 2023, be engraved or stamped with a serial number.



Keep Cats Indoors

Domestic cats make wonderful companions and pets, but when allowed to roam outside, they are the greatest human-caused source of mortality to birds.

Cats now function as introduced predators in many different habitats across the world. When outside, cats are invasive species that kill birds, reptiles, and other wildlife. Because most cats—whether feral or owned by humans—receive food from people, they also exist in much higher concentrations than wild felines do. But despite being fed, they kill wild birds and other animals by instinct.

There are now over 100 million free-roaming cats in the United States; they kill approximately 2.4 billion birds every year in the U.S. alone, making them the single greatest source of human-caused mortality for birds.

Free-roaming cats also spread diseases such as Rabies, Toxoplasmosis, and Feline Leukemia Virus, and face many more threats like vehicles and predators. Living outdoors shortens a cat's lifespan to just 2-5 years, whereas indoor cats can live to be 17 and beyond.

The easiest way you can help prevent needless bird deaths and keep you and your pet safe is by keeping your cat indoors.

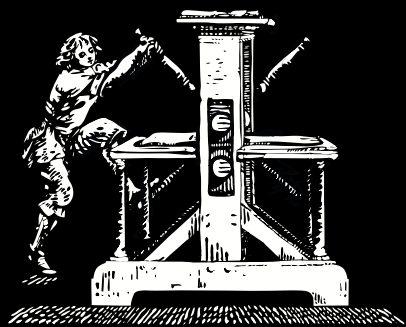
** Paid for by a concerned citizen*

Lars I. Kulleseid (1935-2022)

The Kulleseid family will celebrate the life of Lars Kulleseid on Saturday, May 21, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the grounds of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust, 20 Nazareth Way, Garrison.

PAID NOTICE

HIGHLAND STUDIO



PRINTMAKERS

**FINE ART
PRINTING
SCANNING
LARGE FORMAT**

**HUDSON VALLEY'S
ARCHIVAL PRINTING
SINCE 1997**

**PICTURE FRAMING
print & map gallery**

845-809-5174

**31 STEPHANIE LANE
COLD SPRING, NY
www.thehighlandstudio.com**

NOTICE

PHILIPSTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Public Hearing – May 9th, 2022

The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals for the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 9th, 2022 starting at 7:30 p.m. to hear the following appeal. The meeting will be held in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY.

Adam & Diana Hird, 30 Walmer Lane, Cold Spring, NY 10516 TM# 16.20-1-25.1
Applicants are seeking a variance to build a 1,562 square foot accessory structure with a garage (852 sq. ft.), office (297 sq. ft.) and shop space (297 sq. ft).
At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Building Department, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring, New York.

Dated April 11th, 2022

Robert Dee, Chair of the Town of Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals

JOBS!! JOBS!! JOBS!!

Community Services Programs, Inc., Owner & Manager of DiMarco Place I & II Senior Housing; Meadow Ridge I & II Family & Senior Housing; and, Highland Meadows Senior Housing seeks to fill the following FULL TIME employment positions located in Wappingers Falls and Beacon:

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN1 Position

HOUSEKEEPER/JANITOR1 Position

Positions have competitive salaries and excellent benefits!
Three (3) Years' Experience – 3 Employment References-Background Checks
Submit resume via fax 845.297.2080 or via email csphvhdfinc@aol.com

Community Services Programs, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. EOE

NOTICE

The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Monday, May 9th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
This meeting will also be livestreaming on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com), search for Philipstown Zoning Board Meeting May 9, 2022.

NOTICE

The Philipstown Conservation Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, **May 10th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516
This meeting will also be livestreaming on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com), search for Philipstown Conservation Board Meeting May 10, 2022.

FOR RENT

BEACON: Meadow Ridge II Senior Residence

Two (2) bedroom apartments available for immediate occupancy.
Rent is \$1,260.00 and a month security is required. Tenants are responsible for electric for lights, cooking and air conditioning (air conditioners provided) as well as cable and telephone. Included in rent is heat, hot water, water, sewer and trash collection. All household members must be 62 years or older.
Credit/Criminal Background Check. Property is SMOKE-FREE. Income restrictions do apply. Please call 845.297.2004 for an application. EHO.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET, ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION AND VOTE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, will hold a public hearing on the budget at Beacon High School, 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon, New York, on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of presenting the budget document for the 2022-2023 School Year.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for School District purposes during the 2022-2023 school year (the Budget), as prepared by the Board of Education, as well as the Exemption Report, listing every type of exemption granted, as provided in Section 495 of the Real Property Tax Law, may be obtained by any resident of the District during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, commencing May 3, 2022, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays during regular school hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., at each of the District's schoolhouses, at the Administrative Offices, and on the District's website.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, when the polls will be open for the purpose of voting by voting machine:

- A. To elect four (4) members to the Board of Education as follows:

 - Three (3) members to the Board of Education for three year terms (commencing July 1, 2022 and expiring June 30, 2025),
 - One (1) member for a two year and six week term (commencing May 17, 2022 and expiring on June 30, 2024)
- B. To vote upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures for School District purposes for the 2022-2023 School Year (the Budget).
- C. To vote upon the following proposition: Shall the bond resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, dated March 21, 2022 authorizing the purchase of school buses at a maximum estimated cost of \$546,000; authorizing the issuance of \$546,000 bonds of said School District to pay the costs thereof; and that such sum or so much as may be necessary shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable real property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law; and providing that, in anticipation of said tax, obligations of the School District shall be issued; determining the period of probable usefulness and maximum maturity thereof to be five years; pledging the faith and credit of said School District for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds; delegating powers to the chief fiscal officer with respect to the issuance and sale of bond anticipation notes and such bonds; containing an estoppel clause and providing for the publication of an estoppel notice, be approved?
- D. To vote upon the following proposition: Shall the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District be authorized to establish a capital reserve fund, to be known as the "2022 Facilities Capital Reserve Fund," for the purpose of appropriating sufficient funds necessary for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part, the cost of capital expenditures, including but not limited to: the construction and reconstruction of additions, renovations, refurbishments, replacements and/or repairs to its facilities, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith; as well as and to plan for future District-wide capital improvement projects and expenditures, in the ultimate amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 over a probable term of ten (10) years; and that such amount shall be raised from the unexpended and unencumbered general fund balance and such other available funds, of the Beacon City School District?
- E. To vote on any other proposition legally proposed.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that for the purposes of voting, the School District has been divided into two (2) election districts and that an accurate description of the boundaries of these school election districts is on file and may be inspected at the Office of the District Clerk on weekdays when school is in session, during regular work hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., at the Administrative Offices, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, New York.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the 2022 Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, will be held at the following polling places in the School Election Districts hereinafter set forth;

SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1 / POLLING LOCATION: BEACON HIGH SCHOOL
Description: First Ward, First and Second Districts
Second Ward, First, Second, and Third Districts
Third Ward, First, Second and Third Districts
Fourth Ward, First and Second Districts

SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2 / POLLING LOCATION: GLENHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Description: Bounded on the north and east by Wappingers Central School District No. 1, Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County; south by the common town line of the Towns of Fishkill and Wappinger and west by the Hudson River.

Bounded on the north by the common town line of the of Fishkill and Wappinger, east by Wappinger Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the Towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County and Union Free School District No. 3, Town of Fishkill, south by Beacon City line and west by Hudson River.

Bounded northerly by former Common School District No. 4 in the Town of Fishkill and Wappinger, easterly by Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Wappinger, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, East Fishkill and LaGrange in Dutchess County and the Towns of Kent and Philipstown in Putnam County and Central School District No. 1 in the Towns of Philipstown and Putnam Valley in Dutchess County; southerly by Central School District No. 1 in the Town of Philipstown and Putnam Valley in Putnam County and the Town of Fishkill in Dutchess County; westerly by the Hudson River and the City of Beacon being the former Union Free School District No. 3 of the Town of Fishkill.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that petitions for nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 P.M. on the 20th day preceding the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote Wednesday, April 27, 2022. Such petitions must be signed by at least one hundred (100) qualified voters of the District, shall state the name and residence address of each signer and the name and residence address of the candidate. Petition forms may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk on weekdays when school is in session, during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. or they can be downloaded from the district website.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District, Dutchess County, New York, has fixed Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at the Administrative Offices, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, New York, as the date on which the Board of Registration of said School District will meet between the hours of 1:00 P.M. and 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, for the purpose of preparing the register of the School District for each election district for the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote, to be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at which time any person shall be entitled to have his/her name placed upon such register if known or proven to the satisfaction of the registrars to be then or thereafter entitled to vote. Persons whose registration to vote with the County Board of Elections is current, pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law, shall be qualified to vote without further registering with the School District's Board of Registration, as well as all persons who shall have previously registered for any annual or special district meeting or election and who shall have voted at any annual or special district meeting or election held or conducted at any time during the 2018, 2019, 2020 or 2021 calendar years.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the register of voters so prepared shall be filed in the Office of the District Clerk and shall be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., prevailing time, beginning fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote. Said register will be open for inspection in each of the polling places during the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots for the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote may be obtained at the Office of the District Clerk or downloaded from the school district website. The completed application must be received by the District Clerk no earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the election, and at least seven (7) days prior to the election if the ballot is to be mailed or the day before the election, if the ballot will be picked up at the Office of the District Clerk. The completed application can be sent by email, or delivered by a designated agent. Absentee ballots must be received at the Office of the District Clerk by no later than 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, on the day of the election. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available in the said Office of the District Clerk during regular office hours until the day of the Annual Meeting, Election and Vote. Any qualified voter may file a written challenge of the qualifications of a voter whose name appears on such list, stating the reasons for the challenge.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a qualified military voter who is not currently registered can obtain a military personal registration form on the District's website, or from the District Clerk between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. A registered military voter may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk in the same manner. Additionally, qualified military voters can contact the District Clerk to indicate their preference to receive a military personal registration form, absentee ballot application or absentee ballot via mail, facsimile or electronic mail. Ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the date of the election and vote. Military voter registration and absentee ballots shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of Section 2018-d of the Education Law and Part 122 of the Commissioner's Regulations.

Dated: March 21, 2022 / Revised: April 4, 2022

By the Order of the Board of Education of the Beacon City School District

Kelly Pologe, School District Clerk

Incline (from Page 1)

away and Beacon lacked attractions. Today it is not lacking for visitors, especially on summer weekends. Adding a railway that would take hundreds of thousands of people annually to the top of Mount Beacon

began to make less and less sense, he said. Since part of the society’s mission was also to preserve the history of the railway, McHugh said the board was happy that the archives will become part of the BHS collection. The railway was an engineering triumph in its time. McHugh said he sometimes ponders what

would have happened had the incline not suffered a series of devastating fires over the decades, including a final blaze in 1983 that burned what remained of the attraction from top to bottom. Had it continued to draw visitors, “we would have a totally different city,” he said.

The Incline in Action

For a collection of home movies starring the Mount Beacon Incline Railway, see highlandscurrent.org.

The Rise and Fall of the Incline Railway

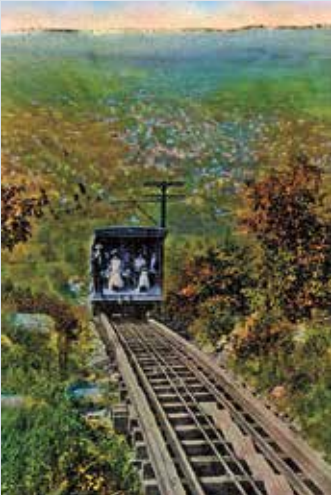
1900	Two New Hampshire men, Weldon Weston and Henry George, who hiked Mount Beacon in the 1890s, incorporate the Mount Beacon on Hudson Association to explore its development. One of their investors, Jesse Pattee, founds the Mount Beacon Incline Railway.
1901	Construction begins with the clearing of a path through the forest for 2,200 feet of track. Engineered by the Otis Elevator Co., the railway will operate with two carriages pulled by cables, weights, a pulley and electric motors. The average grade of the route is 65 percent. A subcontractor, the Mohawk Construction Co., sends a crew of 73 men to work through the winter. The powerhouse and other structures are built with bricks carried up the mountain by mules.
1902	The railway, which costs \$165,000 to complete (about \$5.6 million today), opens on Memorial Day. Sixteen hundred people ride to the summit, where they are rewarded with a panoramic view, a casino with a restaurant and dance hall, and a small zoo. The incline also will support a cottage colony of about 20 families by giving them a way to transport lumber and supplies up the mountain.
1908	The 60-room Beaconcrest Hotel opens adjacent to the casino.
1909-10	The director D.W. Griffith, who later made his name with <i>The Birth of a Nation</i> (1915), films three silent movies atop Mount Beacon, using the railway and pack animals to get his crew and equipment to the summit.
1926	The railway has a banner year, transporting more than 110,000 visitors who arrive by automobile, train and steamship.
1927	The hotel and casino are destroyed by fire. The casino is rebuilt, opening in 1928, but not the hotel.
1934	A fire destroys 480 feet of track.
1936	A brush fire destroys one of the two carriages and 300 feet of track. <i>The New York Times</i> describes several passengers leaping from the car as it advanced into the flames. The carriage is rebuilt without a roof.
1947	A 2-mile ski trail, which includes a 60-foot jump, is set to open once there is a 4-inch snow base. Skiers could return on the incline railway or stop three-quarters of the way down to catch a tow line.
1960	The railway’s president, J.M. Lodge, sells it to a group of New York investors called Mountaintop Lands, who plan to redevelop it. This never occurs.
1963	Ridership falls to about 25,000 passengers annually.
1965-67	The Dutchess Ski Area uses the railway to shuttle skiers until it builds a chairlift.
1967	A railway car and the lower station are destroyed by fire.
1972	The state closes the railway because of unsanitary conditions at the upper station.
1975	The railway resumes service.
1978	The owners lose the title in a tax sale. Service ends. The two cars are parked mid-track to prevent vandalism. Over 76 years, the attraction is estimated to have carried 3 million people to the summit.
1982	The railway and its upper powerhouse are placed on the National Register of Historic Places.
1983	The railway is destroyed by a fire, from top to bottom, including the casino, lower station, carriages, track and powerhouse. Arson is suspected.
1995	Scenic Hudson begins its purchase of 234 acres on Mount Beacon, including the ruins.
1996	The Mount Beacon Incline Railway Restoration Society is founded.
2009	The society establishes a board and appoints a CEO and president.
2013	Scenic Hudson donates Mount Beacon Park to New York State.
2014	After raising \$250,000 in five years, the restoration society announces plans for a \$20 million capital campaign. Jeff McHugh, the vice president, says the restoration could be accomplished in four to six years.



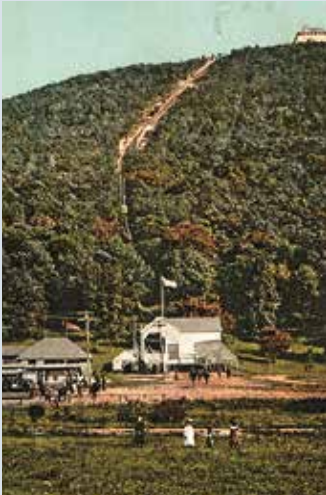
The lower station on the day the incline railway opened in 1902



Visitors came by automobile, train and steamship.



One of the two incline cars climbs the mountain in 1903.



The railway ascended 1,540 feet.



The casino and powerhouse during the first decade of the railway

SPORTS

Follow us at twitter.com/hcurrentsports

Roundup (from Page 24)

Scotia Hartford — each scored their first goals. Keeper Lola Mahoney recorded four saves.

The Blue Devils had a tougher road this week, falling on Monday at Rye Neck, 16-6, and Tuesday at home to O'Neill, 13-6.

Carmela Cofini, Nelson and Johanson each had a goal against O'Neill, and O'Hara notched a hat trick.

"Our defense did a great job with sliding, communicating and dropping into the zone," said Coach Keri Dempsey.

At Rye Neck, Nicholls and Johanson each scored twice, and Ruggiero and O'Hara each had a goal. Mahoney had 17 saves in net.

Haldane was scheduled to face Edgemont on Thursday (April 28) at home before traveling to Blind Brook on Saturday and Keio on Wednesday.

GOLF

The Beacon girls dropped a 150-176 decision to Cornwall on Tuesday (April 26) in a match played at the Southern Dutchess Country Club. Elizabeth Ruffy and Sophia Campagiorni led the Bulldogs. "Both teams played hard, despite the raw and rainy weather conditions," Coach Jeanmarie Jacques said.

The Beacon boys picked up a 265-314 victory over O'Neill on Monday at West Point, led by Will Martin (46), Jack Philipbar (45), Dillon Kelly (55), Mike Serino (56), Jake Signorelli (63) and Leo Lopez (69).

TRACK & FIELD

Beacon traveled to Rondout Valley High School on April 23 for the Gander Invitational.

For the boys, Damani DeLoatch won the

long jump at 19-4 and the triple jump at 38-8; Rubio Castagna was second in the 400 hurdles in 61.42; Jack Cleary took second in the 3,000-meter steeplechase in 11:42.61; Henry Reinke was third in the 400 meters at 53.13; Lucas Vermeulen was third in the high jump at 5-8; and the 4x100 relay team was third in 47.60.

For the girls, Rachel Thorne was third in the 3,000 meters in 12:02.79 and the sprint medley relay team took second in 5:02.44.

"That was a huge 3-second personal improvement for Rubio in the 400 hurdles," noted Coach Jim Henry. "That race ranks him as the ninth-best sophomore in New York in the event. I'm impressed by the work he's been putting in and the rapid rate of improvement."

"It's also great to see Lucas make a 4-inch improvement in the high jump [to 5-8]," Henry said. "His enthusiasm and excitement

fire up the rest of the team."

On Monday, at the Gary V. Classic at Washingtonville, Evan LaBelle won the 1,600 in 4:40.39; DeLoatch won the long jump at 19-0; Eddie Manente was second in the 100 meters in 11.66; and the boys' sprint medley relay team took second in 3:46.54.

Beacon will travel to Marlboro today (April 29) for the Iron Dukes Invitational.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Eva DeChent, a junior at Putnam Valley High School, was named the Class B Player of the Year by the New York State Sports-writers Association. The guard averaged 23 points and 10.8 rebounds per game for the Tigers, who advanced to the state semifinals. Her teammate, senior Amanda Orlando, was named to the All-State sixth team.

Current Classifieds

SERVICES

VIRTUAL BOOKKEEPING SERVICES —

Let me ensure that your financial records are accurate and up-to-date, while you concentrate on managing and growing your business! QuickBooks Online certified, 20+ years of experience, accepting new clients. Services offered: 1099 Filing, Book Cleanup, Bookkeeping, Payroll, QuickBooks Consulting, QuickBooks Setup, QuickBooks Training. Email

jennifer@jimbookkeepingsolutions.com or call 845-440-8835 for a free consultation.

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.

REAL ESTATE

BEACONHOMELISTINGS.COM — Beacon's own, for sale or rent, real-time listings website!

To celebrate spring (and more homegrown inventory and balanced marketplace pricing), I'm offering sellers a lower market commission level to list your home. So, if you need to list your home for sale, no worries, full service and low costs are now available. If you need to purchase a home, I'll assist you with your *closing costs (*from earned transaction commission, where all parties are notified and

agreed). Call or text 845-202-0758.

HELP WANTED

PICK & PACK WAREHOUSE OPERATORS —

Our local, family-owned company is looking for individuals to join the warehouse team FT or PT. We work with over 50 different apparel and footwear brands shipping wholesale, DTC and supporting retail operations. Positions include unpacking deliveries, conducting inventory checks, picking, processing, packing, shipping and reviewing and checking in returned merchandise. Position will start at \$18/hr. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. Email eric@csrsint.net.

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

SERVICE DIRECTORY



BREAKFAST
ALL DAY.

thebeacondaily.com

29 Teller Ave. Beacon, NY 12508 | 845-831-5274

LISA KNAUS

A Potter's Life with Goats

APRIL 2 - MAY 1, 2022

Reception for the Artist: **Saturday, April 2, 4-6pm**



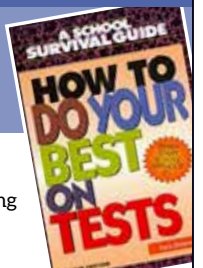
GALLERY HOURS: Sat. | Sun. 12:00 - 5:00 PM
BusterLeviGallery.com

Study Skills & Writing Coach
for Good Grades & Great Communication

Learn Effective Steps
Toward School Success
In-Person or Remote

Sara D. Gilbert, MA

Editorial & Educational Professional | Cold Spring
914-443-4723 • coach10516@gmail.com



DR. K
IMPORTED CAR SERVICE & REPAIR



15 TIORONDA AVE.
BEACON, NY 12508
DrKImportedCar.com

Phone/ 845.838.0717
Fax/ 845.440.7541
E-Mail/ drkimportedcarservice@gmail.com

Lynne Ward, LCSW
Licensed Psychotherapist

Individuals • Couples • Adolescents • Children
Psychotherapy and Divorce Mediation
Addiction Counseling

75 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516

lynneward99@gmail.com
(917) 597-6905



ALLENS
DUMPSTER
SERVICE
LOCATED IN COLD SPRING, NY

(646) 772-2673

allens-dumpster-service.business.site

↑ **HAVE YOUR OWN BUSINESS CARD ?** You can advertise your business here starting at \$20. ↑

Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Karate level

5. Caprice

9. Perch

12. Writer Wiesel

13. Car

14. Man-mouse link

15. Time between vernal equinoxes

17. Viva — Vegas

18. Wesley of Blade

19. Striped critter

21. Symbol of strength

22. Chirp

24. Right on the map?

27. — chi

28. Evening, in an ad

31. Duo

32. Grass shack

33. Feedbag tidbit

34. Big name in scat

36. Boom times

37. Mad Money network

38. Beetle Bailey's boss

40. Italian river

41. "Untrue!"

43. Jurassic Park bird

47. Paris pal

48. Game for one

51. Pouch

52. Daring Knievel

53. Village People hit

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

54. Exist

55. Fill fully

56. Fashion line?

9. Puzzle answer

10. Persia, today

11. To-do list item

16. Toy Story dinosaur

20. Understanding

22. Hosiery shade

23. Funny folks

24. Paris summer

25. Piercing tool

26. Start of summer or winter

27. Hoodlum

29. Bar bill

30. List-ending abbr.

35. Small batteries

37. Patients' shares

39. Kentucky Derby prize

40. Bit of butter

41. Houston acronym

42. Actor Epps

43. Anger

44. Marathoner's stat

45. Killer whale

46. 500 sheets

49. Eggs

50. Allow

© 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

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 bride's walkway (5)

2 lowly crawlers (10)

3 like Earth's inhabitants (11)

4 common dog command (4)

5 large Mediterranean island (8)

6 short break (7)

7 golfer's equipment (5)

SOLUTIONS

AIS EL RMS EAR RES

WO NIA BS SA ITE

RDI SP IAL TER TH

TR CLU LE RE HE

© 2022 Blue Ox Family Games, Inc., Dist. by Andrews McMeel

SUDO CURRENT

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

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



The Gift Hut

86 Main St. Cold Spring, NY 10516

Shop in store or online at www.thegifthut.com

Unique Gifts, Toys, Puzzles for the Whole Family

Answers for April 22 Puzzles

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

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

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

SPORTS



Follow us at twitter.com/hcurrentsports



Junior long pole Thomas Tucker gets the ball out of Haldane's defensive end against North Salem.



Haldane sophomore Liam Gaugler uncorks a shot against North Salem.

Photos by S. Pearlman

VARSITY ROUNDUP

By Skip Pearlman

BOYS' LACROSSE

A young Haldane boys' lacrosse team has been surpassing expectations, last week recording victories over Croton, Eastchester and North Salem to improve to 7-2.

On Wednesday (April 27) in Cold Spring, the Blue Devils dominated North Salem throughout, building a 4-0 halftime lead on the way to a 7-2 victory.

Evan Giachinta led the offense with four goals and two assists, Rhys Robbins added two goals and one assist, and Liam Gaugler had a goal. Jordan Hankel stopped 10 shots in goal.

"We got a great effort from the guys on a surprisingly cold and windy day," said Coach Ed Crowe. "They've been doing everything they're supposed to do."

On Monday at home, the Blue Devils led 3-1 at the break over Eastchester and won, 9-3. Giachinta scored five goals and recorded two assists, Gaugler scored twice and assisted on a goal, and Robbins and Will Sniffen each scored.

Hankel stopped 15 shots. "He's been locked in," Crowe said of his goalie.

On April 21, Haldane defeated Croton, 6-2, behind a Gaugler hat trick. Giachinta dished out three assists and had a goal, and Robbins and Frankie DiGiglio each scored.

"Our defense has been stellar," said Crowe. "Nate Stickle, Thomas Tucker, Brody Corless, PJ Ruggiero and Hankel have all been phenomenal. They keep us in games.

"On the other end, we have three guys who have been consistently scoring in Giachinta, Robbins and Gaugler," the coach added. "We've gotten balanced scoring, and we hope to be there at the end with the top teams."

Haldane is scheduled to host Horace Greeley on Saturday (April 30) at 7 p.m. for Senior Night, when it will honor midfielders Soliel Gaines and Giancarlo Carone. The Blue Devils will host Wappingers on Monday at 4:30 p.m. and travel to Pawling on Tuesday.

BASEBALL

Haldane dropped an 8-2 decision at Irvington on Tuesday (April 26), with Julian Ambrose taking the mound for the first time this season in what coach Simon Dudar called "a big positive for the team," after he battled early injuries. "We kept him to a strict pitch count, and he put in three solid innings," Dudar said.

Ambrose allowed two hits, struck out two and walked two, and didn't allow an earned run. Dan Nakabayshi came on in relief, but the eighth-grader struggled to find the zone, giving up four runs. Ryan Eng-Wong relieved him and went one-plus innings, recording two strikeouts, allowing no hits and no runs.

"Unfortunately, our defensive woes continued, as did our lack of offense," Dudar said. "Irvington scored eight, but only three were earned."

Jake Hotaling and Eng-Wong recorded all four of the team's hits; each had a single and a double.

"We knew the season was going to be bumpy with such a young team," Dudar said. "We're not racking up as many wins as we'd like, but we're gaining game experience that we came into the season lacking."

Haldane (2-5) is scheduled to host Yonkers Montessori Academy today (April 29) at 4:30 p.m. and then will play at YMA in

a tournament on Saturday that also includes Saunders, Peekskill and Palisade Prep.

Beacon picked up a 9-8 win on Saturday (April 23) at home against Wallkill, with freshman Derrick Heaton earning the victory with four innings of relief, scattering two hits while giving up no earned runs.

Heaton was also 3-for-4 at the plate and drove in Tyler Haydt with a game-winning RBI in the bottom of the sixth. Chase Green was 3-for-4 with two RBI and a stolen base, and Joey Vollaro and Haydt each had a hit and an RBI.

The Bulldogs (4-3) are at Monroe-Woodbury today (April 29) and travel to Monticello on Monday.

SOFTBALL

Beacon dropped a 9-5 decision on Tuesday (April 26) at home to Cornwall Central, with Olivia Ciancanelli taking the loss in the circle. Katherine Ruffy and Christina Merola each went 3-for-4 with an RBI, and Mikayla Sheehan went 2-for-3 with a run scored.

"We didn't play our best game," said Coach Michael Carofano. "We had too many mistakes, left too many runners on base."

At the game, the team honored its seniors: Makkaila Caputo, Ciancanelli, Briana Jones, Merola, Leanna Rinaldi, Olivia Spiak, Tess Wills and Haleigh Zukowski.

Beacon earned an 8-4 victory at Lourdes on Monday (April 25), with Ciancanelli picking up the win with three strikeouts and six hits allowed. Merola drove in a pair of runs, and Spiak and Rinaldi each had an RBI.

"That was a huge road win against an old rival," Carofano said. "Olivia pitched a great game, we backed her up in the field and we had good at-bats. Christina had clutch hits for us and Olivia Spiak did a great job getting on base. Leanna continued to see the ball well, and Isabella White had a huge

bunt in the middle innings. I'm proud of the girls for playing their best game."

Beacon also beat Washingtonville, 11-4, on April 22 at home, with Ciancanelli earning the win. Merola, Zukowski, Rinaldi and Sally Betterbid each had two RBI.

On April 23, the team fell to Port Jervis, 15-7.

The Bulldogs (3-7) were scheduled to host Goshen on Thursday (April 28) and Wallkill at 11 a.m. on Saturday (April 30) before traveling to Monticello on Monday and Wallkill on Tuesday.

GIRLS' LACROSSE

After a tough 18-4 loss on April 22 to Goshen, Beacon rebounded on Monday (April 25) to earn its first win of the season, defeating Roosevelt High School in Hyde Park, 9-8. Anaya Camacho had five goals, Kasey Senior had a hat trick and Bethany Rudolph had a goal. Josalyn Pagan had eight saves in net.

"The team played well together, and the communication was good on both offense and defense," said Coach Taylor Modica.

On Wednesday, Beacon dropped a 16-3 decision at Saugerties, with Gabby Kuka scoring twice for the Bulldogs and Camacho adding a goal.

The Bulldogs (2-5) will play today (April 29) at Minisink before hosting Newburgh Free Academy on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

The Haldane team, which began play this season, recorded its first win on April 22 at home with a 17-0 victory over Keio Academy.

Kayla Ruggiero had five goals. Micah Morales and Mairead O'Hara each had two, and Helen Nicholls, Ellen O'Hara, Amanda Johanson and Caroline Nelson scored. In addition, five players — Morales, Martha McBride, Moretta Pezzullo, Ruby Poses and

(Continued on Page 22)