The HIGHLANDS

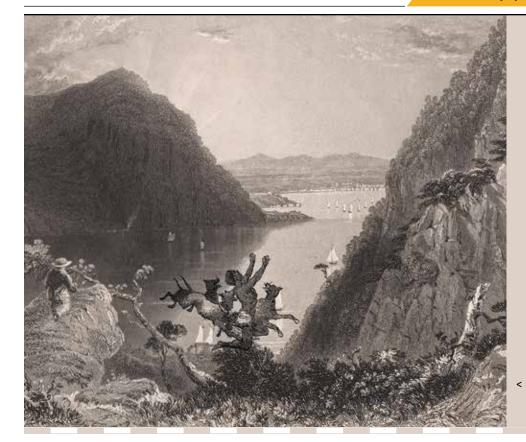
May 27, 2022

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The Joy of

Baking Page 15



Garrison School Will Try Again

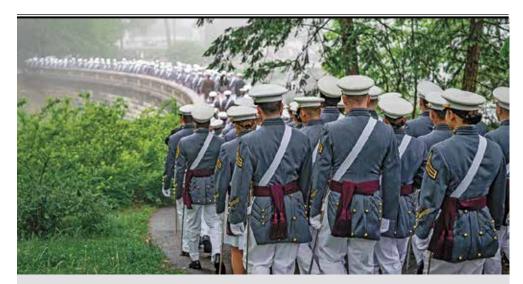
6.6% tax increase on ballot for second budget vote By Joey Asher

Ollowing the rejection by voters of its \$12.36 million spending request, and a 9.18 percent tax increase, the Garrison school board on Wednesday (May 25) decided to try again.

The board approved a budget that includes \$12.1 million in spending for 2022-23 and a 6.6 percent tax increase. A vote has

been scheduled for June 21 on the revised numbers, as well as a measure that will allow the district to enter into a multi-year agreement with Haldane for high-school tuition.

Like the first budget, the revised spending plan exceeds the district's statemandated tax cap of 2.2 percent, meaning it must be adopted by at least 60 percent of voters. The first budget failed on May 17 on a 314-314 vote, with 30 percent voter turnout. A public hearing on the budget has been scheduled for June 14. If the revised spend-(Continued on Page 22)



1,014 OFFICERS - The U.S. Military Academy at West Point held graduation ceremonies on Saturday (May 21); the newly installed second lieutenants heard from Gen. Mark Milley, who chairs the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Photo by Stephen Litterini/U.S. Army

Always Present, Never Seen

PART 1

A Black history of the Highlands

By Chip Rowe

istory is a prism that can be viewed from many angles. The white wealthy men who forged the nation took one view, and Blacks, Native Americans, women and the impoverished took others. Sometimes the colors produced by the prism cross and blend. But any honest view of history must turn the prism now and again.

The 1619 Project, which won a Pulitzer Prize for The New York Times, turned the prism, and the reaction was swift, with accusations that looking at our shared history in ways other than as it was written by white men in the 19th century was teaching white children to bear the guilt of past crimes.

Yet even before The 1619 Project, many Hudson Valley institutions had begun to reexamine the contributions of Black people, most of whom were enslaved during the 200 years before the institution was abolished in New (Continued on Page 16)

"Hudson Highlands (From Bull Hill)/B is for Bloodhounds." from a series by Jean-Marc Superville Sovak, a Beacon-based artist who superimposed images from 19th-century anti-slavery publications onto idyllic landscapes from the same period



Jim O'Rourke at the Highlands Country Club

Managers Refresh Country Club

A steady stream of things needing to be fixed' **By Michael Turton**

66T f we didn't do it, there's a good chance that this would disappear." That's how Jim O'Rourke explains why he and fellow Garrison resident Mike Del Monte took over the operation in April of the 124-year-old Highlands Country Club.

The 42-acre property, located on Route 9D near Route 403, is owned by The Open Space Institute, which leased it to O'Rourke and Del Monte. "OSI is not in the business of running a golf course,"

Photo by M. Turton

O'Rourke said. "And this is a great club, a onein-a-million, community asset."

The club has a nine-hole golf course, tennis courts and a pool. It is the only course operating in Philipstown after The Garrison, an 18-hole facility on Route 9, closed last year. In Beacon, the Southern Dutchess Country Club has 18 holes, as well as a pool.

The Highlands Country Club was founded in 1898 by prominent New York City residents who had homes in the area. They leased Ardenia, the estate of the Thomas Arden family, but in 1899 formed a company to buy the property. OSI bought the land in 1986 to preserve it and has allowed the club to continue operating.



FIVE QUESTIONS: ANDREW METZ

By Michael Turton

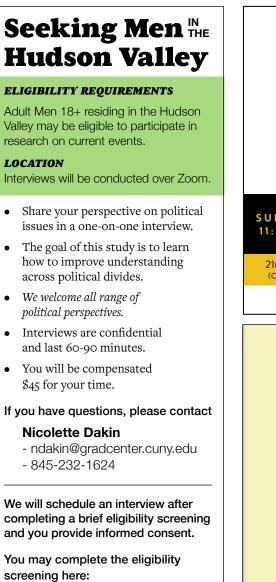
ndrew Metz, a former Philipstown resident, is the managing editor of the PBS series *Frontline*, which recently aired "The Power of Big Oil." On Tuesday (May 31), Metz will be part of a panel at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison that will discuss the oil industry's role in climate change.

How long have oil companies known that burning fossil fuels contributes to global warming?

It dates to the 1970s, when Exxon researchers and other scientists, including inside the U.S. government, were publishing on the topic. There was a consensus this could be a major problem. A former Exxon scientist, Ed Garvey, put it succinctly in our series: "There was no separation between Exxon's understanding and that of academia. None. Yeah, there were uncertainties. The uncertainty was, 'When?' and 'How fast?' That's what we were looking at. [But we knew that] if we didn't reduce fossil-fuel consumption in a significant fashion, we were going to be facing significant climate change."

Did whistleblowers play a role?

Both insiders and documents have helped



tinyurl.com/HVsurvey2022



shape our understanding. A key was around 2015 when a few former Exxon scientists went public with their experiences of working on climate-change research decades earlier — and also, when reporters from *Inside Climate News, The L.A. Times* and Columbia University and others began mining internal Exxon documents. Interviews helped bring to life what the documents were showing: a long history inside Exxon and the industry of looking at the possible impact of fossil fuels.

How much control do national governments have in dealing with the oil industry and global warming?

Over the three parts of our series, you



begin to see the interplay between industry and government and, frankly, the public. Of course, the industry has enormous sway in Washington; our country, and our world, is so reliant on fossil fuels. We show pretty clearly how various elements within the industry contributed to delaying decisive action and raising doubts about the science. The series spotlights pivotal moments across multiple presidencies when things could have gone one way but went another — right up to recent years as the U.S. pushed to become an energy superpower while also trying to tackle climate change. It's a tough balancing act. What I found interesting was the role of the public, and what might have happened if there had been greater public will.

Has news coverage, or lack of it, been part of the problem?

There has been valid criticism over the years — particularly in the 1980s and '90s about its role in muddying the waters, not cutting through the doubt being spread, not doing enough to show the consensus and the solid science. But if you look at the long arc, there has been a tremendous amount of reporting in which journalists asked tough questions of industry and government. That is certainly what we tried to do in our series.

Do you see any light at the end of the tunnel?

The reality is there have been so many missed opportunities, and so much damage has been done. The warnings from scientists are as intense as ever. I still want to be an optimist. I liked what Russell Gold told us. He is a "techno-optimist" who believes that we will innovate our way through the crisis. We can look back and wring hands and hold people to account, but at the same time, I'm intrigued by the idea that we will harness technology to help deal with the problems, and make a real energy transition.

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Natalia Mazzuchelli, Cold Spring

NEWS BRIEFS

Newburgh Man Charged with Dealing Fentanyl

Task Force alleges he sold drug in Dutchess

A Newburgh man was arrested in Poughkeepsie on May 17 and charged with dealing "a significant quality of fentanyl" in Dutchess, Orange and Ulster counties, according to the Dutchess County Drug Task Force.

Laquan Falls, 26, was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell. When arrested, he was in possession of fentanyl and other illegal drugs, police said.

Falls was remanded to the Dutchess County Jail. He also has a federal arrest warrant related to the investigation, police said.

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is believed to be 100 times more potent than morphine and lethal in dose as small as 2 milligrams. Illegal drugs, for example heroin, are often contaminated with fentanyl.

Carmel Man Sentenced in Jan. 6 Case

Receives 18 months of probation

A Carmel man was sentenced on May 18 to 18 months of probation for his role in the attack on Jan. 6, 2021, on the U.S. Capitol, an attempt to disrupt the certification of the presidential election results.

Robert Chapman was arrested in April 2021; he drew the attention of the FBI after a person with whom he interacted through an online dating service alerted agents to a remark and photo posted by someone with his name.

In the message, "Robert" wrote that "I did storm the Capitol. I made it all the way into Statuary Hall." His potential date replied: "We are not a match." He conceded: "I suppose not."

As part of a plea bargain, Chapman pleaded guilty on Dec. 16 to one count of parading, demonstrating or picketing. He was ordered to pay \$500 in restitution for damages to the Capitol and \$752 in fines.

Earlier this month, two men from Mahopac were sentenced for their roles in the attack. One received 42 days in jail, three months of home confinement and three years of probation, and the other received 36 months of probation.

Defendants from Beacon, Newburgh, Pawling and Kent await trial.

Garrison Resident Victim of Scam

\$2,500 check altered and cashed

A Garrison resident was the victim of a scam in which a check written to a local business was altered and cashed for a larger amount, according to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department.

The resident alerted the department on May 10; while reviewing his bank state-

ments, he said he noticed a check that he had written in February to a local business for \$2,500 was changed to a higher amount and was cashed in the Bronx by someone other than the intended recipient.

The Sheriff's Department reminded residents to be careful as to where they deposit their mail, noting there have been several recent cases in the county of stolen checks.

Groups Offer 'Summer Pass'

Includes tickets to HVSF show

Four arts organizations, including the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, have joined forces to create a summer arts pass.

The pass, which sells for \$148 and will be available through June 20, includes two tickets to a weeknight HVSF performance in Garrison; two tickets to a concert of choice at the Caramoor Center for the Arts in Katonah; two tickets to three historic sites at Historic Hudson Valley in Westchester County; and four tickets to a screening of choice at the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville. See hvshakespeare.org/offers.

Local Groups Receive Grants

State funding distributed to nonprofits

The state parks department on May 19 announced \$900,000 in grants to 27 organizations.

The recipients, which must raise 10 percent of the grant amount to receive it,

included the Bannerman Castle Trust, which was awarded \$100,000 to hire a development officer, and the Little Stony Point Citizens Association, which was given \$16,200 to hire a community outreach coordinator.

In addition, the state Department of Environmental Conservation last month announced \$3.375 million in conservation grants for 51 nonprofit land trusts.

Organizations in the Mid-Hudson region received \$744,000, including \$68,000 to the Hudson Highlands Land Trust; \$21,375 to the Putnam County Land Trust; and \$13,500 to the Dutchess Land Conservancy.

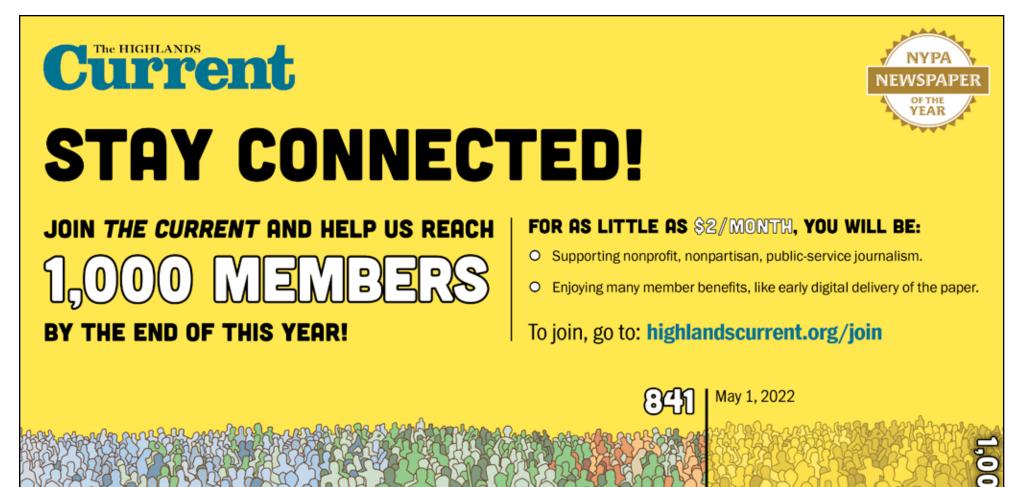
Counties Open Health Survey

Available online through June 11

The Dutchess and Putnam health departments are asking residents to complete a community health survey at tinyurl.com/ hvscri. It is available until June 11.

"Your responses help us understand how many aspects of life, such as access to food, transportation, child care, employment and health care are impacting your health," said Dr. Michael Nesheiwat, the Putnam health commissioner, in a statement. "Health-related programs and interventions must be periodically reevaluated and redesigned, and the data from this survey helps us do just that."

The health survey is conducted every three years. Those who have been contacted by phone or email should not respond a second time.





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Tell us what you think

he Current welcomes letters to the editor on its coverage and local issues. Submissions are selected by the editor (including from The Current weicomes letters to the editor of its coverage and local local local statements 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

this sort of development. What a precedent the Hudson Highlands Reserve could set: If After I watched the Philipstown Planthey all build HHR-type developments, Philning Board vote to move the Hudson High-

ipstown would be unrecognizable. lands Reserve project along in the approvals This points to a weakness in the code itself. process, I could not help but feel disap-I would hope that this portion of the code pointed that they were not better able to could be reexamined, modified and amended protect our community ("Spirit, or Letter, by the Town Board so that it is consistent of the Law? May 20). It seems clear that the with the rural characteristics of our town. applicant has taken advantage and exploited

Madeleine McGinley, Philipstown

Cold Spring rentals

I read with great amusement the follyridden negotiations around the short-term rental law adopted by the Village Board ("Cold Spring to Revise STR Law," May 20). One particular idea stands out as wholly untenable: the notion that the law can be enforced. Thus, in lieu of the police department, the code-enforcement office will control enforcement.

The code-enforcement department already has far too much to do, and does far too little as it is. It has always been thus. Much of what it enforces is selective, and it does a poor job unable to prioritize or recognize serious matters to the point of malfeasance. The notion that it would control short-term rental policies is a fantasy. You'd get better results with an honor system.

For my money, the present code-enforce-

5-10 DIST BUCREATOR SPEEDBUMP. C 02022 COVERUN WHERE THE WILD THINGS AREN'T

ment unit needs to be gutted and replaced with competent and courteous officials before it can even begin to do its job.

Derek Graham, Cold Spring

I enjoy using STRs when I travel and have a neutral/pro attitude to the subject. I endorse the updated code (so far), particularly the "no unhosted" change and I'm pleased the board recognizes that STR operators, as a whole, lack enough of a good-faith effort (is lack of integrity too harsh?) to work with the residents of our community.

An ad hoc committee in lieu of any STR operator(s) willing to problem-solve the compliance of the other STR operators is a clear example of their dismissive attitude toward the concept of "compliance": a rejection of vetted tracking software, on some vague claim of privacy violation; a refusal to have inspections; a refusal to acknowledge a need for reasonable regulation.

They say "call the police" about noise complaints, and yet, isn't over-policing an issue for Cold Spring? Why are you responsible for your neighbor's problem? And how will the village enforce compliance? Sending letters is good for a file, but how do you actually shut down a noncompliant STR operator? Irene Pieza, Cold Spring

Paving Main

The paving of Main Street in Beacon was like a synchronized dance ("Paving Complete," May 20). Well done.

Theresa Kraft, via Instagram

Not all bad

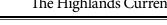
Loved this article ("Out There: Bugging Out," March 20). We should avoid standing water that helps the breeding of mosquitoes and use natural products to try to ward them off - but they are an important part of the ecosystem, feeding bats, dragonflies, birds, damselflies, frogs, tadpoles, turtles and spiders.

Kathleen Kourie, Garrison

Adventure-prone

Great story ("Something You Don't Know About Me: Jay Brennan," May 13). I can't gush enough about it. T.C. Boyle's World's *End*, which includes a character inspired by Jay Brennan, became an immediate favorite when I read it in Tarrytown in 1996. The book is a beautifully written, richly textured weave of characters and stories that bring the history and people of this area to life. The book intrigued me about this area so much I began to visit, eventually settling in permanently with my new bride almost 20 years ago. We all live in a wonderfully storied area, we really do. Grateful for that.

Jon Lindquist, Philipstown



Highlands Reserve

a section of our town code, intended to

protect vulnerable land, with little regard to

Philipstown's rural character or goals stated

The applicant has taken land that is

zoned rural-residential and has used the

conservation subdivision section of the

code to propose a layout that is hardly

rural. Without the conservation subdivi-

sion section, the developer would have to

build fewer houses on 5-acre lots. The appli-

cant has argued that they are following

the zoning code, and are entitled to build

24 houses on 1-acre lots, even though the

code states that the number of lots provided

It may be too late to realize the well-

meaning intentions of the town code with

this applicant, but what about future appli-

cants hoping to do the same? There are

many swaths of land in Philipstown that

may come up for sale that could be targets of

"shall not be considered an entitlement."

in the comprehensive plan.



Remembering those who served, on the lawn at St. Mary's church in Cold Spring

In Memoriam

The men remembered here died during their wartime service, either during combat or from disease or accidents.

Beacon =

World War I

John Bump H. Gordon Deicke George Delahay George E. Deveson Frederick A. Garrison Frederick Harris Frank Incarnati Francis J. Murphy Austin T. Robinson Pasquale Salese George Stafford James J. Tomlins Frank H. VanHouten Jr. William Wilson

World War II

Arthur J. Baxter John H. Beattie Robert A. Bennett Luigi F. Bettina William J. Brennan John W. Briggs Frederick H. Brewer Thomas B. Carrol Calvin Clensay John Collins Nicholas T. Coppola Ravmond W. Detweiler Andrew B. Eichorn George J. Eichorn Paul L. Facteau Robert M. Faris

Philipstown =

World War I Percy W. Arnold Edward J. Burns George A. Casey Charles N. Clainos Walter H. Croft Charles DeRham Jr. John R. Fischer Clarence Fahnestock James Harvey Hustis J. Paulding Murdock Ralph L. Fleming David Fontaine George P. Frederick Saul Gerlich Alexander J. Grudzina Michael J. Groza Joseph Halbosky Gordon E. Hughes Henry I. Idema Edwin J. Johnson John Keto Albert A. Knight Orville Kranz Ernest H. LaChance George LaChance Arnold E. Lasko Robinson C. Lent Walter M. Lewis Judah H. Lewittes James J. Lockwood Michael E. Maskewicz Joseph McGaughan Peter Menger Howard G. Mitchell John F. Mignault George S. Mitchell William T. Morrison Patrick J. O'Brien Francis G. Peattie Guy D. Pendleton George Perrault Kenneth G. Perry Dominick J. Phillipo

World War II Martin E. Adams

Martin E. Adams H. Ellis Bowden Edward Budney Gerald Dale Warren Eitner W. Russel Farrell Ralph Fleming Arthur Gilman Walter Glanville Thomas Lutz Carmen A. Ramputi Robert V. Resek Lester F. Roberts Peter J. Seranto Francis T. Splain Jr. **Burton Stevens** Stuart F. Stripple Richard E. Sutton William J. Tallman Rody J. Tighe Francis J. Toth George P. Turiga Andrew Urbanak Joseph C. Usifer Rosco L. Vaughn Jr. James J. Walker John P. Wasnorowicz Louis J. Westerhuis Rene' Zahner

Korea Anthony N. Scalzo

Vietnam

John J. Bennett Thomas E. Devine Everett Foster Philip R. Mattracion Terrence E. O'Neil William R. Phillips James S. Pittman Emilio Rivera Joseph T. Slinskey

Stanley Matthews Anthony Nastasi Allen W. Olsen Joseph V. Richardson Lester B. Roberts Arthur Warren

Vietnam Aldon Asherman John Bennett Keith Livermore

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ABLOOM AT THE BOTHY



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CONGRESS ASSEMBLY SENATE **DISTRICT 95 DISTRICT 104 DISTRICT 39 DISTRICT 17 DISTRICT 18** (Philipstown) (Philipstown and Beacon) (Philipstown) (Beacon) (Beacon) **Population:** 129,103 **Population: 137,192 Population:** 318,141 **Population:** 776,971 **Population:** 776,971 Over/under average: +1.9%**Over/under average:** -0.7% **Over/under average:** 0% Over/under average: 0% Over/under average: -4.1% Voting age: 102,120 Voting age: 107,411 Voting age: 252,297 Voting age: 585,295 Voting age: 605,187 Hispanic: 23% Hispanic 25% Hispanic 17% Hispanic 18% Hispanic 16% Black 9% Black 19% **Black** 12% Black 8% Black 10% Asian 2% Asian 5% Asian 4% Asian 4% Asian 3% Biden: 55% **Biden:** 67% Biden: 63% **Biden:** 55% Biden: 54% Trump: 33% Trump: 37% Trump: 45% **Trump:** 45% Trump: 46% Source: newyork.redistrictingandyou.org

BALANCING ACT

As expected, a state court on May 20 approved congressional and state Senate maps, with minor changes to the boundaries of Congressional District 18 (which will include Beacon) and state Senate District 39 (which will include Beacon and Philipstown). Above are statistical profiles of each of the districts.

Voter Sample

On May 19, Sandy Galef, whose district in the state Assembly includes Philipstown, released the outcome of a survey she sent to constituents. Nearly 850 people responded and, although the results are not scientific, they are interesting. 89% Support assigning a full-time inspector from the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission to be on-site during the decommissioning of Indian Point. (Galef notes that the NRC declined but that the state Public Service Commission is providing an inspector.)

85% Support the installation of solar panels on all public buildings, including schools.

78% Support merging town and village courts to save money.

71% Support comprehensive sex education for grades K-12.

62% Support a ban on new natural gas infrastructure.

73% Support adding COVID-19 to the list of vaccines required for schoolchildren.

55% Support the proposed New York Health Act ("a single-payer health care like Medicare, but for all ages," funded by income taxes and other revenue).

10% Support solar over keeping trees if it means less carbon dioxide, which contributes to global warming.

Congressional Race Update

By Chip Rowe

District 17 (Philipstown)

Two potential challengers emerged this week for Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat who plans to run in the newly constituted District 17.

State Assembly Member Mike Lawler, a Republican from Rockland County, announced on Monday (May 23) that he plans to challenge Maloney.

"One-party rule, group-think and a partisan, progressive agenda have destroyed our country and divided our communities," he said in a statement. He accused Maloney, during his decade in Congress, of morphing from "a self-avowed moderate to one of the most partisan members."

Maloney, who is the head of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which works to get Democrats elected, also may face a challenge from within. Angered that he chose not to run for the District 18 seat which he has held since being elected in 2012 — and leave the 17th for its current occupant, first-term Democrat Mondaire Jones, state Sen. Alessandra Biaggi, who lives in Pelham, in Westchester County, said on Tuesday (May 24) that she plans to challenge the incumbent in a primary that will take place on Aug. 23.

Jones said last week that he would run for the 10th District in New York City rather than take on Maloney.



State Assembly Member Mike Lawler, a Republican who lives in Pearl River, announced on Monday (May 23) that he plans to campaign for the District 17 seat. *Campaign photo*

The new 17th District is considered more safely Democratic than the new 18th. In an interview with *The New York Times*, Biaggi accused Maloney of hurting the party by not staying in the 18th to "maximize the number of seats New York can have to hold the majority." Although Maloney lives in Philipstown, which will move from the 18th to the 17th, there is no law that requires a member of Congress to live in the district he or she represents.

District 18

Beacon will remain in District 18, where Pat Ryan is expected to be the Democratic candidate.

But first the Ulster County executive plans to run in a special election on Aug. 23 for the 19th District to succeed Rep. Antonio Delgado, who was sworn in Wednesday (May 25) as lieutenant governor. The Republican candidate for the seat is Marc Molinaro, the Dutchess County executive.

Whoever wins would serve the remaining months of Delgado's term. If it's Molinaro, he says he will campaign to keep the seat. If it's Ryan, he says he will campaign for the new District 18 seat. His opponent there would be Republican Colin Schmitt, a state Assembly member from New Windsor.

James Skoufis, a state senator in Orange County whose district would have included Philipstown and Beacon under a set of maps proposed by Democrats but thrown out by a state court, considered a run in the 18th but instead this week endorsed Ryan.

In a statement, Skoufis dismissed what he called Schmitt's "toxic, demagoguing politics" and alleged that he "actively supported the

Lawsuit Seeks to Delay Primary

The League of Women Voters of New York State on May 18 filed a federal lawsuit to move primary elections for statewide offices from June 28 to Aug. 23.

New York election law requires candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general and comptroller to gather at least 15,000 signatures from voters in their party to qualify for the ballot. The signatures must include at least 100 each from half of the state's 26 congressional districts.

Because newly redrawn congressional districts were not finalized until May 20, and congressional and state Senate primaries delayed until Aug. 23, the League is seeking an order forcing the state to restart the petitiongathering process.

State Assembly primaries were not part of a legal challenge to redistricting maps and remain scheduled for June 28.

Stop the Steal rally-turned-insurrection." He said he decided not to challenge Ryan in a primary to avoid giving Schmitt "any undue advantage in the general election."

Fjord Trail Update

Reduced parking at Breakneck, concern for pedestrian safety

By Michael Turton

The timing was right for representatives of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail to update the Cold Spring Village Board at its Wednesday (May 25) meeting.

Earlier that day, Metro-North announced that its Breakneck station will reopen on Saturday (May 28). The platform closed in 2019, initially to add safety measures, then in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

More than 80 people attended the meeting, mainly via Zoom, along with a handful in person at Village Hall.

Construction of the first mile of the 7.5-mile Fjord Trail from Cold Spring to Beacon is scheduled to get underway at Breakneck later this year.

Amy Kacala, executive director of Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc., said construction of the shoreline portion of the trail from Cold Spring to Breakneck, including enhancements at Dockside Park in Cold Spring and at Little Stony Point, won't begin until 2024.

Before that can happen, she said, there must be a public review of the project's Generic Environmental Impact Statement and a site-specific Environmental Impact Statement, followed by a public hearing. Both environmental statements will be released within about two months, she said.

The changes at Dockside would be minimal. Kacala said, including a gravel trail. If bathrooms are added, they would be located near the wooded, eastern section of the park.

"Parking is our biggest issue, and currently we can't manage the crowds," Mayor Kathleen Foley said after the 40-minute presentation. "We have a tiny budget, we're scraping money together for paving, we don't have enough toilets and sidewalks need repair. How can we take the burden off village residents and taxpavers and maintain quality of life?"

Kacala said a newly created Parking and Shuttle Committee will address the Fjord Trail's impact on Cold Spring and make recommendations for a passenger shuttle to be added along the trail route. The purchase of Dutchess Manor on Route 9D, which will provide parking and serve as a visitor center and, later, access to the trail from Beacon, will give visitors more options, reducing some of the parking pressure in Cold Spring, she said.

Kacala said 520 paid spaces will be created along the Fjord Trail, not including free weekend parking available at the Metro-North lot in Cold Spring.

Foley also addressed pedestrian safety issues, pointing out that Route 9D through Cold Spring is part of the Fjord Trail corridor.

"We love living here; we can walk everywhere, but we have to be able to walk safely," she said, adding that seniors, schoolchildren, people shopping for groceries and others regularly walk along 9D. She suggested that traffic-calming measures planned at Breakneck, such as bump-outs, be considered in the village, as well.

Kacala said Route 9D is regulated by the state Department of Transportation but that the Fjord Trail group can bring the issue to the agency. DOT plans to lower the speed limit on the highway from 55 mph to 40 mph, Kacala said.

"Forty mph is not OK, maybe 25; that's the speed that keeps people from dying if they get hit," Rebeca Ramirez said during the comment period. "DOT is dodging their responsibility" to protect pedestrians, she added.

Phil Heffernan had a suggestion for dealing with traffic issues. "It's radical, perhaps, but let's use this situation as leverage and say no cars at Breakneck," he said. "Your car is a not a passport; it's a problem and we want you walking off a train."

"That's aspirational," Kacala later told The Current. "But I don't think most of America is ready for that yet," adding that unless visitors are coming up from New York City, they still have to drive to a train.

But she agreed transit has to be part of the answer. "There isn't a lot of parking for a 7-mile area," she said, underlining that parking along 9D at Breakneck is being significantly reduced.

Randi Schlesinger suggested issuing permits for hiking at Breakneck and for parking at Fjord Trail lots.

"Have a set number of hikers per day on the mountain" she said. "If people can buy permits online, they'll see that the mountain has reached capacity and not attempt to visit."

While a number of residents at the meeting voiced concern over crowding, parking, restrooms and safety, no one expressed outright opposition to the multi-milliondollar project, even though it has generated heated opposition on social media.

"I'm very much in favor of this trail; it will be fantastic," said former Philipstown Supervisor Richard Shea, adding that people need to be realistic because visitors to Cold Spring will continue to increase, "no matter what happens."

"This isn't a zero-sum game; this is not going away," Shea said. "The biggest tragedy I experienced in office was when people hardened their positions and it goes from being a collaboration to setting up camps."

Shea said the Fjord Trail is an opportunity to deal with the congestion issues, spreading people out over a much larger area. "The impacts are coming regardless; if you don't try to mitigate them by managing people and the trail, all you wind up with are the negative aspects," he said.

Kacala said she senses most people are either neutral or in favor of the trail.

"The important thing is this is a process;

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS PUTNAM COUNTY Number of cases: Positive Tests, 7-day average: Percent vaccinated: Number of deaths: 25,522 (+340) 82.7 **125 11.7%**(-0.3) Cold Spring: 94.4 / Garrison: 86.5 DUTCHESS COUNTY Positive Tests, 7-day average: Number of deaths: Number of cases: Percent vaccinated: **68,705** (+935) 77.2 **661** (+2) 11.6%(-0.9) Beacon: 72 1

Source: State and county health departments, as of May 25, with totals since pandemic began and change over the previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those ages 5 and older who have received at least one dose.



people need to come to the table with a solutions mindset," she said. "Visitation is here, it is only going up, as we've seen for 10 years or more; so, what has to be managed?"

Kacala said final construction drawings for the Breakneck connector, including the bridge, the Fjord Trail's first phase, which will cost about \$80 million, must be completed before moving on to the second phase for the section between Cold Spring and Breakneck.

"We'll start thinking about that this year or early next year," she said, after the environmental reviews and subsequent public review.

The Fjord Trail will hold its first Community Day on June 25. A monthly newsletter with updates is available at hhft.org.



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Questions About Fireworks

Legislature discusses funding to support private show By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

routine request that Putnam County help fund Fourth of July fireworks in Southeast sparked discussion last week over similar aid to other municipalities, such as Cold Spring.

During the May 19 meeting in Carmel of the Legislature's Protective Services Committee, Legislator Joe Castellano of Brewster shared a request for financial assistance from the Southeast Fireworks Committee and the Brewster Chamber of Commerce, which are organizing a July 3 fireworks display.

Legislator Neal Sullivan of Carmel-Mahopac, a committee member, said that the request was included on the agenda for informational purposes, not to prompt any immediate action. In a letter addressed to the Legislature, the fireworks committee and Brewster chamber noted that deputies from the Putnam County Sheriff's Department, along with New York State Police troopers and Metropolitan Transportation Authority officers, have been assigned to previous fireworks shows in Southeast.

The event, which takes place at the Highlands Shopping Center near I-84 and typically draws 3,000 to 5,000 people, is outside the jurisdiction of the Brewster police department, Castellano said.

The county would bear the costs of deputies assigned to the event, including overtime. "The town [of Southeast] has made clear it's not their event," Castellano said. Private businesses sponsor it and "we're just trying to help them put it on."

Legislator Nancy Montgomery, who represents Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley, asked whether the county has ever provided financial support elsewhere for fireworks.

"Not to my knowledge," replied Legislator Ginny Nacerino of Patterson, who heads the Protective Services Committee. "We've never had any requests."

She said celebrations in other parts of Putnam draw smaller crowds "and it's incumbent upon us to protect the people who attend this event" in Southeast.

Legislator Carl Albano said that if a comparable Fourth of July event needed help, "I would look at it the same way. It hasn't come to us."

Montgomery pointed out that the Cold Spring fireworks are also sponsored by private businesses. But Nacerino observed that "you have a police department."

"If there was an event" in Cold Spring or elsewhere, said Nacerino, "I'm sure that" Sheriff Kevin McConville "would be on the scene if he deemed it necessary."

Montgomery said Wednesday (May 25) that, as she understands the process, because the Southeast fireworks require more deputies than Cold Spring, the Legislature funds that cost through a special

budget line, while the overtime pay for deputies assigned to the Cold Spring fireworks is paid from the department's regular overtime expenditures.

Questions about county outlays for fireworks arose in 2014, as well. Legislators at a Protective Service Committee meeting endorsed financial support for the Southeast fireworks, expected to cost about \$17,500 in deputy overtime. But six months later, they expressed surprise when confronted with a \$53,002 bill from Sheriff Donald Smith that he said was for overtime at events that included the fireworks and the Cold Spring wedding of Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney.

In 2018, a few months after ousting Smith, Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. told the same committee that while overtime at the 2017 Southeast fireworks had been about \$14,000, it probably could be reduced to \$10,000 for 2018. It came in at \$9,143. Legislators praised Langley's fiscal innovations but soon turned against him over other policy and budget matters, and he lost to McConville in November 2021.

cents as of May 11.

Energy Firm Twice Drew Ire of Attorney General

Ordered to pay fine, provide refunds over marketing By Leonard Sparks

he company contracted to supply clean energy at a money-saving fixed rate for Central Hudson customers in Beacon, Cold Spring, Philipstown and seven other Hudson Valley municipalities has twice been accused by the state of misleading customers.

Now, amid accusations that it wants to break that three-year contract less than a year after it took effect, the company is facing the possibility of a lawsuit from the company that administers Hudson Valley Community Power.

The energy program is a consortium of 10 local municipalities that contracted with Columbia Utilities last year to purchase electricity from renewable sources at 6.6 cents per kilowatt-hour for residents and 7.1 cents for small businesses through June 30, 2024. The program is administered by Joule Assets.

In an April 26 filing with the state Public Service Commission, Joule alleges that a document filed by Columbia Utilities a week earlier with the agency is actually a notice to terminate its agreement to supply electricity for HVCP.

However, the copy of the notice was completely redacted, except for the Columbia Utilities letterhead, making it impossible to confirm its content. (On May 16, the agency rejected Columbia's request to keep the notice secret and ordered it to file an un-redacted version by Thursday, May 26.) Columbia Utilities officials have not responded to repeated emails seeking comment.

Beacon, Marbletown and Saugerties are among the municipalities that have endorsed a lawsuit by Joule. The Philipstown Town Board in Philipstown on Wednesday (May 25) postponed a decision on whether to add its support.

Supervisor John Van Tassel cited reservations from Stephen Gaba, the town attorney. Gaba, after an initial review of the proposed documents, advised the Town Board to avoid signing anything yet, Van Tassel explained. Board members expressed hope of working with Gaba to tweak whatever needs tweaking.

Before his election, Board Member Jason Angell was part of a team that helped organize HVCP. "You shake hands, you make a contract, that contract is good," he said last week. "You don't get to just back out of it all of a sudden midway through because it's a good deal for one side."

The firm has faced harsh criticism before, and been told to reimburse customers. In 2012, then-Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced that Columbia Utilities and an affiliate, Columbia Power, had agreed to refund \$2 million to 2,700 customers, including in the Hudson Valley, to settle accusations that it promised 15 percent or more in savings but "fleeced customers with much higher bills."

The firm also assured people that they could end their participation at any time but locked them into 12-month contracts, according to the Attorney General's Office.

In March of this year, Attorney General Letitia James fined Columbia \$555,000 after accusing the company of violating an amendment to that 2012 agreement that prohibited the company from using doorto-door marketing without state approval.

Columbia agreed to pay \$55,000 in restitution to 912 customers who signed 1,334 contracts during unapproved door-to-door marketing in November and December 2020, primarily in New York City, Albany, Syracuse, Rochester, Ithaca, Utica and Watertown, according to James' office.

According to Joule, the agreement with Hudson Valley Community Power saved about 25,000 residents in the 10 municipalities \$5.7 million through the first three months of 2022. While they were paying 6.6 cents per kilowatt-hour, the price charged by Central Hudson rose to more than 20 cents in February before dropping to 6 "It's clear residents are benefiting" from the contract, said Glenn Weinberg, vice president of sales and market development for Joule. "And that's what we're hoping to defend."

Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong contributed reporting.



Philipstown Adopts Moratorium on Flag-Flying

Wants to set policy after approving Pride flag for June By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

he Philipstown Town Board voted 4-1 at its Wednesday (May 25) meeting to adopt a six-month moratorium on flying of flags by outside groups on town government property until it can set a policy regulating the practice.

Effective July 1, the moratorium can be extended for an additional year and applies to flags at Town Hall, the Recreation Center, highway garage and other town-owned sites.

It will not prevent the display in June of the LGBTQ Progress Pride flag on a pole at Town Hall, which the board approved on May 5, or cause the immediate removal of the Ukrainian flag that hangs in a window. But both will be taken down when the moratorium begins.

The action was prompted by a discussion earlier this month after a resident, Sean Conway, asked the board to display a Progress Pride flag during National Pride Month. Steve Gaba, the town attorney, cautioned the board: "Once you allow one non-governmental flag to be displayed, you have an obligation — because you make it an open forum under the First Amendment — to display other flags [upon request]. You can open quite a can of worms when you start flying other flags, unless you have other poles designated for that purpose."

Van Tassel said he favors limiting the Town Hall flagpole to the U.S. flag and a Prisoners-of-War/Missing-in-Action flag for service members and the New York State flag on a separate pole. "Other than that, I don't see any other flags being out there," he said.

Board Member Megan Cotter, who cast the lone "no" vote against the moratorium, nevertheless advocated that the town keep the focus on the U.S. flag. "I wish we would've spoken a little bit more" about the matter before voting May 5 to allow the Pride flag, she said. With that one going up soon, even if temporarily, "we are still allowing a special-interest group" to claim space on town property, she said.

"I take the blame" for moving forward with the Pride flag, said Van Tassel, who added that the board nonetheless did conduct "an open discussion" before proceeding.

Board Member Judy Farrell said she took issue to descriptions of LGBTQ residents as a special-interest group. "They're our community," she said.

Farrell and Board Members Robert Flaherty and Jason Angell joined Van Tassel in approving the moratorium.

In other business, Van Tassel opened the meeting with an emphatic call for national action to stop mass shootings such as those in a Buffalo on May 14 and a Texas elementary school on Tuesday (May 24).

"Whether you're in the NRA or the PTA, we can all agree that something's wrong and something needs to be done," said Van Tassel. The country "needs to unify and come up with some kind of a solution. Something has got to change," he said. "I'm tired of it and I'm sure everybody else is too. Enough of the carnage. Enough of the senseless killing."

The board held a moment of silence for the Texas and Buffalo victims and their families.

NOTICE

Philipstown Planning Board

Site Visit-Sunday, June 5th, 2022

The Philipstown Planning Board will meet on Sunday, June 5th, 2022 at 9:30 am to inspect the following site:

Kingsley Tree & Landscaping, Old Albany Post Rd., Cold Spring NY 10516 TM#17.-1-72.2



Sara Mikulsky Wellness Physical Therapy

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

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

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that sealed Bids, in duplicate, are sought and requested by the Board of Education, Beacon City School District (hereinafter called "Owner"), for the Reconstruction to: JV Forrestal ES, Glenham ES, Sargent ES, and Rombout Middle School.

Separate Bids are requested for the Prime Contracts for

Site Work SC-B1, Mechanical Work HC-B1, Mechanical Work HC-B2, Mechanical Work HC-B3 and Electrical Work EC-B1,

in accordance with the Drawings, Project Manual (including Conditions of the Contract and Specifications), and other Bidding and Contract Documents prepared by:

Tetra Tech Engineers, Architects & Landscape Architects, P.C. d/b/a

Tetra Tech Architects & Engineers

A pre-bid conference for potential Bidders and other interested parties will be held on **Wednesday, May 25, 2022** at 10 a.m. at Sargent ES for Mechanical Work Contracts and 1 p.m. at Rombout MS for Site Work and Electrical Work Contracts. Refer to Instructions to Bidders for special instructions.

Sealed Bids will be received by the Owner until **Thursday, June 9, 2022**, at 2:00 p.m., at the District Office Conference Room, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, New York 12508 at which time and place Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud.

For the convenience of potential Bidders and other interested parties, the Bidding Documents may be examined at the following locations:

- Beacon City School District, 10 Education Drive, Beacon, NY 12508

- Tetra Tech Architects & Engineers

Complete digital sets of Bidding Documents, drawings and specifications, may be obtained online as a download at www.tetratechaeplanroom.com 'public projects' for a non-refundable fee of \$49.00 (Forty Nine Dollars).

Complete hard copy sets of Bidding Documents, drawings and specifications, may be obtained online at www.tetratechaeplanroom.com 'public projects'. **Checks shall be made payable to Beacon City School District** in the sum of \$100.00 (One Hundred Dollars) for each set of documents. A scanned copy of the deposit check can be emailed to projects@revplans.com. Once the scanned copy of the executed deposit check is received, Bidding Documents will be shipped. Mail checks to Lohrius Blueprint, 226 Newtown Road, Plainview, New York 11803. Plan deposit is refundable in accordance with the terms in the Instructions to Bidders to all submitting bids. Any bidder requiring documents to be shipped shall make arrangements with the printer and pay for all packaging and shipping costs (either by providing FedEX/UPS account number or being charged a flat rate by the printer).

Please note REV www.tetratechaeplanroom.com is the designated location and means for distributing and obtaining all bid package information, electronic or hard copy. Only those Contract Documents obtained in this manner will enable a prospective bidder to be identified as a registered plan holder. The Provider takes no responsibility for the completeness of Contract Documents obtained from other sources. Contract Documents obtained from other sources may not be accurate or may not contain addenda that may have been issued.

All bid addenda will be transmitted to registered plan holders, regardless of receiving electronic or hard copy Bid Documents, via email and will be available at www.tetratechaeplanroom.com. Registered plan holders who have paid for hard copies of the bid documents will need to make the determination if hard copies of the addenda are required for their use, and coordinate directly with REV for hard copies of addenda to be issued. There will be no charge for registered plan holders to obtain hard copies of the bid addenda.

As bid security, each Bid shall be accompanied by a certified check or Bid Bond made payable to the Owner, in accordance with the amounts and terms described in the Instructions to Bidders.

The Owner requires Bids comply with bidding requirements indicated in the Instructions to Bidders. The Owner may, at its discretion, waive informalities in Bids, but is not obligated to do so, nor does it represent that it will do so. The Owner also reserves the right to reject any and all Bids. The Owner will not waive informalities which would give one Bidder substantial advantage or benefit not enjoyed by all affected Bidders. Bids may not be withdrawn before 45 days following the Bid opening thereof, unless an error is claimed by the Bidder in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

AROUND TOWN



▲ FUN WITH MISS GABI – Gabriela Mikova Johnson hosted a music and movement program for toddlers at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison on May 18. Each child was invited to select a puppet before a rendition of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." Johnson visits the library every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Photos by Ross Corsair (3)



SERVICE DOG WALK – BluePath, which is based in Hopewell Junction, raised \$185,000 at its sixth annual walkathon on May 14 to provide service dogs to children with autism. See bluepathservicedogs.org. Photo provided



GREAT CAKES – The **Philipstown Depot Theatre** in Garrison on May 22 held a "bakeoff" to mark the end of the run of The Cake. Entries created by invited chefs, including *Current* columnist Celia Barbour, were judged by (at table, from left) actor Sally Mayes; chef and author Rick Rodgers; and Zanne Stewart, a longtime editor at *Gourmet*. The grand prize went to Lynn Miller of Cold Spring for her sunflower cake, shown at right after disassembly began.





LUNCH ON US – The Parent-Teacher-Student Organization at Beacon High School earlier this month organized a luncheon to honor teachers with donations from Adam's Fairacre Farms, Bazodee Street Food, Glazed Over Donuts, Hannaford, Key Food, Sam's Club, Trax Coffee Roasters and The Yankee Clipper. Photo by Carlton Prince



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Cold Spring NY \$955,100





\$795,000

The Calendar



Detail from "Shade Tree," by Brandon Ndife

he Storm King Art Center is not all about stunning backdrops in a scenic spot on the Hudson: The 500-acre park in New Windsor uses its site and sculptures to probe the world at large. Although much of its sculpture is permanently installed, it also mounts seasonal exhibitions that often comment on current events.

This year, Storm King will showcase bronze sculptures and earthworks by Kenyan-born Wangechi Mutu, presented in an indoor and outdoor exhibition accompanied by a screening of the artist's films. In addition, an installation by New York Citybased Brandon Ndife is his largest artwork yet. Both exhibits continue through Nov. 7.

With Mutu and Ndife's work at its core, the 2022 season at Storm King "provides visitors with very different approaches to art in nature, site-responsiveness and the ways in which sculpture participates in and comments upon events in the world," says Nora Lawrence, the artistic director and chief curator at Storm King.

Mutu uses a wide range of items for her sculptures and collage paintings, and during her performance rituals and films. Materials include ink, soil, ash, bronze, driftwood, horn, pigments, wine and hair. Her bronze works, including cast-bronze woven baskets holding the coiled bodies of bronze serpents and giant bronze tortoise shells, are on view

Photo by Jeffrey Jenkins (2)

Storm King Adds New Sculptures

Works by two artists, plus a screening of films **By Alison Rooney**

in the fields, meadows, woods and ponds. Unveiled last week, "Crocodylus" is a 15-foot sculpture installed on Museum Hill, the park's highest spot, offering a vista over the South Fields, Nearby is a bronze canoe fountain, "In Two Canoe," which offers a view of "Crocodylus" and the snake basket work.

Other works will be shown indoors, including "The Glider," made in 2021 using materials collected in East Africa, and on exhibit for the first time. In addition, My Cave Call, a film she made last year, in which she transforms into a mythical figure in the volcano town of Suswa, in Kenya's Rift Valley, will be shown frequently. There will be an outdoor screening of other Mutu films later in the season.

Further south in Storm King's fields, Ndife will present his first outdoor sculpture project. He works primarily with familiar items such as furniture and kitch-

enware he makes by hand, changing their appearance by casting them in polyurethane foam and resin, and often embedding household items in the surfaces.

"In Two Canoe," by Wangechi Mutu

"The effect is one that is organic and sinister, suggesting a process of rot that subsumes the quotidian objects and embalms them in a perpetual state of decay," according to Storm King.

This project, Shade Trees, has been installed in the Maple Rooms, where stands of maple trees divide the woods into quadrants. "Ndife's sculptures take on an imposing scale in this setting – with whole tables and chairs embedded into the casts, which will be placed in the shade of the canopy and encircle the trunks of four maple trees," Lawrence says.

Ndife calls the setting conducive to "playing with interiority and exteriority, protection and exposure. A lot of my work is about the interior, about these spaces that we deem safe because they're in our homes - our cabinets, our dressers, our personal space. Working outside, I wanted to extend that conversation and think about exclusion - planned exclusion - and nature's course, which is a canopy above all of us, something that we affect but can't control.

Photo by David Regan

"The exhibition interrogates the legacy of redlining, or the systematically sanctioned segregation of real estate, which recent studies have shown often left poorer communities and communities of color in urban areas with fewer green spaces and less tree cover," he adds.

The Storm King Art Center, at 1 Museum Road in New Windsor, is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily except Tuesdays. The last admission is at 4 p.m. Reservations are typically required, except for members; see stormking.org/visit. Tickets are offered per vehicle and start at \$23; admission is free with registration on the first Friday of each month in June, July and August. Storm King also offers a shuttle from the Beacon train station on Saturdays, Sundays and holiday Mondays for \$35 (\$18 members, \$32 students, \$20 children). Free passes that don't require reservations are available at the Beacon, Cold Spring and Garrison libraries for one car with up to six people.



Detail from "Shade Tree," by Brandon Ndife



Detail from "The Glider," by Wangechi Mutu



"Nyoka," by Wangechi Mutu

Photo by David Regar

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org) For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

COMMUNITY

SUN 29

Putnam Culture Festival BREWSTER

11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tilly Foster Farm 100 Route 312 | bit.ly/putnam-culture

This annual festival, organized by the Putnam County Community Engagement & Police Advisory Board, celebrates the diversity and culture of the county with music, children's activities, local vendors and food trucks. Cost: \$15

FRI 3 **Job Fair**

PHILIPSTOWN

3 - 6 p.m. Hubbard Lodge 2920 Route 9 parks.ny.gov/regions/taconic/default.

aspx Learn about summer positions

at local parks, historic sites and trails or apply in advance for an interview.

SAT 4 **House Plant Swap** GARRISON

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

Bring a plant and take another home



SAT 4 **Newburgh Illuminated Festival** NEWBURGH

Noon - 10 p.m. Lower Broadway newburghilluminatedfestival.com

Musicians will perform on three stages: there will also be craft vendors. performance artists, activities for children and a "Stella yell" contest (from A Streetcar Named Desire) at 5:30 p.m. Rain or shine. Free

SAT 4

Abloom at The Bothy PHILIPSTOWN

5 - 8 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens 81 Stonecrop Lane garrisonartcenter.org

Two dozen artists will share plein

air paintings created at Stonecrop; the works will be sold during a live auction by Nicho Lowry of Swann Galleries to benefit the Garrison Art Center. Cost: \$200

SUN 5 **Be the Match Drive BEACON**

Noon - 4 p.m. Elks Lodge 900 Wolcott Ave. | bethematch.org Offer a cheek swab to join

a system for blood-stem cell donations that can be used to cure blood cancer, sickle cell and other life-threatening diseases.

SUN 5 **Celebrate Life Day** OSSINING

Noon – 3 p.m. Support Connection 25 Saw Mill River Road supportconnection.org

This event will honor cancer survivors with music, a speaker and lunch. Cost: Free for survivors (\$50 guests)

MUSIC

SAT 28 Azulado

BEACON 7:30 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar 173 Main St. | reservabeacon.com The jazz rock trio will perform

SAT 28 The Bookends BEACON

flamenco music.

8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com The band, formed in 1976 by

Chris Brown and Joe Summo, will perform classic songs and original music. *Cost:* \$25 (\$30 door)

SUN 29

45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org Wang's piano program will include pieces by Scriabin, Yi, Schumann and Rachmaninoff as part of the Patrons for Young Artists series. Tickets are

MON 30 Jazz Video Night

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

The event will feature video performances as part of Quinn's weekly jazz series. Cost: \$15

FRI 3 NRBQ

PEEKSILL 8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley

1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039 paramounthudsonvalley.com Terry Adams, Scott Ligon, Casey McDonough and John Perrin, the New Rhythm and Blues Quartet, will perform music from their five

decades together. Cost: \$30 to \$45 SAT 4 **School of Rock**

Summer Festival POLICHKEEPSIE

1 - 10 p.m. The Chance | 6 Crannell St. schoolofrock.com/locations/beacon Students from the School of Rock in Beacon will perform music from

Prince vs. Michael Jackson, the British Invasion and other programs.

SAT 4

Fleetwood Mac Tribute BREWSTER

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

Rikki Nicks, featuring Rikki Lee Wilson as Stevie Nicks (below), will recreate the vocals and visuals of the band in this outdoor show. Bring chairs and blankets; food will be available for purchase. Rain or shine. Cost: \$30 (\$40 door)



MEMORIAL DAY

MON 30

COLD SPRING

9 a.m. Main Street

SUN 29 Service

BEACON 10:30 a.m. St. John the Evangelist 31 Willow St.

Veterans are encouraged to wear service dress, uniform or black pants and white shirt with organizational cover.

SUN 29

Ceremony POUGHKEEPSIE 3 p.m. Soldier & Sailor Fountain South Avenue | 845-452-5960

dutchessny.gov Hosted by Poughkeepsie and American Legion Post No. 37.

SAT 4 The Best of the '70s BEACON

8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com The band will celebrate everything

about music from the 1970s with a diverse set list. Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)

SAT 4

Banned Jezebel BEACON

9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St. facebook.com/quinnsbeacon

The music collective will perform a blend of genres, including rock, funk, blues, rap and hip-hop.

TALKS AND TOURS

SAT 28 From Badge of Military **Merit to Purple Heart** NEWBURGH

2 p.m. Washington's Headquarters 84 Liberty St.

facebook.com/washingtonsheadquarters Gen. George Washington created the award that later became the Purple Heart. Find out more



Newburgh Illuminated Festival, June 4

Gather at the foot of Main at 8:30 a.m. to walk to the Cold Spring Cemetery on Peekskill Road for a service. **MON 30** Ceremony BEACON 11 a.m. Memorial Building

Parade and Service

413 Main St. The service will include rendering of honors in the deployment of the Battlefield Cross. Hosted by American Legion Post No. 203.

about the history of the honor and celebrate those who served.

TUES 31 The Power of Big Oil GARRISON

7 p.m. Desmond-Fish Librarv 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

David Gelber, a Garrison resident and producer of the series The Years of Living Dangerously, will lead a discussion with Andrew Metz, Dan Edge and Kert Davies about their PBS series that examines the fossil fuel industry's efforts to deny climate change. See Page 2. Free

THURS 2

Vegetable Gardening and Pollinators BREWSTER

6 p.m. The Garden Around the Corner 67 Main St. | putnam.cce.cornell.edu

Learn how pollinators support our food system and ways to have both a healthy harvest and pollinator habitats. Cost: \$10

FRI 3

Saltwater Intrusion, Sea Level Rise and the **Spread of Ghost Forests** MILLBROOK

7 p.m. Via Zoom | bit.ly/cary-forest Following the screening of a short film, The Seeds of Ghost Trees, Emily Bernhardt will discuss her research on how mid-Atlantic forests are being reshaped by saltwater through the rising seas. Free

SAT 4

Garrison's Landing and **Arden Point**

GARRISON

11 a.m. Gazebo | 11 Garrison's Landing putnamhistorymuseum.org

This guided hike by the Putnam History Museum will

Wynona Wang **COLD SPRING**

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration

available at the door. Cost: \$37

STAGE & SCREEN

FRI 3

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

tillystablerestaurant.com Eric Haft, Gene Trifilo (below) and John Santo will perform

starting at 8 p.m. Tickets include a buffet dinner. *Cost: \$45*



FRI 3 Lit Lit

BEACON

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

Shaina Loew-Banayan will read selections from her memoir, *Elegy for an Appetite*, followed by an open mic and book signing.

FRI 3 Free and Fair Playwright Festival

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

Theatre Revolution, directed by Gabrielle Fox and K. Lorrel Manning, will present this faux theater festival in which audience members will vote for the best faux playwrights. Also SAT 4, SUN 5. *Cost: \$25*

SAT 4

Hudson Valley New Voices Festival

2 & 8 p.m.

Westchester Collaborative Theater 23 Water St. | wctheater.org

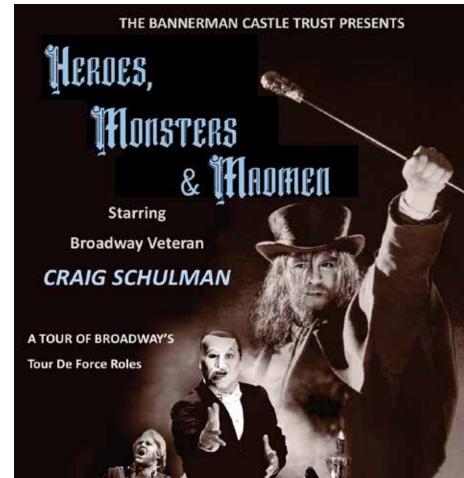
The festival of one-act plays will feature works created by young people, BIPOC communities and seniors. KJ Denhert will provide music. Also SUN 5. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 seniors, students, members, veterans)*

SAT 4

Weird, Wild and Wise BEACON 8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center

477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 howlandculturalcenter.org This "comedic healing event"

will feature stories and spiritual teachings from Katie Rubin's work as an energy healer. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*



Dinner and a Show on Bannerman Island

Enjoy a Five Course Farm Fresh Meal Prepared by The CHEF'S CONSORTIUM July 2, 2022 -Tickets: \$165 General Admission \$155 - Bannerman Castle Trust Members Tickets available at: BANNERMANCASTLE.ORG/TOURS-EVENTS/HEROES-MONSTERS-AND-MADMEN/T

Terry Champlin, Katy Garcia and Nicole Bernhart

COLD SPRING 4 p.m. Chapel Restoration 45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org Champlin will perform on

classical guitar while Garcia and Bernhart dance flamenco-style. *Free*

KIDS & FAMILY

MON 30 Sights and Sounds BEACON

3 & 4 p.m. Seeger Riverfront Park
2 Red Flynn Drive | howlandmusic.org The interactive musical performance, part of the Classics for Kids series, will feature the New MUSE 4tet string ensemble. Drawing and painting materials will be provided to create art. Online registration required. *Free*



wed 1 Village Board

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

WED 1 School Board

GARRISON

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

THURS 2 Town Board COLD SPRING

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

VISUAL ARTS

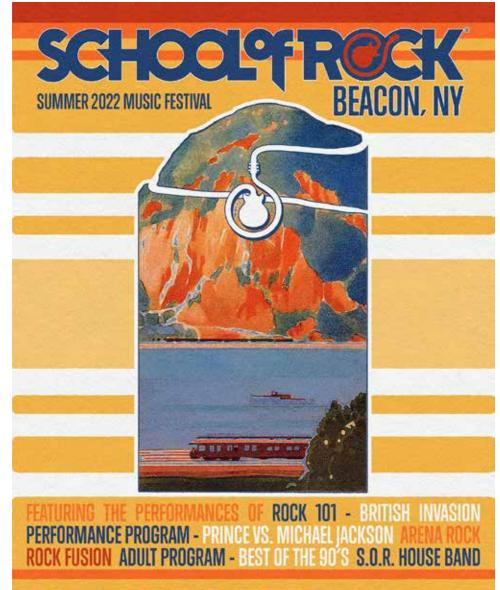
SAT 4

BeaconArts Exhibition BEACON

1 - 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
Curated by Karen Gersch and
Samantha Palmieri, the exhibit
will feature work by more than two
dozen members. Through June 26.







THE CHANCE THEATER 6 CRANNELL STREET POUGHKEEPSIE, NY JUNE 4, 2022 1:30PM - 8:45PM

Mouths to Feed

Sprigs of Joy

By Celia Barbour

e are a species that likes to catalog our firsts: first step, first kiss, first job, first time I

ever saw your face, and so on.

Which makes it fairly banal that I remember the first time I ate chervil. Except that it was chervil. Moreover, I was with Peter, my thenfairly-new husband, at Payard Patisserie, a tres chic French cafe on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, about two blocks from the office where my obstetrician had just confirmed that I was pregnant with what would, in due time, become our first child, George.

Life fairly gleamed with wonder, from the punctilious waiters striding briskly across the mosaic floors, to the glass cases piled with exquisite pastries, to the soigné women sitting in the back room with little dogs on their laps and very expensive handbags by their sides. Peter and I, all aglow, ordered lunch.

And what a lunch — simple but perfect, everything just so. Peter had a croque monsieur; I had a salad made with perfectly poached chicken, tender new potato, supple lettuce and a marvelous herb I didn't recognize. I summoned the waiter. He told me it



subtle, with delicate springtime grassy notes and hints of carrot and anisette. I resolved then and there to make it a regular part of my own culinary repertoire.

was chervil.

Easier said than done. Despite its outsize charms, it is nearly impossible to find here in the U.S. The French use it frequently; it is a key component in the classic fines herbes blend, and a favorite addition to omelets, sauces and pureed vegetable soups. The Germans and Danes make liberal use of chervil as well. But it is rare in every other cuisine on the globe, including ours.

Well then. Chervil. I was captivated. The

herb had a delicate, feathery leaf, like parsley meant for fairies, and a flavor likewise

Part of the reason for that may be its ephemeral growing season. Chervil does not like heat or bright sun. It leafs out briefly in springtime, then quickly flowers, bolts and becomes inedible. Some epicurean gardeners create cool, shady bowers simply in order to have fresh chervil all summer long, but I've never managed to pull that off.

Instead, once or twice in a lucky springtime, I used to come across a few limp sprigs of it in those little plastic clamshells that herbs are sold in. I always buy it. Back home, I'd sprinkle it over eggs or mild fish, mix it with herby spring pasta or toss it into salads. It never failed to make a dish taste magical. I hope you will start to seek it out; maybe together we can keep it from disappearing.

I hadn't seen it in a few years when I stumbled upon some pots of chervil at Maple Lawn Garden Center in Garrison while plant-shopping with my lovely, garden-wise friend Marilyn last spring. We both enthusiastically bought it up. She's lived in France; she knows what's what. Back home, my chervil didn't last terribly long; the plants' roots were already potbound by the time I repotted it. But for two blissful weeks, I had fresh chervil in my kitchen. In honor of my first encounter with the herb, I made a spring-y chicken salad.

Last November, George turned 22. Last week, I once again found chervil at Maple Lawn. And today, I revived this dish.

Chervil's Latin name derives from the Greek for "herb of joy," which seems just right. I doubt George remembers his first

encounter with chervil. But I will always associate it with him, and therefore with joy.

Massage Therapy & Healing Arts Sanctuary in Garrison

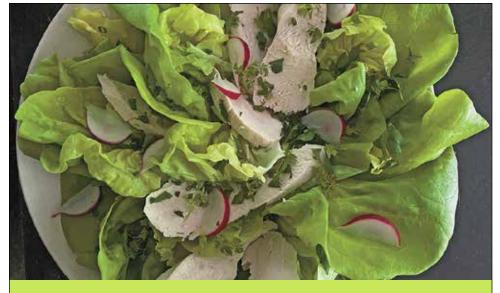




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Just So Spring Salad

Serves 4

2 heads Bibb or Boston lettuce, or other mild spring lettuce breasts, sliced, or 2 to 3 cups shredded chicken

¹⁄4 cup parsley leaves, roughly sliced

¹/₃ cup chervil sprigs

2 poached chicken

2 radishes, thinly sliced

1 tablespoon minced chives

Sea salt to taste

¹/₂ cup Dijon vinaigrette (see recipe below)

Arrange the lettuce on a platter. Toss the chicken and radishes with half the herbs and a little salt, optional. Place on the lettuce. Drizzle with the vinaigrette. Serve with additional vinaigrette on the side.

Creamy Dijon Vinaigrette

Adapted from Thomas Keller

1 large egg yolk (see note)	1 to 2 teaspoons fresh	³ / ₄ cup canola or other		
2 tablespoons Dijon	lemon juice	mild oil		
mustard	1 garlic clove, minced	Salt and pepper to taste		
3 tablespoons red wine vinegar	1 small shallot, minced	1⁄2 cup good olive oil		

Place the first six ingredients in the bowl of a food processor. Add 2 tablespoons water, and process until thick and smooth. With the engine running, drizzle in the canola oil; whir until emulsified. Add the salt and pepper and process briefly. Add the olive and process just to blend.

Store remainder covered in refrigerator for up to three days.

Note: Egg yolk makes the vinaigrette emulsify and turn creamy. Before using, be sure you know and trust the source of your eggs. Raw egg should not be served to small children, the elderly or anyone with compromised health.





Lemon pound squares

fter holing up in Vermont for four months early in the pandemic shutdown, Angie Speranza sought comfort and activity in a pastime that had always brought happiness: baking. She baked for friends and neighbors, to feel productive, and continued to bake after relocating to Carmel with her husband, Ken Zuidema.

"We made friends in the Carmel area and started giving Angie's baked goods away to them," Zuidema recalls. "After trying them, they asked if we sold them anywhere. We got a few orders from a website we put together, then decided to look for a space. Everyone, everywhere wanted us to come to where they lived."

After scoping out locations from Katonah to Fishkill, they honed in on Cold Spring and Beacon. Nothing fit the bill until someone mentioned to Bill Pugh of Houlihan Lawrence Real Estate a flyer at the Garden Cafe on Main Street that said the space soon would be available. Pugh passed that along to Angie and Ken, who went to have a look, and Angie's Bake Shop and Cafe was born.

It was actually born decades earlier, when Speranza's Italian grandmother shared her kitchen skills.

"What I learned most from my grandmother is that she didn't bake for herself, she baked for everyone else," Speranza says. "She had her recipes but didn't follow them. She did it by feel, instinct, love. She just 'knew,' and that's how I learned.

"Throughout my life, I've been drawn to making people happy through presenting them with a baked good, seeing someone smile taking a bite out of it, hoping that it might translate into making their day better," she says, "I've been looking at recipes my whole life, but a lot of it is instinc-



Breakfast biscuit

Morning Muffins

The Joy of Baking Couple opens cafe in Cold Spring

By Alison Rooney



Angie Speranza and Ken Zuidema at the bake shop

tual – I know exactly how that dough is supposed to feel and how the dough should look at every minute of baking."

Speranza says she finds it therapeutic to get up in the middle of the night and bake, which is good, because she's doing a lot of that now. The shop sells baked goods such as jumbo muffins, breakfast biscuits, cookies, cupcakes, lemon pound squares, deep-dish brownies, pies, strawberry shortcakes and bread (including sourdough, soft loaves and challah), as well as baguette sandwiches.

There's Joe's Coffee, chosen after much sampling, plus iced coffee, tea and lemonade, and perhaps espresso if the supply chain cooperates.

Speranza did not start her career as a baker: She worked in marketing and



Angie's whoopie pie

promotion at CNN and other networks, then cut and edited film trailers before joining Showtime. In 2017, she founded her own company, Girlband. She ran it until the pandemic forced her to reassess.

"That's when the baking started," she says with a laugh. "Business was OK, but it came to a point where living in New York City just wasn't working for me."

Zuidema had experience in the restaurant industry – starting from a job at age 12 washing dishes in a pizzeria and reselling fruit from Hunts Point Market to Manhattan sidewalk vendors. Among other positions, he managed a Sbarro's and an Upper East Side cafe, and spent four years working in restaurants in Denmark. Eventually he returned to New York, got a degree in information technology and worked in that field for 15 years before returning to food.

The couple says that, before opening, they visited all the nearby food businesses to see what they sold. "We didn't want to overlap and step on anyone's toes," Speranza says.

"The community has been so nice," Zuidema adds. "For two people who have spent 35 years in New York City, it's fantastic. Our customers have been amazing: Many unload about their lives, loves, emotions. The tourist season is going to be great but we want to serve the locals. People are full of suggestions, which we love, and are already loyal. That's been the best and the nicest surprise."

Angie's Bake Shop, at 116 Main St. in Cold Spring, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday to Sunday, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on holiday Mondays such as Memorial Day. See angiebakeshon.com.

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A HAHNEMÜHLE CERTIFIED STUDIO

Always Present (from Page 1)

York in 1827. In February, the John Jay Homestead in Katonah hosted a program highlighting the fact that the future chief justice enslaved people for more than 40 years after he first called for New York to ban it. In 2020, Boscobel began a project to examine the people enslaved by States Dyckman, who built the early 19th-century home that was relocated in 1956 from Montrose to Garrison.

In 2019, Historic Hudson Valley, based in Westchester County, produced a documentary, *People Not Property*, that acknowledged the earliest Black residents of the Hudson Valley and named their enslavers, including the owners of Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton and Philipsburg Manor in Sleepy Hollow.

"Slavery was the brutal foundation upon which the entire United States, north and south, was built," it stated.

Philipsburg Manor, which Historic Hudson Valley has preserved, was constructed by Africans enslaved by a Dutch merchant, Frederick Philipse (1626-1702), whose property covered about a quarter of modern-day Westchester. He and his son would become major slave traders; the family is honored today by the name Philipstown. According to Columbia University, before a Philipse descendant donated three boxes of family papers to the university in 1930, she removed nearly every document related to its human trafficking.

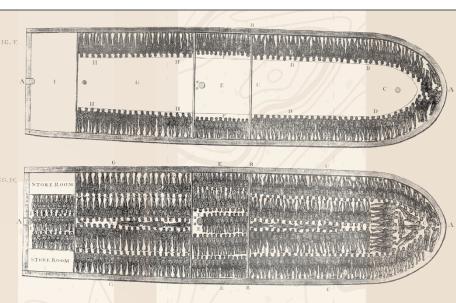
A.J. Williams-Myers, a longtime professor at SUNY New Paltz who died in July, noted that Black people are almost nonexistent in standard local histories such as the *General History of Dutchess County*, published in 1877, or *The History of Putnam County* (1886), "other than to appear as a statistic when counting material possessions."

There are many examples of this oversight. The late Robert Murphy, who for 38 years edited the Beacon Historical Society newsletter, said that the best single source he found for Black history from the 19th century was the *Fishkill Standard*, although "a careful reading of the paper leaves only the briefest of sketches of what life was like for the Black men and women of that time."

The exclusion is reflected in recent artwork by Jean-Marc Superville Sovak, who has a studio in Beacon. In a series of prints, *a-Historical Landscape*, he took idyllic 19th-century landscape engravings typical of the Hudson River School and inserted images from anti-slavery almanacs and abolitionist tracts of the same period. "What makes these works so American, I think, is not what is depicted but also what's missing," he says.

The relative lack of archival resources is a loss, says Michael Groth, author of *Slavery and Freedom in the Mid-Hudson Valley*, because "there's nothing more fascinating in our history than the central paradox of slavery and freedom — how can a nation so committed to the ideals of democracy and equality also become the largest slaveholding society in the Americas? And the freedom struggle is as dramatic and powerful a story as any that can be told."

This series is designed to be an introduc-



Crossing the Atlantic

Michael Lord is the director of content for Historic Hudson Valley. These comments were taken from the documentary People Not Property.

In 1685, a Phillipse-owned ship named the Charles sailed from New York City. It sailed along the coast of West Africa, picking up grain and fresh water and eventually settling at the port of M'Pinda Soyo, which is on the mouth of the Congo River. The Congo kingdom was in the midst of a centuries-long civil war, and the losers of battles ended up being the ones sold as African captives onto these ships.

The captain of the Charles was able to negotiate for the purchase of 146 Congo men, women and children. The Charles was a type of ship known as a pink. It was about 100 feet long and would have had two cargo holds, one for food and water, and one for human cargo. The cargo hold on a ship the size of the Charles was not much more than 20 feet by 20 feet, a little larger than a living room. These men would be stripped naked, they would have been shackled together at the arms and at the ankles. They would have been laid down on their backs on the floor of this cargo hold.

If that floor cannot fit 100 people, they would have built a second half-deck two-and-a-half feet off the floor. They would have laid another group of men. The journey across the Atlantic Ocean in 1685 could take as long as 12 weeks. Those men in that cargo hold would spend weeks below deck. They would need to remain down there until they were out of sight of land because the threat of these individuals who see land jumping ship and trying to

swim back was too great.

In bad weather, individuals remain below deck. There's no ventilation. You're in equatorial heat. There are no facilities. People died every night and were tossed overboard; there was a line of sharks behind these boats. The women remained above deck. They were at the discretion of this all-male crew.

Of the 146 men, women and children who started on this voyage, 105 survived. They pulled into Barbados, where they were quickly purchased to work on sugar cane plantations. The remainder — too ill, too weak to be of any value to the sugar cane planter those 23 men, women and children set sail from Barbados to New York City. It was a relatively easy journey. Fourteen more died.

By the time they disembarked in Rye, there were nine that survived. One was a small boy with one eye. He was led to Manhattan. The other eight were taken by Frederick Phillipse's son, Adolph, and marched across Westchester, where they were set to work on building what is now called Phillipsburg Manor. These eight Congo survivors, some of the first Africans in Westchester County, built a manor house, a mill, the barn and the old Dutch church in what is now called Sleepy Hollow.

It's unimaginable to try to comprehend the size and the scope of this transatlantic trade without breaking it down to these individual voyages and understanding the nightmare that took place on each and every one of them.

^ The hold of a ship that, in this case, held more than 420 enslaved men

tion to the Black history of the Highlands. Its title is borrowed from social historian Erica Armstrong Dunbar, who was referring to Black people during the time of the Revolutionary War, when Americans fought for white freedom: "They were always present, but never seen."

Arrival

The first Black people brought to the Hudson Valley came against their will, enslaved by the Dutch, who had arrived in 1624 to establish what is now New York City. Investors organized as the Dutch West India Company faced an immediate labor shortage because few whites were desperate enough to emigrate to work in isolation on rented land. If anything, they aspired to be merchants.

The company's initial shipment of humans to New Netherland, in 1625 or 1626, included about a dozen men and their wives; the men built public works projects, cut timber and burned lime, while the women were assigned to various company officials as domestic servants. Slavery would flourish in New York for another two centuries. It was never as integral to the economy as in the American South or West Indies, but many historians believe that, without African labor, the white aristocracy here could not have existed. The enslaved enabled the wealth of families whose names today are memorialized on maps and street signs in Philipstown and Beacon.

The vast majority of African slaves kidnapped and sold to New York owners were Kongo, Coromantin, Paw Paw and Malagasy, typically brought in small shipments and often offered as payment for debts. They usually were first taken to the West Indies for "seasoning" on sugar plantations; owners in New York complained that Black people shipped directly from Africa too often rebelled against their loss of freedom and the brutal conditions.

When white settlers were convicted of crimes, they were sometimes sentenced to "work with the Negroes," a suggestion of the hard labor that Africans were compelled to do, observes historian Andrea Mosterman. Enslaved people were given the dirtiest work, such as clearing the streets of animal carcasses and flogging and executing criminals. One of the earliest slaves in Hudson Valley records — from 1646 — was the hangman at the Dutch settlement that is now Albany.

Even after 1640, when more white immigrants were available for hire, the Dutch preferred slaves. One historian estimated that the break-even for buying an enslaved person versus hiring a freeman was about a year. At the same time, many farmers found it more economical to rent, rather than own, enslaved people because they didn't have to feed or house them during the winter.

The Philipse family

Members of the Philipse family were among the most active slave traders in the Hudson Valley. Their DNA is so much a part of the region that property deeds executed in Putnam County still grant mineral rights to their descendants.

The patriarch, Frederick Philipse, born in 1626, came to the colonies as a young man to work as a carpenter for the Dutch West India Company. Within about 20 years, he was one of the richest men in New Netherland — and that was *before* he became a slave trader. (In 1977, a hagiography in *The New York Times* portrayed his life as the classic "rags-to-riches" tale of "the immigrant son of a roofer.")

In 1664, the British took over New Netherland from the Dutch. The Philipse family stayed in the good graces of the new regime, becoming friendly with the governor, who granted Frederick wide swaths of land that would become Westchester County. In 1666, Frederick married a widow who

(Continued from Page 16)

had been left a fortune in merchant ships and Manhattan property. He began trading with suppliers in the West Indies, England, Holland and Portugal and experimented with the slave trade by providing "servants" to other wealthy New Yorkers.

The food that made the manorial system in the Hudson Valley work was grain. Europe and the West Indies needed flour, and traders built sawmills and gristmills and claimed monopolies over access to the rivers and streams. The Philipse family built two mills: one near Tarrytown (Upper Mills) and the other where City Hall now stands in Yonkers (Lower Mills).

In 1685, Frederick sent one of the family ships, the Charles, to Soyo, a city on the west coast of Africa in what was then the kingdom of Kongo (present-day Angola and Republic of the Congo). There, the crew loaded 146 captured men, women and children for a journey to Barbados for seasoning. When the Charles arrived, however, only 105 had survived.

The 23 sickest were deemed unfit for sale and shipped to New York City as "refuse cargo." By the time they arrived at Wall Street, only nine were alive. Frederick's son, Adolph, then 19, sent eight to the Upper Mills and the ninth, a boy with one eye, to the Philipse mansion in Manhattan.

These enslaved workers came from an agricultural society in Kongo, where residents grew manioc, yams, taro, groundnuts, maize and palm and fruit trees using hoes, writes Dennis Maika, a historian with the New Netherland Institute, based in Pleasantville. Men cleared the fields, tended the trees, fished and hunted, and the women did the daily field work. The Kongolese had experience with other cultures because of their proximity to the Kongo River, which drew traders and navigators. They spoke the Bantu language, as did many ethnic groups.

When it came to Black labor, Frederick Philipse was on the hunt for bargains. The slave market on the African mainland was controlled by the Royal African Co., which had a license from the British government, so he shifted his sights to Madagascar, using agents and pirates to work around the royal monopoly.

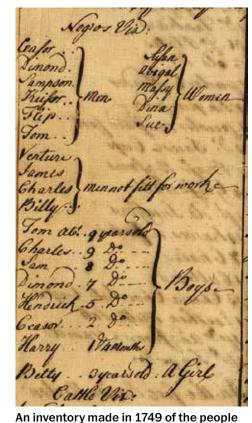
In 1691, Frederick heard from an Englishman who lived on the island and offered him slaves for 30 shillings each. Frederick dispatched a ship loaded with shoes, stockings, shirts, hats, tools, rum, Madeira wine, cannon powder and books to trade. But instead of 200 slaves, representing £4,000 in profit (about \$1.2 million today), as he expected, the ship returned with 34 slaves, 15 head of cattle and 57 bars of iron.

Frederick was unhappy. "Negroes in these times will fetch £30 and upward the head, unless they be children or superannuated," he complained. "It is by Negroes that I find my chiefest profit." He noted that of the 34 slaves, 15 were children and three still suckling. Frederick also had lost one of his enslaved workers who went on the voyage as his representative but decided not to return.

Frederick continued dispatching the family ships but they returned with only a few slaves. For one trip, made by the Margaret in 1698, he tried incentives: The captain,



The majority of slaves kidnapped and sold to New York owners were Kongo, Coromantin, Paw Paw and Malagasy from the western coast of Africa. This French map shows the European understanding of Africa in the mid-17th century. The island of Madagascar, which was a source of labor for the Philipse family, is at right. David Rumsey Historical Map Collection



The Charles, owned by the Philipse family, was a "pink" such as this ship, shown in a
drawing from 1789.Collection Rijks Museum, Amsterdam

Samuel Burgess, was promised a commission for each enslaved worker he brought back; the first mate and physician were each allowed to transport one slave free; and the doctor earned 12 pence for each captive who arrived alive.

enslaved by Adolph Philipse, followed

cows

by an accounting of his cattle, oxen and

New York Public Library

After reaching Madagascar, the Margaret's crew filled the hold with 114 captured African men and departed for New York. The ship and slaves never arrived, however, as the ship was seized by British authorities on allegations the crew had worked with pirates. Burgess was forced to sell the enslaved men at the Cape of Good Hope; he was sent to England and imprisoned.

The following August, Adolph Philipse sailed to London to recover the ship and its cargo — minus the humans. He managed to free Burgess. But while he was overseas, his father died in New York.

Most of Frederick Philipse's land, livestock and enslaved workers went to Adolph and to Frederick II, the son of Frederick's late brother. In the years that followed, Adolph assigned an overseer to the Upper Mills. By the 1720s, he had slave quarters built about 90 feet from the main house; at that point, the mills were likely being operated entirely by enslaved workers. Maika writes.

By 1741, Frederick II was a respected merchant in New York City, where 20 percent of the population was enslaved. That year, about 150 enslaved and free Blacks and whites were accused of insurrection; Frederick II was one of the two *(Continued on Page 18)*

Always Present (from Page 17)

judges assigned to hear the case.

The plot had been discovered, according to testimony, when conspirators were overheard discussing it at the Philipse mansion in Manhattan. Thirteen Blacks were burned at the stake, 16 Blacks and four whites were hanged and 70 Blacks and seven whites were banished.

Among those burned alive was Cuffee, a slave owned by Adolph. Cuffee lived in one of the family's Manhattan homes; was bilingual in English and Spanish; and had liberty to travel around the city. He allegedly confessed to setting fire to a warehouse owned by Frederick II, who — in the role of both victim and judge — found him guilty and ranted about the "monstrous ingratitude of this Black tribe."

(The only member of the Philipse family who freed enslaved workers was the second wife and widow of the patriarch Frederick, and it was an empty gesture because she made no provision in her will for a £200 security that was required for each freed slave.)



Frederick Philipse II (1695-1751), in an oil painting by John Wollaston

When Adolph Philipse died in 1750, an inventory of his estate listed 23 enslaved workers at the Upper Mills, including eight children. Their names suggest families that included several generations, Maika says.

Frederick II inherited his uncle's property. Within months, he began selling the enslaved workers, through newspaper ads, in part. By the time of his own death the following year at age 53, he had dispatched 21 men, women and children, almost certainly breaking up families in the process.

His son, Frederick III, continued the sale, except for a boy named Charles, whom he gifted to his widowed mother. Frederick III likely finally destroyed a Kongolese culture that had arrived at the mills in the 1680s and been preserved there, says Maika.

The British arrive

The British forced the Dutch out of New Netherland in 1664 and took over and expanded its slave system.

The Dutch had an "institutional ambiguity" toward slavery, says Maika. Enslaved people could hire themselves out, raise their own food, own moveable property, sue and be sued and marry and raise children. At the same time, historian Jeroen Dewulf cautions against the impression that Dutch slavery was benign. He cites the response of a slave who was told he was probably happier than a poor person because his master fed him well: "That may be true, sir, but put bird in cage, give him plenty to eat, still he fly away."

The British transformed New York from a "society with slaves" to a "slave society," notes historian Ira Berlin. They passed progressively restrictive laws, such as prohibiting any gathering of three or more slaves under punishment of 40 lashes. (Each town was instructed to appoint a whipper.) The slave code was more severe than in other northern colonies but not as severe as laws in the South. Owners could not harm or kill an enslaved person (although, legally, a slave could not be raped by a white person), were required to provide "adequate" food and clothing and were fiscally responsible for the infirm and elderly.

At the same time, historian David Korbin writes, "since the Negro was considered to be property, if the slave was executed the owner would usually be compensated by a levy charged to all the slaveholders of the county involved." When large numbers of slaves were executed, such as after a 1712 insurrection, a special assessment was made.

In 1717, the New York Legislature allowed owners to free their slaves, but only if they paid a £200 deposit plus £20 annually for maintenance. The goal, wrote Williams-Myers, was to dangle the idea of freedom to maintain a "hearty, obedient, docile but dependable labor force."

To purchase humans, Hudson Valley landowners typically hired agents to bid at Wall Street auctions. In 1721, for example, Cadwallader Colden wrote from his estate in Newburgh to place an order for two males of about 18 years old and a girl of about 13 years that his wife requested "to keep the children and to sow."

It is not clear when the first Black people arrived in what is now Beacon, but they were almost certainly enslaved, and they may have been among the four slaves listed in the 1714 census of Fishkill Landing. (Beacon was created in 1913 from Fishkill Landing and Matteawan.) Three were owned by Roger and Catherine Brett, a daughter of Francis Rombout, who 30 years earlier had "purchased" 85,000 acres from the Wappinger tribe.

In 1709, the couple had built a mill. After her husband drowned in 1718, Catherine continued to oversee it. Before her own death in 1764, Madam Brett — whose home is on Van Nydeck Avenue — left her "Negro wench" Molly to her eldest son, ordered that Old Negro Sam be cared for and allowed one named Coban to choose her own master.

In 1790 — nearly a decade after the American Revolution — Henry Schenk, who married a Brett granddaughter, owned eight people. Other area slaveholders included Isaac Adriance, who was a partner in a storehouse at the mouth of Fishkill Creek; the Brinckerhoffs, who owned 30 slaves; and Philip Verplanck, whose 12 slaves tended to his mill, store, storehouse and farm.

The early Dutch settlers had planned to entice white immigrants to clear and farm Dutchess County — and pay rent. But whites who had fled aristocratic Europe preferred to own their own property. The



Did Every White Person Own Slaves?

When Thomas Davenport, who in 1730 was the first settler of what is today Cold Spring, made his will in 1746, he left "my Negro Jack" to his widow. He instructed that if she remarried, or at her death, Jack was to be sold with the other goods and chattel and the proceeds divided among his children.

His son, Thomas Davenport, who lived in a log cabin near Indian Brook, owned four slaves in 1790, according to the federal census, more than any other Philipstown resident. In his 1797 will, Thomas freed an enslaved worker named Dob but made no mention of others. In the 1800 census, his son William had two slaves.

That even the pioneers of what would become a tiny village enslaved people might make you wonder who didn't. When three activists, for a grassroots campaign they call Slavers of NY, in 2020 began placing stickers on street and subway signs and in neighborhoods in New York City named for prominent men who were slaveholders, someone asked that question in an addendum (above).

In response, the activists acknowledged that, while many New Yorkers did not enslave people, "they also did not necessarily work toward abolition." While prominent men such as Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe expressed abolitionist views or personal moral conflicts with slavery, they did not feel compelled to free anyone they had enslaved.

Michael Groth, a history professor at Wells College and author of *Slavery and Freedom in the Mid-Hudson Valley*, says that many of his students are surprised to learn that, at the time of the Civil War, three-quarters of white Southern households did *not* include enslaved people. Of those that did, most held fewer than 10 - farfrom the vast plantations that *Gone with the Wind* placed in the popular imagination. This was also true in the North, where in 1790 the average owner enslaved three people. The exceptions were a few family manors.

Whatever the numbers, more important is that New York state, like the South, became what historian Andrea Mosterman, author of *Spaces of Enslavement*, describes as a "fullfledged slave society." Over two centuries, the institution infiltrated all aspects of daily life, and every white resident benefited from an economy boosted by enslaved workers.

first two settlers and their families had been alone for 25 years after their arrival in the 1680s, although a sloop came up the river occasionally. By 1714, when Dutchess was deemed to have enough people to govern itself (rather than being subservient to Ulster), it had a population of 447, including 29 enslaved workers. Nearly everyone lived in one of three settlements along the river — Fishkill, Poughkeepsie or Rhinebeck — each separated by a day's ride.

After 1714, the population of Dutchess doubled each decade until 1750, after which it had doubled again by 1771 and again by 1790. The 418 white residents grew to 42,980 and the enslaved to 1,856, including 600 in Fishkill.

Dutchess farmers enslaved relatively few workers — the average in 1790 was 2.8 per household — so their slaves had to be, by necessity, skilled in many trades. The phrase "understands all kinds of farm work" was common in advertisements. The skills might include plowing, planting, harvesting, felling trees, clearing fields, tending livestock, building barns, repairing fences, fixing tools, carting produce to market, tending orchards and processing grain, notes Groth, a history professor at Wells College in the Finger Lakes.

The most enduring testament to the work of enslaved people in the Hudson Valley may be "the agricultural contours of the counties" marked by cleared fields and stone walls, says Peter Bunten, chair of the Mid-Hudson Antislavery History Project.

A 19th-century historian, Mary Humphreys, described how, "for every department of the household, there was a slave allotted. They hoed, drilled, shod horses, made cider, raised hemp and tobacco, looked after the horses and the garden, made and mended the shoes, spun, wove, made nets, canoes, attended to fish-*(Continued on Page 19)*

The Highlands Current

(Continued from Page 18)

ing, carpentering, each household sufficient unto itself." Enslaved women worked mostly as domestics but might have learned skills such as dairying, milking and butter and cheese making. John Dumont of Ulster County, who enslaved Isabella (later known as Sojourner Truth) boasted that she could "do a good family's washing in the night, and be ready in the morning to go into the field."

In wealthier homes, slaves might be charged to start fires in fireplaces at stated hours. The men were waiters, butlers, craftsmen and coachmen, such as those who handled the reins when Madam Brett made the rounds of Fishkill Landing. When Benjamin Franklin was leaving the Schuyler mansion in Albany in May 1776, headed for New York City, Mrs. Schuyler insisted that her slave Lewis drive him. Once he arrived, Franklin wrote Philip Schuyler to thank him because "part of the Road [Old Albany Post Road] being very stony and much gullied, where I should probably have overset and broken my own Bones; all the Skill and Dexterity of Lewis being no more than sufficient."

Slaves and indentured servants took care of collective white obligations to maintain that road, also known as the King's Highway. And during the second half of the 18th century, an enslaved man named Quam captained a rowboat and a pirogue (a twomasted vessel without a jib) that served as a ferry connection between Fishkill Landing and Newburgh.

At the manors owned by the Philipse family, enslaved workers likely created gardens and perhaps found the sweet potatoes similar to the manioc and yams of their homeland, says Maika. They used their knowledge of herbalism for medicines. Enslaved people built the mills, the dams and the mansions.

'Happy' slaves

Before historians began in the past few decades to take a second look at the lives of enslaved Black people in the Hudson Valley, their predecessors generally adopted one of two approaches: They ignored Black people except for noting the names of slaves mentioned in wills, or they reported that, despite the trauma of being held captive, slaves were happy-go-lucky and better off than they would have been in Africa.

As an example of this revisionism, Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, a longtime and respected member of the Dutchess County Historical Society, in 1941 attempted a history of Black people enslaved in the county.

First, she noted that because most farmers could afford only one or two slaves, their property typically lived in the cellar or attic. That was certainly uncomfortable, but "there was probably no intention of cruelty," Reynolds mused, "for the knowledge of hygiene and sanitation was limited."

As for runaways, Reynolds wrote, "while

in some cases it may have been prompted by harsh treatment of the slave by the white owners, in others it was presumably due to wanderlust, a desire to get abroad and see something new, to have amusement and to do as he or she pleased."

She then turned to "happier parts of the story," such as the Hudson Valley family who loved their enslaved humans so much they recorded their births in their Bible. Others set aside land to bury their enslaved.

Not surprisingly, slave owners emphasized the "happy." In the 1760s, Hector St. John de Crevecoeur, a Frenchman who lived near Newburgh, noted that "the few Negroes we have are at best but our friends and companions." They were expensive to purchase and to cloth, and they might run away, he wrote, but "the simple Negro fiddle" was much respected.

He wrote that his enslaved humans sometimes appeared "as happy and merry" as if they were free. "The sight of their happiness always increases mine, provided it does not degenerate into licentiousness, and this is sometimes the case, although we have laws to prevent it."

"In the main, the relation between the races was amicable and often it was one of devotion and attachment," Reynolds wrote, although she conceded that "occasionally there were instances unpleasant to tell of, as they reveal each race at its worst - the Negro in underdevelopment; the white in brutality."

The problem with these sanitized accounts, says Groth, is that while mentions of scars and injuries in newspaper ads hint at the brutality, "explicit details of such traumatic encounters will likely remain hidden forever."

Some whites and the people they enslaved may have expressed affection; it's unlikely that all slaveholders were physically abusive, if only to avoid damaging valuable goods. Groth cites a study of black rural life in Virginia where historians found evidence that whites perceived slaves in general in harsher terms than those they had personally enslaved.

There is historical evidence that "white and Black residents of Dutchess worked, lived, ate, drank, played, sang and danced together," notes Groth; some slaves used that familiarity to win concessions.

Yet even if slaves were not physically abused, they lived with the constant possibility of being sold and separated from loved ones. In 1717, Cadwallader Colden, near Newburgh, expressed no remorse shipping one of his slaves to Barbados. In a letter to a friend, he wrote: "I send by this vessel ... a Negro woman and child. She is a good house Negro. Were it not for her allusive tongue, her sullenness. I would not have parted with her. ... I have several of her children I value and I know if she would stay in this country she would spoil them."

Sojourner Truth, who saw her nine siblings sold off in Ulster County, would later describe what she saw in older slaves as "the miserv."

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The bond resolution, summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on March 21, 2022, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the City School District of the City of Beacon, Dutchess County, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution. Such resolution was duly approved by a majority of the qualified voters of said School District voting at the Annual City School District Meeting duly called, held and conducted on May 17, 2022.

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

Dated: Beacon, New York, May 17, 2022

Kelly Pologe, School District Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION DATED MARCH 21, 2022.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF SCHOOL BUSES FOR THE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF BEACON, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$546,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$546,000 BONDS OF SAID SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.

Objects or purposes:	Purchase of school buses
Maximum estimated cost:	\$546,000
Period of probable usefulness:	Five years
Amount of obligations to be issued:	\$546,000

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For the latest episode of The Current podcast, Editor Chip Rowe spoke with Michael Groth, author of Slavery and Freedom in the Mid-Hudson Valley, about the overlooked history of slavery in New York and the African American struggle for freedom.

Listen at highlandscurrent.org/podcast.



Chester Warren (1943-2022)

Chester Warren, a lifelong resident of Nelsonville, passed away on May 20, 2022, at Hudson Valley Hospital. He was 79.

He was born on February 12, 1943, in Cold Spring to the late Chester and Helen Warren.

Chester was retired from IBM as a Quality Control Inspector, where he worked for 30 years in East Fishkill. He enjoyed the great outdoors, hunting, fishing and taking walks in the woods with his beloved dog, Carly.

He was a life member of the Cold Spring Baptist Church, the Cold Spring Boat Club, the Garrison Fish and Game Club, Nelsonville Fish and Fur club and the IBM Quarter Century Club. In his younger days he was a Nelsonville police officer and a member of the Nelsonville Fire Department along with being a coach for Philipstown Little League.

In 1964 he married Bonnie A. Warren, who passed away in 2008.

Chester is survived by his loving children, Gregory Warren and his wife Laurie of Canton, Georgia; Scott Warren and his wife Santa of Cold Spring; Eric Warren and his wife Elizabeth of Beacon; and Cheryl Bosco and her husband James of Fishkill, his cherished grandchildren, Lindsay Weber, Aubrey Warren, Erin Youngblood, Sarah Warren, Seth Warren and Sydney Warren, Brianna and Amber Bosco, Nadina Handley and Brandon Warren, who will cherish his memory, and two great-grandchildren, Giovanni Warren and Octavia Weber.

A Funeral Service was held on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at the Clinton Funeral Home in Cold Spring. Interment followed in Cold Spring Cemetery, alongside his beloved Bonnie.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Chester's name to the Garrison Fish and Game Club or the Philipstown Ambulance Corp.

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



Treat your yard to a nicely behaved and lovely vine this season with native honeysuckle. Photo by P. Doan

Roots and Shoots Dual Nature

By Pamela Doan

Vines can be a gardener's great joy in the landscape and also the biggest frustration. Because they are

tenacious and expansive, vines provoke strong feelings no matter where they show up. A bit of care and planning before planting can help make it a better experience.

Vines are herbaceous plants that can be annual, biennial or perennial. Their unusual movement distinguishes them from other herbaceous plants. They can have little cuplike suckers or tendrils that attach to surfaces or they locomote by twining around, through and over anything they can reach.

Climbing roses and bougainvillea don't have suckers or tendrils and aren't vines. They need assistance and have to be tied and fixed on a trellis or wall. Focus vine growth by fastening them in places that you want them to go - otherwise that trellis might not get used and the side of the house will be covered. The fast and seemingly unlimited growth rate of vines - fox grape grows to treetops - make them good possibilities for privacy screening and unique uses.

Frequently seen covering walls or draping over arbors, vines are limited only by their opportunities. Train vines to create interesting shapes and forms and add vertical drama to the landscape. Search for metal or wood structures, whether created through DIY designs — gardeners love to share ideas online — or commercial stock. Plastic may not hold up to the weight of a thick, woody vine.

When it's grown on a wall, take care that the vine won't tether itself to siding or mortar that can be damaged as it burrows under or into materials. Moisture is also a consideration because a thick vine layer can trap water against a wall, leading to rot or mold. A masonry wall facing south is probably the safest bet for growing on a house. Get a similar effect by using a braced, freestanding trellis a short distance away.

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Coral or trumpet honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) is my favorite and beloved of hummingbirds. While it will fill in the space it's given, it takes its time and isn't as aggressive as other vines. Although it's said to tolerate part-shade, until I moved mine from a shadier area, it survived but did not grow more than a few inches. Now in full sun, it has made it halfway up an 8-foot trellis in a single season. The long, tubular flowers are present from spring through summer. Plant it near a window where it will be seen often.

Virgin's bower (*Clematis virginiana*) has less showy flowers than species from other points of origin, but it is a host plant for the clematis clearwing moth, which can't be said of others. The white flowers last about a month in late summer and I appreciate the way they light up a space. It will also tolerate less than full sun.

Dutchman's pipe (*Aristolochia macrophylla*) is another twining vine with heart-shaped leaves and a peculiar rich, delicate brown flower that is shaped, yes, like a pipe. If you'd love to see a beautiful, blue pipevine swallowtail butterfly, having Dutchman's pipe is the way. It's a host plant, one of two in the Northeast, and the butterfly will lay its eggs on it and the caterpillars will feed on the leaves. Since Dutchman's pipe is native to Appalachian forests, it grows well in the understory in more shade than many vines.

Not Recommended

Mile-a-minute weed (*Persicaria perfoliata*) will grow up to 6 inches in a day and can smother other vegetation by forming a dense mat over it. While it has been more problematic in warmer climates south of the Hudson Valley, it has been creeping in and causes great concern among ecologists.

Kudzu, known as the vine that ate the South, is also on the move in New York. Growing up to a foot a day, it was originally planted and cultivated to prevent erosion in the early 20th century. Found in at least 30 states, kudzu in some areas has covered every tree in the forest.

Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) is a woody vine that twines around neighboring plants and trees so effectively that it will actually girdle a mature hardwood tree. Girdling means that it chokes off the flow of water and nutrients up and down the trunk. It spreads through a profusion of seeds and underground so act fast to get it under control if you find it in your yard.



Golf is open to the public on weekdays and weekend afternoons.

Garrison Club (from Page 1)

O'Rourke and Del Monte have fond memories of times spent at The Highlands as members, but their business experience has not included dog-legs, sand traps and birdies.

"I've spent 42 years working in the paper industry," O'Rourke said. "For the past 15 years I've focused on sustainable alternatives to plastic." He recently agreed to stay with the company for one more year.

"I'm a software developer," Del Monte said, "and I just launched a startup in March."

Both are close to retirement, but family ties to the club were a big part of what motivated them to step in.

"My kids grew up here, playing tennis and golf and just running about," said O'Rourke, an avid golfer and tennis player. "It was a great family club; we had the time of our lives there."

"My wife and I, and both our boys, played tennis here; over 11 years we have plenty of history here," Del Monte said. "That's what attracted us to the idea of starting up the club again."

Maintenance had declined under previous management, O'Rourke said, and the club struggled through the pandemic shutdown. After two months of work, "the course has recovered," O'Rourke said. "If it continues to improve at this rate, by the end of the year we're going to have a mini-Augusta National here in Garrison."

He said the nine-hole course, traditionally known for its "small, spectacular greens," is well suited to seniors and anyone who doesn't want to devote the time to play 18.

Younger golfers will benefit from a program being planned that will include coaching from Garrison resident Terrence Driscoll, who O'Rourke describes as a "golfing phenom."

Tennis will be back, as well, along with pickleball, considered by many to be the fastest-growing sport in the country. Pool operations will be outsourced.

"We want it to develop as a real community club," O'Rourke said. "The social aspect declined in the last few years."

The club is semi-private. Members of the public can golf on weekdays and weekend afternoons but members have exclusive access on weekend mornings and holidays.

In the past, there had been various levels

of access, such as family pool memberships for about \$1,200. Under the new management, there are only full memberships with unrestricted access to golf, tennis and the pool, ranging from \$3,100 to \$4,500 annually, including a \$300 initiation fee.

Photo by M. Turton

"We're trying to engender a sense of community," O'Rourke said, adding that with nearly 100 new memberships, that process is off to a "healthy start."

He hopes part of the club's community feel will come from special events such as Haldane High School's graduation dinner in June.

Weddings, however, will be dramatically fewer in number. "That was a tough decision because the revenue is significant," O'Rourke said. "But we don't think you can have weddings and a positive club experience together."

Food is a work in progress. A nearby commercial, or "ghost" kitchen, will bring food to the club. "Frankly, getting a restaurant up and running is going to be a challenge," O'Rourke said, although The Tavern bar will reopen and a German-style beer garden will be added next to the pro shop.

Del Monte said there's been no single "big surprise" in the process but that older buildings, older equipment and a previous operator who focused on events has meant a steady stream of things needing to be replaced or fixed. Supply-chain issues have arisen, including trying to replace a "massively expensive" rough mower.

"The best surprise has been the overwhelming positive response from the community," O'Rourke said. "We're doing this on a shoestring. Young families are excited about it — I've had multiple people mowing lawns, volunteering to rake traps, doing things every day. I've almost had to start turning people away. Next year will be easier, but there have been a lot of 12-hour days."

The Highlands Country Club is located at 955 Route 9D in Garrison. The pool will be open from Saturday (May 28) through Sept. 5; golf and tennis are available through Oct. 31. Including a \$300 initiation fee, seniors (ages 65 and older) can join for \$3,100 annually; individuals for \$3,500; couples for \$3,700 and families for \$4,500. See hudsonhighlandscc.com or call 914-262-8102. Non-member greens fees start at \$30.



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.



(from Page 1)

ing plan is rejected, the district must adopt a contingency budget, meaning that the budget is frozen at the 2021-22 level with no tax increase.

Of 17 districts that attempted overrides of their tax caps this year, only two failed, in Garrison and Newfield, near Ithaca, according to the Association of School Business Officials of New York. Newfield had asked for a 14 percent increase, or 8.85 percent over its cap; the vote was 154-134, which did not reach the threshold.

Statewide, the average increase in school taxes was 3.2 percent, according to the Empire Center for Public Policy. The tax cap was implemented in 2012 and Garrison was the first local district to attempt an override.

On Wednesday, Joseph Jimick, the district's business administrator, explained how he and Superintendent Carl Albano had cut the district's initial budget by \$258,000.

Salaries

Teacher would not receive raises in 2022-23, which would save \$70,000. Lauren Johnson, co-president of the Garrison Teachers' Association, said the teachers voted Wednesday afternoon to forgo a salary increase. "We do this to further help support the children At the Wednesday (May 25) meeting of the Garrison school board, Business Administrator Joseph Jimick said that if voters reject a revised budget on June 21 that includes a 6.6 percent tax increase, the district would need to reduce spending for 2022-23 by \$642,355. He provided the board with a list of potential cuts that could achieve that.

- Sports
- Arts programs, including fine arts, band, chorus and theater. Students would instead attend monitored study halls.
- Transportation within 2 miles of the school, which would impact 70 families. Other students would have longer bus rides.

of Garrison," she said. A freeze on adminis-

trators' salaries would save another \$20,000.

The district would save \$107,513 under

a tentative, multiyear agreement with the

Haldane school district for high-school

tuition costs. Garrison educates children

in kindergarten through the eighth grade;

those who choose public schools can attend

Haldane High School or O'Neill High

Haldane had proposed charging Garri-

son \$21,473 per student in 2022-23, using a

formula devised by the state. Instead, it will

charge \$16,500 per student, Jimick said.

"Haldane made a significant concession,"

said Albano. "They're also protecting us

If the four-year agreement is finalized,

tuition increases will be capped at 2 percent

annually or the rate of inflation, which-

ever is less, Jimick said. Garrison residents

will vote June 21 on whether to permit the district to enter into the agreement with

Haldane. A similar agreement with the

Highland Falls-Fort Montgomery district

was approved by Garrison voters on May 17.

In a statement, Haldane Superintendent

High-school tuition

School in Highlands Falls.

with a multiyear deal."

- One elementary teacher
- The school psychologist
- The dialectical behavioral therapist, a consultant who helps with student's social and emotional needs
- The environmental science teacher
- The director of technology

Philip Benante said: "We are committed to ensuring that all students who have committed to Haldane have an uninterrupted educational experience and have informed Garrison that we will honor a tuition structure that allows these students to attend Haldane High School.

"We also stand behind the value of the Haldane experience and our responsibility to the taxpayers of our community. We will seek to work with Garrison to establish a tuition rate structure that reflects the commitment that our residents have made to support our schools."

If tuition deals are ratified by all parties, they should put to rest concerns about the loss of high school choice, Jimick said.

Garrison school board President Sarah Tormey said that the revised budget saves money while maintaining the quality of the school. "We have listened to the 'no' votes in the Garrison community," she said.

Program cuts

The budget eliminates a part-time music teacher position to save \$48,865; reduces the field-trip budget by \$15,000 (parents will pay the full costs, Albano said); cuts a startup lunch program to save \$10,000 (students will continue to bring their own lunches); and eliminates a Land to Learn program to save \$20,000.

Tormey said the cuts will get far more severe if the budget fails again. "This isn't a scare tactic," she said. "A contingency budget will gut the quality of this school to a point at which it will take years to recover."

If 60 percent of voters don't approve the second budget, Jimick said the district would need to find another \$642,355 in reductions and outlined some ways that could be done (see left).

Among them, instead of arts and environmental classes, students would attend study halls, which "is unacceptable by any educational standard," said Albano. "To my knowledge it exists in no other K-8 programs throughout our region."

If the override is approved on June 21, the tax levy would rise to \$10.39 per \$1,000 of full value. That means that a home valued at \$500,000 would see an increase of \$322 per year.

That would still be the lowest property tax rate in the county by far. Haldane's tax rate is \$17.01 and Brewster homeowners pay \$27.74. In other areas of the state, the rates get much higher. For example, property owners in the Levittown Union Free School District on Long Island pay \$42.52.

Garrison's budget crisis is the result of several factors. With inflation up more than 8 percent last month, the district is facing rising costs for health care (14 percent) and transportation (12 percent).

As a relatively wealthy district, Garrison raises over 80 percent of its budget from its tax levy. By contrast, districts statewide on average receive 58 percent of their funding from local taxes, according to the Association of School Business Officials of New York. The remainder comes from state and federal aid; Garrison's state aid for 2022-23 is nearly \$100,000 less than this year, although it did get a one-time injection of money last month after lobbying Albany.



Puzzles

POSSCURRENT

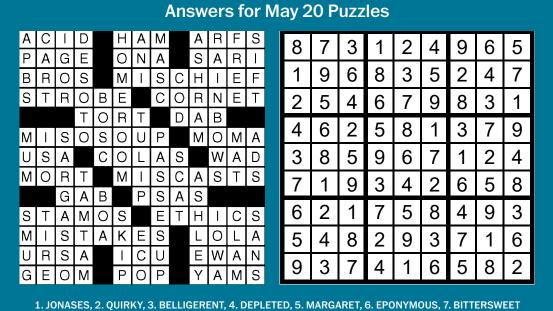
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13. Spanish gold			
14. "Do – others"			
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say	30		Τ
18. Baseball divisions	33		
20. Diving ducks	33		
21. Leb. neighbor			
22. Ostrich's kin	40	41	42
23. Sousa	40	41	4
composition	47		Τ
26. Empty, as a stare	50		-
30. Commotion	50		
31. Melody	53		Τ
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31. Reply (Abbr.)

48. Conditions



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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.

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VARSITY Roundup

By Skip Pearlman

BASEBALL

Seeded fifth in the Section IX, Class B playoffs, Beacon hung with top-seeded Wallkill for most of Wednesday's semifinal game.

But after the Bulldogs came within one run in the top of the third, their offense stalled and the Panthers kept tacking on runs on their way to an 11-5 victory.

Wallkill (16-4) was scheduled to face Cornwall on Saturday (May 28) in the sectional title game.

Beacon, which finished 8-11 last season when playing in Section I, improved to 14-8 in its first season of Section IX competition.

In the Wednesday game, played at Wallkill High, the Panthers came out swinging and scored four times in the first inning, putting the Bulldogs in a quick hole.

Beacon responded with two runs in the second, but the host matched that in the bottom of the inning and went up 6-2.

The Bulldogs rallied in the top of the third, scoring three times to make it a onerun (6-5) game, but Wallkill grabbed the momentum right back, scoring twice more to push its lead back to three. The Panthers scored three more in the fifth.

Owen Brown took the loss on the mound for the Bulldogs, and Ronnie Anzovino, Derrick Heaton and Mikey Fontaine also pitched.

Coach Bob Atwell — whose team beat Wallkill, 9-8, during the season noted that the Bulldogs had opportunities: They left the bases loaded in the third inning and loaded them again with one out in the fifth but couldn't tie the game.

"It's disappointing that we couldn't end it better," he said. "But Wallkill is a tough team. They're seeded No. 1 for a reason."

He noted that his team was 4-6 at one point but won 10 of its next 12 games, "and we were one hit away from taking a lead today."

"Our pitching staff struggled a bit today," he said. "But Tyler Haydt has been in the middle of our offense all year — he had a big RBI double — Jackson Atwell has been great and Anzovino had a two-run double that got us back in the game. It's been a nice spring."

Haldane also fell in the first round, losing a three-game series to The Leffell School in the Section I, Class D tournament. Leffell



Beacon catcher Liam Murphy puts the tag on a Wallkill runner at home base on Wednesday.

Photo by S. Pearlman

won the first game but Haldane took the second, 4-0, on May 18, behind a onehitter by Julian Ambrose. Leffell advanced on May 20 with a dominant, 16-1 win that included 12 runs in the first inning.

In the May 18 win, Ambrose struck out 11 in a complete-game performance that Coach Simon Dudar called "stellar." At the plate, he drove in two runs. Trajan McCarthy and Milo Pearsall also had big hits for Haldane.

"It was a great atmosphere with the fans," Dudar said of the home game. "And it was great to see Ambrose back and fully healthy for the first time on the mound all year. He got to show what he's capable of. He stepped up when we needed him most."

Of the May 20 loss, Dudar said: "Some injuries caught up with us, having guys out. Nothing went our way. Just a klunker all the way around that every team has from time to time. We just picked a bad time to have it."

Pearsall had an RBI double, and Jake Hotaling had two singles for Haldane.

"We had a goal of getting our very young team some experience," Dudar said. "We get to bring back everyone next season and we'll have a great squad of juniors and seniors who have everyday playing experience."

BOYS' LACROSSE

Seeded No. 7 in the Section I, Class D tournament, Haldane advanced to the quarterfinals but on May 20 met No. 2 Bronxville, who cruised to a 17-1 win over the Blue Devils.

The Broncos (14-4) went on to defeat No. 3 Pleasantville on Tuesday (May 24) and were scheduled to face No. 1 Briarcliff in the title game on Thursday.

Liam Gaugler had the only goal for Haldane, which led 1-0 for the first six minutes of the game. But Bronxville scored twice at the end of the first quarter, then pulled away with five more in the second.

"I thought we played sound defense for most of the first half," said Coach Ed Crowe. "We shocked them a little. But they are big and strong and have some good scorers. Our kids fought as much as they could, but we couldn't match the firepower."

Jordon Hankel had 16 saves in net for the Blue Devils, who finished their season at 10-8.

Crowe said his team did well on face-offs. "Frankie DiGiglio was tough. He gave us possession, but their defense was very good."

Six Haldane players were named to the All-League team: Hankel, PJ Ruggiero, Evan Giachinta, Will Sniffen, Brody Corless and Nate Stickle. Crowe noted that five of the six are freshmen or sophomores, and that the team will lose only two players to graduation.

BOYS' GOLF

Tim Ben Adi of Haldane just missed the chance to play in the state championships when he lost a playoff hole during the Section I tournament on May 18 at the Westchester Country Club in Harrison.

Ben Adi tied with Matthew Choe of

Scarsdale as the last of nine players who would advance after each shot 160 in two 18-hole rounds. Ben Adi will serve as the first alternate.

Luke O'Grady-Rodgers of Carmel, who finished third in the field with a 154, was among the players who advanced. Sean Flaherty of Arlington High School won the title with a 145.

TRACK AND FIELD

Haldane competed in the Northern County Championship on May 19 to 21 at Arlington High School.

The Blue Devils had three top-10 finishers: For the girls, Andriea Vasconcelos won the triple jump in 29-0 and was 10th in the long jump at 12-02.5. For the boys, Luke Parella was third in the 3,000-meter steeplechase in 10:35.04, sixth in the 1,600 meters in 4:51.76 and eighth in the 3,200 meters in 10:21.30; and Soren Holmbo finished third in the high jump at 5-06.

Beacon competed on May 20 and 21 in the regional championships at Goshen High School. For the girls, Isabella Migliore finished fifth in the 800 meters in 2:26.94. For the boys, Edward Manente was third in the 100-meter dash in 11.52 and eighth in the 200 meters in 24.13. Evan LaBelle finished third in the 800 meters in 2:00.91; Rubio Castagna-Torres was sixth in the 400-meter hurdles in 1:00.36; Lucas Vermeulen was fifth in the high jump at 5-08; and Damani DeLoatch was third in the long jump at 20-07.5 and ninth in the triple jump at 40-02.