

The HIGHLANDS Current



Reflections
of a
Local Life
Page 11

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New Trail Opens At Fahnestock

*Hubbard Perkins Loop
built for multiple uses*

By Brian PJ Cronin

Fahnestock State Park in Philipstown got another big upgrade this week with the opening of the 9.5-mile multi-use Hubbard Perkins Loop Trail in the park's north-west section.

The project significantly reworks and reroutes parts of several existing trails to avoid sensitive wetland areas as well as makes the trails more suitable for running, horseback riding, mountain biking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. The \$1.5 million project was planned and paid for by the



(Continued on Page 6)



TITLE WINNING LEAP — Rayvon Grey, a champion long jumper at Beacon High School, won a national title in the event at the USA Track & Field Outdoor Championships in Oregon. Full story on Page 20.

Levenberg Wins Assembly Primary

*Ossining supervisor
seeking to replace Galef*

By Leonard Sparks

Dana Levenberg defeated Vanessa Agudelo on Tuesday (June 28) in the Democratic primary for the state Assembly's 95th District, which includes Philipstown and parts of Westchester County.

Levenberg, the Town of Ossining supervisor whom incumbent Sandy Galef endorsed to succeed her for the seat, won 47 percent of the votes cast district-wide, while Agudelo, a former member of the Peekskill Common Council, garnered 33 percent, according to unofficial tallies from the elections boards for Putnam and Westchester counties.

Another Democratic candidate, Westchester County Legislator Colin Smith, finished last, with 19 percent of the votes cast.

Levenberg will face Agudelo, the Working Families Party candidate, again in the

(Continued on Page 7)

'A Voice For The Voiceless'

Remembering Beacon community leader Yvonne McNair



Ed McNair Jr., surrounded by his sisters, LaKeshia and LaVonne, sits in his mother's favorite rocking chair at the family's Hubert Street home.

Photo by Valerie Shively

By Jeff Simms

Ed McNair Jr. and his two older sisters, LaVonne and LaKeshia, weren't ready to talk about their mother, Yvonne McNair, until now.

Yvonne — for decades a leader in Beacon's Black community — died in March after a six-week bout with COVID-19. The highly contagious Omicron variant tore through the close-knit family in January, sickening Ed Jr., his wife and young son, plus LaVonne, LaKeshia and the siblings' mother.

While her children and grandchildren recovered, Yvonne, 68, took a turn for the worse and was readmitted to Vassar Brothers Hospital in February. She came home, with an oxygen tank, but later that month was rushed to the hospital again, where doctors diagnosed her with COVID-induced pneumonia.

She never returned home before dying on March 4.

"I still haven't accepted it," said Ed Jr., 34, who has three children, ranging from 2 to 10 years old. "I kind of look past it, like it didn't happen. It's a very big gap, but I try to fill the void with other things — my family and kids."

(Continued on Page 9)

Who Seeks Abortions

*CDC shows most are in
their 20s with children*

By Leonard Sparks

The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on June 24 eliminating a constitutional right to abortion established by Roe v. Wade in 1973 had been expected ever since a draft of the decision was leaked in May. But it still shocked local residents.

The next day, First Presbyterian Church in Cold Spring posted to its Facebook page a video of Presbyterian Church U.S.A. officials affirming their organization's support for abortion rights. In Beacon, Aimee deSimone, the owner of Berte, a retail shop, organized a fundraiser to support the National Network of Abortion Funds, which provides money for travel, lodging and other abortion-related expenses.

"We all knew this was coming, but once it was actually official it felt like a slap on every woman's face and a revocation of basic freedoms," said deSimone on Monday (June 27). "I was angry; I'm still angry."

Planned Parenthood of Greater New York said it was increasing appointment

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How the Highlands Voted

Assembly District 95	Putnam	Westchester	Total
Dana Levenberg	587	3,654	4,241
Vanessa Agudelo	481	2,488	2,969
Colin Smith	88	1,681	1,769

Governor (Dem)	Dutchess	Putnam	State
Kathy Hochul	9,893	2,886	575,159
Jumaane Williams	1,522	467	164,409
Thomas Souzzi	1,041	399	111,011

Governor (Rep)	Dutchess	Putnam	State
Lee Zeldin	2,911	869	194,387
Andrew Guiliani	2,120	916	101,102
Rob Astorino	3,267	2,584	80,822
Harry Wilson	685	180	64,977

Lt. Governor	Dutchess	Putnam	State
Antonio Delgado	9,962	2,336	493,820
Ana Archila	1,591	756	201,874
Diana Reyna	681	393	115,338

Source: New York State, Dutchess, Putnam, Westchester boards of elections

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: PAUL BRADY

By Brian PJ Cronin

Paul Brady is the owner of Paul Brady Wines at 344 Main St. in Beacon, where he only sells wines, beers and spirits made in New York.

How'd you get into New York wines?

I come from Michigan, but I spent time in Canada and France with my family. So I was allowed to have a little wine with dinner as a teenager. In Canada, where my family had a cottage, there was this good gastropub, and I got to know the owner. He gave me a glass of this Canadian riesling from the Niagara Peninsula and it blew my mind to learn that it was made so close by. When I moved to New York in 2008, he told me that the Finger Lakes had a similar terroir and style of cold-climate viticulture.

Why has the quality and quantity of New York wines increased so much?

Having Cornell University here helps. They have a big agriculture department doing research on how to grow grapes in this climate. And they have a great breeding department, so they make new grapes. Over the years, we've seen prices skyrocket in categories like Bordeaux, pinot noir and chardonnay from Burgundy. That's how small, remote regions end up getting attention. We turn to them as alternatives to the other regions when we get priced out.

From a viticulture standpoint what are the Hudson Valley's strengths?

Diversity is a big strength. In the Hudson Valley, you can have wonderful wines made in many different styles all over the region. Look at my shelf: There's an amazing riesling, there's an amazing, full-bodied cabernet-based blend very much like a Bordeaux in structure. There's also interesting, good-value wines made from some of the early hybrid grapes that were planted, like the sauvignon blanc, at Benmarl [winery in Marlboro]. Then there's new plantings like the Whitecliff Gamay at the Olana vineyard.



Paul Brady

Photo by B. Cronin

Could climate change allow New York to overtake California as the dominant wine-producing state?

Not just New York, but anywhere in the Northeast where viticulture is taken seriously. What we're seeing on the West Coast is tragic. But a distributor told me the other day that they just picked up a certain East Coast winery from a certain East Coast state. And he said that, with what's happening with the West Coast, distributors and suppliers are already having to go after East Coast wineries more.

What are you drinking these days?

My two favorite things to drink in New York are sparkling wine and chilled reds. There are certain grapes here that lend themselves to sparkling wine production, as well as red wines that are good with a chill. Almost all the red wines that get produced in New York have this beautiful acidity that makes chilling it desirable. Tannins can become a little — I don't want to say *unpleasant*, but can stick out if the bottle is too cold. Cellar temperature of 55 to 57 degrees is the best. But certain cabernet francs and pinot noir, I'm literally just drinking it ice cold and loving it.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's your go-to, cold, refreshing drink on a hot summer day?

“ Kind of boring, but a tall glass of ice water. ”



Erica Hughes, Beacon

“ Snapple peach, no sugar; it's cheap, \$2. ”



John Hersh, Putnam Valley

“ A mango margarita, preferably at the beach! ”



Jade Mackney, Cold Spring

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The Cold Spring Fire Co. rescue boat launches on Tuesday (June 28). Photo by M. Turton

Anchors Away

Cold Spring deploys rescue boat

By Mike Turton

The Cold Spring Fire Co. rescue boat has returned to service on the Hudson River for a fifth consecutive boating season.

A designated crew will man the boat, a 21-foot Steiger Craft Chesapeake bought five years ago from the Newburgh fire department. Most of the company's other firefighters are also trained to operate it, said Chief Jeff Phillips Jr.

The alarms Cold Spring receives for river emergencies automatically generate mutual aid responses from at least two other local agencies with boats, said Phillips.

"We have a great professional relationship with all surrounding departments on the Hudson," he said.

The Garrison, Cornwall and Fort Montgomery fire companies, along with the West Point and Newburgh fire departments and the Orange County and Dutchess County sheriffs also possess boats serving the Highlands section of the Hudson River.

Putnam County eliminated funding for its Sheriff's Department's boats on the Hudson River and Lake Mahopac in 2020.

NEWS BRIEFS

Bridge Authority Names Deputy Director

Appoints former state transportation official

The New York State Bridge Authority said on Wednesday (June 29) that Lauren Melendez will become its new deputy executive director.

Melendez, a former assistant secretary for transportation in the administration of Gov. Kathy Hochul, will begin her tenure on July 11, becoming second in command at an authority that oversees the Bear Mountain and Newburgh-Beacon bridges, and three other Hudson River crossings.

"She not only has expertise in the field of transportation, but also a knowledge and appreciation for the communities that our bridges connect," said Minosca Alcantara, the authority's executive director.

Cold Spring Woman Injured In Crash

Collision occurred at Route 9 and Fishkill Road

A Cold Spring woman was injured on June 21 when she pulled out of a gas station in Philipstown into the path of a vehicle traveling north on Route 9, according to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department.

The 71-year-old driver, whom police did not identify, was transported to NewYork-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital by Philipstown EMS. She said that when the vehicle in front of her pulled into Route 9 opposite Fishkill Road, she assumed the intersection was clear and did not see the approaching northbound vehicle. Although there is a traffic signal at the intersection, there is not one facing the gas station.

The second driver, a 53-year-old Poughkeepsie woman, was transported by the Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corps to Vassar Brothers Hospital.

Beacon Youth League Awarded \$20K

Grant will fund baseball uniforms, equipment

Beacon Junior Baseball is receiving a \$20,000 grant for equipment, uniforms and concession-stand upgrades.

The league is one of 20 nonprofit organizations sharing \$328,740 in the latest round of awards from Dutchess County's Learn, Play, Create: Supporting Our Kids grant program. It organizes teams for children between 4 and 12 years old.

The Mount Gulian Society in Fishkill is also receiving \$20,000, which will be used to buy an Amish-style dormer shed to host school and youth programming and store educational equipment and supplies.

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Budget re-vote

A sincere word of thanks to the Garrison residents who came out to vote on June 21, especially the 614 who voted in support of the school budget ("Garrison School Budget Passes on Second Try," June 24).

Your vote proves we, as a community, care deeply about our school and the young people who attend it. Thanks also to our partners at Haldane and O'Neill, and to all the parents and residents who volunteered their time and ideas to ensure this budget would pass. Many people made many contributions. Each of them was crucial. A final round of thanks goes to the faculty and staff at the Garrison School. By agreeing to forgo raises, they helped bring the tax levy increase down to 6.6 percent, an amount that, while still higher than people wanted, proved palatable. Their sacrifice is, to put it mildly, appreciated, and it gives the kids at GUFSA a clear and indispensable example of what it means to stand up for one's beliefs.

And to the voters who opposed the budget: I hope you will engage with the school community throughout the year and share your thoughts. We're all in this together; all perspectives are valuable. Here's to a terrific summer.

Ned Rauch, *Garrison*

Rauch is president of the Garrison School PTA.

If the revised spending plan had not been approved, the district could not have held a third vote. What kind of thinking is this? Count me in as one who believes that one vote is sufficient. Of course, the Garrison Union Free School District can't keep putting it out for a vote until it gets what it

wants, so why even mention a third vote?

Keith Cunningham, *Garrison*

Black history

My wife, Sharon, and I love history, especially when it's nearby, as you have captured ("Always Present, Never Seen, Part 4," June 17). My personal story is the reverse of some of what you reported about Black people who migrated from the segregated South to the integrated North. In 1970, when I was 8 years old, my white family from New York City moved to Louisiana to assist a small congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses.

I was in shock over the contrast, especially the segregation. My first year there in public school was the first year it integrated. I couldn't even understand what that meant, having come from PS 179 in Manhattan, where there was no distinction between any student's color in class. Our best family friends in the city were an interracial couple.

Needless to say, the local whites did not like seeing a family come in that "liked" Black people. We were the target of the Ku Klux Klan, who left burning crosses in our yard and horrifically killed our pets. These were not good childhood memories.

Your series brought back those memories — not all of them bad because of hundreds of lifelong friends made.

My wife and I feel, as Jehovah's Witnesses, that we are part of one of the least-prejudiced, fairest organizations we could ever be a part of. We have traveled the world, been received and stayed in homes of families of many colors and cultures, whom we had never met before. We have been treated as family by all, even in lands where it is against the law to practice our faith.

Your articles have done a good job of helping people have their eyes opened to history. Hopefully, eyes were opened about the present, as well.

Gregory Duhon, *Wallkill*

To reiterate John Lennon's dream: "Imagine all the people livin' life in peace" and "Imagine all the people sharing all the world. You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us and the world will live as one." I hope someday you'll join us.

Fern Sartori, *Wappingers Falls*

What an amazing and beautifully reported article. Thank you so much for digging back through the past to present a fuller, richer history of Beacon.

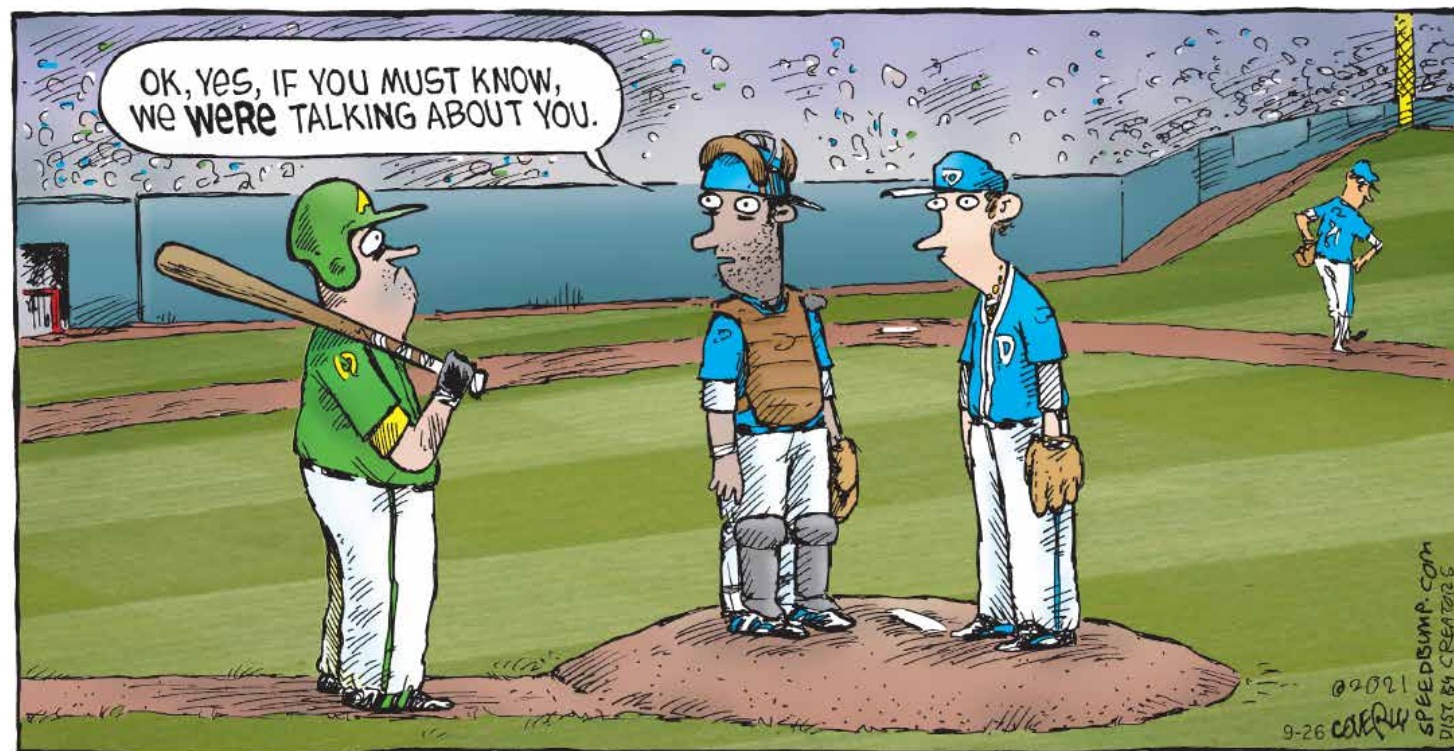
Debra Scacciaferro, *Warwick*

Seastreak returns

The revised proposal for enhanced Seastreak service to Dockside Park — added Friday service and potentially larger boats with 400 passengers — exacerbates the issues I have already brought to the Village Board's attention: untenable overcrowding in a small area; added strain on our infrastructure to coordinate and facilitate the crowds; increased noise (ship's motor and horn) and carbon footprint (diesel exhaust); and a degradation of quality of life for lower-village residents and those elsewhere who feel stressed about these same issues ("Talks Continue On Seastreak Cruises," June 24).

I still maintain that the potential revenue of \$40,000, offsetting 2 percent of the total village budget of \$2.5 million, is a negligible sum, and that given the detriments

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

above, should give the village less incentive to continue the service at all.

I daresay that if one calculated all of the direct and indirect costs of the proposal, it would be highly inequitable. These costs are: emergencies, maintenance, sanitation and enhanced police presence. In theory, our small village area is not an inexhaustible resource or unfettered e-tourist stomping ground. We can't welcome an unlimited number of people, for so many reasons.

I believe that the concept of maintaining the well-deserved Hudson Valley charm and laid-back, small-village allure is in contradistinction with the idea of choking it full of cars and crowded sidewalks — lest the village become a caricature of itself, a Hudson Valley village theme park.

The village shouldn't be this desperate for revenue when there are sensible budget reductions that could easily make up the shortfall, or perhaps opportunities to raise more revenue. The village need not be influenced into Faustian bargains that disrupt peaceful living for residents. You can't put a price on the value of quality of life. In other words, even if the service brought in more revenue, it's an unattractive prospect for the village's big picture.

The idea of a larger boat should be altogether scuttled. The larger boat would be a bigger eyesore, burn more fuel and block more views — in fact, the entire dock. On weekends, the dock is already overloaded with people, but few visitors or locals choose to enjoy this area when the scow is docked.

Thus, I applaud the notion of the boat docking elsewhere, if at all. However, if I heard correctly, that decision would be left to the discrepancy of the boat owners. The likelihood of such a concession is highly dubious. Docking elsewhere should be a prerequisite to any agreement.

If the Village Board and mayor are serious about crowd decompression and helping to restore a reasonably peaceful local quality of life, this is a perfect opportunity for them to put the power of their convictions into action by dispensing with the boat service altogether, which will help mitigate our overcrowding problems.

Derek Graham, *Cold Spring*

The boats are much smaller and manageable this year, more than any year ever. And the best part is that when it's time to go, they have no cars taking up space and no cars lined up along Route 9D with people walking five-deep in the middle of the road, turning a 55 miles-per-hour zone into 3

mph. How about we redirect our focus to the pothole that ate my car the other day?

Michael Vierra, *via Facebook*

Thanks for ruining a beautiful village. Mini Lake George. Dock at Bear Mountain or Newburgh, not at Cold Spring.

Mary Cooper, *via Facebook*

I, for one, will avoid Cold Spring like the plague whenever Seastreak docks.

Thomas de Villiers, *via Facebook*

I've been down there when this docked. Horrendous, and ruins the view.

Laurie Gallio, *via Facebook*

I couldn't believe what I was reading. I hope Cold Spring residents are paying very close attention.

Dawn Anne Tiebout, *via Facebook*

Veterans flags

I am writing regarding a proposal that was floated at the last meeting of Nelsonville's Village Board on June 20 regarding the flying of flags from poles throughout the village showing veterans in uniform. My understanding from the meeting is that the flags would be up year-round and remain permanently.

I would welcome the flying of flags of veterans who sacrificed their lives for our country for a period of time each year — for example, from Memorial Day through July 4th — to honor them and remind us of our debt to them for our freedoms and particularly for the fact that we are still currently free of dictatorship.

However, in my opinion, the permanent, year-round flying of flags throughout the village of men in military uniform is problematic. I feel that it conveys a sense of militarism to see pictures of men in uniform throughout the village on a constant basis. I would urge the village not to approve the proposal for flags that would fly year-round and to seek to have the flags fly only for a portion of the year.

I say this as the daughter and sister of veterans of the military, specifically the U.S. Marine Corps. My father was in the Marines' Military Police and my brother served at the Marine base at 29 Palms in Joshua Tree, California. Despite being veterans, they also oppose the flying of flags of men in military uniforms that would be up permanently and year-round, for the reason that the constant presence of images of men in military uniform feels to them to be at odds with civilian society.

Heidi A. Wendel, *Nelsonville*

NEWS BRIEF

Station Platforms To Undergo Repairs

Cold Spring, Garrison projects begin this month

The replacement of the track-side and street-side edges of the platforms at the Cold Spring and Garrison Metro-North stations will begin on July 22 and continue through October.

Track outages will affect both stations from

11 p.m. on Fridays to 4 a.m. on Mondays, when all trains will operate on one track, said Metro-North Railroad. Commuters will be unable to use 22 parking spots at Cold Spring and eight at Garrison during the project, and noise can be expected during construction hours.

In addition to demolishing and replacing the platform edges to prevent water from damaging rebar and concrete, Metro-North will repair cracks and spalling, fix piers and install new railings and ADA-compliant warning surfaces.



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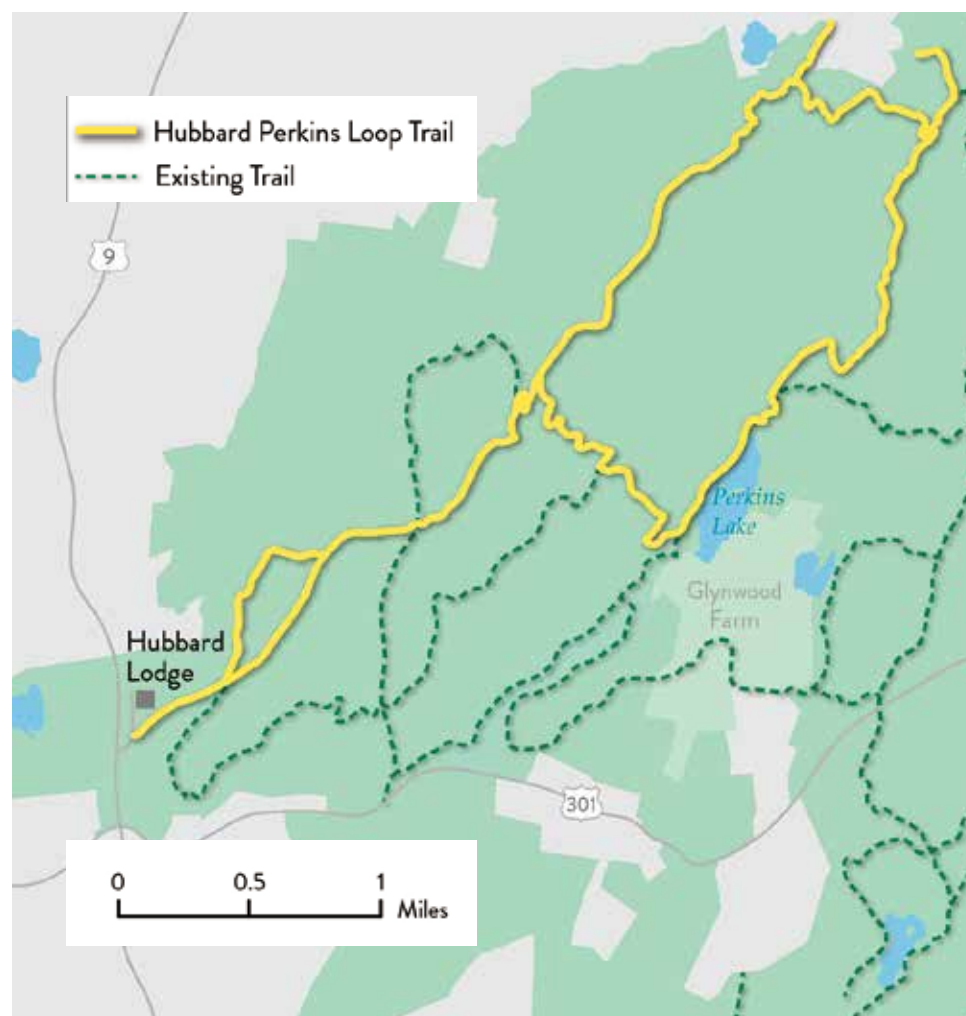
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The Hubbard Perkins Loop Trail covers 9.5 miles in Fahnestock.

Courtesy of the Open Space Institute

Loop Trail *(from Page 1)*

Open Space Institute, through a mixture of private and public funds.

"You get up there now and it's just ridge after ridge," said Peter Karis, the vice president of parks and stewardship at OSI. "The slopes are gentler, the curves are sweeping; we bring you close to the rocks and the boulders and there's multiple stream crossings."

Karis calls the project the "crescendo" of OSI's recent collaborations with the New York State Parks Department and the Taconic Regional Commission, including last year's installation of two new parking lots and reworked trails. West Point cadets also collaborated, building bridges on the trail for their capstone structural and civil engineering projects.

"These are the cadets that are going to go into the Army Corps of Engineers," said Karis. "They actually get to build something that they've designed. It's real-world

experience. This is the fifth year in a row we've done this and it's been their number one choice for capstone projects. Every cadet wants to build a bridge."

The bridges themselves also do double-duty as symbols on the new blazes that mark the Hubbard Perkins Loop Trail, since it overlays several existing trails.

While the trail follows the same general shape as the existing trails, the new rerouting pulls the trails out of shallow wetland areas, which will not only protect fragile wildlife habitats but also protect the new trails from erosion. Karis said that pulling the trails out of the lower saddles and up onto the ridges not only protects wildlife and the trails themselves, but will give those using the trails new views and access into areas of the park that weren't previously accessible.

"It's got beautiful places to visit that the other trail did not go by before," he said. "It's a spectacular, interior big-forest type of experience, which is what Fahnestock is all about."

NEWS BRIEF

Dutchess To Add Mental Health Beds

County partners with MidHudson Regional on project

Dutchess County and WMCHHealth announced on Tuesday (June 28) that a new Behavioral Health Center of Excellence with additional beds for mental health patients is planned for MidHudson Regional Hospital in Poughkeepsie.

The county is contributing \$3 million to the project, which will involve renovating

the hospital's existing behavioral health units to add 20 more beds, bringing the total to 60, as well as shared community spaces and nursing stations.

WMCHHealth, the system that runs MidHudson Regional, must first get approval for the project from the state's Health and Mental Health departments, said Marc Molinaro, Dutchess County's executive. The first phase is expected to be completed late next year.

"This new center, the result of an extraordinary public-private partnership, will not only change lives, it will save them," said Molinaro.

Accessory Dwellings to Move Ahead in Beacon?

Hip Lofts expansion, new water meters also on council agenda

By Jeff Simms

The City Council appears close to setting a public hearing on a draft law it has considered for nearly a year that would simplify the process for creating accessory dwelling unit (ADU) apartments in single-family residential zones — which comprise the vast majority of the land in Beacon.

Before setting a hearing, however, the council decided on Monday (June 27) to send the proposal to the Planning Board for its review. The Planning Board first weighed in last year, saying it supports a move to simplify the creation of ADUs.

The ADU discussion began after Mayor Lee Kyriacou suggested streamlining the law to encourage homeowners to create smaller, affordable apartments on their properties.

In her 2022-23 state budget, Gov. Kathy Hochul also included a proposal that would have required municipalities to allow ADUs on lots zoned for single- or multi-family

construction, but removed it after opposition from groups such as the Association of Towns of the State of New York. However, the state’s adopted budget does include \$85 million for the creation or rehabilitation of ADUs as a means of incentivizing alternative housing options.

ADUs are the only additional units that can be built in Beacon’s single-family zones. Only nine have been proposed in the last six years because a property owner must go through an onerous Planning Board review process that often ends up costing thousands of dollars. All nine were approved, but “it’s a torturous process,” planning consultant John Clarke told the council on Monday.

The draft law would increase in single-family districts the maximum square footage permitted for accessory units to 50 percent (not to exceed 1,000 square feet or be less than 200 square feet) of the total square footage of a property’s principal building. Only one ADU would be permitted per single-family lot.

The owner of the property would have to live on-site, and ADUs could not be used as short-term rentals.

Unless there are single-family houses in the district, multi-family zoning districts would be unchanged, with the maximum square

footage for an accessory unit 40 percent of the square footage of the principal building.

Planning Board review would still be required unless the ADU is created inside an existing house, with no new construction. In those cases, the city’s building inspector could approve the project.

Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair said on Monday that he would like to continue honing the proposal while the Planning Board reviews the draft. A house, an accessory apartment and space for parking could clutter the city’s smaller single-family lots, he said.

Hip Lofts expansion proposal

The developer of the Lofts at Beacon intends to bring a proposal to the Planning Board for a two-story mixed-use building that would add 28 one-bedroom lofts and 30,000 square feet of commercial space to the apartment complex along Fishkill Creek.

The City Council is expected to approve a resolution on Tuesday (July 5) sending the project to the Planning Board. A law enacted in 2017 requires the council’s conceptual approval of building proposals in the Fishkill Creek development zone, although the Planning Board is still responsible for ironing out details such as parking

or architectural features during its review.

The complex, also known as the Hip Lofts, was approved by the Planning Board in 2016 for 172 rental units. The lot pegged for new construction is currently vacant.

Design sketches show the Fishkill Creek Greenway and Heritage Trail running between the proposed building and Fishkill Creek. The sketches also show a 95-space parking lot.

‘Smart’ water meters

Beacon households will receive notice this fall from the city’s Water Department that they must provide access for the city to install new “smart” water meters, which use a cloud-based connection to provide more accurate usage readings.

The changes are part of ongoing water-system infrastructure upgrades; about 300 households with older meters will receive all-new devices. Most households will have new hardware installed allowing their meters to communicate with the city’s database.

The City Council is expected to vote on Tuesday on a law that would impose a \$250 penalty for households that are notified but do not schedule installation (which should take 10 to 15 minutes, City Administrator Chris White said). The city will attempt three notifications before penalties are assessed.

There is no additional cost to users for the new meters or hardware, White said.

Abortion *(from Page 1)*

slots by 20 percent at its 23 clinics, including one in Newburgh, to accommodate an expected influx of women from states with abortion bans.

A woman from Oklahoma, one of the states where an abortion ban took effect with the Supreme Court’s decision, had already traveled to one of PPGNY’s clinics in New York City because she could not get an appointment at home, said Gillian Dean, chief medical officer for PPGNY.

The decision will affect many more “people who do not own cars, people who can’t afford the incredibly high price of filling up their gas tank over and over again on a long trek, people who can’t afford to fly to an abortion-access state like New York, people who don’t have child care or the support of loved ones

Total Abortions

	2010	2019
U.S.	762,755	625,346
New York State	111,212	74,211
New York City	77,237	46,981
Dutchess County	792	804
Putnam County	123	90

to make a trip like that,” she said.

Who are these women?

Updated abortion data released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in November provides a snapshot: mostly women in their 20s who are unmarried and already have children.

The data is from 2019 and is based on reporting from health agencies in 47 states, New York City and the District of Columbia. (California, Maryland and New Hampshire are not included.) Forty-eight of those jurisdictions have reported data every year since 2010.

The statistics show that:

- About 18 percent of all pregnancies end in an induced abortion.
- The rate of reported abortions per 1,000 women declined from 2010 to 2019, to 11.4 percent from 14.4 percent.
- Nearly 80 percent of abortions were performed within nine weeks of gestation and 93 percent within 13 weeks.
- The CDC identified two abortion-related deaths for 2018, the most recent year available. There were 47 deaths from abortions,

Abortions By Race/Ethnicity, 2019

	U.S.	N.Y.
White	115,486	15,504
Black	132,878	23,935
Latino	72,509	17,371

Source: NYS Department of Health and CDC
U.S. race data based on reporting from 30 jurisdictions.
Totals may not equal 100 percent.

including 19 from illegal procedures, reported in 1973, the year Roe v. Wade was decided.

■ Women in their 20s accounted for 56.9 percent of abortions, as they have generally done since 2010. Teenagers 15 years old and younger, and women 40 and older, had the lowest percentages of abortions.

■ From 2010 to 2019, abortion rates fell for all age groups, but by the largest for adolescents younger than 15 (decrease of 60 percent) and teens between 15 and 19 (50 percent).

■ For 30 jurisdictions reporting race and ethnicity data for 2019, Black women (38.4 percent) and white women (33.4) accounted for the highest percentages of abortions. Latino women represented 21 percent of abortions.

■ Compared to white women, abortion rates were 3.6 times higher for Black women and 1.8 times higher for Latino women.

■ Marital status data reported by 42 jurisdictions showed that 85.5 percent of women receiving abortions in 2019 were unmarried.

■ Nearly 45 percent of women had one or two children, 40 percent were childless and 15 percent had three or more children.

Primary Results *(from Page 1)*

General Election on Nov. 8. Stacy Halper, a retired music teacher from Briarcliff Manor, will also appear on the ballot for the 95th District, as the Republican and Conservative Party candidate.

Whoever wins in November will replace Galef, a Democrat who held the seat for nearly 30 years before announcing earlier this year that she would not seek re-election.

Unofficial results also show voters in Dutchess and Putnam counties overwhelmingly supporting Gov. Kathy Hochul, who cruised to victory in a Democratic primary against Jumaane Williams, New York City’s public advocate, and U.S. Rep. Thomas Suozzi, who represents New York’s 3rd congressional district.

Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado, who relinquished a congressional seat in the state’s 19th District when Hochul named him in May as a replacement for Brian Benjamin, also won easily in a Democratic primary, defeating Ana Maria Archila and Diana Reyna. Archila will still appear on the ballot in November as the Working Families Party candidate.

In the Republican primary for governor, U.S. Rep. Lee Zeldin, who represents the state’s 1st District, bested a field that included Andrew Giuliani, the son of Rudy Giuliani; Rob Astorino, the former Westchester County executive; and businessman Harry Wilson.

There was no Republican primary for lieutenant governor. Alison Esposito, a deputy inspector for the New York City Police Department, is running as the Republican for the seat.

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A HAHNEMÜHLE CERTIFIED STUDIO

Legislators Dislike Report They Funded

Sheriff admits reduction in road patrols

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Putnam legislators last week criticized the results of the \$45,000 investigation they commissioned 18 months ago on then-Sheriff Robert Langley's overtime practices.

They also acknowledged that Langley's successor, Kevin McConville, cut Sheriff Department road patrols from six to five — a reduction that county officials previously refused to confirm.

The discussion occurred June 23 in Carmel at the county Legislature's Protective Services Committee, as legislators reviewed a 56-page summation of the overtime investigation by the Bonadio Group.

The Legislature's eight Republicans voted in December 2020 to hire the firm at the behest of County Executive MaryEllen Odell, after repeatedly berating Langley, a Democrat, about overtime costs. Legislator Nancy Montgomery, a Democrat whose district covers Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley, cast the lone "no" vote.

The examination considered overtime from 2018 through 2021, during Langley's tenure, although legislators insisted he wasn't targeted.

Bonadio produced at least three drafts

before, in January, finalizing a version that Odell subsequently alleged contained "factual inaccuracies" and "faulty" conclusions. McConville, a Republican, was the new sheriff by then, having defeated Langley in November.

The report found that the Sheriff's Department road patrol, with only "a lean workforce," relies on deputy overtime hours to ensure basic round-the-clock policing. It said overtime "is to be expected," given the small staff, equated more deputies with less overtime, and suggested that perhaps "resources are under-allocated to the road patrol."

Legislator Ginny Nacerino of Patterson, who chairs the committee, said that some of Bonadio's statements "appear to be deficient, or speculative" and that "those deficiencies are real and impact the conclusions." She contended the consultants "weren't provided with the necessary tools."

Legislator Amy Sayegh of Mahopac said she is "disappointed" because Bonadio "really didn't show what would've helped," and Legislator Neal Sullivan of Carmel-Mahopac said the report "failed us," although he added that it may still be useful.

McConville said the report "fails on a number of different levels." As an example, he mentioned the absence of interviews with deputies.

However, Langley, citing information from Bonadio, said that Odell had "directed that members of the Police Benevolent

Association [deputies' union] were not to be interviewed." He said he cooperated fully with Bonadio and that "all information provided" to the consultants "is accurate."

The former sheriff also said that Bonadio discovered what he maintained "all along: The Sheriff Department road patrol is understaffed."

“A sixth patrol is not a luxury. It's an absolute necessity.

~ Corrine Musella Pitt,
a PBA representative

"We wasted \$45,000 in taxpayer money to tell us what we already knew," Montgomery objected, calling the investigation "a political vendetta" against Langley.

That "is just your political game-playing," Nacerino replied.

McConville pledged that with "better management" overtime will not exceed the budgeted amount. "When the overtime is appropriate and the need practical, reasonable, defensible and justifiable, we would come here and ask for additional overtime funds," he said. "That's where we stand."

The sheriff also said he wants to redesign the road patrol system to "base it on the

terrain and geography" and "make it much more effective to deploy personnel." But he also said that "we may ask to increase" the overtime allocation "going forward."

When Montgomery asked if he would restore the sixth patrol, he replied that "everything is on the table" in planning the 2023 budget.

"We can't wait for next year's budget. To not take care of that right now would be very irresponsible," Montgomery responded. "My main concern is the health and safety of deputies," who "wholeheartedly" concur with Bonadio, she said. "We need more staffing, more patrols."

Langley said that "not having adequate staffing is creating violence in the workplace" — the streets deputies patrol and the buildings they enter — perhaps with no backup when they encounter danger. "They deserve better. They keep us safe. If we don't keep them safe, who's going to keep us, the residents, safe?"

Nacerino argued that legislators must remember "what's sustainable for Putnam County. Is a sixth patrol absolutely necessary?"

Corrine Musella Pitt, a PBA representative, described a five-car road patrol as "inadequate. A sixth patrol is not a luxury. It's an absolute necessity," she said. Like Bonadio, she predicted that, with more deputies available, overtime would decrease.

"We have never been fully staffed," she said. "This pattern of defunding cannot be allowed to continue for the 2023 budget," or even "for the remainder of 2022."



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McNair *(from Page 1)*

Born in the Bronx and raised in Harlem, Yvonne and her siblings were separated in foster care early in life. It was that experience, her family said, that led her as an adult to care for children, even if they were not her own.

"She always felt like she needed to fight for kids who weren't being seen or heard," LaKeshia said.

Yvonne and her first husband moved to Wappingers Falls in 1977, both taking jobs at the IBM plant in Poughkeepsie. After that marriage ended, she moved to Beacon to live with Ed Sr., whom she'd met at IBM. They were married in 1985.

The couple raised their children in a home on South Cedar Street, where Yvonne became one of the Black community's leaders. "She was a voice for the voiceless, for the less represented," said Ed Jr., who is moving his family into a Hubert Street duplex two blocks from his childhood home. LaVonne, 38, shared the Hubert Street house with their mother for the last 12 years of her life, and will continue to live there. LaKeshia, 37, lives in Fishkill.

Yvonne ran unsuccessfully for the Beacon school board in the late 1980s. Then, in 1992, Ed Sr. was paralyzed from the neck down in an automobile crash, and her responsibilities multiplied. As she managed her husband's care, the three children had school and were multi-sport athletes. Ed Jr. played basketball, baseball and football, while LaVonne played softball and was a cheerleader. LaKeshia played softball and basketball and swam.

Yvonne took a buyout from IBM in 1991 and began working at Downstate Correctional Facility in 1993. She started in the prison's business office, then worked in the mail room and drove a truck for the facility.

Her last job there was as a library clerk. After finishing her shift, she would stay on to volunteer, preparing inmates in group therapy sessions for reuniting with their families, particularly children, upon their release.

"You wouldn't know all that was going on," Ed Jr. said. "She never showed us she was overwhelmed. She was there for us, and for anyone else who needed it."

Yvonne completed her GED just before Ed Sr. died in 1997. After being medically terminated at Downstate in 2006 (she suffered from rheumatoid arthritis), she volunteered at Beacon's Martin Luther King Cultural Center, which closed in 2011.

She ran again for the school board in 2014, finishing fourth out of four candidates for three seats — although only 80 votes sepa-



Yvonne McNair's children — LaVonne, Ed Jr. and LaKeshia — share memories of their mother.

Photo by Valerie Shively

rated McNair from the first-place finisher.

LaVonne suspects her mother "had a target on her back, to make sure she didn't get the support" to be elected. Ed Jr. says "she was going to speak on issues that people didn't want to touch."

Lasting impact

One of McNair's last public appearances was in September 2020, during a contentious school board meeting. She spoke that night in favor of John Galloway Jr., a 2015 Black graduate of Beacon High School who had applied to fill one of two vacancies on the board.

McNair noted that most of the school board members were white and did not represent the young people in the audience as Galloway would. "My kids have graduated from here, but my grandchildren are going to go here," she said. "We need to represent the people of this community. Not only on this board, but in the schools. We need teachers that our children can look at and see somebody that looks like them and understands what's going on in their life."

Jasmine Johnson, another Black Beacon High School graduate, was appointed to the board that night. A month later, Galloway was added. He said that McNair spoke to him at length before his appointment.

She told Galloway that "there's a lot of unfairness when it comes to equity in politics," he said. "She knew that she belonged, and she let me know that I do, too. She was my backbone — always checking in, making sure I was focused."

Galloway said he hopes to care for

Beacon's Black community as passionately as McNair did.

"Every time we saw her [as children], it was encouraging words. She took care of everything that no one wanted to take care of," such as inequity in the schools or children acting out, he said. "The whole neighborhood wishes that she had a chance to showcase her vision for change on the board."

McNair also served on Beacon's Human Relations Commission (now the Human Rights Commission) for 14 years, much of that time as its chair. She stepped down just before the COVID-19 pandemic began in early 2020.

The commission's charge is to help resolve conflicts within the community and, when necessary, send issues to the City Council for further review. Before walking away, she had a long conversation with Paloma Wake, who succeeded McNair as chair (and who was elected to the City Council in November 2021).

The most important takeaway from the conversation, Wake said, was recognizing "the depth of care she had for anyone who came [to the commission] with a concern, but also her depth of knowledge of the resources in Beacon — and resources that have come and gone," such as the Beacon Community Center and the MLK Cultural Center, which provided afterschool programs, mentorship opportunities and a safe place for children to hang out.

McNair also spoke about issues like South Avenue Park, which, in her opinion, had not always gotten the same level of upgrades and maintenance as the city's other parks,

and "foundational" gaps such as the lack of a hospital in Beacon, Wake said.

One more honor

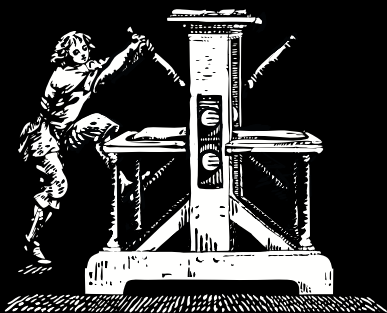
While McNair was battling COVID-19, Beacon's Cherie Griffin and other activists were fighting for the passage of good-cause eviction laws, an issue that Griffin believes McNair would have championed. Statistics show that renters are disproportionately Black and Hispanic, and the end in January of the state's moratorium on pandemic-related evictions left tenants particularly vulnerable, housing advocates said.

Griffin had known the McNair family for decades through Beacon Hoops, the summer youth basketball league organized by her uncle, Wayne Griffin, and Leaman Anderson. While Ed Jr. played, Yvonne ran the scorekeeper's table with her daughters. When necessary, she would diffuse arguments and help keep the games orderly.

On March 7, three days after McNair's death, and following months of debate, the Beacon City Council adopted a good-cause eviction law that establishes conditions that must be met before landlords can raise tenants' rent past a certain level or evict them. Griffin says she dedicated the fight to get it passed to McNair's memory, "because that's what she was about."

"Have a heart. Give back to your community. That's what always comes to mind when I think about her," said Griffin, adding that she worries about the gap McNair's death leaves in Beacon. "There will never be another Yvonne McNair."

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COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of cases:

26,467 (+183)

Positive Tests, 7-day average:

9.2% (+0.4)

Percent vaccinated:

82.9

Cold Spring: **94.8** / Garrison: **86.9**

Number of deaths:

125 (0)

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of cases:

71,103 (+485)

Positive Tests, 7-day average:

9.2% (+0.3)

Percent vaccinated:

77.4

Beacon: **72.5**

Number of deaths:

668 (+4)

Source: State and county health departments, as of June 29, 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.

Castle Point Gets Reprieve

Senators reject report calling for facility's closure

By Leonard Sparks

The Castle Point VA Medical Center in Wappingers Falls is off the chopping block.

Members of the U.S. Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee announced on Monday (June 27) that they would not support an independent commission's proposal to close the nearly 100-year-old facility and other VA hospitals as part of a reorganization of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The lack of support means the committee is "all but eliminating the commission," said Sen. Charles Schumer, the Senate's majority leader, on Tuesday.

Schumer is among the elected officials who joined local veterans in expressing alarm at the proposal released in March by the Independent Asset and Infrastructure Review Commission. Located off of Route 9D, three miles north of Beacon, Castle Point provides outpatient services, inpatient care and a nursing home for former military personnel.

In place of Castle Point, the commission called for building a new outpatient facil-



A report released in March recommended closing Castle Point VA Medical Center in Wappingers Falls.

Photo by L. Sparks

ity somewhere in Fishkill and shifting the other services to community providers and the VA medical center just south of Peekskill, in Montrose.

"We must invest further in bolstering the veteran health care facilities in the Hudson Valley, not strip them away, and the previous plan missed the mark in ensuring the needs of our Mid-Hudson vets came first," said Schumer.

The report, released on March 14 by VA Secretary Denis McDonough, concluded that Castle Point is underutilized; needs

more than \$100 million in upgrades and repairs; and is projected to see its number of Dutchess County enrollees fall by 2029 to 5,688, or 20 percent less than in 2019.

It noted that only three of Castle Point's 26 inpatient beds were occupied on an average day in 2019. The report also recommended that the facility's 28 nursing home beds, although consistently filled, be moved to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt VA Hospital in Montrose.

Interviewed about the recommended closure in March, Beacon resident Anthony

Lassiter said it takes him 10 minutes to reach Castle Point, compared to having to travel to Montrose. Castle Point is also home to his primary care doctor, and is where he fills prescriptions and replaces eyeglasses.

"It would be devastating to the area," said Lassiter, a U.S. Army and Vietnam War vet who belongs to Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 666 and American Legion Post 203 in Beacon. "I have nothing but high praise for the doctors who I've been affiliated with and the facility itself."

Castle Point opened in 1924. U.S. Rep. Hamilton Fish Sr., acting Beacon Mayor Marcus MacLaughlan and other elected officials attended the dedication.

In addition to treating wounded and disabled veterans — at one time Castle Point specialized in spinal-cord injuries — the medical center became a major employer for residents, including many Blacks who relocated to the Hudson Valley from the segregated South.

Other local officials, including U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney and Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro, had also criticized the proposal to close Castle Point when the report was released. Maloney's father was a U.S. Navy veteran.

"I will never support changes that reduce the quality or accessibility of care for our local veterans," he said.

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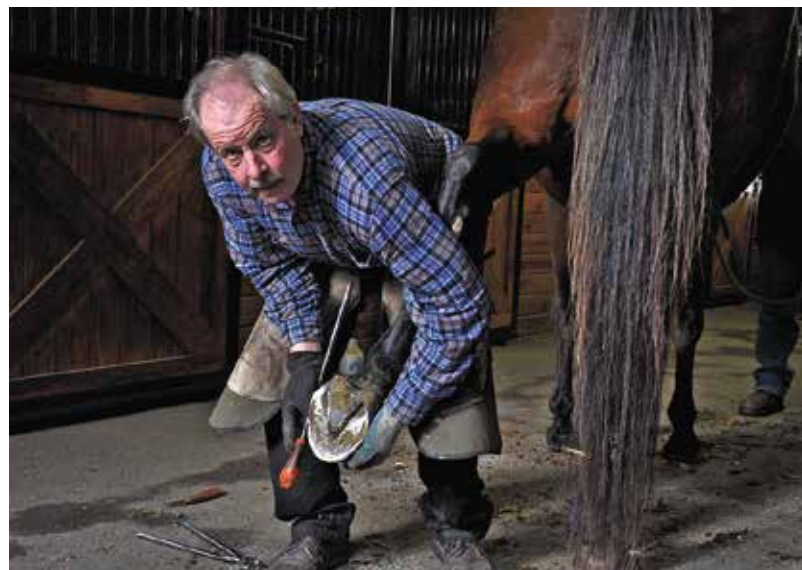
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GUFS PARENTS



"Pioneer," a painting by Karen E. Gersch

▲ "We kissed L.I. goodbye and moved upstate after my father found work at West Point. Ten years old, the forests became my own training academy. Before that, I never knew I needed tension in my legs to hold a handstand, never understood how winds and rushing streams could take other tensions away. Balance and balancing became a newfound world to pioneer."



"The Farrier," photo by Jorge Santos

▲ "On the Hudson Valley horse farm where I work, John Boylan was the farrier for 40 years. This portrait was taken just before John died, in January of 2020."

The Calendar

Reflections of a Local Life

Howland artists mine memories in new exhibit

By Alison Rooney

Cross-hatching its annual Members' Show and the celebration of its 150th anniversary this year, the Howland Cultural Center (HCC) has created a fusion of the two in *Reflections of a Local Life*, an exhibit that opens on July 2 and runs through July 24.

The show features 50 works on both floors of Howland, whose building was commissioned as a library in 1872. In addition to photographs, the media represented include monotype, acrylic, watercolor and oil paintings and assemblage.

Gallery Committee Chair Karen E. Gersh, who doubled as curator for the show, came up with the concept. Her prospectus to artists directed them to "create new work that looks back at old memories or moments that were moving, inspirational, defining: whether a childhood reverie or family portrait, depictions of growing up in Beacon or the Hudson Valley."

They responded with works that "paid homage to their roots and reveries," said Gersh. "One not only enjoys, but learns a lot from these pieces," she said. "Together they make a fine kaleidoscope of history, special scenics, sensitive portraits and local lore."

Participating artists include Maria Amor, Beacon Thursday Painters, Sandra Belitza-Vazquez, Patricia Collins Broun, Gabrielle A. Dearborn, Sam DiTullo, Jan Dolan, Steven Marc Fineman, Stephanie Fogarty, Karen E. Gersch, Orna Greenberg, Cindy Gould, Ron Hershey, Dianne M. Kull, Linda Lynton, Barbara Masterson, Jean Noack, Maureen Norcross, Victoria Parker, Rick Rogers and Jorge Santos.

The exhibition is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on July 2, 4, 16 and 17 and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on July 22, 23 and 24. The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. in Beacon (howlandculturalcenter.org).



"Hiker's View," acrylic on canvas by Maureen Norcross

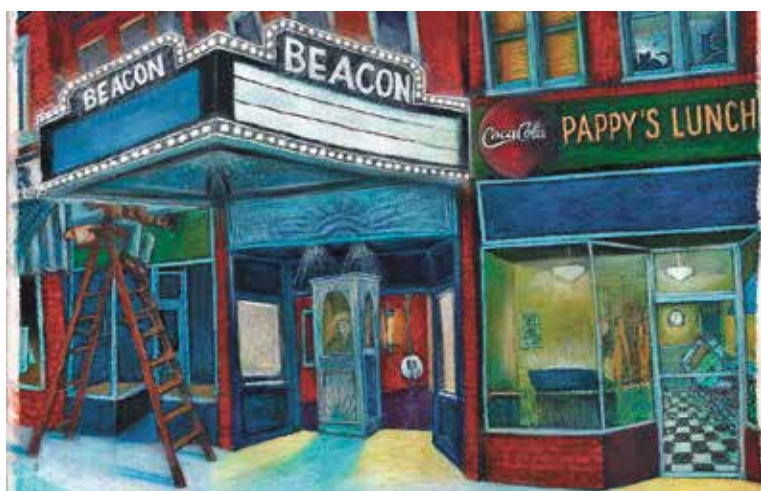
▲ "The majesty of the 'Gunks' and this oft-photographed view presented inspiration for me to bring the amazing layering of conglomerate, sandstone and shale to 'life.'"



"Cushman's Place," photo by Sandra Belitza-Vazquez

▲ "In the summer of 1972 I returned to New York for a family visit. My grandmother lived in Wappingers Falls. One day, she suggested we take a ride around the area. I was fascinated by the old building with the tires lying outside, the shiny Cushman sign and the chair inside the doorway.

The texture of the wood siding made for a most interesting background for both the objects within and outside of the building."



"Beacon Theater 1966," mixed medium by Sam DiTullo

◀ "The Beacon Theater was my first real job when I was 16 years old. Those are my legs dangling from the ladder. I had to change the letters on the marquee every Thursday night. I wanted to combine that experience with the feeling I had at 12 or 13, when I went to see a movie at night for the first time."



"Moonlit Path," watercolor by Orna Greenberg

◀ "I love old structures that have been beaten a bit by years of standing in the elements, because they develop personalities. One can only imagine their stories."

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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



Native Gardens, July 8

COMMUNITY

SAT 2

Support Ukraine Food Sale

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. St. Mary's Church
1 Chestnut St.

Pick up varenyky (pierogies), holubtsi (stuffed cabbage), borscht, kielbasa and sauerkraut and desserts at this fundraiser to send supplies to the besieged country.

SAT 9

Modern Makers Market

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
1 Chestnut St. | hopsonthehudson.com

Work by dozens of artisans and craftspeople will be available, as well as food. Some proceeds support the church's work.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 2

Heroes, Monsters & Madmen

BEACON

3 & 4 p.m. Bannerman Island
bannermancastle.org

At this benefit for Bannerman, the Chef's Consortium will prepare a five-course dinner and Craig Schulman will perform a concert of Broadway hits. *Cost: \$165 (\$155 members)*

FRI 8

Native Gardens

WAPPINGERS FALLS

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

In this comedy by Karen Zacarias, a difference over a weed and a flower will escalate a neighbor's feud. Also SUN 9. *Cost: \$22 (\$20 seniors, military and children under 12)*

SAT 9

Sing 2

POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. Walkway Over the Hudson
Upper Landing Park
dutchessny.gov/parksmovies

Movies Under the Walkway will show the 2021 animated sequel, with Buster Moon and his talented performers trying to get a show in Redshore City by luring Clay Calloway, who has not performed in 15 years, back to the stage. Kids are encouraged to come in costume. Registration requested. *Free*

SAT 9

Artichoke Storytelling Series

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
artichokeshow.com

The storytellers in the monthly series will include Carla Katz, Kate Greathead, Tracey Starin, Adam Wade, Mark Pagán and Christopher Moncayo-Torres.

SAT 9

A Letter to Three Wives

COLD SPRING

8:30 p.m. Dockside Park
coldspringfilm.org

The Cold Spring Film Society will screen the 1949 film about a woman who sends a letter telling three best friends that she is running away with one of their husbands. Jeanne Crain, Linda Darnell and Ann Sothern star. Donations welcome. Bring a chair and bug repellent.

SUN 10

Pocket Moxie, A Happenstance Vaudeville

BEACON

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

Five performers will present classic vaudevillian acts, including ventriloquism, vignettes, singing and physical feats of magic. *Cost: \$15 (ages 12 and under are free)*



A Letter to Three Wives, July 9

JULY 4 EVENTS

SAT 2

Independence Day Celebration

WEST POINT

7:30 p.m. Trophy Point
westpointband.com

The West Point Concert Band, the Hellcats and the Benny Havens Band will perform, followed by fireworks. *Free*

SUN 3

Fireworks & Independence Day Celebration

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Memorial Park
Robert Cahill Drive
beaconny.gov/index.php/departments/parks-recreation

The Beacon Recreation Center will host fireworks in the park. Bring a chair. Parking is limited. Donations welcome. *Free*

SUN 3

Fireworks

PEEKSKILL

Sunset. Riverfront Green
cityofpeekskill.com

Enjoy the city's annual Independence Day fireworks display at its waterfront park.

MON 4

Mekeel's Independence Day Celebration

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. Mekeel's Corners Chapel
321 NY 301
putnamhistorymuseum.org

The Putnam History Museum will continue the tradition with

a program of patriotic music and readings of passages from the founding documents.

MON 4

Grand Celebration

NEWBURGH

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. | 84 Liberty St.
Washington's Headquarters
facebook.com/WashingtonsHeadquarters

Make a pinwheel and learn about the grand opening of the site on July 4, 1850. *Cost: \$7 (\$5 seniors and students; ages 12 and under are free)*

MON 4

4th of July Fireworks

POUGHKEEPSIE

6:30 p.m. Walkway Over the Hudson
Parker Ave. | walkway.org

Celebrate Independence Day with festive fireworks over the Hudson River. *Cost: \$20 (\$15 seniors, veterans and members; ages 10 and under free)*

MON 4

Gentleman of Soul

PEEKSKILL

7 – 9 p.m. Riverfront Green
cityofpeekskill.com

Bring a chair and enjoy music on the Hudson River.

MON 4

Reading of the Declaration of Independence

BEACON

11 a.m. City Hall

There will be refreshments and a gumball-guessing contest for kids.

SUN 10

B. Fulton Jennes

PUTNAM VALLEY

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

Jennes will read from her most recent chapbook, *Blinded Birds*, and a poetry open mic will follow.

SUN 10

American Healer

PEEKSKILL

4 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St.
paramounthudsonvalley.com

The documentary will cover how to reverse Type 2 diabetes. *Cost: \$15, \$25 and \$35*

MUSIC

SAT 2

Freedom Concert

GARRISON

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

The Greater Newburgh

Symphony Orchestra will perform works by Beethoven, Mozart, Mussorgsky, Strauss, Tchaikovsky and Verdi, with views of the West Point fireworks. *Cost: \$55 (\$19 children; members \$44/\$15; free under age 4)*

SAT 2

Chris Smither

BEACON

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

The blues and folk singer and songwriter will perform an acoustic set with guest Milton. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

MON 4

Jazz Night

BEACON

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

The Hannah Marks Trio will perform as part of Quinn's weekly jazz series. *Cost: \$15*

WED 6

Lyra Music Festival

BEACON

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

Violinist Kristin Lee, cellist Estelle Choi and pianist Henry Kramer will perform a program that will include Debussy's *Violin Sonata*, Schubert's *Piano Trio No. 1 in B-flat Major, D. 898*, and Rachmaninoff's *Cello Sonata in G Minor, Op. 19*. *Cost: \$20*

FRI 8

Sean McCann

BEACON

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

Known as the Shantyman, the Canadian folk-rock singer will perform his solo show, which features stories about mental health and the role of music as medicine. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*



SAT 9

Lyra Young Artist Gala Concert

BEACON

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

After two weeks of intensive training and rehearsal, the young musicians will perform works by Beethoven, Dvorak, Piazzolla, Schumann and Shostakovich. *Cost: \$15*



SAT 9

Chamber Music Concert

GARRISON

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

Sarah Geller, violin, and Eva Gerard, viola, will perform 18th- to 20th-century compositions, including works by Milhaud, Handel, Halvorsen and Mozart. The rain date will be SAT 16. Registration is requested but not required.

SAT 9

House of Hamill

PUTNAM VALLEY

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

The band will perform traditional Irish folk music, including ballads, jigs and reels. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 9

Southern Dutchess Concert Band

PATTERSON

6 p.m. Patterson Recreation Center
Front St.
facebook.com/southerndutchessconcertband

The annual All-American concert will include patriotic songs, Broadway hits and music by American composers Gershwin and Copland. *Free*

SAT 9

Big Eyed Phish

PEEKSKILL

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St.
paramounthudsonvalley.com

The 7-piece tribute band will perform Dave Matthews' songs. *Cost: \$22.50 to \$35*

SAT 9

Crush

BEACON

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

The cover band will perform hits from the 1980s.

SUN 10

Django Festival All-Stars

BEACON

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

The musicians pay tribute to the music of Django Reinhardt and will perform songs from the 1920s to the 1950s. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

CIVIC

TUES 5

City Council

BEACON

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

TUES 5

Putnam Legislature

CARMEL

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

TUES 5

School Board

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Auditorium
15 Craigsides Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

TUES 5

School Board

BEACON

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

WED 6

Village Board

COLD SPRING

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

THURS 7

Town Board

PHILIPSTOWN

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

VISUAL ART

SAT 2

Reflections of a Local Life

BEACON

1 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

Karen Gersh curated this exhibit that pays homage to “our roots and reveries” with works by more than two dozen artists. Through July 24. (See Page 11)

SAT 9

Alyssa Follansbee | Group Show | Carole Kunstadt

BEACON

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

Follansbee's exhibition, *Can I Have a Minute*, will include photos, paintings and a series on sleeping babies. Work by more than 20 member artists will be on view in Gallery 2. Kunstadt's exhibit, *Interludes*, will include 19th-century music manuscripts she has woven, layered and sewn. Through Aug. 7.

SAT 9

Judy Singer and Judy Thomas

NEWBURGH

6 – 8 p.m.
Holland Tunnel Newburgh Gallery
46 Chambers St.
hollandtunnelgallery.com

In *Dynamic Duo*, the artists will exhibit work that creates a dialogue about color, form, line and meaning from their different generational perspectives. Through July 24.





Sara Mikulsky

Wellness Physical Therapy

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

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

NOTICE

PHILIPSTOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Public Hearing – July 11th, 2022

The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals for the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 11th, 2022 starting at 7:30 p.m. to hear the following appeal. The meeting will be held in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY.

Shumay/Starner, 77 Lower Station Rd., Garrison, NY 10524 TM#71.5-1-4

Applicant is seeking a variance to construct 998 square foot accessory structure.

At said hearing all persons will have the right to be heard. Copies of the application, plat map, and other related materials may be seen in the Office of the Building Department, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring, New York.

Dated June 13th, 2022

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

Reporter's Notebook

I Was a Foodie and Didn't Know It

By Michael Turton

It was funny for only a few seconds; then it was jarring. A vendor at the Cold Spring Farmers' Market had just told me that children visiting her farm were upset to learn "McNuggets" come from a chicken. Wait until they hear about bacon.



The shock those kids experienced underlined how far removed from our food supply we've become — both mentally and geographically. And it reminded me how lucky I was to grow up in rural Essex County, Ontario. My mom came from a farm, but we were not farmers. We didn't even have a garden. We didn't need one; fresh local food was everywhere — and not just from farms. The hunter-gatherers of 2 million years might appreciate some of my family's habits back then. As a kid I regularly gathered wild asparagus along fencerows and, mainly from the large cemetery, wild mushrooms. Because my older brother Terry forced me to hunt for them, I refused to eat either. Now, of course, they are two of my favorite foods.

My older sisters Nancy and Mary Anne didn't force me to pick wild raspberries, both red and black. We ate them right off the bush, before taking a basketful home. The absolute best were the tiny, wild strawberries that grew along the railroad tracks. The taste exploded in your mouth. If I concentrate, I can remember that taste. And my sisters taught me I had to wait until after the first frost for hickory nuts to fall to the ground. Fresh hickory nuts on vanilla ice cream are something to behold. My oldest brother, Len, hunted pheasant and rabbit and was a good enough shot to provide the occasional meal. My only memory of those delicacies was a shotgun pellet lodged in the meat. He also caught heaps of fish, a wildly popular pastime during the spring smelt run along the Lake Erie shoreline. The rest of my family loved fried smelt. I did not. I couldn't get past the stench of yet-to-be-cleaned smelt. Nothing more clearly illustrated how close we were to our food supply than the beef my mom served at supper, albeit always well-done. My parents knew the McKees, who raised cattle about 3 miles from our house. They'd buy either a full side or a quarter of beef. I remember parental debates over whether the front or hind quarter was better. The McKees' Herefords were slaughtered

about 2 miles away at Weston Abattoir. I was close with the Weston family, and it was not uncommon for me to hang out at the abattoir with Neil, where he worked as a teen before taking over the family business. Butchering was done at Oldcastle Cold Storage, a quarter-mile down the road. Before my parents bought a freezer, they rented freezer lockers there from Bill the butcher. When I was about 12 and bored, I'd go to the butcher shop and play a board game version of curling with the woman who worked there. I think she let me win. When I spoke at my mom's funeral, I said she had preserved everything but her kids, and

Picking the corn was easy. But on the way back I had to be sure there was no traffic as I darted across the highway; field managers patrolled regularly, looking for thieves. The mad dash was always adrenaline-filled. Don't let any fancy chef tell you it's wrong to boil sweet corn. Corn stolen at 5 o'clock and boiled 45 minutes later can't be topped. But "hooking" (think "stealing") peas produced the most adrenaline-filled. Peas were transported to the processing plant in large dump trucks, capacity bolstered by high wooden racks. Trucks were grossly overloaded; pea-laden vines hung over the back, within easy reach. Terry and I, aided by the

“When I spoke at my mom's funeral, I said she had preserved everything but her kids, and that there were undoubtedly times she wanted to put the eight of us in Mason jars as well.”

that there were undoubtedly times she wanted to put the eight of us in Mason jars as well. She did preserve, pickle and freeze an amazing quantity of food each year, all from our county. Jean didn't do it to be a foodie; she did it to save money. Long basement shelves were filled to capacity with jars of stewed tomatoes, peaches, pears, apricots, apples, strawberries, raspberries, chili sauce, corn relish, beets, pickles, jams and jellies. And things I've forgotten. Much of the food she canned came from "pick-your-own" farms. Strawberries stand out in my mind for three reasons; my younger brother Pat and I ate many more berries than ever made it home; the back of our big Plymouth station wagon would be totally filled with baskets of berries, and the excursion always included a stop at the North Ridge Dairy Freeze drive-in for soft ice cream. More than 60 years later, it's still in business. But nothing topped the food-based adventures I experienced while using thievery to help put food on our table. The word "stealing" was never uttered by parent or child, but, really, it was. Green Giant grew 200 acres of sweet corn across the road from our house. Big mistake. Everyone in the neighborhood "liberated" corn from those fields, but we were the only family with up to 10 people around the supper table, all of whom loved sweet corn. Two dozen ears was the norm.

Milligan brothers, would wait in a ditch at a backroad intersection that featured a stop sign. When a truck stopped, we'd scamper out, frantically pulling off armfuls of vines. The excitement was in not knowing how drivers would react. Rarely, one would yell, "Take all you want, boys!" More often they'd scream at us, using very graphic language, to remove ourselves from the vicinity of the truck. But most dramatic was when a driver would jump out of the cab and chase us. The age difference always saved us, but not without some terrifying moments. My brother and I would come home with an enormous pile of pea vines, greeted by my beaming mom. My sisters beamed less; they had to shell the peas. Not nearly as much fun as "hooking" them. Decades later, even with food seasons now far less distinct, I still wage two internal debates. Which tastes better: fresh local strawberries or fresh local peaches. And, perhaps more profoundly, which is more delicious: freshly "liberated" corn or freshly "hooked" peas. I have yet to decide. I wish now I had eaten the wild asparagus and mushrooms. I have no such regret about the smelt. I miss the hickory tree. California strawberries are not the same. And when I see that supermarket sweet corn, I just smile. I'm glad, that as a kid, knowing where my food came from was a way of life. It was such a privilege. And the food was great.

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on the 5th day of August, 2021, 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 Town of Philipstown, Putnam 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 subject to permissive referendum. The period of time has elapsed for the submission and filing of a petition for a permissive referendum, and a valid petition has not been submitted and filed in connection with such resolution.

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

Dated: June 22, 2022
Cold Spring, New York

Sarah L. Suracchio
Town Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION DATED AUGUST 5, 2021.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HIGHWAY GARAGE IN AND FOR THE TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN, PUTNAM COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$3,500,000 AND AUTHORIZING, SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM, THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,500,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID TOWN TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.

Specific object or purpose:	Construction of new highway garage to be located at 50 Fishkill Road in Cold Spring, NY
Maximum estimated cost:	\$3,500,000
Period of probable usefulness:	Thirty years
Amount of obligations to be issued:	\$3,500,000 bonds

NOTICE

The Philipstown Conservation Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday, July 12th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

This meeting will also be livestreaming on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Conservation Board Meeting July 2022.

NOTICE

The Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Monday, July 11th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** in person at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516

This meeting will also be livestreaming on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Zoning Board Meeting July 2022.

Small, Good Things

Summer Comfort

By Joe Dizney

Chia seeds. It's hard not to think of them without picturing terracotta figurines of cute little



animals or cultural celebs (the Bobs — Ross and Marley; Jerry Garcia, Barack Obama, Donald Trump) sprouting tufts of cutely incongruous green “fur.” They're right up there with the Pet Rock as a pre-internet cultural meme and questionable marketing success.

To paraphrase H.L. Mencken, no one in this world has ever lost money by underestimating the intelligence of the great masses. But this column is generally not about bad taste. It's about GOOD taste. But chia seeds?

Chia seeds are (unsurprisingly) the seeds of *Salvia hispanica*, a flowering plant in the mint family native to Mexico and parts of South America. It was cultivated as both food and medicine for over 4,000 years and was, along with corn and beans, primary to the cultural nutrition of Mesoamerica, until Spanish domination virtually wiped it out

in a couple of centuries.

Cultivation took place on small farms in undesirable mountainous regions until Mexican independence revived native foodways, particularly in the south.

In the latter half of the 20th century, chia's exceptional nutritional content and importance was revealed. The word “superfood” gets thrown around freely, but chia most definitely warrants the appellation. Just 1 ounce of chia seeds contains 11 grams of fiber, 4 grams of protein, impressive amounts of omega-3 fatty acids and a laundry list of essential vitamins and minerals, all for 140 calories.

Kind of nutty in taste, they're a great extra-nutritive raw addition to baked goods, smoothies, nut butters, jams and cooked grains (especially quinoa). Chia seeds do have one distinctive feature: They are hydrophilic (water-lovers), that is, they absorb as much as 12 times their weight in liquid when soaked.

Additionally, when soaked, they swell and develop a gelatinous coating and texture, similar to tapioca (with which they play very well), which means they also soak up the flavors of whatever they are immersed in. This makes them a great addition to bean or vegetable salads to add a bit of extra protein (be sure to add extra dressing), but the most common usage is in the infinite recipes for chia seed puddings, parfaits and mousses that litter the web.

Which brings us to the proffered recipe. Almond and coconut milks provide the liquid and non-dairy creaminess. I've used honey here to avoid cane sugar, which adds its own flavor. It's a great alternative to breakfast or snack yogurts. You could, of course, use other sweeteners or flavoring agents (vanilla here); just be mindful of the seed-to-liquid ratio. Almond milk and boiled cider with raisins and walnuts? Coconut milk with ginger lime and mango? Why not.

Regardless, it's amazingly quick and easy to whip up, keeps for days and offers guilt-free comfort, satisfaction and sustenance. I've topped it here with blueberries and a quick raspberry compote (shooting for a discreet Fourth of July theme), but as we enter high summer any number of fresh fruit combinations will no doubt suggest other formulas.



Chia Seed Pudding

4 servings

2 - 3 tablespoons honey (or other sweetener of your choice)	½ cup chia seeds
2 cups unsweetened almond milk	¼ cup toasted kasha (optional)
½ cup coconut milk	¼ tablespoon vanilla extract (optional)
	Salt

1. Use a whisk to combine almond and coconut milk, honey and a pinch of salt in a large bowl (to hold a quart, plus). Slowly sprinkle and whisk in chia seeds (following the same procedure with the kasha, if using), ensuring that the seeds (and kasha) are evenly hydrated.
2. Allow to rest, refrigerated, at least 20 minutes or until pudding has a rich, creamy texture. (I prefer to do this and let it sit refrigerated overnight, covered.) Pudding will keep for up to 3 days but may need thinning with more almond or coconut milk as the seeds continue to absorb liquid.
3. Top with your favorite fresh fruit or compote, granola, nuts or flaked coconut. The photo shows blueberries, almonds and a quick raspberry-orange coulis.

Quick Raspberry-Orange Coulis

1 pint raspberries	3 tablespoons orange juice (if using fresh oranges save a couple of strips of zest)
⅓ to ½ cup raw sugar or another sweetener	

Combine all ingredients in a small saucepan. Bring to a steady simmer and boil for 10 minutes, stirring to ensure sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat and allow to cool, removing orange zest strips. When cooked, roughly mash any large fruit and strain through a few layers of cheesecloth, squeezing the last of the pulp through and hopefully avoiding the seeds. Chill. Will keep for a week, covered and refrigerated.



July Events at TCCC!

SAT., JULY 9TH, 6:00 PM

House of Hamill

SUN., JULY 10TH, 3:00 PM

Poets Corner Open Mic

Featuring B. Fulton Jennes

SUN., JULY 17TH, 11:00 AM

**The Leatherman:
An American Vagabond**
A Film by Jon Scott Bennett

SAT., JULY 23RD, 6:00 PM

Open Book

tompkinscorners.org
729 Peekskill Hollow Rd.,
Putnam Valley

NOTICE

NOTICE OF FILING FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL WITH THE TOWN CLERK

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned assessor has completed the Final Assessment Roll for the Town of Philipstown in the County of Putnam for the year of 2022. A certified copy will be filed in the Office of the Town Clerk on the 1st day of July 2022 where it will remain open to public inspection until July 31 2022.

Dated June 23, 2022. Brian Kenney, Assessor



Pruning is an art

If you are looking for a “natural finish” and do not want to see your ornamentals cut back severely to dead wood, choose artful pruning. Artful Pruning allows your ornamentals to keep looking good.

Artful Pruning gracefully brings your ornamentals back to a more appropriate smaller size.

For an artful, natural finish, call Gregory, the artful pruner, with over 10 years as a career gardener specializing in natural and restorative gardening.

845.446.7465



Part challenge, part contest, 100% delicious.
Collect stamps at participating shops for a chance to win a \$100 ice cream spree!

- Beacon Creamery
- Sweet Harvest
- Bozerino's
- Zora Dora's
- Rincón Argentino
- The Vegan Stuff
- Understory Market
- Homestyle Creamery
- Shmuck's Sweet Stuff

Here's the scoop.

Supporting local businesses has never been sweeter! From July 1 to 31, we invite you to explore new flavors around Beacon and Cold Spring. This is the best kind of competition: the more ice cream you eat, the more chances to win. Pick up your passport card inside any of our blue boxes or at any of the participating shops above. Share photos along the way with #icecreampassport for extra entries! Three winners will take home gift card prizes from participating stores. Enjoy!



Scan QR code or visit
highlandscurrent.org/icecream

Thank you to our partners



Beacon's Navigators

Scouting alternative emphasizes inclusion, diversity

By Alison Rooney

When Jessica White was a child, she was a Girl Scout, and she imagined that her future children would also join the organization.

As an adult, though, White, who is an early childhood special education teacher, found the traditional scouting programs were not exactly what she was seeking for her two sons. Careful not to disparage any particular program, she nevertheless felt they lacked “a sense of community” and didn’t feel hands-on enough.

“I was hoping for more robust group experiences,” she said.

With her older son, who is on the autism spectrum, in mind, White, who lives in Beacon, started looking for alternatives. When she came across a program called Navigators USA, she grew excited.

Founded in 2003 by volunteers who had previously led a Boy Scout troop that met in a homeless shelter, the organization is dedicated to a “more inclusive scouting experience” that invites all genders, and is secular and non-discriminating.

White, finding that Navigators encapsulated all the traits she and her husband sought, founded Beacon’s chapter in December 2019 with another family. The chapter, Navigators No. 275, has grown from around five regulars to 15 families who meet for activities on the first or second Monday of the month at Beacon’s Recreation Department, and again on a Saturday later in the month.

Activities have ranged from hobbies and games to computer coding, archery, yoga, performing-arts productions and nature lessons. An entomologist brought insects to one meeting and a parent who teaches at a conservation site designed a program on watersheds, followed by a trip to clean up at a watershed and hiking trail in Wappinger, White said. The kids will take their first camping trip this month.

The “cornerstone” of the program is children on the autism spectrum, said White. “We want to have a safe haven for children on the spectrum to be accepted and absolutely embraced and we’ll cater to their needs as much as humanly possible,” she said.

There are three age levels in Navigators: Stargazers, for children between 4 and 6 years old; Junior Navigators, ages 7 to 10; and Senior Navigators, ages 11 to 18.

There are currently no seniors, but White expects the first ones next year. On average, the chapter’s children are in first and second grade, and they are the program’s best promoters, she said. One of them, Elan, said his favorite activities were “doing the play and making dragons and being with my friends,” while Kay said she “liked the cool badges,” according to White.



Navigators visiting Sharpe Reservation learned how sap becomes syrup.



Navigators experience performing arts by creating and performing their own play.

Images courtesy of Jessica White

The program is guided by the philosophy that “it takes a village,” and is not a “drop-off” point for parents, she said. At least one parent from each family must participate in meetings or other activities, including fundraising, ordering uniforms and badges and participating on the chapter’s planning committee.

“There’s so much happening, richly, around the community,” said White. “Pool it and everyone benefits.”

Yearly dues are \$60 for two parents and

one child, and \$10 per additional child, with scholarships offered to those unable to pay. Uniforms and badges are optional. To raise additional revenues, the group collects recyclables, organizes yard and bake sales, and solicits donations from local businesses. All revenues cover operating costs, the largest of which is insurance, said White.

Another crucial aspect for White is the need for Navigators to be secular. If the program emphasizes diversity and equity,



A Navigator got hands-on experience with a bearded dragon during dragon month.

“we need to extend that to religion, gender division and other things important to so many,” she said.

Asked if there was a perception that Navigators is “the liberal scouting group,” White said that “there’s no question in my mind: We lean more liberal, but as a scouting group, it’s also key that diversity, if it’s truly about acceptance, is about welcoming anyone from any group.”

For more information or to sign up for one meeting, email Jessica White at Chapter275@navigatorsusa.org.

Current Classifieds

SERVICES

HEALING BODYWORK WITH VACCINATED JOY MATALON — Featured in New York magazine as “one of the best 15 massage therapists in NYC offering CranioSacral Therapy,” with a specialty in SomatoEmotional Release. In addition, I offer Swedish Massage incorporating CranioSacral Therapy. Trained in Medical Massage, Process Acupressure, Meditation and Foot Reflexology with over 30 years of experience. Garrison and Ossining locations. House calls available. Call 914-519-8138 or visit joymatalon.com.

KEEP SHARP THIS SUMMER! — Coaching adds zip to writing and study skills. Make good use of some of your summertime with a local expert writing and study-skills coach

and her simple but effective 3-Step System for School Success. From middle-school through grad school — it works. Remote or in-person, flexible schedule. Email coach10516@gmail.com or call 914-443-4723.

FOR RENT

COLD SPRING — Furnished room in the village of Cold Spring, \$700 monthly. Text 845-803-7445 for pics and info. Long-term preferred.

MONTREAL — Amazing light- charming but no wifi (I tether when there). Starbucks and 2 calm internet cafes within 5 min walk. In the heart of downtown Montreal- Shaughnessy village. Please text 845-803-7445 for more info. Minimum stay 1 week stay at \$350 per week

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

HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

Fri. July 1 – 7-9 pm

LIT LIT

Literary Open Mic Series - FREE

The incredibly talented poet (and Beaconite) Kristen Holt Browning will be our featured reader. Donnaminkowitz.com/lit-lit/

Sat. July 2 + Mon. July 4 – 1-5 pm

"REFLECTIONS OF A LOCAL LIFE"

Paying Homage to Our Roots and Reveries
Multi-Media Art Exhibit - Open July 4th - FREE



Wed. July 6 - 7 pm

LYRA MUSIC - GUEST ARTISTS-IN-CONCERT

Kristin Lee, Violin / Estelle Choi, Cello / Henry Kramer, Piano
Tix & info: Lyramusic.org

AND MORE

Sat. July 9 - 2 pm: LYRA MUSIC

Young Artist Gala Final Concert

Tix & info: Lyramusic.org

Sat. July 9 - 8 pm: ARTICHOKE Storytelling Series

Tix: Artichokeshow.com

Sun. July 10 - 3 pm: POCKET MOXIE

A Happenstance Vaudeville - Family Friendly
Tix & info: howlandculturalcenter.org / \$15 + Kids 12 & under FREE

Follow our web media for more info and events

For performance events, proof of vaccination still required

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

Living Green

Climate Warriors

By Krystal Ford

When I was in college studying nutrition in the early 2000s, I heard about global warming. But it was nearly two decades later that I understood the severity of the crisis and got involved.



Now, a growing number of young people, including many from our community, are working to solve the crisis by pursuing studies and careers that will put them on the frontlines of the battle to save our planet.

The silver lining of the climate crisis is that, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, growth is expected in a range of climate-related occupations by 2029. There will be jobs ranging from slowing climate change to helping people adapt to its consequences. That includes everything from wind turbine technicians (one of the fastest-growing occupations in the U.S.), solar installers, soil scientists, environmental scientists, environmental engineers, hydrologists and much more.

Fighting climate change will require people with all kinds of skills and backgrounds. I recently caught up with two of them: Jeremy Roffman and Sophia Ptacek, who grew up in Philipstown.

Roffman graduated from Haldane in 2017, where he was inspired by his math teacher, Christian Hoolan, who taught him how calculus could be used as a tool



Jeremy Roffman

to understand “cool” physics. He received dual undergraduate degrees from McGill University in Montreal, Canada, in physics and atmospheric and oceanic sciences.

He also took classes in climate science and worked on research related to sea-level rise, one of the most well-known side effects of climate change but also “one of the most unexpectedly complex.”

“I wish that people knew that Earth, our home, is a very sensitive and dynamic system and that if we continue to force the climate out of its current friendly state that the survival of all species, including us, is threatened,” said Roffman, who is now pursuing a doctorate in geophysics in the Earth and Planetary Sciences Department at McGill.

“If we don’t change our ways, if we choose to be irresponsible with the way we interact with this system, our planet will go on, but without us,” he said.

What advice would he give to people wanting to take personal action? Short of



Sophia Ptacek

encouraging people to run for office, his advice is to “switch to a plant-based diet and figure out how to reduce carbon emissions associated with your travel (take a train or bus instead of plane or car, don’t travel unnecessarily, etc.).

“More systematic changes are also necessary, namely switching entirely to renewable energy, phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and drastically reducing the amount of resources we put into animal agriculture,” he said.

Ptacek’s childhood revolved around the Hudson River. Whether swimming in her favorite alcove or kayaking through Constitution Marsh, she always felt close to and protective of the river.

But she also was aware of the impact climate change was having on the area. Ptacek remembered how Hurricane Irene washed out her driveway, exposing bedrock, and how during Hurricane Sandy her father entered their pond with snorkel-gear to clear the drains and prevent

flooding.

“I remember just feeling helpless in the days after, during the power outages, and then following the news as more and more stories of destruction along the East Coast broke,” she said.

She didn’t expect to make solving the climate crisis her career, and had planned to double-major in music and sociology at Wesleyan University, where she earned an undergraduate degree in 2018. But a professor there encouraged her to try geoscience and paleoclimate research.

“When I started taking classes in climate and the environment, I did a 180 into the sciences,” she said.

Ptacek currently is pursuing a dual-degree, a master of Environmental Management and master of Public Health, at the Yale School of the Environment and Yale School of Public Health, respectively.

Her studies are focused on the intersection of climate change, energy policy and public health, particularly the ways in which climate solutions can result in myriad health and economic co-benefits.

“I’m taking an interdisciplinary approach to climate studies because the climate crisis must be tackled from many directions,” said Ptacek.

She worked at the Natural Resources Defense Council as a program assistant before graduate school and knows solving the climate crisis is an enormous challenge. But, like many, she also embraces ignoring the naysayers and getting to work by learning the issues, lobbying politicians and decreasing your own carbon footprint — because every fraction of a degree that warming is limited could save millions of lives.

Roffman is also hopeful.

“Climate change is entering our collective consciousness, more people are getting educated in climate science and a new wave is coming into the field,” he said.

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Chantilly, e.g.

5. Chicken —

9. Leg, in slang

12. Mr. Stravinsky

13. Sparkling Italian wine

14. Have bills

15. Bouncing toy

17. Retrieve

18. Ruby and Sandra

19. Apple products

21. Buy more Time?

24. Handle

25. New Mexico resort

26. Monotonous

30. Work unit

31. Chair designer Charles

32. Odometer start

33. Winter road clearer

35. Remain

36. Church area

37. Buckwheat porridge

38. Physicist Enrico

40. Slightly

42. White House nickname

43. Company emblems

48. Grazing land

49. Scott Turow book

50. Valentine flower

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32

33 34 35

36 37

38 39 40 41

42 43 44 45 46 47

48 49 50

51 52 53

51. Curvy letter

52. Yuletide tune

53. Faction

DOWN

1. Back talk

2. In the past

3. Gear tooth

4. Wears away

5. Winslet of *Titanic*

6. Egyptian deity

7. List-ending abbr.

8. Minnesota footballers

9. '60s footwear

10. Dumbstruck

11. Citi Field team

16. Stitch

20. Not neg.

21. Numbered rds.

22. Deserve

23. Restricted zones

24. Recognized

26. Shopper's delight

27. "As I see it," to a texter

28. Ancient mariner

29. Maja painter

31. Delta follower

34. Typing speed stat

35. Nymph pursuers

37. Tool set

38. Dossier

39. Stretches (out)

40. Baseball's Tommie

41. Weevil's target

44. Music's Yoko

45. "Ulalume" writer

46. Computer key

47. Filming site

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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.

CLUES

1 escorts (11)

2 peace (8)

3 excavated pits (8)

4 ancient grain from Peru (6)

5 selected (6)

6 soupçons (5)

7 sounds like a rubber duck (7)

SOLUTIONS

ACC QUI LMN AN QU

CA SEN AKS NOA SQ

CHO NTS RI ESS IES

AR UE OMP HI ES

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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

1. BULB, 2. PREFERENCE, 3. MANAGER, 4. SIGNIFIED, 5. PUPPETS, 6. BAZAAR, 7. NIGHTMARES

SPORTS



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Beacon Grad Wins National Long Jump Title

Rayvon Grey vaults to championship on last jump

By Skip Pearlman

When Rayvon Grey sets his sights on a goal, he finds a way to realize it.

Grey was an indoor and outdoor national long jump champion as a senior at Beacon High School in 2016 and an NCAA champion in 2019, but the LSU grad reached new heights on June 24 in Oregon, winning a national title at the USA Track & Field Outdoor Championships at Hayward Field in Eugene.

And he did it in dramatic fashion.

After his first two jumps, Grey sat in ninth place with just one attempt left. Competitors needed an eighth-place or better finish to advance to the finals.

On his third attempt Grey got a strong take-off, and soared 8.19m (26-10½), and into first place in the competition. The jump was a new personal best for Grey, and the best jump in the competition by more than an inch.

Grey now heads to the World Athletics Championships on July 15, also in Oregon.

“That’s a huge accomplishment, and elevates him to the next level,” said Jim Henry, Grey’s former coach at Beacon High School. “Winning an NCAA championship put him at the top of the college ranks, and now to win a national title — with pros, Olympians, everyone — to win that stamps him as one of the top professional jumpers in the country.”

A 2019 NCAA champion in the long jump, and a 2021 LSU grad, Grey has talked about reaching 27 feet. Henry believes that he is “still a work in progress” and can do even better.

“I think he can go over 27 feet, and get closer to 28,” said Henry. “He’s always had a history of coming up big in big meets.”

Grey fell short of qualifying for last summer’s Olympics, finishing 13th in a qualifier, and used the experience as motivation to raise his game.

Henry has not been surprised by Grey’s ascent, and said a number of Beacon track and field fans have been tuned in to his accomplishments.

“It’s a lot of fun to watch the success he’s had,” he said. “It gives me flashbacks to his success in high school. I’ve gotten a lot of calls and texts from others, congratulating him.”

Beacon athletes are also tuned in, said Henry. “A few even came out for the team just because of Rayvon,” he said. “It’s exciting to see he’s energizing kids; he’s fueling their dreams a little bit.”



Rayvon Grey on the podium at the state championships for Beacon in 2016.

Photo courtesy of Jim Henry



Beacon's Jack Antalek delivers Tuesday night against the Valley Pirates.

Bulldogs' 15U Continues to Roll

Doubleheader sweep followed by shutout

By Skip Pearlman

Beacon's 15U baseball team continued its scorching play in the Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League's summer season, sweeping a doubleheader from the visiting Fairfield County Captains on Saturday (June 25) and then dominating the Valley Pirates (of Shrub Oak), 10-0, on Tuesday (June 28) evening at Beacon High School.

Against the Pirates, Beacon rode strong pitching from winner Morgan Varricchio, along with starter Jackson Atwell and relievers Liam Murphy, Jack Antalek and Nick Albra.

“Our pitchers gave us a good performance, especially for guys who haven’t pitched a

lot,” said Coach Bob Atwell, who was trying to keep his staff fresh for an upcoming weekend tournament. “They all had good stuff and it was a nice combined effort.”

Beacon’s offense was on full display. Derrick Heaton went 2-for-2 with a double and drove in two runs, Mercer Jordan had two RBI, Atwell went 2-for-4 with one RBI, Varricchio and Albra each drove in one run and Murphy went 2-for-3.

Murphy, batting .448 with a strong on-base percentage, has been “on fire” for the Bulldogs lately, said Atwell. Heaton has also been hitting well (.406 and 12 RBI), and is a “big force” in the middle of the team’s lineup, he said.

Mikey Fontaine, who leads the team with 16 RBI, and Jordan Mercer (.367) have also been having a nice summer at the plate, said Atwell.



Beacon's Liam Murphy slides in safely at second base Tuesday night at Beacon High School in a 10-0 Bulldogs win over the Valley Pirates.

Photos by S. Pearlman

The team has also been performing in the field. One of its mainstay strengths has been a solid defense, said Atwell.

“We’ve only made 13 errors in 11 games, and that’s pretty impressive,” he said. “The guys are making defensive plays, and we’ve had eight double plays. This is one of the stronger defensive teams I’ve had, and we’re doing it with guys playing multiple positions.”

In Beacon’s doubleheader sweep of the Fairfield County Captains, Anthony Borromeo picked up the win on the mound in Game One, a 9-4 victory, and Jordan got a save. Fontaine and Jordan each drove in two runs in the win.

Beacon picked up a 12-3 victory in Game

Two behind the pitching of Heaton. Ronnie Anzovino earned the save while Antalek went 2-for-3 with three RBI.

With 10 wins in 11 tries, Atwell likes the direction his team — which won a summer title last summer, and lost in the championship game in the fall — is headed.

“They had a good year last year, and got to the championship game in the fall,” he said. “So, I felt like this team could do well. And the guys have a lot of confidence.”

The team was scheduled to play in the 10th annual Firecracker Tournament in Hershey, Pennsylvania, this weekend, and returns to face the Lagrange Lumberjacks on Wednesday at 5:45 p.m. at Lagrange Park.