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 northwest 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)

‘A Voice For The Voiceless’
Remembering Beacon community leader Yvonne McNair
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, 88, 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

(Continued on Page 7)

How the Highlands Voted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assembly District</th>
<th>Putnam</th>
<th>Dutchess</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dana Levenberg</td>
<td>587</td>
<td>3,654</td>
<td>4,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Agudelo</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>2,488</td>
<td>2,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colin Smith</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>1,681</td>
<td>1,769</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Governor (Dem)</th>
<th>Putnam</th>
<th>Dutchess</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Hochul</td>
<td>9,893</td>
<td>2,886</td>
<td>575,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumaane Williams</td>
<td>1,522</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>164,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Soussie</td>
<td>1,041</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>111,011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Governor (Rep)</th>
<th>Putnam</th>
<th>Dutchess</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lee Zeldin</td>
<td>2,911</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>194,387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Guiliani</td>
<td>2,120</td>
<td>916</td>
<td>101,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Astorino</td>
<td>3,267</td>
<td>2,584</td>
<td>80,822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Wilson</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>64,977</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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)
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.

**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.

---

**FIVE QUESTIONS: PAUL BRADY**

*By Brian PJ Cronin*

**Paul Brady**

*Photo by B. Cronin*
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.

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.

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,” said Chief Jeff Phillips Jr.

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.

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.
Tell us what you think

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

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 GUFS 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 understand what that meant, having come from PS 179 in Manhattan, where there was no distinction among 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, Walkill

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

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 to our quality of life and the public health issues we face, there’s no place for Seastreak service.

Ned Rauch, Garrison

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

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT (USPS #22270) • ISSN 2475-3785
July 1, 2022
Volume 11, Issue 26
142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2890
The writer’s full name, village or city, and email or phone number must be included, but only the name and village or city will be published. For our complete editorial policies, see highlandscurrent.org/editorial-standards.
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 Gallo, 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 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 that would fly year-round and to seek to have veterans in uniform. I would urge our freedoms and particularly for the fact 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.

Letters and Comments

(Continued from Page 4)

The Real Estate Market is Booming!

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

Abbie Carey
HOULIHAN LAWRENCE | ASSOCIATE REAL ESTATE BROKER
845-204-0415 | acarey@houlihanlawrence.com
www.abbiecarey.houlihanlawrence.com

Katharine M. Tomann
HOULIHAN LAWRENCE | ASSOCIATE REAL ESTATE BROKER
914-204-0415 |ktomann@houlihanlawrence.com
www.houlihanlawrence.com

Ann McBride-Alayon
HUDSON RIVER LINE REALTY | REAL ESTATE BROKER
718-637-3143 | ann@hudsonrivernererealty.com
www.hudsonrivernererealty.com

Carlin Felder
LICENSED REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON | WEICHERT REALTORS
845-354-9842 | carlinfelder@gmail.com
973G Main Street, Fishkill, NY 12524
www.hudsonrivernererealty.com

Claudia Dizenzo
ASSOCIATE REAL ESTATE BROKER | HUDSON RIVER LINE REALTY
845-661-5438 |ACarey@houlihanlawrence.com
www.houlihanlawrence.com

Advertise your real estate business here.

Contact: Michele Gedney | 845-809-5584 | ads@highlandscurrent.org
highlandscurrent.org/ads
Support our nonprofit. Become a member!

The Highlands Current

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.”

Dutchess To Add Mental Health Beds

County partners with MidHudson Regional on project

Dutchess County and WMCHealth 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.

WMCHealth, 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 Simmons

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 Kryiacou 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 project 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.

The 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.

**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 space for the new development.

**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 he would not seek re-election.


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.

**Abortion (from Page 1)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Abortions</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>762,755</td>
<td>625,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York State</td>
<td>111,212</td>
<td>74,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>77,237</td>
<td>46,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutchess County</td>
<td>792</td>
<td>804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Putnam County</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Abortions By Race/Ethicity, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S.</th>
<th>N.Y.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>115,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>132,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>72,509</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NYS Department of Health and CDC U.S. race data based on reporting from 30 jurisdictions. Totals may not equal 100%.
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 “facsimile 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 Nacerno 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,” Nacerno 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?”

Nacerno 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.”

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL SERVICE

AT THE HIGHLANDS CHAPEL ON SUNDAY, JULY 3, 2022 AT 11:00AM.

OF GEORGE WASHINGTON, THOMAS JEFFERSON, THOMAS Paine,

SUSAN B. ANTHONY, FREDERICK DOUGLASS, DWIGHT EISENHOWER,

THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AND OTHERS.
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,” LaKesha 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. LaKesha, 37, lives in Fishkill.

Yvonne never returned to 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 baseball, which he loved, while LaVonne played softball and was a cheerleader. LaKesha 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.

Facility in 1993. She started in the prison’s business office, then worked in the mail room and drove a truck for the facility.

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 separated 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 every-thing 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 comes 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 given 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.”
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 facility 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.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

GRADUATES, The Current HAS A GIFT FOR YOU

All 2022 High School and College Graduates in Philipstown and Beacon will receive a free FRIEND membership to The Current to help you stay connected to all that is happening in your hometown.

Just sign up at: highlandscurrent.org/gradgift

Then every Friday for the next 12 months you’ll have a new digital Current in your inbox.

Questions? Email: membership@highlandscurrent.org

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL GUFFS PARENTS
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 scencics, 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).

---

**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 scencics, 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).

---

“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.”

“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’.”

“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 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.”

“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.”

---

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

COMMUNITY
SAT 2
Support Ukraine Food Sale
COLD SPRING
11 a.m. – 5 p.m. St. Mary’s Church 1 Chestnut St.
Pick up varenky (pierogies), holubtsi (stuffed cabbage), borsch, kielbas 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. | howlandculturalcenter.org
Work by dozens of artisans and craftpeople 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: $150 ($55 seniors, military and children under 12)

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 Zacarías, 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)

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 Cahn Drive beacmyny.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

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 ($10 seniors, veterans and members; ages 10 and under are 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.

SAT 9
Sing 2
POUGHKEEPSIE
7 p.m. Walkway Over the Hudson dutchenessny.gov/parkmovies
Movies Under the Walkway will show the 2023 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 10
B. Fulton Jenns
PUTNAM VALLEY
3 Tompkins Corners Cultural Center 729 Peeksskill Hollow Road tompkinscorners.org
Jenns 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 Havens Band will perform, the Hellcats and the Benny Havens Band will perform, followed by fireworks. Free

SUN 3
Pocket Moxie, A Happenstance
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)

Sun 10
Support our nonprofit. Become a member!
**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. 888, 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**
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 19th- 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 Peeksskill 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
BEACON
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.

**SAT 9**
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)

**TUES 5**
Putnam Legislature
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Auditorium
15 Craigside Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

**TUES 5**
School Board
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon High School
238 Main St. | 845-838-6900
beaconny.gov

**TUES 5**
School Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900
beaconny.gov

**TUES 5**
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-6011 | beaconny.gov

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

**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
I was a Foodie and Didn’t Know It

By Michael Turton

I t 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 hunt-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, I do. My older sisters Nancy and Mary Anne raised cattle about 3 miles from our house.

My parents knew the McKees, who at the end of each summer would drive 3 miles from their farm to our house on the Lake Erie shoreline. The rest of my family loved fried smelt. I did not. I couldn’t get the taste exploded in your mouth. If I didn’t force me to pick wild raspberries, I would never have gotten the 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 taste exploded in your mouth. If I didn’t force me to pick wild raspberries, I would never have gotten the memory of those delicacies was a shotgun pellet lodged in the meat.

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.

The excitement was in not knowing how they had to shell the peas. Not nearly as much fun as “hooking” them. But “hooking” (think “stealing”) peas was the only family with up to 10 people “pick-your-own” farms. Strawberries stand alone 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.

Groen was a little more than a dozen years old. In 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 beamless; 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.

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.

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 was 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 vins hung over the back, within easy reach. Terry and I, aided by the

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 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 by petitioners 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 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

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 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 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.
Chia Seed Pudding

4 servings

2 - 3 tablespoons honey (or other sweetener of your choice)
2 cups unsweetened almond milk
½ cup coconut milk
½ cup chia seeds
1/4 tablespoon vanilla extract (optional)
1/4 cup toasted kasha (optional)
Salt

1. Use a whisk to combine almond and coconut milk, honey and a pinch of salt. Add chia seeds and whisk to combine. 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.)

2. To serve, mix in kasha (if using) and flavorings, if desired. Chill. 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
½ to 1/2 cup raw sugar or another sweetener
(If using fresh oranges save a couple of strips of zest)

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.

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

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,

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 2000. There he was inspired by his math teacher, Christian Hoolan, who taught him how calculus could be used as a tool 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 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 snorkeling 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.

“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.

---

S E R V I C E D I R E C T O R Y

Ada Pilar Cruz
Island to Island: Sculptures, Papers, Prints
JULY 1 - JULY 31, 2022
RECEPTION: SATURDAY, JULY 9 4PM TO 7PM
GALLERY HOURS: FRIDAYS 3PM - 6PM, SAT & SUN 12PM - 6PM
www.busterlevigallery.com

Lynne Ward, LCSW
Licensed Psychotherapist
Individuals • Couples • Adolescents • Children
Psychotherapy and Divorce Mediation
Addiction Counseling
75 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516
lynneward99@gmail.com
(917) 597-6905

Support our nonprofit. Become a member!
Puzzles

**CROSSCURRENT**

**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  

**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.  
22. Deserve  
23. Restricted zones  
24. Recognized  
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  

Answers for June 24 Puzzles

```
AS IF BIBB HAIL LITERATI URSA PETEBEST MALI BIZ BOATER FOALS CYAN ERIE GBFEST WAD TUNIS KID LABTEST VINE LOST RIPEN STOOPS BEE ERIN WILDSTONE AULD HOOSEGOW MESS DONT ROSA
9 3 8 5 1 7 2 6 4 1 7 4 9 6 2 8 3 5 5 6 2 4 3 8 7 9 1 8 5 1 7 2 6 9 4 3 3 9 6 8 4 5 1 7 2 2 4 7 3 9 1 6 5 8 7 1 5 6 8 3 4 2 9 4 2 3 1 7 9 5 8 6 6 8 9 2 5 4 3 1 7
```

**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. soupcons (5)  
7. sounds like a rubber duck (7)

**SUDOCCURRENT**

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

For interactive sudoku and crossword answers, see highlandscurrent.org/puzzles.
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 ninth place with just one attempt left.

On his third attempt Grey got a strong takeoff, and soared 8.19m (26-101/2), 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 graduates 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.”

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 on Saturday (June 25) and then dominating the Valley Pirates on Saturday (June 25) and then dominating the Valley Pirates on Saturday (June 25) and then dominating the Valley Pirates on Saturday (June 25) and then dominating the Valley Pirates on Saturday (June 25) 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.

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.