

The HIGHLANDS Current

A Modern-Day
Apothecary –
With Flowers
Page 14

AUGUST 5, 2022

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THE BIG SWIM — River Pool at Beacon held its 18th Annual Great Newburgh to Beacon Hudson River Swim on July 30. The mile-long fundraiser included 144 swimmers accompanied by 80 escorts on kayaks, boats and Jet Skis. Photo by Ross Corsair

Housing Market Soars

Great for sellers, but low-income, renters squeezed

By Jeff Simms

While much of the recent conversation about housing in the Highlands has focused on the dearth of affordable apartments, home prices have jumped significantly — a development with consequences that trickle down to lower-income buyers, as well as renters.

According to data compiled by the National Association of Realtors, the median listing price for a home in Beacon is \$537,000, an increase of more than \$100,000 from a year ago. In June of this year, every seller received at least the asking price.

In March 2020, just as the COVID-19 pandemic began, the median listing price in Beacon was \$375,000 but actual sales were closer to \$252,000.

The median listing price in Philipstown is \$675,000, although the data indicates the market benefits buyers in the town, with more supply than demand. Listing prices have been flat over the last two

(Continued on Page 9)

Progress Slow at Camp Beacon

Plans in place to develop former prison, but when?

By Jeff Simms

During a Beacon City Council meeting last month, Mark Roland chided city officials for the stalled development of the former Beacon Correctional Facility, also known as Camp Beacon. “The plan was always pie in the sky, and it grows more so every day,” the Beacon resident said during a public comment period. “It’s time to stop relying on outside developers and reclaim some of Beacon for its citizens.”

He was referring to an Urban Green Food proposal to create a “bike farm” at the site with a hotel and courtyard, indoor track-and-field venue and arena for indoor cycling known as a velodrome. A farming incubator, along with dozens of acres of farmland and bike trails, is also part of the plan.

The state’s economic development agency, Empire State Development, in 2019 selected Urban Green Food, based in New York City, to redevelop the 39-acre former

women’s prison. The state is also offering \$6 million in funding, but that requires a separate application and is subject to the project receiving local and state approval.

“It’s time to stop relying on outside developers and reclaim some of Beacon for its citizens.”

~ Mark Roland

New York first asked for proposals for the property in 2014, a year after the prison was closed. (Before the prison opened in 1981, the site was home to the Matteawan State Hospital.) The state received only one proposal, from The Doe Fund, also based in New York City, which wanted to create a farming and job-training center to help homeless and low-income people seek employment and self-sufficiency.

The Doe Fund withdrew its proposal in 2017 after local officials — including then-

(Continued on Page 18)

‘Ghost’ Guns in Putnam

Parts assembled into untraceable weapons

By Leonard Sparks

The target lived, ironically, on Bullet Hole Road in Mahopac.

There, during a December raid, Putnam County sheriff’s deputies capped a

months-long investigation into illegal firearms by seizing 10 pistols, an assault rifle and 67 large-capacity ammunition magazines.

Just one gun had a serial number. Deputies also seized the tools and parts to make 20 more weapons.

David Goldberg Jr., 24, was arrested, one of 11 men detained that day on gun

(Continued on Page 8)



The Putnam County Sheriff’s Department said it seized this arsenal of weapons and parts from a home in Mahopac.

PCSD

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: KIT NICHOLLS

By Brian PJ Cronin

Kit Nicholls, of Beacon, is director of The Center for Writing at Cooper Union in New York City and co-author of *Syllabus: The Remarkable, Unremarkable Document That Changes Everything*.

Your co-author, William Germano, invited you to help with the book. What intrigued you about the idea?

I love thinking about teaching and talking to other people about teaching. Co-writing a book about teaching was the absolute right way to do it, because you can't teach solo. That would just be a person sitting in a room yelling, which is how a lot of people teach, unfortunately. But the students have to be collaborators with you. The only other books out there about the syllabus are very dry, such as: "This is what goes in this section." So it was fun to have a chance to unpack it.

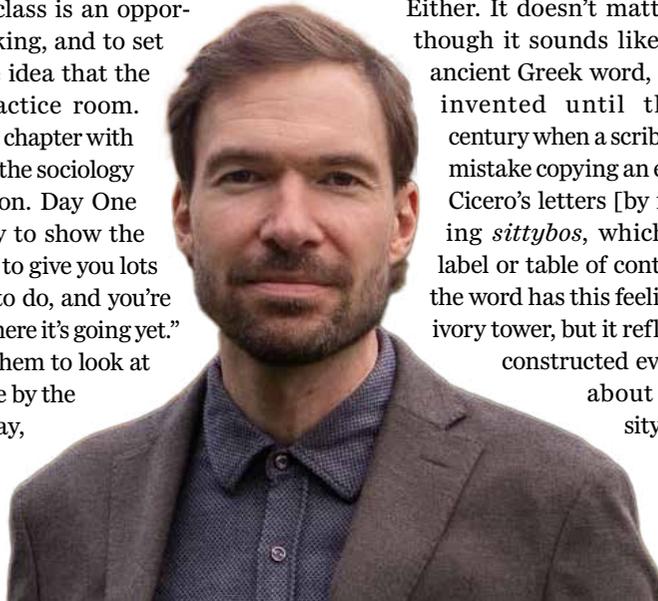
Why don't students read the syllabus?

If you're creating a piece of writing — and that's what a syllabus is — and nobody wants to read it, there's a problem. What do you have to do? Step One is to write for an audience; engage your readers. You also need to realize that the syllabus isn't about what the teacher

is going to do; it's about what the student is going to do. Too often, the syllabus looks like a set of directives. The properly conceived syllabus is a plan for a set of collaborative tasks. It should be designed to orchestrate a set of possibilities, rather than a set of firm goals that you'll be tested on. The teacher isn't a magician who's going to pull the rabbit from a hat; the students will do that.

I teach at Marist. Should I explain the syllabus on the first day of class?

The first day of class is an opportunity to start working, and to set students up for the idea that the classroom is a practice room. That's why we have a chapter with wacky references to the sociology of jazz improvisation. Day One is your opportunity to show the students, "I'm going to give you lots of cool, weird stuff to do, and you're not going to know where it's going yet." That will motivate them to look at the syllabus, because by the end of the first day, they'll be saying, "What is this thing that we're doing? And where does it go next?"



Is it possible to give away too much information?

It goes back to pulling the rabbit from the hat. The syllabus shouldn't translate as, "As the teacher, I already know all of this; I'm going to grill you on it, then it's over." For students to fall in love with the subject, they need to discover there's unfinished business in that discipline.

What's the plural of syllabus? Syllabuses? Syllabi?

Either. It doesn't matter. Even though it sounds like a fancy ancient Greek word, it wasn't invented until the 15th century when a scribe made a mistake copying an edition of Cicero's letters [by misreading *sittybos*, which means label or table of contents]. So the word has this feeling of the ivory tower, but it reflects how constructed everything about university life is.

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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Do you have a favorite comic strip?

“Stephan Pastis’ *Pearls Before Swine*. Perfect humor for today.”



Rebeca Ramirez, Cold Spring

“Without a doubt, *Calvin and Hobbes*. Very imaginative, crazy high jinks.”



Brian Rubino, Beacon

“Peanuts. Snoopy is the coolest character in comics.”



Angie Speranza, Cold Spring

Legislature Boundaries to Shift in Beacon

Dutchess County commission adopts final map

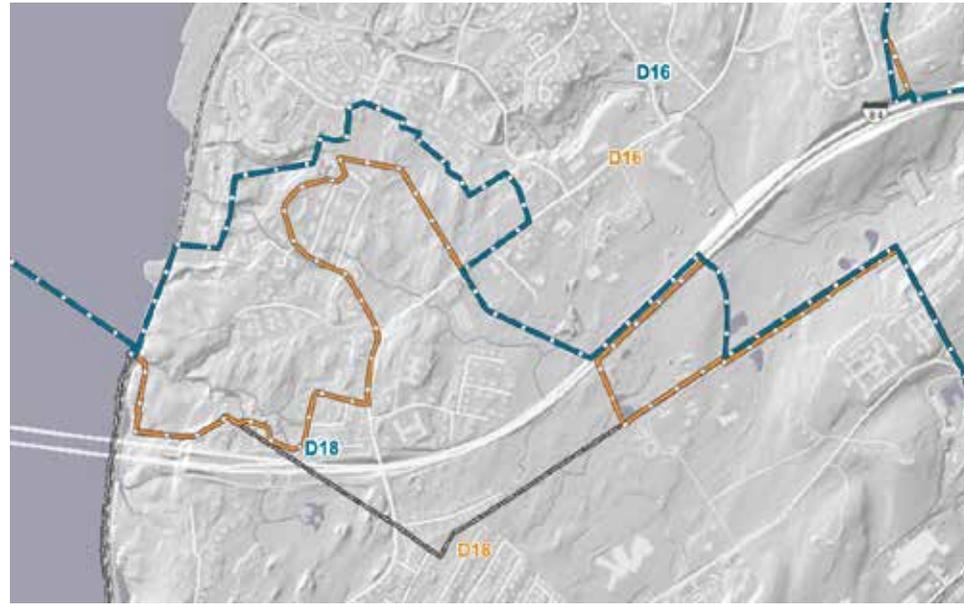
By Leonard Sparks

The boundaries of the two Dutchess County legislative districts that include Beacon will remain largely unchanged under a plan recently adopted by an independent commission.

Most of Beacon will remain in District 18 under the plan approved in June by the county's Independent Reapportionment Commission. The seven-member body was created two years ago to reconfigure the 25 districts based on 2020 census data so that each legislator has roughly the same number of constituents.

The county population did not change significantly between 2010 and 2020 at just under 300,000, but the numbers shifted within the cities, towns and villages. Each legislator represents about 12,000 people.

As in the past, District 18 includes neighborhoods in the west, north and east, as well as a section of the Town of Fishkill along Route 9D, just north of the Interstate 84 interchange. But the newly adopted map will add new areas, including Mount



The orange line represents the current northern border of District 18 within Beacon, and the blue line is the border that takes effect in 2023.

Gulian and the Hudson View Apartments.

The remainder of Beacon — a swath that includes its southwest neighborhoods on both sides of Fishkill Creek — will remain in District 16, which is mostly the Town of Fishkill.

Residents can type their address into a map at gis.dutchessny.gov/irc-plan-2022 to determine their districts.

Both District 16 and 18 are represented by Democrats. Last year, Nick Page was elected to his third term in District 18 and Yvette Valdes Smith, who is the minority leader, was elected in District 16. The next legislative election will be held in 2023 using the new boundaries.

The adopted boundaries represent a reversal from a draft map released in April. In that version, District 16 would have encircled Beacon's eastern neighborhoods and parts of the city's north and southeast, an area predominantly within Beacon's Ward 3. District 18 would have gained all or most of Ward 4.

County legislators must live in the districts they serve. As a result, the redrawn boundaries will shift three Republican legislators — if they run again — into districts already represented by members of the party. Republicans hold 16 of the Legisla-

ture's seats and Democrats, eight. The other seat is held by a Conservative Party member.

"Nobody ever had an intent, or a purpose, to put multiple incumbents into one district," said Christian Cullen, chief assistant county attorney and counsel for the commission, in June. "But that's what's going to be the allegation."

Among Democrats, the map will flip two incumbents if they decide to run because their homes would move from one district to another.

An analysis of the map by Joshua Simons, a researcher at SUNY New Paltz who assisted the commission, concluded that it meets federal, state and local requirements for redistricting.

If no one successfully sues to change the boundaries, the map will become the first created by the Independent Reapportionment Commission, which was formed in 2020 following a countywide referendum approved by 65 percent of voters.

Its seven members include two members appointed by Republican leaders and two by Democrats. Those four members selected the others.

Its work has been delayed twice — by the later-than-usual release of the 2020 census data and by the disbanding of the original commission last summer after a Democrat appointee was found to be a school board member. That violated a prohibition on elected officials, according to the Republican majority in the Legislature, although the Democrats argued it did not.

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- Silvia Hardman (Cold Spring)

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Philipstown rentals

Zoning and land use regulations are frequently nuanced and targeted ("Philipstown Agrees to Look at Airbnb Regulation," July 29). Why would compact short-term rentals — let's say those that are owner-occupied and host between one and four guests — be grouped, from a regulatory standpoint, with those acting as event hosts, explicitly inviting dozens of guests at a time, even arriving on tour buses?

Ethan Timm, *Nelsonville*

In 2014 we rented the home on Nelson Lane in Garrison for the in-laws to stay in for my daughter's wedding. We were so happy to find a comfortable and convenient place where a family could stay and the groomsmen could walk from there to St. Philip's Church. It was a pleasure dealing with the home's owner and a lovely experience all-around.

Anita Prentice, *Garrison*

You can always tell the bad Airbnbs by what the owners say. They always claim they had relatives staying there. They pretend they are not making any money. They use words like *neighbor* or *neighborly*, which is strange based on my own experience suffering from new people next door

every week.

I feel so sorry for the suffering real neighbors of this "hotel."

Anna West, *via Instagram*

Energy agreement

It's a shame that Columbia Utilities defaulted on its contract to supply clean energy at a fixed rate to 25,000 Hudson Valley customers, including in Philipstown and Beacon ("Customers Sent Back to Central Hudson," July 22). Presumably the company felt it was missing out on the grotesque profits energy firms are enjoying under cover of global inflation. Community choice aggregation is a great idea with a track record of success, but this setback points out a key limitation.

As we endure yet another summer of record heatwaves, drought and wildfires, it has become increasingly clear that the private sector alone will not solve the climate crisis. As long as we depend on for-profit companies like Columbia to supply energy, the transition away from fossil fuels will lag behind what the crisis demands. In fact, from 2004 to 2022, New York went from 2 percent wind and solar to just 4 percent (far behind states like Texas, Kansas and California), and it is nowhere near on track to fulfill its mandate under

the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act to achieve 70 percent renewables by 2030 and 100 percent by 2040.

Last week's public hearing in the state Assembly on the Build Public Renewables Act (BPRA) showed there is another way. The BPRA would empower the New York Power Authority to rapidly expand public renewables, making energy cleaner, cheaper and more dependable for New Yorkers while adding as many as 50,000 good-paying jobs. Predictably, industry lobbyists testified against the bill, hoping to protect their profits from competition, but expert after expert testified that the bill is not only viable but necessary.

The BPRA is tantalizingly close to passage. It passed the Senate this year but was never brought to the floor in the Assembly — something advocates want the Legislature to rectify by convening a special session this summer. This must happen. We simply cannot wait another year to act on climate change.

Jeff Mikkelson, *Cold Spring*

Indian Brook Falls

Even if the trail at Indian Brook Falls in Garrison is repaired, there doesn't seem to be a good solution for safe parking on or adjacent to Indian Brook Road and not enough park staff to monitor the area ("State Closes Indian Brook Falls," July 29).

Michelle McCoy, *via Facebook*

It's a good thing the trail is being watched and protected, but it was a big loss when the parking was eliminated and only already highly privileged folks had access.

Lesly Canossi, *via Instagram*

If you want to reach that area to visit Constitution Marsh, ride a bicycle down Route 9D. It's a beautiful ride and walk, and it's worth it to watch the people who live there lose their collective minds.

Harper Langston, *via Instagram*

The problems at Indian Brook Falls started long ago. It was mentioned in several of those "best getaways in the Hudson Valley" articles around 2008. People from everywhere started parking along the narrow road, causing blockages and altercations with homeowners.

Lynn Miller, *via Facebook*

Beacon building

Just what Fishkill and Beacon need: more townhomes and apartments so that our roads are even more crowded and the town becomes even more like Staten Island or New York City ("New Housing on Way to Area," July 29). I guess our officials don't

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

like having quaint towns where you feel safe and what should be a 10-minute drive takes you 45 minutes.

Carol Battista, *via Facebook*

A lot of people objected to the approval for the Edgewater apartment development. Somehow the mayor helping to break ground seems a little much.

Karen Twohig, *via Facebook*

I know that housing and development are deeply complex issues further complicated by the power of profit, but I struggle to understand why we're building more apartments when so many developments aren't even sold out.

When Beacon stops looking like the idyllic river city, who will want to continue to move here and pay these prices for what isn't even a house with land?

Emily Boone, *via Instagram*

Nelsonville home

Raze the home that John Duggan is building? Are you kidding me? ("Nelsonville Asks State Judge to Dismiss Lawsuit," July 22). This is not greed: Duggan purchased the land, was granted a permit by the village and is building a magnificent home. If you think that's greed, raze your own home and donate it as undeveloped land.

Pam Donato-Hustis, *via Facebook*

Residents Oppose Warehouse on Route 9D

Homeowners fear impact of facility on neighborhood

By Arvind Dilawar

On the drive north on Route 9D through Beacon, Van Ness Road is the last residential turn-off before Interstate 84. The cul-de-sac, located within the Town of Fishkill, is bordered on the north and east by trees.

Between those northern trees and I-84, a developer has proposed construction at 1292 Route 9D of a self-storage warehouse. Neighbors on Van Ness are unhappy.

“The property is situated in a residential area and ought not be developed for commercial purposes.

~ Liisa Sorensen

The lot was purchased in 2019 by Nidal Hassen, a broker at JonCar Realty in Beacon. In May, Hassen applied to the Town of Fishkill Planning Board for a special-use permit to construct a two-story, 51,000-square-foot warehouse. The parcel is zoned “restricted business,” which does not include self-storage facilities as a permitted use.

“The property is situated in a residen-



A developer who wants to build a warehouse on Route 9D near I-84 submitted this rendering to the Fishkill Planning Board.

tial area and ought not be developed for commercial purposes,” said Liisa Sorensen, who moved to the neighborhood 23 years ago. “Adjoining property owners, many with children and pets, have a reasonable expectation of privacy, of peace.”

In addition, she said, over the past 20 years, traffic on the half-mile stretch of Route 9D between Verplanck Avenue and I-84 has become increasingly dangerous.

Without the benefit of traffic signals, she said, drivers entering or exiting side streets such as Van Ness must negotiate a seemingly endless flow of vehicles, especially during the morning and evening rush hours.

Sorensen and other neighbors voiced their opposition at the July 14 meeting of the Planning Board.

Robert Johnson, a former lawyer who has lived on Van Ness for 21 years, noted that, besides the need for a special-use permit, there was another point to consider: “The lot size of 4.7 acres does not meet the minimum 5 acres that the Town of Fishkill requires in zones marked ‘restricted business.’”

The Planning Board accepted Hassen’s application for a special-use permit for further consideration but turned down his request for a waiver of the standard environmental review. Hassen declined to comment.

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The same area will be closed to traffic entirely (except for emergencies) on Saturday, 9/3, between 1 pm and approximately 10 pm.



Legislators Apparently Drop Resolution

Montgomery: Colleagues opposed stream protections

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Criticism from Legislator Nancy Montgomery and residents on Tuesday (Aug. 2) apparently thwarted an effort by the Putnam County Legislature to adopt a resolution urging the governor to veto legislation extending environmental protections to more of the state's streams.

In an email alert on Sunday (July 31), Montgomery, a Democrat whose district includes Philipstown and parts of Putnam Valley, alerted activists that her Republican colleagues were circulating a draft resolution to oppose the legislation. Montgomery said they planned to introduce the measure, requested by Legislator Amy Sayegh of Mahopac, during the "other business" portion of Tuesday's meeting.

But that night, after the legislators had dealt with the agenda and Legislator Neal Sullivan of Carmel-Mahopac, who chairs the Legislature, called for other business, no one mentioned the resolution.

"I guess we took it off the agenda," Montgomery said shortly before the meeting adjourned. "I'm grateful that we're not opposing what will be protection for our streams and am looking forward to having this" state law.

"Water is the new oil," in terms of being a valued resource, she added. "We must do everything we can to protect it."

The Legislature, consisting of Montgomery and eight Republicans, previously has passed resolutions to put its views on the record in opposing state laws or proposals. In April 2019, the Legislature voted 8-1, after prolonged debate and with Montgomery in dissent, to approve a resolution demanding the state Legislature repeal the Reproductive

Health Act. The law added protections for abortion rights and removed references to abortion from the state criminal code.

If signed by Hochul, the environmental legislation will classify more waterways as streams worthy of safeguarding. Introduced by state Sen. Peter Harekham, a Democrat whose district includes eastern Putnam, it requires that projects affecting them have permits from the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

State Sen. Sue Serino, a Republican whose district includes the Highlands, and Assembly Members Sandy Galef, whose district includes Philipstown, and Jonathan Jacobson, whose district includes Beacon, each voted for the measure in Albany. As of Wednesday, it awaited Hochul's signature.

Although Harekham's legislation cleared the Assembly in March and the Senate in May, Putnam's resolution did not surface until July 29. Typically, legislators discuss resolutions in a public committee session before sending them to the full body for action. The resolution did not appear on the agenda for the Aug. 2 meeting.

Putnam's draft resolution declares that local soil and water conservation districts can protect waterways and that while "well-intentioned," the state legislation would "create the need for more than 40 times the applications

to go to the DEC." It asserted that obtaining permits already takes four to eight months and that, "based upon the current backlog and timeframe for permitting, this would delay projects for at least 26 months."

At Tuesday's meeting, Montgomery said that she had spoken with DEC officials and "nobody could tell me that there was any validity to that" claim of long delays.

Afterward, she expressed satisfaction at the outcome. "I'd say this was a win for me," she said. "The resolution didn't even make it to the floor!"

Residents who contacted legislators after her alert criticized the draft resolution and the way it was to be introduced. Withholding the writers' names, Montgomery provided several examples.

"I am aghast that you would protest a New York State law that will help protect our waterways," wrote a Mahopac resident. "If you held any kind of public hearings on this matter, as you should have done, I am sure you would find that Putnam citizens *want* our waterways protected."

A resident of Putnam Valley asked: "Why would you even consider wasting the taxpayers' time and money putting forward a resolution to oppose the state's decision to further protect waterways from damage and destruction?"

And a Patterson resident maintained that "to have my county Legislature make such a request is an outrage."



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Holtec: 'We Do Not Dump Into the River'

Says radioactive water would be far below limits

By Brian PJ Cronin

The company hired to decommission the Indian Point nuclear plant on the Hudson River south of the Highlands continues to press the federal government to allow exemptions to its regulations.

Rich Burroni, a Holtec executive, said at the most recent meeting of the Indian Point Decommissioning Task Force on July 27 at Cortlandt Town Hall that exemptions were necessary because the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has not updated its rules governing reactors that are no longer operational.

"Maybe *exemptions* is the wrong word," he told the 26-member panel, which includes Sandy Galef, a Democrat in the state Assembly whose district includes Philipstown. "Maybe that's the negative connotation. But what we're trying to do is just have rules in place that are commensurate with defueled reactors" and "consistent with what every other plant in this country has done with regards to decommissioning."

In 1999, the NRC identified dozens of its regulations that should not apply to permanently closed reactors but is only now, more than 20 years later, in the final stages of changing the regulations. The public comment period ends Aug. 30 (see bit.ly/NRC-229), and the agency is not expected to make changes until January.

Burroni said that, had the rules already been updated, "you wouldn't even know about half of this stuff we're trying to get rectified."

David Lochbaum, a retired nuclear engineer and task force member who once worked for the Union of Concerned Scientists, said that while he does not agree with all of Holtec's exemption requests, the NRC's slow pace is not in the public's best interest. As an example, he pointed to the NRC's cybersecurity requirements, which Holtec has to follow even though the plant is offline with the exception of human resources files.

"If you're Holtec, or anybody following cybersecurity requirements that aren't applicable to a decommissioning plan,



Holtec plans to discharge water from the former Indian Point nuclear plant into the Hudson River.

File photo by B. Cronin

that's taking management attention and resources away from things that could be better applied," Lochbaum said. "It's diluting the focus, and it's actually undermining safety. We'll see if the NRC inspector general will light a fire or whatever it takes. If the NRC doesn't want to do its job, McDonald's is hiring. Perhaps then we could get a new slate of folks in there who will do their job rather than just take the money."

Not everyone agrees that the new rules are necessary. Galef said in a July 15 letter to the NRC that its proposed changes were flawed "tactfully and substantially."

"The NRC's plans to allow for the dumping of nuclear waste into the Hudson River, the easing of tracking requirements as nuclear waste is tracked across the country, and to reduce the oversight of decommissioning facilities all fly in the face of the NRC's

mission of maintaining public safety," she wrote. "If the NRC oversaw the safety of its nuclear facilities, operating and decommissioning alike, with the same zeal that it sought to limit its own ability to act on behalf of the people, it would be to our enduring benefit."

Galef's allegation that the NRC plan allows for "dumping of nuclear waste into the Hudson" is a reference to Holtec's intention to release the water that was in the pools used to cool radioactive fuel rods once the rods have been removed. When the topic of "dumping" was brought up during the meeting, Burroni said that he took offense.

"We do not 'dump into the river,'" he said. "We *discharge* into it."

Regardless of the terminology, Burroni said that the level of radioactivity in the water that Holtec wants to release is 0.1

percent of the NRC's allowed safety limits and no different from water Indian Point for decades circulated from the Hudson.

Lochbaum confirmed this, saying that he had examined records from the past 20 years and that the highest level of radioactive contamination reported near the plant was only 5 percent of the allowable limits. "I don't see a problem with it at Indian Point, because you're so far below the federal limits," he said.

Richard Webster, a member of the environmental organization Riverkeeper and also a member of the task force, suggested that Burroni work out what the level of radioactivity was in terms of the limits for drinking water set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "If you're way below the drinking-water limit, even before you discharge into the Hudson, that might inform some people's opinions," he said.

Or, it might not. After Webster's comments, Susannah Glidden, speaking on behalf of communities that get their drinking water from the Hudson, said that they feel that there is no safe level of radiation.

"It's not about measuring the amount and staying under 'detectable' limits," she said. "It's about what happens if we ingest it. The Hudson is a tidal basin flowing upstream and downstream. There are seven communities upstream and over 100,000 people in those seven communities who rely on the river for their drinking water. And they don't want to see any more — I won't say 'dumping' in the sense that you say it's diluted and filtered and what-not — but they don't want anything going into the Hudson."

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS	PUTNAM COUNTY			
	Number of cases:	Positive Tests, 7-day average:	Percent vaccinated:	Number of deaths:
	27,438 (+198)	11.4% (+1.2)	83.3 Cold Spring: 95.7 / Garrison: 88.0	127 (+1)
DUTCHESS COUNTY				
	Number of cases:	Positive Tests, 7-day average:	Percent vaccinated:	Number of deaths:
	73,743 (+538)	13.0% (+0.8)	77.8 Beacon: 73.2	678 (+2)
Source: State and county health departments, as of Aug. 3, 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.				

JOB OPENING

PHILIPSTOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

IMMEDIATE FULL TIME DRIVER OPENING
MINIMUM 2 YEARS DRIVING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Applicant must have a current and clean CDL license
- Candidate must work 40 hours a week with long overtime hours in winter
- Resume must be submitted with application
- Pick up applications at the Highway Department Office
50 Fishkill Rd, Cold Spring

LEGAL NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Haldane Central School District Cold Spring, NY 10516

#2 HEATING OIL/HEATING HOT WATER SERVICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the Haldane Central School District of Philipstown will receive sealed bids until 11 :30 AM on August 12, 2022 when same will be publicly opened at the Business Office of the Haldane Central School, 15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring, NY 10516 for the following:

#2 HEATING OIL/HEATING HOT WATER SERVICE

Specifications and bid forms may be obtained at the Business Office 15 Craigsides Drive, Cold Spring, NY 10516, during the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 2:30 P.M. or call 845-265-9254 ext. 111. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids. By Order of the Board of Education of Haldane Central School District of Philipstown, Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York. By Tim Walsh, Director of Facilities and Transportation ext. 170.

Ghost Guns *(from Page 1)*

charges in Putnam and Westchester counties, including three in Carmel.

The parts are central to a recent lawsuit filed by the state Attorney General's Office against 10 distributors accused of illegally selling parts used to make "ghost guns," or assembled weapons that don't have serial numbers. The parts can also be bought without a required background check, making them accessible to people barred from buying and possessing firearms.

Initially filed on June 29 in state court, and citing the arrests of Goldberg and two other Putnam County residents, the lawsuit was moved July 18 to federal court in White Plains. It describes how firms that make gun parts seek to evade federal regulations governing frames and receivers, the housing used to create handguns and rifles, by claiming they are "unfinished."

But buyers need only to drill a few holes or file parts of the housing to make it ready to accept a firing mechanism, barrel, trigger and other pieces to create an assault rifle or handgun. One company named in the lawsuit, Blackhawk Manufacturing Group (aka 80 Percent Arms), of Encino, California, boasts that buyers will find it "ridiculously easy" to alter the frame, a process it said should take no more than an hour, according to the lawsuit.

The state's law enforcement agencies have seized 3,166 guns overall this year, compared to 2,181 at the same point last year, said state police during a press conference on Thurs-



This kit, which was offered for sale online by a New York dealer, includes an unfinished frame and other parts (including drill bits) to make an untraceable gun.

day (Aug. 4) with Gov. Kathy Hochul. Ghost guns account for about 9 percent of the weapons seized in New York state, but only four years ago they were less than 1 percent.

The state police said the 795 ghost guns it has seized this year are more than double the amount at the same point last year.

"Ghost guns present a growing problem for members of law enforcement and the public as they are un-serialized, therefore untraceable, and used throughout the country to commit crimes at an exponential rate," said Putnam Sheriff Kevin McConville on Wednesday (Aug. 3).

Two state laws that went into effect in April prohibit the possession of frames and receivers by anyone except a dealer or licensed gunsmith (who must add serial numbers) and bans the sale of ghost guns.

On June 1, the attorney general's office sent cease-and-desist letters to 28 firearms sellers in New York state, including four in the Hudson Valley, that were selling unfinished frames, receivers or kits online or at gun shows.

Along with Blackhawk, the state lawsuit names Arm or Ally (North Carolina); Brownells (Iowa); Salvo Technologies, aka 80P Builder (Florida); G.S. Performance, aka Glockstore (Tennessee); Indie Guns (Florida); KM Tactical (Missouri); Primary Arms (Texas); Rainier Arms (Washington); and RockSlideUSA (North Carolina).

Brownells sent at least 40,682 shipments to New York addresses during the last five years, according to court documents; Rainier Arms at least 5,903 beginning in August 2013; and Arm or Ally at least 466 since January 2021.

Arm and Ally and G.S. Performance are accused of mailing gun parts to Goldberg and Andrew Lopez, 36, of Carmel. Goldberg also bought parts from KM Tactical, according to the lawsuit. Goldberg was charged with four counts and Lopez with one.

Two other companies, Primary Arms and Rainier Arms, are accused of selling illegal gun parts to Adam DiMaggio, 43, of Carmel, who was arrested by FBI agents and Putnam deputies.

“Ghost guns present a growing problem for members of law enforcement and the public.

~ Putnam Sheriff Kevin McConville

After detaining DiMaggio, who is being prosecuted in federal court, officers said they found two assault rifles assembled from parts, as well as five other rifles and dozens of boxes of ammunition. By law, DiMaggio is barred from possessing weapons because of a felony marijuana conviction in Arizona, according to the complaint filed by prosecutors.

He pleaded guilty in May to illegally possessing a firearm and is scheduled to be sentenced on Aug. 24. Goldberg and Lopez's cases are being prosecuted in Putnam County. Jacob Rockover, 22, of Carmel, also was arrested and charged with four counts (including possessing an



This "drop-in" barrel to create an illegal Glock G17 knockoff was purchased online by undercover agents.

illegal assault rifle), along with a man from New Rochelle, another from Harrison, two from Yorktown and three from New Castle.

Putnam County deputies this year made two other arrests for ghost guns — a 36-year-old Southeast man with two felony convictions found on April 26 with an assembled pistol along with a shotgun; and a 33-year-old Mahopac man with a felony robbery conviction found on March 11 with three firearms, including one made from assembled parts.

In addition to the arrests, investigators from the Attorney General's Office and New York City said they completed undercover purchases of parts from some of the companies.

Executives with three of the companies — Brownells, Primary Arms and Salvo Technologies — said on July 19 that they would stop shipping parts to buyers with New York addresses while the court considers a motion for a preliminary injunction filed by the attorney general.

The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is also taking action. The agency approved a regulation that takes effect Aug. 22 clarifying the definition of frames and receivers to include ones that are "partially complete, disassembled or nonfunctional" and "designed to or may readily be completed, assembled, restored or otherwise converted to function as a frame or receiver."

HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

Fri. Aug 5 – 5-7 pm
150th Anniversary Celebration
 Just like in 1872, the bells will ring at 5pm
 A lineup of amazing speakers and performers - FREE
 Celebrating 150 years of library service to the community
 at the original library building - the 'Jewel of Beacon'
Exhibit "HOWLAND 150 People Make it Happen"

Aug 5 thru Sept 25 – 1-5 pm - FREE
HOWLAND 150 People Make it Happen
 In collaboration with Howland Public Library, Beacon
 Historical Society, artist and curator Donna Mikkelsen
 has put together a series of historical pictographs
 to tell the incredible story of what is now our city's
 free Public Library - it wasn't always that way!
 Plus artist & history fan, Jean-Marc Superville Sovak

HOWLAND 150
People Make it Happen

Follow our web media for more info and events
 Covid protocol in effect - mask recommended

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

The HIGHLANDS

CurrentPODCAST

The Future of Local News

More than 300 U.S. newspapers have closed in the past three years, on top of the 2,500 that have shut down since 2004. In this episode, we share a conversation last year between *Current* Editor Chip Rowe and Margaret Sullivan, *Washington Post* media columnist and author of *Ghosting the News: Local Journalism and the Crisis of American Democracy*, about the effect of this loss on our country.

Visit highlandscurrent.org/podcast

Home Sales Data

Beacon	New Listings	Closed Sales	Days on Market	Median Sales Price (\$)	% List Received	Inventory
Jan 2020	6	8	66	369,500	89	20
Jan 2021	10	9	38	340,000	99.2	15
Jan 2022	3	9	35	525,000	109.5	16
March 2020	4	3	71	187,000	86.3	22
March 2021	7	5	83	397,500	98.8	13
March 2022	11	7	40	515,000	99.2	13
June 2020	18	6	76	336,250	93.9	25
June 2021	8	10	31	466,000	100	11
June 2022	8	12	26	581,000	103.7	19
Sept 2020	16	7	70	415,000	99.8	23
Sept 2021	10	8	26	433,700	108.2	19

Philipstown	New Listings	Closed Sales	Days on Market	Median Sales Price (\$)	% List Received	Inventory
Jan 2020	7	7	105	853,400	95	58
Jan 2021	9	14	71	634,750	96.2	53
Jan 2022	4	11	67	619,000	96.8	18
March 2020	12	10	140	482,900	92.4	51
March 2021	9	12	110	561,250	91.1	40
March 2022	14	7	99	935,000	94.8	21
June 2020	30	4	124	857,500	94.1	65
June 2021	17	15	124	443,000	94.8	35
June 2022	19	10	66	863,750	95.4	38
Sept 2020	29	17	75	565,000	97.7	70
Sept 2021	21	13	63	555,000	97.1	43

Source: Hudson Gateway Association of Realtors. Excludes condos and co-ops. Philipstown includes Cold Spring, Garrison and Nelsonville.

Housing Market *(from Page 1)*

years. Before the pandemic, homes were being listed for a median of \$465,000 in Philipstown and selling for about \$478,000.

Statewide, Zillow shows the “typical” value of a home in New York to be \$405,000 — a 14 percent increase over a year ago. That’s also up sharply, about \$125,000, since the beginning of the shutdown.

Although it does not provide local data, Redfin.com suggests that nationally it’s more expensive to own a home, with the average monthly mortgage payment at \$2,267, than to rent, with an average monthly payment at \$2,016.

The Highlands housing market in recent years has generally favored sellers, especially after many people fled New York City during the pandemic shutdown. But when there is not enough supply, lower-income people are pinched through a trickle-down effect, says Stowe Boyd, an urban planner who is chair of Beacon’s Main Street Access Committee and publishes *Work Futures*, an economics newsletter.

“The people who would normally have

settled for a mid-tier house can’t get one,” he said, pointing to a recent Dutchess County housing needs assessment that showed deficits of homes affordable to households earning less than \$50,000 annually and those with incomes above \$100,000. The analysis calculated a shortage of about 6,700 homes for households with incomes of less than \$50,000.

“The people who would normally have settled for a mid-tier house can’t get one.”

~ Stowe Boyd, urban planner

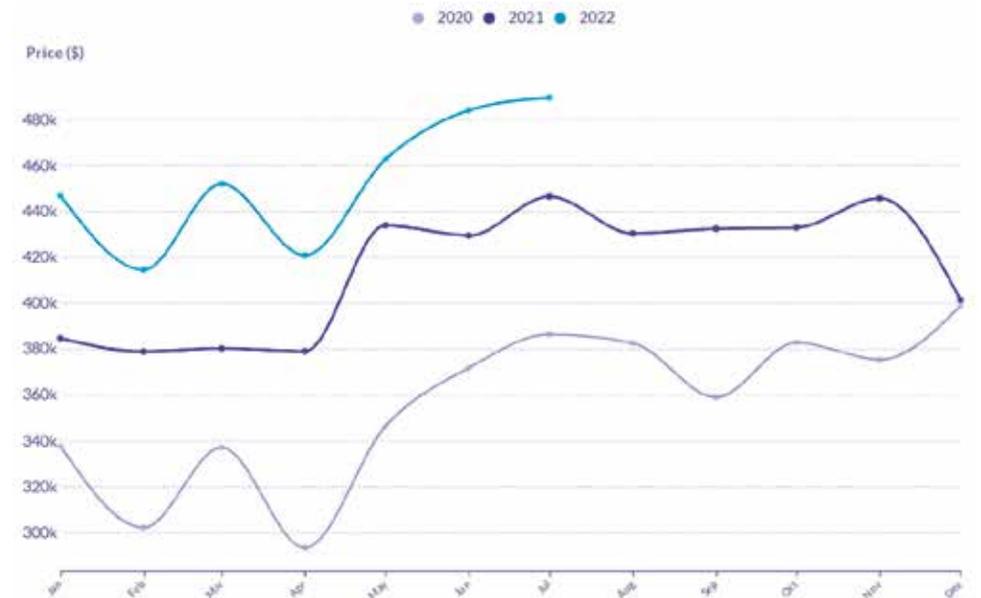
“As top-earning households compete with one another over a scarce resource, they exert pressure on households down the income scale,” Peter Lombardi, a consultant who worked on the study, told county legislators when it was released in March. Top-income earners set the terms of the market “in ways that are felt by almost every other household.”

In other words, “everybody is getting squeezed,” Boyd said.

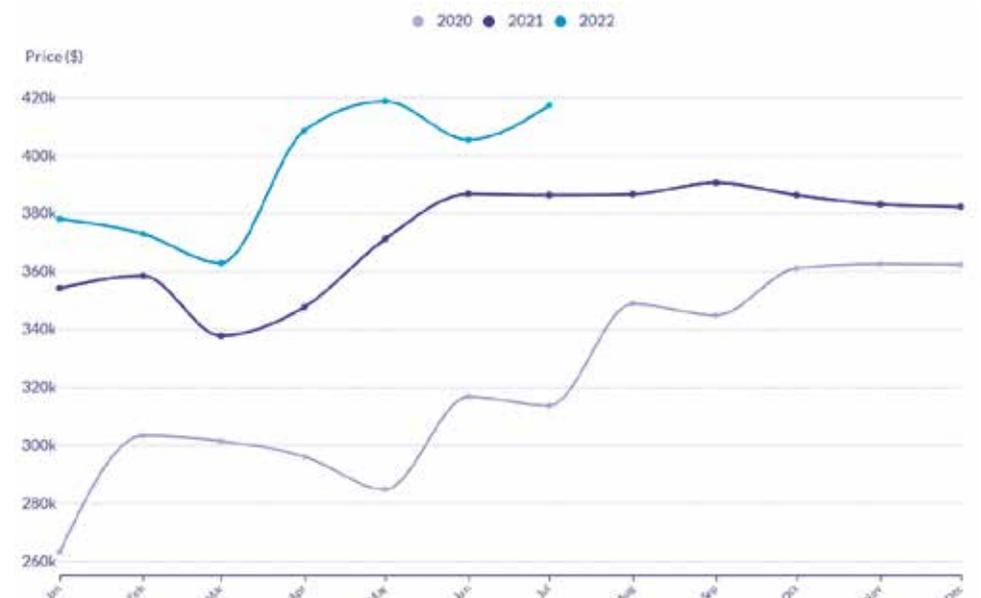
If people seeking homes cannot afford to buy, or if few homes are available, they rent. From 2010 to 2019, Dutchess gained 2,400 renter households, nearly all with incomes of at least \$100,000, according to the assessment. With so much demand, renters in the lower income brackets, again, risk being priced out.

The median rent in Dutchess grew faster than inflation over the last decade, from \$707 in 2000 to \$1,220 in 2019, the most recent figure available. Just over half (52 percent) of renter households were “cost-burdened” in 2019, meaning they spent more than 30 percent of their income on housing, and 86 percent of them earned less than \$50,000 annually.

Median Housing Prices (PUTNAM)



Median Housing Prices (DUTCHESS)



Source: Dataherald, citing Redfin.com (2)

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WHAT YOUR
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2021
DIRECTOR'S CLUB

CARLIN FELDER

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



AROUND TOWN



▲ **MAGICAL** – Directed by Lisa Sabin, the Philipstown Depot Teens performed Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *Cinderella* on July 28-31 at the theater on Garrison’s Landing. The previous weekend, another group of students, under the direction of Elaine Llewellyn, Percy Parker and Oliver Petkus, presented Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *The Sound of Music*. *Photos by Ross Corsair*



◀ **BEACON SAYS THANKS** – The City of Beacon hosted a picnic on July 30 for its staff. Shown are Recreation Department employees Matt Welsh and Carter DeToro (left) and Larry Clark. *Photos provided*

Hudson Beach Glass

Fine art gallery located on second floor

Gary Zack

Paintings
Aug 13 — Sep 5, 2022
Opening reception 2nd Sat, 5-8pm



162 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508 845-440-0068
www.hudsonbeachglass.com



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The Calendar

FUNCTION & Beauty

Cold Spring gallery focuses on tactile

By Alison Rooney

It's the opposite of "look, don't touch" at Studio Tashtego, a Cold Spring gallery where the emphasis is on the tactile and where owner Julia Caldwell is eager to have visitors see the sculptural, and often functional, artwork.

Named for a character in *Moby Dick* (the harpooner from the Wampanoag tribe), Studio Tashtego took shape following Caldwell's move from Brooklyn to Beacon just before the onset of the pandemic. She had been running the business as a source for people in the design trade.

"I was working out of a storage unit," she says. "When I moved to Beacon, I continued in that way, promoting it online. At the end of 2020, I was walking in Cold Spring and noticed this space was for rent" — the storefront at 49 Main St. that was formerly Cape Cod Leather (now at 81 Main).

"When I looked at the art landscape around Cold Spring I saw a lot of antique stores — 'thrill-of-the-hunt' type places," she says, "but nothing like this where it's a gallery model, curated and presented in a certain way."

Caldwell opened the gallery in May 2021. The artwork on display includes not only ceramics but light fixtures, textiles, sculpture and glassware. What is common to all is "a lot of focus on compositional balance, asymmetry, imperfection, wabi sabi and a need to be kept simple: creating negative space, not overfilled or overstuffed," she says.

The current show features new works by William Coggin. "He truly loves to make ceramics, but also likes to hear how non-



Artwork by William Coggin on display at Studio Tashtego (above and below)

Photo provided

ceramic artists interpret it," says Caldwell. The sculptures on display "are different from his typical style, which usually features arm-like extrusions, specifically *pseudopodia*, which are the appendages cells form in order to feed. His latest works are more formalized and linear, and functional as end tables or similarly usable and visually striking objects."

Caldwell, 30, grew up in rural Cape Cod and, after graduating from New York University, went to work for a hedge fund, which she hated. She heeded advice that you should look at what you do in your free time and use that as a guide to a career.

"I found myself doing a lot of online browsing of design, interiors, decorative objects," she recalls. "They had felt frivolous — I was a philosophy major! But I

thought I should investigate."

She went to graduate school for design but dropped out when she found the work too technical. "I was attracted to more traditional decorative arts, marrying functional with the beautiful," she says. "I wound up working for design galleries in the city and became director of one. I liked curation, working with artists, bringing people into a world of beauty."

She then became a dealer, working mostly online, but "missed sharing the pieces with people. Running this gallery allows me to bring people in, talk and share, almost as if they are observing art at a museum. Having the work displayed invites people to look at them closely in a way you can't on a website."

Caldwell still works primarily with the trade, as well as with collectors. She advises them, she says, "that it's OK to rotate. I live with a lot of the art pieces, and sometimes I develop a strong attachment, but there's something great about being able to let go of things. You might love different things at different points in your life."

After a year in her space on Main Street, Caldwell says many people who come in "say they haven't seen art and design like this elsewhere, and they're glad they happened upon us."

Studio Tashtego is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, or by appointment. See studiotashtego.com or call 917-794-4643.



Julia Caldwell at Studio Tashtego with sculptures by William Coggin Photo by Jeff Mikkelson



Photo provided

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 6

Pow Wow

BEAR MOUNTAIN

11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Anthony Wayne Recreation Area
Palisades Interstate Parkway
facebook.com/redhawkcouncil

The Bear Mountain Pow Wow will feature more than 500 Native American artists, educators, singers, dancers and performing groups from the Lakota, Navajo, Mohawk, Seneca, Cherokee, Aztec, Mayan, Samoan, Hawaiian and other tribes. Also SUN 7. *Cost: \$15 (\$10 seniors, children 6 to 12; 5 and younger free)*

SAT 6

Putnam County Wine & Food Fest

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Mayor's Park
61 Fair St. | putnamcountywinefest.com

New York cideries, distilleries, wineries and brewers will feature their beverages; there will also be food trucks, artisan vendors and live music. Also SUN 7. *Cost: \$30 (\$40 door, \$12 designated drivers, 12 and younger free)*

SUN 7

Pet Rabies and Distemper Clinic

BEACON

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Memorial Park
198 Robert Cahill Drive
facebook.com/arfanimalrescue

Bring your dog or cat for low-cost shots at this annual event organized by the Animal Rescue Foundation. *Cost: \$15 each*

FRI 12

Blood Drive

BEACON

11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Beacon Recreation Center
23 W. Center St. | redcrossblood.org
Register to help with a shortage.

SAT 13

Modern Makers Market

COLD SPRING

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

Browse the work of more than 50 New York artisans and vendors. Donations benefit the church. Parking available at Haldane High School.

SUN 14

Corn Festival

BEACON

Noon – 5 p.m. Riverfront Park
beaconsloopclub.org

At this annual event, Beacon Sloop Club volunteers will offer corn, watermelon and lemonade. Watch live music at two stages or take a sail on the Sloop Woody Guthrie, weather permitting.

NATURE

SAT 6

Great Hudson River Fish Count

BEACON

10 a.m. Long Dock Park

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. Little Stony Point
dec.ny.gov/lands/97891.html

The state Department of Environmental Conservation will use nets, traps and rods and reels to understand the diversity of the river ecosystem. Participants can watch from the shore or use waders. More than 70 types of fish have been recorded since 2012 during the annual counts.

SAT 6

Butterflies & Blooms

WAPPINGERS FALLS

8:30 p.m. Stony Kill Farm

79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org

This week-long festival will begin with a screening of *Flight of the Butterflies*, about a scientist's four-decade quest to find the monarch butterfly's nesting grounds. Among other events, there will be a butterfly and pollinator plant walk on SUN

7, an apiary tour on MON 8, a discussion of monarch butterflies on WED 10 and a bird walk on THURS 11 before the festival concludes on SAT 13 with hay rides, activity tents and a concert by The Big Band Sound. The rain date is SUN 14. See the website for a full schedule.



WED 10

Native Plants

PHILIPSTOWN

6 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000
stonecrop.org

A staff horticulturist will lead a tour exploring native plants and shrubs. *Cost: \$10 (members free)*

SAT 13

Ecoprint Workshop

WAPPINGERS FALLS

10 a.m. Common Ground Farm
79 Farmstead Lane
commongroundfarm.org

Learn how to harvest plants to make patterned textiles. *Cost: Sliding scale up to \$45*

SUN 14

Guided Garden Tour

PHILIPSTOWN

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stonecrop Gardens
81 Stonecrop Lane | 845-265-2000
stonecrop.org

Reserve tickets for a morning or afternoon session and view botanical art by Susan Sapanara in the Bothy. *Cost: \$10 (\$5 seniors, children, teens; ages 3 and younger free)*

KIDS & FAMILY

MON 8

Beginner Quilling

WAPPINGERS FALLS

10 a.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org

Naflah Mohammed will teach the art of paper quilling and children and teens ages 8 and older can make a greeting card. *Cost: \$5*

MON 8

Musical Stew

BEACON

10:30 a.m. Howland Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

In the first of weekly sessions that continue through August, the founder of Compass Arts, Gina Samardge, will lead music, rhymes and activities for children ages 6 months to 4 years. Register online.

WED 10

Bird Feeder Craft

BEACON

3 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Children ages 4 up to fifth grade are invited to decorate a wooden bird feeder to hang at home. Register online.

FRI 12

Summer Reading Finale

GARRISON

3 – 5 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

The Two by Two Animal Haven will bring goats, a snake, a tortoise and other animals to meet until 4 p.m. There will also be ice cream.

SAT 13

Kids Craft Connection

GARRISON

9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | 845-265-3638
boscobel.org

Children ages 5 and older can take a flashlight tour of the mansion, make a craft and learn about life in the past. *Cost: \$24 (\$13 children, discount for members)*

SUN 14

Bicycle Safety Rodeo

BEACON

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Rombout Middle School
84 Matteawan Road
facebook.com/beaconrec

Children ages 5 to 12 will complete a skills course, get helmet fittings and learn about safety at this event hosted by the Beacon Recreation Department, the Beacon Police Department and NuVance Health. *Free*

HOWLAND 150

SAT 6

History Exhibit

BEACON

1 – 3 p.m. Beacon Historical Society
61 Leonard St.
beaconlibrary.org/howland150

Explore material from the society's archives about the 150-year-old Howland Library and its first building.

MON 8

Tintype Studio Visit

BEACON

3:30 p.m. Beacon Tintype
149 Main St.

Teens are invited to learn how photographs were made in the 19th century.

SAT 13

Keeping the Books Open

BEACON

Noon – 3 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St.

This exhibition will include photos and ephemera from library scrapbooks compiled from the 1870s to the 1970s.

SAT 13

People Make It Happen

BEACON

3 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St.

Donna Mikkelsen will be on hand to discuss her historical pictographs.

VISUAL ART

SAT 6

Robert Irwin

BEACON

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Dia:Beacon
3 Beekman St. | 845-231-0811
diaart.org

The artist's 1972 installation, *Full Room Skylight-Scrim V*, will go on long-term display. *Cost: \$20 (\$18 seniors, \$12 disabled visitors and students, \$5 ages 5 to 11, ages 5 and younger free)*

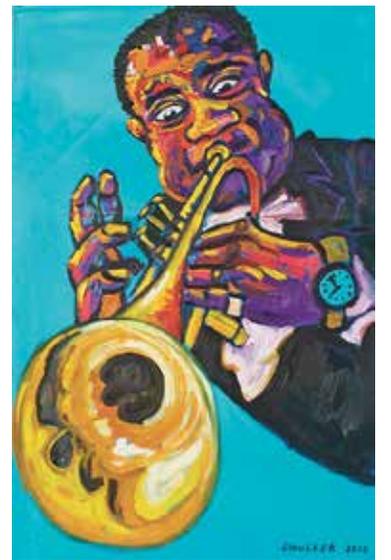
SUN 7

Coulter Young

BEACON

2 – 6 p.m. Hudson Valley Food Hall
288 Main St. | coulteryoung.com

The artist will share his work and discuss how he explores music by painting portraits of musicians he admires.



SAT 13

Johan Ayoob

BEACON

4 – 6 p.m. Bannerman Island Gallery
150 Main St. | 845-831-6346
bannermancastle.org

The artist's drawings, paintings and mixed media works will be on display through Sept. 25, with proceeds benefiting Bannerman Island.

SAT 13

Haile Binns | Randy Gibson

GARRISON

5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

For *Living in Transcendence*, Binns painted on recycled objects she found to create map-like compositions. Gibson's *Infinite Structures* will include a performance, objects and installation. Through Sept. 11.

SAT 13

Gary Zack

BEACON

5 – 8 p.m. Hudson Beach Glass
162 Main St. | 845-440-0068
hudsonbeachglass.com

The gallery will share works by the Saratoga Springs-based painter.



Corn Festival, Aug. 14

SAT 13

Ignite

BEACON

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

This annual juried exhibition, curated by Daniel Aycock and Kathleen Vance, includes works by Sarbani Ghosh (below) and others.



SAT 13

Beacon Beckons

BEACON

7 – 9 p.m. Big Mouth Coffee
387 Main St. | bigmouth.coffee

This group show will include works by Anna West, Jan Dolan, Jean Noack, M.S. Eberhart and Timothy Delaney.

TALKS & TOURS

TUES 9

Medicare 101

COLD SPRING

3:30 p.m. Via Zoom
845-265-3040 | butterfieldlibrary.org

At this workshop hosted by the Butterfield Library, John Bosquet of the Medicare Resource Group will answer questions about how to sign up and navigate your options.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 6

**Mr. Burns,
A Post-Electric Play**

GARRISON

7:30 p.m.
Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575
hvshakespeare.org

After the electrical grid fails, a group of people come together to

share memories and stories that have been lost on hard drives. Also
MON 8. *Cost: \$10 to \$95*

SAT 6

Rio Bravo

COLD SPRING

8:30 p.m. Dockside Park
coldspringfilm.orgThe Cold Spring Film Society will screen the 1959 film starring John Wayne, Angie Dickinson and Dean Martin about making a stand to keep a murderer in jail when his brother threatens to bust him out. *Free*

SUN 7

Romeo and Juliet

GARRISON

7:30 p.m.
Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575
hvshakespeare.orgKurt Rhoads and Nance Williamson star in this interpretation of the fated lovers' story directed by Gaye Taylor Upchurch. *Cost: \$10 to \$95*

SAT 13

Where We Belong

GARRISON

7:30 p.m.
Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575
hvshakespeare.orgIn this limited-engagement, one-woman show, Madeline Sayet will explore Shakespeare and colonialism through self-discovery. Continues through Aug. 22. *Cost: \$10 to \$95*

SUN 14

Ken Holland

PUTNAM VALLEY

3 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
845-528-7280
tompkinscorners.org

The three-time Pushcart Prize nominee will read from his poetry collections, followed by an open mic.

MUSIC

SAT 6

Ray Blue Jazz Quartet

PUTNAM VALLEY

6 p.m. Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.orgThe tenor saxophonist will perform with his quartet. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 6

Felice Brothers

PEEKSKILL

7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.comThe folk rock band will perform with Skullcrusher and the Dan Zlotnick Band. *Cost: \$23*

SAT 6

The Weeklings

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.comThe tribute band will perform hits by the Beatles, Herman's Hermits and others. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SAT 6

Emily Beck Band

BEACON

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

The singer-songwriter will perform music from her recently released self-titled album.

MON 8

Kells Nollenberger Group

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnbeaconThe band will perform as part of Quinn's weekly jazz series. *Cost: \$15*

FRI 12

Pousette-Dart Band

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.comJon Pousette-Dart will be joined by Jim Chapdelaine and Chihoe Hahn. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 13

Mike LaRocco Trio

BEACON

7:30 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar
173 Main St. | reservabeacon.com

Art Labriola (piano), and Lou Pappas (bass) will join LaRocco on drums to perform a diverse range of jazz.

SAT 13

**Sing-Along Family
Movie Favorites**

WEST POINT

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

The Benny Havens Band will perform classics from Disney and others.

SAT 13

**Frank Carillo &
the Bandoleros**

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.comThe Americana and roots band will perform music from its four albums. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SUN 14

Maeve Gilchrist

COLD SPRING

4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.orgThe Celtic harpist will perform selections from her latest recording, *The Harpweaver*, inspired by Edna St. Vincent Millay's poem, "The Ballad of the Harp-Weaver." Donations welcome. *Free***CIVIC**

WED 10

Village Board

COLD SPRING

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

WED 10

Village Board

NELSONVILLE

7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

FRI 12

Democratic Forum

PEEKSKILL

7 p.m. Zoom

State Sen. Alessandra Biaggi, a candidate for Congressional District 17, will answer questions about environmental policy. U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney says he is unable to attend. Register at bit.ly/environmental-forum.

SAT 13

Early Voting

PHILIPSTOWN

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road | putnamboe.com

Philipstown voters who are registered with the Democratic, Republican or Conservative parties can cast ballots in congressional primaries for District 17. Continues daily through SUN 21.

SAT 13

Early Voting

FISHKILL

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Fishkill Town Hall
807 Route 52 | elections.dutchessny.gov

Beacon voters who are registered Democrats can cast ballots in the congressional primary for District 18. Continues daily through SUN 21.

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The stock at Witch Hazel focuses on botanicals.



Hilbrenner makes and delivers flower arrangements. Photos provided

A Modern-Day Apothecary

As for so many people, a cancer diagnosis changed the course of Jill Hilbrenner's life.

In 2020, following a year of surgeries and treatment, "I began to feel I had enough energy to go out and do something other than doctor visits," recalls Hilbrenner, who last month opened a boutique, Witch Hazel, on Main Street in Beacon. "I wanted to do something fun and pretty. I also wanted to learn more about the ingredients and formulations of everything I was putting in and on my body."

She was living in Manhattan and working as a writer, editor and content strategist in corporate media — much of it in global brand messaging for beauty product lines — and doing flower arrangements. She had begun the latter after picking up flowers from the nearby Union Square greenmarket.

"I'd get whatever was in season," she says. "I posted images of the arrangements online and sold bouquets through word-of-mouth. I created a website and it took off, prompting me to consider the idea of starting a business. So I added botanical adja-

New Beacon shop big on botanicals

By Alison Rooney

cents — dried flowers, vases and planters."

The thought of having a brick-and-mortar store coincided with Hilbrenner's desire for a more peaceful lifestyle. She and her husband, Mike Thompson, are Midwesterners who both felt a need for more community, something intensified by the pandemic. "Friends were moving out, our wonderful landlady passed and our former lifestyle felt gone," Hilbrenner says.

"We wanted a community that would give us joy," she says. "I wanted to take a leap, but I wasn't brave enough to do it until the decision was made for me [by a layoff following a merger]. We made the move to Beacon and within a week, I found myself talking to people about spaces" for a store.

Hilbrenner envisioned Witch Hazel as a "modern-day apothecary that taps into the

calming beauty of nature. I wanted it to feel like a curiosity shop, filled with unusual objects."

Much of its stock is botanically inspired and nearly all of the beauty products, apparel, perfumes, ceramics and gift items are designed and made by local artisans and small-batch growers. Hilbrenner also continues to create floral arrangements that can be delivered locally.

There have been challenges, such as supply chain delays that left her with less stock than she hoped for at the July 4 opening. A floral installation wall is also missing in action. "There's currently an investigation going on as to where it is," she says, with a laugh. "At the end of day, though, it's OK — nobody's life is on the line!"

Witch Hazel, at 176 Main St. in Beacon, is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday to Monday. See witchhazelny.com or call 845-440-7067. The shop will host a flower-arranging workshop on Thursday (Aug. 11); register at tinyurl.com/witchhazelny.



Jill Hilbrenner outside her shop



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A Kind Word for Victims of Bullying

Cold Spring nonprofit cultivates empathy

By Michael Turton

When Jennifer Young co-wrote an anti-bullying musical, *It's Easy*, in 2015, she had no idea it would lead to the creation of an organization.

Last month, Be A Friend moved into its first office, on Kemble Avenue in Cold Spring, with Young as executive director. The project supports students who have been severely bullied — the type of relentless assaults that can lead to suicide attempts, even among elementary school students — and cultivates empathy in young people across the U.S.

After performing *It's Easy*, which Young created with composer January Akselrad, the musical's young cast members wanted to continue to spread the show's message.

"They asked what they could do," Young recalls.

Be A Friend was incorporated in 2017 as a nonprofit. Its strategy is simple: When a parent or teacher identifies a young person who is being severely bullied, which can leave the victim feeling isolated, "with no hope, their confidence gone," Young says, it mobilizes a letter-writing campaign to offer



Kimmie Edge and Jennifer Young at Be A Friend's new office in Cold Spring

Photo by M. Turton

encouragement and support.

Its first mailing, initiated by four teachers, included 75 letters written by the program's student ambassadors, or "upstanders."

"Now we average at least 60 teachers and more than 2,000 kids sending letters," said Young, a former life-skills educator for children in foster care. "Each bullying victim gets at least 1,000 letters; the record

is about 2,200." The nonprofit has distributed nearly 40,000 letters from 25 states, Canada, England and Australia.

Letters are mailed in a single batch and come as a surprise. "When our mail shows up, they feel like a celebrity, a hero," Young says. "Their voice matters again, and they are no longer alone."

Before the letters are sent, strict guidelines are followed, including obtaining parental consent and ensuring that both the writers and victim are identified only by first names. The writers are provided basic information, such as the recipient's hobbies and interests, and each letter is reviewed before mailing.

So far, Be A Friend has sent mail to about 45 young people. For every one of them, the program involved at least 1,200 children and teens. Along with offering support to victims, the program is designed to "celebrate kids who do acts of kindness," Young says. "We teach and build empathy."

She noted that bullying can take various forms: social, cyber, verbal and physical. Be A Friend supports students in all grades, but Young says it seems to peak in middle school — sixth grade, in particular.

Kimmie Edge experienced the dark side of middle school firsthand. Now 18, she transferred to Haldane in seventh grade when the effects of bullying she encountered at another school in the region became too intense.

From being teased about acne to having false rumors spread about her, the constant bullying took its toll. "I had always been a straight-A student, but I was distraught, barely passing," she recalls. "I was losing hair in clumps, had stomachaches, vomiting and headaches."

The bullies, other girls in her class, had at one time been among her best friends. "Girl-on-girl bullying is among the worst," she says. "If they get inside your head, they can destroy you mentally."

Even though she changed schools, Edge said she still suffered from post-traumatic

stress disorder, anxiety and depression from the experience.

She was not the recipient of a friend mail campaign, but at Haldane, where she became friends with Young's son, she got involved with Be A Friend as an ambassador, writing letters. She is also a volunteer at its office and serves on its 14-member teen advisory board.

"BAF saved me; it gave me back my voice," says Edge, who plans to study nursing at Rutgers University. "Now, I see myself as a leader and a role model, and I can do for other kids what I needed when I was being bullied."

"After everything I've been through, my passion is to be empathetic," she said. "I believe I'm meant to help people."

Young says social bullying, such as what Edge experienced, is common among middle school girls. "Bullies don't talk to their victims, don't sit with them, play with them or invite them to a party," she said. "It's exclusivity, embarrassing and humiliating."

Aidan Duver, who lives in Dobbs Ferry, was in middle school when he portrayed a victim of bullying in a 2017 production of *It's Easy*. He says he also experienced bullying himself from elementary through middle school.

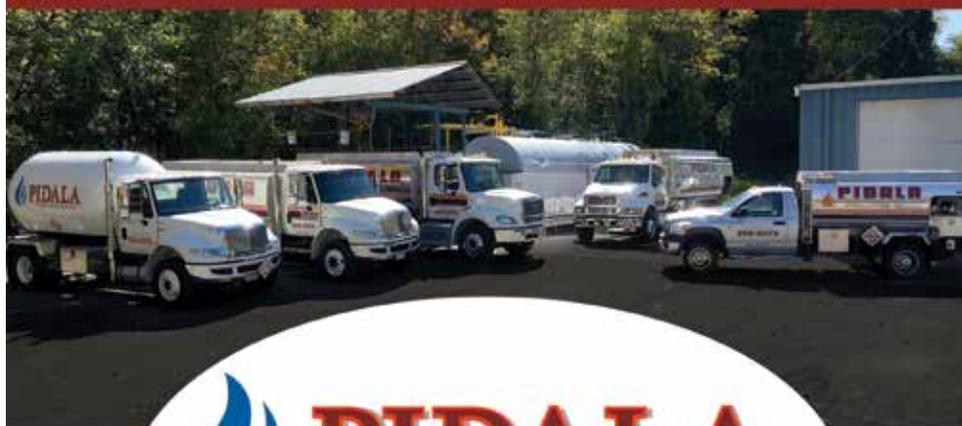
"When you go through severe bullying, it's easy to feel you're doing something wrong," said Duver, who serves on the teen advisory board with Edge. "The letters tell you you're not alone, you aren't doing anything wrong and it's not your fault."

He has views on why middle school is fertile ground for bullying. "Stepping up from elementary school gives students more freedom, a little power to change their role in the social hierarchy," he said. "That often teaches them that to be popular, it's effective to pick on others, the easy targets."

Young says that the teenagers involved with Be A Friend are "a big part of running the organization. And they are adamant that it stays for kids, by kids."

For more information, visit beafriendproject.org.

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Roots and Shoots

Better Choices for Dry Lawns

By Pamela Doan



One thing I like about this hot, dry weather is the respite from mowing, even if it means crunchy, brown grass.

Despite our use of landscaping or naturalizing to turn more of our acreage into areas that don't get mowed, mowing is still a time-consuming and carbon-emitting task. Ideally, there would only be mowing a few times a season or not at all.

For my own purposes, and for you, I've completed a lot of research about ground-covers. Here are my criteria for replacing turf grass:

- Low maintenance in terms of mowing or other labor-intensive care. In terms of emissions, the Union of Concerned Scientists calculated that one hour of mowing is the equivalent of eight cars driving 55 mph for an hour.
- Drought-tolerant, meaning it can withstand periods without rain and stay green, or at least not die. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, a third of residential water in the U.S. goes to water landscapes, as many as 9 billion gallons a day.
- Pleasing to look at and complements other plantings.
- Grows in densely to keep out invasive weeds like stiltgrass and will not even tempt someone to use an herbicide.
- Can withstand a running dog, children

and a fair amount of pedestrian traffic.

What are turf grasses?

There are many types of plants that will function to become a lawn, which we can define as a homogenous planting area used like an outdoor rug in the landscape. Common turf grass plants are cool-season or warm-season.

Cool-season grasses are best suited to the northeast and include Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass and tall or fine fescues. Commercial lawn mixes combine these and each has different merits for growth, drought-tolerance and maintenance. Without regular mowing, they can look weedy and neglected.

Should I be mowing now?

Your lawn is dormant and should not need mowing. Mowing can damage already sensitive areas that are under pressure from the heat and lack of rain.

Don't I need to water to keep the grass from dying?

Grass needs 1 inch of water per week. With less water, it won't die but will enter dormancy and grow less vigorously. (Brown grass is not necessarily dead.) If you feel like watering, and community conservation rules aren't in effect, follow best practices.

Measure the amount to avoid overwatering, which damages grass roots and wastes water. Run sprinklers in the early morning. Leave grass clippings on the lawn to act as mulch and even out soil temperature. Set the mower for 3 to 4 inches. Taller grass can develop longer root systems and be healthier in trying conditions.

Alternatives to turf grass

Eco-lawn and no-mow lawn seed mixes

Prairie Nursery, High Country Gardens and Wildflower Farms are online retail-



The current condition of the lawn can be a good motivator to plant something different.

Photo by P. Doan

ers that offer specialized mixes that rely mostly on fine fescues to create sustainable lawns. Some can be mowed occasionally or left alone, depending on personal aesthetics. They are deep-rooted plants that grow in densely, stop growing at 3 to 4 inches tall and can grow in sun to part-shade conditions.

Clover and microclover

On its own or overseeded into a lawn, clover has a lot to offer. It fixes nitrogen in the soil, which is helpful to turf grass. The flowers are useful to pollinators and the flowers are lovely. White clover is the key. Other clovers grow much taller and make good cover crops but not great lawns. It does dry up in hot, arid conditions, though, turning brown and going dormant.

Microclover is a shorter-growing hybrid and available through many online retailers. It has the advantage of being a no-mow choice and can work on its own or over-

seeded into an existing lawn.

Fleur de lawn

A friend who is a landscape architect used this mix for her lawn from PT Lawn Seed in Portland, Oregon, which also has other lawn alternative seed mixes. It has several low-growing flowers mixed in, giving it a not-quite-lawn, not-quite-meadow feeling that is original and beautiful while also being sustainable.

Thymus x

Creeping thyme is a full-sun plant that is low-growing, drought-resistant and sustainable. It could be challenging to replace a large lawn with creeping thyme, but in smaller spaces, it could look, feel and smell lovely. It comes in pink, red or green varieties and could be very striking.

Gardening questions? Email me at rootsandshoots@highlandscurrent.org.

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Lee Erickson of the Garrison Volunteer Fire Co. instructs Maxwell Robohm, 11, on using a fire extinguisher.



Graduates celebrate on Church Street on July 29.

Photos by M. Turton

Firefighter Academy Celebrates 20 Years

Cold Spring camp graduates 39 students

By Michael Turton

“Twenty years is a long time,” admits Dan Valentine, “but it’s also just the blink of an eye.”

It was two decades ago that the longtime member of the Cold Spring Fire Co. created the Junior Firefighter Academy, which on July 25-29 held its annual, weeklong camp with 39 Philipstown students in grades four to eight.

Valentine, 46, says the camp wasn’t a completely original idea. He modeled it after one he attended in high school as a Putnam County sheriff’s cadet; another operated by the Greenburgh Police Department, where he is an officer; and fire-prevention training he led when he was a junior at Haldane High School and already a volunteer firefighter with Cold Spring.

Although the academy wasn’t designed to recruit firefighters and other first responders, that’s what has happened over the years. Jeff Phillips, who attended the academy 16 years ago, is its first graduate to attain the rank of chief. Several of this year’s instructors also participated in the program as children. Even some parents of junior firefighters have joined.

“Most people don’t know what it’s like to be a firefighter or volunteer, but everybody who comes through that door falls in love with it,” Valentine says.

The academy had 20 participants in its inaugural year; five years later, it had to cap enrollment at 55. When the Philipstown Recreation Department opens enrollment each March, the spots usually



Campers were led up Main Street on July 29 by the Hudson Highlands Pipe Band.

fill within hours.

“Initially, we were academy-driven, very paramilitary, structured, rigid, with a lot of instruction,” Valentine said. Over the years, that approach has softened — in part, he thinks, because he became a parent. The curriculum is now more hands-on, with more time spent outdoors and “more of a camp-style educational atmosphere.”

The camp includes competitions among academy “squads,” rides on police boats, visits from medical helicopters, ambulances and police arson dogs, and a bus trip to the Museum of Firefighting in Hudson run by the Firefighters Association of the State of New York.

There is also skills training, from handling a hose and fire extinguisher, to CPR, first aid and navigating a trailer outfitted as a “fire-safety house.”

“We teach them kitchen safety there,” along with training that includes special effects, Valentine says. “We insert nontoxic smoke; they practice rolling out of a bed, getting on the floor, feeling for the door and crawling out or going out a window.”

Training has proven to be more than an

academic exercise. “We’ve had a number of students over the years do the Heimlich maneuver on a [choking] family member,” Valentine says. “And two graduates had a fire in their house and knew what to do.”

His wish list for the academy is not extensive. “Being in the village [at the Main Street firehouse] is awesome; we’re just limited in space,” he said, with two bathrooms for as many as 60 people.

He also said life would be a bit easier if the company had its own fire-safety house; the academy borrows the trailer from the Rombout Fire Co. in Fishkill.

Although the program costs the fire company \$7,000 a year to operate, it has always been free. To assist about 10 volunteer instructors, other fire companies and local, county, state and federal agencies contribute resources and staff. Residents and business provide donations.

On Friday, the Hudson Highlands Pipe Band led this year’s campers in a parade from Depot Square to the firehouse for a graduation ceremony, presentation of awards and a party on Church Street.



Ben Swenson, 8, was named Rookie of the Year.



Firefighter Dan Valentine founded the academy 20 years ago.

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MEMORIES OF CONTINENTAL VILLAGE, 1947-1957 — Visit cortlandtchronicle.blogspot.com.

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POSITION AVAILABLE

The Town of Philipstown is seeking candidates interested in the position of **Climate Smart Coordinator**. For more information or if interested please send resume to:

Tara Percacciolo, Town Clerk
P.O. Box 155
238 Main Street
Cold Spring, New York 10516
or email
townclerk@philipstown.com



Keep Cats Indoors

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

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

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

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

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

** Paid for by a concerned citizen*



About two-thirds of the 39-acre former women's prison sits within Beacon city limits.

File photo

Camp Beacon *(from Page 1)*

Mayor Randy Casale, Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro and state Sen. Sue Serino — asked then-Gov. Andrew Cuomo to reject it. They argued it had evolved from an economic development plan to one “inconsistent with the site's mixed-use, recreational and destination development potential.”

After being awarded development rights in the second go-round, Eric Anderson, the founder of Urban Green Builders, the parent company of Urban Green Food, spoke to the City Council in 2019 about his proposal. The track-and-field facility could attract major athletic events, filling the hotel, he said, while the velodrome and trails would bring bike-friendly infrastructure to Beacon.

“The opportunities to use this site — I don't think I've imagined them all yet,” Anderson said.

Nearly three years later, with no news of progress, Roland on July 5 suggested that Beacon should “tell the state that we are taking over” the property “to grow food and make things, create alternative career paths for our kids and build some resilience into our economy” that doesn't rely on tourism.

Anderson said last fall that he anticipated bringing his project to the Beacon Planning Board sometime in 2022. That hasn't happened, and the project isn't on the Planning Board's Aug. 9 agenda, although Anderson said in an email this week that his timeline has not changed. He declined to discuss other details.

Camp Beacon, the largest available undeveloped tract in the city, sits a block off Matteawan Road between Beacon High School and the Fishkill Correctional Facility. Therein lies its greatest hindrance — access — especially after the Correctional Facility last year prohibited most vehicles from

using the portion of Matteawan that runs through prison property, leaving the other end of the road as the only way in or out.

Mayor Lee Kyriacou says he isn't concerned about the delays, noting that many may be pandemic-related. More important is a plan Kyriacou has pitched to the state that would “change the nature of what you could do on that site,” he said.

Under Kyriacou's plan, a road would be constructed from Route 52, diverging near the long driveway that leads to the Chemprene manufacturing facility, winding around the perimeter of the prison's land and connecting with Matteawan Road, creating another point of entry to Camp Beacon.

Kyriacou said this week that he has had discussions with Anderson and Empire State Development about the road and expects to have further talks with the state Department of Corrections and the Beacon City School District. For the proposal to move forward, he hopes the state will provide its \$6 million for the road.

As far as what ultimately occupies the site, Kyriacou believes affordable housing and commercial business space are Beacon's most pressing needs. While neither of Empire State Development's recent calls for proposals focused specifically on those needs, there is already housing in the vicinity. The Meadow Ridge developments on Matteawan Road offer low-income housing, some of it for seniors; another low-income senior development, Highland Meadows, is on nearby Hastings Road.

There's little commercial space available in Beacon, certainly none as vast as Camp Beacon.

“My focus is on doing the one thing that would change the potential for that site, which is road access,” Kyriacou said. “Anything that follows that would be a big plus.”

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Town of Philipstown is seeking candidates interested in a **position on the Conservation Board**.

If interested please send resume to:

Tara Percacciolo, Town Clerk
P.O. Box 155
238 Main Street
Cold Spring, New York 10516
or email
townclerk@philipstown.com

NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board will **not** meet in the month of August 2022.

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 15th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516.

Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

- 1. Witty one
- 4. Brings in
- 9. Rail
- 12. Mess up
- 13. Unconventional
- 14. Quarterback Manning
- 15. Airhead
- 17. Heavy weight
- 18. Verily
- 19. Made finer, as flour
- 21. Rope parts
- 24. "Holy —!"
- 25. Prefix with gram or center
- 26. Spasm
- 28. Picture puzzle
- 31. Towering
- 33. "Eureka!"
- 35. Nickelodeon's "Explorer"
- 36. Politico Stevenson
- 38. Branch
- 40. Klutz
- 41. Village People hit
- 43. Place of worship
- 45. Thief
- 47. Equal (Pref.)
- 48. Terre Haute sch.
- 49. Inflatable pool toy
- 54. Prof's degree
- 55. Point of view

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15			16							17		
			18				19		20			
21	22	23					24					
25				26		27		28			29	30
31			32		33		34		35			
36				37		38		39		40		
		41			42		43		44			
45	46						47					
48				49		50				51	52	53
54				55						56		
57				58						59		

- 56. Noon, on a sundial
- 57. Blue
- 58. Portals
- 59. Moray, for one
- DOWN**
- 1. Entanglement
- 2. *Entourage* character
- 3. Spike's warning
- 4. Actor De Niro
- 5. Turkey is part of it
- 6. — glance
- 7. Spectrum creator
- 8. Soon-to-be grad
- 9. Cartoon vamp
- 10. Medicinal plant
- 11. Peel
- 16. Coloring agent
- 20. Skedaddled
- 21. Greek salad cheese
- 22. Apple tablet
- 23. Melville sailor
- 27. Dance syllable
- 29. Russian river
- 30. Ump's call
- 32. Gentle soul
- 34. Newspaper piece
- 37. Headache aid
- 39. Fits together
- 42. Where the action is
- 44. Unruly group
- 45. Tears
- 46. Job-safety org.
- 50. Literary rep
- 51. Chopping tool
- 52. Fish story
- 53. Dogpatch adjective

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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 fleeting (9)
- 2 classic rock group Led (8)
- 3 Tom Brady's alma mater (8)
- 4 in very few words (8)
- 5 second-largest country (6)
- 6 in a finicky way (7)
- 7 quite unremarkable (7)

SOLUTIONS

EPH	NCT	LIN	RAL	HIG
PPE	FU	NE	CAN	MU
ADA	LY	SUC	MIC	ZE
AN	NDA	EME	SSI	CI

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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Answers for July 29 Puzzles

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

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

1. PURRING, 2. FRIENDLIER, 3. CREDIBLE, 4. ROBERTS, 5. CHARM, 6. MATURATE, 7. PLAYTHING



Beacon's 15U Bulldogs received a bye in the first round of the playoffs but lost in the quarterfinals.



Coaches Jed Varricchio (left) and Ryan Koval (right) and their 12U Bulldogs ended the summer with a playoff loss to the top seed, New Milford.

BEACON BASEBALL ROUNDUP

By Skip Pearlman

The end came earlier than expected for the summer travel team for players ages 15 and younger (15U), as the top-seeded Bulldogs fell, 5-3, on Monday (Aug. 1) to No. 9 Fairfield County in their first game of the Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League tournament at Beacon High School.

The Bulldogs, who finished the regular season at 20-2, pushed home a run in the third and added two in the sixth. But the Connecticut visitors never trailed, scoring two runs in the third, two in the fourth and one in the seventh.

Beacon easily swept a doubleheader (12-3, 9-4) against Fairfield during the regular season.

"You're only as good as your last performance," said Coach Bob Atwell. "We hit well all year but were held to six hits. And Fairfield did a good job with two big, two-out hits [that scored runs]. We left too many men on base," stranding nine.

Austin Jorgensen started on the mound and went three-plus innings; Anthony Borromeo pitched in relief and Derrick Heaton closed it out.

On offense, Mikey Fontaine doubled and drove in a run, and Mercer Jordan had an RBI.

Atwell said his offense never was able to find a rhythm, and — uncharacteristically — didn't get timely hits. A nine-day layoff before the tournament may not have helped. "The guys are disappointed; the goal was to win a title," he said. "Unfortunately, we just did not get it done."

Nevertheless, "these guys had a great summer," he added. "They've improved significantly, and hopefully that will help us in our upcoming tournaments and in the fall league."

The 12U team's season came to an end on Wednesday (Aug. 3) in Connecticut, where the Bulldogs dropped a 4-0 decision to top-seeded New Milford in the league playoffs.

"Their pitchers threw a lot of strikes," said Coach Ryan Koval, whose team finished 11-4. "We made a lot of good contact and put the ball in play, but we hit it at people. We just didn't get the bounces; sometimes that's how baseball goes."

Naim Dika started the game on the mound for Beacon and went 4²/₃ innings, striking out five and giving up two runs. Nolan Varricchio pitched in relief and also gave up two runs.

Beacon managed only one hit, a single by Dika.

"After the first inning, I thought Naim settled in," Koval said. "He didn't have his best stuff, but we didn't give him much support."

Koval said he was proud of the team's play during its summer run. "This is the first time they've had a winning season," he noted. "They bought into the concept of 'What can you do to help the team?' If you contribute in some way, good things will happen."

After winning 10 of its first 12 games, the 9U squad, seeded No. 6 in the league tournament, ran into another hot team on Sunday (July 31) and was upset in the first round, 9-5, by No. 11 Shrub Oak.

The score was tied, 3-3, at Memorial Park going into the final inning. That's when things went south for the Bulldogs,

with Shrub Oak scoring six times. Beacon answered with two runs in the bottom of the sixth, but it wasn't enough.

"Their pitcher looked great," said Coach Tom Virgadamo. "He kept us off-balance all game and hit his spots well. We couldn't get anything going against him."

Easton White started for Beacon and went three-plus innings; Max Digneo pitched in relief and Henry Alee closed.

Hudson Faust drove in a pair of runs, Digneo had an RBI and scored a run, AJ Constantino had an RBI and Evan Eraca doubled.

"The guys had a great summer playing baseball," Virgadamo said. "They bonded well, and I can see that they've improved. But they were disappointed; they were hoping for a nice playoff run."



Coach Tom Virgadamo and the 9U Bulldogs ended their summer season with a playoff loss to Shrub Oak.

Photos by S. Pearlman