


The HIGHLANDS Current

Something
You Don't
Know
About Me
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Part 

TRAILS (TOO) WELL TRAVELED

*The outdoors is getting crowded.
Do we need to ration recreation?*

By Brian PJ Cronin

The waterfall at Indian Brook has never been a secret. Washington Irving showed the cascade off to friends back in 1834. William Rickarby Miller of the Hudson River School of painting, America's first art movement, painted the falls in 1850. That painting, "Indian Falls, Indian Brook, Cold Springs, New York," is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. By the early 20th century, the falls

were appearing on postcards. But with the rise of social media and location tagging in the 2010s, Indian Brook Falls was in front of a global audience, one that could quickly find its exact location after seeing the picturesque falls wash up on their screens. The falls aren't unique in this regard. The one-two punch of social media followed by the pandemic, in which being
(Continued on Page 18)



The state began requiring reservations in 2018 at the Blue Hole swimming spot after it began seeing as many as 1,000 visitors per day.

DEC

Panel: West Point Needs Update

*Recommends removing
Confederate officer names*

By Chip Rowe

A commission appointed by Congress recommended on Monday (Aug. 29) that the U.S. Military Academy at West Point remove nearly all references to Confederate military leaders, as well as a panel that commemorates the Ku Klux Klan. The eight-member Naming Commis-

sion was created in 2020 to review monuments and building and street names at U.S. military bases and recommend those that should be changed or removed. In the report, the commissioners dismissed charges that they were "erasing history," noting that "the facts of the past remain" and that cadets would continue to be taught the details and complexities of the Civil War. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a member of the West Point Board of Visitors whose
(Continued on Page 7)

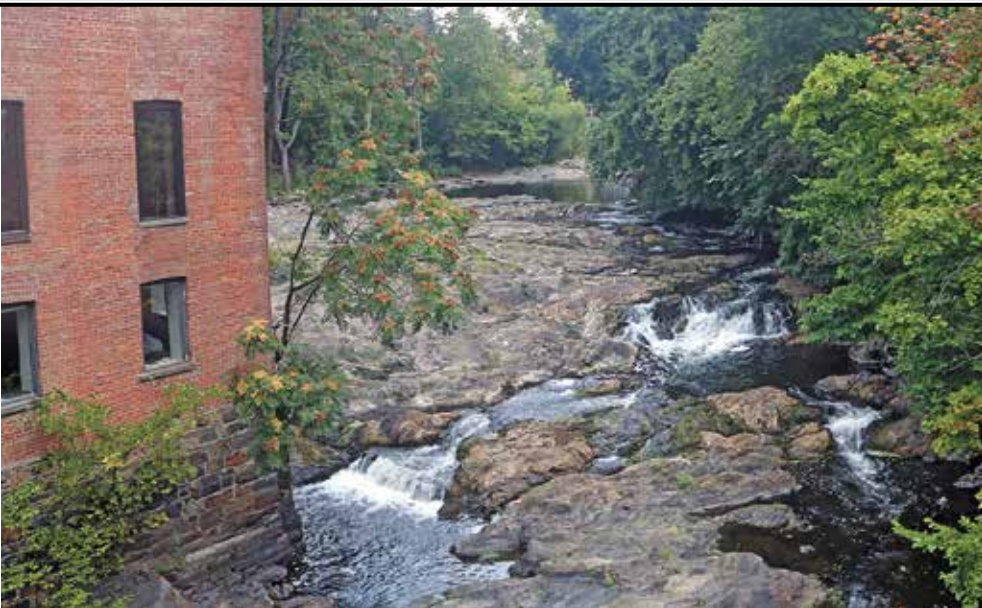
Putnam Man's Costly Detention

*Mother sues to gain
release from county jail*

By Leonard Sparks

Matthew Pecchia is diagnosed with severe autism, Lyme's disease and pediatric-acute onset neuropsychiatric syndrome, a condition characterized by sudden obsessive and compulsive behaviors. One alleged outburst landed the Brews-

ter man in the Putnam County Jail. But his four-month stay, beginning with his arrest on April 27 on a burglary charge, not only cost the county more than \$100,000 but highlighted the closure of group homes for people with developmental disabilities because of longstanding staffing shortages that worsened during the pandemic. The state Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) took custody of Pecchia, 26, on Monday (Aug. 29), follow-
(Continued on Page 8)



HITTING BOTTOM — Drought conditions have lowered the level of Fishkill Creek considerably, as seen in photos taken in 2019 and last week. Beacon City Administrator Chris White says the city's reservoirs have fallen below 60 percent capacity, triggering restrictions on water usage. (See Page 3.) Cold Spring renewed its state of emergency on Aug. 25 when its reservoirs fell to 45 percent capacity. (See Page 10.)

Photos by Jeff Simms and Michael Turton

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: CHICKIE PIDALA

By Michael Turton

Josephine “Chickie” (La Martina) Pidala, 95, was born in Baltimore and grew up in Queens. She has lived in Cold Spring for 64 years.

How did you get the name “Chickie”?

Well, you know Italians ... When I was born, I was supposed to take my father's mother's name. But there were already four or five Josephines in the family. So, my father said, “I don't want to name her that.” There was an argument and my mother got upset. So, my father said, “OK, name her Josephine, but I will never call her that.” Somehow, he started calling me Chickie, and it stuck, even in school. When I grew up, the fella I dated and later married, Frank Pidala, had two brothers. They both married girls named Josephine and also moved to Cold Spring. So, we had three Josephine Pidas here in the village. I had to start using my middle name, Rosina. But everybody called me Chickie, even the kids.

What was it like growing up in Queens?

It was a quiet neighborhood. It was diverse and I'm glad. The people were good. There was no money, so we were always tenants. I wasn't brought up like the other



Italian girls. They stayed home and did the housework. I did my share, but my father never treated us that way. You got to experience more, get out there and do things. When I was 5, I had a baseball uniform, bat, glove and ball. My father would take me out on the street and play with me. Then I'd end up playing stickball with the boys. We had races on the street. I was more of a tomboy than I was a girl. I went to PS 73 in Maspeth and Grover Cleveland High School on the border of Queens and Brooklyn. Frank and I went to the same schools; we started dating when I was 15.

They say everyone has a claim to fame; what's yours?

When my grandmother died, leaving seven children, my father was 7. My grandfather liked to gallivant around, so he took the children to his mother's. She couldn't take care of seven kids, so she kept the two girls and sent the boys to live with the Jesuits in Baltimore. Babe Ruth's father owned a corner bar there. Babe's mother died when he was young, and he'd sometimes wander out in the street by the bar. His father put him in the Jesuit boys' home, with my father and his brothers. So, my father grew

up with Babe Ruth. That's my claim to fame. There's a picture in the Orioles' Hall of Fame of Babe, standing by a bunk bed with my uncle. I've seen it.

How did you end up in Cold Spring?

I was 18. It was after the war and Frank came up to Cold Spring to visit his grandparents. Haldane was having its prom, but they only had 15 grads, so they opened it up to others. Frank called me and said, “Get a gown and come up.” I got off the train, looked up Main Street and fell in love with it. I loved the mountains, the water, the country atmosphere. I guess it was my Sicilian background. We moved here in 1958. The village was very family oriented; we took care of each other. If someone passed away, you cooked for the family. My husband was disabled; he was injured three times flying in B-17s. The butcher knew that, so he'd call me and say, “What do you need today, Chickie?” And he'd deliver it. Frank and I would go to the Italian American Club, above Stone Street, for dinner every once in a while, or to George and Dee's on Main Street to have a beer. We'd scoop the loop. We'd take the kids down to the river to swim. If you needed something that wasn't available in the stores here, you'd go to Beacon. Once in a blue moon, you made the trip all the way up to Poughkeepsie.

What are your thoughts now, on life and the future?

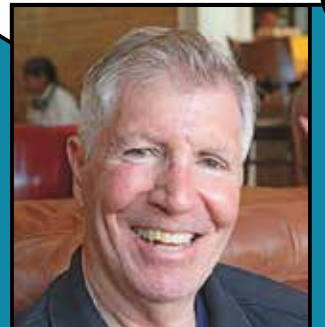
When I think back, the upbringing I got helped me to get through what I had to get through as an adult. I just have the faith; it's gotten me through a lot of bad times. Everyone finds their own way, how to get through things. I go to church, but I can't get my family to go. I let them all find their own way. Because the more you fight or interfere or preach, you drive them away altogether. So, I just let everybody be who they are and what they want to be. My attitude is, if you don't laugh, you'll pass on. You can always find someone in a worse situation.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

Would you have taken a different path after high school?

Perhaps corporate America, rather than academia. I get a lot of questions from executives these days.



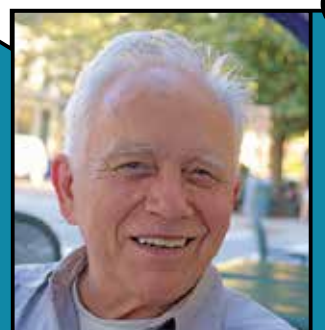
Robert Khoury, Beacon
(Philosophy professor)

No. All the little zigs and zags of life are what mold your character.



Anne Johann, Cold Spring
(Fine artist)

Yes: I went to MIT and hated it. Later I turned into a writer.



Chuck Dizenzo, Cold Spring
(Retired)

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Beacon Developer Wants to Divide One Into Five

Subdivision one of seven hearings on Planning Board agenda

By Jeff Simms

Highland Place, a narrow residential street with five houses on Beacon's east side, may be about to double in size.

The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Sept. 13 on the environmental impacts of a proposal to subdivide a 1-acre lot at 12 Highland Place. If approved, a developer plans to build four houses, adding to the existing home on the lot.

The proposal was submitted in July by Lori Joseph Builders, whose CEO was one of the developers of the condominium building at 226 Main St. The parcel is split down the middle by two residential zoning districts, with three lots planned for one district and two in the other.

Although the property abuts Anderson Street on the west and Grove Street to the south, steep slopes and a block-long retaining wall on Grove would prevent access to the new lots. That means the only access would be through Highland Place, where city engineers in July suggested converting an existing driveway into a private road leading to driveways for the new lots.



A developer would like to convert this driveway on Highland Place into a private road leading to five residential lots.

Photo by J. Simms

Neighbors, however, say their block can't handle the added traffic.

"I'm not against building two houses" on the lot, said Paul Lyons, who lives across Highland Place. "But this [plan] would double our neighborhood. How can that fit?"

Trees would also need to be removed to construct the road and homes; the developer is expected to submit detailed plans for removals and plantings, along with a list of mature trees over 6 inches in diameter.

City planners have suggested a no-parking zone near the crest of Grove Street to preserve sight lines for drivers.

Planning Board member Len Warner asked during the board's August meeting whether the city should go a step further by requiring a traffic-calming device, such as

a speed hump, on Grove. But John Russo, an engineering consultant, said four new homes on Highland Place would not add a significant amount of traffic, and speeding on Grove is a law-enforcement issue.

Warner pressed the issue, saying he's had conversations with Beacon residents who are "incredulous" about the pattern of development projects that, when evaluated individually, "never generate any impact."

"Beacon can apparently absorb all the traffic you can throw at it," such as from 300-unit developments, he said.

The Highland Place proposal is one of seven hearings on the Planning Board's agenda for its Sept. 13 meeting. Among other projects, board members will hear comments on plans to convert the former Reformed

NEWS BRIEF

Beacon Institutes Water Restrictions

Mayor declares Stage 1 emergency

After reservoir levels fell to 60 percent of capacity, Beacon instituted the first stage of a drought emergency on Wednesday (Aug. 31) that limits water use. The reservoirs had been near 70 percent a week ago.

Among other restrictions, under city code residents are not allowed to wash vehicles, sidewalks, steps or buildings; run fountains; water lawns, shrubs, plants or trees, except between 7 and 8 a.m. and 10 and 11 p.m.; water vegetables or fruits, except from a handheld container; or use city water to fill swimming pools, except those equipped with recirculating equipment.

In addition, businesses must have plans in place to reduce water usage by 15 percent. For more details, see highlandscurrent.org/beacon-drought.

Church of Beacon into a 350-person-capacity event space with restaurant and bar; a three-story mixed-use building at the corner of Main and Cross streets; and the first phase of the transformation of the historic Tioronda Estate into an inn and spa with a restaurant, gardens and cottage rentals.

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Abortion law

I am concerned about misinformation being shared about the 2019 New York Reproductive Health Act. Our state legislature took this action several years ago because there was always the possibility that Roe v. Wade would be overturned.

As you know, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June that each state had the responsibility for determining its policy regarding abortions. The Reproductive Health Act allows for a woman to have an abortion up to 24 weeks into the pregnancy. After that time, a pregnancy can be terminated only if the woman's health or life is threatened or there is an absence of fetal viability. The law allows for an abortion to be performed by a licensed, certified or authorized practitioner under our public health laws and acting within their scope of practice, as we require for all medical procedures.

In 1970, New York had legalized abortion. This 2019 law updated the former legislation to comply with Roe and to amend the law from criminal procedure to public health.

Whatever your views are on this issue, I wanted to clarify that abortions after 24 weeks can only occur if the life or health of the woman is in jeopardy or the fetus will not be able to survive outside the womb. These rare later abortions are made in consulta-

tion with medical professionals, exercising medical judgment. The state law is specific and detailed and follows the policy established on a federal level by Roe in 1973.

Sandy Galef, *Albany*

Galef's district in the state Assembly includes Philipstown.

Sheriff policy

Sheriff Kevin McConville's flip-flop decisions about which names are publicized have the appearance, at least in this case, of being based on political animosity toward the former sheriff, Robert Langley Jr. ("Former Sheriff's Son Accused of Having Child Porn," Aug. 26). It's the same with the timing of the release of the results of the Sheriff's Department study into staffing and overtime, which clearly supported Langley's assertions that the department is understaffed, causing a costly need to pay overtime.

Such pettiness is childish, but par for the course with Putnam County government.

Lynn Miller, *Cold Spring*

I happened to like Sheriff Langley. He was more than a photo op — he was a cop who had no problem backing his officers on heavy calls. After 33 years working in the New York State courts, where anything except Family Court and Mental Health

Court is public, I find this quite disturbing. Politics does not belong in law enforcement.

Kieran O'Hagan, *Patterson*

I loved the former sheriff and thought he was a good man. Our children do not define us.

Lillian Rosengarten, *Philipstown*

Beacon radio

I recall when Joe Daily invited me to tell river lore for WBNR high atop the open railroad ties of the then-non-existent Walkway Over the Hudson ("When Beacon Was on the Air," Aug. 26). The height and view of the river a Wylie Coyote way down proved so frightful, we walked the bridge hand-on-shoulder. One of the guests had to be blindfolded. Joe then got passing boaters to honk their foghorns while he raised funds for the coming walkway!

Jonathan Kruk, *Philipstown*

Stream resolution

Clearly, water protection is important to Putnam residents. More than 70 residents wrote their legislators to urge a "no" vote last week on Legislator Amy Sayegh's veto resolution aimed at Sen. Pete Harckham's streams protection bill. (See Page 9.) And 15 to 20 people waited more than two hours at the Aug. 25 Physical Services Committee meeting to urge greater protection of water quality, rather than obstructing it. Despite clear, evidence-backed arguments made by residents regarding the need for this legislation in Putnam, the three members of the committee repeated fears of burdensome regulation and negative impacts on business — without evidence — while also claiming to support clean water.

Let's be clear. Clean water is good and good for business. Just ask one of the residents or businesses in the Mahopac business district, Putnam Valley or other towns who depend on bottled water, municipal water or elaborate filter systems because their wells have been contaminated by bad business practices, and sometimes bad Putnam County government practices.

In fact, a frequent point residents made was that Harckham's bill is needed precisely because the county has failed to protect our water. They cited examples past and present. One gentleman from Kent described wetlands violations in his neighborhood and his urgent calls to multiple levels of government — including the county Soil and Water Conservation District — that were going unheeded.

All three Legislators voted in favor of asking Gov. Kathy Hochul to veto the bill. Sustainable Putnam urges legislators to vote "no" at their meeting on Sept. 6 and instead

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

act decisively to protect our water by hiring a qualified, full-time director for the Soil and Water Conservation District and paid staff that can handle this important work.

Joseph Montuori, Mahopac Falls

Montuori is the president of Sustainable Putnam.

Stop blocking state efforts to improve Putnam lakes and waterways! You can live for months with no food, but you cannot survive a week without water. Water is the key to life. Nowhere is that truer than in Putnam County. Waterways cover a third of our land. Many of our population centers and homes are built around lakes. Without clean water our property values will plummet and so will our tax base.

Under state law, the county is responsible for keeping our local waterways clean, but it has taken little responsibility to do so. We need look no further than what happened when the county got infrastructure funds from the federal government. Instead of helping our waterways, it gave \$400,000 to the golf course and then divided the rest among towns to do as they please.

Water problems are growing all over our state. But no county has more closings from dangerous toxic algal blooms than ours. Yet there is no plan to clean up our lakes and the streams that feed them.

It is not surprising that the state government is becoming alarmed with local inaction and passed legislation to regulate and fund action to clean streams feeding lakes. Local politicians, however, have suddenly realized that this help from the state could impinge on their ability to award more development contracts — a key source of power in politics. Continuing their do-nothing attitude, they now want to pass legislation nullifying this state aid to our locality.

As a resident of one of the many lake-based communities in our county, I am outraged by this attempt at maintaining power at the expense of our community and county. If the county legislators want authority, they have to show they are ready and able to protect our waterways. So far they have shown they simply cannot be trusted with this critical responsibility.

Michael Zagarell, *Lake Peekskill*

Barefoot Ironman

Cycling is hard enough. I've never heard of anyone trying to cycle barefooted, and from the photo you published of Guy Felixbrodt ("Feet of Iron," Aug. 19), you can see why not. His feet absorb the energy from his pedaling effort. They bend at the mid-sole. Cycling shoes, while fabulously expensive, have the benefit of a rigid sole that transfers the energy better and much more comfortably; the more rigid the better.

Sounds uncomfortable? Felixbrodt doesn't look very comfortable.

Don't get me wrong. As a former cycling coach and cyclist in western New York and Canada, and a fan of barefoot life, I salute Felixbrodt's efforts, but it's all been tried before. Efforts have been made to create a pedaling system more integrated with the human body. The successes amounted to wishful thinking. That was years ago. The last, best development was the shoe that clips into "pedals," more like a ski binding, in the late 1980s, improving on the clip/strap/cleat system of years ago.

I hope someday a system can be developed that allows for that elusive barefoot connection and people who choose to can ride without shoes comfortably, if not necessarily competitively.

I congratulate Felixbrodt on his accomplishments, far exceeding what most people would even attempt. Now an old man, those days exist only in my memory. I too wish to be able to ride without shoes. Back in the day, when us riders finished an especially long or difficult race, one of the first things we did was tear off our shoes. Hopefully, someday that will be reality.

Tim Ozga, *Nashville, Tennessee*

Fjord Trail

I live in the village, right on Fair Street, and I cannot wait for the Fjord Trail ("Cold Spring: Can We Influence Fjord Trail?" Aug. 19). This is the most exciting thing to happen in years. I am growing increasingly annoyed by the comments from people — some of whom do not live in the village — who want to force Cold Spring to become a retirement community. I hope someone runs against the obstructionist mayor and board.

Eric Szyszka, *Cold Spring*

Like Mr. Szyszka, I look forward to the opening of the Fjord Trail. It will be a wonderful addition to our community and, most importantly, solve the dangerous pedestrian issues along Route 9D and Fair Street arising from the popularity of Breakneck Ridge.

I've lived in and visited a number of communities that built greenways and designated pedestrian paths despite loud kvetching from a few loud residents and NIMBYists. After a short period, everyone embraced the pathways as a benefit to their community and as healthier, safer alternatives to walking and biking along vehicular thoroughfares. I doubt anyone complained about the rise in property values after the paths were built. I predict the same will happen here.

I vividly remember all the pushback some locals gave Scenic Hudson over the low-impact development of the Foundry Preserve. All kinds of hysterical predictions about overwhelming busloads of tourists never materialized, did they?

It's the same show this time. Fears that the Fjord Trail itself will detract and diminish the small-town character of Cold Spring by becoming, in and of itself, some kind of tourist mecca are overblown. Breakneck Ridge is already a tourist mecca and too many people come here unaware of the many alternative, and for some, more appropriate, hikes we are so lucky to have.

Building a pathway for safer enjoyment and better access to Hudson River views and trails is nothing akin to installing a Six Flags or Legoland in Cold Spring. The Fjord Trail solves more problems than it creates. Doing nothing but griping, stirring up conflicts and fretting about semantics only allows existing problems to multiply and throws up roadblocks to the enhancement of our community.

My particular hope is that Fjord Trail planners include strict safety protections for those who enjoy leisurely cycling, and kids who are learning to ride their bikes, from maniac cyclists who insist on riding three abreast and intimidating those who don't ride as fast as they do.

Lynn Miller, *Cold Spring*

Metro-North

The problem for Metro-North is that it's too expensive for the average person ("MTA Finances Worsen," Aug. 12). For two people in a car, it is still cheaper to drive to New York City, pay the tolls and park (there are many lots that are \$15 to \$20 a day if you are in by 9 a.m. and out by 11 p.m.) than it would be to pay \$20 to \$25 one way per person on the train.

Even off-peak weekend fares for a family of four or five is prohibitively expensive compared to driving. Metro-North needs to be cheaper or more subsidized, and driving needs to be more expensive in New York City.

Harper Langston, *via Instagram*



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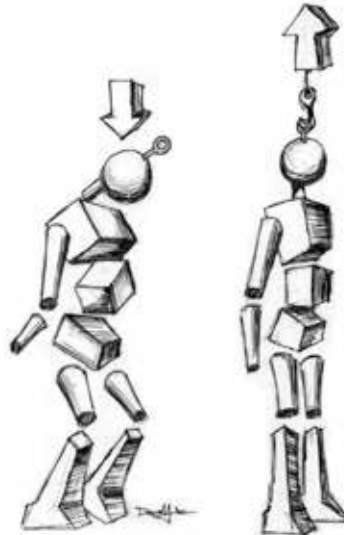
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Gretchen Dykstra (center) with two Polish volunteers; "part of the free store — we were asked not to take photos of any of the Ukrainians"; boxes to sort

Photos provided

I went to Krakow in southeast Poland, which has a painful history and a youthful spirit. I volunteered for two weeks with a Norwegian-based non-governmental organization, A Drop in the Ocean, which distributes new and used clothing to Ukrainian refugees.

We worked 9 to 5, five days a week, from a massive space inside a bankrupt, soon-to-be-demolished shopping mall. Donations arrived each day at the loading dock, bag by bag, pallet by pallet, from individuals and clothing manufacturers from Europe and elsewhere.

We unpacked, sorted, sized, marked, boxed and hung thousands of items for the 500 to 600 people, mostly single mothers, who arrived three days a week. On the other two days, we worked our way through the mountains of donations and started all over again.

We all were there to help, but what spurred us varied. A few were inspired by

What I Did This Summer

By Gretchen Dykstra

faith. A young man who teaches high school history in Connecticut, and performs magic shows on the weekends, asked a priest why God wasn't helping homeless people and the priest replied, "God is helping. He has sent you." A young Mormon couple from Utah spent the summer volunteering in the mornings and working remotely at their IT jobs back home from 4 p.m. to midnight.

Some, like the former chief financial officer of a major art museum in New York City, have Ukrainian relatives. A Russian gemologist at Bloomingdales is married to a Ukrainian in New Jersey. "How could I not come?" she asked.

An Army veteran, now living in Germany and working for a forklift business based in the U.S., always wanted to work for an NGO but was not qualified. This partially addressed that dream. A retired FBI agent shared that curiosity about humanitarian relief work.

The intellectual of the group worked in policy and politics in Washington, D.C., studies Russian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, and hopes to join the foreign service. A California woman with extensive management experience never wants to run anything ever again and sought out an international group that might offer her a regular way

to channel her energy and generosity. Her traveling companion, a recently retired director of Medicaid for a California county, was, like me, tired of just sending checks.

The Ukrainians deserve the extensive help they are receiving, but I kept thinking about other people and places that I have seen — Honduras after a hurricane and India after cyclones, starving children in Ethiopia, rows of coffins in Malawi because of AIDS and blast walls in Kashmir and Baghdad.

Even if it was just a drop in the ocean, I was glad to do my part in Poland, but I will never say again that sending a check does not matter. Everyone in pain, no matter how far from loading docks and public consciousness, deserves our support.

Dykstra is a resident of Cold Spring and the author, most recently, of Echoes from Wuhan: The Past as Prologue.

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President & CEO, Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress

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&

E.J. McMahon

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"New York's Fiscal & Economic Outlook"

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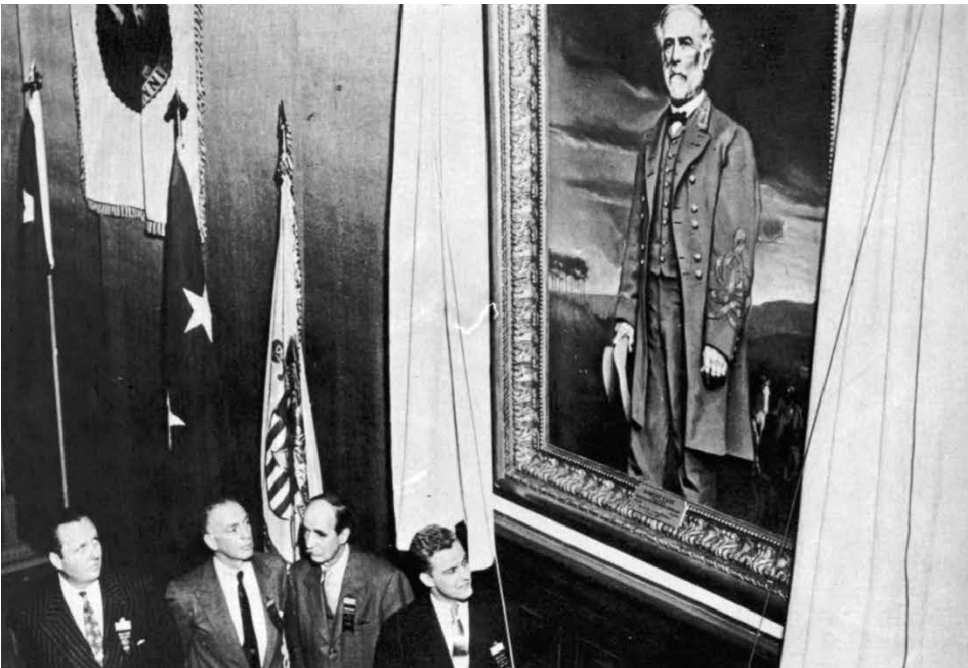
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Base Names

On Aug. 8, the Naming Commission recommended that nine U.S. military bases named for Confederate military leaders be changed. For more information, see thenamingcommission.gov.

CURRENT	STATE	NEW
Fort Benning	Georgia	Fort Moore, for Lt. Gen. Hal and Julia Moore
Fort Bragg	North Carolina	Fort Liberty
Fort Gordon	Georgia	Fort Eisenhower
Fort A.P. Hill	Virginia	Fort Walker, for Dr. Mary Edwards Walker
Fort Hood	Texas	Fort Cavazos, for Gen. Richard Cavazos
Fort Lee	Virginia	Fort Gregg-Adams, for Lt. Gen. Arthur Gregg and Lt. Col. Charity Adams
Fort Pickett	Virginia	Fort Barfoot, for Tech. Sgt. Van Barfoot
Fort Polk	Louisiana	Fort Johnson, for St. William Henry Johnson
Fort Rucker	Alabama	Fort Novosel, for CW4 Michael Novosel Sr.



A portrait of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee, with a slave guiding his horse behind him, was installed at the West Point library in 1952. USMA



The commission recommended this engraving be removed from Bartlett Hall at West Point.

West Point *(from Page 1)*

district includes the academy and the Highlands, said in a statement: “For years, I’ve advocated directly to military leadership for such changes, and I am glad to see that we are finally making progress ... We cannot allow bigotry of the past to be perpetuated and celebrated in the same halls that educate our leaders of the future.”

In its review of West Point, the Naming Commission recommended the school relocate or remove a 20-foot-high portrait of Gen. Robert E. Lee in his Confederate uniform displayed in the library (Jefferson Hall); engraved images in Reconciliation Plaza of men who served in the Confederacy, such as one showing Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard leading the rebel attack on Fort Sumter and a Confederate soldier offering water to a wounded Union soldier; and panels on a triptych mounted at the entrance to Bartlett Hall that commemorate Lee, Gen. Jeb Stuart, Lt. Gen. Stonewall Jackson and Commander John Brooke.

In addition, the commissioners said West Point should remove an engraved quote by Lee from Honor Plaza because he said it as an officer in the Confederacy rather than when he served as superintendent of West

Point before the war, from 1852 to 1855.

The panel said that while Lee, an 1829 academy grad, was an effective leader, “the consequences of his decisions were wide-ranging and destructive. Lee’s armies were responsible for the deaths of more U.S. soldiers than practically any other enemy in our nation’s history.”

It deferred to the academy whether to remove brass tablets and markers inside buildings with the names of Lt. Gen. Joseph Wheeler and Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee. It encouraged the academy “to consider modifications or additional markers that contextualize historical facts.”

The commissioners said they felt no changes were needed to a roll call of graduates in the entrance of Cullum Hall that indicates who served under the Confederacy. Further, they said that images or references to Lee during his time as superintendent “are historical artifacts and may remain in place,” such as a portrait installed in the dining hall in 1931 that depicts him before the war in his blue U.S. military uniform.

The panel noted one engraving was outside its mandate but that members felt should be removed. Located on the triptych at the entrance to Bartlett Hall, it shows a shrouded figure over the words “Ku Klux Klan.” The Klan formed after the war.

The commission also recommended that the Department of Defense rename, at a cost of about \$17,000, Lee Barracks, Lee Housing Area, Lee Area Child Development Center, Lee Road, Lee Gate, Beauregard Place and Hardee Place, named for Gen. William Hardee. It estimated changes at the library and Honor Plaza would cost \$5,000. Changes at Reconciliation Plaza (\$300,000) and Bartlett Hall (\$100,000) would be pricier.

The report noted that West Point initially did not celebrate the Confederacy. No former rebel leader was invited to the academy for more than 30 years after the Civil War ended in 1865; when Cullum Hall was built in 1898 as a memorial to graduates killed in action, only Union casualties were included; and it was not until 1930 that West Point installed its first Confederate memorial.

NOTICE

PHILIPSTOWN PLANNING BOARD

Public Hearing – September 15th, 2022

The Planning Board of the Town of Philipstown, New York will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 15th, 2022 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St. Cold Spring, NY 10516 to consider the following application:

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

Major Project: The applicant proposes to construct a new 3200 square feet (80' x 40') 2-story "mixed use" structure, with the first floor comprising of a 4-bay garage and two 2-bedroom apartments above. Site improvements will include a new well and SSTS. The garage will be utilized for office of their Tree & Landscape businesses.

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 Planning Board at the Building Department, 2 Cedar Street, Cold Spring (behind Town Hall). Prior contact with Cheryl Rockett is required to arrange access to the documents, at (845) 265-5202.

Dated at Philipstown, New York, this 21st day of July, 2022.

Neal Zuckerman, Chair

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of cases:

28,040 (+141)

Positive Tests, 7-day average:

9.9% (+0.9)

Percent vaccinated:

83.7

Cold Spring: 95.9 / Garrison: 88.4

Number of deaths:

130 (0)

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of cases:

75,479 (+374)

Positive Tests, 7-day average:

10.8% (+0.7)

Percent vaccinated:

78.2

Beacon: 73.7

Number of deaths:

690 (+1)

Source: State and county health departments, as of Aug. 31, with totals since pandemic began and change over the previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those who have received at least one dose.

Jail Lawsuit *(from Page 1)*

ing an order by Judge Victor Grossman of the state Supreme Court, based in Carmel. His decision came a month after a Patterson town judge ordered Pecchia released for treatment and six days after Pecchia's mother sued the agency.

On the same day as Grossman's order, members of the Putnam Legislature's Personnel Committee approved a fund transfer of nearly \$223,000 to cover overtime for the jail. According to Sheriff Kevin McConville, more than half the amount, \$118,456, represented the cost for 91 days of around-the-clock observation of Pecchia.

Because of his disability, Pecchia is largely unable to speak in full sentences. In weekly FaceTime calls with his mother while jailed, he kept repeating, "home, home," according to her lawsuit.

"Because of his constant isolation, Matthew is regressing," it said. "He is not able to groom himself. He is frequently angry. Recently, he tore his mattress."

After two psychiatrists deemed Pecchia incapacitated, Judge Michael Caruso of Patterson ruled July 20 that he was incapable of standing trial. A week later, he ordered Pecchia released to OPWDD for up to 90 days of inpatient treatment. That order triggered weeks of emails between OPWDD

“Because of his constant isolation, Matthew is regressing. He is not able to groom himself. He is frequently angry. Recently, he tore his mattress.

~Excerpt from the Pecchia lawsuit

"It was a huge drain on our budget," McConville told legislators.

Year-to-date, the department said it has amassed more than \$194,000 in expenses monitoring Pecchia and other detainees with medical, psychological and addiction-related issues.

From the time of his arrest for allegedly entering a neighbor's home and hitting the person, Pecchia languished, "chemically restrained" with medications such as Ativan and Haldol, according to court documents.

and Disability Rights New York, a legal and advocacy organization based in Albany that was acting on behalf of Pecchia.

In response to one email from DRNY, according to court documents, the agency said that Pecchia's case was being "investigated" and in a follow-up said they thought a court hearing was scheduled for Aug. 24 and that no release order had yet been issued.

In subsequent emails, OPWDD said that its admissions were "paused" and cited staffing shortages and "circumstances

largely outside our control" that limit "our ability to admit additional individuals."

The state judge's decision on Monday "speaks volumes about the gravity of [Pecchia's] situation," said Julie Keegan, DRNY's director of protection and advocacy programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"Correctional institutions are clearly not appropriate settings for people who lack capacity due to significant disabilities," she said. "That is precisely why state and federal laws mandate intervention by state agencies like OPWDD to ensure people with disabilities are promptly provided appropriate care and treatment."

A representative for OPWDD said on Wednesday (Aug. 31) that the state agency faces a worker shortage of "crisis proportions" and is down 2,000 care staff since April 2020, at the beginning of the pandemic.

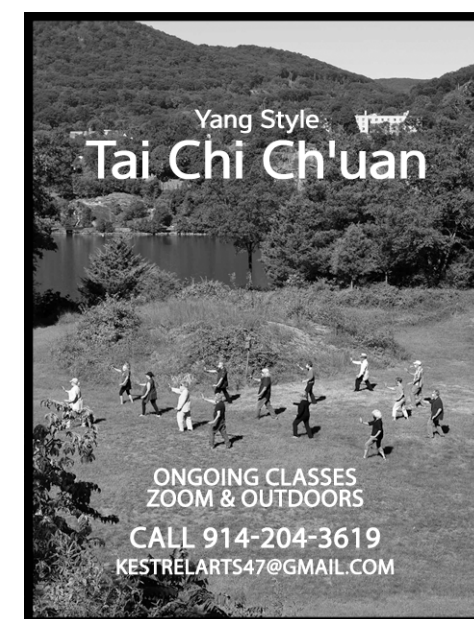
Vacancies for hard-to-fill positions are partly why 131 group homes have been "temporarily suspended" since 2019. In recent months, OPWDD implemented "emergency measures" to "ensure the safety of people living in a small number of group homes that are unable to retain or recruit sufficient staffing levels," it said.

An effort to recruit employees and retain existing ones is underway, according to the agency. The state budget approved in April increased starting wages; temporarily increased overtime to 2½ times base pay; and provided for bonuses of up to \$3,000 for state and nonprofit health care and

mental hygiene staff, according to OPWDD.

The budget also included a 5.4 percent cost-of-living adjustment for nonprofits serving people with developmental disabilities, and OPWDD says it is spending \$1.2 billion of its American Rescue Plan Act funding to retain and recruit workers, including offering one-time bonuses for direct-care staff employed at nonprofits it funds.

Keegan said she was "encouraged" to see OPWDD "held accountable" by the state judge. "However, there are others like Matthew who remain wrongly confined in correctional settings," she said. "Immediate systemwide reform is critical."



WATER EMERGENCY CONTINUES CONSERVATION VITAL



Extreme drought conditions continue in our area. The Village's water supply is at greatly reduced capacity across all three municipal reservoirs. It is critical that all users of the Village water supply strictly limit usage to conserve the supply for domestic and sanitary uses, as well as for fire suppression.

VIOLATIONS WILL RESULT IN SUMMONSES AND FINES: Report Violations to the Code Enforcement Office on 845 265 5202 or the Cold Spring Police on 845 265 3407

Additionally, fire risk is extremely high. The Cold Spring Fire Company reminds residents and business owners not to light outdoor fires for any purpose and to use extreme caution when undertaking activities like grilling food. In consultation with the Chief, the fireworks for Community Day on September 3rd have been cancelled, but the block party will still go on.

As a reminder, the following water restrictions are in place:

Use the minimal amount of water required for domestic and sanitary purposes. Keep showers brief; turn off faucets while washing dishes and brushing teeth, etcetera; skip toilet flushes when reasonable.

Do not water landscapes and gardens at any time (NOTE: some properties within the Village have private water sources; we recommend those private supply managers cease watering as well – precious water is precious water)

Do not wash cars or buildings.

Do not refill pools and/or hot tubs. Do not use sprinklers or hoses for water play.

Business and industries must use the minimum amount of water necessary to conduct operations. Restaurants must not provide tap water unless requested.

Putnam Revives Measure Opposing Stream Protection

Committee refuses to act on Montgomery alternative

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Three weeks after Putnam lawmakers shelved a draft resolution advocating the governor veto a bill extending environmental protection to small creeks, a legislative committee on Aug. 25 revived the plea, despite public opposition, and sent it to the full Legislature for action.

The Legislature next meets Tuesday (Sept. 6).

The three-man Physical Services Committee unanimously endorsed the resolution after refusing to act on an alternative proposed by Legislator Nancy Montgomery that supports the state legislation. Montgomery, whose district covers Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley, is the sole Democrat on the otherwise all-Republican, nine-person Legislature.

Before adopting the resolution, the committee spent about 75 minutes largely listening to constituents, who overwhelmingly objected to a veto. The legislators also received at least 75 letters from residents, including 11 from Philipstown, that offered support for the state legislation. Two town officials — Richard Othmer, the Kent highway supervisor, and Jacqueline Annabi, the Putnam Valley supervisor — wrote to say they didn't feel state regulation was needed.

Sponsored by state Sen. Peter Harekham, a Democrat whose district includes eastern Putnam, the state legislation would require that projects affecting smaller streams ("Class C," which are suitable for fishing but not to provide drinking water) obtain permits from the state Department of Environmental Conservation. Permits are required for Class A streams, which provide drinking water, and Class B, which the DEC says are suitable for swimming and fishing.

As of Sept. 1, the Legislature had not sent the bill to Gov. Kathy Hochul for consideration. It passed the Senate, 47-14, in May, with support from Sue Serino, a Republican whose district includes the Highlands, and the House, 114-33, in March, with "yes" votes from Assembly Members Sandy Galef, whose district includes Philipstown, and Jonathan Jacobson, whose district includes Beacon.

Putnam's proposed resolution urging a veto 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 DEC."

It also asserts that obtaining permits already takes four to eight months and that "based upon the current backlog and timeframe for permitting," the state legislation "would delay projects for at least 26 months." In addition, the resolution argues that the state legislation would "adversely affect public and private infrastructure through flooding impacts."

The New York State Association of Counties and groups representing county and town highway superintendents, the forest products industry and electrical power companies also



Canopus Creek, a Class B stream, is protected under state law against development.

Hudson Highlands Land Trust

have objected to the state legislation.

Environmental organizations, including the Adirondack Mountain Club, Riverkeeper and The Nature Conservancy, asked Putnam to drop its opposition, with the latter noting that "nearly half of New York's 90,846 miles of streams are not subject to stream protection provisions" of state law.

Montgomery's alternative resolution described the state legislation as being designed to "protect water quality" as well as "protect public and private infrastructure by mitigating flood impacts."

Because Hochul recently lifted a state hiring freeze, the Department of Environmental Conservation "will be fully staffed" and able to handle more permits, her resolution stated. Moreover, it observed, local government highway departments and other entities, farms and emergency repairs of infrastructure near streams already "are exempt from permit requirements."

Montgomery's resolution likewise declared that local soil and water conservation districts need DEC aid and clout, and that "in the Hudson River watershed at least 40 percent of stream miles lack protection" in spots where encroachments have harmed water quality.

Through the state legislation, "we're just trying to safeguard New Yorkers," Montgomery said during the committee meeting. "We can all agree we need to protect our water."

But Legislator Joseph Castellano of Brewster countered that stream protection "is a local issue. Adding another layer of bureaucracy can have an adverse effect."

Legislator Carl Albano of Carmel, who chairs the Physical Services Committee and has been professionally involved in building projects, said that local "environmental boards do a good job. They're over the top sometimes, but that's a good thing." He proposed that the state legislation be amended to address critics' concerns.

Montgomery, a former Philipstown Town Board member, responded: "I love home rule. But I don't trust that our water is being protected properly, certainly not Class C streams." She recalled that although the New York State Association of Counties wrote to Hochul to ask for a veto, "nobody [from NYSAC] commented on it when it was before the Assembly or Senate."

From the audience, a woman asked: "Where were you all?"

"I didn't know about it," Albano replied. "Water is probably the most important resource we have," said a Putnam Valley resident. "We need more protections."

A Carmel woman, claiming that officials in some localities seem unwilling to crack down on environmental scofflaws, concurred that "we need the state oversight, the objectivity of the state, to enforce this."

Opposing the state initiative "sends a terrible message," a man added. "It seems like water quality is taking a back seat to politics. I support Legislator Montgomery's resolution."

But the committee endorsed the pro-veto version.

How Streams Are Classified

A: Drinking

B: Swimming, fishing

C: Fishing

D: Agricultural, industrial

CLASS A

- Dry Brook
- Gordons/Melzingah Brook (part)
- Squirrel Hollow Brook

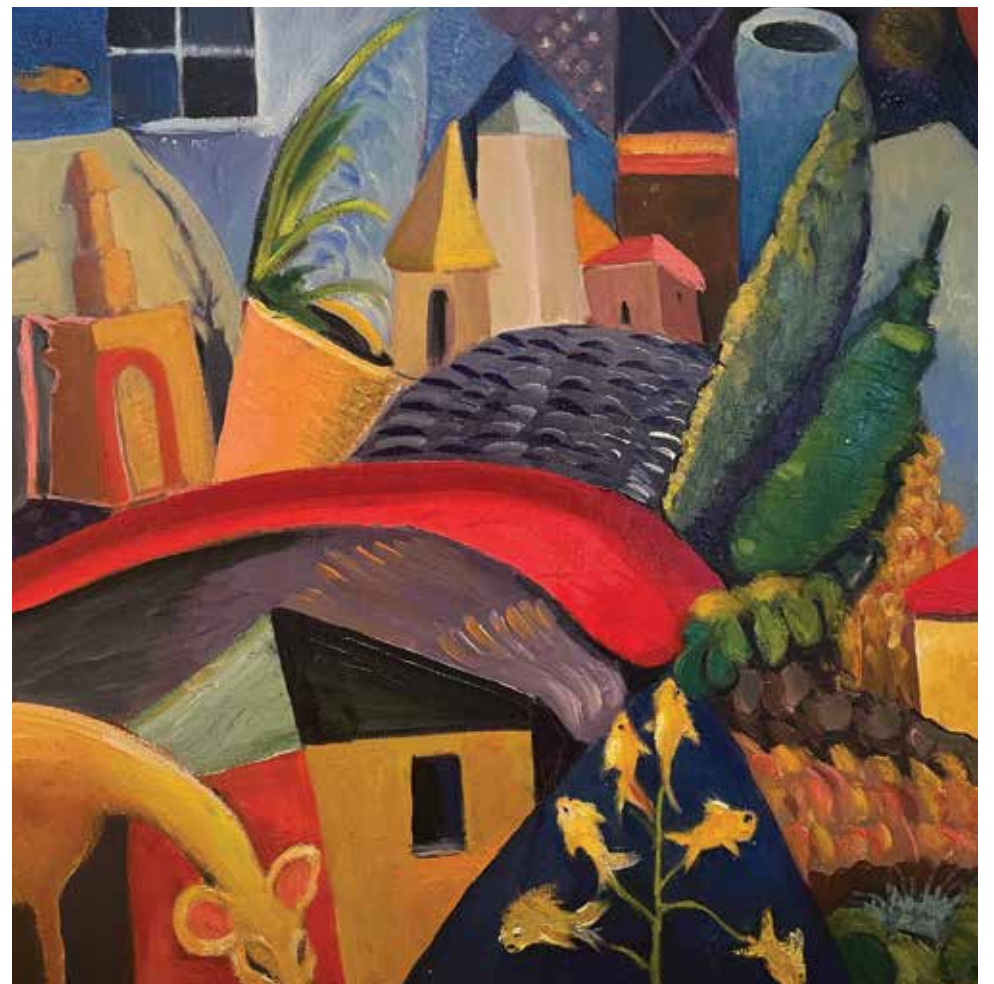
CLASS B

- Arden Brook
- Breakneck Brook
- Canopus Creek
- Peekskill Hollow Brook
- Philipse Brook
- Sprout Brook

CLASS C

- Annsville Creek
- Clove Creek
- Fishkill Creek
- Foundry Brook
- Gordons/Melzingah Brook (part)
- Indian Brook
- Wades/Cascade Brook

Source: DEC (gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/erm)



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Drought Shows Little Sign of Easing

Cold Spring continues restrictions, seeks aqueduct connection

By Michael Turton

The Highlands continue to endure drought conditions with little sign of change anytime soon.

Matt Kroog, Cold Spring's superintendent of water and sewer, reported that rainfall through the past week totaled just 0.01 inches. For the month of August, the village recorded 0.05 inches of precipitation.

The forecast on Thursday (Sept. 1) showed a chance of showers on only three of the next 10 days. The Federal Climate Protection Center, in an updated forecast for Beacon and Cold Spring released on Wednesday, said drought conditions will persist through September.

Mayor Kathleen Foley said at the Village Board meeting on Wednesday that at the end of June, village reservoirs were at nearly 100 percent capacity. Last week, Kroog estimated they had dropped to about 45 percent. A more detailed calculation this week increased that slightly to 52 percent.

"That's better, but still a concern," Foley said, adding that Kroog estimates the village has a 70- to 80-day supply at current usage levels.

Despite declaring an emergency on Aug. 25 requiring residents to reduce usage, Foley said the village is finding violators. She said that while the village is drawing minimal water from its impoundment areas to meet demand, it is violating the order itself because of leaks such as near the corner of Rock Street and Kemble Avenue that are being repaired "as quickly as we possibly can."

"Contrary to popular belief, they are not all the same leak," Foley said. "We have infrastructure that's more than 100 years old; often, when one leak is repaired, pressure will shift," and a new one appears.

The problem at Rock and Kemble, she said, is a faulty valve. Although the emergency order allowed the village to ease bid requirements, she said the earliest a repair could be scheduled was Tuesday (Sept. 6).

Cold Spring is also hoping to make a temporary connection to the Catskill aqueduct where it crosses through Nelsonville at Fishkill Road so it will have an emergency supply. (The village also wants to make a longer-term connection so it can make repairs to the reservoir dams.) Cold Spring would have to pay for any water drawn from the aqueduct, which supplies New York City.

"It is very, very expensive," Foley said. "If we do have to switch to the aqueduct, it's going to be even more important that we conserve water."

A representative from the New York City

Department of Environment Protection, which operates the aqueduct, will meet with the Village Board later this month.

Foley noted that, in addition to the water emergency, the village is under a fire emergency. "The fire company asks that there be no outdoor fires," Foley said, urging residents to use extreme caution if grilling.

The mayor said discussions regarding the enforcement of restrictions are ongoing with Nelsonville, which gets its water from the Cold Spring system.

In other business...

■ Parking will be prohibited on Main Street from Fair Street to Church Street beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday (Sept. 3) for Community Day, and the street will be closed to all traffic from 1 to 8 p.m. While the fireworks were canceled due to the dry conditions, West Point will have pyrotechnics on Saturday night during its Labor Day concert at Trophy Point.

■ The Village Board approved an agreement with Seastreak for 22 weekend cruises to Cold Spring from Sept. 10 to Nov. 13, as well as five Fridays. The boats, each with up to 400 passengers, will dock at 10:45 a.m. and depart at 3:30 p.m. Seastreak will pay the village \$33,792 in docking fees.

■ The board approved a Planning Board recommendation to grant two parking

waivers to the owner of 11 Main St. for \$250 each. Waivers can be granted when the number of parking spaces required in the village code cannot be met. The Planning Board had granted conditional approval of a change of use for the property from commercial to retail, dependent upon Village Board approval of the waivers.

■ A public hearing is scheduled for Sept. 14 to hear comments about a proposed law that would permit village meetings to be broadcast remotely, a practice initiated during the pandemic.

■ The board eliminated a \$30 application fee required by the Historic District Review Board for the installation of solar panels.

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Now in its third year, our *Student Journalists Program* provides an opportunity for students who attend high school in Philipstown and Beacon to be mentored by professional journalists while they serve as correspondents for our nonprofit newspaper and website.

The reporting of correspondents selected for the program will appear at highlandscurrent.org and select stories will be printed. The staff, when editing stories by our student correspondents, will provide detailed feedback and suggestions to improve and refine their reporting.

Students will be expected to submit photos and video (when applicable) as part of their assignments. Due to the generous support of our *Highlands Current* members, correspondents will be compensated for the stories and photos that we publish online and/or in print. If you are interested in becoming a student correspondent, you can review the requirements and apply at:

highlandscurrent.org/sjp

Chip Rowe
Chip Rowe, Editor
The Highlands Current

The Current
STUDENT JOURNALISTS PROGRAM

The Current is looking for a few good high school journalists.

To help support our Student Journalists Program, see highlandscurrent.org/donate.

Who is Cold Spring's best amateur baker?
Find out at the Community Day Block Party 2022

PIE Baking CONTEST

Saturday, September 3
Bring your pies at 3pm
Block Party 4-8pm
(Rain date: September 4)

Go to coldspringny.gov for details, rules and entry form. Good Luck!

- DJ
- Food
- Face Painting
- Street Games & More!

Thank you for your help in creating Cold Spring's Community Day event!








HOLD ON!

The 176th Dutchess County Fair concluded on Sunday (Aug. 28) in Rhinebeck after six days that included carnival rides; a concert by country singer Chris Janson; livestock, horse and horticulture competitions; racing pigs; athletic dogs; and a rodeo.


Photos by Ross Corsair



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- Selecting the best wreath materials and supplies
- Composing unique, balanced wreaths that suit your taste
- Color theory options so your design looks intentional



WITCH  HAZEL

176 MAIN STREET, BEACON, NY

Cold Spring is having a Good Old Fashioned

BLOCK party

On Main St. between Fair St. and Church St.

Saturday, Sept. 3,

4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

(Rain date: Sept. 4)

Schedule of EVENTS:

12:01 a.m.	Main Street Closed to Parking between Fair Street and Church Street
9:30 a.m.	The Hub 5k and Family Fun Run
1:00 p.m.	Main Street Closed to Traffic between Fair Street and Church Street
4:00 p.m.	The Block Party Begins! <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DJ • Dancing • Food and Drink • Games• Merchant Tables • Balloons • Face-Painting• Magician • More!
7:30 -8:30 p.m.	Slambovian Circus of Dreams at the Bandstand
8:00 p.m.	The Block Party Wraps-up on Main Street

Approximately **9:00 pm** Main Street Opens between Fair Street and Church Street

Fireworks have been cancelled due to fire risk and The Dunk Tank has been cancelled due to the water shortage.

Donations to help support the event can be made to the Village of Cold Spring Clerk.

Thank you for your help in creating Cold Spring's Community Day event!



Please note:
The same area will be closed to traffic entirely except for emergencies on on Saturday, 9/3, between 1:00 p.m. and approximately 10:00 p.m.
Main Street residents and business owners can park at the Haldane lot.

There will be no parking on Main Street between Church Street and Fair Street from 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, 9/3, until approximately 10:00 p.m. on 9/3.
Traffic will be re-routed on Village Streets. The Cold Spring Police Department and the REACT team will be on site to assist drivers.

Saturday Fireworks Sponsors:
The Groombridge Family
Anonymous Donors

Silver Sponsors:
Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce
The Cold Spring Police Benevolent Association
Hudson House
The Town of Philipstown

Gold Sponsors:
Magazzino Italian Art Center
M&T Bank
The Kearney Family

AROUND TOWN



▲ **BEACON SETS** — The producers of the forthcoming 10-episode mystery series, *Poker Face*, which will air on the Peacock streaming service, have been filming in Beacon.
Photo by Damon Banks



▲ **GOTCHA** — Passersby who enjoy sitting on *The Current's* glider bench on Main Street in Cold Spring should not be surprised if 2-year-old Parker Neumann makes an appearance.
Photo by Michael Turton



◀ **HORSE THERAPY** — Suzanne Giachinta of Stonewall Stables in Philipstown poses with a visitor on a recent Saturday. The stables provide equine-assisted therapies and activities for special-needs children and adults.
Photo by Patrick O'Halloran

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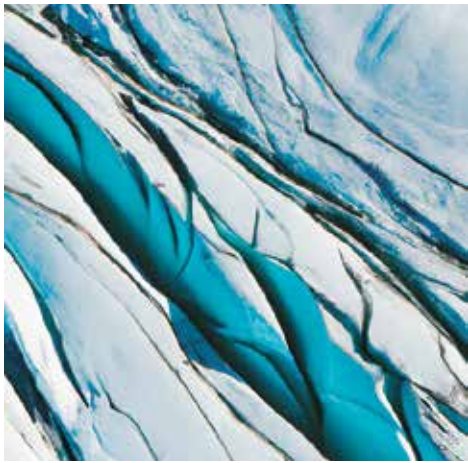
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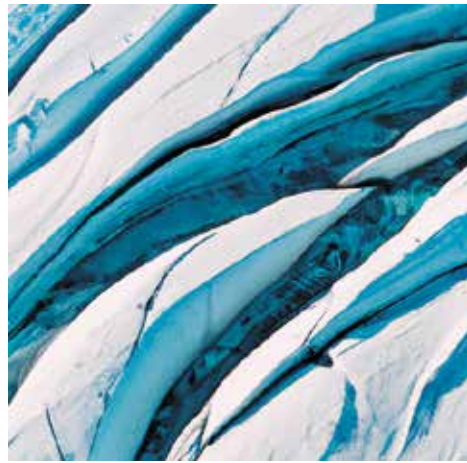
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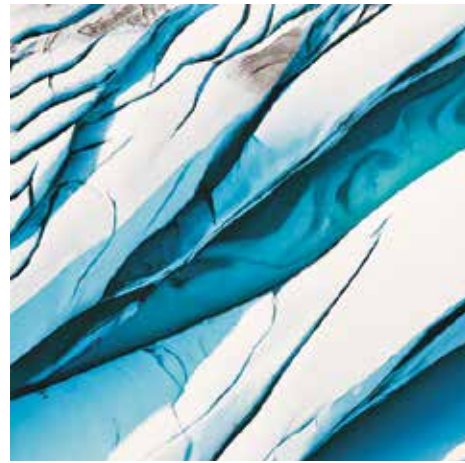




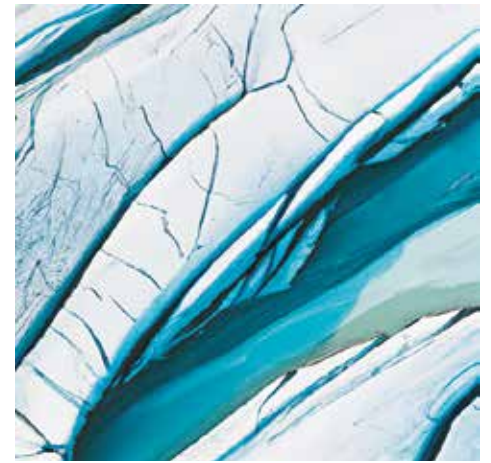
AI Glacial 01



AI Glacial 02



AI Glacial 03



AI Glacial 04

The Calendar

Impossible Landscapes

Beacon artist blends digital and natural worlds

By Alison Rooney

Like many Beacon Artist Union members, Linda Lauro-Lazin had given much thought to what she would show during her annual slot at the cooperative.

She had more than enough work to choose from for her first solo show at the BAU Gallery but, out of the blue, felt compelled to start a series that became *Terra Incognita, v. 2*. “Each work is a hybrid of an impossible landscape and a disappearing natural world,” she explains.

The show will open from noon to 6 p.m. on Second Saturday (Sept. 10), with a reception scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m.

As an expert in the field of digital art, as well as a professor of art and the assistant chair of the Department of Digital Arts at Pratt Institute in New York City, Lauro-Lazin is not blasé about making personal discoveries in her field. She’s been excited about “the new” since her days making the first of several transitions from painting to digital mark-making.

There are many other influences reflected in Lauro-Lazin’s work. Some, like scuba diving — she’s an aficionado, and has long been interested in marine biology — aren’t obvious. “It’s not anything specific to the ocean, it’s more

about the experience of moving through water in a suspended way, kind of an immersive experience in the water, that affects my art-making,” she says. “For example, I have work based on glacier imagery, and the way I think about perspective is hovering above, floating below, moving through a landscape.”

At BAU, she’ll be showing works which, in her description, “don’t exist, although bits and pieces of them do. I am creating them digitally, then I print them — with the frescoes I am translating pigment into a fresco substrate. First, they’re liquidy; they set over four days. I then come back into them with paint, with my hand.

“The thing I’m excited about is I use a text-based, artificial-intelligence program. I key in the text to describe what the visuals should be and the AI generates an image. I’m teaching the AI what it’s about: These images are of melting glaciers. It’s both beautiful and mildly creepy. I’m always interested in sublimity. I’m making these into a fresco form, so the object itself is

a fresco. The painting is a fresco but the image in the fresco is created with AI.

“I want to ask the questions: ‘What happens when we’re not here? How will this disappearing world be remembered?’ It’s where we are right now. The beauty of the pieces is seductive, but once people linger, maybe the work can get them to ask the questions.”

Raised in Manhattan, Lauro-Lazin became familiar with the Hudson Valley when she earned her BFA in painting at SUNY New Paltz. (She later earned an MFA in painting and drawing at Pratt.) She always felt supported by her parents in making art and, accordingly, spent a lot of time at the Arts Students’ League in Manhattan. She had other interests, as well, particularly marine biology and oceanography, which she still sees reflected in her work.

Describing herself as “first and foremost a painter,” Lauro-Lazin did that to her heart’s content after graduation during a six-month residency in Vence, France, home to the Matisse Chapel. “I would have been happy to have six minutes there,” she says.

“I fell in love with the colors of gouache, and also discovered these wonderful oil pastels, which are hard to find now. And, of course, I met artists from around the world, and to have the luxury of making art all the time, while in communication with other artists, was life-changing.”

The residency expanded Lauro-Lazin’s range and how she thought through her process. “I had these pieces of linen given to me by a dear New Paltz professor,” she recalls. “I used them almost like sutures. I gathered up branches from various places, which became signifiers of place and landscape. I wrapped them in linen, then painted them.

“They became little sort-of relief paintings with wrapped sticks and gouache and



Lauro-Lazin at work in her studio

stood in for the place. It clarified for me that the way I conceive of landscape isn’t necessarily a representation of a specific place in a specific moment, it’s more experiential, a fabrication of an experience that makes reference to the landscape.

“This is how I see the world, and it doesn’t matter what material I’m using. This extends to my work now, the bulk of which is done from a satellite point of view, a floating-above perspective.”

Lauro-Lazin was also interested in computer graphics (“It’s now called digital art,” she says) and, after returning to New York, enrolled at the New York Institute of Technology. “It was the place where the most interesting work was being done,” she recalls. “I was interested in part because you can explore with all kinds of sensory experiences. That allows for interdisciplinary work, which I found appealing.

“It was still early in its development, so I got to work with scientists. Doing senior-level graphics in a research facility was fascinating. It was like, ‘Here’s a thing we made. What can you do with it?’ The engineers and the scientists did their thing, and I did the art. At the time, I didn’t realize what I was doing was a part of programming. It just felt nice to be in the position where they were tinkering.”



A corner of Lauro-Lazin’s studio, with work for her upcoming show on the walls

Photos provided

The BAU Gallery, at 506 Main St. in Beacon, is open from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, or by appointment. See baugallery.org. *Terra Incognita, v. 2* will continue through Oct. 2. Robyn Ellenbogen’s *Emergent Patterns* is featured in Gallery 2 and an interactive installation by Melissa Schlobohm, *Glow Show*, will be in the Beacon Room. A conversation with Lauro-Lazin and Ellenbogen is scheduled for Oct. 2.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 3

Hub 5K and Fun Run

COLD SPRING

9:30 a.m. Bandstand

845-260-1001 | philipstownhub.org

The 5K run or walk will begin at 9:30 a.m. and a Family Fun Run at 10:30 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub. Register online or at event. *Cost: \$10 or \$40*

SAT 3

Community Day

COLD SPRING

4 – 8:30 p.m. Dockside Park
coldspringny.gov

Enjoy a DJ, balloons, merchant tables and a pie contest (drop off entries before 4 p.m.). The Slambovian Circus of Dreams will perform at 7:30 p.m. The fireworks have been canceled because of dry conditions.

SAT 3

Labor Day Celebration

WEST POINT

8:30 p.m. Trophy Point

845-938-2617 | westpointband.com

The conclusion of the academy's summer music series will include the Hellcats, the West Point Band and the Benny Havens Band, accompanied by cannon fire and fireworks. The rain date is SUN 4. *Free*

SAT 10

Modern Makers Market

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. St. Mary's Church

1 Chestnut St. | hopsonthehudson.com

More than 50 artisans, artists and craftspeople will present their work. There will also be live music.

SAT 10

Annual Lawn Party

GARRISON

4 p.m. Sloan Estate | 61 Lisburne Lane

845-265-4010

putnamhistorymuseum.org

This benefit for the Putnam History Museum will include guided tours of the 1864 mansion, as well as music by the Todd Londagin Quintet, a brief

historical presentation and a visit from an actor portraying railroad magnate Samuel Sloan (1817-1907). Register online. *Cost: \$60 to \$250*

SAT 10

Raise the Rake

COLD SPRING

5 p.m. Glynwood Center

362 Glynwood Road | 845-265-3338

glynwood.org

This live auction and dance will include dinner, drinks and music by Bennet Konesni. *Cost: \$50*

SUN 11

9/11 Service

CARMEL

8:45 a.m. Bureau of Emergency Services

112 Old Route 6

Members of the Putnam County Youth Court Program will read the names of those lost in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

SUN 11

9/11 Service

BEACON

11 a.m. Elks Lodge | 900 Wolcott Ave.

The commemoration at the Elks' lawn memorial will honor people impacted by the attacks.

KIDS & FAMILY

WED 7

Encephalon Extraordinary

PUTNAM VALLEY

3 p.m. Via Zoom

Hosted by the Tompkins Corner Cultural Center, this will be the first session of an online writing workshop for neuro-divergent teens and young adults led by Harmon dot aut. Email info@tompkinscorners.org to register. *Free*

SUN 11

College Essay Workshop

COLD SPRING

Noon – 3 p.m. Butterfield Library

10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040

butterfieldlibrary.org

Eric Tipler will share what admissions officers seek out and how to tell your unique story. Registration required.

VISUAL ART

SAT 3

Farm Project

BREWSTER

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tilly Foster Farm

100 Route 312

collaborativeconcepts.org

Collaborative Concepts will present work by 35 sculptors at this annual exhibit. A reception is scheduled for 3 – 5 p.m. with music by the Kvasova Folk Singing Group and the Bert Rechtschaffer Trio. Daily through Oct. 30.



SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 10

Planet Rainbow Sparkles | Jagbot

BEACON

3 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery

163 Main St. | clutter.co

The sixth installment of this group show, which opens from 3 – 6 p.m., will feature hundreds of pieces by more than 90 artists. It will be followed by an opening from 6 – 9 p.m. for a solo show by Jagbot. Through Oct. 7.

SAT 10

Natural Order

BEACON

4 – 7 p.m. Garage Gallery

17 Church St. | garagegallery.com

Sarah Heitmeyer's ceramics and Scott Lerman's photo-based prints will be on view. Through Sept. 25.

SAT 10

Linda Lauro-Lazin | Robyn Ellenbogen | Melissa Schlobohm

BEACON

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

Lauro-Lazin's *Terra Incognita v. 2* will be on view in Gallery 1 (see Page 13); *Emergent Patterns* by Ellenbogen (with metalpoint drawings, a 12th-century technique) in Gallery 2; and Schlobohm's *Glow Show* in the Beacon Room. Through Oct. 2.

CHAMBER FESTIVAL

SAT 3

Emerson String Quartet

GARRISON

6 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D

845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

Boscobel's inaugural Chamber Music Festival kicks off with the nine-time Grammy winners performing a program that will include works by Ravel and Beethoven. *Cost: \$85 (\$165 with reception; \$45 ages 4 to 18; discount for members)*

MON 5

Chamber Music on the Lawn

GARRISON

6 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D

845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

The festival continues with a concert of works for clarinet quintets by Brahms and Mozart. *Cost: \$65 (\$25 ages 4 to 18; discount for members)*

SAT 10

Schubert's Trout Quintet

GARRISON

6 p.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D

845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

This concert will include compositions for piano quintets by Schubert and Vaughan-Williams. *Cost: \$85 (\$165 with reception; \$45 ages 4 to 18; discount for members)*

SUN 11

Family Concert

GARRISON

11 a.m. Boscobel | 1601 Route 9D

845-265-3638 | boscobel.org

The final program will include works by Bach, Gershwin, Deak BB Wolf, Dohanyi and Schubert. A guided tour of the Boscobel house is included. *Cost: \$45 (\$25 ages 4 to 18, discount for members)*

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 3

Romeo and Juliet

GARRISON

7:30 p.m.

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575

hvshakespeare.org

Kurt Rhoads and Nance Williamson star in this interpretation of the fated lovers' story directed by Gaye Taylor Upchurch. Also WED 7, FRI 9, SUN 11. *Cost: \$10 to \$95*

SAT 3

The Ivy League of Comedy

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.

845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Kerri Louise, Joe DeVito and Shaun Eli will perform. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SUN 4

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 THURS 8, SAT 10. *Cost: \$10 to \$95*

THURS 8

Ultimate Variety Show

PEEKSKILL

7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley

1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039

paramounthudsonvalley.com

Twin brothers Anthony and Eddie Edwards, who have been performing together for 37 years, will portray singers such as Celine Dion, Barbra Streisand, Lady Gaga, Sonny and Cher, Dolly Parton, Bette Midler and Neil Diamond. *Cost: \$32.50 to \$45*

FRI 9

Aery Theatre One-Act Play Festival

GARRISON

7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre

10 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3900

philipstowndepottheatre.org

During the first night of this 16th annual competition, in which audience members choose which plays advance to the next round, the first five of 15 plays will debut. Also SAT 10, SUN 11. See the website for each day's lineup. *Cost: \$20*

FRI 9

Venus in Pisces

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center

477 Main St. | 845-831-4988

howlandculturalcenter.org

Abby Feldman's comedy "date night" showcases her stand-up and musical talents. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*



FRI 9

Hearts of the Hollow

CARMEL

8 p.m. Memorial Park

201 Gypsy Trail Road

heartsofthehollow.com

Patricia White's musical, which is based on "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" and will be performed at the newly restored Whipple-Feeley Chapel, will feature music by the Prager Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra. Continues weekends through Oct. 31. *Cost: \$5*

SAT 10

The Artichoke

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center

477 Main St. | 845-831-4988

artichokeshow.com

The monthly storytelling series will feature Karen Faith, Ivy Eisenberg, Wes Hazard, Kambri Crews, Bryan Berlin and Christian Finnegan. *Cost: \$20 (\$10 streaming)*



Putnam History Museum Party, Sept. 10

TALKS & TOURS

WED 7

Money Smart for Older Adults

BEACON

1 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | beaconlibrary.org

Heather Ohlson will discuss identity theft, financial management and disaster prep.

MUSIC

SAT 3

The Macs

COLD SPRING

7:30 p.m. J. Murphy's
184 Main St. | jmurphysonmain.com

Mike Marissa and Mr. Mac will perform.

FRI 9

Bob Malone

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.comThe keyboardist will perform bluesy rock from his latest release, *Good People*. Lex Grey and the Urban Pioneers open. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 10

NashSkill

PEEKSKILL

2 p.m. Factoria | 5 John Walsh Boulevard
nashskill.comThe fifth annual festival will have continuous live music and food for sale. *Free*

SAT 10

Open Book

GARRISON

3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.orgThis family concert by duo Michele and Rick Gedney will feature music from their forthcoming release and other favorites. *Free*

SAT 10

Jen Baker and William Lang

GARRISON

6 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison's Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.orgThe trombonists will perform a new composition, "Waves," as part of the closing of Randy Gibson's *Infinite Structures*.

SAT 10

After the Rain

NEWBURGH

7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College
330 Powell Ave. | 845-913-7157
newburghsymphony.orgThe Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra will launch its 28th season with a program at Aquinas Hall that include works by Beethoven, Judith Weir and Christopher Theofanidis. *Cost: \$35 to \$50 (\$25 seniors, students free)*

Jiji, Sept. 11

SAT 10

Paper Sun

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.comThe tribute band will perform the hits of Traffic. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 10

Pete Donnelly Combo

BEACON

9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnbeaconThe trio will perform music from their album, *Perpetual Tryst*. Harrison Manning will open. *Cost: \$10*

SUN 11

The Hoot

COLD SPRING

Noon – 6 p.m. Little Stony Point
3011 Route 9D
facebook.com/littlestonypoint

Spend an afternoon with local musicians who will entertain, inspire and delight at this annual festival.

SUN 11

Verona String Quartet and Jiji

BEACON

4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-765-3012
howlandmusic.orgThe quartet's program with the guitarist will include works by Albeniz and Bjornsson; Beethoven's *Quartet No. 1*; and pieces by Dyens, Boccherini and Paganini. *Cost: \$35 (\$10 students)*

SUN 11

Steve Tannen

BEACON

7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.comThe songwriter, known as half of The Weepies, will perform solo. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

CIVIC

TUES 6

City Council

BEACON

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

TUES 6

Putnam Legislature

CARMEL

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

TUES 6

School Board

COLD SPRING

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

WED 7

School Board

GARRISON

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

THURS 8

Town Board

COLD SPRING

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

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Something You Don't Know About Me

Kathryn Selman

By Alison Rooney

Somewhere in the YouTube universe, amid the sea of influencers and iPhone hacks, a woman sits on a cozy, pillow-strewn couch to welcome friends.

The woman, whose name is Kathryn Selman, is sitting in her home studio in woodsy Philipstown, and she is addressing visitors to her channel and website, *Ukulele Wine Time* (ukulelewinetime.com).

"You're not only going to learn the basics of the ukulele — we're going to learn lots of songs together — but you're also going to become a more confident musician and you're going to learn how to make the songs your own, in your own voice," she says. "It's all about connection, playing music with other people and finding that joy. We're focusing on creativity, not perfection."

"As always, wine is optional, but if you want to sip and strum with me..."

Ukulele Wine Time exists because of a pandemic double pivot. Selman, who has a master's degree in jazz vocal performance from the University of North Texas, and a decade of performing and teaching behind her, returned to school to study nutrition, had her second child (they're now 1 and 3)

and launched her channel as a "fun side project" that took off. "I am following where it goes," she says.

The roots of all this date back to Selman's childhood, in Texas, where she played piano and clarinet and sang in the choir.

It was while she was in college that Selman took up the ukulele. "I went to the music store and got a pretty good one, which I intended to use to accompany myself, using similar stringed instrument rhythms," she says. "It's a friendly instrument; you can learn a couple of chords and have an early win, even as a complete beginner."

The dream was to perform, and she made the move to New York City as a singer-songwriter and an interpreter of Brazilian music, spending five years making the rounds. But she never got used to the instability.

"I had the hunger to go do it — still have it — but I also know I'm a homebody," she says. "I liked performing but knew I wouldn't want to tour constantly. I do want to perform again, but on my terms, not just to survive."

She and her husband, Stephen, moved to Philipstown in 2018, after camping, hiking and kayaking trips. The couple met while teaching at a music school in Brooklyn, something he continues to do through his East Mountain Studio.

The first pivot occurred early in the pandemic, when Selman decided to pursue a career as a nutritional therapy practitioner. She launched with 10 clients; she now focuses on working with teen girls.

Meanwhile, winter and postpartum diffi-



Kathryn Selman, with wine and ukulele

Photo provided

culties were making her anxious. She found herself "missing my creative self, yearning for it to return, wondering where it went," she recalls. Selman decided to launch *Ukulele Wine Time* on the fly. "Jump in, then figure out the voice of it and the structure as you do: see what happens."

What happened was a steady growth of fans. Initially, Selman filmed 10 videos. The numbers, while not in the stratosphere, have climbed slowly but surely ever since, with viewers from all over the world.

The YouTube videos are accessible to anyone, but with a paid membership you get access to a bimonthly Zoom meeting and chord and lyric charts for each song, so you can read as you learn. Members can also request and vote on upcoming song selections.

"I want to give them tools so they can make their own musical decisions; that there's not a 'right' one," she says. "I go over strumming pattern options which suit whatever level you're at, and talk about things like how to end a song, counting it off. I always encourage everyone to play with and for other people."

She selects songs that she likes but also keeps an eye on the current hits, such as by Harry Styles. Kala Brand Music, based in California, is a sponsor and provided Selman with one of its instruments.

As for the wine, it stemmed from watching other online ukulele tutorials and finding instructors "going so fast, assuming you knew so much. I thought sipping wine would add to the relaxed atmosphere, and slow the pace, making for a nice, comfortable and casual way to learn for adults."

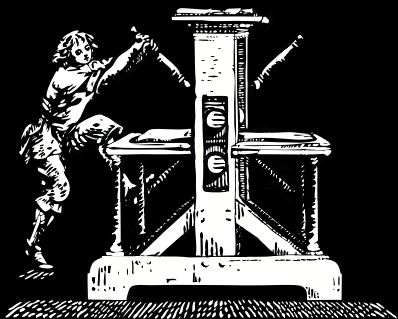
"In my earlier videos, I would choose a bottle to drink and show it, but that got too expensive. I like to focus on wines that are organic or from a small family vineyard. Eliza Starbuck [from Flowercup Wines] has been great." Nonalcoholic drinks are always suggested as alternatives.

When she first started the channel, Selman "had an idea that I'd be another persona, but the more I went into it, the more I just found I was being myself. The first video was filmed pre-kids and was sillier, with a super-positive vibe I now cringe at. I wanted it to be more professional. I'm a professional teacher; this is who I am." (She plans soon to start up a group for children.)

The mainstay of it all has been the trusty ukulele. "It's such a wonderful instrument — accessible, affordable, easy to start, and the ukulele community is seriously the most positive place you'll find on the internet. I love that so many people are coming to play. One of my early supporters lives in Florida and comes to all our sessions. He has multiple sclerosis and he has found that playing the ukulele is therapeutic. It gives him strength."

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

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Sept 9-18

Michael Musgrave

Touch and Tone: Piano music
from Scarlatti to Brahms

Friday Sept 23 at 7:00pm

Empire Trio: The Broadway Show

Sunday, Sept 25 at 7pm

Depot Docs: Unfinished Business

Sept 30 at 7:30pm

Daniel Kelly Jazz Trio

Oct 1 at 7pm

An Evening with Liz Callaway

Oct 2 at 7pm

All tickets at
www.philipstowndepottheatre.org

NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Thursday, September 15th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY.**

If you are unable to join in person but would like to watch, the meeting will be livestreaming on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com), search for Philipstown Planning Board September 2022.



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Mouths to Feed

One Not For the Road

By Celia Barbour

I have been thinking a lot about portable food lately. I'm just back from a four-day, college drop-off road trip to Ohio. As I drove home the other night, my supper consisted of a one-handed meal comprised of whatever I could scavenge from the car. I didn't dare stop because I was trying to outrun a massive storm front blowing in from the West. (I failed.) Thus I dined on a quarter-bag of stale cheese puffs, a melted-iced half-caff and a couple of Oat Stovies I'd luckily bought at the farmers' market before leaving as I barreled along I-80 between monstrous tractor-trailers.

Sooner or later, everyone comes across the story of the Earl of Sandwich, the legendary "inventor" of the sandwich who was so devoted to gambling he refused to leave his game table even at dinnertime. To him, it's said, we owe credit for the idea of the portable, handheld, bread-enclosed meal. I'm sure I'm not the only person whose adult brain contains an indelible image of this mad-eyed zealot glued to his game table, greasy sandwich in one fist, cards in the other.

But as I traveled down the superhighway, increasingly dark thunderheads proliferating in my rearview mirror, I realized that his invention, excellent as it is, was not adequate to my problem. For one thing, every exciting sandwich I've eaten recently has been a mess. This includes the mainstay of my summer diet, a thick slice of tomato on a similarly thick slice of good bread smeared with mayonnaise, sprinkled with salt. There is no sandwich more perfect, and none less suited to driving, or gambling — unless by "gambling" you mean with your cleanliness and/or life.

Even the mainstream turkey-and-cheese sandwich that I'd composed in my son's college dining hall the previous day was an affront to the idea of portability. I'd stacked it with abundant mixed greens, two slices of tomato, Dijon mustard, mayo, pepperoncini and pickles. It was delicious, and I was grateful that no one outside my family had to watch me eat it.

It's common these days for pundits to bemoan the proliferation of things like car snacks and grab-and-go meals, as if they are transgression against eating. European children, they'll point out, sit down to breakfast every morning and would never dream of skipping dinner for soccer practice. What's more, cars designed for Japanese and European markets don't have multiple cup- and burger-holders because the citizens of those civilized lands don't multitask their way through every exploitable moment of the day.

While it's surely true that sitting down to a meal in the company of family or friends is beneficial to our mental and physical



Eggplant Salad, Beet and Goat Cheese Sandwich

For the Eggplant Salad

Tahini varieties vary in bitterness. Start with a little and add more to taste.

2 medium eggplants
2 to 3 small garlic cloves, minced
2 to 3 tablespoons tahini (see note)
3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
Salt and pepper to taste
3 tablespoons olive oil

Eggplant tastes great when its flesh picks up the smoky essence from its charred skin. You can char it on the grill, on a gas burner or under the broiler. Prick the skin in several places with a fork and place it directly over or under the flame, turning it regularly with tongs until the skin is black and flaking and the flesh is very soft. (If the skin blackens before the flesh is cooked, finish in the oven with the beets, below.) When cool enough to handle, peel off the skin. Place the flesh in a colander and allow to drain 15 to 20 minutes. Discard liquid.

For a smooth salad: Place everything but the olive oil in a food processor and blend until creamy; add the oil and blend briefly. For a chunky salad: Chop the eggplant into small pieces, then mix everything in a bowl.

The recipe makes more than you'll need for 4 sandwiches; the salad will keep up to 3 days, covered, in fridge, and can be used as a dip or spread.

health, is it the standard against which all other forms of caloric intake fall miserably short? Because if you think about the history of human dining, as I did while raindrops pelted my windshield, you surely realize that our species spent much of its evolution taking our calories wherever we found them — on the go, in the field or savannah, straight from the bush, plucked

For the Beets

1 bunch beets, trimmed and scrubbed
2 tablespoons finely sliced or minced red onion
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
½ teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
¼ teaspoon sugar
¼ teaspoon coriander
¼ teaspoon cumin
2 tablespoons olive oil
Black pepper

Heat oven to 425 degrees. Place the beets in a small roasting pan. Add a generous splash of water and a little olive oil. Cover the pan tightly with foil. Transfer to oven and roast until soft when pierced with the tip of a knife, 30-40 minutes. Be careful when checking; the steam released from the pan will be scalding.

Meanwhile, combine the remaining ingredients in a medium bowl. Stir well and set aside to marinate.

When beets are cool enough to handle, peel or rub away the skins. Slice into thin wedges and add to the bowl with the onion mixture. Toss, taste and correct for seasoning. Beets will keep several days, covered, in fridge.

For the Sandwiches / Makes 4

2 slices pita bread, halved
1 bunch flat-leaf parsley, leaves only
Fresh lemon, salt and pepper to taste
1½ cups eggplant salad, plus more as desired
2 cups beet salad
4 ounces goat cheese or mild (sheep's milk) feta, crumbled

Warm the pita in a toaster oven or toaster, and open into "pockets." Toss the parsley leaves in a small bowl with a little salt and just enough lemon juice to dampen. Spread the inside of each pita half with a quarter of the eggplant salad. Arrange the beets over the eggplant. Sprinkle with the goat cheese or feta, and top with a generous handful of the parsley mixture.

from the mud. Most animals, too, eat on the go, as they walk or hop or slither along.

As I licked the cheese dust from my fingers and lightning began banging down all around me, I wished I was home already. There lay shelter, plus all the ingredients for the best sandwich I've come up with all year — a delicious, messy creation I was more than ready to sit down to.



Hannah Lucille Langer (1998 - 2022)

On Saturday, August 27th, the world lost a beam of light. Hannah Langer passed away peacefully and unexpectedly in her sleep, at the age of 23.

Her essence and charisma live on in all those who were blessed enough to cross her path. She cared deeply for her family, her friends, her community, and her animals. She was a devoted activist and teacher. She helped support her family in every aspect of life, and we will miss her every day. Through her ability to share compassion, honesty, integrity, and freedom of expression, she was able to transform and uplift.

Hannah was reliable, she tackled every challenge life threw at her, and inspired others to do the same. Her siblings saw her as a guardian angel who made good times better, and bad times bearable. The lessons we learned were ancient, may we walk each step with joy and full hearts. We invite prayers and love as Hannah's spirit transitions to her next life.

Hannah lives on through her sisters: Emily and Katie; her brothers: Benjamin, Lucas, and Daniel; her parents: Heather Smith, Eric and Jennifer Langer; her grandmothers: Kathleen Smith and Alice Thackery; her aunt and uncle: Brendan and Heather Smith and their children, Justin and Logan; her uncle: Chris Smith; her aunt: Dawn Langer; her cousin: Zachery Langer; her beloved dogs: Jasmine, Rebel, Birdy, and goats, Peanut and Big Mama; and, of course, her lifelong friends and the children in the community, whom she loved like they were her own.

Services provided by
Clinton Funeral Home, Cold Spring.

PAID NOTICE

TRAILS *(from Page 1)*

outdoors was one of the few safe activities available, has led to record numbers at Breakneck Ridge and Mount Taurus, as well, not to mention outdoor recreation and wilderness areas throughout the world.

Although close to Philipstown and Beacon, Breakneck Ridge and Mount Taurus are not right in the middle of a historic residential district the way Indian Brook Falls is. The lines of cars along Route 9D at Breakneck aren't blocking anyone's driveway. The lot at Mount Taurus has room for more than eight cars, unlike the tiny parking area near Indian Brook Falls that is actually the lot for the Constitution Marsh Audubon Center & Sanctuary. Indian Brook flows through the marsh on its way to the Hudson.

People thronged to Indian Brook Falls in hopes of spending time in a quiet, calm oasis only to discover a site that was no longer quiet or calm. Indian Brook Road was lined with cars on weekends, many parked illegally or idling while waiting for a spot to free up. Litter piled up. Visitors went swimming which, as signs along the trail note, is not allowed.

Feeling besieged, neighbors lodged complaints with the Town of Philipstown, which in turn urged the state Department of Parks to shut down the trail leading to the falls. When the state declined, the town threatened to sue. It was an extraordinary step: The public demanding the state shut down public lands.

Then, things got uglier.

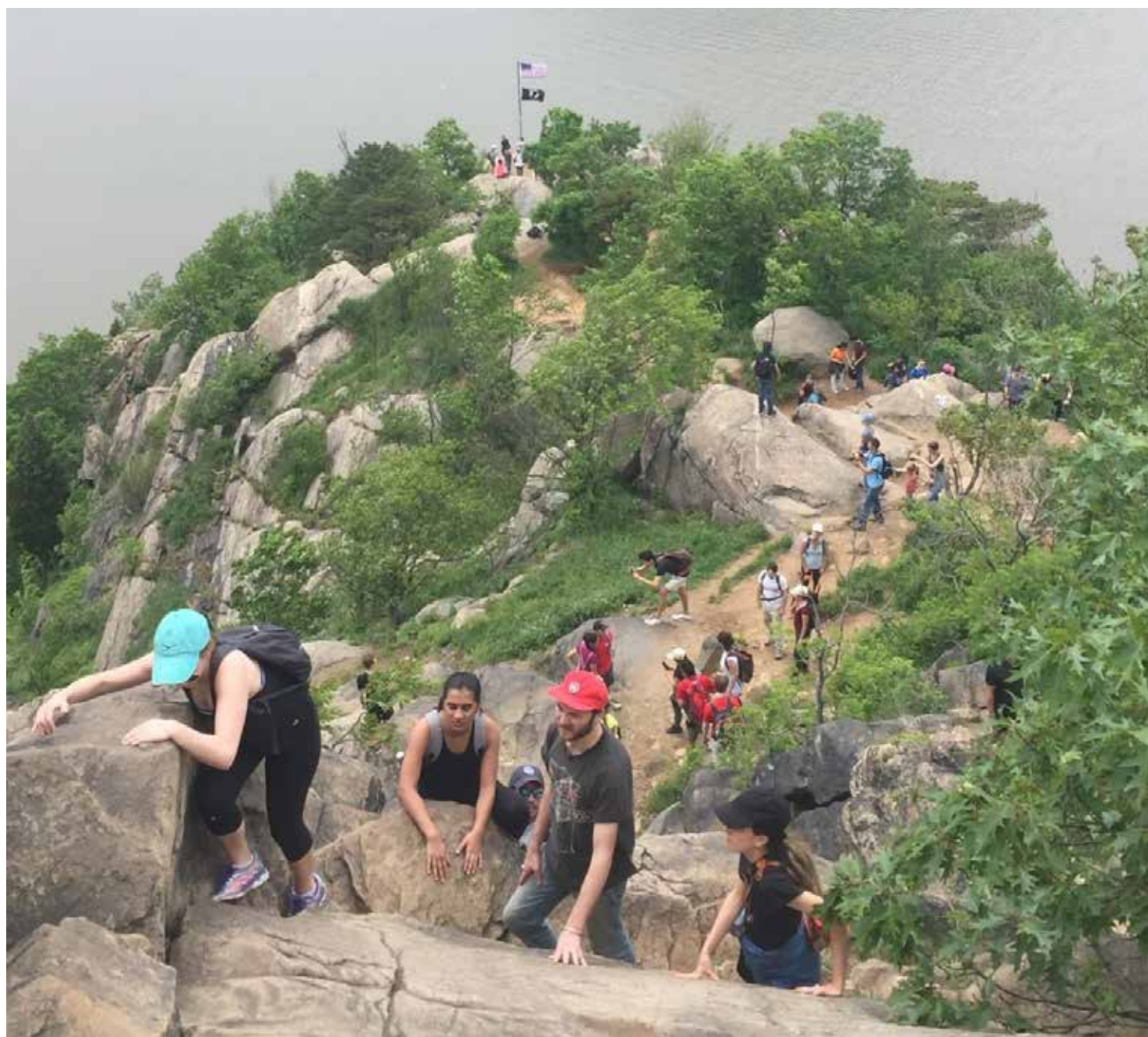
On Aug. 21, 2020, a bus from The Felix Organization, a Long Island-based nonprofit that works with children in the foster-care system, dropped off six teenage girls and four adult staff members for a visit to Constitution Marsh. The 10 people who got off the bus were all Black.

A subsequent report from the Putnam County Sheriff's Department did not identify who called the police. A representative from The Felix Organization said the deputy who arrived on the scene didn't see what the issue was and allowed them to continue with their hike. But before that, the group claims that they were subjected to racial, sexual and xenophobic epithets from a few residents — including the N-word — and that they were told to “go back where you came from.” One of the teens, writing about the incident later, said, “We were told to leave, that ‘we’ did not belong there.”

Philipstown responded by blocking off the lot, as well as another informal parking area where Indian Brook Road meets Route 9.

It was not lost on some that the closing of the lot resulted in the falls and the marsh becoming essentially private amenities for residents of the high-priced homes on Indian Brook Road — including whom-

ever accosted the



Hikers at Breakneck Ridge in 2017

Photo by Luis Maldonado/NYNJTC

teenagers — because both were now accessible only by foot and there is no other parking anywhere nearby. Accusations of classism and racism followed.

The collateral damage in all of this was Constitution Marsh, which lost its only parking lot. Entrance to the marsh is free, but it can now only be reached if one is willing to pay \$14 a head (\$7 each for children) to park at Boscobel House & Gardens and hike three-quarters of a mile from there.

“That’s \$21 right there for a mom and her 6-year-old who’s driving her nuts,” said Sean Camillieri, the president of the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society, who is spearheading an effort to get the lot reopened. He pointed out that Boscobel encourages visitors to reserve, and pay for, a parking spot online but only offers one-hour slots. One PHAS member told Camillieri that she tried visiting the marsh that way, but found that one hour wasn’t long enough for her to hike to the marsh and back. “How many other people has that happened to?” Camillieri wondered.

LOVED TO DEATH

Last year, 44 national parks set visitation records. In one sense, this is good news. The emotional, physical, mental and spiritual benefits of spending time outside have been exhaustively documented. Hiking is still relatively cheap even when you factor in transportation and gear. And as the pace of climate change accelerates, more advocates are needed in order to protect threatened areas and species.

The hope is that many of the new pandemic hikers will become stewards of the places they visit.

“It’s a good thing that people are discovering nature,” said Hank Osborn, a Philipstown native who is director of programs for the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. “But now that they’ve discovered it, I don’t think they’re going to say, ‘Oh, the pandemic is over now, I can stay inside for the rest of my life.’ They’re going to keep hiking.”

“We’ve always said that we want people to get away from their phones and their computers and their TVs and get out in the woods,” added Evan Thompson, the manager for the

Hudson Highlands and Fahnestock state parks. “So it’s great for people to have that experience of being out in the woods and enjoying themselves. But we also found during COVID that we weren’t prepared to handle that number of people.”

As a result, many communities, nonprofits and government agencies are having to turn to outdoor recreation management practices more than ever before. Muir Woods National Monument in California requires either a parking reservation or a reservation on a shuttle bus. Acadia National Park in Maine has started requiring summer reservations for Cadillac Summit Road, where many people park. The Blue Hole swimming hole in the Catskills requires reservations and trail stewards are on-hand to redirect those who arrive without.

The trail stewards program has spread to the Highlands, particularly at Breakneck Ridge, where they make sure visitors are prepared for the challenging climb and, if not, encourage alternative hikes.

The swell in popularity at Breakneck was

OUT OF POCKET

The travails at Indian Brook Road in Garrison may sound familiar to many residents of Beacon.

Last year, the city closed a small, informal parking area near the Pocket Road trail on Mount Beacon because too many visitors tried to wedge in their cars, often blocking driveways. Chris White, the city administrator, said that within the next two years, Beacon will replace a water tank at the trailhead, freeing up space.

"I hope to be able to create a small public parking area below the new tank that can provide at least a small number of spots for hikers," he said. "As that project goes through engineering design, we'll evaluate my conceptual proposal more fully, but I will make every effort to carve out a small parking area."

the driving force in a redesign of the Fjord Trail project, slated to begin construction this fall. Envisioned as a simple path connecting Beacon and Cold Spring, the project now includes off-street parking at Breakneck Ridge and other amenities to spread people out in the Highlands rather than have them clump in one or two locations.

"It's about visitor management and a sense of equitable access to space," explained Amy Kacala, executive director of the Fjord Trail. "This is not just about hikers anymore. It's about managing those hikers, but also hopefully providing more benefits to locals who have to deal with the inconveniences of the tourist traffic."

Preservation, Osborn points out, is not just about preserving nature.

"A trail can be built to accommodate high use," he said. "Parking can be designed to accommodate vehicles more safely. But do local communities have the ability to absorb large numbers of visitors every time there's good weather on a weekend?"

Recreation management raises some difficult questions. How to best balance preservation with access? Can we make sure, in providing access, that we don't destroy what makes the site special? Is there such a thing as a mutually beneficial relationship between hikers and the outdoors? How much "wild" do people want in their wilderness experiences? Are humans separate from the natural experience, or an integral part of it?

There are no universal solutions. But it's too late to do nothing.

"One of the things that I've learned is that you can't open a trail and then say, 'OK, we've done our job,' and walk away," said Scott Silver, the recently retired head of Constitution Marsh. "It's unfair to the neighbors, and it's unfair to the wildlife."

NATURE GETS THE LAST WORD

After two years, the debate about whether to close Indian Brook Falls has been settled. It wasn't shut down by the town, the state or the



Philipstown closed the small parking lot at Constitution Marsh in 2020. File photo by Chip Rowe



Traffic is precarious on Route 9D between Cold Spring and Beacon on summer weekends because of the thousands of hikers who visit Breakneck Ridge.

File photo by Michael Turton

residents of Indian Brook Road, but by nature. This past winter, heavy rains washed away the trail.

"It's gone," said Thompson. "And it's not so simple to just build a new trail."

The steep slopes leading down to the brook — now even steeper — mean that a trail would have to be more than a dirt path. It would probably involve an elevated boardwalk, perhaps leading to a platform that would not only provide space to view the falls but make it harder for visitors to go for an unauthorized swim.

Such a trail would involve a major capital investment "and it might not even be permitted, because it's so close to the stream," Thompson said.

In July, the state erected a barricade at the entrance to the trail from the road with signs noting the area is closed for "wildlife/habitat recovery." Thompson said that the state parks department considers the closure to be indefinite.

There is hope that, with the trail closed, the nearby parking lot can be reopened for visitors to Constitution Marsh. "I always felt that that part of our role is to try to build a constituency for wildlife in general," said Silver.

"And the best way to do that is to have people experience it, especially Constitution Marsh."

In the meantime, its interim executive director, Rebecca Schultz, said Audubon has been promoting three of its other sanctuaries: Buttercup Farm south of Pine Plains, RamsHorn-Livingston in Catskill and Rheinstrom Hill in Hillsdale.

"Those are less visited, but just as beautiful," she said. "We've been trying to get people to appreciate the less-navigated trails."

In an email, Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel said discussions are planned about the lot. "My priority is the quality of life for the residents of that area," he said.

One obstacle may be the New York and Connecticut chapters of the Audubon Society. In a recent meeting by Zoom with members of the Putnam Highlands Audubon Society, representatives advocated the continued closure of the lot, suggesting those wishing to visit take an Uber or the Cold Spring Trolley.

Camillieri noted that the Cold Spring Trolley only runs on weekends, and only for a few



"Indian Falls, Indian Brook, Cold Springs, New York," by William Rickarby Miller

months of the year, and Uber is often unreliable in rural Putnam. "I can't imagine anyone local trying to get an Uber in order to go for a walk in the woods," he said.

PHAS responded to the Zoom meeting with a letter, signed by representatives from a dozen other local Audubon chapters and Hudson Valley birding groups, urging the New York and Connecticut chapters to reconsider their stance.

"This small parking area has unfortunately become a lightning rod of controversy and great disappointment over the past two years, but for decades prior it enabled tens of thousands of families, nature-loving people and bird watchers from the local community and beyond to enjoy all the marsh has to offer," the letter said.

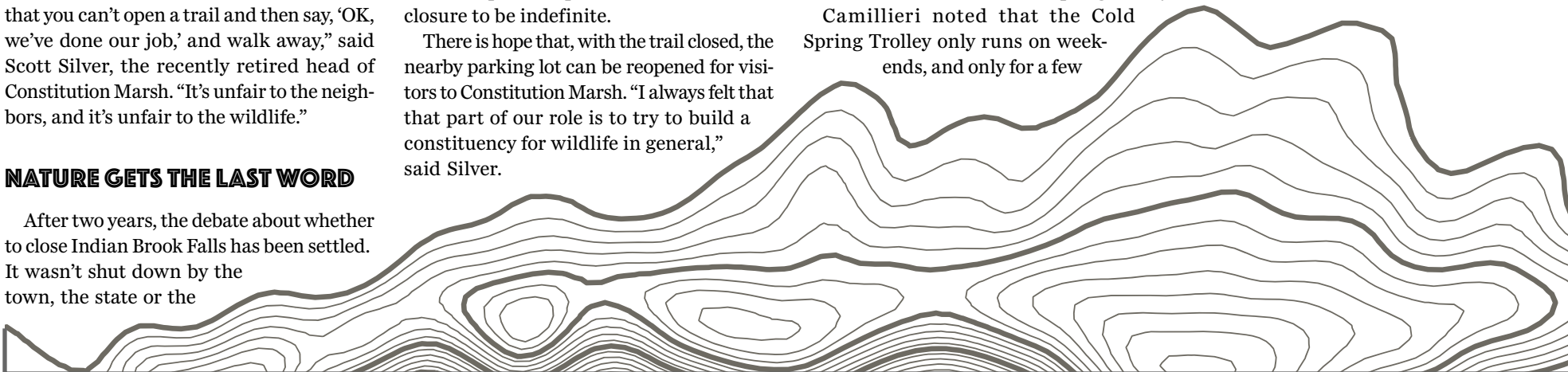
Camillieri suggested a few things that can be done to allow the lot to reopen, such as well-defined spaces, signs that suggest alternatives if the lot is full and security cameras.

A camera system may be needed sooner rather than later. A quick search on Instagram after the trail was closed revealed many photos of people visiting the falls and swimming there. One account belongs to a fitness influencer with thousands of followers. "Soulful Sundays" reads the caption, followed by a tree emoji.

Next week:

WHEN IS A TRAIL NOT A TRAIL?

This report was funded by readers who contributed to our Special Projects Fund. See highlandscurrent.org/donate.



Roots and Shoots

What to Do About the Water

By Pamela Doan

As unintuitive as it sounds during a drought, fall is a good time for planting if you can sort out a watering schedule that meets conservation requirements. This is true because, while new plantings need regular watering, established plantings usually do not, depending on the type of plant and if it is planted in the right conditions.

If I create a flowerbed in May, I need to water it throughout the spring, summer and fall. The same goes for shrubs and trees. But during the next growing season, native plants, certainly, and some ornamentals, will survive under typical conditions without supplemental water.

By planting in September and October, the watering schedule is reduced to a few months, until the plants and trees go dormant after the first frost. Gardeners who have multiple projects, like landscaping and vegetables or fruit to tend and maintain, can shift the work of the land-



scaping to the fall and focus on growing food in the spring and summer.

But ... the water. Rain barrels for everyone! Using a 2-gallon watering can, I know that I use 4 gallons every day to keep plants alive in pots on my patio. The plants are a mix of perennials, herbs and seedling trees waiting for transplant, and a few annuals that I planted from seed. The few veggies that I'm maintaining right now need 4 gallons, as well.

I have also been watering a dozen new perennials with another 2 gallons or so every few days. That adds up to roughly 10 gallons per day for plants. In a month, that's 300 or more gallons of water going to plants.

In other years, there has been rainfall to offset those numbers, but high temperatures and lack of rainfall create conditions where that water is used up quickly.

For comparison, the average dishwasher uses 4 gallons, a five-minute shower can use 15 gallons and running a sprinkler for an hour three times per week can add up to more than 12,000 gallons in a month.

The average New York resident uses 79 gallons per day for personal hygiene, cooking, cleaning and hydrating. If you're washing your car or watering a lawn or garden, it's easy to see how that number can jump dramatically.

To spare using groundwater pulled through my well, I could offset my plants' needs with a rain barrel or two, or four or six. With a connected system of 50-gallon barrels, I could feasibly collect 200 to 300



Put your roof and downspouts to work collecting rainwater.

Photo by P. Doan

gallons to save for a dry day. During a season, that could mean significant conservation.

What to do about veggies, though? I've always had concerns about using rain-barrel water for plants that produce food. It's roof run-off and there can be high levels of pathogens (e.g., squirrel poop with E. coli), metals and other compounds washed into

your collection system with that first rinsing rush. Although studies have shown that there is low-to-moderate risk of transmitting these to your plants, there are best practices that can make supporting vegetables with rain barrel-collected water even safer:

■ Set up a first-flush diverter to allow the rinsing rain to run off, rather than into your rain barrel. This needs to be sized correctly and there is a lot of information online about how to do it.

■ Periodically clean the barrel with a bleach solution to prevent or lower the risk of contamination and spreading pathogens.

■ Water plants at soil level and avoid spraying foliage to prevent uptake and contamination.

■ Water in the morning at the soil level and wait until the water evaporates from the foliage later in the day to harvest.

■ Send water samples from the barrel for testing to determine quality and safety. Since this is a dynamic system, it's a snapshot of a certain moment but can add insight.

As the drought has extended itself, I've resorted to only using gray water for plants and have ruthlessly asked myself, "Does this plant bring me joy?" I'm looking at you, gardenia. It's easy to go on autopilot with watering and not question what is necessary until the situation becomes severe. But water conservation is a smart path to pursue under any condition.

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Sports

VARSITY ROUNDUP

By Skip Pearlman

GIRLS' SOCCER

Beacon won its opener, 2-1, on Wednesday (Aug. 31) at New Paltz.

Noelle Haase scored midway through the first half off an assist from Chelsea DerBoghossian to even the game at 1-1. Reilly Landisi converted a feed from Kasey Senior midway through the second half for the decisive goal. Keeper Hope Cleveringa made seven saves.

"We moved the ball well," said Coach Mike Lentini. "We had 18 shots on goal — that's a good number. Devyn Kelly and Sara Gonzalez both played tremendous defense, and Hope made some big saves."

Beacon (1-0) is scheduled to host Lourdes on Wednesday (Sept. 7).

GIRLS' TENNIS

Beacon finished 9-6 last season in its first campaign in Section IX, and after losing five seniors, the team welcomes eight junior varsity players from a squad

coming off an undefeated season.

Seniors Isabelle Ray, Farah Jaafar, Lina Ahmed and Brianna Moleano, along with junior Elizabeth Ruffy, return. Newcomers include seniors Gabby Foret, Ari Carmona, Eleanor Lopez, Labibah Hassan and Delaney Brennan, junior Nina Rivers and sophomores Addie Miller and Bethany Rudolph.

"Isabelle is coming off a strong season in which she moved the furthest through sectionals in Beacon High history," said Coach Catie Oriani. "Our new players, coming off an undefeated JV season, are set up for success."

Beacon opens the season today (Sept. 2), hosting Newburgh Free Academy.

Haldane started its season the right way on Wednesday with a 3-2 road victory over Hastings.

Mairead O'Hara and Caroline Nelson won at singles, with Fiona Shanahan taking a loss. In doubles, Ellen O'Hara and Julie Shields won, while the second doubles team of Lily Benson and Scout Thakur-deBeer lost, 0-6, 4-6.

"That was a great first match against a very good Hastings team," Coach Simon Dudar said. "We went into the match missing two starters, so to still get the win was a confidence boost to start the season. Caroline Nelson came up big at second singles — she had been ill and was less than 100 percent."

Dudar said the team is expecting a strong season. "Our top four girls have been

playing together on the varsity for four to six years now. Mairead is entering her sixth year as a varsity player, and her third as our No. 1 singles player. We're looking for her to make huge strides this year as a top player in the league and conference.

"Nelson and Shanahan had solid seasons last year, and they bring four and five years of varsity experience, respectively," he added. "Amanda Johanson is another six-year varsity senior, pairing up with Ellen O'Hara [a junior] to make a strong first doubles team. Julie Shields is another strong returning player who will find her way into the lineup as an everyday starter this year.

"Our senior captains — Mairead, Amanda and Fiona — have been doing a great job helping the younger players learn the game, and to see what a winning culture looks like."

Haldane is scheduled to host Tuckahoe on Thursday (Sept. 8) and travel to Carmel on Sept. 10.

GIRLS IN SPORTS

The Beacon school district will host a Girls in Sports Day on Sept. 24 for students in grades 3 to 8 with speakers and clinics.

The day will include instruction in basketball, lacrosse, softball, volleyball, soccer, swimming, tennis, cheer and golf. The cost is \$20 per student and includes lunch. To register, see bit.ly/girls-sports.

StartREADING

September book club selections

Helen Savoit Book Club

TUES 13, 1:30 P.M.

Woman Eating: A Literary Vampire Novel, by C. Khoda
Howland Public Library, Beacon

Elementary Book Club (Grades 2-4)

TUES 20, 3:15 P.M.

Maybe Maybe Marisol Rainey, by Erin Entrada Kelly
Butterfield Library, Cold Spring
Register at butterfieldlibrary.org/calendar.

Kids Book Club

THURS 22, 4 P.M.

Nico Bravo and the Trial of Vulcan, by Mike Cavallaro
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring
Register at splitrockbks.com.

Trophy Life Book Club

THURS 22, 6 P.M.

And What We Can Offer You Tonight, by P. Mohamed
Howland Public Library, Beacon

Beacon Book Club

THURS 22, 7:15 P.M.

Cloud Cuckoo Land, by Anthony Doerr
Register at meetup.com/Beacon-BookClub.

Fiction Book Club

THURS 29, 7 P.M.

The Golden Notebook, by Doris Lessing
Split Rock Books, Cold Spring
Register at splitrockbks.com.

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EVENTS

MODERN MAKERS — Shop NY at our one-of-a-kind Modern Makers Market in Cold Spring at St. Mary's Church, Saturday (Sept. 10), 11 to 5. Hops on the Hudson is proud to present over 50 amazing artisans, makers and artists who will be displaying and selling handcrafted and small-batch items. Meet the makers! Admission for adults is \$3, children are free, and friendly pets are welcome. Admission benefits St. Mary's. Local musicians complement the market!

TAG SALES

BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY — Join us on Saturday (Sept. 17) for our second annual Recycle Tag Sale at the library in Cold Spring. Funds raised will help support the many programs and services the library offers our community. Individuals can rent a table for \$25 and sell their own items or anyone may donate items to the tag sale. We will accept house and glassware, kitchenware, garden equipment, tools, baby items, gently used children's toys, games and puzzles; gently used clothing and accessories for all ages. Drop off items in the library between Aug. 27 and Sept. 10 during library hours.

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

Sports

THE BEAUTIFUL GAME IS BACK IN BEACON

Solid first season for adult soccer league

By Michael Turton

Beacon's adult soccer league just wrapped up a successful inaugural season, and organizers are already planning the encore — in two weeks.

"There was always a game somewhere if you wanted to find it, but nothing organized and regular," said Evan Whitson, one of five United Football Club of Beacon board members, reflecting on Beacon's lack of adult soccer in recent years.

The changed in July, when UFCB kicked off a seven-game season. Each of the league's eight teams faced each other once. It culminated with a tournament on Tuesday (Aug. 30) at Memorial Park.

In a playoff between the four teams with the best records, New York United defeated regular season champ Sam's Realty, 3-2, to claim the league title. Among the four other teams, Beacon Footie edged the Commandos, 3-2, for the consolation.

The league follows FIFA (International Federation of Association Football) rules, but with modifications for recreational competition. Games are an hour and played on a half-size pitch, with teams fielding seven players plus a goalie. Unlike in professional games, substitution is allowed on the fly.

Some of the eight teams were established before the league was created; others were assembled from a pool of available players.

"A lot of people wanted to play but didn't have a team," said Fernando Ahumada, another board member who sponsored Fernando's Commandos. Players must be at least 18 years old; the oldest is in his 60s, he said.

The first year resulted in a large gap in the standings, with Sam's Realty finishing 6-1 and the last-place Commandos losing all seven of its games. "We're going to try to make it more competitive, adjust as necessary," Ahumada said.

Organizers hope that next summer, the league will have two divisions, twice as many games and more players. That will improve competition and friendly rivalries will begin to develop because teams will play each other more than once, he said.

Players had an additional rival this summer — the weather. "The 100-degree days, especially at the beginning, were pretty rough," Ahumada said.

While many of the players have competed for years, Ahumada doesn't think experience is necessarily the key to a good team. "Often, experience isn't as important as how well players gel," he said. "You don't have to be a great player, but you've got to be a great teammate."

Many players are from Beacon but also surrounding communities such as Philipstown, Newburgh, Wappingers and Fishkill.

"We have players from nearly every nation that plays soccer," Ahumada said.



Javier Ramirez of Beacon Footie moves the ball against Greg Cesar and Gabriel Besharati of the Commandos. Photo by Skip Pearlman

United Football Club of Beacon 2022 Final Standings

		W	L	GF	GA
1	Sam's Realty	6	1	36	6
2	New York United	5	0	22	5
3	Boca Juniors	5	2	24	14
4	The Crew	3	2	15	14
5	Trax Attacks	3	4	15	22
6	Beacon Footie	2	3	16	15
7	Verplanck Auto	1	6	4	28
8	Commandos	0	7	5	33

GF = Goals for | GA = Goals against

"We have many Latino and Afro Caribbean players, guys from Senegal, Ghana, Colombia, Ireland."

The league is coed, although only one woman played this summer, Ruthie Tropeano, 29, from Beacon. Ahumada said there has been discussion about forming a women's division if there are enough players.

Whitson, 50, a former All-American at

Virginia Wesleyan University who played professionally for three seasons, says he likes that the league is "grassroots soccer," much like what Beacon had when he was growing up.

"The excitement is there, no matter what," he said. "I've played in front of 50,000 people and in front of no one, but when you step on the field, it's game on."

Bo Bell, 49, who lives in Cold Spring, didn't play soccer until age 13, but went on to play for Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, as a freshman. He's been playing for fun ever since. "This league is cool because it's community," he said. "It's for fun and for bragging rights."

Kellen Sela began playing when he was 5. Now 22, the Beacon resident plays for Baruch College in New York City. He said the league kept him active over the summer and "I got to play with some of my friends."

Justin Piciacchio, 19, from Wappingers Falls, got his start in soccer at age 4 and later played for Beacon High School. He played over the summer with his father, Alan Piciacchio, one of the league founders.

The fall season kicks off Sept. 13. Register at unitedfcbeacon.com/registration.

NOTICE

The Philipstown Conservation Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Tuesday, September 13th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** in person at the **Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516**

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

NOTICE

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

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

Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Beach accessory

6. Altar promise

9. Wd. modifier

12. Blazing

13. At once

14. Singer Rawls

15. Lightweight wood

16. Old Pontiac

18. More tightly packed

20. *Star Wars* royal

21. Photo, for short

23. *Fresh Air* ailer

24. Party beverage

25. Unforeseen problem

27. Say

29. Elk's horn

31. Wheel cover

35. Playful sea critter

37. Only

38. Barber's tools

41. Aug. and Sept.

43. Knock

44. Region

45. Halloween sprite

47. Young shopping center regular

49. Milk dispenser

52. Paris summer

53. Flamenco cheer

54. Cat calls?

55. Shelter

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				

56. Slugger Williams

57. Actress Debra

DOWN

1. Bar bill

2. One — kind

3. Villanova athlete

4. Gaelic

5. "Blue" singer Rimes

6. Loose newspaper ad

7. Gloomy

8. Have

9. Sci-fi visitor

10. Column style

11. A son of Jacob

17. Book jacket

19. Sudden gush

21. Unpaid TV ad

22. Hostel

24. Little, in Lille

26. Worldwide

28. Pulsate

30. UFO crew

32. Deep-fried frank

33. Pie — mode

34. Zing

36. Acted badly?

38. Caravan beast

39. Emulate Lincoln

40. Donnybrook

42. Batter's dry spell

45. Big wind

46. Notion

48. Decay

50. Ram's ma'am

51. Trio after Q

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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 engage in a struggle (7)

2 skillful and agile (4)

3 Disney founder, to friends (4)

4 prickly pear and cholla (5)

5 hunter's disguise (10)

6 U.S. Vice President Agnew (5)

7 it's made without proof (10)

SOLUTIONS

GR	UF	WA	PLE	CAC
FT	SPI	ION	LA	SU
GE	AS	CA	LT	DE
TI	MPT	AP	RO	MO

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SUDO CURRENT

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

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



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Answers for Aug. 26 Puzzles

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

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

1. DEALS, 2. SAFEGUARD, 3. ZINC, 4. FROTHED, 5. BALLGAME, 6. TRUSS, 7. BATHOS

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



PREVIEW



BOYS' SOCCER

By Skip Pearlman

Beacon is coming off its two best seasons in school history, winning a regional title in 2020 in its final season in Section I, then winning a Section IX title last fall.

This year's group knows the bar is set high, and Coach Craig Seaman, in his 23rd season, believes his squad is up to the task.

Last year's team finished 17-2-1, beating Franklin Roosevelt in the Section IX, Class A championship before losing in the first round of regionals to eventual state champ Somers, 1-0.

Beacon lost All-State picks AJ Lucas and Dillon Kelly, All-Section selections Alex Wyant and Chase Green (its leading scorer), and All-Leaguer Tommy Franks to graduation.

The returning starters include seniors Miguel Ruiz, Thomas Robinson, Andre Alzate, Gavin LaDue and Jack Philipbar. Seaman is also excited to see what Brody Timm and Jaidyn Caccamo, both sophomores, bring to the team. Junior Matt Sandison takes over from Lucas at goal. Also returning are Avery Davis, Enis Dika and Liam Murphy.

"Matt will be solid for us" at the net, Seaman said. "He's got size, and he's still developing, but the potential is there for him."



Haldane's Matt Silhavy puts the ball into the corner of the net in the win over Dobbs Ferry.



Photos by S. Pearlman

"In the back is where we'll be strongest, because that's where we return the most starters," he said. "We're going to have to figure out how we're going to score goals, but that will come over time. Andre certainly has the potential to score, and so does Miguel. We're hoping they emerge in that way."

A return to the sectional title game will be a challenge, he said. "It's asking a lot for them to repeat the success of the last two years," Seaman said. "But I do think the potential is there. We played in summer league, and did fairly well."

"We lost some good players, and that's experience we have to replace," he added. "But there is some championship pedigree. And what we like is that we have a lot of guys who are interchangeable, and easy to coach. We have some depth issues, and we'll see who emerges as leaders, as standouts."

Beacon opens its season on Thursday (Sept. 8) at Arlington.

HALDANE

The Blue Devils got off to a slow start in their season opener on Wednesday (Aug. 31) hosting Dobbs Ferry but closed things out with a bang, shutting down the Eagles on their way to a dominant 4-0 win.

Junior Matt Nachamkin got Haldane rolling 15 minutes in by scoring off a pass from junior Clement Grossman. Sophomore Matthew Silhavy added to Haldane's lead five minutes later with an unassisted goal, beating the Dobbs keeper from the top of the box.

Grossman delivered an unassisted tally midway through the second half, and senior

Ryan Eng-Wong closed out the scoring with 14 minutes left. Haldane keeper Ronan Kiter needed just three saves.

"We started out a little slow, but once we got going I thought we controlled play and moved the ball well," said Coach Ahmed Dwidar. "Will Sniffen in the back was our quarterback, [sophomore] Brandt Robbins was our anchor in the middle and Grossman also had a nice start to the season. He was phenomenal."

Dwidar likes the group he has returning from last year's 9-8-1 team that ended its season with a 1-0 loss in the Section I, Class C title game to Alexander Hamilton.

He returns nine starters, including captains Sniffen, Kiter and Eng-Wong, along with Grossman, Aidan Sullivan-Hoch, Max Westphal, Emilio Schweizer, Silhavy and Nachamkin. Ty Villella, Sam Vargas and Robbins are newcomers Dwidar believes can have an immediate impact.

"This group has the talent to get back to the final," Dwidar said. "The most important thing for us is to stay healthy. Depth is always a question mark, but we have athletes ready to go. Our kids want to take care of unfinished business."



Beacon seniors Thomas Robinson, Andre Alzate, Gavin LaDue, Jack Philipbar and Miguel Ruiz hope to have the Bulldogs playing championship soccer again this fall.