

The HIGHLANDS
Current



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When Beacon Was on the Air

The Effects of Bail Reform

Spirit of Beacon 'Alive and Well'

City also adopts \$37 million capital plan

New Trail Opens At Fahnestock

'A Voice For The Voiceless'

Remembering Beacon community leader Yvonne McNair

Beacon Plans to Rehab Fire Station

Electricity, Gas Rates Spike

Always Present, Never Seen

A Black history of the Highlands

Shopping for Health Care

Schools Unmask

State Provides \$20M for Fjord Trail

Ready H

Are the Kids Alright?

Pandemic, isolation exacerbate struggles

Putnam Proposes \$400,000 for Golf Course

New Life for Dutchess Mall?

Weatherman Could Not Have Predicted This

Jim Witt's in it

State Closes Indian Brook Falls

New Dutchess Districts Would Flip Beacon Wards

Part 3

TRAILS (TOO) WELL TRAVELED

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

Three Grads, The Philipstown

A Boy and His Dog

Nonprofit pairs families with service animals

Beacon's Park

Highland to

Veterans C

Appre

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DEAR READER,

Every week *The Highlands Current* provides information that helps you and all our readers form our community in this beautiful land along the Hudson.

Through stories on a wide variety of topics — written by journalists who live in our midst — the newspaper connects policymakers with their constituents, advertisers with customers, performers with their public, neighbors with newcomers. When they know what is going on around them, citizens share their thoughts and act on their concerns to help shape their lives in Philipstown and Beacon.

And a lot is going on that *The Current* makes sure you know. Our **nonprofit** paper — named “**Newspaper of the Year**” this year by the New York Press Association — is your source for:

- **Election news:** Candidate profiles, voting information and **the results next week.**
- Debates and decisions at town, city and village meetings.
- News from our schools in Philipstown and Beacon.
- Climate, environment, energy and development concerns.
- Profiles of neighbors and their views on the news.
- Many events in our weekly Calendar.
- **PLUS** special projects that this year included in-depth reports on:
 - The overlooked history of Blacks in the Highlands.
 - Hiking trails that are “too well traveled.”
 - The impact of the pandemic on our students.

To accomplish all of this we need your support as members to ensure that you and all around you will have free access to these stories that matter in the Highlands. For a tax-deductible gift of as little as \$2 a month, you can become a member or renew your membership at highlandscurrent.org/join. There are membership benefits — shown on the third page of this special section today — that will enhance your involvement in community news.

And when you join or renew between now and Dec. 31, NewsMatch — a national program funded by major foundations — plus a gift from a local donor who cares deeply about our independent nonprofit news operation **will MATCH your donation** up to \$1,000 per person, to a total of \$50,000. Reaching our match will mean **\$100,000** for our newsroom.

Journalist and author Penny Muse Abernathy, who has focused her writings on communities that have lost their newspapers and become “news deserts,” asserts in her book *Saving Community Journalism*:

“Everyone in a community — whether large or small — has a tremendous stake in the survival of a local newspaper. A strong local newspaper plays a vital day-to-day role in influencing the future vitality of a community.”

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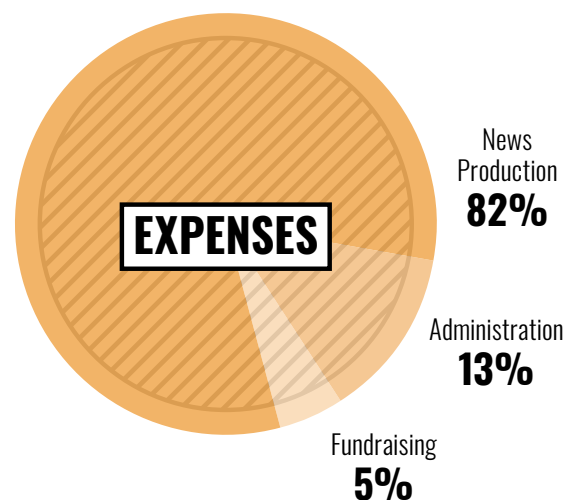
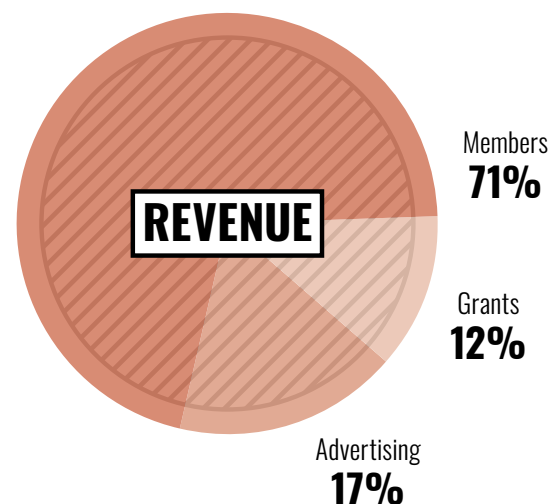
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The HIGHLANDS Current

NOVEMBER 4, 2022

NYPA Newspaper of the Year

Support our nonprofit: highlandscurrent.org/join

Who
Won Our
Halloween
Costume
Contest?

Page 18



'I Can't Stand What's Happening'

Cold Spring resident runs charity for Russian children

By Michael Turton

Many people have strong feelings about Russia's invasion of Ukraine. But it has been especially difficult for Natasha Shaginian.

Shaginian, who recently returned home to Cold Spring after spending three months in Moscow, is the co-founder and executive director of Life in Motion (lifeinmotion-charity.org), a nonprofit that helps children in need of orthopedic treatment, including prosthetics.

Trained in Moscow in the early 1990s as a physician and psychiatrist, Shaginian worked as a consultant for orphanages
(Continued on Page 15)



PUMPKIN CUTIE PIE — A young trick-or-treater awaited the start of the Halloween parade in Cold Spring on Monday (Oct. 31) by having some fun in the leaves on the lawn of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org. Photo by Ross Corsair

Can Republicans Score Upsets?

GOP in pursuit of two new House districts

District 17 (Philipstown)

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

As the days dwindled until the Tuesday (Nov. 8) election, Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney and state Assembly Member Michael Lawler traded accusations of dishonesty or untrustworthiness and clashed over abortion, racism, gun laws and economic policy.

The newly drawn Congressional District 17, which each hopes to represent come
(Continued on Page 8)



Maloney (D)



Lawler (R)

District 18 (Beacon)

By Jeff Simms

For the first time in a decade, Beacon will not be represented by Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat who lives in Philipstown and first won his seat in 2012.

Instead, it will be represented by either Rep. Pat Ryan, the former Ulster County executive, or Colin Schmitt, a two-term state Assembly member from Orange County.

(Continued on Page 10)



Ryan (D)



Schmitt (R)

Beacon Council Members to Propose Gas Ban

Climate activists push for shift from fossil fuels

By Jeff Simms

Members of the Beacon City Council plan on Monday (Nov. 7) to introduce a proposal that would

effectively ban natural gas hookups in new homes and commercial buildings, as well as major renovations.

The proposal, modeled after legislation passed last year in New York City and Ithaca, was announced at a rally on Oct. 29 at the Beacon waterfront, where climate activists celebrated the state's denial a year

ago of a request by Danskammer Energy to build a natural gas-fired power plant on the Hudson River in Newburgh.

While state law does not authorize municipalities to ban natural gas hookups, Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair said he plans to propose adding emissions limits to the build-
(Continued on Page 11)

Grease Thieves

Bandits target restaurants for biodiesel ingredient

By Leonard Sparks

A driver who arrived on a Saturday in September to empty a 350-gallon vat behind One More Bite filled with grease found the lock broken and the container empty.

Tom Labelle, who owns the Beacon restaurant, was not surprised. Used cooking oil can be recycled into fuel, and compa-

nies like Buffalo Biodiesel will pay for it.

Labelle had been hit before. Before he contracted with Buffalo Biodiesel, thieves emptied an unlocked vat provided by another company, he said. "I knew [it was gone] because there was a little trail of oil outside the container."

The grease thieves usually arrive at night in box trucks or vans and equipped with crowbars, bolt cutters, hoses and holding tanks. Losses nationally rise into the millions of dollars annually, according to the North American Renderers Association, a trade organization for companies that recycle waste and food byproducts.
(Continued on Page 14)



The lockbar (foreground) was removed to gain access to the grease vat behind One More Bite.
Photo provided

WRITE-IN for VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING TRUSTEES



FRAN MURPHY & MARIE EARLY



PAID AD

EXPERIENCED WITH A LONG HISTORY OF COMMITMENT TO THE VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING

5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: GREGG ZUMAN

By Leonard Sparks

Gregg Zuman, who lives in Beacon, is the founder of Revolution Rickshaws, which provides pedicabs in New York City and just launched a pilot service from the Beacon Metro-North station.

What inspired you to start Revolution Rickshaws?

After majoring in politics and investing time as a state committee member of the Green Party of New York, I came to realize that private enterprise was a better path for me to honor my native land, soil and people. Transport and logistics seemed a particularly sad sector, so I established Revolution Rickshaws in 2005 to provide electric-vehicle solutions. Last year, we established a brand, REVX, that is focused on urban logistics, providing delivery and distribution.

Who are your customers?

Quite an array. People seeking to provide rides for a living rent our pedicabs; couriers and companies that deliver produce, products and parcels lease and purchase our cycle-trucks; marketing companies and event producers buy branded pedicab promotions; and video and photo production companies use our film-trike services.



It's mostly food-related enterprises that hire REVX for deliveries. In Beacon, I've rolled a few hours over the past couple of weekends with a pedicab to see how people would respond. Passenger service between the river area and Main Street seemed promising.

Is fitness the main attribute for drivers?

Not as much these days, because the electric-assist motors have shifted the dynamic

tremendously. But when we started in 2005, every driver pedaled. The cab I just started pedaling in Beacon sports a beefy assist motor to get up the hill from the train station. For the pedicab drivers, having a thick skin while cruising and pitching rides is the most critical attribute. I call our trikes the King Kongs of bicycles, because they're so large everyone else keeps their distance in the streets.

Which service is the most popular?

It changes almost year to year. The past two years or so, we have sold well over 100 cargo bike trailers from Germany and France kitted out with surge brakes, 450 pounds of weight capacity and extra-long cargo beds. The demand for pedicab rides nosedives after New Year's Eve, so nobody rents the cabs. The pedicab promos are our most consistent performers.

What's the most surprising request you've received?

We've been all over the region executing film-trike services. Once, we were hired to go to rural Connecticut and deploy the film-trike on a covered bridge to help Wes Craven shoot one of his horror movies. They weren't allowed to operate a motor vehicle on the bridge, and we saved the day.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

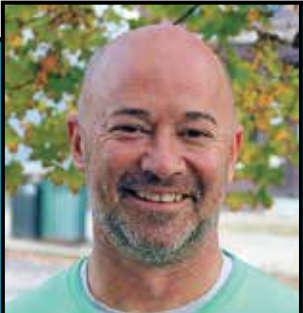
What kind of house did you grow up in?

We lived in a two-family house in Beacon, second floor, with four bedrooms.



Amy Viera-Sellers, Beacon

It was a two-story, split-level, three-bedroom home with a pool in Farmingdale, Long Island.



Edgar Glascott, Cold Spring

I grew up in a three-bedroom apartment in Paris, fourth floor, but with an elevator.



Jacqueline Azria, Cold Spring

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Putnam Approves Executive Raises

Montgomery questions timing of increases

By Chip Rowe

The Putnam County Legislature on Oct. 28 approved 3.5 percent raises for the county executive and the department's staff.

At the special meeting called to adopt the 2023 budget, legislators approved raising the annual salaries of the county executive to \$176,022, the deputy county executive to \$129,375, the chief of staff to \$86,107, the director of constituent services to \$46,643 and the confidential secretary to \$62,100.

Because County Executive MaryEllen Odell is not running for re-election due to term limits, Nancy Montgomery, whose district includes Philipstown and part of Putnam Valley, questioned the increases, which were described as cost-of-living adjustments.

"These people are not in office yet or

hired and we don't know who some or all of them are going to be," said Montgomery, who is the only Democrat on the panel. "It's silly to be handing out raises to people we don't even know yet."

Kevin Byrne, a Republican state legislator, is running unopposed to succeed Odell.

Legislator Paul Jonke, whose district includes Southeast, responded that "every employee gets cost-of-living adjustments — you haven't objected to any others but you're going to pick on one department. It's politics."

The chair of the meeting, Legislator Neal Sullivan, whose district includes Carmel and Mahopac, then called for a vote but did not ask for abstentions or "no" votes. Montgomery requested he do so, then voted no.

"You happy?" Sullivan said.

The Legislature also approved a 4.8 percent raise for the legislative clerk, to \$113,637 annually, and 2 percent for an administrative assistant, to \$50,486. The vote to approve those raises was unanimous.

Police Release Info on Bicyclist Death

Say Philipstown man crossed into path of SUV on Route 9

By Chip Rowe

An investigation by the New York State Police concluded that a bicyclist struck and killed earlier this year on Route 9 in Philipstown by a turning vehicle was at fault for the accident.

Kenn Sapeta, 67, died at the scene of the March 15 collision. The driver, Kayleigh Matos, 26, of Wappingers Falls, told officers that Sapeta unexpectedly crossed into the path of her Hyundai Kona after she made a left turn from Hustis Road.



Sapeta

The incident and investigator's reports were obtained from the Putnam County Sheriff's Department through a Freedom of Information Law request.

A Beacon woman who said she was behind Matos' car on Hustis Road disputed Matos' account in a statement to *The Current* that was forwarded to the police. She said Sapeta

was struck on the shoulder. But after interviewing the witness, an investigator from the Collision Reconstruction Unit said her statement was based on "personal belief" and was not consistent with physical evidence and footage obtained from a security camera at Bailey Cosmetic & Family Dentistry.

The video did not show the collision, the investigator said in his report, but recorded Sapeta riding north on the shoulder while looking south, apparently because he planned to cross. That was followed by Matos accelerating from the stop sign on Hustis and cutting her turn short over the southbound center turn lane.

The investigator concluded that Sapeta turned from the shoulder into the path of Matos' vehicle, which was traveling at about 35 mph. The primary cause of the accident, he wrote, was "the failure of the bicyclist to yield the right of way." Sapeta was killed after striking the driver's side windshield of the SUV and the pavement.

In August, Sapeta's widow, Cathryn Sapeta, filed a wrongful-death lawsuit against Matos in state court in Carmel.



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Tell us what you think

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

House races

I recently checked out the campaign websites of Michael Lawler and Colin Schmitt, the Republican candidates for U.S. House District 17 (Philipstown) and 18 (Beacon), respectively.

I found much of what they supported obvious. Who isn't in favor of a clean environment, enforcing the law, protecting Medicare and Social Security and fighting inflation?

But how do they propose to do any of these? They talk in generalities, telling us they will cut "wasteful spending" by President Biden and Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney — Lawler's opponent — and vote to end the Biden-Maloney "open borders" policies. These assertions tell us nothing.

What neither of them said was how they would vote if Sen. Lindsey Graham's proposed bill to create a national abortion ban came before them. Neither of them said whether they would vote to roll back the Inflation Reduction Act, including its provision that corporations have to pay at least 15 percent tax on profits.

Neither of them tell us whether they would have voted for the bipartisan infrastructure bill. Neither of them say whether they support Sen. Rick Scott's blueprint for a Republican majority, which includes sunset Social Security and Medicare every five

years and making sure everyone pays some income tax in addition to payroll taxes.

Finally, neither of them said whether he supports or rejects the election denialism of many of their fellow Republicans.

Until they tell us how they stand on these very important issues, they are unworthy of our support.

Michael Meeropol, *Cold Spring*

Sean Patrick Maloney, the Democratic candidate for District 17, is the best choice because he has worked across the aisle whenever possible to govern. His record in Congress is outstanding.

This past year he has been part of the majority in Congress that passed the first gun safety law in 30 years; passed a bipartisan infrastructure law which, among other things, provides resources to repair our bridges and upgrade the electric grid; and passed legislation allowing Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices and lower costs for seniors.

Significantly, Rep. Maloney respects a woman's right to reproductive choice and control over her own body, which his opponent does not.

Susan Anspach, *Philipstown*

I recently attended a citizen's prepared-

ness training session in Fishkill, organized by Dutchess County. Thinking that weather would be one of our biggest challenges as far as disasters, I was surprised to find "civil unrest" and "active shooter" high on the list of threats.

The presenter cited "the summer of 2020" as the example of civil unrest — I think he was referring to the protests over the murder of George Floyd, which for the most part were peaceful events all over our country, calling attention to the historic and severely unjust treatment of a particular segment of our fellow Americans. There was no mention of the civil unrest that took place at the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, which to me was a much bigger threat to our society than Black Lives Matter.

In regard to "active shooters," common-sense gun laws might help mitigate such a disaster. It is easy to frame this as an action by some deranged individual, but it is disturbing that gun sales have reached record levels this past year. More Americans are armed while our political rhetoric and divide gets nastier and nastier, including the convincing of many Americans that, against all evidence to the contrary, our last presidential election was stolen.

We all want to feel safe in our communities, and we need to be honest about the real threats in our midst. Be sure to vote in this election, and please vote for candidates who are willing to say out loud that our last presidential election was not stolen, that the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol was a serious threat to our country and that they will work for common-sense gun laws to promote public safety.

Diane Perea, *Beacon*

Columbus Day

It was only a matter of time before the Beacon City School District would become woke ("Should Schools Change Columbus Day?" Oct. 28). Outsiders move to Beacon, take over the City Council and Board of Education, and Beacon is no longer the quaint little town it used to be.

Charles Lucy, *Beacon*

Write-in candidates

I was thrilled to learn that former Cold Spring Trustees Fran Murphy and Marie Early organized a write-in campaign for the two Village Board seats on the ballot on Nov. 8 ("Former Trustees Launch Write-In Campaign," Oct. 28). I'm also thankful current Trustees Tweeps Phillips Woods and Laura Bozzi are seeking election. It's a rare individual who is willing to put in the time away from family and personal interests for the often-thankless task of running this village.

However, I think the board, in its current

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

configuration, lacks experience on the whole and appears to serve as an echo chamber for the mayor. Electing Murphy and Early would return to the dais two people with nearly seven years of experience serving on the board and, in Early's case, deputy mayor, as well. These two women are among the most honest, hard-working and dedicated-to-duty people I have ever worked with in my life. They deeply understand the inner workings, and statutory obligations, of this village. The current board would be vastly improved by electing these two proven leaders.

I salute them both for identifying the need for a choice on Nov. 8 and making the difficult decision to step up.

Steve Voloto, *Cold Spring*

Voloto served on the Village Board from 2016 to 2020.

The words in the statement released by Fran Murphy and Marie Early explaining why they are running do not align with what I know as someone serving on the Short-Term Rental Committee. (Note: While I am a member of the committee, I am commenting only for myself.) As I see it, if the STR code created by the Village Board when Trustees Murphy and Early were serving was enforceable, the code would not be "bogged down in committees."

I do not see the hard work of the citizens of Cold Spring who volunteer for the various committees mentioned to be "boggling down" the process. I wish these write-in candidates had respect for our hard work and community engagement.

Megan Shea, *Cold Spring*

The deliberate disregard by the two former trustees for the process of formally getting their names on the ballot shows a broader disregard for order, transparency and process in favor of stirring up emotions and resentment, and clinging to "the way things were." The insincerity of it all inspires no confidence in their commitment to actually serve on the board with good intentions if they're successful in their bid.

The current board members have worked to make village processes functional and efficient. They've cleared the inexplicable roadblocks and smoke and mirrors that defined the Village Hall of the previous administration. They have made the administration less about who you know and more about building partnerships and transparency, and they've done so with a professionalism that has inspired morale and given us higher expectations of what the people of our village can expect. It takes more time, and it takes patience on everyone's part, and they have put the time in, in bucketloads.

I support the candidates whose names actually appear on the ballot: Laura Bozzi and Tweeps Phillips Woods.

Eri Taylorson, *Cold Spring*

I write in support of Marie Early and Fran Murphy as write-in candidates for village trustee. Each has ably served the village for many years, in particular through the critical code update project, which has yet to be

Correction

A story in the Oct. 28 issue said that Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat whose district in the state Assembly includes Beacon, won in 2020 with 55 percent of the vote. In fact, with absentee ballots included, he won 64 percent of the 48,000 votes cast. Jacobson is running unopposed for a third term.

resumed by the current board.

I don't have any criticisms of the two candidates on the ballot. However, it does concern me greatly that the Village Board has not acted to implement Comprehensive Plan/Code Update Committee recommendations for zoning (including potential rezoning of the Marathon property and scenic viewshed protection, which I drafted, full disclosure) or the residential parking program for east of the tracks, which was enacted by the Village Board in July 2021.

Michael Reisman, *Cold Spring*

Some of what the two former trustees relate is not exactly forthcoming. To say "the new administration would carry on the work we were so close to finishing" — if the work was so rewarding, why are they not in office now? I would rather they pledged to clean up the mess they left the new board.

Their statement goes on to say, "Unfortunately, this hasn't happened" — an unfair dig at the present administration, barely a year in office.

I wondered at the statement, "Village residents will now have a choice." Huh? Was there not a fair opportunity in the 2021 election? Residents spoke then with their votes. The village needed new energy to tackle vast changes that the former administration, in its bureaucratic torpor, utterly lacked. In its seven years of service, that board demonstrated lethargy and gross ineptitude. Why would the village want to return to those dark days?

Derek Graham, *Cold Spring*

Crowds

If you think Cold Spring is getting ruined by crowds now, just wait ("Crowds Cause Chaos," Oct. 28). If the Hudson Valley "Fraud" Trail goes in, it will bury us completely.

Maybe it's time to review our policies on public use. I recently brought an overseas visitor to the dock to show off my beloved village and its great views, only to be confronted with a scene of garbage in the street and hundreds of people walking around as if they were at a county fair, not to mention a gigantic boat blocking the view.

Then it was off to the old Dockside Park, only to see people going to the bathroom at the woods line. That ended our village tour. Now is the time to rethink this situation to save our once-nice village from total obliteration.

Tony Bardes, *Philipstown*

(Continued on Page 6)

WRITE-IN M. EARLY AND F. MURPHY FOR VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING TRUSTEE

This election cycle, Cold Spring residents will find no more qualified candidates for Village Trustee than **Marie Early and Fran Murphy**. I'm grateful to Marie and Fran for putting themselves forward — even at this late stage as **write-ins**.

Highly accomplished in their professional careers as well as their volunteerism, Marie and Fran possess unrivaled experience in business administration, business management, volunteerism, and public service: Experience and skills our Village needs.

With over 25 years of local volunteerism and elected service combined, Marie and Fran are **proven municipal project managers, fluent in our local code**, municipal protocols and attentive to State laws and requirements governing the activities of our Village.

In their service to our Village both Marie and Fran have already delivered key **improvements to local governance, infrastructure, public health & safety**, as well as direct **revenue** and sustained **tax savings** — including, but not limited to:

Meaningful Transparency & Openness in Government by:

- originating video recording and online publication of ALL meetings of the:
 - Village Board,
 - HDRB,
 - ZBA,
 - Planning Board, and
- requiring minutes from all commissions and ad hoc committees of the Village Board, such as Recreation Commission, Tree Advisory Board, Parking and Code Update;
- implementing ZOOM meetings to ensure public participation and public health while our community observed COVID-19 restrictions, and

Tax Savings & Direct Revenue by:

- successfully negotiating competitive, market-rate fees for SeaStreak Passenger Ferry docking in Cold Spring, yielding over \$100,000 in revenue during their tenure, including Sea Streak's underwriting of public restrooms and police support, and positioning the Village to negotiate still-higher docking fees more than \$20,000/year thereafter
- renovating — and implementing paid-parking at — the Village Municipal Parking Lot, yielding over \$100,000 in revenue during their tenure, and the opportunity to continue to generate approximately \$30,000/year in direct revenue.
- strategically negotiating its first revenue-generating lease with the Cold Spring Boat Club, yielding \$500,000 over 20 years and making it possible to deliver on the DEC Coal Tar Clean-up.
- conducting energy audits of Village facilities and replacing all lighting at the Village Highway Garage with energy conserving / money-saving lighting
- working closely with Central Hudson and Village residents to strategically retire and replace streetlights with new, energy efficient LEDs that meet Village residents' aesthetic standards and saving the Village money on electricity costs.
- revising the Village of Cold Spring Employee Handbook to clarify benefits and perks for all staff, saving the Village over \$100,000 in 2017 alone, and untold expenditures thereafter.
- twice negotiating with Cold Spring Police's union for local policing and saving the Village by eliminating Police Overtime shifts.

Health & Safety by:

- delivering the long-awaited New Street / DEC Toxic Coal Tar Clean-up / Remediation,
- delivering NY State-compliant Sidewalk repairs and crosswalk improvements on Main Street and Furnace Street [To describe these as non-compliant is to intentionally mislead.],
- eliminating midnight garbage collection,
- negotiating the Village's agreement with Royal Carting for garbage/recycling pick-up - freeing our Highway Crew to focus on other needful infrastructure projects,
- leadership of multiple ad hoc committees of the Village Board, including:
 - Village Parking Committee,
 - Community Policing Survey, and
 - The Code Update Committee - a years-long project to update our outdated Village Code as part of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan.

Note: The current board has not adopted our Village's Code Update — and therefore, has not adopted the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP). **Marie and Fran understand the significance of this.** Without adopting our updated code and LWRP, the Village has missed the opportunity to **secure legal standing in negotiations with NY State Parks about the Fjord Trail — including its proposed trailhead within Dockside Park.**

The **invaluable work of all our committee volunteers** — past and present — should be directed toward adoption of the Code Update and amendments thereafter. Such redirection would be the strategic and respectful way to leverage our most valuable resource — critical volunteer contributions — in ways that truly and timely serve our Village. Marie and Fran are sensitive to this, having worked so long with our neighbors to reach that goal.

As volunteers on the Chapel Restoration Board, the Women's Auxiliary for our local chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Special Board for the Comprehensive Plan & LWRP, the Recreation Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals (including as Chair), the Historical District Review Board and as Trustees from 2015 to 2021, Marie and Fran have proven their commitment to the best interests of our Village.

Fortunately for us their accomplishments on the Village Board of Trustees are recorded in the public record.

Please join me writing-in: **M. Early and F. Murphy** for Village Trustees.

Stephanie Hawkins, Resident, Village of Cold Spring

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

Village Board

Can I say I was nervous winning my election last year when the team I ran with lost? I was, but the team that the village has now is the most dedicated and hardworking I have seen in my 27 years here. Things long put on the back burners are getting done at a pace that even I try to keep up with.

I'm asking you to be sure you fill in that little Sharpie circle for Tweeps Phillips Woods and Laura Bozzi on the ballot because they are dedicated to getting things done for the good of the village. We have so much left to do.

Cathryn Fadde, Cold Spring
Fadde is a Village of Cold Spring trustee.

I wanted to remind voters of the great job Tweeps Phillips Woods has been doing. I have known Tweeps for more than five years and find her to be a smart, caring and professional trustee and a good person. She takes a lot of time out of her schedule to make the village a place that she feels happy and proud to raise her family in.

Of course, I do not agree with absolutely everything being done, but I feel that Tweeps listens and takes other people's opinions into account. I am going to vote for Tweeps, and hope others do, too, just to show her that she is appreciated and supported.

Karen Jackson, Cold Spring

I'm eager to vote for standing Trustees

Tweeps Phillips Woods and Laura Bozzi. We are benefiting from having these smart, capable women at work for us on the Village Board.

We're seeing so many good things happen around the village — sidewalks being repaired, electric-vehicle chargers approved in a village parking lot, a partnership between the Hub and the Cold Spring police for improved mental health response and support. We've finally got an agreement to reconnect to the Catskill Aqueduct. Oh, and a crazy-fun Community Day!

A lot of the improvements Laura, Tweeps and the rest of the current board have been responsible for are easy to take for granted, but have helped us all feel more connected to and better served by local government. I love that village meetings are simulcast online so we can participate from home. That means a lot to busy people with families who want to stay informed and engaged. It's great having these women on the Board of Trustees and on the ballot. Please vote for Laura and Tweeps on Nov. 8.

Caroline Kaye, Cold Spring

The current board has completely changed the tenor of local government. Where once Village Hall felt like a battleground, board meetings are calm and productive. Residents' needs are being responded to professionally, courteously and collaboratively. Over the course of the last several months, members of the board have reached out to

my neighbors and myself in the village to brainstorm ways to ameliorate the noise, traffic and parking issues, always with courtesy, respect and an open mind.

In my 30 years in Cold Spring, this is new. Laura Bozzi and Tweeps Phillips Woods are bringing the best of themselves to their work for us.

For the first time in many years, there is a real positivity and optimism in the village, and I want to see that continue. When you vote on Nov. 8, make sure you go all the way to the right and all the way to the bottom and vote for Trustees Bozzi and Woods.

Rian Keating, Cold Spring

After 12 years on the Philipstown Town Board and nearly a year as supervisor, I want to take a moment to inform the community of the unprecedented cooperation between the Town of Philipstown and the villages of Nelsonville and Cold Spring. The villages and the town are working shoulder-to-shoulder with open communication, collaboration and, most of all, trust in each other. This benefits all of our residents.

Most recently the town worked with the Village of Cold Spring to ensure that a \$10,000 state grant was not wasted. Town Board Member Jason Angell and our new Climate Smart coordinator, Martha Upton, worked with Trustee Laura Bozzi and the Village Board to secure a grant that would have been lost were it not for their quick action and dedication.

Deputy Mayor Tweeps Phillips Woods has participated effectively in our joint sessions with the state Department of Transportation and other state representatives, building essential relationships that will serve us all well as we address traffic, a shared water supply and tourism management. Tweeps asks sharp questions and doesn't shy away from tough topics.

It is a pleasure to work with all the Cold Spring Village Board members. They each bring enthusiasm and open minds to every item before them. I hope to continue to work with the Town Board and both village boards to bring the best value and quality of life to the residents of this amazing town. The good people you have elected to serve as your local representatives are doing an excellent job, and they are working very hard for you.

John Van Tassel, Philipstown
For more reader endorsements, see highlandscurrent.org.

State Senate

I've heard good things about Julie Shiroski, the Democratic candidate for state Senate District 39, but this article clinches it for me ("Highlands to Get New State Senator," Oct. 21). I only wish she and others of integrity had seen what was coming back in 2015.

Fern Sartori, Wappingers Falls

I will vote for Rob Rolison, the Republi-

(Continued on Page 7)

Village Government Matters

One year ago, your new Cold Spring Trustees inherited a Village with long-deferred roadway and facility maintenance, unresolved contracts, an unfinished zoning code update and low staff morale. Trustees Tweeps Phillips Woods and Laura Bozzi hit the ground running, bringing energy, creativity, professionalism and results to the Village Board.



Vote Tuesday, November 8

6 am to 9 pm

✎ Bottom right of your ballot

● Laura A. Bozzi ● Tweeps P. Woods

Cold Spring United Methodist Church
Main and Orchard Streets

✓ After years without progress, we **forged an agreement with NYCDEP to secure our backup water supply.** We stewarded the Village through a drought emergency, conserving our existing supply.

✓ We finalized the unsettled contract with Royal Carting, **avoiding a \$250,000 truck purchase and freeing our teams** to spend more time maintaining our Village.

✓ We've brought long-ignored projects — like failed stormwater systems — to engineering professionals to make sure we **get the job done right** the first time.

✓ We've inked **intermunicipal agreements** with the Towns of Philipstown and Kent to **provide better service, more efficiently**, in code enforcement and roadways.

✓ We've engaged residents with powerful skill sets to take a hard look at code updates that didn't work. The **short-term rental code is being re-drafted so it can be enforced** and withstand challenge.

✓ We've brought the **zoning code revision** — left incomplete and off-course by the last administration — **back on track** and in keeping with the Comprehensive Plan.

✓ We're **adjusting the residential parking plan** and Main Street metering to incorporate important, previously overlooked requirements such as **wider, safer crosswalks**.

✓ We **professionalized your local government** with employee performance appraisals, department head meetings and a highway fleet management plan.

✓ We **secured grant money** to bring an **electric vehicle charger** to our municipal parking lot.

✓ And we **re-energized Community Day**, with an amazing day of food, dancing, games and fun on Main Street for Villagers.

In short, we've made Village government function well, and we've opened it to you. On Wednesday nights, you can join us at Village Hall or on Zoom. And you know that when you ask a question or make a request, you're going to be met with respect and courtesy, even if we don't agree.

I'm grateful for Laura and Tweeps and all they bring to our Cold Spring community table. Please vote for them on November 8.

Mayor Kathleen E. Foley, Village of Cold Spring

PAID FOR BY KATHLEEN E. FOLEY

Tweeps. Laura. Indefatigable.

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 6)

can candidate. I used to be a Democrat — not anymore.

I certainly do not support Julie Shiroishi, especially since she brings up Trump. The issues in New York are high crime, oil and food prices and the lack of transparency and horrendous infringement on our rights with mandates and businesses fleeing. Shiroishi cites her father's imprisonment in a Japanese-American camp during World War II — so his freedom was infringed upon, but she doesn't mind the locking down of children by putting them out of school for two years and firing nurses, firefighters and police officers who refused to get vaccinated?

Instead, complain about Trump. This is why so many are leaving the Democratic Party.

Arina Dingman, *Wappingers Falls*

Bail reform

Your summary of the data on bail reform is far different from that of the Manhattan Institute, which concluded that it increased crime (“The Effects of Bail Reform,” Oct. 21). All the cities and states that supported defunding the police and bail reform had crime spikes, from Seattle to New York.

Don Torelli, *via Facebook*

The editor responds: “The state’s analysis was based on re-arrests within six months of arraignment or between arraignment and disposition if the case was disposed of within six months. The Manhattan Institute’s analysis used another measure in the

state’s raw data: re-arrests occurring any time between arraignment and disposition. Both approaches are imperfect, especially for 2020, when courts were largely shut down because of the pandemic and the average time between arraignment and disposition for all types of cases nearly doubled, to 224 days from 119 days in 2019. In both, however, you see the same pattern: an increase in re-arrest rates in 2020 as more time elapsed between arraignment and disposition, followed by a decline in 2021 as courts returned to a normal schedule.”

Sheriff’s race

As a longtime voter in Dutchess County, I believe that the only criteria for an elected official is competency, competency, competency (“Dutchess Sheriff Candidates on Bail Reform, Diversity,” Oct. 28). Serve and protect is the only mandate of the Sheriff’s Office, given by the voters that endow the elected official with loaned and temporary power of office until the next election.

Sue Clary, *Beacon*

Garrison path

As a former executive director of the Garrison Institute, I spent many hours on these trails (“Glenclyffe Loop Upgraded,” Oct. 21). I no longer live in the area, but I look forward to returning and exploring and enjoying the improvements.

Marc Weiss, *via Instagram*

This is a very cool series of trails with

some extraordinary views — I have seen bald eagles here — but it’s easy to get lost and lose track of the blazes. I’m so glad that this will be more accessible.

Chelsea Pegues, *via Instagram*

Setbacks

When I read your article, “Crowds Cause Chaos” (Oct. 28), I was sure the reporter had made a mistake, but I verified the exchange by watching the Oct. 26 Village Board meeting on YouTube: In response to Dan Valentine, a member of the Cold Spring Parking Committee, who urged the Village Board to implement its recommendations, including residential permits, Mayor Kathleen Foley responded: “A choice was made by the previous administration not to take into account the required distances from crosswalks” which “changes the calculation of the number of metered parking spaces.” She said Trustee Eliza Starbuck was working to “correct” this.

Having spent hours mapping every street in the village for the code update, this came as a surprise, especially since both Mayor Foley and Deputy Mayor Tweeps Woods were trustees during the long discussions on Chapter 126 Vehicles and Traffic. During those discussions, then-Deputy Mayor Marie Early stressed multiple times that New York State requires a 20-foot setback from all crosswalks and that this would result in the loss of parking spaces. Foley and Woods were not only part of the discussion but voted on Nov. 4, 2021, to approve

the amendments to Chapter 126.

It is important to point out that Chapter 126 clearly states that there is no parking from the crosswalk for 20 feet on specific streets, in Section 126-35. It is also surprising and alarming that Mayor Foley believes that the previous administration, of which I was part, made miscalculations which are preventing her administration from taking action. I emailed Foley and Woods, who were then both trustees, on Dec. 4, 2021, saying, in part, that based on the changes made to Chapter 126 “there is the need for new signage and new street paintings throughout the village streets” and attached a list Marie and I compiled, as guidance for the board and the Highway Department, 24 areas where yellow cross-hatch needed to be painted.

Mayor Foley replied: “This is super, Fran. Thank you for handing this project off with detailed information.”

The fact is, the previous administration did account for the 20-foot setbacks.

Trustee Starbuck’s time would be better spent in implementing the recently updated and approved codes and not wasting energy on what is already completed.

Fran Murphy, *Cold Spring*

Murphy, a former trustee, is campaigning as a write-in candidate for the Village Board.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

AMAZING IS A MODERN MATERNITY UNIT FOR UPPER WESTCHESTER.

We’re helping families with our Maternal & Newborn Care Unit at our Hudson Valley Hospital. We’ve added more private rooms for moms and partners, as well as coaching before, during and after delivery. Just a few more ways to make bundles of joy more joyful.

**MORE AMAZING
MORE WESTCHESTER**

[NYP.ORG/MOREWESTCHESTER](https://nyp.org/morewestchester)



**STAY
AMAZING**

**NewYork-
Presbyterian**

WITH WORLD-CLASS DOCTORS FROM

COLUMBIA Weill Cornell Medicine

District 17 *(from Page 1)*

January, includes Putnam and Rockland counties and parts of Westchester and Dutchess. The political analysis site FiveThirtyEight projects Maloney as slightly favored to win the seat.

Initially elected in 2012, Maloney, a Democrat who lives in Philipstown, seeks his sixth term. Along with serving in the House, he chairs the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, assigned to preserve the House's slim Democratic majority.

Lawler, a Republican from Rockland County, won his Assembly post in 2020 over a longtime Democratic member. He was the deputy town supervisor of Orangetown at the time and is a partner in Checkmate Strategies, a lobbying firm. He is also a former assistant to the county executive in Westchester and former executive director of the New York Republican State Committee.

The candidates participated in online debates sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the NAACP last month and also have sparred through news releases.

The intensity of the fight colored both debates, whose moderators issued warnings against incivility, with mixed success. During the NAACP event, after several interruptions by Lawler, who cautioned the NAACP to “not allow smears,” the moderator cut off Lawler’s audio, although Maloney asked that it be restored because “it’s good that everybody see that he won’t play by the rules.” At the Oct. 12 debate, Lawler criticized the League of Women Voters for tolerating a “ridiculous personal attack” from Maloney.

At both debates, Lawler repeatedly claimed that Maloney lies. Maloney, in turn, alleged that Lawler wants to “hide” his own views and “shout me down.”

Each has portrayed the election as a choice between the mainstream and extreme.

“I’m a mainstream, middle-class guy at heart,” Maloney said Oct. 27, while dismissing Lawler as “a MAGA extremist,” from Donald Trump’s Make America Great Again movement. He accused his opponent of condoning campaign flyers that excoriate Maloney’s “dangerously wrong” support for cashless-bail reforms and show only Black men engaged in crime.

“That’s the MAGA way,” Maloney said. “The difference between mainstream and MAGA is mainstream people know it’s wrong to try to whip up racial tension and go back to mass incarceration, which, I guess, is your plan,” he told Lawler.

“Some of us think that we can have a fair system where we treat rich and poor people the same. Keep dangerous people behind bars, of course” and “support good policing,” which can reduce crime, Maloney proposed, noting that he has obtained \$7 million in federal funds for police departments in the Hudson Valley and promoted the Invest to Protect Act, passed by the House to underwrite “good, accountable policing at the local level.”

Declaring that “they’re not my flyers,” Lawler blamed a super PAC, or political action committee, for distributing them. The PAC was the Congressional Leadership Fund, a group that promotes the election of Republicans to the House.

“I cannot legally coordinate with a super

Voter Ups and Downs

The New York State Board of Elections this week released figures showing the number of active voters by location and party (or non-party) as of Nov. 1.

The figures do not include registered voters who did not cast a ballot in the most recent two federal elections.

DUTCHESS	NOV. 2016	NOV. 2022	%CHANGE
Democrat	60,383	73,398	21.6
Republican	51,863	53,748	3.6
Conservative	3,619	3,784	4.6
Other*	11,898	11,127	-6.5
No Party	48,974	55,007	12.3
Total	176,737	197,064	11.5

BEACON			
Democrat	4,264	5,318	24.7
Republican	1,330	1,139	-14.4
Conservative	114	92	-19.3
Other*	549	517	-5.8
No Party	2,239	2,335	4.3
Total	8,496	9,401	10.7

PUTNAM			
Democrat	18,504	22,126	19.6
Republican	21,925	23,288	6.2
Conservative	1,930	1,745	-9.6
Other*	4,224	3,675	-13.0
No Party	16,311	19,096	17.0
Total	62,894	69,930	11.2

PHILIPSTOWN			
Democrat	2,762	3,540	28.2
Republican	1,678	1,602	-4.5
Conservative	163	134	-17.8
Other*	378	383	1.3
No Party	1,744	1,881	7.9
Total	6,725	7,540	12.1

Sources: Dutchess, Putnam, NYS boards of elections *Combined enrollment for smaller parties

PAC” and “have no idea what went into deciding how to send out any mail,” Lawler said. Furthermore, he continued, “what is offensive, and what should be offensive to everyone, is the rapid increase in crime across our state. Black and brown people are being victimized by the very cashless bail law that is releasing dangerous criminals regardless of their race.” He added that while Maloney “can dismiss this and try to make this about race, this is about crime.”

Lawler also castigated Maloney for his role with the DCCC, which has spent money to buoy what it considered weak Republican candidates in primaries. “You keep talking about MAGA, MAGA, MAGA,” but “the only one that was involved in electing MAGA Republicans this year was you,” Lawler said Oct. 12.

Last week, in a news release that included a

cartoon figure of a man in prison garb running with a bag of money, Lawler derided Maloney as a “self-dealing” guy who “raids DCCC funds of \$600,000 for his own faltering campaign.”

Abortion

On Oct. 27, in discussing their differences on abortion, Lawler declared that “the only extremist in this race is Sean Patrick Maloney. He voted for a bill that would expand abortion nationwide up until the moment of birth” and facilitate abortion in other ways. “That is extreme.” (Maloney voted in July for the Women’s Health Protection Act, which codifies abortion rights into federal law.)

Maloney maintained that Lawler “thinks states can ban it [abortion] for any reason, or no reason at all. It’s wrong.” Moreover, he said during the NAACP debate, a Republican

majority in Congress could outlaw abortion nationwide. At one point, “my opponent said that makes sense,” but “now he says: ‘I don’t support it,’” Maloney said. “He’s been all over the map on it. You can’t trust him.”

Lawler told the NAACP that “I am personally pro-life” and, with regard to restrictions, “do believe in exceptions — I always have — for rape, incest, the health and the life of the mother. I am also against the national ban on abortion, despite his [Maloney’s] repeated lies on the matter.”

Gun control

In the League of Women Voters debate, Lawler said that he is “proud of my record with respect to common-sense, bipartisan gun safety measures. Unlike my opponent, I have defended the right of law-abiding citizens to exercise their Second Amendment rights while taking on the criminals who use guns in the commission of crimes.”

He said he also supports universal background checks and efforts to “harden our schools” against gun violence. But, he said, “the reality is this: If we want to address gun violence, then we need to start by going after criminals.”

Maloney, who has been endorsed by gun-control advocates, responded that “this guy is in the pocket of the NRA [National Rifle Association] and has voted against every important gun-safety legislation that comes his way,” including a state law passed this year that raises from 18 to 21 the legal age to buy semi-automatic rifles.

Maloney advised the nation to “listen to our police who say they need help with these weapons of war in getting these guns off the street.” On Oct. 27, he further observed that Democrats in Congress are going “after gun violence, passing the first gun-safety legislation in almost 30 years.”

The economy

In explaining their reasons for running, Lawler and Maloney mentioned concerns about the economy and their intentions of assisting hard-pressed Americans.

“One-party rule has failed us,” Lawler said Oct. 27. “Democrats control everything in Washington, Albany and New York City at the same time, and they’ve created a mess,” including “a 41-year record high on inflation, surging crime in New York City and across our state, skyrocketing energy prices, grocery bills, home heating and a porous southern border, with not just a massive inflow of illegal immigration and human trafficking but drugs coming into our communities, killing 300 Americans a day. And nothing is being done about it. We need to restore balance and common sense to every level of government.”

Congress needs “people willing to deal with these issues,” Lawler said. “My opponent has failed to do that. And he says he’s mainstream but has an extreme voting record, one of the least bipartisan in Congress.” He argued for a move “in the right direction” because “people are concerned about their future, about the future for their children. That’s what this campaign is about. Not the smears, not the lies,” from Maloney, who, he said, “can’t defend his record.”

(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued from Page 8)

Nonetheless, Maloney defended his record. “I work with Republicans all the time — that’s how I banned oil barge anchorages on the Hudson River,” he said. To cut fuel costs, he said he backed releasing fuel from the national Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which “brought it down \$1.30 a gallon. We’ve got more to do, but that’s a real plan. Groceries: We can get prices down by fixing our supply chains; we have a plan to do it,” he said. Maloney said he supports the Affordable Care Act and the “Obamacare” national health program, but “my opponent does not.”

Democrats in Congress are also lowering premiums for health program participants and “capped out-of-pocket costs in Medicare,” which he termed “a big deal, if you’re a senior and your Social Security payment can go up and your Medicare premium can go down.” But Lawler and the Republican Party “opposed taking on the big drug companies because they’re bankrolling his campaign,” Maloney claimed. “You have a choice between mainstream and MAGA. I’m the mainstream candidate.”

Election ‘Deniers’

More than half of Republicans running for Congressional and state offices in the midterm elections can be classified as “election deniers,” according to an analysis by *The Washington Post*. The list includes seven candidates for Congress in New York state and Lee Zeldin, the Republican gubernatorial hopeful.

The Post included candidates on the list if they (1) directly questioned the victory by President Joe Biden in 2020, (2) opposed the counting of Biden’s electoral college votes, (3) expressed support for a partisan post-election ballot review, (4) signed onto a lawsuit seeking to overturn the 2020 result or (5) attended or expressed support for the rally on the day of the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Mike Lawler, a Republican who is challenging incumbent Sean Patrick Maloney in District 17, which will include Philipstown, was asked last week by *The New York Times* if he believed Biden had won legitimately and responded, “Yes.” In a debate with Maloney on Oct. 12, he said, “I oppose Jan. 6, and Joe Biden did win.”

Colin Schmitt, who is the Republican candidate for District 18, which will include Beacon, was asked during a debate with his opponent, Pat Ryan, if he believed the election had been stolen from Donald Trump. Schmitt replied, “No.” He has faced criticism for addressing a busload of residents before they left for Washington, D.C., in the early morning of Jan. 6, 2021, but said during the debate that they were from a “faith-based organization” — Orange County Right to Life — and had nothing to do with the protests. Schmitt also said that “anyone who illegally entered the Capitol or committed a crime on Jan. 6 must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.”

Here Are Your Choices

Candidates are listed in alphabetical order. In the general election, you can vote for any candidate you wish, regardless of party registration.

BALLOT INITIATIVE

Proposal No. 1 A Proposition

To address and combat the impact of climate change and damage to the environment, the Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Act of 2022 authorizes the sale of state bonds up to \$4.2 billion to fund environmental protection, natural restoration, resiliency and clean-energy projects. Shall the Environmental Bond Act of 2022 be approved?

FEDERAL

U.S. Senate

Joe Pinion (R, C)
Charles E. Schumer (D, WF)
Diane Sare (LaRouche)

NEW YORK STATE

Governor/Lt. Governor

Kathy Hochul/Antonio Delgado (D, WF)
Lee Zeldin/Alison Esposito (R, C)

Comptroller

Thomas DiNapoli (D, WF)
Paul Rodriquez (R, C)

Attorney General

Michael Henry (R, C)
Letitia James (D, WF)

State Senate (District 39)

Rob Rolison (R)
Julie Shiroishi (D, WF)

State Supreme Court, 9th District (Vote for 7)

The 9th District (of 13) covers Dutchess, Putnam, Orange, Rockland and Westchester counties. Judges serve a 14-year term.

John Ciampoli (R, C)
- Private practice
Robert Cypher Jr. (R)
- Private practice, former Rye judge
Sherri Eisenpress (D, C)
- Rockland Family Court
Joseph Farca (R)
- Private practice
Keri Flore (D)
- Support magistrate, Cortlandt Manor
Elena Goldberg-Velazquez (D, C)
- Yonkers City Court
Michael Grace (R)
- Former Yorktown supervisor
Richard Guertin (R)
- Middletown City Court
Anne Minihan (D, C)
- Westchester County Court
Linda Murray (R)
- Court attorney, Poughkeepsie
Amy Puerto (D)
- Court attorney, Westchester
John Sarcone III (R, C)
- Private practice, Croton
David Squirrell (D)
- Putnam Legal Aid Society
David Zuckerman (D, C)
- Westchester Supreme Court

FOR VOTERS IN PHILIPSTOWN

U.S. House (District 17)

Mike Lawler (R, C)
Sean Patrick Maloney (D, WF)

State Assembly (District 95)

Stacy Halper (R, C)
Dana Levenberg (D, WF)

Putnam County Executive

Kevin M. Byrne (R, C)

Putnam County Clerk

Michael C. Bartolotti (R, C)

Putnam County Coroner (Vote for 2)

John Bourges (R, C)
Michael Nesheiwat (R, C)

Highway Superintendent

Adam Hotaling (D)

FOR VOTERS IN COLD SPRING

Trustees (Vote for 2)

Laura Bozzi (Good Neighbors)
Tweeps Woods (Service)

FOR VOTERS IN BEACON

U.S. House (District 18)

Pat Ryan (D, WF)
Colin Schmitt (R, C)

State Assembly (District 104)

Jonathan Jacobson (D, WF)

Dutchess County Sheriff

Jillian Hanlon (D, WF)
Kirk Imperati (R, C)

★ PARTY KEY: D = Democratic | R = Republican | C = Conservative | WF = Working Families ★

Early Voting

For Beacon

Fishkill Town Hall
807 Route 52

For Philipstown

North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road

SAT 5: 9a – 5p

SUN 6: 9a – 5p

Results

Check highlandscurrent.org after 9 p.m. on Nov. 8 for unofficial early results.



Election Day

Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday (Nov. 8). To verify you are registered and to locate your polling place, visit voterlookup.elections.ny.gov.

What's Online

highlandscurrent.org/election

- A Voter's Guide to Proposition 1
- Preview of state Assembly 95 race (Philipstown)
- Preview of state Senate 39 race
- Preview of Dutchess County sheriff race
- A report on outside money in local House races

Absentee Voting

The deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail or other means has passed, although you can apply in person at the county Board of Elections through Nov. 7. Absentee ballots must be postmarked by Nov. 8.

Note: Voters who have been issued an absentee ballot may no longer vote in person on a machine, regardless of whether the ballot was submitted. However, a voter who requested an absentee ballot but did not return it can complete an affidavit ballot at the polls.

District 18 *(from Page 1)*

Because of redistricting based on 2020 census figures, Beacon will become part of a newly drawn District 18, while Philipstown will join District 17. Ryan is the Democratic candidate and Schmitt has the Republican line.

(Ryan joined Congress earlier this year when he defeated Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro in a special election to fill the current District 19 seat, which was vacated by Antonio Delgado when he became lieutenant governor. Ryan will represent District 19 through the end of the year; Molinaro is the Republican candidate for the new 19th district.)

The newly drawn District 18 includes nearly all of Dutchess and Orange counties and parts of Ulster. The political analysis site FiveThirtyEight projects that Ryan is slightly favored to win the seat.

The candidates each claim that the other represents “extreme” ideologies. They discussed their positions during a debate on Oct. 18 at Marist College in Poughkeepsie.

Inflation

Schmitt called inflation the “No. 1 concern we hear from voters across the Hudson Valley.” He cited consumer prices, which he said are at “a 40-year high” as the result of “failures of the Biden administration and House Democrats like Pat Ryan.” Schmitt predicted that a majority of Republicans in the House would stop “out-of-control spending,” while restoring energy indepen-

dence with an “all-of-the-above approach.” Republicans will also restore an “all-American supply chain” to end U.S. dependence on China, he said.

Ryan agreed that inflation is “top of mind for everyone that I’m talking to” and pledged to provide consumer relief in Congress as he said he had in Ulster County. He pointed to an inflation relief plan that “cut our county’s gas tax in half,” as well as cutting property taxes to the lowest level “since the year I was born, in 1982.” Ryan also said that he has “battled hard against Central Hudson,” the gas and electric utility “that’s been ripping off our consumers.”

Affordable housing

Schmitt also blamed the “Biden economy” for the lack of affordable housing in the region. He said that interest rates — the Federal Reserve has raised them six times in 2022, most recently this week, in an attempt to curb inflation — “are pricing people out of homes” and driving up rents. If interest rates are controlled, then “we’re going to be able to start solving the problem and easing the burden for Hudson Valley residents,” he said.

Ryan said that he declared a housing emergency in Ulster County “as we saw pretty much everyone, except for the ultra-wealthy, unable to afford our own communities.” He said that he wants to replicate projects like one at the former Ulster County Jail, which is being razed to make way for 160 units of senior and workforce affordable housing. “One of the biggest solutions is we need more housing,” he said.

Campaign Spending 2022

CONGRESS 17	RAISED	% \$2K+	SPENT	ON HAND
Sean Patrick Maloney (D,WF)	\$5M	37	\$5.35M	\$544K
Mike Lawler (R,C)	\$1.1M	27	\$941K	\$173K

CONGRESS 18	RAISED	% \$2K+	SPENT	ON HAND
Pat Ryan (D,WF)	\$4M	37	\$3.3M	\$730K
Colin Schmitt (R,C)	\$1.9M	25	\$1.5M	\$387K

Maloney had a balance on Jan. 1 from previous campaigns. Source: Federal Election Commission, through Oct. 19
%2k+ = percentage of donors who gave \$2,000 or more

“We need more supply to bring down the prices, with federal dollars and resources” to make projects like that easier.

Gun control

When asked whether he would vote to reinstitute a ban on semi-automatic AR-15s and other military-style rifles, Schmitt responded that he supports the Second Amendment. “We should be focusing on common-sense solutions to support law enforcement” while also funding mental health resources “to take care of any issues that we might have in our communities when it comes to safety,” he said.

As for background checks, “we need to make sure that every purchase is a legal purchase of firearms,” Schmitt said, calling himself an “outspoken proponent for lawful and legal ownership of firearms, something that I exercise myself, and that needs to be enforced at the federal and state level.”

Ryan called a federal assault weapons ban that was in effect from 1994 to 2004 “common sense.” He said that gun deaths went down over 60 percent during that decade. Referring to recent shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde, Texas, he said that “10-year-old kids are getting gunned down at a grocery store or a school, yet you sell out to your A-plus rating from the NRA [National Rifle Association].

“That’s not common sense,” he continued. “That’s not what the vast majority of the American people want.” Ryan said he supports an assault weapons ban, along with universal background checks and red flag laws.

Abortion

Schmitt said he is pro-life and that his voting record in the Assembly reflects “common sense and a compassionate approach.” Ryan, he said, has made the election “about his extreme politics, supporting partial-birth abortion up to the moment of birth, non-doctors performing abortion, removing parental notification for minors in a distressful situation and removing penal law protections for pregnant and expectant mothers who are the victims of a violent assault.”

By comparison, “I’m not about the extreme politics; I’m about common sense and compassion,” Schmitt said.

Ryan said that for more than 50 years, Roe vs. Wade kept the “personal decision” of whether to end a pregnancy “in the hands of a woman and her doctor and her family.” But “for reasons I truly cannot understand,

the extreme right and the Supreme Court ripped that fundamental American freedom and right away from tens of millions of people.”

He said that a majority of Americans disagreed with the Court’s decision in June to reverse course, “yet, even after the strong outcry, my opponent and the Republican Party are doubling down, calling for a national abortion ban, even in the cases of rape, incest and threats to the life of a mother. That’s not who we are as a country.”

Ryan responded to the allegation that he supports abortion up to the moment of birth, saying, “the number of ‘late-term abortions,’ which isn’t even a medical term — it’s created to divide us — is so low.” Instead, “we need to focus on protecting that decision and the ability for a woman and their doctor to make that decision, not the government,” he said.

Other issues


As the debate ended, each candidate was allowed to ask his opponent one question. Schmitt noted that Ryan was a senior executive at Dataminr, a company that he said the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee believes mined Americans’ personal information from social media and sold the information to a Russian company founded and funded by Vladimir Putin to, according to *The Washington Post*, attack the West and democratic ideals. “Do you now regret selling our data to Putin?” he asked Ryan.

Ryan called the claim a “complete mistruth,” and argued that “most of the Republican Party of today’s time seems increasingly pro-Putin, if anything.”

When it was his turn, Ryan returned to abortion, calling it not his question but “the question of our community.”

He asked Schmitt to imagine the 10-year-old girl, who in July, in Ohio, was raped and then “re-traumatized” when she had to travel out of state to get an abortion, “because her state had such barbaric and archaic laws.” He said that Schmitt and other Republicans oppose access to abortion, even in cases of rape, incest or threats to a woman’s life. “What would you say to that 10-year-old if she were sitting here today?” he asked.

Schmitt accused Ryan of politicizing a tragedy involving a minor. “I have compassion and fully stand with victims of a horrific attack, of rape, of incest, life of the mother — that’s a common-sense and compassionate thing to do,” he said.



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GALLERY HOURS
FRI | SAT | SUN 12PM - 5:00PM

Beacon Gas (from Page 1)

ing code that gas appliances cannot meet. In doing so, Aymar-Blair said he hopes Beacon will “light a spark in the Hudson Valley in taking bold action to fight climate change.”

The shift could save homeowners money. According to Win Climate, a collective of data scientists, financial analysts and policy researchers, new single-family homes in New York state could save \$904 per year if built with an electric-powered, air-source heat pump, instead of a furnace or boiler that uses natural gas or oil. The average annual savings would be about \$260 higher if builders opt for ground-source, or geothermal, heat pumps.

Win Climate published its analysis of heating costs in New York’s climate zones in October to illustrate the potential benefits of the All-Electric Building Act, which the state Legislature is expected to consider next year. Gov. Kathy Hochul’s fiscal 2023 budget proposes ending the use of fossil fuels in new construction statewide by 2027.

A study published earlier this year in the journal *Environmental Science & Technology* found that gas stoves emit methane and carbon dioxide — the two most abundant greenhouse gases — and nitrogen oxide, which it said increases the risks of cardiovascular problems and respiratory disease. The stoves emit methane even when turned off, researchers found.

“It would be very wise to get these appliances out of homes for public health reasons,”



Climate activists gathered at the Beacon waterfront on Oct. 29 to encourage a transition away from fossil fuel-derived energy. The Beacon City Council could consider such a proposal this month. Photo by Valerie Shively

Aymar-Blair said in an interview this week. New York City’s legislation limits the emissions allowed in newly constructed buildings, with exceptions for hospitals, laundromats and crematoriums. Ithaca’s measure, approved a year ago, goes further and will require new and existing buildings in the city to be electrified by 2030, the same year the city has pledged to become carbon-neutral. Dozens of

cities in California have enacted similar laws. In Beacon, the renovated Tompkins Hose firehouse, which could open in 2024, will be all electric. The city currently draws about 70 percent of the power used in municipal buildings from a solar panel farm near Dennings Point. Additional solar installations are also planned for the city Highway Garage. Yvette Valdés Smith, one of two Dutchess

County legislators who represent Beacon, attended the waterfront rally and said this week that she could introduce a countywide plan if the proposal to electrify passes the City Council. “Once we see this strong example and see it working in Beacon, I will have data to stand on” to make the pitch at the county level, Valdés Smith said.

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The Philipstown Food Pantry would like to thank all those listed below for the continued support. Thanks to all those who wish to remain anonymous.

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Our Drivers - John, Rick & Danny
St. Philip's Church

Questions for Candidates: Cold Spring Village Board

There are two candidates on the Nov. 8 ballot for two open seats on the Cold Spring Village Board.

Tweeps Phillips Woods was elected in November 2021 to complete the final year of the 2-year term of Heidi Bender, who was elected in 2020 but resigned. Woods had earlier been appointed by then-Mayor Dave Merandy to complete the first year of Bender's term.

Laura Bozzi was appointed in May to replace Joe Curto, who resigned, citing health reasons. Curto had been appointed to fill Kathleen Foley's trustee seat after she was elected mayor.

The two open seats are for full, 2-year terms. The other three seats, held by Foley and Trustees Cathryn Fadde and Eliza Starbuck, will be on the ballot in 2023.

Last week, two former trustees, Fran Murphy and Marie Early, announced write-in campaigns for the open seats. Murphy did not run for re-election last year after serving for three terms; Early sought a fourth term but dropped out of the race.

To assist voters, *The Current* asked each of the candidates to respond to three questions in 500 words or less.

ON THE BALLOT



Bozzi

Woods

Why are you seeking to be elected?

BOZZI: I want to continue advocating for our community, and I enjoy working together with our neighbors toward something bigger. When I moved here with my husband in 2019, I got involved right away, joining the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Philipstown Climate Smart Task Force and the Philipstown Trails Committee.

As a trustee, I bring my professional experience in public health and environmental policy. My career has spanned the building of local food systems in Providence, Rhode Island, to protecting water quality and community health in West Virginia. I've worked in state and federal government, and at a number of nonprofits. I've built programs, led teams and secured over \$1 million in grant funding. At the Yale School of Public Health, where I am a director and faculty member, I conduct research and build partnerships to address climate change's impacts on communities. I'm passionate about protecting people's health, taking action on climate change and working toward a sustainable future.

You'll continue to see these experiences come through in my work as a trustee: as an advocate for community health, seeking and securing grants to address our needs, and, most importantly, listening to everyone and building connections.

WOODS: The answer is simple. For the past 11 months, we have been working full speed to address many of the serious and long-neglected issues in the village, such as deteriorating infrastructure. At the same time, we're responding to current issues like this summer's severe drought and water supply preservation. We inherited a complete mess.

Villagers would be surprised and frankly disturbed to learn of needs that were ignored entirely in an effort to create the illusion of fiscal responsibility. Everything from black-mold remediation to failing technology — a missing door handle on a critical public facility. To say nothing of unfinished contracts and essential projects dropped because of politics.

The worst part is that one of our most important assets — our talented, committed staff — had been laboring in unsafe environments, without the tools and support needed to do the work asked of them. Morale was low. I have worked and will continue to work collaboratively to prioritize and manage projects, to open lines of communication

(Continued on Page 13)

BEACON FARMERS MARKET

The market's mission is to feed and engage the community, support local farms and businesses and create a more just food system. See beaconfarmersmarket.org for a schedule of vendors.

SNAP and FMNP/WIC accepted with programs provided to maximize your benefits.

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and to provide support to the great people who actually make this village run.

What have been your significant contributions as a trustee?

BOZZI: With our tight budget, I know that we need to bring in outside funds to cover improvements and programs. While Cold Spring had made clean energy upgrades, we left money on the table by not participating in a state grant program through NYSEDA [New York State Energy Research and Development Authority]. I worked with the board and village treasurer to enroll the village and secure our first grant, with two more on the way. I also partnered with Philipstown and the state to secure our first electric-vehicle charger on village property, at zero cost to residents.

This summer's drought was a concerning signal that we need to be even better prepared for the future. I worked with Mayor Foley and our water superintendent on key drought emergency tools, including intermunicipal agreements and a multi-stage drought management plan. A major accomplishment for the board was to sign an agreement with New York City to connect to the Catskill Aqueduct as our backup water supply.

WOODS: My primary work has been to support the creation of better internal processes and day-to-day communications so that villagers are well-informed and have a vested interest in the decisions made by the trustees. We had to rebuild trust in the board by showing respect for our village

team and giving them space to do the jobs where they have expertise.

We have a great team now. No wild outbursts, throwing pens or willful distrust. Just a commitment to doing the work. Our meetings are efficient, productive and now open to all who want to participate, whether from your kitchen table or in person. We make every effort to get you the information you need so that you can actively participate.

This is all change that I have stewarded with a team of talented trustees and staff, and I'm proud of it. People think I am quiet. It's a change from what villagers have seen in previous officeholders, but don't be fooled. I'm a deep listener and a true collaborator. I leave space to really hear my colleagues and the public. That's the job: to listen, consider and get to the best solutions, ego aside.

What are the top three issues facing the village?

BOZZI: The current board inherited major infrastructure issues that had been long ignored. We are prioritizing and addressing them. High on the list is repairing the reservoir dam, as is continued sidewalk and road fixing to improve safety and walkability. Second, managing tourism impacts and protecting quality of life is a major priority. I'll continue to give the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail proposal a hard look and advocate the interests of the village. Third, we need to be creative and strategic to find revenue sources to cover costs for infrastructure and services. Metered parking is slated to begin in the spring on Main Street, and this summer the board secured state legislative

approval for a local tax on short-term rentals.

WOODS: We have a limited budget; prioritizing is key to addressing issues in a timely and efficient manner. Top of mind is making sure we have the people power to manage our roadways, streets, sewer and water. We need to find creative revenue generation, implementing the parking plan; key considerations were not addressed and must be. I can give you a laundry list but ultimately, protecting this beautiful place we call home and providing a safe living and working environment is the most important issue.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES



Early



Murphy

Why did you decide to run so close to the election?

EARLY: When I saw the sample ballot in September, I felt something needed to be done. At that point, a write-in campaign was the only alternative.

MURPHY: Six months ago, when it was time to gather signatures [for nominating petitions to appear on the ballot], I still had hope that some things would get done. Now we've been through the whole summer and

nothing has changed. Most people I spoke with didn't even know there was a village election this year. Now they do; now they have a choice.

If elected, what would your priorities be?

EARLY: Implementation of the Village Code, specifically Chapters 126 (Vehicles and Traffic), 127 (Residential Parking Program) and 100 (Short-Term Rentals); completion and adoption of Chapter 134 (Zoning); and completion of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP).

MURPHY: Implementation and enforcement of laws that were approved during the last administration, especially Chapter 100 (Short-Term Rentals), Chapter 126 (Vehicles and Traffic) and Chapter 127 (Residential Parking Program). Also, completion of the code update. Only Chapter 134 and two related chapters need to be completed. This will open the way for approval of the LWRP and a gateway to additional funding.

What are the top three issues facing the village?

EARLY: Overvisitation, including the Fjord Trail; ensuring the village water supply; and finding alternate revenue sources.

MURPHY: When listening to residents, it is evident that parking and crowds are major problems. The third issue is water. This issue is discussed during every election. We received detailed information from Chazen [a consulting firm] regarding alternatives to our dams. We need to seriously consider this.

"We can't afford politics as usual."

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Grease Thieves *(from Page 1)*

For decades, waste from restaurant kitchens has been used in products such as soap and animal feed but now is also recycled into biodiesel, an in-demand renewable replacement for petroleum-based diesel that can be blended with heating oil, gasoline and jet fuel to reduce carbon emissions.

Buffalo Biodiesel's drivers and the businesses it contracts with have reported 4,000 thefts so this year, including dozens in Dutchess and Putnam counties, said Karina Baldwin-Koch, a marketing manager with the company.

At One More Bite, the thieves stole 200 gallons, worth about \$800, and in August the Beacon Bread Co. lost 175 gallons worth \$700. In both cases, Buffalo Biodiesel filed police reports. Business owners are often unaware of the thefts until drivers arrive to empty the vats. The company operates in 12 states and "on a slow day" will record about 25 thefts, Baldwin-Koch said.

In Dutchess County, there were 38 thefts in August and 12 in September, she said. In Putnam, there were 28 thefts in August and two in September.

People do get caught. Two men and a woman, all from Yonkers, were arrested last month and charged with using a Home Depot box truck to steal grease from a restaurant in Red Hook at 10:30 a.m. on a Wednesday morning. Police said they suspect that the truck was used in other thefts in the weeks leading to the arrest.

"Usually, the people who rob this stuff are smart enough not to come in broad

daylight," the restaurant's owner, who did not want to be identified, told the *Red Hook Daily Catch*. "Clearly, these people were not very intelligent."

On Oct. 4, the Ulster County Sheriff's Office announced the arrest of two other Yonkers residents accused of stealing grease from a restaurant in Esopus. And in June, an officer with the Saugerties Police Department found a pumping system and containers filled with grease in the back of a van he pulled over for traffic violations.

The officer searched the vehicle after detecting "a strong odor of oil" and noticing that the passenger was wearing latex gloves. The driver and passenger, both residents of New York City, were charged with misdemeanor criminal possession of stolen property.

Police suspect that some people who have been arrested are members of an organized ring. One syndicate was dismantled when federal prosecutors charged 21 people in June 2019 with using box trucks to steal grease in North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia to sell in New Jersey.

One of the suspects, Alvaro Mendez-Flores, was sentenced in May 2020 to 41 months in prison and ordered to pay \$4 million in restitution.

A detective with the Town of Ulster Police Department told the *Daily Freeman* in Kingston that the FBI was investigating whether the thieves arrested recently had inside help from biodiesel company drivers.

The demand for grease has been growing with the demand for biodiesel, a market that has increased from 90 million gallons in 2005

to 1.65 billion gallons last year. In the short term, the cost of diesel has played a role; the fuel is 52 percent more expensive than a year ago, according to New York State.

"We have a lot of people that ask where they can buy it locally, because they've started converting their vehicles" to use it, said Baldwin-Hoch.

The demand should continue. As of July 1, New York State will begin mandating that heating oil contain at least 5 percent biodiesel, with the requirement rising to 10 percent by 2025 and 20 percent by 2030.

Buffalo Biodiesel also collects grease from airports, fairgrounds and stadiums, Baldwin-Hoch said, emptying containers every other month and paying businesses twice annually for each gallon.

At its plant in Tonawanda, just north of Buffalo, the firm also processes expired butter, mayonnaise and salad dressings collected from supermarkets. In addition to biodiesel, the process creates glycerin used in soaps and cosmetics and a sludge used in animal feed.

"You can always tell when we're doing our processing" because of the odor, said Baldwin-Koch. "Some days it smells like chicken."

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of cases:

29,311 (+125)

Positive tests,
7-day average:

6.1% (+0.3)

Percent fully
vaccinated:

75.5

Cold Spring: **86.7**
Garrison: **81.2**

Number of deaths:

136 (0)

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of cases:

78,913 (+365)

Positive tests,
7-day average:

8.9% (+1.0)

Percent fully
vaccinated:

70.9

Beacon: **66.8**

Number of deaths:

707 (+1)

Source: State and county health departments, as of Nov. 2, with totals since pandemic began and change over the previous week in parentheses. Percent vaccinated reflects those people who have completed the initial series of vaccines as of Oct. 28. It does not include boosters.

IN FOCUS: JANNIS KOUNELLIS AS MENTOR

Saturday, November 12, 2022, 2:30 p.m.

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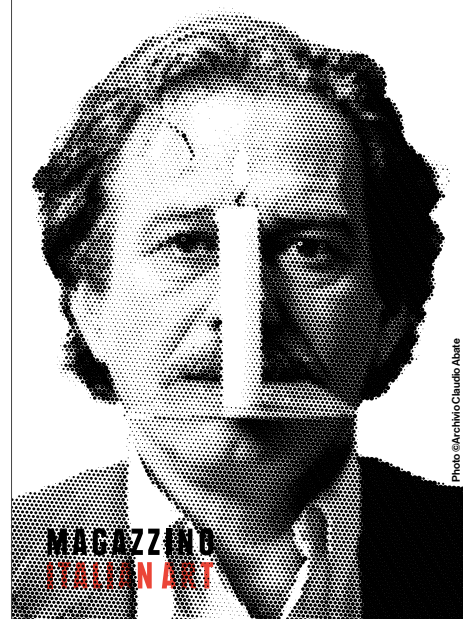


Photo © Archivio Claudio Abate

HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

Fri. Nov 4 – 7 pm - FREE

LIT LIT - Literary Open Mic

w/over 20 readers + featured reader Betsy Andrews

Doors open 6:30 PM sign-up @ Donnaminkowitz.com/lit-lit

Sat. Nov 5 & Sun. Nov 6 – 1-5 PM

Faces of Beacon: Past, Present, Future

23 portraits representing different facets of Beacon



The Faces of Beacon - Silent Auction is our major fundraising event of the year. HCC does not receive any federal, state or county funding. It relies solely on donations, membership dues and private sponsorships from people like you. Please support the 150 year old "Jewel of Beacon". 100% proceeds from Silent Auction Sale will benefit the Howland. Exhibit & bidding ends Nov 12.

Sat. Nov 5 – 1-3 PM

BEACON BONFIRE

1PM - Alex Bugnon & Tony DiPaolo

2:15 PM - David & Jake Bernz

Sat. Nov 5 – 8 PM

QWANQWA five-piece ensemble based in Addis Ababa, dedicated to furthering Ethiopia's unique string tradition



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Nov. 12: ARTICHOKE Storytelling Series
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- Welcoming Villager Participation

Tweeps Phillips Woods, Village of Cold Spring Trustee

VOTE 11/08

Cold Spring United Methodist Church, 216 Main St at Orchard St

early voting at North Highlands Firehouse, until 11/06

Russia Report *(from Page 1)*

and helped children with disabilities come to the U.S. for treatment. In 1991, when Russia began to allow adoptions, the U.S. Embassy asked her to connect American families with children. That led her to open her own nonprofit adoption agency.



Natasha Shaginian

Photo by M. Turton

In 1994, she and her family moved to Cold Spring, and in 1996 she opened an office for her agency on Stone Street. (She has dual Russian and American citizenship.) Shaginian estimates the agency facilitated more than 1,000 adoptions before Russia stopped allowing them in 2013, apparently in retaliation for the U.S. freezing assets and denying visas to Russians implicated in human-rights abuses.

Today her charity focuses on getting treatment for Russian children who are missing limbs. In 2019, a sister organization in Moscow opened the I Want to Walk Children's Prosthetic Center, assisted by doctors from Scottish Rite Hospital, in Dallas, Texas,

which specializes in pediatric orthopedics.

"It is the only such center in the whole of Russia," Shaginian said. "Last year, we helped more than 80 kids with physical disabilities, not only with prosthetics but rehabilitation."

In 2000, while in Russia, she met Sasha Alexander, 15, who had been in an orphanage his entire life. "When I asked him if he had a dream, he said, 'Yes, I want my legs to grow,'" she recalled.

She took Sasha to a Scottish Rite Hospital, where he received prosthetic legs. He was later adopted by an American family, graduated from Boston University and is now a lawyer. He has also climbed Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro more than once.

Over the years, Shaginian has shuttled back and forth to Moscow, most recently in July, five months after Russia invaded Ukraine. She found her colleagues depressed.

Money was tight. Many of the foreign companies that supported the program had left the country. When the invasion began, "people were shocked," she said. "The hope was it would end soon."

People were confused and unsure about the war, she said. "The government-controlled media did a good job brainwashing people — Instagram, Facebook, everything was shut down" and many journalists fled. Protesting could mean a 15-year prison sentence.

Shaginian said everyone within her circle of friends and colleagues is against the invasion. "But it is a horrible feeling of helplessness, of suppression," she said. "I am a pacifist. It's the 21st century; we have to find a way to speak with each other. My



Anastasia, a Ukrainian girl who lost her leg to a bomb

Photo provided

father and brother live in Ukraine. It is just unbelievable pain, unbelievable stress."

Her niece, Vlada, is studying architecture at Dnipro University in Ukraine, where she regularly has to head to a basement shelter because of bombings. Her dream of attending Kharkiv University ended when bombing destroyed the school.

Many have chosen to leave Russia, including thousands of young men. "You see them on the train platforms or at any bus station," Shaginian said. "When the draft started, men realized, 'This is it.' They did not want to go to war."

She said that when her godson, Daniel, crossed into Kazakhstan, the line of vehicles at the border stretched for 30 kilometers (nearly 19 miles).

She said one incident brought the nature of war home to her. In May, in Donetsk, a Russian-occupied region of Ukraine, a 13-year-old named Anastasia lost her right leg to a bomb. "We urged her to come to our I Want to Walk Center for treatment and a prosthetic," she said, adding that the girl can now walk.

Local Russian officials asked the organization to assist soldiers who had lost limbs. "I'm very sorry for any human being who suffers in war, but our mission is to help children," Shaginian said. "If the government sends someone to war it must be responsible for the consequences."

Only a few airlines are still flying out of Russia. When Shaginian returned to Cold Spring in October, she traveled by train from Moscow to St. Petersburg, then by bus to Helsinki, Finland.

During the wait at the Finnish border, she saw mothers, wives and girlfriends crying as the men in their lives left the country. One young Russian was turned back because he had only a tourist visa. She also saw Finns offering rides to the Russians.

"I realized that life had changed completely; that Russia is not the same," Shaginian said. "It is my motherland, an incredible mix of culture, history, friends and family. But I can't stand what's happening; it's against humanity. My heart is with my family and people in Ukraine."

Let's Connect

The Philipstown Trails Committee, a town advisory committee, is pleased to announce a series of community-wide conversations to discuss a potential path to allow safe biking and walking access between Cold Spring and Garrison, and important neighborhood amenities in between. Potential routes are being explored through a feasibility study.

Your feedback is essential—please join us to hear what we've learned, and to share your thoughts.

Community Meeting
Thursday, November 10, 2022
6:30-8:00 PM
Desmond-Fish Public Library
472 NY-403 at 9D

For more information
please visit us at:
philipstowntrails.org



PHILIPSTOWN
Trails Committee



Hudson River
Valley Greenway

WE'RE STAYING OUTDOORS!



JOIN US
EVERY SATURDAY
AT BOSCOBEL
NEW WINTER HOURS
STARTING NOVEMBER
10:00-1:00



AROUND TOWN



◀ **MYSTICAL SCIENCE** — Talewise visited the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison on Oct. 29 to present “Dragons & The Ice Sorceress,” an interactive story for children that included science experiments with dry ice.



◀ **SPOOKYTOWN** — After a three-year hiatus because of the pandemic, toddlers and preschoolers returned to the senior complex on Chestnut Street in Cold Spring on Oct. 31 to collect Halloween candy and compliments. One resident said: “We probably look forward to this more than the children do.”

▲ **HONORING FLORENCE** — The Howland Cultural Center in Beacon dedicated its performance room on Oct. 30 as Northcutt Hall to honor Florence Northcutt, 95, who has been a volunteer at the center for 36 years.

Photos by Ross Corsair

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS!

DOING THE WORK

Official Ballot for the General Election - November 8, 2022

Boleta oficial para las Elecciones Generales - 8 Noviembre 2022

Catherine P. Croft, Commissioner

Kelly K. Primavera, Commissioner

See Instructions on privacy booth/screen

Ver Instrucciones en la cabina de privacidad/pantalla

PHILIPSTOWN E.D.(s): 3, 6

Remember to vote both sides

Recuerda votar por ambos lados

2 TRUSTEES
2 MORE YEARS

Laura A. Bozzi
Tweeps P. Woods

Official Ballot for the General Election - November 8, 2022

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PHILIPSTOWN E.D.(s): 3, 6

Remember to vote both sides

Recuerda votar por ambos lados

Proposal number one, a proposition

Propuesta número uno, una proposición

Green Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022

To address and control the impact of climate change and damage to the environment, the "Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022" authorizes the sale of state bonds up to four billion two hundred million dollars to fund environmental protection, natural restoration, resiliency, and clean energy projects. Shall the Environmental Bond Act of 2022 be approved?

Ley de bonos ambientales de 2022 AGUA LIMPIA, AIRE LIMPIO Y EMPLEOS VERDES

Para abordar y controlar el impacto del cambio climático y el daño al ambiente, la "Ley de bonos ambientales de 2022" autoriza la venta de bonos del estado hasta por cuatro mil doscientos millones de dólares para financiar la protección del ambiente, la restauración natural, resiliencia y proyectos de energía limpia. ¿Se debería aprobar la Ley de bonos ambientales de 2022?

VOTE YES!

Yes, Si

No

Environmental Bond Act for
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR
GREEN JOBS

Early Voting Until Nov 6th
North Highlands Firehouse

Election Day, Tues. Nov 8th
Methodist Church,
Orchard & Main

VOTE
NOV. 8

PAID FOR BY THE SERVICE PARTY

Official Ballot for the General Election - November 8, 2022

Boleta oficial para las Elecciones Generales - 8 Noviembre 2022

Catherine P. Croft, Commissioner

Kelly K. Primavera, Commissioner

See Instructions on privacy booth/screen

Ver Instrucciones en la cabina de privacidad/pantalla

PHILIPSTOWN E.D.(s): 3, 6

Remember to vote both sides

Recuerda votar por ambos lados



Instructor Amanda Jane Nguyen demonstrates during an aerial arts class.



Amanda Amadei guides a Second Half Yoga restorative breath class.



Liz Ortiz teaches a Vinyasa yoga yin flow class.

Photos provided

The Calendar Time to *Move Again*

Cold Spring studio opens in former print shop

By Alison Rooney

When word got out that the Cold Spring space occupied for years by Grey Printing was going to be available to rent, Katie MacInnes had an immediate reaction.

It would be perfect for what she had in mind.

The space met a few challenging criteria: an in-town location that was within walking distance of the village and Haldane and that also had sufficient parking. Not to mention the expansiveness of the storefront itself, once emptied of printing equipment and desks.

What she envisioned has turned out pretty close to the reality of her studio Move Cold Spring, which opened on Oct. 19. The top-to-bottom renovation — “We gained 4 feet taking the dropped ceiling down,” MacInnes says — reconfigured the space into a mirrored room with new flooring, a changing room and space for merchandise and beverage sales. She also added pull-down screens to the windows. “I didn’t want to close off the space, but wanted privacy.”

MacInnes, formerly of Garrison, and now living in North Highlands, wants to fill the space with classes and other activities fostering community togetherness. Her plan took root during the pandemic while she was taking a dance class via Zoom through the Philipstown Recreation Department.

“It gave me the idea people were craving more,” she explains. “What I wanted was to offer adults and kids something new that

prompts thinking and living differently — a place to bring kids who are maybe not doing sports or theater in school, a place to explore expression and creativity. I wanted to have something accessible and playful, a place for fun, unique experiences and connections.”

MacInnes has a background in both design and business. She was formerly a specialist in the jewelry department at Christie’s, where she researched and appraised high-end collections. In 2008, she formed a jewelry company, Adler Grier, where she was a designer and co-ran the business.

“The business came to its natural culmination just as my kids were in middle school and wanted to be in Cold Spring,” she says. “We lived in Garrison for 15 years, then moved to Cold Spring at the end of 2019, before the pandemic. The move grounded us to the community. I love the idea of kids walking from school into the village; there’s plenty of parking, parents can walk around and everyone can get a slice of pizza or pick something up at Main Course.”

The timing was right, with the loosening of indoor space restrictions coinciding with the storefront becoming available.

When determining the slate of classes, MacInnes sought to include an element of play in most of them. She also wanted to have some classes not offered elsewhere. She came

up with aerial arts, done on silks attached to beams suspended over a portion of the room. The beams are supported in the walls, as well.

There are instructional classes for age groups; the youngest is for students in grades 3 to 5. They teach body position, muscle usage and balance. There are also workshops for children and teens on improvisation, comedic skits and storytelling, the latter taught by a *Moth* GrandSLAM winner. Each workshop culminates in a live performance, during which students can display their skills. An adult improv class will be offered in the winter.

Move also has adult and senior exercise programs, as well as a class called Second Half that’s loosely geared to those in the second half of their lives. Some emphasize stretch and breath, barre and gentle yoga. Ballet and modern dance classes are meant to introduce and reinforce a foundation for all

techniques. Future possibilities include a bridge club and other activities to stimulate the mind, MacInnes says.

At least for the fall, high school and adult classes are offered on a drop-in basis; others, such as for younger children, run as series. Move is offering three-pack adult passes designed to encourage sampling.

“My hope with the fall series is people will drop in and try things out, because many of the classes we offer can be hard to envision,”

MacInnes says. “I wanted to start off with what I could manage that I felt was relevant to the community. Plus, I love the idea of collaborating with businesses [and] organizations, whether it’s talks or readings or music. There’s been a wonderful reception from the community through every stage so far.”

Move Cold Spring is located at 37 Chestnut St. Call 845-476-3106 or visit movecoldspring.com.



Katie MacInnes



The HIGHLANDS Current's HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

Now in its third year, *The Current's* Halloween Costume Contest has become one of our favorite things to come out of 2020. We asked readers to submit photos of themselves or their children and pets in costume — and we corralled others before the Cold Spring parade on Oct. 29. Here are some of the most memorable efforts, and there are many more shots at highlandscurrent.org. You'll also find a gallery online of photos taken on Monday (Oct. 31) by Ross Corsair and Michael Turton at the Cold Spring parade and by Corsair at Spookytown.

Our guest judges had a hard time choosing the winners in six categories — these masters of Halloween spirit will receive an annual membership to *The Current* and a year's worth of bragging rights. Thank you to everyone who entered, and to our judges: Johanna Reinhardt, director of the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring, and Stephanie Montesanto, head of youth services at the Howland Public Library in Beacon.

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED!



Jenny, Josh, Avi and Neta Kaplan



The Bailey family



Erin, Brent and Wendell Tomer



Colin, Teddy and Judah Nagel-Wright



Juliet Strong, Dan Vatsky and Sierra Strong-Vatsky



Welcome to Jurassic Park! Mark Stochmal as Mr. DNA, Michele as John Hammond, Jared Rutherford as Alan Grant, Liliana Rut as a fearsome triceratops, Jen Whitton as Ellie Sattler



"The end of the dinosaurs," a joint effort representing the Hall/Brotherhood, Spencer, McMahon, Shapiro and Schiller families of Garrison and Cold Spring



The Vergara family (Charlie, Elias, Oliver, Hazel and Emily)



Ernesto Arreguin and family



Nick, Benjamin, Sara, Mike, Anthony, Stephanie

BEST OVERALL



The Austin-Mallue family
(Loriella Mallue, Henry Austin-Mallue, Susan Austin)

BEST FAMILY



The Schick family



Fran Hodes



Quin Carmicino



Kelly Stine and family



James and Brooke Taylor



Harry McGrory



Josh D.



Kirra McCoy



Celia and Mae Schneck



The Glover family



Leaf Severs



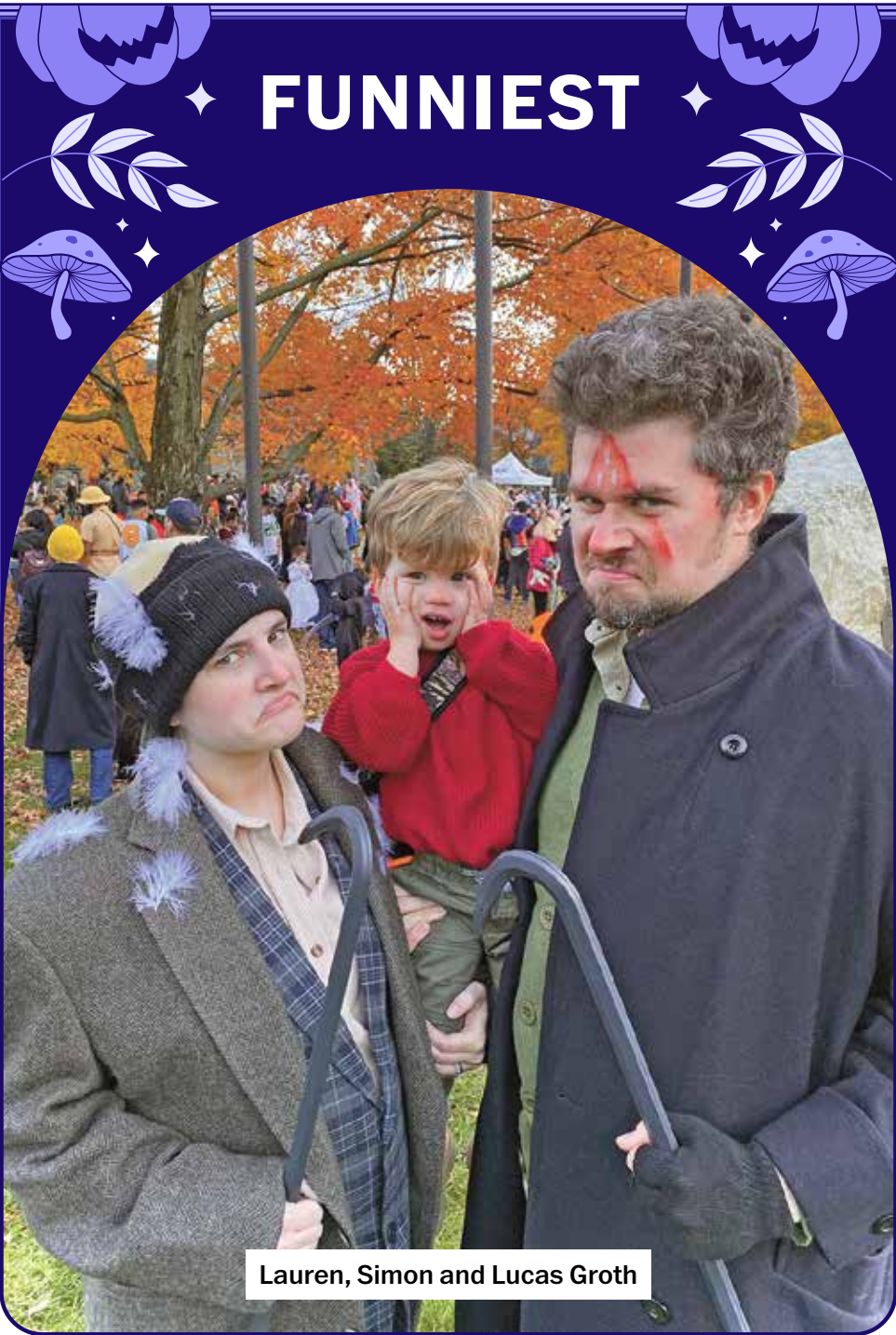
Jim Semmelman



Adam Santagata and his girlfriend, The Mask



Breakneck Bigfoot and coworker, sent by Brian Rubino



Lauren, Simon and Lucas Groth



Melissa Carlton and Sylvia Wallin



Jamie Robins, Julie Pearson and baby Florence



Nico Lagerman



James Barrett



Karen Kapoor



Russon Danicich and Scout



Charmaine and Caleb



Tate Cornwell (baby), Liz Pastena and Julian Cornwell



Yali, Ben and Dan



Sol Delfi-Hernandez



Teddy Conway



Lux Delfi-Hernandez



John and Dylan Taylor



Frankie Darnell



Cara Patricia Ault



Amaryllis Rubino-Vigar



Natalie Taylor



Kayla Quin



Sadie, Kaila, Maura, Kayla, Allegra, Caelan, Wyatt



Guillermo and Una



Willie the Rooster



Tina Richard and family



Amy, the local skunk



Charlotte Brooks and family



Eli, Aurelias, Jake and Lucas



Oliver Longo, a King Charles Cavalier

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 5

Beacon Bonfire Music + Art Festival

BEACON

Noon – 11 p.m. Various
beaconbonfire.com

More than 100 performers and artists will stage acts at venues and galleries. There will also be activities on Main Street. The website has a schedule. *Cost: \$19, \$39 or \$129*

SUN 6

Daylights Savings

2 a.m. Move clock back one hour

SAT 12

Arty Martini Party

GARRISON

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

Attendees will be invited to make art on the walls at this fundraiser. *Cost: \$50 (\$55 door)*

SUN 13

Support Iran Freedom

BEACON

Noon. Farmers Market | 223 Main St.

After a dance performance, participants will gather at Polhill Park for a rally with music from a brass band.

VETERANS DAY

FRI 11

Ceremony

BEACON

11 a.m. VFW Hall | 413 Main St.

FRI 11

Ceremony

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. War Memorial
Main Street at Chestnut



Hug A Mug For Veterans, Nov. 12

SAT 12

Hug A Mug For Veterans

BEACON

1 – 3 p.m. Elks Lodge
900 Wolcott Ave. | hicksstrong.org

Paint a mug that will be distributed to a service member. Register online. *Cost: \$35*

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 5

All-Star Stand-Up Comedy Night

BEACON

6:30 p.m. Elks Lodge
900 Wolcott Ave. | 914-204-2300

This performance, in partnership with Crazy Gene's Comedy, will benefit local charities. Ages 21 and older. Visit the lodge or call for tickets. *Cost: \$30*

SAT 5

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

WAPPINGERS FALLS

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

The award-winning Edward Albee play features an iconic dysfunctional couple, George and Martha. Also FRI 11, SAT 12. *Cost: \$22 (\$20 seniors, military, 12 and younger)*



Take a Look at This Heart, Nov. 9

SAT 5

Spoons, Toons & Booze

BEACON

8 p.m. Story Screen | 445 Main St.
storyscreenbeacon.com

This watch party will feature more than 200 cartoons from 1940 to the 2000s, as well as a sugary cereal bar, cereal-infused cocktails and trivia. Also SUN 6. *Cost: \$16*

SUN 6

Pay Dirt

PUTNAM VALLEY

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

The Putnam Theatre Alliance will stage a reading of plays by Vickie Ramirez, Kate Moira Ryan and Nan-Lynn Nelson set in colonial times from the perspectives of Chief Daniel Nimham; Mary Philipse; and Caesar,

who was enslaved by the Philipse family. Register online. *Free*

WED 9

Take a Look at This Heart

BEACON

7 p.m. Story Screen Theater
445 Main St. | storyscreenbeacon.com

Director Ben Duffy will screen his 2018 documentary about love and sexuality in the disabled community and lead a discussion. *Cost: \$12*

THURS 10

John Mulaney

POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. MJN Convention Center
14 Civic Center Plaza | 845-454-5800
midhudsonciviccenter.org

The former *Saturday Night Live* writer, comedian and actor will perform stand-up for his From Scratch tour. *Cost: \$70*

SAT 12

The Artichoke

BEACON

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

The performers for this installment of the storytelling series are Ophira Eisenberg, Gail Thomas, Adrien Behn, Sam Dingman, Jamie Brickhouse and Gastor Almonte. *Cost: \$20*

SUN 13

The Rise and Fall of Jean Claude Van Damme

GARRISON

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

Timothy Haskell's drama about the action star and icon from the 1980s and '90s seems like it may include puppets. *Cost: \$25*

KIDS & FAMILY

SUN 6

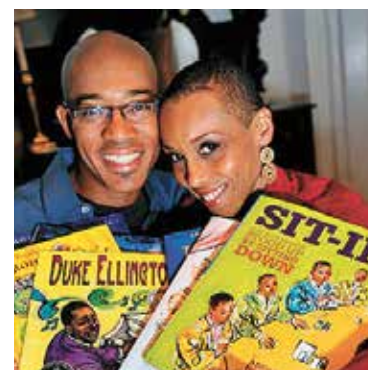
Andrea Davis Pinkney & Brian Pinkney

GARRISON

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

The author and artist will receive the Alice Curtis Desmond Award for Excellence in Children's Literature in recognition of their more than 20 books, including a biography of

Duke Ellington and *Let it Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters*. Andrea will read and Brian will demonstrate his technique.



TUES 8

Little Bookworms

COLD SPRING

11 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Raven Howell will read from two of her books for preschoolers, *Rhymes That Go from Head to Toe* and *A Colorful Beginning*. Register online.

THURS 10

Self-Portrait Art

BEACON

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

Children from preschool to 5th grade are invited to create their likenesses on paper. Register online.

SAT 12

Kids' Craft Connection

GARRISON

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

After a flashlight tour of the mansion, children will be invited to make historic note cards. *Cost: \$13 (\$24 adults, member discounts)*

SAT 12

African Drumming Workshop

GARRISON

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

Children will be invited to pick up drums, shakers and other instruments for this African-style drum circle with Baba Kazi Oliver. Register online.

WILDLIFE OF THE HUDSON VALLEY: FROM THE STONE AGE TO THE PRESENT

SAT. NOV. 12
3:00 P.M.
Hubbard Lodge

With Captain Scott Craven,
environmental historian and author
Putnam Highlands Audubon Society

Admission by reservation only.

(Co-Sponsored By N. Parks &
Little Stony Point Citizens Assoc.)



www.putnamhighlandsaudubon.org



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TALKS & TOURS

SAT 5

Walking Tour

GARRISON

2 p.m. The Garrison
2015 Route 9 | hhit.org

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust will lead a tour of the 57 acres it preserved at the former golf course and solicit input on access and restoration. Also TUES 8. Register online.

THURS 10

**A Fight to Rule
Indigenous Land**

COLD SPRING

7 p.m. Putnam History Museum
63 Chestnut St.
putnamhistorymuseum.org

Heather Bruegl, a citizen of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, will present her work focusing on Indigenous nations during the French and Indian War. Attend in person or watch via Zoom. *Cost: \$10 (members free)*

SAT 12

**Wildlife in the
Hudson Valley**

PHILIPSTOWN

3 p.m. Hubbard Lodge | 2880 Route 9
putnamhighlandsaudubon.org

Scott Craven, an environmental historian, will share an overview of 10,000 years of wildlife history in the Hudson Valley, from Stone Age hunters to modern human interactions with deer, coyotes and beaver. Register online.

VISUAL ART

SAT 5

**BeaconArts
Member Exhibition**

BEACON

4 – 6 p.m. Ethan Cohen Fine Arts
211 Fishkill Ave. | beaconarts.org

This multimedia exhibition will include work by more than 60 artists. At this opening reception, Donna Mikkelsen will perform a live drawing and Donna Minkowitz will read from her work. An artist's reception will be held on SAT 12.

SAT 12

**Jannis Kounellis as
Mentor**

PHILIPSTOWN

2:30 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | magazzino.art

Francesco Guzzetti, a scholar, will discuss the Arte Povera movement's legacy as a teacher and mentor, along with artist Calixto Ramirez. The presentation will include a screening of interviews with his former assistant and the president of Kounellis' archive. *Cost: \$5 (free for students)*

SECOND SATURDAY

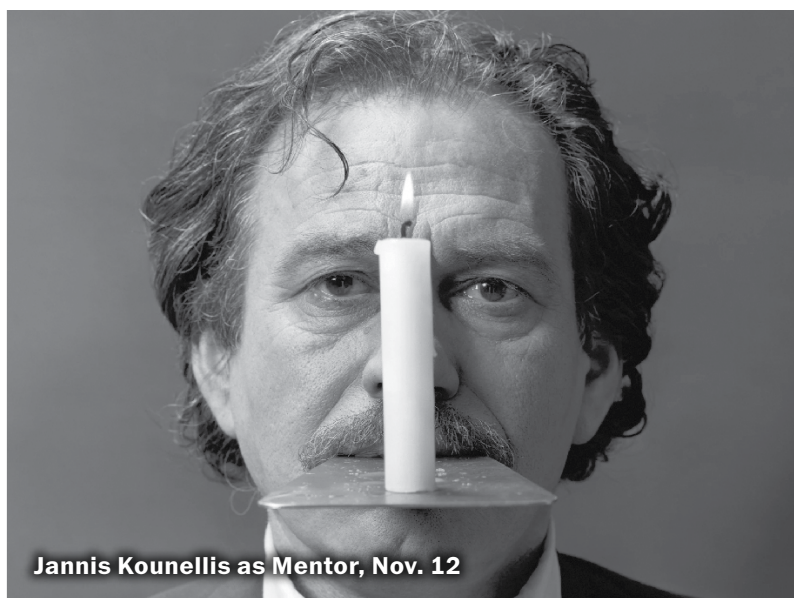
SAT 12

**Early Architecture &
Contemporary Fiber Artist**

BEACON

Noon – 4 p.m. Beacon Historical Society
61 Leonard St. | beaconhistorical.org

An exhibition of Shirley Botsford's needle art, inspired by her local



Jannis Kounellis as Mentor, Nov. 12

1889 Queen Anne home, will be on view through mid-February.

SAT 12

**Jebah Baum |
Pamela Vlahakis**

BEACON

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

Baum's exhibition, *Combinants and Recombinants*, will include his sculptures and lithographs. In Gallery 2, Vlahakis' show, *Boomerang*, will include images showing women's lives before Roe vs. Wade. On view through Dec. 4.

SAT 12

**RIOS | Igor Ventura |
Zachary Friedman**

BEACON

6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery
139 Main St. | clutter.co

Three solo shows of multiples and figures will be on view through Dec. 2.

MUSIC

SAT 5

Maeve Gilchrist

PUTNAM VALLEY

7:30 p.m.
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

The harpist, singer and composer

will perform music from her most recent recording, *Harpweaver*, based on a poem by Edna St. Vincent Millay. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 5

Qwanqwa

BEACON

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

The five-piece Ethiopian string band will perform traditional music. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 5

Rhett Miller

BEACON

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

Best known as the lead singer of the alternative country band Old 97's, Miller will play music from his latest solo album, *The Messenger*. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SAT 5

The Association

PEEKSKILL

8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com

This "sunshine pop" band, which had hits in the late 1960s with "Cherish," "Windy" and "Never My Love," will perform. *Cost: \$35 to \$50*

(Continued on Page 26)

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

BEATLES VS STONES

A MUSICAL SHOWDOWN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD 8PM ALL AGES

PARAMOUNT HUDSON VALLEY THEATER
1008 Brown Street, Peekskill, NY

RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW!
\$30-\$60 (plus fees) tickets available by phone (914.739.0039),
through paramounthudsonvalley.com and at the box office

Virtual Wine Auction

A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR
HOPE FOR YOUTH FOUNDATION
SPONSORED BY VISCOUNT WINES
& LIQUORS

Nov. 5 - Nov. 18
<https://bit.ly/hfyf-auction>

Jim Will's

HOPE for Youth Foundation, Inc.
HFYF.org

**WINE ENTHUSIASTS BID ON
RARE AND SUPERB WINES &
SPIRITS AND YOU WILL
HELP US HELP CHILDREN!**

THE WEEK AHEAD

SAT 5
Dead Unicorn
BEACON
9 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnbeacon
The band will play music from its latest release, *Overboard*. Black Mesa will open.

SUN 6
The Joni Project
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Katie Pearlman and her band will perform the music of Joni Mitchell. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

MON 7
Joe McPhee
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnbeacon
McPhee's longtime collaborators Joe Giardullo, Michael Bisio and Jay Rosen will perform as part of Quinn's weekly jazz series.

FRI 11
Trout Fishing in America
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet will perform music from their latest release, *Safe House*. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SAT 12
3rd Annual Blues Benefit
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The Hudson Valley Blues Society will bring together a lineup of top players, including Joe Louis Walker, Slam Allen and Albert Castiglia. *Cost: \$50 (\$55 door)*

SAT 12
Robin Holcomb
BEACON
8 p.m. St. Andrew's Church
17 South Ave. | robin.bpt.me
The composer, singer and songwriter will play music from her latest recording, *One Way or Another*. Her husband, Wayne Horvitz, a composer, pianist and electronic musician, will open, along with Sarah Schoenbeck, a bassoonist who will play contemporary music. *Cost: \$20 (\$30 door)*

SUN 13
PubliQuartet
BEACON
4 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandmusic.org
Curtis Stewart and Jannina Norpoth (violins), Nick Revel (viola) and Hamilton Berry (cello) will perform music from their project, *What is American?* *Cost: \$35 (\$10 students)*



PubliQuartet, Nov. 13

SUN 13
Karla Bonoff
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The singer and songwriter will play music from her latest release, *Carry Me Home*. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

CIVIC

SAT 5
Early Voting
FISHKILL
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Fishkill Town Hall
807 Route 52
elections.dutchessny.gov
For Beacon residents. Also SUN 6.

SAT 5
Early Voting
PHILIPSTOWN
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road | putnamboe.com
For Philipstown residents. Also SUN 6.

MON 7
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | cityofbeacon.org

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

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

WED 9
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 9
County Legislature
POUGHKEEPSIE
7 p.m. Legislative Chambers
22 Market St. | 845-486-2100
dutchessny.gov

WED 9
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

THURS 10
Philipstown Trails Community Meeting
GARRISON
6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
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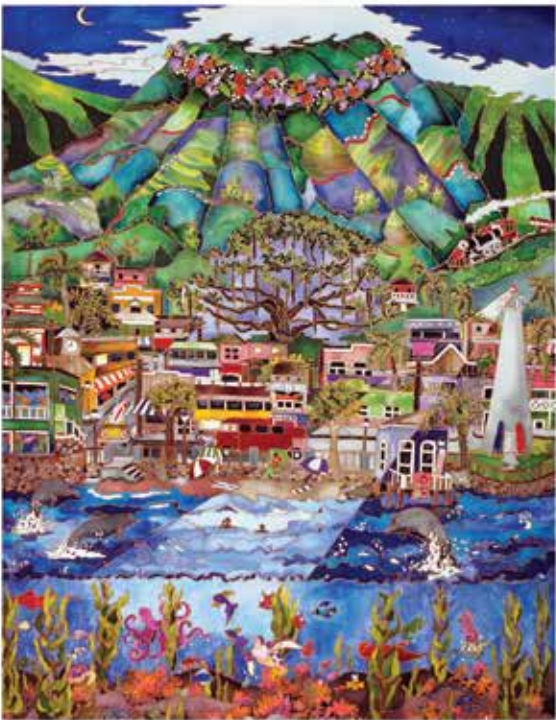
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Living Green

Close to Home

By Krystal Ford

Last month, the World Wildlife Fund released its annual Living Planet Report, and it's devastating. There has been an average 69 percent decline in the populations of nearly 32,000 monitored species of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians since 1970, just 52 years ago. We are living through crises because of the unsustainable use of our planet's resources.



More and more people are alarmed, if not frightened, by these increasing threats but often don't know how to channel that into action that will result in the large-scale changes that are needed.

And yet millions of environmentalists sit out the elections. The Environmental Voter Project estimates that more than 8 million people who consider themselves environmentalists did not vote in the 2020 presidential election and more than 12 million skipped the 2018 midterms. If you want political leaders at every level, from local governments to state and federal, to pass climate or environmental legislation, voting is the starting point.

Local organizations can drive the vote. A few months ago, Beacon Climate Action



Members of Beacon Climate Action Now canvassed with a petition calling for a ban on gas and oil in new construction in the city. Photo provided

Now was created by residents who wanted to get involved locally, influence policy and magnify their impact as individuals.

Veekas Ashoka, one of its founding members, says the group is concerned about a wide scope of issues, including affordable housing, labor and health. He says its members have two goals: to enact climate-change policy and to take care of each other.

The climate crisis, he says, "is going to get a lot worse, before it gets better. People join because they feel hopeless. To have hope, you need to practice hope."

Beacon Climate Action Now decided to focus on short, "winnable" campaigns. The first is to get the City of Beacon to pass legislation that would ban the use of oil or gas in new construction, modeled after a gas ban in New York City. (See Page 1.)

As part of the campaign, members have gone door-to-door to ask residents to sign petitions in support of the proposal. It's an opportunity to share with people how getting off gas means lower utility bills and better air quality, and that the cost of installing gas versus electric equipment is comparable.

In a short time since its founding, Beacon Climate Action Now has grown to 50 members, including some from Philipstown and Fishkill. (See linktr.ee/beaconcan.)

Tara Vamos, who lives in Cold Spring, says she has been inspired by the group. "It's been nice to get together in the community and work toward a common goal," she says. "People are so engaged."

On Oct. 15, the group hosted the Taproots Fall Festival and collected around \$300 worth of food for the community pantry. The event had live music, activities for children and a trivia game to encourage people to visit tables set up by organizations such as Beacon Prison Rides, Beacon Mutual Aid and others devoted to issues such as housing and decarbonization in the home, as well as state issues. Ashoka said 12 people signed up on the spot to lobby elected officials.

Part of what makes Beacon Climate Action Now appealing is that its members are trying to work together in the community, building ties that will get them through the tough times, an important and often overlooked piece of climate action.

Donna Minkowitz, a Beacon resident, says she was inspired to get more involved in fighting climate change by the satirical film *Don't Look Up*. She had never been involved with a climate change group, she says, although back in the day she protested against nuclear power plants and fracking.

"I'm happy that, as I grow older in Beacon, there will be a group with whom I can work on keeping people safe," she says.

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NOTICE

The **Philipstown Zoning Board of Appeals** will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Monday, November 14th 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 November 2022.

NOTICE

The **Philipstown Planning Board** will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Thursday, November 17th, 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, search for Philipstown Planning Board November 2022.

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NOTICE

Applications for Short Term Rentals in the Village of Nelsonville are now available.

Applications can be found on the Village website at <https://www.nelsonvilleny.gov/short-term-rentals> and are available at Village Hall, 258 Main Street.

Applications for Class A permits are **due by November 7, 2022 for the January 1, 2023 start date**, however applications will be accepted on a rolling basis as permits are available. There is no limit on the number of Class B permits but applications must be submitted at least 2 months prior to expected rental.

Please contact the Village Clerk at (845) 265-2500 or villageclerk@nelsonvilleny.gov with any questions.

NOTICE

WINTER PARKING PERMITS

The Village of Cold Spring is making available a limited number of annual winter parking permits, **to Village residents only**, for parking at the Municipal Parking lot on Fair Street.

24 permits will be issued on a First Come First Serve basis. Permits allow parking 24 hours a day, 7 days a week between 12/1/22 and 4/15/23. The cost for a permit is \$40.

Applications, rules and regulations are available at the Village Hall, on the website at coldspringny.gov or by contacting the Village Clerk at vcsclerk@coldspringny.gov or 845-265-3611

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Out There

Eyes of the Woods

By Brian PJ Cronin

There's a lot to look at in the woods, and as a result it can be difficult to see things that are right in front of you.



Over the course of millions of years, the human brain has evolved to deal with the riot of visual information in a dense forest by prioritizing movement. That's good if you want to detect a bear but bad if you want to pick out a morel. As a result, it takes a while for even experienced foragers to find their first mushroom of the day. Once they do, their brains retrain themselves to notice them within the chaos. Foragers refer to this phenomenon as "getting your eyes on."

There were mushrooms everywhere in Putnam County woods when Justin Allen was growing up, but he never noticed them. "I was catching frogs and riding my mountain bike," he says as we walk through Fahnestock State Park. Then, in the fall of 2015, he ran into a mushroom that was the size of a basketball, growing on a tree at eye-level. Fascinated, he took a picture and texted it to friends.

"Great find!" one person replied. "How'd

you cook it?"

Cook it? His friend told him to Google "chicken of the woods." It's the common name of *Laetiporus sulphureus*, but as Allen discovered when he harvested and cooked the mushroom, it gets its name from the fact that it tastes, and has the texture of, cooked chicken.

"I went down the rabbit hole after that," he says, and after a few years of working his way through mushroom guidebooks — and earning certification as a mushroom forager from New York State — he decided to start taking people down the rabbit hole with him. In the early days of the pandemic, he began leading walks in the Highlands organized through a Facebook group called Eyes of the Woods.

The more eyes in the woods, the better. Foraging for mushrooms can be dangerous if you don't know what you're doing. Allen shows me a photo he received from a group member by text that morning that showed a handful of dazzlingly orange mushrooms that looked like delicious chanterelles. He warned them they were actually Jack O'Lantern mushrooms, known for having bioluminescent gills that glow like fireflies at night but also for being poisonous.

A glowing poisonous mushroom would be a welcome sight because at least we'd notice it. We're nearly halfway through the hike and haven't found any intact mushrooms. We finally spot a chicken-of-the-woods on a fallen log. "If we weren't in a state park, that'd be dinner," says Allen.

That's the other educational component of his guided walks: where you're allowed to harvest (see sidebar). Allen says most people



Mushrooms abound in Fahnestock (but leave them there).

Photo by B. Cronin

don't seem to know that harvesting on state park land is illegal, so he's working with officials to create a series of trailhead signs.

Allen admits that not everyone will be happy to learn the rules, because one of the joys of searching for shrooms is coming home with groceries. But there must be sanctuaries for fungi, not just for the mushrooms' sake but for those who are searching for mushrooms to learn more about them. If you haven't had the opportunity to find chanterelles and Jack O'Lanterns, you won't learn to tell the difference and could make an unpleasant mistake.

Now that we've found one mushroom, our eyes are on and suddenly they're everywhere. Even backtracking, passing sections

Where is it Legal to Forage?

A RULE OF THUMB: If you can't hunt deer there, you can't hunt mushrooms.

YES: National forests, wildlife managed areas, public parks and private properties (with permission)

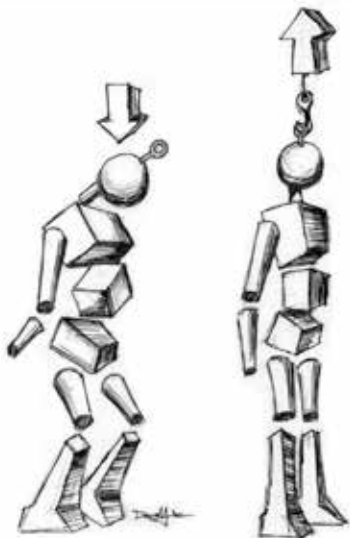
NO: State parks, Scenic Hudson parks, golf courses, brownfields, botanical gardens, heritage preserves, industrial sites

that were barren of mushrooms 20 minutes ago, we see they're all around us: turkey tails, old man of the woods, oysters, (and, weirdly enough, some actual oyster shells). "I bet there's some under those leaves," says Allen, and, sure enough, when we brush the leaves aside, two white wax caps emerge.

Experiences like these make it easy to see why mushrooms were so often linked with elves and other magical woodland creatures. But truth can be even stranger than fiction. After a small wildfire in Garrison this summer, Allen found a mushroom that wasn't in any of his guidebooks. After texting friends out west, he discovered why: The mushroom is supposed to only grow on the West Coast and only appear after wildfires. The mycelium — the threadlike roots — of the fungus needs the carbon released from wildfires to send up a mushroom.

"That means the mycelium has been underneath us in New York this whole time," Allen says, "just waiting for a fire."

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Ryan Eng-Wong celebrated the second of two first-half goals during a rain-soaked, 8-0 victory over Pawling on Oct. 4. Photo by Skip Pearlman

SPORTS

Haldane Star Kicks Way to History

Eng-Wong sets career soccer scoring record

By Lily Zuckerman

Haldane senior Ryan Eng-Wong will never forget his final year on the varsity soccer team; the standout made Blue Devil history on Oct. 8 in a 2-0 victory over Ketcham High School when he scored the 60th goal of his high school career.

That broke a 27-year-old record held by Joe DeMarco, set in the first year that soccer was a boys' varsity sport at Haldane. Eng-Wong, aware that he needed just one goal to break the record, said he did not expect to react because he is used to scoring. But the moment proved emotional for both him and his parents.

"I immediately ran over to my parents and gave them a hug," he said. "It was touching."

Although he also plays varsity basketball and baseball, Eng-Wong puts soccer first. He relishes "the energy that all the guys bring" and said that even players who do not share his passion for the sport "love to be a member of a team and create that winning culture."

"I've loved playing with others who go as hard as me, and the guys this season are no different from that," he said.

That camaraderie is one of the things that fueled his love for the game when Eng-Wong began playing at age 5 in Phil-

ipstown's youth soccer league. Even then, he was motivated to get better.

"I just get excited when I see the ball," he said. "I am always thinking about improving my game and my touch and staying active."

Aidan Sullivan-Hoch, a teammate, said Eng-Wong has grown a lot in the four years they've played together and has "brought a lot of energy to this year's team." Coach Ahmed Dwidar described Eng-Wong as a team player who is distinguished by more than his footwork.

"He just knows where to be in the right moment to score, and his vision off the ball makes him a great scorer," said Dwidar.

In addition to his teammates and coaches, Eng-Wong credits his family with being supportive. His father, who has an "intense" work schedule, never misses a game; his mother sends him a "good luck text" if she is unable to attend and his older brother gives him advice after each game.

Eng-Wong scored three more goals in the season finale, a 7-2 win over Croton-Harmon on Oct. 15; four more in an 8-2 win on Oct. 30 over Hamilton for the Section I, Class C title; and another in a regional tournament win over Rhinebeck on Wednesday (Nov. 2). That brought his career total to 68.

Lily Zuckerman is a junior at Masters School in Dobbs Ferry and a member of The Current's Student Journalists Program.

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Whispered "Hey!"

5. Cacophony

8. Last write-up

12. Jazz singer James

13. Punk rock offshoot

14. Indy event

15. Meander

16. Has a portion (of)

18. Seeming contradiction

20. Small earrings

21. Allow

22. — Paulo

23. Social worker's load

26. Talkative birds

30. Half of bi-

31. Levy

32. French article

33. Layered dessert

36. Media barrage

38. Dog tags, e.g.

39. Sheep call

40. Acid in proteins

43. Lets off

47. Sunshades

49. "Phooey!"

50. Earth Day subj.

51. "A mouse!"

52. Outside (Pref.)

53. Painter Magritte

54. — *Kapital*

11. Hardy heroine

17. Despot

19. — Moines

22. Swing band instrument

23. Drink holder

24. Santa — winds

25. Knight's address

26. Bit of butter

27. Gigi's "yes"

28. Stick with a kick

29. "— who?"

31. Poetic contraction

34. Closing number

35. Big fusses

36. Saloon

37. Firetruck necessity

39. Soaks up the sun

40. Unoriginal one

41. Spiked club

42. Pressing need

43. Entreaty

44. Killer whale

45. D.C. baseball team

46. Halt

48. British ref. work

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Answers for Oct. 28 Puzzles

MAGI

ICAN

SLID

TULIPS

RASE

ALBANIAN

LEA

TODD

HEH

ABACUS

ALBERTI

REIN

PUTT

BAA

ROB

ALBRIGHT

ACROSS

ALP

YAPS

SCROD

ALBACORE

SETH

LEADON

MAKO

PRAM

GUT

SPOT

WACO

RIGHT

S

ALP

YAPS

GAT

SCORE

H

LEADON

MAKO

PRAM

STYLE

589462137

374519682

621837459

268391745

493675218

157284963

745128396

916753824

832946571

1. TREE, 2. FILTHIER, 3. BREAKOUT, 4. TOOLS, 5. BURDENS, 6. DASHI, 7. DIDDLEY

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

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 southern accent's nasal note (5)

2 like the late-afternoon sun (7)

3 The Weeknd's real last name (7)

4 deeply lamentable (6)

5 small amount of liquid (10)

6 cause to happen (6)

7 care to, in slang (5)

SOLUTIONS

TWNTTESEAYE

INGERNAILCE

ITDUGICSFTT


TRAWANANGINCE

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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SPORTS



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THREE CHAMPIONS

*Beacon, Haldane soccer
win sectional titles*

BOYS' SOCCER

Beacon

After winning its second consecutive Section IX, Class A title on Oct. 27 by shutting out Cornwall, 3-0, Beacon edged Section IV champions Vestal, 1-0, on Wednesday (Nov. 2) to advance in the state tournament.

Andre Alzate delivered the game-winner in the 68th minute off a pass from Brody Timm. The game was played at Maine Endwell High School in Broome County.

"The boys played fantastic," said Coach Craig Seaman. "We gave up very few chances defensively, and created a bunch of scoring opportunities going forward. The regional finals is the furthest any team in school history has advanced."

Beacon (12-3-2) is scheduled to face Section I champ Yorktown (20-0) on Saturday (Nov. 5) at 2 p.m. at Yorktown High School. The winner advances to the final four.

On Wednesday, Alzate and Miguel Ruiz were named to the All-Section team and Gavin LaDue was named to the Class A team.

Against Cornwall at Middletown, the Bulldogs got their first goal from Jaidyn Caccamo, assisted by Alzate, with 35 minutes remaining in the first half. Timm scored off an assist from Enis Dika with 7:33 remaining in the game, and Ruiz got a free kick that Alzate finished for the final goal.

Haldane

When Max Westphal scored on a header off a corner kick to put Haldane up 2-0 with 26:34 left in Wednesday's Class C regional game between Haldane and Rhinebeck, it looked like the Blue Devils had a stranglehold on a trip to the next round.

But Section IX champ Rhinebeck had other ideas, making it a one-score game 12 minutes later on a penalty kick and applying relentless pressure in the final minutes as Haldane's defense and keeper Ronan Kiter held on for dear life, scratching out a 2-1 victory.

Haldane (15-2) will take on Pierson/Bridgehampton of Long Island, the Section XI champions, at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday at Yorktown High School. The winner advances to the final four.

"The guys played their hearts out," Coach Ahmed Dwidar said. "They've been playing like that the whole season. We controlled the



Haldane's Clem Grossman (7) gets a step on a Rhinebeck defender on Wednesday.

Photo by S. Pearlman



The Haldane girls' soccer team on Oct. 29 won its first sectional title since 2019.

Photo by John Meore/The Journal News

ball early, but in the second half Rhinebeck came back hard, and we expected that."

The Wednesday game, played at Hendrick Hudson High School, came at a price. Clem Grossman, one of the team's key players, drew his second yellow card in the final 20 seconds of the game, meaning he will have to sit out the Saturday contest.

Haldane controlled play through most of the first half. The Blue Devils pressed the Hawks' goal, hit a post and had a few nice chances before Ryan Eng-Wong banged one in off a pass from Matt Silhavy with 23:09 left in the half.

"Everything wasn't going our way — there are some things we can't control," said Eng-Wong. "But we have chemistry and

trust in each other. I have a lot of faith that we're going to make it to the state finals. We're trying to win it all, and that's been our goal since the beginning of the season."

Haldane won its first Section I title since 2013 on Oct. 30, dominating Alexander Hamilton, 8-2, at Lakeland High School. Eng-Wong had four goals, Grossman had two and Westphal and Peter Ruggiero each scored.

Eng-Wong, Grossman and defender Will Sniffen were named on Wednesday to the All-Section team for Conference 3, and Kiter received honorable mention.

GIRLS' SOCCER

After not getting a shot on goal in the first half of the Section I, Class C title game

on Oct. 29, Haldane put three balls in the net in the second half for a 3-1 win over top-seeded Tuckahoe.

It was the Blue Devils' first sectional title since 2019. Haldane (7-10) will take on Millbrook, the Section IX champion, at 11 a.m. Saturday (Nov. 5) at Newburgh Free Academy. The winner advances to the final four.

Tuckahoe led 1-0 at the half, but 35 seconds into the second period, eighth-grader Stella Gretina tied the score on a pass from senior Chloe Rowe. Finola Kiter tallied the go-ahead goal unassisted with eight minutes left and Rowe closed things out on a pass from Sara Ferriera with four minutes to play. Ruby Poses stopped 12 shots on goal.

"We felt we had a good chance to win," said Coach Ed Crowe. "Tuckahoe didn't play the schedule we did [against larger schools], and we got hot at the right time."

FOOTBALL

Haldane continued its strong play Oct. 29 at Croton-Harmon, dominating the Tigers in a 25-8 victory that closed out the regular season.

Haldane (6-2) is scheduled to face Tuckahoe in the Section I, Class D title game at 3 p.m. on Nov. 11 at Mahopac High School.

Against Croton, Thomas Tucker opened the scoring on a 50-yard pass from Ryan Van Tassel; Evan Giachinta scored on a three-yard run; and Van Tassel connected with Michael Murray for a 15-yard touchdown strike to make it 19-0. Giachinta closed out the Haldane scoring with a five-yard run.

Van Tassel completed 12 of 20 attempts for 179 yards and Giachinta finished with 127 yards on 16 carries. Tucker had four receptions for 68 yards.

Three Grads, Three Paths

Schools Unmask

Weatherman Could Not Have Predicted This

Electricity, Gas Rates Spike

New Dutchess Districts Would Flip Beacon Wards

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