

The HIGHLANDS Current



Holiday Crème Brûlée
Page 21

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MAKE SOME NOISE! — BabaKazi Oliver led an African drumming and percussion workshop at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison on Nov. 12. For more photos, see Page 25.

Photo by Ross Corsair

Ruling Delays Cannabis Shops

Court order affects Beacon, Cold Spring and other areas

By Leonard Sparks

A federal judge last week ordered a temporary ban on cannabis retail licenses in the Mid-Hudson and four other regions in response to a lawsuit that accuses New York State of discriminating against out-of-state applicants.

The lawsuit was filed by Variscite NY One, a company incorporated in Albany County but whose primary address is in Beverly Hills, California. Its majority owner is Kenneth Gay, a resident of Battle Creek, Michigan, who was convicted of a marijuana crime in that state. He and a partner are challenging New York's criteria for retail licenses, including the decision to award the first permits to people with in-state marijuana convictions.

Judge Gary Sharpe of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York issued his injunction on Nov. 10. It applies to five areas that Variscite selected as potential locations for its retail shop: the Mid-Hudson, where Beacon and Cold Spring are

(Continued on Page 11)

Gobbling Up Local Meats

Small farms meet holiday demand as costs rise

By Leonard Sparks

They strut and peck and gobble, puffing their feathers and moving in unison as Nicole Scott and Maddie

Morley pay a visit, after first removing an electrified net that keeps predators like raccoons and weasels at bay.

Some of the turkeys are coated in black feathers and others white or brown or mixed colors, and they descend from once-endangered breeds with names like black Spanish,

(Continued on Page 10)

Lessons in Civil Discourse

At Haldane, it starts with a fist bump

By Joey Asher

Could our polarized political environment be fixed with a fist bump? That's a question that comes to

mind when you listen to Jackie McGrath talk about how she creates a civil environment for discussion in her U.S. history classes at Haldane High School.

Part of McGrath's mission is to make sure that in a world where Instagram, Facebook and Twitter comprise an often-

(Continued on Page 7)



STATE CHAMPS!

With 80 seconds left in the Class C title game on Nov. 13, Ryan Eng-Wong put a quick kick past the goalie for the winning score. For more coverage, see page 13.

Photos by Amy Kubik

5Q FIVE QUESTIONS: ANNE ALVERGUE

By Zach Rodgers

Anne Alvergue is a documentary filmmaker based in Beacon. Her film, *The Martha Mitchell Effect*, which is available on Netflix, focuses on the wife of President Nixon's attorney general, John Mitchell. Her responses are excerpted from an interview for the podcast *Beaconites*.

In your film, Nixon comes off as a little bit obsessed with Martha Mitchell. Was he?

It wasn't until we dove into the White House tapes that we realized he spoke about her incessantly. At first he was in awe of her because she was getting so much attention. She was incredibly popular. There's no one like that today. I mean, we can't name Merrick Garland's wife. So I think Nixon, who wasn't very good with the press, was in awe of and then jealous of her. And Nixon's team also harnessed her popularity. They used her to spread talking points to the press and on the campaign trail.

There comes a point in her story, in California in 1972, when things get dark. What happened?

Martha is on the campaign trail. She's fighting for Nixon and is pretty exhausted. Her husband [who by then was chair of



Photo by Michael Isabell

Nixon's re-election campaign] convinces her to go to one last fundraising party in Los Angeles. And that happens to coincide with the Watergate break-in. When that happens, her husband doesn't tell her what happened but jets back to D.C. And she is left poolside to wonder what's going on. Finally, she sees a newspaper and on the front page is her former bodyguard, who was just arrested in the burglary and had worked for the Committee to Re-elect the President. So she knows there has to be a link between this break-in of the Democratic national headquarters and the committee to re-elect Nixon, the Republican, and she calls her husband frantically.

He tries to pacify her. Then Martha calls her pal, the journalist Helen Thomas. Helen asks her about Watergate and she starts talking, and suddenly the phone goes dead. Apparently the phone cord was pulled out of the wall. Martha was pushed on the bed and contained against her will by bodyguards and unknown men, and then later tranquilized against her will.

Was there a moment in your research that convinced you this would make a great documentary?

When we first heard about her story and

realized that there hadn't been a documentary about her, we were astonished, because it's such a great story. But the more we researched and watched the footage, the more we realized this is not just a procedural political thriller about what happened to this woman. It was really like a love triangle. It was a battle between Nixon and Martha vying for the attention of John Mitchell. Mitchell was Nixon's right-hand man and they were incredibly close. I think Nixon thought that Martha was a distraction. He was jealous of her. Certainly Martha was upset at Nixon for getting John into trouble. [Mitchell served 19 months in prison for his role in the Watergate scandal.] And so it was a tug of war between Martha and Nixon for John Mitchell's loyalty, and eventually John Mitchell chose Nixon.

Is it true Martha stayed at Craig House in Beacon?

Yes. Craig House was a very well-known sanatorium that was open from 1915 through the early 1970s. It was like a dry-out mental health facility for the rich and celebrities. People ranging from Jane Fonda's mother to Zelda Fitzgerald to Jackie Gleason stayed there, and Martha Mitchell a couple of times.

How would you describe the filmmaking community in our area?

I moved here in 2013 and I didn't know any filmmakers. It was scary leaving Brooklyn, but I have to say I've actually found a stronger, closer-knit community here. It's been great. We have this Hudson Valley film group that gets together every couple of months to watch each other's rough cuts. I'm also on the board of Depot Docs, which is a screening series at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison, where, every few months, we curate a filmmaker to come up from New York City, typically with their documentary, and there's a Q&A and a reception afterward at Dolly's Restaurant. It's a great way for the community to see specific films and talk directly with artists.

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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's the
oldest object
in your house?

My mother's art
deco wristwatch
from the 1930s.



Patsy Johnson, Cold Spring

I have a 1914 New
Haven clock from
my grandfather's
barbershop in Verplanck.



Bob Flaherty, Philipstown

My husband, of
Mexican ancestry, has two
amulets, family heirlooms
from the Aztec era.



Marissa Levien, Beacon

Philipstown Adopts \$12 Million Budget

Board approves 4 percent increase in spending

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

The Philipstown Town Board this week adopted a \$12 million budget for 2023, to be funded by \$8.76 million in property taxes; \$2.62 million in other revenue; and \$677,095 from reserves.

The budget, which has about 4 percent more spending than 2022, sets the tax rates at \$2.99 per \$1,000 of property value for the villages of Cold Spring and Nelsonville, an increase of about 6.75 percent, and \$3.63 per \$1,000 for parcels outside the villages, a decrease of about 1 percent.

The rate is lower for properties within Cold Spring and Nelsonville because they also pay village taxes and charges for services such as street maintenance and municipal planning and zoning operations.

After weeks of preparation, including a Nov. 9 public hearing at which no residents offered comments, the five-member board unanimously approved the budget on Wednesday (Nov. 16) in a meeting at Town Hall.

Under the budget, the town will pay \$2.73 million for fire protection and ambulance coverage. The Cold Spring Fire Co. will get a 5 percent boost, to \$63,104; the North Highlands Fire District will receive \$846,076, an increase of 4 percent; and the Continental Village Fire Department will collect \$297,000, an increase of 3 percent. The Garrison Volunteer Fire Co. will see a 3 percent reduction, to \$767,300.

The Philipstown Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the Garrison Volunteer Ambulance Corps will each get a 2 percent raise: to \$434,451 for the PVAC (including service awards) and \$326,481 for the GVAC.

The salaries for Town Board members

will remain unchanged from the previous two years: \$27,000 for the supervisor and \$18,000 each for the other four board members. The two town justices will receive \$1,000 increases, to \$32,000 each. The pay for Highway Superintendent Adam Hotaling, elected this month, will climb by \$3,800 to reach \$95,000 and the salary for the town clerk will increase by \$1,000 to \$64,240.

In addition, the board raised the allocation for attorney services by \$10,000, to \$70,000 annually.

The budget anticipates a 3 percent increase in general-fund revenue, to \$1.4 million. The category covers income from park and recreation fees, the mortgage tax, dog licenses, fines, grants and sundry other items.

The Highway Department budget increased to \$3.9 million, a jump of about 11 percent.

Projected outlays include \$377,000 for snow removal, up 1 percent, or \$5,000.

The budget also anticipates more Highway Department revenue—\$589,000, compared to \$169,240 in 2022 — largely thanks to an expected \$370,000 in state aid for a project along a section of East Mountain Road that extends toward Wiccopee and the Dutchess County border, and a \$40,000 boost, to \$175,000, from the state's consolidated highway assistance program.

Route 301 limit

At its Nov. 9 meeting, the board voted unanimously to ask the state Department of Transportation to reduce the speed limit from 55 mph to 45 mph on Route 301 from its intersection with Route 9 to the Nelsonville village line at Jaycox Road, a distance of about four-fifths of a mile.

The slowdown makes sense, Supervisor John Van Tassel said, because "55 mph is high for that section of road," which runs downhill into the village. However, he observed that the state in the past has denied similar speed-reduction requests for other roads. "We'll see what happens," he said.

Cold Spring to Reconsider Electricity Options

Bulk energy purchasing group hopes to make a comeback

By Michael Turton

Hudson Valley Community Power is back, hoping to reenlist municipalities and residents in a program to provide electricity at competitive rates using renewable energy sources such as solar and wind.

Jessica Stromback, the CEO of Joule Community Power, addressed the Cold Spring Village Board at its Wednesday (Nov. 16) meeting.

Joule had administered a "community choice aggregation" that included Cold Spring, Philipstown, Beacon and seven other municipalities. But in July, the firm that provided the energy, Columbia Utilities, backed out of its three-year, fixed-rate contract, prompting Cold Spring, Philipstown, Beacon and other municipalities to sue Columbia for breach of contract.

On Wednesday, Stromback said local residents had realized considerable savings at the CCA's fixed rates when electricity costs spiked because of factors such as the pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Town of Philipstown Board Member Jason Angell, who had supported the development of the CCA, confirmed that recently, commenting that some local residents saved as much as \$200 a month after the rates charged by Central Hudson soared. CCA participants were still billed through Central Hudson, but at lower rates.

Stromback said that if Cold Spring reenlists in the program, residents will be notified of price adjustments each quarter and will be able to opt out at any time.

Asked by Mayor Kathleen Foley if the current billing problems at Central Hudson are related to the collapse of the agreement with Columbia Utilities, Stromback said,

"Central Hudson is misbilling everyone who isn't in their standard program, all the solar developers and everyone in a CCA."

It isn't just Central Hudson, she said. "Utili-

“Central Hudson is misbilling everyone who isn't in their standard program, all the solar developers and everyone in a CCA.

~ Jessica Stromback
Joule Community Power

ties across New York State are having similar issues," skipping billings and sending bills in batches. "Central Hudson is under a lot of pressure to fix it; it will get fixed," she said.

The board made no decision whether to rejoin the CCA program. "We need to gather information about the options that are available before making a commitment," Foley said, adding that the board will seek feedback from residents.

Stromback's presentation marks the beginning of a 60-day public education period that will include information on the village

website, public outreach meetings and use of social media and local press coverage.

After the public education period, Joule will issue requests for proposals seeking competitive bids for two models for the bulk purchase of electricity.

Stromback said the Village Board can choose whether to rejoin the program and which of the two options best suits its needs once bids are known.

She added that CCAs are the biggest purchaser of electricity from renewable sources in New York state, "and this is a big enough CCA that we will get good pricing."

Foley said when Cold Spring joined the CCA initially, opting in on behalf of all residents was controversial, causing some to question why the Village Board should decide how residents purchase their electricity.

"It allows the group purchase of power and gets residents a significantly better deal," Stromback said. "You don't have the purchasing power when you choose as an individual."

She said the CCA enables a municipality "to protect residents from what is now a really crazy system, with prices all over

the place."

However, she noted that the CCA could not guarantee a lower price all the time. "It would guarantee that price changes are more stable and fairer," she said. "But we do not guarantee continuous savings."

In an email on Thursday (Nov.17), Foley told *The Current*, "the unpredictable, astronomical Central Hudson rates we're seeing demonstrate that buying power in the hands of communities is economically beneficial; the CCA model, overall, is smart for our wallets and the environment."

She said the board has asked Joule to show how it will structure the CCA "so we don't end up again where we are now."

Parking plans

The board held a nearly two-hour discussion on implementing the village parking plan, setting the stage for a workshop scheduled for Nov. 30.

On Thursday, Foley wrote that public comment will be sought after that workshop.

"We're going to learn a great deal as it is implemented," she said. "We're in good shape for [that to happen in] the later spring."



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The HIGHLANDS Current

PUBLISHER

Highlands Current Inc.

142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819
291 Main St., Beacon, NY 12508-2899

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Institute for
Nonprofit News

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT
(USPS #22270) / ISSN 2475-3785

November 18, 2022
Volume 11, Issue 46

is published weekly by Highlands Current Inc., 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819. Periodicals Postage Paid at Cold Spring, NY, and at additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Highlands Current*, 142 Main St., Cold Spring, NY 10516-2819.

Mail delivery \$30 per year.
highlandscurrent.org/delivery
delivery@highlandscurrent.org

Distribution audited by the
Circulation Verification Council

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Cold Spring election

The positive effect of the write-in effort — which I doubt was expected to be victorious — was to open up a level of conversation lacking when the only candidates were appointees facing no competition (“Questions for Candidates: Cold Spring Village Board,” Nov. 4). It was good to see some evidence of campaigning and communication after the write-ins announced, if disheartening to encounter the tone.

Sara Dulaney, *Cold Spring*

Thank you to everyone who voted in the Village of Cold Spring election. Local elections — and local government — matter! As trustee, I look forward to continuing to advocate and work for all village residents. Please stay involved, including by attending the Board of Trustees meetings on Wednesday evenings, either in person at Village Hall or on Zoom.

Laura Bozzi, *Cold Spring*

Putnam budget

I love Nancy Montgomery. Unfortunately, she is stymied by her colleagues on the county Legislature, where she remains the only Democrat (“Putnam County Approves \$179 Million Budget,” Nov. 11). Her talent is undermined. I had hope she would try to win

MaryEllen Odell's seat as county executive. We need her so badly. Sadly, the Legislature is unwilling to see her clarity and depth.

Lillian Rosengarten, *Philipstown*

Congress 17

Thank you for your informative rundown of the election results (“Lawler, Ryan Win House Seats,” Nov. 11).

I'm extremely disappointed in Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney's showing which, in my view, reflects the fact that he took his local support for granted. It felt like he didn't put much effort into his campaign other than spending a huge amount of money to get his name and face on unrelated internet search results. At no time did he reinforce the message of why and how he would continue to be a responsive representative to us in his district.

Our household received at least one, but more often two or three, campaign mailers from his challenger, Mike Lawler, every single day for at least six weeks before the election. These flyers only offered criticism of Maloney's views and unrealistic exaggerations of crime statistics and fearmongering anecdotes about bail reform — nothing about what Lawler would do once elected to the national stage.

We received no communication — zip, nada — from Maloney until the day before

the election. It was a boring letter on congressional stationary describing a few of his achievements. In years past, I've been invited to his informative telephone town hall meetings, but nothing of the like this year. I received no invitations to campaign events or appearances, no mailers, flyers or door knockers, either.

I feel that he took my support for granted. Now he's lost his seat and we're represented by a guy who cares little for the plight of average people still trying to recover from pandemic economic upheavals. Lawler has promised he'll vote with a Republican majority to gut Medicare and Social Security (just as I'm eligible for these benefits) and support more restrictions on reproductive choice, along with myriad other knuckleheaded measures that prey on fear and erode trust in our governmental institutions.

Sean, I'm sorry you lost this election but not at all surprised. You just didn't put the effort in to ask us for our support, then ask again, and show us why you were still our best choice.

Lynn Miller, *Cold Spring*

As chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which is tasked with electing Democrats to the U.S. House, Rep. Maloney is due recognition and applause for the failure of the “red wave” and the Democratic results.

In his own race, redistricting all of Putnam County into the 17th District impacted the usual Democratic strength — eastern Putnam always votes the Republican line. For the Rockland portion of the district, it was brand-new with untested strength, involvement or connection to the Democratic committee. His resources were focused there. Bloc voting by a large group in Rockland also was an impediment.

The DCCC placed Maloney in a precarious situation — he was running for re-election in a difficult district tangle and also responsible for all House races. It was not possible to have two big wins: Be OK with the more important House results.

Dorothy Gilman, *Garrison*

Gas-free Beacon

I switched to heat pumps from a gas-based furnace (“Beacon Council Members to Propose Gas Ban,” Nov. 4). The heat pump is far more efficient, using less energy overall, and my heating bill fell by about 50 percent to 60 percent. Sure, the electricity is still largely generated by burning fossil fuels, but that is improving slowly with more solar and wind. Plus, burning fewer fossil fuels at the local level (and in your home) is safer and may lead to decreased rates of asthma in local communities.

Harper Langston, *via Instagram*



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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Latest Infrastructure Grades

In September 2021, *The Current* published a two-part series on the infrastructure needs of the Highlands (see highlandscurrent.org/infrastructure). It included letter grades given to New York and the nation by the American Society of Civil Engineers, which this summer updated its 2015 report on New York state. We’ve also included the grades given by elected officials in September 2021 for local infrastructure.

	NEW YORK		NATION		BEACON	PHILIPS-TOWN	COLD SPRING
	2015	2022	2013	2021	2021	2021	2021
OVERALL	C-	C	D+	C-	B+	B-	C
AVIATION	C	C+	D	D+			
BRIDGES	D+	C-	C+	C	B-	B	
DAMS	C-	C	D	D+	C+		D
DRINKING WATER	C	C-	D	C-	B+	B-	B
PARKS	B-	B-	C-	D+			
PORTS		C+	C	B-			
RAIL		C	C+	B			
ROADS	D-	D+	D	D	B	B-	B-
SOLID WASTE	B-	B-	B-	C+			
TRANSIT	C-	D+	D	D-			
WASTEWATER	D	D+	D	D+	A-	C-	B

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Civil Discourse *(from Page 1)*

belligerent public square, her students have a “safe space” to discuss political issues.

To create that space, she often starts with a greeting at the door as her students file into class. Maybe it’s a fist bump, she said. Or maybe it’s a quick check to see if a fellow Giants fan saw the game over the weekend. She’s setting a tone and sending a message that her classroom isn’t Instagram.

“We want our kids to learn that reasonable people can see things differently and still be reasonable people.”

~ Superintendent Philip Benante

“It’s a collective effort to consistently have classroom decorum and rules to follow modeling certain behavior,” she explained. “It has to be respectful because outside there is a lot of noise.”

Superintendent Philip Benante said that learning respectful discourse is an important part of a young person’s education, particularly today.

“There is so much polarization,” he said. “We want our kids to learn that reasonable people can see things differently and still be reasonable people.”

Of course, the students see how challenging that can be.



Haldane seniors Roy Smith and Mairead O’Hara with history teacher Jackie McGrath (center)

Photo by J. Asher

Mairead O’Hara, a senior, sees the rancorous debate that takes place on television and on social media. “People just take a side and everything that comes along with it,” said O’Hara, who plans to major in history in college and become an attorney.

But her AP Government teacher, Kaitlyn Secor, teaches a respectful and rigorous form of discourse, such as when they discussed Russian meddling in the 2016 election, said

O’Hara. “For this class we’re forced to filter out the biased voices on both sides and find the middle ground and the facts.”

But what actually ensures that the debate remains civil?

It comes down to that “safe space” where the debaters can’t hide in the internet’s anonymity and normalized hostility. Instead, you enter a classroom with rules of civility and eye contact.

“That face-to-face civility does reinforce that kids think before they speak,” said McGrath, who chairs the history department and has taught at Haldane since 2005. “That’s important because once you send that tweet out, it’s there. But being face-to-face makes people take a breath.”

Roy Smith, another senior in Secor’s government class, said the in-person interaction goes a long way toward eliminating the belligerence that you find online. “Being face-to-face with people is important to establish a connection,” said Smith, who wants to study foreign affairs and become a national security analyst. “It’s easier to understand a person’s perspective when you’re looking right at them.”

There are three rules that separate McGrath’s class from the Twitterverse.

“Listening is the most important thing,” she said. Second is respect for others — “not shouting over each other. You lay down a foundation based on facts. Then you give another person the opportunity to counter that. Once you start yelling and slamming your fist down you’ve lost anybody else in the room who might side with you.”

Finally, there’s reflection. When done with the debate, McGrath asks her students to think about the conversation: “What did I get out of this? Did something change? Did I get another perspective?”

It’s all about teaching a “growth mindset,” says Julia Sniffen, the high school principal. “You need to have the mindset that you might not have all the answers all the time.”


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Gas-Free Beacon?

Council discusses code update, leaf blower restrictions

By Brian PJ Cronin

At a workshop meeting on Monday (Nov. 14), the Beacon City Council discussed two possible pieces of legislation to decrease the amount of fossil fuels burned — and pollution produced — in the city.

The first would update efficiency standards in the building code to limit the reliance on natural gas in new construction. The second would restrict gas-powered leaf blowers.

The building code update was proposed by Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair, who, along with Council Member Paloma Wake, outlined what they said would be its benefits.

They said that a third of the greenhouse gas emissions in New York state that contribute to global warming are produced by heating units and hot water heaters and noted the state Legislature has passed legislation that requires reducing greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent by 2030 and no less than 85 percent by 2050.

Research also suggests gas-powered stoves pose a health risk because of the nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and formaldehyde they produce, the council members said. One study concluded that children who live in a home with a gas stove have a 20 percent greater risk of developing a respiratory illness. Other studies have shown that electric heat pumps can save households more than \$900 a year in heating costs.

With a building boom in Beacon, Aymar-Blair and Wake said that legislation to restrict additional gas infrastructure is particularly important. Both the Edgewater development and new units at Beacon Lofts are being built without natural gas hookups, according to the city's Climate Advisory Committee.

The legislation proposed by Aymar-Blair is modeled after a New York City law, but Mayor Lee Kyriacou said that he wasn't comfortable considering legislation that had not been written by Beacon officials. He also asked that representatives from the New York State Energy Research and Development Author-

ity (NYSERDA) educate the council about the issue, as well as the prospects of the state Legislature banning new gas hook-ups.

"The state is working in this direction, and I think they can help us a lot," Kyriacou said. "I don't mind being a few years ahead of them," but if the state legislature doesn't go into effect for decades, "we should do something" sooner.

With gas-powered leaf blowers, the City Council earlier asked its Climate Advisory Committee to examine the pros and cons of a ban. On Monday night, CAC members Sergei Krasikov and Thomas Wright presented their findings, which they said drew on interviews with more than a dozen local municipalities that have passed similar legislation.

The hazards of gas-powered leaf blowers include the emissions they produce and noise pollution and the potential for hearing damage. Most battery-powered leaf blowers are quieter, and none produces exhaust. The CAC cited a report from 2011 in which Edmunds.com found that some gas leaf blowers emitted as much pollution in a half hour as driving a Ford F-150 from Texas to Alaska.

However, the report also explained that because batteries in electric leaf blowers hold a limited charge, and take time to recharge, they may not be the best option for commercial operations. Other municipalities said that they offer exemptions that take into account the limitations of electric blowers. Some allow gas-powered blowers for any property larger than 1 acre; others offer "seasonal exemptions" in the spring and fall when the majority of extended landscaping work is done.

If the legislation were to be introduced, the CAC recommended identifying funding sources for a "buyback" program that would help residents and landscaping companies exchange their gas-powered blowers. The committee also suggested public education around the ecological benefits of less-intensive landscaping, such as leaving autumn leaves on the ground until spring.


Krasikov, who works for the Beacon-based landscaping and design company One Nature, said that on a personal note, he and his co-workers had found electric-powered blowers to be capable of handling

Real Estate

Market Report (October)

	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
New Listings	19	7	9	8
Closed Sales	12	6	8	6
Days on Market	44	46	81	38
Median Price	\$432,500	\$550,665	\$915,000	\$657,000
% List Received	96.0	99.7	99.5	98.4
Inventory	32	23	41	31

Source: Hudson Gateway Association of Realtors (hgar.com). Excludes condos. Philipstown includes Cold Spring, Garrison and Nelsonville.



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even larger commercial projects. Kyriacou said that he would like to hear from more landscaping companies before drafting legislation. Krasikov agreed but noted what other municipalities had already heard.

"There was pushback from landscapers who said it's not going to work, it's going to be miserable, and they're all going to go out of business," he said. But instead, "it all worked out."

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LOCATION:

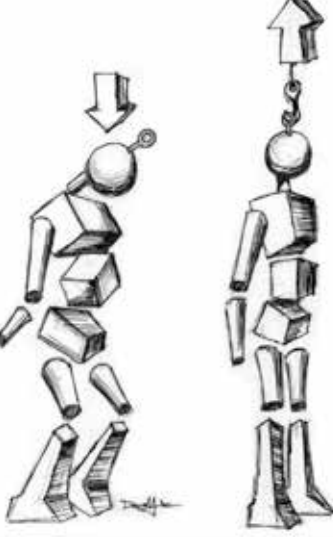
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Glynwood is raising 200 turkeys this year, rather than the more typical 30 to 50.

Photo by L. Sparks

Turkeys *(from Page 1)*

blue slate, bourbon red and standard bronze.

They arrived in April at the Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming in Philipstown as day-old poults, said Scott, the associate director of livestock production. The farm is raising 200 turkeys this year, rather than the more typical 30 to 50.

"It was a big step this year to raise this many birds and to go with these breeds instead of the broad-breasted," said Scott. "It was about being able to feed our community and supply folks with good and nutritious pasture-raised turkeys."

Most people cooking turkeys for Thanksgiving will buy birds raised in relative confinement at commercial operations and sold at grocery chains. Those prices are expected to be slightly higher this year because of factors like the avian flu and steeper prices for feed and other supplies.

But a few residents will stay local, willing to pay even higher prices for the gourmet turkeys, and alternative holiday meats such as lamb, that Glynwood and other local farms raise in their pastures.

Along with raising four times as many turkeys this year as is typical, Glynwood is for the first time selling Heritage breeds, descendants of wild turkey varieties pushed to extinction by the mass production of birds bred to be meatier and sold en masse.

In addition to traditional turkey and ham, Marbled Meats on Route 9 in Philipstown is accepting orders for beef, lamb, and wild boars, along with game birds like capon, duck and pheasant.

Prices are up 30 percent across the board, said Chris Pascarella, for various reasons. As for demand, "the last few years, it's so hard to even judge or compare," he said.

"The first COVID year, we were still busy but people did very small birds and small gatherings, and then the following year, it grew a little bit but at the last minute we had a bunch of cancellations. The last few years have been all over the place."

Commercially raised broad-breasted turkeys, which generally do not have the freedom to roam like pasture-raised birds, reach an average of 32 pounds over 18 weeks, while Heritage breeds take 24 to 30 weeks to reach a marketable weight. Heritage turkeys can fly and mate, whereas broad-breasted ones need to be artificially inseminated.

Because baby turkeys need dryness and

warmth, Glynwood kept its poults in a brooder with dry bedding and heat lamps, said Scott. To accommodate the larger flock, the farm built a larger feeder and mobile roost, where the turkeys sleep off the ground. The system is moved weekly to shift the turkeys to fresh grass.

The birds, which sell for \$12 per pound, will be "a lot more flavorful" and have more dark meat compared to broad-breasted turkeys, said Scott. Glynwood is taking orders online for the turkeys, which will range from eight to 16 pounds and will be harvested and ready for pick up on Nov. 22.

"Since we've been growing them for a longer period of time, and they are foraging for a lot longer, you generally have a more-complex taste," said Scott.

Marbled Meats also sells pasture-raised products, such as ham from Meili Farm in Amenia and Gibson Family Farm in Valley Falls; lamb from Kinderhook Farm in Valatie; and turkeys from Oink & Gobble Farm in Interlaken. The wild boar, Pascarella said, are from a population-control program based in Texas and Canada.

When it opened in 2014, Marbled Meats sold turkey at \$6.50 per pound, but this year the price is \$8.50, said Pascarella.

"We shifted gears a little bit because the prices went so high and we had to absorb it," he said. "We passed on to the customer a slight amount compared to how much they've gone up."

The recent drought affected prices by lowering the production of corn, which is used in 95 percent of livestock feed, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Whitney Vos, the assistant manager for Woven Stars Farm in Ghent, which sold products at Obercreek Farms in Wappingers Falls this summer, said that grain prices have affected everyone and that "often prices shift more quickly than decisions can be made about breeding and animal numbers for the year."

Woven Stars raises beef, chicken, lamb and other animals. Many of its products sell out for Thanksgiving, she said, when people expecting a small crowd may opt to cook a large chicken or several smaller chickens instead of a turkey.

"Inflation has affected many areas, but feed for animals is not an area we can skimp on," said Vos. "It's just not feasible for small operations with narrow margins to afford it if prices continue to climb."

Pot License *(from Page 1)*

among the municipalities that will allow retail sales; Brooklyn; central New York; the Finger Lakes; and western New York.

New York's Office of Cannabis Management (OCM), which oversees the state's recreational marijuana market, is preparing to issue 150 licenses, including up to 17 in the Mid-Hudson, for its conditional adult-use retail dispensary program (CAURD).

The program prioritizes people with marijuana convictions and their spouses or dependents, and the highest-scoring applicants will sell New York's first-ever recreational marijuana crop, harvested this summer and fall and estimated by the state at 300,000 pounds. Those first shops are expected to open as early as the end of next month.

Dan Livingston, the executive director of the Cannabis Association of New York, which represents businesses in all phases of the supply chain, said the ruling will not stop the launch of retail cannabis sales because it affects just five of New York's 14 regions.

However, he said, "people are concerned about what this means for the larger rollout — if it portends more lawsuits to come that are going to sidetrack the program."

Under the state's Marijuana and Taxation Act enacted in 2021, the criteria for the first batch of licenses are designed to benefit communities, primarily Black and Latino, in which justice advocates say residents were disproportionately arrested and prosecuted for marijuana offenses.

Regulations approved in July specify that applicants must have had a marijuana-related conviction before March 31, 2021 (or be a parent, guardian, child, spouse or dependent of someone with a conviction before that date) and have experience owning and operating a business. Certain nonprofits that serve former prisoners can also apply.

“They’re trying to remediate the harm that was done to a lot of communities and individuals over the decades it took to prosecute the war on drugs.”

~ Dan Livingston
Cannabis Association of New York

Applicants also must demonstrate “a significant presence” in New York, either by being a resident or incorporating a business in the state, and are awarded points if the owner's address at the time of the conviction was low-income, public housing or in an area with high rates of marijuana arrests and convictions.

Awardees will be eligible to lease space from the state and obtain loans through a \$200 million fund.

“They’re trying to remediate the harm that was done to a lot of communities and individuals over the decades it took to prosecute the war on drugs,” said Livingston.

Variscite submitted two applications to the program, the first as Variscite One, of which Gay owns 51 percent and Jeffrey Jensen, 49

percent; and the second as Variscite NY Two (with Gay holding 11 percent and a third partner, Scott Lambert, 40 percent).

For both applications, the company checked “yes” when asked if its owner had a marijuana conviction in New York.

Variscite One's application has not been denied, but in its lawsuit Variscite NY Two challenges the requirement that applicants be “justice-involved” and have a significant presence in New York.

Although Variscite's incorporation in Albany County meets the “significant presence” criteria, the company says it believes that the Office of Cannabis Management will “score an applicant higher” if he or she lived in New York state when arrested or convicted, or in a low-income area or one with high rates of marijuana arrests.

Sharpe, in his ruling, said that Variscite is “likely to succeed” on its claim that the state is violating the U.S. Constitution's Commerce Clause, which is generally interpreted as preventing states from enacting laws that affect interstate commerce or discriminate against out-of-state residents.

In a response filed by the attorney general's office, the state said that the 150 initial retail licenses represent about 10 percent of the total dispensary permits it will approve and that OCM is currently writing regulations for non-CAURD applicants.

The AG's office also said that a review of Variscite One's application shows that it would be “unable to obtain a sufficiently high score” because of the “high level of house-

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

PUTNAM COUNTY

Number of cases:

29,539 (+105)

Positive tests,
7-day average:

5.7% (-0.6)

Percent fully
vaccinated:

75.6

Cold Spring: **86.8**
Garrison: **81.6**

Number of deaths:

137 (+1)

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Number of cases:

79,587 (+298)

Positive tests,
7-day average:

7.3% (-0.9)

Percent fully
vaccinated:

71.0

Beacon: **67.0**

Number of deaths:

710 (0)

Source: State and county health departments, as of Nov. 16, 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 Nov. 11. It does not include boosters.

hold income for the area in which plaintiff's address is located at the time of conviction.”

The company also could apply for one of the non-CAURD licenses when regulations are finalized, according to the state.

“It could end up sorting itself out quickly; it could end up taking time,” said Livingston. “But the important thing for folks to remember is that it's not going to stop the legal cannabis market in New York from getting started.”

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▲► **STORY OF BIRDS** — Led by Maryam Wootan, residents gathered at the Beacon Farmers' Market on Nov. 13 for a dance performance and march to Polhill Park in support of protestors in Iran. Here, dancers portray birds with their feet caught in a net, paralyzed with fear, until one begins to move her wings and they realize together they can lift the net into the sky.

Photos by Alenephotos



▲ **CHURCH PERFORMANCE** — Wayne Horvitz (piano) and Sara Schoenbeck (bassoon) performed at St. Andrew and St. Luke Church in Beacon on Nov. 12 as the opening act for pianist and singer Robin Holcomb. It was part of the ongoing Elysium Furnace Works music series. *Photo by Ross Corsair*



▲ **HONOR FOR ELKS** — At a reception in Yonkers on Oct. 27, St. Christopher's Inn honored the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks for its work to prevent drug addiction. Shown are the Very Rev. Brian Terry, minister general of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement at Graymoor in Garrison; John Lawless of the Elks; and the Rev. Michael Martine, the state Elks chaplain. *Photo provided*

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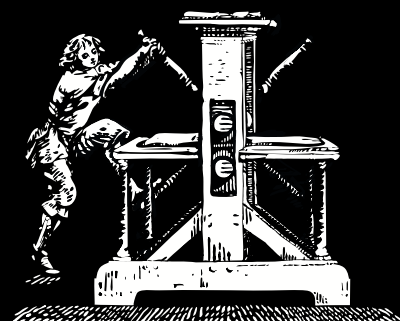
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The 2022 Class C champions

HALDANE BLUE DEVILS

2022 BOYS' SOCCER CLASS C CHAMPIONS

By Skip Pearlman

On the final day of the high school soccer season, the Haldane High School boys brought home the big prize, scoring with 1:20 remaining to beat Maple Hill on Sunday (Nov. 13) to win the Class C state championship game at Middletown High School.

After 78 minutes of scoreless soccer, it looked like the teams were headed for overtime.

But in the final 90 seconds, the Blue Devils' relentless pressure paid off when Clem Grossman chipped a pass over the defense from behind, and Ryan Eng-Wong — with his back to the goal — played it off his chest, then turned and shot it past a diving goalie.

It was the first state championship for any Haldane boys' team, and the first for the school since the girls' soccer team won the Class C title in 2014. (The girls also have won five in basketball and four in volleyball.)

Eng-Wong had found the back of the net on a header five minutes earlier, but the goal was negated on an offside call.

"There's no feeling like it," Eng-Wong said after the win. "We put so much work into this. Everybody was backing us up. We played with so much heart today. That's the way it's been the whole season — one of our best players goes down [captain Will Sniffen, injured late in the game] and we

(Continued on Page 14)



The Blue Devils react after Ryan Eng-Wong scored the title-winning goal.

Photos by Amy Kubik

THE ROAD TO THE TITLE

Regular Season

4	Haldane	Dobbs Ferry	0
3	Haldane	Walter Panas	0
2	Haldane	Hastings	3
5	Haldane	Poughkeepsie	1
3	Haldane	Putnam Valley	1
4	Haldane	Pawling	0
5	Haldane	Tuckahoe	0
5	Haldane	North Salem	0
3	Haldane	Croton-Harmon	0
8	Haldane	Pawling	0
7	Haldane	Putnam Valley	0
Haldane def. Ketcham			
GAME STOPPED DUE TO INJURY			
1	Haldane	Peekskill	2
4	Haldane	North Salem	1
7	Haldane	Croton-Harmon	2

State Tournament

8	Haldane	Hamilton	2
FIRST SECTION TITLE SINCE 2013			
2	Haldane	Rhinebeck	1
2	Haldane	Pierson/Bridgehampton	0
SEMIFINAL			
1	Haldane	Avon	0
FINAL			
1	Haldane	Maple Hill	0

(Continued from Page 13)

kept playing through it, through all the adversity. That's what champions are made of."

Eng-Wong finished his high school career with a school record 69 career goals.

Coach Ahmed Dwidar has said all season that his squad is a "first-goal" team. Once the Blue Devils score first, they believe the game is theirs.

"It's pretty amazing, that's all I can tell you," Dwidar said. "In the 78th minute of a scoreless game, all you can do is pray for a goal, and it came at the right time."

Maple Hill, located in Castleton in Rensselaer County, finished its season at 20-2-1. It also lost in the finals last year, 1-0, to Hamilton, which had defeated Haldane for the Section I title.

Haldane ended the regular season at 13-2, with losses at Hastings and Peekskill, before winning its first Section I, Class C title since 2013. It finished 18-2.

To reach the title game, Haldane defeated Avon in the semifinals on Nov. 12 at Goshen High School.

That game was scoreless at half-time but the Blue Devil pressure paid off with 23:19 left in the second half, when Grossman got control of a ball at the top of the box and took a strong shot that was deflected. Grossman followed the ball toward the keeper and drove home the rebound for what turned out to be the game-winner.

The Braves got their best pressure of the game with about 20 minutes remaining, but the Haldane defense, including keeper Ronan Kiter, consistently denied them scoring chances.

Avon came into the game 21-0 and had not given up a goal in its last 18 games. The last time the Braves allowed a score was in the third game of the season, on Sept. 7.

"Avon hadn't been scored on in a long time, so I told them, 'Just put one in,'" said Dwidar. "Once we scored, we took control of the game."

For more photos, see highlandscurrent.org.



Max Westphal (15) directs traffic late in the title game.



Matt Silhavy advances the ball in the first half. Photos by Amy Kubik



Ronan Kiter makes a leaping save.



Max Westphal (15) battles two Maple Hill defenders. Photos by S. Pearlman



Luca van Dommele (11) and Rhys Robbins (14) celebrate after Haldane defeated Avon in the semifinals.



James Hoch, the father of senior Aidan Sullivan-Hoch, cheers during the semifinal game. Photos by Amy Kubik

2022 CLASS C SOCCER CHAMPS

HALDANE BLUE DEVILS (18-2)

- 0 Scott Bailey GOAL, JUNIOR
- 1 Ronan Kiter* GOAL, JUNIOR
- 3 Trajan McCarthy DEFENDER, JUNIOR
- 4 Jeremy Hall DEFENDER, JUNIOR
- 5 William Sniffen* DEFENDER, SENIOR
- 6 Aidan Sullivan-Hoch DEFENDER, SENIOR
- 7 Clement Grossman FORWARD, JUNIOR

- 8 Brandt Robbins MID, SOPHOMORE
- 9 Liam Gaugler MID, JUNIOR
- 10 Matthew Silhavy MID, SOPHOMORE
- 11 Luca van Dommele, MID, SENIOR
- 12 Ryan Eng-Wong* FORWARD, SENIOR
- 13 Frankie Digiglio DEFENDER, JUNIOR
- 14 Rhys Robbins MID, SENIOR

- 15 Max Westphal MID, JUNIOR
- 16 Marc Firpo MID, SOPHOMORE
- 17 Matthew Nachamkin DEFENDER, JUNIOR
- 18 Emilio Schweizer MID, JUNIOR
- 19 Ty Villella DEFENDER, FRESHMAN
- 20 Samuel Vargas FORWARD, FRESHMAN
- 21 Peter Ruggiero DEFENDER, JUNIOR

- Ahmed Dwidar HEAD COACH
- Ramsey Heitmann ASSISTANT COACH
- Dan Rotando ASSISTANT COACH
- John Rotando ASSISTANT COACH
- Aldo Tropeano ASSISTANT COACH
- Aidan Sabatini MANAGER
- Meghan Crowe ATHLETIC TRAINER

*captains



Andre Alzate goes airborne.



Alzate fires the game-winner against CBA Syracuse.



Miguel Ruiz



Avery Davis (14) chases down the ball.

BEACON BULLDOGS

2022 BOYS' SOCCER

CLASS A RUNNER-UP

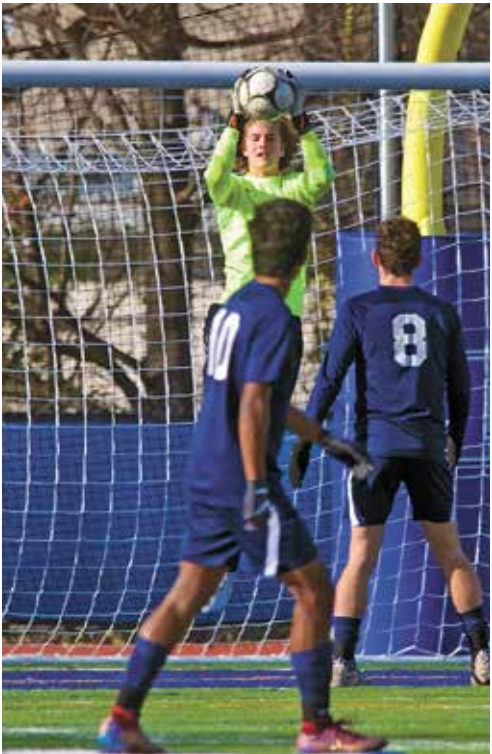
By Skip Pearlman

A magical run came to a heartbreaking end on Sunday (Nov. 13) for the Beacon High School boys' soccer team, as the Bulldogs finally met an opponent they couldn't handle and dropped a 4-0 decision to Amityville in the Class A state title game at Middletown High School.

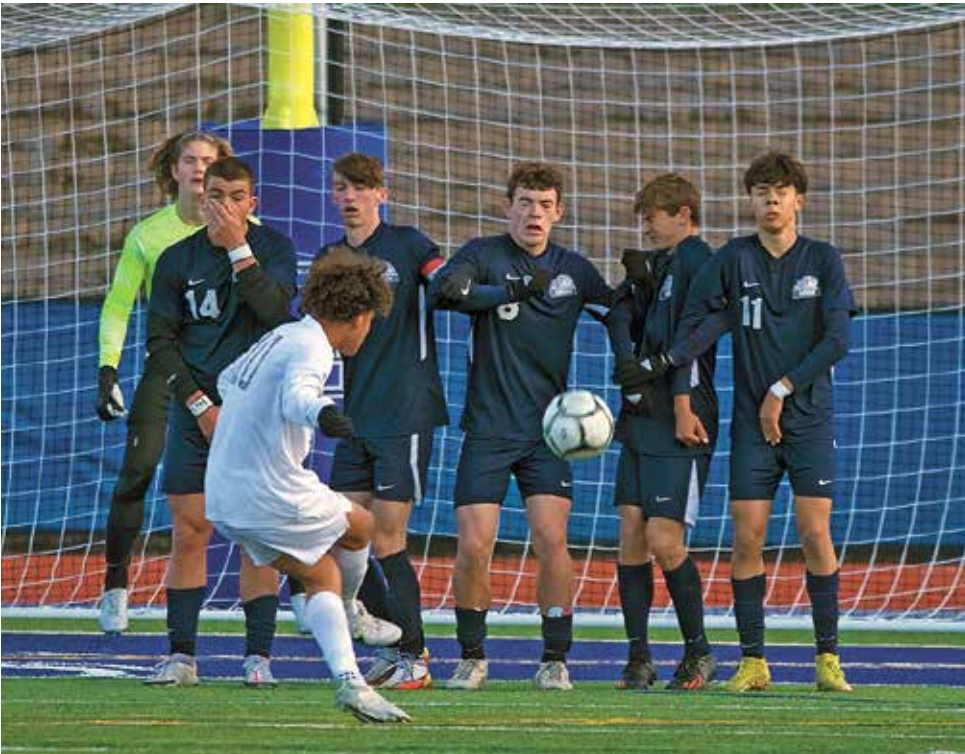
No one expected the Bulldogs, who finished the regular season 9-3-2, third in their league behind Goshen and Cornwall, and seeded No. 2 in the Section IX tournament, to appear in the title game, but there they were. It was the first Beacon boys' soccer team to reach the championship match. Amityville, which finished 20-1-1, lost in the state title game last year to Somers, 7-2. It also

won state titles in 2015 and 2018. The Warriors seemed to have speed at every position, and thwarted all the Bulldogs' scoring opportunities, which were few and far between. Amityville controlled most of the play throughout the game and kept consistent pressure on the Bulldogs. The Warriors led 2-0 at halftime, and never let Beacon

(Continued on Page 16)



Matt Sandison makes a save.



Beacon's defense braces for a free kick.

Photos by S. Pearlman

THE ROAD TO THE FINAL

Regular Season

0	Beacon	Arlington	3
1	Beacon	Newburgh	2
8	Beacon	Port Jervis	0
5	Beacon	Kingston	1
0	Beacon	Goshen	0
3	Beacon	Minisink Valley	0
8	Beacon	Monticello	0
0	Beacon	Cornwall	0
7	Beacon	Port Jervis	0
2	Beacon	Goshen	1
0	Beacon	Bronxville	1
8	Beacon	Minisink Valley	0
4	Beacon	Cornwall	1
5	Beacon	Monticello	1

State Tournament

1	Beacon	Goshen	0
3	Beacon	Cornwall	0
→ SECTION IX TITLE			
1	Beacon	Vestal	0
2	Beacon	Yorktown	0
SEMIFINAL			
3	Beacon	CBA Syracuse	2
FINAL			
0	Beacon	Amityville	4

(Continued from Page 15)

back in the game, adding a pair of insurance goals in the second half.

“Initially, of course, the feeling is disappointment,” said Coach Craig Seaman, who is in his 23rd season at Beacon. “Knowing what could have been ... At the same time, the journey’s been unbelievable. One game can’t take away from that. It’s been a historic postseason run for these guys.

“Amityville is super-talented,” Seaman added. “Their front three are super-skilled, very fast and they really go at you. One through 11, they’re talented, one of the best high school teams I’ve ever seen.”

Beacon captain Jack Philipbar said the Bulldogs, a group that’s been together for many years, will remember the journey.

“It’s unfortunate to have to lose that way,” Philipbar said. “They’re a great team. We worked hard all season to get here, and we’ve got to be proud of the season we had. We played club ball together for a long time, and we’ve been together for a long time; we love to hang out with each other ... It’s a really special group. Not so much the ending, but the season we had.”

Beacon reached the title game with a thrilling, 3-2, win over Christian Brothers Academy (CBA) of Syracuse in the semifinal game on Nov. 12.

The Bulldogs ran out to a 2-0 halftime lead at Monroe Woodbury High School on goals from Andre Alzate and Liam Murphy. But CBA came out on fire in the second half and tied the game in the first two minutes.

Despite most of the play being in the Beacon end, the Bulldogs found an opportunity on a break down the right wing, and Andre Alzate put another ball in the net.

Keeper Matt Sandison had a big game, making several impressive saves in the second half, and finished with 11 stops.

For more photos,
see highlandscurrent.org.



Matt Sandison makes a save against Amityville in the title game.



The Beacon players celebrate after their semifinal win on Nov. 12.

Photos by S. Pearlman

2022 CLASS A RUNNER-UP

BEACON BULLDOGS (14-4-2)

- | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 0 Matt Sandison GOAL, JUNIOR | 6 Josue Pintado SOPHOMORE | 12 Liam Murphy JUNIOR | 23 Mason Alencastro SOPHOMORE |
| 0 Adam Sendelbach GOAL, SENIOR | 7 Stephen McDowell JUNIOR | 13 Miguel Ruiz SENIOR | |
| 0 Aidan Spiecker GOAL, FRESHMAN | 8 Brody Timm SOPHOMORE | 14 Avery Davis SOPHOMORE | |
| 3 Luca Foret SOPHOMORE | 9 Jude Betancourt SOPHOMORE | 16 Thomas Robinson SENIOR | Craig Seaman HEAD COACH |
| 4 Jack Philipbar SENIOR | 10 Andre Alzate SENIOR | 17 Tye Elias FRESHMAN | Bill Fiege ASSISTANT COACH |
| 5 Enis Dika SOPHOMORE | 11 Jaidyn Caccamo SOPHOMORE | 20 Gavin LaDue SENIOR | TJ Zehner ASSISTANT COACH |

The Calendar



Callo performing the national anthem before an Arizona Cardinals football game



Dusti Callo sits at a table she made for the faculty lounge from boards reclaimed during a recent renovation at the school.

Photo by J. Asher



Callo performing the national anthem before a New York Jets game

Photos provided

Something You Don't Know About Me

Dusti Callo

By Joey Asher



Dusti Callo as a young rodeo queen

At the Garrison school board meeting on Oct. 26, the district clerk, Dusti Callo, performed a song she had written earlier that day to the tune of “You Are My Sunshine” to mark New York State School Board Recognition Week.

“It was kind of a last-minute decision,” she recalls. “I sat here for 10 minutes and came up with something that seemed to work and practiced it a couple of times.”

It brought down the house — or, in this case, the Learning Commons.

It was Callo’s second performance at the school. She sang the national anthem at the eighth-grade graduation ceremony in 2021, and many of the parents and teachers in the audience were stunned by her ability.

“People don’t know this about me,” said Callo, 53, who is also secretary to Superintendent Carl Albano. But she has been singing her entire life. “My mom said I was singing before I was talking.”

(Callo, who has been with the district since 2020, is also an accomplished woodworker — she made a speaker’s podium and table with wood salvaged from a renovation project at the school.)

As a teenager, Callo hoped to pursue a career in country music, inspired by her idols, Naomi and Wynona Judd. But in 1995, those ambitions were put on hold when she moved with her then-fiancé, Fred, to the Hudson Valley.

Once in New York, she started singing. “The Star Spangled Banner” at minor and major league baseball and football games, including for the Yankees, Mets, Jets, Giants, her beloved Buffalo Bills and the Hudson Valley Renegades, the minor league baseball team that plays at Dutchess Stadium.

Singing runs in the family. Her grandfather, Elmer Bradford, sang cowboy songs as a trail guide at the Grand Canyon. He also performed with Mel Tillis and led his own band, the Rhythm Rangers.

“I remember many, many hours sitting in the living room listening to grandpa play the guitar,” Callo said.

She grew up a country girl in the Ozarks in West Plains, Missouri, near the Arkansas border. Her family had horses and listened to Patsy Cline, Ray Price, Loretta Lynn, Dolly Parton and Reba McEntire.

After her parents divorced when she was 10, her mother relocated to Las Vegas to start a new life. “She packed up four kids, two dogs, two cats and 13 horses, and off we went,” said Callo.

In Vegas, Callo competed for rodeo cash and belt buckles in barrel racing and calf-roping. One specialty was goat-tying, which, she explained, involves a procedure she called “flanking the goat.” That means racing down the arena, jumping off the horse, grabbing a goat, flipping it on its side and tying up three of the goat’s legs.

When she was a teenager, Callo started singing the national anthem at Helldorado Days and other professional rodeos. But it was when the National Rodeo Finals moved

from Oklahoma City to Las Vegas that she started her career.

“During those 10 days, anyone who is anyone in country music was performing,” she said. Beginning in 1987, as part of a growing demand for country music acts in Vegas, she was hired to perform at the Olympic Lounge at Caesars Palace and country music dance halls.

She sang standards by Trisha Yearwood and The Judds but says her showstopper was “Crazy,” by Patsy Cline.

“That was the one that usually brought the house down,” she said.

In the early 1990s, she attempted a recording career, and to build her reputation, working with producer George Dare. She also tried out for the traveling show, *Legends in Concert*, showing up dressed as Wynona Judd. Unfortunately, “at that time The Judds weren’t legends enough,” said Callo.

Soon after meeting Fred — now her husband — they decided to move to Marlboro, in Ulster County, where she lives now. She said the Hudson Valley reminds her of her childhood in the Ozarks. Her husband

got a position in food services and she took a position as an office manager.

Shortly after they arrived in New York, Fred suggested that Dusti could get gigs singing the national anthem.

He became her promoter, calling major league teams to see if they needed people to sing the anthem.

“The challenge singing in big stadiums is the sound delay,” says Callo. “In the old Yankee Stadium, the speakers were located in center field, which was 400 feet away. You’d sing a line and hear it behind you. That could be nerve-wracking.”

In 1998, during a visit to sing the national anthem for a minor league baseball team, the New Britain Rock Cats (now the Hartford Yard Goats), Callo took note of the team’s theme song. With her husband’s persistent engagement, she sat down to write one for the Hudson Valley Renegades, “Renegade Fever,” which the team played for a while at The Dutch.

Last summer, the Renegades revived the song, said Joe Vasile, the director of media relations and marketing. He said learning that the team had a theme song that wasn’t being used was “a great discovery.”

Along with school board meetings, much of her singing these days takes place at Milton First Presbyterian Church in Ulster County.

Callo said she believes her voice has improved with age. “I have more control,” she says. “There’s something that comes with living life.”

Her control was on full display recently when she sang at the funeral of her uncle, the Rev. Butch Bradford, at a Baptist church in Phoenix. She performed the hymn “Softly and Tenderly” and says she was amazed at the connection she felt with the congregation.

“It was one of those moments where something else took over,” she says. “I wondered where that voice was coming from.”

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 19

Blood Drive

CONTINENTAL VILLAGE

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fire Department
2 Spy Pond Road | nybc.org
Register online or walk in.

SAT 19

Holiday Pottery Show & Sale

GARRISON

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

The show will include ceramic works by more than 30 artists. Through SUN 27.

SAT 19

Holiday Gift Show & Sale

BEACON

Noon – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandculturalcenter.org

Browse local crafts, jewelry, art, ceramics and household goods at this annual event. Weekends through Dec. 23.



Kahn, the Musical, Nov. 19

SAT 19

Stories from the Midnight Run

COLD SPRING

6 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
10 Academy St.

Following a soup supper, Ronald Sopyla will share moments from his experience with the Midnight Run on the streets of New York City. Donations of new men's underwear, socks and T-shirts welcome.

SUN 20

Let's Talk About Visitation

BEACON

2 – 4 p.m. Dutchess Manor
263 Route 9D | hhft.org

A community forum for Philipstown residents, presented by the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail and the state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Register online.

SUN 20

Putnam History Museum Gala

GARRISON

5 p.m. The Garrison | 2015 Route 9
putnamhistorymuseum.org

This benefit will honor Garrison residents Heather and Neal Zuckerman and include dinner, a silent auction and a holiday program. *Cost: \$150+*

MON 21

Holiday Market

COLD SPRING

10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | butterfieldlibrary.org

Find homemade goods and crafts for all ages. Continues through SUN 27.

MON 22

Textile Arts

BEACON

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

Why knit on your own when you can knit together? Join this ongoing friendly group and bring knitting, crocheting, quilting or other handwork. All levels of experience are welcome, and some supplies are provided.

SAT 26

Makers Market

PHILIPSTOWN

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Parcel Flower Co.
3052 Route 9 | rivervalleyguild.com

Discover work by local artisans and craftspeople for holiday gift-

giving in this market organized by the River Valley Guild. The rain date is SUN 27.

SAT 26

Tree Lighting

BEACON

4 p.m. Polhill Park

At the fifth annual traditional tree-lighting, children will receive an ornament kit to take home, musicians will lead caroling and there will be raffles for prizes donated by businesses and for 12 trees. Each tree winner can take it home or have it planted in a park of choice.

SUN 27

Holiday Kickoff

POUGHKEEPSIE

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Walkway Over the Hudson
Parker Ave. | walkway.org

Meet Santa Claus at the East Gate Plaza and take photos at this annual event.

TALKS & TOURS

SAT 19

Twilight Tour

GARRISON

4 – 7 p.m. Boscobel
1601 Route 9D | boscobel.org

The historic mansion will be lit by candlelight and decorated for the holidays with musicians playing period music. Continues Friday and Saturday through Dec. 10. *Cost: \$29 (\$24 seniors, \$17 ages 4 to 18, free ages 4 and younger)*

HOLIDAY POTTERY SHOW & SALE

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Closed: November 24, Thanksgiving Day

Garrison Art Center

garrisonartcenter.org 845-424-3960



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SAT 19
Object Lessons
GARRISON
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Maria Teresa Hart, author of *Doll*, and Amanda Parrish Morgan, author of *Stroller*, will discuss the hidden lives of objects. Registration required.

SUN 20
Wreath-Making Workshop
PHILIPSTOWN
2 p.m. Parcel Flower Co.
3052 Route 9 | theparcelflower.co
Learn how to use a grapevine to create a winter wreath that you can take home. See website for other workshops. *Cost: \$70*



SUN 20
Coping with Rising Threats to Jews and Minorities
BEACON
3 p.m. Beacon Hebrew Alliance
331 Verplanck Ave.
beaconhebrewalliance.org
Increasingly, political campaigns and media postings have been replete with divisive speech and hateful rhetoric targeting Jews, the LGBTQ community, immigrants and other minorities. The term *stochastic terrorism* has been coined to describe the cycle of leaders and media personalities engaging in hateful speech and then denying any responsibility when followers engage in violence. This discussion will focus on how the community can cope in a practical way.

WED 23
Come Write In
BEACON
2 p.m. Howland Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
If you enjoy writing poetry, memoirs and/or fiction, this group meets weekly to “celebrate the craft” and provide inspiration through prompts, reading and critiques.

STAGE & SCREEN
SAT 19
Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?
WAPPINGERS FALLS
2 & 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. *Cost: \$22 (\$20 seniors, military, 12 and younger)*

SAT 19
Khan, The Musical
GARRISON
7 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org
This *Star Trek* parody by Brent Black and Alina Morgan will include Vulcan tap-dancing and a William Shatner impersonator. *Free*

SAT 19
You Resemble Me
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
In this 2021 film, directed by Dina Amer, two young sisters are torn apart and the eldest struggles to find her identity, leading to a shocking choice. The film’s executive producers include Spike Lee and Spike Jonze. *Cost: \$15*



Object Lessons, Nov. 19

SAT 26
The Nutcracker
PEEKSKILL
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Dancers from the World Ballet Series will perform the holiday classic with Tchaikovsky’s score. *Cost: \$33 to \$175*

VISUAL ART
SAT 19
Pandemic Passion Projects
NELSONVILLE
5:30 – 8 p.m. Create Community
11 Peekskill Road
Hosted by Create Community and New York Creative Arts Therapists,

this exhibit will include work by local artists and craftspeople, representing projects undertaken during the pandemic.
KIDS & FAMILY
SAT 19
Dia:Beacon Studio on the Farm
WAPPINGERS FALLS
10:30 a.m. Common Ground Farm
79 Farmstead Lane
diaart.org/program/program/saturday-studio
Children ages 5 and older are invited to make art. Register online.

SAT 19
Car Seat Safety Check
PHILIPSTOWN
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
North Highlands Firehouse
504 Fishkill Road
The Putnam County Sheriff’s Department, along with other law enforcement and health agencies, will check children’s car seats for proper installation.

SAT 19
Kids’ Craft
BEACON
1 – 3 p.m. Beacon Historical Society
61 Leonard St. | beaconhistorical.org
Children can make a craft and an exhibition featuring the art of Shirley Botsford, *A Common Thread Between Early Architecture and a Contemporary Fiber Artist*, will

(Continued on Page 20)

Lucy

OYEZ! OYEZ! OYEZ!

The Highlands Current presents
"Investigative Cartooning,"
an exhibition of graphic journalism by
Deb Lucke.

Opening Friday, Nov. 18th, 6:00-8:00pm
142 Main Street, Cold Spring

(Continued from Page 19)

be on view. Registration required; email beaconhistorical@gmail.com.

SAT 19
Middle School Night
GARRISON
7 – 10 p.m. Philipstown Rec
107 Glenclyffe | philipstownrecreation.com
Philipstown students are invited to play sports, ping-pong, pool, air hockey, dodgeball, laser tag and take part in a game-show challenge. *Cost: \$5*

TUES 22
Little Bookworms
COLD SPRING
11 a.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org
Preschoolers and their families are invited to this weekly gathering to hear stories and complete a craft.

MUSIC
SAT 19
Nora Brown
PUTNAM VALLEY
7:30 p.m.
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompskinscorners.org
Brown will perform old-time traditional music and songs from her release, *Cinnamon Tree*. A string band, the Down Hill Strugglers, will open. *Cost: \$20*



Nora Brown, Nov. 19

SAT 19
Scott Seltzer
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar
173 Main St. | reservabeacon.com
The singer will perform classic rock and Americana covers.

SAT 19
Alexis Marcelo with Daniel Carter and JD Parran
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
Marcelo on piano and Carter and Parran on woodwinds will perform experiential jazz. *Cost: \$20 (\$30 door)*

SAT 19
The Weight Band
POUGHKEEPSIE
8 p.m. Bardavon
35 Market St. | 845-473-2072
bardavon.org
In this revival of the “Woodstock sound,” the group will play classics

from The Band. Larry Campbell and Teresa Williams will open. *Cost: \$39*

SAT 19
Willie Nile
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The band will play music from its latest release, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*. *Cost: \$35 (\$40 door)*

SUN 20
Claremont Trio
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org
They will perform a program that includes Brahms’ *Trio in B Major* and Mendelssohn’s *Trio in D Minor*. Donations welcome.

MON 21
Bryan Kopchak Band
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Quinn’s | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/quinnbeacon
The group will perform as part of Quinn’s weekly jazz series.

TUES 22
Dan Garcia
BEACON
7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
The classical guitarist, a native of Spain who lives in Beacon, will perform world and Latin-influenced music. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)*

FRI 25
Zebra
PEEKSKILL
7:30 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The band will celebrate the 40th anniversary of its debut album. The opening acts are Donnie Vie and Alex Nikki & Jokerz Wild. *Cost: \$35 to \$95*

FRI 25
Eileen Ivers
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
For her Joyful Christmas show, Ivers will play Celtic and Americana holiday music. *Cost: \$40 (\$45 door)*



SAT 26
Start Making Sense
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The Talking Heads tribute band will play the hits. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

CIVIC
MON 21
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

MON 21
School Board
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road | 845-838-6900
beaconk12.org

MON 21
School Board
GARRISON
7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D
845-424-3689 | gufs.org

MON 21
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

TUES 22
East of Hudson Plan Meeting
KENT
5 – 8 p.m. Courthouse
25 Sybils Crossing | dec.ny.gov

WED 23
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

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30 Beekman St., 201	Beacon	2	2/0	1,408	\$585,000
10 Rende Dr.	Beacon	4	2/0	1,986	\$594,000
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Small, Good Things

In the Realm of the Senses

By Joe Dizney

As small, good things go, there are few smaller and “gooder” than crème brûlée, the burnt sugar crusted and oh-so-rich custard familiar to Francophile foodies worldwide.



With basically four ingredients — cream, egg yolks, sugar, vanilla — and incredibly simple to make, a proper crème brûlée is incredibly rich and possibly overindulgent, if not downright decadent. In other words, the pluperfect end to a perfect holiday meal.

Perhaps, also a *bête noire* to cardiologists and boon to weight-loss specialists and postseason gym membership drives. Sure, you can easily find recipes for lighter custards — substituting half-and-half, or whole- or lower fat-milk for some of the cream, some whole eggs for the all-yolk version — but what’s the point, really?

This is no time for virtue! Look, crème brûlée is not meant to replace lighter fare — it’s an indulgence for feast days and special occasions and no amount of guilt could deny how satisfying a couple of spoonfuls can be.

“ Bay may seem an odd choice, but surprisingly there’s a tradition of scenting custards and puddings with the spice.

Vanilla is the classic spice for custards in general, but for this holiday version we’ve made a couple of additions: Turkish bay laurel leaves and juniper berries.

Bay may seem an odd choice, but surprisingly there’s a tradition of scenting custards and puddings with the spice. It’s usually



thought of as a savory spice for stews and long-cooked braises. But for dessert custards the cream is infused with cracked dried leaves which are strained out after a short warm steeping.

Be sure to use Turkish bay leaves, as opposed to the California variety. (They’re usually labelled, but Turkish leaves are shorter and a bit rounder than typically long and slender California leaves.) California bay is also a bit strong — some say medicinal — while Turkish leaves impart a light herbal and slightly floral top note to vanilla’s soft but solid base.

Even more unlikely is the addition of juniper berries, a spice associated with northern and Eastern Europe, particularly in game cooking. It’s not really a berry but the smooth seed cone of juniper, an evergreen conifer shrub (or small tree), and as such the crushed “berries” impart a resinous, slightly citrusy aroma (most familiar from gin, the alcoholic infusion which most bears its distinctive flavor and odor) that fills in the heart notes of this aromatic accord.

The custards, strained and cooked in a bain marie, are cooled, then chilled. This can all be done well ahead of time — up to a couple of days — and honestly, the result as is would be perfectly satisfying, presented as pot de crème. That’s nothing to turn your nose up at, but it’s not nearly the festive delight of crème brûlée, its smooth, rich, cool interior concealed under a warm shard of *à la minute* caramel, a true treat for the senses.

Bay-Juniper Crème Brûlée

4 to 6 servings

- 2 cups heavy cream
- ½ vanilla bean (*substitute 1 teaspoon good vanilla extract)
- 8 dried Turkish bay leaves, cracked
- 1 tablespoon juniper berries, coarsely crushed
- 5 large egg yolks
- ½ + ¼ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt

1. Arrange four ramekins (4 to 6 ounces each) in a baking pan large enough that they don’t touch. Pour cream into a 1-quart saucepan; bring to a simmer over medium-high heat. Split and scrape the seeds from the vanilla bean and add to the simmering cream. Add bay leaves and juniper berries. (Note: If substituting vanilla extract, it is added later.) Stir to incorporate spices briefly. Remove pan from heat, cover and let steep for 30 minutes. While the cream/spice mixture steeps, in a medium bowl whisk together egg yolks, ½ cup sugar, salt and vanilla extract (if substituting for vanilla bean) until smooth.

2. After 30 minutes, strain cream/spice mixture through a fine sieve into a large measuring cup, pressing down on the herbs to extract all liquid from the leaves. Lightly whisk infused cream into the egg/sugar mixture to incorporate. Strain all again through the sieve, back into the large measuring cup. Pour custard into ramekins, filling almost to the top. Being careful to not disrupt the ramekins, pour in enough hot water to come about ½ inch up the sides of the ramekins (to promote even overall temperature and cooking).

3. Set pan on the center rack of oven and bake until just set, 30 to 35 minutes. (Don’t let the custards bubble. You want them a little wobbly, not overcooked.) When just barely set, remove pan from oven and ramekins from the pan. Remove cups from the water bath and cool. Cover each with plastic wrap and refrigerate until chilled (for at least two hours and up to two days).

4. To brûlée before serving, preheat broiler to high with rack 4 to 5 inches from heat source. Sprinkle surface of custards evenly with a thin layer of remaining sugar (about ½ tablespoon each). Place ramekins on a sheet pan and broil, turning pan occasionally to promote even browning, until sugar bubbles and creates a consistent caramel crust. Serve, still warm and fragrant.

Note: If you have access to a small propane torch, you have much better control over the outcome. Using a medium-to-low flame hold the torch 4 to 5 inch from the evenly sugar-dusted custard. Move the torch in a back-and-forth or circular motion over the surface, first melting the sugar and then carefully controlling the browning on each individual custard.

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Richard Scully

(1924-2022)

Richard Thorne Scully, a longtime resident of Garrison, passed away on October 25, 2022, aged 98.

Born on 15 April 1924, in New York City, Richard was a man of the world, with intellect and wit. He was a lover of classical music, animals and nature, and was singularly unimpressed with pretension or the trappings of success.

Richard was a Harvard-educated international tax lawyer for Aramco and Phillips Petroleum, in Saudi Arabia, London and New York. In Saudi, he brewed liquor from a still (which he later used to make maple syrup with his daughter Caroline in rural NY state) for the raucous parties he and our mom threw on their boat, an Arab dhow - the Nefertiti, on Half Moon Bay, in the Persian Gulf. They laughed (after the fact) about once being chased for hours by the Saudi authorities across the open desert in a jeep when they skirted a border outpost on return from the United Arab Emirates.

He served our country, as a lieutenant in the Air Force during World War II, first as a weatherman and then as a navigator on a B-24 bomber, guiding the plane by reading the maps and the stars.

When his father died at a young age, his bohemian, adventurous mother moved with him and his ailing brother to France, first in Paris and then Six-Fours-les-Plages in the south. After moving back to New York City when he was six, they lived in Gramercy Park and he attended the Little Red Schoolhouse and later Friends Seminary, where he made lifelong friends.

Richard met his wife, Bernice, while he was at Harvard Law School and she was working on a study at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he was a participant. After a camping adventure in the Maine woods together, they were married soon afterwards, settling in New York City.

Always after adventure, within a few years, they moved to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia where he worked for Aramco for seven years and had their first child, Caroline. They then returned to New York City, where their son, Richard Alan, was born.

Richard's craving for exploring the world eventually resurfaced and, after he and Bernice lovingly restored "Rock-Hurst," a wonderful run-down Victorian house in the town of Garrison, NY, a hamlet with one general store on the shores of the Hudson River, they moved the family to London. While there, the family would embark to the New Forest on camping trips, navigate the winding streets to attend soccer games and rock concerts, and take road trips throughout the U.K. and Europe.

Eventually, in 1978, they returned to their home in Garrison, where Richard volunteered with the Ambulance Corp and the Audubon Society and dabbled in options trading. Finally, Richard and Bernice moved to Washington, D.C. in the 1990s, where Richard pursued residential real estate development.

Richard is predeceased by his parents, Raymond Scully and Ellen Kiely, his brother, Alan Scully, and his beloved wife, Bernice Scully (Joseph). He is survived by his son Richard Alan Scully, three grandchildren, Madeleine, Beckett, and Bridget, and his daughter, Caroline Scully and her partner, Jim Niedbalski.

He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather and we shall miss him terribly. He was loved deeply.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday November 19, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Philip's Church in the Highlands, 1101 Route 9D, Garrison, New York 10524. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Funeral Arrangements are under the direction of Clinton Funeral Home- Cold Spring.

PAID NOTICE

LOOKING BACK IN BEACON

By Chip Rowe

Editor's note: Beacon was created in 1913 from Matteawan and Fishkill Landing.

150 Years Ago (November 1872)

The Phoenix Manufacturing Co. of Fishkill Landing was contracted to build 20 brick machines based on a patent owned by a resident of Newark, New Jersey.

"Aunt Peggy" Decker, a Black woman who lived in Newburgh, died at 107. She was the oldest person in Orange County.

A gale blew two freight cars parked on a side track at Dutchess Junction toward the river, but they derailed before running into the water.

Henry Winthrop Sargent, of Wodenethe, near Fishkill Landing, lost property in the Great Fire in Boston that had been yielding him \$10,000 annually in rent [about \$243,000 today].

Sargent, a renowned horticulturist and landscape gardener, was appointed chair of Group 2 (Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry) at the international exhibition to be held in Vienna in 1873.

A burglar stole 40 pennies from W.H. Harris' meat market in Fishkill Landing.

According to a news account, a man who had left Matteawan years before for the West was gone so long his wife assumed him dead and she remarried. When he returned, she pretended not to know him — until she learned he was worth \$75,000 [\$1.8 million], after which she told her new husband to "caper away about his business."

The Fishkill Landing Gas Works had become profitable, according to *The Cold Spring Recorder*. "The churches, factories and most of the stores, both at the Landing and Matteawan, are supplied."

Charles Hunt, the son of Alva Hunt of Glenham, was killed by the accidental discharge of his gun while hunting in New Jersey.

125 Years Ago (November 1897)

In a Newburgh meat market was a 3-foot-long facsimile of the steamer Homer Ramsdell made entirely of leaf lard.

The historic Teller house at Matteawan was opened to the public three days a week for 5 cents admission.

Spafford Atkinson, known as Oklahoma Bill, shot James Bogardus in the leg at Thomas Knibbs' saloon in Matteawan on a Monday afternoon. After 18 days in jail, Atkinson was released when he signed a pledge to stop drinking.

Bessie Hallenbeck, who lived near Fishkill Landing, reported her husband, George, missing. When she last heard he was at Cold Spring looking for work and it is thought he left for New York City on a barge.

The St. Luke's Athletic Club football team defeated Highlands Falls, 38-0, and Cornwall Military Academy, 18-0.

Legrand Woolsey, 16, was seriously injured during a pickup football game at Fishkill Landing on Thanksgiving morning, his right side paralyzed. He underwent surgery to remove his appendix.

The French consul-general asked the New York governor to pardon Amer Ben Ali, aka "Frenchy," who was convicted in 1891 of killing a woman known as "Old Shakespeare" in a cheap lodging house in New York City. Frenchy, described as an "imbecile," spent



Frenchy

six years at the Matteawan State Hospital for the Criminally Insane, where he learned English and began protesting his innocence and declaring himself of sound mind.

A hunter named Harry Ireland found a lump of ore in the Fishkill Mountains that

(Continued on Page 23)



The Henry Winthrop Sargent home near Fishkill Landing

(Continued from Page 22)

“experts” proclaimed to be gold, with a small amount of silver. One news account said several young men who had planned to go to the Klondike [in Alaska, where gold had been discovered earlier that year] changed their plans “and the price of land has already advanced.” However, another newspaper noted that Fishkill was “pretty late in getting into the ring. Gold was discovered at nearly every other point in the United States within 60 days after the news of the Klondike strike.”

A state court ordered a man who sued for \$15,000 after he lost his wife and two children in the bursting of the Melzingah reservoir in July to settle for \$450. Other survivors were ordered to settle for \$150 each. The judge said the plaintiffs should be happy with those amounts because the defendant, the Fishkill and Matteawan Water Co., said its property was mortgaged for \$70,000 but it had \$75,000 in pending claims.

George Garrison, an inmate at the Matteawan State Hospital for the Criminally Insane, escaped. He had been trusted to paint the rear of the building and used one of the ladders to scale the wall. He was captured the next day when he approached a home to ask for something to eat — as it happened, the son of the owner was an attendant at the asylum and recognized him.

A New Jersey court affirmed the conviction of a former detective for the West Shore Railroad Co., Edward Clifford, who gained fame and a \$1,500 reward for capturing Oliver Curtis Perry, a train robber who escaped from the Matteawan asylum. The money was his downfall, his friends said, for he neglected his work and began drinking. When he was fired by William Wattson, the division superintendent, he begged for another chance. After being fired a second time, he shot Wattson, who later died. Clifford pleaded insanity but was sentenced to hang.

In an investigative report titled “Cruelties at Matteawan,” a reporter for *The New York Herald* reported that inmates were being beaten, tortured with hypodermic needles and kept in filthy cells. He based his report on “rumors” and an interview with Perry, the train robber. The reporter noted that although the asylum had only been open for five years, its cemetery had 72 graves.

100 Years Ago (November 1922)

The city planned to collect back taxes from residents, including ex-mayor Samuel Beskin, who did not contribute to repaving and adding sidewalks on Beekman Street. The costs were split between the city, the Citizens Street Railway Co. and residents who had property abutting the street. The day before the city was scheduled to seize and sell his property, Beskin submitted a check for his share of the street work but refused to pay for the sidewalk. He claimed that city officials gave him the walk and curb at no charge, although there was no record of such an agreement.

John Cronin, the city fuel administrator, said he had received two complaints from residents who were charged \$17 per ton for chestnut coal that turned out to be a mixture of buckwheat and pea. Cronin noted that dealers in nearby towns and villages were

Who Was the First Librarian?

According to the Howland Public Library, which this year is celebrating its 150th anniversary, its first official librarian in 1872 was Joseph Badeau. However, further research by the library and the Beacon Historical Society revealed that his “assistant” (and wife), Wilhelmina “Minnie” Badeau, was the actual librarian, a fact acknowledged only after her death in 1904.



With assistance from the East Fishkill Historical Society, the Howland was able to locate a Badeau descendant, Jane Foster of LaGrange, Georgia, shown below with a portrait of her great-grandfather during a visit to the Howland Cultural Center, the original site of the library.

According to the Howland, the couple and their seven children lived on the second floor of the library. In 1907, when Nancy Lamont became librarian, she moved in with her family, and the practice continued through the 1970s until the library moved to its present location at 313 Main St.



Jane Foster at the Howland Cultural Center with a portrait of her great-grandfather, who was credited as the first librarian
Howland Public Library

charging \$12 or \$13 per ton for chestnut.

A torchlight parade preceded a meeting at the Columbus Institute in support of the Republican candidates J. Griswold Webb for state senator and Rep. Hamilton Fish for Congress. The Beacon City Band led the procession from Town Hall to Fountain Square to Bank Square and back to the institute.

The largest crowd ever assembled to witness a high school basketball game in Beacon watched the home team defeat New Paltz, 34-5, in its opener.

Two schoolboys charged with juvenile delinquency were sent by a judge to the St. Vincent's School in Albany. One boy was sleeping at night on the sidewalk at Bank Square and the other ran away from home and missed several days of school.

Workers using steam shovels to excavate ground for a government hospital for disabled soldiers [Castle Point] unearthed

(Continued on Page 24)



Keep Cats Indoors

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

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

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

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

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

** Paid for by a concerned citizen*

Looking Back *(from Page 23)*

three skeletons believed to be Native Americans of the Wappinger tribe. Some local residents insisted they were white settlers but could not explain the stone arrowheads on each body's chest. It was proposed that the remains be sent to the National Museum in Washington.

Margaret Wolgast of New York City became the first woman ever charged in Dutchess County with bootlegging when she was arrested in Fishkill driving a Buick filled with 275 bottles of illicit booze. Wolgast and her male companion allegedly offered the state troopers who stopped them \$100 to look the other way, but they were taken to the Beacon police station to wait for arraignment.

Emil Peterson, the husband of Susan Cunningham, a former Beacon resident, was killed when a New York Central freight locomotive exploded near Red Hook. He was buried at St. Joachim's cemetery.

Daniel Dugan sued *The Beacon Herald* and *The Beacon Journal* for slander, demanding \$20,000 [\$350,000] in damages. Dugan was involved in a lawsuit with a New York City attorney over a home just outside the city. Dugan gave a statement to the *Herald* that included allegations that the attorney disputed in a letter to the editor, which Dugan claimed slandered him.

75 Years Ago (November 1947)

A father of four who lived on South Avenue was arrested on a "serious morals offense" involving an 11-year-old boy, on a

complaint by the boy's parents.

50 Years Ago (November 1972)

The State Liquor Authority canceled the license of Vince's Hideaway on East Main Street after its owner, Rosario Pisco, was convicted on a weapons charge.

The Happy Hour Cafe, at 315 Main St., suffered heavy damage in a 3 a.m. blaze that required 70 firefighters from all three Beacon companies to control.

The Beacon High School senior class sponsored a basketball game between faculty members and a Harlem Globetrotters knock-off, the Harlem Diplomats.

Benjamin Roosa Jr., a Republican, won the state Assembly seat for the newly created 100th District, which included Beacon. He received 48 percent of the vote to defeat the Democratic, Conservative and Liberal party candidates.

The Dutchess County Committee for Economic Opportunity shifted its services from the City of Poughkeepsie to Beacon and rural areas. Its board said it planned to spend \$60,000 of its \$375,000 budget on housing programs in Beacon and increase the city's funds by 100 percent "to address the needs of the Spanish community, the poor white and black community, senior citizens and youth problems." At the same time, it planned to move the city's Opportunity Center from the grounds of St. Andrew's Church and cancel funding for the Martin Luther King Library because of "a lack of impact."

The City Council approved a request from the Beacon-Fishkill Area Chamber

of Commerce to provide free parking on Main Street from Nov. 22 to Dec. 25 for the holiday shopping season.

The Dutchess of Beacon Hotel at Main and Elm streets, which was nearly 100 years old, was torn down for an expansion of the Fishkill Landing and Lumber Co. For the previous five years, it had been the headquarters of the Beacon Neighborhood Service Organization but was sold at a tax auction. [The site is now occupied by Dutchess County offices and a parking lot.]



The Dutchess, aka the Holland House, was torn down in 1972.

Two Beacon patrolmen, William Penn and William Ashburn, spotted flames at 12:40 a.m. at 48 North Ave. and rushed into the home to save three residents.

The City Council approved a resolution to have the Department of Public Works take over garbage collection. The cost was expected to be at least 30 percent less than two bids received.

Francis Kapusinsky, the superintendent of schools, revealed that 35 of the district's 200 teachers did not have state certification. He said that, regardless, many had been given tenure.

25 Years Ago (November 1997)

Twelve candidates were on the ballot for six seats on the City Council, including seven running for office for the first time. However, three incumbents were re-elected and the Democrats maintained their 4-3 majority.

Dutchess County residents voted to trim the size of the Legislature from 35 to 25 seats.

The Dutchess County Old Timers Baseball Association inducted Joe Ranalli and Chet Pietrowski of Beacon into its Hall of Fame.

In an attempt to slow traffic on Rombout Avenue, the City Council voted to create a four-way stop at its intersection with South Chestnut.

Pamal Broadcasting took control of WSPK-FM (K104) and WBNR of Beacon and laid off four DJs and a newscaster.

A 19-year-old Beacon man pleaded guilty to the possession of six bags of crack cocaine he said he intended to sell on Main Street.

The FBI launched an investigation into the alleged beating of a 17-year-old Black teenager from Beacon by guards while he was incarcerated at the Dutchess County Jail awaiting trial on robbery charges.

Scenic Hudson presented its concept plan for 21 acres of land it owned on the Beacon waterfront, including shops, restaurants and lodging. The nonprofit said it would spend about \$750,000 on improvements, such as a paved entrance road and a pedestrian plaza, before showing the property to developers.

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THEY GOT THE BEAT

BabaKazi Oliver, who lives in Peekskill, led an African drumming and percussion workshop for children and adults at the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison on Nov. 12.

Photos by Ross Corsair



SPORTS

Fans Fuel Soccer Team's Success

Haldane student section scores big with players

By Clara Tripp

On Sunday (Nov. 13), cheering and crying parents, Haldane students and residents lined Cold Spring's Main Street.

The village was ablaze with a swirl of flashing lights from fire trucks and reverberated with the sound of wailing sirens. Philipstown overflowed in a display of love for the Haldane varsity boys' soccer team, the school's first male sports team to win a state championship — ever.

But the love affair with the team began before senior Ryan Eng-Wong scored with less than two minutes remaining to give Haldane a 1-0 win over Maple Hill, and the title, on Sunday. Haldane is small in population compared to other Class C schools, but it boasts an incredibly vocal student section.

"The Haldane student section just cannot be replicated by any other school," said Amelia Alayon, a sophomore. "Because we're so small, when we make big accomplishments, it means all the more to everyone."

Luca van Dommele, a senior who plays right wing for the soccer team, added: "Our fans are unmatched. With the energy that

they bring to the games, they help the team get through the season."

While cheering on the team during the final, and the semifinal match Nov. 12 against Avon, students in Haldane's raucous student section talked about a broader community connection, with some saying they attend games to encourage lifelong friends and others to boost school spirit and forge new connections.

In addition, said senior Celia Drury, "post-COVID, everyone's really trying to get back and regroup" from a time when Haldane's teams had to play without fans. "I never had a real 'high school experience' because everything got shut down freshman year," she said.

During the pandemic, the school adopted a pass policy for sports attendance, distributing two passes to each player, who usually reserved them for family members. Although safety warranted the decision, and some support was better than completely empty stands, contests took place without the fervor of rowdy high schoolers. For players and their fans, the policy was particularly painful.

Eng-Wong, whose title-winning goal on Sunday increased his school-record career mark to 69, said that competing without fans "was the worst." But, said van Dommele, the empty stands pushed players to get better.

"Then, when the fans did eventually come



Haldane students came out in force for the semifinal game on Nov. 12 in Goshen, as well as the state title game the next day in Middletown.

Photo by Skip Pearlman

back, we could give them a show," he said.

Now, the crowds are back, along with a newfound swell of enthusiasm exemplified by the introduction this year of the crowd's newest commander — the Blue Devil mascot. Matthew Junjulas, a senior widely viewed as a candidate for having the most school spirit, wears the full-body suit. During games, he rouses the masses to sing along to renditions of tunes such as the "Blue Devils Anthem."

Junjulas partly attributes the flood of positive energy to the close-knit class of 2023, which frequently arrives at games equipped with a megaphone and personalized signs of support.

"Our senior student section is probably one of the greatest we've ever had," said Junjulas. "We've grown together. We all build off each other's energy, and we figured it would be perfect to do it now."

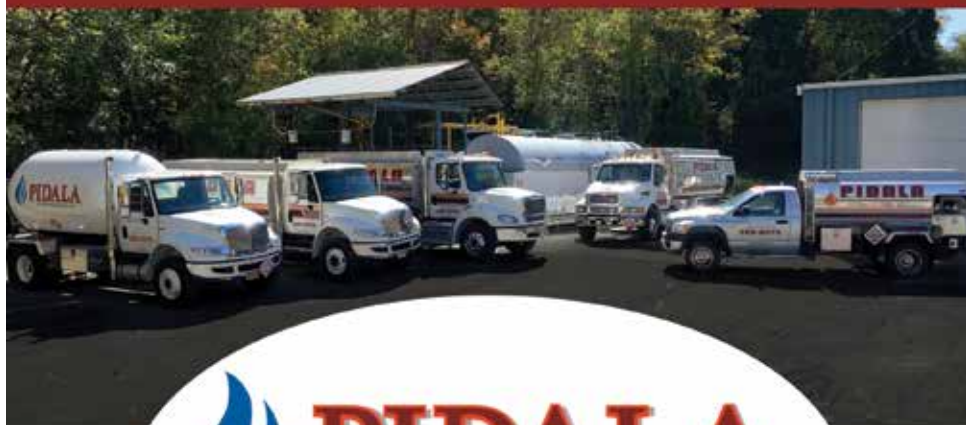
The soccer players fed off that energy, which some say has grown with the team's success. Even before the pandemic, when "we weren't good," watching the boys' soccer team was not that popular and "no one really came out to watch us play," said senior Aidan Sullivan-Hoch.

That changed as the team improved. And after Sunday's success, it is harder for residents *not* to know the team.

"The culture of Haldane has changed drastically in the four years I've been here," said Eng-Wong. "Everyone is coming together and being more friendly to each other, and everybody enjoys supporting each other nowadays."

Clara Tripp, who lives in Garrison and is a sophomore at the Ethical Culture Fieldston School in the Bronx, is a member of The Current's Student Journalists Program.

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Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Stitched

5. Bol. neighbor

8. Urban haze

12. Rue the run

13. Six, in Sicily

14. "I did it!"

15. Corp. VIP

16. Not on

17. Goals

18. Summer goal

20. See to

22. Coffee variety

26. Macadamized

29. Galley item

30. Old Oldsmobile

31. "Sad to say ..."

32. Director Lee

33. Tarzan's transport

34. Dress

35. Author Umberto

36. Wedding rings

37. Rich coffee lightener

40. Coffin support

41. Serviette

45. No neatnik

47. Dos Passos trilogy

49. Early Peruvian

50. Actor Hackman

51. Computer key

52. Aussie hoppers

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30

31 32 33

34 35 36

37 38 39

40 41 42 43 44

45 46 47 48 49

50 51 52

53 54 55

53. Turner and Danson

54. Filming site

55. Sicilian peak

8. Shorthand pro

9. Variety of orange

10. Peculiar

11. Helium, for one

19. Succor

21. Mess up

23. Esteem

24. Transmit

25. Low digits

26. Walkway

27. Lotion additive

28. Wanderer

32. Amasses

33. *Twilight* character

35. Needle hole

36. Sheep call

38. Feelings, informally

39. Put into law

42. Shoelace snarl

43. PC picture

44. Houston acronym

45. Pvt.'s superior

46. Author Harper

48. Away from NNW

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES

1 falling behind (7)

2 cut a log (5)

3 GEICO mascot (5)

4 singer-songwriter Melissa (9)

5 blended (10)

6 group of racing cyclists (7)

7 feeling among strangers (11)

SOLUTIONS

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LA MIN GEC ING ETH

WED PELO SS GL WAR

ED AWK DGE KO SA

ERI DNE GG TON COM

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SUDO CURRENT

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

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

1. BOCCE, 2. EMOTIONS, 3. INFELDERS, 4. FARM, 6. VEGETATE, 7. IDEAS

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

SPORTS



Follow us at twitter.com/hcurrentsports



Michael Murray eyes up a Tuckahoe defender on Nov. 11 during the Section I, Class D title game at Mahopac High School.



Evan Giachinta (25) ran for 154 yards against Tuckahoe.

Photos by S. Pearlman

VARSITY ROUNDUP

By Skip Pearlman

FOOTBALL

Haldane's title dreams went down early on Nov. 11 in the Section I, Class D championship game at Mahopac High School. Top-seeded Tuckahoe overwhelmed the

Blue Devils from the start on its way to a 47-20 victory.

Tuckahoe set the tone on the game's first play with a 59-yard touchdown pass. The Tigers followed up quickly with a touchdown run for 14-0 lead that was stretched to 41-13 on a Tuckahoe score 11 seconds before halftime.

It was Tuckahoe's third consecutive title. The teams are the only Class D schools in the section, so play each year for the championship.

Haldane's first-quarter score came on a 60-yard kickoff return by Evan Giachinta (to make it 20-6), and the junior running back added a two-yard run for a TD in the second quarter that made it 27-13. But Tuckahoe added a pair of scores to pull away by halftime.

Giachinta finished with 154 yards and a pair of touchdowns on 16 carries and had three receptions for 50 yards. Quarterback Ryan Van Tassel completed 6 of 12 attempts and Michael Murray had two receptions for 27 yards.

Coach Ryan McConville said his team knew how good Tuckahoe was, and had a plan. "We knew they were a fast and physical team," he said. "We were in the right spots, but their guys made plays and beat us in a lot of one-on-one matchups. We expected a competitive game. But they made a lot of big-time plays.

"Down 14-0, we've been there before," he added. "But now we have to bounce back, and it changes your game plan. We had to throw the football, try different runs. And as it gets worse, you go into an attack mode,



HEADED TO THE BIG EAST — Liv Villella, a Nelsonville resident who is a senior at Haldane, signed a letter of intent on Nov. 9 to play soccer next year for Georgetown University. Liv is a defender with World Class FC.

Photo provided



Beacon's Henry Reinke and Rachel Thorne at the state championships



Haldane's Conrad White (far left), John Kisslinger (third from left) and James Frommer (fourth from left) compete at the state meet on Nov. 12 in Verona.

Photos provided

throwing more than you want to."

Haldane has gone 7-1 at home over the last two seasons, and McConville mentioned the team's homecoming win in overtime against Blind Brook and a comeback win over Putnam Valley — where the Blue Devils were down 14 points — as season highlights.

"Guys like Evan, Ryan, Luca DiLello, Dylan Rucker, Erik Stubblefield, Michael Murray, Thomas Tucker — they made plays throughout the year, and they all had a nice season for us," McConville said.

Tuckahoe (9-0) advances to a regional final today (Nov. 18) at Arlington High School, taking on the Section VII champ Moriah, with the winner advancing to the final four. Haldane ended its season at 6-3.

CROSS-COUNTRY

The Haldane boys finished ninth in the Class D state race in Verona on Nov. 12. The Blue Devils were led by seniors John Kisslinger (19:56.3), and Conrad White

(19:59.7), who finished 77th and 80th. Freshman James Frommer (20:24.0) finished 88th.

In the girls' race, senior Helen Nicholls (24:25.7) finished 75th and senior Andreia Vasconcelos (26:31.5) was 95th.

For Beacon, Henry Reinke finished 43rd in the Class B boys' race and Rachel Thorne finished 102nd for the girls.

"Henry got out well and held on to that position to finish 15 to 20 places ahead of where he was seeded," said Coach Jim Henry. "Rachel was not quite as pleased with her outcome. But I was impressed that she qualified to get here. Sometimes it's hard to follow up a great race with an even greater one."

Henry said his team had a strong fall. "We're only losing a couple of seniors in our top seven, so I think we'll have an excellent chance to improve next year," he said.

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