



Philipstown's Karate Kid Page 20

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# **Beacon Businesses in Jeopardy**

Three owners say rent hikes too much to absorb By Jeff Simms

unchtime was business as usual on Wednesday (Jan. 4) at Roma Nova, a pizzeria and Mexican restaurant on Eliza Street in Beacon, a half-block from Main Street. A steady stream of customers – some speaking Spanish, others placing their orders in English - strolled into the two-room café.

Ana Tapia, who owns the restaurant with her husband, Miguel, stood behind a counter, taking orders. As customers picked up their food, husband and wife took turns spreading tomato sauce and cheese before

popping fresh pizzas into industrial-sized ovens. In the next room, a single employee, Carlos Pena, cleaned the kitchen. Roma Nova, which has been in Beacon

for 28 years, announced last month that it would be closing at the end of January. Along with Batt's Florist and the Beacon Barber Shop, the restaurant is one of a trio of longtime businesses being upended, the owners say, because of rent spikes after their building was purchased last year.

According to Dutchess County records, in March a limited-liability corporation called BH Beacon bought the single-story, brick structure at 340 Main St. for \$2.3 million. Amanda Hurn, who owns Batt's, said that Robert Arzanipour, the founder of the Rock-(Continued on Page 7)

SPOTS AVAILABLE -On Sunday (Jan. 1), newly elected Putnam **County Executive Kevin** Byrne removed the reserved parking signs at the county office building in Carmel for the county executive, deputy county executive and chair of the Legislature. "On Day 1, the first thing we did: went outside the county office building and took out the VIP parking spaces," the former state legislator wrote online. "This is the people's building. We're here to serve vou." Facebook



# **Arrest Made in Beacon Fire**

Former tenant charged with arson

**By Jeff Simms** 

uthorities arrested a Beacon man after, they said, he admitted to starting the fire that destroyed a three-story house at 925 Wolcott Ave. on Tuesday (Jan. 3), the same day he was due in court for an eviction hearing.

Brian P. Atkinson, 56, was charged with one count of third-degree arson, two counts of first-degree reckless endangerment and two counts of second-degree criminal mischief, all felonies. Police said he walked to

the department and turned himself in immediately after starting the fire. He is in custody at the Dutchess County jail in Poughkeepsie and is scheduled for a preliminary hearing at 10 a.m. in Beacon today (Jan. 6).

Beacon police and firefighters responded to the house, which was fully engulfed by flames, at 6:23 a.m. on Tuesday. The house was unoccupied and under construction; police said in a statement that Atkinson is homeless but had formerly been a tenant.

According to court records, Atkinson was scheduled to appear in City Court on Tuesday for eviction proceedings that had been filed against him by the building's landlord (Continued on Page 6)



Miguel and Ana Tapia own the Roma Nova restaurant in Beacon. Photo by Valerie Shively

# Phase 1 of Fjord Trail Gets OK

State finds no adverse environmental impact **By Leonard Sparks** 

onstruction of the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail's first phase, which includes two paths and a bridge over the Metro-North tracks, was cleared to begin with a determination by New York State that the project will not have a negative impact on the environment.

The Department of Environmental Conservation announced Dec. 28 that the parks department had issued a "negative declaration" for the Breakneck Connector and Bridge, which combines the 445-foot span over the tracks with a half-mile trail

between its north end and Metro-North's station at Breakneck.

The \$85 million segment also includes a 345-foot trail from the south end of the bridge to the Breakneck Ridge trailhead; parking areas along Route 9D; two comfort station buildings and a trail steward station; upgrades to the train station and platforms: and upgrades to the Upper Overlook area along the Breakneck Ridge Trail.

As planned, the whole Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail will encompass 7.5 miles of pathway and amenities running from Dockside Park in Cold Spring through Hudson Highlands State Park and ending at Long Dock Park in Beacon.

Amy Kacala, executive director for (Continued on Page 6)



A fire destroyed this three-story house on Jan. 3 in Beacon.

Photo by Ed Mendoza



# FIVE QUESTIONS: TODD HULET

### By Chip Rowe

odd Hulet, a former Beacon resident who now lives in Newburgh, spent five years working at the Legoland theme park in Goshen.

### What were your duties at Legoland?

I was the head of entertainment and events, so my responsibilities included all the shows, the meet-and-greet characters, the "edu-tainment" in which performers in costume tell stories. It's a story-driven, actordriven experience. And we also organized everything from the grand opening in April [2022] to the Fourth of July to Halloween to the holiday events. I was hired in 2018 before Merlin Entertainment had even prepared the land to construct the park, so initially I spent a lot of time going into the community. There were some groups opposed to the park, but I mostly encountered overwhelming support for what was coming. As Merlin started to build, they needed an entertainment manager and then a resort experiences manager and then a senior manager.

### How did you feel the day the park opened?

**GILARDI**:

TAPPETO-

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Well, I was responsible for that whole party, so it was stressful. I don't know that



anybody would have said that I looked thrilled. The moment that I finally felt joy and relief wasn't until later that night when the press photos [of the activities] went out. I felt we had captured the joy and excitement I had been feeling during the process and

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now could share with people, including the artists. A themed entertainment park needs an incredible amount of artists.

### Where did you grow up? Did you play with Legos as a kid?

Southern California. They were part of my childhood, but I wouldn't call myself a fanatic. As a young adult, I lived all over: Arizona, Michigan, Idaho, Nebraska and Washington. Eventually, I decided that I needed to get to the East Coast because I was a theater artist. I mostly write, and mostly for young audiences. I'm a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.

### Have you been back to Legoland as a guest?

Yes, because my 15 nieces and nephews came to visit. But my experience was not what they experienced. For starters, I know things like what color that block was *supposed* to be [laughs], and the blood, sweat and tears that went into making each element. It will be interesting to go back in five years because by then it will be a different park, with a new set of attractions. Themed entertainment parks are only as successful as their ability to grow and develop, so people will come back.

### You were recently named the executive director of the Orange County Arts Council. Any similarities in the jobs?

My career path is maybe more logical than it seems. At Legoland, we were providing this immersive entertainment experience. You see dancers and musicians and actors and rides, all designed to be escapist. These same things are important to the arts community. Now I want to supply artists and entertainers not just to Legoland but to the entire community. There's still an issue with people thinking that the first place for budget cuts is the arts, because so little is usually spent there. That's also one of its positives: It doesn't require many resources to create amazing art. But you're investing in human creativity and imagination, and the more you invest, the more you will get out of it.



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Myrka Hernandez, Cold Spring

The Highlands Current

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Civil service

On Dec. 30, at the Putnam County Court-

house in Carmel, I watched and listened as

many newly elected and re-elected officials

took the oath of office to protect and defend

Those present, from our new congress-

man for District 17, to our state supreme court

justices. Senate and Assembly members.

Putnam County legislators and county exec-

utive, clerk and coroners, each official stated

that the most important thing to them is

to serve their constituents – the people of

Putnam County. They expressed their willing-

ness to listen more and talk less, and to work

with colleagues who don't necessarily agree

with them, in order to get things done for us.

in a collegial manner is encouraging, and

I am hopeful that, in Putnam at least, we

can move past the Trump-era cruelty, indif-

ference to reason and disregard of truth,

and cultivate the kind of respect that my

Republican grandparents valued. Their

living room featured portraits of Abraham

We are all human beings, our represen-

tatives acknowledged, and their positions

require them to keep that foremost in mind,

in addition to protecting and defending our

Lincoln and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

constitutions.

To see politicians talking with each other

the federal and state constitutions.

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### LETTERS AND COMMENTS

### Corrections

The puzzles in the Dec. 30 issue were inadvertently repeated from the previous week

In "State Bans 'Puppy Mill' Sales" (Dec. 30), we identified the Dutchess County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals as a chapter of the national ASPCA. In fact, it is not affiliated with the national organization.

club at the Howland Public Library in Beacon was listed incorrectly in the Dec. 30 issue. It is scheduled for Jan 14. Register at beaconlibrary.org/calendar.

Actions speak louder than words, as we know, and time will tell. We hope our public officials will be successful in their new terms and will continue to keep their stated commitment to serve all the people, not just the ones who voted for them. We

Judy Allen, Putnam Valley

The date for the Café con Libros book

will be watching.

### Puppy mills

I've frequently heard people tell me how

29 DIST.



nice and clean and pleasant the puppy mills are ("State Bans 'Puppy Mill' Sales," Dec. 30). However, when I ask if they met the mothers and fathers of the puppies, they go blank.

Many breeders keep the mothers and fathers hidden away in cages and rarely let them out to breathe fresh air and live. When they can no longer breed, they are thrown out like trash.

When you go to a breeder, ask to meet the parents, ask to see them in their living environment. And when you're at a dog park or walking down Main Street and hear your neighbor's dog being beaten, or see abuse or neglect of any animal, contact the authorities and insist on resolution and feedback. If you look the other way, you enable and promote. Fern Sartori, Wappingers Falls

### New in Assembly

I want to thank the voters of the 95th Assembly district [which includes Philipstown] for trusting me to represent us in Albany. Whether or not you voted for me, I am here to listen to your concerns and advocate for all of us. For the first few months, my district office will be located at 2 Church St. in Ossining, the same office occupied by now-retired Assemblywoman Sandy Galef (to whom we all owe a debt of gratitude, for 30 years of exemplary service). A move is on the horizon as the owner of the building looks to reclaim the space, and we will update the community when that happens.

I hope to retain the office phone number (914-941-1111) wherever we go because it is so easy to remember, and invite you to call whenever my staff or I can be of assistance. The phone number for my Albany office will be 518-455-5348. You can email me at levenbergd@nysassembly.gov, and the handle for my government Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages is @AMDanaLevenberg.

Please "like" and "follow" to stay up to date with important information from around the district and the state Legislature. Dana Levenberg, Albany

### Suspicious letter

Dear *Current*, thank you for your update regarding my friend and Cold Spring's favorite, Leonora Burton, formerly of The Country Goose ("2022, Updated," Dec. 30). The village is not the same without her sharp wit, her warm, caring nature and her yummy treats. I miss her terribly but I'm very happy to know she's enjoying time in England with her family and with other doggies. My dads loved reading her book about being an ex-pat. She's a great writer and I'm very excited that she's writing a book about my adventures. It'll be a great read! Woof, woof! Waffles, Cold Spring





Serino, Jacobson, Galef

# How They Voted Last-minute edition

### By Chip Rowe

n Dec. 30, the final business day of 2022, Gov. Kathy Hochul enacted 25 bills passed during the 2021-22 legislative session.

That brought the number of bills signed by Govs. Andrew Cuomo and Hochul from the session, which ended in June, to 1,608. Another 88 await Hochul's signature, and 197 have been vetoed.

Below are summaries of select laws and the votes cast by the three lawmakers who at the time represented the Highlands: Sen. Sue Serino, Assembly Member Sandy Galef (Philipstown) and Assembly Member Jonathan Jacobson (Beacon).

Last week, we noted that legislators had voted to raise their annual salaries by \$32,000, to \$142,000 annually as of Jan. 1. The measure, which includes limits on the outside income that legislators can earn starting in 2025, passed in the Senate, 33-23 (Serino voted no) and in the Assembly, 81-52 (Galef voted yes and Jacobson voted no). The governor approved the legislation at 11:15 p.m. on Dec. 31.

The 2023-24 session began Wednesday (Jan. 4).

### **Contractor registration**

On Dec. 30, Hochul signed legislation that creates a registration system for contractors and subcontractors that bid on state-funded projects.

This will allow the Department of Labor to better track bidders who have violated labor laws, workers' compensation requirements or not paid "prevailing wages." The legislation is designed, its sponsors say, "to prevent bad actors from receiving contracts in the first place."

Passed by Senate, 53-10 Serino ⊠

Passed by Assembly, 147-2Galef ☑Jacobson ☑

### **Vaccine privacy**

On Dec. 30, Hochul enacted a law that protects information in the state Immunization Information System and New York City's Immunization Registry from being released during such legal proceedings as discovery or in response to a subpoena or warrant in civil, administrative, criminal or family court proceedings.

Passed by Senate, 63-0 Serino ☑

Passed by Assembly, 144-0 Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

### **Mental health**

On Dec. 30, Hochul signed a law that requires health insurers to provide coverage for outpatient mental-health treatment by state-licensed counselors, marriage and family therapists, social workers, creative arts therapists and psychoanalysts, as well as psychologists and psychiatrists.

Passed by Senate, 61-0 Serino ☑

Passed by Assembly, 110-39 Galef ☑ Jacobson ☑

### Human composting

On Dec. 30, Hochul enacted legislation that allows the creation and operation of "natural organic reduction facilities" for the "accelerated conversion of human remains to soil." The process involves placing a corpse in an above-ground container until it naturally decomposes over about six weeks into soil. It was legalized in Washington state in 2019, where a Seattle funeral home called Recompose has pioneered the method. New York is the sixth state to legalize the process.

Passed by Senate, 61-2 Serino ☑

Passed by Assembly, 98-52Galef ☑Jacobson ☑

### Nurse overtime

On Dec. 30, Hochul signed legislation that creates a mechanism to fine employers who force nurses to work overtime except in emergencies. Along with a penalty of up to \$3,000 for each violation, the law requires that the nurse be paid an additional 15 percent of the overtime payments in damages. The law goes into effect on Feb. 28.

Passed by Senate, 55-8 Serino ☑

Passed by Assembly, 120-24Galef ☑Jacobson ☑

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### Fjord Trail (from Page 1)

Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc., which is overseeing the project, said on Wednesday (Jan. 4) that work on the bridge and connector will begin in the spring with stabilizing and restoring the beginning of the Breakneck Trail.

As part of the first phase, the trailhead will be moved up-slope from Route 9D and its tunnel, with stone stairs added for hikers. "We will formalize some social trails, close others and erect a new hiker orientation station for the trail stewards at the relocated trailhead," she said.

Construction on most of the bridge and connector will begin late this year, said Kacala, and is to be completed in 2025. During a public hearing in July, Stephen McCorkell, a capital facilities manager with the state parks department, said the bridge would be outfitted with a steel pedestrian barrier, railings at least 8 feet high and mesh to prevent anything from falling on the tracks.

McCorkell also said that the span would need a waiver because it would be about 3 feet lower than the standard. It would be

# 

The Breakneck project will include a 445-foot span over the tracks north of the tunnels. HHFT

NEWS BRIEFS

constructed from pre-fabricated sections lifted from a barge anchored in the Hudson River.

One of the trail's goals is to allow hikers disembarking at the Metro-North stations at Breakneck and Cold Spring to visit the popular hiking destination without using Route 9D, thereby reducing congestion on the busy state route, where passing cars often compete for space with people walking in the roadway.

"These improvements will make good on Hudson Highland Fjord Trail's promise to

kill, Castle Point and Glenham provided assistance, along with Ambulnz, Beacon Volunteer Ambulance, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and MTA police. Rombout and Chelsea firefighters provided standby improve safety and access at this extremely popular area," said Kacala.

Along with ferrying hikers and bicyclists across Metro-North's tracks, the bridge would give New York City's Department of Environmental Protection vehicles access to a drainage chamber built as part of an underwater pressure tunnel for the Catskill Aqueduct.

The chamber, which sits between Metro-North's tracks and the river, became landlocked when Route 9D was built in 1932 and is only accessible by trail or boat, Todd West, a planning director with the DEP, said at the public hearing in July.

West also said that the DEP would provide \$14 million toward construction of the bridge and connector. Kacala said in July that an additional \$20 million would come from the state parks department and the remainder from HHFT.

The rest of the project is undergoing a full environmental review that is expected to be completed later this year. That review, known as a generic environmental impact statement, will include a period of public comment, as well as public hearings.

coverage in the city.

As of Thursday, the fire remained under investigation by Beacon police, the Dutchess Sheriff's Office and the Dutchess Fire Investigation Division.

### Arson (from Page 1)

on Dec. 21 for non-payment of rent.

**Body Found in Woods** 

to the Beacon Police Department.

Beacon police investigating

Beacon firefighters remained on the scene for hours to extinguish hot spots before the

The body of a man in his 50s was discov-

ered in the woods off of Teller Avenue

at about noon on Sunday (Jan. 1), according

The body was taken to the Dutchess

County Medical Examiner's Office for an

autopsy. Police said the investigation is

ongoing and no further information would

building was razed by a contractor. No injuries were reported, but two nearby residences
one on Wolcott and another on Sargent
Avenue – sustained exterior heat damage.
Firefighters from the Village of Fish-

be released pending notification of family tiv members. Hu Police asked anyone with information to the

call the detective division at 845-838-5061.

### **State Announces Grants**

### Awards to Dia, HVSF and Fjord Trail

New York State recently announced grants as part of its Regional Economic Development Council initiative, including funds for Dia:Beacon, the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival and the Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail.

Dia will use its \$400,000 grant for capital improvements that include a facade restoration addressing climate control/ energy efficiency issues; landscaping of an area that impacts accessibility; additional gender-neutral and family restrooms; and replacement of the HVAC system.

 $\rm HVSF\,was$  given \$750,000 toward creating

"a year-round cultural destination" at its new home at the former Garrison Golf Course.

The Fjord Trail received \$458,000 to complete restoration of the former Dutchess Manor on Route 9D, including replacement of deteriorating asphalt and bitumen on the mansard roof with historically accurate slate tiles; the repair and painting of exterior woodwork and flashing; and replacing the gutters with historically accurate, built-in gutters.



# What is 'The Highlands'?

The name of this newspaper, *The Highlands Current*, reflects the communities we cover: Beacon and Philipstown, which includes Cold Spring, Nelsonville, Garrison, North Highlands and Continental Village.

The Hudson Highlands are mountains on both sides of the river; on the east side, they stretch from Fishkill Ridge to Anthony's Nose, or roughly the northern edge of Beacon to the southern edge of Philipstown, a distance of about 13 miles.

The bedrock here is more than 1 billion years old, and the river is distinguished because it becomes narrower and reaches its deepest point between Garrison and West Point in a gorge dubbed "World's End."

Map by Thunderwing Studio; courtesy Hudson Highlands Land Trust

### **Reporter's Notebook**

# **Every Generation Has It Worse**

### **By Michael Turton**

E ven back when humans lived in caves, the older generation harped about how it had it worse than the younger generation.



My grandmother, Nellie, did not walk uphill in both directions to attend school. But she did lose her husband to tuberculosis, forcing her to raise two young children on her own, and to make a living as a "practical nurse," delivering many dozens of babies in people's homes.

My dad, Joe, certainly had fewer conveniences than I did. The house he grew up in once served as a railroad shed, had a wood stove for heat and no running water. The outhouse was less than comfortable, especially at night or in winter.

My stress wasn't the absence of plumbing. It was the presence of corporal punishment through most of my 12 years in Catholic school.

In grade school, it was "the strap." Leather-like, it was about 14 inches long, 2 inches wide and thick.

It was the minor leagues of corporal punishment. Ridicule greeted kids outside the "I got the strap gang," a club that only ever welcomed one girl as a member. She was revered, though not by the nuns.

The threat was constant. I only felt the sharp bite of four or five whacks on both my palms on three occasions in eight years: once for running across the road rather than walking; once for singing in the hallway; and once, in grade 3, for allegedly drawing a heart, arrow and initials on the side of the school. I was wrongly convicted based on flawed handwriting analysis conducted by two nuns.

At Assumption College High School, I moved up to the Triple A league of corporal punishment. As freshmen in Latin class, two other boys and I were caught "borrowing" each other's homework. We all did on occasion, ironically, to avoid corporal punishment. Our teacher, Mr. Fink, a seminarian, beat the three of us hard on the ass, destroying three solid new wooden yard sticks in the process. It hurt a lot more than the strap. It was wrong to copy homework. I learned a lesson: I never got caught again.

In Father McGinn's grade 10 Latin class, I found myself in the big leagues.

McGinn stood 6 feet, 3 inches tall and was a muscular 200 pounds. In plain sight at the front of his classroom was a thick piece of oak, about 3 feet long and 3 inches wide that he called "Handy Andy."

Handy Andy was used to punish every mistake made in class, whether vocabulary, grammar, translation or conjugating a verb. When a student made a mistake, he wrote his surname on the blackboard, adding a check mark for each additional error. ("Error" is Latin for "mistake.")

By the end of class, the blackboard always contained several names.

Offenders lined up, stepped forward in turn and bent over. Using a full Aaron Judge swing, McGinn hit each less-thanperfect Latin student hard on the ass with Handy Andy. Students earned one extra hit for each check mark.

I was genuinely scared the first time I lined up. I bent over. He swung. The impact was loud. And it hurt to the bone.

I had a check mark next to my name only once. The first hit was jarring. I swore he hit me harder the second time; the pain was exponentially worse. I managed not to make a sound and walked back to my desk, suddenly acutely aware of my eyes.

Only one boy ever made a sound.

John was a tough Italian kid, the toughest in our class. He was an average student but poor in Latin. In one class he made five mistakes.

John didn't cry until the fourth hit; he cried louder yet after the fifth. It was humiliating.

"It isn't the best motivation, but it's better than no motivation," McGinn loved to tell us. The thought of debating that statement with him did cross my mind, but not for long.

Days later, McGinn stood at John's desk, verbally picking on him. John reacted with a quick, upward lurch.

McGinn's face turned pure white. He walked to the front of the room, placed his chalk on the ledge and left. He did not return that day.

He taught six classes a day, five days a

week. Even with a conservative average of six mistakes per class, he hit boys, very hard, about 150 times each week.

We did share a bit of gallows humor. We left our gym shorts on under our slacks after phys ed for a little extra padding. Each time we were hit, we drew a small sketch of Handy Andy inside our textbook, just as fighter pilots marked each kill on the side of their planes.

Late in the school year, Steve Wilson asked to see my text, its 15 sketches qualifying me as an ace. "I'm beating you, Mr. Turton," he said. "I have 19!"

Dave Cogliati was an excellent student; he made no mistakes during the entire year. In our last class, McGinn quizzed him until he finally erred. We all stood, cheered and applauded as he took his hit.

I transferred to a co-ed school after grade 10. No corporal punishment. I relaxed. And, minus Handy Andy, my grades didn't suffer.

I wonder how today's 15-year-old boys, not to mention their parents, would cope with the painful, humiliating corporal punishment much of my generation experienced.

But I also ponder whether today's younger generation has it worse, from COVID-19, with its masks, constant testing, disruptive remote learning, isolation, anxiety and even potential death, to the pressure of choosing the very best college, to the seemingly monthly reports of yet another school shooting. I question if I would have coped as well as today's students.

Every generation experiences "the worst." Time may change perceptions or even add humor to the memories, but when you're in the midst of it, the stress is very real.

### **Beacon Businesses**

### (from Page 1)

ridge Group, a Long Island-based luxury development firm, introduced himself last year as the building's new owner.

Asked about his plans for the building, Arzanipour said by email that some Beacon businesses, including existing tenants, as well as companies outside of the Hudson Valley, have expressed interest in the spaces. "They seem to find the location and quality of the building very attractive," he wrote.

Hurn, who purchased Batt's in September, is not among them. She said she cannot afford Arzanipour's rent - \$3,300 per month under a new lease agreement, nearly triple the \$1,200 she had been paying.

Ana and Miguel Tapia said their lease agreement included a rent hike to \$3,100 per month, from \$1,800. Batt's and Roma Nova were also each told that they would be required to pay 10 percent of what the agreement called "CAM costs," or the new landlord's common area operation and maintenance costs — which includes utilities, taxes, insurance, repair and replacement costs, signage and lighting, trash and snow and ice removal, sidewalk maintenance and a "common media fund" for the building.

Although the landlord offered the Tapias a five-year lease, with additional rent increases written in for each year, Miguel said the firm brought prospective tenants in to tour the space, as well.

"It was like they were playing games



Carlos Pena has worked at Roma Nova for 20 years.

with us," Miguel said. The Tapias said they cannot afford the new terms and will close Jan. 28. The couple, who live in Beacon, say they would like to relocate to another space in the city, "but there's nothing around," Miguel said. The restaurant equipment will either be stored or sold.

Vincent Melfi, the owner of the Beacon Barber Shop, said he plans to move to Hyde Park, about 20 miles up Route 9. He declined to discuss his lease offer, but said "it's more than I can afford." He said his site in Hyde Park, where he lives, will be \$1,900 less per month than it would have cost to stay in Beacon.

Melfi has also been in Beacon for 28 years. He plans to close Jan. 14 so he will have two weeks to move his equipment.

He expects "well over 200" customers to follow him to Hyde Park. "A lot of [Beacon] people are feeling bad, but the people in Hyde Park are excited to be getting me," he said this week. "I'm going to be OK. In six months to a year, I'll be right back where I was."

Photo by Valerie Shively

There are no mechanisms, such as rent control or stabilization, that regulate commercial rents in Beacon. In New York City, lawmakers in 2021 considered limits on rent increases on small commercial spaces, but the bill died in committee.

For Carlos Pena, the 36-year-old Roma Nova employee who has worked for the Tapias for 20 years, the future is uncertain.

"If you stop and think about it, it's like, What the hell am I going to do?" he said. "To be honest, I really don't know."

# Roots and Shoots Garden Resolutions V.11

By Pamela Doan

**2022** — The theme was "be kind to your yard." Stop using pesti-

cides and synthetic chemical fertilizers. Build up soil. Add native plants alongside ornamentals to offer something for pollinators.

**2021** — This column offered reflections on what it was like when we were staying at home all the time during the first year of the pandemic and how much I enjoyed observing small, daily changes in the landscape. I made resolutions to plant trees to recover from storm loss and damage in the forest, set seed-saving goals and planned to add more plants for endangered species, like monarchs that need a specific plant (milkweed) to survive.

**2020** — I challenged readers to make a top 5 list of things to do in the garden and shared my own. Looking back, I made it through 4 out of 5! I wanted to channel rainwater into a low area and fill it with plants that would absorb more and reduce run-off. Sometimes garden projects stay on the list for a while. In the past two years, we stopped mowing about 30 percent of what was previously shorn and watching that grow in has been full of discovery — cedar trees, native grasses, an oak tree and a white pine have come through.

**2019** — This year was a summary of the most-discussed topics and questions. These included water management — too much and too little — and reader interest in lawns and weeds. Adapting to climate impacts and lowering your carbon footprint in the yard were threaded through most topics. This subject is unavoidable when discussing gardening and yard care.

**2018** — This was a roundup of books to pass the short days of winter that included *Braid*-

*ing Sweetgrass*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The book connects her work as a scientist and researcher with the Indigenous knowledge that has been passed on to her as a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. It's still on bestseller lists and perfect for this moment of ongoing climate panic.

**2017** — The first-of-the-year column was a response to a reader question about how and when to start a garden. January can be an active month, with everything from composting (try a worm bin), indoor seed-starting and garden planning with a bounty of seed catalogs.

**2016** — This year I must have been feeling optimistic and full of energy. The list included encouragement to learn something new, such as organic methods or xeriscaping, and to experiment with something you haven't tried before — anything from plant propagation to water gardens. Then I included a promotion for growing pawpaw, a native fruit tree that has been described as part mango/part banana. There were ideas about feeding birds with plantings rather than store-bought seed and steps for doing less work in the yard by mulching, adding organic matter instead of tilling and reducing mowing.

**2015** — Here I proposed an approach to creating a personal mission statement for your relationship with your yard. It was a series of questions that could help bring balance and connectedness with nature. Start with considering what you want to leave behind for the next generation, ask yourself if your landscape choices are synchronized with your other values and explore how tending a landscape can help you achieve other life goals like wellness and personal health.

**2014** — Again, there is a recurring theme, with tips about how to conserve and protect the natural resources in your yard: the soil, water and plants. I mention composting frequently in these New Year's resolution columns and we've made a lot of progress in this area with food-scrap recycling programs locally.

Personally, I do both. I need my home compost for the gardens but now I also have a place to send the mac and cheese my child left in her bowl, excess green bean casserole after the holiday and other miscellaneous bits of uneaten food that isn't a vegetable or fruit scrap I can compost at



Nature in action in winter: This fungus has found a good home on a tree stump. Photo by P. Doan

home. Household food scraps account for the single-largest item in landfills and, as they decompose, they release methane, a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. Composting = good. **2013** — The first *Roots and Shoots* column appeared at the beginning of spring this year: "Soil! It's What's in the Dirt." It went through common ideas about soil and how to treat it. A short take on my first 750 words is to test before adding any amendments; adding organic matter like compost and shredded leaves is always a good approach to build up soil, and understanding what type of soil you're planting in (clay, sandy, loamy, acidic, alkaline, etc.) makes all the difference for choosing the right plants.

Reflecting on all these words and resolutions, I can see the progression of my rising fears and concerns about biodiversity loss and the impact of our changing climate. Week by week for 10 years I've read and researched and used personal observations and experience to write this column, and the news is grim. Make 2023 a year to do something about climate change with a simple action in your own backyard. Pledge to stop using pesticides, mow less, switch to electric-powered lawn equipment when possible, plant a section of your yard with native plants for pollinators to use. Start with six to 12. Keep it simple. Let it grow.



# Local Bestsellers

Based on combined hardcover and paperback sales reported for November and December by Binnacle Books, 321 Main St., in Beacon, and Split Rock Books, 97 Main St., in Cold Spring.



	Position	last month	TITLE	AUTHOR
	1	-	Small Things Like These	Claire Keegan
	2	-	The Philosophy of Modern Song	Bob Dylan
3	3	5	The Passenger	Cormac McCarthy
AUI	4	-	Demon Copperhead: A Novel	Barbara Kingsolver
	5	-	Trust	Hernan Diaz
	5	-	An Immense World	Ed Yong
z	1	-	Diper Overlode (Wimpy Kid 17)	Jeff Kinney
טאר	2	-	Bluey: Hooray, It's Christmas!	Penguin
Ц Ц	3	-	Jessi's Secret Language (Baby-Sitters Club)	Ann M. Martin
	4	-	Cat Kid Comic Club: Collaborations	Dav Pilkey
	5	-	The Cool Code	Deirdre Langeland

# **Dockside Project Weathers First Storm of 2023**

Fencing, vegetation damaged By Michael Turton

River waterfront in Cold Spring.

In light of increasingly large storms and a sea-level rise, a \$1.86 million shore protection project was completed in the park last fall, including installation of terraced boulders to protect against erosion. Vegetation was also added to enhance shore protection and wildlife habitat. In addition, a walking path was created and a boat ramp replaced.

Dockside is owned by the state parks department and managed by the Village of Cold Spring.

Evan Thompson, manager of Hudson Highlands State Park, said the storm removed some of the vegetation planted last fall and damaged fencing intended to keep visitors off newly planted areas.

"All in all, the shoreline functioned pretty much as expected," Thompson said, adding that the project was not meant to control flooding. Instead, he said it was designed to create a natural, living shoreline that will change from day to day with normal tidal flows, storms and ice buildup, "just as the Hudson River shoreline functioned for thousands of years before human intervention."

Thompson said fencing will be repaired and vegetation damaged by the recent storm or last summer's drought will be replaced in the spring.

Cold Spring Highway Department workers assisted with clearing debris from the walking path.



The flooding on Dec. 23 left its mark on Dockside Park in Cold Spring. Photo by M. Turton

# **Putnam to Prioritize Immunizations**

Polio vaccine rates lowest in Cold Spring, Garrison By Leonard Sparks

**P** utnam County has identified the boosting of early childhood immunization rates as a priority amid data showing that they "significantly worsened" during the first year of the pandemic and evidence of increasing opposition by parents.

In its newly released community health assessment and improvement plan, the Health Department said 62 percent of children between 24 and 35 months old had in 2020 received required vaccinations for chickenpox; diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis; measles, mumps and rubella; hepatitis B; haemophilus influenzae Type B; pneumonia; and polio.

The rate represented a drop of nine percentage points from a year earlier, as the pandemic that emerged in 2020 disrupted the health care system and COVID-19 took precedence over routine medical appointments.

But the immunization rates in Putnam County for 2017 and 2018 were even lower, at 60.3 and 59.7 percent, respectively, and the county's lowest vaccine rates for polio, as of August, were in the Cold Spring/Philipstown (57.6 percent) and Garrison (59.3 percent) ZIP codes, according to state Department of Health data. (The polio vaccination rate in the Beacon ZIP code was 69.7 percent.)

The state Department of Health began highlighting polio data in July, when an unvaccinated young adult living in Rockland County tested positive for the disease, setting off a statewide public-information campaign to encourage parents to get their children vaccinated.

By the fall, the state was also urging parents to take countermeasures against an outbreak in cases of the flu and respiratory syncytial virus, both of which arrived earlier and fiercer than in previous years.

Putnam said it will work with pediatricians and other health care providers to improve immunization rates.

"The past few years have tested and taught us all, but we have come together with renewed strength, and renewed commitment to reducing all health inequities among our residents," said Dr. Michael Nesheiwat, the county health commissioner.

While support for routine immunizations remains strong, attitudes against them rose on the heels of the backlash against COVID-19 vaccines, according to the results of a survey released in December by the Kaiser Family Foundation.

More than eight in 10 people (82 percent) surveyed in October 2019 agreed that vaccinations for measles, mumps and rubella should be required for children in order to attend public schools, but just 71 percent said so in the newest survey.

At the same time, the number is higher for those who believe that parents should have the right to forgo vaccinations for their school-age children, even if other kids are at risk - 28 percent in December compared to 16 percent in October 2019.

### **COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS**

	PUTNAM	DUTCHESS
Primary vaccination:	<b>76.2%</b> Philipstown/CS: <b>87.9%</b> Garrison: <b>82.4%</b>	<b>71.6%</b> Beacon: <b>68.0%</b>
Boosted:	<b>18.8%</b> Philipstown/CS: 27.6% Garrison: 22.0%	<b>20.7%</b> Beacon: <b>16.9%</b>
Positive tests, 7-day average:	<b>↑ 11.4%</b>	<b>↑ 13.3%</b>
Number of deaths:	<b>140</b> (0)	<b>727</b> (+1)
Source: Weekly update per state Heal percentage of people eligible for addit	, ,	

Kaiser said that opposition was strongest among people who identified as Republicans or Republican-leaning independents. The share of them opposing vaccine requirements for school rose to 44 percent from 20 percent in October 2019, according to the survey. Support among Democrats for an immunization requirement remained essentially unchanged.

There are also regional differences. In a September 2021 report highlighting progress in immunizations, the New York State Health Foundation found that the lowest vaccination rates have consistently been found in two regions: the Lower Hudson Valley, which includes Dutchess and Putnam counties, and Long Island.

The Lower Hudson Valley occupied the bottom among regions in 2020, with just 54.2 percent of 2-year-olds having received their recommended vaccines. The statewide target is 70.5 percent.

"Vaccines are the best way to prevent the spread of dangerous infectious diseases like the measles outbreaks we've seen in recent years," said David Sandman, the foundation's president and CEO. "It's critical that a large share of the population gets vaccinated."

# Scant Turnout for Cold Spring Electricity Issue

Grant approved for state funding for Village Hall

By Michael Turton

The public might still be in holiday recovery mode, as few residents turned out for a public information session by Hudson Valley Community Power at the Wednesday (Jan. 4) meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board. Fewer than five residents attended either by Zoom or in person.

It was the second such presentation in as many months, outlining the possible return of a Community Choice Aggregation initiative in which municipalities join together to purchase electricity for participating homes and small business, often at reduced rates and utilizing renewable energy.

Cold Spring was part of a group of 10 Hudson Valley municipalities, including Philipstown and Beacon, that participated in the program in 2021 and 2022.

If the Village Board votes to return to the program, nearly every household will again be automatically enrolled, although residents will be able to opt out at any time.

In an email on Thursday (Jan. 5), Glenn Weinberg, a vice president with HVCP, said 817, or about 80 percent, of Cold Spring's eligible customers participated in the program, which ended abruptly in July when Columbia Utilities backed out of a three-year contract to supply the electricity. The municipalities are now suing Columbia for damages.

When the program collapsed, participants again began to receive their electricity from Central Hudson. While the CCA program operated, Central Hudson continued to handle billing.

When Cold Spring joined the CCA in 2021, the Village Board chose to purchase electricity only from renewable sources such as wind and solar. According to HVCP, village residents had saved about \$216,000 before Columbia reneged. Philipstown and Beacon saved \$941,380 and \$651,800, respectively; collectively, Hudson Valley participants saved more than \$7 million, it said.

Such savings were realized because municipalities that were part of the CCA paid a flat rate of 6.5 cents per kilowatt hour. Residents who opted out, and those not eligible for the program, saw their rates climb as high as 21 cents per kilowatt hour, increases brought about by such factors as the pandemic and the effect of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on global energy prices.

No decision was made on Wednesday regarding Cold Spring rejoining the CCA. "We need to hear from the public," said Mayor Kathleen Foley.

HVCP has scheduled two more public presentations in Cold Spring: Jan. 21 via

Zoom and Jan. 31 at Village Hall. A Power-Point summary is posted at coldspringny.gov.

If the Village Board votes to rejoin the program, HVCP hopes to reinstate the CCA program this summer.

### In other business ...

■ The village has been approved for a \$250,000 grant from the New York State Dormitory Authority for improvements and upgrades at Village Hall. Some needs that could be addressed include security, basement mold abatement and improved ventilation.

**PHILIPSTOWN** HOLIDAY -Videographer Ross Corsair made the rounds in December, visiting the Tinkergarden Nature Lantern Walk, Cold Spring Aglow, the St. Philip's Christmas pageant and the **Highlands Choral** Society's performance of Vivaldi's Gloria. See highlandscurrent.org/ philipstown-holiday ■ The board accepted an independent audit of the village's accounting practices conducted by the EFPR Group for the fiscal year ending May 31. The audit raised no significant concerns.

■ Royal Carting will pick up discarded Christmas trees and wreaths at curbside on Wednesday (Jan. 11).

■ The board issued a proclamation commending Owen Carmicino for his work in designing and developing signage at the Sept. 11th memorial at McConville Park, completed as part of his Eagle Scout project.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.



# Two Council Members Unhappy with Planning Chair

Unanimous votes for routine Beacon appointments, except one

### **By Jeff Simms**

hen the Beacon Planning Board holds its next meeting on Tuesday (Jan. 10), it will do so with John Gunn again at the helm. Gunn was reappointed to the board by the City Council last month and tapped by Mayor Lee Kyriacou to serve as chair, a position he has held since 2017.

The council also reappointed Kevin Byrne and added David Jensen to the Planning Board. Jensen had been the chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals; he will move to the Planning Board to succeed J.C. Calderon, who resigned in the fall.

Jordan Haug, who had been the ZBA's deputy chair, was appointed by Kyriacou to lead that board. Stowe Boyd, one of the co-chairs of the city's Main Street Access Committee, was also added to the Zoning Board.

All of the votes were unanimous except for Gunn.

"I've heard from a lot of different people very upset at interactions that they've had with the Planning Board," said Council Member Justice McCray, who abstained. "I want to make sure the people that are coming feel like they're heard."

Council Member Dan Aymar-Blair was the lone vote against Gunn. Aymar-Blair said he was unhappy with how the Planning Board has interacted with members of the public, particularly neighbors protesting a plan to subdivide a 1-acre lot on Highland Place and build four new homes on the tract.

During those meetings, Highland Place neighbors presented a petition with more than 200 signatures asking the Planning Board to reject the developer's plans, which would double the number of houses on the street. While pleading with the developer to listen to the feedback, Gunn also pushed back, saying the board would enforce the zoning code but could not deny a project because it's unpopular.

In October, City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis spoke to the council about the Planning Board's charge, noting that its members are "allowed to use lay person opinions, but when it comes down to certain areas of expertise, courts have established that a board member can't rely on general opposition from the community" for approving or rejecting a project.

"Any time that there's a controversial project, people will come out and want a specific answer," Kyriacou said during the City Council's Dec. 12 workshop.

George Mansfield, who served on the Planning Board before his election to the council, said he endorsed Gunn, an architect who worked for the Gensler agency in New York City for 16 years. Gunn is now with NBBJ, an international design firm.

"The Planning Board takes a great amount of effort and we are lucky to have this kind of institutional knowledge on there," Mansfield said.

Gunn said this week that he is "grateful for the opportunity to have served on the

board through the many phases of Beacon's transformation."

The Planning Board will continue its review next week of a proposal to expand The Lofts at Beacon apartment complex. It will also continue a public hearing for 12 Highland Place.

As for the board's interaction with the public, that should be handled with "some grace and as much kindness as possible," McCray said during the December workshop.



**FIRST DAY HIKE** — The Little Stony Point Citizen's Association organized its annual hike on Jan. 1, with coffee, hot cocoa, cookies and churros from Juanita's Kitchen in Nelsonville. Participants were offered a choice of a naturalist hike to Little Stony Point or a historical hike to the Cornish Estate. Raffle prizes included free Empire State annual passes. Photo by Ross Corsair









**Chilina Kennedy** 



Christian Campbell



**The Calendar** 

# Curious George and a Whole Lot More

Newly arrived in Beacon, composer will share his work

### **By Alison Rooney**

n Jan. 13, Timothy Brown, a composer, conductor and music copyist who is newly relocated to Beacon, will introduce his work to the community at the Howland Cultural Center.

Six professional singers will perform music during *Beyond Curious: An Evening of Musical Theatre Songs*, composed by Brown over his decades-long career, in musical genres ranging from classical to children's.

In the beginning, there was an oboe. Growing up in Michigan, Brown played the instrument and also was involved with choral music. After earning a scholarship to the University of North Texas, Brown switched from performance to education.

"I faded on the oboe because it comes with a little problem," he explains. "It's a double reed, like a bassoon, and requires a major focus — one that takes a tremendous amount of time — on working on the reed to achieve the tone wanted.

"Oboists spend half of their lives shaving reeds, not playing the instrument. I switched to education because, by that point, career possibilities for singers were pretty rare."

Brown worked as a teacher and clinician in choral music, as both a singer with the Wichita Chamber Chorale in Kansas and as a conductor of the Wichita Choral Society.

After moving to New York City in 1988, Brown returned to composition at TheaterWorks/USA, where he worked on a children's musical based on *Curious George*, the popular series by Margret and H.A. Rey about the playful monkey. It opened at Town Hall before touring nationally for nearly a decade.

Brown's repertoire has been performed at venues as diverse as a BMI Workshop in New York City, the New York Public Library and, most recently, during *A Trace of Love*, an evening at the Manhattan Movement and Arts Center that combined his music with lyrics by six collaborators.

Another highlight was an invitation to submit a piece to The Other Side of Broadway, whose mission, Brown says, is to "dig up crossover pieces: theatrically inspired but complex enough to be considered 'classical.'" His piece, *Incidental Dance Suite*, was a three-movement piano composition featuring tango, waltz and swing sections. It was performed at the Merkin Concert Hall.

After 12 years at Theaterworks/USA, Brown returned to teaching and went dormant as a composer. "I may have been rekindling the furnace," he says. Today, Brown is busy arranging, copying and transcribing the works of other composers, everything from small jobs creating lead sheets (a form of musical notation that specifies the essential elements of a popular song: the melody, lyrics and harmony) to larger projects copying or transcribing entire symphonies for composers who might be trained but don't have the time. "I prepare music for up and coming Broadway shows, and transcribe individual songs. It's all digitalized now, of course, but the final result is still sheet music," he says.

Brown decided to leave New York City when his daughter went to college. He spent a year researching the region "for places that would keep me close enough to civilization plus offer community. I also wanted to live without a car, but in a town big enough to have amenities and where I could walk or ride a bike."

Since arriving in Beacon 16 months ago, Brown has joined the board of the Lyra Music Festival and can be found several days a week behind the counter at Solstad House and Betty Beacon, two Main Street shops owned by Frank Martinez and Steve Yount.

*Beyond Curious* will feature singers Christian Campbell, Ryan Dunn, Chilina Kennedy (who portrayed Carole King in *Beautiful* on Broadway), Jennifer Malenke (another Broadway veteran whom Brown heard at Reserva in Beacon), Daniel Rowan and Nicole Tori, accompanied by Matthew Lowy on piano and Terence Murren on bass. Most of the songs have lyrics by George Gorham.

"I've found the talent pool here to be absolutely tremendous," Brown says.

The performance will include one song from *Curious George*. Brown spent a year writing an adaptation, both lyrics and music, despite warnings that he'd never get the rights from the husband-and-wife team who co-wrote the books. To his surprise, he did — but only for the music, not the lyrics. Hans Rey had died, but Margret Rey wanted someone else to write them, which took another year, he says.

"The song I'm using in this performance is not from the produced version," he explains. "It's my original."

The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St. Tickets are \$39 (\$19 for students and seniors and \$69 for patrons) at howlandculturalcentertix.com, or you can "pay what you're able" at the door. Some material may not be suitable for children.



Composer Timothy Brown with the subject of his musical, Curious George



Jennifer Malenke



Nicole Tori



**Ryan Dunn** 

Photos provided

BLIC LIBRAR

# **THE WEEK AHEA**

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

### COMMUNITY

### MON 9

### **Blood Drive** PUTNAM VALLEY

2 - 8 p.m. Putnam Valley Ambulance 218 Oscawana Lake Road 800-933-2566 | nybc.org Register online or walk in. Bring

your donor card or personal ID.

**THURS 12** 

### **Puzzle Swap** GARRISON

6 - 8 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

Bring a puzzle and take a different puzzle home.

### **TALKS & TOURS**

SAT 7 **Eagle Walk** 

OSSINING 9 a.m. Croton boat ramp

1600 Spring Valley Road I teatown.org Charlie Roberto will lead this walk to

watch eagles along the Hudson River.

### SAT 7

### Kakizome POUGHKEEPSIE

1:30 & 2:45 p.m. Arts Mid-Hudson 9 Vassar St. | 845-454-3222 artsmidhudson.org

This annual calligraphy workshop will teach Japanese "First Writing of the Year" for resolutions and hopes in a ritualized way using kanji. There will two sessions for groups of 20 participants. Registration required.

### SAT 7 **Organizing as**

### **Anti-Colonialism** NEWBURGH 2 - 5 p.m. Safe Harbors of the Hudson

111 Broadway | forgeproject.com Panelists will discuss solutions for activists connecting gentrification



Registration required.

**Escape Room** 

beaconlibrary.org

Registration required.

**Read to a Dog** 

desmondfishlibrary.org

6 p.m. Howland Public Library

313 Main St. | 845-831-1134

a mystery to escape the library.

6:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library

472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020

Sit, stay, read! Children in

kindergarten and up who find

reading aloud stressful are invited to

read to a therapy dog from Hudson

allotted 15 minutes. Register online.

Valley Paws for a Cause during its

monthly visit. Each child will be

Teens will crack a code and solve

THURS 12

BEACON

**THURS 12** 

GARRISON

and colonialism. The series is organized by Forge Project, a Nativeled education initiative focused on arts and de-colonial education

### TUES 10 **Succulent Planters** GARRISON

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

In this creators' workshop, participants of all ages and skill levels are invited to use makerspace tools to design planters to take home. Registration required.

### **KIDS & FAMILY**

### **WED 11 Paint a Cat Frame** GARRISON

3:30 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library 472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020 desmondfishlibrary.org

Children ages 4 to 11 are invited

to paint a cat-shaped photo frame

### to take home. Registration required. **Free-Throw Contest** GARRISON 8 p.m. Philipstown Recreation Paint a Wooden Snowman

**SAT 14** 

107 Glenclyffe Road | 845-265-3802 bit.ly/536-free-throw

Students ages 9 to 14 (as of Jan. 1, 2023) will compete in their age and gender group to advance to the next round in this annual event organized



by the Knights of Columbus Loretto Council No. 536. A birth certificate or other proof of age is required. There is no cost. Download form online. The snow date is Jan. 21.



### **SUN 15 Heart and Soul** BEACON

1 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | howlandmusic.org

Pianist Frederic Chiu will perform works by Debussv and Prokofiev and young audience members will vote for their favorite in this Howland Chamber Music Circle Classics for Kids concert. Cost: \$15 (free for children)

### **STAGE & SCREEN**

**FRI 13** 

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. 1845-831-4988 howlandculturalcenter.org

Jennifer Malenke, America Olivo,

Nicole Tori, Christian Campbell, Ryan Dunn and Daniel Rowan will perform musical theater songs by Timothy Brown (the composer of Curious George) with lyrics by George Gorham. See Page 11. Cost: \$39 (\$19 students and seniors; \$69 patrons)

### **SAT 14 MET HD: Fedora**

DESMON

POUGHKEEPSIE 1 p.m. Bardavon

35 Market St. | 845-473-2072 bardavon.org

Soprano Sonya Yoncheva will perform the title role of a princess who falls in love with the man who murdered her fiance, sung by Piotr Beczała in this live, high-definition broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera House production. Cost: \$29 (\$22 ages 12 and younger; \$27 members)

### MUSIC

### SAT 7

### **Sharkey & The Sparks** BEACON

8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com Sharkey McEwen and his band

will play music from the 1960s and '70s. Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)



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### **KINDERGARTEN PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING** KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

The Haldane Central School District is beginning the Kindergarten registration process for the 2023-2024 school year. Children turning five on or before December 1, 2023 who live in the Haldane Central School District are eligible for Kindergarten.

Parents are invited to attend a:

• Kindergarten Orientation Meeting on Thurs., Jan. 26th, 2023 at 7:00PM. (2/2 Snow date) Please see the website for details.

To register, please complete the registration packet on our website; www.haldaneschool.org. Click on Quick Parent Links, Registration then Kindergarten Registration. Fill out and submit the required forms along with supporting documentation then kindly schedule an appointment with Sue Hylka @ 845-265-9254 ext. 122 on Feb. 6th-10th, 2023 (8:15am-2:00pm) to complete the registration process

Parents registering children in person should enter Haldane Middle School through the Main Entrance and will be directed to the registration location. Registrants must have all forms completed and must bring or upload a copy of the child's **birth certificate**, his/her **immunization record** signed by a physician, and all Proof of Residency forms indicating that the family resides in the Haldane School District.

Please call Mrs. Hylka directly if you have any questions.





**WED 11** 

BEACON





Frederic Chiu, Jan. 15

The Whispering Tree **BEACON** 

SAT 7

8:30 p.m. Dogwood

47 E. Main St. | dogwoodbeacon.com The local folk-rock band will play.

### SUN 8 **Open Mic Finals**

BEACON 5:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

This is the invitational round of the long-running open mic series hosted by Chihoe Hahn.

### MON 9

**Lindsey Horner Trio** BEACON 8:30 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.

facebook.com/QuinnsBeacon The bassist will be joined by Daniel Kelly (piano) and Tony Jefferson (drums) as part of Quinn's weekly jazz session.

**FRI 13** 

BEACON

**SAT 14** 

BEACON

Vance Gilbert

5:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.

The stylistically diverse singer

and guitarist will play music from

with music from his album, Knew

5:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St. 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Sal DeMeo's band will play

845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

his latest release, Good, Good

Things. Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)

The Prezence

Man. Cliff Eberhardt will open

### **TUES 10** The Old Timey Jam BEACON

7 - 10 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | 845-831-4988 howlandculturalcenter.org

Harry Bolick and Pat Schories host this monthly session of Southern fiddle tunes for acoustic string-band instruments. Donations welcome.



the music of Led Zeppelin in this tribute show. Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)

### **SUN 15 Frederic Chiu BEACON**

1 p.m. Howland Cultural Center 477 Main St. | howlandmusic.org The Howland Chamber Music Circle will launch its 30th

annual piano festival with Chiu playing a program with works by Mendelssohn and Chopin. Cost: \$35 (\$10 students ages 25 and younger)

### CIVIC MON 9

**City Council** 

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

MON 9

### **School Board** BEACON

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

### MON 9

**Dutchess Legislature** POUGHKEEPSIE

7 p.m. Legislative Chambers 22 Market St. | 845-486-2100 dutchessny.gov

### WED 11

Village Board **COLD SPRING** 7 p.m. Village Hall

85 Main St. | 845-265-3611 coldspringny.gov

### WED 11 Village Board NELSONVILLE

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

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### By Celia Barbour

S ome of my favorite selfmade dishes were created under duress — in makeshift kitchens or over fire pits, with random

equipment and limited ingredients. At the time, I concluded that the success of the resulting food was due to low expectations, plus gratitude that we had anything palatable to eat at all under the circumstances. But when I later went back and re-created some of those dishes, I was surprised. Maybe necessity isn't the mother just of invention, but also of delight.

This week's recipe is one such creation. I made it on an off-season weekend many years ago when my husband, Peter, and I were up in New Hampshire hiking with his friend Greg. The kitchen of the remote and rustic farmhouse where we were staying offered few staple ingredients — some stale herbs and spices, a handful of faded-label cans, random teas and vinegars — and even fewer functioning appliances. You had to bring with you whatever you planned to eat.

We were nearing the end of our stay, and of our provisions. Meanwhile, we'd been walking in the mountains and were very hungry.



Auditions for Guys and Dolls See web site for details Jan. 14 and Jan. 15

### Brush Strokes: An Unexpected Love Story

Reading of a new musical written by Jim Semmelman, music by David Shelton, with Karen Ziemba, Jerry Dixon and Rachel Fairbanks

Jan. 19 at 7:00pm

Comedian: John Fugelsang

Jan. 21 at 7:00pm

Cabaret: Sally Mayes Jan. 22 at 7:00pm

### Depot Docs: All the Beauty and the Bloodshed

followed by Q&A and reception

Jan. 27 at 7:30pm

All tickets at www.philipstowndepottheatre.org Bean dips, pastes and mushes have originated in a wide variety of cuisines. There's hummus from the Middle East, refried beans from Mexico, dal from India and red bean paste and miso from Asia, just for starters. It makes sense: Legumes are one of the few things that grow well in a range of climates that will also naturally become non-perishable if left out to dry. Most vegetables would simply rot. So they've sustained populations through offseasons and fallow spells for centuries, and they've been subjected to a million cooks' urges to tinker, observe and play with their food. Beans break down when overcooked; bean pastes are the inevitable consequence.

The white beans I found that day in the White Mountains suggested an Italian-style dip or paste, but I lacked a critical ingredient: olive oil. We did have decent butter from a dairy farm down the road, however, so I warmed it slightly and substituted it. I didn't tell the others — people get nervous when you tell them that you put a half-stick of butter in their afternoon snack.

Research has found that stress impacts memory - in particular a memory's accuracy. To this day, Greg still talks about the white bean dip I made that afternoon after we got home famished and realized

the kitchen was bare. He is convinced that its deliciousness was due to some exotic bean that I discovered languishing on a back shelf and subsequently soaked and cooked. He has even tracked down and bought several rare and pricy beans hoping to recreate the dip. He might be right. I have no recollection of using such beans, however. What I remember is the butter, and my mendacity about it.

These days, I make the dip with half olive oil, half butter, which is plenty good enough. It's the kind of ultra-simple dish that hardly needs a recipe at all; once you've made it, you can recreate it wherever you go, from beans plain or fancy, and your own brilliantly unreliable memory.



Photo by Henry Barbour Weed

# White Bean and Roasted Garlic Dip

1 small head garlic, or to taste

<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup good olive oil, plus more for roasting garlic

2 15-ounce cans\* white beans (navy, great northern or cannellini), drained and rinsed

2 to 4 tablespoons best-quality butter, at room temperature

2 sprigs fresh rosemary, or 1 teaspoon dried, minced

Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Heat your oven or toaster oven to 350 degrees. Rub the garlic lightly with olive oil and wrap it in aluminum foil. Place in the oven and cook until the garlic is soft when pressed, about 20 minutes. Meanwhile, empty the cans of beans into a strainer; rinse with cold water and leave to drain while the garlic roasts.

When the garlic is done, allow to cool slightly, then, using kitchen scissors or a very sharp knife, cut the top of the head, so that each clove is exposed. Squeeze the head of garlic over the bowl of a food processor, so that the roasted cloves are pressed out into the bowl. Add the drained beans, the minced rosemary, the warmed butter and remaining olive oil. Process until smooth.

Taste and add water or cooking liquid — see below — and olive oil until desired consistency is reached. Serve warm or at room temperature, with crackers or toasted bread.

\* This recipe is arguably even better with dried beans: Start with 1 cup dried navy, great northern or cannellini beans. Soak overnight, drain, then add water and simmer with ½ onion, 1 bay leaf, a couple garlic cloves and several grindings of pepper. When the beans are almost soft, add 2 teaspoons salt and a generous drizzle of olive oil to the pot. Continue cooking for 10 more minutes; turn off the heat and allow the beans to cool in the cooking liquid. Drain to make the recipe, reserving some cooking liquid to add to the dip in Step 3.

The Highlands Current

# The Thread Between Home and Art

Designer's Beacon home inspires her needlework **By Alison Rooney** 

early 30 years ago, Shirley Botsford bought an 1889 Queen Anne home on High Street in Beacon. It continues to inspire her, in more ways

than one.

Botsford, a sewing and design professional, began to create patterns based on elements in the home, such as a newel post, a stainedglass window, a tile floor and a carved fireplace mantel. (They are all included in her book, Decorating with Fabric Crafts.)

And now, the Beacon Historical Society has enlisted Botsford for an exhibit that runs through Feb. 18: A Common Thread, which "highlights Shirley's connection to her historical home and her connection to Beacon's textile industry," explains Diane Lapis, president of the historical society.

Botsford's home, at 19 High St., is one of two in Beacon – the other was the Dibble House, which was torn down in 1927 to make room for the Beacon Theater - designed by architect Arnout Cannon, who also designed the Wilderstein estate in Rhinecliff and what is now the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center in Poughkeepsie.

She bought it in 1994, moving from the house next door. She had earlier relocated to Beacon from New York City after digital production changed the design industry.

"I hand drew and could do lavouts, but those weren't needed, and finally I wasn't involved in production any longer," Botsford recalls. "I decided I wanted to live in Beacon in an old Victorian house."

During her 22 years in New York City, Botsford worked with "anything that could be sewn," she says. She had learned as a child. "My grandmother did sewing for spare change; she said you can't create a career. My mother taught me at 4, throwing me scraps to sew, while she was ironing. I loved it."

As a young adult, Botsford studied at Philadelphia's Moore College of Art. After stints at magazines, as a costumer and in television production, Botsford landed at Simplicity Patterns, for which she is still designing, decades later.

When she started, she was mostly designing garments for catalog models, she says. She describes her output during that time as "accessories, crafts, babies, a mass-market, not really art sewing, but I still loved doing it.'

She began helping to create books that promoted Simplicity Patterns. "It's challenging to come up with something 'on trend' and original which also fits within the criteria of what they need," she says.

Botsford visited Beacon frequently to supervise "strike-offs," carefully matching color



Botsford Briar on High Street in Beacon



Shirley Botsford with a dress she created that was inspired by her home

Photo by A. Rooney

samples at the Beacon Piece Dyeing Factory. "You had to do them at the plant back

in the day," she says. "For example, there might be an orange dye job, and the orange had to be an exact match with a John Deere product. It usually took about an hour to get it right. The dye would drain out across Fishkill Creek, and the creek would run the color of the dve. Kids swimming in the creek would turn blue - not good!"

She also began writing her own books. Her first, Between Thimble and Thumb, was about quilting, while her second,

The dye would drain out across Fishkill Creek, and the creek would run the color of the dye. Kids swimming in the creek would turn blue – not good!



A vest created by Shirley Botsford

Making Gifts for Men, was a how-to guide to recycling shirts and other fabrics into creative projects.

Her third book, Daddy's Ties, is her most personal. "My dad was a tie aficionado. My mom saved his ties for me and I used them to create new things, like keepsakes, quilts, pillows, accessories, even lampshades. I made a garment for a fashion show and there was not a dry eye on the runway."

The Beacon Historical Society, at 61 Leonard St., is open from 10 a.m. to noon on Thursdays and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays, or by appointment. Call 845-831-0514 or email beaconhistorical@gmail.com. Botsford will lead an adult class Feb. 11 in which participants can create a fabric flower or bow from a silk tie. The cost is \$15; email to register. There are also activities for younger children on most days when the exhibit is open.



A bell pull designed and made by Shirley Botsford, based on a carved panel at Botsford Briar (below)



# Current Classifieds

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## NOTICE

The Philipstown Planning Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on **Thursday, January 19th, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main St., Cold Spring, NY.

If you are unable to join in person but would like to watch, the meeting will be livestreaming on youtube.com, search for Philipstown Planning Board January 2023.

# **Beacon High School Honor Roll**

# Students recognized for first-quarter grades

### **Grade 12** *Principal's List*

Lina Ahmed, Sofia Castelhano, Esther Clair, Sophia Clauson, Parijat Das, Jason Derasmo, Jacob DiNobile, Farah Jaafar, Audrey Lewis, Tylynn Lindsay, Jordyn Long, Eleanor Lopez, Carlos Loza Argudo, Lillian Magurno, Nuriya May, Elijah McKible, Jonah Mensch, Gia Moreno, Lindsay Otero, Rowan Parsaca, John Philipbar III, Henry Quinn, Lila Quinn, Nathaniel Ramos, Ruby Rodgers, Shepard Rodgers, Hanna Rodriguez, Isa Schmidt, Demetra Sela, Michael Serino, Isabella Travis, Jack Twining Freeman, Liam Verdesi, Jeffrey Wolfe III

### High Honor Roll

Mateo Alvarado, Daniel Barry, Adrian Beato, Angelina Berlingieri, Delaney Brennen, Kaylee Broas, Julian Brown, Scott Bunker, Margot Burke, Kevin Candia, Crystal Chen, Madison DeLeo, Danielle DiRubbio, Jordon Dixon-Caines, Laney Ebeling, Jonathan Echevarria, William Fahlman, Journey Fleming, Gabriela Foret, Sadot Garcia, Darien Gillins, Jenna Griesing, Labibah Hassan, Ysabel Heath, Dylan Howard, George Humphreys, Liam Istvan, Sydney Jones, Alexander Khalil, Alexander King, Campbell Kitzrow, Emma Labodin, Gabriella Leiva, Sharon Li, Julissa Manso, Alexis Mastrantuono, Brianna Moleano, Skhv Morris, Shema Ntaganzwa, Addy Pagones, Emani Paulin, Ella Pessoni, Jonathan Ramirez, Thomas Rapp, Isabelle Ray, Amelia Sanker, Jesmarie Sanz, Dominic Seddon, Adam Sendelbach, Ryan Shaffer, Leian Simon, Juliana Sulsona, Camryn Suppa, Joseph Vollaro, Elena Zeoli

### Honor Roll

Jared Alston, Isabella Boswick, Isabella Bottiglieri, Cody Brooks, Wilson Ciccone, Alexander Clay, Hope Cleveringa, Grace Cohn, Brianna DeMilio, Beatrice Dowd, Isaiah Epps, Adrian Gallego, Gabriella Ghent, Esteban Gomez-Perez, Tyler Haight, Aedan Hetling, Justin Jackson, Jack Juhn, Janelle Lagunda, Ahmad Lang, Sabrina Lin, Sofia Mourgues, Erin Nicholson, Robert Principe Jr., Natalie Quintero, Kaila Ramdeen, Thomas Robinson, Frederick Rosa, Jillian Salvati, Mikayla Sheehan, Jamison Sheehy, Ciara Soto, Jalyssia Soto, Jeremiah Tejeda

### Grade 11

### Principal's List

Vanessa Campanelli, Ella Cason, Rubio Castagna-Torres, Olivia Del Castillo, Marina Elias, Jayden Featherstone, Jacqueline Griesing, Harsh Gupta, Serena Jabar, Zuhir Kasem, Tiannah Lindsay, Evan Lombardo, Leonides Lopez IV, Bryce Manning, Nico McKible, Isabella Migliore, Christopher Milewski, Karimah Muhammad, Vanessa Murphy, Twyla Nelson, Emilia Pastorello, Vanessa Piciacchio, Henry Reinke, Luis Rivera, Elizabeth Ruffy, Kasey Senior, Rachel Thorne, Emily Wei, Wallace Wei, Jon-Paul Wood, August Wright

### High Honor Roll

Imroz Ali, Jack Antalek, Caleb Bennett, Henry Betterbid, Anthony Borromeo, Emma Campagiorni, Sophia Campagiorni, Douglas Capawana, Aidan Cleveringa, Grace Delgado, Damini Deloatch. Chelsea DerBoghossian, Gabriella Espinal, Nathan Filc-Helmuth, Nora Folkes, Isabella Haydt, Cadence Heeter, Keira Istvan, Georgia Kane, Devyn Kelly, Gabrielle Kuka, Shy'anne Kush, Olivia Lapaz, Samantha Lopez, Alexandria McCollum, Stephen McDowell, Aryah Montefusco, Juan Morocho Llivipuma, Thomas Nocerino, Cameron O'Dell, Lillie O'Leary, Elisa Pahucki, Nahari Powell, Ricardo Ramirez Paredes, Nina Rivers, Keira Robinson, Kiarra Rodriguez, Matthew Sandison, Hiroto Tanaka, Michael Varian, Peter Vermeulen, Jahzara Watkins, Ryan Zingone Redfield

### Honor Roll

Abir Ahmed, Isabella Amundson, Ronnie Anzovino, Wiles Assael, Jackson Atwell, Luke DeLuise, Michael Fontaine Jr., Ariana Gallego, Sara Gonzalez, Max Goodhill, Sienna Gorey, William Hockler, Una Hoppe, Emma Joyce, Owen Lynch, Amerie Madigan, Hannah Marin, William Martin, Anthony Marzovilla, Molalign Meagher, Gia Morgan, Liam Murphy, Christopher Pirrone, Merilyn Rinaldi, Jenna Rojas, Jackson Shrawder, Anisa Shtanaj, Owen Skorewicz, Allison Thomas, Alexsander Tice, Brandon Warren, Isabella White, Xiomarys Williams

### Grade 10

### Principal's List

Beckett Anderson, Anabelle Arginsky, Isabel Bunker, Lila Burke, Christine Chen, Evelina Diebboll, Tayler Finley, Messiah Gardner, AvaMaria Gianna, Sarah Jaafar, Jeannae' Jean-Francois, Karma Jones, Charlie Klein, Melanie Lucero Barbecho, Josephine Mallon, Allen McKay, Jada Medley, Emma Merola, Addison Miller, Breanna Rudolph, Anastasia Santise, Jacob Signorelli, Nix Spodek, Serena Stampleman, Mika-Gisselle Tates

### High Honor Roll

Kendall Alston, Taryn Beardsley, Sally Betterbid, Daniel Bridges, Shyla Camacho, Elizabeth Carbone, Avery Davis, Tori Foster, Willa Freedman, Justin Gerardes, Mackenzie Harman, Jalen Jackson, Rory LaDue, Lani Lopez, Ela Lyons, Paige McCredo, Ronan Moran, Zoe Moreno, Rory Mowen, Amelia Padilla, Josue Pintado, David Quezada, Daveya Rodriguez, Bethany Rudolph, Katherine Ruffy, Mehr Sagri, Gabriel Salcedo, Anthony Schultz, Kayli Shand, Amya Thompson, Justice Travis, Sortia Tripaldi, Roque Vianna, Holly Whittemore, Malcolm Wilson, Saoirse Woods, Charles Zellinger, Ava Zeoli, Francis Zezza

### Honor Roll

Riley Adnams, Nicholas Albra, Matthew

Apostolou Jr., Isabella Baffuto, Jude Betancourt, Angelina Bottiglieri, Jaidyn Caccomo, Sofia Diaz, Bryan Espinoza, Chiara Fedorchak, Amadea Ferris, Shane Griffin, Fallon Groza, Bailey Hernandez, Lee Humphreys, Samuel Hutchison, Ernesto Jenkins, Zyire Johnson, Mercer Jordan, Vincent Komer, Luke Kozlik, Reilly Landisi, Rowan Lane, Ryann Meyer, Madison Mianti, Darrvl Montgomerv Jr., Connor Murphy, Megan Nicholson, Sariah Paulin, Lindsay Pedersen, Mackenzie Phillips, Albion Qelaj, Jacob Reynolds, Nathan Richardson, Christine Robinson, Santiago Romero, Samiratu Sayibu, Adrianna Schultz, Chloe Sheffield, Serenity Smith, Natalia Sulsona, Brody Timm, Sevana West, Jazziah Whitted

### Grade 9

### Principal's List

Nadeen Ahmed, Farhana Antora, James Bouchard III, Alexander Browning, Parker Capawana, Skylar Clair, Christian Clay, Peter Cohen, Diego Dickinson Case Leal, Sofia Domanski, Tye Elias, Jonah Espinosa, Teo Fairbanks, Marisah George, Samiha Golden, Zenia Haris, Everly Jordan, Alina Joseph, Oren Kelleher, Gabrielle Khalil, Savana Kush, Brayden Manning, Alma Mart, Oscar McKible, Mira Miller, Liliana Rybak, Mikaela Sanchez, Kayla Selander, Alex Trama

### High Honor Roll

Macy Alencastro, Alianna Alijaj, Mira Bagriyanik, Vincent Bergerson 3rd, Grace Beston, Logan Blum, Samuel Callan, Lola Ciccone, Erin Cleary, Alistair Cunningham, Alejandro Flores Urzua, Isabella Galbo, Daisy Herrera, Dylan Hetrick, Ayden Hooten, Ruby Hotchkiss, Milo Isabell, Michael Jones, Taylor Kelliher, Maceo Koerner, Carlos Lampon III, Aron Li, Irene Loza Argudo, June Luedeman, Julia McGuire-Soellner, Aril McKee, Annalea Miller, Annabelle Notarthomas, Nolan O'Malley, Angelina Richards, Jonathan Richards, Yoland Rofaeil, Thomas Senior, Desirae Smith, Aiden Spiecker, Juan Tutasi Jr., George Walker, Ri'Kya White, Alexander Young, Addison Zittel

### Honor Roll

King Bolton, Lacianna Brown, Mirianjelis Chavez, Riley Clauson, Kiera D'Ippolito, Emi Dickinson Case Leal, Ja'naya Fluellen, Gabriel Godbee, Kylee Graff, Natalie Hayden, Eliana Herrera, Tyler Horton, Vincent Joao Jr., Cameron Just, Griffin Kitzrow, Eric Kruze, Kiran Kumar, Ryan Landisi, Isabella Lee, Aiden Montleon, Jaiere Newton, Adrien Okoye, Roman Proft, Victoria Reyes-Miele, Jalaysia Robinson, Zachary Schetter, Katrina Skorewicz, Joanna Trentacosta, Matthew Tumidaj, Marcos Velasco

### BOCES CTI

High Honor Roll

Zakary Krachy, Amerie Madigan, Cameron O'Dell, Emani Paulin, Luis Rivera, Riley Slosson

# **Rombout Middle School Honor Roll**

### Students recognized for first-quarter grades

### Grade 8

Principal's List

Cecilia Allee, Maayan Alon, Jerry Chen, Terry Chen, Shannon Colandrea, Emily Coldrick, Theodore Concepcion, Mateo Cruz, Haziel Decena Meran, Travis Dickston, Fionn Fehilly, Hailey Fish, Valeria Garcia, Emilio Guerra, Elma-Taherin Hassan, Madeleine Hayes, Reinabelle Jaafar, Shaun Jabar, Ruby King, Katelyn Kong, Mary Lopez, Lily Mack, Asha Marcus, Victoria McKay, Levi Partlow, John Rose, Charlotte Rossi, Finch Simons, Jesiah Swanigan, Gavin Troiano, Isaac Tschang, Julie Whittemore, Áine Woods

### High Honor Roll

Mikayla Acevedo, Jay Adams, Caroline Bell, Savannah Brace, Juniper Breault, Danica Brennen, Hartlev Brickman, Michael Cahill, Zamaya Cone, Jason David, Victoria Diaz, Ka'Dera Elliott, Elijah Epps, William Flynn, Khloe Franklin, Kayla Gerardes, Abigail Havdt, Ryan Huynh, Richard Johnson Jr., Gabriel Khan, Wenang Kobarsih, Jayden Lassiter, Isaac McKible, Shyanne McNair, Gianna Mercer, Lily Murr, Madelyn Pellerin, Lilly Pendley, Lyris Pennock, Selena Perez-Sample, Brady Philipbar, Sarah Ramkalawon, Lillian Ray, Stella Reinke, Olivia Revnolds, Noah Sanderson, Abdul-Rahman Sayibu, Tabitha Smith-White, Elliott Thorne, Farrah VanCott, Nolan Varricchio, Maikol Ventura Encarnacion, Rudolph Vergolina, Jesse Vermeulen, Fabiola Vogrincic, Aslynn Way, Slater Way, Lila Welsh, Parker White, Andrew Whittemore

### Honor Roll

Savannah Acuti, Aiden Araujo, Molly-Rose Archer, Emma Bellis, Casey Brand-

strom, Myasia Burch, Levi Cheyne, Tori-Ann Crawford, Angeleah Decker, Christopher Diaz, Kayden Diaz, Naim Dika, Donavan Ellis, Tyler Evans, Khordae Facey, Adriana Fazioli, Hudson Fontaine, Brandon Fremer, Leo Garcia, Austin Halley, Julian Hannah, Miguel Herrera, Syeira Kozlik, Bria Lopez, Ethan Maxaner, Ryan Mowen, Bella Ridore, Trevi Romanelli, Katherine Sendelbach, Za'layni Shand, Caeleb Smith, Jazier Smith, Ramonsito Soto Jr., Januario Stageman, Harper Strang, Madison Thompson, Kiarra Tice, Brevin Timm, Ny'el Woods, Piper Yewchuck, Ysabella Zappala

### Grade 7

### Principal's List

Owen Allee, Madison Beltran, Breannah Brace, Gavin Bruno, Noa Buckland, Skylar Carr, Zahara Cone, Claire Cumming, Vaughn Davis, Jake DeLuise, Evelyn DePalma, Ryan DiNobile, Maysie Doyle, Joseline Duran, Saoirse Fehilly, Christa George, Mckenna Griffin, Henry Gute, Maeve Haley, Alejandro Herrera, Drew Kelly, Maximilian Kong, Heidi Maeng, Josue Martell, Victoria Maruggi, Louise Mauks, Braelyn Milligan, Elise Moran, Claire Morgan, Zora Nicholls, Payton O'Connell, Vivien Padoleski, Khloe Roci, Giana Rodriguez, Bowie Roy, Isabella Ruffy, Evangeline Santise, Hazel Schein, Benjamin Seaman, Shane Signorelli, Gonzalo Soria Velecela, Caellum Tripaldi, Derek Waltke, Caleb Wells-McGurk, Luna Yawman, Owen Youatt, Trey Zapencki

### High Honor Roll

Mark Aakjar III, Kendall Adnams, Femmie Akinwunmi, Jacqueline Albra, Caden Balfour, Kiersten Barber, Lily Berry, Skye Brooks-Brown, Wyatt Burgos, Hawah Camara, Sarah Camara, Piper Clark, Lia Cosentino, Isabella Davila, Andrea Delgado, Kaileigh Edie, Leah Fahlman, Kyle Fairbanks, Zoe Hammond, Troi Harvey Semple, Gauger Heeter, Brianna Hunt, Emanuel Jenkins, Breanna Jones, Christopher Lee, Justin Mann, Gabriel Montleon, Henry Mulligan, Sigil Netboy, Oscar Pages, Sofia Posso Salcedo, Luis Ramon, Stephanie Ramon, James Reyes, Austin Ricketts, Maeve Rinaldi, Thalia Rodriguez, Mackinley Roland, Nathaniel Salvati, Antonio See, Hunter Smith, Jalen Thompson, Sophia Tomasik Dume, Jude Williams, Hayden Wilson, Josefine Zezza, Nicholas Zippo

### Honor Roll

Jesse Apostolou, Abigail Atkins, Michai Brown, Justin Buchman, Janyia Burch, Isabella Cable, Engel Cabrejo, Erica Cabrera, Anthony Castano, Chloe Davis, Zooey Dedring, Chanel Dickey, Kaemani Facey, SaRiah Faust, Annabel Goodman, Henry Greenberg, Tania Griffin, Jayden Harrison, Peyton Hockler, Mia Lentini, Melody Longino, Bethlee Manzano Cabello, Ruby Martin, Oliver Meyer, Stephen Miller, Uswah Mohammed Murtada, Nathaniel Moody, Ismael Munoz, Catherine Musorofiti, Brandon O'Dell, Gabriel Quinones, Mohammad Rahman, Nour Raouf Said, Vardan Singh, Shea Tanaka, Julie Vogrincic, Cayden Williams

### Grade 6

### Principal's List

Natalie Allen, Luna Ayers-Uekawa, Hazel Balogh, Fiona Burke-Smith, Madison Carr, Ethan Cason, Lily Cheyne, Ivy Cohen, Sebastian Concepcion, Shuprova Das, Elodie Duquesne, Willow Faiella, Evangeline Ferron, Lilah Fisher, Alice Gabel, Jordan Garzon, Eli Gilleo, Edith Giunta, Christian Gomez, Carolina Guerra, Manasvi Gupta, Silas Hayes, Samih Jabar, Greyson Johnson, Samantha Johnson, Davia Kelleher, Julian Khan, Miles King, Ileana Lawrence, James Mack, Celest Marshall, Ethan McCredo, Geovanny Merchan Bermeo, Elena Moleano, Madelyn Newcomb, Suvi O'Shea, Dominick Pulcastro, Zbigniew Rybak, Ashley Senior, George Stadler, Silas Stampleman, Ryan Sulca, Ellamarie Tejada, Daniel Tschang, Anita Vigeant

### High Honor Roll

Lorelei Aakjar, Brayden Arroyo, Sarp Bagriyanik, James Bailey, Vivianna Bailey, Desmond Barchetto, Joshua Benson, Sadie Bottone, Roman Brandt-Cannon, Amaya Bravo, Hawken Brickman, Marcus Brooks Jr., Matthew Browne, Jack Bunker, Chase Christman-Evans, Connor Coldrick, Jackson Coultas, Sofia Dunay, Kylie Ebeling, Braedan Eraca, Shaniya Evans, Emmett Havers, Nathan Hayden, London Hernandez, Weston Hetrick, Grace Just, Nahlia Keane, Pixie Kimberg, Gabriella Larsson, Anthony Lopez, Isabella Lopez, Logan Lyall, Olive Macina, Ralph Marinaccio IV, Ramiro Martinez Jr., Ivan Martinez, Katalina McBride, Michael Medina, Alicia Miller, Auwaab Mohammed Murtada, Dezire Neelv, Ace Owen, Amber Perez-Sample, Rilev Peterson, Negatu Price, Adrian Quezada, Leela Ramdeen, Sanaa Richardson, De'Jaun Rigby, Tallix Roan, Genevieve Shrawder, Landon Soltish, Warren Spatta, Sophia Spiconardi, Lyra Staab, Jaliyah Vasquez, Emery Vergolina, Lily Vogrincic, Callie Winther, Colin Witkowski, Noah Wright

### Honor Roll

Mateo Alarcon, Janaly Alvarado, Riley Anderson, Shannon Anzovino, Gavin Barone, Charles Boulding, Hailey Day, Gabriela Diaz, Grace Fleming, Natalia Garcia, Lucien Guido Taylor, Niara Johnson, Nathanael Jurado, Connor Kuhhorn, Braden Lopez, Michael MacDougall, Marianna Marrero, Yailin Novas Perez, Dakota O'Dell, Avyanna Olvera, Noah Postolan, Dion Qelaj, Diannie Ramirez, Alexandra Resendiz, Derek Rohr, Sophia Romero, Cadence Ross, Hannah Spencer, Avery Strang, Hayleigh Stumberger, Mia Tapia, Syed Umrao, Everett VanCott, Joshua Velazquez, Isabel Viera



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### **OBITUARIES**

### Adam R. Huston (1934-2023)

Adam R. Huston, a longtime resident of Cold Spring passed away peacefully on January 1, 2023 at home surrounded by his family. He was 88.

Born on July 30, 1934 in Newburgh, New York to the late Adam B. and Gertrude M. (Wilkinson) Huston.

Adam graduated from Newburgh Free Academy and attended banking courses at University of Massachusetts, University of Connecticut, University of New Hampshire and Poughkeepsie Chapter of the American Institute of Banking.

He was a proud veteran of the United States Air Force where he served his country with the 50th Troop Carrier Sq. (U.S.A.) and 6483 Flightline Maintenance Sq. (Japan), being honorably discharged as an Airman 2nd class.

He married Santa Frisenda on June 3, 1962 at Our Lady of Loretto in Cold Spring, NY.

Adam had a long career in banking. He worked primarily as a mortgage servicing officer, and manager of the Red Oaks Mill Office and the Beacon Office of Albany Savings Bank. He was a certified New York State licensed real estate appraiser and staff appraiser. He retired in September 1996 after 34 years in the banking industry.

He was a former member of the American Institute of Banking, Society of Real Estate Appraisers, Cold Spring Lions Club, and Cold Spring Chamber of Commerce.

Adam is survived by a loving daughter Santa M. (Huston) Warren and her husband Scott E. Warren. Three cherished grandchildren Sarah, Seth and Sydney Warren. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife Santa on October 12, 2007, his sisters Elizabeth and Dorothy and one brother James.

Friends were invited to call on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at Clinton Funeral Home, 21 Parrott Street, Cold Spring. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, January 5, 2023 at Our Lady of Loretto Church, 24 Fair Street, Cold Spring. Interment with military honors will follow in Cold Spring Cemetery alongside his beloved Santa.

In lieu of flowers please make donations in Adam's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.



Harry Vogel (1935-2022)

Harry was born on Yom Kippur, Oct. 7, 1935, in Frankfort am Main, Germany, the son of Arthur and Freida Vogel. His parents owned a grocery and sold fresh fruits and vegetables. When the Nazis came to power, his father was taken to the Buchenwald concentration camp.

At the time, any Jews with a baby boy could buy their way out if they had a family willing to sponsor them. Harry's maternal grandmother and uncle in the U.S. sent \$300 to buy Arthur out of the camp and get the family out of Germany.

Harry, his mother, his older sister, Frida, and his 2-week-old brother, Ralph, fled to Switzerland and then to London. Eventually, Arthur met them there, where they stayed in a one-room flat until Ralph was strong enough to make the trans-Atlantic journey on a freighter to Nova Scotia. They traveled to New York City and took a cab to the Bronx, where Uncle Arthur paid the fare.

Arthur worked as a janitor and a butcher. Harry was always intuitively handy and enjoyed tinkering and fixing things in the apartment building, including plumb-

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ing, painting and plastering and rewiring everything from lamps to telephones.

He was an athlete from an early age – a gymnast, a swimmer, diver, fencer and pole vaulter – and always interested in water sports. During his sophomore year at William Taft High School, a coach told him about Surprise Lake Camp, which he saw for the first time as a 15-year-old in 1952.

"I got on a bus at the 92nd Street YMCA and ended up at Surprise Lake Camp," Vogel told The Current in 2018.

The waterfront was always his baby. He took his tank and scuba gear to survey the lake and designed three floating docks. He eventually became administrative director.

Harry attended City College to study engineering and joined the ROTC, where, as he told it, he jumped out of perfectly good airplanes, printed leaflets and propaganda in the psychological warfare department and blew stuff up. He was later an exhibition diver at the New York Athletic Club, doing his version of "don't ask, don't tell" because the club at the time did not allow Jews. They didn't ask. He didn't tell.

Harry's engineering career was cut short by a rare eye disorder that caused migraine headaches when he read for long periods of time. He changed careers, earning a master's degree in education and working for the Board of Education in New York City as an industrial arts teacher.

He met Bobbi, his future wife, while doing a favor for a friend and asked her to marry him on their second date. They were wed on Dec.





55 Teller Ave. Beacon, NY, 12508 LibbyFuneralHome.com

26, 1959. Harry told Bobbi he loved her every day of their almost 63-year marriage and that he would marry her all over again. He always introduced her as "my sweetheart, Bobbi."

Three years after they married, the couple had a daughter, Joan, and three years later, a second daughter, Melissa.

A funeral service was held Dec. 26 at Hellman Memorial Chapels in Spring Valley, with interment at Gates of Zion Cemetery in Airmont. Memorial donations may be made to Harry Vogel Aquatics Fund at Surprise Lake Camp, 382 Lake Surprise Road, Cold Spring, NY 10516 (surpriselake.org).

### **David Wallick**

David Wallick, who served as principal of Haldane Elementary School from 2017 to 2019, died Wednesday (Jan. 4) of complications of an acute lung infection and amvotrophic lateral sclerosis.



Wallick, who lived in Katonah, was diagnosed with ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, in June 2021 after first experiencing symptoms six months earlier. "While the disease slowly robbed him of his ability to speak, eat, walk and breathe freely, it never defined him," his family said online. "David bravely forged ahead, experiencing life as best as possible, even though he was in a wheelchair and attached to a portable ventilator."

His family said he loved going to Citi Field to see the Mets and was equally happy at a Broadway show, dance performance or concert. "David treasured his ability to communicate with all of you through social media," his family wrote. "As his world became more limited, your words of encouragement fueled him through the rough days and made him feel connected. We are forever grateful to all of you for cheering David on as he faced the daily realities of this awful disease."

Wallick came to Haldane after serving as head of the Bicycle Path School for prekindergarten and kindergarten students in the Middle Country Central School District on Long Island. He also taught elementary school in the Briarcliff Manor, Katonah-Lewisboro and Ardsley districts in Westchester County.

A funeral service was scheduled for today (Jan. 6) in Katonah.

### Other Recent Deaths

### BEACON

Mary Collins, 103 Lucy DeAngelis, 92 Beverly Dworkin, 90 Myron Korykora, 89 Gene Larkin, 95 Donna Mastrantuono, 76 John McElduff, 88

Andy Palega, 68 Roger Pavelock, 60 Ray Pavone, 72 Elbert Powell, 83 Tommy Reynolds, 75 Vincent Stoll, 74 Leonides Velez 83 Elaine Way, 73

James Pagliaro

### PHILIPSTOWN Edith Ehrlich, 91

Adam Huston, 88

Cindy McEvoy, 61 Marion Pietrowski, 98

For more obituaries, see highlandscurrent.org/obits.

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# **CROSSCURRENT**

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agency									17			
4. Physician's	15				16			17				
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12. Vintage	20			21		22				23		
13. Away from WSW												
14. Mountain crest				27	28			29	30			
15. Set afire	31	32	33						34			
16. Yosemite peak									-			
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Solo	38					39	40			41		
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22. Swiss peak	48	49	50	51								
23. Bloke	53						54					
27. Author Fleming												
29. Abrasion	56						57					
31. Planet circlers												
34. Heart line	56. V	/elocit	9.	9. Fixed								
35. Coffeehouse bill	57. Iri	sh act	or Ste	ephen	10	10. Sch. org						
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1. CONTAINED, 2. COERCED, 3. ABSTAINS, 4. QUAIL, 5. BINGLEY, 6. TOILING, 7. HARKEN

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# 7 LITTLE WORDS

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# PHILIPSTOWN'S KARATE KID

Garrison teenager earns black belt By Lily Zuckerman

hile students attending the Hackley School in Tarrytown can choose from a variety of sports, Megan Hopkins chose a different path.

For years, the Garrison resident has ended her long weekdays, which begin when she leaves home at 6:30 a.m. for school, by disembarking at the Metro-North stop in Peekskill to train at Go No Sen Karate's dojo on Welcher Avenue.

It is there that the sophomore this past summer realized a dream: after nine years of training, she earned her black belt, the top rank in a color system that begins with a white belt.

Megan, 16, reached that level through rigorous work, logging 100 hours of practice, demonstrating a high level of technique and completing a written test with 100 questions and a four-hour practical exam.

She said she stuck with the sport because it imbued her with a particular mindset, including challenging her to achieve higher ranks. She is so committed to karate that she asked Hackley to exempt her from school athletics.

Now, as a black belt, she can continue to advance in degrees, from first-degree to 10th.

"I'm not a part of the sports culture at Hackley, and some days that kind of makes me sad," Megan said. "But then I get to karate and I know that this is where I want to be. It's where my goals are."

She began her lessons at age 6 in an afterschool program held in the gymnasium at the Manitou School in Garrison. Tyler Smith, an instructor at Go No Sen known as Sempai Tyler, taught the class. When



Megan Hopkins trains at Go No Sen Karate in Peekskill.

participation decreased, Megan continued training at the dojo.

Even as a child, Megan exhibited a Type A personality and proved "friendly, wellspoken and wise beyond her years," said Smith, who holds a second-degree black belt. While she is gifted athletically, her work ethic "put her over the top" as she memorized more than 15 karate forms, learned to break boards and execute selfdefense techniques, perform takedowns and throws, and demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of weapons, said Smith. A Go No Sen teammate, Colin Smith, lives in Peekskill and rides the train with Megan as he commutes to the Masters School in Dobbs Ferry. He said she often studied karate terminology on the rides and practiced her rolls between training classes and karate events.

Photos provided

Go No Sen's training emphasizes discipline, focus, goal-setting and self-control. Megan "had to commit herself to keeping good study habits, making her bed, logging random acts of kindness and more," according to Tyler Smith. "She exemplifies the qualities that we look for in black-belt leaders: honesty, confidence, passion, communication



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Hopkins earned a black belt after studying with Tyler Smith.

skills, discipline and commitment."

Megan "has honed her ability to connect," said Tyler Smith, and now teaches younger children as a junior instructor three days a week. Juggling karate and school has also taught her the importance of focusing on one thing at a time, Megan said.

"When a kid starts screaming around the room and I can't teach the rest of the class because he's distracting everyone, it's about knowing that I'm the person in control," she said. "I love karate; it's what I want to do."

Lily Zuckerman, who lives in Garrison, is a junior at the Masters School and a member of The Current's Student Journalists Program.



### By Skip Pearlman

### **GIRLS' BASKETBALL**

Beacon won at Port Jervis, 46-19, on Wednesday (Jan. 4) for Coach Christina Dahl's 200th career victory.

"The team and I are proud to share this meaningful moment with her, and are grateful for her years of dedication to the program," said Assistant Coach Michael Carofano.

Lila Burke led the Bulldogs with nine points, Reilly Landisi added seven, and Daveya Rodroguez and Shy'Anne Kush each had six. Beacon (4-3) gave Dahl her 201st win, 34-23, at Minisink Valley on Thursday and will host Washingtonville on Monday (Jan. 9) at 4:15 p.m.

Haldane improved its record to 3-4 with a win on Wednesday over North Salem, 42-39. The Blue Devils trailed by double digits for most of the game but rallied in the second half. The team visits Yorktown today (Jan. 6) and Croton-Harmon on Tuesday.

### **BOYS' BASKETBALL**

Beacon celebrated the new year by winning, 66-52, at O'Neill High School on Tuesday (Jan. 3). Adrian Beato paced the Bulldogs with 16 points, followed by Joe Battle with 11 and Darien Gillins with 10.

"That was probably the best all-around game we've played this year," said Coach Patrick Schetter. "The defensive intensity was there, and offensively we moved the ball well." Beacon (5-3) was scheduled to travel to Minisink Valley on Thursday (Jan. 5) and will host Chester on Tuesday at 4:15 p.m.

Haldane traveled to North Salem on Wednesday (Jan. 4) and came home with a 59-30 victory. Matteo Cervone scored 17, followed by Matt Nachamkin (13), Will Bradley (12), Ben Bozsik (8) and Michael Murray (6).

"We focused on defense and rebounding," Haldane Coach Joe Virgadamo said. "We held them to 12 points in the first half, we were moving our feet on defense and it paid off. It's fun to see the progress we're making."

In a 67-56 win over Chester on Dec. 29, Cervone scored a season-high 29 points while Nachamkin had a career-best 23.

Haldane (5-3) is scheduled to host Pearl River today (Jan. 6) at 7:30 p.m. and Croton-Harmon on Tuesday at 6:15 p.m.



Haldane's Matteo Cervone dunks for two of his 29 points against Chester. *Photo provided*