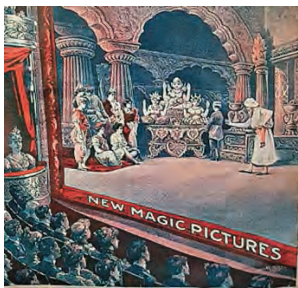


The HIGHLANDS Current

JANUARY 13, 2023

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The Amazing Animotoscope
Page 16

Mirbeau's Next Move Unclear

Beacon school board, spa fail to reach agreement

By Jeff Simms

It's not clear when, or if, Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon, the luxury hospitality company that plans to redevelop the historic Tioronda Estate, intends to apply to the Dutchess County Industrial Development Agency for a property tax break. But if it does, it may have to do so without the support of the Beacon school district.

The company, which purchased the 64-acre property on Route 9D last year for \$10 million, had planned to ask the IDA to approve a 15-year payment-in-lieu-of-taxes, or PILOT, agreement. If approved, Mirbeau would make a yearly payment to the City of Beacon and the school district based on its property assessment, but at a reduced rate.

The agreements are often granted to companies that are expected to contribute significant economic or job growth or another public benefit, such as affordable housing.

The IDA asked the city and school district to indicate their support for the proposal before Mirbeau submits its application. Beacon officials wrote a letter of support in November after the City Council discussed the matter in a closed session, but the school board has been a tougher sell. It has debated the proposal twice previously without reaching a decision.

Ed Kellogg, one of the owners of Mirbeau, spoke on Monday (Jan. 9) to the school board for a second time, but the discussion ended abruptly and without resolution when Kellogg would not commit to a "giveback" to offset the district's potential

(Continued on Page 8)



Pharmacies such as Drug World in Cold Spring are struggling to keep shelves stocked with cold and flu medicines amid a spike in cases. Photo by L. Sparks

Cold, Flu Medicines Vanish

Demand from outbreaks fuels shortages

By Leonard Sparks

Anyone turning into the aisle where Drug World stocks cold and flu medications and Tylenol will confront a desert.

“No Children’s Tylenol. DayQuil is out. NyQuil I have because I was smart enough to buy it when it was in stock.”

~Enrique Reynoso
Beacon Wellness Pharmacy

Shelves that once held rows of remedies sit bare. In place of boxes of Robitussin, Children’s Tylenol and other go-to countermeasures, owner Heidi Snyder and her staff have attached signs warning customers about nationwide shortages and a policy

limiting certain items to two-per-shopper.

Beacon Wellness Pharmacy is experiencing a similar squeeze, owner Enrique Reynoso said on Tuesday (Jan. 10). “No Children’s Tylenol. DayQuil is out. NyQuil I have because I was smart enough to buy it when it was in stock.”

Amid a national and statewide outbreak of the flu, along with seasonal colds and the ever-changing variants of COVID-19, relief from symptoms can be hard to come by. Local pharmacies and groceries and retailers are struggling to keep their shelves stocked as high demand outstrips manufacturing capacity, creating shortages.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced on Dec. 21 that it would allow states to access the federal stockpile of Tamiflu and manufacturers have increased production.

For some items, like liquid Children’s Tylenol, Snyder said she can only get six per day from her supplier. Vicks DayQuil and NyQuil, medicine-cabinet staples, are available but in high demand.

(Continued on Page 8)

Electric Beacon

City aims to beat state fossil-fuel timeline

By Jeff Simms

The City of Beacon is setting its sights on energy-efficiency targets more ambitious than those of New York State, which are already considered among the most aggressive in the country.

While the state Climate Action Council released a report in December recommending that legislators ban the use of natural gas and heating oil by 2025 in new residential construction of three stories or fewer, the City Council has begun crafting a law that could beat that timeline by at least a year.

City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis told council members on Monday (Jan. 9), after more than an hour of discussion, that he would present a draft law at the council’s workshop on Jan. 23. Under one scenario, Ward-Willis said the council could hold public hearings and adopt a law in the first half of 2023, giving developers and contractors six months or more to prepare for an effective date of Jan. 1, 2024.

The idea was introduced in October by Dan Aymar-Blair, the Ward 4 representative, and at-large member Paloma Wake during a rally held by Beacon Climate Action Now, an activist group, at the city’s riverfront. A week later, the two council members proposed a plan to add emis-

(Continued on Page 3)



Aymar-Blair



Wake



Schonfeld snapped this photo of the turkey before things turned ugly. Photo provided

Turkey Trashes Garrison Home

Leaves behind a bloody, filthy mess

By Michael Turton

On Jan. 6, chiropractor Magda Schonfeld arrived home on South Highland Road in Garrison at 7:30 p.m., after a hard day of work at Hudson Holistic Healthcare in Cold Spring.

The day wasn’t over.

“When I first came in, I noticed all the kitchen throw mats were in disarray,” she

recalls. “And there was blood and excrement on the overturned cat bowl.”

There was also a wild animal standing in the small bed that her two cats normally occupy.

“Oh, there’s a wild turkey in my living room!” Schonfeld remembers thinking, before grabbing her cellphone to photograph the uninvited guest.

Somewhat in shock, she sat for a bit.

“The turkey and I looked at each other,” Schonfeld said. “It took about 10 minutes before it registered that I had a problem: It

was a big MF turkey!”

She called her neighbor, who immediately came to help, stun gun in hand.

“I didn’t think it was a good idea, but she tased the turkey, which just made it more frantic,” Schonfeld said.

The bird repeatedly flew straight up, hitting its already bleeding head on the ceiling. When Schonfeld moved the cat bed, the turkey shifted to another corner of the living room.

She and her neighbor tried to throw a blanket over the bird, hoping it would have a calming effect.

“That made it more hysterical,” Schonfeld said. “It flew up and hit the ceiling again.”

(Continued on Page 10)

5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: SALLY MAYES

By Alison Rooney

Sally Mayes will present her cabaret show at the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison on Jan. 22.

How do you define cabaret?

I have always felt it was a place where I could express what's in my head at any given time. In theater, you're serving the purview of the director and the writer. In cabaret, you get to make your own vision come to life. I've always believed if you can stand onstage and be yourself, you can stand onstage and be anything. I like to show off my colors. For some, it's terrifying. For me it's fun.

Do most successful evenings of cabaret have a theme?

A cabaret show can be a lot of different things. This is going to be a hodgepodge. I like to do story songs, the blues, country songs, jazz, because it's also about being challenged. I've done five albums, lots of concert work and lots of theater. During the pandemic, I had lots of time and I went through the files. I realized I have all this great material. So although this show isn't themed, it's got a lot of those "It's nice to be able to pull these things out" in it.



The show's music director is Alex Rybeck. What does a music director do?

We meet, talk about ideas, gather material, then get in a room and start playing. Later, they rehearse the band with you. Sometimes we do things with arrange-

ments I already have, but other times we do it from the ground up. I like to have a hand in my arrangements. I have ideas and like to be in the room. Of course, they do your gigs with you.

What role does being a Texan play in your story?

I am who I am, and there is a little bit of Southern in me always, especially when I'm around another Southern person — more of that comes out, along with my accent. I'm an artist-in-residence at my alma mater, the University of Houston, and I spend a week there each semester working with students. I seem to shift into my full Southern accent immediately. I'm proud of being a Southern woman. It's part of my history and my personality.

What would you most like audiences to take away from an evening spent with you?

I want them to feel like they've taken a journey. Years of experience have given me the experience of making it cohesive — more than just the songs you want to sing: a richer, fuller, fatter journey. I always loved doing it, but I think I'm better at it now. I hope the audience will feel how very, very much I love music and how much I love to sing it.

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What do you listen to on long road trips?

Spanish music, especially Peruvian, like Corazon Serrano.



Rosa Vilca, Beacon

My kids and I actually wrote our own song on a road trip this summer.



Metal Winters, Newburgh (visiting Cold Spring)

Depends on how long a trip — pretty much anything but country music.



Quincy Britt, Beacon

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Electric Beacon *(from Page 1)*

sions limits to the city's building code, a move that would effectively ban fossil-fuel hookups in new construction.

There are significant environmental and financial benefits to the switch. Gas stoves, for example, emit methane and carbon dioxide — the two most abundant greenhouse gases — and nitrogen oxide, which has been shown to increase the risk of cardiovascular problems and respiratory disease. The stoves emit methane even when turned off, researchers have found.

It is also projected that new single-family homes in New York state could save \$904 per year by using an electric-powered, air-source heat pump, or nearly \$1,200 per year with a ground-source, or geothermal, heat pump.

The city's building inspector believes electric-powered household equipment, such as heat pumps and hot water heaters, is reliable and local builders are up to speed with the movement to transition from fossil fuels, Ward-Willis told the council on Monday, noting that "your law might become the model for other municipalities."

There seems to be little doubt that the council can adopt legislation that beats the state's timeline for residential electrification. What would come next isn't as clear.

The Climate Action Council recommends that new commercial buildings, as well as residential buildings of four stories or higher, should be all-electric by 2028. It does not offer clear guidance on mixed-use structures, such as ones being built on Main Street in Beacon, with commercial and residential components.

Council Member George Mansfield proposed lumping mixed-use into the residential category, but, depending on the type of commercial use, the technology to go electric may still be developing. When mixed-use projects are approved by the city, "you don't know if it's a restaurant or a bank," Mayor Lee Kyriacou said. Electric technology for the former may not be as far along as for the latter, he said.

“Why would we want fossil fuels to continue to be burnt in that building but not one with the same exact specs that was built from the ground up?”

—Dan Aymar-Blair
Ward 4 Representative

Renovated homes and buildings could present another challenge. Aymar-Blair used the 1 East Main building, which was restored nearly a decade ago, as an example. Should a building like that, essentially a gut-rehab, be required to go all-electric as it's renovated?

"Why would we want fossil fuels to continue to be burnt in that building but not one with the same exact specs that was built from the ground up?" he asked.

Aymar-Blair and Kyriacou also disagreed on the timeline for requiring new commercial buildings to pivot from fossil fuels.

Aymar-Blair said the city should hold commercial spaces to the same schedule as residential.

However, "the state has clearly made a distinction for scientific reasons," Kyriacou argued. "Unless you've got science saying, 'Here's why you can [make the change],' you're basically putting a cost-benefit imposition on people without having any cost-benefit evidence. I don't see how you can do that unless you're into imposing whatever you want on people."

"The climate is changing," Aymar-Blair responded. "That's what's imposing the urgency on all of us."

Exemptions to a city law, such as for heavy industrial uses that cannot yet convert to electric, would add complexity. (A law adopted in New York City in 2021 limits the emissions allowed in newly constructed buildings, with exceptions for hospitals, laundromats and crematoriums.)

At 5 square miles, Beacon is largely built out, so new construction will likely slow in coming years. For that reason, Wake said she hopes to limit exemptions, "to make sure this is applicable to as many people [as possible], to have the outcomes that we need."

Above all, Ward-Willis advised that the law must be understandable and implementable. "Keep it very simple, very straightforward, so that the building inspector can enforce it," he said.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

Enough Juice?

One of the common fears about the large-scale conversion from fossil fuels to electric power is whether the electric grid — the interconnected network of power providers and users — can handle it.

Generally speaking, the electrical system can handle increased loading, though certain areas may have constraints, said Joe Jenkins, a representative for Central Hudson, the gas and electric utility that serves the Highlands.

Electrical usage peaked in 2005 and has been flat or declining since then, due to increased energy efficiency, as well as the continued proliferation of distributed electric generation across Central Hudson's service territory. "That, combined with the continued investments we have made in our system, give us sufficient capacity in the short term to absorb additional loads," Jenkins said.

However, he also noted that natural gas is three times as energy-dense as electricity. In other words, if more people are powering more buildings

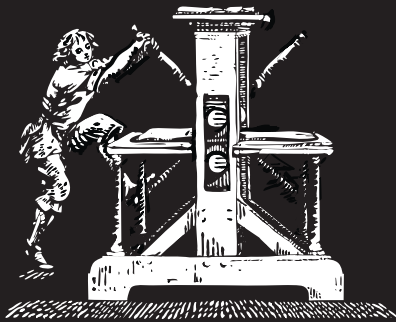
with electricity, in time more of it will need to be produced.

Moving customers away from gas and onto the electrical grid in a more wholesale fashion would require significant investment, planning and buildout of the grid, Jenkins said. From planning to approval, the process for system investments like new transmission lines or a substation in most cases takes five years or more. "In completing this process, we must also take into account the financial impacts a comprehensive system buildout would have on our customers," he said.

In addition, more power would need to be generated in New York state to accommodate the transition.

"We support taking meaningful actions aimed at significantly reducing our carbon emissions, including electrification," Jenkins said. "But it must be done in a pragmatic way that does not compromise the reliability or the affordability of the service we provide."

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Jan. 6 ceremony

On Jan. 6, a ceremony was held at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., to mark the second anniversary of the attack on the building. There were a few hundred lawmakers at the ceremony, and only one was a Republican.

Most important to me: Where was my representative? Where was Mike Lawler? Does he endorse the insurgents? If not the insurgents, does he endorse their agenda? If not their agenda, does he endorse brutalizing the police officers who defended the Capitol?

It's Lawler's first week in office and already he's failing his district, and failing to stand up for our Constitution.

Nicholas Kuvach, *Putnam Valley*

Beacon board

John Gunn, the chair of the Beacon Planning Board, is not wrong, nor is the city attorney ("Two Council Members Unhappy with Planning Chair," Jan. 6). I understand that people are upset, but we should have changed the zoning code. If this project meets code, the board cannot say no without facing legal challenges that the city would likely lose. The City Council should look at revising the code rather than going after those who have to abide by it.

Tom Cerchiara, *Beacon*

Corrections

• In a story in the Jan. 6 issue, we stated that the Dibble House, designed by Poughkeepsie architect Arnout Cannon, stood on the site of the Beacon Theater. In fact, according to Diane Lapis of the Beacon Historical Society, the house was located across the street on the site now occupied by Carter's Restaurant and the former Beacon Hotel. "You can still see the turrets, but it has been renovated so many times it is barely recognizable," she said. The Dibble Theater was torn down in the 1920s to make way for the current Beacon Theater. In addition, we stated that the Wilderstein estate designed by Cannon is located in Rhinecliff. In fact, it is in Rhinebeck.

• In the Jan. 6 issue, we reported that Gov. Kathy Hochul enacted a law on Dec. 30 that requires health insurers to provide coverage in blanket policies 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. In fact, in a signing memo, Hochul eliminated creative arts therapists from the law, citing the potential cost to the state. The New York Art Therapy Association, which has members in the Highlands, called that argument "inaccurate" and said the change "will have a significant and highly detrimental impact on the availability of affordable mental health services."

Beacon businesses

Because I dearly want to be a good neighbor, I feel compelled to try and clarify some of the misleading reporting and misunderstandings about my purchase of 340 Main St., the building on the corner of Eliza Street, with Roma Nova and others as its tenants

("Beacon Businesses in Jeopardy," Jan. 6).

The short answer is I intended to keep all of the existing tenants. But as everyone knows, the real estate market has changed dramatically over the past several years. I paid a substantial market-rate price for a building in a prime location, \$2.3 million, and then invested significantly more to update its decaying facade and operating systems. In turn, I need to charge market-rate rents to afford the more than doubling of the real estate taxes, the debt service and the operating costs. The unfortunate aspect of this scenario is that tenants who were paying an extreme under-market-rate rent for years, now need to pay rents that are set by the market.

I truly appreciate the history and tradition the current tenants have at the building, and I understand it's not an ideal situation. Whether I purchased the building, or it was someone else, this difficult situation was bound to come to fruition, but my goal is, and continues to be, to work with as many local business operators and professionals as I can.

Unfortunately, it did not go reported that I offered to assist moving Roma Nova from their side-street location into a prime Main Street unit within the building, and with healthy landlord concessions in order to make the move. I really wanted them to stay as I, too, am very fond of Ana, Miguel and Carlos, who run the business. We became very friendly when I was renovating the building with my own two hands this past summer. They declined the opportunity, as they already mentioned, multiple times, and as evidenced by the for-sale ads, that they were looking to retire and sell the business.

With regard to Batt Florist and the new owner, Amanda Hurn, I was excited to rent



(Continued on Page 5)

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

her the space once the current lease expired. She was on board with the rent we discussed, which was not triple the current rent, as reported by *The Current*. Although I made a valiant effort, Amanda has never been able to provide financials or proof of credit in order to move forward in renting the space.

The partners of Antalek and Moore, the previous owners, were set to re-rent another space in the building, but instead found an opportunity to purchase another property.

Finally, Vincent, the barber at 2 Eliza St., whom I have a great respect for: I wish Vincent could have stayed, but the “extreme” below-market rent he was paying was too far a bridge to current market rents, and sadly he is leaving. I am happy he has found a new space in Hyde Park, where I only wish him the best in his new location.

I am looking to become part of the fabric of the community, and I don’t wish to hide nor be an absentee landlord. I have been a custom homebuilder for the past 30 years, and I worked really hard to make this dream come true in purchasing my first real estate investment. I look forward to partnering with local businesses and artists to make 340 Main St. one of the many special buildings that dot Beacon’s beautiful Main Street.

Robert Arzanipour, *Glen Head*

Editor’s note: To clarify, reporter Jeff Simms emailed Arzanipour before the publication of the story, telling him that he was “writing about the businesses that are leaving the space and wondering if you have new tenants or any plans lined up.” Arzanipour responded with the statement that we quoted in the article but did not reply to a follow-up email or return a voicemail message left at the phone number listed on his business card.

In addition, we reported that the rent Arzanipour offered to Batt’s Florist (\$3,300 per month) is “nearly triple” what the business had been paying (\$1,200 per month).

I’ve known for a while that the owners of Roma Nova, one of my favorite Beacon restaurants, for many years (their Mexican food, as we old Beaconites know, is freshly prepared and truly delicious) wanted to sell and retire, and I hoped for their sake they’d be able to, but who the heck wants to pay these ridiculous rents?

If the City Council doesn’t enact some measures to help small business stay in business, I’m afraid we will lose a great deal of the charm and family businesses for which we were known.

I don’t want us to turn into Scarsdale, but it looks like that is precisely where we are headed. That building is not worth the high price paid; only big chain stores, swanky shops and real-estate agents will now be able to afford that rent, not families trying to make a living.

As for the Tapias, Vincent and Amanda, I wish them all the very best. You were a terrific and wonderful part of our community, and I’m so sorry you have to leave this way.

Mary Fris, *Beacon*

I was afraid of this. All the charming old stores in Beacon will close and the beauty of the Beacon that was will be no more.

Everything is about money as Beacon turns into just another Westchester, upper-class, overpriced community.

Lillian Rosengarten, *Cold Spring*

CCA meeting

Why suggest that the public is at fault for not showing up for a discussion of Community Choice Aggregation at a Village Board meeting (“Scant Turnout for Cold Spring Electricity Issue,” Jan. 6)? Eighty percent participation should be enough of a sign that the program is well-supported. The board should move ahead with the CCA if the plan is sound.

Aaron Wolfe, *Cold Spring*

Travel costs

I was disheartened to open *The Current* to see this article (“Why Travel?” Dec. 30). As someone who teaches a college course on Earth System Science, I can state with authority that routine international flights, as promoted in the article, are incompatible with any future that avoids unprecedented, global human and environmental catastrophe. Many international treasures (historic coastal cities, coral reefs, etc.) will not likely exist within the lifetimes of our children unless we enact major, radical, widespread societal changes immediately.

Promoting more enlightened views on travel is an important role *The Current* could take. Sustainable travel options are abundant: Diverse communities are

(Continued on Page 6)

Hamilton Fish III and the Desmond-Fish Library

The Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison this week issued the statement below in response to reporting on Ultra, an MSNBC podcast devoted to “the all-but-forgotten true story of good, old-fashioned American extremism getting supercharged by proximity to power.” The podcast is available at msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-presents-ultra.

The Desmond-Fish Public Library was founded in 1980 by Hamilton Fish III [1888-1991] and his wife, Alice Curtis Desmond. Fish represented the Hudson Valley in Congress from 1920 to 1945.

Recent episodes of the podcast *Ultra*, hosted by Rachel Maddow, reported actions and statements in the late 1930s by Hamilton Fish III that were in support of Hitler and his regime. Fish’s congressional office distributed harmful anti-Semitic propaganda, and he made racist remarks against Jews. Fish spoke at a Nazi rally in New York where he strongly opposed U.S. involvement in World War II. The Wikipedia entry for Congressman Fish provides further detail on this chapter of his long life and political career.

The morning after Pearl Harbor,

Congressman Fish denounced the attack and expressed his support for Roosevelt’s Declaration of War. He also later signed a House resolution condemning Germany’s abhorrent treatment of Jews. Fish was defeated for re-election in 1944 and never held elected office again.

As individuals, and as an institution, all of us associated with the Desmond-Fish Public Library, including descendants of Hamilton Fish III, strongly condemn all anti-Jewish actions, statements and beliefs. As citizens of our community and stewards of the Library, we are dedicated to working actively against racism, bias and discrimination in all forms.

We are committed to learning about and growing from our history alongside the community. Questions and comments are welcome at all times. Public comment is welcome at our board meeting on Jan. 21 at 9 a.m. at the library. Alternatively, those wishing to discuss this matter are invited to contact Library Director Dede Farabaugh at director@desmondfishlibrary.org or Board President Anita Prentice at anitaprentice@gmail.com.

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Sat. Jan 21 – 8 PM

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New on the Job

Clockwise, from top left: (1) **William F.X. O'Neil**, a Republican, took the oath of office as Dutchess County executive on Jan. 4 in Poughkeepsie. The deputy county executive for 11 years, he succeeds Marc Molinaro, who won the seat in November to represent the 19th District in the U.S. House. The county executive position will be on the Nov. 7 ballot. (2) **Mike Lawler**, a Republican who defeated incumbent Sean Patrick Maloney, a Philipstown resident, to represent District 17 in Congress, posed last week on the House floor with his wife, Doina, and newly elected Speaker Kevin McCarthy. Beacon is part of District 18 and represented by Pat Ryan, a Democrat. (3) **Kevin Byrne**, who ran unopposed to become the new Putnam County executive, was sworn in Dec. 30 by Molinaro. (4) **Rob Rolison**, a Republican, took the oath Jan. 4 to join the state Senate representing the 39th District, which includes Beacon and Philipstown. (5) The first official act by **Dana Levenberg**, a Democrat who was elected to the state Assembly to represent District 95, which includes Philipstown, was to present a citation to her predecessor, Sandy Galef, who retired after 30 years. Beacon is part of District 104 and represented by Jonathan Jacobson, a Democrat who ran unopposed for a third term.

Photos provided



(Continued from Page 5)

within reach of train, boats can be taken to Europe, and surely inner journeys and meditation retreats are part of envisioning and manifesting a sustainable future.

As the horrors of global warming become increasingly difficult to ignore, routine travel by air will inevitably become socially unacceptable. I pray that we reach such conclusions sooner rather than later. Ultimately, the

Hudson Valley will once again be the major travel destination for those in New York City that it was a century ago. I look to *The Current* to explore that sustainable future, even when it means challenging the luxury and privilege of its readers and benefactors.

Steve Kidder, *Beacon*

Kidder is an associate professor of earth and environmental sciences at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Catholic school

Michael Turton's column was a difficult but important read ("Reporter's Notebook: Every Generation Has It Worse," Jan. 6).

Most of us who attended Catholic school experienced some extreme level of this horrific method of "teaching" and discipline. It was not teaching. It was indoctrination into a world order that was hierarchical. There were very few vertical elements, very little exploration

and creativity, dialogue and discussion. Its brutality was its message and method.

"We grew up, we got over it" is in no way a defense of practices that have turned people away from the Catholic Church. Michael's poignant recollection of his childhood in Catholic schools allows us to revisit and re-determine to create a better path forward. Bravo.

Margaret Condyles, *Beacon*

LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Notes from The Cold Spring Village Board

Good news on dam repairs; county agreement criticized

By Michael Turton

Mayor Kathleen Foley and Trustee Laura Bozzi, at the Wednesday (Jan. 11) meeting of the Cold Spring Village Board, had relatively good news from a recent meeting with Tectonic Engineering Consultants regarding long-awaited repairs to the reservoir dams.

Bozzi said the cost, estimated at \$4.2 million six years ago, has increased to \$5.4 million, and that the 2016 assessment of dam conditions is valid until 2026.

Foley expressed relief that the increased cost was less than anticipated. "Although it's a lot of money, it's not as much as we were all getting our heads around," she said.

The mayor said she was also reassured by the firm's estimate that once the engineering design is complete, the work can be finished in eight to 12 months, "a much shorter window than I anticipated." That would also be well within the five-year window of the agreement with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection for a connection to the Catskill Aqueduct to provide water to the village during the repairs.

Superintendent of Water and Sewer Matt

Kroog reported that seven contractors have indicated interest in completing the aqueduct connection, and bidding opened on Thursday (Jan. 12).

Mutual aid

In her monthly update to the Village Board, Putnam Legislator Nancy Montgomery explained why she had voted "no" on a mutual-aid plan passed in December that included an agreement between the sheriff and Cold Spring police. Montgomery said the mayor had not seen the agreement before it was approved, that it is "incomplete" and that it requires "a lot more attention."

She said that because the plan was marked "confidential," she could not share it with the Village Board. "Figure that one out," she said.

Foley confirmed that the plan had not been shared with the village.

"We budget for our police, so it's important for us to understand" the plan, Foley said. "As far as I'm aware, it was only signed by the previous county executive," adding that such agreements can't go into effect until both municipalities sign it.

"It's a pretty sloppy approach," she said. "Our Police Department isn't authorized to enter into contracts with the county."

Later in the meeting, Foley said she was

encouraged after attending the swearing-in ceremony for Kevin Byrne, the new county executive.

"He has been very communicative and supportive," Foley said, adding she had thanked him for publicly posting vacant commissioner positions. "It's a real statement about his feelings for the need for expertise in those positions. I feel encouraged that he is casting a wider net."

Montgomery outlined numerous key positions now vacant and encouraged qualified residents to apply, including district

manager for the Soil and Water Conservation District, director of real property tax services and commissioners of emergency services; highway and facilities; and planning development and public transportation.

Montgomery said while she has been appointed to the Legislature's Physical Services Committee, her longstanding requests to sit on the Health and Protective Services committees were not granted.

"Despite my [Republican] colleagues publicly stating they would extend an olive branch to me this year, it was just a statement — as always just words," said Montgomery, who is the lone Democrat on the nine-member panel.



BREATHING ROOM — After complaints, a private wall that was placed too close to the road on Rock Street in Cold Spring had to be destroyed and rebuilt farther back, shown here.

Photo by M. Turton

NEWS BRIEFS

Putnam Deputies Kill Suspect

Man had repeatedly stabbed woman

A Putnam County sheriff's deputy shot and killed a man in Southeast on Tuesday (Jan. 10) while he stabbed a woman.

The attack occurred after the Kent Police Department responded to a report of domestic violence and apparent abduction at an address on Amawalk Road in Kent. Sheriff's deputies located the suspect's vehicle in Southeast and observed him stabbing the woman, the Sheriff's Department said.

Two deputies fired, and the suspect, Christopher T. Torres, 34, of Carmel, was killed. The woman was transported to Westchester Medical Center in critical condition.

"I am grateful for the quick and decisive actions of our personnel, which saved the victim's life," Sheriff Kevin McConville said in a statement. He has asked the state police to lead the investigation. The state attorney general is also investigating.

I Am Beacon Offers Memberships

Local group launches new program

I Am Beacon, a nonprofit community organization, has launched a membership program.

The group was founded in 2011 and its initiatives include a youth art program, podcast, back-to-school block party, scholarships and mental-health awareness campaign.

Memberships are \$45 annually and include

benefits such as discounts on events and merchandise, including 5 percent savings at Key Food on Thursdays. See iambeacon.org.

New Master Gardeners

Highlands residents among graduates

The Cornell Cooperative Extension has announced the members of its 2022 graduating class of Master Gardeners.

The 29 graduates in Putnam County included Kate O'Keefe Cotter, Cynthia Crossen, Amy Leonardi, Erin McNally, Jacqueline Merrill, Lena Milcarek and Pete Salmansohn of Philipstown; and Helaine Balsam, Diana Romero and Mathew Weigman of Putnam Valley.

In Dutchess County, the 19 graduates included Mary Sokolowski of Beacon.

Dutchess Veterans Office Moves

New location in Pleasant Valley

The Dutchess County Division of Veterans Services has moved from Poughkeepsie to a location in Pleasant Valley that includes offices for Mental Health America Dutchess, the Hudson Valley Veterans Alliance and the Veterans Sportsman Alliance.

The agency provides veterans with assistance in filing claims and making referrals for state and federal benefits, as well as help with discharge papers and medal replacement.

The new office is located at 1335 Route 44; the phone number remains 845-486-2060. See dutchessny.gov/veterans.



Howland Public Library Director Kristen Salierio and Assistant Director Kristin Charles-Scaringi stand outside the library with a sign announcing the end of overdue fines.

Photo provided

No More Fines

Howland votes to end late fees

The Howland Public Library in Beacon is no longer charging fines for items that are returned late.

In a statement, the library cited research that suggests fines do not prevent people from returning books late and can create

barriers for lower-income patrons. Fines only account for about \$1,000 of the library's annual budget, it said.

The policy also applies to DVDs, CDs, magazines, the Library of Things, museum passes and interlibrary loans. Special-order items from outside the Mid-Hudson Library System are an exception, and replacement fees still apply. If no one is waiting for an item, it will be renewed automatically twice.

The Howland is the 51st of 66 libraries in the Mid-Hudson Library System to eliminate fines; the others include the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison and the Butterfield Library in Cold Spring.

Beacon Arson Suspect Appears in Court

Property owner had filed eviction papers

Brian P. Atkinson, the Beacon man arrested on Jan. 3 and accused of starting a fire that destroyed a three-story house at 925 Wolcott Ave., appeared in Beacon City Court on Thursday (Jan. 12). His case was adjourned until Feb. 23.

Atkinson, a former tenant in the building, had been due in court on Jan. 3 for eviction proceedings filed by the owner of the house. Authorities said that, after starting the fire that morning, he walked to the Police Department and turned himself in.

He is 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. He is being held at the Dutchess County Jail in Poughkeepsie.

Flu Cases By Season

	2019-20	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23
DUTCHESS	1,180	100	2,033	5,877
PUTNAM	494	144	1,523	2,693
STATE	157,758	4,921	125,709	278,886

Note: Flu season runs from October to May.
*Flu cases declined due to the pandemic shutdown and masking.

Flu Deaths Statewide

	2019-20	2020-21*	2021-22	2022-23
PEDIATRIC	14	0	2	6
TOTAL	286	31	105	221

Sources: New York Department of Health and National Center for Health Statistics

Medicine (from Page 1)

The problem is especially acute for children’s products. “If you go to a CVS, if you go to a Walgreens, if you go to a super-market, you’re going to see the same bare shelves in the same place,” Snyder said.

In response, CVS has instituted a two-product limit at its stores and online for children’s pain and fever medicines; Rite Aid is limiting online purchases of 4-ounce grape-flavored Children’s Tylenol to four; and Walgreens has a six-product limit on online purchases. Costco customers can only buy one bottle at a time.

As of Dec. 31, flu cases in Dutchess had nearly tripled from the 2021-22 flu season and in Putnam, nearly doubled. There are still four more months left in the 2022-23

flu season.

The Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA), which represents companies that make over-the-counter medicines, said on Monday that there is no widespread shortage of children’s pain and fever medications, but an “extraordinary demand,” with November sales 65 percent higher than the same time last year.

Companies are “operating at maximum capacity” to produce between 35 and 50 percent more than in 2021, and looking to make even more medicines by contracting out manufacturing, according to the association.

“As this situation continues to rapidly evolve, CHPA encourages consumers to buy only what they need, so other families can find and purchase the medicines they are

COVID-19 BY THE NUMBERS

	PUTNAM	DUTCHESS
Primary vaccination:	76.2% Philipstown/CS: 87.9% Garrison: 82.5%	71.6% Beacon: 68.1%
Boosted:	19.1% Philipstown/CS: 27.6% Garrison: 22.2%	21.1% Beacon: 17.2%
Positive tests, 7-day average:	↓ 10.1%	↓ 12.2%
Number of deaths:	143 (+3)	731 (+3)

Source: Weekly update per state health department, as of Jan. 10 (vaccine data as of Jan. 6). Boosted is the percentage of people eligible for additional shots who are up to date.

seeking,” it said.

Demand may drop as infections recede. In its weekly flu update, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on Dec. 31 that while cases remain high, they are declining in most areas. Cases in New York remain “very high,” according to the CDC, but peaked at 52,936 for the week ending Dec. 10. They had fallen to 22,905 for the week ending Dec. 31, according to the state Department of Health.

So far this flu season, there have been at least 22 million cases nationally, 230,000 hospitalizations and 14,000 deaths, includ-

ing 74 children, according to the CDC. New York had reported six pediatric deaths as of Dec. 31. In 2020-21, with people isolating and wearing masks during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, there were fewer than 5,000 reported flu cases in New York state, and no pediatric deaths.

Data from the CDC also confirm a retreat in infections caused by respiratory syncy-tial virus, whose symptoms mirror those of the common cold. New York was among the states that experienced a larger outbreak of infections this year, but cases have fallen dramatically since peaking in mid-November.

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Beacon PILOT (from Page 1)

loss of tax revenue.

The property owner currently pays the city and school district together about \$100,000 in taxes each year. Under the agreement, Mirbeau has said that by the third year it would pay an estimated \$175,000 annually to the district.

But the increase would come at a cost. Because the PILOT agreement would remove the estate from the tax rolls for 15 years, its property assessment — sure to increase as Mirbeau redevelops the parcel, which includes the former Craig House psychiatric hospital — would not count toward what is known as a “tax-base growth factor.”

The growth factor is a mechanism through which the state allows school districts to increase their tax levies based on an increase in taxable property assessments. In other words, as high-priced developments proliferate in Beacon, the district has benefited through nearly \$2 million in additional tax revenue in the last three years, Board President Meredith Heuer said on Monday.

While Mirbeau’s redevelopment of the property, which has been vacant since the hospital closed in 1999, as a hotel and spa is sure to bring visitors who will shop on Main Street and eat in Beacon’s restaurants, board members asked Kellogg if the company would be willing to contribute to a “community fund,” such as the nonprofit Foundation for Beacon Schools, to make up for some of the growth-factor loss.

“Would you sit down with our attorney to get some assurances that if we do write this letter of support, there would be some benefit to the schools, whether it be through a community organization, or employment for students?” Board Member Anthony White asked.

“I’d have to talk to my partners,” Kellogg answered, noting that the company considers the additional PILOT revenue, plus the “upside” of those payments increasing as the property is developed, to be the major benefit of the proposed agreement. “This is totally outside of what we normally do.”

The conversation ended 90 seconds later.

“I would strongly recommend a pause, because we are really trying to work with you,” Board Member Kristan Flynn said. “We’re trying to make this happen, but we’re not in a real-estate negotiation.”

Kellogg said on Thursday that Mirbeau is discussing its next steps internally and with the IDA. After being approved by the Planning Board in December for the first phase of the redevelopment, the firm had hoped to begin work next month, but that’s in jeopardy after Monday’s meeting.

Kellogg said the company has supported community endeavors in its other locations, but not contractually. “I was a little bit surprised” by the response of the school board, he said, adding that the PILOT agreement would be “a huge economic gain for the schools and the city.”

“It might not be a tax payment, but it’s a revenue payment,” he said.

Three Grads, Three Paths

Schools Unmask

Weatherman
Could Not Have
Predicted This

Electricity, Gas Rates Spike

New Dutchess Districts Would Flip Beacon Wards

Three Grads, Three Paths



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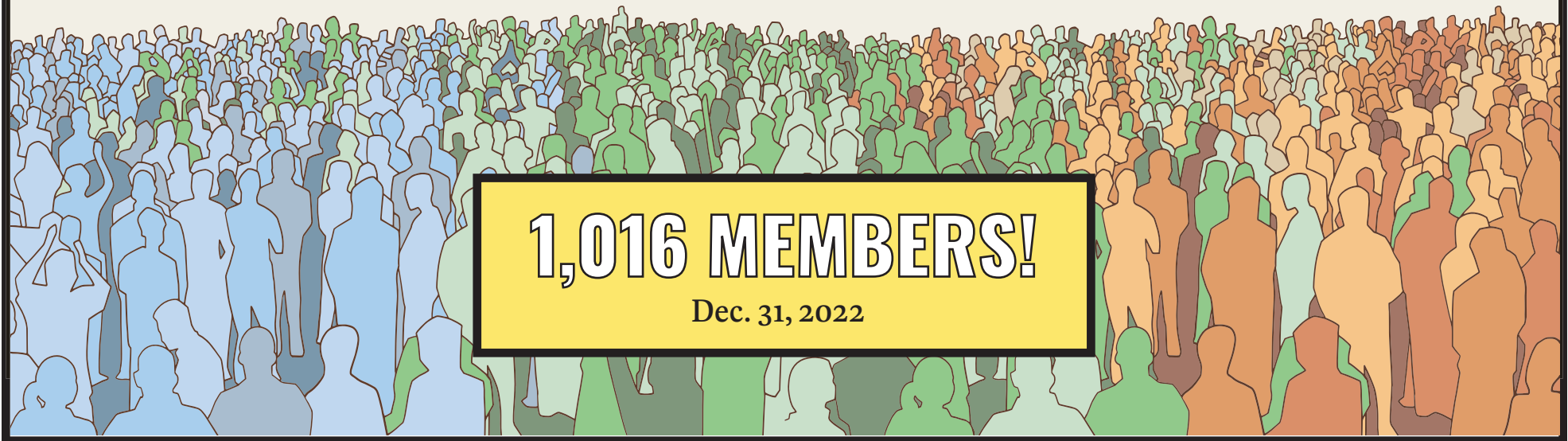
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Turkey (from Page 1)

The turkey flew upstairs to the solarium, where it knocked over dozens of plants, breaking pots and spreading soil everywhere.

It then flew downstairs, landing on the kitchen island.

"It was magnificent when it spread its 4-foot wings," Schonfeld said. "But it knocked everything off the island counter — fruit bowls, glasses, dishes. Everything went flying across the room."

For a moment, there was a pause in the chaos.

"The turkey and I rested; we sort of got to know each other," Schonfeld said. "I could see it was not aggressive. It just wanted to get out."

She still held the blanket, but this time swatted the bird. That approach worked. The turkey started to walk away.

"Maybe it was exhausted from flying up and hitting the ceiling so many times," Schonfeld said.

As she continued to swat, the turkey strutted down the hallway, through an open door and into the night.

It had been more than an hour since Schonfeld had arrived home.

She and her neighbor assessed the damage.

Upstairs, a window and its screen had been destroyed, littering the bedroom and bathroom floors with broken glass. The solarium was in shambles.

Schonfeld reasoned that the bird had inadvertently gotten into the house when it flew into that closed upstairs window, breaking it and the screen.



The turkey appears to have entered the home by crashing through an upstairs window.

Photos provided



The bird shattered a downstairs window, sending glass onto the deck.



Upstairs, the turkey knocked over plants, broke pots and spread soil everywhere.

Downstairs, the window of a sliding glass door was broken, its shards lying on the deck. The screen was damaged, though not enough for the turkey to escape. The inside of the doorframe was scratched and chewed.

Numerous items in the kitchen had been broken; there was blood and excrement on the island. "I had blood on ceilings and walls, everywhere," Schonfeld said.

Her cats did not reappear for 24 hours. "They were probably freaked and hid in a closet upstairs," she said. "When they finally came down, they hadn't eaten and were starved. They threw up all over the place."

Schonfeld said she didn't feel bad about the turkey until after the incident. "While it was in here, it was more important just

to get it out," she said. She worries that because the turkey was bleeding when it finally escaped, it likely fell victim to a coyote or other predator.

She is still dealing with her insurance company. The window damage was nearly \$2,000, not including replacement screens. Most of the blood washed away, but Schonfeld may consider having the room that suffered the most repainted.

Fortunately, while there was "an awful lot" of broken pottery, dishes, bowls and glasses, nothing of great financial value was destroyed.

"What broke my heart was the beautiful clay teapot my son made me," she said. "It was smashed."

In the 28 years she has lived in her house, Schonfeld said she has contended with various creatures that managed to get inside, including snakes, mice, squirrels and small birds, but never a wild turkey.

A flock of 10 wild turkeys had shown up in her neighborhood, "oddly enough on Thanksgiving Day," Schonfeld said. She photographed them trotting across her yard on the way to her neighbor's bird feeder.

She suspects the bird that wreaked havoc in her house was part of that flock and had roosted in a tree close to the upstairs window it later shattered.

"When I first saw those turkeys, I thought they were adorable," Schonfeld said. "They are less adorable to me now."



Hudson Valley Community Power Electricity Supply Program

Municipalities considering participating include:

City of Poughkeepsie	Town of Clinton	Town of Gardiner
Town of Marbletown	Town of New Paltz	Town of Philipstown
Town of Red Hook	Town of Rhinebeck	Town of Saugerties
Village of Cold Spring	Village of Nelsonville	Village of New Paltz
Village of Saugerties		

If your municipality selects a supplier, eligible residents and businesses will receive a letter in spring/summer 2023 with their choices and info about how to opt-out.

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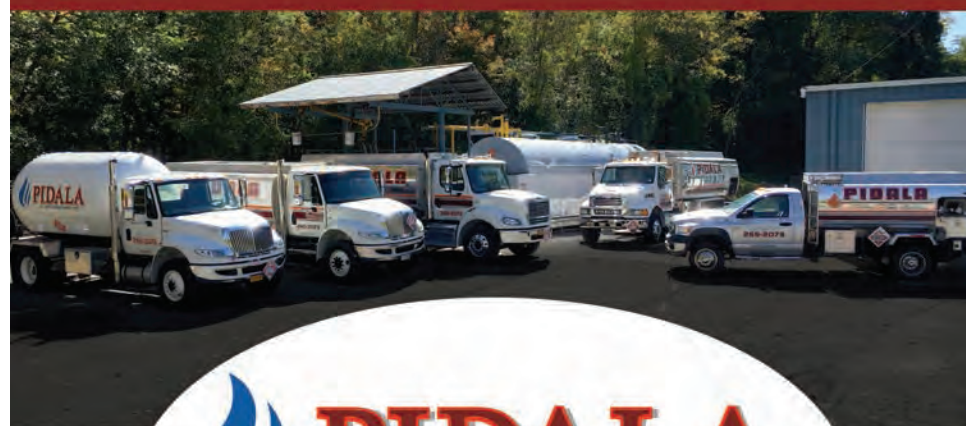
- Access to renewable electricity at competitive rates
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If you have an electric utility account in one of the listed municipalities, we invite you to attend an upcoming public info session:
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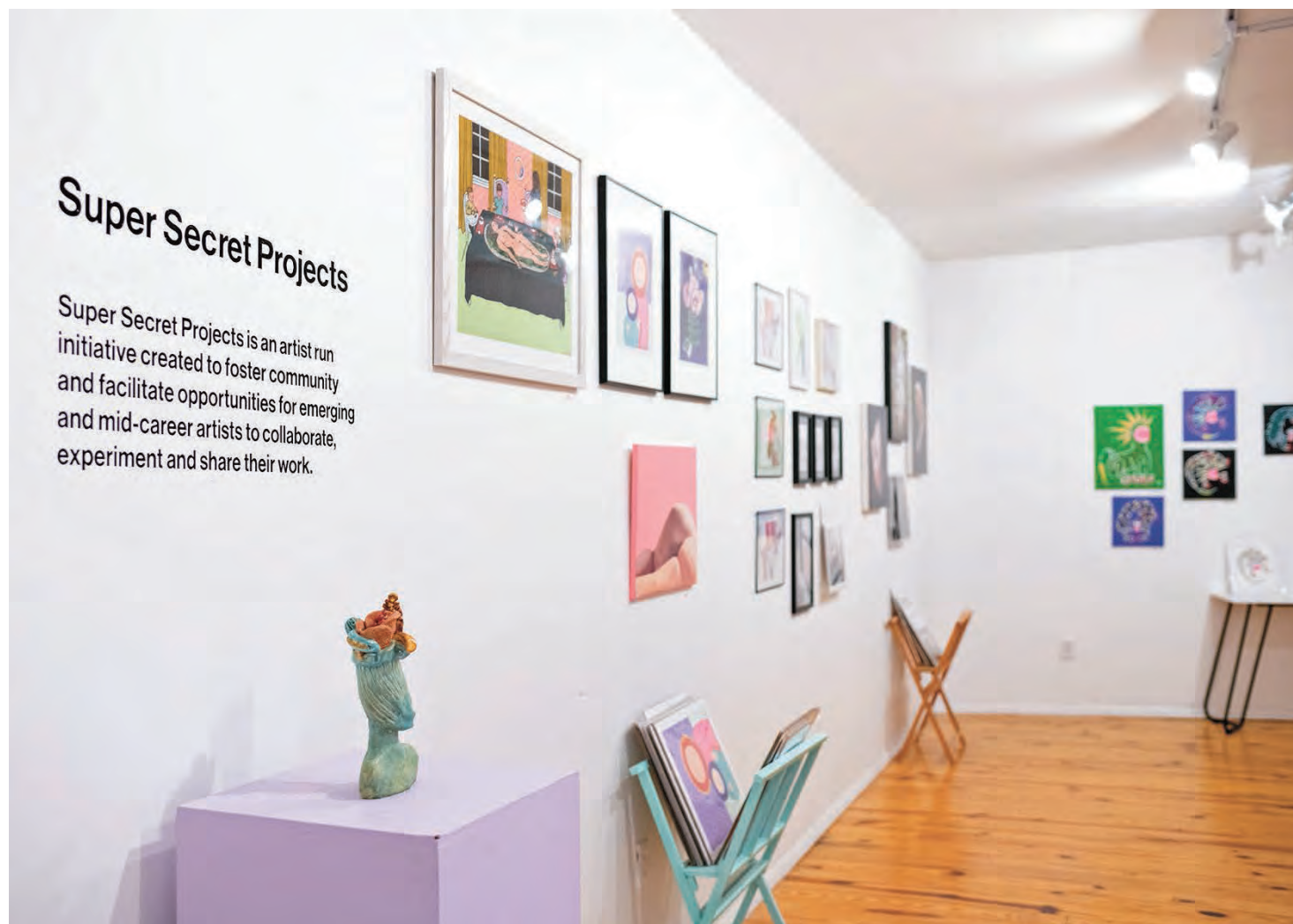
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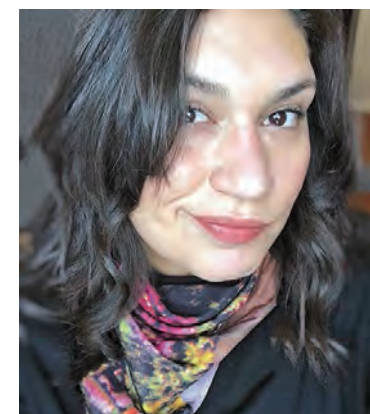
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A sneak peek inside the gallery



Artwork by Diana Vidal (below)



The Calendar

Straight Ahead, Down the Hall

The secret is out!

The Super Secret Gallery will open Saturday (Jan. 14) in a newly renovated space inside and behind Hyperbole at 484 Main St. in Beacon.

The gallery, created by Diana Vidal with assistance from Hyperbole owners Carolyn Baccaro and Andrea Podob, will debut with a group show, *Duality*, with works by seven local artists, including Vidal. A reception is scheduled for 7 to 10 p.m.

The goal of the gallery and Super Secret Projects, the collective that supports it, is to “offer artists a supportive environment in which to collaborate, experiment and share their work,” says Vidal. The gallery plans to be open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., with new exhibits each month. *Duality* will be followed by two solo shows and a group show with an open call.

“This project couldn’t have happened without Andrea and Carolyn championing local artists,” Vidal says. “We all wanted to do something creative, and we got together to brainstorm. We wanted to lose the intimidating factor in art galleries.”

The gallery name is a nod to Hyperbole, “like a speakeasy alley to get to the back,” she says. To enter, visitors follow a hallway to a newly installed door that opens to the space, which had been empty.

Over the past few months, Vidal has organized a collage workshop with a talk on the history of the art form and a holiday print sale. She plans to provide more opportunities for “not just seeing the work, but

Gallery opens behind Beacon shop

By Alison Rooney

seeing how it’s done.”

The gallery’s members include both full-timers, who are more involved in planning, Vidal says, and part-timers who can participate in group shows. She said there are two slots open for full-time members. “Any type of art-making is welcome: Current members include a sculptor, a photographer, an oil painter and an illustrator, for example,” she says. “The dues pay the rent.”

Hyperbole itself was forged through collaboration. In 2019, Baccaro and Podob, each running a small shop in Beacon (Artifact Beacon and Wares, respectively), joined forces in a new space to sell an eclectic mix of fashion, jewelry and original art — its centerpiece is a table of handmade items.

Along with Vidal, *Duality* will feature the work of Alyssa Follansbee, Darya Golubina, Allegra Jordan, Yunmee Kyong, Elin Lundman and Evan Samuelson. It will run through Feb. 4.

In the long term, Vidal says the partners are eager to contribute to the dialogue of the galleries in Beacon. “There is an artist community here and it’s growing, and being a part of the conversation and making opportunities for the community and for ourselves as well is what we’re about,” she

says. “Artist-run galleries are a place to go, to experiment without the urge to sell, sell, sell, which can impede creativity.”

Vidal hopes for a return to the energy that used to suffuse Second Saturday in Beacon. “I would love to have more gallery-focused nights,” she states. “Hopefully we can contribute to bringing some of that back or making our own.”

For more information, see supersecret-projects.com and hyperboleny.com.



“Alternative Canons,” a work in progress by Allegra Jordan



Carolyn Baccaro and Andrea Podob at Hyperbole

File photo by Kat Merry

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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



MLK Jr. Day, Jan. 16

COMMUNITY

MON 16

MLK Jr. Day Celebration & Parade

BEACON

8 a.m. Springfield Baptist Church
8 Mattie Cooper Square

The Southern Dutchess Coalition will host its 45th annual celebration of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and work with an address, a parade (line-up begins at 9:30 a.m.), a talent presentation and an awards ceremony.

MON 16

MLK Jr. Day Community Service Celebration

GARRISON

Noon – 3 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | desmondfishlibrary.org

Local community organizations will be available to share information about their work and how to get involved. There will also be children's activities.

WED 18

Advocacy Day Parole Reform

ALBANY

bit.ly/jan18paroleday

A free bus ride will be offered to anyone who wants to lobby with Beacon Prison Action as part of the Release Aging People in Prison campaign, the Elder Parole Bill and the Fair and Timely Parole Bill. Register online or email BeaconPrisonRides@gmail.com for information.

FRI 20

Blood Drive

BEACON

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Memorial Building
413 Main St. | redcross.org

Register online or walk in to donate during this drive hosted by the American Legion Post 203. Use the Teller Avenue entrance.

TALKS & TOURS

TUES 17

Online Safety

GARRISON

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

The focus of this workshop will be sharing resources, techniques and tools to educate parents, teachers and caregivers on how to keep children's digital connections positive and healthy. Join in person or via Zoom. Registration required.

WED 18

The Hudson River School of Art and Its Ice Age Origins

MILLBROOK

7 p.m. Via Zoom | bit.ly/cary-forest

Robert and Johanna Titus, authors of the Catskill Geologist blog and books such as *The Hudson Valley in the Ice Age*, will discuss how the iconic paintings by Thomas Cole, Frederick Church and others were shaped by glaciers. Register online. Hosted by the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies.

SAT 21

Vision Board Workshop

GARRISON

1 – 4 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org

Think about your future and what you want to manifest, then create a personal visual map of goals and dreams. Registration required.

SAT 21

Community Power Info Session

PUTNAM COUNTY

1 p.m. Via Zoom
tinyurl.com/CCAinfoJan21

Cold Spring, Nelsonville and Philipstown are exploring whether

to rejoin a Community Choice Aggregation program with Hudson Valley Community Power to collectively purchase electricity from renewable sources.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 14

Met HD: Fedora

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 fiancé, sung by Piotr Beczala in this live, high-definition broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera House production. *Cost: \$29 (\$22 ages 12 and younger; \$27 members)*

WED 18

Dancing with the Stars Live

POUGHKEEPSIE

8 p.m. MJN Center | 14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org

Professional dancers and guest stars will bring performances from the reality television show to the stage. *Cost: \$53+*

THURS 19

Brush Strokes

GARRISON

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

Jerry Dixon, Rachel Fairbanks, and Karen Ziemba will stage a musical reading of this "unexpected love story" by Jim Semmelman with music by David Shenton. See Page 14. Reserve seats online. *Cost: Donation of any amount*

FRI 20

Lit Lit Open Mic

BEACON

7 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | donnaminkowitz.com/lit-lit
Newer readers receive priority. Email litlitseries@gmail.com.

SAT 21

Met HD: The Hours

POUGHKEEPSIE

1 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Renée Fleming, Kelli O'Hara and Joyce DiDonato will perform in this world premiere of Kevin Puts' *The Hours*, an adaptation of the novel by Michael Cunningham. *Cost: \$29 (\$22 ages 12 and younger; \$27 members)*

SAT 21

John Fugelsang

GARRISON

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

The actor, broadcaster and

comedian will perform stand-up. See Page 14. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 seniors, students)*

SAT 21

The Artichoke

BEACON

8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | artichokeshow.com

Anoush Froudjian, Kate Tellers, David Gaines, Andrew McGill, Carly Ciarrocchi and Kevin Allison will be the featured storytellers in this monthly series. *Cost: \$20*



Carly Ciarrocchi



Kate Tellers

SUN 22

Sally Mayes

GARRISON

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

The Tony-nominated actor and singer will perform a cabaret show. See Page 2. *Cost: \$25 (\$20 seniors, students)*

KIDS & FAMILY

SAT 14

Aladdin Kids

BEACON

10:30 a.m. & 1 & 3:30 p.m.
Beacon High School
101 Matteawan Road
beaconperformingartscenter.com

Three casts will perform this story about a boy, a magic lamp, a genie and Princess Jasmine. Also SUN 15. *Cost: \$12 (\$6 ages 18 and younger)*

SAT 14

Free-Throw Contest

GARRISON

8 p.m. Philipstown Recreation
107 Glenclyffe Road | 845-265-3802
bit.ly/536-free-throw

Students ages 9 to 14 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. Download form online. The snow date is Jan. 21. *Free*

SUN 15

Heart and Soul

BEACON

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

Pianist Frederic Chiu will perform works by Debussy 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)*

TUES 17

DIY Cat Tent

COLD SPRING

3:15 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

Students in grades 5 and up are invited to bring a medium-sized T-shirt to make a fun playhouse for a cat. Registration required.

TUES 17

Sew Easy Penguin

BEACON

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

Students in grades 1 to 5 can make a stuffed penguin to take home. Registration required.

MUSIC

SAT 14

The Prezence

BEACON

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

Sal DeMeo's band will play 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)*

SUN 15

FunkSway

BEACON

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

The Newburgh band's funky soul is designed to capture the greatness of music from the 1980s and '90s. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

MON 16

Ray Blue

BEACON

8:30 p.m. Quinn's | 330 Main St.
facebook.com/QuinnsBeacon

The saxophonist, who grew up in Peekskill, will perform as part of Quinn's weekly jazz session and to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Ray will lead a trio that includes Dan Kostelnic (organ) and Alvester Garnett (drums) performing classic tunes from the Civil Rights era. *Cost: \$15*

THURS 19
Owen Walsh: Songs and Stories
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club
2 Red Flynn Drive | 845-463-4660
beaconsloopclub.org

The singer, songwriter and journalist will play songs from his debut album, *On My Way. Free*



FRI 20
Willa Vincitore & Company
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The New York State Blues Hall of Fame inductee will play music from her latest releases, *Better Days* and *Choices*. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 21
Barbacoa Trio
BEACON
7:30 p.m. Reserva Wine Bar
173 Main St. | reservabeacon.com

SAT 21
Eugene Tyler Band
BEACON
8 p.m. Dogwood
47 E. Main St. | dogwoodbeacon.com

SAT 21
Max Creek
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

With five decades of songwriting and recording, the band will play everything from rock to calypso. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SECOND SATURDAY

SAT 14
Virginia Donovan and Mary Ann Glass
BEACON
Noon – 5 p.m. Bannerman Island Gallery
150 Main St. | 845-831-6346
bannermancastle.org

Donovan's paintings and Glass's photographs of Hudson Valley landscapes will be on view through Feb. 15.

SAT 14
Beacon Photography Group Show
BEACON
1 – 5 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org

Work by 30 local photographers will be on view in this show curated by Cindy Gould, Jean Noack, Tom Conroy and Ron Donofrio. Through Feb. 26.

SAT 14
Radiate
BEACON
5 – 8 p.m. BAU Gallery | 506 Main St.
845-440-7584 | baugallery.org

Bettina "Poet Gold" Wilkerson will read at 5 p.m. during the opening of a group show featuring works by all 13 BAU members. Psychedelic guitarist Mary Jane will perform beginning at 6 p.m.



SAT 14
C.R.E.A.M. | Vanessa Ditullio | Moucayama
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Clutter Gallery | 139 Main St.
212-255-2505 | clutter.co

See multiples and figures by artists with distinct styles. Through Feb. 4.



Ray Blue, Jan. 16

CIVIC
TUES 17
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall | 1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov

TUES 17
School Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Haldane Auditorium
15 Craigsides Drive | 845-265-9254
haldaneschool.org

TUES 17
Village Board
NELSONVILLE
7 p.m. Village Hall | 258 Main St.
845-265-2500 | nelsonvilleny.gov

WED 18
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

WED 18
Town Board
PHILIPSTOWN
7:30 p.m. Town Hall | 238 Main St.
philipstown.com
The board will meet with members of the Philipstown Trails Committee for a workshop to discuss a path between Cold Spring and Garrison.

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Small, Good Things

Not-So-Cold Comfort

By Joe Dizney

Despite the warmer-than-usual January temperatures and a noticeable lack of the more arctic manifestation of meteorological precipitation, early winter is still tough. There's a decided inertia to the late-coming morning light and too-slowly lengthening days, regardless of what clocks and calendars say. Chilly souls long for warmth and easy, familiar comfort.

There's no comfort food more evocative of home and hearth than pancakes. The typical recipe for pancakes — flour, egg, milk, oil, baking powder and maybe a pinch of sugar and salt — is humble and always welcomed. Likewise, it's simple enough for children to master and satisfying enough to check all the right emotional boxes.

But it can be messed with: When substituted for some of the usual wheat flour,

almond flour and its innate nuttiness immediately suggested a few other tweaks.

On the practical front, almond flour alone would make for a heavy dough, so we split the difference with a combination of almond and whole wheat flours. (Those with serious dietary concerns could substitute others: spelt, oat or even rice flour. Likewise, oat or almond milk can easily be substituted for common dairy.)

Almond flour also had the unexpectedly Proustian effect of evoking frangipane, the sweet almond pastry cream familiar as a filling for almond croissants. Easily accomplished with a touch of vanilla and/or almond extract, the addition adds a welcomed bit of soft spice, an effect both comforting and a little exotic, further helping to dispel hovering winter doldrums.

To be sure, almond pancakes would be fine with butter and maple syrup, but assuming you might just be in a deep funk, the accompanying recipe for warm apple compote should turn the tide.

Apples are simply stewed (quickly, to preserve some crunch) in a sweet base of maple syrup (add boiled cider or apple molasses if you can find them) and spiced with ginger and star anise. The compote is finished with a generous handful of golden raisins. Top a stack of pancakes with a couple of spoonfuls, along

with a scattering of crunchy sliced almonds, and here's a breakfast to widen sleepy eyes.

Or you could top it all with a dollop of cream, yogurt or vanilla ice cream and call

it dessert. Or share it with a cup of coffee or tea as the perfect mid-afternoon snack to help forget the chill in your bones. Comfort is best served warm ... and with friends.



Almond Pancakes with Spiced Apple Compote

SERVES 4

Spiced Apple Compote

2 large tart, crisp apples (suggested: Honeycrisp, Granny Smith or a combination)	½ cup maple syrup (or combination of maple syrup and boiled cider or apple molasses)
1 teaspoon ground ginger	1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 tablespoons unsalted butter	4 to 5 star anise pods
1 to 2 tablespoons brown sugar	½ cup golden raisins

1. Peel, core and quarter apples. Slice thin. Put sliced apples in a mixing bowl; sprinkle ground ginger over all; set aside.
2. Add butter, brown sugar, syrup, and vanilla and star anise to a medium saucepan; cook over medium heat for 5 minutes to dissolve and caramelize sugar. (Keep an eye on the pan; reduce heat if the mixture starts to bubble rapidly and thicken.) Remove from heat and let steep for 10 minutes. Remove star anise pods and return to low heat on the stove.
3. Add the apples to the pan and stir well to coat. Cook over medium to medium-low heat for about 10 minutes, until apples soften slightly. (Depending on the apple variety, timing may vary, so watch carefully. If the compote is too thin, cook gently to thicken, being careful not to boil the apples down to mush. If too thick, thin with water or apple cider.) Remove from heat; add raisins and stir to incorporate. Set aside while you make the pancakes.

Note: This compote is better if made just before making the pancakes. It can be made ahead of time and refrigerated, covered, in a bowl. It will keep up to five days. Warm gently before serving.

Almond Pancakes

1 cup almond flour (look for Bob's Red Mill brand)	¼ cup vegetable oil plus more for skillet (substitute Macadamia or coconut oil)
1 cup whole wheat flour (substitute spelt or oat flour)	1 large egg, beaten
1 tablespoon baking powder	1½ cups milk (substitute almond or oat milk)
½ teaspoon salt	1½ teaspoon vanilla or almond extract (or combination of the two)
1 to 2 tablespoons raw sugar	

(Lightly toasted slivered almonds for garnish)

1. Combine the dry ingredients — flours, baking powder, sugar and salt — in a large mixing bowl. In a separate bowl or large measuring cup, whisk together the egg, milk, vanilla or almond extract, and ¼ cup oil. Add blended liquid ingredients to the dry ingredients; stir to incorporate. Let batter sit for 5 minutes or so to thicken before proceeding.
2. Heat just enough oil to coat the bottom of a large nonstick skillet or griddle over medium heat. Use about 3 to 4 tablespoons of batter for each pancake; cook 3 at a time for 2 to 3 minutes, until surface is pitted with bubbles and edges appear dry and "set." Flip pancakes and cook another 2 to 3 minutes until browned, checking regularly.
3. Transfer to a plate and cover to keep warm, or keep warm partially covered in a 200-degree oven. Repeat as needed to use all the batter.
4. Serve warm with spiced apple compote and garnish with lightly toasted sliced almonds.

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.

Two Firsts at the Depot

Musical preview and solo comedy

By Alison Rooney

Next week will bring two firsts for the Philipstown Depot Theatre in Garrison.

On Thursday (Jan. 19), the space will host the preview of a newly hatched musical, *Brush Strokes*, which features a book and lyrics by Jim Semmelman, who lives in Garrison, with music by David Shenton, who recently performed at the Depot as a member of the Empire Trio.

Semmelman describes the work as “a three-character romantic musical ‘dramedy’ dealing with great loss, great love and great sacrifice.” The characters are “a widowed artist, her millennial granddaughter and the divorce lawyer who realigns, recalibrates and rejuvenates all of their lives.”

“It’s essentially a love story but in this case the protagonists are in their 70s,” he adds. “They have all the same issues as lovers in

their 20s but with a lot more baggage. Additionally, there are frank discussions about the end of life, which makes a love story all the more relevant. Life doesn’t end just because you reach a certain age.”

In Shenton’s score, each character has his or her own sound.

The two men collaborated largely through Zoom. Semmelman was attached to the project to write lyrics for a play adapted from *Last Chapter, Best Chapter*, a novel by Stephen Chinlund that the author wanted to turn into a musical.

“With his permission, I started to rewrite and add to the original story,” Semmelman says. He asked Shenton if he would be interested in writing the music and, after reading the script, Shenton “immediately created a huge portion of the score.”

Brush Strokes will be performed by Jerry Dixon, Rachel Fairbanks and Tony Award-winner Karen Ziemba.

Two days later, Saturday (Jan. 21) will mark the first time the Depot hosts a solo stand-up comedy show. In *Fair & Biased*,



David Shenton

John Fugelsang, who hosts the *Tell Me Everything* series on Sirius XM Progress, will offer his take on politics, religion and pop culture. Fugelsang also hosted the live political talk show *Viewpoint* and helped launch



Fugelsang



Jim Semmelman

File photo by A. Rooney

the syndicated comedy series, *Page Six TV*.

The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located at 10 Garrison’s Landing. Tickets for *Brush Strokes* are available online for a donation of any amount. Tickets for John Fugelsang’s show are \$25, or \$20 for seniors and students. See philipstowndepottheatre.org.

MOVIE NOTES

Beacon composer scores indie films

By Arvind Dilawar

Casting Kill is an auspicious, if belated, start to Shaun Finnegan’s career as a film composer.

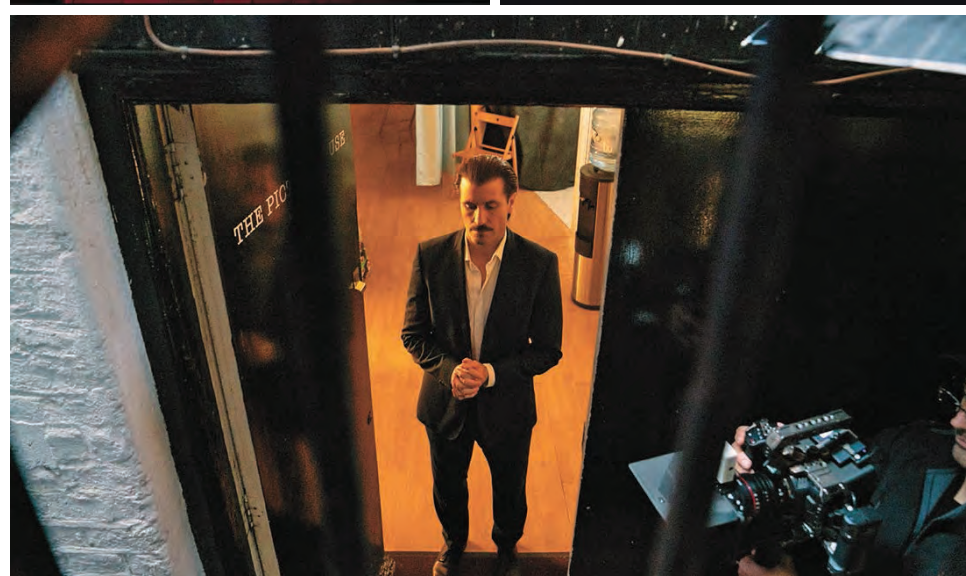
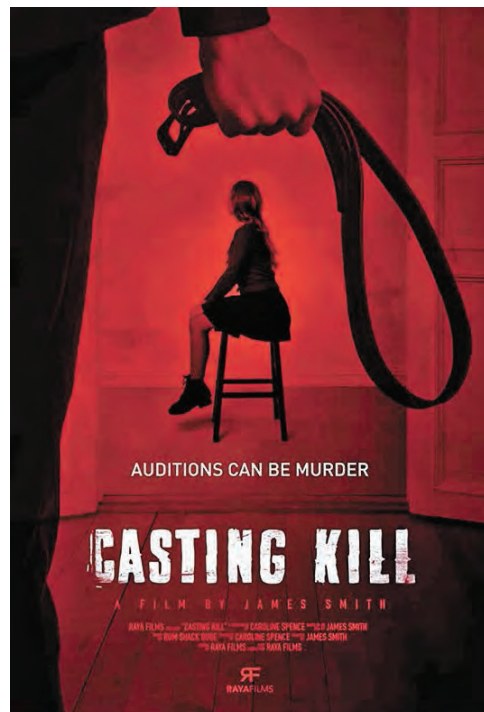
The independent thriller, about a killer who poses as a casting director, will have its North American premiere on Tuesday (Jan. 17) at a festival in Park City, Utah, organized each year by *Scorpius*, a film and music magazine. Finnegan, who lives in Beacon, is in the running for best feature score.

Finnegan’s music for the crowdfunded film, which was shot last year over six days in London, marks a recent transition to composing full time. A graduate of the Conservatory of Music at Brooklyn College, he spent the early 2000s playing in punk bands and supporting himself as a warehouse manager, music teacher and ambulance driver, among other jobs.

He also taught himself film composition and in early 2021 offered his services to director James Smith and producer Caroline Spencer, who run the U.K.-based Raya Films.

“I had seen an early poster for *Casting Kill* on social media and it just rang my bell,” Finnegan recalls. “They described the film as being ‘neo-noir with a Hitchcockian vibe.’ I made a document with links to all the music and influences I could find that might fit that basic description, and I guess my enthusiasm stuck in their minds when they started looking for a composer.”

Smith says he receives many requests



Filming a scene for *Casting Kill*

from composers who want to write scores for his independent films. “Shaun came to my attention since he backed one of our

crowdfunding campaigns and his name kept appearing on social media,” he says. “I visited his website and listened to the

audio samples and was immediately impressed. His orchestral style seemed to fit perfectly.”

With nearly 3,500 miles between them, and no budget for transatlantic travel, Finnegan and



Finnegan

Smith had to get creative when it came time to collaborate. They began by swapping YouTube clips and film references via Zoom and email. After the film was shot, Smith shared it with Finnegan in 20-minute reels so he could compose the rough cuts of a score.

“Once I got the beginning jitters out of the way and finished the first reel, I had a good sense of how long the whole thing would take and got a pace and some confidence going,” says Finnegan. “But when you first get a look at the thing, you’re like, ‘What the hell am I supposed to do?’”

“Remarkably, we never met during the evolution of this beautiful film score,” says Smith. “It was incorporated into the film’s sound design, the entire process carried out remotely.”

Casting Kill will have its world premiere at the Horror-on-Sea Film Festival in Southend, near London, on Sunday (Jan. 15). Soon after, it will be available on streaming platforms.

Although Finnegan’s work on *Casting Kill* is complete, his collaboration with Raya Films continues. He’s working on the music for *Best Geezer*, a comedy about “three hapless entrepreneurs who join forces to make a ‘geezer’ film,” which has been described by the producers as *The Full Monty* meets *Silver Linings Playbook*.

“It’s another feature-length, so that’s going to be taking up all of my attention for a while,” Finnegan says. “I’m excited to see what I can pull off with this one.”

Raya Films

Current Classifieds

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A HAHNEMÜHLE CERTIFIED STUDIO

LOOKING BACK IN PHILIPSTOWN

By Chip Rowe

150 Years Ago (January 1873)

Drs. Lente and Murdock performed surgery on Elisha Baxter of Nelsonville at his home after he fell from a ladder that slipped while he was clearing snow from his roof. They expected their patient would be confined to bed for much of the winter.

The editor of *The Cold Spring Recorder* pleaded with children who sled down Main Street to stay to the right and stop yelling at pedestrians to get out of the way.

Two government teams delivering baled straw from a train car at Garrison to the stables at West Point fell through the river ice and were rescued only with great effort.

A man who called himself P.B. Spaulding visited the home of Stephen Davenport 2 miles east of Cold Spring. He said he wanted to give Davenport the license to sell a newly patented pruning shear in Putnam County. By Davenport's recollection, he would only have to send Spaulding a percentage of each sale. But he also admitted he had been confused about the plan and the contract he had to sign. In fact, the contract promised Spaulding \$240 up front [\$6,000 today], and the next day, he took the agreement to the bank to withdraw the money. Constable Morrison arrested Spaulding in Rome, New York, but a local judge released him on his promise he would voluntarily return to Cold Spring to answer a fraud charge. When he didn't, Morrison (with his mustache dyed and wearing spectacles as a disguise), tracked the fugitive to Utica. Spaulding was sent to the Putnam County jail but bailed out by his lawyer, who provided \$2,000 [\$50,000].

The Recorder noted that four local merchants "made all the haste of which their horses were capable while driving on business — of course, such staid citizens would not be guilty of racing!"

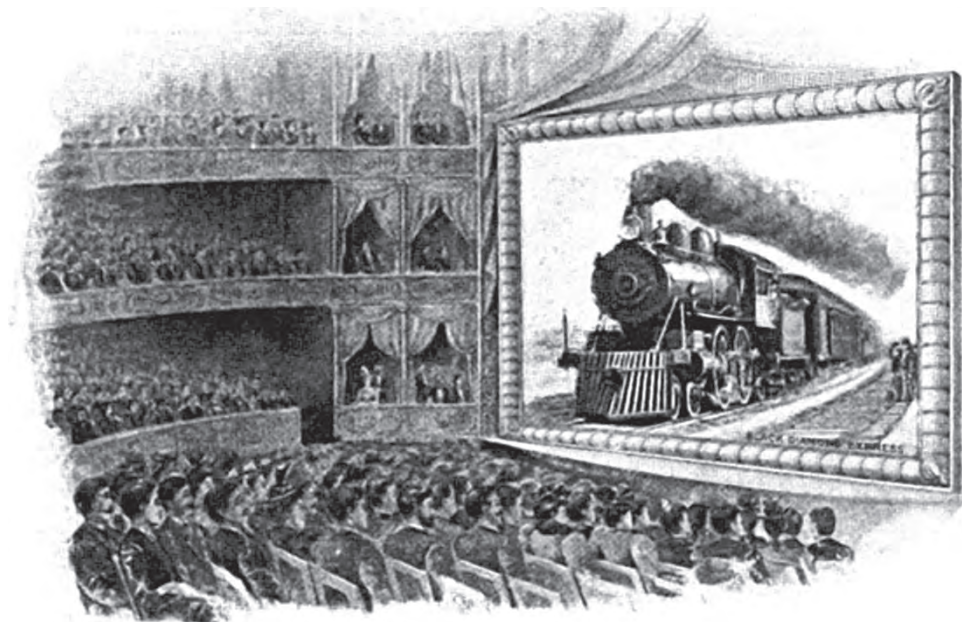
Laborers from West Point who spent their pay in the village but did not have enough left to pay fines for disorderly conduct received 10 days in jail.

When Mahlan Coe, a clerk at George McCabe's store who lived on the second floor, heard noises in the night, he grabbed his revolver and gingerly descended the stairs. One burglar stood at the Rock Street entrance, ready to open the door for the gang's escape. Coe fired a shot and the bandits fled, with the nearest one "rolling out like a ball." The next morning, the bullet could not be found.

At sunrise on Jan. 30, the temperature was minus 28 degrees on Garden Street and minus 22 degrees in the North Highlands.

125 Years Ago (January 1898)

On Jan. 7, Irving McCoy, the editor and



An Animotoscope, shown here projecting an image in a theater, was demonstrated at Town Hall in 1873.

proprietor of *The Recorder*, observed: "Already new resolutions are becoming burdensome."

McCoy noted that January was the season for stories of narrow escapes from suffocation by coal gas or drowning while skating.

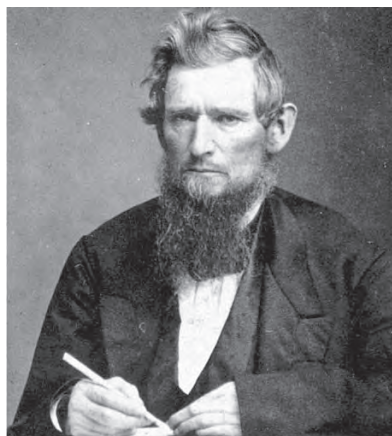
The day after the river froze on Jan. 3, West Point cadets began skating over.

Dr. Edward Sherow of New York City, a nephew of Sidney Barnhart of Cold Spring, died of a cocaine overdose.

The Alonzo Hatch Electro-Photo Musical Co. performed at Town Hall, sharing scenic views projected from an Animotoscope, invented by Thomas Edison. The presentation was accompanied by singing by Hatch, a tenor.

The Putnam Board of Supervisors set the tax rates at 60 cents per \$100 of assessed value in Cold Spring — the lowest in the county. By contrast, the rate was 91 cents in Carmel and 85 cents in Putnam Valley.

Gen. Daniel Butterfield of Cold Spring delivered a eulogy for Ezra Cornell at the university on Founder's Day but later admitted he had overlooked a local connection: Cornell had installed the first telegraph wire from Bull Hill (Mount Taurus) over the Hudson River to Storm King.



Ezra Cornell installed the first telegraph wire from Bull Hill to Storm King.

Edward Cole, the postmaster, probably saved the entire block when he quickly threw a pail of water on a Rochester lamp that exploded inside the office.

The New York Sun printed a list of the names of Civil War veterans who were receiving pensions, including that of Hiram Miller, who had enlisted at Cold Spring in 1865 and received \$72 per month [\$2,600] because he was incapacitated by rheuma-

tism. However, Miller had been dead for 18 months. The agency that secured the pension for Miller said it was no longer being paid; names remained on the list for three years after the last signed request.

At a Girls' Friendly Society tea at St. Mary's parish house, Harry Ackley Sackett created profile silhouettes with scissors and black paper at a cost of two for 25 cents.

A census of Cold Spring, required by state law to determine how many trustees were allowed, counted 1,684 residents. Municipalities with 1,000 to 3,000 residents were allowed two to four. Although Cold Spring had four, a special election was required to determine if voters preferred two or three. Nelsonville, which had 525 residents and five trustees, had to reduce its board to two, plus the mayor.

Rep. John Henry Ketcham, whose U.S. House district included Philipstown, offered to mail garden seeds to any constituent who requested them.

The death of John Wyatt, the former Putnam County clerk, prompted a colleague, Judge Charles Tompkins of Washington, D.C., to share "a piece of political history" with a reporter. In 1846, the Whig Party met in Carmel and dispatched Tompkins to Cold Spring to notify Judge Cornelius Warren that he had been nominated as its candidate for Congress. Tompkins had earlier made the acquaintance of a foreman at the stone quarry at Breakneck. He paid a visit to ask the foreman to give Warren a nudge. As it turned out, the foreman was a supporter of Wyatt, who was running as an independent for sheriff against Bill Taylor, a Democrat. The foreman said: "If you will get me 200 or 300 Democratic tickets printed with John Wyatt's name in place of Bill Taylor's and also put Judge Warren's name on the ticket and fold them all up and tie them in a bunch, I will see that every man at work under me votes for them." The next morning Tompkins had the tickets printed in Fishkill; the votes were enough to elect a Whig candidate in a solidly Democratic district.

Cosmo Picucci, a 45-year-old Italian employed with a construction gang repairing the sea wall at the site of the October railroad wreck south of Garrison, died when he fell from the platform of the work train and under the wheels. He

(Continued on Page 17)

(Continued from Page 16)

was survived by his family in Italy and two brothers who were working with him.

A “swamp angel” Parrott gun manufactured at the West Point Foundry that fired 100-pound shells at Fort Sumter and Charleston in 1863 was given by the War Department to the Grand Army of the Republic post in Albion, Michigan, for the cost of freight.

The Hudson River Railroad Co. settled for \$45,000 [\$1.6 million] with John Ryan, a Jersey City druggist injured in the Garri-son wreck, which killed 19 people.

Robert Smith of North Highland lost a good horse to lockjaw after it stepped on a rusty nail.

Dr. Giles removed a tumor from the lip of Alson Mosher, a farmer of North Highland.

The river was high on a Sunday morning and flooded the lower end of Main Street.

While Charley Warren was playing dominoes at home with a friend, there was a knock on the door. When he answered, 50 people filed in for a surprise party for his 67th birthday.

The supplements for the Sunday papers, printed upstate and thrown from the south-bound mail train on a Saturday afternoon on its way to New York City, were drawn under the wheels and scattered along the rails as far as Stony Point.

100 Years Ago (January 1923)

The state engineer completed plans for a steel bridge over the Hudson between Beacon and Newburgh as part of the new state highway along the river. It would replace a structure known as Mary Ann’s Bridge.

75 Years Ago (January 1948)

Joe “Mo” Mazzuca of Cold Spring lost his fight in the Golden Gloves Tournament in the Bronx but noted the crowd booed the decision.

In Philipstown Basketball League action, the Veterans of Foreign Wars defeated the Young Men’s Republican Club, 68-20, while the Garrison Firemen edged the Cold Spring Dyers, 31-26.

The art class was full, but there were openings in cooking, shop and typewriting at the Adult Evening School held at Haldane.

Organizers solicited donations to build a lighted skating rink on Smith’s Pond in Nelsonville.

Hamilton Fish III, the former Republican congressman who had a home in Garrison, said he was happy to see Henry Wallace announce he would be the newly formed Progressive Party’s candidate for president. Fish said that the former vice president was right to leave the Democratic Party because it had “permitted Franklin D. Roosevelt to maneuver and lie them into World War II.” He also suspected the Progressive Party would benefit Republicans by diverting “400,000 Commies, fellow travelers and radicals” from voting Democratic.

Rehearsals began for a minstrel show organized by the Cold Spring Fife and Drum Corps to purchase uniforms.

Ruth “Bunny” Schaefer was elected president of the Les Jeunes Modes club for teenage girls interested in modeling.

The Columbus Society of Cold Spring (formerly the Italian-American Club) dedicated a memorial and portrait at its



Made in Cold Spring, a Parrott gun that fired 100-pound shells was turned into a monument in Albion, Michigan, early in the last century.

Historical Albion Michigan



Scenes from *At First Sight*, with Val Kilmer and Mira Sorvino, were shot in Philipstown in 1998.

headquarters on Main Street to Anthony Nastasi, the only village man of Italian descent to be killed in World War II.

A Thursday afternoon fire destroyed the Diane Metal Products plant on Garrison Road in Nelsonville. A company official said the fire may have started when a nail stuck in an employee’s shoe created a spark that ignited paint thinner on the floor.

With the approval of Garrison and Putnam County, the mostly undeveloped area of Continentalville was added to the Van Cortlandtville school district.

A 1:30 a.m. fire destroyed 96 Main St., which housed the A&P grocery and meat store, an antique shop and two apartments. The next week, the owners of a competitor, Purity Market at 92 Main St., purchased the lot to expand. The Cold Spring Fire Co. also asked for the return of 10 pairs of boots that disappeared from its trucks during the five hours it took to extinguish the blaze.

50 Years Ago (January 1973)

Haldane reported that it had 1,055 students, or 85 more than the previous year. Of those students, 29 came from parochial schools, one from a private school and the rest were new residents. Twenty years earlier, in 1953, the school had 527 students.

Joseph Percacciolo & Sons was awarded the contract for the demolition of the upper story of the transept at the Chapel of Our Lady on Market Street. Residents who were attempting to restore the chapel had discovered that vandals had removed the brown-

stone window sills and much of the old brick. The Jaycees offered to fence the property.

Haldane High School students published the third issue of *The Blue Devil Press*.

A 20-year-old Garrison woman was killed at 3:30 a.m. on Route 9D in Fishkill when she lost control of her car while passing on a curve.

The Putnam County sheriff asked Philipstown residents not to have “alarmist attitudes” about reports of burglaries. He noted that between Nov. 1 and Jan. 19 there had been 15 burglaries reported but that six appeared to involve teenagers.

An 82-year-old retired architect who lived on Route 9 in Philipstown was struck and killed by a car while walking along the highway after dark.

Six miles of Route 9D between Route 403 in Garrison and the Bear Mountain Bridge were closed to repair a washout near the Prentice property.

25 Years Ago (January 1998)

The Open Space Institute paid \$67,900 for a parcel opposite Nelsonville Village Hall to create a park.

The Philipstown Town Board questioned a representative of MediaOne about why it had missed a deadline in its cable franchise agreement to wire everyone in town by November 1995.

Cold Spring dismantled Tiny Tots Park after the group that maintained it, Moms on Mondays, disbanded. Mayor Anthony Phillips said the park would be rebuilt closer to Northern Avenue.

The nonprofit Putnam County Housing Corp. proposed building 75 to 100 rental units for seniors on a 4-acre parcel on the north side of Secor Street in Nelsonville but abandoned the plan after opposition from residents.

Residents and Cold Spring officials hosted a retirement dinner for Fran Allen, who had been the village clerk for 25 years, serving eight mayors.

A 27-year-old logger died in Putnam Valley when a trunk rolled off a truck and crushed him.

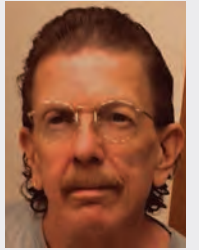
A section of Indian Brook Road in Garrison was closed for two days while an MGM crew shot scenes for *At First Sight*, starring Val Kilmer and Mira Sorvino.

Faced with overcrowding, the Garrison school board considered installing portable classrooms but balked at the price: \$65,000 each plus \$3,000 per month.

John Levine (1963-2023)

John Francis Levine passed away suddenly on January 10, 2023, at his home in Cold Spring. He was 59.

Born on June 29, 1963, in Cold Spring, to the late John and Catherine Keays



Levine, John was a member of the Haldane High School class of 1981 and attended Dutchess Community College.

John was a Graphic Designer for Maryknoll, in Ossining, for nearly twenty years. Prior to joining Maryknoll, he was a graphic artist for Barnum Communications, Inc., in New York City, where he worked with his sister, Lori. He was also self-employed as a graphic designer.

In addition to his professional career, John had a fervent passion for music, particularly rock and roll, and especially The Beatles. He was a self-taught drummer and guitarist and attended well over one hundred concerts in his lifetime, including U2, Jethro Tull, Pink Floyd, David Bowie, and countless others. He shared this passion with his mother, with whom he attended many rock concerts, along with his sister, Patti.

In addition to his love of playing and listening to nearly all genres of music, John was a technological guru. Having been fascinated with taking things apart and putting them back together since the age of three, John had extensive knowledge of computers and electronics. He was also skilled in carpentry, design, and construction. John knew how things worked.

John was a life-long learner, sparked by curiosity. He lived with his sister, Pam, and her husband, Tim, for several years prior to his recent move back to Cold Spring. During his time with them, John enjoyed many engaging conversations and debates, having met his intellectual match in his brother-in-law.

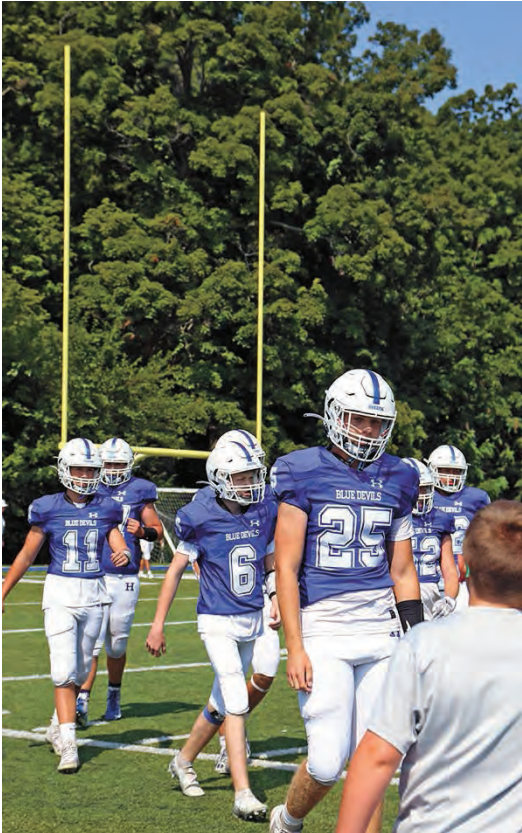
A die-hard New York Giants fan, John watched games with his parents every Sunday during the football season, and even traveled to Tampa, FL for Super Bowl XXV in 1991, where the Giants defeated the Buffalo Bills, with his dad and his sister, Patti.

Known for his quick wit, dry and sarcastic sense of humor, and relentless command of and reverence for the English language (including a myriad of four-letter words), John will continue to be loved by all those who were fortunate enough to be touched by his genuine character. John is survived by his sisters, Pamela Faulds, and her husband, Tim, of Fishkill; Lori Moss, and her husband, Hugh, of Cold Spring, and Patricia Mansperger, of Beacon. He is also survived by four nephews, three nieces, one great-nephew, and one great niece, and his aunt, Carole Rapalje, of Scituate, MA, formerly of Beacon, and her family.

He was predeceased by his father, John R. Levine, on May 11, 2020, his mother, Catherine Keays Levine, on June 18, 2020, and his best friend, Donald Lusk, on August 13, 2010.

A visitation for John and his parents will be held on Saturday January 21, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Clinton Funeral Home, 21 Parrott St, in Cold Spring, NY. Burial will follow at 1:30 p.m. at Cold Spring Cemetery. Donations in John’s memory may be made to World Kitchen at wck.org.

PAID NOTICE



SPORTS

Capture the Moment

Haldane student finds niche as athletics photographer

By Clara Tripp

When Micah Morales brushed the dust off her father’s second-hand camera almost five years ago, she couldn’t have imagined where the Canon EOS 70D would lead her.

On a whim, Micah, now a sophomore at Haldane High School in Cold Spring, started taking photos at the Hampton Classic, a prestigious horse show in the Hamptons, where her family travels annually. “I immediately started loving it,” she said. “And I knew that I wanted to use the camera more.”

Though Micah experimented with other forms of photography during the pandemic shutdown, she was drawn to capturing movement. This fall, Micah began to attend Haldane athletic games, camera in hand. Soon after, she created an Instagram account (@MicahMoralesPhotography) to share her work.

Her photos and videos promptly appeared on the pages of Haldane teams and players, and circulated throughout the community.

It’s a win-win for the photographer and her subjects. Micah’s content gains popularity, and the athletes, many of them chasing scholarships, can bolster their portfolios. “I know so many of the athletes that I thought it would be cool for them to be able to see themselves,” Micah said.

Although Micah receives occasional help from an uncle who shares her interest, she initially struggled with some of the technical aspects. But through trial, error and YouTube, she’s learning. Being in a low-stakes environment helps, as well. “Because I know everyone, I can experiment with angles and lighting and all that stuff and not feel so much pressure,” she said.

Micah not only snaps photos, but also attempts to record fleeting moments on video, such as goals and touchdowns. Still, it’s sometimes difficult to anticipate the switch between mediums. “I know the capacity of what my lens can do,” she said. “And what I can do as a photographer.”

After collecting content, Micah deletes shots that are blurry, overexposed or have

too much contrast. She keeps an eye out for more impressive videos, or ones that include a particularly animated reaction from spectators.

Photography inspired Micah, who plays lacrosse, to attend more of her classmates’ games and deepened her understanding of other sports, like football and soccer. Coach Ryan McConville invited her to attend football practice to learn about the plays being run and the “background behind all of it.”

In past years, football photos were usually taken by parents. This fall, McConville hoped to increase student involvement while establishing a strong social media presence for the team. After connecting with Micah, he offered her sideline access and helped coordinate events to cover, such as homecoming.

PHOTOS BY
MICAH
MORALES



Micah Morales

“She captured the game-winning touchdown,” McConville said. “It will be something that no one forgets.”

As Micah’s camera has steered her closer to the bench, she has cultivated relationships with many of her subjects, and feels fortunate to see teammates bonding. “I’ve seen everyone have really, really high moments and really, really low moments,” she said. Now, players and coaches often reach out to share schedules or extend invites to practices and team dinners. “I feel as if she became a part of the team,” McConville said. “Everyone’s respect and admiration for her work grew over the season in a positive way.”

Micah is saving up for a “super-nice lens” and plans to continue covering sports until the end of high school — and, hopefully, college. She dreams of pursuing professional fashion photography, specifically editorial work for magazines. “I’m trying to promote the stuff that I do as much as possible, because I want to make a career out of it,” she said.

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



Puzzles

CROSS CURRENT

ACROSS

1. Discoverer's call

4. Island near Java

8. Cheers order

12. Brooch

13. Oodles

14. Plotting

15. Swelled head

16. Reed and Rawls

17. Hud actress

Patricia

18. Star of NCIS:

Los Angeles

21. Klutz

22. Singer Starr

23. Photo book

26. Witty one

27. Crater part

30. Corp. kingpins

31. 24 hours

32. Cab cost

33. Sauce source

34. Novelist Rand

35. Avid

36. Anderson

Cooper's channel

37. Calendar abbr.

38. Official flower of

Chicago

45. Cash advance

46. Manhattan area

47. Lennon's love

48. During

49. Nest setting

50. Pep

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

51. Sandwich shop

52. Play area

53. Greek vowel

9. Fencing sword

10. List-ending abbr.

11. Bakery buy

19. Debtors' notes

20. Pester

23. Rm. coolers

24. Sign before Virgo

25. Lad

26. Pallid

27. Joplin tune

28. Anger

29. Debussy's La —

31. Ming, for one

32. Kismet

34. Reply (Abbr.)

35. Seconded

36. "True Colors"

singer Lauper

37. Different

38. Not naked

39. Abode

40. Banister

41. Asta's feeder

42. Relocate

43. Squad

44. NYC gallery

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Answers for Jan. 6 Puzzles

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

1. PERFORM, 2. FILTHY, 3. DECIBEL, 4. CLINGINESS, 5. MALACHITE, 6. CONVEYANCES, 7. PETTINESS

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

7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

1 box for books (8)

2 well-balanced (6)

3 Georgia and Gotham (5)

4 "stack" or "ream" noun type (10)

5 raise (5)

6 oar-powered crafts (8)

7 in an impassive manner (8)

SOLUTIONS

SL	VE	SED	CA	NTS
POI	ROW	LY	HO	STO
IST	TS	LLE	FO	SE
CO	LID	IP	BOA	CTI

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SUDO CURRENT

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

Puzzle Page Sponsored by



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SPORTS



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VARSITY ROUNDUP

By Skip Pearlman

BOYS' BASKETBALL

After building an early lead over visiting Croton on Tuesday (Jan. 10) at home, Haldane let the Tigers back in the game in the third quarter and did it again in the fourth. But the Blue Devils settled in down the stretch, carving out a 66-62 victory and sending a large crowd home happy.

Haldane flexed its muscles early, but Croton wouldn't go away, closing the gap to six points with 5:12 left in the third before the Blue Devils went on a 12-0 run. In the end, Haldane had too much height, and too much talent.

Matteo Cervone finished with 27 points, dominating inside with Matt Nachamkin, who added 17. Ben Bozsik scored nine and Ryan Eng-Wong had eight.

"Croton is well-coached, and they didn't give up," said Coach Joe Virgadamo. "We need to do a better job rebounding. We had a size advantage and we didn't capitalize. But we did play well in transition."

On Jan. 6, Haldane dropped a 48-40 decision to Pearl River. The Blue Devils led 24-19 at halftime, and the game was tied at 31



Matt Nachamkin went inside against Croton, scoring 17 points.



Sophomore Reilly Landisi scored 19 points against Washingtonville. Photos by S. Pearlman

entering the fourth. Nachamkin led the Blue Devils with 19 points and Cervone added 15.

Haldane (6-4, 2-0 league) traveled to Putnam Valley on Thursday (Jan. 12). The team will host Washingtonville at 1:15 p.m. on Saturday (Jan. 14) and Pawling at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday.

Beacon had an easy victory over Chester on Tuesday at home, 75-50, behind 21 points from Darien Gillins. The Bulldogs also won at Minisink Valley, 62-43, on Jan. 5; Joe Battle scored 16 points, followed by Dylan Howard (10) and Gillins (9).

The Bulldogs (7-3) hosted Monticello on Thursday and travel to Cornwall on Wednesday (Jan. 18).

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Beacon recorded wins over Minisink Valley and Washingtonville but on Tuesday (Jan. 10) fell at Chester, 44-39.

Against Chester, Reilly Landisi scored 13 points, followed by Daveya Rodriguez (9) and Rayana Taylor (8).

At home against Washingtonville on Monday, the Bulldogs won 44-25. Landisi scored 19 and Rodriguez added 11.

"We were getting good looks at the hoop, but our shots weren't falling until the fourth quarter, when we had an 18-point run," said Coach Christina Dahl. "Defensively, we did a great job, especially in the second half, when we only gave up 11 points."

On Jan. 5, at home, Beacon defeated Minisink Valley, 34-23, with Landisi scoring 14 and Shadaya Fryar adding nine.

The Bulldogs (6-4) are scheduled to visit Monticello today (Jan. 13) and host Cornwall at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Haldane lost at Yorktown, 60-25, and Croton Harmon, 47-30, to fall to 3-6. The Blue Devils hosted Putnam Valley on Thursday, travel to Edgemont on Saturday (Jan. 14) and host Lakeland at 1:30 p.m. on Monday.



Damani Deloatch soared at the Freedom Games. Photo provided

WINTER TRACK

Beacon's Damani Deloatch won the triple jump at the Ocean Breeze Freedom Games on Saturday (Jan. 7) on Staten Island with a tally of 43-4. More than 200 schools competed, and the result ranks Deloatch in the top 10 in New York state.

"So many things to be excited about by Damani's performance," said Coach Jim Henry. "It was his first victory in a major invitational. There were teams from a dozen states there [the runner-up was from Washington, D.C.], so to come out on top was a huge confidence boost."

"Secondly, Damani's series of jumps was easily his most consistent performance. Of his six jumps, five were in his top 10 best jumps ever. Lastly, the state championship will be at Ocean Breeze in about seven weeks, so it's nice to have 'figured out' the venue."

Today (Jan. 13), the Bulldogs head to Rockland Community College for the Suffern Invitational.

Haldane was at the Section I League Cham-

pionships on Sunday (Jan. 8) at the Armory in New York City. The Blue Devils competed in League 3C with Valhalla, Blind Brook, Pawling, Hamilton and North Salem, and both the boys' and girls' teams finished second.

The top finishers included Merrick Williams, Alek Noormae and Christian Ferreira, who took the top three spots in the long jump; the boys' 4x200 relay team of Milo Pearsall, Jake Thomas, Williams and Noormae was second in 1:40.47; and John Kisslinger finished third in the 600 meters with a personal best of 1:32.28.

For the girls, Samantha Thomas finished second in both the 55-meter dash and 55-meter hurdles; Ashley Sousa won the 1,000 meters; Andreia Vasconcelos was second in the long jump and third in the triple jump; and the 4x400 relay team of Anna Nelson, Eloise Pearsall, Thomas and Vasconcelos won in 4:52.78.

"It was an outstanding team effort, collecting 26 medals," said Coach Eric Richter. "Haldane has the fewest students in grades 9-12 of the five schools in our league, with Valhalla [the league champ] having by far the largest student population."

BOWLING

The Beacon boys defeated Goshen, 5-0, on Jan. 5 but lost to Saugerties by the same score the next day to fall to 4-3. The girls fell to Saugerties, 5-0, to drop to 3-3.

Both teams took on Newburgh on Thursday (Jan. 12) and will face Roosevelt and Marlboro next week.

BOYS' SWIMMING

Beacon defeated Roosevelt, 60-34, on Monday (Jan. 9) but lost to Kingston, Newburgh and Cornwall to fall to 3-6. The Bulldogs' final meet is scheduled for Wednesday (Jan. 18) at New Paltz.

Against Roosevelt, Fionn Fehilly won the 200-meter freestyle in 2:16.17; Ronnie Anzovino took the 50 freestyle in 26.09; Bryce Manning won the 100 freestyle in 58.13; and Carlos Lazo was first in the 100 breaststroke in 1:12.95. The team also won the 200-medley, 200-freestyle and 400-freestyle relays.

HONORS

Three Beacon girls' soccer players — Sara Gonzalez, Devyn Kelly and Reilly Landisi — were named by coaches to the Section IX, Class A team.

Six fall-season Beacon teams also received scholar-athlete recognition from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. To qualify, a team's average GPA for 75 percent of the roster must be greater than or equal to 90/100. The teams were boys' cross-country (12 athletes qualified), girls' cross-country (6), boys' soccer (6), girls' soccer (14), girls' swimming (9) and volleyball (11).