Should Cold Spring Police Stay?

Reform committee recommends referendum

By Michael Turton

Should Cold Spring have its own police department? That question could be put to village residents in a non-binding referendum in 2024 if the Village Board follows a recommendation from its Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Community Policing.

Victor Burgos, the AHAC’s chair, addressed the recommendation before the Village Board at its Wednesday (Feb. 15) meeting. The committee also suggested that, before a referendum, the board develop a plan to “impartially educate” residents on the pros and cons of keeping or dissolving the Cold Spring Police Department.

The CSPD review is part of a plan adopted by the Village Board in March 2021 in response to former Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s executive order in June 2020 requiring all municipalities to assess their police forces.

He issued the order in response to the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police in May 2020, and other high-profile, racially charged killings involving police and the nationwide protests that followed.

Burgos said while not everyone on the committee agreed a referendum is needed, “in light of everything that was going on nationally” at the time of Cuomo’s executive order, “we thought it was a relevant conversation to have and a relevant question to pose to the community.”

Mayor Kathleen Foley leaned toward keeping the CSPD intact, saying that the possibility of disbanding the village’s police force “is not a small question, not a decision to be made lightly” and that having a locally accountable department would keep police officers “on the location, Frost said.

According to the chief, the cameras will be installed once Central Hudson approves the location, Frost said.

(Continued on Page 9)
By Alison Rooney

Gastor Almonte, a comedian from Brooklyn who was recently diagnosed with diabetes, will perform his one-man show, “The Sugar,” on Feb. 25 at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon to kick off a new series of solo storytelling by The Artichoke.

How does comedic storytelling differ from stand-up?

When I do stand-up, I’m letting you know what’s going on in my head now. Storytelling is why I think that way. It’s telling you about something that might have happened before.

Is timing innate, or something you can learn?

Timing and comedy are skills, and those who are best at it have an innate ability to do it better and get to a better understanding of how it works. It’s something you’re good at, but you can always improve. For me, I’ve been funny my whole life. I grew up telling stories I learned from family members. On Sundays, my uncle and my dad told stories to each other, and then to my cousins and me, separately. Growing up, if I was cool and funny, they’d let me hang out with them in an informal way I normally didn’t get access to.

Your stories are autobiographical. But are they embellished?

Every story I tell is 100 percent true to how I feel, but I’m not presenting a police report. For example, I have a story about my grandfather coming over to this country and buying a bunch of chickens, which then turned into 1,000 of them. As an adult, looking back, there were probably no more than 100 or 150, but for 7-year-old me who never grew up on a farm, a hundred felt like thousands. My worldview is part of it; I don’t know how to change that. My outlook is positive. I don’t look to color the stories; that’s just how I see things. I lived these stories, reflected and learned from them, and I want people to enjoy that I’m here and want to share them.

Do you use humor to cope with life’s challenging moments?

I don’t necessarily set out to write a story about everything that happens to me, but I end up having to process it and see how I feel about it. Getting diagnosed with diabetes is the first time I felt mortal. I needed to tell it out loud to a bunch of people first. Before I spoke to my wife about it, I had to tell the story onstage so I could understand how I felt about it and then tell her about it.

You seem so comfortable onstage. Do you ever get butterflies?

I feel more comfortable the second I step out onstage than when I’m just walking around. The only exception is a new thing, like my first TV taping, my first time performing in a stadium. By my third, fourth, fifth time, I felt uber-comfortable. “The Sugar,” which is my longest piece, is my new nerves challenge, but I’m gaining comfort: The nerves go away and my favorite feeling happens. I’m at ease, I know where my brain and my heart are going to go and I’m sharing it with an audience.

FIVE QUESTIONS:

GASTOR ALMONTE

By Michael Turton

What was your first car?

It was a late ’80s, black Audi wagon.

Adrian Da Delia, Beacon

It was a late ’80s, black Audi wagon.

Joanne Hinkel, Cold Spring

It was an early ’90s Dodge Omni, four on the floor. I loved it.

Nam Coulter Young, Garrison

It was an early ’90s Dodge Omni, four on the floor. I loved it.

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ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What was your first car?

It was a late ’80s, black Audi wagon.

Adrian Da Delia, Beacon

It was an early ’90s Dodge Omni, four on the floor. I loved it.

Joanne Hinkel, Cold Spring

A blue 1970 Dodge Dart hardtop with a 225 slant six engine and a bench seat. I loved that car.

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Developer submits plans for vacant Main Street lot in Beacon

By Jeff Simms

A developer is planning to build a three-story retail showroom at 536 Main St. in Beacon, one of the few remaining vacant lots along the city’s mile-long central thoroughfare.

The proposal, presented to the Planning Board on Wednesday (Feb. 15), is to construct a 15,500-square-foot building that would include retail showroom space on all three floors for Warp & Weft, a custom and designer rug business. There would also be office space on the second and third floors, but no apartments.

The vacant lot, on the east end of Main Street, is in the city’s historic district and is close to restaurants, apartments and other mixed-use buildings. According to materials presented to the board, Warp & Weft plans to construct a brick building with glass “showroom” doors.

The developer’s attorney noted on Wednesday that Main Street zoning permits the Planning Board to waive parking requirements for a building if there is sufficient public parking available within 800 feet. The developer’s traffic study showed 375 parking spaces nearby, with 50 of them available during “peak” hours.

However, John Clarke, the city’s planning consultant, said that the Main Street Access Committee studied parking conditions for all of Main and found the east end “pretty much locked down,” with little availability.

Prophecy Theater

The Planning Board continued a public hearing for a special-use permit and site plan approval of the proposal to convert the former Reformed Church of Beacon into a hotel and event space with a restaurant and bar.

The proposal, first introduced in 2021, has been downsized numerous times after pushback from the board and nearby residents. It now calls for a maximum capacity of 180 attendees at the event space, down from the original plan of 500.

There will be no events on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays, and there would be a maximum of 160 events per year. Events on Fridays, Saturdays and the night before a holiday would end by 10 p.m. Events on other nights would end by 9 p.m.

The restaurant would also be closed if an event with more than 100 attendees is taking place. Project officials said on Wednesday that only 40 events per year would qualify for maximum capacity and only 80 would go later than 9 p.m.

In addition, “acoustic glass” will be installed over the church’s stained glass windows to help eliminate noise “leakage.”

While project officials stressed several times that Prophecy will not be a concert venue, they may not have swayed the public or the Planning Board. Clarke said “it’s going to be impossible for the city to keep track” of the various times and types of events, while noting that the hours of operation seem to indicate Prophecy will be a live music venue, not a conference center.

Clarke also referred to the Board of Regents Arts in Beacon, submitted a letter in favor of the proposal, saying it could become “a vital resource for us and the greater community” that could host multi-day conferences for artists and other groups. But many others spoke against the project during the hearing, with most saying it would be an intrusion for residents of neighboring apartment and condominium complexes — The View, River Ridge and the West End Lofts — as well as the homes on the other side of Wolcott Avenue.

“What are we doing with this thing in a residential area?” asked John Bono. “I didn’t work and save all these years to have some nice church turned into whatever it is. I know it’s going to end up being a rock ‘n’ roll joint anyway.” For those supporting the project, “What would you do if this damn thing was in front of your house?” he asked. “How would you deal with the noise? That’s not why I moved to Beacon.”

After 2½ hours of debate, the board agreed to ask the city’s Traffic Safety Committee to look into ideas such as valet parking at the site. The Planning Board will continue its review of the other elements next month.

Highland Place

The developer of 12 Highland Place, who planned to subdivide a 1-acre lot with an existing home into five lots, with four new houses, announced Wednesday that the project had been reduced to four lots, essentially combining two of the new lots into one.

The change was made in response to public feedback during previous hearings, the project attorney said. The four homes would still be accessed through a driveway on Highland that will be converted to a private road.

The announcement seemed to catch residents off guard who had come to the meeting to speak about the five-house plan. “We should have known about this change prior to today’s meeting,” said Paul Lyons, who lives across the street on Highland Place. “I really don’t know what to say, because this changes all the points I had.”

A public hearing on the subdivision will continue next month. The Planning Board, which has already approved the environmental review of the project, will likely amend the approval to account for the new plans.

Neighborhood residents had previously questioned whether fire trucks and other emergency vehicles would be able to reach the subdivision via the private road, but Planning Board Chair John Gunn read a letter from the Traffic Safety Committee indicating that the planned road will be sufficient.

The traffic committee does not recommend requiring the developer to build sidewalks on Highland Place. Parking can also continue on both sides of Highland, the committee said.

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Indian Point

Your article was accurate in reporting what was said at the Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight Board on Feb. 2 (“Holtec to Release Radioactive Water,” Feb. 10). With that said, I would like to make some clarifications.

Richard Webster of Riverkeeper did ask me during the meeting if Holtec would not release effluents to the river (my words) until the state Department of Environmental Conservation “gave its final support.” I respectfully said, “No,” but I want to be perfectly clear that we have the necessary approvals to discharge to the river per regulations imposed by the DEC, Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Environmental Protection Agency. Support is granted by these organizations. The meeting is available for review on the Decommissioning Oversight Board website (bit.ly/indian-point-dob).

Your article states that “the firm says the release will cause minimal problems.” I don’t disagree with this statement, but after reviewing the tape, I can’t see where this was said or what exactly is the “firm.”

Lastly, we don’t “dump” to the river, we “discharge” to the river. That’s not a play on words. Dumping would imply that we, along with all other nuclear plants in the world, simply open a couple of valves and dump effluents to rivers, oceans and lakes. As I’ve stated at previous meetings, and what the oversight board’s technical expert described, was that all effluents are treated and analyzed before being released. In future coverage, please use the word discharge when talking about effluents to the river at Indian Point.

At these meetings, as with all communication with local, state and federal officials, I am as transparent as I could possibly be. Please continue to ask questions following these meetings if the need arises.

Richard Burrini, Buchanan Burrini is the site vice president at Indian Point for Holtec Decommissioning International. The firm is Holtec, of course, and it has said on multiple occasions that the release into the river will cause minimal problems. The article doesn’t state Burrini said it at the Feb. 2 meeting.

Tritium, which has a half-life of 12½ years, will become one-sixteenth as concentrated in 50 years. That’s worth the wait. It also reinforces the lesson that the area would like to make some clarifications.

Gordon Stewart, Peekskill

So tanks to store the water are a bad option because they could leak the radioactive water into the river? The solution is to put the radioactive water directly in the river?

Something tells me that humanity in 2023 can figure out tanks that don’t leak and leak-detecting gauges that have redundancies. Frederick Dennstedt, Peekskill

The editor responds: The argument is that while a controlled discharge could be done slowly to minimize impact, a leak would be uncontrolled.

Beacon Loop

I was surprised and upset to read that the Beacon Free Loop Bus is underperforming. It would be a shame to discontinue this valuable service to our residents after five years, especially coming out of a three-year pandemic.

Perhaps the routes should be tweaked to reach outlying residents? Perhaps a very visual ad campaign could help reinforce and remind residents of the service? In times of crushing and escalating expenses, the Beacon Free Loop Bus provides a rare and valuable benefit.

Eleni Smolen, Beacon

I live in Beacon and have a mobility issue: no car. Hundreds of people each week rely on the bus. The A and B buses to Poughkeepsie are irrelevant.

Try living without a car and with chronic mobility issues without the Loop bus for a year or two—or six, as I have. Then come back and publish an “article” rather than a poorly written opinion piece. A senior or persons with reduced mobility—even commuters working outside of the cost-crippling “city” of Beacon—need this bus (not just tourists). Add that actual financial cost for working people to your ethical and moral imperative to weigh what is true, useful and kind.

Marc Steier, Beacon

All they have to do is extend the route to include about a third of Beacon’s residents and businesses on Fishkill Avenue. There’s a brewery, three restaurants/bars, a deli, a laundromat and about 300 people in that

(Continued on Page 5)
area that would love to take the bus into town. But it also has the Hedgewood Home for Adults, and God forbid that the public see its residents on a bus.

The bus could go to the Beacon train station for people who ride the train or need to get to town. Instead, the bus turns at Memorial Park and goes up to one corner store near the mountain, then back to train station.

Dennis Moroney, via Facebook

The Beacon Free Loop bus has been an unequivocal success despite The Current's withering and out-of-context sub-headline. Between 2013 and 2018 the G Route had approximately 3,000 riders per year. In 2019, the first full year of the rebranding of the G Route to the Beacon Free Loop, rider-ship was more than 38,000, which was an increase of over 1,000 percent. To compare, the Free Loop to the A and B routes is apples to oranges — those two lines do not run as frequently as the Loop (three to four times per day versus three times per hour) and serve a different function.

I am disheartened to read The Current's weak reporting surrounding the genesis of the Beacon Free Loop. The project was an intensive collaboration between the county, the City of Beacon and BeaconArts, with assistance from the Marist College student-run marketing and PR firm NorthRoad Communications. Indeed, the project would never have happened without the catalyst of BeaconArts and those “local artists” who had been paying attention to the city's strategic plan and the directive of providing a working shuttle from the train station to serve visitors and residents.

In addition, NorthRoad Communications is still involved and is developing a ridership survey that will be implemented this spring, as well as an ongoing social media campaign to help boost ridership and to inform visitors and residents alike about schedule changes and the underutilized and under-publicized DoubleMap app that the county launched a few years ago that shows the bus routes in real time...

Although I agree with City Administrator Chris White that the route could be examined more closely to serve more people more efficiently, dropping the route to Mount Beacon would be a mistake and result in serving many fewer residents. The county should consider expanding the Beacon Free Loop service to Sundays, as well as expanding service on the F and B Routes — I have heard from many Beacondites praising the Beacon Free Loop as a lifeline, but that the B and F routes are not adequate, in the same breath.

I also appreciate White's comment that funding is not being pulled: Why would we go backward just as momentum for fare-free transportation is happening all over the world? Further, why not make the F and B routes (or all bus routes) fare-free? In Beacon, the cost to the city for the Free Loop is less than $1 per year per resident. That seems like a pretty good deal to me. I invite your readers to take advantage of the Beacon Free Loop — it truly works for everyone.

Kelly Ellenwood, Beacon

That was a poor editorial choice on the headline — it is not supported by the numbers, or the impact of the service.

Kevin Byrne, via Facebook

The editor responds: The Dutchess County director of public transit — not The Current — called the Beacon Loop bus “underperforming” based on the number of passengers it carries, although we could have made that clearer in the subhead. The story was not meant to recount the origin of the route, which we have reported in the past. While we didn’t mention the F line, it runs five times a day, Monday to Friday, between Beacon and the A&P in Hopewell Junction. You can find route maps and times at bit.ly/beacon-bus-routes.

So many times I’ve waited 15 minutes at a bus stop for a ride to the train station, only to have to run to catch the train anyway when the bus never shows. In the last five years, I’ve gotten the station-bound bus only once, in spite of a posted schedule.

Likewise, arriving by train at the station, we can see the bus from the platform, but will it still be there once we get through the tunnel? That’s a 50/50 bet. Worse yet, for those getting off an afternoon train, the bus could arrive immediately. And then the driver exits the bus, saying it departs in an hour! The schedule is disconnected from what commuters need.

To those who complain that the bus is there just for commuters: If it were, it should...
be better at doing it. Today, I got off the train arriving at 3:16 p.m. The bus was at the station, but no driver was around. Six of us (four with luggage) waited, but three got fed up and walked toward the cabs.

The driver reappeared at 3:33 p.m. but said he wasn’t scheduled to leave until 3:37 p.m. (They track the bus by GPS and know when he’s off schedule.) In that 21-minute wait, he lost three riders. But why did the bus have to wait 21 minutes, anyway?

Brian Kenny, via Facebook

Why don’t they use a smaller bus?

Paul Yeagle, via Facebook

The editor responds: Dutchess County Transit told us the bus used for the Beacon Loop is the smallest it has in its fleet.

I love the Loop. I don’t know why more people don’t use it.

Mike Diago, via Instagram

I’ve seen the Loop pull out of the Metro-North lot while a train is arriving!

Melissa Nastasi, via Instagram

If the Loop got more love — a better schedule, Sunday service and a smaller vehicle to fit Main Street — it would get more riders. It would also help if the drivers would reliably stop when you wave at them. If the entire bus system could stop charging, we could take advantage of transfers.

Carolyn Glauda, via Instagram

**PILOT project**

Re: “Beacon Spa Agrees to ‘Community Fund,’” Feb. 10: So, it’s a payoff and a slush fund? Who will determine how those funds get used? Who will keep track of the spending? Who will be the beneficiary? Any accountability?

These “proprietors” will be charging top dollar for their products and services, and they want a tax break. I am all for making money but our elected officials are selling our souls. The traffic we are dealing with now will be worse. The quality of our lives will be even more diminished with the crowds.

Joseph Zukowski, Beacon

Now that companies are developing these long-fallow spaces, the City of Beacon decides to stick it to the school district by giving away the store. A community fund is great, but paying your fair share of taxes for 15 years will be much better.

Lori Merhige, via Instagram

**Climate bills**

The recent Town Hall held by Rep. Pat Ryan in Beacon was a disappointment for anyone who thought they had elected a representative who would take urgent action to address climate change. Despite listing “safeguarding our environment” as one of his top priorities on his campaign website, Ryan was unable to provide a single climate bill that he supports, although he has been serving in Congress for five months.

There is no shortage of visionary legislation that addresses the climate crisis while creating good jobs and improving the quality of life in our region. For example, the Farm System Reform Act would allow local small farmers to compete with corporate factory farms, and the Green New Deal for Public Schools would invest in creating safe and effective learning environments for our children and greatly reduce carbon emissions.

Beacon needs a representative who follows up his campaign promises with action to create good jobs and protect the environment. If he believes in safeguarding our collective future, then I challenge him to take action to do so.

Julie Winterbottom, Beacon

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**Certified Results**

On Dec. 15, the New York State Board of Elections certified the vote from the November election, based on results submitted by counties, including Putnam and Dutchess, the latter of which released its district results this month. Here is a breakdown of the official vote for select races in Beacon and Philipstown.

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<td>18</td>
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**TURNOUT**

68.3  70  58.4  60.3

Percentages do not always add up to 100 because some voters did not make a selection in the race.

Sources: Dutchess, Putnam and state boards of elections

*Statewide turnout was 45.5 percent.
Central Hudson Replaces CEO

Change comes amid billing debacle

Central Hudson replaced Charles Freni as president and CEO as the state weighs a fine against the company over its new billing system, which has caused widespread errors on customers' bills.

Christopher Capone, who has held positions in accounting and risk management since joining Central Hudson in 2003, will replace Freni, the utility announced on Monday (Feb. 13).

Capone said his “key priority” will be addressing frustrations about the billing problems, and that employees are working “around the clock” to fix the system. “More must be done, and my commitment to you is that I will be transparent about the progress we are making,” he said.

The decision to replace Freni, who will help with the transition before retiring, follows Rep. Pat Ryan’s call, during a speech Feb. 1 on the floor of the House of Representatives, that he resign. Ryan, a Democrat, has long represented New York’s 19th Congressional District, which includes Beacon.

“I am encouraged that Central Hudson took this first step toward rebuilding public trust,” said Ryan on Tuesday. “Now they must take urgent action to fix their broken systems and repay customers who were wronged.”

Lawsuit Moved to Federal Court

Putnam Valley blames firms for chemicals at school

The Putnam Valley school district’s lawsuit over the contamination of the well that supplies drinking water to its elementary school was transferred on Feb. 3 to federal court.

Filed Dec. 21 in state court in Carmel, the lawsuit names 3M, DuPont and other firms that manufactured products containing polyfluoroalkyl substances. This class of chemicals is used in nonstick and stain-and water-resistant coatings, and in foams used by firefighters to suppress blazes caused by liquids like jet fuel. The materials have been associated with illnesses such as kidney and testicular cancer, ulcerative colitis and high cholesterol.

The lawsuit traces the source of the contamination to the use of firefighting foams at the Putnam Valley Fire Department’s firehouses — one 4,600 feet from the school’s property on Oscawana Lake Road and the other 4.6 miles away.

Putnam Valley Drops Opposition

Had questioned tax break for solar

The Putnam Valley supervisor said on Feb. 8 that the Town Board will no longer consider opting out of a state law that grants a 15-year tax break on increases in a property’s assessed value attributed to the installment of a green-energy system powered by solar, wind or farm waste.

Jacqueline Annabi said that because the town hasn’t been assessing property improvements that occur when solar panels are installed, there is no need to move forward with a resolution. As a result, the item was removed from the agenda for the board’s Feb. 15 meeting.

Annabi earlier expressed concern that the exemption would encourage commercial entities to “come in and tear up our lands [for clean-energy projects], not be invested in our community and then not be taxed on it.”
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• Rent out all three for hassle free passive income.
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Call or Text:
Daniel Aubry  917 647 6823
Ron Donofrio   845 202 0758
Here’s a query from reporter Joey Asher to ChatGPT, and its response.

**Teachers** (from Page 1)

explained that since it was an original essay, it would not be detected by anti-plagiarism software that many teachers use. That’s why the tool has spawned such angst among educators. In December, The Atlantic published an essay by Daniel Herman, a teacher in California, in which he lamented the “end of high school English.” Herman wrote that ChatGPT “may signal the end of writing assignments altogether — and maybe even the end of writing as a gatekeeper, a metric for intelligence, a teachable skill.”

But a sampling of local English teachers found them to be more sanguine.

“It’s the early days,” said Nancy Martinez, who chairs the English department at Haldane. “We’re just kind of feeling our way through it.”

Despite what she called “the initial hysteria,” Martinez said ChatGPT may offer benefits. For example, the tool could be used as a “thought partner” to help students generate ideas. Or teachers could have ChatGPT generate an essay and ask students to critique it.

Martinez said she was less concerned about the technology being used to cheat because of the way she and her colleagues teach writing. Teachers typically work with students through the process of outlining, editing and the final work. “If you see a paper grow the whole way, there’s no way for them to fake it.”

Maura Shanks, who teaches English at the Garrison School, also said she doubts students will use ChatGPT to cheat because most students don’t want to cheat. “The large majority of students want to learn,” she said. “They want you to see them grow.”

When she discussed artificial-intelligence technology with her students, she said many instinctively understood the problem of using it to write essays, especially for standardized exams where they can’t rely on a robot. “I don’t think this will help prepare me for the Regents,” the annual state exams, a student told her.

Teachers should also be able to discourage cheating by making sure that their assignments are unusual enough to stump ChatGPT, said Yap.

He noted the technology would have a hard time writing an essay about the Roman Empire if it had to use information not readily available on the internet.

For example, he said, if a teacher assigned a student to write an essay on the Roman Empire and its similarities and differences to the Hudson Valley, especially Garrison, “ChatGPT would struggle with that.”

**Plate Readers** (from Page 1)

help police identify suspect vehicles. For example, if the police have a description of a vehicle or a partial license plate, they can search data recorded by the LPRs. Once they get a plate number, it can be fed into a state database to identify the owner of the car. “It gives you a direction to go in,” Frost said.

The recorded footage will only be used to identify suspect vehicles, he said. “There’s no want to know or the manpower” to cull the footage for any other information, Frost said.

Beacon City Administrator Chris White told the council last month that data recorded by the Flock cameras will be deleted every 30 days “unless we have some circumstance that causes us to download” it, such as an active police investigation.

Cold Spring police installed LPRs near three entry points to the village in 2021 following a protracted discussion by members of the Putnam County Legislature over how the camera data would be used. The police faced further pushback from residents who felt the devices were an invasion of privacy, but Larry Burke, the officer-in-charge, said this week that the cameras had more than once helped Putnam County sheriff’s deputies track vehicles that had been stolen from nearby municipalities.

“It’s a tool that's used to give us information more than anything else,” he said.

In 2012, the New York Civil Liberties Union took issue with LPR devices affixed to Beacon patrol cars. Between 2012 and 2014, the NYCLU sent Freedom of Information Law requests to more than 70 municipalities in New York State to better understand their use of LPRs.

The organization analyzed data from the Beacon police and, after reviewing a week's worth of license plate readings for one vehicle, noted that LPRs captured the car's location 24 times over that period.

“Even this small piece of information paints a detailed portrait of the car owner’s comings and goings, including the nights that the driver parked on Main Street and likely spent the night nearby,” an NYCLU report said.

According to the report, “this one example shows the potential to collect embarrassing information, even though the driver did nothing wrong as far as we can tell” because the car's license plate did not match any listed as a “plate of interest.”

Beacon Det. Sgt. Jason Johnson said on Thursday that the patrol officer likely drove Main Street multiple times during that week, passing the parked vehicle frequently.

There is only one Beacon patrol car currently equipped with an LPR, Johnson said.

**Referendum** (from Page 1)

is “for me very important.”

She suggested that the committee can help by asking “hard numbers questions” and developing data to assist in decision-making.

“Deterrence is an element,” she said of the police. “We need to do a better job communicating what our officers do and what their value is; that’s on us as a board.”

Trustee Eliza Starbuck also expressed reservations about a referendum, saying it would be “dangerous without proper data and information” to aid residents in making “good decisions.”

She encouraged the committee to begin gathering statistics and data that the public needs to be well informed. “The longer question is much larger; it’s not ‘yes’ and ‘no,’” Foley said, adding that the impacts that needed to be considered ranged from fiscal to quality of life. “It’s not black and white,” she said.

The AHAC report addresses a wide range of topics, from improving CSPD information on the village website and developing a record-keeping system integrated with the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department’s system to improving domestic violence reporting and increasing post-traumatic-event support in conjunction with the Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub.

In addition to Burgos, village residents Gretchen Dykstra, Sean Conway, Lithgow Osborne, Doron Weber and Karen Jackson serve on the AHAC. Their report is available at bit.ly/coldspring-police-reform.

**Fjord Trail**

In an update, Mayor Foley clarified that neither the Village Board nor Planning Board is currently reviewing the planned Fjord Trail, an 8.5-mile linear park between Cold Spring and Beacon.

The project’s first phase, the Breakneck Connector and Bridge, which includes a span over the Metro-North tracks, received a negative environmental impact declaration under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (meaning it would not have adverse effects). The declaration cleared the connector, estimated to cost $85 million, for construction.

Unlike the Breakneck Connector, Cold Spring is identified as involved in the broader environmental review of the entire trail, which has already received a positive SEQRA declaration, triggering a more-detailed environmental analysis that is underway.

“That means our local land-use regulations and comprehensive plan have to be considered” as part of the project design review, Foley said, adding that the analysis is expected to be finished by the end of the year. But she pointed out that the state parks department is the lead agency for the overall trail project and raised concern that it can potentially argue that it “is completely exempt from local land use laws,” leaving the village “little or no say.”

Foley and Starbuck said they met with officials from state parks and Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail Inc., the project’s developer, on Jan. 27 to clarify roles and responsibilities. They also asked for details about the legal relationship between HHFT and state parks, said Foley, and are awaiting a response.

During the public comment period, Nelsonville resident Heidi Wendel suggested a public meeting be held with officials from Nelsonville, Cold Spring, Philipstown, HHFT and state parks so residents can give input and ask questions about the trail.

Residents complained that recent open houses held by HHFT at Duchess Manor and the Cold Spring firehouse were ineffective because there was no presentation or public question-and-answer period.

“”I think it’s important that the board go on record either supporting or not supporting the project, given that it changed so drastically since 2017.”

~ Michael Bowman

Former Cold Spring trustee

Former Cold Spring Mayor Dave Merandy described the sessions as a “divide and conquer” strategy by HHFT and urged the Village Board to state its position on the trail project. Former Nelsonville Mayor Michael Bowman, also a former Cold Spring trustee, agreed.

“I think it’s important that the board go on record either supporting or not supporting the project, given that it changed so drastically since 2017,” he said.

MJ Martin, director of development and community engagement for HHFT, attended the meeting virtually but did not comment.
The owner of the Depot Restaurant has purchased eight buildings on Main Street in Cold Spring for $8 million, making him the largest property owner on the village’s commercial heart and landlord to some of its most-popular businesses.

In a deal with Love Realty Management Corp., Greg Pagones bought 1 Depot Square, which houses his restaurant, for $1.5 million and 93-97 and 89-91 Main St. for $2.7 million, according to deeds filed on Feb. 9. Tenants in the latter two buildings include Antique Alley, Split Rock Books and Cathryn’s Tuscan Grill.

Pagones, who declined an interview, also acquired the buildings containing the Cold Spring Antiques Center, The Foundry Rose, Old Souls and Pink Olive, and a garage at 57 Main St. He also owns 155 Main St., whose first-floor tenant is the Romeo and Juliet salon.

The sales represent a divestment by Love Realty, a White Plains company that is managed by Steven Handelsman and Sharon Stocker and acquired its Cold Spring properties between 1988 and 2004. Steven Handelsman and Stocker are the children of Burton Handelsman, a real estate mogul who died Jan. 5 in Florida.

Burton Handelsman amassed holdings from New York to Florida whose value was once estimated at $550 million. His family still owns 72-76 Main St. in Cold Spring, which is valued at $1.2 million.

Restaurant Owner Buys Main Street Properties

Tenants include Cathryn’s, Split Rock

By Leonard Sparks

Photos by L. Sparks
Levenberg discusses issues at forum in Garrison
By Joey Asher

Dana Levenberg, the newly elected state Assembly member whose district includes Philipstown, took her listening tour on Feb. 11 to the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison, where residents and politicians discussed issues ranging from radioactive water disposal at Indian Point and climate protection to affordable housing and potholes.

Levenberg, a Democrat, lives in Ossining, where she had been town supervisor. She succeeded Sandy Galef, who retired after holding the Assembly seat for 30 years.

Indian Point
Levenberg shared several attendees’ concerns about plans to release radioactive water into the Hudson River from the former Indian Point nuclear power plant near Peekskill as part of its decommissioning by Holtec International.

“Unfortunately, they meet all of the federal requirements for the release, so they’re allowed to do it,” said Levenberg. “I don’t know how much power we have because it’s the federal government.”

However, she said she would like more information. “We’re going to try and get some data about what has been the impact over the years” from previous releases of radioactive water into the Hudson River, she said.

Levenberg said her office is considering a letter-writing campaign “to get enough noise made” to slow or stop the release, which is scheduled to happen before autumn.

Affordable housing
Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel expressed concern about a sweeping proposal by Gov. Kathy Hochul to address the state’s housing crisis. Dubbed the New York Housing Compact, Hochul’s plan would see 800,000 new homes built in the state through a range of incentives and mandates.

Levenberg said she agreed with the overall intent of the plan. “We know we have an affordable-housing problem,” she said. “Our workforce can’t afford to work here.”

However, Levenberg added that she has heard a lot of opposition from constituents. “The pushback in my district has been universal,” she said.

She said that she feels that the proposals are too general and need to be tweaked to fit each community. “One size fits all doesn’t fit all,” she said. “We have to find something that’s more nuanced.”

She had particularly harsh words for aspects of the proposal that would encourage more housing near transit stops. “It’s basically a giveaway to developers,” she said.

Road maintenance
Levenberg heard concerns about New York’s road maintenance strategy and funding, and agreed that the state should do better. “It’s never enough,” she said.

She said she would like to propose a bill that would allow local municipalities to fill potholes and repair roads and bill the state for reimbursement. “If they don’t get to the potholes within two weeks after they are reported, we can go out and patch them,” she said.

That proposal drew a thumbs-up from Cold Spring Mayor Kathleen Foley. “Super duper,” she said, with a smile.

Climate protection
One resident asked about Levenberg’s support for climate protection bills, including proposed legislation to allow the New York Power Authority to build and operate renewable generation facilities to meet state goals.

“I am generally in support of anything that is going to make our environment better,” she said. “I haven’t said ‘no’ to any of those bills.”

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**AROUND TOWN**

**HONORING TOOT** — Friends and family members honored Carl “Toot” Giordono at the Beacon Elks Lodge on Feb. 11. At age 101, he is believed to be the last living World War II veteran in Beacon, where he grew up as the youngest of 12 children. He received his nickname from his mother, who took it from the 1922 flapper-era hit, “Toot, Toot, Tootsie (Goo’ Bye).” Photo by Ross Corsair

**LOVE FOR THE VETS** — Rep. Pat Ryan, whose district includes Beacon, delivered more than 9,000 cards on Tuesday (Feb. 14) to the Castle Point VA Medical Center in Wappingers Falls and Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie as part of his inaugural Valentines for Vets program. The cards, written by area schoolchildren, were also delivered to veterans service organizations. Photo provided

**RETURN TO STAGE** — For the first time since before the pandemic, the Beacon Rising Choir performed live, under the direction of Gina Samardge, singing to a full house on Sunday (Feb. 12) at the Towne Crier. The group is one of the “resistance choirs” formed after the 2017 Women’s March. Photo by Ross Corsair

**CAUGHT WITH THE CURRENT** — (left) Alexandra Juby, a second-grader at Haldane Elementary, reads the paper in the school library. “I like looking at the pictures,” she said. Photo by Barry Goggin (right) Meanwhile, 3-month-old Bridger Kiely, shown with his dad, Tim, catches up on the news at the Yankee Clipper. Photo by Kat Merry

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*Restrictions apply.
Particularly during this mild winter, that urge to get out on the weekend is strong. The Winter Weekend Art Show, which unspools Saturday (Feb. 18) and Sunday (Feb. 19) in Beacon, will attempt to satisfy that craving.

The free event will take place at The Yard, with 70 to 80 works curated from submissions chosen by Darya Golubina, director of Beacon Open Studios, and her colleagues. As with the larger summer Open Studios event, the winter show gives visitors the opportunity to meet and engage with the artists.

Golubina, who revived the summer event in 2022 after it became a casualty of the pandemic and burnout, hopes the winter show also will become a mainstay. Over the past few months, BOS has organized several figure-drawing sessions to raise funds, and BeaconArts is also providing support.

For $10, artists were invited to submit up to five pieces. Golubina and other organizers chose pieces they “felt could be shown in conversation. While we won’t be announcing a theme or a title for the show, we did look for a common thread, or a relationship within the chosen work,” she explains.

They tried to include “a bit of everything,” including painting, photography, sculpture, conceptual installation, ink drawing, collage and mixed media.

Artists set their own prices (as they do for all Beacon Open Studios exhibits). The organization does not take a percentage and “if we provide a space for a show, we make sure the gallery cut is minimal and in the artist’s favor,” says Golubina.

Even with all that is going on, Beacon Open Studios is already planning its July event. This year’s schedule will include a ticketed concert and a mini-film festival, and also “promises to be even more expansive,” she says.

The Yard is located at 4 Hanna Lane, where parking is available, or it’s a short walk from the east end of Main Street. See beaconopenstudios.com. The exhibit will be open from noon to 9 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Singer and songwriter Julia Zivic will perform at 8 p.m. on Saturday.

“Rainbow Sisters,” by Laura Byrne

“Altar,” by Michelle Silver

“Cinema Tarot II of Swords,” by Sarah Halliday

“Misplaced,” by Kolt Reagle

“Rainbow Sisters,” by Laura Byrne

The Highlands Current

February 17, 2023

13

The Calendar

Open Studios Tackles Winter

Annual Beacon show launches February event

By Alison Rooney

P

Searching for Civility

Depot Theatre to stage ‘God of Carnage’

By Alison Rooney

Those expecting a genteel drawing-room comedy from God of Carnage might want to check that notion behind the brownie counter at the Philipstown Depot Theatre, where the play, which debuted in Paris in 2006, begins a three-weekend run on Feb. 24.

Written by Yasmina Reza, God of Carnage won the Tony Award in 2009 for best play. Though it’s set in some of Brooklyn’s tiniest precincts, the gloves are flung off from the get-go as two sets of parents — one played by the married couple of Christine and Ray Bokhour, and the other by Maia Guest and Gregory Porter Miller — attempt to address with civility a “playground incident” involving their respective 11-year-old sons.

Yet civility and dramatic productions don’t always mesh terribly well, do they? Offstage, it’s a different story, as the four performers could not be more gracious if they tried.

Knowing how eager actors usually are to discuss their roles, The Current selected what appeared to be — though may not actually be — a telling bit of dialogue by each character and asked each respective actor to comment. The actors, and director, seem to have gone all-in; any resemblance of the actors to their characters is purely intentional.

Maia Guest (Annette)

“We’re making a mistake not to take into account the origin of the problem.”

Guest: “Great quote! It reminds me about how surprised I was to work with Ray in this scene. In most scenes, actually. I’d thought he’d be a generous scene partner. Turns out, not so much. He’s ignored me the whole time, and when the director tries to give him a note, he just brushes him off and tells stories from his childhood.”

Gregory Porter Miller (Alan)

“You know, speaking personally, my wife had to drag me here. When you’re brought up with a kind of John Wayne-ish idea of virility, you don’t want to settle this kind of problem with a lot of yakking.”

Miller: “That’s a great quote, but that Ray guy I’m stuck with, bless his heart, thinks he is John Wayne. He’s all swagger, utterly oblivious to anyone else onstage. Where did they find this clown?”

Christine Bokhour (Veronica)

“We’re living in America according to the principles of Western society. What goes on in Cobble Hill Park reflects the values of Western society! Of which, if it’s all the same to you, I am happy to be a member.”

Bokhour: “I wish my husband would spend as much time with research as you do, Alison. He’s not putting in the effort and doesn’t seem to care how it affects the process and the other actors. He’s just impossible to work with. Watching his rehearsal habits is annoying enough, but then everyone else gets to leave it in the theater. I have to go home and put up with his egocentric nonsense around the house.”

Ray Bokhour (Michael)

“My home, the doors of which I have opened, the doors of which I have opened wide in a spirit of reconciliation, to people who ought to be grateful to me for it!”

Bokhour: “I’m having the time of my life! I’m doing my best work ever, and that’s saying a lot! Never felt more free! Able to give full play to my considerable talents, with no complaints whatsoever from the extras. Frankly, they seem in awe, and who can blame them? They just stare at me in disbelief! Lucky them.”

Isaac Byrne (director)

“Rehearsals are … fine, totally … fine. I do wish we spent more time on the play and less on Ray telling long stories about his childhood ‘triumphs.’ ”

Though it may not be evident, the actors and director, along with scenic and lighting designer Joshua Rose, cordially welcome you to their production!

The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located at 10 Garrison’s Landing. God of Carnage will be performed on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 4:30 p.m. through March 12. Tickets are $28 at philipstowndepottheatre.org.
THE WEEK AHEAD

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 18
Polar Plunge
FISHKILL
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sharpe Reservation
436 Van Wyck Lake Road
bit.ly/fishkill-polar-plunge
Gather sponsors for your plunge into icy cold water to raise money for the Special Olympics.

SAT 18
Winter Weekend Art Show
BEACON
Noon – 9 p.m. The Yard
4 Hanna Lane | beaconopenstudios.com
Works by local artists will be on view and available for purchase. See Page 13. Also SUN 19.

SAT 19
Community Lantern-Making
BEACON
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Beacon Farmers’ Market
223 Main St.
facebook.com/beaconopenstudios
Make a lantern for the Spring Celebration of Light parade on SAT 25. Materials will be provided.

SAT 19
Vintage & Handmade Fair
BEACON
Noon – 6 p.m. VFW Hall | 413 Main St.
facebook.com/beaconopenstudiosandcornichow
Dealers will be selling vintage clothing, jewelry, toys, accessories and records at this event organized by Beacon Curated. Cost: $3

WED 22
Central Hudson Billing Issues
COLD SPRING
7:30 p.m. Town Hall
238 Main St. | philipstown.com
Residents of Philipstown, Cold Spring and Nelsonville are invited to share their experiences with elected officials and the Public Utility Law Project. Central Hudson representatives also have been invited.

SAT 23
Stephanie Grundy
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Split Rock Books
207 Main St. | 845-265-4660
splitrockbks.com
Spend time drawing with Summer Pierre, an Eisner Award-nominated cartoonist. Cost: $5

KIDS & FAMILY

TUES 21
Mardi Gras Masks
GARRISON
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Children ages 3 and older are invited to create masks to celebrate the festival.

TUES 21
Owl Pellets
GARRISON
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
For Family Science Night, learn about owls by dissecting a pellet, the regurgitated mass that the birds spit up after feeding.

WED 22
Drawing Night
GARRISON
5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing
845-265-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
Anna West | Lindsey Guile
A history of baby movers and what they captured the city, and the mystery of who started it. Register online. Cost: $10 (members free)

SAT 18
Maple Sugar Tours
CORNWALL
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Outdoor Discovery Center
120 Muser Drive | 845-534-5506
haam.org
Visitors can choose a sugar-bush tour at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. or 2 p.m. that includes a moderate 1-mile hike, or a maple-lane tour at noon or 3 p.m., which is a short walk. Also SUN 19, SAT 25, SUN 26 and continuing weekends through March 19. Cost: $12 ($10 members, free ages 4 and younger)

SAT 18
Washington’s Birthday
NEWBURGH
Noon – 3 p.m. Washington’s Headquarters
84 Liberty St. | facebook.com/washingtongheadquarters
A re-enactor will cut a birthday cake, and there will be demonstrations of camp life, music and crafts. Also SUN 19, MON 20.

THURS 23
Rebecca Henderson
GARRISON
2 p.m. Via Zoom | garrisoninstitution.org
This installment of the Pathways to Planetary Health Forum, hosted by the Garrison Institute, will feature a conversation with the Harvard economics professor about her book, Reimagining Capitalism in a World on Fire, which notes small changes that can change the web. Register online.

THURS 23
Stephen Mallon
BEACON
7 p.m. Beacon Sloop Club
2 Red Flynn Drive | 845-463-4660
beaconsloopclub.org
The photographer and filmmaker will talk about his industrial landscape photography in the series Sea Train: Subway Reef Photos. Rescheduled from THURS 16.

THURS 23
The Great New York Fire of 1776
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Via Zoom
putnamhistorymuseum.org
In this Zoom presentation organized by the Putnam History Museum, Benjamin Carp will discuss his book about the fire that broke out after British forces captured the city, and the mystery of who started it. Register online. Cost: $10 (members free)

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 18
Anna West | Lindsey Guile
GARRISON
5 – 7 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
West’s solo show, Blue Edge, is a series of paintings of swimming pools. Guile’s Uncensored includes drawings of bodies that don’t conform to traditional concepts of the “right size.” Through March 19.

SAT 25
A History of Strollers
GARRISON
2 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-424-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
Amanda Parrish Morgan will discuss her new book, Stroller, a history of baby movers and what they reveal about parents and children.

SAT 18
Winter Weekend Art Show
BEACON
Noon – 9 p.m. The Yard
4 Hanna Lane | beaconopenstudios.com
Works by local artists will be on view and available for purchase. See Page 13. Also SUN 19.

SAT 18
Plant a Succulent Garden
WAPPINGERS FALLS
11 a.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org
Althea Holmgren will teach participants how to mix soil, sow succulents and care for your new plants. Cost: $25

SAT 25
Gelli Plate Printing
GARRISON
9:30 a.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org
Ada Pilar Cruz will lead this workshop on using gelatin plates to press-print nature images. Cost: $75
sessions exploring historical memory and identity in connections to Italy. Cost: $10 ($5 local residents, seniors, students)

SAT 25
Inventing Stories in Paint
GARRISON
1 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing
845-424-3960 | garrisonartcenter.org

Anna West, whose paintings are currently on exhibit at the art center, will lead this workshop on painting book covers to tell a story. Cost: $75

MUSIC
SAT 18
Concert of Concertos
NEWBURGH
4 p.m. Mount Saint Mary College
330 Powell Ave | 845-913-7157
newburghsymphony.org

The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra will perform at Aquinas Hall with pianists Alan Murray, Janet Wu, Stanley Süsskin and Frank Siegel playing concertos by Mozart, Prokofiev and Rachmaninoff. Cost: $25

SAT 18
Special EFX
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Guitarist and composer Chieli Minucci will perform with his jazz-fusion group, including music from his solo project, Someone’s Singing, and a 40th-anniversary project, Twenty Twenty. Cost: $35 ($40 door)

SAT 18
Freeways
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Quinn’s
330 Main St | quinnsinbeacon.com

The humorist and host of the podcast Nobody Listens to Paula Poundstone will perform her one-act stand-up. Cost: $24 to $35

SAT 19
Damn Tall Buildings
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Avery Ballotta (violin), Max Capistran (guitar, banjo) and Sasha Dubyk (bass) will play music from their latest release, Sleeping Dogs. Cost: $20 ($25 door)

SAT 25
The Dark Horses
BEACON
8 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The tribute band will perform music by George Harrison. Cost: $25 ($30 door)

SUN 25
Cherish The Ladies
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

The Celtic group will play traditional Irish music and step dance. Cost: $45 ($50 door)

SAT 25
The Sugar
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | howlandmusic.org

The tribute band will perform music by George Harrison. Cost: $35 ($40 door)

SUN 25
Paula Poundstone
POUGHKEEPSIE
8 p.m. Bardavon | 35 Market St.
845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Poundstone will perform her one-act podcast Nobody Listens to Paula Poundstone will perform her one-woman show. Cost: $43

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

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

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

WED 22
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611 | coldspringny.gov

PUTNAM HIGHLANDS AUDUBON SOCIETY PRESENTS

Getting to Know the Eastern Coyote, with Dr. Ed McGowan
SATURDAY
FEB 25, 2:00 PM
St. Philips Parish Hall

Building Backyard Habitat for Wildlife, with Janis Butler, Cornell Coop. Extension
SATURDAY
MARCH 4, 2:00 PM
DESMOND-FISH LIBRARY
Co-sponsored by Phillipstown Garden Club

To register and for more information, go to www.putnamhighlandsaudubon.org
Mouths to Feed

My Chocolate Heart

By Celia Barbour

In the quiet wake of Valentine’s Day, I have been thinking about the curious connection between food and love. “Curious” not because it is strange or unusual — in fact, it is among the most tenacious and universal of human bonds — but because, despite its ubiquity, we have such funny ideas of how to express it. Popular culture only confuses the matter, encouraging us to communicate our love via everything from candy hearts to oysters, and boxed chocolates to steak-and-cabernet dinners by candlelight.

Love and nourishment are linked from Day One for most of us, fed as newborns by a smitten (if exhausted) parent. But within a year or two, that safe, intimate exchange is replaced by a vast network of total strangeness, a smattering of takeout or deli sandwiches, or a gift from humans whom we might think of as adversaries or even enemies if we knew their political or social views. And even the simple act of inviting friends over for a homemade dinner has no equivalent in the animal world. Biological anthropologists have long recognized that non-kin food sharing is a hallmark of humanity.

Yet on we go, celebrating the intuitive connection between food and love — not just on Valentine’s Day, but throughout the year. Because despite the complexities of our food system, it is possible to invest food with genuine love and care. We cook for the people we love, and show love, affection and gratitude through food, and over food.

Which brings me to Peter, my husband of nearly a quarter-century. He loves chocolate; I love him. And so, for his birthday and nearly a quarter-century. He loves chocolate, I love him. And so, for his birthday and other red-letter days, I’ve usually made him some kind of rich and decadent chocolate dessert. But we are both starting to get long in the tooth, and to notice the unfortunate impact of that richness and decadence. Peter also loves hiking. Every afternoon, from an evolutionary perspective, it’s bizarre that we do this. Every day, we trustingly consume food that comes to us from humans whom we might think of as adversaries or even enemies if we knew their political or social views. And even the simple act of inviting friends over for a homemade dinner has no equivalent in the animal world. Biological anthropologists have long recognized that non-kin food sharing is a hallmark of humanity.

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Chocolate-Pecan Granola Bars

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a non-stick baking mat. In a large bowl, toss together the melted coconut oil or butter, oats and pecans. Spread on the baking sheet (don’t rinse out the bowl) and toast in the oven until the oats begin to smell nutty, about 8 minutes, tossing the oat mixture halfway through.

Reduce the oven heat to 300 degrees. Transfer oat mixture back into the bowl, setting aside the baking sheet. Add the flaxseed meal, cocoa powder, cinnamon and salt, and mix well to combine. Stir in the chopped dates (you may need to work them into the dry ingredients with your fingers).

In a small saucepan over medium-high heat, heat the honey to a boil, then let it to boil for 4½ minutes. Remove from heat and stir in the molasses and vanilla. Pour over the dry ingredients, stirring until evenly mixed. Allow to cool for 5 minutes, then stir in the chocolate and dried cherries.

Spread the mixture on the prepared baking sheet, pressing down firmly so that it feels compact. It may not fill the whole sheet; if not, use a butter knife or bench scraper to press the edges straight. Cut the mixture into bars, then transfer to the oven and bake 18 to 20 minutes. Allow to cool, then break into bars.

Granola Bars

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a non-stick baking mat. In a large bowl, toss together the melted coconut oil or butter, oats and pecans. Spread on the baking sheet (don’t rinse out the bowl) and toast in the oven until the oats begin to smell nutty, about 8 minutes, tossing the oat mixture halfway through.

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Chocolate-Pecan Granola Bars

1¼ cup coconut oil or melted butter
1 cup rolled oats
½ cup pecans
½ cup flaxseed meal
½ teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup chopped bittersweet chocolate or bittersweet chocolate chips
3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
¾ teaspoon salt
3 dates, finely chopped
½ cup honey
2 tablespoons molasses
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ cup dried cherries, optional

**Ingredients:**

- 1¼ cups coconut oil or melted butter
- 1 cup rolled oats
- ½ cup pecans
- ½ cup flaxseed meal
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ cup chopped bittersweet chocolate or bittersweet chocolate chips
- 3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- 3 dates, finely chopped
- ½ cup honey
- 2 tablespoons molasses
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup dried cherries, optional

**Instructions:**

1. Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a non-stick baking mat.
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**Nutritional Information:**

- Calories: 200
- Total Fat: 11g
- Saturated Fat: 2g
- Trans Fat: 0g
- Cholesterol: 5mg
- Sodium: 150mg
- Total Carbohydrates: 18g
- Sugars: 12g
- Protein: 3g

**Variation:**

- **Oatmeal Raisin Granola Bar:**

  - Replace the chocolate with raisins.

**Notes:**

- This recipe is gluten-free and can be made vegan by using coconut oil instead of butter.
- Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 1 week.

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**Friday Night Lent Dinners**

**FISH FRY!!!**

**DATES:** FEB. 24 - MAR.31

**TIME:** 5:30 - 7:30P.M.

**Beacon Elks Lodge**

1493 900 Wolcott Ave.,
Beacon
845-831-9746

Proceeds To Benefit
Elks Charities

- Fish & Chips W/Coleslaw $15.00
- Senior’s $13.00
- New England Clam Chowder
  - Pint $5.00 / Quart $9.00

Eat In Or Take Out, All Are Welcomed!
Garrison Students Visit

By Giovannina Manfredi

On Nov. 9, Garrison students toured Haldane High School. When students enter ninth grade, they have the ability to choose their high school: Haldane, Putnam Valley or O’Neill. Upon arrival, the Garrison students were divided into groups with two to three Haldane tour guides. They toured for an hour through the high school and middle school. Then everyone met up in the gym in the middle school for pizza and to talk more about what Haldane is about.

We proceeded to go through some slides about the school’s academics and sports, then introduced some of the teachers and the principal, Mrs. Sniffen. Being a tour guide reminded me of when I toured Haldane last year in my eighth-grade year.

What makes Haldane stick out to them compared to their other options? Ester Amato said: “It was a nice experience to go on the tour and it felt you were a part of the high school when you were there.” She felt like the tour guides were very helpful and knew what they were talking about.

Another eighth grade student from Garrison stated: “It’s small and everyone heard they have a good theater and music program. Their sports are pretty good.” This student, who preferred to stay anonymous, felt like the environment was small, but if that’s what you’re looking for then Haldane is a nice choice.

Not everyone walked away from the experience thinking Haldane was the best fit. One student, who wished to stay anonymous, said: “The teachers seem nice, but I didn’t like the school.”

The tour guides felt the visit went very well. One of the students who helped guide the Garrison students stated: “It gave a chance for the students to see everyday school life for us at Haldane. They were able to see what the school really is without everything being glorified, which I think is important.”

Haldane Model UN

By Eloise Pearsall

On the weekend of Nov. 4, Haldane’s Model UN club traveled to the University of Connecticut to participate in the conference held for high school students.

Haldane’s Model UN Club has been a consistent club for many years, but they hadn’t attended the UCONN conference since 2020, when they participated virtually. This was the first time they participated in the conference held for high school students.

Haldane’s Model UN club would leave for the conference, their adviser, Mrs. McGrath, was hit with COVID. Luckily Ms. Seaholm was able to step in.

When Benson arrived at UCONN, this being her first trip, she “felt more comfortable than I expected.” Because of COVID, many of the students there were also experiencing the conference for the first time. For three days, each group of students represented delegates of different countries, discussing problems relevant to today. The goal was to come to an agreement that would solve the issue at hand.

If you’re looking for a club to join at Haldane, Benson shares that she would recommend people join Model UN because it is a “great learning experience and it was interesting to meet new people from all across the country and hear new perspectives on current world issues.”

Haldane’s Club Fair

By Kayena Pierre

On Tuesday, Sept. 13, I attended Haldane High School’s Club Fair. I’m a freshman, so this was my first in-person school event since fifth grade!

The Club Fair took place outside of the high school and in the main lobby during 10th period. Upperclassmen set up tables providing information about their clubs and trying to recruit members. There were display posters and Google Classroom codes for students to join and get more information.

It was hot and humid outside, and chaotic, but everyone was friendly. I attended by myself and thought I would be pushed aside since I was a freshman but it wasn’t like that at all. Everyone who was representing their club at each station was welcoming. I went to seven stations to interview clubs and they were all interesting. There were new clubs starting this year, along with more-established clubs.

March For Our Lives (New!

Conrad White, founding member

- Things to know about the club: “I started this chapter over the summer and hopefully, the chapter will last longer than me. It’s inspired by the actual March For Our Lives movement that started in 2018 after the Parkland shooting” in Florida.

(Continued on Page 18)
Students vs. Faculty Volleyball

By Savannah Dugan

On Nov. 3, the annual Student vs. Faculty volleyball game occurred in the big gym. Students from grades 9 through 12 could attend this event. Also, any staff members could participate. Before the game, there was an ice cream social in the cafeteria. This was where students and staff bought ice cream and bonded.

This fundraiser was for the Class of 2024. Some students came to play in the game and others just came to watch. “I enjoyed watching everyone having fun; we should do more fundraisers like this,” said Jayden Trelloa, a sophomore.

Mrs. Scholm, who is the new foods teacher at Haldane, said: “It was thrilling to have the opportunity to play with my fellow colleagues.”

The whole point of these events is to strengthen relationships and even meet new people. In high school, new students come from different schools, including Theo Baranszsky-Job, who is a freshman and came from Garrison: “Man, it was great. I love the faculty versus student atmosphere; it feels friendly yet competitive.”

Club Fair (Continued from Page 17)

• What inspired you to start this club?
  “I wanted a place where I can talk and teach about gun violence. And I wanted to give myself and other students a place where they can.”

Yearbook Club
Ms. Peparo, faculty adviser

• Things to know about the club: “We document everything that happens in a school year and provide an amazing memento for anyone that’s interested.”
• Are there any requirements to join? “Can work, have a positive attitude, and can meet deadlines.”

Future Business Leaders of America (New!) John Kisslinger and Charlie Keegan, founding members

• Things to know about the club: John: “It’s been a work in progress for years originally a year before COVID.” Charlie: “The club is geared toward someone who has a slight interest in business or doesn’t have a plan after college. It’s good to experience many different types of majors that you can’t really experience here at Haldane.”
• Are there any requirements to join? “Can work, have a positive attitude, and can meet deadlines.”

Environmental Club (New!)
Ms. Braun, faculty adviser

• Things to know about the club: “This is my first year teaching this club; in order to make this a student-driven club I’m going to wait until we have some meetings and see what the students are interested in.”
• What inspired you to start this club? “I’ve always cared about the environment since I was little. It has just been in the back of my head. So I wanted to bring this to other people.”

Debate Club
Colin Hopkins, member

• Things to know about the club: “What we do is go into other schools and debate students on a variety of topics. It’s a very fun experience. It teaches you how to debate, how to form any arguments, and engage with other people.”

Poetry Club
Samuel Boter, member

• Things to know about the club: “Our club is not meant for writing poetry — it is meant for people who enjoy it, and read it, and people who want to show their own work. We have a new theme every week.”

Topics: “Our club is meant for writing poetry — it is meant for people who enjoy it, and read it, and people who want to show their own work. We have a new theme every week.”

• Topics: “Sometimes we talk about gender and sports, the importance of women being represented in the STEM field. We talk about body positivity, the idea, and the importance of consent. We have some guest speakers, and we also sometimes watch films/TV shows. There is just a wide range of things students that year want to do or talk about.”

Equestrian Center co-founder rides again

Equestrian center co-founder rides again

By Leonard Sparks

Anne Cabot talked and smiled as Ola, the Norwegian fjord workhorse she considers an “old friend,” recently carried her around the oval-shaped indoor arena at Topfield Equestrian Center in Philips- town.

Wendy Terebesi, Topfield’s horse trainer, held the reins as she led Ola, and Amy Berg, a volunteer, walked alongside with Sarah Uzelac, the executive director.

Cabot has spent a life carrying others: providing the land that holds the center, and the neighboring Glywood Center for Regional Food and Farming and Stonecrop Gardens; and supporting other conservation efforts in Philipstown with money and time. But now, on Feb. 11, she was being carried — not just by Ola, owned by her family for 25 years — but by Topfield, the organization she co-founded to provide therapeutic riding lessons to children and adults with developmental and physical disabilities.

Nearly three years ago, Cabot, 93, lost her sight, as well as her ability to mount a horse for the first time since her parents introduced her to a pony at 3 years old. Her return to riding this year is a product of prodding by friends and the existence of the center whose board she still chairs.

“All the more reason to get back on once I was blind,” said Cabot, referring to Topfield. “I never would have if this hadn’t been here.”

Cabot had already lost sight in one eye when the vision in the other disappeared at the beginning of the pandemic. It happened “suddenly,” she recalled, on the day she moved into a one-room cottage in a retirement community in Connecticut. Cabot returned to Philipstown after spending one night there.

NOTICE

John Levine (1963-2023)

A memorial service for John, Catherine and John Francis Levine, previously scheduled for Jan. 21, has been rescheduled for Saturday (March 4) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Clinton Funeral Home, 21 Parrott St., in Cold Spring, followed at 1:30 p.m. by a committal service at Cold Spring Cemetery.
In 1968, during the Vietnam War, Dave McTamaney graduated from Manhattan College with an English degree and enlisted in the U.S. Army rather than wait to be drafted. By enlisting, he was able to request an assignment, and journalist seemed a logical choice. After 10 weeks of basic training, and 10 weeks of instruction, he was designated a photographer.

“I didn’t want to be just a grunt with an M-16 and two pairs of boots,” recalls the lifelong Newburgh resident, now 76. “So they gave me an M-16, two pairs of boots and a Nikon.” Before being deployed, he was allowed to return home for a few days, and during that time, he got married. He had met his wife-to-be, Mary, in the fourth grade. In April 1969, 10 days after his wedding, McTamaney landed in Saigon, assigned to headquarters for the 5th Battalion, 42nd Artillery Unit. He says most of the photos requested by superiors were not of combat, but of girls planting rice seedlings, he said. “They wouldn’t use the photo because he had cigarettes in his helmet!” McTamaney’s nickname in Vietnam was “The Professor” because he was a college graduate. He said he was often surprised by the lack of education among his fellow soldiers. “I met people in the Army who had never been inside a school building,” he says. He sometimes read them the letters they received from girlfriends.

“One guy opened his letter, and a ring fell out,” he recalls. “We knew what it was going to say.” When his tour of duty ended in April 1970, McTamaney was ready to board a plane to Germany, where he would complete his service with an office job. At the checkpoint, a military police officer asked him to hand over his negatives. “What negatives?” he asked. He had wrapped them around his ankles under his socks, a common ploy, apparently, by Army photographers hoping to take some of their official work home. He was told if he wanted to get on the plane, he had to throw the negatives into a burning barrel.

During two much-quieter years in Germany, McTamaney taught English at a home for disabled children. He had never been inside a school building, “The Professor” because he was a college graduate. He taught for 30 years at Monroe-Woodbury High School in Central Valley, where he taught New Paltz was not a nice place for Vietnam veterans in 1971,” he says. “It was ugly, the things professors said.”

With his degree, McTamaney was hired at Monroe-Woodbury High School in Central Valley, where he taught for 30 years. Even with counseling, the impact of what he saw in Vietnam was not easily overcome. During his first night back in Newburgh in 1971, he was awakened by a siren. He rolled out of bed, crawled across the floor to a used Army locker his wife had bought and began searching among the coats and dresses for his rifle.

“It was a real panic moment until I realized I wasn’t over there anymore,” he recalls. “In Vietnam, you didn’t shower without your M-16.”

In 2018, McTamaney helped bring a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to the Newburgh riverfront. While there one rainy night, he had a panic attack. “I had this awful feeling of being unprotected,” he says. “And I didn’t have my M-16.”

He now helps other veterans who exhibit signs of post-traumatic stress syndrome get professional help. Since retiring as a teacher in 2001, McTamaney and his wife, who is the City of Newburgh historian, have focused on community service, including work with Safe Harbors, a housing and arts redevelopment project, the Orange County Veterans Memorial and Habitat for Humanity.

“I met people who joined the Army because there were bathrooms in the barracks,” he said. “At Habitat for Humanity, we’re making something possible for people who have nothing.” McTamaney, who wore his front door key on a chain around his neck during his time in Vietnam, says he wouldn’t mind visiting the country again, as a civilian.

“I’d like to see what they’ve been able to do, to see progress,” he said, “not to go just to say: ‘This is where my foxhole was.’”

In a photo that McTamaney was able to mail to a relative, Army medics treat local Vietnamese villagers during the war. His other photos were kept by the Army. Photo by Dave McTamaney

Dave McTamaney during his time in Vietnam

McTamaney volunteers in Newburgh with Habitat for Humanity. Photos provided

Something You Don’t Know About Me

Dave McTamaney

By Michael Turton

In 1971, he worked as a substitute teacher at a public school known for its rough reputation. “They said they hired me because I had combat experience,” he says. He soon returned to school, enrolling at SUNY New Paltz to earn a master’s degree in teaching. “New Paltz was not a nice place for Vietnam veterans in 1971,” he says. “It was ugly, the things professors said.”

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Dave McTamaney during his time in Vietnam

McTamaney volunteers in Newburgh with Habitat for Humanity. Photos provided
At daylight, another crew member begged a passing farmer to take Wood on his wagon to Cold Spring, but the farmer refused, saying he had a full load. Finally, Wood found a ride in the afternoon, nearly 24 hours after the accident, where surgeons Lente and Murdock reconnected the artery. Wood then took the late train home from Cold Spring.

The editor of the Fishkill Journal said he would no longer be lending books because his library had been reduced to dictionaries and government documents.

Prof. J.W. Doughty and members of his class at the Academy “chained” the distance from the Newburgh dock to Pollopel’s Island [later Bannerman’s] and found it be 3 miles and 37 hundredths.

A party of ladies and gentlemen hired a sleigh to take them from Glenham to a clothing store on Front Street, trying on a coat. Wilson was arrested at a nearby saloon.

A well-dressed man appeared at the Dela-ware House in Port Jervis, giving his name as C.W. Sterling and saying he was the advance man for a theater company then in Middle-town. He inquired about the cost of rooms

150 Years Ago (February 1873)

The Phoenix Manufacturing Co. of Fishkill contracted to build 20 brick machines for the estate, the son of Joseph Wood of Fishkill. While cutting wood on a Philipstown farm, the former editor of the Fishkill Journal, J.G. Contarini, the former editor of the defunct Matteawan Chronicle who was serving a two-year sentence at Sing Sing for bigamy, said he had given up on receiving a pardon from the governor, although Wife No. 3 was still working to procure one.

A ferry was under construction that would be capable of transferring a full train’s worth of passengers from Fishkill Landing to Newburgh.

L.G. Murphy, principal of the Matteawan Union School, was being investigated because he allegedly improperly punished a student.

At the same time, the machine shop at H.N. Swift in Matteawan was manufacturing an invention by a South Carolina man that, using a spring, could run a sewing machine for 90 minutes without winding.

Swift in Matteawan was manufacturing an undershirt while O’Neil purportedly secreted three shawls and three rubber dolls. The couple next visited Lester & Harrington, Member & Sons, where Wilson purchased an undershirt while O’Neil purchased nuts, and T&J Ambrey, where Wilson was measured for pants while O’Neil visited the dry goods store of J.E. Member & Sons, where Wilson purchased a shirt and O’Neil purportedly secreted three shawls and three rubber dolls. The couple next visited Lester & Harrington, where they allegedly stole two coats, and T&J Ambrey, where Wilson was measured for pants while O’Neil reported a lost blue coat. Wilson was arrested at a nearby saloon.

At the sound of an outside alarm on Fishkill Landing, Mrs. J.W. Spaight, the wife of the editor of the Fishkill Standard, stepped off the upper step of the staircase, falling and breaking her wrist.

125 Years Ago (February 1898)

The Poughkeepsie Journal ran a correction to a report that had stated that Charles Francis Green had been arrested in Matteawan for abandoning his wife and children. The paper said the report had done an injustice to the hard-working Green, for it was Mrs. Green who abandoned him, then sued him for child support.

Daniel Budd, it was used as a blockhouse or outpost to defend against Native Americans and later as a stagecoach relay house.

A couple was arrested at Fishkill Landing for shoplifting. Henry Wilson and Mary O’Neil visited the dry goods store of J.E. Member & Sons, where Wilson purchased an undershirt while O’Neil purportedly secreted three shawls and three rubber dolls. The couple next visited Lester & Harrington, where they allegedly stole two coats, and T&J Ambrey, where Wilson was measured for pants while O’Neil reported a lost blue coat. Wilson was arrested at a nearby saloon.
for 12 people for two weeks, then presented a check for $86,50 (about $3,100 today) drawn on the First National Bank of Fishkill. The proprietor telegraphed the bank to make sure the check was good. The reply came: “Check is no good. Hold the man. Don’t let him escape. Officer will go for him.” Officer Mosher of Fishkill Landing arrived that evening, arrested Sterling at the concert hall and brought him to Matteawan. Sterling pleaded guilty to defrauding the Grand Army of the Republic (by keeping money collected for its production of The Prince of Liars) and a jeweler (by providing a worthless $50 check as security for three gold rings).

The deckhands on the Ramsdell threw ropes from the side of the ferry to rescue four skaters on the Hudson River who were adrift on a cake of ice.

George Bonticou of Matteawan said he had obtained options on most brickyards along the Hudson River to form a brick trust with capital of several million dollars. The only holdout was the Rose Brick Co. of Roseton, 4 miles north of Newburgh.

A wood-sawing contest for charity between young women on one side and men on the other was engaged in at the Dibble Opera House the next day for a drive to ban movie theaters from operating on Sundays. A 4-year-old boy lost an eye and two fingers when the kitchen stove exploded in his home on Hudson Avenue.

Lewis Ebert, who commuted daily from Beacon to lower Manhattan for 25 years, calculated that he had spent nearly five years in transit, covering 39,000 miles annually, and spent $3,000 ($52,000) over the years on fares. His 2 1/2-hour trip each way included the Beacon trolley, the New York Central and promoted Friday night shopping. Mayor Robert Cahill announced a crack-down on unpaid parking tickets, noting that 55 percent of the tickets issued in January remained unpaid. The City Council also approved the purchase of a speed radar gun for $985 ($6,600).

A fire that shot through the roof of Bernhard High School, the First Baptist Church began a petition drive to ban movie theaters from operating on Sundays. The Young People’s Local Union of the First Baptist Church began a petition drive to ban movie theaters from operating on Sundays. The Young People’s Local Union of the First Baptist Church began a petition drive to ban movie theaters from operating on Sundays.
Even though it seems like we can begin planting our vegetable gardens in this mild weather, keep it to planning instead. With another three months until the last frost date, a lot can happen outdoors before spring arrives. In the meantime, make lists, draw layouts and read seed catalogs.

Since last season's drought, I've given a lot of thought to what foods I will try to grow this year. Despite all the right preparation with soil and mulch, vegetables still need constant watering and care. Our summer will most likely be hotter, judging by recent trends. (I feel confident that I don't need to include statistics to show that our weather is weird. We all remember that 80-degree day last November, right?)

For these reasons, I'm being choosier about vegetable varieties, focusing on ones that can withstand harsh conditions — hot or cold, dry or wet — and diseases. Many commonly planted seeds aren't used to this new normal. So, when an email about Carol Deppe's climate-resilient varieties popped up in my inbox from one of my go-to sources, it felt fortuitous.

I'm familiar with Deppe's work from her book, *The Resilient Gardener: Food Production and Self-Reliance in Uncertain Times*. Written in 2010, her message is even more urgent now, when natural disasters are becoming weekly or monthly events rather than annual or 10-year ones.

Fedco Seeds is stocking six of the varieties that Deppe created during four decades of breeding, and they are the foundation of her survivalist gardening method. She identified ways to have a balanced, nutrient-rich diet by growing corn, beans, squash and potatoes while raising chickens. Her book includes methods for storage and drying for a garden that feeds people throughout the year.

Fedco is offering four different kinds of beans, corn and squash from Deppe. The Open Source Seed Initiative has an additional 15 types that she dedicated to sharing. OSS, a nonprofit that Deppe chaired in recent years, advocates sharing the genetic material of plants. At a time when patenting seeds for maximum profit is the norm, growers have pledged 600 different types of seed as a world seed-bank source.

Deppe intended for gardeners to purchase a seed once and then save seeds from the harvest for another season, thus continuing the cycle of breeding for local conditions through selection. I've got Fast Lady Northern Southern Pea seeds on my garden list for this year. They can be picked to eat fresh in just two months, or left to dry over three months for harvest.

As some of the earliest plants that can be sown, peas thrive in cooler temperatures. It also makes them susceptible to mold from spring's dampness. Deppe's peas, however, are a bush style that lets air flow around the plants more easily, keeping foliage drier.

I'm also intending to plant her Goldini II, an organic golden zucchini. She described it as “possibly the fastest germinating and growing, and most-productive summer squash on the planet, including hybrids.” In the Northeast, it should be ready to harvest in 45 to 55 days. In the Pacific Northwest, where Deppe lived, it was a mere 35 days. Techniques for drying and using it throughout winter are in the book.

This year I'll try growing beans to dry and store for the first time, using White Candle Gaucho beans. Deppe bred them from an Argentinian heirloom variety. Ready to harvest in 88 days, the beans go from green to dry quickly on the bush, an advantage when rainfall could damage the harvest. And that harvest? The yield is listed as 20 pounds per 100 feet of plants. While I won't be planting that many, it's good to know I could.

From her writing, I know that Deppe valued flavor and versatility as much as disease resistance in her plants. Do all gardeners love food? I'm not sure, judging by the state of grocery store produce. Deppe definitely did, and I hope to taste the results in my garden this summer.

And finally, a tribute to Deppe, who died last year. She found immortality in gardening, and her contributions to the world will last as long as anyone keeps planting her seeds.
Puzzles

CrossCurrent

Across
1. Sailing vessel
6. Clear the deck?
9. Kitten’s cry
12. A Marx brother
13. Low digit
14. “Xanadu” band
15. Baby hooter
16. Florida city
18. Handsome guy
20. Convert dwellers
21. Brooch
23. Tool set
24. March honoree, for short
25. Fed. food inspector
27. Grinding tooth
29. “At once!”
31. Attention-getting call
35. Senior member
37. Lingerie fabric
38. Houston player
41. Convent dwellers
42. Handsome guy
45. Florida city
49. Revise
52. Tokyo, once
53. “Humbug!”
54. Keaton of Annie
55. Lair

Down
1. HBO competitor
2. Attorney’s field
3. Florida city
4. Pundit’s piece
5. The Chosen author Chaim
6. Cuban rum cocktail
7. Burden
8. Zing
9. Convened
10. Justice Kagan
11. In the — way (very much)
12. Spock portrayer
13. Young seal
14. — Paulo
15. Baby hooter
16. Florida city
17. Preambles
18. Handsome guy
19. Spock portrayer
20. — Paulo
21. Young seal
22. Florida city
23. Bikini top
24. Bikini top
25. Fed. food inspector
26. — Paulo
27. Grinding tooth
28. — Paulo
29. “At once!”
30. Attention-getting call
31. Attention-getting call
32. Florida city
33. Vintage
34. Approves
35. Senior member
36. Sultry singer Kitt
37. Lingerie fabric
38. Queried
39. Soft leather
40. Check the fit of
41. Justice Kagan
42. Handsome guy
43. “Humbug!”
44. Florida city
45. Russian ruler
46. Send forth
47. Florida city
48. Flow out
49. Revise
50. Away from SSW
51. Aachen article

7 LittleWords

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. Unloads in a hurry (9)
2. They may be domed (8)
3. Out of touch with reality (5)
4. Cracker in a s’more (6)
5. Unmasked (7)
6. Siberian sled dog (7)
7. Zendaya’s last name (7)

SudoCurrent

Answers for Feb. 10 Puzzles


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

Haldane overwhelmed Pawling, 69-31, at home on Feb. 11 to claim its fifth consecutive league title, then defeated Briarcliff, 66-51, Tuesday (Feb. 14) on the road for the team’s 10th straight victory.

In Tuesday’s win over the Bears, Matteo Cervone had a big night, scoring 32 points. Ben Bozsik added 10 and Will Bradley and Matt Nachamkin each had seven.

“We played a little sloppy, but any win on the road is a beautiful win,” said Coach Joe Virgadamo. “Our half-court defense was very strong in the fourth, and Matteo had a beast of a game. It’s a nice win-streak we have going.”

At Pawling, Michael Murray led Haldane with 12 points, followed by Ryan Van Tassel (11), Bradley (11), Nachamkin (9), Bozsik (7), Jesse Hagan (6), Evan Giachinta (6) and Thomas Rockett (4).

Haldane (15-4) is scheduled to finish its regular season today (Feb. 17) at Franklin Roosevelt in Hyde Park. The Blue Devils then advance to the Section I, Class C semifinal on Feb. 28 at the Westchester County Center in White Plains, where they will be the No. 2 seed and face No. 3 Alexander Hamilton (14-5). In the other semifinal, No. 1 Tuckahoe (13-6) will play No. 4 Leffell (8-12). The seedings are based on wins and strength of schedule.

Beacon, meanwhile, ended its regular season on a sour note with a 58-52 loss on Feb. 10 at Monticello. For three quarters, the Bulldogs were in charge, with a 28-18 halftime lead and a 40-34 lead going into the fourth quarter. But Beacon got sloppy, giving up 24 points in the fourth.

The Bulldogs (14-6) are expecting the No. 4 seed in the Section IX, Class A tournament, which begins Feb. 25 with a home game against a lower-seeded team.

“We were up for the entire game, until about three minutes left,” said Coach Patrick Crowe. “Turnovers cost us. That left a bitter taste, but I think it put some fire in their bellies going into the playoffs. We had won four in a row, so losing that last one hurt.”

GIRLS’ BASKETBALL

Beacon recorded a 48-23 victory over host Cornwall on Tuesday (Feb. 14) behind Reilly Landisi’s 18 points. Daveya Rodriguez added 10 and Devyn Kelly had eight.

“We started off timid offensively, but made adjustments in the second half,” said Coach Christina Dahl. “We went on a 20-2 run in the third and never looked back.”

With the win, Beacon (13-5) clinched the league championship, its first since 2014. Beacon also defeated Monticello at home, 55-22, on Feb. 9. Landisi led the Bulldogs with 19 points, followed by Shadaya Ruggiero (11), Kelly (11) and Rodriguez (8).

Beacon is scheduled to open the Section IX, Class A tournament on Feb. 25.

For Haldane, however, wins have come at a premium this season, and the Blue Devils had one in sight on Tuesday, holding a 26-23 lead over visiting O’Neill at halftime.

But the Raiders went to work in the third and took a four-point lead midway through the period. O’Neill led 38-31 at the end of three and never trailed again en route to a 51-39 victory.

O’Neill’s defensive intensity after halftime led to many turnovers for the Blue Devils that the Raiders converted into points at the other end. O’Neill held Haldane to five points in the third quarter and eight in the fourth.

Marisa Peters had 10 points for Haldane, Betsy Cates had nine, Mairread O’Hara finished with eight and Kayla Ruggiero delivered a pair of second-half 3-pointers.

“We’re playing better defense,” Coach Ed Crowe said. “And we’ve been working on our shooting — that’s one of our big pieces. We’ve come a long way from the start of the season,” he said. “At times it’s been a struggle, but we played a very tough schedule — the 10th-toughest in the section. I think we’re ready to make a run and compete for a sectional championship.”

Haldane, which finished 3-17 (1-5 league), will face No. 1 Tuckahoe (12-8) in the Section I, Class C semifinal on Feb. 28 at the Westchester County Center. No. 2 Hamilton (11-9) and No. 3 Leffell (8-12) will compete in the other semifinal.

WINTER TRACK

Damani Deloatch was Beacon’s lone winner at the Section IX, Class A championship on Feb. 11 at West Point, winning the triple jump with a total of 43-9. He also placed fourth in the long jump.

Henry Reinke was fifth in the 1,000 in a personal-record time of 2:38, which was also the fourth-best time in school history. Thomas Rapp pushed his shotput personal record to 34-5.

Beacon heads to The Armory in Manhattan today (Feb. 17) for the North Shore Pre-National Invitational. Deloatch will compete in long jump and triple jump, and Reinke in the 200- and 400-meter races. The team will be at state qualifiers on Feb. 25.

Haldane competed Feb. 8 at The Armory in the Section I, Class C championships. For the boys, John Kisslinger finished seventh in the 600-meters in 1:29.62; Merrick Williams was seventh in the 55-meter hurdles in 8.47 seconds; and the 4x200 relay team finished fourth in 1:39.47.

For the girls, Samantha Thomas was seventh in the 55 meters in 8.01 seconds and Andrea Vasconcelos finished fourth in the triple jump with 28-03.75.

HALL OF FAME

Through March 1, Haldane is accepting nominations for athletes, teams, coaches and administrators to be inducted into its Athletic Hall of Fame.

Nominees must have graduated before 2019. Inductees are selected by a committee that includes three Haldane coaches, an administrator other than the athletic director, a community member, the president of the booster club, two alumni and a retired district employee. See haldaneschool.org/athletics/hall-of-fame.