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“I’m thinking deck chairs and a piña colada with a little umbrella in it,” he said. “I didn’t know much about sailboats, but I figured you didn’t walk much on it.”

The boat was the brand-new sloop Woody Guthrie, a smaller-scale replica of the sloop Clearwater that folk singer Pete Seeger and friends had built 10 years before. Seeger was there and, as Schwartz found out when they pushed off from the dock and discovered that there wasn’t enough wind to catch the sail, he liked to do things the old-fashioned way.

**Beacon: Then, Now and How**

*The city has long been fertile ground for community activism. Why here?*

By Brian PJ Cronin

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**Philipstown to End E-Vehicle Honor System**

*Also weighs more solar, approves fees for e-waste*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

Philipstown plans to replace the “honor boxes” at its e-vehicle chargers at Town Hall with equipment that requires payment. Town Clerk Tara Pecacciolo reported that drivers deposited $80 in the first month, but the monthly yield then fell to, at most, $30. At the Philipstown Town Board meeting on June 1, Supervisor John Van Tassel also noted that some drivers monopolize the chargers for hours, or even overnight.

Once the new chargers are in place, “nobody’s going to be getting a free ride any longer,” Van Tassel promised. At the same time, the town plans to install two new pay-per-use chargers in the parking strip at Mayor’s Park in Cold Spring.

**Putnam Valley Fire Sues Over Dumping**

*Seeks at least $1.75 million in cleanup costs*

By Leonard Sparks

The Putnam Valley Volunteer Fire Department is suing a contractor and a materials recycler to recover the more than $1.75 million in taxpayer funds it has spent cleaning up contaminated construction fill and debris illegally dumped in 2016 at the site of its new firehouse.

The federal lawsuit, filed May 19 in White Plains, accuses John Adorno, the owner of Universal Construction in Yorktown Heights, of dumping 10,000 cubic tons of material at the fire department property at 218 Oscawana Lake Road. It also names Metro Green, which recycles construction and excavation material at a facility in Mount Vernon.

The material included asphalt, bricks, concrete and lumber. Testing by HDR Engineering, which was hired to clean up the site, found that it was contaminated with arsenic and other heavy metals.

**AIR ALERT — The air in the Highlands and throughout the eastern U.S. turned orange and hazy with smoke this past week from hundreds of forest fires burning in Canada. This shot of the Hudson River was taken at 1:15 p.m. on Wednesday (June 7) from Anthony’s Nose in southern Philipstown. New York State issued a health advisory, cautioning people who need to be outdoors to wear N95 or equivalent masks. The fires may continue to loft smoke for weeks or months, meteorologists said.**

Photo by Lucy Fressich
FIVE QUESTIONS: MICHEAL FAISON

By Jeff Simms

Michéal Faison helped organize Beacon’s first Juneteenth celebration, which will be held June 19 at Riverfront Park.

How did everything come together for the event?

I was actually at home and it just hit me that we need to do a Juneteenth festival. I called my niece, who is good at organizing. It’s going to feature my band and other local bands with Black artists, but it’s not just limited to Black artists, because my band is interracial. We’ll have Black entertainers, comedians, singers, dancers, poets — people doing whatever they do to be a part of the festival. Beacon 4 Black Lives also stepped in to help get the permits and that stuff.

I never thought we would see this [Juneteenth celebrated as a national holiday] in my lifetime, but I’m glad we can start it here, and then the younger generations can keep it rolling. A lot of the Black folks who were born and raised here moved away, so we tried to reach out to them to come home for a day. And it’s not just for Black folks; it’s for anyone who wants to come have a good time.

You’re known as “Bosco.” How did you get that nickname?

It came from a drummer named Randy Ciarlante who used to play with Levon Helm. We played at firehouses together when we were teenagers. I walked in one night and he said, “Ladies and gentlemen, here’s Bosco.” I said, “Who is Bosco?” and he said that was my new nickname. Back then I was designing clothes, so I went home and designed a silver spacesuit and wrote Bosco on the back and put a big ol’ Afro wig on. The next time we played a firehouse, I walked in with that Afro and silver spacesuit and it’s been going ever since.

When did you start performing?

I started when I was 8 or 9 in a family gospel group called the Stars of Bethlehem at Star of Bethlehem Church, which was here on Main Street. We won a competition at the Dutchess County Fair two years in a row; we also won at the state fair. From there, I was introduced to British rock ’n’ roll. I started a group called Kid’s Stuff and for five or six years, that’s what we did, all kinds of crazy rock ’n’ roll. In my 20s, I started a group called the New York Underground and we did the local clubs. But I dreamed bigger. I wanted to do cruise ships; I wanted to travel around the world. So we started Bosco and the Storm. We went to Israel, we went to the United Arab Emirates and played in Dubai, where we got the opportunity to perform for the crown prince. From there, we started doing cruise ships. I’m not done yet. I’ve still got five or six countries that I want to hit. The younger musicians that I have in the band now, they keep me young. I’ve always done something else at the same time. I worked at Wassaic Developmental Center for 10 years. I worked at Dia for 13 years. Then I just said, “I’m done with that.” I needed to play music completely. So I dedicated the rest of my life to it.

You were alive during the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. What is your assessment of race relations today?

We still have a long way to go. In my world, being a Black entertainer, the clubs paid you less back then. Sometimes you couldn’t even get into certain clubs because they were afraid that a lot of Black folk were going to show up. But I would tell club owners to do their homework; when they would find that my following is mixed, or even predominantly white, that’s the way I got hired.

I was at the Beacon neighborhood service organization on Main Street when we got the word that Martin Luther King Jr. had been shot. I was young, but I knew what he stood for. In the gospel group we had back then, the lead singer wrote a song called “Free at Last” that was dedicated to him.

What advice would you give a young Black person?

Whatever your dream is — no matter what it takes — follow it. You can only win. I’ve never made it to the biggest of the biggest times. But I’ve been able to make a life and a career out of it. I’ve enjoyed every minute, and I’ve done more than most local bands do because I had a dream and I wanted to live that dream. I had parents who helped me live that dream, and now my kids are living theirs.
Shakespeare Festival Receives $10 Million

State arts council allots capital grants

The New York State Council for the Arts on Tuesday (June 6) announced $90.5 million in capital funding for 19 cultural organizations, including $10 million for the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival in Garrison and $7.5 million for the Storm King Art Center.

HVSF will receive funds for its outdoor theater and ecological land restoration at its 98-acre campus at the former Garrison golf club, while the grant to the Storm King Art Center will pay for an expanded parking lot and a conservation, fabrication and maintenance building.

Among the other recipients, the Art Effect of the Hudson Valley, located in Poughkeepsie, was given $2.46 million for upgrades to its Trolley Barn Gallery and community arts hub.

Haldane Appoints Athletic Director

Haldane returns to Cold Spring after eight years

The Haldane school board on Tuesday (June 6) approved the appointment of a new athletic director, Tom Cunningham, who returns to the district after eight years.

Cunningham was named the director of athletics, physical education and health, and dean of students. He has held the same position in the Hyde Park school district since 2017 and previously worked for the Croton-Harmon district and at Haldane from 2010 to 2015.

Cunningham, who will begin July 1 and earn $146,000 annually, succeeds John Giaretta, who was the interim athletic director for 2022-23 following the departure of Dan Cowan, who left to return to the Hyde Park district as an assistant principal.

Two Airlines Drop Westchester Routes

Delta drops Boston and United suspends Chicago

Delta and United airlines each announced last week they plan to drop routes from Westchester County Airport in White Plains.

Delta said it will no longer offer flights to and from Boston, which it began about a year ago, because of a shortage of pilots. It will continue to offer daily flights to Atlanta and Detroit and said it will increase the frequency of those two routes.

United said it will suspend its service to and from Westchester from Chicago as of Sept. 1. It also cited a shortage of pilots.

Wildfire Ignites in Garrison

Firefighters called to train station

Firefighters and forest rangers were called to the Garrison train station called to the Garrison train station around 4 p.m. on Tuesday (June 6) after a wildfire broke out June 2 between a trail and the Hudson River and spread to the Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve.

Firefighters from Cold Spring, Garrison and North Highlands had the flames under control by 10 p.m., according to state officials. Overnight the fire grew from 1 acre to 1.5 acres, and on June 3, park staff, state park police and local firefighters had the blaze under control again by 4:11 p.m.

Dutchess Preparations to Move Inmates

New jail expected to be ready by August

The Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office plans to begin moving inmates to the newly completed Justice and Transition Center facility as early as August, according to a report by the county comptroller.

As of March 31, $166 million had been spent or committed to the project, the largest in county history, with $26 million remaining, the comptroller said.

The first phase of the project, the Law Enforcement Center, was completed in 2019; the jail should be finished next month. Its design was recently altered to reduce the beds by 20, to 308. Inmates are expected to be moved into the jail between August and November, the comptroller said.

The Department of Public Works has asked the county to provide $725,000 of its federal pandemic relief funds to convert the current jail, built in 1995, into a homeless shelter.

Putnam Executive Nominates Finance Head

Will succeed longtime commissioner Bill Carlin

The Putnam executive this week appointed Michael Lewis as the county’s next finance commissioner. He will succeed Bill Carlin, who retired after 34 years.

Lewis, a Mahopac High School and Pace University graduate and former deputy commissioner of finance for New Rochelle, has been Carlin’s chief deputy since 2021. He was appointed to the top job on the recommendation of a selection committee that included Carlin, Legislator Joseph Castelano, the deputy county executive and the director and deputy director of personnel.

Lewis is currently the interim finance commissioner; County Executive Kevin Byrne has submitted his appointment to the Legislature for approval. Carlin will remain with the agency until the end of the year in an advisory role.

REAL ESTATE MARKET

HOME SALES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE LAST 30 DAYS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>BEACON SCHOOL DISTRICT</th>
<th>PROPERTIES</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>BEDS</th>
<th>BATHS</th>
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<td>Fishkill</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your favorite neighborhood experts, now empowered by the network and technology of Compass.

Contact us for a free market analysis.

Charlotte Guernsey
Team Leader, Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker
845.831.9550 | 490 Main Street, Beacon
@gatehousecompass | gatehousecompass.com

The Gate House Team is a team of Licensed Associate Real Estate Brokers and Licensed Real Estate Salespersons associated with Compass. Compass is a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws.
Class size

It was refreshing to read that the Haldane school budget discussions about the number of classes in the primary grades considered the argument that small is not necessarily better (“Can a Class Be Too Small?” May 26). In terms of student achievement, research suggests that the difference between 17 and 30 students is negligible. Yet stakeholders regularly go to the mat over changing class size by three or four students.

Of course, achievement is not the only measure that matters: Culture and climate and how students’ individual needs are met. They are considered to be of important every time. The most qualified and experienced teacher is hard-pressed to provide the highest-quality learning environment and time for students if she lacks the time to develop her knowledge and skills, and if she lacks regular and substantive opportunities to collaborate with her colleagues on keeping abreast of research on pedagogy, diagnosing individual student needs, monitoring students’ progress and building lessons in which they deeply learn essential concepts.

While we focus on class size, we overlook the fact that teachers in the U.S. have more face-to-face time with students than teachers in other countries, particularly in the highest-performing systems in the world. Their teachers are often tethered to their classrooms, with barely a break for lunch.

Your article referred to an Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development report comparing class size internationally. Other OECD reports show that U.S. teachers spend on average 27 hours on face-to-face teaching each week while the average internationally is 19 hours, and that figure is lower in the highest-performing systems. The students in those countries spend as much or more time in school as ours do and those systems do not have more teachers than we do. Rather, they have made quality teaching their priority and organized to achieve that. In some cases, it has meant having larger class sizes.

High-quality teaching and learning has been the focus of my life’s work in the U.S. and in my native Australia. It’s refreshing to work with a school system that sets its sights on high-quality teaching and begins to think outside the box to make that happen.

Ann Borthwick, Garrison

Borthwick is a learning-systems analyst with the National Center on Education and the Economy, a think tank based in Washington, D.C.

Route 301

Maybe the safety issues could have been addressed in Nelsonville before letting a business locate there that attracts more customers driving and walking (“Braving Route 301,” May 26). The site in the past had nowhere near that kind of use. You can’t blame the business owners, but you have to wonder what the village was thinking when it approved the change of use.

Tony Bardes, Philipstown

Asylum-seekers

The declaration of a state of emergency in Putnam by County Executive Kevin Byrne due to the migrant housing crisis in New York City is unacceptable (“Judge Bars Migrants from Dutchess Hotels,” May 26). Byrne is deliberately stoking racist fears based on imaginary circumstances: Asylum-seekers are not being sent to Putnam. In fact, the New York Civil Liberties Union is suing counties that are attempting to block hotels from housing migrants, so this just sets us up for wasting money on entirely avoidable lawsuits.

Sadly, the characterization of asylum-seekers and other immigrants as dangerous criminals is distasteful, but it fits one of Putnam’s age-old traditions of insensitivity and a lack of inclusiveness. No human being is illegal.

The county executive needs to withdraw his state of emergency and promote a spirit of compassion and understanding for our fellow human beings who have chosen to come to this country from adverse hostile circumstances. As established residents of Putnam, we are far removed from their fate, but we may have relatives, parents or ancestors who were refugees from war, ethnic persecution and economic adversity because of corruption. In a global society, immigrants need to be treated humanely, as fellow citizens and as neighbors whom we embrace with love and compassion.

Julgen Tempel, Brewster

Editor’s note: On Thursday (June 8), New York City sued more than 30 counties, including Dutchess and Putnam, for issuing “unlawful emergency executive orders.”

I was troubled to see in Letters and Comments (June 2) that you chose to print the hateful comment by Sue Clary in response to asylum-seekers being bused from New York City to Dutchess County. While I support free speech, and work for an organization that supports free speech (PEN America), I do not support hate speech. Publishing such dehumanizing rhetoric about marginalized people facing immense trauma and discrimination only amplifies and legitimizes hate speech while contributing to an environment of hostility toward asylum-seekers.

As you continue to discern which submissions to publish in Letters and Comments while upholding your mission of being “a trusted independent and nonpartisan source of information on topics of importance to our Hudson Highlands communities,” I hope
LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

you will consider the impact of the voices you choose to amplify and how they directly affect the greater good of Highland communities.

Jenny Tibbels, Beacon

That was an interesting set of letters to the editor in response to your coverage of the asylum-seekers being bused to Dutchess. Placing the letters from Sue Clary and Jane Silver Timm next to each other covered the spectrum and is a wonderful commentary on the range of thought in our society.

Bill Harris, Philipstown

Public toilets

The idea of $200,000 for a single, freestanding lavatory pod seems excessive ("Wide Angle: The Trouble with Toilets," May 19). Has anyone considered using that kind of money to reconfigure or modify existing public structures?

For example, could a bathroom annex be added to the post office, the library, the Dutchess County government offices or by the police station, with clearly marked, separate entrances and exits for the general public, so as not to disrupt official business?

I’m not a skilled tradesperson, but perhaps connecting to existing plumbing systems might be a cost-effective strategy.

Alyssa Bonilla, Beacon

Columnist Stowe Boyd responds: “The City of Beacon’s Main Street Access Committee, which I chaired until earlier this year, is a wonderful commentary on the range of thought in our society.

That’s why I advocate simply following the original intent of the state plumbing law and requiring businesses to provide access to visitors, not just employees and customers.”

Cold Spring zoning

A working group doesn’t really seem secret if it holds regular public meetings to report progress and get feedback ("Cold Spring Continues Code Update," May 19). Time intervals perhaps could be improved, but otherwise, it would be better to focus on the substance of the meetings.

The village code is hostile to a Home Depot-like addition, so scratch that worry about the future of the Marathon site on Kemble Avenue.

Instead of focusing on reality-adjacent negatives, we should remember that these planners are human beings like the rest of us, and they sometimes run late, make mistakes, re-schedule and delay. The village has to evolve — parts may be reserved for state to bring in more affordable housing.

The Marathon property, should it ever be used for housing, has plenty of potential parking space. A new access road might be a good idea, since a few tiny, one-way streets dominate the access points to that neighborhood.

Anita Peltonen, Cold Spring

Marist students will write news, features

The Current has hired two journalism students as general-assignment reporters for the summer in partnership with Marist College.

Mackenzie Boric is a rising senior at Marist who is the city/national editor for the campus newspaper, Marist Circle. A 2020 graduate of Ketcham High School in Wappingers Falls, Boric is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in communication with concentrations in journalism and public relations.

Erin-Leigh Hoffman is a rising senior at Marist who is the opinion editor for Marist Circle and president of the Society of Professional Journalists chapter. A 2020 graduate of Geneseo Central School, near Rochester, Hoffman is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in communication with a concentration in journalism and minors in music and political science.

The paid internships are made possible by Current members who contribute to our Student Journalists Program, which also funds high school correspondents during the school year.
Beacon: Then, Now and How
(Continued from Page 1)

“His favorite thing about that boat was rowing it,” Schwartz said. The immobile Schwartz and the spry Seeger spent the next three hours rowing the 9-ton sloop down to where some sailors call The Wind Gate, where the Hudson River narrows and deepens between Storm King and Breakneck Ridge. The Dutch, however, referred to that area as “the weather hole,” Schwartz discovered when the wind and current suddenly picked up with hellish intensity, determined to sink the Woody, as they had hundreds of other boats in that spot.

Three hours of rowing at a snail’s pace were followed by 10 minutes of breakneck panic, as the sloop zigzagged back and forth, narrowly missing the shore again and again. Finally, with Cold Spring in sight, Seeger dropped the sail and the sloop gently coasted into the dock as if being carried on a pillow.

“I turned to Pete and said: ‘What do I have to do to get back on this boat?’” Schwartz recalled. “And Pete said: ‘Show up tomorrow; we’re doing some maintenance.’”

Forty-five years later, tomorrow hasn’t ended. Schwartz is now a captain of the Woody Guthrie and spends more days on the water than off. It’s a volunteer position; as Schwartz proudly points out, no one has ever been paid, or been paid to be on the Woody. The Beacon Sloop Club still hosts free sailing trips on weeknights at 6 p.m. throughout the summer, and will hold its popular annual Strawberry Festival this Sunday at Pete & Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park in Beacon. When the Seegers and friends founded Toshi Seeger Riverfront Park in Beacon in 1969, the Hudson River was a different place — a power plant on the side of Storm King. After Clapp became education director, Common Ground Farm, based at the Stony Kill Environmental Center just outside Beacon, it launched one of the Hudson Valley’s first Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) projects in which members pay upfront for a share of a farm’s produce throughout the growing season.

After Clapp became education director, the farm started working on food-justice projects, such as offering free or discounted memberships, working with the Beacon school system and helping to found the Green Teens, in which teenagers are paid to plant community gardens while learning about the food system and how to cook the food they grow. Thanks to an ongoing grant, Common Ground gives away about half of the food it grows every year.

Clapp left in 2013 to become a nurse, which meant that she was overworked and overwhelmed after the pandemic hit. “Suddenly Beacon Mutual Aid sprang into existence, and I thought, ‘Oh, my God, I can’t believe this thing that I’ve always wanted to have happen in my community is happening and I can’t participate,’” she said. “It was painful.” She changed her work schedule so that she could help with distributions, “and I just loved it,” she said.

Every other Wednesday, a crew of volunteers became the first education director at Common Ground Farm.

Schwartz said he observed the same energy in the ongoing protests led by Beacon 4 Black Lives in the summer and fall of 2020 as he did in the early years of the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day marches in Beacon that the Seegers helped to found with the Southern Dutchess NAACP. “We’re Pete and Toshi’s children,” he said. And Seeger used to say, in reference to his work in Beacon, “I wanted to turn back the clock to when people lived in small villages and took care of each other.”

Feeding each other

Clapp and her family moved to Beacon 10 days before the towers fell. She didn’t know too many people, but the people she did know were looking to build community in the wake of the attacks. From that came Common Ground Farm, based at the Stony Kill Environmental Center just outside Beacon. It launched one of the Hudson Valley’s first Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) projects in which members pay upfront for a share of a farm’s produce throughout the growing season.

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Every other Wednesday, a crew of volun-
neers shows up at 6:45 a.m. behind Rombout Middle School to pack bags, sort donations and unload a truck from the Hudson Valley Food Bank. By 8 a.m. on a recent Wednesday there were more than 30 cars lined up, even though distribution would not begin for another hour. Clapp said that the group usually serves more than 60 cars, and most are transporting members of more than one family. Bags are also packed for home deliveries, and another batch is dropped at the Beacon Recreation Center.

It’s a diverse group that shows up to help. Clapp says: racially, economically and politically. “Everyone’s politics are all over the map, but it doesn’t get talked about,” she says. “This is nobody’s overt mission to change the world. It’s just people working together to do something good.”

The concept of mutual aid appeals to people who might not otherwise get involved in charity groups, Clapp says, because there’s no hierarchy. “I know several people who used to be in that line of cars every week who are now in positions of leadership in the group,” she said.

A similar philosophy governs Fareground, a food insecurity group that was founded in Beacon in 2014 and works with Common Ground Farm and Beacon Mutual Aid. “A lot of our volunteers are people who have in the past, or are currently, getting free food from us,” said Jamie Levato, its executive director, who in 2021 became the organization’s first paid employee. “That’s important to us, because they know what it’s like to have experienced food insecurity, so it helps how people engage with one another. But it’s also neighbors helping neighbors.”

“Being involved and taking action is simply the character of the Beacon community, and it has been for decades,” said Brooke Simmons, who helped to create I Am Beacon in 2012. In 11 years, the group has raised $33,000 in small donations for Beacon High School graduates, produced 300 episodes of a podcast that features community members and organized dozens of events, including a festival devoted to expanding mental health resources and an annual 5K run.

Simmons said the group was inspired by the legacy of the late Gracie Featherston, a community center and the MLK Jr. Center, and by role models such as Carmen Johnson and Lehman Anderson.

Julie Winterbottom, who moved to Beacon in 2016, said “there’s no better antidote to despair and a sense of powerlessness than working with others to actually get things done.” Last year, someone she knew invited her to the first meeting of a Beacon group devoted to addressing the climate crisis. Winterbottom insisted she was too busy but would come to one meeting. However, Beacon Climate Action Now struck a chord and she’s now a member of the group.

“It’s a collaborative, democratically run group,” she said. “We figure out a concrete campaign to work on and everyone pitches in. The climate crisis breeds fear and a feeling of helplessness, and this group has beautifully countered that.”

The group has been working with organizations such as Gracie Featherston and the Beacon Hebrew Alliance to collect supplies and offer outreach to the waves of asylum seekers who have arrived in the Hudson Valley in recent weeks. It is also pushing for more affordable housing.

Those issues may not seem to have a lot to do with being on the river, but Winterbottom said community care is an integral part of addressing climate change. “As the climate crisis accelerates, we’re only going to survive and thrive if we have community connection,” she said.

The mountain and the river

When Pete Seeger moved to Beacon in 1949, he had been branded a communist sympathizer. Only three businesses in town
would serve him. He said he built the chimney in his Highlands cabin out of rocks that people threw at him. Yet, when he died 55 years later, in 2014, the city mourned. He had helped change the place.

“This was a smoldering landfill when I got here in 1978,” said Schwartz, standing in Long Dock Park. “Now it’s one of the most beautiful places I’ve ever seen.”

It’s tempting to attribute all of this to the Seegers, but Clapp said she knows from working as a home health aide for older residents whose families have lived in the city for generations that it has long been a tight-knit, supportive place. In conversations with local organizers, the size and landscape of the city kept coming up as the reasons why activism has thrived here.

“This was a smoldering landfill when I got here in 1978. Now it’s one of the most beautiful places I’ve ever seen.

~ Steve Schwartz

“it was hard to find community in New York City because the place is so enormous and everyone is focused on their career,” Winterbottom offered. “Here you can make real connections with people because you see them again and again.”

The mountains and the river surround and contain the city, preventing sprawl. “It’s small and compact, so you see your neighbors all the time,” said Levato. “You see what’s going on, you see where the needs are.”

The city is also walkable, with a relatively narrow Main Street. Winterbottom noted that, after her urban downsizing, she could meet someone one day and run into the same person at Key Food or the library the next. Those connections “build a better town and better community organizations,” she said.

“There’s this constant flow of people coming from other places, and they want to meet each other,” said Clapp. “That’s part of what’s kept me here. My kids are grown and gone, but I have this constant flow of new people coming into my life.”

Finally, the mountains and river are lodestars. “It gives you this feeling of attachment and love for the place where you live,” said Winterbottom.

“That extends to wanting to take care of it, and wanting to work with other people to take care of it.”

“All the people who have lived in a special place, and we don’t want to mess it up,” said Clapp.

“You’ve got the mountains, you’ve got the river,” said Schwartz, one hand gesturing to each. “How could it not be Beacon?”

Democrats swept the Beacon council elections in 2019, winning all seven seats, including the mayoral race.

File photo by J. Simms

Where Have the Republicans Gone?

Once a GOP stronghold, the city has shifted Democratic

By Jeff Simms

Clara Lou Gould’s five terms as Beacon mayor were noteworthy for a number of reasons.

She was the first (and remains the only) female mayor in Beacon and the longest-serving female mayor in state history. In office from 1990 to 2007, she presided over the early stages of Beacon’s revitalization, guiding the city out of debt and helping to combat crime while ushering in an appreciation for open spaces and the arts, both of which would fuel a resurgence that continues today.

She was also a Republican — a rare breed in Beacon these days, at least in elected office.

In 2003, the same year that Gould won her fifth term, Beacon voters elected four Republicans and two Democrats to the City Council. Four years later, when Steve Gold, a Democrat, became mayor, voters installed five Democrats and Randy Casale, who was registered with the Independence Party.

The next mayoral election, in 2011, would see Casale elected to the first of two terms as mayor, running as the Independence and Republican candidate. The City Council members elected that year were split evenly between Democrats and Republicans, but beginning in 2013, Democrats have taken nearly every seat, with Casale the notable exception.

By 2019, Beacon Republicans put forth only one candidate and, in 2021, six Democrats ran unopposed for six council seats. (The mayor is elected every four years and the other council members run every two. The next municipal election will be this fall.)

The trend is not surprising in the context of state voter registrations. There are nearly 23,000 more Democrats in Dutchess County than there are Republicans. State-wide, Democrats outnumber Republicans more than 2 to 1.

According to the most recent data available from the county Board of Elections, Beacon in 2020 was 56 percent Democrat and other leftist-leaning parties, such as Green and Working Families. Twenty-four percent of voters were unaffiliated and 15 percent were registered as Republican or Conservative.

“It’s very hard to convince someone to run for office with those kinds of numbers,” said Peter Forman, a Republican who was Beacon’s city attorney from 1990 to 1999. Forman, who later served more than 20 years as a Dutchess County judge, recalled that in 1989, when he managed Gould’s first campaign, Beacon was closer to 40 percent Democrat, 30 percent Republican and 30 percent unaffiliated.

That split allowed Gould to build a coalition between Republican and independent voters that put her into office.

Forman cited his own loss in 2020 as a Dutchess County judge and a loss in 2021 by longtime City Court Judge Tim Pagones as the latest evidence of Beacon’s shifting political allegiance. He suggested that older city residents who may have voted Republican have died or moved away and “their houses were bought by Brooklyn, by and large.”

Gold served five terms on the City Council before being elected mayor in 2007. He remembers knocking on residents’ doors during his first campaign, in the mid-1990s, and meeting only one family that had relocated from Brooklyn. “Now, that’s impossible,” he said.

Decades ago, “when Beacon was populated by people who worked in its factories and many of the same families lived here for generations, voters backed candidates whom they knew from work, church, school and their neighborhood, rather than based on political affiliation,” he said.

It’s unclear how active the Beacon Republican Committee is these days. The most recent activity on its Facebook page was a post more than a year ago expressing support for former President Donald Trump. An image at the top of the page lists the party’s candidates for the 2017 municipal elections, and its site at beacon-gop.com is not operating. Susan Pagones, the wife of the former judge who managed his campaign, said she would forward a message to the committee chair but did not provide a name, and no one responded.

Justin Riccobono, who led the committee a decade ago but no longer lives in the city, said he does not know who the party’s leaders are in Beacon, and Michael McCormack, the chair of the Dutchess Republican Committee, did not respond to an email seeking information.

It could be challenging, Gold said, for a candidate to navigate New York State’s rules for collecting voter signatures and filing nominating petitions without guidance from party leadership. “It’s not something you could approach as a layperson and overcome those hurdles,” he said. “Without a strong party behind you, it could easily collapse.”

Clara Lou Gould said she viewed her time as mayor as working for everyone in the community. “I always considered it community service, not politics,” she said recently.

Gold also noted the adage that, on the
Politics (from Page 7)

local level, there aren’t Democratic or Republican ways to pave roads.  
But as national politics become more divisive, are local voters inclined to solely support the candidates aligned with their favored party?  
Lisa Jessup, the chair of the Beacon Democratic Committee, and Yvette Valdés Smith, a Democrat who represents part of Beacon in the Dutchess County Legislature, each suggested that the national Republican divide will lead to an increased number of voters who feel aligned with their party candidates to vote for,” said Jessup. She acknowledged that in the upcoming election, Democrat Eric Ecke will face a tough challenge in East Fishkill, where he is running for a legislative seat representing District 21. Voters there have historically supported Republicans, “but we put forth a candidate,” Jessup said.

In addition, if fewer Beacon voters turn out because Democrats are running unopposed for the City Council, “that can have an effect on the countywide races,” where Republicans and Conservatives hold 17 of the 25 seats in the Dutchess Legislature, Valdés Smith said. In 2019, with only one Republican on the municipal ballot, voter turnout in Beacon was 44 percent. Two years later, with Democrat Greg Johnston challenging for City Court judge and the six Democrats running unopposed for council seats, turnout was 32 percent.

“It’s always good to have meaningful debate,” said Forman. “It helps to keep elected officials accountable. If you don’t feel any pressure from the other side, you’re in a different position than if you’re in a more balanced community.”

A Plague Fueled by Crack

Beacon reeled from crime in the ‘90s

By Leonard Sparks

Before Daniel Aubry began marketing real estate from the storefront at 192 Main St. in Beacon, the building became a shrine to Michael Adrian Brown.

Police found the 19-year-old sprawled on the stoop of the then-boarded-up structure on Sept. 5, 1995 — one bullet struck Brown’s left arm, the other his face. People began filling the stoop with candles, cards and flowers in honor of the former Beacon High School student.

An article in the Poughkeepsie Journal described the building as “a one-time barber-shop, now marred by graffiti and peeling paint.” For police, the corner of Main and Willow streets, where 192 Main sat, was at the epicenter of the illegal drug trade and an era.

“Weapons, armed robberies, you name it,” said Harold Delamater, a retired Beacon detective. “It was the Wild West.”

Before city officials declared a full-fledged renaissance, Beacon residents had to survive the 1990s, when the emergence of crack cocaine fueled an outbreak of drug sales, robberies and burglaries. Homicides and reported rapes remained low, according to crime data, but other violent crimes — aggravated assaults and robberies — reached highs in the 1990s, when the crack epidemic spread upriver from New York City.

Beacon averaged 110 violent crimes during the period, peaking at 173 in 1995. Brown’s death was the sole homicide that year, but the city recorded its highest number of robberies and aggravated assaults since at least 1990.

Property crimes — burglaries, larcenies and car thefts — also spiked, which authorities attributed to people addicted to narcotics searching for items such as VCRs and televisions that could be sold. The 168 burglaries recorded in 1991 was 10 times the number recorded in 2022; the city averaged 209 larcenies annually during the 1990s, nearly twice as many as the 115 from 2022.

When Clara Lou Gould defeated Jim Fredericks in 1989 to become Beacon’s mayor, she named the illegal drug problem as a priority. She still held the mayor’s seat in 2000, when the crime wave began to register. Delamater became mayor, she named the illegal drug problem as a priority. She still held the mayor’s seat in 2000, when the crime wave began to register. Delamater

Police in Beacon and Poughkeepsie first noticed in late 1980s the emergence of the smokeable cocaine derivative that became known as crack. According to a Poughkeepsie Journal article in November 1986, “until six months ago, many local police officers didn’t know what the new crystalline form of cocaine looked like.” By March 1988, Fredericks and leaders of Beacon’s Muslim community gathered for a march along Main Street, where they vowed to drive out drug dealers. Before crack, Beacon officers mostly dealt with a handful of heroin addicts who largely kept to themselves; the odd person smoking a joint; public drinking; and dice games on Main Street, said Delamater.

Crack “slowly worked its way into Beacon,” he said. “When it came in, it came in with a vengeance. We were not prepared.”

Dealers selling crack dominated on the West End, along Main Street between Bank Square and Elm, and powder cocaine at the East End. Main and Cliff streets, and Main and Willow, where Brown died, were two of the hot corners, said Delamater.

The arrests during the 1990s included a man charged with stabbing a woman with a knife and demanding her bank cards, car and money; three Beacon men charged with possessing 66 vials of crack after police stopped a taxi near the Edgewater apartments; and two men arrested 2½ hours apart for selling drugs at Main and Cliff.

Police raided a third-floor apartment on Cliff Street being used as a stash house and a pool hall on the East End where dealers sold cocaine, said Delamater. In July 1990, police charged six people with felony cocaine possession and sales after raiding 163 and 174 Main St. and finding 6 ounces of cocaine and $5,000 cash.

Beacon’s East End hosted most of the city’s heroin trade, he said. Police raided one house and the dealer threw 100 bags of heroin out of a window — where it landed at the feet of a police officer, said Delamater.

Beacon averaged 105 burglaries annually in the 1990s, compared to an average of 20 since 2018. In addition to VCRs and televisions, thieves looked for cash and small items of value that could be fenced, such as jewelry. In 1990, a man living at the Mount Beacon Hotel was charged with committing burglaries at 15 businesses over a three-year period. Police said he stole things he could fit in his pocket.

That same year, police said they were investigating a string of five burglaries that occurred overnight on Aug. 29, including a 1987 Trec Z Camaro valued at $12,000 and $200 in jewelry and cash.

One serial thief had a special tactic, said Delamater: “People would leave their windows open and the guy would lift the screen or poke a hole in it and then take a stick and reach in and grab the pocketbook that was close to the window.”

Beacon, which had two armed robberies in 2022, averaged 20 annually throughout the 1990s, including 28 in 1995. The victims included pedestrians on Main Street.

A man with a pistol stuck in his belt stole $300 from Little Jo’s Corner Store at 73 Teller Ave., in March 1990. In December 1992, a

Violent Crimes in Beacon

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Property Crimes in Beacon

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<td>115</td>
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</table>

Source: New York Division of Criminal Justice Services

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(Continued on Page 9)
robin demanded money and shot a 17-year-old in the ankle at Main and South streets. 
“People would be walking along, minding their own business, and the next thing you know, they were being mugged,” said Delamater.

After Gould took office in 1990, she requested $20,000 from Dutchess County to fight the drug trade and $50,000 from New York State to hire two officers for the city’s understaffed department. The City Council passed a budget for 1991 that added funding for one new officer, bringing the total to 35, but that still left the department below the 40 recommended by the state.

Gould and the Beacon school district employed another strategy, announcing in 1990 the posting of 24 signs designating drug-free zones around city schools. Under a state law enacted in 1988, the penalty for selling drugs to a person under 19 years old within 1,000 feet of a school increased, becoming a Class B felony, instead of a Class C. The maximum prison sentence rose from 15 to 25 years.

Class B felony, instead of a Class C. The maximum prison sentence spiked during the era, averaging 350 a year between 1989 and 1996, higher than any period since 1970, according to state data. Police also arrested more people for violent and property crimes between the end of the 1980s and the mid-1990s.

By January 2001, Gould was lauding Beacon’s recovery in a State of the City address that highlighted the coming Dia Center for Arts, several waterfront projects and the strengthening of the city’s code-enforcement office.

In an article about Gould’s speech, Ori Brachfeld, then the owner of Dash Lock & Key in Beacon, told the Poughkeepsie Journal that “it’s been a long struggle, but I believe we’re heading in the right direction.”

“The future looks good,” he said. •

NEXT WEEK:
A look at Beacon’s small businesses and a roundtable discussion with Beacon’s four living mayors.

---

Sci-Fi Collectible Sale

An out of this world opportunity for sci-fi and Disney collectors. Everything priced at below market value!

This estate sale consists of Eaglemoss ship collections, Polar and Revell models, Hallmark ornaments, Franklin Mint, Star Trek, Star Wars, Thunderbirds, Disney, and Sci-Fi collectibles, vinyl records, books, and more.

**Saturday**
**June 10, 2023**
**12 - 6 PM**
**37 Teller Ave**
**Beacon, NY**

Private Sale

Questions? Please call 845-846-0224 and speak to Dave.
HEADED FOR HOME — Spencer Jones rounds third for the minor league Hudson Valley Renegades on June 2 in a game against Aberdeen. The Renegades lost, 2-1, but won their next three to improve to 30-22. The team’s Wednesday (June 6) game at Jersey Shore was canceled due to smoke.

OUT FOR A SPIN — Bodhi (18 months) and Jack (3 years) Branda enjoyed their parent-powered transportation on June 1.

MARCH OF TIME — On, June 4, a visitor examines photos from each of Rosemary Rodino’s 42 years as a teacher at the Community Nursery School in Cold Spring, including the last 38 as its director, during a service at the First Presbyterian Church marking her retirement.

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All Women, All the Time

Philipstown Depot to host play and film festival

By Alison Rooney

Can’t decide between a play or a movie? Handily, you don’t have to at Glass Ceiling Breakers 3, which combines an all-female-identifying play festival with an all-female-identifying film festival over three days (June 16 to 18). The schedule includes nine 10-minute plays and 31 short films.

The festival is being produced by Gabrielle Fox and Nora Matz, a Garrison resident, through the production company Theatre Revolutions. Most of the screenings and productions, along with panels and talkback sessions, will take place at the Philipstown Depot Theatre on Garrison’s Landing.

“Women artists are underrepresented at every level of the entertainment industry and while there has been progress, we need more,” says Fox, who is the artistic director of Theatre Revolutions. “When Nora and I started speaking about bringing Glass Ceiling Breakers back to audiences, we decided to go bigger and bolder by adding films.”

The 2023 festival begins on June 16 with nine short plays, followed by a Q&A. They were chosen from more than 100 submissions, Matz says. The primary consideration was quality. “Beyond that, we asked ourselves: Are we representing enough topics, enough voices, so they’re not all one note? Is it going to be a fun or provocative play to watch live? We tried to avoid being too heavy-handed. We wanted levity, so you don’t come out of there hit in the gut.”

As a result, the plays aren’t “all one note, they are all over the map. They include many relating to personal things that are not put out there all that often.”

The playwrights chosen include Kristin Battersby of Beacon, who is also directing her play (see below) and Sharon Cooper of New York City, who has roots in Garrison and two films in the festival as well. Jenny McGuire of Beacon is among the actors.

Each screening of films will be followed by a discussion. The closing reception will take place at the Garrison Art Center, which happens to have female-centric art on display that weekend.

Film submissions had to be less than 20 minutes long, with at least three women on the production team. This inaugural year includes films from creators in the U.S., Israel, France, Belgium, Canada, Ireland and Serbia. They are “comedic and dramatic and cover a variety of topics including equality, cloning, cultural divides, breaking glass ceilings and family relationships,” Matz says. As for genres, “they are all over the place: horror, sci-fi, relationships.”

The idea to expand the festival to include films came during the pandemic lockdown. “There wasn’t much we could do in person, so we thought perhaps we should try to make our short plays into short films,” Matz explains. “There are so many talented women out there who are not given platforms or opportunities. We want to elevate women’s voices, particularly in the film industry. Short plays and short films felt like a great combination.”

Fox and Matz developed a friendship through Westchester County theater circles.

(Continued on Page 15)
THE WEEK AHEAD
Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)
For a complete listing of events, see highlandscurrent.org/calendar.

PRIDE EVENTS
SAT 10
Parade and Festival
POUGHKEEPSIE
Noon – 5 p.m.
dutchesspridecenter.org
The parade will line up on Market Street near the Bardavon and proceed to Waryas Park for a festival with food and family activities as well as a showcase for queer-owned businesses.

SAT 17
Family Pride
BEACON
1 – 5 p.m. The Yard
4 Hanna Lane
facebook.com/BeaconLGBTQ
This community event will have food, games, activities, dancing and giveaways.

COMMUNITY
SAT 10
Citywide Yard Sale
BEACON
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Various | bit.ly/beacon-rec
At least a dozen dealers will have tables at this annual sale organized by the Beacon Historical Society. Cost: $4

SAT 10
Get Outdoors & Get Together Day
WAPPINGERS FALLS
9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org
There will be a bird walk, seed planting, barn tours, crafts and games at this event organized with the state Office of People with Developmental Disabilities.

SAT 10
Poultry and Farm Animal Market
PUTNAM VALLEY
10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Putnam Valley Grange 128 Mill St.
putnammvalleygrange.org
Find chickens, turkeys, guinea fowls, ducks, geese, pigeons, doves, quail, goats, sheep, rabbits and other small animals at this monthly market. There will also be locally produced items such as honey, soaps and gemstones. At 1 p.m., backyard chicken keepers will share tips about poultry care.

Tues 15
Walking the Camino in France
COLD SPRING
5 – 9 p.m. Riverview
413 Main St. | facebook.com/beacon - toyandcomichevy
Ron Hershey’s photographs from his 2022 walk along the ancient pilgrimage route, the Camino de Santiago de Compostela (known in France as the Chemin de St. Jacques), will be on view at the restaurant through July 31.

FRIDAY
FRI 16
Juneteenth: Access for All Celebration
PEEKSKILL
7 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley 1008 Brown St.
paramounthudsonvalley.com
Sun River Health will present this community celebration of liberation and unity with musical performances by Acute Inflections, the Peeksill Community Choir and Gotham Kings. Reservations required. Free

SAT 10
Jebah Baum | Ella Baum | Group Show
BEACON
6 – 8 p.m. BAU Gallery
506 Main St. | bau.nyc
In Pulseadies, Jebah Baum will display sculptures and works on paper. In Transliterations, Ella Baum pairs photographs that show form through social and geographic divides. The group show includes works by Pamela Zaremba, Ilse Schreiber, Eileen Sackman, Mary McGerr, Linda Lauro-Lazin, Joel Brown, Robyn Ellenbogen and Daniel Berlin. Through July 2.

SAT 10
What Happens in a Garden
PHILIPSTOWN
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Stonecrop
484 Main St. | supersecretprojects.com
Anne Sargent Walker’s paintings of flora and fauna that explore our complex relationships with nature and global warming will be on view in the Gardener’s Bothy through July 31.

SECOND SATURDAY
SAT 10
Student Exhibition
BEACON
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. DiaBeacon
3 Beekman St. | 845-440-0100
diaart.org
The show will feature art made by participants in the 2023 Arts Education Program, including students from Glenham, J.V. Forrestal, Sargent and South Avenue elementary schools and Rombok Middle School. Also SUN 11.

SAT 10
Creative Destruction
BEACON
4 – 7 p.m. Garage Gallery
17 Church St. | garagegallery.com
Caroline Burton’s paintings and Jim Nickelson’s photographs are torn apart and rebuilt to make a new order. Through June 25.

SAT 10
Even This Will Change
BEACON
6 – 9 p.m. Super Secret Projects
484 Main St. | superfredprojects.com
Allegro Jordan’s oil paintings connect her journey of loss, grief and birth from her father’s death at the same time she became a mother. Through July 1.

SAT 10
Down to Earth
NEWBURGH
1 – 5 p.m. Holland Tunnel 46 Chambers St.
hollandtunnelgallery.com
In this group show, Kent Peterson, Gerda van Leeuwen and Peter Yamaoka will share prints and paintings that use color, texture and abstraction to evoke landscapes. Through July 30.

THURS 15
Jebah Baum | Ella Baum | Group Show
BEACON
6:30 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
845-463-4660
howlandculturalcenter.org
The fundraiser will include a murder mystery featuring actors portraying John Jacob Astor IV, Levi Morton and other local historical figures, as well as dinner and drinks. Cost: $75

SUN 11
Dia Student Exhibition, June 10
3 Beekman St. | 845-440-0100
diaart.org
Jebah Baum | Ella Baum | Group Show
413 Main St. | facebook.com/beacon - toyandcomicevy
At its annual festival, the Beacon Sloop Club will offer shortcake, children’s activities, educational displays and entertainment on two stages with performances by Arm of the Sea Theater, Jonathan Kruk, Cosby Gibson, the Beacon High School Chorus and others. Rain or shine. Free

SUN 18
Highland Lights Processional
GARRISON
8 p.m. Hudson Valley Shakespeare 2015 Route 9 | hvsakespeare.org
After two rainouts, the Ad Astra-themed processional will take place with community designed and constructed lanterns followed by a fire with refreshments and stories. The rain date this time is SUN 25.

SUN 18
Beacon Curated
BEACON
Noon – 5 p.m. VFW Hall
413 Main St. | facebook.com/beacon - toyandcomichevy
Find vintage and retro items, including toys, comics, records, clothes and art. Cost: $3 (free for dads with kids)

SUN 18
Flag Day Ceremony
GARRISON
1 p.m. Elks Lodge
900 Wolcott Ave. | 845-765-0667
The Hudson Highlands Land Trust will offer ice cream and nature activities for children and families. Free

SUN 13
Spring Social Community Event
GARRISON
1 – 4 p.m. Winter Hill 20 Nazareth Way | frith.org
The Hudson Highlands Land Trust will offer ice cream and nature activities for children and families. Free

SUNDAY
2023
2023
2023
**KIDS & FAMILY**

**SAT 10**
**Pitch, Hit, Run | Home Run Derby**
**NORTH HIGHLANDS**
3 p.m. Little League field Fishkill Road
Girls and boys ages 7 to 14 are invited to compete in softball and baseball skills competitions. Email philipstownlittleleague@gmail.com for information.

**TUES 13**
**Rainbow Window Hangers**
**GARRISON**
6 p.m. Desmond-Fish Library
472 Route 403 | 845-842-3020
desmondfishlibrary.org
At this Creators Workshop, children can use tools and technology to make sun catchers for Pride Month. Registration required.

**WED 14**
** Fathers’ Day Craft**
**BEACON**
3:45 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org
Students will perform.

**MUSIC**

**SAT 10**
**Daniel Kelly Trio**
**GARRISON**
7:30 p.m. Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3900
philipstowndepottheatre.org
The jazz pianist will be joined by Matt Pavolka (bass), Rob Garcia (drums) and Sofia Kelly (vocals). Cost: $25

**SAT 10**
**Play of the Waves**
**NEWBURGH**
7:30 p.m. Mount Saint Mary
845-893-7157 | newburghsymphony.org
The Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra, performing at Aquinas Hall, will evoke the movement of the ocean with works by Debussy, Edward Elgar, Andreas Makris and Benjamin Britten. Cost: $35 to $50 ($25 seniors, free for students)

**SAT 10**
**Steve Forbert & The New Renditions**
**BEACON**
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier
| 379 Main St. | reservabeacon.com
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The folk artist with a four-decade music career will play music from his new release, Moving Through America. Cost: $35 ($40 door)

**SUN 11**
**Sloan Wainwright**
**BEACON**
7 p.m. Towne Crier
| 379 Main St. | reservabeacon.com
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
Wainwright will play pop, folk, jazz and blues. The opening act is the group Us, with Judy Kass, Amy Soocy and Glen Roethel. Cost: $25 ($30 door)

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(Continued on Page 14)
SUN 18
Jog Blues
PHILIPSTOWN
7 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 (magazzino.art)
Abhik Bhat (sitar), Andy Bisbin (clarinet, bass clarinet), Naran Budhirkar (tabla), Joel Bluestein (electric guitar), Jake Charkey (cello), Pheeno aKlass (drums), Siddharth Mukherjeer (vocals) and Jonathan Rose (bass, harmonica) will play Indian midnight raga and blues.
Cost: $25 ($20 regional residents and seniors, $5 students)

STAGE & SCREEN
SAT 10
Henry V
GARRISON
7:30 p.m.
Hudson Valley Shakespeare
2015 Route 9
845-265-9575
hvshakespeare.org
HVSF presents the epic tale of King Henry at war to seize the French crown. Emily Ota plays the lead.
Also SUN 11, THURS 15, FRI 16, SAT 17. Cost: $10 to $100

FRI 16
Glass Ceiling Breakers 3
GARRISON
Noon - 10 p.m.
Philipstown Depot Theatre
10 Garrison’s Landing
845-424-3200
philipstowndepottheatre.org
This third annual, all-female festival will feature nine plays and 31 films. See Page 11. Also SAT 17, SUN 18.
Cost: $10 to $40

SAT 17
Beacon LitFest
BEACON
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St., 845-831-9688
howlandculturalcenter.org
Writers of all genres will share their work and insights during this two-day festival. The SUN 18 schedule includes three workshops. Cost: $35 or $35 ($30 for 20 or $40 door)

CIVIC
MON 12
City Council
BEACON
7 p.m. City Hall
1 Municipal Plaza
845-838-5011 | beaconny.gov
WED 14
Village Board
COLD SPRING
7 p.m. Village Hall | 85 Main St.
845-265-3611
coldspringny.gov

THE WEEK AHEAD
(Continued from Page 13)

Local Bestsellers
Based on combined hardcover and paperback sales reported for March and April at Split Rock Books, 97 Main St., in Cold Spring.

Position | TITLE | AUTHOR
--- | --- | ---
1 | Fat Talk | Virginia Sole-Smith
2 | The Hudson Valley: The First 250 Million Years | Jeff Kinney
3 | Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow | Deirdre Langeland
4 | The Creative Act: A Way of Being | Emily Ota
5 | Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel | Jeff Kinney

ADULT
1 | Dog Man: 20,000 Fleas Under the Sea | Jerry Craft
2 | School Trip | Lincoln Pierce
3 | Big Nate: Naked! | Judd Winick
4 | Hilo Book 9: Gina and the Last City on Earth | Tyler Feder
5 | Bodies are Cool | Dave Pilkey

CHILDREN
1 | Diary of a Wimpy Kid 17 | Jeff Kinney

S E R V I C E D I R E C T O R Y

**Current Classifieds**

HELP WANTED
LIFEGUARDS/POOL MANAGER — River Pool at Beacon seeking lifeguards and pool manager for upcoming season. Good pay, easy work. Riverpool is a small floating pool in the Hudson River in Beacon. Email nrosa9@aol.com.

SERVICES
WRAP UP THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH A SMILE — Coaching adds zip to writing and study skills. Local expert writing and study-skills coach — NYU MA, editor, writer, educator — offers a simple but effective 3-Step System for School Success. From middle-school through grad school — it works! Remote or in-person, flexible schedule. Email coach10516@gmail.com or call 914-443-4723.

CONCIERGE SERVICES — Also personal and admin assistance. Mature Columbia University alum available for hire. Attention seniors and busy, mobile professionals: Let me help you with your light-duty household chores, scheduling medical appointments, shopping, some cooking and driving, scheduling contractors, house-sitting, some pet care. Excellent references. Hourly rates. Open to discussing an exclusive live-on premises arrangement if the match and chemistry is right. Call Thomas at 914-621-2703. I look forward to speaking with you.

EDITORIAL SERVICES — Professional research and writing services available, including transcription, proofreading, research and writing. I specialize in editing, copy writing, grammar, content creation and refinement. Reasonable hourly rates, local pickup and delivery. Call or email anytime to discuss your project. Phone 914-621-1560 or email patty10579@gmail.com.

HEALING BODYWORK — With Joy Matalon. Local expert writing and study-skills coach — NYU MA, CASAC, CARC

FOR RENT
COLD SPRING OFFICE — 3182 Route 9 Plaza, 400 to 1,200 square feet, second floor, with private bath, kitchenette and parking. Call Ron at 914-490-9606.

*Have your own business card*
You can advertise your business here starting at $20.
For more information, email ads@highlandscurrent.org.

**Support our nonprofit. Become a member!**
E-Vehicles (from Page 1)
install solar panels on more town government buildings, such as the Highway Department garage, and is weighing joining a network of municipalities that equip civic buildings with solar energy from a common facility, such as one in Marlborough, in Ulster County.

“it’s a no-brainer,” said town board member Jason Angell.

Upton noted that Philipstown hopes to install a solar field at its former landfill on Lane Gate Road, the site of the recycling center. If feasible, that and related projects will allow Philipstown to produce its own solar energy and sell it residents, as well as powering town facilities, Angell said.

Electronics recycling
The board on June 1 approved charging fees at the recycling center to residents who dispose of electronic waste. The fees are $1 for a keyboard, mouse or cellphone; $3 for electrical appliances such as microwaves or vacuums; $5 for DVD players, printers and scanners; $10 or $15 for computers; and $20 or $25 for televisions and computer monitors.

Residents must obtain permits from the town clerk before discarding electronic items. The recycling center is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Green award
Peggy Kurtz of Community Choice Administrators of New York presented the board with an Eco-Action Award, recognizing its support for community choice aggregation (CCA) and its climate resilience work; endorsement of stronger construction standards for energy efficiency; and adoption of a Complete Streets policy that focuses on pedestrians, bicyclists and public transit, among other initiatives.

“It’s not easy being green” and takes “genu-

ine political leadership,” said Kurtz, who is the area coordinator for Joule Community Power, the company managing a revived Mid-Hudson CCA, which negotiates lower electricity prices and supports renewable energy.

Dumping (from Page 1)
the site, identified 11 semi-volatile organic compounds, seven metal compounds, poly-
chlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides and materials containing asbestos.

A field report from a DEC official who visited the property in 2016 after complaints named a firefighter, Charlie Milo, who, it said, had given the contractor permission to dump.

The DEC eventually ruled that the fire department was operating a solid-waste management facility without a permit. Under a consent decree, the department paid a $5,000 fine and for the remediation, which was completed in 2021.

HDR said it removed 4,235 tons of fill and 63 tons of asbestos. The work delayed construction of the firehouse and increased costs, according to the department.

In January, the fire department asked state Judge Victor Grossman, who is based in Carmel, to compel Adorno to identify the owners of the sites where the waste originated; the contractors involved in the demolition and excavation; who arranged to have the material dumped at the property; and who drove it there.

Grossman issued an order in March requiring Adorno to provide documents and testimony in preparation for the federal lawsuit.

The lawsuit is the second involving contamination in Putnam Valley. In December, the Putnam Valley Central School District sued nearly two dozen companies in state court over the contamina-
tion of the well that supplies drinking water for students, faculty and staff at its elementary school. It blamed firefighting foams used by the fire department at its facilities on Canopus Hollow and Peeskill Hollow roads.

All Women (from Page 11)
“We have mutual friends, did readings together,” Matz says. “We talked about how so much theater is from the male perspective.”

When developing the festivals, “gendering” was front and center. Fox and Matz decided that in the nascent stages of what are hoped to be long-term projects, they would focus on women.

“We’re a small organization,” Matz says. “We can’t be one of those groups that’s everything to everyone. We include female-identifying and nonbinary people and when we chose our plays, we encouraged our directors to consider nonbinary and gender-nonconforming actors. We reached out to all boroughs, as well as to Peekskill, Newburgh and Beacon.

“Although our festival is labeled as a ‘women’s festival,’ that does not mean that it excludes other marginalized groups,” she says. “Because we are a production team of marginalized voices, we focused our efforts on including all voices.”

On June 17, there will be a panel discus-
sion, Women in the Business, with Annetta Marion and Sol Miranda. Marion is an Emmy-nominated director and showrunner who recently produced Still: A Michael J. Fox Movie. Miranda, a native of Puerto Rico, played Donna Maria Nuñez on Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt and Beatriz on Archive 81 and recently presented This is Peeksill a Friendly Town, based on interviews with Latino residents of Peekskill, at MOCA there.

The Philipstown Depot Theatre is located at 10 Garrison’s Landing. Tickets are $25 for each grouping of plays; $20 for each film block; and $10 for the Women in Business panel. Day passes are available for $80 on June 17 and $40 on June 18, or an all-access pass is $80. See philipstowndepottheatre.org.

Community Yard Sale
Saturdays, June 10th 2023
9:00am – 3:00pm.

Christ Church, United Methodist-Beacon
60 Union Street (corner of Union and Phillips)

Come see all the great bargains and deals!
Lots of clothes, antiques, baby items, books, collectibles, furniture, housewares, jewelry and much, much more!

There will be yummy Bacon, Egg & Cheese Sandwiches for sale in the morning, and Hot Dogs and Sausage & Peppers for lunch!

COME TO THIS SALE FIRST! YOU WON’T REGRET IT!
Roots and Shoots

Finding Native Plants

By Pamela Doan

If you’re an ecologically conscious gardener, you know that finding plants can be an adventure. While at least a dozen nurseries and retailers within a 30-minute drive sell plants, only a few stock common native perennials such as Echinacea or black-eyed Susan and some cultivars.

A few nurseries sell only native plants, such as One Nature in Beacon and Rosedale Nursery and Wild Gardens in Westchester. The Catskill Native Nursery is worth the one-hour drive. And we’re lucky to have those three. The respondents to a survey by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Seed Bank said they traveled, on average, 500 to 700 miles for seeds and plants.

Another survey of wholesale plant sellers found that only 25 percent of their stock was native plants and 77 percent were cultivars.

To understand the layers: A cultivar is a plant that has been bred to have a different characteristic from its parent. For example, Blue Moon (Phlox divaricata) has blue flowers rather than white (Phlox divaricata). Cultivars can be bred to have specific color blooms, leaf and flower shapes and height, among other characteristics.

However, research has shown that changing the plant can impact its usefulness in the ecosystem. If your goal is to create habitat for pollinators or birds, a cultivar may not have the same attraction. Ulrich Lorimer, horticulture director of the Native Plant Trust, located near Boston, advises shooting for 70 percent straight species in your garden.

The trust, which was founded in 1900, has been part a campaign to rectify the shortage of native plant material. For the past three decades, it has led a citizen-sciences project to establish a rare seed bank that has around 400 taxa. With an ecological horticulture program, a robust public education schedule and a botanical garden, the trust was able to use its connections to solicit support for the Northeast Seed Network, which launched in the spring.

“We want to create a native-plant supply chain that can be trusted for ethical collection, technical knowledge, seed-bank hubs that clean and store material, and to connect users who are doing restoration projects with sources that are recognized and trusted for their rigorous standards,” Lorimer says.

That addresses another issue of concern: Seed and plant material often don’t include their ecotypes, which are formed by the conditions where they were grown. Soil type and composition, seasonal temperatures, altitude and nearby plants are factors that affect behavior and growth. When a seed is collected but the plant is moved hundreds of miles, the seeds of the following generations are forced to adapt.

The network will use an agricultural technique — seed-increase plots — to ramp up production for bulk orders, making it possible to turn a half-pound of seeds into 100 pounds. “We can grow 1,000 little blue stem in a block, then keep collecting seeds and bulk up the numbers,” explains Lorimer. Working with small farms and land trusts, Lorimer expects it will take five to 10 years to have a broad and diverse collection.

For the moment, demand is greater than availability. Lorimer sees that as a sign that people are reacting to climate change and loss of biodiversity, and recognizing that their yards can make a difference. Sales and workshop attendance at the Native Plant Trust have bloomed in recent years to unexpected levels. People realize, he says, that plants are not just pretty.
## ARTISTS

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DISCOVER YOUR NEXT FAVORITE ARTIST AT CARAMOOR!

June 17 – August 18
2023 Summer Season
Over 40 Concerts!

 FEATURES

Orchestra of St. Luke’s • The Knights • Brandy Clark • Miró Quartet • Dover Quartet • Arooj Aftab • DakhaBrakha • Cécile McLorin Salvant • Conrad Tao and Caleb Teicher • Pekka Kuusisto and Nico Muhly • Neal Francis • Francesca Caccini’s Alcina • and Much More!

Plan your summer at Caramoor!
Before the concert, explore our Sound Art, tour the historic Rosen House, or pack a picnic to enjoy with family and friends in our gardens.

S P R I N G M U S I C F E S T I V A L 2 0 2 3

BEACON MUSIC FACTORY

Come See
Students of All Ages Performing All The Musics

BMF FEST
This Saturday
June 10
1-4pm

Announcing the return of our favorite little but loud festival @ University Settlement Camp ... Sept 9

Tickets on sale 7/1
### Summer Music Guide

**Jonah Smith Band**  
- June 23, Falcon

**Johnny Nicholas**  
- Aug. 11, Falcon

**Jungle Love**  
- June 17, MJN

**Kassa Overall**  
- June 12, Falcon

**Kentucky Headhunters**  
- Aug. 4, Ulster Fair

**Hieran Hane and Rayna Gellert**  
- Aug. 5, Tompkins Corners

**The Knights with Pekka Kuusisto**  
- July 28, Caramoor

**Lara Hope & the Ark-Tones**  
- June 22, Falcon

**Larry & Joe**  
- June 17, Tompkins Corners

**Lee Greenwood**  
- Aug. 2, Ulster Fair

**Les Claypool**  
- June 23, Capitol

**Lionel Richie/Earth, Wind & Fire**  
- Aug. 12, MSG

**Madison McFerrin**  
- June 25, Falcon

**Maddie Poppe**  
- Aug. 23-27, MSG

**Maharishi Project**  
- July 13, Falcon

**Mamie Peters**  
- Aug. 11, Radio City

**Marcy Playground**  
- June 20, Daryl's

**Mary Chapin Carpenter**  
- Aug. 5, Caramoor

**The Mavericks**  
- July 28, Beacon NYC

**Melanie Martinez**  
- June 28, Falcon

**Metallica**  
- Aug. 4, 6, MetLife

**Miro Quartet**  
- July 6, Caramoor

**Myles Mancuso**  
- July 1, Towne Crier

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**FESTIVALS**

**American Roots Music Festival**  
- June 24, Caramoor

**Cathbird Music Festival**  
- Aug. 19-20, Bethel Woods

**Hudson Valley Jazz Festival**  
- Aug. 9-13, Kingston/Warwick

**Jazz Festival**  
- July 22, Caramoor

**Outlaw Music Festival**  
- July 29, Bethel Woods

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TRIBUTE BANDS: RECREATING THE HITS

AC/DC
- July 7, Tilly Foster

ADELE
- July 7, Daryl’s

ALANIS MORISSETTE
- July 1, Daryl’s

ALLMAN BROTHERS
- June 10, Aug 4-5, Daryl’s

BEETLES
- June 17, Tarrytown
- June 24, Capitol
- July 28, Towne Crier

BEE GEES
- July 21, Putnam Golf

BILLY JOEL
- June 23, Putnam Golf
- July 8, Paramount

BON JOVI
- Aug. 11, Putnam Golf

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
- Aug. 3, Ulster Fair

THE CARS
- Aug. 11, Putnam Golf
- Aug. 20, Daryl’s

CHICAGO
- June 11, Tarrytown
- July 20, Daryl’s
- Aug. 29, Putnam Golf

CROSBY, STILLS, NASH AND YOUNG
- Aug. 19, Paramount

DAVID BOWIE
- Sept. 1, Daryl’s

THE DOORS
- July 6, Daryl’s
- July 15, Towne Crier

EAGLES
- June 23, Tarrytown
- Sept. 1, Putnam Golf

ELTON JOHN
- July 28, Daryl’s

EMERSON, LAKE & PALMER
- Aug. 19, Towne Crier

JETHRO TULL
- June 30, Towne Crier

JOURNEY
- July 8, Tilly Foster

LED ZEPPELIN
- June 16-17, Daryl’s

LYNYRD SKYNYRD
- July 30, Orange Fair
- Aug. 19, Daryl’s

MEAT LOAF
- Aug. 18, Putnam Golf

NEIL YOUNG
- Sept. 2, Daryl’s

PATT BENATAR
- July 8, Daryl’s

PEARL JAM
- Aug. 11, Daryl’s

PETER GABRIEL
- Aug 2, Daryl’s

PINK FLOYD
- Aug. 26, Daryl’s

QUEEN
- July 15, Tilly Foster

RUSH
- June 10, Daryl’s

STYX
- Aug. 27, Daryl’s

SUBlime
- June 22, Daryl’s

TINA TURNER
- Sept. 2, Towne Crier

TOM PETTY
- Aug. 10, Daryl’s
- Aug. 26, Dutchess Fair

TRAFFIC
- July 1, Falcon

VAL HALLA
- July 7, Tilly Foster
- July 22, Daryl’s

ZAC BROWN BAND
- July 29, Tilly Foster

ZZ TOP
- June 11, Daryl’s

VENUES

Bardavon
- 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie
  - 845-473-2072 | bardavon.org

Beacon Theatre
- 2124 Broadway, New York
  - msg.com/beacon-theatre

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts
- 200 Hurd Road, Bethel
  - 866-781-2922 | bethelwoodscenter.org

Capitol Theatre
- 149 Westchester Ave., Port Chester
  - 914-937-4126 | thecapitoltheatre.com

Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts
- 149 Girdle Ridge Road, Katonah
  - 914-232-1252 | caramoor.org

Chapel Restoration
- 45 Market St., Cold Spring
  - 845-265-5537 | chapelrestoration.org

Daryl’s House
- 130 Route 22, Pawling
  - 845-289-0185 | darylshouseclub.com

Dutchess County Fair
- 6636 Route 9, Rhinebeck
  - dutchessfair.com

The Falcon
- 1348 Route 9W, Marlboro
  - 845-236-7970 | liveatthefalcon.com

Howland Cultural Center
- 377 Main St., Beacon
  - 845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Madison Square Garden
- 1 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie
  - 845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

MetLife Stadium
- 1 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie
  - 845-454-5800 | midhudsonciviccenter.org

MJN Convention Center
- 781 Main St., Beacon
  - 845-831-4988 | howlandculturalcenter.org

Orange County Fair
- 239 Wisner Ave., Middletown
  - 845-343-4826 | orangecountyfair.com

Putnam County Golf Course
- 187 Hill St., Mahopac
  - 845-808-1880 | putnamcountygolfcourse.com

Radio City Music Hall
- 1260 Sixth Ave., New York
  - msg.com/radio-city-music-hall

Tarrytown Music Hall
- 13 Main St., Tarrytown
  - 877-840-0457 | tarrytownmusichall.org

Tilly’s Table
- 100 Route 312, Brewster
  - 845-808-1840 | tillystablerestaurant.com

Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
- 729 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley
  - 845-528-7280 | tompkinscorners.org

Towne Crier Cafe
- 379 Main St., Beacon
  - 845-855-1300 | townecrier.com

Ulster County Fair
- 249 Libertyville Road, New Paltz
  - 845-339-6088 | bardavon.org

Ulster Performing Arts Center
- 601 Broadway, Kingston
  - 845-339-6088 | bardavon.org

West Point
- westpointband.com

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**High School Students are Feeling Burned Out**

By Eloise Pearsall

As we entered 2023, students were grasping the reality of being thrown back into a world without strict COVID-19 precautions. As a result, burnout became more prevalent within the past years, and students are learning to reflect on how to overcome this occupational phenomenon.

Burnout is often a term used for the feeling of stress and fatigue, but this is a misconception. Christina Maslach, an expert on exhaustion is, in fact, part of the burnout response, but it goes beyond the stress of responding to chronic job stressors.

Maslach, who is a professor of psychology at the University of California Berkeley, created the Maslach Burnout Inventory to measure burnout in the workplace. She also responded to the findings of stress and fatigue, but this is a misconception.

According to a survey of Haldane students, many express feelings of Maslach’s definition of burnout. One student shared that they “lost all the motivation and joy they found in learning, especially as their education became less focused on growth and exploration and more focused on rigorousness and number scores.” Another expressed how, when they “got an 80 on a test and [they were] in a horrible mood all day,” they went into the bathroom crying to their parents on the phone. Many students communicated how they feel as though they are sacrificing their mental health for schoolwork.

Haldane’s AP Psychology teacher, Mr. Ogden, shared how he’s seen an increase in student burnout every year, especially since COVID: “There will be students who are high achievers who will stop doing work or not be able to get things done on time because they’re overwhelmed by everything else they have to do.”

But Ogden adds that burnout isn’t permanent: “So maybe you weren’t able to get everything you wanted to accomplish done, but look at the stuff you did get accomplished...”

“Give yourself the idea that you know it’s OK sometimes just to take a break and say, ‘I just don’t want to do this right now. I’ll get on to it. I’ll get back to it. But I have to give myself time to kind of decompress.’ Because if you don’t, that stress will just build up in you and it’ll cause all kinds of other issues for you.”

**How to Deal With Burnout**

Advice from Haldane Students

- “Write down your goals – some nights when I’m not motivated to do homework I write down what I have ahead of me and break it up into sections. I find this helps to make the amount of work I have more manageable and it also feels great to cross off when you have completed it.”

- “It’s important to figure out how you work best, and to treat yourself and be proud of yourself for working so hard.”

- “If you were good at school growing up, it’s very hard to let go of the future you’ve been told you’ll have a top school, a fancy job, multiple degrees, etc. If that is no longer what brings you joy or is making you healthy and happy, it is completely OK to let go of that. There are other paths that will make you just as successful and happy. Take time to rediscovet the joy in learning for yourself!”


- “Reach out to the school, be honest. The best-case scenario is that your teachers are aware of what’s going on with you so they are less harsh.”

**Collector’s Corner**

**MR. POSNIACK, SCIENCE TEACHER**

When and why did you start collecting? 1994, when he started teaching. Mr. Posniack felt that all male teachers should wear ties to work.

Total number in your collection? More than 125.

What is your favorite? Doesn’t have one.

One of his first ties: A tie from purchased from Macy’s, with the brand name called Save the Children. Children made the ties and the proceeds were donated to the charity.

**Newest tie:** Every year in November, Mr. Posniack goes to the New York State Science Teachers Conference and buys a tie. Last year, he got a tie with stars on it.

Ties he enjoys but not his favorites: Peanuts movie and Warner Brothers ties.

Mr. Posniack encourages you to buy something you are interested in and start a collection. Also, he encourages people to treat ties with care.

**MAX SANDERS**

What do you collect? Coins

When and why did you start collecting? At age 6, because I loved cars and vehicles and everything about them.

Total number in your collection? 200-plus

What’s your favorite? 2018 Dodge Challenger SRT Demon

**MR. CROWE, PHYS ED TEACHER**

Why did you start collecting shoes? Ever since I was little, I have always found it fun.

What is your favorite? Nike Jordan 1 SB landscape

Total number in your collection? Over 100

**Ski Trip to Gore Mountain**

By Jenny Knox and Eloise Pearsall

Over the weekend of Feb. 11, Haldane’s Ski Club went on its first overnight trip since COVID. Students were eager to escape to the fresh mountain air and left the school at 5:45 a.m. on Saturday to make the trek to Gore Mountain in upstate New York.

After a full day of skiing, club members enjoyed swimming back in the hotel pool and participating in a horse race activity after dinner.

On Sunday morning, all members woke up at 6:30 a.m. to eat breakfast and leave for the mountain. The club experienced a slight hiccup when the bus’s battery broke, but after they jumped the bus, everything went back on schedule 15 minutes later.

After a long day of skiing, everyone was eager to sit down on the bus and relax. There was only one problem: the engine started to overheat, making the bus unbearable to sit in with the heat rising. The bus pulled over to the side of the road, with students fleeing the bus to go out to the cold air.

After 30 minutes of trying to find the source of the problem, members got back onto the bus and had a safe and happy ride back home, with The Perks of Being a Wallflower playing on the televisions. The ski club arrived back at Haldane around 8 p.m. on Sunday, happy and content from a weekend in the mountain snow.
The Crow Man of Haldane Prepares to Take Flight

By Eloise Pearsall

Every day for 20 years, David Dougherty, a fifth-grade English teacher at Haldane, has visited the deli on the way to work. He buys five buttered rolls, six pieces of bacon, and a variety of lunch meat, such as ham or salami. Although this may seem standard for a meal, Dougherty is not feeding himself with this food: He feeds the crows.

The crows started following Dougherty after he threw part of his tuna sandwich on the ground in the parking lot. The next day, the crow came back hoping that they would receive more from Dougherty. The crows kept showing up at his car, so he kept providing them with food. He now throws them a combo of one-and-a-half buttered rolls, three pieces of bacon mixed with lunch meat, and string cheese.

Throughout the years, Dougherty noticed that there were three groups of crows. However, seagulls have started coming during the cold months to steal all of the food Dougherty throws for the crows. Some days, Dougherty has no choice but to walk past the disappointed crows with no food in order to wait for the seagulls to be gone at the end of the day.

Not only does he feed the crows in Cold Spring, he goes to Ossining every weekend for missionary training and throws peanuts up for the crows there, as well. He does the same in New Mexico, where he plans to move after he retires at the end of this year.

Because crows have a life span of 10 to 15 years, Dougherty has fed many generations. Some even follow his car when he leaves work in hopes that he’ll throw more food out of his car. Dougherty hopes that when he retires at the end of the school year, somebody will keep the tradition going.

The Worst Jobs Our Teachers Ever Had

By Giovannina Manfredi and Kayena Pierre

Although our teachers work at Haldane now, they had jobs before coming here. We sat down and interviewed them on their experiences at their previous jobs. We learned about their worst jobs and some advice they have for kids our age who are working.

The first teacher we interviewed was Ms. Linda, a high school English teacher. We learned that her worst job was at a deli in a local small town. She was 18 when she first started and it was the summer before college. We asked about her worst experiences working there. She stated: “I had to get up really early to work the first shift” and “a lot of people would come in for their coffee and they would expect me to know or memorize their coffee order so that took a lot of getting used to.” She also mentioned that she was vegetarian at the time, so making sandwiches with the deli meats was not her favorite.

Finally, we asked her what she could share about her experiences that would help younger people in their current jobs. Ms. Linda said: “As a young person, having a job that forces you to talk to people and strangers, in particular, is really important because it pushes you outside your comfort zone and makes you more articulate. Working in the service sector makes us more patient people and customers.”

We also interviewed English teacher Ms. Isabella. We discovered her worst job was working as a hospital greeter. She was 21 years old when she worked for the hospital and worked only for the summer.

We then asked her about the worst aspect of the job. “Doctors would walk by, they would always say the same thing, ‘You know that you get varicose veins when you stand all day?’” She explained that this working environment was not an exciting and interesting one, it was extremely boring. She said that you had to stand all day greeting people saying the same thing, this got repetitive.

We asked her if she could provide any advice for young workers she stated: “Remembering that being paid to be there and for that in of itself we should be grateful. When you’re working, you’re the one making money. From that perspective, you should be grateful for that. Even if you don’t have a job that you love, you should be grateful for that job and the paycheck.”

Finally, we asked her what she had to say that could help younger people in their current jobs. “Know your worth as an employee and be willing to learn and willing to grow in order to have the best experience.”

Field Day: A Way for Students to be Healthy

By Savannah Duggan

Every May at Haldane, we host our annual Field Day for the elementary schoolers. This day contains fun events on the turf including an obstacle course, defending the castle wall, volleyball, and other events. At the end of the day, the students get ice pops and get to talk with their friends.

Overall, Field Day is beneficial for students so they can get vitamin D and take in the outdoors. What’s unique to Haldane is that high school students can go down to the field to help out with the aines. Duggan, a ninth grader who participated, said, “Field Day was a fun day that allowed kids to get exercise and play outside.”
Go to highlandscurrent.org/join

Puzzles

ACROSS
1. Cave flier
4. Beanies
8. Experts
12. Punk rock offshoot
13. Classic theaters
14. Global septet
15. Ages and ages
16. When bar drinks are discounted
18. First-rate, in slang
20. Perched
21. Apothecary measure
24. Of the Arctic
28. Annual celebration for a saint
32. Forbidden act
33. Freedom, for short
34. First half of an LP
36. Pol. party org.
37. Raw materials
39. Magazine founded in 1933
41. Costume
43. Admin. aide
44. Composer Rorem
46. Grammarian’s concern
50. Freshman
55. Pen name
56. Garfield’s pal
57. North Sea feeder
58. “This tastes awful!”
59. Engrossed
60. Conked out
61. Uncle (Sp.)

DOWN
1. Gridlock sound
2. Latin love
3. Singer Braxton
4. Companions
5. Oklahoma city
6. Zing
7. Easy targets
8. Actor Kutcher
9. Corp. boss
10. Vichy water
11. Old map letters
17. Chatter
19. Rx writers
22. Tennis score
23. Tyler Perry persona
25. Mine find
26. Diarist Frank
27. Boulder
28. Promote aggressively
29. Hibernia
30. Help a hood
31. Evergreen trees
35. Promised
38. Twilight time
40. Scale ams.
42. Favorite
45. Turned blue?
47. Border on
48. Leslie Caron role
49. Repeat
50. Supporting
51. Lupino of film
52. Wardrobe malfunction
53. Peyton’s brother
54. Actor Vigoda

SudoCurrent

Can you go from VALUE to MINDS in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

VALUE

MINDS

WordLadders

MICRO CrossWord

ACROSS
1. Lomond or Ness
5. “Watermelon Sugar” singer Styles
6. Ruin, slangily
7. Wall Street transaction
8. Spinning barn ornament

DOWN
1. Gridlock sound
2. Latin love
3. Singer Braxton
4. Companions
5. Oklahoma city
6. Zing
7. Easy targets
8. Actor Kutcher
9. Corp. boss
10. Vichy water
11. Old map letters
17. Chatter

UBER EMTS DR S
LOVE DART VAL
MB A DEGREE DVI
HADES FELL
ANNA ACROBATS
ITA BATES YEA
REST EASY MESS
AHAS EARTH
ELMER OATS
LAP SAT SCORES
ISL UNIT NORA
SHE PISA SWAM

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

TH IN
IONIC
NUDGE
ARIES
SALT

HOCUS
HONUS
BONUS
BONES
BONKS
MONKS

Answers for June 2 Puzzles

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

By Celia Barbour

S
elling peas the other day, it occurred
me that this activity should be prescribed
by doctors as an antidote
to screen time. It is intimate, tactile and
gentle. Cracking open a pod feels like opening
a tiny surprise package; despite the
idiom “as like as two peas in a pod,” peas
vary! (Albeit slightly.) Plus, peas really are the
kittens and puppies of the vegetable
world: They are undeniably cute.

The first time I saw someone shelling peas,
however, it struck me as the total opposite of
a lo-fi activity. I was blown away. I must have
been 5 or 6, and the pea-sheller, an acquain-
tance of my mother, was sitting on the paved
deck of a small backyard pool where we
sometimes went to swim on summer after-
oons. Suddenly, I had no interest in jumping
in the water. I wanted only to stand 10 feet
away, as children do, and stare.

The woman asked if I’d like to help. Although
I was painfully shy in those days, I
approached her, sat down and allowed her to
show me how to twist a pod to pop it open. I
even ate a few of the pretty, pale-green globes.

Until then, I’d only ever tasted peas that came
from freezer bags, often mixed with horrible
bits of mushy carrot, and I’d hated them.

I don’t know if this was the first time
I realized that foods aren’t just one way
(liver: bad; Popsicles: good), but can have
many personalities depending on when and
how you eat them, and where they come
from. I do know that I have been smitten
with fresh-shell peas ever since.

In recent years, I’ve planted shell peas
and snap peas in our garden each spring
(with the former, you eat only the inner
pea, discarding the fibrous pod; with the
latter, you eat both pea and crisp pod). But
this year, an unrelenting foot injury has
curtailed all such outdoor activities, and has
made it hard to even stand in the kitchen
long enough to cook much of anything.

Back in March, when I should have been
planting peas, my cousin from Minnesota
wrote to say he’d be in the Hudson Valley in
June. At the time, I couldn’t imagine that
I realized that foods aren’t just one way, but can
have many personalities depending on when
and how you eat them, and where they come from.

I decided to substitute almonds
for the seeds, and to freshen the flavors.
Once the peas were shelled and blanched
— something I mostly did sitting down — it
came together in five minutes. Better yet, it
also included a bulb of lovely spring garlic.

The result was so good that my husband
Peter and I finished off the batch instead
of supper that night, him murmuring that
“This is delicious,” with the emphasis on
more as needed, until a smooth paste is
formed. Serve with spring crudites and/or
crackers.

2 cups fresh shelled peas, blanched
and cooled, or substitute frozen*
⅓ cup slivered blanched almonds
1 whole head young spring garlic,
roughly chopped, about ⅛ cup*
Zest of 1 lemon plus 2 tablespoons
fresh lemon juice
⅓ cup gently packed mint leaves,
roughly chopped
¼ to ½ cup mild oil, such as
grapeseed or canola
Salt and fresh pepper, to taste

Place all ingredients except the oil in a
food processor or strong blender. Add
the oil, starting with ¼ cup and adding
more as needed, until a smooth paste is
formed. Serve with spring crudites and/or

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*You can substitute frozen peas for the
fresh; use petit peas if possible and allow
them to thaw in a strainer for about 30
minutes before proceeding with the
recipe. You can also substitute chopped
garlic scapes for the spring garlic.