

The HIGHLANDS Current

AUGUST 18, 2023

NYPA Newspaper of the Year

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Letter from Chile

Page 7

Fernando Flies the Coop

*Friends and strangers
rescue errant parrot*

By Liz Schevtchuk Armstrong

He skipped out on his dearest friend, toured the treetops over Philipstown, stirred a commotion on social media and prompted a resident to give him a finger when he crashed a birthday party.

But Fernando, a 14-year-old Amazon parrot, survived with nary a ruffled feather, to the relief of his owner, Heather Howard Canavan of Garrison, who lost several days' sleep during his absence.

Canavan, Fernando and her other pets live on Travis Corners Road near Route 9. On July 30, Fernando was teasing one of the household's three small dogs when the door opened just wide enough for pooch and parrot to slip through.

"He was not accustomed to being outside at all," Canavan said of her bird. He stopped on the porch, but, at that moment, a neighbor started a lawnmower, alarming Fernando, who flew to the treetops in the yard.

There he remained for four days, despite constant coaxing. Canavan put a cage and food outside and rigged a ladder and other aids to help him come down.

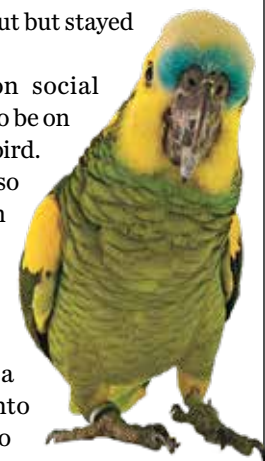
Fernando called out but stayed put.

Canavan went on social media to ask others to be on the lookout for her bird. People near and not so near responded with messages of concern, promises of prayer, offers to help and suggestions, which included directing a light hose spray into the tree so Fernando would think it was raining and descend. But he was too high for that to work.

Then, one day, he was gone, no longer visible around the yard. "I am devastated," Canavan posted on Aug. 3.

The wider world took note. "The community outreach was phenomenal," she recalled this week. "Everyone in town was rooting for Fernando."

She kept searching, pointing out that he was probably exhausted and confused, and asked anyone who spotted him to encour-



Fernando, safe at home Photo provided

(Continued on Page 3)



Carmela Buono of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust stands in front of what used to be the sixth green of the Garrison Golf Course. Photo by J. Asher

Land Trust 'Renaturalizing' Former Garrison Golf Course

*Rehab includes removing
heavy metals from greens*

By Joey Asher

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust is in the midst of an extreme makeover of the former Garrison Golf Course, "renaturalizing" two greens by removing heavy metals from the soil.

The property was donated in 2021 to HHLT by the course owner, Chris Davis, who

also gave land to the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. The land trust's 57 acres include the second through seventh holes along Snake Hill and Philipse Brook roads.

"My goal is to get people to question whether this was ever a golf course," said Carmela Buono, the preserve manager and a restoration specialist with the HHLT.

One of the first steps was to remove 550 tons of soil contaminated with arsenic, mercury and cadmium from the sixth and

(Continued on Page 9)

Measuring a Changing Climate

*Local volunteers feed data
to national network*

By Leonard Sparks

Jon Kiphart walked out to his soggy yard in Philipstown on July 10, the same journey he has taken at 7 a.m. every morning for the last 15 years.

But Kiphart, who lives on East Mountain Road South, knew the journey to view a plastic cylinder mounted on a wood post would be "kind of important."

On television and social media, public officials and residents shared photos, videos and damage reports from the previous day's flooding, which led to a federal disaster declaration for Putnam, Dutchess and six other counties.

"Because it was a monumental storm, I thought, 'Just make sure you get this one right,'" said Kiphart.

What he found in the cylinder — 6.25 inches of water — was the highest single-day measurement he had ever recorded and became part of a historical record for meteorologists, hydrologists, municipal officials, insurers and his neighbors. It would account for nearly half the 14.21 inches he recorded in July.

Kiphart and Jesse Stacken of Beacon are volunteer weather monitors for the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), a system of precipitation gauges covering each state and locations in Canada, Puerto Rico and the Bahamas, Guam and Virgin Islands.

(Continued on Page 8)

He Built a Line, Then Crossed It

*Scenic Hudson not a fan of
guerrilla art installation*

By Brian PJ Cronin

In April, Thomas Bregman, the former head of the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum, began stacking rocks along the river at Long Dock Park in Beacon.

"Dozens of people stopped to ask, 'Are you building a wall?'" Bregman said this week. "I'd say, 'Well, yeah, and...'" From that came the most fascinating conversations.

With a tip of the hat to Robert Smithson's "Spiral Jetty," which Bregman visited last year in Utah, and Andy Goldsworthy's curving stone wall at the Storm King Art Center, Bregman was constructing what

he called "Torqued Jetty," a 3-foot-high, 63-foot-long stone wave that snaked into the Hudson River.

"It leads to people paying closer attention to the river," he said. "It's funny that a human addition seems to do that."

Bregman chose the spot because this stretch of the river is usually the location of the salt front, the shifting barrier between the salt water flowing up from the Atlantic Ocean and the fresh water flowing down from Lake Tear of the Clouds in the Adirondacks. It's also in the shadow of Storm King, the site of the decades-long legal battle to stop a power plant that led to the formation of Scenic Hudson.

Bregman spent several hours a day work-

(Continued on Page 20)



Thomas Bregman and the remains of "Torqued Jetty" at Long Dock Park

Photo by B. Cronin

5Q

FIVE QUESTIONS: DENISE DORING VANBUREN

By Marc Ferris

Denise Doring VanBuren, president of the Beacon Historical Society, recently completed a three-year term as president general of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

For people who are not familiar, what is the DAR?

It's a service organization founded in 1890 that is comprised of members who have documented their lineage from a man or woman who supported the cause of independence during the American Revolution. It operates what is believed to be the most valuable piece of real estate owned exclusively by women in the world: a city block near the White House that contains a genealogical library, domestic arts museum and a 4,000-seat auditorium. We have nearly 3,000 chapters around the world. Despite the pandemic, I managed to visit 56 states and countries during my term, traveling 167,000 miles.

Your goals included improving the group's image. What is that about?

For more than a decade, the DAR has been working hard to welcome more women of color. We established task forces for lineage research into African American,



Latino, Jewish and other specialties to help more women document their descent from a patriot. We have never tracked race or ethnicity on our applications, but I've been a member for 40 years and it is working. Too many people have the misconception

that we are all well-to-do and/or elderly. I joined when I was 28, and that is a fairly common story. My DAR patriot is Jacob Plattner, a miller from Columbia County who fought in the militia.

Is the DAR active in this area?

There are two chapters, Enoch Crosby in Brewster and Melzingah in Beacon. We placed the Beacon Monument on the top of Mount Beacon in 1900 and have marked many other places of historical significance. In 1954, the DAR saved the Madam Brett Homestead, which is the oldest building in Dutchess County, dating to about 1709. It was going to be razed for an A&P Supermarket. The Melzingah chapter also spearheaded the effort to honor Beacon's veterans through patriotic banners. In August, we will support a Dutchess County naturalization ceremony where 65 new citizens will be welcomed.

Are you related to President Martin Van Buren, who was a native of the Hudson Valley?

The surname belongs to my ex-husband, who is, I believe, descended from the president's first cousin. I have never had time to research it thoroughly. I have documented my descent from [Van Buren's] wife, Hannah Hoes, so it's kind of neat that our children have lines on both sides that go back to New Netherland.

Why is local history important?

Beacon is changing so fast and all of the wonderful new folks who are attracted to our beautiful Main Street are only the latest generation of people who have discovered this special place. Beacon is much more than its built environment, its industrial accomplishments or attractions like the Mount Beacon Incline Railway or Dia. It's the sum total of all those parts. The magic didn't happen overnight. How can you know who you are and where you are going unless you understand the history that brought you to this point?

ON THE SPOT

By Michael Turton

What's left on your "must do" list for this summer?

I need to go paddleboarding out by New Paltz.



Jade Leman, Beacon

Get out of too-expensive New York, hopefully to Oklahoma.



Chris Godsey, Cold Spring

I have to swim in the ocean at least once and go to the Dutchess County Fair.



Erika Trow, Cold Spring



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Cold Spring Creates Water Emergency Stages

Plus, notes from the three most recent meetings

By Michael Turton

The Cold Spring Village Board on Wednesday (Aug. 16) approved rules for water emergencies caused by droughts, adopting a three-tiered approach for conservation when village reservoirs reach critically low levels.

The previous law was vague, stating only that the mayor and board could proclaim a water emergency whenever conditions warranted.

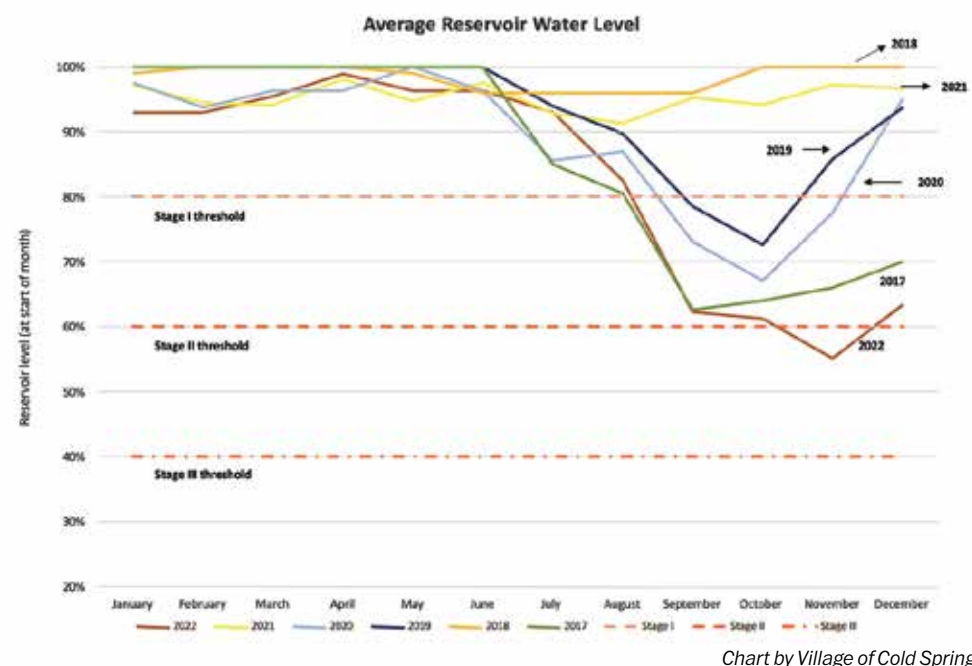
The updated law specifies three stages, when reservoir levels drop to 80, 60 and 40 percent of capacity. Restrictions on water use by residents and businesses become more stringent at each stage.

Under the regulations, the failure to adhere to restrictions during water emergencies can result in fines of up to \$150 per offense. Tampering with water system equipment carries fines of up to \$250 per violation.

The village declared its most recent water emergency in August 2022, when the capacity across its three reservoirs dropped to 45 percent.

The board also...

■ Scheduled public hearings at Village Hall for Sept. 6 to hear feedback on



proposed changes to Chapter 126 (Vehicles and Traffic) and Chapter 127 (Residential Parking Program) of the Village Code.

■ Authorized the purchase from T2 Systems of two payment kiosks to be installed on Main Street as part of the village parking plan.

■ Approved a recommendation from the Planning Board to grant a waiver for a required off-street parking space at 60 Main St., the former location of Houli-

han Lawrence realty. The property owner, Bantry Apartments, has proposed a change of use from office to retail.

■ Accepted the low bid of \$66,500 from Fred A. Cook Jr. Inc. to dispose of 350,000 gallons of sewage sludge from the wastewater treatment plant on Fair Street. A second bid from TAM Enterprises Inc. was \$184,800.

■ Appointed James Labate and Henry Feldman on Aug. 9 as Cold Spring's representatives on the Hudson Highlands Fjord

Trail's Data Committee, which will assess studies undertaken as part of a draft environmental impact statement expected to be released in early 2024. The committee will hire a consultant to review the studies using a stipend provided by HHFT.

■ Heard from Putnam County Legislator Nancy Montgomery that a location has been selected in Brewster for a Putnam County Stabilization Center to be funded using \$2.3 million the county received through the American Rescue Plan Act. The mental health facility will be run by People USA, which operates the Dutchess County Stabilization Center.

■ Adopted a law that enables the village to award contracts either by the lowest bid or "best value," as defined by state law.

■ Received a report from the Cold Spring Fire Co. about its busy July, with 28 of the 70 calls related to the heavy rains. There were also 10 elevator rescues. The Cold Spring Police Department responded to 71 calls, and officers issued eight traffic and 61 parking tickets. One arrest was made under the mental health law.

■ Approved an increase on July 26 in dock fees. Boats docking briefly for passenger drop-off will pay \$11 per linear foot, while boats parked for extended periods will pay \$16 per linear foot.

■ Approved sequencing for repairs to the village dams, beginning at the upper dam and followed by the Foundry dam and lower dam. The plan was recommended by an engineering consultant to meet state requirements.



Fernando was caught after crashing a birthday party.

Photo by L.S. Armstrong

Lost Parrot *(from Page 1)*

age him to perch on a finger and to take him indoors.

On Day 7, Fernando discovered an outdoor birthday party underway in Garrison. He landed, no doubt hungry and looking for a handout. According to Frank Pidala, who was there, his sister, Lisa Pidala Stagliano, held out a finger and Fernando climbed aboard to enjoy a slice of watermelon, one of his favorite treats. Salvatore Pidala promptly notified Canavan: "We have Fernando here."

Exultant, Canavan posted on Facebook: "They got my baby; they got my baby; they got

my baby! I'm coming to get you, Fernando!"

Frank Pidala attributed his family's role to "being at the right place at the right time."

Despite being weary, Fernando was soon "back in the groove" at home, chomping blueberries and lording over a visitor from atop his cage.

However, he is expected to fly again in the not-too-distant future, but aboard an airline, as Canavan relocates to Vancouver Island, British Columbia, to assist her elderly mother there.

"Magical," she said of her parrot's rescue, as they prepared for a new stage in their lives. "There is always hope. Never give up!"

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LETTERS AND COMMENTS

Prophecy approval

We appreciate *The Current's* reporting of the Planning Board's decision to approve the Prophecy Hall theater and hotel development of the former Reformed Church of Beacon ("Prophecy Hall Approved," Aug. 11). Residents should note that some Planning Board members expressed deep concern about the impact of the development on the communities closest to it. After two years before the Planning Board, more than 350 petition signatures and hundreds of comments submitted against it, this controversial project was still approved.

To say we're disappointed to see commercial interests prioritized over residential concerns is an understatement.

Our neighborhood is zoned as residential, yet with a special-use permit it can be transformed into a busy, noisy business area. The conditions placed on this project are because it is in a neighborhood, but will they be enough?

This decision has set a worrisome precedent; if a commercial project like this can be approved in our community, it can happen to any other residential area in Beacon. Everyone should be concerned about that.

Shelley Simmons-Bloom, *Beacon*

Happy to see this go through but disap-

pointed by the limits the city put on the venue. An 8:30 p.m. end time for shows? A closing time of 10 p.m. would have been reasonable and would have supported live theater and music in a way that it should. I hope that at some point the city has the opportunity and the temerity to review this significant limitation.

Jeffery Battersby, *Beacon*

I believe wholeheartedly that the people behind this project are honorable and have vision, and I am grateful that the stewardship of this historic treasure is in their hands. This is exactly the project this site needs. Wishing them much success despite the extreme and, in my mind, absurd limitations placed upon it.

Kelly Ellenwood, *Beacon*

How about with every new hotel room we close a non-owner-occupied Airbnb and make those available to residents?

Lesly Deschler Canossi, *via Facebook*

West Point

In its pursuit of an ideological victory, Students for Fair Admission is missing the myriad differences between service academies and other universities ("Affirmative Action Group Takes Aim at West Point," Aug. 11).

When you apply to a military academy, you are being interviewed for a job. Once accepted, you are paid a salary, receive health benefits and follow all the rules governing military life throughout your academic career. Further, employment is guaranteed for five years upon graduation. You are attending a university but, make no mistake, you are in the military.

Beyond that, military academy admission is a completely closed system of quotas and required references, anyway. To cite one example not mentioned in the article: Each state has a fixed number of slots to allocate to applicants from that state. If the Students for Fair Admission lawsuit is successful, shouldn't residents of states with relatively small populations, such as Rhode Island, Delaware, Idaho or Wyoming, file a lawsuit because too many Texans have been admitted?

It appears that Chief Justice John Roberts understands this. If this case reaches the Supreme Court, I hope reason prevails with its more ideological members.

John Schieneman, *Cold Spring*

Philipstown roads

Here we go again. The Philipstown Highway Department has been doing an outstanding job of constructing and maintaining our dirt roads, but someone just can't resist the chance to promote pavement ("Our Plan is to Start Paving," Aug. 11).

The dirt roads came through the fierce storms very well. Some repairs were needed, but they are fast and less expensive on dirt roads. We are lucky to still have them; they are an aspect of what makes Philipstown famous and special.

Thank you, Highway Department — the long hill where I live on Old Albany Post Road fared well.

Betsy Calhoun, *Garrison*

One idea would be for the residents of Old Albany Post Road to fund its maintenance, since this passion project is important to so many of them. Supervisor Van Tassel, who has a lot of common sense, is right: These storms are more than once every 100 years. I'm a Philipstown taxpayer who's tired of supporting impractical initiatives when the funds can go to so much better use.

James Wiesler, *Philipstown*

Beacon parking

I'm shocked that a church would sue the City of Beacon over a parking lot ("Beacon, Church Still at Odds," Aug. 11). The city owns the lot, which offers free parking, and it's only temporarily closed because of the expansion of the firehouse.

This renovation will improve fire protec-

(Continued on Page 5)



LETTERS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 4)

tion for everyone in Beacon, including St. Andrew & St. Luke. Is parking convenience worth delaying that? It's commendable that St. Andrew provides the valuable service of a food pantry, but the money spent for this lawsuit by the church and the city would be better spent helping the underserved in Beacon.

The church needs to consider, what would Jesus do? When asked about paying taxes, Jesus said: "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." Sage advice that St. Andrew should consider. Give the City of Beacon what is theirs and give to God what is God's.

Elise LaRocco, *Beacon*

Voting machines

On Aug. 2, the New York State Board of Elections certified the ExpressVote XL Universal Voting System, which uses a touch screen to produce a paper ballot. It is unbelievable that the Board of Elections would do this.

For over 10 years we have voted using an optical scan/paper ballot machine that voters mark and place in a tallying machine themselves. Then we observe as the paper ballot is dropped into a metal box. It is easy to vote and we know that our paper ballot can be recounted manually, if necessary, at a later date.

We have heard about all the problems that states have encountered with voting on computers and that many have deter-

mined to change to a paper ballot system that we have in New York.

So why would we abandon a good system for one that is more complicated, more expensive and less transparent? I would encourage counties to say "no" to ExpressVote XL and continue to use the optical scan/paper ballot machine.

It took New York State a long time to choose scanning/paper ballots over the use of computer voting, and it proved to be the right decision, then and now. It takes voters some time to get used to a new system and trust the process, which is what happens when you have your marked ballot in your hands and not on a screen.

Some people, when they vote, take more time to make selections. A long line could develop at the touch-screen machine as people take their time, which means the company sells more machines to the counties — costing taxpayers more money.

We need voters to be confident that their votes are counted, and computers do not build on that confidence when we hear so often about hacking. I have heard that voters like the process we have and feel that there is no pressure to rush their vote when they individually mark the ballot.

Please make your voices heard with your county and state legislators so we can stop this voting change in its tracks and protect the security of our votes. In this case, simple voting is best.

Sandy Galef, *Ossining*

Galef is a former longtime member of the state Assembly and member of its Election Law Committee; her district included Philipstown.

Asylum-seekers

In his letter in the Aug. 11 issue, Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne fails to mention the actions taken by governors in Florida and Texas that have added to the woes of both New York City and the people fleeing persecution and violence in their home countries.

If not for the actions of Republican governors such as Ron DeSantis and Greg Abbott, New York City would not be in the position of finding homes for thousands of refugees. If there had been any form of notification in the spirit of working cooperatively, New York City and New York State would have had time to figure out how to properly place refugees in housing and, God forgive, jobs. Instead, the busing of migrant refugees to New York City without notice has been used as a cruel tactic in a petty assault.

Byrne correctly identifies the problem as decades in the making, so his assertion that President Biden has not taken ownership is a bit disingenuous. Does the county executive really think that the Republican Party would work with the president to solve this crisis?

Byrne should concentrate on his role as the putative leader of a small county in upstate New York. When a local official starts calling out the president of the United States, he has obviously lost his way.

Richard Shea, *Cold Spring*
Shea is the former Philipstown supervisor.

Will Hochul Sign Indian Point Bill?

Test results unknown until after wastewater release

By Brian PJ Cronin

Local elected officials gathered in the rain on Tuesday (Aug. 15) outside the Westchester County Center to urge Gov. Kathy Hochul to sign legislation that would stop Holtec, the company decommissioning the Indian Point nuclear power plant, from discharging wastewater from spent fuel pools into the Hudson River.

The bill, introduced by state Sen. Pete Harckham and Assembly Member Dana Levenberg, whose districts include Indian Point, earlier this year passed the Senate unanimously and the Assembly with bipartisan support. However, the governor has given no indication whether she intends to sign it, negotiate for changes or veto it.

"I hope she reads [the unanimous Senate vote] as a sign of the bill's statewide support," Harckham said.

The first wastewater discharge from Indian Point is scheduled to begin in late September or early October, and would be released at 200 gallons per minute in 18,000-gallon batches for a total of about 330,000 gallons. A Holtec representative told *The Current* that the first discharge "should take a few months from start to finish, as each batch would take time to treat, test and release."

Holtec estimates that, over the next

“ This is a global movement of citizens standing up and saying that our water bodies are not going to be used as dumping grounds for industrial waste.

~ State Sen. Pete Harckham

few years, the amount of wastewater discharged will be more than 1 million gallons. The company and the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission have said that the amount of radioactive material in the discharges will be far below the allowable limits and no different from the dozens of routine, regulated discharges that took place over the decades the plant was in operation.

Those assurances have failed to mollify elected officials or dozens of local municipalities, including Cold Spring, Philipstown, Beacon and Westchester County, that have passed resolutions condemning the fall discharge.

At the rally on Tuesday, Harckham noted that Gov. Maura Healy of Massachusetts recently blocked Holtec from performing a similar discharge into Cape Cod Bay from the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant, which it is also decommissioning, and that Japan's plan to begin releasing wastewater into the



State Sen. Pete Harckham and Assembly Member Dana Levenberg at the rally

Photo by B. Cronin

Pacific Ocean from its Fukushima nuclear power plant, the site of a 2011 disaster, drew condemnation and economic threats from China and South Korea.

"This is a global movement of citizens standing up and saying that our water bodies are not going to be used as dumping grounds for industrial waste," said Harckham. "These are central to economic prosperity, economic vitality and economic sustainability."

Levenberg said that during the most recent meeting of the Indian Point Decommissioning Task Force, she and other board members learned that although Holtec will test the wastewater before its release, the results won't be known until after the discharge begins.

"It makes no sense whatsoever to test, and before they have results, let the water go out," said Jim Creighton, deputy supervisor of the Town of Cortlandt. "If they were testing to protect us from what's in that water, they would test it and get the results before allowing the water out."

If Hochul signs the bill into law, it's unclear what would happen to the wastewater. Harckham and Levenberg (whose district also includes Philipstown) have said their preference would be to have the water stored on-site for at least 12 years, the amount of time it takes for the tritium in the water to decay to half its current potency. But Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker of Buchanan, the village that contains Indian Point, has said she won't allow that.

Harckham told *The Current* that if the bill is signed, "everybody takes a deep breath and we work collaboratively the way we do at the Decommissioning Oversight Board. We work with Holtec, the unions, the municipalities, and we figure out what the next steps are."

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IT’S YOUR CONSTITUTION: USE IT OR LOSE IT

The article below is by Timothy D. Snyder, Richard C. Levin Professor of History at Yale University, specializing in the history of Central and Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and the Holocaust. It is reprinted here by Bevis and Clara Longstreth of Garrison out of grave concern for tyrannies threatening our democracy.

We Can Have the Constitution, or We Can Have Trump

I once saw Arnold Schwarzenegger give a speech in Washington, D.C. It was a polished performance about making green politics cool. Republicans were whispering to each other: “too bad we can’t nominate this guy.” They meant: for president.

Schwarzenegger could not run for president because Section 1 of Article Two of the Constitution forbids it. The president must be a “natural-born citizen,” which is understood to mean someone who was born in the United States, or whose parents were citizens. Schwarzenegger, though a U.S. citizen, was born in Austria to Austrian parents.

Section 1 of Article Two is one, but not the only, place where the Constitution defines who may run for president. Whereas Section 1 of Article Two has to do with a factors over which a person has no control, place of birth and legal status of parents, Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment concerns how an American citizen behaves. It forbids officeholders who try to overthrow the Republic from holding office again. It reads:

“No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.”

It is obvious on a plain reading of this part of our Constitution that (absent a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress) Donald Trump is now ineligible for the office of the presidency. He took an oath as an officer of the United States, and then engaged in insurrection and rebellion, and gave aid and comfort to others who did the same. No one seriously disputes this. Trump certainly does not. His coup attempt after losing the 2020 election is the platform on which is he is now staging what he portrays as his campaign for the presidency. The big lie he told at the time he continues to tell. He defied the Constitution and is now running against the Constitution.

One of the odd features about our political life is our capacity to look away from the obvious when the obvious might be “controversial.” We talk a good deal about the Constitution, and almost everyone in political life claims to venerate it — but who reads it? You just have to get as far as the Fourteenth Amendment to see that Trump cannot be president. To be sure, other people have been trying to make this point. Section Three was discussed in early 2021 as a possible response to Trump’s attempted coup. Perhaps it is an accident of that debate, which led instead to impeachment, that Section Three has received little attention since.

So I was heartened just now to read a comprehensive, powerfully argued (and beautifully written) article by the (conservative) legal scholars William Baude and Michael Stokes Paulsen. It defends the plain reading of Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment on what would seem to be every historical and interpretive ground. It was written with all possible objections in mind. Rather than belabor these, I suggest you read the article itself at bit.ly/baude-paulsen (which should be published as some sort free ebook).

The authors conclude that Trump is “no longer eligible to the office of Presidency, or any other state or federal office covered by the Constitution. All who are committed to the Constitution should take note and say so.” Although I am focusing on Trump here, the authors of the article are concerned with insurrectionists in general. For them, Trump is one of many people who are now, given their participation in Trump’s coup attempt, ineligible for office.

I worry that we will find some excuse not to draw the obvious conclusion about Trump, so well grounded in the article. It was troubling, for me at least, to see The New York Times coverage of the article relativize its central finding with this vague but suggestive formulation: “voters remain free to assess whether his conduct was blameworthy.” This wording suggests that Trump can run for president, and that we as voters can then consider his ineligibility for that office alongside his legal problems (which The Times article then rehearses). That is wrong, because it misunderstands what ineligibility is.

Arnold Schwarzenegger would also like to run for president in 2024. He thinks he would win, and he may well be right. But we cannot decide to elect a president who is not a natural-born citizen. This is not an issue we are “free to assess,” because we are governed by the Constitution. For the same reason, we cannot vote for oath-breaking insurrectionists such as Donald Trump. Such people are barred by the Constitution from running for president.

We can have the Constitution, or we can have Trump.

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PAID NOTICE



ElliQ is marketed as an “empathetic care companion.” Intuition Robotics

Wide Angle

The Loneliness Epidemic

By Stowe Boyd

The polling organization Gallup estimates that 300 million people around the world don’t have a single friend, and that one in five people doesn’t have a friend or family member to rely on.



“We live in the most technologically connected age in the history of civilization, yet rates of loneliness have doubled since the 1980s,” noted Dr. Vivek Murthy, the U.S. surgeon general. He considers loneliness to be a national health crisis.

For a health risk whose long-term effects scientists have compared to smoking 15 cigarettes a day, we should be doing more. We need a societal shift to viewing long-term loneliness as a mental health and/or medical issue that can affect anyone.

“We ask people to exercise and eat a healthy diet and take their medications,” Murthy wrote in an advisory he issued in May calling for a national strategy to improve social connections. “But if we truly want to be healthy, happy and fulfilled as a society, we have to restructure our lives around people. Right now our lives are centered around work.”

According to Gallup, in March 2020, at the beginning of the pandemic, 24 percent of respondents said they had felt lonely much of the day before. The measure had fallen to 17 percent by February 2023.

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Town of Philipstown is seeking candidates interested in a position on the **Zoning Board of Appeals**. If interested please send resume to:

Tara Percacciolo, Town Clerk
P.O. Box 155
238 Main Street
Cold Spring, New York 10516

or email
townclerk@philipstown.com

Those who live in big cities are the most likely to report loneliness (20 percent) compared to those in small towns (18 percent), suburbs (17 percent) and rural areas (12 percent).

The perception is that older people suffer the most from loneliness, but Gallup found that young adults under the age of 30 and people with lower incomes reported higher levels. People over age 65 and people with household incomes of \$180,000 or more reported the least.

Despite that, much of the focus is on older people, who can be socially isolated by a lack of mobility. In February, the Dutchess County Office for the Aging launched a Friendly Calls initiative (adapted from a state program) in which volunteers phone seniors weekly, mostly to listen (call 845-486-2555 to volunteer). SAGEConnect (sageusa.org), based in New York City, has a “phone-buddy” program for LGBTQ+ elders.

Cold Spring and Beacon, like many communities, also have senior centers that provide transportation, organize social events and serve meals.

Could artificial intelligence help? Monica Perez, who lives in Beacon, says she grew so lonely while living alone for 10 years that she would talk to herself “to the point it was annoying.” In addition, “the building’s managers and social workers got sick of me calling them all the time.”

Monica did some research and found a California company, Intuition Robotics, which last year introduced an AI-powered assistant, ElliQ, that it calls “a proactive and empathetic care companion designed to help older adults remain active, engaged and independent.” It’s available for \$250 plus a monthly fee of \$30 or \$40. Monica uses it to play games and exercise.

She says the device converses at a level comparable to Amazon’s Alexa but it focuses on interaction rather than news and shopping. In 2022, the state Office for the Aging organized a pilot program that distributed 800 ElliQs.

There are limits. Monica has impaired vision, and the ElliQ can’t help her when she’s navigating public transit or supermarket aisles — at least not this model.

Stowe Boyd, who lives in Beacon, specializes in the economics and ecology of work and the “anthropology of the future.” This column focuses on the local impacts of larger trends.

Reporter's Notebook

Letter from Chile

By Violeta Edwards Salas

It's been nearly eight months since I wrote a farewell to Cold Spring for *The Current*, and a lot has happened.



My parents and two younger sisters and I returned to Santiago, our original home, and I have tried to fit myself back into a place I left when 8 years old and no longer remembered. I have learned a lot and wanted to share with friends in Cold Spring, my beloved former home, some of my experiences.

We came to the U.S. in 2015 for my father to attend college, and for medical treatment for myself. I still remember gripping my bright-pink suitcase with shaking hands after we landed at JFK. I could only count to nine in English but quickly became the best English speaker in my family. I attended elementary, middle and high school at Haldane until we returned to Chile in December.

Chile is truly a beautiful place; it's understated and less refined than any place in the U.S. that I saw, but it has its charm. It's a dry place, so it does not look like a typical, tropical South American country.

It gets drier every year, which can be attributed to climate change. People here always say that it's ironic that the First World countries emit more fossil fuels and generate more toxic waste but are the ones that least feel the changing climate.

To me, there is nothing as beautiful as the Chilean desert. As part of a school trip, my classmates and I went to San Pedro de Atacama, which left me speechless. San Pedro, the oldest town in Chile, is located north, next to the mining district, which is where I was born.

It's a great spot for tourists. The town has gorgeous attractions, such as the Salar of Atacama, where you can find flamingos and natural geysers, and lakes that are 4,000 meters above sea level in the middle of the desert.

What interests me most is the culture and history. The Inca Empire resided there from the 1450s to 1550s and fought hard with other tribes to keep their land, just like the Atacamas (who named the area).

Today, you can see where the Incas hid from enemies up in the mountains with cobblestone walls, and you can find their tombs, which are marked by piles of rocks, and you can walk along the infamous Inca Trail. Some historians say that when the colonizers came, they cut the Indigenous people's tongues out and, since they only communicated orally, their language was lost forever.

If you ever get the chance to visit Chile, your first destination should be San Pedro de Atacama. Aside from the friendly people, there are beautiful hikes along some of the highest mountains in the Andes, and small villas developed in the few oases that you find in what is known as the driest desert



Violeta Edwards Salas (center) with friends Elena Fuenzalida, Flora Jurgens and Ángela Fernández

Photo provided



A vicuña in the desert of San Pedro

Photos by V. Edwards Salas (2)

in the world.

One of my favorite things about San Pedro is the night sky. The sky has so little light pollution and humidity that the world's main observatories have been set up there. One of them is ALMA (Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array), which is part of a network of telescopes that captured the first image of a black hole in 2019.

Getting accustomed to the people here has been a challenge, but one that has been fruitful. In my experience, Chilean culture is focused on the heart and feelings, to the point where every circumstance is weighed by emotions.

It's a warm and human way of interacting, but it can also be too much at times.

This is coming from someone who was taught about the "personal bubble" in third grade at Haldane. Imagine my shock when I realized that people still have to be introduced with a kiss and a hug.

Although I miss Cold Spring and its people more than anyone could imagine, I am learning a lot about who I am and where I come from. Being with family, especially my grandparents, has been so rewarding. So has, of course, being with the love of my life, my dog Dr. John Watson, named for the Sherlock Holmes character.

Edwards Salas is a member of The Current's Student Journalists Program and our first correspondent in Santiago.



Salar of Atacama



Violeta (foreground) and friends

What's Online at Highlands Current.org

These resources can be accessed through the pulldown menu on the top of each page, under "Resources" and "Reader Guide."

Local Officials

This is a list of elected and appointed officials at the local, state and federal level and how to contact them with your praise or protests.

Local Government Video Guide

OK, it's not Netflix, but here's a list of sites where you can watch videos of local and county public meetings.

How They Voted (Congress)

Summaries of consequential and newsworthy legislation in the U.S. House and how Rep. Mike Lawler (Philipstown) and Rep. Pat Ryan (Beacon) voted. Updated weekly when Congress meets.

Storm Updates and Resources

Storm-watcher resources and contacts for when the power goes out.

Community Calendar

This is the full Monty — we only have room for the highlights in print.

Community Directory

This is a continually updated guide to local businesses and cultural sites, with addresses, phone numbers and web links.

Shop Local Online

We created this during the pandemic; it's a list of local retailers that allow you to order online.

Real-Estate Data

These graphs are created on the fly by a firm called Dataherald and include the number of new listings in Putnam and Dutchess counties, the number of home sales and median home sale price.

Job Search

Provided by Indeed, these are continually updated listings for open positions in the Highlands and surrounding areas.

Back Issues

This is an archive of our past issues, in PDF format, from June 2012 to date, except for the latest issue, which is emailed to Current members on Friday morning.

Podcast Archives

Here are links to all the episodes of our podcast, for easy listening. The three most popular downloads so far have been interviews with a barefoot Ironman competitor; Dinky Romilly of Philipstown, who discussed her civil rights work and her famous mother; and the author of a book about stone walls.

Weather (from Page 1)

Launched in 1998 at Colorado State University, CoCoRaHS has more than 26,000 observers who strive to increase "the density of precipitation data" and raise awareness of weather and climate.

As the only observer in Beacon, Stacken has collected data since 2017. For the July 9 storm, he measured 5.28 inches inside the gauge installed in his yard on Robinson Avenue.

He has reported just one rainier 24-hour period — Sept. 1 to 2 in 2021, when Tropical Storm Ida lashed the Highlands and dropped 6.71 inches in Beacon. Like July's storm, Ida triggered a federal disaster declaration and exemplified the intense rain events that have become more frequent with climate change.

"The more observers we have out there, the more scientists will be able to analyze the data," said Stacken.

Kiphart traces his interest in the weather to childhood. He grew up in Ohio and his father, an aerospace engineer, taught him about weather and forecasting. The family had a barometer and rain gauge.

What he learned proved valuable when he began flying planes as an adult, and his interest in the weather continued after he moved to this area in 2000. "Living in the Highlands, you become a lot more subject to the weather," he said. "You have to become weather-aware."

After a career spent on the road staging live events, Kiphart began working from home, which gave him the flexibility needed to volunteer for CoCoRaHS, which involves checking gauges at the same time each day. The organization considers 7 a.m. to be ideal.

"Nobody's ever done this granular look at precipitation data across this big a scale of land," said Kiphart. "So, my little contribution every day is all part of what they're using to try to figure out what's going on."

Stacken, a pianist, composer and educator, joined CoCoRaHS because his brother, a naturalist and meteorologist in Minnesota, "made me do it," he said, with a laugh. The commitment was a concern, said Stacken, but feeding his chickens already required a trip each morning to the backyard.

Most days, he is entering zeros for precipitation, but measuring is more complicated in the winter, when volunteers need to gauge snowfall but also melt the snow to measure the amount of water it contains.

"At the end of the season, it's fun to look at the data and see how much total precipitation we had over the year," said Stacken.

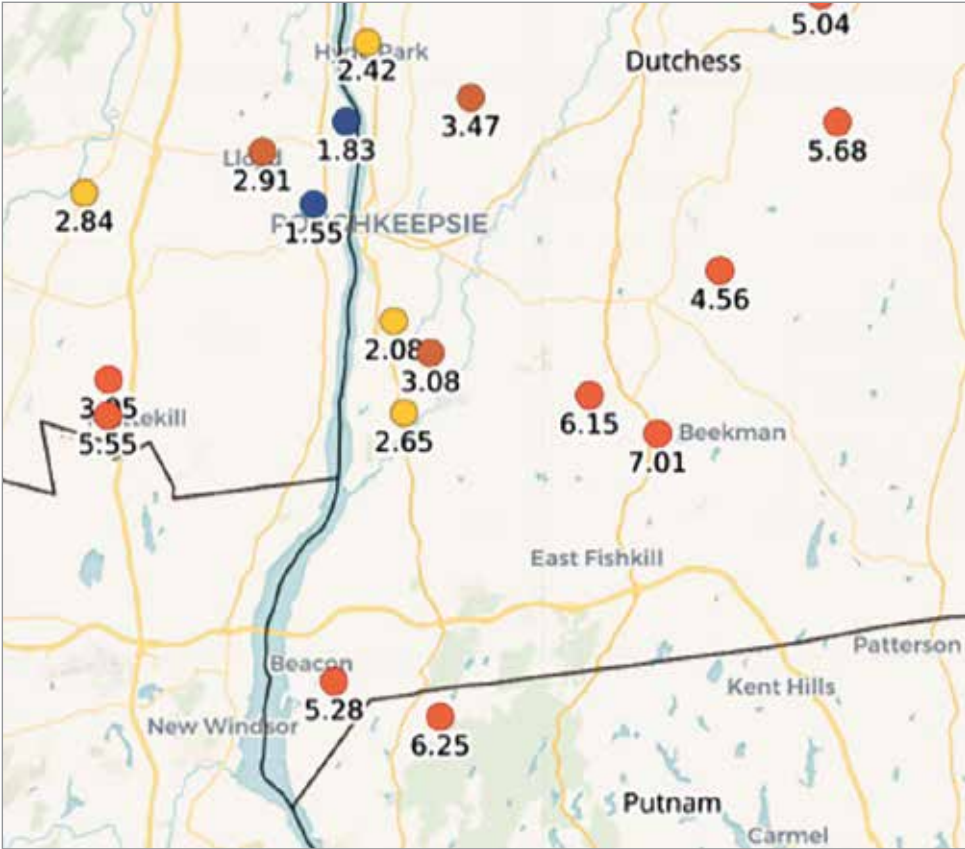
Because there are not more local observers, the data can be imprecise. Kiphart's postal address is in Cold Spring, but his house is located in Philipstown at an elevation of 854 feet above sea level (compared to 108 feet for the village) and he lives closer to Beacon than the village.

Between December 2022 and March, Kiphart recorded 37.2 inches of snowfall. But Stacken, whose Beacon home is more than 600 feet lower, reported 3.6 inches. (He did not report snowfall data for the storm that occurred Feb. 27, when 6 inches fell on some parts of the Highlands.)

In their time as observers, both men have noticed trends. Kiphart said that recent storms have dropped "gloppy moisture-laden snows"



Jesse Stacken explains how he uses the weather gauge that collects rainfall and snowfall in Beacon. Photos by L. Sparks



Local rain-gauge reports uploaded to CoCoRaHS on July 10



Jon Kiphart of Philipstown has been measuring rain and snow levels since 2008.

that, although not deep, are hard to move. "I broke my snowblower once trying to clear it because you can't get any traction," he said.

Stacken has noticed long periods of dryness followed by storms with heavy rainfall. He has also noticed how the topography can create microclimates, with some storms affecting just one part of Beacon.

"That's why I'd love to see more CoCoRaHS observers," he said.

Weather Central

For more information and data, visit cocorahs.org.

Golf Course *(from Page 1)*

seventh greens, which had been treated with fungicide because of their shady and damp locations.

That project was largely completed in June, Buono said, noting that the property was never dangerous to golfers. “It met the standards for commercial use,” she said. “We just wanted to be more conservative” and ensure it was safe to “have a picnic and eat a sandwich.”

Starting in the fall, the land trust will begin to create a master plan with input from ecologists, landscape architects and the public, said Katrina Shindledecker, executive director of HHLT. There is a wide range of ideas, including bike paths, a pollinator meadow, a cross-country race course and a sculpture garden, she said.

Shindledecker also hopes the space will offer a gentle alternative to the more strenuous hiking trails popular around the Highlands.

“Look at someone who is recuperating from knee surgery or heart surgery,” she said. “Half the time they walk in malls. This is a beautiful landscape with slopes, but nothing with an impediment for most people.”

The land trust plans to rename the property and is open to suggestions. She said the nonprofit typically selects names related to natural resources, such as the Granite Mountain Preserve and Canopus Creek Preserve in Putnam Valley. She said that incorporating “dragonfly” into the name is a possibility given the unusual dragonfly habitat on the property.

The parcel is open to the public during the day and is frequented by hikers, although motorized vehicles, particularly dirt bikes, are prohibited. Apparently, the undulating fairways and former sandtraps are enticing, she said. The land trust posted signs banning dirt bikes, but they were torn down. Shindledecker said she has asked the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department for help; no bikers have been cited for trespassing, she said.

What was formerly the Garrison Golf Course has had several makeovers over the decades. In the late 19th century, the property was an estate known as Walnut Ridge. In the early 20th century, it became the site of Bill Brown’s Physical Training Farm, “a discrete spot for well-heeled men to get fit and sometimes to dry out,” according to HHLT. Its guests included Babe Ruth, Johnny Weissmuller, Joe Louis, Tyrone Power and Henry Fonda.

For guidance with the most recent changes, Buono said the land trust consulted with Northampton, Massachusetts, which is transforming a former golf course into a public park.

“There’s no book that says, ‘So you own a former golf course, what do you do?’ ” she noted.

Boardinghouse Owner Asks for Variance

January arson destroyed Beacon structure

By Jeff Simms

A month after it ruled that a Beacon boardinghouse destroyed by fire must be rebuilt as a single-family home to comply with current regulations, the Zoning Board of Appeals this week began considering the property owner’s request for a variance.

If approved, a variance would allow Yeschia Berger to rebuild a structure at 925 Wolcott Ave. with single-room occupancy for short-term renters.

The ZBA discussed the request and held a public hearing on Tuesday (Aug. 15) but did not vote. It did approve an agreement that gives Berger until Sept. 25 to challenge the ZBA ruling in Dutchess County Court, although that deadline may be extended if

the board continues to review his request.

Tuesday’s meeting was the latest chapter in a highly unusual sequence of events at the site.

On Jan. 3, a former tenant started a fire that destroyed the 4,136-square-foot, three-story structure. The tenant, Brian P. Atkinson, 57, turned himself in to Beacon police. He had been due in court that morning for eviction proceedings. Atkinson pleaded guilty on May 31 to the most serious charge against him, third-degree arson, and was sentenced to 4 to 12 years in state prison.

Berger had received a building permit in December to downsize the building’s density from 16 rental units to nine. After the arson, he sought permission from the city to rebuild the boardinghouse, which had been a “legal non-conforming use” in an area zoned for single-family homes.

Bruce Flower, the city building inspector, denied Berger’s request, citing a provision in the zoning code requiring structures that have been more than 50 percent destroyed, such as by fire, to be rebuilt according to current standards. (Beacon’s zoning code does not permit boardinghouses, but 925 Wolcott and several others like it had been grandfathered in as long-standing non-conforming uses.)

In July, the ZBA upheld Flower’s decision.

On Tuesday, Berger’s attorney, Taylor Palmer, argued that his client faces a “unique hardship” because of the arson. Palmer has asked the ZBA to grant either an “area variance,” which would bypass the 50 percent-destroyed provision, or a “use variance,” which would allow the boardinghouse in the single-family neighborhood.

If one of them is not approved, Palmer indicated that Berger would probably file a lawsuit.

Palmer said Berger could not “realize a reasonable rate of return” on the parcel if he builds a single-family home, but board members questioned data provided by a financial consultant as evidence.

A 2022 appraisal showed the boardinghouse property was worth \$1.7 million, said Bill Pforzheimer, the consultant. Conversely, single-family homes in Beacon ranging from 2,000 to 5,000 square feet have sold for an average of \$832,000 — a “very large discrepancy,” he said.

According to Dutchess County records, Berger purchased the parcel in July 2022 — two months after the appraisal — for \$650,000.

And while a single-family home may generate \$2,000 to \$4,000 per month in rent, Berger was making \$20,000 per month renting the single-room occupancies, Pforzheimer said.

“But the former use is not relevant” because the structure no longer exists, said Jordan Haug, the ZBA chair. In addition, board members wanted to know how much Berger had received from an insurance payout, and the estimated costs of rebuilding — numbers that Pforzheimer said he did not have.

The board also asked its attorney, George Alissandratos, for help defining “reasonable return.”

Flower noted that Berger began work on the boardinghouse before receiving a building permit. “The place was pretty much wide open because of the demolition that had already taken place,” Flower said. “When the fire was lit, it basically went through the building much quicker than if it was a finished space.”

During the public hearing, a half-dozen neighbors asked the board not to grant either variance. No one spoke in favor.

“With any type of investment, there’s a lot of inherent risk, just like with the stock market,” said Lisa Wagner, who lives on Sargent Avenue. “If I was going to buy a property and use it as an investment, I would want to know my worst-case scenario [such as a fire]. I’d check that out first.”

The zoning board has also received a petition with more than 100 names asking it to deny Berger’s request. Another neighbor said “every weekend there was a fight” at the site, echoing previous public comments.

The board adjourned the public hearing until its Sept. 19 meeting and voted 4-1, with Judith Smith dissenting, to hire a consultant to research Pforzheimer’s arguments.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

Need a Room?

Beacon has long had a history of single-room occupancy housing, including for tourists who came to escape the heat of New York City in an era before air conditioning and swimming pools, said Denise Doring VanBuren, president of the Beacon Historical Society.

When the Castle Point VA Medical Center was built in the 1920s, some locals also rented rooms to families who had loved ones being cared for there, she said.

Diane Lapis, a society trustee, added that some homes in Beacon in the early 20th century were converted to “rooms to let.” City directories from the time show households with occupants who had many different surnames, and news stories mention widows and widowers who made ends meet by providing rooms, she said.

After the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision instituted a seniority system for guards, many upstate residents came south to work temporarily at the Fishkill or Downstate prisons, or the Beacon Correctional Facility, while they waited for jobs to open closer to home, VanBuren said. “These folks needed housing and local homes were modified to fill the need,” she said. “This probably created the greatest single-room-occupancy demand.”

VanBuren said that the movement to place people who had once resided in group homes into the community likely also resulted in homes in Beacon being modified to accommodate single residents receiving state subsidies.



Young Players Sing Away Performance

August 18 at 11:45 a.m.

Maia Sharp
August 25 at 7:30 p.m.

**Summer Fun Picnic
on the Landing**
August 26 at 3-5 p.m.

**Aery One Act
Play Festival**
Sept 8-17

**Depot Cabaret:
Beth Leavel**
Sept 23 at 7pm

**Depot Cabaret: Bryce
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Sept 24 at 4pm

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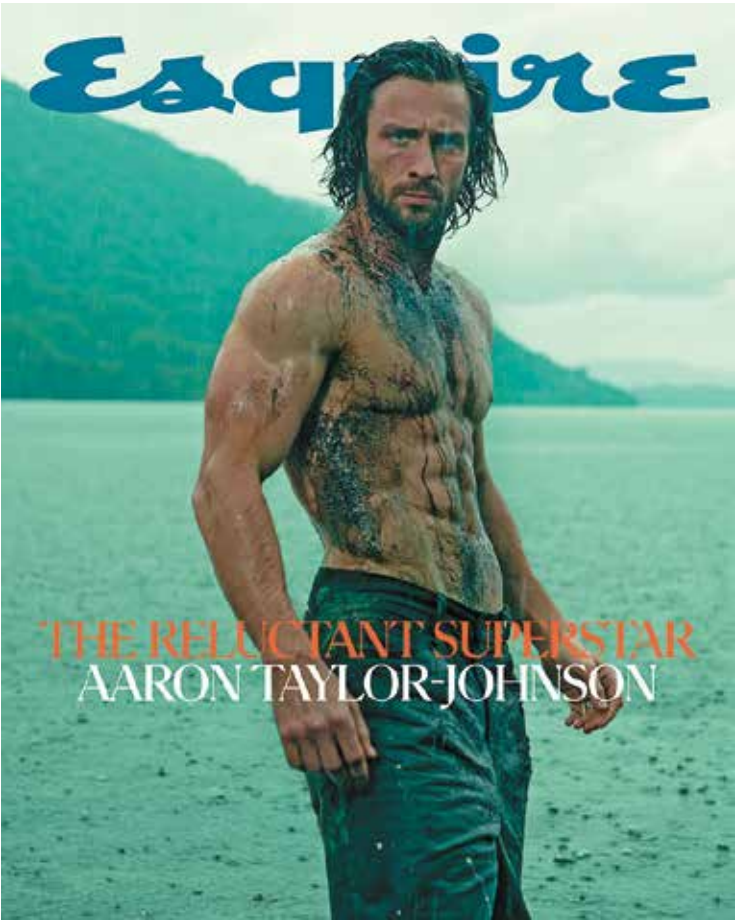
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AROUND TOWN



HUDSON HUNK — Aaron Taylor-Johnson, star of the upcoming Marvel film *Kraven the Hunter*, and perhaps the next actor to play James Bond, graces the cover of the September issue of *Esquire* available Aug. 22. Recognize the setting? The photos were taken on Bannerman Island.

Photos by Norman Jean Roy



▲ **TAPS FOR BEACON** —Each evening at 5 p.m., a bugler dressed in a period uniform plays “Taps” at the National World War I Memorial in Washington, D.C. This past week the ceremonies honored the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Beacon and its namesake, Pvt. William B. Wilson, who was killed in action in Belgium in 1918. See youtube.com/DoughboyFoundation. As it happens, “Taps” is credited to Gen. Daniel Butterfield (1831-1901), a Civil War general and Cold Spring resident.

Photo provided

The Calendar



Vera Brittain



Winifred Holtby

Through the Embers of Time

Cold Spring composer to celebrate two writers

By Alison Rooney

In a 2018 interview with *The Current*, on the occasion of his Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall debut, composer Eric Starr spoke of the genesis of a piece he had just begun.

Five years later, it has come to fruition and will be the centerpiece of Starr's Sept. 9 performance at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon of *A Celebration of Women in History*, a tribute to poet Vera Brittain (1893-1970) and novelist Winifred Holtby (1898-1935), best known for *South Riding*.

The project celebrates, he says, "two extraordinary British women in history who were authors and social campaigners. It uses a kind of mixed-media presentation of poetry with original music to create a portrait of love and loss, ambition and courage."

The piece came about, he says, because

Perhaps

By Vera Brittain

Perhaps some day the sun will shine again,
And I shall see that still the skies are blue,
And feel once more I do not live in vain,
Although I feel bereft of You.
Perhaps the golden meadows at my feet
Will make the sunny hours of Spring seem gay
And I shall find the white May blossoms sweet,
Though You have passed away.
Perhaps the summer woods will shimmer bright,
And crimson roses once again be fair,
And autumn harvest fields a rich delight,
Although You are not there.
Perhaps someday I shall not shrink in pain
To see the passing of the dying year,
And listen to the Christmas songs again
Although You cannot hear.
But, though kind Time may many joys renew,
There is one greatest joy I shall not know
Again, because my heart for loss of You
Was broken, long ago.



Composer Eric Starr

he had wanted to write for cello and piano and, while looking for inspiration, came across "Perhaps," a 1916 poem by Brittain, "which gave me the shivers."

Reading it, he "felt much sorrow but also a sense of courage and resiliency. It resonated with me in my own life. Suddenly, the piece was born from it. The creative process is mysterious, and I accept that."

When he began writing *Celebration* in early 2018, he felt "at an impasse in my own life at that time, and humanity itself, asking a lot of questions, thinking about the material self versus the spiritual self. I turn to poetry a lot, but couldn't find inspiration; nothing worked."

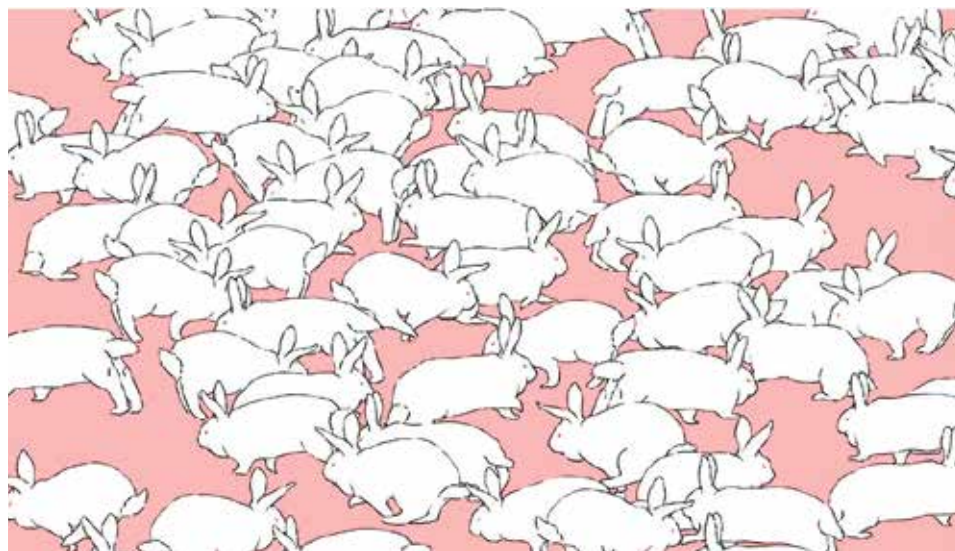
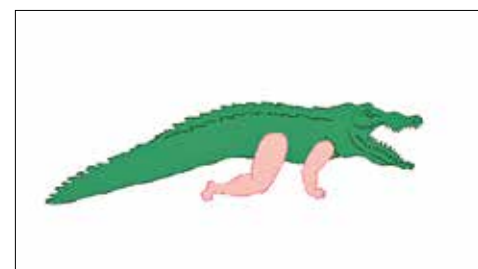
He found "Perhaps" in a collection of Brittain's poems titled *Because You Died*. "Something clicked and I went to her archives, where I spent time holding her original diaries, which were moving, as she's writing some horrible things about that ghastly war [World War I]," he recalls. "Ultimately, it was strangely uplifting, because in her sorrow we see someone who is showing so much fortitude."

Of his subjects, he says: "I don't know them, certainly don't speak for them, but have spent years learning as much as I could about them. On some level, I wanted the music to be intimate, imagining their inner thoughts, the sense of loss they experienced."

"Instead of sitting at the piano and thinking with my musical mind, I tried to be as quiet and still as possible," he adds. "I was a conduit exploring where the art comes from, to where it flows."

The composition contains a poem spoken before each piece of music. "The music ponders existence, through the horrors of

(Continued on Page 15)

Three stills from *Serpentine* (2018)

Artist Next Door

Bronwyn Maloney

By Mackenzie Boric

Bronwyn Maloney, an animator and illustrator who lives in Philipstown, knows the joys and struggles of her craft: A two- to three-minute film can take months.

In 2015, the New York City native, who attended Bennington College in Vermont for her undergraduate degree, moved across the country to pursue a masters in the experimental animation program at California Institute of the Arts.

"I've always been into art," she says. "I don't think not doing art was ever an option."

But before her time in Santa Clarita, she had little experience with animation. She had taken only two classes in animation at Bennington and wasn't sure she would be accepted at CalArts with that.

When she was accepted, "it was such a good opportunity," she recalls. "It made no sense to say no."

While at CalArts, she created a short (2½-minute) film, *Serpentine*, that was a



Bronwyn Maloney Photo provided

jury winner in 2018 at the New Orleans Film Festival. Based on experiences she had when she was 18 and 19 years old, it reflects a woman's daydream-like state.

"It's a film about some longing, loneliness and an identity crisis," Maloney says. "A lot of the images are symbolic. It's a film about sexuality, gender and feeling uncomfortable with yourself."

In addition to her love of animation, Maloney has an appreciation for sound (Continued on Page 15)



A still from an animation by Bronwyn Maloney

THE WEEK AHEAD

Edited by Pamela Doan (calendar@highlandscurrent.org)

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

COMMUNITY

SAT 19

Become a Citizen

BEACON

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Drop in to learn how to become a U.S. citizen and pick up the necessary documents. Registration required.

SAT 19

Back to School Block Party

BEACON

Noon – 3 p.m. South Avenue Park
iambeacon.org

Help “stuff the bus” with school supplies for families in need and learn about local organizations at this event hosted annually by I Am Beacon. See the website for a list of supplies; they can be dropped at Key Food through SUN 27.

SAT 19

Seafood Festival

POUGHKEEPSIE

Noon – 7 p.m. MJN Center
14 Civic Center Plaza
midhudsonciviccenter.org

Sample seafood dishes along with craft beers and cider. Tribute bands will play throughout the event. Also SUN 20. *Cost: \$20 to \$110*

SAT 19

Butterfly Festival and Concert

WAPPINGERS FALLS

4 – 7:30 p.m. Stony Kill Farm
79 Farmstead Lane | stonykill.org

On this, the final day of the farm’s weeklong festival, there will be hay rides in a butterfly wagon, children’s activities, food trucks and a concert by Big Band Sound.

MON 21

Senior Fiesta

COLD SPRING

1 p.m. Butterfield Library
10 Morris Ave. | 845-265-3040
butterfieldlibrary.org

For National Senior Citizens’ Day, the library will host a Zumba class, art workshop and games, and serve snacks and drinks.

SAT 26

Yoga on the Farm

WAPPINGERS FALLS

9 a.m. Common Ground Farm
79 Farmstead Lane
commongroundfarm.org

Join a vinyasa-style yoga class led by Liz Craig. *Cost: \$10 to \$30*

KIDS & FAMILY

WED 23

Switch Bowling

BEACON

3:45 p.m. Howland Public Library
313 Main St. | 845-831-1134
beaconlibrary.org

Children ages 9 and older can compete in a tournament. Registration required.

FRI 25

Fabulous Feathers

GARRISON

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

Sara the Traveling Naturalist will discuss bird feathers and how they function. Registration required.

SAT 26

Family Fun Day

GARRISON

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

Learn about the theater’s programs and enjoy a performance by young singers. There also will be face painting and other activities.

The rain date is SUN 27.

STAGE & SCREEN

SAT 19

The Man Without a World

PUTNAM VALLEY

7:30 p.m.
Tompkins Corners Cultural Center
729 Peekskill Hollow Road
tompkinscorners.org

Eleanor Antin’s modern silent film, released in 1992, is set in a Poland shtetl in the 1920s. Alicia Svigals (klezmer) and Donald Sosin (piano) will provide a live score. *Cost: \$20*

SAT 19

Love’s Labor’s Lost

GARRISON

7:30 p.m. Hudson Valley Shakespeare
2015 Route 9 | 845-265-9575
hvshakespeare.org

Four young men try to uphold their commitment to their studies and not be tempted by the arrival of four women. Also nightly from WED 23 to SUN 27 (closing). *Cost: \$10 to \$100*

SAT 19

Cinema in Piazza

PHILIPSTOWN

8 p.m. Magazzino Italian Art
2700 Route 9 | magazzino.art

As part of the museum’s outdoor summer film series, *Rome: A Visual Journey*, curator Roberta Minnucci will screen *Caro Diario* (1993). On SUN 20, it’s *La Grande Bellezza* (2013). *Cost: \$20 (\$15 seniors, \$10 students)*

SAT 19

Clue

BEACON

8 p.m. The Yard | 4 Hanna Lane
storyscreenpresents.com

Six victims are invited to an isolated mansion by a man who knows a dark secret about each of them. Bring chairs or blankets. The screening will include trivia, raffles and a costume contest. Hosted by Story Screen Presents. *Cost: \$10*



SAT 19

Aliens

COLD SPRING

8:30 p.m. Dockside Park
coldspringfilm.org

As part of its summer series, the Cold Spring Film Society will screen the 1986 sci-fi film starring Sigourney Weaver and Carrie Henn. *Free*

SUN 20

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 and his war to seize the French crown. Emily Ota plays the lead. Also MON 21 (closing). *Cost: \$10 to \$100*

THURS 24

The Princess Bride

BEACON

8 p.m. Riverfront Park
2 Red Flynn Drive | beaconny.govindex
Watch the 1987 film outdoors about the power of true love starring Robin Wright and Cary Elwes. *Free*

FRI 25

Portrait of Jennie

BEACON

6 & 7 p.m. Boats leave dock
845-831-6346 | bannermancastle.org

Visit Bannerman Island to see this 1948 Oscar winner starring Joseph Cotton and Ethel Barrymore. Set in New York City during the Depression, the story has a supernatural twist. *Cost: \$40*

VISUAL ARTS

SAT 19

Martha Bone

GARRISON

3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org

Bone will discuss her collaged paintings and assemblage on display as *Mapping the Invisible*.

SAT 26

Art Walk

NEWBURGH

1 – 5 p.m. various locations
newburghart.org/nbny-artseen

Galleries will be open for a walking tour. See website for a map of participants.


SAT 26

Janice Caswell

GARRISON

3 p.m. Garrison Art Center
23 Garrison’s Landing | 845-424-3960
garrisonartcenter.org

The artist will discuss her work on exhibit in *Off-kilter*.



Join us for the annual
Friends of the Library

Book Sale

**Saturday, September 2nd -
Tuesday, September 12th**

Members Only Night: September 1st from 5-9 pm
Please renew your membership at desmondfishlibrary.org/friends/

**Saturday: 10AM-5PM
Sunday: Noon- 5PM
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 1-5PM
Tuesday & Thursday: 1-8PM**

Located at the
Desmond-Fish Public Library
472 Rt 403 at Rt 9D
booksale@desmondfishlibrary.org

Garrison CRAFT

NEW DATES!
September 30 - October 1

With over 65 exhibitors, plus live music, local food, and pottery demonstrations, Garrison Craft has something for everyone.






garrisonartcenter.org | 845-424-3960

Garrison Art Center

SAT 26
Vivien Collens
NEWBURGH
3 – 5 p.m. Holland Tunnel
46 Chambers St.
hollandtunnelgallery.com
The artist, who moved to New York City in 1977, will exhibit her sculptures based on urban and natural environments.

SUN 27
Realism on the Hudson
BEACON
1 – 3 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
Work by members of the American Artists Professional League will be on view through Oct. 1.



MUSIC
SAT 19
Laurel Canyon
PEEKSKILL
8 p.m. Paramount Hudson Valley
1008 Brown St. | 914-739-0039
paramounthudsonvalley.com
The tribute band will perform the songs of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. *Cost: \$35 to \$45*

SAT 19
Manticore
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The Emerson, Lake and Palmer tribute band will play the hits. *Cost: \$25 (\$30 door)*

SUN 20
Darryl Brown and Little Bones
BEACON
11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Boats leave dock
bannermancastle.org
Enjoy an outdoor musical performance at Bannerman while taking a self-guided tour of the island. *Cost: \$40 (\$35 ages 11 and younger)*

SUN 20
Trio Raconteur
COLD SPRING
4 p.m. Chapel Restoration
45 Market St. | chapelrestoration.org
Amy Schroeder (violin), Felix Umanski (cello) and Yalin Chi (piano) will perform compositions

by Beethoven and Ravel. Donations welcome. *Free*
SUN 20
California Dreamin’
BEACON
7 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The band will play songs from the 1960s and 1970s. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

FRI 25
Slambovian Circus of Dreams
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The rootsy, psychedelic band will play music from its latest release, *A Very Unusual Head*. *Cost: \$30 (\$35 door)*

SAT 26
Summer Children
BEACON
8 p.m. Howland Cultural Center
477 Main St. | 845-831-4988
howlandculturalcenter.org
The folk, jazz and bluegrass quartet will debut their new album, *Secret World*. *Cost: \$20 (\$25 door)*

SAT 26
Jason Gisser Band
BEACON
8:30 p.m. Towne Crier | 379 Main St.
845-855-1300 | townecrier.com
The soul-rock band will be joined by Paul Byrne and the Bleeders. *Cost: \$15 (\$20 door)*



Trio Raconteur, Aug. 20

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

TUES 22
Rep. Mike Lawler Town Hall
CARMEL
5:15 p.m. Fischer Middle School
281 Fair St. | bit.ly/lawler-aug-22
Open to residents of the 17th District. Reserve a spot online. No noisemakers, signs or tripods.

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

WED 23
School Board
GARRISON
7 p.m. Garrison School | 1100 Route 9D
845-424-3689 | gufs.org
The meeting will include a public hearing on the district safety plan and remote emergency instruction.

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CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY of Palm Beach

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER 1 | 7PM

CHAUSSON & YSAÏE CONCERT

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Nick Canellakis, cell | David Requiro, cell | Milena Pájaro-van de Stadt, viola
Michael Stephen Brown, piano

SEPTEMBER 2 | 2PM

VIOLIN MAKER TALK

Master Luthier Samuel Zygmuntowicz explores the science and craftsmanship of the violin, demonstrating authentic Stradivari and the Strad-style violins he crafts.

SEPTEMBER 4 | 6PM

GREAT LAWN CONCERT

Arnaud Sussmann, violin | Jennifer Frautschi, violin | Nick Canellakis, cello
David Requiro, cell | Milena Pájaro-van de Stadt, viola
Jonathan Vinocour, viola

TICKETS AND INFORMATION AT BOSCOBEL.ORG

The HIGHLANDS Current STUDENT JOURNALISTS PROGRAM

**The Current is looking
for a few good high
school journalists.**

Now in its fourth year, our *Student Journalists Program* provides an opportunity for students who attend high school in Philipstown and Beacon to be mentored by professional journalists while they serve as correspondents for our nonprofit newspaper and website.

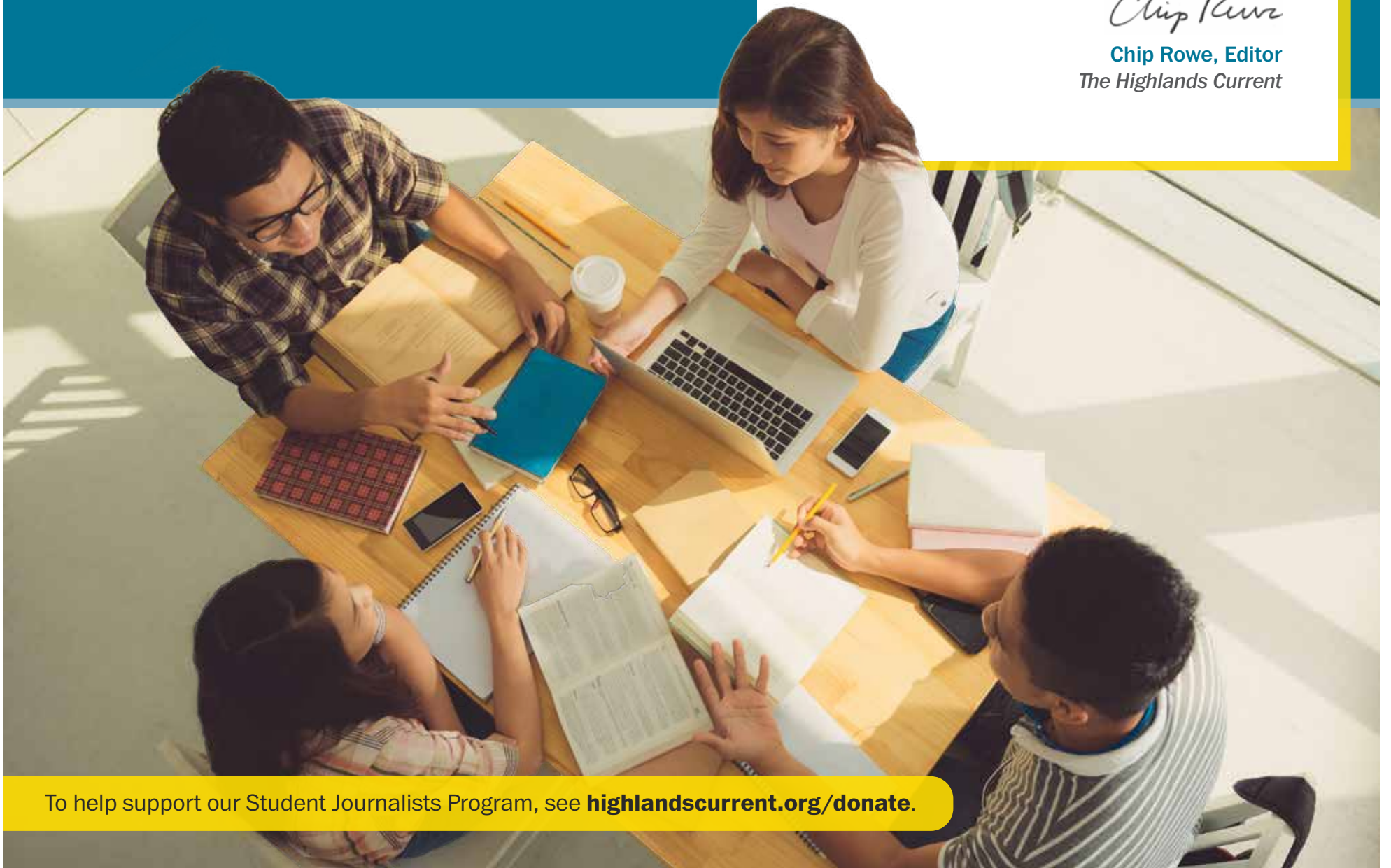
The reporting of correspondents selected for the program will appear at highlandscurrent.org and select stories will be printed. The staff, when editing stories by our student correspondents, will provide detailed feedback and suggestions to improve and refine their reporting.

Students will be expected to submit photos and video (when applicable) as part of their assignments. Due to the generous support of our *Highlands Current* members, correspondents will be compensated for the stories and photos that we publish online and/or in print. If you are interested in becoming a student correspondent, you can review the requirements and apply at:

highlandscurrent.org/sjp

Chip Rowe

Chip Rowe, Editor
The Highlands Current



To help support our Student Journalists Program, see **highlandscurrent.org/donate**.

Starr *(from Page 11)*

war, but also, through Winifred, from a pastoral Yorkshire village,” he explains. “Music takes us back, through the embers of time, to another place.”

Starr’s collaborators for the performance will be cellist Hannah Holman and pianist Lara Saldanha, along with actor Brandy Burre, a Beacon resident who will read the poems. It will be the first time Starr has performed at the Howland Cultural Center.

A native of western New York, Starr runs a teaching studio in Cold Spring, where he specializes in piano and drums but mentors the occasional composition student. Starr says his work probably falls under the “contemporary classical” category; his influences range from impressionist composers such as Debussy and Ravel to jazz artists like Bill Evans, Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays.

“I teach a lot of youngsters, usually age 5 and up; right now my oldest student is an octogenarian,” he says. “It’s a great way to hybridize my life, teaching, composing. I meet a lot of interesting people with interesting stories.”

The Howland Cultural Center is located at 477 Main St., in Beacon. A Celebration of Women in History will be performed at 8 p.m. on Sept. 9. Tickets are \$20 at howlandculturalcenter.org or \$25 at the door.

Animator *(from Page 11)*

engineering — after graduating, she taught the subject at CalArts. “I tended to ignore sound until the end, but it’s so important,” she says. “A lot of filmmakers are scared to start working with it until they have footage in front of them.”

Between the wildfires in the fall of 2019 to the world shutting down because of the pandemic in March 2020, Maloney’s first year of teaching was unusual. “We lost access to all the recording equipment, and the labs and the computers and software was a nightmare,” she says.

In Philipstown, Maloney says she cherishes being near her family (her parents live here) and having time to pursue projects. She just returned from working at a summer camp for the arts in Vermont. Earlier this year she taught animation sound design at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn; this fall she will teach animation at Bennington.

In the meantime, she’s working on an animated sci-fi film, *Re Shannon*, about a girl who keeps getting cloned. “The interest for me was a sense of distortion of time, and thinking about how a person might experience their life if they continuously have these gaps,” she says. “They’re reborn without understanding why or how. What I was thinking of most was this sense of not having control.”

*To see *Serpentine* and other animations, visit bronwynmaloney.com.*



From *Marshmallow Research, Inc.* (2017)



A still from an animated piece by Maloney



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Mouths to Feed

Bean There

By Celia Barbour

In June, Henry, our middle child, took a three-week trip through Japan with five friends. He came home with little gifts for each of us. He also came home with stories that have left me craving Japanese food ever since, as if I am now haunted by a persistent, polite ghost.

I should have seen it coming. After all, I volunteered to pick him and one of his friends up from JFK at the end of their trip. More powerful even than travel photographs, that initial spill of memories on the drive home conveys the energy and wonder of a journey.

“What did you like best of all?” I asked as I inched the car along the Van Wyck, for once not minding that the traffic was slow. For the next 15 minutes, Henry and



Those green beans kept turning up in conversations for the rest of the week, like a happy, if persistent, ghost.

his friend recounted every morsel of a meal they’d eaten in a tiny shop in Kyoto. They had been looking for shaved ice drenched in condensed milk, a Kyoto specialty, but when the proprietor learned that one of their group, Nina, was native Japanese, he closed up shop for the day and began bringing out dish after amazing dish, urging Nina to translate every technique, every ingredient, every source to her friends.

Last week, I took a comparatively ordinary trip, up to the old New Hampshire farmhouse where I spend a part of each summer with my family and in-laws. My husband, Peter, and a handful of his cousins had decided to devote the week to a challenging project: replacing the cedar shingles on the back side of the house. I’m not much of a shingler, but I’d offered to cook to support the crew’s work.

I’m also not much of an improviser when it comes to Asian food, probably because it entered my cooking repertoire only in the last couple decades. But since sushi rolls are fun and easy to prepare, and I can make them without a recipe, I’d already added them to my mental menu for the week. And since two of the crew members were vegan, I planned to fill them with vegetables — batons of avocado, cucumber and blanched carrot.

But when the day came for me to make the sushi, I was suddenly gripped with worry. What about protein? What about green vegetables? Surely shinglers need sustenance! Edamame seemed the obvious solution, but I refused to drive 25 minutes to the nearest grocery store for a frozen vegetable. Instead, I popped down to the small, honor-system farmstand on our road, where I found a bag of freshly picked green beans hiding in the shade of a giant cooler.

Good enough, I thought. Back at the house, I cut some tofu into cubes, then found a recipe for a Japanese dressing. Although I didn’t have half the ingredients, I improvised, grinding up some sesame seeds in an old coffee grinder, and mixing them with soy sauce, maple syrup and ginger. And wow: It was amazing.

At the end of the week, I didn’t need to ask anyone, “What did you like best?” Those green beans kept turning up in conversations for the rest of the week, like a happy, if persistent, ghost.

Green Beans and Tofu with Toasted Sesame Paste

Serves 6

8 ounces extra-firm tofu (about half a standard package)

3 tablespoons black or white sesame seeds (the black ones are stronger)

2 teaspoons brown sugar

Small piece fresh ginger, grated (about ½ teaspoon)

3 tablespoons tamari (soy sauce), divided

1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil, divided

Dash sriracha, optional

1 pound fresh green beans, stem ends snapped off

Salt to taste

Slice the tofu lengthwise into approximately ½-inch slabs. Lay a clean dish towel on a wire cooling rack. Place the tofu on one end of the towel and fold the other end over the top. Place a heavy skillet on top and set aside to drain while preparing the rest of the ingredients.

Heat a small skillet over medium-low heat. Add the sesame seeds and toast, shaking the pan frequently, until they begin to color and release their aroma, about 1 minute. Remove from heat and transfer to a spice grinder or mortar and pestle. Grind to a rough paste; it’s fine to leave some seeds whole.

Transfer the ground seeds to your serving bowl. Add the sugar, grated ginger, about half the tamari and 2 teaspoons sesame oil, and mix well to form a paste. Set aside.

Meanwhile, prepare an ice bath. Bring a large saucepan of water to a boil; salt generously. Add the trimmed green beans and boil until just tender, about 3 minutes, depending on their freshness and size. Drain in a colander then transfer to the bowl of cold water to stop the cooking and preserve their color. Drain and pat dry and add to the bowl with the sesame seed mixture.

Cut the tofu into cubes and toss with the remaining tamari and sesame oil. Allow to marinate for a few minutes, then add to the bowl with the green beans and toss very gently, just until combined.



HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

Sat + Sun – August 19 + 20 – 1-5 PM - final wknd
Lattimore Studio of Fine Art Student Exhibit
NEXT EXHIBIT – August 26 – October 1
“REALISM ON THE HUDSON”
An exhibition of traditional paintings and drawings by members of American Artists Professional League. Commemorating the AAPL’s 95th anniversary since its founding in NYC, back in 1928.
Opening Reception - Sun, August 27th 1-3pm

Sat – August 26 – 8pm
SUMMER CHILDREN
Secret World: Album Release Concert
Come here a folk/jazz/bluegrass band from NYC Singer and guitarist Aayushi Karnik fronts this quartet and is originally from India by way of Juilliard.
Tix adv \$20 or \$25 at the door - howlandculturalcentertix.com

OPEN MIC NIGHT - Aug 25
LIT LIT - Sept 1
Flamencodanza! - Sept 2
ERIC STARR - A Celebration of Women in History - Sept 9
Check our website + media for more events, info + tickets

477 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508
www.howlandculturalcenter.org (845) 831-4988
facebook.com/howlandculturalcenter
howlandculturalcentertix.com

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Town of Philipstown is seeking candidates interested in a position on the **Recreation Commission**. If interested please send resume to:

Tara Percacciolo, Town Clerk
P.O. Box 155
238 Main Street
Cold Spring, New York 10516

or email
townclerk@philipstown.com

Real Estate

Market Report (July)

	Beacon		Philipstown	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
New Listings	8	10	8	11
Closed Sales	7	12	8	3
Days on Market	22	69	46	16
Median Price	\$595,000	\$516,000	\$699,750	\$445,000
% List Received	101.8	98.7	97.8	99.0
Inventory	21	23	37	38

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

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GWEN LASTER'S VIOLIN SPEAKS.

Gwen Laster
Violinist/Activist
Composer/
Teacher

Beacon,
NY



One of those situations was being pulled over by the police on Route 9 for reasons unknown. Gwen's car was then towed after police said her insurance had been expired for nine days before she renewed it.

A few months after that, Sandra Bland was pulled over for a traffic violation in Texas and put in a jail cell where she was later found dead.



LOOKING BACK IN BEACON

By Chip Rowe

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

150 Years Ago (August 1873)

William Johnson of Brooklyn was hanging his arm outside a train window when it hit the iron work of a drawbridge north of Beacon and broke his elbow.

Matteawan residents were complaining about the unnecessary whistle-blowing by engineers from the Dutchess & Connecticut Railroad.

Black residents of Fishkill Landing met to discuss a plan to get their children admitted to the white public schools.

J.C. Beckwith of Matteawan was target-shooting with an old horse pistol when it exploded in his hand and the muzzle struck him in the forehead.

William Hall was digging a well with his young son playing nearby when the pick bounced off the hard ground and shattered the boy's jaw.

Christian Reynolds, a former principal of the school for Black children at Fishkill Landing, died at age 60.

While John Cherry of Matteawan was hanging on a rope about 16 feet into his well

to inspect it, a 5-pound rock came loose from the top and nearly struck him.

At 8:30 p.m. on a Friday night, two men mugged two Poughkeepsie residents outside the railroad depot. One victim ran but the other handed over a dollar.

125 Years Ago (August 1898)

The Dibble Opera House at Matteawan opened the season with Arthur Demmings' traveling minstrels.

Jacob Reick, 33, a hatter at the Matteawan Manufacturing Co., was killed between Fishkill Landing and Dutchess Junction by an express train. He was returning home to his wife and four children after crabbing.

The Rev. Thomas Burgess, 55, rector of St. Luke's Church in Matteawan and archdeacon of Dutchess County, died at the rectory after a short illness. A native of Maine, he had led congregations in Germany and Vermont, and his father was the bishop of Illinois.

J.P. Davis, bookkeeper for Benjamin Hammond, the paint manufacturer, took charge of the Fishkill Landing plant while the Hammond family was in Omaha, Nebraska, for the Trans-Mississippi Exhibition.

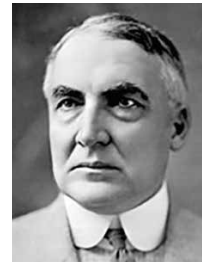
William Pollock moved his steam laundry from Cold Spring to Matteawan, where he said business prospects were better.

The New York Evening Journal, in a story beneath the banner headline, "Released Lunatic from Matteawan Asylum Tries to Murder," reported that James Jones, a former nurse at the Park Hospital at 97th Street and Central Park West, attacked Clara Buck, the hospital superintendent, leaving her in critical condition.

George Carrick, 25, of Fishkill Landing, killed himself in Jersey City, New Jersey, by taking poison. A letter from a drug firm in New York City was found in his pocket that read: "Send on your samples; your services are no longer required."

100 Years Ago (August 1923)

The city organized a memorial service at the First Methodist Church for President Warren G. Harding, who died Aug. 2 at age 57, apparently of a heart attack. The Beacon mayor asked stores and factories to close from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the day of the president's funeral.



Warren G. Harding

Beatrice McClintock, an artist from Beacon, and George Ward, a newspaper editor from Poughkeepsie, were married by a Poughkeepsie judge after a one-week courtship. Their parents were informed after the ceremony had taken place.

A fire of unknown origin destroyed three brick buildings at the corner of Main and South streets — the Beacon Pants Factory, the Melzingah Hotel and a garage owned by *The Beacon Journal* — causing at least \$75,000 [\$1.3 million] in damage. A fire-fighter, Edward Budney of the Beacon Engine Co., was injured when he fell through the garage roof. The city reservoir fell 2 inches, contributing to a water shortage.

Three days after the fire, 50 women employed at Berland and Gottesman, a rival pants maker, walked out after being told their wages were being cut in half because there was now a glut of workers.

George Plumb, a painter from Beacon, was arrested and jailed in Poughkeepsie for parking in front of a fire hydrant.

"Bad" Bill Monroe and Harold Barrett, 17, were arrested on suspicion of the torture and murder in July of Andrew Barrett, a recluse known as "Woodchuck" or "Chuck" who lived on Fishkill Mountain. They were apparently in search of hidden cash in Barrett's one-room shack. During a police interview, Harold

Barrett, the victim's nephew, said, "I suppose I'll go the electric chair for this," before falling silent. Barrett had \$1,000 [\$18,000] in bank accounts in Beacon and Fishkill but had not made a deposit in eight months.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Batt and their son, George, moved from Highland to Beacon, where Mr. Batt had purchased a florist business.

Police were searching for five young adults from Poughkeepsie after a Beacon man was knocked unconscious during a brawl outside Klein's dance hall near Fishkill.

Samuel Beskin, a former mayor, bought the bankrupt Overland Headware Co. at auction for \$7,000 [\$125,000]. Beskin owned the building where the straw-hat factory operated and planned to restart production.

Workers were boring wells to provide 200,000 gallons of water per day to a new veterans' hospital in Chelsea. Federal authorities had been talking with Beacon about hooking into its supply, but one official said "there was no certainty that the city would have water to sell us."

75 Years Ago (August 1948)

Based on their grade-point averages, Charlene Moore and Jerry Harrell of Beacon High School were among 827 students awarded full scholarships by the Education Department to any state university in New York.

Three Beacon men were injured when a beer keg exploded at a lawn party in Glenham for lab workers from the Texas Company [later Texaco].

Raymond Woodfield of Beacon was elected great prophet of the New York State Council of the Improved Order of Red Men, a fraternal organization that mimicked Native Americans.

A 30-year-old Brooklyn woman died of an apparent heart attack while competing in a

(Continued on Page 19)

Current Classifieds

FOR SALE

1991 ALFA ROMERO SPIDER VELOCE — 5 speed, chrome wheels, runs perfectly. No rust, mechanically perfect. Hugs the road tightly. Price 6K firm. Call 917-554-4100. Cold Spring.

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and creators. Marie Kondo devotees welcome! Please do reply with experience with laundry and clothing care. Text 917-842-0534.

SPORTS REPORTER — *The Highlands Current* is looking for someone to help with coverage of Beacon and Haldane high school sports during the fall, winter and spring seasons. Ideal candidates will have experience in sports reporting or other forms of journalism. This is a freelance position that will include coverage of one game per week during the fall, winter and spring seasons, as well as roundups of results from other teams. The ability to also photograph live games is a plus. The reporter will be paid a fee each week based on the number of games/teams that must be covered. Deadlines are Wednesday night. Email a resume and writing samples to editor@highlandscurrent.org.

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(Continued from Page 18)

Vienna waltz contest at the Camp Beacon casino. She and her sister were renting a cabin on the property for the summer.

Three Beacon men refused to serve on an Army draft board unless it was moved from Poughkeepsie to southern Dutchess County.

A 20-year-old inmate at the Matteawan State Hospital for the Criminally Insane died of heat exhaustion after being placed in a “restraining sheet” as temperatures soared to nearly 100 degrees. Hospital officials said the patient had been restrained after threatening an attendant with a piece of steel sharpened against a stone.

The Rev. Mattie Cooper announced that Springfield Baptist Church would hold a Labor Day barbecue with gospel music at its new building at 28 Beekman St.

After being presented with a petition with 700 signatures from voters — or 250 more than was needed by law — the City Council ordered a referendum for the November ballot on whether Beacon should switch to a city manager and proportional representation, rather than a council of commissioners. Mayor J. Lewis Bolton argued that a city manager system was anti-American and would “put Beacon back 30 years” as well as lead to racial and religious conflict.

50 Years Ago (August 1973)

As part of a plea agreement, a 32-year-old Wolcott Avenue man pleaded guilty to first-degree assault for shooting a Beekman Street woman four times inside a Beacon bar. He was sentenced to seven years in prison. He also faced a second assault charge for earlier hitting her over the head with a bottle.

Thirty to 40 teenagers — including three who had been arrested the night before for loitering on Main Street — gathered outside the locked doors of City Hall to protest the lack of a youth center, while the City Council met upstairs. As two commissioners left the meeting, a young man called out: “What we want is a place where we can go and not be bothered by you, and you, and you,” pointing at the council members and police officers. Mayor Robert Cahill, who rejected a request to meet with the teens, left through a back entrance. He told a reporter: “There is plenty for them to do, even more than when I was a kid. If they want to congregate, let them congregate in their own yards.”

In response to complaints from residents about a lack of enforcement when bags of garbage were left on curbs before collection day, Cahill said at the City Council meeting that the police had enough to do fighting vandalism at the city’s water supply areas, confronting “defiant teenagers” and rounding up stray dogs. He noted that the city landfill was running out of space, so picking up the garbage more than once a week may not be possible.

Nine teams entered the second annual Steven Quill Memorial Basketball Tournament at Rombout Middle School; the rosters included Rich Rinaldi, a former pro with the Capital Bullets. The tournament was named for a former Beacon High School basketball star who drowned in Fishkill Creek.

Police responded in riot gear when a crowd of 100 people — “mostly young Puerto Ricans,”



“Il Cavallo,” on display in Milan, was cast at the Tallix Foundry in Beacon.

according to the *Poughkeepsie Journal* — walked up and down Main Street late on two weekend nights to protest slurs and fighting they blamed on white youths, as well as a lack of Puerto Rican police officers. Police said a Molotov cocktail was placed under a Sheriff’s Department squad car and rocks thrown at a passing car. “At that point, police dressed in helmets came out of headquarters in force and were taunted by the crowd,” the paper reported. The mayor and police chief agreed to meet with Puerto Rican community leaders.

The People’s Coalition for Quality Education presented a petition to the school board with more than 1,000 names calling for the reinstatement of Arthur Browne as principal of Rombout Middle School. Browne had been the first Black principal in the district but after a year was reassigned to his former job at the high school.

A design report to enlarge the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge from two to six lanes by

adding a second span estimated the project would cost \$100 million [\$688 million], or \$25 million more than anticipated.

Two teenage hitchhikers from Newburgh were arrested after they allegedly stabbed and bound a driver before forcing him into the trunk of his car. The 20-year-old Newburgh man had picked up the teens at 11 p.m. at the Beacon end of the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge. After driving around, the suspects dumped their injured victim near the Beacon disposal plant, where a worker called police.

A consultant told the state Urban Development Corp. that Beacon, Poughkeepsie and Haverstraw were not suitable for the construction of a deep-water Hudson River seaport and instead recommended Newburgh.

Don McLean, the Philipstown resident best known for his hits, “American Pie,” “Vincent” and “Dreidel,” reportedly sang one song during an appearance at the Dutchess County Fair, said he had a sore throat and turned the stage over to Pete Seeger, the folk singer and Beacon resident.

25 Years Ago (August 1998)

Facing a lawsuit by the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, the City Council said it would spend \$27,000 to repair the roof of the Memorial Building. Mayor Clara Lou Gould said no agreement had ever been made with the vets about maintenance, but the city administrator pointed out that the city owned the building.

The state opened a maximum-security “modular unit” with 100 cells at the medium-security Fishkill Correctional Center. The free-standing unit was designed to house disruptive inmates sent from other prisons.

The performers at Clearwater’s annual corn festival at Riverfront Park included David Crosby, Pete Seeger, Melanie, Asha Nan and Stir Fried.

The City Council named James McCol-lum, a senior foreman for the city water

department, as superintendent of water and sewer. The post had been vacant for a decade; the city was paying a private firm to manage the filtration plant.

Police were searching for Arthur Deering, 46, a Vietnam veteran who was last seen boarding a Metro-North train at the Beacon station on June 20 on his way to an appointment at the Veterans Affairs hospital at Montrose.

A Beacon woman who worked as a cashier at Walmart in Fishkill was arrested for allegedly allowing two friends to buy \$1,700 in merchandise with a stolen credit card and counterfeit bills.

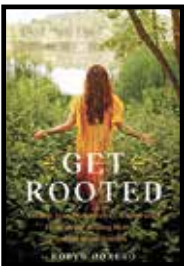
A 20-year-old man survived a 170-foot fall from the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge. “He did survive,” said a state police investigator. “He’s the first I’ve heard of.”

The Tallix Foundry in Beacon unveiled a 12-ton, 24-foot-high clay model of a horse that it planned to cast. The sculpture, “Il Cavallo,” was based on a drawing by Leonardo da Vinci of a clay model that was destroyed in 1499 by invading French soldiers. In 1977, an airline pilot, Charles Dent, read in *National Geographic* about da Vinci’s model and began to raise the money to replicate it as a gift to Italy for display in Milan.



Deering

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

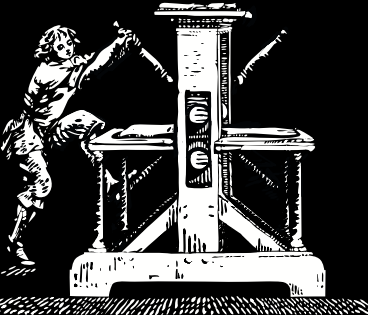


Local Bestsellers

Based on combined hardcover and paperback sales reported for May and June at Split Rock Books, 97 Main St., in Cold Spring.



TITLE		AUTHOR
1	<i>Get Rooted</i>	Robyn Moreno
2	<i>Fat Talk</i>	Virginia Sole-Smith
3	<i>Trust</i>	Hernan Diaz
4	<i>The Creative Act</i>	Rick Rubin
5	<i>Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow</i>	Gabrielle Zevin
6	<i>How to Read a Tree</i>	Tristan Gooley
1	<i>The Golden Frog Games (Witchlings 2)</i>	Clairibel Ortega
2	<i>Katie the Catsitter No. 3</i>	Colleen AF Venable
3	<i>Weather Together</i>	Jessie Sima
4	<i>School Trip</i>	Jerry Craft
5	<i>Dog Man: 20,000 Fleas Under the Sea</i>	Dav Pilkey
6	<i>Spy Camp: The Graphic Novel</i>	Stuart Gibbs

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Scenic Hudson dismantled Bregman's creations on Aug. 8.

Photo by B. Cronin



"Torqued Jetty"

Artwork *(from Page 1)*

ing on the sculpture, several days a week, for months. In addition to enlisting passersby to help pick up trash, he had conversations about ecology, hydrology, philosophy, Beacon's art scene and Scenic Hudson's work in the environmental movement.

Notably, Bregman didn't have a conversation with Scenic Hudson, which manages Long Dock Park. That resulted in a series of mutually unpleasant confrontations that

culminated in Scenic Hudson last week dismantling Bregman's work with a skid steer.

Bregman said he purposely didn't ask for permission because he thought of his work as guerilla art. "The work of guerilla and street artists can be disturbing to authorities and the general public exactly because it doesn't align with acceptable forms of artistic expression and creativity," he said, explaining why he thinks it was dismantled.

Or, it might have been the chain saw.

When an intense summer storm washed

up a hefty log against "Torqued Jetty," Bregman made a series of cuts to create "Hudson Waves." His chain saw was loud enough to attract the attention of park staff, who told him he was disrupting the natural ecology of the shoreline. Bregman countered that nothing about the Long Dock shoreline is natural: It's fill left over from the former port, and the rocks he hauled out were ship ballast.

Bregman was asked to cease, desist and leave, but he returned the next day to add five final cuts. As soon as he fired up the chain saw, park staff reappeared. This was followed by a cease-and-desist letter, and then the skid steer.

Public art can still be found at Long Dock. George Trakas' "Beacon Point" has been there since 2007, created in collaboration with Scenic Hudson and Dia:Beacon. And many children build driftwood huts and other structures.

Scenic Hudson said that unless those structures disrupt the ecology or involve power tools, its policy has been to let the elements dismantle them. It also said that, had Bregman asked for permission, the situation might have ended differently.

"He could have simply approached us beforehand, so our ecology and parks experts could review the idea, perhaps even collaborate to help create an installation that considers the river ecology and public safety," said Seth McKee, executive director of The Scenic Hudson Land Trust. "But he took it upon himself to decide what is best for Long Dock Park with disregard for others who are connected to that place — a place many others cherish as it is."

"I'm a fan of Bregman's art but not of his approach," added Riley Johndonnell, director of communications for Scenic Hudson. "We can all empathize with how the world can feel a bit upside down these days, but I'm not sure where and when it is acceptable to arrive, uninvited, to a natural sanctuary with an unsanctioned chain saw, do what you wish, how you wish, and disregard the property owner's posted signs and requests to stop."

Bregman said he doesn't dispute the facts, and doesn't harbor any ill will toward Scenic Hudson, an organization that he said he



"Hudson Waves"

Photos provided

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reveres. He concedes that returning with his chain saw was "poking them in the eye."

He's also come to realize that "Torqued Jetty" did have an effect on the ecosystem. Standing on its remnants, he pointed out how ducks would shelter in the curves of the structure during heavy winds, and how the jetty broke the energy of the waves, leading to sediment buildup in different places.

He always figured the wall would be dismantled by the elements — so, in his view, it was simply hastened along. He also wanted to forge a more intimate relationship with the land, and in that regard, the project was successful. "I remember moving some of these individual pieces," he said. He pointed to a particularly large rock. "That one was tough."

Bregman said his next project will be "Scorched Earth," an installation he's creating in Newburgh with his partner, Amy Bandolik, that will reproduce the aftermath of a destructive wildfire. He has the permission of the property owner.

Visit highlandscurrent.org for news updates and latest information.

Roots and Shoots

Evergreens in the Garden

By Pamela Doan

This season I've had opportunities to work with gardeners incorporating evergreens into landscapes. In the past, conifers haven't been that interesting to me, although I am awed by the majestic white pines in the woods behind my house and curious about eastern red cedars (*Juniperus virginiana*), which have sprouted where we've limited or stopped mowing.

I have lots of judgmental opinions about arborvitae lining property edges, a barrier of green that stands through the seasons. There must be more creative and aesthetically pleasing ways to create a fence than trees crowded branch to branch.

When browsing at garden centers — don't we all do that? — I see the same cultivars of arborvitae, yews and juniper repeatedly, almost as if the *Gymnosperm* family were limited to the few that can be plopped against the foundation of a house and ignored. Once I dug in, I discovered many lovely and interesting evergreens and started to appreciate that, because of all the breeding, there are sizes and shapes that cover the most specific needs.

In landscape design, evergreens are said



This garden uses a mix of sizes and shapes of evergreens with perennials to make a structural and texture-rich landscape.

Photo by P. Doan

to provide "structure" to a garden. They hold it together by looking the same in all seasons, providing a backdrop for deciduous trees and the herbaceous layer. I get the concept but don't agree that only evergreens can hold the space. Branch structure and the seed heads of dormant perennials and grasses can be equally beautiful during the dormant season and look intentional, too.

A database like conifers.org is a useful starting point for discovering evergreens native to the Northeast. After some searching, I've realized how few I've seen grow-

ing naturally. I need to get out more — and bring a tree identification guide.

An important caveat for planting evergreens is to consider how to protect them from the deer. Even the sharpest needles aren't a deterrent when food is scarce. It's also the reason that seedlings don't make it in the forest.

I planted two northern white cedars (*Thuja occidentalis*) from one-gallon containers years ago and carefully fenced them. But after two winters when the snow was deep enough for the deer to reach them,

they are now 15 feet tall but the lowest 4 feet are missing branches.

The challenge of placing a tree near the roadside is to make sure road crews don't hack it during clearing. Smaragd (*Thuja occidentalis*) is on the shorter side, topping out at 12 feet. This one can be tricky, though, because it has a narrow, columnar form, rather than the fullness of other evergreens. I would complement it with shrubs that have a round shape and spiky blooming perennials.

The De Groot's spire cultivar can grow up to 20 feet tall and is much fuller in shape, half as wide as it is tall when full size. It would look lovely with clusters of red twig dogwood and white flowering perennials to accentuate the blue-green foliage.

For an area that is larger and can accommodate a mix of hardwoods and evergreens, experiment with the spruce pine (*Pinus virginiana*), eastern red cedar and blue atlas cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*), which is going to be more tolerant of our winter temperatures. Add in a redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), a few gray birches (*Betula populifolia*) and a hardwood like an oak species, and there will be shade and beauty for everyone to enjoy, including wildlife and birds, in every season.

I can't recommend any hemlocks (*Tsuga spp.*) because of the damage done by the hemlock woolly adelgid, a pest active during the winter that leaves a white powder on branches. It is widespread in the Hudson Valley; researchers are focusing on biocontrols, such as releasing predator beetles and flies to fight back.



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SPORTS

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HOOPS SHOWCASE — Elijah Hughes, the Beacon native who has played in the NBA for the Utah Jazz, Portland Trail Blazers and Milwaukee Bucks, and who recently signed a contract to play in Turkey, organized a tournament at Beacon High School on Aug. 12 that featured recent high school graduates and collegiate players from Beacon, Poughkeepsie and Newburgh. Hughes, 25, shown here during the Beacon game against Poughkeepsie, hopes to make the In the Water Basketball Classic an annual summer event. There was also an All-Star game for area high school players.

Photo by George Velazquez



Photos by Jessica Segovia

BEACON HOOPS COMPLETES SEASON

The annual summer Beacon Hoops basketball league for children and teens ages 10 to 16 concluded this week, although the second half of one title game was rained out twice.

In the championship game of the newly created girls' division, The Highlands Current defeated Don Knight Plumbing & Heating, 25-18. In the coed Rookies division (ages 10-12), IO Infusion won, 35-21, over Baja 328. And in the delayed coed Juniors division (ages 13-16) championship, A-Sicka Heals Foundation came back to defeat Sal's Pizza, 53-44.

Following the games, the league named its All-Star teams. For the girls' division, the team is Taylor Chippendale, Norajeane Cotter,



Sarai Hornes, Drew Kelly, Mia Lentini, Victoria McKay, Alexa

Pena, Za'Layni Shand (MVP), Madeline Smith, Louisa Virgadamo and Juliana Wilchez.

For the Rookies division, the All-Stars are Robert Cotto, Emmanuel Feliz-Morris, Weston Hetrick, Kellen Knittel (MVP), Kipton Knittel, Luca Lentini, Xavier Lora, Mason McNair, Gavin Parks, Kevin Pegram and Zyaire West.

The Juniors All-Stars are Jahcier Ballard, Jayden Bostick, Gio Bowley, Cyrus Cowings (MVP), Amare Franklin, Ryan Landisi, Richie Omira, Brady Philipbar, Marciano Rodriguez, Michai Thompson and Jahreal Whitted.

The All-Star games are scheduled for Saturday (Aug. 19) at the Loopers Plaza court beginning at 10 a.m.

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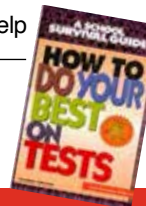
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Puzzles

CROSSCURRENT

1	2	3			4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11			12		13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19		20		21				
			22		23		24			25	26	27
28	29	30				31		32				
33					34		35		36			
37				38		39		40				
41					42		43					
			44			45		46		47	48	49
50	51	52			53		54		55			
56					57				58			
59					60					61		

- ACROSS
1. Solidify

4. Tummy muscles

7. Rum cake

11. Sir Guinness

13. Cistern

14. Modern taxi rival

15. Wife of Jacob

16. Melody

17. Shoe fillers

18. Wash thoroughly

20. Canadian flag emblem

22. Uncivilized

24. Prepared potatoes

28. Medium

32. Condition

33. Orem's place

34. Talk on and on

36. Actress Merrill

37. Talk a blue streak?

39. Extreme

41. Tolerate

43. Light brown
44. Tropical tree

46. Salon sounds

50. — and Away

53. Charged bit

55. Duel tool

56. Fan publication

57. Bar bill

58. Pro —

59. Mr. Stravinsky

60. JFK info

61. Author Brown
- DOWN
1. Guys' dates

2. Power co. supply

3. Tragic king

4. *Selma* director DuVernay

5. Release money

6. Throat affliction

7. Self-serve meal

8. Honest politician

9. Spell-off

10. Illustrations
12. Communal meal at a place of worship

19. "Humbug!"

21. DDE's opponent

23. Peruke

25. Secular

26. Sicilian spouter

27. Bargain

28. Brownish purple

29. Dazzle

30. Lawn party site

31. Automobile

35. Cudgel

38. Epoch

40. — *Kapital*

42. Select group

45. Castle defense

47. Apple tablet

48. Anti-fur org.

49. Penn or Astin

50. Submachine gun

51. Glutton

52. Family card game

54. Cagers' gp.

SUDOCURRENT

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

WORDLADDER

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

ALUMS

CLUES

MICRO
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1. Quick bread served at an afternoon tea

6. Colleague of Prancer and Blitzen

7. *Spy Kids* co-star Vega

8. Food truck postings

9. Sizzling barbecue sound
- DOWN
1. Bamboozle

2. Singers Natalie and Paula

3. Troubling signs

4. Link

5. Letters from Greece?

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
	9			

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

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

S	I	D		
E	T	U	D	E
C	O	B	R	A
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	A	W	N	

Answers for Aug. 11 Puzzles

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YEARS
TEARS
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Garrison Teen Has Drive

Moves to northern California to hone his golf game

By Joey Asher

For many teenagers, the pandemic lockdown meant hours of Netflix and video games.

For Jasper Timmer, it marked the beginning of an odyssey from the Garrison Golf Club to Pioneer High School in San Jose, California, where he has helped its golf team win two league championships.

Jasper, 16, who will be a junior this fall, is a team leader, said Jeff Steinberg, the Pioneer coach. “He has a very good chance of playing college golf. He has the drive and the work ethic. And he just pounds the ball.”

Yet, before early 2020, Jasper had never played a round. He had dabbled in various sports as a student at the Garrison School and played lacrosse in a Philipstown Recreation league but found that sport too bruising. “It got kind of old after two years,” he said.

In the summer of 2020, his father, Ted, took his 13-year-old to the driving range at the Fishkill Golf Course on Route 9.

Jasper caught the attention of Ralph Montoya, a longtime club pro who played on the PGA Tour, including in the 1979 PGA Championship. Montoya, a native of Cuba who

is now 91, asked how long Jasper had been playing. Ted explained that Jasper had started the week before at a golf camp in Garrison.

“You know he has a perfect swing,” Montoya said.

Jasper’s game got a boost when the quarantine prompted Ted and Nell Timmer in the fall of 2020 to home-school their children (Jasper is the second of five).

“I’d do school work from when I woke up until 11,” Jasper said. Then his father would drop him at the Garrison Golf Course, a half-mile from his house. “Some days I would do eight or nine hours,” Jasper said. “I’d play 18 holes almost every day.”

Jasper began golf lessons with Montoya, whom Jasper describes as “old school.” “He focused on the short game — the chipping and putting,” said Jasper. “A lot of people these days focus on gaining distance.”

Jasper fell for the sport. “I love the challenge that golf brings both mentally and trying to figure out the swing,” he said. “I love when I play well and figure something out. It is so rewarding.”

His parents started looking for ways for Jasper to play year-round — not easy in the Northeast. Jasper’s aunt and uncle, Mary and Dillon Okner, live in San Jose, and Pioneer has a highly competitive golf team. Perhaps Jasper would like to move

west to live with the Okners?

Ted Timmer wrote Coach Steinberg describing his son’s interest in relocating to San Jose to play golf. “I wondered whether to take it seriously,” Steinberg said.

But the week before school started in August 2021, Jasper and his father flew to San Francisco. “I was nervous about coming here six days before freshman year started,” Jasper said.

He and his father headed from the airport to the Santa Teresa Golf Club, Pioneer’s home course. By coincidence, the club placed Jasper into a foursome with Oliver Smith, a senior who was the team captain. “It was nice to meet someone right off the bat,” said Jasper.

While golf wouldn’t start until the spring, Steinberg started to hear about the newcomer from his other players. “This Jasper kid is pretty good,” they told him. When Steinberg saw him play, he was stunned. “I had a hard time believing that he’d only been playing since the beginning of COVID,” he said. “He has an absolutely natural swing. And he can hit the ball a mile.”

In San Jose, Jasper’s life is about golf and school. He rises every morning at 5:15 to lift weights at the gym with his uncle. After school, he hits the range for 90 minutes to practice putting and his swing. Then he plays 18 holes before doing his homework.

When asked what part of his game needs the most work, he said, “Right now? Putting. It’s been a little bit off for me lately.”



▲ Jasper Timmer, then 13, shared a light moment with Ralph Montoya in 2020 at the Fishkill Golf Course.

◀ Jasper tees off in June at Hampshire Country Club in Mamaroneck. Photos provided



The Pioneer High School golf team in spring 2022; Jasper is on the far right.

This summer, back home in Garrison, he played nine PGA junior tournaments around the Northeast, winning on July 19 at the Blue Hill Golf Club in Pearl River when he shot a 71 (-1), including four birdies. He also finished fourth on July 12 with a 75 (+3) at The Bridge in Sag Harbor.

And he played a round at the Fishkill Golf Course with Montoya. “I told his father, ‘I think Jasper is ready to go on the tour,’ ” Montoya said.

Jasper said he’d love to play professionally someday. “But right now I’m focused on college,” he said. “We’ll see what happens from there.”